

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- General Election, Tuesday, November 8, 2016. Polls open 7AM—7PM.
- The first installment of property taxes are due on November 1, 2016.
- Town Hall Renovation will start mid-October. See details elsewhere in the newsletter.

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Cornwall Newsletter

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 2

FALL 2016

Very Important Information for the Fall of 2016

Welcome to fall and all the beauty it provides to us. The fall season is going to be particularly busy this year based on upcoming activity at the Town Hall in the form of a General Election, the first installment of property taxes and the major renovation of our 134 year old Town Hall building. Firstly, the Capital Committee has been working hard in conjunction with Vermont Integrated Architecture to design a plan to update the building in a number of ways. Some of the changes will include adding a lift to the second floor, moving the fire escape inside the building and removing the two outside fire escapes. This will allow us to put back two windows on the north side of the building that had to be removed when the fire escapes were built. The Clerk-Treasurer and Lister's offices will become one room with a counter/service window, so access to the vault will be changed for folks who are doing title searches and the like. The drop ceilings will be removed and the ceilings will go back to what they were historically, which were much higher. The post in the center of the downstairs meeting room will be removed. The old kitchen in the back of the first floor will be completely renovated to house the Cornwall Free Public Library and the first floor section of the fire escape. The area where the library is now will be used to complete the Lift, create an ADA bathroom and add a small meeting room and storage area. The area under the old kitchen will be closed in to create a fire proof records storage area. This will allow us to move many of the old records that are currently in the vault, but not utilized on a daily, weekly or even yearly basis to this other location to free up much needed space in the vault itself. The rest of the new space in the back of the building will include another storage area and the exit for the new fire escape. During review and evaluation of the building, it was determined that there is a major structural defect in one of the roof trusses in the attic. Since this discovery, we have not allowed anyone to use the upstairs room. The construction will start in mid-October with repair to the roof truss being one of the first items to be completed! They will also start work on the new area in the back of the building by pouring cement, etc. The rest of the work will start in earnest after the General Election. Smith & McClain are the contractors that have been awarded the contract for the Town Hall renovation.

I am very excited about all these wonderful changes and upgrades to the building. As a result of the planned work in the building, I will be relocating to an office trailer (not so excited about that) which will be located at the end of the parking lot to the north of the building. Since, there will be construction worker's vehicles, dumpsters, etc. all around the building; parking is going to be difficult at best. I will be discussing this situation with the contractor to see if we can set aside a number of spots to be used by customers, etc. There will usually be parking across the street in front of the church and in front of the monument, but I am not excited about having people cross Route 30 on a regular basis. I may opt to put the orange cones out for the duration of the project to hopefully slow people down a bit. I am going to talk with Jen Kravitz at the school and R & L Rubbish about moving the garbage and recycling operation up to the school for the 5 months that we will be under construction. Look for the R & L sign to see if the change is being made.

Please see additional important details about Fall 2016 on pages 6 & 7!!!



Lemon Fair Insect Control District

“The Lemon Fair Insect Control District is looking for a new Cornwall board member. Interested applicants should contact David Dodge at ddodge10708@gmail.com or 802-462-3898. The LFICD is responsible for flood plain mosquito control in the Towns of Bridport, Cornwall and Weybridge. No scientific background required...just en-

thusiasm and common sense! For additional background, see our website at <http://www.lfcd.org/>. Thanks, David Dodge, Chair”

The school is collecting Box Tops for Education found on many food products.

Cornwall Elementary School News

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS: Lots of great things are happening at Cornwall School this year. If you want to hear about them in our weekly newsletter, email Jen Kravitz at jkravitz@acsu.org. You can also check out our website www.acsu.org/cornwall. You can also follow us on Twitter (twitter.com/cornwallschl) or Instagram (instagram.com/cornwallschoolvt) to see photos and read interesting articles either about us or about things we are thinking about.

FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

If your family has small children who are not yet school age, we would love to hear from you. We welcome you to come visit the school to see what we are doing in classes. If you are interested in visiting, please contact us at 462.2463 or jkravitz@acsu.org. We can also add you to the school newsletter, so you know what is happening at school on a weekly basis.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

At school, we collect and send in Box Tops for Education. These can be found on many food and product boxes. When we submit them, money will come to the school and will help to fund small projects that support student learning and individual students. If you are interested in helping, clip these little rectangles out and drop them by school. While you are here, come see the exciting things happening at Cornwall school.

Community Values Mapping Workshop

You have probably seen posters or heard from neighbors about the Cornwall Values Mapping Workshop scheduled for October 12, and may be wondering whether this is something that would be of interest to you.

- DO you have special places in Cornwall that you particularly enjoy and that make this town home to you?
- DO you like getting together with neighbors and meeting new friends in a small group in a casual, relaxed atmosphere?
- DO you like to have a voice in the future development of your neighborhood and your town?
- DO you like Cornwall apples and home baked desserts?

If you answered yes to one or more of these questions, you will want to take part in the lively discussion of what you and others value in Cornwall. Our thoughts will be recorded on large town maps and will help guide future planning. The workshop, led by Jens Hilke, Conservation Planning Biologist at the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife, is sponsored by the Cornwall Planning Commission, the Cornwall Elementary School, and the Cornwall Conservation Commission.

Please come, and bring your ideas and observations about your favorite places in our town on Wednesday, October 12, 7:00-9:15 PM, at the Cornwall School.

*What makes
Cornwall
special to you?
Come and
share your
thoughts and
ideas on
October 12.*

Cobbler by Gary Margolis

The Buddha, I'm told, repairs a thousand
pairs once. And one pair a thousand times.

I sit here stitching and gluing.

Waiting for the other shoe

to drop its leather blossoms.

Some days I'm all needle and awl.

God's sharp tool.

Some days I'm dull as a shoe box.

Pairs in the back room a lifetime
of customers forget to pick up.

I love my apron and bench.

The shelf dust. The stays I put in
at the end of a wooden day.

The Buddha, I'm told, walking

Barefoot, said "You are your own
apprentice". Geppetto, my cousin,
believed in living marionettes.

With no strings attached.

A whole shop of them cobbled
together.



Conservation Commission News

The Conservation Commission has been at work collaborating with the Planning Commission and Cornwall Elementary School as we gear up for the Community Values Mapping Workshop on Wednesday, October 12 at 7 p.m. This fun event will provide an opportunity to explore and record what each of us values and environments for our town. As we write this we know that many of you will be with us for lively discussion and sharing of community concerns and values. The information gathered will be compiled into a map and summary report by the Agency of Natural Resources facilitator.

Other business includes partnerships as well. We continue to work with the school on the wildlife observation project that began last spring. The teachers and students are very excited. The thrill of seeing wildlife tracks and photos leads to the students deepening connections to wildlife and nature, as they learn about conservation, connectivity and wildlife behavior. Speaking of connectivity, water and stream-side riparian areas are major connectors, and also conduits of water and whatever is carried in it to Lake Champlain. We're working with Addison County River Watch to request more water quality sampling sites in Cornwall. We'd like to gather more data to see how riparian zone improvements have helped improve water quality.

We continue our ongoing advisory capacity to the Development Review Board regarding conservation and subdivision proposals. Plus, in the works for the future are more Conservation Commission-sponsored hikes to natural areas and farms in town and continued collaboration with the Planning Commission as they work on updates to town ordinances.



Cornwall Free Public Library!!

The Book Sale Is Coming!

It's that time of year again – time for the Cornwall Library Book Sale! Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 15th! Don't miss this collection of gently used books and audiovisual materials. We will also have refreshments for you to enjoy while you're browsing!

This is the perfect time to stock up on books for winter reading when the days are cold, long and dark. You might not be able to swing a trip to a tropical island to wait out winter, but you can climb under the covers or cozy up to the fireplace and read away to sunnier and warmer days.

The Cornwall Library Book Sale will be open from 9AM to 3PM at the Town Hall. A wide variety of donated books across all genres will be available. New for this year - we will have a **Take What You Want /Pay What You Think Is Fair or What You Can!** Proceeds from the sale go directly to stock the library shelves with new releases purchased from the Vermont Book Shop in downtown Middlebury, as well as DVDs. Come check it out!

