



Cornwall Newsletter

Town of Cornwall

Volume 12, Issue 2
Fall 2015

Town Clerk and Treasurer News That You Can Definitely Use

Hello all, So as Stu says in his article, it has been a splendid summer and early fall. Warmest September on record. And hopefully, by the time you receive this newsletter in the mail, Hurricane Joaquin will have missed us and everyone else on the east coast.

The first installment of property taxes will be due on November 1, 2015. November 1 is a Sunday, so I will not be in the office on Saturday or Sunday. I will be in the office on Monday, November 2 from 8:00 AM—5 PM. Payments will be considered timely on Monday the 2nd. I will be away on Thursday and Friday, October 29 and 30, but Joan Bingham will be in the office and available to take your tax payments. It turns out that May 1, 2016 is also on a Sunday. I will do the same schedule in the spring as well. The office will be open on Monday, May 2, 2016 from 8:00 AM—5 PM. Payments will also be considered timely on Monday, May 2.

2016 will be a year filled with elections. We will start out with the Presidential Primary and Town Meeting on Tuesday, March 1, 2016. Our actual Town Meeting will be held on Monday night, February 29, 2016 at 6:30 PM at the Cornwall School. I say that our Town Meeting will be held at 6:30, but actually starting in 2016, the School District meeting will be held first at 6:30 PM, and the Town Meeting will be held after the School District meeting concludes. This was voted on last year at Town Meeting and was approved. The town and school district meetings will alternate going first every other year. The hope is that more voters will come and attend the School District meeting. Hope to see you there. Polls are open from 7 AM—7 PM.

The next election will be the State Primary. This will be held on the second Tuesday in August in 2016, which is a legislative change from two years ago. The state primary election will take place on Tuesday, August 9, 2016. The polls will be open from 7 AM—7 PM.

The last election of the year will be the General Election. The General Election is held every two years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. November 8, 2016 is the General Election Day. I expect it will be a large turnout, or at least I hope it will be a large turnout. Polls are once again open from 7 AM—7 PM.

Additional information about the elections. If you are not registered to vote in Cornwall and wish to vote here, please stop by, call or email and request a voter registration form. You can also obtain the form on the Vermont Secretary of State's website. For the 2016 year, you must be registered to vote by the Wednesday before the election takes place. In subsequent years, there will be same day voter registration, but not for next year. My advice is to register now while you are thinking about it, so you won't be disappointed at any of the elections next year.

The town is in the middle of a full Financial Audit which is going well. Telling and Associates is the accounting firm performing the audit.

The Cornwall Library will be hosting a Poetry Evening on Thursday, November 12 at the Town Hall. Look for further details on the bulletin boards, on the website, via the Cornwall Connection and in the newspaper. We are excited about this opportunity.

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Special points of interest:

- Proposed Conservation Fund
- Ledges Walk with the Conservation Commission
- School News
- Library News and Book Sale
- Emergency Management Information
- CVFD needs you.

Cornwall Conservation Commission News

As part of our public outreach effort to spread the word about Cornwall's limestone-based ecology, the CCC is working to integrate the Natural Resources Inventory into the Cornwall School curriculum. Ecologists Brett Engstrom and Marc Lapin led two school fieldtrips (grades 3 and 4, then the combined 5/6 grade) and one public hike to the Ledges (which drew a crowd of 32 Cornwall residents!). Here are the highlights of those hikes.

We remember lots of cool things from the Cornwall Ledges. We learned about Fingernail Clams and got to dig for them in the mud. We found wild leeks and garlic. Learning about the limestone bedrock was cool. We liked seeing the Maiden Hair Fern and we loved gathering Beechnuts. We learned about the Shagbark Hickory tree. The view from the top of the Ledges was beautiful! Thank you for taking us on this great hike!

