

# Westminster Gazette



po box 147 westminster vt 05158

Our Community Newspaper @ www.westminstervt.org

Vol. 12, No. 12 December 2016

## WESTMINSTER CELEBRATES OLDER RESIDENTS



In photos, clockwise from top left, standing: Phyllis Anderson; Charlotte Kurkul; Frank Cuomo; Bob Gay; seated in front: Judith Berkley; Dot Perry; Artie Aiken. Above, the oldest and youngest residents of Westminster, and at bottom left, Bob Gay and Dot Perry. Photos by Lori Larue

Westminster Cares and town residents celebrated Westminster's 90-plus-year-old citizens during Westminster Cares' 28th Annual Meeting on Nov. 6 at the Westminster Fire House.

Westminster has 14 residents who are 90 years of age or older. Nine still live independently in the area and seven attended the event: Judith Berkley, Charlotte Kurkul, Frank Cuomo, Phyllis Anderson, Bob Gay, Dot Perry and Artie Aiken. Of the 14, one is 90, two are 91, two are 92, three are 93, three are 94, two are 95 and one, Artie Aiken, is 103.

Pete Harrison, vice president, and Don Dawson, board member, gave a video presentation featuring our honored guests. The presentation included photos of wedding days, houses, family members, college years, baby pictures and sever-

al others. Tine Biolsi brought her 4-week old daughter Abilene to the gathering and a picture was taken of the oldest member of the town, Artie 103, and Abilene. Abilene was born October 12th to Peter and Tine Biolsi and she shares her space with her 2-year old brother Watson.

Westminster Cares elected Lori Larue to its board of directors for a three year term. Lori had been serving the balance of Susan Harlow's term. Susan resigned earlier this year to run for the select board in Westminster. Also elected were vice president Pete Harrison, secretary Regina Borden and treasurer Miriam Lanata. All other board positions remain the same as last year. Other board members are Barbara Sherrod, Sally Ryea, Don Dawson, Heidi Anderson and Robin Lawrence.

Westminster Cares next board meeting is at 4:30 p.m., on Wednesday, Dec. 7 at the Westminster Institute. Everyone is invited to attend. Consider volunteering for this local organization, a nonprofit organization that works with seniors and disabled adults in Westminster, to help them remain healthy and independent in the community.

## CULTIVATING CHILDREN'S LITERACY IN WESTMINSTER

On Nov. 10, the children of Westminster were treated to a storytelling event by popular children's book author and illustrator Jim Arnosky.

This event was sponsored by the Children's Literacy Foundation (CLiF) through a grant won by the Westminster West Library with the help of the Community Education Support Committee of the Westminster Community School Board.

There were three events that day, one at the Westminster West School for the K/1 students, one at the library for the preschool aged children and local home school students, and one at the Westminster Center School for the grades 2 - 6. Eye witnesses reported the children were enchanted at each of the three locations!

Arnosky sang songs, drew pictures and told different stories to each group of children, appropriate to their ages. He has invented the wonderful character of Crinkleroot who takes children into nature and teaches them about birds, mammals, fish, tracking, how to care for our planet, and so much more.

The CLiF grant allowed the Westminster West Library to select \$2,000 worth of wonderful new books for the library's children's collection. The school library got \$500 worth of books divided between the West and Center Schools, and our



Artist, musician and storyteller Jim Arnosky performing in Westminster's schools.

community's preschool children each received two free books to take home - and there will be another exciting storytelling event in the spring!

Westminster West Public Library, in cooperation with the Westminster Community Schools, is delighted to be selected for this year's award. All persons, regardless of their place of residence, may obtain a library card at the Westminster West Library. Just come in and sign up at the front desk. There is no charge for this and we welcome all.

For more information, about this or future events, contact Lise Cavanaugh, Librarian, Westminster West Public Library at 387-4682.

## WESTMINSTER CARES LAUNCHES ANNUAL APPEAL

Westminster Cares' Annual Appeal has launched! Through the generosity of community members, the town, fundraising events and grants, we raise money each year to meet our budget requirements and pay for the services we provide to seniors and adults with disabilities in our community.

All of us are faced with rising costs and more demands on our resources each year, but Westminster Cares still depends on private donations for much of their budget. Funds generated from the appeal will support our healthy aging exercise programs and our services such as Meals-On-Wheels; equipment loans; rides to appointments; resource and referrals and the community nurse.

We hope you're able to contribute to this year's appeal and help us meet our challenge goal. No gift is too small and every gift is appreciated.

### CHRISTMAS LUMINARIAS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

On Christmas Eve at 9 a.m. please join us at the Westminster Fire Station to help set the bags of candles along Main Street, School Street and Grout Ave.

Christmas Eve at 3 p.m. please come out and help us light, just out in front of your house gets it all started. Christmas morning at 7 a.m. meet at the Westminster Fire station to pick up the bags.

This time of year is a joyous time, a time to celebrate with friends and neighbors, as our small country town comes to life with the glow of the luminarias, everyone comes to enjoy the beauty and serenity they offer on Christmas Eve.

It takes the effort of all of us to assemble, light and pick up, please bring your children and let them experience the joy a small town offers assembling the luminarias, with great conversation and laughter. Look forward to seeing old and new faces Any contributions are greatly appreciated and can be mailed to Diane Bazin, P.O. Box 12, Westminster, VT 05158.

*Diane Bazin and Chris Hackett*

### CHRISTMAS ON THE AIR

The Walpole players will present Christmas on the Air – a step back in time featuring highlights from the golden age of radio, radio plays, skits, carols, and gags – at the Walpole Town Hall Helen Miller Theater on Friday December 16 at 7 p.m., door at 6.

Bring dinner, snacks, beverages of choice, and friends. Tickets are \$10 each and all proceeds go to Our Place Drop in Center and the Fall Mountain Food Shelf. They are available at Galloway Real Estate and Joanie Joan's Bakery. Table Reservations may be made at Joanie Joan's Bakery on Westminster Street in Walpole.

For additional information call Ray Boas at (603) 756-4545.

### MYSTERY PHOTO ID

Last month's Mystery Photo was of the buildings and workers at the Gage Basket Factory in North Westminster pre-1920. There were no correct answers submitted.

### ADVERTISE IN THE GAZETTE! Note New Rates

Annual Rates:  
Pages 2-3  
approx. 2.5"x3"  
\$275 a year  
\$30 for one month

Pages 4-7  
approx. 3.5"x4"  
\$525 a year  
\$80 for one month

Page 8  
approx. 1.5"x2.5"  
\$175 a year  
No one time ads

Underwriting Support is a donation of at least \$300 annually and does not include advertising. Underwriters are listed in the box on page 6 each month.

