



VILLAGE DEDICATES PAVILION HONORING BEV MAJOR

The dedication and celebration of the completed pavilion honoring Beverly Major was held at the Westminster West School on Saturday, July 27th. The ceremony began with speakers recounting tales and contributions of Major, for whom the pavilion will be christened, followed by a sit down pot-luck celebration with music, a bonfire and a variety of activities for young and old. Major was honored for her decades serving as a teacher and librarian for the town.

The 16' x 16' open-air structure will be used by all Westminster elementary students at Studio Y, fostering integrated arts and nature-based learning.

In the photo, Bev and Randy Major are in the second row center. Their son Steven is to the left of Bev. David Major is in front row center, with his wife Yese-nia Major and their daughter Lana. Matt Sharff is to David's right. Judge Patti Whalen, Judy Coven and others are in the background.



DESPITE THE HEAT - 2019 WESTMINSTER GARDEN TOUR SUCCESSFUL



Westminster Cares held their 18th Annual Westminster Garden Tour on July 20 and 21st. Despite extreme heat and humidity, many attendees still came out to enjoy the gardens – especially the shady spots! – and the event was a success. Although the turnout was less than usual, an estimated 250-300 people attended the tour, from Westminster and surrounding towns and visitors and garden club members from out of state.

Westminster Cares board members and president, Lori Larue wishes to thank everyone who came out and attended the event. "We spend much of the year planning this fundraising event, but we could not pull it off without the help of those who support us; our garden hosts, sponsors, donors, volunteers, board members, committee members, and our director, Donna Dawson. This small community has a big heart that abounds. Our mission is to create opportunities for seniors and adults with disabilities to live with dignity and independence in the community. We are truly grateful to everyone who made this event successful and we thank you for supporting our mission."



Sincere appreciation goes to Gordon and Mary Hayward for all the years of support and without whom this event would not be possible. In addition to the Haywards, this year's hosts were Cyndy Fine of Genius Loci and Alice and Josh Laughlin. Five sculptures created by artist Miles Chapin were installed throughout the Hayward gardens. Miles also gave a talk and walking tour of his sculptures. Caitlin Adair of the Living Earth Action Group gave walking talks in her gardens titled, "How to be Kind to the Earth in Your Backyard," and the Haywards led a private tour of their gardens. This event would not be possible without their design talents, expertise and generosity to Westminster Cares.



The following contributors helped make the tour a success:

Sponsors: Our sponsors provide key financial support to defray costs so that all of the funds raised at the event can go directly to programs and services: Mascoma Bank, Silver Forest, The Windham Foundation, Faith's Toyota/Ford; The Vermont Country Store, Savings Bank of Walpole, People's United Bank, and C & S Wholesale Grocers.

Ad Program: All the local individuals, businesses and organizations who purchased ads in the Garden Tour program.

Food and beverages: Emma's Market and Deli/Catering in Charlestown; Lisai's Market in Bellows Falls; Old Athens Farm in Westminster and Westminster Cares Garden Tour Committee Members.

Donations of equipment and services: Walpole Rent-A-Center, Best Septic, Kurn Hattin Homes and Westminster Fire and Rescue.

Printing and graphics: C & S Wholesale Grocers for printing all garden tour materials; and Amie Walter of Amie Walter Design for design of all promotional materials.



Music: Amy Cann, violinist.

Photographers: Anne Collins and Ira Wilner.

Plant Sales and Flower Arrangements: MorningStar Perennials; Melinda Underwood and Judy Harrison for table arrangements.

Special thanks go to all the volunteers and board members who worked tirelessly throughout the weekend, served on the garden tour committee and donated their energy, time and effort in planning and executing the garden tour.

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

See page 8 for a complete list of prize winners.

In photos, clockwise from above, the Laughlin garden dragon sculpture; Cyndy Fine's garden; Caitlin Adair lectures in her garden; the tool shed in the Laughlin garden; and the Tour ticket booth.

Our Monthly Community Newspaper August 2019 Vol. 15 No. 8

Westminster Gazette

Town of Westminster
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05158

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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

31ST WW COMMUNITY FAIR

This year the Westminister West Community Fair is on Saturday, September 7 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in and around the church in Westminister West. The theme this year is "All Roads Lead to Westminister West," and the Grand Marshals will be the Westminister Road Crew, to recognize the many ways they support us in this community.

Other events include: A bake sale, a parade through the village, music on the lawn, a veggie chop-o-matic, a fun run for kids and a 5K running race for adults, a silent auction, a talent show, a chicken barbeque, face painting, various crafts and booths and a tag sale. See the full schedule at www.westministerwest.org.

It's fun for the whole family and the biggest fundraiser of the year for the village church in Westminister West – a wonderful resource that serves our whole community.

As you clean out your attic, basement, or garage set aside treasures to donate for both the silent auction and the tag sale. Please, no clothes, or books (the Westminister West Library takes these for their book sale the same day). We also appreciate donations of baked goods for the bake sale or contributions from your garden for the delicious meal.

If you want to make a donation, volunteer to help or you just have other questions call Nick Keil at 387-4555 or Laura Williams at 387-2765. We'd love to hear from you.

NANCY DREW QUILT RAFFLE



The Butterfield Library on Route 5 in Westminister will hold the raffle drawing for the Nancy Drew Quilt on Thursday, Aug. 15 at 6 p.m.

Refreshments will be served; raffle tickets will be available.

