

Westminster Gazette



po box 147 westminster vt 05158

Our Community Newspaper @ <http://westminster.govoffice.com>

Vol. 7, No. April 2011

6TH ANNUAL SPRING FLING

Featuring...

<i>Friesians of Majesty</i> Horse Demonstration	9:30 a.m.
Line Dancing with Dori-Ann	10:45 -11:45 a.m.
<i>The Amazing Bill</i> - Magician	12:00-12:45 p.m.
<i>Early Times Band</i> - Country & Rock Band	1:00-3:00 p.m.
Putney School Farm Petting Zoo	1:00-3:00 p.m.

Come and enjoy...

- ♦ Entertainment & live music throughout the day
- ♦ Baseball & Softball Tournaments
- ♦ Westminster Fire Dept. Display
- ♦ VT Kids Against Tobacco Booth
- ♦ Concession Stand – serving breakfast and lunch
- ♦ Youth Choirs
- ♦ Inflatable Rides
- ♦ Face Painting
- ♦ 4H Horse Demonstration
- ♦ NY Capital District VIP Corvette Club Display

Where and When: Kurn Hattin Homes
Westminster, Vermont
I-91, Exit 5 - Follow the signs
Saturday, May 7, 2011
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



A free will offering will be graciously accepted to benefit Kurn Hattin's National Fellowship of Child Care Executives (N.F.C.C.E.) Student Activity Fund (Youth Summit in D.C.)
For more information, call Tom Fahner at (802) 721-6918

Spotlight on Literacy at Westminster Schools

We take reading and writing seriously every day at the Westminster Schools, but during Literacy Month we celebrate!

The highlight of the month for all of us at school was Natalie Kinsey-Warnock's visit on March 22nd and 23rd. She met with the whole school community on Tuesday morning, giving us a rousing hour-long introduction to her books, her animal rescue activities, quilting, painting, story telling and writing. For the rest of that day and the next, Natalie met with groups of students for writing workshops. Sessions started with reading and conversation, and included – for ALL students, kindergarten through 6th grade – a chance to write. We wrote about our own favorite sights, smells, places; students imagined lives of people they met in photographs; 6th graders wrote variations of "Two Truths & a Lie," telling three things about a relative, only one of which was true – and more! In every workshop, Natalie related these writing activities to going home and writing down tales from your own family.

At Literacy Night, parents and relatives got a chance to meet our dynamic guest. Natalie told more stories, shared more art, and motivated everyone to start collecting family stories. Bagpipes concluded her session! Afterwards, visitors toured classrooms, checking out writing and reading projects, and dinner was provided as well.



Survey Data from Town Planning Survey 3/20/11 (from Westminster Planning Commission)

The Planning Commission thanks the 23 residents who have submitted their survey responses for the Town Plan Review of 2011. See details of the survey data to date on the Town website. Some interesting trends are listed below. Residents can submit their survey responses online or request a paper copy of the survey.

Twenty-three surveys submitted, 87% over 45 years old. Employed in Vermont but outside Westminster: 43%. Support both commercial and residential development: 65%. Quality of life is extremely important: 70%. Internet access and cell phone coverage is a problem: 65%. Recommend single-family homes: 90%. Multi-family homes not recommended: 52%; low/moderate income homes recommended: 63%; elderly housing recommended: 80%. Rental units not recommended: 61%. Light industry recommended: 77%. Heavy manufacturing not recommended: 65%. Tourism-related business recommended: 95%. Development Review Board should consider the impact of a development project on adjacent properties and the natural environment: 90%. Groundwater pollution is a problem: 60%. Destruction of natural/wildlife areas is a problem: 65%. Most feel that zoning ordinances are too restrictive. Bicycle lanes and sidewalks or walkways need improvement: 77%. Public transportation needs improvement 40%. Will support for public transportation increase with increase in gas prices? Access to natural gas not needed: 52%. Find more details of survey data to date on the Town website. Submit your survey responses soon!

Do You Like Cake?

Calling all bakers, artists, eaters or chefs: Westminster's annual Let Them Eat Cake event will be on Wednesday evening, April 13th. This evening celebrates and raises funds for arts programming at our schools.

There are so many ways you can be involved!

- **Make a cake** - Students and families, start right now imagining all your cake might be. Prize categories are: Funniest, Most Original, Healthiest, Biggest, Fanciest, Scariest, Smallest, Most Realistic, Most Colorful, Least Likely to be a Cake, or this year's special category, your Favorite Book. Winners will receive a hand-painted plate, designed by Vanessa Schoonover.
- **Pick up a quick supper** - Pizza and Salad, compliments of the school, will be served from 5:00 – 5:30.
- **Take in the entertainment** - From 5:30 – 6:30, stroll the Gallery Walk, listening to student musicians and checking out the phenomenal art show featuring work from all children. Play a variety of games in various classrooms.
- **Visit, view and buy cakes** - From 5:00 – 5:30, cake entries are dropped off and lined up in the halls; the cake auction starts at 6:30. Slices of cake and beverages are also sold during this time.



"Least Likely to Be a Cake" in preparation

**You are hereby notified that the Annual Meeting of the Village of Westminster, Vermont will be held at the Westminster Institute on Tuesday, April 5, 2011 at 7:15 in the evening.
Linda B. Fawcett, Clerk, Village of Westminster**



BRATTLEBORO SUBARU

**Home of
"Free
Oil Change
for Life"
Program**

Where Customer Satisfaction is our #1 Priority
WWW.BRATTLEBOROSUBARU.COM

Voted Best
New Car
Dealer!

1234 Putney Road, Brattleboro VT 05301

1-800-300-1910

March Mystery Picture

donated by the "National Society for the Preservation of Covered Bridges."

This is the Sabin Bridge, located on Route 121 just before Back Westminster Road. The bridge was replaced with the present cement bridge in 1940.



**WESTMINSTER
GAZETTE**

Editor: Peggy Porter
Board of Directors:
 Elizabeth Harlow -
 Chairwoman
 Ronnie Friedman
 Toby Young
 Cynthia Stoddard
**Pictures and Articles
 Provided by the
 Community**
 westminsternews@gmail.com

Connecticut River Transit is now...

The Current

Let The Current take you there!

We have a new look, but we're the same safe, reliable service you've come to depend on. When you call **The Current**, you'll get the same helpful, professional staff answering the phone. When you board **The Current** buses, the same professional drivers will take you where you need to go.



Why change the look?
 In a rural region, many residents don't know public transit exists! The goal of **The Current's** look is to make it difficult NOT to notice us. The more people notice public transit, the more they are likely to get out of their cars and onto a bus!

When you leave your car behind and ride **The Current**, you decrease your energy consumption, improve environmental quality, and save commuting costs. If you are unable to drive or don't have transportation, you can benefit by riding on our Dial-a-Ride and volunteer network.

We Provide the Ride... so please tell us how we can improve to make that happen for you. Thank you for riding Connecticut River Transit last year and **The Current** this year.

