

NORTH SALEM TOWN NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2014

www.northsalemny.org

HIGHWAY'S NEW HOME: UP AND RUNNING!

No group is more eager to see the first daffodil than the 13 members of our highway department. While we were waging our own little battles with ice, and students had eight snow days, the highway team was up all night, spreading more than 3000 tons of salt, plowing nearly 70 miles of road – sometimes three or four times a day. On a spring day (with snow in the forecast) we caught most of these wonder workers in front of their new headquarters at 250 June Road. The new building has twice the space of the old, and when necessary, can house all the of the snow removal equipment inside until it's time to do battle. Left to right: Gary Weber, Chris Murphy, Jason Blauvelt, Kenny Adams (behind Jason), John Blauvelt, James “Bo” DePaoli, Gayle Soto, Deno Ranalli, Doug Bleakley, Rich Schreiber and Ward Hanaburgh. Missing: Jeff Daday and Anthony “Butch” Lundy.



REPORT FROM SUPERVISOR WARREN LUCAS



Hello everyone. We have had a lot of good things happening in North Salem!

- The State Comptroller gave us an excellent financial rating compared to other towns in our area, and we work hard to spend your money wisely.
- The Bridleside Apartment development is over 50% complete (see p.12), and a third of the residents are from North Salem. We welcome all new residents to North Salem, and I look forward to meeting everyone.
- The Highway Department is in their new digs, and the old highway building is going to be refurbished for police, court and courthouse. We appreciate the efforts of Wilder Balter Partners in working with us to construct the new building at minimal cost to the Town. My plan is that by the end of this year we will be moving everyone and finally, after seven years, get rid of the Building Department's trailer.
- The Town is moving closer to finalizing the transfer of Camp Hemlock, part of Mt. Lakes Park, to the town. We use this area for our summer camp. The transfer will allow us to refurbish it, with County money as part of the package, use the pool and expand our use of the facility.

- The Town Board recently made the following **appointments**: Lois Lippmann to the Architectural Review Board; Lisa Douglas to the Zoning Board of Appeals; Christopher Brockmeyer to the Planning Board; William Monti to the Town Board to fill the vacancy created by the untimely death of Bruce Buchholtz.
- We are working to finalize the NYSE&G **natural gas franchise** agreement with North Salem. This contract is a first step toward offering piped natural gas to the school, highway garage and Bridleside as well as to homes along June Road between the school and Fields Lane. Natural gas burns cleaner than oil and is cheaper. Our goal in the next couple of years is to get natural gas lines over to Peach Lake. The Town Board just approved the NYSE&G franchise agreement, and NYSE&G is going to the Public Services Commission to get approval to enter North Salem.
- Our new franchise agreement with Cablevision includes a provision to provide the town with the connectivity and equipment to support **our own public access TV station**. Resident Paul Friedman, a well-known producer, has graciously volunteered to be North Salem TV's Producer. Paul also volunteers at the High School teaching students to produce and write for television. He hopes to create an internship program for students to work on NSTV's policies and procedures. The school's community show can be broadcast on the same channel. Gail Pantezzi and the Historic Preservation Commission are working on content and programming, especially about the town's history. Once the technology and policies are in place, we will need people skilled and experienced in videography and videotape editing. Let me know if you have ideas or expertise. I expect the station to be up and running by year's end.

I am very proud of all of our town employees who work hard for everyone in town every day. We are still well below our employee headcount levels from 2007 and will stay that way as long as possible.

Here are some areas where we need to work together to control costs:

MANDATE RELIEF I was up in Albany recently talking to our legislators about mandate relief. I wish I could tell you that things are working as you would want them, but they are not. While the State passed the tax cap legislation with the promise of mandate relief being delivered a year after that, it has not been forthcoming. It is frustrating that they continue to pass laws, like the 2007 Prevailing and Supplemental Wage legislation, which force all municipalities and schools to pay union wages and benefits on every contract we put out -- and then tell us to reduce taxes. The cost of paving a mile of road has doubled since 2006, and the the town's garbage contract has gone up 45% since 2009. Most of this is due to the Prevailing and Supplemental Wage legislation. All of this has happened while real wages have increased little.

You need to talk with your friends about the State's promised mandate relief and tell your State Legislators you expect them to push for mandate relief. Towns and schools are working with Senator Ball and have been meeting with legislators in Albany about this. You can find information about mandate relief on www.northsalemny.org

RECYCLING We all need to do a better job to help reduce the cost of garbage collection. The town is currently recycling about 20% of our garbage; however, collecting garbage is the most expensive thing the Town does at a cost this year of \$808,000 -- or 15% of your town tax. The town contract is up in August 2015, and we are considering abandoning garbage pickup and reducing taxes accordingly. If we do that, everyone would have to get and pay for private pickup. Among our neighbors, only the towns of Southeast and Yorktown have municipal garbage pickup; Lewisboro, Bedford, Somers, Pound Ridge and others do not.

