

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

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t.j.butcher@att.net

Kay Zak – Vice Chairperson
kayzak@hotmail.com

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hotaryleslie@gmail.com

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*** BREAKING NEWS ***

THE SALEM DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE (SDTC) ELECTS NEW MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

On January 10th the SDTC caucused to elect members for the 2024-2025 term. They also held a meeting to elect SDTC Officers**. The results of the election are:

Chairman:	Gary Closius	Secretary	Leslie Hotary*
Vice-Chairman:	Kay Zak*	Treasurer:	MaryAnne Sabowski*
		Deputy Treasurer:	Janet Griggs*

* re-elected

** new officers to take office in march

2023 – YEAR IN REVIEW

• **Some Key Legislation Passed By The State Legislature In 2023**

Many of the new state laws passed during the 2023 legislative session took effect on October 1, 2023 and January 1, 2024.

Some of the various issues addressed by the new laws include early voting, healthcare services, as well as online privacy and data protection.

Also on January 1, the state's minimum wage will increase from \$15.00 to \$15.69 as a result of 2019 legislation, which implemented five incremental increases followed by future adjustments based on the federal employment cost index.

New Laws

The full list of new laws is extensive, but here are a few highlights:

- | | | |
|---------|--------|--|
| HJ00001 | RA-1 | Resolution Approving A State Constitutional Amendment To Allow No-Excuse Absentee Voting. (summary text can be seen by clicking on cga.ct.gov/2023/sum/pdf/2023SUM00001-R01HJ-00001-SUM.pdf) |
| HB05004 | PA-5 | An Act Implementing Early Voting. (summary text can be seen by clicking on cga.ct.gov/2023/sum/pdf/2023SUM00005-R02HB-05004-SUM.pdf) |
| HB06870 | PA-158 | An Act Concerning Retrieval By Town Clerks Of Absentee Ballots In Drop Boxes. (summary text can be seen by clicking on cga.ct.gov/2023/sum/pdf/2023SUM00158-R01HB-06870-SUM.pdf) |
| HB06667 | PA-53 | An Act Addressing Gun Violence. (summary text can be seen by clicking on cga.ct.gov/2023/sum/pdf/2023SUM00053-R02HB-06667-SUM.pdf) (most wide-ranging gun control measure since the 2013 law enacted after the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting) |
| SB00953 | PA-9 | An Act Concerning Racial Profiling. (summary text can be seen by clicking on cga.ct.gov/2023/sum/pdf/2023SUM00009-R01SB-00953-SUM.pdf) |

2023 – YEAR IN REVIEW (continued from pg 1)

• Some Key Legislation Passed By The State Legislature In 2023 (continued)

- SB00100 PA-74 An Act Establishing An Account In The General Fund To Provide Grants To Towns That Need Pfas Testing And Remediation. (summery text can be seen by clicking on cga.ct.gov/2023/sum/pdf/2023SUM00074-R02SB-00100-SUM.pdf)
- SB01148 PA-77 An Act Authorizing Certain Killing Of Black Bear And Prohibiting Intentional Feeding Of Potentially Dangerous Animals. (summery text can be seen by clicking on cga.ct.gov/2023/sum/pdf/2023SUM00077-R02SB-01148-SUM.pdf)
- HB05575 PA-138 An Act Requiring The Department Of Agriculture To Revise Municipal Animal Shelter Regulations. (summery text can be seen by clicking on cga.ct.gov/2023/sum/pdf/2023SUM00138-R01HB-05575-SUM.pdf)
- HB06811 PA-154 An Act Concerning Revisions To The Vessel Registration Aquatic Invasive Species Fee. (summery text can be seen by clicking on cga.ct.gov/2023/sum/pdf/2023SUM00154-R01HB-06811-SUM.pdf)
- HB06813 PA-155 An Act Authorizing The Establishment Of A Seabird And Shorebird Protection Program. (summery text can be seen by clicking on cga.ct.gov/2023/act/Pa/pdf/2023PA-00155-R00HB-06813-PA.PDF)

