

Town of Kent
Annual Report
2017-2018

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Reports are printed as received by the Board of Finance. Ice Jam on the Housatonic River photos by Lesly Ferris

Kent Animal Control Report, 2018

A total of ten dogs were impounded from July 2017 through June 2018. Seven dogs were redeemed by owners and three were adopted.

90 complaints were investigated, including missing pets, roaming dogs, one animal bite, and miscellaneous domestic and wild animal questions.

No infraction tickets were dispatched.

Income source and income collected: Pound fees - \$200.00 Donation - \$5.00

Respectfully submitted by Lee Sohl Kent Animal Control



October 1, 2016 Grand List Report FY 17-18

TYPE OF ACCOUNTS	FISCAL YR	NUMBER OF ACCOUNTS	GROSS ASSESSMENT	BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS ADJUST.	TOTAL EXEMPTIONS	TOTAL NET VALUE
REAL ESTATE REGULAR	FY17-18	1943	553,747,235	-67,400	494,340	553,252,895
REAL ESTATE ELDERLY H.O	FY17-18	31	5,310,000	0	57,000	5,253,000
REAL ESTATE EXEMPT	FY17-18	209	126,418,300	0	126,418,300	0
REAL ESTATE TOTALS	FY17-18	2183	685,475,635	-67,400	126,969,640	558,505,895
PERSONAL PROPERTY	FY17-18	359	17,617,621	0	1,520,234	16,097,387
MOTOR VEHICLE	FY17-18	3158	26,347,235	0	147,700	26,199,535
FINAL TOTALS		5700	729,440,391	-67,400	128,637,574	600,802,817

Respectfully submitted, Patricia S. Braislin, Assessor

Board of Finance

The board met in November with auditor Sandra Welwood who commented that everything in the Town's audit for Fiscal Year 2016-17 is very positive, and there are no management comments. Ms. Welwood added that the Town's overall financial standpoint is very, very solid.

The board that month verbally thanked chairman Nancy O'Dea-Wyrick for her years of dedicated service, knowledge and foresight to the Board of Finance. The board in January elected Mark Sebetic as chairman and Jim Blackketter as vice chairman and welcomed new board member Fran Goodsell.

The board in February met with representatives from the Kent Volunteer Fire Department and the highway road foreman regarding Five-Year Capital Plan requests. The board suggested it would be good to have a bridge inventory and status on the Town's bridges and anticipated capital needs for bridge replacements.

The board at its March meeting approved budget transfers in the Five-Year Capital Plan Kent Center School Security Upgrades to KCS Windows and KCS Roof to KCS Windows and sent the budget transfers to Town Meeting. The board also accepted the proposed Five-Year Capital Plan and sent it to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

The board that month received proposed FY2018-19 budgets from Region One School District, Kent Center School and the Board of Selectmen. School board chairman Marty Lindenmayer reported that the school board is looking at potential reduction in health insurance costs. The first selectmen noted the proposed Selectmen's budget includes \$10,000 for a management review. First Selectman Bruce Adams presented an overview of the Streetscape Committee, which is a subcommittee of the Board of Selectmen, plan for sidewalk revitalization in the downtown area.

The board discussed its appetite for a potential budget increase at the start of the budget review process. The board passed motions to request the Board of Selectmen cut its proposed 2018-19 budget by \$50,000 and the Board of Education by \$25,000. The board also asked the selectmen to cut \$300,000 from the proposed Five-Year Capital Plan FY2023. The respective boards presented the requested budget reductions, and the Board of Finance sent a revised proposed Five-Year Capital Plan to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

The board approved the Suspense List for Motor Vehicle, Motor Vehicle Supplemental, Personal Property and Real Estate, dated April 24, 2018 as presented by the Tax Collector.

The board voted to take the proposed FY2018-19 budget of \$12,869,312 to the Town Budget Hearing and voted to bring to the budget hearing that the board does not plan to change the mill rate if the budget proposal passes.

About 27 people attended the Annual Budget Hearing May 4, 2018 where the Board of Finance listened to public comment on the proposed budgets and capital plan. Following the hearing, the board voted to

take the proposed budget of \$12,869,312 to the Annual Budget Vote. The board approved transfer of \$388,500 from undesignated general fund to the proposed 2018-19 budget; set the tax collection rate at 99%; projected the mill rate at 18.61 for FY2018-19. The board May 18 set the mill rate at 18.61 for July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019 following approval of the proposed budget.

Board of Finance Members:

Mark Sebetic, Chairman

Jim Blackketter

Maureen Brady

Edward Epstein

Fran Goodsell

Mark McWhinney

Board of Selectmen

Another Kent year has flown by. Lots of things happening and I'm glad to report most news is good. As I did last year I'll try to do this in chronological order. Our fiscal year starts in July so July 2017 is my beginning.

In July we had an official opening of our new Welcome Center. It had already been open awhile and has been used heavily. By the end of October we had done over 270 showers! Word is out on the AT what a welcoming town Kent is. Later in July our Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing on a proposal to reopen The Kent as an alcohol & drug rehab facility called Birch Hill. Opposition was strong at the hearing. Later in the year another hearing was held in New Milford. Kent P&Z ultimately approved the application and it has been in the hands of the State for a Certificate of Need since. Also in July, Kent Affordable Housing, led by the irrepressible Virginia Bush, broke ground on Stuart Farms-Phase 2. It opened later in the year and filled up quickly. The apartments are impressive.

Summer was fairly quiet, so in September we finally completed the long Carter Road bridge project. A few months later the State did their final inspection. Thank you to the residents affected by the road closure for your patience. As I have done for 3 years I worked at the large Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off in New Milford. I didn't see a lot of Kent residents, but those that did come were very grateful for the chance to safely dispose of many items. Another was held the previous June in Falls Village.

October was a big month in town. We successfully hosted the Gilmore Girls Fan Fest which brought over 1,500 visitors to Kent. The event is based upon the popularity of a long running TV show, The Gilmore Girls. It was a huge success and they will return next year. Later in the month hundreds of trick or treaters swarmed our downtown, made safer by the efforts of our P&R Director Lesly Ferris, Resident Trooper Andrew Fisher and the KVFD. That same week the Kent Pumpkin Run welcomed nearly 1,000 runners to our scenic course. Thank you to the Kent Chamber of Commerce.

The holiday season in Kent started with the lighting of the Town tree, the KVFD Parade of Lights and Stuff a Truck. Later in the month the Kent Land Trust and Kent Historical Society hosted their annual holiday parties and the Chamber again sponsored the popular Champagne Stroll and Gingerbread Festival.

With the New Year came perhaps the biggest event of the year. Unplanned!! The Housatonic River became jammed with ice many feet thick and flooded surrounding areas. Kent School sent their student body home for a week. We hosted media people from all over the northeast as well as hundreds of visitors who came to see this phenomenon. A meeting of over 50 people was held and we had a small army of State Emergency Management people here for five days. Our brand new Emergency Management Director Susie Rundall and her assistant John Grant performed admirably under great pressure. The jam eventually broke apart slowly with little damage to property.

Winter finally ended and a rainy spring followed. The town budget passed in May with little fanfare as taxes remained flat. The Kent Art Association celebrated their 95th anniversary with a gala party; Stuart Farm-Phase 2 opened to residents in June and filled up quickly.

Some ongoing events are also important to mention.

- o Our Streetscape Committee has been meeting for almost 10 years to come up with a plan to refurbish Kent's sidewalks. There will be more to report in next year's report.
- o The Kent Transfer Station continues increase the list of things we take. Besides the usual garbage and recyclables, we accept electronic waste, used paint, mattresses, textiles and even corks. All of these items are recycled. John, Rob and Kevin make it the place to be in Kent on weekends. Paid users increase yearly and it is close to being a break even operation.
- Our very active Conservation Commission has taken a lead role in monitoring the construction of a huge power plant across the border in Dover, NY and its potential effects on Kent. There will be much to report on this next year.
- o It must be noted that Kent School, South Kent School and Marvelwood School have been providing meals for a very popular senior lunch program for 6 years. Two years ago, when The Kent closed, The Fife n' Drum, The Villager, Kent Pizza Garden and Shanghai filled the void. From September to June it is the best lunch deal in town. Thank you to all.
- o Kent School, South Kent School and now High Watch contribute annually to the growing cost of our Resident Trooper. Andrew Fisher has proven to be a perfect fit for Kent and a real asset to the Town.
- The Kent Informal Club, led by President Irene Connors, has become an important part of the Town. Almost every month they host interesting speakers on a wide variety of important topics. I am proud to be the annual November speaker with a "State of the Town" address.
- One of the hardest working Boards in Kent is the Planning & Zoning Commission. Led by longtime Chairman John Johnson, they have crafted the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development, totally rewritten the Zoning Regulations and have made very difficult decisions on a wide variety of applications. Thank you to John and all the members. And thank you to Donna Hayes, Land Use Administrator.

This list could go on so I'll end with an annual thank you to everyone, residents, employees, business owners and volunteers, who make Kent a special place to live. May next year be even better.

The Kent Board of Selectmen

Member	Term Expires
Bruce Adams	11/17/2019
Jeff Parkin	11/17/2019
Chris Garrity	11/17/2019

Office of Fire Marshal

Town of Kent, Connecticut

ANNUAL REPORT July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

CODE INSPECTIONS, PLAN REVIEWS & OFFICE HOURS 582.5 Hours

ISSUED: 343 Burning Permits and/or Site Inspections 17 Hours

*Continuing Education & Meetings 50.3 Hours

Fire Investigations 26.5 Hours

The Fire Marshal's scheduled office hours are Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM to coincide with the building department hours. Additional time is spent for inspections, fire investigations, burning permit inspections, alarm system ordinance program, continuing education, meetings and oil tank removal inspections. Fire Marshal attendance is also required for all public and private firework displays as well as Hazardous Material incidents.

During the year, Code Inspections and Reviews were conducted, with the majority of the time being spent with projects at Kent School, South Kent School, Marvelwood School, High Watch Farm, camps and nursing homes. A fire safety program, which is given each year during fire prevention week, was conducted for the Kent Center School Pre K through fourth grade and day care centers.

*Continuing education and meetings for the Fire Marshal are billed at 31% of the cost to the Town of Kent.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley MacMillan

Fire Marshal

Inland Wetlands Commission Annual Report July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

Lynn Werner, Chairman Donna Hayes, Land Use Administrator

Total Fees Collected:

\$2,215.00

Inland Wetlands Commission Activities:	Action:
Applications	15
Permit Modifications	1
Permit Extensions	0
Agent Approved	4
Denied	0
Withdrawn	0
Waived	0
Forestry	2

Kent's inland wetlands and watercourses are indispensable, irreplaceable and fragile. They nature plants and animals, prevent flooding, provide recreation, and help cleanse stormwater runoff to protect water quality. The Inland Wetlands Commission works with residents and applicants to protect vulnerable wetlands and watercourses from damaging impacts during land use activities. This year, the Inland Wetlands Commission also updated the Inland Wetland Regulations to be in sync with the State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Model Municipal Regulations.