Sincerely,

The Cornwall Fourth Grade

On Monday September 21st, the 5/6 class went on a field trip to the Ledges in Cornwall just off of Route 125. The guide of the field trip was Marc Lapin, an ecologist that teaches at Middlebury College. The Ledges are an ecologically significant site that we need to conserve. We saw lots of plants and animals and even if the animals weren't visible we learned about their habitats. We saw a bobcat's wintering ground, and learned that you need to let shagbark hickories grow so that Indiana Bats, suffering from the White-Nose Syndrome can live there. We saw a vernal pool and learned that salamander born there will go back to have their young. We also learned that vernal pools dry up in dry spells, and come back during the wet season. In the vernal pool we saw clams smaller than my pinkie nail! So please leave vernal pools alone or else you will mess up so many creatures' lifestyles. We also saw wild leeks growing, and a GIANT salamander, Marc said it was one of the biggest he'd seen! It was a really fun field trip, if you want to learn more I recommend going there.

Written by Nora Wooten, 5th grade

We are also working with the Planning Commission on a proposal to set up a Conservation Fund, as was asked for in the 2013 Cornwall Town Plan. The fund could be used for a variety of conservation efforts, ranging from education to land acquisition and technical assistance to landowners. It can also help us apply for funding support beyond the town. Look for more information on the Fund in this newsletter!

Finally, Audubon Vermont is asking for the help of landowners in Cornwall. The shrublands of the Champlain Valley are an important global resource for many birds that are declining throughout their ranges, including the Golden-winged Warbler, American Woodcock and Eastern Towhee. The top threats to these species are the loss of shrubland habitat, maturation of early successional forest, and changes in agricultural practices. Through the Champlain Valley Bird Initiative, Audubon Vermont will work with landowners to proactively manage their shrublands to protect birds. They can provide technical assistance via workshops, habitat assessments and bird surveys, and information about demonstration sites on public lands, innovative management strategies, and federal incentive programs. If you have 15 acres or more of land that has at least 5 acres of shrubby habitat, either an old field that is overgrown or a young forest, and are interested in participating, email mfowle@audubon.org or phone (802) 434-3068. For further information on the Initiative, visit <http://vt.audubon.org/champlain-valley-bird-initiative>.

Thanks for helping to conserve our Cornwall landscape! For more information on limestone, short-styled snakeroot, and Cornwall's ecological features, visit <http://cornwallvt.com/cornwall-conservation-commission/cornwall-natural-resources-inventory/>

Mike Sheridan for the Conservation Commission

Photo caption: Ecologist Brett Engstrom leading the 3/4 grades' fieldtrip at the Ledges, Sept. 18, 2015.





A Conservation Fund Proposal for Cornwall

The Cornwall Town Plan, as adopted by the Select Board on April 30, 2013, calls for the Planning Commission, Conservation Commission and the Select Board to “Create a conservation fund to support the Conservation Commission’s continuing efforts related to education and preservation of areas deemed important.”

A Conservation Fund is a dedicated fund established by a municipality to help protect the town’s land and waters for purposes such as agricultural, forest, wildlife, scenic, recreational and natural area uses. It can have many potential conservation-oriented purposes: conservation education, land acquisition, the purchase of development rights, technical assistance and other conservation projects, such as the recent natural resources inventory. A Conservation Fund can also allow the municipality to leverage state and federal resources, serve as matching funds for grant applications, and provide a long-term public investment in land conservation.

Currently 27 Vermont towns have a Conservation Fund. The closest to Cornwall are Weybridge, Middlebury, Monkton, Charlotte and Hinesburg.

Benefits of a Conservation Fund

Local conservation fund programs have successfully preserved many parcels of important conservation lands throughout Vermont. A Conservation Fund:

- Demonstrates the town’s collective commitment to conservation of natural and agricultural lands and other important natural resources.
- Helps support town goals as stated in the town plan for the protection of important wildlife habitat, water resources, forest blocks, significant natural communities and plant and animal species of greatest conservation need.
- Permits action on the recommendations included in the Cornwall Natural Resources Inventory.
- Encourages the development of conservation and recreation opportunities.
- Allows the town to move more quickly on potential projects.
- Allows the town to identify key conservation projects and provides a structure for landowners potentially interested in participating in a conservation project on a voluntary basis.
- Allows the town to provide matching dollars, which are often used to secure state, federal or private grants, and is an effective way for a town to work in partnership with interested landowners, land trusts, and other organizations to undertake land conservation projects.
- Allows the town to participate in funding of floodplain conservation and restoration projects, in collaboration with the State’s Lake Champlain cleanup programs. This would not replace a State funded program, but it could be used to enhance program benefits of state mandated projects or in areas not targeted by the State.

