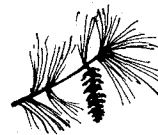




CORNWALL CHRONICLE



VOLUME 1: NUMBER 1

FEBRUARY 1991

Board of Selectmen

On January 10, the Selectmen held a special meeting on roads. With the encouragement of the Board of Finance, the Selectmen and road foreman Gene Ingvertsen are developing a long-range road plan. Gene proposed that the town spend \$2,000,000 on capital improvements over the next five years. After discussing Gene's ideas with interest, they sent him back for more information.

One of the more interesting items on the agenda of the regular meeting on January 22 was Gordon Ridgway's draft of a letter opposing the idea of reducing the State's deficit by eliminating the regional Emergency Medical Services Commission and charging EMS workers a fee for the privilege of helping their neighbors. Gordon's letter was approved. -Hendon Chubb

Planning & Zoning Commission

This first month of 1991 saw no applications for zoning permits - this is the first time in the history of the Commission

that no one has had a request to build something, a house, deck, shed, or anything. One assumes the recession is being felt here, and the zoning part of our work is thereby lessened.

On the planning front, the Commission is working on a regulation for a Planned Conservation Zone which would allow development of a greater density with the assurance of permanently preserved open space.

Further, over nearly a year, the Commission has been drafting an amendment which would allow by special permit, and with strict requirements as regards buffering, access, noise controls, etc., commercial sawmills in residential zones. This amendment received both opposition and support from a large turnout of citizens at the October hearing. After lengthy discussion at the next regular meeting, a revised amendment was heard at January's meeting, when eight people spoke in favor and three against. Because of accusations and charged emotions, the Commission voted to table any decision on the amendment. -Virginia Potter

Cornwall Housing Corporation

The Cornwall Housing Corporation is completing its final application to be submitted to the State Department of Housing. Funds for construction of Kugeman Village should be available in the fall. Part of the application includes a final survey of housing needs in the town. Questionnaires may be picked up in the following places: Cadwell's Corner in West Cornwall, Baird's Store and the Package Store in Cornwall Bridge, and the Town Hall in Cornwall. Interested citizens may also call 672-6486 or 672-6595 for more information. Rents for the one-, two-, and three-bedroom apartments are expected to begin in the \$350 range, but in no case will rents exceed thirty percent of income.

The Housing Corporation is also looking into the purchase of parcels of land for lease to people who wish to build their own homes. Such parcels would supplement those gifts of land that have already been received. It is hoped that such leasing can begin some time in 1991. -Ken Keskinen

FEBRUARY 1991

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 GROUNDHOG DAY
3	4 Park & Rec. 7:30pm Town Off.	5 Inland Wetlands 8pm Town Hall	6	7	8 ★ Opera see page 4 ★	9 Bd. of Tax Review
10	11 Plan. & Zoning 8pm Town Hall Bd. of Tax Review	12 LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY	13 ASH WEDNESDAY	14 ST. VALENTINE'S DAY Mun. Bldg. Comm. 7:30pm Town Hall	15 Bd. of Tax Review	16
17	18 PRESIDENTS' DAY	19 Bd. of Selectmen 8pm Town Hall	20 Rep. Town Comm. 7:30pm Town Hall	21 Board of Ed. 4pm CCS Library Bd. of Finance 8pm Town Hall	22 WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY	23
24	25 Conserv. Comm. 7:30pm Town Off. Z.B. of Appeals 8pm Town Hall (if necessary)	26	27	28	29	30

News Highlights

SAWMILL DEBATE CONTINUES

The January P & Z public hearing on new sawmill regulations turned into a two-hour debate that grew heated.

The latest proposal calls for a 200-foot setback, with hours of operation limited to between 7 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. any day of the week. This represents a compromise between the existing setback of 500 feet and the first proposal, which was 100 feet.

Some spoke in favor of the compromise while others were extremely critical of the new regulations. Among those voicing opposition were Toby Cole and Lois Redington, who also questioned the procedures and motives of the commissioners.

"I resent having to listen to accusations of collusion and favoritism," said commissioner Ken Keskinen. "You should focus comments on the issues and avoid name calling."

