

NEWSLETTER

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Candidates Needed To Run For Municipal Offices In November

The Salem Democratic Town Committee needs to find volunteers willing to run for or be appointed to positions on the various boards and commissions to serve Salem. There are a total of 15 seats on various boards and commissions that are up for election in the November 2025 election that we need candidates for. Additionally, there are 5 seats on various boards and commissions that are appointed by the Board of Selectmen that could be filled now that we need candidates for.

SEATS ON BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS UP FOR ELECTION IN NOVEMBER 2025 ELECTION

The following is a list of the candidates that have committed to run and the seats that we need candidates for:

- **Board of Selectmen**

# Seats Up For Election	Position	Candidate
1	First Selectman	<i>To Be Filled</i>
1	Selectman	★
1	Selectman	<i>To Be Filled</i>

- **Board of Education**

# Seats Up For Election	Position	Candidate
1	Member	★
1	Member	<i>To Be Filled</i>
1	Member	<i>To Be Filled</i>

- **Board of Finance**

# Seats Up For Election	Position	Candidate
1	Member	<i>To Be Filled</i>
1	Member	<i>To Be Filled</i>
1	Alternate Member	★
1	Alternate Member	<i>To Be Filled</i>

- **Planning and Zoning Commission**

# Seats Up For Election	Position	Candidate
1	Member	<i>To Be Filled</i>
1	Member	<i>To Be Filled</i>
1	Member	<i>To Be Filled</i>
1	Member	<i>To Be Filled</i>
1	Alternate Member*	<i>To Be Filled</i>

★ We have a Democratic candidate.

* Position available for immediate appointment.

Candidates Needed To Run For Municipal Offices In November *(continued from p 1)*

• **Library Board of Directors**

# Seats Up For Election	Position	Candidate
1	Member	★
1	Member	<i>To Be Filled</i>

• **Zoning Board of Appeals**

# Seats Up For Election	Position	Candidate
1	Member	<i>To Be Filled</i>
1	Alternate Member	★

• **Board of Assessment Appeals**

# Seats Up For Election	Position	Candidate
1	Member	★
1	Member	<i>To Be Filled</i>

APPOINTED POSITIONS WITH TERMS EXPIRING IN 2025

The following is a list of current vacancies on various boards and commissions and proposed candidates for appointment now:

• **Economic Development Commission**

# of Vacancies	Position	Candidate
1	Alternate Member*	<i>To Be Filled</i>
1	Alternate Member*	<i>To Be Filled</i>

• **Inland Wetlands And Conservation Commission**

# of Vacancies	Position	Candidate
1	Alternate Member*	★

• **Recreation Commission**

Seats	Position	Candidate
1	Member*	<i>To Be Filled</i>
1	Member*	<i>To Be Filled</i>

★ We have a Democratic candidate.

* *Position available for immediate appointment.*

Governor Lamont Signed A Law Establishing Property Tax Exemption For Veterans With Service-Connected Disabilities

In May 2024 Governor Ned Lamont signed legislation creating a state law that exempts from property taxes the primary residence or motor vehicle of former members of the United States Armed Forces who have a permanent and total disability rating resulting from their active-duty service. The legislation is Public Act 24-46, An Act Establishing a Property Tax Exemption for Veterans Who Have a Service-Connected Permanent and Total Disability Rating.

The exemption applies to a home that is owned by an eligible service member and is their primary residence. If an eligible service member does not own a home, the exemption will apply to one motor vehicle owned by the service member.

To qualify, the former service member must have served in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Air Force, or Space Force; have a service-connected permanent and total disability rating as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; reside in Connecticut; and file for the exemption with the town assessor.

The bill was approved with the unanimous support of every member of the Connecticut General Assembly present and voting.

“Our veterans who served our country and made sacrifices deserve our continued support, and this law will provide them with welcome, valuable financial relief,” State Senator Martha Marx (D-New London), co-chair of the Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs, said. “It’s wonderful to know that our state’s disabled veterans will have this new benefit that will provide long-term aid.”

