



## CAPT. RICHARD PHILLIPS SHARES STORY OF COURAGE AT KURN HATTIN



In photos, Captain Phillips sharing his experiences at sea with students; and students getting autographs.

Photos by Kristie Lisai

Captain Richard Phillips, a Merchant Marine and the subject of an extraordinary international drama when he was captured by Somali pirates who attacked and boarded his ship, in April 2009, visited Kurn Hattin and its students on December 3, to talk about his life and career.

Captain Phillips shared with the students his path to joining the Merchant Marines and his experience as Captain for 25 years. "What I've learned is that we're all stronger than we even know and that the strength is already within us," he said. "Nothing is completely lost until we choose to give up. Failure is only final when

we quit."

The afternoon presentation ended with a question and answer session. There were many questions from the students, ranging from what dangers he faced on the sea to which continents he's visited— which was every continent.

The public will have an opportunity to hear Captain Phillips and his dramatic story, which was also made into a motion picture by Columbia Pictures starring Tom Hanks. Join him for an exceptional evening of courage on May 1st 5:30-8:30 pm at Kurn Hattin Homes for Children. The evening will also include per-



formances by The Don Baldini Trio and the Kurn Hattin Choir.

This is an event not to be missed! Tickets can be purchased at [kurnhattin.org/CaptainPhillips](http://kurnhattin.org/CaptainPhillips) or by contacting Heather at (802) 721-6916.

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](http://kurnhattin.org)

## COMPASS SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE FOR PARENTS OF UP AND COMING STUDENTS

Compass School is excited to host a special Open House on Tuesday, Jan. 28, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., designed for parents of sixth graders from Westminster, Grafton and Athens.

Students from these towns visited Compass earlier in the year as part of their exploration into options for middle school, and gained a sense of the unique culture at Compass by directly experiencing the supportive and kind community. They also learned about the diverse educational experiences and high learning expectations the school provides.

We hope to share that same spirit with parents of these students, so they can discover what makes Compass special and how it prepares every student for success in school and in life after graduation, wherever it leads.

The Open House will include a tour of the school, a brief presentation, refreshments, time for questions and help with enrollment. Students are welcome to join their parents. If you can't make this date, Compass invites you to call, e-mail, to stop in when you're driving by or to come to one of the many public events at the school (see below).

### BINGO Monthly Last Thursday of the Month

Regular Thursday Night Bingo continues at Compass School to assist in fundraising efforts of Compass School's 11th grade class. Every year, Compass 11th graders participate together in an international trip to a Spanish speaking country in the developing world, with the students choosing Mexico as this year's destination.

Compass is committed to ensuring every student can go on this trip, regardless of family income. With over 50% of Compass students eligible for free and reduced lunch, fundraising is essential to ensure everyone can take part in this life changing travel experience.

Thursday Night Bingo has been a great success at Compass—attracting good sized crowds who consistently comment on how much they enjoy the evening. The normal schedule for Bingo at Compass is for the last Thursday of the month.

The public is warmly invited to join in this event, with all bingo supplies available along with baked goods and refreshments for sale. Bingo cards will be sold for 50 cents per game, and cash prizes are awarded for every game.

The 11th graders are hoping Thursday night bingo will be a way to bring the wider community into the



school for a fun, shared evening each month. The coming dates for bingo are January 30, February 27, March 26, April 23, May 28 and June 25. No Bingo in July but it starts back up the last Thursday of August.

### Latin Fiesta Fundraiser February 29th

On Saturday, Feb. 29, Compass School will host a Mexican inspired dinner and a musical performance by Eugene's Latin Party Band featuring renowned musicians Eugene Uman and Julian Gerstin. All proceeds of the evening benefit the Compass junior class Global Connections trip to Mexico.

Events begin at 6 p.m with a fabulous, multi-course dinner, along with a silent auction including gift certificates to area businesses, fine arts, furniture, clothing, and much more.

All-inclusive tickets for dinner and music are just \$18 for adults and \$12 for students (and \$48 for a family)— a fun and very affordable night out.

## EXCAVATIONS AT INSTITUTE



Two grounds improvement projects were completed at the Westminister Institute in December. The first was to install a stormwater dry well to prevent runoff from undermining the driveway.

In the past, stormwater runoff from Route 5 would collect in the corner of the lawn near the flagpole then seep in and undermine the driveway. The dry well will collect that water and let it infiltrate deeper underground.

At the same time, the underground oil tank that was closer to the building was removed. The tank was still sound and tests showed no soil contamination, so the project went smoothly and the potential liability associated with an underground storage tank has been eliminated.

Earlier this fall, three double walled oil tanks were installed in the boiler room and everything is now accessible. The Institute uses close to 5,000 gallons of heating oil per season, so the three 275 gallon tanks will provide adequate storage.

**IN THE CASE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY, MIGHT YOU NEED SPECIAL HELP? OR PERHAPS YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP OTHERS? PLEASE CHECK OUT THE EMERGENCY PLANNING SURVEY ON PAGE 7.**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE WESTMINSTER GAZETTE!**

THE 2020 DOG LICENSES ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE. PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ALL DOGS MUST BE LICENSED BEFORE APRIL 1, 2020.

Our Monthly Community Newspaper January 2020 Vol. 16 No. 1

## Westminster Gazette

Town of Westminster  
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05158

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### MARCH TOWN MEETING SCHEDULE

Annual Floor Vote at Bellows Falls Union High School  
Saturday, February 29, 2020 at 10:00am

Australian Ballot Vote

Tuesday, March 3, 2020 from 8:00am to 7:00pm  
at Westminster Institute

Bellows Falls Union High School Annual Meeting  
Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at 7:00pm  
at Bellows Falls Union High School

January 13, 2020 – Last day for voters to file a petition for an article to appear on the warning with signatures of 5% of registered voters (126).

