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OUR TOWN SALEM

Connecticut

SPRING 2018



Cover Photo by Holly Allgood

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Dear Fellow Townspeople:

As another New England Winter ends, it is exciting to see all of the activities that our spring season brings. Let's look at what's been going on in our Town:

Town Continues in very Good Financial Health

Our Fiscal Year 16/17 Audit is complete. O'Connor Davies, Accountants, LLP reports the Town of Salem is in very good financial shape. Our equity is increasing at a steady rate while our liabilities are decreasing. The unassigned fund balance (often called a rainy day fund) has remained healthy in spite of cutbacks from the State of Connecticut to our Town. Both the Town Government and School returned unused funds from their budgets.

A special thanks to the staff at Town Hall and the School for their good stewardship with our Townspeople's money.

Clean Energy Grant

As a Clean Energy Community our Town earned a \$5,000 Bright Idea Grant. The Funds will be used for additional energy efficient upgrades throughout the Town's Facilities.

Age Restricted Development - 55 and over

Thanks to the fine work of our Planning and Zoning Commission we now have very practical regulations for Age Restricted Development. The 55 and over population is one of Salem's fastest growing demographics. Because of these updated Regulations we have our first Age Restricted Development approval. These units will be in the new building behind the Pharmacy/Anytime Fitness. Plans include 6 new housing units with garages for each unit. Anticipated completion is fall of 2019.

Happy Birthday Salem - 200-Years old

Next year, 2019, Salem turns 200 years old! The Board of Selectmen has appointed a Bicentennial Committee to coordinate the events for 2019. The Bicentennial Committee would like input from all groups and organizations in Town on their ideas and plans to celebrate this important milestone. Please contact Louise at 860-859-3873 ext. 100 to have your ideas and places included with the events of the Bicentennial Committee.

What are your 200?

As our Bicentennial Year approaches, several residents have already shown their pride in our Town by committing to their 200. Several residents have volunteered to pick up 200 pieces of litter in their neighborhoods. Others have joined volunteer boards and commissions to volunteer their 200 for the betterment of our Town.

Many residents have shown a renewed interest in our Historical Society to learn about our history over the past 200 years. Others have pledged their kindness with helping neighbors. One resident donates \$200 to the Salem Needy Fund, while others participate in our many civic organizations.

The excitement is building for our Fellow Townspeople as we approach our 200th year. In closing, with the warmer weather, be sure to enjoy our beautiful spring season. I hope to see you at the Salem 5K Road Race and our Memorial Day Parade.

I am honored to be your First Selectman.

Respectfully,



Kevin Lyden, First Selectman



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1819-2019

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www.salemct.gov

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270 Hartford Road
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Mon.-Wed.: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Thurs.: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Fri.: Closed

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Answers to questions about the 2017-2018 flu season

Flu season in 2017-2018 turned out to be one of the worst in recent memory. Matthew L. Cartter, MD, MPH; State Epidemiologist & Director of Infectious Diseases; Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH) recently provided some answers to questions posed by local Directors of Health. We thought we would share the information in the event that you had many of the same questions.

Question: Is the CTDPH collecting information regarding vaccination status at the time of diagnosis?

Answer: While all flu-associated deaths are reportable in Connecticut, we receive only limited flu vaccination information on adult deaths. Adult vaccination usually occurs in an outpatient setting (or at pharmacy, etc.) and the information is usually not available to the hospital reporting these deaths. In contrast, good information is available on vaccine use among flu-associated pediatric deaths that are reportable to the CDC. The CDC states that between 80-85% of reported flu-associated pediatric deaths have occurred in children who did not receive their flu vaccine that season.

Question: Why should people still get a vaccine despite the low effectiveness of the vaccine against H3N2?

Answer: The quadrivalent influenza vaccine protects against four types of flu: 2 type A (H3N2 & H1N1), as well as 2 type B strains. Even if this season's vaccine effectiveness against H3N2 is low the vaccine will help protect against hospitalization and severe illness from H3N2 disease as well as providing protection against H1N1 and type B strains. During many flu seasons Type B influenza cases are seen later in the season so receiving a flu vaccine now can help protect against late season illness.

Question: Should schools close because of the flu?

Answer: During an influenza pandemic, which the current (2017-2018) flu season is not, school closures are one of the tools that can be used to limit or delay the transmission of the pandemic influenza virus. For seasonal influenza, decisions about school closure should be made by the school superintendent based on whether schools are able to provide services due to the number of teachers and/or students that are absent.

Question: Why are pharmacies experiencing a flu vaccine shortage, and when is it expected to end?

Answer: Pharmacies order their own flu doses directly from the manufacturer or a 3rd party vendor based on their anticipated need for the flu season. By the first week of February, it is not surprising for any provider to be whittling down their inventory/supply of flu doses. Even though it is recommended for providers to continue vaccinating throughout the entire course of flu season, the bulk of the vaccines is usually administered between September and January. With all the recent attention given to the increase in flu cases and hospitalizations, we (CT DPH) are seeing a larger volume of residents looking to receive their flu vaccination later in the season after some providers have depleted their supply, thus we are seeing some spot shortages.

