the-box to off-the-planet. Among the more down-to-earth ideas was one floated by Annie Kosciusko and Nancy Calhoun to build a brand-new school on a different site while selling CCS "for two to three million as a senior facility, netting a far bigger bang for the buck." Even assuming such a sale (a huge assumption) one wonders about the political legs of a plan that would cost more than the one just defeated.

Others proposed a massive private fundraising campaign, and David Grossman pledged $1,000 contingent on reaching a total of $1 million. So far there have been no signs of even one of the thousand similar pledges needed to achieve the goal.

Despite the lack of response on the network to both ideas, the Board of Selectmen took them seriously enough to announce at its September 4 meeting that it would form and charge two study groups to investigate them. A third study group would consider a new plan or revise the old one at the existing site, probably with a more specific charge.

Most attention has been drawn to the site-study group, which would consist of some members of the old Building Committee along with several new people. Biffie Dahl Estabrook called a press conference (the first ever in Cornwall?) at which she asked that half this group be anti-project voters, and in-

**September 11, 2001**

September 11 was a day unlike any other in Cornwall. The national tragedy had immediate and lasting impact here. Overcome by disbelief and grief, many people stopped their daily activities and tried to understand the new grim reality. The sense of loss was acute due to the ties of family and friends in New York and Washington, as well as the clear and savage disregard for innocent human beings.

Now, less than two days after the attack, some signs of the change are beginning to appear here. A well-attended ecumenical prayer service was held. The local response to emergency supply and blood drives has been excellent. The Selectmen's Office is the town's clearinghouse for information about the relief efforts. Members of our fire department have volunteered to go to New York if needed. Bonds of family and friends have been reaffirmed. We stand united as Americans to work hard so that these tragedies are not repeated. Above all the victims remain in our prayers.

—Gordon Ridgway

**September 13, 2001**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bd. of Selectmen 7:30 P.M. Town Hall</td>
<td>Voter Registration 9 A.M.-11 P.M. Town Hall</td>
<td>Play Group Every Wednesday 10-11:30 A.M. St. Peter's Church</td>
<td>Aberdeen Ballots Now Available Town Clerk (p.4)</td>
<td>Library Book Sale 8:30 A.M.-4 P.M. Library (p.4)</td>
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<td>Park and Rec. 7:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Blue Mt. Suttsa Every Tuesday 6:30-9 P.M. UCC Day Room</td>
<td>Inland Wetlands 7:30 P.M. Town Office</td>
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<td>Agricultural Comm. 7:30 P.M. Town Hall</td>
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<td>Library Book Sale 9 A.M.-Noon Library (p.4)</td>
<td>Blood Pressure Screening 3-4 P.M. UCC Parish House</td>
<td>Hospital River Comm. 7:30 P.M. UCC Parish House</td>
<td>Voter Registration 1-5 P.M. Town Hall (p.4)</td>
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<td>Preschool-K Story Hour 10-11 A.M. Cornwall Library</td>
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<td>Horse Show Gunn Brook Farm (p.4)</td>
<td>Deadline: November Chronicle Copy</td>
<td>Bd. of Selectmen 4 A.M. Town Hall</td>
<td>Bd. of Education 5 P.M. CCS Library</td>
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<td>Preschool-K Story Hour 10-11 A.M. Cornwall Library</td>
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<td>Cornwall Conservation Trust Annual Meeting 3 P.M. Town Hall (p.4)</td>
<td>Region One Bd. of Ed. 7 P.M. HRRHS</td>
<td>60 Plus Wellness Screening 9:30 A.M.-4 P.M. UCC Parish House (p.4)</td>
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<td>2 ZBA 7:30 P.M. Town Hall*</td>
<td>Voter Registration 9 A.M.-6 P.M. Town Hall (p.4)</td>
<td>Green Party 7:30 P.M. Town Hall</td>
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<td>Preschool-K Story Hour 10-11 A.M. Cornwall Library</td>
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<td>DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS</td>
<td>Ursala McCafferty Reception &amp; Book Signing 2-4 P.M. Hughes Memorial Library (p.4)</td>
<td>Flu Shots 10 A.M.-Noon UCC Parish House (p.4)</td>
<td>HALLOWEEN Cornwall Vol. Fire Dept. 8 P.M. W.C. Firehouse</td>
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*Check with Zoning Office—672-4957

