

NEWSLETTER

Webpage: salemctdems.org,

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WISH TO DONATE?

Please click on the button to the right

DONATE

JOHN HOUCHIN SR. SDTC FUNDRAISER

On Sunday, August 25th approximately 40 Salem DTC members, friends, and members of John's immediate family attended a fundraiser at the Historic Bingham Camp to honor long time Salem DTC member John Houchin Sr.'s memory. We shared stories, and memories of John, good food, and fellowship. Thanks to all who attended and donated to make this a very successful event. Special thanks to Grace Brangwynne, campaign manager and Evan Boisoeneau, organizer for Congressman Joe Courtney's campaign, Rich Knotek and Nick Menapace, candidates for State Representative for the 37th and 34th Districts respectively.

SALEM DTC TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER

On Saturday, September 7th the Salem DTC held a very successful trivia night and silent auction fundraiser. Five teams competed in the trivia night contest. Thanks to all who attended to make this a very successful event. Special thanks to Matt Rucci for developing the questions and running the trivia game. Also special thanks to State Senator Martha Marx (20th district), Nick Menapace and Rich Knotek, candidates for State Representative for the 37th and 34th Districts respectively for attending, and congratulations for being on the winning team.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SERVING SALEM?

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

In preparation for the municipal elections in November 2025 the Salem Democratic Town Committee (SDTC) is interested in hearing from anyone interested in running for public office. If you are interested in serving a Salem Board and Commission we want to hear from you as well. We want to build bench strength so when a vacancy on a Board or Commission opens, we would have a candidate or candidates that have expressed interest in serving Salem who we could recommend to the Board of Selectmen to fill the vacancy in a timely fashion.

If you are interested in running for public office, serving on the PZC, or any other Board or Commission please contact Gary Closius at gclosius@sbcglobal.net or call 880-961-9176.

In addition to a vacancy on the Planning and Zoning Commission for an Alternate Member, there is a vacancy on the Economic Development Commission. If you are interested in either of the current Commission openings, please contact Gary Closius at gclosius@sbcglobal.net or call 880-961-9176.

**KAMALA HARRIS – TIM WALZ, JOE COURTNEY, MARTHA MARX,
NICK MENAPACE & RICH KNOTEK LAWN SIGNS AVAILABLE (continued from p 1)**

Kamala Harris – Tim Walz Campaign Lawn Signs:

The Salem DTC has lawn signs available for purchase \$10 each to support the Salem DTC. If you would like to purchase a sign or signs, please contact Gary Closius at: e-mail: gclosius@sbcglobal.net, or call (860) 961-9173, or Kay Zak at: e-mail: kayzak@hotmail.com, or call 631-942-8169.

Joe Courtney, Martha Marx, Nick Menapace & Rich Knotek Lawn Signs:

If you would like a sign or signs please contact Gary Closius at: e-mail: gclosius@sbcglobal.net, or call (860) 961-9173, or Kay Zak at: e-mail: kayzak@hotmail.com, or call 631-942-8169. *These signs are free but we would like them back after the election.*

OPINION – Enough Is Enough

It Is Long Past Time For Common Sense Federal Gun Control Legislation

It has happened again, this time in Winder Georgia, two innocent 14-year-old school kids and two teachers were killed and an additional nine others, (8 students and 1 teacher) were wounded, in the latest school shooting. Apalachee High School in Winder Georgia joins the list of communities that have experienced and must now live with the aftermath of a school shooting. So how many school shootings have there been since Columbine?¹ That depends on how you sort the data:

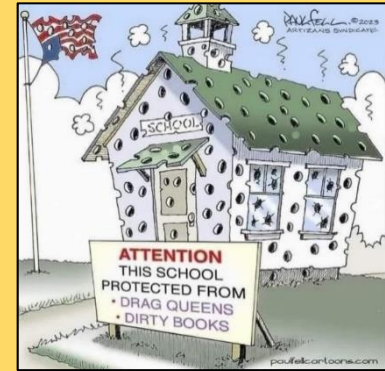
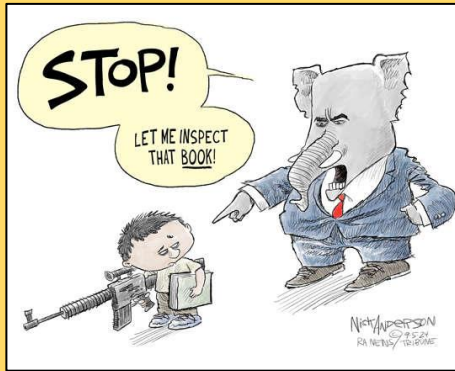
- Any shooting on school property since Columbine: 2,032 school shootings
- One or more victims shot since Columbine: 1,143 school shootings
- 4+ wounded or killed since Columbine: 59 school shootings
- 4+ killed since Columbine: 8 school shootings
- Active Shooter since Columbine: 133 school shootings
- Pre-Planned Attacks since Columbine: 97 school shootings
- Near misses since Columbine: 272 school shootings

