



CORNWALL CHRONICLE

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Marvelwood Debate Heats Up

The future of the 13-acre Marvelwood School property was aired at two meetings last month, opening what promises to be a lengthy and intense discussion about this Cornwall landmark.

The Midwestern Connecticut Council on Alcoholism (MCCA) came before the Planning and Zoning Commission on October 11 to express "very preliminary" interest in the site. Director Joseph Sullivan said MCCA had in mind moving a 25-client short-term alcohol treatment facility from its current home in Bridgewater to the 8.75-acre Marvelwood "core" around Calhoun House. He said the clients would all be voluntary admissions whose average stay would be for about three weeks of counseling and education programs. MCCA also operates the Trinity Glen facility in Sharon for long-term care.

Sullivan said the staff/client ratio would be 1 to 2. Clients would range from teens to the elderly. He stressed that the facility would not be "a hospital setting"; no detoxification services would be offered. In time, Sullivan said, the facility might expand to house as many as 50 clients. In response to questions from P & Z members, he said that some clients admitted would have addiction problems with

drugs other than alcohol but that alcohol would, by definition, be the primary cause for treatment.

MCCA board member William Lawler said the group hopes to make a decision by February on a move from the present Bridgewater facility.

Cornwall's selectmen are also eyeing the Marvelwood site, prompted by suggestions from several sources that Calhoun House might make a good town-office center. At their October 10 meeting, the selectmen voted to contact Marvelwood headmaster Mark Johnson to ask for the conditions of sale. Architect Alec Frost will be retained to study current town buildings as well as Marvelwood's structures and to prepare a feasibility study of how the buildings might fit into a plan for future town growth.

First Selectman Gordon Ridgway said Frost's study will be part of a cost/benefit analysis comparing various options. He said the selectmen intend to present the results to a town meeting before Christmas.

Both MCCA and the selectmen are focusing on Marvelwood's central campus. Although the dormitory and staff quarters on Jewell and Pine Streets are included in the \$1.5 million price set by

Marvelwood, neither of the potential buyers has plans for the peripheral housing. Marvelwood itself still plans to move. About 75 percent of the funding is said to be in place to move the school to the former Kent Girls' School campus. No date has been set for Marvelwood's departure.

— Lisa Lansing

Election Day '94


The purpose of this piece is to tell you what to expect when you get inside the voting booth at Town Hall. I'll get to that, but first some good news. That once-popular tradition of midday voting and then lunch with friends at the Parish House is being revived—sort of—by Dave Cadwell. Dave will be serving a special Election Day lunch at the Corner—homemade soup, bread from the ovens of his new bakery, plus apple crisp and coffee. The price is \$4. Now to the matter at hand.

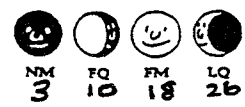
You will find 12 categories when you close the curtain and begin voting on November 8. Here they are:

Governor: There are five choices. A Connecticut Party is running its own candidate in this race. She is current Lt. Gov. Eunice Groark. Former Congressman John Rowland is the Republican. State Comptroller Bill Curry is the Democrat. Two independent, basically single-issue candi-

(continued on page 2)