For additions and updating, visit www.cornwallct.org
A Challenge for Ridgway

Roger Kane, a retired civil engineer and Cornwall resident for 25 years, announced his candidacy for first selectman at a September news conference. Kane will offer the first challenge to Gordon Ridgway since 1995, when the incumbent defeated Ray Augustyn. Ridgway, a Democrat, is running for a sixth term.

Kane, an independent nominated on the Republican line, is a member of the original School Building Committee. He also serves on the Board of Assessments appeals and the Inland Wetlands Agency.

The challenger feels that Ridgway's long tenure may have reduced his enthusiasm. In a flyer mailed to the town, Kane ranked the first selectman's accessibility "as a key priority for the people of Cornwall." Kane promised to be available outside office hours as well as during the normal business day.

Kane's flyer highlights support for small business. Ridgway, who says he hasn't yet begun his campaign, points out that the Planning & Zoning Commission controls the fortunes of small businesses, and promises to work closely with P&Z. Cornwall, Ridgway says, already has among the most small businesses of any of the state's rural towns.

On the dominant town issue, Kane supports "the concept of school expansion." However, he realizes the need for "a downsized plan on the present site." Ridgway, looking ahead, says he is working toward a new plan that "satisfies school needs for fewer dollars." (See "CCS Project: Part 2", page 1.)

—Charles Osborne

A Blue Ribbon Fair

The Tenth Annual Agricultural Fair was blessed with superb weather and diligent work of the Agricultural Advisory Commission. Children spent the day in the hay maze. Everyone enjoyed the taste of just-prepared ice cream, maple sugar, butter, and cider.

Sixty-six people vied for ribbons. Top ribbon winners were Isaac Pollan, Kathleen Cain, and the gardener's guru, Hector Prud'homme, who won the most ribbons. Garden Produce had 50 entries. Baked Goods had two. Betsy Preston of West Cornwall won the $1,000 Cow Chip Raffle.

—Cilla Mauro

Good-bye to a Friend

Edward Pelletier

Welcome
Hope Aubrey Claire to Karolene and Clay Carlson
Kaitlyn Laurel to Yvonne and Martin Buckley

Land Transfers
Susan P. and Peter J. Bernard to Oscar Shamamian and Llewellyn H. Sinkler, house and land on Cream Hill Road for $372,500.
John J. Kaelin to Joseph Bowery, 3 acres on River Road for $5,250.

Scollpe to James C. Stearn, half interest in 23 acres on River Road for $13,000.
Benedetto Hayman and Gallucci Assoc. to Susan E. Reinhardt, 5.3 acres on Johnson Road for $40,000.
Dennis M. and Margaret Voutas Donegan to Elisabeth A. Mason and Paul H. Cohen, 216 Furnace Brook Road for $220,000.
Dennis M. and Margaret Voutas Donegan to Ian C. and Mary K. Elwell, 4.92 acres on Furnace Brook Road for $5,000.
Ceryl L. Cuddy to Frank H. Bailey, 1 acre and building at 11 Furnace Brook Road for $195,000.

"Civility, PLEASE!"

It certainly is a brand new medium—at least as a forum for town discussion, and in a town like Cornwall, still small, and still rural. Can anyone imagine a town meeting with three
Letters to the Chronicle

LET'S HEAR IT FOR CELL PHONES

I know that some people are concerned about possible health risks from cell phones erected in Cornwall. With the tragedy at the World Trade Center and the use of cell phones by so many people both from the hijacked planes and buried in the debris, it is hard to argue against their usefulness. I believe that properly placed towers, away from residences, should be encouraged rather than demonized. This part of the state suffers from many gaps in cell phone service and in the case of an accident on the road or other emergencies the lack of service can result in delayed assistance or none at all. It is sometimes also important to communicate for business or personal reasons. Cell phones have become important assets. —Paul H. Baren