• Some Surrounding Town 2023 Municipal Election Results

EAST HADDAM – First Selectman			
Candidate Name / Party		VOTES	VOTES %
Tanya Bourgoin	D	1,420	44.97%
Irene Haines	R ✓	1,651	52.28%

BOZRAH – First Selectman				
Candidate Name / Party			VOTES	VOTES %
Glenn S. Pianka	D	✓	446	100.00%

MONTVILLE – MAYOR			
Candidate Name / Party		VOTES	VOTES %
Lenny Bunnell	D	✓	2,029 52.32%
Thomas J McNally	R	1,849	47.68%

COLCHESTER – First Selectman			
Candidate Name/Party		VOTES	VOTES %
Bernie Dennler	D	✓	3,515 65.07%
Andreas Bisbikos	R	1,887	34.93%

EAST LYME – First Selectman			
Candidate Name/Party		VOTES	VOTES %
Dan Cunningham	D	✓	2,751 50.86%
Anne Santoro	R	2,658	49.14%

NEW LONDON – Mayor			
Candidate Name/Party		VOTES	VOTES %
Michael E. Passero	D	✓	1,706 62.67%
Beloved Carter	R	565	20.76%

• Salem 2023 Municipal Election Results

1st SELECTMAN			
Candidate Name / Party		VOTES	VOTES %
Sue Spang	D	617	45.43%
Ed Chmielewski	R	✓	741 54.57%

SELECTMEN			
Candidate Name / Party		VOTES	VOTES %
Kay Zak	D	575	21.82%
Leslie Hotary	D	545	20.68%
Kevin Lyden	R	✓	809 30.70%
Ron LaBonte	R	✓	706 26.79%

TOWN TREASURER			
Candidate Name / Party		VOTES	VOTES %
Pam Henry	D	✓	577 43.98%
Pam Henry	R	✓	735 56.02%

TAX COLLECTOR			
Candidate Name / Party		VOTES	VOTES %
Vivian Waters	D	✓	563 43.31%
Vivian Waters	R	✓	737 56.69%

2023 – YEAR IN REVIEW (continued from pg 2)

• **Salem 2023 Municipal Election Results** (continued)

TOWN CLERK				
Candidate Name / Party vote for 1	VOTES	VOTES %		
<i>Julie Stoken</i> R ✓	1,020	100.00%		

BOARD OF FINANCE ALTERNATE Full Term				
Candidate Name / Party vote for 1	VOTES	VOTES %		
<i>Jim Moran</i> R ✓	989	100.00%		

BOARD OF FINANCE Full Term				
Candidate Name / Party vote for 2	VOTES	VOTES %		
<i>Kate Belleville</i> D ✓	706	32.43%		
Matt Rucci D	676	31.05%		
<i>John Bernier</i> R ✓	795	36.52%		

BOARD OF EDUCATION Full Term				
Candidate Name / Party vote for 2	VOTES	VOTES %		
Sue Spang D	636	28.39%		
Ryan Little R	782	34.91%		
Keri Weaver R	822	36.70%		

BOARD OF EDUCATION To Fill Vacancy For 4 Years				
Candidate Name / Party	VOTES	VOTES %		
<i>Kelly Francis</i> D ✓	812	100.00%		

BOARD OF EDUCATION To Fill Vacancy For 2 Years				
Candidate Name / Party vote for 1	VOTES	VOTES %		
<i>Sean Reith</i> R ✓	961	51.17%		
Erik Trotter R	917	48.83%		

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS				
Candidate Name / Party vote for 1	VOTES	VOTES %		
Kay Zak D	576	43.41%		
<i>Dianne Woronik</i> R ✓	751	56.59%		

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS To Fill Vacancy For 2 Years				
Candidate Name / Party vote for 1	VOTES	VOTES %		
<i>Dennis Girard</i> D ✓	786	100.00%		