To learn more about the work of the Uncas Health District, please contact us at (860) 823-1189 or www.uncashd.org. The links to access us on Twitter and Facebook can be found on our website.

Submitted by: Patrick McCormack, Director of Health

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SALEM FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S EVENTS

Salem Knitters

The knitting group meets on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, in the reading area of the Salem Free Public Library. The group meets weekly to work on their own projects or to contribute to the annual knitted goods sale to benefit the Friends of the Salem Library. Refreshments are served. You may just drop in, no registration required!

Salem Library Book Group

The library's adult book group, moderated by staff member, Sam Harfenist, will meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Registration is suggested by calling 860-859-1130, but walk-ins are welcome!

Mahjong Group

Meets every Monday at 12:30 p.m. in the library's program room. New players welcome! Just drop in!

Passport to Connecticut Libraries

April 2-30, 2018. Salem Free Public Library is participating in the Passport to Connecticut Libraries Program, to celebrate National Library Week in April. To participate, visit your local participating CT library to pick up your Passport. They will stamp it and give you a token gift to get you started. Then, take your Passport along as you visit other participating libraries. At each visit, you must show your library card, and then the library will stamp your passport and give you another small gift. If you visit at least five participating libraries and return your passport to a participating library by May 7th, then you will be entered into one state-wide drawing for a chance to

win a \$150 Visa gift card for adults (18 and up) and a \$100 Visa gift card for children (under 18).

Spring Story Time for 3's & 4's

Held on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Stories and a craft, presented by staff member, Susan Nye. The five week session begins on Thursday, April 5, 2018 through Thursday, May 3, 2018. Space is limited. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

Turtles

Saturday, April 7, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. Presented by Pam Meier, Licensed Turtle Rehabilitator. Pam will discuss the major species of turtles found in CT, their biology and the major conservation issues they face today. Some live turtles will be shown. Recommended for ages 10 to adult. Limit 40. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

Paint Party

Saturday, April 14, 2018 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The program is presented by artist Dawn Shumbo. Connect with your creative side at our paint party! Dawn will help you create a personal work of art using a featured painting as a guide. All supplies provided. The program is limited to 10 adults. Call 860-859-1130 to register. PROGRAM IS FULL; WAITING LIST ONLY.

Jedi Training Revenge of the "5th"

Saturday, May 5, 2018 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Learn how to use the force with our galactic warrior, "Rey" and her Jedi assistant from Simply Enchanted. The hour-long event includes lightsaber training, "Jedi Says" game and an

obstacle course. Upon completion, participants will receive a certificate. There will be photo opportunities at the end of the program. Limit 20, ages 5 & up. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

Black Bears

Wednesday, May 16, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m. The program is presented by Paul Colburn, Master Wildlife Conservationist. Overview of the natural history of black bears in Connecticut, their diet, behavior, reproduction and current research efforts. The program will provide practical recommendations for coexistence with the black bear population. Black bear artifacts will be on display. Limit 40, ages 12 and up. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

KidSight-Community

Eye Screening for Children-Saturday, May 19, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Sponsored by the Lions KidSight USA Foundation and hosted by the Salem Lions Club for Salem & Bozrah residents. No registration required.

Orangutans

Wednesday, May 30, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m. Presented by Katherine Meier, a PhD candidate in anthropology who spent a year in Central Borneo studying orangutans. Come learn about her travels, field work and immersion in the Indonesian culture. The program is suitable for teens and adults. Limit 40. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

The Lost Art of Dowsing

Wednesday, June 6, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m. Lecture and demonstration on the lost art of dowsing, presented by

retired history teacher, Roger Riley. Dowsing is a technique for searching for underground water or minerals by observing the motion of a pointer, traditionally a forked stick or divining rod. The program will move outside for the demonstration, weather permitting. Limit 40. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

Building StoneWalls

Saturday, June 9, 2018 @ 1:00 p.m. Presented by Kevin Gardner, author of *The Granite Kiss: Traditions and Techniques of Building New England Stone Walls*, *Stone Building: How to Make New England-Style Walls and Other Structures the Old Way*, and several other books. The program will include the building of a miniature stone wall for demonstration. Limit 40. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

Jake Manzi Concert

Saturday, June 16, 2018 @ 2:00 p.m. Jake Manzi is a guitar player & singer/songwriter from Western Massachusetts, touring to promote his CD, *"Singing to the Wall."* Limit 40. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

First Ladies

An Adventure in Glamour, Guts & Gumption-Wednesday, July 11, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m. This lively, engaging and humorous presentation by Mariann Millard weaves historical and modern events and facts about First Ladies to understand and appreciate the important role they play, starting with Martha Washington. Suitable for teens and adults. Limit 40. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