NOVEMBER 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Inland Wetlands 7:30 p.m. Town Hall Agric. Advis. Comm. 7:30 p.m. Town Hall	2 W. Cornwall Merchants Assoc. 10 a.m. Cadwell's	3	4 Skiing film "Vertical Reality" 7 p.m. Mohawk Ski Lodge (p.4)	5 Sports equip. swap. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mohawk Ski Lodge (p.4) PTA Multi-Family Tag Sale Extravaganza 10-3 CCS Skiing Film, 7 p.m. Mohawk Ski Lodge (p.4)
6	7 Conserv. Comm. 7:30 p.m. WC Fire House Skating 7:30 p.m. Salisbury School Rink (p.4) Bd. of Selectmen 8 p.m. Town Hall	8 ELECTION DAY Hous. River Comm. 7:30 p.m. CCS Library	9 CCS PTA 7 p.m. CCS Library	10	11 VETERANS DAY <i>Harriet Clark's 100th Birthday</i>	12 CVFD Demo 1-3 p.m. WC Fire House (p.4) EXTRAS wine tasting, 4-7 p.m. 118 Town St. (p.4) Poetry Reading, 8 p.m. Cadwell's Firemen's Ball, 8 p.m. - 1 a.m. Mohawk
13 Scott Cady on Israel UCC 11:30 a.m. (p.4)	14 Cornwall Lib. art show, Martha Rubin photos Pk and Rec. 7:30 p.m. Town Office P & Z 7:30 p.m. Town Hall	15	16	17 Bd. of Education 5 p.m. CCS Library Bd. of Finance 7:30 p.m. CCS Library	18 Travelogue, Anna Hermosa on Basques in Spain, slides 7 p.m., CCS	19 Cornwall Assoc. 4 p.m. Osbornes, 82 Goshen Sharon Tpk
20 Rabbi Kessler on Judaism 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. UCC (p.4)	21 HVRHS Bd. of Ed. 7p.m. HVRHS Library Bd. of Selectmen 8 p.m. Town Hall	22	23	24 THANKSGIVING	25	26 Peter Del Tredici on collecting plants in China, 4 p.m. Cornwall Library (p.4)
27	28 HANUKKAH ZBA 8 p.m. Town Office	29	30 Town Meeting 8 p.m. CCS Gym (p.4)			



*Check time and place at Town Office.

(continued from page 1)

dates are also on the ballot, Joseph Zdonczyk, anti-abortion (Concerned Citizens), and Tom Scott, anti-income tax (Independence).

U.S. Senator: Incumbent Senator Joseph Lieberman is running for a second term and can be found on either the Democratic or ACP lines. The Republican choice is Jerry Labriola, a retired doctor who has run for state office before. Concerned Citizens are running Gary Garneau.

U.S. Representative: College professor Charlotte Koskoff is running on the ACP and Democratic lines. Republican Nancy Johnson is running for a seventh term. Concerned Citizens are running Patrick Danford.

State Senator: The veteran incumbent is Republican M. Adela Eads of Kent. Her Democratic opponent again is Salisbury's Dan Dwyer. No name appears on the ACP line.

State Representative: The incumbent, Mary Ann O'Sullivan, is a Democrat also running on the ACP line. As in 1992, her Republican opponent is Andrew Roraback.

Secretary of State: Miles Rapoport is a Democrat running also with ACP endorsement. His Republican opponent is Andrea Scott.

Treasurer: The Democratic incumbent is Joseph Suggs, running also on the ACP line. The Republican is Chris Burnham. Concerned Citizens offer Christopher Hebert.

Comptroller: Both the Democrats and ACP are running Nancy Wyman. Her Republican challenger is Gene Gavin.

Attorney General: Democrat Richard Blumenthal is running for another term with ACP endorsement. His Republican rival is Richard Arnold.

Sheriff (Litchfield County): Andrew Ocif is the Republican running against Joseph Lefty Silano, Democrat and ACP.

Judge of Probate (Cornwall): Incumbent Margaret Cooley is endorsed by both major parties and running unopposed.

Registrar of Voters (Cornwall): Each major party gets one, so Lisa Cruse, Republican, and Jayne Ridgway, Democrat, will be elected. — John Miller



Harriet's Hundredth

Harriet Lydia Clark was born on November 11, 1894, at Mohawk Farm in Cornwall. Now, 100 years later, she lives in the same house in good health and, as always, vitally interested in the world around her. Much has been written about her career as a teacher, legislator, and all-around activist in many good causes. A great deal of this history has been written by Harriet herself. Now living a retired life, she spends most of her day in a pleasant room at the farmhouse, overlooking lawn and gardens. A large table holds pads of legal-sized paper on

which she writes almost daily. With her varied career well documented, her coming birthday seemed a good time to ask her for her hopes for Cornwall's next 100 years: — City Lansing

"My first wish for the new century would be to establish a Connecticut School of Wildlife for the study of birds and animals at Mohawk Homestead.

