

Westminster Gazette

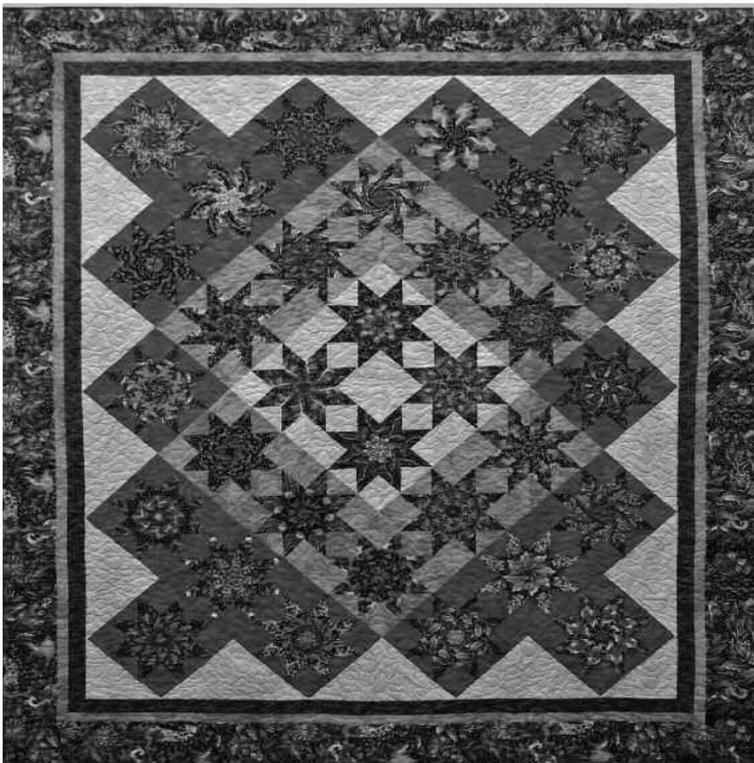


po box 147 westminster vt 05158

Our Community Newspaper

Vol. 5, No. 10 October 2009

The Westminster Cares Quilt Show Raffle



This spectacular queen-sized quilt was created and donated to Westminster Cares by Dr. Judith Petry to raffle at the October 17-18 Westminster Quilt Show. Raffle tickets are only \$2 each or three for \$5 and can be purchased at Village Booksellers, the library in Westminster, or at the 'Caring for Community' gazebo at the Farmers Market.

Quilt designed and pieced by Judith Petry and machine quilted by Quilt-Away, Westminster, VT. Stack 'n Whack© quilt (86"X102"). All cotton top and back, with Quilters Dream Green™ recycled polyester batting.

Photo credit: Don Cuerdon



Students Enjoy Their Harvests

By Elizabeth Harlow



Westminster students have been harvesting in the garden: questions, observations, images, tastes, colors, numbers, and photos, as well as watermelons, butternut squash, potatoes, bell peppers, kale, carrots, lettuce, and the ever popular raspberries. Community members and visiting soccer teams have enjoyed the splendor as well. The popcorn stays in the field as long as possible to allow it to dry on the stalk. It will be used in the weekly all school popcorn snack. The rest of the produce is enjoyed through the dining room as well as in classroom projects. The East Wing carried on its tradition of making pesto, tomato sauce and dilly beans with ingredients grown in their snack garden. Students also ate their own edamame (soybeans), carrots, sweet corn, and enjoyed growing beautiful marigolds, nasturtiums, sunflowers, and zinnias. Thanks to all the parent volunteers that helped in the summer care and putting by this Fall. Without a doubt the garden has been a generous classroom for all, providing a tangible space for learning a wide array of information, practices, teamwork, and appreciation for the agricultural efforts that go on throughout our town. Many thanks to the area farms that have contributed to this year's successful garden with time, equipment, manure, mulch, and plant donations. Also many thanks to all of the teachers and families that helped keep the garden cared for over the summer. We look forward to seeing you all there next year!



New Athletic Director at BFUHS



Bellows Falls Union High School welcomes Ian Fraunfelder as their new Athletic Director. Mr. Fraunfelder graduated from Colby-Sawyer college in New London NH in 2002 with a BS in Sport Management. He has worked at Connant High School in Jaffery, NH as the Field Hockey and Indoor/Outdoor Track Coach. Later he transitioned to Keene High School where he coached the Ice Hockey Team as well as Girls Outdoor Track. "I am excited to be the new AD here at BFUHS and all the new learning experiences that will come with this new job. I have been fortunate enough to be on the coaching end of things and am now looking forward to the transition to an administrative role" said Fraunfelder. He replaces John Bradley who is the new Assistant Principal at the BFUHS. Mr. Fraunfelder also worked at Mount Snow as a ski pro before coming to Bellows Falls.

Beginning October 1, 2009 the Butterfield Library in Westminster Village will change it's hours from 1:30 - 7:30 on Tuesday & Thursday TO: Monday 1-4, Tuesday&Thursday 1-7.

The Town of Westminster is seeking applicants for the position of **Development Review Board Alternate.** Interested persons should contact Sonia Alexander at 722-4255 or by email at westmin@sover.net.

Volunteer/s Needed to Distribute the Westminster Gazette to Local Establishments. Usually, the 1st Tuesday of the Month

Harlow Farm's free range, organically raised **CHICKEN** now available at Harlow Farmstand or by calling 722-9203. \$4.25 / lb whole chicken or \$4.75 / lb for parts. **Buy 10, Get 1 free!**

The next **LOCALVORE LUNCH** will be at noon on Wednesday, October 21, 2009 at the First Congregational Church in Westminster. Please call 722-3607 to make your reservations. The lunches are sponsored by the Council on Aging, Our Place, the First Congregational Church and Westminster Cares. The menu for October will be Roasted local chickens and root vegetables, along with bread and dessert. All are invited, but please call.

**THE GAZETTE GRATEFULLY
ACKNOWLEDGES THE SUPPORT
OF IT'S UNDERWRITERS:**

- Kurn Hattin Homes
- Westminster School District
- Town of Westminster
- Durand Automotive Group
- Westminster Activities Commission
- Sojourns Community Health Clinic

**WESTMINSTER CARES, INC.
News Release**

The Westminster Cares, Inc. Board of Directors met on September 2, 2009. 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 elderly.