All programs sponsored by the Friends of the Salem Library

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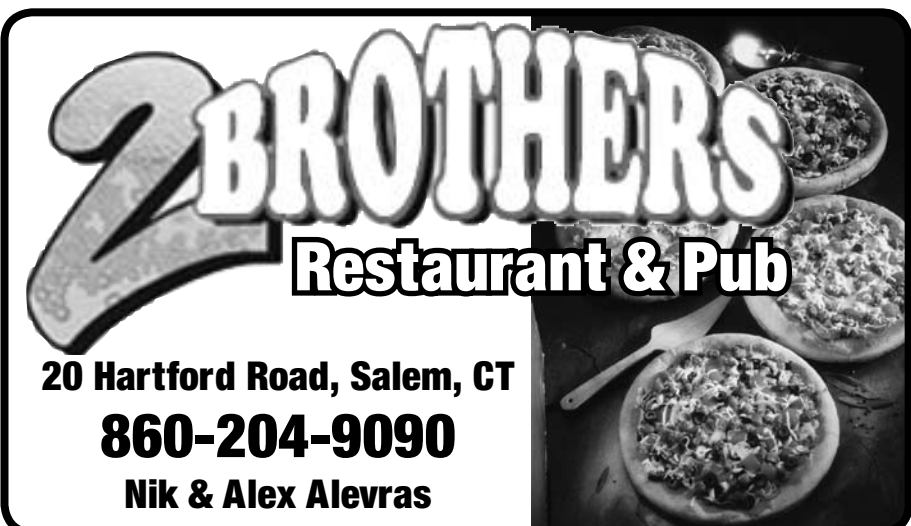
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Town of Salem Emergency Responders Training Facility

Before Renovations



Have you driven through the center of town at night and wondered what the two red lights are that are illuminated on a building at 228 Hartford Road? These lights mark the site of a joint training facility for Salem's Emergency Responders. This training building is designed to be used year-round for Emergency Responders to better prepare themselves in a safe environment for emergencies at residential homes or any other location in our community.

The Salem Volunteer Fire Company (SVFC) first began using this building in November of 2014 for basic drills, including hose line advancement and victim searches. Since then, Emergency Responders from Salem and surrounding towns have continued to train for hundreds of hours. Some of these trainings include live fire training,

search and rescue, hazardous material drills and Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) training. The ability to use this building at the department's disposal has already saved the Town of Salem thousands of dollars by not having to rent regional training centers. It also allows the fire companies to train locally which keeps them available for our town's emergencies as we are training, hence not affecting the response times for the Town of Salem. This training facility has also gained recognition by the State of Connecticut as an approved location for state practical exams for current and future fire fighters. Several mutual aid departments, including Bozrah, East Haddam, Lyme and Yantic have already shown interest training side by side in the facility with Emergency Responders.

With the Town of Salem budgeting money to make repairs, along with the hard work of Salem Volunteer Fire Company volunteers, local contractors and mutual aid departments, we have dedicated more than 2,000 hours of volunteer time and materials rebuilding this training facility. Improvements include: repairs to the old wood structure, originally built as a lumber mill operated by the Zemko family, and a professionally engineered block burn chamber designed to safely train with live fires. In addition, several rooms were built inside the original structure to resemble those found in residential and commercial

structures throughout the town. These improvements are important in the on-going training of all of our volunteers so that they may safely work in our time of need. The construction phase of this facility is near its end and we are looking forward to using this building for many years to come!



After Renovations

The Town will keep a line item with a small budget open for the upkeep and operation of the facility. Any additional funding needed to complete this facility will come from the fundraising efforts of the Salem Volunteer Fire Company.

We are planning to hold an open house, and a date will be scheduled in the near future for townspeople to come and see what has been done and how our Emergency Responders train.

Submitted by: Rob Oloski, Lieutenant

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Salem Volunteer Fire Company Announces Scholarship Opportunities

The Salem Volunteer Fire Company (SVFC) has developed a scholarship committee and has decided to award two scholarships in 2018. The first scholarship will be an award of \$1000 to a Salem student graduating high school. The student must be a resident of Salem and pursuing an associate or bachelor's degree. First consideration will be given to an individual pursuing a degree in the medical field, fire science, fire technology or fire administration. This scholarship will be awarded in May. The deadline to apply is April 2, 2018.

The second scholarship will be awarded in September in the amount of \$1000 to an adult seeking continuing education. First consideration will be for an adult pursuing a certification or degree in the medical or fire field. The adult must reside in the Town of Salem and provide proof of residency and acceptance into a continuing education program. The deadline to apply is August 6, 2018.

The Salem Volunteer Fire Company strongly believes in continuing education. The members are constantly training and staying abreast of the latest ideas and techniques. The SVFC would like to help individuals that could possibly be an asset to our residents and the Fire Company.

Applications for the scholarships are available at your local high school and the Salem Volunteer Fire Company located at 424 Hartford Road, Salem, CT. Stop in or leave a message for the scholarship committee by phone at: 860-859-0942.

Submitted by: Richard Martin, Chair, SVFC Scholarship Committee

Greetings from your Salem Resident Troopers!

Greetings from your Salem Resident Troopers. We hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season. In December, the Salem Resident Troopers, with the help of the Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company, hosted a successful toy drive. The toy drive was held in the Salem Marketplace parking lot. Despite the snowy weather there was still a great turn out! A big thanks to all those who braved the weather to help less fortunate families.