NEW ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY COLLECTION

Come on in and check out the materials that we've added to our collection at the library. If you prefer to see what's new from your home, you can see the complete list of materials under the library section on the town website cornwallvt.com. Below is a sampling of new items.

FICTION

Home - Harlan Coben, *Dark Matter* - Blake Crouch, *The Nix* - Nathan Hill, *End of Watch* - Stephen King, *Nutshell* - Ian McEwan, *Truly Madly Guilty* - Liane Moriarty, *Commonwealth* - Ann Patchett, *Bullseye* - James Patterson, *A Great Reckoning* - Louise Penny, *Lily and the Octopus* - Stephen Rowley, *The Black Widow* - Daniel Silva, *A Gentleman in Moscow* - Amor Towles, *Foreign Agent* - Brad Thor, *The Woman in Cabin 10* - Ruth Ware, *The Underground Railroad* - Colson Whitehead, *Another Brooklyn* - Jacqueline Woodson

NONFICTION

The Winter Fortress - Neil Bascomb, *Bill O'Reilly's Legends and Lies* - David Fisher, *Shoe Knight* - Phil Knight, *Love Warrior* - Glennon Doyle Melton, *Hillbilly Elegy* - J. D. Vance

YOUNG ADULT

Glass Sword - Victoria Aveyard, *The Star-Touched Queen* - Roshani Chokshi, *Tales of the Peculiar* - Ransom Riggs

CHILDREN

Ada Twist, Scientist - Andrea Beaty, *Return* - Aaron Becker, *Dinosaur Dance* - Sandra Boynton, *The Land of Stories: An Author's Odyssey* - Chris Colfer, *Return to the Isle of the Lost* - Melissa de la Cruz, *My Dog Spot* - Jack E. Levin and Norma R. Levin, *Dog Man* - Dav Pilkey, *They All Saw a Cat* - Brendan Wenzel, *What Do You Do With a Problem?* -Kobi Yamada

AUDIO

The Japanese Lover - Isabel Allende, *Sting* - Sandra Brown, *The King's Curse* - Philippa Gregory, *The End of the Affair* - Graham Greene, *The Games* - James Patterson

DVDs

In the Heart of the Sea, *Eddie Eagle*, *Fastball*, *The Finest Hour*, *Kung Fu Panda 3*, *The Lady in the Van*, *Race*, *Love and Friendship*, *Me Before You*, *Remember*, *Risen*, *Son of Saul*, *Zootopia*

Lister Information

As part of our record keeping duties, we keep an up to date photographic file of each residence in town. In checking our records, we find we do not have a photograph of several houses at this time. Accordingly, we will be taking pictures through the month of October and into November, taking advantage of the weather. These photos involve only an outside shot of the front of your residence and can be done on a drive by basis. You do not need to be present for

these photos.

For those who have taken out a building permit for a project, we would appreciate it greatly if you could let us know when you have finished the project or have nearly finished it so that we can keep our records up to date and schedule inspections.

With the renovation of the town hall beginning in November, there will likely be some disruption in our ability to look up various records, for which

we apologize in advance.

We are still looking for a third person to join our team. Becoming a lister is a wonderful way to get to know our town better and is an essential part in keeping the town functioning. There is also a small stipend that goes with the job. Call us at 462-3386; we will be happy to provide any information that you may wish.

As always, thank you for your cooperation.

Sue Burdick & Liam English

The Cornwall Free Public Library will be closing temporarily at the end of October.

Cornwall Library Closing Temporarily

The plan right now for the library is to close for the duration of the construction, and reopen in our new location once the project is completed. I know some folks are distressed by this situation, but we just don't have another location that will work at this point. I believe there is a small movement underway to locate a spot

that could house a couple hundred of the library books for check out and return during this period, but I don't know when I might find out if this plan is a go, so for now we will plan on closing. I am encouraging folks to come in during the month of October to take out a number of books that can be kept for the duration of the construc-

tion period. They can also be returned during the construction in the green drop box on the front porch. My apologies for this inconvenience, but I am afraid it just can't be helped. It will be a beautiful new space when it is all done.