On-line at:  
[www.westminstervt.org](http://www.westminstervt.org)

**Harlow Farm Winter Market**  
Open: December 16 – April 15  
Fridays & Saturdays 9-3

*Come shop for fresh organic produce all winter long!  
Hot coffee, tea, chai and soups,  
local breads and cheeses...*



WWW.HARLOWFARM.COM/WINTERMARKET  
Harlow Farm Stand - 6365 US-5, Westminster, VT 802-722-3515

**Matthew T. BRENNAN**  
GENERAL BUILDING CONTRACTOR LLC  
RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL

- ADDITIONS
- NEW HOMES
- SITE DEVELOPMENT
- RESTORATIONS
- KITCHEN & BATH
- PROJECT PLANNING

**802-869-2866**  
[www.mtbbuildingcontractor.com](http://www.mtbbuildingcontractor.com)

**WESTMINSTER ENERGY GROUP**  
A Division of  
WESTMINSTER FARMS

Top Soil Compost Dried Manure



Made in Vermont By Vermont Farmers And Vermont Cows

PO Box 24 4187 US Rt 5 Westminster Sta., VT 05159  
Phone/Fax: 802 722 4017 Email: [westfarms1@myfairpoint.net](mailto:westfarms1@myfairpoint.net)

**ALL SEASONS TREE SERVICE**

NOW OFFERING:

- TREE RISK ASSESSMENT
- BUCKET TRUCK SERVICES
- DEEP ROOT FERTILIZATION
- INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT
- PRUNING
- REMOVAL
- STUMP GRINDING
- CABLING
- INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL



KEVIN SHRADER, CERTIFIED ARBORIST  
802-376-4909 [allseasonsvt.net](http://allseasonsvt.net)  
Serving All of Windham County

FULL SERVICE  
FULLY INSURED



**Now Accepting Applications**

*Schedule a visit and come see for yourself!*

(802) 463-2517 or  
[admissions@compass-school.org](mailto:admissions@compass-school.org)

7892 US Route 5 • Westminster, VT • [www.compass-school.org](http://www.compass-school.org)



**BEST SEPTIC**

*It's Tough to Beat the BEST*

[www.bestsepticvt.net](http://www.bestsepticvt.net)  
[bestseptic@gmail.com](mailto:bestseptic@gmail.com)  
Fax: (802)-463-1527

All Septic Needs,  
Portable Toilets,  
Jetting and Camera Service.

Jeff & Lisa Ruggiero  
Owners

**(802)-463-9444**  
**BIG OR SMALL WE PUMP IT ALL!**

**VHLS**  
VERMONT HILLSIDE LAWN SERVICES, INC.

802-463-9500  
[www.VermontHillSide.com](http://www.VermontHillSide.com)  
[theyguys@vermonthillside.com](mailto:theyguys@vermonthillside.com)

Paul Lawrence  
Travis Lawrence  
PO Box 174  
Westminster, VT 05158

Lawn Maintenance  
Landscaping  
Plowing  
General Labor/Odd Jobs

**TAKE YOUR WEEKEND OFF!**

**WaterSoft**

**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



L. Raymond Massucco, Esq.  
90 Westminster Street  
Bellows Falls, VT 05101  
802.463.3303  
800.726.3203 - Toll Free  
[ray@massuccolaw.com](mailto:ray@massuccolaw.com)

General Practice,  
Estate Planning & Administration,  
Real Estate, Litigation in All Courts

## MRS. PRINDL TURNS 105!



Retired teacher Vivian Prindl volunteered at Kurn Hattin Homes for Children in Westminster, Vermont for over 20 years. Each year, she would come from her home in Hudson Falls, NY to read, spend time, and enjoy her birthday with the children. At her 105th birthday party the children sang her songs and gave her handmade cards. Mrs. Prindl brought a gift of her own, and donated her snare drum to the Music Department.

## WHAT'S UP AT THE TOWN HALL: NEW BUDGET, TOWN MEETING, MORE

**FY 18 Budget:** The Selectboard have been working on the FY 18 Budget. This budget will go into effect starting July 1, 2017 and goes through to June 30, 2018. It is extremely hard to predict a year and a half into the future, but this is the task at hand. Some of the outstanding items that will be debated this coming year will be employee raises, Lister training, Windham County Sheriff's new rate, Windham Solid Waste Management District increase, the third year of our three year contract with our trash hauler, and the new contract for our ambulance service. All of these items will have an impact on this new budget and will be considered thoroughly before approval.

**Town Meeting:** Town meeting will take place this year on March 4th, 2017. Please remember that your Town Report will be available for pick up at the Town Hall on or before February 22nd. We will keep you posted to this exact date. The process for a legal and complete Town Meeting is time consuming and is already in full swing. If you have comments or concerns about this year's meeting, please feel free to talk with the Selectboard, Town Manager, or the Town Clerk. Participation is very important to a successful Town Meeting. Please keep this date in mind and make every attempt to be there. You will be glad you did.

**Town Positions:** Keeping you updated on the progress of filling Town Committee vacancies. We have had no movement on the following positions that are still available. Please call the Town Hall if you are interested.

**Activities Committee; Two open seats** – Purpose is to identify the different recreational activities available to residents both in town and in surrounding areas, develop and maintain a list of such activities, conduct a program designed to inform residents of the recreational opportunities available to them, facilitate

## LIST OF SCHEDULED ANNUAL MEETINGS

**UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 27  
(BELLOWS FALLS UNION HIGH SCHOOL)  
ANNUAL MEETING**

**Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.  
in the BFUHS Auditorium**

**ANNUAL TOWN, FIRE DISTRICT #3 & SCHOOL MEETING**

**Saturday, March 4, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.  
in the BFUHS Auditorium**

**Town Meeting Day**

**Vote on Australian ballot articles Tuesday, March 7, 2017 from 8:00  
a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Westminster Institute**

## NEW MESSAGE PRACTICE OPENS

Westminster West resident Michael J. Daley recently began a new massage practice. His first day of business was at the Church Fair offering free chair massage demonstrations. He is happy to report that the curious who enjoyed five free minutes of his caring touch did not immediately jump up and move on, they paid for additional minutes of massage!

Daley does not currently have a studio but is available to travel to your home to provide a massage. Chair massage is his primary focus as it is well-suited to bringing immediate relief to people from stress or pain due to everyday tensions or work aches. The special chair is quickly set up, extremely comfortable, and allows a massage while fully clothed.

