

Westminster Gazette



po box 147 westminster vt 05158

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

Vol. 6, No.6 June 2010

Queen candidates for the 105th Bellows Falls Annual Alumni Parade



Julie Cermola

Hi, my name is Julie Cermola and I am the youngest of Jeanette Harvey's three daughters. I lived in Saxtons River when I was younger, but for most of my life I have lived in Bellows Falls. I attended Saxtons River Elementary School, Bellows Falls Middle School and I am proud to be graduating from Bellows Falls Union High School. During my four years at BFUHS, I have been involved in soccer, basketball and softball. I was voted captain for soccer my junior and senior year as well as captain for both basketball and softball my senior year. In addition to my activities at school, I have been employed at Lisai's Market for the past two years and plan on working there over the summer as well. I am quite excited to be attending Vermont Technical College in Randolph, Vermont next year where I will be majoring in Veterinary Technology



Dini=Nadine Rowell

Hi, I am Nadine Rowell, many people know me as Dini. I'm the oldest of Laurie and Brian Rowell's three daughters. All my life I have lived in the same old house in Saxtons River. Throughout the past four years at BFUHS I have participated in field-hockey, winter track and spring track; my senior year I was captain of all three teams. Additionally, I have worked as a lifeguard at the Saxtons River Recreation Center for the past two years and plan on doing so this summer as well. I am thrilled to be attending the University of Massachusetts, Amherst next year, and intend to study psychology. In the long run my major may change, but I will most definitely be working with people, most likely children, in my future.



Nicole=Nicole Gay

My name is Nicole Kristen Gay, daughter of Regina Amidon of Bellows Falls and Robert Gay of Springfield. Throughout my four years at BFUHS I am most proud of my community service. I have been involved in several different activities such as working with local fire departments, cub scouts and most recently working with volunteers to support our local armed forces personnel currently serving our country and their families at home. The Pocket Flag Project is an undertaking with the goal being to have every American soldier have a "piece of home" to take with them in the form of a small folded American flag that can fit in their pocket. Through this project I was able to personally help and meet many individual soldiers which was a great honor. In the fall I plan to attend River Valley Community College for a degree in nursing and eventually specialize in neonatal care.



Geha=Sophie Geha

My name is Sophie Geha and I live with my mother, Mary Westbrook, in Westminster across the street from a ton of cows. I have been an active member of the Drama Club all four years of my high school career, most recently acting as Laurie in our school's production of Oklahoma. I served as Secretary of my Student Council my Junior year and the President for the duration of my Senior year. I am currently employed by L.A. Burdicks in Walpole, New Hampshire and plan on pursuing musical theater for my undergraduate studies in New York City next year.



Alyson Hewitt:

My name is Alyson Hewitt and I am the daughter of Charles Hewitt and Karen MacIntyre. I live with my Mom in Westminster and have been involved in various activities throughout my high school career. In addition to my academics, sports have been a main part of the last four years. I have participated in Track, Indoor Track, and Cross-Country every year. I am secretary of Student Council, a member of the National Honor Society, and Vice President of my class. Furthermore, I have worked at Lisai's Market in Bellows Falls for three years. At the conclusion of this coming summer, I will be attending a four-year Nursing program at the University of Massachusetts Amherst for a BSN, and then on to my final goal of becoming a Nurse Anesthetist. On a concluding note, congratulations to the Class of 2010, and good luck with your future endeavors!

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- CRVC Wantastiquet Region River Subcommittee (1 year)
- Town Health Officer (1 year)
- Town Service Officer (1 year)

Interested persons are encouraged to call Sonia Alexander at 722-4255 or to write to the Westminster Selectboard, PO Box 147, Westminster, VT 05158

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Time	101 Bell & Park	102 Bell & Park	103 Bell & Park	104 Bell & Park	105 Bell & Park	106 Bell & Park	107 Bell & Park	108 Bell & Park	109 Bell & Park	110 Bell & Park	111 Bell & Park	112 Bell & Park	113 Bell & Park	114 Bell & Park	115 Bell & Park	116 Bell & Park	117 Bell & Park	118 Bell & Park	119 Bell & Park
5:45	6:00	6:02	6:04	6:06	6:08	6:10	6:12	6:14	6:16	7:00	7:02	7:04	7:06	7:08	7:10	7:12	7:14	7:16	7:18
8:00	8:02	8:04	8:06	8:08	8:10	8:12	8:14	8:16	8:18	8:00	8:02	8:04	8:06	8:08	8:10	8:12	8:14	8:16	8:18
1:55	2:10	2:12	2:14	2:16	2:18	2:20	2:22	2:24	2:26	3:10	3:12	3:14	3:16	3:18	3:20	3:22	3:24	3:26	3:28
4:30	4:42	4:44	4:46	4:48	4:50	4:52	4:54	4:56	4:58	5:10	5:12	5:14	5:16	5:18	5:20	5:22	5:24	5:26	5:28

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BELLOWS FALLS





Top scoring seniors, Tyler Terrell, Hannah Hodsden, Aaron Morton

Bellows Falls Union High School Mathletes go to the Regionals

When the BFUHS Senior Math team placed first place in the State of Vermont, and 4th overall in the Twin State Math League (VT/NH), they earned their spot at the Regional competition in Canton MA. The team has competed in four meets this year. At the regionals each team could bring at most 3 seniors and at most 5 juniors and seniors for a total of 6 participants. The group that went to regionals this year was Hannah Hodsden, Aaron Morton, Tyler Terrell, Meghan Hilow, Emily Gehly and Chase Perkins. Teachers Susan Swan and Lori Walters coached the team.

In the University of Vermont region 5 math test, senior Aaron Morton took first place and will be going to Math Day at UVM for an awards ceremony and banquet on May 12th.



Eleven Kurn Hattin Homes' Staff Honored with Years of Service Awards

by Kim Fine

Westminster -- Christopher Barry, Executive Director of Kurn Hattin Homes honored the hard-working and dedicated staff at Kurn Hattin Homes with Service Awards during the April 28th, All Staff Meeting. Staff members receiving five-year awards were: Suzanne Peltier, Houseparent, Bev DeCamp, Houseparent, Ollie Kimball, Maintenance, and Betty Henry, Teacher. Ten-year awards were given to Karen Lansberry, Assistant Residential Director and Tom Fontaine, Teacher. Twenty-year awards were given to Sandy Anderson, School Secretary and Tom Fahner, Director of Educational and Residential Services. Thirty-five year awards went to Dave Brodeur, Houseparent and Mary Kay Pfadenhauer, Teacher. And one forty-year award went to Natalie Patrick, Teacher.

