



DONATED GAZEBO INSTALLED AT INSTITUTE

A new element has been added to the Westminster Institute grounds. A gazebo was generously donated by the Smidutz family in memory of Joan Smidutz, who spent many summer afternoons relaxing and reading in the gazebo behind their home.

The Dascomb Trust donated the cost of relocating the gazebo, and the work to prepare the new base and transport the gazebo was done by Adams Construction.

The gazebo is located where folks can use it to read and relax in comfort from spring through the fall and, if they have children with them, be able to watch the young ones using the playground.

We hope it will be enjoyed by many. It's still wrapped in plastic right now, but that will be removed as spring approaches and chairs, which were donated with it, will be installed at that time.



COMPASS FIESTA MEXICANA FUNDRAISER FEB. 29TH

On Saturday, Feb. 29, Compass School will host a Mexican-inspired dinner and a musical performance by Eugene and Julian's Latin Party Band featuring renowned musicians Eugene Uman and Julian Gerstin.

The evening begins at 6 p.m. with a fabulous, multi-course dinner, and concurrently there will be a silent auction which will include gift certificates to area businesses, fine arts, furniture, clothing, and much more.

All-inclusive tickets for dinner, music, and dancing are just \$20 for adults and \$10 for students (and \$50 for a family)—a fun and very affordable night out.

All proceeds of the evening will benefit the Compass junior class Global Connections trip to Mexico. The Global Connections Program focuses on cultural immersion, social justice, and international understanding. It is an integral part of the junior class curriculum, inspiring students to broaden their horizons as global citizens. The Global Connections Program began in 2003 and since then Compass has had over 150 participants travel to locations including the Mexico/Arizona border, Cuba, India, Nicaragua, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic, and Peru.

This fundraising dinner and concert is key to making this travel program affordable to all 11th graders regardless of family income. Come out, hear some great music, enjoy a gala meal, and support this unique opportunity. Tickets will be available at the door or can be purchased ahead of time from Compass School

(802-463-2525), or can be reserved by emailing deb.hamel@compass-school.org.

Community Service Winter Term Project Ideas Needed

The regular Compass School schedule will be put on hold from February 24-28 as students are asked to apply their learning to help address real needs in our community.

Based on requests for assistance from community organizations, these projects give students an opportunity to work in a workplace-like format as problem solvers exploring how to organize themselves, seek solutions, and achieve meaningful results.

For example, we have painted murals at the warming shelter, made a website for Parks Place, did site designs for The Current bus service and created museum exhibits for The Nature Museum in Grafton.

As Compass plans for Winter Term, we are still



looking for projects or community needs that might benefit from our work.

If you know of any community needs, or even have thought, "Someone should do something about...", contact Rick Gordon (rick@compass-school.org) with your ideas and we can see if we can add this to our options.

KURN HATTIN HOSTS AN EVENING OF COURAGE WITH CAPT. PHILLIPS

For five days in April 2009, Captain Richard Phillips became the center of an extraordinary international drama when he was captured by Somali pirates who attacked and boarded his ship. The event was later made into a motion picture by Columbia Pictures starring Tom Hanks. The public will now have an opportunity to hear Captain Phillips and his dramatic story and support Kurn Hattin Homes for Children.

Join us for an exceptional evening of courage on May 1 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Kurn Hattin Homes for Children. The evening will also include perform-

ances 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, or by contacting Heather at (802) 721-6916.

Tickets are also available for purchase at these locations: Vermont Artisan Designs, Brattleboro, VT, Brattleboro Savings & Loan, Brattleboro, VT, The Threaded Trunk Boutique, Bellows Falls, VT, The Village Blooms, Walpole, NH, Off the Wall Framing, Northampton, MA, and Breeze Tees, Keene, NH, Vil-

lage Square Booksellers, Bellows Falls, VT.

Sponsors and Levels:

Captain Phillips: Savings Bank of Walpole.

Navy Seals: Whitney-Blake Company.

Life Boat: Woodland Ridge, Steve Ryder/TrueNorth Networks.

Courage: Deb Hamel & Doug Gay, Brattleboro Subaru, The Village Blooms, Kim Fine, and Diane Bazin.

Additional sponsorships available. Contact Kim Fine at kfine@kurnhattin.org.

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER CARES

The Westminster Cares Board of Directors met January 9th at the Westminster Institute with President Lori Larue presiding. The following board members attended: Secretary Regina Borden, Treasurer Miriam Lanata, Doug Oftedahl, Heidi Anderson, Kathy Elliot, Pat Goodell and Director Donna Dawson. Pete Harrison and Don Dawson were unable to attend.

Westminster Cares creates opportunities for seniors and adults with disabilities to live with independence and dignity in the community. The next board meeting is on February 5th at the Institute at 4:30 p.m. Anyone interested in learning more about Westminster Cares can contact Donna Dawson at 722-3607 or by e-mail at wecares@sover.net. Check us out on the web at www.westminstercares.org and like us on Facebook.

Although we only publish memorial and honorary gifts, Westminster Cares is incredibly grateful to the community for all the gifts received so far during our 2019-2020 Annual Appeal. Every donation is appreciated and funds raised will be used to support our Programs and Services this year.

