
Salem Lamplighter

Vol. 16 No. 4 August 2022



Salem Civic Association (SCA) Celebrates National Night Out in Chaseland Park

by Allison Hibler

On Tuesday August 2, 2022, in Chaseland Park in Columbus, Ohio and around the country, neighbors gathered together to celebrate National Night Out, NNO. First launched by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW) in 1984, NNO is “an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.” According to the NATW, “Millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday in August (Texas and select areas celebrate on the first Tuesday in October).”

According to former U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (TX), “The best way to build a safer community is to know your neighbors and your surroundings. National Night Out triumphs over a culture that isolates us from each other and allows us to rediscover our own communities.”

Several Salem neighbors (more than 30 by one count)—including the four legged kind—joined the festivities to socialize and enjoy a summer evening out in Chaseland Park. Popsicles and treats were available for all to enjoy as well as a few games of cornhole. Kids enjoyed playing on the playground and swings while parents and other neighbors were able to exchange more than a passing “hello,” smile or wave and learn more about their neighbors and neighborhood. NNO slap bracelets were a “hit”



National Night Out con't. on page 11

A Growing List of Achievements

by Doug Moody

As reported in the last couple *Lamplighters*, your Salem Civic Association, with your full support, went up against a developer with tens of millions of dollars to spend on an ill-conceived apartment complex, and won. This was a hard fought victory, with quite a bit of planning and strategy taking place behind the scene. Given the city’s need for more and more housing, a decision in Salem’s favor was never assured but a well-conceived plan, executed to perfection, carried the day. This is a win in which every resident of Salem can take great pride.

But this isn’t the only victory Salem residents and your civic association can take pride in, just the latest. Please allow me to highlight the others:

- The City of Columbus thought it would be a good idea to widen Sinclair Road to five lanes from Morse to Huntley Road. After being confronted by concerned Salem neighbors with the amount of damage this scheme would do to the neighborhood, the plan was shelved.

SCA Achievements con't. on page 5

Salem Civic Association Meetings

The next Civic Association meetings are Tuesday, August 23 and Tuesday, September 27. Meetings are held at Salem Baptist Church on Sinclair Road at 7:00 p.m. All residents are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Salem Civic Association Meeting Minutes: June 28, 2022

by Kristina Charles/Angela VanHulle, Acting SCA Secretary

Motion made to accept May 2022 minutes; passed

Columbus Police Liaison - Officer Dan Yandrich and Sgt. Joe Johnson

Contact: 614-645-1418; Dyandrich@columbuspolice.org

- Reflections on the Lake - a number of cars broken into
- Introductions to the Safe Street officers in the Northland Area - the mission community engagement and specific targeted enforcement

Treasurer's Report - Allison Hibler

	2022 Budget	Actual as of 6/7/22
Income	\$5920.00	\$2437.00
Expenses	\$5920.00	\$1084.30
Net Income	\$0.00	\$1352.70
Checking account		\$5406.64
Remaining budget obligations as of 6/7/22		\$4835.70
Annual cash reserve		\$2355.00
Cash available as of 6/7/22		(\$1764.06)

Motion to accept treasurer's report - passed.

