December 6<sup>th</sup> – T minus 1,140

# NEWSLETTER

Webpage: [salemctdems.org](http://salemctdems.org)Follow us on Facebook: [Salem CT Democratic Town Committee](https://www.facebook.com/SalemCTDemocraticTownCommittee)  
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## Wish To Donate?

Please click on the button to the right

DONATE

## ***The SDTC Mourns The Loss Of Peter Sielman, Long Time SDTC Member and Former Salem First Selectman***

### ***Peter Sielman Obituary*** (from the Aurora McCarthy funeral home webpage)

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Peter Frederick Sielman, who passed away on December 2, 2025, at the William W. Backus Hospital in Norwich after a sudden illness. Peter was born on April 13, 1933 in Munich, Germany, and celebrated his 73<sup>rd</sup>-consecutive 19<sup>th</sup> birthday earlier this year.

Peter's loss will be mourned by many but felt most significantly by his family. Peter was a devoted and loving husband, father, and grandfather. In 1957, Peter married the love of his life, Ann Bailey Stoddard in the Princeton Friends Quaker Meeting. Peter and Ann had four children whom they raised in Huntington, NY, and eleven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, whom they cherished in Salem, CT. His family knew him to be caring, mischievous, funny, and welcoming of all newcomers into the Sielman family traditions.

He is survived by Ann, his loving wife of 68 years; their four children and their spouses, Martha Sielman & David Shaiken of Amston, CT, Richard & Dana Sielman of Walnut Creek, CA, Rebecca Sielman & Charlie Kuchenbrod of North Granby, CT, Drs. Emily and Mike Leuthner of New Glarus, WI; their eleven grandchildren and their spouses to whom he was known as "Papa Pierre," Ben Shaiken & Brunilda Ferraj, Katie & Paul Chicharello, Daniel & Casey Shaiken, Lucy Shaiken & Brandon Tracy, Jon Shaiken, Grant Sielman, Molly Sielman, Mary Kuchenbrod, Charles Kuchenbrod, Logan Leuthner, and Silas Leuthner; three great-grandchildren, Dashamir, Charlotte, and Annabelle; and numerous extended family members and friends.

Peter was the son of the late Hans Richard and Otty Marie (Wexler) Sielman. He, his late older sister Lotte (Sielman) Streisinger, and his parents emigrated to the United States in 1938, narrowly escaping Nazi persecution. They settled in New York City, where Peter attended Fieldston Ethical Culture primary school, followed by Bronx High School of Science, and then on to Swarthmore College, majoring in math while playing varsity soccer for four years. He graduated in 1954 with Highest Honors, Phi Beta Kappa. In 1959, he earned a master's degree in applied math from Brown University.

Peter's career was varied and versatile. He began working on the earliest digital computers, then on ground control systems for classified programs for NASA and the U.S. military. He started and headed the communications systems department at Airborne Instruments Laboratory, where he co-invented the Adaptive Ground Implemented Phased Array. He also held the company tennis championship for two years. Peter and Ann relocated to Salem, CT in 1988 where he ran the New London office of Purvis Systems. The company joined A&T, later Anteon, and he worked on Towed Array

## [The Loss of Peter Sielman \(continued\)](#)

Handling Systems for Virginia class submarines. Peter helped develop VLF communications equipment and worked on voice recognition system applications for U.S. Navy submarines.

Peter was always deeply involved in his community. On Long Island, he was Chairman of the Board of Suffolk Community Development Corporation, administering federal programs for seniors. In Salem, Peter was elected to four terms as a Selectman, one of which was as First Selectman. During that term, Peter took charge of creating the Salem Transfer Station, which is in use to this day. For three years, Peter served as Chairman representing Salem on the Route 11 Greenway Authority Commission. He spent more than 19 years trying to get Route 11 completed down to Interstate 95, running into roadblocks that were unmovable. Peter was a longtime member of the Salem Democratic Town Committee and chaired Salem's Master Plan Committee. He was a member of the Salem Lions Club where he served as Vice Chairman, and he helped build a Habitat for Humanity house in Salem.

After his time in elected office ended, Peter's interest in politics only increased. He earned an additional master's degree in 2006 and a PhD in Political Science in 2010 from the University of Connecticut, at the age of 77. His research and dissertation were dedicated to getting more residents to participate in their local government, and he invented and implemented a way for residents to participate in legislative town meetings from the comfort of their homes, long before Zoom. Salem was a test case for his research and implemented the system he devised. He also served as the Salem representative on the Old Lyme Cable Council, 10 years as Chairman and 3 years as its representative on the statewide Video Advisory Council and later as Vice Chairman of the Video Council.

Peter was a self-proclaimed neolithic engineer. He moved and installed (with nothing but hand tools) a 5,000-pound stone sculpture, built numerous stone walls on their property, and invented and manufactured a variety of mobility-assistance devices for use in his home. Over the last several years, Peter devoted himself nearly completely to the role of sole caregiver for Ann, which he continued until very recently when he accepted help from Nicole and her colleagues from CareCo, for whom his family is eternally grateful.

A Celebration of Life will be held in the coming weeks. In lieu of flowers, donations in Peter's memory may be made to Salem Volunteer Fire Company or to Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company, who have always been there to help Peter and Ann in times of need. The Aurora McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester has been entrusted with care of arrangements. For online condolences or to share a story of Peter, please visit [www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com](http://www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com).

To send flowers to the family **press Ctrl + Click [HERE](#)** or plant a tree in memory of Peter Sielman **press Ctrl + Click [HERE](#)**, please visit their floral store by **pressing Ctrl + Click [HERE](#)**.

## [SDTC To Caucus To Nominate 2026-2028 SDTC Members](#)

The Salem Democratic Town Committee (SDTC) will hold a Caucus open to all registered Democratic voters in Salem for the purpose nominating candidates and holding an election for the 2026-2028 SDTC members. The Caucus will be held on January 7, 2026 at 7:00 PM at the Salem Center School, 250 Hartford Road, Salem.

## [Message From State Senator Martha Marx \(D 20<sup>th</sup> District\)](#)

**Dear Neighbor,**

I am proud to announce significant state investments supporting both our environment and our local economy. First, Montville and Old Saybrook received more than \$333,000 in waste-reduction grants — \$161,032 for Montville and \$172,018 for Old Saybrook — to strengthen transfer station operations, launch unit-based pricing systems, and expand food-scrap recycling programs. As we face a growing statewide waste-management crisis, these grants will help our communities cut waste, invest in local solutions, and give residents more control over what they pay. I'm grateful to Governor Lamont and DEEP for continuing to support long-term, affordable waste solutions across our region.

I was also thrilled to celebrate an \$800,000 state grant that will help Sheffield Pharmaceuticals expand its New London facility. Through DECD's Strategic Supply Chain Initiative, this funding will support \$3 million in private



## [Message From State Senator Martha Marx \(D 20<sup>th</sup> District, continued\)](#)

Investment for new packaging and mixing equipment — boosting production capacity, supporting new product lines, and strengthening a company that has been a pillar of New London's economy since the 1800s. This expansion is great news for local jobs, local families, and the continued growth of our region's economy.

### [Consensus Revenue Forecast Strong](#)

Connecticut's Office of Policy and Management and Office of Fiscal Analysis recently released a consensus revenue forecast for the state through the next five fiscal years, with the state expected to see steadily increasing revenues through 2030. Governor Lamont said the report indicates continued economic growth for the next half-decade for families and businesses, though he noted the federal government's decision-making could impact those expectations. Still, the outlook remains positive should the state continue on its current track, officials said.



