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OUR TOWN SALEM

Connecticut

FALL 2017



Photo by Lisa Jablonski

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Dear Fellow Townspeople,

Our world-renowned New England autumn is again upon us. I hope you have plenty of outdoor time to enjoy this beautiful season.

Let's review what has been going on in our Town.

Update on Gardner Lake State Park

Due to ongoing problems that have occurred, there is now an Alcohol Ban in effect at Gardner Lake State Park. In addition, a dumpster was placed at the park to reduce the amount of garbage and litter. Through these efforts, we have made progress on creating a safer and more enjoyable park for the residents of Connecticut.

My hope is that these significant changes will allow families in our area to also enjoy this very special Beach Park. I will be working closely with Commissioner Klee, Senator Formica and Representative Cheeseman to make the Alcohol Ban a permanent measure. We do not want to have these recurring safety issues each summer.

Much thanks to ENCON Police Officer, Dean Wojcik, as he works closely with our Trooper LaRue and Trooper Pariseau to enforce these new rules at Gardner Lake State Park.

Preliminary Audit Figures

As we close the books on Fiscal Year 2016/2017 the General Government is again projected to be underspent by \$178,000.00.

I want to thank every department for looking to increase efficiencies and enhance services, while still being good stewards of our Townspeople's money.

More State Budget Cuts? – Ouch! Ouch!

The Board of Finance has done a fine job for the residents of our Town in preparing a very fiscally responsible budget. Their efforts keep us in good financial shape. Unfortunately, the State of Connecticut continues to face serious financial issues with substantial budget deficits.

We are working closely with our legislators and municipal organizations to mitigate the State Funding cuts to our Town. We are fortunate to have a very competent Board of Finance.

Back to School

Our Town has many of its sons and daughters going back to school this month. We wish you much success in the coming year as you continue your path in life.

Enjoy the Season. I hope to see you at the Apple Festival and the Annual Book Sale.

I am honored to be your First Selectman.

Respectfully,

Kevin Lyden



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The mobile pantry pictured above, provides fresh fruits and vegetables, proteins, and other healthy foods for **FREE** distribution to individuals and families in need. All are welcome.

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Location: Town of Salem - Salem School
200 Hartford Rd., Salem CT

Date: First Wednesday of the Month

Time: 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm



SALEM LIONS CLUB

The highlight of our June dinner meeting was the presentation of our Salem Lions Scholarships to Vanessa Vlaun and Matthieu Bernier. Both outstanding young adults graduated from East Lyme High School, and will be attending the University of Connecticut this fall.

Our Salem Lions Wood Bank is well stocked and ready for delivery. Seasoned wood, split and cut in 16" and 18" lengths, is available at no cost to Seniors, and for purchase at \$185 per cord for all others. Free delivery is available to all Salem residents.

Our Annual Lions Tag Sale was held on Saturday, June 24, and due to rain, extended into the next day. Despite the wet weather, the sale was a huge success. A huge thanks to our many customers and to all Lions and others who worked so hard to make this happen. See you all next June for another great sale!

Our Salem Community Calendar (Sept 2017 to Aug 2018) has been printed and delivered to every Salem residence. Extra copies should be available at the Library and Town Hall. Many thanks to Lion Nikole Zis for a job well done.

Our 2nd Annual Golf Tournament will take place on October 2 at Shennecossett Golf Club in Groton. Planning is well underway, so get your groups of four together. Detailed information is attached with every Community Calendar package.

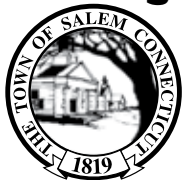
Thank You all for supporting our projects and fundraisers; 100% of all donations and all the profits from our fundraisers are returned to our community charitable projects. Salem Lions are proud to be of service to Salem. IF you are interested in becoming a Salem Lion or would like more information about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

Submitted by: Lion George Ziegra

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JEANNINE'S JOYFUL HEART

Jeannine Savalle, a lifetime member of Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company, received the call of her life on June 21, 2017. It all began back in 2002 when Jeannine was diagnosed with breast cancer. With treatment, she fought that battle and won. The treatment that saved her from breast cancer wreaked havoc on her heart. An internal defibrillator was placed in her chest, a device that administers an electric shock if it detects the heartbeat is irregular.

In 2012, Jeannine was diagnosed with congestive heart failure, a chronic condition where the heart doesn't pump as well as it should and fluid builds up in the lungs and other organs.

In 2016, Jeannine received a left ventricular assist device, or LVAD. A LVAD is a mechanical pump that is implanted into a person's chest to help a weak heart pump blood. This isn't a small item to carry around. It is an 8 lb pump. Not once did Jeannine complain through all of this. She maintained her sense of humor and hope of a new heart.

She also maintained her participation in the Gardner Lake Fire Company even when it was physically exhausting to her. In the spring of this year Jeannine received news that the right side of her heart was starting to fail. Not the news she wanted to hear. This news bumped her to the top of the donor list.

Then, on the first day of summer, June 21, a beautiful warm sunny day, the phone rang. Her husband, Captain Jeff Savalle, answered the phone. Jeannine had to be at Yale hospital that day because her new heart was waiting. On the evening of June 21, 2017 Jeannine Savalle gave a healthy heart donor a new home.