No matter how you slice up the school shooting data, the trend line is going up and the problem is getting worse.¹ After the Columbine shooting many improvements were made in school security, including School Resource Officers stationed in schools, better law enforcement response policy and tactics in dealing with a school shooting event. What more physical security, classroom lockdowns, improved law enforcement response policy and tactics haven't done over the last 25 years is prevent these attacks. By all accounts everything was done right in response to the Apalachee High School shooting yet we have two children and two adults dead, four families grieving, and another 1894 school children joined the more than 338,000² school children that have experienced gun violence at school. The weapon used in the most recent shooting at Apalachee High School was an AR-style platform rifle. Both the rifle and the round it fires were designed in the 1950's for the military. The result was the M16 for our troops and the AR-15 for civilians. When will the right of our school children and teachers for that matter any citizen the right to live out-weigh the right to own an AR-15 style weapon? I don't want to hear one elected official offer their "*thoughts and prayers*" to the grieving families. They have done that for the last 25 years and it hasn't worked. I don't want to hear one elected official say "*now not the time to discuss gun control*" if not now, when? After another 3 or 5 or 50 or deaths? What is the magic number? We know how many have died in the 25 years since Columbine so we can calculate the rate and therefore we can calculate when we would reach the magic number. Well, it is long past the time for serious federal legislative action to ban this type of weapon for public ownership, universal background checks, and implement "red flag" laws. It is time for action not thoughts and prayers.

By: Gary J. Closius – Chairman – Salem Democratic Town Committee, September 5, 2024

¹ ***School Shooting Data Analysis and Reports***, By: David Riedman, Apr 18, 2024, School Shooting Data Analysis and Reports is a reader-supported publication. (<https://k12ssdb.substack.com/p/how-many-school-shootings-since-columbine>)

² ***The Washington Post, More Than 383,000 Students Have Experienced Gun Violence At School Since Columbine***, By: John Woodrow Cox, Steven Rich, Lucas Trevor, John Muyskens and Monica Ulmanu, updated Sept. 6, 2024.



GUN VIOLENCE – 2024 STATISTICS AND DATA

2024	Mass Shootings	Deaths	Injuries
TOTALS	367	388	1,634
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			
October			
November			
December			

* Data current through August 31st

Shootings By State					
State	# Current Month	# Year To Date	State	# Current Month	# Year To Date
Illinois	4	27	Arkansas	0	6
Florida	1	24	Massachusetts	2	6
Pennsylvania	4	24	Maryland	1	5
Texas	4	24	Oklahoma	2	4
California	3	22	South Carolina	0	4
Alabama	2	18	Colorado	2	3
Missouri	1	18	Connecticut	0	3
Mississippi	3	17	Washington	2	3
Georgia	3	15	Arizona	0	2
Ohio	2	14	Kansas	0	2
New York	2	13	Nevada	0	2
North Carolina	2	12	New Jersey	0	2
Tennessee	2	12	South Dakota	1	2
District of Columbia	1	11	West Virginia	1	2
Louisiana	0	11	Alaska	0	1
Michigan	0	11	Hawaii	1	1
Virginia	1	10	Iowa	0	1
Indiana	0	9	Maine	0	1
Kentucky	1	9	Nebraska	0	1
Minnesota	2	7	New Mexico	0	1
Wisconsin	2	7			

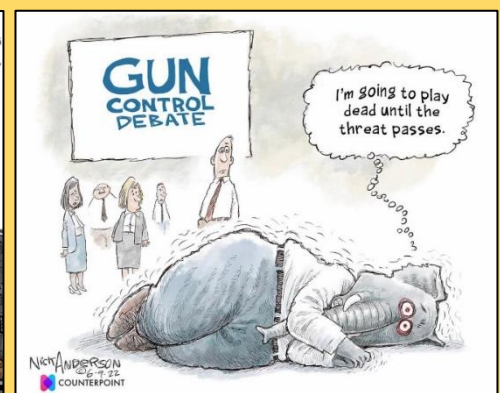
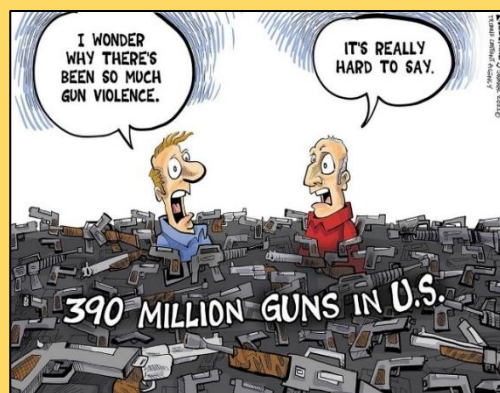
The 10 States With The:	
Strictest Gun Laws	Most Lenient Gun Laws
California	Mississippi
Illinois	Wyoming
New York	Montana
Connecticut	Idaho
Hawaii	Georgia
New Jersey	Arkansas
Maryland	South Dakota
Massachusetts	Oklahoma
Washington	New Hampshire
Colorado	Kentucky

