

CORNWALL CHRONICLE

VOLUME 11 : NUMBER 1 FEBRUARY 2001



Groundbreaking News

On Monday, April 2, a representative of the Cornwall Library Association will turn the first spadeful of earth at the site of the new library on Pine Street. The event will mark a dramatic step in the three-year progress of the Library towards occupancy—possibly by the end of 2001—of its 21st century home.

In announcing this significant groundbreaking now, Library President Lisa Lansing Simont is counting, she says, on the reliability of an innovative company—Casle Construction—recently hired by the Library trustees. Casle, which not long ago oversaw successful renovations at the Kellogg School in Falls Village, is not a traditional prime contractor but a so-called construction manager. Unlike a contractor, who may operate at arm's length from his client, Casle is more like a consultant who "works for us," Simont says. Casle's people will cooperate closely with the architect, Kenneth MacLean. They will also meet frequently with a committee of trustees to negotiate the many design choices. (Should the siding be inexpensive pine or more costly cedar?)

An essential ingredient in Casle's reliability is its management of the bidding process. "We are no longer at the mercy of the low bidder," says Simont. State law requires acceptance of the lowest bid, regardless of the bidding contractor's qualifications. As a

Ten Going on Eleven

In February 1991, the *Chronicle* showed up for the first time in Cornwall's mailboxes. It was conceived and brought to life by Margaret and Tom Bevans. All of us who lent them a hand in the early years, and have carried on their work with such pleasure and pride—writers, artists, editors, proofreaders, grammarians, mailers—wish to dedicate this tenth anniversary issue to Tom and Margaret.

To learn more about the *Chronicle's* first decade, please turn to the insert.

manager working for a fee, Casle will go out for bids. But it will deal not with contracting firms so much as with individual trades such as carpenters, electricians, and plumbers. Finally, Casle will supervise the project on site, and will handle onerous paperwork involving state grant money.

Hartford's contribution, \$462,000, is a substantial portion of the overall construction costs (\$1,475,000), which include furnishings and landscaping. As of December 30, other contributions to the building fund and to a \$275,000 endowment, included \$250,000 from the town and an eye-popping

\$738,000 from individuals. The trustees still need to raise \$100,000 to meet their overall goal. —Charles Osborne

The Schaghticoke Question

The Schaghticoke tribe of Kent is seeking federal recognition and the potentially huge economic benefits which go along with sovereign nationhood. Eleven of the 312 Schaghticoke live on the 400 acres which remain of the tribe's lands. As many as 2,000 additional acres in Kent might be reclaimed if federal status is granted. Land in the towns of Cornwall, Sherman, and New Milford might also be at issue.

First Selectman Gordon Ridgway said that the four towns met with tribal chief Richard Velky in September to initiate contact with the tribe. Ridgway—who cautioned that Velky is accepted as chief by one faction of the tribe based in Monroe and not by the Kent group—reported that the chief said the tribe cares first about getting recognized and second about economic development. Velky has said repeatedly that the tribe will not build a casino in Litchfield County, hoping instead to find a more viable site, perhaps in Bridgeport, for a gaming facility.

Ridgway came away from the September meeting convinced that if the four towns supported the Schaghticoke's application for federal recognition, "they would be glad to tell

(continued on page 2)

