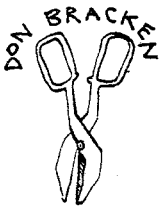


CORNWALL CHRONICLE

VOLUME 4: NUMBER 8 SEPTEMBER 1994



\$10 More Sawmill Litigation

In an effort to avoid continuing litigation oversawmill regulations, the Planning and Zoning Commission voted unanimously on August 8 to cancel two-year terms for special-use permits for sawmills, B & B's, and home occupations.

However, Toby Cole and the other plaintiffs in a lawsuit challenging P&Z's new sawmill regulations have submitted two additional questions to be considered by the Appellate Court. Their Statement of Issues reads, in part, "... do the zoning amendments contravene the [Torrington Area Health District] noise regulations?" The plaintiffs further question whether the Commission acted "illegally or arbitrarily when it changed certain setback requirements based on evidence obtained outside the confines of public hearings."

Attorney Tom Byrne, representing the Commission, moved to strike these questions, but his motion has been denied. The Appellate Court will hear both of these issues, together with issues raised by the Commission's now-rescinded two-year limitation on special-use permits. Both parties are filing briefs.

This litigation is now more than three-and-a-half years wide and \$18,000 deep.

— Ella Clark

We Finally Did It!

For the first time in over a decade, the Cornwall swim team has captured the Housatonic Valley League championship! Cornwall had four wins and one loss. The swim team worked hard for their victory, practicing every day from 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Dressed in their red lava suits, the 60 members gathered at the North Canaan pool early on Thursday morning, August 11. Ready for the day ahead, the Cornwall swimmers were easily identifiable by the colored bracelets and the fake tattoos on their faces and shoulders. With 37 of the 60 members under the age of 11, the team was young but experienced. Cornwall swimmers qualified in every age group and most final events. On August 12, the team celebrated with a picnic, award ceremony, and slide show.

We would like to thank friends, parents, and, most of all, swimmers for a wildly successful season.

— Helen Kotchoubey

Who bought what at the Rummage Sale?
And for how much? See the illustrations
in this issue.


JANE PRENTICE 25¢

Sedgwick Monument Rededicated

On July 31 some 200 people gathered in Cornwall Hollow to rededicate the memorial monument to Civil War general John Sedgwick. It was a noisy event: the First Litchfield Artillery Regiment kept firing off salutes, causing children to shriek and some older folks to wince. It was poignant: the honorary wreath bearers were Harriet Clark and Bessie Blake, who in 1900 attended the original dedication, when the governor spoke and 600 wagons and carriages crowded the road to Cornwall Hollow. And it was moving, from First Selectman Gordon Ridgway's opening remarks and the Reverend Charles Russ's invocation to Sam Waterston's address.

Sam's talk was in some ways a meditation on the fading of fame. Calling Sedgwick "arguably the greatest figure in any profession that Cornwall has ever produced," reciting the names of a dozen battles in which he covered himself with glory, recalling for us the fact that Sedgwick could have been commander of the Army of the Potomac had he wanted, he nevertheless reminded his audience that, "All the details of this rich life have faded — the

\$2.50

(continued on page 2)

SEPTEMBER 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Starting Sept. 23, you'll have to dial "1-203" before the number on non-local calls within the state. This includes calls to places like New Milford and Winsted.				1 Schools open Cornwall Child Center opens	2	3
4	5 LABOR DAY	6 ROSH HASHANA Agri. Adv. Comm. 7:30pm WC Firehouse Bd. of Selectmen 8pm Town Hall Park & Rec. 7:30pm Town Office Inland Wetlands 8pm Town Office*	7 W. Cornwall Mer. Assoc. 10am Cadwell's Dem. Town Comm. 7:30pm Town Hall (p.4) Parents' night, CCS (p.4) Bd. of Tax Review (motor vehicle taxes only) 6-8:30pm Town Office	8 Parents' night, CCS (p.4)	9	10 Poetry Reading 8pm Cadwell's (p.4) Land planning meeting Corn. Conserv. Trust 5-7pm W. Corn. Firehouse (p.4)
11	12 Cornwall Lib. art exhibit: Larry Pool, paintings P&Z 7:30pm Town Hall	13 Dem. Primary 6am-8pm Town Hall Hous. River Comm. 7:30pm CCS Lib. Rep. Town Comm. 7:30pm Mohawk Ski Lodge	14 CCS PTO 7pm CCS Lib.	15 YOM KIPPUR Bd. of Finance 7:30pm CCS Library Bd. of Ed. 5pm CCS Library	16	17
18	19 Bd. of Selectmen 8pm Town Hall HVRHS Bd. of Ed. 7pm HS Lib.*	20	21	22	23	24 Corn. Assn. 4:30pm T&M Prentice, Lake Rd. (p.4) David Rovics, singer & guitarist 8pm Cadwell's (p.4)
25	26 ZBA 8pm Town Hall*	27	28	29	30	

*Check time and place at Town Office.