The way to help our garbage contract negotiations is for each home to recycle. Without more recycling our costs will continue to spiral out of control. The contract costs have increased 20% each of the last two years. Please help us so we do not need to enact any draconian measures. Please recycle and also consider composting. There is a lot of information online. Visit http://northsalemny.org/sites/default/files/north_salem_schedule_2013_2014.pdf We look forward to discussing this with you.

TOWNWIDE REVALUATION We have gone out to bid for a town-wide revaluation (see next article). If we move forward, that means that each home will be visited by a professional who will examine it and establish a value that will affect future taxes. The Town Board will discuss this at our April 22nd meeting. Please come and share your thoughts.

If there is anything my office can help you with please do not hesitate to call (914) 669-5110; my personal cell is (914) 261-2636; or email wluca@northsalemny.org or stop by Town Hall at 266 Titicus Road. Thank you.

REVALUATION: EQUALIZING THE PROPERTY TAX BURDEN

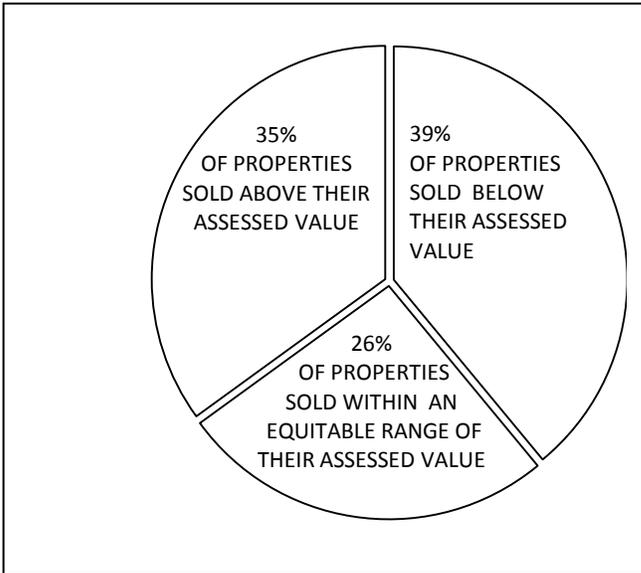
Karen Futia, Tax Assessor Kfutia@northsalemny.org Amy Rosmarin, Councilwoman Amyrosmarin@aol.com

In 2015, North Salem plans to begin a revaluation of all real property in town in order to make assessments more equitable. Reassessment will not increase the amount of money raised in property taxes. It will better reflect market value and bring equity in the distribution of the existing tax burden.

North Salem was last reassessed in 1974. Without periodic reassessment, existing assessments do not keep pace with the changes in the real estate market. The ultimate goal of a reassessment project is to have every property owner pay his or her fair share of taxes. If two property owners each have property worth \$500,000, all things being equal, they should pay the same amount of property tax.

Since 2008, the number of assessment appeals in town has increased with over 400 in the past four years. While these properties are now paying taxes more aligned with their market rate, other properties are paying more than their fair share and others are still paying less. While properties that are assessed too high can be addressed through grievance, Certiorari and informal review, the assessor cannot legally revalue under-assessed properties. Although improvements and permits can increase assessments, only the value of the improvement can be assessed. The rest of the property cannot legally be addressed even if it is undervalued.

Approximate Estimate :
Sales in North Salem from January 2010 to June 2013



26% of sold properties were assessed within a statistically acceptable range of their assessed value.

39% of the properties sold at a price below their equalized value. These assessments, through informal review or the grievance process, can be addressed so that they are in alignment with an equitable range of their equalized value.

35% of the properties sold at a price above their equalized assessment. Real Property Tax Laws for assessing in non-reassessment communities prohibit the assessor from raising assessments based solely on the occurrence of a property being sold.

The inability to increase assessments that are too low creates inequities that unfairly burden all other properties.

We expect that most properties will not see a significant change in their assessment (higher or lower) but that the following inequities will be addressed:

- Typically vacant land is under assessed.
- Properties that were built and assessed when prices were high (and haven't been addressed), may have assessments that are elevated.
- We are looking into the values of the DEP properties (our largest taxpayer) to see if they may be undervalued. The recent work on the dam may increase its value offsetting other assessment increases.

Data collection is expected to begin in May 2015; the final assessment roll will be posted in September 2017; and property taxes based on new assessments will go into effect in April 2018. During the project there will be a series of public informational meetings that residents are encouraged to attend. Please let us know if you have questions.

TREE WORK ALERT Starting late spring, NYSEG will be clearing and pruning trees and branches that may interfere with their transmission lines. The bulk of the work will be in the eastern part of town. You may see either blue dots or Xs on trees that are near the power lines. X indicates a tree that NYSEG intends to cut down, a dot indicates one to be pruned.



NYSEG will leave a notice at each home that will specify its intentions and will supply a phone number should you wish to personally meet with a NYSEG representative to discuss the proposed work. If you are unable to get in touch with the NYSEG representative or receive a response you consider unsatisfactory, please contact me by phone, text or email.

