

Westminster Gazette



po box 147 westminster vt 05158

Our Community Newspaper @ www.westminstervt.org

Vol. 10, No.5 May 2014

Ah, After a Long Winter, Spring Is Here!



The Westminster Schools jumped into the new season with three big events. On Wednesday, April 9th cakes rolled into the Center School gym: Funniest ("Prickly after a long Winter"), Healthiest ("Mud Season Road Repair" - vegan Chocolate-raspberry), Least Likely (a "jug" of Vermont Pure Maple Syrup), and many more.

Let Them Eat Cake, a fundraiser for arts programming at the schools, raised a sweet \$1200 and provided an evening of excellent entertainment. Hallways were festooned with student art and filled with the sounds of singing children (concert recordings via loudspeaker). This year's judges' panel included three retired teachers, winners received beautiful hand-painted plates (thank you Vanessa Schoonover), and cakes were auctioned live and by Silent Auction.

The day before Spring Break featured another round of all-school multi-age

Enrichment Activities, sponsored by the school's Diversity Committee. Children spent the morning learning about another culture, honoring, seeing and participating in the lives and experiences of people who we typically do not present in our curriculum.

Each activity was introduced with stories, video clips or other explanations of where it originated and its importance. Playing games from around the world, making unleavened flatbread or origami, learning about - and tasting! - examples of rice dishes from many countries, dying Pysanky eggs, meeting visitors from Malawi, and lots more: it was an exciting morning.

In the afternoon, children truly jumped into spring. Jump Rope for Heart was an afternoon of rope-jumping and healthy snack eating, as well as a chance to donate to The American Heart Association and an exhilarating start to vacation!

Compass School Begins Major Expansion

The biggest capital construction project in Compass history is underway. Construction crews have poured the footings for the 2,000 square foot addition. The \$750,000 project includes adding a new arts space and science lab, Spanish classroom, two quiet study spaces, new staff offices and a welcoming entrance with a front porch.

Architect Charles Michal of Weller & Michal of Harrisville, NH has a strong record with academic clients, having designed a beautiful building for High Mowing School and facilities for public schools in Keene.

Other key partners include the US Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Office of Rural Development that is financing the project via a low-interest loan, Wesfield Construction Company of Chesterfield, NH and Hal Wilkins principal of Ramsey, McLaren, a well-regarded Westminster planning and engineering firm. Hal serves as USDA onsite inspector, confirming specified materials, workmanship and schedule.

This new construction builds on 15 years of accomplishment at Compass. Admission Director Rick Cowan observes, "We've always been strong at integrating the arts throughout the curriculum. Creating a dedicated lab space for artistic work will allow students and teachers to extend this key part of the educational program." Whether a high school social studies unit on Art for Social Change or middle school mask making as part of a "Who Am I?" unit or an elective filmmaking course, the arts enable students to express understanding of core content.

Compass also features strong field-based science. Students "do" science at Compass—engaging in hands-on experiences with lab-based experiments and many opportunities to study outside the school in the "real world." Antioch University New England Graduate School's science education students take their methods course at Compass, and they will benefit from this state of the art science lab for their practice teaching experiences.

Other campus improvements include the installation of energy-saving roof insulation and new overhead lighting throughout the existing building. These



investments reflect Compass' dedication to sustainability and healthy balance for the building and for the students.

Compass School was founded in 1999 to offer students in grades 7-12 a more personalized and responsive approach to education. Serving a population with over 25% on free and reduced lunch, over 20% special education, and with a per pupil cost thousands of dollars below public or private schools in the state, Compass boasts a 100% graduation rate with over 90% of graduates accepted to college. In addition, colleges recognize the value of the Compass program awarding its graduates with generous merit based scholarships, often paying the full cost of college tuition.

These improvements in the school's infrastructure will reflect the quality of learning. "Excitement is high for these great new facilities," says Director Rick Gordon. The addition and upgraded interior of the existing building will be ready for students, faculty and staff in September.



Windham Solid Waste Management District
Recycling Today For A Better Tomorrow

FREE Household Hazardous Waste Collection!
 Saturday, May 17, 2014, 9:00 am – 11:00 am

Locations:

- * Guilford Central School
- * Westminister Central School
- * Newfane Town Offices
- * Twin Valley High School

What to Bring: Oil paint and stains, solvents, paint strippers/ thinners, car wax, motor oil, antifreeze, gasoline, driveway sealer, roofing tar, pesticides, chemical fertilizers, weed killers, cleaners, mothballs, bleach, pool chemicals, & flea control products.

What NOT to bring: empty containers, electronic waste, fluorescent bulbs, ammunition, explosives & medical waste.

Limit – No more than a total of 10 gallons per household.

For more information call (802) 257-0272 or visit our website, www.windhamsolidwaste.org.



