

CORNWALL CHRONICLE

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Pomp and Circumstance

It's that time of year again, when kids all over Cornwall don caps and gowns to receive their hard-earned diplomas.

Graduating on June 18th from Cornwall Consolidated School and heading to Housatonic Valley Regional High School are: Blake Buckley, Cameryn Caruso, Ciara Hurlburt, Jacob Johnson, Kailyn Reilly, Jacob Shpur, Caleb Thompson, and Katya Winsser. Mikayla Oyanadel will graduate from Sharon Center School and head up to Housy as well.

Also graduating from CCS are Gunnar Carlson, heading to Salisbury School; Alea Laigle, heading to Berkshire School; and Rebecca Ridgway, heading to Kent School. Teddy Dakin will graduate from Salisbury Central School and has not yet decided on a high school. Lucie Jadow will return to Indian Mountain School for ninth grade, and James Nicholas graduates from Rumsey Hall and will attend Northfield Mount Hermon School.

Graduating on June 19th from Housatonic Valley Regional High School and continuing studies at Northwestern Connecticut Community College are Mackenzie Considine, Gabriella Dzenutis, Charles MacDavid, and Caitlin Redmond. Other Housy graduates are planning the fol-

lowing: Phillip Geyselaers will head out to Colorado Mountain College; Kavanagh will attend the University of Tampa; Erik Kenniston and Liam Lynch will attend the University of Connecticut; Marissa Larson will go on to the State University of New York at Cobleskill; Matthew Matsudaira will attend Harvard College; and Brian Saccardi will head up to the University of New Hampshire. Jonah Whiteside, who graduated in January, is working as an Emergency Medical Technician for American Medical Response in Waterbury and will go for advanced training for the National Guard in July. Darby Council will receive her online high school diploma from Keystone and will continue taking online classes in the medical

Elsewhere, Aidan Cowan graduates from Millbrook School and will attend Macalester College. Arnon Fischer graduates from Kent School and will attend



Rhodes College. Mary Kate Kosciusko graduates from Westover School and will attend George Washington University, and Lee Pryor graduates from The Taft School and is heading to the University of Denver. Congratulations to all our Cornwall graduates! We're super proud of all your accomplishments and wish each of you all the best!

—Rachel Matsudaira

Cornwall General Store Under Contract

Just before press time, the *Chronicle* learned that the Cornwall General Store is under contract for sale.

The store, which has been operating for more than 75 years, was formerly known as Monroe's and Baird's and is currently leased by Dana and Louise Beecher, who will be leaving.

The new owners are a young couple from Sharon who have retail experience and will continue the business after making improvements.

—Ed Ferman

Region One Budget Blues

For the second year in a row, the Region One school budget, essential to finance the Housatonic Valley Regional High School

(continued on page 2)

