

TOWN OFFICE HOURS:

FIRST SELECTMAN: Monday - Friday: 9:00 – 12:00 & 1:00 – 4:00
phone 860-364-5789; (H) 860-364-7475

NW PROBATE: Monday – Thursday: 9:00 – 4:00
phone 860-824-7012

ASSESSOR: Monday 9:00 to Noon, Wednesday & Thursday: 9:00 – 12:00 & 1:00 - 4:00
phone: 860-364-0205

TAX COLLECTOR: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday: 9:00 – 3:30
phone 860-364-5402

TOWN CLERK: Monday – Thursday: 8:30 – 12:00 & 1:00 – 4:00
Friday: 8:30 – NOON
phone: 860-364-5224

BUILDING INSPECTOR & FIRE MARSHAL: Monday – Friday: 7:00 – NOON; Saturday 8:00 – 9:00AM
phone: 860-364-0909

LAND USE ADMINISTRATOR Monday – Friday: 7:00 – NOON
phone: 860-364-0909

HEALTH DEPARTMENT Monday – Friday: 7:00 - NOON
phone: 860-364-9397

SOCIAL SERVICE: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 9:00 – 12:00 & 1:00 – 4:00
phone: 860-364-1003

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS Tuesday: 10:00 – NOON
phone: 860-364-5514

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Board of Selectmen: Second Tuesday @ 2PM and fourth Tuesday @ 5:30PM monthly

Board of Finance: Quarterly @ 7PM, March 21, June 20, September 19 & December 12

Planning and Zoning Commission: Second Wednesday, monthly @ 5:30PM

Inland Wetlands Commission: Second Monday, monthly @ 6:30PM except for February when it will be February 13, October when it will be October 9 AND November when it will be November 13

Sharon Housing Authority: First Tuesday, monthly @ 5PM except for February when it will be February 13 and November when it will be November 13

Sewer & Water Commission: Second Thursday, monthly @ 7PM

Historic District Commission: Fourth Monday, monthly @ 6:00PM except for May when it will be May 29 and no meeting for December

Board of Education: Second Monday, monthly

Sharon Parks & Recreation Committee: First Thursday @ 6:30PM monthly

Conservation Commission: Third Wednesday @ 7PM monthly

Zoning Board of Appeals: Quarterly, Feb. 21, May 15, August 21 & Nov. 20 @ 6:30PM

Sharon Energy & Environment Commission: Alternating – Third Thursday for 6 months and Third Friday for 6 months of the month @ 8AM – starting with Thursday, January 18th – No meeting in August

Transfer Station Building Committee: Third Wednesday monthly @ 5:30PM rotating between Salisbury and Sharon Town Halls starting in Salisbury except for July and December when there is no meeting

Transfer Station Committee: Same as the Building Committee but @ 6:30PM

SSRRA: check on Town Website

For precise time and place check with Town Clerk where agendas/notices must be posted at least 24 hours in advance

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Facts and Figures -----	3
Elected Town Officers -----	4
Appointed/Hired Town Officers -----	6
Summary of Town Meetings -----	10
<i>Reports of Town Officers and Commissions</i>	
First Selectman -----	11
Town Clerk -----	12
Board of Education:	
<i>Sharon Center School Principal</i> -----	13
<i>Superintendent of Schools</i> -----	15
<i>HVRHS Principal</i> -----	20
Conservation Commission -----	22
Zoning Board of Appeals -----	23
Planning and Zoning Commission -----	23
Inland Wetlands Commission -----	25
Building Official/Fire Marshal -----	26
Road Foreman -----	27
Social Service Agent -----	27
Sewer & Water Commission -----	28
Historic District Commission -----	30
Sharon Parks & Recreation Committee -----	31
Registrar of Voters -----	31
Director of Health -----	32
Sharon Energy & Environment Commission -----	33
Sharon Housing Authority -----	34
Animal Control Officer -----	35
Board of Finance -----	57
<i>Town Assisted Organizations</i>	
Litchfield Hills Probate District, #24 -----	36
Sharon Day Care -----	37
Sharon Fire Department Ambulance Squad -----	39
Sharon Fire Department Inc. -----	40
Sharon Historical Society -----	41
Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association -----	42
VNA Northwest Inc. -----	43
CMHA -----	44
Northwest Hills Council of Governments -----	47
Northwest Regional Housing Council -----	48
Housatonic River Commission -----	49
Housatonic Youth Service Bureau -----	50
Women's Support Services -----	51
The Hotchkiss Library -----	52

The Chore Service -----	54
Salisbury/Sharon Transfer Station -----	55

Report of the Auditor, 2016 – 2017

Although these two men may be notoriously known for their trips out West...they continue to serve the Town of Sharon in many capacities. Most notably is their dedicated service as Chairman Edward M. Kirby – Sharon Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission (since 1972) and Chairman Barclay W. Prindle – Sharon Planning and Zoning Commission (since 1969).

FACTS AND FIGURES ABOUT THE TOWN OF SHARON

The Town of Sharon, in Litchfield County, was incorporated in October, 1739 and held its first Town Meeting on December 11, 1739. Sharon continues in the original Town Meeting / Selectmen / Board of Finance form of government. Total area: 59.6 square miles; land area; 58.7 square miles and has a population estimate of 2,747 according to the Department of Health. The Town maintains 83.54 miles of roadways, of which 55.84 miles are Improved (asphalt) Roads and the remaining 27.70 miles are Unimproved (gravel) Roads. Bowne Road, Butter Road, Herb Road, Cole Road, Modley Road and West Woods Road #1 have been designated as (Scenic Roads” under Town Ordinance, and portions of State Highways 7 and 4, and all of Rt. 41, have been designated as “State Scenic Roads”. Elevation ranges from 1551 feet on Ellsworth Hill to 503 feet at Amenia Union (Hitchcock Corners).

SHARON TAX AND POPULATION DATA

Year	Mil Rate	Grand List	Population Estimate
2000-2001	16.40 revaluation	342,018,170	2,968
2001-2002	16.70	351,457,158	2,968
2002-2003	16.90	362,171,770	2,969
2003-2004	17.00	389,529,522	2,914
2004-2005	13.75 revaluation	518,775,238	2,968
2005-2006	14.20	525,462,385	3,012
2006-2007	14.90	532,251,589	3,012
2007-2008	14.90	541,255,445	3,036
2008-2009	14.90	558,016,740	3,052
2009-2010	10.35 revaluation	837,360,422	3,058
2010-2011	10.90	839,977,000	3,022
2011-2012	11.35	843,796,767	3,014
2012-2013	11.35	847,349,680	3,029
2013-2014	11.70	851,634,816	2,774
2014-2015	13.25 revaluation	720,510,556	2,766
2015-2016	13.70	725,187,484	2,747
2016-2017	14.40	733,261,051	2,725
2017-2018	14.70	742,904,118	2,725

ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Brent M. Colley, *First Selectman*, 2019
Dale C. Jones, 2019 Jessica K. Fowler, 2019

BOARD OF FINANCE

Karen S. Dignacco, *Chairman*, 2023
Thomas H. Bartram, *V. Chairman*, 2023
Eric C. Seibold, *Secretary*, 2021
Casey T. Flanagan, 2021 Mary B. Robertson, 2019 Harding F. Bancroft, Jr. 2019

Alternate Members

Elaine A. La Roche, 2021 Robert E. Duncan, 2023

TOWN CLERK AND REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

Linda R. Amerighi, 01/02/2022

REGISTRARS

Barbara S. Coords, *Republican*, 01/06/2021
Marel E. Rogers, *Democratic*, 01/06/2021

TOWN TREASURER

Tina M. Pitcher, 2019

TAX COLLECTOR

Donna A. Christensen, 2019

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Thomas F. Casey, Sr., *Chairman*, 2019
Susan Lynn, 2019 Brent N. Prindle, 2021

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Doug A. Cahill, *Chairman*, 11/02/2021
Kathleen Visconti, *V. Chairman*, 11/02/2021
Brian Kenny, *Secretary*, 11/05/2019
Jennifer C. Anderson, 11/05/2019 Anne M. Vance, 11/02/2021
Plamen Petkov, 11/02/2021 Jennifer A. Hansell, 11/05/2019

REPRESENTATIVE TO REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL BOARD

Bob R. Whelan, 11/30/2019

Diane Blick, 01/07/2015 – 01/09/2019

Tina M. Pitcher	Bruce Dechert	Michael R. Tesoro
Edward M. Kirby	Richard H. Gottlieb	Linda R. Amerighi
Barclay W. Prindle	Michael D. Lynch	Louise F. Brown
Estelle Gorkofsky	Judge Manning	Lorraine J. Lewis
Brian F. Kenny	Harding F. Bancroft, Jr.	Howard M. Randall

Barclay W. Prindle, *Chairman*, 2023
Elizabeth M. Hall, *V. Chairman*, 2021
Stanley MacMillan Jr., *Secretary*, 2019

Dona M. Ferry, 2019 Laurance B. Rand III, 2023

Susan Lynn, 2019 Edward W. Wilbur, 2019 Larry Moskowitz, 2021

William Trowbridge, *Chairman*, 2019
Allen I. Young, *V. Chairman*, 2019

Harding F. Bancroft, 2019 Michael T. Dignacco, 2021 Alphonse J. Tortorella,
2021

Vacancy, 2019 Zelina Blagden, 2021 Scott J. Pastre, 2019

UNITED STATE SENATORS

Christopher S. Murphy	01/03/2013 to 01/03/2019
Richard Blumenthal	01/03/2017 to 01/03/2023

5th Congressional District

Elizabeth Esty 01/03/2017to 01/03/2019

Senate – 30th Senatorial District

Craig Miner	01/04/2017 to 01/09/2019
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Brian Ohler 01/04/2017 to 01/09/2019

APPOINTED / HIRED TOWN OFFICERS

TOWN COUNSEL

Judith Dixon – Dixon & Brooks, P.C.

TOWN AUDITOR

Sinnamon & Associates, LLC

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO FIRST SELECTMAN

Tina M. Pitcher

ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK

Marlene M. Woodman

ASSESSOR

Patricia S. Braislin

**ASSISTANT REGISTRAR OF
VITAL STATISTICS**

Marlene M. Woodman

DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

Michael Crespan, MPH

David R. Kurish, M.D., Advisor

Susan Zaborowski, Food Inspector

Tiziana Covacci, RS

Elizabeth H. Casey, Sanitary Inspector

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Lee Sohl

TREE WARDEN

Jeffrey Perotti

**CIVIL PREPAREDNESS
COORDINATOR**

Thomas H. Bartram

**FIRE MARSHAL &
BUILDING OFFICIAL**

Stanley MacMillan, Jr.

Michael Carbone, Asst. BO

Charles Carleton, Deputy FM

LAND USE ADMINISTRATOR

Elizabeth H. Casey

REPRESENTATIVE TO REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL BOARD

Anne M. Vance, *Alternate*, 2019

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

John J. Baroody, *Chairman*, 2018

Elizabeth M. Hall, *V. Chairman*, 2020

J. Barclay Collins, 2019

Lionel Goldfrank III, 2022

Lillian D. Woodworth, 2022

Alternate Members

Stephen J. Szalewicz, Jr., 2020

Scot P. Samuelson, 2019

Sarah B. Day, 2018

SEWER & WATER COMMISSION

Stephen J. Szalewicz, Jr., *Chairman*, 2020

Elizabeth M. Rybczyk, *V. Chairman*, 2021

Douglas O. Hobby, 2019 Harding F. Bancroft, Jr., 2018 Joseph V. Hajek, 2022

Alternate Members

Dobрила M. Waugh, 2022

Jacob E. Fricker, 2018

SHARON HOUSING AUTHORITY

David Hosier, *Chairman*, 2019

Meg Szalewicz, *V. Chairman*, 2022

Patricia Whelan, *Treasurer*, 2018

William J. Manasse, *Asst. Treasurer*, 2021

Jeannette Moss, *Secretary & Tenant Representative*, 2020

TOWN HALL COMMITTEE

Donna A. Christensen Thomas H. Bartram Linda R. Amerighi Zelina Blagden

SHARON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Donna A. Christensen, *Chairman*

Joan W. Yahn

N. Elizabeth Foster

Karen M. Bristow

Alphonse J. Tortorella

John W. Ongley

John D. Crodelle

Mandy Thompson

Michele Purdy

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Cicily W. Hajek, *Chairman*, 2018

Paul Bacsik, *V. Chairman*, 2019

James D. Krissel, 2018

Claudia E. Cayne, *Secretary*, 2022

Carl Chalet, 2018

Howard M. Randall, 2021

Michael Lynch, 2020

INLAND WETLANDS & WATER COURSES COMMISISON

Edward M. Kirby, *Chairman*, 2019

James D. Krissel, *V. Chairman*, 2018

Michael H. Dudek, *Secretary*, 2022

Harvey W. Hayden, V.M.D., 2020

William Trowbridge, 11/19/20

Laurance B. Rand, III, 11/23/2023

Sharon M. Tingley, 2020

Alternate Members

Scott L. Schreiber, 2018

Robin L. Zitter, 2021

NORTHWEST HILLS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Brent M. Colley

Jessica K. Fowler, *Alternate*

NORTHWESTERN CT REGIONAL HOUSING COUNCIL

Bob Whelan
Meg Szalewicz, Alternate

SOCIAL SERVICES AGENT
MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY

Ella L. Clark

OPEN BURNING OFFICIAL

Stanley MacMillan, Jr.