Bellows Falls - Brattleboro Commuter Schedule

Bellows Falls to Brattleboro										Brattleboro to Bellows Falls												
Time	121 Exit & Park & Ride	Time	121 Exit & Park & Ride																			
5:45	6:00	6:02	6:07	6:09	6:12	6:25	6:27	6:37	6:44	7:00	7:00	7:02	7:12	7:17	7:26	7:28	7:40	7:44	7:47	7:50	8:00	—
—	8:00	8:02	8:07	8:09	8:12	8:25	8:27	8:37	8:44	9:00	9:00	9:02	9:12	9:17	9:26	9:28	9:40	9:44	9:47	9:50	10:00	10:15
1:05	2:30	2:32	2:35	2:37	2:39	2:22	2:35	2:37	2:47	2:51	2:54	3:10	3:10	3:12	3:22	3:26	3:38	3:50	3:54	3:57	4:30	—
—	4:30	4:32	4:35	4:37	4:39	4:22	4:35	4:37	4:47	4:51	4:54	5:10	5:10	5:12	5:22	5:26	5:38	5:50	5:54	5:57	6:30	—

We show down days (page 4) — Bus does not stop at this time † Effective March 30, 2010

For More Information: Web: www.crrtransit.org
 Phone: 1-802-460-**RIDE** (74333)
 Toll Free: 1-888-869-6287
 Fax: 1-802-460-1004

Visit us at our new location: 706 Rockingham Road, Rockingham, Vermont 05101

We Provide the Ride!





Compass School
 Westminster, Vermont
 A RIGOROUS LEARNING
 COMMUNITY
 ENROLLING GRADES 7-12

Over 90% of graduates attend college
 For More Information Go To
www.compass-school.org

Motel Westminster

• Country Motel • Comfortable & Convenient •
 Tel. (802) 722-3073
 Wi-Fi available upon request
 Westminster, VT 05158
 Off I-91 Exit 5 • South on Rt. 5

Reasonable Rates

Yanmar Charlie Thomas

GENERAL TRUCK & EQUIPMENT

Sales • Service
 Just Off I-91 Exit 5
 Westminster Station, Vermont 05159
 Tel: 802-722-3100 Fax: 802-722-3600

Mahindra Tractors Terex Const. Equipment



**VERMONT HILLSIDE
LAWN SERVICES, INC.**
 802-463-9500
www.VermontHillside.com
 theguys@vermonthillside.com

Paul Lawrence
 Travis Lawrence
 PO Box 174
 Westminster, VT 05158

Lawn Maintenance
 Landscaping
 Plowing
 General Labor/Odd Jobs

TAKE YOUR WEEKEND OFF!

"Sam" Streeter L.L.C.

Licensed Electrician
 Box 206, Westminster, Vt. 05158
 Tel: (802) 722-3748

Cole Streeter Box 103
 (802) 722-3178 Westminster, VT 05158

**ADVERTISE IN THE
GAZETTE**

\$25 monthly business card ad
 on this page...

Increased per card size..
 \$125 for 6 months
 \$250 for 12 months

\$150 12 months (page 8)
 Business of the Month

\$10 Box Ad on Bottom Front
 on-line at:
<http://westminster.govoffice.com>
 Need Adobe Reader to open
 & high speed internet

Westminster Cares inc.

Community Nurse
Trudy Byington, R.N.
 P.O. Box 312 802-722-3607
 Westminster, VT 05158 wecares@sover.net

Fast & Easy Prescription Transfers
Just Call Us! 802-460-2634

NEW STORE HOURS



Greater Falls Pharmacy
 Family Owned & Operated ~ WE DELIVER!
 78 Atkinson Street • Bellows Falls, VT
 Toll Free: 877-450-3700 • www.gfprx.com

The Pharmacy is now open until 5 pm on Saturdays!
NEW HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 am - 5:30 pm/Sat. 9 am to 5 pm

ALL SEASONS TREE SERVICE
Eco-Friendly Plant Healthcare

Ask us about:

- Soft chemical and traditional sprays for insects and disease
- Deep root fertilization
- Reintroduction of mycorrhizal fungus
- Year round tree healthcare & maintenance
- Snow plowing and sanding



Also available:

- Pruning
- Stump Grinding
- Removal
- Cabling and Bracing
- Invasive Plant Management

Full Service
 Fully Insured

Kevin Shrader, Certified Arborist
 802-722-3008 802-376-4909
 PO Box 152 Westminster, VT
www.allseasonsvt.net



K. BEEBE, INC
 CABLE TOOL WELL DRILLING
 PUMP SERVICE
 Plumbing & Heating

Established 1946
 FULLY INSURED * ESTIMATES GIVEN
 CALL 463-3725
 51 SAXTONS RIVER ROAD*
 BELLOWS FALLS





KURN HATTIN CELEBRATES VOLUNTEERS

by Kim Fine

Westminster, VT - Kurn Hattin Homes held its Annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet on March 22 to honor the many people who volunteer at the Homes. The team of dedicated volunteers helps with school, sports, music and special events.

Every year, the Kurn Hattin volunteers are recognized at a special dinner in their honor. Hats off to all of you who volunteer at Kurn Hattin Homes. Bill Abbott, Laurie Alberts, Donna Aldrich, Shari Gladman Baker, Jerry L. Bardwell, Diane Bazin, Lisa & Jeff Bianconi, Carolyn Blake-Deyo, Bill & Barbara Brackett, Gary Carrier, Fran Cheslock, Darrel & Marianne Daley, Gordon Dansereau, Ed Dinnany, Tim & Brenda Eno, Tom & Donna Fahner, Carol Failla, Justin & Shannon Fuller, Charles Fuqua, Chris Goding, Jacky Goodrich, Elizabeth Hickin, Father Lance W. Harlow, John Hubbard, Charles P. Kelsey, Priscilla Kenny-Brand, Dean Kinville, John Korpela, Bill & Louise Luring, Reverend Sami Macrae, Anthony & Elizabeth Maiola, Jacky Mallory, Rick Manson, David J. Maysilles, Walter B. Menzel, Francese Mills, Sally Motzer, Sally Mundell, Joseph & Keri & Joseph Newton, George Nostrand, Michael J. Obuchowski, Sara & Ben Olson, Hugh Perkins, Mary Kay Pfadenhauer, Ann Reed Prager, Mrs. Frank J. Prindl, Jasmin Queen, Karen Rumrill, Tina Smith, Julie Smith, Susie Smith, Merton J. Snow, Annette Spaulding & Patrick Madden, Malcolm Streeter, Susan Tidlund, Vern & Roberta Violette, Trudy Walker, Barbara & Gary West, Ron & Pat Williams, Janet Wilson, Larry & Bette Wunderle and Tim Janis. We can't thank you all enough. Kurn Hattin is a year-round, non-profit, residential home and school for in-need and at-risk children, ages 6-15, from throughout the northeast.

Don't Forget

GREEN UP DAY

SAT. MAY 7TH

Pick up your bags
At the Town Hall

Or the

Westminster West
Library

**THE GAZETTE
GRATEFULLY
ACKNOWLEDGES
THE SUPPORT
OF ITS UNDERWRITERS:**

Kurn Hattin Homes
Westminster School District
Town of Westminster
Durand Automotive Group
Westminster Activities Commission
Sojourns Community Health Clinic
Westminster Cares
Westminster Fire & Rescue Association
The Current operated by the
Connecticut River Transit
Brattleboro Subaru

Wilson Schreiber is 2011 Engineer of the Year

Wilson Schreiber of Westminster, Vermont has been named Vermont Technical College's 2011 Student Engineer of the Year. He will graduate this spring with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electromechanical Engineering Technology.

"Vermont Tech's Engineer and Technician of the Year awards not only recognize the most outstanding students in their majors," said Dean of the College Mike Van Dyke, "but they also provide Vermont Tech with the opportunity to publicly commend these individuals for their achievements and excellence in academics, communication, character and leadership."

Schreiber was honored by the Governor at the annual Engineers' Week awards ceremony held in the Ceremonial Office of the State House in Montpelier, as well as at a banquet dinner held in Burlington in February. The dinner was part of a National Engineers' Week observance that brings together engineering students and practitioners from throughout the state.