### [End of the Penny](#)

The last penny printed for circulation in the United States left the U.S. Mint this week, according to WTNH, with the one-cent coin to be phased out partially due to cost. It can cost nearly four cents to make a one-cent penny, and as the world transitions to an internet-based economy, the coins are seen as outdated. Some retailers will switch to rounding up or down to the nearest five-cent benchmark, though there is no long-term path laid out to counter the penny's gradual decline from public life once printing ends.



### [Notable Recalls](#)

According to WFSB, a generic form of the ADHD medication Vyvanse is under recall as its effects may not fully take place. Several lots of lisdexamfetamine dimesylate capsules are under recall because of failed dissolution tests, meaning the full benefit of the medications would not be delivered to those taking them. To see the list of bottles and lot codes recalled, [press Ctrl+ Click HERE](#).



A new recall involves infant formula after concerning reports of potential botulism outbreaks. Whole Nutrition Infant Formula from ByHeart, sold online and at major retailers, has been connected to 13 cases of botulism in 10 states, and while none have been reported in Connecticut, the Department of Public Health is monitoring the situation for potential impact. ***The lots impacted are 206VABP/251261P2 and 206VABP/251131P2, both with expiration dates of December 1, 2026.***

## **LOCAL NEWS & EVENTS**

### [Niantic Light Parade](#)

The Niantic Light Parade is set for Saturday, December 13 and anyone interested in marching can register by [pressing Ctrl + Click HERE](#).

### [New London Road Closure Continuing](#)

The closure of the four-way intersection at Broad and Hempstead Streets will be closed to vehicle traffic through January to allow for emergency stabilization work at Second Congregational Church. Road closures and traffic delays in the area are expected.

### [New London Santa Shopping Stroll](#)

The New London Santa Shopping Stroll in Downtown New London is set for Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM. There will be plenty of special holiday offers and anyone who visits every location on a Christmas stamp map can enter to win a gift basket.

### [East Lyme Niantic Jingle 5K](#)

On Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, McCooks Park in Niantic will host the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Niantic Jingle 5K, with proceeds supporting the Brian Dagle Foundation and Brian's Healing Hearts Center for Hope and Healing. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. and the walk/run starts at 10:00 AM. [Press Ctrl + Click HERE](#) for more information.

**[Message From State Senator Martha Marx \(D 20<sup>th</sup> District, continued\)](#)****[Salem Holiday Carnival and Tree Lighting](#)**

The Salem Holiday Carnival and Tree Lighting are set for Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> starting at 3:00 PM in the Town Green and at the Center School. There will be games, hot cocoa and cider, a holiday singalong and more.

**[Salem Breakfast With Santa](#)**

The Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Co. in Salem will hold a Breakfast with Santa event Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM. to noon, with an all-you-can-eat buffet. Adults will cost \$10 with kids ages 3-12 \$8 and kids 2 and under free.

**[Old Saybrook Torchlight Parade](#)**

The 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Torchlight Parade is set for Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00 PM., with 25 fife and drum corps marching. Anyone wishing to register can visit [www.oldsaybrooktorchlight.com](http://www.oldsaybrooktorchlight.com).

**[Waterford Tree Lighting Celebrations](#)**

On December 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, Waterford will celebrate its tree lighting and the holidays with the Light Up Stroller Parade at Arnie Holm Jr. Park starting December 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM, followed by celebrations on the Jordan Green through 8:00 PM. The Quaker Hill Green will also host a second tree lighting on December 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM.

**[Contact My Office](#)**

If you have a direct question about legislation or an issue, you're seeking help with, please reach out to my office. My staff and I are dedicated to representing you and assisting you with any issues you may be experiencing. Please contact me at **860-240-0436** or by email at [martha.marx@cga.ct.gov](mailto:martha.marx@cga.ct.gov).

All the best,

Martha Marx, State Senator 20<sup>th</sup> District

**[Message From State Representative Nick Menapace \(D 37<sup>th</sup> District\)](#)****[Dear Neighbor,](#)**

It is with great sadness that I share the passing of my colleague and friend, State Representative Kevin Ryan. Kevin was one of the first people I met when I began running for office in 2022, and from that moment on, he was a steady source of guidance — always willing to help a first-time candidate, and this past year, a first-time legislator.

Kevin's impact on Montville and Eastern Connecticut can't be overstated. For more than three decades, he showed up for our towns with humility, depth, and an unwavering commitment to the people he served. Whether it was advocating for local families, strengthening education and public health, or supporting the region's workforce and environment, Kevin put Eastern Connecticut at the center of everything he did.

What I'll remember most is his kindness and his dry sense of humor — the quiet, steady way he made people feel supported, grounded, and welcome. He cared deeply about this region and the people working alongside him.

**[Radio Interview with Lee Elci](#)**

Earlier this week, I joined Lee Elci on his show for a thoughtful conversation about Housing in Connecticut, gerrymandering, and our local elections.



***Message From State Representative Nick Menapace (D 37<sup>th</sup> District, continued)***

Lee and I don't agree on everything — though we do both really enjoy Ronnie James Dio — and that's precisely why these conversations matter. Democracy is stronger when we're willing to talk across differences and engage honestly with the issues facing our communities.

You can listen to the full interview by **pressing Ctrl + Click [HERE](#)** (from 2:05 to 2:27:33).

***IDD Caucus Hearing***

Thank you to everyone who joined the Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Advocacy Caucus last week to discuss Supported Decision Making. SDM helps people with disabilities make their own choices with support from those they trust — promoting independence, dignity, and self-determination. It's important for us as a state to see how we can be doing better.

***Recognizing East Lyme Athletes***

It was my honor to recognize an incredible group of East Lyme student-athletes at Monday's Board of Education meeting. These young leaders are the founders and officers of Vikings Play It Forward Inc., a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit they built from the ground up to support our community.

Through their organization, they are translating their passion for sports into meaningful action and service for others. Let's celebrate them here and now:

*Alex Rindell, Xavier Stefanski, Gabe Hanney, Julianne (Juju) Guarraia, Max Montejano, Emma Stoddard, Patrick Seguin*



These students represent the very best of East Lyme — leadership, compassion, and a commitment to giving back. The future is bright because of young people like them.

***Around the 37<sup>th</sup>***

I attended the Montville winter farmers market. It is always great to check out the great things it has to offer.



Congratulations to the East Lyme youth football seniors on their back-to-back championships.



As always, if you have any comments, questions or concerns, please reach out to my office.

Sincerely,

Nick Menapace

State Representative 37<sup>th</sup> District

## Opinion

### **Letter to the Editor of The Day on Housing by Nick Menapace, State Representative, 37<sup>th</sup> District**

Nick Menapace wrote a guest commentary for The Day about why HB 8002 is the most meaningful housing bill Connecticut has passed in years — and why we should welcome it.

Nick: *“We’re in a real housing crisis. This bill provides towns with the tools they’ve been requesting and moves our state toward greater affordability and growth.”*

### **Connecticut Finally Passed A Real Housing Bill — And We Should Welcome It**

Special to “The Day”, published: Nov 17, 2025.

