

# CORNWALL NEWSLETTER

Town of Cornwall

Volume 6, Issue 4

Spring 2010

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## Special points of interest:

- Taxes are due May 1
- Dog licenses were due April 1
- Green Up Day, May 1
- Highway Dept. Pesticide Permit
- Cornwall Connection
- Lavalley Store Restoration

## PROPERTY TAX TIME LOOMS LARGE ONCE AGAIN!!!!

The second installment of property taxes will be due on May 1, 2010. May 1 falls on a Saturday this year, so the office will be open on Saturday from 8:00AM–6:00PM for your convenience.

This being the second installment, should your payment be late, your account will be turned over to the delinquent tax collector and interest and penalty will be added to the amount due.

As mentioned in the Town Report, I would appreciate your not asking me, or assuming that I can or will forgive the interest and penalty. You all as voters in the Town of Corn-

wall vote on the due dates and the interest and penalty amounts every year, so please don't give me authority that I don't have.



## DOGS!!!

I will also take this opportunity to remind those of you who have not yet registered your dogs that those licenses were due April 1. Registration of dogs and wolf hybrids is state law, so please take it upon yourselves to be a responsible dog owner, and register your dogs.

## FROM THE LISTERS OFFICE:

This is the time to contact the Listers if you wish to chat about your assessment. There were a few folks who missed the grievance last year, so this would be the appropriate time to follow up on that. 462-3386.

## GREEN UP DAY, MAY 1, 2010

Thank you to the early birders who have already spruced up the roadsides. Forty years ago, the first Green Up Day was actually in April. Because there was still snow on the ground on April 17, 1970, the tradition of Green Up Day moved to the first Saturday in May. Although the headquarters in Montpelier has received several phone calls over the past couple of years from Green Up coordinators across the state suggesting that

it might be time to try April again, this year's Green Up Day will be Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>.

The bags are in early this year, along with gloves and a few day-glo vests. Please stop by Town Hall to get your bag and indicate on the town map where you plan to Green Up. Also, bags will go home with students at the Cornwall School. The Vermont AOT sends crews out

to clean up the state highways (125, 30, 74). Two town trucks will be in the Town Hall parking lot: one for Green Up Day trash and the other for Green Up Day scrap metal. Please honor the Green Up spirit and remember the trucks are for debris from our roadsides and not our sheds, barns and garages!

See you Saturday morning at the trucks. With many thanks!!

Vanessa Wolff 462-3138

## CORNWALL HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT NEWS



**Invasive specie??**

So it has been a great spring for the roads. About the only mud was what I made with the shoulder disks, sorry about that. Despite the short term mess, it is a very effective tool for managing the road's profile and shoulders. It helps reclaim some gravel lost during the winter plowing. This years' plowing conditions were often poor and a lot of loose gravel was cast. One of the joys of living on a gravel road I guess.

You'll see in this newsletter a notice of a permit request to apply herbicides in the Town Right of Way. Before you granola crunchers get your shorts in a twist, hear me out. We're not bringing in aircraft or even trucks with spray booms to decimate the roadsides. This will be extremely selective using hand held equipment. Primarily stump treatment of cut trees and brush to control regrowth and some foliar treatment of invasive species, poison ivy and other noxious weeds and brush where mowing is not

effective. There will be a copy of the Integrated Vegetation Management Plan that was developed as part of the permit process available at the Town Hall. There will also be an aerial map on which I have designated the certified organic parcels bordering town Right of Ways that I know of. While this is not required, I am aware of the setback requirement and don't want to cause hardships there. You should verify what I've marked, make corrections and additions as needed. This information will be presented at our hearing and forwarded to a database being created at ACRPC of the organic operations in the county, hence the free maps. This program was prompted by the Vermont Agriculture Dept. and others to get towns on board with all the regulations. Some towns were getting product off the shelf at the hardware store and having at it. The state didn't really want to whack the towns with fines, so they encouraged this route. We have to do the same permit process as the big players like VTrans, CVPS, Velco and VT Railroad, and I'll bet money that Dominique will be snooping around regularly to be sure it's done right. All this assuming we get the permit.

We'll be out of gravel money here shortly, so mowing should start in good season ( see Integrated Vegetation Management Plan at the Town Hall).

The plan is to pave some or all of Swamp Road depending on grant funding (not expected).

Again, depending on a grant, we will replace a culvert at the Bolduc Farm on West Street.