HOUSATONIC RIVER COMMISSION

William R. Tingley, 2019
Vacant, Alternate, 2018

SHARON GREEN COMMITTEE

Elizabeth M. Hall, *Chairman*
Thomas F. Casey, Sr. Linda R. Amerighi Marlene M. Woodman
Eric Golden

SAFETY OFFICERS (Halloween Only)

David G. Wilbur Thomas F. Casey, Sr. Howard Randall

WESTERN TOURISM DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

Vacant

HOME LAND SECURITY

Thomas F. Casey, Sr.

TOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Robert E. Carberry, *Foreman*
Todd C. Anderson Mark A. Anderson, *Mechanic* Timothy J. Marks
James D. Reid Daniel V. Bottass, *Asst. Mechanic* J. Todd Smith
Stephen R. Wasley

TRANSFER STATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Jessica K. Fowler Patricia A. Chamberlain Anne M. Saunders

SALISBURY-SHARON RESOURCE RECOVERY AUTHORITY

Brent M. Colley, 01/14/2020
William S. Braislin, Sr., 01/14/2021
Malcolm M. Brown, 01/14/2019
Thomas H. Bartram, voting Alternate, 01/14/2019

SHARON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

Carolyn O. Mattoon, *Chairman*, 10/09/2019

Douglas W. Rick, 10/09/2018

Sarah A. Coon, Secretary, 10/09/2018

Kathleen D. Fuhr, 10/09/2018

Michael R. Tesoro, 10/09/2019

Oscar R. Martinez, 10/09/2019

Roger Liddell, 10/09/2018

ALTERNATES – BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Three Vacancies

Terms to November 19, 2018

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Brent M. Colley

Thomas H. Bartram

Robert E. Carberry

Elizabeth H. Casey

Thomas F. Casey, Sr.

Robert B. Carberry

George Holst-Grubbe

Todd C. Anderson

NORTHWEST CT TRANSIT DISTRICT BOARD

Vacant, January 2019

SUMMARY OF SHARON TOWN MEETINGS, 2016 - 2017

Governing of the Town of Sharon is based on the Town Meeting as the legislative body with financial concerns in the prevue of the Board of Finance and the day to day governing under the Board of Selectmen, primarily the First Selectman. In lieu of a county system, Connecticut Towns govern the “township” as well as any villages within their borders. Important to note is the fact that major decisions are accomplished by those in attendance at Town Meetings, there is no quorum required, nor are absentee ballots available!

October 13, 2016: Approximately 26 residents gathered and voted to: sell the Community Hall Building; and to proceed with the Sharon Green Project.

December 22, 2016: Approximately 45 residents gathered and voted to: approve expending up to \$3,000 from the Parks & Recreation Committee’s Capital Improvement Funds to purchase and install two basketball backboards and assemblies to Veterans’ Field; authorize the First Selectman to sign a “Lease to Own” option with Daimler for the purchase of a Freightliner; and appropriate \$2,500 to the Sharon Playhouse for drainage work.

January 20, 2017: Approximately 70 residents gathered and voted by paper ballot to: retain ownership of 99 North Main Street (Community Hall).

May 12, 2017: Approximately 49 residents gathered and voted to: adopt the annual budget and other related items for fiscal year commencing July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018; approve the proposed Five-year Capital Improvement Plan; authorize the expenditure of up to \$17,000 from the Capital Non-recurring Account to be used towards the installation of a new basketball court at Veteran’s Field; and to approve the financial report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2016.

First Selectman

The past year has been an exciting one. We've welcomed many new businesses to town and have been working on many initiatives and projects over the course of the 2016-17 fiscal year to keep the positive momentum going.

2016-17 highlights:

- We continued our efforts to protect the town's roads with chip sealing, paving, and drainage improvement projects. From July 2016 to July 2017 we replaced 28 drainage pipes, whittled down the number of roads left to pave to five, and chip sealed eighteen miles of new road.
- The new Salisbury-Sharon Transfer Station project continues to progress. Salisbury Planning and Zoning members are reviewing the Building Committee's plans; all committees involved- SSRRA, SSTSBC, TRAC, continue to work together to bring the project to completion.
- All three Selectmen and several boards, committees, and residents have been reviewing existing Town Ordinances. In addition, new Ordinances are being considered.
- Selectwoman, Jessica Fowler, continued her work on bringing high-speed fiber and expanded cell service to the Northwest corner; Selectman, Dale Jones, continued his work on improving town properties and increasing affordable housing options; I have been working with Region One business manager, Sam Herrick, on more affordable health insurance options for town employees and employees of the Region One school system.

There is much to be proud of and we thank all of the Elected Officials, their Staff, our Sharon Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Volunteers (especially our Volunteer Fire Department, Ambulance Squad and Ladies Auxiliary) for their hard work and dedication.

As we do every year, we encourage your input and participation at all levels of Town Government. We need your help to accomplish what's best for this community. We need to know your opinions, preferences, and your concerns. We need you to volunteer for our Town boards and committees. This year we've opened up new online communication options to keep you informed of what's going on and we plan to add more next year.

Look forward to seeing you in Town,

Brent M. Colley
First Selectman

Town Clerk

828 documents were recorded for fiscal year 2016-2017.

82 Property transfers for fiscal year contributed \$92,861.80 in real estate Local Conveyance Tax and \$314,391.63 in State Conveyance Tax.

The office processed:

783 certified copies of Birth Certificates

159 certified copies of Death Certificates

51 certified copies of Marriage Certificates

295 Dogs were licensed

Issued 31 Marriage Licenses

The Town Clerk collected \$492,684.73 for 2016-2017 fiscal year.

Highlights for the Office:

VITAL RECORDS:

The New Electronic Registry System for Birth Certificates which launched in January of 2016 is up and running. All births from 2002 have been merged into the new system. We are still working out a few glitches but the initial project has been completed. The State now is moving forward with a Registry System for Death Certificates.

LAND RECORDS:

Our Land Record Vendor, IQS, has upload and made available on the online system under Infodex all Land Records from November 1983 to March 1985. The office is currently indexing records from 1984, 1985 and 1986 onto the system. We are optimistic that these records will be uploaded with the next 6 months.

ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK

My assistant, Marlene Woodman has taken aggressive steps in preparing herself to be an outstanding asset to the office. This spring she had finalized the classes required to become a Certified Town Clerk. She has been awarded the title of CCTC after passing the Certification Exam. Be sure to congratulate her on this achievement.

Respectfully,

Linda R. Amerighi

Sharon Center School Principal

Sharon Center School welcomed 154 students to an inviting learning environment and ended the year with 155 students. Eighteen students graduated from eighth grade and celebrated with a lovely commencement ceremony filled with school and community sponsored academic and citizenship awards.

We wished Kerry McKeon luck on her move to Texas and the next chapter in her life. We wished Marion Pedersen and Peggy Matthews well on their retirement.

Sharon Center School partnered with many local organizations and businesses in order to offer real world opportunities for students to learn both in and out of their classrooms. We appreciate the generous support of the BOE, PTO, Salisbury Bank, Sharon Audubon, Sharon Historical Society, Sharon Hospital, Hotchkiss Library, parents, community members, faculty and staff. We have participated in many exciting enrichment opportunities throughout the year.

- Kindergarten: HVRHS, Daisi-Hill Farm, & The Children's Museum
- Grade 1: Daisi-Hill Farm & The Children's Museum
- Grade 2: Hotchkiss Library, Sharon Audubon & Maritime Aquarium
- Grade 3: Indian Institute, NY State Museum, Sharon Audubon
- Grade 4: Grade 4 Arts Day @ Hotchkiss, Rockwell Museum
- Grade 5: Shaker Village
- Grade 6: Ropes Course, Academic Fair, Ellis Island & Sharon Audubon
- Grade 7: Nature's Classroom @ Wakefield, RI, Ellis Island & Academic Fair
- Grade 8: Washington D.C, Ellis Island & Academic Fair
- Back-to School Bash with Illustrator, James Ransome
- Regional Band / Chorus & Northern Regional Band / Chorus
- Sharon Drama Production of *Beauty and the Beast*
- Read Aloud Day
- Scholastic Book Fair
- Nutmeg Readers @ HVRHS with author Chris Grabenstein
- Everybody Wins, community reading buddies
- Parent Child Book Clubs
- PTO Screen Free Week
- PTO Sponsored After School Enrichment Activities
- Geography Bee
- Ski Club
- Spanish Club
- Hotchkiss Mentoring
- Chinese Culture Class
- Maker Space

- Career Day
- Quiz Bowl
- Winter Concerts
- Spring Concerts
- Regional Track Meet for Middle School students @ HVRHS
- Field Day
- Walking Tours to Hotchkiss Library

Music teacher, Laurie Ellington prepared students for an amazing band performance during the year. Our musical performance groups included: 5th Grade Band, Senior Band and Marching Band. The year ended with an awesome performance by the Sharon Center School Marching Band in the Memorial Day service.

Our coaches: Soccer: James Smith and Robert Luminati, Basketball: Matthew Budge and Robert Luminati, Baseball: James Smith and Softball: Brent Colley provided amazing opportunities for our middle school students to participate in soccer, basketball, baseball, and softball.

We offered congratulations to our 8th grade award winner: John Purdy for the 2016 Superintendent's Award. John Purdy was also the recipient of the coveted Sharon Cup. We were so very proud of John's many accomplishments, wish him well in his future endeavors, and look forward to hearing him speak at the Sharon graduation in 2021!

School wide initiatives included:

1) Implementation of a guaranteed and viable curriculum aligned to state and national standards. This work includes aligned formative and summative assessments, regional curriculum mapping, engaging learning activities, and intervention strategies.

2) Continuous improvement of student achievement based on analysis of multiple data sources and responsiveness to this data.

3) Implementation with fidelity, precision, and purpose of the district's teacher and school leader evaluation plans.

4) Promotion of the positive social-emotional health and well-being of students.

Education is a shared responsibility and we value the participation of the entire community. Working together, community members, parents, families, friends, teachers, staff, and students facilitated the development of good citizens with strong values and keen intellects. We provided our children with a comprehensive educational experience including music, art, library, computer, Spanish, physical education and the opportunity for enrichment experiences including assemblies and field trips. Research shows these activities nourish children's brains and stimulate their overall development. The PTO supported these goals by providing enrichment opportunities, assemblies, and is working to add Phase Two to our amazing playscape.

The Academic Fair was held in late June. In a festive setting, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grade students shared their projects with peers, teachers, family members, and community members. New World: Fifth grade students researched the original 13 colonies and created fabulous travel brochures. Civil War to Civil Rights Era: Sixth grade students studied American history by reading both fiction and non-fiction, topics studied included: civil rights, slavery, segregation, the Civil War and World War II. Global Studies: Seventh grade students presented their Multi-cultural projects. Changes in Sharon: Eighth grade students shared their inquiry-based projects. The Academic Fair was an opportunity for students to publically highlight their learning.

