

TOWN *of* SALISBURY

ANNUAL REPORT

for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 2021



DEDICATION TO WILLIAM F. WILLIS



William “Bill” Willis’s commitment to the Town of Salisbury and the community spans five decades. Over those years, he had the opportunity to work with the administrations of First Selectmen Charlotte Reid, Bud Trotta, Robert Smithwick, Val Bernadoni, and most recently, Curtis Rand.

Bill began his community involvement at the Salisbury Central School when his children attended. His interest in the school led to serving on the Board of Education, where he served as member for 12 years including several years as its Vice Chairman. During that time, he was Co-Chair of the Region One Teacher Contract Negotiating Committee for 6 years, and was very involved with the school building committees on several major expansion and renovation projects. As a parent, he coached soccer for the Salisbury Recreation program, and worked with many other parents in the actual construction of the school’s playground.

Immediately after his 12 years on the Board of Education, he was elected to the Board of Finance, a position he held until 2021. When Bill was asked to run, no one happened to mention that it was a six-year term. He served 24 years. When Carl Williams stepped down as chair of the board, Bill was elected its chairman. Bill held elective office in Salisbury for a total of 36 years. His easy-going manner and dedicated leadership style was considered fair, and respectful to all viewpoints.

Bill was a member of the Salisbury Rotary Club, a member of the Board of Directors for the Salisbury Ambulance Service for nearly 20 years, and member of the Bissell Fund Committee, which provides needed financial support for health and dental care to Salisbury residents.

Bill’s involvement in the Salisbury business community began in 1984 when he joined the former Wagner McNeil Insurance Agency. In 1999, he became an owner and Vice President when it became Founders Insurance, later Assured Partners. He was a corporate sponsor of the Northwest Connecticut Chamber, and a long-time member of the Board of Directors for the Tri-State Chamber of Commerce. Over the years, he worked on countless fundraising efforts for numerous community organizations. Bill strongly believed that the involvement of the business community and its support for local community organizations were vital to the health and vibrancy of the town.

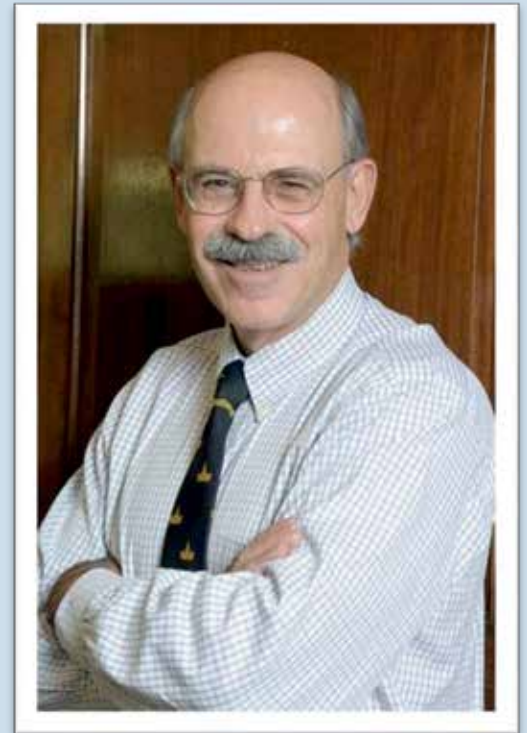


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The Town of Salisbury is located in Litchfield County, in the very northwest corner of the state. It was incorporated in October 1741. The total area of the town is 60.65 square miles, or 38,761 acres. It includes the villages of Salisbury and Lakeville, and the hamlets of Amesville, Lime Rock, Ore Hill and Taconic.

In addition to several ponds, there are six lakes: Lake Washining, Lake Washinee, Lake Wonoscopomuc and Lake Wononpakook, along with Riga Lake and South Pond on Mount Riga.

The maximum elevation is 2,380 ft. on the south slope of Mount Frissell – the highest point in Connecticut. The minimum elevation is at the southwest corner of the town, where it is 530 ft. above sea level. There are 86.78 miles of roads, of which 18 miles are state highways, 52.58 miles of improved town roads, and 16.2 miles of unimproved roads.

FACTS & FIGURES		
Town of Salisbury Population: 3,854 (as of 2021 census)		
Local Zip Codes:	Public School Enrollment:	Independent School Enrollment (approximate):
Salisbury - 06068	305 - HVRHS	600 - The Hotchkiss School
Lakeville - 06039	305- Salisbury Central School	250 - Indian Mountain School
Taconic - 06079		300 - Salisbury School
Falls Village - 06031		

TOWN DIRECTORY & HOURS

Salisbury Town Hall, PO Box 548, 27 Main Street, Salisbury, CT 06068

Email: townhall@salisburyct.us Website: www.salisburyct.us

Fax: 860-435-5172

(Town Hall Offices CLOSED 12:30-1:30pm, Monday – Friday)

First Selectman: 860-435-5170
Curtis Rand *M-F, 8:30am-4pm*
Emily Egan, Asst.

Accountant: 860-435-5174
Joseph Cleaveland *M-F, 8am-2pm*

Animal Control: 860-248-5637
Lee Sohl *On Call*

Assessor: 860-435-5176
Kayla Johnson *M, W, F, 9am-4pm*
JoAnne Dodge, Asst.

Building Official: 860-435-5177
Michael Carbone *M-F, 8-9am & 2-3pm*

Fire Marshal: 860-435-5196
Robin Denny *On Call*

Highway Department: 860-435-5184
Don Reid, Foreman *M-F, 7:30am-3:30pm*

**Land Use Office
(P&Z, IWWC, & ZBA):** 860-435-5190
Abby Conroy

Litchfield Hills Probate: 860-824-7012
Judge Diane Blick

**Open Burn Official
(Burn Permit Call-In Number):** 860-435-1252
Emily Egan *Message Only*

Recreation Director: 860-435-5186
Lisa McAuliffe

Registrar of Voters: 860-435-5175
Wed., 9am-12pm

Resident Trooper: 860-435-2938
William Veras
or

CT State Police - Troop B: 860-626-1820
IN CASE OF EMERGENCY: DIAL 9-1-1

Salisbury Family Services: 860-435-5187
Patrice McGrath *M-Th, 9am-3pm*

Salisbury-Sharon Transfer Station: 860-435-5178
Brian Bartram *Closed Wed.*

Senior Services: 860-435-5191
Lisa McAuliffe

Tax Collector: 860-435-5189
Jean Bell *M, W, F, 9am-4pm*
JoAnne Dodge, Asst.

Torrington Area Health District: 860-435-0806
Cathy Weber *W & F, 9am-11am*

Town Clerk: 860-435-5182
Patricia Williams *M-F, 9am-4pm*
Kristine Simmons, Asst.

Town Grove: 860-435-5185
Stacey Dodge

Waste Water Treatment Plant: 860-435-5181
Charles Humes

Schools:
EXTRAS: 860-435-9926
Housatonic Child Care Center: 860-435-9694
Housatonic Valley Regional HS: 860-824-5123
Indian Mountain School: 860-435-0871
Salisbury Central School: 860-435-9871
Salisbury Boys School: 860-435-5700
The Hotchkiss School: 860-435-2591

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

First Selectman

(2-year term)

Curtis G. Rand (2021)

Selectmen

(2-year term)

Christian E. Williams (2021)

Donald Mayland (2021)

Board of Assessment Appeals

(4-year term)

John D. Harney, Jr. (2021)

Elvia Gignoux (2023)

William Scooter Tedder (2021)

Garrett Foley, Alternate

Lenore Mallett, Alternate (Appt)

Gregory Murphy, Alternate

Joe Woodard, Alternate (Appt)

Board of Education

(4-year term)

David Valcin, Chairman (2023)

David Bayersdorfer, V. Chairman (2021)

Kevin L. Wolgemuth (2023)

Keith Moon (2021)

Barrett Prinz (2023)

Natalia Smirnova (2023)

Jacqueline Rice (2021)

Board of Finance

(6-year term)

Michael D. Clulow, Chairman (2023)

William F. Willis (2021)

Emily Vail (2025)

Pari Forood (2023)

Janet Graaff (2021)

Richard J. Cantele, (2021, To Fill Vacancy
for 4 years)

Justices of the Peace (2025)

(4-year term)

Merrilee S. Alexander

David T. Bayersdorfer

George R. DelPrete

James van B. Dresser

Emily Egan

Debra G. Fails

Sue F. Kirber

Amy Lake

Richard T. Meehan

John C. Mongeau

Keith R. Moon

Cory L. Murphy

Curtis G. Rand

Rosina Rand

Tom Severo

Charles C. Vail

Christian E. Williams

William F. Willis

Planning & Zoning Commission

(4-year term)

Michael Klemens, Chairman (2023)

Robert Riva (2023)

Martin J. Whalen, Secretary (2021)

Allen Cockerline (2021)

Cathy Shyer (2021)

Danella Schiffer, Alternate (2021)

Debra Allee, Alternate (2021)

Jonathan Higgins, Alternate (2021)

Regional Board of Education

(2-year term)

Stacie Weiner (2021)

David Valcin, Alternate (Appt) (2020)

Registrar of Voters

(2-year term)

Maureen Dell (2022)

Karin Gerstel (2022)

Harriett Weiss, Deputy (Appt)

Kathleen Mera, Asst. (Appt)

Chany Wells, Deputy (Appt)

Marie Barnum, Asst. (Appt.)

Zoning Board of Appeals

(4-year term)

Jeffrey A. Lloyd, Chairman (2021)

Stephen J. Victory, V. Chairman (2021)

Stacie Weiner, Secretary (2023)

Georgia Petry, Administrative Assistant

Roxanne Belter (2021)

Michael Alderman (2023)

Eugenie Warner, Alternate (2021)

David Maffucci, Alternate (2021)

M.E. Freeman, Alternate (2023)

*Please note that the report is from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Board members may have changed since June 30, 2021.

APPOINTED OFFICERS & COMMISSIONS

<p>Animal Control Officer Lee Sohl Jim Sohl, Asst.</p> <p>Assessor Kayla Johnson</p> <p>Assistant Assessor/Tax Collector JoAnne Dodge</p> <p>Assistant Town Clerk Rachel B. Lamb Kristine Simmons</p> <p>Building Official <i>(4-year term, 10/2025)</i> Michael Carbone</p> <p>Burning Official <i>(4-year term, 1/2026)</i> Emily Egan</p> <p>Comptroller Joseph P. Cleaveland</p> <p>Director of Health <i>(1-year term)</i> Torrington Area Health District</p> <p>Emergency Management Director <i>(5-year term)</i> Jacqueline Rice (11/2021)</p> <p>Energy Coordinator Patrice DeMarco McGrath</p> <p>Fire Marshal Robin Denny</p> <p>Deputy Fire Marshal Charles Carleton Stan McMillan</p>	<p>Economic Development Committee <i>(1-year term)</i> Ward Belcher, Chairman Robert Schaufelberger David Maffucci Tom Schactman Richard Block Bruce McEver</p> <p>Grove Advisory Committee <i>(1-year term)</i> Charles Brown, Chairman Dennis Card Maggie Crain Anne Day George DelPrete Megan Foley Anthy Hellmers Elyse Harney Morris Kristen Neary-Marks Jacqueline Rice Rhonda Rinninsland John Sullivan Ethan Watt Lisa McAuliffe, Recreation Director Stacey Dodge, Grove Manager Bill Littauer, Lake Association Rep.</p> <p>Hazardous Material Inspector Paul G. Makuc <i>(Indefinite Term)</i></p> <p>Highway Department Don Reid, Jr., Foreman Rodney Webb, Crew Leader David Warner, Mechanic James Brazee, Driver Thomas Brazee, Driver Robert Flint, Driver Russell Hoage, Driver Thomas Paine, Driver Darin Reid, Driver</p>	<p>Historic District Commission <i>(5-year term)</i> Carol Mason, Chairman (11/2021) Tom Callahan, Vice Chairman (11/2024) Elyse Harney, Secretary (11/2022) Robert Highsmith (11/2023) Kathy Voldstad, Alternate (11/2022) Georgia Petry, Administrative Assistant</p> <p>Inland Wetland & Watercourses Commission <i>(4-year term)</i> Larry Burcroff, Chairman (11/2025) Steve Belter (11/2023) John Landon (11/2025) Maria Grace (11/2023) Sally Spillane (11/2023) Peter Neely (11/2023) Cary Ullman (11/2025) Vivian Garfein, Alternate (11/2023) Russ Conklin, Alternate (11/2023) John Harney, Jr., Alternate (11/2023) Abby Conroy, Administrator</p> <p>Northwest Council of Governments <i>(1-year term)</i> Curtis G. Rand Christian E. Williams Donald Mayland</p> <p>Parks & Forest Commission <i>(4-year term)</i> Kay Key (11/2022) Christian E. Williams (11/2022)</p>
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APPOINTED OFFICERS & COMMISSIONS

(Continued from previous page)

Permanent Housatonic River Comm.

Gordon Whitbeck
Stacie Weiner

Pope Committee

Tom Callahan, Chairman
Sally Spillane
Martin Whalen
Lisa McAuliffe
Jim Dresser
Mat Kiefer

Recreation Commission

(6-year term)

Lisa McAuliffe, Recreation Director
Lou Bucceri, Chairman (11/2023)
Tim Sinclair, V. Chairman (11/2021)
Becky Lachaine, Secretary (11/2022)
Raydin Neary (11/2025)
Dan Smith (11/2023)
Jon Russillo (11/2025)

Salisbury Affordable Housing Comm.