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FULL TERM				
Candidate Name / Party vote for 2	VOTES	VOTES %		
Jen Lindo D	667	30.79%		
<i>Gary Closius</i> D ✓	771	35.60%		
<i>Marty Stoken</i> R ✓	728	33.61%		

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION TO FILL VACANCY FOR 2 YEARS				
Candidate Name / Party vote for 1	VOTES	VOTES %		
<i>James Jorgensen</i> R ✓	929	100.00%		

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION ALTERNATE FULL TERM				
Candidate Name / Party vote for 1	VOTES	VOTES %		
Kimberly Bradley D	613	47.37%		
<i>Pat Donovan II</i> R ✓	681	52.63%		

PLANNING & ZONING ALTERNATE TO FILL VACANCY FOR 2 YEARS				
Candidate Name / Party vote for 1	VOTES	VOTES %		
<i>Mark Medrzychowski</i> R				

2023 – YEAR IN REVIEW (continued from pg 3)

• **Salem 2023 Municipal Election Results (continued)**

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS			
Candidate Name / Party vote for 2	VOTES	VOTES %	
David Bingham D	617	23.80%	
Tony Griggs D	549	21.18%	
Elbert Burr R ✓	663	25.58%	
Denise Orsini R ✓	763	29.44%	

LIBRARY TRUSTEES			
Candidate Name / Party vote for 2	VOTES	VOTES %	
Becky Nortz D	616	24.06%	
Flora Drapeau D	572	22.34%	
Heather Wilkey R	710	27.73%	
Kristin Kiczuk R	662	25.86%	

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS ALTERNATE			
Candidate Name / Party vote for 1	VOTES	VOTES %	
Kevin Milligan D	578	44.56%	
Larry Benedict R ✓	719	55.44%	

LIBRARY TRUSTEES TO FILL VACANCY FOR 2 YEARS			
Candidate Name / Party vote for 1	VOTES	VOTES %	
Jeanette Girard D	613	47.08%	
Teresa Jorgensen R ✓	689	52.92%	

✓ indicates the winner(s)

• **Gun Violence – 2023 Statistics***

Total Number of Gun Violence Deaths – ALL Causes⁴	42,936
Homicide/Murder/Unintentional/ Defensive Gun Use (DGU)¹	18,906
Suicide³	24,090
Total Number of Injuries¹	36,365
Mass Shootings ²	657
Mass Murders ²	40
Number of Children (age 0-11) ¹	
	Killed 298
	Injured 640
Number of Teens (age 12-17) ¹	
	Killed 1,387
	Injured 3,869
Officer Involved Incident ¹	
	Killed 52
	Injured 368
Officer Involved Incident ¹	
	Killed 1,444
	Injured 810
Defensive Use ²	1,195
Unintentional Shooting ²	1,583
Murder/Suicides Incidents ²	678

* All data collected from Gun Violence Archive (<https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/>) Gun violence and crime incidents are collected/validated from 7,500 sources daily – Incident Reports and their source data are found at the gunviolencearchive.org website.

Footnotes

- ¹ Number of sources verified deaths and injuries
- ² Number of INCIDENTS reported and verified
- ³ Calculation based on CDC Suicide Data
- ⁴ Actual total of all non-suicide deaths plus daily calculated suicide deaths

2023 – YEAR IN REVIEW (continued from pg 4)**• Gun Violence – 2023 Statistics (continued)**

Mass Shootings are, for the most part an American phenomenon. While they are generally grouped together as one type of incident, they are several different types including public shootings, bar/club incidents, family annihilations, drive-by, workplace and those which defy description but with the established foundation **definition being that they have a minimum of four victims shot, either injured or killed, not including any shooter who may also have been killed or injured in the incident.** Gun Violence Archive (GVA) also presents the count of Mass Murder which, like the FBI's **definition is four or more victims, killed, not including the shooter.** Mass Murder by gun is a subset of the Mass Shooting count.

