



NEWSLETTER

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How Do I 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

SALEM BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOE) VACANCY

Any member of the community with an interest in serving on the BOE is encouraged to complete an application and submit a Letter of Interest to Jennifer Kayser, Board Clerk/Executive Assistant to the Superintendent.

The application may be accessed by clicking on salemschools.org/cms/lib/CT01000057/Centricity/Domain/7/applicboe.pdf (Also available on our website at www.salemschools.org.)

The last day for applications will be July 10th. Jennifer Kayser will collect and notify the BOE regarding the number of applicants by July 11th. Jennifer will contact applicants to set up interviews by July 12th.

Interviews will be held the night of the regular BOE meeting on July 15th. The meeting would start in Executive Session at 6 PM for BOE Interviews/Deliberation. Appointment would be an action item on the agenda for regular session later that evening.

The new member would need to be sworn in by the Town Clerk within 14 days of the appointment by the BOE and would serve until the next municipal election.

Please call Jennifer Kayser at 860-892-1223 x 3201 with any questions.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SERVING SALEM?

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

In preparation for the municipal elections in November 2025 the Salem Democratic Town Committee (SDTC) is interested in hearing from anyone interested in running for public office. If you are interested in serving a Salem Board and Commission we want to hear from you as well. We want to build bench strength so when a vacancy on a Board or Commission opens, we would have a candidate or candidates that have expressed interest in serving Salem that we could recommend to the Board of Selectmen to fill the vacancy.

In addition to the BOE vacancy discussed above, there is a vacancy on the Planning and Zoning Commission for an Alternate Member.

If you are interested in running for public office, serving on the PZC, or any other Board or Commission please contact Gary Closius at gclosius@sbcglobal.net or call 880-961-9176.

SDTC FUNDRAISERS

The SDTC will be holding several fundraisers in the coming months so check our website (salemctdems.org) and Facebook (facebook.com/salemctdems) for information on upcoming fundraisers.

- The SDTC is holding a fundraiser at the Bingham Camp 490 E Haddam Rd, Salem, CT on **Sunday, August 25th from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM**. There will be a silent auction and several state and national candidates have been invited. Suggested donation is \$35 per person.

SDTC FUNDRAISERS (Continued from p 1)

- The SDTC is holding the first of several planned Trivia Nights on **Sunday, September 7th at 7:00 PM** at the Gardner Lake Fire House, 429 Old Colchester Road, Salem, doors open at 6:30.
Team Prizes: 1st Place: \$250, 2nd Place \$150, & 3rd Place Canned Fox Farm Beer (12 pack). Get up to 8 of your friends, form a team and come have some fun. Suggested donation \$35 per person.



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HELPING DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL?

GET INVOLVED IN THE PROGRESSIVE TURNOUT PROJECT.

Progressive Turnout Project (PTP) is the largest voter contact organization in the country, specifically dedicated to mobilizing the Democratic Party and defending democracy. PTP's mission is to rally Democrats to vote.

TURNOUT WINS ELECTIONS

The best way to turn out voters is with one-on-one conversations.

Progressive Turnout Project is built around this truth, proven time and time again by researchers — including them. On average, PTP's field work boosts voter turnout by more than 10 percent.

How does that happen? PTP talks to inconsistent voters who are likely Democrats, so they don't need persuading on who to vote for. They just need a nudge, some information, and to hear from a real person. That means every eligible non-voter PTP is able to reach brings Democrats closer to success on Election Day.

POSTCARDS TO SWING STATES

Help write postcards to voters in 11 key states! PTP will mail you free postcards, voter lists and instructions with proven message options. You'll provide the stamps and mail the postcards to voters in October.

In 2021-22, PTP volunteers — in all 50 states, D.C. and Puerto Rico — sent 20.7 million handwritten postcards to voters in seven key Senate states and 41 frontline House districts. PTP also delivered more than 135,000 Neighborhood Letters.

Use the following link to sign-up to write post cards: secure.everyaction.com/wWYzSycviOuyLrKtsMnNXw2.



SALEM VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT BLOOD DRIVE

The Salem Volunteer Fire Dept will hold a blood drive on **Monday, July 30th from 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM** at the Salem Volunteer Fire Co. firehouse at 424 Hartford Road, Salem, CT.

The next Blood Drive after July will be held Monday, October 24th from 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM.

Call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Salem CT to schedule an appointment.

AROUND TOWN – JUNE

• **Emergency Services:**

- **Emergency Preparedness Agency***

- ▶ This year's hurricane season is forecasted to be significant. AccuWeather meteorologists are forecasting 20-25 named storms across the Atlantic basin in 2024, including 8-12 hurricanes, four to seven major hurricanes and four to six direct U.S. impacts.**
- ▶ Participated in the Governor's 2024 Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative (EPPI) Drill to assist in identifying vulnerabilities and risks.

