



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

REFERENDUM ON THE PROPOSED SALEM TOWN BUDGET FOR F/Y 24/25

The Annual Town Meeting of Salem Electors was held the evening Wednesday, May 1st to considering/acting on the proposed Salem Town Budget (including the Board of Education budget) for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 (F/Y 24/25):

General Government	\$5,217,662
Board of Education	\$11,677,833
Capital Expenditures	\$995,788
TOTAL BUDGET	\$17,891,283

At that meeting a presentation was made on the proposed F/Y 24/25 Budget to the electors in attendance, followed by a question-and-answer session. The proposed budget for F/Y 24/25 was overwhelmingly approved by the Electors to be sent to referendum.

The referendum for the Salem Town Budget (including the Board of Education budget) is set for Wednesday, May 8th from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM at the Salem Town Office Building, 270 Hartford Rd.

Copies of the Salem Town Budget (including the Board of Education budget) are available on the Town of Salem webpage:

Municipal and Capital Budgets,

salemct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf4966/f/news/budget_book_24_25_final_with_cover_page_0.pdf

Board of Education Budget,

salemct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf4966/f/news/budgetbook_boeappd_april2024_0_0.pdf

ABSENTEE BALLOTS AVAILABLE NOW

Absentee ballots are available now for the May 8, 2024 Referendum on the Proposed Salem Town Budget for F/Y 24/25. Absentee ballot applications and ballots can be obtained from the Town Clerk's office beginning immediately and up to 5:00 PM on Tuesday, May 7th.

NOMINATING CONVENTIONS TO BE HELD

- **May 11th – State Convention** – 9:30 AM, Mohegan Sun Earth Expo & Convention Center, 1 Mohegan Sun Blvd, Montville
- **May 13th – 2nd District Congressional Convention** – 6:00 PM at the Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Rd., Coventry.
- **May 14th – 20th District State Senate Convention** – 6:00 PM at East Lyme Senior Center, 37 Society Rd, Niantic.
- **May 15th – 34th State Representative Convention** – 7:00 PM at Goff House, 2 Barton Hill Rd., East Hampton
- **May 15th – 37th State Representative Convention** – 6:00 PM at the Lyme Tavern 229 West Main St., Niantic.

CHARTER COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING – YOUR INPUT IS REQUESTED

The Salem Charter Revision Commission is holding a public hearing on **Wednesday, May 15th at 7:00 PM in the Salem Town Office Building, Conference Room 1**. Salem Town Charter Revision is soliciting your ideas and issues.

The Town Charter functions as a local constitution. It defines and limits the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the government and the form of local government. It also provides the organization and structure of the town.

OPINION:

“VOTE YES ON THE BUDGET REFERENDUM” By: G. Closius, May 2, 2024

I think this budget is not perfect, however, it represents a reasonable compromise and I recommend Salem voters approve the Budget Referendum on May 8th. I think the BOE Budget cuts were too extensive exposing the School District/Town to the potential that later in the fiscal year the BOE may need to go to the BOF to request a supplemental appropriation to cover State mandated expenses. Depending on the amount of funding requested, it may be required to go to Referendum. Should the Town voters vote down the supplemental appropriation at Referendum, the funding would likely need to be made up by cutting existing Town services and/or School programs. I think there were other potential items in the General Government Budget that could have been cut, there-by minimizing the risk discussed above.

If the Budget Referendum does not pass on May 8th the budget would have to go back to the BOF and be reworked. For those that believe the BOE budget cuts were too deep, voting the Budget Referendum down thus sending the budget back to the BOF will likely not result in the BOF adding funding to the BOE budget. The likely result would be additional budget cuts quite possibly in the BOE Budget.