We will be upgrading a culvert at Payne's on West Street as well.

The town received a Better Back Roads Grant to upgrade a culvert and do some stone lined ditches at Beaver Brook on Sperry Road.

Woe is me though, the geothermal grant flopped. Now I don't get to do anymore bureaucratic BS and we didn't create or save that .237th of a job. Woe is me. Still plan to do the generator set though.

Back to the Right of Way permit for a minute. I am happy to, actually have to, discuss specifics and site related issues. If you want to rip the strategy and philosophy, that may not go so well. Just saying up front.

*So it has been a great spring for the roads. About the only mud was what I made with the shoulder disks.*



# The Towns of Addison, Bridport, Cornwall and Starksboro

## PUBLIC NOTICE HERBICIDE SPRAYING

The above mentioned towns have each requested from the Secretary of the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets a permit to apply the following herbicides: Crossbow (2,4-dichlorophenoxy acetic acid), Forefront (2,4-dichlorophenoxy acetic acid) and Makaze (glyphosate) to control unwanted vegetation along town owned highways. Selective spray operations will start approximately May 15th. The applications will be made by certified pesticide applicators using mechanically controlled equipment and hand control methods. Residents along the right-of-way are encouraged to protect sensitive environmental areas, organic farm land and water supplies from spray. It is the resident's responsibility to notify the town of the existence of these situations adjacent to the town right-of-way. Citizens wishing to inform the town are urged to contact the contact person for their town as follows: Addison- Bryan Nolan 759-2570, Bridport- Dale Stone 758-2113, Cornwall- Stu Johnson 462-2752, Starksboro-Tom Estey 453-2319

The appropriate place to contact with comments, other than the towns is the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, Agriculture Resource Management and Environmental Stewardship, 116 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, telephone 802-828-2431. Their link Web page that would describe the town's spray permit request can be found at [www.VermontAgriculture.com](http://www.VermontAgriculture.com)

## SELECT BOARD NEWS AND INFORMATION

"T" Tall retired from the Select Board completing 22 years of service to our community. Thank you, "T"! Judy Watts, recently retired from the College library, was elected to fill that position. Joe Severy turned over the Chair responsibilities to Bruce Hiland.

Town Meeting was uneventful with modest attendance. As announced we asked for but didn't get the State/Federal grant for a geothermal system and back-up generator at the town garage. Consequently we'll not be spending the \$10,500 in matching funds approved at Town

Meeting and will consider our options for the garage.

Along the way we have:

- Moved ahead in the legal process required to deal with one taxpayer's unresolved grievances regarding three properties;
- Agreed to proceed to tax sale in several delinquent tax collection cases;

- Worked with the State, Regional Planning and residents to improve the Route 74/Route 30 intersection;

- Appointed Jim Duclos to replace Mike Brinkman as Zoning Administrator.

As of this writing we have no idea what havoc may ensue for the Town as the State government deals with its budget woes.

*Things have been quiet at Lavalley since fall, but not behind the scenes.*



## REPORT FROM THE LAVALLEY STORE AND HOUSE RESTORATION COMMITTEE

Things have been quiet at Lavalley since fall, but not behind the scenes. The committee has been working with Keefe and Wesner Architects on design, planning, water and wastewater challenges, and permitting - all in anticipation of the restoration of the building. We have also been working and on a business plan for a future country store at Lavalley. The committee sends sincerest thanks to Gayl Braisted for her beautiful painting of what we envision to be the 'after' picture.

We hope to have a letter out to the Cornwall community

this spring outlining plans as we head into the fund raising and grant-securing phase. Keep your eye out for the demolition of the southern-most (non-historic) shed as exterior stabilization gets underway. Questions or to volunteer writing skills: Beth Karnes Keefe 462-3181.

Re-opening in early June: Lavalley House Farm Market: Beth and Earl Corey are very excited to be running the farm market at the Lavalley house this summer. They will be selling local fruits, vegetables, maple syrup, milk, cheese, pies/desserts, eggs, local jams/

jellies, newspapers and more...For more information, suggestions, and volunteer opportunities please visit us at:

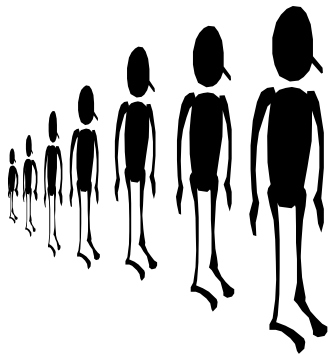
<http://lavalleyhousefarmmarket.blogspot.com/>

and join our Facebook Fan Page at:

<http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/pages/Cornwall-VT/Lavalley-House-Farm-Market/111713438849686>



## 2010 CENSUS. HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE FORM?



A few numbers to throw out for your information. As of April 13, Cornwall is showing a 78 % participation rate, which is a step above all of the surrounding towns with Weybridge at 74%, Middlebury at 67%, Shoreham at 61%, Salisbury at 75%, Whiting at 55%, New Haven at 74%, Ripton at 58% and Bridport at 48%.