TRAFFIC AND SPACE AT CCS

As school opened last month, the Board of Selectmen met with principal Peter Coope to discuss the issue of traffic at the school. Issues that had been addressed in the spring by placing an orange cone in Cream Hill Road to slow traffic, and marking out a crosswalk between the school and the cross-street parking area, had to be examined again in light of the referendum stopping expansion plans for the building. First Selectman Kiley suggested four immediate steps to deal with traffic concerns. A gate will be placed in the dirt parking area from the school to block through traffic from Route 128. A dedicated walkway will be created from the cross-street parking area all the way to the handicap parking area at the entrance to the school. A traffic monitor/crossing guard will be hired to work for a half hour both in the morning and the afternoon when children public school funds, John keystroked the word that is most unprintable in family journals. Later a repentant Miller banned himself from the Network for two weeks. (The moderators can warn first offenders, and ban repeaters for two weeks; three-strikers face a permanent ban.) Perhaps all the contention was to be expected. But what had the Network settled? Was it meant to settle anything? The moderators threw a meeting (with champagne) in August to celebrate their 100-strong membership, but scarcely anyone came. For now maybe the last words belong to Nora Prentice (“I am so confused”) and John Miller: “Will someone tell me what this is all about? I’ve read this three times and can’t figure it out yet.” For example, do “noraster” and “hendime” have to do with dominique lassere and who put up what and took something down at the fabulous and exclusive cream hill lake assn.? Who is “beefie” how does hendon feel about the tone of these strange messages? waiting for answers with my cats on warren hill." —Charles Osborne

Wanted: A Few Good Citizens

Currently there are 44 members of the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department, which sounds pretty good. But it isn’t good enough, according to CVFD President Steve Hedden. The bulk of the work—responding to fires and emergency medical calls—is handled by a much smaller group within the corps. That means 12 to 15 ambulance responses in a typical month, until the ski season, when the numbers doubles. Fire calls run anywhere from six to 18 per month, with the higher numbers coming when the often-clogged chimney flues are back in use and catching fire.

Why am I telling you all this? Because the CVFD needs new blood, dedicated men and women to join a precious and often under-appreciated organization. Volunteering in this case should not be done lightly. State-mandated training runs into many hours: 120 over six months for firefighters and 180 for the EMS. There are also monthly meetings and drills. Everyone carries a pager, which we’ve all heard go off on occasion at town meetings,
(continued from page 3)

or over breakfast at the Wandering Moose. No one joins the CVFD for the glory or the money. After all, it is a volunteer organization. However, there are a few benefits for members, such as the Gary Hepprich Scholarship Fund, which provides college tuition assistance for eligible members and their families. In addition, after five years in the department, the town provides $1,000 per year towards either a retirement fund or tax relief for each member. It’s Cornwall’s small way of saying “thank you.” So if you are interested in joining up, just talk to any member of the fire department. —John Miller

Events & Announcements

Art in Cornwall: On October 7, from 1 to 3 P.M., the Cornwall Library will be pleased to accept your ready-to-hang entries for the “Gala Exhibition and Competition for the Design of the New Addition to the Cornwall Consolidated School.” A jury of prominent citizens will award prizes on October 14 at 4 P.M. At the National Iron Bank, Danielle MAILER will exhibit her lyrical images in October. At the Cornwall Arts Collection, 7 Railroad Street, there will be a reception on October 7 from 5 to 7 P.M. to mark the opening of a show featuring work of local artists that will run through December.

Absentee Ballots for the November 6 town election are available beginning October 5 from the Town Clerk. Any elector who will be away for the November election: October 2, 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.; October 10, 1 to 5 P.M.; October 20, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.; October 23, 9 A.M. to 8 P.M. Call Jayne Ridgway, 672-0279.

Annual Park and Rec. Hay Ride will be on Sunday, October 7, from 2 to 3 P.M. Peter Russ and the Scoville brothers will be at CCS ready to take young and old up Cream Hill Road. Cider, doughnuts, and apples will be served after the ride.