- DARK BLUE:** Democrats won the majority 4 times
- LIGHT BLUE:** Democrats won the 3 times
- PURPLE:** Democrats and Republicans each won twice
- LIGHT RED:** Republicans won the 3 times
- DARK RED:** Republicans won the 4 times

Total deaths (all causes) in the U.S. due to gun violence* 11,626

Total injuries (all causes) in the U.S. due to gun violence* 22,385

* Data through September 5th



OPINION – GARDNER LAKE & HYDRILLA

Parking And Over Crowding Are Not The Only Problems At The Boat Launch And Gardner Lake State Park

On Tuesday September 3rd the Salem Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission (IWCC) invited the Montville and Bozrah IWCCs to the Salem IWCC meeting held at the Salem School Library for a presentation on hydrilla found in Gardner Lake. Greg Bugbee from the CT Agricultural Experimentation Station Department of Environmental Sciences presented their findings and recommendations to control this invasive aquatic plant to an audience of concerned Salem citizens as well as State Senator Martha Marx and Rich Knotek and Nick Menapace, candidates for CT State Representative for the 34th and 37th Districts.

“Hydrilla was first identified in the Connecticut River near Glastonbury, CT in 2016 and has since spread to Essex, Connecticut. It has also spread into the river’s many coves, tributaries, and boat basins. The Connecticut River hydrilla is unique from other known hydrilla strains, as it is genetically distinct. The plant’s biology is largely unknown at this time. The highly invasive aquatic plant, Hydrilla verticillata, known commonly as ‘hydrilla’ or ‘water thyme’ was first detected in the Connecticut River in 2016 around Glastonbury, CT. In 2019 and 2020 a survey was conducted from Agawam, MA south to the Long Island Sound. Hydrilla was found as far north as Agawam, MA. The 2019 and 2020 surveys of hydrilla in Connecticut/Massachusetts waters, confirm the plant is spreading and the risk of it spreading further to other regional waterbodies is significant. Fragments of the plant, which are easily caught and transported by boats and boat trailers, can sprout roots and establish new populations. Fragments also float and are capable of dispersing via wind and water currents.



What is hydrilla?

Hydrilla is an aquatic plant that has earned the illustrious title “world’s worst invasive aquatic plant”. Listed as a federal noxious weed, hydrilla has made its home in just about every conceivable freshwater habitat including: rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, marshes, canals, ditches and reservoirs.

Hydrilla was first discovered in the United States in the 1960s in Florida. Since then, it has spread to many parts of the U.S.

Hydrilla can grow in a wide variety of water conditions (e.g., high/low nutrients, high/low turbidity, variable pH, up to 7% salinity) and water temperatures. Unlike most native aquatic plants, hydrilla is capable of growing under extremely low light conditions. Hydrilla is able to begin photosynthesizing much earlier in the morning than native plants so it is able to capture most of the carbon dioxide in the water (which limits growth of other plants). Hydrilla grows very rapidly (it can double its biomass every two weeks in summer) and has no natural predators or diseases to limit its population.

Dense infestations of hydrilla can shade or crowd out all other native aquatic plants, alter water chemistry, cause dramatic swings in dissolved oxygen levels, increase water temperatures, and affect the diversity and abundance of fish populations.¹”

How Hydrilla Spreads

Hydrilla propagates through fragmentation, meaning that when it breaks apart, fragments of the plant may float downriver and re-root, creating another mat of hydrilla at a new location. The hydrilla in the Connecticut River is different than any other species of hydrilla found. It does not have tubers on the roots of the plant, as is usual for hydrilla. Because hydrilla spreads through fragmentation, when paddlers, boaters and wildlife become entangled in hydrilla, they can spread the plant to reaches downriver.

Additionally, when boaters move from water body to waterbody, hydrilla fragments can remain in or on the vessel and be introduced to new waterbodies that way. Once in a new location, this invasive species repopulates itself rapidly and with strength.²”

We all know that parking, overcrowding and other issues are a problem at the Boat Launch and Gardner Lake State Park and that the State of CT, DEEP (the owner) has done little to address these problems. As a result of the inaction of the DEEP, the Town of Salem has had to spend tax payer dollars to have the Resident Troopers and tow-trucks at the boat launch and park to enforce the parking regulations and park capacity.