Schreiber, who was awarded the college's Technician of the Year award in 2009, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honor Society of the Two Year College and Tau Alpha Pi, the National Honor Society of Engineering Technology. He is currently project manager for the NASA CubeSat Ground Control Electromechanical Senior Project. While pursuing his bachelor's degree, Schreiber also interned at DEKA Research and Development, catching the eye and interest of its founder, Dean Kamen, inventor of

12th ANNUAL Herricks Cove Wildlife Festival Sunday, May 1 from 10 to 4 Rain or Shine

The Festival kicks off with Don Clark's bird walk at 7 am and the events and exhibits start at 10.

This year, our main attraction will be a live wolf from Salem, N.Y. who has been here 3 times in the past. There will be 2 "bird on glove" programs from VINS and the Southern Vermont Natural History Museum featuring live hawks and owls. There will be creepy crawly critters and small animals as well as some exotic animals.

We will have a rain barrel workshop. The barrels catch water from your roof to use on your garden.

Stop for food, pick up some plants for Mother's Day, check out Smokey the bear and have the kids do 'let's go fishing' to round out the day.

For more information, call Alma Beals at 722-3355.

SEVCA holding series of Basic Computer Skills Workshops

The Economic Development Program at Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) will hold a series of computer classes during the months of April and May. Basic Computers If you fear technology is gaining, this workshop is for you. Topics covered include Basic Windows, the computer, e-mail, using the Internet, and troubleshooting. Tuesday, April 5th and Thursday April 7th 9:00 am to Noon, cost \$90 Word for Beginners as an Add-on for the Basic Computers Designed for people with little knowledge of Word. Learn how to create documents, set up margins and fonts, store documents, print documents, and do basic formatting of the documents. No experience is required except basic computer knowledge. Tuesday, April 12, 9:00 am to Noon, cost \$45 Excel for Business This is a comprehensive course that begins with navigating the basic spreadsheet; formatting cells, columns, and rows; and creating formulas. Intro to Excel Tuesday April 19 & Thursday April 21, 9:00 to Noon, \$90 Advanced Excel Tuesday April 26 & Thursday April 28, 9:00 to Noon, \$90 Creating your own business in QuickBooks This is a fast-paced 4-class session to learn how to use QuickBooks as a bookkeeping system. The course covers topics of basic design of the books, accounts receivable, accounts payable, banking, estimating, and inventory. Tuesdays and Thursdays, May 3, 5, 10 & 12, 8:00 am to noon, cost \$180 Creating Marketing Materials with Word Create your own business cards in minutes! Design your own marketing materials like fliers and brochures! This workshop will show you how to use the pre-designed templates or go a step further and design your own. Thursday, May 19, 9:00 am to noon, cost \$45 Creating Your Website with SharePoint This web site program is the next generation of FrontPage by Microsoft for use on PCs. This workshop will cover the basics of web design such as web site layout, page design, internal and external hyperlinks, and graphics, over the course of 2 classes. Requires a basic to advanced understanding of the computer. Tuesday, May 24 and Thursday, May 26, 9:00 am to noon, \$90 Outlook Explores the many basic functions available in Outlook such as: organizing emails, saving attachments, creating a custom signature, using the calendar functions to schedule meetings and tracking time commitments. Tuesday, May 31, 9:00 am to Noon, \$45 Classes will be held in the SEVCA computer lab located at 91 Buck Drive in Westminster. Space is limited. Pre-registration and prepayment are required. To register please call 722-4575 ext.151 Instructor - Debbe Dugan, M.Ed. has 15 years of teaching experience in helping others to demystify the computer, is active in local business groups, and designs many training programs to enable businesses to use technology wisely and efficiently.



Compass Spring Play Brings Laughter to the Institute

by Rick Gordon

Compass School thanks the Westminster Institute for hosting our recent school play, All Dressed Up. It was wonderful to perform at this "theatrical" space, with wonderful support from the community audiences that filled the hall.

All Dressed Up was a smashing success, bringing together some first ever actors along with more experienced thespians (many of whom will be starring in NEYT's My Fair Lady in mind April).

The play reflects many of the best qualities about Compass—building student confidence, feeling safe in the community, trying new things, presenting in public, and working to the highest standards of quality. With almost half the student body involved in the play, this was truly a team effort that involved students throughout the school.

Teachers Ron Bos-lun and Louise Hodsen deserve credit for directing this group of students and having the patience, wisdom and leadership to create this superb theatrical production.

Westminster students taking the stage included: Aja Selbach-Broad, Kaelen Selbach-Broad, Koby Gordon, Liam Kingston-Shaw, Brendan Kelly, Henry Weisel, Halifax Taylor, and Adam Sawyer. Helping with the set were Dylan Elliot, Gus Slater-Dixon, Emily Szuch, Isaac Gelineau, Isaiah Hopkins, and Wrath Kissell.

Thanks to all in Westminster who helped support Compass in this fine production.



BFUHS Spanish students teach language to elementary school students

by: Suzanne Groenewold

Spanish II students at the Bellows Falls Union High School shared their love for the Spanish language with second graders at Central Elementary School recently. The high school students played games with the kids, taught colors, body parts and other basic Spanish to approximately 35 second graders at Central. This collaboration allows high school students to utilize their language skills and interact with children in the elementary grades. Spanish II teacher, Julie Torres has been working with the second grade team and Technology Integrationist, Christina Smith to organize this activity. Second grade teacher, Terry Obuchowski said her students were very engaged in the learning and loved working with the high school students. The Central School is planning a Mexican Fiesta night later this spring where the children will show what they've



Sugaring Like the Old Days at Kurn Hattin

by Kim Fine

Westminster, VT – The Kurn Hattin students had a special sugaring experience this year. They had the farm staff build a replica of the boiling drum that was used here in the 1930s and spent the day tapping trees, collecting sap and boiling in the old style drum. Maple sugaring has been an annual activity at Kurn Hattin since its founding in 1894. The students will also continue sugaring at the sugar house as long as the weather holds out. Though they had hoped to make a gallon of syrup from the drum boiling, they were only able to yield two quarts. Every time they added the sap to the drum boiling, the sap would cool down the boiling and this made the process longer. The children learned so much from their participation in all the processes of sugar making and really enjoyed giving the old ways a try. Kurn Hattin Homes is a charitable, year-round home and school for in-need and at-risk children, ages 6-15, from throughout the Northeast.

Don't Wait Until Spring Blooms to Prune

by Beth Shrader

Westminster, VT - As spring approaches, our trees and landscape seem to come to life after the slumber of winter. Homeowners begin to turn their ambitions to improving their outdoor property. Pruning, the most common of all tree maintenance procedures, should be at the top of your list. Whether your trees are newly planted and young or towering and mature they provide a homeowner with a surprising amount of value to the property, a value that increases with the condition of the tree from roots to branches. All Seasons Tree Service Owner, Certified Arborist. Kevin Shrader offer a few tips to help you protect your investment with proper pruning techniques:

Why prune? Pruning is often necessary for the removal of dead, diseased, or insect-infested branches and to improve the overall tree structure, enhance vigor, or maintain safety. Every branch should be removed with a specific reason in mind, as the pruning process could affect the health and growth of the tree.

When should pruning take place? When it comes to removing safety hazards, such as dead, diseased, or weak limbs, the sooner you to attend to the issue, the better. These limbs can cause damage to structures and injury to people.

Trees experience the best tolerance if pruned just before the new spring flush. For this reason, pruning should be done before this time. After the new spring growth has begun, trees have a harder time compensating for the stress caused by pruning. Trees expend an enormous amount of energy to produce foliage and early shoot growth.

