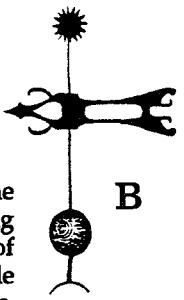


CORNWALL CHRONICLE

VOLUME 4: NUMBER 7 AUGUST 1994



A Pleasure Hunt

The drawings by Tim Prentice in this issue are all of objects visible from Cornwall roads. They are lettered so you can check your identification. Answers, upside down, are on page 4.

If you go driving to try finding the "treasures," maybe you should have a designated looker.

Rock Cottage Rehab

The Charles Addams-style house behind the West Cornwall Post Office has undergone a transformation. Its new owner, Joseph McKenna, a native Scotsman now working in the New York fashion world, is giving the Rock Cottage — as it is known in old deeds — a basic rehab that preserves familiar lines. Aside from the introduction of modern facilities, the only design change is elimination of the third story's ceiling, giving the upper interior of the house a mini-cathedral effect. The exterior of the house is to remain as it is.

Cornwall is to be McKenna's second home. He says he fell in love with the house on first spotting it one day when emerging from Barbara Farnsworth's bookstore; he was visiting Cornwall friends.

The Rock Cottage, more recently

known as the Golden house after the family name of the last resident owners, was built about 1875 for Arthur Warner, who practiced law in West Cornwall for 11 years, then moved to Woodbury.

Among the property's subsequent owners was Patrick ("Copp") O'Donnell, who acquired the place in 1913 and was later a Cornwall selectman. He seems to have used the Rock Cottage only in summer; the rest of the year he lived in his house beside Cream Hill Lake. The Joseph Goldens acquired it in 1955 from O'Donnell's heirs, and raised seven children there.

Between Warner and O'Donnell the house had a number of owners — some local, some out-of-town investors. One of their deeds provides a glimpse of a rustic pre-World War I West Cornwall. The document describes a two-foot-wide right of way apparently leading from a hillside pasture then existing back of the house; the track curled behind the present parking lot, allowing cattle to reach the brook near today's post office. — Michael Gannett

Death by Lightning

The storm circled Cornwall Center, but the sky seemed too light to offer an immediate

threat. We were sitting in the kitchen before supper, reading the paper — vaguely aware of thunder approaching. A rumble nearer than the others made us look up; remembering something I'd read, I turned out most of the lights in the kitchen and in my adjoining office.

I had scarcely sat down again when the lightning hit. It was as if a gigantic sledgehammer had smitten the ridgepole of the house. My wife, who happened to be looking through the door into my office, watched sparks fly out of the fax machine. We smelled smoke, and saw it in the beam of a flashlight.

A quick inspection of the house revealed that it had not been struck; there was no further sign of fire, and switches hopefully flipped showed we had not lost power. But the phones were dead, and the gadgets in the office, including an answering machine and a computer, were inoperative.

The lightning had not struck the house — but it had hit a majestic Norway spruce about 30 feet in front of the building. The tree, 11 feet, eight inches around near the base, took the hit by virtue of being 30 or 40 feet taller than the house. The bolt killed the

(continued on page 2)

