



COMPASS SCHOOL CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY

We are looking forward to the 2019-20 school year. We were all energized by the many positive elements of the last month of school. The 20th anniversary celebration was a real highlight of the year, with over 160 alumni, teachers, and family members reconnecting and sharing experiences at Compass and since.

Gus Shepard, a member of the first graduating class, talked about how his Compass experience has prepared him for success in the corporate world where his creativity, flexibility and problem solving are rewarded in his role as an economist for CVS Pharmacies. Many other alumni articulated similar stories about how the diverse skills they learned at Compass have served them so well in the work world and in their daily lives.

Another high point was the wonderful gratitude expressed at the closure circle on the last day of school. It is impossible to capture in writing the authenticity and depth of feelings expressed.

Among the themes articulated were appreciation of teachers, friends, parents(!), and the Compass community; valuing feeling accepted, included, and embraced; recognition of personal growth and increased maturity; and appreciation of having the space to find one's identity and be honored for one's unique gifts. Many communicated valuing being in a community where individuals express gratitude with such openness and students and staff can hold the space to share in these expressions of thanks.

Our planning week after school ended led to what we think are promising additions to the schedule. Most significantly, we added time for student initiated clubs to meet each week to offer more opportunities for student initiative and leadership. Some examples of clubs thought of included coding, climate action, community service, history, and running.

We also built in time for student council and restorative justice groups to meet to reinvigorate democratic practice. We're pleased that the schedule remains largely stable and retains the internal consistency that makes it easier for students to know what is happening when.

It was great to see the positive energy of teachers even on the last day of planning. As much as they looked forward to summer, many commented on how they would be happy to have kids back the next week to continue our shared learning.

Compass' last Thursday of the month BINGO takes a break in July but returns in August and will be every month except December next year.

Compass continues to enroll students over the sum-



mer. Please contact the school at 463-2525 or info@compass-school.org for more information.

Top photo, Compass teachers over time; and alum students at the 20th anniversary celebration.

IT'S HMS PINAFORE AT MSA



The jolly crew of Her Majesty's fleet sets sail Saturday, July 6 when Main Street Arts opens its production of Gilbert and Sullivan's H.M.S. Pinafore at Vermont Academy's Horowitz Performing Arts Center.

All hands will be on deck for the lively operetta that runs Saturdays, July 6 and 13, Thursday, July 11 and Friday, July 12, with curtain at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, July 7, with a matinee at 2 p.m.

The cast includes veteran actors Falko Schilling as Sir Joseph Porter, Michael Duffin as Ralph Rackstraw and Constance Bryan as Josephine. Schilling is well known in the area for his roles at the Weston Playhouse and the Saxtons River Playhouse. Duffin has appeared in local theater and in many MSA productions, including Equus, Les Mis, and Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead. A veteran of community theater and previous G & S roles, Bryan has appeared at MSA in Jesus Christ Superstar, Chicago and as Florence ("I married the piano man") in Charles Henry's Final Curtain.

Other cast members include Kathleen Bryar (Buttercup), Victor Brandt (Capt. Corcoran), Jack Bryar (Dick Deadeye), Frank Sibley (Bill Bobstay) and Gail Hass (Cousin Hebe). Rounding out the cast are various sailors, cousins, sisters and aunts played by Teya Bryan, Rick Cowan, Greg Sweeney, Ira Wilner, Marit Bjerkadahl, Miranda Fuller, Sadie MacDougal and Elizabeth Nieuwsma-Dell.

Director and choreographer is Annesa Hartman, and Ken Olsson is music director.

The production is part of the MSA Greater River Theater Festival that runs two weekends beginning Friday, July 5, opening at MSA at 7:30 p.m. with the landmark punk-rock musical Hedwig and the Angry Inch and continuing over that weekend and the next with performances and events, including The Great Tent Event and the Bake Your Art Out dessert contest. The full schedule can be found at www.greatrivertheaterfestival.org.

Tickets for either show are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors and \$10 for youth. Due to its adult content, there is no youth price for Hedwig. A festival pass for \$50 (\$40 senior) allows entrance to all six productions in the festival.

Further information and ticket reservations are available on the website or by contacting MSA at (802) 869-2960 or info@mainstreetarts.org.

The Horowitz and MSA's Heptebo Theater are both handicapped accessible and air conditioned.

In photo, Falko Schilling in the role of Sir Joseph Porter leads the jolly crew of the H.M.S. Pinafore.

Changes to getting copies of

VERMONT BIRTH & DEATH CERTIFICATES

Effective July 1, 2019
Act 46 (2017) enhances the security of birth and death certificates, provides better protection against misuse of these legal documents, and reduces the risk of identity theft.

What you need to know:

- Only family members, legal guardians, certain court-appointed parties or their legal representatives can apply for a certified copy of a birth or death certificate. For death certificates, a funeral home or crematorium may also apply for a certified copy.
- Applicants must provide valid identification when applying for a certified copy of a birth or death certificate.
- Nothing will change when ordering copies of marriage, civil union, divorce or dissolution certificates.
- **Where to apply for certified copies of birth or death certificates:**
 - ➔ Any Vermont Town or City Clerk's Office
 - ➔ Online at: secure.vermont.gov/VSARA/vitalrecords
 - ➔ Vermont State Archives and Records Administration (VSARA)
 - ➔ Vermont Department of Health Vital Records Office

healthvermont.gov/Act46



Our Monthly Community Newspaper July 2019 Vol. 15 No. 7

Westminster Gazette

Town of Westminster
PO Box 147
Westminster, VT
05158

DELIVER TO ADDRESSEE OR
CURRENT RESIDENT

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

WESTMINSTER GARDEN TOUR 2019

Please join us for the 18th Annual Westminster Garden Tour 2019 to be held the weekend of July 20-21, featuring the gardens of Gordon and Mary Hayward, Cyndy Fine of Genius Loci and the Laughlin Family Farm (Putney.) The Garden Tour is the major fundraising event for Westminster Cares and all proceeds from the event go to supporting our healthy aging programs and services.

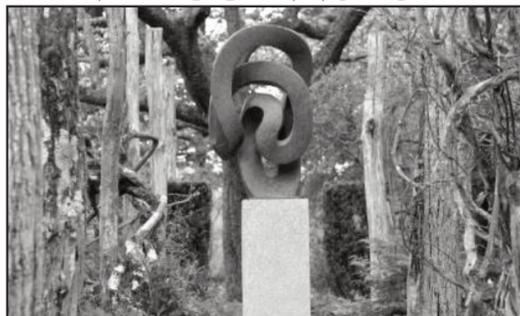
Featured this year are the stone sculptures of Miles Chapin, (photo). "Dwelling in Stone - A collaboration of stone sculpture and landscape design" is a solo show of five new sculptures set throughout the "rooms" of the Hayward's Garden. The show is open during the Garden Tour weekend, or by appointment only. The artist will be on hand throughout Garden Tour Weekend to answer questions about his work and will give a personal tour of his work on Sunday, (see below).

Special Events during the Tour: Saturday 7/20 1:30 p.m. Walking Talk by Caitlin Adair "How to be Kind to the Earth in Your Backyard" In Adair's gardens, of the Living Earth Action Group. Included with ticket purchase.

