



LIGHTWAVE

Lightwave **Fiber Internet** is the future of broadband. With **symmetrical speeds** ranging from 100 to 300 Mbps, this service is truly Internet at the speed of light! Although we're building Fiber infrastructure as fast as resources permit, as of now fiber availability is limited. Check out our state of the art Lightwave page to see if Fiber is available in your area. **If it isn't, don't lose hope!**

We urge you to submit your information to us, via the provided Lightwave form, so that we can gain a better understanding of where we might dedicate resources to build Lightwave infrastructure in the future. As we begin to see pockets of high interest in Lightwave Fiber Internet, we can develop plans to build and serve accordingly in the future.

The Lightwave form and other information is available on the Otelco website.

Town Clerk & Treasurer News

Thank you for your support at the beginning of the month when I took a few days off to see my Mother. I will most likely be taking "mini-vacations" like that periodically.

I don't have too much to report at this point. I will remind you all that the new tax bills will be sent out in early September. You still have an opportunity to file a Homestead Declaration and Property Tax Adjustment form if you have not done so. The final deadline for filing is October 15, 2021.

There will be a special election on Tuesday, August 31, with a special meeting on Monday, August 30. This election has to do with the withdrawal of the Ripton School from the ACSD. The remaining ACSD towns must approve the financial plan that Ripton and the ACSD have worked out. I will do my best to keep you all up to date on what is happening and what information is available for you to access.

In the last space, I will once again remind you about dog licensing. We are very close to having all the dogs I know about registered. So thank you all for that. Call if you have questions about the process.

DISCLAIMER

The opinion's expressed here in the newsletter are those of the citizen's writing the articles, not those of the Town of Cornwall.

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MESSAGE FROM BEN MARKS, SELECTBOARD CHAIR

What a difference a year makes. A year ago we were in the middle of the Covid-19 pandemic, under a set of emergency orders from the Governor that limited access to the Town Hall and affected many aspects of our civic and private lives. Well, welcome to the Summer of 2021!

The Governor lifted Vermont's emergency Covid-19 order on June 14, 2021. As a result, Cornwall's official life has started to return to normal. With the state of emergency lifted, the Town Hall and Library have re-opened. Our Select Board meetings, and those of other Cornwall boards and commissions, are resuming a mandatory in-person component. Because there have been advantages to conducting meetings remotely over the past year, the Select Board is has issued a Request for Proposals for the purchase and installation of a monitor-and-microphone set up at the Town Hall that will allow us to use a "hybrid" model of remote and in-person meetings. Vermont's open meeting law requires that there be an in-person component to our official meetings. Our hope is that easier access to town government will increase participation in our public meetings and access to the Town's public officials. Whether you participate in person or remotely, we look forward to seeing you!

We are also in the process of drafting a Request for Proposals to supply some portion of the Town's energy needs with solar power. The time has come to start thinking about Cornwall's energy future! Keep your eyes peeled to the *Addison County Independent* and the Town Hall for details.

We have had disappointing news from the Department of Treasury regarding Cornwall's anticipated Covid-19 funds from the American Rescue Plan Act. I reported in the Select Board's Spring 2021 newsletter report that the Select Board expected Cornwall would receive around \$175,000 in ARPA funds this spring. That total was comprised of a \$58,000 direct grant to Cornwall, based on its population, and a portion of Addison County funds, which we had been led to believe would also be at Cornwall's disposal. However, on June 8, 2021 the U.S. Treasury Department ruled that Vermont does not have general units of county government. Treasury thus decided to issue county-based ARPA funds to Addison county judicial and law enforcement entities. The result of this is that Cornwall-based broadband and childcare funding priorities must look to the smaller-than-anticipated 2021 town grant this year, with a similar amount expected for 2022. While it is possible that some of those county-based funds will become available to Cornwall in the future, the timing and amount of those additional funds is uncertain. We had hoped to make a large contribution to Maple Broadband's pre-construction work this year and now will have to content ourselves with a more modest contribution.

The Town continues our search for an Assistant Zoning Administrator to help evaluate zoning applications for completeness when our ZA Gary Barnett is out of town on business. This paid position is

SELECTBOARD REPORT CONTINUED.....

open to Cornwall residents who are interested in playing an important role involving our zoning rules and their application to building and subdivision projects. A lack of an Assistant Zoning Administrator means that reviewing zoning applications in a timely manner may be a challenge at certain times of the year. An assistant ZA would get plenty of support from more experienced folks while getting up to speed. If you are interested in helping in this way, please contact Sue Johnson at cornwallvt@shoreham.net.