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

BEST SEPTIC

It's Tough to Beat the BEST

www.bestsepticvt.net
 bestseptic@gmail.com
 Fax: (802)-463-1523

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

Jeff & Lisa Ruggiero
 Owners

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

WESTMINSTER KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

It's time for the Westminster Kindergarten registration for the 2014-2015 School Year. This will take place on Friday, May 16 at The Westminster Center School, with morning and afternoon sessions. Please call The Westminster Center School or Anne Briccetti, Westminster Early Childhood Outreach Coordinator, for more information, at 387-6689



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

Paul Lawrence
 Travis Lawrence
 PO Box 174
 Westminster, VT 05158

Lawn Maintenance
 Landscaping
 Plowing
 General Labor/Odd Jobs

TAKE YOUR WEEKEND OFF!

Last Month's Mystery Photo

Last month's mystery picture was the bridge located on Route 121 and named the Sabin Bridge. It was torn down shortly after the town voted in 1940 to take it down and replace it with a concrete one. Thank you to David Wright for giving us this picture. It was correctly answered by Bob Gay, Mary Brandt, Dan Green, Chuck Darrell, Marty Collins, Richard Morse, and Bob and Pat Haas.



Sojourns COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC
Holistic Care for Whole Bodies

Primary Care
 Family Practice
 Naturopathy
 Acupuncture
 Biological Medicine
 Chiropractic
 CranioSacral Therapy
 Hot Stone Massage
 Massage Therapy
 Nutrition & Cleansing
 Physical Therapy
 Sound Therapy
 Immune Support
 Herbal Medicine
 Infrared Sauna
 Apothecary

Primary Care
 Holistic Care
 Preventative Care
 &
 Just Taking Care

Insurance accepted for all covered services
 Gift certificates available

802-722-4023
 4923 US Route 5, Westminster, VT
www.sojourns.org

Motel Westminster

- Country Motel • Comfortable & Convenient •

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

Reasonable Rates

ADVERTISE IN THE GAZETTE!

Annual Rates:
 Pages 2-3 approx. 2.5"x3" \$250 a year \$25 for one month

Pages 4-7 approx. 3.5"x4" \$500 a year \$75 for one month

Page 8 approx. 1.5"x2.5" \$150 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

Need Adobe Reader to open & high speed internet

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

"Sam" Streeter L.L.C.
 Licensed Electrician
 Box 206, Westminster, Vt. 05158
 Tel: (802) 722-3748
 (Building, Remodeling & Repairs)

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

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

NEW STORE HOURS

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

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

ALL SEASONS TREE SERVICE
Eco-Friendly Plant Healthcare

Ask us about:

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



Also available:

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

Full Service
 Fully Insured

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



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

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

WESTMINSTER CARES ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR, JUNE 28 AND 29

Everyone is invited to Westminster Cares' thirteenth annual Garden Tour on Saturday and Sunday, June 28 and 29, in Westminster, Vermont. The tour will again feature the gardens of Mary and Gordon Hayward, nationally known garden designer, writer, and lecturer.

You'll be able to visit three other noteworthy Westminster gardens on the tour, as well: the gardens of Lucy and Jim Matteau, Caitlyn and Peter Adair, and Barbara Sherrod and Mark Steinhardt will be opened to the public.

The tour will be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. Lunch and refreshments will be available at the Hayward garden. You will be able to buy tickets to a raffle to benefit Westminster Cares, with many prizes offered.

Admission for one (or both days) is \$15; two for \$25. Tickets are good for both days of the tour. Discounted tickets can be purchased online—one for \$13, two for \$22. (The Garden Tour is held, rain or shine. Tickets are nonrefundable).

Many thanks to our sponsors: Chroma, C & S Wholesale Grocers, Durand Toyota and Ford, People's United Bank, and Vermont Country Store.

For more information on the tour, check our website for updates: www.westminstercares.org. E-mail us at wecares@sover.net or call 722-3607.

Proceeds from the tour support the services and programs of Westminster Cares, a volunteer organization whose mission is to create opportunities for seniors and disabled adults to live with independence and dignity in the community.

Westminster Cares is a nonprofit organization, formed in 1988, that works with seniors and disabled adults in Westminster, Vermont, to help them remain healthy and independent in the community. Call us at 722-3607 or visit our Web site, westminstercares.org. Like us on Facebook.



VSO'S DRUMSHTICK TO VISIT AREA SCHOOLS

The Vermont Symphony Orchestra's "DrumShtick" Percussion Trio will visit schools in Westminster and Putney on May 14. They will perform at the Center School at 11:00 and at the Grammar School at 2:15 in the afternoon.

"DrumShtick" is always a big hit in schools. Brian Johnson, Robert Levis, and Jane Boxall are all excellent performers with years of experience turning kids on to classical music. Their show is called "Percussion Means the World to Us," and it explores a culturally diverse repertoire and includes demonstrations of non-Western instruments. Through their sometimes zany humor they introduce children both to general musical concepts and to the family of percussion instruments.

The VSO's traveling ensembles visit all corners of the state as part of an outreach program known as the Lois H. McClure "Musicians-in-the-Schools" program. These lively performances are met with overwhelming enthusiasm, as the musical ambassadors spread the word that classical music can be fun!