We are so very appreciative of all that the community has done for the Sharon Center School over the year! Sharon Center School is a wonderful place for children to learn and grow! I would like to thank the students, parents, their extended families, faculty, staff, BOE, PTO and residents of Sharon for their ongoing help and support. Have a wonderful summer. Stay safe, act respectfully and responsibly.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Manning, Principal

Superintendent of Schools

Each year, we have the opportunity at Region One to reflect upon the events and achievements for the Annual Town Report. The schools of Canaan, Cornwall, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon and Housatonic Valley Regional High School are the seven districts that comprise Region One's 275 square miles.

I now have the privilege of serving as Superintendent of Schools, to follow Patricia Chamberlain, who served in Region One for 29 years. Patricia gave of her time and talent to improve opportunities for students in our schools and I will continue this effort. Our number one priority is to provide the highest quality education possible for our students. We have our challenges, with declining enrollment and state budget constraints, but this will not deter our educational staff from being steadfast in moving forward, as we are developing our next generation of citizens. We must do so, to prepare students for a world that is changing at a pace moving faster than ever before.

In July, Mrs. Lisa Carter began as Assistant Superintendent and we very much look forward to her leadership, as she stewards instructional programs and helps expand new and innovative programs that enhance each and every student's opportunity to find their path in life- from the time they begin at Region One until the time they receive their diploma. We know that we help hold the key to students' futures and we understand this significant responsibility that we have for their success.

The most significant changes that have come about in 2016-2017 are tied to the four goals in the Region One Strategic Plan for School Improvement. These broad goals are the same in each of our schools:

Goal/Initiative 1: To implement a guaranteed and viable curriculum tied to comprehensive formative and summative assessments utilizing the Connecticut Core Standards, National Content Standards, and the Instructional Core (student, teacher, content).

This includes:

- Alignment of Curriculum to Instruction and Assessment o Formative and Summative Assessments Aligned to the Connecticut Core Standards
- Curriculum and Instruction that engages and challenges students to construct new knowledge and skills
- Strategies for Intervention
- Regional Continuum of Professional Practice

Goal/Initiative 2: To improve student achievement, as evidenced by multiple data sources such as local, regional, state, and national assessments.

Goal/Initiative 3: To continue to implement the regional teacher and school leader evaluation plans, with precision, fidelity, and purpose, and aligned to the district's school improvement goals.

Goal/Initiative 4: To promote positive social and emotional health and well-being for all students.

In the winter of 2016-2017, administrators in all schools came together to update the Regional Strategic Plan. It remains a three-year plan, but we recognized that we needed to re-evaluate our timelines and action steps to determine if we were adhering to the plan and to ensure that timelines and action steps were still in sync with our goal areas. As with most improvement plans in schools, when the variables are many, we found we were "on track" in some areas, ahead of schedule in others, and had some that we were not yet able to address. The revised plan extends our work with updated timelines and action steps and is now a plan for 2017-2020.

Having the seven districts align their plans with that of the Regional Plan has made it possible for all of the schools to maintain a focus on our four common goal areas and align resources (people, time, funding, etc.) with the other schools. Ultimately, we want to be certain that a

student can move within the region or move from 8th grade into 9th and not have gaps in their learning. We should not discern differences between schools when it comes to readiness for high school.

Every school district has been able to enact their Strategic Plan with the support of the Leadership Team appointed in each school. Each team was newly formed in 2016; however, this past year each team has become more involved, understands their role to a greater extent, and works alongside the principal in their school to demonstrate the following responsibilities:

- Engage entire staff around improvement of instruction to impact student learning
- Shepherd instructional initiatives (facilitate the decision making process, make recommendations, garner support, etc.)
- Analyze district level data and make recommendations based upon the data and demonstrated needs
- Plan/support professional development
- Help lead implementation – change that impacts students/change in culture of school/change in instructional practice
- Assist with evaluation of district programs and their impact on student learning and achievement
- Assist with establishment and communication of connection between the Regional School Improvement Plan, the District's Plan, and teachers' IAGD's
- Communicate, as needed, with Curriculum Council members to ensure alignment of curriculum and professional development to deliver high quality instruction and programs
- Read and discuss relevant professional literature to assist with continuous school improvement
- Help coordinate time for teachers and administrators to collaborate and discuss programs
- Model shared/distributed leadership in the district

Each school's Strategic Plan is to be discussed regularly at Leadership Team meetings held in each school and communicated to staff. Teachers and administrators have input into the action steps they take to achieve the school and regional goals. The plans are enacted through professional development planning and discussions. It has been particularly gratifying to see teachers present at their local board meetings and share progress they are making with the implementation of curriculum, instruction, and assessment through a variety of programs. The purpose of each school's plan is to improve student learning and to verify progress through communication of student achievement data. Data are being communicated and analyzed regularly with teachers and administrators and will be shared with students, parents, board of education members, and the community.

We feel that some of our successes this past year show in the curriculum mapping that all of the schools have worked on together, in order to have common curriculum, instruction, and assessment. Entering all curriculum online enables teachers and staff to be able to know what is being taught in any given unit of instruction, but the curriculum maps still allow for teachers to individualize learning activities according to their students. The ultimate goal in having

curriculum maps is to document how we are expecting students to demonstrate mastery of grade level content standards.

Teachers and administrators continue to meet region-wide to revise and improve common assessments in writing and mathematics. Additionally, students in grades K-3 are experiencing Early Literacy Groups (ELG) focused on reading fluency and comprehension. All schools are seeing greater gains in student growth, as a result of the ELG program. Through these review processes and implementation of programs such as the ELG's, all schools are now seeing the value of how we collect and use data. While we are collecting data on all of our common regional and state assessments and entering these data into the PowerSchool program, we are seeing a need for a data platform that is more responsive to enable teachers and administrators to make better analysis in order to plan instruction, so we are in the process of looking at programs that will help us to do this work.

Other initiatives that we are seeing produce positive results are student led conferences, grading practices and policies, and the evaluation process for teachers. Teachers spent time this year identifying "look fors" in the teacher evaluation rubric, in order to assist teachers to understand how to match criteria to artifacts and observational data.

As we continue into the year ahead, we will be implementing an instructional coaching program in all schools. We expect this program to be great resource for principals and teachers, as we share the belief that coaching is about continually learning ways to improve our practice. This also fits well with the teacher evaluation training that we have been doing with Collegial Calibrations, as every administrator is honing their observation and feedback skills, in order to also be able to support excellence in teaching.

We are also providing Personalized Learning opportunities, with professional development in this area focused in the K-8 schools. We communicate often about the need for all professional educators to stay current with many different kinds of instructional practices K-12, as we need to demonstrate our own ability to be flexible and willing to make adjustments in the delivery of our instruction in order to meet students' needs.

All of the programs we have been involved with in the last several years are not "once and done" initiatives. These are ongoing and every year we will look for ways to improve what we are doing. In the years ahead, we both understand the challenges and necessity of two-way communication with our stakeholders, sharing the good work that has been done and more work that lies ahead.

Our continual challenge in Region 1, with distance between schools or potential differences in practices, is to be able to find time to communicate with each other, work together, and keep a continued focus on "non-negotiables"—those things that we all agree we must do. We can then allow "defined autonomy" to certain aspects of teaching and learning that enable each school to create its uniqueness, while still ensuring all students are receiving high quality instructional programs.

To keep our schools safe places for learning, budget and infrastructure needs have been attended to, through the oversight of each Board of Education, Building and Grounds Committees in each school, and Sam Herrick, Regional Shared Services Business Manager.

Sam Herrick oversees the districts' projects. These are the projects that have taken place over the past year:

Lee H. Kellogg School

Boiler Replacement and piping replacement for 8 classrooms including new heating units. This project also included carpentry and insulation work. Exterior painting on the south and west of the building was completed.

Cornwall Consolidated Elementary School

Routine maintenance including some window repair; interior and exterior painting; insulated music room with closed cell insulation; six new exterior doors on the gymnasium.

Kent Center School

Extensive amount of exterior painting and waterproofing completed; interior painting completed in the upper wing; gym floor sanded down to bare wood, painted and refinished; library ceiling and cafeteria and teachers' lounge walls patched and painted.

North Canaan Elementary School

Ongoing ADA modifications made, including playground and building; twelve truck loads of sand delivered to the playground, mulch added for student safety; exterior and interior painting in the front of the building; tree maintenance around the campus completed; gym floor refinished, nurse's office floor re-tiled; casework in the middle school; re-laminated science tables; bird houses built with cameras for student use, all completed by maintenance department.

Salisbury Central School

Access controls and locks upgrade completed this summer with a security grant; asphalt paving of parking lots for the upper building including walkways; covered walkway at the entrance of the upper building repaired and new ceiling installed over the boiler room below the covered walkway; ceiling and lighting in the main lobby replaced; new doors installed in the cafeteria; work done at the athletic field, including a new athletic shed and fencing; band room painted and re-carpeted.

Sharon Center School

Routine maintenance, including painting 4 classrooms and all doorframes throughout the entire building; one room carpeted; hot water tank replaced.

HVRHS

Renovation of the science wing, locker rooms and fitness center; replacement of faux slate over the library media center and Ag-Ed center with asphalt shingles; replacement of the boiler on the

north wing; replacement of the exterior wall on the math wing with new energy efficient wall system and windows; paving in the senior courtyard, reconfiguration of the Information Technology office.

Our commitment to students is never done. We have the excitement of getting to know our new students, finding ways to identify what each needs, and then providing the instruction and support that enables each one to build confidence, to strive to do more, and to believe in themselves as someone who can accomplish more and greater things.

Through the work of our Region One Board, which engaged for 18 months in the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) Lighthouse Project, this mission statement was developed and one that we will continue to use as our North Star:

In order for us to prepare each child for what comes next, we must align vision, expectation, and practice among all stakeholders.

The work of the Region One Board that has resulted from the Lighthouse Project has shaped the district's conversations now and for years to come.

We thank our parents, community members, staff, and everyone who supports our students and the programs that enhance their educational experience in Region One Schools. Our schools and our Shared Services Center will strive to strengthen the lines of communication and build more partnerships between students, parents, community, and staff. All of this is for the benefit of our students and their continual growth that prepares them for their next steps in life.

Dr. Pam Vogel

Principal, HVRHS

Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) staff, teachers, and administrators are working diligently to provide a quality education for all students. The school serves students in grades 9-12 from Canaan, Cornwall, Falls Village, Kent, Salisbury, and Sharon. In addition, 13 tuition students from New York and Massachusetts attend HVRHS. The entire staff is committed to addressing the needs of this diverse population of students in a personal and positive way.

Superintendent of Schools Patricia Chamberlain retired after a distinguished 29 year career in Region One. Doctor Pamela Vogel assumed the position of Superintendent of Schools on July 1, 2017. Additionally, Lisa Carter assumed the role of Assistant Superintendent on July 1.

In June of 2016 the Region One community supported a building renovation project that was designed to enhance the teaching and athletic spaces. Of special note is the renovation of five science classrooms, refurbished locker rooms, and the expanded fitness area. The building

upgrades have provided the needed infrastructure improvements that support high levels of student achievement.

Some changes of note include the development and implementation of an alternative school within a school. The Bridges Program is a small learning community for students that will benefit from a personalized learning setting and program. Housatonic Valley Regional High School hired a part time Career Experience Coordinator to further develop work experience opportunities such as job shadowing and internships.

The school's teachers and administrators have been actively preparing for a decennial accreditation review. Accreditation of public schools by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) indicates that the educational institution has conducted a self-evaluation of all of its programs and hosted a visiting team to evaluate the institution in terms of its own stated educational goals and the Standards for Accreditation. The Standards for Accreditation are a research-based set of practices and concepts that provide guidance to schools on all aspects of the education — academic, civic, and social — of the young people under their care. The awarding of Accreditation signifies that the school has met the Standards for Accreditation at an acceptable level and is committed to both maintain those Standards and to improve its educational program by implementing the recommendations of the visiting team and the Commission. The accreditation visit is scheduled for March of 2018.