DONATIONS RECEIVED FROM DECEMBER 20, 2019 - JANUARY 20, 2020

IN HONOR OF:

Phyllis Anderson from Ila Mitchell

The Westminster Cares volunteers from Dan Harlow

Bonnie Anderson from Heidi Anderson and Lee Trapani

All the Westminster Cares volunteers from Miriam and Larry Lanata

In honor and memory of my Patch Road neighbors, Bob and Pat Haas, from Debbie Bump

In honor and memory of Norman and Marie Wright from Ann Wright

IN MEMORY OF:

Joan Smidutz from Sandra Smidutz & Diane Ross

Rosalie Coven from Judy and Tony Coven

Staci Jones-Maly, Joanne Duval, Caro Duval, and Genevieve Farnsworth from Lester and Tonia White

Justin Beebe from Ally, Susan and Rich Talbot

Anne Lund from Ellen Jones

Connie Harlow from Susan Harlow

Carroll Metrick from Joyce Rodgers

Percy and Eunice Muzzey from Charlotte Kurkul
Walt and Patricia Jennison from Cheryl Jennison
Connie Harlow from Elizabeth Harlow
David L. Williams from Elizabeth Williams
Dorothy Palumbo from Susan Colby
Phyllis and Ernie Norman from Wanda and Scott West

Karen Augusta from Louise Luring
Mom, Dad and Douglas from Carol Sevick
Laura Leonard from Nancy Dalzell

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.

A COMPLETE LIST OF THE 2020 WESTMINSTER TOWN MEETING WARNINGS ARE FOUND ON PAGES 5&7

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).

Our Monthly Community Newspaper February 2020 Vol. 16 No. 2

Westminster Gazette

Town of Westminster

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Westminster, VT

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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**

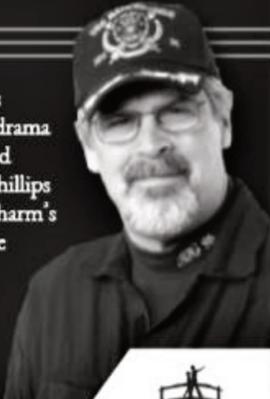
ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS

NEWS FROM THE TOWN GARAGE

SPECIAL EVENT TO SUPPORT KURN HATTIN HOMES *for*
CHILDREN'S TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES/STEAM LAB

JOIN CAPTAIN RICHARD PHILLIPS

FOR AN EXCEPTIONAL EVENING OF COURAGE



For five days in April 2009, Captain Richard Phillips became the center of an extraordinary international drama when he was captured by Somali pirates who attacked and boarded his ship. To protect his crew, Captain Phillips made a conscious decision to put himself directly in harm's way, knowing full well that he might pay the ultimate price for his decision. Amid the standoff, he offered himself as a hostage to get them off his ship. This dramatic story was also made into a motion picture by Columbia Pictures starring Tom Hanks.

MAY 1, 5:30-8:30PM
Kurn Hattin Rd., Westminster, VT . Mayo Memorial Center

\$75 TICKET INCLUDES:

- DELECTABLE HORS D'OEUVRES & LIBATIONS (BEER & WINE INCLUDED)
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THIS IS AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED!
Purchase tickets at kurnhattin.org/CaptainPhillips or call (802) 721-6916.

  Sponsorship opportunities available. Contact for more information.



Hello neighbors,

The sun is getting hotter as the days get longer. Soon there will be steam coming from sugar houses and mud season will be upon us as it has for hundreds of years.

The road crew will do all we can to assure that the roads stay passable for the vehicles that are adequate for the drastically changing weather of Vermont. It would be a great help to everyone if folks could coordinate oil and gas deliveries so that their tanks are full enough to get through those 2-3 weeks of mud season in order to minimize the unnecessary usage of material, equipment and overtime pay, not to mention the environmental impact.

Also with online shopping recently, the UPS and FedEx traffic has increased immensely making the battle more challenging. If packages could be left at a friend's or neighbor's house closer to the blacktop this would also help. Unfortunately, doing what we can to help the environment is not always convenient and I think convenience is what got us all in this mess to start with. I would like to thank the folks on Daigle road that had over 4 feet of mud in spots and not one complaint as they walked up and down the hill for days until we got it under control.

Thank you all and hope to see you at town meeting.

Chuck and crew

“WHAT’S UP AT THE TOWN HALL” - COMMITTEE MEMBERS SOUGHT, BROADBAND, & THE CENSUS

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

COMMITTEE: We are trying to form a committee to research the feasibility of Senior Housing/Assisted Living in Westminster. The Board recognizes that research has been done before but new incentives have been issued by the State for such endeavors. If you are interested in joining this committee, please call the Town Manager at the Town Hall and get your name on the list. Thank you in advance for your help. The Board is trying to get meeting started next month so again please contact the Town Hall as soon as possible.

COMMUNITY HOME IMPROVEMENT FUND: Westminster residents are able to apply for moderately low interest loans through the Town. Money is available for home repairs, such as energy efficiency improvements, water/sewer repairs, and weather related damage repairs. This program is income based for availability and comes with a lien against your home for security of the monies. To apply or receive more information, please contact the Town Manager.

EMERGENCY AUTOMATED CALLS: The Selectboard needs your opinion. It was brought to their attention a possible opportunity to create an “Automated Call System” for Westminster residents. This call system could be used for urgent road closings, Police matters in your neighborhood, or something as simple as a reminder that taxes are due. The Board is interested in knowing if this is something our taxpayers would be interested in. This service, even if implemented, would be optional and strictly used for Town matters to only the subscribed users. It should be noted that this service call could be in the form of an email, text to your phone, or a traditional phone call. Please call the Town Hall and voice your opinion.

CENSUS: In just a few short months it will be time to fill out your census cards. This information is extremely important to Westminster in how much money is provided by the State and Federal Government when the town is in need. Please remember that all of your family members in your care are to be counted even if they are students in college, family living abroad temporarily, or even in the process of moving but haven't yet.