NCC Update - Pat Hammel

- The city's Safe Streets program (additional police patrols in targeted areas) will start again in July. Seven officers have been assigned to Zone 1 (covers most of Northland) and they will be focusing on parks including Woodward and Innis.
- Number of police calls to nuisance hotels after nuisance abatement have reduced from 4.2 ratio of calls to # of rooms, to 2.3.
- The hearing for the City Attorney's objection to the renewal of the operating license for America's Best Value Inn on Sinclair Rd. is scheduled for June 22.
- Northland Unity Festival on Saturday 9/17 from 3-7 p.m. at the North YMCA. <https://elevatenorthland.org/our-programs/northland-unity-festival/>
- The Karl Rd Library has added Clippers baseball (up to 5 free tickets for Sunday games) to the Culture Pass program. <https://www.columbuslibrary.org/culture-pass/>
- Free Summer Lunch and Snack program at Karl Road Library. Lunch is available noon-1 p.m. and snacks from 3:30-4 p.m. Monday-Saturday.
- Free Mobile Produce Markets in several locations. Drive up and volunteers load your vehicle with fresh produce. <https://www.golunch.club/mobile-produce-markets>
- One-day international summit and resource fair for the immigrant, refugee, and migrant communities on Saturday, June 25, 2022 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Linden Community Center, 1350 Briarwood Ave.
- The city is examining flooding in the Northland area. Detailed information about flooding events (dates, times, pictures etc.) can be sent to Alfred Akainyah (Dept. of Neighborhoods liaison for the Northland area) at aaakainyah@columbus.gov
- Next 161 Task Force Clean Up is Saturday, July 9. Meet at Sharon Woods Center behind Jiffy Lube at 9 a.m. Bags, gloves, safety vest and pick-up tools provided.
- Elevate Northland has developed a list of tips and destinations for a diverse cultural dining experience in Northland <https://elevatenorthland.org/eat/>
- Walk With A Doc Neighborhood Walking Club May 9-October 29. Open to all ages and allows you to learn about health from a local doctor. 9 a.m. on Saturdays, these walks take place twice a month locally at Woodward Park. <https://columbusrecreparks.com/facilities/communitycenters/fiftyplus/walkwithadoc/>

Salem Civic Association

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Charlene Walker Combs
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Vice President

Pat Hammel
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Secretary

Your name here!

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Salem Lamplighter

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www.facebook.com/groups/

June Minutes con't. on page 10



saalem
BLOCK PARTY

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Sunday, September 25 • 1:00-4:00 p.m.
 Garvey Rd. between Darcy Rd. and Roche Dr.
 Food • Games • Inflatable bounce/slide

Volunteers needed

contact Charlene: ccombs16@yahoo.com;
 614-738-0617

Watch Facebook & email for more information



**161 Task Force
 CLEANUP DAY**



on Dublin Granville Rd.



9:00 a.m.

September 10 • October 8 • November 12
 Sharon Woods Center behind Jiffy Lube

Bags, gloves, safety vests and pick-up tools are provided.
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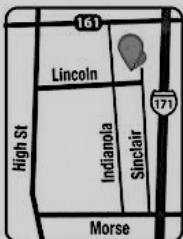


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- National Church Residences sought to build a two-story elderly housing facility tight against the backyards of our Crawford Avenue neighbors. In the face of dogged determination of the Salem neighborhood to prevent this construction, NCR rethought their location and, appropriately, built their new facility on the north end of Roche Drive, with the approval of the neighborhood.
- After taking stock of the deteriorating condition of Chaseland Park and its playground equipment, the Salem Civic Association approached the Columbus Department of Recreation and Parks for a remedy. As a result, Chaseland is now well-tended, with modern and safe playground equipment.
- When drug dealers began using our neighborhood as a convenient location to conduct their nefarious trade, your Salem Civic Association confronted city leaders and demanded action to throw out the dealers and their attendant petty criminals. As a result, the city's Department of Public Safety and the Columbus Police Department did just that. This action included the closing of five crime-ridden hotels to our north as community nuisances. Columbus City Council went further, codifying by ordinance nuisance abatement into

Columbus hotel licensing laws, helping not only all of Columbus, but other cities around the country who have used this ordinance as a model for their licensing regulations.

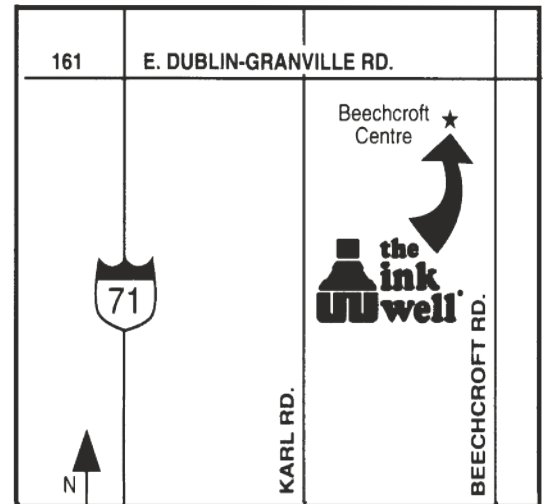
- Because of these activities, the Salem Civic Association now has the ear of the City of Columbus, and the Columbus Police Department sends our Community Liaison Officer to each of our association meetings.

