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**INSIDE
THIS ISSUE**

Budget Award	2
Race Equity Commission	2
Salem for All Ages Speakers	3
Housing Stability Service	4
Artists Row Launch	5
Boosted is Best	6

FYI SALEM

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APRIL 28, 2022

From the Mayor's Desk



Dear Salem resident,

This week Regina Zaragoza Frey joined the City as its first ever Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). Regina comes to Salem from Colorado, where she was the Manager for Inclusiveness and Equity for Thorne Nature Experience, one of the state's first and largest environmental education organizations.

Prior to that she was the Volunteer Manager for the "I Have a Dream" Foundation of Boulder County and a Bilingual Emergency Response Specialist and Legal Advocate for the Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence, where she provided victim advocacy and support to survivors of domestic violence in times of crisis.

In the Boulder community Regina served on the Board of the Boulder Chamber of Commerce and continues to be a part of their DEI Committee. She was also a founding member of Boulder County's LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce. Fluent in English and Spanish, as well as highly proficient in French, Regina holds a Master of Law in Ethics and Compliance from the University of Colorado.

In addition to advancing the recommendations and groundwork outlined by the Race Equity Task Force's recent report Regina will help us strengthen our hiring, retention, and training practices, examine policies and projects through an equity lens, and galvanize the forthcoming Race Equity Commission.

There is a lot to do, but I'm confident that, working collaboratively with one another, we can move this important effort forward and that Regina will be a singular, insightful, and important leader in that mission. You can find out more about race equity work here in Salem at <https://raceequitysalem.org>.

As a reminder, it's still important to get vaccinated and boosted with the COVID-19 vaccine. In addition, familiarize yourself with

the treatment options available to you through your healthcare provider and your local pharmacy, should you become symptomatic and sick with this dangerous virus.

COVID-19 is still with us, and wastewater test data and positive case counts have moderately increased again in recent weeks. While we're certainly not facing a spike like we saw when Omicron emerged, the numbers are still going up—and we all have a role to play in order to help slow its spread and protect one another.

You can find COVID data for Salem at www.salemma.gov/covid and links to vaccination locations at www.salemma.gov/vaccine.

I'd like to close with an expression of sympathy to the family of Mollie Gill, who passed away on Sunday. Mollie volunteered in my office here at City Hall for a number of years before the pandemic. She was a kind, diligent, and generous person and she will be missed by us all.

Thank you, as always, for reading FYI Salem.

Kim Driscoll
Mayor, City of Salem

Budget Award

The City of Salem has received its fourteenth Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), a nation-wide nonprofit organization. The award is the only national awards program for governmental budgets. The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the GFOA reflects the City's commitment to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the award, the City had to meet or exceed nationally recognized guidelines for an effective budget presentation.



"I'm very pleased that we have once again earned this recognition and distinction from the GFOA, a nation-wide public finance watch-dog organization," said Mayor Kim Driscoll. "We have consistently delivered transparent and informative budgets, based on real costs, carefully developed financial forecasts, and best practices in municipal governance. This award is reflective of the diligent work that goes into Salem's budget and our financial practices, and it is a credit to the professional staff in our Finance Department."

The GFOA guidelines are designed to assess how well a municipality's budget serve as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications device. GFOA advances excellence in government finance by providing best practices, professional development, resources and practical research for more than 21,000 members and the communities they serve.

Race Equity Commission



The City of Salem is seeking applicants to volunteer to serve on the new Race Equity Commission, a board formed at the recommendation of the City's recent Race Equity Task Force. There are four seats open to Salem residents, each serving for a three-year term and subject to appointment by the Mayor and confirmation by the City Council.