Governor Lamont Signed A Law Establishing Property Tax Exemption For Veterans With Service-Connected Disabilities *(continued from p 2)*

TAKEAWAYS

- The new law takes effect October 1, 2024.
- Veterans who qualify for exemption:
 - Need to contact the Salem Tax Assessor (860-859- 3873 x140);
 - Must reside in Connecticut;
 - Must have served in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Air Force, or Space Force;
 - Have a service-connected permanent and total disability rating as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; (although there are exemptions for limited disabilities on a case-by-case basis.)

Information provided by Dennis Girad, member, Salem Board of Assessment Appeals.

Democrat Of The Month – Focus On Dr. Diba Khan-Bureau

Dr. Diba Khan-Bureau is a full-time professor and Program Coordinator at Connecticut State Community College, Three Rivers campus, where she oversees the Environmental Engineering Technology Associate of Science degree program, as well as the Environmental Health & Safety and Land Surveying & GIS certificate programs. With 25 years at the institution, Dr. Khan-Bureau has played an integral role in shaping the academic landscape in environmental engineering technology and environmental studies.

In addition to her teaching responsibilities, Dr. Khan-Bureau is a research scientist at the University of Connecticut in the Ecology & Evolutionary Biology department (EEB). It is here, in EEB, that she completed her Ph.D. in Natural Resources Management & Engineering (now NRE), focusing her dissertation research on biological indicators of water quality and quantity. Her research has contributed significantly to the understanding of aquatic ecosystems.

Dr. Khan-Bureau has also served as an adjunct professor in Environmental Studies at Connecticut College. She has dedicated much of her career to studying rivers and wetlands, particularly working with the Federally recognized Wild & Scenic Eightmile River and its tributaries for over two decades. In recognition of her extensive work in this area, Dr. Khan-Bureau received the Rockfall Foundation Award in November 2021.

Her service extends beyond academia and research. Dr. Khan-Bureau has served as an active member on Salem's Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission for 25 years and Chairman for 3 years, and 6 years on Salem's Planning and Zoning Commission, and at least 15 years on the Salem Democratic Town Committee. Her community contributions were recognized with the *Salem Unsung Hero Award* in 2022, and she received an Official Citation of Congratulations from the Connecticut General Assembly for her community contributions at the 11th *Salem Unsung Hero Award* banquet.

Dr. Khan-Bureau is also committed to environmental education. She engages with local youth, visiting the Salem Elementary School to demonstrate the importance of river water quality through a river simulator with insect larvae for students to study under the microscope. She also organizes an annual spring peeper amphibian walk for the Salem Land Trust, which attracts people of all ages interested in learning more about the environment.

Her scientific contributions include the discovery of the new-to-science diatom species *Didymosphenia hullii* (Khan-Bureau), as well as two invasive diatom species previously unknown to Connecticut. She has published numerous peer-reviewed scientific papers and continues to advance research in her field.



Opinion

Salem’s Budgets Are Inline With Surrounding Towns and Towns of Similar Size

It is budget time again so I decided to take a look at the budgets of eight neighboring towns or towns of similar size as Salem; Namly Bozrah, Colchester, East Haddam, East Hampton, East Lyme, Griswold, Lebanon, and Montville.

Background

Table 1 shows the surrounding town’s ranking by population from smallest to largest:

Table 1

Town	Population (2023)	School Enrolment (all Students*)	Size Compared to Salem
Bozrah	2,412	170	1/2 the size of Salem
Salem	4,319	386**	
Lebanon	7,108	985	1 1/2 times the size of Salem
East Haddam	8,987	999	2 times the size of Salem
Griswold	11,624	1,742	2 3/4 times the size of Salem
East Hampton	12,989	1,775	3 times the size of Salem
Colchester	15,504	2,021	2 1/2 times the size of Salem
Montville	17,814	2,161	4 times the size of Salem
East Lyme	18,929	2,506	4 1/2 times the size of Salem

* Includes high needs students. To be included in the High Needs student group a student must be a student with a disability, an English Learner, **OR** a student eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

** Includes Pre-K through 8th grade, does not include Salem Students attending High Schools.

Table 2 shows the surrounding town’s ranking by the size of the Board of Education (BOE) budget from smallest to largest with a comparison to the percentage the BOE budget is of the overall town budget, as well as student enrollment:

Table 2

Town	BOE Budget	Town	BOE Budget % of Total	Town	School Enrolment (all Students*)
Bozrah	\$7,126,982	East Haddam	59%	Bozrah	170
Salem	\$11,677,833	Montville	63%	Salem	386**
Lebanon	\$22,434,099	Salem	65%	Lebanon	985
East Haddam	\$23,998,220	East Lyme	66%	East Haddam	999
Griswold	\$31,842,424	East Hampton	67%	East Hampton	1,742
East Hampton	\$37,725,499	Bozrah	72%	Griswold	1,775
Montville	\$44,883,851	Colchester	73%	Montville	2,021
Colchester	\$45,576,075	Lebanon	74%	Colchester	2,161
East Lyme	\$60,024,675	Griswold	75%	East Lyme	2,506

Opinion (continued from p 4)

Salem’s Budgets Are Inline With Surrounding Towns and Towns of Similar Size (continued)

Table 3 shows the surrounding town’s ranking by the size of the portions of the sections of the town’s budgets as well as the total town budgets from smallest to largest:

Table 3

Town	Government Budget	Town	BOE Budget	Town	Capital Budget	Town	Total Budget
Bozrah	\$2,065,645	Bozrah	\$7,126,982	Bozrah	\$724,717	Bozrah	\$9,917,344
Salem	\$5,217,662	Salem	\$11,677,833	East Lyme	\$902,750	Salem	\$17,891,283
Lebanon	\$6,516,422	Lebanon	\$22,434,099	Salem	\$995,788	Lebanon	\$30,450,521
Griswold	\$7,786,215	East Haddam	\$23,998,220	East Hampton	\$1,308,252	East Haddam	\$40,672,915
East Haddam	\$13,525,412	Griswold	\$31,842,424	Lebanon	\$1,500,000	Griswold	\$42,307,778
Colchester	\$17,102,056	East Hampton	\$37,725,499	Griswold	\$1,722,078	East Hampton	\$56,668,116
East Hampton	\$17,634,365	Montville	\$44,883,851	Montville	\$1,819,101	Colchester	\$62,678,131
Montville	\$24,664,908	Colchester	\$45,576,075	East Haddam	\$3,149,283	Montville	\$71,367,860
East Lyme	\$29,665,569	East Lyme	\$60,024,675	Colchester		East Lyme	\$90,592,994

Table 4 shows surrounding towns that are ½, twice, and three time the size of Salem:

Table 4

Town	Government Budget		BOE Budget		Capital Budget		Total Budget	
	F/Y 24/25	Size Compared To Salem	F/Y 24/25	Size Compared To Salem	F/Y 24/25	Size Compared To Salem	F/Y 24/25	Size Compared To Salem
Bozrah	\$2,065,645	1/2 the size of Salem	\$7,126,982	1/2 the size of Salem	\$724,717	3/4 the size of Salem	\$9,917,344	1/2 the size of Salem
Salem	\$5,217,662		\$11,677,833		\$995,788		\$17,891,283	
East Haddam	\$7,786,215	1 1/2 times the size of Salem	\$23,998,220	2 times the size of Salem	\$3,149,283	3 1/4 times the size of Salem	\$40,672,915	2 1/4 times the size of Salem
East Hampton	\$17,102,056	3 1/4 times the size of Salem	\$37,725,499	3 times the size of Salem	\$1,308,252	1 1/4 times the size of Salem	\$56,668,116	3 1/4 times the size of Salem

Analysis and Opinion:

The budgets of Towns of Bozrah, Lebanon, Griswold, East Haddam, Colchester, East Hampton, Montville, and East Lyme were compared. Table 1 ranks the towns by population from the smallest (Bozrah) to the largest (East Lyme). Table 2 ranks the size of the Board of Education (BOE) budgets and student enrollment from the smallest to largest. It can be seen that Salem is the second smallest of the surrounding towns by population. The size of the BOE budget, and student enrollment for Salem are also the second smallest. Many in town believe the BOE budget is over 70% of the total town budget when in fact it is 65% and is the third smallest percentage of all the towns analyzed. The BOE budget accounts for over 70% in almost half of the towns analyzed. As shown Salem’s BOE budget is third smallest of the towns analyzed which is consistent with Salem’s size, and student enrollment when compared to the other towns. The table shows that generally and not surprising, the size of the BOE budgets track with the population size and student enrollment.

