



# FYI SALEM

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## From the Mayor's Desk



Dear Salem resident,

During these challenging times it can be overwhelming to watch the news or get on social media, but there are some real rays of sunlight breaking through, as well. I wanted to use this space to highlight some of these.

First, a tremendous amount of appreciation should go out to the front-line workers who are still risking their own lives to ensure we are all kept as safe as possible. I had the opportunity to deliver food to the staff at North Shore Medical Center last week on Nurse Appreciation Day and spoke with folks there firsthand about how they are coping.

Speaking of food, the Salem Public Schools just this week crossed the 100,000 meals

delivered threshold since schools closed in mid-March. Our food services team is remarkable, innovative, and dedicated.

If you're not following the Salem Public Library on social media, now's the time to do it! The library team has been sharing great videos of activities for kids and families, links to helpful resources, virtual book club gatherings, and much more.

PreservingSalem.com is a City website dedicated to our historic preservation efforts. Since the start of the outbreak, the site has hosted #SalemTogether, a collection of stories drawn from our city's own history that share accounts of resilience and strength in the face of disasters, war, pandemics, and other adversity. The stories are compiled through a partnership with a team of local historians, SSU, the Salem Public Library, and the Peabody Essex Museum.

Looking for something fun to do at home? Check out the Park and Recreation Department's weekly "Stay At Home Challenge" at [www.salem.com/recreation/pages/covid-19-weekly-stay-home-challenges](http://www.salem.com/recreation/pages/covid-19-weekly-stay-home-challenges). The challenges are lots of fun

and there's a chance you could win a gift certificate!

You may know that, shortly after the outbreak began, we launched [www.salem.com/together](http://www.salem.com/together). While the web page has a host of resources for residents and businesses trying to find their way in these difficult times, Salem Together is far more than a website. Over 550 volunteers have signed up and are working through the site to provide grocery deliveries, answer questions, and place well-being check-in phone calls for neighbors in need. I am so grateful to the team behind Salem Together and all of the volunteers who have stepped up to the task.

As we work together to navigate a path forward—one that is informed by science and by our shared values—there are lights along the way. Sometimes it can be hard to see them, but they are there. I'm thankful to be Mayor of a community that pulls together and supports each other. This is an unprecedented time, but in response, the outpouring of generosity and compassion has been likewise without precedent.

Kim Driscoll  
Mayor

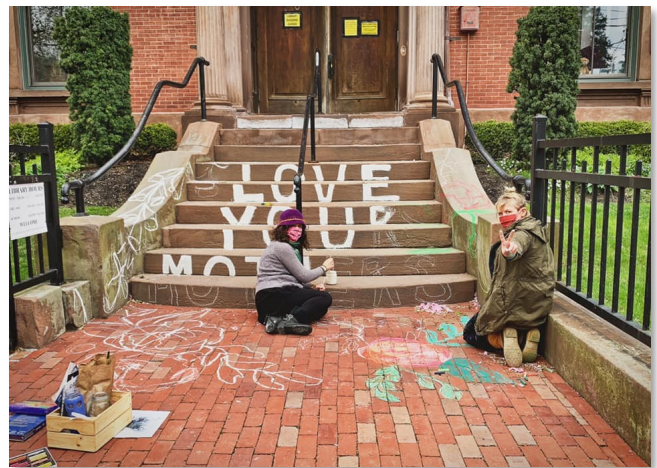
# Art Spring

Mayor Kimberley Driscoll and the Salem Public Art Commission are excited to announce the launch of “Art Spring,” a city-wide pop-up public art initiative in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Commission hopes that with a little bit of whimsy, a little bit of color, and a lot of love, these art interventions will help to lift the spirits of those in the community and bring people together in celebration of spring and new beginnings, even with physical distancing requirements. In addition, the initiative helps support local artists and creative businesses during these challenging times. Art Spring consists of a series of pop-up art installations and projects that will take place across the city in every neighborhood, as well as in the virtual realm between now and the end of June.

Watch [www.salem.com/public-art-commission](http://www.salem.com/public-art-commission) or follow the Commission on Facebook @SalemPublicArt to find out when new art projects spring up in your neighborhood and across Salem.

## Art Spring kicks off with Chalk Art Saturdays:

The City of Salem has commissioned four local artists to create eight chalk art murals for Chalk Art Saturdays, a weekly program to inspire strength and togetherness in Salem during this time of physical distancing. Every Saturday morning in May and June, these artists will use chalk art murals to respond to prompts that inspire community. The murals will be located on well-travelled paths where people live, as well as shared digitally. Each mural will also come with a creative “thought prompt” and an invitation to neighbors to get out and create their own chalk art in front of their homes or in their yards. Locations of finished murals will also be announced once each piece is completed.