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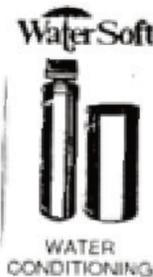
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ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & REGIONAL EVENTS

GRAND OPENING

AUGUST 3, 2019

JUDD'S POWER EQUIPMENT BIG DAVE'S BACK



Come down to Judd's Power Equipment and see what's new. David and Elaine Judd (former co-owner of J&W Auto), recently opened their new business next to Allen Brothers Farm Stand. They are a small engine repair shop, servicing all outdoor power equipment and automotive repairs as well. They are also a certified Husqvarna dealer. They carry a variety of new lawn equipment, chainsaws, and professional Arborist essentials.

6109 US Route 5,
Westminster, Vermont
802-722-4508

ROCKINGHAM OLD HOME DAYS

SATURDAY, AUG. 3, 2019

FROM NOON UNTIL THE
FIREWORKS OVER
THE CONNECTICUT RIVER
AT THE WAYPOINT CENTER
7 DEPOT ST IN BELLOWS FALLS
JOIN US FOR THE SOME GOOD
OLD FASHIONED FUN!

(SEE THE FULL SCHEDULE OF
ACTIVITIES BELOW)

802.463.4280 OR INFO@GFRCC.ORG

FEAR OF SINGING WORKSHOP

Nancy Salwen, of The Fear of Singing Break-through Program, is offering a full-day singing workshop/retreat for adults and teens, with a special focus on beginners called, Discover Your Inner Singer: Learn to Sing Even If You Think You Can't Carry a Tune!

The workshop will take place on Sunday, Aug. 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Stone Church Center in Bellows Falls. Registration is required.

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

To sign up or learn more, contact Nancy at 603-721-1492, nancy@salwen.net or through her website <https://fearofsing.com/workshops>.

WINDMILL HILL PINNACLE ASSOCIATION FALL HIKES & BIKES

The Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association (WHPA) will be offering several events this Fall.

September 14 Saturday, 10:45 AM-2:30 PM. Accessibility Day

This is a once-a-year opportunity for a vehicle ride to a remote and beautiful site for lunch. The destination sits on the Windmill ridgeline between the Pinnacle overlook and Paul's Ledges and has spectacular views of Mt. Snow, Stratton, Bromley, Okemo, and beyond. If you're an adult who has difficulty walking, this is your chance to visit a rural spot with a grandchild or friend. The free program's popularity and need for four-wheel-drive or other appropriate vehicles make advance registrations a MUST for riders. Hikers do not need to pre-register. Bring water, bag lunch, and a sweater for chilly weather. Meet at Westminster West Church at 10:45 AM to carpool. Register with Tony Coven at 802-387-6650.

September 22, Sunday, starting at 10 or 11 AM (depending upon route). Annual West Hill Grinder

Organized by the West Hill Shop in Putney, this event is a thank-you benefit to WHPA for its 25-mile trail system. Several different routes offer a variety of rural biking challenges for intermediate and advanced bicyclists. Distances range from 19-45 miles and wind through Westminster, Athens, Brookline, Dummerston, Brattleboro and Putney on town dirt roads, Class-4 woods roads, and Pinnacle hiking trails, with a bit of pavement here and there.

New this year is a "smooth gravel" route being planned for those looking for a longer ride without technical features like single track. Visit www.bikereg.com. Search for West Hill Grinder for information on routes, bike recommendations, equipment requirements, prices, food, and registration. For questions, email jim@westhillshop.com or call 802-387-

5718.

October 12, Saturday, 1-4 PM. Fall Foliage Walk on Bald Hill

Vanessa Stern, member of the Bald Hill Committee and WHPA Board, will lead this riverside walk along the gorgeous Saxtons River, where hikers can venture down to get a closer look at the rock basins and Twin Falls. Then we will climb to a summit with a good view of the surrounding area.

Meet at the Bald Hill kiosk on Covered Bridge Road in Westminster. Wear waterproof shoes. Contact Vanessa Stern at 802-463 4948 to register, get information, or check on the weather.

November 2, 12:30-3:30 PM Historic sites on Athens Dome

Walk to the historic sites on Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association properties in Athens and Grafton See the remains of the historic Goodridge and Smith Soapstone quarries, quarry pools, cellar holes, mill foundation, and old roads. This area, which is adjacent to the Turner Hill Wildlife Management Area, has significant wildlife habitat including wetlands and very productive beech/oak/cherry mast stands. If it is a good year for beech nuts, we should find evidence of black bears feeding in the trees.

The hike is moderate, there may be some water in the old roads depending on previous weather, water-tight boots recommended. Hike leaders are Camil Roberts and Andrew Toepfer. Please register by email at camil@vermontel.net or a.l.toepfer@gmail.com. Meet at Athens Pond in Athens on Route 35 (6 1/2 miles north of Townshend or 3 1/2 miles south of Cambridgeport on Route 35.)

For more information on Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association and upcoming events, visit www.windmill-hillpinnacle.org.

NEWS FROM THE TOWN GARAGE



We will be out spraying poison ivy with our Bee friendly spray. The recipe is 1 cup salt, 1 gal water and 1 tablespoon of dish soap. We have good faith this product will work although it is still under experiment.

The Safe Bind that we have replaced chloride with seems to be working quite well for dust retention. Winter will be the true test of this product when we add it to the salt. Pictured is the new tanks for the Safe Bind, the last tanks failed after thirty years so they had to be replaced. New plumbing and a platform make for a much easier operation.

The grader and roller are making their way around town. Ben and Carson have been grading while Dave, Jason and Corey have been rolling. When we are not rolling we are mowing roadsides, cutting brush and cleaning ditches.

*Thank you for the support,
Chuck*

WESTMINSTER CARES

The Westminster Cares Board does not meet in July or August.

MEMORIAL & HONOR DONATIONS FOR JULY: In honor of Pete and Judy Harrison's Anniversary from Bruce and Lee MacDuffie

In memory of Bruce and Jeff Miller from Kay Miller.