FEBRUARY 2001

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 School Building Comm. 7:30 P.M. CCS Library	2 Preschool-K Story Hour 10 A.M. Library	3
4 Video, <i>Amazing Grace With Bill Moyers</i> 11:30 A.M. UCC Parish House Family Swim 12-1:30 P.M. CJR (p.4)	5 Bd. of Selectmen 7:30 P.M. Town Hall Park and Rec. 7:30 P.M. CCS Library	6 Blue Mountain Satsang 6:30-8 P.M. Every Tuesday UCC Day Room (p.4) Slide Talk on Interfaith Journey to Morocco, 7:30 P.M. UCC Parish House (p.4) Inland Wetlands 7:30 P.M. Town Office*	7 Play Group Every Wed. 10-11:30 A.M. St. Peter's Church Soup and Video, Noon, Every Wed., UCC Day Room Agriculture Comm. 7:30 P.M. Town Hall	8 Cornwall Housing Corp. 4:30 P.M. Kugeman Village	9 Preschool-K Story Hour 10 A.M. Library	10 <i>Rocks and Stones in the Garden</i> 5:30 P.M. Library (p.4)
11 Video, <i>Amistad Rising</i> 11:30 A.M. UCC Parish House Family Swim 3:30-5 P.M., CJR (p.4) Talking Drums, 4 P.M. Library (p.4)	12 LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY Blood Pressure Screening 3-4 P.M. UCC Parish House	13 P&Z 7:30 P.M. Town Hall Housatonic River Comm. 7:30 P.M. CCS Library	14 VALENTINE'S DAY	15 Deadline: March Chronicle Copy Bd. of Ed. 5 P.M. CCS Library Bd. of Finance, Special Meeting on 5-Year Plan 7:30 P.M. CCS Library	16 Preschool-K Story Hour 10 A.M. Library	17 Cornwall Association 9 A.M. UCC Day Room
18 Talk on State Health Care Plan, 11:30 A.M. UCC Parish House (p.4) Family Swim 12-1:30 P.M. CJR (p.4)	19 PRESIDENT'S DAY School Vacation Day	20 School Vacation Day Bd. of Selectmen 9 A.M. Town Hall School Building Comm. 7:30 P.M. CCS Library	21 Film, <i>Gate of Hell</i> 7:30 P.M. Cornwall Library	22 WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY Bd. of Finance to Discuss Budget 7:30 P.M. CCS Library	23 Preschool-K Story Hour 10 A.M. Library	24 PTA Winter Festival 11 A.M.-2:30 P.M. CCS Games, Entertainment, Food
25 Video and Discussion, <i>Growing Up Gay</i> 11:30 A.M. UCC Parish House Family Swim 3:30-5 P.M., CJR (p.4)	26 Region One Bd. of Ed. 7 P.M. HVRHS ZBA 7:30 P.M. Town Hall	27	28 Green Party 7:30 P.M. Town Hall Cornwall Vol. Fire Dept. 7:30 P.M. W. C. Firehouse			

*Check with Zoning Office—672-4957

(continued from page 1)

us where the [land] claims were. They would not push the claims as long as we supported their federal recognition plan.... Right now it is pretty vague where the claims are."

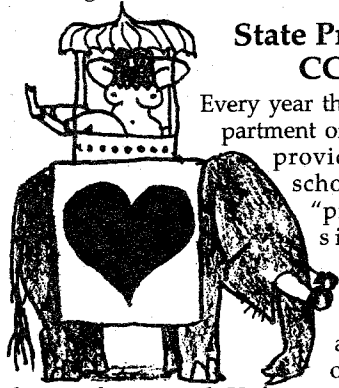
Press reports said that the claims in the four towns ranged between 7,000 and 10,000 acres. Ridgway said that town historian Michael Gannett maintains that there was never a tribal presence in Cornwall.

Federal recognition was not granted in the 19th century to New England tribes as it was to western tribes. The eastern groups had made individual treaties after the Revolution with state governments which agreed to see to their welfare. As time went on Connecticut did less and less for its Indian wards, and by 1910 many tribes had disappeared or merged, or survived as pitiful remnants.

This has not made it easy for the tribes to prove that they have remained constantly viable for the last 225 years. In fact the Schaghticoke claim that the Golden Hill Paugussetts have appropriated some of the Kent group's history and genealogy—a move which did not help them; the Paugussetts were denied federal recognition in 1996 by the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

Last fall, the Schaghticoke case for recognition was unexpectedly taken up by the U. S. District Court, sidestepping the BIA but using the same standards to judge legitimacy. A decision could come within months. Town counsel Perley Grimes has filed with the court to get a look at the tribe's documents.

First Selectman Ridgway told a reporter after the meeting with Chief Velky in September that Cornwall "is caught in a big game among the state and federal governments and the Schaghticoke." He added, "Cornwall will be more involved in the issue as time goes on." —Lisa Lansing Simont



State Profiles CCS

Every year the State Department of Education provides each school with a "profile," a six-page, number-packed analysis of a whole lot of things that can be counted. Unfortunately, since it takes the state a long time to compile and process the data, the Strategic School Profile is always a year late. What follows, then, describes Cornwall Consolidated School as it was during the 1999–2000 school year.

The report starts with some general information. Cornwall's population is given as 1,501, its per capita income as \$38,216. The percent of the whole population enrolled in CCS is 13.3. Nearly all (94.3 percent) of Cornwall's children attend our public school.

Some highlights of the school itself follow. Figures in parentheses give state-wide data for comparative purposes.