Not bad for a quiet little neighborhood, eh? I would like to point out that none of these issues was expected, all were a surprise and, save the watchfulness of our neighbors and the bold voice of our Salem Civic Association, all could have had an entirely different outcome.

Therein lies the importance of an organized neighborhood action under the umbrella of a vibrant and active association. The Salem Civic Association is only as good as the support it receives from you. Your membership in the association tells all comers that Salem is a force to be reckoned with. Please take a few minutes to become a member of your Salem Civic Association, either online or via the mail. Better yet, show your support by coming out to the next meeting and become a member there. You never know when Salem will need your voice in its defense. 



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Salem Cats—Part of our Community

by Rae Kirkbride

There has been a Trap/Neuter/Release (TNR) program in place in Salem for more than twenty-five years. Whether a cat lover or not, the program is beneficial and necessary for the cats and the neighborhood.

Problem: Tame or feral, domestic cats *need* to be spayed and neutered. Why?

Volume: One unsplayed female, over seven years, with the normal amount of reproduction and number of birthed kittens, can result in nearly *five thousand* more cats! So, it's easier to start with spaying or neutering the one cat, right?

Condition: Intact (unsplayed or unneutered) cats are more likely to roam, fight, and spray strong-smelling urine.

Health: Unsplayed or unneutered cats are *far* more likely to develop cancer of certain types. So, if you have an indoor/outdoor or outdoor-only cat, it is wise to spay or neuter to keep the population down *and* protect their health.

What we do: We feed and support the feral cat colonies of Salem. We capture, spay/neuter, and rabies-vaccinate every reported cat, feral or left-behind cat, one cat at a time. The cat is then returned to its capture spot, as required by Columbus City law. The cat/colony is fed daily and monitored for health issues (to stay within the Columbus Board of Health requirements). It is essential to feed at the same site where the cats live (show up) so that we can find them when we are able to trap them. The cats/colonies are provided with shelter, as it would be cruel to leave them with no shelter. Please remember, they did not choose this life. Important to note is that friendly, adoptable cats, whenever possible, can be placed in good homes. Over the past fifteen years, our team has taken well over 100 cats from the streets and successfully placed them in homes or barns. Many *new* adult and young cats have been showing up at the colony sites this year, more than in the past ten



Volunteers pitch in to help Linda Strapp (center) move a local cat colony tended by the TNR program.

years. Normally, this is due to residents moving out and leaving their cats behind. These adults, not fixed, are having kittens and the numbers keep increasing. We are struggling to keep up with getting these cats TNR'd.

What we need:

- **Volunteers:** to help feed and/or clean/build shelters several times a year.
- **Transportation:** currently means taking trapped cats to TAHO in Lewis Center (15-20 minute drive) between 8 a.m. and 12 p.m. weekdays on days when they accept TNRs (there are weather restrictions on capturing and releasing for the cats' safety).
- **Materials:** winterize cat colony shelters—Rubbermaid containers, medium or large styrofoam containers that can be converted to shelters; tarps, straw.
- **Funds:** to help fund the TNR procedure, help purchase food, purchase materials for shelters.

Resources we have:

- **Cat Welfare (Indianola):** provides vouchers, at a cost to us, which permits us to TNR at a discounted rate.
- **Colony Cats (Bethel):** have taken in several of our friendly feral cats.
- **Cozy Cat Cottage (Powell)**
- **Citizens for Humane Action [(CHA), 3765 Corporate Drive, Westerville].**

Chris Gallagher
Owner
cgsautopaint@gmail.com

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- Homeless to Home (Marion): have taken in several of our friendly feral cats.
- The Animal Health Organization [(TAHO), Lewis Center]: provides medical care and TNR

What you can do:


- Contribute financially to the feral cat fund through the Salem Civic Association.
- Support local shelters (no kill) that support us and our furry neighbors.
- Sign up to volunteer with the TNR team—feed (with training), assist with trapping, transport trapped cats to TAHO in Lewis Center between 8 a.m. and 12 p.m., house healing cats prior to release (24 to 72 hours) in quiet safe place until we pick up for release.
- Volunteer or donate to local shelters.
- Signup thru Amazon Smile and Kroger to assist Homeless to Home in Marion (you don't lose your own Kroger points).
- Adopt: many of these cats can be lovely housemates. We will help you with this transition.
- Get your neighbors involved in a positive way. Help them help us—tell them about low cost spay/neuter; help them keep their own pets safe.
- Educate: many people don't know statistics or how to help. Let's help them learn.
- Comingling: understand that these cats are a part of our community. Aggressive TNR and Colony Management is the *only* effective way to help solve the problem. Remember that a benefit of community cats is keeping the rat population at bay.

Many "feral" cats are indoor cats abandoned by their owners. Two such cats, Catherine Hepburn (left) and Jerry (with new owner, right) were adopted from the North Meadows Court colony.



What not to do:

- Trap cats without assistance/guidance from a seasoned trapper.
- Relocate feral cats on your own. Cats can find their way back to their original home site; it's cruel and counter productive.
- Cause harm to feral cats in any way (it is prosecutable under the law; abuse of domestic animals is a felony in all fifty states)

So, to conclude, some folks love our furry friends (because they keep the rat population at bay and because they love cats); some folks do not like our furry friends because they believe they are a nuisance. Either way, the **solution** is to have a controlled number of feral cats to keep balance. The **problem** is that so many cats are not spayed or neutered when left to roam the neighborhood. The decision is this: Are you part of the problem or part of the solution? The solution is simple; but it takes time, effort and volunteers. Please help us help you keep the balance! If you can help be part of the solution, contact Rae at 614-378-7950 (via text or VM message). 

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Salem Civic Association Meeting Minutes: July 19, 2022

by Angela VanHulle, Acting SCA Secretary

Motion made to accept June 2022 minutes. Passed
Columbus Police Liaison - Officer Yandrich (not present) Contact: 614-645-1418; Dyandrich@columbuspolice.org

- Issue on Strimple - SCA FB Page - police seen in foot pursuit of man later arrested at Chaseland Park; involved in domestic violence, currently in jail.
- North Meadows - possible mistaken address after two men in white mustang rang bell, knocked, and walked around house. They explained they were given address on dating website. Neighbor advised resident woman to call police non-emergency. Another resident explained North Meadows is often mixed up with Broadmeadows.

Treasurer's Report - Allison Hibler

	Budget	Actual
Income	\$6340.00	\$3667.00
Expenses	\$6340.00	\$1261.00
Net Income	\$0.00	\$2405.70
Checking account balance		\$6459.64
Budget obligations		\$5078.70
Annual cash reserve		\$2355.00
Cash available as of 7/7/22		\$964.06

Motion to accept treasurer's report - passed.

NCC Update - Pat Hammel

- The next 161 Task Force Cleanup Day is Saturday, August 13th. 9:00 a.m. behind Jiffy Lube on 161. Bags, gloves, safety vest and pick-up tools provided.
- The hearing for the objection to renewal of operating license for America's Best Value Inn on Sinclair Rd has been rescheduled to end of July.
- Columbus Housing Strategy to tackle city's housing shortage and affordability. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BpJBybrqeqU>
- Guidance used by City of Columbus for development and zoning decisions is found in the Northland Area Plan I, found in the Planning Division Document Library here: <https://www.columbus.gov/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=2147489237>

NCC Development Committee - Sam Shy

The next NCCDC Meeting is 7/26. Issues to be addressed so far:

- Morse Road/Easton Area - Vet office seeking setback change variance.
- Chick-Fil-A - Seeking variance to replace tents (for outside order takers) with permanent canopies.

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- Concern expressed about new city council building requiring parking be in back of the building. Sam replied all lighting and safety precautions are still required.

Communications - Angie VanHulle

Next Lamplighter - August; Articles due - August 6
Resident suggested *Lamplighters* be sent to Columbus City Council and Mayor.

Salem Web Page - Stephanie Wheeler (not present) salemcivicassociation.org to be updated. Topic was discussed at Executive Board meeting.