AUGUST 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Last day to pay Cornwall taxes without penalty ††† Bd. of Selectmen 8pm Town Hall	2 <i>Corn. Hist. Soc. dollhouse exhibit</i> 9:30am-noon (p.4) Inland Wetlands 8pm Town Hall* Park & Rec. Comm. 7:30pm Town Office Agri. Adv. Comm. 7:30pm Firehouse	3 <i>W. Cornwall Merchants Assoc.</i> 10am Cadwell's	4 <i>The Boys Club</i> 10am Cadwell's	5 <i>Cornwall Library story hour 9:30am</i> <i>Cornwall Child Center fall term registration 8:30am-1pm</i> CCS art room (p.4)	6 <i>Cornwall Historical Society dollhouse exhibit</i> 9:30am-noon (p.4)
7 <i>Every Sunday GNATS softball 6pm</i> Hubbard Field	8 P & Z 8pm Town Hall	9 <i>Dollhouse exhibit</i> 9:30am-noon (p.4) Hous. River Comm. 7:30pm CCS Lib.	10	11 <i>Cornwall Housing Corp.</i> 7:30pm UCC† <i>Jeremy Brecher's film "Roots of Roe" 8pm</i> Cornwall Lib. (p.4)	12 <i>Cornwall Library story hour 9:30am</i>	13 <i>Dollhouse exhibit</i> 9:30am-noon (p.4) <i>St. Bridget's Fair</i> 9am-3pm (p.4)
14	15 ††† Bd. of Selectmen 8pm Town Office <i>Cornwall Lib. art exhibit: works by Ken & Lisa Keskinen</i>	16 <i>Dollhouse exhibit</i> 9:30am-noon (p.4) Agric. Adv. Comm. 7:30pm Firehouse	17	18	19 <i>Cornwall Library story hour 9:30am</i> <i>Rose Algrant Art Show 4-8pm</i> Marvelwood (p.4) <i>Corn. Hist. Soc. slide show 7:30pm</i> Town Hall (p.4)	20 <i>Dollhouse exh. (p.4)</i> <i>Children's party at the Library, 11am</i> <i>Rose Algrant Art Show 10am-5pm</i> Marvelwood (p.4)
21 <i>Rose Algrant Art Show 10am-5pm</i> Marvelwood (p.4)	22 ZBA 8pm Town Hall*	23 <i>Dollhouse exhibit</i> 9:30am-noon (p.4)	24	25	26 <i>Cornwall Library story hour 9:30am</i>	27 <i>Dollhouse exh. (p.4)</i> <i>Agri. Fair, Village Green 1-4pm</i> <i>Families First Picnic Village Green 4-8pm</i> (p.2)
28	29 Kindergarten orientation & bus ride 10am CCS (p.4)	30 <i>Dollhouse exhibit</i> 9:30am-noon (p.4) Registration for new voters 6-9pm Town Hall (p.4)	31	 NM 7 FQ 14 FM 21 LQ 29		

*Check time and place at Town Office. † United Church of Christ

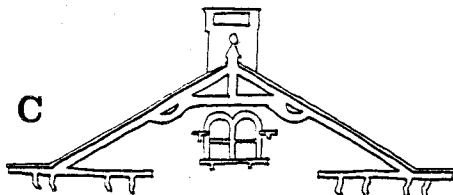
(continued from page 1)

tree — or condemned it to death. Next day, when Mike Root came over to advise us about the tree — it must be cut down — he told me the incandescent heat of the lightning had instantly brought the moisture in the tree to a boil, causing a deadly explosion, evidenced on the trunk by a fearsome white gash.

I have a photograph of the house taken about 100 years ago. The spruce is visible. My guess, possibly to be confirmed when the tree comes down, is that it was already 50-odd years old when the picture was taken. If so, it was here when the house was built in the 1840s, just before the Mexican War.

Phone service is restored; the gadgetry works once again — or soon will. But the gallant spruce, which may have saved our lives, which seemed to have been here always and appeared destined to outlive us by many years, must die. We will miss it.

— Charles Osborne



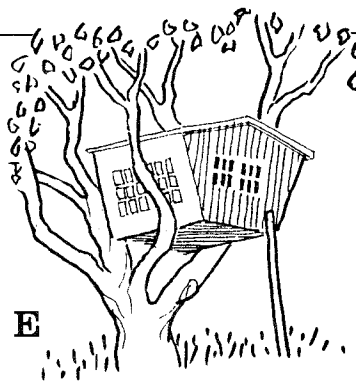
Families First

This year marks Cornwall's first "Families First" annual community picnic and games day, sponsored by the Cornwall Drug and Alcohol Prevention Council. The picnic will be held August 27, 4-8 p.m. on the Village Green directly following the Agricultural Fair. Highlights of the event include an intergenerational slow-pitch softball tournament with the three Cornwalls vying for first place and the honor of holding the championship cup for one year.

Other activities include New Games (non-competitive), volley ball, chess, and a nonalcoholic punch-tasting contest; recipes are requested. A square dance will begin at 6 p.m. Cornwall's own Ken Keskinen will call, accompanied by Rob Patton. Bring a picnic or buy a burger and soda from the VFW.

The Drug and Alcohol Prevention Council, newly formed by the First Selectman's office, plans to purchase educational material on substance-abuse prevention and family issues related to addiction. The materials will be available in the Cornwall Library. Funding for these special events and programs comes from the State Department of Public Health and Addiction Services through a yearly renewable grant. If interested in becoming a member of the council, please call Jill Gibbons (672-2603).

