

November 7th – T minus 1,169

NEWSLETTER

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What's Inside

- Salem municipal election results, See pp 1-2.
- Message from Senator Martha Marx, See pp 2-4.
- Message from Representative Nick Menapace, See pp 4-6.
- Opinion – Government Shutdown and “Some People”, See pp 6-7.
- Town Hall Meetings, Rallies, Protests & Marchs, See p 8.
- Gun Violence Statistics & Data, See p 9.
- SDTC Meeting Schedule, See p 9.
- Community News You Can Use, See pp 10-13.
- Senior News, See p 14.

INFORMATION & SERVICES

- Public Town Meetings, See p 15.
- Help / Assistance, See pp 15-16.
- Volunteer Opportunities, See pp 16-17.
- Activities In Our Region See pp 17-18.
- Salem Democrats in Action, (photos), See p 18.
- Swearing in Ceremony 2025 (photos), See p 19.

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Please click on the button to the right



Salem Municipal Election Results

Salem Democrats Sweep the Selectman Races!!
The recount is complete!! It is official.
Sue Spang has won
the First Selectman's seat!! Congratulations Sue!!

Thank you all for voting Democratic for a change going forward.

Below are the results of Salem's municipal election. Democratic candidates won 12 of the 19 contested races. Of the 3,078 registered voters in Salem, 1,489 (48.4%) turned out to vote, 113 more than in the 2023 municipal election and 151 more than in the 2021 municipal election.

Election Results

Office/Position	Seats	Candidate	Votes	Party
Board of Selectmen				
First Selectman	1	Sue Spang	738	D
		Ron LaBonte	736	R
Selectman	2	Gary Closius	781	D
		Diane Weston	731	D
		Pam Munro	695	R
		Ed Chmielewski	688	R
Town Offices				
Town Clerk	1	Julie Stoken	1,089	R
Town Treasurer	1	Krystal Hales	1,081	R
Tax Collector	1	Vivian Waters	1,089	R
Board of Education				
Full Member (full term)	3	Jen Ricci	739	D
		Krystal Hales	742	R
		Kennedy Munro	714	R
		Perry Raulerson	679	D
Full Member (fill a vacancy for 4 yrs)	1	Jocelyn Glidwell	772	R
		Arthur C. Nagel	673	D
Full Member (fill a vacancy for 2 yrs)	1	Erik Trotter	731	R
		Maria Lucia Cuadros	715	D
Board of Finance				
Full Member	2	Jim Moran	829	R
		James Jorgensen	829	R
		Matt Rucci	768	D
Alternate Member	1	John Gadbois	1,056	R
Board of Assessment Appeals				
Full Member	2	Robert Green	721	R
		Dennis Girard	717	D

Salem Municipal Election Results (continued)

Election Results (continued)

Planning & Zoning Commission				
Full Member	3	Tony Griggs	742	D
		Vernon Smith	732	R
		Sarah Diamond	703	D
		Kim Hargrave	703	D
		Mark Medzychowski	691	R
		Patrick Donovan II	687	R
Alternate Member (full term)	1	Sophie Arustei	911	D
Alternate Member (fill a vacancy for 2 yrs)	1	Costa Konstantinidis	992	R
Library Board of Directors				
Full Member	2	Mary E. Whittaker	759	D
		Becky Nortz	747	D
		Thersa Jorgensen	685	R
		Allie Fritz	660	R
Full member (Fill Vacancy 4 yrs)	1	Mary Cikat	790	D
		Michelle Mills	661	R
Zoning Board of Appeals				
Full Member	3	Emil Casciano	737	R
		Jennifer Lindo	736	D
		Becky Nortz	714	D
		LaVan Norwood	670	R
Alternate Member	1	Ed Artale	912	D

Denotes Race Winner

Message From State Senator Martha Marx (D 20th District)

Dear Neighbor,

This Veterans Day, we honor the brave men and women who have served our country — and remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedom. Their courage and commitment remind us of the true cost of liberty and the importance of standing by those who have stood for us.



As a former Co-Chair of the Veterans' and Military Affairs Committee, I'm deeply proud of the progress we've made this year to better support Connecticut's veterans and active-duty service members. We passed new laws that strengthen property tax exemptions for veterans with 100% disability ratings, extend similar benefits to surviving spouses of fallen service members, and ensure military benefits don't count against eligibility for certain public assistance programs. We also expanded education fee waivers for National Guard members and veterans with wartime service, created reduced bus fares of up to 50% for veterans, and gave disabled veteran-owned businesses greater access to state small business support programs.



These initiatives reflect our ongoing commitment to ensuring that those who served our country receive the respect, opportunity, and support they've earned.

Brush Mowing on I-395 North and Southbound from Exit 6 in Montville to Exit 14 in Norwich

The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) is announcing that a brush mowing operation will be performed on I-395 north and southbound, from Exit 6 in Montville to Exit 14 in Norwich. This project is scheduled to occur on Sunday evening, November 9th and be completed on Friday morning, November 14, 2025.