BROADBAND OPPORTUNITY: The Town of Westminster has an opportunity to be part of the advertised State wide push to make available high speed internet to all Vermonters. Windham Regional Commission for Windham County, is in the process of creating a feasibility study on which households need a new broadband service or broadband service period. Please pay close attention to Town news because the survey will need to be filled out immediately when available in mid-February. Deadline will be in the third week of March for all surveys.

Any questions or to get on a call list for the survey, call the Town Manager.

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.

FINANCIAL FOCUS: DON'T PLAY POLITICS WITH YOUR PORTFOLIO

You're probably aware this is an election year. During the next several months, the candidates will discuss issues that should greatly interest you as a citizen. But as an investor, how concerned should you be with the results of the presidential and congressional elections?

Maybe not as much as you might think. At different times, the financial markets have performed well and poorly under different administrations and when different parties have controlled Congress. And after all the votes are counted, outcomes in the investment markets can be unpredictable. Consequently, you'll be helping yourself greatly by not making big moves in your portfolio in anticipation of new legislation or political moves down the line.

Of course, that's not to say that nothing emerging from Washington could ever have an impact on your investment decisions. For example, if a future president and Congress decide to change the capital gains tax rate, it could affect some of your choices, such as which stocks and stock-based mutual funds you should buy, and how long you should hold them.

Overall, though, your investment results will ultimately depend on actions you can take, including these:

- **Making changes for the right reasons** – While the results of an election may not be a good reason to make changes in your investment portfolio, other factors can certainly lead you to take steps in this direction. For one thing, as you get closer to retirement, you may want to shift some – though certainly not all – of your investment dollars from more growth-oriented vehicles to more conservative ones. Conversely, if you decide, well in advance, that you might want to retire earlier than you originally thought, you may need to invest more aggressively, being aware of the increased risk involved.

- **Following a long-term strategy** – In pretty much all walks of life, there are no shortcuts to success – and the same is true with investing. You need to follow a long-term strategy based on your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon, and you need the patience and per-

severance to keep investing in all markets – up, down and sideways.

- **Avoiding mistakes** – Many people think of an investment mistake as failing to “get in on the ground floor” of some company that ultimately grew to huge proportions. But it's pretty hard to become an early investor in companies like these, many of which start out as privately held businesses without any stockholders. Furthermore, companies with shorter track records can be much more unpredictable investments.

However, you do want to avoid some real mistakes, such as chasing “hot” stocks. By the time you hear about them, they may already be cooling off, and they might not even be appropriate for your needs. Another mistake: failing to diversify your portfolio. If you only own one type of asset, such as growth stocks, you could take a big hit during a market downturn. Spreading your dollars over a wide range of investments can help lower your risk exposure. (However, diversification by itself can't guarantee a profit or protect against all losses.)

After Election Day, regardless of the outcome,

you can help keep your portfolio on track by not playing politics with it.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.



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Or just stop in.

Bobcat Tracks

by Alma Beals, Vermont Master Gardener and Naturalist

On Christmas Eve, my grandson and his girlfriend stopped at my house and spotted a bobcat in front of my house. This is the fourth time in the past couple of years that a bobcat has been seen in my yard very close to the house. Since the males and females look alike, I will refer to these sightings as a male. Now I am wondering if he is the same one and if he is a resident rather than just passing through.

Bobcats are solitary except in February or March when they breed. Each bobcat requires a square mile as his territory. In thinking of the habitat, my place is quite open with a wooded ravine behind my house and a heavily wooded area across the interstate that I hope he is not crossing. If any of you reading this have seen a bobcat near exit 5, please let me know.

Christmas morning found me outside looking at tracks. Not having snowed for a few days, my yard was crisscrossed with cat and dog tracks but could I tell which ones belonged to the bobcat? Dog tracks were easy to eliminate because dogs have claws that show with every footprint while cats have retractable claws that don't show.

Now it was deciding whether I was seeing house cat or bobcat tracks. A house cat has slightly smaller prints than the two and a quarter inch prints of a bobcat. They both show four toes and the pad but many times snow conditions are not ideal for tracks. During most of the winter, tracks don't usually have much detail if the snow is dry and fluffy or if the tracks have been melted by the sun into larger shapes.

I realized how little I actually know about tracks when I started researching. One book I refer to continually is "Natural Curious" by Mary Holland. Mary tells us that field guides group animals by the way they move and leave track patterns as well as giving individual track dimensions. Tracks are grouped as walkers and trotters, pacers, bounders and lopers.

Members of the cat family such as bobcats and lynx and members of the deer family such as white-tailed deer and moose are walkers. They all walk on their toes, with their hind feet "direct registering" which means their hind feet land where the front feet were placed, making two tracks look like one. This is the first time I have run into that expression.

Members of the dog family such as red and gray fox and coyote usually trot which is a faster form of walking. They move diagonally opposite limbs simultane-

ously, with the hind feet direct registering (I can't get used to that expression). This gait produces a relatively straight line. A sub-category of walkers and trotters are those that are flat-footed, such as porcupine, which walk on the soles of its inward-turning feet, leaving a pigeon-toed track pattern.

Raccoons are pacers. They move both limbs on one side and then both limbs on the other side.

This results in paired tracks. Pacers usually have heavy bodies and short legs, are flat-footed and walk on the soles of their feet.

