



## KURN HATTIN CELEBRATES 125 YEARS OF SERVICE ALUMNI AND GUESTS HELP MARK HISTORIC 125TH ANNIVERSARY



Over 200 guests and alumni, from the classes of 1942 to 2013, arrived at Kurn Hattin Homes on May 18th to celebrate its 125th anniversary.

The day-long event began with a welcome to all guests by Executive Director Steve Harrison. Harrison spoke of Perseverance, Nurture, Hope, Compassion, and a Sense of Worth—the core values that continue to guide the mission of Kurn Hattin.

Harrison next introduced special guest Leslie Ann Dickinson, the great, great granddaughter of Reverend Charles Albert Dickinson, the founder of Kurn Hattin Homes. Leslie reflected on the work of Reverend Dickinson and read a letter written to friends requesting their financial help in supporting Kurn Hattin Homes and an April Fools poem Charles wrote at age 21.

There were moving performances by The Kurn Hattin Monarch Dance Ensemble, choirs, and Jazz Ensemble, including a rendition of Hog's Breath Café, featuring trombone legend Dick Nash, Kurn Hattin Class of 1942, who flew in from California to attend Kurn Hattin's anniversary celebration.

Also in attendance was Priscilla Mayo Watson, daughter of W.I. "Pete" Mayo, Kurn Hattin's Director for 35 years from 1927 to 1962.

The alumni had their annual meeting and social hour, voted on changes to the by-laws, bid on silent auction items, and tested their knowledge of Kurn Hat-

tin history.

A seating on our restored Farmall Model H tractor, historical exhibit, interviews, cottage tours, and an ice cream social completed the day's festivities.

Since 1894, Kurn Hattin Homes for Children has helped thousands of children and their families by of-

fering a safe home and quality education in a nurturing environment. Its mission: Kurn Hattin transforms the lives of children and their families forever. Follow their journey at [www.kurnhattin.org](http://www.kurnhattin.org).

Photos, clockwise from top left:

Kurn Hattin founder's great, great granddaughter, Leslie Ann Dickinson, addressing audience at Kurn Hattin Homes' 125th Anniversary celebration.

Students Daxton and Tia, from left, on restored 1942 Farmall Model H tractor.

Kurn Hattin Homes' Monarch Dance Ensemble performing *I Have a Voice*.

Priscilla Mayo Watson in discussion with alumnus Dick Nash '42.

Photos by Kristie Lisai

### LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT HAYWARD HONORED

Gordon Hayward, acclaimed landscape designer, writer, and teacher from Westminster West, was named an honorary member of the Garden Club of America (GCA), during its annual meeting in Boston on May 19.

The honorary membership, one of the club's highest accolades, is given each year to no more than four recipients in such fields as horticulture and conservation. The Monadnock Garden Club nominated Hayward for the award.

Hayward has designed gardens professionally for more than 30 years, primarily in the Northeast and Maryland's Eastern shore. He has written 11 books on garden design and published more than 70 articles in *Horticulture magazine*. He was a contributing editor to *Fine Gardening* and *Organic Gardening*, and is a sought-after lecturer.

The personal garden that Hayward and his wife, Mary, have created over the past 34 years, centered around their 220-year-old farmhouse, has been documented and added to the GCA Collection at the Smithsonian Archives of American Gardens.

Anne Neal Petri, president of the GCA, called Hayward a "distinguished landscape designer who takes a practical approach to garden design, with an understanding that gardens should be personal, pleasurable, and sustainable."

Hayward will give a free lecture, 6:30-8 p.m., Thursday, June 6 at the Westminster Institute.

For more information, go to [westminstercare.com](http://westminstercare.com) or call 722-3607.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING RECYCLING

The Rockingham Recycling Center reminds residents and non-residents that Access Stickers are required to enter the Center on Rte. 5, south of Bellows Falls. Access Stickers for 2019 will be available June 1, 2019 and can be obtained at the Rockingham Town Clerk's Office and at the Recycling Center cashier building. **Rockingham residents and non-resident property owners who pay taxes in Rockingham are entitled to 2 access stickers free of charge, additional access stickers will be available for \$10.00 each. Non-resident users of the facility will be charged \$35.00 per access sticker. Replacement stickers required because of vehicle accident or windshield replacement can be obtained at no cost, proof of loss required. Proof of residency will be required when obtaining stickers.** Each vehicle must have an Access Sticker displayed on the front vehicle windshield. If a sticker is not displayed, you will be asked to obtain a sticker before using the facility.

The Access Stickers are required to access the facility even if one is using the "Exchange" building or leaving recyclables. The only exception to this is for those who are leaving electronic recycling items. **All are required to check with the Exchange building attendant before leaving any items. Because of liability issues surrounding upholstered chairs and couches (insect infestation such as fleas, ticks and bedbugs), we will not accept these items in or outside of the building, and they must be disposed of in the dumpster indicated by the attendant. Some items require a charge to be left off.** Items which do not get taken for re-use must be disposed of which is a cost to the Town of Rockingham taxpayers.

The operating costs for the Center are funded by the Town of Rockingham and its taxpayers. Peter Golec, Selectboard chair, noted it was not unreasonable for Rockingham to assess an Access Sticker fee for users from other towns to help pay for running the facility, as is the practice at other town's facilities.

Golec reminds all users that even if you have an Access Sticker displayed, you must pay for disposal of household trash, appliances and other items. There is no charge for items which go into the recycle container. Current trash fees are white trash bags - \$1.25, 30 gallon bags - \$2.50 and heavy duty contractor bags - \$3.75. Construction & demolition debris will be 10 cents per pound weighed on the scale. We strongly encourage the use of trash tickets for trash disposal. Cash is not accepted at the trash compactor. Only Rockingham trash tickets may be used to dispose of trash and these can be purchased at the cashier's building or the Rockingham Town Clerk's office. Trash compactor attendants do not have change and will not accept cash. Cash is accepted at the cashier's building.

The Center is in the process of installing directional signs for the compactors, traffic control, parking, and the Access Sticker requirement. If one does not know where or what can be disposed of at the facility, one of the helpful volunteers will be able to assist.

Our Monthly Community Newspaper June 2019 Vol. 15 No. 6

## Westminster Gazette

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## ROCKINGHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY UNVEILS ITS DIGITIZED GLASS PLATE NEGATIVE COLLECTION

The Rockingham Free Public Library will present its digitized glass plate negative collection on Monday, June 10 at 5:30 p.m.

Featured will be speakers that were involved with the project and a slide show of selected local images. Printed out copies of the images will also be available for viewing.