Typical sessions are from 25-20 minutes and focus on relief to back, arm, hand, and neck. Ideal after a day of desk work or too much physical labor or sports activity. Michael also offers full table massage and special massage devoted to hands or feet.

For more information visit [ww.massagebymichael.massageplanet.com](http://ww.massagebymichael.massageplanet.com).

coordination among various private and public organizations that provide recreational opportunities to residents, develop and present to the Selectboard for approval a three year recreation plan that provides for recreational opportunities to town residents of all ages and allows for funding of such opportunities. Committee meets on the second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Westminster Institute.

**Conservation Committee; Three open seats** – Acts as an advisory panel, but is empowered to conduct research and investigations, on behalf of the Town, into any matters that are pertinent to the goals and policies in the Town Plan that address Natural Resources, Water Resources, agricultural lands, conservation districts, and energy resources to the extent that energy resources and energy systems impact the natural environment.

**Planning Commission; One open seat** – Has broad authority to plan for the future needs of their community, which may be addressed in drafting and maintaining of the Town Plan, subdivision regulations, zoning bylaws/ordinances which are required to be reviewed and updated every five years, and identifying tools, regulatory and non-regulatory, to implement the Town Plan. Committee meets on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall.

**After Hour Appointments:** It has been brought to our attention that the public may have the need to make an appointment for either the Town Manager, Zoning Administer, or the Town Clerk after normal business hours. Both Alison Bigwood and Russell Hodgkins are willing to make these arrangements with you if needed. Please feel free to call us and we will set up your meeting.

As always, please feel free to call the Town Manager's Office regarding concerns, issues or comments.

## NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER CARES

Westminster Cares and town residents celebrated Westminster's 90-plus-year-old citizens during Westminster Cares' 28th Annual Meeting on Nov. 6 at the Westminster Fire House.

Westminster Cares elected Lori Larue to its board of directors for a three year term. Lori had been serving the balance of Susan Harlow's term. Susan resigned earlier this year to run for the select board in Westminster. Also elected were the following slate of officers for the coming year: Vice president Pete Harrison, secretary Regina Borden and treasurer Miriam Lanata. All other board positions remain the same as last year. Other board members are Barbara Sherrod, Lori Larue, Sally Ryea, Don Dawson, Heidi Anderson and Robin Lawrence.

Westminster Cares next board meeting is at 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 7 at the Westminster Institute. Everyone is invited to attend. Consider volunteering for this local organization, a nonprofit organization that works with seniors and disabled adults in Westminster, to help them remain healthy and independent in the community.

### **Honor and Memorial Donations received in November:**

In honor of Lee MacDuffie's birthday from Judy and Pete Harrison  
In memory of our son, Mitch, from Marjory and Russell Allen  
In memory of loved ones from Kathy Shuster

### **In memory of Connie Sanderson from:**

Sharon Boccelli and Ingrid Sell  
Lorie Larue  
Phyllis Anderson  
Miriam and Larry Lanata  
Susan J. Harlow  
Brad and Beverly Dunbar  
David and Claudia Allbee

### **In memory of Richard Friedman from:**

Brad and Beverly Dunbar  
Sharon Boccelli and Ingrid Sell  
Lori Larue  
Phyllis Anderson

### **In memory of Joan Smidutz from:**

Paul Millman and Wendy Cross  
Ellen Jones  
Lori Larue  
Polly Kissell  
Tony, Jay & the Woodstone Co. employees

## NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE

The Westminster Fire & Rescue Department holds their monthly meetings at 7 p.m. on the first Tuesday of every month and a combined drill on the third Tuesday of every month. Rescue training is the second Tuesday of the month. Next association meeting Dec. 6 at 7 p.m.

The Prudential Committee meets twice a month on the first and third Monday after the first Tuesday at 7 p.m. A warning will be posted 48 hours prior to each meeting.

Number of calls in October : 38

Number of calls through Nov. 29: 25

Number of calls calendar year to Date: 399

Number of calls fiscal year to date: 166

**Association Meeting:** The Westminster Fire and Rescue Association met for their regular meeting Nov. 1 with President Greg Holton presiding. There were 22 members present and 8 members excused. Currently there are 41 members of the volunteer fire department. Melissa Green was welcomed as a full member after successfully completing the required six month probation period. Caleb Rounds was also welcomed as a full member having turned 18 and Jacob Louison returned after a leave of absence. A motion was made and approved to purchase a 10x19 American flag for the Tower. It was noted that \$2,000 has been received in memory of Albie Lober. Chief Streeter thanked everyone who was available to help during the fire prevention day October 6th.

**Hot coals and ashes:** When removing hot coals and ashes from a wood stove or fireplace, first put them in a covered metal container. Then put them outside away from the house or other buildings. Several homes are lost each year when hot ashes are left in a container on a wood floor porch or deck or left too close to a building that a spark could reach. Also, be careful not to spread them in an area where there is dry leaves or dry grass that may ignite very quickly.

**Extension cord safety:** Extension cords are meant for temporary use only. Overloading an extension cord or leaving one connected for too long could cause them to overheat and start a fire.

**Christmas Trees:** Be sure to keep your Christmas tree watered so it won't become dry and be a fire hazard. Always keep the tree away from open fires and heating appliances.

**Thin Ice:** Be careful when using ponds and lakes for skating. The ice will be very thin at first and unsafe for skating or walking. Be very sure of the thickness before venturing out. Inform and educate your children often about the dangers. Be on the lookout for slippery walking in general. Injuries from falling can take a long time to heal, especially for the elderly.

**Preparing vehicles for winter:** In order to be ready for driving during snowy conditions, four snow tires are the best and securest way to go, even if you car is not 4-wheel drive. Extra washer fluid, a full tank of gas in case you get held up or stranded, a small shovel and a flashlight are some of the ideas for prepared-

ness. Having a clean windshield will enhance visibility when driving day and night. This time of year the sun during morning and evening commutes is at such an angle that it can easily blind the driver momentarily and having a clean windshield will help.

**Lifeline:** The holidays are upon us and it is a time when many people travel. If you have a Lifeline or a Lifeline type system in your home, it is a good idea to contact the provider to let them know if you are going to be away from home. There should be a telephone number listed for contacting them. If there is an accidental trip of the alarm, the provider will know if the residence is unoccupied or not. This will save the responding agencies from going out for a false alarm.