- Percent of students eligible for free or reduced-price meals: 2.0 (state 50.5).
- Percent of kindergartners who attended preschool or nursery school: 60.7 (73.1).
- Percent of students in special education: 23.6 (11.8).
- Percent minority: 5.5 (29.1).
- Percent of classrooms wired for Internet: 100.0 (64.2).
- Library volumes per student: 40.2 (15.8).
- Average class size, four selected grades: 15.5 (20.5).
- Percent of teachers with master's degree: 87.0 (77.4).
- Average annual teacher-absence days: 4.3 (7.5).
- Percent of 8th graders taking Algebra One: 77.8 (21.7).
- Percent of 8th graders taking a foreign language: 72.2 (43.8).
- Percent of students meeting goals on State Mastery Tests: Grade 4, 38.1 (34.5); Grade 6, 73.9 (38.2); Grade 8, 82.4 (41.5).
- Percent of students passing all four physical fitness tests, three selected grades: 36.0 (38.5).
- Cost per pupil: \$10,913 (\$9,312).
- Percent of revenue raised locally: 93.6 (61.7).

Asked to comment on this array of statistics, Principal Peter Coope stated that, in general, the profile indicates a town willing to support a good public school. Nearly all the numbers that might raise eyebrows, Coope pointed out, involve one fundamental fact: In comparison with the state as a whole, Cornwall's is a *small* school. This results in some inescapable inefficiencies. For instance, one of the four classes the state chose to determine class-size figures numbered only 11 students last year. Including this low number distorts "average class size." Similarly, any small school with a few small classes is going to cost more per pupil. Any small school with a decent library will rank high on the number of books per pupil.

"This year our special education number has gone down somewhat," the principal went on. "And while it's high in reference to the state, it's not high in reference to other schools in Region One. The state has certain criteria that students must meet to receive special education, and it's the state that decides who gets in and who does not. It's not a subjective placement we make here at the school. And at any rate, our students in special education do need the help they are getting."

Peter Coope also pointed out that while this was hardly a survey of teacher performance, the very low teacher-absence rate is just one indication of a truly dedicated staff. "Our teachers put a lot of energy into their work," Coope said. "It isn't unusual for a teacher to still be here at school at six or seven o'clock, preparing for the next day. Teachers don't always get the credit they deserve. And that's the number one factor in this or any school—the teacher in the classroom." —Bob Potter

Good-bye to Friends

Helen Coley Nauts

N. Richard Nash

George F. Brown

Welcome

Walter Fowler Krissel to Jessica Fowler and Jim Krissel

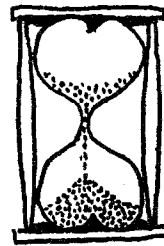
Land Transfers

Mudge Pond Associates, Inc. to Robin G. Oznowicz, 416 Sharon-Goshen Turnpike for \$425,000.

Estate of Frank J. Mallanik to William J. and Debra L. Morehouse, 17 Hollenbeck Road for \$200,000.

Thomas J. and Meredith A. Brokaw to Cornwall Conservation Trust, land off Dibble Hill Road for no consideration—gift.

Emily Berlin to Frances Brandon-Farrow, houses and 41 acres at 13 Yelping Hill Road for \$1,300,000.



Cold Golds

According to *The Country Journal New England Weather Book* (1976), February 9, 1934, was the "coldest modern morning in the south," with the thermometer registering "minus 26 degrees at Cream Hill, Conn." This reading was taken at the Golds' weather station; the family had maintained it since Theodore Sedgwick Gold, Charlie and Ralph Gold's great-grandfather, started it in the late 1800s. A Gold must have gotten cold that morning.

Volunteer weather observers have been around since Thomas Jefferson recruited them in 1776. Charlie's father Theodore Sedgwick Gold II continued the family tradition and, in fact, was awarded one of the first John Campanius Holm Awards (named for a Lutheran minister who kept records in 1744–45), which honor cooperative observers for "outstanding accomplishments in the field of meteorological observations."

Charlie remembers the weather station well. "We all monitored it while we were growing up. Every afternoon at five, when chores were done, we'd check the devices: the Standard Rain Gauge that measured a day's precipitation, and the thermometer, in a separate box, that registered maximum and minimum temperatures for the preceding twenty-four hours, as well as the temperature at the time of reading. The rain gauge was a metal tube eight inches in diameter, about three feet high. In warmer months, a funneled two-inch diameter tube inside the eight-inch tube caught the rain, which we'd measure with a ruler provided by the Weather Center. Calibrated in hundredths of an inch, the ruler was very accurate given the eight-to-two reduction provided by the inner two-inch tube.