The Rockingham Free Public Library is proud to share its Glass Plate Negative Collection with the public for the first time. They can be viewed online on the Library's Historical Collection website: <http://rockinghamlibrary.org/history>.

Funding for the digitization of the Glass Plate Negative Project was provided by the Windham Foundation, located in Grafton.

The digitization was performed by Works on Paper, LLC, based in Bellows Falls.

The library is located at 65 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls, and is wheel chair accessible. For more information call 463-4270 or e-mail [reference@rockinghamlibrary.org](mailto:reference@rockinghamlibrary.org).

*In photo, construction of Bellows Falls' famed Arch Bridge.*



## GORDON HAYWARD TO GIVE A PRE-GARDEN TOUR TALK "THE INTIMATE GARDEN"

Showing you how to see your garden in a new way – that's what well-known landscape designer Gordon Hayward has in mind for his lecture, *The Intimate Garden*. His free talk will be held from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 6, at the Westminster Institute, Route 5 in Westminster. Light refreshments will be served.

It's a special advance program to the Westminster Cares Garden Tour, July 20-21.

Hayward, acclaimed landscape designer, writer, and teacher from Westminster West, was recently named an honorary member of the Garden Club of America (GCA), during its annual meeting in Boston. The honorary membership, one of the club's highest accolades, is given each year to no more than four recipients in such fields as horticulture and conservation.

The personal garden that Hayward and his wife, Mary, have created over the past 34 years, centered around their 220-year-old farmhouse, has been documented and added to the GCA Collection at the Smithsonian Archives of American Gardens. The garden has evolved over the last 36 years, as they've integrated its design with the house and the surrounding landscape. Gordon's talk will be illustrated by slides, and follow the itinerary of their garden and its 14 "rooms," or spaces, and the design principles they've been using to create those spaces.

From the lecture, you may take away an entirely new view of your own gardens, or just one idea. It may be how to plant a woody part of your backyard, or how to create a garden around a small building.

"It's a practical lecture," Gordon said. "We both have our feet on the ground and a shovel in our hands. My whole design approach is to enable people to live in a house in a garden. The garden is an extension of the house and the people who live in it."

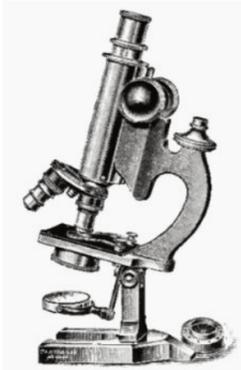
Even if you don't garden, you'll enjoy the beautiful pictures in the lecture and learn how to appreciate the

gardens you visit, much like artwork in a museum.

The Haywards have hosted the Westminster Cares Garden Tour since the tour's first year, in 2002. Their gardens (and two other distinguished gardens) will be the center of this year's tour, July 20-21. "We're very happy to support Westminster Cares. It's a small thing that we can do to help people maintain themselves in their homes," Mary said. "The notion of community goes right to the heart of what it is to live in Vermont,"

Gordon said. "It's why we're here; the sense of community which is so deeply a part of the Vermont ethos. This garden gives us an opportunity to share and in the process, to support community, which is what supports us all."

For more information, go to the Westminster Cares' website, [westminstercares.org](http://westminstercares.org), or call 722-3607. Tickets to the Garden Tour will be available for purchase online as of June 1st.



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\$30 for one month

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

Page 8  
approx. 1.5"x2.5"  
\$175 a year

**New Sections Introductory Rates:**

**A&E Events Section \$50 a month**

**New & Seasonal Businesses Section \$200 for 3 months**

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.

We also welcome article submissions that would be of interest to the community. We ask for a maximum size limit of 500 words, and reserve the right to edit for content and length. Thank you!

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

# ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & REGIONAL EVENTS

## GAZETTE OFFERING NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO ADVERTISE

by Robert F. Smith, Editor

As a small, non-profit community paper run mainly by volunteers and frequently operating on the edge, or slightly over the edge, of covering our expenses, the Gazette is always looking for ways to create a little extra income. Just a few thousand dollars more a year would give us a little breathing space and help us avoid being always too close to the edge of our financial limits.

In recent brainstorming sessions, the Gazette board concluded that perhaps the best way we could help ourselves was to help more of our readers. In particular we were looking at local groups, organizations and businesses putting on one-time arts events - concerts, plays, dances, art shows, movies - and seasonal and start-up

businesses with very limited advertising budgets who would still like to get the word out about their services.

What we are proposing is in part what you see here - a new Arts & Entertainment section, with an initial rate of \$50 for the month.

Secondly, we're creating a new section offering businesses the opportunity to run an ad for three months in the Gazette for \$200. Are you starting up a business cutting lawns, plowing driveways, fixing computers, selling firewood, cleaning houses, building furniture or whatever, and just want to try a little advertising as you try to get your business going? We want to help. Our new size has opened up more space for us to help the community, and that's what we want to do.

Contact us at westminsternews@gmail.com if you have any interest in either of these new sections.

### Gordon Hayward to give a Pre-Garden Tour Talk

"The Intimate Garden"

June 6, 2019 at the Westminster Institute



This free event will be held from 6:30-8:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 6th, at the Westminster Institute, Route 5 in Westminster. Dessert and refreshments will be served.

## GMP OFFERING TWO NEW GREEN-BASED REBATE PROGRAMS

Green Mountain Power (GMP) is launching two new rebate programs for customers looking to green up their heating and cooling, and their commutes. GMP customers can get a \$400 rebate when they buy a cold climate heat pump.

Customers can also get a \$200 rebate when they buy an electric bicycle at participating Vermont bike shops.

"Our energy supply is 90% clean carbon free and 60% renewable energy, so heating and cooling with a hyper-efficient heat pump is a great way to reduce your carbon footprint, and these new rebates offer great savings to help customers make the switch," said Josh Castonguay, a GMP Vice President who leads innovation and power supply.

"Together with customers we are creating a cleaner, more cost-effective and resilient energy future. GMP has committed to being 100% clean carbon free energy by 2025 and 100% renewable by 2030.

These incentives create value for all of our customers by using the energy grid more effectively, reducing carbon and cost for everyone we serve."

Saving on greener heating and cooling with a heat pump is simple. GMP customers fill out a form on GMP's website, and email that along with proof of purchase to rebates@greenmountainpower.com.

Customers can receive a \$400 rebate for each ductless cold climate heat pump condenser they buy, and

eligible heat pumps are on Efficiency Vermont's qualified products list.