[Opinion](#) (continued from p 5)

Salem’s Budgets Are Inline With Surrounding Towns and Towns of Similar Size (continued)

Salem’s budgets (General Government, BOE, and Total Budget) are consistent in size when compared to the other towns as shown in *Table 3*. *Table 1* shows the population of Bozrah is approximately half the size of Salem; the population of East Haddam is approximately twice the size of Salem; and the population of East Hampton is approximately three time the size of Salem. The student enrollment tracks similarly. *Table 4* shows the Salem’s budgets (General Government, BOE, and Total Budget) are approximately twice as large a Bozrah’s, half the size of East Haddam’s and a third the size of East Hampton as expected.

In summary Salem’s General Government, BOE, and Total Budgets are consistent in size with the surrounding towns and similarly sized towns’ budgets. In particular the BOE budget’s size and percent of the Total Town’s budget are consistent when compared to surrounding towns and towns of similar size to Salem.

By: Gary Closius – Chairman – Salem DTC, December 7, 2024

[Gun Violence – 2024 Statistics And Data](#)

2024	Mass Shootings	Deaths	Injuries
TOTALS	494	537	2,185
January	36	66	110
February	26	40	107
March	32	35	138
April	37	32	178
May	49	53	208
June	72	57	378
July	63	68	304
August	52	37	211
September	36	40	161
October	29	27	151
November	29	39	116
December	31	43	123

* Data current through December 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
Illinois	2	33	South Carolina	0	6
California	2	31	Washington	1	6
Florida	3	31	Connecticut	0	4
Pennsylvania	1	30	Arizona	0	3
Texas	1	30	Kansas	0	3
Alabama	1	25	Nevada	0	3
Georgia	4	24	New Jersey	0	3
Mississippi	1	22	West Virginia	1	3
Missouri	0	22	Delaware	0	2
Louisiana	4	20	New Mexico	1	2
Ohio	0	18	South Dakota	0	2
New York	2	17	Alaska	0	1
Tennessee	0	17	Hawaii	0	1
Michigan	1	15	Iowa	0	1
North Carolina	1	15	Maine	0	1
District of Colum	0	13	Nebraska	0	1
Virginia	0	13	Utah	1	1
Kentucky	1	12	Idaho	0	0
Indiana	1	11	Montana	0	0
Minnesota	0	9	New Hampshire	0	0
Wisconsin	1	8	North Dakota	0	0
Maryland	1	7	Oregon	0	0
Oklahoma	0	7	Rhode Island	0	0
Arkansas	0	6	Vermont	0	0
Colorado	0	6	Wyoming	0	0
Massachusetts	0	6			

Total deaths (all causes) in the U.S. due to gun violence* 15,576**

Total injuries (all causes) in the U.S. due to gun violence* 31,617

* Data through January 2nd

** 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

[Opinion](#)

The Truth About Tariffs

The incoming Republican administration has touted tariffs as a way to protect U.S. industries while reducing trade imbalances, strengthening national security, and leveraging trade negotiations. Critics have highlighted potential drawbacks, including higher prices for consumers, retaliatory tariffs, and disruptions to global supply chains.

Opinion (continued from p 6)**The Truth About Tariffs** (continued)

One common misconception is that the exporting country (for example China) will pay the tariff.

That is **false**. In reality, the importer of the goods pays the tariff to the US Treasury.

Example:

1. A U.S. company imports steel from China.
2. The company or its broker files an entry with US Customs and Border Protection (CBP). The steel is classified under the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS).
3. The steel is subject to a base tariff plus an additional Section 232 tariff (e.g., 25%).
4. CBP inspects the shipment, calculates the tariff, and collects the duties.
5. The **importer pays the tariff** and maintains records in case of future audits.
6. Collected tariffs are **deposited into the U.S. Treasury** to fund government programs.

So, a tariff is a tax on imported goods paid by the importer, not the country of origin. A 20% worldwide tariff, along with a 60% levy on Chinese goods, could increase costs by up to **\$3,000** annually for the average U.S. household. Yes, tariffs are likely to increase inflation.