All the honored staff received a framed certificate of appreciation and an extra paid day off to use in the new fiscal year. The twenty-year honorees also received a Kurn Hattin rocking chair or lamp. The thirty-five and forty-year honorees received a \$300 gift certificate to one of several resorts. Chris Barry ended the award ceremony with his praises to all the staff for their dedication to children and the mission of Kurn Hattin Homes.

Westminster West Library's popular Family Movie Night series continues on June 18th with comedy animation and a dramatic feature.

At 6:30PM SHAUN The SHEEP, a big hit with last month's audience, comes back for some new episodes of naughtiness. Shaun is simply irresistible, and the music is catchy, too!

At 7:00PM we present SOUNDER (1972), director Martin Ritt's poignant and thought-provoking drama about the challenges to and the resilience of a family of black sharecroppers living in the deep South in the 1930s. Based on William H. Armstrong's Newberry Award-winning novel, SOUNDER was nominated for five Academy Awards, including Best Actress for Cicely Tyson and Best Actor for Paul Winfield. Another great film for audiences of all ages.

Admission is free, everyone's invited, plenty of popcorn. For more information, email westwestflicks@gmail.com, or call David at 802-869-2697. See you there!



Scaffolding for Success at Compass School

When New England College students visited the school in April, they were impressed by how all the 9-10 students working on Art for Social Change projects had picked topics related to something they had learned or experienced previously at Compass.

I commented that we never assume kids come with any prior experience and we make sure we scaffold experiences so kids are ready for them. For example, we don't just all of a sudden send 11th graders to Ecuador—we do a ton of smaller trips and community experiences to help them build capacity and skills for learning in the real world.

Likewise, any viewer at the Compass Student Film Festival, now in its 6th year, comments how impressive every student production is. These films are really a culmination of a ton of prior experiences at Compass. I think many who watch these high quality creations just think, "Wow, what a productive course." But really, the films reflect years of kids practicing writing, telling stories, developing their own voice, reflecting on life, organizing projects, working towards high expectations, working with others, considering design, conveying ideas in visual formats, presenting ideas, working with technology, etc. This is really a great kind of "final exam" that reflects not just great learning facilitated by teachers Julia Taylor, Eric Rhomberg and Steve Holmes, but a lot of loosely related but purposeful learning experiences these kids have throughout their Compass program.

We see similar profound results for our students as they excel with Portfolios and Presentations of Learning, Community Service Winter Term, Project Week, the Science of the Mind Journal and other "culminating" work. Although it is not always easy to see "the method to our madness," the diverse learning experiences at Compass are designed with intention to develop graduates who can "pursue their dreams and contribute positively to the world."

The community is invited to celebrate this year's seniors at the always moving graduation ceremony on Saturday, June 5th at 2:00.
—Rick Gordon, Founding Director



Community Enjoys Kurn Hattin's Annual Spring Fling

by Kim Fine

On Saturday, May 1st, the community helped celebrate youth and healthy choices at the Annual Spring Fling at Kurn Hattin Homes. Spring Fling is all about celebrating youth with fun and healthy choices. This year's event began with a 5K race and continued throughout the day with activities and entertainment for the whole family. Pictured are two girls about to enter Inflatables Fun. 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.



Kurn Hattin kitchen staff with Westminster Cares, President and Executive Director. Pictured (l-r): Mary Rumrill, Melanie Atkin, Pete Harrison, Richard Johnson, Marilyn Kimball and Ronnie Friedman, Missing from picture from Kurn Hattin's kitchen are Bertha Lawrence and Brandi Knowlton.

Westminster Cares Honors Kurn Hattin

by Kim Fine

Westminster Cares, Inc. President, Pete Harrison and Executive Director, Ronnie Friedman, paid a visit to Kurn Hattin Homes to thank the kitchen staff for the meals they provide the seniors and adults with disabilities in the community through the Meals on Wheels program. "The staff here is always so kind, respectful and accommodating," lauded Mr. Harrison. He also announced that they would be making a donation in memory of Kurn Hattin cook, Paul Gordon and to honor the Kurn Hattin kitchen staff.

Kurn Hattin Homes is a residential, charitable, year-round home and school for in-need and at-risk children, ages 6-15, from throughout the Northeast.



KURN HATTIN CHILDREN, LIBRARIAN & LIBRARY AWARDED

by Kim Fine

Westminster-Kurn Hattin Homes' librarian has again received national recognition for outstanding support of reading education. Sally Mundell, Librarian at Kurn Hattin Homes was awarded Reading Model Library by Renaissance Learning, a Wisconsin based company. Library certification indicates that Mundell's efforts to support teachers have resulted in measurable improvements in student performance at New England Kurn Hattin Homes.

Also twenty-five children were awarded for maintaining 90% reading accuracy. They secured their 5th Model Library Certification pennant which they all signed and hung proudly in the library.

Of these twenty-five children, two of the youngest Kurn Hattin boys, Issac Matteson and Harry Valentin were awarded for achieving 90% reading accuracy. This is the first time Kurn Hattin children in the 1st and 2nd grades have made the award list. Parent Cottage, where they live, has a challenge that all the boys will achieve 90% reading accuracy by next year's award competition. Kurn Hattin Homes, located in Westminster Vermont, is a charitable home and school for in-need and at-risk children, ages 6-15, from throughout the Northeast.



Vermont Basketball Coaches Association and Vermont Principals' Association Inducts Coach Jayne Barber in 2010 Hall of Fame

by Suzanne Groenewold

Retired girls Terrier hoop coach Jayne Barber has been inducted into the Vermont Basketball Coaches Association's Hall of Fame for the class of 2010. According to their web site, "Make Basketball Better", is the motto of the Vermont Basketball Coaches Association. They salute coaches from around the state who have accomplished this goal by inducting them into the VBCA Hall of Fame. Coach Barber's team won over 350 games in her coaching career. Bellows Falls appeared in eight division II final fours, two division I final fours, four division II state championships, and one division I state championship during this time. She has won several Coach of the Year awards and has been a three time coach of the VT-NH All Star game. She has been a teacher, coach, mentor, and role model for hundreds of student athletes.

Jayne Barber is also being inducted into the Vermont Principal's Association Hall of Fame on Friday, May 7 at the Stoweflake Lodge in Stowe, Vermont. She is being inducted because of her tremendous contributions to the VPA, her school and specifically the students of Vermont.