Ebikes are growing in popularity and a great way to green up your commute. They're like regular bikes, but the electric-charged battery packs can help your pedal power go up hills, farther or faster when you choose.

A recent study by Efficiency Vermont found electric bikes help to offset hundreds of miles of driving that would have been done in fossil fueled vehicles.

GMP customers who shop at participating Vermont bike shops can get the \$200 rebate as a discount right away when they buy an ebike or have the shop convert their bike to electric.

Customers must show their GMP energy statement. Customers can also get free consultations to help decide what type of electric bike or electric cargo bike is best for their commute based on road conditions, safety features, and a rider's experience.

"This new rebate is going to help more Vermonters enjoy riding an ebike day-to-day to clean up their commutes," said Dave Cohen of VBike, which has a contract with the State of Vermont's Go Vermont program to provide the free ebike consultations. "Ebikes help you experience the natural environment around you in a way that cars just can't, and we can help you love riding an ebike."

For more details visit <https://greenmountainpower.com/product/ductless-heat-pump/>.

## NEWS FROM THE TOWN GARAGE

May has come to an end and we have had yet another productive month. All the road sand for next winter has been hauled in. Carson and Ben spent a day with Stu Johnson, the road grader instructor with the State of Vermont, to help with their already well established skills.

Five of the guys got recertified in flagging. Despite of all the rain, we have been able to continue grading roads, working on ditches and cleaning bridges.

We would like to welcome Corey Noyes to the team, he comes from Athens, a former employee of Asplundh and he brings with him a strong understanding of equipment and roads.

### Fun Fact:

It takes seven passes with a grader to properly grade a road, we have 50 miles of dirt times 7, that's 350 miles traveled averaging a speed of 2 miles per hour, so in 175 hours we are able to grade our roads. This will take roughly 4 weeks, not including rainy days and travel time.

And last but not least, I would like to extend my thanks to the people that helped in this years green up, it was greatly appreciated.

Charles (Chuck) Lawrence  
Road Foreman, Westminster

## TECH CAMP 2019 NEWS STUDENTS IN GRADES 7-9



Film Creation: Audio Post Production with SAPA - this year Tech Campers will be immersed in technical audio post production for film. Participants will have the opportunity to create and add sound effects to video and will learn audio post production techniques that they can use in future video making projects such as personal YouTube videos and more!

Campers use their creativity to express themselves with a short story complete with pictures and photos of their choice. The group will create and take home a "Tech Camp Week Book" which will include bios and photos of all the campers. Campers will also design and print their own t-shirt!

Other programs include an exciting hands-on Robotics, Micro:bit Coding, "Let's Get Cooking" where students learn basic cooking skills and how to make nutritious snacks, First Aid will provide them with basic life-saving techniques as well as proper use of and removal of gloves. In 3-D printing they will design and create solutions to challenges using the RVTC and APM 3D printers; this program is run in collaboration with the American Precision Museum.

Other programs include problem solving scenarios through gaming, career exploration with VSAC, and "Just a Breeze, Wind Spinners" - there is never a dull moment at Tech Camp.

All youth entering the 7th, 8th or 9th grade at any area middle school, private school or home school are eligible to attend "Tech Camp". Space is limited to the first 50 to register. The Camp experience could turn your child onto a new and exciting hobby or interest and at the low price of \$100 (\$90 if registered prior to June 1st) this is a steal!

Camp is scheduled for the week of June 17th thru the 21st. at the River Valley Technical Center in Springfield, Vermont from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. each day. If your child's school is still in session due to "snow days", contact them because some schools will allow their students to be excused so that they can take part in this exciting alternative educational experience.

For more information or to receive a brochure and sign-up forms, contact Marie Gelineau, Camp Director, at 384-1561 or by e-mail at [mgelineau@rvtc.net](mailto:mgelineau@rvtc.net)

## WHAT'S UP AT TOWN HALL? - RENOVATIONS & RECYCLING

**TOWN HALL:** The renovations continue at the Town Hall and have been delayed because of loose brick in the front of the building which needed to be re-done and repointed in some other areas. We thank you for your patience with the construction and the lack of a front door.

We are assuming next week (June 3rd) will be the construction of the front stairs and rails. The new front doors will be installed shortly after that. Just a quick note on the platform lift. Please read the directions located at the doors and inside the lift. In a nut shell, be patient and press and hold the buttons to call and operate the lift. If you are in a hurry, please use the back door. Again, thank you for your understanding of this inconvenience.

**LAND FOR SALE:** The Town has 19.1 acres of land for sale off of Pine Banks Road. If you are interested, please contact the Town Hall or Buffum Realty. This is a great opportunity at a great price.

**ZONING IN OUR TOWN:** Please remember that any exterior home improvements in the Historic Village needs a permit such as window replacement, removing trees, sheds, etc. The other Zoning Districts require a permit for any out building or addition equal to or greater than 150 sq. ft. If you have questions please feel free to call us. We are here to help not hinder your home improvement requests.

**TRASH & RECYCLING:** Just a quick reminder that your trash and recycling need to be covered in order for it to be picked up. The program hasn't changed for a few years now but we are forgetting what makes this program work.

Trash tags for next year will be sent out in June. If you need additional tags before this date, please come to the Town Hall and get them. They are \$2.50 each. If you have extra tags that you are willing to give to a needy family, please drop those off at the Town Hall also. Please remember that selling your tags is not acceptable.

**PAVING:** The Town will be paving approximately 1 mile from Route 121 up Back Westminster Road this summer. The road will be ground and then overlaid with 1.5" of new pavement. Once the project starts, please understand that there will be delays and one lane passage.

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

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

## NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER CARES

The Westminster Cares, Inc. Board of Directors met May 1st at the Westminster Institute with Vice President Lori Larue President presiding. The following board members attended: Pat Goodell, Pete Harrison, Doug Oftedahl, Heidi Anderson, Sally Ryea and Director Donna Dawson. Miriam Lanata, Don Dawson and Regina Borden were unable to attend. The executive committee met briefly before the regular meeting to discuss finances and the director's upcoming vacation. 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](mailto:wecares@sover.net). Check us out on the web @ [www.westminstercares.org](http://www.westminstercares.org) and like us on Facebook.

### Programs & Services Provided in April 2019

**Meals-on-Wheels:** WC volunteers delivered meals five days a week to 17 different people. Several new clients were added. In addition, two frozen entrees were delivered each Friday to 10 people for weekend meals (20 total weekend meals).

**Transportation:** During the month, 22 rides were provided by four volunteers who drove seniors to/from

the BF Senior Center, grocery shopping, the bank and tax prep. appointments.

