



# The Voice of Salem

Spring 2019

Volume 2, Number 1

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### Important Phone Numbers

Main City Office: 935-0372  
 Water & Sewer: 935-0350  
 Streets: 935-0372, x421

*Our Grocery Store  
 Replacement Timeline is  
 always available online at  
 our website*

[www.cityofsalemnj.gov](http://www.cityofsalemnj.gov)

## 2019 Council Meeting Dates

- April 1<sup>st</sup>
- April 15<sup>th</sup>
- May 6<sup>th</sup>
- May 20<sup>th</sup>
- June 17<sup>th</sup>
- July 15<sup>th</sup>
- August 19<sup>th</sup>
- September 16<sup>th</sup>
- October 7<sup>th</sup>
- October 21<sup>st</sup>
- November 18<sup>th</sup>
- December 2<sup>nd</sup>
- December 16<sup>th</sup>

### The Mayor's Message:

Since 2016 you've heard me speak with great excitement about Salem City's Commerce Department successfully recruiting Empire Blended into our city, and how our administration waited with great anticipation of the more than 100 employment opportunities for our residents and the start of our economic recovery.

Where this economic driver stands today is a top priority question the City wants to address with our citizens.

The wonderful news is that after great effort by the City, County and State, the Salem County rail line is ready to connect to the Salem Port for the first time in decades and ready to power economic revitalization in the City and region.

The sobering news is while operable, the rail line will operate with speed restrictions. Project funding delays, engineering, legal and permitting issues had left the City and County at the mercy of several new timelines causing the project to finally be completed in November of 2018, after missing multiple completion dates. There are additional assessments scheduled through 2019 to determine full operating capacity of the rail line.

Unfortunately, these delays have created economic challenges for Empire Blended as a result. The company has indicated that it may be forced to move out of the City due to the delays, and cuts to anticipated funding from state incentives. The City continues to do everything possible to encourage Empire Blended to stay in Salem, however it is a private corporate decision over which we have no control.

The Mayor and Council will continue to push our economic strategies to the best of our ability and shall keep you informed and engaged.

Thank you.

*Mayor Charles Washington, Jr.*

### Salem Welcomes a New Director of Public Works

*The city of Salem is proud to announce the hiring of John Liu as our Director of Public Works. John will supervise the operation of the Streets, Water, and Sewer Departments of the city. John has over 30 years of experience managing water treatment plants and municipal infrastructure all over the United States. In his short time here John has already been instrumental in making our processes more efficient and in identifying a solution to a problem with our billing systems.*

## Recycling Drop-Off

515 Grieves Parkway

Saturdays, 7 a.m. till 1 p.m.

### Materials Accepted

Used Antifreeze  
Refrigerators & Other White Goods (\$5.00 charge per)  
Propane Tanks (\$5.00 per)

Auto & Truck Batteries  
Used Motor Oil  
Bulk Stickers for white goods, furniture and propane tanks can be purchased at the City Treasurer's Office, 17 New Market Street

Need a dog license? Come to 17 New Market Street M-F from 8:30 to 12 or 1 to 4 pm - Remember, all canine pets must be leashed and licensed!

Copies of Birth and Death records are available at the City Clerk's office at 17 New Market Street.

Carol Wright is our Property Inspector & Compliance Officer. Call her at 935-0372 x209 to report suspected violations.

## Volunteers Always Needed:

Meals on Wheels of Salem

935-3663

Salvation Army  
935-0305

Stand Up For Salem  
279-2635

Municipal Alliance  
Sharon Kellum  
skellum@cityofsalemnj.gov

## Grocery Store Timeline

The City continues to wait for the legal maneuvering of foreclosure to play out so that we can facilitate negotiations with the developer and operator of our choice and Pennsville National Bank. We were able to identify a reputable operator months ago through Uplift Solutions who specialize in successfully operating grocery stores in food deserts.

The City and Uplift representatives remain in constant contact always strategizing on ways to acquire possession of the Incollingo's site. We are covering all bases and even talking with the private owners of the site to bring all parties, the bank, current ownership and Uplift to the bargaining table. As long as the site is in foreclosure the process will remain lengthy but we are not deterred.

The City remains fully committed to bringing a quality grocery store to our community and this goal remains our priority. We will continue to keep you informed of any new developments as they become available.

## Business Spotlight

### Parker Jewelers, 193 East Broadway

*Celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, Parker's is one of Salem's most well-known and well-loved businesses.*



*Parker's does all major and minor jewelry repair, watch battery and band replacement, jewelry cleaning and adjusting, engraving, stamping, ear piercing, and of course appraisals and custom jewelry.*

*In business since 1959, Parker Jewelry sells engagement & wedding rings, earrings, necklaces, anklets, chains, watches, body jewelry, and even children's styles of jewelry.*



Owner Cheryl Turner, Katie and Kim, greet Councilman Bill Corbin with young LeAnne standing by

*Hours 9am-5pm Monday to Friday, and 9am-3pm on Saturday, call 935-3400 or visit [ParkerJewelersNJ.com](http://ParkerJewelersNJ.com) for more!*

**"With Parker's, it's Personal"**