SUNDAY **TUESDAY THURSDAY MONDAY FRIDAY** <u>SATURDAY</u> **Every Week This Month:** ◆ Nancy Bevans Artist Reception Mondays: Yoga, 8:30-10 am Library: Yoga, 5:45-7 pm CCS ♦ Tuesdays: Adult Volleyball, 7:30 4–6 pm Library Community Country Wednesdays: Tai Chi, 6-9 pm Town Hall; Karate, 6:30-7:30 pm CCS; Women's Basketball, 7:30 pm CCS gym ♦ Thursdays: Pilates, 8:30–9:30 am Library; Toddler Play Group 10:30–11:30 am Library; Yoga, 5:30–6:30 pm Library ♦ Fridays: Yoga, 8:30–10 am Library Dance 7 pm Town Hall Sundays: Yoga 9-10:30 am Library; Meditation, 1-2 pm, call Debra for location, 672-0229 7 2 3 5 6 ◆ Old Style Life Seniors' Luncheon Skills Workshop NEW 10:30 am–1:30 pm Local Farm 11:30 am–1 pm Wandering Moose Cafe Republican ◆ Film on Genetically Nederlands Dans Theater Film 7 pm Library Modified Foods Morris Dancers 7:30 pm Town Hall Open Meeting 7 pm Library Inland Wetlands 7:30 pm Town Hall 3:30 pm West Cornwall Covered Bridge Big Little Kids Dance Park & Rec 7:30 pm Town Hall 4-5 pm Town Hall 9 10 11 • Eco Dev. Commission 12 13 14 8:30 am Town Hall ◆ Keeping a Family Cow Workshop 10 am—1 pm Local Farm ◆ Artist Reception 3—6 pm Souterrain Gallery ◆ Deadline: ◆ Red Cross Blood Drive 1–5:45 pm Library ◆ Let's Get Growing 4:30–5:30 pm Library ◆ P&Z 7 pm Library ◆ Housatonic River July Chronicle Copy Commission 7:30 pm CCS **17** 22 16 18 20 21 \mathbb{C} ◆ Annual Community Beach Party 5–8 pm Cream Hill Lake ◆ Family Movie Double Feature ◆ Town Beach Opens at Cream Hill Lake Hazardous Waste Day am-noon Falls Village Highway Garage ◆ CCS Graduation 6:30 pm Library ongest Day of the Year Celebration Let's Get Growing 6 pm ◆ Board of Selectmen 7:30 pm Town Hall ◆ CCS Last Day of School ◆ HVRHS Graduation Conservation Commission 7 pm Town Hall Board of Finance 7 pm Local Farm 7:30 pm CCS Library $\bigcap_{\text{FULL}} 24$ 23 26 28 29 ◆ Grumbling Gryphons' Wksp, 3–4:30 pm Lake Rd. ◆ Let's Get Growing ◆ Park&Rec Bus Trip to Opening Reception Women's Rights 5–7 pm Yankee Stadium 9:30 am–8 pm CCS ◆ Grumbling Gryphons' Workshop ◆ Tea Party Books of Barbara Pym Board of Education ◆ ZBA 5 pm CCS Library 4:30–5:30 pm Library ◆ Comm. for Seniors Library 30 7:30 pm Library 4 pm Library) Cornwall Historical Society 3-4:30 pm Lake Road

(continued from page 1)

and the region's six elementary schools, has gone down to defeat. The \$14.5 million budget proposal lost in the May 7 vote, 587 to 351. Of the region's six towns, only Kent voted in favor of the budget. Cornwall's voters cast 72 votes against and 57 in favor.

Even school board members who disagreed on the merits of the proposed budget—such as Board Chair (and Cornwall representative) Phil Hart and Gale Toensing, the Falls Village member—largely agreed on the principal reason why so many voters rejected it. They were upset over the planned layoff of four full-time teachers and one part-time teacher at HVRHS.

Some voters were also disturbed by what they saw as overly favorable treatment of top administrative staff. And some were apparently still concerned with how the board handled recommendations in the "Pingpank" report of three years ago that described tensions within the school system.

Phil Hart notes that staff reductions are essential to coping with the high school's declining enrollment—down from over 586 students ten years ago to only 413 this year. He also admits that the board "could have done a better job" in explaining the need for staffing cuts.

Voters will soon have another shot at the regional school budget. At its May 20 meeting, the board fixed May 30 as the date for a new vote.

— David A. Grossman

Farmers Go to Market

Though opening day of the Farmers' Market was a bit overcast, the Wish House lawn was ablaze with flowers, bedding plants, and colorful foods. I asked what novelties the purveyors of deliciousness had for consumers this year, and was told of an expanded range of offerings combined with added outlets.

I began with barista Dean Saccardi, who brews coffees and teas to go with his mother's baked delectables. Susan now has a "certified kitchen" and can take orders and sell from home. Easily worth the detour.

Alas, you can no longer have your nails done by Caroline and Roxy at Hurlburt Farm and Forestry, but Bill has a greater variety of cuts, and displays an exemplary primer to show where everything starts out on the beast. HF&F is also where you can get your passbooks stamped for the Litchfield County "Gone to Market" program, in which you can win a premium refreshingly smaller than the Powerball jackpot.