**Programs:** Two Secrets of Healthy Aging group, four Gentle Yoga classes, 24 Strength Training classes, four Artist in Each of Us classes; four Chair Yoga classes; four Beginner Tai Chi classes and four Intermediate Tai Chi classes.

**Assistance and Referrals:** Completed several intakes for Meals-On-Wheels. Assisted clients with financial paperwork in preparation for taxes; Homestead Declaration Forms. Several clients were referred to both S.E.V.C.A. and the BF Senior Center for tax appointments.

**Medical Equipment:** In April we loaned out six pieces of equipment; one piece of equipment was returned to us and two pieces of equipment were donated to us.

Westminster Cares welcomes donations throughout the year from anyone wishing to remember or honor a loved one or friend.

### MEMORIAL and HONARARY DONATIONS IN MAY 2019

In honor of Bruce MacDuffie's birthday and all he does for Westminster Cares from Pete and Judy Harrison

In memory of Deb Muzzey Mann from Jane French  
In memory of Charlotte "Bert" Minich from:  
Pete and Judy Harrison  
Judith Charbonneau  
Alan & Sandi Gaspardino

## Rainbow of Colors

by Alma Beals, Vermont Master Gardener and Naturalist



For all of us gardeners who love irises, do not miss the "Open Garden" that Marita Johnson displays every year and welcomes us to stop in and enjoy. Iris is the Greek word for rainbow and her garden is a rainbow of colors the first 3 weeks in June, with the prime time being about June 8 to June 15.

However, with the cold spring we have had, her irises may be delayed in blossoming. Be sure to check with her before planning a trip. She's in the phone book under Bruce and Marita Johnson on Randall Hill Road in Springfield.

Marita started her iris garden over 40 years ago with some irises her father shared. Just think, some of her irises have been in her family for over 60 years. Many of us return for a traditional visit to see the 150 different colors.

We then walk through her other flower gardens that include a labyrinth in the shape of an iris formed by stones in a mossy part of her lawn. What a delightful way to spend a morning or afternoon.

Irises are very easy to grow, not fussy about soil, winter hardy in zones 4 to 9 and require full sun or partial shade. While they do prefer planting or dividing in



late August or September, I have found that they can be moved or planted anytime during the growing season.

The three main parts of the flower are the standards, falls and hafts. The standards are the upper three petals and the falls are the lower three petals. The hafts are the top parts of the falls that connect to the rest of the flower. The line of fuzzy hairs at the top of the falls is called a beard. Beards not only give the bearded iris its name, they also guide pollinators to the nectar inside. Deer don't usually bother iris because they don't like the fuzzy beard or fragrance.

As I write this at the end of May, my irises and other perennials are coming along but are a few days behind due to the weather. I keep thinking when the weather pattern changes, the temperature may get hot and stay there and then listen to me complain.

The upside of the cold, gray, and wet spring is that the shrubs like forsythia and flowers like daffodils have stayed blossomed for a long time. You have probably noticed that springs that have several hot days in a row shoot the blossoms right by. This spring I have enjoyed how the forsythia and daffodils lasted and lasted.

The big question this spring has been, "What is happening to the rhododendrons?" When I first noticed the damage to my shrubs, I wondered if a disease or blight was to blame.

I have talked to several experts and many of my gardening friends and they all say the damage is weather related. There are different opinions; lack of deep snow cover with a rollercoaster of temperatures, frozen ground early in the season, lots of ice, very strong winds.

According to Michael Nerrie of Distant Hill Gardens, rhododendrons and other broad leaf evergreen shrubs like boxwood continue to lose water vapor through their leaves in winter. The leaves must replace the lost water by pulling it up from the roots. But when the ground is frozen, the roots can't absorb the water they need.

If the weather turns warm and sunny while the ground still is frozen, evaporation from the leaves increases and the water can't be replaced. Hence the burned foliage. Most of us aren't ready to cut them down but are waiting to see if they blossom and if we see any new growth.

## WILLIAM & SALLY BRADLEY - A WESTMINSTER LOVE STORY

By Jessie Haas

You've seen the name in gold letters, on the house at the corner of School St. William Czar Bradley, Congressman and lawyer. Boring and stuffy, right? Actually, he lived a love story worthy of a novel—set in the era of Jane Austen and Patrick O'Brien, but thoroughly American.

He was born in Westminster in 1782. His father, Stephen, was fascinated with Peter the Great, but his mother, Merab, hated the name Peter, so he was christened William Czar, Billa Czar for short. (Locals in those days said and spelled the nickname 'Billa', not 'Billy.)

Billa Czar lost his mother at age three, and lived with his grandparents until his father remarried. Stephen was busy getting Vermont admitted to the Union, and himself elected to the U.S. Senate, while his precocious boy studied Greek and Latin, and published a pamphlet at age 12.

He was also a wild child, admitted to Yale at age 13 and expelled a few months later for putting a donkey in the pulpit. He denied this all his life but said, "I have done undetected mischief enough to deserve censure."

What he got was much worse. His furious father cut him off emotionally and set the brilliant, angry, heart-broken boy to work hauling manure on the farm, down on Westminster Flats. Then into his life came Sally Richards, the dainty teenaged daughter of a Revolutionary War soldier from Rochester, Mass. She was a refined, aristocratic girl, descended from King Henry I of France. She had even met George Washington. Billa Czar fell in love at first sight, and his love was returned.

Now he had a reason to live and succeed. His father refused to pay for his education, so William studied law on his own and with a lawyer in Massachusetts. In 1800 he wrote an impassioned letter to his father, plead-

ing for justice and mercy. "The pleasures of life can have few allurements to a heart as terse as mine. Its pains can have but few terrors to those who have severely experienced the worst. And as I expect no happiness short of eternal rest, I am not liable to be disappointed."

This, or something, pierced the emotional wall that Stephen had maintained throughout his son's teenage years. Suddenly William was his father's right hand man, needed at home to care for his half-siblings and dying stepmother. Soon Stephen was back in Washington, and William had three motherless children on his hands.

He met the responsibility, was admitted to the Vermont bar, and at age 20, married Sally. They promptly adopted a little girl, Emily, living in Walpole. She was William's illegitimate daughter, conceived when he was 16. Her mother is unknown. A local girl? A servant? Or possibly Sally herself. She travelled frequently to visit relatives in Rochester, and the absences could have served to conceal a pregnancy.

The child caused no rift between the couple, who raised her, two other children, and a granddaughter, during their 64-year marriage. William spent nine years in Washington as a Congressman, five years in the wilderness surveying the Maine-Canada border, and innumerable years on the road practicing law in Newfane and Brattleboro. But nothing, not even death, could truly separate him from Sally.