Representatives from the Cornwall Planning Commission and the Cornwall Conservation Commission have developed A Conservation Fund Proposal for the Town of Cornwall. Both the CPC and the CCC have reviewed this proposal. At a meeting on September 16, 2015 the Planning Commission endorsed the proposal and recommended that it be submitted to the Select Board for consideration. Should you have questions regarding the proposal please contact Mary Dodge or Rene Langis on the Conservation Commission or David Anderson on the Planning Commission.

Cornwall Free Public Library News

Shouted From the Rooftops!

Our tiny Cornwall Library received some major kudos in a recent Facebook post by our friends at the Vermont Book Shop in Middlebury. "I'm going to shout from the proverbial rooftops about my local library! As tiny as it may be (a room at the back of the town hall), it is stocked monthly with a beautifully curated selection of titles for adults and kids... For a town of about 1,200 souls, that's pretty remarkable!"

It IS remarkable, and we are justifiably proud of our selection of the latest novels and non-fiction titles, children's books, audio books, and popular DVDs. Even more remarkably, we are able to do it all with a very meager budget. The Vermont Book Shop helps us by extending a generous discount, of which we are VERY appreciative! But, if we had just a little more to work with... hence our appeal to you for a donation to supplement our operating funds. Small, medium or large donations would be gratefully accepted by our all-volunteer staff, and put right to work filling our shelves with additional titles. Make checks payable to the Cornwall Free Public Library... and THANK YOU!

The Book Sale Is Coming!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 17th! It's the Cornwall Library Book Sale! Don't miss this collection of gently used books and audiovisual materials – all at bargain prices! This is the perfect time to stock up on winter reading books. What's better than settling in with a good book during those cold winter 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. Prices range from \$.50 to \$2.00.

Proceeds from the sale go directly to stock the library shelves with new releases purchased from the Vermont Book Shop in downtown Middlebury. Come early for the best selection, but for those who wait, once the clock strikes **ONE** the **BAG SALE** begins. Fill a bag with books for only \$4.00. Come check it out!

HERE'S WHAT'S NEW AT THE LIBRARY

New additions to the library shelves await Cornwall residents for your reading pleasure! If you haven't stopped by the library lately, drop in and check our always changing selection of books, audio books, and DVDs. If you want to see the latest offerings from the comfort of your home, look over the complete list of new materials on our website – cornwallvt.com under the library drop down box. This is updated on a regular basis so you will find all of our current materials there.

Some recent additions include:

FICTION

Make Me - Lee Child, **Last Bus to Wisdom** - Ivan Doig, **The Precipice** - Paul Doiron, **Purity** - Jonathan Franzen, **The Little Paris Bookshop** - Nina George, **The Taming of the Queen** - Philippa Gregory, **Fates and Furies** - Lauren Groff, **The Marriage of Opposites** - Alice Hoffman, **The Girl in the Spider Web** - David Lagercrantz, **Go Set a Watchman** - Harper Lee, **Circling the Sun** - Paula McLain, **The President's Shadow** - Brad Meltzer, **Alert** - James Patterson, **The Nature of the Beast** - Louise Penny, **The Hand That Feeds You** - A.J. Rich, **The English Spy** - Daniel Silva, **The Ambassador's Wife** - Jennifer Stiel, **The Book of Speculation** - Erika Swyler, **Code of Conduct** - Brad Thor, **A Pattern of Lies** - Charles Todd, **Who Do You Love** - Jennifer Weiner

NON FICTION

The Oregon Trail – Rinker Buck, **The Art of Forgery** – Noah Charney, **The Invisible Thread** – Laura Schroff

