VOLUME 27 : NUMBER 9 OCTOBER 2017

A Cornwall Youth Speaks

Every day Cornwall advances with its youth initiative. In the July *Chronicle* I outlined my concern with our declining number of youth, and specified what Cornwall is doing to combat it. Many citizens of Cornwall sent ideas. One citizen recommended setting up a Cornwall mortgage/loan program for young people to help them afford to live here. This mortgage would be tailored to the individual so that it could be paid back in a flexible amount of time.

Caroline Kosciusko of West Cornwall is currently employed at Salisbury School. She considers herself a lucky one in the sense that she found a job that allows her to live in the beautiful area she grew up in not long after graduating from college. Caroline told us there are many other people her age who work at these local private schools. The only problem is that they leave so soon. Many of them become secluded within the school community. If we could bring these "like age" people together while simultaneously showing them our town, we might be able to get them to stay.

Already at work at the town offices, the Northwest Connecticut Fiber-Optic Network Collaborative hopes to bring high speed broadband fiber optic service to 21 northwest Connecticut towns. Felicia Jones,

project coordinator, is working on publicizing this project, presenting each town with viable plans to enact, hoping that all will be on board.

Another topic has been business in West Cornwall. The West Cornwall Water/Septic Committee, made up of Cornwallians with ties or businesses in West Cornwall, aims to build an infrastructure consisting of a water and septic system within West Cornwall that will allow new businesses to operate there. This committee has gathered a rather positive response from most residents, and has obtained \$49,000 worth of grants for an engineer to investigate the need for, and possibility of, a septic and water system in Cornwall. Results should come out in September.

Many others have also taken the broader issue, the lack of youth, into their own hands. Housatonic students have created a short documentary, *Dawn of Decline*, that addresses the problem of decreasing numbers in our local schools as well as possible



solutions. (See it online: youtube.com/watch?v=lZiJN8rBlRA.) Our town has taken an even higher interest in it than before. The youth initiative is proposed to be a part of Cornwall's new town plan process that will begin this year.

Though school has started and my volunteer internship at town hall will be officially ending, I will continue to write and explore what Cornwall is doing to combat a declining youth population. I welcome your ideas and suggestions. Please contact me at: dsaccardi@hvrhs.org or call me at 860-671-1360.

—Dean Saccardi

Cornwall Adds Youth Focus To Town Plan

This year the town of Cornwall, led by its Planning and Zoning Commission, plans to add a new category to the four mandated by the state of Connecticut for the Town Plan of Conservation and Development: attracting and retaining the young and young families. All 169 towns in Connecticut are required by the state to develop such a plan, in which each town decides how it will deal with economic development, natural resources and conservation, housing, and community and cultural resources. This year Cornwall is adding a focus on youth as an important concern.