RAMP CLOSURE/DETOUR INFO

Motorists can expect temporary ramp closures on I-395 north and southbound, from Exit 6 in Montville to Exit 14 in Norwich from Sunday evening, November 9th to Friday morning, November 14th, during the hours of 7:30 PM to 5:30 AM. Traffic will be detoured. Traffic control signing patterns and crash attenuator vehicles will guide motorists through the work zone.

[Message From State Senator Martha Marx \(D 20th District, continued\)](#)**Supporting Those In Need During Shutdown**

As the current government shutdown is now the longest in American history, confusion about SNAP benefits is leading to issues statewide, making community support more vital than ever. The Trump administration, after being ordered by a court to release SNAP funds to recipients, has given varying statements on whether it will, and should funds be administered, they're expected to be delayed. That leaves recipients putting pressure on food pantries and food banks around the state, with \$72 million in unfunded SNAP benefits impacting hundreds of thousands of residents. SNAP benefits are expected to be partially paid at some point this month; in the meantime, those needing assistance should call 211 or visit www.ctfoodshare.org to find a food pantry near them. People with the means to support their communities should make direct donations to local food banks for immediate support or make donations to local organizations that are focused on providing aid.

**Veterans' Health and Wellness Events**

Resource Fair: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM. Connect with community agencies and Veteran Programs. Access health screenings and other resources.

Dinner and Program: 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM. Share a meal and honor those who served – please register so we have enough food.

The Place For Community Wellbeing, 74 Garfield Ave., New London.

Visit: <https://tiny.llhd.org/Veterans>.

**Montville Craft Fair – For Your Calendar**

On Saturday, November 22nd at 10:00 AM, the Montville Pequot Lions will hold their annual craft fair at 49 Golden Road, with up to 40 local artisans and vendors.

Bozrah Holiday Market

The Bozrah Holiday Market is set for Saturday, November 22nd from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at 45 Bozrah Street. Attendees are asked to bring food pantry donations to support the local community.

Niantic Light Parade

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

Old Saybrook Scam Alert

The Old Saybrook Police Department is alerting residents and local businesses that a fraudulent email scam is circulating within the community, requesting a wire transfer in regards to zoning applications. The town will never ask for payment via wire transfers, electronic payments or gift cards, and town payments are handled in-person, by mail or through the town's online payment system. Report potential scam emails to local police.

Life Line Screening Event

On Monday, November 24th at Waterford Town Hall, Life Line will hold a screening event. For \$129, attendees can receive four important screenings for stroke and cardiovascular disease risk. To book an appointment, call 800-324-9458 or visit their website by **pressing Ctrl + Click on lisa.social/habc**.

Heating Assistance Awareness Month

This month marks Heating Assistance Awareness Month, intended to raise public knowledge of programs available to help residents in need pay their heating bills or reduce them. Support is available to help keep homes warm. As temperatures continue to fall this autumn, now is the time to pursue help. The Connecticut Energy Assistance Program can provide up to \$645 toward your heating bill while Eversource's energy efficiency programs and incentives can also help reduce overall energy use. Homes with certain household incomes or public assistance benefits cannot have service shut off through May 1 with proof submitted. You can also **press Ctrl + Click** to see [211 Support Programs](#), and **press Ctrl + Click** to see [Eversource support efforts](#).

[Message From State Senator Martha Marx \(D 20th District, continued\)](#)**[Salem Veterans Day Celebration](#)**

The Salem School will hold a Veterans Day celebration Tuesday, November 11 with light refreshments at 9 a.m. and an assembly at 9:30 AM.

[Contact My Office](#)

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

All the best,



Martha Marx, State Senator 20th District

[Message From State Representative Nick Menapace \(D 37th District\)](#)

Dear Neighbor,

At a time when vital food and healthcare programs hang in the balance, it may appear as though Democrats in Washington face only two options: cooperate with Republican demands to unlock SNAP funding or stand firm in defense of essential healthcare protections. However, this is a false dichotomy. A third — and more principled — option exists: the Republican majority can put the American people at the forefront of their priorities and choose to engage in genuine negotiations, working toward a common-sense compromise that reflects the needs and values of the people they were elected to serve. Connecticut families are already shouldering the burden of federal SNAP cuts, with 366,000 people at risk of losing the benefits that keep them healthy and nourished. Responsible action from the majority party remains both possible and urgently necessary.

For now, here in Connecticut we are doing everything we can to hold up and support families and individuals who need it most. Gov. Lamont announced \$3 million in emergency funding for CT Foodshare to cover a short-term shortfall. The bit of good news is people who have funds on their SNAP accounts may access those funds beyond Nov. 1st.

Perhaps, once we get through this crisis, we can begin to address the fact that 70% of adult wage-earners in SNAP households work full-time hours (35 or more per week), and still cannot afford to feed themselves and their families.

For now, please see below for local organizations to reach out to for help or to help.