Teachers and administrators continue to stay current with best practices in the field of education by participating in professional development workshops. Time is devoted to developing course curricula, co-planning with peers, gathering and analyzing student data to inform how to best instruct students, and understanding Connecticut Education laws. The school has developed a comprehensive School Improvement Plan (SIP). The SIP is used as a guide for the professional work that occurs at HVRHS. The major goals of the SIP are: 1. Align curriculum, instruction, and assessment with the Connecticut Core Standards and other national content area standards; 2. Teachers consistently use research-based instructional strategies with fidelity; 3. Implement the regional teacher and school leader evaluation plans with precision and fidelity; 4. To develop a scholarly, respectful culture of learning that encourages all students to achieve at the highest academic level.

The use of technology in the school continues to grow and enhance student learning. Nearly every student participates in the school's one to one program (one computer to one student). Students that do not participate in the 1:1 program are allowed to bring their own device. The school network is excellent, as there is wireless connectivity in every part of the building.

The table below show progress towards graduation for the 2016-2017 year. We are proud to announce that all 112 seniors graduated on time. Also, 90 of 91 students in 9th grade advanced to the next grade level.

Grade	Class Count	Successful credit completion	Comment
9	91	90 (99%)	
10	113	104 (92%)	
11	90	87 (97%)	
12	112	112 (100%)	YEAH!
totals	406	393	96.80%

New for the 2017-2018 year is a new bell schedule that incorporates a "FLEX" block in the middle part of the day. The FLEX period (40 or 45 minutes in length) allows time for students to meet with teachers for extra help, make up missed assignments, or to meet with teachers for enrichment activities. Also new is a school-wide policy to allow students opportunities to retake assessments if their grade on an initial assessment was below a 70%. The implementation of these changes have led to fewer students with failing grades.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Jose Martinez

Conservation Commission

Members for the July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017 Year: Paul Bascik, Carl Chaiet, Claudia Cayne, Cicily Hajek, Jim Krissel and Howard Randall. Due to a lack of quorum elections were held in August. Cicily Hajek continued as chairman with Paul Bascik becoming Vice-Chairman and Claudia Cayne Secretary. We had been down a member for over a year and were very happy to have Michael Lynch join us in February.

Again the Town year started with continued work clearing and marking the Town recreational easements. There was an area on Smith Rd with some wetness which had been overgrown with Phragmites. With permission we were able to find an interval in early December when the ground had dried and set up enough. We were able to get a contractor to thoroughly mow and clear the road bed. We have continued to mark the easements, but we have also had continued problems with obstruction on them.

Members have worked with both the Weantinogue and the Housatonic Valley Association to include the Town Easements on regional land use and trail maps. We have provided GPS locations for these maps. We have seen some progress, but as yet we have not seen a complete result. Eventually we want to produce a trail brochure specifically for Sharon including descriptions and think it could be based on these maps.

There were some concerns last winter about road work on Town Scenic Roads and whether it was detracting from the quality of the road. After some discussions I think we have arrived at a balance between keeping the roads safe and accessible and maintaining the scenic qualities.

The Commission requested a slight increase in our budget to continue with our trail work. It was raised to \$2000.00.

At the start of the calendar year, we made a change in our meeting schedule. It had been set at the 4th Weds at 7:00pm except for November and December which were the third Weds. This year we changed it to the third Wednesday for all months. We urge you to attend our meetings and bring us your needs and concerns. Our meetings are always public and everyone is welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Cicily Hajek: Chairman

Zoning Board of Appeals

This past year the ZBA considered two applications. The first was an application for an oversize sign. There was disagreement within the Board, some thinking that since there was no hardship, the variance could not be granted. The majority of the Board passed the application because the landowner preferred an enlarged sign. The second application was a request for a variance allowing the construction of a deck three feet closer to the adjoining property than the code allows. As the adjoining land is heavily wooded, out of sight from the neighboring house and as the deck presented no inconvenience or hazard to the neighbor, the variance was granted.

Respectfully submitted,

William Trowbridge, Chairman

Planning and Zoning Commission

The Planning and Zoning Commission has two basic functions. First, it administers the State Zoning Code, in accordance with Title 8 and Chapter 124 of the Connecticut General Statutes, which was adopted in Sharon in 1972. Second, it oversees the proper and desirable use of the land in accordance with the Town Zoning Regulations and the Town Plan of Conservation and Development. Matters that often come before the Commission involve the proper size and use of

building lots; the size and placement of buildings; the residential or commercial use of the property; and the enforcement of health and safety standards, including the location, size and depth of roads, well and septic systems. Structural changes, additions, or new construction require a written permit. Jamie Casey, the Zoning Enforcement Officer, is appointed by the Commission and among her numerous responsibilities, she acts as a liaison in administering the zoning ordinances. Copies of the Planning and Zoning Regulations are available on -line or at the Town Hall. The Sharon Planning and Zoning Commission meet each month to proceed with agenda items and planning sessions.

Over the course of the year, some of the items that came before the Commission were as follows:

- Numerous zoning permits for the home repairs, renovations and construction;
- Applications for boundary line adjustments;
- Applications for accessory apartments;
- Applications for home occupations;
- Applications for ground solar array at various properties;
- Proper signage at various properties including Sharon Land Trust properties;
- Approvals for new commercial buildings throughout the town;
- Determination concerning the status of discontinued and abandoned town roads; and
- Fire protection matters for certain proposed re-subdivisions.

The hard work, loyalty and commitment of the individuals who serve on the Sharon Planning and Zoning Commission is without measure. Each Commission member volunteers their time, talent and goodwill for the sole purpose of serving their town. There are no words that can express my appreciation and respect for each one. Jamie Casey, our over-worked, Zoning Enforcement Officer has the stamina, knowledge and expertise that no six people can match. I am forever astonished by the amazing amount of work she can so skillfully and professionally accomplish. Tina Pitcher, our Recording Secretary, is without doubt the glue that holds us all together. Simply stated, we would not be able to function without her countless hours, proficiency and knowledge. It is my honor to have served as Chairmen with exceptional individuals who gather together each month to protect the character of our small New England town, while at the same time formulate a structure for growth and opportunities in the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Barclay W. Prindle, Chairman

Inland Wetlands & Watercourse Commission

Under the guidelines of the Sharon Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission (here in after commission) areas requiring applications include any activity conducted within fifty feet of a wetland soil or within two hundred feet of the bank of a stream course or open body of water. The primary responsibility of your commission is to monitor the environmental impact of activities on regulated areas, suggest options and issue permits where appropriate as designated by Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act, sections 22a-36 through 22a-45 of the General Statutes of Connecticut. Also concerning applications is the consideration of the preservation of any archaeological, historic site or structure in cooperation with the Sharon Planning and Zoning Commission.

Why are wetlands soils important?

- They act as filters that purify water flowing downstream, including drinking water.
- They retain water levels during drought.
- They sustain a rich diversity of plant species - more than any kind of dry landscape.
- They are an important supply of food for the entire food web.
- They provide important habitat for many animals.
- They capture excess water during times of high water flow, which helps prevent flooding downstream.

During Fiscal 2016-2017 your commission has addressed a large number of applications for activities in regulated areas. Each of the requests resulted in one or more field site inspections before review at the following meeting. Most were issued permits, some with modifications. Approved activities included construction or repair of dams, stream crossings including bridges, farm ponds, timbering, construction of and additions to homes, building or replacement of decks, driveways, septic systems and the use of aquatic control chemicals in ponds.

The chairman extends thanks to the commission members for their cooperative spirit and thoughtful assessment of each challenge in the field and at meetings. Special thanks are extended to Jamie Casey, Sharon Land Use Administrator.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward M. Kirby, Chairman

Building Official/Fire Marshal

BUILDING OFFICIAL

Our office is located on the second floor of the Town Hall at 63 Main Street. The Building Inspector is available in the office Monday through Saturday from 8 AM to 9 AM. The office is open from 7 AM until 12 noon, Monday through Friday.

Single- family construction resulted in 5 new homes and 2 demolitions.

	Permits Issued	Value	Permit Fee
2016-2017	620	19,408,755	148,517
2015-2016	749	21,184,084	168,232
2014-2015	698	17,706,939	137,578
2013-2014	672	15,908,929	119,251
2012-2013	811	18,253,915	117,179

FIRE MARSHAL

In addition to the investigation of all fires, the Fire Marshal is responsible for the annual inspection of all Public Facilities as well as multi-family dwellings. Included are: Sharon Hospital, Sharon Health Care, Sharon Center School and Sharon Daycare. The Fire Marshal conducts all Fire Prevention education for Sharon Center School and daycare students during Fire Prevention Week in October.

OPEN BURN OFFICIAL

There were 412 Open Burning Permits issued this year. Open Burning is allowed in Connecticut with a valid permit. Two indexes are checked to see if a day is acceptable to burn – the Air Quality Index (AQI) through the DEEP and the Open Burning Index. If the AQI is higher than 75 anywhere in the State, there would be no burning that day. Permits are available in this office and are valid for 30 days.

Respectfully,

Stanley MacMillan

Building Inspector, Fire Marshal, Open Burn Official

Road Foreman

2016-2017 roadwork highlights

1. Keeler Road bridge closed and plans were engineered for replacement
2. 28 drainage pipes were replaced all around town
3. 17 miles of the Towns 2010 pavement bond were chip sealed
4. Five roads were paved (Sharon Station, Lilac Lane, Dakin, Hidden Lane, and West Woods #2) with four of the five being paved by the Crew
5. We are still removing dead and dangerous trees
6. Roadside mowing is completed
7. Drainage along numerous town roads has been done
8. Dug Road erosion control was done along the brooks edge

As we move forward to the 2017/2018 budget the work will continue on the Keeler Road bridge, chip sealing will continue on and drainage will continue throughout town

Respectfully submitted, Robert E. Carberry

Road Foreman

Social Service Agent

It is hardly new news that our national economy suffers from sky-rocketing inequality, with those one percenters many times richer than the rest of the population.

But it may nonetheless surprise you that right here in town, 30% of Sharon Center School students qualify for free or reduced lunch and 448 residents (our population is 2,725) are on Medicaid. Some of our residents need a little help. It is bad for your health to be poor or hungry.

This office is responsible for finding resources for their needs. The largest source of funds for Sharon residents (disregarding the state's food, cash and medical programs) is the state-wide energy assistance program which helps pay for fuel, particularly in the winter. Forty Sharon families received over \$20,000 from the program this season. Operation Fuel (the "Add-a-Dollar" program on your electric bill) has helped families as well. And a particularly important benefit for working families with low income is the "Earned Income Tax Credit."

Sharon is also fortunate to have its own resources for those facing emergencies. They are:

The Sharon Fund: This is a charitable fund created by the sale in the 1940's of the "Poor Farm" and supplemented by subsequent individual gifts. Expenditures, for a variety of needs, are limited to 5% annually, and helped six families this year.

General Assistance: These funds, like the Sharon Fund, are used for basic needs. GA funds helped ten families this year.

Sharon Community Foundation: SCF, a 501-c-3, was created in 2012 with the assets of the former Sharon Fuel Bank. Any Sharon resident, or any agency benefiting Sharon residents, may apply for up to \$500 per year. (These grant guidelines, with some exceptions, apply to all three of our funds. Grants go to vendors, not to clients.) Three SCF board members oversee the grants which, like all grants, are confidential. Fifteen families received help with rent, education, car repairs, fuel, and equine therapy. The Community Foundation pays for grocery cards for visitors to our **Food Closet**, which is filled weekly by churches and individuals, with non-perishable foods. Eileen Black brings Pepperidge Farm bread to our freezer. We are grateful to all donors, and would like particularly to thank Saint Bernard's Parish for its weekly donations, and Francoise Kelz who has been an indefatigable supporter over the years.

Essential regional programs include: the Foundation for Community Health's prescription drug program (sixteen individuals); Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation (ten families, two of them Jane Lloyd Fund recipients); Community Foundation of Northwest Connecticut (grants for general food and fuel assistance), the Corner Food Pantry (aka OWL's Kitchen) in Lakeville, and St. Thomas's Church in Amenia Union. We are grateful, too, for the fine visiting nurse services, Meals-on-Wheels, Geer's Dial-a-Ride and Day Center, Women's Support Services, the Chore Service, and the Housatonic Youth Service Bureau. Not to mention Nascar Dave's Sunday in the Country holiday meals, Sergeant HoHo of Troop B, our amazingly generous churches and Woman's Club and individuals who make our landscape kinder and more beautiful.