January 27, 2020 – Last day for candidates to file petitions and consent of candidate forms to appear on the ballot for Town Meeting with signatures of 1% of registered voters (26).

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# KURN HATTIN ENDS 2019 WITH THRILLS AND CHILLS



The children of Kurn Hattin Homes stay busy year round, and this fall has been no exception.

In top left photo, the Kurn Hattin children had a great time creating fun and imaginative scarecrows for a campus contest. "This year's entries were very, very spirited," commented Nancy Richardson, Director of Residential Services and one of three judges. There was also an entry by Executive Assistant, Sonja Carey, from the Dean Mathey Center.

In top right photo, the children and staff at Kurn Hattin Homes wish their friends, supporters, volunteers, and families safe and happy holidays and new year.

And in the two bottom photos, veterans and friends joined the Kurn Hattin Homes' children, staff, and volunteers for the 24th Annual Veterans' Day Observance. The annual event featured a program of commentary, music, and a meal to honor and remember all veterans and their gift of service.

Photos by Kristie Lisai



## NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER CARES

The Westminster Cares Board of Directors met on December 4th at the Westminster Institute with President Lori Larue presiding. The following board members attended: Pete Harrison, Miriam Lanata, Regina Borden, Doug Oftedahl, Pat Goodell, Heidi Anderson, Karen Walter, Don Dawson and Director Donna Dawson. Kathy Elliot was unable to attend.

Westminster Cares creates opportunities for seniors and adults with disabilities to live with independence and dignity in the community. Anyone interested in learning more about Westminster Cares, volunteering to deliver meals on wheels or driving neighbors to doctor appointments, working on a committee, making a contribution or attending a workshop may contact Donna Dawson at 722-3607 or by e-mail at [wecares@sover.net](mailto:wecares@sover.net). Check us out on the web at [www.westminstercares.org](http://www.westminstercares.org) and like us on Facebook.

MEMORIAL & HONOR DONATIONS RECEIVED THROUGH DECEMBER 20th, 2019

### IN HONOR OF:

Mary Brandt from Sami McRae  
My children from Susan Clifford  
Phyllis Anderson from Don Anderson  
Donna Dawson from Libby Mills  
Susan Clifford from Patrick Clark  
Phyllis Anderson from Ila Mitchell  
Karen Walter from Hugh and Betty Haggerty  
Heidi Anderson from Peggy and Dirk Jager

### IN MEMORY OF:

Lloyd E. Church from Carol Church  
Joanne Scoppa Cordano from Donald Cordano  
Sam and Fran Streeter from Phil and Jane Savoy  
Nathan Lettieri from Dean Lynch  
Departed loved ones, friends and class mates from Pete and Judy Harrison

Family members who are no longer with us from Bruce Murray

Gabriella Kovacs from David Bayer and Flo Magdalena

Paul Chaffee from Lillian Chaffee  
Harold Angers from Barbara Angers

Our mothers: Marguerite, Helen and Joanne from Don and Donna Dawson

Margret Palmer from Carleton Palmer  
The Pulaski and Wajdowicz Families from Matt and Terry Wajdowicz

Joan Smidutz from Bill Smidutz  
Rita Sachs from Anonymous

Mitchell Allen from Russell Allen  
Anne Fairchild from Carolyn Fairchild

Frank Mitchell from Mary Mitchell  
Alfred Pucci from Norma Pucci

Robert McKenny from Fred McKenny  
Passed loved ones from Jim and Lisa Calchera

Barbara and Carlton Greenwood from David and Allison Deen

Pat and Walt Jennison from Linda Jennison and Janet Manzolillo

John and Jennie Forrest from Craig and Valerie Forrest

Anna Dewdney and Winifred Luhrmann from George Luhrmann

Jay and Larry Hammond from Marty Hammond  
Doris Bowen from Dan and Mary Davis

Bob and Jean Ashcroft from Ann Ashcroft  
Frank Walter and in honor of Karen Walter from Tom and Marcia Wessels

Nora Eno from Bill and Sandy Burton

In memory of Bob (Robert) Haas from: Pat Haas Spring (Knower), Chris and Nikki Bergman, Mary Brand, Paul Millman, Ann and Frank Kebbell, Don Aldrich, Linda and Mike Fawcett, Paul Millman, Barbara Greenough, Toby Young, Robert Rhodes, and Beth and Kevin Shrader.



ANNUAL TOWN & FIRE DISTRICT MEETING - FEBRUARY 29, 2020  
VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT - MARCH 3, 2020  
UHSD #27 (BELLOWS FALLS UNION HIGH SCHOOL) ANNUAL MEETING - FEBRUARY 26, 2020

ELECTED OFFICIALS WITH TERMS EXPIRING MARCH 3, 2020

POSITION	LENGTH OF TERM	PRESENTLY HELD BY
MODERATOR (Town, Fire)	1 Year	Fletcher Proctor
TOWN AGENT	1 Year	Fletcher Proctor
SELECTBOARD	3 Years	Toby Young
SELECTBOARD	2 Years	Kevin Hughes
LISTER	3 Years	Douglas Oftedahl
COMMISSIONER, CAMPBELL FUND	1 Year	Karen Walter
COMMISSIONER, CAMPBELL FUND	1 Year	Nancy Dalzell
COMMISSIONER, CAMPBELL FUND	1 Year	Vacant
TRUSTEE, CAMPBELL FUND	3 Years	Barbara Taylor
TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS	3 Years	Barbara Taylor
UHSD#27 DIRECTOR	3 Years	Stephen Major
FIRE DISTRICT #3 PRUDENTIAL	3 Years	Chris Harlow

Nomination Petitions are ready for those who wish to run for town office. They may be picked up at the Town Clerk's office any weekday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., and must be returned to the Town Clerk's office by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 27, 2020 and contain at least 25 valid signatures. Anyone whose name does not appear on the voter checklist should register at the Town Clerk's office.