[East Lyme, Montville and Salem](#)

- ***Shore Line Soup Kitchen and Pantry*** information can be found by **pressing Ctrl + Click [HERE](#)**.
- ***United Way 211 resources*** for the shore line can be found by **pressing Ctrl + Click [HERE](#)**.
- ***Montville Union Baptist Church Food Pantry*** information can be found by **pressing Ctrl + Click [HERE](#)**. Drive through food pantry offers a two-week supply of food for individuals and families in need on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month from 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM.
- ***Foodshare, or Mobile Food Pantry Locator and Pantry Locator*** information can be found by **pressing Ctrl + Click [HERE](#)**.
- ***Care & Share of East Lyme Food Pantry*** information can be found by **pressing Ctrl + Click [HERE](#)**.



Message From State Representative Nick Menapace (D 37th District, continued)

Access Health CT

Access Health CT's (AHCT) health and dental insurance remains on track to begin Saturday, Nov. 1st and end Monday, Dec. 15th for plans beginning at the start of next year. Residents can enroll until Thursday, Jan. 15th for plans beginning in February.

You may have received a letter in the mail warning of healthcare premium price increases starting Jan. 1st due to legislation passed in the U.S. Congress this year. Currently, the federal government is shut down as those price increases are debated and negotiated.

As it stands, state officials in Connecticut are encouraging residents to hold off on enrolling in the AHCT plan as the debate continues over those price increases. If you are able, please wait to enroll until the issue is fully resolved. For more information see the CT Mirror article by ***pressing Ctrl + Click [HERE](#)***.

Around the 37th

- I visited the Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery Center in New London today, October 28th. According to CCAR, more than 26,000 people participated in its *All Recovery Meetings* in the last year. The *Telephone Recovery Support Program* made more than 43,000 calls, offering encouragement and support to those in recovery. There are indeed angels who walk among us, even in the most difficult times.



- I had a great day in Salem! We stopped by the Salem Apple Fest, the Salem library's book sale, and the Mitchell Farm Fall Festival, where we met some very friendly retired horses and donkeys — and of course, we couldn't leave without a stop at Salem Valley Farms for a treat.



Grateful for all the wonderful people and local traditions that make our communities so special this time of year!

- The arts are a cornerstone of a strong local economy and a thriving education system. The opening of The Music Studio in East Lyme shows what happens when creativity and entrepreneurship come together.

Congratulations to everyone involved—from the Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce to Niantic Main Street, and especially the students and teachers whose performances made the day so special.



- Last weekend, I visited the Amistad at Mystic Seaport — Connecticut's flagship and one of the most powerful symbols of justice and freedom in our nation's history.

In 1839, the Africans aboard the Amistad fought for their freedom, and their story became a defining moment for human rights and the abolition movement. The Amistad reminds us that Connecticut's history is deeply tied to the pursuit of justice — a legacy we must continue to honor and teach.

As we approach the 250th anniversary of the United States, it's more important than ever to support organizations like Discovering Amistad, which keep this vital history alive for future generations.



Message From State Representative Nick Menapace *(D 37th District, continued)*

Around the 37th *(continued)*

- Exciting news for southeastern Connecticut! Electric Boat has officially purchased the Crystal Mall property in Waterford.

It was great to stand with local and state leaders to celebrate this next chapter for our community. This project is proof of what we can accomplish when we think regionally and work together for smart, sustainable growth.



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

Sincerely,

Nick Menapace

State Representative 37th District

Opinion

Government Shutdown and “Some People”

It is said, without fail, that elections have consequences. For the second time during a President Donald Trump administration, the United States finds itself in the midst of a government shutdown, one that has now reached historic lengths. But to blame the shutdown on the president would solicit calls for Trump Derangement Syndrome (TDS), as it takes the bipartisan collaboration of all congresspeople to pass the appropriation bills necessary, or a continuing resolution. Furthermore, to focus solely on the blatant, dangerous misinformation game played by Republicans, who say that Democrats are fighting for free healthcare for “illegals,” or to overly criticize the Democrats for now using a shutdown as a tactic for negotiation, which they have decried since the 1990s, ignores the real issue at hand: the harm and trauma this specific shutdown is causing not just to federal employees, but America’s most vulnerable, or rather, “some people.”

Before we get to those “some people,” let’s address what the shutdown is doing. On the one side, a shutdown does what many Trump voters want- it shrinks government, albeit only in its functionality. Nineteen federal agencies have a total of 700,000 federal employees working without pay, while at least 600,000 have been furloughed (*Elena Shao et al.*). Those working without pay are guaranteed backpay, a result of Government Employee Fair Treatment Act of 2019 (H.R. 24) signed by Trump, but Trump has recently stated, “I would say it depends on who you’re talking about,” Trump said when asked about back pay for furloughed workers. He added, “For the most part, we’re going to take care of our people,” but said, “There are some people that really don’t deserve to be taken care of.” He then said the latter group would be taken care of “in a different way,” (*Katz*).

