

# NEWSLETTER

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SALEM WANTS YOU!!

**The Salem Democratic Town Committee is seeking candidates for November's Election**

To learn more, contact  
[gclosius@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gclosius@sbcglobal.net)



There are a total of 15 seats on various boards and commissions that are will be on the ballot in the November 2025 election that we need candidates for. The list below details the positions/seats that will be on the ballot:

- **Board of Selectmen**
  - **First Selectman – 1 seat** *we need a candidate*  
we have 2 people interested
  - **Selectman – 2 members** *we need candidates*

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- **Board of Education**
  - **3 members –** *we need a candidate*  
we have 1 person interested

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- **Board of Finance**
  - **Member – 2** *we need candidates*  
we have 1 person interested
  - **Alternate member – 2** *we need candidates*

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- **Planning and Zoning Commission**
  - **Member – 3** *we need candidates*  
we have 1 person interested
  - **Alternate member – 2** *we need candidates*

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- **Library Board of Directors**
  - **Member – 2** *we need candidates*  
we have 2 people interested

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- **Board of Assessment Appeals**
  - **Member – 2** *we need candidates*  
we have 1 person interested

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- **Zoning Board of Appeals**
  - **Member – 1** *we need candidates*  
we have 1 person interested
  - **Alternate Member – 1** *we need a candidate*

## **Message From State Senator Martha Marx (D 20<sup>th</sup> District)**

Dear Neighbor,

On Thursday, during a marathon Housing Committee meeting, I'm proud that we advanced Senate Bill 12, a priority bill for Senate Democrats seeking to improve housing availability and affordability in Connecticut. It includes provisions to use state bond sales to finance affordable housing projects, creating new units and new employment at once; investing millions in our rental assistance programs; finding answers regarding why more starter homes aren't being built, and much more. I'm excited to bring it out on the Senate floor as the legislative session continues.



### **Report: Medicaid Cuts Could Impact 1 Million+ Connecticut Residents**

A new report from CT Insider found that more than one million of Connecticut's poorest residents would lose at least some, if not all, access to health insurance, food stamps and early child education if the cuts to Medicaid approved by Republicans in national Congress supported by lawmakers in late February become law. Proposed cuts of more than \$1 trillion between Medicaid, early education and SNAP benefits could eliminate or reduce health coverage for more than 750,000 state residents, slash SNAP for nearly 400,000 people and remove 5,600 children from early education. What's worse, that change would likely shift significant tax increases to the state to even partially support full services.

### **Women's History Month**

March marks Women's History Month, a national celebration of the incredible inventions and advances our world has because of the tireless and vital work done by women. Recognized since 1978 and made a national week in 1980, this week is meant to support all women, from honoring those who have changed our world to empowering future generations to meet a future with equal rights and abilities. ([click here to learn more](#))

### **Red Cross Month**

March is Red Cross Month, honoring volunteers and donors who support blood donations and take important educational classes with the intent of helping others. Visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) to find ways to give financially, donate blood, volunteer, take safety classes and much more.

### **Problem Gambling Awareness Month**

As March Madness bubbles up in the world of college basketball, March is also home to Problem Gambling Awareness Month, increasing public awareness of problem gambling during a time when sports betting and gambling will be heavily advertised. A problem gambler continues to gamble to a degree that damages or compromises their family or personal life. The National Council on Problem Gambling has information available to anyone wishing to learn more, including how to raise awareness of the issue of problem gambling.

([click here for more information](#))

### **Check For Vehicle Recalls**

The state Department of Transportation and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration have teamed up to remind the public that they should regularly check the safety of their vehicle, especially during Vehicle Safety Recalls Week. There are more than 58 million vehicles nationwide and more than half a million in Connecticut with open recalls, including nearly 50,000 with unrepaired airbags that could be defective. Checking the safety of your vehicle is simple – visit [www.checktoprotect.org](http://www.checktoprotect.org) and enter your Vehicle Identification Number. Safety recall repairs are free at authorized dealerships.

### **Projected \$390 Million Surplus**

State Comptroller Sean Scanlon announced this week that Connecticut is projected to see a General Fund surplus of \$390 million and a Special Transportation Fund surplus of \$156.8 million. This is encouraging news because it means the state will still end the year in great financial shape. However, Scanlon also mentioned the federal government's actions in coming months will have a great impact on future numbers.

**[Message From State Senator Martha Marx \(continued from p 2\)](#)****[Salem Youth Little League Trivia Night](#)**

Salem Youth Little League will host a family friendly Trivia Night fundraiser on Saturday, March 22 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Gardner Lake Firehouse with food served through 7:30 p.m. IN addition to trivia, there will be a silent auction and concession stand. The event costs \$15 per person or \$100 for a team of 8.

[\(click here to register\)](#).

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](mailto:martha.marx@cga.ct.gov).

All the best,


**[Message From State Representative Nick Menapace \(D 37<sup>th</sup> District\)](#)**

Dear Neighbor,

Last week, we had a productive session, passing bills approving funding for special education, support for nonprofits, and strengthening our state's environmental plans. I am proud to have been one of the lawmakers who voted to advance these social and educational causes.

With that key legislation behind us, House Democrats look forward to passing more bills benefiting East Lyme, Montville, and Salem.

In this week's update, I go into detail on priority bills, including a push to expand childcare and my fight to protect our waterways from invasive species.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns you have about my work in Hartford and the changes you hope to see in our communities.