*Connecticut is in a housing crisis, and 90% of our residents recognize that high housing costs are one of the greatest threats to our state’s future. They want the state to act — and with HB 8002, passed in the recent special session, we finally did. That’s why I’m perplexed by some of the reactions to this bill.*

*HB 8002 is a compromise. It’s not perfect, and more work will undoubtedly be needed. However, it moves Connecticut in the right direction by encouraging housing near transit, reusing existing infrastructure, incentivizing the conversion of commercial space and providing towns with real tools to plan more effectively. These are exactly the solutions many critics claim to support — and they are already in the bill.*

*What stands out most is how many opponents seem unfamiliar with what the bill actually does. Columnist Chris Powell argued that HB 8002 overlooks transit-oriented development and the reuse of commercial properties, despite both provisions being clearly written into the legislation.*

*On Wednesday, House Minority Leader Vincent Candelora warned that private equity could buy up homes and price out families. I share that concern, which is why I co-introduced HB 6500 in February this year to address that exact issue. Yet Republicans showed no interest in supporting that bill when they had the chance. Their outrage last week felt less like a policy concern and more like a performance.*

*Across Connecticut, groups that rarely agree — CCM, CBIA, Realtors, labor and housing advocates — are all saying the same thing: our housing shortage is stifling growth and making our state unaffordable. Municipal leaders asked for guidance, incentives and regional coordination. HB 8002 delivers all three.*

*At a time when the federal government is proposing 50-year mortgages as a solution, Connecticut is opting for a proven approach: Actually, building more housing. HB 8002 is a meaningful step forward. Let’s focus on solving problems and making this state a better place for everyone, rather than inventing reasons to oppose the solutions already at hand.*

**By: Nick Menapace**

*(Nick Menapace is Connecticut state Representative for the 37<sup>th</sup> District, covering East Lyme and parts of Montville and Salem.)*

## **HB 8002 – An Act Concerning Housing Growth**

There is a lot of chatter on social media concerning HB 8002 including a lot of mis-information regarding the Bill. In an effort to provide some clarity the following is a link to a summary of HB 8002 provided by the General Assembly. The document is 72 pages so you may not want to print it. You can access it by pressing by visiting: <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2025/ba/pdf/2025HB-08002-R00SS1-BA.pdf>.

## **Around Town**

### • **Planning and Zoning Commission Public Hearing**

The public hearing regarding subdivision SUB 25-02 – Salvatore V, Sena Jr. 2-lot re-subdivision at 596 Hartford Road (map10, block 69, lot 00) has been continued to the Planning and Zoning Commission January 13, 2026 meeting.

### • **Fire Marshal’s Office**

#### - **Fire Safety Inspections**

- › Witch Meadow Campground
- › R&W Heating
- › Gardner Liquor
- › Salem Congregational Church
- › Knox Boxes installed – Getty Granite and Spicer Gas

**Around Town** (continued)

- **Fire Marshal's Office** (continued)

- **Calls For The Month of October**

‣ Fire	3	‣ Hazardous Conditions	6
‣ Rescue & EMS	42	‣ Good Intent Calls	7
‣ Service Call	3	‣ False Alarm	2

**Total: 63**

- **Mutual Aid Given**

‣ Bozrah Volunteer Fire Co,	5	‣ Lebanon Volunteer Fire Dept.	1
‣ Colchester Hayward Fire Dept.	12	‣ Lyme Ambulance	1
‣ East Haddam Fire Dept.	2	‣ Oakdale Volunteer Fire Dept.	3

**Total: 24**

- **Mutual Aid Received**

‣ Colchester Hayward Fire Dept.	2	‣ Mohegan Tribal Fire Dept.	1
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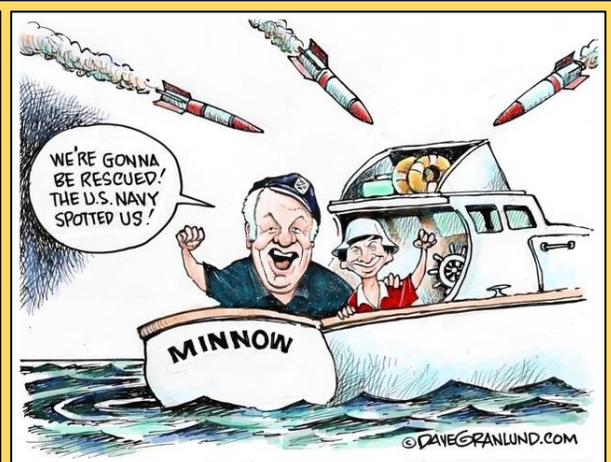
**Total: 3**

- **Emergency Management**

- Readied the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to a "monitoring" status for the two wind events. The events were more severe the forecast.
- Coordinated with Eversource and the Salem fire companies for dealing with tree and wire damage.
- Attended a meeting with Eversource in Berlin which included a tour of their facilities.

- **Public Works**

- MES Fire Equipment completed the annual fire extinguisher update for all Town Hall buildings and Works vehicles.
- Winterized ball field concession stand, pavilion, Historical Society building, cemetery and gardens at the Zemko property.
- Aerated and fertilized all the sports fields including the school field with organic pelletized fertilizer.
- Replace the Library door center support post lower support mullion, door now operated as it should.
- Repaired the Disc Golf information display stand at the Forsyth Road entrance.
- Removed downed trees from the recent wind storms or those ready to fall on Witter, West, and Rathbun Hill Roads.
- Cleaned debris from catch basin tops around town.
- Installed plow markers around town.
- Completed leaf clean-up around the Town Hall complex.
- Made ready the town's snow plow fleet in preparation for the winter snow season.
- Placed salt stations around the Town Hall complex in preparation for the winter season.



## **Lithium – Ion Battery Safety**

### **Hot Time & Excitement At The Salem Seniors Group December Membership Meeting.**

During the SSG's December membership meeting at the Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Co. fire house a garbage truck traveling Rte. 354 caught fire in its load compartment. Fortunately, the driver was able to pull into the GLVFCo. fire house parking lot and dump his load before the truck itself caught fire and no one was hurt. The fire was expeditiously extinguished by the first responders from the Salem Volunteer Fire Co. The SSG were treated to lunch and a "show". Thank you to the first responders from both the GLVFCo. SVFCo. stations for their quick and professional actions in putting out the fire.



In discussions with the Fire Marshal, the most likely cause of the fire was improperly disposed of lithium-ion batteries. (see a Safety below)

### **Lithium – Ion Battery Safety**

Lithium-ion batteries supply power to many kinds of devices including smart phones, laptops, e-scooters and e-bikes, e-cigarettes, smoke alarms, toys, and even cars. If not used correctly, or if damaged, these batteries can catch on fire or explode.



#### • **The Problem**

- These batteries store a large amount of energy in a small amount of space.
- Sometimes batteries are not used the right way; batteries not designed for a specific use can be dangerous.
- Like any product, a small number of these batteries are defective. They can overheat, catch fire, or explode.

#### • **Safety Tips**

- **Purchase** and use devices that are listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.
- **Always** follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- **Only Use** the battery that is designed for the device.
- **Only Use** the charging cord that came with the device.
- **Do Not** charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, or on a couch.
- **Do Not** keep charging the device or device battery after it is fully charged.
- **Keep** batteries at room temperature when possible. Do not charge them at temperatures below 32°F (0°C) or above 105°F (40°C).
- **Store** batteries away from anything that can catch fire.