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Rain Date for A Paper Boy's View 10 am WC Post Office Disaster Hyglene Kits Preparation 11 am UCC	Pegion 1 Bd. of Ed. 6:30 pm HVRHS Cornwall Ag. Advisory Committee 7:30 pm Town Office	Voter Registration 9–11 am Town Hall Inland Wetlands Agency 7 pm Town Hall Board of Selectmen 7:30 pm Town Hall	4	Woman's Society Program & Meeting Leslie Elias 10 am Library	◆ Lost Art Workshop for Seniors 9 am-Noon UCC Parish House	7 Columbus Day Book Sale 9 am–2 pm Library Both Farm Markets Continue While Harvest Lasts 9 am–12:30 pm Community Contra Dance 7 pm Town Hall
8 Columbus Day Book Sale 11 am-2 pm Library CCT Fall Hike Noon Welles Trail Making a Living Historical Society Event 2 pm Town Hall	Columbus Day Columbus Day Book Sale 10 am-2 pm Library	10 ◆Eco. Dev. Comm. 9 am Town Hall ◆ Senior Luncheon Noon UCC Parish House ◆ West Cornwall Septic Committee 5 pm Town Hall ◆ P&Z 7 pm Library ◆ Park & Rec. 7:30 pm Town Hall ◆ Housatonic River Comm. 7:30 pm CCS		12 <u> </u>	Senior Trip am-Noon Eric Sloane Museum in Kent Annual CCS Walk-a-Thon 1:15 pm Cogswell/ Cream Hill Rds.	14 ◆ Little Guild Run & Wag 10 am–3 pm Village Green
Deadline: November Chronicle Copy ◆ Screening: Dawn of Dedine 3 pm Library	16	17 ***** ** Board of Selectmen 7:30 pm Town Hall	◆Bd. of Education 4:15 pm CCS ◆Board of Finance 7:30 pm Town Hall	* Knitting Group Hats/Cancer Patients 10 am Library * Cornwall Conservation 7 pm Library	P & Z Town Plan Forum 7–9 pm CCS • Rain Date Annual CCS Walk-a-Thon 1:15 pm Cogswell/ Cream Hill Rds.	◆ Before the Bridge Tour 10 am National Iron Bank ◆ CCT Annual Meeting Anniversary Celebration 3:30 pm Mohawk ◆ Chili Fest 5-7 pm UCC Parish House
22	23 ◆ ZBA* 7 pm Library	• Committee for Seniors 7 pm Library	Cornwall Business Assoc. 9 am Hughes Memorial Library West Cornwall	◆ Healthcare Conversation 6:30–8 pm CCS Gathering Room	27	28
29	◆ Diabetes Class with Anne Hummel 10:30 am–12:30 pm Library	31 • Deadline for Voter Registration 9 am–8 pm Town Hall • Halloween Trick or Treating 5–7 pm Library • Park & Rec Halloween Party 5–8 pm Town Hall	Every Week This Month: Mondays: Yoga, 8:30–10 am Library; Mat Squad at 6:30 pm UCC; Karate, 6:30–7:30 pm Town Hall; Men's Senior Basketball 6:30–8:30 pm CCS ◆ Tuesdays: Zumba, 5:30-6:30 pm Library ◆ Wednesdays: Tai Chi, 5–7 pm Town Hall call 672-0064; Stitch 'n Spin, 7:15–8:30 pm UCC ◆ Thursdays: Pilates, 8:30–9:30 am Library; Toddler Play Group, 10:30–11:30 am Library; Meditation, 4–5 pm call Debra 672-0229; Zumba, 5:30-6:30 pm Library; Mah Jongg, 7–9 pm Library call 672-6874; Adult Volleyball, 7–9 pm CCS gym ◆ Fridays: Yoga 8:30–10 am Library ◆ Sundays: Yoga 9–10:30 am Library; Meditation, 1 pm call Debra 672-0229			

(continued from page 1)

On Friday, October 20, at 7 P.M. at CCS, the Cornwall Planning and Zoning Commission will launch the planning process for the 2020 plan with a forum for Cornwall residents. PZC urges residents to attend and contribute ideas for planning the future for the five important areas of Cornwall town life. Refreshments will be served.

Ella Clark

A Perfect Day

If you were lucky enough to be in Cornwall on the 9th of September you probably attended the 26th annual Cornwall Agricultural Fair. That morning we awoke to

the reminder of fall. The air was cool and crisp, a perfect day for classic Cornwall festivities. This year the fair was dedicated to the Hickory Grove Farm and the Russ family. Fairgoers enjoyed an abundance of local products from the Cornwall farmers' markets, as well as from the various vendors and artisans present. The Corn-

wall Consolidated School eighth-grade class raised money for its class trip, while Saint Peter's Lutheran Church supplied visitors with perfect fair-day food. Throughout the day there were a variety of activities for all ages, from bubble gum blowing contests to woodcrafts and neat local animals. In addition to events also held in previous years, there was a fantastic birds of prey demonstration by the Sharon Audubon. All in all, the 26th annual Cornwall Agricultural Fair was a fun and exciting way to witness firsthand the numerous wonders our unique town has to offer.