These price increases are not just some alarmist's rant. We have real data from the 2018 Republican administration steel and aluminum tariffs. The Tax Foundation noted that prices for imported steel products covered by the tariffs increased by 22.7%. Prices for imported aluminum products subject to the tariffs rose by 8.0%. The U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) reported that the tariffs increased the average prices of steel and aluminum by 2.4% and 1.6%, respectively affecting downstream industries that use these metals. The Tax foundation estimated that the jobs "saved" in the steel-producing industries due to the tariffs came at a high cost to consumers of approximately \$650,000 per job saved. This is balanced by certain industries experiencing **job losses** due to increased production costs and reduced export opportunities.

For laptops and tablets which use many Chinese components, prices could increase by up to 47%.

Tariffs are a **regressive tax**, meaning they disproportionately affect lower-income individuals. Tariffs are applied uniformly to imported goods, regardless of the buyer's income. This means both low and high-income households pay the same increased prices for affected products. That sounds fair, except that lower-income households tend to spend a larger share of their income on necessities like food, clothing, and household goods many of which are subject to tariffs.

Here is a table that shows the percentage of income taxed by tariffs (10% Global, 60% Chinese) by US tax bracket:

Income Range	Spending on Tariffed Goods	Tariff 10% + 60% Chinese	Tariff % of income
\$0–\$11,000	\$3,000	\$660	6.60%
\$11,001–\$44,725	\$7,000	\$1,540	5.50%
\$44,726–\$95,375	\$14,000	\$3,080	4.40%
\$95,376–\$182,100	\$21,000	\$4,620	3.30%
\$182,101–\$231,250	\$24,000.00	\$5,280.00	2.64%
\$231,251–\$578,125	\$40,000	\$8,800	2.20%
\$578,126+	\$64,000	\$14,080	1.76%

Although tariffs are favored by the incoming Republican administration, they are not a good idea at all for most Americans. Good ideas that actually help all Americans are what we need.

Article by: Anthony Griggs

Around Town

* *The following information was excerpted from the First Selectman and CT State Police Troop K December reports*

• **Tax Collector***

- We currently have a collection rate of 69.49% as of December 31st.
- Roughly 700 supplemental bills were mailed the end of December.

• **Recreation Commission**

- See p 13 for Recreation Commission events.

• **Emergency Services*:**

- **Fire Marshal Report**

‣ <u>Emergency Calls:</u>	‣ <u>Calls Town:</u>	‣ <u>Mutual Aid:</u>	<u>Provided</u>	<u>Given</u>
* Fire 5	* Bozrah 11	* Bozrah 11	11	0
* EMS Calls 41	* Salem 38	* Colchester 15	15	2
* Hazmat Calls 9	* Colchester 15	* East Haddam 2	2	0
* Service Calls 4	* East Haddam 3	* Montville 1	1	0
* False Alarms <u>8</u>	* Montville <u>3</u>	* Oakdale <u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTAL CALLS 67	TOTAL CALLS 70	TOTALS 31	31	3

‣ **Total Calls by Station:**

* Station 27 (GLVFC)	22
* Station 21 (SVFC)	6
* Service Calls (Town of Salem)	<u>39</u>
TOTAL CALLS	67

‣ **Inspections Completed in December:**

- * Salem School fire alarm acceptance test inspection
- * Salem School new boiler start-up inspection
- * Open burn permit inspection

‣ **Annual Fire Safety Inspections**

Completed in December:

- * Balestrini’s Daycare
- * Another Man’s Treasure
- * PhysioCare Physical Therapy & Sports Medicine
- * Rashada House/Caring Community

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

During the month of December 2024, the Salem Resident Trooper as well as Troop K Troopers responded to **144** calls for service In the Town of Salem. Of these calls, the most notable are:

‣ **Calls For Service:**

	<u>December</u>	<u>YTD</u>
* Accidents	4	61
* Criminal Investigations	6	55
* Burglaries	0	1
* Larcenies	0	5
* Nonreportable Matters	77	1,173
* Total Arrests	<u>1</u>	<u>29</u>
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	144	1,905