(3-year term)

Jennifer Clark, Chairman (11/2022)
James van B. Dresser (11/2021)
Vivian Garfein (11/2023)
Pat Hackett (11/2023)
Mary Close Oppenheimer (11/2022)
Tiffany Riva (11/2021)
Pom Shillingford (11/2022)
Elizabeth Slotnick (11/2023)
Georgia Petry, Housing Coordinator
(Appt. 1/2019)

Salisbury Family Services

Patrice DeMarco McGrath

Salisbury Fire Commission

(1-year term)

John Mongeau, Chairman
Cynthia Hoage, Treasurer
Donald Reid, Jr., Commissioner
Rick Roger, Commissioner
James Wood, Commissioner
Lawrence Hoage, Maintenance Sup.
Raymond Flint, Sr., Engineer
Robert Smith, Fire Chief, LHC #1
Jennifer Farwell, President, LHC #1

Salisbury Pathways Committee

(3-year term)

Christian E. Williams, Chair (11/2023)
Natalia Smirnova, Secretary (11/2022)
Pat Hackett (11/2021)
Kathryn Trahan (11/2023)
Jerry Stanton (11/2021)

Salisbury Senior Services

Lisa McAuliffe, Agent/Director

Salisbury Sharon Resource Recovery

Authority (SSRRA) (3-year term)

Curtis G. Rand (11/2023)
Charles Kelley (11/2021)
Robert Palmer (11/2022)
Ed Reagan, Alt. (1-yr term) (11/2021)

Scenic Roads Committee

(1-year term)

Kay Key
Jane Kellner
George Massey
Stephanie Pellegrino
Margaret Vail
Christian Williams

Selectmen's Secretary

Emily Egan

Special Constables

(2-year term) (11/2022)

Ronald Barnard
Michael Brenner

Sub Registrars (Vital Statistics)

(2-year term)

Brian Kenny (11/2021)
Robert Palmer (11/2021)

Tax Collector

(4-year term)

Jean Bell (11/2021)

Torrington Area Health District

(3-year term)

Peter Oliver
(Salisbury Representative, 2022)

Town Clerk

(4-year term)

Patricia H. Williams (11/2023)

Town Historian

(2-year term)

Jean Porter McMillen (11/2022)

Town Treasurer

Joseph P. Cleaveland (6/2023)
Joseph M. Woodard, Assistant Treasurer

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APPOINTED OFFICERS & COMMISSIONS

(Continued from previous page)

**(TRAC) Transfer Station Recycling
Advisory Committee**

(4-year term)

Barbara Bettigole, Chair (11/2022)

Peter Becket (11/2024)

Ned Harvey (11/2022)

Anthy Hellmers (11/2024)

Ed Reagan (11/2024)

Transfer Station

Brian Bartram, Manager

Gary Duntz

Matthew Murtagh

Thomas Sherwood

George Silvernail

Jason Wilson

Donna Maxwell

Tree Warden

(2-year term)

Mathias Kiefer (11/2022)

Water Gate Keeper

(1-year term)

Rodney Webb

Fred Schmidt

Veterans Service Contact Liaison

Chris Ohmen

Water Pollution Control Authority

(5-year term)

Donald Mayland, Chairman (2021)

Teal Atkinson (11/2024)

Joseph Brennan (11/2024)

Robinson Leech (11/2025)

Pat Hackett (11/2025)

David Bayersdorfer (11/2023)

John Whalen, Superintendent

Charles Humes, Assistant Superintendent

Wildlife Management Officer

(2-year term)

Rodney Webb (11/2022)

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SELF-GOVERNING BOARDS

Chore Service, Inc.

Jane Maclaren, Executive Director
Dolores Perotti, President
Carla Herman, Vice President
John Green, Treasurer
Diana (Dinny) Greene, Secretary
Ceely Ackerman
Patricia Chamberlain
Michelle Considine
Lea Davies, *President Emeritus*
Judy Sheridan
Michael Voldstad
Priscilla McCord

E.X.T.R.A.S.

Sue Bayer, President
Christine Gillette, Vice President
Kim Downey, Treasurer
Michelle Charles, Secretary
Lou Bucceri
Tina Bunce
Megan Conklin
Deb Fails
Elizabeth Trotta

Friends of the Library

Lisa Kimmel White, President
Gloria Miller, Vice President
C. Addison Stone, Treasurer
Elizabeth Schaufelberger, Secretary

Geer

Cyd Emmons
Eileen Fox
Dennis J. Kobylarz, M.D.
Lance Leifert
Richard Solan
James Sok
Karin Robinson
Edward Forfa
Samuel Herrick

Habitat for Humanity

Tracy Atwood, President
Allan Bahn, Vice President
Larry Agoglia, Treasurer
Megan Gawel, Secretary

Housatonic Child Care Center

Paul Bryant, President
Amanda Lidstone, Vice President
Kim Cannon, Treasurer
James Clark, Secretary

Housatonic Valley Association

Anthony Zunino, President
George S. Logan, Vice President
James H. Maloney, Treasurer
Barton T. Jones, Secretary

Housatonic Youth Services Bureau

Dave Barger, President
Bonnie Bellow, Vice President
Adam Higgins, Treasurer
Sarah Weihman, Secretary

Lake Wononscopomuc Association

Bill Littauer, President
Chip Strang, Vice President
Keith Ellis, Corporate Treasurer
Tino Galluzzo, Corporate Secretary

Lakeville Hose Company

Robert Smith, Jr., Fire Chief
Jason Wilson, Assistant Chief
James Fox, Captain
Brandon Flint, 1st Lieutenant
Cory Wiggins, 2nd Lieutenant
Raymond S. Flint, Engineer
Robert Flint, Quartermaster
Miguel Balaguero, President
Jenn Farwell, Vice President
Chip Carleton, Treasurer
Donielle Lorenzo, Secretary
Jason Wilson, Health & Wellness

Salisbury Association

Jeanette Weber, President
Chris Brennan, Vice President
Cynthia Walsh, Treasurer
Laura Carlson, Secretary

Salisbury Cemetery

Robert Palmer, Sexton
Susan Vreeland, President
Lester Hoysradt, Treasurer
Kathy Hawley, Secretary

Salisbury Family Services

Kim Fiertz, Co-President
Helen Scoville, Co-President
Kathy Hawley, Treasurer
Cathy Niles, Secretary

Salisbury Housing Committee

Anne Kremer, Co-President
Peter Halle, Co-President
Jocelyn Ayer, Vice President
Carole Dmytryshak, Treasurer
Claire Held, Secretary

Salisbury Housing Trust

Leo Gafney, Co-President
John Harney, Jr., Co-President
Inge Dunham, Vice President
Teal Atkinson, Treasurer/Secretary

Salisbury Forum

Mary Close Oppenheimer, President
Lee deBoer, Vice President
Bill Littauer, Treasurer
Kathleen Voldstad, Secretary

Salisbury Rotary

Ann Beizer, President
Bill Spalding, President Elect
Susan Dickinson, Treasurer
Marie Castagna, Secretary

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SELF-GOVERNING BOARDS

(Continued from previous page)

Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service

Don Mayland, President
Dick Vreeland, Vice President
Linda Kennedy-Gomez, Treasurer
Barrie Prinz, Secretary
Jacquie Rice, Chief of Service

Salisbury Winter Sports Association

Ken Barker, President
Mat Kiefer, Vice President
Jon Higgins, Treasurer
Carey Fiertz, Secretary

Salisbury Youth Work Program

Pat Stevens, Supervisor

Scoville Memorial Library

Stephanie Koven, President
Ellyn Mittman, Vice President
Cynthia Walsh, Treasurer
Jaye Landon, Secretary

The Corner Food Pantry

Mary Taylor, President
Nancy Bayersdorfer
Parker Boal
Jane Capecelatro
Betsy Clark
Allison Gray
Michelle Haab
Amanda Halle
Susan Keim
Holly Kempner
Kathy Mera
Isabel Sloane

Tri-State Chamber of Commerce

Jean Saliter, President
Lisa Duntz, Treasurer
Linda Robertson, Secretary
Mary Wilber
Tina Hogan
Lee Ann Sullivan
Lorraine Ohler

Twin Lakes Association

Grant Bogle, President
Bill Barton, Senior Vice President
Jean Bell, Treasurer
Pat Miller, Secretary

Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County

(formerly Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association)

Alan Colavecchio, President
Ellen Durstin, Vice President
Monica Diulio, Treasurer
Lousie Van Alystne, Secretary

Women's Support Services

Alexandra Lange, Co-Chair
Barbara Kahn Moller, Co-Chair
Vickie Tillman, Treasurer
Elizabeth Webb, Secretary
Diana Bisselle
Jeb Breece
Tom Connell
Elizabeth Demetriades
Amy Cox Hall
Carolyn Winterich Piccirelli
Edie Dao Schechter
Beth Simon
Ileene Smith
Pamela Kling Takiff
Anna Traggio
Emily Vail

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ELECTED STATE OFFICIALS

Connecticut General Assembly

30th Senatorial District
Craig A. Miner - R
Legislative Office Building, Room 3400
300 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106
1-800-842-1421
ctsenaterepublicans.com/home-miner/

64th Assembly District

Maria Horn - D
Maria.Horn@cga.ct.gov
Legislative Office Building, Room 4000
300 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106
860-240-8585
www.housedems.ct.gov/Horn

United States Congress

Senators

Richard Blumenthal - D
blumenthal.senate.gov
724 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-2823

Chris Murphy - D

www.murphy.senate.gov
303 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4041

House of Representatives

Rep Jahana Hayes - D 5th
108 Bank Street, 2nd Floor
Waterbury, CT 06702
860-223-8412, hayes.house.gov

Executive Office

Governor Ned Lamont
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105
860-566-4840
portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor

Probate Court

Diane Blick, Judge of Probate
860-567-8065, www.judgeblick.com

FIRST SELECTMAN CURTIS RAND

While COVID-19 continues to be of concern to our town, we can be proud that Salisbury has achieved a very high vaccination rate and we were able to re-open the Town Hall to the public in June, although most commission and volunteer meetings continue to be remote. Compared to the situation at the height of COVID, we have settled into a more traditional style of local government. It was a busy year, including several noteworthy items:

- We opened the Salisbury-Sharon Transfer Station; this has been well received and is working well. As with the rest of Connecticut, the situation facing the disposal of solid waste is somewhat onerous, and we salute our TRAC committee for its efforts to reduce our waste and its recent pilot program to divert food scraps. We will continue to seek ways to both lower costs and help the environment by reducing and recycling more of our waste.
- The Land Use office was very busy because of real estate transfers, zoning, wetlands and building permits. The staff and commissions who manage this aspect of our town deserve a special thank you for very dedicated attention to the efforts to manage growth while preserving so many of the ecological benefits that are important to save.
- Like all towns and cities, we received payments from the federal government (ARPA and CARES programs) to help recover from the financial disruptions from COVID; these funds will be used for capital needs, assistance to non-profits, and various other activities that lessen the impacts of the virus.
- The Pope Land Design Committee has been formed to manage predevelopment planning on the so-called Pope property on Salmon Kill Road. The conclusion of the earlier Pope Committee was that affordable housing, recreation and conservation were the likely uses for this parcel of town-owned land.
- Salisbury's recreation programs experienced a significant increase in use, particularly at the Town Grove and outdoor playing fields and we salute the staff who manage these vital resources for the town.
- The 2020 Census saw a 12% increase in population from a decade earlier, and our town was alone within our region in seeing over a 20% increase in young residents.
- The last year has seen several additional and wonderful conservation efforts to save some of Salisbury's significant wild places and we are grateful for many who have contributed to protecting these important habitats, watersheds and views.

Several other on-going projects include technological improvements at the Town Hall to allow more remote public access, sidewalk extensions, a completed property revaluation, and improvements at our WPCA sewer plant. We said goodbye to Chris Sorrell on his retirement after 9 fine years as Salisbury's Resident Trooper, and we welcome William Veras as our new Trooper.

As always, I am grateful for all of the wonderful work from our volunteers on so many important committees, our town staff, and my colleagues Chris Williams and Don Mayland. The monthly Board of Selectmen meetings are held at 5pm on the first Monday of the month except holidays, and much of the information about town government can be found on our town website www.salisburvct.us. Please stay safe and careful as we navigate what is hopefully the final phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, and be sure to support our local businesses and restaurants so that they continue to emerge from this situation stronger and healthier

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER LEE SOHL

All dogs in the Town of Salisbury are required by law to have licenses, which can be purchased at the Town Clerk's Office or online at www.salisburyct.us, during the month of June. This helps to both locate owners of lost dogs and ensure appropriate rabies vaccinations. The cost of the license is \$8.00 for a spayed or neutered dog, and \$19.00 for other dogs.

The Animal Control Officer responds to citizens' concerns regarding problems with domestic animals only, not wildlife, which is controlled by the State Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP). It is illegal to allow dogs to roam freely on a public roadway or on another's private property.

The Town has a dog pound located at the Town Garage. The Animal Control Officer is the only person who has access to this facility. A kennel fee is charged if your dog has to be kept at the dog pound.

A total of five dogs were impounded from July 2020 through June 2021. Four dogs were redeemed by their owners and one was adopted. One found cat needed to be euthanized due to injuries. Ninety-two complaints were investigated, including missing pets, roaming dogs, six animal bites, and miscellaneous domestic and wild animal questions. One infraction ticket was dispatched.

Income source and income collected: Pound fees - \$166.18 Donations - \$33.82

If your pet is missing or if you find an animal, please call the Animal Control Officer, **860-248-5637** and leave a message.

ASSESSOR KAYLA JOHNSON, ASSESSOR, CCMA I JOANNE DODGE, ASSOCIATE ASSESSOR

The Assessor's job is to discover, list and value all taxable and non-taxable real estate, business personal property and motor vehicles located within Salisbury. In Connecticut, property taxes are ad valorem, meaning based on value. One hundred percent value is known as an appraised value. Assessed value is 70% of the appraised value, and taxes are based on assessed value. In 2020, this office completed the state mandated revaluation of all real estate in town. We are required to do so every 5 years. The next town-wide revaluation will be in 2025.

We are excited that our data is available online! Property cards are available at: <http://gis.vgsi.com/salisburyct/> If you have any questions about your information, or for the most up to date records please contact our office. We also have implemented our towns GIS system and are perfecting the data. Maps are located at: <https://salisbury.mapxpress.net/>. These websites are very helpful for our office as well as homeowners. Many professionals, such as realtors, appraisers, title searchers and attorneys use this data daily.

The Assessor performs many other tasks including implementing benefits and exemptions to: Veterans, Elderly and Totally Disabled Homeowner and Renter's, and local organizations. We also work to preserve land within our town for the State's PA 490 program of Farm, Forest and Open Space. If you think you may qualify for any of these programs, or would like to inquire, please call the office.

BOARD OF FINANCE

MICHAEL CLULOW, CHAIRMAN

The Board of Finance consists of six members, elected for 6-year terms. Its primary function is to recommend a budget and mill rate to the Annual Town Meeting. The Board of Finance also has the power to approve special appropriations and transfers upon request of the Board of Selectmen or the Board of Education. It has specific responsibility for determining the method and extent of financial record keeping, arranging for the annual audit of the Town records and publishing the annual Town report.

The major responsibility of the Board of Finance is to review all requests for expenditures for town activities, to evaluate these requests, and to recommend to town meeting a budget which, in its judgment, meets all the town's expenditure needs within its financial resources. We facilitate this task through public meetings and public hearings.

The Board of Education did a sound job of keeping their budget to an increase of \$169,206 or a 2.98% increase. The Board of Selectmen, had a moderate budget increase of \$205,492 or 3%.

The Board of Finance believes these are rational budgets, balancing budget increases with a prudent tax increment that meets the budget demands of the Town over the fiscal year. The Board of Selectmen and Salisbury Central School Board of Education Budgets were posted for over a month in Town Hall and online with notice of a public hearing. The Board of Finance previously approved the budgets for public review and during this review period there were no public comments on the budgets. The Selectmen asked for any comments during this public hearing and there were none, thus the public hearing closed. The Board of Selectmen approved the final budgets of the Board of Selectmen and SCS Board of Education. Following approval of the budgets, the Board of Selectman also set a mill rate of 11.0% (down from 11.6%) for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

The three sections of the budget and the percentage change are as follows:

General Government Budget:	\$7,003,022	+ 3.0 %
Salisbury Central School Budget:	\$5,847,359	+ 2.98 %
Region 1 (High School)	\$3,565,882	+ 0.17 %
Total Town Expenditures	\$16,416,263	+ 2.4 %

In March 2021, Mathias Kiefer resigned from the Board of Finance after volunteering for many years. We would like to thank him for the time he served on the board. Members of the Board of Finance include Michael Clulow, William Willis, Pari Forood, Emily Vail, Janet Graaff and Rick Cantele. These members will continue to analyze revenues and expenditures in order to support the needs of the town while maintaining a pragmatic tax rate.