Benjamin Marks Select Board Chair

Planning Commission Update

The Planning Commission is off to a busy start to 2021! First and foremost, this year has marked the arrival of not one but two new babies of members of the Commission! Our chair, Conor, welcomed a baby boy to the world in February, and AJ Vasilou followed shortly after in April with a baby girl. Congratulations to Conor and AJ and their respective families!

Turning to more official business, members of the Planning Commission have started a review of Cornwall's town plan in an effort to identify areas that need updates. In the coming months, the Commission will also begin work on adding new sections on forest fragmentation and flood resiliency. This work (and the training described below) is supported by a municipal planning grant from the Vermont Agency of Commerce & Community Development (ACCD). The addition of these two sections will bring the town plan into compliance with recent statutory changes. If you have thoughts or insights on either of these issues, or on any other topics relating to the Planning Commission, we encourage you to attend one of our monthly meetings or to reach out to any member of the Commission – we would love to hear from you!

Finally, in addition to its work on updating the town plan, in 2021 the Planning Commission is participating in municipal land use training developed by the Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC). Topics covered thus far have included the structure and functions of local government and land use planning and regulation in Vermont. The sessions thus far have been very useful, and there will be additional sessions later this year. Thanks to both the ACCD and the ACRPC for making these trainings possible!

CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT

Get Pollinated! on Saturday, October 16th

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 16th when Cornwall resident Andrew Munkres, owner of Lemon Fair Honeyworks and current president of the Vermont Beekeepers Association, will describe how homeowners can encourage and support pollinators in their own backyards and beyond. Andrew produces raw honey, comb honey, nucleus colonies and queens from bees that have not been treated with miticides, antibiotics or other medications. This will be an outdoor program — time of day and place to be announced later. In the meantime, you can help by reducing where and how often you mow your lawn and fields, by not using insecticides and pesticides, and by letting wildflowers and weeds grow so pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and birds have a varied diet.

Conservation in your Backyard

Do you know that what you do in your own backyard can make a big difference for native plants, pollinators like bees and butterflies, and other wildlife? Over the next several years, the Conservation Commission will focus many of its activities on backyard conservation, starting with its October 16th outdoor presentation on pollinators. Consult the following list to find out more information about backyard conservation and to answer questions such as: What plants are pollinator-friendly? I want to attract songbirds to my backyard, what do I do? How do I remove invasive plants from my property?

Pollinator-Friendly Plants. Vermont Fish and Wildlife.

<https://vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/vermont-plants/pollinator-friendly-plants>

Backyard Wildlife Habitat in Vermont. Vermont Fish and Wildlife.

This 52-page booklet has many ideas to help you attract wildlife to your backyards. There are sections on different types of birdfeed, birdbaths, how to attract hummingbirds, when to feed birds, bat boxes, and nesting boxes. The booklet is available to download at:

<https://vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/landowner-resources>

Vermont Invasives. <https://www.vtinvasives.org/>

For those of you who would like to take a closer look at how you can manage your own yard with pollinators in mind, the University of Vermont has a three-part, low-cost online course for home gardeners and small landowners called **Creating Pollinator-friendly Landscapes in Vermont**. The course covers the pollination process, different types of pollinators, and how to select native plants to attract pollinators. To register, go to:

<http://go.uvm.edu/pollinator-landscape-course>.

Guidelines for Conservation Reserve Fund set for adoption

In March 2021, Cornwall voters approved an appropriation of \$3500 for the Cornwall Conservation Reserve Fund, for FY 2021/2022, which starts on July 1st. Over the past six months, a working group made up of members from the Conservation Commission, Planning Commission, and Select Board has drafted a detailed set of guidelines for the Conservation Reserve Fund. Both the Conservation Commission and the Planning Commission have adopted draft guidelines and the Select Board is scheduled to review these guidelines at its meeting on Tuesday, July 6th. After the guidelines are fully adopted by the Select Board, they will be posted on the Town of Cornwall website.