"In winter, we took the guts out so that snow fell directly into the bigger tube. Then

we'd have to bring the container inside and pour a quart of boiling water to melt the accumulated snow and ice. Then we'd pour off one quart of liquid and pour the rest into the two-inch tube (which was kept inside during the winter) and measure it in the same way we did in the summer. The resulting measure was the water equivalent of the snow that had fallen during the preceding twenty-four hours. The last step was to go back out into the cold and wind to put the eight-inch tube in place to catch snow over the next twenty-four hours."

There have been no readings from the Cream Hill weather station since the mid-70s. The station meant one more path to shovel, one more job to be done, and there was no one left to do it, not only in Cornwall, but elsewhere. According to Bill Jacquemin of the Connecticut Weather Center, Inc., virtually no weather reports nowadays are from human observers. But the robotic sensors that have taken over the job don't always get it right; sometimes, he says, they mistake cold fog for snow. Maybe we do need a weatherman to tell which way the wind's blowing. —Ella Clark

Two Grants for CHS

The Cornwall Historical Society is now busily taking advantage of two recent grants. SNET has contributed \$1,000 toward the Society's effort to computerize its inventory and go online. The first of these aims, according to Society President Jim Gold, is the more formidable: "So, so many individual pieces of paper."

Also, the Connecticut Humanities Council recently donated \$5,000 toward the production of a book, *Cornwall in Pictures: 1868-1941*. Charlie Osborne is in overall charge of this effort, assisted by Maureen Prentice (whom Charlie calls "our unofficial Official Curator of Photographs") and Alec Frost, who first came up with the idea. Cornwall historian Jeremy Brecher is in charge of the scholarly research and writing. Charlie himself is providing captions for over 250 illustrations, and Joe Freedman is doing the layout and design. A first look at the quality of this projected 192-page delight convinces this reporter that the book will be the Society's all-time best seller. —Bob Potter

Scarce Birds—Smart Juncos

The annual Christmas Bird Count took place on Sunday, December 16, despite 24 hours of torrential rain and temperatures in the 60s. Only Val Petracek and my loyal spouse came out with me, but three were more than enough to count the number of birds seen. The warm temperatures caused a mist, particularly on the river, which reduced visibility, adding to the frustration. We counted 11 species of birds and very small numbers of each,



I love you

Letters to the Chronicle

Je t'aime



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHRONICLE

Although I moved from Cornwall almost 20 years ago, all my household activity stops when the Chronicle comes in from the mailbox. Sharing and caring with neighbors and friends from years ago is renewed and cherished. Our family were residents for 12 years, and daughters Faith and Jennifer received good schooling and lifetime training at CCS and HVRHS. Country living was a joy. Today I send bits and pieces of news to Faith in New Hampshire and Jennifer in California, and pass the whole Chronicle on to Patsy (Hurlburt) Huntington in New Hampshire.

Truly we are Chronicle followers. Happy 10th Birthday!

—Joyce (Daley) St. Pierre
New Harbor, Maine

ROADS SCHOLARSHIP

Your snowplowing article reminded me of the way things used to be.

About 1938, two years after Route 7 opened as a federal highway, the state moved four trucks into the old West Cornwall shear shop located next to the present Hughes Memorial Library, so they could plow the state-owned roads. They weren't the machines they are now. No four-wheel drive. You'd hook separate chains, six or eight of them, around the semi-pneumatic tires. The trucks had no hydraulics so you raised the dump body mechanically, and you had to turn a handle in the cab of the truck to wind up the snow plow. This meant intricate work when you cleaned a corner.

Sand came from the foot of Bunker Hill, to be stockpiled in the fall, mixed with salt that had come to West Cornwall by freight car. They kept a pile near the shear shop, and shoveled it onto the truck by hand. Out plowing, a man in the back of the truck would spread the sand with a round shovel. In later years, the West Cornwall crew came up with the ingenious idea of making a sander out of an old car axle that turned the

bottom of a 50-gallon drum to spin the sand out. Either way, you needed a man back there. One guy liked his schnapps pretty well, but he was great at spreading sand, so they'd bury his feet up to his knees so he wouldn't fall out, and he'd do fine.

There were no heaters in the cab. Snow or ice might get in the gas and the engine would conk out. The carbide headlights (lit with a match) might go out in a snowstorm. And with no radios for communication (or for hillbilly music), you might get stuck out there if you got hung up on a stump, looking for a lost chain on the ditch side.

The town got its first four-wheel drive truck about 1938: a Ford Marmon-Harrington Conversion which was housed in the horse sheds behind the UCC church, a mighty cold place. First Selectman Clarence Blake drove that first red one, a rigid built machine with positive four-wheel drive. One night in East Cornwall a wheel fell off, but Clarence jacked up the axle and tied it to the frame and got back on three wheels. In 1946, we got a new green Marmon-Harrington, and his son Bill drove that one. Like the state trucks, our first town trucks had no snow tires, little heat, and no radios. But they were the beginning of the Town Road Crew, and the beginning of the state's program to "Get Connecticut Out of the Mud." And out of the snow.