-Dean Saccardi

Pearly's Farmhouse Cafe

Sean and Justina Aylmer have come to West Cornwall to open Pearly's Farmhouse Cafe. They have renovated the kitchen and dining area of the closed Wandering Moose, and look forward to making it yet again a family restaurant for the community.

Sean has long experience with food establishments, starting "as a 6-year-old running around a friend's restaurant," working his way up from dishwasher to baker (he studied culinary at Johnson and Wales) and then a 13-year stint as chef in the military service where he had a "guaranteed head count." On a flat-bottom beach runner off Japan (with "75-foot splash waves") he discovered that, in a typhoon, Marines do not eat as much as Navy personnel.

He went on to cook at a Nordstrom's GM café and a sports bar, all the while dreaming of a restaurant of his own. "I plan to serve simple, wholesome food, sourcing locally when possible. We'll do breakfast and lunch—individual pizzas, burgers,

mac and cheese, as well as vegetarian pastas, shrimp asparagus risotto, tawny port fig with pork medallions."

They love the area, the child center, and the school, and hope to move here.

We have missed the restaurant, and welcome Sean and Justina and family. As one resident told us, "I can't wait for Pearly's to open!" —Ella Clark

"You Really Should..."

If there's one thing that's plentiful in Cornwall, beyond cows and homegrown zucchini, it's advice. Sometimes it's re-

quested, often not. Sometimes it comes over your neighbor's fence—but a favorite outlet because of its circulation has always been the articles and letters in the *Chronicle*.

Gardening is a favorite subject. Lydia Wolf, early on, decided to grow Christmas trees and tried everything to repel the deer who came to nibble—human

hair, beer, (she declined to use urine pots)—but she found a surprising winner: "Lifebuoy soap keeps anything away, even your best friend." Anne Bevans wrote that soapy dishwater is fine for plants in times of drought. And Carla Bigelow hinted darkly of a drastic measure to eliminate rampant, smothering knotweed, but whether out of embarrassment or secrecy never revealed what it was.

Animals and reptiles in all the wrong places got some press. Debra Tyler gave detailed directions on how to move escaped cows to safety. Barbara Victorien advised drivers to watch their speed because "Moose run pretty fast and do not look good as hood ornaments." Sometimes there was dueling advice: Carla Bigelow wrote a long letter on how to help a snapping turtle across the road, observing its direction and then nudging it gently from behind with your foot or a stick. Alicia Eaton shot back a month later: "Turtles don't like to be pushed via shoe or stick; put the stick in front of his face—they are generally happy to chase the stick across the road."

The notorious Cornwall bugs, rather scarce this year, weren't neglected. Nineteen ninety-five must have been a really bad summer for black flies, because they inspired two bits of advice in the same issue.

tail party. You may also cozy up to someone

Susan Fox had several suggestions: "When you see a lawn full of people making the fascist salute with one hand, holding a drink in the other, and hanging their heads [flies tend to go to the highest point], you may recognize a Cornwall cock-

Good-bye to Friends

David Grossman Alfred Sterzl

Land Transfers

Daniel J. Fetterman and Cathrine Davenport de Neergaard to Michael T. and Jennifer S. Fuller, land with improvements thereon, at 55 Essex Hill Road, for \$445,000.

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to Daniel J. Hedden, land with improvements thereon at 34 Cornwall Hollow Road, for \$129,256.

Frank L. and Rose A. Giambrone to Courtney White and Carlos Moreno, 3.16 acres of land with improvements thereon at 197 Kent Road, for \$175,000.

Thomas S. and Janet I. Walker to Cornwall Conservation Trust, Inc. 5.00 acres of land on Sharon Goshen Turnpike.

taller than you as a decoy." Lilly Hollander suggested sticking two lit punk sticks into a straw hat, and "you can be outside for at least half an hour before the flies return—just don't let the sticks burn all the way down."