Trooper LaRue has been teaching DARE to the Salem School kindergarten and eighth grade students. The kindergarten DARE class graduated in March.

Trooper Pariseau and Trooper LaRue played in the Salem School student vs. faculty basketball game that was held on March 2 at the Salem School.

As always, please be safe while traveling the roadways and take simple, yet effective measures such as locking your car and house doors to prevent crime. Thank you for your continued support!

Submitted by Troopers LaRue and Pariseau

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On Sunday, March 4, 2018, Salem and Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Companies were dispatched for an unmanned canoe in the area of the Gardner Lake Dam on Lake Road in the Town of Bozrah. Upon arrival, Chief Savalle established Lake Road Command. It was determined that the canoe was just off Socha's Point on the northeast end of the lake. It was verified as unmanned and the Salem and Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Companies were directed by Command to launch a rescue boat at the state boat launch, 126 Old Colchester Road. Upon arrival, the Bozrah Fire Marshal, Tom Main, and Bozrah Captain, Rich Russo, were each advised of the event. Per procedure, the Norwich Dive Team was dispatched along with the Colchester Hayward Fire Company drone for the search of the canoe operator.

Captain Russo, along with EMT Lisa Greenleaf, hiked over to Socha's Point to attempt to locate the lost operator of the canoe. Their findings were negative. The Gardner Lake Boat, Marine 127, was launched and made the trek over the white capped waters of Gardner Lake with boat operator EMR / Firefighter Ben Mattingly, EMR / Firefighter Pete Silva, and EMR / Firefighter

Cody Ferreira. Gardner Lake Ambulance 527 was on hand at the boat launch for safety and rehabilitation with EMR Atkinson, EMR Hoinsky, and EMT Cheryl Philopena. Deputy Chief Barnes oversaw the boat launch operation with Rescue

Deputy Fire Marshal John Cunningham drove down to the end of Fett Road, and walked along the beach. He soon viewed a man walking along the water's edge. He interviewed the man and determined that this was the operator of the canoe. When the operator's name was verified with the State Police, the incident was determined to be under control. Fire Marshal Cunningham chauffeured the gentleman to Socha's Point where he was met by the Bozrah ambulance and cleared with no injuries or hyperthermia. He was then interviewed by Connecticut State Police and DEEP ENCONN Police. All units wrapped up operations at the dam and were released.

The Gardner Lake boat made it back to the boat launch through white caps and 20 to 25 knot winds, greeted by EMR / Firefighter Trey Royce and Captain Steve Philopena.

Each of the Marine 127 personnel were evaluated in the ambulance, warmed up, and returned to service. All units were cleaned and placed back into service.

Submitted by: Chief Jim Savalle

Photo Credit: Firefighter / EMT Justin Bingham & Chief Jim Savalle.



127 and Assistant Chief Joe Danao.

Bozrah Volunteer Fire Company assembled at Socha's launch. Gardner Lake Marine 127, directed by Captain Russo, retrieved the canoe, but was unable to locate the operator. No footprints were noted in the sandbar. The canoe was transported back to Socha's Point, meeting Bozrah, the Connecticut State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection [DEEP], and Connecticut State Police.

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GARDNER LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE CO.

We are proud to announce that the following Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company personnel have contributed significant time and effort in completing EMT, EMR and Firefighter 1 training:

Emergency Medical Responder (EMR): 80 Hours
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT): 180 Hours
Firefighter 1: 170 Hours

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>Name</u>
EMR	Ashley Danao
EMR	Kaylie Minella
EMR	Will Piper
EMT	Aylie Crosby
EMT	Noah Mocksfield
EMT	Addi Orsinni
EMR / Firefighter 2	Bruce Henry
EMT / Firefighter 1	Justin Bingham
EMR / Firefighter 1	Cody Ferreira
EMR / Firefighter 1	Ben Mattingly
EMR / Firefighter 1	Kevin Milligan Jr.
EMR / Firefighter 1	Trey Royce
EMR / Firefighter 1	Pete Silva

Our family is growing. Become part of a successful team. Stop in or give us a call:

Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company
429 Old Colchester Road, Salem, CT.
Chief Jim Savalle - 860-859-1743

Wellness Fair

Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company will be holding their second Wellness Fair on May 12, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the GLVFC, 429 Old Colchester Road, Salem, CT.

This Wellness fair is not only a fundraiser for the GLVFC, but it is also a great way for first responders and the general public to learn about the kinds of services available to promote personal wellness.

First responders, in particular, see and participate in incidents that most people would run away from, whether it is a car accident, structure fires or medical calls. Some of these incidents can have a physical and emotional impact on those involved.

The Wellness Fair helps to educate people on the local services available to them to facilitate self-care, a huge component to overall wellness. Participants include: massage therapists, Reiki practitioners, a reflexologist, fitness gurus and more. In addition, there will be a silent auction and food trucks.

We would love for everyone to stop by and check it out. Interested in being a vendor? Contact: Aimie Hoinsky at redhealermassage@gmail.com.