In memory of Shirley Kelton from: Debbie, Robert and Robbie LaCroix. The Clark Family: Maureen, Nola (Grant), Murray and Andrew

43RD ANNUAL ROCKINGHAM OLD HOME DAYS FESTIVITIES

Join us as we celebrate our 43rd year Of Rockingham Old Home Days with fireworks, food, music, games and lots of fun hosted by the Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce before the fireworks over the Connecticut River. This event celebrates and commemorates the 113th Annual Pilgrimage to the Rockingham Meeting House.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 2019

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Ice Cream Social at the United Church of Bellows Falls, 8 School Street, from 4-8pm.

FARMERS MARKET

Greater Falls Farmers Market offers local produce and crafts at Hetty Green Park from 4-7pm.

FIRST FRIDAY SUPPER

First Friday Supper at the First Baptist Church in Bellows Falls, Church Street, on the corner,

5-7pm, will be a BBQ Fundraiser to benefit the Evans Family. Bring the family out for an evening of good food, fun while supporting your community.

ROCKINGHAM REC CENTER CARNIVAL

From 6-9pm, there will be a bounce house, games for prizes, food and drinks, face painting, clowns and lots of fun for all ages.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3

Come down to The Waypoint Center located at 17 Depot Street in Bellows Falls for an afternoon and evening of food, music, games, and good old fashioned fun with the fireworks over the Connecticut River at dusk.

MAIN STAGE

7am - 8:15am Registration at the Waypoint Center for the "Bring It Home 5k"

8:30 am Bring It Home 5K

It all starts at noon after the race

Throughout the day: Wool Radio with Bob Osborne, will provide updates, music and interviews

1:30- 2:30pm Keene Idol Performs

2:30 -3:30pm Karaoke with Aimee Thoreau

3:30 - 6pm The Little Big Band

6-9pm Road Trash Band

Noon - Donut Eating Contest - Donuts Donated by Allen Brothers Farm Market

1:00pm Pizza Eating Contest - Pizza Donated by

Athens Pizza

2:00pm - Ice Cream Eating Contest - Ice Cream Donated by Dari Joy

1:00- 4:00pm Cheryl the Clown

3:00 -4:00pm Southern VT Nature Museum Presentation

3:00 - 7:00 - 2 Nimble Arts Performers 1 performs 3-6pm and 1 performs 4-7pm

Face Painting throughout the day

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

The Roaming Railroad, Bounce House, Water Games, Rockingham Rec Children's Games, Friends for Change Children's Activities Tent, Face Painting, Touch a Monster Truck, Touch a Big Rig Truck, Fire Engine, Police Car, Jaws of Life Demo, Southern VT Nature Museum.

VENDOR BOOTHS

Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce, Golden Phoenix School of Martial Arts, Chase Woodworking, Pampered Chef, US Cellular, Westminster Women's Fellowship Quilt Raffle, BFUHS Class of 1980, Design's By Nola, Paparazzi Jewelry, Dog Bites, ZEM Open House, Jamaican Cottage Displays, New England Mineral Museum and so much more.

ANTIQU TRUCK SHOW

Green Mountain Chapter of the American Truck Society will host its 21st Annual Antique Truck Show 8:00-2:00, at the Bellows Falls High School Bellows Falls, VT. No admission fee for spectators.

BRING IT HOME 5K

This year's race is hosted by the Bellows Falls Rotary Club. Bellows Falls Union High School student Tim Salter Roy is planning the event as his Senior Project this year. The course starts and finishes at the Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce Office at the Waypoint Center, 17 Depot Street in Bellows Falls. Preregistration is available at stillmiling.com.

GM RAILROAD FIREWORKS TRAIN

From Chester to Bellows Falls. Take the train to the Rockingham Old Home Days Fireworks Show. Enjoy free parking at the Chester Depot and a reliable and enjoyable commute to Bellows Falls. The train departs Chester at 7pm and arrives in Bellows Falls at 8pm. You can also board the train at the Bar-

tonsville Covered Bridge at 7:15pm. After the show, the train departs Bellows Falls at 10:15pm and arrives in Chester at 11:15pm. For more information about tickets, go to www.rails-vt.com/oldhome-days.

SIDEWALK SALES IN THE SQUARE

Be sure to shop till you drop - at all the stores in the Bellows Falls Square. The merchants are all offering specials and great sales (even if their items are not outside on the sidewalks) Friday and Saturday for their regular store hours.

BELLOWS FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Bellows Falls Historical Society will be open in their new location at 31 Westminster Street, Saturday 1pm - 3pm. Stop in and explore our area's history on display.

The Adams Grist Mill will be open for a walk back in time, Saturday and Sunday, 11am-3pm, courtesy of the Historical Society's volunteers

Before Dusk on the Bridge: TUG- O- WAR - The Bellows Falls Fire Department VS The North Walpole and Walpole Fire Departments.

DUSK: The Fantastic Fireworks Display Over the Connecticut River by Brent Lisai and the ROHD Committee. To Donate to the Fireworks Fund: send to Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce, 17 Depot Street, Bellows Falls, VT 05101

Look for volunteers collecting funds on the street.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4

Finish the weekend celebrating the 113th annual Pilgrimage at the Rockingham Meeting House at 1pm on Meeting House Road off Route 103 in Rockingham. Steve Perkins, Director of the Vermont Historical Society will host the activities with the theme "Vermont Eats". Food and fun at Rockingham's National Historic Landmark. Veggies courtesy of Harlow's.

The Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce would not be able to offer all of these activities without the generosity of our sponsors and community volunteers. A special thank you to all of our sponsors

For more information contact the Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce at 463-4280 or info@gfrcc.org. Find us on Facebook.

An African Grey Parrot in Vermont?

by Alma Beals, Vermont Master Gardener and Naturalist

Yesterday when I pulled into Father's parking lot for my weekly brunch with Regg after our chair yoga class, I spied a large bird sitting on top of a roof rack of a car with Tennessee license plates. My first thought was that someone with a quirky sense of humor was having fun with our locals with a made-up bird.

As I walked closer, I could see it was a live African grey parrot, grey with a red tail. It was carrying on a conversation with itself. Parrots are prized for their ability to mimic human speech, sometimes learning over 100 words. Overhead was a very upset robin, probably with a nest, and how she was carrying on.

But why was this parrot left alone outside in Vermont? I've been kicking myself for not asking the family of four inside the restaurant if the parrot was simply tagging along on the family vacation or did I miss an interesting story.

They are from Africa and may live 40 to 60 years in captivity or about 23 years in the wild. Some have escaped or been released in Florida but are not naturally breeding here. In the wild, they eat fruit, nuts, seeds, flowers, tree bark, insects and snails. In captivity, they eat a variety of fruits, such as pears, oranges, pomegranates, apples and bananas and vegetables such as carrots, cooked sweet potatoes, celery, fresh kale, peas and green beans. They also need calcium.

Now to write about our more common songbirds. As you know, the spring was cool and wet, resulting in fewer insects for the migrating birds to eat. I was still hanging out suet for the woodpeckers when the birds arrived. To my surprise, many spring birds that don't normally eat suet, found the suet to their liking and continued eating it.

The pair of orioles that nest behind my gazebo were on the suet all day for weeks. The pair of catbirds that nest in the lilac bushes were there every day. In the past they have nibbled on the suet but nothing like they have done this year. I suspect many of the young birds in my yard had a diet of suet instead of insects.

As fewer birds are in my yard to catch my attention, my interest has switched to my flower gardens. The phlox, bee balm and daylilies are going crazy with hummingbirds in the bee balm several times a day. They really aren't interested in the phlox or daylilies.

The Westminster Garden Tour was Saturday, July 20 and Sunday, July 21. These gardens are all in Westmin-

ster or Westminster West and if you have never been on this tour, you are missing some great gardens. The tour is the major fundraiser for Westminster Cares. Director Donna Dawson, her Board of Directors and many volunteers support the tour. The gardens were Gordon and Mary Hayward's Garden, the Laughlin Family Garden, Cyndy Fine's Garden and Caitlin Adair's Garden.

The Hayward's Garden is always the highlight of the Tour. The garden is divided into several areas: two island beds with crab apple trees, a brick walk garden divided by a locust pergola, a copper beech tunnel, a post and beam gazebo, herb garden, pool garden and many flower gardens. This year included the addition of five stone sculptures by Miles Chapin who also lives in Westminster West. Miles gave a talk and tour of his sculptures.

The Laughlin Family Garden included vegetable and perennial beds that Alice tended with Josh handling the trees and shrubs. This hillside garden began as an acre plot where Josh and friends built a house and now many additional acres have been cleared for trees and shrubs. There is a rare historic iris collection as Alice is Northeast Regional Director for the Historic Iris Preservation Society.

Cyndy Fine of Genius Loci has shown her gardens for several years. She is a professional landscape designer and gardener and experiments with design and plants in her own garden. She has mixed perennials, hedgerows, ornamental grass borders, shade gardens, a sunken terrace and a secluded swimming pool. She has



added a butterfly garden, a mixed native shrub berm, a weeping pine hedge and local Westminster stone walls.

Caitlin Adair gave two walking talks on "How to be kind to the earth in your backyard" in her flower, fruit and vegetable garden. She is experimenting with building topsoil by using autumn leaves and weeds as mulch, using cover crops and not digging the vegetable garden. In her talks, she gave a show and tell presentation on how home owners and gardeners can apply nature's practices and principles to their own property.

I have rambled from the African grey parrot to the suet-eating birds and then to the Westminster Garden Tour. Next month I will report on what three of us have been watching all spring and summer at the marsh.

A WESTMINSTER SAMPLER:

A NEW FEATURE FROM THE WESTMINSTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Westminster Historical Society recently acquired a sampler worked in 1828 by 12-year-old Mary Gorham. The Gorhams migrated from Cape Cod by ox wagon in 1798, to a farm on Hickory Ridge Road near Putney Student Travel. Mary's sampler was part of an estate sale at a home near that farm, so never traveled very far. We look forward to displaying it when we get the Museum back in order.

An artifact like this, created by a little girl nearly 200 years ago, is one way the Historical Society tries to tell Westminster's story. The Gorhams were part of a large migration of families from Cape Cod to Westminster West in the 1790s. Many of the men had been sea captains and brought large amounts of gold with which to buy farms.

Atherton Hall bought the present Haas farm on Patch road. His son Peter built the house next door, now belonging to Finn Campman and Helen Schwartz..

The Clark brothers, Captains Barnabas and Scotto, were the 7th and 8th of 14 children; their father wept when his youngest was born a girl, "because he lacked yet one boy to make up the crew of two whale-boats." Barnabas married Atherton Hall's sister and followed the Halls to Westminster, joined by Scotto and family.

The Clarks may have soured on whaling after watching a brother disappear into a whale's jaws. Barnabas settled near the present Vermont Shepherd cheese cave and Parish Hill Creamery store. (Parish Hill is the old name for the big hill on Patch Road.) Scotto settled on East Run Farm, now owned by Chris Harlow and family. The Bev and Randy Major farm, and the home of Fire Chief Cole Streeter, were at one time owned by Clarks. Other Cape migrants included members of the Crowell, Barry, Hamblen, Hallet, and Howe families.