**HARLOW FARM WINTER MARKET**

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Or just stop in.

**Happy New Year**

As the calendar turns the page, we wish you the very best in the year ahead.



## 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](http://www.westminstervt.org)



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## Is This a Year for Irruptions?

by Alma Beals, Vermont Master Gardener and Naturalist

While bird migration is seasonal, predictable and repeated each year, irruptions are unpredictable and erratic appearances of large numbers of birds in the non-breeding season into our area and beyond. Some years we have none and other years we will have many. This is why birders are always keeping an eye out for snowy owls, pine siskins, common redpolls, pine grosbeaks, red crossbills and white-winged crossbills.

What triggers an irruption is lack of essential winter seeds so that many finches leave Canada and head south toward our area for food. With snowy owls, the lack of seeds lead to fewer lemmings and small rodents that “snowies” feed on. There are boom and bust years. If there are a lot of seeds one year, there will be a successful breeding season. The following year may not have enough seeds to feed all the young produced in the previous year.

Many people mistakenly believe that hard winters will drive the birds south, but it is the shortage of food that causes these massive movements. For good seed production, trees need warm weather in the fall, when fruit buds form, and warm weather again the following spring, when the flowers set, or the crop will be delayed for another year. The fruiting of many of the trees in Canada is synchronized so that spruces, firs, tamaracks and birches have loads of seeds one year and almost none the next.

While birders are watching for the smaller birds, no bird can make headlines like a snowie seen in our area. Most people are familiar with them and they draw crowds all across North America. Snowies are usually spotted as a “lump” in a field because the Arctic tundra has few trees and more open space. Sometimes they are spotted in a slightly higher spot but not in trees. A snowie will often stay in the same area for several weeks. They are not afraid of humans because they don’t usually see humans. A few years ago, one stayed several weeks in Weathersfield and could be depended on being seen either on a fence post or on the roof of a barn.

Snowies are large with a 52 inch wingspan and length of 23 inches. The males are white while the females and juveniles have brown barring. Many of the ones we see are juveniles. Snowies normally feed on small mammals such as lemmings, meadow voles and deer mice. But since snowies are opportunistic hunters, they take advantage of larger prey such as rabbits, muskrats, squirrels and rats. Most owls sleep during the day and hunt at night, but snowies are active day and night.

Pine siskins are the size of American goldfinches, appear brown and are heavily streaked. Goldfinches

are solid olive and yellow/brown and have black wings with white bars but lack the bright yellows of summer. The sizes are easy to confuse until you notice the colors. Their main food is seeds from alders and birches in the wild. And they do visit our feeders.

Pine grosbeaks, while in the finch family, are almost as large as robins and have conical bills for cracking seeds. The male is rose-red with dark wings that have two white bars. The female is gray and also has dark wings with 2 white bars. She has a yellow/bronze head and rump. They eat conifer and boxelder seeds in the wild.

Do you remember watching flocks of them working on the fruits in the trees around the Savings Bank of Walpole last winter?

Common redpolls are about the size and shape of American goldfinches and pine siskins and their actions are alike. They are streaked and their brown wings have two white stripes. At first glance, you think you are seeing house or purple finches until you notice the bright red caps on both the males and females and their black chins. They don’t have red on their rumps like house or purple finches. The males do have pink on their chests. Like siskins, they eat seeds of birches and alders in the wild.

Red crossbills and white-winged crossbills look alike except the white-winged crossbills have two large white stripes on their black wings and the red crossbills don’t. What to look for are their crossed mandibles (bills) that are used to tear seeds out of cones. They eat seeds from white pine, cedar and eastern hemlock. Both crossbills and redpolls have a two-lobed pocket in their necks where they store seeds that they have gathered.

Last week a say’s phoebe spent a few days at Allen’s marsh. Coleen spotted it and spread the word. Birders came in big numbers and many did see it. A say’s phoebe is a western bird that looks quite similar to our eastern phoebe but has a rusty belly. I always feel sad when a bird is spotted out of its territory. I would doubt that this one survived because the



weather turned cold and phoebes eat insects.

A possibility of a hawk-owl in Putney was reported but not yet confirmed. Our local birders are checking out this report and I will let you know the results. The hawk-owl lives in northern Canada and will only rarely move south in the winter to our area. I will also let you know if this year turns out to be an irruption year.

*In photos at top, a mature snowy owl in flight, and below, an immature female.*

## LIVING SIMPLY IN A COMPLEX WORLD



Do you find yourself wondering how best to live a life of meaning, purpose and presence in these increasingly complex times?

Join Paul LeVasseur, longtime Putney resident, for a free 6-week facilitated discussion course called A Different Way: Living Simply in a Complex World. The course explores ways to live in harmony with our values while caring for ourselves, our community, and this precious earth.