Inland Wetlands Commission

Appointed by the Board of Selectman for 5-year terms: Alternates serve 3-year terms

<u>Members:</u>	Term Expires:	<u>Alternates:</u>	Term Expires:
Lynn Werner	12/2020	Vacancy	12/2018
Paul Yagid	12/2021	Ken Deitz	12/2020
Margaret Smith 12/2	2022		
Fred Hosterman	12/2018		
Eric Cieplik	12/2019		

KENT CENTER SCHOOL



FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018

Florence Budge, Principal

Opening with an enrollment of 229 students on August 28th and closing on June 22nd with 237 students, Kent Center School has now completed ninety years of educating students to become kind, productive, and innovative members of the community. The year has been one of many changes and transitions.

During the summer of 2017, KCS welcomed Special Education teacher, Karen lannucci and paraprofessionals Eileen Bambery and Jennifer Caeners to our Pre-school program. Georgia Kapetanopoulos was hired as Math Interventionist and Christopher Rose became our Grade 5-6 Science teacher.

Prior to school opening in August, students were also busy. For the third year in a row, with the encouragement of KCS library/media specialist Ms. Morrow, 97% of KCS students participated in the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge and the school was again honored in a ceremony hosted by Governor Malloy and Commissioner of Education, Dianna Wentzell.

Kent Center continues to ensure that the arts are a regular part of our curriculum. The year started with the first Back to School art exhibit featuring the contributions of 62 students and 12 staff members and ended with the spring art show, organized by Mrs. Tarabara. Under the direction of Mr. Poirier, students in grades 3 and 4 presented, *The Artful Dodgers*. Mr. Poirier's instrumental students performed in winter and spring concerts as well as at the Memorial Day parade and regional select band. Mrs. Kleisner's choral students sang in the winter concert, the regional select concerts, and performed in the grade 5-8 show, *Alice in Wonderland*. Grades 1 and 2 finished the year with a rousing production of *Lemonade*. Five KCS students were recognized for their outstanding musicianship by earning a spot in the Northern Regional Music Festival.

In athletics, the boys' soccer team finished an undefeated season with 4 wins and 3 ties while the girls tied for second place in Region One. Both basketball teams completed successful seasons and the spring saw the advent of co-ed baseball and tennis.

During professional development workshops, all teachers continued to investigate and then implement a variety of strategies including: personalized learning (with Bena Kallick and Allison Zmuda), student-led conferences, and new grading practices. They shared information about these topics during three Community Partnership meetings during the winter and spring.

The Superintendent's Award this year was presented to Eric Zhang. Eric has been a member of the school band, as well as the soccer and basketball teams, and ended the year by reading his essay at graduation and winning awards for general excellence, athletics, French and mathematics.

Ms. Leach, our Enrichment teacher, encouraged creativity in her program. Four students from Kent Center School made it to the regional competition of the Inventor's Fair and two of those students moved on to the national level. Both were chosen to be eligible for the National Invention Convention and Entrepreneurship Expo (NICEE) held at the Henry Ford Museum

in Deerborne, Michigan. Kent Center School is extremely proud and excited to have two students chosen from the more than 800 state finalist to compete at NICEE this year!

Teachers and students alike were actively involved in our new Flexible Learning Experience (FLEX). There are two facets to FLEX. The first is designed primarily for grade level remediation and enrichment, depending on the needs of the students. Once each week, teachers offered cross grade-level enrichment activities not normally available in the regular curriculum. All students and teaching staff were involved in this endeavor. FLEX themes were based on the *Habits of Mind* introduced to staff through the work of Bena Kallick. Teachers offered study groups on topics from nature study, to farming, health and fitness, debate, photojournalism, coding, dance, and building drones. Each term, an increasing number of students developed their own area of study based on their personal interests and supported by faculty. The program was the highlight of the year for KCS students.

In a continued effort to assure the health and well-being of all students, the school participated in regular fire, evacuation, and lockdown drills. Several students ran, jogged, or walked in the Kids Marathon before school twice a week in the fall, and all students were active in the annual Hoops for Heart or Jump Rope for Heart fundraisers for The American Heart Association, and in a walk to support the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Many thanks to physical education teacher, Mrs. Saunders, for leading these efforts. In conjunction with local groups, KCS also offered a fire safety program for students in Pre-K through grade 3 (Kent Volunteer Fire Department), a flu clinic (New Milford Visiting Nurse Association), a preventive dental care clinic (The Foundation for Community Health in Sharon and Brooker Dental Center in Torrington).

In other exciting developments, Mr. Eldridge created a new studio for video recording in the newly renamed Edward Epstein and Carolyn MacLeod Technology Center. In addition, students in grades 7 and 8 learned how to write, perform and broadcast the morning announcements. Mr. Szwed and the

School Habitat Committee officially opened our new Outdoor Classroom with a ribbon cutting ceremony on June 7.

Under lowering skies on June 20th, members of the Kent Center School 8th grade class celebrated their graduation with awards for academics and citizenship and with diplomas for all. The following day, coaches and teachers presented awards for athletics and other reasons for special recognition. On the final day of the year, the community celebrated the contributions over the years of retiring 4th grade teacher, Sharon Hurlbutt, and of retiring principal, Florence Budge. In her farewell words, Mrs. Budge reminded the students of the importance of kindness in all they do.

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
Linda F. Riiska, Chief Clerk
Dawn W. Pratt, Clerk
Tanya M. Matulis, Asst. Clerk
860-567-8065

<u>Kent Location</u>

Judge Blick – Tuesdays Mornings

860-927-3729

Canaan Location
Beth L. McGuire, Clerk
Heath B. Prentis, Asst. Clerk
860-824-7012

It is with great pleasure that I report to the residents of the Litchfield Hills Probate District the activity of the Probate Court for fiscal year July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 and request this report be included in the Town's next published Annual Report.

Type of Matter	2017 – 2018 FY Number of Matters	2016 – 2017 FY
Fee Waivers	105	Number of Matters
Decedent's Estates	1,168	74 1 ,208
Trusts	248	1,206
Conservators	221	228
Name Changes	18	
Guardian of the Person & Estate	123	31
Guardian of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities	150	139
Children's Matters:		130
Adoptions/Termination of Parental Rights and		
Emancipation of a Minor	14	5
Total probate matters handled	2,047	1,989
Passports processed	135	125

Overall, the number of probate matters handled by the Court increased approximately 3 1/2% over the number of matters handled the previous year.

The category Fee Waivers, which indicates an increase of over 25% this fiscal year, 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.

There are also marked increased in the case work handled for Trusts, Guardian of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities and Children's Matters.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Diane S. Blick

Diane S. Blick Judge of Probate

August 3, 2018

Kent Park and Recreation

Lesly Ferris, Director

Kent Park and Recreation helped coordinate its first Halloween Boo Bash, added Tai Chi classes and hosted "Matter of Balance" senior exercise program. Park and Recreation continues its collaboration with community organizations and the regional rec departments to bring programs to the community.

Kent School students volunteered as student coaches at soccer and baseball programs and helped at the After-School Program. Park and Recreation continued its associations with Kent and South Kent Schools for holiday and winter ice skating; the Lions Club co-sponsored the annual Halloween Safety Campaign where 750 glow-in-the-dark necklaces were distributed to trick-or-treaters of all ages. Kent Center School's student council members visited the Kent Senior Center for lunch and activities, including Easter Egg decorating.

Camp Kent hosted a session of the regional summer science camp while campers had the option to participate in the program in other towns three other times during the summer. Camp Kent youngsters and staff also took a field trip to the Connecticut Science Museum and visited South Kent School's Center for Innovation. Park and Recreation continues its partnership with the Kent Community Fund to offer scholarship opportunities to families in need to help offset the cost of the After-School Program and Camp Kent. The Community Fund's contribution this fiscal year totaled \$3,536.00.

Tang Soo Do, Qigong and Dog Obedience classes and Figure skating lessons and adult men's basketball league are ongoing. The recreation director attended the annual Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association conference.

Kent Seniors added tulip and daffodil bulbs to the Memory Garden at Kent Common Park. Monthly senior outings, utilizing the Northwest Connecticut Transit District bus, included the Connecticut Flower Show, World War I and Crèches of the World exhibits at the Knights of Columbus Museum; Wickham Park, Florence Griswold Museum; Hill-Stead Museum, and the Tort Law Museum. The regional senior lunch took place in June in Salisbury.

Kent Park and Recreation continues to offer youth soccer, basketball and baseball programs for grades kindergarten through sixth. The fifth and sixth grade boys' basketball team again played in the Northwest Recreation League's basketball program.

Park improvements included brush clearing, tree trimming/removal, and rebuilding of benches and adding a picnic table to the pavilion at Kent Common Park. Improvements at Emery Park included brush and tree trimming and removal, rebuilding of picnic tables and installation of a new grill and planters for flowers. An Open House was held in late June at Emery Park to showcase the work.

Park and Recreation Commission members, three-year terms:

Dave Dunleavy expires 1/17/2019 John Grant expires 1/16/2020 Elizabeth Houck expires 1/17/2019 vacant expires 1/21/2021 Lynn Harrington expires 1/21/2021 Glen Nielsen expires 1/16/2020

Alternates, one-year terms:

Trisha McMahon expires 1/17/2019 Sarah Adams expires 1/17/2019

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

John Johnson, Chairman Donna Hayes, Land Use Administrator

During the 2017-2018 fiscal year, the new regulations were completed and approved on June 14, 2017 with an effective date of July 1, 2018. The Mauri vs Town of Kent lawsuit was finalized and the property owner signed a Consent Agreement that no special events will take place on the property. Birch Hill Recovery Center submitted an application to the Commission for a change of use to the building at 46 Maple Street. This new use, an alcohol and drug rehab center, was approved. This approval resulted in an appeal filed by High Watch Recovery Center. In May, High Watch Recovery Center submitted an application to construct a 47,000 sq. ft. addition, auditorium, detox center and a change to the bed count from 78 to 90. A determination will be made in the 2018 - 2019 fiscal year. Tai Kern was hired as the new Land Use Clerk and has become an integral part of the Land Use Department.

Total Fees Collected: \$24,982.69

There were a total of 114 applications submitted. The breakdown is as follows:

Sign Permits	10	Subdivision Approvals	0
Zoning Permits	67	Floodplain	0
Special Permit Approvals	11	Reg. Change Approvals	0
Site Plan Approvals	22	Zone Change Approvals	0
Driveway Permits	2		
Forestry	1		
Temporary	1		

P&Z Commission

Members shall be elected at the biennial elections of the Town for terms of six years. Vacancies in office of members shall be filled by the Commission for the unexpired portion of the term. Alternates are appointed for 2-year terms by the Board of Selectmen.

Members:	Term Expires:	Alternates:	Term Expires:
John Johnson	11/2023	Richard Chavka	11/2019
Darrell Cherniske	11/2019	Adam Manes	11/2019
Marc Weingarten	11/2023	Anne McAndrew	11/2019
Alice Hicks	11/2021		
Karen Casey	11/2019		
Matt Winter	11/2021		
Wes Wyrick	11/2019		

The Architectural Review Board acted on 14 applications, 6 of which were for signage. The other applications included 2 alterations, landscape, roof & portico, fence, window & siding, handicap ramp & doors and an addition. With the new P&Z regulations, the Board can now have up to 2 alternates.