Westminster Cares and the United Church of Bellows Falls continue to move forward with their elder housing project in Westminster. The Steering Committee meets at least once a month. Several committee members have been attending Westminster Planning Board meetings for preliminary consultations with the anticipation that the required permits will be approved.

The 2009 Westminster Quilt Show will be held on October 17-18, 2009, at the Westminster Center School. The committee has been busy making preparations for this fundraising event. Advertisements for the brochure are available and raffle tickets for a quilt are being sold in advance at several local events.

Services provided include: 14 people on Meals on Wheels, 30 rides for 9 different people by 8 volunteers for a total of 562 miles; 7 pieces of medical equipment loaned. Volunteers visited three people plus one-on-one assistance for an elderly couple. Meetings attended in August: Bookkeeper, Gazette, Quilt Show, meetings with the Development Director. Programs in August: 2 Secrets of Healthy Aging sessions, 5 Yoga classes, 4 Artist in Each of Us classes, 18 Living Strong classes were held, one localvore lunch. 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 August/September:
In memory of Maynard Aiken from Helen Aiken,
In memory of William Parda from Helen Aiken,
In memory of Fran Streeter from Pete & Judy Harrison

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BELLOWS FALLS, PAGE 1 OF 2: COMMUTER ROUTES
BelloWS Falls To Brattleboro: COMMUTERS M-F

	Read Down All Columns		Read Down All Columns	
	Morning	Afternoon	Morning	Afternoon
BF T-Bird/Rockingham St.	6:00	8:00	2:10	4:10
BelloWS Falls Square	6:02	8:02	2:12	4:12
Compass School, Westm.	—	—	2:15	4:15
Allen Brothers, Westminster: W	6:07	8:07	2:17	4:17
Westminster Station: W	6:09	8:09	2:19	4:19
Westminster Town Hall: W	6:12	8:12	2:22	4:22
Basketville: W	6:25	8:25	2:35	4:35
Putney Meadows	6:27	8:27	2:37	4:37
Old Ferry Rd./C & S	6:37	8:37	2:47	4:47
VT Transit	W	W	2:51	4:51
Hannafords, Brattleboro	6:44	8:44	2:54	4:54
Brattleboro Transit Center	7:00	9:00	3:10	5:10

BRATTLEBORO To BELLOWS FALLS: COMMUTERS M-F

	Read Down All Columns		Read Down All Columns	
	Morning	Afternoon	Morning	Afternoon
Brattleboro Transit Center	7:00	9:00	3:10	5:10
Main St. Gallery, Brattleboro	7:02	9:02	—	5:12
Hannafords, Brattleboro	7:12	9:12	3:22	5:22
Old Ferry Rd./C & S	7:17	9:17	3:27	5:27
Putney Meadows	7:26	9:26	3:36	5:36
Basketville: W	7:28	9:28	3:38	5:38
Westminster Town Hall: W	7:40	9:40	3:50	5:50
Westm. Station: W	7:44	9:44	3:54	5:54
Allen Brothers, Westm.: W	7:47	9:47	3:57	5:57
Compass School, Westm.	7:50	9:50	W	W
BF T-Bird/Rockingham St.	8:00	10:00	4:10	6:05

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\$150 12 months (page 8)
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A Little Help in the Guidance Department

by Suzanne Groenewold
Public Relations Coordinator

With the start of the school year now underway, the Bellows Falls Union High School Guidance Office can now take a little breather. The Director of Guidance, Martina Mattison and her staff have been busy all summer helping students with their high school schedules and planning for college. Wayne Blanchard has joined the BFUHS guidance department to focus on students at risk for dropping out of school. Having worked as a high school guidance counselor for over 30 years, Blanchard says his goal will be to help students create a plan to graduate and work with them to help them successfully complete the plan. "I think students who create a personal development portfolio have a better focus. By meeting with students in groups and helping them to document what they have accomplished, and helping them set goals for the future, it seems to make a difference in how they apply themselves. There is something about actually getting the information down on paper that makes it more real. Also, if they can tell other people about what they want to do, they make a stronger commitment," said Blanchard. He also brings a lot of experience with college counseling and will help students explore choices for further education. "Although it may seem a little strange to talk about post secondary education with at risk students, I think that even students who are not happy with school need to think about their education in terms of what further education and training they need to support themselves" said Blanchard.

Another new addition to the guidance department, is Andrea Carlson, although she is not new to BFUHS, having served for the past 8 years as a Counselor in the high school's Special Education Department. Her past work includes working with at risk youth who were struggling at home and at school through Windham County Youth Services, and as Student Assistant Program Counselor. In 2001 Carlson came to BFUHS and helped to create the Learning For Success(LFS) Program which is a special education program for students with emotional and behavioral disabilities. "As a counselor in that program, I have provided individual, group and crisis counseling. As well, I have worked closely with the students and parents helping to support the student's academic success. I have taught life skills classes and guided students in career and college exploration and planning for after high school." said Carlson.

The BFUHS Guidance office can be reached at 802-463-3944 X 206.



Community Provides Healthy Snack for BFUHS NECAP preparation

With hopes of ensuring that all students are well nourished and ready to learn, the Bellows Falls Union High School, school and community relations committee, along with Cafe Services, is providing a free healthy snack to all students as they prepare for the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) exams this fall. Recognizing the importance of good nutrition, the committee has sought community donors and volunteers to help defray the cost. In addition to individual donations by committee members, Allen Brothers of Westminster has donated 1,500 homemade doughnuts, the Grafton Cheese company has donated cheese, Village Square Booksellers donated

FROM YOUR LISTERS – KEEPING YOU IN THE KNOW

By Westminster Board of Listers: Babs Lynde, Ernie Norman and Mike Fawcett

We've made a couple of important changes in collecting property information these past couple of years, and we would like to keep you, the property owner, informed and up-to-date. Owning real estate can be your single largest investment, and it is important that you know how your assessed value came to be.