**Luminaries:** The Fire House will be made available again this year for the annual Christmas Eve luminary display preparations. Many local volunteers gather at the Fire House to put the sand and candles in bags and set them out on Rt. 5, Grout Ave. and School St. Friday the 23rd. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate this year. The display attracts the attention of many people both locally and out of town. A huge thanks in advance goes out those who are involved with the set up and clean up. This is a very special occasion for Westminster and many look forward to it.

**Piling wood:** When piling wood outside, covering the top of the pile is a good thing to do, but never cover the sides. The wood will go bad before it gets dry from lack of air.

**Thanks:** A big thank you goes out to Dan Green for buffing and waxing the floors in the meeting room. Also thanks to Greg Holton who organized the project and helped Dan and George James for his help. .

The Westminster Fire & Rescue Association welcomes donations throughout the year from anyone wishing to remember a loved one or a friend. At the October meeting, the members voted to have all memorial donations go to the scholarship fund to be given to a Bellows Falls High School graduating senior.

Donation in November:

In memory of Albie Lober from Pete and Judy Harrison

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 Westminster West area. There is a Fire House, an engine and a rescue vehicle located in Westminster West and more help is always welcome to utilize that equipment during calls.

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

Check us out on our Web site [www.westminsterfireandrescue.org](http://www.westminsterfireandrescue.org)

The Westminster Fire and Rescue Association, Inc. operates independently from Westminster Fire District #3.

## Houseplants In Winter

by Alma Beals, Vermont Master Gardener and Naturalist

Houseplants in the winter mean as much to me as outdoor plants do in the summer. You have to devote a little effort growing them but it is worthwhile for many of us who need greenery and light.

During the summer, my plants live happily in my gazebo. In September they all come back inside to crowd every flat surface on or near the east and south windows. A few are on the west side.

One cool window on the west side is in my bedroom that is not heated and the door is kept closed to keep my cat out (allergies, mine not hers). This window is perfect for my Christmas Cactus to set up buds. In October the plant goes onto the windowsill. Then ignore it. It needs regular daylight, little or no artificial light, cool temperature and little water. By Christmas, it will be ready to blossom.

Not only do we enjoy plants but they clean the air. In 1989, NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) led a study of air-filtering plants for clean air in space stations. This study led to applying the same principles to combat toxins like formaldehyde in houses. Dracenas, Philodendrons, Rubber Plants, Peace Lilies, Boston Ferns and many other plants clean the air by absorbing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen.

When you purchase a plant or are given one, keep it by itself for two or three weeks to make sure the plant is healthy before you add it to your other plants. For my own enjoyment and to watch for insects when purchasing plants for gifts, I buy them a few days ahead. This isn't a good idea if you have kids, cats or dogs that might knock them over.

I don't bother with plants that are fussy. A couple plants that are almost impossible to kill are Spider Plants and Sansevierias, also known as Mother-in-law tongue and Snake Plants. Both are happier in indirect light. Spiders like a lot of water. Don't make the mistake of putting a Spider in a favorite container that has a small top and large bottom because their roots are fleshy and will be almost impossible to get out of the container when they grow too large. Spiders send out stems with babies that can be broken off and put in water and ignored until their roots grow and then they can be planted.

Begonias are another favorite and there are many different ones from small to large. My favorite that I have had for years and that I don't fuss with has large leaves and is a fast grower. By the end of winter, it reaches the ceiling. I cut it back to about a foot high when it goes into the gazebo for the summer. I put what I've cut off into water, again ignoring them. Later on, plant them in dirt.

African Violets are another favorite. For many years, I couldn't grow them until I realized I was overwatering them. They are happy with a little light or



artificial light but no strong sunlight and will blossom almost continually. When I water them, I set them in a dish of warm water for about 15 minutes. Then take them out. Do not let them sit in water. Mine get watered only every couple weeks. If they get too dry, the leaves will start to wilt which is better than overwatering.

I've already started what I do every winter. I purchase a new plant about every week. Being inside more than usual, I start noticing bare spots that I think need plants. Although many of my plants are fairly large, most of my winter purchases will be small so I can watch them grow. To my thinking, there is no such thing as too many plants.

# Aged in Vermont

Westminster Cares, Inc.

## SPENDING TIME WITH A PERSON WHO HAS DEMENTIA

*This 60 Plus column was written by Janis Hall and originally appeared in the Rutland Herald.*

My grandmother had Alzheimer's disease for many years. Conversation became difficult as the disease grew worse, so I wanted to find activities that we could enjoy together.

Later I visited the home of a new friend, and was introduced to two men relaxing on her porch. They were her husband, who has dementia, and a caregiver who helps out sometimes. "We're cloud-watching," they explained. "See, there's one that looks like a turtle."

How wonderful, I thought. Not only is it pleasant and stress-reducing to watch puffy clouds sail by on a summer day, but it's a way to share and talk in the moment. No matter that he can't recall names and sometimes doesn't recognize his relatives. It's an inclusive activity that a person with Alzheimer's or other dementia can enjoy. And the caregiver or friend may enjoy it with them.

But what if it's not a puffy-white-cloud sort of day? Well, how about blowing bubbles or feeding the birds and watching them?

Below are more ideas for inclusive activities that a person with dementia and their family, friends, or other caregivers might enjoy together. The ideas should be adapted according to whether the dementia is mild or severe. Some of these suggestions came from the Alzheimer's Association [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org).

**Music.** Listening to music that they recognize and love can be surprisingly therapeutic for people with dementia. A recent film, "Alive Inside," illustrates the possibilities. If the elder or caregiver feels like moving to the music, clapping, or drumming, so much the better.

**Nature.** Trees, fields, flowers and birds are soothing for many of us. Go out for a walk or wheelchair stroll, or pick blueberries, or rake some leaves together. If walking is difficult, go for a drive on back roads. Park beside a river or lake with the windows down. Feed the ducks. Or bring nature indoors: Arrange flowers or make decorations with autumn leaves or pinecones.

**Animals.** Spending time with a pet can lower stress and improve some measures of health. If there are no pets in the family, a visit to a petting farm could be a wonderful tonic for some elders. There are also organizations that provide therapeutic interactions with animals. Perhaps the most well-known of these is Pet Partners.

**Food.** Perhaps you and the elder would enjoy a picnic lunch. Simple tasks in the kitchen may also be rewarding for the person with dementia. Can they make peanut butter sandwiches for the picnic? Try something fun and easy: make popcorn, or decorate cookies with icing. (If you're short on time, just buy cookies and icing at the store. This should be low-stress for the caregiver, so don't try to be an overachiever.)