"You can't pour from an empty cup"

Submitted by: Aimie Hoinsky



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Salem Senior Citizens, join us monthly on the 2nd Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. at the Salem Volunteer Fire Company for community updates from First Selectman Kevin Lyden and Resident Trooper Chris Pariseau.

The meetings are a great way to stay informed, socialize and engage with other seniors in town. In addition to guest speakers, we participate in a fun session of "Mind Aerobics", hosted by Bridget and always adjourn with a luncheon.

All seniors over 60 are welcome to attend the meetings each month or even as your schedule permits. The group is all-inclusive and open to ideas for new programs or events.

Resident Trooper Luke LaRue will present important information regarding "Personal Safety" at the April meeting. I encourage everyone to attend and bring a friend.

• **Mobile Food Pantry Program** is the first Wednesday of each month from 5-6 p.m. It is located in the back of Salem School under the carport. You will be provided with fresh fruits and vegetables, proteins and other healthy foods AT NO CHARGE to you. Please bring your own bag and ID.

• **Municipal Medical Transportation Services** renewal reminder (July 1st yearly)

• For more **Elderly/Aging Resources**, Dial 2-1-1 or www.211CT.org

• **TVCCA Telephone Numbers:**

TVCCA Assistance: (860) 425-6582

Energy: (860) 425-6681

Meals On Wheels: (860) 886-1720

Submitted by: Pam Henry, Agent for the Aging

Each year Lions District 23-C honors a non-Lion citizen from each Lions Club as its Humanitarian of the Year. Salem Lions was proud to select Bobbie Ziegra as its Humanitarian for 2017. She and the other Clubs' selections were honored by the District at a dinner and ceremony on January 20, 2018 at Groton Motor Inn. Attendance included our State Senator Paul Formica and State Representative Holly Cheeseman. Congratulations to Bobbie and the eight recipients.

It's Road Race time again. Our 25th Salem Lions Road Race will take place on Saturday, April 14. The youth 1 mile Fun Run starts at 9:00 a.m. at the head of Morgan Road; the 5K Race will begin following the Fun Run, and will start in front of Salem School. Get your friends together and enjoy a good morning run. Beverages and food will be served in the school's multi-purpose room at the completion of the 5K Run. Prizes will be announced and awarded. All information and registration forms are available on our website: www.salemctroadrace.org.



Scholarship time is approaching quickly. Available to all Salem students graduating from high school this year, the Salem Lions will present two \$2000 scholarships. Winners and their parents will be our guests at our June meeting on June 28, 2018. Application forms will be available from guidance counselors at your local high schools. If you do not have access to an application, please contact Lion George Ziegra at 860-859-0609.

Thank You to all for supporting our projects and fundraisers! 100% of all donations and all of the profits from our fundraisers are returned to our community charitable projects. Salem Lions are proud to be of service to Salem. If you are interested in becoming a Salem Lion, or need more information about our organization, contact Lion Bill Martin at 860-859-1881, or any other Lion.

Submitted by: Lion George Ziegra



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dows. The interior lighting was changed to LED bulbs with new period chandeliers. The walkway to the front of the building is now brick-paved for ease of access and a new light was installed over the front door. The museum street sign has been refinished. Shortly, the building will have a new sign across its high front exterior surface: "Salem Historical Society Museum." The large tree in front of the museum will be trimmed to improve the view of the building from the street. Some historic millstone pieces will be tastefully placed in the front of the building.

The Society has been sharing some of Salem's history with other museums. Our most recent effort was a large display at the Slater Memorial Museum in Norwich in January 2018 covering Bela Lyon Pratt's sculptures. Just recently, we also finished writing a piece on Salem that will appear in a new booklet about museums in cities and towns of Connecticut. We are also working on sharing information on the Tiffany and Bingham families with the Lyman Allyn Museum in New London.

While we share our history and artifacts with others, there is still much work to be done to transfer museum records into permanent electronic files. To accomplish this, the museum is in need of a computer, a printer, and keyboard assistance to input these critical records in digital form.

Soon the museum membership team will be

awarding special classic lapel pins to lifetime members. Pins will also be available to annual members for a small stipend. Member dues and donations are the Society's main income stream which goes to cover maintenance, insurance, security systems and working supplies.

We, of course, welcome new members. The museum is open for viewing during the summer months at posted times, and we look forward to seeing you.

For further information on museum visiting hours and membership, call: 860-859-1803.

Salem Historical Society Annual Fund Raiser

Monday, May 28, 2018

on the Town Green at 9:00 a.m.

Coordinated with Memorial Day Parade
and Ceremonies

Famous Strawberry Shortcakes

The Salem Historical Society is asking for volunteers to work for a few hours to help bake and prepare our Famous Strawberry Shortcakes.

Please contact Evelyn Cunningham
at (860) 859-0459.