Kurn Hattin Entertains the Bellows Falls Woman's Club

by Kim Fine

The Kurn Hattin Beginning Choir sang for the Bellows Falls Woman's Club at their recent luncheon meeting at the Bellows Falls Country Club. The Bellows Falls Woman's Club, a philanthropic community service organization with a long history dating back to 1901, is a generous supporter of the children and programs at Kurn Hattin. The children sang many old, familiar songs such as Hokey Pokey and Working on the Railroad. Several of the women joined in and sang along. Pictured in back row with the children are (l-r) Kurn Hattin Homes' Music Director, Lisa Bianconi with the Woman's Club State President, Deanna Beckman, and Bellows Falls Woman's Club Co-Presidents, Judy Boynton and Barbara Comtois. Kurn Hattin Homes is a residential, year-round, charitable home and school for in-need and at-risk children, ages 6-15, from throughout the Northeast.

WESTMINSTER GAZETTE

Editor: Peggy Porter
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Pictures and Articles
Provided by the Community
westminsternews@gmail.com

Important JUNE Dates at Westminster Center and West Schools

Tuesday, June 1st – Volunteer Recognition: 8:45 am Center School gym
 Thursday, June 3rd - Planting day
 Sunday, June 6th - Car Show
 Monday, June 7th-Success Night/Sixth Grade Celebration
 Join us at the Center School at 5:00 to tour student work in each classroom. At 6:00 the 6th grade success celebration begins in the gym.
 Tuesday, June 8th – West School Success Night
 Celebration and culmination of African studies at the West Community Church, 6:30 pm
 Friday, June 11th – Field Day: begins with BBQ lunch at noon with activities all afternoon
 Wednesday, June 16th – Last Student Day



The 7th successful season of the Bellows Falls Farmers Market is upon us. This year the Market is host to 9 agriculture vendors, 3 prepared food vendors, one craft vendor, 2 day vendors and is still growing. These 15 producers carry everything from organic vegetables, eggs, grass-fed meat and poultry, cheese, honey, herbs, jams and jellies, maple syrup, prepared foods, bread, cakes and cookies, soap and lotion, jewelry, and seedlings for your garden.

June 4th Youth Day! Don't miss Youth Day at the Market. This year, through a NOFA Grant we are able to offer an exciting event for young farmers. On June 4th the first fifty children at market will receive a \$5.00 coupon "good for plant starts" from any vendor. In addition, a selection of seed packs will be given away for planting. Available resources for this day are a Master Gardener and a Master Composter, complete with composting demonstrations and soil. They will both be available to answer questions and give advice for growing. Our hopes are that in the Fall when we host another Youth Market children will return to share their vegetables and stories about growing food..

Starting in June for 3rd Friday art walk, there will be beer and wine catered by a neighborhood restaurant. Enjoy a beverage while listening to free, live music. Performing in June will be The Bluebird String Band on June 4th, Traveller, The Johnson Boys on June 11th and Black Sheep Radio Live on June 25th.

Relax under the pavilion, enjoy the music and have dinner. Fine foods from Downstreet Café, Linh's Vietnamese Cuisine, and The Sausage Man. All of the BFFM prepared food is made with as many local, seasonal ingredients as possible. Our vendors work hard to support each other.

EBT cards are always accepted at the market. The BFFM is fortunate to be part of a program called Harvest Health Coupons. The program matches EBT money spent at the market dollar for dollar. Here in Bellows Falls the double value coupon incentive program has consistently increased the number of EBT shoppers and vendors' gross sales.

Reminder - 3SquaresVT food benefits can be used to buy seeds or plants to grow fruits or vegetables.

Underwriting support from Bellows Falls Downtown Development Alliance, Springfield Hospital, Chittenden Bank, Village Square Booksellers, NOFA, Boccelli's on the Canal, SoverNet, Under Radar, LLC, Vermont Local Banquet and Hunter Studio.

The Westminster School will, again, be offering a Summer camp for grades 1-6. As in past years, the children's day at camp will offer fun summer activities as well as academics. Westminster's Summer Camp will be running July 5th-August 13th, Monday - Friday from 8-4. Academics will take place in the morning and in the afternoon a wide range of projects from painting to virtual Camping w/ ghost stories will be offered. If you are interested in any aspect, whether it be the full camp day just the academics or afternoon camp alone, call Trish Adams at 722-3241. Or you could also stop in at the Center School office and pick up one of our brochures.

WATCH OUT FOR LATE BLIGHT! by Babs Lynde, a Vermont Master Gardener

Last year was devastating for many home and professional gardeners alike. Our tomato and potato crops were all but destroyed by a horrible disease known as late blight. This year, with some early prevention and detection, we may be able to avoid it, but a gardener needs to be diligent.

Late blight is actually a fungal disease that is extremely infectious and able to travel on the winds for miles. In fact, many gardens were destroyed by infected plants that were distributed through large local retail stores. On top of that, the cool, wet and windy growing season of last year was just what this particular disease needed to spread and proliferate.

This disease is capable of over-wintering on live tissue, such as potato tubers, providing that the tissue is below the freezing line, so it is highly recommended to remove even the root system of any infected or possibly infected plants. Never add contaminated plants into your compost, even if you think your compost pile is hot enough to destroy the fungus, because all it takes is one cell of this disease to start the process all over again. The proper way of disposing infected plants is by wrapping the remains in paper or plastic and throwing them into your trash for complete removal from your property. Milk or juice cartons are excellent containers for this purpose! If you are not sure about remnants in your soil, then break it up periodically during freezing weather as this will definitely kill the pathogen.

Growing your own plants from seed is usually the best way to avoid bringing late blight to your property, but if you don't have the time or the space to do that, then be very selective and observant of any potato tubers or new tomato plants that you purchase.



Students Learn the Dangers of Texting and Driving Firsthand by Suzanne Groenewold

They run stop signs, swerve between lanes and plow over road cones. But they aren't driving under the influence of alcohol, they're texting. Students at the Bellows Falls Union High School experienced firsthand just how dangerous their texting and driving habit can be as they drove a golf cart through a road course while texting. The Department of Motor Vehicles is setting up the course at high schools throughout the state this spring as part of the Youth Safety Council of Vermont's "Turn Off Texting" campaign.

"The goal of the campaign is to educate young drivers about the hazards of texting and driving," said Skip Allen, executive director of the Youth Safety Council of Vermont. "It's a behavior that has proven to be fatal in far too many cases, and we hope to be able to reduce the number of crashes and injuries related to texting in Vermont." Allen said.

The Vermont Legislature recently passed legislation banning texting while driving. "Legislation is a deterrent, but it's very difficult to change behavior," Allen said. "We hope that through this campaign we can reach young drivers before they develop a dangerous and potentially deadly habit."

The "Turn off Texting" campaign is a multi-agency effort aimed at reducing the number of crashes and injuries related to texting in Vermont. The campaign is a partnership between the Youth Safety Council of Vermont, the Vermont Agency of Transportation, the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Governors Highway Safety Program, The Vermont Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association, The Vermont Safety Education Center, Project Road Safe, and AAA Northern New England.