YOUNG ADULT

Me and Earl and the Dying Girl - Jesse Andrews, **The Accident Season** - Moira Fowley-Doyle, **Finding Audrey** - Sophie Kinsella, **Alive: Book One of the Generation Series** - Scott Sigler, **Everything Everything** - Nicola Yoon

CHILDREN

The Princess and the Pony - Kate Beaton, **Serafina and the Black Cloak** - Robert Beatty, **Book Scavenger** - Jennifer Chambliss Bertman, **The Day the Crayons Came Home** - Drew Daywalt, **Llama Llama Gram and Grandpa** - Anna Dewdney, **Owl Diaries #1** - Eva's Treetop Festival - Rebecca Elliot, **The Curious World of Capurnia Tate** - Jacqueline Kelly, **Aliens Love Astronauts** - Melina Kinsman, **The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher** - Dana Alison Levy, **The Wonderful Things You Will Be** - Emily Winfield Martin, **Auggie and Me: Three Wonder Stories** - A.J. Palacco, **The Kingdom of Wrenley: The Lost Stone** - Jordan Quinn, **What Pet Should I Get?** - Dr. Seuss, **Goodbye Stranger** - Rebecca Stead

AUDIO BOOKS

Remarkable Creatures - Tracy Chevalier, **Tripwire** and **Running Blind** - Lee Child, **Six Years** and **Missing You** - Harlan Coben, **X** - Sue Grafton, **Go Set a Watchman** - Harper Lee, **A Rule Against Murder** - Louise Penny, **Speaking in Bones** - Kathy Reichs, **Kitchens of the Great Midwest** - J. Ryan Stradal, **Code of Conduct** - Brad Thor, **The Book Thief** - Marcus Zusak

DVDs

The Age of Adeline, **Cinderella**, **Dead Poet's Society**, **Far From the Madding Crowd**, **Kingsman: The Secret Service**, **Love and Mercy**, **The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel**, **Woman in Gold**



Cornwall Elementary School News

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER: 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 newly updated school website at cornwallelementary.org.

TEA & CONVERSATIONS: I am hoping to engage the Cornwall community in conversations about what is happening at Cornwall School, in ACSU, and general trends in education over the course of this year. I am really hoping you can come to one or more of these meetings because it will help deepen the connection between the school and the community. The meetings this fall will be from 4-5pm.

This fall's schedule for the meetings will be:

- 21 October - Introducing the ACSU Strategic Plan and how it connects to Cornwall School
- 16 November - Tentative topic: "New math" - the rationale behind this new way of teaching and showing math knowledge as well as how to help current students with their math
- 09 December - Tentative topic - Cultivating a Growth Mindset - delving into the ideas of a growth mindset, the research, and how to cultivate this mindset

ADULT FLU CLINIC: We are hosting a flu clinic for adult community members on 07 October, starting at 8.30am. If you are interested in having a flu vaccine, email Donna Severy at dsevery@acsu.org so we can have the right amount of flu vaccine. There is no out of pocket charge for this service, as long as an insurance card is presented. If no insurance card is presented there will be a 30 dollar charge for the service.

After The Stars by Gary Margolis

The geese don't realize they're
meant to be a sign
behind the clouds. For the bride and
groom
to pause, to look up, to listen to a
flock wending

their way north, disturbing the air
with all their good
intentions. Like vows, one of us is
thinking.

In a few minutes they will be taking,

saying to each other, in front of us.

We have come this far.

Like the geese who are going away,

steering themselves by the promis-
ing
stars, they, too will have to break.
Becoming
lost being one of the happy and
necessary ways

they'll find a cornfield they need for
a night.

To rest, to gather strength, to work
out

the kinks from a long flight.
To decide,

in the morning, who will take the
lead,
who will drop back, and all their
straggling family
in between. Vowing, a kind of
honking our about-to-be

married couple will need, too. To
know where
there love is, flying in this life from
south to north,
Where we are for them, among
and after the stars.