Saturday 7/20 3 p.m. Personal Tour of their gardens with the Haywards. Additional fee required.

Sunday 7/21 10:30 a.m. Walking Tour by Caitlin Adair; Sunday 7/21 1 p.m. Sculpture Tour. Tour the stone sculptures installed throughout the Hayward's Gardens with Miles Chapin, artist. Included with your ticket purchase. There is also a Garden Tour Raffle with over 10 prizes including a hand-made quilt, garden supplies, a rain barrel urn, mobile caddy for tools, and many gift certificates and items donated by local artisans and businesses.

Tickets can be purchased prior to the Tour from Board Members or from the office in the Westminster Institute. Lunch and refreshments will be served all day in the "garden café" at the Haywards along with unique plants for sale from Morning Star Perennials. For more information or to purchase early-bird discounted tickets, please visit our website: www.westminstercares.org or call the office at 722-3607.



ADVERTISE IN THE GAZETTE!

Annual Rates:
Pages 2-3
approx. 4"x5"
\$275 a year
\$30 for one month

Pages 4-7
approx. 4.7"x6.8"
\$525 a year
\$80 for one month

Page 8
approx. 2.5"x3.25"
\$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

COMPASS SCHOOL

LEARNING COMMUNITY DEMOCRACY DIRECTION



A vibrant learning community for grades 7-12 in Westminster, Vermont

Come see what school can be

Generous Scholarships and Financial Aid Available

www.compass-school.org



BEST SEPTIC

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

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



Jeff & Lisa Ruggiero
Owners

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



Paul Lawrence
Travis Lawrence
PO Box 174
Westminster, VT 05158

Lawn Maintenance
Landscaping
Plowing
General Labor/Odd Jobs

TAKE YOUR WEEKEND OFF!

ALL SEASONS TREE SERVICE

NOW OFFERING:

- TREE RISK ASSESSMENT
- BUCKET TRUCK SERVICES
- DEEP ROOT FERTILIZATION
- INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT



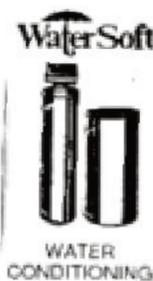
- PRUNING
- REMOVAL
- STUMP GRINDING
- CABLING
- INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL

FULL SERVICE
FULLY INSURED

KEVIN SHRADER, CERTIFIED ARBORIST

802-376-4909 allseasonsvt.net

Serving All of Windham County



K. BEEBE, INC

CABLE TOOL WELL DRILLING
PUMP SERVICE
Plumbing and Heating

Established 1946

FULLY INSURED * ESTIMATES GIVEN

CALL 463-3725

51 SAXTONS RIVER ROAD
BELLOWS FALLS

ONE MEDICINE INTEGRATIVE HEALTH Seroya Pauline Crouch ND

Welcoming New Patients!

Sensible medicine for all ages to help you get the most out of life.

Medicaid and Insurance

133 Main St, Putney, VT, Suite 2

Call 802-387-0124

www.onemedicine.org



MIB Matthew T. BRENNAN

GENERAL BUILDING CONTRACTOR LLC
RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL

- ADDITIONS
- RESTORATIONS
- NEW HOMES
- KITCHEN & BATH
- SITE DEVELOPMENT
- PROJECT PLANNING

802 869 2866

www.mtbuildingcontractor.com

WESTMINSTER ENERGY GROUP

A Division of
WESTMINSTER FARMS

Top Soil
Compost
Dried Manure



Made in Vermont
By
Vermont Farmers
And
Vermont Cows

PO Box 24 4187 US Rt 5 Westminster Sta., VT 05159
Phone/Fax: 802 722 4017 Email: westfarms1@myfairpoint.net

Windham County Homeowners!



\$2,000 - \$4,000 discount to swap your old wood stove for new pellet stove.

Free home check-up for safety issues.

Many stove models to choose from.

Call Windham & Windsor Housing Trust at (802) 254-4604



ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & REGIONAL EVENTS

WESTMINSTER WEST COMMUNITY FAIR

This year the Westminister West Community Fair is on Saturday, Sept. 7 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the village of Westminister West.

Doing some spring cleaning? Finally trying to find a good home for those treasures in your attic? Please consider donating them for the silent auction or golden elephant sale fundraisers that are part of the Westminister West Community Fair.

Events include: a 5K fun run, a parade, chicken barbeque, music on the

lawn, the veggie chop-o-matic, face painting, a silent auction, the talent show, the awesome Golden elephant sale and more!

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

If you want to make a donation, get involved or have other questions call Betsy or Laura Williams at 387-2765.

Come join in the fun!

THE NIGHT SKY AT ROCKINGHAM REC JULY 6

The Southern Vermont Astronomy Group (SoVerA) will be visiting the Rockingham Recreation Center on Saturday, July 6 at 6:30 p.m. to lead a presentation and lunar observation program, The Night Sky. Learn about the moon, how it got there, how it does –and doesn't –affect our lives. Then get ready to go outside to observe the moon and the night sky.

Since part of this program will be outside, please dress for the weather. In case of poor weather conditions or a cloudy sky, the program will be resched-

uled to Saturday, July 13th. This free all-ages program is presented as part of the Rockingham Free Public Library's 2019 Summer Reading Program, "A Universe of Stories."

This program is presented by SoVerA, the Rockingham Free Public Library, and the Rockingham Recreation Center.

For more information contact the Library at 463-4270, youthservices@rockinghamlibrary.org, rockinghamlibrary.org, or stop by the Library at 65 Westminister St. in Bellows Falls.

YOU CAN HELP KEEP RECYCLING COSTS DOWN

The price of some recyclables, especially mixed paper, are at an all-time low, according to the State Department of Environmental Conservation. This is mainly because China's purchase of imported recyclable materials has slowed or stopped. That, in turn, increases the cost for your local trash hauler at recycling facilities, and therefore the cost of trash hauling will probably increase for Westminister residents.

You can help keep costs down locally by being careful about what you place in recycling bins. Please place only these items in the bins:

Clean and empty bottles, cans and containers.

Rigid, single-use, plastic bottles, jugs, and dairy tubs

Steel and aluminum cans

Glass bottles and jars from food and beverages

Clean and dry paper and cardboard

Mail, office paper, newspaper, magazines

Cardboard boxes, cereal boxes

For a list of other items which can be recycled, please visit the Westminister town website at www.westministervt.org.

Never put plastic bags or bagged recyclables in your recycling bin. Take clean, dry, stretchy plastic bags back to the grocery store for recycling. Take other special recycling, such as batteries, clothing, and books to a drop-off spot or special collection location.

Thank you for recycling carefully!

MAJOR PAVILION DEDICATION JULY 27TH

Everyone is invited to attend the dedication and celebration of the completed pavilion honoring Beverly Major at the Westminister West School on Saturday, July 27 beginning at 4:30 (heavy rain date, Sunday the 28th).

The ceremony will begin with speakers recounting tales and contributions of Bev Major, for whom the pavilion will be christened, followed by a sit down potluck celebration with music, a bonfire and a variety of activities for young and old.