The Commission has the following six charges: (1) Implementing the Race Equity Action Plan and updating the plan as needed. (2) Advising departments and officials to ensure programs, policies, budgets, and other ordinances are developed in a manner that avoid and reduce systemic racism and bias. (3) Developing and proposing new initiatives, programs, and policies to reduce systemic racism in Salem. (4) Designing and carrying out hiring and recruitment programs for the City and advising on employee training and retention programs all intended to increase the diversity of City workforce and the cultural competency of City employees. (5) Supporting and guiding community organizations, businesses, nonprofits, and other Salem entities as they work to improve racial equity in the community. (6) Seeking grants and other sources of support and funding to carry out the Commission's work.

"The work before the Commission is exceptionally important and urgent," said Mayor Kim Driscoll. "I encourage all Salem residents who believe they may be able to contribute constructively and positively to this effort to submit their application for consideration."

Those interested in applying for the Commission should submit a current resume and brief statement summarizing why they are interested in the appointment to Dominick Pangallo, Chief of Staff in the Mayor's Office, at

dpangallo@salem.com.

MAYOR JEAN A.
LEVESQUE COMMUNITY
LIFE CENTER

Speaker Series

4/26: An Evening of Storytelling with Mayor Kim Driscoll, Lucy Corchado, and Jim McAllister

5/3: Public Health during a Global Pandemic with David Greenbaum and Dr. Jeremy Schiller

5/10: Moving Forward at the House of the Seven Gables with Executive Director Kara McLaughlin

5/24: Malcolm Miller (1930-2014): Salem's Eccentric Poet

5/31: Chalk Talk with the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Stephen Zrike

6/7: History of Enslaved People of Massachusetts with Vijay Joyce

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

**Salem for
All Ages**
salemforallages.org

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



Free Housing Information & Resources for Salem Landlords & Tenants

Información y recursos de vivienda gratuitos para propietarios e inquilinos de Salem

Drop-In Hours ~ Horario de atención

Community Life Center/Centro de Vida Comunitaria (CLC) – 401 Bridge Street
Espacio – 105 Congress Street

APRIL

Wednesday	Thursday
6 Espacio 9am-2pm	7
13	14 CLC 3pm-7pm
20	21 Espacio 3pm-7pm
27 CLC 9am-2pm	28

MAY

Wednesday	Thursday
4 Espacio 9am-2pm	5
11	12 CLC 3pm-7pm
18	19 Espacio 3pm-7pm
25 CLC 9am-2pm	26

Housing Stability
Webpage/Página web de
estabilidad de vivienda:

www.salemhousinginfo.com

Housing Stability Hotline/Línea Directa de Estabilidad
de Vivienda: (978) 500-0973

Live answer Wednesdays 9am-2pm & Thursdays 3-7pm/
 Respuesta en vivo los miércoles 9am-2pm y los jueves 3-7pm. Or leave a message/o deje un mensaje.

This program is funded by the City of Salem Department of Planning & Community Development, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development. In the provision of our services, we do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or gender identity, age, religion, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, ancestry, public assistance, veteran history/military status, genetic information or disability.



Essex County
Bar Association



City of Salem, MA

Artists Row Launch

On April 30th and May 1st Artists' Row will come alive with FREE activities for all ages. Starting at 10am meet local artists, see them in their natural habitat, participate in free hands-on art making activities, sign up for workshops, listen to some live tunes, grab a bite to eat and even do a bit of shopping.

Throughout the weekend ShinDig will offer free make your own button workshops, a makers grab bag table, and an array of upcycled lovable oddities. Chagall PAC will host a variety of activities from artist Sadie Nadeau, of Sadie's Beads, will host a FREE make-your-own-earrings beading workshop from 2-4pm; to Dennis Shafer's sound painting workshop from 4-6pm; and an outdoor performance by Annie and the Fur Trappers filling the Row with music from 3-5pm. Later that evening Dennis will be joined by fellow ChagallPAC director Diana Norma, in their Interactive Poetry and Performance Workshop from 6-8 pm at CultureHouse Salem, located in Old Town Hall. Festivities on Artists' Row will continue Sunday, May 1st, with the ChagallPAC student recital at 12pm as well as a return of Sadie's Beads, ShinDig's, and Maia Mattson's wonderful hands-on workshops.