These concerts are part of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra's statewide SymphonyKids education program, which reached over 30,000 schoolchildren last year with 283 presentations serving 195 schools in 170 different communities.

For more information on "DrumShtick" or the VSO's SymphonyKids programs in general, please call Eleanor Long at (800) VSO-9293 ext. 14.



IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH - WESTMINSTER CARES WALKING GROUP IS ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Shake off the winter blues and come out to walk!

Westminster Cares' Walking Group set to resume mid-May; but only if we have enough participants.

Call Donna in the office at 722-3607 to let us know you're interested.

If we meet our minimum, the group will walk on Wednesday's at 9 a.m.;

Meet at the Park & Ride on Westminster Heights Road. All levels of walkers are welcome. Don't forget your water. Hope you can join us for adventure, exercise and friendship.

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER CARES

The Westminster Cares, Inc. Board of Directors met April 9th at the Westminster Fire House with President Pete Harrison presiding. The following board members were present: Don Dawson, Reggie Borden, Kathy Elliott, Susan Harlow, Karen Walter, Sally Ryea and Director Donna Dawson.

Connie Sanderson, Heidi Anderson, Miriam Lanata and Barbara Carey were excused. 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 friends.

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

Check us out on the web at www.westminstercares.org and like us on Facebook.

Assistance and Referrals: Many hours of assistance to Westminster residents and their families, collaborating with social service agencies, Senior Solutions, the VA, Friends of Veterans, SEVCA, Red Cross, VCIL, Adult Protective Services and the Visiting Nurses.

Services provided: Meals on Wheels in March: 20 different WC volunteers delivered meals throughout the month to 18 people on a daily basis. In addition two frozen entrees were delivered to nine people on Fridays for the weekend. [18 total] Another new "team" of drivers was trained on the route. Transportation –

During the month of March, seven different volunteers provided rides for nine different people to medical appointments, shopping or programs for a total of 326 miles.

Nursing program: During March, our community nurse was away. Isabelle made one visit and 46 calls to two different Westminster residents for a total of three hours.

Meetings attended by staff in March included: bookkeeping, Gazette, computer/ web site, graphic designer, grant writing and various committees.

Programs during the March included: two Secrets of Healthy Aging session, five Yoga classes, 24 Strength Training classes held and four Artist in Each of Us classes.

Friendly Visits: two volunteers making friendly visits to three seniors.

Equipment available: Walkers, commodes, shower chairs, wheel chairs, hospital beds, scooters and electric wheel chair. Equipment loan: several pieces of equipment loaned out in March.

Equipment needed. Currently storage is tight, however we are in a need of transfer benches, a bariatric wheelchair or a power recliner.

Memorial donations for April:

In memory of Evelyn Rhoades from Myra Ashcroft In memory of Evelyn Rhoades from Rebecca and William Noyes In memory of Evelyn Rhoades from Margaret Rhoades Bost In memory of Evelyn Rhoades for Pete and Judy Harrison.

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 is May 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.

April Prudential meetings: 12th and 26th

Number of calls in March: 28

Number of calls through April 29th: 42

Number of calls calendar year to Date: 130

Number of calls fiscal year to date: 330

Association Meeting: The Westminster Fire and Rescue Association met for their regular meeting April 1st with President Greg Holton presiding. There were members 20 present and 5 members excused. Currently there are 40 members of the volunteer fire department. Years of service pins will be handed out at the next meeting. Next month we will post the names of all current members of the department as well as those receiving special awards for service.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: From time to time there is a need for food to be brought to the Fire House. During calls when the fire fighters are out for an extended period of time, having something to eat or 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 them know. This is a great way to help the people who help the community in so many ways. Thanks in advance.

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.

Burn Permits: Even though there has been some rainfall recently there has been a lot of wind. It is still risky to do an outside burn. Because of the dryness, we have been called to an unusual number of brush fire in our town and surrounding towns. Recent brush fires have contained underground fire as much as two feet deep. Call one of the wardens to see if permits are being given out.

Warden: Cole Streeter 722-3178

Deputy Warden: Mark Lund 463-9355

Deputy Warden: Pat Haas 387-5778

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

Donations received in April:

Kari Lynn Pierce

Chris and Gillian Silva

Donations given in April:

1. To the West Fairlee Volunteer Fire Department Lisa Ordway relief fund.

2. B.F.U.H.S class of 2015 junior prom

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 Westminster West.

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 at www.westminsterfireandrescue.org

TOWN CLERK & TREASURER VACANCIES

The Town of Westminster announces the upcoming vacancies in the positions of Town Clerk and Town Treasurer.

These positions require exceptional communication and interpersonal skills; bookkeeping, computer and organizational skills. Resumes cannot be considered unless you are a Westminster resident.

Advertising will appear in the Brattleboro Reformer on May 9 and 10; a description of these positions, important dates, key responsibilities and duties will be available at that time on the Town Web site at www.westminstervt.org.

