

# Cornwall Newsletter

## Special points of interest:

- Conservation Commission goes on several excursions.
- Lister Information
- State Primary, August 9, 2016
- Library News
- Lemon Fair Insect Control District Mosquito Report

Town of Cornwall, VT  
2629 Route 30  
Cornwall, VT 05753

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## Heads Up! Town Hall Renovation Planned for Mid November

So the Capital Committee and our Architects, Vermont Integrated Architecture are in the beginning stages of planning for the Town Hall Renovation. The plan is to start the renovation in mid – November after the General Election on Tuesday, November 8. It did not seem feasible to tear the building apart before what I assume will be a very busy election. Once the election is put to bed, I will be moving to an as yet undetermined location for 4 or 5 months. Once the location is determined, I will get information out to everyone by every conceivable means. In the meantime, we will be renting a storage unit, which you will see on the south lawn at some point in July. We will be creating several piles of “stuff”



for the garbage man to recycle and throw away. We may have a “yard sale” of some of the stuff that is in the back room. The Cornwall Free Public Library will be closed during the renovation period. The Trustees’ could not think of a way to keep it open outside of the building. We will

continue to add to the collection through those months, so when the library reopens in its new space, there will be lots of new books, etc. for your enjoyment.

I also plan to talk to Tom Broughton about some of the antiques that are in storage at the Town Hall. We will see if they are something he would be interested in trying to auction off.

Just wanted to put the bug in your ears about this upcoming project so if you notice anything out of the ordinary you won’t be surprised. The architectural plans for the renovation are on the bulletin board in the Town Hall if you haven’t seen them. Feel free to stop by. More information to come. Sue

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# Cornwall Newsletter

## Cornwall Lister News & Information



*Exercise Boot Camp  
and Zumba Classes  
are held at the  
Cornwall Town Hall!*

The Grand List for Cornwall was set as of April 1, 2016. Since that date a year ago, there were 54 changes of appraisal for the year. The past year was extremely busy as there were several new homes and other buildings to inspect as well as the creation of many new land parcels within the town. There were two grievances received before the deadline at noon on June 21, 2016. One of those was resolved through the hearing process; the other remains to be resolved if the property owner decides to appeal to the Board of Civil Authority. If you missed the June date for filing a grievance, your appraisal will be the same as it was last year. Remember that the Listers do not determine taxes; the Select Board determines the town portion, and the State determines the school portion. So while your appraisal may remain the same, it is likely that

your taxes will change.

Often the listers will receive a request from a new property owner to reduce the value of the property to a bank's appraisal. However, a bank appraisal usually says something to the effect that the appraisal is not for third-party use. In addition, such an appraisal is only one of the criteria the listers use for a reappraisal. It is incumbent upon the property owner to provide documentation of the values of comparable properties to justify the reduction. There is useful information about appeals at <https://www.sec.state.vt.us/media/258632/Appealing.pdf>.

Participants in the Current Use program may find the value of their excluded property has increased, thereby reducing their Current Use rebate substantially. In the past the value of exempt

land was determined as a portion of all land in a property. The more acreage one had, the less per acre at which the land was appraised. Now exempt land is valued as a stand-alone piece, causing the value per acre to increase substantially in some cases. Current use letters should be mailed by the middle of July.

For those of you who have building permits out, please let us know when your project has been completed. With so much building activity in town, it is helpful for us to be able to do inspections in seasonal weather and well ahead of the April 1 deadline.

Thanks from us both to the many of you with whom we have had such a pleasant working relationship.

Sue Burdick & Liam English

## Get Your Workout On at the Town Hall

"BOOT CAMP" classes will continue on Sept. 10 from 9:00-10:00 AM upstairs in the town hall. Try it out for a great workout that incorporates strength, agility, coordination and cardiovascular fitness. \$12 for single class or \$60 for 6 classes. For a schedule of other classes go to [www.gingerlambert.com](http://www.gingerlambert.com) or call 802-343-7160 for more info.. All level and abilities welcome!"



"ZUMBA" classes are held upstairs at the Town Hall on Monday and Wednesday from 5:30—6:30PM. Amanda Payne is the Instructor. The cost is \$10 for a single class or \$30.00 for 5 classes. You can reach Amanda at: [dapayne\\_14@yahoo.com](mailto:dapayne_14@yahoo.com)

## Cornwall Free Library News

### BOOKS TO DONATE???

**It's summertime** - and it's time for gardening, swimming, hiking, biking and the list goes on and on! BUT, on those rainy days when you can't get outside, you just might want to go through those books that are gathering dust on your night table, bedroom floor, or bookshelf. These books that you probably won't read again can be donated to the library for the October Book Sale (which will be held on October 15<sup>th</sup>) or added to our collection. The Cornwall Library is always looking for book donations so clean off those bookshelves, end tables, night tables, or wherever else you keep the books that you've read and bring them over to the library.