Gary J. Closius

Chairman – Salem Democratic Town Committee

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

* Data current through April 30th

Shootings By State					
State	# Current Month	# Year To Date	State	# Current Month	# Year To Date
Florida	6	13	Kentucky	1	3
Texas	3	11	Maryland	1	3
Louisiana	3	10	New York	1	3
Illinois	2	9	Virginia	2	3
Mississippi	2	8	Michigan	1	2
California	0	7	Minnesota	0	2
Pennsylvania	0	7	Oklahoma	2	2
Alabama	0	6	Alaska	0	1
District of Columbia	4	6	Arizona	1	1
Tennessee	2	6	Colorado	0	1
Georgia	2	5	Connecticut	0	1
Missouri	0	5	Iowa	0	1
Arkansas	2	4	Nevada	0	1
Indiana	0	4	Ohio	0	1
North Carolina	2	4	South Carolina	1	1

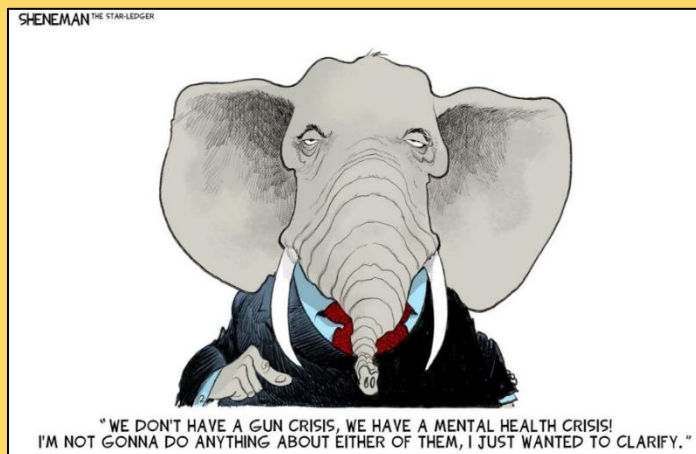
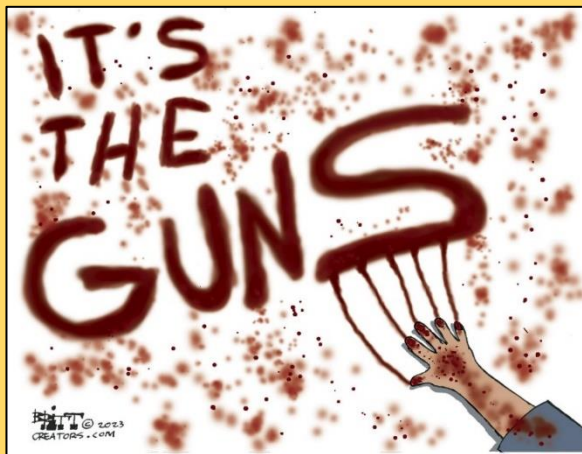
The 10 States With The:	
Strictest Gun Laws	Most Lenient Gun Laws
California	Mississippi
Illinois	Wyoming
New York	Montana
Connecticut	Idaho
Hawaii	Georgia
New Jersey	Arkansas
Maryland	South Dakota
Massachusetts	Oklahoma
Washington	New Hampshire
Colorado	Kentucky

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* 5,608

Total injuries (all causes) in the U.S. due to gun violence* 10,224

* Data through May 6th



OPINION: THE DAY AFTER¹

The Atlantic

DAILY



The Day After

By: Tom Nichols, Staff Writer – ***“The Atlantic Daily”***, Thursday, May 2, 2024

In a recent interview with Time magazine, Donald Trump once again told Americans what he will do to their system of government. Why don't they believe him?

But Donald Trump also gave an interview to Time magazine that, after the usual burst of shock and commentary, has flown under the radar, relatively speaking, pushed out of the headlines by the unrest at elite colleges.

In the interview, Trump once again promised to pardon the January 6 insurrectionists; once again, he vowed to use the Justice Department as his personal legal hit squad. He said he will prosecute Joe Biden, deport millions of people, and allow states with newly strict abortion regulations to monitor pregnant women. He will kneecap NATO and throw Ukraine to the Russians.

Trump told Time that he thinks people actually like it when he sounds like a dictator, and he's not entirely wrong: As I've noted, much of his base loves talk of “vermin” and the idea of exacting revenge on other Americans. But there are two other important reasons that many people are not taking Trump seriously enough—and that Biden, a long-serving American politician, is struggling in the polls with an often incoherent would-be autocrat.

One problem has been around as long as the republic: Americans don't pay attention to politics, and when they do, they frequently blame the current president for whatever is going wrong in their lives. For most people, economic cause and effect is mostly notional; if gas prices are high today, or if someone is still not working despite low unemployment rates, it's because of the guy at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Combine this with the peculiar amnesia that helps people forget how many Americans needlessly died of COVID while Trump talked about ingesting bleach, and you have a population that fondly remembers how good they had it during a terrifying pandemic.