What are proper pruning techniques? Every cut made to a tree's branches will affect the growth and health of that tree. No cut should be made without a purpose. International Society Arboriculture suggests several specific types of pruning techniques that may be necessary to maintain the health, safety, and value of your trees:

- Cleaning removes the dead, dying, diseased, detached, and broken branches.
- Thinning is the selective removal of branches to increase light penetration and air movement through the crown.
- Raising removes the lower branches from a tree in order to provide clearance for buildings, vehicles, pedestrians, and vistas.
- Reduction reduces the height or spread of a tree by pruning back the leaders and branch terminals to the lateral branches that are large enough to assume the terminal roles (at least one third the diameter of the cut stem).

Deciding which type of pruning is appropriate can sometimes be difficult. A Certified Arborist is trained on all methods of pruning and can advise you on the suitable technique for your tree.

When should an arborist be hired? Pruning large trees can be dangerous. It usually involves working above the ground with special equipment or using a chain saw. To maintain safety, it is best to hire a Certified Arborist, who can also advise you on the type of pruning necessary to maintain the health and appearance of your tree. Contact All Seasons Tree Service at 376-4909 for an appointment. For more information on proper pruning methods visit www.treesaregood.org

WORK THAT SOIL!

by Babs Lynde, a Vermont Master Gardener

Vegetable gardens are a lot of work. Pushing seeds into the soil, picking weeds, getting rid of troublesome insects, making sure you don't pick your fruits and vegetables too soon or too late, and then there's the fall canning and freezing. Why would you want to create more work and prepare the garden soil beforehand? I know my grandparents would spend every spring looking for stones in the garden area, adding piles of last year's compost in with a spade, and hand picking out every weed that grew before planting the seeds. When I finally had my own place, and the room for a garden, my seeds were lucky if they got the rows furrowed! Well, it didn't take long for me to discover that although my grandmother's garden wasn't much bigger than my own, she was able to feed a family of nine from hers, while my garden wouldn't support one person, let alone three. Good soil will support good crops, so do yourself a favor, and do it right if you want good and bountiful food that you can call your own.

This year, most of us might have to wait a little longer than usual before preparing our veggie beds due to the enormous amount of snow we received this winter. Never prepare the soil while it's still wet or damp because it's more difficult to work with, plus the soil will clump and not fully absorb the nutrients laid out. Just as soon as the soil begins to feel dry and crumbly, remove any weeds growing in it by hand. Yes, hand weeding is very laborious, but no tool or machine is capable of removing as many of the weeds' roots as you can remove if you are careful and meticulous. Remember that every piece of root that you leave behind, no matter how small, will eventually grow to be another weed.

Now it's time to test the soil for any acid or alkaline imbalances, also called soil pH. Although many fruits and vegetables will grow in a wide spectrum, the goal behind having a veggie garden is to produce as much as your family needs for healthier meals, so knowing your soil's pH balance can help to produce thicker, stronger plants. Most seed packets will show the optimum pH as well as many other valuable growing tips on the back.

Pot Luck Supper
&
FREE Movie Night
Westminster Congregational
Church

Sat. April 9

6:00 PM

Come and bring a dish to share.

Enjoy a great musical

The King & I**Easter Scavenger Hunt**

Westminster Institute

Sat. April 16

10-11

Come join the fun –

Play games

Say Hi to Mr. Bunny

**Bellows Falls Farmers' Market
Wants You!**

The Bellows Falls Farmers' Market is currently accepting vendor applications for this year's market season. The Market will enter into its 8th season on Friday May 20th and continue every Friday through Oct 21st.

If you are interested please check out our website at bfarmersmarket.com, -market applications, rules, location and times can all be found there. Market Manager Mandy Walsh-Fischetti can also be reached at 802-376-5784 to answer questions.

The BFFM strives to provide a space where producers can have access to direct marketing opportunities and for consumers to have access to locally grown products.

The Bellows Falls Farmers' Market takes place at the Waypoint Center on Fridays from 4-7pm.

Basic Infra-red Training: SEVCA,

Vermont Green, Vermont Technical College, and the Office of Economic Opportunity are collaborating to offer the Snell Group's Basic Infra-Red Course at SEVCA's Main Office in Westminster, VT April 27-28, 2011. The Snell Group is internationally renowned, and has been offering Basic IR training to Weatherization companies for years. This advanced weatherization course is targeted for employees/crew leaders of builders and weatherization companies who already have experience with building science and insulation techniques and want to enhance their professional skills and/or prepare for BPI Certification. It also is appropriate for those with BPI Certification and need continuing education credits to retain their certification.

16 Continuing Education credits will be awarded for successful completion and the Snell Group will handle the paperwork for BPI.

If you are a homeowner and had icicles this winter, you'll want to have an energy audit by a professional trained with Infra-red techniques.

For further information, contact Guy Payne at SEVCA (802) 722-4575 ext 154 or email gpayne@sevca.org. Scholarship money is available.

Mid-April to early May is the time for adding or restoring much needed nutrients to your soil, and nothing adds a better balance of what your soil needs than your own home-grown compost. If you don't have a compost pile, then you can still find good quality compost at our local nurseries and farmers. We are very fortunate in our area to have nearby farms that can supply us with all the compost that our gardens need.

Wood ashes are also good for restoring calcium and potassium and some magnesium, plus the ash has the ability to neutralize soils that have too much acidity. Although it takes a lot of wood ash to substantially change the pH value of your soil, be careful not to add too much without testing the pH balance at least once after adding anything to your garden's soil. If you don't burn wood for heat in the winter months, or you neglected to properly store the left-over ash, then ask a friend or neighbor who also burns wood if they wouldn't mind sharing. Most people burn enough wood in the winter to supply ash for several small gardens.

Once you've added your nutritional layers to the soil, give your garden another few weeks to dry and absorb everything you've added. When it comes time to plant your seeds, the seedlings will have all the vitamins and minerals they need to be strong and healthy, and give you and your family the good food you deserve.

Would you like more information about preparing your vegetable gardens for spring? The Master Gardeners of Vermont are trained to help you with all your needs. Call their Helpline toll-free at 1-800-639-2230, send questions by email to master.gardener@uvm.edu or visit their website at <http://www.uvm.edu/mastergardener/> for extensive information.

Aged in Vermont

Westminister Cares, Inc.

HOW TO BEST PREPARE FOR AN EMERGENCY

By Joyce Lemire, Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont, Inc.

It is always helpful to try to plan for emergencies in advance. The Advisory Council of the Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont, Inc. has been meeting for quite some time to plan and implement a simple means to prepare for emergencies.

The Emergency Readiness for Older Adults and Caregivers Checklist, developed by the Administration on Aging, helps individuals to think about the risks they might face; a list of items they would need to survive in their homes until help arrives and a personal plan.

These checklists are available through the Council on Aging .

In addition, the Advisory Council has created an Emergency Preparedness Self Register. This one-page document outlines whether the individual requires oxygen or other equipment using power, has a vehicle or not, and other information that would be helpful for the local Emergency Preparedness Coordinator in each community to have. In case of emergencies, the coordinator would know which residents might be in need of special help. If someone completes personal information for this register, the only person to have access to this would be the Town's Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. Each town has assigned a person to be the coordinator.

The goal of the Council on Aging is to assist any individual who would like to plan ahead for some type of disaster or emergency. The information collected would not be accessible to staff at the agency but would be turned over to the particular town's Emergency Preparedness Coordinator.

The Advisory Council is made up of representatives from each town in Windham and Windsor counties. Some towns recommend the checklist, and others do not. To find out if your town does recommend the checklist, call your town office.