You may be able to think of other activities. Just keep in mind the lifelong interests and skills of the person with dementia as well as their abilities and preferences in current daily life.

Everyone is different. For example, some sports lovers with dementia will still enjoy watching a game, but others may be put off by the noise and action. A person who played the piano for years may still be able to play some easy songs.

Familiar games may fit the bill: dominoes, horseshoes, jigsaw puzzles, Jenga or hangman, for example.

Enjoying life doesn't have to be elaborate or expensive. Sometimes it's the little things, especially when you're with someone who is ill. Just slowing down and doing something playful or relaxing is good for everyone's well-being.

*60 Plus is a collaboration between Senior Solutions of southeastern Vermont and the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging.*

## ADVANCED DIRECTIVE CLASS FOR SENIORS

Westminster Cares will be hosting an Advanced Directives workshop in early winter. If you are interested in attending either of these, please call the office to reserve a space; 722-3607.

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

There will be a Christmas Eve Service on Saturday, Dec. 24 at 5:30 p.m. at 1st Congregational Church of Westminster. Includes music, carols and of course the Christmas story. Weather permitting we will end the service outside in front of church among the luminaria with a candle-lit carol sing. There will be no worship on Sunday, Dec. 25; please enjoy your family time!

Souper Wednesday returns on Jan. 4. There will be three choices of soup including a vegetarian choice and bread will be available. Donations are appreciated but not required. This is a time for everyone and anyone to come and visit and have a warm meal.

## LOCAL BASKETBALL HOOP SHOOT

The Bellows Falls Elks Lodge #1619 will again sponsor their annual Hoop Shoot at the Walpole Middle School Gym in Walpole, N.H. on Saturday, Dec. 10. Registration for both boys and girls from the region will begin at 1 p.m.

The contest will consist of Free Throws starting at 1:15. The competition is open to all boys and girls ages 8-13 as of April 1, 2017. If you already participated elsewhere, you cannot shoot at this event. Participants will shoot against each other in their own age division (8 & 9, 10 & 11, 12 & 13). There will

Trophies will be awarded for 1st and 2nd place high scorers, in each age division. First place Winners are invited to the District event on Jan. 9, 2017.

## WESTMINSTER MYSTERY PHOTO



**What was this store and where was it located? Thanks for several new Westminster mystery pictures that were donated recently, including the one above. But, we still need more Mystery Photos and especially guest commentary! Please contact the Gazette if you have photos that we might use for this regular feature of our community paper. E-mail [westminsternews@gmail.com](mailto:westminsternews@gmail.com). Thank you!**

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR TAX PROGRAM

Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) will provide free tax preparation for lower income taxpayers for the 2017 tax filing season through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

In order to help as many families as possible claim the tax credits and refunds available to them, SEVCA is now recruiting volunteers to work at our Westminster site during tax season.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free tax help to people who have low to moderate income, persons with disabilities, the elderly, and those who speak limited English and who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns. IRS-certified volunteers provide free federal and state income tax return preparation with electronic filing.

Don't know that much about taxes? Don't worry — you'll receive specialized training from a certified VITA instructor plus IRS online courses. We are looking for individuals who are willing and able to commit 3 to 4 hours per week from January 31 – April 11, 2017.

Although prior tax preparation experience is not necessary, a commitment to training and certification is required. Training sessions will be held in Westminster during December and January and at your convenience using online IRS self-study training materials. Continuing on-site training and supervision is provided during the tax preparation season.

To learn how you can make a difference in your community by becoming a VITA volunteer, please contact Susan Brace at [sbrace@sevca.org](mailto:sbrace@sevca.org) or 722-4575, ext. 199.

## VT UTILITIES WARN OF SCAMS

Vermont's three largest utilities are joining together to alert customers that scammers regularly make calls threatening disconnection if payment is not made immediately, and those calls have increased recently. One customer ran into GMP's office last month after receiving such a call, alarmed that his restaurant might be disconnected while serving lunch.

"We would never make a call threatening immediate disconnection if credit card information is not given immediately," said Dorothy Schnure, spokesperson for Green Mountain Power. "We work with customers who are having difficulty paying a bill. If a customer has any doubt about the legitimacy of a call, we encourage them to hang up and call our listed number for any questions about their account status."

Vermont's utilities follow very clear state rules when working with customers about paying past due bills and do not demand credit card information or alternate payment mechanisms from a customer for any purpose. If customers receive any call with such a demand they should follow these steps:

- \* Do not provide payment or any other personal information;
- \* Do not engage with the caller;
- \* Immediately hang up;
- \* Do not call back the number; and
- \* Call your utility's customer service number (GMP 888-835-4672, BED 802-865-7300, VEC 802-635-2331) to report the occurrence and to share any information you are able to provide, including name of the caller, caller's phone number, and substance of the call.

Further, customers receiving such a call are encouraged to report this scam by contacting the Vermont Attorney General's Office Consumer Assistance Program at 800.649.2424 (in-state only) or 802.656.3183 (from out of state numbers) or by visiting [www.uvm.edu/consumer](http://www.uvm.edu/consumer).

Also, to further protect yourself against similar scams, please visit that same website address to read about similar past scams.

# WESTMINSTER HAPPENINGS

## Activities

### Scottish Country Dance Classes

Every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Westminster Center School Gym. 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 beginner's workshop is taught at 8 p.m., and the regular dance goes from 8:30 to 11. A donation at the door will benefit the Pierce's Hall Building Fund. For more information call 387-5985.

### Senior Potluck Lunch

Every 2nd Thursday of the month at noon. All Westminster seniors are invited to attend a potluck lunch at the First Congregational Church on Route 5.

### Bellows Falls Gallery Walk

Downtown at 5:30 p.m. every 3rd Friday of the month.

### Secrets of Healthy Aging

A facilitated discussion group and pot-luck. The 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at the Westminster Fire Station from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Call Westminster Cares at 722-3607 for more information.

### Contra Dance

Every 3rd Saturday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall in Walpole, N.H.

### Gentle Yoga

Every Monday at 10 a.m. at the Westminster Institute. Call Westminster Cares at 722-3607 for more information.

### Chair Yoga

Every Friday from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the First Congregational Church in Westminster. Call Westminster Cares at 722-3607 for more information.

### Living Strong Classes

Mondays and Thursdays: at the First Congregational Church in Westminster from 9-10 a.m.; at the Westminster West Church from 6-7 p.m.; or at Greater Rock Fitness in Bellows Falls from 11-12. Call Westminster Cares for more information at 722-3607.