The course will meet Monday nights at Putney Library Jan. 13 through Feb. 17, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Before the course begins, there will be an information session on Monday, Jan. 6th from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

The discussion topics will include living a life of happiness and meaning, busyness, distraction and mindfulness, consuming less while creating more, technology and its capacity for connection and disconnection, resisting materialistic values, and embracing simplicity, a different way.

While there is no charge for the course, enrollment is limited, so please contact Paul to enroll or ask any questions you might have: plevasseurputney@gmail.com or 802-380-2226.

Paul is a co-founder and trainer for the Putney-based New England Council Collective which recognizes that every person has a story to share and a piece of the whole. He was a co-founder of Transition Town Putney, and taught at SIT Graduate Institute for 39 years.

The Putney Public Library is located at 55 Main St. in Putney.

## 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 January 7 at 7 p.m. The Prudential Committee normally meets twice a month. A warning will be posted 48 hours prior to each meeting.

Number of calls in November: 45

Number of calls through December 20th: 16

Number of calls calendar year to Date: 414

Number of calls fiscal year to date: 216

**Association Meeting:** The Westminster Fire and Rescue Association met for their regular meeting December 3rd with President Greg Holton presiding. There were 19 members present and nine members excused.

**Emergency responses:** We have had another busy month in December with 16 total calls by the 20th. The breakdown goes like this: seven rescue /medical calls; five motor vehicle accidents; two alarm activations; one mutual aid call to Springfield; one for a personal situation.

**Ice Skating Rink:** The ice skating rink on the East Side of the Westminster Central School will be ready for use soon. Some volunteers of the Westminster Fire

Department will be busy flooding the area as soon as the weather stays cold. The rink is open to the public.

**CO detectors:** Because houses are closed up more tightly in the winter, CO detectors need to be checked more frequently.

**Smoke Alarms:** It’s always a good idea to put new batteries in the smoke alarms January 1st and double check to be sure they are operating properly.

**Vents:** Check vents for heating appliances regularly to be sure they are free from ice and snow. A plugged vent can cause a fire.

**Driveways and Right of Ways:** Please be sure that private roads leading to your home are plowed wide enough so a large fire truck can pass through easily. Also, be sure brush and any other obstacles are not hindering an emergency vehicle from getting to a scene where they may be needed.

**Lifeline:** The holidays are upon us and it is a time when many people travel. If you have a Lifeline or a Lifeline type system in your home, it is a good idea to contact the provider to let them know if you are going to be away from home. There should be a telephone number listed for contacting them. If there is an accidental trip of the alarm, the provider will know if the residence is unoccupied or not. This will save the responding agencies from going out for a false alarm.

**FIRE EXTINGUISHERS FOR SALE:** Anyone

The Walpole Historical Society will present Yankee humorist Fred Marple and his Guide to New England “for locals and people from away” on Friday, Jan. 10 at 7 p.m. in the Walpole Town Hall.

In this free program, Fred will discuss Yankee food, including why we think baked beans and vegetables boiled with a piece of corned beef are fine cooking. He’ll examine Yankee fashion, from the ever-present flannel to rummage sale ensembles.

Fred will also explain life in a small town, where everyone knows your business - often before you do -and he’ll describe the people who live there, from the cheapskate native to the affluent transplant.

Fred Marple has appeared on New Hampshire Chronicle, on radio, and in the pages of Yankee Magazine and New Hampshire Magazine. His book Welcome to Frost Heaves was recently published by Islandport Press. He has been called “hilarious,” “a hoot,” and “really smart for a guy his age.” His Yoga for Yankees has been viewed over 6 million times on-line.

He is also known as author and songwriter Ken Sheldon from Peterborough.

Refreshments will be available. ([www.walpolehistory.com](http://www.walpolehistory.com))

*In photo, Ken Sheldon (aka Fred Marple).*



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 December: Heather and David Hunter, Jeffrey Shumlin and Evelyn Lovett.

Donation in memory of Bob Haas: H. Valentine Barnes, Reginald and Genevieve Jacobs

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 web-site at [www.westminsterfireandrescue.org](http://www.westminsterfireandrescue.org).

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

# Aged in Vermont

Westminster Cares, Inc.

## REFLECTIONS ON 2019

As a new year begins, Westminster Cares would like to take a moment to reflect on the many wonderful things that happened in our community over the course of the year. First and foremost, we are grateful to our extraordinary volunteers, our board of directors and the incredibly supportive residents of Westminster. Without them we would never be able to carry out our mission.

In 2019, our core services included: Meals-On-Wheels, the Community Nurse, transportation, home medical equipment loans, visiting and information and referral. Over 3,500 nutritious meals were distributed throughout the year; all were prepared by the Kitchen Staff of Kurn Hattin Homes.

Volunteers delivered Meals-On-Wheels five days a week to between 10-16 individuals daily. Due to the generosity of a community member, 900 additional frozen entrees were provided on Friday's to those needing weekend meals.

Transportation is another service offered – volunteers gave 230 rides, driving 2625 miles transporting those who no longer drive to medical appointments, physical therapy, grocery stores, pharmacies and other essential services.

Through our equipment loan program, multiple pieces of durable home medical equipment were loaned each month to community members who were recuperating from surgery or in need of medical accommodation; this totaled 120 pieces loaned out throughout the year.

Volunteers also made home visits to those in need of company and visited several Westminster residents

who are isolated in their homes or now reside in assisted living residences and local nursing homes.