Road Commissioner Update

As many of you know, Stu has moved on to a new job with the State of Vermont as the Vermont Local Roads Branch Manager. Just recently, the Selectboard has hired Mike Sunderland from Shoreham to be our new Road Foreman. Mike was the Road Foreman in Bridport until coming to Corn-

wall, so we know he has good hands on experience in the role. Brian Kemp, one of our Select Board members is the Acting Assistant Road Commissioner at this time and Stu is remaining the Road Commissioner until further notice. He has made himself and will continue to make himself avail-

able to answer questions and advise Mike along the way. The contact information for the highway department remains: Phone 462-2752 and email:

cornwallvthwy@shoreham.net

Thanks to Stu for his 24 years of service to the Town of Cornwall.

Important Information for Fall 2016 at the Town Hall

The other events that will have the town hall busy from now until after November 8 are the first installment of property taxes, due on Tuesday, November 1, 2016. The office will be open from 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM that day. I will not be open on Monday, October 31, 2016 per my usual schedule. Postmarks are accepted for timely payments. It would be great if everyone could plan ahead now to have their payment ready for November 1, 2016. If you want to send it in or bring in your payment ahead and postdate it for November 1, I am more than willing to hold your payment until November 1. As a heads up, with the construction underway, parking will be a problem, so I am just alerting you all to the fact that you will have to be strategic in where you park during the 5 months of construction.

I am currently extremely busy with early and absentee voting. The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 8 at the Town Hall. The voting hours are from 7 AM – 7 PM. Warnings and sample ballots are posted at the Town Hall, Town Garage and at the Cornwall School. The warning and sample ballot are also posted on our website (cornwallvt.com). I do not wish to discourage anyone from coming to the polls at the town hall to vote on Election Day, but once again, parking is going to be difficult and crazy that day, so if you have any interest or willingness in voting early, I would be happy to help you with that process. It is a relatively easy process, which goes as follows: 1) Make sure you are on the voter checklist (particularly for those new to town). Give me a call to check on your status, or you can go to the website MY VOTER PAGE to double check as well. 2) You can come in to request the absentee/early ballot. You can then vote right then or take the ballot with you to be returned by 7:00 PM on Tuesday, November 8. You can call and request a ballot be mailed. You can email a request that a ballot be mailed. You can request a ballot for a family member, but I cannot give you the un-voted ballot for that person, I must mail it to them. Once you have voted, the ballot must be returned by 7:00pm on Election Day or well before that if you please. If you are voting absentee/early, you will also receive a certificate envelope that the voted ballot must be sealed in and the front must be filled out and signed or the ballot will not be counted, VERY IMPORTANT!!! Your voted ballot will remain in the sealed certificate envelope and in a ballot box until Election Day; at that time your ballot will be removed from the envelope anonymously, and put through the vote tabulator, once again just an alert that parking will be a problem on Election Day, so plan accordingly.

I am sure I am forgetting something, but I can't think what it is at this point. I look forward to seeing many of you over the next month or so. I hope that many of you will consider attending the Community Values Mapping Program on October 12. I think we are going to have to work hard at keeping Cornwall a vibrant community and not lose our identity to Middlebury!!!!

Town of Cornwall
2629 Route 30
Cornwall, VT 05753

Two Details to Leave Out by Gary Margolis

It appears the hen's urging
her poult to wait at the edge
of the road. For the bus to arrive,

for its accordion door to open.
All she wants to do is flap
back to the brush, stay in her leafy
bed.

Pull a cover over her feathery head.
Save herself from the first day
of school. Making a turkey of herself

she's sure. Although she has more
than enough stories to tell
when it's her turn.

When the teacher goes around
the room asking to tell
one story from a summer field.

The crickets she ate. Her fan
of feathers coming in. The tractor
that nearly baled her brother.

If it hadn't been for their father
who flew up in the farmer's face,
scaring him enough, to veer

into a ditch. Leaving their flock
of family intact. And two details
for her to leave out. The dress

her mother bought for her at the
end the summer and laid out. The
dust a bus raises, pulling away.