Sincerely,



Nick Menapace  
State Representative

**[Priority Bill 5003 Early Childhood Care and Education Fund](#)**

Affordable and accessible childcare is essential for Connecticut families and businesses to thrive. H.B. 5003, a top legislative priority for House Democrats this session, will expedite funding for families, attract and retain childcare educators, and enhance both new and existing childcare facilities.

This proposal builds upon Public Act 24-91, passed unanimously last year and signed by the Governor, establishing the Early Childhood Care and Education Fund. Investing in early childhood care and education produces better educational, health, social, and economic outcomes, driving increased revenue while reducing the need for costly spending.

Connecticut is home to approximately 181,000 children under five, with 73% of these young children receiving care outside the home while their parents' work.

## ***Message From State Representative Nick Menapace (D 37th District, continued from p 3)***

By providing targeted funding and expanding access to childcare, H.B. 5003 will put more money back into our economy by opening new opportunities for stay-at-home parents to re-enter the workforce. This is not just an investment in childcare—it is an investment in the children of Connecticut and the prosperity of our state.

### ***Done Deal: \$40 million in Funding for Special Education***

I'm proud to share that Governor Lamont and the legislature were able to agree on \$40 million in much-needed special education funding for schools across the state. East Lyme Public Schools will receive \$467,235, an increase of \$82,424. Salem schools will receive \$93,934, which includes a \$17,011 bump.

It's about investing in our students, not dismantling their future. I was proud to vote for this immediate relief.

### ***House Democrats Pass Vetrans' Property Tax Exemption***

In the House, we took action on tax relief for 100% permanently, and totally disabled Veterans.

The Vetrans' Property Tax Exemption clarifies how assessors apply the exemption for 100% permanently disabled veterans. Ensures those veterans pay no taxes on their residence. Allows the exemption to pass on to widowed spouse and /or next of kin.

### ***Community Funding***

House Democrats sent a clear message that we do not support Washington's war on diversity and its targeting of vulnerable populations. We treat people with respect and dignity - and legislate that way, too. House Democrats deliver critical community funding:

- Providing funding to Planned Parenthood for sexual and reproductive healthcare as well as sex education
- Helping organizations, and other displaced people through a range of services.
- Supporting organizations that provide services, support, and advocacy for LGBTQ+ community.

### ***In Support Of Sb641 An Act Establishing A Pilot Program For A Boat Washing Station At Gardner Lake In The Town Of Salem***

I testified at a public hearing last week in support of SB 641: An Act Establishing a Pilot Program for a Boat Washing Station at Gardner Lake in the Town of Salem. I am also a co-sponsor of this legislation that would reduce invasive plants carried on the hull, prop, and motor of boats in Gardner Lake in Salem. We're pushing for SB 641, which creates a pilot program for a boat washing station to help stop the spread of hydrilla and other invasive species. Protecting our lakes means protecting our environment, economy, and way of life. Let's take action now to preserve Connecticut's waters for future generations!



Senator Martha Marx and I held a press conference to address the growing hydrilla issue in Gardner Lake and Connecticut. This invasive species is harming our waterways and costing millions in cleanup and lost economic activity.

### ***CT State Police Scam Alert***

The Central District Major Crime (CDMC) Headquarters has received multiple reports from Connecticut residents about phone calls from unknown male callers claiming to be members of the Connecticut State Police (CSP) or the U.S. Marshal Services.

The scammers, who speak with a thick accent, tell the victims they are under investigation for "money laundering" and request personal information over the phone. The calls appear to be coming from 860-706-5652, which is the CDMC main landline. However, these calls are NOT made by CDMC, and it's believed to be a scam attempt.

While these scam attempts are being investigated, we want to inform the public that these calls are NOT from the Connecticut State Police. Please note that Troopers and Law Enforcement Agencies will never ask for money or personal information over the phone.

If you receive a call that claims to be from the police or any other government agency, DO NOT provide any personal information. Hang up immediately and verify the call by contacting the organization directly using an official phone number. If the call seems suspicious, report it immediately by calling 911.



## [Congratulations Salem School](#)

### Salem School Named A Finalist for Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) Elementary School of the Year



Earlier in February as part of the CAS Elementary School of the Year selection process, the Salem School had the honor of hosting a finalist site visit of an evaluation team made up of other school administrators.

Being recognized as one of two finalists in the state of Connecticut is a testament to the dedication and teamwork of the teachers, staff, students, families, administration, and the Salem Board of Education. This achievement highlights their shared commitment to fostering a thriving learning environment. Some important things to note are:

1. The teachers and staff members submitted the application not the Administration,
2. To be considered, the school must be able to **share evidence of the following best practices over the last two years:**
  - A strong commitment to promoting a safe and healthy school environment as well as active engagement of parents and the community in supporting student well-being and learning.
  - Implementation of a research-based curriculum aligned with educational standards, assessments, and strategies that lead to student success in meeting high academic standards.
  - Student services offered by the school that go beyond the typical and are reviewed and continuously improved to meet the evolving needs of its students.
  - Programs, policies, or practices that promote equity and inclusion among students, staff, and the broader school community and how they have positively impacted the school environment and student outcomes.
  - Personalization of the school environment.
  - Collaborative leadership and professional learning communities.
3. Part of the evaluation process included an on-site visit as mentioned above. The on-site peer visit included meetings with stakeholder focus groups, classroom observations and a full school tour. The above best practices must be **present, demonstrated, and observed**, during the on-site peer visit.
4. To be named one of the finalists for The CAS School of the Year Award backs up the results of the “Climate Surveys” of the parents, teachers, and students conducted by the school’s Administration.

