February 3rd – T minus 1,1081

NEWSLETTER

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SDTC Endorses Meghan Rosenfeld

The Salem DTC listened to a presentation from Meghan Rosenfeld at the February Salem Democratic Town Committee meeting and voted to endorse her for State Representative for the 34th District.



Meghan Rosenfeld is a mother of six, a wife, and an educational leader with a background in law and human resources. A lifelong advocate for families, students, and vulnerable community members, she is deeply engaged in her community, serving on the East Hampton Commission on

Aging and on nonprofit boards that support families, seniors, and children.

Meghan brings a systems-level understanding to public service, shaped by years of working at the intersection of education, law, and human services. She understands how policies and regulations play out in real lives and where systems break down for working families, students with disabilities, and older adults. Known for her ability to identify root causes and design practical solutions, she approaches challenges with both analytical rigor and deep compassion.

She holds an associate degree in Paralegal Studies with an ABA Paralegal Certificate, a Neurodiversity Coaching Certificate, a bachelor's degree with a concentration in law, and a master's degree in Educational Leadership with a specialization in neurodiversity. Additionally, she holds two postgraduate credentials. One from the American Montessori Society for Montessori teaching and a school administrator's credential through the Association Montessori Internationale. She looks forward to continuing her educational journey and contributing to the field of special education. Her academic and professional training give her a clear understanding of how law, policy, and institutional structures can either support or harm communities, and how thoughtful reform can make systems work better for people.

For decades, Meghan has been a committed advocate for survivors of abuse, preserving our environment, and for inclusive, equitable education. Guided by a strong respect for local history, conservation, fiscal responsibility, and family values, she is dedicated to preserving the rural character of the 34th District while advancing smart, people-centered policies that strengthen communities and invest in the future.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MeghanforCT>,

Website: <https://meghanforct.com>.

Meghan needs 170 Salem donations by March to reach her goal to ensure she qualifies for early funding and can hit the ground running. If all DTC members, their family, and friends can donate 5\$ she can reach this goal. Please use the QR code to the right for donations.



[I-95 Blasting at the Route 161 and Exit 74 Project](#)

Blasting along I-95 Southbound continues Monday through Friday. As a result, I-95 northbound and southbound will be closed twice a day between the hours of 9:00 AM and 1:30 PM for 5-10 minutes for each blast. Please note that weather conditions play a key role in determining whether blasting can safely take place. Blasts may be postponed if conditions are not suitable.

During this time, motorists are encouraged to remain on the highway as the closures are anticipated to be short in duration, however, there will be posted detour routes. Travelers can sign up for text message alerts of blasting operations.

People can text "BLAST" to 860-404-9995 to receive text alerts of blasting operations, or visit <https://i-95eastlyme.com> for more information.

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

Dear Neighbor,

The 2026 legislative session begins on February 4. While Connecticut has made meaningful progress, there is still more work to do—and [I want to hear from you](#). If you live in Bozrah, East Lyme, Montville, New London, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Salem, or Waterford, I invite you to share the issues that matter most to you as we continue working together to move Connecticut forward.



Click [HERE](#) To Fill Out The Survey or visit the website at:

<https://senatedems.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d71bd19fdbe20f487488c3f4b&id=351f7cd418&e=9e5069c037>

[Senate Democrats Proposing Resident Lawsuits Against Federal Agents](#)

This year, Connecticut Senate Democrats are proposing legislation that would allow state residents to sue federal law enforcement agents in the event their constitutional rights are violated, a response to continuing violence against the public exhibited by ICE and Border Patrol officers, among others, in the second Trump administration. The killings of Renee Good and Alex Pretti in Minneapolis in January, as well as the death of Keith Porter Jr. in Los Angeles, are among the most recent instances of violence against the public by federal agents. The proposed law would see Connecticut join California, Massachusetts, Maine and Illinois in allowing such lawsuits. Federal law largely does not allow for the public to sue federal officials, with existing policy having sharp limitations.



To read more at the Connecticut Mirror click [HERE](#) or visit the website at:

<https://senatedems.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d71bd19fdbe20f487488c3f4b&id=b4ea8cb2be&e=9e5069c037>.

[Planned Parenthood Ribbon Cutting](#)

New London celebrated a milestone, as the new Planned Parenthood location on Ocean Avenue is now open. In March 2025, the state Community Investment Fund 2030 directed \$2.02 million to support the relocation, which will support health care for more than 5,000 residents each year. This is great news because Planned Parenthood offers a number of health services to local residents, including screenings for diseases like cancer, mental health and general wellness checkups, primary care and wellness support and family planning. Planned Parenthood's presence in our neighborhood means health care and access in our region is stronger, as people who may not otherwise be able to access care will receive the support they need.



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

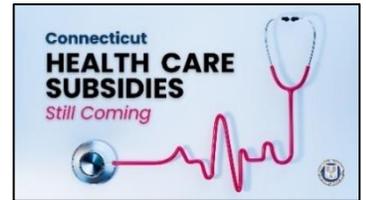
Volunteer Tax Assistance

The 2026 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance campaign will begin January 26, offering free federal and state tax preparation and filing for Connecticut residents. The VITA program offers no-cost tax preparation and filing services to eligible residents, supporting more than 40,000 in 2025. This program is designed around maximizing refunds and credits to taxpayers and delivered up to \$50 million to participating members last year. Anyone whose household income is up to \$69,000, has a disability or speaks limited English is eligible. To schedule an appointment, residents of the Greater Hartford, Tolland, Enfield and Windham areas can visit www.uwc.211ct.org/taxhelp; residents of Greater New Britain and Bristol can visit www.hranbct.org/VITA; Fairfield County residents can visit www.simplifyct.org; and New Haven, Fairfield, New London, Middlesex and Litchfield County residents can visit www.getyourrefund.org/ACT-CT.



Connecticut Health Care Subsidies Still Coming

If you're still shopping for 2026 health care through state portals like Access Health CT, state officials say that promised discounts through a \$115 million investment through state funds may not be reflected in the market until March. Households with yearly income between 100% and 200% of the Federal Poverty Level will see a subsidy equal to 100% of expired federal aid, while those earning up to 500% could earn state assistance equal to half of expiring federal credits. However, those discounts won't be implemented for a few months, which is likely confusing members of the public – though they will take effect after IT and programming changes are implemented.



For more information, [click HERE](#) to read the *CT Mirror* article or visit the website at:

<https://senatedems.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d71bd19fdb20f487488c3f4b&id=9d2b3f6daf&e=9e5069c037>

Food Insecurity Rising In Connecticut

In troubling news, food insecurity is rising in Connecticut, and federal food program cuts are likely to make the problem worse, the Connecticut Mirror reported. Connecticut has the highest rate of food insecurity in New England, currently at 14.3%, and while the state is seeking to invest nearly \$30 million more through the next year, it will lose more than \$180 million in federal spending in that time through the end or cutting of six major programs at the federal level – Connecticut could lose more than \$240 million by 2028 in that regard. The state's spending per capita on food programs is lower than other New England states, a point of potential improvement, according to the report by the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity. Read more [click HERE](#), or visit the website at:



<https://senatedems.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d71bd19fdb20f487488c3f4b&id=dc6ff7686b&e=9e5069c037>.

Ice Missile Law

With recent snowstorms and an unusually cold winter impacting Connecticut, state residents need to be careful not just walking in slippery conditions but in cleaning off their cars as well. Connecticut has an "ice missile" law that makes driving with snow and ice on your car a dangerous and expensive proposition. Drivers who do not clear off their vehicles can be pulled over and fined, with a first fine costing \$75. Any damage or injury to others caused by snow or ice falling off a car can increase that fine into the hundreds of dollars, with a maximum fine of \$1,000. The law doesn't apply to parked cars or vehicles that accumulate snow while driving.