(continued from page 1)

nature of his courage, the way he thought of himself and his works, his hopes, his wishes... and his enormous achievements."

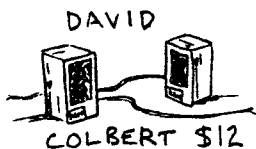
Five years ago vandals stole three of the monument's bronze plaques and damaged a fourth. The occasion of the rededication was the restoration of the plaques, under the energetic leadership of the town's historian, Michael Gannett. The new bronzes are the work of Cornwall sculptor Neil Estern.

John Sedgwick was born in Cornwall Hollow in 1813. After graduating from West Point in 1837, he served in Indian territory and fought in the Mexican War. A lieutenant colonel at the beginning of the Civil War, by July, 1862, he had risen to the rank of major general. He was wounded in that year at Antietam and spent the fall in Cornwall recovering. He must have been involved in the construction of his new house on Hautboy Hill. He was never to enjoy it, however. At the end of the year he returned to command a corps of the Army of the Potomac; a year and half later he was dead, felled by a sniper's bullet at Spotsylvania in May of 1864. He was buried in the graveyard in Cornwall Hollow, below the hill where the house that he built but never lived to enjoy still stands.

At the end of the ceremony wreaths were placed on his grave, a bugle played "To the Colors," and the flag slowly descended its rough-hewn white pole, made by one of the Hurlburts, his cousins and neighbors on the hill. — *Hendon Chubb*

New Library Prez

Audrey Ferman is the new president of the Board of Trustees of the Cornwall Library Association, replacing Kay Fenn. Kay, who had served as president for 18 years, remains on the board, as do Monty Hare, John Calhoun, and John Miller, all re-elected to new three-year terms. John Calhoun was elected vice president, Beth Currie, secretary, and Madeline Lape, treasurer. Other board members are Terry Carlson and Phyllis Nauts. — *Phyllis Nauts*



Designing Keskinens

Ken and Lisa Keskinen are exhibiting a lively and inventive collection of their sculptures now through September 10 at the Cornwall Library. Their father-daughter exhibition combines skill in design and craftsmanship with ingenious use of shape, balance, and repetition — and a sense of humor.

A series of mobiles hangs overhead, including a graceful, sweeping walnut piece near the double doors. If you're afraid that the large mobile of concentric circles is going to fall on you, don't worry! It's not

really made of iron. On the table are two finely-crafted wood pieces, including a simple but attractive sculpture called "Boxes."

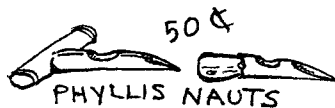
The Keskinens have fun juxtaposing dissimilar objects and materials. In "Circuit" and "Sacred Circuit," Ken uses old circuit boards to create a tongue-in-cheek melding of religion and technology. In "Altar Ego," towering Gothic arches enshrine a shiny new golf ball squatting crassly on the altar. — *Alfred Bredenberg*

"A Win-Win-Win Situation"

River Valley Spirits in West Cornwall has closed and Dave Cadwell will be opening a bakery in the vacated space. Richard Bramley, owner of Cornwall Package Store in Cornwall Bridge, bought out Charles and Lisa Knox, the owners of River Valley. "It's a win-win-win situation," says Richard. "The Knoxes get a grubstake to start a new venture, Dave gets to expand and open his bakery, and I increase my stock and hopefully my customers. I'm going to try hard to give the Knoxes' customers the service they want and need."

Russ Sawicki, a recent graduate of the Connecticut Culinary Institute, will be the baker. According to Dave and Russ, the bakery will concentrate on breads, including Cadwell's famous oatmeal bread. They will also be making cakes, tortes, and pies.

West Cornwallians who have been concerned that River Valley's closing might mean they would have to drive long distances for a six-pack of beer will be relieved to learn that Paul and Paula Wiske of Yutzler's Country Store are applying for a beer license. — *Hendon Chubb*



Ridgway Out, Williams In

Pat Williams has taken over from Jayne Ridgway as secretary to the Board of Selectmen. Jayne and Gordon are expecting a baby in early October.