- **Fire Marshal Report***

▶ **Emergency Calls:**

* Fire Calls	1
* EMS Calls	46***
* Service Calls	1
* False Alarms	1
* Calls Cancelled enroute)	9
TOTAL CALLS	58

▶ **Call Location:**

* Bozrah	11
* Salem	36
* Colchester	7
* Lebanon	1
* East Haddam	2
* Montville	1
TOTAL CALLS	58

AROUND TOWN – JUNE (continued from p 2)

• **Emergency Services: (continued)**

- **Fire Marshal Report* (continued)**

▸ **Total Calls by Station:**

* Station 27 (GLVFC)	29
* Station 22 (SVFC)	11
* Service Calls (Town of Salem)	<u>18</u>
TOTAL CALLS	58

▸ **Inspections completed in June:**

- * Henny Penny,
- * Sothern Wicked Coffee/Right of Way Construction.

• **Salem Resident State Trooper & Colchester Troop K***

During the month of June, the Salem Resident Trooper as well as Troop K responded to 127 calls for service in the Town of Salem. Of these call for service, the most notable are:

▸ **Calls For Service:**

	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>
* Accidents	9	30
* Criminal Investigations	8	29
* Burglaries	0	1
* Larcenies	1	3
* Nonreportable Matters	96	584
* Total Arrests	<u>1</u>	<u>14</u>
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	127	1,019

▸ **Motor Vehicle Enforcement:**

	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>
* Onsite DUIs	1	5
* Arrests	0	1
* Misdemeanor Summons	1	2
* Infractions	3	111
* Written Warnings	4	211
* Verbal Warnings	<u>2</u>	<u>45</u>
TOTAL TRAFFIC STOPS	364	

• **Salem Board of Assessment Appeals (BAA)**

The Salem BAA is an official town agency (3 active members) that is designed to serve as an appeal body for taxpayers who believe that the town assessor erred in the valuation of their property or denied them an exemption. The BAA is not an assessing agency as that is the function of the assessor. It is a review body and in most cases the BAA operates as an intermediary level between the assessors and the courts.

The BAA formally meets in person with aggrieved taxpayers in March and September to review their submitted written applications for appeal of real estate, personal property and motor vehicles assessments. Board members may then query the taxpayer regarding the evidence. Once the hearing is concluded the BAA deliberate and vote as to whether an adjustment to the assessment is warranted and the taxpayers are then notified in writing within 1 week as to the findings of the BAA.

(A recent state law will be implemented in 2025 starting with the 2024 Grand List regarding Veterans who served during wartime that exempts from property taxes the primary residence or motor vehicle of former members of the United States Armed Forces who have a permanent and total disability rating resulting from their active-duty service.)

• **Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC)**

- The PZC is drafting an amendment to Salem’s Zoning Regulations prohibiting Cannabis Establishments (as defined in the CT General Statutes) in Salem. The PZC will hold a public hearing in the near future.

• **The Salem Free Public Library (SFPL) Director’s Report***

- The SFPL served 1,206 patrons and provided 36 patrons with technical help in June.
- The SFPL’s Summer Reading Program started June 17th – there are 81 patrons signed up.
- See p 10 for additional library events.

• **Recreation Commission**

- See p 11 for Recreation Commission events.

• **Economic Development Commission**

- The 2nd annual **CHRISTMAS IN JULY EVENT** to celebrate and showcase our local businesses, Saturday, July 13th (rain date – July 14th) from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. (see p 11)

• **Town Clerk***

- Ramping up for the Republican Primary in August. Ballots have been ordered and notices published. Absentee ballots will be available beginning July 23rd.

AROUND TOWN – JUNE (continued from p 3)

- **Tax Collector***
 - We are at 98.56% of collection, not including delinquent payments of \$39,224.61 received from Taxserv this cycle.
- **Building Department***
 - Building Department activity in June (through the 26th):

	Total Permits Issued	Total Certificates of Occupancy Issued	Total Fees Collected	Total Construction Value
Through June 26 th	40	2	\$7,677.39	\$587,638.00
Total – Year-to-Date	382	28	\$90,621.90	\$6,969,305.17

* Excerpted from the First Selectman’s Report for June.
 ** Information from accuweather.com.
 *** Includes motor vehicle accidents.

OPINION



The Real Difference Between Trump and Biden¹

Watching both men in office reveals a sharp distinction.