## [Opinion](#)

### The Administration At The Salem School Must Be Doing Something Right

The Salem School was named a finalist for CAS Elementary School of the Year (second in CT, see article above), **“US News and World Report”** recently ranked Salem School 233<sup>rd</sup> of 551 of elementary schools in CT (top 42%) and 7<sup>th</sup> of 283 middle schools in CT (top 2%). (datum from [www.usnews.com/education/k12/articles/how-us-news-calculated-the-rankings](http://www.usnews.com/education/k12/articles/how-us-news-calculated-the-rankings)). Each year the Salem School conducts a Climate Survey by asking parents, staff and students to complete a survey assessing the climate or culture at the school. A review of responses to key questions from the School Climate Surveys conducted over the school years 2018-19 through 2023-24 and shows the climate trend is stable or improving.

**Some responses to some key survey questions from Parents were overwhelmingly positive and improving.**

- **Survey question Q1: “I feel comfortable sharing my thoughts and ideas at this school.”**  
Of the parents responding, 117 (84.2%) either **Strongly Agreed** or **Agreed** with the statement, up 17.4% from last year and down slightly (0.3%) from the responses given in 2018-19 school year. (number of parents responding: 2018-19 – 103, 2022-2023 – 193, 2023-24 – 140).
- **Survey question Q3: “I feel my child likes to come to school each day.”**  
Of the parents responding, 113 (80.7%) either **Strongly Agreed** or **Agreed** with the statement, up 11.3% from last year and up slightly (0.1%) from the responses given in 2018-19 school year. (number of parents responding: 2018-19 – 103, 2022-2023 – 200, 2023-24 – 143).
- **Survey question Q5: “I feel supported by the administration.”**  
Of the parents responding, 116 (84.1%) either Strongly Agreed or Agreed with the statement, up 15.5% from last year and up slightly (2.7%) from the responses given in 2018-19 school year. (number of parents responding: 2018-19 – 102, 2022-2023 – 189, 2023-24 – 140).

*Opinion (continued from p 5)*

Some responses to some key survey questions from Staff were positive and improving.

- **Survey question Q1: “The emotional climate of the school is positive and supportive.”**  
Of the staff responding, 39 (72.2%) either **Strongly Agreed** or **Agreed** with the statement, up 32.5% from last year and up slightly (0.8%) from the responses given in 2018-19 school year. (number of staff responding: 2018-19 – 21, 2022-2023 – 58, 2023-24 – 54).
- **Survey question Q2: “The emotional climate of the school is positive”**  
Of the staff responding, 36 (66.7%) either **Strongly Agreed** or **Agreed** with the statement, up 28.8% from last year and up 9.6% from the responses given in 2018-19 school year. (number of staff responding: 2018-19 – 21, 2022-2023 – 58, 2023-24 – 54).
- **Survey question Q6: “I feel comfortable going to at least one member of the administrative team if I have a problem.”**  
Of the staff responding, 42 (77.8%) either **Strongly Agreed** or **Agreed** with the statement, up 22.6% from last year and up 6.4% from the responses given in 2018-19 school year. (number of staff responding: 2018-19 – 21, 2022-2023 – 58, 2023-24 – 54).

Some responses to some key survey questions from Students were positive and stable or improving.

- **Survey question Q1: “Most of the time, this is the way I feel when I am coming to school in the morning.”**  
Of the students responding, 216 (91.5%) either felt **Happy** or **OK** with the statement, virtually unchanged (up 0.1%) from last year and down slightly (4.1%) from the responses given in 2018-19 school year. (number of students responding: 2018-19 – 160, 2022-2023 – 232, 2023-24 – 236).
- **Survey question Q4: “The adults in this building care about me.”**  
Of the students responding, 219 (93.2%) either felt **Happy** or **OK** with the statement, up 6.7% from last year and down slightly (3.0%) from the responses given in 2018-19 school year. (number of students responding: 2018-19 – 160, 2022-2023 – 232, 2023-24 – 236).
- **Survey question Q5: “There is at least one adult at school that I can go to for help when something is bothering me.”**  
Of the students responding, 212 (90.2%) responded **Yes** to the statement, up slightly (1.6%) from last year and down slightly (1.4%) from the responses given in 2018-19 school year. (number of students responding: 2018-19 – 154, 2022-2023 – 228, 2023-24 – 235).

The Student responses responses to the survey questions regarding feelings of safety were overwhelmingly positive and stable.

- **Survey question Q8: “This is how I feel in my classroom.”**  
Of the students responding, 212 (96.6%) responded **Very Safe** or **OK** to the statement, up slightly (0.9%) from last year and down slightly (2.1%) from the responses given in 2018-19 school year. (number of students responding: 2018-19 – 159, 2022-2023 – 237, 2023-24 – 239).
- **Survey question Q9: “This is how I feel on the bus.”**  
Of the students responding, 212 (93.8%) responded **Very Safe** or **OK** to the statement, up slightly (0.6%) from last year and up 6.0% from the responses given in 2018-19 school year. (number of students responding: 2018-19 – 156, 2022-2023 – 235, 2023-24 – 230).
- **Survey question Q9: “This is how I feel in the bathroom.”**  
Of the students responding, 216 (92.3%) responded **Very Safe** or **OK** to the statement, up slightly (0.5%) from last year and virtually unchanged (down 0.1%) from the responses given in 2018-19 school year. (number of students responding: 2018-19 – 159, 2022-2023 – 237, 2023-24 – 237).