OPINION – GARDNER LAKE & HYDRILLA (continued from p 4)

With the discovery of hydrilla in Gardner Lake as well as several other lakes in CT, the DEEP needs to take immediate and decisive action to control and eradicate it in Gardner Lake and to prevent its spread to other waterways, lakes, and ponds. The boat launch should be closed until a system is put in place to ensure watercraft coming in are free of hydrilla and a manned wash station to ensure watercraft coming out of the lake are free of hydrilla. Additionally, the State Park should be closed until the DEEP can staff the park to control its use or a system to reimburse the Town of Salem for the costs incurred for Salem to manage the park.

This issue is ultimately in the hands of our state legislators and Governor Lemont. If you are concerned and wish to take some action, please contact your state legislators and Governor Lemont. You can use the following website to find your state representative's e-mail address: www.cga.ct.gov.

By: Gary J. Closius – Chairman – Salem Democratic Town Committee, September 7, 2024

¹ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) website:

<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Projects-Topics/Connecticut-River-Hydrilla/#:~:text=Hydrilla%20was%20first%20identified%20in,%2C%20tributaries%2C%20and%20boat%20basins>.

² Connecticut River Conservancy website: <https://www.ctriver.org/hydrilla>.

EARLY VOTING, GENERAL ELECTION, NOVEMBER 5TH

A General Election is where all eligible voters elect candidates to office. In Connecticut, there is a general election every year.

14
DAYS

EARLY VOTING

October 21 – 28 & November 1 – 3

October 29 and 31

10 AM – 6 PM,

8 AM – 8 PM

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION**Friday, October 18, 2024**

- Deadline for voter registration by mail to be post-marked
- Deadline for voter registration at the DMV by close of business
- Deadline for voter registration online by 11:59 PM
- Deadline for voter registration in person by 8:00 PM

Same Day Voter Registration

If you are not registered, but want to vote during the Early Voting period, you may register in person every day of Early Voting at the Early Voting location.

If you are not registered, but want to vote on Election Day, you may register in person on Election Day at your Election Day Registration site.

To receive important election updates text VOTE to 860.321.4221.

To find your Early Voting location, and for all you need to know about elections in Connecticut, visit MyVote.CT.gov or call 860-509-6200.

YOUR SAY – YOUR DAY**WHAT is Early Voting?**

Early Voting allows you to vote in person safely and securely before Election Day.

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT at the Early Voting location?

When you arrive at the Early Voting location, you will check in and be verified as an eligible voter. You will then receive your ballot with an envelope. You will complete your ballot at a privacy booth and seal it in the approved envelope. Before you leave, place the sealed envelope in the secure receptacle as instructed by the election officials. Ballots will be secured unopened until Election Day.

EARLY VOTING, GENERAL ELECTION, NOVEMBER 5TH (continued from p 5)

WHEN will ballots be counted?

Ballots cast during Early Voting will be sealed and stored securely in each town. They will be opened and counted on Election Day. ***HOW DOES EARLY VOTING DIFFER from voting by absentee ballot?***

Absentee Ballot voting requires a reason (from a list of six, found at MyVote.CT.gov). Early Voting is available to every eligible voter without a specific reason. Early Voting may be done only in-person, not via mail or drop box.

HOW MANY EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS will be in each city or town?

In Salem there is one Early Voting location and it is the Town Hall.

CAN I VOTE on weekends?

Yes. Early Voting includes Saturdays and Sundays for most elections (see calendar for specific dates).

HOW IS IT ENSURED people do not vote twice?

The election official at your Early Voting location will record that you have cast your ballot, preventing you from voting early at any other location, submitting an absentee ballot, or voting on Election Day.

DOES EARLY VOTING EXIST in other states?

Although new to Connecticut this year, 46 other states already offer some form of Early Voting.

WHAT hasn't changed?

You can still vote via Absentee Ballot or on Election Day as usual. Elections in Connecticut are still safe and secure.

AROUND TOWN – AUGUST

★ *The data source – The First Selectman’s August Report was unavailable at the time of publication of the Newsletter.*

• **Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC)**

- The PZC held a public hearing on the proposed amendment to Salem’s Zoning Regulations prohibiting cannabis establishments anywhere in Salem. At the conclusion of the public hearing the PZC voted to approve the proposed amendment to Salem’s Zoning Regulations prohibiting cannabis establishments.

• **Tax Collector**

- ★

• **Recreation Commission**

- See p 12 for Recreation Commission events.