Gorhams descendants ended up owning quite a number of West Parish farms. David Gorham married Jane Wilcox and moved to her family farm, now Patch Farm, where he raised Merino sheep. These days David Major raises sheep there, and makes sheeps' milk cheese.

David Gorham's son Ed became a pianist (his piano is now in the Westminster West Church) and amateur photographer. Thanks to his enthusiasm, we have photo albums from most West Parish families of the late 1800s, recently digitized by Kathy Lisai with permission of the Westminster West library, which owns the albums.

The Gorham family was hit hard by the Westminster West firebug in 1883-4. Mathew Gorham lost his

house and barn. David Gorham lost four large barns and sheds. The fires were set by a local boy, Johnny Coombs, who had been teased in school and plotted an elaborate revenge. A photo of Johnny, looking sullen and a bit ill-groomed, is among the collection.

Another Gorham anecdote illustrates the reality of poverty in the late 1800s. Katie Gorham, an elderly single woman, lived across from the Westminster West library. She took to slipping in to neighbors' kitchens during cold weather, to sit for a little while out of the way. Eventually—very eventually!--village curiosity was stirred. Katie hadn't been buying groceries. She didn't have a wood pile. How was she making ends meet? It turned out she wasn't. This little old lady was freezing and starving, right in the middle of the village where she grew up. A good corrective to nostalgia for 'the good old days'!

You can help preserve our stories, and the artifacts that tell them, by joining the Historical Society. www.westminstervthistory.net. And come visit the Bradley Law Office, (similar to the one at Old Sturbridge Village, but so much closer) Sundays 2-4 through August. Call Pat Haas—387-5778--if you need more information. And please note: the Law Office is not wheelchair accessible.

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 August 6 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 through July 26th: 37

Number of calls calendar year to Date: 239

Number of calls fiscal year to date: 37

Association Meeting: The Westminster Fire and Rescue Association met for their regular meeting July 2nd with President Greg Holton presiding. There were 16 members present and eight members excused. Currently there are 30 members of the volunteer fire department.

Emergency responses: We have had another busy month in July with 37 total calls through the 26th. The breakdown goes like this: 16 rescue /medical calls; two motor vehicle accident; four mutual aid call, one to North Walpole, one to Brattleboro and two to Bellows Falls; five for trees on wires or wires down; one illegal burn; one lift assist; one service call; seven accidental alarm activations

Gas Grill Safety: Keep your gas grill clean and in good condition. There is a vent at the back of the grill that releases head smoke and at times, flames. There have been cases where vinyl siding has melted because the grill is

positioned too close to a wall. Many grills will have a label listing clearance recommendations. If not, 24 inches is a good standard.

Propane cylinders can also be dangerous. Be sure they are not stored indoors, but outside in a well ventilated area. And for extra safety, when cooking has been completed, turn off the gas at the cylinder as well as the burners.

Firewood: It's not too soon to be thinking about the next heating season. If you burn wood, be sure the wood is properly cured. Unseasoned wood can cause creosote which is very apt to plug up the chimney and cause a chimney fire. And the chimney fire can lead to a partition fire and the home could be lost or severely damaged. Have the chimney cleaned before starting a wood fire in the stove or furnace and have it checked regularly throughout the heating season.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: From time to time there is a need for food to be brought to the Fire House, like the one mentioned in the previous paragraph. During calls when the fire fighters are out for an extended period of time, having something to eat and drink when they return is a huge compliment. Also, once in a great while there are special events which require feeding a large number of people.

If you are available and are willing to be on a call list for these occasions or if you just want more information, call Chief Cole Streeter or June Streeter or any one of the members you may know and let them know. This is a great

way to help the people who help the community in so many ways. Thanks in advance.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS FOR SALE: Anyone want to buy a fire extinguisher? We have them for sale and there are 4 sizes available. See the Chief or stop by the fire station for more information if interested. The Westminster Fire & Rescue Association welcomes donations throughout the year from anyone wishing to remember a loved one or a friend.

Donations received in July: From:

Bill Smidutz in memory of Bob Lober

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.westminsterfireandrescue.org.

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

WESTMINSTER MYSTERY PHOTO



Last month's Mystery Photo, above, is looking south at the juncture of Church and Westminster Streets in Bellows Falls, obviously a popular spot for parade watching for many decades. And the house in the background? That is Hetty Green's home, located at the site of the current TD Bank.

Aged in Vermont

Westminster Cares, Inc.

AFTER THE MOVE

By Scott Funk

Over the years, I've encouraged people I met with that if they are going to have to move, the sooner they do it the better off they will be. Well, as true as that may be, I could never really appreciate the depths of what it means to move when you are older until I did it myself.

The house I left was my home for nearly 30 years. It is where I raised my daughter. It is also, where I grew to manhood and became a mature, responsible adult. There, I faced my demons and grabbed the brass ring of success in business.

But the grand house, which I truly loved, was becoming too much for my wife and me. That wonderful, spacious Victorian wanted a family, and we needed a smaller, less-demanding house. It was time for a more aging-appropriate place to live.

The house Kelly and I have moved to is only 70 years old and much smaller. I have two-dozen pictures there isn't room to hang. It is a more aging-appropriate house and the quiet, private setting is very peaceful. It is a more central hub for driving around the state in my business. On top of that, we love the community we have moved to. Barre City is a wonderful place with friendly people, a good hospital and an excellent downtown.