We accept donations all through the year. We will take books, CDs, and DVDs. **However, textbooks, encyclopedias, magazines, or books with torn and/or defaced pages or mold and mildew need to be discarded. Please recycle them instead.**

Thanks (in advance) for donating!

### 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](http://cornwallvt.com). Below is a *sampling* of new items.

#### FICTION

**The Weekenders** - Mary Kay Andrews, **At the Edge of the Orchard** - Tracy Chevalier, **Everyone Brave is Forgiven** - Chris Cleave, **The Girls** - Emma Cline, **Fool Me Once** - Harlan Coben, **The City of Mirrors** - Justin Cronin, **Sweetbitter** - Stephanie Danler, **La Rose** - Louise Erdrich, **A Hero of France** - Alan Furst, **Glory Over Everything** - Kathleen Grissom, **Homegoing** - Yaa Gyasi, **Redemption Road** - John Hart, **Before the Fall** - Noah Hawley, **I Almost Forgot About You** - Terry McMillan, **15<sup>th</sup> Affair** - James Patterson, **Barkskins** - Annie Proulx, **Everybody's Fool** - Richard Russo, **Eligible** - Curtis Sittenfeld, **Vinegar Girl** - Anne Tyler, **Journey to Munich** - Jacqueline Winspear

#### NON-FICTION

**The Firebrand and the First Lady** - Patricia Bell-Scott, **The Rainbow Comes and Goes** - Anderson Cooper and Gloria Vanderbilt, **The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace** - Jeff Hobbs, **Lab Girl** - Hope Jahren, **A Mother's Reckoning** - Sue Klebold, **Dark Money** - Jane Mayer, **Hamilton: The Revolution** - Lin-Manuel Miranda, **The Nazi Hunters** - Andrew Nagorski, **Grunt** - Mary Roach, **Melville in Love** - Michael Shelden, **John Quincy Adams: Militant Spirit** - James Traub

#### YOUNG ADULT

**Lady Midnight** - Cassandra Clare, **A Court of Mist and Fury** - Sarah J. Mass

#### CHILDREN

**Booked** - Kwame Alexander, **Thunder Boy Jr.** - Sherman Alexie, **Our Great Big Backyard** - Laura Bush and Jenna Bush Hager, **Raymie Nightingale** - Kate DiCamillo, **The Night Gardeners** - The Fan Brothers, **Big Nate Blasts Off** - Lincoln Pierce, **Are We There Yet?** - Dan Santat, **Demigods and Magicians** and **The Trials of Apollo, Book 1: The Hidden Oracle** - Rick Riordan

#### AUDIO

**Robert B Parker's Slow Burn** - Ace Atkins, **Invictus** - John Carlin, **Matilda** - Roald Dahl, **Outliers** - Malcolm Gladwell, **Here's To Us** - Elin Hilderbrand

#### DVDs

**Concussion**, **The Danish Girl**, **Kung Fu Panda 3**, **Pitch Perfect**, **Pitch Perfect 2**, **Straight Outta Compton**, **Remember**, **The Suffragette**, **13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi**, **Truth**, **Zootopia**, **The Lady in the Van**

# Cornwall Newsletter

## Cornwall Conservation Commission Report

We've been active! In April, several of us went on the "Paddling Excursion on the Lemon Fair" in canoes and kayak to explore the woodlands bordering the river downstream (although going north!). Brett Engstrom was our hardy, knowledgeable guide, along with Marc Lapin, and it was both interesting and invigorating to see the clayplain forest, swamp forest and marshes in this special area.

We also helped the Cornwall School students build two sand boxes to monitor wildlife tracks, with a motion-sensor camera, and have gotten some exciting photos, including a fox, a rabbit and a bobcat that crossed it one night at 11 pm! This has been a great opportunity for us to partner with the Cornwall School kids, and who have been eagerly checking the box and learning about the wildlife corridors through Cornwall.



The Conservation Commission, members of the Planning Commission and people from the Cornwall School met in April with Jens Hilke, a conservation planning biologist for the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. We discussed the importance of a Community Values Forum, which is an opportunity for townspeople to share and map what they love about living in Cornwall. We did a sample exercise with him, and found that there were many shared aspects, which overlap: different views, favorite hikes and bike routes, historical buildings and their preservation, dirt roads, sugaring, horseback riding, farms and apple orchards, our school, local businesses and others. This has been done in 9 other towns in Vermont, and has been helpful for community-building, and planning for the future. We're planning to have 2 Forums: one for the school kids, since they are an important part of our community, and then another for the adults, and we need all of you to come, and participate! So mark your calendars now for Wed. Oct. 12 at 7 pm, and we'll keep you posted.