Peter Kamenstein, Deputy Supervisor. 914-954-6584
peterkamenstein@aol.com

REMINDERS ABOUT TOWN AND COUNTY TAX DUE APRIL 30

From North Salem Receiver of Taxes, Karen Roach
kroach@northsalem.org office phone 914-669 5177

The final day for North Salem taxpayers to make payment for the 2014 Town & County Tax without penalty is Wednesday, April 30, 2014. The tax office will be open *extra* collection hours on Saturday, April 26, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. until noon and on Wednesday, April 30 from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

The 2% penalty becomes effective on Thursday, May 1, 2014.

The last few days of collection keep us at the counter serving customers, so if you have a question please call 914 669 5177 so we can be sure to respond to you in a timely manner.

***If you have recently bought a home or satisfied your mortgage, be sure to contact the tax office to let us know and to provide an accurate mailing address for your tax bills. If you use a cell phone as your main phone number we cannot contact you unless you have given us your cell phone number. There are no cell phone directories.**

***Remember: without a valid postmark, payment is deemed made on the date of receipt. This could cost you penalties if it is late!**

***If you print out stamps for postage purchased online there is no valid date, so allow plenty of time for**

receipt. If you mail at the post office, ask for -- and then watch them affix -- the dated postmark.

*** Postage meters like Pitney Bowes and foreign postmarks are not acceptable as proof of mailing by the end of the month.**

*** Payments sent by banks have bulk permit IDs and no valid postmarks. Be sure to allow sufficient time for receipt to avoid penalties.**

***Payments made by credit cards must be for the full amount of the payment due. No part check or part cash and then part credit card payments will be accepted. They will be rejected and the penalty will be due.**

***Notations written on payment stubs or addresses corrected on check faces may not be noticed when bills are processed. If you need to bring changes to our attention, visit www.northsalemny.org click on departments, then tax receiver, then forms. Print and sign the change of information form and mail it to North Salem Tax Office, PO Box 313, North Salem, NY 10560 or scan and send by email to kroach@northsalemny.org**

Can't find your bill and can't make it in?? Call 914 669 5177 and we will provide you with your payment details so you can get to the post office on time

LICENSE FIDO!!

New York State requires dogs over four months of age to be licensed. Licenses are available in the Town Clerk's office. The fee for a spayed/neutered dog is \$11, and for an unspayed/unneutered dog, \$23. If you have questions or would like to license your pet by mail, call us at 669-5577.

Veronica Howley
Town Clerk

Patricia Butler
Deputy Town Clerk

IMPORTANT NOTES FROM THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Bruce Thompson, Building Inspector
Paul Taft, Assistant Building Inspector
Rosemary James Janice Will 914-669-5952

Rules . . . we can't live without them, and we can't live with them . . . so which will it be? Collectively we believe it's the former but individually the answer changes from person to person, and day to day. When the work the Building

Department does to enforce and administer the Codes, a.k.a. rules, gets complicated by outbreaks of non-compliance, it's time to pause and remember we are responsible for the choices we make.

To all who abide by rules that are relevant to their actions, please accept our sincere thanks for your part in minimizing the costs associated with staffing and operating the town building department. To all the rule breakers, please reconsider your choices: e.g. obtaining necessary building, wetland, demolition, fill, tree cutting, electrical, plumbing, mechanical and stormwater permits. The cost of **not** obtaining the required permits keeps going up. For legalizing as-built improvements, the cost to your building department became so great that in 2008 we asked the Town Board to approve a penalty to serve as a monetary disincentive to begin and complete improvements without the required permit(s). That penalty currently stands at **triple** the cost of a permit for starting work with a permit; and \$1,500 plus the cost of a permit to legalize completed work. Please know that all work done without the required permit(s) is increasingly likely to be an impediment to the sale of a property and more often than not is serious enough to negatively impact the selling price as well as loss of a prospective purchaser.

Attention Peach Lake Sewer District property owners: It has been over a year since the completion of the sewer connections. Upon completion of the hookups, it was required that all drywells be decommissioned, and all connections for basins, showers, bathtubs, toilets, washing machines and the like be connected to the sewer pipe feeding into the grinder pump. The grace period expired as of December 2013. Therefore, any existing connection from the house to a drywell is a violation. According to the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code, a plumbing permit is required to do this work.

Keep a record of your septic tank pump. If you have not had your septic tank pumped since May 2011, you have until April 30, 2016 to do so. If you don't meet the deadline, there could be penalties of up to \$400 per month. It's much less expensive to just get it pumped – and better for your health and that of your neighbors.

If you have already had your tank pumped, (since May 2011), you should have a record of the pump on a Septic System Data Form, given to you by your licensed septic collector. (For a copy of this form, please look on the town website.) If you would like a copy of this record scanned into your building department property file, please bring it to our office. These forms are also submitted to the Westchester County Department of Health by your septic collector. The Department of

Health will report to the Town which households have complied and which have not.