"My second wish concerns the Historical Society, which should create research facilities for genealogical studies and stay open six days a week.

"My third wish is that Cornwall pupils will continue to get the good education they now enjoy. Once there were seventeen school districts in Cornwall, each one competing for teachers and attention. It took a major miracle to consolidate.

"I am sorry Rumsey Hall couldn't be converted into a nursing home as was once suggested. If it had, an arts and crafts workshop might have been established there.

"I think the *Cornwall Chronicle* is a model for all towns wanting to publish a newsletter; I hope it can some day be printed with larger type and that it continues to flourish.

"Now for my greatest wish. May Cornwall remain a beautiful, quiet, and peaceable place to live—and no gnats ever."



The Warm Bottom

My six-year-old visiting granddaughter brought her clothes to my room to dress in the morning. On went a pair of underpants, six square inches of flowery cotton; a pair of jeans; and a T-shirt emblazoned with the warning I'M HOT. The entire dressing process took three minutes.

Rather too many years ago, when my sister and I were her age, we lived under the dictates of Dr. Holt's *Care and Feeding of Children*. He advocated the warm bottom. So when the November winds swept up Cream Hill, our winter underwear appeared and was placed on chairs beside our beds. In the morning chill we began at the top of the heap and worked our way down.

First we pulled over our heads a long-sleeved cotton undershirt, three buttons at the neck. Then came the Ferris waist, a vest-like garment hung along the bottom with rows of bone buttons, some on tapes. To this armament we attached in the following order: a pair of long underpants of the same heavy cotton, then a wool flannel petticoat over which we hauled bloomers that matched the stiffly starched dress that was to cover our bulging selves. Often another petticoat, white cotton embroidered along the bottom, added a touch of elegance to those bloomers. Then came the hand-knit stockings worked painfully over the longjohns and up over the knees. High shoes, buttoned or laced (we alternated

each year), were guaranteed to create a scratchy condition that was only relieved each night when we restored circulation by rubbing our lacerated ankles. The dresses that covered this sartorial munificence could scarcely be buttoned around our buried waistlines.

My granddaughter doesn't know the meaning of that T-shirt message. WE WERE HOT. — City Lansing



Sculptures by Colbert/Moon

David Colbert and Ellen Moon are exhibiting sculptures at the Cornwall Library. The list doesn't say who did which piece, but it's not hard to tell (unless they're playing tricks on us). Ellen's extensive experience in mask-making and costume design shows itself in her fluid organic creations such as "Sycamore," a beautiful twining tapestry of fabric and fiber. David's background in architecture and design stands out in straight lines and geometric forms best seen in his exquisite series of eight untitled sheet-metal sculptures. Also on exhibit are some collaborative pieces. You can't miss the truly haunting "Angel of Mercy/5 Platonic Solids" suspended overhead. — Alfred Bredenberg

Welcome

Emma Jean Saxe to
Melissa R. Dirck and Todd W. Saxe

Good-bye to Friends

Priscilla Foote Dickson
Carolyn Bailey Fields

Congratulations

Jessica Kirsten Fowler
to James David Krissel
Peter Mark Van Doren
to Cynthia Dianne Steele

Richard G. Griggs
to Bianca R. Langner

Whoopi Goldberg
to Lyle Trachtenberg

Land Transfers

Estate of Thelma T. Kearns to Peter D. Caruso, house and 7.6 acres at 70 Hautboy Hill Road, \$110,000.

Coltsfoot Farm Ltd. Partnership to James V. Griffin and Tabita Freimanis-Griffin, Valley Road, Lot 10, 7.3 acres, \$42,000.

Douglas and Connie Gordon to James A. Young and Wendy Rice, house and 9.5 acres on Kent Road, \$195,000.

Gloria V. Arms et al. to Echo Rock Assoc., house and land on Lake Road, \$170,000.

Barbara W. Herndon to Victoria D. Strange and Ronald K. Rapp, house and 6.4 acres on Dibble Hill Road, \$152,500.