BUILDING OFFICIAL

MICHAEL CARBONE

The Building Department has continued to be busy this year with a substantial increase in permits and inspections.

The total amount of permit fees collected this year was over \$400,000.00, compared to last year which was just over \$235,000.00. The total construction value of all building permits this fiscal year was over \$38 million - compared to \$23 million last fiscal year.

The Building Official is in the office 8-9am Monday through Friday, and returns to the office after inspections between 2-3pm. Building Department applications can be found online at: www.salisburyct.us/applications-forms/

FIRE MARSHALL CHARLES CARLETON

It is the mission of the Fire Marshal's office to reduce the risk and incidence of fire and other safety hazards through both education and awareness, and insuring compliance with applicable codes and regulations. The Fire Marshal is available 24 hours a day and is available by appointment. Contact and other information is available on the town website.

The inspection of buildings required by state statute has been ongoing. The purpose of inspections and compliance with the relevant codes is for everyone's safety. Though one and two-family residences are exempt from mandatory inspections, homeowners and renters with questions or concerns are welcome to contact the office.

Over the course of the year there were five fires that required full investigations due to property losses, three of these were structure fires, one automobile fire and one tractor trailer fire. There were a number of minor fires confined to their point of origin with little or no property damage, thank you Lakeville Hose Company.

Mandatory reporting of fire incidents continues to be reported to the state through the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NIFRS) by the Fire Marshal. NIFRS is a platform to provide uniformity in fire incident reporting. Data acquired through the system helps to identify safety issues and trends. The database is the largest in the world and is used to improve fire codes, identify consumer product dangers and numerous other metrics.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT DON REID, HIGHWAY FOREMAN

The past year was another productive one for our highway department. We continued our program of increased maintenance, and we have been able to provide long-term improvements to most of our local roads, including both gravel and paved. The Highway Department scheduled paving on Chatfield Drive, Echo Street, Grove Street, Dugway Road, Salmon Kill Road, Cooper Hill Road, and sections of Selleck Hill Road and Twin Lakes Road. Drainage work was also planned on Taconic Road and Weatogue Road.

The winter was not as mild as the last, and included five ice storms and approximately 58.5" inches of snow. In the summer of 2020, the crew marked over 150 trees, that needed to be cleaned up or taken down on the town roads; this work began in February 2021.

The dedicated crew including Rodney Webb (Crew Chief), Dave Warner (Mechanic), Thomas Brazee, Bob Flint, Tom Paine, James Brazee, Russell Hoage, and Darin Reid, provide Salisbury residents with many long hours of hard work. They work through the year, in all conditions, to provide us with safe and well-maintained roads. They all deserve a big thank you for a job well done!

HISTORIAN

JEAN PORTER McMILLEN

Another year has passed and this one was stranger than ever due to COVID-19. With social distancing, masks and various other restrictions, many of my normal activities were either stopped entirely or severely restricted.

We received an equal number of gifts in both 2020 and 2021 - 9 each year. One of the more interesting ones in 2020 was a gift of 380 postcards of the Salisbury area from Kathy Peters. In 2021, Peter McEachern donated his collection of Black History in Rural Connecticut. Another special collection was St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church archives from Father Dawson.

We had a variety of requests as people could still use their computers despite the pandemic. There were 10 inquiries concerning houses, 24 miscellaneous questions spanning quite a level of research, 7 outside research projects, 4 questions about cemeteries or burial stones, 3 photograph requests and 6 genealogical inquiries.

My special goal within this time frame was to digitize many original documents stored in the History Room at the Scoville Memorial Library. I received approval from both the Selectmen and the Salisbury Association to do this. I wanted to protect and preserve these precious documents from any future damage. I contacted the State of Connecticut for advice about properly doing this. One of their Traveling Archivists came to Salisbury in December 2020 to see what we had and to assess what we needed to do to accomplish my goal. With the special help of Carrie Babigian, a member of the Historical Society, we were able to accomplish many of the steps recommended. All 4 binders containing documentation about gifts, file contents, art owned by the Salisbury Association and inventory records were photocopied. There is a complete set of binders at the History Room, the Academy Building and in the vault at the Town Hall. All binders are updated as needed and distributed to each location.

We were offered a Summer Intern this year, Gabriel Perkins from Hotchkiss, who worked with me to scan both the 51 original remaining oral histories so they could be put on the web and all the original documents Mrs. Chilcoat and I thought most important. These included over 50 memoirs, a letter written during Shay's Rebellion, a letter and bill from Gov. Trumbull to Col. Joshua Porter about Salisbury Furnace, John Whittlesey Walton's autobiography, Alexander Hamilton Holley's diary, and Faith Campbell's History of Lime Rock. Without Gabriel's work ethic and attention to detail, we could not have accomplished so much in 5 weeks.

I was able to inspect all cemeteries this year and send my report to the Board of Selectmen. Unfortunately, very little has been done due to the inordinate amount of rain which has held up much restoration work.

I was unable to do any interviews for Oral History because of COVID-19. However, Sarum Samplings Vol. 4 & 5 have been published and are available at the Academy Building.

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

CAROL MASON, CHAIRMAN

Certificate of Appropriateness

This is one of our keystone purposes as a Commission. The required process: Any physical alteration to the exterior of a building or structure affixed to the land that is visible from any public way or place requires a Certificate of Appropriateness. An application for such certificate needs to be filled out and sent to the SHDC for review and discussion. We do our best to help find solutions to allow changes in a prompt timeframe. When the Commission and the applicant have reached an agreement, the next required step is a public hearing. In the final step the SHDC approves the Certificate, and a copy goes to the building inspector. (During the COVID-19 pandemic we began meeting via zoom our process was adjusted. We review the application and if the commissioners agree with the request, we approve the Certificate and send it to the building inspector, there is no public hearing.)

We reviewed 10 COA's that went through the COA process. They are:

- COA for Salisbury Association – Entrance door
- COA for Buckley House – Remove second floor exterior door
- COA 433 Salmon Kill Road- Zoom call with realtor for prospective buyer to REVIEW ideas being considered prior to offer on the property
- COA – Reed House, 15 Library Street - Entrance lighting
- Holley Block concerns brought to our attention (This property is not in the Historic District.)
- COA – 2 Furnace Road - Replace side facing the drive door
- COA – House 31, 414 Salmon Kill Road - Replace existing garage with new construction
- COA – 30 Main Street
- COA – 8 Main Street - Extend fence near HVAC
- COA for review – 75 & 77 Main Street - Presented by James LaPorta, Litchfield Hills Solar
- COA for review – Congregational Church, 30 Main Street – Presented by Rachel Fossum, MHR Development - Solar

The SHDC Map

This project is on hold until we find a way to complete the work to create an official map of the various Salisbury Historic Districts. This project has been delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

SHDC Maps on SHDC website

Once the official map is created, it will be included in the written information about the development of the historic district and added to our website: www.historicsalisburyct.org. While the maps do not detail all the properties of historic significance in our community, they will help property owners, businesses, realtors, contractors, and others more clearly identify those buildings and districts that are included in the SHDC and require an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness before construction and/or alterations may proceed.

Annual Event

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, we were unable to hold our annual celebration of Historic District properties. We look forward to the normalization of our lives, so that we can again take a moment to recognize the love our residents have for the preservation of properties whose preservation contributes significantly to the beauty and continuity of our community.

The Advisory Board

The advisory board members are made up of volunteers, non-paid and non-voting. Enables those who have an interest in Historic Preservation but are not Connecticut Residents or have served many years as Commissioners and are able to provide non-binding strategic advice and research on requests from the SHDC Commission.

The Salisbury Historic District Commission

We are very grateful to those who have served on this Commission to help take history forward. Their contributions bring understanding about the contemporary value of Salisbury Historic Districts and the Town's architectural heritage from the colonial period to the present. Their clarity is and was focused on how the historic environment establishes a sense of grace and decorum in our environment. This purpose is the foundation of the work of this Commission, to maintain this quality of life for ourselves and future generations. Our monthly meeting is held on the first Tuesday of the month at 9am.

During the pandemic we are meeting via zoom and only when we have a COA request. This requirement has led to new rules on how we conduct our meetings. As with Planning and Zoning, our meetings are a matter of public record and are recorded. It is helpful to aid in the successful application for any project to work with the SHDC, consult with us as the project progresses. This avoids surprises that result in delays, especially with complicated changes and renovation requests. Our desire is to work with you and hopefully arrive at an answer that preserves the visual continuity of the town while enabling change.

INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES COMMISSION

LARRY BURCROFF, CHAIRMAN

During the July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 fiscal year, the Salisbury Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission (previously the Conservation Commission) took a brief hiatus while the Town acquired virtual meeting software and established COVID-19 protocols. Beginning in September, the Commission held multiple meetings a month eventually electing to schedule two regular meetings monthly in order to keep up with incoming applications.

There were 42 requests made to the Commission this fiscal year. Of those requests, four were found exempt and five permits were issued by the agent. The rest were reviewed and permitted by the Commission.

Agent Ruth Mulcahy retired in December of 2020 and the Commission appointed Land Use Administrator Abby Conroy as their new agent. Ms. Conroy continues the work done by Ms. Mulcahy to aid the Commission with their regulation updates and carry out the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act. This regulation revision work will continue in the coming year.

In the fall of 2020, the Board of Selectman adopted an ordinance designating the Conservation Commission as the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission. The new Commission is responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the Connecticut Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Act.

Three alternate positions became available as a result of the new ordinance and have since been filled by Vivian Garfein, John Harney, and Russ Conklin.

The Commission has also hosted several training sessions by Darcy Winther of the DEEP and Town Attorney Janet Brooks relative to their responsibilities under the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act.

LAKEVILLE HOSE COMPANY

ROBERT A. SMITH, JR., FIRE CHIEF

The Lakeville Hose Company responded to 309 calls this fiscal year. The number of calls was about average for us, with about half of them being false alarms. There were four structure fires, numerous auto accidents and trees that took down power lines. There were many volunteer man hours spent last year working for the fire department.

The company has taken delivery of a new rescue truck that helps us carry more equipment for rescue situations. Also, you might have seen our new command vehicle driving around - most of the stuff in this vehicle is set for command, plus extra equipment for fire fighters.

At this time, I would like to remind all residents to have their alarm systems serviced yearly to reduce the number of false alarms. False alarms could take us away from a real emergency. As Chief, I would like to express our appreciation and thank all of our residents for their continued support.

PARKS & FOREST

Thanks to the generosity of many present & former residents of Salisbury, we are able to appreciate nature's beauty from a number of walks, ski trails, hills and ponds.

BARRACK MATIFF

27 acres located on a wooded hillside adjacent to the south side of US Route 44 about a mile east of Salisbury. The Appalachian Trail winds through part of this forest.

BAUER PARK

Four and one-half acres surrounding the old Lakeville Railroad Station and leading to the Town Grove. It includes Factory Pond and the parking area.

BICENTENNIAL PARK

A small "vest pocket" park developed within the foundation of the old Holley Block in Lakeville, at the corner of Holley Street and Millerton Road (Route 44).

CANNON PARK

Located adjacent to the ball field in Lakeville, affording the pleasant entrance to the ball field area.

CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL PARK

A triangular parcel of land containing the Soldiers' Monument located directly in front of the White Hart Inn.

COBBLE PARK

An interesting geologic rock outcropping located just to the northeast of the Catholic cemetery in Salisbury. The total land area is about three acres of rocks and woods.

EDITH SCOVILLE MEMORIAL SANCTUARY

288 acres located at the apex formed by Taconic Road, Lake Washinee and Route 44. It is beautifully wooded with many ski and hiking trails and a lean-to with fireplace.

MARY V. PETERS MEMORIAL PARK/ SALISBURY COMMUNITY DOG PARK

Mary V. Peters Memorial Park is set on 36 acres on the southwest shore of Long Pond. The park may be used for fishing, hunting, hiking and cross-country skiing. Also, there is over an acre of fenced-in land, donated by the Town designated as a Community Dog Park.

ORE HILL PARK

Four and one-half acres located north of the old ore pit with some frontage on the north side of Route 44. The pit is now filled with water.

REYNOLDS-ROCKWELL PARK

Two acres located next to Hanging Rock Park and Washinee Park at the corner of Locust Ave. and Factory/Washinee Street.

TACONIC CHAPEL PARK

The smallest town park, located at the former site of the Taconic Chapel in the intersection of Taconic Road and Twin Lakes Road in Taconic.

TOWN GROVE

Nine acres located on the shore of Lake Wononscopomuc in the center of Lakeville. It includes the Grove Recreation buildings, playground, beach and boat storage areas.

WASHINEE-HANGING ROCK PARK

Consisting of two adjacent parcels of land, three acres each, on Factory Street just west of the Old Salisbury Burying Ground. Picnic facilities are available.

WACK FOREST

A wooded area used primarily by the Girl Scouts, consisting of 50 acres opposite the old Wack home on Lime Rock Road.

SALISBURY COMMUNITY DOG PARK

Founded in 2014, the Salisbury Community Dog Park is a Not-For-Profit community organization in the Town of Salisbury. The park is on over an acre of land located at the entrance to Mary Peters Park, 107 Long Pond Road, in Lakeville. The park is a fenced area where dogs from can play together off-leash. The park is open from dawn to dusk 365 days a year.

The focus of our all-volunteer group has been to ensure the proper maintenance of the park and to get the word out to the surrounding communities of the existence of the park. The park is landscaped, trees have been planted and an outdoor bulletin board has been installed to provide community information. We also promote the park's location by maintaining booths at the Salisbury Fall Festival and the Sharon "On the Green" Festival.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

MICHAEL W. KLEMENS, PHD, CHAIRMAN

The Planning and Zoning Commission devoted considerable time and effort in reviewing the application of the Salisbury Housing Committee to construct affordable housing apartments on the Town-owned Holley Block. This was the first application in the Pocket Knife Square Overlay district which was specifically created to encourage denser, more affordable housing (*see* last year's annual report). The Committee's first application was voluntarily withdrawn, after the Commission found it lacking in many aspects. The second application was far more responsive to the Commissions' concerns and moved forward through multiple public hearings. A group of residents formally intervened and brought forth additional concerns and information. Upon approving the project, the Commission made, as conditions of approval, findings that included some of the modifications requested by the interveners. Regrettably, the interveners still appealed the Commission's decision to Superior Court. The result of that appeal is, of this writing, unknown.