Katherine Branch, Conservation Commission Member

First State to Reach Eighty Percent ***by Gary Margolis***

We meet again, strangers, in the
light
of the dome of the statehouse.
Sunday night. And Sarduccis,

an old eatery, is packed
to the gills. With strangers.
With friends who are meeting,

sitting down for a meal,
as if for the first time.
Strange, isn't it, to feel so much

joy. For steam emanating
from the kitchen. A bowl
of overflowing bouillabaisse

arriving at the table. To cheers.
To what some would call a
standing
ovation. As if we were citizens

in a Roman coliseum. Cheering
for the lions who forget why
they are there. For the warriors

who come out of hiding.
Having left their shields
and breastplates in a pile.

Like flowers losing their petals.
Senators with nothing more
to say. Which isn't true for us.

Who have so much to catch up
on.

Between courses. Between
glasses of local wine. Toasts and
stories.

Applauding each other.
And those strangers, masked,
at the next table. Who seem late

coming to the news.
We are safe enough to breathe
the same air. Use the same
words.

Into the Heart

By Gary Margolis

As if the deer fly has nothing
better to do. Than guard the hay
field. Find the sweet spot inside

the crease of your elbow. Drink
blood. Make a perfect
nuisance of itself, crossing in

and out of your view. Out
to the hazy orchards, the boxes
of bees. The queen they feed

with their stolen love.
The dust of flowers, the deer
fly doesn't know what to do
with.

Except by chance. Having flown
into the heart of the yellow
blossoming mallows.

Overwhelmed,
by what it couldn't tell
it could mean.

To let things be as they are.
With the pain it is capable of
giving you.

CORNWALL SCHOOL NEWS

Hello Cornwall community,

A 5th grade student and a 6th grade student recently shared their promotion speeches at a school board meeting. If you haven't presented virtually via Zoom, it is a different experience and can be stressful and feel awkward. Both students rose to the challenge and presented their speeches with poise. Their speeches reflected on their time at Cornwall including memories, anecdotes, and gratitude to others while also reflecting on who they are as learners and people and what strengths they will carry forward as they transition to MUMS.

As I use that same approach in reflecting on this past school year, gratitude and strengths stand out. What repeatedly occurred to me is that Cornwall School navigated this past school year by leaning into each other and leaning into the community. Support showed up in the form of donations to the school, picking up branches and debris on the grounds, sewing and donating masks for students and staff, planting flowers in the flower boxes, or ordering a Covid-style drive through dinner on town meeting night. I would like to extend a big thank you to the entire community for coming together to support the students, teachers, and staff this year!

With the end of a school year, there come transitions. Thank you to Linda Kautzman for her many years of caring and service as the librarian (and so much more!) at Cornwall School. To thank and recognize Linda as she retires, Friends of Cornwall School built and installed a Little Free Library near the school garden. Please feel free to take books and drop off books. It is there for all to use, and it will make us all happy to know that books keep on circulating.

Our school community is looking forward and planning for whatever next year brings. We will build upon what worked well this year and tweak what we need to in order to continue to grow. I wish all of our students, families, teachers, and staff some time to refresh this summer, and we look forward to reconvening in the fall.

Sincerely,

Heather Raabe, Principal

FRIENDS OF CORNWALL SCHOOL UPDATE

The Friends of Cornwall School (FOCS) continued to hold our annual events as normally as possible this spring, and found reasonable substitutes when we couldn't. Grand friends day became Grand friends letters. Teacher Appreciation was closer to normal, and we kept our tradition of giving outgoing families and staff a gift of a plant. A Tie dye tee shirt day replaced All Out Day and new "Cornwall *Strong*" baseball hats were provided for all students and staff on the last day of school. To top it all off, we were able to honor our longtime school librarian, Linda Kautzman, as she starts the next chapter of her life in retirement with a special gift. If you visit the school grounds in the future, you will find the new Little Free Library we envisioned, constructed, and installed to honor Linda's legacy. As we were creating this surprise for her, we learned that she had been wanting to get just that for the school. Needless to say, she very much appreciates the gift. This project would not have come together so quickly without the talents and labor of Al Thalen and Jeff Stanley. When you add in the alternate Harvest Fest and Gifts for Giving activities, the 2nd heavy duty tent, and winter hats for all, among others, we accomplished a lot in a very difficult year. None of it would have been possible without all the support we received from the four dozen Cornwall and greater community members who responded to our request for assistance last fall, the donations made at the West Cornwall benefit concert, our Photography fundraiser, and this year's Town Meeting Dinner. For this, all of us at FOCS thank you for this very generous support. On a more personal note, I have meant all year to send out thank you cards for the donations to our Letter Writing Campaign. I apologize for the great tardiness, and I promise that they will be forthcoming soon.