Bounders are animals such as mice, voles, squirrels and rabbits whose hind feet land simultaneously in front of the smaller front feet. The front feet of bounders that climb trees such as squirrels are often placed side by side. The hind feet of rabbits which are not tree climbers are usually placed diagonally, one slightly ahead of the other.

Most of the weasel family such as weasels, mink, martens, fishers and otters are lopers. They move like bounders, but lopers' feet each land independently and direct register, with the four feet creating a diagonally paired set of tracks.

When I first saw the bobcat in my yard a couple years ago I compared a bobcat, which is common, to a Canada lynx, which is a state endangered and federally threatened species that you are not apt to see. What to



look for in a bobcat are ear tufts that are not prominent, longer tail that is black tipped with white beneath, small feet, shorter facial ruff, less uniform coat color with white under the belly and chest, dark brown along the back of the hind legs and tracks that are just over 2 inches wide.

A Canada lynx will have ear tufts of 1 inch or longer, shorter and completely black tipped tail, large feet, longer facial ruff, uniform coat color, buff-colored hind feet, tracks 3 to 4 inches wide and a greater space between the eyes. Really? If I'm close enough to see the space between the eyes, I'm out of here!

In photos, clockwise from top, a bobcat; bobcat tracks in mud; and a trail of bobcat tracks in the snow.

SEVED INFORMATION SESSIONS IN WESTMINSTER

Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Strategies invite Westminster residents to attend a local information session. Two will be offered: February 5th, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Institute and February 8th, 10:30 a.m. at the Westminster West Library.

SeVEDS takes on the shared economic challenges we face as a region. We focus on improving wages, growing businesses and jobs through a proactive approach guided by the 2019 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDS) plan.

Municipal funding from communities is critical, and deployed in three ways. It provides seed funding leveraged to secure new federal and state support (most require matching dollars). Municipal funding underwrites staff: they develop programs, do research and planning, and secure resources for our programs and for other organizations. Finally, municipal funding directly funds programs and projects.

This region has a shrinking population which is leading to workforce shortages, schools closing, and retiring business owners.

To keep young people here SeVEDS funds the paid Internship Program connecting college students with career experiences at employers like Jamaica Cottage Shop, Chroma, Meeting Waters YMCA, and the Windham County State's Attorney. 25 percent of interns are hired to stay on as employees.

SeVEDS also funds Southern VT Young Professionals which does monthly networking events, financial and homebuyer trainings, and engages over 500 young individuals working to build a life here.

But we need to start even younger. Last year a Coordinator was hired for the high school Pipelines and Pathways Program (P3), thanks to municipal dollars that helped raise state and private funds. Since September, P3 brought kids on 10 field trips

to employers, taught classes in every high school, and engaged 350 students across the county.

Still to come this year - the Sophomore Summit, more workplace visits, speakers and career-readiness trainings, all available to the 69 Westminster students at BFS. A collaboration with the Compass School is also taking shape for the spring.

Career education can ensure every child graduates understanding their options, finding affordable pathways to access opportunity, and possessing the skills to begin that journey.

Working with businesses is a big part of what we do. Last year we helped 56 businesses stay, start or grow here. We ran a succession planning workshop with 16 entrepreneurs. We've secured USDA dollars for a Windham loan fund - MELP. If your business needs capital or technical assistance, call us.

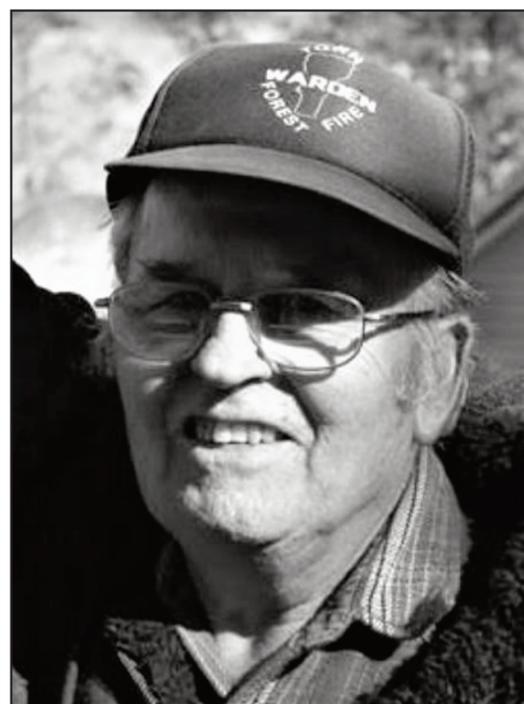
Last but not least, towns and non-profits asked for help for local economic initiatives so we launched the Southern Vermont Economy Project and Community Facilities Assistance Program which provides technical assistance and trainings on topics from housing to grant-writing, from organizing local broadband improvements to project management skill-building.

SeVEDS began as a grassroots organization affiliate of the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation, committed to creating a positive economic future for the region.

BDCC is Windham's regional development corporation, one of 12 serving every part of the state, state funded to allow for one staffer, mainly tasked to business development. BDCC employs the staff that do the work of SeVEDS.

For more information, visit www.brattleborodevelopment.com.

THANK YOU FROM THE ROBERT HAAS FAMILY



The Bob Haas family thanks all who have supported us through this sad time of Bob's passing. We can't begin to name all of you who sent condolences, food, and flowers, or all of you who gave us hugs at the celebration of his life gathering.

Our special thanks goes to the Westminster Fire and Rescue Department for being with us from the beginning and providing the fire house and food for the celebration.

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 February 4 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 December: 30

Number of calls through January 20th: 29

Number of calls calendar year to Date: 29

Number of calls fiscal year to date: 259

Association Meeting: The Westminster Fire and Rescue Association met for their regular meeting January 7th with President Greg Holton presiding. There were 20 members present and 8 members excused.