Our Land Use Administrator (LUA) Abby Conroy has been working diligently to handle the huge volume of land-use applications that are being received. This is a direct result of a demographic shift that has occurred in Salisbury due to the COVID pandemic. Many part-time residents are spending more time here and properties are being developed to accommodate their friends and extended families. Many of these applications are quite complex, and the LUA and the Chairman have been holding pre-application meetings about certain projects to make sure that the applications contain everything required in order to be processed. For example, at least one application for an accessory dwelling was over 2,000 square feet, which would have violated zoning. It takes considerable time and patience to explain these issues, especially to out-of-town architects and builders not familiar with our code.

Going hand in hand with the lack of familiarity of our regulations, we have noticed an increase in the number of zoning violations. Each of these takes considerable time to address, ensuring that all remedies have been exhausted before we proceed with a notice of violation. We are at a tipping point here in Salisbury. Previously people complied voluntarily with regulations, we are now facing individuals who will not comply and the Commission seeks remedies to ensure that regulations are applied and followed equitably. On these issues of compliance, we are greatly appreciative of the support given to us by our Board of Selectmen.

We recognize that because of all these issues converging on the Land Use Office, some people have been unhappy with waiting for responses. There is one explanation and two solutions. The explanation is that the LUA is assuming the integrated management of all the commissions that have a land-use mandate. This is a much more efficient manner in which to operate, but the result is that we are very understaffed. The Land Use Office of a town of this size ideally should have three full time professionals and this would solve many of these problems. The second solution is acquiring online permitting software to facilitate many aspects of our work. The current situation is that most applications are deficient in one or more areas, and take considerable time to inform and work with the applicants to remedy. Online permitting software will not allow submission of incomplete applications. The system will also allow any citizen to track the progress of any application online. It will also help Town staff to be sure that all the relevant approvals have been granted before issuing final approvals.

One "benefit" of COVID is that we have noted increased citizen participation in our virtual meetings. We welcome residents to attend our meetings, and when appropriate address issues. I thank both Emily Egan and Abby Conroy for efficiently managing the website and remote meetings and all the citizens who take the time to participate in our meetings.

RECREATION COMMISSION

LOUIS BUCCERI, CHAIRMAN

The mission of the Salisbury Recreation Commission is to provide organized, instructional recreational opportunities, which are all inclusive to the people of the Salisbury community. Specific programs should be well thought out, well organized, and include an opportunity for learning and growth for any and all participants. The focus for all Salisbury Recreation programs should be centered on inclusivity and participation for all, while always looking to promote and foster the importance of sportsmanship and conduct.

Continuing to provide programs that provide recreational and enrichment opportunities for town residents while protecting public health has been a challenge. With early year increases in COVID infections, Salisbury Recreation Director Lisa McAuliffe had no choice but to cancel most offerings. There was little or no access to local indoor facilities. Recognizing that one of the keys to help maintain in-person participation by children in school was to protect the integrity of the student cohorts, McAuliffe did not begin youth programs until after the end of the school year in mid-June. Many of the usual outdoor recreational opportunities were offered with limited capacities, including baseball, tennis, and boating. Even the summer youth swim team met for practices and in-house meets. Thanks to Emily Egan, the town's website was updated in the spring and it provided Salisbury Recreation with a new, more flexible information and registration portal.

Acknowledging the decline of participation in regional elementary recreational sports, Director McAuliffe worked with other recreation officials from Region One towns to inaugurate a regional recreational soccer program in the fall. Some 175 players at age group levels from kindergarten to grade six participated in clinics and skill building under the direction of Coach Steve Dodge and players from Housatonic Valley Regional High School. The success of this program led recreation directors to plan a similar structure for basketball in the winter. Winter youth basketball also included Housy Hoops regional travel teams for grades five through eight. At the end of November, working with Hotchkiss School officials, Sharon and Salisbury recreation were able to resume the adult lap swim sessions with safety protocols in place.

The town's 2018 purchase of the Pope family land between Salmon Kill Road and the center of Salisbury village includes area of recreational potential. A committee has been appointed by the Selectmen to study land use. The committee includes McAuliffe and Tim Sinclair.

For 2021, the Commission consisted of Lou Bucceri (Chairman), Becky Lachaine (Secretary), Raydin Neary, Jon Russillo, Danny Smith (Treasurer), and Tim Sinclair (Vice Chairman). David Valcin represented the Board of Education. Tim came to the end of his current six-year term. Happily, for us, he chose to stand for reappointment and the Commission heartily recommended such to the Selectmen. Tim was reappointed at the Selectmen's November meeting.

Though we are not yet back to a normal recreational atmosphere, we will again need and be grateful for thoughtful and caring individuals to help teach and encourage others in their recreational pursuits. Please keep us in mind and consider being involved as a coach or organizer. Contact Director McAuliffe at either 860-435-5186 or recreationdirector@salisburyct.us if you can help.

Finally, the commissioners congratulate Salisbury Central School students Jesse Bonhotel and Lou Haemmerle on their graduation and being chosen by Salisbury Central faculty to receive the Physical Education Prize for the 2020-2021 school year.

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

VOTER INFORMATION & ELECTION MANAGEMENT

Karin Gerstel, ROV, Democratic
Hedwig Wells, Deputy ROV, Democratic
Kathleen Mera, Assistant ROV, Democratic

Maureen Dell, ROV, Republican
Harriet Weiss, Deputy ROV, Republican
Marie Barnum, Assistant ROV, Republican

The office of the Registrar of Voters and Elections Administration is a state-mandated elected position. The two elected Registrars, one Democratic and one Republican, continually update the official voter registration list for Salisbury along with the allied responsibility of preparing for and managing any election.

The Registrars are in their second-floor office of Town Hall every Wednesday from 9am until noon. Also, official forms for voter registration or changes may be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office, Monday through Friday. Mail-in applications are also available at www.salisburyct.us, <http://www.ct.gov/sots> or can be submitted online via the Secretary of State or the State Department of Motor Vehicles Offices, Libraries and Social Service Agencies.

The Registrars organize and conduct an annual canvass of all registered voters in the Township. The purpose is to update changes of residence and mailing address. If your address changes, please notify the registrars by email at registrars@salisburyct.us or by phone at **860-435-5175**.

The Registrars are nominated by their respective parties and elected every 4 years, along with other state and federal offices. Registrars are provided with training and on-going professional seminars each year. They work closely with State certified Moderators to run the local elections. We appreciate anyone interested in becoming a Moderator.

The Secretary of State has elected optical scanners as the official voting method along with an IVS system for people with disabilities.

As of June, 30 2021, active voter registration is as follows: Total: 2,882; Democrat: 1441; Republican: 437; Unaffiliated: 955; Other: 49.

We would like to have all eligible persons registered and voting. If you would be interested in working at the Polls on Election Day, please contact our office at 860-435-5175 or registrars@salisburyct.us.

Voter Information & Political Parties

General Information for Voters

Eligibility: A person, in order to be admitted as an elector in a Connecticut town, must meet the following requirements: One must be a United States citizen who has attained the age of 18 years and is a bona fide resident of the town. A bona fide resident is one whose fixed home is in the town in which he/she lives and to which he/she intends to return if temporarily absent. To vote in a referendum, one must be a United States citizen and must pay taxes in Salisbury on property with a minimum assessed value of \$1,000 or be a registered voter.

Absentee Voting: For an election, any registered voter, or eligible property owner, may vote by absentee ballot for one of the following reasons: Absence from town during all hours of voting; illness; physical disability; active service in the United States Armed Forces; or religious tenets that forbid secular activity on a day of election, primary or referendum. For a referendum, any registered voter or property owner may vote by absentee ballot. Applications for absentee ballots may be obtained in person or by mail or email from the Town Clerk.

Democratic Town Committee

Meets Every 3rd Tuesday at 6pm

Al Ginouves, Chair
Susan DeMelle, Vice Chair
Pam Kelley, Treasurer
Kerry Noble, Secretary

Republican Town Committee

Meets Every 4th Tuesday at 5pm

Thomas Morrison, Chair & Secretary
Donald Mayland, Vice Chair & Treasurer
Harriet Weiss, Assistant Treasurer
Maureen Bateman, At Large Member Exec. Committee

Political Parties have been meeting via Zoom, due to COVID.

RESIDENT TROOPER

The following is the Annual Report for the fiscal year of 2020-2021 for all of the Police services provided within the Town of Salisbury. The statistical information pertains to the matters attended to by the Salisbury Resident Trooper's Office, the Town's part-time Police Officers and Troopers assigned to Troop B North Canaan.

- 63 traffic accidents with 12 of those having injuries
- 18 larceny investigations
- 170 motor vehicle stops / contacts with the public
- 24 disturbances
- 6 domestic disputes
- 135 assists to the public

SALISBURY AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION JENNIFER KRONHOLM CLARK, CHAIRMAN

The Salisbury Affordable Housing Commission's (SAHC) mission is to "provide for, promote and encourage the development and continued availability of housing for the Town's low- and moderate-income persons and families", as mandated by Town Ordinance No. 111 (December 2010).

The Commission does not own property or build housing. It works through other organizations, including the Salisbury Housing Trust and Habitat for Humanity of Northwest CT (both single-family home ownership), the Salisbury Housing Committee (low-income rentals such as Sarum Village and Faith House), not-for-profit and for-profit affordable housing developers, and governmental and private financing sources.

At the end of 2020, two long-term officers of the Commission, Chair Pari Forood and Vice Chair Roger Crain, resigned. The Commission thanks them for their years of service and their dedication to bringing more affordable housing to Salisbury.

The Commission elected Jennifer Kronholm Clark as chair and Elizabeth Slotnick as vice chair and recommended the appointment of Vivian Garfein and Tiffany Riva.

These are some of the highlights of the Commission's work during the past fiscal year:

- Continued support of the Salisbury Housing Committee (SHC) in their efforts to develop the Holley Place property. The Commission hosted a public information session via Zoom in February 2021 that was attended by more than 150 people. Commission members encouraged citizens to submit comments in support of the SHC's application to Planning & Zoning.
- A Recommendation to the Board of Selectmen to approve a \$20K grant from the Salisbury Affordable Housing Fund to the Salisbury Housing Committee (SHC) for the unexpected repair of the sewer system at Sarum Village.
- Sent two commissioners, Elizabeth Slotnick and Vivian Garfein, to represent affordable housing concerns on the Pope Land Design Committee.
- Continued support of the Salisbury Housing Trust (SHT) in their efforts to develop the town-owned property on Perry Street.
- Continued to support the new joint Housing Organizations website, www.salisburycyhousing.org, serving the Salisbury Housing Committee, Salisbury Housing Trust and the Salisbury Affordable Housing Commission.
- A recommendation to the Board of Selectmen to approve a \$10k grant from the Salisbury Affordable Housing Fund to the Salisbury Housing Trust, to help pay for their costs after the sale of a house to a local family and to help others, going forward.
- Continued the effort to build community support for Affordable Housing in Salisbury through the use of a "Call to Action" list to contact people about upcoming meetings and public hearings, articles in The Lakeville Journal, hosting information sessions, and posting in community groups on Facebook.

The SAHC continues to:

- Update the SAHC Facebook page to reach people through social media. (<https://www.facebook.com/SalisburyAffordableHousingCommisson>)
- Receive inquiries from people who live or work in Salisbury looking for affordable housing options and refer them to resources that could help them.
- Devote a portion of each monthly meeting of the Commission to evaluating private and Town-owned properties for housing development potential.
- Work with Salisbury housing organizations: Salisbury Housing Committee, Salisbury Housing Trust, and Habitat for Humanity to facilitate and coordinate affordable housing efforts in the Town.
- For 2022, the Commission will meet monthly on the third Thursday of the month at 5:30pm. All meetings, whether held in-person or remote meetings via Zoom, are open to the public. Public participation is welcomed.

Additional information on the Salisbury Affordable Housing Commission's work and updates on housing resources can be found on the Town's website. (www.salisburyct.us/boards-commissions-committees/affordable-housing/)

SALISBURY FIRE COMMISSION

JOHN MONGEAU, CHAIRMAN

The primary purpose of the Fire Commission is to act as the fiduciary entity for the Lakeville Hose Company (LHC), administering the operational funds which come from an annual town appropriation. (See budget pages below).

The Commission members (appointed by the Selectmen) meet monthly with Hose Company officers and representatives to conduct the business of fire protection and prevention in town. The LHC responsibilities also include the provision of mutual aid to adjacent Connecticut communities, as well as surrounding towns in Berkshire County, Massachusetts and Dutchess County, New York.

Salisbury's appropriation to LHC covers all aspects of firefighting services, including costs of purchasing, maintaining, repairing and testing fire apparatus (specifically trucks, vehicles and equipment designed solely for firefighting and emergency services).

Additionally, funds are set aside by the Commission to purchase comprehensive liability insurance to cover volunteers, equipment, fire apparatus and maintenance of the buildings/grounds. Buildings have their own annual costs of maintenance, utilities, equipment replacement, cleaning and so on.

A hold-over responsibility from the Lakeville Fire District (which was dissolved several years ago) is to bill residents of the former Fire District for their share or the costs of providing fire hydrants within the district boundaries. All other town residents (not in the former Fire District) are billed for their hydrant share costs directly from Aquarian/Eversource.

John Mongeau, Chairman
 Larry Hoage, Maintenance Supervisor
 James Wood, Commissioner
 Darin Reid, LHC Liaison
 Robert Smith, Jr., Fire Chief, Lakeville Hose Company #1

Cynthia Hoage, Treasurer, Hydrant Fee Collector
 Rick Roger, Commissioner
 Donald Reid, Jr., LHC President and Commissioner
 Raymond W. Flint, Engineer

Revenue:

Salisbury Fire Commission (Town Appropriation)	\$50,000
Lakeville Fire Protection (Town Appropriation)	\$278,600
Hydrant Fee Collection	\$46,473
Interest	\$750

Salisbury Fire Commission Expenses:

Hydrant Fee Collector	\$1,797
Commission Maintenance	\$14,248
Heating/AC (Propane)	\$2,915
Officer Salaries	\$8,900
Unanticipated Projects	\$1,900
Water/Hydrants	\$64,808
Maintenance Supervisor	\$1,800
Office Operating	\$60
Miscellaneous	\$119
Service Contract (Exterminator)	\$1,094
TOTAL	\$97,641

Lakeville Fire Protection Expenses:

Air Pack Updated/Replaced	\$6,317
Air Pack (NEW)	\$0
Air Compressor (Replacement)	\$0
Fire Engine Fund	\$110,000
Fire House	\$12,429
Foam Equipment	\$0
Gas, Oil, Diesel	\$798
Service Contracts	\$2,657
Heating/AC (Propane)	\$2,915
Washer & Dryer Replacement	\$0
Hose Replacement	\$4,453
Insurance	\$25,645
Ladder Testing	\$560
Misc. Fire Protection	\$4,402
New Equipment	\$10,410
Radio Equipment	\$3,766
Communication	\$6,467
Training	\$2,750
Fire Prevention/Education	\$0
Truck Maintenance/Tires	\$33,095
Turn Out Gear	\$2,789
Turn Out Gear (Replacement)	\$0
Wild Land Protection	\$1,000
Rescue	\$2,264
Mandatory Physicals	\$719
Traffic Safety/Fire Police	\$0
TOTAL	\$233,436
Expense Grand Total	\$331,077

SALISBURY-SHARON TRANSFER STATION

BRIAN BARTRAM, MANAGER

This year we opened the new transfer station at 410 Millerton Road. This station was the result of years of hard work of many residents volunteering on committees, elected officials, and staff. Thank you to all for your dedicated effort on this project. Our new website is: www.salisburysharontransferstation.com.