Road Commissioner's Report

*Howabout you
getting your mailbox
ready for winter!?!?
Duct tape doesn't
count!!!!*

I think in the last newsletter I was lamenting about all the rain we had in June and how it was interfering with planned projects. The wife says my whining doesn't help anything. Well, I'd say we've had a pretty amazing end of summer cuz of my whining. Now we're expecting a couple – 3 inches of rain, which we need pretty bad. Not good for the guys still cutting corn though.

So during that dry spell, we got a bunch of ditching done. Spots that have been on the to do list for a while, but mainly due to the lack of a convenient dump site for the spoils, they've been on the back burner. Then almost like magic two great dump sites became available so we jumped.

We also worked with Bridport and Weybridge where the towns' boundaries come together on Snake Mountain Road. Bridport and Weybridge both had grants to do the project, so they did most of the work, but that should be a big improvement over there.

Paving is done and went well after several postponements, as

the crew was sent all over northern New England. We will deal with the worst of the shoulders this fall.

We will continue and finish mowing in the next week or two.

So as I sit here listening to the rain on the roof, lets talk about road dust. A couple (or 3) points to be made:

I think in the last newsletter I explained that dust is what binds the stone particles together in a gravel road. If it blows away, the gravel "ravels". Which is why we use the products to 'stabilize' the gravel. The products work by attracting and holding moisture, so without moisture, enough moisture, its kind of like peeing into the wind. Calcium Chloride is \$.91 per gallon and the tree-goo is \$1.21 per gallon. Conventional wisdom wants a minimum of .2 gallons per square yard on an 18 foot road its \$1.10 per yard or \$1922 per mile. So you can see its not cheap. Like I say, the efficacy and durability of the product is a function of moisture and timing. Sometimes I get it

right, sometimes it doesn't come together. Bottom line, we'll need more chloride (money) to keep everybody content all summer long.

OK—back to fall— we'll be filling the sand shed here soon and getting equipment ready for winter. Howabout you getting your mailbox ready for winter!?!? Duct tape doesn't count. Make sure the lids shut and stay shut. 80 year old cedar posts are probably shot as are some pressure treated 4"x4"s.

Lets see what else. TMDL and water quality, we know there will be a permit and another reinvented Road Standards all over again. There's not much talk of accountability and only dreams of additional funding. In the end for the town it will be mostly a paperwork nuisance and the permit fee if they stick with it.

Beyond that—winter's coming!!

Stu

Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department Needs You!



The Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department is looking for new members! The CVFD provides fire and emergency medical services to the Town, and is staffed entirely by volunteers. Unfortunately our ranks have decreased over the last year so we are actively searching for new members to join our team. While becoming a member does require a significant time commitment for training, meetings and emergency responses, it does not require

any special pre-existing skills or unusual bravery. The rewards? Serving and getting to know your community and working with a great, diverse group of people. If you are interested in learning more about what it means to be a volunteer fire or medical responder, please contact Raph Worrick

(raphw@shoreham.net , 462-2735) or talk to any department member.



Emergency Management Network

Well, the EMN has been on hiatus for most of this year, but at our July meeting we penned in the following events:

An **Emergency Shelter Refresher & Drill** will be conducted in February. This will be an opportunity for previously-trained, as well as newly interested, volunteers to walk through the set-up, operation, and demobilization of a local shelter.

Basic First Aid and **CPR/AED** courses will be offered in the spring of 2016. These will be the two-year certifications by American Heart Association instructors. No pre-requisite necessary. There is fee (to be determined) but the EMN offsets a portion of that for Cornwall residents.

A few seasons ago, I mentioned the state's latest approach to public information dissemination: **VTAlert**. This system is set up so individuals can create an account and subscribe to alerts, based on locations, type of alert (Amber Alert, Weather, etc.), and select how alerts are received (email, landline, cell/text). It takes some time to fine tune the filters, but it's worthwhile, overall.

New opportunities within VTAlert are now being made available to towns. Designated Town users can log in and send immediate notification using, essentially, the "reverse-911" method, hitting all landlines. Alerts can also be targeted to cell phones within a specific area, including traveler passing through; effective for emergency road or weather conditions. Users can create specific groups of recipients, such as Cornwall Shelter Volunteers, so when a need arises, the activation of members is one task in VTAlert.

