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FYI SALEM

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From the Mayor's Desk



Dear Salem resident,

Thank you reading the latest issue of the FYI Salem newsletter!

October is on our doorstep, and with it our community's busiest time of year.

City officials, including public works, police, fire, licensing, and more, spend all year planning and preparing to help try to ensure a safe and manageable Halloween season for residents and visitors alike.

Despite the challenges that October can bring to our community, it's also a time that we can celebrate the Halloween spirit.

There is no shortage of events and activities happening throughout the month, includ-

ing many family-friendly programs.

If you live in Salem and you've never experienced the fun side of October, I hope you'll visit www.hauntedhappenings.org and discovering what makes our special city so magical.

Lastly, please be patient.

As a hip, historic city we are always happy to share this incredible place with guests.

They help support the small businesses, shops, and restaurants we get to enjoy the rest of the year thanks to the business they get in October.

They support the many hundreds of jobs and the additional city revenues that help keep Salem vibrant and mitigate the amount we need to raise in taxes from residents come budget time.

We work hard, as a City, to try to minimize and manage the traffic, parking, and noise challenges that October brings to our community—while recognizing that the flip side of that coin are the jobs, economic activity, and vibrancy that make Salem the unique city that it has come to be.

To be sure you stay informed about October impacts—including planned or unplanned road closures and similar traffic impacts—you can sign up for City News & Announcements at www.salemma.gov/subscribe, CodeRED reverse notifications at www.salemma.gov/codered, and download the My Salem MA app to get real-time push notifications.

You can also download the Destination Salem app, to find out about business hours, special deals, and much more.

As always, please feel free share this newsletter with others and encourage them to subscribe. This issues has lots of great information about the expansion of our Bluebikes public bike share program, public health updates about COVID and monkeypox, electronics waste collection day, an upcoming affordable housing lottery, the next installment of the Salem for All Ages Speaker Series, and September Salem Days at the Museum of Science.

Kim Driscoll
Mayor
City of Salem



Bluebikes Expansion

The City of Salem has announced the addition of seven new Bluebikes stations, expanding access beyond the eight stations that were originally introduced when Metro Boston's public bikeshare system first entered Salem in 2021. The new stations, including one at Salem State University's North Campus, offer more opportunity for residents, students, workers, and visitors to experience the healthy, fun, and sustainable way of traveling via Bluebikes.

"Expanding access to Bluebikes in Salem helps further connect our city and make more neighborhoods and destinations reachable by bike," said Mayor Driscoll. "With fifteen total stations now located throughout Salem, our residents, students, workers, and visitors have more access to this healthy, fun, and sustainable way of traveling – while also reducing our city's reliance on passenger vehicles and their associated climate and congestion impacts. The launch of Bluebikes in 2021 was a huge success, thanks to Blue Cross, Salem State University and our local program partners, all of whom made it an easy and seamless process to expand the number of stations in our city."

The expansion of Bluebikes was made possible by a combination of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and other city funding and support from Blue Cross and Salem State University. With seven new stations, approximately 44 new bikes have been added throughout the city. The new stations are at the locations listed below:

- Salem State University - North Campus
- Essex St at Dalton Parkway
- Forest River Park
- Salem MBTA - Lower Level
- Community Life Center
- Goodhue St at Grove St
- North St at Liberty Hill Ave

To see a full Bluebikes station map – including all stations in Salem – please visit member.bluebikes.com/map.

Riders can purchase annual Bluebikes memberships – which include unlimited 45-minute rides—for \$119 a year or \$26.75 for 30 days. A discount program, where annual passes are \$50 and 30-day passes are available for \$5, is available for residents with eligible incomes. For more information on Bluebikes visit www.bluebikes.com.

COVID Testing

The City of Salem has additional free rapid antigen COVID-19 tests available for at-home use. Any Salem resident or individual who works in Salem is eligible to pick up three boxes of tests (two tests per box) from the Health Department offices, 98 Washington Street 3rd floor, Mondays-Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Thursdays 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. as long as supplies last.



The Curative COVID-19 testing site in Riley Plaza now offers real time rapid PCR testing (self-pay, \$135); sign up online at www.curative.com. Real time rapid PCR is only available from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Mondays to Fridays and Saturdays from 9:00 to noon. Unlike with regular PCR testing, in which results are returned within 24-48 hours, rapid PCR results are generated immediately. These tests are useful when the higher sensitivity of a PCR test is necessary, but you need your results sooner than 24-48 hours.