Still Time To Vaccinate Against The Flu

With this year's flu season considered one of the strongest in decades, experts are calling for children to be vaccinated against the virus if they haven't yet. Connecticut Public reported that while this year's spread of influenza A may have peaked, kids will be in school through the end of the winter, and a rise of flu B could come in coming weeks. The experts noted that many flu hospitalizations among children so far this winter have led to complications including bacterial pneumonia. In addition to vaccination, monitoring kids' health and keeping sick kids out of school are also recommended.



Message From State Senator Martha Marx (D 20th District, continued)**Tax Fraud Warning**

With tax season officially underway, the state Departments of Consumer Protection and Revenue Services are warning the public about fraudulent tax professional scams that attempt to steal users' financial information. The state's Board of Accountancy, which licenses and trains Certified Public Accountants, found 58 complaints related to tax services last year. A CPA must have an active license to file taxes; it's important to ask for recommendations, confirm an accountant's credentials, read reviews and be sure to know their Preparer Tax Identification Number when hiring a professional. Signs of fraud can include asking an individual to sign a blank return; promises of fast or massive refunds; a lack of communication; and a lack of providing a PTIN or CPA license number **click [HERE](#)**, or visit the website:

<https://senatedems.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d71bd19fdb20f487488c3f4b&id=fcf076710d&e=9e5069c037>.

**Significant Student Loan Policy Changes**

Following the passage of the Republican federal budget in 2025, student loan policies this year are making significant changes, with borrowing amounts, repayment options and qualification standards for health plans all slated to change beginning this summer. Millions of borrowers are likely to see higher payments through the changes, according to **The Hill**. Student loans offered to prospective students will shift to solely the "Repayment Assistance Plan" starting in July, where payments are adjusted based on borrower income; new loans and consolidated old loans will be forced into this plan. The changes are expected to increase student loan borrowers who default on their loans, with as many as 10 million borrowers possibly facing wage garnishment and tax refund seizures. Graduate students and borrowers under the Parent PLUS plan will have new restrictions, with graduate students only allowed to borrow \$20,500 per year, professional program students \$50,000 per year and Parent PLUS borrowers \$65,000 per child. There are concerns these shifts will make it more difficult for lower-income students from accessing career fields and that more families will be forced into private loans to achieve degrees.

**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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Martha E. Marx".

Martha Marx, State Senator 20th District

As you know I am running for re-election for the 37th CT House District. In order to meet the qualification threshold for the CT Citizen's Election Program funds I need to get at least 150 in-district donors to contribute to my campaign. If you're able to help, contributions can be anywhere from \$5 to \$340, and anyone age 12 or older is eligible to contribute.

For Your convenience you can use the secure QR code above.

Thank you in advance for your support.

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

Dear Neighbor,

I joined hundreds of state legislators from across the country in signing a letter supporting the people of Minnesota following the killing of two people at the hands of federal immigration agents.

Please take a moment to read the statement below:

We, the undersigned state legislators from across this country, contend we are at a decisive moment in our nation's history. For a nation founded 250 years ago on the basic and fundamental principles of freedom, liberty,



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

and inalienable rights, having armed masked federal agents on our streets engaging in a campaign of wanton destruction threatens to destroy these foundational values that underpin our democracy. We are stepping into extraordinarily dangerous territory in this country and have reached an unimaginable point where ICE and Border Patrol agents have now, twice within one month, killed US citizens on camera while the federal government tells us not to believe our own eyes.

Further, the vast majority of ICE arrests in our cities and suburbs are of those with no criminal record, while due process and search and seizure rights guaranteed by our constitution are not just being violated daily: chillingly, these violations are officially sanctioned by leaked Department of Homeland Security memos.

We stand with the people of Minnesota and demand that ICE and Border Patrol leave Minnesota immediately.

We demand a full and independent investigation into the shootings and deaths of Renee Good and Alex Pretti, as well as others over the last year.

Finally, we demand the restoration of our American values and principles to our federal government, an end to the abductions and killings, an end to the occupation of our towns and cities, and an end to Congressional funding for ICE.

Call for Action on Emergency Fund

Connecticut stepped up with a \$500 million emergency fund to respond to federal funding cuts and protect the basic needs of our residents.

With \$332 million still unallocated and a fast-approaching deadline, I joined colleagues to urge that these funds be used to close remaining gaps — so Connecticut kids, families, and seniors stay fed and healthy.

My Letter to “The Day”

Setting aside resources isn't enough — leadership requires action. Connecticut has the capacity to protect our residents from federal instability, but only if we're willing to use the tools we already have. We were elected to lead, not to wait.

Connecticut Must Lead, Not Wait *Published: Jan 26, 2026*

Connecticut has already taken an essential step by setting aside \$500 million to protect our state and our residents from federal instability. But allocating those resources is only the beginning. Leadership requires action.

We cannot sit idly by while the federal government threatens our economic security, healthcare systems, and basic protections based on shifting priorities and political agendas. Connecticut has both the responsibility and the capacity to be proactive — to use the tools we have to strengthen our communities and protect people's livelihoods.

That means investing strategically to lower costs, stabilize essential services, and ensure that working families are not left vulnerable to decisions made far outside our state. It means recognizing that waiting to react after damage is done is not governance — it's abdication.

Republicans in Connecticut keep insisting everything is fine, while too many Democrats fall into a pattern of reacting. But residents across our state are not asking for reassurance or delay. They are asking for real solutions, foresight, and courage.

We were elected to lead — not simply to respond after the fact. Connecticut has the resources. What we need now is the resolve to use them effectively to improve people's lives and protect our future.

State Representative Nick Menapace

Special Access Health Enrollment

Finding the right health insurance coverage can often be difficult to navigate, but **AccessHealthCT** (AHCT) has staff dedicated to walking you through the process. Visit their website, call the help center, or attend an enrollment event to have your questions answered.

To visit their website: click on: www.accesshealthct.com, or call: 855-805-4325

People who qualify for this Special Enrollment Period include:

Households with an annual income between 100% and 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), who are not already enrolled in the Covered CT Program. These people will receive a state subsidy to replace 100% of the expired federal enhanced premium tax credit amounts.



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

Households with an annual income over 400% and up to 500% FPL. These people will receive a state subsidy to replace 50% of the expired federal enhanced premium tax credit amounts.

Eligible people who have already enrolled or plan to enroll in a 2026 health plan will see a credit applied to their carrier bill.

It's important to note that while customers will not see the state subsidy amount in AHCT's online system until all updates have been made in the coming weeks, all eligible customers will soon receive a notice in the mail from AHCT with the amount of their state subsidy.

Insurance companies will send consumers updated premium bills with the credit for the state subsidy amount. This manual process will begin soon in advance of the system updates to be implemented in the coming weeks.

Perfect Voting Record

I am happy and proud to be in the third of legislators – along with 11 other freshmen – who had a 100% voting record in the 2025 legislative session.

Lions Humanitarian of the Year

On Saturday January 31st, it was my pleasure to attend the Lions Club District 23 C Humanitarian of the Year Banquet to honor Sue Kumro as the Niantic Lions Humanitarian of the Year (left) and **Bartolo Drennen as the Salem Lions Humanitarian of the Year.**

Congratulations to both honorees!



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

Sincerely,

Nick Menapace

State Representative 37th District

As you know I am running for re-election for the 37th CT House District. In order to meet the qualification threshold for the CT Citizen's Election Program funds I need to get at least 150 in-district donors to contribute to my campaign. If you're able to help, contributions can be anywhere from \$5 to \$340, and anyone age 12 or older is eligible to contribute.

For Your convenience you can use the secure QR code above.

Thank you in advance for your support.



