

# NEW SALEM NEWS - August Newsletter

August 1	Vance Gilbert at the 1794 Meetinghouse
August 3	Due Date for FY 2016 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Taxes
August 4	Summer Reading Program Field Day
August 5	Teens and Tweens at the Library
August 12	Book Discussion Group at the Library
August 12	Teens and Tweens at the Library
August 14	Council on Aging Luncheon
August 19	Teens and Tweens at the Library
August 26	Teens and Tweens at the Library
August 26	SummerFest 2015 on the Common
August 28	Council on Aging Luncheon

## 1794 Meetinghouse June Performances

August 1: *Vance Gilbert* – Remarkable breakout singer/songwriter, a consummate entertainer, Gilbert puts his stamp on folk, pop and jazz music at 7:30 pm.

Go to [www.1794meetinghouse.org](http://www.1794meetinghouse.org) for more information and ticket info.

## Old Home Day Committee Winners

The Old Home Day would like to thank all the participants in the Old Home Day events!

This year's winners by group categories were:

*Old-Fashioned Costume Contest:* Conor Haggerty, Lauren Ruch & Jeni Millago, Layannie Hayden-Meyer

*Tricycle Races:* T.J, Conor Haggerty, Aiden

*Blueberry Pie-Eating Contest:* Wren Van Iderstine & Conor Haggerty (tie), Micah Van Iderstine (third year in a row!), Austin Paine

*Basketball Shoot-out:* Conor Haggerty, Leanna Lianakiszka & Melanie Vazques (tie)

*Cross-Cut Saw Contest:* Fastest Overall - Claire and Paul McGinnis; 60 years plus & 60 years plus - Bob Maroni & Norman Flye; 25-60 years & 25-60 years – Erin & Geoff Baril; Over 25 and Teen – Bill & Jacob Daniels

*Three-legged Race:* Conor Haggerty & Tabari Mann, Alia Yah & Lauren Ruch, Ava Santana & Abbie Bonk, Zara Dowling & Maggie Carson.

*Sack Race:* Conor Haggerty, Alia Yah, Ava Santana and Robert Pafindi

*Potato and Spoon Relay:* Alia Yah, Sophia Apteker and Zara Dowling

*Wooden Hoop and Stick Contest:* Will McLeod, Austin Payne, Laura McGinniss, Garreth Gordon.

*Musical Chairs:* Micah Van Iderstine

*Cake Walk Cake Winners:* Randy Gordon, Matt Gilmore, Mary-Ellen Kennedy, Bonnie Stewart, Sherm and Sara. The Best Cake Baker was won by Wendi Greene<

The 1794 Meetinghouse's Quilt Raffle was won by Judi Wiinikka.

The Agricultural Commission's raffle of a cord of wood donated by Bruce Spencer was won by Hugh Mackay.

### **Old Home Day Committee Thank Yous**

The Old Home Day Committee would like to thank the following for helping to make this year's event an "old-fashioned" fun! The Fire Department Volunteers; New Salem Academy Museum Open House - Eleanor McGinnis (and for loaning her hand-crank ice cream maker!); Hikes: Bob Curley and Dan Bolton; Giant Library Book Sale: Mary Ann & Tony Palmieri, Hugh Mackay, Mary-Ellen Kennedy, Lisa Finestone, Monica & Chris Winters, John Ryan, Nansi Glick, & Diana Smith; Agricultural Commission/Community Garden: Lisa Finestone, Harmonie Arcisz, Bruce Spencer, Cal Coolidge, Sandy Spiewak; 1794 Meetinghouse Silent Auction: Lynn Dudley and Quabbin Pro Musica members; Central Congregational Church Red, White & Blue Café & Bake Sale: Lisa DeWitt, Linda Overing, Arthur & Marilyn Adams, Hugh Field, Dave Henderson, Joan McQuorindale, Judy & Jim Cornwell, Janet Kraft, Jim Ewen, Ohlie Olson, Caroline Blakely and Bob O'Loughlin; Council on Aging; K-9 Police Dog Demo: Marcie Hellems, the Orange, Belchertown & Franklin County Sheriff's K-9 Police Dog teams; Hay Bale Treasure Hunt: Melissa Colby; Tricycle Race: Lisa DeWitt & Family; Old-Fashioned Costume Contest: Sue Arnold; Costume Contest Judges: Leon Lefebvre, Cyndy Freeman & Dorothy Johnson; Information Booth: Jeanne Clayton; Cake Walk – Sunday Lefebvre; Pie-eating contest: Karen Duplissie; Basketball Shoot-out: Bo Henderson; Cross-cut Saw Contest: Paul McGinnis, Margie McGinnis & Steve Blinder; Old-Fashioned Contests: Genie Casey & Judith Northrup-Bennett, Layannie Hayden-Meyer, John Clayton; On the Braille Trail Demonstration: Kerrine Ohlson and Matt; Tour of the Solar Panel Installation – Ricardo Conde; Cooling station – Friends of the Old Academy Building; New Salem Highway Department, the New Salem Police Department; Old Home Day Support team(!): the Mahar Key Club members – Ava Paine, Aimee Dupont, Abbie Bonk, Hunter & Sophia Apteker, Lauren Henne; Contest prize donations: New Salem General Store and 202 Grille & Ice Cream; Hannafords & Market Basket for gift cards for supplies; Recycling bins: the Franklin County Solid Waste District; the Massachusetts and New Salem Cultural Council for the K Street Saxophone Quartet; Parade: New Salem, Wendell, Shutesbury, Orange & Belchertown Fire Departments; Flag carriers: Hannah Dupont, Tessa Yohan, Adrian Fountain, Jack DeWitt, Mica Van Iderstine; Jean Daley, Lauren Ruch, Jeni Millago, Sarah Thayer, Clare Wasileski & Artemis, Gail Spring, Nancy & Conor Haggerty, Layannie Hayden-Meyer, the Central Congregational Church "old-fashioned baseball team"; old-fashioned cars and riders: Dave Flint, Joan Abboud (loaner) Mike & Lauren McKenna, Mark Lewis, Ricky Meissner, Joe Cayoni; Josh "Waffles the Clown" Dostis, and all the other Parade participants who make it so unique and also the 1794 Meetinghouse delicious Chicken Dinner "Raise the Roof" fundraiser for those of us who did not want to cook after Old Home Day!