New Five-Year Capital Plan

At their October 17 meeting, the selectmen a years 1996-2000. Following expected Board of Finance approval, the plan was to go before the annual town meeting on October 28 for approval.

Planning for the future is good business practice that prevents wild swings in yearly town budgets. In any case, the state requires such a long-term plan if Cornwall is to be eligible for state grants.

The first year of the new capital plan (1995-96) calls for \$100,000 for road improvement; \$65,000 for a new diesel highway truck; \$25,000 for guardrails (used but serviceable); \$125,000 for town office expansion (pending outcome of Alec Frost's study—see page 1); \$25,000 for a first installment on a \$50,000 rescue van; and \$20,000 for a "Cascade" system to refill rescue squad air packs at frequent intervals (an important health consideration).

Copies of the five-year capital plan, along with the annual town report, are available at the town offices. —*Scoville Soule*



New Bridge, Shed: Thank Feds

Cornwall has a new bridge and a new road-salt storage shed, both the product of federal regulation and both of which initially looked like nightmare projects from hell. The good news is that they will be mostly paid for by the state or the federal government, not by local taxpayers.

The federal OSHA laws required the town to build the salt storage facility at the landfill to keep chemicals out of the groundwater. The \$129,600 cost of the new shed is much less than neighboring towns paid. Best of all, 82 percent of the cost will be given back to the town through the state's Local Capital Improvement Program.

The Popple Swamp Road bridge reconstruction was originally intended to replace the plank bridge by the Clarkes' housees with a modest new structure. A new federal program offered to pay 80 percent of local government infrastructure repairs; the state would pick up almost all the rest. Cornwall, as it turned out, would be the first Connecticut town to complete a project with this funding. But what the feds wanted the town to build looked like a bridge on I-95.

For the selectmen it was a Hobson's choice: do it our way and pay \$80,000, or do it the way the feds wanted it done and pay only \$20,000 of the \$275,000 cost. The bridge was built to federal specifications, modified to allow amenities like wooden railings.

The Cornwall Bridge neighbors endured a long hot summer. Popple Swamp Road was severed by the bridge project,



MUCH APPRECIATED

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Jay Wolfe Fund. Your generosity is much appreciated. —*Jay and Dodie Wolfe*

QUESTIONS ABOUT MCCA

If the Midwestern Connecticut Council on Alcoholism is successful in purchasing the Marvelwood property (see story p. 1) we need answers to some questions: What will a 50-patient program for adults for the treatment of abuse of alcohol and other drugs mean to Cornwall Village? Will this change its character? Will this use be in harmony with the people of the town? What are the issues of public health, safety, and welfare? What will the introduction of a facility of this size, with the patient population, do to property values? Is this the most appropriate setting for such a treatment facility? —*Nicholas Bruehl*

RESPECT FOR TREES, PLEASE!

When affordable housing was planned for the thickly forested land on Pierce Lane, the neighbors were assured that the plots would be developed with utmost respect for existing trees. And, indeed, when the roads went in, we saw with relief that the most beautiful trees were left standing. Particularly one gorgeous fellow gracing the roadside, a very old tree spreading its half dozen branches like so many splendid arms and looking like a glorious candelabra. It must have been the delight of everybody coming down — or up — the road. But a few days ago, the foreboding sound of

Letters to the Chronicle



the chain saw filled the air, and — sure enough — not only did fragments of eliminated trees line the roadside, but gone, too, were all the branches of our favorite old maple tree, leaving a tall single trunk covered with open wounds like an amputee. Everybody working on the building site blames it on "the power company."

Hey, Ken Keskinen, Denny Frost, where were you? Isn't there anybody responsible for watching the power people and their tree cutters? Do you just hand it over to them and let them cut down whatever they think is in their way, down to the last screech of their wretched chain saws? Having to pass that wounded stump on my way to town infuriates and hurts me as if my own limbs had been cut off. They should have taken the entire tree down rather than leave this ruin as a memento to man's disrespect for nature. —*Sabina Lietzmann*

THANKS, RESCUERS

I want to express my gratitude to all the volunteers from Cornwall and Sharon who assisted in extricating my wife from her van after the head-on crash in Cornwall Bridge on the evening of October 5. I am certain that the care given on the scene has aided her on the road to recovery.

