

NEW SALEM NEWS – March Newsletter

March 2	Teens and Tweens at the Library
March 3	Parent/Family Workshop - <i>No Senseless Behavior</i> - at Library
March 9	Teens and Tweens at the Library
March 9	Reading Aloud for Grownups at the Library
March 10	Memoir Writing Class at the Library
March 11	Council on Aging Luncheon
March 11	Last Day to Obtain Nomination Papers
March 12	Lego Club at the Library
March 14	Last Day to Submit Papers to Registrars of Voters for Certification
March 16	Teens and Tweens at the Library
March 17	Memoir Writing Class at the Library
March 22	Presentation on Tomato Growing
March 23	Teens and Tweens at the Library
March 24	Memoir Writing Class at the Library
March 26	1 st Annual 5K and Pancake Breakfast at Swift River School
March 26	Prayer Shawl Ministry at the Stowell Building
March 28	Last Day to File Nomination Papers with Town Clerk
March 31	<i>Weird Massachusetts</i> Program at the Library
March 31	Memoir Writing Class at the Library

1st Annual 5K and Pancake Breakfast at Swift River School

The Swift River School's Student Council is holding its 1st Annual 5K and Pancake Breakfast - *The Pancake Run* - at the Swift River School at 9:00 am on Saturday, March 26th. This event is a fundraiser for the Council's newly established *Enchanted Forest Scholarship Fund*. The Enchanted Forest offers wonderful programs and activities during before and after school hours for children in its care. This fund will allow eligible students, who otherwise might have trouble attending the Enchanted Forest's special activities and programs, to come free of charge. The 5K will start promptly at 9:00 am. for a \$1 donation (or participants may enjoy the fun run/walk for free). Participants can attend the special pancake breakfast is \$3 for children and \$5 for adults. There will also be two special prize baskets raffled off at the breakfast, *Spring Vacation* and *Healthy, Active Fun!* Raffle tickets will be for sale from any Student Council member or at the main office at Swift River School. Please come and enjoy a wonderful 5K on Wendell Road, as well as a delicious breakfast to support the children of our community. See you there!

Town-wide Tag Sale Registration Form Available

It's that time of year again! Spring will be coming and with it the New Salem Town-Wide Tag Sale! Those of us who have been in it before, I'm sure, have already started piling things out that we never use, ready to mark and haul down to the Common on Saturday, May 7th! People are cleaning attics, basements and just downsizing in general - have **you** started sorting stuff out? It isn't too late to start sorting, and it is time to register, using the attached form, or by sending the information on the form to Lynn

Layton at c.lynn.layton@gmail.com, or calling 978-544-7892. The Tag Sale runs from 8 am - 2 pm. The \$15 fee covers all advertising and gets you a spot on the Common. Rain date is Sunday, May 8th. If you have friends in nearby towns who would like to join this event, they are welcome to contact me after April 1 to see if we have space, so let them know!

Old Home Day Committee Announces Theme for 2016

The theme of this year's Old Home Day on Saturday, July 16th, will be *New Salem Salutes Volunteers!* The Committee would like to pay tribute to all the present and past volunteers who have helped our town function. If anyone would like to help plan the event or volunteer to help out on the day of the event, please contact Janet Henderson at 544-3410 or janbo25h@aol.com or Jane Clukay at 544-2660 or janeklukay@hotmail.com.

New Salem Library News

Toddler & Pre-Schooler Reading Time: At 10:30-11:30 on the following Thursdays, March 3, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st, there will be a Toddler and Pre-Schooler Reading Time. Monica Winters will read on March 3rd. Snacks will be provided.

Lego Club: The Lego Club will be on Saturday, March 12 from 12:30-2:00 pm.

Teens and Tweens: Dress Making 101. That's right, we're making dresses. Want to make a 3-D object? Come try out our new 3-D Pens! Deconstruct It. Maybe you'd prefer taking things apart? Some electronics? Cameras? How does that work? **Free** snacks, computers, games, movies, all **free** - only for 11 to 18 year olds from any town. Every Wednesday afternoon, 1:30 to 5:30 pm. Call 978-544-6334 for more info!

Coming in April: At 7:00 pm on Wednesday, April 6th, Celebrating the Season will present *New England Folklore & Songs of Farm and Sea* with Parents' Choice Award Winner singer and storyteller, Davis Bates. Sponsored by a grant from the New Salem Cultural Council.

Memoir Writing Class: On the following Thursdays, March 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st, and April 7th, there will be Memoir Writing Class at the library. This program is free for New Salem residents. To register, please call Ruth Flohr who is leading the class at 413-367-0127. You may also register at the New Salem Public Library. This program is supported by a grant from the New Salem Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Book Discussion Group: The April 7th Book Discussion is postponed until a date to be announced later. The next book being read, *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie is available at the Library.