There has been continued demand for our Community Nurse, Debbie Brookes. Debbie continued to make in-home visits and assessments, assist with medication management, blood pressure checks, preventive foot care and other non-invasive medical services. Her one-on-one consultations help to address concerns and educate seniors and their families about a variety of issues.

In 2019 our nurse made approximately 162 visits to seniors in our town and met with an additional 54 community members during ten Blood Pressure Clinics held at the monthly Senior Lunches.

Westminster Cares continues to host many Healthy Aging Programs including: three "Living Strong" weight training classes; three weekly "Tai Chi for Falls Prevention" classes; one weekly "Gentle Yoga" class, and one "Chair Yoga" class; a twice monthly discussion group and pot-luck called, "Secrets of Healthy Aging;" a monthly senior lunch and blood pressure clinic; and an art class co-hosted with Putney Cares called, "The Artist in Each of Us."

WC also works closely with Senior Solutions/Southeast Council on Aging, the Visiting Nurse Association, the Bellows Falls Senior Center, the V.A., SEVCA and the other Cares organizations in Windham County to provide information and referrals and to coordinate services when possible.

Here's to a happy, healthy 2020 and to growing older in a caring community!

## SCROOGE: THE MUSICAL IN WEATHERSFIELD

World Under Wonder Playhouse proudly presents *Scrooge: The Musical* opening on Dec. 26th for a six-show run through the holiday season.

There will be performances on Dec. 26, 27, 28 and Jan. 3 and 4 at 7 p.m., and Dec. 29 at 3 p.m. Tickets are available online at [worldunderwonder.org](http://worldunderwonder.org) or at the door, \$10 general admission and \$5 for students, seniors, and veterans. World Under Wonder Playhouse is located at 5755 Route 5 in Weathersfield.

Based on Charles Dickens' famous book, *A Christmas Carol*, and the 1970 film *Scrooge*, this musical was nominated for an Academy Award.

In the familiar plot, the miser Ebenezer Scrooge is visited on Christmas Eve by the ghost of his partner Jacob Marley as well as three other apparitions from Christmases past, present, and future who take him on a magical journey of redemption.

This musical will warm the hearts of the entire family with bright tunes and a colorful cast of familiar characters including the Fezziwigs, the Cratchits, and the endearing Tiny Tim. With many songs that will be familiar from the film, this is a classic Christmas tale for

the whole family.

This will be the second production of *Scrooge: The Musical* at the Playhouse which is being produced in memory of David Roberts, father of Scrooge Director and Executive Director of World Under Wonder Playhouse, Sean Edward Roberts, as a new tradition.

In addition to many new actors joining the production, there will be several familiar faces on stage this year, including Neal Cronce reprising the role of Scrooge, Hannah McFadden as the Ghost of Christmas Past, and Danielle Peterson as Young Scrooge's love interest, Isabel.

World Under Wonder Playhouse is a non-profit arts organization that strives to create an all-inclusive artistic community in Vermont and the surrounding area through live productions, classes, workshops, and events. The Playhouse encourages people of all ages and abilities to participate and experience the personal growth that comes with creative exploration through the performing arts. For more information or to reserve tickets call 603-381-3344, e-mail [director@worldunderwonder.org](mailto:director@worldunderwonder.org), or go online to [worldunderwonder.org](http://worldunderwonder.org).

## TIME TO DRIVE ELECTRIC? NEW STATE ELECTRIC VEHICLE REBATES COMBINE WITH UTILITY REBATES AND TAX CREDITS

Vermont's electric utilities are letting customers across Vermont know they can now save up to \$15,000 when they buy or lease new all electric vehicles (EVs) and plug-in hybrid vehicles (PHEVs) thanks to new Vermont state rebates that can be combined with utility rebates and federal tax credits.

One of the biggest barriers to making the switch to cleaner driving is the upfront cost of a new vehicle, and new state rebates of up to \$5,000 aim to help middle- and low-income Vermonters switch to cleaner driving with electric vehicles.

Transportation is the number one source of carbon emissions in Vermont, and switching to an EV is the biggest, most effective step Vermonters can take to reduce their carbon footprints, because Vermont's energy supply is low carbon and getting greener all the time. Switching to an EV offsets more than 10,000 pounds of carbon per year.

According to Drive Electric Vermont, the cost of ownership for EVs is less than gas-fueled vehicles because they require less maintenance and, on average, charging an EV is equivalent to paying approximately \$1.50 or less per gallon for gas. The exact amount of savings customers receive depends on their income, the type of EV they buy or lease, and rebates their utility offers.

Washington Electric Coop offers income eligible members \$1,900 in funds; all other WEC households are eligible for \$1,200 for new or leased electric vehicles, and \$950 toward a new plug in hybrid.

"These new state incentives paired with rebates we already offer make it a great time to get an electric vehicle while making a big difference in your carbon footprint," said Patricia Richards, general manager of the Washington Electric Cooperative.

BED recently expanded its extensive offering of EV incentives, which include \$1,200 rebates on new and leased EVs and PHEVs, with an additional \$600 and \$300 for low- and moderate-income customers who buy or lease EVs and PHEVs, respectively, plus \$800 rebates on pre-owned EVs and PHEVs.

"BED appreciates the opportunity to partner with the State of Vermont to make it even more affordable for Burlingtonians to drive electric, with enhanced re-

bates available for low- and moderate-income customers," said Darren Springer, BED general manager. "Driving electric is a key part of Burlington's Net Zero Energy strategy. It helps keep more dollars in the local economy and is a meaningful way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address our climate emergency."