— Cynthia Bianchi



Kugeman at Capacity

All 18 units at Kugeman Village are occupied, reports Anne Baren, administrator. After a thorough application procedure, which included interviews and home visits, residents have been moving in since April. Now the mini-community which is Kugeman Village has taken on its own diverse character, with a mixture of the elderly, the young, and the in-betweens. Residents include nine families with 18 children who range in ages from seven months to 16 years. Nine of the apartments are rented by people with Cornwall connections; the remaining occupants have come from Kent, Sharon, and New Milford.

An informal residents' association is already taking shape, resulting in the sharing of ideas and the volunteering of services. A common garden site is being prepared, and several fathers are ready to assemble playground equipment. With landscaping mostly completed, the village is acquiring an established look that is a source of satisfaction to all those who have been involved in the project for the past eight years.

The Cornwall Housing Corporation is also pleased to announce that three of the leaseholders in the Parcel Program will begin building their homes this year — Debra Tyler and Mike DeGreenia on their Pierce Lane parcels, and Lonnie Carter on Town Street. The other four leaseholders plan to build within the next two years.

Those interested in either Kugeman Village or the Parcel Program may call 672-4439 (Kugeman Village) for information.

— Ken Keskinen

Barkoff's Oils at Library

The small oil studies by Ira Barkoff at the Cornwall Library until August 13 are all about color and light. These Cornwall hills and forests are really portraits of atmosphere — maybe of the hazy humidity of the past sultry weeks. They illustrate admirably how the character of light can both define and dissolve images, how shimmering color can evoke a mood of summer languor. Two black and white etchings are especially luminous.

Ira studied at Pratt Institute and the Art Students' League and has taught at the School of Visual Arts. His work has been included in *American Artist*, and he is a past president of the Association of Romantic Representational Art.

— Brigitte Hanf

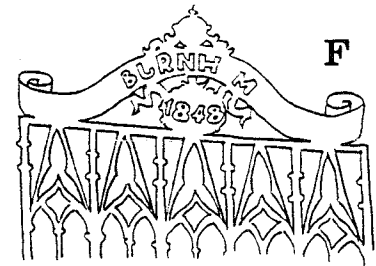
CCC Wish List

In order for the Cornwall Child Center to open this winter, it will need the following items. We hope that donors will sponsor them:

- Fence for play yard
- Bench 15" tall x 18" wide x 48" long
- 30 built-in cubbies 12" square x 9" deep
- Cabinets: 6'6" length for over sink; 4' length of base cabinet
- 18 linear feet of shelving
- 2 or 4 drawer vertical file cabinet
- Desk, office chair, and pad for rug
- 2 armchairs
- Tack strip for hanging artwork
- 3' x 4' bulletin board
- Mini-blinds for windows
- Shrubs
- 2 additional activity tables
- 6 children's chairs

Please let Cheryl Evans or Pam Brehm know if you can sponsor one of these items.

— Cornwall Child Center Building Committee



Goodbye to a Friend

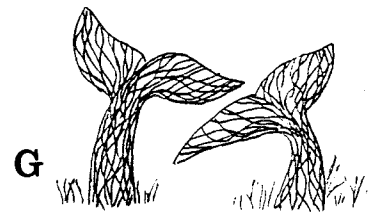
Lawrence M. Stevens

Congratulations

Andrew Farnsworth to Theresa Rowland
Sean Patrick Keenan to Jennifer Ann Levy

Land Transfers

Michael Vogel and Eva Rex-Vogel to James and Corinne Levy, 10.8 acres on Cream Hill Road, \$108,000.



Fund for Jaye Wolfe

Jaye Wolfe, 18, of Popple Swamp Road, was badly injured in June during an altercation outside the house of a Winsted middle-school teacher who hit Jaye with a baseball bat, inflicting a blow that impeded his ability to speak and walk.

To help defray his family's considerable medical expenses, a Jaye Wolfe Fund has been established at the National Iron Bank in Cornwall Bridge, to which all may contribute. According to his mother, Dody Clarke-Wolfe, Jaye's speech and ability to walk are improving.

— John Leich

Crime Wave Wanes

No one has ever confused Cornwall with Gotham when it comes to crime, but residents were locking their doors following a cluster of burglaries during late May through the end of June. Thefts were centered in an area of North Cornwall around Cream Hill Road, Town Street, Cogswell Road, and Cherry Hill Road, and the loot included guns, bikes, silver, a TV, a stereo, and cameras.