Please join us as we acknowledge Bev, and the enormous community effort entailed to build this 16' x 16' open-air structure which will be used by all Westminister

elementary students at Studio Y, fostering integrated arts and nature-based learning. The program has been a huge success, and is widely recognized as a highlight of each student's academic year.

Volunteers are eagerly sought to assist in any way possible, and no effort is too small. All are encouraged to bring a dish, and further information can be obtained by writing westminstercommunitygroup@gmail.com.

Financial support for the pavilion, and for the group's endeavors, should be made payable and mailed to Lauren McDowell, 1844 Westminister West Rd, Westminister West, Vt. 05346.

NEWS FROM THE TOWN GARAGE



As we cruise through summer we have been able to continue to grade despite the rain. This has been possible with the help of a roller we have been trying out, which allows us to grade on days that have rain in the evening hours, because the roads get thoroughly packed maintaining soil stabilization throughout the storm.

With the help of Catamount Environmental, we are currently working on the Butler's Pantry and Goldie's Road bridges, getting them ready for new paint which will prolong the life of the bridges.

Dave and Jason will be out mowing daily, so please keep an eye out.

As time goes by we as a state and community are becoming more environmentally aware. With that in mind, we are currently trying out a new product that is an alternative to chloride for dust retention and salt activator. The product is called Safe-Bind, it is a high performance blend Ammonium lignin sulfonate and a sodium brine.

Lignin is an organic material from wood that is a by product of the paper industry.

It is claimed by the supplier that this product substantially reduces corrosion to cars and bridges. Better and longer lasting grading results in the summer months, as well as more effective salt use in the winter months. The cost is competitive with conventional products. There are several towns in Vermont, Massachusetts and Connecticut already switching to this product. I am optimistic that we will be as happy and have the same positive results.

Thank you for your continued support,

Chuck

PIYO CLASSES OFFERED

Christina Martin will be teaching PiYo classes every Wednesday from 4 to 5 p.m. and Thursday from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Westminister Institute.

Who says you have to jump, grunt, strain, and punish your body to get amazing results from your workout? Not with PiYo.

What is Piyo you may ask? PiYo combines the muscle-sculpting, core-firming benefits of Pilates with the strength and flexibility advantages of yoga. And, we crank up the speed to deliver a true fat-burning, low-impact workout that leaves your body looking long, lean, and incredibly defined.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

The Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission opened nominations for its 2019 Old House Awards Monday, July 1. The awards are designed to celebrate property owners in town who are maintaining and restoring their historic homes and commercial buildings.

There will be awards in multiple categories in 2019, with multiple winners. Awards in previous years have gone to a variety of buildings, including residential, commercial, industrial and mixed use properties.

Eligible properties are older homes and businesses that have been renovated, painted or otherwise enhanced on the exterior in the past five years. Properties must be located within the town of Rockingham, including the incorporated villages of Bellows Falls and Saxtons River as well as the hamlets of Bartonsville, Cambridgeport, and Rockingham Village, and the town's rural areas. To qualify, properties must be at least 50 years old and can be residential, commercial or industrial in use.

Residents may enter their own properties or nominate someone else who has recently improved the appearance of a historic house or building in their neighborhood or the town.

To nominate a property e-mail clg@rockbf.org, or write to: Rockingham Historic Preservation Coordinator, P.O. Box 370, Bellows Falls, Vt., 05101. All nominations should include the property's address and the owner's name, as well as a brief description of the work that has been done. Photographs are appreciated.

The deadline for nominations is Friday, Aug. 16. The Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission will select 2019 winners at its meeting in September. This program is supported by a grant from the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation.

For more information about the Old House Awards: clg@rockbf.org or www.rockbf.org.

WHAT'S UP AT TOWN HALL? - RENOVATIONS & PAVING

TOWN HALL: The renovations for Phase II are nearly complete at the Town Hall. A small glitch in door hardware has finally been resolved and the new doors should be in place before the 4th of July. Phase III (final phase) has been put out to bid and the Selectboard are negotiating a contract with a Contractor to put the final cost within budget. We thank you for your patience with the construction and the lack of a front door. 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 Reality. 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., which includes swimming pools and the deck. If you have questions please feel free to call us. We are here to help not hinder your home improvement requests.

TRANSFER STATION: July 1st 2019 Westminister residents will need to purchase, at the Rocking-

ham/Westminister Transfer Station on Route 5, a \$35 sticker that will go onto your windshield of your vehicle. This sticker will be good for 1 year only. Please note that the only place Westminister residents can get these stickers is at the facility.

PAVING: The Town will be paving approximately 1 mile from Route 121 up Back Westminister 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.

BRIDGE REPAIR: The Selectboard has hired Catamount Environmental to scrape and paint the supporting beams under two bridges this summer. They are Goldies Bridge near the highway garage and East Putney Brook Bridge at the intersection of Patch Road and Westminister West Road. We are also in negotiations with the State of Vermont for the deck repair on the bridge over the Saxtons River on Route 121. This repair will happen in the year of 2021.

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 Westminister Cares, Inc. Board of Directors met June 5th at the Westminister Institute with President Pete Harrison presiding. The following board members attended: Reggie Borden, Lori Larue, Doug Oftedahl, Don Dawson, Pat Goodell, Heidi Anderson, Sally Ryea, Miriam Lanata, Board member emerita Kathy Elliott and Director Donna Dawson.

Westminister 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 Westminister Cares, volunteering to deliver meals on wheels or driving neighbors to doctor appointments, working on a committee, making a contribution or attending a workshop may contact Donna Dawson at 722-3607 or by e-mail at wecares@sover.net. Check us out on the web@ www.westminstercares.org and like us on Facebook.

Programs & Services Provided in May:

Meals-on-Wheels: WC volunteers delivered meals five days a week to 18 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, 18 rides were provided by six volunteers who drove seniors to/from the BF Senior Center, grocery shopping, for lab work; the bank, BMH and Cheshire Medical Center.

Programs: Two Secrets of Healthy Aging group, four Gentle Yoga classes, 24 Strength Training classes,

five Artist in Each of Us classes; five Chair Yoga classes; five Beginner Tai Chi classes and five Intermediate Tai Chi classes.

Assistance and Referrals: Completed several home visits and intakes for new Meals-On-Wheels recipients.

Medical Equipment – In May we loaned out seven pieces of equipment including one hospital bed one recliner armchair; two pieces of equipment were returned to us and one piece of equipment was donated to us.

Community Nurse Program – In April our Nurse made 10 home visits; saw an additional two clients at the Blood Pressure Clinic during Senior Lunch and had eight telephone contacts with clients.

Thank you to our past and present donors. Westminister Cares welcomes donations throughout the year from anyone wishing to remember or honor a loved one or friend.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS IN JUNE 2019

In loving memory of Joan Smidutz from Bill Smidutz

In memory of Brad Ryea from Bob and Dolly White

In memory of Charlotte Minich from:

Sally Berger

Stan and Phyllis Rubin

Denise Kelly Moore

Sally Minich

Janice L. Bruce and her family

Jim and Nancy McAuliffe

Daniel and Beverly Wolf

In memory of Karl Behnke from Ruth Grandy

The Marsh is a Mysterious Place

by Alma Beals, Vermont Master Gardener and Naturalist



This month's article is going to be a little different. I will ask questions and then give some answers but other questions I will leave you to ponder. Naturally I don't have the answer to all of them and need to ponder, google and get out my many books and hope to find the answer. I hope this article will encourage you to think and observe.