To receive a copy of the Checklist or the name of the Emergency Preparedness coordinator in your town please call the Senior Help Line at 1-800-642-5119.

"Old age ain't no place for sissies," Bette Davis said. Well, sissies or not, we're all headed for that place. And the better we know the geography, the easier it will be to navigate.

"Aged in Vermont" is a monthly article on aging issues, organized by Westminister Cares. We're asking local professionals and residents with an interest in these issues to write them.

The articles are not just reading material for the "aged." Young, old and middle-aged readers — anyone with an elderly parent, relative or friend, or who just wants to learn about these important issues that affect us all — is invited to take a look. Remember: "It's not how old you are; it's how you are old."

We address such topics as losing a pet, sleeping problems, supplements, advanced directives and creativity. We explore questions such as should I move to town? and decision making: whose life is this anyway? Ideas for future columns? Would you like to write one? We'd like to hear from you. Email Ronnie Friedman at wecares@sover.net.

WESTMINSTER CARES, INC.

The Westminister Cares, Inc. Board of Directors met on March 2, 2011. Westminister Cares creates opportunities for seniors and disabled adults to live with independence and dignity in the community. Your support to this care-giving organization is a way for all of us to take care of our friends. Services provided: Meals on Wheels – 16 people are receiving meals 5 days a week. Transportation: 8 rides for 4 different people by 4 volunteers for a total of 130 miles; Visiting – volunteers visiting three people; Nursing program – 5 hours; 11 visits to 4 different homes. Equipment loan – several pieces loaned including odds and ends of walkers and commodes. We have also received donations of many pieces of equipment. Legal assistance: A local volunteer lawyer is assisting a senior with her advanced directives. Meetings attended by the director in February: bookkeeper, Gazette, art program, garden tour, Guilford Cares [grant]. Programs in February: 1 Secrets of Healthy Aging session, 2 Yoga classes, 24 Strength Training classes held. The Artist in Each of Us classes have been postponed until spring. Because of the weather in February several classes were unable to meet.

Anyone interested in learning more about Westminister Cares, volunteering to deliver meals on wheels or driving neighbors to doctor appointments, working on a committee, making a contribution or attending a workshop may contact Ronnie Friedman at 722-3607 or by email at wecares@sover.net.

Equipment needed: Westminister Cares is in need of wheel chairs and walkers with seats and brakes. We get several calls for these items. If anyone has either of these in good condition we would love to have them to loan out. Or loan them to us.

Equipment available: Wheel chair, walkers, hospital bed, commodes, shower chairs, etc.

Memorial donations received for the month of March

From Paul Millman and Wendy Cross in memory of Hank Anderson
From Cathy Kurkul, Kathy Lockerby, Heidi Clough-Agoes and Jan Wilson in memory of Anna "Ginger" Bergeron
From Julia Szuch in memory of Bernie Golec
From Richard Brown in memory of Judy Brown
From Regena Cote in memory of Jerry LeFevre
From Ila Mitchell in memory of Jerry LeFevre
From Lori and Dick Miller in memory of Hank Anderson
From Dennis and Norah Payne in memory of Hank Anderson
From Dennis and Norah Payne in memory of Frank Walter
From Walt Jennison in memory of Jerry LeFevre
From Pauline Kissell in memory of Jerry LeFevre
From Betty and Hugh Haggerty in memory of Jerry LeFevre
From Joel and Arnice Long in memory of Jerry LeFevre
From Jean and Martin Collins in memory of Donald Precourt Sr.
From Anonymous in memory of Frank Walter, Fran Streeter and Hank Anderson
From Phyllis Anderson in honor of Trudy Byington, Westminister Cares' Nurse

Westminister Cares welcomes donations throughout the year from anyone wishing to memorialize a loved one or a friend. Send to:
Westminister Cares, PO Box 312, Westminister, VT 05158.

WESTMINSTER MYSTERY PHOTO



**Where was this bridge located?
What was it originally used for?**

You may email your answer to the westminsternews@gmail.com or wminster@comcast.net Phone: Babs Lynde at 802-722-9516
The answer and the winners will be announced in the next issue.

March Answer: On Page (2)

March Winners: Marty Collins, Dennis Thomson, Dan Green, Russell Allen and Artie Aiken.

If you have pictures you think would make a great mystery photo stop by the town office and see Babs Lynde. **We are in search of pictures.**

News from Westminister Volunteer Fire and Rescue

The Westminister Fire & Rescue Department holds their monthly meetings at 7:00 PM on the 1st Tuesday of every month and a combined drill on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. Rescue training is the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Next association meeting April 5th at 7:00 PM

The Prudential Committee meets twice a month on the first and third Monday after the first Tuesday at 7:00 PM

April meetings: April 11th & 25th

Number of calls in February: 41

Number of man hours spent: 18,705

Number of calls through March 29th: 33

Number of man hours spent: 11,692

Number of calls calendar year to Date: 112

Number of calls fiscal year to date: 320

Burn Permit Alert:

We have had an abundance of snow this year and doing an outside burn may seem to be permissible, but things can dry out very quickly in the spring especially if we have a lot of wind. Anyone wishing to do an outside burn must get verbal permission from one of the fire wardens before starting a fire. You must speak with one of the wardens. Leaving an answering machine message will not count as a permit. When calling for your permit, be sure to ask what materials are acceptable and which ones are unacceptable to burn. If the Fire Department is called to respond and the fire ends out being an illegal burn, the fire will be extinguished and a fine may be imposed. In case there is a complaint from someone about the fire, the fire department is available to investigate and extinguish the fire if necessary. All burn piles should be a least 100 feet from any building. Some of the items not allowed are: Trash, building material, anything with paint on it, cardboard,

The wardens are: Warden : Cole Streeter 722-3178

Deputy Warden: Mark Lund 463-9355

Deputy Warden: Pat Haas 387-5778

Mud Season: Although the worst of mud season is probably behind us, it is always a good idea to try and limit travel on muddy roads, giving them a chance to dry out. If using a muddy road in unavoidable, be sure to drive toward the center when possible. The shoulders are apt to very soft adding to the chances of getting stuck or tipping over.

Flooding: Because of the excessive amounts of snow this winter, dangers of high water and flooded cellars becomes an issue. Residents should check the workability of sump pumps and drains. Be sure to keep watch of the cellar for incoming water. Water in the cellar can be very dangerous, especially if it comes in contact with anything electrical. The Fire Department does not have the equipment to pump water that is less than 4 inches deep. Avoid driving through puddles on the road. Their depth could be deceiving. Watch the children around potentially deep water. And don't forget the pets.

Association Meeting: The Westminister Fire and Rescue Association met for their regular meeting March 1st with 24 members present and 8 members excused. Currently there are 41 members of the volunteer fire department. Candidates for Deputy Chief, captains and lieutenants must apply this month and be voted on in May. The association officers and trustees will be voted on at the annual meeting in June. Any member who would like to be considered for one of the association positions should come forward by the May meeting. All positions of officers and trustees are up for reelection in June. The officers are always elected for a one year term and the trustees have one person for each of the one, two and three year terms. The 2nd Sunday of each month has been designated as Studebaker restoration work day. Gradually, the old fire truck will get restored.

THANK YOU: Chief Streeter praised the members of the department for their good work and loyalty during another busy month. Turnout was strong despite the bad weather and challenging conditions.

The Westminister Fire & Rescue Association welcomes donations throughout the year from anyone wishing to remember a loved one or a friend.

We are always looking for new members: Anyone interested in volunteering their time to help the community in a time of need, please contact Chief Cole Streeter at 722-3178 or stop by the Firehouse any Sunday morning and pick up an application. We would like to have additional volunteers from the Westminister West area. There is a Fire House, an engine and a rescue vehicle located in Westminister West and more help is needed to utilize that equipment during calls.