There were 657 mass shootings in the US in 2023 (see the table to the right). There have been 7 mass shooting already in 2024.

2023	Mass Shootings	Deaths	Injuries
TOTALS*	657	754	2728
December	38	67	111
November	33	30	135
October	65	77	289
September	42	39	153
August	57	53	244
July	86	73	406
June	67	61	309
May	79	84	319
April	55	66	239
March	40	59	152
February	41	52	153
January	54	93	218

* Data through the end of December

JANUARY 6, 2021 – 3rd ANNEVERSARY**Article from AP – POLITICS**

On January 6th many Republicans blamed Trump for the Capitol riot. Now they endorse his presidential bid. *BY LISA MASCARO Updated 10:00 AM EST, January 6, 2024*

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the follow-up to their 2018 bestseller “***How Democracies Die,***” authors Daniel Ziblatt and Steven Levitsky write about three rules that political parties must follow: accept the results of fair elections, reject the use of violence to gain power and break ties to extremists.

In the aftermath of the 2020 election, they write, only one U.S. political party “violated all three.”

Saturday marks the third anniversary of the January 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol, and Donald Trump, the former president, is far-and-away the leading Republican candidate in 2024. He still refuses to acknowledge his earlier loss to President Joe Biden. Far from rejecting the rioters, he has suggested he would pardon some of those who have been convicted of violent crimes. Rather than distance himself from extremists, he welcomes them at his rallies and calls them patriots.

And Trump is now backed by many of the Republican leaders who fled for their lives and hid from the rioters, even some who had condemned Trump. Several top GOP leaders have endorsed his candidacy.

The support for Trump starkly highlights the divisions in the aftermath of the deadly storming of the Capitol and frames the question about whose definition of governance will prevail — or if democracy will prevail at all.

“If our political leaders do not stand up in defense of democracy, our democracy won’t be defended,” said Levitsky, one of the Harvard professors whose new book is “***Tyranny of the Minority.***”

“There’s no country in the world, no country on Earth in history, where the politicians abdicated democracy but the institutions held,” he told The Associated Press. “People have to defend democracy.”

The third anniversary of the January 6th attack comes during the most convulsive period in American politics in at least a generation, with Congress barely able to keep up with the basics of governing, and the start of the presidential nominating contests just over a week away.

Trump’s persistent false claims that the election of 2020 was stolen — which has been rejected in at least 60 court cases, every state election certification and by the former president’s one-time attorney general — continue to animate the presidential race as he eyes a rematch with Biden.

Instead, Trump now faces more than 90 criminal charges in federal and state courts, including the federal indictment brought by special counsel Jack Smith that accused Trump of conspiring to defraud the U.S. over the election.

Biden, speaking Friday near Pennsylvania’s Valley Forge, commemorated January 6th, saying on that day “we nearly lost America — lost it all.”

While the Congress returned that night to certify the election results and show the world democracy was still standing, Biden said Trump is now trying to revise the narrative of what happened that day — calling the rioters “patriots” and promising to pardon them. And he said some Republicans in Congress were complicit.

“When the attack on January 6th happened there was no doubt about the truth,” Biden said. “Now these MAGA voices — who know the truth about Trump and January 6th — have abandoned the truth and abandoned the democracy.”

JANUARY 6, 2021 – 3rd ANNEVERSARY (continued from pg 5)**Article from AP – POLITICS (continued)**

Rep. Jamie Raskin, the Maryland Democrat who led Trump's impeachment over the insurrection, said Biden's 306-232 electoral victory in 2020 remains "the hard, inescapable, irradicable fact that Donald Trump and his followers have not been able to accept — to this day."

Raskin envisions a time when there will be a Capitol exhibit, and tours for visitors, to commemorate what happened January 6, 2021. Five people died during the riot and the immediate aftermath, including Trump supporter Ashli Babbitt, who was shot and killed by police.