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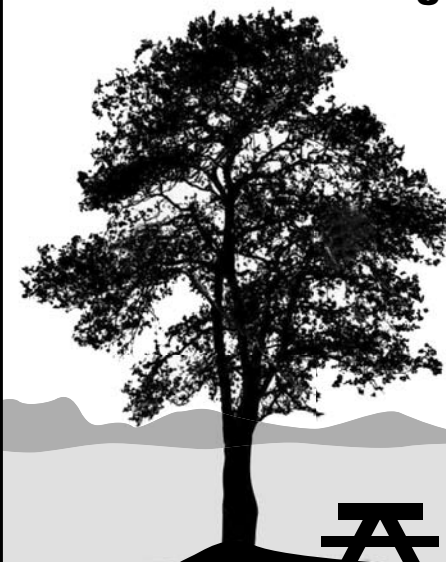
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A Message from State Senator Paul Formica and State Representative Holly Cheeseman

As your state senator and representative we are excited to represent your voices at the Capitol in Hartford.

While our state is currently facing significant financial challenges, a deficit of approximately \$162 million, we are working every day to put Connecticut on a new path towards prosperity and job growth. During this "short" 2018 legislative session, which began in February and ends on May 9th, our main focus remains on stabilizing our state's finances, adopting policies to help our state's economy grow and thrive, and making Connecticut a great place to live, work and raise a family. Rep. Cheeseman serves on the Finance, Revenue & Bonding, Energy & Technology and Higher Education & Employment Advancement Committees while Sen. Formica serves as Co-Chair of the Appropriations Committee and Energy & Technology Committee and is a member of the Commerce Committee and Tourism Caucus.

Lawmakers have also been debating issues such as tolls, reducing state regulations, the legalization of marijuana, revising the state's education cost sharing formula, renewable energy goals, and paid family medical leave, among others.

Here's a quick look at just some of the top issues being discussed at the State Capitol this year:

Community and Economic Development

Here in southeastern Connecticut, tourism, manufacturing and ener-

gy are three huge focuses for us to boost the local economy, add value to our communities and provide great jobs. We've recently passed legislation in Hartford to boost tourism funding without increasing taxes to spark further growth. We are also focused this year on finding ways to support our manufacturing industry through education, job training, and reducing burdens so companies can grow and expand. Finally, we recognize the significant role energy plays in economic and community development and support efforts to enhance access to renewable energy including the development of future offshore wind projects.

Mental Health & Substance Abuse Treatment

Thousands of people across our state struggle with mental health issues and substance abuse on a daily basis. It is something that touches all of us, directly or indirectly. It is also something that we need to talk about more to eliminate the stigma and determine how we can help people who are suffering. We have worked in recent years to pass legislation that 1) works towards preventing addiction before it happens through education and better monitoring of prescription drugs and 2) provides treatment to help people recover when they need help. We have also supported efforts to fund mental health programs to support the most vulnerable and will continue to make these programs a priority.

Bill Proposals

Sen. Formica has proposed multiple bill concepts in various committees including bills that would achieve the following:

- Enhance workforce training programs in partnership with the submarine and small manufacturing industry.
- Improve the state's foster care system by requiring children to be properly notified before being transferred to a new home.
- Eliminate restrictions that prevent the craft beer industry from growing jobs and expanding business.
- Initiate an RFP or RFI to gather more information about potential options to sell the Seaside Regional Center so we can compare alternative options to building an expensive state-owned hotel.

Rep. Cheeseman has proposed several pieces of legislation to the Appropriations, Government Administration & Elections, Higher Education & Employment Advancement and Planning &

Development Committees this year. These include efforts to:

- Eliminate the granting of funds under the Citizens' Election Program to the candidate committees of unopposed candidates.
- Require colleges and universities to establish a "campus free speech" policy.
- Require the approval of two-thirds of the members of both chambers of the General Assembly for the passage of any new mandate on municipalities.

Staying Connected with the Capitol

Feel free to contact Paul at:
Paul.Formica@cga.ct.gov
Office phone: 1-800-842-1421
Cell phone: 860-235-1869.

Feel free to contact Holly at:
Holly.Cheeseman@housegop.ct.gov
or 1-800-842-1423

We're here to represent your voices, and we always look forward to hearing from you!

BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Salem Board of Education welcomes new members Tiffany Cunningham and Sue Spang.

Our Board is charged with ensuring that the children of Salem are educated to the highest standards in the most cost-effective manner.

We work with the school staff and the administration on next year's proposed budget for the Board of Finance to consider.

We look forward to an open and honest debate to arrive at a final budget that will preserve the excellence of the education provided by our dedicated staff and administrators.

A public hearing and presentation of the budget is scheduled for April 11, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room at the school.

This is the town's main opportunity to request changes to the budget before the Town Meeting and referendum in May.



SALEM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SALEM ALERTS

Salem Alerts is a notification service to keep everyone informed in case of safety concerns and / or Town wide Emergencies.

These services include:

1. Voice message 2. Text message 3. E-Mail

For more information, contact Christina Martin
(christine.martin@salemct.gov)

Or visit: Salem Town Hall



As we approach our third trimester and the year is winding down, I begin to reflect on the school year.

What stands out to me besides our students' growth as individuals and their academic growth, is the closeness and caring of the Salem community.