Teaching for TLC

Three Cornwall residents will be offering courses, beginning September 19, under the auspices of the Taconic Learning Center (TLC). Ken Keskinen, described in TLC's fall semester course catalogue as "a retired English teacher but a non-retired writer," will lead a seminar for writers "who have projects planned and/or under way." Ken will also be one of the lecturers in "Telling Lives II," a seminar on biography. Phyllis Wojan will teach "Genetics Continued," exploring "RNA and DNA, genes and sexuality, genetics in archeology, and new techniques and ethical issues in gene therapy." Cornwall's leading polyglot, John Leich, will teach beginning conversational Ital-

ian and beginning conversational French.

Other fall semester offerings in TLC's sixth season will include "The Bible in Literature and the Arts"; "Legacies of the 1960's"; a survey of English poetry; and a course titled "Search for Meaning as We Grow Older." Spring semester courses will be announced later.

TLC's annual membership fee is \$50 a person, and members can slake their intellectual thirst with as many courses as they like. For information on times, places, and enrollment procedures — some courses have limited enrollments — call 203-435-2922. — *Spencer Klaw*



Congratulations

Cristina Moore Mathews
to Jason Kesler Godeke

Kelly Lee Whitford
to Philip Edward Ocaín

Elizabeth Tracy Gold
to Dane Edward Sobek

Emily Allison Ferman
to Robert Anthony Catalano, Jr.

Land Transfers

Paul G. and Michele R. Jawin to Barbara J. Anasazi, house and land on Pine St., \$215,000.

Madelyn Schulman to Elizabeth Braun, house and 12 acres on Pierce Lane, \$172,000.

Jonathan A. Scoville to Sarah M. Paul, house and 16.2 acres on Town St., \$170,000.

Allyn & Anita Hurlburt to Allyn & Cynthia Hurlburt, house, barns and 93 acres on Hautboy Hill Road, \$500,000.

Off the Track

Just after midnight on August 19, a southbound engine of the Housatonic Railroad derailed (by about eight feet) at the first crossing on River Road north of Route 128. Neighbors awakened by the crash were very concerned about possible chemical spills or fire. As it happened, the locomotive was pulling 13 empty ballast cars and three cars of pulp. There were no injuries.

A spokesman for the railroad blames the derailment on a wash-down of dirt from a private drive. "We clean our crossings regularly," he said. "This problem was caused by a private individual."

Neighbors dispute this assertion. "The railroad does not maintain its crossings," Deborah Covington states. "We'd like to hang John Hanlon (HRR owner) by his thumbs."

JPs, JPs, JPs

Marrying is going to be easy from now on. Currently Cornwall has nine Justices of the Peace. Starting in January there will be at least 19. Last month the Republican caucus nominated Dick Dakin, Nick Edler, Denton Butler, Don Bardot, Don Hedden, and Phil Bishop. The Democrats tapped Steve Senzer, Patsy Van Doren, Scott Cady, Bill Beecher, Judy Gates, Monty Hare, Ken Keskinen, Phyllis Nauts, Hendon Chubb, and Bobby Klaw. Julia Scott has filed as a Democratic petitioning candidate. A Connecticut Party has named John Leich. All these nominees are unopposed. In addition, Jane Giddens-Jones has filed with the Town Clerk as an unaffiliated voter. Other currently unaffiliated voters have until November 1 to put their names forward. If more than nine of them offer themselves, the unaffiliated JPs will be chosen by lottery.

Other unopposed nominations include Jayne Ridgway to be Democratic Registrar of Voters, Lisa Cruse to be Republican Registrar of Voters, and Maggie Cooley, nominated by both parties, to be Judge of Probate. — *Hendon Chubb*

Rummaging On

The Woman's Society's rummage sale provided its annual services of recycling and fundraising on Saturday, July 30. Thalia Scoville, sale co-director with Priscilla Mauro, said that this was one of their most profitable years.

More than a hundred volunteers helped set up, sort, and price during the two weeks before the sale. Many also served as clerks and haulers on Saturday, when the buying throngs swept through the Parish House and Rumsey Gym like a tornado.

With the proceeds from the pre-sale, the sale itself, and the post-sale, the Woman's Society hopes to net about \$11,000. This should guarantee that next year's class of college-bound Cornwall students will be well provided for by the Society's scholarships. — *Dean Potter*



St. Bridget's Fair a Success

Braving threatening skies, a heartening number of people attended St. Bridget's annual Country Fair on August 13. They enjoyed the Attic Treasures rummage, a bake sale, refreshments and the offerings of 14 vendors. Father William Brenza reports that the fair was a financial success, enriching the church coffers by \$1,731. — *Hendon Chubb*

Letters to the Chronicle



NICK JACOBS

WE NEED YOU, TOM

The Chronicle's founder and president, Tom Bevans, is recovering from a stroke, and for the first time we have faced the daunting task of putting out an issue without his inspired leadership. Tom is in the hospital, where he is having intensive rehabilitative therapy. He would love to hear from his friends. We will see to it that anything sent to Tom in care of the Chronicle will be delivered to him promptly — or you can write him directly at the Hospital for Special Care, 2150 Corbin Avenue, New Britain, CT 06053.