Message From U.S. Senator Chris Murphy

The young father was shaking as he held his fidgety two-year-old daughter who impatiently sucked on a lollipop. Across from the father and mother and two-year-old sat an immigration judge, who was struggling with a missing translator, seeking to ask questions of the family in front of him.

I had been asked to enter the courtroom by their lawyer, who was virtually certain of what would happen the minute the family left the judge's courtroom. The family would be apprehended by the half dozen, plainclothes ICE agents standing immediately outside the door, and effectively disappeared into a shadowy nearby prison to which lawyers and elected officials could barely gain access.

It didn't matter that this couple had played by the rules. They came to America to follow the process and apply for asylum. They had a good case. They showed up for all their court appearances. And on this day, the judge didn't order their detainment or removal: he saw merit in their case and scheduled their next hearing.

But the ICE officers didn't care. They were under orders from President Donald Trump to put in jail EVERY immigrant they could, including children. And no matter the legal status of the family or individual.



Message From U.S. Senator Chris Murphy (continued)

As they got up to leave, I huddled with the family and their young, nervous attorney. We decided we would all leave together, proceed quickly to the elevator, and move directly, all as one big blob of humans, to their ride in the parking lot. Our hope was that those ICE officers might not try to cause a scene, and rip the parents and their child away if they were attached at the hip to a U.S. Senator. Our hunch was right. The ICE officers made a half step toward us but then froze, and the family safely left the building.

It wasn't the job I thought I was coming to Texas to do. I was there to inspect two massive detention centers that house families (including hundreds of small children) who have been ripped out of their communities by Trump's ICE. When I was illegally denied entry, I decided to spend the following morning at the San Antonio immigration court, to see for myself the dystopian world that Trump's immigration police have created.

Families who are complying with the law come to this court. These are not "illegal immigrants." These are people who are doing it the right way: showing up for court dates and making the legal case for asylum protection. Trump's ICE is making a mockery of the process, because no matter how meritorious the immigrant's claim is, most get rounded up and put in detention as soon as they walk out of the courtroom.

The list of horrors I saw is long:

- Trump kicked the local legal aid group out of the San Antonio courthouse and gave the "pro bono attorney" room (it's still got that sign hanging outside) to ICE to use as their interrogation room.
- An immigration judge was fired the night before I arrived, because she insisted on implementing the law and not ruling against every single immigrant applicant — a clear threat to any judge who is foolish enough to follow the law.
- The ICE officers at the courthouse (who I give credit to for speaking to me) admitted they don't target criminals; they are looking to lock up EVERYONE, even legal immigrants.
- A giant ICE bus sits outside the courthouse each day, waiting to be loaded with immigrants.
- The prison many get sent to — Pearsall Detention Center — has 1800 detainees and 4 rooms for legal consultations, basically guaranteeing most migrants never see a lawyer before the expedited fake legal process inside the jail results in their deportation. It's not detention — it's effectively a campaign of DISAPPEARANCES.

What I saw in Texas was utter lawlessness: an agency out of control, making up its own law — with no respect for the actual law or the Constitution. DHS is terrorizing children and families because it can. They act like they are unaccountable.

This is the same story in Minneapolis (and soon in other cities). Trump is constructing a personal political police force, as fast as he can. He is looking to create confrontations and chaos — especially in swing states — as a possible pretext for something more sinister: the takeover of state elections. ICE is, potentially, his gateway to rig the 2026 election.

Trump's DHS acts with impunity in places like San Antonio and Minneapolis because it believes Congress will keep giving it blank checks. We should not.

Next week, the Senate will vote on the annual funding bill for the Department of Homeland Security. The current version of the bill — which narrowly passed the House this week, with almost no Democratic votes — does not contain any new constraints on DHS' lawless behavior. And it provides more — not less — money for ICE than the last full DHS budget negotiated by the two parties.

I know our negotiators had a very hard job. I know Republicans dug their heels in because they care more about appeasing their leader than standing up for the Constitution. But Democrats have no obligation to vote for a budget that funds a runaway, immoral agency just because Republicans are so beholden to Trump, they refuse to agree to any reforms. We shouldn't pretend we are powerless; we aren't.

We should demand that SOME reforms be built into the DHS budget before we vote for it. I'm not naive — I know this budget will not cure every problem or fully end the parade of horrors and lawlessness. But there are meaningful reforms we could implement. Congress could require warrants for arrests. It could return CBP to its actual mission — protecting our border. It could require a return to prior hiring practices and increase identification requirements or mandate consequences for violent conduct. It could suspend funding for DHS if they keep denying Members of Congress access to facilities. These reforms aren't cure-alls, but they would save lives.



The only remaining legal resources at the San Antonio Immigration Courthouse.



Outside of the Dilley Family Detention Center in Dilley, Texas

Message From U.S. Senator Chris Murphy (continued)

On the first night of my visit to Texas, I sat with two boys who had, just hours before, been released from an ICE prison. They were in the facility in Dilley, Texas that I had just been denied access to. It's called "baby jail" by locals, since it holds most of the young children who have been swept up in raids. It's a barbaric place, which is why I wanted to see it.

The eyes of these two elementary school-age boys were hollow. Only once did the younger boy's eyes fill up with tears, when his father described in detail the conditions of their incarceration. The older boy stared straight ahead for the entire hour we were together. He looked alive on the outside, dead on the inside. They had spent Christmas in jail. They called their mother every few days in the lead up to Christmas, begging her to get them out. They worried every day that their friends at school had forgotten about them.

They were not "illegal immigrants". Their father brought them here legally. They crossed the border and immediately presented themselves to authorities to apply for asylum. The boys and their father were whisked away to jail when they checked in during a required court visit (like thousands of other immigrants who have been disappeared, they were playing by the rules). ICE could have just taken the father (which would have still been illegal). But they took the little boys too — just for the purpose of traumatizing them.

Their mother dropped them off that morning for the check in, their school backpacks in the backseat. She waited for them to return. She waited. She waited. And they didn't come back for six weeks. Six weeks that have likely poisoned those poor boys' brains forever.

That night, across from the boys sat their friend from school. He looked to be about 10 years old. He knew they were coming to meet a Senator, to tell their story, and he wanted to be there with them.

The boys worried their friends had forgotten them. But actually, the opposite was true. After the brothers were taken, that friend noticed the boys were absent from school day after day. He remembered they were in immigration proceedings. And so, he told his teacher and his mom. And those adults reached out to a local legal aid clinic who tracked down the family in Dilley and eventually helped get the boys out of prison.

No, their friend hadn't forgotten about them. Their friend knew they were in trouble. He decided he wasn't powerless. Even at 10 years of age. And so, he decided to rescue them.

A lesson the Senate could and should choose to learn. Before it's too late.