As always, we would like to thank the community for its continued support of the fire department.

The Westminister Fire and Rescue Association operates independently from Westminister Fire District #3

WESTMINSTER HAPPENINGS

Activities

Scottish Country Dance

Classes

Every Wednesday @ 7:30pm in the Westminster Center School Gym. Bernard McGrath, instructor. All skill levels welcome. Contact Michael Daley for more information at 387-2601. No charge.

Putney Contra Dance

Last Saturday of every month at Pierce Hall on East Putney Falls Road, off Rt. 5 in East Putney. A beginners' workshop is taught at 8 pm, and the regular dance goes from 8:30 to 11:00 pm. A donation at the door will benefit the Pierce's Hall Building Fund. For more information, call (802) 387-5985.

Senior Lunch

Every 2nd Thursday of the month. @ 12:00 pm. All Westminster seniors are invited to attend. Join us at the First Congregational Church on Route 5

Bellows Falls GalleryWalk

Downtown @ 5:30pm every 3rd Friday of the Month.

Secrets of Healthy Aging

A facilitated discussion group and potluck. The 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each

month at the Westminster Fire Station at 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Call Westminster Cares at 722-3607 for more information

Contra Dance

Every 3rd Saturday of month at 7:30 pm @ The Town Hall in Walpole, NH.

Gentle Yoga

Every Monday at 10:00am @ The Westminster Institute: Call Westminster Cares @722-3607 for more information.

Living Strong Classes

Mondays & Thursdays @The First Congregational Church in Westminster 9:00 to 10:00 am

@The Westminster West Church 6:00 to 7:00 pm.

Call Westminster Cares for more Information: 722-3607.

Knitting Together

Every Wednesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Saxtons River Inn. For more information or if you would like to donate yarn please contact Caroline at (802)463-4653.

rience then a generation ago when these hurts and humiliation are now witnessed by a far larger, online adolescent audience." The MindOH Foundation states, "Cyberbullying is different from face-to-face bullying because the bully is removed from the immediate and tangible feedback of the victim. They don't "see" the harm they have caused or the consequences of their actions, which minimizes any feelings of remorse or empathy. This creates a situation where kids do and say things on the Internet that they would be much less likely to do in person." In 2004, just seven months after Ryan's death, the Vermont legislature passed house bill H.629 and enacted Act 117, an act relating to bullying prevention policies in Vermont schools. The story is tragic but important and timely given the recent events throughout the country surrounding bullying.

John Halligan, the father of a 13 year old Vermont boy who was bullied to the point of committing suicide, will be speaking to students at Bellows Falls Union High School and to Bellows Falls Middle School on Friday April 8th, 2011. Since the death of his son in 2003, Halligan has set out on a life's mission to visit as many schools as possible to share Ryan's story and the powerful healing messages of forgiveness and unconditional love. He tells the story of how bullying and cyber bullying were significant environmental factors that triggered Ryan's depression and eventual death. In an excerpt from the web site ryanpatrickhalligan.org, Halligan explains, "It's one thing to be bullied and humiliated in front of a few kids. It's one thing to feel rejection and have your heart crushed by a girl. But it has to be a totally different expe-

Westminster Volunteer Positions Available

The Westminster Selectboard is seeking persons to fill the following positions:

Planning Commission: 2 positions available

The planning Commission meets the second Monday of every month.

One Term is for 3 years, one term is for 4 years

Development Review Board: 2 positions available

The DRB meets the first Monday of every month.

One Term is for 3 years, one term is an Alternate position for a term of 1 year

Energy Coordinator: 1 year position

Friends of the Westminster West Town Hall: 1 position available

Term is for 1 year.

Recycling Committee: 1 position available

Term is for 1 year.

Conservation Committee: 3 positions available

This is a new Committee

One term is for 2 years and 2 terms are for 3 years.

If you are interested in applying for any of these positions, please write or email your response to Sonia Alexander, P.O. Box 147, Westminster VT 05158, or email westmin@sover.net

Faith Community

The First Congregational Church of Westminster

United Church of Christ

The Rev. Sami Jones McRae, Pastor

Main Street, Route 5, P.O. Box 122, Westminster, Vermont 05158, 802-722-4148

Sunday worship at 10:00 AM

Communion is the first Sunday of each month. Sunday School is held at 10:00 am from Sept to May. The church has a ramp and lift for wheelchair access as well as a handicapped bathroom. Westminster First Congregational is an Open and Affirming church, all are welcome.

Important Dates

April 3- Worship and communion 10:00 am

April 5- Woman's Fellowship - 12:00 noon

April 6 - Souper Wed -12 to 2 pm

April 9 - Movie night and potluck 6pm

April 10- Worship and Sunday School 10:00 am

April 12 - Souper Wed -12 to 2 pm

April 17 - Palm Sunday Service 10:00 am

April 20 - Souper Wed - 12 to 2 pm

April 21 - Maundy Thursday dinner, communion and prayer service 6:00 pm

April 22 - Good Friday Church open from noon to 3 for music and meditation

-Good Friday service 6:00 pm

April 24 -Sunrise service at Kurn Hattin 5:50 am - Followed by Breakfast at the church

-Easter service 10:00 am

April 27 - Last Souper Wed - Join in the fun cookout. 12 to 2 pm

Movie night ON THE BIG SCREEN - April 9, 6:00pm

Pot Luck dinner, bring a dish to share. The movie The King and I will follow. Come to just the movie about 6:30. Snacks and drinks will be available. Please join us for this great community event.

SOUPER Wednesdays!

Please join us for soup and bread every Wed through April from 12:00-2:00. Donations accepted but not required. Also the soup kitchen could use help putting up and taking down tables, chairs etc. and cleaning up afterwards.

Holy Week

Please join us for services on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Check the schedule above for times and details.

Mark your calendar

May 1 - Green up day at church after the 10:00 service.

May 14 - Roast Pork Supper 5-7

The Congregational Church of Westminster West (UCC Church)

Sunday Worship is at 10:00am. Holy Communion service is held on the first Sunday of every month. Prayer service is held on Thursdays, 12:30 to 12:50pm. Child care and Sunday School are available during worship hour. Choir meets most Sundays at 9:00am. Fully Wheelchair accessible.

Open and Affirming Susie Webster-Toleno, Minister
New Church Office Hours:

Susie Webster-Toleno will be at the church Monday 1-4pm and Thursday and Friday mornings until 12:30. Feel free to drop by, but it's a good idea to call if you really want to catch her, as she sometimes steps out to visit people in their homes or the hospital. She can be reached at the Church during her office hours at 387-2334, or a message may be left for her at home 254-4142 or by email ccww@sover.net

SEVCA Announces Free Financial Literacy Classes

WESTMINSTER – Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) has space available in their upcoming financial literacy workshop series. The eight part series will help participants discover how to use the money they have and take steps towards prosperity. Participants will learn to improve their relationship with money, increase cash flow and make wise planning choices for financial security. Other topics covered include; saving, spending, credit, paying for college, purchasing a home, insurance and retirement. Your credit report can be reviewed, and recommendations provided to take steps to build healthy credit or resolve credit issues. Financial coaching will help you and your family develop strong financial habits.

The 8-part workshop series is free and open to the public, and begins on Tuesday, April 12 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, to continue each Tuesday night (except May 17th) thru June 7. The classes will be held at SEVCA, 91 Buck Drive, Westminster, VT. Pre-registration is required. Please call to register at 802-722-4575, ext. 151, or email kperlberg@sevca.org

Meetings

Selectboard 2nd and 4th

Tuesdays at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall.