RUTH KEELER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

ANNUAL LIBRARY FAIR

“Made in North Salem”

MAY 9 – 11



Friday evening, May 9, 6:30 – 8:30 cocktail party \$50 per person. Wine, hors d'oeuvres by North Salem's best cooks, music -- and first crack at thousands of books for sale!

Saturday, May 10, 9:00 – 5:00 Book, bake and plant sale Books, plants from North Salem's gardens, homemade baked goodies, food, critters and entertainment.

Sunday, May 11 11:00 – 3:00 All books half price!

BALANCED ROCK: The North Salem Review of Art, Photography and Literature is accepting submissions for the next issue. The deadline is May 31. Guidelines are on the website www.keelerlibrary.org We are the only library in Westchester County with our own literary journal. Why not be part of it?

HEALING THROUGH WRITING A workshop for patients, survivors and family members touched by cancer. No writing experience necessary. Led by Susie Aybar 10:00-11:30 April 18, May 16, June 20.

BOOKS ON WHEELS – HOMEBOUND DELIVERY The library will deliver books, magazines, DVDs and audiobooks to homebound North Salem library patrons. For more information, please call Pat Carey 914-669-5013.



See more events and services and all electronic services available at the library at www.keelerlibrary.org

My new role as fire chief started out with a bang as we attended over 64 calls in January: from retrieving SUVs from the Titicus Reservoir, to a major house fire, to our usual false alarms, as well as mutual aid to surrounding towns. Needless to say, our firefighters have been busy. The endless hours of training and the commitment of these men and women

truly show during a crisis.

Please make sure your smoke detectors are working and be careful not to overload extension cords. Also,



help us to help you by displaying easy-to-read reflective address numbers outside your home.

I'd like to remind you of the Knox Box Program, which allows easier emergency entry to homes and buildings. The device is mounted near your building entry or property gate. We use a unique high security Knox Master Key to open the box. This is a safe and secure way to prevent damage to your property. Please call me at 914-669-5250 for more information.

Look for our online Spring Newsletter at the end of May. You can subscribe by going to our website www.crotonfallsfire.com and clicking the link at the top of public announcements. Jason Blauvelt, Chief

Recreation Advisory Committee

Co-chairs: John Varachi and Andrew Pelosi; Norman Bandak, Andrew Brown, Brendan Curran, Alison Hublard Hershman, Maryanne D'Amato, Paul Newman

GENERAL INFORMATION

JOE BOHRDRUM PARK, at the top of Sunset Drive, is accessible from Daniel Road off Hardscrabble Road or from Oak Ridge Road off Titicus. It has two tennis courts, a regulation size soccer field, two baseball fields, a playground, basketball court and picnic area.

VOLUNTEERS PARK, on June Road (Route 124), next to Kingsley's Market, has a regulation soccer field, a baseball field, a playground and basketball court.

Both parks are available free of charge to town organizations and residents for events on a reserve basis. If you wish to reserve for a specific date, call us for instructions on obtaining a use permit.

REFUND POLICY A full refund will be given if the recreation department cancels a program. If the participant moves from Town, or becomes ill, a full or pro-rated refund will be based on the number of sessions the participant attended. A doctor's note must accompany a refund request due to illness. All refund requests must be made in writing to the superintendent of Recreation. **All programs are subject to changes and/or cancellation due to a variety of factors, some of which may not be under the control of the Town of North Salem.**

RETURNED CHECKS The sender of any check returned by the bank will be charged a \$20 fee.

INSURANCE The Town of North Salem does not carry insurance to cover hospitalization or medical costs of persons injured while participating in programs. **ALL PERSONS PARTICIPATE AT THEIR OWN RISK.**

FIELD USE POLICY The recreation department will issue permits to teams not sponsored by the North Salem Recreation Department for use of town fields based on availability. At least 60% of players on any team must be North Salem Central School District residents. In addition at least 40% of the team members/coaches must be Town of North Salem residents. There is a fee, and a team roster must be supplied to the superintendent of recreation with name, age and address of all team members.

TENNIS COURTS are at Joe Bohrdrum Park. A recreation card is needed to play and may be obtained by calling the recreation office. The courts will be resurfaced this year.



ALL YOU CAN EAT COUNTRY BREAKFAST



Croton Falls Fire Department
wants to cook breakfast for you!!

Sunday, April 13
Croton Falls Firehouse
1 Front Street
8 am – 12 noon
Donation: Adults: \$10 Children: \$5

Croton Falls Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary

EASTER BAKE SALE AND RAFFLE



Saturday, April 19
9:00 am. – Noon
Front Street, Croton Falls

Pick up a scrumptious dessert
and help us make this event a
big success!