Every best wish,
Chris



Pearsall Detention Center in Pearsall, Texas

Opinion***It is Time for The Leadership of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) Be Held Accountable*****Background:**

People crossing into America unlawfully at the southwest border is one of the top public policy issues that Americans want resolved, and their concerns about it helped re-elect President Donald J. Trump. Related to immigration is the perception that immigrants, especially illegal immigrants, are criminally inclined and increase American crime rates. In a paper, "**Illegal Immigrant Incarceration Rates, 2010–2023, Policy Analysis No. 994**" By Michelangelo Landgrave and Alex Nowrasteh published by the Cato Institute, the answer to the question "***Is this perception supported by the facts?***" is explored. Illegal immigration and the crimes illegal immigrants commit are notoriously difficult to measure. The states and federal government should collect better incarceration, conviction, and arrest data by immigration status so that the public and policymakers can more accurately understand how immigrants affect crime in the U.S. This analysis attempted to answer the question by estimating illegal immigrant incarceration rates in the U.S. by using the American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample from the U.S Census. It is estimated that all immigrants—legal and illegal—are less likely to be incarcerated than native-born Americans. The 2023 native-born American incarceration rate of 1,221 per 100,000 natives is the highest of the three groups analyzed. Legal immigrants have the lowest incarceration rate at 319 per 100,000 legal immigrants in 2023. Illegal immigrants have an incarceration rate of 613 per 100,000 illegals

Opinion (continued) (continued)***It is Time for The Leadership of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) Be Held Accountable***

immigrants, higher than legal immigrants but also lower than native-born Americans by almost a factor of 2. Illegal immigrant incarceration rates, criminal conviction rates, arrest rates, and broader impacts on crime are not well studied because of data limitations because, with few exceptions, most jurisdictions, law enforcement agencies, state corrections departments, and other organizations in the criminal justice system do not systematically record data on the immigration statuses of those who are arrested, convicted of crimes, or incarcerated. There are two major exceptions are Texas and Georgia. Texas has been keeping data on arrests and convictions by immigration status since 2011, and Georgia has been publishing data on illegal immigrants incarcerated in that state beginning in 2024. A Cato Institute analysis of the conviction, arrest, and incarceration data in those states found that illegal immigrants had a lower criminal conviction rate and a lower arrest rate in Texas relative to the native-born population, and a lower incarceration rate in Georgia relative to the non-illegal-immigrant population. Cato scholars estimated the illegal immigrant and legal immigrant incarceration rates for the entire country to be lower than for native-born Americans.

Figure 2 to the right, shows how incarceration rates for native-born Americans, illegal immigrants, and legal immigrants have changed during the 2010–2023 period. In every year, the illegal immigrant incarceration rate is between 31 percent and 56 percent below that of native-born Americans. In every year, the legal immigrant incarceration rate is between 65 percent and 75 percent below that of native-born Americans.

As of the end of November 2025, ICE has more than 68,400 in custody of which 73.6% have no criminal convictions. The stated objective of ICE is to round up the “worst of the worst” of the immigrants that have entered the U.S. illegally. The murderers, gang members, drug traffickers, rapists, and perpetrators of violent crimes. That is why there are hundreds and in the case of Minneapolis- St. Paul thousands of ICE agents are deployed conducting operations in many U.S. cities.

OPINION

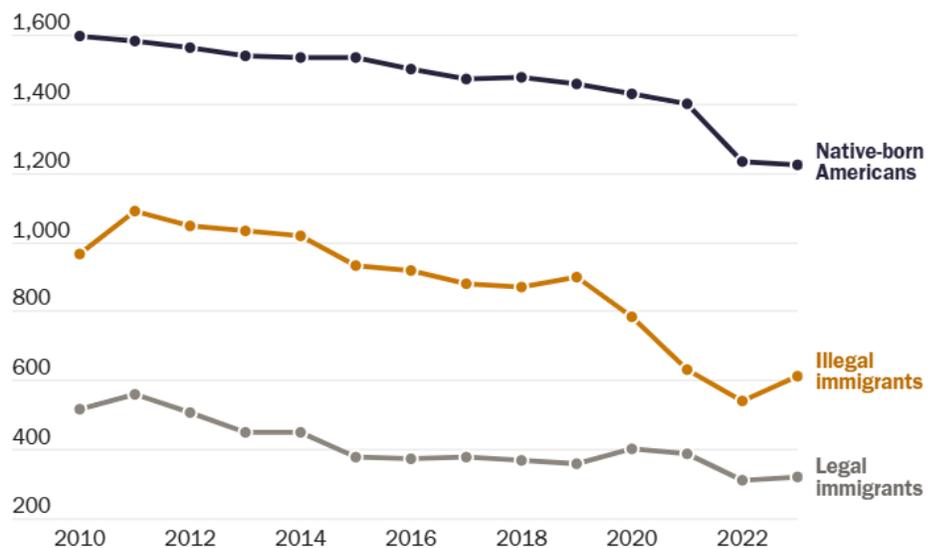
Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem and the Senior official in the U.S. Border Patrol, frequently identified as Border Patrol Commander-at-Large Greg Bovino are at best incompetent and, ignorant of U.S. immigration law, or at worst, and more likely, they are attempting to cover up the murder of two U.S. citizens at the hands of ICE agents in Minneapolis Minnesota. For them to label two Minneapolis citizens killed at the hands of ICE/CBP agents literally hours after the incident and with no investigation is unconscionable, reprehensible, and despicable.

The inhumane treatment of ICE/CBP detainees including children in what amounts to concentration camps is unacceptable. The harassment and arrest of “illegals” by unidentified thugs trampling on the Constitutional rights of immigrants and citizens is illegal, immoral and frankly unamerican. The practice of ICE/CBP agents waiting outside immigration court houses and arresting immigrants going to/exiting scheduled appearances/hearings trying to follow the required immigration process is just plain wrong.

It is long past time for DHS Secretary Kristi Noem to be removed immediately and Border Patrol Commander-at-Large Greg Bovino to not just be re-assigned but fired. The DHS Secretary needs to be someone with experience

Figure 2

Incarceration rates by immigration status, 2010–2023, ages 18–54



Source: Authors' analysis of the American Community Survey data.

Note: Rates are per 100,000 residents in each subpopulation.

[Opinion \(continued\)](#)***It is Time for The Leadership of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) Be Held Accountable (continued)***

that includes management of a large multi-level organization, a thorough understanding of the U.S. Constitution and immigration law. The new head “boots-on-the-ground” needs to be someone that knows immigration law, community policing concepts and protocols, as well as managing a large police force. Tom Homan is NOT the guy he is too close to the current leadership a completely new team needs to be put in place.

Lastly an investigation into the deaths of Renee Good and Alex Pretti needs to be conducted by a completely independent organization.

By: Gary Closius – Chairman – Salem DTC – February 3, 2026

[Around Town](#)

- ***Planning and Zoning Commission Public Hearing***

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

- ***Fire Marshal's Office***

- **Fire Safety Inspections**

- › Salem Congregational Church and 3 Buildings

- **Calls For The Month of October**

- › ★

★ Information not available due to on-going issues with the switch over between the NFNIRS, NERIS and ESO systems.

- **Mutual Aid Given**

- › ★

- **Mutual Aid Received**

- › ★

- ***Emergency Management***

- Attended the Region 4 monthly meeting (virtual)
- Attended Muni-hub training with Eversource (virtual)
- Chaired the Emergency Management Quarterly meeting (hybrid).
- Attended a briefing with DEHMS & Region 4 concerning the impending snowstorm (virtual)
- Attended two virtual preplan meetings with the Emergency Management team, Public Works, Fire Departments and the 1st Selectwoman regarding Winter storm Benjamin.
- Readied the Emergency Operations center to a “virtual open” status for one snow storm, Winter storm Benjamin. Approximately 15-16 inches of snow fell.
- Attended a lockdown drill at Salem School. My experience in the schools conducting lockdown drills as a guard and also training as a State Trooper on the entry teams as well as leading teams on command staff provided valuable insight.
- Radio tower inspection will be scheduled for the spring/summer 2026.
- Participated in Statewide 800Mhz portable radio test.

- ***Public Works***

- Snow Events:
 - 1/1- Snow event 3 inches
 - 1/9- Road treatment for ice
 - 1/16- Road treatment for ice
 - 1/17- Snow event AM and PM
 - 1/18-1/19 Snow event overnight event 5 inches

Around Town (continued)

• **Public Works (continued)**

- Snow Events:
 - 1/22- Road treatment for ice
 - 1/25-1/26 Snow event (Major Storm) overnight event 16.3 inches
 - › Met with in the EOC on 1/23 to be sure we had as much in place as we could before Storm hit.
 - › Working to ensure road crews only uses necessary salt product to treat roads.
 - › As of 1/26/ the state and municipalities are in a salt shortage.
 - › On 1/30 Salem did purchase 67 Tons of road sand to mix with treated salt.
 - › The downside of this is sand accumulates on roads and catch basins and does not work as well as straight salt and will have to be removed, however, it will make salt supply for road treatment go further.
 - Library boilers repaired (pressure relief valves were leaking)
 - Public works furnace replaced, the 25-year-old unit was not repairable.