By David A. Graham FEBRUARY 16, 2024

Americans likely face a choice this fall between two men they don’t want for president. Or they can stay home and get one of the two guys they don’t want for president anyway. The reasons for voter disdain are clear enough: Poll respondents say Joe Biden is too old, an impression reinforced by last week’s special-counsel report, and they have always been troubled by Donald Trump’s judgment and character (though a majority think he’s too old too.)

Voters have genuine questions about both men. But we’ve seen each occupy the presidency. One thing the two administrations have made clear is that whereas Biden follows an approach to governance that seems to offset some of his weaknesses, Trump’s preferred managerial style seems to amplify his.

Many people treat elections as a chance to vote a single individual into office; as a result, they tend to focus disproportionately on the personality, character, and temperament of the people running. But voters are also choosing a platform—a set of policies as well as a set of people, chosen by the president, who will shape and implement them. The president is the conductor of an orchestra, not a solo artist. As the past eight years have made very clear, the difference in governance between a Trump administration and a Biden administration is not subtle—for example, on foreign policy, border security, and economics—and voters have plenty of evidence on which to base their decision.

But for the sake of argument, let’s consider the potential effects of Biden’s failures of memory and Trump’s ... well, it’s a little tough to say what exactly is going on with Trump’s mental state. The former president has always had a penchant for saying strange things and acting impulsively, and it’s hard to know whether recent lapses are indications of new troubles or the same deficits that have long been present. His always-dark rhetoric has become more apocalyptic and vengeance-focused, and he frequently seems forgetful or confused about basic facts.

To what extent would either of their struggles be material in a future presidential term? One key distinction is that Biden and Trump have fundamentally different conceptions of the presidency as an office. Biden’s approach to governance has been more or less in keeping with the traditions of recent decades. Biden’s Cabinet and West Wing are (for better or worse) stocked with longtime political and policy hands who have extensive experience in government. Cabinet secretaries largely run their departments through normal channels. Policy proposals are usually formulated by subject-area experts. The president’s job is to sit atop this apparatus and set broad direction.

Biden doesn’t always defer to experts, and he has clashed with and overruled advisers on some topics, including, notably, the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan. Such occasional clashes are fairly typical—as long as they’re occasional. As my colleague Graeme Wood wrote this week, “The presidency is an endless series of judgment calls, not a four-year math test. In fact, large parts of the executive branch exist, in effect, to do the math problems on the president’s behalf, then present to him all those tough judgment calls with the calculations already factored in.”

This doesn’t mean that Biden’s readily apparent aging doesn’t bring risks. The presidency requires a great deal of energy, and crises can happen at all hours and on top of one another, testing the stamina of any person. The oldest president before Biden, Ronald Reagan, struggled with acuity in his second term, an administration that produced a huge, appalling scandal of which he claimed to be unaware. In contrast to the model of the president as the ultimate decision maker, Trump has approached the presidency less like a *Fortune* 500 CEO and more like the sole proprietor of a small business. (Though

OPINION (continued from p 4)**The Real Difference Between Trump and Biden¹**

he boasts about his experience running a business empire, the Trump Organization also ran this way—it is a company with a large bottom line but with concentrated and insular management by corporate standards.) As president, Trump had a tendency to micromanage details—the launching system for a new aircraft carrier, the paint scheme on Air Force One—while evincing little interest in major policy questions, such as a long-promised replacement for Obamacare.

At times, Trump has described his role in practically messianic terms: “I alone can fix it,” he infamously said at the 2016 Republican National Convention. He has claimed to be the world’s foremost expert on a wide variety of subjects, and he often disregarded the views of policy experts in his administration, complaining that they tried to talk him out of ideas (when they didn’t just obstruct him). He and his allies have embarked on a major campaign to ensure that staffers in a second Trump administration would be picked for their ideological and personal loyalty to him. *Axios* has reported that the speechwriter Stephen Miller could be the next attorney general, even though Miller is not an attorney.