And there were two recipes, though I doubt anyone tucked them into their kitchen drawer: Marc Simont supplied a recipe for broth made from a dove that crashed into his kitchen window, and Ann Schillinger discovered her father's recipe for bathtub gin while clearing out her mother's house on Cogswell Road. (OK, the latter can be found in the October 1995 issue.)

This article runs too late to be of use for last month's Clean-Up/Green-Up Day, but Tim Prentice had some wonderful advice for "responsible littering" for the 1999 roadside cleanup. My favorite: "Try to remember to drink all the beer before littering to avoid leading the clean-up squad into temptation." —Carol Schneider

Cornwall Briefs

• Dawn of Decline: That's the title of a documentary about the decline of enrollment in northwest Connecticut schools. It is part of a summer student program called Civic Life Project at the regional high school that included our own Mitch Kosciusko and Trevor Hampson. The screening will be at the Cornwall Library on Sunday, October 15, at 3 P.M. The project and the

resulting documentary are the brainchild of Cornwall's Emmy Award-winning filmmakers, Catherine

Tatge and Dominique Lasseur.

• Annual Town Meeting will be taking place on Friday, October 27, at 7:30 P.M., at CCS. The meeting agenda is expected to include a review of the town's annual report and possible amendments to the five-year plan. It is also

expected that voters will be asked to approve a plan to have members of the Park and Rec Committee henceforth be appointed by the Board of Selectmen rather than stand for election. For those interested, copies of the annual town report will be available at post offices and town hall.

- •It's That Time Again for another hazardous waste day when we get rid of all those naughty paints and chemicals sitting on shelves of the family utility room or shed and deliver them to a transfer station, this time on Bogue Road in Torrington. Details will soon be on posters at your local post office and the town transfer station (aka "the dump").
- •A Word About "Ricky": That would be my friend Richard ("Call me Videoman") Griggs. There's been a bit of whining by a few folks of his intruding on their privacy at public events in our town. I say keep intruding, Ricky. I, for one, appreciate your efforts to record Cornwall moments with your camera. And while I'm editorializing, how about a kudo or two for the great effort Jen Markow is doing for my fellow seniors!

Voter Registration and **Absentee Ballots:**

—John Miller

The deadline for voter registration is October 31 in order to vote in the November municipal election. Registration sessions will be held at the town hall on October 3, 9 to 11 а.м. and October 31, 9 а.м. to 8 р.м. Registration applications are available at the town hall and library. Absentee ballot applications are available now at the town clerk's office. Absentee ballots will be available starting October 9. The town clerk's hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 A.M. to noon and 1 to 4 P.M. They must be returned by 8 P.M. Election Day, November 7.

CVFD Activity Report

7 emergency medical calls

- 1 search and rescue for lost hikers
- 1 river rescue
- 2 false alarms
- 2 motor vehicle accidents
- 1 branch on wires
- 1 fuel spill
- 1 structure fire: mutual aid to a neighboring town.

Tip of the Month: This is a good month to clean chimneys and furnaces, and to update batteries in carbon monoxide

Events & Announcements

United Church of Christ Congregational

On Sunday, October 1, at 11 а.м personal hygiene kits will be put together and packaged for shipping after a shortened worship service. These will be delivered to an internationally known organization that will

Letters to the Chronicle

A PINE RIDGE HIGHLIGHT

In late August, 13 adults and teenagers from Cornwall spent a week on the Lakota reservation in Pine Ridge, South Dakota, building beds, doing carpentry, and immersing themselves in Lakota culture. The trip was one of the most interesting and profound trips I've taken. It was organized by the UCC and under the excellent leadership of Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller. One of the unexpected highlights, however, were the teenagers on the trip. Derek Elias, Abby Larsen, Ian Danforth Gold, Ian Tyson, and Tim Lacy all were exemplary. They worked hard, asked good questions, showed great respect to everyone, and accomplished a lot. The 30 or so other people on the trip who hailed from other parts of the country took note, as did I. Cornwall can be -Karen Doeblin