‣ **Motor Vehicle Enforcement:**

	<u>December</u>	<u>YTD</u>
* Onsite DUIs	0	6
* Arrests	0	3
* Misdemeanor Summons	0	5
* Infractions	24	198
* Written Warnings	30	289
* Verbal Warnings	<u>3</u>	<u>79</u>
TOTAL TRAFFIC STOPS	57	569

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

- **Library News:**

- The library had several take-and-make craft kits available for the month of December, including a clay pot gingerbread ornament, a fireplace craft kit, and a pom-pom Christmas tree ornament. All kits were distributed. (a total of 40 kits)
- Story time in the month of December was very popular! There were 67 attendees for both story times!
- In December, the library held an Elf Scavenger Hunt, where participants could look for elves hidden throughout the library. There were 45 participants.
- Mrs. Claus came to visit the library on December 9, with 36 attendees.

[Around Town \(continued from p 8\)](#)

• **[The Salem Free Public Library \(SFPL\) Director’s Report \(continued\)](#)**

- › On December 14, the library held its annual Holiday concert. Harpist, Debbie Vinnick played a variety of holiday music. Cookies and cider were served. The library also distributed a snowflake craft to attendees. There were 32 attendees.
- › The library’s Winter Reading Program started on January 6. This will run through February 28, 2025. Sharon has collected some amazing prizes!

- **Library Building And Collection:**

- › The library staff have resumed weeding dated material from certain areas of the collection.

See pp 11-12 for additional library events.

[Montville Animal Shelter](#)

On December 19, 2024 the animal shelter contract was signed by Orlando Annulli and Sons, Inc.

What’s next? Now that the contract has been signed, we would like to ask the citizens of Montville and Salem to write email and call the Governor, State Representatives, State Senators and Bond Commission to thank them for their support.

Once the ground breaking begins the committee will notify everyone so you can join us and celebrate. Updates will continue to be broadcasted via Salem CT Town Group on Facebook.

The Shelter still needs your support for food for the animals and cleaning supplies. Please be aware that the population of the animals changes all the time, so if you wish to donate, please call the Shelter at (860) 848-3529, for further information on what supplies are needed.

Article by: Rita Howell

SALEM CT LIONS CLUB
2025 CHARITY COMEDY SHOW
Supports the Salem Lions Scholarship Fund



HOWIE MASON

May Contain Adult Content

 No One Under 21 Admitted



LINDA BELT



Saturday, March 15
7:00 PM
\$25 Admission

Gardner Lake Fire
Department
429 Old Colchester Rd
Salem, CT

Limited Tickets
Available
Order Early !

DOORS OPEN @ 6:00 / CASH BAR / SNACKS / RAFFLES
Featuring “Fox Farms” Beer

**To Order Tickets
(and Drinks)**

Paste the URL below
into your browser:

<https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/2025-salem-ct-lions-charity-comedy-show>

The Zeffy ticketing platform is free for non-profit organizations. Instead of a mandatory ticket surcharge, they ask that you consider a donation. You can change or eliminate the donation default on the screen.

- OR -



SCAN ME

- OR -

Click
Here

If you have questions, contact the Comedy Show Committee via email at
salemclionscomedy@gmail.com

**WE ARE NOT
GOING BACKWARDS.**

ON JANUARY 18, 2025

**WE MARCH
FORWARD.**

Soldiers & Sailors
Monument
New London
1:00 - 2:00 pm

JOIN US



**PEOPLE'S
MARCH**

peoplesmarch.com

Public Town Meetings For December/January

Meetings in February 2025

Board of Education Long Range Education Planning,
January 13th, 5:00 PM

Board of Education,
January 13th, 7:00 PM

Emergency Preparedness Agency,
January 14th, 7:00 PM

Board of Ed. (Special Budget),
January 21st, 7:00 PM

Budget/Finance,
February 3rd, 5:30 PM

Board of Education,
February 3rd, 7:00 PM

Budget/Finance,
February 13th, 5:30 PM

Board Of Ed. Personnel/Contract Negotiations,
January 13th, 6:00 PM

Library Board of Directors,
January 14th, 6:00 PM

Charter Revision Commission,
January 16th, 7:00 PM

Budget/Finance,
January 27th, 5:30 PM

Board Of Ed. Personnel/Contract Negotiations,
February 3rd, 6:00 PM

Charter Revision Commission,
February 6th, 7:00 PM

To view the Town Public Meeting Calendar, click on:

<https://www.salemct.gov/calendar-by-event-type/16/month/2025-01>

The Salem DTC Meeting Schedule – 2025

The Salem DTC 2025 Regular Monthly Meeting Schedule

- **Wednesday, Feb. 5th, at 7:00 PM,** at the Center School
- **Wednesday, May 7th, 7:00 PM,** at the Center School
- **Wednesday, Aug. 6th, 7:00 PM,** at the Center School
- **Wednesday, March 5th, at 7:00 PM,** at the Center School
- **Wednesday, June 4th, at 7:00 PM,** at the Center School
- **Wednesday, Sept. 3rd, at 7:00 PM,** at the Center School
- **Wednesday, April 3rd, at 7:00 PM,** at the Center School
- **Wednesday, July 2nd, at 7:00 PM,** at the Center School
- **Wednesday, Oct. 1st, at 7:00 PM,** at the Center School

Community Help / Assistance

211 INFOLINE HELP STARTS HERE

Call 2-1-1 for your connection to:

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

CARE & SHARE

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

Community Help / Assistance *(continued from p 10)***THAMES VALLEY COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY ACTION (TVCCA)****CONNECTION = Volunteering & Veterans Coffeehouses**

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

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

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

Visit our website by clicking on: tvcca.org or facebook.com/TVCCArsvp/.

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

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

- **Energy Assistance: the current energy assistance season (2024/25) has begun:**
Important Dates To Remember For The Current Energy Assistance Season:
 - September 1, 2024: First day for a household to apply for the program.
 - November 1, 2024: First day for fuel deliveries that can be paid for by the program.
 - April 1, 2025: Deadline for fuel authorizations or deliveries.
 - May 30, 2025: The last day that a household can apply to establish eligibility for benefits.
 - June 17, 2025: Last day to submit deliverable fuel bills.
- **Food and Nutrition programs include:**
 - Meals on Wheels and Senior Nutrition programs, as well as WIC and SNAP (food Stamps) assistance programs. For more information visit: <https://www.tvcca.org/food-nutrition/>.

Community News You Can Use**HOUSE NUMBER SIGNS**

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. The sign can be mounted to your existing mailbox either in a horizontal or vertical position, or if you do not have a mailbox, it can be mounted to a post at the end of your driveway.



See the attached form on page 15 of the newsletter to order your sign.

SALEM FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY**News & Events**• **Museum Passes and Discounted Admission Passes**

The Salem Free Public Library Offers Museum Passes And Discounted Admission Passes to many of the museums in our state, **visit the library, or go to the library website by clicking on: salemct.gov/library/pages/museum-passes to view the library website and view what they have to offer and pass availability.**

Community News You Can Use (continued from p 11)

SALEM FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY (continued)

- **Books In The Afternoon Book Club – Thursday, January 30th at 1:00 PM.**

“The Distant Land of My Father” by: Bo Caldwell

For Anna Schoene, growing up in the magical world of Shanghai in the 1930s creates a special bond between her and her father. He is the son of missionaries, a smuggler, and a millionaire who leads a charmed but secretive life. When the family flees to Los Angeles in the face of the Japanese occupation, he chooses to stay, believing his connections and luck will keep him safe.

He’s wrong—but he survives, only to again choose Shanghai over his family during the Second World War. Anna and her father reconnect late in his life, when she finally has a family of her own, but it is only when she discovers his extensive journals that she is able to fully understand him and the reasons for his absences.

“The Distant Land of My Father” is a “beautiful” novel “for everyone who has ever felt himself in exile from any beloved place, or a time that can never return” – (*The Washington Post Book World*).

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

- **Salem Free Public Library Tote Bags For Sale**



Available at the circulation desk @ the library.



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

- **Winter Storytimes**

Wednesdays, January 8th & 22nd, & February 5th & 19th.

Please register at the circulation desk or call 860-859-1130



- **2025 Winter Reading**

January 6th, through February 28th

Register at the circulation desk beginning January 6th to receive your BINGO reading log.