Gun Violence – 2025 Statistics and Data

2025	Mass Shootings	Deaths	Injuries
TOTALS	30	38	96
January	30	38	96
February			
March			
April			
May			
June			
July			
August			
September			
October			
November			
December			

* Data current through January 31st

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

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

Summary of statewide results of the 2012, 2016, 2020, and 2024 presidential elections.

- DARK BLUE:** Won by the Democrats in all 4 elections
- LIGHT BLUE:** Won by the Democrats in 3 of the 4 elections
- PURPLE:** Won by each party twice in the four elections
- LIGHT RED:** Won by the Republicans in 3 of the 4 elections
- DARK RED:** Won by the Republicans in all 4 elections

Total deaths (all causes) in the U.S. due to gun violence* 1,215**

Total injuries (all causes) in the U.S. due to gun violence* 2,014

* Data through February 5th ** Totals not including suicide



Community News You Can Use



Blood Drive

The **American Red Cross** blood drive sponsored by the Salem Lions Club

WHEN: *Tuesday February 17th, from 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM.*

WHERE: *Salem Volunteer Fire Co. Fire House, 424 Hartford Road, Meeting Room*

Schedule your appointment at: 1-800-Red Cross (1-800 733-2767) or visit www.RedCross.org and enter SalemCT to register.

Register for the blood drive and receive a \$20.00 e-gift card to the merchant of your choice.

Important Message From The Salem & Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Companies

The Salem Fire Co. is selling **Emergency “911” Reflective Address Signs** that will have your street number on it. These signs make it easier for emergency responders to find your home or property at any time of the day or night. **If emergency response workers can’t find you, they can’t help you! Minutes and seconds count in emergencies.** They are 6” x 18” in size and come in green or blue.



Cost: \$15.00 (see the order form at the end of the newsletter)

**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>

The Salem DTC Regular Meeting Schedule – 2026

- ~~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, Oct. 7th 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
- ~~Wednesday, Nov. 4th 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, Sept. 2nd, at 7:00 PM,~~ at the Center School
- ~~Wednesday, Dec. 2nd, at 7:00 PM,~~ at the Center School

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

Salem Free Public Library (SFPL)

Library Report – January

- The library hosted 4 storytimes and 4 drop-in play groups for the month of January.
- There was a total of 61 attendees for the storytimes and a total of 47 attendees for the drop-in playgroups.
- The library distributed 16 take-and-make craft kits to create a melted snowman.
- On January 3rd Library Assistant, Hayley Ault, held a Doll Tea Party. There were prizes raffled off, refreshments provided, and photo opportunities for the participants. There were 25 attendees.
- On January 7 Library Assistant, Veronique Chechile hosted Lego Club. This allows participants to make a Lego creation and display it in the library.
- On January 10, the library hosted Horizon Wings and presenter, Mary Beth Kaeser. Ms. Kaeser brought in a crow, a raven, a Barred Owl, and a Red Shouldered Hawk for her presentation. This program was full with a waitlist of 15 people. There were 51 participants!
- On January 12, Library Programming Assistant, Hannah Lynch held a Show and Tell Book Club. Participants could discuss a book they are currently reading. There were 5 participants.
- On January 21, Library Programming Assistant, Hannah Lynch held a Color a Square Quilt program.
- Children could color a square and Hannah tied the pieces together. The quilt is on display in our large meeting room at the library. There were 11 participants.
- On January 24, Library Programming Assistant, Hannah Lynch held a program on creating simmer pot spices to take home. There were 8 participants.
- For the month of January, the library held a Find the Pigeon in the Library scavenger hunt. If the patron can find the pigeon, and he moves every week, they receive a prize!

Library Building And Collection:

- The Winter Reading Program began on January 12, 2026 and will run until February 28, 2026. The participants can pick up a bingo sheet, and for every bingo they complete, the participant will receive a raffle ticket for one of our Winter Reading prizes. There are several prizes to win!

For the month of January, the SFPL served 1,161 patrons and provided 49 patrons with technical help.

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 for the details on the passes available and pass availability. (see pp 26-27 of the Information and Services section of the newsletter).

• **Books in the Afternoon Book Club; Thursday, January 29th, at 1:00 PM.**

“**A Council of Dolls**” by: Mona Susan Power: From the mid-century metropolis of Chicago to the windswept ancestral lands of the Dakota people, to the bleak and brutal Indian boarding schools, “**A Council of Dolls**” is the story of three women, told in part through the stories of the dolls they carried.

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

• **Programs & Events At The Library**

- **Winter Storytime**

Every Wednesday at 10:30 AM

Beginning December 3rd

Register at the Circulation Desk

Or call 860 859-1130

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



- **LEGOS at The Library**

1st Wednesday, for the month,

December 3rd, January 7th, &

February 4th, 4:00-5:00 PM

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



Community News You Can Use *(continued)*

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

Library Report – January *(continued)*

• **Programs & Events At The Library**

- **Basket Weaving**

Wednesday, February 18th at 4 PM

Program limited to 24 participants age 8 and up
Call 860 859-1130 to register



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

- **Chai & Chocolate**

Saturday, February 28th 4:00 PM

- * Learn the history of Chai tea, an overview of spices used in traditional chai tea and their benefits
- * Learn how chai is made in a variety of countries and how they differ from the U.S.
- * Sample a variety of chai teas blended by Thyme for Tea CT paired with a variety of chocolates.
- * Make your own chai blend to take home!



Limited to 20 participants, ages 18 to adult

Call 860 859-1130 to register

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

- **2026 Winter Reading Program For All Ages**

January 12th thru February 28th

Register at the circulation desk to receive your **BINGO** reading log. Receive a raffle ticket for each BINGO completed when you turn in your completed reading log by **March 7th**.



The prize raffle will be drawn on **March 9th**.

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

- **Take your Child to the Library Day**

Xen's Critters Cute & Cuddlies!

Saturday, February 21st, at 11:00 AM

One hour presentation by an animal specialist with lots of interaction with animals such as a ferret, chinchilla, hedgehog bunny, guinea pig and more!



Call 860 859-1130 to register

(Sponsored by a grant from the Chelsea Groton Foundation)

- **Winter Reading Program**



Saturday, March 7, 2026 @ 11:00 AM

There will be prizes and light refreshments!

Limited to 25 participants ages 7 & up

Call 860 859-1130 to register

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

Salem Recreation Department

For the complete **Salem Recreation 2026 Calendar** see p 17 in the Salem Recreation section of the Information and Services section of the newsletter.

• **Salem Woods Disc Golf Course**

**Where: Bob Appleby Fields
 At Volunteer Park
 24 Forsyth Road**

Come and try it out!!

Discs available for loan.

Call: 860-859-3873 x275, or

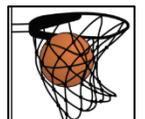
Contact Us:e-mail: recreation@salemct.gov



• **Adult Co Ed Basketball Pick-up Games**

**WHEN: Tuesday & Thursday evenings
 From 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM**

**WHERE: Salem School, Gymnasium
 October 7th thru April 7th**



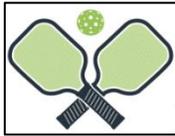
**For Salem & East Lyme Residents, age 18 and up.
 Sign in upon arrival**

Community News You Can Use *(continued)*

Salem Recreation Department *(continued)*

• **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

• **Pilates – In-Person Classes**

WHEN: Monday evenings,
5:30 PM to 6:30 PM
January 26th to February 16th (6 wks)



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:
or call 860-859-3873 x275, or

visit: <https://www.salemct.gov/recreation/register>

• **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 6th – March 31st
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

• **Winter Walk to School Day**

WHEN: Wednesday March 4th at 8:00 AM
From 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

WHERE: Salem School, Bingham Field.