Two years ago, under the recommendation of the State of Vermont, we purchased a program called Apex Sketch for the purpose of sketching dwellings and commercial buildings. These sketches represent the outside measurements of a building (we do not measure inside rooms) and are used to help determine the assessment of your property. They are also used by bank appraisers and other financial evaluators. It is important that these sketches are accurate as a dwelling or commercial building is usually the highest single denominator in valuing your property. We encourage all property owners to come in and view these sketches at your earliest convenience to ensure they are correct. If you determine that the sketch needs to be adjusted, we will re-measure your buildings for better accuracy.

We are also taking pictures of all properties in town. These pictures go into your property file folder and are used to make sure that we are assessing your buildings properly. The information on our file cards is fast becoming outdated, and what was once thought to be a 2-story building may be only a one and a half story with dormers. As careful as we try to be, after being out in the field and collecting information from a dozen or more properties, mistakes can be made, and pictures ensure that there are as few mistakes as possible. A picture really does speak a thousand words.

Normally, we visit about twenty percent of the town, including any properties that have acquired zoning permits during this past year. If there are changes within your house or building or if we have additional questions, we will leave you a business card to let you know we were at your property. Please give us a call as soon as possible so we can set up an appointment with you. If you would like a call within 24 hours of coming to your property, then please let us know as soon as possible so we can be accommodating to you and your schedule.

One more thing – please remember that each year, usually in May, we begin to set values in the Grand List for tax purposes. Your selectboard sets the tax rate in the summer months (June or July,) and then you will receive a tax bill from the town clerk with payments due in September and February. At this point, it may be too late for that year's tax bill if there are any inaccuracies in your property valuations, so if you have questions, you should contact us before May of next year.

All property owners are welcome to call or come in at any time during the year so we can show you how your assessment was produced. Don't be shy – it's your money that pays for your taxes. Our office hours in the Westminster Town Hall are from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday, and we may be reached at 722-9516 or wminster@comcast.net. We hope to hear from you!

apples, orange juice and yogurts, Harvest Moon has donated coffee cakes and Lisai's Market has donated bacon. Cafe Services food service director, John Ayer said that if the snack is well balanced and provides at least three of the four required food groups, the school will get reimbursed for the snack program. In order to get reimbursement, they also have to provide the snack to all 350 students at the high school. Ayer said that the volunteers who have come out to help with this initiative, have taken a huge burden off his staff. "They show up, they bag the snacks, and deliver them to the classes, it's been great." Ayer said.

Students are preparing for the NECAP in reading, writing, mathematics, and science. Only the junior class will take the NECAP exams next month, but the every student in the high school is involved in the

Compass School Welcomes New Executive Director

by Rick Gordon

Entering its second decade, Compass School recently hired its first Executive Director to lead the school to the next level in its evolution. Compass is excited to welcome Nelson Richter to take on this new role. Mr. Richter brings a lifetime of wide ranging experiences in education, including roles of College Admissions Officer, Director of the Student Athlete Success Program at Northwest Missouri State University, Assistant Principal in a Public High School, and Director of several Alternative Schools and Programs for At-Risk Youth.

Having spent most of his professional career in Missouri, Nelson's connection to New England comes from decades of summers in the region, with much of his time spent working with youth at Merrovista Camp in New Hampshire.

With such a strong educational foundation established at Compass, the school is looking to the Executive Director to focus on overall school management and external relations with admissions, development, and partnering with other educational organizations.

Nelson brings great enthusiasm for the well being of individual students and a balanced perspective to assuring every child is prepared for the complex demands of the 21st Century. Nelson also has long experience as a Head Football Coach, giving him great insight into working with staff and valuing the unique contributions of each individual to the greater whole. Richter has been deeply impressed with his initial days at Compass. After the first couple days of schools, he wrote, "The first day of school in one word: WOW!!! I have never seen so much positive energy from a group of young people! I can't wait to see what happens tomorrow!"

The Executive Director role is a natural evolution for Compass, as Founding Director Dr. Rick Gordon observes, "We are thrilled with the energy and experience Nelson brings to the school. After devoting so much attention in our first decade to getting the educational program right, we really are ready to do more outreach to the larger community and to explore possibilities for being part of the transformation of middle and high schools in Vermont."

Nelson takes this position with the unique situation of having both previous School Directors on his staff. Eric Rhomberg, the previous Director, is moving back into the classroom to follow his calling as a teacher. Rick Gordon, the school's founding Director, continues his commitment to the school in a part-time capacity helping with long range planning and curricular planning. Richter has been doing active outreach with local schools, meeting with school leaders about how Compass can help in giving all children in our region opportunities to succeed in school. Compass is enjoying a strong group of Westminster 7th graders at Compass this year who are thriving academically and leading a rejuvenated middle school soccer team that has gone undefeated in early season games.

Nelson, along with the two previous Directors, will be available to meet at an Open House for prospective students and their families scheduled for Wednesday, October 28th, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the school on Route 5 in Westminster. For more information, call the



training. "The entire school is doing NECAP preparation with the hope that when they take their NECAP exam in their junior year, they've had plenty of instruction and preparation for the exams." said Principal Chris Hoddsden. In

October, when the NECAP exams are administered to the junior class, a free healthy breakfast will be provided on exam days.

The NECAP tests measure students' academic knowledge and skills relative to the Grade Expectations for Vermont's Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities. Student scores are reported at four levels of academic achievement; Proficient with Distinction, Proficient, Partially Proficient and Substantially Below Proficient.

WESTMINSTER QUILT SHOW HAPPENING OCTOBER 17-18, 2009

by Nancy Stefanik

Final chance to reserve workshop seats & buy quilt raffle tickets

Westminster – After a year of planning and with the help of nearly 60 local volunteers, the 2009 Westminster Quilt Show is taking place October 17th-18th from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Westminster Center School. More than 500 people are expected to attend the highly regarded show benefiting Westminster Cares, the 20-year-old nonprofit organization committed to creating opportunities for seniors and disabled adults to live independently and with dignity in the community.

The 2009 Westminster Quilt Show will feature 100 antique and contemporary quilts in its main and special exhibits, a mini-quilt silent auction, two raffles, a Treasure Trove of gently used books and sewing notions, eight interesting vendors, and a spotlight on an art quilt piecing technique. Area schools are collaborating with Westminster Cares to provide healthy soups, salads, frittata, and baked goods.