There is always room for improvement and the drive for improvement should never stop, but the fact that the Salem School was named a finalist for CAS School of the Year, the school’s ranking compared to the other schools in CT, and the stable or improvement in the Climate Survey results did not happen by accident. The current Administration is doing something right and has the school going in the correct direction.

By: Gary Closius – Chairman – Salem DTC – March 9, 2025

**School Year 2025/2026 Budget Information**

At February 24<sup>th</sup> special Board of Education meeting, the BOE approved the 2025-2026 school year budget to present to the Board of Finance. The adopted budget reflects a 6.77% increase, slightly lower than the Superintendent's initial proposal of a 7.17% increase. This net reduction is due to adjustments in the following areas:

- East Lyme High School reconciliation, enrollment, and tuition,
- Custodial pay increase per the Memorandum of Understanding,
- Updated health insurance rates from the Connecticut State Employees Health Insurance administrator,
- Out-of-district special education programming needs,
- All other areas of the budget remain unchanged.

(click on the following link to view the Superintendent's Proposed Budget:

[https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1740686088/salemschoolsorg/t6qrqjxgiubf1d636g9r/BudgetBook\\_BOEAppd\\_Feb\\_25.pdf](https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1740686088/salemschoolsorg/t6qrqjxgiubf1d636g9r/BudgetBook_BOEAppd_Feb_25.pdf)

**Superintendent's Budget S/Y 2025-2026**

	Actual S/Y 2022-2023	Actual S/Y 2023-2024	Budget Approved S/Y 2024-2025	Budget Requested S/Y 2025-2026	\$ Difference S/Y 2025-2026 vs 2024-2025	% Difference S/Y 2025-2026 vs 2024-2025
Total for Salem School (Pre-K through Grade 8)	\$6,219,342	\$5,996,268	\$6,500,729	\$7,063,888	\$563,159	8.66%
Total for Salem School District Central Office	\$1,004,039	\$1,274,667	\$1,191,536	\$1,210,380	\$18,844	1.58%
Total for East Lyme High School Program	\$3,098,681	\$2,625,635	\$2,919,966	\$3,449,742	\$529,776	18.14%*
Total for Out of District Services	\$996,058	\$1,096,625	\$1,065,602	\$744,398	(\$321,204)	-30.14%**
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$11,318,120</b>	<b>\$10,993,195</b>	<b>\$11,677,833</b>	<b>\$12,468,408</b>	<b>\$790,575</b>	<b>6.77%</b>

**Key Highlights of the Superintendent's Budget**

**Key Highlights of the School Year 2025/2026 Budget**

**\* EAST LYME HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM**

**TUITION**

**Regular Education and Special Education:** Regular Education and Special Education: East Lyme High School tuition rates for 25-26 are \$18,841.38 for regular education, \$35,509.63 for special education. The regular education rate is a 12.62% increase over 24-25. The special education rate is an increase of 4.24% over 24-25. The anticipated regular education enrollment at East Lyme High School of Salem students for 25-26 is 122, a decrease of 2 students. Special education enrollment for known students, is anticipated to be 18 students, a decrease of 1 student.

**Reconciliation:** The adjusted amount of actual 23-24 East Lyme High School costs based on the reconciliation process as outlined in the Cooperative Agreement.

**TRANSPORTATION**

**Late Bus:** This item was cut from the budget for 17-18 and will not be reinstated in 25-26.

**Special Education/Alternative Education:** Transportation fees to and from regular or extended mandated services.

**% Bus Transportation and % Fuel Costs:** Fuel costs have been estimated at \$3.00/gallon for diesel and \$3.00/gallon for gas.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES**

Some students may require any or all of the following services in a given year: extended programs, evaluations and 1:1 aides. These are considered services beyond the basic tuitioned amount per the East Lyme/Salem Cooperative Agreement. Salem funds and provides these mandated services directly to our East Lyme High School students.

**\*\* OUT OF DISTRICT SERVICES**

**TUITION**

**Magnet School (K – 12):** We currently have students attending 6 different Magnet Schools. There will be 16 students at Magnet Schools in 25-26. 7 of those students will be in grades K-8.

**Lebanon Vo-Ag (Grades 9 – 12):** Anticipated tuition amount is for 5 students, based on anticipated enrollment.

**Tuition out-of-district Student Attending Salem:** Anticipate zero students attending Salem School from out of town.

**SPED Placements (Pre-K – Grade 12+):** Tuition costs are for 8 out-of-district placements for known students for a defined 10-month school year, this is a decrease of 4 students from 24-25 budget. \$58,466 in anticipated special education excess cost revenue has been

**School Year 2025/2026 Budget Information (continued from p 7)**

used to offset these expenses. The budget calculation for the line item is total tuition - \$401,498 less Special education excess cost estimate - \$58,466 equals line-item budget \$343,032.

**Extended Programs:** Costs are for those students requiring special education and attending out of district schools who require more than a standard 10-month program or an extended school day program during the summer. There are currently 6 students in these programs.

**TRANSPORTATION**

**Magnet School (K – 12):** Salem does not provide transportation for students attending Magnet Schools during the 24-25 school year.

**Vocational Schools (Grades 9 – 12):** Costs for transportation of high school students to Lebanon Vo-Ag, Grasso Tech, and Norwich Tech are included.

**Special Education:** Out-of-district transportation is provided for special needs students. Amount budgeted reflects transportation for the placements for 25-26.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES**

Costs are for those students requiring special education and attending out of district schools who require more than a standard 10-month program or an extended school day program during the summer. There are currently 6 students in these programs.