I want us to think about the meaning of “our people” and Trump’s assertion that there are “some people that really don’t deserve to be taken care of.” The “some people” here are the ones that work for the agencies he openly despises, such as the Environmental Protection Agency, The Department of Education, The Labor Department, H.U.D, The Treasury, Health and Human Services- you get the idea. How do we know this? The proof is in who is being paid during this shutdown. ICE agents are being paid. Federal law enforcement officers are being paid. These are federal workers who are crucial to Trump’s political agenda. And during this shutdown, to twist the knife, the agencies referenced have faced layoffs. Beyond backpay is the extension of what is being communicated here: there are Americans that Trump does not feel responsible for, and they are the neediest among us, the ones who, 61 years ago, our nation decided that we would no longer allow to go hungry.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which consists of 30 articles that define human rights and dignity, was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in Paris on December 10th, 1948. It was written in

*Opinion (continued)***Government Shutdown and “Some People” (continued)**

response to the horrors of genocide, and it has served since as the document for over 70 treaties. Article 25 states that “Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services,” (*Universal Declaration of Human Rights*). It took our country fifteen additional years to put this into action, but when the Food Stamp Act passed in 1963, President Johnson codified that low-income families would not starve in the wealthiest nation in the world. As our population has grown, so has the program, and as the wealth gap in this nation continues to widen, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) has proven itself to be a safeguard against starvation. Many would argue that it’s an ironic safeguard, considering the vast wealth hoarded by the “one percent” and the simple knowledge that living expenses have far outpaced living wages. So, what does the act of withholding SNAP, for the first time in history, from working Americans show us: cruelty. In fact, to even consider withholding these funds now, as we have seen an increase in starvation-related deaths in America, especially among our elderly population, is not a political tactic (Reese). It is just cruelty.

As an educator in an urban school, I have seen the heartbreaking stress of high school students taking on second jobs to help put food on the table in anticipation of losing SNAP. I have seen the posts online calling for food pantry support, and my local union is coordinating with all the local education unions to make food collections our focus. We are looking at “some people” as our friends and neighbors, and making sure that we are there for them in our time of need. We are acknowledging the cruelty being served while Trump hosts extravagant balls at Mar-A-Lago and only pauses to tell states that they must stop their emergency funding of SNAP.

Simon Sinek, best-selling author of the book *Leaders Eat Last* and speaker behind one of the most watched Ted Talks of all-time, once said “Leadership is not about the next election, it is about the next generation.” Democrats will likely have to give in so that “some people,” our next generation, do not starve, but none of this will be forgotten come next election. Americans do not endorse cruelty.

By: *Phil Day, November 9, 2025, (Phil Day is a Salem resident and Human Rights/English teacher).*

References

- Elena Shao, Lazaro Gamio and Ashley Wu, et al. “How the Shutdown Is Affecting Federal Services and Workers.” *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 15 Oct. 2025, www.nytimes.com/interactive/2025/09/30/us/politics/government-shutdown-furloughs.html.
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Town Hall Meetings, Rallies, Protests, Marches, and Meetings

- **Visibility Brigade Waterford ***

When: Tuesday, November, 11th, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM.

Where: Cross Rd. Bridge, Waterford.

Visibility Brigade Southeast CT Call to action!

Visibility Brigade is partnering with veterans on Veterans' Day, November 11, across the country to raise awareness that veterans support country and constitution, not a leader. Please join us on November 11th, Veterans Day from 12 noon to 2:00 PM on Cross Road bridge in Waterford to protest against Trump and his fascist regime.

All veterans are welcome but you don't have to be a vet to help get the message to thousands of people who will drive by on I-95 during that time. Let's help keep the national resistance movement alive!

RSVP here: <https://www.mobilize.us/indivisible/event/11861>

Map: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/DwRkZHUJnyrTT9>

Parking: Yale Health facility, Cross Roads Professional Building, 196 Waterford Pkwy South. This road runs parallel to the highway on the south side, and the lot is about 1/10 of a mile from the bridge.

Notes: We will HOLD banners and signs and may need extra hands to help hold a section of the large banner. Nothing can be attached to the bridge.

Only CROSS the bridge at the light on the south end of the bridge (intersection with Waterford Pkwy, where the parking is noted above).

A core principle behind all Indivisible events is a commitment to nonviolent action. We expect all participants to seek to de-escalate any potential confrontation with those who disagree with our values.

- **Stonington Visibility Brigade**

When: Tuesday, November, 11th, 10:45 PM – 12:00 PM.

Where: Pequot Trail, Stonington.

Visibility Brigade Southeast CT Visibility Brigade is partnering with veterans on Veterans' Day, November 11th, across the country to raise awareness that veterans support country and constitution, not a leader. Please join us for the Stonington Visibility Brigade to hold signs and wave banners in a high-profile location on a bridge in Stonington above I-95 on I-95 overpass on Pequot Trail. The group would move American and Pride Flags!

