



# AmeriCorps

● CITY OF SALEM NEWSLETTER ● MARCH, 2023

## FREE FINANCIAL WORKSHOP



The Financial Workshop allows those with homeownership aspirations to learn valuable credit-building information. We have emphasized budgeting and saving and will also work individually with clients. For those who wish to learn how to take the action steps towards improving their credit scores, classes are available at 10 am every Saturday at Stand Up for Salem at 219 East Broadway, Salem, New Jersey 08079

## INCREASE TO PUBLIC SAFETY

ShotSpotter is a gunshot detection technology that detects, locates, and alerts law enforcement agencies of illegal gunfire incidents in real time. The digital alerts include a precise location on a map with corresponding data such as the address, number of rounds fired, type of gunfire, etc. It can also be delivered to any browser-enabled smartphone or mobile laptop device. Cameras will be placed in significant city hot spots, and Police will be equipped with automated plate readers.





## AMERICORPS HIGHLIGHT



Last month, we celebrated our team of AmeriCorps Members, who volunteer and raise their hands to help when needed. They have been valuable and steadfast in their projects, making Salem a better place.

- The AmeriCorps Team thanked and recognized The Huddle, Pastor Sonita Johnson, and Bishop Joyce Lewis for their continuous support of the Salem City Housing Initiative and the residents in the City of Salem.
- The AmeriCorps team participated in the Southern Jersey Family Medical Centers' Street Health Fair in Salem to help registered Salem City residents with assistance on their water and sewer bills. That link can also be found by [clicking here](#).

## WATER & SEWER PUBLIC HEARING

- A public hearing was held on March 20, 2023, to discuss the possible sale of The City of Salem's water and sewer systems. City Council will continue to move forward with the plans of privatizing the utility systems through the WIPA process. They have also begun preparing for the possibility of a referendum in the fall. This will require the city to approve a proposal for the utility systems from a private company and would allow the residents to vote on the private company and price. There will be town-hall meetings to facilitate discussion of the potential sale of the utility systems.

## EDITOR THOUGHTS

Homeownership plays a crucial role in building a solid and stable community. Salem has a current homeownership rate of 32% with a 68% renters rate. On average, renters pay \$300 more than those who pay the mortgage. In addition, the City of Salem has a 79% tax collection rate. What does this all mean? With little business revenue, homeownership is the foundation of building a better community. It will foster profound pride by allowing people to create their dream homes. It will enable legacies to be born and generations to be inspired. It takes this community to fix this community, and the time is now- Jamal Long.



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April						2023
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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2	3	4 AMERICORPS FI TENANTS RIGHT MEETING	5	6	7	8 AMERICORPS FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOP 10AM
9	10 COUNCIL CAUCUS MEETING 6:30PM	11	12	13	14	15 AMERICORPS FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOP 10AM
16	17 REGULAR COMMON COUNCIL MEETING 6:30PM	18	19	20	21	22 AMERICORPS FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOP 10AM
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 AMERICORPS FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOP 10AM 7TH ST CLEAN UP
30						

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