RECREATION

SPORTS * EVENTS * CAMPS * COURSES * FUN

Beverly Golisano, Superintendent
Pat Sallstrom, Recreation Assistant
Lobdell House, 270 Titicus Road
Office hours 9:00 am – 4:30 pm
Phone: (914) 669-5665 Fax: (914) 669-8460

YOUTH TENNIS In cooperation with the Hardscrabble Club, we will offer the Quick Start Tennis Program to the residents of North Salem and the North Salem School District, for all ages and levels. This ten-week program is \$150 for beginners, \$200 for intermediates and \$250 for advanced students. If you're unsure of your child's level, a brief evaluation will be provided at the first class. Call the recreation department for information.

MEN'S SOCCER The outdoor program runs from April through June on Monday nights at 6:00 pm at Volunteers' Park. The Men's Indoor Soccer Program runs from November – April in the PQ gym from 8:30 pm – 10:00 pm. A one-time registration fee of \$20 payable to the North Salem Recreation Department for each program is due at the first session. For more information call Enrique Reyes at (914) 669-5840.

EVENTS AND COURSES



“MOONLIGHT SWING” WITH THE NORM HATHAWAY BIG BAND Come dance the night away at the Hammond Museum on Friday, August 1. A dinner menu will be available (see www.hammondmuseum.org for details). No outside food will be allowed. Music and dancing from 8 – 11 pm; \$5.00 for North Salem residents (this event is co-sponsored by the Town); \$15 for out-of-towners.

The Library and Recreation are co-sponsoring the next two activities at the library:

BABYSITTING TRAINING Instructor Denise Schirmer. Mark your calendars. This free babysitting training class for students in grades 6-12 on September 13 from 10:30 am – 2:30 pm will provide would-be sitters with information and skills necessary to provide safe and responsible child care. Students should bring a notebook and pencil; call 669-5161 to register; space is limited.

SENSORY STORY TIMES FOR SPECIAL NEEDS KIDS AND TEENS Tuesdays at 4:00, April 8, May 13, June 10. Family-oriented program for children of all ages who have trouble sitting still. Friends and family welcome. The interactive sessions include stories, music, songs, movement, crafts and more. Call or email to register 914- 669-5161 keelerlibrary@wlsmail.org

TAIJIFIT: A RIDE ALONG THE WAVE OF YOUR INNER POWER TaijiFit, the most unique workout to come along in decades, combines the best elements of fitness, meditation and the ancient martial art of Taijiquan (Tai Chi). There is no routine or choreography to memorize or “get right.” You will follow five or six chains of traditional Tsijiquan and Oigong movements. This class is easily modified to accommodate those who are compromised or recovering by adapting the movements to be done sitting in a chair. Classes are held at the North Salem Firehouse on Tuesday mornings. For more information call Cheryl Aiello at (914) 523-4450.

INSTRUCTORS NEEDED for cooking, arts & crafts, scrapbooking, etc. If you have a skill that you would like to share with other residents, please call recreation, and let's talk.

THE HEART OF THE SOUTH: A Journey through New Orleans, Natchez and Lafayette. October 5 – 12, 2014. 8 Days, 11 Meals: 7 Breakfasts, 4 Dinners.



The price includes round trip air from New York, air taxes and fees/surcharges, hotels, hotel transfers and round trip transportation to/from the airport. Double is \$2,249; Single is \$2,749. Highlights are the French Quarter, Court of Two Sisters, Baton

Rouge, Natchez, McIlhenry Company Tabasco Factory Tour, Martin Accordions, Cajun Entertainment, Vermilionville, Bayou Cruise and a Cajun Cooking School. For a brochure contact the recreation department at 669-5665.

ACTIVITIES FOR SENIORS

NORTH SALEM SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB Residents 55 and older are eligible to join our seniors group. Meetings are at 11:30 am on the second Tuesday of the month at the North Salem Fire House. Bring your own bag lunch; club members provide dessert and coffee. Business Meeting at 12:30 followed by a speaker or an activity. For more information call Muriel Bisulca at (914) 669-5662.

SENIOR BOOK CLUB Carolyn Reznick of the Keeler Library leads a book discussion every month after the regular meeting of the Seniors. Books are handed out at the meeting for the next one. *Caleb's Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks is scheduled to be discussed on May 13 at 12:30 pm at the North Salem Firehouse. This group is open to all. Call Carolyn for (914) 669-5161 more information.

ANNUAL NORTH SALEM SENIOR CITIZENS LUNCHEON will be held at Chuck's Steak House in Danbury, CT, on Wednesday, June 11 at 12:00 pm. Price is \$28. Call Muriel Bisulca at (914) 669-5662 to make your reservation. **All seniors and friends are welcome!**

NUTRITION PROGRAM - The Somers-North Salem-Lewisboro Nutrition Program is held at Wayne Van Tassel Memorial Park, Route 139, in Somers. It provides lunch Monday through Friday at 12:00 pm. Reservations **MUST** be made one day in advance at (914) 232-0807 between 10:30 am and 1:30 pm. The suggested contribution is \$2.00. Transportation is provided on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Call for a ride.