Connecticut is still in an evolving solid waste crisis. By June of 2022, the trash-to-energy facility in Hartford where our garbage is sent will be closing. Currently, the only viable option appears to be transporting our garbage to landfills in other states, such as Ohio, Virginia, or even Alabama. As such, it is more important than ever for EVERYONE to reduce the amount of garbage they produce.

In May, we began a small pilot program for the diversion of food scraps from 120 households in our Towns. It has been a success, and we will be working to expand the program as time progresses. Obviously, it makes sense to handle waste and recycling on a more local level, than to ship it to a landfill hundreds of miles away.

SENIOR SERVICES

LISA MCAULIFFE, DIRECTOR

The COVID-19 pandemic dramatically changed things for our Senior Services programs. In March of 2020, our Senior Center and all of our programs were shut down. Our nutrition program, pot luck lunches, pontoon boat rides at the grove, exercise class, adult lap swim and the walking program at the Hotchkiss pool have been suspended until further notice. The AARP Safe Drivers program was cancelled, but we were able to do the AARP Tax Aid program with a drop-off/pick up service.

On a positive note, Jano's Senior Exercise Class was able to meet via Zoom for several months and we hope to return to in-person class in October. Many seniors have been able to continue receiving daily meals through the Meals on Wheels program. We have plans to host a flu shot clinic in October. It is also my hope that we will be able to start offering more programs again at the end of 2021.

The Town Grove and Senior Center are one of our towns most beautiful treasures, but it's just not the same without our resident's daily visits. Hoping to see a return to normal in 2021-2022!

TOWN CLERK

PATRICIA H. WILLIAMS, TOWN CLERK

RACHEL B. LAMB, ASST. TOWN CLERK & KRISTINE SIMMONS, ASST. TOWN CLERK

The Town Clerk's office saw many land transfers during the beginning of the COVID pandemic. We recorded 1300 documents during this fiscal year compared to 864 last year. There are many new faces in Town!

The Presidential Primary and Election kept us very busy with approximately 600 absentee ballots issued for the Presidential Primary and more than 1200 absentee ballots issued for the Presidential Election.

We would like to thank Rachel Lamb who served as the Assistant Town Clerk for 18 ½ years. Rachel's strong work ethic and attention to detail made the office run very smoothly. She was always very helpful to the public when they called or came in to the office. We appreciate all she contributed to the Town of Salisbury and the Town Hall. She will be missed!

The Town Clerk's office welcomed Kristine Simmons as the new Assistant Town Clerk upon Rachel's retirement. Kristine comes to Salisbury with previous Town Clerk experience as well as having completed some of the necessary training to become a Certified Town Clerk. Her experience and positive attitude are appreciated. We look forward to having Kristine a part of the Town Hall family for many years!

Annual Statistics from the Town Clerk's Office - July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

Births:

Total of 16 births (6 Females, 10 Males)

Marriages:

Total of 41 marriages (10 Residents, 31 Non-residents)

Deaths:

Total of 65 deaths (51 Residents, 14 Non-residents)

Dog Licenses:

Total of 300 (29 Unaltered, 268 Altered, 0 Kennel Licenses, 2 Service Dogs, 1 Replacement tags)

Land Records:

Total of 1300 documents recorded

TOWN GROVE STACEY DODGE, MANAGER

This summer was the first semi-ordinary summer since the COVID pandemic started. We still had a few restrictions in place, but for the most part we were running as normal. Patrons did not have a mask mandate. We did limit the number of Non-Resident stickers. Residents were able to purchase two stickers this year, as opposed to only one last year. This summer we had over 1,300 guests visit the park, this number did not include sticker holders. We were very fortunate to have a strong Life Guard staff, when other waterfronts struggled to find guards. The park was very busy this year with lots of fisherman. One lucky angler caught a 13 lb. 7 oz. trout. With summer recreation programs running at capacity, we had lots of children here daily. The only camp we had here was the E.X.T.R.A.'s group that is based out of Salisbury Central School. This year we had a lot of new pontoon boats on the docks - even with the horsepower limit. The docks hold up to 48 small boats and 10 large boats. We have a wonderful staff that works long hours to help make sure the Grove continues to be a special place for the Town's people of Salisbury. During the off-season, we continue to have two full-time staff members on duty to maintain the park.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY DONALD MAYLAND, CHAIRMAN

The Salisbury WPCA has been engaged in three major capital projects over the last three years. Last year we completed two of them, the relining of sewer pipes in a variety of locations and the installation of phosphorus removing equipment at the plant. This year we saw the completion of the new pump station on Salmon Kill Road and the removal of the old station. Although these three projects cost a considerable amount of money, they are very important for the future efficient and reliable operation of the water pollution control facilities of the town.

This year also saw another very notable event, the retirement of the long time Superintendent of the plant, John Whalen. John ran the plant and the influent and effluent systems for 48 years. To say that he ran the plant and systems is a huge understatement. He created one of the cleanest and most efficient water pollution control systems possible. Years ago, when I was teaching economics at The Hotchkiss School, I brought students down to the plant to see first-hand what an efficient pollution control system looked like. All of us, as residents of Salisbury, owe John a very big thank you for all he has done for the town. John will be keeping his hand in as a member of the WPCA.

The Town is also very fortunate that John's assistant for many years, Charlie Humes, has taken over as the plant Superintendent. He has big shoes to fill, but he is very capable of doing just that. In addition, we have been very fortunate to recruit and hire Chris Ohmen, a Salisbury resident, who brings his mechanical knowledge and talent to the mission of the WPCA. Recently, Jim Rutledge, a well-known resident of Salisbury, joined the WPCA board. His knowledge and talents are welcome additions to the WPCA.

It was a challenging year but a very productive year, thanks to the hard and diligent work of the WPCA.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS JEFFREY A. LLOYD, CHAIRMAN

- The Chatfield Hill Association received a variance for a structure associated with the subdivision's public drinking water system.
- John Strelchun was granted relief from the provisions of Section 306.1 "Minimum Street Frontage and Access" for a 5-acre piece on Puddlers Lane.
- A replacement of a nonconforming portico was approved for the Culliton's on their historical home at 2 Furnace Road.
- The Market Place of Salisbury received a variance for building coverage to accommodate additional storage space at LaBonne's.
- Additionally, the Board granted one certificate of approval for a motor vehicle dealer/repairer located at 18 Brook Street.

At the November 24, 2020 meeting all officers were reelected. Jeffery Lloyd Chairman, Steven Victory Vice-Chairman and Stacey Weiner Secretary. Other Regular Board Members are Roxanne Belter, Michael Alderman along with Alternate Board Members David Maffucci, M.E. Freeman and Eugenie Warner.

After 30 years, Steve Victory has decided not to run again. We thank Steve for his contributions and years of service. Steve's knowledge, expertise and dedication will be missed.

HOUSATONIC CHILD CARE CENTER

TONYA ROUSSIS, DIRECTOR

The Housatonic Child Care Center is a professional nonprofit, full-time childcare facility, providing play-based learning and applying best practices for the development and school preparation of children of ages 12 weeks through 5 years. The Center has served Salisbury and the surrounding towns since opening its doors in 1970. At that time the Center was licensed for 20 children. Today it is licensed for up to 55 children in three programs. Since 2005 the Center has been accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the nation's largest organization of early childhood educators. We are proud to have been reaccredited in July 2020. We will go through reaccreditation in 2025.

We have a wonderful, kind, and caring staff. Many of our teachers hold college degrees in addition to their Connecticut Head Teacher certificates along with CPR/First Aid and Medication Administration certification and Epi pen trainings. Our staff also takes advantage of many continuing education courses to keep themselves up to date on the latest in early childhood education. We are fortunate to have student volunteers from The Maplebrook School in Amenia, NY and from HVRHS. We also have volunteers from Indian Mountain School on occasion. Due to COVID we have not been able to invite them in at this time but will when it is time.

Due to COVID we closed our center on March 13, 2020. Our intention was to close for two weeks and reopen. We ended up staying closed until June 22, 2020. When we reopened in June, we had restrictions with class sizes and could not enroll all our children back into the program. We could not go back to full capacity until the beginning of 2021.

Another issue we have had is the availability of PPE and cleaning supplies to keep our center clean and safe for our teachers and children. This has gotten better with time, but the prices have increased tremendously.

Our current issue is staffing. We are short staffed, and it has been difficult to find new staff to join us. We are working on finding ways to enhance our benefits package to attract and maintain quality teachers. With this issue we cannot enroll as many children which hits our finances.

We have been fortunate to receive a few grants from Berkshire Taconic Foundation, Northwest Community Foundation and the recent ARPA funds that have become available. We always appreciate the support from the Town of Salisbury. All of these have helped us stay afloat, but we still need more financial support.

The school year runs September through June, and a separate summer program runs late June through August. During a typical year, the Center would have participated in several community-based field trips. To name a few, we would have visited the HVRHS Ag-Ed Open House, Ellsworth Farm, Mahaiwe Theatre, Action Wildlife, KidsPlay, Lakeville Town Grove, Noble Horizon's Festival of Trees, Trick or Treating in town and the Trevor Zoo. The children frequently take nature walks on the nearby rail trail which leads to town where the children can visit and learn about local businesses. Also, the children's librarian makes weekly visits to the Center for story time. The Center has several other in-house visitors, like music days with Tom the Music Man, a monthly visitor from Women's Support Services, volunteers from the Lakeville Hose Company, Trooper Sorrell, and a local patron who helped us start several gardens around the center's playgrounds. Due to COVID we were not able to have any in house visitors. We would normally participate in the towns Memorial Day Parade to honor our local veterans, but it was cancelled in 2021.

In addition to many special guests, we also have access to a range of services in the community, including social services, dental, educational, and medical consultants. These are services in addition to the resources provided by Region One Pupil Services staff, Miss Gaschel-Clark at Salisbury Central School, and health care agencies. The Infant, Toddler, and Preschool classrooms receive on-site mentoring and professional development through a training program offered by Berkshire Taconic Foundation through Ed Advance, Office of Early Childhood, and Connecticut Charts-a-Course.

Nationally, childcare costs are very high, and ours are no exception. We remain committed to providing much-needed scholarship assistance to working Salisbury families in need through our operating budget, with support from the Town of Salisbury and Salisbury Family Services. We are also able to offer some assistance to non-resident families through our Financial Aid endowment at the Berkshire-Taconic Community Foundation. We appreciate the ongoing support of the many generous people who make it possible for us to continue fulfilling our mission: to provide the highest standard of care and education for our students, while providing working parents the confidence that their children are safe and well-cared for. We served 56 children in the 2020-2021 school year and were able to provide \$29,928 in scholarship funds for 13 children in our program. We were also able to raise \$32,329 in fundraising this past year.

HOUSATONIC VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

IAN STREVER, PRINCIPAL

The 2020-2021 school year presented challenges and opportunities that changed the world of education. The immediate shift to remote learning that took place in the previous year offered a glimpse of what this year might be like, and our experience then helped us to retool and prepare ourselves for learning in different settings during the fall. Books will be written about the nation's approach to these challenges, so this summary will pertain to the salient features of our experience at Housatonic Valley Regional High School and leave the minutiae to the historians and educational analysts.

The primary objective for the year was to ensure the health and safety of the members of our community. Twenty-three members of our community tested positive for COVID-19 during the year, and 140 test administrations were reported (5.7% positivity rate for the population). Our fall semester operated in a hybrid model, with two cohorts attending school on different days of the week, bridged by a day of distance learning on Wednesday. This allowed us to conduct deep cleaning of the rooms, facilitated by our improved facility with remote learning technology. The year anomalously ended with only 177 days of instruction, permitted by the state board of education for the purposes of additional professional learning in those technologies and instructional strategies.

Our previous investment in a robust network infrastructure and the 1-1 Chromebook initiative allowed us to work well under these conditions, although the shortcomings of our area's internet access and the need for social-emotional supports for students became apparent. We began the year with a focus on Habits of Mind, a set of characteristics that describe the traits of effective learners and citizens, and we asked teachers to integrate these concepts into their lesson plans. Habits like "persistence" and "communicating with clarity" are natural skills for students, but this year also offered us opportunities to practice other traits such as "finding humor" and "responding with wonderment and awe" that might not be so apparent or as frequently prioritized in traditional classrooms.

From December 7 to January 20, we shifted to fully remote instruction, as much of the State did for at least a portion of the year. This was incredibly challenging for teachers and students alike, but born of necessity by the uptick in the positivity rate across the country. We regularly surveyed our students about their emotional state throughout the year, and words such as "anxiety" and "worry" became more prominent in their responses during this period. At the same time, we convened parent and student groups to start to plan for a return to the classroom in the coming months, and although it was a difficult series of conversations, we ultimately developed a plan that brought all students back into our classrooms on April 19, after our Spring Vacation. We dissolved our cohorts at that point, and students remained together for four days of direct instruction each week through the end of the year.

While it is too early to say what the impact of this year will be, it is clear that there is some incomplete learning and there will be some lingering social and emotional considerations to address. Our School Counseling Department will assume greater significance throughout the building in supporting both students and teachers as we learn more about how to build resilience and overcome setbacks. We are adding a social worker to that department to assist students and families with more intense needs, and the expertise of the whole department will be called upon as our teachers work with Habits of Mind author Bena Kallick to extend those habits into all departments.

These habits will be especially helpful as we launch our Capstone Project, a course that will be required of all graduates wherein they undertake a "passion project" that encourages exploration of their interests and career prospects while requiring them to demonstrate the skills that are articulated in our Portrait of a Graduate. We developed some of that curriculum this year with teachers, and we will refine it in the fall before we launch the course in the spring. We are particularly enthusiastic about the aspects of the course that require students to work with a Technical Advisor from the community, and residents of our towns should expect to see more of our students involved in area businesses and activities as a result of this course.

We are also dedicated to expanding our appreciation of diversity and inclusivity. We are adding courses in Pride Literature and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Literature, with plans to offer courses in African American and Hispanic American History in the years to come. Although we cannot boast of the same kind of ethnic diversity that happens in other locations, we recognize the need to prepare our students to work toward a more accepting and inclusive world. To that end, we are also exploring ways to heterogeneously group students in courses that will encourage greater diversity in their conversations. A statistic that we will closely monitor is the achievement of students who qualify for free or reduced meals, a demographic that has historically underachieved in comparison to its full-pay counterparts in the classroom.