Special Exhibitor Pamela Johnson of Monterey, MA is a talented student of Ruth B. McDowell who has written books and leads workshops on the piecing technique to be featured in a six-hour workshop on Saturday, October 17th from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Westminster Fire Station and a one-hour session open to quilt show attendees on Sunday morning. A limited number of seats in the workshop remain open and interested parties should contact Westminster Cares immediately to reserve their places. The \$75 workshop fee includes a copy of McDowell's beautiful book, *Pieced Flowers* (retails for \$28) that can be picked up now in Westminster.

The 2009 raffle quilt is an extraordinary queen-sized quilt created and donated by Dr. Judith Petry. A color picture is available on the show website and blog and raffle tickets can be bought at Butterfield Library, Village Square Booksellers, and the Westminster Cares office. Tickets cost \$2 each or three for \$5.

The vendors at the 2009 show include Quilt-A-Way, Barnyard Quilting, Cowles Quilting Machines, Log Cabin Quilting, Pookie's Fabrics, Priscilla Kibbee, and Sewin' Love Fabric Shoppe. On Saturday, October 17th, show goers can have their scissors sharpened while they enjoy the show for \$4. Reservations are available by calling the office.

Detailed information on the quilt show is available at westminstercares.org/wqs09 and on the show blog at <http://wqs09.blogspot.com/>. The blog features a fascinating "virtual workshop" on the McDowell piecing technique that will be taught at the workshop and on display in Pamela Johnson's special exhibit of art quilts.

More than 45 local businesses are supporting the 2009 Westminster Quilt Show, including the following sponsors, raffle donors, and program advertisers: Beadniks, Berkley, Veller & Greenwood Country Realtors, Blue Moose, Brandywine Glassworks, Brattleboro Arts Initiative, Brattleboro Collision Center, Brattleboro Food Co-op, Brattleboro Haulage, C & S Wholesale Grocers, Café Loco, Chroma Technology, Cota & Cota, Council on Aging, Curtis' BBQ, Dr. Timothy Johnson, Durand Toyota Ford, Edward Jones, Exit 4 Sunoco, Gorges Quilt Labels, Green Mountain Spinners, Halladay's, Hartgen Archeological Associates, New England Kurn Hattin Homes, Norton House, P & B Textiles, Readmore Bed, Breakfast, & Books, Real to Reel, Ripples, Savings Bank of Walpole, Simone's Styling Salon, Sojourns, Spaulding and Madden Tax Services, United Natural Foods, Walpole Inn, Westminster Auto, Westminster Motel, Vermont Country Store, Vermont Technology Partners, and Village Square Booksellers. Support of the Westminster Quilt Show sustains the work of Westminster Cares, Inc., dedicated to keeping seniors and disabled adults independent in their Westminster homes.

For more information, contact Westminster Cares at 802-722-3607 or wqs2009@gmail.com.



Veterans of Foreign Wars Patriots Pen essay contest winners, Dylan Conklin (2009) and Lyssa Jackson (2008) stand with their teacher, Richard Long, and (l-r) Jan Tittle, National President of the VFW Ladies' Auxiliary, Darlene Nebelski, VFW Post 1034, Ladies' Auxiliary Patriots Pen Essay Contest organizer, and Dixie Goodwin, Department of Vermont VFW Auxiliary State President.

LADIES VFW AUXILIARY LEADER VISITS KURN HATTIN

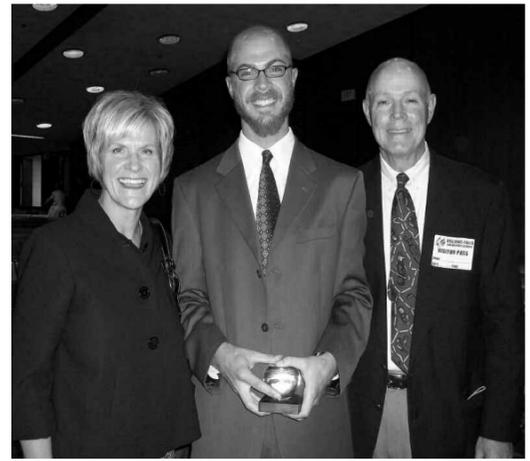
by Kim Fine

Westminster, Vermont – Kurn Hattin Homes was honored to host Jan Tittle, the recently elected National President of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Part of her 3-day tour of Vermont included a stop at Kurn Hattin. She toured the campus, watched the new DVD presentation and had lunch with staff and the two Kurn Hattin students who won Patriots Pen Essay Contests at the Carl M. Dessaint, VFW Post 1034 in Brattleboro, VT and at the state level. Social Studies teacher, Richard Long has his 6th-8th grade classes submit their patriotic essays each year. All the students credit the contest with helping them with their writing and high school preparatory skills. Lyssa Jackson '08, who won the state level competition, is now at the Putney School. She was encouraged to participate in the Voice of Democracy, an audio essay competition. The theme this year is, Does America Still Have Heroes and offers a grand prize of \$30,000.

Kurn Hattin is a year-round, charitable home and school in Westminster, Vermont for at-risk and in-need boys and girls, ages 6

BFUHS History Teacher, Craig Divis, Named Vermont Teacher of the Year

Bellows Falls Union High School history teacher, Craig Divis, was named Vermont teacher of the year on September 15th, by the State Board of Education. The Commissioner of Education, Armando Vilaseca, presented Divis with this distinguished award at the high school, after he and the State Board of Education spent the day in Bellows Falls, conducting their monthly board meeting and having lunch provided by the family and consumer sciences class. Divis thanked his students, who he said inspire him every day. "You are the reason I work so hard and put so much time and effort into my class every single day," Divis said. He thanked his parents, who traveled from Ohio to be with him today. "I share this award with my mother, who never got the recognition she deserved as a teacher, and who was teacher of the year every year to me" said Divis. BFUHS principal, Christopher Hodsden nominated Divis for this award. The selection process included several interviews and visits to Divis' classroom.



The mission of the Vermont Teacher of the Year Program is to promote the profession and recognize the best teaching professionals who are implementing "best practices" within classrooms. Vermont's recipient represents the many excellent teachers in our state.

