



Our Vision: *CCCA is committed to a vibrant Cavendish/Proctorsville community that supports its human and natural resources, building a legacy of health, integrity and vitality for future generations.*

www.CavendishCCCA.org

Winter 2017 Volume No. 14, Issue No. 1



A pilot program encouraging homeowners in Cavendish and Proctorsville to invest in energy efficiency projects will kick off this January. “Weatherize Upper Valley” will connect homeowners with community volunteers and certified weatherization contractors to provide free, professional home energy assessments, proposals, and quotes. It aims to double the number of home energy projects completed in the Upper Valley each year. Cavendish is participating as a group with Windsor, Reading, and Weathersfield. You can read more on the program below.



A Message from Robin

Dear friends and neighbors –

This is yet another time of change! With new administrations both in the White House and here in Vermont there is a new approach to our stewardship of the environment.

Governor Scott has said he will support local agriculture “as stewards of our land” and he wants to “combat climate change and reduce our reliance on fossil fuels by supporting renewable energy”. But he also considers our “unpredictable environmental regulatory process” an obstacle for manufacturing businesses.

We also know that President Trump would like to create more jobs at home through incentives, less regulation and expedited access for developers and manufacturing businesses and that while he cares about the environment, there has to be a balance.

What this seems to mean is that we may have to sacrifice our environment to a certain extent, in order to give Americans factory jobs. This rings a familiar note, one that we have heard time and time again *jobs versus the environment*.

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The mission statement from Vermont’s Department of Conservation reads: ***Preserve, enhance, restore and conserve Vermont’s Natural Resources and protect human health for this and future generations.*** There are in fact environmentally rigorous standards in Vermont that new businesses must meet. No doubt this can be expensive and frustrating for developers, but there are reasons for these standards. They pertain to the safeguarding of our health, our children’s health, and of course, the overall health of our environment.

As we move forward into the year 2017, it is important for each of us to ask questions about what is really important to us. Ask ourselves what value we give to drinkable water and unpolluted soil and clean air. Ask ourselves how we calculate the long-term price of degrading our natural resources.

It is upon us to be the environmental stewards for our children and grandchildren and for their quality of life. If we consider it our responsibility to think and act for the good of the whole, we must look closely and study what in fact the possible impacts of any given project might be. Perhaps Governor Scott will be able to make our regulatory process more precise and organized without compromising its very important purpose.

There can be no question that we want more good jobs right here in America and in Vermont, and that some of those jobs should be skilled, well-paying manufacturing jobs, AND we want those jobs to meet standards that will keep our communities and environments healthy, now and in the future.

Robin Timko

Cavendish Community Fund Makes Four Grants in 2016

The programs that the Cavendish Community Fund supported this past year were representative of those supported in most years. We made four grants in 2016. The first paid tuition to the Grafton Nature Museum's children's program to help elementary school students explore the diversity of our natural world. Grants to the Nature Museum represent an ongoing relationship between the Fund and the Museum to enrich the lives and learning of Cavendish students.

The second grant provided seed money for the Cavendish Community Theatre project's holiday program for various readings, songs and skits to celebrate the holiday season. Our local TV station, LPCTV, recorded the program, so if you would like to watch it please click on this link, or type it into your browser:

<http://lpctv.org/cavendish-holiday-show>

Grants by the Fund to the Community Theater represent another continuing partnership to benefit the wider Cavendish community.

Support of STEM programming for students in grades 2 through 6 at the Cavendish Town Elementary School was the focus of the third grant, which purchased needed equipment.

Finally, the Fund helped the Cavendish Elementary School develop a 6th grade study unit on the life of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn. The study will use copies of the recently published biography of Solzhenitsyn to focus the students on large questions of freedom and justice, as well as local history of his life in Cavendish.

A few years ago the Community Fund asked for community help to establish an endowment to continue its work. With the community's Winter 2016; Page 3

generous support we created an account at the Vermont Community Foundation as an endowment fund. The goal remains to see that account grow, and for that the Fund needs your continuing assistance.

One way that you can help the Community Fund is to remember us as you consider your estate plans. Many non-profit organizations, especially at this time of year, urge you to consider planned giving as a way to accomplish your charitable giving goals. Please remember that the Cavendish Community Fund is one of those non-profits that can prosper with your help.

The Fund is open to applications for support at any time, although grants are usually made twice each year – in the spring and in the fall. You can find information on applying for a grant on the web at <http://www.cavendishceca.org> under the Community Fund tab.

Please call Barbara Dickey at 226-7187 or Peter LaBelle at 226-7250 for more information on any aspect of the Fund or for assistance in submitting an application. The Cavendish Community Fund is a committee of the Cavendish Community and Conservation association, a Section 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Gifts to the Community Fund are tax deductible.