### Knitting Together

Join us every Wednesday, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Village Square Booksellers, downtown Bellows Falls. Bring your knitting needles, we have the yarn and casual instruction if needed to knit hats, mittens and sweaters for area kids.

All our yarn is from community donation and we distribute our completed work to all area schools and Parks Place. More knitters at all skill levels are wanted and we can promise you an enjoyable experience. For details or to donate yarn contact Caroline at 463-4653.

### Westminster West Public Library Trustees

The Westminster West Public Library Trustees meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the library. They welcome visits from the public. Contact Lisa Cavanaugh at 387-4682.



## Faith Community

### The First Congregational Church of Westminster

The Rev. Sami Jones McRae, Pastor. 3470 Route 5, PO Box 122, Westminster, 802-722-4148. Sunday worship is at 10 a.m. Communion is the first Sunday of each month.

The church has a ramp and lift for wheelchair access as well as a handicapped bathroom. Sunday School is available; call the church to register your children. The First Congregational Church of Westminster, Inc., is an Open and Affirming church; all are welcome.

### The Congregational Church of Westminster West

The Congregational Church of Westminster West worships every Sunday at 10 a.m. The pick-up choir meets most Sundays at 9 to rehearse for that morning's anthem; newcomers to choir are always welcome!

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of every month, and on the Second Sunday the church collects a special offering that goes to Our Place in Bellows Falls to help fund their food shelf.

The church building is fully wheelchair accessible, and the congregation is Open and Affirming. Rev. Susie Webster-Toleno is the pastor, and musicians are Fred Gray and Malcolm Toleno.

Rev. Webster-Toleno currently holds office hours on Monday and Thursday afternoons, and people are welcome to drop by. However, since "office hours" sometimes means she's out visiting people in their homes, it's a good idea to make an appointment if you really want to catch her.

She can be reached at the church on those days at 387-2334, via cell phone at 579-8356 or e-mail [susiewt@gmail.com](mailto:susiewt@gmail.com).

### Walpole Bible Church

The Grace Bible Fellowship holds its Sunday Worship Service at 9:15 a.m. at 38 Elm Street in Walpole, NH.

Find out more about the church at its Web site, [www.walpolebiblechurch.org](http://www.walpolebiblechurch.org).

### Walpole Unitarian Church

Services are at 10 a.m. Children's Religious Education begins at 10 a.m. with the adults and moves to Hastings House at 10:15. Refreshments and conversation are held after the service with the children included. [www.walpoleunitarian.org](http://www.walpoleunitarian.org).

## Meetings

**Selectboard** 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall.

**Planning Commission** 2nd Monday at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall.

**Westminster Activities Commission** 2nd Monday of the Month at 6 p.m. at the Westminster Institute.

### Westminster School Board

1st and 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Westminster Center School Library.

### Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association

3rd Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Westminster West Congregational Church.

### Westminster West Public Library Board

1st Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Westminster West Public Library.

### Development Review Board

1st Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

### Community Improvement Program Committee

meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m.

### Westminster Cares Board - No Summer Meetings

1st Wednesday of every month, at the Westminster Institute at 4:30 p.m.

### 911 Committee

as needed.

### The Westminster Fire & Rescue Dept.

holds their monthly meetings on the 1st Tuesday of every month, at 7 p.m. and a combined drill on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at the Westminster Fire Station.

### Westminster Historical Society

2nd Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Westminster Institute.

### Westminster Gazette Meeting

Monday, Dec. 26 at 4:30 p.m. at the Westminster Institute

### Westminster Institute Board

will meet on Tuesday, at 7 p.m. in the Institute.

The Westminster East Parish Board will meet on Nov. 8 at 7 p.m. at the Institute.

## THE GAZETTE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE SUPPORT

### OF ITS UNDERWRITERS:

Kurn Hattin Homes  
Westminster School District  
Town of Westminster  
Westminster Activities Commission  
Sojourns Community Health Clinic  
Westminster Cares  
Westminster Fire & Rescue  
Association  
Burtco Inc.  
The Dascomb Trust  
K Beebe Inc.

## ROTARY INDUCTS NEW MEMBERS



The Bellows Falls Rotary Club is pleased to announce the addition of three new members. From left, Kim Bovill, Richard Doyle and Marty Gallagher were inducted on Nov. 10. If you live in the Bellows Falls area and are interested in becoming a member, please reach out to any Rotary member. Please go to our website: <http://bfrotary.club/> for local Rotarian's e-mail.

## WESTMINSTER GAZETTE

*Editor: Robert Smith*

### Board of Directors:

Charmion Handy -  
Chairwoman  
Donna Dawson  
Alma Beals  
Joyce Sullivan

Printed by Turley Publications  
of Palmer, MA

Pictures and Articles  
Provided by the Community  
[westminsternews@gmail.com](mailto:westminsternews@gmail.com)

**The Deadline for  
the January Issue of the  
Westminster Gazette is  
Wednesday, December 28  
Publication Date is  
Tuesday, January 3**

**To Contact the  
Westminster Gazette  
E-mail:  
westminsternews  
@gmail.com**



**Sojourns**  
COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC  
Holistic Care for Whole People

*"Health care that cares enough to listen and treat the cause of the symptoms and not just the symptoms themselves. Also, a very pleasant staff."*  
Aaron. G. Springfield, VT

Our Bodies Are Ecosystems not Chemistry Sets™.  
4923 US Route 5 • Westminster, VT  
**802-722-4023**  
[www.sojourns.org](http://www.sojourns.org)  
Insurance accepted for all billable services  
gift certificates available

Primary Care  
Holistic Medicine  
Naturopathy  
Acupuncture  
Biological Medicine  
Chiropractic  
CranioSacral Therapy  
Nutritional Counseling  
Massage  
Physical Therapy  
Herbal Medicine  
Immune Support  
Apothecary

## FACING A HEATING CRISIS? HELP IS AVAILABLE

Now that nighttime temperatures are often below freezing and daytime temps are getting down there as well, heating our homes has become a necessity we can't avoid. While some of us simply have to turn up the dial on our thermostats, others are already rationing their oil or keeping their homes chilly to save on heating costs.

Every year, thousands of Vermonters need help with their home heating costs, and many get some assistance through the state's Seasonal Fuel program. But what happens when that's not enough? For many low-income households facing a heating emergency, the Crisis Fuel program can be their lifeline. And, as of November 28, that lifeline is available to those who qualify.