**Gun Violence – 2025 Statistics And Data**

2025	Mass Shootings	Deaths	Injuries
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>162</b>
January	23	27	103
February	17	26	59
March			
April			
May			
June			
July			
August			
September			
October			
November			
December			

\* Data current through February 28<sup>th</sup>

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

Shootings By State					
State	# Current Month	# Year To Date	State	# Current Month	# Year To Date
Alabama	0	1	Montana	0	0
Alaska	0	0	Nebraska	0	1
Arizona	1	2	Nevada	0	0
Arkansas	0	0	New Hampshire	0	0
California	1	4	New Jersey	0	0
Colorado	0	0	New Mexico	0	0
Connecticut	0	0	New York	0	1
Delaware	0	0	North Carolina	1	1
District of Columbia	0	1	North Dakota	0	0
Florida	2	3	Ohio	2	2
Georgia	2	2	Oklahoma	1	1
Hawaii	0	0	Oregon	1	1
Idaho	0	0	Pennsylvania	2	2
Illinois	0	1	Rhode Island	0	0
Indiana	0	1	South Carolina	0	0
Iowa	0	0	South Dakota	0	0
Kansas	0	0	Tennessee	0	2
Kentucky	0	0	Texas	1	5
Louisiana	0	3	Utah	0	0
Maine	0	0	Vermont	0	0
Maryland	0	1	Virginia	1	2
Massachusetts	0	0	Washington	0	0
Michigan	0	0	West Virginia	0	0
Minnesota	0	1	Wisconsin	0	0
Mississippi	0	0	Wyoming	1	1
Missouri	1	1			

Total deaths (all causes) in the U.S. due to gun violence\* 2,584\*\*

Total injuries (all causes) in the U.S. due to gun violence\* 4,204

\* Data through February 28<sup>th</sup> \*\* Totals not including suicide

<b>DARK BLUE:</b>	Democrats won the majority 4 times
<b>LIGHT BLUE:</b>	Democrats won the 3 times
<b>PURPLE:</b>	Democrats and Republicans each won twice
<b>LIGHT RED:</b>	Republicans won the 3 times
<b>DARK RED:</b>	Republicans won the 4 times





**Democrat Of The Month – Focus On Sue Spang**

Sue has lived in Salem for 36 years. She and her husband raised their two boys here in Salem, and both went to Salem School and East Lyme High School.

Her service to our town started in 2001 with an appointment to the Salem Recreation Commission. She was elected Chairman a year later and served in that capacity until 2017. During Sue’s time as Chairperson, she oversaw the installation of the Babe Ruth Field, Volunteer Park, the refurbishing of the Round Hill Road playscape and the creation of the tennis and basketball courts.



Sue considers her proudest accomplishment was as Chairperson of the Harris Brook Multipurpose Path. She personally wrote competitive grants which the town received over \$500,000 for planning, permitting and construction of the path and a community-built bridge over Harris Brook. The path is walked by hundreds of residents and with a spur to the school, this path also serves as cross country track for the school team and an emergency evacuation route from the school.

Over the years Sue has volunteered her time in several capacities such as, Emergency Management member, 2012, Plan of Conservation and Development member, and Open Space Committee Member. She has served as Municipal Agent for the Elderly where she proactively sought out training by TVCCA to do intake for heating assistance for our residents in need.

As Registrar of Voters, Sue and her counterpart transitioned from the old lever machines to the new electronic paper ballot machines.

Since 2017, she has been on the Board of Education, serving as Vice Chairperson of the BOE. Under Sue’s leadership as Chairperson of the BOE Personnel Committee, the committee completed the hiring of the Superintendent, Principal, Assistant Principal, and the Director of Special Services. During the last three contract negotiations the committee successfully settled contracts that were under the state average.

**Around Town**

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

• **Tax Collector\***

- The collection rate for January was 96.20%.
- Roughly 500 late notices were mailed out in the month of February.

• **Recreation Commission**

- See p 15 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 1	* Bozrah 3	* Bozrah 0	0	6
* EMS Calls 35	* Salem 28	* Colchester 0	0	10
* Hazmat Calls 0	* Colchester 4	* East Haddam 0	0	1
* Hazardous Conditions 3	* Lebanon 1	* Montville 0	0	0
* Service Calls 1	* Lyme 1	* Lebanon 0	0	1
* Cancelled Enroute 8	* East Haddam 1	* Lyme 1	1	1
* False Alarms 3	* Montville 6	* Oakdale 1	1	0
<b>TOTAL CALLS 51</b>	<b>TOTAL CALLS 44</b>	<b>TOTALS 2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19</b>

› **Total Calls by Station:**

* Station 27 (GLVFC)	19
* Station 21 (SVFC)	1
* Service Calls (Town of Salem)	<u>31</u>
<b>TOTAL CALLS</b>	<b>49</b>

› **Annual Fire Safety Inspections Completed in January:**

- \* 1 New London Rd. 17 occupancies

**Around Town** *(continued from p 9)*

• **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 **105** 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	8	17
* Criminal Investigations	5	14
* Burglaries	0	0
* Larcenies	0	0
* Nonreportable Matters	79	152
* Total Arrests	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>
<b>TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>224</b>

▸ **Motor Vehicle Enforcement:**

	<u>December</u>	<u>YTD</u>
* Onsite DUIs	0	0
* Arrests	0	1
* Misdemeanor Summons	0	0
* Infractions	6	19
* Written Warnings	4	10
* Verbal Warnings	<u>2</u>	<u>8</u>
<b>TOTAL TRAFFIC STOPS</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>37</b>

