

New Salem News October 1, 2016

October Calendar

- 5 Teens and Tweens Library Group
- 7 Library book discussion
- 12 Teens and Tweens Library Group
- 14 Council on Aging lunch in Gill
- 19 Teens and Tweens Library Group
- 19 Library Book Group
- 21 Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting
- 26 Teens and Tweens Library Group
- 27 Halloween Harvest Song and Story seasonal celebration

November Calendar

- 1 Property taxes due

Board Of Health Hours

On Thursday, October 13, the Board of Health office will be closed. It will be open on Tuesday October 11 from 9 a.m. - noon that week. Donna Ballentine dballentine@hotmail.com

Council On Aging Meeting Changes

Due to the lack of water at the Town Hall the COA regular luncheons for October have been cancelled. On Friday, October 14th, those wishing to get together will meet to eat at The Wagon Wheel Restaurant in Gill at noon. Lunch will be paid for by each individual. Please let Hendra know if you plan to come so that she can reserve a large enough table. (978-544-2178)

Library News

Oct. 12 and 19: the regular Wednesday Teen Program (1:30 - 5:30 pm) will feature a workshop for MANGA, graphic novel drawing.

Oct. 19: Wednesday at 7:00 pm the Book Group will be discussing *The Boys In The Bunkhouse: Servitude And Salvation In The Heartland*, by Dan Barry (Bottom of the 33rd)

October 27, Thursday at 3:30 p.m. the New Salem Public Library will feature Davis Bates, the Parent's Choice Award winning singer and storyteller, for a Halloween Harvest Song and Story seasonal Celebration. Kids can ride the bus from Swift River School right to the library. This is a participatory program for the whole family. Funded in part by a grant from the new Salem Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. For information call 978-544-6334.

Keep your eyes open for the following event: Yoga Talk (2 sessions) with Darlene Reilly. Date and time to be determined.

Friends Of The New Salem Public Library News

The Friends of the New Salem Public Library will be sponsoring a special wine tasting on Saturday, November 5th from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at Quabbin Sky Vineyard on Hunt Road in New Salem .

Joyce and Phil Wiley, owners of Quabbin Sky Vineyard, will host the event and offer tastings of their locally produced red and white wines, which are made from grapes grown on vines originally brought over from Europe by former owner Fritz von Mering and grapes grown locally at Cold Spring Orchard in Belchertown. The Wileys will also share the story of how they first decided to pursue wine making in New Salem. The Friends will be preparing a variety of delicious appetizers and selection of cheeses to compliment the wine tasting.

The event is a fundraiser for the Friends, who help support the New Salem library through book purchases, library equipment and furnishings, and a variety of programs for adults and children. Tickets are \$20 and are limited to the first 30 buyers. They will be available for purchase beginning October 15 from any Friends of the New Salem Public Library board member or at the library front desk.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

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; or be experiencing an illness or recovery from one.

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
- let the ministry know of a person who might benefit from receiving a shawl.

We gather at the Central Congregational Sanctuary (until further notice) on the 3rd Friday of the month from 9:00 a.m.- 11 a.m. The next three meetings will be October 21, November 18, and December 16. If there is a snow storm, the meeting will likely be cancelled.

To learn more about the Prayer Shawl Ministry: <http://www.shawlministry.com> Local contact: Genie Casey 978 544 7139

Halloween Party

The New Salem All Ages Halloween Party is tentatively planned for Monday, Oct. 31, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Town Hall, pending select board approval. Questions to Deb Rolski of the Rec. Committee , drolski@gmail.com

Agricultural Commission And Community Garden

The Agricultural Commission is organizing this year's educational opportunities and would love your input. If you have topics of interest related to growing or sustaining food growing, then please email us at nsagcommission@gmail.com. Your input is valuable to us! If you are interested in joining our small but active group, please contact Lisa Finestone for more information at lfimestone@gmail.com.

Thank you to Organic Valley and Whitney Fence of Northfield for providing our new fence that encompasses the Community Garden! With the grant money from Organic Valley and the craftsmanship of Whitney Fence, all of our gardens are now enclosed with two access gates. Please stop by to take a look, and pick some tomatoes, kale, and brussels sprouts from our "giving garden".

Property Taxes

Fiscal Year 2017 Preliminary Real Estate and Personal Property 2nd Quarter Tax Bills Due

The 1st and 2nd quarter FY 2017 Preliminary Real Estate and Personal Property Tax bills were mailed out June 30. FY2017 2nd Quarter Real Estate and Personal Property taxes are now due and payable. The due date for the 2nd quarter bills is November 1, 2016. Payments received after that date will be charged interest and fees.

If you have questions regarding your bill, you may call (978) 544-5775 and leave a message stating your name and phone number and the address of your property. You may also email your request for information to newsalemtax@aol.com. Questions regarding the assessed value of your property, abatements or exemptions should be directed to the Assessors at (978) 544-5814.

Non-cash payments may be deposited in the tax payment drop box located in front of the town hall or mailed to the Tax Collector's office at 24 S. Main St., New Salem, MA 01355. Payments may also be scheduled or paid online at www.unitaxonline.com. Cash payments (exact change only, please) may be made during the Tax Collector's office hours at 24 S. Main Street on Tuesdays 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Thursdays 10 a.m. to noon.

Assessment information and abatement forms can be found on the Assessors or Tax Collector pages at the town website at www.newsalem-massachusetts.org.

Cultural Council Grants

Applications for grants from the New Salem Cultural Council are available on line. Applicants may apply via www.mass-culture.org/. Priority is given to New Salem residents, but applications from outside New Salem are welcome. This year's application deadline is October 17. Last year, the Cultural Council funded 20 proposals, which included programs such as Ruth Flohr's Memoir Writing, Quabbin Valley Pro Musica, Starry Starry Night, the Old 78

Farm Festival and Gillian Budine's Story Walk at New Salem Preserves. A full list of funded projects can be found at the local cultural council website www.mass-culture.org/New-Salem.

Fall "Clean Sweep" Bulky Waste Recycling Day

The Franklin County Solid Waste District is holding its Fall "Clean Sweep" Bulky Waste Recycling Day on Saturday, October 22nd, from 9 a.m. to noon. The three drop-off sites are: the Buckland Recreation Facility at 66 Ashfield Rd. (Rt. 112 South), the Northfield Highway Garage at 49 Caldwell Rd., and the Whately Transfer Station at 73 Christian Lane.

New Salem residents may bring bulky items such as tires, appliances, scrap metal, furniture, mattresses, carpeting, construction debris, computers, televisions, propane gas tanks, and other large items. Materials will be recycled whenever possible; disposal fees apply for most items. For more details see <http://www.franklincountywastedistrict.org/cleansweep.html>

Primary Election Results

86 of 706 voters
12% turnout

Democratic Party
Rep in Congress
McGovern 67

Governor's Councillor
Hurley 41; Morneau 20; Blank 6

Senator in General Court
Rosenberg 61; Blank 6

Rep in General Court
Andrews 61; Blank 6

Sheriff
Donelan 62; Blank 5

Republican Party

Rep in Congress
Blank 19

Governor's Councillor
Blank 19

Senator in General Court
Peltier 16; Blank 3

Rep in General Court
Whipps Lee 19

Sheriff
Blank 19

From Stacy Senflug, newsalemsclerk@aol.com