• **Emergency Services:**

- **Emergency Preparedness Agency**

- › ★
- › ★

- **Fire Marshal Report**

› **Emergency Calls:**

- * HAZMAT Calls ★
- * EMS Calls ★
- * Service Calls ★
- * False Alarms ★
- * Cancelled Calls ★
- TOTAL CALLS ★**

› **Call Location:**

- * Bozrah ★
- * Salem ★
- * Colchester ★
- * East Haddam ★
- * Lyme ★
- * Montville ★
- TOTAL CALLS ★**

› **Total Calls by Station:**

- * Station 27 (GLVFC) ★
- * Station 22 (SVFC) ★
- * Service Calls (Town of Salem) ★
- TOTAL CALLS ★**

› **Inspections Completed in June:**

- * ★
- * ★

AROUND TOWN – AUGUST (continued from p 6)

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

★

▸ **Calls For Service:**

	<u>August</u>	<u>YTD</u>
* Accidents	★	★
* Criminal Investigations	★	★
* Burglaries	★	★
* Larcenies	★	★
* Nonreportable Matters	★	★
* Total Arrests	<u>★</u>	<u>★</u>
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	★	★

★ *The data source – The First Selectman’s August Report was unavailable at the time of publication of the Newsletter.*

▸ **Motor Vehicle Enforcement:**

	<u>August</u>	<u>YTD</u>
* Onsite DUIs	★	★
* Arrests	★	★
* Misdemeanor Summons	★	★
* Infractions	★	★
* Written Warnings	★	★
* Verbal Warnings	<u>★</u>	<u>★</u>
TOTAL TRAFFIC STOPS	★	★

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

- The SFPL served 1,583 patrons and provided 14 patrons with technical help in August.
- The SFPL’s Summer Reading Program round-up:
 - # Registered – 164
 - # of programs & activities – 14
 - 100% of the attendees felt welcome at the Library
 - # of books read – 1,386
 - # Attending Programs – 460
 - 82.5% felt they learned something
- See pp 10-11 for additional library events.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Salem Free Public Book Sale – Friday, October 24th and Saturday, October 25th**
 - Friday – 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM (6:00 PM early entry for members of the Friends Of The Salem Library – sign up at the door), and
 - Saturday, October 25th 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
- **Mitchell Farm Music Festival – Saturday, September 21st & Sunday, September 22nd**
 - Saturday, September 21st, Broken Arrow, (The Music of Neil Young), and Late For The Sky (Jackson Browne Tribute).
 - Sunday, September. 22nd, Number Nine (Music of the Beatles).
- **Mitchell Farm Fall Festival & Senior Bake Sale, October 26th 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM** (rain date Oct. 27th).
- **Congregational Church of Salem Applefest, Saturday, October 26th, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM or sell out.**

SALEM VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT BLOOD DRIVE

The Salem Volunteer Fire Dept will hold the next blood drive on **Thursday, October 24th from 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM** at the Salem Volunteer Fire Co. firehouse at 424 Hartford Road, Salem, CT.

Call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: **Salem CT** to schedule an appointment.

FARMERS MARKETS

• **COLCHESTER FARMERS MARKET**

Colchester Farmers Market open on **Sundays starting on June 19th thru October 15th 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.**

Located on the Colchester Green at 97 Hayward Avenue.



• **BOZRAH FARMERS MARKET**

Bozrah Farmers Market open Fridays starting on July 12th thru October from 4PM – 7 PM.

Located at 45 Bozrah St., Bozrah.

For more information click on: bozrahfarmersmarket.org/.



PUBLIC TOWN MEETINGS FOR SEPTEMBER

Meetings in October

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board of Finance,
September 12th, 7:00 PM • Economic Development Commission
September 17th, 6:00 PM • BOE Policy
September 23rd, 5:00 PM • Planning and Zoning Commission,
September 24th, 7:00 PM | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation Commission
September 16th, 7:00 PM • Charter Revision Commission
September 19th, 7:00 PM • BOE Curriculum
September 23rd, 6:00 PM |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charter Revision Commission
October 3rd, 7:00 PM • BOE Personnel/Contract Negotiations
October 7th, 6:00 PM • Inland Wetlands & Conservation Commission (IWCC),
October 7th, 7:00 PM • Emergency Preparedness Agency,
October 8th, 7:00 PM • Board of Finance,
October 10th, 7:00 PM | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board of Selectmen,
October 1st, 7:00 PM • BOE Long Range Education Planning
October 7th, 5:00 PM • Board of Education
October 7th, 7:00 PM • Library Board of Directors
October 8th, 6:00 PM • Planning & Zoning Commission
October 8th, 7:00 PM |