They lived with their son for a few years in Brattleboro, but after Sally died there, William came back to Westminster. He wrote, "Brattleboro...a place I hope to avoid forever after. It has been to me one of unmitigated sorrow and grief, while here, where dear Mama is constantly with me and reminding me of her presence—all looks cheerful and good, and I regain health and strength in body and mind." He survived Sally by

only a few months, dying in 1867.

The Westminster Historical Society will open the Bradley Law Office July 7, and every summer Sunday, 2-4 p.m.

Come see the elegant and inventive furnishings and wallpaper, possibly reflecting Sally's taste; the lamps, snuff boxes, and wine decanters handled daily by this brilliant, warmhearted man. And consider joining the Historical Society. Your membership, interest, and energy will help us preserve this priceless piece of Westminster's story.

## WESTMINSTER GARDEN TOUR 2019



The Westminster Garden Tour 2019 will be held on the weekend of July 20-21, featuring the gardens of Gordon and Mary Hayward, Cyndy Fine of Genius Loci and garden blogger Alice Laughlin.

New this year are the stone sculptures of Miles Chapin ([www.mileschapin.com](http://www.mileschapin.com)) installed throughout the Hayward gardens.

## NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE

The Westminster Fire and 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 June 4 at 7 p.m. The Prudential Committee normally meets once or twice a month. A warning will be posted 48 hours prior to each meeting.

Number of calls in March: 39  
Number of calls in April: 34  
Number of calls through May 29th: 28  
Number of calls calendar year to Date: 168  
Number of calls fiscal year to date: 346

**Association Meeting:** The Westminster Fire and Rescue Association met for their regular meeting May 7 with President Greg Holton presiding. There were 22 members present and four member excused. Currently there are 34 members of the volunteer fire department.

The fire department hosted a gathering May 11 to honor retired fire chief and long time member Bob Lober who passed away last November. A message that was written by a local resident was read by Chief Cole Streeter.

**Awards:** Each year during the association meetings in May, the Chief hands out pins and certificates recognizing the members for their service at five year intervals. Receiving pins and certificates this year were Real

Bazin for 45 years and Wanda West for 30 years.

The members applauded them and thanked them for their continued dedication and reliability.

**Swimming Safety:** Now that summer weather has finally arrived, caution is urged for those swimming in pools, lakes and brooks. Be sure to have a good supply of life preservers on hand and "swimmies" for the little people.

Watch for hazards such as low water, slippery decks and rocks. Be extra careful when diving to insure the water is deep enough and there is nothing in the water that could cause injury.

Never swim alone and be sure there is ample supervision at all times, especially when little children are around. Also if you have a pool on your property, check your fences and gates to be sure they are secure and safe.

**Emergency responses:** We have had another busy month in May with 28 total calls through the 29th. The breakdown goes like this: nine rescue/medical calls; two motor vehicle accident; two mutual aid calls, one to Belows Falls and one to Springfield; two tree on wires or wires down; three mental health issues, one smoke investigation; two illegal burn investigations; five calls for alarms sounding; two vehicle fires.

**FIRE EXTINGUISHERS FOR SALE:** Anyone want to buy a fire extinguisher? We have them for sale and there are four sizes available. See the Chief or stop by the fire station for more information if interested.

**Dishes:** Several dishes and platters have been left behind at the fire house from functions using the facility. Stop by and claim yours. We need to return them to the rightful owners.

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

**Donations received in May:** Wade and Katrina Masure in memory of Bob Lober Jane Lawrence in memory of Bob Lober. Mildred Barry in memory of Bob Lober, and Sylvia and Lynn Lawrence.

We are always looking for new members: Anyone interested in volunteering their time to help the community in a time of need, please contact Chief Cole Streeter at 722-3178 or stop by the Firehouse any Sunday morning and pick up an application.

We would like to have additional volunteers from the Westminster West area.

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

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

Check us out on our website [www.westminsterfire-andrescue.org](http://www.westminsterfire-andrescue.org).

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

# Aged in Vermont

Westminster Cares, Inc.

## AGING WITH OUR COMPANION ANIMALS

By Cheryl Richards

Most of us are already aware of the enormous benefits we receive from our pets. And we in turn love them fiercely. For seniors especially, the bond between human and animal plays a vital role in the well-being of both.

As we age however, caring for our furry loved ones can become challenging, so it would be a good idea to start thinking about a Plan B, or Advanced Care Planning options for your pet. In this way, you'll be prepared and know what to do if you ever reach a point where your caregiving capabilities decrease or even in the eventuality that you have to give them up. Here are some things that may be helpful to think about.

For many older people who are struggling financially, there may come a time when the difficult decision has to be made over who gets to eat or get medical attention first – human or pet. Windham County Humane Society (WCHS) has a Pet Care Assistance Program and Wellness Clinics available to people with limited incomes. If possible, contact them before you would need them to find out what kind of help would be available to you.

For many of us as we age our bodies get quite a bit more creaky than they used to be! Way too many elders are going to emergency rooms for injuries incurred while caring for their pets. How mobile are you? Are you able to walk your dog daily or engage in active playtime games?

Can you bend over and pick up the cat lovingly twining around your legs, or clean her litter box? How about driving your ailing pet to the veterinarian? Forcing yourself to continue to provide care that is possibly

becoming dangerous for you will eventually affect not only your own well-being but also that of your pet.

If these things are becoming difficult for you (or hopefully before) consider talking with family, friends, members of your church community or neighbors about helping out with some of the care needs of your animal. You may be surprised by how many willing pet lovers there are in your vicinity. And, for those of us who would like to offer heart care to animals and their humans, consider offering a helping hand with some of the more practical needs of pet care.

Staying with our furry friends for as long as we can is what we all long for. There are times however, when that turns out not to be possible. In the event of very poor health, hospitalization, moving into an assisted care facility that does not accept animals (some do though, so check into it before you move), or death, it becomes vitally important to plan ahead for the ongoing care of your pet.

Again, speak with people you know to see if any of them would be a willing and appropriate step-pet parent. If not, your veterinarian or the WCHS may be able to help with rehoming him or her. In this way, although you're no longer able to be together (although visits may be possible!) you offer your friend this last gift of love and caring.