This morning at Allen's Swamp, I watched a pair of Canada geese with five small goslings. The goslings were foraging along the edge of the road with the parents watching. While I stayed by my car, the parents weren't upset but when I walked toward them, they were on full alert. Nothing happened but I expected any minutes to feel those wings. Earlier in the spring, I had seen four larger goslings with their parents and later on just one small lone gosling with the parents. This led me to thinking, why do they spend so much time in the road? Do they need grit for digestion, need to be on dry land for awhile or simply do what they want to do? Fortunately the drivers using the road are careful.

Another question is why do Canada geese like to nest on a beaver lodge? Studies have shown that a pond with a beaver lodge thaws at least 11 days sooner than a pond without beavers because beaver activity warms the water and thaws the ice. This allows the geese a head start on nesting earlier in the spring. They also are safer from land predators.

Can beavers and muskrats be found in the same beaver lodge? Yes, they can. Even though they eat much of the same vegetation, they tolerate each other. Beaver lodges are built out of mud, sizeable branches,

sticks, stones and mud. Muskrat lodges are much smaller and built out of grasses, reeds, cattails and sticks.

Recently I watched a female mallard with 10 babies following her on one side of the pond. She didn't pay much attention to me. On the other side was another female with seven babies. These babies were smaller and the mother was pretty nervous. I have seen three mallard families and three wood duck families. Like the geese, why are they so often in the road?

We know that the male mallard doesn't help raise the family but how about the wood duck? No, while they pair up in late summer and continue into fall and winter, the female raises the family on her own. Unlike the geese parents who help raise the family, the female wood duck lays the eggs in a tree cavity, incubates the eggs, calls them to leap to the ground and then leads them to water. Maybe the reason we don't see the wood duck families as early as we do the mallards is that maybe they aren't at Allen's yet. Or are they better at hiding because they are so shy?

One morning, I heard a wood duck calling and calling as she landed on the left side of the pond near me. She kept calling as she urgently floated back and forth near the bank. Suddenly she stopped calling and started slowly floating back and forth. In the dark shadows of the bank, I could make out several babies but they were mostly blocked by the female's body. She had hidden them while she was off eating. Think of how many times we read about a doe hiding her fawn while she is off eating.

Another interesting fact I read about is how do male juvenile wood ducks look different from females? The males have two white finger-like projections that go up their cheeks and neck from their throat. The females don't have these stripes but have a wider white patch around the eyes. Now if those ducks will stay close enough so I can check this out.

At the end of summer, do waterfowl swap out their feathers a few at a time like songbirds do so they can always fly? No, they don't. In August, they enter "eclipse plumage" which means many primary and secondary feathers are missing and new ones haven't grown in so they can't fly. The birds are still around but are hiding where we can't see them.

Why do birds turn their eggs periodically while incubating? They do this to make sure the embryo gets enough albumen which is the white part of the egg that contains water and protein and provides essential nutrients to the developing embryo. Too little albumen leads to an underdeveloped and often sickly chick.

Early in the spring, we heard the harsh, rattling call of kingfishers but haven't seen them for some time. Why? In April, they excavate a tunnel for nesting in a bank near a food source. Allen's simply doesn't have the banks they need. By late July or early August, the babies will have fledged and the nest will be abandoned. Will we see them later in the summer? I think so.

I hope this article will help you understand why I spend so much time watching the wildlife at the swamp. Each season, both early and late, gives me new questions to ponder.

GENIUS LOCI GARDENS FEATURED IN GARDEN TOUR

Cyndy Fine's garden is a living laboratory for her work as a landscape designer and consultant. You'll see what she means during Westminster Cares' Garden Tour, July 20-21. Once again, Cyndy's gardens in Westminster Village will be part of the tour. Giving to the community through donations of her time and expertise are all part of the ethos of Genius Loci, Cyndy's company.

Ecological design is the foundation of all of Cyndy's landscape work. "Genius Loci" means 'essence of place,'" she says. "Context is an important part of an ecological garden. Where does the water come from, and where does it go? What is its orientation to the sun, to the wind? There are all those kinds of things to consider, as well as the history of the place."

In the early 1970's, Cyndy bought her home in Westminster, a house that had belonged to long-time resident and gardener Edith Moore. "I lived in the boonies for years, and then I end up with this amazing property, in the village, with which I have a soul connection," she says. "I want to show how, right in the village, you can create privacy, lushness, and biodiversity." She loves to experiment with new ideas there. For example, she let an eighth of an acre of lawn go to seed, and watched it grow into a grassy meadow.

There's plenty of interest to see in Cyndy's garden.



One of her newest ideas is a sunken terrace, made of stone. "I always wanted to have a stone wall, but wasn't sure how it would fit into the history of the property." When she realized it could replicate a barn foundation, "then I felt it would fit the larger context of farming in the village," she says.

Cyndy's landscape gardening career began with managing Gordon Hayward's maintenance crew in 1994. Two years later she went into business with a partner and after that on her own, managing an all-woman crew for landscape maintenance and on-the-

spot design. Early on, she understood the need for an ecological approach. "I realized that educating my clients was part of my responsibility and wanted to teach them how to walk a little more softly on the earth."

She realized, too, that she had little formal technical training in design. "Also, I didn't want to be digging holes when I was 60," she says. So she earned a degree from The Conway School of Landscape Design + Planning, a 10-month graduate degree program in ecological landscape design. "It changed my life completely," she says. Today, she has little time for digging holes, with 15 new clients to design for just this season.

Cyndy still oversees an all-woman crew which takes care of 12 clients, some of whom have been with her more than 20 years. Genius Loci's ecological approach means that they use sustainable practices, no power tools, and try to use only organic responses to problems. Relying on native and pollinator-friendly plants, combatting invasive species, reducing lawn (space) and encouraging biodiversity are all part as well. "You can do that on a little piece of property, or in planters in an urban setting," Cyndy says. "When I get discouraged, I remember we all can do a little part and it will work toward a healthier planet."

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 July 2 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 May: 30
 Number of calls through June 25th: 25
 Number of calls calendar year to Date: 195
 Number of calls fiscal year to date: 420

Association Meeting: The Westminster Fire and Rescue Association met for their regular meeting June 4th with President Greg Holton presiding. There were 23 members present and 4 members excused. Currently there are 33 members of the volunteer fire department. Each year at the June meeting, elections for Captains and Lieutenants as well as association officers and trustees takes place.

The following are the results: **ELECTIONS:** 1. Ballots were distributed for all officers: The only contested race was for Lieutenant between Gary Cobb and A.J. Cable. Gary Cobb ended out being the winner. Because there were no contests for the other Captains and Lieutenants a motion to keep them the same as last year was made by Jon Taylor and 2nd by Mike Fawcett.