Chairman Virginia Potter decided to table a vote until the February meeting in hopes that a cooler atmosphere might prevail.

REGIONAL SCHOOL BUDGET

Larry Gates and Michael Gannett made statements at the December 13th Board of Education meeting on the budgets of Regional School District No. 1.

The regional high school's budget for the current school year amounts to \$4.49 million, after having survived the second of two referendums held last spring. On the other hand, the two regional budgets for the Regional Schools Services Center (RSSC), which amount this year to an additional \$2.31 million, are adopted annually by a regional committee without approval by the region's voters.

Gates pointed out to the Cornwall board that the town's portion of the two RSSC budgets, when taken together, has increased over 800 percent in the last ten years, in contrast to only a 107 percent increase in its portion of the high school budget in the same period. He called upon the board's members to ensure greater restraint when participating in next year's RSSC budgets.

Gannett urged the Cornwall Board and Superintendent Val Bernadoni to become involved in making it possible for regional electors to vote in annual referendums on the RSSC budgets, as they do on high school budgets. He called the present system indefensible.

Mr. Bernadoni said that the high school board of education has asked their attorney to review options. Legislation would be required before the RSSC budget could be subjected to a local vote.

Municipal Building Committee

The newly formed building committee met on January 3, 1991. Rita Quinn was elected permanent chairman.

The group agreed to continue to meet every other Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

The building structure subcommittee, chaired by Richard Wolkowitz, agreed to meet on January 5, when they will attempt an investigation of the condition of Rumsey.

Gordon Ridgway reported on new sites, saying that he would like to put off further investigation until there was some design for a new building. Leslie Whitney presented a rough plan that involved connecting the present town offices and the library building with a structure that would occupy the current parking lot. Many questions about this plan were raised, including parking and rights of way. A subcommittee will study this plan further and report at the next meeting.

Members of the new committee are: Tim Prentice, Virginia Potter, Ken Keskinen, Ed Ferman, Ben Gray, Kay Fenn, Leslie Whitney, Allyn Hurlburt, Jr., Gary Heaney, Lori Wells, Rita Quinn, John Frost, Gary Hepprich, Richard Wolkowitz and the three selectmen.

The committee met again on January 17 and heard reports from the Whitney and Wolkowitz subcommittees. Because of illnesses and time, neither report was complete, nor were any conclusions reached. The aim of the Rumsey structure committee is to determine the condition of the building and to arrive at a cost to renovate as an open shell.

It was agreed that John Frost would approach Mrs. Shaw once more to find out if she might be open to the sale of any land adjoining the present town offices.

The committee welcomes attendance at meetings by all residents and has set aside time for their questions and comments at the end of each meeting.

- Ed Ferman

National History Day at CCS

Several CCS students in grades six through eight have volunteered to participate in National History Day. This year's topic is "Rights in History." Our budding historians have chosen several different areas, ranging from inheritance rights to the rights of defendants.

Our participants will be visiting the high school libraries and communicating with several historical societies and law schools. Over the next ten weeks these students will gather as much information as is available on their particular topic. Since the rules of the contest demand the use of primary re-

sources, our grade schoolers will have the thrill of dealing with original documents and will have a real understanding of how scholarly research is executed.

Although winning is nice, the best reward we received during the 1989 contest was not the Outstanding Achievement Citation at the Nationals, but the remark made by the head of Yale's archives in which she pointed out that our students knew more about research than most Yale freshmen.

- Virginia Sullivan

Vital Statistics 1990

MARRIAGES

Barbara Odell and David Kilmer
Alice Gottesman and

Laurence Zuckerman
Francisco McGee and Sandra Jorgensen
Victor Reiling, Jr. and Nancy Bushnell
Todd Aichele and Patricia Spaulding
James Scott and Heidi Chirasello
Oona Achard and Patrick Lebeau
Richard Maclean and Joanne Bunce
James Prentice and Jane Atkinson
Kenneth Baird and Lori Julian
Robert Daalhuizen and Mary Scranton
Ralph Dzenutis and Maria Chaves