Emergency responses: We have had another busy month in January with 29 total calls by the 24th. The breakdown goes like this: 14 rescue/medical calls; two motor vehicle accidents; three alarm activations; four mutual aid calls, two to Putney, one to Bellows Falls and one to Walpole; one CO detector sounding; one power line

down; one psych emergency; one assist police; two lift assists.

Calendar year calls: 2019 was a busy year with 428 total calls. We had 42 mutual aid calls to several different towns. The following is a breakdown of where and how many times we were called to assist other towns: Putney eight, Walpole seven, Bellows Falls seven, Springfield seven, Brattleboro three, North Walpole two, Alstead two, Grafton two, Newfane one, Westmoreland one and Athens one.

In addition to the mutual aid calls there were 144 fire incidents and 242 medical incidents.

Ice Skating Rink: The ice skating rink on the East Side of the Westminster Central School will be ready for use soon and maybe is now. Some volunteers of the Westminster Fire Department are busy flooding the area. The rink is open to the public.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS FOR SALE: Anyone want to buy a fire extinguisher? We have them for sale and there are 4 sizes available. See the Chief or stop by the fire station for more information if interested. The Westminster Fire & Rescue Association welcomes dona-

tions throughout the year from anyone wishing to remember a loved one or a friend.

Donations received in January: Ruth Grandy, Norma Pucci and John Rais.

Donation in memory of Bob Haas: Paul Millman.

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.westminster-fireandrescue.org.

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

Aged in Vermont

Westminster Cares, Inc.

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM THE TOP SCAMS OF 2019 - PART 1

In 2019, Vermonters filed 5,447 scam reports with the Attorney General's Consumer Assistance Program. As old scams persisted, new scams emerged. According to the Attorney General's list of the most commonly reported scams of the year, the Social Security number phishing scam surpassed the IRS scam, knocking it out of the top spot as the most common scam.

Vermonters filed 1,466 reports of the Social Security number phishing scam. Scam reports total more than 40 percent of all contacts CAP had with consumers in 2019, making scams one of the most common consumer issues affecting Vermonters.

1. Social Security number phishing

Scam: An attempt to obtain your Social Security number by posing as the Social Security Administration or a business. They may try to get access to your Social Security number by telling you it has been compromised or stolen, or that it has expired.

How to spot: If Social Security (or any official agency) wanted to contact you, they would not call to ask for your personal information, especially your Social Security number, over the phone. These agencies mail communications and would never threaten you for information or payment over the phone.

What to do: Be wary responding to unsolicited contacts and never provide personal information to unknown contactors, especially over the phone.

2. Computer tech support

Scam: A phone call or pop-up message on your computer claiming to be from Microsoft, Windows, or another well-known tech company. They will say there is a virus or other problem with your computer and try to persuade you to give them remote access to resolve the issue. They may also ask for immediate payment for their services.

How to spot: Legitimate customer service information usually won't display as a pop-up. Companies like Microsoft, Apple, and Google do not call you to notify you of malware on your computer. What to do: Never provide remote access to your computer to a stranger or click links from an unknown sender in an e-mail or pop-up message. If you get a call from "tech support," hang up. Also, be careful when searching for tech sup-

port numbers online. Some users have been scammed by calling illegitimate numbers for legitimate companies.

3. Phony relationships

Scam: There is a wide variety of phony relationship scams. Sometimes, the scammer pretends to be someone you know, like a love interest, friend, relative, or even a religious leader. They reach out to you online or on the phone, claiming to need money.

How to spot: They ask you to send money immediately, often in the form of wire transfers or gift cards.

What to do: If they claim to be someone you know, call the person using a verified phone number. If you receive a suspicious email, be sure to double-check the email address. If you're feeling suspicious, get the real story and talk to someone you trust. Cut off communication with the scammer.

4. Spoofing/reflector calls

Scam: Spoofed calls come from a number that appears local to Vermont. But in reality, the scammer is often calling from overseas, and "spoofing" the number to make it show up on caller ID as a neighbor so you will be inclined to answer. Similar to spoofed calls, reflector calls appear on your caller ID as your own number. Often, reflector calls begin with a scammer claiming to be from Microsoft—they will ask you to pay them immediately over the phone to protect your computer data.

How to spot: The call comes from a number you don't recognize or your own number, and can happen repeatedly at all hours. If they claim to be from Microsoft, remember that nobody would call you to say that your data has been breached or your IP address compromised. They especially wouldn't ask you to pay immediately using Google Play gift cards or your credit card.

What to do: Ignore the call. Don't call the number back – chances are the person you are calling has nothing to do with the scam. Never give personal or financial information to an unverified person or service that contacts you.

(Part 2 of this article, covering scams 5 to 7, will be in the next issue of the Gazette.)

WESTMINSTER WARNING FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Town of Westminster

WARNING FOR ANNUAL MEETING

TOWN FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER 3, TOWN OF WESTMINSTER,

and TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

2020

The legal voters of the Town Fire District Number 3, Town of Westminster and Town School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Bellows Falls Union High School Auditorium in Westminster, Vermont on **Saturday February 29, 2020** at ten o'clock in the morning (10:00A.M.) to take action on the Articles following Article 1.