Our year ended with a more traditional graduation under the tent in front of school. In many ways, it was a "threshold" moment for our community, attended by approximately 350 guests and 65 graduates. Although still arranged to allow for social distancing, vaccinated participants were able to remove their masks for the event, and the subsequent celebrations very much resembled those of the past, which was a welcome moment for us all.

We await guidance about the restrictions that will be in place for the start of the 21-22 school year, but we will continue to prioritize the health and wellbeing of our community while monitoring new variants of COVID-19 and the emotional needs of our students. Our faculty ended the year with a review of the learning that happened in each course, where gaps may need to be closed, and what technological advances should be preserved to improve student achievement and communication with our families. While we are all eager to put some of this year's experiences behind us, we believe that the challenges of the 2020-2021 school year have also provided insight about how we can change education for the better.

REGION ONE SCHOOL DISTRICT

LISA CARTER, SUPERINTENDENT

It is time again to reflect upon the events and achievements in Region One schools and report the highlights to the towns of Canaan, Cornwall, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon.

While the circumstances of the global pandemic created a frightening and challenging 2020-2021 for all; in Region One, all of the pre-k-8 schools opened for full in-person attendance for the entire year. Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) opened with a hybrid model (two cohorts of students who attended school in-person, each for half of the week.) and ended the year with all students attending in-person. Teachers and staff leaned into the concept of *Region One Strong!* and worked with families to ensure that students made expected grade level progress while attending to the social emotional needs that arose throughout the year. Although Region One schools were open for in-person learning, due to concerns about protecting those who were most vulnerable to the more serious effects of the virus, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) allowed that families could opt to have their children attend school virtually from their homes. Thus, teachers throughout the Region simultaneously provided instruction to the students who were in attendance physically as well as online. By the spring, the combination of no in-school virus transmission and the availability of effective vaccines (for adults and adolescents) caused at-home learners to begin to return to school. Salisbury Central School began the year with 23 students engaged in distance learning and finished the year with five. The High School began with 60 remote learners and ended the year with 52.

From a regional perspective, most students achieved expected curricular learning targets. However, consistent with national and State trends, student achievement data indicates some shortfalls for all students in the areas of early literacy and math. Additionally, students who engaged in distance learning tended not to be as successful as their peers in mastering grade level expectations. At Salisbury Central school, most students were in attendance for the full year and met student achievement targets according to curricular expectations. Teachers are aware of those students who struggled throughout the year and are working with them to resolve areas of unfinished learning while continuing to focus on grade level expectations for the current year.

To ensure public awareness of the impact of COVID-19 on the school system, each Board Education received a monthly summary of total cases for each district. In Canaan, Salisbury Central School (SCS) had an annual total of 32 COVID cases (including 10 students, 19 family members and 3 staff members) that touched the school community. HVRHS had a total of 30 cases (17 students, 11 family members and 1 staff member). There was no spread of the virus due to in-school transmission. We thank the administration, students and their families, and staff for their vigilance in keeping the case rates low by following all of the Region One Health and Safety practices throughout the year.

Region One also experienced a bump in student population (173 new students region wide) due to the in-migration of families who were escaping the more densely populated areas. SCS welcomed 46 new students as a result of this movement and HVRHS welcomed 18.

With respect to the school's physical plans, all schools in Connecticut received guidelines from the CSDE and the Connecticut Department of Public Health to support the mitigation of virus transmission while in the building. Modifications included the installation of window fans (placed to blow air out of the classroom), plexiglass dividers in classrooms and communal eating spaces and improved air filtration from existing HVAC systems. Salisbury Central School followed all of these guidelines.

In addition to the COVID-19 projects, the respective BOEs approved the following building repairs and improvements for SCS and HVRHS as follows:

SCS

- Added several more wireless door locks on exterior doors of the school.
- Installation of air conditioning in the middle school.
- Updated the campus phone system from analog to digital.
- Remove the ceiling in the upper building (ramp to lower level).
- Routine carpeting replacement and painting.

HVRHS

- Replaced booster pump in the North boiler room for the water system.
- Upgrade heating controls throughout the building.
- Replaced septic lines in the main part of the building.

Finally, the grant funds were disbursed to all schools throughout the year to offset the expenses incurred during 2020-2021 as well as over the next two years. Salisbury Central has received \$146,966. The BOE has voted to allocate those funds to offset the cost of professional learning for staff, summer school, and supplies needed to keep students safe. The High School has received a total of \$1,455,189 and those funds are allocated to building improvements, additional staff to work with students, and additional personnel in Central Office.

To be sure, 2020-2021 was a year like no other. However, thanks to the care, commitment and perseverance of BOEs, administrators, staff, families and community members, we remained *Region One Strong!* and did much more than just survive the year. Many thanks to all.

SALISBURY CENTRAL SCHOOL

STEPHANIE MAGYAR, PRINCIPAL

The 2020-2021 school year continued to be a challenging time in education. COVID-19 protocols impacted every decision made at Salisbury Central School. While the school remained open for the entire year, COVID-19 cases did cause quarantine periods and temporary classroom or grade level closures. Families were offered the choice to send their children in person or to have them be distance learners where they could have a direct link into the classroom via Zoom or Google Meet. Regardless of the learning format, Salisbury Central School staff continued to work together to meet the individual needs of our students and families. We continued to strive for high standards and appropriate challenges for all learners. We ended the 2020-2021 school year with an enrollment of 313 students. Of these, 30 were distance learners for at least part of the year.

Our SCS teaching team, made up of over 67 teachers, paraprofessionals, and special educators is critical to the school's success. The teaching staff participates regularly in professional learning to keep abreast of best practices. Professional learning in 2020-2021 focused on social emotional learning, diversity and inclusion, curriculum and technology. SCS relies heavily on an efficient and cheerful group of office workers, cafeteria staff and custodians who support educational practices and ensure that we have a safe school environment. In addition, we continue to benefit from the support of local residents and organizations such as Women Support Services, HYSB, Salisbury Family Services, the local private schools, and more. In 2020-2021, while we were unable to invite parents or community members into the building in person, we did hold a virtual Open House, as well as virtual parent/teacher conferences in October and March. Teachers utilized email, newsletters, and Seesaw to maintain the connection between school, parents, and our community.

Salisbury Central's curriculum is aligned with the Connecticut Core Standards as well as other relevant standards such as NGSS for science, or those for physical education and unified arts. Teachers seek opportunities for authentic and interdisciplinary learning experiences. We continue to find a variety of ways to measure student progress including solving real world problems, presentations, research projects, performances, project-based assessments, multimedia displays, and more. We emphasize student centered learning in order to support the habits of work and mind. We look for ways to allow students to take ownership over their learning through self and peer assessment, co-creation, reflection, student led conferences, and more.

Students at SCS continue to benefit from a variety of experiences designed to enrich our curriculum. Two of our most well-known K-5 enrichment programs are LAE (language arts enrichment) and MASE (math and science enrichment). While the 2020-2021 schedule did not allow for our traditional middle school enrichment block, there continued to be a focus on activities to strengthen social emotional well-being and to build a sense of community despite the distancing requirements. In 2020-2021, the middle school launched HOW through Cinema, which tied movies to our Habits of Work. Students completed engaging activities and met curriculum standards using content from the films. In 2020-2021, we had to alter many of our traditional activities but we were able to have modified versions of "Start with Hello" week, International Dot Day, Read Across America Week, Wellness Weekends, STEAM week, Field Day and more. We learned how to create meaningful whole school virtual and outdoor assemblies. While we did have to postpone most of our field trips, we were happy to have many virtual field trips including one to Washington, D.C for our 8th graders. We also invited Nature's Classroom to come to us and had a week-long outdoor experience for our middle schoolers in the Spring. The S.O.A.R. (Seek Originate Aim Reach) program ran virtual programming after school for students in K-8. They also created a virtual version of Trivia night and a virtual talent show. Traditional sports were unable to happen but we did offer middle school activities including baseball/softball skills, wiffleball, art studio and more in May and June.

The entire SCS family would like to thank the Salisbury community for their ongoing support, especially in this current year of continued uncertainty. We appreciate all that the Board of Education, Board of Selectmen, and Board of Finance have done and continue to do to ensure our success.

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AFFILIATES (CMHA)

RAYMOND J. GORMAN, PRESIDENT/CEO

Thank you for your support of CMHA in FY 2021. Community Mental Health Associates, Inc. (CMHA) is a leading resource in behavioral health care and substance abuse treatment, and is the only state-licensed, nonprofit mental health clinic serving all of Litchfield County. This report details programs and services provided in FY2021, and offers information on CMHA's collaborations, programs, and capacity.

Our staff are trained in numerous therapies and provide advanced and effective evidence-based care for clients and their families every day. CMHA receives consistently high-quality ratings from state entities and other partners.

CMHA continues to offer Telehealth Services, including intakes and prescription services, to the Litchfield County area due to client demand and its unprecedented success - the kept appointment rate remains above 80%, higher than pre-pandemic. Additionally, inclement weather and the inability to access reliable transportation is not a concern with the provision of Telehealth, and client retention rates (87%) underscore the success of Telehealth for both ongoing and new clients.

If required, either by the client or their physician, in-person services are accessible for clients via the Community Health and Wellness Center of Greater Torrington, an FQHC with CMHA staff on-site, or our Waterbury and New Britain facilities, for which transportation can be arranged. We remain committed to providing essential behavioral health treatment to the residents of Litchfield County.

Funding Sources - CMHA received funding from a variety of sources, including its own annual fund drive, employee giving campaign, private donations, town grants, fees and insurance payments, as well as the state of Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF) and Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS).

Programs and Activities

Outpatient Mental Health - CMHA's outpatient services include individual, family and group psychotherapy, psychological and psychiatric evaluation, medication management, behavioral health home services, peer engagement and support, and case management. Treatments include Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) for children, and Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) for adults. When people in need of treatment do not have insurance, CMHA helps them to enroll in Medicaid, if eligible, and to access other benefits. CMHA also offers a sliding fee schedule. *In FY21, CMHA's outpatient services aided 440 people, and provided more than 563 clinical sessions every month and over 6,762 sessions over the course of the year.*

Parenting Support Services - CMHA programs receive funding from the CT Department of Children and Families (DCF) to operate countywide services for parents/caregivers of children 3-17, utilizing a menu of evidence-based therapies for families and children. All treatment uses a combination of home visitation, individual and group therapeutic sessions, and other modalities as needed. CMHA staff work with parents in their homes to provide parenting coaching for DCF-referred families with children with behavioral issues. This program features the use of evidence-based curriculums: Triple P for children ages 6-12, Triple P Teen for children ages 13-17, and Circle of Security (COS-P) for children ages birth-6. *In FY21, 190 families received in-home parenting services.*

Intensive Family Preservation - This intensive in-home program designed to support families in crisis when children are at imminent risk of out of home placement by DCF. The goal is to keep children safe and avoid either a permanent or long-term separation from their family and community. IFP builds upon the conviction that many children can be safely protected and treated within their own homes when parents are provided the services and support and are empowered to change their own lives. *In FY21, 119 families received intensive, home-based support, counseling, and parenting assistance.*

Collaborations -

CMHA collaborates with a number of area agencies, receiving and giving referrals so that clients can obtain the appropriate level of coordinated holistic care. The following agencies are collaborators:

Acts 4 Ministries
All About You Home Care Services
Catholic Charities Family Service Center
Center for Human Development (CHD)
Charlotte Hungerford Hospital
Chrysalis Center
Community Health and Wellness Center of Great Torrington
Department of Children and Families Region 5
Connecticut Junior Republic, Inc.
EdAdvance (Regional Education Service Center)
Family & Children's Aid
Family Resource Center
Family Strides
FAVOR-CT, Inc.

FAVOR-CT, Inc.
Friends In Service to Humanity of Northwest CT, Inc. (FISH)
Emergency Shelter
Focus Center for Autism
Homeless shelter at Winsted Y
Litchfield County OBGYN
Litchfield County Pediatrics in Torrington
Markowski, M.D. Joel A. (Torrington pediatrician)
Midwestern CT Council on Alcoholism, Inc. (MCCA)
McCall Center for Behavioral Health
Mental Health Connecticut - Torrington
New Opportunities, Inc.
Northwest CT Chamber of Commerce
Northwest CT YMCA

Operation Overflow Winter Homeless Shelter - Torrington
Prime Time House, Inc. / with The Connection
ProHealth Physicians of Torrington, Inc.
Susan B. Anthony Project, Inc.
The Connection, Inc.
Tides of Mind Counseling
Torrington Chamber of Commerce
Torrington - Winsted Pediatrics, Inc.
Visiting Nurse Services of CT
VNA Northwest, Inc.
Wellmore Behavioral Health
Western CT Mental Health Network,
Winchester Emergency Shelter
Y House - Torrington YMCA

CMHA provided more than 8,330 hours of service to 1,100 individuals and families in the Waterbury and Torrington region, with more than 563 clinical sessions completed on average every month.

These services include individual, family, and group therapy, psychiatric evaluations, and medication management.

Community Mental Health Associates, Inc. (CMHA) is a private non-profit treatment provider headquartered in New Britain, with several locations providing a variety of services throughout northwest and central Connecticut. CMHA partners with clients and the community to promote recovery from mental illness and addiction, treating more than 7,500 adults and children each year. CMHA is Connecticut's first fully Joint Commission accredited Behavioral Health Home and a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic. Visit cmhacc.org to learn more.

HOUSATONIC YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU

KELLY PARKER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

For 30 years, the Housatonic Youth Service Bureau (HYSB) has proudly served the Northwest Corner as the only mental health agency providing FREE clinical services to children ages 3-21 and their families in the Region One community. HYSB is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that serves the towns of North Canaan, Canaan, Salisbury/Lakeville, Sharon, Cornwall, and Kent. Our licensed clinicians provide a variety of free services that promote the overall health and well-being of children and their families and impact the lives of thousands living in our community.

Fall 2020 was full of new experiences for students and families returning to school and activities after the COVID-19 pandemic lock down and adjusting back into a routine. These adjustments were hard for many students and their families after such an extended period of isolation and remote learning. HYSB worked with 97 students in the region, 21 of whom resided in Salisbury.

As a result of COVID-19, HYSB experienced a three-fold increase in client referrals and demand for services in the spring of 2021 across Region One. We are thankful to have been able to return to in-person services while still offering tele-health options for clients who are sick or require a virtual option due to transportation limitations, schedules, etc. Unfortunately to accommodate the increase in cases, HYSB has temporarily halted our group programs and enrichment opportunities to prioritize clinical cases. We are working diligently to secure additional funding to relaunch those additional programs as they too play a valuable role in our overall service plan for ongoing support as well as prevention work.