Lt. David Werner, commander of the state police barracks in Canaan, said that the police were still actively working on the thefts but that no arrests had yet been made. No new break-ins have been reported since July 1, but he felt it was too early to relax. So keep the doors locked and report any suspicious vehicles or persons to the police. — Ed Ferman

Scenic Roads

At their first July meeting, the Board of Selectmen listened to a proposal from Phyllis Wojan that would join Cornwall with neighbors Kent and Sharon in declaring its stretch of Route 7 a scenic road. This designation, which could be obtained from the state without cost to the town, would, Wojan believes, "give Cornwall a say" in keeping the road at its present width, helping to set the future ambience of the town, and maintaining its rural character.

Scenic-road status, she told the selectmen, would allow the town to participate in future plans for widening or rerouting state roads in Cornwall. Right now, Wojan said, Cornwall is a "weak link" between the scenically designated Kent and Sharon portions of the thoroughfare.

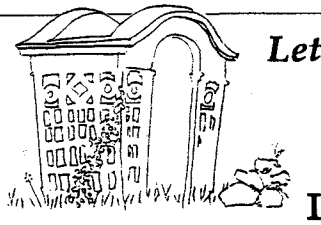
Esthetics aren't the only consideration, says Wojan. In Cornwall Bridge, Route 7 runs atop the largest of two major aquifers in town (the second is near Route 43, another candidate for scenic-road designation). According to Wojan, a road-widening project in that stretch of Route 7 might damage the aquifer.

To give the selectmen a chance to study the state scenic-road document package (and a map available at the Town Office), the board took the proposal under advisement. — Charles Osborne

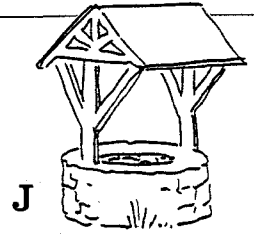
Region 1: 0 for 5

Cornwall voted no by a margin of one vote — 111 to 110 — in the fifth defeat, on June 30, of the Region 1 school budget. The total vote was 896-814, a closer result than the previous tally: 1,107 to 874. As it had in the earlier negative vote, Cornwall joined all the towns in the region except Sharon and Salisbury.

Looking ahead to a sixth referendum on July 28, the Region 1 Board of Education voted to cut \$45,000 from the budget — mainly in administrative costs. — Charles Osborne



Letters to the Chronicle



CORNWALL'S OWN CUSTARD

Mixing a most delicious custard recipe, I realized that three main ingredients, as well as the bowl they were baked in, originated in Cornwall. Having renamed it Cornwall Custard, I want to share it with other lovers of good food! Thanks to Debra Tyler, Phil and Joyce Hart, Gordon and Jayne Ridgway, and Todd Piker. The recipe:

4 Hart eggs
2-1/2 cups Local Farm milk
1/3 cup Ridgway maple syrup
dash of cinnamon
dash of nutmeg
1/2 tsp. salt

Beat eggs. Mix in other ingredients. Pour into large Cornwall Pottery bowl. Place bowl in baking pan filled with water. Bake 40-50 minutes at 350 degrees. Remove bowl from hot water when edge is done (test with knife) and center is slightly soft. Chill. Enjoy! Serves 4-5, may be doubled. — Anne Chamberlain

THANKS FROM JUBILEE SCHOOL

I want to thank the people of Cornwall for making our stay so fun-filled and educational. I'm the person that said thank you at the church when we sang, but that's not enough.

The first day was fun, but when it came close to nightfall we got really scared.

I didn't think we were going to have much fun. The picture that I painted in my mind of Cornwall was a whole bunch of hillbilly, talk-too-much, jumper-wearing farmers. I saw nothing of the sort, I saw kind people. That is what this letter is about. I'm expressing all of my thank you feelings to you in writing. Thank you, Town of Cornwall. Best of love. — Leevetta Jones

NO DEVELOPMENT CONTEMPLATED

"Subdivision" can be a scary word, suggesting real estate development. "Resubdivision" was used about my land in the July issue of the Chronicle. To allay any fears, I want to make it clear that I've given four parcels to my grandchildren, who I hope will enjoy and use them. They can't legally sell without family approval. Also, 25 acres have been designated as "forever forest." The rest goes with the house. — Naneen Bunnell

YOUTH GROUP NEEDS ADULTS

For the past three years I have been a co-leader with Peter Hammond of the Cornwall Youth Group. We have gone tubing down the Housatonic, luge sledding, hiking, bowling, and car-washing, and done various other things over the years.