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

▸ **Library News:**

- The SFPL held two storytimes in February, with a total of 43 attendees.
- In March the Library will hold a Mini-Canvas Art Show. In February, the Library distributed 40 mini canvases for patrons to create art then bring for the art show.
- The Library distributed 36 take and make craft kits in January.
- The Library held a ***Pokemon*** Scavenger Hunt for the month of February. There were were 69 participants.
- On February 1<sup>st</sup>, in celebration of “*Take Your Child To The Library Day*”, Kim Hargrove from Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center gave a presentation on Birds of Prey. There were 46 participants.
- On February 8<sup>th</sup>, the Library hosted presenter Kevin Johnson from the CT State Library who held a portrayal of Jordan Freeman, an African American servant of John Ledyard and the body servant of Col. William Ledyard in the Revolutionary War. There were 20 participants.
- On February 13<sup>th</sup> the Library therapy dog Frankie visited the Library for children and adults. There were 9 participants.
- On February 22<sup>nd</sup> the Library held its second Taylor Swift program. Participants could make friendship bracelets, listen to music, and participate in trivia about all things Taylor Swift. There were 30 participants.
- 

▸ **Library Building And Collection:**

- New shelving funded with ARPA funds has been ordered for the Children’s Reading Room. The new shelving will provide more adequate shelving fot the larger picture books in this collection.
- ***The SFPL served 1,386 patrons and provided 59 patrons with technical help in January.***

See pp 13-14 for additional SFPL events.

**The Salem DTC Meeting Schedule – 2025**

**The Salem DTC 2025 Regular Monthly Meeting Schedule**

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| • <b>Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7:00 PM,</b><br>at the Center School | • <b>Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM,</b><br>at the Center School  | • <b>Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM,</b><br>at the Center School |
| • <b>Wednesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:00 PM,</b><br>at the Center School  | • <b>Wednesday, Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM,</b><br>at the Center School | <b>Wednesday, Sep. 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7:00 PM,</b><br>at the Center School   |

**Montville Animal Shelter**

**Montville Animal Shelter**

There were 5 dogs in the shelter. Two being flown to Florida to be reunited with their owners. The town of Montville is beginning prep work for the ground breaking ceremony for the new shelter. Plans are to break ground sometime in March.

There is a group being started called the **Montville Animal Welfare Initiative Inc.** A community group prioritizing Animal Welfare. You can see their posts on the Salem CT Town Group or visit their FB page at <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=montville%20animal%20welfare%20initiative>

Article by: *Rita Howell*

**Public Town Meetings For March/April**

**Meetings in April**

**Board of Finance,**  
Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM

**Board of Finance,**  
Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM

**Board of Education, Curriculum,**  
Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM

**Board of Selectmen,**  
Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> 7:00 PM

**Board of Education Long Range Education Planning,**  
Monday April 7<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 PM

**Board of Education,**  
Monday April 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM

**Library Board of Directors,**  
Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM

**Board of Finance,**  
Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM

**Recreation Commission,**  
Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM

**Board of Education, Policy**  
Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 5:00 PM

**Planning & Zoning Commission,**  
Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM

**Charter Revision Commission,**  
Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7:00

**Board Of Ed. Personnel/Contract Negotiations,**  
Monday April 7<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM

**Inland Wetlands & Conservation Commission,**  
Monday April 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM

**Planning & Zoning Commission,**  
Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM

**Board of Finance,**  
Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM

To view the Town Public Meeting Calendar, click on: [www.salemct.gov/calendar-by-event-type/16](http://www.salemct.gov/calendar-by-event-type/16)

**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

## [Community Help / Assistance \(continued from p 11\)](#)

### **THAMES VALLEY COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY ACTION (TVCCA)**

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.

#### **Some Key Assistance programs available from TVCCA:**

- **Energy Assistance: the current energy assistance season (2024/25) has begun:**

#### **Important Dates To Remember For The Current Energy Assistance Season:**

- **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/>.

Visit their website by clicking on [tvcca.org](http://tvcca.org) or [facebook.com/TVCCArsvp/](https://www.facebook.com/TVCCArsvp/).

Contact: Gina King Director, Senior Volunteer Services, at 860-425-6617 or e-mail: [gking@tvcca.org](mailto:gking@tvcca.org).

### **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/](http://careandshareofel.org/).

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

### **The Southeastern CT Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRA)**



SCRRA is the waste management and recycling authority for the 21 member municipalities of Bozrah, Colchester, East Haddam, East Lyme, Franklin, Griswold, Groton, Lebanon, Ledyard, Lisbon, Ledyard, Montville, New London, North Stonington, Norwich, Preston, Salem, Sterling, Sprague, Stonington, Voluntown, and Waterford. Any household from any participating community can go to ANY of the 9 Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection events. For more information & questions about collections please contact SCRRA at <https://www.scrarra.org/>, or phone 860-381-5558.

#### **2025 Household Hazardous Waste and Confidential Paper Shredding Schedule**

- **Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> – Stonington:** 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Stonington High School, 176 South Broad St.
- **Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – East Lyme:** 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, East Lyme High School, 30 Chesterfield Rd.
- **Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup> – Norwich:** 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Norwich Public Works, 50 Clinton Ave.
- **Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup> – Groton:** 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Fitch High School, 101 Groton Long Point Rd.
- **Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> – Waterford:** 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, at Waterford High School, 20 Rope Ferry Rd.
- **Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> – Montville:** 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Tyl Middle School, 166 Chesterfield Rd.
- **Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> – North Stonington:** 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Wheeler High School, 297 Norwich-Westerly Rd.
- **Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> – Griswold:** 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Griswold High Way Garage, 1148 Voluntown Rd. (Rt. 38).
- **Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> – Ledyard:** 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Ledyard High School 24 Gallup Hill Rd.