The first piece, installed Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> in celebration of Mother's Day, is by local artist Maia Mattson, with the accompanying art thought prompt: Gratitude for Mothers. Maia is a multi-disciplinary artist and designer based outside of Boston. Passionate about ecological design and the connection between art and nature, Maia creates site specific work exploring those themes. Find more about her work at [www.maia-mattson.com](http://www.maia-mattson.com) or [instagram.com/maiamattson](https://www.instagram.com/maiamattson)

Join in by creating chalk art of or for the mom-figure in your life. Please use the following hashtags when posting images of your own chalk art masterpieces: #SalemPublicArt, #ChalkArtSaturdays, #SalemTogether.

## Yarn ‘Bomb’ Sculptures:

Working with Ana Campos, the owner of Circle of Stitches and a local fiber artist, the City of Salem is commissioning the creation of four or more fiber art installations near crosswalks and other major pedestrian pathways across the City, every Sunday morning beginning May 24<sup>th</sup> through June 28<sup>th</sup>. The City aims to commission four Salem fiber artists to create these pieces, one of whom is also a first line health care worker. Yarn for the sculptures will be sourced from Circle of stitches, a Salem business, as well as from a resident of the Point neighborhood who hand spins her own yarn. Artists’ bios will be posted at [www.salem.com/public-art-commission](http://www.salem.com/public-art-commission) once the artists are selected.

## Art Walking Tours:

Take a stroll around Salem and discover all the wonderful hidden art gems its neighborhoods have to offer. Visit [www.salem.com/home/news/city-salem-announces-%E2%80%99Cart-spring-pop-public-art-initiative%E2%80%99D](http://www.salem.com/home/news/city-salem-announces-%E2%80%99Cart-spring-pop-public-art-initiative%E2%80%99D) for a PDF walking tour map of Art Boxes, Murals, and Historical Monuments across the community.

## Resident Survey

The eleventh annual Salem Residents Survey is now online. The survey is available at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/SalemResidentSurvey2020](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SalemResidentSurvey2020). A Spanish language version of the survey can be found at <https://es.surveymonkey.com/r/DWJHVK8>. The 2020 residents' survey will be online until Thursday, May 21, 2020.

All Salem residents are encouraged to visit the online survey and share their opinions on a range of issues facing the City of Salem and their view of City services.

"The 2020 survey marks the eleventh year this data has been collected," said Mayor Driscoll. "Hearing directly from residents allows us to improve service delivery and focus our public resources on those issues that are of most concern to the people of Salem. Having a number of years' worth of data now also enables us to take a closer look at trends and changes that are taking place in our community."



## Business Survey

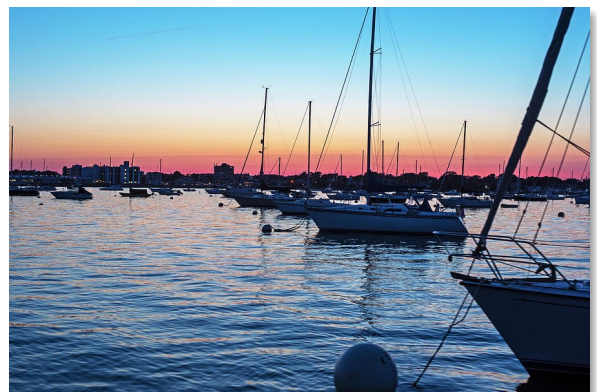
The City of Salem and its partners on the Economic Development Recovery and Revitalization (EDRR) Task Force are continuing to work to find ways to support local business now and during the recovery period. Local business owners are invited to fill out the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BusinessSurveyNo2> so the EDRR Task Force can identify and support the needs of Salem's business community. Answers will be kept private unless you specifically request follow-up. The survey will close on Friday, May 15th. En español: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/encuestadenegocios>

## Recreational Boating Notice

Recreational boaters using a Salem facility should read the signage posted at launch sites and public landings/point of access.

For the near term, be prepared for limited services including traditional boating or yacht club services. Expect to schedule access for admittance to marinas or boat yards. No rafting of vessels at moorings or anchorages is allowed. Only those people domiciled together should be on a boat together. In addition, restrictions regarding groups of no more than 10 persons are in effect while on board, regardless of the capacity of a vessel.

Public docks are live tie zones only for the purpose of loading and discharging passengers and supplies. Do not handle other boaters' lines or equipment and have hand sanitizer and disinfecting supplies aboard and readily accessible. All protocols regarding physical distancing and face covering apply. Contact the Harbormasters Office with any questions or for updated services available.