Jeff and Jeannine Savalle have been active members in the Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company for over 40 years. They have helped countless people, and saved many lives. Now it is time for us at Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company to give back.

Jeannine's medical expenses are astronomical. The Gardner Lake VFC will be holding a Funny4Funds comedy fundraiser on September 30, 2017. We extend the invitation to all residents of Salem. Tickets are \$20. It is a bring your own snack and BYOB event. Donations for raffle, auction items and sponsors are being accepted. Contact Amie Hoinsky, 860-800-4347, for tickets or more information. There is also a gofundme page set up for Jeannine as well: www.gofundme.com/jeannines-joyful-heart.

Amie Hoinsky is an emergency medical responder and CPR instructor with Gardner Lake VFC. She offers CPR instruction to anyone who wants to learn CPR or needs to be recertified. Salem is a heartsaver community and encourages every resident to be CPR certified. Time makes a difference in cardiac issues.

Submitted by: Amie Hoinsky



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TESTING WELL WATER

Private well owners often call the Uncas Health District asking for information on when to test their well water, how often to test, and what they should test. Many times, the need for testing is the result of a real estate transaction.

In Connecticut, private well owners are responsible for testing the quality of their own drinking water and maintaining their own wells. In accordance with Section 19-13-B101 of the Public Health Code, testing is required for new wells. However, the required tests do not cover all contaminants. Water tests done during home purchases are usually required by the bank providing the mortgage. Contrary to common belief, such tests are not required by law. You can have your water tested at any state certified laboratory to test drinking water. You should make sure the private lab is certified to test drinking water for the contaminants you are requesting, and if you collect the samples yourself, ask the laboratory for sample instructions and follow them carefully. Always keep a record of your water test results for future reference.

For a list of test types and frequency, the CT Department of Public Health provides a publication on Private Drinking Water. It can be found at: http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/environmental_health/private_wells/publications/013017_24_pw_testing.pdf

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

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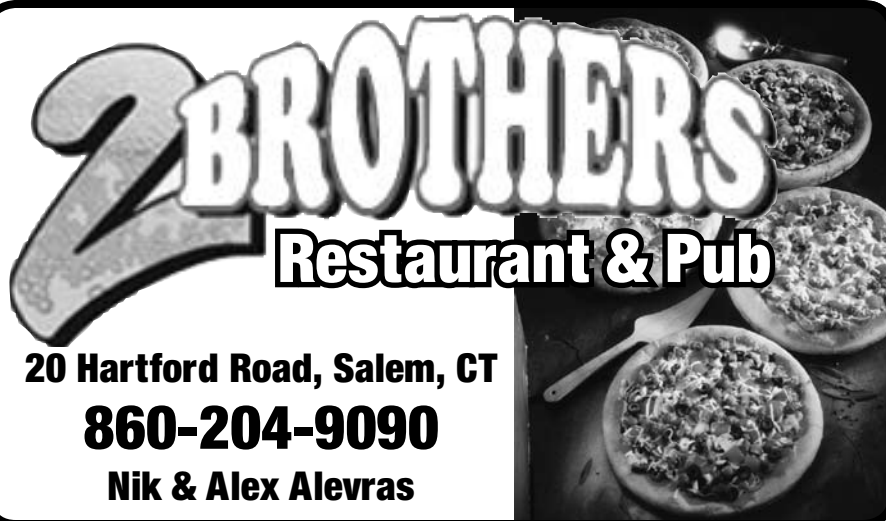
Through the support of the Town of Salem's First Selectman, Resident State Trooper Luke LaRue was trained in teaching the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program to 5th and 8th Grade students. With the additional financial support from the Salem Lions Club for supplies and awards, a graduation ceremony is held each school year to celebrate their accomplishments. On June 8, 2017, the 5th and 8th grade Salem students received their certificates for completing the course and awards were presented to those students with the best poster and essays on what D.A.R.E. has taught them.



8th grade students with their D.A.R.E. certificates



5th grade students with their D.A.R.E. certificates



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Salem Senior Citizens meet monthly on the second Tuesday of the month at Salem Volunteer Fire Company, Rt. 85 in Salem. Meetings adjourn with a luncheon — new members or visitors are always welcome.

Some points of interest:

United Way Mobile Food Pantry: 1st Wednesday each month 5pm at Salem School rear parking area.

Senior Services: www.211ct.org Dial 2-1-1

Benefits.gov: a connection for citizens to find information to over 1,200 available benefit programs to all ages.

Visit TVCCA online at www.facebook.com/TVCCArsvp for information

Veterans Coffeehouse in Norwich will restart September 6th 9am to 11am each Wednesday @ United Congregational Church, 87 Broadway.

Meals on Wheels Volunteering: (860) 934-1006

Visitors/Shopper Volunteers: (860) 425-6617

Sign up for **Municipal Medical Transportation Services:** (860) 859-3873 ext. 125 for more information.

Submitted by: Pam Henry

Greetings from your Salem Resident Troopers.

We hope that you've enjoyed the summer with friends and family. On June 8, 2017, the graduation of the Salem School 5th and 8th grade D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) students took place in the Salem School gymnasium.