The prize for variety goes to Tom Levine's Longmeadow Farm. Though his wares are from a wider area, the sources are known to him and chosen because they are things often requested and unavailable nearby. There is also a store at Longmeadow. By contrast, Plum and Sophie Luard boast

the most focused operation, selling only their own seriously yummy European-style pretzels

At Nunwell Glass, Leslie French and Andy Pyle of Lime Rock do it all: earrings, vases, paperweights enclosing flowers, delicate flutes for distinguished drinks, and a pair of loons just for pretty. Next door at Birdseye & Tanner Brook Farm, Mark Orth sells organic lamb cuts, hanks of wool, and shaggy sheepskins that make you want to curl up and start your nap early.

Nick the Knife sports a murderous line of Japanese cleavers and has branched out into reconditioning old typewriters; a classy Royal from the early '30s was on view. At the Local Farm booth next door you can get everything from bread and candles to salve and soap, much of it made by three generations of the Tyler/Hopkins dynasty.

Carol Bonci, aka Lally, was raised on New Haven pizza, so grew up knowing what good is. This year she'll be serving cappuccinos and lattes as well as the usual focaccias. There will also be an onsite oven to make an array of pizzas whose numerous ingredients exceed the line count for this issue.

At the Ridgway Farm stand I asked Gordon whether and how climate change has affected production. He said that they are learning to adjust to more erratic weather, relying at either end of the season on increased use of the greenhouses, where they have more control. When he and Jayne began 20 years ago, a killing frost was expected by mid-September; now it may not come till a month later. On the other hand, 2012 plantings did well a month earlier than in 2013. In short, nothing seems wholly predictable.

Flaky weather or not, the market is off to a promising seventh summer, thanks to the generosity of hosts Richard and Bianca Langner Griggs and to a grant from the Cornwall Foundation.

—Maggie Cooley



Cornwall Gets New Salon

David Muni and CJ Burke have opened Housatonic Hair Works in West Cornwall. David has been in the biz for 28 years, has taught for the International Academy of Hair Design in Daytona Beach, and is Director of Education at the Marinello School of Beauty in Torrington (formerly Brio Academy). CJ graduated from Brio in March 2011 and was recruited by Ulta Beauty in Avon upon graduation; he has been a stylist for the past two years.

David had been coming to Cornwall for years and knew the salon was here, but never dreamed it would become available. A recent accidental left turn led the men to happen upon the vacated salon—and scroll forward to a dream come true.

David and CJ wanted a small, affordable place with the right atmosphere that clients can consider an extension of the comforts of home. They particularly love color and want to bring more to the lives of Cornwallians.

They just finished their first week in business and feel warmly welcomed. Happily, their book was full of both appointments and walk-ins. Their grand opening took place on Memorial Day weekend. Make an appointment by calling 860-248-3223 or check out their website at dchairworks.com. —Janet Sanders

Goodbye to Friends

Arthur Brean

Ralph C. Gold

Land Transfers

Roberta Ross to Mark Hannemann and Margaret Tansey, land with all buildings and improvements thereon at 94 Great Hill Road, for \$450,000.

Deutsche Bank National Trust Co.-Trustee to Tom Ceusters and Myra Christine Riggs, property known as 71 Todd Hill Road, for \$568,000.

Taking a Hike

Sunday, May 5th, brought perfect weather for the informational walk on the proposed "HouBike" Trail from West Cornwall to Cornwall Bridge. About 30 enthusiasts gathered at 1 P.M. at the starting point just below Trinity Conference Center and, following brief remarks by the organizers, set forth on the three-mile hike down the eastern side of the Housatonic. Leading the group were Cornwall's First Selectman Gordon Ridgway, trail planner Pat Hare, Dan Bolognani of the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area, Dan McGuinness of the Northwestern Connecticut Council of Governments, volunteers Johan Winsser and Bonnie Van Gilder, and several representatives of the Cornwall Economic Development Committee, including Janet and John Sanders, Melissa Andrews, and Mark Hampson. In true Cornwall style, two dogs completed the roster of walkers.

The first half of the trail is well traveled but narrow. (In most places it was difficult to walk more than two abreast.) We passed through areas of dense shade that nurtured groupings of violets, masses of sweet woodruff, and the occasional trillium. At the halfway point, where the trail crosses to the east side of the Housatonic Railroad tracks, three options were offered: (1) turn back north toward Trinity, (2) continue along the railroad tracks, or (3) proceed south on a less well-defined path just east of the tracks. This writer, feeling energetic, chose the third

option.