The CCC has frequently heard from residents about how much they would like the town to have trails where people can hike and enjoy its many beautiful areas. We will be working on this for Cornwall in the coming year. Pittsford has an extensive public trail network and Mary, Abi Sessions and I drove down to check it out. We walked the Cadwell Trail through woods, fields and along the Otter Creek. We saw three leopard frogs, a garter snake and great blue heron, along with many varieties of wildflowers, a single hiker, and a mother with 2 kids in bathing suits, a wet Golden Retriever with its beloved sodden green tennis ball, all of whom who had just been swimming in the creek on this hot, steamy day. We're thinking of leading hikes in our favorite parts of Cornwall, maybe every other month – if you're interested in participating, leading a walk, or have places you would like us to visit please contact me at 462-2000, or at: [bethanybarryvt@comcast.net](mailto:bethanybarryvt@comcast.net).

Enjoy the summer- we'll see you around town, and in the Fall!

Bethany Barry, Member of the Cornwall Conservation Commission

## 2016 LFICD Spring Mosquito Report

Vermont has experienced one of its driest Springs on record. The Lemon Fair Insect Control District addresses mosquito larval conditions when the Lemon Fair River has swollen out of its banks and onto the flood plain. Our experience in the field to date is that the flood plain is dry. One rain event precipitated under a half inch of rain this spring, which created isolated puddles in the flood plain which yielded a hatch of mosquitoes, but they never emerged as adults due to the puddles drying up. Mosquitoes need to undergo 5 stages of development before becoming adults and that requires being in water for 5 to 7 days. When puddles or the flood plain dry down within the first four stages of development, the larvae die.

So, where are the mosquitoes in your yard coming from? That's a good question. Isolated pockets of water in woodlands and ponds will promulgate hatches of mosquitoes. And mosquitoes can fly and drift on the wind for many miles and show up in your yards or woodlands.

Also, open containers that hold water such as clogged gutters, buckets, flower pots, tires, plastic tarps, bird baths, and other areas on a property that do not drain well will provide mosquito habitat. You can reduce

the number of mosquitoes on your property if you address these issues. Furthermore, mosquitoes like to rest in tall grasses, brush piles, and thick understory at the edge of forests. Eliminating these habitats will also reduce mosquito concentrations on your property.

The LFICD is setting up light traps (using light and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)) for trapping adult mosquitoes to be able to count and identify the species in our new office/lab space in Weybridge. We identify the species to primarily help us determine the quantity and source, e.g. flood plain and whether our dipping and treatment protocol is sufficient. We will also notify the State of species which might carry West Nile and Eastern Equine Encephalitis.

We will be hosting an Open House in July sometime. Keep your eyes open on Front Porch Forum for the date.

On the personnel front: Gary Rodes and Melissa Lourie are now official board members representing Weybridge. Field Technician Meg Madden passed her Vermont pesticide license. Kerry White has joined us as a field technician. We are very pleased to have them on board and congratulations to Meg!

Finally, if you do have mosquito problems, don't hesitate to call our hotline at 802-349-5407.

Remember, be smart. If you choose to be outside, particularly when mosquitoes are most active, at dusk and dawn, protect yourself. Wear long pants and long sleeved shirts and use insect repellent wisely. Fight the bite!



# Cornwall Newsletter

## ACROSS THE STREET....

Happy Summer, Cornwall Friends and Neighbors!

Cornwall Church is an Open and Affirming Church. In the United Church of Christ, this means we make a covenant together to welcome and affirm all God's children regardless of race, gender, sexuality, abilities. Because of this covenant we made more than a decade ago, we were particularly pained and saddened by the mass shooting at the Pulse night club in Orlando. While the shooter's motives remain unclear, it does seem evident that he targeted this club because of his hatred toward LGBTQ people. We don't know if he also had hatred toward Latinos, since this was "Latin Night" at the club – and, yes, we don't know for sure what his terrorist connections were.

As the pastor of Cornwall Church, I want all of you to know that we stand in loving solidarity with the victims and their families and friends as they seek to find peace in the midst of this tragedy. I want all of you to know, also, that we stand in loving solidarity with each of you in the town of Cornwall who experience personally the pain of this hate-

directed shooting. If you need a place of welcoming peace, please feel free to call the church or stop in on Sunday morning. We have a prayer room available for quiet meditation; it is open for anyone in our community.

As the members and friends of Cornwall Church look ahead to the summer, we have something old and something new for you!

Here's the new: Beginning in July, we will start a 6-week preaching and conversation series on the book of Job. (that's pronounced "Jobe") This is believed to be one of the oldest books in both the Hebrew and Christian scriptures and deals with the eternal question: "Why do people suffer?" Our usual Sunday worship will be more conversation-oriented as we read through this book. We are using a study guide written by the minister of the Weybridge Church, Rev. Daniel Cooperrider. Please feel free to join us!