Come out for a brisk walk and
warm up with some hot cocoa,
coffee, a juice pack, a morning
snack. and giveaways!



Sign up at: www.salemct.gov/recreation/2026wwsd

• **In-Person Yoga Classes**

WHEN: Tuesday evenings,
5:30 PM to 6:30 PM
January 27th to February 17th
(6 Classes)



WHERE: At the Salem Volunteer Fire
Co. fire house, 424 Hartford Rd.
OR

Thursday Mornings,
10:00AM to 11:00 AM
January 29th to February 19th
(6 Classes)

WHERE: Old Library 216 Hartford Rd.

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

• **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:



Salem Connector Trail (aka Salem Woods Disk Golf
Course), Walden Preserve, Zemko Sawmill Preserve,
Multi-Purpose Path/Harris Brook Trail, Darling Road
Preserve, Smuggler's Rock Preserve, & Salem Riverside
Preserve.

View/Report your Find at:

www.salemct.gov/recreation/footprintproject.

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

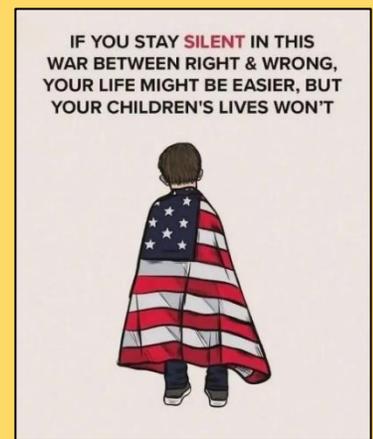
Senior News (continued)

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 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.



INFORMATION & SERVICES

Public Town Meetings for February/March

Planning and Zoning Commission, Tuesday, February 10 th , 7:00 PM	Board of Finance, Thursday, February 12 th , 7:00 PM
Salem Green Cemetery Association Tuesday February 17 th , 2:00 PM	Economic Development Commission, Tuesday, February 17 th , 6:00 PM
BOE Policy Meeting Monday, February 23 rd , 5:00 PM	BOE Budget/ Finance, Monday February 23 rd , 5:30 PM
Recreation Commission, Monday, February 23 rd , 7:00 PM	Planning and Zoning Commission, Tuesday February 24 th , 7:00 PM
Board of Finance, Thursday, February 26 th , 7:00 PM	BOE Long Range Educational Planning, Monday, March 2 nd , 5:00 PM
BOE Personnel/Contract Negotiations Meeting, Monday, March 2 nd , 6:00 PM	BOE Regular Meeting, Monday, March 2 nd , 7:00 PM
Inland Wetlands & Conservation Commission, Monday, March 2 nd , 7:00 PM	Board of Selectmen Meeting, Tuesday, March 3 rd , 7:00 PM
Board of Finance, Thursday, March 5 th , 7:00 PM	

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

2026 Salem Recreation Calendar

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

EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CHECK WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.

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

News And Opportunity

Environmental Seminars Available

You may register to be in class to audit the seminar(s) or simply attend, or you may choose to view the seminars virtually. The QR code and link to the right, allow you to view the seminar live online, **but attending in person is highly recommended.**

There is no cost and no homework unless you choose to take the course for credit. If you would like to attend in person, the seminars will be held at: **CT State Community College – Three Rivers Campus, Room C101. Wednesday seminars begin at 5:30 PM, and the guest speaker starts at 6:00 PM.**

If you are not currently a student, you may arrive at **5:55 PM**. Each seminar will be followed by a Q&A session.

You are welcome to register to audit or simply come in person. There are so many reasons to come to the class, including the chance to meet the speakers personally, engage in meaningful conversations, build connections with others who care about environmental issues, and experience the seminar in a more interactive and dynamic setting.

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

The QR code to the right or the link below will allow you to view the seminar live online: <https://tinyurl.com/EnvironmentalSeminarSpring2026> however, attending in person is highly recommended.

SPRING 2026

Environmental Issues Seminars

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

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

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



Help And Assistance

Connecticut Electric Discount Rate 

Five discount tiers are available

Step 1: See If You Qualify

To qualify for the 5%, 15%, 20%, 40% or 50% discount rate, you need to:

- Meet household income requirements in **Table One** (below) or
- Receive a public assistance benefit for at least one household member in **Table Two** (below).

Table One: Household Annual Income By Family Size

How much can you make to qualify for the electric discount rate? Your annual household income is for all adults 18 and over.

	5%	15%	20%	40%	50%
1	\$47,764	\$33,022	\$25,040	\$19,563	\$15,650
2	\$62,460	\$44,627	\$33,840	\$26,438	\$21,150
3	\$77,157	\$56,232	\$42,640	\$33,313	\$26,650
4	\$91,854	\$67,837	\$51,440	\$40,188	\$32,150
5	\$106,550	\$79,442	\$60,240	\$47,063	\$37,650
6	\$121,247	\$91,047	\$69,040	\$53,938	\$43,150
7	\$124,002	\$102,652	\$77,840	\$60,813	\$48,650
8	\$126,758	\$114,257	\$86,640	\$67,688	\$54,150

Table Two: Public Assistance Benefits That Qualify You

5%	15%	20%	40%	50%
Medicare Savings Programs (MSP) - Additional Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (ALMB) - Special Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB) HUSKY A, B, C - HUSKY (B and 1, Prenatal) - HUSKY A Pregnant Women and Postpartum - HUSKY C Long-Term Services and Supports Special/Limited Medical Benefit Connecticut Energy Assistance Program CEAP Level 3 Section 8 Housing/ Rental Assistance Program (RAP)	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Connecticut Energy Assistance Program CEAP Level 2 Husky A children under 19 Medicare Savings Program (MSP) Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Program (QMB) Women Infants and Children (WIC) Connecticut Free or Reduced Lunch*	Medicaid or Access Health - Husky D, Husky A Parents and Caretakers	Connecticut Energy Assistance Programs (CEAP Level 1)	Temporary Family Assistance (TFA or TNFA) Refugee Cash or Medical Assistance Medicaid/HUSKY C (non-LTSS) State Administered General Assistance (SAGA) State Cash Assistance or State Supplement Head Start

* Citywide free school meal program participants are not eligible for the discount rate, unless income is certified by the school food service manager.

[Help And Assistance \(continued\)](#)

Connecticut Electric Discount Rate (continued)

Step 1 (continued):

Your total discount is determined by your household income, or the type of public assistance benefit you receive. This information will need to be verified annually to continue to have your service protected from shut off during the winter months and to receive a discount on your electric bill.

If the Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) certifies on your behalf that you receive a DSS benefit, your enrollment will be automatically renewed with us.

Your discount will apply to a limited amount of electricity used monthly. Any usage above that amount will not be discounted.

Step 2: Provide Proof of Income or Benefits

You may submit your proof of income for all adults 18 or older in the household, or benefit documents securely in several ways.

- Contact your local **Community Action Agency**. Your local agency can also help you apply for other assistance, including the Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP). (see *CEAP F/Y 2025-2026 Benefit Matrix pp 16 -17*)
- Sign in to your account to **upload your documents**.
- Send them via U.S.P.S. mail at *Eversource*, Attn: Credit Dept., P.O. Box 270, Hartford, CT 06141.
- Submit documents via fax at 866-438-6476.
- Call *Eversource* at 800-286-2828.