Beginning this past spring/early summer, we deployed the speed trailer on various back roads within the town of Salem. The speed trailer displays a vehicle's speed and is a tool that is used to deter speeding. If there are any town roads in which you feel the speed trailer should be positioned to assist in our motor vehicle enforcement efforts, please contact the Salem Resident Trooper office at: 860-859-2507.

Increased police presence from DEEP (Department of Energy and Environmental Protection) Environmental Conservation Police and the Salem Resident Trooper office has been conducted within the Gardner Lake Boat Launch and beach area. The goal of the increased police presence is to ensure the safety of those who visit the boat launch/beach area while maintaining order in and directly around the area.

As always please be safe in your travels and take simple but effective measures such as locking/securing your vehicles, homes, sheds and other personal belongings to aid in the prevention of crime.

Submitted by: Troopers Luke LaRue and Chris Pariseau

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Annual Used Book Sale

The Friends of the Salem Library will hold their Annual Used Book Sale at the Salem School, 200 Hartford Road, on Friday, October 27, 2017 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday, October 28, 2017 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Current members of the Friends may enter the sale at 6 p.m. Friday. Memberships can be purchased or renewed at the door. The "Bag Sale", where a bag of books is \$5.00, is planned for 1 p.m. on Saturday. Bags are provided.

We expect to fill the Salem School Gym with over 20,000 books including fiction, non-fiction, and children's books. We accept all major credit cards.

The Annual Used Book Sale is a major fundraiser for the Salem Library. Profits fund adult and children's programs, museum passes, additions to the collection and The Summer Reading Program. Come and purchase books at bargain prices to support your local public library.

Helping Out at the Used Book Sale:

Each year, 80 plus volunteers from the Friends, Clubs, Scouts, and library patrons do a masterful job conducting the sale. We welcome returning volunteers and new people.

We have all kinds of tasks starting around 9 a.m. on Friday and ending at 5 p.m. on Saturday. You can volunteer for the entire sale or for a few hours. We have tasks that involve lifting and tasks that can be done while sitting. If you want to do your part, there

are sign-up sheets at the Circulation Desk in the library or call Carole Eckart at 860-859-1641.

Membership Chairperson:

We are looking to replace our long serving Membership Chairperson who is retiring. It is an important task that you can do at home, a few hours a month. Membership provides about 17% of our total budget, so it is critical that we fill this position. You will need to have a computer, a printer and access to the internet. You will keep track of our current membership database, so data entry skills would be helpful. You will also send out renewal letters to our membership. Stamps, envelopes and paper are provided. We will train you. If you have any interest, please contact Carl Nawrocki at 860 859-1641 or via email at: Carlybilly@aol.com

Summer Reading

In the Summer of 2006, the Friends started a summer reading program, right after the new library opened. The program goal is to help our children retain and improve their reading skills over the vacation period. In the beginning, for any book read, a child could pick a small prize out of a jar. Programs were added, including end-of-summer activities featuring: pizza, a Moon Bounce and a Magic Show. The program became coordinated with Salem School and East Lyme High School reading programs, and books were transferred to Salem Library for the summer.

Summer Reading has very high priority in the Friends' budget. It is always one of the first items funded and the funding continues to grow. This year, under the leadership of Library Director Vicky Coffin and Technical Manager Sharon Geer, over 145 children registered for the program and participants read more than 1800 books. These are facts we all can be proud of!

Please help the Friends of Salem Library continue this Summer Reading initiative. Please join us by volunteering or simply becoming member.

Submitted by: Carl Nawrocki, President

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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 fundraising efforts. Refreshments are served. You may just drop in, no registration required!

Senior Cinema - Watch a movie at the library on the 2nd Friday of the month at 2:00 p.m., beginning Friday, September 8, 2017. Other dates are: October 13, November 10 & December 8. Due to advertising restrictions with our public performance license, movie titles can only be advertised on our website and in the library. Call 860-859-1130 to register or just drop in!

Hungrytown in concert - Saturday, September 9, 2017 @ 2:00 p.m. Lyricist, Rebecca Hall and instrumentalist, Ken Anderson are the folk duo, Hungrytown. In the winter of 2003, the duo quit their boring desk jobs, moved to the green hills of Vermont, and decided to pursue a full-time career as touring musicians. This program is suitable for teens and adults. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

Drop-in LEGO Nights - 2017 dates: Mondays, September 11, October 16, November 6 & December 4. Free play with LEGOS, for ages 5 and up, with a parent. 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Just drop in!

Game Night - Come to the library to play board games every Thursday from 5-7 p.m., beginning Thursday, September 14, 2017. Use our games or bring your own. This program is for ages 12 to adult. Just drop in!

Drop-in Crafts - Mondays from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. on the following 2017 dates: September 25, *October 30, November 13 and December 11. This program is for ages 3 & up, with a parent.

*The October 30 craft program will include masks and simple costumes for Halloween!

Salem Library Book Group - The Library adult book group meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m., facilitated by staff member, Sam Harfenist. The book selection for September 26th is *The Dirty Life* by Kristin Kimball. Registration is suggested by calling 860-859-1130, but walk-ins are welcome!

