

# CORNWALL TOWN HALL NEWS



JUNE 17, 2026

Hello, Summer Greetings!

We have arrived at a sublime time of year in Cornwall. There are plenty of activities, new and iconic, in store for the coming months.

A soggy Memorial Day will be made up for by a festive 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade featuring many Cornwall groups. We are delighted that Sam Waterston will deliver an address concerning the Declaration of Independence. Residents are asked to gather in front of Town Hall on Pine Street by 3pm to view the parade. Contact Parade Marshals Jane Hall or Kim Jackson or [click here](#) to become part of the parade!

A unique opportunity to participate in a picnic and colonial era dance is scheduled to be held at Foote Field pavilion on July 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. No experience is necessary for this fun event.



Cornwall Memorial Day - by Lazlo Gyorsok

A complete list of America 250 Summer activities can be found [here](#). My speech from Memorial Day is also included in this newsletter by request by [clicking here](#).



The Town was treated to an exciting reenactment of the Cornwall 1776 Militia on June 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. You can see more photos of the event by [clicking here](#).



Militia Encampment on Cornwall Town Green - by Lazlo Gyorsok

We experienced some severe thunderstorms last week and residents are warned that trees can easily come down during these events causing downed power lines and blocked roads. Residents are reminded to stay well away from downed powerlines as they may be live with hazardous electricity.

The Board of Selectmen has hired a new Highway Maintainer, Jason Davenport, to get our crew back to full strength. Welcome Jason!

Congratulations to our CCS and High School graduates!



## **AROUND THE TOWN**

Below are brief updates from various Town boards, departments, and organizations.

### **HAMMOND BEACH | JANE HALL, BEACH DIRECTOR**

Hammond Beach is opening on Saturday June 20th - new beach hours this season are 12pm-7pm daily. Beach passes are required and available for purchase in the First Selectman's office. [Swim lessons](#) and [Cornwall Swim Team](#) registration is now open. [Click here for more info about the beach.](#) Tuesday morning paddleboard/kayak sessions will start next week and Thursday morning sunrise yoga is coming soon - preregistration is required. Email [hbeach@cornwallct.gov](mailto:hbeach@cornwallct.gov) with any questions.

### **CORNWALL PARK & RECREATION | BETHANEY MASTROCOLA, DIRECTOR**

The Annual Town Picnic is on June 23<sup>rd</sup> at Hammond Beach! Bring your own picnic, enjoy the lake, and thank you to the Ag Commission for providing Ice Cream! We're looking for volunteers to help make our community events a success! If you'd like to get involved, we'd love to have you join us at [park.recreation@cornwallct.gov](mailto:park.recreation@cornwallct.gov). Mark your calendar for July Fest on Saturday, July 12, from 3:00-8:00 PM. We hope to see you there! [Click here for more details.](#)

### **LAND USE OFFICE | SPENCER MUSSELMAN, LAND USE ADMINISTRATOR**

[Click here for a note from the Land Use Office.](#)

### **TOWN CLERK OFFICE | KATHRYN LEE**

Don't forget to renew your dog tags this month with the Town Clerk. For any questions, reach out to [townclerk@cornwallct.gov](mailto:townclerk@cornwallct.gov) or 860-672-2709

### **CORNWALL BUILDING OFFICIAL | PETER RUSS**

With graduation parties, weddings and family gatherings, or other outdoor events taking place throughout the season, tents are often erected for temporary use. Before putting up a tent, please take a few minutes to contact the Building Department to determine whether a permit may be required. Depending on the size and intended use of the tent, Connecticut building and fire safety regulations may apply. A quick call can help ensure your event is safe, compliant and free of any unexpected issues. Contact 860-480-9154 or 860-672-0711 or [bldginspection@cornwallct.gov](mailto:bldginspection@cornwallct.gov)

### **CORNWALL CONSERVATION COMMISSION | HEIDI CUNNICK, CHAIR**

June marks the start of nature's summer fireworks: firefly season. There are around 2,000 species worldwide with ~170 in the United States and Canada. Fireflies, found on every continent except Antarctica, are also in global decline. We can support our firefly populations by turning off lights at night; using low to the ground lighting to minimize light throw; minimizing our use of lawn chemicals and pesticides; and keeping our gardens and woodlands full of native plants. Enjoy the light show!

### **CORNWALL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT | CHIEF WILL RUSS**

As summer grilling season heats up, we would like to remind residents to practice safe grilling by keeping grills a safe distance from structures, never leaving them unattended, and ensuring they are fully extinguished after use. With rising temperatures, it's also important to stay hydrated, take breaks in the shade, and watch for signs of heat-related illness. In the event of storms, always stay clear of downed power lines - assume they are live and dangerous, and report them immediately to emergency services.

### **CORNWALL LIBRARY | MARGARET HASKE, DIRECTOR**

Books & Blooms: Cornwall Garden Weekend is June 19 & 20.  
[Click here for more information.](#)

Sincerely,  
Gordon M. Ridgway  
1st Selectman

Jane Hall  
Administrative Assistant



**CONTACT US**

email: [selectmen@cornwallct.gov](mailto:selectmen@cornwallct.gov)  
phone: 860-672-4959

email: [assistant@cornwallct.gov](mailto:assistant@cornwallct.gov)