### **The New Salem Community Garden**

We had a great turn out of plants to sell and many sales on Old Home Day thanks to your donations! Between the Agricultural Commission and the Community Garden, we

were well seen, supported and enjoyed! Thanks to those gardeners who helped sell raffle tickets and plants on the Common. A special thank you to Joe Cuneo, Cal Coolidge, Sarah Kohler, Jo Ellen Boskind, Jen Potee, Sue Arnold, Kara Swan, Nancy Stenberg, Jane Clukay, Lisa Finestone, King Korn and Katie Nolan for donating plants and Laurenitis Farm for donating our raffle hanging basket! Leslie T. was the winner. The Commission expresses special appreciation to Bruce Spencer for his donation of a cord of wood for their raffle.

This has been a busy year for us at the garden. Please stop by to pick a veggie and sit on our new bench!

### **New Salem Library News**

*Field Day:* The last session of the Summer Reading Program is Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-5:00 pm. There will be a Field Day! Ice cream, balloon races, three-legged race and water balloon toss. Be ready to get wet and have fun! Drawing for SRP prizes (movie and bowling tickets, LEGOLAND tickets and more). Be sure to **sign-up** and get your name in the drawing. This event is free but subject to change due to weather. Children are invited to go to the Community Garden with their adult to pick from the Children's Garden. Parents of children under 11 must stay in the library or accompany their child outside. All adults are invited to participate with their child. For more information call 978-544-6334.

*SummerFest 2015:* On Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, the Teens and Tween Club will be hosting a SummerFest 2015 on the Town Common! They are renting a **big** movie screen. The movie will start at 8:00 pm and there will be a ½ hour of music before the show. Come early and stake out a great spot. Bring chairs or blankets. Fun for everyone, any age, any town.

*Teens and Tweens Club:* We'll be here all summer, every Wednesday, from 1:30-5:30. You're invited! The Teens and Tweens Club is open to kids 11–18, from **any town!** Call 978-544-6334 for more info.

*Book Discussion Group:* On Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm, the Book Discussion Group will be discussing *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson. Come and join them.

*Library Information Bulletin Boards:* The New Salem Public Library has two bulletin boards on display to the left of the front desk as you enter. One lets you know what the Friends of the Library has been up to in its mission to support the library, and the second one gives regular library programming information. Be sure to check these out. On the third wall on the left near the end of the desk is a list of **new** titles available on our shelves.

*Computer Help:* Sue Dunbar is available for one-on-one computer help anytime, but especially on Tuesdays at 6:00 pm. Please ask Sue if you are having a computer problem or would like to learn a computer program, such as Excel.

### **Friends of the New Salem Library News**

*Beverages Available:* The Friends of the New Salem Public Library remind you that we have coffee, tea, cocoa, and cider available to patrons. Check out the Keurig machine and offerings on the table next to Diana's window. Donations are gratefully accepted for these beverages.

*More Museum Passes:* The Friends of the New Salem Public Library have donated two more museum passes as to the Clark Institute in Williamstown and the Brattleboro Museum in Brattleboro VT. Please check the availability of these and other passes at the front desk. The Friends of the New Salem Public Library have also recently funded a Butterfly Museum Pass. It should be here soon!