Planning and Development

Commission 2nd Monday at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall.

Westminster Activities

Commission

2nd Monday of the Month at 6:00 pm at the Westminster Institute.

Westminster School Board

1st and 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm at the Westminster Center School Library.

Windmill Hill Pinnacle

Association

3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm at the Westminster West Congregational Church

Westminster West Public Library

Board 2nd Monday at 7:00 pm at the Westminster West Public Library

Development Review Board 1st

Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. at the Town Hall

Community Improvement

Program Committee meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm.

Westminster Cares Board 1st

Wednesday of every month, at the Westminster Fire Station at 4:00 pm.

Westminster Institute Board 1st

Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm. at the Institute.

911 Committee as needed.

The Westminster Fire & Rescue

Dept holds their monthly meetings on the 1st Tuesday of every month, @ 7:00 pm and a combined drill on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at the Westminster Fire Station.

Westminster Historical Society

2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm at the Westminster Institute.

Westminster Gazette Meeting

Monday April 25th at 7:30 am. @Westminster Cares Office

Westminster Recycling

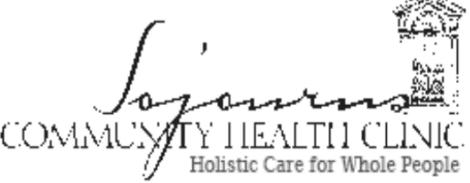
Committee

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Westminster Fire Station

The Deadline for The May 2011, Issue of the Westminster Gazette Wednesday, April 27th by 5:00 pm

*** Please note the deadline date has been changed to the last Wednesday of the month**

Volunteers Needed to deliver the Westminster Gazette to local designated drop off locations.



Have the Holidays got you Harried?
Sojourns offers a full range of Immune Support
(just in case Santa doesn't get sick days)
Give us a call to explore how we can help you stay healthy this winter

Our Bodies Are Ecosystems not Chemistry Sets™.
4923 US Route 5 • Westminster, VT
802-722-4023
www.sojourns.org
Insurance accepted for all billable services
Saturday appointments & gift certificates available

Primary Care

Holistic Medicine

Naturopathy

Acupuncture

Biological Medicine

Chiropractic

CranioSacral Therapy

Nutritional Counseling

Massage

Physical Therapy

Occupational Therapy

Immune Support

Apothecary



It is a pleasure to announce that **Scott Martin has been chosen the February Elk's Student of the Month for Bellows Falls Union High School.** Scott, a senior, is the son of Mamie Martin of Bellows Falls.

Scott is a great kid who works hard in his classes. He is mature, responsible and takes his education seriously. He continually challenges himself and reaches beyond his comfort zone to take classes that challenge him to better prepare himself for college. In class, Scott participates in discussions, offers good insights and puts in the time and effort needed to see success. Always positive and willing to help, Scott is a good role model both in and out of class. He accepts responsibility without complaint and is always looking for ways to help others.

Scott simply enjoys learning and enjoys school which is evident by his strong and consistent attendance record. Always here and ready work, Scott comes to class prepared and works hard.

Scott is not only dedicated to his academics but is dedicated to making BFUHS a better place as well. He has been very involved in student government all four years and currently serves as the Vice President of the BFUHS Student Council. He has served as manager of the Girls' Basketball team, a member of the Boys Tennis team, and an active member of the Drama Club and its numerous productions, including the current musical, Annie.

He is a well-rounded student who contributes in all areas of the school and community and BFUHS is proud to have him represent us with this award this month.

Congratulations, Scott.



It is a pleasure to announce that **Courtney Perry has been chosen the January Elks Student of the Month for Bellows Falls Union High School.** Courtney, a senior, is the daughter of Theresa Perry of Rockingham.

Courtney is an exceptional student who works hard. Currently taking 4 A.P. classes and a full schedule, Courtney is a stand-out student due to her work ethic, dedication, and attention to detail that she puts in every assignment. Courtney loves learning and always comes to class with a smile on her face and excited to learn. She puts forth her best effort on every assignment, and truly excels in the assignments that she turns in. Courtney is a strong academic student who works hard to better herself.

Courtney has an exceptional attitude towards learning, school and life in general. She always has a smile on her face and is positive. As an excited student, she is happy to be in school learning; she is fully invested in all aspects of the school community and takes pride in BFUHS and what it offers to students. Not only active in and dedicated to her academics, Courtney is active in the school in many aspects outside the classroom. Courtney is involved with sports as a member of the soccer and basketball teams, is involved in Drama Club performances, is an active participant in numerous music festivals through band and chorus, a member of the math team, and a member of the National Honor Society. She serves as an overall leader in the school and is a great role model to others.

Having spent last year abroad in India, Courtney grew not only as a student but as a person as well and was eager to bring back her experiences and share them with the community.

Courtney is a dedicated student who is willing to help others, both staff and students alike. She has worked hard to better not only herself, but the BFUHS Community and the school is proud to have her represent us with this award.

Congratulations, Courtney.



**BEST
ENERGY
SAVINGS
TECHNOLOGIES**



91 Buck Drive
Westminster, VT 05158
Phone: (802) 722-4575
Fax: (802) 722-4509

SERVING SOUTHEASTERN VT. &
THE LOCAL KEENE AREAS.

*Energy Improvements for New
Construction and Existing Homes.*

How Would You Like to:

- **Save on Heat Costs for the Long Term?**
- **Reduce Air Infiltration and Leakage?**
- **Increase Comfort Levels of Your Home?**

SERVICES OFFERED: Energy Auditing & Consulting, Blower Door Testing to insure indoor air quality, Infrared Camera Scan, Air-Sealing, insulation (dense pack and spray applied cellulose applications). It's never too late to make your home energy efficient. ***It's Your BEST bet.***

APRIL 18TH TAX DEADLINE IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

HAVE YOU FILED YOUR 2010 RETURN?
IF NOT WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU GET IT DONE

OR

IF YOU ARE NOT QUITE READY,
WE CAN FILE YOUR TAX EXTENSIONS FOR YOU.

REMEMBER

WE ARE HERE YEAR ROUND FOR ALL YOUR TAX
PLANNING AND PREPARATION NEEDS.

**CALL NOW TO MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT
(802)722-4500**

**Spaulding & Madden Tax Services
5111 US Route 5
Westminster Station, VT 05159**

Are you thinking of applying for an extension of time to file your tax return?

by Spaulding & Madden Tax Services

If you cannot file your tax return on time, you can receive an automatic six-month extension to file your 2010 return by filing a Form 4868 by April 15th with the IRS. This gives you until October 15th to file your return. You must file this application for extension or you may be subject to a late filing penalty.

It is important to remember that this application is only an extension to file your return. It is not an extension to pay your taxes.

If you expect to owe taxes, along with the extension application form, you must submit a payment based on a good faith estimate of your tax liability. You calculate this estimate using available information at the time of filing.

Although the extension will be allowed without a payment, you will be subject to interest and possible penalties for not sending one in with the application if you owe.

Military personnel on duty outside of the U.S. on April 15th, 2011 get an automatic two month extension to file their 2010 return. Form 4868 is not required. Again, interest on taxes due accrues from the regular due date of the return. Taxpayers who use this automatic extension must attach a statement to their return showing that they met the requirement. An additional 4 month extension is allowed by filing Form 4868 by June 15th.

Military personnel who are on duty in a combat zone, qualified hazardous duty area or contingency operation, have an automatic extension of 180 days for filing and paying tax.