Nostalgia and presentism are part of politics. But a second problem is even more worrisome: Americans simply cannot imagine how badly Trump's first term might have turned out, and how ghastly his second term is likely to be. Our minds are not equipped to embrace how fast democracy could disintegrate. We can better imagine alien invasions than we can an authoritarian America. The Atlantic tried to lay out what this future would look like, but perhaps even words can't capture the magnitude of the threat.

When I was in high school and taking driver's education, our teachers would show us horrible films, with names like *Death on the Highway*, that included gory footage of actual car wrecks. The goal was to scare us into being responsible drivers by showing us the reality of being mangled or burned to death in a crash. The idea made sense: Most people have never seen a car wreck, and expanding our imaginations by showing us the actual carnage did, I suspect, scare some of us into holding that steering wheel at the steady 10-and-2 position.

Likewise, Americans had a hard time conceiving of a nuclear war until 1983, when ABC showed the made-for-television movie *The Day After*. The movie (as I wrote here) made an impact not because anyone thought a nuclear exchange would be a walk in the park but because no one could really get their head around what would happen if one took place. (That's despite how thoroughly fears of nuclear war had otherwise permeated the culture.) The movie includes a stomach-churning

OPINION: THE DAY AFTER *(continued from p 3)*

scene of people watching a football game at a stadium, looking up to see the contrails of American missiles in the sky, and realizing that the world as they've known it would last for another 30 minutes at most. This was not Dr. Strangelove; it was a moment people could see happening to themselves.

We just don't have a similar conceptualization for the end of democracy in America. I have not seen the film *Civil War*, but I'm not worried about another civil war—at least not the kind we had before. Rather, I'm worried about the gray fog of authoritarianism settling, in patches and pieces, across the United States. In 2021, my colleague George Packer tried to present a realistic scenario of democratic collapse; the next year, I wrote about what such a process might look like. But looking back, I see the limits of my imagination.

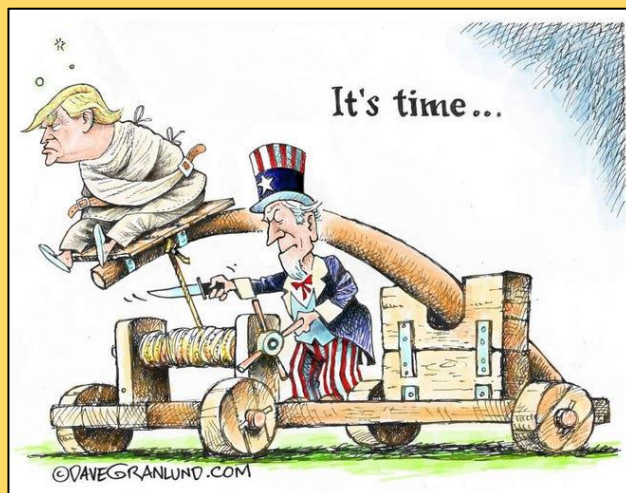
I did not, for example, think it possible that state troopers would stop women who might try to leave their state to seek an abortion. In his concurrence with the *Dobbs v. Jackson* decision that threw out *Roe v. Wade*, Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh suggested that such travel bans on pregnant women might be unconstitutional, and no state has tried to enact one—yet. But I now view this as only one of many inhuman outrages that could come to pass if the federal government is overtaken by Trump and his authoritarian cronies and the state courts feel free, with Trump's blessing, to ignore the Constitution. I can imagine state legislatures passing repressive laws and expelling any representatives who oppose them. And I can easily see the former president and right-wing governors attempting to use the U.S. military and the National Guard as their personal muscle.

People have a hard time imagining all of this is in part because Trump has a compliant, right-wing media ecosystem arrayed around him that tries to explain away his behavior. But it doesn't help that others in the national media remain locked in the mindset that this is a normal election. Today, *The New York Times* ran an op-ed from Matthew Schmitz, a right-wing writer who assured readers that all will be well: "Mr. Trump may pose a threat to our political system as it now exists," he writes, "but it is a threat animated by a democratic spirit." (Back in December, the *Times* ran an essay by Schmitz in which he argued that Trump is a moderate: "Mr. Trump's moderation can be easy to miss, because he is not a stylistic centrist—the sort who calls for bipartisan budget cutting and a return to civility." Well, that's one way to put it.)

