

CORNWALL TOWN HALL NEWS

October 26, 2023



Hello Friends,

Exciting events are scheduled for our town in the near future including:

Tax Lien Sale

A tax lien sale will be held on October 27th, 2023, at 10:00am at the Cornwall Town Hall located at 24 Pine Street, Cornwall CT. for the following properties:

8 River Road South and 282 Kent Road

To review the Notice and FAQ visit: <https://cornwallct.org/2023/09/20/tax-lien-sale/>



The Cornwall Library will be having their 3rd Annual Carved Pumpkin Contest on Halloween Night!

Displays will be set up starting at noon and awards given out at 7:00pm

For more information visit: www.cornwalllibrary.com



Park & Recreation will be hosting Halloween in the Village this year. Dinner and a chili cookoff at Town Hall and Trick-or-Treating throughout the village. Stop down from 5-8pm to join in on the fun.

For more details please visit: www.cornwallparkrec.org



Special Town Meeting

Electors and citizens qualified to vote at Town Meetings of the Town of Cornwall are hereby notified and warned that a Special Town Meeting will be held on **Friday, November 3rd, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at Cornwall Consolidated School, 5 Cream Hill Rd, West Cornwall, CT 06796** for the following purpose:

- 1) Upon recommendation of the Board of Finance, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to spend up to \$500,000 to repair the retaining wall on River Road in West Cornwall at the bridge near Route 128. These funds will come from reserves in the Town's General Fund Account.

Election Day - November 7

Voting at Town Hall, 24 Pine Street from 6:00am - 8:00pm. Absentee Ballots are available with the Town Clerk. For more information contact Vera Dinneen, Town Clerk at 860-672-2709 or by email townclerk@cornwallct.gov

Election Day Lunch

UCC Parish House on Bolton Hill Road is hosting an Election Day Lunch on November 7th from 11:00am - 2:00pm. Stop on down for lunch - *all donations go to the Cornwall Food and Fuel Bank.*

Housing Updates

Meeting of the Cornwall Housing Task Force will be on Monday 10/30/2023 at 4:00pm via zoom. [Agenda and zoom link here.](#)



Congratulations to the Cornwall Housing Corporation for receiving grant funding for the Potter's Woods housing project. Also, Maggie Cooley was awarded a lifetime achievement award for housing work last week. Well Deserved! Many thanks Maggie!

Affordable housing advocates feted

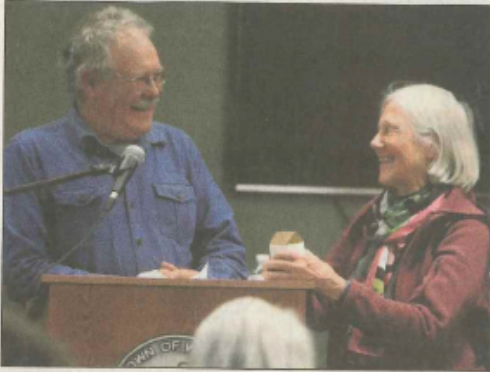
Warren event honors women from Cornwall and Salisbury

BY JOHN MCKENNA
REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN

WARREN — Two long-time advocates of affordable housing in their respective towns were recognized Monday by the Center for Housing Opportunity of Litchfield County.

The new organization headed by Jocelyn Ayer, a municipal planner who previously worked for Northwest Hills Council of Governments, honored Maggie Cooley of Cornwall and Mary Close Oppenheimer of Salisbury during its inaugural Litchfield County housing affordability summit at Warren Town Hall.

More than 100 elected officials, housing trust representatives, affordable housing advocates and interested county residents attended the summit to learn about



JOHN MCKENNA, REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN

Cornwall First Selectman Gordon M. Ridgway presents Cornwall Housing Corp. member Maggie Cooley with a lifetime achievement award Monday during the Litchfield County housing affordability summit at Warren Town Hall.

opportunities for grants and financing. State Housing Commissioner Selia Mosquera-Bruno was one of the featured speakers.

The evening was sponsored by the town of Warren and Warren Affordable Housing Corp., which is planning an eight-unit affordable housing community on land behind Town Hall.

Cooley serves on Cornwall Housing Corp. and has been invaluable in that town's effort to increase affordable housing, said First Selectman Gordon M. Ridgway, who presented Cooley with a lifetime achievement award on behalf of the Center for Housing Opportunity of Litchfield County.

See **SUMMIT**, Page 9A

SUMMIT: Advocates Cooley, Oppenheimer feted

Continued from 3A

"In a town where the average home price has increased to \$800,000, we are lucky to have someone like Maggie Cooley," Ridgway said. "We have a stock of affordable housing because we have Maggie on our side."

Cooley's knowledge of zoning regulations, construction and funding sources for affordable housing has aided Cornwall, Ridgway noted.

"She has made a difference in the lives of dozens of people in our town," he said.

Oppenheimer, who serves on the Salisbury Affordable Housing Commission, received a community engagement award from Ayer reflecting the many stories she has written for the Lakeville Journal documenting Salisbury residents and families who have benefited from affordable housing.



JOHN MCKENNA, REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN

Mary Close Oppenheimer of the Salisbury Affordable Housing Commission comments Monday after receiving a community engagement award during the Litchfield County housing affordability summit at Warren Town Hall.

Oppenheimer's more than 50 stories since 2015 also are published in a booklet printed by Salisbury Affordable Housing Commission. The stories,

Ayer said, serve as powerful tools that help the commission carry out its mission.

Other speakers at the summit included state Rep.

Michelle L. Cook, D-Torrington, who stressed a need to place more emphasis on affordable housing for senior citizens that would allow them to "age in place."

In a state where Ayer said 40% of residents live below a minimal survival budget, affordable housing is paramount, said state Rep. Maria Horn, D-Salisbury.

"Generations of people who have lived in Litchfield County and have served as volunteer firefighters and emergency medical technicians are being priced out," she said. "It's painful to see volunteers and other stewards of our land not being able to stay here."

Horn said Gov. Ned Lamont understands the issue and is committed to helping. The current two-year state budget, Ayer said, allocates \$800 million for affordable housing.

The Salisbury Forum

The highly requested recording of the recent Salisbury Forum from September is now available for viewing. Panelists of the forum included Jocelyn Ayer, Litchfield County Center for Housing Opportunity (LCCHO); Michael Polemis, Chair, Land Trust Alliance; and myself, Gordon Ridgway, First Selectman, Cornwall, CT.

[Here is a link to the recording.](#)



I hope to see you around town!

Sincerely,

Gordon M. Ridgway
1st Selectman

Jane Hall
Administrative Assistant



CONTACT US

email: selectmen@cornwallct.gov
phone: 860-672-4959

email: assistant@cornwallct.gov