Final results: Captain Tim Wilder, C4; Captain and

Safety Officer Roy Williams, C5; Lieutenant Gary Cobb, C6; Rescue Captain Wanda West, RC1; Rescue Lieutenant Jon Parker RC2. 2. Officers and Trustees of the association: President: Greg Holton; Vice President: Mike Fawcett; Secretary/ treasurer: Pete Harrison; 1st trustee, 3 year term, Dave Russell; 2nd trustee, 2 year term, George James; 3rd trustee, 1 year term, A.J. Cable:

The following is the list of the 30 current members of the department. Real Bazin 2nd Deputy Chief C3 Brody Burke A.J. Cable ,association 3rd trustee Gary Cobb, Lieutenant C6 Tony Coven P7 Mike Fawcett, association Vice President Mike Freegard Jason Gagne Mike Ghia Melissa Green Pat Haas, Fire Warden Liam Hackett Pete Harrison, association secretary/ treasurer Greg Holton, association president George James association 2nd trustee Mark Lund 1st Deputy Chief C2 Pat Moran Jon Parker, Rescue Lieutenant RC2 Caleb Rounds David Russell association 1st trustee Dan Saccoccio Hunter Smith, Jr. member Cole Streeter Fire Chief C1 J.T. Tabolt Austin Taylor Jon Taylor Kevin Ticino Wanda West Rescue Captain RC1 Tim Wilder Captain C4 Roy Williams Captain and safety officer C5.

In addition there are eight people who make up the off road team: Leonard Farrar, Donnie Fullam, Randy Illingworth, Jim Kilburn, Greg Lovell, Nate Stoddard, Jim Lober and Tim Harty and Don Dawson is the web master

Emergency responses: We have had another busy month in June with 25 total calls through the 25th. The breakdown goes like this: 14 rescue /medical calls; 4

motor vehicle accident; 1 mutual aid call to Walpole, 4 tree on wires or wires down; 1 psych emergency/ mental issues, 1 lift assist.

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.

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

Donations received in June: From: Sue [Bob] Lober Donna and Don Dawson in memory of Karl Behnke

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.

SEVCA GOLF BENEFIT RAISES OVER \$10,000

Players at Southeastern Vermont Community Action's (SEVCA's) 18th Annual "Chipping Away at Poverty" Benefit Golf Tournament on Friday, June 14 faced cloudy conditions and an occasional drizzle, but that did not dampen anyone's spirits.

The Tournament Co-Sponsors—Springfield Housing Authority: (Mountain View and Westview Terrace Apartments); Mutual of America, and Sunset Tool, Inc.—along with 19 other major sponsors, 15 other donors, and 19 teams of golfers—raised nearly \$11,000 to support SEVCA's essential anti-poverty programs serving low-income individuals and families in Windham and Windsor counties.

Longstanding supporters and new friends from local, regional, and national businesses, SEVCA's Weatherization and Crisis Fuel program vendors, local service providers, staff members, and the community sponsored and/or engaged in friendly competition to raise funds for the agency's services.

A Hole-In-One Contest sponsored by Fenton Family Dealerships/Subaru of Keene gave participants the chance to win a new Subaru Forrester and other valuable prizes, while Leone, McDonnell & Roberts sponsored the Putting Contest with its \$5,000 grand prize. No players won the grand prizes this year, but Kevin Brennan came closest to the pin in the Putting Contest final to win a \$100 prize.

The popular Air Cannon Contest made a return visit, sponsored by Springfield Housing Authority, giving participants the chance to shoot their golf balls out of the air cannon from the tee at Hole #18 in hopes of getting closest to the pin. Pete Andrews, playing for the Mountain View team, landed his ball 5'9" from the pin and won a 7-night stay at one of over 3,000 vacation resorts.

Congratulations to the following tournament winners:

- 1st Place Team – Mutual of America
- 2nd Place – Jam Fuel
- 3rd Place – Kinney Pike Insurance
- Women's Closest to the Pin – Joan Mealey
- Men's Closest to the Pin – Toby Jasmin
- Women's Longest Drive – Thalia Holmes
- Men's Longest Drive – Josh Marcell

In addition to the sponsors listed above, SEVCA wishes to thank the following businesses, organizations and individuals for their sponsorships and other sup-

port:

'Double Eagle' Level Sponsors: Kinney-Pike Insurance, The Stove Depot

Golfer Bag and Gift Sponsors: Mutual of America, Streeter, LLC, and MVP Health Care

Golf Ball Sponsor: IPG Employee Benefits Specialists

Hole Sponsors—Abenague Car Wash, All Star LLC, Burtco Self-Storage, Clay Point Associates, Kinney Pike Insurance, Lamb and McNaughton, LaValley Building Supply, Northeast Delta Dental, Savings Bank of Walpole, SERVPRO, Sunset Tool, Inc., The Stove Depot, Westview Terrace Apartments, the Windham Foundation, and WW Building Supply.

Team Sponsors: Bob Brody, Brattleboro Country Club, DAPFoam, Dillon Chevrolet, Farnum Insulators, JAM Fuel, Kinney Pike Insurance, Mountain View Apartments, Mutual of America, Paul & Carol McDonnell, SEVCA Weatherization, Sunset Tool, Inc., The Stove Depot, and Westview Terrace Apartments.

General Supporters – EFI, Magee Office Products, Northern Safety & Industrial, PayData Workforce Solutions, Stewart Property Management, and Westminster Auto Service.

In-Kind Contributors – Bella Notte Restaurant, Brattleboro Country Club, Crown Point Country Club, Dixon Golf, Putney Food Co-op, Vermont Country Deli, and Walmart.

Special thanks go to Brattleboro Country Club and their staff for their assistance, generosity and high quality service in hosting our tournament once again.

SEVCA was established in 1965 as part of the national War on Poverty and has worked to address the needs of low-income residents of Windham & Windsor Counties for over 50 years. In addition to providing the "safety net" for households in financial crisis, its services help them stabilize their lives, make their homes safe and energy-efficient, take strides toward becoming self-reliant, and enable their children to escape the generational poverty cycle.

These goals are achieved through such programs as Family Services, Crisis Fuel, Housing Services, 3SquaresVT (Food Stamp) Outreach, Weatherization, Home Repair, Small Business Assistance, Financial Fitness Education, Matched Savings Accounts, Job Readiness, Tax Preparation Assistance, Thrift Stores, Health Navigator, and Head Start.

ROCKINGHAM MEETING HOUSE TO HOST

CONCERTS OF TRADITIONAL AMERICAN MUSIC

The Rockingham Meeting House will host a series of concerts this summer featuring area artists performing traditional American music. Concerts will be held on the third Sunday of each month, beginning at 3 p.m.

The next concert in the series, on July 21, will feature Andy and Lois Buchan with music for fife and drum. On Aug. 18, the Comtu Trio will present a program of Early American music arranged for organ, cello and flute. The Saxtons River Bell Ringers will conclude the series on Sept. 15.

Admission is free. Free-will donations will go toward the musicians donating their time and talents.

Constructed between 1787 and 1801, the meeting house is a designated National Historic Landmark and

the oldest public building in Vermont that still exists in a condition close to its original state. The meeting house is owned by the town of Rockingham and operated as a museum, with skilled docents on hand to offer additional information about the architecture and history of the building.