*Cheryl Richards owns and operates Loving Transitions for Critters & Their People and also facilitates Pet Loss Support Groups at Brattleboro Area Hospice. She can be reached at [sacred\\_transitions@comcast.net](mailto:sacred_transitions@comcast.net).*

## WESTMINSTER MYSTERY PHOTO



The Mystery Photo may be the most popular part of the Gazette, and we need the help of readers to keep it going. If you have any photos that you think might work, contact us at [westminsternews@gmail.com](mailto:westminsternews@gmail.com) and we'll help you get them in the paper.

Again, another big thanks to Barbara Greenough for the wonderful story she provided us, along with these photos, for this issue of the Gazette. We were happy to scan the family pictures and return them to Barbara.

Here are some of the anecdotes she sent along with the photos:

Barbara wrote:

Here are two pictures for you to use, if you choose. I think the two pictures of the house are what was known as the house on the hill, or Peter Marshall's. I don't know much about it, except my grandfather, Rowland Barber, and family lived there. My grandmother used to say that people called her up all the time to ask her how the weather was up there, as there was so much fog in the valley. The farmers didn't know what to do that day til they knew whether the sun was shining "up on the hill" or not, she said.

I'm going to tell you a continuing saga of the Westminster house now belonging to Ann and Frank Kebbell. Oh, how I wish I had kept this house when I had it! My grandfather Rowland Barber and wife Lillian and the three girls didn't have much room in the house when they got it, so my grandfather put the addition onto it. To the right of the house was a hay field, which belonged to Mr. and Mrs. John Richmond, who lived across the street, on the other side of Court House Hill. Somehow, and no one ever knew how or why, something had happened between my grandfather and John Richmond. They would each stand on their own bank and yell and shout and shake their fists at each other until they were hoarse. Malcolm, (Sam) Streeter and I were children together, and all of us kids in town played together, and none of us ever found out what the trouble was. Sam and I were curious, but we never found out what happened to make our grandfathers so mad at each other.

Anyway, John Richmond owned the land directly in front of my grandfather's house, so he built a two-car garage directly in front of the house so my grandfather could not see out his house windows. Shortly after the garage was built, the south side of the garage was splattered with different colors of paint on the 4th of July. My mother claimed that townspeople did it, that my grandfather was innocent!

## BIRTHDAY CALENDAR AND STRAWBERRY SUPPER

As June begins for the First Congregational Church of Westminster, our solicitors for areas of Westminster are taking the final orders for the Community Birthday Calendar.

If you missed reserving your calendar, please call Lucy Matteau at 802-722-9040.

On Saturday, July 6 we will hold our usual Strawberry Supper with two settings, one at 5 p.m. and the second at 6:15, with ham, baked beans, potato salad, cucumber salad, rolls, milk, coffee, ice tea, and of course, homemade strawberry shortcake for dessert. Adults \$12, Children \$5, children under 5 are free.

## KURN HATTIN HONORS VOLUNTEERS

Kurn Hattin Homes for Children held its Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon on May 15th to honor and thank the over 100 volunteers, including our staff, Trustees, and Incorporators, who dedicate their time, talents and energy to help care for the children. Tom Oxholm, Director of Institutional Advancement, who coordinated the lunch this year, thanked the volunteers in attendance. "Volunteers play a critical role in every aspect of Kurn Hattin," he remarked. "We wouldn't be the community we are without them."

Every year, the Kurn Hattin volunteers are recognized at this special luncheon and a music performance is held in their honor. In addition to the many devoted staff members, who go above and beyond to help and support Kurn Hattin students, this year's Honorees are: Dan Antosiewicz, Jerry Bardwell, Diane Bazin, Michael Blau, Mark Bodin, Barbara Brackett, Scott Bundy, Trudy Byington, Elayne Clift, Pat Crotty, Patsy Decker, Fred Dill Jr., Diane Duncan, Kathleen Dustin, Deborah Fajans, Patricia Farmer, Amelia Farnum, Heather Ferland, Skylar Fitch, Susan Fitzgerald, Janet Francis, Justin Fuller, Chris Goding, Flossie Gray, Megan Gray, Terry Gulick, Christopher Hackett, Ann Hadley, Sally Haney, Debra Hamel, Fr. Lance W. Harlow, Chris & Jean Hodsden, Noel Hoffman, Marya & Terry Holcombe, Susan Howell, Jodi Kelley Hoyt, Stephanie Huestis, Chris Hultquist, Lyssa Jackson, Susan Johnson, Barbara Joy, Charles Kelsey, Ellen Kok, Mark & Nancy Lightner, Abigail Littlefield, James A. Lynch, James Malley, Carley Marston, Jon MacLaren, Bruce A. Martin, Mabella Mendez, Barbara Matteson, Frances Mills, Jeanne Moore, Marilyn Moore, Brian Morgan, Rhonda Nolan, Sue Nostrand, Karen Noyes, Michael Obuchowski, Wendy O'Dette, Darlene Pecor, Philip Perlah, Elizabeth Perra Chevalier, Stephen Peterson, Mary Kay Pfadenhauer, James Pietro, Kathleen Pirruccello, Howard & Judy Putnam, Rita Ramirez, John Reed, Lynne & Bill Reed, Leslie Richards, Anita Roy, Steven Ryder, James Sawtelle, William J. Scarlett IV, Alexandra Scarlett, Sheldon Scott, Lisa Shippee, Carlene Simard, Elaine Sinclair, Christina Smith, Merton Snow, Ellen String-



ham, Heinrich & Janice Sussebach, Maggi Suttles, Jen Tallman, Holly Thrash, Deborah Timon, Lauren Tramountina, Seamus Tully, Julie Tewksbury, Robert Tortolani, MD, Joan Wiley, Cora Willis-Cooper, Janet Wilson, Christie Winmill, and Greg Worden.

If you would like more information on volunteer opportunities at Kurn Hattin Homes, please contact Tom Oxholm at [toxholm@kurnhattin.org](mailto:toxholm@kurnhattin.org) or call (802) 721-6963.

*In photos, from top, student Danicka speaking with volunteer Barbara Brackett; and from left, students Rosie and Zoey with volunteer and Incorporator, Nancy Lightner*

# WESTMINSTER HAPPENINGS

## Activities

### Scottish Country Dance Classes

Every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Westminster Center School Gym. All skill levels welcome. Contact Michael Daley for more information at 387-2601. No charge.

### Putney Contra Dance

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

### Senior Potluck Lunch

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

### Secrets of Healthy Aging

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

### Contra Dance

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

### Gentle Yoga

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

### Chair Yoga

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

### Living Strong Classes

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

### Knitting Together

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

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

### Westminster West Book Group

The Westminster West Library has a book group meeting every third Monday from 7-9. Call the library if you are interested in getting a list of the books we are reading. Contact Lise Cavanaugh at 387-4682.