For questions or to RSVP email: indivisiblesect@proton.me.

Map: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/6WLt2ZtBNV6RNPBL6>

- **Weekly Vernon 84 Overpass Protest Dobson Rd**

When: Thursday, November, 13th, 7:30AM – 8:30 AM.

Where: 348 Hartford Turnpike, Vernon

Join people of like mind at Dobson Road highway overpass to demonstrate your wish for change every Thursday. Over 6,500 vehicles go under this overpass in one hour during rush hour! Bring signs, flags and enthusiasm from 7:30-8:30 AM. Park at Key Bank on Route 30 in Vernon on the west side of the lot or at a nearby mall lot and be gone by the time the bank opens. Show others how they can start to get involved! Coffee and clean bathrooms available across Rte. 30 at Cumberland Farms.

A core principle behind all Indivisible events is a commitment to nonviolent action. We expect all participants to seek to de-escalate any potential confrontation with those who disagree with our values.

- * **Tips for Making Signs and Showing Up**

For information on making signs and showing up **press Ctrl+Click [HERE](#)**.

Gun Violence – 2025 Statistics and Data

2025	Mass Shootings	Deaths	Injuries
TOTALS	346	325	1,627
January	23	27	103
February	17	26	59
March	27	24	133
April	23	26	105
May	34	25	180
June	62	39	290
July	61	60	277
August	34	28	178
September	34	36	145
October	31	34	157
November			
December			

* Data current through October 31st

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
Alabama	3	10	Montana	0	1
Alaska	0	0	Nebraska	0	3
Arizona	0	3	Nevada	0	3
Arkansas	0	2	New Hampshire	0	0
California	1	23	New Jersey	0	4
Colorado	0	2	New Mexico	0	1
Connecticut	0	3	New York	0	10
Delaware	1	2	North Carolina	1	12
District of Colum	1	3	North Dakota	0	0
Florida	0	11	Ohio	2	19
Georgia	1	18	Oklahoma	2	8
Hawaii	0	2	Oregon	0	2
Idaho	0	1	Pennsylvania	2	17
Illinois	1	24	Rhode Island	0	0
Indiana	0	10	South Carolina	3	11
Iowa	0	1	South Dakota	0	0
Kansas	1	1	Tennessee	1	9
Kentucky	0	2	Texas	6	31
Louisiana	0	16	Utah	0	1
Maine	0	1	Vermont	0	0
Maryland	0	8	Virginia	0	9
Massachusetts	0	1	Washington	1	6
Michigan	0	11	West Virginia	0	1
Minnesota	1	9	Wisconsin	0	4
Mississippi	2	14	Wyoming	0	1
Missouri	1	10			

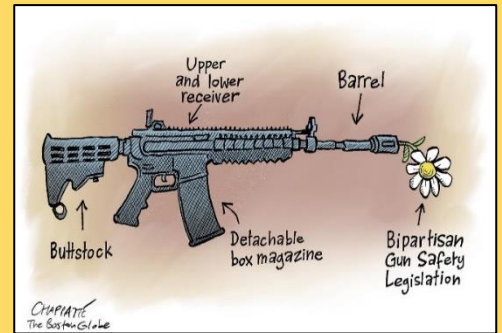
Total deaths (all causes) in the U.S. due to gun violence* 12,460**

Total injuries (all causes) in the U.S. due to gun violence* 22,755

* Data through November 3rd

** Totals not including suicide

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



The Salem DTC Meeting Schedule – 2025

The Salem DTC 2025/2026 Regular Monthly Meeting Schedule

- **Wednesday, Dec. 3rd, at 7:00 PM,** at the Center School
- **Wednesday, Mar. 4th, at 7:00 PM,** at the Center School
- **Wednesday, Jun. 3rd, at 7:00 PM,** at the Center School
- **Wednesday, Jan. 7th, at 7:00 PM,** at the Center School
- **Wednesday, Apr. 1st, at 7:00 PM,** at the Center School
- **Wednesday, Jul. 1st, at 7:00 PM,** at the Center School
- **Wednesday, Feb. 4th, at 7:00 PM,** at the Center School
- **Wednesday, May 6th, at 7:00 PM,** at the Center School
- **Wednesday, Aug. 5th, at 7:00 PM,** at the Center School

[Community News You Can Use](#)