Members:	Term Expiration
John Baker	8/2020
Ellen Corsel	8/2020
Steve Pener	8/2019
Greg St. John	8/2019
Frank Way	8/2020
Robert McDowel- Alt	7/2020

Region One School District

Each year, Region One has the opportunity to share the achievements of our schools with the communities through our 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.

The work of the Region One Board, through the Lighthouse Project, shaped the district's conversations and foci. The mission that the Board developed states: "In order for us to prepare each child for what comes next, we must align vision, expectation, and practice among all stakeholders."

With 275 square miles that comprise Region One, as well as the different communities, each supporting a separate school, aligning the vision and practices is ongoing. We understand that each community wants their school to be both unique and exceptional. We all strive for this. At the same time, equity in opportunities for all students is essential, so we must attend to the fact that every child at every level receives instruction according to a common curriculum, so that we can help them to reach their maximum potential. Teachers and administrators meet regularly to discuss how we achieve this and further how students learn best. We continually ask ourselves if we are providing this opportunity to all of our students. If we determine that we need to make adjustments, so that the expected academic growth continues for each student, we address this and make the changes that are needed.

Leadership Teams, assembled by the principal in each school, help with the planning of professional learning, the study of student achievement data, and lead discussion of student programs. Additionally, Regional Professional Learning Communities have been formed with representation from each school, so that teams can discuss the plans and progress of programs across the region and determine if we can accomplish excellence through collaboration. A number of teachers from each school have attended state and national conferences over the past year, in order to be more informed and then to communicate their learning with colleagues. Research based instruction is what we will continue to strive for. Mrs. Lisa Carter, as Assistant Superintendent, is the leader to schools in all of areas of Teaching and Learning, which are vast and vitally important to the success of our students.

Our special education programs are comprehensive and serve children with a wide range of abilities. Every school provides special education programming; some schools have programs that are specific to students with particular disabilities, such as autism, behavioral challenges, or more significant cognitive impairment. Mrs. Martha Schwaikert, Special Education Supervisor, and Mr. Carl Gross, Pupil Services Director, supervise these areas.

This past year, we increased professional learning time for curriculum development, discussion of instruction and quality assessments, equitable grading practices, and personalized learning. These areas continue to be our focus.

Our four major goals continue to be the following:

Goal 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). In this goal, all of the schools are working together to formulate curriculum (what we

teach) that shows an alignment between what we teach, how we assess, and the Core Standards. There is to be agreement among all teachers at each grade level that this should be uniform. The teaching strategies (how we teach) are the teacher's decision, as long as the methods we use are effective for student learning. We have also devoted time for teachers to agree upon how and what we grade. We spent an increased amount of time this past year on grading practices, so that every student in Region One knows that they are being assessed fairly and that their performance is meeting proficiency.

"To improve achievement, as evidenced by multiple data sources such as local, regional, state, and national assessments" is Goal #2. This requires us to study and understand what data tell us about student growth. It is not enough to look only at a student's grades and standardized tests. We need to look at all types of data to understand if students are making the progress, such as student learning practices, which are the attitudes and behaviors that students demonstrate as they engage in day-to-day activities in the classroom. We want high academic achievement, but we also want students who show they are responsible, who work well with others, who strive to get work done on time, and who respect one another as well as the teachers and staff in their respective schools. All of the schools have reached consensus on the qualities a student should strive to exhibit.

Goal # 3 is "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." We continue to refine how we evaluate teachers and leaders and have spent time this past year working with teachers to discuss what types of goals will be most effective to demonstrate improved teaching and student learning. To accomplish the precision and fidelity with which we must incorporate in the evaluation process, we have dedicated a number of days to training staff members in this area.

Promoting positive social and emotional health and well-being for all students is Goal #4. All of our K-8 schools use the Botvin curriculum to help students understand what it is to be socially and emotionally healthy. Several of our schools engage in Red Ribbon Week and the Start with Hello programs designed to support well-being and a sense of inclusion for all students. Still, we believe that we need to do more to ensure that all students place as much importance on being emotionally healthy as they do on being strong academic learners. Going into the new 2018-2019 year, we are putting more emphasis on social and emotional health through community and school discussions and implementing programs to achieve this.

In the past year, these are some of the programs that have been enacted and actions that have taken place:

- Teacher professional development in the areas of Personalized Learning, Grading Practices, Student Led Conferences, and Assessment, as well as building specific programs
- Increased professional development for support staff
- Implemented the High School Career Experience Program started
- Began the High School Bridges Program for alternative education students
- Hired four new principals in the region
 Negotiated six certified (teachers) and three non-certified (support staff) contracts
- Conducted an audit of our regional technology systems
- Instituted a program that recognizes "those who contribute" at all board meetings
- Published quarterly newsletters with news from the region and each school
- Organized School-Community Partnership meetings in each school

- Began the discussion of the "Vision of a Graduate" with all administrators
- Held two board retreats
- Worked with the officers in Troop B to identify school safety/security concerns
- Developed a Region One data calendar for communication at Board meetings
- Gained approval for a Region One Special Olympics program through CT Special Olympics

We will continue to refine all of the aforementioned curricular programs as it takes time to achieve full, high quality implementation.

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 the schools, and Mr. Sam Herrick, Regional Shared Services Business Manager. Sam assists and provides some oversight with projects throughout the region. These projects have taken place over the past year:

Lee H. Kellogg School:

Bill Beebe, long-time Head Custodian at LHK, retired in the fall of 2018. This was Bill's last summer at the helm at Kellogg School.

Summer projects completed included:

- New propane tanks for the new heating system, including buried lines to the school building
- Parking lot lines were repainted
- Playgrounds were mulched
- Exterior painting

Cornwall Consolidated Elementary School:

Summer projects completed included:

- New asphalt shingles were installed as part of a roof project over the back "U" section of the school
- New carpeting was installed in the library computer lab
- Exterior painting

Kent Center School:

Summer projects completed included:

- Interior painting in the fourth grade classrooms, main office, Principal's office conference room, lobby, mail room, and upstairs classroom doors
- Two basement locker rooms fixed up, cleaned, and painted
- Large section of tile floor replaced in cafeteria and throughout hallways
- All classroom carpets shampooed
- Furniture assembly for classroom
- Smart Board installed in fourth grade classroom and library
- Asphalt holes in parking lot and sidewalks were patched

- · Repaired and replaced many fixtures, toilet flush valve, and assorted plumbing issues
- Classroom doors re-keyed
- Two keyless entry areas for teachers installed

North Canaan Elementary School:

Summer projects completed included:

- Interior painting included hallways, bathrooms, and some classrooms
- Principal's office re-configured to include space for a conference area
- Gym floor stripped and re-finished by maintenance staff
- Playgrounds were mulched

Salisbury Central School:

Summer projects completed included:

- Major renovation of the upper building including CAT 6 cabling, air conditioning installed in classrooms, new casework, ceilings, lighting, tiling, and paint
- Major site renovation at the lower building including masonry work, drainage, and parking lot and walkway paving

Sharon Center School:

Summer projects completed included:

- Exterior painting on the front of the building
- Security screens installed in various areas of the building
- New faucets installed in classrooms and cafeteria
- Exterior doors on the gym and stage were installed
- Lighting in the closets was upgraded to LED
- Magnetic doors were installed throughout the building (Fire code update)

HVRHS:

Summer projects completed included:

- Major science wing renovation completed
- Major locker room (ADA Project) completed
- Boiler replacement project completed
- Upgrade of 1953 HVAC units that service the kitchen, the fitness center, and the gymnasium wing
- Exterior lighting upgraded to LED
- 10,000 Gallon underground fuel tank changed to 8,000 gallon above ground tank (per state code)
- Gymnasium painted, new floor logo, and wall mats installed
- Tennis court, backstop, and track gate fence repaired
- Field goal post painted
- Maintenance garage exterior painting and wood rot repair

- New athletic storage shed
- Central office carpeting
- Duct cleaning throughout various parts of the building
- Occupancy sensors installed
- Upgrades to the heating controls
- New walkway installed from the gym to the parking
- Crack repair on tennis courts
- Asbestos abatement and painting in teachers' lounge
- Epoxy floor inside loading dock area

The total number of students who attend Region One schools remains fairly steady. Several schools saw a small increase in enrollment and several others saw a decrease. We recognize that we need to watch the trends in enrollment in our schools and be ready to make adjustments when and if a marked change in enrollment occurs. While small class sizes may provide a wonderful opportunity to deliver very personalized, individualized instruction, small class sizes can also limit the social learning that some students require. Two of our schools have instituted multi-age classrooms in order to offer more social interaction, at the same time being able to provide individualization in academic areas.

In the 2017-2018 school year, much has been accomplished and yet we still have far to go. Our continual challenge in Region One, with distance between schools and some differences in existing practices, is to make time to communicate among our staff and work together. Our highest priority is to provide the best education possible, one that ensures our youth receive their education in a safe environment and that we prepare them for a successful life in career pathways of their choosing.

In the years ahead, we understand the challenges and necessity of two-way communication with our stakeholders, sharing the good work that has been done and that which still needs to be done.

We believe that our staff holds consistent and high expectations for the success of our students. It is our goal to develop each student through promoting rich opportunities for learning, both within and out of the classroom. We will continue to ensure that our staff is supported with the knowledge and skills they need to support excellence for our students.

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 continue to build more partnerships between students, parents, and staff.

Dr. Pam Vogel

Kent Resident State Trooper

The Resident Trooper program offered by the State of Connecticut has continued to offer a liaison between the State Police and the town's officials, public and private schools, and the public. This program supplements the 24-hour police coverage of Kent by the Connecticut State Police Barracks in Litchfield.

The Resident Trooper's duties include the investigation of both reported criminal activities and reported motor vehicle accidents. Motor vehicle laws are enforced to ensure compliance and to encourage safer driving. Periodically both the Resident Trooper and patrol Troopers will engage in safety belt (seat belt) enforcement. Trooper Fisher also responds to calls for assistance, as well as helps fire and ambulance personnel with medical emergencies.

Trooper Fisher assisted with several community projects such as Halloween Safety (in cooperation with Kent Park and Recreation) Toy and Turkey drives, Kent Pumpkin Run, as well as High Watch's 5k run. Assisted with Women's March and Kent School March. Incorporation with ECON and Bulls Bridge Task, assisted with safety at both Kent Falls and Bulls Bridge. Also, Funeral Details and KVFD Parade of Lights.

During fiscal year Connecticut State Police responded to numerous requests for assistance in the Town of Kent. State Troopers assisted Kent Fire Department and Ambulance as well as other State and municipal agencies numerous times. State Troopers also investigated abandoned motor vehicles, assisted citizens with non-criminal issues, served subpoenas, fingerprinted various types of applicants, removed traffic hazards, responded to roaming animal complaints, lost hikers, patrol checks of residential and business, as well conducting other caretaking functions numerous times.