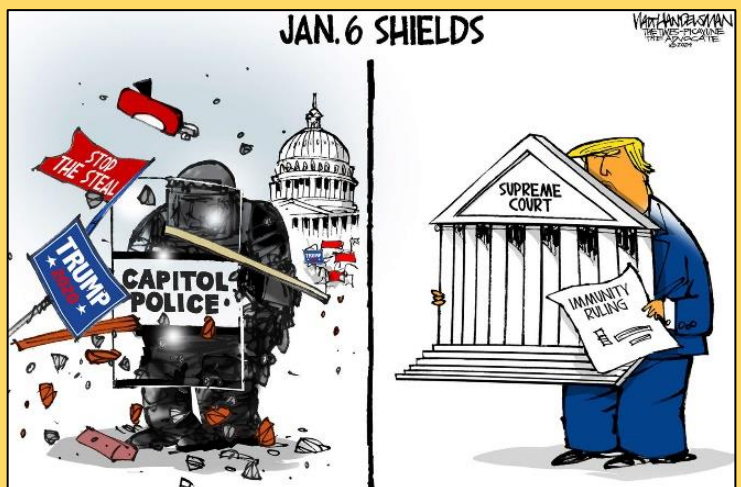
Perhaps as a result of these different approaches to the job, people who have served under the men have divergent views on them. Whereas Biden can seem bumbling and mild in public, aides’ accounts of his private demeanor depict an engaged, incisive, and sometimes hot-tempered president. That’s also the view that emerges from my colleague Franklin Foer’s book *The Last Politician*. “He has a kind of mantra: ‘You can never give me too much detail,’” National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan has said. “The most difficult part about a meeting with President Biden is preparing for it, because he is sharp, intensely probing, and detail-oriented and focused,” Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said last weekend. (As Jon Stewart noted on Monday night, the public might be more convinced were these moments videotaped, like the gaffes.)

Former Trump aides are not so complimentary. Former White House Chief of Staff John Kelly called Trump “a person that has nothing but contempt for our democratic institutions, our Constitution, and the rule of law,” adding, “God help us.” Former Attorney General Bill Barr said that he “shouldn’t be anywhere near the Oval Office .” Former Defense Secretary Mark Esper described him as “unfit for office.” Of 44 former Cabinet members queried by NBC, only four said they supported Trump’s return to office. Even allowing for the puffery of politics, the contrast is dramatic.

None of this is to say that Biden’s memory lapses aren’t worth concern or that he is as vigorous as he was as a younger man. But someone voting for Biden is selecting, above all, a set of policy ideas and promises that he has laid out, with the expectation that the apparatus of the executive branch will implement them.

Voting for Trump is opting for a charismatic individual who brings to office a set of attitudes rather than a platform. Considering the presidency as a matter of individual mental acuity grants the field to Trump’s own preferred conception of unified personal power, so it’s striking that the comparison makes the dangers posed by Trump’s mentality so stark.

¹ An article by David A. Graham published in the *Atlantic*, February 6, 2024 – “*The Real Difference Between Trump and Biden*”.



GUN VIOLENCE – 2024 STATISTICS AND DATA

2024	Mass Shootings	Deaths	Injuries
TOTALS	131	173	533
January	36	66	110
February	26	40	107
March	32	35	138
April	37	32	178
May	49	53	208
June	72	57	378

* Data current through June 30th

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

Shootings By State					
State	# Current Month	# Year To Date	State	# Current Month	# Year To Date
Florida	4	20	Kentucky	2	6
Illinois	4	17	Maryland	0	4
Pennsylvania	6	16	Minnesota	0	4
Texas	3	16	South Carolina	2	3
California	5	15	Arizona	1	2
Alabama	3	14	Connecticut	0	2
Missouri	4	13	Massachusetts	1	2
Georgia	2	10	Nevada	1	2
Louisiana	0	10	New Jersey	1	2
Mississippi	2	10	Oklahoma	0	2
Ohio	7	10	Wisconsin	2	2
Michigan	4	9	Alaska	0	1
Tennessee	2	9	Colorado	0	1
Virginia	4	9	Iowa	0	1
District of Columbia	2	8	Nebraska	1	1
New York	2	8	New Mexico	0	1
North Carolina	2	8	South Dakota	1	1
Arkansas	2	6	West Virginia	1	1
Indiana	1	6			

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

Total deaths (all causes) in the U.S. due to gun violence* 8,497

Total injuries (all causes) in the U.S. due to gun violence* 16,158

* Data through July 2nd



OPINION

Housing vs. Rural Character In Salem, 1650-2024: What Should Salem Be Planning?

The cherished "rural character" of Salem means different things to different people. Some cherish open hay-fields, or the night sky, recreational facilities and trails, historic buildings, stone walls, forests, isolation, wildlife, clean air and waterways, and various combinations of the above.

In fact, the rural character of Salem has changed significantly since pre-Colonial days. Yet it remains treasured for its beauty and connection to history and nature. In the 1600's the most prominent characteristic was a mature virgin forest setting with huge oak and chestnut trees. There were small clearings with encampments of native Americans using the area

OPINION (continued from p 6)**Housing vs. Rural Character In Salem, 1650-2024: What Should Salem Be Planning?**

in the summer, mostly for hunting. In the 1700's the land was greatly cleared by settlers for growing crops and grazing domestic animals, especially sheep. Scattered forest patches remained, and a few shade trees were left along roads and between pastures.

Prime timber was used for building our nearby cities and fleets of ships. The remaining timber was turned into coal or burned for fuel, and local quarries provided stones used for foundations. Streams were dammed for small sawmills and for processing flour.