As you all know, the children of Cornwall are polite, well-behaved, and very energetic. We have had one problem, though: lack of grown-up participation. Peg Keskinen has

handled our paperwork and organized snacks, and some parents have helped us truck these young folks around, but we have very little leadership help. The Youth Group meets every other week during the school year and breaks for the summer.

This has been a large commitment for two people with their own jobs, families, gardens, etc. If we only had a few more adults to ease the pressure! Think about it, and then call 672-2667 (Celia) or 672-6840 (Peter) with your commitment to our teenagers. — Celia Frost

ASLEEP ON THE STOOP

A young brown bear is finding East Cornwall homes comfortable for snoozing. Recently one was discovered sleeping on my front doorstep. When nudged by my visiting nurse, Sally Smith's, foot, he rolled over, looked at her eye to eye, and slowly ambled down the road to George and Dot Bouteiller's, where he is often seen resting on their front porch. — Harriet L. Clark

EXCITING SIGHTINGS

What excites one person may not another. I've lived in Cornwall all my life. Growing up on what was once a dirt road, in a very rural setting, we were attuned to the sights and sounds of nature. We heard the hoots and screeches of owls, though we seldom saw one. We heard raccoons fighting over a morsel of food and occasionally we would hear bobcats up on the ledges in back of the house. We never saw one.

Just recently, on my way to work, I had the wonderful experience of seeing a sleek, athletic young bobcat just below Roland Fenn's house on Route 4. It crossed the road from the right, pausing just long enough to check the traffic, and loped on with the graceful gait of an experienced jogger. Its coat was soft and shiny, and the unmistakable bobbed tail held high.

Each day I watch carefully when I head down the hill hoping for another glimpse of the magnificent creature. — Barbara Victorien

DEER SLAYERS

On June 17, I joined the unhappy ranks of those who have collided with and killed a deer on the roads of Cornwall. On that same day I understand that at least five other deer were hit by cars in Cornwall and neighboring towns, including one which was hit ten minutes after my accident in almost the identical spot on Warren Hill Road. In order to deal with this problem I am trying to amass some statistics. I would be most grateful if Chronicle readers could call (672-6193) and tell me about their collision experiences with deer, especially during the last two weeks of June. — John Leich

Events & Announcements

Algrant Show: As it has for more than 30 years, the work of Cornwall's artists will be exhibited August 19-21 in the annual Friends of Rose Algrant Art Show. Opening at the Marvelwood School student lounge on Friday, August 19, 4-8 p.m., the show will continue for two more days, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Profits after expenses will be donated to the Cornwall Child Care Center.

Justice of the Peace Update: The controversy over procedures for selecting justices of the peace has finally been resolved. The Secretary of State's office has outlined new procedures and calculated how many justices each town is allowed. Cornwall gets 33 — 11 for Republicans, 11 for Democrats. A Connecticut Party has two, and nine are allotted to other parties and the unaffiliated.

Republicans and Democrats were to endorse candidates at July caucuses; ACP chooses by primary petition. The nine openings available to minor parties and unaffiliated voters in Cornwall are to be filled by the town clerk on written applications filed with the clerk between August 1 and November 1 (dates inclusive).

Current Cornwall JPs (all in office until January 1995) are: Bill Beecher, Scott Cady, Dick Dakin, Nick Edler, Jack Forster, Michael Gannett, Monty Hare, Ken Keskinen, and Patsy Van Doren.

Voter Registration: On Saturday, August 27, from noon to 3 p.m., and again on Tuesday, August 30, from 6 to 9 p.m., the Registrars of Voters will hold special registration sessions in the Town Hall for new Cornwall voters who wish to vote in the September primaries for state, district, and municipal offices. At these two sessions the registrars will also consider requests from voters previously removed from the voter list who wish to be restored.

New voters wishing only to vote in the November general election have until October 28 to register. Questions? Call Lisa Cruse, 672-6049 or Judith Gates, 672-6568.