—Ralph Scoville

CORNWALL IN OUR MAILBOX

Reading the Chronicle yesterday, after a few weeks away from Cornwall, I was reminded once again how special it is to have the newsletter that made my husband and me feel like instant residents when we moved here two years ago and continues to keep us plugged in. This is simply a letter of appreciation to all who put a face on the town and refresh it regularly.

—Lila Rosenblum

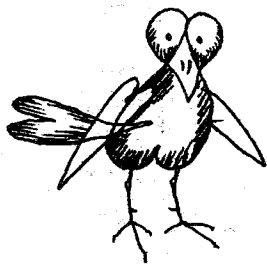
compared to between 30 and 40 species in better years. It is best to forget about it and look forward to next year.

Since the disappointing bird count, and particularly as a result of the New Year's Eve snowstorm, the birds have returned to the feeders in larger numbers. I notice though that the chickadees and goldfinches are still finding plenty to eat on the hemlock trees where they pick out the tiny seeds from the tiny cones.

The juncos had a different problem during the snowfall, being ground feeders. As

quickly as I put out seed for them on the ground it was covered with snow, and those poor juncos looked quite forlorn. However, starvation being a great motivator, they went to work and by the next day they had learned several different feeding mechanisms. They were hanging on the nut feeder and suet like chickadees; they perfected the art of landing on a small perch on a tube feeder, facing in the right direction to get seed, and they even conquered the green-wire-covered tubes which most birds haven't figured out yet. No birdbrains, those juncos.

—Celia Senzer



Events & Announcements

The October 1, 2001, Revaluation is in its first stage. This consists of "inventorying" the real property in Cornwall. All buildings will be measured and have interior inspections. Lauren Elliot of L. J. Elliot & Associates will be doing the preliminary work. She drives a 1993 Audi with Massachusetts registration #366 WLL.

Homeowners who wish to be called before the interior inspection is made should call the Assessor's Office at 672-2703 and leave their telephone numbers as well as convenient hours for the inspection. Barbara Johnson, Assessor, hopes that everyone will cooperate as that will work toward equitable assessments for all.

Values will not be determined at this time. Sales will be analyzed and cost schedules set up in early summer.

Talk on Interfaith Journey: Last June a group of 75 Americans—Christians, Muslims, and Jews—traveled in Morocco and met there with representatives of all three religious faiths. Participant Caroline Webster of Canaan will give a slide-illustrated talk on the trip at the UCC Parish House on February 6 at 7:30 P.M. No charge. All invited.

Property Tax Appeals: Application forms for the Board of Assessment Appeals hearings to be held March 7 to 10 are available now from the town clerk or the Assessor's Office. They must be filed at the Town Office—not just postmarked—by February 20. Applicants will be notified by mail or phone of their hearing time. The board asks that any information relevant to making a decision (e.g., maps, comparative property data, realtor appraisals) be brought to the hearing. For further information call the Town Office, 672-2709.

Unsung Angels

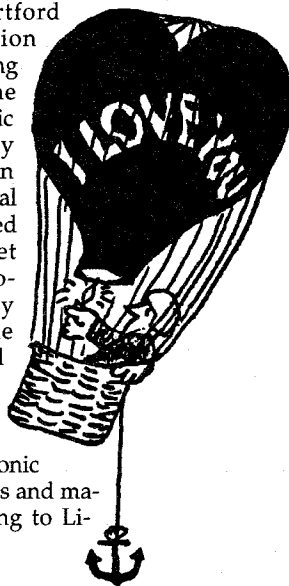
We want to use this space for two special acknowledgments: 1) to our treasurer Moneybags (aka Bob Beers), who has kept a sharp and steady eye on our finances for the past decade, and 2) to the hundreds of contributors who have responded to our appeals and made it possible for us to continue publishing.

State Health Care Plan: Dr. John R. Battista, co-author of the Connecticut Health Care Security Act (CHCSA), will give a talk and answer questions on "Bringing Universal Health Care to Connecticut" on Sunday, February 18, at 11:30 A.M. at the UCC Parish House. If the CHCSA passes the state legislature, it will establish a single-payer health care system covering all state residents. Dr. Battista, a New Milford psychiatrist, will provide information about the health care coverage offered and the administration and financing of the program as outlined in the act. For more information, call the UCC office, 672-6840.