In the 1800's, Salem's population dropped, as settlers left for more fertile soils, especially in Ohio (once a part of CT – its "Western Reserve"). The remaining landholders were mainly dairy farmers, who benefitted from keeping the open land for hay crops or pasture. Many smaller properties were bought up by larger landholders and were rented out to farmers. The settlers benefited by having large families to run the farms. Many of the old houses were enlarged to accommodate a larger family size. During the Revolutionary War, CT confiscated thousands of acres of land owned by British sympathizers who fled the country. After the war, most of the land again became owner-occupied by former renters who bought the land they had cleared from the State. The State also gave land to CT veterans of the war who were willing to be paid in land rather than in cash by the State for their service.

In the 1900's Salem's population growth was slow but steady, until farms started to fail due to stiff competition from the agriculture in the Midwest, where huge farms on more fertile soils were producing meat, dairy, and grain crops at much lower cost. The 34 dairy farms that were operating in Salem when I was a boy are now all gone. When farmers sold their farms, it tended to be to residential developers. Several housing developments sprang up in the 1980's, snapped up by young families, and the population doubled.

With a projected build-out of the remaining land available for residential building under Salem's zoning regulations, continued growth would have been devastating to the Town budget. The school population was overcrowding the elementary school, despite a recent expansion. With more subdivisions planned, it was clear that the Town would need to build a new wing on the school, for about \$30 million. Interest in land conservation to protect the Town's rural character, and also to head off the costs of building a new school, became increasingly supported.

A project on Hagen Road was planned for 300 units (single and multi-family houses) that if built would almost certainly have resulted in the need to expand the school as well as put pressure on other Town services and it met the zoning regulations. With a major donation from an adjoining neighbor, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) which holds an easement on adjacent land that once housed the Music Vale Seminary, agreed to purchase the parcel to protect the 500 acres from development in perpetuity. This parcel, Walden Preserve, has since become one of the most popular nature preserves in southeastern CT.

In the 1990's, the Salem Land Trust also began acquiring lands and protective easements, and continues to provide volunteer trail maintenance and meadow management at Walden Preserve for TNC. Several hundred more housing units would have been developed in Salem, had it not been for the recognition of the outstanding natural resource values of the Town, an oasis for wildlife within a highly developed corridor between Boston and New York City. As a result of the studies that documented the area's remarkable biodiversity, natural areas throughout the Town that have become available for sale or donation have been prioritized for protection.

In the last 2 decades, the State of CT has enlarged its Niantic State Forest and has purchased development rights on several farms to assure they stay available for agriculture in perpetuity. TNC now has over 1000 acres of land owned outright or protected by the purchase of deed restrictions. The CT Farmland Trust has purchased similar development rights on a farm, and the Salem Land Trust (SLT) now owns a growing number of preserves (see www.salemlandtrust.org). The Town of Salem contributed to one of the SLT's parcels.

As a result of these protections, the rapid growth in residential housing that occurred in the past has stabilized, with a population growth in Salem of about 1.5% in the last decade. Census data show that in comparison, the State population grew by about 0.9% between 2010 and 2020.

There is still much important land prioritized for protection in Salem that is vulnerable to development that may significantly alter Salem's future character. Will it become a gentrified town with McMansions for millionaires, or will most of that future growth in housing be the conversions of existing houses, built for larger families, into houses with 2 or 3 residential units?

Such conversions can sustain the current rural character of the Town, provide more affordable housing, and have less environmental impact. If developers and builders don't do it on their own, the Town should help provide workforce housing, and/or support groups like the SE CT Community Land Trust or Habitat for Humanity. The treasured values, beauty, and connection to nature should remain goals in future Town plans. However, the ability of our children to afford a home here should not be just for the wealthiest among us.

By: David Bingham, MD

COMMUNITY HELP / ASSISTANCE

EVERSOURCE Connecticut Electric Discount Rate

Connecticut Electric Discount Rate

A bill discount will be available for residential electric customers starting in December 2023.

You must have financial hardship status on your electric account. If you do, there are two tiers of discount depending on your annual household income or receipt of a public assistance benefit.

- **Eligible income for 10% Discount Rate**

To qualify, your household annual income for all adults over 18 must be at or below 60% of the state median income, or you can show receipt of a public assistance benefit for at least one household member.

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Income Level	Up to \$41,553	Up to \$54,338	Up to \$67,124	Up to \$79,910	Up to \$92,695	Up to \$105,481	Up to \$107,878	Up to \$110,275

- **Eligible income for the 50% Discount Rate**

To qualify, your household annual income for all adults over 18 must be at or below 160% of the federal poverty guidelines, or you can show receipt of a public assistance benefit for at least one household member.