I have had the opportunity this school year to work alongside many community members who volunteered, along with our staff, to participate in our Long-Range Planning committee. It is heartwarming to realize the support we have from our community. I would like to thank all of the members of the community, parents, the Board of Education, our Selectmen, the Board of Finance, the Resident Troopers, our Fire Departments, our PTO members, Salem School Staff and our students for your continued support. I would like to share some of our students' accomplishments and experiences that have transpired so far this school year.

National Junior Honor Society

The Salem School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society is having a very productive year of service to the Salem School and the community. The seven and eighth grade members began the year by constructing the tree-marking signage for the Nature Trail. The group also conducted two fundraisers to raise money for hurricane relief which resulted in a six hundred dollar donation to Save the Children's Puerto Rican Hurricane Fund. During the basketball season, the Honor Society ran the snack bar at all home games. They did this to assist Mr. Pugliese in raising funds for Salem School's athletic program.

In January, four more eighth graders were inducted into the group. We are very proud of these outstanding students; Lilly Gendron, Abigail Hanney, Jordyn Silveira, and Jesse Oloski. At the end of the second trimester, NJHS will be open to new seventh grade candidates. In the spring, the members are organizing a Leadership Workshop for their classmates.

Math Counts

Our Math Counts team headed to the Coast Guard Academy in February to compete in the Regional Math Counts Competition. Out of twenty-

five schools competing, Salem School placed eighth in the competition. The students representing Salem School were: McKyle Khan, Xander Lopez, Jason Jiao, Ted Bergman, Laraib Khan, Dan Brothers, Dean Palermo, Tyler McShane, Aiden Rodgers and Dominic Tocchio.

Technology Education

The month of December kicked off the coding units at Salem School during Computer Science Education week. Every grade level participated in some type of coding challenge using platforms such as the Hour of Code, Code.org, or other coding games. The fifth and sixth graders continued their programming in Scratch, a free visual programming language developed at the MIT Media Lab. The seventh and eighth graders were introduced to our new robots! The Edison robot is an engaging tool for teaching kids computational thinking and computer programming in a hands-on way. The seventh and eighth graders started with the graphical icon-based Edblocks to get to know the machine. The eighth graders will progress to using the text based Python.

Sports

The Salem Girls and Boys Basketball Teams both made the playoffs this season. The girls have a very young and talented team. Both the girls' and boys' teams lost in the semi-finals; both teams playing well right to the end. In the starting lineup for the girls are: Kaylen Bartok, Izzy Pazzaglia, Tenley Douglass, Zofia Maziarz and Neva Flickingers. Other talented supporting players include: Madison Arnott, Karly Sorrentino, Lexi Cummings, and Abby Tomblin. The Salem girls also have an array of 5th grade talent including: Kate Erikson, Gracie Lloyd and Violet Maziarz.

The Salem Boys are also young and very talented. Their starting lineup included their newest member of the team, Calvin Kilgore, along with John Bureau, Jesse Oloski, Greg Morgan and Dan Brothers. The team has had tremendous support from Jack Kelly and other young promising players which include: Max Van Dusen, Emmett Dunne, Ben Caron, Jordan Glidewell, Callaway Scott, Bryce Currier, Maddox Grillo-Smith,

Jack Mauri, Nate Bergman, Jack Jensen and Colby Van Dusen.

Assemblies

We have had two great assemblies performed by The Bureau of Lectures. They presented an interactive journey from simple funny robots to complex (and super cute) humanoid robots to our students in kindergarten through eighth grade. They explored Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) concepts that bring robotics to life! Students were able to interact and assist with robots on the cutting edge of technology and then see the robots carry out their commands. This assembly also aligns to the "Next Generation Science Standards."

The second assembly was performed by a musical duo who presented Cubanana, Melodías y danzas de Cuba, an immersion in Cuban culture enriched by stories and audience participation. Cubanana is comprised of Jesus, a hit songwriter and musician from Cuba, and Carrie, a singer/dancer with a master's degree in

education. Our Pre-K through eighth grade students learned a variety of songs, rhythms, dances, and instruments, while gaining historical, linguistic, and cultural perspectives.

Kindergarten Registration

We are now accepting pre-registration for our Kindergarten 2018-2019 students. In order to register, your child must be five years of age on or before January 1, 2019, have a record of current immunizations, a comprehensive physical examination dated on or after 8/29/17, a birth certificate, and proof of residency documentation per BOE Policy 5118.1.

If you are interested in registering your child for kindergarten please contact the Salem School at 860-859-0267 ext. 3202 or e-mail lbarberi@salem.cen.ct.gov with the following information: your name, child's name, child's date of birth, your Salem address and phone number. This will place you on our pre-registration list, and a registration packet will be mailed to you in the spring.

Submitted by: Principal Joan Phillips



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SALEM RECREATION

The Salem Recreation basketball league just finished its most exciting year to date. From November to March, Salem families enjoyed a season filled with skill-enhancing drills and practices, as well as games to put these skills to the test. The outline for this program is simple and laid back: work hard, be a good sport, and have fun!

The league is open to children in grades K-8. The bulk of the playing is done on Saturdays, with the addition of one practice during the week. This year, 93 kids played and 20 coaches volunteered to make this program a huge success.