FREE PINNACLE ASSOCIATION PROGRAMS

On Mother's Day, May 11, at 7 a.m., join Richard Foye, birder extraordinaire, for an Early Morning Birding Walk.

Foye will help fine-tune your birding-by-ear skills on a walk from Holden Trail to the Latham Trail kiosk, where you will be shuttled back to the start. Meet at the Holden Trail kiosk.

Check www.windmillhillpinnacle.org under Trails & Maps, Access to Trailheads, for directions. Register with Sarah Waldo at 387-6036 or sarah_waldo@hotmail.com.

WESTMINTER LOGO T-SHIRT SALE

The Westminster Congregational Church in Westminster is selling T-shirts at their Spring Bazaar on Saturday, May 24.

All orders are due June 6th. Contact Mary Brandt for questions or orders at 802-732-8360.

Prices and sizes are as follows:

Men's pocket T's with Logo on back - \$15 each except XX-L which is \$16.

Westminster design on back of T-shirt.

Sizes : M, L, X-L, XX-L

Women's scoop neck T-shirt - \$15.

Westminster design on back of T-shirt.

Sizes: M, L, X-L

Women's polo shirts - \$20.

Westminster design on left front .Sizes: M, L, X-L



A pASHion for Our Native Ash

by Babs Lynde, a Vermont Master Gardener

This year, Arbor Day in Vermont is on Friday, May 2nd, 2014. Each state celebrates Arbor Day according to its own seasons, and Vermont has chosen an annual date of the first Friday in the month of May. Trees are the backbone of our state, and due to various programs and organizations, like Arbor Day, we have become more aware of our trees and the significance of keeping them healthy and plentiful.

Thanks to the combined efforts of the Arbor Day Foundation and the U.S. Forest Service, more than 20 million trees have been planted throughout our national forests in the past decade. This year in Vermont, we would specifically like to focus on the ash tree because it is the most plentiful variety in our forests but in recent danger of mass destruction due to Emerald Ash Borer beetle.

It is estimated there are over 160 million ash trees in Vermont which makes it in the top ten for trees in our forests. Ash trees are native to Vermont, including green, white and black varieties. The ash is related to the olive family and produces oil that is chemically similar to olive oil. It is a hardwood that is strong yet elastic and used extensively for many different products including baseball bats, guitars, drums, furniture and dinnerware.

White ash also makes a great barbecue or smoking wood. In the early years of aviation, many parts of the plane, including the propellers, were made from ash wood, and one major car company in Great Britain still uses ash for the frames of its sports cars.

Our ash trees are currently threatened by a recent invader, originally from the eastern Russian to northern China area, as well as Japan and Korea. In 2002, the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) beetle was first found in North America and believed to have hitchhiked over in packaging or some other consumer product. This beetle can decimate and destroy a fully mature ash in as little

as 2 to 3 years, starting with the upper boughs of the tree and working its way down.

The adult beetle is a beautiful crimson green, about 1/2 inch long and harmless to humans. It emerges from a "D" shaped hole where it overwinters between the bark and the cambium area (that part of the wood where nutrient levels are high.) Late May to early June is the peak for the beetles to extract themselves from the trees, and approximately 4 weeks later, eggs will hatch and the tiny larvae will bore into the trees to begin all over again to literally suck the life from the tree.

Although the adults can fly at least a half mile from their host tree to find another one for their eggs, one of the largest ways that the EAB has been able to travel is through people harvesting trees for production or firewood – whether by purchase for winter heat or for camping. The State of Vermont as well as all other states in the northern regions and Canada have established laws that make the transportation of wood from one state to another illegal without proper authorization.

If you believe you may have found the EAB in your area, please contact the Master Gardener Extension services or the USDA Emerald Ash Borer Hotline toll-free at 1-866-322-4512. There are many articles and websites with pictures and additional information about this invasive insect, and with your help, we might be able to save one of our most precious native resources, the ash tree.

Would you like more information concerning Arbor Day, ash trees and the Emerald Ash Borer beetle? 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.

KEEPING THE TIE THAT BINDS

By Karen Walter

I recently attended the funeral of one of our celebrated ninety-year olds. It was a joy to hear one of her daughters read a poem that she had written in fifth grade and presented to her mother on Mother's Day many years ago.

Every once in a while, when looking through old papers and pictures, I come across my great grandmother's journal. What a treat it is, every time! I actually take time to sit down and look through it again. From this journal I know that the temperature in Homewood, Kansas, during the summer of 1934 was over 100 degrees for three months.

I know that my great-grandfather Ira went to town in a car about once or twice a week. I know that my mom, then a young girl, went over to the grandparents' house in the forenoon to help with the laundry, preparing meals for the farm hands and quilting later. These words just pull me into my family's past and give me such a sense of connectedness. A joke in our family is why did Ira go to town so often??

It's easy to lose this connectedness when we clear out our homes to downsize or when we pass on. Our "Best Little Vermont Historical Society," here in Westminster, likes to receive postcards, letters, and pictures of people and buildings pertaining to Westminster. Newspaper clippings with dates are another item we don't see much of any more.