Summer Tips to Tree Health Care

Westminster, VT- Is something bugging you? More importantly, with summer approaching, is something bugging your trees? If you don't know, it's time to find out - take a look around your yard because insects and disease can seriously harm trees and plants. "A hostile environment and the presence of insects and disease can seriously harm trees and plants" explains Kevin Shrader, Certified Arborist and owner of All Seasons Tree Service.

Trees and other landscape plants need light, water, and nutrients, but too much or too little of any of these resources can cause plant stress. Severe stress can weaken a tree's resistance to diseases and insects.

Preventing Insects and Disease

Prevention of insect and disease problems begins with simple observation. What should you look for? Early symptoms of problems usually appear in the spring. Dying branches in the upper part of the canopy (called dieback), yellowing, and flagging can be symptoms of diseases and environmental stress, while leaf drop or leaf spots are common symptoms of foliar disease.

What should you do if you notice problems? The best first course of action is to tend to the obvious. Trees in overly dry areas should be watered. Compacted soil should be nourished with organic mulch to reduce the soil's bulk density and to provide slow-release nutrients to surrounding trees.

Diseases

Tree diseases are caused by infectious or living organisms such as fungi, viruses, and bacteria. Disorders, which can exhibit disease-like symptoms, are caused by noninfectious or nonliving agents such as nutrient deficiencies, temperature extremes, vandalism, or pollutants. In other words, diseases develop when either a pathogen is present, or when a tree is under severe stress.

Insects

Often considered a "secondary problem" to environmental stress, insects can retard plant growth, weaken tree structure, and spread plant diseases by feeding on trees. Chewing insects, like beetles and caterpillars, eat leaves, flowers, and twigs. Discoloration and uneven or broken edges are signs that chewing insects might be present. Sucking insects, like aphids and mealy bugs, feed on sap within the plant. Damage is indicated by the discoloration, drooping, and wilting of leaves, and the presence of honeydew. Boring insects, like bark beetles, feed beneath the bark of the tree as larvae. Most borers are attracted to, and successfully attack, stressed trees. While some insects can threaten tree health, many are helpful and actually rid trees of dangerous or harmful insects.

Diagnosis and Treatment

Correct diagnosis of plant health problems requires careful examination of the situation. Treatment depends on the particular insect or disease problem, the species of plant or tree affected the extent of the problem, factors specific to the environment, and local regulations. Homeowners who have doubts about how to proceed should consult a tree care professional for advice.

All Season Tree Service of Westminster and the International Society of Arboriculture, a nonprofit organization supporting tree care research around the world, invite you to learn more by visiting www.allseasonsvt.net or www.isa-arbor.com. Contact Kevin Shrader, ISA Certified Arborist, at All Seasons Tree Service at 722-3008.

WESTMINSTER CARES, INC.

The Westminster Cares, Inc. Board of Directors met on May 5, 2010. Westminster 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 elders.

Programs: Programs attended in April:
 Two Secrets of Healthy Aging session,
 Four Yoga classes, Four Artist in Each of Us classes, Twenty-three People Exercising classes held.
 Garden Tour: The Garden Tour is planned for Saturday and Sunday June 26th and 27th.

Nursing Program: Director Ronnie Friedman reported that the nursing program is well on its way – with community nurse Trudy Byington acquiring equipment (blood pressure cuffs, etc.) in order to give care. Discussed letting doctors offices know about the program so that they can share the information with their patients, and use of fliers to let people know about the program.
 Services Provided Include: Meals-on-Wheels to 11 people; 25 rides for 8 different

ent people by 7 volunteers for a total of 390 miles; several pieces of medical equipment were loaned out; and volunteers visited three people. Anyone interested in learning more about Westminster Cares, 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.

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

Westminster Cares has received the following memorial gifts during the month of May:
 From Phyllis and Hank Anderson in memory of our granddaughter Greta
 From Arthur and Carol Abild in memory of Phyllis Norman
 From Carla and Todd West in memory of Phyllis Norman
 From Sovernet Communications in memory of Phyllis Norman
 From Pat and Walt Jennison in memory of Phyllis Norman



Check for odd coloration, cankers, lesions or anything that doesn't look quite right on any part of the plant. Whether you decide to grow your own or purchase your plants from a store or nursery, always look for "disease-resis-

tant" or "disease-tolerant" on the seed packet or tags as this will give you a fighting chance of producing a good crop. It is also a good idea when buying potato tubers to ask the supplier if the plants came from fields that were inspected for late blight.

When you are ready to plant your tomatoes and potatoes, be sure to provide good water drainage, air circulation and good quality soil to ensure vigorous growth. Do not bunch mulch close to the above-ground stems or plant them too close together. During the growing season, if any of your plants begin to display any fungal or fuzzy areas, welts or brown spots, remove them from the garden immediately and dispose of them properly.

If you need help identifying late or early blight or any other disease that might have hit your vegetable garden this year, there are a ton of books or websites available to help you. Don't hesitate to educate yourself on what to look for of the many infectious diseases and harmful insects that are out there to prevent you from have a healthy and bountiful crop this year!

Would you like more information about late blight? 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

Westminster Cares, Inc.

3SquaresVT has gotten even better

By Susan Howes

There are important new changes to 3squares VT. 3SquaresVT (formerly Food Stamps) is Vermont's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program -- a nutrition program designed to help you stay healthy by allowing you to spend more money on healthy, nutritious food.

3SquaresVT can help you make ends meet, which is especially helpful in this challenging economy! It can help you stretch your food budget and put three square meals a day on your table, at the same time freeing up money for other living expenses.

Some of the changes to the program:

Families: Now you can deduct all of your out-of-pocket child care costs when you apply for 3SquaresVT. And, if you are eligible for 3SquaresVT, your children are eligible for free school lunches.

Seniors and People with Disabilities: If you are elderly or disabled, special rules make it easier to qualify. If you are an eligible senior, you can get your benefit directly deposited as cash right into your bank account. And, if you have over \$35 a month in medical expenses, you could get a higher food benefit by including your out-of-pocket medical costs on your 3SquaresVT application.

People who qualify for 3SquaresVT can also get Lifeline (a monthly credit of at least \$13 per month to help households maintain phone service) and Link Up (a credit up to \$30 to pay half the cost of installing a phone line).

Don't assume that you earn too much to qualify. There are new rules to qualifying, and you can get 3SquaresVT even if you have a savings account or own your own home. You may be eligible for 3SquaresVT even if you were turned down for Food Stamps in the past.