If Cornwall adopts VTAlert as its primary notification system, there will be a lot more information provided, as well as attention to not overusing the various resources it offers. In the meantime, take a look at vtalert.gov to see what it's like. There is still a account you can use to look at options and criteria. Sign in as with: townofcornwall1761@gmail.com, password: cornwall (lower case).

While VTAlert has the means to provide information to many people, in a variety of ways, we'll continue to use our "Cornwall Connection" email list, and Front Porch Forum, for community updates and urgent announcements. We'll keep you updated there about VTAlert, too.

The Emergency Management Network continues to hold the third Thursday of the month as a meeting date, but only warned when needed. Meetings are generally administrative in nature, revising documents and reviewing plans, but anyone can present a topic for a meeting by contacting me. Likewise, if you have a question or concern regarding emergency planning in Cornwall or the area, get in touch with me.

Kate, Emer. Mngt Coordinator
462-2182, gieges@shoreham.net

The Periodically Annual Winter Storm & Power Outage Checklist

1. Be prepared to be isolated and self-sufficient for up to 72 hours (3 days!)
2. Have a telephone that works when the power is out.
3. Consider water pipes, pets, livestock, etc. should the power (and water and heat) be out for an extended period.
4. Keep outside exhaust vents clear of snow or blockage so gasses don't accumulate in the home.
5. Keep fire extinguishers properly charged, and be sure everyone knows how to use them.
6. Keep, and refresh, water for drinking, cooking, hygiene, and pets.
 - Fill a five gallon pail, or the bathtub, for toilet flushing
 - Use soda, juice, or vinegar bottles to store water, not milk jugs
7. Keep cold food cold—
 - Minimize opening the refrigerator and freezer; an unopened fridge will stay cold for about 4 hours.
 - A full freezer will keep its temperature for about 48 hours; half-full: 24 hr. Keep ice cubes, or fill bottles of water, to fill freezer space (please pour off some water before putting bottles in the freezer!)
8. Know what is safe to eat after a power outage:
 - If power was out (refrigerator was off) for less than 4 hours, and the door was kept shut, foods should be safe.
 - Any meats, eggs, leftovers, that are stored at greater than 40°F for more than two hours should be discarded.
 - Any of the above foods, kept under 40°F, should be thoroughly cooked to be safe.
 - Frozen foods that remain under 40°F are safe and may be refrozen or cooked. If unsure of the temperature, check each package for ice crystals, indicating it remained frozen.
9. If the power is expected to be out for more than 4 hours, use coolers to keep foods cold.
10. Keep canned food on hand, and a non-electric can opener, for emergency meals.
11. Have a plan for meals if you have an electric stove.
12. Keep prescriptions and critical supplies on hand so you don't run out in the middle of a blizzard.
13. Have a battery/solar/dynamo powered radio so you can listen to news
14. Keep a spare batteries and flashlight somewhere you'll be able to find *in the dark*.
15. Make a 5-gallon Bucket Kit: collect items needed during a power outage/blizzard/etc.
16. Make the call to Green Mountain Power (800/649-2877). Even if all your neighbors are out, your call will help them to identify and prioritize areas to restore.

If you do have internet access (remember "dial-up"?) or a smart-phone, you can check their website for outage information or report your outage: greenmountainpower.com/customers/outages.
17. Have a telephone that works when the power is out.
18. Sign up for the Cornwall Connection Email List. We will send updates out as the town responds, and as we learn more details about an incident. Sign up at Town Hall, or email Sue (cornwallvt@shoreham.net) to be added to the list.
19. Phone in to Vermont 2-1-1 and ask for "Cornwall Updates." If we have a longer-term event, we will notify Vermont 2-1-1 of details to relay to you.
20. We will also send status and resource information to WVTN, 92.1FM and WOKO, 98.9FM.
21. Long-term disaster recovery and resource information will also be posted on the Weybridge/Cornwall Front Porch Forum.
22. *Pending:* If we adopt the VT Alert System, we will be heavily encouraging folks to sign up for that, where we can send messages out over email, cell phones, telephones, etc. Stay tuned...