The clippings were very important to Jessie Haas when she wrote Westminster Vermont 1735 – 2000. From these snippets we can put tidbits together and discover who lived where or businesses that were thriving here. From one particular poster and news report we know that four thousand people attended the Fourth of July and Old Home Days in 1920. That must have taken some planning.

The handwritten word is disappearing. Let's all make an effort to be thoughtful before we throw out letters and cards with what seems to be unimportant information on them. A simple date or note can give us a glimpse of the past, an ancestor's personality, or some historic incident. And it keeps the ties that bind. I know that I feel honored to have my name in the index of Jessie's book.

If you have some items that you think may have historical interest, call Bob Haas at 722-5778; Richard Michelman is always on the look out for items also. Both are members of the Westminster Historical Society.

You are warmly invited to monthly meetings of the historical society, on the second Tuesday of each month at the Butterfield Institute. Anyone may attend.

Karen Walter is a founding member and board member emerita of Westminster Cares and a member of the Westminster Historical Society's Board of Trustees.



What is the purpose of this gathering, where was it and what year did this happen?

E-mail your answer to westminsternews@gmail.com or blynde@westminstervt.org, or phone Babs Lynde at 722-9516.

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

Last Month's Answer: On Page 3.

If you have pictures you think would make a great mystery photo stop by the town office and see Babs Lynde.

GAZETTE SEEKS DONATIONS

The Westminster Gazette is asking if any readers might be able to make a donation of a ream of copy paper or a box of envelopes.

Anyone interested in helping out in this way can contact the Gazette at westminsternews@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEERS HONORED BY KURN HATTIN HOMES

Nobel Peace Prize winner, Albert Schweitzer once said, "The interior joy we feel when we have done a good deed, is the nourishment the soul requires." With that in mind, Kurn Hattin Homes held its Annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet on April 22nd to honor and thank the many people who devoted their personal time and energy to volunteering on campus throughout the year. The residential school and home, which serves at-risk children aged 6-15, has over one hundred volunteers who dedicate their time, talent and care for the children.

Co-Executive Director Tom Fahner describes the volunteers as the lifeblood of the community, some working with Kurn Hattin for decades "Our volunteers are very committed, one of our most precious resources. The children truly appreciate having someone take a special interest in their well-being."

The team helps with governance, school activities, sports, music and special events. Fahner notes that developing a team of great volunteers is a process. It is one that begins with safety and security protocols, history and training, and appropriately matching the skills and interests of the volunteer with the needs of the children and organization.

"The gift of service is mutually beneficial. Different generations can learn skills, kindness, and wisdom from one another." Addressing the gathered volunteers at the banquet, he told them how important their efforts were, "We could not do many of these programs without you."

Every year the Kurn Hattin volunteers are recognized at this special dinner in their honor. This year's Honorees are: Bill Abbott, David Adams, Donna Aldrich, David Baldasaro, Jerry L. Bardwell, Julie Barry, Mildred Barry, Carol Bazin, Diane Bazin, Jeff Bianconi, Sue Bingaman, Carolyn Blake-Deyo, Michael Blau, John Bohannon, Bill & Barbara Brackett, Carol Brennan-Johnson, Gordon Bristol, Scott Bundy, Donald Campbell, Leslie Canavan, Gary Carrier, Fran Cheslock, Sheriff Keith Clark, Paul Clough, Gary Cobb, Pat Crotty, Marion Daley, Jamie Dansereau, Mary Davis, Ruth DeMone, Steve Durand, Tim Eno, Tom & Donna Fahner, Carol Failla, Deborah Fajans, Michael Fawcett, Bill Fenn, Amy Fletcher, Mona Frye, Justin & Shannon Fuller, Chris Goding, Christopher Hackett, Father Lance W. Harlow, Robert Harrington, Elizabeth Henry, John & Carol Hubbard, Elliott Hunnewell, Matt Hunter, Geoffrey Illingworth, Lyssa Jackson, Jennifer Jacobs, Tim Janis, Charles P. Kelsey, Kenneth King, Kay Kloppenburg, Michelle Knight, Jon Korpela, Bertha



Lawrence, Steve H. Lee, Dorriane Lescord, Abigail Littlefield, Richard Long, James A. Lynch, Reverend Sami MacRae, Elizabeth Maiola, Jackie Mallory, Rick Manson, Barbara Matteson, David Maysilles, Tammy Mellish, Michelle Menegaz, Kathleen Michel, Corey Mitchell, Marilyn Moore, Sally Motzer, Merrill Mundell, Keri Newton, Sue Nostrand, Michael J. Obuchowski, Sara & Ben Olson, Virginia Onorato, Frank Patterson, Rebecca Pedigo, Charles Pelchar, Mary Kay Pfadenhauer, Mrs. Frank J. Prindl, Jasmin Queen, Caryl Richardson, Marilyn Roberts, Anna Rossi, Anita Roy, Karen & Stan Rumrill, Carmen Sanderson, William J. Scarlett, IV, Sheldon Scott, Catherine Semans, Donald Shaughnessy, Tina Smith, Lindsey Soboleski, Annette Spaulding & Patrick Madden, Malcolm Streeter, Janice Sussebach, Sierra Sylvester-Patterson, Scotty Tabachnick, Polly Thompson, Matt Tomberg, Vern & Roberta (Bobbi) Violette, Trudy Walker, Gary West, Joan Willey, Ronald M. Williams, Janet Wilson, Greg Worden, and Larry & Bette Wunderle.