As promised, the second (lower) half of the trail was a bit more challenging than the "Trinity Segment," as the northern part is called. The area immediately below the railroad intersection is swampy, and our conversation and laughter were punctuated by the sucking sounds of hiking boots being pulled out of the muck from step to step. But this area is rich in history, including the foundation of a structure that appeared on an 1850 Cornwall map, as well as several intact stretches of the old River Road.

As the trail bent perceptibly to the southeast, the island in the Housatonic just above Cornwall Bridge came into view, indicating that the walk was almost over. I admit that I'd cheated: earlier in the day I had my partner follow me to the National Iron Bank, where I left my car so that I wouldn't have to hike all the way back to West Cornwall. Still, by the time I pulled into my driveway, it was four o'clock, so the trek had taken me a full three hours.

It was a great way to spend the afternoon and a rare opportunity to see the Housatonic from the "other side," all made possible by both the organizers and our own Cornwall Foundation, which supported the walk through a grant to the Bike Committee of the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area. — Tom Bechtle

Cornwall Briefs

- ·Solar Speed Signs: Town Hall has been anticipating them for at least a year, but could we soon actually see them in place? The first selectman says the state has approved their placement and we should be seeing them "in the next couple of months." There will be two in Cornwall Bridge, one going south near the package store and the second going north near the firehouse. The one in West Cornwall will be placed on Route 128 going west into the village, a place where some drivers double or triple the speed limit as they zip down past the post office.
- HVA: That stands for the Housatonic Valley Association, and it is going to use some grant money from the General Electric pollution settlement funds to put in a facility on the river in West Cornwall just south of the Hughes Memorial Library. The facility will have public access to the river, including a boat ramp, an area for parking, and a portable
- You Wanna Be a Scout? There is currently no Boy Scout or Cub Scout troop in Cornwall. Too bad, but here's some good news: our neighbors in the town of Goshen have invited any of you to join their troops-Cubs (first through fifth grades) and Boys (sixth grade through age 18). Interested sons or parents should call Steve Romano for Cubs (860-491-3765) and Tom Stansfield for Boys (860-491-2230). Both troops meet on Wednesday evenings, Cubs at 6:30 and Boys at 7. Spencer Markow has already joined, and Steve Romano said all Cornwall boys are welcome. —John Miller

Letters to the Chronicle

CORNWALL NEIGHBORLINESS

Coming across the hilltop on Cream Hill, I was met by a swarm of volunteers dutifully restoring the Gold landscape to Ralph's high standards. At first there appeared to be an outdoor party with the whole town invited until I saw rakes, brooms, and shovels in hand.

I soon concluded it's another expression of Cornwall Neighborliness (aka CVFD). Much has been said about small town values and sense of caring. This groundswell of doing right by someone who has defined his life by "doing the right thing" caused that proverbial lump in the

Hats off to all who joined in. You made us proud as witnesses, but more importantly you made Ralph again the center of attention he so rightfully deserves. —Dan Cain

ART AND ART AT THE DUMP

When we moved to Cornwall, my husband would return from delivering our garbage to the transfer station and say, "Art at the dump said..." or "Art at the dump told me...." What a great idea for a recycled art show, thought I, and thus "ART@THEDUMP" was born 14 years ago. Alas, we lost our friend and namesake, Art Brean, this year, but his legacy lives on.

ART@THEDUMP was a resounding success again this year. Over \$2,700 worth of art was sold with 29 artists participating. One hundred and sixty-four pieces were purchased. We have been able to give between \$600 and \$800 to the art department at CCS each year. Eight-year-old Linda Petersen (granddaughter of Lazlo and Christina Gyorsok) won first place with her dollhouse. Barrie Richardson won second with his deconstructed/reconstructed

toys and Rita Vitalis took third with her creation of Ground Hog's Day. Since it looks as though this show is here to stay, we invested in two vinyl banners that were financed with a grant from the Cornwall Association.

Mark your calendars, as A@TD number 15 is scheduled for April 26 and 27, 2014.