More Food Safety Facts are at Town Hall on the EMN bookcase, or from <http://www.fda.gov/Food/RecallsOutbreaksEmergencies/Emergencies/ucm076881.htm>



Cornwall Listers Report

As many of you know, Stephenie (Pyne) Frawley recently moved from Cornwall, so she is no longer eligible to be one of our town listers. She always brought a wonderful sense of balance and humor to her work, and so we are especially disappointed that she has left. Nevertheless we sincerely wish her well and hope she will return often to visit her friends in Cornwall.

As a result of Stephenie's relocation, the current

listers are looking for someone to fill out her term, which is up in March of 2016. The position doesn't require a lot of time in the fall and early winter when we usually meet during the day for a few hours about once a week. However, the responsibility is especially time consuming in the spring and early summer when new buildings and additions must be inspected; homestead declarations and current use evalua-

tions reconsidered; and some property owners typically choose to 'grieve' their appraisals. If you are interested in the position, as we hope you may be, please call the listers at 462-3386. Leave a message; one of the listers will get back to you.

The listers have received an unusually large number of permits for new structures, large and small. All new structures, whether finished or not, must be ap-

praised as of April 1st of the upcoming year. Once you have completed a building project, we would be very appreciative if you would let us know either by calling 462-3386 or leaving a note at the Cornwall Town Hall. That way we hope we can complete all the new appraisals in a timely way and without a crunch in the spring.

Liam English

Sue Burdick

ACROSS THE STREET....

Right across the street from the Town Hall you will find the 1st Congregational Church of Cornwall – a member of the United Church of Christ denomination. We are an "Open and Affirming" congregation which means we welcome **everyone** regardless of sexuality, sexual preference, gender identity, race, or abilities. We are also a "Just Peace" church – this means in all our worship and our ministries we strive to be a witness to God's vision of fairness, equality, justice, and peace.

That's a pretty tall order! Especially since we're a pretty small congregation! But we are perseverant and diligent workers who have been around for a long time and we plan to stick around for a while!

Here are a few of the things we do that you need to know about:

BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL: Have you come to this event? It's a lot of fun – held every summer at the beginning of August.

This event helps us raise money for maintenance of our 212-year-old building as well as money for local support programs like the Midd-Summer Lunch program, Meals-on-Wheels, and Womensafe.

BAKED POTATO BAR: We have this every March. It's a grand feast where you can load your potato with every topping imaginable! The money raised from the potato bar goes to support Addison County Habitat for Humanity.

FIFTH SUNDAY – Whenever there's a 5th Sunday in the month we get to work! We always do a special project for HOPE and make school kits, clean-up kits, or health kits that go around the world for people in need. If you don't like "plain-old Sunday morning worship" this would be a great time to join us and get to work making a difference for the world!

Just watch our sign out front and you will learn all kinds of stuff about what we're up to! We hope you'll feel free to join us any time! Just check out our website: cornwalluccvt.com or find us on Facebook!

And on a final note: **SUNDAY OCTOBER 11** we will hold a special service – Blessing of the Animals! All animals are welcome (on a leash, in a carrier, or in a cage please!). Join us!



Town of Cornwall

2629 Route 30
Cornwall, VT 05753

**We're on the
Web:**
cornwallvt.com

Meeting a Retired NYFD Firefighter, September 11, 2015 by Gary Margolis

You can't know who you'll meet
in the parking lot, before the
bride
and groom arrive. Which side

of the aisle an usher will take
him to.
What he'll choose, perhaps
by chance, to tell you. The siren

of small talk, a lingering bell.
Why you can smell smoke
on his breath. Not cigarettes.

Why there's still ash
on his fingertips, enough
death to last. Here, say

for a lifetime of love.

Now what we wish for them.
Champagne and confetti,

colleagues and friends,
empty staircases,
cousins, at home, back

in their stations. Two strangers
who meet, commemorating this
parking lot.