Established in 1894, Kurn Hattin Homes for Children in Westminster, Vermont is a charitable, year-round home and school for boys and girls, ages 6-15, who are affected by tragedy and social or economic hardship. Kurn Hattin Homes transforms the lives of children and their families forever. For more information: www.kurnhattin.org

WESTMINSTER HAPPENINGS

Activities

Scottish Country Dance Classes

Every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. 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 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.

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.

Zumba Class - Basic Level 1 (B1)

Every Sunday from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Westminster Institute. Suggested minimum donation.

Please call 376-5397 or e-mail paulinebob@hotmail.com to register or for more information.

Westminster West Public Library Trustees

The Westminster West Public Library Trustees meet on the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the library. They welcome visits from the public, but it would be best to check times with Bev Major at 387-5737 before coming.

Bellows Falls Farmers' Market

Stop by the Train Station in Bellows Falls the third Friday of each month, through March, 4 to 7 p.m., for our indoor Winter Farmers Market. We are able to supply local vegetables throughout the winter as well as breads, cheeses, canned goods, meats, prepared foods, crafts and more! For details visit www.bffarmersmarket.com or call 463-2018.

Faith Community

The First Congregational Church of Westminster

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

Sunday School is held at 10 a.m. from September 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

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 Jennifer Hed and Margit Lilly.

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.

Grace Bible Fellowship Services

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.gb4hisglory.com/.

Meetings

Selectboard 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 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 7 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 2nd 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 1st Wednesday of every month, at the Westminster Fire Station at 4 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 Tuesday, May 27 at 4:30 p.m. at the Town Hall

Westminster Recycling Committee Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Westminster Fire Station.

LIBRARY HOURS

Beginning May 8 the Westminster West Library's Thursday hours will be changed to 10 a.m. to noon. The remaining open hours remain the same: Mondays 7 to 9 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays 2 to 6 p.m.; Saturdays 10 to noon. The Afterschool Program is on Wednesdays 2:45 to 4:30 p.m.

**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
Durand Ford Toyota

WESTMINSTER GAZETTE
Editor: Robert Smith

Board of Directors:
Charmion Handy - Chairwoman
Bobbi Kilburn
Donna Dawson
Sophie Guerrina
Babs Lynde
Lindy Larson

Printed by Turley Publications of
Palmer, MA

Pictures and Articles
Provided by the Community
westminsternews@gmail.com

SEVERAL TOWN SEATS ARE OPEN

The following town positions are open:

Planning Commission: 1 seat, 2 year term The Planning Commission meets the second Monday of every month.

Development Review Board: 1 seat, 1 year term The DRB meets the first Monday of every month.

Conservation Commission : 2 seats For a description of these positions visit the town Web site at www.westminstervt.org.

Activities Commission: 2 seats

CRVC Wantastiquet Region River Subcommittee: 1 seat

Council on Aging Representatives: 1 seat

Windham Regional Planning Commission: 1 seat

Contact the Town Manager's office Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 722-4255 if you are interested in applying for any of these positions.

**The Deadline for
the June 2014 Issue of the
Westminster Gazette is
Wednesday, June 28.
Publish Date is
Tuesday, June 2.
To Contact the
Westminster Gazette E-mail:
westminsternews@gmail.com**

**Partnering With You for
a Healthier Community**



Call to Schedule Your Appointment Today!

Charlestown Family Medicine
Main Street, Charlestown, NH
603-826-5711

Chester Family Medicine
Route 11, Main Street, Chester, VT
802-875-2546

Ludlow Health Center
1 Elm Street, Ludlow, VT
802-228-8867

Rockingham Medical Group
1 Hospital Court, Bellows Falls, VT
802-463-9000

Springfield Health Center
100 River Street, Springfield, VT
802-886-8900

The Women's Health Center
29 Ridgewood Road, Springfield, VT
802-886-3556

Some Day visits are accommodated whenever possible. Please call.

Walk-in Care, with no appointment necessary, is offered at our Ludlow, Rockingham, and Springfield offices.



Springfield
Medical Care Systems, Inc.
Where People Come First

24/7 Emergency Care

Fast Track Emergency Care available daily, 11 am - 7 pm.

25 Ridgewood Road, Springfield, VT
www.springfieldmed.org

OPEN HOUSE AT THE WESTMINSTER INSTITUTE SUNDAY, MAY 18

On Sunday, May 18, from 1 to 4 p.m., there will be an Open House Celebration at the Institute in Westminster. The purpose is to celebrate the almost 100 years that the Institute has been functioning in the center of town.