Salem School Fundraiser

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

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

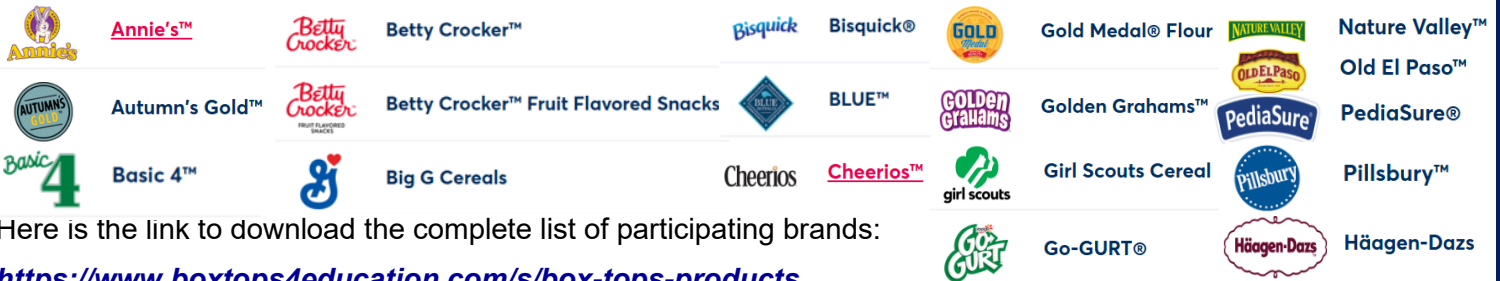
**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR SCHOOLS
AMERICA'S SCHOOLS HAVE EARNED \$958,015,672 WITH BOX TOPS...AND COUNTING**

It's so simple:

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

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

Examples of Box Top products:



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

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

Salem Free Public Library (SFPL)

Library Report – October

- In October the library held 5 Storytimes with 97 attendees. Following Storytime, the library offers a Drop-In Playgroup for children and caregivers. Salem Free Public Library held 5 of these sessions with 64 attendees. Storytime continues to grow in numbers and interest. If this trend continues the library may have to look at dividing the group into 2 age groups.
- On October 1st, the Lego Club met. Participants are allowed to get creative and display their creations in the main library. There were 9 participants.
- On October 4th the library held a Mini-Renaissance Faire. Children could color a knight mask and get knight-themed tattoos, there were 27 participants. Teens and adults could make a dragon-eye magnet. There were 23 participants. The library also distributed 35 take-and-make catapults. Finally, Laurel City Swords presented demonstrations on sword fighting and how to arm a knight, and provided participants to try on select armor and hold various swords. There were 22 participants.
- In addition, during the first week of October, Catapult take-and-make crafts were available, the library distributed 35 kits.
- On October 18th Hannah Lynch held a program on creating a Halloween shadowbox craft. There were 16 participants!

Community News You Can Use *(continued)*

Library Report – October *(continued)*

- On October 22nd Master Wildlife Conservationist with the Connecticut DEEP, presented on the economic value of bats, their migration and hibernation patterns, decline and disease as well as steps the public can take to help ensure the health and safety of our bat population.
- For the month of October, the library put up a Medieval Scavenger Hunt. There were 68 participants.

Library Building And Collection

- The main entrance to the library was repaired in October. Public Works contacted a door repair company to fix the center post of the double doors at the main entrance. This is wonderful to have fixed!
- The faucet in the Women's Restroom was fixed in October-it no long leaks! A big 'Thank You' to Public Works!
- The staff have been working on weeding out the Biographies and Adult Nonfiction collections in the library.
- The *Knitters Group* that meets at the library weekly, have their items on display at the library to fundraise for the library!
- The library is preparing for our Holiday event on December 6th. There will be a variety of events taking place. Please join us for workshops on beeswax candle making, crafting an evergreen centerpiece, making a pomander, and a gingerbread craft for children. We will also host Pewter Pot Fine Chocolates from 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM, and then our holiday concert featuring Isabel Oliart on Celtic Fiddle and Elias Cardoo on guitar.

The SFPL served 1,724 patrons and provided 88 patrons with technical help through October 29th.

News & Events

• **Museum Passes and Discounted Admission Passes**

The Library offers Museum Passes And Discounted Admission Passes to many of the museums in our state, visit the library, or go to the library website by clicking on: 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; Thursday, October 30th, at 1:00 PM.**

November 20th at 1:00 PM. (One Week Earlier due to Thanksgiving Holiday)

"Midnight In The Garden of Good and Evil" – by John Berendt: Shots rang out in Savannah's grandest mansion in the misty, early morning hours of May 2, 1981. Was it murder or self-defense? For nearly a decade, the shooting and its aftermath reverberated throughout this hauntingly beautiful city of moss-hung oaks and shaded squares. John Berendt's sharply observed, suspenseful, and witty narrative reads like a thoroughly engrossing novel, and yet it is a work of nonfiction. Berendt skillfully interweaves a hugely entertaining first-person account of life in this isolated remnant of the Old South with the unpredictable twists and turns of a landmark murder case.

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

• **Programs & Events At The Library**

- **Fall Storytime**

Every Wednesday at 10:30 AM
Starting September 3rd

(no storytime on November 26th)

Register at the Circulation Desk

Or call 860 859-1130

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



- **Sock Drive**

The SFPL will be collecting new socks for all ages for Care & Share of East Lyme from November 10th to January 31st. Drop-off at the circulation desk.