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Income Level	Up to \$23,328	Up to \$31,552	Up to \$39,776	Up to \$48,00	Up to \$56,224	Up to \$64,448	Up to \$72,672	Up to \$80,896

To apply for the 10% or 50% Connecticut electric discount rate visit the **EVERSOURCE** webpage click on the following link: [eversource.com/content/residential/account-billing/payment-assistance/discount-rate](https://www.eversource.com/content/residential/account-billing/payment-assistance/discount-rate), or call **EVERSOURCE** at 800-286-2828, or call **TVCCA** at 860-889-1365.

THAMES VALLEY COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY ACTION (TVCCA)



CONNECTION = Volunteering & Veterans Coffeehouses

Now more than ever community support is so important and impactful! AmeriCorps Seniors offers the support someone needs to remain living at home. Our volunteers lend a hand with grocery shopping needs, visiting, phone reassurance or local medical rides. If you are 55+ contact us to hear how your help may improve the quality of life of an elderly or disabled person by volunteering to help a neighbor in your community.

Our volunteers are here for the community! Our services are available free of charge to seniors or disabled people that are homebound and need help with grocery shopping, medical rides, and visiting.



Contact: Renee LaBonte, Program Coordinator of Senior Volunteer Services at 860-425-6608 or e-mail: rlabonte@tvcca.org.

Visit our website by clicking on: tvcca.org or [facebook.com/TVCCArsvp/](https://www.facebook.com/TVCCArsvp/).

CONNECT WITH VETERANS! TVCCA hosts monthly veteran coffeehouses to meet and socialize with other veterans and their spouses and receive information about veteran benefits and services. We host coffeehouses in Groton, Mystic, New London, Pawcatuck, Norwich, and Montville.

Contact James Hodge, Veterans Coffeehouse Coordinator at 860-425-6615 or e-mail: jhodge@tvcca.org.

- **ENERGY ASSISTANCE AND OTHER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE FROM THAMES VALLEY COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY ACTION, INC. (TVCCA)**

TVCCA provides energy assistance among other community assistance services. Visit the TVCCA website by clicking on: tvcca.org/energy-assistance/ for more information and a direct link to the application. If you have any questions or need help completing the application form, contact TVCCA at 860-889-1365. Note that not only does TVCCA provide funding for oil, but also for wood. TVCCA also has a Senior Nutrition Program for seniors 60 and over & Volunteer programs for seniors age 55 or over.

COMMUNITY HELP / ASSISTANCE (continued from p 8)

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 are looking for, 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 clicking on: careandshareofel.org/.**

211 INFOLINE HELP STARTS HERE

Call 2-1-1 for your connection to:

- | | | |
|---|------------------------|----------------------|
| - Alzheimer's resources | - Emergency shelter | - Pre-natal care |
| - Basic needs – food, clothing, shelter | - Emergency assistance | - Senior services |
| - Child care services | - Financial assistance | - Suicide prevention |
| - Child health care | - Health care | - Transportation |
| - Consumer health | - HIV/AIDS | - Veteran's services |
| - Crisis intervention | - Housing | - Volunteering |
| - Disability services | - Legal assistance | - And much more |
| - Drug & alcohol programs | - Parenting programs | |

THE SDTC MEETING SCHEDULE

The SDTC 2024 Regular Monthly Meeting Schedule

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| • Wednesday, June 5th at 7:00 PM , at the Center School | • Wednesday, July 3rd at 7:00 PM , at the Center School | • Wednesday, August 7th at 7:00 PM , at the Center School |
| • Wednesday, September 4th at 7:00 PM , at the Center School | • Wednesday, October 2nd at 7:00 PM , at the Center School | • Wednesday, November 13th at 7:00 PM , at the Salem Volunteer Fire Co. Firehouse |
| • Wednesday, December 4th at 7:00 PM , at the Center School | • Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at 7:00 PM , at the Center School | • Wednesday, February 5, 2025, at 7:00 PM , at the Center School |

PUBLIC TOWN MEETINGS FOR JULY

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Inland Wetlands & Conservation Commission ,
July 1 st , 7:00 PM | • Board of Education Long Range Edu Planning
July 15 th , 5:00 PM |
| • Board of Selectmen ,
July 2 nd , 7:00 PM | • BOE Personnel/Contract Negotiations
July 15 th , 6:00 PM |
| • Charter Revision Commission
July 4 th , 7:00 PM | • Recreation Commission
July 15 th , 7:00 PM |
| • Library Board of Directors
July 9 th , 6:00 PM | • Economic Development Commission
July 16 th , 6:00 PM |
| • Board of Education ,
June 3 rd , 7:00 PM | • Charter Revision Commission
July 18 th , 7:00 PM |
| • Emergency Preparedness Agency
July 9 th , 7:00 PM | • Board of Education Policy
June 22 nd , 5:00 PM |
| • Planning & Zoning Commission
July 9 th , 7:00 PM | • Board of Education Curriculum
July 22 nd , 6:00 PM |
| • Board of Finance ,
July 11 th , 7:00 PM | • Planning and Zoning Commission ,
July 23 rd , 7:00 PM |