WOOL Announces RADIOKE II Saturday, April 9 2011

Today, Black Sheep Radio confirmed the return of its popular Radioke series. Radioke is a live on-the-air karaoke competition that awards cash prizes to winners in a singing talent contest. Radioke is held at Black Sheep Radio headquarters, located at 33 Bridge Street in Bellows Falls.

Semi-finals proceed every other Saturday including April 9, April 23, May 7, and May 21. Each round brings 10 contestants to the air of which two will be selected to compete in the finals on June 4. The winner takes the big prize of \$500, second place wins \$150, and third place wins \$100.00. Contestants are scored by a panel of three judges based on pitch, accuracy of lyrics, and stage presence. Contestants are chosen on a first-come basis until ten have signed up.

Doors open at 7:30 PM for an hour of non-competitive karaoke singing. At 9:00 PM the airwaves open to contestants. There is a cash bar.

Music is provided and Radioke Host, John Michael "The Juice" Maciejewski presides over the auspicious affair with the dead-pan humor of the best of late-night TV. Admission is \$5.00 at the door only and all proceeds support operations at WOOL, Black Sheep Radio.

The extraordinary success of Radioke last fall demonstrated the wide array of talent in the Connecticut River Valley as well as the profound bravery of those less skilled in the musical arts. More than five hundred tickets were sold over the five broadcast episodes and untold numbers visited the website at www.wool.fm or listened on the air at 100.1FM.

HEIDI BERNIER, CBR
LICENSED VT & NH



**Berkley & Veller
Greenwood Country
Realtors**

Bus. 802-254-6400 x135 • Fax. 802-254-6403
Res. 802-869-2781 • Cell 802-380-1585
www.berkleyveller.com
heidi.bernier@berkleyveller.com
119 Western Avenue, Brattleboro, VT 05301
Offices: Brattleboro, VT • West Dover, VT • Walpole, N.H.



RUGGIERO

TRASH REMOVAL

802.869.2235

Box 434, Saxtons River Vermont 05154
Joe 802.384.0397
Jeff 603.209.4441

HARLOW
FARM STAND

CERTIFIED ORGANIC PRODUCE
FRESH CUT FLOWERS

P.O. BOX 266, ROUTE 5, WESTMINSTER, VT 05158
(802) 722-3515
(1/2 MILE NORTH OF EXIT 8, INTERSTATE 91)

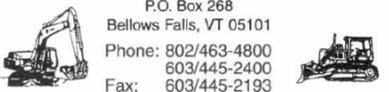
Ready for next winter?
Here's something to look forward to,
Winter CSA!
organic frozen vegetables and root crops, meats and winter greens and surprises! Contact the Harlow Farm to submit your name and suggestions to the wish list and then look for more information at the Farm Stand through the season

Your Ad Could be Here !

HODGKINS & SONS, INC.
Earth Movers

Commercial & Home Excavation
Septic Systems • Sand, Gravel & Loam

P.O. Box 268
Bellows Falls, VT 05101
Phone: 802/463-4800
803/445-2400
Fax: 803/445-2193



**April Business of the Month
Hodgkins & Sons, Inc.**

Hodgkins & Sons, Inc. is celebrating their 55th year in business this year. Hodgkins & Sons stems from a family business which has been serving our area and communities for three generations. Quality at a fair price has been our trademark with no job too small. The love of excavation shows with every job we do, and as our motto states:
"We Dig America"

**WESTMINSTER
AUTO** Ext 5, I-91
Rt. 5, Westminister

Vernon & Doreen Kelton
PO Box 94, Westminister Station, VT 05159
(802) 722-4722

Check us out on our website:
www.westminsterauto.com

S.B. & Company Auctioneers, Antiques

**SHARON
BOCCELLI
& COMPANY**

Buying entire estates, or single items.
Probate appraisals
46 Canal St. Bellows Falls Vt 802-460-1190

**ATTORNEY
ERIC ANDERSON**
Individual, Family
Business
Representation

Tel. 802.722.3249 or 802.257.4747
eanderson@archslaw.com
Glad to Make Housecalls.

Residential * Commercial
Bench Work

**LAWRENCE & LOBER
ELECTRIC**

154 Westminster St
Bellows Falls, VT 05101
Tel: 802-460-3479
Fax: 802-460-3480

**BEST SEPTIC
TANKS BEST TOILETS**

Jeff Ruggiero
Steven Goodell
802-463-9444
bestseptic@gmail.com

Serene Touch
flowing body and mind together here touch
Combining Reiki with Balancing

Diane Bazin 1.802.722.4295 dbazin@lbrucks.net

THE CHIMNEY DOCTOR
Ian Conway
Chimney & Stove Care
Cleaning, Repair, Installation & Relining
Authorized Dealer - Regency & Waterford
Wood & Gas Stoves

273 Eastbridge Rd., Putney, VT 05346
(802) 387-6037
chimdoc@saver.net

CSIA Cert. #1725
VT Labor & Industry Lic. #T4-24
Member National & Vermont Chimney Sweep Guild

**OVERCOMING
MATH ANXIETY**
A CONSULTING & TRAINING PROGRAM

SUSAN B. AUSLANDER, M.A.

Tutoring in Mathematics
Statistics & Computers
(All ages and Levels)

Diagnostic Evaluation
Remedial Instruction
Standardized Test Preparation
susanpiday@gmail.com

(914) 376-4537 • (802) 722-9200
Cell (914) 262-7423



Ham Jam Fundraiser for the BF Middle School Band

Are you ready for a Ham Jam? The Bellows Falls Middle School Band is hosting a Ham dinner at the Moose Family Center in Bellows Falls on Saturday, April 9th from 5-7pm. Members of the band will be serving up some musical entertainment and a full ham dinner including baked ham, potatoes, vegetables, rolls, drinks and desserts. Tickets may be purchased in advance from any BFMS Advanced Band member, or at the door for \$7 per person, or \$25 per family. Seniors are only \$5. The Ham Jam is sponsored by Band Friends of Music Students. Proceeds will benefit the BFMS band trips and activities. The band will also be performing their spring concert at the middle school on Wednesday, April 13 at 7pm.

Murder Mystery Dinner at BFUHS

Come one, come all to the Dramatic Performance Class' production of My Fatal Valentine. On Friday, April 8th at 6:00pm, the Bellows Falls Union High School cafeteria will be transformed into a dinner theater. Dinner will include salad and garlic bread, chicken parmesan, sparkling lemonade and strawberry shortcake for dessert.

Dramatic Performance students Chase Perkins, Scott Martin, Rachel Greenberg, Jordan Adams, Basil Ketchum, Drew Guild, Rachel Hollar, Bruce Wells, Ryan Hitchcock, Spencer Martin, and Allen Scott will perform in a story about a convention of romance writers where the contenders for the LoveKnot Book of the Year Award are anxious to find out who wins the prize. Editor Benton Fish tries to keep the award ceremonies civilized amid jealousies and rivalries. When the winner is announced and then abruptly murdered, it will be up to the amateur detectives in the audience to vote for who they think "dunit".

Tickets are \$15 and must be purchased in advance at BFUHS or by contacting any of the students involved. All proceeds will support the Dramatic Performance class/ English 10 trip to NYC, as well as the foods class.

*April showers
bring
May flowers*

OPEN MIC

Saturday April 16th

Westminster Institute

7:30 - 10

Coffee House

Come sit with neighbors and enjoy the music

Coffee, tea and desserts available.



Donations appreciated
Sponsored by the
Westminster Activities Commission

Westminster Gazette

TOWN OF WESTMINSTER
PO BOX 147
WESTMINSTER, VT 05158

Pre-Sorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Westminster, VT
PERMIT NO. 3