Town of Kent Safety Committee

The Town of Kent Safety Committee held quarterly meetings during the fiscal year 2017-18 which include a review of incidents and accidents and Town of Kent Safety Policies. Kent Center School Safety Committee shared its safety plans with the committee. The committee in October communicated safety concerns to the Sewer Commission that were brought before the safety committee. The committee chairman attended the September 14, 2017 CIRMA workshop on risk management.

Committee members:

Bruce Adams, Lesly Ferris, Joyce Kearns, Rick Osborne

Social Services DepartmentLeah Pullaro, Director

The Social Services Department supports local residents through advocacy; referral to local, state and federal assistance programs; short-term financial assistance; linking with employment opportunities and career support services; and short-term counseling. The mission of this department is to assist the residents of Kent in developing the skills and knowledge necessary to seek services and support through self-advocacy. The Social Services director, utilizing a variety of local, State and Federal resources, assisted Kent households. The total financial assistance for the fiscal year was \$99,443.19:

\$31,683.09	State of CT/Federal Energy Assistance Program				
\$14,903.57*	Kent Community Fund				
\$17,704.57	State of CT Renter's Rebate Program for Elderly/Disabled				
\$ 7,012.14	Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation				
\$ 14,729.54	Kent Food/Fuel Fund				
\$ 4,566.76	Foundation for Community Health Prescription Fund				
\$ 8,843.52	Town Social Services Assist Fund				
*(CT Food Bank purchases \$2,601; heating fuel, medical, rent, utilities, car repair assistance \$12,302.57).					

Twenty-five Kent children received backpacks filled with school supplies and a gift card for clothing purchases through the United Way Back to School Program.

The Kent Food Bank, thanks to the support of the Kent Community Fund, continues to supplement the nutritional needs of many Kent households. None of which could be possible without the hard work of volunteers Rob Hayes, Catherine & Bill Bachrach, Jim Blacketter, Jim Lovett, and Linda Palmer. Over the last year, the Kent Food Bank provided food to prepare an average of 1,730 meals each month to 36 adults, 22 children, and 13 seniors.

Kent Diaper Bank supplied a case of diapers once per month to six Kent infants and toddlers. This program is made possible through the financial support of the Kent Chamber of Commerce and donations from Kimberly Clark Corporation, Kent area residents, and Kent School.

Food donations come in regularly from individuals, Davis IGA, Kent Chamber of Commerce, Sacred Heart Church, First Congregational Church, St Andrew's Church, Kent School, South Kent School, Kent Center School, Marble Valley Farm, New Milford Big Y, Mountain View Farm, Kent Boys Scouts, and Monte Besmer. The Food Bank also provides holiday food baskets to about 34 families through the support of the Kent Community Fund, Connecticut Food Bank, Kent Lions Club, Kent School, individual Kent residents, Resident State Trooper Andrew Fisher, and Sunday in the Country Food Drive (Lakeville/Millerton).

See accompanying Independent Auditors' Report.

TOWN OF KENT, CONNECTICUT

REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

Grand List	Restated Uncollected Taxes		Lawful C	orrec	tions	Sı	ıspense	Adjusted Taxes			ollections terest and		Un	collected Taxes
October 1,	July 1, 2017	A	dditions	De	ductions	Tı	ansfers	Collectible	Taxes	L	ien Fees	Total	Jun	e 30, 2018
2016	\$ 11,169,455	\$	7,318	\$	28,608	\$	3,278	\$ 11,144,887	\$ 11,073,778	\$	33,895	\$ 11,107,673	S	71,109
2015	96,727		445		5,294		2,424	89,454	68,606	-	14,227	82,833	•	20,848
2014	19,440		269		1,523		1,201	16,985	7,613		1,681	9,294		9,372
2013	10,637		274		•		1,249	9,662	1,878		974	2,852		7,784
2012	5,854		-		-		244	5,610	569		418	987		5,041
2011	7,771		-		-		168	7,603	-		-	•		7,603
2010	888		-		-		46	842	-		-	-		842
2009	811		-		-		-	811	-		-	•		811
2008	290		•		-		9	281	-		-	-		281
2007	768		•		•		-	768	-		-	-		768
2006	53		-		-		-	53	-		-	-		53
2005			43				-	43			-			43
Total	\$ 11,312,694	\$	8,349	\$	35,425	\$	8,619	\$ 11,276,999	\$ 11,152,444	\$	51,195	\$ 11,203,639	\$	124,555

TOWN CLERK & REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS



Fiscal Year 2017-2018

Town Clerk & Registrar: Darlene F. Brady

Assistants: Marie France Corsini

The duties of the Town Clerk are based primarily on State Statutes (in fact Chapter 92 is devoted solely to the position) however we do work with several other state agencies. The statutory responsibilities of the office include; keeping the town seal (§7-101) and records of all votes of the town (§7-23), the recording of instruments and the safekeeping and indexing of records (§7-24, 25), accepting properly prepared maps for filing (§7-31), and collecting the fees for these transactions (§7-34). Liquor permits issued by the Department of Consumer Protection must be filed with the Town Clerk (§30-53) as well as Trade Name Certificates (§35-1). We also record military discharge papers (§1-219). Agendas and meeting minutes of all town boards and commissions must be filed with the Town Clerk pursuant to The Freedom of Information Act (§1-225) which in addition to maintaining files in the office; we also continue to make them accessible on the town's website. Under the guidance of the Secretary of State, we are involved with the processes of notary publics, justices of the peace, and the issuance of absentee ballots for elections. We issue dog licenses and sportsman licenses and collect the revenue for State. The Department of Public Health mandates the Town Clerk's issuing and recording of birth, marriage, and death certificates.

In addition to being open 31 hours a week for walk in business, our land records from 1928 to the present are available on-line 24/7 at searchiqs.com or by following a link from our website townofkentct.org. This allows attorneys and title searchers to access the information they need to handle Kent residents' real estate transactions right from their home or office, and gives residents not able to come in during office hours the ability to directly access their information.

We always welcome comments and suggestions on how to make our office better for our customers. Please feel free to give us a call at 860.927.3433 or email us at townclerk@townofkentct.org with your ideas.

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Revenues (Fees Collected)	#	\$	Vital Statistics
Recordings	441	14876.00	Births
Copies		2957.75	Marriages
Vital Records		5410.00	Deaths
Fish & Game Licenses	113	113.00	
Dog Licenses	401	401.50	
Miscellaneous		155.00	
Conveyance Tax		93285.27	
Total Revenues		117198.52	

Zoning Board of Appeals Annual Report July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

Anthony DiPentima, Chairman
Donna Hayes, Land Use Administrator

Total Fees Collected:

\$680.00

1 waived

Activities:

Actions:

Variance Applications

5

Appeal

0

The applications were for the following sections:

- Four requests for a waiver of area and dimensional requirements (approved)
- One request for a waiver of area and dimensional requirements (denied)

There was one appeal to the Superior Court that was withdrawn as a result of an out of court agreement. One request for a waiver of area and dimensional requirements was granted based on a recommendation of the Building Department.

Zoning Board of Appeals

The Board consists of 5 regular members and 3 alternates. All shall be elected at the biennial elections for terms of four years. The Selectmen shall appoint members and alternates to fill vacancies presently existing or hereafter occurring to hold office until the next town election.

Members:Term Expires:Alternates:Term Expires:Anthony DiPentima11/21/2021Anne Bisenius11/21/2021Nick Downes11/19/2019Patricia Oris11/21/2021Daniel Murray11/21/2021

Daniel Murray 11/21/2021 John Noneman 11/19/2019

Mike VanValkenburg 11/19/2019

OUTSIDE AGENCIES



Edward S. Bent, President Michael C. Jackson, Vice President Peter Aziz, Treaturer Jane L. Havemeyer, Secretary

Executive Director
John Simoncelli, LCSW, LADC, MPA

Founder and Trustee Emeritus
The Rev. W. David Dobbins, Jr.



GREENWOODS COUNSELING REFERRALS, INC.

Advisory Council
Joel Behar, Ph.D.
Edward C. Kavle, M.D.
Priscilla McCord
Edwina Millington
Eric Salk, M.D.
Katherine N. Vick

Truskes
Barbara Gold
Karen Halpert
Alistair J. Highet
Emily Littman Eisen, Ph.D.
Paul McLaughlin
Richard C. Sears
Ira D. Smith

Residents of Northwest Connecticut are a poignant illustration of national trends in mental healthcare. Though the need for mental healthcare is increasing nationwide, and most notably among youth, there is a continuing shortage of mental healthcare providers. Historically, Litchfield County is designated a Health Provider Shortage Area (HPSA) for Primary Care; in 2017 Litchfield County was designated a HPSA for Mental Health as well¹. This shortage of providers is especially detrimental to the residents of Northwest Connecticut who live in an epicenter of the national opioid epidemic. According to Beneath the Surface, a report funded in part by Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation, "all successful interventions that involve behavior change require community-wide...interventions." After 26 years of serving the residents of Northwest Connecticut, Greenwoods continues to forge and foster the community-wide connections that heal and nurture the health of its community. Owing to the vision and savvy of new executive director John Simoncelli, the past year in Greenwoods history has especially highlighted Greenwoods' ability to target and expand programming to meet the needs of its constituents.

Responsive Programming

In March 2017, Greenwoods welcomed John Simoncelli, LCSW, LADC, MPA, as its new executive director. John's expertise in mental health and addiction counseling, as well as the connections he has made in Northwest Connecticut through the Litchfield County Opiate Task Force and his own private mental healthcare practice², have allowed Greenwoods to offer greater opportunities for individual care, professional education, and community outreach. Under John's leadership, Greenwoods has:

- Connected more clients to the mental health services they need. One of John's first goals for Greenwoods was that staff complete 40 intake assessments and provider referrals per month. In 2018 Greenwoods has surpassed this goal. Staff currently completes 50 intake-assessment-referral processes per month. To ensure that clients receive the attention and individual care that they need, two Greenwoods staff members are dedicated to this service process. Mike Pisco, LMFT, MATS, completes all intake assessments and provider referrals. Elizabeth Griswold makes first and follow-up contact with clients; she also shepherds clients and providers through the service subsidy process, as Greenwoods remains true to its mission of connecting all clients with the care they need regardless of ability to pay.
- Responded to the mental health needs of Northwest Connecticut's most vulnerable populations. Greenwoods has replicated its model of assessment and referral in Litchfield Public Schools and it will expand this school program to WAMOGO in the 2018-2019 school year. In the upcoming school year, Greenwoods will dedicate two professionals one mental health clinician and one program administrator to support Northwest Connecticut's youngest and most vulnerable residents through this school program. Furthermore, Greenwoods will continue to be first responders in crises that affect the mental health of the community's youth. This June, Greenwoods clinicians offered a week of counseling services to students, faculty, and staff of WAMOGO High School after the sudden death of a beloved teacher. Owing to the skill of its staff and the quality of even its newest connections in the community, Greenwoods is able to respond quickly and thoughtfully to the needs of all of its constituents.