Providing critical services during major transition years for children throughout their education and mental health development; HYSB worked with clients ranging from the kindergarten to 12th grade, of which the eighth grade had the largest demand across Region One making up 33.3% of our total client base. We delivered 49 hours of clinical services to this group.

HYSB clinicians provided one-to-one no-cost services to students in their homes and at school dealing with concerns relating to “non-school related issues”—which represented 83.3% of all referral causes—and “parenting/family issues”. On a referral basis, 66.6% of referrals came from parents/guardians, 33% from the schools.

Our custom group programming is based on the unique needs within each community and designed to provide a safe environment where children can connect with their peers and HYSB social workers to discuss sensitive topics and share strategies for overcoming adversity and learning when and how to engage with other adults and authorities.

Your support makes it possible for HYSB to make a difference in the lives of thousands within our community. HYSB staff works tirelessly to address the concerns of children and their families and provide high-level free clinical services.

Through the support of the Town of Salisbury and generous donors across Region One, HYSB is able to continue to offer our free services, such as mental health counseling, community outreach, youth empowerment, and summer internship programs as well as case management services, referral services, and other services for the children and families in the Town of Salisbury. We are incredibly grateful for your continued financial support and look forward to continuing our work together for the children and families we serve.

LITCHFIELD HILLS PROBATE DISTRICT, #24

THE HONORABLE DIANE S. BLICK, JUDGE

*Serving Canaan (Falls Village), Cornwall, Harwinton, Kent, Litchfield, Morris,
Norfolk, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, Thomaston and Warren*

www.litchfieldprobate.org

Litchfield Location

Dawn W. Pratt, Clerk
Natasha Mitchell, *Assistant Clerk*
860-567-8065

Kent Location

Judge Blick
860-927-3729

Canaan Location

Beth L. McGuire, *Chief Clerk*
Megan M. Foley, *Clerk*
860-824-7012

It is with great pleasure that I report to the residents of the Litchfield Hills Probate District the activity of the Probate Court for fiscal year July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and request this report be included in the Town's next published Annual Report.

<u>Type of Matter</u>	<u>2019 – 2020 FY Number of Matters</u>	<u>2020 – 2021 FY Number of Matters</u>
Fee Waivers	79	99
Decedent's Estates	1,221	1,355
Trusts	175	205
Conservators	186	226
Name Changes	31	46
Guardian of the Person & Estate	72	126
Guardian of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities	105	154
Adult Commitment	2	0
Children's Matters:		
Adoptions/Termination of Parental Rights and Emancipation of a Minor/Determine Paternity	15	12
Power of Attorney Accounting Matters	1	4
Total probate matters handled	1,887	2,227
Passports processed	90	<i>Discontinued</i>

The number of probate matters handled by the Court increased even though from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 each of the town halls, where our court facilities are located, were primarily closed to the public due to the Covid 19 pandemic. During that time only those with an appointment were allowed at the Court. Throughout the pandemic, the Court has remained open and all work has been timely processed and hearings promptly scheduled. Hearings were held either by teleconferencing or Webex video conferencing. Town halls in our district have now reopened so in-person hearings have been resumed. Teleconference and Webex hearings are still being utilized but less frequently than during the pandemic.

The category Fee Waivers represents the number of matters which were handled by the Court for which no probate filing fee is collected due to the fact that the Petitioner is indigent.

The Court's location in the Litchfield Town Hall is open to the public Monday through Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm. The Court's location in the North Canaan Town Hall is open to the public Monday through Thursday 9:00am to 4:00pm. While the Kent Town Hall was closed to the public during the pandemic, office hours there on Tuesdays will begin August 2, 2021. Additionally, I continue to be available to the residents of Kent by telephone or scheduled appointment.

The Court Staff joins me in extending our sincerest appreciation to the town leaders, residents and professionals who utilize the services of the Probate Court for your continued support.

NORTHWEST HILLS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

ROBERT A. PHILLIPS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Northwest Hills Council of Governments (COG) consists of the Mayors and First Selectmen from 21 member towns in the Northwest Corner. It is one of the nine Councils of Governments that have been established in Connecticut.

The COG generally meets on a monthly basis to discuss issues of municipal concern, oversee COG planning projects, and explore new opportunities for regional cooperation. Additional information on COG initiatives and activities is available at: www.northwesthillscog.org.

A major focus area in 2021 was the continued implementation of the COG's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Region. Major strategies outlined in the CEDS include expanding access to high-speed fiber optic broadband (Fiber to the Home – FTTH), promoting tourism/arts/culture, supporting local farms, strengthening manufacturing, and encouraging entrepreneurs and innovation.

The COG also concluded the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for all 21 towns in the region this year. At the time of this report, the retained consultant has submitted the draft plan for final FEMA review and approval. FEMA requires that these plans be updated every 5 years for towns to remain eligible for various FEMA funding programs.

The NHCOCG continuously promotes the online Interactive Regional Trail Map that was developed by the COG in cooperation with the Housatonic Valley Association to promote access to the public trails in the region. A statewide CT Trail finder website is now also complete which will further draw attention to the outstanding trail resources we have in the Northwest Hills. It is notable that the trail schema that was developed is being used for the development of a state-wide program.

A Corridor Management Study of East Main Street in Torrington was a major transportation planning project that was completed this past year. The purpose of this study was to develop recommendations to enhance the safety, traffic flow, and streetscape of this heavily travelled corridor. The COG also continues to coordinate the popular Rural Independent Transportation Service, which offers trips to the elderly and disabled for medical appointments.

The COG is allocated about \$2M each year from ConnDOT for priority local road improvement projects and projects are currently in various stages of approval/development in Burlington, Litchfield, Torrington, and Winchester.

The NHCOCG also serves as the oversight agent for about \$385,000 in Homeland Security Grant overall funding that is received each year for DEMHS Region 5. There are a number of projects and equipment acquisitions to support this program and are decided upon by a committee made up of emergency support function leads on an annual basis.

In 2021, the COG continued coordination of numerous popular programs such as a prescription assistance program in cooperation with the Foundation for Community Health, a Neighbor-to-Neighbor program in cooperation with the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, a fuel bank program, the Northwest Hills Public Works Equipment Cooperative, and the region's cooperative purchasing program.

The COG also continued to assist local organizations including the Regional Housing Council, Northwest Hills Road Supervisors Association, Recycling Advisory Committee, the Regional Coordination Center for COVID-19 response and recovery, and the Housatonic River Commission.

In addition, the COG continued to host a quarterly "5th Thursday" forum for area Planning, Zoning, and Conservation Commission members to meet and discuss items of mutual interest, hear guest speakers, and provide input on regional plans.

Serving as officers of the COG during FY 2020-2021 were Don Stein, Chairman; Bob Valentine, Vice Chairman; Charlie Perotti, Secretary; and Michael Criss, Treasurer. COG staff included Darlene Krukar, Office Manager; Jocelyn Ayer, Community and Economic Development Director; Janell Mullen, Regional Planner; and Rick Lynn, Executive Director.

Finally, the COG extends its deepest appreciation for the more than 30 years that Rick Lynn served as Executive Director to the COG. In the month of June, Mr. Lynn retired and Robert A. Phillips assumed the role as Executive Director.

The same appreciation is also extended to Darlene Krukar, who will also be retiring at the end of the calendar year 2021 after over 20 years of managing the financial and office administration.

Lastly, we wish the best of luck and appreciation to Jocelyn Ayer as she moves on to new opportunities in the region working on affordable housing initiatives by the end of the calendar year 2021.

HOUSATONIC RIVER COMMISSION

WILLIAM R. TINGLEY, CHAIRMAN

The Housatonic River Commission (HRC) held 10 regularly scheduled monthly meetings the past year. Meetings took place at 7:30pm on the second Tuesday of each month. Starting in April 2020, the HRC meetings were held via Zoom due to the pandemic. The Commission is made up of representatives appointed by the Board of Selectmen in each of the following towns along the Housatonic River: Canaan, Cornwall, Kent, New Milford, North Canaan, Salisbury, and Sharon. The HRC is responsible for monitoring and advising these seven towns on issues that involve the Housatonic River and working to maintain an environmentally healthy and scenic river corridor. The annual dues requested from each town are \$400 per year.

The process of recognizing the Housatonic River through the National Park Service's (NPS) Wild and Scenic designation as a Partnership River with federal financial support continues with significant help from Housatonic Valley Association (HVA). Quarterly meetings of the Housatonic Wild and Scenic Coordinating Committee have continued with representatives from NPS, HVA, CT Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP), and Northwest Hills Council of Governments. At these meetings, each group provides updates on their work addressing issues in the Housatonic River Management Plan including HVA's successful River Information and Outreach (RIO) program, fishing management (CT DEEP) and river access. Tremendous time and energy has been spent on river access as dynamic changes in river usage during the COVID pandemic resulted in noteworthy action by towns to maintain safety. HRC's mission includes maintaining public access and the proposed Ruggles Landing is being partnered with the state and town of Canaan to allow for safe river usage.

Now two decades since the historic EPA/GE/Pittsfield consent decree, HRC continues to monitor the PCB cleanup and remediation proposals for the rest of the Housatonic River.

As always, land use issues within the Housatonic River Corridor remain a significant concern. We continue to support efforts to address invasive plant species along the waterway, with several members working to monitor and in some cases control troublesome, aggressive invasives in the inner river corridor. Monitoring the work of the Housatonic Railroad, including their track repair, herbicide use and derailment risk also continue. The River Commission provided comments and suggestions on many proposed projects as development along the river continues to increase significantly. All towns are reminded to please be sure that the HRC is notified of any proposed project within the River Corridor.

We welcome all citizens to come to our meetings and get involved in discussions about the river. We are also grateful for the support we have received from the member towns, local zoning officials, and the Northwest Hills Council of Governments.

NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT REGIONAL HOUSING COUNCIL

JILL GROODY MUSSELMAN, CHAIRMAN

Providing housing options that are affordable for young adults, young families, seniors, and those who work in our towns is critically important to our towns. Creating these housing options is the sole focus of the Northwest Connecticut Regional Housing Council.

The Council is made up of representatives from each town's local housing organization who meet quarterly to report upon and gain valuable information for their town-specific planning and housing development. At meetings, we learn from each other as we share the progress and current hurdles, we are encountering in our varied town housing initiatives. Questions raised and hands-on ideas and resources cause attendees to leave the meetings with possible next steps, support, and resources. The Council also advocates for the funding resources critically needed by our local housing organizations to build affordable housing in our towns.

The Housing Council has a website with resources for our local housing organizations and people looking for information about affordable housing in Northwest Connecticut. The site contains links to all the housing organizations in our region, frequently asked questions, photos of the affordable housing in our region and stories from employers and residents about the importance of affordable housing options in our towns. Check it out at: www.nwcthousing.org

We thank David Berto of Housing Enterprises Inc. for attending our meetings and providing technical assistance to our housing organizations. We thank our member towns for their financial support and NHCOG for hosting our meetings and organizing speakers. Our towns' \$100 annual dues are a cost-effective investment in our area's future. For more information on the Regional Housing Council or the local housing organizations which are members, visit www.nwcthousing.org.

CHORE SERVICES, INC.
JANE MACLAREN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Chore Service, founded in 1992, provides in-home, non-medical assistance such as house cleaning, running errands, yard work, etc., for clients in Canaan-Falls Village, Cornwall, Kent, Norfolk, North Canaan, Salisbury/Lakeville and Sharon. Clients contribute only what they can (if they can) toward the service, and Chore pays workers \$15.00 per hour for inside work and \$16.00 per hour for outdoor work to help residents in our community. Fundraising, grants, and town contributions make up the difference between what clients can contribute and the cost of providing services.

From July 2020 through June 2021, Chore Service provided services to thirty-nine Salisbury residents. These thirty-nine Salisbury families received over 1,300 hours of help with cleaning, errands and yard work so that they could continue to remain safely in their homes. Eight Chore Workers who live in Salisbury earned over \$27,000 last year. Our federal grant monies that subsidize services for those age 60 and over are always depleted before the year ends, so we are delighted that the Town of Salisbury continues to contribute to these services.

As we face shrinking federal and state grants, we are most grateful for the support of our donors, including the Town of Salisbury, for your generosity.

Visit: www.choreservice.org for more information.

THE CORNER FOOD PANTRY
MARY TAYLOR, PRESIDENT

The Corner Food Pantry was founded with a singular mission: We provide nutritious food to individuals and families in need. The households we serve are comprised of people of all ages from babies to the very elderly often with several generations living under one roof. Our clients include people living on fixed incomes, and many working at jobs below or at minimum wage. We are their food safety net.

The 2020-2021 fiscal year has been challenging for our organization. COVID protocols took us out of the pantry into the street and yard to deliver bagged groceries to clients at their cars. Driving up Sharon Road or Wells Hill Road on a Friday afternoon or Saturday morning you will see our orange cones lining the streets and volunteers braving weather to direct the flow of traffic.

These dedicated volunteers gave out roughly 135,000 pounds of food, equivalent to 112,000 meals to over 3000 families over the year. Our overhead is low and because we are all volunteers, 95 percent of our donations goes toward buying food.

Supporters of the Pantry are vital to our mission and we welcome community members to volunteer.

We hope you will visit our new website for more information about our organization.
www.thecornerfoodpantry.org.

SALISBURY FAMILY SERVICES

PATRICE MCGRATH, SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

The Social Service Director continues to work with Salisbury residents providing emergency financial assistance in times of crisis as well as to help families maintain quality of life. Direct service to clients includes help with food, utility, and shelter expenses. Referrals to federal, state and local agencies are made when appropriate.

The Social Service Director acts as the community agent for the Bissell Fund; this fund helps pay medical related expenses for uninsured and underinsured residents of the Town of Salisbury. The Bissell Fund is a fund of the Town of Salisbury.

Thirty-five households in the Town of Salisbury applied for and received grants from the Connecticut Energy Assistance Program and twenty-six households received grants through the SFS fuel bank in the 2020-2021 heating season.

Indian Mountain Lower School supplied a turkey and all the trimmings for eight of our families at Thanksgiving. SFS provided twenty-five turkeys at Thanksgiving and thirty-seven \$100.00 gift cards for food at Christmas. Food vouchers and gift cards are being distributed to those in need of food all through the year.

SFS holiday program served thirty children in fifteen families. Twelve children received gift cards for Back-to-School clothing and supplies. During the summer of 2020 two children were able to attend camp through the SFS camp scholarship program, EXTRAS and most camps were closed due to COVID. SFS provides financial assistance to working families with children enrolled at EXTRAS, Housatonic Child Care Center, and Hotchkiss daycare all through the year. SFS also provides assistance with Region One preschool costs.

Fifty-eight households were the recipients of an SFS “boost” which was Salisbury Family Services’ local stimulus. All recipients were surprised and delighted.

The Hewat Community Garden had a bountiful and fully subscribed season. Excess produce grown by the gardeners was donated weekly to The Corner Food Pantry in Lakeville.

The McChesney Fund is available to qualifying Salisbury residents for assistance with the purchase or renovation of homes in the Town of Salisbury. Last year two new McChesney loans were made and one McChesney loan was repaid.