You may be *automatically* eligible. People who receive Vermont Earned Income Tax Credit or SSI are categorically eligible for 3SquaresVT. That means that even if you receive a \$0 benefit, you are still 'eligible' and therefore are eligible for Lifeline, Link Up, free school meals, etc.

In addition, 3SquaresVT benefits are all federal dollars, so by applying for the program, you are bringing money into the state. Also, shopping locally or buying local products is a way to support your community and your local farmers. 3SquaresVT makes you eligible to receive coupons to the Farmer's Market when they become available in mid-June. And now you can use your 3SquaresVT card to buy seeds or plants to grow your own fruits and vegetables.

For more information about these changes and more, visit www.vermontfoodhelp.com. Beginning in June, individuals may apply online. Or you can call SEVCA at 1-800-464-9951 or the Senior Helpline at 1-800-642-5119 if you are a senior, for help filling out a 3SquaresVT application.

Susan Howes is a family services outreach worker for Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA)

Westminster Cares' ninth annual Westminster (Vt.) Garden Tour is scheduled for Sat., June 26, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Sunday, June 27, from noon to 3 p.m.

The tour will feature the gardens of Mary and Gordon Hayward, nationally known garden designer, writer and lecturer.

Also on the tour are the Westminster gardens of Toby Young, Peter and Jill Zachary, Marlene and Ray Kramer and Ingrid Buckley.

Tickets and directions to the gardens and maps will be available on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 2 p.m. at The Westminster Institute on Route 5, Westminster, and at the Hayward Gardens in Westminster West.

Box lunches will be available at the Institute and at the Haywards. Please call 722-3607 to reserve a lunch.

Local musicians will provide music throughout both days. Refreshments will be available at the Haywards' gardens.

Raffle tickets will be sold throughout the tour, with proceeds to benefit Westminster Cares. First, second and third prizes will be drawn on Sunday at the end of the tour, but you don't have to be present to win.

Raffle prizes are:

- A painting by Giovanna Patalano of the Saxtons River Art Guild.
- A book: The Toronto Music Garden: inspired by Bach by Julie Moir Messervy
- A basket of gardening supplies.

Discount coupons to local gardening centers Allen Brothers and Harlow Farmstand, good during the two days of the tour, are included in the tour brochure.

Entrance fee is \$10 per person. Proceeds from the tour will support the services and programs of Westminster Cares, a volunteer organization whose purpose it is to create opportunities for seniors and disabled adults to live with independence and dignity in the community.

For more information or directions, visit our website: www.westminstercares.org, email wecares@sover.net or call Westminster Cares at 802-722-3607

Westminster Schools Planting Day, June 3rd -by Elizabeth Harlow

Hooray for fresh local produce returning to our kitchens, even earlier than usual, thanks to the incredible Spring we have had this year. Our community has such fabulous food resources, despite the short growing season: we are surrounded by bounty.

The Westminster Schools' garden gives our students opportunity to experience first hand the pleasure of growing delicious and nutritious edibles, in a supportive, learning environment. What a terrific, tangible life skill for our country kids to practice together! As we've done in the past, each grade level will plant this week, and then next Fall harvest, a specific food crop. Those crops are as follows: Kindergarteners- Carrots, First Graders- Watermelon, Second Graders- Winter Squash, Third Graders- Popcorn, Fourth and Fifth Graders- Potatoes and Bell Peppers. There are usually samplings of other vegetables added into the garden to be shared by all students. Area farmers prepared the soil last month and are providing seeds and seedlings.

Thursday, June 3rd, will be a day-long event as each class spends time in their shared outdoor classroom, planting the beginnings of something delicious for next Fall's return to school. The students then harvest together the same crop they planted and eat their harvest at school.

The After School Program and the school's Summer Camp also have a section of the garden for crops which they will care for and eat from throughout the summer. Kudos to all the adults and children who are enthusiastically supporting and participating in this growing experience. And as always, many thanks for the generous help this project receives from area farmers!

You are warmly welcome to help care for the garden throughout the summer. Come weed anytime, or save the date and join a group effort on Saturday, July 17th, 9-noon. Call to coordinate efforts, or with any questions: 463-5120.

WESTMINSTER MYSTERY PHOTO



What house appears in this photo of 1895 and for what purpose was this equipment used?

You may email your answer to the westminsternews@gmail.com or wminster@comcast.net Phone: Babs Lynde at 802-722-9518

The answer and the winners will be announced in the next issue.

May Answer: The building was located on US Route 5 in the center of Westminster. It was used by William C Bradley, a prominent attorney, who used it for many years as his law office.

(PS - the State of Vermont owns the building now, and there was a huge amount of information found there about this town and other towns that he represented in law cases. Bradley was a member of the State Legislature and then later as a member of US Congress.)

May Winners: Bernie Lawrence, David Wright, Marty Collins, Christian Blake and Audrey Gochey.

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 Westminster Volunteer Fire and Rescue

The Westminster 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.

Next association meeting June 1st 7:00 PM

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

June meetings: June 7th & 21st

Number of calls in April: 24

Number of man hours spent: 5,649

Number of calls through May 26th: 29

Number of man hours spent: 5,895

Number of calls calendar year to Date: 137

Number of calls fiscal year to date: 305

Volunteers Needed: From time to time there is a need for food to be taken to the Fire House. Calls where the fire fighters are out for an extended period of time, having some prepared food to eat and something to drink when they return is a huge compliment. Also, once in a great while there are special events which require feeding a large number of people. If you are available and are willing to be on a call list for these occasions or if you just want more information, call Chief Cole Streeter or June Streeter at 802-722-3178 and let one of them know. This is a great way to help the people who help the community in so many ways. Thanks in advance.

Swimming Safety:

Now that summer weather has arrived, caution is urged for those swimming in pools, lakes and brooks. Be sure to have a good supply of life preservers on hand and "swimmies" for the little people. Watch for hazards such as low water, slippery decks and rocks. Be extra careful when diving to insure the water is deep enough and there is nothing in the water that could cause injury. Never swim alone and be sure there is ample supervision at all times, especially when little children are around.

Air Conditioners: It is a good idea when plugging in air conditioning units to have a designated circuit specifically for that unit. This will avoid overloading the circuit and possibly overheating the wiring and causing a fire. Also make sure the filters have been checked and the unit is clean and free of dust and cobwebs that could be flammable.

Tips for burning your brush pile: Cover a small section of your pile with something to keep it dry, that way when you can get a burn permit on a rainy day, you will have some dry material to kindle the fire. Remember, anything other than brush and natural unpainted wood is illegal to burn and is subject to a fine. If you are in doubt, any of the wardens can tell you what materials are legal and what is illegal. Be sure to call one of the fire wardens to obtain a permit. You must speak with a warden. An answering machine message is not a contact.