The Teacher of the Year is chosen through a thorough application and selection process. In accordance with national guidelines, Vermont chooses a candidate who is "dedicated and highly skilled, a candidate proven capable of inspiring students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn." Because the Teacher of the Year will be asked to travel, speak on behalf of education and demonstrate master teaching skills, the candidate must be poised, articulate and energetic in order to meet the demanding responsibilities.

Although Divis will continue to teach full time during this year, he will make himself available for speaking engagements and content consultations in his area of expertise when possible. The Vermont Teacher of the Year also becomes a candidate for the National Teacher of the Year award. For more than 40 years our nation has honored teachers with the National Teacher of the Year Program. The National Teacher of the Year Program is a project of the Council of Chief State School Officers and sponsored by ING Foundation.

BFUHS Principal & Assistant Principal Attend N.E.A.S.C. Self-Study Seminar

Submitted by:
Suzanne Groenewold
Public Relations Coordinator

Commission on Public Secondary Schools (CPSS) of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), the self-study seminar is designed to orient principals and staff of schools scheduled for evaluation in the Fall of 2011 about the evaluation process and the critical components of the Standards for Accreditation.

Christopher Hodsden, Principal of Bellows Falls Union High School; and John Broadley, Assistant Principal recently attended a Self-Study Seminar in Bedford, Massachusetts. Sponsored by the

The New England Association of Schools and Colleges, founded in 1885, is the oldest accrediting agency in the country and is recognized by the US Department of Education as a reliable agency to

award accreditation to New England schools. The Association is a voluntary accrediting agency of 1,928 public and independent schools, colleges and universities, and vocational, technical and career institutions. Of these, approximately 662 middle-high schools, K-12, and high schools have been accredited through the Associations Commission on Public Secondary Schools.

LEAVES – WHAT ARE THEY GOOD FOR??

By Babs Lynde, a Vermont Master Gardener

Most people don't look at their summertime shade trees as a lot of additional work for the autumn, but when October rolls around, and the days and nights are colder, it's time to get out the rakes and start working out those arms! Most of us know just exactly what we want to do with the piles of leaves when we're done, but here are a few other ideas.

The most common disposal of fallen leaves is in our composts. It's always recommended that you chop the leaves up first before they go into the compost pile, especially oak leaves, because they tend not to break down into usable mulch as easily as other organics. You can rent or buy a leaf chopper, which usually tend to be gas operated, or you can use your own lawn mower or tractor. After you have deposited the chopped leaves into your compost, add a handful of lime to help speed up the decomposition even more. Also, the compost pile will change to mulch faster if you flip and turn it over once a week with a potato fork or digger. This allows for air and moisture to be reintroduced to the middle of the pile.

Leaves are great insulators and can be used in much the same way as bales of straw. Piles or bags of leaves can be stored near the foundation of your house or mobile home for extra protection against both the wind and cold. Using bags instead of loose leaves is better, not just so that the wind cannot blow the loose litter around, but also because insects and other little critters are looking for the protection the leaves can offer to them during the winter months. Mice will chew through bags, but you can add a few inexpensive moth balls to each one. You won't smell the moth balls from inside your home, but the mice and other rodents have very delicate senses, and the strong, pungent odor of the moth balls will last for months and drive them away.

If you have a lot of oak leaves, you can put them down as mulch in your gardens during the fall to help keep the early spring weeds from popping up. Dried oak leaves are much tougher and thicker than other leaves – simply pick them up and compare them with a maple, birch or hickory, and you will see that the others will usually crumble easier when you crush them in your hand, while the oak leaf will stubbornly remain whole. Once you have emptied your veggie garden of all plants and any remaining weeds, throw a thick layer of fallen oak leaves onto it. Long after the last of the snow has melted, the oak leaves will still be there, keeping most new weeds from taking hold, plus their dark color will help warm the soil with the weak rays of the springtime sun. This warming effect will allow you to plant seeds or new seedlings a week or two sooner than a garden without mulch. Of course, you don't have to use oak leaves – any leaves will do if the layer is thick enough. Just remember that other leaves will break down and decompose faster than oak.

If you have no use for your fallen leaves, then remember that many recycling centers will take leaves if bagged according to their regulations, and there are also classified ads in the newspaper and signs on front lawns from people looking for leaves as compost. You can also buy brightly colored lawn bags in almost any department store that resemble pumpkins and black cats for Halloween decoration. And then of course, there's the enjoyment the kids get from leaping into the freshly raked piles! Just be sure to check for small sticks and other protrusions to keep our children safe.

Would you like more useful ideas on what to do with your leaves? 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 mastergardener@uvm.edu or visit their website at <http://www.uvm.edu/mastergardener/> for extensive information.



Apple Farm Week at Kurn Hattin

Every year the Kurn Hattin children spend several weeks learning and experiencing different aspects of farm life. In September, they spend a week learning about the many varieties of apples, picking them and making sweet cider.

Kurn Hattin has an orchard of 80 trees with seven varieties of apples. Science teacher, Tom Fontaine and the children worked hard and harvested a good crop this year. After apple picking, the children will work with farm manager, Real Bazin and make cider. Some of the cider will be served to the Board of Trustees at their annual meeting next week. This is a tradition all anticipate. Apple Farm Week is a great time of year.

Kurn Hattin Homes is a charitable, year-round home and school for in-need and at-risk children, ages 6-15,

Kurn Hattin Thanks Corporate Partners

by Kim Fine

Westminster, VT –Many businesses support the mission of Kurn Hattin Homes. They partner with us to ensure that children who come from families affected by tragedy and hardship are able to flourish and grow. Their good citizenship and generosity demonstrate their commitment to the communities throughout the country where our children eventually live and raise their own families therefore building stronger and more vibrant communities.

For their ongoing relationship to improve the lives of the many children in our care, Kurn Hattin presents businesses, which support the children at a \$500 and above level, with a Certificate of Appreciation. These certificates are hand delivered in September each year. New this year, businesses, which have supported the Homes for the last 5 years, were awarded a special 5-year certificate of appreciation. Many other companies also support Kurn Hattin with gifts-in-kind and discounts and special events such as the golf tournament, musical performances and financial planners seminar with sponsorships and underwriting. Together, by helping children, we are building a brighter and stronger future.