-Gail Jacobson

CORNWALL'S BUDDING BARD

CCS fifth-grader Daniel Saed was one of 14 student writers selected from among 400 entrants to be honored by the After School Arts Program on May 11th. Danny's poem, "Apology of a Fairy Godmother" (below), written under the guidance of his teacher, Kristi Pramuka, was read aloud at the Washington, Conn. event.

—Michael Croft

This is just to say I had to take away a peasant girl's clothing by midnight.

which will make her a woman in rags once again.

Forgive me. Even fairy godmothers need sleep.



The Chronicle welcomes letters and asks readers to submit them by e-mail to info@cornwallchronicle.org.

Our Housatonic: Wild and Scenic, Finally?

On April 17 at the town hall, Housatonic River Commission Vice-Chairman Phil Hart of Cornwall asked a gathering of some 30 people to think back to 1980, when plans were afoot to make U.S. Route 7 a four-lane expressway from New Milford north; Northeast Utilities sought to build a pumped storage power generation facility on the summit of Canaan Mountain; and proposals for Housatonic River flow to help satisfy water demands in southwestern Connecticut and eastern New York state were for real. It was a "different time" with a healthy wariness about over-regulation holding sway, and the National Park Service's (NPS) invitation for the upper river to be included in the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers program didn't quite float.

Times have changed, and so it is that HRC Chairman Bill Tingley of Sharon opened what will be a series of public town meetings—"a sharing, thoughtful process," where "local input will rule," and with the intent of crafting for our beautiful river a "serious, extra layer of protection." Members of the HRC are asking that fellow

citizens join them in seeking formal designation for a 40-mile stretch of the Housatonic from the Massachusetts border to Boardman Bridge in New Milford to be included in the national

partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program.

The NPS's Liz Lacy, who helps manage the Farmington and Westfield rivers' Wild and Scenic sections, told us of some significant benefits. By definition, there are no federal lands along partnership rivers, and the NPS's role is limited; a local council with broad representation guides management; there are no costs to towns; and local economies are boosted. Annual federal funding for river-related projects could be available, and if so such monies cannot be used for "eminent domain" purposes.

Since 1968, Congress has added over 200 rivers to the Wild and Scenic program— 13,000 miles in 39 states—in order to better protect the outstanding scenic, recreational, historic, wildlife, and cultural values that should be preserved. Our wonderful watercourse may one day be included in that select group. —Art Gingert

Events & Announcements

Art in Cornwall

At the library: How I Feel, works by Nancy Bevans, are on display through June 22. The artist's reception is Saturday, June 1, from 4 to 6 P.M. On Tuesday, June 25, Camilla Busby will exhibit Early Works, inspired by the human body. A reception will be held July 6. Open Vessels, new works by sculptor Peter Busby, based on forms from antiquity, also opens June 25.

Final Creations, an exhibit of pottery by David Steglitz, is at the Cornwall Bridge Pottery until July 6.

Starting June 1, the Souterrain Gallery will host a photography show titled Side by Side, works by Catherine Noren and Lazlo Gyorsok. A reception for the artists will be held Saturday, June 15, from 3 to 6 P.M.

A Community Country Dance will be held Saturday, June 1, at 7 P.M. at the town hall. This month's caller is Bob Livingston; music by Cornwall's own Still, the Homegrown Band. Donations are suggested to help pay Bob. Jane Prentice has more details at 672-6101. And for the younger set and their adults, a Big Little Kids Dance will be held Saturday, June 8, from 4 to 5 P.M. at the town hall. A finger-food potluck will follow. A \$10 family donation is suggested. Contact Rachel at 824-8404 for more details.

Senior Luncheon: Cornwall seniors are invited to a lovely spread at a special price put on by Russ at the Wandering Moose on June 4 from 11:30 A.M. to 1 P.M. Call Jane Prentice at 672-6101 for more details.

At the Cornwall Library

Next in the dance film series presented by Alice Sarkissian-Wolf will be *Nederlands Dans Theater Celebrates Jiri Kylian*, shown on June 5 at 7 P.M. A \$6 donation is suggested, and benefits the library.

Friday, June 21, is family double feature movie night, with Wallace and Gromit in the



The Blissful Month of June

Summer has settled in to stay for what we all hope is a nice long season. There's so much to do during the long lovely days that it's easy to forget the evergreen *Chronicle*. Send a check today. Thanks!