How the Discount Rate Is Applied to Your Bill

Heating customers

If you qualify, your next electric bill will have a discount applied to the first 1,200 kWh of your monthly electric usage.

On the monthly electric bill example below, if a customer uses 1,450 kWh of electricity in August, the first 1,200 kWh will be discounted, but the remaining 250 kWh will not.

A kilowatt-hour (kWh) is a unit that tells Eversource how much electricity something uses over time. It's like measuring how much water you use with gallons or how far you travel with miles.

You can see how many kWh of electricity you use each month in the "Monthly kWh Use" table typically shown on page two of your bill.

Non-heating customers

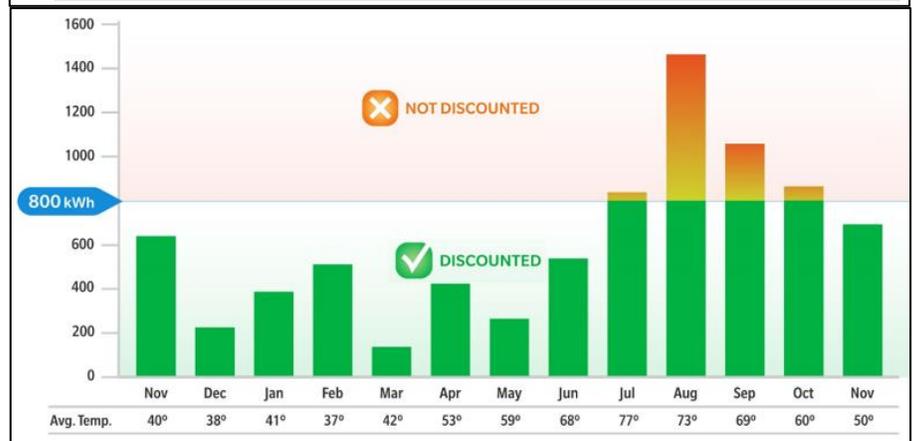
If you qualify, your next electric bill will have a discount applied to the first 800 kWh of your monthly electric usage.

On the monthly electric bill example below, if a customer uses 1,450 kWh of electricity in August, the first 800 kWh will be discounted, but the remaining 650 kWh will not.

A kilowatt-hour (kWh) is a unit that tells Eversource how much electricity something uses over time. It's like measuring how much water you use with gallons or how far you travel with miles.

You can see how many kWh of electricity you use each month in the "Monthly kWh Use" table typically shown on page two of your bill.

You can see how many kWh of electricity you use each month in the "Monthly kWh Use" table typically shown on page two of your bill.



[Help And Assistance \(continued\)](#)

Thames Valley Council for Community Action (TVCCA)

TVCCA Energy Assistance Program

The Connecticut Energy Assistance Program serves low-income households in need of assistance with their home energy bills. Program services include: financial assistance toward a household’s energy bill; emergency assistance if a household’s home energy service is shut-off, about to be shut off, or out of fuel; and a range of other energy related services including heating system repair and replacement, budget counseling, and referrals for weatherization improvements.

- **Call to schedule an appointment: (860) 425-6681**
- **Schedule Your Appointment On-line: <https://tvcca-portal.communityappointments.com/>**
- **Apply On-line: <https://portal.ct.gov/DSS/Economic-Security/Winter-Heating-Assistance/Energy-Assistance---Winter-Heating/How-To-Apply>.**
- **Or download the application, email it to ESS@tvcca.org, mail it to our Uncas (Norwich) Office, or drop it off in person.**
 - https://www.tvcca.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/W-1104-CEAP-Application-Only_FFY26-EN-Fillable.pdf (English).
 - https://www.tvcca.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/W-1104-CEAP-Application-Only_FFY26-SP-Fillable.pdf (Spanish).

The 2025-26 Energy Season started September 1st! To schedule your appointment online click [HERE](#): or visit <https://tvcca-portal.communityappointments.com/>.

If you are driving or a walk-in, our program offices are located in NORWICH at 401 West Thames St. (Uncas on Thames complex), Unit 201 and in NEW LONDON at 83 Huntington St.

Important Dates to Remember for the 2025/26 Season

- September 1, 2025:** First day for a household to apply for the program
- November 3, 2025:** First day for fuel deliveries that can be paid for by the program
- April 1, 2026:** Deadline for fuel authorizations or deliveries
- May 29, 2026:** The last day that a household can apply to establish eligibility for benefits
- June 17, 2026:** Last day to submit deliverable fuel bills

Categorical Eligibility:

Any household that makes direct to vendor payments for heat and in which a household member is participating in one or more of the following benefit programs is considered categorically eligible and will automatically be considered income eligible for energy assistance at a benefit level not less than that provided for a household with income between 201% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG) and or below 60% of the state median income (SMI):

1. Temporary Family Assistance (TFA)
2. State Supplement to the Aged, Blind and Disabled
3. Refugee Cash Assistance Program
4. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
5. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

View the Benefit Matrix below:

Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Benefit Matrix

MAXIMUM INCOME ELIGIBILITY								
Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Annual Income	\$47,764	\$62,460	\$77,157	\$91,854	\$106,550	\$121,247	\$124,002	\$126,758

[Help And Assistance \(continued\)](#)

TVCCA Energy Assistance Program (continued)

Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Benefit Matrix (continued)

BASIC BENEFITS			
(Available for both Deliverable Fuel and Utility - Heated Households)			
Benefit Level	Income Level	Vulnerable	Non-Vulnerable
1	Up to 125% Federal Poverty Guidelines	\$645	\$595
2	126% Federal Poverty Guidelines – 200% Federal Poverty Guidelines	\$495	\$445
3	201% Federal Poverty Guidelines – 60% State Median Income	\$345	\$295

NOTE: Households that are categorically eligible but exceed the income limit are not denied benefit; instead, they qualify for a Level 3 benefit.

CRISIS ASSISTANCE BENEFITS				
(Available for Deliverable Fuel-Heated Households Only)				
Benefit Level	Income Level	1st Benefit	2nd Benefit	3rd Benefit
1	Up to 125% Federal Poverty Guidelines	\$425	\$425	\$425
2	126% Federal Poverty Guidelines – 200% Federal Poverty Guidelines	\$425	\$425	\$425
3	201% Federal Poverty Guidelines – 60% State Median Income	\$425	\$425	\$425

RENTAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS		
(This benefit is available to households that have heating cost included in their rent)		
Benefit Level	Income Level	Amount
1	Up to 125% Federal Poverty Guidelines	\$425
2	126% Federal Poverty Guidelines – 200% Federal Poverty Guidelines	\$425
3	201% Federal Poverty Guidelines – 60% State Median Income	\$425

Rental Assistance:

- Rental Assistance Benefits are available to those households who do not make direct-to-vendor payments for their primary source of heat and have annual gross incomes up to 60% of state median income. Boarders are not eligible to receive Rental Assistance Benefits.

Liquid Assets/ Bank Statements:

- TVCCA no longer requires bank statements to be submitted as part of the Energy Assistance Application.

Income:

- Applicants may establish their income eligibility by providing income verification from a period of 4 consecutive weeks within the 3 months prior to their application date.

Benefits:

- **Please note: CEAP benefit amounts are determined based upon the funding provided by the U.S Department of Health and Human Services Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Block Grant, and are not determined by TVCCA.**

For more information click [HERE](#) or visit: <https://portal.ct.gov/dss/Economic-Security/Winter-Heating-Assistance/Energy-Assistance—Winter-Heating>.

TVCCA serves residents in the following communities: Bozrah, Colchester, East Lyme, Franklin, Griswold, Groton, Jewett City, Lebanon, Ledyard, Lisbon, Lyme, Montville, New London, North Stonington, Norwich, Old Lyme, Preston, Salem, Sprague, Stonington, Voluntown, & Waterford.