DEATHS

Jean Rummens	Lester Walker
Mary Cooke	William Simons, Jr.
Katherine Reuman	Archibald Talmage
William Nautes	Margaret Heminway
Mary Hare	Robert Pond
Ann Blumenthal	Alfred Bacon
Joseph Blumenthal	Jean Bacon

BIRTHS

JANUARY - Hannah Colbert to Ellen Leich and David Colbert. FEBRUARY - Jaqueline Washburn to Priscilla Lavoie and Ronald Washburn. MARCH - Ian Bardot to Margaret and Donald Bardot. Annelise Collins to Patricia and Matthew Collins. MAY - Eli Ingersoll to Diane and Ian Ingersoll. Elizabeth Kavanagh to Wynne and Brian Kavanagh. JUNE - Tristan Woodruff to Geraldine and James Woodruff. JULY - Sean Conboy to Pamela and Jeffrey Conboy. AUGUST - Jonathan Coe to Diane and Michael Coe. OCTOBER - Seth Knox to Lisa and Charles Knox, Trevor Watts to Susan and Michael Watts, Emily Thaler to Clytie Kennedy and Frederic Thaler. NOVEMBER - Sarah Brown to Maureen Donahue and Thomas Brown, Caroline Kosciusko to Anne and Neal Kosciusko, Kylie Gellatly to Kimberly and Michael Gellatly. DECEMBER - Sylvia LaPorta to Bianca and John LaPorta.

- Barbara Dakin

Recycling: How to Do the Right Thing at the Dump

The landfill has become a transfer station. Cornwall must now transport all of its garbage to Hartford. Please remember that every item recycled instead of trashed not only helps the environment but saves you and your neighbor tax money.

Materials to be recycled must be brought in as follows:

GLASS BOTTLES & JARS, reasonably clean, tops removed, placed on sorting table. Labels and metal rings may be left on. Window glass, Pyrex and light bulbs can't be recycled.

ALUMINUM & STEEL CANS, TRAYS & PANS, clean in boxes or bags. Labels may be left on. Please crush or flatten.

NEWSPAPERS (all sections), tied in bundles 12" high or less, not in plastic bags. String is available on site.

HOUSEHOLD & OFFICE PAPER & BOXES, (brown bags, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, computer paper, copy paper and light cardboard). Flatten, put in brown paper bags and tie with string. Staples and windows on envelopes are OK. Do not include plastic, corrugated cardboard or wax paper such as linings of cereal boxes and pet food boxes. Do not bundle in corrugated boxes or plastic bags.

CORRUGATED CARDBOARD, flattened, tied in bundles. No light cardboard.

WASTE MOTOR OIL, in gallon jugs containing oil only.

BATTERIES, auto or appliance.

TIRES, must be off rims or wheels. Fee \$1.00 each.

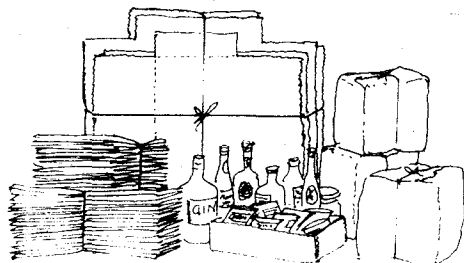
SCRAP METALS. All metals are accepted including aluminum, steel, brass, copper. Check on required preparation before bringing in large items. Fee may be required.

APPLIANCES, fee \$10.00 each for major items. State law requires that refrigerator door be removed.

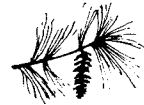
LEAVES AND GARDEN DEBRIS. Compost at home if possible. See attendant when bringing in.

HOURS, Tues, Thurs, and Sat. 9am-4:30pm, Sun. 8am-11am. Please sort and bundle your trash before arriving.

- Anne Bevans



Letters to the Chronicle



A LARGE BIRD

My wife and I are great walkers on River Road, where we go almost daily with our dogs. We see the scenery change with the seasons, watch the river when it is a mess of stones and also when it is swirling in flood. The wildflowers come and go and the prospect is never the same.