#### • **Signs of a Problem**

Stop using the battery if you notice these problems: odor, change in color, too much heat, change in shape, leaking, or odd noises. If it is safe to do so, move the device away from anything that can catch fire. **Call 9-1-1.**

#### • **Recycle Batteries Responsibly**

Don't throw lithium-ion batteries in the trash or regular recycling bins because they could start a fire. Recycle your device or battery at a safe battery recycling location. Visit [call2recycle.org](http://call2recycle.org) or **press Ctrl + Click [HERE](#)** to find a recycling spot near you.

#### • **Charging an E-bike**

Charge your battery in a flat, dry area away from children, direct sunlight, liquids, tripping hazards, and in a location where the e-bike is not at risk of falling.



## Gun Violence – 2025 Statistics and Data

2025	Mass Shootings	Deaths	Injuries
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>1,735</b>
January	23	27	103
February	17	26	59
March	27	24	133
April	23	26	105
May	34	25	180
June	62	39	290
July	61	60	277
August	34	28	178
September	34	36	145
October	31	34	157
November	23	21	108
December			

\* Data current through November 30<sup>th</sup>

Shootings By State					
State	# Current Month	# Year To Date	State	# Current Month	# Year To Date
Alabama	0	10	Montana	0	1
Alaska	0	0	Nebraska	0	3
Arizona	2	5	Nevada	0	3
Arkansas	0	2	New Hampshire	0	0
California	5	28	New Jersey	1	5
Colorado	0	2	New Mexico	1	2
Connecticut	1	4	New York	0	10
Delaware	1	3	North Carolina	0	12
District of Colum	1	4	North Dakota	0	0
Florida	2	13	Ohio	2	21
Georgia	0	18	Oklahoma	0	8
Hawaii	0	2	Oregon	0	2
Idaho	0	1	Pennsylvania	0	17
Illinois	2	26	Rhode Island	0	0
Indiana	0	10	South Carolina	0	11
Iowa	0	1	South Dakota	0	0
Kansas	1	2	Tennessee	1	10
Kentucky	0	2	Texas	2	33
Louisiana	0	16	Utah	0	1
Maine	0	1	Vermont	0	0
Maryland	0	8	Virginia	0	9
Massachusetts	0	1	Washington	0	6
Michigan	0	11	West Virginia	0	1
Minnesota	0	9	Wisconsin	0	4
Mississippi	1	15	Wyoming	0	1
Missouri	0	10			

The 10 States With The:	
Strictest Gun Laws	Most Lenient Gun Laws
California	Mississippi
Illinois	Wyoming
New York	Montana
Connecticut	Idaho
Hawaii	Georgia
New Jersey	Arkansas
Maryland	South Dakota
Massachusetts	Oklahoma
Washington	New Hampshire
Colorado	Kentucky

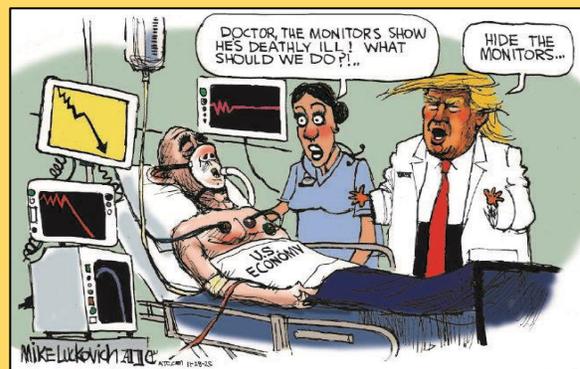
Total deaths (all causes) in the U.S. due to gun violence\* 13,663\*\*

Total injuries (all causes) in the U.S. due to gun violence\* 24,681

\* Data through November 3<sup>rd</sup>

\*\* Totals not including suicide

<b>DARK BLUE:</b>	Democrats won the majority 4 times
<b>LIGHT BLUE:</b>	Democrats won the 3 times
<b>PURPLE:</b>	Democrats and Republicans each won twice
<b>LIGHT RED</b>	Republicans won the 3 times
<b>DARK RED</b>	Republicans won the 4 times



## The Salem DTC Meeting Schedule – 2025

### The Salem DTC 2025/2026 Regular Monthly Meeting Schedule

- Wednesday, Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM, at the Center School
- Wednesday, Apr. 1<sup>st</sup>, at 7:00 PM, at the Center School
- Wednesday, Jul. 1<sup>st</sup>, at 7:00 PM, at the Center School
- Wednesday, Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM, at the Center School
- Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM, at the Center School
- Wednesday, Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM, at the Center School
- Wednesday, Mar. 4<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM, at the Center School
- Wednesday, Jun. 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7:00 PM, at the Center School
- Wednesday, Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:00 PM, at the Center School

[Community News You Can Use](#)

**Environmental Seminars Available**

**SPRING 2026  
Environmental Issues Seminars**

Rm C101 or <https://tinyurl.com/EnvironmentalSeminarSpring2026>

Wednesday classes start at 5:30 PM. Guest speaker at 6 PM and will be followed with Q&A. Noncredit students/guests are also invited. Free to everyone unless you want credit!

To the right is a listing of the spring's environmental seminars/guest speaker classes available at **CT State Community College, Three Rivers campus.**

You can register to audit the seminar(s) and the seminars can be viewed virtually if you don't want college credit. There is no cost and no homework!

You can also attend in-person at: **CT State Community College, Three Rivers campus room C101.**

Wednesday seminars start at 5:30 PM and the guest speaker at 6:00 PM. Each seminar will be followed by a Q&A session.



If you are interested in attending use the QR code above or

<https://tinyurl.com/EnvironmentalSeminarSpring2026> to register.

For more details or questions contact Professor Diba Khan-Bureau at: [diba.khanbureau@ctstate.edu](mailto:diba.khanbureau@ctstate.edu) or call her office -860-215-9443.

For more info, email Professor Diba Khan-Bureau diba.khanbureau@ctstate.edu office: 1-860-215-9443 		<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>28</b> Corrie Folsom-O'Keefe, Director Bird Conservation, and Jack Matthias, Coastal Resilience Manager of Audubon CT, Coastal Resilience at Hammonasset Beach State Park.		<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>4</b> Dr. Christian Bruckner, Professor of Chemistry, UConn – A whirlwind tour through the periodic table of elements from an environmental perspective.
<b>11</b> Brittney Izbicki, Supervisory Hydrologic Technician, United States Geological Survey (USGS), Coastal monitoring to support nutrient management in Long Island Sound.	<b>18</b> Judy Preston, MS., Ecologist and Naturalist – Riparian buffers; protecting water with plants!	<b>25</b> Dr. Gary Robbins, Emeritus Professor Geology & Hydrology UConn – Geologic Secrets of Southeastern Connecticut.		<b>MARCH</b>	<b>4</b> Kim Hargrave, Executive Director Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center – Habitat management and conservation of birds of prey.	
<b>11</b> Bill Yule, mycological educator, forager, North American Mycological Association – fungal ecology, symbiotic relationships, and the interconnectedness of forest ecosystems.		<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	<b>25</b> Dr. Mike Dietz, Professor of Water Resources, UConn, – National and global concerns of stormwater pollution: stormwater and low impact design.		<b>APRIL</b>	<b>1</b> Dr. Tom Meyer, Professor of Geomatics, UConn – Using GPS to reveal the secret lives of mountain lions and humpback whales!
<b>8</b> Greg Bugbee and Summer Weidman, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station – Invasive aquatic plants in Connecticut's lakes, rivers, and ponds.	<b>15</b> Dr. James O'Donnell, Professor of Marine Science UConn, Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA). Global climate change abroad and in Connecticut.		<b>22</b> Beth Timpe Merow, MS., Education Director, Connecticut Forest & Park Association – Conserving the green heart of Connecticut: The future of our forests.	<b>29</b> Dr. John Lane, United States Geological Survey (USGS) – Water resources in the developing world: volunteering to help supply water for those without.		
<b>MAY</b>		<b>6</b> Dr. William Ouimet, Associate Professor of Earth Sciences, UConn – Using sediment cores to study environmental change in Connecticut.		<b>13</b> Kevin Franklin, MS., Licensed Land Surveyor, Professor TRCC – Surveying the Earth! Using GIS and drones for surveying.		