Walk and Talk Series Resumes for 2017

The Cavendish Community and Conservation Association will co-sponsor a presentation called: "Animals of The North: What Will Global Climate Change Mean For Them?" on Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. along with the Grafton Nature Museum. Susan C. Morse of Keeping Track® will give the talk and a slide show at the Cavendish Elementary School, 573 Main Street in Proctorsville.



What Will Global Climate Change Mean for Them?

Sue Morse is the founder of Keeping Track®. She presented a well-attended program last spring at the school on the return of the Cougar to the East coast. Ms. Morse is highly regarded as an expert in natural history and one of the top wildlife trackers in North America. Since 1977 she has been monitoring wildlife with an emphasis on documenting the presence and habitat requirements of bobcat, black bear, Canada lynx and cougar. Keeping Track® is a non-profit organization founded in 1994 out of concern that development in all its forms often unwittingly harms, isolates and even eliminates habitat critical to local biodiversity and broad-scale ecological health.

Tickets are available at Crows Bakery on Depot Street in Proctorsville, at the Cavendish Fletcher Community Library, by mail or at the door. Donations suggested are \$5 for adults and \$2 for children. For more information please call Claire Walker at (802) 226-7259 or Robin Timko at (802) 226-7736.

This spring we will sponsor another Bird Walk as in past years, but no date has yet been set. Please check with our website and with the local newspapers and web calendars for an announcement.

If you have an idea for an Energy workshop topic or for a Walk and Talk event, please

contact Robin Timko at 226-7736. The Sustainability Committee of CCCA has been presenting these talks for over five years now and has many more ideas. But we need to hear from the community – that means you – about what you want to see and hear. Please call with your thoughts and with any suggestions, we welcome them all.

What's the Most Cost-Effective Thing You Can Do For Your Home?



In 2015 the Cavendish Energy Committee helped run a program called Solarize Upper Valley. A non-profit headquartered in White River Junction called Vital Communities coordinated the program and Cavendish joined Weathersfield, Reading and Windsor in the effort. Solarize doubled the number of homes in Cavendish that produced their own power from the sun.

Now the Energy Committee is engaging in a similar program to help residents weatherize their homes. Again coordinated by Vital Communities and again in partnership with Weathersfield, Reading and Windsor, the Energy Committee will work with residents to

identify the best projects to save energy dollars in their home. Many studies have shown that weatherizing a home is the most cost effective investment a homeowner can make. Dollar for dollar, paying for weatherization will save more money than investing in solar or other renewable energy, and provide a much faster payback.

Homeowners will receive a free home analysis from a weatherization professional (a savings of up to \$400) and can receive rebates from Efficiency Vermont, the state's Energy Saving utility, depending on what projects are undertaken. An added incentive to participate includes additional rebates from Vital Communities for a select number of homes.

The program kicks off on Saturday, January 28th at 10:00 a.m. in the Weathersfield School on Schoolhouse Road in Ascutney when contractors and Energy Committee members will discuss all of the things that weatherization can do to save you money and make your home more comfortable. Of course, you can always call a committee member for more information about Weatherize. Please call Peter LaBelle at (802) 226-7250, Dan Sullivan at (802) 226-7678 or Mary Ormrod at (802) 226-7783.

The Energy Committee is always looking for project ideas and welcomes anyone with an interest in alternative energy issues. If you would like to learn more, the committee meets on the second Wednesday of each month at noon in the Cavendish Town Office meeting room. Please stop by. For more information please call the committee chair, Peter LaBelle at 226-7250.

Keep Taking Photos for the 2018 Calendar



December 2017 selection "Patiently Waiting" taken on Davis Road by Cheryl Leiner.

There are still a few 2017 Cavendish Community Calendars left for sale, but now it is time to start thinking about what pictures you want to submit for the 2018 Calendar.

Each year CCCA sponsors a contest to find the twelve best photographs of Cavendish, its environment, and its peoples to grace the pages of the next year's calendar. In the spring contestants submit photos and a panel of local judges will choose the best twelve pictures for the calendar. Then the judges will award prizes to the best overall pictures.

Will your photo be printed next year? It will be, but only if you first submit it to the contest. For rules and the entry form please go to the CCCA website and look for the Calendar Contest Application under the Community Calendar tab. Entry forms will also be available at Crows Bakery on Depot St. in Proctorsville.

Photos can be submitted beginning May 1st and will be accepted until May 31st.

Join us as a Member of CCCA!

Dues are a nominal \$35 per year for full membership. In order to join CCCA, please fill out the information below and send with a check payable to Cavendish Community and Conservation Association to:

CCCA
P.O. Box 605
Cavendish, VT 05142

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____