"If you're facing a heating or utility crisis, don't wait until you're out of fuel completely," said Pat Burke, Director of SEVCA's Family Services Program. "There are options to help people, but it could take a few days, and we don't want them to be stuck with no heat at all." SEVCA can also arrange an emergency furnace repair or replacement for homeowners whose furnaces stop working or become unsafe to operate.

To be eligible for Crisis Fuel assistance, households must have had extenuating circumstances that led to the heating emergency and income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), which is based on household size; e.g., \$4,050/month (gross) for a family of four. Three years ago, the state ruled that income-eligible households must first apply for and receive Seasonal Fuel assistance before they can be considered for Crisis Fuel. Income eligibility is

### COMPASS SCHOOL PRESENTS LAST COALITION OF ESSENTIAL SCHOOLS FORUM

After 32 years bringing together the world's best educators dedicated to meaningful, student centered learning, The Coalition of Essential Schools (CES) held its final Fall Forum this December. Westminster Schools, Compass School, and The Putney School all were early members of CES, along with hundreds of schools from the US and around the world.

Compass was well represented at this conference. Julia Taylor and Alexandra Zuser offered a workshop on how the portfolio process engages students in reflecting and celebrating their learning. This workshop focused on the new initiative of "portfolio week" that was instituted last year to include the whole school in working together to support student reflections on learning at each grade. Compass students have always completed portfolio roundtables in grades 8, 10, and 12.

Middle school students also complete "Presentations of Learning" in December and May, where each student shares with their peers and parents their learning trajectory during the year, identifies two significant learnings, and discusses their work in each of their classes. New last year was the addition of 9th and 11th grade Year End Academic Reflections, which ask students to present evidence of their developing proficiencies along with learning goals to their advisor and a small group of classmates.

Rick Gordon and Kellie Crowder facilitated an exploration on "Providing Every Student with Varied Learning Experiences: Developing 21st Century Proficiencies with Creative Scheduling and Learning Opportunities." This workshop showed other schools how Compass purposefully has designed their schedule to provide every student widely diverse learning experiences to achieve wide-ranging goals beyond just academics.

Various structures beyond academic classes at Compass include: Community Service Winter Term, where students work in consulting teams on real world needs in the community; Project Week, where students take on individual projects to extend their learning; Trips that include the 11th grade Global Connections Immersion and 3 day spring trips for other grades; and College Day, where everyone gets to visit two colleges to begin to discern what qualities in a college each student finds most attractive.

These are the kind of activities where learning doesn't fit into neat 45 or 90 minute blocks but offer the chance for students to pursue individual interests while developing skills of self management.

Compass has been committed to CES principles since its founding. As described on the CES website, "Acknowledging that no two schools are or should be alike, CES envisions schools that necessarily differ from each other in size, scope, and programmatic emphasis while that sharing common principles, practices, and the hallmarks of powerful learning communities within and among each other.

We envision that these schools positively influence the conditions in which all schools operate, serving as examples of and advocates for education policy that supports meaningful teaching and learning that allows all students to use their minds well in school and throughout their lives. CES Schools are characterized by personalization, democracy, equity, intellectual vitality and excellence.

CES practice is exemplified by small, personalized learning communities where teachers and students know each other well in a climate of trust, decency and high expectations for all."

CES has been a leading voice for organizing and honoring the uniqueness of schools who each share a common commitment to equity, excellence, and engaged learning.

We hope these principles live on in our local schools and well beyond our area.

tighter for Seasonal Fuel—limits are set at 185% of FPL instead of 200%—so households between 185% and 200% of FPL are eligible for Crisis Fuel without having to apply for Seasonal Fuel assistance. Burke urges qualified households to apply as soon as possible for the Seasonal Fuel program, so that there are no issues around their eligibility for Crisis Fuel, should they need it.

Generally, only one Crisis Fuel assist is provided per household receiving Seasonal Fuel assistance (two for those who aren't), per year. However, for the past several winters, the state had to find extra money for a "Special Warmth Fund" because there were too many people at risk of being without heat due to these limits, even during last year's relatively mild winter.

Crisis Fuel Assistance is available from November 28 to sometime in April. For more information, call SEVCA toll-free at (800) 464-9951 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday. Applicants in northern Windham County may also call that number to schedule an appointment. Brattleboro area applicants should call (802) 254-2795; Springfield area applicants, (802) 885-6153; and White River Junction area applicants, (802) 295-5215. Applicants must bring paystubs or other proof of income, know how much fuel is left in their tank (if oil heat), and provide information about their fuel dealer. To apply for Seasonal Fuel, apply online at [www.mybenefits.vt.gov](http://www.mybenefits.vt.gov) or call (800) 479-6151. This is also the number to call for Crisis Fuel Assistance on weekends and holidays, and for furnace repair or replacement assistance on weekends, holidays, or for after-hours emergencies.

To help bridge the gap between what is covered by the state's Crisis Fuel program and what is needed by a particular family in crisis, SEVCA raises money through grants and donations. To help keep low-income families warm this winter, individuals may donate to our "Share the Warmth" fund online at <http://www.sevca.org/share-the-warmth>. Checks may also be sent to 91 Buck Drive, Westminster, VT 05158.

**SEVCA Weatherization 1-800-464-9951**



**Our guidelines have expanded to serve more homes!**  
**Apply now to see if you qualify!**

- Insulation and air sealing
- Save on heating costs
- Improve comfort level of your home
- Attention to health and safety concerns

—all at no cost to you!—

Southeastern Vermont Community Action  
SERVING WINDSOR &  
WINDHAM COUNTIES  
SEVCA Weatherization  
91 Buck Drive  
Westminster, VT 05158



**BELLOWS FALLS ROTARY CLUB**



**For more information about Rotary,  
contact Alma Beals at  
almabeals@gmail.com or 722-3355**

*Service above self throughout our community and world.*

**The FOUR WAY Test**

Of the things we think, say or do

- Is it the TRUTH?
- Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Is it BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

We meet most Thursdays, 7:30 a.m. at Kurn Hattin School  
in the Mayo Center, Westminster, Vermont.  
New members welcome.



**Bright Ideas Shaping Futures!**

We specialize in business consulting, including payroll and bookkeeping.  
We also offer year round expertise for your tax needs, investments and financial planning.