— *The Editors*

A JOB FOR REGION ONE BOARD

Back in May, after the defeat of one of the many proposed budgets for Region One, I participated as a member of the Board of Finance in the naming of members for Cornwall of an advisory committee formed by the Region One Board of Education to examine "administrative staffing and functions in the Regional Schools Service Center, Pupil Services, and High School areas." At the time, many people felt that the committee was simply a sop to the voters to get the budget passed. Others, myself included, were hopeful that it could conduct a stringent review and make recommendations that would lead to significant reorganization and savings.

On August 10, however, the committee concluded that it did not have a clear charge from the Board and disbanded. The problem that led to its creation, the public's perception that administrative services in Region One are top-heavy, remains. It must be faced.

In a letter to the Board, committee chair Matt Mette pointed out that there are already in existence a 1989 advisory report on the Central Office and a 1991-1995 strategic plan. The committee felt that these had "quite specifically and thoroughly" addressed the

The Show Goes On

The Friends of Rose Algrant art show has been going strong for 35 years. Maybe too strong, judging from the spirited and (mostly) friendly jockeying for precious wall space. Artists arrived to hang their works at 8:45 a.m., before Bee Simont, efficiently in charge, had even had time to unlock the doors at the Marvelwood School student lounge, and as soon as they could, they raced in to claim a favorite space. Others, arriving an hour or two later, had to hang their works in remaining corners.

It was a show of extraordinary diversity, with 61 artists and craftspeople represented, including two of the original exhibitors — Armin Landeck and Dutch Yutzler. Rose's show is not juried and is not a fund-raiser. Its purpose is to provide a place for all Cornwall artists over 21 to show their work.



10¢ EACH

questions it had been charged with examining. The committee further pointed out that it was the Board's job to assess how well the recommendations and the plan had been carried out.

How can the Board now deal with the issue? It seems to me that they need to go back to the report and plan and list each proposal. They should describe in concrete detail the steps that have or have not been taken to implement the proposals. They should evaluate with the hindsight of experience the appropriateness of each item on the list. They should look for items that should have been on the list and were not. And they should publish a draft of their findings.

At that point they should hold public hearings on the draft and invite critical evaluation. And then they should publish a final report which would call for immediate action where appropriate and serve as a guideline for the plan for the years 1996-2000.

All of this could have been done by the now-disbanded committee. It can and must be done by the Board. I personally feel that unless the Board comes up with a plan that involves serious reorganization and real savings, the problem will not go away. Something must be done. Neither our schools nor our citizens can afford a repetition of what has happened this year. — *Hendon Chubb*

POLK'S LAST POST

On September 30, Don Polk, the rural mail carrier for West Cornwall, will be retiring after 18 years of postal service. He has decided to move back to Indiana, where he was born and where some of his family still reside. Don's wishes are that there be no party. He will deliver the mail as usual on his last day of work, Friday, September 30. All the best is wished for Don, who has always been a very friendly, helpful, and reliable mail carrier.

— *Jeanne Litwin*

Joan Hinchman, Elizabeth Locke, Bill Nimkin, Tony Prentice, Joelle Sander, and Dan Wright were new artists this year, and Denis Curtiss was back after many years. The committee that made it all possible included David Bean, Earl Brecher, Denis Curtiss, Joan and Nick Edler, Danielle Mailer, Tim Prentice, Erica Prud'homme, Bee and Marc Simont.

This year the show grossed \$9,141, of which the artists retain 85 percent. When Rose was alive the net profit — the remaining 15 percent, minus expenses — went to the Volunteer Fire Department. Last year it helped establish a Rose Algrant Scholarship Fund at the Rumsey Hall school in Washington, Connecticut. From now on it will go to a different Cornwall group each year. This year's recipient will be the Cornwall Child Center.

— *Phyllis Nauts*

New Folks at Freshfields

Charles Cilona and Guy Birster, who formerly ran a restaurant called Inn Arty's in Pasadena, California, have taken over Freshfields. They will be offering French country food on a bistro-style menu. They will also be offering take-out patés, salads, breads, and pastries. Birster, who is the chef, was born in Lyons, which many people consider to be the capital of French bistro cooking.

—Hendon Chubb

Poetry Back at Cadwell's

After a three-month summer vacation, the monthly Poetry Evenings at Cadwell's are starting up again on Saturday, September 10, at 8:00 p.m. These evenings are now in their fourth year.