**Community News You Can Use** (continued from p 12)



**SCRRRA** (continued)

**ACCEPTABLE ITEMS**

**From the Shed & Garage**

- Kerosene
- Old Gasoline
- Radiator Chemicals
- Auto Body Chemicals
- Fuel Additives
- Car Battery Acid
- Camp Stove Fuel
- All Light Bulbs

**From the Lawn & Garden**

- Insecticides
- Pool Chemicals
- Herbicides
- Rat Poison
- Moth Balls
- Fungicides
- Weed Removal Chemicals
- And much more!!

**From the Basement & Bathroom**

- Latex & Oil Paint, Stains & Varnish
- Paint Thinner
- Drain Cleaners
- Photographic Chemicals
- Nail Polish Remover
- Oven Cleaners
- Toilet Bowl Cleaners
- All Home Batteries

**NOT ACCEPTED**

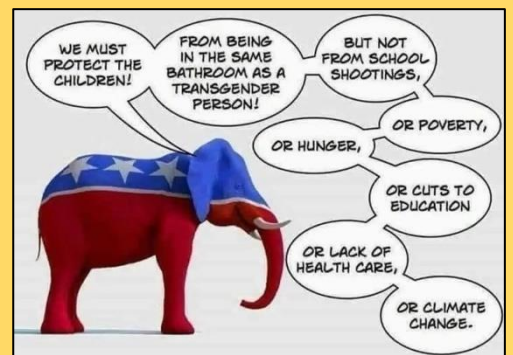
- Tires
- Ammunition / Gun Powder
- Auto & Marine Flares
- Radioactive Materials
- Large Barrels or Drums
- Commercial Qty's of Paint, etc.
- Businesses with large amounts of Paper Shredding

**Confidential Residential Paper Shredding**

- Tax Documents
- Financial Documents
- Financial Statements
- Personal Documents

**NOT ACCEPTED**

- News Papers
- Junk Mail
- Non-Sensitive Documents



**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](http://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 13)

**SALEM FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY** (continued)

• **Books In the Afternoon Book Club**

Thursday – March 27<sup>th</sup>, 1 PM. **“The Women”** by Kristan Hannah

**“The Women”** is the story of one woman sent to serve during the Vietnam War as a nurse, it shines a light on all women who put themselves in harm's way and whose sacrifice and commitment to their country has too often been forgotten. A novel about deep friendships and bold patriotism, **“The Women”** is a richly drawn story with a memorable heroine whose idealism and courage under fire will come to define an era.

**Adults over 18 are welcome. To join the group, e-mail Christine Murtha at: [murthachristine@yahoo.com](mailto:murthachristine@yahoo.com).**  
 Adults over 18 are welcome. To join the group, e-mail Christine Murtha at: [murthachristine@yahoo.com](mailto:murthachristine@yahoo.com).

• **Family Story Time**

**Wednesdays** March 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>  
 at 10:30 AM April 2<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 May 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>



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

• **Leprechaun Trap Kit**

Available beginning March 10<sup>th</sup>

Have you ever tried to catch a leprechaun?

Leprechauns are mischievous,  
 magical and hard to catch!

Reserve a leprechaun trap kit  
 to see if you have any luck!

All decorations are included in the kit.

We do have a limited supply  
 of boxes available if you need one!

Just ask at the circulation desk.

Call 860 859-1130 to reserve a kit  
 Suitable for ages 5-12

Sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Free Public Library



• **Make a Holiday Wreath**

Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup>  
 6:00 – 7:00 PM, ages 18+

Call 860 859-1130 to register

(Sponsored by a grant from the Chelsea Groton Foundation  
 & the Friends of Salem Free Public Library)



• **Bald Eagles**

Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 AM

Join Ginny Apple, Master Wildlife  
 Conservationist with the CT DEEP for a talk &  
 slide presentation about these magnificent birds  
 of prey and their contributions to our ecosystem.!

Call 860 859-1130 to register

Sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Free Public Library



• **Oreo Cookie Tasting**

Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Join us as we taste a variety of  
 Oreo cookies and vote on  
 which is our favorite!



Call 860 859-1130 to register

Sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Free Public Library

• **The History of Women in Superhero Comics**



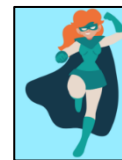
Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 11:00 AM



Join Sarah Hodge-Wetherbe as she  
 discusses the history of your favorite female  
 superhero comic book characters!

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

Sponsored by a grant from the  
 Chelsea Groton Foundation



• **Fairy “Faux” Terrariums**

Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Includes glass bowl, filler, faux plants  
 and miniatures.