Many people have fond memories of time spent there playing basketball, having Girl Scout or Boy Scout meetings, weddings, anniversaries and birthday parties, enjoying plays or musical performances, etc.

This open house will give people an opportunity to relive some of those times and to look at new ways of using the building in the future. Troy Wunderle of Wunderle's Big Top Adventures will be there from 2 to 4 with a performance that should be a treat for young and old.

He will be demonstrating a variety of circus routines and there will be an opportunity for some of the kids to join in with a hands-on experience. Weather permitting, this will be held outdoors and there will be other activities for the children such as face painting, etc.

Recently, a number of long time members of the town such as Pete Harrison, Sam Streeter, Ruth Grandy, Bob and Pat Haas and "Doc" Ralph Buck, just to mention a few, sat down to give a fireside chat about their experiences and memories of the Institute and the town in general.

It was very enjoyable and a video of those interviews will be going continuously in one of the rooms. The video equipment was provided by FACT TV and they will also air the program. An interview that Artie Aiken did a few years ago will be playing in the library. All of the rooms will be open along with the library and game room.

To make it even more enticing, free refreshments and drinks will be provided by the open house committee.

So, set that Sunday afternoon aside for what promises to be a great time for the entire family and for an opportunity to meet with your friends and neighbors who have emerged from hibernation after this long winter.

OUT OF TOWN GAZETTE SUBSCRIPTIONS

Do you have a student in college, or know someone who has moved away that would love to receive the Westminster Gazette? Subscriptions are only \$10 a year to send to someone out of town.

You can send subscription requests and payments in care of the Gazette to PO Box 147, Westminster, VT 05158.

WESTMINSTER WEST LIBRARY IS DIGITAL

Many library members and others are unaware that the Westminster West Library now is a member of a program called "One-Click Digital" which makes it possible for patrons to borrow digital downloadable audiobooks as well as thousands of downloadable books, with no holds or waiting lists required.

The list includes titles for adults, children and young adults and a variety of fiction and non-fiction titles. All titles are iPod compatible and may be downloaded either at the library or from your home computer, as well as other wireless access points.

To begin borrowing, just stop in the library or call during open hours to be given an access code number. Once you have that, you may go to the Westminster West Library webpage (westwestlibrary.org) and click on the button that says One-Click Digital.

You should then be able to borrow materials; if you have any difficulty, there are more detailed instructions available at the library.

GAZETTE BOARD SEEKS SECRETARY

The Westminster Gazette Board is seeking a new board member to serve as Secretary. There is only one meeting per month, usually the last Monday at 4:30 p.m. at the Town Hall, and limited to about an hour.

Anyone interested can contact the Gazette at westminsternews@gmail.com.



The Gardens of Westminster
WESTMINSTER, VERMONT, 2014

SAVE THE DATE!
Saturday, June 28 & Sunday, June 29

Featuring the gardens of Gordon & Mary Hayward plus three other Westminster gardens

Sponsored by Westminster Cares
802.722.3607 / email wecares@sover.net / www.westminstercares.org
Like us on facebook

RAIN OR SHINE • ADMISSION \$15 / 2 FOR \$25
DISCOUNTED TICKETS ONLINE

"Compass embraces my son for who he is as a learner and an individual. He is accepted, loved, and challenged."
-Molly Oglesby



Current parent Molly Oglesby with her son Silas Holmes '08

Come to our Open House May 13 to learn why parents like Molly have chosen Compass for their children.

Prospective parents and students are invited to join us from 6-8 pm.

- Delicious complimentary dinner
- Student-led tours
- "Challenges of 21st Century Education," a talk by head of school Rick Gordon, PhD
- Q&A with current parents and faculty
- Informal conversation with Compass faculty and families

Financial aid and town-paid tuition available for eligible 7-12th grade students.
Visit our website at www.compass-school.org

Please RSVP to Rick Cowan, Director of Admission
802-451-2127 • rick.cowan@compass-school.org

COMPASS SCHOOL
7892 US Rte 5 • Westminster, VT

BEST ENERGY SAVING TECHNOLOGIES
A Division of SEVCA Weatherization

Energy Improvements:
~For existing homes and businesses or new construction~
~Save \$\$ on heating~
~Reduce building air leakage and infiltration~
~Increase comfort levels~

Competitive Rates!

SERVING SOUTHEASTERN VT & LOCAL KEENE AREAS



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

Spaulding & Harris Tax Services
THE 2013 TAX FILING SEASON IS HERE!

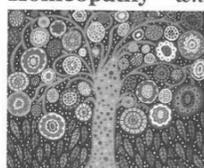
HAVE YOU MADE CHANGES RECENTLY SUCH AS: PURCHASED REAL ESTATE, RENTAL PROPERTY, GONE THROUGH A DIVORCE, TAKEN MONEY OUT OF PENSION OR IRA PLANS?