- **Sophie's Squash Storytime & Craft**

Saturday, November 15th at 10:30 AM

Limited to 24 participants, ages 5 & up

Call 860 859-1130 to register

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



Community News You Can Use (continued)

• **Programs & Events At The Library**

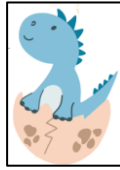
- **Dino Mini Painting**

**Thursday, November 20th,
3:30 PM to 5:30 PM**

Paint your own dinosaur figurine,
ages 8 to adult

Call 860 859-1130 to register

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



- **Make a Crocheted Tree Ornament**

**Saturday, November 22nd,
10:30 AM to 12:30 PM**

Join us to make a tree ornament.
Participants must know how to do a
single crochet to join the program.

Limited to 10 participants, ages 14 to adults

Call 860 859-1130 to register

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



- **Tea Bag Tree**

**Tuesday, December 2nd
at 4:30 PM**

Learn how easy it is to make
a Tea Bag Christmas Tree for
the tea lover on your list.

All materials included.

Limited to 12 participants, ages 12 to adult.

Call 860 859-1130 to register

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



- **SFPL Tote Bags for Sale**

Available at the circulation
desk at the library.

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



- **Colonial Christmas Celebration**

Saturday, December 6th

10:30 AM – Noon – Colonial Crafts

Ages 3-10: Wooden Gingerbread man ornament

Ages 7-Adult: Pomander with cloves, spices and ribbon

Ages 13-Adult: Rolled beeswax taper candle

1:00 PM to 2:00 PM – Pewter Pot Fine Spiced Chocolates

Colonial chocolate making demonstration with samples. Suggested ages 10 to adult

2:00 PM – Concert with Isabel Oliart on Celtic Fiddle & Elias Cardoso on Guitar

Light refreshments served at the concert.

Registration is required for each program

Call 860 859-1130 to register

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



Salem Recreation Department

• **Find Your Footprint -Medallion Project**

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



Find a medallion in the following preserves:

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

www.salemct.gov/recreation/footprintproject

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

• **Salem Woods Disc Golf Course**

Where: Bob Appleby Fields
At Volunteer Park
24 Forsyth Road

Come and try it out!!

Discs available for loan. Contact Us:

e-mail: **recreation@salemct.gov**, or

Call: 860-859-3873 x275



Community News You Can Use (continued)

Salem Recreation Department

• **Pilates – In-Person Classes**

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



October 27th to December 1st (6 weeks)

WHERE: Old Library, 216 Hartford Road

\$60 Residents, \$65 Non-Resident

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

Register Early, limit 6 participants:

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

• **In-Person Yoga Classes**

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

At the Salem Volunteer Fire Co.
Fire House, 424 Hartford Road
Or

Thursday Mornings, 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM
October 30th to December 4th (6 Classes)

Old Library 216 Hartford Road

\$60 Residents, \$65 Non-Resident

Register Early Limit 6 participants

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

To Register visit:

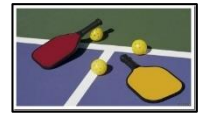
<https://www.salemct.gov/recreation/register>,
or call 860-859-3873 x275



• **Adult Co-Ed Pickleball**

Pick-Up Games

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



Where: Salem School, Multi Purpose Room
October 4th – April 7th

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

• **Personal Euphoria Virtual Fitness Classes**

Winter Classes

Pilates

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

15 Min. HIIT

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

Cardio Strength

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

Skill-Based Strength:

unlock your push-up & deep squat

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

Core Strength

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

• **Colonial Holiday Tree Lighting**

WHEN: Saturday, December 6th, beginning at 3:00 PM

WHERE: Salem Town Green/Center School, 250 Hartford Road

Hot Cocoa and Cider and Holiday Cookies will be available

3:00 PM – Colonial Themed Activities

3:30 PM – Holiday Sing-A-Long with Freddie Marion

4:20 PM – Visit with Santa followed by The Tree Lighting

Donations for the Care & Share Foody Pantry are Welcome

Special Thanks to the Gardner Lake & Salem Volunteer Fire Companies, Girl Scouts, and Student Volunteers