All good stuff, but I miss my daughter so much more here than in the old house. The rooms I watched her grow up in are now filled with another family and are beyond my reach. Somehow, the old house consoled and comforted me. I could walk down the upstairs

hall and recall when I put the birch tree up and built walks for the cats. They would perch up in the branches or walks making visiting children squeal when the cats pounced down from above. This new house is a great place, but it doesn't hold the ghosts of my past. I am lonely here in a way I was never lonely back there.

Do I miss the old place? Yes, of course I do. It is more than just the house, too. In the village everyone knew me and I knew them. In Barre, people are amazingly friendly. Everyone says hello and smiles as they pass by. But before, I knew the people, their children, and even their parents.

Do I wish I were back in the old place? Absolutely not! Moving now was the right thing to do. It was the right time and I have come to the right place for the next part of our lives. The move was physically harder than I imagined. All those boxes to be packed and then unpacked! Postponing that to face later would have been a mistake.

I spent a long time as a drifter. Over my life I've left a lot of people and places behind. But only once have I left the place I made a family and raised a child. The taproot there ran deep. The leaving will take long and peel off me like pieces of an onion, one bit at a time. In its own way, that is good too, for as I miss and I remember and revisit so many things, they aren't rooted in a house but held deeply in my heart.

Aging in Place, it doesn't happen by accident and it doesn't always happen in one place, either.

Used with permission from @ScottFunk 2019

REMEMBRANCES

SHIRLEY KELTON 11/27/23 - 6/25/19
MELVIN J. LOWELL 9/25/72 - 6/21/19
DAVID WALLACE 9/11/46 TO 7/5/19

BOOK DISCUSSION AT RFPL

Pick up a copy of *The Double Bind* by Vermont author Chris Bohjalian at the Rockingham Library's front desk, then join the free book discussion on Monday, September 9 at 3 p.m. at the Rockingham Library.

A *New York Times*, *Boston Globe*, *Washington Post* and *USA Today* bestseller, *The Double Bind* tells the story of the intersection of two lives: that of a young woman, Laurel working at a Burlington, VT homeless shelter and a former shelter resident, Bobbie who leaves behind a box of exceptional photographs. When Bobbie dies, Laurel discovers a deeply hidden secret – a story that leads her far from her old life and into a cat-and-mouse game with pursuers who claim they want to save her.

For more information go to rockinghamlibrary.org, call 463-4270, e-mail programming@rockinghamlibrary.org or stop by the Library at 65 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls.

MEETING HOUSE USE INFO

The Rockingham Meeting House, a National Historic Landmark constructed 1787-1801, will waive the rental fee for use of the building by area houses of worship that wish to hold religious services there during the summer. These groups must have an established physical presence in the area, and must request the fee be waived at least two weeks prior, provided they met several conditions.

Applications, and conditions for use of the Rockingham Meeting House for such purposes are available on the municipal manager's section of the website at www.rockbf.org.

RFPL OFFERS PASSES TO MUSEUMS, PARKS & MORE

The Rockingham Free Public Library offers cardholders passes to museums, parks, and institutions throughout the state and in nearby communities. Passes can be reserved up to a month in advance and provide free or greatly reduced admission. Each pass can be checked out by Library cardholders age 18 and older for three days at a time.

Current passes available include:

- * Echo (\$7 admission per person for up to 4 people)
- * Brattleboro Museum and Art Center (free admission for one household)
- * Nature Museum at Grafton (free admission for one household)
- * Vermont's History Museum (free admission for one household)
- * VT State Parks (free admission for Day Use areas)

Vermont Historic Sites (free admission for up to 8 people in one vehicle)

* Cheshire Children's Museum (\$4 admission per person for up to 4 people)

* Southern Vermont Natural History Museum (Free admission for up to 2 people)

* American Precision Museum (Free admission for 1 family)

* Shelburne Farms (Free admission for 2 adults and children)

VT Institute of Natural Science (reduced admission of \$5 per person)

For more information go to rockinghamlibrary.org, call 463-4270, e-mail programming@rockinghamlibrary.org or stop by the Library at 65 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls.

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COMPASS SCHOOL NEWS



Above, Compass Science teacher Ron Boslun and students, including Westminster resident Cooper Lawrence, working on vegetable garden.

Compass is looking forward to the coming school year. Most things are quiet during the summer months but one aspect of the school that continues to thrive is the gardens that were rejuvenated by students as part of Project Week that concluded the school year in June.

Under the leadership of Humanities teacher Emma Schneider and Science teacher Ron Boslun, both the flower and vegetable gardens are, literally, blossoming this summer. Thanks to a grant from the Whole Kids Foundation, Compass revamped their food gardens with 10 raised beds. Paul Harlow has been instrumental in this effort, helping with materials such as soil, compost, and seedlings and also sharing his wisdom from the farm. In addition to annual plantings of garlic, tomatoes, potatoes, and other vegetables, Compass has planted recurring fruits such as berries and pears.

Emma has an industrious group of 8 students who labored diligently during Project Week rehabilitating the flower gardens that had become overgrown over the years. Amongst the weeds, the students were able to uncover perennials that could be transplanted, while also adding new plantings. In addition, students added to the rock garden and did landscaping projects all around the school.

Thanks to this work, things are looking great at Compass as we look ahead to the school's 21st year.

Compass continues to enroll students throughout the summer. To learn more about the engaging learning opportunities and supportive community at Compass, contact the school at info@compass-school.org or call 463-2525. Or stop by and say hello.

KIM FINE JOINS CHARITABLE COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kim Fine, Director of Development and Public Relations at Kurn Hattin Homes for Children in Westminster, Vermont has recently joined the Board of Directors at The New Hampshire & Vermont Council of Charitable Gift Planners.