**(802)722-4500**  
**5111 US RT 5, Westminster Station, Vermont 05159**  
[www.chswealthmgt.com](http://www.chswealthmgt.com)

**ATTORNEY**  
**ERIC ANDERSON**  
 Individual, Family,  
 Business Representation  
 Tel. 802.722.3249 or 802.254.2345  
 eanderson@archstlaw.com  
*Glad to Make Housecalls.*

**WESTMINSTER**  
**AUTO**  
 Ext 5, 1-91  
 Rt. 5, Westminster  
**Vernon & Doreen Kelton**  
 PO Box 94, Westminster Station, VT 05159  
 (802) 722-4722  
 Check us out on our website:  
[www.westminsterauto.com](http://www.westminsterauto.com)

**Village Square**  
**BOOKSELLERS**  
 32 The Square,  
 Bellows Falls, Vermont  
 Open 7 days a week  
 802-463-9404  
*Book and e-Book Orders 24/7:*  
[www.villagesquarebooks.com](http://www.villagesquarebooks.com)  
 Independent bookstore with a friendly & knowledgeable staff  
 Books, Toys & Gifts for All Ages

**Allen Bros**  
**OIL COMPANY**  
 6023 U.S. Route 5  
 Westminster, VT 05158  
[allenbrosoil.com](http://allenbrosoil.com)  
 Phone: 802-722-3331  
 Toll Free: 877-722-3331  
 Fax: 802-722-9871  
[info@allenbrosoil.com](mailto:info@allenbrosoil.com)

**LAWRENCE & LOBER**  
**ELECTRIC**  
[www.llelectricservices.com](http://www.llelectricservices.com)  
[info@llelectricservices.com](mailto:info@llelectricservices.com)  
 Tel: 802-460-3479  
 15 Barker St. 800-559-3479  
 Bellows Falls, VT 05101 Fax: 802-460-3480

**WESTMINSTER ANIMAL HOSPITAL**  
 PO BOX 90  
 WESTMINSTER STATION, VT 05159  
 (802)722-4196  
**Andrea Neiley, DVM Megan Peddigree, VMD**  
**Kristin Anderson, DVM Susan Oswald, DVM**

**Karen Vedus LMFT**  
*Emotionally Focused Couples Therapy*  
  
 Westminster, Vermont  
 802-332-3007  
[www.buildingbetterbonds.com](http://www.buildingbetterbonds.com)  
 karenveduslmft@buildingbetterbonds.com

## December Businesses of the Month: Streeter LLC - Licensed Electricians



In 1960 Malcolm Streeter created a business named Westminster B&B (Blasting & Building). In the 1980's we had to change the name to Sam Streeter LLC due to insurance reasons. We are general contractors and electricians. Cole Streeter started working for the company in the early 80's, Donnie Fullam joined in 1986, Tim Wilder joined in the mid 90's. In 2000 Malcom retired and passed the business down to his son, Cole. Nine years later Gene Hotaling joined the group to form our current team.

It may not be an emergency to some of the bigger companies but it is to us. Our customers are part of our family and we will do whatever it takes at any time to get the job done. We hope to help and serve the community for many years to come. Thank you for your business and support.

**FIREWOOD**  
 Frederick McKenny  
 Quality Hardwood  
 1993 Pine Banks Rd Putney, VT 05346  
 Tel: 802-376-7313  
 Email: jjoatmon.tred@gmail.com

**Streeter L.L.C.**  
**Licensed Electrician**  
 PO Box 206, Westminster, VT 05158  
 (Building, Remodeling & Repairs)  
**Cole Streeter** Box 103  
 (802)722-3178 Westminster, VT 05158

**JACKLYN ATWOOD**  
**REAL ESTATE**  
 LICENSED BROKER  
 VT & NH  
  
 616 NEWCOMB ROAD OFFICE/FAX 802-722-9296  
 WESTMINSTER, VT 05346 CELL 802-236-1164  
[jackieatwoodrealestate@gmail.com](mailto:jackieatwoodrealestate@gmail.com)

**RUGGIERO**  
**TRASH REMOVAL**  
 802.869.2235  
 Box 434, Saxtons River Vermont 05154  
 Joe 802.384.0397  
 Jeff 803.209.4441

S.B. & Company Auctioneers, Antiques  
**SHARON**  
**BOCELLI**  
 & COMPANY  
 Buying entire estates or single items.  
 Probate appraisals  
 46 Canal St. Bellows Falls VT 802-460-1190

**The Chimney Doctor**  
**Chimney & Stove Care**  
 Whole System Service  
 • Cleaning • Relining  
 • Repair • Year-round Service  
 • Installation • CSIA Certified  
**(802) 387-6037** Westminster West, VT  
[chimdoc@comcast.net](mailto:chimdoc@comcast.net) [www.vtchimneydoctor.com](http://www.vtchimneydoctor.com)

*Serene Touch*  
*flowing body, mind and spirit*  
*together thru touch*  
  
 Diana Bazin  
 24 Grout Ave.  
 Westminster, VT 05158  
 413-530-5696  
[dbazin@sover.net](mailto:dbazin@sover.net)  
[www.zerobalancing.com](http://www.zerobalancing.com)  
 Certified Zero Balancer  
 Certified Reiki Master  
 Massage Therapist

**GREATER FALLS**  
**INSURANCE**  
 Serving VT and NH since 1996  
  
 Home • Auto • Farm • Business • Motorcycle • Recreational Vehicles  
 7190 US Route 5 • Westminster, Vermont 05158  
 802-463-1900 • [www.greaterfallsinsurance.com](http://www.greaterfallsinsurance.com)

**genius loci**  
 SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE DESIGN,  
 INSTALLATION & STEWARDSHIP  
  
 Cyndy Fine  
 LANDSCAPE DESIGNER  
 802-374-7275 | [cyndy@geniuslocidesign.com](mailto:cyndy@geniuslocidesign.com)

**HARLOW**  
**FARM STAND**  
 CERTIFIED ORGANIC PRODUCE •  
 FRESH CUT FLOWERS •  
 P.O. BOX 260, ROUTE 5, WESTMINSTER, VT  
 (802) 722-3515  
 1/2 MILE NORTH OF EXIT 5 / INTERSTATE 91

**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.berkeleyveller.com](http://www.berkeleyveller.com)  
[heidi.bernier@berkeleyveller.com](mailto:heidi.bernier@berkeleyveller.com)  
 119 Western Avenue, Brattleboro, VT 05301  
 Office: Brattleboro, VT • West Dover, VT • Walpole, NH

**Happy Holidays & Best Wishes for  
 a Wonderful New Year!**

Our Monthly Community Newspaper December 2016 Vol. 12, No. 12

# Westminster Gazette

TOWN OF WESTMINSTER  
 PO BOX 147  
 WESTMINSTER, VT 05158

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