Crucial to deadening our imaginations about Trump is the idea pushed by some of his supporters that his unhinged statements are just a lot of tough talk, and that the second term would be like the first, only without the pandemic and with cheaper eggs. In reality, of course, Trump's first term was (to use a rather vivid Russian expression I learned in my days in the Soviet Union) about as organized as a warehouse on fire during an earthquake. Even before COVID, responsible men and women, some of whom agreed deeply with Trump on many issues, nonetheless had to run around stamping out one crisis after another. None of those people will be present to restrain Trump this time, and he will bring to Washington a crew that is even more morally reprehensible—and far more organized—than those who joined him in his first term.

Trump's most alarmist opponents are wrong to insist that he would march into Washington in January 2025 like Hitler entering Paris. The process will be slower and more bureaucratic, starting with the seizure of the Justice Department and the Defense Department, two keys to controlling the nation. If Trump returns to office, he will not shoot democracy on Fifth Avenue. He and the people around him will paralyze it, limb by limb. The American public needs to get better at imagining what that would look like.

¹ Excerpted from Article – **"The Day After"** appearing in **"The Atlantic Daily"** on May 2, 2024, by: Tom Nichols, appearing in **"The Atlantic Daily"**.



THE SDTC MEETING SCHEDULE

The SDTC 2024 Regular Monthly Meeting Schedule

- **Wednesday, May 8th at 7:00 PM**, at the Salem Volunteer Fire Co. Firehouse
- **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 MAY

- **Town Meeting to Consider 24/25 Budget**
May 1st, 7:00 PM
- **Library Board of Directors**
May 14th, 6:00 PM
- **Charter Revision Commission**
May 2nd, 7:00 PM
- **Planning & Zoning Commission**
May 14th, 7:00 PM
- **Board of Education Long Range Edu Planning**
May 6th, 5:00 PM
- **Emergency Preparedness Agency**
May 14th, 7:00 PM
- **BOE Personnel/Contract Negotiations**
May 6th, 6:00 PM
- **Charter Revision Commission – Public Hearing**
May 15th, 7:00 PM
- **Board of Education**
May 6th, 7:00 PM
- **Charter Revision Commission**
May 16th, 7:00 PM
- **Inland Wetlands & Conservation Commission**
May 6th, 7:00 PM
- **Board of Education Policy**
May 20th, 5:00 PM
- **Board of Selectmen**
May 7th, 7:00 PM
- **Board of Education Curriculum**
May 20th, 6:00 PM
- **Referendum on 24/25 Budget**
May 8th, 7:00 PM
- **Recreation Commission**
May 20th, 7:00 PM
- **Board of Finance**
May 9th, 7:00 PM
- **Economic Development Commission**
May 21st, 6:00 PM
- **Emergency Preparedness Agency**
Sunday May 12th 7:00 PM
- **Planning and Zoning Commission**
May 28th, 7:00 PM

To view the Town Public Meeting Calendar, click on:
<https://www.salemct.gov/calendar-by-event-type/16/month/2024-05>

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.

• **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.

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, or call EVERSOURCE at 800-286-2828, or call TVCCA at 860-889-1365.

COMMUNITY HELP / ASSISTANCE *(continued from p 5)*

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.

• **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.

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	-

COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

SALEM FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

News & Events

- **MUSEUM PASSES AND DISCOUNTED ADMISSION 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.
- **BOOKS IN THE AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB.** Meetings are normally held on the last Thursday of the month at 1.00 PM.

- **REVENGE OF THE SIX**

Come join us on **May 6th at 4:30 PM** to participate in Jedi Training. A foam lightsaber will be provided for the class & to take home!



Class presented by Scott Butler.
(Sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Library)

- **Lavendar Q-Tip Painting**

Take and make Lavender Q-Tip Painting. Available May 13th while supplies last.



(Sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Library)

- **A YEAR IN KIMONO**

A Hi story & Demonstration
Saturday, May 18th at 11:00 AM.
Presented by Robyn Moriboy of Sono Kimono

To register call: 860-859-1130.
Limited to 30 participants ages 13 to adult
(Sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Library)



- **FRIENDS OF THE SALEM LIBRARY PLANT SALE**

The annual FOSL Plant sale will be held on:
Thursday, May 9th 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM,
Friday, May 10th 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM, and
Saturday, May 11th, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM.