MEALS ON WHEELS (home delivery) If you are unable to join us at "Van Tassel" due to health reasons, we may be able to help by delivering a hot meal to your home. We'd be happy to set up a meal plan for you. A menu and your first meal will arrive the next day. This service is available to all North Salem Seniors. Call 232-0807 for reservations.

NORTH EAST WESTCHESTER SPECIAL RECREATION was established in early 1970 as a community-based therapeutic agency serving children and adults with developmental disabilities in the north east portion of the County. Programs offer a variety of year-round recreational activities designed with the specific support needed for participant success in this environment. Programs may focus on teaching skills, fostering fun and friendships or correcting social or behavioral deficiencies. Superintendent of Recreation Beverly Golisano sits on the Board of Directors. Call her for more information.

NORTH SALEM F.I.S.H. "Friends in Service Here" are volunteers who offer rides to non-emergency visits to doctors' appointments, clinics and hospitals. This free service can be obtained by calling coordinator Kathleen Sullivan at (914) 669-5082. If you can help drive ambulatory neighbors one or two days a month, please give Kathleen a call.

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (OEM) Residents who are home bound, live alone, have medical conditions that require assistance (e.g. oxygen, wheelchair) and have no family or neighbors available to help them in emergency situations should register with OEM. The Town keeps a list of residents who might need help in the event of a serious power outage,

crippling storm or other emergency. If you would like to receive a call or a visit from someone on our staff during these times, please call the Office of Emergency Management at 669-5464 or visit the town website under emergencies to get the registration form.

MOUNTAIN LAKES DAY CAMP



The North Salem Day Camp is held at Mountain Lakes, a Westchester County Park off Hawley Rd. This facility has an outdoor area with a lake, cabins, ball field, swimming pool and

out buildings. Our program is for campers entering pre-K through 7th grade and includes a variety of activities such as canoeing, art, music, fishing, nature, games, archery, outdoor skills, swimming, campfire cooking and orienteering. The carefully-screened staff includes instructors, medical personnel and Red Cross certified lifeguards. A weekly newsletter is sent home on Fridays with upcoming events. For a small fee we have special events such as Pizza Day, Cupcake Day, Ice Cream Sundae Day and Barbeque Day. We also hire entertainers for the children's education and enjoyment. Our green program is observed through our Outdoor Skills, Nature, and Trash-to-Treasure classes.

Registration We still have some spots in several grades; contact the recreation department for available space. Camp will run from Tuesday, July 1 through 12:00 pm on Friday, August 1, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. There will be no camp on July 4.

- The fee for North Salem residents is \$630 per camper
- The fee for all North Salem School District students (Brewster, Carmel, Somers) is \$710 per camper
- The fee for out-of-town and out-of-state campers is \$890 per camper

Summer Camp Needs We need a row boat, bookshelves, fishing poles, picnic tables, folding tables and storage tubs. If you are willing to donate any of these items, please call. Also, if you have special hobbies or skills that you would like to share with our campers such as woodcarving, rock collecting or making and flying model airplanes, please volunteer for a day and introduce campers to your area of expertise.

THEATRE ARTS STUDIO'S MUSICAL THEATRE SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM - ALADDIN

The Theatre Arts Studio invites you to a land of enchantment! Come join us for our two-week Summer Musical Theatre Camp production of Disney's *Aladdin*, and see yourselves transformed into the colorful and fascinating characters of the Kingdom of Agrabah!

Ages 7 – 12: August 4 – 15, 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 pm, North Salem High School. Cost \$350; early bird rate of \$325 if registered by April 30. A presentation for parents and guests will be held at The Schoolhouse Theatre at the end of camp. For information, call (914) 584- 8201 or email thetheatreartsstudio@gmail.com

THE HENDRIE'S SOCCER ACADEMY This camp will be held at the North Salem High School fields and gym August 4 - 8; directed by Ron Hendrie, 18-time Coach of the Year; 2008 Adidas "US National Coach of the Year" and North Salem Varsity Boys' Soccer Coach. His high school teams have been Section 1 finalists 15 times.

Beginning Soccer Camp, ages 3&4, will run from 9:00 am – 10:30 am. Registration fee is \$125, and \$150 after July 1. Campers will learn soccer skills, tactics and good sportsmanship while having FUN! Participants will receive a soccer ball, T-shirt, and daily accomplishment awards.

For players entering grades K-9, camp will run from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm. Fee is \$175, \$200 after July 1.

EAST COAST PANTHERS BASKETBALL CAMP

Coach Chris DiCintio, the Rye High School boys Varsity coach as well as director of East Coast Panthers AAU Basketball Inc., will hold camp at the PQ gym for four days from August 18 -21. This camp is for girls and boys entering grades 3 through 9 and will run from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. The fee is \$225 and includes a t-shirt, basketball and prizes.