## [Community News You Can Use](#) (continued)

### Salem School Fundraiser

**The Salem PTO has many fundraisers during the year.** Are you looking for an **EASY** way to support Salem School and help us reach our goal? One you can help with is the **Box Tops For Education** fundraiser.

For over 29 years, **Box Tops for Education** has given families an easy way to earn cash for schools with products they already buy! Today, you can find hundreds of participating products throughout the store. Scan or submit your receipt with the Box Tops app within 14 days of purchase, or shop with your Walmart connected account, and you'll earn for your school with every Box Tops product you buy.

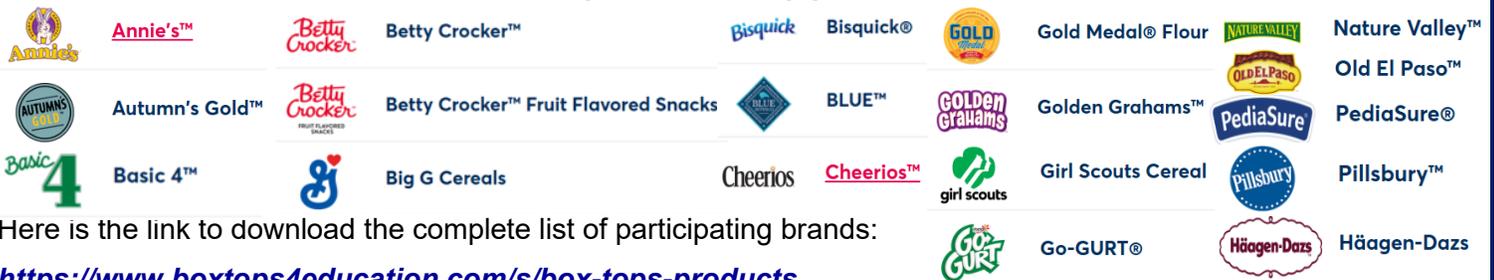
**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR SCHOOLS  
AMERICA'S SCHOOLS HAVE EARNED \$958,015,672 WITH BOX TOPS...AND COUNTING**

**It's so simple:**

- ✓ Download the Box Tops for Education app on your device (phone, tablet, computer, etc.), here is the link to the Box Tops for Education website: <https://www.boxtops4education.com/s/>
- ✓ Select **Salem School** (or your school)
- ✓ Submit your receipts by:
  - 🛒 Linking your Walmart account (yep, even for grocery delivery!)
  - 📄 Uploading/emailing a digital receipt (ShopRite, Stop n Shop, Target, Amazon, and more!)
  - 📷 Snapping a pic of your paper receipt

**No clipping. No scanning items. Just shop like you normally do — and help us earn cash for PTO programs that benefit our school and students!**

**Examples of Box Top products:**



Here is the link to download the complete list of participating brands:

<https://www.boxtops4education.com/s/box-tops-products>

### **Salem Free Public Library (SFPL)**

#### **Library Report – November**

- In November the library held 3 Storytimes with 69 attendees. Following Storytime, the library offers a Drop-In Playgroup for children and caregivers. Salem Free Public Library held 3 of these sessions with 47 attendees. Storytime continues to grow in numbers and interest. If this trend continues the library may have to look at dividing the group into 2 age groups.
- On November 1<sup>st</sup>, Library Programming Assistant, Hannah Lynch, held an Adopt-A-Dinosaur storytime. Attendees were read a special dinosaur story and then were allowed to adopt a dinosaur of their choosing to bring home, there were 29 participants.
- On November 5<sup>th</sup> the library held Legos in the Library, and Library assistant Veronique Chechile ran this program, where children could make a Lego creation, and put it on display in the main library. There were 13 attendees.
- The Library distributed 2 different take-and-make crafts for November. There were 32 kits distributed.
- On November 13<sup>th</sup>, the Library hosted staff from Bibliomation to run a virtual question and answer session about upgrades being made to the ILS (Integrated Library System) the SFPL subscribes to. There were 3 Bibliomation staff members present holding this virtual session.
- On November 15<sup>th</sup>, Hannah Lynch presented a special Sophie Squash storytime. Participants were read a book and painted a squash! There were 17 participants.

## [Community News You Can Use](#) (continued)

### [Library Report – November](#) (continued)

- On November 20<sup>th</sup> the Last Thursday Book Club met and there were 5 attendees.
- For the month of November, the Library had a guessing jar, where participants could guess how many miniature dinosaurs were in a jar. There were 81 participants.
- For the month of November, the Library put on a Dinosaur Scavenger hunt. There were 69 participants.

### [Library Building And Collection](#)

- The *Knitters Group* that meets at the library weekly, have their items on display at the library to fundraise for the library!
- The library is preparing for our Holiday event on December 6<sup>th</sup>. There will be a variety of events taking place. Please join us for workshops on beeswax candle making, crafting an evergreen centerpiece, making a pomander, and a gingerbread craft for children. We will also host Pewter Pot Fine Chocolates from 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM, and then our holiday concert featuring Isabel Oliart on Celtic Fiddle and Elias Cardoo on guitar.

The SFPL served 1,392 patrons and provided 79 patrons with technical help through October 31<sup>st</sup>.

### [News & Events](#)

#### • ***Museum Passes and Discounted Admission Passes***

The Library offers Museum Passes And Discounted Admission Passes to many of the museums in our state, visit the library, or go to the library website by clicking on: [saalemct.gov/library/pages/museum-passes](http://saalemct.gov/library/pages/museum-passes) to view the library website and view what they have to offer and pass availability.

#### • ***Books in the Afternoon Book Club; Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 PM.***

(One week early due to Christmas Holiday)

“***The Giver of Stars***” – by: – **JoJo Moyes**: A call goes out for a team of women to deliver books as part of Eleanor Roosevelt’s new traveling library during the Great Depression. These heroic women refuse to be cowed by men or by convention. And though they face all kinds of dangers in a landscape that is at times breathtakingly beautiful, at others brutal, they’re committed to their job: bringing books to people who have never had any, arming them with facts that will change their lives.