The NH/VT Council of Charitable Gift Planners offers training, support, and networking opportunities for professionals throughout the two states. The Council provides training throughout the year. Members and attendees include nonprofit CEOs, development directors and officers, planned giving officers, attorneys, accountants, financial and investment advisors, and con-



sultants. The Council comes together to learn about charitable gift planning and to get to know one another.

The connection between nonprofit staff members and professional advisors is central to the effectiveness of the Council. Nonprofit staff get to know advisors to whom they can refer their donors. Professional advisors learn more about the nonprofit community, so they can help clients better meet

their charitable intentions. In a largely rural area, the Council provides members with a sense of community and a deeper knowledge of their work. For more information: nhvtgiftplanners.org.

HOW DOES SOCIAL SECURITY FIT INTO YOUR RETIREMENT INCOME STRATEGY?

This article courtesy of your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Aug. 14 is Social Security Day. Since it was enacted on Aug. 14, 1935, Social Security has provided some financial support for millions of Americans during their retirement years.

While Social Security benefits, by themselves, probably aren't enough to enable you to retire comfortably, they can be a key part of your overall retirement income strategy – if you use them wisely.

To help you make decisions about Social Security, you will need to answer these questions:

• **When should I start taking my benefits?** You can take Social Security once you reach 62, but if you wait until your full retirement age, which will probably be between 66 and 67, you'll get much bigger monthly checks, and if you wait until 70, you'll get the biggest possible payments. Before deciding when to begin receiving your benefits, you'll need to weigh a few factors, including your estimated longevity and your other sources of income.

• **How should I consider potential spousal benefits?** If you are married, or if you're divorced but were married for at least 10 years, you could receive up to half of your spouse's full retirement benefit (offset by your own benefit, and reduced if you claim early). If you outlive your spouse, you could claim survivor benefits, which can provide either your own benefits or 100% of your deceased spouse's, whichever is larger. Consequently, the higher-earning spouse might want to postpone taking benefits for as long as possible to maximize the survivor benefit.

• **How much can I earn without reducing my Social Security benefits?** If you are younger than your

full retirement age and you are receiving Social Security, the Social Security Administration will withhold \$1 from your benefits for each \$2 you earn over a certain threshold (which, in 2019, is \$17,640). For the year you reach your full retirement age, your benefits could be withheld by \$1 for every \$3 you earn over \$46,920.

But once you reach your full retirement age, you can earn as much as you want without your benefits being withheld, although your benefits could still be taxed, depending on your income.

• **How much of my pre-retirement income will Social Security replace?** Generally speaking, you should expect Social Security to replace slightly more than a third of your pre-retirement income. However, the higher your income during your working years, the lower the replacement value of Social Security will be.

• **What other sources of retirement income should I develop?** Contribute as much as you can afford to your IRA and your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan. You may want to consult with a financial professional, who can look at your entire retirement income picture and recommend moves to help you achieve the lifestyle you've envisioned for your later years.

Keep in mind that your decisions about Social Security filing strategies should always be based on your specific needs and health considerations. For more information, visit the Social Security Administration website at socialsecurity.gov.

One final word: You may have concerns about the stability of Social Security. While no one can predict the future, many potential solutions exist to put the program on more solid footing. Consequently, try to focus on the actions you can control.

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.

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. Saturday, July 6, Strawberry Supper, settings: 5:00 pm and 6:15 pm Sunday, July 7 - Worship Service and Communion - 10 am Sunday, July 14, 21, 28 & August 4 10 am, Worship. Saturday, August 24, Summer Salad Supper. Grilled meats with summer salads. Come enjoy a cool meal with summer salads. Dessert is make your own Sundaes. Look for more details in August Gazette.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 Monday August 19 at 5 p.m. at the Flat Iron.

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

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- Town of Westminster
- Westminster Activities Commission
- Sojourns Community Health Clinic
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Please Note: The Gazette Deadline has changed from the last Wednesday of the month to the next to last Wednesday
The Deadline for the September Issue of the Westminster Gazette is Wednesday, Aug. 21st
Publication Date is Wednesday, Aug. 28th
To Contact the Westminster Gazette
E-mail:
westminsternews@gmail.com

KURN HATTIN'S SUMMER RECREATIONAL PROGRAM

Kurn Hattin Homes for Children's Summer Recreational Program kicked off this June with a host of activities and camps. There are a great variety of camps and activities such as dance, track and field, yoga, cooking, field trips to nearby lakes, picking blueberries, swim lessons, and of-course camping.

However, new to this year's summer roster was the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) program. A STEM curriculum was recently introduced at the Kurn Hattin school, and thanks to Colleen Ross (Ms. Coco), Kurn Hattin's new Summer Rec team member and houseparent, about 50 children, ages 5-15, were able to conduct hands-on STEM experiments as part of the Summer Rec Program.

This summer's STEM projects included testing the water at a nearby stream, making water filters out of natural materials so that a jar of muddy water 'magically' turns into clean water and making stomp rockets out of paper and tape to learn about force, motion, and the power of air. In addition, every Friday from the middle of July to August, a STEM challenge is held. In the most recent challenge, students used principles of physics, aerospace, force, and motion to design and construct kites with specific materials to test and demonstrate the science of flight.

There are also opportunities to participate in community events during the summer. The children celebrated the 4th of July at the Saxton's River Independence Day Parade by following a Kurn Hattin float drawn by the newly restored 1942 Farmall Model H tractor, originally used at Kurn Hattin Homes. The abandoned tractor was repurchased and lovingly restored in a ten-year project led by Real Bazin, Director of Farm & Fleet, and assisted by the KHH maintenance department and local resident Gary Cobb.