Many sightings have intrigued us, but the most dramatic came a few weeks ago. We saw a large bird in the river, its huge wings thrashing the water white. We had heard a shot and thought the bird had been hit and that it was in its death agony. Then, with the greatest effort, it clambered upon a rock and began to beat its great wings which eventually lifted it off. It had an enormous fish in its talons. It beat its wings desperately and flew for a long way just above the water, eventually rising up to tree level, like an overloaded 747 inching upwards from the runway. We were transfixed by the great bird, an osprey, by the giant fish and by the struggle enacted before our eyes.

Another wonderful gift to us from Cornwall.

- John Zinsser

A LARGER BIRD?

There is absolutely no truth to the rumor I started that First Selectman Dick Dakin has asked Tim Prentice to look into the feasibility of creating a wind-sculpture out of Rumsey Hall. The old building would be lifted off its foundation, the insides would be gutted, and the shell would be suspended from a giant flagpole.

More rumors to come next month; stay tuned.

- John Miller

CLASSES FOR ADULTS

I'm writing to remind Cornwall residents of the unusual opportunity offered in adult education by the Taconic Learning Center.

In existence for two years, the TLC offers courses in literature, writing, philosophy, history, contemporary issues, foreign languages, and the arts. The Center has the northwest corner as its campus, with classes meeting in Lakeville, Salisbury, Sharon, and Cornwall.

There are no examinations and no special requirements, except for a willingness to share in the activities of the class, and to share the perspective each has gained from a variety of life experiences. Cornwall teachers have included John Leich, Scott Cady, and Ken Keskinen. In the spring term, John Leich is teaching a

course in conversational Italian; and Ken Keskinen is teaching a writing course and a literature course.

Membership in the Center is \$50 a year, for which sum members may take as many courses as they like for the entire year.

Courses are now under way for the spring term, but there may still be openings for late comers. Interested adults are asked to call 435-2922 for more information and to be placed on the mailing list. If they are also interested in teaching, they should make that known as well.

- Ken Keskinen

TORNADO EYESORES

It is obviously a considerable chore and expense for landowners to repair the damage to their property done by the 1989 tornado. However, if Cornwall is to return to anywhere near its former beauty it will only be because, in addition to new planting, the more visible eyesores still left in the town are removed.

As a modest suggestion it should be possible for landowners to clear that area of fallen trees that is visible from our roadways. While I am aware that such beautification may require considerable expense, I think it will only happen if private landowners undertake such clearing on their own property.

- Ezra P. Mager

A SAFER RIVER ROAD

We are grateful for the improvements the road crew has worked on the three miles of the River Road: grading, widening, many loads of new "metal," new culverts, even. And just today Ricky Vanicky drove the sickle-bar up one side and down the other, for the first time in recent memory.

It is safer now, not just for us, but for the numerous drivers, walkers, joggers, cyclist, lovers, and fishermen who pause and rest as they make their way along this lovely stretch of the Housatonic.

- Judy and Larry Gates

A FINAL NOTE

My brother-in-law left me this note last Thursday:

*"Dear Tommy,
I can explain everything.
Spencer."*

This is the best offer I've had in a long time. Unfortunately, I've been unable to reach him by deadline. Details in the next issue.

- Tom Bevans

Volunteer Fire Department

In 1990 there were 108 ambulance calls, and 94 fire department responses.

If you have an emergency and need your fire department or ambulance, you simply dial 911. This will connect you with a dispatcher who will know from the computer what your address is, which you can confirm if you are able. If you cannot state your location, for whatever reason, the only piece of information we have is your street and number, and if that number is not on your house or mailbox, precious time will be wasted. 4-inch-high numbers, visible from the road at night, are important. We can't help you if we can't find you.

-Dave Cadwell

About the Chronicle

The idea of a monthly news sheet originated at a meeting of the Democratic Town Committee. We asked the Republican Town Committee and The Cornwall Association if they would like to join us in the project, and the three organizations agreed to finance the first three issues.

The goal is to publish a concise and comprehensive report on the activities of your town government, to print a calendar of upcoming meetings and events, to highlight other news, and to offer you a forum for your opinions and concerns in the letters section.

The editors for this first issue were Tom Bevans and Ed Ferman. We plan to establish an editorial board for future issues; let us know if you are interested.