Thank you ALL. --Ella Clark

Sewer & Water Commission

The Sharon Sewer and Water Commission is a volunteer Commission comprised of five members with up to two alternates having the responsibility of operating and maintaining the water supply and sewer systems. Both activities are non-profit and entirely self-supporting. Cheryl Ziegler manages the business office; phone 860-364-8009, located at the Calkinstown Road water filtration plant. The Commission has a contract with VRI Environmental Services of Millbrook, New York, which provides certified operators for both the water and the wastewater facilities. They can be reached at 860-364-0457.

During the June meeting of the Commission, Steve Szalewicz was re-elected Chairman, Beth Rybczyk was elected Vice Chairman and Harding Bancroft was re-elected financial Officer. Other Commission members are Doug Hobby, Joseph Hajek, alternates Dobrila Waugh and Jake Fricker.

The Commission reviews, each month, written reports from VRI, which are kept on file at the Water Filtration Plant. These reports reflect the functioning of the various aspects of the systems and provided the data for required reporting to the state. As in the past we routinely meet or exceed the stringent state and federal quality requirements. We continue to operate on a financially sound basis in spite of having no rate increases since 2002 for the Water and 2003 for the Waste Water systems. Currently (September 2017) our records show over \$100,000 past due, although many of these accounts are in payment agreements and some have property liens applied to insure payment should the property be sold. It is in the best interest of all users of the Sharon Water and Sewer services to keep accounts current in order to provide for reliable cash flow for running the plants. Up to date payment of all service charges lessens as much as possible the requirement to initiate increases for all customers to provide working capital. The loan for the building of the Water Treatment facility was paid off in May of 2017. Our current indebtedness is approximately \$393,593 down from over \$2.3 million.

WATER SYSTEM: The system is, as a result of many major projects over the past 15 years, essentially in very good working order. Water supply system upgrades this past year include a beaver control device installed at the Beardsley Reservoir to prevent over filling because of increased beaver activity.

The Commission has also begun a major aeration project for the reservoir to eliminate the causes of toxic algae bloom. The project began with treatment of the reservoir to control the algae and will progress through the spring of 2018 with the installation of a new aeration system. This and continued monitoring will insure a safe supply of water even in drought conditions.

The Commission contracted for an engineering study of all water line road crossing. These crossings, some of which are the responsibility of individual property owners, are among the largest exposure to system reliability. The study was undertaken to both understand the scope of the problems and allow the Commission to be in position to repair/replace these lines when it becomes financially viable.

A Sharon Eagle Scout candidate, Liam Sweeney, proposed to repair and paint the Whitford Road pump station building as part of his Eagle project. I'm pleased to report that Liam did a fine job and the building looks better than it has in years. Also, Liam was successful in his being awarded Eagle Scout.

SEWER SYSTEM: The Commission continues to monitor the sewer system and with the recent completion of the sewer plant upgrades no major repairs were needed this past year.

The continuing maintenance and upgrades to both the Water and Sewer systems provide opportunities and challenges for the Commission. Those concerned with their water or sewer services may want to consider joining the Commission and assisting in the management of these critical services. The Commission meets each month on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00PM on the second floor of Town Hall, visitors are welcome.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Szalewicz, Chairman

Historic District Commission

The Sharon Historic District Commission (SHDC) is a unit of Sharon's Town Government organized and operating under principles set forth in Chapter 93a, Section 7-147 of the Statutes of the State of Connecticut as well as those of the Sharon Historic District Rules and Procedures.

The SHDC represents the interests of our community in maintaining the historical and architectural integrity of the town's historic districts. Working with property owners and municipal agencies, the SHDC helps to preserve buildings and structures within the designated areas by reviewing any proposed changes that will be visible from a public way.

The Commission helps promote the preservation and responsible treatment of Sharon's significant historical and architectural resources: providing a connection to our heritage, adding to the visual richness of the town, creating economic benefits such as more stable property values, well-maintained infrastructure, stronger community identity and increased tourism.

The establishment and designation of our historic districts are an effective legal means of giving local Sharon residents control over the character and appearance of our community while still allowing growth and change.

Annual Report

For the Fiscal Year July 2016 through June 2017, the Commission held 10 regular monthly meetings and 2 special meetings. The Commission received and acted on twenty applications for Certificates of Appropriateness. Nineteen went to public hearing, including one that was amended, and nineteen were approved. One application was withdrawn by the applicant after the project was cancelled.

The Commission approved creating a revised Property Owners Guide for the District. Other documents such as: revised Rules & Procedures for the Commission, and approved Solar Guidelines within the District have been uploaded on the town of Sharon website.

All open vacancies have been filled and the Commission is at full membership.

Sharon Historic District Commission

Current members: John Baroody, Chairman; Elizabeth Hall, Vice Chairman,
J. Barclay Collins, Lionel Goldfrank, Lilly Woodworth
Alternates: Scot Samuelson, Sarah Day and Steve Szalewicz.
Commission Clerk: Jamie Casey

Sharon Parks & Recreation Committee

Our fundraising for the walking track at Veterans' Field continued this past year with a concert by The Harlem Line Band at Sharon Playhouse. We are excited to report that a very generous anonymous donation made through the Berkshire Taconic Foundation was received in the amount of \$30,000.00. We will proceed with the first phase of the track and continue to raise funds to complete the project. Also at Veterans' Field, during the summer, youth sports camps are offered including soccer, lacrosse and baseball.

Little Rascals Day Camp, swim lessons and swim team are ongoing offerings at Sharon Beach. Plans are in the works to add a basketball hoop adjacent to the parking area.

The Music on the Green series continues to be popular as well as adult outings which are offered on a regular basis. Some of the destinations have been: Goodspeed Opera House, Thimble Islands, New Britain Museum OF American Art, Walkway over the Hudson, Yale Art Museum, Culinary Institute, and the Glass House.

If you would like information, please call the office of the Recreation Director at 860-364-1400.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Christensen, Chairman

Registrar of Voters

As your new Registrars, we would like to thank all of you who cast your votes for us in November of 2016. During our time as deputies we benefited from the knowledge and experience of Registrars Angela Gibbs and Mary Robertson. We are especially grateful for Angela's abundant patience and support during the summer before our first (a Presidential!) election. Now that we are the Registrars, we have been attending the informative and mandated Registrar Certification classes and are halfway through our 8 classes. We also attend meetings held by the Registrars of Voters Association of Connecticut to learn how to perform our duties in more efficient ways.

Those duties include running (with a Moderator) the elections and referenda and maintaining an up-to-date list of registered voters. This list is maintained by registering new voters and conducting an annual canvass. The canvass records moves out of town, deaths and actual voter activity. If a voter fails to vote in four consecutive elections, his or her status automatically goes to "inactive" and he or she must be re-instated by one of the Registrars to be allowed to vote. At this writing, Sharon has 1,652 active registered voters.

Registering to vote is easy and there are several ways in which to accomplish your registration: in person, by mail or online. The ROV office is open every Tuesday from 10 AM until noon, our office is located on the first floor of Town Hall. When the office is closed, official voter registration forms may be obtained from the Town Clerk or on the display rack outside of our office. These registration cards can be mailed back to Town Hall or presented in person to the Registrars or to the Town Clerk. Online registration is available through the DMV or online at <https://voterregistration.ct.gov/OLVR/welcome.do>. If you call our office (860-364-5514) we will be happy to mail a registration form to you.

A registration form must include proof of the applicant's identification, generally a Connecticut driver's license or the last four digits of the applicant's Social Security number. We urge registrants to include a phone number so that we may contact you if we have a question. A letter confirming registration will be mailed, thus we need to have a correct mailing address.

A registered voter from any party or an unaffiliated voter may vote in any election. A voter must be registered in a political party to be able to vote in the primary elections of that party. If a voter cannot vote in person for a reason defined in the State regulations, he or she can obtain an application for an absentee ballot from the Town Clerk or download one from the Sharon web site: www.sharonct.org.

Connecticut now allows Election Day Registration. A Connecticut resident may register to vote and then vote with a special EDR ballot on the day of the election. This year is a Municipal Election, which is important because those town positions are the grassroots of our government. We urge all Sharon residents to vote every year, and we look forward to seeing you as you register to vote or at the polls.

Registrars: Marel Rogers (D) and Barbara Coords (R)

Deputy Registrars: Angela Gibbs (D) and Linda Kinney (R)

Director of Health

Description: The Office of Public Health provides a range of services that improve the health of Sharon residents. The office enforces the uniform public health code of the State of Connecticut to ensure safe food, drinking water, bathing beaches and sewage disposal. The office investigates potential violations of the Public Health Code to prevent impacts to the public health and safety of residents.

YEAR 2016-2017: The Office of Public Health has worked with the Planning & Zoning Commission to conduct compliance reviews for projects involving land use proposals. This office works with Sharon Hospital in response to infectious diseases and possible outbreaks. We continue regulation inspections of the 31 food service establishments *with three new establishments this year*. We hope to continue to expand lead poisoning prevention and abatement activities in partnership with the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health and private providers. We also respond to incidents of possible rabies exposure reported by residents. The department will continue efforts to increase public health and environmental quality initiatives while expanding our Town's preparedness in the event of a natural or manmade incident.

Septic Systems:	4	New Systems installed
	10	New Testing
	16	Replacement or Repairs to systems
	5	New reserve area testing
	1	Central Sewage connections
Subdivisions/Re-subdivision:	2	
Well Applications	8	Wells, plus 2 agricultural wells

Respectfully,

Michael A. Crespan, MPH, RS
Director

David Kurish, MD
Medical Advisor

Sharon Energy & Environment Commission

The mission of the Sharon Energy and Environment Commission is to study and address some of the current and anticipated challenges related to energy supply and demand in our town, to attend to environmental issues affecting the community and the ecology of the natural environment, and to educate the public concerning these issues.

In 2013 the town of Sharon took the Clean Energy Community municipal pledge to reduce municipal energy use by 20% by 2018. The commission is tracing energy use in the town's

municipal buildings through a program called Energy Star, a US EPA voluntary program that helps promote energy efficiency. The program provides a portfolio management system whereby oil, gas, and electric consumption can be recorded and tracked.

Last November we received our second Bright Idea Grant of \$5,000.00 from the program by earning points for saving energy.

The money from the grant was turned over to the Sharon Center School to pay for replacing the open vents in the gymnasium.

An earlier grant was used to upgrade the lighting in the town garage, a measure which produced a 60% savings in billed wattage.

The commission studied the distribution and condition of street lights in Sharon and promoted the installation of LED street lighting.

The commission investigated the feasibility of requiring payment for plastic bags at the Sharon Farm Market. We were advised that the Connecticut legislature is considering legislation for that purpose.

Members of the commission met with Karen Manning at the Sharon Center School regarding the replacing of water heaters and an HVAC upgrade. Members of the commission urged for the installation of an energy management system for the school, but ultimate decisions rest with the school building committee.

The commission investigated purchasing a radon detector and SEED heat detectors for public use on a sign out basis. It turned out the manufacturer restrictions on the use of such devices made the plan impractical.

The Commission sponsored and organized a roadside clean up on April 22, 2017.

Currently the commission is committed to working with the town to ensure that every project involving utility contracts or upgrades be reviewed with a view to long term energy savings and cost reduction.

Lynn Mattoon, Chairman

Sharon Housing Authority

The Sharon Ridge Housing Complex has had a successful year providing thirty-two housing options to people from Sharon, CT and across the country. Success is evidenced by having all thirty-two units occupied for 2017. Sharon Ridge has experienced a low turnover rate with tenants remaining long term and renewing leases year after year. There are waiting lists for all one, two and three bedroom units and the Sharon Housing Authority is exploring solutions and options that could potentially create additional affordable rental options in Sharon.

Sharon Housing Authority has focused on keeping the complex grounds, buildings and common

areas safe, neat and well maintained. Signage was added to direct traffic flow, identify handicap parking and advise proper disposal of refuse. Attention is given to create a positive overall appearance where tenants can take pride in their home.