¹ https://datawarehouse.hrsa.gov/tools/analyzers/hpsafind.aspx

² https://www.authenticrecovery.org/

- Joined the fight against the opioid epidemic. In partnership with local service organizations and community-invested funders, Greenwoods has begun a Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) program to support patients in recovery from opioid addiction. Beneath the Surface explains that "medication coupled with counseling is the most effective form of treatment for opioid addiction." Right now, there is limited access to such treatment in Northwest Connecticut due to a lack of prescribers and funding. Striving to provide the treatment and support necessary for effecting recovery, Greenwoods and local APRN Catherine Lavoie will provide Suboxone prescription and individual counseling to patients in recovery through the Suboxone Maintenance and Relapse Prevention Program. Through this program, Greenwoods will support the individuals, families, and communities of Northwest Connecticut that are disproportionately harmed by the opioid epidemic and historically underserved in mental health and addiction.
- Empowered providers and community members to better cultivate and support community health. Since the beginning of John Simoncelli's tenure, Greenwoods has strengthened its dedication to education and community outreach as a means to community wellness. In just the past year Greenwoods has offered mental health providers a three-part training series on trauma and addiction treatment; partnered with Mental Health First Aid to provide four day-long courses on mental healthcare to providers and community members; hosted Narcan trainings open to the community; and supported the making of the film Recovering Community: Understanding the Roots of Addiction, a documentary that narrates how the current drug and alcohol epidemic uniquely affects Northwest Connecticut. Through these efforts at education and empowerment, Greenwoods strives to be a catalyst for community-wide connection and wellness.

Responsible Growth

Greenwoods' ability to offer these expanded and targeted services while honoring its pledge to serve all clients in need regardless of ability to pay is due to John Simoncelli's focus on caring for community health and organization health. John understands that achieving greater financial health and sustainability for Greenwoods is the only way to ensure that Greenwoods will continue to nurture the well-being of Northwest Connecticut. As a result, since March 2017 Greenwoods has taken the following steps toward organizational health:

- Installed TheraNest: Practice Management Software on all staff computers. In Summer 2018, Greenwoods began to use TheraNest software to streamline and normalize their practices and procedures in billing, note-taking, and data collection. Not only will this change increase Greenwoods' day-to-day efficiency, but it will also improve the consistency and quality of services rendered. Furthermore, improved data collection will allow staff to better understand how Greenwoods' services are meeting or falling short of client needs and then adapt practices and programming to better fulfill the organization service mission.
- Initiated credentialing in-house staff with Medicare/Medicaid and private insurance companies. As a tenet of its MAT program Greenwoods has begun to credential in-house clinicians with Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance companies. Once credentialing is complete, Greenwoods will be able to bill for services rendered. According to initial projections, this will allow Greenwoods to bill for at least 50% of all intake assessments and up to 80% of all sessions with mental healthcare providers.
- Expanded the Greenwoods Provider Network and created the Greenwoods Private Practice Group. In just a little over a year Greenwoods has expanded its partner provider network from 30 to nearly 150 mental health clinicians. This has allowed Greenwoods to better serve its clients as it now has the capacity to make referrals for more clients and the capacity to make more "right fit" referrals for each client. Furthermore, from this work has grown the Greenwoods Private Practice Group. This group of clinicians will work out of the Greenwoods office and will be run by Greenwoods staff for oversight, billing, and logistical purposes. Not only will this allow Greenwoods to increase the efficiency of the

assessment-referral process, thereby allowing clients to access clinician sessions more quickly and easily, but it will also allow Greenwoods to collect a percentage of the cost for each patient session. According to initial projections, 40% of Greenwoods clients will be self-referred, while the other 60% will choose to access another provider within the larger Greenwoods provider network. It is important to Greenwoods that the choice of provider remains with the client and, where it is clinically appropriate, that that choice is a provider within the Greenwoods Private Practice Group.

- Partnered with local organizations to reach more clients, share resources, and disseminate learning. In an effort to promote community-wide intervention and support for the mental health of Northwest Connecticut, John Simoncelli has spent much of his tenure connecting Greenwoods to other local advocacy groups, non-profits and service organizations, and individual donors and foundations. Such efforts include:
 - o Active membership in the Litchfield County Opiate Task Force;
 - Establishing an employee assistance program with a local non-profit in which Greenwoods
 offers a reduced rate for 6 sessions with an in-house clinician to employees of the non-profit,
 which the non-profit pays; and,
 - o Engaging more local funders in Greenwoods' responsive programming. For example, Greenwoods has engaged Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation, Connecticut Community Foundation, and Seherr-Thoss Foundations to support \$40,000 of the cost of its MAT program, as well as Berkshire Taconic Community Fund to support its trauma and addiction workshop series and its triage services at WAMOGO this summer. Greenwoods will hold meetings with more fund managers and influential individual donors this fall to engage them in Greenwoods' future plans for service and sustainability.

Greenwoods has made measurable progress toward supporting the well-being of Northwest Connecticut since March 2017. According to the Greenwoods board of directors and executive director, "the past 12 months have felt like a rejuvenation of the best aspects of Greenwoods". Under the leadership and vision of executive director John Simoncelli, and in partnership with the Northwest Connecticut community, Greenwoods will continue to build organizational health while providing responsive care for community health.

Housatonic River Commission

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

Annual Report 2017-2018

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 process in its final stages at the federal level. HRC and others worked with NPS personnel in preparing their final report, including canoeing stretches of the River this fall. Anticipating the forthcoming federal approval, meetings of the Housatonic Wild and Scenic Core Coordination Committee began quarterly meetings with representatives from NPS, HVA, CT DEEP, and NHCOG. Each group providing updates on their work including summer River Steward Program (HVA), angler surveys (CT DEEP) and low impact development programs (NHCOG) in the region.

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 the approval of its next phase. 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 growing topic this year was efforts to address invasive plant species along the waterway, with several members working to monitor and in some cases control troublesome, aggressive invasives in the inner river corridor. Monitoring the work of the Housatonic Railroad, including their track repair, herbicide use and derailment risk continue. The River 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.

With sadness this winter, HRC marked the passing of Salisbury representative George Kiefer. One of the original HRC members, George served with distinction for four decades on this commission and is greatly missed.

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.

Kent Memorial Library

Annual Report to the Town of Kent Fiscal Year July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018

Sarah Marshall, Library Director

The Kent Memorial Library is a private non-profit association and serves as the principle public library for the Town of Kent. Established in 1915, its operations are overseen by the Kent Library Association, Inc. The Association raises in excess of two thirds of its operating budget annually as less than one third is provided by the Town of Kent. The entire capital budget is privately funded. The mission statements of the Association and the Library are set forth below.

- The mission of the Kent Library Association is to provide the resources and oversight needed to ensure that the Kent Memorial Library accomplishes and adheres to its mission.
- The mission of the Kent Memorial Library is to enrich individuals and the community by providing materials, programs and services to encourage reading, learning, and imagination.

Almost 46,000 people visited the library last year, and we work hard to provide programming and materials that will bring people in. This year we had Fiber Optic Cable installed to improve connectivity and speed of our internet. We added an afterschool buddies program pairing local teens with younger children for science and art programs. We have also started offering half-day drop off programs to help families with the regular early dismissals from Kent Center School. We actively participate in Kent Chamber of Commerce events like the Gilmore Girls Fan Fest and the Champagne Stroll. And our computers, copiers, and fax machine are utilized by a steady stream of patrons. The Library is open 43.5 hours each week. In response to a survey the library put out in 2016 we opened for Summer Sundays, adding four additional hours weekly during July and August. The following table presents statistics for the past two years.

	2016-2017	2017-2018	% change
Association Members	261	278	+6.5%
Cardholders	1,183	1,273	+7.6%
Visitors to the Library	42,982	45,864	+6.7%
Circulation:			
Books and audio books	21,983	21,140	-3.8%
Downloadable e-books & audiobooks (Overdrive)	2,136	1348	-37%
DVD's and videos	4,553	4232	-7%
Programs (attendees / no. of programs):			
Children and young adults	3,908 / 256	4197/241	+6.9% / -5.9%
Adults	4,725 / 173	4583/271	-3%b / +57%
Computer usage	4,999	5192	+3.9%
Website hits	18,901	45991	+143%
Constant Contact Subscribers	1,226	1239	+1%

Staffing and Board Oversight

The Library staff has 4.54 FTE. Volunteers worked over 5,100 hours and greatly supplemented staff resources. The Board of the Kent Library Association oversees the overall operation of the Library.

Officers

Co-Presidents: Sandra Edelman and Jim Blackketter

Vice President: Sharon Hartwick
Treasurer: Mark Sebetic
Secretary: Michaela Lawrence

Members

Janette Bornn Ruth O'Meara
Kenneth Cooper Elizabeth Radday
Ellen Horvitz Janet Rivkin
Eve Iselin Betty Ruddy
Carol Linn Julie Saxton
Rudy Molho Rick Vizzari
P. H. Nargeolet John Youngblood

Sharon Norton Friends of the Library Chair: Roz Molho

Financial Report

	2016/17	2017/18	Pct incr/Decr.
Revenue			
Public:			
Town of Kent	100,500	100,500	0%
State of CT	323	326	1%
Total public funds	100,823	100,826	0%
Membership	65,949	71,400	8%
Car raffle and garden party	53,057	75,449	42%
Book sale	32,799	53,863	64%
Other, net of fund raising expenses	27,905	25,739	8%
Total private funds	179,710	226,451	26%
Grants	16,138	17,220	7%
Total revenue	296,671	337,537	14%
	2016/17	2017/18	
Expenses			
Staff	183,947	187,873	2%
Books and programs	20,711	19,595	-5%
Utilities	16,058	18,099	13%
Technology	20,928	24,030	15%
Maintenance and repairs	12,287	^18,555	51%
Other	38,085	34,591	-9%
Total expenses	292,016	302,743	4%
Capital expenditures & unexpected repairs	**4220	*5,515	31%
Excess (deficit) of revenues over expenses	4,665	34,794	647%

^{**2016/17} Capital expenses for necessary tree work (\$1,236) + sewer line obstruction removal (\$1,324) + animal pests removal (\$1,060) + unexpected building repairs (\$600) = Total of \$4,220

^{*2017/18} Capital expenses: Air Conditioning/heating unit installed in loft (\$4930) + pest remediation in firehouse (\$585) = \$5515

^ Plowing and Mowing (\$3,865)+Troubleshooting a HVAC problem (\$656) + utilities in general up over 16%

LAKE WARAMAUG AUTHORITY ANNUAL REPORT 2018

The Lake Waramaug Authority was established by ordinances of the towns of Washington, Warren, and Kent under State of Connecticut statute. Its primary purpose is to ensure year round safety for all who enjoy the lake's numerous recreational activities. The lake Authority patrols the lake during the summer months, and monitors other safety issues including, but not limited to dock, buoy and float placement, as well as permits and safety patrols for the many rowing regattas. The Towns of Washington and Warren each pay 40 % and the Town of Kent pays 20% of the costs to financially support the work of the Lake Waramauq Authority.

Under the direction of Washington Officer Pat Kessler, the marine staff patrols the lake from early spring until the mid-autumn months. In addition, during the spring the Authority provides police and rescue divers for all high school rowing regattas. This season, there were a total of 12 patrol shifts incorporating 76 officer hours on the lake. There were 8 safety checks, 2 verbal warnings issued and 2 overturned canoes needing water rescues. There was also a 911 call which was satisfactorily resolved.