# COVID-19 Updates

- The City has extended 4th quarter tax due dates to June 1: [www.salem.com/home/news/notice-regarding-city-bills](http://www.salem.com/home/news/notice-regarding-city-bills).
- The City's Economic Recovery Task Force has published a web page at [www.salem.com/covidbizassist](http://www.salem.com/covidbizassist) with a full listing of City resources and information for Salem's small businesses.
- The Salem Together Assistance & Recovery Toolkit has mortgage deferral information and rental assistance grants for Salem residents. Find more details at [www.salem.com/START](http://www.salem.com/START).
- The City and Salem Public Schools are making free internet available for families in need for up to six months, to help students connect with remote learning tools for their classes. Find more information at <https://www.salemk12.org/news/what-s-new/free-internet-for-families-without-wifi>.
- Salem seniors who need a mask or face covering can call the Council on Aging at 978-744-0924 and leave a message with their name, address, and telephone number so that a mask can be delivered to them.
- If you have tested positive for COVID-19, the COVID Community Tracing Team will be reaching out via phone to you and your close contacts to slow the spread. Your caller ID will show the call is coming from any of the following: 978-745-9595, 781-426-5074, 833-638-1685, 857-305-2728, or MA COVID TEAM. Please answer this call. Your name will not be released. Answering the call will help slow the spread of COVID-19.
- Olde Salem Greens is closed to the public. A re-opening date will be announced at [www.salem.com](http://www.salem.com) once determined.

Find the most recent COVID-19 update from the City of Salem by visiting [www.salem.com/covid19](http://www.salem.com/covid19).

## School Updates

Information regarding graduation events of our seniors at Salem High School, Salem Prep and New Liberty Innovation School is starting to become clearer. As this information starts to roll out, we will post details online at [www.salemk12.org](http://www.salemk12.org). If you have an idea or suggestion or want to help, please contact Assistant Principal, Lynne Mullen at [lmullen@salemk12.org](mailto:lmullen@salemk12.org). We are looking forward to celebrating the class of 2020.

We will also be updating you over the next couple of weeks on moving on ceremonies from other schools, retrieving belongings from schools for both staff and students, grading and extended remote learning, social-emotional support for students including reviewing how we can extend clubs and programs into the virtual world to engage kids socially and have fun, summer programming, and upcoming considerations for the budget

We want to acknowledge that this year's budget has been upended by the COVID-19 pandemic. We are working very hard with the Mayor and the School Committee to establish a well-balanced budget grounded in our core values. While we are facing a tough fiscal picture, we know we can come through this together. More budget details to come in the coming week.

We continue to actively support our families. If you have any questions regarding school work, access to the internet, tech support, or any other ways you may need support at this time, please visit [www.SalemLearns.org](http://www.SalemLearns.org) or contact your scholar's teacher or your school for assistance.

### SALEM HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR CELEBRATIONS

- **SENIOR SHOW** Virtual Digital Sketch Show - Date TBD
- **LAST WEEK OF CLASSES** Spirit Week: Each day will be a new theme - May 18, 2020 - May 22, 2020  
Monday: Character Day • Tuesday: USA Day • Thursday: Salem Day • Friday: College & Career Day
- **WEEK OF GIVING** A week of service projects for the seniors (being reimagined virtually and with CDC guidelines) - May 26, 2020 - May 29, 2020
- **SENIOR AWARDS NIGHT** Virtual Awards Ceremony broadcasted online and on SATV - Date May 28, 2020 at 7:00pm
- **SENIOR PARADE** Seniors line a specific street with social distance guidelines, while staff and family can drive by and celebrate them - Tentatively set for 6:00pm June 5th (rain date June 6th)
- **DIGITAL GRADUATION CEREMONY** Virtual Graduation Ceremony broadcasted online and on SATV - Tentatively set for June 25th at 6:00pm
- **YEARBOOK SIGNING** After student dismissal on Wednesday November 25, 2020
- **SENIOR DRIVE AROUND BUILDING** After yearbook signing session, Wednesday November 25, 2020
- **SENIOR PROM** Friday November 27, 2020 at Ipswich Country Club (no After-Prom)
- **GRADUATION CEREMONY** Saturday November 28, 2020 at Salem High School

#### Other planning:

- Leaving a Legacy quote signs
- Senior Lawn Signs
- Banner over Washington St.
- Valedictorian Speech on NECN



To offer additional suggestions or help:  
Students contact your class officers or class advisors  
Parents/Community members contact [lmansfield@salemk12.org](mailto:lmansfield@salemk12.org) and [lmullen@salemk12.org](mailto:lmullen@salemk12.org)