To view the Town Public Meeting Calendar, click on: saalemct.gov/calendar-by-event-type/16

COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

SALEM FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

News & Events

• **MUSEUM PASSES AND DISCOUNTED ADMISSION PASSES**

Passes and discounted passes to many of the museums in our state are available at the Salem Library. Visit the library, or go to the library website by clicking on: salemct.gov/library/pages/museum-passes to view the library website and view what they have to offer and pass availability.

• **2024 SUMMER READING**

Read, Renew, Repeat!
June 17th – August 10th

**For all ages this year
Registration & reading logs
are on ReadSquared.**

<https://salemlibrary.readsquared.com>



**You may register for the program and events now
but logging of reading begins on June 17th**

**See the Library's summer reading
brochure for details.**

**Posters & brochures for the Library's summer
reading program are on the
table as you enter the Library.**

• **TURTLES WITH TESSA!**

Wednesday, July 10th, @ 6:00 PM.

Family program presented by Tessa Stuart, Turtle Rehabilitator & the Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center.

Come meet some live turtles! Learn about our local species, their adaptations, their role in the ecosystem and ways you can help them.

To register call 860-859-1130.

(sponsored by the Carole Eckart Memorial Summer Reading Fund)



• **SWIFTIE SOCIAL**

Saturday, July 27th 10:00 – 12:00.

Join us for snacks, music, friendship bracelets & journal making.

To register call 860-859-1130.

(Sponsored by the Friends of the Library)

Salem Free Public

Call 860-859-1130 to register.

(Sponsored by the Eightmile Wild & Scenic Watershed)



• **BOOKS IN THE AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB.**

Meetings are normally held on the last Thursday of the month at 1.00 PM.

• **LUNCH BUNCH SUMMER STORYTIME**

Wednesdays @ 11:30 AM,

July 17th – August 21st.

Bring a blanket & a picnic lunch & listen to some great books read by a librarian on the Library's front lawn.

(in case of bad weather, we will meet in the Meeting Room)



• **CRAFT SWAP**

Looking to find a new home for your unwanted craft supplies?

Bring in your unwanted craft supplies to the library July 1st – July 13th and the join us for the craft swap on Saturday, July 20th from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

Your donation might inspire someone else to get creative and try a new hobby!

To register call: 860-859-1130.

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



• **BUBBLE POPPIN' BOOGIE!**

Saturday, July 13th @ 11:00 AM.

Suitable for ages 2 – 8.

To register call 860-859-1130.

(sponsored by the Carole Eckart Memorial Summer Reading Fund)



• **NATIVE INSECTS**

Presented by entomologist Matt Mochizuki.

Wednesday, July 17th @ 4:00 PM.

To register for this family event call 860-859-1130.

(sponsored by the Eightmile River Wild & Scenic Watershed)



COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

SALEM RECREATION DEPARTMENT

There are many activities for Salem residents of all ages:

● **WE'RE BLAZN' TRAILS**

The Recreation Commission has started blazing the Multi-Purpose/Harris Brook Trails!

If you see the colored flagging on the trees, **please leave them be** as they mark our first run of where the safety/trail markers will be located.



● **SALEM WOODS DISC GOLF COURSE**

The Salem Woods Disc Golf Course is open for play.



Located at Bob Appleby Field at Volunteer Park, 24 Forsyth Road.

Discs available for loan contact the Recreation Commission.

● **SAND VOLLEYBALL COURT**



The volleyball court is open and ready for play. Located at the Salem Community Park Pavilion 89 Norwich Road/Route 82.

● **ADULT CO-ED PICKLEBALL**

Pick-up games for Salem & East Lyme Residents ages 18 & over.

Saturday Mornings 8:00 to 10:00 AM

Tuesday Evenings 5:00 to 7:00 PM

Round Hill Road Tennis/Pickleball Courts
Starting Saturday, June 10th. Sign in upon arrival.