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

THE SDTC MEETING SCHEDULE

The SDTC 2024 Regular Monthly Meeting Schedule

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, October 2nd at 7:00 PM, at the Center School • Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at 7:00 PM, at the Center School • Wednesday, April 3, 2025, at 7:00 PM, at the Center School | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, November 13th at 7:00 PM, at the Salem Volunteer Fire Co. Firehouse • Wednesday, February 5, 2025, at 7:00 PM, at the Center School • Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at 7:00 PM, at the Center School | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, December 4th at 7:00 PM, at the Center School • Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 7:00 PM, at the Center School • Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 7:00 PM, at the Center School |
|---|---|--|

COMMUNITY HELP / ASSISTANCE

CARE & SHARE

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

211 INFOLINE HELP STARTS HERE

Call 2-1-1 for your connection to:

- | | | |
|---|------------------------|----------------------|
| - Alzheimer’s resources | - Emergency shelter | - Pre-natal care |
| - Basic needs – food, clothing, shelter | - Emergency assistance | - Senior services |
| - Child care services | - Financial assistance | - Suicide prevention |

COMMUNITY HELP / ASSISTANCE (continued from p 8)**211 INFOLINE HELP STARTS HERE (continued)**

Call 2-1-1 for your connection to:

- Child health care
- Consumer health
- Crisis intervention
- Disability services
- Drug & alcohol programs
- Health care
- HIV/AIDS
- Housing
- Legal assistance
- Parenting programs
- Transportation
- Veteran's services
- Volunteering
- And much more

THAMES VALLEY COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY ACTION (TVCCA)**CONNECTION = Volunteering & Veterans Coffeehouses**

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



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

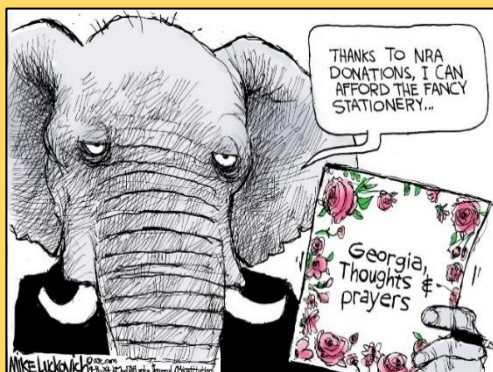
Visit our website by clicking on: tvcca.org or facebook.com/TVCCArsvp/.

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

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

- **ENERGY ASSISTANCE AND OTHER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE FROM THAMES VALLEY COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY ACTION, INC. (TVCCA)**

TVCCA provides energy assistance among other community assistance services. Visit the TVCCA website by clicking on: tvcca.org/energy-assistance/ for more information and a direct link to the application. If you have any questions or need help completing the application form, **contact TVCCA at 860-889-1365**. Note that not only does TVCCA provide funding for oil, but also for wood. TVCCA also has a Senior Nutrition Program for seniors 60 and over & Volunteer programs for seniors age 55 or over.



COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

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.

- **PUMPKINTOWN TICKET PACKAGE RAFFLE**

Enter the raffle for a chance to win a complimentary ticket package* to **Pumpkintown** in East Hampton, CT. **Enter August 21st-September 24th, drawing will be on September 25th.** One raffle ticket per person per visit. Tickets available at the circulation desk.

* Ticket package includes a ticket for 4 people to enter the Village @ Pumpkintown.

Tickets generously donated by **Pumpkintown** in East Hampton, CT.



- **BOOKS IN THE AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB**

The next meeting is **Thursday, September 26th at 1:00 PM.**

The book: **Above the Fire** by Michael O'Donnell

Laboring under a shared loss, Doug and his young son, Tim, set out on a late season backpacking trip through the White Mountains of New Hampshire. They find beauty and solidarity in the outdoors, making friends along the trail, and falling into the rhythms of an expedition. But when reports of warfare and social collapse reach the ranger station, Doug—seeking to protect the only family he has left—withdraws even further into the backcountry.

The alpine winter presents its own dangers, as father and son must endure the elements, the solitude, and the ever-present threat of outsiders. As their isolation intensifies, and the nature of the country's disorder becomes more unsettling, their bond with each other grows more fierce. But as spring approaches, they must decide whether—and how—to confront the perils of a changed world. (Amazon)

- **FALL FAMILY STORYTIMES**

Wednesdays, at 10:30 AM.

- **September 4th & 25th,**
- **October 2nd & 23rd**
- **November 6th, & 20th.**

**To register call 860-859-1130
or come in.**



- **MOHEGAN HISTORY, TRADITION & CULTURE**

Saturday, October 5th, at 11:00 AM

**Presented by David Eichelberg,
Outreach and Tradition Specialist,
Mohegan Tribe.**

Learn about the Mohegan way of life in the 1500s and before as well as stories, songs, dance, and teachings from Mohegan ancestors.