It was a very traumatic incident for both of us, but it is comforting to know we have such people from our communities who are ready to come to the aid of strangers.

Thanks again to everyone.

—*George L. Dietrich, Kent*

which also required the removal of several handsome old trees to widen the road. Replacing water mains also chewed up the pavement as Rick "Dig We Must" Stone made necessary improvements for the water company.

In the end it was Colly, one of Dodie Clarke Wolfe's cows, who signaled the end of the construction by walking across the new bridge in an inaugural event viewed by a few neighbors. Probably with great relief.

Jack Preston was project manager for the salt shed and the bridge. According to First Selectman Gordon Ridgway, "Things wouldn't have flowed as smoothly as they did" without him. Fully aware of all the snares the state could set, Preston, a former administrator in the state Highway Department, worked 12-hour days and mastered piles of paper to keep the projects on track and eligible for their special funding. Working from a traveling office in his blue pickup, Preston prowled the two sites and found ways to do the work better. Changes he was able to make in the plan for the salt shed saved the town \$28,000.

The town received its first reimbursement check from the federal program on October 17. —*Lisa Lansing*



Mohawk Preview

I arrived at Mohawk to see Carol Lugar on a sunny October day, leaves near peak, seven cars in the parking lot belonging to the staff of spiffer-uppers getting things ready for the skiing season. Carol is the boss at Mohawk and she is hoping for a third straight good season. Recent cold and snowy winters and an upturn in the economy have helped. In addition, Mohawk has improved its snow-making capacity by repairing piping damaged by the '89 twistlers.

Carol said the season will open the day after Thanksgiving depending on the pre-Thanksgiving weather. Natural snow or cold nights for snow-making are necessary. Full-day sessions will be available at \$32 for adults and \$25 for 15-and-unders. There will also be morning, afternoon, and evening sessions at \$20 and \$15. No night skiing on Sundays.

If you're a Cornwall kid who goes to CCS you get to ski free on Friday afternoons plus Saturdays, school snow days, and vacations. Not bad at all. If only I were young and not afraid of heights.

—*John Miller*

CHC Catch-up

Today, six months after the first people moved in, Kugeman Village, with its lawns, trees, shrubs, and families, is becoming a familiar part of the landscape on Route 7. A gift of sculpture from David Colbert now graces the lawn by the entrance, and a memorial tree for Clifton Read is to be planted this fall. Residents have put up play equipment for children, and some have made use of the fenced-in garden.

Through the Cornwall Housing Corporation's leasehold program, Sally O'Shaughnessy now joins Michael DeGreenia and Debra Tyler in starting homes on Pierce Lane. Two of the four leaseholders expect to be moving into their new homes before the year is out.

CHC has accepted with regret the resignation of Jean Vitalis, who in 1986-87 served on the original Housing Task Force and Housing Committee and, since then, on CHC's board. Three new members have been added to the board: Ella Clark, Maggie Cooley, and Dan Lazar. The board recently elected Tim Prentice as vice president to replace the late Clifton Read; Will Calhoun continues as treasurer and Bee Simont as secretary.

—Ken Keskinen

Events & Announcements

Rescue Demo: Interested spectators are invited to the West Cornwall Firehouse on Saturday, Nov. 12, from 1 to 3 p.m. to view the Volunteer Fire Department in action. A training session on "Vehicle Extrication", will feature basic and advanced techniques, using implements like the Jaws of Life.



Chronicle Art for Christmas

Yes, it's that time again, and you could mine a mountain of catalogs without finding a gift as unique as a signed print of *Chronicle* artwork by one of Cornwall's marvelous artists.

We have a limited quantity of prints (on acid-free paper) of some of these drawings. The price is only \$20 each — proceeds to the Cornwall Library and the *Chronicle*. Remember Marc Simont's beach babes? Bill Beecher's mice? The prints can be seen and purchased at the Cornwall Library.