Gas Grill Safety: Keep your gas grill clean and in good condition. There is a vent at the back of the grill that releases head smoke and at times, flames. There have been cases where vinyl siding has melted because the grill is positioned too close to a wall. Many grills will have a label listing clearance recommendations. If not, 24 inches is a good standard. Propane cylinders can also be dangerous. Be sure they are not stored indoors, but outside in a well ventilated area. And watch out for bees. Nests are apt to be made in an idle grill and could

be a big and unsuspected surprise when the cover is removed.

Caution, Bee's Nests:

With the ground drying out there are many in-ground bee's nest as

well as above ground nests. These nests are often unnoticed until someone steps on one or they are driven over by a lawn mower or other vehicle. Be especially cautious if there is someone in the family who is allergic to bee stings. If that is the case, make sure the proper first aid equipment is with them or readily available at all times.

Pet Masks and File of Life

The Westminster Fire and Rescue Department and Association is constantly working in conjunction with Westminster Cares to distribute the File of Life refrigerator magnets. The File of Life refrigerator magnets are small files that can be filled in with important information regarding contact names and medical conditions as well as a list of current prescribed medications. This could all be very pertinent information for an emergency person who is called to the house. The Pet Masks, or Animal Oxygen Recovery Masks, come in sets with three sizes of masks. The Fire Department has one set for the Rescue truck. It is the hope of the Fire Department to have a set on each fire and rescue vehicle in the future. Anyone interested in learning more about either project, contact Westminster Cares @ 722 3607 or Pete Harrison @722-3080

Association Meeting: The Westminster Fire and Rescue Association met for their regular meeting May 3rd with 29 members present and 3 members excused. Chief Cole Streeter recommended that Deputy Mark Lund and Deputy Real Bazin serve in the same capacity for another year. The members approved the recommendation unanimously. Also anniversary pins and certificates were handed out to the following member: 5 year pins to Lenny Derby and George James, 10 year pins to Bob Lynde and David Lynde, 15 year pin to Jason Smith in absentia, 20 year pins to Lieutenant Jeff Ruggiero, Steve Goodell and Paul Banik, and a framed certificate and pin to Ernie Norman for 45 years of service.

Shelter:

The Fire Station will be open for shelter in case an event occurs where shelter is needed. Contact the Chief or any member of the department in case of any emergency needs.

Donations received for the month of May:

1. From Nathan and Cynthia Stoddard and Family in memory of Don Fullam
2. One set of pet oxygen masks donated by Bruce and Elise Manning-Sterling

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

We are looking for help. 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 and an engine and a rescue vehicle located in Westminster 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 Westminster Fire and Rescue Association operates independently from Westminster Fire District #3

WESTMINSTERNEWS@GMAIL.COM

WESTMINSTER HAPPENINGS

Activities

Faith Community

Meetings

Scottish Country Dance

Classes

Every Wednesday @ 7:30 pm 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. All Westminster seniors are invited to attend. Join us at the First Congregational Church on Route 5

Bellows Falls Gallery

Downtown @ 5:30pm 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 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 7:30pm @ 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.

The First Congregational Church of Westminster

United Church of Christ
The Rev. Sami Jones McRae, Pastor
samimcrae@gmail.com

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

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.

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



WAYS A

The Westminster Area Youth Sports Association (WAYS A) would like to let everyone know that the 2010 Baseball/Softball season is well underway. You can drive by the Westminster Center School on almost any evening during the week and see cars filling the parking lot with parents, grandparents and friends, all there to watch a baseball, softball or t-ball game. The season started with a large group of parents and kids cleaning up the field. Our dedicated volunteers showed up with large equipment and rakes, it was a cold day but that didn't stop any of them from making our fields look great!! Then the fun began... practice, scheduling of games, ordering of uniforms, opening the snack shack, fundraising...so much goes into this program to make it a success. The kids have been working hard, learning the skills needed to become part of a successful team. There are a few games left in this season, so if you haven't been able to make it to a game you still have time. The kids would love the community support!!!

WESTMINSTER CARES' HEALTHY FOODS WORKSHOP

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

"COOKING ON A TIGHT BUDGET"

Chris Ellis, nutritionist, will help us get the most nutritional value from 3 low cost recipes, including egg dishes, bean dishes and chicken. All the recipes will use ingredients that can be purchased locally and are easy to use.

Come and watch the food being prepared, receive recipes and enjoy a healthy lunch.

Cooking will begin at 10:30 followed by lunch

Donations are appreciated.

Please sign up for the workshop - space is limited.

Location: The First Congregational Church of Westminster, Route 5, Westminster
To sign up, please call 722-3607 or email: wecares@sover.net

The workshop is sponsored by Westminster Cares and the Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont

Selectboard meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall.

Planning and Development Commission meets the 2nd Monday at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall.

Westminster Activities Commission

Second 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

meets the 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 meets 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.

Westminster Historical Society

3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm at the Westminster Institute.

North Westminster fire district # 5

meeting, always 2nd Monday of the month 7pm 463 9530 for more info

Westminster Gazette Meeting,

Thursday June 24th or Friday June 25th @7:30 am at Westminster Cares.

The Cabot Creamery Healthy

Schools project recently awarded the East Wing a grant of \$100.00 in cheese donations to supplement our daily all school healthy fruit snack. The cheese was distributed among all classes at the Westminster Schools in the months of April and May. Students appreciated this complimentary boost of calcium with their apples. Thank you, Cabot Health and Education Team!

The Deadline for The July 2010 Issue of the Westminster Gazette is: Thursday, July 1st by 5:00 pm

Planning Westminster: Residents will be "Respondents"

The Westminster Planning Commission certainly hopes that residents will respond to the Town Planning Survey, which is still a work in process. We are pursuing simplicity in the survey form so that it is easy for each respondent to indicate their preferences and the intensity of their wishes on a particular issue. The question format we favor at this time is called the "matrix rating" type, with one possible answer to indicate the respondent's position.

For example, here is one question likely to be on the questionnaire:
What kind of commercial or industrial development do you recommend ?

Light industry:
 Not recommended Recommended Strongly recommended

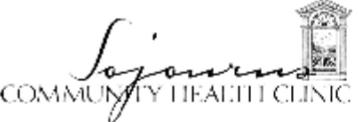
Here's another example, with five choices for the possible response:

What is important to you? How do you rate the importance of each of the following as something that you want for Westminster?

Employment opportunities:
 Not important. Somewhat important. Important.
 Very important. Extremely important.