Kurn Hattin is pleased to honor this year's Corporate Partners:

Dodge & Cox Investment Managers
The Vermont Country Store
Merchants Bank
Price Chopper's Golub Foundation

Five-Year Certificates were awarded to:

Bates & Murray, Inc
Bethel Mills, Inc.
Community Feed Store
Joy Wah
Paul's Pest Control
The Richards Group

And a big thank you goes out to the 20th Annual Golf Classic Sponsors:

Corporate Sponsors:
Diane and Luke Bazin
L&B Freightliner
Whitney Blake Co.

A DELIGHTFUL EVENING AT THE WESTMINSTER COFFEE HOUSE SPONSORED BY THE WESTMINSTER ACTIVITIES COMMISSION



Don Dawson and John Laware harmonize on a duet at the Westminster Coffeehouse Sept. 26. They were two of several area musicians who took the stage during the open mike coffeehouse, sponsored by the Westminster Activities Commission at the Westminster Institute. The audience enjoyed music, cider and pastries, and a chance to socialize with their neighbors. Stay tuned for more coffeehouses this fall and winter.

Photo by Lori Larue.

Don Dawson, who recently moved to Westminster from Putney, played and sang for the coffeehouse

WESTMINSTER MYSTERY PHOTO



Questions: What's the name of this church, and where is it located?

You may email your answer to the westminsternews@gmail.com or wminster@comcast.net Phone: Babs Lynde at 802-722-9516

The answer and the winner/s will be announced in the Next Issue.

September Answer: It was a school (Sand Hill School) and it was located on Sand Hill between U S Route 5 & Westminster Heights.

September Winners: No Winners

If you have picture's you think would make a great mystery photo please stop by the town office and see Bab Lyndes. **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.

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

Number of calls in August: 23
Number of man hours spent: 8,174

Number of calls in September : 31
Number of man hours spent: 16,560
Number of calls calendar year to Date: 227

911 versus 1-603-352-1100:In some cases dialing 911 in an emergency can take longer than is comfortable. It is optional for Westminster residents to call emergency dispatch directly at 1-603-352-1100. One suggestion is to program the number in your phone as a second emergency number. Dialing 911 is still a good number, but the 603 number should be a little faster. If you dial 911 from your cell phone there are 2 more steps to go through resulting in more questions asked and ultimately a time delay. Dialing the 603 number from your cell should shorten up the response time.

Association Meeting: The Westminster Fire and Rescue Association met for their regular meeting September 1st with 28 members present and 5 members excused. Plans for the upcoming Fire Prevention Week were discussed. An overview of the equipment was presented by Chief Streeter. A group got together after the meeting to sort out and organize items in the cellar.

Caution: Now that we are into the heating season, be sure to have your chimneys checked and cleaned. Also be sure your fire wood is well seasoned. Green wood makes creosote and plugs chimneys. Many fires occur because of faulty or plugged chimneys. The fire department is always available for advice on chimney condition and wood stove hook up.

Fire Prevention Week: There will be an open house at the Fire Station October 9th from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM to commemorate Fire Prevention Week. The Center School, the West School and Kurn Hattin will be there. Plans are in place for a smoke simulator and an extrication demonstration for 5th & 6th graders. Call the Fire Station for more information if needed. Volunteers are needed to help out during the day.

Halloween: Although Halloween is not until the end of the month, care should be taken in going out after dark. Costumes and clothing should be easily visible at night and a good flashlight with new batteries should be carried or some kind of glow stick. Reflective material is always a good idea.

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.

Memorial Donation for September:

From Barbara Greenough in memory of Fran Streeter

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 located there and more help is needed to utilize the 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

WESTMINSTER HAPPENINGS

Activities

ScottishCountryDance

Classes

Every Wednesday @ 7:30 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 @ 5:30 every 3rd Friday of the Month.

October is Down syndrome Awareness Month

By Amy L. Rounds

When our daughter Olivia was born on October 21, 2005 we were told shortly after her birth that she appeared to have Down syndrome. We did not have any idea what this meant and what we knew about Down syndrome (DS) was very little and mostly the knowledge was archaic. But before we could even grasp this diagnosis, we were told that she had three holes in her heart that would require open heart surgery at Children's Hospital in Boston. And so we began our journey and asked ourselves what is Down syndrome?

Down syndrome is when a person is born with 47 chromosomes. Trisomy 21 is Down syndrome's medical term. It means three copies of the chromosome 21. You and I only have 46 chromosomes. So having Trisomy 21 means that there is extra genetic material in all the cells of a person with Down syndrome (nondisjunction DS).

Down syndrome is one of the most frequently occurring chromosomal abnormalities. Down syndrome occurs 1 out of 733 live births, and more than 400,000 people in the US have this genetic condition. Down syndrome affects people of every age, race and economic level. 80% of children born with Down syndrome are born to women under the age of 35. This is due to the fact that more women under age 35 have children. Women over 35 are at increased risk for having a child with Down syndrome.

Children who are born with Down syndrome often have certain features such as low muscle tone, flat facial profiles, hyper flexibility, a single crease across the palm of the hand, almond shaped eyes and an enlarged tongue compared to mouth size. However it is important to point out that not every child has these features, some have many and some have few.

People with Down syndrome are at increased risk for certain health problems such as congenital heart defects, increased susceptibility to infections, respiratory problems, obstructive digestive tracts and increased frequency of childhood leukemia. They also have a high incidence of visual problems and hearing impairments. The great news is that with medical progress people with Down syndrome are now living in their 50's and 60's.

Down syndrome causes children to be developmentally delayed therefore it is very important that a child with Down syndrome be enrolled in early intervention. Each State has early intervention; in Vermont it is call FIT, Family Infant

Contra Dance

Every 3rd Saturday of month at 7:30 @ 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 StrongClasses

Mondays & Thursdays @The First Congregational Church in Westminster 9:00am to 10:00am @The Westminster West Church 6:00pm to 7:00pm Call Westminster Cares for more Information: 722-3607

Yoga Class with Lisa Nigro-15 weejis begins September 9 and ends December 23.

Wednesdays 7 - 8:30 p.m. at the Westminster Institute. All levels welcomed. Drop ins welcomed. Call 722-4249 for more information.