The meeting will be recessed to the Westminster Institute, East Parish, Westminster, Vermont to meet at eight o'clock in the forenoon (8:00 A.M.) on **Tuesday, March 3, 2020** for the consideration of Article 1, by Australian Ballot. The polls shall remain open until seven o'clock in the evening (7:00 P.M.) at which time the meeting will recess to meet at the Bellows Falls Union High School Auditorium at eight o'clock in the evening (8:00 P.M.) on **Tuesday, March 3, 2020** to consider any remaining articles, if necessary.

Article 1: To choose all Town Fire District Number 3 Officers, and Town Officers by Australian ballot, Tuesday, March 3, 2020 from eight o'clock in the forenoon (8:00 A.M.) until seven o'clock in the evening (7:00 P.M.).

Article 2: *To hear the reports of the Town Fire District # 3 and to take action thereupon.*

Article 3: To see whether Town Fire District Number 3 shall authorize and instruct its Prudential Committee and Treasurer to borrow money, if necessary, to meet current expenses, on the credit of the District, in anticipation of the collection of taxes and/or the receipt of any State or Federal Funds.

Article 4: To see whether Town Fire District Number 3 shall raise and appropriate money to pay the indebtedness and other general expenses of the District for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021, and if so, how much?

Article 5: To transact any other business proper to be brought before the Town Fire District Number 3 meeting.

Article 6: *To hear the reports of the Town Officers and to take action thereupon.*

Article 7: To see if the voters of the Town of Westminster will raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,232,411 to pay the indebtedness of the Town, repair highways and pay general expenses of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021.

Article 8: To see if the voters of the Town of Westminster will raise and appropriate the sum of \$130,000 for the Town Highway Equipment Reserve Fund.

Article 9: To see if the voters of the Town of Westminster will raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 for the Bridge Rehabilitation Reserve Fund.

Article 10: To see if the voters of the Town of Westminster vote pursuant to VSA 32, section 3832, paragraph 7, to exempt from taxation for a period of 5 years, the real estate of the Westminster Aqueduct Society.

(continued on Page 7)

REMEMBRANCES

Dawn G. Wright
April 1957 – January 2020
James Sears Jr
June 11, 1936 - January 14, 2020
Lois Freihoffer
January 6, 1933 – January 23, 2020
Dewanda Gokey
March 3, 1947 - January 22, 2020

SOUPER WEDNESDAYS

The Souper Wednesdays have gotten off to a great start with delicious selections of two or three soups each week. Soups will continue throughout February, March and April and are offered every Wednesday from 12 to 2 p.m. at the First Congregational Church on Route 5.

Many community members have stopped by to sit and catch up with neighbors or pick up soup for take-out.

Any community member interested in either making a soup for one of the weeks or sponsoring the cost of making a soup should contact Doug Smith at 376-8979.

Soup is by donation. Everyone is welcome!

BUSINESS STARTING BASICS & FREE TAX PREP HELP

SEVCA will offer a two hour workshop, The Basics of Starting a Business. This free workshop will be offered at both our Westminster and Brattleboro locations. Community members are invited to register for any one of the six workshop dates:

Brattleboro- 1/22, 2/12, or 3/11 from 2-4pm at 15 Grove St, Brattleboro; OR

Westminster- 1/23, 2/13, or 3/12 from 10am - 12noon at 91 Buck Drive, Westminster Vermont.

Please call Denise at SEVCA to register, 802-722-4575 or 800-464-9951.

Also, SEVCA will offer free tax assistance to eligible VT and NH community members whose 2019 income is less than \$66,000. Appointments will be held 1/27- 4/9. Appointments fill up quickly. Available sites include Westminster, Windsor, and White River Junction. Call today to make an appointment, 802-722-4575 or 800-464-9951.

Additional NH free tax prep sites can be located by calling 2-1-1 or going to <http://nhtaxhelp.org/>.

WHS DONATION THANKS

The Westminster Historical Society thanks the following generous donors.

In memory of Bob Haas: Alice Caggiano, Virginia Lisai, Alison Latham, Michael and Linda Fawcett, Chris Bergman and Spring Knowler, Phyllis Daley, Don and Donna Dawson, Susan Harlow, James and Nancy McCauliffe.

Other donations: Alison Bigwood, Evie Lovett and Jeff Shumlin.

TRANSITIONING TOWNS DISCUSSION IN PUTNEY

Author Rob Hopkins is the founder of the international Transition Towns movement from which the vital community group, Transition Putney, emerged. Hopkins' new book, *From What is to What if: Unleashing the Power of Imagination to Create the Future We Want*, asks why true creative, positive thinking is in decline. He asserts that it's more important now than ever, and suggests ways our communities can revive and reclaim it.

Join Simon Renault and Paul Levasseur to discuss the theories and stories of *From What Is to What If*, while giving space for participants to share the ideas and feelings triggered by the reading.

Since it is a call for imagination and an invitation to envision a better future, a part of each group sessions will include visioning exercises and discussions.

Paul Levasseur 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.

Simon Renault moved from France to Vermont 12 years ago and ran Sun Hill Farm in Putney for 10 years. He has been involved in starting and supporting local initiatives. He was inspired to launch this book group because he is passionate about issues of sustainability and community citizen engagement.

10 years ago, Simon and Paul organized a book group of *The Transition Handbook* by Rob Hopkins. The enthusiasm and conversation that ensued led to the creation of Transition Putney.

The book group will gather at the Putney Public Library on Tuesday, Feb. 11 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Copies of the book have been both donated to the library and made available to participants for purchase from the organizers at cost by Chelsea Green Publishers.

Putney Public Library is located at 55 Main Street in Putney.