Senior News

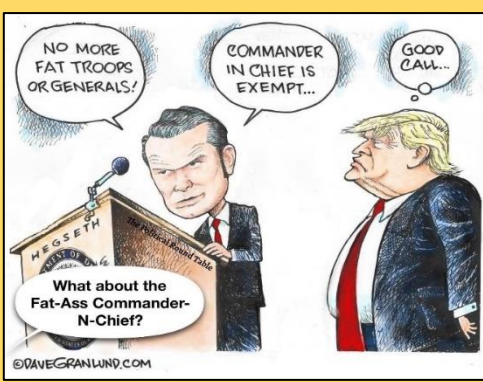
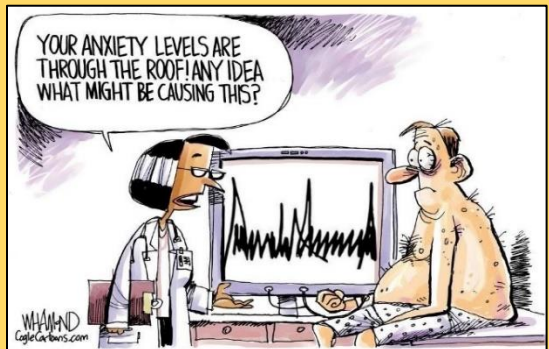
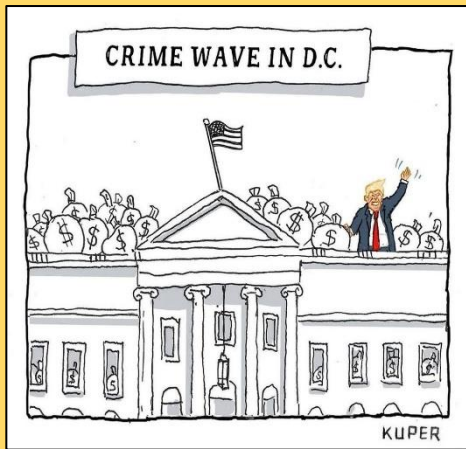
The Salem Seniors Group (SSG) boasts a current enrolment of over 190 members. Membership has tripled since the beginning of 2022. **Salem (or surrounding town) residents age 50 years or older are welcome to join the Salem Senior Citizen's Group!**

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

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

For more information, contact Gary Closius (President): gclosius@sbcglobal.net, or call 860-961-9173, or Mary Cikatzen (Vice President): mcikatzen@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.



INFORMATION & SERVICES

[Public Town Meetings for October/November](#)

Meetings in December

Emergency Preparedness Agency,
Tuesday, November 11th, 7:00 PM

Board of Finance,
Thursday, November 13th, 7:00 PM

Recreation Commission,
Monday, November 17th, 7:00 PM

Library Board of Directors,
Tuesday, November 18th, 6:00 PM

Economic Development Commission,
Tuesday, November 18th, 6:00 PM

Planning & Zoning Commission,
Tuesday, November 25th, 7:00 PM

Long Range Educational Planning,
Monday, December 8th, 5:00 PM

Board of Selectmen,
Tuesday December 9th, 7:00 PM

Long Range Educational Planning,
Monday, December 3rd, 5:00 PM

Library Board of Directors,
Tuesday, December 9th, 6:00 PM

Emergency Preparedness Agency,
Tuesday December 9th, 7:00 PM

Planning & Zoning Commission,
Tuesday December 9th, 7:00 PM

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

[Help And Assistance](#)

The CTALERT – Emergency Notification System

Overview:

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

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

Municipal Medical Transportation Service

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

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

Use the following link to view the **Guidelines for the Municipal Medical Transportation Service:**
salemct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf4966/f/uploads/transportation_fy22_packet_0.pdf

Connecticut Prescription Drug Discount Card Program

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

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

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

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

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

Care & Share

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

Food Pantries

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

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

Thames Valley Council for Community Action (TVCCA)

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

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

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

MITCHELL FARM EQUINE RETIREMENT

The Horse Retirement, Horse Sanctuary is looking for help.

Contact Dee Doolittle 860 303-8705, or e-mail: dee@mitchellfarm.org.

GARDNER LAKE AND SALEM VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES

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

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

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

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

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

SALEM SCHOOL

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

CARE & SHARE

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

THE SALEM LAND TRUST

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

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

CEMETERY CLEAN-UP

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

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

Activities In Our Region**Niantic Bay Playhouse**

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

2025 Season

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

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

Goodspeed Opera House

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

- **"White Christmas"** – November 14th – December 28th.

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

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

Activities In Our Region *(continued)*

Ivoryton Playhouse

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

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

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

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

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

To Get a Copy of The Newsletter

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

Gary Closius: gclosius@sbcglobal.net

Salem DTC Contact Information

Gary Closius – Chairman – gclosius@sbcglobal.net

Kay Zak – Vice Chairperson – kayzak@hotmail.com

Leslie Hotary – Secretary – hotaryleslie@gmail.com

Gary Closius – Newsletter Editor – gclosius@sbcglobal.net

Salem Democrats in Action

Dems at the No Kings Rally in New London

At the Apple Fest

At the Book Sale



Campaigning at the Transfer Station

At the Town Hall Election Day



Dems at the GLVFCo. Trunk-Or-Treat



Swearing in Ceremony 2025



Sue Spang
First Selectman



Diane Weston & Gary Closius
Board of Selectmen



Michelle Mills and Mary Whittiker
Library Board of Directors



Dennis Girard
Board of Assessment Appeals



Jennifer Rucci, Jocelyn Glidewell, and Krystal Hales
Board of Education



Ed Artale
Zoning Board of Appeals



Tony Griggs, Costa Konstantinidis, and Sophie Aruste
Planning and Zoning Commission



Proclamation
proclaiming
November 12th
Sue Spang Day
in honor of Sue
being the first
woman First
Selectman in
Salem's History