Green Mountain Power (GMP) already offers customers up to \$2,500 in rebates, depending on income, on new all electric vehicles, \$1000 for plug-in hybrids and \$750 for used EVs and PHEVs. GMP will also give customers a free Level-2 home car charger (\$600 value) when they buy or lease a new EV.

"EV driving is an affordable and highly effective way to address the climate crisis – and the combined rebates make the savings even greater. Since transportation produces most of Vermont's emissions, it is great that team Vermont is working together to help Vermonters switch to greener driving," said Mari McClure, GMP's incoming president and CEO.

Vermont Electric Cooperative (VEC) offers bill credit incentives for new or used plug-in vehicles, whether purchased or leased. VEC also offers a \$250 bill credit for the purchase of a qualifying Level II vehicle charger.

"VEC is pleased to partner with the State of Vermont and the other utilities in offering electric vehicle incentives. Using cleaner fuels for transportation is an essential part of a greener transportation future, and will help us reduce climate impacts," said Rebecca Towne, VEC's chief executive officer. "We hope Vermonters take advantage of all the incentives available to them for vehicles and charging systems and that the programs are tremendously successful in driving electric vehicle adoption."

When more Vermonters drive electric, key benefits flow 100 percent back to all customers, helping to drive down costs to maintain the grid. Customers can combine rebates to build bigger savings, and they can work with participating dealerships to get the rebates upfront, applied as a discount on the price of an EV. Details and terms and conditions about the state and utility rebate and incentive programs are on their websites.

## REMEMBRANCES

WARREN HAYES, 1/2/1957 - 12/1/2019  
TOBY PARZYCH, 9/17/1970 - 12/6/2019

## SOUPER WEDNESDAY

### RETURNS JAN. 8TH

The First Congregational Church of Westminster will host Souper Wednesday again this year. From noon to 2 p.m., there will be at least two choices of soup including a vegetarian choice and warm bread.

Take-outs will be available. Donations are appreciated but not required. This is a time for everyone and anyone to come and visit and have a warm meal.

## KURN HATTIN SELECTED FOR SHAW'S GIVE BACK PROGRAM

New England Kurn Hattin Homes for Children has been selected as a beneficiary of the Shaw's Give Back Where it Counts Program for the month of December.

The Shaw's Give Back Where it Counts Program, which launched in April 2019, is a reusable bag program that facilitates community support with the goal to make a difference in the communities where shoppers live and work.

Kurn Hattin was selected as the December beneficiary of the program by the Walpole Shaws located at Ames Plaza, in Walpole, NH. Kurn Hattin will receive a \$1 donation every time the \$2.50 reusable Give Back Where it Counts Bag is purchased at this location during December.

Thank you Shaws and the greater community for your support!

## BOOST PROFIT WITH ENERGY EFFICIENCY

When it comes to profitability, energy efficiency counts. Inefficient lighting, ventilation, and equipment not only hike up energy bills; they also sap employee production and hurt customer experience.

Efficiency Vermont offers free energy assessments to help businesses find saving opportunities and build an efficiency plan complete with project estimates and financial incentives.

Through energy-efficient upgrades, Vermont businesses have seen:

- Improved work environment
- Increased employee productivity and comfort
- Aesthetic improvements
- Extended life of equipment
- Improved environmental sustainability
- Increased profitability

For Vermont Glove in Randolph, a free energy consultation led to more than \$11,000/year in savings through insulation and air sealing, lighting, and energy efficient equipment.

## REGIONAL MUSIC TOGETHER CLASSES FOR CHILDREN

Keene-based music and movement program for young children, birth - age 6, Music Together for Monadnock Families, will start its winter session in January 2020. Register now to reserve your spot.

The 10-week sessions of 45-minute classes are offered on Tuesdays at 9:30am in Peterborough, Wednesdays at 10:30am at Langdon Place in Keene, and Thursdays at 9:30am Brattleboro. The Wednesday class at Langdon Place in Keene is intergenerational and includes the residents of Langdon Place along with the families.

Classes include singing, movement and instrument playing activities for children and adults together, in a relaxed, playful atmosphere. Every family takes home CDs and a songbook with all the music of the session, and has access to an engaging and interactive companion website.

"My child loves her Music Together classes! It's fun to see her grow in each class as she learns the songs and routine," says Jen English, parent of 4-year old Brynn. "She loves the freedom to use all the percussion instruments, play with the other kids in the class, and sing along with everyone else. And, Nancy does a great job of making it a lot of fun for us parents, too!"

Music Together for Monadnock Families is part of the internationally-recognized and research-based early childhood music program, Music Together, developed in Princeton, NJ in 1987 on the principle that all children have musical abilities which can be nurtured in a stimulating and supportive environment.

Contact Nancy Salwen at 603-357-4693, [nancy@salwen.net](mailto:nancy@salwen.net), or visit [www.MusicAllAround.net](http://www.MusicAllAround.net) to register for the winter session.

### Tuesdays

Peterborough. Music Together for Monadnock Families: Music and Movement classes for kids birth through 6yrs, and their parent or caregiver. Share the delight of music with your young children in a relaxed, joyful environment - sing dance and play simple instruments. 9:30 - 10:15. CDs and songbook included. Register or schedule a free visit: 603-721-1492 or visit [www.MusicAllAround.net](http://www.MusicAllAround.net).

### Wednesdays

Keene. Intergenerational Music Together class: Music and Movement for kids birth through 6yrs, their parent or caregiver, along with the residents of Langdon Place. 10:30 - 11:15 am. Share the delight of music with people of all ages in a relaxed, joyful environment - singdance and play simple instruments. CDs and songbook included. Register or schedule a free visit: 603-721-1492 or visit [www.MusicAllAround.net](http://www.MusicAllAround.net).