K

Upbeat Financial Update



Our treasurer is breathing a little easier, thanks to 51 contributors who responded to last month's appeal with a total of \$1,515. Thanks to all. But we're hardly on easy street, so if you haven't sent a check recently, please do so.

Yes, I want the Chronicle to continue. Here's my tax-deductible contribution of \$ _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/ST/ZIP _____

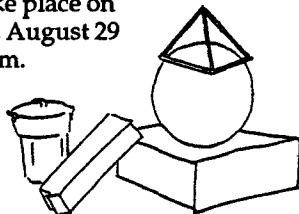
\$10 will get the Chronicle mailed out of town.

CCS Opening: Cornwall Consolidated School will open for the 1994-95 school year on September 1, at 8:40 a.m. The first day will be a full session from 8:40 a.m. to 2:55 p.m. Kindergarten classes will be held in the morning from 8:40 to 11:15, and the afternoon session will begin at 12:20 and end at 2:55.

Letters will be mailed to all families of Cornwall students (CCS and HVRHS) with pertinent opening-day information, including transportation routes and a school calendar for the year.

Beginning Friday, August 19, the school office will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for parents who have questions and for the registration of new pupils.

Kindergarten orientation and bus ride will take place on Friday, August 29 at 10 a.m.

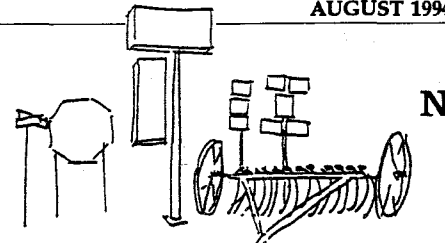


M

"Roots of Roe": Jeremy Brecher will show, and discuss, his award-winning TV documentary at the Town Hall at 8 p.m., August 11. Jeremy was co-author of the documentary, which deals with Connecticut's role — going all the way back to 1742 — in the controversies over abortion, contraception, and reproductive rights that led up to the historic Roe v. Wade decision. "Roots of Roe" won regional Emmy awards for "best documentary," "best direction," and "best writing." Jeremy's talk is sponsored by the Friends of the Cornwall Library. Admission free — everybody welcome.

Church Fair: St. Bridget's Church will hold its 22nd annual Country Fair August 13, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., rain or shine. Vendor space is available for \$15, payable no later than August 7. Items needed for the fair are books, jewelry, tools, appliances in working order, toys, food for the bake sale, white elephant items. No clothes will be accepted. To reserve a space, call St. Bridget's Rectory, 672-6515.

Road Work: Our town crew will be hard at work throughout August oiling Whitcomb, Bald Mountain, Pritchard, and Flat Rocks Roads. The paved section of River Road in West Cornwall will also be resurfaced. Jack Preston is supervising work on the Popple Swamp Bridge and the salt storage facility, both projects to be completed by mid-September.



N

Slide Show and Dollhouses: The Cornwall Historical Society will present a slide show of old Cornwall views on August 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. The society's exhibit of dollhouses will continue through August and can be seen Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Book Bargains: A rich assortment of titles will be up for grabs at the annual Cornwall Library book sale, to be held at the Town Hall in conjunction with the Agricultural Fair, Saturday, August 27, noon to 4 p.m. Come, browse & buy.

Registration for Fall at the Cornwall Child Center may be accomplished during the final days of the summer program held in the CCS art room, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. through August 5. The fall term will start September 1 at the UCC Parish House, and children may also be enrolled then.

Golf: Cornwall tournament for Child Care Center benefit will be Sept. 11. For reservations call 672-0295 or 6015 before Sept. 1.

Key to Pleasure Hunt

No. Correct	Rating	0-2	Visually challenged
3-5	Newcomer	3-5	Newcomer
6-8	Know-it-all	6-8	Know-it-all
9-up	You peeked	9-up	You peeked
A. 100 Cream Hill Rd.	B. North Cornwall Church	C. Historical Society	D. 129 Lake Rd.
E. Yelplng Hill Rd.	F. Raillesnake Rd. Cemetery	G. 56 River Rd.	H. Cornwall Center
I. 297 Sharon-Coohen Tpk.	J. 91 Cemetery Hill Rd.	K. In field at 239 Great Hollow Rd.	L. 41 Popple Swamp Rd.
M. The Berkshire Store			

CORNWALL CHRONICLE

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