All told, 140 police officers were injured in the Capitol siege, including U.S. Capitol Police officer Brian Sicknick who died later. Several others died later by suicide.

One officer, Harry Dunn, has announced he is running for Congress to "ensure it never happens again."

Trump's decision to reject the results of the 2020 election was the only time Americans have not witnessed the peaceful transfer of presidential power, a hallmark of U.S. democracy.

A giant portrait of George Washington resigning his military commission hangs in the U.S. Capitol, a symbol of the voluntary relinquishing of power — a move that was considered breathtaking at the time. He later was elected the first U.S. president.

Trump opened his first rally of his 2024 presidential campaign with a popular recording of the J6 Prison Choir --- riot defendants singing "The Star-Spangled Banner" recorded over a phone line from jail, interspersed with Trump reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

More than 1,200 people have been charged in the riot, with nearly 900 convicted, including leaders of the extremist groups the Proud Boys and Oath Keepers who are serving lengthy terms for seditious conspiracy.

Trump has called January 6th defendants "hostages" and said there was so much love at the "Stop the Steal" rally he held near the White House that day before he encouraged the mob to march down Pennsylvania Avenue, assuring he would be with them at the Capitol, though he never did join.

Allies of Trump scoff at the narrative of January 6th that has emerged. Mike Davis, a Trump ally sometimes mentioned as a future attorney general, has mocked the Democrats and others for turning January 6th into a "religious holiday."

Republican Kevin McCarthy, who went on to become House speaker, had called January 6th the "saddest day" he ever had in Congress. But McCarthy, R-Calif., retired last month he endorsed Trump for president and said he would consider joining his cabinet.

Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky has said he would back whomever becomes the Republican Party nominee, despite a scathing speech at the time in which he called Trump's actions "disgraceful" and said the rioters "had been fed wild falsehoods by the most powerful man on Earth because he was angry, he lost an election."

Asked about Trump's second-term agenda, GOP lawmakers brushed off his admission that he would be a dictator on "day one."

"He's joking," said Trump ally Byron Donalds, R-Fla.

"Just bravado," said Rep. Tim Burchett, R-Tenn. "There's still checks and balances."

Levitsky said when he and his colleague wrote their earlier book, they believed that the Republicans in Congress would be a "bulwark against Trump."

But with so many of the Trump detractors having retired or been voted out of office, "We were much less pessimistic than we are today."

OPINION**A CALL TO ACTION: By G. Closius, January 10, 2023**

I read the AP article regarding the January 6th riot at the Capital and a few things struck me. *First*, the article stated three rules that political parties must follow: accept the results of fair elections, reject the use of violence to gain power and break ties to extremists. *Second*, Trump still refuses to acknowledge his earlier loss to President Joe Biden. *Third*, Trump is now backed by many of the Republican leaders who fled for their lives and hid from the rioters, even some who had condemned Trump. Several top GOP leaders have endorsed his candidacy. *Forth*, all told, 140 police officers were injured in the Capitol siege, including U.S. Capitol Police officer Brian Sicknick who died later. Several others died later by suicide. *Fifth*, Trump has suggested he would pardon some of those [rioters] who have been convicted of violent crimes. Rather than distance himself from extremists, he welcomes them at his rallies and calls them patriots. I could go on and on.

OPINION *(continued from pg 6)***A CALL TO ACTION** (continued)

As I tried to wrap my mind around how the Republican Party can fall in line and support Trump I just can't. The only way to prevent this is for all of us to work as hard as we can to be sure that if Trump becomes the Republican nominee for the Presidency of the United States that we rally the Democratic voters to vote the Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden in as the next President of the United States.