Adults over 18 are welcome. **To join the group, e-mail Christine Murtha at: [murthachristine@yahoo.com](mailto:murthachristine@yahoo.com).**

#### • ***Programs & Events At The Library***

##### - ***Winter Storytime***

**Every Wednesday at 10:30 AM**  
**Beginning December 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
(no storytime on December 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>)

**Register at the Circulation Desk**  
**Or call 860 859-1130**

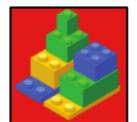
*(Sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Free Public Library)*



##### - ***LEGOS at The Library***

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday, for the month,**  
**December 3<sup>rd</sup>, January 7<sup>th</sup>, &**  
**February 4<sup>th</sup>, 4:00-5:00 PM**

**Recommended for ages 5+, little LEGOS will be used.**



##### - ***Sock Drive***

**The Salem Free Public Library will**  
**be collecting new socks for all ages**  
**for Care & Share of East Lyme.**

**Donation Period: November 10<sup>th</sup>,**  
**to January 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Drop off Location: Salem Library, 264 Hartford**  
**Rd, at the Circulation desk.**



##### - ***Drop-In Christmas Crafts***

**Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 4 PM**

Join us for an afternoon of crafts and  
card making. Fun for the whole  
family

**Reservations required**  
**Sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Free Public Library**



**Event Passed**

**Community News You Can Use (continued)**

• **Programs & Events At The Library (continued)**

- **Reindeer Cocoa Jar**

Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>  
at 4:00 PM

Patrons will decorate a jar and create a custom cocoa blend!

**This program is limited to 30 participants.**  
Call 860 859-1130 to register

Sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Free Public Library



**Event Passed**

- **American Girl Doll Tea Party**

Saturday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>  
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Bring your favorite doll. It does not have to be an American Girl Doll.

Join us for a delightful morning tea. Bring your doll and indulge in a relaxing morning with treats, a selection of beverages and a fun craft activity designed for your doll. Ages 6-14

Sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Free Public Library



- **The Show & Tell Book Club**

Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 PM

Let's talk about your favorite books over Coffee!

Ages: 18 & Up

Call 860 859-1130 to register

Sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Free Public Library



- **SFPL Tote Bags for Sale**

Available at the circulation desk at the library.

**\$10.00 Cash or Check made payable to the Town of Salem**



**Salem Recreation Department**

• **Find Your Footprint -Medallion Project**

Let us know when you've found your 2025 Medallion & submit a photo!



Find a medallion in the following preserves:

Walden Preserve, Zemko Sawmill Preserve, Multi-Purpose Path/Harris Brook Trail, Darling Road Preserve, Smuggler's Rock Preserve, Salem Riverside Preserve

[www.salemct.gov/recreation/footprintproject](http://www.salemct.gov/recreation/footprintproject)

Special Thanks to **Kim Ford, The Salem Land Trust, Teri Natoli,** and our Volunteers

• **Salem Woods Disc Golf Course**

Where: Bob Appleby Fields  
At Volunteer Park  
24 Forsyth Road



Come and try it out!!

Discs available for loan. Contact Us:

e-mail: [recreation@salemct.gov](mailto:recreation@salemct.gov), or

Call: 860-859-3873 x275

• **In-Person Yoga Classes**

Tuesday Evenings, 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM  
October 28<sup>th</sup> to December 2<sup>nd</sup>  
(6 Classes)

At the Salem Volunteer Fire Co.  
Fire House, 24 Hartford Road

Wednesday Mornings, 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM  
October 30<sup>th</sup> to December 4<sup>th</sup> (6 Classes)

Old Library 216 Hartford Road  
\$60 Residents, \$65 Non-Resident  
Register Early Limit 6 participants

Please wear comfortable clothing, bring a yoga mat, and water. Extra mats are available if needed.

To Register visit:

<https://www.salemct.gov/recreation/register>,  
or call 860-859-3873 x275



**WINTER SCHEDULE HAS NOT BEEN SET YET**  
**STAY TUNED FOR WINTER SCHEDULE ANNOUNCEMENT**

• **Pilates – In-Person Classes**

WHEN: Monday evenings,  
5:30 PM to 6:30 PM

October 27<sup>th</sup> to December 1<sup>st</sup> (6 weeks)

WHERE: Old Library 216 Hartford Road  
\$60 Residents, \$65 Non-Resident

Please wear comfortable clothing, bring a yoga mat, and water. Extra mats are available if needed.

Register Early, limit 6 participants:

<https://www.salemct.gov/recreation/register>,  
or call 860-859-3873 x275



**WINTER SCHEDULE HAS NOT BEEN SET YET**  
**STAY TUNED FOR WINTER SCHEDULE ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Community News You Can Use** *(continued)*

**Salem Recreation Department** *(continued)*

• **Personal Euphoria Virtual Fitness Classes**

Winter Classes

Pilates

**Tuesday** January 6<sup>th</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>  
6:00 PM to 6:45 PM  
Instructor: Rob, Cost: \$111

Skill-Based Strength:  
**unlock your push-up & deep squat**

**Thursday** January 8<sup>th</sup> – February 5<sup>th</sup>  
12:10 PM to 12:50 PM  
Instructor: Maggie, Cost: \$42

Core Strength

January 6<sup>th</sup> – April 2<sup>nd</sup>  
6:00 PM to 6:45 PM  
Instructor: Rob, Cost: \$111

• **Personal Euphoria Virtual Fitness Classes**

Winter Classes

15 Min. HIIT

**Wednesday** January 7<sup>th</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup>  
8:10 AM to 8:25 AM  
Instructor: Maggie, Cost: \$52

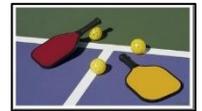
Cardio Strength

8:50 AM to 9:15 AM  
Instructor: Maggie, Cost: \$111

• **Adult Co-Ed Pickleball**

**Pick-Up Games**

**When:** Saturday mornings  
8:00 AM to 10:00 AM, &  
Tuesday evenings,  
5:30 PM to 7:30 PM



**Where:** Salem School, Multi Purpose Room  
October 4<sup>th</sup> – April 7<sup>th</sup>

For Salem & East Lyme Residents, age 18 and up.  
Sign in upon arrival

• **Salem Recreation 2026 Calendar**

<b>MARCH</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
<b>28</b> Salem Lions Club <b>32nd ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT</b> for Toddlers to Grade 4 Salem School Gym & Field, 1 to 3 pm	<b>6</b> TOUCH-A-TRUCK Salem Community Park Pavilion, 10 am to 1 pm	<b>26</b> COMMUNITY TAG SALEM DAY Rain date: Sunday, September 27 Salem Community Park Pavilion, 9 am to 12 pm Pavilion spots open to all. Residence listings for Residents only.
<b>APRIL</b>	<b>5</b> FIND YOUR FOOTPRINT! MEDALLION PROJECT in cooperation with the Salem Land Trust Start hunting for this year's Footprint hidden along select trails	<b>OCTOBER</b>
<b>16</b> SPRING CONCERT (Rain date: Saturday, April 18) Salem Community Park Pavilion, 6 to 8 pm	<b>25</b> SUMMER CONCERT Salem Community Park Pavilion, 6 to 8 pm	<b>7</b> NATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL DAY Bingham Field, Salem School, 8 am
<b>TBD</b> Salem Little League <b>OPENING DAY</b> Lou Ulffer's Sports Complex, 10 am	<b>JULY</b>	<b>25</b> Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company <b>MONSTER MASH + TRICK OR TRUNK</b> Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company 2:00 to 5:00 pm
<b>25</b> COMMUNITY TAG SALEM DAY (Rain date: Sunday, April 26) Salem Community Park Pavilion, 9 am to 12 pm Pavilion spots open to all. Residence listings for Residents only.	<b>TBD</b> Economic Development Commission <b>4th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS IN JULY</b> Salem Community Park Pavilion, 9 am to 2 pm	<b>DECEMBER</b>
<b>MAY</b>	<b>28</b> SUMMER CONCERT Salem Community Park Pavilion, 6 to 8 pm	<b>5</b> ANNUAL HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING Center School/Town Green, 3 to 5 pm
<b>6</b> NATIONAL BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY Bingham Field, Salem School, 8 am	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>STAY TUNED FOR MORE EVENTS!</b>
<b>25</b> MEMORIAL DAY PARADE & BIKE DECORATING CONTEST Salem Town Green, following Ceremony	<b>20</b> SUMMER CONCERT Salem Community Park Pavilion, 6:00 to 8:00 pm	<b>STARGAZING NIGHTS @ THE PAVILION</b> Salem School PTO <b>COUGARPALOOZA</b> Salem School PTO <b>BACK TO SCHOOL BASH</b>

**EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CHECK WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.**

salemct.gov/recreation | 860-859-3873, x275 | recreation@salemct.gov

**Community News You Can Use** (continued)

**Salem Recreation Department** (continued)

• **Events & Activities outside of Salem**

- **Southeastern Connecticut Community Orchestra**



**Holiday Cheer**



**Music Director: Dr. Halarie Clark Moore**

**WHEN: Saturday December 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM**

**WHERE: East Lyme High School**

**Cost: \$12.00 – general admission  
\$10.00 – seniors  
\$5.00 – children ages 6-12,  
under 6 free.**

*A Mad Russian's Christmas, Still, Still, Still, Celtic Carol, Fantasia on Greensleeves on Three Kings, Minor Alterations, How the Grinch Stole Christmas, Christmas Rocks at the Pops, African Holy Night, Angels We Have Heard on High, Sleigh Ride*

[www.seccorchestra.com](http://www.seccorchestra.com)

ig @secc.orchestra – fb @seccorchestra

- **U.S. Coast Guard Band**



**Happy Holidays**

**WHEN: Sunday December 14<sup>th</sup>  
at 2:00 PM**

**WHERE: Leamy Concert Hall,  
U.S. Coast Guard Academy**

**COST: This event is free to the public.**

*Assistant Director, CWO Jeffrey Spenner leads brilliant soloists, soprano MU1 and clarinetist, MUC Charlie Suriykharn in a heart-warming afternoon of joyous music.*

**Senior News**

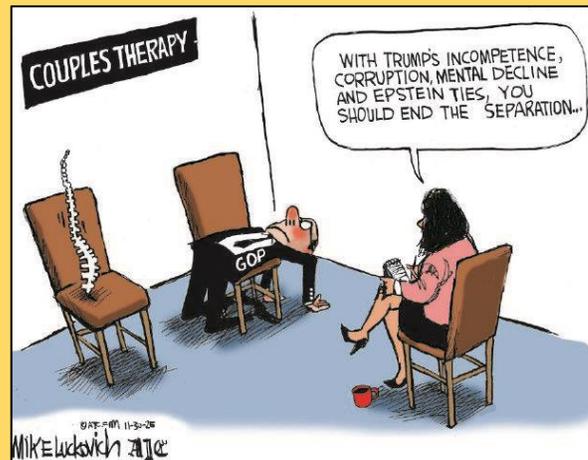
The Salem Seniors Group (SSG) boasts a current enrolment of over 190 members. Membership has tripled since the beginning of 2022. *Salem (or surrounding town) residents age 50 years or older are welcome to join the Salem Senior Citizen's Group!*

*Our monthly meetings are held at the Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Co. Firehouse at 429 Old Colchester Road, Salem the second Tuesday of the month at 10:30 AM, lunch is provided.*

Meetings include town discussions, news, and updates, and interesting guest speakers. After the meeting noon lunch is provided. Trips, events, activities, and classes, throughout the year, are developed by our members.

For more information, contact Gary Closius (President): [gclosius@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gclosius@sbcglobal.net), or call 860-961-9173, or Mary Cikatz (Vice President): [mcikatz@yahoo.com](mailto:mcikatz@yahoo.com), or call 860-287-7275.

Use the following link to view our monthly newsletter: [salemct.gov/salem-senior-citizens/pages/salem-seniors-group-newsletters](http://salemct.gov/salem-senior-citizens/pages/salem-seniors-group-newsletters) and click on the one you want.



# INFORMATION & SERVICES

## [Public Town Meetings for December/January](#)

*Meetings in January*

<b>Library Board of Directors,</b> Tuesday, December 9 <sup>th</sup> , 6:00 PM	<b>Emergency Preparedness Agency,</b> Tuesday, December 9 <sup>th</sup> , 7:00 PM
<b>Planning &amp; Zoning Commission,</b> Tuesday, December 9 <sup>th</sup> , 7:00 PM	<b>Board of Finance,</b> Thursday, December 11 <sup>th</sup> , 7:00 PM
<b>Recreation Commission,</b> Monday, December 15 <sup>th</sup> , 7:00 PM	<b>Economic Development Commission,</b> Tuesday, December 9 <sup>th</sup> , 6:00pm
<b>Planning &amp; Zoning Commission,</b> Tuesday, December 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 7:00 PM	<b>Board of Selectmen,</b> Tuesday, January 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7:00pm
<b>Board of Finance,</b> Thursday, January 8 <sup>th</sup> , 7:00 PM	<b>Long Range Educational Planning,</b> Monday, January 12 <sup>th</sup> , 5:00 PM
<b>Library Board of Directors,</b> Tuesday, January 13 <sup>th</sup> , 6:00 PM	<b>Emergency Preparedness Agency,</b> Tuesday, January 13 <sup>th</sup> , 7:00 PM

To view the Town Public Meeting Calendar, press **Ctrl + Click** on:  
<https://www.salemct.gov/calendar-by-event-type/16>

## [Help And Assistance](#)

### **The CTALERT – Emergency Notification System**

#### **Overview:**

The State of Connecticut has a state-of-the-art emergency notification system to alert residents about emergencies in your area. (**State of CT Emergency Notification System (CTALERT)**)

To sign-up for CTALERT go to the website by **pressing Ctrl + Click** on:  
[member.everbridge.net/index/892807736721724#/signup](https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736721724#/signup)

### **Municipal Medical Transportation Service**

**The Caregiver Mileage Reimbursement and Medical Transportation program** is for adults 60+ and persons with disabilities who are unable to drive and need transportation medical appointments.

To access this service contact: **Agnes Miyuki**, Salem's Agent for the Elderly at 860-859-3873 X 125. Agnes can provide all program and eligibility information.

Use the following link to view the **Guidelines for the Municipal Medical Transportation Service:**  
[salemct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif4966/f/uploads/transportation\\_fy22\\_packet\\_0.pdf](https://salemct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif4966/f/uploads/transportation_fy22_packet_0.pdf).

### **Connecticut Prescription Drug Discount Card Program**

#### **All Connecticut Residents Can Sign Up for the Free Discount Card to Receive Savings on Medication**

A prescription drug discount card program was launched in Connecticut on October 2, 2023, enabling all residents of the state to receive savings on certain prescription drugs. The program was established by a provision of Governor Lamont's health care affordability bill (Public Act 23-171), which was approved by the General Assembly and signed into law in June. It is administered by the Office of the State Comptroller.

For more information on how the **ArrayRx discount card works**, including a list of frequently asked questions and a drug price lookup tool, **press Ctrl + Click** on [arrayrxcard.com/](https://arrayrxcard.com/). or review our **February 2024 Newsletter**

[Help And Assistance \(continued\)](#)**211 Infoline Help**

Follow the link <https://www.211ct.org/> to the webpage for more information on how 211 can assist you or someone you know that needs help.