Radio Show: Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Speckled Band - Saturday, September 30, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. Thirty-minute live-action radio drama of Sherlock Holmes's The Speckled Band. This is the original 1930 radio script which featured William Gillette as Sherlock Holmes. Sherlock, Dr.

Watson, and a lovely young lady in distress as well as a sound effects man will all be here. The program is suitable for teens and adults. Limit 40. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

Storytime for 3's & 4's - Thursday mornings, 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. for a six-week session, October 5th – November 9th. A special guest, Resident Trooper Chris Pariseau, will be here on October 5. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

An Education in the Grotesque - the Gargoyles of Yale University - Wednesday, October 11, 2017 @ 6:00 p.m. Presentation and book signing by author and photographer, Mathew Duman. In his lecture, Mathew highlights a selection of gargoyles & grotesques found on the buildings of Yale University's campus in New Haven, CT. The program is suitable for teens and adults. Limit 40. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

Hooked on Llamas - Saturday, October 21, 2017 @ 2:00 p.m. Debbie Labbe of Country Quilt Llama Farm will bring one of her llamas for a visit. Learn about llamas and listen to a story while you visit with the llama. Limit 20 children, ages 3 & up, with a parent. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

The Raven: the other black bird - Wednesday, October 25, 2017 @ 6:00 p.m. Presented by the Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center. In recent years, local breeding populations of common ravens have increased. Learn how to tell the difference between crows and ravens, and learn about their unique vocalizations, adaptations and intelligence. This program is suitable for ages 10 to adult. Limit 40. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

Ken Yates in concert - Saturday, October 28, 2017 @ 2:00 p.m. Ken Yates planted his roots in the Canadian music scene in 2011 and his reputation as one of the country's brightest singer/songwriters has steadily grown. His sound offers unforgettable melodies, emotionally charged storytelling and top-notch guitar skills. The program is suitable for teens & adults. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

Forest Friends Stuffed Animal Workshop - Saturday, November 4, 2017 @ 2:00 p.m. During the workshop, children will listen to the story, *Forest Adventures*, by Tony Mitten, and will stuff a plush animal of choice to take home. Limit 12, ages 3 & up. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

Holiday Concert - Saturday, December 16, 2017 @ 2:00 p.m. This is our annual holiday/anniversary concert presented by Entwyned Early Music. The program includes Baroque and Renaissance holiday selections from the 13th to 18th centuries played on Baroque and Renaissance flute, viola da gamba cello and lutes. Call 860-859-1130 to register.

Keep up-to-date with all that is happening at the library by visiting our website at: www.salemct.gov and click on "Library". In addition, follow us on Facebook for even more information about events and the latest library news!

The Salem Rec Commission is offering an opportunity to Salem groups that want to give back to the community. The snack stand located at the Round Hill Road recreation complex had been run by the Salem Youth Baseball League, but had difficulty finding a volunteer base and so the stand has been closed for the past 2 years. This year, the Rec Commission opened the stand for a tournament and a few SYBL games, selling packaged items and drinks. The interest in maintaining and providing drinks and snacks was overwhelmingly positive from Salem residents and out-of-town visitors.

COMING THIS FALL ADULT MEN'S BASKETBALL

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Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.

For more information: Alan Maziarz 860-373-1155

Starting this fall, the Rec Commission would like to support the snack stand by offering it to groups in town (i.e. PTO, Mom's Club, Boy and Girl Scouts, fundraisers for Salem residents in need, eighth grade graduation) who would like to fund raise. Food cannot be prepared in the stand as it is not a certified kitchen. We have many thoughts as to how to provide safe, quality and nutritious food and are looking forward to creating a fun and vibrant local source of fundraising for many groups in town. This idea is in its infancy; however, the positive response thus far has been heartwarming. For those groups seeking more information or with questions, please contact Rec Commission member, Teri Natoli, trixienatoli@gmail.com.

The Commission would also like to celebrate the success of our baseball teams. The Salem/Bozrah 9-10 Girls Softball All-Stars team coached by Sean Benway and Alan Maziarz, managed by Chuck Flickinger won the District 10 Championship (*pictured page 13*). After winning the semi-finals the girls advanced to the finals and beat Waterford in a 3 game series. They won against Waterford in game 1 by a score of 5-3, lost the 2nd game 10-11 after getting a 7-0 run lead, then went on to win the District 10 championship in game 3 by a score of 10-9.

(Continued)



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(Continued)



(back row left to right)

Karly Sorrentino, Neva Flickinger, Rylee Benway, Ava Kelly, Felicia Silva, Haley Krajewski, Zofia Maziarz.

(front row left to right)

Sierra Young, Ariana Spera, Mia Williamson, Hailey Smith, Violet Maziarz, Skylar Bell, Grace DuBrava

This was only the 2nd time in the last 12 years and the 1st time in the last 10-years that Waterford has lost the District 10 championship. This was Salem/Bozrah's first ever District 10 championship!

After winning the district, they advanced to the State Section 3 tournament held in Durham at the Coginchau Little League field. They went 1-1 in pool play advancing to the Section 3 Championship game and lost to Haddam/Killingworth 2-4. Chuck Flickinger stated, "It was a great experience for the players and coaches. All the kids on the team contributed at one point or another throughout the tournament."