PUBLIC TOWN MEETINGS FOR JANUARY

- **Board of Selectmen,**
January 2nd, 7:00 PM
- **Inland Wetlands & Conservation Commission,**
January 2nd, 7:00 PM
- **BOE Long-Range Educational Planning,**
January 8th, 5:00 PM
- **BOE Personnel/Contract Negotiations**
January 8th, 6:00 PM
- **Board of Education,**
January 8th, 7:00 PM
- **Planning and Zoning Commission,**
January 9th, 7:00 PM
- **Library Board of Directors,**
January 9th, 6:00 PM
- **Emergency preparedness Agency,**
January 9th, 7:00 PM
- **Board of Finance,**
January 11th, 7:00 PM
- **Board of Education (Special Budget)**
January 16th, 7:00 PM
- **Economic Development Commission,**
January 16th, 7:00 PM
- **Board of Education Co-Op @ ELHS**
January 22nd, 6:00 PM
- **Planning and Zoning Commission,**
January 23rd, 7:00 PM
- **Zoning Board of Appeals**
January 25th, 7:00 PM
- **Board of Finance,**
January 25th, 7:00 PM

To view the Town Public Meeting Calendar, click on: salemct.gov/calendar-by-event-type/16/month/2023-12

COMMUNITY HELP / ASSISTANCE• **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/.

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.

COMMUNITY HELP / ASSISTANCE *(continued from pg 7)*

• **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.

• **EVERSOURCE 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 \$48,000	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 by clicking on: eversource.com/content/residential/account-billing/payment-assistance/discount-rate, or call **EVERSOURCE** at 800-286-2828, or call TVCCA at 860-889-1365.

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

COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

• **SALEM FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

NEWS & EVENTS

- The Salem Free Public 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 to view the library website and view what they have to offer and pass availability.
- **Books in the Afternoon Book Club** meetings are normally held on the last Thursday of the month at 1 PM.
January 25th: *Ender's Game*. by: Orson Scott Card, [fiction]. In order to develop a secure defense against a hostile alien race's next attack, government agencies breed child geniuses and train them as soldiers.

All adults over 18 are welcome. To join the group, e-mail Christine Murtha at: murthachristine@yahoo.com.

• **WINTER READING FOR ALL AGES!**

January 22nd to March 4th

Register at the circulator desk beginning January 22, 2024 to receive your reading log. Read as much or as little as you would like! Turn in your reading log by March 4, 2024 to receive a raffle ticket (1) and a free book of your choice.



(Sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Library)

• **ALL ABOUT OPOSSUMS: BACKYARD WILDLIFE**

Presented by Ferncroft Wildlife Rescue

Saturday, February 3rd @ 11:00 AM.



(snow date: February 10th, @ 1:00 PM)

- Slide show and discussion on wildlife rehabilitation with an emphasis on opossums.
- Meet & greet with live animal ambassador opossums.
- The children's book, *From Pouch to Couch*, by Pam Lefferts of Ferncroft Wildlife Rescue, will be available for sale & signing.

(Sponsored by the Eight Mile River Wild & Scenic Watershed)

• **TOOTHBRUSHING WITH MAGGIE & MOMMIE**

With local author, Heidi Rocha RDH, Wednesday, February 7th @ 10:30 AM.



• **WIND POWER: PINWHEELS & PUFF MOBILES**

Presented by Kimberly McLean, Saturday, February 24th @11:00 AM



Participants will start by making a pinwheel to see how air moves things, then see if they can make a toy car move using the same principles.

Limited to 12 participants, ages 7-12.

To register call: 860-859-1130.

• **STILL LIFE WORKSHOP**



Saturday, March 9th from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

Bring your own materials.

To register call: 860-859-1130.

• **IRISH MUSIC CONCERT**

Irish music concert with Kip & Mic, Saturday, March 16th, @ 11:00 AM.



To register call: 860-859-1130.

(Sponsored by Friends of the Salem Library & The Bobbie Ziegler Memorial Fund.)

There are a number of story times, and a variety of other programs available.

For additional information visit the Salem Town Webpage for the Library by clicking on: saalemct.gov/library.

TO REGISTER CALL THE LIBRARY AT 860- 859-1130 (some events may be filled or will have limited participation).

COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE (continued from pg 9)

• **SALEM RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

There are many activities for Salem residents of all ages:

- The Recreation Commission will be starting an indoor walking program for the winter at the Salem School. *They need a person to sign people in at the school for each session. Please contact Salem's Recreation Commission by clicking on: recreation@salemct.gov if you are interested in helping. Stay tuned, for more info.*

- **ADULT CO-ED REC PICK-UP GAMES**

Open gym for Salem & East Lyme residents age 18 & over in the Salem School gymnasium.

Sign In Upon Arrival

Pickleball: Tuesdays 5:30- 7:30 PM
Oct 3rd to May 28th

Volleyball: Fridays 7:00-9:00 PM
Oct 6th to May 31st

Basketball: Thursdays 7:00-9:00 PM
Oct 5th to May 30th

- **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.



LIVE ONLINE COURSES ARE GOING ON RIGHT NOW!

Live Classes Online is partnered with Town of Salem, so a portion of every purchase you make supports your community!

HURRY UP! Limited classes!
Reserve your place now!

- **VIRTUAL FITNESS CLASSES – KEEP MOVING**

Winter Fitness Schedule:

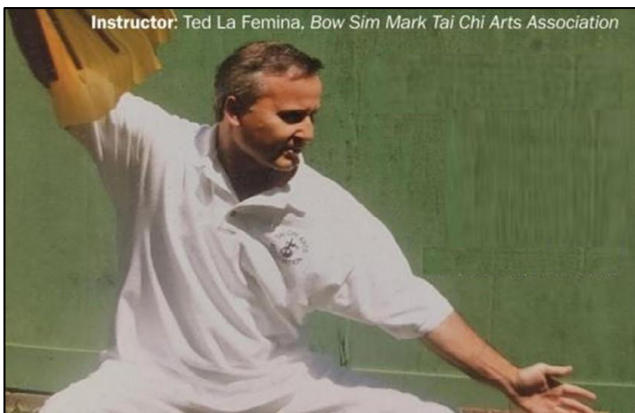
- ▶ **Mondays:** Jan 8th – Mar 8th, 5:45 – 6:30 PM (9 wks.)
(No class 1/15 or 2/19)
BARRE PILATES FUSION, Instructor: Allison – \$65.
- ▶ **Tuesdays:** Jan 9th – Mar 26th, 6 – 6:45 PM (12 wks.)
PILATES, Instructor: Rob – \$85.
- ▶ **Wednesdays:** Jan 10th – Mar 27th, 8:30 – 9:15 AM (12 wks.)
CARDIO STRENGTH, Instructor: Maggie – \$85.
- ▶ **Thursdays:** Jan 11th – Mar 28th, 6 – 6:45 PM 12 wks.)
CORE STRENGTH, Instructor: Rob – \$85.

Spring Fitness Schedule

- **Tuesdays:** Apr 16th – Jun 18th, 6 – 6:45 PM (10 wks.)
Pilates, Instructor: Rob \$70.
- **Wednesday Apr 17th – Jun 19th, 8:30 – 9:15 AM (10 wks.)**
Cardio Strength, Instructor: Maggie – \$70.
- **Thursday Apr 18th – Jun 20th, 6 – 6:45 PM (10 wks.)**
Core Strength, Instructor: Rob \$70.

For Details visit recreations website by clicking on: salemct.gov/recreation/personaleuphoria

- **MEDITATION...CHI KUNG...TAI CHI CHUAN**



Wednesdays, 6PM to 7 PM
January 10th – February 28th, (8 weeks)

Salem Volunteer Fire Co. Firehouse
424 Hartford, Road

\$45, Salem Residents
\$50, Non-Residents

Min/Max: 5/10 students

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**.

- **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.**

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- **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 Wednesdays, February 24th, and March 27th at the Salem Free Public Library, 264 Hartford Road from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. For future book sorting 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.

- **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).**

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/sites/g/files/vyhlif4966/f/uploads/august_newsletter_2023_final.pdf.