We ended the season with a skills contest and pizza party to celebrate everyone's hard work.



Alan Maziarz, a volunteer who runs the league, says the program is "always evolving and open to suggestions." The program will be developing a website and a volunteer-based board similar to other sports in town now that the program has been established for a few years. The league is open to all parents, residents and community members wishing to serve on the board, to coach, to keep score, or to referee at games. This is also a great chance for middle school kids and high schoolers to fulfill community service hours! Please contact Alan Maziarz at: amaziarz@hotmail.com if you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities.

Skyhawks Sports Summer Programs

Skyhawks Multi Sports:
Soccer, Basketball
Baseball & Flag
Football
July 16 - 20
Mon - Fri,
9am - 3pm
Ages 7 to 12
Salem Elem. School

Mini-Hawks:
Soccer, Baseball
& Basketball
July 16 - 20
Mon - Fri,
9am - 12pm
Ages 4 to 7
Salem Elem.
School

Skyhawks Tennis Camp:
July 2 - 6
No Camp:
Wed. July 4
Mon, Tue, Thu,
Fri
9am - 12pm
Ages 6 - 12
Round Hill Road
Tennis Courts

Upcoming Programs, Events and Activities

Memorial Day Parade Bike Decorating Contest - Monday, May 28

Bozrah/Salem Baseball Opening Day: April 28, 2018

Connecticut Trails Day: June 2-3, 2018

Florence Griswold Afterschool Art Classes, Session 2:

April 9, 23, & 30, Mon: 3:30-4:30, Salem Elem. School, \$50

Lego Engineering Summer Program:

Jedi Engineering with LEGO Materials The Force Awakens

Summer Soccer Club UK Soccer Camp: Aug. 6-10, Mon-Fri, Round Hill Road Soccer Field. **UKIS Mini-Camp:** 5-6:30pm, Ages 4-6, \$90, **UK Classic Camp:** Mon-Fri, 5-8pm, Ages 6-to 14, \$120, **Registration info:** www.uksoccer.com

Coming Soon: Salem Rec sponsored **Family Karaoke Night** with The Music Bureau! Spring/Summer **Fit4MOMS Body Back** Sessions: southeasternct.fit4mom.com
Visit our Salem Recreation page at www.salemct.gov for more information about our programs and activities:



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COMING in MAY

The 2018 Spring Plant Sale

The Friends of the Salem Library will hold their annual Plant and Used Book Sale from May 10-12, 2018 at the Salem Free Public Library, 264 Hartford Road (Route 85), Salem. The sale will be open during normal library hours.

Setup will be on Wednesday, May 9th, beginning at noon. Wednesday afternoon is a good time to bring us the plants you wish to donate from your garden and/or to help set up the sale.

A wide variety of indoor and outdoor plants, most from local homes and gardens, are for sale at bargain prices. We also have an assortment of children's books, cookbooks, romance novels, paperbacks and a large number of puzzles and games for sale.

For more information or to volunteer:
Call Elizabeth Lane at 860-859-1125.

Sale hours are:

Thursday, May 10th 10:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Friday, May 11th 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 12th 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Memorial Day

On Memorial Day, the Town of Salem holds a parade and solemn ceremonies on the Town Green to honor our fallen soldiers, sailors and all the veterans who have served our country. The Friends of the Salem Library participate in the Memorial Day Observance by offering patriotic symbols, free of charge, to those who attend. In addition, we provide townspeople with the Salem Free Public Library Summer Reading schedule of events. Please visit our tent, located in front of the Historical Society Building, and pick up a schedule before or after the solemn ceremonies. While at our tent, you can also join or renew your Friends membership.

Join Salem Public Library on Facebook

In the upcoming months, the library staff and Friends hope to use the Salem Library's Facebook page to more widely promote our library's resources and programs to fellow townspeople. The Friends provide a significant amount of funding for programs, collections, museum passes, Summer Reading and more. The Friends would like more people to take advantage of these services, and we hope to inform more people by using social media, namely Facebook. You can stay informed of all of the library's events by following the Salem Free Public Library's Facebook page and help spread the word by sharing library events on your own timeline.



Volunteer Wanted

We need a person to help identify and price donated books that are "special", usually old, rare, or signed by the author.

These books are sold at our Annual Fall Used Book Sale at a "Specials" table and are priced higher than the other 20,000 books offered for sale. To set these higher prices, volunteers will do online research using Google and other sites we have found useful in the past.

This volunteer opportunity has great flexibility. You will do most of the research via a computer, either at your home computer or by using one in the library. We collect 10-20 special books per month all year. You can spread the research over a year's time and adjust the work to your schedule, making it both a manageable and an interesting task. We can deliver the books to your home and will help train you.

If you are interested in volunteering for this task, contact Carl Nawrocki at 860 859-1641 or Carlybilly@aol.com

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OTS may occasionally provide an opportunity for residents to contribute to the content of OTS.

Such contributions are limited to photos and/or stories to inform, encourage and celebrate the people, activities, businesses and organizations in the Town of Salem.

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