The volume of non-motor craft, particularly kayaks and canoes has increased again this year complicated by the rental of kayaks and canoes by Clark Outdoors to visitors who are sometimes non-swimmers.

This is the fourth summer that motorboats were regulated by a slow no wake zone in the northern section of the state park. This has provided a safer environment for the many paddlers using that area of the lake. There were no violations within the slow no wake zone.

The town ordinance that was passed in 2016 in Washington, Warren and Kent prohibiting the landing of an aircraft of any type on Lake Waramaug has been successful.

Access to Lake Waramaug via the boat launch at the New Preston site continues to operate smoothly. All boats entering the water are carefully checked in an effort to continue to keep the lake free of invasive species. The Lake Waramaug Authority is pleased to report that the boat inspection program had another successful year with the cooperation of resident and day boaters alike. Car top craft also require inspection and with the addition of the sign at the State Park, we are hopeful that all boats entering the lake are inspected. Dowler's Garage in New Preston continues to inspect car top craft that wish to launch when the boat ramp is not open.

During the winter months the Authority conducts emergency ice rescue drills to ensure that all rescue volunteers are up to date with their training and are familiar with the operation of the airboat. A new faster launch system for the airboat is fully operational. Most importantly, Officer Kessler has formed a team of more than 12 individuals who are trained to perform under water and under ice rescue and the team has been equipped with new and better rescue gear.

Members of the Lake Authority represent the three surrounding towns. They include Chairman Ed Berner of Warren; Secretary Sandy Papsin of Washington; Treasurer Gary Davis of Kent and representatives Kevin Brady and Chris Garrity of Kent, Bill Hopkins and Rebecca Holmes of Warren, Dean Sarjeant and Ed Matthews of Washington.

This is the eighth year the patrol boat has been in operation. All marine officers have been fully trained and are qualified to operate the boat for patrols and emergencies.

Continued thanks are extended to all the town residents who have patiently cooperated with the boat inspections and understand the importance of protecting our lake for today, tomorrow and all future generations.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Papsin

Sandy Papsin

Secretary, Lake Waramaug Authority

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 2018 focused on preparing a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Region. Major strategies in the CEDS include expanding the fiber optic network, promoting tourism/arts/culture, supporting local farms, strengthening manufacturing, and encouraging entrepreneurs/innovation. The COG also adopted an updated Regional Plan of Conservation and Development this year, and initiated the development of a Resiliency Vision and Toolkit for the Northwest Hills. With technical assistance from the Housatonic Valley Association, the NHCOG also prepared an on-line Interactive Regional Trail Map to enhance access to information on the public access trails in the region.

Focus Area Two: Grant writing and administration activities in 2018 focused on administering grant funds awarded 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) the completion of a low-impact development guidebook, 5) implementation of the CEDS, 6) development of a Regional Resiliency Vision and Toolkit for the region, 7) the design of a regional animal shelter to serve the Torrington area, and 8) implementation of the Rural Independent Transportation Service. 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.

<u>Focus Area Three: Regional service delivery activities</u> in 2018 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 Neighbor-to-Neighbor program in cooperation with the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, a fuel bank program, the Northwest Hills Public Works Equipment Cooperative, and the region's cooperative purchasing program.

A variety of issues of regional significance were discussed at the monthly meetings of the COG this year including water supply planning, transportation safety planning, economic development priorities, broadband service, GIS service, the opioid epidemic, legislative priorities, cyber security, recycling and disposal of municipal solid waste, housing issues, and demographic changes in the region.

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 2017-2018 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 Connecticut Regional Housing Council

Annual Report

Submitted: September 2018

Providing housing options that are affordable for young adults, young families, seniors, and those who work in our towns is critically important to many Northwest Corner towns. Creating these housing options is the sole focus of the Northwest Connecticut Regional Housing Council. The Council is made up of representatives from each town's local housing organization who meet quarterly to report upon and gain valuable information for their town-specific planning and housing development.

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

This year the Housing Council members also learned from guest speakers and presentations on topics such as down payment assistance, State funding for affordable housing, tax assessment on affordable housing properties, and new State legislation that requires towns to have an "affordable housing plan" adopted by the town. We appreciate the information offered by Jocelyn Ayer from the Northwest Hills Council of Governments (NHCOG), David Berto of Housing Enterprises Inc., and Lesley Higgins-Biddle from LISC at our meetings.

We thank our member towns for their financial support and NHCOG for hosting our meetings and organizing speakers. Our towns' \$100 annual dues are a cost effective investment in our area's future. For more information on the Regional Housing Council or the local housing organizations which are members, visit www.northwesthillscog.org/housing.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Groody Musselman, Chair

TORRINGTON AREA HEALTH DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT: JULY 1, 2017 – JUNE 30, 2018

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

The TAHD Community Health Program partnered with DPH and FoodCore to investigate: 2 cryptosporidium, 7 giardiasis, 19 campylobacteriosis, 13 salmonellosis, and 4 shiga toxin producing organisms. TAHD completed case management for 1 case of tuberculosis (diagnosed in FY 17). TAHD provided guidance to school nurses, daycares and community members on a variety of health issues. TAHD nurses administered 490 doses of flu vaccine to local residents. TAHD consulted with 31 residents regarding potential rabies exposures which resulted in TAHD submitting 22 raccoons, bats, and other animals to the State of CT Laboratory for rabies testing. Guidance on post exposure prophylaxis was provided as well. Ticks brought in by 122 residents were sent to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station for Lyme disease bacteria testing.

TAHD is a member of Fit Together, a Northwest Connecticut Healthy Eating and Active Living Initiative. In April of 2018 Fit Together received a five year, \$500K grant received from Hartford HealthCare (HHC) as a result of their new affiliation with Torrington's Charlotte Hungerford Hospital. This financial support allowed the group to move forward on several health initiatives and has allowed the program to hire an Executive Director, and a 5210 Coordinator. Fit Together focuses on identifying policy changes and environmental improvements in area towns that effectively promote healthy habits and food choices. The program is based on assessments and research which has consistently shown that healthy eating and active living promotes productivity at work and school, maximizes mental and physical functioning, and prevents chronic diseases.

The TAHD continues to be an active member of the Litchfield County Opiate Task Force. This task force continues to work on strategies and solutions to the heroin/opiate addiction and overdose epidemic. The task force focuses on intervention, prevention, and community education.

In addition, the TAHD, along with other Health Districts/Departments across CT, was awarded a four-year contract to implement a comprehensive prevention strategy that raises community awareness and brings prescription drug abuse prevention activities and education to communities, schools, parents, prescribers, and their patients. TAHD is using the CT state wide "Change the Script" campaign for this awareness. TAHD is also providing prescriber education to increase the use of the CT Prescription Monitoring & Reporting System (CPMRS) to reduce prescription drug misuse, overdose, and death.

The TAHD-Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Program continued with their "Project Mitigate" trainings. Project Mitigate was designed to bring harm reduction strategies, overdose recognition and reversal skills to participants. The TAHD MRC Project Mitigate has won a National MRC Innovator Award of Excellence. The TAHD MRC provided volunteers for an emergency flu clinic at TAHD held in response to large numbers of illness in CT. TAHD MRC provided volunteers for a WEST CONN functional needs shelter following the tornadoes in western CT. TAHD MRC received a level II NACCHO Challenge Award Grant of \$7,500. This will pay for "Project Apprise", an opioid prevention program, which is focusing on rural high schools, which are in the TAHD service area, but outside of the McCall Center for Behavioral Health and Area Health Education Center (AHEC) service areas. Current membership is 23 members.

The TAHD **Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program** provided case management for more than 52 children with blood lead levels ($\geq 5\mu/dl$) as well as provided educational information to more than 100 families. Abatement / Remediation Orders were issued for 2 properties. Four properties completed abatement. Currently 12 properties have open environmental cases. TAHD continues to focus on prevention services: healthy home assessments, cleaning supplies and home teaching of the "3 bucket" system of cleaning to decrease blood lead levels. TAHD **Healthy Homes Program** conducted 16 initial home inspections and 4 reinspections.

The TAHD Immunization Action Program (IAP) continues to work with local providers and hospitals to ensure compliance with immunization laws for the infants and young children population. The focus for this year has been on transitioning from CIRTS (Connecticut Immunization Registry and Tracking System) to CT WiZ the new Immunization Information System.

The TAHD Emergency Preparedness Program worked with community partners to refine emergency protocols and plans. A focus this year was developing a regional healthcare coalition. TAHD also participated in many local and regional drills. TAHD provided an emergency Saturday flu clinic in February in response to the Commissioner of Public Health's request to provide unvaccinated citizens with the opportunity to get vaccinated while Connecticut was experiencing widespread high flu activity statewide.

The TAHD partners with Phoenix Labs for its **Water Testing Program**. Phoenix Labs, a full service lab located in Manchester, CT offers a wide range of testing of drinking water, wastewater, groundwater/landfills, storm water, soil and more. TAHD collects samples when requested, and offers free technical advice on water testing results.

TAHD Environmental Health Program resulted in the following inspections/licenses/permits: 1741 food inspections, 817 temporary food permits, 92 new septic systems, 233 repaired septic systems, 179 private well permits, 64 private pool permits, 141 beauty salons & barber shops inspections, 520 house addition permits, 256 soil tests, 35 subdivision lots, 58 public pools and beaches were inspected, and 28 daycare centers inspected. Records show that approximately 366 samples were submitted to the state lab for testing of drinking water, beach and pool water, lead in water, soil, and dust, and stool samples for pathogens. Sanitarians investigated 279 complaints of various public health concerns; 34 legal orders/voluntary compliances were issued for enforcement purposes.

Robert Rubbo, MPH, Director of Health

Women's Support Services Annual Report 01 July 2017 – 30 June 2018 Town of Kent

Each year, the National Network to End Domestic Violence conducts a 'Domestic Violence Count'. It is a non-invasive, unduplicated count of adults and children who seek services from domestic violence agencies throughout the country during a single 24-hour period. In the count conducted last year in Connecticut, 1,041 victims were provided support by the 18 domestic violence agencies across the state in a single day. This support ranged from counseling and support groups, to legal advocacy and emergency shelter. Across the board, we have seen increases in hotline calls, victim services such as counseling and court advocacy, and shelter requests.

As devastating as these statistics are, there are several positive observations to report:

- Increasing awareness regarding the pervasiveness of domestic violence and a shifting attitude toward supporting survivors of domestic violence encourages more people to come forward;
- Increasing prevention efforts in schools helps establish healthy behavior patterns early in life; and
- Improved collaboration among service providers (healthcare, police, social services, etc.) facilitates better intervention on behalf of victims and the provision of appropriate services.