Have a Great Summer, Ian Ross, FOCS Treasurer

FOCS Merchandise

If you are looking for other ways to support our efforts, FOCS merchandise can be purchased at the Cornwall Town office or by reaching out to Ian Ross at [**addison.department.store@gmail.com**](mailto:addison.department.store@gmail.com) Items available are as follows:

2019 Cookbook	\$12.00
Magnet	\$ 5.00
EURO Stickers	\$ 3.00

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

We are so excited! The Cornwall Library is NOW open to the public. It is open the same days and hours as the town office: Tuesday – Friday, 9 AM – 5 PM. The library trustees do ask that you wear a mask if you are not vaccinated. If you are more comfortable wearing a mask, please do so. We also ask that you use hand sanitizer, particularly when you are using the computer to check out items.

We are going to limit the number of people browsing in the library to 3 – 4 people. We want patrons to feel comfortable when in the library. This may mean that you might have to wait a few minutes to access the library which hopefully won't be a problem. We will also limit the children's room to one group at a time to start with. We do consider children under 12 as part of the unvaccinated population, so would require that they wear a mask while they are visiting the library

The other exciting news is that we will have a book sale this year, and it will be on November 13, 2021. SO, we will start taking donations of books. We do appreciate your patience in holding on to them this past year. However, please DO NOT donate textbooks, encyclopedias, magazines, old guides (such as travel guides), dirty, torn or molding books. Please recycle those books. Thanks!

During the past year, we continued to purchase new books, audiobooks and DVDs for the library. A sampling of the materials purchased are:

FICTION

Hour of the Witch – Chris Bohjalian, **The One Hundred Years of Leni and Margot** – Marianne Cronin, **One Two Three** – Laurie Frankel, **People We Meet on Vacation** – Emily Henry, **Golden Girl** – Elin Hilderbrand, **The Soulmate Equation** – Christina Lauren, **The Last Bookshop in London** – Madeline Martin, **The Maidens** – Alex Michaelides, **Malibu Rising** – Taylor Jenkins Reid, **Great Circle** – Maggie Shipstead, **Eternal** – Lisa Scottoline, **Project Hail Mary** – Andy Weir

MYSTERY/FICTION

While Justice Sleeps - Stacy Abrams, **A Gambling Man** – David Baldacci, **The Other Black Girl** – Harris Zakyia Dalila, **The Last Thing He Told Me** – Laura Dave, **The Final Twist** – Jefferey Deaver, **In Her Tracks** – Robert Dugoni, **The Good Sister** – Sally Hepworth, **The Plot** - Jean Hanff Korelitz, **When the Stars Go Dark** – Paula McLain, **The President's Daughter** – James Patterson and Bill Clinton, **The Disappearing Act** – Catherine Steadman

NONFICTION

The Soul of a Woman – Isabel Allende, **Chasing the Thrill** – Daniel Barbarisi, **Facing the Mountain** – Daniel James Brown, **Somebody's Daughter** – Ashley C. Ford, **Remember** – Lisa Genova, **Empire of Pain** – Patrick Radden Keefe, **The Addiction Inoculation** – Jessica Lahey, **Broken** – Jenny Lawson

LIBRARY CONTINUED.....

YOUNG ADULT

We Are Not Free – Traci Ghee, **Excuse Me While I Cry Ugly** – Joya Goffney, **The Ones We're Meant to Find** – Joan He, **Ace of Spades** – Faridah Abike-Iyimide, **Pride and Pre-meditation** – Tirzah Price

CHILDREN

Aru Shah and the City of Gold – Rashani Chokshi, **We All Play** – Julie Fleet, **Alone** – Megan E. Freeman, **Bear Bottom** – Stuart Gibbs, **Eyes That Kiss in the Corner** – Joanna Ho and Dung Ho, **Rescue at Lake Wild** – Terry Lynn Johnson, **When You Trap a Tiger** – Tae Keller, **The Mess That We Made** – Michelle Lord, **The Most Magnificent Thing** – Ashley Spires, **I Sang You Down from the Stars** – Tasha Spillet-Sumnet, **What the Road Said** – Cleo Wade

AUDIO

One Last Stop - Casey McQuiston, **Ocean Prey** – John Sandford, **That Summer** – Jennifer Weiner

DVDs

The Courier, **The Father**, **Nobody**, **The Vault**

The Development Review Board is Seeking an Alternate Member!