FENCING SUMMER CAMP In cooperation with Putnam County Fencing Center (999 Route 22, Brewster) we will hold fencing camp August 18-22 and August 25-29 from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Cost is \$300 for one week or \$550 for two weeks for Town of North Salem and School District residents. The non-resident fee is \$350 for one week and \$675 for two. The center offers quality instruction and fun! All equipment is provided. For more information, contact recreation department or pcfencing@yahoo.com

CHEERLEADING CAMP We will again hold a cheerleading clinic instructed by Alyssa Paesano in August. Watch for details on the town website or at the school's online newsletter *Tuesday Newsday*.

MEN'S OVER 40 BASKETBALL New this year is Men's Basketball on Monday night at the PQ gym from 8:30 – 10:00 pm. Cost is \$25 for the program that runs from November – June. Contact Barry Weisblatt for more information at barry@whiteleafent.com

NOTES AND REMINDERS FROM THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

We have moved!!! The North Salem Highway Department is now located at 250 June Road (behind Kingsley's Deli).

Highway maintains all town roads and drainage systems and performs snow and ice removal on town roads and all State and County roads located within the Town of North Salem. The Department also provides leaf pick-up in the fall and maintains all town cemeteries and parks.

A permit is required for the construction of any street opening or driveway as detailed in the Town Code which can be found on the Town website www.northsalemny.org A Street Opening/Driveway permit can be downloaded from the town website or picked up at the North Salem Highway Department at 250 June Road.

If you wish to purchase a cemetery plot in Peach Pond Cemetery or June Cemetery, please contact us at (914) 669-5310.

We accept regular A – D cell batteries, used crank case oil and car batteries for recycling. The Town has an "E-Waste" container for electronic recycling. Please contact us for additional information regarding acceptable E-Waste and drop off procedures.

If you need additional information regarding the highway department, please visit our link on the town website www.northsalemny.org email us gsoto@northsalemny.org or whanaburgh@northsalemny.org or give us a call at (914) 669-5310. We wish everyone a safe and happy spring and summer!

Ward R. Hanaburgh, Superintendent of Highways
James DePaoli, Deputy Superintendent
Gayle S. Soto, Administrative Assistant

CAC: HELP PROTECT NORTH SALEM'S RESOURCES

The five-member Town Board-appointed Conservation Advisory Council is an advocate for the environment. We review wetland and land disturbance applications as well as site plan applications that are on the Planning Board agenda.

We walk properties proposed for development where wetlands may be disturbed. Wetlands – including marshes, swamps, bogs and wet meadows – serve many functions: they absorb, store and slow down the movement of rain and snow melt, minimizing flooding; they improve water quality by absorbing pollutants; they maintain flow in streams and rivers; they buffer water erosion; and provide habitat for feeding, nesting and

spawning fish and wildlife. When development negatively impacts habitats, we lose butterflies, bees and song birds. One issue we are studying is how to raise public awareness of invasive plants in wetlands and uplands, and how to clear and manage them with native plants that help our ecosystems.



We are concerned about maintaining the rural character of North Salem and are considering recommendations to deter noise pollution. There is one vacancy on CAC. If you would like to apply, please write to the town clerk. We are interested in your ideas and suggestions. Please email us at the CAC website on www.northsalemny.org and visit our Facebook page. Pam Pooley and Lori Tripoli, Co-Chairs

NEW NORTH SALEM LANDMARKS

Your Historic Preservation Commission has been busy! In 2013, two Town of North Salem Historic Landmarks were designated, bringing our total to 30.

The Chloe and Charles Bloomer House, also called Apple Hill (below) on Titicus Road was built c. 1859 by Chloe Brown Bloomer and husband Charles. Chloe grew up next door on her father’s huge farm, which was divided among his children at his death. The Bloomer property and all of the neighboring ones were dramatically affected by the creation of the dam and reservoir. Much of their farmland was confiscated, and many buildings were either condemned or moved. Additions and improvements have greatly altered the house, but the original core is still beautifully intact.

Current owners Ruth and Gerry Fischbach were married at the house when Ruth’s parents owned it. By serendipitous coincidence they spotted a for sale sign and bought the home just in time to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary there!



The 18th century New York to Vermont Post Road ran through the east side of North Salem. Along the way were sandstone mile markers, including three remaining ones in North Salem. This slightly damaged marker on Titicus Road let the traveler know he was 56 miles from Federal Hall in New York City. The marker system, designed by Ben Franklin, also helped post riders establish rates.



In the mid-1900s, Westchester County built fieldstone shelters around the markers. Our three now have the additional protection of being landmarked.

If you have an historic barn, home, outbuilding or other unusual structure, please consider asking the commission to investigate it for landmarking. It is an honor, not a burden, to own a town landmark. Call or email Janice Will, HPC secretary, at jwill@northsalemny.org 669-0245. It’s your town. Please help us preserve it!