The meeting house is located just north of the village of Bellows Falls and Exit 6 of Interstate 91, just off Vermont Route 103. The building is wheelchair-accessible but does not comply fully with ADA requirements.

For more information contact the Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission at clg@rockbf.org.

GMP SAFETY ALERT - DIGGING,

DISTRACTED DRIVING, CUTTING TREES

Green Mountain Power (GMP) is alerting customers that with the nicer weather, they should also protect themselves and their property by thinking ahead, paying attention and being safe when driving, or doing yard work.

GMP is seeing an increasing number of reports of customers felling trees onto lines, excavating work digging into lines, construction and other large vehicles pulling down lines and drivers hitting utility poles. These incidents are dangerous, cause property damage at people's homes and outages for other customers.

"Safety is at the front of everything we do at GMP, from the field crews, to the office team, to our interactions with customers. We want everyone to be safe, and we are concerned about this recent increase in customer safety situations. Safety is a choice, and having it front of mind is key as these recent problems are preventable with planning and attention," said GMP's Chief of Field Operations Mike Burke. "We want to raise awareness so everyone goes home safely and before there is a horrible accident."

Reports to GMP for vehicle-pole crashes average one per day in its service territory, and 2019 is on track to be one of the worst years in recent memory with 132 reported crashes so far. GMP saw a dip in the number of vehicle-pole crashes in 2014 when the hands-free driving law went into effect, with 285 crashes. Then, the numbers bounced back up, averaging about 358 per year since then. About 56% of these crashes cause outages for customers.

GMP has no statistics on injuries related to these crashes because local first responders handle them, but police say distracted driving is causing more crashes across the state.

"Last year distracted driving caused at least 1,500 crashes in Vermont - 48 of those crashes with fatalities or serious injuries," said Lt. Tara Thomas who is the Commander of Safety Programs for the Vermont State Police. "Distracted driving comes in many forms; using a GPS, searching for music on a portable electronic device, or having your attention diverted from the roadway due to passenger distractions in the vehicle. The sole responsibility when operating a motor vehicle is to give it your full and undivided attention. Lives depend on it. Help keep Vermont roadways safe and – Just Drive."

Reports of dangerous digging problems are also on the rise with a five-fold increase in the last five years. Customers dug into, damaged and severed lines 52 times last year, and just halfway through this year it has already happened 27 times.

Customers doing their own tree work is not only risky, but they've dropped trees onto lines 26 times so far this year, well ahead of 2018 and 2017 with 36 and 39 incidents respectively.

"Luckily there have been no injuries from these tree and digging incidents. Customers should survey the area where they are working, and if there are overhead lines nearby, call ahead to GMP before doing tree work at home. We can shut off power if needed. Call 811 for DigSafe before doing any excavation. You can easily find out where it is safe to work. A simple step like picking up the phone can save you a lot of time and money. It could even save your life," said Burke.

GMP recommends using qualified contractors. If customers are doing exterior work to their homes, or in their yards, they can call GMP at 888-835-4672 to report vegetation in lines or request temporary disconnection of power so work can be done safely. GMP qualified electrical workers can also wrap the house service point for protection. Customers can also request an assessment by a qualified arborist for questions about trees or branches in or near lines.

WESTMINSTER MYSTERY PHOTO



Though not located in Westminster, this spot on Westminster Street in Bellows Falls is still a popular spot for parade watching. Can anyone identify exactly where it is? And though it is long gone, what is the house in the background famous for? Send your answers to the e-mail address at the top of this page.

HEALING WALK JULY 14TH

The Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association (WHPA) will be offering a Healing Walk on Sunday, July 14 from 3 to 5 p.m.

WHPA Trustee and energetic healer, John Foster of Vermont Healing will lead a meditative walk on Dunn Nature Trail. The reflective walk will include poems or other readings and offer opportunities for both contemplation and sharing. A guiding premise of this walk is that it's essential to be still, to quiet the everyday mind. Meet at the Dunn Nature Sanctuary on Bemis Hill Road.

Register at John@vermonthealing.com or 802-451-6277. The Living Earth Action Group is the co-sponsor.

For more information on Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association and upcoming events, please visit their website at www.windmillhillpinnacle.org.

REMEMBRANCES

Grady O. Evans, 11/18/18 – 6/5/19
Karl V. Behnke, 1948-2019

STRAWBERRY SUPPER

Don't miss the Strawberry Supper on Saturday, July 6 at the First Congregational Church of Westminster. There are 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. July is the wrap up time for the Community Birthday Calendar. If you missed reserving your calendar, please call Lucy Matteau at 722-9040 early in July.

STREETER RECEIVES AWARD

Madison Streeter, Bellows Falls Union High School Class of 2019 graduate is the ninth recipient of the Dr. E. Sherburne Lovell Health Career Award. This award contributes \$1000 annually toward a student's academic pursuit of a career in health care.

It is funded by the proceeds of the Apple Blossom Cotillion, a project of the Development Office of Springfield Medical Care Systems. Madison is pictured with Mary Perry, Chair of the Springfield Hospital/SMCS Development Committee and Robert Crego, Executive Director of Southern Vermont Area Health Education Center.

Streeter will be a nursing student at Rivier University in Nashua, NH in the fall. She became interested in health care when she was young, and she attended the Southern Vermont Area Health Education Center MedQuest program.



Do you prepare more for family vacations than you do for college?

For a personalized college cost report, call or visit a financial advisor today.

Jessica Fuller
Financial Advisor

57 Main Street
Walpole, NH 03608
603-756-2513

www.edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

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.

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 Monday July 22 at 5 p.m. at the Flat Iron.

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

WESTMINSTER GAZETTE

Editor: Robert Smith
Board of Directors:
Charmion Handy - Chairwoman
Donna Dawson
Alma Beals
Joyce Sullivan

Printed by Sentinel Printing, Keene, NH

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

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.



Find the Right Difficult:
How to Make ADHD Work For You Not Against You

EARN CE CREDITS!

28th Annual Conference
— with —
Ned Hallowell, MD

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2019
8:45AM – 3:30PM WESTMINSTER, VT
— Lunch is included —

Please direct all inquiries for the conference to Lindsay Owens at (802) 721-6913, or email lowens@kurnhattin.org.

REGISTER NOW AT CONFERENCE.KURNHATTIN.ORG



Sojourns COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC
Holistic Care for Whole People

"Health care that cares enough to listen and treat the cause of the symptoms and not just the symptoms themselves. Also, a very pleasant staff."
Aaron. G. Springfield, VT

Our Bodies Are Ecosystems not Chemistry Sets™.
4923 US Route 5 • Westminster, VT
802-722-4023
www.sojourns.org
Insurance accepted for all billable services
gift certificates available

- Primary Care
- Holistic Medicine
- Naturopathy
- Acupuncture
- Biological Medicine
- Chiropractic
- CranioSacral Therapy
- Nutritional Counseling
- Massage
- Physical Therapy
- Herbal Medicine
- Immune Support
- Apothecary

Please Note: The Gazette Deadline has changed from the last Wednesday of the month to the next to last Wednesday So the Deadline for the August Issue of the Westminster Gazette is Wednesday, July 24th Publication Date is Wednesday, July 31st To Contact the Westminster Gazette E-mail: westminsternews@gmail.com

KURN HATTIN CELEBRATES 21 GRADUATES

On Saturday, June 8, 2019 twenty-one 8th graders graduated from Kurn Hattin Homes for Children in a joyous and emotional ceremony.