The Blue Mountain Satsang is a free meditation group for anyone interested in beginning or maintaining a regular meditation practice. Meetings take place every Tuesday evening from 6:30 to 8 P.M. in the UCC Day Room. Please call Jeanne Russo at 672-6089 for information.

Rocks and Stones in the Garden: On Saturday evening, February 10, at 5:30 P.M. in the Cornwall Library, Anne Bevans will give an illustrated talk on this subject of particular interest to all Cornwallians, who probably have the most stones and best rocks in Connecticut. Anne is a professional landscape designer and a great photographer whose special interests include rock, woodland, and shade gardens. This event is presented by the Friends of the Cornwall Library, and a donation of \$5 to \$50 for the benefit of the Library would be appreciated.

Grants for the Library: The Cornwall Library has received two foundation grants to help finance an automated circulation setup in the new Library building. The grants come from the Hartford Area Foundation for Public Giving (\$2,500) and the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation (\$1,900). The goal is a system linked to the Internet and an automated library catalogue. The new scheme will tap outside collections and catalogues and also keep electronic track of all books and materials circulating to Library patrons.



Art in Cornwall: At the Cornwall Library, Erica Prud'homme's exhibit of paintings, *Bodyscapes*, will continue through March 4.

At the Wish House, there will be an opening on February 10 from 4 to 6 P.M. of a group show entitled *In Memory of St. Valentine*. The show will include works by Marc Simont, Nancy Bevans, Amelia de Neergaard Buck, Danielle Mailer, Salvatore Conduluci, and other local artists. At the National Iron Bank, February's artist of the month will be Howard Stone.

The Cornwall Agricultural Commission is planning a "Food, Fiber, and Forest" spring brochure to bring together local producers and consumers. If you produce any of the above, and would like to be included in the brochure, please call the Selectmen's Office (672-4959) ASAP.

Talking Drums: On Sunday, February 11, at 4 P.M. the Cornwall Library will present a program for families featuring musician and storyteller Mark Shepard. Following a simple instrument-making workshop, the audience will contribute their percussion skills to Mark's performance of the Haitian tale, *The Drum of the Elephant King*. Recommended for ages four and up, the program lasts about an hour and will take place in the Library. Registration is requested, 672-6874.

Family Swims: Once again by popular demand, Park and Rec. has arranged to have free family swims four Sundays at Connecticut Junior Republic in Litchfield. February 4 and 18, from noon to 1:30 P.M.; February 11 and 25, from 3:30 to 5:00 P.M. For Cornwall residents only.

Brokaw Gift: The Cornwall Conservation Trust wishes to thank Meredith and Tom Brokaw, who have recently donated 58 wooded, undeveloped acres on the Housatonic River side off Dibble Hill Road. This gift includes a generous maintenance fund.

CORNWALL CHRONICLE

ILLUSTRATIONS Marc Simont

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Here is my tax-deductible contribution of: \$ _____

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Please mail the Chronicle to the out-of-town address above; a \$10 contribution will be appreciated.

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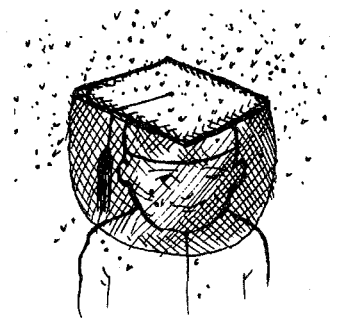
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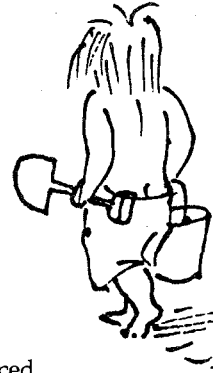
Hail to the *Chronicle*!

A Tenth-Anniversary Salute
by Ken Keskinen



The *Chronicle*! Hail!—and Hail its crews!
Please pardon us while we effuse
on how we work, report, amuse—
how well we've done (and do) the news!

For—
we write of farms and market places,
of libraries, town office spaces.
We write of cows and occupations,
of fluctuating populations,
of selectmen's calm deliberations
on state demands and mill taxations,
and how to improve kids' educations.



We write of how the town has faced
road repair and hazardous waste,
of dumps that flatten cardboard boxes,
of choices made at all the caucuses,
of Inland Wetlands, P&Z,
the Boards of Ed and CHC,
of matters mixed that seem to menace,
like gravel mines and tall antennas.
Of doubts we write elucidations,
to modify our tribulations.