NORTH SALEM ENERGY ADVISORY PANEL

This panel was appointed by the Town Board to advise them and residents on ways to conserve energy and make energy use more efficient.

Save with home energy improvements: If you are interested in making energy efficiency improvements in your home, please visit www.energizenorthsalem.org to get a free or highly subsidized NYSERDA comprehensive home energy assessment to find out what you need to do and the payback. The site lists approved contractors and information about low interest financing and NYSERDA incentives, including a 10% cash back on approved measures installed by a participating contractor – including such things as new insulation, boiler replacement and air conditioning upgrades. The loan program is designed so that payments are offset by monthly energy savings.

E-Waste New York State law requires that E-Waste – computers, TVs, monitors, keyboards, scanners, printers VCRs, cell phones, etc. – be delivered to a retailer or discarded in town E-Waste containers. Please call Highway for instructions on accessing ours at 669-5310.

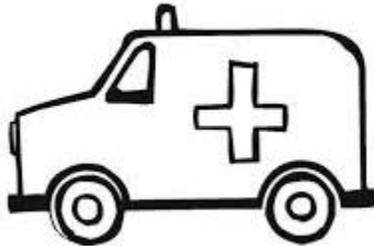
Dark Sky Save energy and be considerate of your neighbors by putting outside lights on motion detectors (yes, deer can activate them – but they won't do any harm). For a light you choose to leave on, use a dark sky fixture so that it shines onto the ground and the source is not seen by neighbors. Always use the lowest wattage bulb you can find. – Katherine Daniels, Bob Daros, Bob McGee, Larry Nissman, Eric Pooley, Vince Salvatore, Edris Sherer

NORTH SALEM VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORPS

Thank you for making our *Winter Gala* a huge success!

We recently welcomed four new adult members, all of whom are enrolled in the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) class at our building and are also learning to drive the ambulance.

We also welcomed five new Junior Corps members. This is an opportunity for students 16-18 to serve the community. They have all received CPR/AED training and also ambulance orientation. If they choose to ride, they will learn to operate the equipment under supervision of an EMT.



This is the third year we have hosted an EMT class and have enrolled 11 students from the ambulance corps and the Croton Falls Fire Department. We also added an EMT refresher class.

If you are interested in joining our department, please call Maria Hlushko, Captain, at 914-277-4944 or email captain@nsvac.org

Hall rental: The main floor of our building on Daniel Road is available to rent for parties, meetings, etc. There is a full kitchen, tables and chairs, and the hall is handicapped accessible. Call Kurt Guldan, President, at 914-277-4944 or email president@nsvac.org

Save the date!
The North Salem Historical Society's Annual
STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
Sunday, July 13, 2014
Homemade strawberry shortcake, games, music and
Talons: A Bird of Prey Experience

BICYCLE SAFETY TIPS

Tom Howley, Chief of Police

- Wear a helmet
- Find the right helmet fit For information about a proper fit, see <http://www.nhtsa.gov/Bicycles>
- Check your brakes and inflate tires before riding
- See and be seen – wear neon or fluorescent clothing
- Control your bike – always ride with at least one hand on the handlebars
- Avoid hazards such as potholes, gravel, puddles, leaves and animals
- Avoid riding at night. If you must, make sure you have a white light on the front and red reflectors on the front and rear of your bike

Rules of the Road

- Go with the flow – ride in the same direction as the traffic
 - Obey all traffic laws: signs, signals and lane marking. Ride single file as cars approach
 - Yield to traffic when appropriate
 - Be predictable and signal all your moves
 - Watch for parked cars and ride far enough out from the curb to avoid the unexpected from parked cars
- Visit <http://www.safeny.ny.gov/bike-ndx.htm> for more tips. Have a safe and happy spring and summer!

NEW POLICE VEHICLE ARRIVING THIS MONTH!



Last fall, State Senator Greg Ball, center, presented Police Chief Tom Howley and Councilman Bruce Buchholtz with a check for \$50,000 – a State grant toward the purchase of a new police vehicle.

Bruce helped secure this grant even as he was fighting skin cancer. He lost his battle in December and was honored and remembered by more than 100 friends, including fellow firefighters, at a service at St. James.

Town of North Salem
266 Titicus Road
North Salem, NY 10560

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RURAL ROUTE OR BOX HOLDER

B**RIDLESIDE** Half of North Salem's affordable rental apartments on June Road are completed and occupied! Of the 32 families who have moved in so far, 11 are from North Salem and others still are children of -- or former -- residents of our town. Residents were chosen in a lottery from a pool of applicants who met income eligibility requirements. The 40-acre, partly wooded complex includes a club house, walking trails and a recreation field and is near Volunteers Park and the middle/high school.

The builders, Wilder Balter Partners, Inc., plan to open the next building this month and to complete the entire 64-apartment complex by mid-summer.

At right: building one, completed last November; and Alsaney and his Mom, Livia O'Brien reading in their new home.
(Photos: Nancy Gold)

A warm welcome to our new neighbors!