By the way, printing and postage sure do gobble up our bank balance. If you enjoy the *Chronicle* and haven't sent a tax-deductible contribution lately, what better time to say thanks by giving us some dough.

Ski-Skate Swap: A big winter sports swap including skis, skates, and hockey equipment will take place between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 5, at the Mohawk Ski Lodge.

Wanted, Part-time Librarian: Hughes Memorial Library in West Cornwall needs a new librarian. Peg Becker, who has filled the post since Dutch Yutzler retired, would herself like to retire. Currently, Hughes Memorial is open Tuesday afternoons and Saturday mornings. For more information, call Barbara Farnsworth at 672-6571.



Michael Moschen will kick off a national tour of his new work with a performance at UConn/Storrs on Dec. 3, and you can be there to see it. The Cornwall Child Center will try to top off its building fund with a coach trip for 48 people. A buffet dinner (cash bar) will be served at the Jorgenson Art Gallery followed by the performance. The bus leaves at 5 p.m. and will be home by 11:30. A \$60 contribution covers the whole evening. Call 672-6344 to reserve a seat on the bus.

Moschen, who received a MacArthur Foundation "genius" award in 1990, has been described by the *New York Times* as "a sculptor in motion."

Skating at Salisbury School: Skating at the Salisbury School rink will begin on Monday, Nov. 7, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m., and will continue every Monday till March. Cost is \$1 per person. Soft hats are required and skating is at your own risk.

Voter Qualification: What if you reach your 18th birthday or become a citizen effective after the Oct. 25 cut-off for voter registration but you'd like to vote in the Nov. 8 state election? Fret not! Just go to the town clerk's office between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, Nov. 1-2-3, or on Monday, Nov. 7, 9-11 a.m., and get registered. That's not all. If you can only register on Friday-Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 4-5-6, call either Judy Gates (672-6568) or Lisa Cruse (672-6049).

Singers, We Need Ye: The United Church of Christ choir welcomes new members — especially tenors. The choir meets every Sunday at 8:45 a.m. to rehearse for the service which begins at 10. You'll get to sing everything from Mozart to Schubert to spirituals. For more information call Anne Chamberlain at 672-6133.

Fall Adult Education Programs at the United Church of Christ will continue Sunday, Nov. 13, when the Rev. Scott Cady will discuss Israeli-Palestinian relations in the light of his recent trip to Jerusalem. The talk will be held in the Day Room at 11:30 a.m. On Nov. 20, two classes on the teachings, observances, and rituals of Judaism will be held at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., led by Rabbi Stanley Kessler of West Hartford. Bring a bag lunch; drinks and dessert will be provided. For more information, call 672-6840.

A Botanist in China: At the Cornwall Library on Saturday, Nov. 26, at 4 p.m., Peter Del Tredici will report — with slides — on his recent six-week plant-collecting expedition to a remote region of central China where few Westerners had been before. A frequent visitor to Cornwall, Del Tredici is Curator of Living Collections at the Arnold Arboretum in Boston. His talk is sponsored by the Friends of the Cornwall Library. Admission free — everybody welcome.



Town Meeting on Education Issues: A town meeting will be called for Wednesday, Nov. 30, to discuss and vote on the regional Quality and Diversity in Education plan. The plan is the outcome of local initiatives last winter in about a dozen towns. Copies of the plan are available at CCS and at the town office.

Cornwall's Extras for Kids will host its second annual wine tasting fund raiser on Saturday, Nov. 12, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the home of Robin Freyberg, 118 Town St. In addition to the selection of fine wines, live music and hors d'oeuvres will be served up to Extras supporters. Suggested donation: \$20.

Ski Film Benefits G-Scouts: Warren Miller's skiing film "Vertical Reality" will be shown at Mohawk on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 4 and 5, at 7 p.m. The screenings, which benefit the Northwest Connecticut Girl Scout Council, will cost \$7 for adults and \$5 for children.

CORNWALL CHRONICLE

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