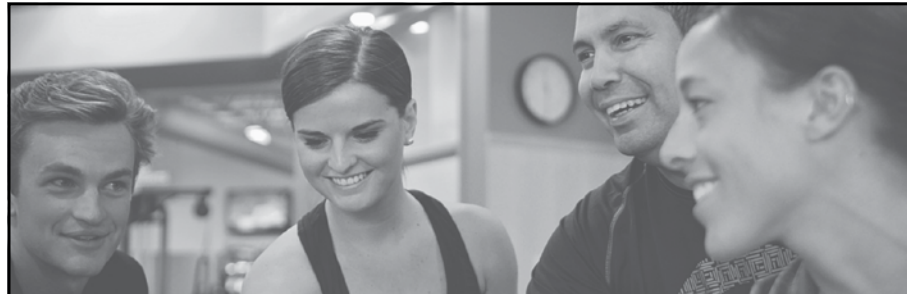
Another standout team is the CT Inferno! This team is coached and managed by Bob Sartori, Dave Deshefy, Chris Pomroy and Chris Orsini. This is an AAU team consisting of Salem Youth Baseball graduates. In their two short years they are winning against more established and older teams. Also, the Commission hosted the Junior American Legion team on a number of occasions which had five Salem boys on the team.

The Salem Recreation Commission brings in \$3000-\$5000 annually from the rental of the fields which contributes to the town's general fund. Many of the teams that come to play on our fields are from out of town and, many times, out of state. The groups always comment on our beautiful town and facilities, all while supporting our businesses as they play our national past-time—Baseball!

Submitted by: Sue Spang, Chairperson

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If you have been following the news you have probably heard that the State of Connecticut is facing a major fiscal deficit, more than \$5.1 billion over the next two years. This article will try to explain how Connecticut's fiscal crisis may affect Salem.

Unlike Salem that passes a budget every year, Connecticut has a biennial budget, which means every two years. State finances, unless adjusted, are projected to run \$2.3 billion in deficit in 2017-18, a shortfall of 12 percent. And the potential gap rises to \$2.8 billion or 14 percent in 2018-19. Although the Legislature only recently narrowly agreed to a deal with state employee unions, which will save about \$1.5 billion, it limits what the State can do to reduce spending. The State still faces a \$3.6 billion hole in its budget.

In February 2017, Governor Dannel Malloy proposed the following cuts:

STATE GRANT	CURRENT YEAR FY 17	GOVERNOR PROPOSED FY 18	GOVERNOR PROPOSED FY 18 vs. FY 17
Adult Education	\$ 4,450	\$ 4,126	-\$ 324
ECS (Education Cost Share)	\$ 3,049,314	\$1,510,137	-\$1,539,177
LoCIP	\$ 0	\$ 63,059	+\$ 63,059
Pequot-Mohegan Grant	\$ 18,219	\$ 18,384	+\$ 165
PILOT State-Owned Property	\$ 47,337	\$ 42,762	-\$ 4,575
Town Aid Road	\$ 193,534	\$ 193,534	\$ 0
Grants for Municipal Projects	\$ 4,699	\$ 0	-\$ 4,699
MRSF Revenue Sharing	\$ 85,617	\$ 123,244	+\$ 37,627
Special Education	\$ 0	\$1,092,404	+\$1,092,404
Teacher's Retirement Contribution	\$ 0	-\$ 348,037	-\$ 348,037
Total	\$3,403,169	\$2,699,612	-\$ 703,557

The Board of Finance built Salem's budget with these numbers in mind. We made some cuts to various budgets, and we raised taxes by ½ MIL from 31.7 to 32.2 MIL. Due to uncertainty of the State legislature passing certain measures, we only raised taxes on Personal Property (motor vehicles) to 32.0 MIL.

Since February 2017, things have continued to go "down hill" for Connecticut. Tax receipts are not meeting expectations, and the deficit continues to grow. The legislature still has not adopted a budget, and Governor Dannel Malloy has signed an executive order that begins to manage state finances without one.

Earlier this month, Governor Malloy sent a letter to Secretary Barnes (Office of Policy and Management), in effect stating that "we have held town aid harmless", but things are going to change.

He wants to "recalibrate" aid to 138 wealthy towns and smaller towns even further and redistribute it to 31 cities and poorer towns. Unfortunately, because Salem has been fiscally responsible and has an unassigned fund balance (which should be considered a rainy day fund) we are likely to be considered a "wealthy" town.

(Continued Page 15)


Dannel P. Malloy
 GOVERNOR
 STATE OF CONNECTICUT

August 2, 2017

Secretary Ben Barnes
 Office of Policy and Management
 450 Capitol Ave.
 Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Secretary Barnes:

As we know, municipal aid accounts for our single largest state expenditure – more than \$5 billion of our state budget. The vast majority of that funding is for educational aid, which amounts to \$4.1 billion, or 81 percent, of all state funding given to local government.