### Tai Chi Classes

Wednesday's at the Institute  
Beginner Class 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.  
Intermediate Class 11 a.m.- noon

**The Living Earth Action Group** meets most Fridays at 5 p.m. at the Westminster West Congregational Church. For actual schedule e-mail Caitlin Adair at [pcadair@sover.net](mailto:pcadair@sover.net).

### Souper Wednesday

Wednesday, May 1, 12 to 2 p.m.. Last Souper Wednesday of the season will be a cookout and potluck. Come and celebrate Spring.

## Faith Community

### The First Congregational Church of Westminster

Rev. Sami Jones McRae, Pastor. 3470 Route 5, Westminster, 722-4148.  
The church is handicapped accessible. Sunday School is available; call to register your children. We are an Open and Affirming church; all welcome.  
Tuesday, June 4, 11:00 AM – Women's Fellowship meet at Sylvia Lawrence's Screen house; Bring a sandwich and our hostess will serve drink and desserts.  
Sunday, June 9, 10 a.m., Worship.  
Sunday, June 16, 10 a.m., Worship.  
Sunday, June 23, 10 a.m., Worship.  
Saturday, June 29, 11:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.—Music in the Meadow, Chester, VT  
Sunday, June 30, 10 a.m., Worship.  
Saturday, July 6, 5:00 and 6:15 p.m. Strawberry Supper.

### 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. 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 wheelchair accessible, and the congregation is Open and Affirming. Rev. Susie Webster-Toleno is the pastor. She currently holds office hours on Monday and Thursday afternoons, and people are welcome to drop by. She can be reached at 387-2334, via cell phone at 579-8356 or e-mail [susiewt@gmail.com](mailto:susiewt@gmail.com).

### Walpole Bible Church

The Grace Bible Fellowship holds its Sunday Worship Service at 9:15 a.m. at 38 Elm Street in Walpole, NH. More information at [www.walpolebiblechurch.org](http://www.walpolebiblechurch.org).

### Walpole Unitarian Church

The corner of Union and Main Streets, Walpole, NH  
Services begin at 10:am with Rev. Elaine Bomford.  
First Sunday of each month is Circle Sunday with visiting presenters.  
[www.walpoleunitarian.org](http://www.walpoleunitarian.org).

## Meetings

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

**Planning Commission** 2nd Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall.

**Conservation Commission** meets every 4th Thursday at Town Hall at 7:15

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

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

**Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association**  
3rd Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Westminster West Congregational Church.

**Westminster West Public Library Board** 2nd Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Westminster West Public Library.

**Development Review Board** 1st Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall.

**Community Improvement Program Committee** meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m.

**Westminster Cares Board - No Summer Meetings** 1st Wednesday of every month, at the Westminster Institute at 4:30 p.m.

**911 Committee** as needed.

**The Westminster Fire and 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, June 24 at 5 p.m. at the Flat Iron.

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

## THANK YOU FOR GREEN UP DAY HELP

Thank you to all who helped green up Westminster on May 6 and all the other days. Because of your community spirit and hard work, our town looks much cleaner and greener.

A special thanks to the Town of Westminster road crew for picking up more than 60 bags of roadside litter you collected. Each bag



weighed more than 20 pounds. The crew also picked up more than 30 discarded tires, and pieces of metal and furniture.

Altogether, they collected more than seven cubic yards of trash and debris.

That's a successful Green Up Day!

Susan Harlow,  
Green Up coordinator

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

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

### WESTMINSTER GAZETTE

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Board of Directors:  
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To Contact the Westminster Gazette  
E-mail: [westminsternews@gmail.com](mailto:westminsternews@gmail.com)

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**BELLOWS FALLS ROTARY CLUB**

For more information about Rotary, contact Alma Beals at [almabeals@gmail.com](mailto:almabeals@gmail.com) or 722-3355

*Service above self throughout our community and world.*

**The FOUR WAY Test**  
Of the things we think, say or do

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

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

## AUSTIN TAYLOR NAMED BFUHS STUDENT OF THE MONTH



It is a pleasure to announce that Austin Taylor has been named the April Elks Student of the Month for Bellows Falls Union High School. Austin, a senior, is the son of Jon and Laura Taylor of Westminster.

Austin comes to school every day willing to work. When he is absent, he works hard to get caught up in a timely manner. Attentive and cooperative in class, he participates actively and gets involved in classroom discussions.

A pleasure to work with, Austin is friendly and positive. He often puts others ahead of himself and is always willing to offer a big smile and a word of encouragement to brighten someone's day. Austin goes out of his way to help others when he sees a need. His positive attitude and willingness to help make him an asset to any class or group he participates in.

Austin is dedicated to serving, he has participated the Fire Protection Program at Windham Regional Technical Center in Brattleboro and serves on the Westminster Volunteer Fire Department. He has served as a camp counselor and has helped with Bellows Falls Middle School Band activities. Austin is an active member of the BFULS band, has participated in the sports program and has built sets for BFULS drama productions. He has also been a member of the local 4-H program for a number of years.

BFUHS and the Elks are proud to have Austin represent us as a Student of the Month.

## GRAFFITI: 200 YEARS OF HISTORY AT THE DODGE TAVERN AT WALPOLE TOWN HALL

The Walpole Historical Society is hosting a presentation by local archaeologist, Gail Golec, entitled *Graffiti: 200 years of History at the Dodge Tavern*, on June 7 at 7 p.m. at the Walpole Town Hall.

The Old Dodge Tavern had been the cornerstone of a small enclave in the northeast corner of town known as The Valley for over 200 years.

Golec's presentation will give a comprehensive history of The Valley and serve as the backdrop for the WHS summer exhibit about The Valley, opening that weekend, entitled *Life in "The Valley": The history of a little known Walpole community, told through the MacNutt and Thompson families, ca. 1919.*

The presentation will be 80 minutes long with an intermission and consist of a narrated slideshow created by Golec for her local-history podcast, "The Secret Life of Death."

The event is free of charge and open to all. There will be refreshments available.

## A VOICE IN THE LAND LISTENING CIRCLE

LARRY  
LITTLEBIRD &  
GREG VALERIO  
SPEAK AT  
WESTMINSTER  
WEST EVENT  
JUNE 17TH



A Listening Circle with Pueblo Indian Elder/Storyteller, Larry Littlebird of New Mexico, and Dr. Greg Valerio, founder of a Celtic Monastic community in the British Isles, will be held on Monday, June 17 at 7:30 p.m. at the Congregational Church of Westminster West, 44 Church Street, hosted by the Living Earth Action Group

Historically, indigenous peoples have lived intimately rooted in regenerative circles of life. Today's industrialized societies disconnect us from these natural systems critical for survival.