FREE MONKEYPOX VACCINES

Eligibility restrictions apply

Monday, September 19th, 2022
401 Bridge St, Salem MA 01970

Scan the QR code to see if you are eligible to schedule an appointment or visit us at www.healthinnovationsinc.com.



Monkeypox Vaccines

The Salem Board of Health, in partnership with Health Innovations, will hold a free monkeypox vaccine clinic at the Mayor Jean Levesque Community Life Center, 401 Bridge Street in Salem on September 19th. Eligibility restrictions apply.

To find out if you're eligible and schedule an appointment, visit www.healthinnovationsinc.com.

E-Waste Collection

Salem residents & property owners (with ID or tax bill) can recycle e-waste on the last Saturday of the quarter at Salem High School. Please stay in your vehicle the whole time and have your items ready to unload in your trunk, truck bed or hatchback – items will not be unloaded from car seats. Please have your cash or check (payable to RMG Enterprise) ready. Recycling anything with a plug: \$20 for each TV or monitor, each Freon appliance (fridge, AC, freezer, dehumidifier), and each piece of exercise equipment (treadmills, bikes, ellipticals etc.). All other electronics FREE: computer tower, laptop, tablet, cell phone, small appliances, household electronics, printer, fax, VCR, CD player, etc.

Please NO commercial drop offs or white goods (including washers, dryers, stoves). Call Waste Management at 800-972-4545 to schedule a free white good curbside pick-up. E-items containing mercury, along with CFL bulbs, can be brought to Salem DPS, 5 Jefferson Ave., during City business hours. For more info, call 978-619-5672.

Affordable Housing Lottery



The lottery is now open for The Lighthouses, the North Shore Community Development Coalition's (NSCDC) newest affordable housing development in the Point neighborhood in Salem. The Lighthouses consist of two buildings containing 46 affordable homes, including studio, one-, two-, and three-bedroom apartments. These apartments are for residents who earn below 30% and 60% of the area median income.

Lighthouse 47, located on the corner of Leavitt Street and Congress Street, will be home to 25 affordable apartments for families, as well as The Salem Pantry's first storefront location, which has been made possible thanks to funding from the City of Salem's federal American Rescue Plan Act allocation. Lighthouse 34, located on Peabody Street, will create a pathway access between Ward Street and Peabody Street, contain a gallery, and consist of 21 affordable homes. The Lighthouses is NSCDC's second Passive House development and their first in Salem.

The project is made possible with funding from a City of Salem Community Preservation Act grant and the City's federal HOMES funding allocation. For more information about the Lighthouses and to apply for the lottery for a unit, please visit www.livethelighthouses.com.

MAYOR JEAN A. LEVESQUE COMMUNITY LIFE CENTER

Speaker Series

9/27: Because none of us lives forever, "Decision Day," says Norene Comito Gachignard, is a discussion we MUST have with our family sooner rather than later.

10/4: John D. Keenan, President of Salem State University, will discuss the future of higher education and the role of SSU.

10/11: Join award-winning local poet January Gil O'Neill as she reads from her work and discusses how poetry is created from our daily lives.

These are live, in-person events. Admission is free but seating is limited- so please register in advance at salemforallages.org. We are happy to announce that we can welcome attendees (age 21+) with a complimentary glass of wine.

Salem for All Ages
salemforallages.org

7:00pm-8:00pm
Levesque Community Life Center
401 Bridge Street, Salem, MA 01970

September Salem Days

During the month of September, residents of Salem, MA with proof of residence (driver's license, school ID, etc.) may explore the Museum of Science for FREE, thanks to the generous funding by the Read Family Charitable Trust. In addition to free entry to the Exhibit Halls, Salem residents will also be able to see Planetarium and Omni Theater shows for free during their visit. Additionally, groups visiting the Museum on either Saturday, September 10 or Saturday, September 24, will receive a food voucher for use in the Museum's café that day. This is the ninth year of this remarkably successful and unique program, and we hope that you can take advantage of this opportunity to visit the Museum and experience the many new and iconic exhibits, shows, and programs offered daily.

Find more details and an FAQ at www.salemma.gov/home/news/september-salem-days-museum-science.



Museum of Science®