NO ROGUE BEARS HERE

We heard a rumor that DEEP has been sending us all the bad bears from Fairfield County suburbs, and wrote to Paul Rego. Here is his response:

The rumor is wrong. We prefer to release bears on site unless they are in a truly urban setting. Even then we try to move a bear less than 10 miles. You have bears because the bear population is growing. A bad bear is subjective based on one's own perspective. Some people believe bad behavior is any bear near their home. We have a policy that dictates our response to different types of conflicts. For some, such as birdfeeders or garbage, we simply provide advice and information. For more severe problems,

such as a bear breaking into a garage, we may trap the bear, haze it, and release it on site. If a bear displays aggression towards a human or breaks into a home and it is identifiable, then it may be euthanized.

-Paul Rego, Wildlife Biologist

AN OPEN INVITATION TO THE COMMUNITY

Empaneled by the selectmen in January of 2016, the West Cornwall Water/Septic Study Group has taken delivery of a draft report, "Waste Water Management Study of West Cornwall," from Wengell, McDonnell and Costello (WMC) Consulting Engineers. We have reviewed and edited their initial draft and are seeking as much community involvement as possible to insure that this document, when finalized and delivered to the selectmen, will reflect a broad crosssection of opinion and fact concerning the present and future of waste-water management in West Cornwall. This effort is timely, since the Plan of Conservation & Development for 2020, in preparation now, will need to pay attention to the subject of economic vitality and river cleanliness. If this subject interests you, attend our next meeting, which is open to the public, at 5 P.M. on Tuesday, October 10, at town hall. There will be an important meeting in November to present a final report to the

A copy of the WMC report is available online at: cornwallct.org under the Events link at What's New. Hope to see you October 10.

— Todd Piker and Libby Mitchell, Co-Chairs

distribute them to those in need. All are invited to help.

Chili Fest: Saturday, October 21, 5 to 7 р.м. at the Parish House. A wide variety of chili, including vegetarian, will be offered. Free-will donations benefit the UCC Church School's annual mission project (TBA). No reservations needed. Call the church at 672-6840 with any questions.

Cornwall Woman's Society Program: Leslie Elias, author, musician, and creator of the Grumbling Gryphons Traveling Children's Theater Company, will speak on Thursday, October 5, at 10 A.M. at the library about the Art of Participatory Theater. Refreshments and meeting follow.

Cornwall Park & Rec Events

welcome Friday, October 6, from 9 A.M. to

noon at the UCC Parish House. Cost is \$8. Experience the way things were done in "the old days." Joe Brien of Lost Art Workshops will demonstrate the use of antique tools. Bring an old tool from your collection to show and tell, or a "whatsit" to be identified.

Senior Monthly Luncheon, October 10 at 12 Р.м. at the Parish House. RSVP a must by October 5 to Jen Markow at 672-4071 or prcornwall@gmail.com. (See insert.)

Halloween candy needed for trick or treating in the village. Please drop off at town hall or CCS by Friday, October 27.

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Senior trip to the Eric Sloane Museum: Friday, October 13, from 9 A.M. to 12 P.M. Bring an old tool or a "whatsit" (see "A Simpler Time," above). Meet at UCC Parish House and take the Goshen/Cornwall bus to the museum. Cost: \$20 includes museum tour and entry fee.

Halloween Party: Tuesday, October 31, from 5 to 8 P.M. Dinner, dancing, and haunted house at the town hall. Trick or treating in the village.

At the Cornwall Library

Columbus Day Book Sale Saturday, October 7, from 9 A.M. to 2 P.M.; Sunday, October 8, from 11 A.M. to 2 P.M.; Monday, October 9, from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. Half price on Sunday, fill a bag for \$5 on Monday. (\$15 early bird entry fee, Saturday, 9 to 10 A.M.)