Toddler. This program is designed for the needs of each individual family. Some of the services offered are physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, nutritional support, and sign language. Once a child reaches age 3 then that child is enrolled in Triple E (Essential Early Education) and usually begins preschool.

There is great support for families who have a loved one with Down syndrome. On October 17th there will be the first Annual Buddy Walk to take place in Brattleboro VT. The Buddy Walk® was developed by the National Down Syndrome Society in 1995 to bring together a wide range of concerned individuals to reach out to friends, family and co-workers to promote awareness and inclusion for people with Down syndrome and to raise funds for education, research and advocacy programs. The Buddy Walk is a one-mile walk in which anyone can participate without special training. The Walk has grown from 17 Walks in 1995 to 275 nationwide and around the world in 2008. Hundreds of thousands of people walk from coast to coast and abroad each year. The goal of the NDSS is to substantially increase the number of walkers each year. The goal of the Buddy Walk is to promote understanding and acceptance of people with Down syndrome. In 2009, the goal of the NDSS is to have over 285 Buddy Walks across the country and abroad. The National Down Syndrome Congress (NDSC) also has an annual conference which in 2010 will take place at the Walt Disney Resort in July.

As for Olivia, she underwent open heart surgery when she was 10 weeks old. Olivia has been plagued with multiple hearing issues that have required three surgeries with more to come in the future. Olivia is severely speech delayed mostly due to her hearing loss but besides that she is a typical 4 year old who is always ready for the next great adventure. She shows an enthusiasm for life that I wish I could begin to tap into. She has taught us to not lower her expectations just because she has a disability. She wants us to challenge her and she challenges others in their thinking.

Olivia Rounds and her family live in the village of Westminster VT. We thank all our community members who have embraced Olivia as one of their own. If you have any questions about how to get involved with the Buddy Walk please visit www.buddywalk.org.

Faith Community

The First Congregational Church of Westminster

United Church of Christ

The Rev. Sami Jones McRae, Pastor

Main Street, Route 5, Westminster, Vermont 05158, 802-722-4148

Sunday worship at 10:00 AM

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

Rev. Sami will be leading a bible study every Tuesday evening this fall at 7:00. The topic will be "Living the Questions"

Important Dates

Oct. 6 - Women's Fellowship 12:00 noon

Oct. 6 - Bible Study 7:00 pm

Oct 11 - Worship 10:00 am

Oct. 13 - Bible Study 7:00 pm

Oct. 18 - Worship and Sunday School 10:00 am

Oct. 19 - Standing committee - 7:00 pm

Oct. 20 - Bible Study 7:00 pm

Oct. 25 - Worship and Sunday School 10:00 am

Nov 1 - Worship, Communion and Sunday School 10:00 am

Nov. 7 - Chicken Pie Supper 5-7 pm

Nov. 14 - Hunter's Breakfast 4:30-10:00

Thanks to all who helped or supported our Summer Fest. Some of the funds raised have gone to help us paint the church. THANK you Westminster!

Sunday School has started up and all children are invited to attend. In Oct. Sunday School will be held on Oct. 4, 18, 25. Students start at 10:00 upstairs in church with the rest of the congregation. After the children's story children are invited to join the teachers down in the fellowship hall for the remainder of the lesson. Students will hear stories, play games, and work together on projects. If you are interested in Sunday School call church for more info or to register your children.

On Saturday, Nov. 7th the Woman's Fellowship of The First Congregational Church of Westminster will host their annual Chicken Pie Supper from 5-7pm. The menu will include chicken pie, mashed potatoes, cole slaw, winter squash, and onions. For dessert there will be homemade apple pie with ice cream. The cost will be \$8 for adults, \$4 for children and under 3 free. This is a great chance to catch up with friends and family, share a good meal with no dishes. Take out will be available.

On Nov. 14th there will be a Hunter's Breakfast from 4am to 10am.

The menu will include scrambled eggs, french toast, sausage, bacon, fried potatoes, orange juice and coffee. The cost will be \$6.00. \$3.00 for children under 12. All are invited to breakfast. Breakfast will be served until 10:00 to accommodate even those folks who are not hunting or for those hunters who want to eat after a few hours in the woods.

The Congregational Church of Westminster West

Sunday Worship at the Congregational Church of Westminster West (a UCC church) is at 10am. 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 9am. 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 the 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

Meetings

Selectboard meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7PM in the Town Hall.

Planning and Development

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

Westminster Activities

Commission

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

Westminster School Board

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

Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association

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

Westminster West Public Library

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

Development Review Board

meets the 1st Monday of each month at 7:00PM. at the Town Hall

Community Improvement

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

Westminster Cares Board

meets the 1st Wednesday of every month at the Westminster Fire Station.

Westminster Institute Board

meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Institute.

911 Committee meets as needed.

The Westminster Fire & Rescue

Dept holds their monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of every month and a combined drill on the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

Westminster Historical Society

meets the third Tuesday, monthly, at 7:30 pm at the Westminster Institute.

Westminster Gazette Meeting,

Friday, October 23 @ 7:30am..Westminster Cares

SAT Testing Site at BFUHS

Submitted by:
Suzanne Groenewold
Public Relations Coordinator

Get ready to take the SAT! Nearly every college in America accepts the SAT or SAT Subject Tests as a part of its admissions process. That's why more than two million students take the SAT every year. Bellows Falls Union High School will be the local testing site for the SAT college entrance exams this year. The first opportunity to take the **SAT will be on Saturday, October 10th**, registration deadline is September 9th. Student's interested in signing up for the SAT test should contact Lori Walters, SAT Supervisor at BFUHS 463-3944 or log onto <http://www.collegeboard.com/testing/>. BFUHS 463-3944 or log onto <http://www.collegeboard.com/testing/>.

The Children in Bellows Falls need you!

Kamana Adhikary
Marketing and Recruitment Specialist
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Windham County

Giving 1 hour a week, can change their lives forever! Become a Big Brother or Big Sister today!

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Windham County, a program of Youth Services, is dedicated to matching adult volunteers with children in a one-to-one mentoring relationship. A Big Brother/Big Sister, is essentially a caring friend and companion to a child; someone a child can hang out with, get to know, and have fun with. Even though this program is based on such a simple concept, it has a huge impact on the lives of the children we serve and in the communities we live in. Our program evaluations show the following improvements in the children we serve: 72% improvement in academic performance; 70% improvement in class participation; and 66% improvement in the children's ability to avoid engaging in delinquent behavior.