The *Cornwall Chronicle* will be mailed FREE to all residents, but we need your help to continue the effort. We need volunteers; we want to hear your suggestions; we need letters from you.

Finally, we need some financial support to cover the costs of printing and mailing. If you like the idea of this sort of thing, send a small (or large) contribution to: THE CORNWALL CHRONICLE ASSOCIATION, P.O. BOX 246, West Cornwall, CT 06796.

YES! Continue to publish The Chronicle. Here's my \$ _____ contribution to the non-profit Cornwall Chronical Association.

Name _____

Address _____

City/St/Zip _____

Cornwall Library

New Books

FICTION:

Appelfeld, A., *The Healer*; Auel, J., *The Plains Of Passage*; Bourjaily, V., *Old Soldier*; Byatt, A.S., *Possession*; Coetzee, J.M., *Age Of Iron*; Crichton, M., *Jurassic Park*; Daley R., *A Faint Cold Fear*; Estlemen, L., *Whiskey River*; Gordimer, N., *My Son's Story*; Higgins, G., *Victories*; Howatch, S., *Scandalous Risks*; Kincaid, J., *Lucy*; McCorkle, L., *Ferris Beach*; McMurtry, L., *Buffalo Girls*; Riley, J., *In Pursuit Of The Green Lion*; Siddons, A.R., *King's Oak*; Spark, M., *Symposium*; Tryon, T., *The Wings Of The Morning*; Welch, J., *The Indian Lawyer*.

MYSTERY:

Barnard, R., *A City of Strangers*; Cross, A., *The Players Come Again*; Doolittle J., *Body Scissors*; Francis, D., *Longshot*.

NON-FICTION:

Kuralt, C., *A Life On The Road*; Rozelle, P., *The Superbowl*; Smith, H., *The New Russians*; Trillin, C., *Enough's Enough*; Will, G., *Suddenly*; Yergin, D., *The Prize*.

VIDEOS

Fifty new videos will be available for rent during February, including the following: Beaches; Bright Lights, Big City; Fanny And Alexander; Jean de Florette; Midnight Run.

ART EXHIBITS

To February 16th - Joan Edler, Watercolors and Oils.

February 16 to March 23rd - Tim Prentice, Construction Studies & Mobiles.

HOURS: Mon., Wed., Fri. 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Sat. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Audrey Ferman

Real Estate Report

Real estate activity continues to be slow to non-existent. The Cornwall property transfers show only one arm's-length transaction since October 1990. Prices continue to fall as much as 30% in many areas. The general mood among those looking is uncertainty about the general economy. On the bright side, now may be a great time to pick up a real estate bargain.

CORNWALL TRANSFERS

10/9/90, Bernstein to Morrow, Lower River Road, House and land: \$260,000.

-Nick Bruehl

Opera Here February 8 and 9

Amahl and the Night Visitors, an opera in one act by Gian-Carlo Menotti, will be presented at the United Church of Christ on Friday, February 8 and Saturday February 9 at 7:30 p.m. Anne Chamberlain directs a cast of Cornwall luminaries in the production.

Tickets are \$5.00; call 672-6840 for more information.



ELLEN MOON

Board of Finance

A special meeting was held on January 10. Several budget transfers within the highway department were approved.

A motion was passed to recommend that a town meeting authorize an additional expenditure of \$25,000 from the town aid improved roads fund for road maintenance. This was necessary because the budget in the town aids accounts as approved at the annual town meeting did not include funds for snow removal.

A motion was passed to recommend that \$50,000 be transferred from the general fund to the municipal reserve fund and committed to the cost of reevaluation.

The board discussed and approved a letter to the Board of Education asking it to keep its budget increase to a maximum of 3%.

- Pat Bramley

Ice Skating

Monday evening ice skating for Cornwall residents that began in November will continue through Monday, March 4. Skating is from 7 pm to 8 pm at the Salisbury School rink northeast of Salisbury off Route 44. There's an entry fee of \$1.00, and skaters are required to wear soft hats or caps. The skating is sponsored by Cornwall Park and Rec.

-John Miller

THE CORNWALL ASSOC.
P.O. BOX 128
WEST CORNWALL, CT 06796

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