Graduation proceedings began with an opening welcome from Board President, Mark Bodin and an Invocation from houseparent Clint Plante. Salutatorian Alex Lowe III, then spoke to the audience and his fellow graduating classmates asking them to "accept your mistakes instead of rejecting them, but NEVER let them define who you are."

Several students received one or more awards which included: The Good Citizenship Award, for the student who is most helpful and cooperative with other students- Nicholas Passos; The Vosburg Award, for the student who has shown progress- Deja Nasta; The Peter Harrison Grohs Memorial Award, for male student showing the best adjustment to Kurn Hattin- Tristan Carroll; The Vivian Prindl Memorial Award, for the female showing the best adjustment to Kurn Hattin- Amaya Jordan; The Suitcases Award, for an 8th grader who shows outstanding progress- Chan Dowang and Catrina Greene; The Maiola Athletic Awards, for all-around athletic excellence- Jacob Baltazar and Izabella Murphy; The Woodhull Music Awards: Choir Award- Tia Willis-Cooper, Jazz Band Award- Chan Dowang, Most Overall All Talented Award- Nicholas Passos and Izabella Murphy; and the Instrument Award- Nicholas Passos. The Massachusetts Board of Directors' Excellence in Writing Awards- Alex Lowe and Lillianna Butler; The Alumni Association Awards, for the students who embody the spirit of Kurn Hattin through their kindness to others and participation in campus life- Nicholas Passos and Lillianna Butler; The Eleanor Ward Achievement Award, for the 8th grader showing the greatest improvement- Chan Dowang; The John P. Barry & Christopher W. Barry Award- Elizabeth Anderson; The W.I. Mayo Memorial Award- Tia Willis-Cooper; The Robert P. Hubbard Memorial Scholarship Award, for a student who has an aptitude for art, literature, or writing- Nicholas Passos; The Vincenzo James Ruggiero Memorial Scholarship Award- Jacob Baltazar and Catrina Greene. Three Kurn Hattin alumnae were awarded the Thomas G. Fahner Scholarship Award: Lyssa Jackson, Class of 2008, Sairy Bernardez, Class of 2014, and Rebekah Rounds, Class of 2015.

Trustee Emerita, Elizabeth Maiola, was given the Trustee Emerita's Special Recognition Award.

Valedictorian Lillianna Butler gave the Farewell Speech, in which she stated that she has been part of the Kurn Hattin community since she was seven years old. "My time here is a tremendous part of who I am, and who I hope to become," she said. Diplomas were then presented by Principal Sergio Simunovic, and Board President Mark Bodin, and Acting Alumni President, Heather Kampfer inducted the graduates into the Alumni Association. After graduating, many of the students stay on campus for the summer program and then will rejoin their families and attend their local high schools in the fall. Others will move on to attend other private residential schools with a similar mission.

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 at kurnhattin.org.

Congratulations to the Kurn Hattin Class of 2019!
Back from (L to R): Mya Lynn Fifield, Tia Mae Willis-Cooper, Mikayla Evelyn Bruce, Kelsea Rebekah Smith, Chan Deng Dowang, Jakobie Alexander Graves-Amidon, Kevin Wayne DeKalb Jr., Jacob Stone Baltazar, Cassidy Alexis Star Martin, Morgen Lynn Goss, and Aurianna Amaris Smith. Front from (L to R): Alixzander Speckert-Ring, Gabriella Janae Taylor, Izabella Arbritia Murphy, Janiyah Diamond Jackson, Alex Wayne Lowe III, Lillianna Grace Butler, Catrina Marie Greene, Nadia Lynette Taylor, Nicholas Anthony Passos, and Alexia Anne Murray.

Photos by Kristie Lisai

WALPOLE SUMMER FEST

On Saturday, July 20th the Walpole Historical Society will open its doors and lawn for our first Summer Festival from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

There will be tours through the Museum's collection with historian and author Ron Patch, tours of the architectural highlights of downtown Walpole led by author Bill Ranauro, and a Round Table discussion of the Good Old Days with a group of longtime Walpoleans.

Everyone is invited to view the four new exhibits in the museum: Life in the Valley, an illustrated documentary about life in and around the old Dodge Tavern about 1919; Walpole Stories, a collection of amusing and telling anecdotes from the diaries of Edith Cole Tiffany; Walpole Architecture, an historical and stylistic study of buildings in Walpole; and BOOM!, a delightful collection of items and memorabilia from the '50's, '60's and '70's.

Many local organizations and individuals from Walpole and our area will be outside on the lawn with displays, information and items for sale—including our Walpole Fire Department, Pinnacle 4 -H, Girl Scouts and our local Pack #299 Cub Scouts will have grilled hot dogs and cold drinks for sale for your lunch.

Round Table discussion scheduled for 10.

Tours inside the museum scheduled for 11 and 1

Architecture Tours in the village scheduled for noon and 2.

Mark your calendars and join us for this fun event!



Temple Chiropractic

*Supporting the health care needs of the
community for the past 35 years
Specialist in the treatment of non-surgical
back & neck pain*

DR. VERNON R. TEMPLE

Chiropractic Physician

DR. DAVID PARELLA

Chiropractic Physician

102 Saxtons River Road

Bellows Falls, VT 05101

802-463-9522

*We accept all Vermont insurance plans including
BCBS, CIGNA, MVP and workers injury insurance*



SEVCA Weatherization 1-800-464-9951



Our guidelines have expanded to serve more homes!

Apply now to see if you qualify!

- Insulation and air sealing
 - Save on heating costs
 - Improve comfort level of your home
 - Attention to health and safety concerns
- ~all at no cost to you!~

Southeastern Vermont Community Action
SERVING WINDSOR &
WINDHAM COUNTIES
SEVCA Weatherization
91 Buck Drive
Westminster, VT 05158



BELLOWS FALLS ROTARY CLUB



**For more information about Rotary,
contact Alma Beals at
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.**

Serene Touch
flowing body, mind and spirit
together thru touch

Diane Bazin
 24 Grout Ave.
 Westminster, VT 05158
 413-530-5696
 dianebazin@outlook.com
 www.zerobalancing.com

Certified Zero Balancer
 Certified Reiki Master
 Massage Therapist

JACKLYN ATWOOD
REAL ESTATE

JACKIE ATWOOD
 616 NEWCOMB ROAD
 WESTMINSTER, VT 05346

VT & NH BROKER
 OFFICE/FAX 802-722-9296
 CELL 802-236-1164

jackieatwoodrealestate@gmail.com

HARLOW
FARM STAND

CERTIFIED ORGANIC PRODUCE •
 FRESH CUT FLOWERS •

P.O. BOX 260, ROUTE 5, WESTMINSTER, VT
 (802) 722-3515
 (1/2 MILE NORTH OF EXIT 5 / INTERSTATE 91)