# WESTMINSTER HAPPENINGS

## Activities

### Scottish Country Dance Classes

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

### Putney Contra Dance

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

### Senior Potluck Lunch

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

### Secrets of Healthy Aging

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

### Contra Dance

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

### Gentle Yoga

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

### Chair Yoga

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

### Living Strong Classes

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

### Knitting Together

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

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

### Westminster West Book Group

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

### Tai Chi Classes

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

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

### Souper Wednesday

Every Wednesday from January 8 to May 6 from 12 to 2 p.m, The First Congregational Church of Westminster will serve at least two choices of soup (including a vegetarian choice) and warm bread. Take-outs will be available. Donations are appreciated but not required.

## WESTMINSTER CARES ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE

Westminster Cares' Board of Directors would like to express sincere appreciation for the contributions of so many members of the community—individuals, neighbors, families and businesses—toward our 2019-2020 Annual Appeal. Donna Dawson director, noted, "Every single donation is important to us. These funds will help to provide much needed programs and services for seniors and adults with disabilities in our community who need assistance. Each week we get closer to reaching our fundraising goal. Thank you!"

It's not too late to make a contribution! The Annual Appeal will continue throughout the winter. Donations are appreciated at any time of year. Donations that are made to honor or memorialize individuals will continue to be listed monthly in the Westminster Gazette.

## WINDHAM COUNTY TAKE BACK DAY RESULTS

The 18th National Prescription Drug Take Back Day occurred on October 26th and resulted in 882,919 pounds, or 441.5 tons, of unused medication collected nationally, according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) website. Vermont took in 6,734 pounds of the overall total, which was the largest amount collected in the state since the campaign started.

Windham County law enforcement participation included the Vermont State Police, Bellows Falls Police Department, Brattleboro Police Department, Dover Police Department, Wilmington Police Department and the Windham County Sheriff's Department who collected a total of 14 boxes, or 325.75 pounds, of medication. October's Take Back Day was updated to include collection of e-cigarette and vaping devices going forward.

Take Back Day occurs twice a year and provides communities a safe alternative to getting rid of unwanted medications nationwide. The events are free and anonymous, with permanent collection sites available year round in Windham County and throughout Vermont.

For more information on Take Back Day, or to locate a permanent collection site near you, please visit [healthvermont.gov](http://healthvermont.gov)

## 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.  
Sun., Jan 5, Epiphany Sunday, Worship and Communion, 10 am  
Tues. Jan 7, Women's Fellowship, Lunch at Father's Restaurant, 12 noon.  
Wed., Jan 8, 15, 22 & 29 - noon to 2 p.m. Souper Wednesday (see article)  
Sun., Jan 12, Worship, 10 am  
Sun., Jan 19, Worship, 10 am  
Sun., Jan 26, 10 am, Worship. 11:15 am, POTLUCK AND ANNUAL MEETING to follow

### The Congregational Church of Westminster West

The Congregational Church of Westminster West worships every Sunday at 10 a.m. The pick-up choir meets most Sundays at 9 to rehearse. Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of every month, and on the Second Sunday the church collects a special offering that goes to Our Place in Bellows Falls to help fund their food shelf.

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

### Walpole Bible Church

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

### Walpole Unitarian Church

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

## Meetings

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

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

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

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

**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** - 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. on the second floor of the Westminster Town Hall..

**Westminster Gazette Meeting** Monday Jan. 20 at 5 p.m. at the Rockingham Library.

**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  
Jennifer Skrocki

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- Kurn Hattin Homes
- Town of Westminster
- Westminster Activities Commission
- Sojourns Community Health Clinic
- Westminster Cares
- Westminster Fire and Rescue Association
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- Immune Support
- Apothecary

**Please Note:  
The Deadline for  
the February Issue of the  
Westminster Gazette is  
Wednesday, Jan. 22.**

**Publication Date is  
Wednesday, Jan.29**

**To Contact the  
Westminster Gazette  
E-mail:  
westminsternews  
@gmail.com**

### FOOD CONNECTS UNVEILS NEW COOLER & FREEZER

Food Connects hosted their Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on December 12, at their Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation (BDCC) Business Park location to celebrate the unveiling of their new 1,000 square foot cooler and freezer.

Over 50 Food Connects' staff, board members, funders, partners, customers, producers, and family members joined to celebrate this milestone. Guests sampled Food Connects' products, prepared by Harley Sterling, School Nutrition Director of the Windham Northeast Supervisory Union, and his staff at the Farm to School Cafe. Richard Berkfield, Executive Director of Food Connects opened the evening with gratitude towards all those who supported Food Connects throughout the years and, more recently, the Cooler Campaign.

"We moved in here a little over a year ago with a few ideas about how to turn this place into our new warehouse," Berkfield told the crowd. "For a long time, we had masking tape on the floor representing two large boxes, one frozen, here and another cold there. As you might imagine, we felt constrained. And the reality was the cooler wasn't going to be big enough for our growth trajectory and we would have to do something again soon. It didn't feel right."

The Food Connects team knew the space had the potential to help the organization grow, getting more local food to more community members in the region. With the help of the BDCC, Food Connects was able to identify a space adjacent to their offices for expansion.