The plants for sale are most locally grown perennials, annuals, vegetables, herbs, house plants, trees, & shrubs.

The Salem Senior Citizen's Group will also be selling Donated Christmas Ornaments.

FOSL will also be selling the FOSL Apron, come get yours before they are gone.



All proceeds go to go the FRIENDS OF THE SALEM LIBRARY.

- **FAMILY STORY TIMES**

Wednesdays at 10:30 AM
May 15th, & 29th,
June 5th & 26th*



* Join us on June 26th for a special Storytime celebrating the start of Summer Reading

To register call: 860-859-1130.
(Sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Library)

COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE (continued from p 7)

SALEM FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY (continued)

News & Events

• **MEXICAN FOKLORIC DANCER**

Presented by Amande Haack

Saturday, June 1st at 11:00 AM

Great for all ages. Señora Haac will perform, and talk about different styles of dances from the states of Mexico, such as, Jalisco, Veracruz, and Pueblo.



To register call: 860-859-1130.

(Sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Library)

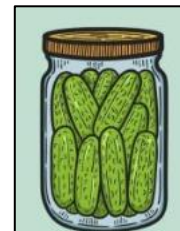
• **MASTER THE ART OF PRESERVING THE HARVEST**

Intensive Workshop Presented by Mark Gostkiewicz of Tri Gable Lea Farm

Saturday June 8th at 11:00 AM

You will learn:

- Pickling
- Canning
- Freezing
- Dehydrating



To register call: 860-859-1130.

(Sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Library)

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.



• **SPRING ADULT TENNIS SESSION 1 CLINIC**

Adult tennis with Anne Santoro,

Wednesdays, May 8th – 29th, 9:30 AM – 10:45 AM, at the Round Hill Rd. tennis courts

Fee: \$90 – Residents; \$95 Non-Residents

Sign up today!

<https://www.salemct.gov/recreation/onlineregform>.

• **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 us.

• **VIRTUAL FITNESS CLASSES – KEEP MOVING**

Spring Fitness Schedule:

- Tuesdays: April 16 – Jun 18 – 6:00 -6:45 PM (10 wks.) \$70.00
Pilates, Instructor: Rob – \$70.
- Wednesdays: Apr 17th – Jun 19th, 8:30 – 9:15 AM (10 wks.)
Cardio Strength, Instructor: Maggie – \$70.
- Thursdays: April 18th – June 20th, 6 – 6:45 PM (10 wks.)
Core Strength, Instructor: Rob – \$85.

• **MEMORIAL DAY AFTER-EVENT SEARCH & FIND**

Monday, May 27th Meet us at our Booth on the Salem Town Green.

Search & Find a List of Items along the Multi-Purpose Path/Harris Brook Trail and finish with a sweet surprise!

COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE (continued from p 8)

SALEM RECREATION DEPARTMENT (continued)

• **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**

• **SAND VOLLEYBALL COURT**

The volleyball court is located at the Salem Community Park Pavilion, 89 Norwich Road/Route 82.

• **LIVE CLASSES ONLINE**

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



**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!**

To explore what courses are available and sign up, click on the following link:
saalemct.gov/recreation/pages/live-classes-online

• **SUMMER CONCERTS FREE**

**Thursdays, at the Pavilion at 6:00 PM,
June 27th, July 25th, and August 22nd**



For additional information on activities provided by the Salem Recreation Commission please visit their website by clicking on: **saalemct.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 every Wednesday and Friday at the Zemko Garage, 231 Hartford Road 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: saalemschools.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.**

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES *(continued from p 9)*

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. The first "cemetery clean-up party" was held on Saturday, May 4th at the Hillard Cemetery.

Watch the Facebook website for future dates for cemetery clean up opportunities.

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.

HISTORIC EVENTS – MAY

- **1868** – Martha Jones becomes first Black woman to receive a U.S. patent.
- **1904** – Cy Young pitches first perfect game in MLB history.
- **1921** – Chanel No. 5 perfume launches.
- **1961** – Navy Commander Alan Bartlett Shepard Jr. becomes the first American in space.
- **1967** – "**One Hundred Years of Solitude**" is published.
- **1978** – Ben & Jerry's opens its first ice cream shop.

SDTC Contact Information

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Leslie Hotary – Secretary – hotaryleslie@gmail.com

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