Our plan thus far is to use an online survey that any resident can go to and complete simply by checking boxes or "filling in" circles, probably by using the computer mouse. This method will enable us to quickly compile all of the responses and have an accurate measurement of the desires of all those who take the time, about twenty minutes, to complete and submit the questionnaire. We are developing a plan that accommodates every resident who does not have easy access to a computer, including the option of printing out a paper copy to be completed with that old-fashioned reliable tool: a pen.

Visit the Town website (Westminster.govoffice.com/) or call 802-722-4524 with your questions or suggestions. The Planning Commission meets at the Town Hall, 7:00 pm, the second Monday of the month. Visitors welcome.



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- CranioSacral Therapy
- Hot Stone Massage
- Massage Therapy
- Nutrition & Cleansing
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Sound Therapy
- Immune Support
- Sauna
- Yoga Therapy
- Apothecary



It is a pleasure to announce that Jennessa Lever has been named the March Elk's Student of the Month for Bellows Falls Union High School. Jennessa, a senior, is the daughter of Tamara and Hayden Lever of Bellows Falls.

Jennessa is a hard working student who takes challenging classes and pushes herself academically. She completes her assignments with the highest quality, and is always trying to improve her writing. Always attentive in class, she respects other students' opinions and always offers her own comments that help class discussions.

Always in school and working hard, Jennessa has a positive and respectful attitude. She is a great student who is truly making the most of her high school education as possible. She has a great attitude and encourages other students. Jennessa is well liked and is a perfect role model.

Besides leading by example amongst her peers, Jennessa has worked hard outside of the classroom. She has been involved in class activities and the sports program at BFUHS and has represented the school well. This year Jennessa played Girls Tennis and Field Hockey, and was a captain on both teams.

Congratulations, Jennessa. BFUHS is proud to have you represent us with this award.



1st & 2nd



Kindergarten



Spring Concert

They rocked the house and sang like angels! Students showcased their talents on Wednesday, May 19th, packing the parking lots and bursting the Center School gym. The annual spring concert began with Westminster March, the debut performance of the school band. Kindergarteners shone in Hugga Hugga, and 1st and 2nd graders entertained with songs by Bill Stains, Red Grammer and others. The concert featured fantastic solo performances, including Nicholas Mitchell on drums, a vocal piece by Austin Ielpi and many more. 3rd and 4th graders brought some laughs with Yoda, a Yankovic parody of the Kinks song, Lola. The 5th and 6th grade Chorus sang about love with Happy Together and music by the Black Eyed Peas. Their classmates joined in for rousing versions of Watcha Say and Say Hey, among others. Everyone had a rollicking good time!



It is a pleasure to announce that Ross Gleason has been named the April Elk's Student of the Month for Bellows Falls Union High School. Ross, a senior, is the son of Archie and Sheena Gleason of Rockingham.

Ross is a dedicated student who is concerned with his education and works hard. He is attentive in class, adds insightful comments to class discussions

and works well with his classmates.

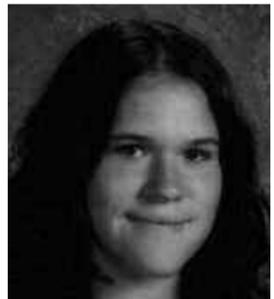
With his friendly, outgoing personality, Ross works hard to make people feel at ease and is always willing to offer a friendly hello or a word of encouragement. He is always positive and has a good sense of humor.

As a student in the second year of the business program at the River Valley Technical Center, Ross recently represented the school at the state DECA conference and last year he was one of the state representatives at the national DECA conference.

Through the technical center he has gone out into the community and participated in a number of job shadows and is always eager to talk about his experiences. Other community service time has been spent helping at the Rockingham Public Library.

Ross will attend Keuka College in Keuka, New York in the fall where he will major in business management with an interest in international business.

Congratulations, Ross. BFUHS is proud to have you represent us with this award.



It is a pleasure to announce that Margaret "Weeze" Bennet has been named the Bellows Falls Union High School Elk's Student of the Month for May. A junior, Weeze is the daughter of Peter and Jeanne Bennett of Westminster.

A dedicated student, Weeze works hard in her classes. She challenges herself and often goes above and beyond the requirements of the assignments. Willing to lead in small groups and play an active role in class

discussions, Weeze is articulate, insightful and offers a lot to class discussions.

Weeze is a positive student who is willing to help others. She doesn't hesitate to offer help when students are struggling on assignments and she is always willing to offer a helping hand to faculty and staff. As the junior class vice-president she helped plan and work at fundraisers and worked hard to make sure everything was in place for the prom.

Student government, sports and class activities are part of her resume' from her time at BFUHS. She has been on student council, helped the girl's basketball team, played tennis and has been a class officer all three years. Weeze has worked dedicatedly to make BFUHS a better place.

Last year Weeze was one of the BFUHS representatives to the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Conference at St. Michaels and she has participated in student council community service projects.

Congratulations, Weeze. BFUHS is proud to have you represent us with this award.

Summer Reading BOOK bonanza

In June of 2008, the Westminster Schools gave each student \$25 worth of books! Why? Research shows the more kids read, the better they're able to read. To make sure all our students had great books right there at home, we gave them away! The next fall, we discovered kids had read and really valued their personal selections, often recommending them to friends as favorite reads.

Thanks to a grant, we're running a Summer Book Bonanza AGAIN this spring. The librarian selected 85 titles for all from the youngest to 6th grade readers. On May 23rd - 25th, children pored over choices during library classes and "spent" their book dollars. The price of these books is that choices be at or near each child's reading level. Thanks to the efforts of Village Square Booksellers, multiple copies of ordered books will be on hand for distribution at the end of school - just in time for reading over summer vacation.

by Liz Bourne

Important JUNE Dates at Westminster Center and West Schools on Page (4)

Extensions Extensions Extensions

Have you filed your 2009 Tax Return? If not, we are here to help you get it done.

We are here year round for all your tax planning and preparation needs.

Monday - Thursday 9-5

Call now and make an appointment
(802-722-4500)

SPALDING & MADDEN TAX SERVICES 5111 US RTE 5 IN WESTMINSTER STATION

Historical Society to open museum on July 4th

She walks up the street giggling with her girl friends, sharing gossip, discussing their activities and boys. She worries about exams. She attends church and loves to sing with the choir. She looks for mail on Valentine's Day. She helps her mother with household chores. Do you know this gal? Perhaps, but the young lady in question was Fannie Grout. She lived with her family on Grout Ave., in Westminster in the mid 1800s. Her charming personal journal that she kept between 1855 and 1856 when she was 17 has been transcribed and printed by our society. Copies will be for sale at the museum. This year we will have a special exhibit featuring artifacts from Fannie Grout's life in Westminster and the Westminster Seminary, where she studied.