And here's the old: BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL!! I hope you all enjoy our annual event! This year it will be held on AUGUST 6 from 1-4 pm! There will be live music, a water balloon toss, face painting – and, of course, lots of blueberry cobbler and lots of blueberry pies! Please join us for some summer fun!

Peace and Joy to you all this summer!

Rev. Mary Kay



## Sheet Music by Gary Margolis

Let's say this isn't a commentary,  
another occasion for the sake  
of writing a poem. Only a moment

to take note of the waterfall  
of notes spilling from my new neighbor's  
flute. A sonata I wouldn't have guessed

would be living next door, when the van  
arrived and a symphony of furniture  
was carried into the house by men

strapped in their back braces, their tuxedos  
of sweat. How carefully they carried  
the shiny, chrome stand, the crates

of Fisher and Schirmer sheet music.

Stopped between loads to catch  
their collective breath. That practiced

sound she's so accomplished at hiding  
between notes. Like the hermit thrush  
back in the woods, behind her new house.

Let's call it her conservatory, her waterfall  
of bird song. Spring's commentary.  
On this occasion where we meet in a poem.

## State Primary Voting on Tuesday, August 9, 2016

The State Primary will be held on Tuesday, August 9, 2016 at the Cornwall Town Hall. The polls will be open from 7 AM—7 PM. The State Primary is different from the Presidential Primary, in that you will be handed three(3) ballots (Democratic, Progressive and Republican). You will choose which one to vote on, and the other two will be deposited in an un-voted ballot box. The ballot you voted on will be deposited in the Vote Tabulator. The Primary Warning and Sample Ballots are posted at the usual locations in

town. Early/Absentee voting is available now and up until 5 PM on Monday, August 8. The office will be open on Monday, August 8, 2016 from 1:00 PM—5:00 PM for early voting.

### TAX BILL INFO

The tax rate will be set at the August 2, 2016 Selectboard Meeting. Once that has been completed, I will work on printing the tax bills to have them ready to be sent out around September 1, 2016. The education tax rates are

calculated. The Homestead Rate is 1.6027, this is a decrease of .0310 cents per 100 in value. The Non-Residential rate is 1.4102, which is an increase of .0035 per 100 in value. Once the Grand List is finalized at the end of July, I will have all the components needed to calculate the General Fund and Highway tax rates.



## Streak by Gary Margolis

Say his name is ours.  
Jackie Bradley Jr.  
A man one out away

the wall, flying out  
of the park. The occasional  
gift when the scorer officially

Pine tar and spit. Pray  
the man hitting in front  
of him gives us an anonymous

For us, walking out into  
Yawkey's  
street. Call it a Way. To say  
what he almost did.

from keeping his streak alive.  
Consecutive, professional  
hits. Balls banging against

calls an error a hit. It's impossible  
not to think too much  
of this. His name is ours.

hit. Tonight, late in the game.  
So Jackie will have his chance  
again. To end his streak.

## State Bird by Gary Margolis

Perhaps it's another sign.  
Why's the thrush revealing itself?  
Calling this close to the road,  
renouncing its hermitage

room in the woods. Maybe this,  
too, is revelation designed  
and not a sign at the end  
of the road. Not signaling

in the woods. Perhaps she feels  
it's time to be more seen  
than heard. Maybe she'll fit  
in your hand when there isn't

you nothing's more wrong  
than right. Almost invisible  
bird. Another rung to come  
down. Light here and here.



Town of Cornwall, VT  
2629 Route 30  
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***We're On the Web!***

***Cornwallvt.com***

## Dog Census to be Completed!



A dog census is a list of unlicensed, inoculated, and licensed dogs and wolf-hybrids owned and kept in a town which is used to control these renegade canines. State law requires that this list be promulgated every year. The process of putting this list together starts with the selectboard which "shall annually designate one or more persons to maintain a list of unlicensed, inoculated and licensed dogs and wolf-hybrids owned or kept in their municipality and to submit the list to the municipal clerk." 20 V.S.A. § 3590(a). Upon receipt, the town clerk

must then notify all the owners and keepers of dogs named on the list yet to be licensed or inoculated of the need to do so and that failure to comply may result in the dogs being humanely destroyed. After May 30th, the town clerk must then update this list and return it to the selectboard. This list – or census if you will – is returned to the selectboard because it is the selectboard that is authorized by State law to issue a warrant at any time to one or more police officers, constables, pound keepers, or elected or appointed animal control offi-

cers directing them to impound all unlicensed and inoculated dogs and to enter a complaint against their owners. This information is copied for the Vermont League of Cities and Towns Newsletter.

The Selectboard is intending to proceed with a Dog Census at some point in the future. If you have a dog that is not registered, you can come in to the Town Clerk's office and register the dog. A valid rabies certificate is required.