Friends of The New Salem Public Library News

Reading Aloud for Grownups: On March 9th, Dee Waterman and Richard Trousdell will be reading at 7:30 pm. Wine and cheese will be offered this year as well as the usual goodies and coffee and tea. Donations happily accepted. Snow date will be one week later.

Weird Massachusetts Program: On Thursday, March 31st, the Friends of The New Salem Public Library is presenting *Weird Massachusetts* featuring Jeff Boulanger. The program will be held at the **Swift River School** at 7:00 pm

Council on Aging News

Lunch: On Friday, March 11th, we will meet at 10:00 for bingo and visiting at the Stowell Building. The Council will contribute soup and muffins and dessert for lunch at noon. There will be no charge for this luncheon. Please contact Hendra Reidy (978-544-2178) to sign up. The snow date will be the following Friday.

Reading to Preschoolers: Reading to Preschoolers is very rewarding. They all love books and individual attention. New Salem Library is starting a program for Pre-schoolers. If you would be interested in reading to little ones once in a while, please contact the library. The schedule would fit your availability.

June Bus Trip: On Thursday, June 9th, we will be taking a bus trip with Wilson Bus Lines to the Ogunquit Playhouse in Maine to see the show *Let It Be*, the story of the career of the English rock band, The Beatles. The New Salem Academy has again given us a generous grant to make this trip affordable. The cost will be \$25 per person. Lunch will be at Warren's Lobster House. People will be asked to choose one of the following: Seafood Newburg, Ritz Fillet of Haddock, Crab-Crusted Salmon, Top Sirloin Steak, Chicken Parmesan, or a vegetarian meal. Lunch also includes their vast salad bar! Please call Hendra to sign up as soon as possible as the trip will fill quickly and we are limited to 30 passengers.

Busy B's: Busy B's continue to meet on Wednesdays from 1:00-3:00 pm in the Stowell Building. Bring you project, mending, or just a tea cup. If the weather does not look good, we may not meet. You can call Judy Jewett (978-544-2216) to be sure.

New Salem Agricultural Commission News

On Tuesday, March 22 at 7:00 pm at the New Salem Library, Orange native Fred Swedler will teach us about all things tomatoes! Learn how to start seeds, which varieties to grow, the best methods for fertilizing, pruning and staking.

New Salem Community Garden Update

The Community Garden is planning our first meeting of the year which will be held in April. If you are interested in planting this year with us in the community garden, let Sandy know at sspiewak20@yahoo.com or 413-219-4458. Plots are \$10-15. Also, as you view your own yard and garden, please remember our Old Home Day plant sale. I would love to come to your home and divide your perennials with you for donations towards our fund raising efforts. Please contact Sandy at 413-219-4458 if you have a garden needing some reorganization! Thank you! Happy planning!

Prayer Shawl Ministry of New Salem

Please join the Prayer Shawl Ministry of New Salem. The shawls that are made are donated with love and blessings to lift up members of our community. These people may be undergoing medical procedures; need comfort after a loss or in times of stress; during an illness or recovery or for a variety of other reasons. There are several ways in which you can take part in the prayer shawl ministry.

You can:

- make and donate a handmade shawl (crocheted or knitted)
- donate money to buy yarn

- donate yarn
- make cards that are attached to the shawl
- make labels with care instructions
- you can also let the ministry know of a person who might benefit from receiving a shawl

We gather in the Stowell Building from 9:00-11:00 am on 4th Friday morning of the month. This month it will be on March 26th. If there is a snow storm, the meeting will likely be cancelled. For more information about the Prayer Shawl Ministry:

<http://www.shawlministry.com>

Free Parent/Family Workshop at Swift River School

Jeanine Fitzgerald presents *No Senseless Behavior* Thursday, March 3rd at Swift River School 6:00-8:00. Free childcare and dinner with pre-registration.

Challenging behaviors are not just a reflection of some emotional or social disturbance in a child. They are a symptom of an unsolved problem, often related to unmet needs or a lack of skills and resources. Therefore, we must focus on what a child needs, instead of what an adult or system demands. It is time we move beyond tradition and see challenging behavior as an opportunity to teach alternative ways to get authentic needs met. This session helps us do just that.

Jeanine Fitzgerald, M.A. is a Certified Human Behavior Consultant, and a national speaker in the areas of program assessment, program development, supervision, family-focused interventions, child development services, parent support groups and training, as well as professional development seminars.

Free Home-Visiting Program

Talk, Read & Play is a **free** home-visiting program for families with children two years old and younger who live in New Salem, Wendell, Shutesbury, Leverett and Erving. Help build the foundation for your child's learning. Participants will receive free books, toys and learning materials. When children talk, read and play, they build skills that prepare them for a lifetime of success. To participate in this **free** program or have questions call 978-544-5157. Find flyer and more details at the Community Network for Children's website at:

<https://sites.google.com/site/communitynetworkforchildren/programs-and-events>

TOWN NOTICES

Town Offices Up for Election

The following town offices are up for election at this year's annual town election in 2016:

Selectboard	3 year term
Board of Health	3 year term
Town Clerk	3 year term
Moderator	3 year term
Constable	3 year term
Assessor	3 year term
Assessor	1 year term (to fill vacancy)

Planning Board	5 year term
Planning Board	2 year term (to fill vacancy)
School Committee	3 year term
School Committee	3 year term
School Committee	1 year term (to fill vacancy)
Library Trustee	3 year term
Library Trustee	1 year term (to fill vacancy)

If you are seeking election, nomination papers are available from this office. The required number of signatures to be an official candidate included on the ballot is 20, however it's always wise to have a few extras should there be difficulty verifying any signatures.