Call 860 859-1130 to register

Limited to 20 participants, ages 7 – 18

(Sponsored by a grant from the Chelsea Groton Foundation  
 & the Friends of Salem Free Public Library)



• **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



**Community News You Can Use** (continued from p 14)

**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 1<sup>st</sup> to April 8<sup>th</sup>  
Salem School Multi-Purpose Room

Saturdays  
9:00 PM – 11:00 AM  
October 19<sup>th</sup> to April 5<sup>th</sup>

**VOLLEYBALL**



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

**BASKETBALL**



Tuesdays  
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM  
October 1<sup>st</sup> to April 8<sup>th</sup>  
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*

**6 Weeks**

**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.

**To Register:**

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

• **Yoga**

*Tuesday Evenings, 5:30 – 6:30 PM*

*March 11<sup>th</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup>*

**6 Classes**

**Salem Volunteer Fire Co.  
Fire House, 424 Hartford Rd.**

*Thursday Mornings, 10:00 – 11:00 AM*

**6 Classes**

**Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Co.  
Fire House, 429 Old Colchester Rd.**

**\$60 Residents, \$65 Non-Resident**

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

**To Register:**

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



• **Start Gathering Up Your Goodies For The Salem Recreation's Community **Tag Salem Day****

**Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 9 AM – 12 PM,**

**Rain Date: Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Location: Salem Community Park Pavilion, Residences and Businesses**

**Salem Recreation/ [recreation@salemct.gov](mailto:recreation@salemct.gov) / 860 859-3873 X 275 [salemct.gov/recreation](https://www.salemct.gov/recreation)**

**Got Sneakers**

The Salem Lions Club is collecting used sneakers as a fundraiser. The collected sneakers are then sent to **Got Sneakers**. SO, save those old used sneakers, the sneakers you grew out of, or the sneakers you just plain don't like anymore.

**ALL SIZES WELCOME!!!**

**Benefits:**

- Environmental Service Project: This will keep sneakers out of our landfills. Approximately. 3.5 million pairs of sneakers are recycled and reused.
- Poverty Service Project – 600 million people worldwide don't own a pair of shoes.

**Be on the lookout for the drop box to be setup at the library and a large "collection day" (date TBD) in the spring/summer months.**





**Community News You Can Use** *(continued from p 15)*

**Salem Lion’s Club 2025 Charity Comedy Night**

**Saturday March 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Co. Firehouse, 429 old Colchester Road, Salem.**

**FEATURING** Howie Mason and Linda Belt.

**Doors open at 6:00 PM / Snacks / Raffles / Cash Bar** featuring “Fox Farms Beer”, wine will also be available.

The money raised will go to support the Salem Lion’s Club Scholarship Fund.

**\$25 admission, Limited Tickets Available – Order Earley**

**May Contain Adult Content, No One Under 21 Admitted.**

To **ORDER TICKETS** (and drinks) paste the URL below into your browser:

**<https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/2025-salem-ct-lions-charity-comedy-show>** or scan the QR code

(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.)

If you have questions, contact the Comedy Show Committee via email at: **[salemctlionscomedy@gmail.com](mailto:salemctlionscomedy@gmail.com)**.



**SCAN ME**



**32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lion’s Easter Egg Hunt**

**Saturday, April 12, 2025, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM  
at the Salem School Gymnasium and Bingham Field**



**AGES:**            **Group 1** – Toddlers to Kindergarten            **Group 2** – Grades 1 & 2            **Group 3** – Grades 3 & 4  
**FREE to Salem youth – toddlers up to and including grade 4**

**EVENTS:**        **Easter Egg Hunt** – Kids scramble for candy and prize filled plastic Easter Eggs

**Egg Decorating Contest** – Bring your decorated egg to be judged, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes for all 3 age groups

**Easter Art/Pictures Contest** – Bring your own Easter artwork to be judged 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes for all 3 age groups

**Jelly Bean Race** – Run with a jelly bean on a spoon – Prizes for all winners



*Bring your Easter Baskets – Salem Families Welcome – Bring your camera in case the Easter Bunny hops by*  
**Sponsored by the Salem Recreation Commission and the Salem Lion’s Club**

**Volunteer Opportunities**

**FRIENDS OF THE SALEM FREE PUBLIC 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](http://gardnerlakevolunteerfirecompany.com/home).**



**Volunteer Opportunities** *(continued from p 16)***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](mailto: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](http://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.**

**CARE & SHARE**

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

**THE SALEM LAND TRUST**

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

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

**CEMETERY CLEAN-UP**

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

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

**Senior News**

The Salem Senior Citizen's Group (SSG) boasts a current enrolment of over 177 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:gclosius@sbcglobal.net), or call 860-961-9173, or Mary Cikat (Vice President): [mcikatz@yahoo.com](mailto: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](http://salemct.gov/salem-senior-citizens/pages/salem-seniors-group-newsletters) and click on the one you want.

# Salem DTC Members And Residents Making Their Voices Heard

## Rallie At The State Capital, Hartford, – February 17<sup>th</sup>



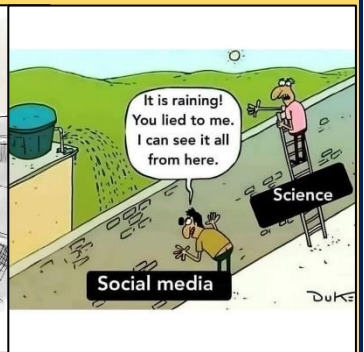
David & Elfy at the Capital in Hartford

## Rallie For Ukraine At The Courthouse, New London – March 4<sup>th</sup>

Diba at the Courthouse in New London



Diba and Sophie at the Courthouse in New London



### 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](mailto:gclosius@sbcglobal.net)

### Salem DTC Contact Information

Gary Closius – Chairman – [gclosius@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gclosius@sbcglobal.net)

Kay Zak – Vice Chairperson – [kayzak@hotmail.com](mailto:kayzak@hotmail.com)

Leslie Hotary – Secretary – [hotaryleslie@gmail.com](mailto:hotaryleslie@gmail.com)

Gary Closius – Newsletter Editor – [gclosius@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gclosius@sbcglobal.net)