The Cornwall Development Review Board (DRB) is seeking a new alternate member. The DRB is a quasi-judicial board that hears applications for waivers, conditional use approvals, subdivisions, and other matters relating to land use in Cornwall. Alternate members attend all meetings and hearings. They “step into the shoes” of regular members when the regular member is unable to participate in a hearing (e.g., because of illness, absence, or conflict of interest).

If you think you might be interested in becoming an alternate member of the board and/or would like to discuss what is involved, please contact either Barbara Greenwood (Chair) at bgreenwoodcornwall@gmail.com, or David Anderson (Vice-Chair) at 462-3254 or dandersoncornwall@gmail.com.

Lemon Fair Insect Control District News

LFICD Spring 2021 Field Report

Craig Zondag; Field Coordinator/Biologist

So far this year, we have experienced isolated pockets of mosquito larval activity. Even with sustained flooding in Weybridge following the early spring snow melt, larval thresholds were far below treatment levels as the flood plain quickly dried. Light traps on Swamp Road (Otter Creek flood plain) have yielded the largest adult counts with 100 to 1000 mosquitoes in a 12-hour nighttime period. To date, we have been unable to determine the source of these mosquitoes. Prevailing south and southwesterly winds may be blowing mosquitoes from the Bond Island wetlands in Orwell right over the Cornwall line. There also have been far fewer upland mosquitoes probably due to drier conditions as well.

The LFICD has hired Mia Handte-Reinecker, a UVM student, as a Field Technician Intern this year. Once again this internship opportunity provides invaluable “boots on the ground” experience for students exploring Field Biology. Mia will also receive 3 credits from UVM for her work with us. Middlebury College has supplied a Geographic Information System (“GIS”) Mapping Intern to the LFICD. The Middlebury intern is Sam Chester who is working with Bill Hegman, Middlebury College Teaching Fellow and GIS Specialist. Sam and Bill’s objective is to help us better understand drainage patterns and areas that sustain flooding and mosquito hatches in the Lemon Fair between Routes 74 and 125. Precisely mapping these areas should improve surveillance and treatment effectiveness.

Remember to protect yourself from mosquito bites, tip and drain all items in your yards that may be breeding areas for mosquitoes, clean gutters. Learn more about what you can do to eliminate mosquito habitat on your property by attending the LFICD Open House on July 24 from 9:00-2:00. Meet our interns. Also, check out our web page at www.lficd.org.

Lemon Fair Insect Control District News Continued....



L to R: Sam Chester, Middlebury College, '22, GIS-LIDAR Mapping Intern; Bill Hegman, Middlebury GIS Specialist/Teaching Fellow; Mia Handte-Reinecker, UVM, '22, LFICD Field Tech Intern

Notes from LFICD Chair, David Dodge

We are pleased to have the interns, Mia and Sam from UVM and Middlebury College. We are also very appreciative of Bill Hegman's GIS expertise. His Middlebury College research includes Natural Resource Allocation and Community Development and Planning

We are still looking for LFICD Board Members: 1 to 2 from Weybridge and 1 from Cornwall. If you are interested, please call me at 802-462-3898.

Town of Cornwall
2629 Route 30
Cornwall, VT 05753

Fire Safety Reminders
from the
Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department

E911 Signage - In an emergency, clearly marked house numbers are *critically important* to First Responders. If you need assistance in obtaining and installing a standard green and white E911 sign at your home, do not hesitate to contact the CVFD for assistance. Captain Ken Manchester can help! Give him a call at 462-2136 or talk to any member of the department!

Alarm Systems - Do you have an alarm system at your house? If you do, please consider investing in a Knox Box to ensure timely access to your home. This device, which can only be opened by the CVFD & you, holds keys and important information about accessing your home in an emergency.

Brush Burning - If you have questions about burning brush or obtaining a burn permit, please contact Forest Fire Warden Tom Frankovic at 802-462-3137 or 989-4473.

Alarm batteries - Do your smoke and CO detectors need fresh batteries? If so, please change them twice a year. Consider doing so on solstices or time changes, it's an easy way to remember!