If you have been to one of the readings, you know that poets read their own poems, poetry lovers read poems they like by other people, people read things that aren't even poetry at all (Bob Terrall's comic reports on the Cornwall scene are famous), and people who wouldn't dream of reading things themselves have a wonderful time just listening. There is sometimes singing, too. Last year we heard a group of kids from an inner-city school and a real, live bard from Cornwall, England, singing in Cornish.

There is no admission charge although you can contribute something if you want to help the Cadwells with the cost of the coffee.

—Hendon Chubb

A Fishy Musical

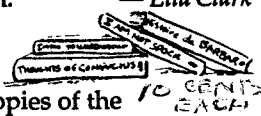
On July 29 at CCS, Leslie Elias's third annual Grumbling Gryphons Theatre Arts Camp produced "The Ghost Net," a fishy musical about endangered marine life. The cast, from Cornwall and other area towns, included parents as well as children singing and dancing as Trash Creatures, Tropical Fish, Neptune, Mermaids, Sludge (a rapper), and the Sludgettes. Ellen Moon worked with the kids to make props and costumes out of everyday flotsam — styrofoam peanuts, toothpaste tubes, six-pack rings — to bedeck set and actors.

Leslie hopes to bring "The Ghost Net" to the schools this coming year, with one-day performance workshops leading to an evening production.

—Ella Clark

Chrono-logical

If you keep your copies of the *Chronicle*, you'll have an ongoing history of Cornwall, and it's all free! But we need to pay our ongoing printing and postage bills, so please keep those generous, tax-deductible contributions coming. Thanks.



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.

Child Center Bulletin

The Cornwall Child Center will open September 1 at the UCC Parish House. Registration may take place that day, or when convenient, for day care or nursery school experience for children aged three to eight. Phone Director Pam Brehm at 672-6989 for information.

Over the summer, workers and volunteers have completed the shell of the Center's new home. It is hoped that the move-in date will be late November. Appreciation is expressed to those who responded to the Wish List in last month's *Chronicle*. As the funds are still short for completion, any donations will be most gratefully received. Cheryl Evans is head of the building committee (672-0094).

—Ginny Potter

Events & Announcements

School Opening: Cornwall Consolidated School will open on September 1 with 159 students, 26 of whom will be in the kindergarten/transition class. New teacher Paulette Soja will be teaching music; Andrew Nicsaji will be teaching French, a new course in the seventh grade.

Parents' Nights are Wednesday and Thursday, September 7 and 8.

Preserve Land, Save Taxes: Everyone is welcome at a West Cornwall Firehouse meeting on Saturday, September 10, from 5 to 7 p.m., sponsored by the Cornwall Conservation Trust. The speakers, Bill Morrill, Lakeville lawyer and conservationist, and Tom Strumolo, a partner with Starling Childs in EECOS (Ecological and Environmental Consulting Services, Inc.), will talk about how a community gains from land planning, and about the tax advantages that come from such planning. Following the talks there will be refreshments, after which members of the Conservation Trust will remain to elect officers.



Call for Volunteers: The Susan B. Anthony Project is accepting applications from people interested in volunteering to be part of its Speakers' Bureau. A special training session will be held in the early fall, and both men and women are encouraged to apply. Call 489-3798 weekdays and speak to Terry.



In September we will also start support groups. Included are: "Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse (male or female)"; "Sexual Harassment"; and "Rape." For information call 672-3291 or 489-3798.

Folk Songs at Cadwell's: On Saturday, September 24, at 8 p.m., David Rovics will present an "evening of folk music, new and old; songs of life, love and revolution" at Cadwell's. David is a singer and guitarist, and the son of pianist Anne Chamberlain. Tea and coffee is provided, and a five dollar donation requested.

Cornwall Association Gathering: All are welcome at the ninth annual meeting of the Cornwall Association on Saturday, September 24, 4:30 p.m., at Tim and Marie Prentice's house on Lake Road. Refreshments will be served following a brief business meeting.

Hazardous Waste Drop-Off: Here's your chance to get rid of old paint, batteries, and other corrosive, toxic, or flammable wastes cluttering your basement and garage. No charge, but you have to register before September 14 at the First Selectman's office for drop-offs in Torrington on September 17. Additional dates for drop-off are April 29 and June 24, 1995.

The Democratic Town Committee will hold a regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, September 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall. All Democrats are urged to attend the meeting that will take up possible endorsements of candidates running in the September 13 state primary. There will also be a vote to recommend a replacement for an open slot on the Board of Education.

CORNWALL CHRONICLE

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