During 2016-2017, SHA's Commissioner's continued to address frequent problems with the Geo-thermal systems that were installed improperly in the twelve Expansion units. Many costly repairs were made during this time frame to bring the system up to the designed functioning level. More repairs were anticipated. SHA continues to network with contractors, consultants and the Sharon Energy and Environment Commission for solutions. New, user friendly thermostat controls were installed in all units as tenants reported original controls were difficult to operate and didn't regulate temperature. The Geo-thermal units currently installed at the Expansion have proven costly and unreliable.

The Ridge has also been experiencing heating and cooling problems with several costly heat pump replacements this year. The heating and cooling systems at the Ridge have been performing well but they may be coming to the limit of their expected performance. More could require replacement.

Sharon Housing Authority Commissioners have been exploring funding options (grants, loans, etc.) to upgrade or replace the current Geo-thermal system at the Expansion.

Sharon Housing Authority invites all Sharon residents to attend the monthly meeting the first Tuesday of each month at 5:00PM. All are welcome, new ideas and solutions would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
David Hosier, Vice Chairman

Sharon Animal Control Officer

A total of six dogs were impounded in the Sharon dog pound from July 2016 through June 2017. Five dogs were redeemed by their owners and one was sent to the Little Guild of St. Francis and subsequently adopted.

65 complaints were investigated, including missing pets, roaming dogs, two animal bites, and miscellaneous domestic and wild animal questions.

Three infraction tickets were dispatched for roaming dogs and nuisance behavior.

Income source and income collected:
Pound fees - \$75.00
Donation - \$5.00

Respectfully submitted by
Lee Sohl, Sharon Animal Control

Litchfield Hills Probate District, #24

Serving Canaan (Falls Village), Cornwall, Harwinton, Kent, Litchfield, Morris,

Norfolk, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, Thomaston and Warren

www.litchfieldprobate.org

The Honorable Diane S. Blick, Judge

Litchfield Location

Kent Location

Canaan Location

Linda F. Riiska, *Chief Clerk* Judge Blick – Tuesdays Mornings

Beth L. McGuire, *Clerk*

Dawn W. Pratt, *Clerk*

860-927-3729

Heath B. Prentis, *Asst. Clerk*

Tanya M. Matulis, *Asst. Clerk*
860-567-8065

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, 2016 through June 30, 2017 and request this report be included in the Town's next published Annual Report.

<u>Type of Matter</u>	2015 – 2016 FY	2016 – 2017 FY
	<u>Number of Matters</u>	<u>Number of Matters</u>
Fee Waivers	67	74
Decedent's Estates	1,187	1,208
Trusts	200	174
Conservators	259	228
Name Changes	27	31
Guardian of the Person	40	83
Guardian of the Estate	56	56
Guardian of Person with Intellectual Disabilities	135	130
Children's Matters:		
Adoptions/Termination of Parental Rights and		

Emancipation of a Minor	16	5
Total probate matters handled	1,987	1,989
Passports processed	169	125

Overall, the number of probate matters handled by the Court were only slightly higher than the previous year.

The category Fee Waivers, which number continues to rise, 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 Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. The Court's location in the North Canaan Town Hall is open Monday through Thursday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. I continue to be available in the Kent Town Hall on Tuesdays 9:00 am to 11:00 am.

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.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane S. Blick, Judge of Probate

Sharon Day Care

The Sharon Day Care is completing its 32nd year of operation. With an experienced director, head teacher, and staff, diversely skilled nine member volunteer board of directors, cooperative parents, supportive school administration and personnel, and many caring townspeople, we are experiencing another year of achievement and growth. Located in the lower campus of Sharon Center School, we offer a nurturing program of child care, tuition assistance, and CT approved curriculum learning content to area families.

The SDC has served the town and area communities as a nonprofit child care center since 1985. We are currently accredited with the NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children). As of August 2016 we initiated an Infant and Toddler Program using funds we have saved for that purpose for many years. Our enthusiastic energetic director, Carrie Olsen, steered us through the entire process following state guidelines, thus, allowing us to achieve our long awaited goal.

With the addition of the new program we were able to serve over 30 families throughout the year along with our regular school year program (7:30 am – 5:30 pm, Monday through Friday), our After Care program for children through grade 7 (3:00 PM – 5:30 PM), and by continuing our nine week Summer Camp Program that we initiated in 2007. This year's camp participants enjoyed the fruits of their labor harvesting various vegetables from a raised bed garden planned and constructed by talented board members, staff, and parents.

As part of our educational focus we implement the Creative Curriculum Gold program which offers our children strategically planned daily activities focusing on social, emotional, physical, cognitive and creative development.

Content learning in the Creative Curriculum concentrates on:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Science & Technology
- Social Studies
- The Arts

We have been most fortunate to receive funds to foster our arts and crafts/music programs through annual donations from the Sharon Woman's Club and grants we seek and receive.

When financial need is an issue for parents, we offer a scholarship program as we are always trying to best meet the needs of our children and their families. The state of CT Child Care Assistance Program has been drastically cut. Fortunately for us, we received a generous donation for financial assistance to families in need from a donor wishing to remain anonymous.

Parents are offered conferences, programs, and newsletters to keep them enlightened of their children's progress as well as encouragement to promote learning and growth at home. Our newsletter is currently available for viewing on our web page (sharondaycare.org), thanks to our web site manager, a volunteer whose child attends SDC. We also benefit from a long-time volunteer who handles any technical computer problems that arise.

Further highlights of our year include:

- A successful year for our director, Carrie Olsen, who we hired in July of 2015 and who effectively jump started the necessary work needed to begin our Infant & Toddler Program
- Meeting and cooperating with area day care centers in the Northwest Collaborative for keeping all of our programs current; each center enjoyed a music grant this year that provided extra instruction/entertainment
- Supporting our community by participating in the annual holiday gift and food collection organized by Ella Clark, offering our facility for evening meeting use by the Women's Support Service, and supporting the town's long term growth goals by expanding our programs and daily hours (7:00 am – 5:30 pm) to accommodate the working hours and needs of young families in our area
- Managing a web site that will keep the community and other area day care centers current as to our programs and events, thanks to Joel Minton (Exposure-Digital). We can also be viewed on Face Book. Our web site is managed by Meghan Flanagan
- Conducting our 32nd Annual Sharon Classic Road Race the first Saturday in May under the direction of long time race director Karen Dignacco; we increased the number of non-profits invited to participate charging them no entry fees to sell their goods, further extending our effort to be supportive of the community
- Hosting our annual SCRR Donors' Reception in May in order to thank our community sponsors and businesses who have been generous loyal supporters for decades

- Holding our *second* spring tag sale spear-headed by our head teacher, Amanda Milton, joined by the director and staff
- Applying for grants to access supplies for our playground facility as per suggestions from the NAEYC
- Our director, Carrie Olsen, wrote for and received a grant that provided for winter apparel for the children from the NW CT Community Foundation
- Continuing our traditional Annual Appeal, Catering of the Sharon Historical Society's Cocktail Party, and several small scale profit projects
- Supporting the SCS 8th graders' efforts to provide community service
- Purchasing from local businesses when possible to show thanks for their support
- Applying for and receiving an extra room at Sharon Center School in which to house our growing I/T programs

We are very proud of our Sharon Day Care, *A Center for Learning and Growing*, and the community that supports us. The Town of Sharon was once again generous to the funding we requested for 2017-2018. We are about to embark on our 33rd year with continued hope and enthusiasm that the 'children are our future'.

Janet Nickson

Sharon Day Care Board Chairman

Sharon Fire Department Ambulance Squad

There are 30 state certified members trained to provide emergency response to Sharon Residents – many of whom are also firefighters. We respond 24 hours a day and are 100% volunteer. During this past fiscal year – we responded to 361 emergency calls.

We depend solely on fund raising activities, donations and memorial contributions to purchase all equipment, our ambulance and cover our training (both new, continued education and re-certifications). Our current ambulance is 7 years old – and cost over \$180,000 when it was new. Ambulances tend to be replaced every 10 years.

Sharon continues to remain a HeartSafe community. We offer CPR Training and we purchase and maintain AED units throughout the town. Among other places, they are located at Sharon Center School, Town Hall, Hotchkiss Library, Extra-Mart, Sharon Country Club, Sharon Recreation fields and Beach and Sharon Audubon. The Town has generously placed a line item in the yearly budget so that we receive \$5,500 towards the batteries and maintenance of this equipment.

We invite all residents to our monthly PANCAKE BREAKFAST held the second Sunday of each Month at the Firehouse.

Respectfully,

Jamie Casey

Ambulance Captain

Sharon Fire Department, Inc.

The Sharon Fire Department is pleased to report to the Town on our activities for Fiscal 2016-2017.

We answered 196 calls for fires or emergencies from July 1, 2015 through June 30th, 2016. Many additional calls on the East side of the Town were covered by Cornwall Fire & EMS; we are grateful for the service they provide. Total hours expended answering calls and training was nearly 1750.

We continue to work closely with our neighboring fire & EMS services to provide assistance at emergencies and through combined training. These training efforts have paid off as we all increasingly rely on mutual aid.

The Department is supported by the Town through the annual budget but the Department raises approximately half of our operating budget through various events. Following our Capital Expenditures Plan, we took delivery of a new engine in April of 2017. We are grateful to the citizens of the Town for your continued generosity to our efforts.

We are always in need of new members for both services. Please ask any member or visit our website at sharonfiredept.org for further information.

Respectfully submitted;

Todd Anderson
Chief

Stanley MacMillan III
Treasurer

Thomas Bartram
President

Sharon Historical Society

It has been another exciting year here at the Sharon Historical Society and Museum. We've shared and explored a wide variety of topics and have discovered many new ways to celebrate the history of this amazing town.

One of the new and exciting ways we're sharing Sharon's history is by showcasing local artists and history simultaneously. Art and artists have historic ties to the town so by including historic items from our collections in art shows featuring local artists, we join the two topics concurrently. Particularly popular have been our juried art/history shows and most recently, the Sharon Art Walk. The Sharon Art Walk included galleries at SHS, Hotchkiss Library, Town Hall, Darren Winston's Bookshop, The Porchlight, Standard Space, and the art studios of Theresa Kenny, KK Kozik, and Will Trowbridge. The walk was so successful, we have made it an annual event, the next Art Walk is September 8, 2018.

Other Art exhibits this year included: Northlight Art Center's Student Show; "What's the Big Idea", a juried art show; "Distaff in Sharon: A Tribute to Melva Bucksbaum"; "She Said, He Said", an invitational art show; The Housatonic Camera Club's member show.

As for history exhibits, I would especially like to point out the unique topic that local historian and author, Carol Ascher, came to us with this past year. Carol's exhibit idea was: "Celebrating the History, Accomplishments, and Legacies of Sharon's Russian Jewish Immigrants" and it turned out to be the best-attended exhibit opening we've ever had and quickly developed into much, much, more... a book, multiple programs, "pop up" exhibits at other locations and a permanent exhibit in Amenia, New York's Congregation Beth David. The entire experience has been magical and I thank all the families and individuals that supported us financially to make this possible; especially Ray Learsy, who has and continues to provide tremendous help and assistance to this cause.

Events included: "Let Them Eat Cake"; "Harvesting Stone"; "The Artists Talk"; the annual Sharon Tree Lighting; and our annual post-Memorial Parade cookout.

In closing, it has been 10 years since Liz Shapiro and Lea Davies (past executive director and board member) invited me to lunch to discuss the future vision of the society and ask me to consider being a part of it. That vision was a society that continues to protect and improve the Gay-Hoyt house and places great emphasis on reaching out to the community and connecting it to the town's extraordinary history through exhibits, events, and programs. That vision connected with me, I agreed to join on, and I must say it's been quite a ride, but we're doing what was envisioned a decade ago today. I thank all of our members, volunteers, staff, and board members (past & present) for the amazing work you do and have done, it is because of you that we achieved that vision, and improve upon it, year after year.

Respectfully submitted,

Brent M. Colley, President

Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association

Since 1904, generations of Salisbury families have relied on Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association's (SVNA) skilled expertise to bring health, comfort, compassion and independence home. Whether recuperating from a short-term illness, surgery, or managing a chronic condition SVNA's professional staff provides care 24hours a day, 365 days a year.