The national participation rate currently is 66%. The state of Vermont's participation is at 62% and Addison County is at 65%.

The census bureau can be reached at 866-872-6868 if you have not received a form. Apparently there are several reasons why you might not

have received a form, so give them a call to find out what's up.

## Cornwall School News

### T-Shirt Weather is Here!

You can help the Friends of Cornwall School (FOCS) with its 2009-10 fundraising efforts by picking up town-themed gear in two popular designs.

There's the Cornwall Cougars line of T-shirts, in light blue or muted yellow (long-sleeve tees available in light blue and adult sizes only), plus some sizes of sweatshirts and hoodies are still avail-

able. And there's the Cornwall Classic T-shirt, with the popular apples-and-Merinos crest, still available in red, royal blue and grey (though again, some sizes are sold out, and long-sleeve tees are available in adult sizes only).

Short-sleeve T-shirts are \$12 each and long-sleeve tees \$17, while crew-neck Cornwall Cougar sweatshirts and hoodies are \$19 and \$25, respectively.

Contact Alex or Vanessa Wolff at 462-3138 to fill out your wardrobe!

GO  
CORNWALL  
COUGARS!!

## More Cornwall School News

### Gardening Anyone?

Green Up Day School garden work day - Saturday May 1!

Join parents, students, staff and Middlebury College students working together to prepare raised beds for our school garden, plant seeds, and share in the potluck meal after.

Can you help us?

Contact Karen Bartlett, [kbartlett19@gmail.com](mailto:kbartlett19@gmail.com), or Kristin Bolton, [kristinbolton@gmail.com](mailto:kristinbolton@gmail.com).

### Shoreham Apple Blossom Derby

The annual **Apple Blossom Derby (5k, 10k, 5k walk & Family Fun Run)** is just around the corner!

**Date:** Saturday, May 8

**Time:** 10:00 a.m.

**Registration:** Begins at 9:00 a.m.

**Race fees adult/child:** *Earlybird (by April 15):* \$15/\$8; *Regular:* \$20/\$10

**Family Fun Run Fee:** \$5/person

Visit [www.shorehamschool.org/derby](http://www.shorehamschool.org/derby) to download a registration form and see more race information.

## And Yet More Cornwall School News

### Summer School

We may have an opportunity again this summer to offer summer school tutoring for students. Those students on IEPs, 504s, or ESTs will be given priority. If you are interested in having your child receive summer school tutoring please let his/her

classroom teacher know. We will be trying to firm up plans for summer school by the end of May.



TOWN OF CORNWALL

2629 Route 30  
Cornwall, VT 05753

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WE'RE ON THE WEB

WWW.CORNWALL.GOVOFFICE2.COM

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## E-Mail Notification System to be Established

The Town of Cornwall Emergency Management Network has recommended, and the Select Board has approved, the establishment of an e-mail based notification system for the dissemination of important Town information. The system is called the *Cornwall Connection* and will be managed by the Town Clerk. It will be used to send e-mail messages about important events, deadlines, emergency situations and other matters of particular significance in the Town.

Anyone may subscribe to this service by sending an e-mail message

to Sue Johnson at [cornwallvt@shoreham.net](mailto:cornwallvt@shoreham.net) with *Cornwall Connection* in the subject line. Should you subscribe, your e-mail address will not be revealed to other subscribers and you will not be permitted to respond to other subscribers. If you wish to react to a message on *Cornwall Connection*, please send a message to Sue Johnson at the e-mail address listed above.

This is a rerun of the article in the last newsletter. I wanted to make the offer a second time as I was able to notify the group through

the Connection that the Swamp Road was closed due to high water, however the group is still quite small, so I would encourage your participation and spread the word to those that don't read the newsletter.

Sue Johnson for the Cornwall Emergency Management Network which meets the third Thursday of each month at 5:30 PM.