"At the BDCC we are always on the lookout for folks and businesses that have a bit of a growth mindset—that's definitely Food Connects," remarked speaker Adam Grinold, Executive Director of the BDCC. The two organizations have worked together for several years in support of workforce development around food systems. "[They're] already a job creator with 14 people supporting the mission here, this new location has tripled the storage capacity, it's close for both collection and distribution access. Food Connects is more than just a food distribution company, they are food systems leaders."

The support from the BDCC has been invaluable in getting Food Connects where they are today and with the funding from the High Meadows Fund as well as many other generous individuals and businesses, Food Connects was able to raise \$200,000 to make their dream of an expanded Food Hub become a reality.

Gaye Symington, President of the High Meadows Fund, also spoke at the event. The High Meadows Fund promotes vibrant communities and healthy natural ecosystems in Vermont. Their Farm to Market Initiative is focused in particular on increasing the sale of Vermont farm and food products through wholesale and institutional markets that recognize, and are willing to pay for, the value of fresh, healthy local food.

"Food Connects matters," remarked Symington "because they are focused on buyers who value high-quality food. Food Connects matters because they make sure a greater share of the consumer's food dollar can get back to the farmer. And Food Connects matters because as they demonstrate this approach can work, they nudge the rest of the food distribution system to better serve farmers and producers as a key element of the food system."

Food Connects' new cooler and freezer will allow them to offer their wholesale customers—including schools, hospitals, independent groceries, and business food programs—more options for using local products in place of commodity foods. This increase in capacity will allow them to build market channels for more producers and consumers in Southern Vermont and New Hampshire, the Upper Valley, and Western Massachusetts. And the timing of the new facility couldn't be better—Food Connects hit over 30% growth for the second year in a row, totaling over \$550k in local sales for 2019.

"We have so much gratitude to all of our many partners and supporters," said Berkfield. "Producers, customers, donors, staff, board, and other advocates along the way have gotten us to this point. We are excited for the impacts our expanded Food Hub will have on our local economy and to bring you more local food."

To watch the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony online and see pictures from the event head to: [www.facebook.com/FoodConnects](http://www.facebook.com/FoodConnects).

## NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS: SPECIAL NEEDS SURVEY

If you have special needs, the survey below should be filled out and sent to Westminster Cares, which is working on this Emergency Plan project in cooperation with the Westminster Fire Department and the Westminster Emergency Management Team.

Please notice that there is a section for neighbors to help with accommodations for a special needs person while an incident is being corrected, such as long term power outages, flooding, and home damage from winds, etc.

Please take a few minutes and fill out this survey if you have special needs or if you can help a neighbor who might find themselves in need.

The form below can be sent to Westminster Cares, PO Box 312, Westminster, VT 05158. For more details, or for help completing the form, contact Westminster Cares at 722-3607.

Thank you in advance, and be assured that this information will be kept confidential.



**TOWN OF WESTMINSTER**  
P.O. BOX 147 WESTMINSTER, VT 05158  
Tel. 802-722-4255 Fax 802-722-9816

### Special Needs Emergency Preparedness Registry

Please fill out and return to Westminster Cares, Po Box 312, Westminster, VT 05158.  
If you wish assistance in completing or returning the form, you may contact Westminster Cares at 722-3607.

**Privacy Notice:** This information will be held confidential and will be used only by Town Emergency Management persons to assist you in the event of an emergency. Should you be under a neighboring town's jurisdiction, this form will be sent to their Emergency Manager.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

911 Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

TTY: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark an "X" in every box that applies to you:

<input type="checkbox"/> I can NOT drive in the daylight.	<input type="checkbox"/> I have specialized medical equipment requiring electricity or special transport assistance:
<input type="checkbox"/> I can NOT drive at night.	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring devices (heart, blood pressure, blood oxygen, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/> I need transportation to leave the area in an emergency.	<input type="checkbox"/> Respiratory or breathing devices.
<input type="checkbox"/> I can ride in a van or bus.	<input type="checkbox"/> Oxygen Concentrator
<input type="checkbox"/> I need a wheelchair van.	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
<input type="checkbox"/> I would need to ride in an ambulance.	<input type="checkbox"/> I depend upon a service animal. Please specify type and weight: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> I am deaf or hard of hearing and/or use TTY.	
<input type="checkbox"/> I am sight impaired and need special help	

<input type="checkbox"/> I require a medically prescribed diet.	<input type="checkbox"/> I require the following assistance _____
<input type="checkbox"/> I have medications that require refrigeration.	<input type="checkbox"/> I have dementia and may require the following assistance: _____

Without electricity I have no... Mark <u>all</u> That apply.	<input type="checkbox"/> HEAT <input type="checkbox"/> PHONE <input type="checkbox"/> WATER <input type="checkbox"/> COOKING FACILITY <input type="checkbox"/> SEWAGE	<input type="checkbox"/> I have the following pets: _____
--	---	---

You may contact the following person to help me in an emergency:

Name of Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

I am able to take neighbors into my home if need be. How Many? \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to help with \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for assisting the Town of Westminster to have an effective Emergency Plan, together with the Westminster Fire Department and Westminster Cares.

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**OVER-STUFFED HOLIDAY BAGS AWAITING DELIVERY**



Several local organizations contributed to making the holidays brighter for older members of the community. This year the Campbell Fund of Westminster partnered with the Women's Fellowship of the First Congregational Church of Westminster to donate holiday bags overflowing with holiday treats, non-perishable food items and small gifts for all Meals-on-Wheels

recipients and others in the community. The Congregational Church of Westminster West donated several gift cards for gas and groceries for other members of the community.

We are so fortunate to live in a community that cares about older adults and those who may be vulnerable or in crisis.