S.B. and Company Auctioneers, Antiques

SHARON
BOCCELLI
& COMPANY

Buying entire estates or single items.
 Probate appraisals
 46 Canal St. Bellows Falls Vt 802-460-1190

Streeter L.L.C.
Licensed Electrician
 PO Box 206, Westminster, VT 05158
(Building, Remodeling and Repairs)

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

WESTMINSTER
AUTO Exit 5, I-91
 Rt. 5, Westminster

Vernon Kelton
 PO Box 94, Westminster Station, VT 05159
 (802) 722-4722

Check us out on our website:
 www.westminsterauto.com

FIREWOOD
 Frederick McKenny

Quality Hardwood
 1993 Pine Banks Rd Putney, VT 05346

TEL | 802-376-7313
 EMAIL | joatmon.fred@gmail.com

GREATER FALLS
INSURANCE serving VT and NH since 1996

Home • Auto • Farm • Business • Motorcycle • Recreational Vehicles

7190 US Route 5 • Westminster, Vermont 05158
 802-463-1900 • www.greaterfallsinsurance.com

Jessica Fuller
 Financial Advisor

57 Main Street
 P.O. Box 96
 Walpole, NH 03608
 Bus. 603-756-2513 Fax 888-215-1621
 jessica.fuller@edwardjones.com
 www.edwardjones.com/jessica-fuller

Edward Jones
 MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

**July Business of the Month:
 Village Square Booksellers**



Village Square Booksellers was purchased by Pat and Alan Fowler in November 2000 and moved to its current location in April 2002 with books, toys and gifts for all ages, for yourself, or as gifts for birthdays, anniversaries, etc. Gift wrapping is available year round, perfect for that last minute gift.

The bookstore carries an eclectic selection of socks, scarves, mugs, games, journals, stationery, notecards, tea, chocolate, jigsaw puzzles, stuffed animals and art supplies. They host author events, writing courses plus Knitting Together meets in the store each Wednesday afternoon to make mittens and hats for schools (acrylic yarn donations are welcome). First Saturday of the month from 1 to 4 p.m. is Magic The Gathering and Pokemon Group and the bookstore sells strategy cards, and Dungeons and Dragon materials.

Their website, www.villagesquarebooks.com shows the bookstore's on hand inventory in their Book Search menu and orders can be placed to pick up and pay at the store, or they can ship your out-of-town gifts. E-books and Libro AudioBooks are also available online with a monthly subscription and competitive pricing. When you drop by the bookstore, don't forget to visit Bella, the bookstore cat, for a snuggle.

**July Business of the Month:
 Tim E. Lillis, Builder**

In the mid 1990s, I began my journey of learning the carpentry trade in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where I apprenticed with a master carpenter on historic, residential renovation projects. From there I moved to rural PA, where I accumulated more experience rehabilitating old houses. I relocated to southeastern Vermont in 2004 and have been building a client base across Windham County ever since.

In my 23 years of professional experience, I have amassed skills in all areas of carpentry while specializing in the restoration and renovation of old buildings. I have a deep regard for historical structures and am able to preserve the aesthetics of the past while employing new concepts and technologies to get the job done. I have expertise working on porches, exterior restoration projects and rot repairs.

I also currently offer comprehensive services on new construction, additions, tile, cabinets, structural repairs, kitchen and bathroom renovations, outbuildings, decks, garden projects and more.

While the quality of my work speaks for itself, I'm also adept in customer relations. I have built a regional reputation of being friendly and pleasant to work with, accommodating, detail-oriented and reasonably priced. I consistently emphasize a client-led decision making process, and customer satisfaction is my ultimate aim.

If you're looking to brainstorm renovation ideas or start a seasonal project, please contact me for a free estimate. I am happy to provide photos of previous work and references upon request, and I'm available year-round for indoor and outdoor projects.

I can be reached at 802-376-5709 or timlillis70@gmail.com. Check me out on Facebook at fb.me/timlillis70.

M & M Carriage House Creations LLC
One of a Kind
Unique Created Reclaimed
Upcycled
Custom Made
Furniture~Lamps~Wall Décor
Reasonable Market Value

www.mmCarriageHouseCreations.com
 FOLLOW US ON FB (m&mcarriagehousecreations)

730 SAXTONS RIVER RD SAXTONS RIVER VT 05154
 ROUTE 121 ONE MILE WEST OF POST OFFICE

genius loci
 SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE DESIGN,
 INSTALLATION & STEWARDSHIP

Cyndy Fine
 LANDSCAPE DESIGNER

802.376.7275 | cyndy@geniuslocidesign.com

Karen Vedus LMFT
Emotionally Focused Couples Therapy

Westminster, Vermont
 802-332-3007
 karenveduslmft@buildingbetterbonds.com
 www.buildingbetterbonds.com VT Lic. #100.0110621

WESTMINSTER ANIMAL HOSPITAL
PO BOX 90
WESTMINSTER STATION, VT 05159
(802)722-4196

Andrea Neiley, DVM Megan Peddigree, VMD
 Kristin Anderson, DVM Susan Oswald, DVM

R . A . M . P
 Rockingham Arts & Museum Project

Since 1996 believing that art makes a difference!
 www.ramp-vt.org
 802-463-3252

Committed to integrating the arts in the long-term sustainability of the community by creating effective partnerships that initiate and support:

Accessibility • Affordable Housing • Artist Town Meetings
 Public Art Initiatives • Policy Making

LAWRENCE & LOBER
ELECTRIC

www.llelectricservices.com
 info@llelectricservices.com

Tel: 802-460-3479
 800-559-3479
 15 Barker St. Bellows Falls, Vt 05101 Fax: 802-460-3480

Allen Bros
OIL COMPANY

6023 U.S. Route 5
 Westminster, VT 05158
 allenbrosoil.com

Phone: 802-722-3331
 Toll Free: 877-722-3331
 Fax: 802-722-9871

info@allenbrosoil.com

Tim E. Lillis - Builder
Comprehensive Carpentry Services
for both small and large jobs

New Construction - Renovations - Tile -
 Restorations - Structural Repair -
 Kitchens - Baths - Outbuildings - Decks

Westminster, VT
 (802) 376-5709 TimLillis70@gmail.com

HEIDI BERNIER, CBR
 LICENSED VT & NH

Berkley & Veller
Greenwood Country
Realtors

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

Village Square
BOOKSELLERS

32 The Square,
 Bellows Falls, Vermont
 Open 7 days a week
 802-463-9404

Books, Toys & Gifts for All Ages
 Independent bookstore with a friendly & knowledgeable staff
 villagesquarebooks.com - Books, Audio & e-Books
 Order Online- PickUp & Pay in Store

\$5 Bella Bucks on \$25 Purchase with this ad

The Chimney Doctor
Chimney & Stove Care

Whole System Service
 • Cleaning • Relining
 • Repair • Year-round Service
 • Installation • CSIA Certified

(802) 387-6037 Westminster West, VT
 chimdoc@comcast.net www.vtchimneydoctor.com

RUGGIERO
TRASH REMOVAL

802.869.2235

Box 434, Saxtons River Vermont 05154 Joe 802.384.0397
 Jeff 603.209.4441