In recent years, I have made it a priority to protect aid to municipalities. In contrast, we have made drastic changes to how we fund other areas of state government – both in total funding and in our rationale for how limited dollars are allocated. We've reduced state services; we've cut funding to private providers; we've asked state employees to come to the table with concessions; and we've raised revenues. Throughout all of this, we've held town aid harmless. In fact, it could be said that we have sacrificed state services and raised revenues *in order* to shield town government from facing difficult choices required of state leaders and implementing reforms.

As our state struggles to finalize a biennial budget, how we fund our single largest expenditure must be on the table for discussion with the General Assembly and the public. If we fail to recalibrate aid based on shifting local demographics, economies, and need, we risk perpetuating an inequitable distribution of burden among our communities. We risk not investing in the communities that should be our assets in attracting economic development, young professionals, and families.

Therefore, in an effort to inform and facilitate the budget process now underway, I ask that you send me information and analysis regarding municipal aid, local tax levels, expenditure trends, fund balances, and any other criteria that could better inform our decisions. These reports should include both historic trends and current fiscal conditions. They should also be shared publicly when completed.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


 Governor Dannel P. Malloy

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 TEL (860)566-4840 • FAX (860)524-7396 • www.governor.ct.gov
 governor.malloy@ct.gov

The Board of Finance does not know how deep the cuts will be for Salem, but it is very likely that a final state budget will further reduce revenue for Salem beyond what the Town budget was based upon.

Should that happen Salem's options are limited:

- Raise taxes again by issuing a Supplemental Tax Bill.
- Borrow.
- Ask the Board of Education to reduce spending.
- Cut spending other than Education.
- Use one-time revenue from Salem's Unassigned Fund Balance.

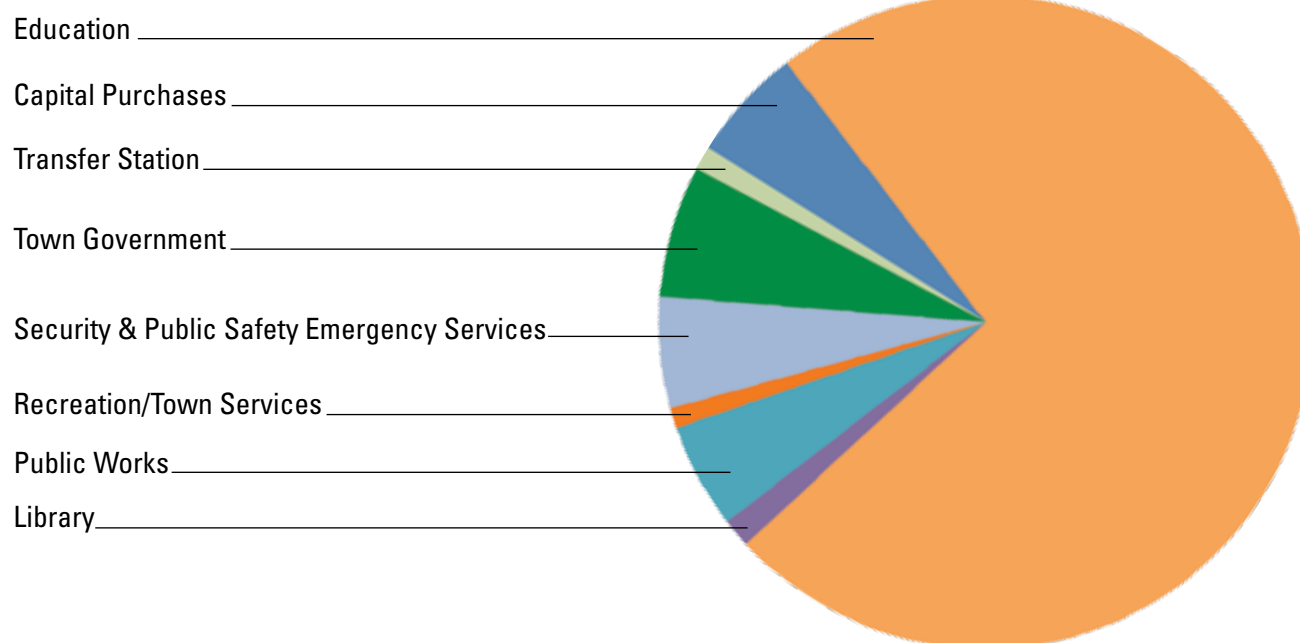
Unless the cuts from the State greatly exceed what we are expecting, we hope to balance Salem's Budget by asking all Boards and Departments to avoid spending beyond their currently approved budgets, and to conserve where possible and even to reduce spending. We would then use Salem's Unassigned Fund Balance to make up the difference. The use of the Unassigned Fund Balance should really be a one-time use, and not for ongoing expenses, because there simply is not enough money in there to do this more than one-time.

Salem's current budget was overwhelmingly passed by the voters in a May 2017 town-wide referendum.