Includes a display of replicated artifacts and traditional clothing as well as drumming demonstration.



This program is suitable for families

Call 860 859-1130 to register

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

- **MEDICARE UNCOMPLICATED**

**Salem Free Public Library
September 11th at 6:00 PM**

**Presented by: Christian Pisani of
Turning Point Insurance.**



You will learn about Medicare and what it covers, the different plans available, what Medicare requires you to do, and when you should sign up to avoid being penalized.

Call 860 859-1130 to register

Sponsored by: Turning Point Insurance

(This is an educational seminar with no selling involved)

COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE (continued from p 10)**SALEM FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY (continued)**

- **WILDLIFE AND CONNECTICUT'S CHANGING LANDSCAPE**

Wednesday, October 9th @ 6:00 PM

*Presented by Paul Colburn,
Master Wildlife Conservationist.*

This presentation provides a brief natural history of CT. Paul will address the current state of wildlife in the state, including a discussion of major species, factors affecting their habitats, challenges we face managing them, and provides suggestions for what people can do to make a difference.

Call 860 859-1130 to register
(Sponsored by a grant from the
Eightmile River Wild & Scenic Watershed)

- **THE HISTORY OF 18TH CENTURY CHOCOLATE MAKING**

Wednesday, October 16th @ 6:00 PM.

*Presented by Robert Lecce of
Pewter Pot Fine Spiced
Chocolate.*

Robert Lecce, in period costume, will demonstrate the art of 18th century chocolate making.



Includes a chocolate tasting!

Call 860 859-1130 to register

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

SALEM RECREATION DEPARTMENT

There are many activities for Salem residents of all ages:

- **SALEM WOODS DISC GOLF COURSE**



The Salem Woods Disc Golf Course is open for play.

Located at Bob Appleby Field at Volunteer Park, 24 Forsyth Road.

Discs available for loan contact the Recreation Commission.

- **ADULT CO-ED PICKLEBALL**

Pick-up games for Salem & East Lyme Residents ages 18 & over.



Saturday, Mornings 8:00 to 10:00 AM

Tuesday, Evenings 5:00 to 7:00 PM

Round Hill Road Tennis/Pickleball Courts
Sign in upon arrival.

- **COMMUNITY TAG SALEM DAY**

Saturday, September 28th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (rain date: Sunday September 29th).

Salem Community Park Pavilion, Residences, and Businesses.

FREE entry for shoppers! **No early birds Please!!** Sign up to reserve a 10' x 10' space at the pavilion or have your residence or business listed for \$10.* **Form/Fee deadline: Sunday September 22nd.**

Forms, Map & List available online, Town Hall, and Salem Free Public Library.

* **100% of the fees will benefit the *Town of Salem Benevolent Fund*, serving our community's residents in need.**

For additional information on activities provided by the Salem Recreation Commission please visit their website by clicking on: saalemct.gov/recreation, or call 860-859-3873, x275

- **FIND YOUR FOOTPRINT! MEDALLION PROJECT**

Let us know when you've found your 2024 Medallion & submit a photo!



Find your footprint in the following trails/preserves: Walden Preserve, Zemko Sawmill Preserve, Multi-Purpose Path/Harris Brook Trail, Darling Road Preserve, Smuggler's Rock Preserve, Salem Riverside Preserve.

- **SAND VOLLEYBALL COURT**



The volleyball court is open and ready for play.

Located at the Salem Community Park Pavilion
89 Norwich Road/Rt. 82.

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.
-

LION'S CLUB

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

FRIENDS OF THE SALEM THE LIBRARY (FOSL)

The Friends of The Salem Library could always use help sorting books for the book sale, and at the book sales. The FOSL will be sorting books most every Wednesday and Friday at the Zemko Garage, 231 Hartford Rd. from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. For future book pick-up and work dates, stay tuned and watch for notifications on Facebook.

If you would like to help, contact Carl Nawrocki at 860-608-9970, or Bart Drennen at 860-235-5889.

SALEM SCHOOL

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

THE SALEM LAND TRUST

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

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

CARE & SHARE

Care & Share of East Lyme, Inc. provides food, financial and emergency support to individuals and families in East Lyme, Niantic, and Salem.

If you are interested in volunteering your time, contact them at 860-739-8502.

CEMETERY CLEAN-UP

The Salem VFW is always looking for help to clean up the cemeteries. **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.