The Westminster Historical Society Museum on the second floor of Town Hall will again open on Sunday afternoons beginning July 4th. Visit between the hours of 2 and 4 pm and take a walk back into time. There are relics from the old Cumberland County Court House, the Tory Tavern and the original Meeting House. The kids will love to see the big Court House model that has rooms like a doll house, all furnished down to the candlesticks and bed rack in the prison room. The old Town horse drawn hearse is now on the main floor for viewing. Many other surprises will be there for your enjoyment.

BF Alumni Weekend NEWS June 18-20, 2010

Dances

The 105th Bellows Falls Alumni Association's three-day weekend celebration will commence Friday, June 18 thru Sunday, June 20. Dances will be held Friday evening from 8 pm to 12 am at the Waypoint Center with music by Intercept and at American Legion Post 37 with deejay Pete Carlson. Paid dues (\$7.00) and a \$5.00 cover charge are necessary for admission to any of the dances. Alumni may purchase one guest ticket. Dues should be paid by mail, but dues may also be paid at the Dari Joy the night of the dance from noon to 8 pm or the immediately preceding Wednesday and Thursday from 5 to 8 pm.

Reunions

Class reunions will be held Saturday at various locations, including the fiftieth reunion of the Class of 1960 at Vermont Academy as guests of the Association.

Parade/Queen

The gala alumni parade will kick off at 1 pm sharp Sunday from the Morgan's field staging area, south on Atkinson Street, then north on Westminster Street thru the Square to Rockingham Street. Class entries are encouraged. Please register your entry by calling 802-376-6975.

Prior to the start of the parade, the Alumni Queen, selected by the 2010 graduating class, will be crowned in the Square at 12:30 pm. Queen candidates include Julie Cermola, Nicole Gay, Sophie Geha, Alyson Hewitt and Nadine Rowell.

Grand Marshal

Hardworking businessperson, jack of all trades and generous community member Steve James is the Grand Marshal of the 2010 parade. The Association wishes Steve the best on his day!

Scholarship Fund

A collection for the 52-year-old scholarship fund and the general support of the weekend will be conducted during the parade; please be as generous as possible. Over 228 graduates have received \$120,200 in scholarship awards since 1958.

Business Meeting

The annual business meeting will be held at 4 pm Sunday at the Bellows Falls Middle School. Awards will be presented for class attendance, long distance, floats and bands.

BEST ENERGY SAVINGS TECHNOLOGIES



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Invitation to Help Your Town

Both the Development Review Board and the Planning Commission are each in need of an additional member at this time. Both are volunteer positions, five members on each panel. The Select Board is the authority that would appoint a qualified person to either of these volunteer positions for one to four years.

The Planning Commission (PC) applies State law and current policies to engage in an ongoing process of reviewing the Town Plan and making recommendations to the Select Board for revisions of the Town Plan or of the Westminster Zoning Ordinance. The PC does not have any legislative authority, and it uses warned meetings to document the efforts made to have public opinion taken into consideration. Literature for study and training is available, though on-the-job experience is sometimes the most valuable training. Environmental protection and the types and pace of development that the ordinances should allow, as well as adjusting to economic needs, are typical topics for research and lively discussion.

The Development Review Board (DRB) is a Quasi-Judicial body, that "hears and makes decisions" -- like a court -- on applications for renovation projects proposed for the Historical Preservation District, new construction of single family houses, stores or factories, other major renovation and development projects, applications for a Change of Use and a flexible approach called a "Planned Unit Development".

Functioning on the DRB requires both art and science, and the ability to cope with strong opinions, either for or against a particular zoning ordinance or even zoning in general. The DRB renders decisions on renovation projects proposed for the Historical Preservation District.

Each of these positions is guaranteed to keep your brain alert and offer you an opportunity to serve your Town government and your community. If interested, please speak to Town Manager Sonia Alexander at 722-4255

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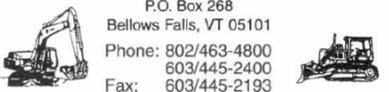
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HARLOW FARMSTAND
BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

Harlow Farmstand has been in business 20 years! There have been several farmstands at our Route 5 location, but the current one opened in 1991, and an addition built in 1999.

The 2010 season got in gear quickly – we're selling bedding plants, perennials and hanging baskets, along with our usual variety of organic produce. Strawberries ripened two weeks earlier than usual, and we're selling our own asparagus and greens – lettuce, chard, kale, beet greens and collards. Naturally raised Harlow Farm beef, pork, chicken and eggs are available.

Most of our produce comes from Harlow Farm, where the crew is busy transplanting, irrigating and cutting lettuce. The cattle, pigs and chickens are loving the deep grass and warm weather.

At 6 p.m., June 24, we'll have An Evening of Local Strawberries. Nancy Gilman of Provisions International will demonstrate innovative ways of preparing strawberries, such as strawberry galette with creme fraiche. It's free but seating is limited, so please sign up at the stand.

Our biggest news this year is Evan and Katya Harlow's new son, Teo, born March 17. His grandfather Paul already envisions him driving the tractor.

Harlow Farm is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

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The Saxtons River Plant Swappers have begun their summer season

We meet every Wednesday at 6PM at the Fire Station in Saxtons River (rain or shine). After perennials are exchanged, we visit an area garden.

Every week it is a different garden, and different perennials are brought to the swap. No entrance fee or test, just bring a plant, and take home something new. This is open to everyone, you don't have to live in Saxtons River, swappers come from surrounding towns. For information, email Alison Latham aliemae@juno.com or call 802-387-5711.

"The Garden of Art"
June 26th & 27th
10:00 to 2:00

Westminster Institute
Main Street, Westminster, VT

Presented by Members of the Saxtons River Art Guild

Saxtons River Art Guild will present an art show at the Westminster Institute the same weekend as the garden tour, but at slightly different hours. Please plan to visit between 10 am & 2 pm. The show is free and open to the public. The Saxtons River Art Guild was formed in 1976 for the advancement and encouragement of the fine arts. All art will be original work and 10% of all sales will be donated to Westminster Cares.

The Gardens of Westminster
WESTMINSTER, VERMONT



Saturday, June 25th 10am–3pm
Sunday, June 26th 12–3pm

RAIN OR SHINE  ADMISSION \$10

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School Board Blog

In an effort to increase transparency and communication with the public about the school board, Westminster Board member Rick Gordon has been keeping a blog <http://www.rick-westboard.blogspot.com/>. Please keep track of this site for information and reflections on the workings of the school board.

Westminster Gazette

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