Here is how Salem spends your tax dollars:

	AMOUNT (In Dollars)	% OF BUDGET
EDUCATION	\$ 11,066,993	73.44 %
TOWN GOVERNMENT	\$ 1,064,250	7.06 %
CAPITAL PURCHASES	\$ 828,242	5.50 %
PUBLIC WORKS	\$ 752,003	4.99 %
SECURITY & PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCY SERVICES	\$ 854,292	5.66 %
TRANSFER STATION	\$ 167,670	1.11 %
RECREATION/TOWN SERVICES	\$ 154,651	1.03 %
LIBRARY	\$ 181,750	1.21 %
TOTAL	\$15,069,851	100 %

CURRENT BUDGET



This article is not meant to scare the residents of Salem; it is meant to educate residents and make them aware of the problems that the State is facing, and what it means to Salem residents. We will continue to keep you informed

during the state's ongoing fiscal crisis. Our intention is to continue to put articles in this newspaper and discuss financial matters in an educational way without any bias.

As summer ends, and the new school year begins, there is plenty of excitement at Salem School as teachers and staff are preparing for our students to return.

Last school year, Salem School was the recipient of The Frontier Public Educational and Government (PEG) Programming Capital Improvement Grant Award. We received a generous award to create a "broadcast studio" for our students to deliver the morning news over our network. With the leadership of Mrs. Susan Bennett and Mrs. Sharon Osga-Dugger, the students began last year to present the morning announcements as part of a weekly closed-circuit-TV broadcast. By spring of last school year we were able to broadcast our morning news live to our entire student body. This year, we look forward to a live broadcast each morning as our students master the skills of reporting and recording news to inform our students and staff of the events here at Salem School. The student anchors of the school's on-camera news team welcome their peers and staff to a new school day, as they lead each morning with "Welcome to CNN Cougar News Network – The Roar You Can Trust." Student anchors announce school-wide events, student academic and sport teams' achievements, students' birthdays, the lunch menu, fundraisers, fun facts, the weather report, lost and found, often adding interviews and other announcements, and always closing with the Pledge of Allegiance. Morning announcements help set the tone for the school day, build school spirit and morale, and add a sense of school community.

We are very excited to begin the new school year on the path we left off in June. Salem School will continue with our local chapter for the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) that our assistant principal, Mrs. Kim Fentress, re-introduced last year. Mrs. Barbara Senges will be the advisor for the NJHS. The purpose of the NJHS at Salem School is to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire for service, to promote leadership, to develop character and to encourage good citizenship in students in the middle school grades. Membership in the NJHS is an honor bestowed upon a student. In the first year of NJHS at Salem School, twenty-one students were

inducted into the chapter. The students took on projects such as tutoring younger students, volunteering in the community, and improving our nature trail. We look forward to the continuation of all of these positive aspects of this important program.

I will continue working with our Student Council, meeting with fifth and sixth grade representatives as well as seventh and eighth grade representatives, every Friday during their lunch. These students are elected by their peers. The purpose of the Student Council is to give students an opportunity to develop leadership by organizing and carrying out school activities and service projects. In addition to planning events that contribute to school spirit and community welfare, the Student Council is the voice of the student body. Student Council is a student-based civic organization designed to develop positive attitudes and to practice good citizenship.

We will also continue with our Activity Clubs. We will have four sessions. Our first session will be from Monday, October 2nd through Friday, October 27th. These afterschool activities are held once a week for four weeks. If you are interested in volunteering to lead an activity for any of the sessions please contact Mrs. Barberi, Mrs. Fentress, or me.

Another opportunity for volunteering at our school is to join our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). They have monthly meetings where they organize many activities and fundraisers to support our children through enrichment programs and fund our school field trips. Whether you are a classroom or after school activity volunteer, a member of the PTO, or a member of one of our school communities, we invite all community members to be involved!

Here at Salem School we believe it is important to give our students every opportunity to learn and grow and to develop a healthy positive attitude that supports community involvement and good citizenship.

Submitted by Joan Phillips, Principal



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Salem Four Corners



Come support Salem School's Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) for its HUGE Fall Fundraiser at Franco's Comedy for your Cause Show, where fundraising is a laughing matter!

The Salem School PTO is having a basket raffle, silent auction, and adult comedy show. The funds raised will provide educational experiences and materials for Salem School students and faculty.

Prizes include: ski lift passes, Essex Steam Train experience, American Girl doll, passes to the Lutz and Southeastern CT Children's Museum and Roger Williams Zoo, Salem Valley Farms gift certificates, signed New York Jets and Red Sox items, swim lessons, wine tasting, gift certificates to Mohegan Sun Buffet, Five Guys, Water's Edge, and certificates to Connecticut Science Center and Dave & Buster's.

Raffle tickets may be purchased for baskets with various themes, many from Norwich Agway. It's a great opportunity to get early holiday gifts for loved ones!

Basket raffle tickets will be on sale during the fall book fair at Salem School on October 11, 12, 13th. Night hours for ticket sales will be October 12th from 5-8 p.m. in the Salem School.

The big comedy event is at the Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire

Department in Salem, on Saturday, October 14th for ages 21 and over.

Tickets are just \$20. You can bring your own food and beverages. Doors open at 6:00, the comedy show starts at 8:00.

Come early, view the great prizes, and stay for some big laughs. Gather your friends to fill a table, laugh, and win big ticket items! Winners do not need to be present.

If you have questions, would like to buy tickets, or would like to make a donation in the form of a basket or items for auction, contact SalemSchoolPTO@yahoo.com.