**Care & Share**

**Care & Share of East Lyme, Inc.** provides food, financial and emergency support to individuals and families in East Lyme, Niantic, and Salem. **If you are interested in receiving assistance, contact them at 860-739-8502.** Leave a message with your name, telephone number and the type of assistance you need, as well as the best time you can be reached. A responder will confidentially return your call. **To see what other services they provide visit their website by pressing Ctrl + Click on: [careandshareofel.org/](http://careandshareofel.org/).**

**Food Pantries**

Below are a few of the local food pantries available in our area. Please contact them directly to get on their list and for more information as to when they are open for pick up. If you need assistance with pick up let the agency know and they can arrange for delivery.

Name	Locations	Contact	Phone Number
Care and Share	12 Roxbury Road	Niantic	860-739-8502
United Way Mobile Food Pantry	Three Rivers Community College	Norwich	860-464-3327
Rosalyn Allen Food Pantry	Mobile Pantry	Norwich	860-822-4146

**Thames Valley Council for Community Action (TVCCA)**

Senior volunteer programs, often part of AmeriCorps Seniors, provide opportunities for individuals aged 55 and older to contribute their skills and experience to their communities. These programs, such as RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program), connect volunteers with various organizations to address local needs, often in areas like education, health, and social services. Due cuts in federal and state government funding for the AmeriCorps Seniors the RSVP/Senior Volunteer Program is no longer available. However, assistance for things like food and nutrition, energy, housing, and more is still available through TVCCA. **Please visit the website by pressing Ctrl + Click on [TVCCA.org](http://TVCCA.org) or call our main receptionist number 860-444-6600.**

[Volunteer Opportunities](#)**SALEM LIONS CLUB**

The Lions are looking for volunteers. **Contact Dan Holle at 860-300-7570, or Hugh McKenney at 860-303-0042.**

**MITCHELL FARM EQUINE RETIREMENT**

The Horse Retirement, Horse Sanctuary is looking for help.

**Contact Dee Doolittle 860 303-8705, or e-mail: [dee@mitchellfarm.org](mailto:dee@mitchellfarm.org).**

**GARDNER LAKE AND SALEM VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES**

Both the Salem and Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Companies are looking for volunteers of **ALL AGES.**

- **Salem Volunteer Fire Company – NON-EMERGENCY PHONE: 860-859-0942. To visit their website, press Ctrl + Click on: <https://www.salemfireco.com/>.**
- **Gardner Lake Fire Company – NON-EMERGENCY PHONE: 860- 859-1743. To visit their website, press Ctrl + Click on: [gardnerlakevolunteerfirecompany.com/home](http://gardnerlakevolunteerfirecompany.com/home).**

**Volunteer Opportunities** *(continued)***FRIENDS OF THE SALEM FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY (FOSFPL)**

The *Friends of The Salem Library* could always use help sorting books for the book sale, and at the book sales. For future book sorting and book pick-up and work dates, stay tuned and watch for notifications on Facebook. Check out the FOSFPL new webpage at [www.friends-of-the-salem-free-public-library.org](http://www.friends-of-the-salem-free-public-library.org).

**If you would like to help, contact Bart Drennen at 860-235-5889.**

**SALEM SCHOOL**

Volunteers are always welcome at **Salem School**. Anyone interested in volunteering can go to the Salem School website by **pressing Ctrl + Click** on: [salemschools.org](http://salemschools.org). Put the cursor over the "Our School" tab, & click on the "Forms tab" to access the form, OR visit the school and fill out the form at the front desk of the school. Make sure you bring a picture ID with you.

**CARE & SHARE**

Care & Share of East Lyme, Inc. provides food, financial and emergency support to individuals and families in East Lyme, Niantic, and Salem. **If you are interested in volunteering your time, contact them at 860-739-8502.**

**THE SALEM LAND TRUST**

The Salem Land Trust (SLT) is an all-volunteer non-profit organization permanently conserving land in Salem for wildlife, their habitats, and for people to enjoy nature. Many volunteers begin by helping to keep our miles of hiking trails clear. Each of our 9 Preserves have experienced land Stewards assigned to them, so new volunteers start learning the job from them and other SLT members experienced with being "in the woods." Out in the field, experienced hikers and wildlife lovers cannot help but pass on their knowledge of nature on to all new volunteers. We also have volunteer opportunities in our Membership and Events Committee as we are always looking for new ways to bring the wonder of nature to more people.

**For more information or if you are interested in volunteering contact Linda Schroeder: e-mail: [lschroeder@snet.net](mailto:lschroeder@snet.net) or call 860-908-9553.**

**CEMETERY CLEAN-UP**

The Salem VFW is always looking for help to clean up the cemeteries. **Watch the Facebook website for future dates for cemetery clean up opportunities.**

Please bring your gloves, weed-whacker, mower, rakes, and tarps. If you are interested in helping or have a need contact **Kay Zak at: 860-889-3989 or e-mail at: [kayzak@hotmail.com](mailto:kayzak@hotmail.com).**

**Activities In Our Region****Niantic Bay Playhouse**

**Upcoming Events at The Niantic Bay Playhouse** (279 Main Street, Niantic)

**2025 Season**

- **"White Christmas"** – December 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>

Check the theatre's website for show times & tickets by **pressing Ctrl + Click** on: [nianticbayplayhouse.org/](http://nianticbayplayhouse.org/).

**Goodspeed Opera House**

**Upcoming Events at The Goodspeed Opera House** (6 Main Street, East Haddam)

- **"White Christmas"** – November 14<sup>th</sup> – December 28<sup>th</sup>.

For details on the shows check out our May Newsletter or go to **Goodspeed website** at:

<https://www.goodspeed.org/>

**Activities In Our Region** (continued)

**Ivoryton Playhouse**

**Upcoming Events at The Ivoryton Playhouse** (103 Main Street, Ivoryton)

Join the Salem Seniors at the Ivoryton Playhouse for any of the following shows.

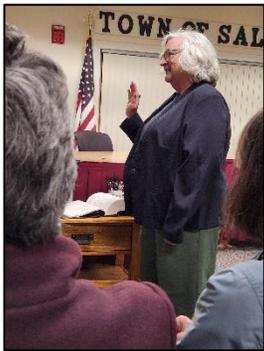
- **“Playhouse Holiday Jamboree”** – Created by Katie Barton and Ben Hope, **November 20<sup>th</sup> – December 21<sup>st</sup>**

For details on the shows check out our May Newsletter or go to Ivoryton Playhouse website at:

<https://www.ivorytonplayhouse.org/>

**Salem Democrats in Action Around Salem**

**Swearing in Ceremony Of Newly Elected Municipal Officials – 2025**



**EDC Small Business Saturday**

**SAG December Meeting**



**Gary as Santa**

**Rudolph and & a Christmas Elf are in the house**

**Lions Distribute Thanksgiving Turkeys And All The Fixings**



**As Salem Lions Club members Dan and Gary deliver turkeys and all the fixings to Salem residents for Thanksgiving**

**December Veterans Coffee House**

**Veterans At The December Veterans Coffee House Assemble Bikes For The Trooper's Toy Drive**



**To Get a Copy of The Newsletter**

If you would like to receive this newsletter via e-mail, please send your request along with your e-mail address to:

Gary Closius: [gclosius@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gclosius@sbcglobal.net)

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