The forming of this nation from sea to shining sea forced the indigenous people from their homelands - tipping the balance. From that time past through the years arriving up to the present how does one begin to make sense of all that has transpired across this land? How do we restore the healthy root and heal the up-

rootedness of a nation?

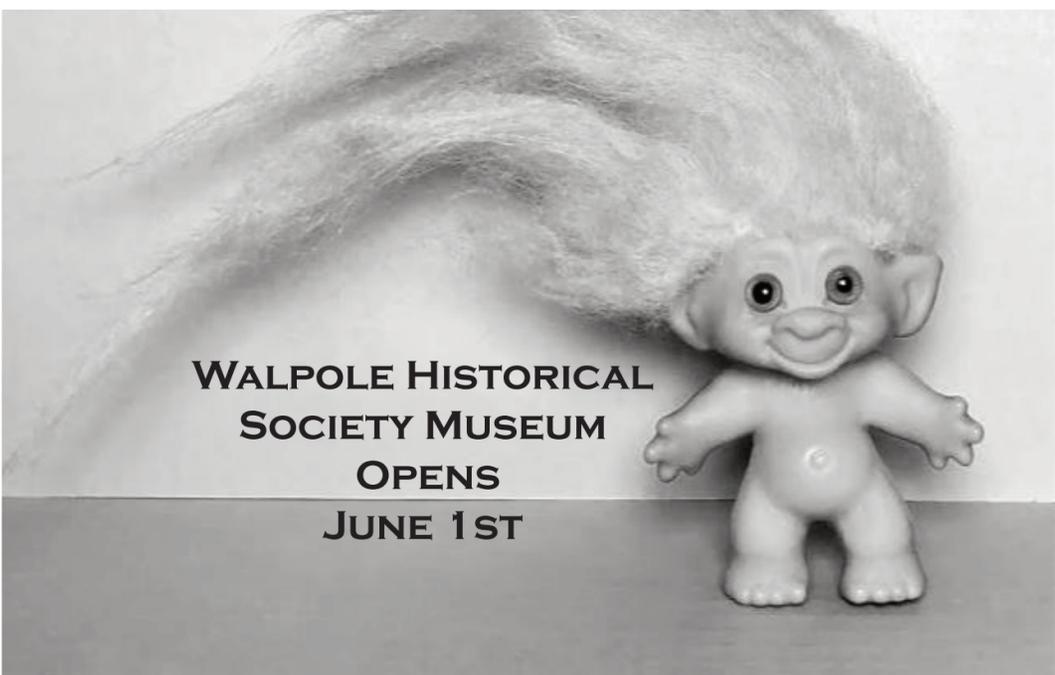
An inspirational speaker and strong Native voice, Larry Littlebird presents a compelling message through stories and prophecies from his rich tribal American heritage and oral tradition legacy. Traveling alongside Littlebird, is his colleague and good friend, Dr. Greg Valerio from the British Isles who illuminates striking parallels from his work in Celtic monasticism and rewinding indigenous landscapes.

Please join us for this special listening circle as we cultivate a deeper relationship to place and discover our own listening ground for living in concert with the land, to one another and all relations at this critical hour on earth.

For more information, go to [www.listeningground.org](http://www.listeningground.org).

Donations encouraged.

## WALPOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM OPENS JUNE 1ST



The Walpole Historical Society opens for the season Saturday, June 1st with 4 new exciting and distinct exhibits. From a look at *Life in the Valley in 1919*, to the elegant architecture styles of the earlier times and a fun collection of the baby boomer generation as well as memorable anecdotes that will make you happy and smile.

*Our Life in the Valley 1919* is a view of a farm wife's simple diary that transports us back to Walpole's Valley enclave as we learn of the daily challenges and moments of celebration.

*Walpole Stories* include anecdotes found in the notebooks of Edith Cole Tiffany that remind us that, well, no matter the era, folks can be a little weird, wacky, and apparently memorable enough to be immortalized on the page.

*Frontier Elegance:* Learn how early architecture styles and the designers and builders who built them

transformed a 1752 village in the Connecticut River Valley.

**BOOM!** And, from the not so distant past, **BOOM!** A collection of artifacts from the 1950's through the 1970's from go-go boots to troll dolls to record album covers—a fun "Remember When" exhibit!

And don't forget to wander into the gift shop. You will find hand crafted cedar Fragrant Flyers (you have to see these!) scarves and beads, wooden bookmarks, local honey and maple products, books, candles stained glass ornaments, lavender sachets and so much more.

We now have a selection of Fravessi greeting cards too.

Plan to join us on opening day and visit often with family and friends.

We will be open every Saturday through mid October from Noon to 4 p.m. or by appointment by calling 756-3449. Parking is behind the building.

## FEAR OF SINGING WEEKEND WORKSHOP

Nancy Salwen, of The Fear of Singing Breakthrough Program, is offering a weekend singing workshop/retreat for adults and teens, with a special focus on beginners called, *From Fear to Joy: Discover Your Inner Singer!*

The retreat/workshop will take place on Friday, June 28 through Sunday June 30 at the Stone Church Center in Bellows Falls. Registration is required.

This weekend retreat/workshop is an opportunity for anyone who wishes they could sing to take the first steps, as well as for people with some singing experience who would like to feel more comfortable and expressive with their voice. Participants will explore their voices in supportive and fun ways, using

games, improvisations and accessible songs from around the world, taking away useful techniques to help them practice at home if they wish.

Nancy is a certified Music Together teacher and a graduate of Music for People's Musicianship and Leadership program. She is the author book, "Fear of Singing: Learn to Sing Even if You Think You Can't Carry a Tune!" available in local bookstores and on Amazon.

In addition she teaches singing lessons privately, offers an online singing program, runs early childhood music programs, and leads music-based team building workshops.

To sign up or learn more, contact Nancy at 603-721-1492, [nancy@salwen.net](mailto:nancy@salwen.net) or through her website <https://fearofsing.com/bellows-falls-weekend-june-2019/>.

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The service department is headed by Liz and Mallary Kelton and service work is done by our long time technicians, David Cheeney and Peter Loomis.

For those of you who prefer to research vehicles online, our inventory is currently listed on cars@westminsterautovt.com. We can also be found on Facebook.

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We are located at 6156 US Route 5 in Westminster. You can reach us at 802-722-4722 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday thru Friday and 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, or by appointment.

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