The kids in the BBBS program come from all walks of life, ranging from ages 6 – 18. It really just takes a minimum of 4 hours a month commitment to make a huge difference in "Little's" life. BBBS has conveniently created two types of programs so that we can fit volunteers' as well as our children's needs. For those who want a more structured schedule, there's the school-based program, where "Bigs" and "Littles" visit during lunch time or after school for the duration of the school year. Volunteers who want a bit more flexibility can choose from BBBS's community-based program, where they can set their own time with the "Littles" and do things that suit both parties' interests. In order to make a real impact, BBBS does ask for a minimum of a year's commitment.

BBBS is also seeking support from small businesses in the area. Small businesses can help by:

- *Posting BBBS posters, brochures and other promotional material at your business site
- *Running a promotional piece in your business newsletter or other publications
- *Allowing Big Brothers Big Sisters to present our program at staff meetings or special events
- *Providing incentives for current mentoring matches
- *Becoming a sponsor of our event of the year, Bowl for Kids' Sake

So pick up the phone and start making a "Big" difference in a "Little's" life. Call 802-257-2171 or email at bbbs@youthservicesinc.org.

David J. Maysilles: Kurn Hattin Homes Full Circle

by Kim Fine

Westminster, VT – When David J. Maysilles was a boy, times were tough and Kurn Hattin Homes was there to help. So in 1936, David enrolled at Kurn Hattin and started his journey of learning core values through hard work and responsibility. This would take him through college and military service and then back to the Homes in 1977 as Executive Director. For the next eighteen years, he worked with the staff and children with the same love and respect that he had received while he was growing up. He was always well regarded and many modernizations on campus took place while he was at the helm.

After retirement, he continued to steer Kurn Hattin as a member of the Board of Trustees and on several committees. On March 8, 2006, David was honored for his many years of dedication and service by having a new children's cottage for girls named for him. And now that full circle has continued to expand with the recent election of David as the President of the Board of Trustees. As he embarks as the Homes' new president, David feels as if W.I.Mayo (Director of the Homes from 1927-1963) is looking over his shoulder.

We are all so very proud and honored to have David J. Maysilles, a former Kurn Hattin boy and a man of great respect, rise through the ranks and continue his steadfast guidance of Kurn Hattin Homes. David and his wife Barbara, who was a teacher at Kurn Hattin, reside in Walpole, New Hampshire.

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

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SPAULDING & MADDEN TAX SERVICES 5111 US Rte 5 in Westminster Station

Annual Meeting & Raffle Results of the Westminster Historical Society

On September 21 the Westminster Historical Society held its annual meeting with 25 people present. Jessie Haas entertained them with vignettes of our early citizens. Did you know a Willard married a Confederate spy and Holton married the leader of the free Love Society in Putney? See what gossip you missed by not attending.

The society thanks all who made our annual raffle a success. The winners are as follows:

Dinner for two from & at the Old Tavern in Grafton-Phyllis Anderson
\$50 Gift certificate from & at Lisai's Chester Market-Howard Rice
Vermont gift basket from Harlow's Stand - Bruce Sterling
Painting from & by Barbara Greenough - Elsie Sterling
Handcrafted Bunny from & by Linda Fawcette - Lisa Calchera
Antique, cut glass candy dish from Richard Michelman - Meg Letson

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT BEGINS OCTOBER 16 AT WESTMINSTER WEST PUBLIC LIBRARY

Don't miss the Kickoff of the Westminster West Public Library's Family Movie Night! The premiere event is Friday, October 16, beginning at 6:30PM with short subjects, then the main feature at 7:00PM. Films are family-friendly and will reflect a mix of contemporary and classic, documentary, fiction and animation, as well as cultures from around the world. Popcorn will be served! The events are free and open to all, and will continue on the 3rd Friday of every month for a year. This is going to be a great family fun night. To get your name on the mailing list for announcements, please email westwestflicks@gmail.com or telephone David at 869-2697.

ARE YOU 90 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER?

Last November, Westminster Cares celebrated our 20th Anniversary and Annual Meeting with a party honoring those in town who are in their 90's. We celebrated the lives of 13 of our friends. At this year's annual meeting in November, we would again like to honor people who have turned 90 since last November or who were unable to attend last year's celebration. If you are in your 90's or know someone who is, please give Ronnie a call at 722-3607 or email wecares@sover.net

Watch for the date of our annual meeting in the November edition of the Gazette.

Volunteers Wanted for Reception Center

Volunteers are being sought to staff the Reception Center at Bellows Falls Union High School in Westminster which has been operated by area emergency management personnel and local citizens for many years. This Reception Center would be used to provide assistance to individuals during an emergency including registration, reuniting parents with children who have been evacuated from area schools and child care facilities, as well as placement in congregate care facilities if necessary. Jobs range from Section Chief to Greeter, so all skill sets are welcome. Depending on position, training takes anywhere from a few hours to one day. Volunteers must be available for occasional drills and are paid for their time. To volunteer, contact Doreen Woodward at (802) 722-4091 or by e-mail at westmntc@comcast.net.

SCHOOL BOOK FAIR coming soon!

The Westminster Schools' annual Book Fair rolls in on Monday, October 26th and will run through the last week of October. We've held Scholastic Book Fairs for 20 years at the Center School Library as a way to encourage reading while supporting library program and facilities at both schools. The last few years our events have been Book ONLY Fairs, avoiding the rather cheezy (and pricey) games, posters and paraphernalia which often accompany pre-packaged fairs. The result has been an opportunity for children and parents to add kids'-choice reading to home libraries. A more detailed Fair schedule will come out in mid-October. Please note the Fair will be open during Open House at the Center School, on Wednesday evening, October 28th. Call Liz Bourne, 722-3241 x117 with any questions.

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BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

Cook's Tae Kwon Do

Please note the hours have changed to:

6:00pm to 7:00pm every Tuesday and Thursday

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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 at <http://www.rickwestboard.blogspot.com/>. Please keep track of this site for information and reflections on the workings of the school board.

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