Membership - Jake Wheeler

Currently 126 residential members. SCA would like to see 200.

Safety Committee - Jeff Combs

Nothing to report or discuss.

Hospitality - (acting) Charlene

- August Cookout/Meeting: August 23 —SCA will provide meats and condiments and chips. Members asked to bring side dishes to share.
- October 25 - Soup and Chili cook off.
- December 20- Holiday Party - Pizza from Pizza House.

Salem Elementary

- Currently, no active PTA. You do not have to have children at Salem Elementary School to be in PTA. If interested, please see Allison.
- Parent Consultant/Family Ambassador - Paid PT position at Salem ES. Role is to engage families to become involved. If interested, contact Salem School.
- Resident suggested winter coat drive for Salem ES students. Charlene will reach out to the principal.
- School Supplies - Salem receives taxpayer funds to provide supplies; not a current need. CPS has event coming up for school supplies.

Feral Cats - Rae Kirkbride (614) 378-7950; rk@sregroup.com.

She and one other person run Trap/Neuter/Release (TNR) for feral cats in Salem. TNR extremely effective in preventing potentially 5000 cats in the reproductive lifetime of an unspayed female. If feral cats did not exist in the neighborhood, rats would

take over. Cat Welfare provides vouchers for spay/neuter for \$10 and clips ear tips to mark cats as altered. Homeless to Home (Marion) organization takes all cats brought in. Contributions can be made via Kroger/Amazon.

If residents have a problem with feral cats, please call Rae and let her know how you can help.

Help is needed to control feral cat population and asking for volunteers:

- Drivers to take captured cats to the vet.
- People to help feed.
- Places/shelters to house cats in winter.

Needed for winter shelter: Rubbermaid containers (with lid); wood pallets; plywood 1/2", 1/4".

Contact Rae if you have feral cat on property; they will come and determine if cat is spayed.

Old Business


- Garage Sale: August 6 - Joe Jackson (ReMax sponsor) Ads in Clintonville Spotlight (July/August). May need to use old signs for garage sale. Event is on Facebook - if participating, announce there.
- National Night out: Tuesday, August 2, 6-8 p.m. at Chaseland. Games, popsicles, dog treats, beverages.
- Block Party Sunday, September 25, on Garvey between Roche/Darcy. Allison: insurance; Charlene: forms/signatures; Angie: inflatable. Food: SCA will provide hot dogs/condiments, chips, water. Need additional donations of packaged snacks (chips, cookies, etc.)

New Business

Regarding article in *Lamplighter* about Poste Lake, everyone living on the lake loved the article.

Announcements

- Civil War Reenactment; War of Rebellion being planned by resident.
- Clintonville Community Choir looking for new voices. 7 p.m. Sunday, July 24.
- Resident reported being attacked by hornets. Time of year they build nests in the ground. Be careful.
- Abandoned truck on North Meadows has been towed. City opened second impound lot.

Motion to adjourn. 

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June Minutes con't. from page 2

- Understand the rights granted under the Housing for All legislation: 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 29 at Columbus State Community College, Mitchell Hall, Crane Room, 250 Cleveland Ave. Report from the Quarterly Good Neighbor meeting with Community Shelter Board (CSB) and YMCA 6/2/22:
- 1289 Dublin-Granville Rd. is no longer used as covid quarantine location. CSB is in discussion with current owner to explore renovating the site to provide permanent supportive housing facility.
- 1111 Mediterranean Ave. permanent supportive housing site is fully leased (70 units). Homefull will take over delivery of support services, along with continued management of the facility.
- 888 E Dublin Granville Rd. (former Magnusson hotel) has been purchased by a private developer for use as an affordable permanent supported housing residence. YMCA contracted to provide 24/7 front desk staff, security staff, and coordination of access to employment, training, food access, medical and mental health services. The pool/athletic club attached to the former hotel is currently contracted for use by a private swim club.
- Three rooms at America's Best Value Inn on Sinclair Rd are being leased for three clients who need covid quarantine space, with medical and meal services provided.

NCC Development Committee - Sam Shy



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- Nothing on the NCC agenda is related to the Salem area.