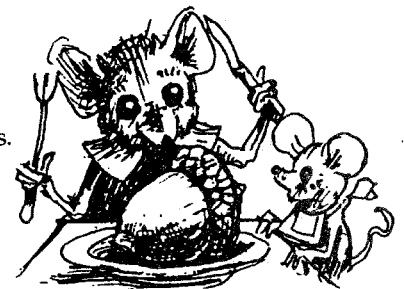


We write of every Finance Budget,
and how our leaders like to nudge it,
and how some citizens begrudge it.
With events recital, meetings vital,
environment issues pesticidal,
debate discordant, hope harmonical—



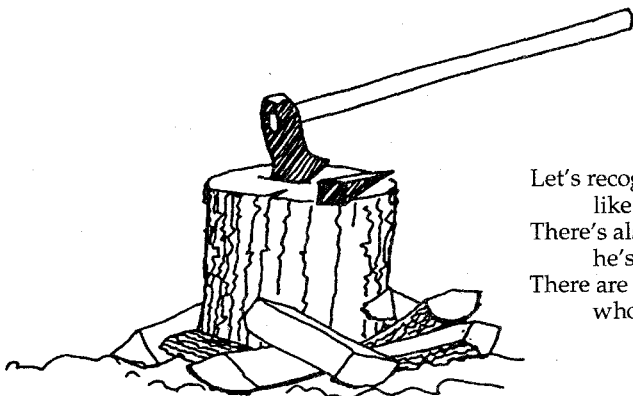
For Cornwall's ship of state the *Chronicle*
is a compass, yes, but not a barnacle!

So, who are the folks who do the work? There's really quite a slew of 'em.
Ten years ago there were, we note, a very fervid few of 'em.
Who had the vision way back then—the grit to make it go?
Tom Bevans was the founder of our fabulous folio!
Came Ferman, Lansing, Potter, Klaw, and Keskinen and Kittle whose
skills were very quickly shaped to pad out or to whittle news.
Soulé and Osborne, Senzer, Scott, and Bigelow, and Chubb and Nauts
wrestled with the choices of the should's and no's and maybe ought's.
And Miller, Hart, Simont, and Read, along with Clark and Zinsser,
often turned to Tom to ask, "Should this be out or in, sir?"
There are Chamberlain and Neubauer, and Baren, Lake, and Bate,
and Grossman, Gold—(all organized)—with copy seldom late.
There are Brecher, Prentice, Ireland, Gellatly, Leich, and Evans.
And helping get the issues mailed—Dave Silva and Anne Bevans!



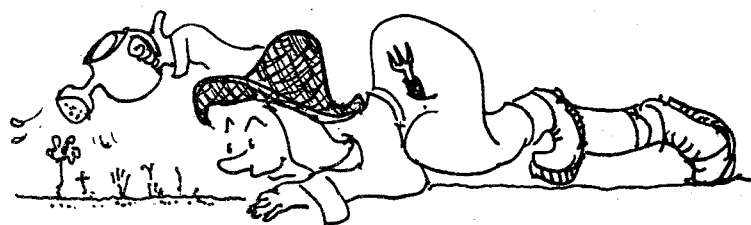
We report the bears, raccoons with rabies,
say "Bye" to friends, and "Hi" to babies.
We honor people, past and present,
venerable types, and adolescent.
We honor firemen, their heroics,
and Rescue Squads with their good woiks.

Let's recognize directors too—they help to banish stress and fears—
like Osborne, Evans, Williamson, and money manager Bob Beers.
There's also one who's learned in the arts and the humanities;
he's one who writes of Cornwall's past, and that one Michael Gannett is.
There are Dakin, Klaw, and Bevans—and subtle pitchman Ferman (Ed),
who, not to have us in the red, always is determinéd.

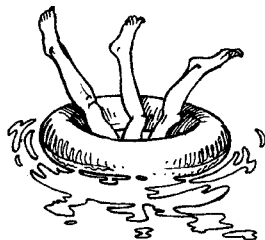


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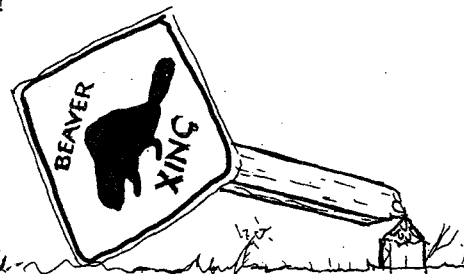
We write of rummage, cows, and chicks,
of gnats and birds and smallish ticks.
We write of clubs and camaraderies,
and all the bucks we bet on lotteries.
We publish all the vital stats,
but shun all gossip, idle chats.
We want to keep our pages filled,
yet try to keep our news distilled.