SFS remains committed to helping our neighbors through difficult times. Please call 860-435-5187 if you are in need of assistance or if you know someone who might benefit from our services.

SCOVILLE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

CLAUDIA CAYNE, DIRECTOR

The restoration of the building envelope was completed with the help of the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, overseen by architect Lyn Smith and done by Capasso Restoration. It was a monumental task, some of which required the removal of many of the large stones, making repairs and resetting them. This project was funded by grants and private donations for which we are very grateful. The structural integrity of the building has been restored and should be good for another 100 years.

We continued to monitor the COVID pandemic and adjust our policies as needed. We expanded our hours to 75% of pre-pandemic times from August to March and scheduled in-person visits during that time. Beginning in March, we opened our doors, no appointment needed, and on June 15, we restored our pre-COVID hours. We continued to offer remote pickup and home delivery for anyone who was not comfortable visiting in person.

In June, we received funds from ARPA through the Connecticut State Library. There were strict guidelines on how the money could be spent. We were able to have a deep cleaning of the library, purchase high-end air purifiers to cover the entire Library and upgrade our Wi-Fi network.

We continued to collaborate with the schools, other libraries and non-profits to create a varied schedule of events via Zoom for all ages. During this time, we hosted 613 events, attended by 12,457 children and adults. Local resident Kathy Voldstad hosted meditation three times a week which many people said helped them get through this difficult time. The library received a grant from the Berkshire Taconic Foundation for a series on Bridging Divides. We partnered with Dr. Mary O'Neill for a four-part series of discussions on tips for relationships with people and groups which may have different world views and an opportunity for participants to work one-on-one and practice these skills.

For families, we partnered with Hotchkiss School students for one-on-one tutoring sessions, international story hours, an introduction to climate change and a series on youth civics workshops. Story times continued via Zoom and we collaborated with area libraries on a weekly musical singalong with Danny Tieger as well as an online writing workshop for teens.

We are grateful to everyone who has supported us in a myriad of ways. The Friends of the Library continued to fund print and digital access to *The New York Times* as well as Mark Scarbrough's series on the books of Toni Morrison. Thanks to everyone who has made a gift to the library which allows us to do everything we do for the community.

TORRINGTON AREA HEALTH DISTRICT

ROBERT RUBBO, MPH, DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

The TAHD served over 133,000 people in twenty boroughs, cities and towns covering 611 square miles.

The TAHD **Community Health Program** partnered with DPH and FoodCORE to investigate: **3** giardiasis, **17** campylobacteriosis and **16** salmonellosis cases. TAHD provided guidance to school nurses, daycares, and community members on a variety of health issues. TAHD nurses administered **478** doses of flu vaccine to residents. TAHD consulted with **27** residents regarding potential rabies exposures which resulted in TAHD submitting **14 specimens** to the State of CT Laboratory for rabies testing. Ticks brought in by **66** residents were sent to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station for Lyme disease bacteria testing.

TAHD is an active member of **Fit Together**, a Northwest Connecticut Healthy Eating and Active Living Initiative. A bike rack was installed at Winsted Health Center location, Fit Together awarded 8 mini grants to multiple schools and organizations throughout the community that promotes healthy eating and active living. Healthy cooking kid friendly videos were created and posted on the Fit Together NWCT – Healthy Starts Here (how2fitkids.org) website.

TAHD is an active member of the **Litchfield County Opiate Task Force (LCOTF)** working on strategies and solutions to the heroin/opiate epidemic. TAHD completed the **Strategic Prevention Framework for Prescription Drugs (SPF Rx) grant** raising awareness and educating communities by utilizing the CT “*Change the Script*” campaign. Overdoses were tracked in a system called **Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP)**. TAHD received a grant to provide programming for the Statewide Expansion and Response Project for the Overdose Detection Mapping Application (ODMAP) to ensure comprehensive coordination of services. TAHD staff provided training to local pharmacies and medical offices on the CT Prescription Monitoring and Reporting System (CPMRS) and Naloxone administration as part of the **Academic Detailing on Opioid Safety (ADOPS)** grant.

The TAHD **Immunization Action Program (IAP)** worked with local providers and hospitals to ensure compliance with CT childhood immunization laws. TAHD had an outstanding rate of 100% for referrals into CT WiZ (Connecticut’s immunization information system). TAHD assisted health care partners with enrollment into the Vaccine Administration Management System (VAMS) and CT WIZ in order to track COVID and other vaccinations.

The TAHD **Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program** provided case management for more than 46 children with blood lead levels ($\geq 5\mu\text{dl}$) as well as provided educational information to more than 100 families. Abatement / Remediation Orders were issued for 3 properties.

TAHD **Environmental Health Program** resulted in the following inspections/licenses/permits: **868** food inspections, **349** temporary food permits, **151** new septic systems, **340** repaired septic systems, **241** private well permits, **139** private pool permits, **92** beauty salons & barber shops inspections, **669** house addition permits, **389** soil tests, **33** subdivision lots, **37** public pools and beaches were inspected, and **21** daycare centers inspected. Records show that approximately **346** samples were submitted to the state lab for testing of drinking water, beach and pool water, lead in water, soil and dust, and stool samples for pathogens. Sanitarians investigated **361** complaints of various public health concerns; **16** legal orders/voluntary compliances were issued for enforcement purposes.

The TAHD **Emergency Preparedness Program** worked with local and regional community partners on the COVID Response. Activities included: outbreak investigations, contact tracing, consultation (health partners, public safety, town, and school officials) receiving and distribution of personal protective equipment, and vaccination clinics.

The TAHD-**Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Program** was very active this year playing an integral part in COVID-19 vaccination clinics. During the COVID-19 response, 26 volunteers assisted with many aspects of clinic operations including registration, vaccination, greeting, observation and parking duties.

During the month of December TAHD started mass COVID-19 vaccination clinics and continued to hold clinics weekly. To date TAHD has vaccinated 10,000+ individuals with the Moderna vaccine. Public clinics were held 3-4 days a week. Private clinics were held for educators. Working with community partners TAHD vaccinated vulnerable populations from congregate settings such as Mountainside, FISH and Primetime House.

Along with holding clinics TAHD went out to homes and vaccinated 71 homebound individuals with the J&J vaccine. Additional homebound individuals were vaccinated through partnering with New Opportunities, Charlotte Hungerford Hospital and Community Health and Wellness.

The TAHD partners with Hydro Technologies, LLC for its **Water Testing Program**. Hydro Technologies, a full-service lab located in New Milford, CT offers a wide range of testing of drinking water. This partnership allows TAHD to offer a local option for water testing to its member towns. In addition, TAHD offers free technical advice on private drinking water wells, sampling procedures, and water testing results.

VISITING NURSE & HOSPICE OF LITCHFIELD COUNTY, INC.

MICHELLE CASELAS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County (VNHLC) was created in 2020 by the mergers of Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association (est. 1904), VNA Northwest (Bantam, est. 1928) and Foothills Visiting Nurse & Home Care (Winsted, est. 1922). The combined agencies will be caring for the residents of all towns in Litchfield County plus Burlington, Canton, and Hartland.

VNHLC is a State licensed, Medicare certified, non-profit visiting nurse association providing care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. VNHLC provides services in the areas of Skilled Nursing, Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapies, Medical Social Work, Hospice, IV Therapy, Dietary, Pediatrics, Wound Care, and Chronic Disease Management.

VNHLC is very proud to be named to the HomeCare Elite for 9 consecutive years and identified as one of the best Home Care Agencies in the United States.

VNHLC employs 115 people, 95% of whom reside locally in Northwest Connecticut.

VNHLC is proud of its long-standing history with the Town of Salisbury. 92 persons from Salisbury received home health services from VNHLC during the past year.

VNHLC receives an annual allocation from the Town to help defray the costs of providing free Health Promotion visits and Public Health Programs. Health Promotion is a program in which certain elderly at-risk patients, who normally live alone and no longer qualify for insurance benefits, are routinely monitored free of charge by one of our staff nurses, therapists, social worker, or dietitians.

VNHLC also offers, with funding assistance from the town, the following services free of charge to residents of Salisbury:

- Matter of Balance Classes – classes focus on how to maintain balance, continue moving and exercise at any age.
- Blood Pressure Clinics

Structured bereavement groups are held twice a year. The groups are free and open to anyone in the community who has lost a family member or friend. The bereavement coordinator is also always available to meet privately with people. Just before the holiday season, an event, The Tree of Lights is held to honor and remember VNHLC patients who have passed within the past 18 months to which family members and caregivers are invited.

Eighty-one (81%) percent of all our patients were age 65 or older.

VNHLC provides free space two days per month for voucher distribution by WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) Nutrition Program.

This past year VNHLC was able to conduct public and many private flu clinics and administered 1,556 flu vaccines to mostly high-risk individuals. All ages, 18 and older, were welcome to attend.

Since VNHLC is a non-profit health agency, the Board of Directors serve on a voluntary basis and represent all the towns in which full services are provided. The representatives from Salisbury for 2020-21 were:

Louis J. Fox

John P. Charde, MD

Nancy Humphreys

Anne MacDonald

Referrals for services are accepted from anyone and services are provided regardless of ability to pay, as long as contributions, grants and other appropriations are sufficient to cover these costs.

WOMEN'S SUPPORT SERVICES

DR. D. ELIZABETH MAURO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As Women's Support Services celebrated our 40th Anniversary this September, we had much on which to reflect. From a grassroots, volunteer effort in 1981 with a budget of \$15,380 to a full-time staff of 10 members and a budget in excess of \$1 million, there have been many changes along the way. Some of the significant achievements:

- **1985** – Women's Emergency Services (WES - as we were then known) is one of the founding members of the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV).
- **1986** – Governor O'Neill signs into law a bill making family violence a specific crime under state law and allowing police to make arrests without warrants in domestic violence cases.
- **1998** – WES partners with the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation to launch the "Calling All Cars" program, providing reliable donated vehicles to clients.
- **2001** – Trade Secrets, WSS's signature fundraising event is founded, enabling the purchase of a new home in Sharon.
- **2014** – WSS partners with CT State Troop 'B' in Canaan and Troop 'L' in Litchfield on the Lethality Assessment Program, helping police identify victims of abuse and refer them to WSS for support.
- **2018** – WSS significantly expands its prevention education programming, reaching all schools in Region One, along with a number of private schools in the area. The following year, WSS launches the "Boys and Men" programming.

As we reflect upon the past forty years, a critical element to our ability to reach clients, educate children and teens, and create a healthier community, has been our partnerships and the overwhelming support we have received from our community. The past 18 months has been a testament to that support, as we have grappled with COVID-19 and its immediate impact. It was our partnerships – with town social workers, the state police, area healthcare professionals, the schools, volunteers and donors, who ensured client support and safety and delivered much-needed encouragement to our team.

Thank you to the Town of Salisbury for your grant of \$2,124 and for being an important partner during this difficult time.

From 01 July 2020 through 30 June 2021, Women's Support Services:

- Provided support services to **677 clients**, 369 of whom were new clients.
- Responded to **1,234 hotline crisis requests**.
- Provided **emergency shelter to 32 people for a total of 2,841 nights** of shelter.
- Provided criminal and civil court advocacy and support to **544 victims of family violence**.
- Conducted **139 prevention workshops** to children and teens in local schools.

The long-term impact of COVID-19 is revealed in our drastically increased shelter provision – a nearly 350% increase over last year – and our clients at court – a nearly 20% increase. It is clear that this impact will be felt for some time to come. Our Family Violence Victim Advocate ensures victim input to both the criminal and civil court processes. The quote below is from the victim impact statement that a client read in court during the proceedings against her abusive boyfriend. It speaks to the resiliency and strength of our clients and the importance of our programming. It also reveals how the necessity of court closures at the height of COVID-19 meant that victims of domestic violence shouldered extraordinary burdens as their cases were often delayed for months and they were forced to face their abusers in court multiple times.

*Your honor, I have found a strength and courage these past two years I never knew I had. I will continue to use my voice to help advocate for other women who are domestic violence survivors and hold my abuser accountable. This is my third appearance in court to ask that my abuser be held accountable. I'd like to share a quote from an Advocate for victims, "...a survivor shouldn't have to prove how harmed they are to prove the danger of the perpetrator's actions. The heinous acts of the abuser should stand alone, and it shouldn't be on the back of the survivor to prosecute their abuser." **The abuse should not define the survivor – it should define the perpetrator.***

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

Board of Selectmen (BOS):

First Monday of the month, 5:00pm

Board of Education - Salisbury Central School (SCS BOE):

Fourth Monday, 5:30pm, Salisbury Central School

Historic District Commission (HDC):

First Tuesday, 9:00am

Inland/Wetlands & Watercourses Commission (IWWC):

Second & Fourth Monday, 6:30pm

Planning & Zoning Commission (PZC):

Third Monday, (6:30pm, March through Oct. and 5:30pm, November through March)

Pope Land Design Committee (PLDC):

First Thursday, 10:00am

Recreation Commission:

Second Tuesday, 7:30pm

Region One Board of Education:

First Monday, 6:30pm

Salisbury Affordable Housing Commission (SAHC):

Third Thursday, 5:30pm

Salisbury Economic Development Committee (SEDC):

Third Wednesday, 5:30pm

Salisbury Fire Commission (SFC):

Second Wednesday, 5:30pm, Lakeville Hose Company, 4 Brook St.

Salisbury Pathways Committee (SPC):

Second Monday, 5:30pm

Transfer Station Recycling Advisory Committee (TRAC):

Third Wednesday (Bi-monthly), 5:00pm

Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA):

Third Tuesday, 7:00am

Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA):

Second Tuesday, 5:00pm

Board of Finance (BOF):

All Meetings Begin at **6:00pm** (except where noted):

Thurs., Jan. 13	Quarterly Meeting
Wed., Feb. 9 (7:30pm)	Annual Town Meeting to receive Final Audit Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. Presentation of the Town Report.
Thurs., March 3	Receive initial budgets from the Board of Education (BOE) and Board of Selectmen (BOS)
Tues., March 22	Receive both Final BOS Budget & BOE Budget. Vote on both BOE and BOS budgets to present at the Public Hearing
Thurs., April 7	Quarterly Meeting
Mon., April 25 (7:30pm)	Public Hearing on Budgets immediately followed by Final Budget review. Vote on Budgets to present to Town Budget Meeting
Tues., May 3	Region One Referendum (12-8pm)
Wed., May 4 (7:30pm)	Annual Town Budget Meeting and BOF Meeting immediately following the Budget mtg. to set the mill rate
Tues., July 19 (5:30pm)	Quarterly and End of Fiscal Year Meeting
Tues., Oct. 18	Quarterly Meeting

Copies of the Annual Report are available at Town Hall

Credits

Editor: Emily Egan
Cover Photography: John Harney

*Meeting dates may change when scheduled on a holiday
**2022 Meetings will be held remotely until further notice

NOTES