Two Important Health Events: There will be a 60-Plus Wellness Screening on Tuesday, October 16, at the UCC Parish House, offering a wide range of tests including hearing, vision, electrocardiogram, urinalysis, Pap pelvic/ breast, prostate, and others. Suggested donation: $25. An appointment is necessary. Call Jill Gibbons, 672-2603.

On Tuesday, October 30, from 10 A.M. to noon at the Parish House, Torrington Area Health District representatives will offer flu and pneumonia vaccines. There is a nominal fee; no appointment is necessary.

Two Park and Rec. Halloween Events will be held at CCS on Saturday, October 27. The first, from 2 to 3 P.M., is a party for children, pre-school through fourth grade. There will be a costume parade, haunted house, games, and a craft table especially for pre-schoolers, with treats for all. Come in costume and join the fun! That evening, from 7 to 10 P.M., there will be a dance for fifth through eighth graders. Parent volunteers are needed for both events; call Deirdre Fischer, 672-1123.

Household Hazardous Waste collection day is Saturday, October 27, on which you can take your toxic and corrosive stuff to Torrington for disposal. You must pre-register and get directions by calling the Selectmen’s Office at 672-4699.

Friends of the Library Book Sale will be held Saturday, October 6, from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. and Sunday, October 7, from 9 A.M. to noon. On Saturday, from 8:30 to 9 A.M., early birds will be admitted for $10. On Sunday, browsers will be able to fill a bag with books for $3. Volunteers who would like to help sort or sell, please call Anne Baren at 672-6637.

Cornwall House Tour 2001: Six Cornwall homes will be open for touring on Saturday, October 6, from 11 A.M. to 4 P.M., for benefit of Prime Time House. Tickets are $25 for the tour and $50 for the tour and reception. For ticket and volunteer information, call Amy Cady at 672-0233. Horse Show: On Sunday, October 14, Gunn Brook Farm will hold its third annual Autumnfest Horse Show. Beginning at 9 A.M. the show is open to both spectators and participants and has a full schedule of events for every English and Western rider. Call Marianne Pirotta at 672-0203.

The Annual Town Meeting will feature an explanation of an unusual item, i.e., a property tax relief proposal that will be the first such program in any Connecticut town. Approval of the five-year capital spending plan will also be on the agenda of this important meeting. October 26 at 7:30 P.M., CCS gym.

Hughes Memorial Library will hold a reception and book signing October 28, 2 to 4 P.M., for former West Cornwall postmaster Ursula McCafferty, who has written a memoir titled Acorn Academy.

Masquerade Ball will be held for the benefit of the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department on November 3 from 8 P.M. to midnight. Costumes encouraged but not necessary. Music by Rock n Roll Heaven. $20 per couple, BYOB, adults only. Call 672-0042 for more information.

Forest Forensics: Tom Wessels, ecology professor and author of Reading the Forested Landscape, has long impressed New Englanders with his vivid photographs and intimate knowledge of the forest. Come to the Cornwall Conservation Trust’s Annual Meeting featuring Mr. Wessels’ talk and slide show. Sunday, October 14, 3 P.M. at Town Hall. Call Lib at 672-2407 for more information.

GOP Get-Together: The Republican Town Committee will hold a “candidates’ social” with refreshments, from 4 to 6 P.M., October 28, at the Wandering Moose.

How to Help

This month, please consider sending a donation to one of the following: American Red Cross, 430 17th St. NW, Washington, DC 20026; United Way of New York City, 2 Park Ave., New York, NY 10016; The New York Times 911 Neediest Fund, P.O. Box 5193, General Post Office, New York, NY 10001.

Registering to Vote: Registrars of Voters will hold sessions at the Town Hall on the following dates for anyone who wishes to register before the October 23 deadline for the November election: October 2, 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.; October 10, 1 to 5 P.M.; October 20, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.; October 23, 9 A.M. to 8 P.M. Call Jayne Ridgway, 672-0279.

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 6