Kurn Hattin's Summer Recreation Program would not be possible without its many dedicated volunteers and supporters who provide fun and educational activity choices for the children, and the hard-working staff

members who run the program, particularly our Summer Recreation Director Shannon Fuller. Their efforts are appreciated for teaching our children new skills, and supporting their summer fun and safety.

Since 1894, Kurn Hattin Homes for Children has helped thousands of children and their families by offering 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: kurnhattin.org

In photos, clockwise from left, baking blueberry cake with freshly picked blueberries; catching fish during a recent



camping trip, and Kurn Hattin staff and children at Saxton's River July 4th parade with a restored Farmall Tractor.

WINDHAM COUNTY



HISTORY FAIR

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10 * 9:00 - 4:00

HISTORIC NEWFANE COMMON

Vt. Route 30, Newfane, Vermont

Step back in time at the Seventh Biennial Windham County History Fair on Saturday, Aug. 10 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Held on Historic Newfane Common (Route 30, Newfane), the free Fair is a festival of vintage exhibits, demonstrations and historic tours featuring Windham County's rich heritage.

The Vermont Archaeological Society, the Vermont Historical Society, the Southern Vermont Natural History Museum and the Vermont State Archives will join many of Windham County's Historical Societies with special exhibits for all ages.

Learn how to research your family's roots at Jerry Carbone's Genealogy Presentation. The Chester Bookworm presents Bookbinding and Book Restoration and invites you to bring your old books for a free professional evaluation.

Central Vermont Railway Historical Society's Jim Murphy will demonstrate the lost art of telegraph operating at The West River Railroad Museum. Dave Allen will present and exhibit Old Maps of Vermont and have copies available for purchase.

The Honorable Justice Carroll will lead an insider's tour of the Windham County Courthouse. Tours of the County Jail, the Historic Village of Newfane, as well as Charles Marchant's tour of the old Newfane Cemetery on Cemetery Hill are also scheduled.

Flintknapping, fire making, Native American pottery, carding, spinning, and quilting demonstrations will take place throughout the day. The day will also feature Antique Cars including the Vermont State Police cruiser "Old Monty," Antique Tractors, Fire Engines, Farm Animals, as well as Crafters, Bargain table, and Raffles. Food by NewBrook Auxiliary.

For more information contact info@historicalsocietyofwindhamcounty.org. For an updated schedule of events, see the Historical Society's website, www.historical-societyofwindhamcounty.org.

RENEWABLE ENERGY VERMONT WEBSITE

Renewable Energy Vermont launched an improved website for Vermonters looking to switch to renewable heating and cooling, transportation, and electricity. The new website showcases innovative technologies and helps guide accelerating energy transformation in Vermont.

The Vermont Renewable Energy Business Listing located at www.revermont.org offers a detailed, one-stop listing of experts ready to help homeowners, farmers, and businesses affordably reduce climate pollution and save money with clean energy solutions.

The updated online tool enables consumers to find a renewable energy installer near them, as well as compare company experience and qualifications. Consumers may search the list by technology type, business location, installation experience, and other credentials.

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- Is it BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

**We meet most Thursdays, 7:30 a.m. at Kurn Hattin School
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New members welcome.**

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**AUGUST BUSINESS OF THE MONTH:
HEIDI BERNIER, REALTOR, CBR**



Berkley & Veller
Greenwood Country Realtors

As a lifelong native of Vermont, with nearly 25 years' experience as a Real Estate Agent, licensed in both Vermont and New Hampshire, I offer my customers and clients a keen familiarity of the area and the local real estate market.

I take pride in providing personalized service, catering to the individual requirements of my clients and customers, along with a creative marketing approach. Trained in representation of homebuyers, as well as sellers, I earned my CBR designation (certified buyer representative) in 1996.

Many people and services are required to bring a transaction to a successful closing, including: mortgage brokers, engineers, building inspectors, insurance agents, attorneys and title companies. My years of working full-time in the field of real estate have gained me the contacts and experience needed to guide my clients and customers through the process.

If you are considering selling or buying property, I would welcome the opportunity to be of assistance. (c) 802-380-1585 (w) 802-254-6400 x135 or email: heidi.bernier@berkleyveller.com.

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Raffle Prize Winners**

Raffle prize donations and winners: Ann Ashcroft for creating and donating the flowers and bees quilt-won by Cindy Moses; Gardener's Supply mobile tool caddy donated anonymously-won by Wilma Skovinski; Locally crafted wooden garden bench by Hollis Ryea-won by Kath Martin; Garden consultation donated by Cyndy Fine of Genius Loci-won by Sally Marken; Gift certificate for an overnight stay and breakfast for two at the Grafton Inn-won by Phyllis Daley; Gift certificate to Harlow's Farmstand-won by Wendy Harty; Maple Leaf Designs necklace and earrings-won by Tonia White; Morning Star Perennial gift certificate-won by Jerry Cosgrove; Perfect Creations 'his and her' haircuts donated by Tammy Kissell-won by Bruce DeMay; two key lime pies donated by Michael Lenox of Café Loco-won by Carol Jameson; 25' coil hose-won by Cindy Moses; Halladay's Harvest Barn gift box assortment-won Jen Anderson; Popolo's restaurant gift certificate-won by Valerie Kosednar; ceramic hanging planter donated by Virginia Wyoming-won by Robin Turnbaugh; antique fabric and bead necklace by 'found object' artist Janette Schuster-won by Phyllis Anderson; silver hoop earrings donated by Jeannie Bennett-won by Beth Shrader; village square booksellers gift certificate won by Susan Harlow; garden-themed table runner with matching napkin Set made by Raine Kane-won by Karl Honsaker; Gardener's Supply rainwater urn donated anonymously-won by Amanda Cordano.

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