### **Council on Aging News**

*Luncheons and bingo:* In August we will meet on Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup> and Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at the Town Hall. We will gather at 10:00 am for bingo and coffee with lunch at noon. At this time there is not a set menu, so lunches will be a surprise! Please call Hendra Reidy at 978-544-2178 to sign up. (she may know what the meal is at that time). Following the August 28<sup>th</sup> luncheon, David Shikes from Maine will come to perform. He promises to make us laugh! Come and enjoy the fun.

*Busy Bs:* We continue to meet on Wednesday from 1:00-3:00 pm at the Stowell Building. Bring your sewing project and join us. It's even a good time for mending!

### **2015 Hilltown Brewfest - Save the Date: September 12**

Brewfest planning is underway! Brewers are lining up, food vendors are confirming and things are falling in place as we have three months until our next Brewfest fundraiser! Three bands have been confirmed - *JB Murray & The Music*, *Boston Blackthorne* and *Housejackers* are all ready to rock this year's fest!

This is our 8th Annual Hilltown Brewfest and it gets a little better and a little bigger every year. We appreciate your attendance at our fest and we try very hard to make it a memorable day for everyone as we raise funds to support our local fire departments.

### **Swift River Valley Historical Society Schedules Hikes and Bus Trips in Quabbin**

*Bus Trip #2:* Sunday, October 4th Prescott bus trip, depart from SRVHS at 11:00 am.

*Hike #3:* Sunday, October 18th, hike to Indian Kitchen & plane crash site, meet at gate 40, 11:00 am.

Hikes are free; a \$25 per person donation is asked for bus trips, space reserved in advance. Send checks to: Swift River Valley Historical Society (SRVHS) at P.O. Box 22, New Salem, MA 01355. Limited spaces so contact the office immediately by phone (978-544-6882) or email at megansrvhs@gmail.com.

## **TOWN NOTICES**

### **Planning Board Seeking New Member**

The Planning Board is looking for a new member to replace one who retired. If you might be interested, please email [hughtfield@gmail.com](mailto:hughtfield@gmail.com), or phone Hugh at 978-544-1856.

### **FY2016 Real Estate and Personal Property 1st Quarter Tax Bills Due**

This is to remind you that FY2016 1st Quarter Real Estate and Personal Property tax bills have been mailed out and are now due. The due date for this quarter's bills is August 3, 2015. Payments received after that date will be charged interest and fees.

Payment stubs for this bill as well as the FY2016 2nd Quarter bill were included in the mailing sent out at the end of June. If you have trouble locating the stub and wish to find out the amount due you may call (978) 544-5775 and leave a message stating your name, phone number and the address of your property. The Tax Collector will call you with the amount of your bill. You may also email your request for this information to newsalemtax@aol.com.

NEW It is now possible to look up your bill information online at [www.unitaxonline.com](http://www.unitaxonline.com) whether or not you plan to pay online.

- Enter [www.unitaxonline.com](http://www.unitaxonline.com) in your web browser.
- Select Town of New Salem from the drop down menu on the home screen and click Submit.
- Select bill type under transactions (Motor Vehicle, Personal Property or Real Estate).
- Then click on "Need help locating your bill?" on the transaction screen.
- Fill in the requested information and your bill information will be provided.

Non-cash payments may be deposited in the tax payment drop box located in front of the town hall at 15 S. Main Street or mailed to the Tax Collector's office at 24 S. Main St., New Salem, MA 01355. Bills may also be paid online at [www.unitaxonline.com](http://www.unitaxonline.com) - please note that the online option is not available after the due date. Cash payments may be made during the Tax Collector's office hours at 24 S. Main Street on Tuesdays 5-7pm and Thursdays 10am-Noon.

### **New Salem Transfer Station News**

*Winners:* The winner for the June Cleanup New Salem contest was Jane Clukay. She won a package of 10 trash bags for cleaning up the side of the road. If you are interested in trying to win some free bags, talk to Bob at the Transfer Station and he will let you know what you need to do to try and win. Thank you Sue and Bob for caring about keeping your town clean.

*Suggestion Box at Transfer Station:* There will be a suggestion box at the New Salem Transfer Station. If you have any suggestions for ways to improve the Transfer Station just leave it in the box.

### **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.

## **UP & COMING**

September 12  
September 11,12,18,19,20  
September 15

NSGS Brewfest  
*Country Store: A Radio Play* at the Meetinghouse  
Community Network for Children Playgroup

October 4  
October 18

SRVHS Prescott bus trip  
SRVHS Hike to Indian Kitchen & plane crash site

*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.*

*Visit the town's [www.newsalem-massachusetts.org](http://www.newsalem-massachusetts.org) for more information about our town.*