[Help And Assistance \(continued\)](#)**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 clicking on TVCCA.org or call our main receptionist number 860-444-6600.**

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 **clicking** 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/vyhlif4966f/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, **click** on arrayrxcard.com/ or review our **February 2024 Newsletter**.

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 clicking on: careandshareofel.org/.**

[Help And Assistance \(continued\)](#)

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

[Volunteer Opportunities](#)

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 *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.

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 *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.

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**.

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.***

Volunteer Opportunities *(continued)***SALEM LIONS CLUB**

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

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.

Activities In Our Region**Goodspeed Opera House**

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

2026 Season

- **"Jesus Christ Superstar"** – April 17th – June 7th
- **"Crazy For You"** – June 19th – Aug 9th
- **"The Snow Goose"** – August 28th – October 18th
- **"Annie"** – October 30th - December 27th

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

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

Niantic Bay Playhouse

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

2025 Season

- **"Legally Blonde Jr"** – March 13th – 15th, and March 20th – 22nd
- **"Little Shop Of Horrors"** – April 25th – 26th, April 30th – May 3rd, and May 7th – May 10th
- **"Barefoot In The Park"** – May 29 – 31st, June 5th – 7th, and June 11th – 14th
- **"Anastasia"** – July 16th – 19th, July 23rd – 26th, and July 30th – August 1st
- **"To Kill A Mockingbird"** – October 9th – 11th, October 15th – 18th, and October 23rd – October 25th
- **"A Christmas Carol The Musical"** – December 4th – 6th, December 10th – 13th, and December 17th – 20th,

Check the theatre's website for show times & tickets by **clicking on: nianticbayplayhouse.org/**.

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.

- **"I'm Connecticut"** – March 26th – April 19th

Activities In Our Region *(continued)*

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

- **"Lady Day At Emerson's Bar And Grill"** – May 7th – 31st
- **"1776"** – June 25th July 26th
- **"Come From Away"** – August 6th – September 6th
- **"A Piece Of My Heart"** – October 1st – 25th
- **"Playhouse Holiday Jamboree"** – November 19th – December 20th

For details on the shows check out our May Newsletter or go to *Ivoryton Playhouse* website at:
<https://www.ivorytonplayhouse.org/>

Museum Passes Available at the Salem Free Public Library.

Library Hours: Mononday-Thursday – 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Friday – 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM,
 Saturday – 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Closed Sunday (hrs subject to change)



Discounted Admission Passes

- ***Blithewold Manor, Gardens & Arboretum, Bristol RI***
 Admits up to 6 people: Adults \$8.50, Youth (6-17) \$3.00. Open in April through October, Tuesday – Sunday.
- ***Connecticut Science Center Hartford CT***
 Library pass provides 20% off general admission for up to four people.
- ***Mystic Seaport Museum, Mystic CT***
 One Library pass for each day of the week, 50% off full price admission for up to 2 Adults and 3 Children ages 4-17, on the day of the week printed on the pass. Children under 4 are free.
- ***Niantic Children Museum, Niantic CT***
 Admits up to 4 people ½ price.
- ***Roger Williams Park Zoo, Providence RI***
 Pass valid from March – December
 \$4 off each paid admission ticket for up to 4 tickets. Redeemable in-person or online. To purchase timed entry tickets online: www.rwpzoo.org/tickets.

Free Admission Passes

- ***Connecticut's Old State House Hartford CT***
 Free admission for up to four visitors
- ***Connecticut River Museum, Essex, CT***
 Free Admission for 2 adults and their children or grandchildren under the age of 18.
- ***Connecticut State Parks Pass***
 The pass covers the entrance fees to the historic buildings at **Dinosaur State Park, Rocky Hill, Gillette Castle State Park East Haddam & Fort Trumbull State Park in New London**. Pass waives fees for 2 adults and 4 children, 12 and under.
 Tickets are required for all visitors entering the castle, regardless of age. Tours can accommodate a maximum of 12 visitors at a time and tour tickets often sell out in advance. Please reserve tickets for tours online: www.connecticutstateparks.reserveamerica.com
- ***Denision Pequotsepos Nature Center Mystic, CT***
 Allows free admission for up to five people.
- ***Custom House Maritime Museum, New London CT***
 Pass allows two free admissions. Open year-around, Wednesday – Sunday 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Closed Monday & Tuesday.
- ***Florence Griswold Museum, Old Lyme CT***
 Admits 2 adults and 2 children (18 & under) into the museum.

Activities In Our Region (continued)

Museum Passes (continued)

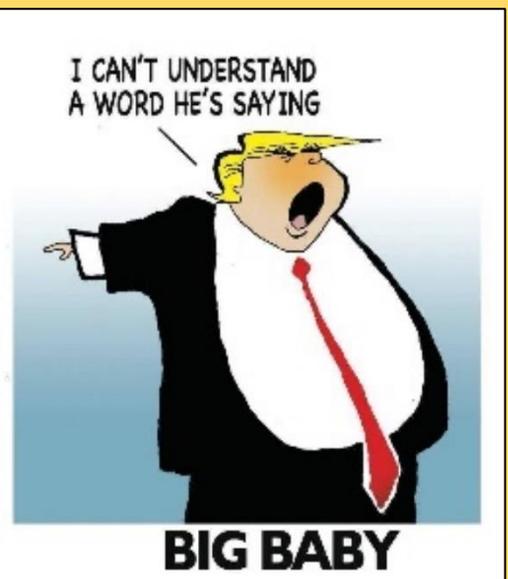
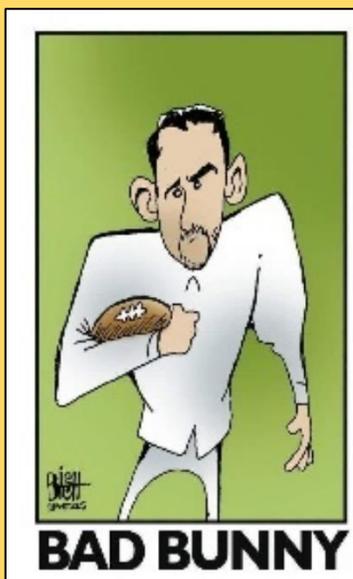
Free Admission Passes (continued)

- **Lyman Allyn Art Museum New London, CT**
Admits 2 Adults & 2 Children 12 and up. Children under 12 are always free.
- **New Britain Museum of American Art, New Britain, CT**
Free admission for 4 people Closed Monday and Tuesday.
- **Slater Memorial Museum, Norwich CT**
Each pass will allow free admission for one group of up to 5 people.
- **Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford CT**
Free general museum admission for 2 adults, age 18 & up Youth 17 & under are free.
- **New Membership discount Mystic Aquarium Membership Discount coupon Mystic CT**
Borrow the library coupon for 15% off a Mystic Aquarium Membership Not valid for admission discount.

Museum Pass Rules

- Passes are available on a first come, first serve basis.
- Passes circulate for 3 days Overdue fines on passes are \$1.00 per day.
- No holds, reserves or renewals allowed.
- Only one pass at a time per family.
- Passes must be returned directly to the circulation desk. **Please do not place in the book drop**

Please check each museum’s website for more information & current hours of operation before visiting. Hours subject to change.



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

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911 REFLECTIVE ADDRESS SIGN ORDER FORM

Please mail the completed order form along with a check for \$15.00 to:

Salem Volunteer Fire Company

424 Hartford Road

Salem, CT 06420

Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

Telephone Number _____

Best Contact Time _____

E-mail Address _____

ADDRESS #:

SIGN ORIENTATION: Horizontal  Vertical 

COLOR PREFERENCE: **GREEN** **BLUE**

Questions? Please call the Salem Volunteer Fire Company at 860 859 0942