As we highlighted in our proposal to the town, Women's Support Services has focused on promoting *coordinated community response* (CCR) across our townships. We have been making significant strides in this area and the on-going support from the town has enabled WSS to:

 Foster the dialogue necessary to galvanize community support against domestic violence and abuse. Over 130 businesses are participating in our Main Street Partners

¹ 12th Annual Domestic Violence Counts Connecticut Summary: http://www.ctcadv.org/files/8915/2959/9579/DVCounts17_StateSummary_CT.pdf

- program, an initiative designed to promote awareness raising by working with businesses and agencies along the main business thoroughfares in our towns.
- Strengthen our relationships with our partners. WSS has established strong partnerships with Troop 'B' and recently opened dialogue with the Resident Trooper from Troop 'L' in Kent. We have also presented at numerous venues throughout the northwest corner, and have worked with partners to launch awareness raising among the elderly, Latinx, and LGBTQIA youth communities.
- Elevate our efforts to prevent violence in the first place through our primary
 prevention activities with young people. We are now active in nearly all elementary
 and middle schools in Region One, the high school, and most private schools in the
 broader region, as well as local daycare centers and camps.

During the past year, Women's Support Services has:

- Provided support services to 684 clients, 453 of whom were new clients. The composition
 of our new clients includes:
 - o 425 adults and 28 children
 - o 341 female, 109 male, and 2 transgender adult and youth clients, with 1 unreported client.
- Responded to 343 hotline crisis calls.
- Provided emergency shelter to 7 people.
- Provided criminal court advocacy and support to 452 victims of family violence.
- Conducted hundreds of prevention workshops to children and teens in local schools,
 daycare programs, and camps

Thanks to the generosity of the town and its community members, Women's Support Services is able to provide all of our services confidentially and free of charge. Thank you for your on-going support and commitment.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (UNAUDITED)

JUNE 30, 2018

The management of the Town of Kent, Connecticut (the "Town"), is pleased to present this overview of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018. The information presented below should be considered in conjunction with the Town's financial statements that follow:

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

On a government-wide basis, the Town's assets and deferred outflows of \$26,487,283 exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of \$3,737,322 at June 30, 2018, resulting in total net position of \$22,749,961. Of that, \$16,189,709 was invested in capital assets while \$6,502,210 represented unrestricted net position, available to meet ongoing government obligations. The Town's net position increased \$1,097,233 or 5% during the fiscal year.

The Town's governmental funds reported, on a current financial resources basis, a combined ending fund balance of \$5,708,402, an increase of \$677,387 or 13%, during the fiscal year. The General Fund operating surplus for this fiscal year was \$485,656. The General Fund balance at June 30, 2018, was \$3,036,444 of which \$388,500 is committed for expenditures in the 2018-2019 fiscal year, \$29,416 is committed for Schaghticoke Litigation expenses, and \$44,888 is committed for Maple Street Debt Service.

The unassigned fund balance of \$2,517,261 of the General Fund represents 21% of the General Fund budgeted appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis serves as an introduction to the Town's basic financial statements. The Town's basic financial statements are comprised of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide a broad overview of the Town's finances, similar to those used by private-sector businesses. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, which are the government-wide statements, report information about Town finances as a whole. All revenues and charges are reported as soon as the underlying event occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

The government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the Town that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, called "governmental activities" from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges, referred to as "business-type" activities". The governmental activities of the Town include general government, public safety, public works, health and welfare, recreation, sanitation, and education activities. The Kent Sewer Commission operates the Town's only business-type activity.

The government-wide financial statements can be found on pages 11 and 12 of this report.

Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain and control accountability over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. In order to comply with finance-related legal requirements, the Town, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting. All of the Town's funds can be divided into three categories: governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds.

Governmental Funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements, that is, the Town's most basic services. Unlike the government-wide financial statements, however, the funds focus on the current year's cash receipts and expenditures and the balances of expendable resources at the end of the year. Consequently, the governmental fund statements provide a near or short-term view of the Town's finances that may be useful in evaluating the Town's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. This comparison is facilitated by a reconciliation schedule of both statements, found on pages 14 and 16 of this report.

The Town maintains various governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund Balance Sheet and in the governmental fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances for the General Fund and the Capital Projects Fund, each of which is considered to be a major fund. The remaining 15 governmental funds are combined into a single aggregated presentation in the governmental fund financial statements as other funds.

The Town adopts an annual appropriated budget for its general fund. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided on page 17 of this report to demonstrate compliance with the authorized budget.

The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 13 to 17 of this report.

<u>Proprietary Funds</u> are used to report the same functions presented as business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements. The information provided for proprietary funds is the same type as for government-wide financial statements but in more detail.

The proprietary fund statements provide separate information for the Kent Sewer Operating Fund, the Town's enterprise fund.

The proprietary fund financial statements can be found on pages 18 to 20 of this report.

<u>Fiduciary Funds</u> are used to account for resources held by the Town for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to provide services to the Town. The accounting used for fiduciary fund is much like that used for proprietary funds.

The basic fiduciary fund financial statements can be found on pages 21 and 22 of this report.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 23 to 47 of this report.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Net position may serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. The Town's net position was \$22,749,961 at June 30, 2018.

		Net Position									
	Government	al Activities	Business-T	vpe Activities	Tot	als					
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017					
Assets Current assets Capital assets	\$ 6,446,815 15,564,543	\$ 5,696,424 1 15,535,119	\$ 857,974 3,357,563	\$ 968,581 3,410,896	\$ 7,304,789 18,922,106	\$ 6,665,005 18,946,015					
Noncurrent assets	13,504,545		219,789	218,791	219,789	218,791					
	22,011,358	21,231,543	4,435,326	<u>4,598,268</u>	<u> 26,446,684</u>	<u>25.829.811</u>					
Deferred outflows of resources	40,599	54,927	=	<u>-</u>	40,599	54,927					
<u>Liabilities</u> Current liabilities Noncurrent liabilities	1,240,580 888,188 2,128,768	1,162,973 1,449,398 2,612,371	35,576 1,572,978 1,608,554	24,549 1,595,090 1,619,639	1,276,156 2.461,166 3,737,322	1,187,522 3,044,488 4,232,010					
Deferred inflows of resources						:					
Net position Net investment in capital assets Restricted Unrestricted	14,207,841 58,042 5,657,306	13,602,520 57,379 5,014,200	1,981,868 - <u>844,904</u>	2,013,407 <u>965,222</u>	16,189,709 58,042 <u>6,502,210</u>	15,615,927 57,379 5,979,422					
	<u>\$ 19,923,189</u>	<u>\$ 18,674,099</u>	<u>\$ 2,826,772</u>	<u>\$ 2,978,629</u>	\$22,749,96 <u>1</u>	<u>\$ 21,652,728</u>					

The largest portion of the Town's net position (71%) reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, machinery and equipment, and infrastructure assets), which is reported net of any related debt used to acquire those assets that are still outstanding. The Town uses these capital assets to provide services to its citizens; consequently those assets are not available for future spending. Although the Town's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities. Unrestricted net position increased \$522,788 or 8.7%, during the fiscal year.

		Changes in Net Position									
	Governmen	tal Activities	Business-Tv	pe Activities	Tota						
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017					
Program revenues						0.5.55					
Charges for services	\$ 450,087	\$ 448,762	\$ 366,451	\$ 398,896	\$ 816,538	\$ 847,658					
Operating grants and						1046163					
contributions	1,146,236	1,046,163	•	-	1,146,236	1,046,163					
Capital grants and contribut	ions 373,429	1,979,850	•	-	373,429	1,979,850					
General revenues						10.050.020					
Property taxes	11,202,466	10,970,030	-	•	11,202,466	10,970,030					
Grants and contributions no	t					260.007					
restricted to specific progra	ams 173,032	360,987	-	-	173,032	360,987					
Investment income	78,957	36,174	525	534	79,482	36,708					
Miscellaneous	153,130	103,186			153,130	103,186					
Total revenues	13,577,337	14,945,152	<u>366,976</u>	399,430	13,944,313	15,344,582					
Expenses											
General government	1,284,391	1,122,490	-	•	1,284,391	1,122,490					
Public safety	353,624	315,387	-	-	353,624	315,387					
Public works	1,819,013	1,734,919	•	-	1,819,013	1,734,919					
Health and welfare	152,796	134,238	-	-	152,796	134,238					
Recreation	261,696	244,845	-	-	261,696	244,845					
Sanitation	107,132	106,066	546,376	441,837	653,508	547,903					
Education	8,272,460	8,185,854	-	•	8,272,460	8,185,854					
Interest on long-term debt	49,592	78,805	-	-	49,592	78,805					
Transfers	27,543	(842,532)	(27,543)	<u>842,532</u>							
Total expenses	12,328,247	11,080,072	518,833	1,284,369	12.847.080	12.364.441					
Change in net position	1,249,090	3,865,080	(151,857)	(884,939)	1,097,233	2,980,141					
Net position, July 1	18,674,099	14,809,019	2,978,629	3,863,568	_21,652,728	18.672.587					
Net position, June 30	<u>\$ 19,923,189</u>	<u>\$ 18.674.099</u>	<u>\$ 2,826,772</u>	<u>\$ 2,978,629</u>	<u>\$ 22,749,961</u>	<u>\$.21,652,728</u>					

Governmental Activities

Governmental activities increased the Town's net position by \$1,249,090. The largest portion of the Town's governmental activities revenues, 82.6%, was derived from property taxes, 8.3% from operating grants and contributions, 3.3% from charges for services, 2.8% from capital grants and contributions, and 3% from all other sources.

Revenues of governmental activities decreased \$1,367,815 or 9.2% from the previous year. The most significant factor affecting this decrease was diminished grant funds received for Carter Road bridge work. However, positive variances in property tax collection, interest and lien fees, interest on investments, fees collected by the Town Clerk and additional revenue from leasing the cell tower helped to offset the decrease.

Expenses increased \$1,248,175 or 11.3% from the previous year. Significant factors affecting this increase are principally related to the reclassification of debt service in FY '17 to Business-Type Activities. Modest increases in education spending and public works also contributed.

Business-Type Activities

Business-type activities decreased the Town's net position by \$151,857 principally related to the reduced collection of user fees as well as costs associated with replacing equipment.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FUNDS

The Town uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds: The focus of the Town's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Town's financing requirements. The unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

At June 30, 2018, the Town's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$5,708,402. Of this amount, \$58,042 was nonspendable and held in permanent funds; \$2,569,468 was restricted for capital projects; \$15,562 was restricted by permanent funds; \$85,265 was committed through special revenue funds; and \$462,804 was committed for specific purposes. The remaining \$2,517,261 was unassigned.

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the Town. As a measure of the General Fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unassigned fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures. The General Fund's unassigned fund balance of \$2,517,261 represented 21% of total general fund budgetary basis expenditures. The General Fund's total fund balance of \$3,036,444 represented 25.6% of total General Fund budgetary basis expenditures. For the fiscal year, the General Fund's fund balance increased \$482,819. See "General Fund Budgetary Highlights" for further discussion.

The fund balance of the capital projects fund was \$2,569,468 at June 30, 2018, an increase of \$282,576 from the previous fiscal year.

Proprietary Funds: The Town's proprietary fund provides the same type of information found in the government-wide financial statements, but in more detail. Net position of the Sewer Commission's fund was \$2,826,772 at June 30, 2018. The factors affecting the funds are discussed in the Business-Type Activities section of this report.

GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

The fund balance of the Town's General Fund increased by \$485,656 or 19.6% during the fiscal year. The original budget proposed and adopted in May 2017 included an appropriation of \$225,000 from the available fund balance. Actual revenues exceeded budgetary estimates by \$248,428 and actual expenditures were \$237,228 less than appropriations. As a result, \$0 of the General Fund balance was used to balance the budget.

The primary factors affecting the budget results were; tax collection resulting in a positive variance of \$144,969; intergovernmental revenues resulting in a positive variance of \$99,558; departmental revenues resulting in a positive variance of \$39,762 and other revenues resulting in a negative variance of \$110,475. Expenditures were principally aligned with budgeted amounts. The Board of Education variance was the largest at \$112,487 and that was AFTER an appropriation of \$60,000 to the KCS Window project - pursuant to CT Statute 10-248a.

CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

The Town's investment in capital assets for its governmental and business-type activities as of June 30, 2018, amounted to \$18,922,106 (net of accumulated depreciation). The investment in capital assets included land, buildings and improvements, machinery and equipment, vehicles, and infrastructure. The decrease in the Town's investment in capital assets for the fiscal year was \$23,909.

		Governmen	tal	Activities		Business-Ty	ъе	Activities		Tot	als	
	_	2018	<u></u>	2017	_	2018	_	2017		2018		2017
Land	\$	1,378,530	\$.,,	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,378,530 200,327	\$	1,378,530 2,487,166
Construction in progress Buildings and improvements		200,327 7,717,751		2,487,166 8,125,518		1,141,731		1,138,340		8,859,482		9,263,858
Land improvements Machinery and equipment		76,584 176,867		85,113 242,572		126,042		143,175		76,584 302,909		85,113 385,747
Vehicles Infrastructure		386,926 5,627,558		468,780 2,747,440		- 2,089,790	_	2,129,381	_	386,926 <u>7,717,348</u>		468,780 4,876,821
IIII dasu uotute	<u>\$</u>	15,564,543	<u>\$</u>	15,535,119	<u>\$</u>	3,357,563	\$	3,410,896	<u>\$</u> _	18,922,106	<u>\$</u>	18,946,015

Major capital asset additions during FY 2017-2018 include the Carter Road improvements and bridge #18 on Kent Hollow road.

Debt Administration

At June 30, 2018, the Town's long-term debt included general obligation bond debt outstanding totaling \$1,340,000. The Town's general obligation debt is backed by the full faith and credit of the Town. General obligation bonds totaling \$570,000 were repaid during the fiscal year.

Including \$953,895 of Regional School District No. 1 debt, for which the Town is contingently liable, the Town's outstanding debt is significantly below the statutory debt limit of \$76,636,518 (seven times the base for debt limitation computation).

Additional information on the Town's long-term obligations can be found in Note 8 of the financial statements.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES

The following factors were considered in preparing the Town's budget for the 2019 fiscal year:

- Possible elimination of the Town Aid Road grant by the State of Connecticut.
- Escalating costs for Health Insurance Coverage.
- Elimination by the state of their cost share portion of the resident state trooper program.
- Estimated future capital costs for the Kent Center School.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report, or requests for additional financial information, should be addressed to the Board of Selectmen at 41 Kent Green Boulevard, P.O. Box 678, Kent, CT 06757.

GENERAL FUND SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS) FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

		Budgeted Amount	s		Variance with Final Budget Positive
	Original	Transfers	Final	Actual	(Negative)
Property Taxes					
Property taxes	\$ 11,021,099	<u>s</u> -	\$ 11,021,099	\$ 11,166,068	\$ 144,969
Interest and Lien Fees	40,500	•	40,500	59,123	18,623
Intergovernmental Revenues					
Education assistance	1,754	-	1,754	13,462	11,708
Property tax relief	•	-	•	846	846
Mashantucket Pequot	8,957	-	8,957	8,957	-
Town aid roads	284,619	•	284,619	285,338	719
In lieu of taxes	73,239	-	73,239	33,937	(39,302)
Other	1,000	•	1,000	126,587	125,587
	369,569		369,569	469,127	99,558
Investment Income					i
Interest and dividends	14,000	-	14,000	53,762	39,762
	14,000		14,000	53,762	39,762
Departmental					
Building fees	35,000	-	35,000	34,009	(991)
Planning and zoning	12,000	•	12,000	18,660	6,660
Parks and recreation	33,250	•	33,250	34,274	1,024
Town clerk recording fees and					
conveyance taxes	80,000	•	80,000	115,845	35,845
Transfer station	94,000	•	94,000	106,094	12,094
Other	7,850		7,850	9,209	1,359
	262,100	•	262,100	318,091	55,991
Other					
Rental income	51,199		51,199	93,871	42,672
Telecommunications property	17,000		17,000	13,546	(3,454)
Miscellaneous	98,500	-	98,500	102,685	4,185
Capital Projects	692,500	-	692,500	692,500	-
Surplus	225,000	•	225,000		(225,000)
Transfer from other funds	15,000	-	15,000	86,122	71,122
	1,099,199		1,099,199	988,724	(110,475)
Total revenues	\$ 12,806,467	S -	\$ 12,806,467	\$ 13,054,895	\$ 248,428

GENERAL FUND SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS) FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

	1	Budø	eted Amounts				Fin	iance with al Budget Positive
	Original		ransfers .	 Final	·	Actual	(l\	legative)
General Government								
Board of Selectmen	\$ 169,09	4 S	571	\$ 169,665	\$	170,988	\$	(1,323)
Probate Court	4,54	5	-	4,545		4,505		40
Elections	29,34	4	-	29,344		23,154		6,190
Board of Finance	25,15		-	25,156		23,769		1,387
Treasurer	44,08	5	-	44,085		43,827		258
Assessors	90,12		-	90,128		77,489		12,639
Tax Collector	72,91		-	72,913		71,171		1,742
Assessment Appeals	2,69		-	2,695		402		2,293
Conservation Commission	2,77	5	-	2,775		2,608		167
Town Clerk	117,72	7	•	117,727		114,745		2,982
Planning and Zoning	73,29	0	-	73,290		71,001		2,289
Zoning Board of Appeals	2,63		-	2,637		1,491		1,146
Inland Wetlands Commission	33,37	9	-	33,379		32,450		929
Building Inspector	13,91		-	13,912		13,709		203
Town Hall	82,00		2,984	84,984		87,048		(2,064)
Legal	16,00		2,300	18,300		15,192		3,108
Town library grant	100,50		•	100,500		100,500		•
Cemetery Association grant	35,00		-	35,000		35,000		-
Council of Governments	2,29		-	2,295		2,295		•
Insurance	103,81		-	103,810		100,213		3,597
Contingency	10,00		(10,000)	-		•		•
Historic District Commission	50		-	500		•		500
Other	6,18		-	6,186		6,160		26
	1,037,97	$\dot{-}$	(4,145)	 1,033,826		997,717		36,109
Public Safety								
Fire Marshal	31,21	8	-	31,218		28,557		2,661
Fire protection grant	84,00			84,000		84,000		
Litchfield County dispatch	31,07		•	31,072		31,071		i
Resident trooper	174,66		-	174,662		156,064		18,598
Paramedic Association	34,31		545	34,860		34,860		•
Civil preparedness	2,00		-	2,000		2,753		(753)
Civil propulations	357,26		545	 357,812	_	337,305		20,507
Public Works								
Highways	1,210,10	0	-	1,210,100		1,172,795		37,305
Town aid road	284,61		-	284,619		284,619		-
Town utilities	46,21		_	46,210		43,154		3,056
Town garage building	20,41		-	20,410		18,942		1,468
Tree upkeep	21,10		-	21,100		16,773		4,327
chusch	1,582,43			 1,582,439		1,536,283		46,156

(continued on next page)

See accompanying Independent Auditors' Report.

GENERAL FUND SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES **BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)** (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

					Variance with Final Budget
		Budgeted Amount			Positive
	Original	Transfers	Final	Actual	(Negative)
Health and Welfare					
General assistance	\$ 56,557		\$ 56,557	\$ 55,463	\$ 1,094
Senior Center	17,650		17,650	15,697	1,953
Director of Health and health district	19,200		19,200	19,184	16
Nursing Association grant	10,000	-	10,000	10,000	-
Kent Children's Center grant	15,000	•	15,000	15,000	•
Welcome Center	15,000	-	15,000	8,076	6,924
Youth Service Bureau	6,749	-	6,749	6,749	-
Other grants	16,820		16,820	15,316	1,504
	156,976		156,976	145,485	11,491
Recreation					
Community house	22,249	3,600	25,849	27,197	(1,348)
Parks and recreation	164,838	-	164,838	159,092	5,746
Lake Waramaug Interlocal	1,600	-	1,600	1,703	(103)
Lake Waramaug Authority	2,250	•	2,250	1,833	417
Kent Center School					
ballfield maintenance	6,000	-	6,000	5,690	310
Swift house	6,300	•	6,300	5,516	784
	203,237		206,837	201,031	5,806
Sanitation					
Landfill monitoring	2,000	•	2,000	1,758	242
Transfer station	109,804	-	109,804	105,374	4,430
	111,804		111,804	107,132	4,672
Board of Education					
Local expenditures:					
Salaries	2,770,893	-	2,770,893	2,720,700	50,193
Employee benefits	889,415	-	889,415	825,790	63,625
Purchased professional services	75,950	-	75,950	66,417	9,533
Purchased property services	91,495	•	91,495	83,939	7,556
Pupil transportation	316,184		316,184	299,128	17,056
Supplies and utilities	291,713	•	291,713	281,786	9,927
Insurance	56,434		56,434	56,407	27
Dues and fees	8,750	•	8,750	8,075	675
Cafeteria subsidy	20,000	-	20,000	25,000	(5,000
Contingency	20,000	•	20,000	-	20,000
Other	25,000	-	25,000	25,000	-
Regional Expenditures:	•				
Pupil services	1,041,790	-	1,041,790	1,036,136	5,654
HVRHS tuition	1,423,148		1,423,148	1,410,061	13,087
Administrative services	188,376	•	188,376	197,828	(9,452
Capital outlay	44,800	<u> </u>	44,800	115,194	(70,394
-	7,263,948		7,263,948	7,151,461	112,487

(continued on next page)

See accompanying Independent Auditors' Report.

GENERAL FUND SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

			Bud	geted Amounts	.				Fi	riance with 1al Budget Positive
		Original		Transfers		<u>Final</u>		Actual		Negative)
Debt Service									_	
Principal	\$	581,916	\$	•	\$	581,916	\$	581,916	5	-
Interest		64,909		•		64,909		64,909		-
		646,825				646,825		646,825		
Total expenditures	_	11,360,467		•		11,360,467		11,123,239		237,228
Other Financing Uses Transfers out:										
Capital projects fund		1,438,500		•		1,438,500		1,438,500		•
Dog fund		7,500		-		7,500		7,500		
		1,446,000	_			1,446,000		1,446,000		
Total expenditures and other financing uses	s	12,806,467	<u>s</u>	•	<u> </u>	12,806,467	<u>s</u>	12,569,239	<u>s</u>	237,228