CONNECTICUT FAIR CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

5th-8th: Hebron Harvest Fair
 5th-8th: North Haven Fair
 5th-8th: Wapping Fair
 6th-8th: Bethlehem Fair
 6th-8th: East Haven Fall Festival
 6th-8th: Norwalk Oyster Festival
 7th-8th: Connecticut Maritime Heritage Festival
 7th-8th: Saint Peter's Grace Apple Festival
 12th-15th: Four Town Fair
 12th-15th: Berlin Lions Agricultural Fair

SEPTEMBER (continued)

13th -14th: Milford Irish Festival
 15th: Trumbull Arts Festival
 20-22nd: Guilford Fair
 20-22nd: Newtown Arts Festival
 21st: Niantic Bay Oyster Festival
 21-22nd: Olde Mistick Village Garlic Festival
 21-22nd: Orange County Fair
 22nd: Seymour Pumpkin Festival
 26-29: Durham Fair
 28th: Bark & Brewfest

OCTOBER

4th-6th: Harwinton Fair
 4th-6th: Portland Fair
 4th-6th & 11th-13th: Southington Apple Harvest Festival
 5th: South Windsor Apple Fest

OCTOBER

11th-13th: Milford Pumpkin Festival
 11th-13th: Riverton Fair
 12th-13th: Bruce Museum Outdoor Arts Festival

SENIOR NEWS

• ***Salem Senior Citizens Group***

The ***Salem Senior Citizen's Group*** boasts a current enrolment of over 150 members. Membership has almost tripled since the beginning of 2022.

• ***Salem (or surrounding town) residents age 50 years or older are welcome to join the Salem Senior Citizen's Group!***

Meetings are held at 10:30 AM on the second Tuesday every month at Salem Volunteer Fire Company Firehouse, 424 Hartford Rd. (Rt. 85) in the rear meeting room. A yearly membership dues of \$10 is collected every March. Meetings include town discussions, news, and updates, and interesting guest speakers. After the meeting noon lunch is provided. Trips, events, activities, and classes, throughout the year, are developed by our members.

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



ON THIS DAY IN SEPTEMBER

- September 1, 1939** Hitler invaded Poland; thus, began World War II in Europe
- September 2, 1789** The third Presidential cabinet department, the U.S. Treasury, was established by Congress.
- September 2, 1945** President Truman proclaims V-J Day upon the surrender of the Japanese
- September 2, 1962** Soviet Russia agreed to send arms to Cuba, leading to the October Missile Crisis after the shipments were discovered by the U.S.
- September 3, 1783** Treaty of Paris signed that ended the American Revolutionary War
- September 4, 1609** The island of Manhattan was discovered by navigator Henry Hudson.
- September 4, 1781** City of Los Angeles founded by Spanish Governor Felipe de Neve
- September 5, 1774** The First Continental Congress assembled in Philadelphia with 56 delegates, representing every colony, except Georgia. Attendants included Patrick Henry, George Washington, Sam Adams and John Hancock.
- September 5-6, 1972** Eleven members of the Israeli Olympic Team were killed during an attack on the Olympic Village in Munich by members of the Black September faction of the Palestinian Liberation Army.
- September 8, 1900** The worst weather disaster in U.S. history: a hurricane with winds of 120 mph struck Galveston, Texas, killing over 8,000 persons.
- September 9, 1776** The U.S.A. came into existence as the Continental Congress changed the name of the new American nation from the United Colonies to the United States.
- September 11, 2001** The worst terrorist attack in U.S. history.
- September 12, 1990** Treaty was signed to reunite East and West Germany
- September 14, 1901** Eight days after being shot, President William McKinley died from wounds suffered during an assassination attempt. Theodore Roosevelt then took over the presidency.
- September 16, 1620** The Mayflower ship departed from Plymouth, England, bound for America with 102 passengers and a small crew.
- September 18, 1947** The U.S. Air Force was established as a separate military service.
- September 19, 1893** New Zealand became the first country to grant women the right to vote.
- September 22, 1862** President Abraham Lincoln issued a preliminary Emancipation Proclamation freeing the slaves in territories held by Confederates as of January 1, 1863.
- September 25, 1513** Balboa first sighted the Pacific Ocean after crossing the Isthmus of Panama.
- September 25, 1789** The first U.S. Congress proposed 12 Amendments to the Constitution, ten of which, comprising the Bill of Rights, were ratified.
- September 26, 1960** The first-ever televised presidential debate occurred between presidential candidates John F. Kennedy and Richard M. Nixon. Many who watched were inclined to say Kennedy 'won' the debate, while those who listened only to the radio thought Nixon did better. Nixon, who declined to use makeup, appeared somewhat haggard looking on TV in contrast to Kennedy.
- September 29, 1789** Congress created the United States Army, consisting of 1,000 enlisted men and officers.

How Do I Get A Copy Of The Newsletter?

If you would like to receive this newsletter via e-mail, please send your request along with your e-mail address to:
Gary Closius: gclosius@sbcglobal.net

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