Dawn of Decline, Sunday, October 15, at 3 P.M. A film produced by the Civic Life Project about declining school enrollment in Cornwall and Falls Village. Panel discussion follows.

Halloween at the Library: The library will be open for trick or treating from 5 to 7 P.M. on Halloween.

Diabetes Class: Anne Hummel, MS RN CDE (Certified Diabetes Educator) will offer her six-week, 12-hour course in Managing Your Diabetes beginning Monday, October 30, from 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

Community Contra Dance: Saturday, October 7, town hall. Dancing begins at 7 p.m. Music by Still, the Homegrown Band and calling by guest David Kaynor. All dances taught, all ages welcome and no partner necessary. Donation requested. Call Jane at 672-6101 or go to motherhouse.us.

Cornwall Conservation Trust

Please join us at noon on Sunday, October 8, for a fall hike up Welles Trail with naturalists. Bring a picnic, drinks provided. The focus on this two-hour hike will be on fall presentations of flora and fauna compared to what we saw on the spring walk.

Falling Leaves

The woods all around may grow vibrant with color but here at the *Chronicle* we still like the greenery that doesn't grow on trees...Think of throwing us some as you rake up your yards!

Annual Meeting: Join us at our 30th Anniversary Celebration/Annual Meeting at 3:30 P.M. on Saturday, October 21, as we present a panel discussion on meeting the challenge of saving forests and farmland for conservation and creating jobs for a vibrant local and regional economy. Reception to follow.

(See insert.)

Free Blood Pressure Clinic: Monday, October 9, noon to 1 P.M., at the UCC Day Room. For information contact VNA Northwest at 860-567-6000 or vnanw.org.

Cornwall Historical Society Events

"Making a Living," Sunday, October 8, at 2 P.M. in the town hall. A discussion led by CBS News correspondent and town resident Richard Schlesinger. This program is free to the public. Refreshments will be served.

"Before the Bridge," Saturday, October 21 at 10 a.m. A walking tour of Cornwall Bridge led by Cornwall town historian Dody Clarke. Meet in the parking lot of National Iron Bank. This program is free to the public.

Art in Cornwall

At the Souterrain Gallery, Susan Hellmann's exhibit "Simply Cornwall" continues through mid-November.

The Toll House Gallery at Ian Ingersoll's continues to show-case works by Lennart Swede Ahrstrom, Don Bracken, and Scott Yuckerman.

At the Cornwall Library, artist Harvey Offenhartz's show continues through October 20.

thon: Friday, October 13, starting at 1:15 P.M. at the intersection of Cream Hill and Cogswell roads. An annual fundraising event for Cornwall Consolidated School; parents, community members, and pets are welcome. Half the proceeds go to the Housatonic Valley Association and half to each class's eighth-

Little Guild 5K Run & Wag takes place on Saturday, October 14. Festivities begin at 10 A.M. and end at 3 P.M. (See details on insert.)

grade trip. For more information call 672-

6617. Rain date October 20.

Forum for the Town Plan of Conservation and Development: Friday, October 20, from 7 to 9 P.M. at CCS. The first opportunity for town residents to contribute ideas for the 2020 town plan. Refreshments will be served. See cornwallct.org for further information.

A Cornwall Conversation on our Healthcare will take place on Thursday, October 26, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the CCS Gathering Room. Refreshments will be served. (See insert.)

Home Heating Help: Many residents are eligible for the Connecticut Energy Assistance Program, designed to defray the high cost of home heating. If your household's income is less than \$34,366 for a household of one or \$44,941 for a household of two, (larger families can contact me for more info), please contact Jane Muir Sellery at Cornwall Social Services for more information: 672-2603 or cornwallsocialservices@gmail.com.



CORNWALL CHRONICLE cornwallchronicle.org

The *Chronicle* regrets the passing of editor and frequent contributor David Grossman.

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