

FYI SALEM

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From the Mayor's Desk



Dear Salem resident,

Currently, 72% of our eligible Salem population have received at least one dose of COVID vaccine. We hope to see that number increase, especially with reports around the country of the rise of the highly contagious delta variant, which is now the most dominant strain of the coronavirus in the United States, representing over 50% of cases across the country. Virtually all new COVID deaths and hospitalizations are among unvaccinated people.

In Salem, we continue to monitor our wastewater for COVID variants on a weekly basis, offer free COVID testing on a daily basis and are strongly urging everyone eligible to be vaccinated to do so. Through our partnership with Salem

Hospital, North Shore Community Health Center and other healthcare partners, we have several mobile vaccine clinics in Salem. If you are not vaccinated, the best thing you can do to protect yourself, as well as your family is to get a COVID vaccine - there are lots of options close to home to get vaccinated. Visit www.salem.com/vaccine to find out where you can get the vaccine without an appointment or needing to wait.

Separate from our ongoing response to COVID, I wanted to provide an update about a high profile series of graffiti incidents in our community. As you may be recall, earlier this year there had been a spate of "slaptagging" of white supremacist stickers on local business and public property in Salem, and at least one local business had their store window defaced with a painted stencil supporting a white supremacist organization.

As a City that prides itself on being inclusive and welcoming, we strongly condemned these acts. They are more than just cowardly acts of vandalism: they are intended to frighten and discomfort residents in their own community. That's one of the reasons I'm so grateful for the work of the Salem Police in particular Patrol Officer Green, who arrested two males on Saturday night for vandalism after they spray-painted graffiti tied to a white nationalist hate group at the MBTA station in downtown Salem.

The two men were wearing masks and tagging public property. When officers stopped the men they reported finding fresh paint on their hands and fresh paint on the wall, as well as paint cans and stencils in their possession. The stencils supported Patriot Front, a group that the Southern Poverty Law Center has identified as a white nationalist hate group.

We will continue to take these activities seriously and encourage anyone who sees this type of vandalism in our community to report it to the Salem Police Department at 978-744-1212 so we can track and investigate this activity.

Thanks, as always, for reading FYI Salem and don't forget you can find the FYI Salem podcast at www.salem.com/fyisalempodcast!

Kim Driscoll Mayor City of Salem

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HOSPITALITY BUSINESSES IN SALEM ARE HIRING

and MassHire and the City of Salem are helping to promote these positions!

SALEM HIRING INCENTIVES!

If you qualify, and are hired in a hospitality position in Salem, you can earn VISA GIFT CARDS!

Get a job in a restaurant, hotel, tourist attraction or other small business in Salem between

June 1 and July 23, retain that job for 6 weeks, and you can earn a \$400 GIFT CARD from the City of Salem & MassHire! ADDITIONAL \$400 GIFT CARD incentive for those who STAY at that job and verify employment again in November!*



Program enrollment ends August 20, 2021.

Need help FINDING A JOB?

Contact MassHire @ (978) 825-7200 or visit Monday-Thursday 1–3pm @ 70 Washington St., Salem.



Already STARTED WORKING after June 1?

See if you qualify and fill out our form here:

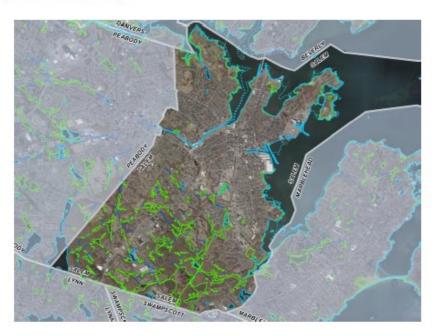
www.salem.com/incentives

*Verification Required. Some exclusions apply



WETLANDS PROTECTION PUBLIC FORUMS

The City of Salem invites you to participate in a series of public forums regarding an update to the City's wetlands protection policy.



Please visit the project website for meeting login details and additional project information:

PublicInput.com/SalemWetlands

All are welcome to attend and participate.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Tom Devine at 978-619-5685 or tdevine@salem.com

FORUM DATES

All meetings are online at 6pm

JULY 13

Wetlands Primer Working Group Summary Survey Launch

AUGUST 19

Survey Results Draft Policy

SEPT. 7

Synthesis of Input Next steps



Heritage Days

Mayor Kimberley Driscoll has announced that Salem's Heritage Days festival will run August 2nd through August 8th, with a line-up of non-stop fun and special events celebrating Salem.

"I'm so pleased to announce the return of our annual Heritage Days festivities," said Mayor Driscoll. "This year, especially, I'm grateful that we have the opportunity to celebrate all that makes Salem the vibrant and special community that we all love. My thanks to all the or-

ganizations, community partners, and City staff whose efforts make this annual event possible."

The Heritage Days week includes several events exclusively for seniors, including an ice cream social and a picnic at Winter Island.

Opportunities abound for musical entertainment at the oceanfront Salem Willows Shell featuring the Salem Community Concert Band and Community Jazz Band, under the direction of Cynthia Napierkowski, on Monday night, the North Shore Concert Band on Tuesday night, and a variety of DJs, VJs, and live electronic music on both Saturday and Sunday.

The highlight of this year's Heritage Days takes place August 6th on Derby Wharf, with a live concert by the Ward Eights starting at 7:00 p.m. and fireworks display starting around 9:00 p.m. produced by the award-winning Atlas Pyrovision Entertainment Group.

The night promises to be the most fun and most memorable event of the summer season. The Ward Eights are an incredible band, playing funk, soul, rock, hip-hop, pop, jazz, and much more and the fireworks display that is planned

promises to be one to remember.



Other events during the week include the always-popular Ice Cream Tasting and movie on the Common on August 4th, a family bingo night on August 6th at Charlotte Forten Park, and the Phillips House Annual Antique Car Meet along Chestnut Street on August 8th.

Another special event during the week is an open house at the Peabody Essex Museum's Phillips Library in Rowley, where attendees will be able to see some of the PEM's recent acquisitions along with the scope of its global collections, including its archives of Salem and Essex County history.

This year the Salem Police Department, Salem Fire Department, and Salem Department of Public Services combine their Tour-A-Truck event with a K-9 demonstration and a Salem Police & Firefighters vs. Salem Youth basketball game. Snacks and drinks will be provided thanks to donations from our local business community.

Find the complete schedule for Heritage Days online at www.salem.com/heritagedays.