HAVE YOU RECEIVED LETTERS FROM THE IRS OR STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXES? NOW IS THE TIME TO CALL US.

We are open year round to meet all of your tax preparation and tax planning needs and we look forward to helping you. Call us at (802)722-4500 to schedule your appointment.

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

Therapy for children and adults
 Laura B. Williams LMHC
 Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and
 Emotional Freedom Technique
 1197 Westminster West, VT 05346
 802-258-7871
 office: 39 The Square Bellows Falls, VT

Homeopathy ~ whole health naturally

 Kelli Moran, AAPCH
 802-387-4846
 Putney, Vt.
natural, safe, effective
art - Kerri Ambrosio
 weekly area clinic hours available by appointment & donation

LAWRENCE & LOBER
ELECTRIC
 www.llelectricservices.com
 info@llelectricservices.com
 Tel: 802-460-3479
 800-559-3479
 Fax: 802-460-3480
 15 Barker St.
 Bellows Falls, Vt 05101

HEIDI BERNIER, CBR
 LICENSED VT & NH

Berkley & Veller
 Greenwood Country
 Realtors

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

May Business of the Month: Harlow Farm



Dan Harlow welcomes you to Harlow Farm's twenty-fourth year.
 Photo by Lori Larue

Happy Spring! After a very long, very cold winter, Harlow Farm opened for our 24th year on May 1. Stop by, say hello to Dan Harlow and his staff, and tell us how your winter went.

We have a great selection of bedding plants and hanging baskets to please your Mom on Mother's Day. We have fresh greens, spinach and a few herbs from our high-tunnel house just behind the farmstand, and will soon have our own field-grown asparagus, lettuce, kale, collards, and other early produce.

We'll offer produce from other local farms, Old Athens Farm and Guerilla Greens.

We sell our own beef, pork, and eggs at the farmstand. We have frozen chickens, as well, and will start to offer fresh chickens in June.

You can find organic and conventional dairy products—milk, butter, and more, along with local cheeses from Sawyer's Artisanal Cheese, Grafton Village Cheese, West River Creamery, and Maple Brook Farm. We have Harlow Farm-made jams, pickles, chutney and condiments, as well as our own frozen vegetables.

And we have many snacks, drinks, and specialty products, too.

Michael Lenox is at Café Loco for the 12th year, with delicious breakfast and lunch, and bakery goods available, as always.

We are open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. You'll find more on our Web site, www.harlowfarm.com, and please like us on Facebook.

You can also call us at 722-3515.

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

Allen Bros
OIL COMPANY
 6023 U.S. Route 5
 Westminster, VT 05158
allenbrosoil.com
 Phone: 802-722-3331
 Toll Free: 877-722-3331
 Fax: 802-722-9871
info@allenbrosoil.com

genius loci
 SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE DESIGN,
 INSTALLATION & STEWARDSHIP

 Cyndy Fine
 LANDSCAPE DESIGNER
 802.376.7275 | cyndy@geniuslocidesign.com

THE CHIMNEY DOCTOR
 Ian Conway
 Chimney & Stove Care
 Cleaning, Repair, Installation & Relining
 Authorized Dealer - Regency & Waterford
 Wood & Gas Stoves
 273 Earthridge Rd. Putney, VT 05346
 (802) 387-4837
 Member National & Vermont Chimney Sweep Guild

Serene Touch
 flowing body, mind and spirit
 together thru touch

 Diane Bazin
 24 Grout Ave.
 Westminster, VT 05158
 413-530-5696
dbazin@sover.net
www.zerobalancing.com
 Certified Zero Balancer
 Certified Reiki Master
 Massage Therapist

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

JACKLYN ATWOOD
 REAL ESTATE

 JACKIE ATWOOD
 616 NEWCOMB ROAD
 WESTMINSTER, VT 05346
 VT & NH BROKER
 OFFICE/FAX 802-722-9296
 CELL 802-236-1164
jackieatwoodrealestate@gmail.com

RUGGIERO
 TRASH REMOVAL
802.869.2235
 Box 434, Saxtons River
 Vermont 05154
 Joe 802.384.0397
 Jeff 603.209.4441

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

GREATER FALLS
 INSURANCE
 serving VT and NH since 1995

 Home • Auto • Farm • Business • Motorcycle • Recreational Vehicles
 7190 US Route 5 • Westminster, Vermont 05158
 802-463-1900 • www.greaterfallsinsurance.com

WESTMINSTER
AUTO
 Ex 15.1-91
 Vernon & Doreen Kelfon
 PO Box 94, Westminster Station, VT 05159
 (802) 722-4722
 Check us out on our website:
www.westminsterauto.com

SUPPORT YOUR
LOCAL PAPER -
IMAGINE YOUR
AD HERE

Our Monthly Community Newspaper May 2014 Vol. 10, No. 5

Westminster Gazette

TOWN OF WESTMINSTER
 PO BOX 147
 WESTMINSTER, VT 05158

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