● **SUMMER VIRUAL FITNESS CLASSES**

Pilates – Tuesdays, July 9th – August 20th,
6:00 PM – 6:45 PM – \$50, (7 weeks)

15 Min. HIIT – Wednesdays, July 10th – August
21st, 8:15 AM – 8:30 AM – \$25, (7 weeks)

Core Strength – Thursdays, July 11th – August
22nd, 6:00 PM – 6:45 PM – \$50, (7 weeks)

● **SUMMER CONCERTS FREE**

Thursdays, at the Pavilion at 6:00 PM, July 25th, and August 22nd



● **FIND YOUR FOOTPRINT! MEDALLION PROJECT**

Let us know when you've found your 2024 Medallion & submit a photo!

Find your footprint in the following trails/preserves: Walden Preserve, Zemko Sawmill Preserve, Multi-Purpose Path/Harris Brook Trail, Darling Road Preserve, Smuggler's Rock Preserve, Salem Riverside Preserve.



● **2024 SUMMER FUN RUN SERIES**

Salem School, Bingham Field, Tuesdays, July 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th and August 6th, 13th.

5:30 PM: Beginners 1-mile Walk/Run

6:00 PM: 3-mile Fun Run

Check-in begins at 5:00 PM Pre-Register online at: salemct.gov/summerfunrunseriesregistration.

● **LIVE CLASSES ONLINE**

There are dozens of on-line classes for adults and children are available through Salem's Recreation Commission.

To explore what courses are available and sign up, click on the following link:

salemct.gov/recreation/pages/live-classes-online.

● **CHRISTMAS IN JULY EVENT**

The Salem Economic Development & Recreation Commissions invite you to:

The 2nd annual **CHRISTMAS IN JULY** EVENT to celebrate and showcase our local businesses.

Saturday, July 13th (rain date – July 14th)
from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM



Salem Community Park Pavilion, 89 Norwich Road/Route 82

For additional information on activities provided by the Salem Recreation Commission please visit their website by clicking on: salemct.gov/recreation, or call 860-859-3873, x275

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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, click on: <https://www.salemfireco.com/>.
- Gardner Lake Fire Company – NON-EMERGENCY PHONE: 860- 859-1743. To visit their website, click on: gardnerlakevolunteerfirecompany.com/home.

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.

LION'S CLUB

The Lions are looking for volunteers. Contact Bill Martin 860-705-6062 (home) or 860-705-1227 (mobile), or Hugh McKenney at 860-303-0042 (mobile).

FRIENDS OF THE SALEM THE LIBRARY (FOSL)

The Friends of The Salem Library could always use help sorting books for the book sale, and at the book sales.

The FOSL will be sorting books most every Wednesday and Friday at the Zemko Garage, 231 Hartford Rd. from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. For future book pick-up and work dates, stay tuned and watch for notifications on Facebook.

If you would like to help, contact Carl Nawrocki at 860-608-9970, or Bart Drennen at 860-235-5889.

SALEM SCHOOL

Volunteers are always welcome at **Salem School**. Anyone interested in volunteering can **to go to the Salem School website by clicking on: 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.**

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 or call 860-908-9553.

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.**

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.

SENIOR NEWS

- **Salem Senior Citizens Group**

The **Salem Senior Citizen's Group** boasts a current enrolment of over 150 members. Membership has almost 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!**

Meetings are held at 10:30 AM on the second Tuesday every month at Salem Volunteer Fire Company Firehouse, 424 Hartford Rd. (Rt. 85) in the rear meeting room. A yearly membership dues of \$10 is collected every March. 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, please contact Gary Closius (President): gclosius@sbcglobal.net, or call 860-961-9173, or Mary Cikatz (Vice President): 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 and click on the one you want.

JULY "JUST FOR FUN" DAYS

July 1	National Postal Workers Day	July 17	National Tattoo Day
July 2	National Disco Day	July 18	National Sour Candy Day
July 3	International Plastic Bag Free Day	July 19	National Daiquiri Day
July 4	Independence Day	July 20	International Chess Day
July 5	National Bikini Day	July 21	National Ice Cream Day
July 6	International Kissing Day	July 22	National Hammock Day
July 7	Islamic New Year	July 23	National Gorgeous Grandma Day
July 8	Be a Kid Again Day	July 24	Amelia Earhart Day
July 9	National Sugar Cookie Day	July 25	National Hot Fudge Sundae Day
July 10	National Piña Colada Day	July 26	National Aunt and Uncle Day
July 11	All American Pet Photo Day	July 27	Take Your Houseplant for a Walk Day
July 12	Collector Car Appreciation Day	July 28	National Parents' Day
July 13	National Barbershop Music Appreciation Day	July 29	National Lasagna Day
July 14	Bastille Day	July 30	International Day of Friendship
July 15	Global Hug Your Kids Day	July 31	Hawaii Flag Day
July 16	Guinea Pig Appreciation Day		



SDTC Contact Information

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Kay Zak – Vice Chairperson – kayzak@hotmail.com
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