SVNA provides professional, certified home health care and hospice services. In FY 2017 our staff of nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, medical social worker and home health aides made a total of 1,315 visits within Sharon. These visits are typically covered by Medicare, Medicaid or private insurance and provided to individuals of all ages.

SVNA continues to grow and expand our services in order to meet the needs of our community; our Home Assistance program celebrated its five year anniversary this year. This program provides private care aides to residents who request our services.

SVNA provided flu clinics within the town of Sharon at local businesses and at the Town Hall on Election Day, with 113 Sharon residents receiving vaccines at our flu clinics.

SVNA also offers, with funding assistance from the Town of Sharon, the following services free of charge to residents in Sharon:

- Matter of Balance Classes – classes focus on how to maintain balance, continue moving, and exercise at any age.
- Wellness Clinics – SVNA wellness clinics promote community health by going beyond simple health screenings and establishing a patient managed preventative care plan. Growing out of the foundation of the SVNA blood pressure clinics, services have expanded to include mobile wellness clinics that provide health education opportunities to all members of the community.
- Health Guidance Visits – SVNA's health guidance visits are used to help residents remain safe and healthy in their homes. Visits do not require insurance, there are no income minimum levels to meet and a physician referral is not necessary. In FY 2017 SVNA provided 60 health guidance visits to Sharon residents.

SVNA is committed to helping our residents to remain safe, healthy and independent at home. Support from the Town of Sharon helps us to fulfill this commitment and we are very grateful for your support.

Michele M. Kearns, Executive Director

VNA NW, Inc.

VNA Northwest, Inc. provided a variety of health services to Sharon residents during the past year including:

- 123 – skilled nursing visits
- 56 – physical therapy visits
- 7 – occupational therapy visits
- 2 – adult health guidance visits
- 7 – home health aide service visits

Blood pressure clinics were held at the St. Bernard's Church. These sessions have been found to be invaluable in early detection of a wide range of health problems.

Residents also attended our influenza/pneumococcal clinic held at the St. Bernard's Church.

Visits paid for by:

<u>Service</u>	<u>Town/Grant</u>	<u>Other Payor</u>
Skilled Nursing		123
Adult Health Guidance		2
Physical Therapy		56
Occupational Therapy		7
Medical Social Worker		-
Speech Therapy		-
Home Health Aide		7
Blood Pressure Screening Clinics	11 clinics	
Flu/Pneumococcal Clinic		1 clinic

CMHA's Northwest Center

CMHA's Northwest Center is Litchfield County's leading resource for mental health care.

Founded in 1952, Northwest Center for Family Service and Mental Health (NWC) is part of Community Mental Health Affiliates, Inc. (CMHA). CMHA's Northwest Center is a licensed outpatient mental health clinic and family service agency with Joint Commission accreditation. In addition to CMHA's locations in 2 other cities and towns, CMHA served the residents of Litchfield County through the office in Torrington.

CMHA's Northwest Center remains the only state licensed, nonprofit mental health clinic serving all of Litchfield County. The Center also serves clients from 13 border towns in New York State including Millerton, Amenia and Dover.

CMHA's Northwest Center operated eight programs and provided over 11,771 hours of service to more than 756 individuals and families in FY17, in more than 719 clinical sessions every month. These services include individual, family, and group therapy, psychiatric evaluations, and medication management.

The town dollars are critical to support the cost of care for clients from Sharon. Our data show that the cost of providing services to the clients in your town is \$6,942.

In fiscal year 2017, 3 Sharon area residents received services from one of the many programs at CMHA's Northwest Center.

Funding Sources:

Annual Fund Drive
Private Donations
Town Grants
Fees and Insurance Payments
Department of Children and Families
Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
Civic Family Services
Private Contracts
Community Mental Health Affiliates, Inc.
Connecticut Community Foundation
Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation
United Way of Northwest CT

Current Programs and Activities

Outpatient Mental Health

In FY17, CMHA's NWC outpatient mental health clinic served 501 people of all ages: children, adolescents, adults, and seniors. Services include individual, family and group psychotherapy, psychological and psychiatric evaluation and medication management and case management.

In FY17, approximately 279 people received services monthly at CMHA's Northwest Center.

CMHA's Litchfield County programs receive funding from the CT Department of Children and Families (DCF) to operate the following distinct county-wide services:

Positive Parenting Program is an in-home, evidence-based program that helps parents manage their child's behavior and become independent, resourceful problem-solvers. Parents/caregivers are given the tools to create a positive and safe home learning environment that will help to develop and nurture their child's behavioral, emotional and cognitive strengths.

In FY17, 80 families received this in-home service.

Intensive Family Preservation is an intensive in-home program designed to support families in crisis in which children are at imminent risk of out of home placement. 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 FY17, 150 families received intensive, home-based support, counseling and parenting assistance.

Family Based Recovery Program is an in home service program which provides family recovery and substance abuse treatment to families who have identified substance abuse issues and a child(ren) under 2 years old in the home. The program also provides individual, family and group therapy and child attachment treatment. Clinicians work with child behavioural issues, housing, transportation and other basic needs of families.

In FY17, 26 families received this in-home service.

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
Community Health and Wellness Center of Greater Torrington
Connecticut DCF
Connecticut Junior Republic, Inc.
EdAdvance (local Regional Education Service Center)
Family & Children's Aid
Family Resource Center
Family Strides
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
McCall Foundation, Inc.
Mental Health Counseling of CT
New Opportunities, Inc.
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.
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

Northwest Hills Council of Governments

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 meets on a monthly basis to discuss issues of municipal concern, oversee COG projects, and explore new opportunities for regional cooperation. The COG's work program includes activities in three focus areas: regional planning, grant writing and administration, and regional service delivery. Activities in each of these three focus areas are summarized below. More information on these and other COG activities is available at: www.northwesthillscog.org.

Focus Area One: Regional planning activities in 2017 focused on preparing a Regional Transportation Plan, Regional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, Regional Trail Map and Connectivity Assessment, a Regional Profile with town level demographic, housing and economic data and trends, and a new 21-town Regional Plan of Conservation and Development. In 2018, the COG will be initiating an update to the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

Focus Area Two: Grant writing and administration activities in 2017 resulted in securing over \$750,000 in grant funds to benefit member towns. These included grant funds for 1) a rural broadband and mobile enhancement study, 2) a water/wastewater study in West Cornwall, 3) an alignment study of a section of the HouBike trail in Kent and Cornwall in cooperation with the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area, 4) development of a low-impact development guidebook, 5) regional food hub development, and 6) the design of a regional animal shelter to serve the Torrington area. In addition the COG is allocated about \$2M each year from ConnDOT for priority local road improvements, and serves as the oversight agent for about \$350,000 in Homeland Security Grant funding each year for our regional area.

Focus Area Three: Regional service delivery activities in 2017 included on-going coordination of a number of popular programs such as our household hazardous waste collection days, a prescription assistance program in cooperation with the Foundation for Community Health, a fuel bank program, the Northwest Hills Public Works Equipment Cooperative, and the region's cooperative purchasing program. This year we also initiated a new Regional Election Monitor program, Regional Engineer program, and a Neighbor-to-Neighbor program in cooperation with the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation to provide assistance to people in need to help them through a short-term financial crisis.

A variety of issues of regional significance were discussed at the monthly meetings of the COG this year including revitalizing town centers, climate change, transportation improvement priorities, recycling and disposal of municipal solid waste, water resource management, enhancing broadband and cellular services in the region, tourism promotion, housing trends, and a variety of legislative issues of local concern.

The COG also provides assistance to a number of organizations in the region including the Regional Housing Council, Northwest Hills Road Supervisors Association, Public Safety Task Force, Recycling Advisory Committee, and the Housatonic River Commission. In addition, the COG hosts 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 in FY 2016-2017 were Mark Lyon, Chairman; Bruce Adams, Vice Chairman; Leo Paul, Secretary; and Bob Valentine, Treasurer. COG member towns include Barkhamsted, Burlington, Canaan (Falls Village), Colebrook, Cornwall, Goshen, Hartland, Harwinton, Kent, Litchfield, Morris, New Hartford, Norfolk, North Canaan, Roxbury, Salisbury, Sharon, Torrington, Warren, Washington, and Winchester.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Lynn, AICP

Executive Director

Northwest Regional Housing Council

Affordable housing and retaining our work force are on the agenda of many Northwest Corner towns. Affordable housing is the sole focus of the Northwest Connecticut Regional Housing Council with its town representatives who meet quarterly to report upon and gain valuable information for their town specific planning.

At meetings, we share the progress and current hurdles we are encountering in our varied town initiatives. Questions raised and hands-on ideas and resources cause attendees to leave the meetings with possible next steps.

Timely statewide information is offered by Jocelyn Ayer from the Northwest Hills Council of Government and frequent attendance by David Berto of Housing Enterprises Inc. and Lesley Higgins-Biddle from LISC. Nick Lundgren, Deputy Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Housing made a presentation and took questions at our February meeting. We welcome town officials to attend when their schedules allow.

We thank our member towns for their financial support. Their \$100 annual dues are a cost effective investment in our area’s future. We thank Jocelyn Ayer for the energy and housing experience she brings to our group, for setting up our meetings, keeping minutes and disseminating housing information to our towns on www.northwesthillscog.org.

Respectfully submitted,

William Bachrach, Chairman

Housatonic River Commission

"to coordinate on a regional basis the local management and protection of the Housatonic River Valley in northwestern Connecticut"

The Housatonic River Commission (HRC) held 10 regularly scheduled monthly meetings the past year. Meetings took place at 7:30 on the second Tuesday of each month at the Cornwall Consolidated School or Cornwall Fire Department. The annual dues requested from each town remain at \$350 per year.

The work of recognizing the Housatonic River through the National Park Service's Wild and Scenic designation continues with the Connecticut legislature and executive branch approval. The process is currently in what we understand is its final stages at the federal level. This designation will provide an extra level of protection from the impacts of potentially harmful projects such as waterway alterations, energy developments, and federally funded road expansions. With support from many other groups the Wild and Scenic Designation will allow HRC to best do our job, gain additional protection for the river, and keep local control of the Housatonic.

With active participation in Citizens Coordinating Council meetings in Massachusetts and Connecticut, HRC continues to monitor the PCB cleanup and remediation proposals for the Housatonic River. Years in the making, the EPA's potential Rest of River cleanup (including all of Connecticut) continues to await its formal proposal. We will be pushing to help ensure that the interests of towns and residents are duly represented. The current proposal calls for "monitored natural recovery" for all of Connecticut with key details to be worked out near Pittsfield, where contamination is far more severe.

As always, land use issues within the Housatonic River Corridor remain a significant concern. A major topic this year was herbicide use along the Housatonic Railroad corridor. While the use of herbicide to clear vegetation from railways is permitted, the recent broadening of their use near homes and waterways is problematic, and HRC has worked to try to ensure that the impacts of this process are minimized. The Commission provided comments and suggestions on several proposed projects along the River, and all towns are reminded to please be sure that the HRC is notified on 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.

Housatonic Youth Service Bureau

Established in 1991, the Housatonic Youth Service Bureau is a 501(c)3 nonprofit founded to respond to the needs of the children, youth and families living in the Region One School District. The towns we serve include North Canaan, Canaan, Salisbury/Lakeville, Sharon, Cornwall and Kent. Our focus is to provide a variety of service options that promote the overall health and wellbeing of children, youth and families living in our community.

Thanks to your continued support, we're able to provide a broad range of services that are free and without income restrictions; an approach that creates an open-door policy for Sharon families to find support when they need it. We support youth up to age 21 and their family through individual and family clinical therapy, advocacy, prevention and referral services, enrichment programming, outreach and community events. HYSB also aims to reduce the burden that transportation issues may bring by having clinicians available in Sharon Center School and Housatonic Valley Regional High School throughout the school day.

HYSB has now been in its new, spacious and convenient location for two years. This space has allowed us to expand our services that are available to you; services like our no-cost counseling, the Youth in Philanthropy program, the HYSB Internship Project, the "Empowering Young Women" project, a 5k road race and other events throughout Region One.

Our staff is aiming to better the community at-large by serving each, individual community to the best of our ability. This year, we had a caseload of 6 from Sharon, completing 63 hours of free counseling to Sharon youth and families. A number of Sharon students also participated in our other programming efforts and were instrumental in their success.