COMMUNITY BOARD GAME NIGHT IN WESTMINSTER WEST

Join the Westminster West Public Library for Community Board Game Night! The first Thursday of the month from Feb. 6 to May 7, teens and adults are invited to join their fellow board gamers for a fun night of strategy and community!

Bring your own favorite game or play one of ours. Multiple game tables will be available.

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.

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.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CROCKPOT SUPPER

On Saturday, Feb. 8, the First Congregational Church will hold a Crockpot supper. Served from 5 to 7 p.m., bread, coffee, tea, milk and dessert are included. The cost is \$11 for adults, \$5 for children, children under 5 eat free.

A reminder what the Crockpot Supper is: It is a wonderful buffet of all kinds of foods that people have cooked in crockpots. What the First Congregational Church does is arrange for some people to make a Crockpot meal and bring it to the church.

Then the public can come and pay to eat a supper of some of the most amazing dishes from people in our area. From chilis and stews to meat balls and baked beans to vegetarian entrees such as macaroni and cheese.

If you're interested in providing a crockpot for the supper, please call Doug Smith at 376-8979.

ADVANCE CARE PLANNING WORKSHOP AT RFPL

A free question and answer workshop on the basics of Advance Care Planning will be offered by Don Freeman of Brattleboro Area Hospice on February 8 from 10:30 a.m. – 12 noon at the Rockingham Library. If a loved one has a serious accident or illness and couldn't communicate, do you know what care h/she would want? What if it were you? What would you want? Heart rending decisions must be made. It's an act of caring when people have discussed and mapped out their wishes ahead of time.

Learn how an Advance Care Directive can help. Understand the key information you need to document. At the close of this workshop you should know what you need to complete an Advanced Care Directive, with your questions answered and your next steps planned.

Please call to RSVP Anne Dempsey at Rockingham Library 463-4270 or e-mail programming@rockinghamlibrary.org. The Library is located at 65 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls and is wheelchair accessible.

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., Feb 2, Worship and Communion, 10 a.m. Tues. Feb 4, Women's Fellowship Meeting, Bring a sandwich, hostess will serve beverage and dessert. Wed., Feb 5, 12, 19 & 26 noon to 2 p.m. Souper Wednesday Saturday, Feb. 8, 5-7 p.m. Crock-pot Supper. Come celebrate Valentine's Day. Sun., Feb 9, Worship, 10 a.m. Sun., Feb 16, Worship, 10 a.m. Sun., Feb 23, 10 a.m., Worship. Wed., Feb 26, Ash Wednesday Service, 6 p.m.

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. www.walpoleunitarian.org. First Sunday of each month is Circle Sunday with visiting presenters.

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 Feb. 17 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:
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Alma Beals
Joyce Sullivan
Jennifer Skrocki

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**Please Note:
The Deadline for
the March Issue of the
Westminster Gazette is
Wednesday, Feb. 19**

**Publication Date is
Wednesday, Feb. 26**

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

A WESTMINSTER SAMPLER: WINDOWS ON THE PAST

By Jessie Haas

Sometimes the mysteries embodied in a historic artifact make us treasure them even more. We love what we can know and learn, but time and space stand between us and the full details that make the object what it is. That is certainly true of the Bradley Law Office windows, chosen by Obe Lisai as her favorite object in the Historical Society collection.

Obe says, "I discovered the beautiful colors in the law office windows while out walking our Golden Retriever Zephyra. I belong to a 'photo of the day' facebook group and was in search of a subject for that particular day's challenge: before and after edit. The light was just right as I walked by the law office and seeing the colors in the windows, I had found my shot. My edit? Cropping, enhancing the color just a bit and adding my signature.

"To see the colors for yourself, go on a sunny winter morning. The interior shades must be down. Come back in the summer when the law office is open and see what treasures are inside." To see Obe's photo go to the Westminster, Vt. Historical Society Facebook page.

What do we know about the law office? It was built on land given to William Czar Bradley's wife Sarah by her father Mark Richards (later a U.S. Congressman), who lived diagonally across from the Bradley house on the corner of Grout Avenue. The date of the building is possibly 1802, possibly a few years later. During this time Bradley's father, Stephen Rowe Bradley, was serving in the U.S. Senate. William Czar, only 20 when he passed the Vermont Bar, was newly married, caring for an adopted daughter and his own young half-siblings, who had recently lost their mother, while starting his practice. His official home was down at the bottom of Court House Hill, on his father's farm, but doubtless he spent many hours a day up at Stephen's new home at the corner of School Street. An office there, courtesy of his wealthy father-in-law, would have been a big help.

We do not know who designed and constructed the Law Office. It does strongly resemble the law office at Old Sturbridge Village, which suggests that it met the New England pattern for a village law office. The building is small, but the front room especially is filled with light, thanks to the 12-over-12 window sashes, closable by interior, sliding shutters.

The windows themselves may have been assembled locally, or purchased ready-made and fully assembled from someone in Massachusetts or Connecticut. They, or the glass for them, would likely have been shipped up the river by flatboat, and unloaded at the landing a little south and east of Court House Hill.

The glass is delicately colored, aqua and pale purple. This reflects two different methods of glassmaking. Acqua tints result from iron impurities in the sand used to make the glass. In the 1400s, the Venetians discovered that by adding a small amount of manganese to the glass they could clarify it, eliminating the blue coloration. What the Venetians didn't realize until many years later is that over time, manganese gradually turns purple as it's exposed to ultraviolet light.

How did the law office windows come to contain these two kinds of glass? Had both tints emerged during Bradley's time? Did he see those colors when he looked through these windows? The blue, probably yes. The purple, possibly not. The beauty of the windows is in part a product of longevity.