Receive a raffle ticket for each BINGO completed when you turn in your log by February 28th

- **Birds Of Prey**

Saturday, February 1st, at 11:00 AM

Celebrate **Take your Child to the Library Day** with the Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center’s Presentation on birds of prey.



**Suitable for ages 6 & up.
Call 860 859-1130 to register**

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

- **Fill The Basket Sock Drive**

November 1st – February 1st



The library will be accepting new socks for all ages. Socks must be in package or have tags attached.



**Drop off at: Salem Free Public Library
264 Hartford Rd, Salem.**

Please place donations in designated basket by wooden table as you enter the library.



- **Garden Party**

Saturday January 25, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Beat your Winter Blues and join us as we prepare for the upcoming gardening season!



Learn how to become a *Master Gardener* and what local organizations need your support!

No Registration Required

(Sponsored by: The Friends of Salem Free Public Library)

- **Tiny Art Show Kits**



Available beginning February 3rd. Open to participants ages 8 to adult.



Register to receive a kit with the promise to return the finished artwork by February 28th. Artwork will be displayed at the Library’s Tiny Art Show from March 5th to March 31st.

Register for a kit by calling 860 859-1130.

Contact the library for submissions criteria.

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

Community News You Can Use (continued from p 12)

SALEM RECREATION DEPARTMENT

There are many activities for Salem residents of all ages:

• **Adult Rec Co-Ed Pick-Up Games**

PICKLEBALL



Tuesdays
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
October 1st to April 8th
Salem School Multi-Purpose Room

Saturdays
9:00 PM – 11:00 AM
October 19th to April 5th
Salem School Multi-Purpose Room

VOLLEYBALL



Tuesdays
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
October 1st to April 8th
Salem School Gym

BASKETBALL



Tuesdays
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
October 1st to April 8th
Salem School Gym

Open Gym Games for Salem & East Lyme Residents, ages 18 & up. Sign in upon arrival

• **Pilates**

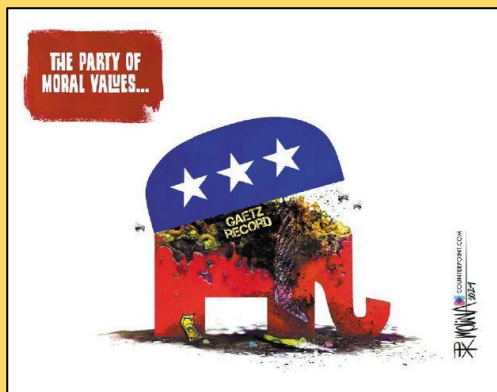
Monday evenings, 5:50 – 6:30 PM

Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Co. Firehouse, 429, Old Colchester Road.

\$60 Residents, \$65 Non-Resident

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

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



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

FRIENDS OF THE SALEM THE LIBRARY (FOSL)

The Friends of The Salem Library could always use help sorting books for the book sale, and at the book sales. For future book sorting and book pick-up and work dates, stay tuned and watch for notifications on Facebook. *If you would like to help, contact Carl Nawrocki at 860-608-9970, or Bart Drennen at 860-235-5889.*

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.

Volunteer Opportunities *(continued from p 13)***MITCHELL FARM EQUINE RETIREMENT**

The Horse Retirement, Horse Sanctuary is looking for help.

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

SALEM SCHOOL

Volunteers are always welcome at **Salem School**. Anyone interested in volunteering can 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.

LION'S 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.

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 able, please bring a nonperishable food item to our monthly meeting **If you are interested in volunteering your time, contact them at 860-739-8502.**

CEMETERY CLEAN-UP

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

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

Senior News

The Salem Senior Citizen's Group (SSG) boasts a current enrolment of over 170 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!**

Due to the increase in meeting attendance, the Salem Seniors Group (SSG) have outgrown the Salem Volunteer Fire Co. Firehouse. **Beginning with the January 14th meeting monthly meetings will be held at the Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Co. Firehouse at 429 Old Colchester Road, Salem.** The meeting day and time will remain the same unchanged.

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.

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

Address Sign Order Form

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

Cut along the dotted line, complete the form, enclose a check for \$15.00 made out to Salem Volunteer Fire Company, and mail it to: Salem Volunteer Fire Company, 424 Hartford Road, Salem, CT 06420.