All of our work would not be possible without your generous support. We remain deeply grateful to you for your continued fiscal support and look forward to working as partners to promote the overall health and wellbeing of Sharon's children, youth and families.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Pohl, MSW

Executive Director

Women's Support Services

The Town of Sharon has been a steadfast supporter of Women's Support Services, and we thank you for your on-going commitment. Last year, the Town of Sharon generously donated \$1,500.00 to Women's Support Services. Thanks to you we have:

- Provided support services and crisis response to **877 clients – 517 of whom were new clients and 71 of whom were children.**
- Responded to **450 hotline calls.**
- Provided emergency shelter to **11 people.**
- Provided court-based advocacy and support to **214 victims of family violence.**
- Conducted **142 prevention workshops to children and teens** in local schools, daycare programs, and camps.
- **Donated 3 cars** to local residents in need.

As requested in our proposal, support from the Town of Sharon is assisting WSS in the implementation of our new strategy to promote *coordinated community response (CCR)* throughout our townships. With your support we have:

- Continued to strengthen our partnership with the State Police in our area by presenting at each of the three roll calls last spring for Troop B.
- Held a workshop on the *Intersection of Domestic Violence and Traumatic Brain Injury* at Sharon Hospital in August.
- Increased our outreach efforts to area professionals and met with all town social workers to update them on the new services and programs we are providing.
- Reinvigorated our volunteer program to offer a wider variety of opportunities for community members.
- Held meetings with the area Superintendent, Vice Superintendent and school Principals to raise awareness about the free, evidence-based programs we offer. These activities directly support our goal of being active in all area public and private schools in the Northwest Corner.
- Developed new programs for young people and the LGBTQIA community.

As you know, Women's Support Services has a significant presence in Sharon. We worked with 36 new clients from Sharon this past year. The types of support residents receive include: counseling/support group sessions, hotline calls, direct support (transportation, shelter management, etc.), civil legal and criminal justice support, and safety planning. WSS is also active in the elementary after-school program and Sharon Day Care, and also offered programs at the Little Rascals summer camp. **Due to the generosity of our donors, WSS is able to provide all of our services and programs confidentially and free of charge.**

Thank you again for your continued support.

With best regards,

Dr. D. Elizabeth Mauro, Executive Director

Hotchkiss Library

The fiscal year, July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2017, was a busy and eventful one for the Library, marked by a variety of programs for children and adults, popular art shows, and two major fundraisers. Of special note was the award of a State Library construction grant in November to create an accessible entrance to the Library. On a less positive note, in May, the Library suffered substantial damage from a lightning strike.

The children's yearlong activities kicked off in summer, with a picnic on the lawn and families gathered to listen to the music and comedy of guitarist Nancy Tucker. Children were invited to sign up for the Seeds and Stars-themed summer reading program with Mrs. Robin. Two raised garden beds were installed on the south side of the Library for the kids to plant, tend and grow. While we learned about farm to table sustainability, we further explored the universe from bugs to black holes! Along the way we tended our plants, built fairy houses, learned about backyard critters and made garden looms. Children listened to stories, read voraciously, wrote book reviews, and won prizes! Native American flutist, Joseph Firecrow, performed and told stories about his experience growing up on a reservation. Sonny from Audubon Society visited with Hawks and Owls and spoke about birds of prey to over 60 enchanted listeners.

Children celebrated the end of summer with a meal made from our harvest featuring baba ganoush, a crudité, and pesto pasta whilst being serenaded by the barbershop "more-tet", The Housatonics, on the balcony. During the fall, children learned how to knit and purl with Bruce Weinstein. Monday after-school Time Travelers explored different periods in history and learned why you wouldn't want to be an Aztec sacrifice, an Egyptian mummy or a pilot during World War II. We ushered in October with a magician and pizza night. The Library opened its doors wide for hundreds of trick or treaters on Hallowe'en and provided Christmas goodies and a visit with Santa before the tree lighting to a lively crowd. The holiday program featured instruments from around the world. Winter and spring brought youngsters out for Breakfast Club Saturday story hour and Young Matisse art club. We celebrated Take Your Child to the Library Day with morning art class and Monet water lily renderings, an afternoon book signing by author Caroline Nastro who read *The Bear Who Couldn't Sleep* and a children's group art show reception in the evening.

The adult program series, 'Sundays at 4,' began with a lecture in July by art historian Victoria Jennings Ross, 'Arthur Duane: Sharon Sportsman.' Ms. Ross presented a fascinating look at a 19th-century sportsman's lifestyle, as well as a visual tour of Duane's historic house, 'Cool Gales.' In September, author Marnie Mueller gave a compelling lecture, 'The Color of Citizenship: the Impact of the Japanese American Internment during World War II—Then and Now.' Tovah Martin spoke about 'The Indestructible Houseplant' to an audience of gardening enthusiasts in early December. In March, Carol Ascher gave a lecture, 'A Chance for Land and Fresh Air: Russian Jewish Immigrants in Ellsworth and Amenia, 1907-1940,' to coordinate with her popular show at the Sharon Historical Society. Adult knitters enjoyed Bruce Weinstein's four instructional sessions in April and May, creating expert-level designs. Joseph Baxer wrapped up the year in June with a timely talk, 'The Middle East: Promise and Peril.'

The Friends of the Library group, formed two years ago, has generously supported Library programs and events throughout the year. As a special fundraising project this year, members focused on creating a community cookbook, *Sharon Cooks*, with proceeds from sales going to the Library.

The Library is in the process of moving from DSL to fiber optic connectivity through the Connecticut Education Network. Funding for the project was gained through a non-competitive CEN grant and discounted annual fees through federal e-rate USAC funds. Fiber cable was installed in September, and installation of equipment is anticipated in December or January.

Book groups met frequently and read current and classic selections. Ongoing groups include the Hotchkiss Library Reading Group, which meets monthly. A special feature in the fall was a discussion series, 'Bronte Mania,' led by Mark Scarbrough. The Sharon Woman's Club Literary Ladies meet semi-monthly in the Reading Room, and a group of area history aficionados convene monthly in the CT Room for their discussions.

The Library held two major fundraising events and an annual appeal to fund 80% of its operating and capital budgets. (Approximately 20% of the budget is funded by the Town.) The popular Book Signing took place August 5 and featured such luminaries as, Ann Leary, Cathleen Schine, and Simon Winchester for adults and Caldecott Medal winner Emily Arnold McCully, Wendell Minor, and Kara Thomas for young people. The Used Book Sale, held August 6 and 7, welcomed a wide range of bibliophiles looking for treasures. On October 15, the Gala Auction took place at the Sharon Country Club. A special paddle raise produced matching funds required by the State Construction Grant applied for in September and awarded in November.

An additional requirement of the State Library Construction grant for the accessibility project is approval by the State Historic Preservation Office since the Library is a listed historic building. The Sharon Historic District Commission approved the project in June.

Art shows included Bookish II, a group show of local artists with a book theme; the popular Tom Schiller tribute to his friend Henry Miller; the photography of Katherine Griswold paired with Jon Riedeman's sculpture; the oil paintings and etchings of Robert Andrew Parker; and 'The Atmosphere of Landscape,' by Dennis Fritz.

The Library had a major lightning strike in May, resulting in substantial damage to the security system, electrical panel, A/C system, and computer equipment and printers. After assuming the cost of the \$2500 deductible, the Library was fortunate to have the remaining damage covered by insurance.

An organizational Sharon Art Walk meeting took place in November with the Library's Art Committee and the Sharon Historical Society's Gallery Committee participating. Members of the group explored the possibility of a collaborative art event in September, 2017, with four venues—the original two and the addition of the Town Hall gallery and Darren Winston Bookseller. At a follow-up meeting in May, the committee, made up of representatives from each of the four participating venues, decided to invite artists with studios on the Green, as well,

and set September 16 as the date. Sharon Art Walk on the Green promises to be an exciting community event.

Respectfully submitted,
Lorraine Kerr Faison and Robin Yuran
Co-Executive Directors

Chore Service

The Chore Service, founded in 1992, provides non-medical help at home such as cleaning, running errands, yard work, etc., for clients in Canaan, Cornwall, Falls Village, Kent, Norfolk, Salisbury/Lakeville and Sharon. Clients contribute only what they can (if they can) toward the service, and Chore pays workers \$12.00 per hour for their time. Fundraising, grants, and town contributions make up the difference between what clients can contribute and the cost of providing services.

From July, 2016 through June, 2017, Chore Service provided services to thirty seven Sharon residents. These thirty seven families received over 3,300 hours of help with cleaning, errands, and yard work so that they could continue to comfortably remain in their homes. Seven Chore Workers who live in Sharon earned over \$26,000 last year. Our federal grant monies that subsidizes services for those age 60 and over is always depleted before the year ends, so we are delighted that the Town of Sharon continues to contribute to these services.

Here is what a few clients in Sharon had to say about Chore Service recently:

"What would I do without this outstanding, generous service??? Chore Service has provided and continues to provide a level of comfort that I am not able to do myself. Thank you."

"Appreciate your services!!!"

"She is a miracle worker, bringing order out of chaos. She is super nice, friendly and gets my place looking great in record time. I just love her."

"You are doing a fine job and I really appreciate it."

"They do extraordinary great work. Our thanks to Chore Service."

"She does what I want her to and they are very nice on the phone."

As we face shrinking Federal and State grants, we are most grateful for the support of our donors, including the Town of Sharon, for your generosity.

Thank you! Pat Wright, Executive Director

Salisbury/Sharon Transfer Station

It has been a busy and exciting year at the Transfer Station! A new ten-year contract went into effect on July 1st, 2017 between the Towns and the Materials Innovations & Recycling Authority (MIRA), formerly known as the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority (CRRA). Under the contract the Transfer Station continues to deliver garbage and recycling to MIRA's Transfer Station in Torrington.

The Transfer Station Building Committee has been working throughout the year with the Selectmen, the Salisbury-Sharon Resources Recovery Authority (SSRRA), and Anchor Engineering to finalize the design plans for our new Transfer Station.

The Transfer Station Recycling Advisory Committee (TRAC) oversaw the distribution of fourteen recycling containers in public spaces in both Towns. The goal was to create a uniform look for recycling bins, so residents would easily recognize the bins in many of our public areas. The purchase of the bins was offset by a grant from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Agency.

I would like to thank the staff at the Transfer Station for their hard work. Gary Duntz, George Silvernail, Jason Wilson, "Bullet" Sherwood, Thomas Sherwood and Matt Murtagh all help to keep the materials moving, be it during the coldest days of winter or the dog days of summer. Additional thanks to Tina Pitcher, Emily Egan, and Donna Maxwell for processing and organizing all of information from the resident's User Fee Form!

And last, but certainly not least, a big "Thank you!" to the residents and businesses who keep our towns as two of the recycling leaders within the State of Connecticut.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Repair!

Salisbury/Sharon Transfer Station 2016-2017 Tonnages	
Garbage (MSW)	3,154
Single Stream Recycling	1,090.89
Mattress Recycling	17.47
Scrap Metal	171.79
Tires	7.67
Electronics	39.06
Leaves	164.5
Batteries (auto & rechargeable)	1
Waste Oil	1900 gallons
Paint	15.14
Textiles	28.31
Construction Demo & Wood	793.65
Total MSW Tonnage	3161.69
Total Recycled Tons	1,513.02
Percentage Recycled	32.37%

Town of Sharon

Budget 2016 – 2017

For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2017

General Summary

	<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>2016-2017</u>
Board of Selectmen Budget	\$4,279,320	\$4,311,688
Less non-tax revenues	<u>502,417</u>	<u>481,336</u>
	\$3,776,903	\$3,830,352
Board of Education Budget	\$6,814,729	\$6,826,597
Less non-tax revenues	<u>146,334</u>	<u>140,087</u>
	\$6,668,395	\$6,686,510

The Board of Finance approved the following:

TOTAL TO BE RAISED BY TOWN TAXES, 2016-2017

\$10,242,187

GRAND LIST, OCTOBER 2015

733,261,051

MIL RATE

14.40

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Dignacco
Chairman, Board of Finance