Communications - Angie VanHulle (not present)
 Next Lamplighter - August; Articles due - August 6
Salem Web Page - Stephanie Wheeler (not present)

- salemcivicassociation.org will be updated

Membership - Jake Wheeler

- 106 (as of 06/27/2022)

Safety Committee - Jeff Combs

- Facebook post about the death of the woman in the Worthington Woods Apts. - appears to have been an OD

- Speedway - attempted robbery

Hospitality - (acting) Charlene

Thank you, Silver Smiles, for providing snacks.

August 23- cookout for the meeting

Salem Elementary

- Salem does not have an active PTA - you don't have to have kids at the school, just need to live in the area of the school in order to start or participate in the PTA.

Old Business:

- **Need SCA Secretary**

- Fourth of July Parade - starts at 11 a.m. at Karl/Morse and goes to 161.

- National Night out - August 2 6-8 p.m. at Chaseland.

- Community Garage Sale - August 6 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Joe Jackson (ReMax sponsor)

- Shredding event (date will be announced)


- Block Party September 25

New Business

- Issues have been raised about signage at 5644 Sinclair Rd. The city has closed the case, stating the sign is under the 10 square feet graphic requirement and therefore can stand.

Announcements

- Church not available for July meeting; meeting to be moved to July 19

- **Motion to adjourn.** 

(pun intended) as were NNO sunglasses and t-shirts. Salem very happily welcomed one particular guest, Police Detective Andrew Rogerson, who was able to join us and meet and greet our residents!

Enhancing the safety of the residents of and visitors to Salem is all of our responsibility. Showing up and participating in NNO is one way to do just that! To that end, Salem residents have been doing a great job looking out for one another. Our Salem Civic Association Facebook page has become a great resource in making Salem residents more aware of any suspicious or other questionable activity in the area. Ring camera footage and cell phone photos, sometimes shared through the Facebook page, can also be a very helpful tool in preventing and solving crime.

One of the officer positions (i.e., board members) on the SCA board is a Safety Officer, currently Jeffrey Combs. The Safety Officer can help provide support and connect Salem neighbors to appropriate resources to redress safety issues. For example, if you have attended any recent SCA monthly meetings, you know that the non-emergency number for the Columbus Division of Police is 645-4545. It has been stressed at these meetings to notify authorities of criminal or suspicious behavior by either calling 911 or the non-emergency number as appropriate. This sends a clear message to the Columbus Division of Police as well as potential offenders that our community will not tolerate certain behavior.


In addition, quality of life issues can be addressed by calling 311 or by going online and entering in a service request on the 311 Service Portal (www.columbus.gov/311serviceportal). Categories of 311 Service Requests include, but are not limited to, "Animals, Pets, Pests & Wildlife Issues," "City Code



Violations, Noise, Building, and Private Property Zoning Issues," "Homelessness Issues," "Park, Bike Path, Recreation Center, Pool, and Tree Issues," and "Public Safety and Traffic Enforcement Issues."

In addition, the Columbus Division of Police assigns a Community Liaison Officer to various communities in Columbus. The mission of the Community Liaison Unit of the Columbus Division of Police is to "provide law enforcement services to the assigned precincts by collaborating with the public to reduce incidents affecting quality of life issues." Salem's Community Liaison Officer is currently Daniel Yandrich (18th

Precinct). Officer Yandrich is a regular attendee of the monthly SCA meetings at Salem Baptist where he gives an update on crime impacting the neighborhood, crime prevention techniques, and other helpful information. Residents have the ability to ask questions and to further discuss issues that may pose a safety hazard to the community with Officer Yandrich and their neighbors. Unfortunately for us, Officer Yandrich is quite popular and was invited to seven (!) NNO events this year. We hope to get on his calendar in 2023 so that more Salem residents have the opportunity to meet him. In the meantime, everyone is welcome to attend our monthly SCA meetings to meet Officer Yandrich and otherwise become more educated about our community.

If you're interested in learning more about NNO, visit www.NATW.org. And, if you're interested in helping to organize or volunteer at Salem's 2023 NNO, or have any ideas for how to celebrate, email the Salem Civic Association at salemcivicassn@gmail.com. 

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