Wrong Trousers (G) at 6:30 p.m., followed by The Black Stallion (PG) at 7:15 p.m. Free, but donations welcome.

On Saturday, June 29, at 4 P.M., the library will host a tea party to celebrate the books of Barbara Pym. No charge, but donations welcome.

Genetic Roulette: The Documented Health Risks of Genetically Engineered Foods, will be screened at the Cornwall Library on Friday, June 7, at 7 p.m. Discussion after the film will be led by Ian Skoggard, Leila Baroody, and Lisa Candels from GMO Free CT.

The Morris Dancers will appear on Saturday, June 8, at 3:30 P.M. (time approximate) near the Covered Bridge in West Cornwall. Their show is a lively affair that features the clashing of sticks and vigorous stepping and leaping, all to live music.

Motherhouse Happenings

June 8: Old Style Life Skills Series workshop, We'd Walk, from 10:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. at Local Farm with herbalist Alicia North. Identify herbs and make a simple remedy. Potluck lunch.

June 15: Keeping a Family Cow workshop from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. at Local Farm. Learn everything you need to know about caring for a cow and making goodies from its milk. Potluck lunch.

June 21: Starting at 7 P.M., celebrate the longest day of the year at Local Farm. Bring instruments, singing voices, and a dish to share at a potluck supper and campfire sing-a-long.

For all events, call 672-0229 or contact Debra@Motherhouse.us for fees, required registrations, or suggested donations.

A Red Cross Blood Drive will be held Tuesday, June 11, from 1 to 5:45 P.M., in the Red Cross bus parked at the Cornwall Library. Registration and refreshments will be in the library's meeting room.

Let's Get Growing Gardening Series led by Debby Bennett will meet behind the Cornwall Library as follows: June 11 from 4:30 to 5:30 P.M., Gardening Problems and Solutions; June 16, from 1 to 2 P.M., Harvesting and Preserving the Herbal Garden; and June 25 from 4:30 to 5:30 P.M., Succession

Planting in Raised Beds.

Park & Rec Events

Annual Community Beach Party held at Cream Hill Lake Association on Thursday, June 20, from 5 to 8 p.m. Bring a salad or side dish to add to the burgers, dogs, chips, and beverages provided. The Cornwall Agricultural Commission will dish out ice cream. Lifeguards will be on duty.

Bus trip to Yankee Stadium on Thursday,

June 27, leaving on a coach bus from CCS parking lot at 9:30 A.M. and returning between 7 and 8 P.M. Yanks vs. Texas Rangers; cost \$55–\$60 per person. Contact Becky Hurlburt at prcornwall@gmail.com for information.

Hazardous Waste Day is June 22, from 9 A.M. to noon, at the Falls Village highway garage. For admission, pick up a free pass from Joyce Hart at the selectmen's office or call 672-4959 for more details.

Hammond Beach opens Saturday, June 22, enhanced by a new stone wall facing Lake Road by John LaPorta and landscaping by Josh Tyson. Get beach passes from the selectmen's office, 672-4959.

Grumbling Gryphons' Leslie Elias will hold workshops in theater, music, and storytelling for children ages 2 to 6 at her home studio on Lake Road on Tuesday, June 25, and Thursday, June 27, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Register by June 30 for the week-long arts camp for kids ages 6 to 12, to be held August 5 to 10 at the town hall. For registration and fee details contact grumblinggryphons@yahoo.com.

June Is for the Dogs: The State of Connecticut requires that all dogs six months of age or older be licensed annually on or before June 30 in the town clerk's office in the town where the dog is owned or kept. A current rabies vaccination certificate must be submitted or be on file. Neutered or spayed dogs cost \$8 and other male or female dogs cost \$19. For a neutered or spayed dog being licensed for the first time, a certificate from a licensed veterinarian must be presented. Penalties apply for late registration. If registering by mail, enclose a SASE for return of tag and license, otherwise the town clerk's office is open Monday through Thursday, 9 а.м. to noon and 1 to 4 р.м.

CORNWALL CHRONICLE

THIS MONTH

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