ChagallPAC offers up an eclectic array of handcrafted jewelry, fiber arts, poetry books, painting and so much more at their booth so passerby can get a taste of all this amazing collective of artists has to offer. ChagallPAC is a community of artists committed to collaborating across disciplines and exploring the ways we experience art. We believe art is never the same in any given moment, but rather evolving and continually being shaped by the imaginations of those who come into contact with it. We create performances that involve audience participation and expand to the newest reaches of contemporary performance art. Open Saturdays & Sundays 10am-6pm and starting April 30th, the shop will be open weekdays 12-6pm and weekends 10am-6pm. Visitors can also enjoy live music outside every Friday and Saturday night throughout the summer. chagallpac.com.

Beverly Bees will have experts available to answer your honeybee questions, an observation hive for visitors to view honeybees at work as well as a variety of hand made locally harvested beeswax candles and skincare. Watch them make beeswax candles and purchase some raw local honey from Beverly Bees' hives. Learn about bees, beekeeping, bee removal, how to help save bees and so much more. You can even view live bees in the shop's observation hive as a fun bonus! They are currently open Wednesdays-Fridays 11am-6pm, Saturdays 10am-6pm and Sundays 12pm-6pm. beverlybees.com.

Shindig!, along with visiting artists from TRIANGLE, will be setting up an expanded version of their shop including more up-cycled, artist-embellished oddities, antiques, one of a kind fashion, patches, pins and more. Shindig! is all about fun! Inspired by pop culture and design, Shindig! creates and collects fun and unique jewelry, art, clothing, and other things you might not be able to live without. Family owned and operated, Shindig! is a small operation that's dedicated to creating cool things with as little waste as possible. Open 6 days a week 12:00-6:00pm, closed Tuesdays. shindigstudios.com

Maia Mattson, the new Salem Public Artist in Residence on Artists' Row, is a multidisciplinary artist specializing in botanical installations made from locally grown and foraged plants as her primary medium. As Salem's 2022 Public Artist in Residence, Maia will facilitate monthly nature-based art making workshops that will explore the many connections between nature, art, and human impact. The series will culminate in a community activated garden tour of the city. Learn more about the project and upcoming workshops on Instagram @stixsense.

In addition to the above, the longtime Salem favorite **The Lobster Shanty** is now open from Noon until Midnight seven days a week for both dine-in and take out service. Live entertainment resumes this year on Saturday evenings and outdoor seating is always available along with a new expanded menu! lobstershantysalem.com.



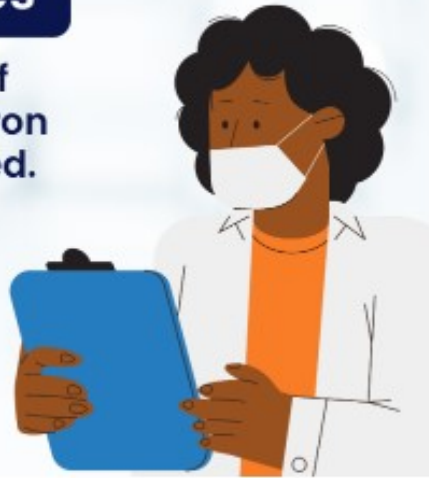
COVID-19 Booster Doses

The best way to protect yourself from COVID-19, including Omicron is to get vaccinated and boosted.

Who? Everyone ages 12 and older should get a booster.

When? At least 5 months after your second Pfizer or Moderna shot, or 2 months after Johnson & Johnson.

As of 1/5/2022



COVID-19 Booster Doses

Adolescents age 12 and older are now eligible to get a booster, 5 months after their second Pfizer shot.

As of 1/05/2021



COVID-19 Booster Doses

Adults age 50 and older and some immunocompromised individuals are now eligible to get a second booster, at least 4 months after their first booster.

As of 3/29/2022