It is sure to be a sold-out event, so buy your tickets soon!

Thank you in advance for your support of our Salem School and children! The money raised is critical to offset the drastic cuts our school has encountered due to state education cutbacks.

Last year's fundraising was a success because of the support of parents, local townspeople, local businesses, and anonymous donations. Please help us reach this year's goal, too!

The PTO is proud to provide educational field trips, materials, assemblies, and reward programs to all grade levels and departments at Salem School. Our goal is to raise \$15,000 this year! Our children are the future, let's help make it bright!

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Eagle Scout Projects

Over the years, the Salem Land Trust Preserves have provided wonderful opportunities for Eagle Scout candidates to plan and execute projects in order to earn Boy Scouts' highest award. The most recent Salem Scout to complete a project on a land trust property was Brody Monarca. Brody's Project was to layout, clear and mark a brand new trail at SLT's Smuggler's Rock Preserve.

All Projects begin with an eager Boy Scout. The Scout, usually with a parent and Scout Leader, discuss project options with members of the SLT Stewardship Committee. After deciding on the best location and Project, with input also from the SLT Board of Directors, the decision on the Project and location is made. It is then the Scout's job to develop a complete written plan. Brody made a presentation of this written Plan to the entire SLT Board.

All Eagle Scout Projects are reviewed for worthiness by The Boy Scouts of America, and it "must present an opportunity for planning, development and leadership." Only after this approval does the actual work on a Project begin. For Brody's Project, he first laid-out where the trail would be located. He then supervised a large work party of younger Scouts and parents who helped him clear the path

for the new trail. Finally, Brody put up the colored trail markers for hikers to follow.

On other SLT Preserves, Eagle Scouts have built Bluebird boxes, Wood Duck boxes, a large field gate for maintenance vehicles, and have blazed three SLT hiking trails. More Eagle Scout Projects are in the planning stages!

Thank you Eagle Scouts, and all Scouts and parents who have participated!

Salem Land Trust has a new web site!

The Salem Land Trust is very excited to now have a brand new web site! All our trail maps are now available online and much, much more! All photos on the site were taken in Salem by local residents. Please come by and pay us a visit!

The new web site can still be found at :

www.salemlandtrust.org

And, you can always follow us on Facebook!

Submitted by: Linda K. Schroeder, President

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The summer months are nearly past, and we are pleased to report that the construction of a new roadway is complete, allowing access to an additional 180 plots in Section IV of the cemetery. Plot markers and meer stones need to be placed before plot sales in these rows can commence. This will be accomplished in September.

Next up on our project list is the installation of a fence consisting of granite posts and chains (similar to that bordering town property and Route 85) delineating the boundary between the Cemetery and Church Parsonage property. We are targeting an October completion.

The SGCA is reviewing the current bylaws. Once the review and any revisions are implemented, we will mail the updated bylaws to plot owners and post any portions that directly affect current plot owners on the Cemetery information board located near Section I.

Recognizing the challenge of maintaining attractive flowers during the summer months, we requested from Linda Turner, the owner of Plantasia (our contracted gardener) a list of plants that are more likely to survive hot weather with minimal water. The list includes helpful tips for planting several types of annuals and perennials. It is posted in the Cemetery information board located near Section I.

As summer is nearly at an end, we again ask owners to limit plot decorations to the area specified in our bylaws. This is necessary in order to ease the work of town employees who mow and trim. We cannot insure that decorations outside of the prescribed limits will be safe from damage. Also, please note that any plant varieties seen to overwhelm the monuments they decorate will be removed at the discretion of the Sexton. Plastic or artificial flowers are prohibited through November 14. All plot owners have a role in maintaining the beauty of our cemetery by keeping their own plots clean and neat.

Though we have two water sources (pitcher pump and garden hydrant), we recommend the use of the garden hydrant located behind the Salem Historic Society building. The leather seals on the pitcher pump tend to dry out making it difficult to draw water from the underground tank.

For the period 05/22/2017 – 08/16/2017 there have been two (2) interments/inurnments:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Row</u>	<u>Plot Name</u>	<u>Burial type</u>
June	I	B04	Lana Warren	Vault
August	I	F4	Alva May Turchan	Cremation

Plot availability: As of 08/16/2017 there is one (1) full sized plot remaining in Section I priced at \$550. Section IV has 96 full sized plots available for \$725 each. Regulations allow for one vault or a maximum of three (3) cremation containers per full sized plot. The cemetery receives only human remains – no animal remains are allowed.

Contact the SGCA sexton, Rev. Tim Dubeau at 860-705-1925 with questions or if interested in purchasing full sized or smaller cremation plots. The information board located near the first row of plots displays maps of the cemetery sections showing plot locations, interment/inurnment records by name/plot, plot pricing and contact information.

Lastly, the SGCA is seeking to train another sexton. Any person interested in receiving training is encouraged to contact Rev. Tim Dubeau at 860-859-1925, 860-705-1925 or at tbdubeau@sbcglobal.net. This is a volunteer position well suited for a person who has a flexible daytime schedule.

Submitted by Rev. Tim Dubeau, Sexton

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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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