The important dates for this year's annual election on Monday, May 2nd are:

Last day to obtain nomination papers, Friday March 11th,

Last day to submit papers to registrars of voters for certification, Monday, March 14th,

Last day to file nomination papers with town clerk, Monday, March 28th, and

Last day to register to vote, Tuesday, April 12th.

Please don't hesitate to call or email Stacy Senflug, New Salem Town Clerk, if you have any questions. The Town Clerk's office hours are Mondays 6:00-9:00 pm and by appointment if necessary.

Board of Assessors Position

The Board of Assessors is seeking a replacement for the pending retirement of chair, Phyllis Stever, who has served for ten years. The board meets twice monthly (2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm.) through most of the year and meetings are normally under two hours in length. There is a stipend for board members. Please call our office at 978-544-5814, if you are a town resident and are interested in joining the board. Potential candidates would meet with the current Board and, upon their recommendation, be appointed by the Selectboard. When the member's term is expired, they must be elected. Current members of the Board of Assessors as of this date are Eric Hamm (chair) and Phyllis Stever.

Personnel Committee

Due to a recent resignation, the Personnel Committee is looking for a new member.

Contact Nancy Aldrich at 978-544-6437 if you are interested.

Website Committee

The New Salem Website committee is down to two active members and needs additional volunteers. Please contact Mary-Ellen Kennedy at 978-821-2597 or Nancy Aldrich at 978-544-6437 if you are interested.

Energy Committee

The New Salem Energy Committee is on a hiatus as only two members remain. They are now working with Wendell on grants for energy upgrades at Swift River School. The Town of Wendell has suggested working with New Salem on "Solarize Mass" which

provides group rates on multiple solar installations. Please contact Nancy Aldrich at 978-544-6437 if you are interested in working with the Energy Committee.

Selectboard News

Selectboard Meetings: The Selectboard normally meets at 7:00 pm. on every other Monday at the Stowell Building. If the Monday is a holiday, the Selectboard meet on the Tuesday of that week. To verify a meeting date, contact the Town Coordinator at 544-6437.

New Salem Firefighter's Association Upgrade Office at Fire Station

Members of the New Salem Firefighters' Association have begun upgrading an underutilized office at the fire station. The new space will greatly improve access for training, meetings and storage. Thanks to all who volunteered their time to help Wednesday: Members Joe Cuneo, Larry Eaton, Ricky Misner, Cam Dunbar, Daniel Thayer, Roger Spring, and retired members Arthur Adams and Bruce Dunbar.

LOCAL

Dale Monette's *Quabbin Seasons and Wildlife* at Athol Bird and Nature Club

On Wednesday, March 9, at 7:00 pm, the Athol Bird and Nature Club at 100 Main Street, Athol will be hosting a **free** presentation of *Quabbin Seasons and Wildlife* with New Salem photographer, Dale Monette. Since retiring from the DCR Quabbin Visitor Center in April of 2014, Dale has spent hundreds of hours on the Quabbin watershed photographing scenic vistas and observing and photographing the wildlife of Quabbin. Here are his stories and scenic photographs of the Quabbin watershed interspersed with the animals that populate the watershed. From hummingbirds and loons to bears and moose, see what Dale and his cameras saw as the animals go about their lives throughout the four seasons of a full year on the Quabbin watershed. For a preview of photographs please see Dale's website at www.northquabbinphotography.com.

Spring *Clean Sweep* Bulky Waste Day

The Franklin County Solid Waste District will be holding its Spring *Clean Sweep* Bulky Waste Day on Saturday, May 21st from 9:00 a.m. to noon. For more information on any of these programs or events, contact the Franklin County Solid Waste District: 413-772-2438, info@franklincountywastedistrict.org.

UPCOMING

April 12	Last Day to Register to Vote
April 13	Reading Aloud for Grownups – Genie Casey & Monica Winters
May 2	Town Election
May 5	<i>Feasting in Literature</i> – Library Program
May 21	Spring <i>Clean Sweep</i> Bulky Waste Day

June 9
July 16

COA Oqunquit Playhouse Bus Trip
Old Home Day

New Salem Newsletter Policy

This monthly newsletter is a volunteer service sponsored by the New Salem Recreation Committee of the Town of New Salem. It promotes community events and town notices.

It does not run ads for products or services.

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Visit the town's www.newsalem-massachusetts.org for more information about our town.