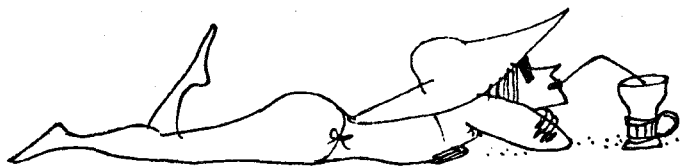
The artists clever, witty, sharp, let's also now salute 'em. We
mean Duber, Hanf, and Edler, Jacobs, Potter, Wilson, Prud'homme, E.,
Gellatly, Bracken, Prentices, Bevanses, Beecher, Bean, and Cindy Kirk,
Calhoun and Parker, Tom himself, all grabbed a pad and went to work.
There's Barkoff, Spaulding, Gazagnaire, and Zuckerman and Moon,
Van Doren, Mailer, and Simont—a peerless proud platoon!



We've done fine work, we'll do it more,
as well as we have done before.
Like animals, we'll sniff for news;
like hunters we will crunch all clews.
When we get read in proof by Klaws,
our work is cleansed of glitches, flaws.
We hail our editors—Bobby, Spencer!
If we've a problem, they've an answer.
We hail Tom Bevans, whose inspiration
deserves our hearty affirmation.



We show it all, the ebb and flow,
of history's wave and undertow.
We work for pride and take no dough.
We're of the fittest, still alive,
With readers' help, we will survive—
so folks who live by the Housatonic'll
Read again their *Cornwall Chronicle*.



No, we're not the mag with the man with the monocle—
We're down-home types—we're the *Cornwall Chronicle*!

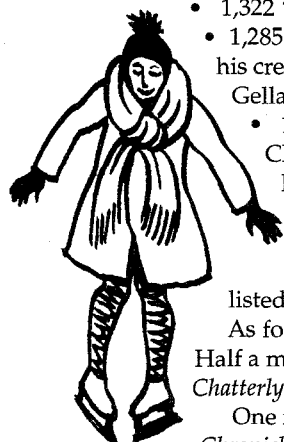
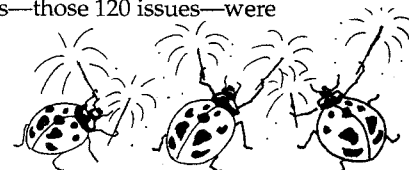
HAIL!



535,920...And Counting

A couple of months ago, I realized that my turn as a *Chronicle* editor would coincide with the tenth anniversary. A great opportunity, I told myself. Blow the *Chronicle's* own horn for a change! How many stories have we printed in ten years? How many writers? How many pictures? Etc., etc., etc. So, when those ten years—those 120 issues—were finally complete, I started counting. And counting. And counting. Here are the numbers:

- 191 new citizens welcomed into our world, and 241 farewells bid to friends.
- 168 marriages properly noted.
- 546 letters printed and mailed to you gratis.
- 1,322 "Events and Announcements" posted on your monthly bulletin board.
- 1,285 drawings reproduced, by a total of 28 *Cornwall* artists. Marc Simont leads the pack with 13 issues to his credit, followed by Ellen Moon, Cindy Kirk, and Erica Prud'homme. David Bean, Bill Beecher, Mike Gellatly, Tim Prentice, and Jane Duber follow.
- 1,223 articles printed—by a *grand* total of 171 contributors. Ken Keskinen, with 82 stories, noses out Charlie Osborne. The sturdy pacers who follow include Ginny Potter, John Miller, Scoville Soulé, Hendon Chubb, Bob Potter, and Lisa Lansing Simont.
- 48 different editors named in the little box on page four. Here again Ken Keskinen (24 issues) leads, with George Kittle and Bob Potter a short dash behind.
- And finally, money: \$85,562,039 of property sales recorded—and this although prices were not listed till near the end of the *Chronicle's* third year. That's nearly \$1 million a month.



As for words, I figure that 120 issues times 638 lines times an average of seven words per line equals 535,920. Half a million plus! That's roughly equal to *Oliver Twist*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *The Great Gatsby*, and *Lady Chatterly's Lover* combined.

One more statistic: This single article is undoubtedly the most labor intensive ever to appear in the *Cornwall Chronicle*. As they say to our south, "Enough already!"

—Bob Potter

Note: The drawings in this insert were, as everyone will recognize, taken from our back issue file. Anyone who correctly identifies all the artists represented here will be rewarded with a free one-year subscription to the *Chronicle*.