William Czar Bradley used that office off and on until 1858. There were long absences while he served in Congress, and in the northwoods of Maine, surveying the border with Canada. When he was home, which was permanently after his retirement from Congress in 1826, Bradley practiced out of this office, and also opened a law school there. Dormitory-style rooms in the Bradley house, next door, testify that there could be several students at one time. Bradley also partnered with a lawyer in Brattleboro, and spent much time in Newfane when the county court was in session. (Westminster ceased being the county seat in 1787, and the historic courthouse was torn down and recycled in 1806.)

Bradley turned the key on his office for the final time in 1858. The law office remained in the Bradley and Willard family until 1998, when it was willed to the State of Vermont. That October the Historical Society participated in the first opening of the office in over 100 years. Members worked hard to sort and clean in the law office; the state took all documents of value, and released the Law Office to the custody of the Historical Society. It remains one of our most complete windows on the past of Westminster, Vermont, and the United States, valuable for what it tells us, and for the many details upon which it remains silent.

WARNING ARTICLES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

- Article 11:** To see if the voters of the Town of Westminster vote pursuant to VSA 32, section 3840, to exempt from taxation for a period of 5 years, the real estate of the Westminster Fire District # 3.
- Article 12:** To see if the voters of the Town of Westminster vote pursuant to VSA 32, section 3832, paragraph 7, to exempt from taxation for a period of 5 years, the real estate of the Westminster Recreational Club, Inc.
- Article 13:** To see if the voters of the Town of Westminster will raise and appropriate the sum of \$800 in addition to the sum (\$4,600) included in the budget proposed by the Selectboard making the total \$5,400, for the support of the Westminster Gazette.
- Article 14:** To see if the voters of the Town of Westminster will raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 in addition to the sum (\$2,500) included in the budget proposed by the Selectboard making the total \$3,000, for the support of Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) to assist Westminster in responding to the emergency needs of the community and providing all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need..
- Article 15:** Shall the Town of Westminster vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$1,000 for the support of Senior Solutions (Council of Aging for Southeastern Vermont, Inc.) to provide services to the aging and the disabled residents of the Town.
- Article 16:** Shall the voters in the Town of Westminster appropriate the sum of \$7,500 to be raised by taxation to support of the cost of operation and maintenance of the Westminster Institute and Butterfield Library?
- Article 17:** To see if the voters of the Town of Westminster will raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for the support of the Westminster Historical Society.
- Article 18:** Shall the Town of Westminster vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$2,500 for the support of Greater Falls Connections to provide substance abuse prevention programs to residents of the Town.
- Article 19:** Shall the voters in the town of Westminster appropriate the sum of \$9,534.00 to be raised by taxes for the support of Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Strategies (SeVEDS) to provide workforce and economic coordination services to the Windham Region.
- Article 20:** To see if the voters of the Town of Westminster will raise and appropriate the sum not to exceed \$10,000 to create a probability study for the possible purchase of a parcel of land with a house & a commercial building for the purpose of sand & gravel processing (approx.. 154,000 cu.yds.)
- Article 21** To see if the voters of the Town of Westminster will raise and appropriate the sum of \$170,000 to fix approximately 600' of Town Road on Henwood Hill with payments equaling \$37,500 or less per year for 5 years
- Article 22** To see if the voters of the Town of Westminster will approve formation of a School Advisory Committee consisting of five (5) members to be elected by the town meeting, with two members to serve three year terms and three members to serve two year terms, to have responsibility and authority to review, develop, and recommend for approval the following items in regard to educational programs housed in publicly owned facilities and operated at public expense for the purpose of educating pre-kindergarten through grade 8 students who are children of Westminster residents:
- Amendments to the Articles of Agreement of the Windham Northeast Union Elementary School District
 - Governance structures for the operation of educational programs.
 - Policy, budget, personnel, reconfiguration of grade levels, school closure and capital decisions necessary for the operation of the schools.
- Article 23:** If formation of a School Advisory Committee is approved, to elect committee members.
- Article 24:** To transact any other proper business to be brought before the Town of Westminster meeting.
- Article 25:** *To hear the reports of the Westminster Town School District Officers for the last year and to take action thereon*
- Article 26:** To transact any other proper business to be brought before the Town School District Meeting

TOWN OF WESTMINSTER

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Susan Harlow; Vice Chair
Kevin Hughes; Clerk
Craig Allen
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Allen Brothers Oil Company, started out in 2001 primarily to supply the Allen Bro's greenhouses and a few area farms. As word spread, Allen Brothers store customers began asking if they could get oil, and so began the business.

In 2004, Tim turned the business into a full service heating company offering pre-buy and budget plans, and partnered with the State to offer fuel assistance/crisis fuel deliveries, as well as 24 hour emergency service calls.

We now have three delivery trucks, three service vehicles, and a client base of over 3500 customers, serving Cheshire, Windham and Windsor counties.

Tim and Stacey's oldest son Matthew is doing an excellent job of running our service department and is committed to making sure every customer has a safe and efficient heating system.

We are very excited about the future of the company, and have a wonderful staff in place to insure that all of our customers are kept warm, and receive the best possible service we can provide.

We continue to offer low pricing, as well as small minimum deliveries, and we strive to support those in need in any way we can.

Thank you to all our customers for your business, trust and success of our company. We hope you have a blessed 2020!

For more information visit us @allenbrosoil.com or call us directly 802 722-3331.

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Thank you from everyone at Lawrence & Lober Electric, Inc.

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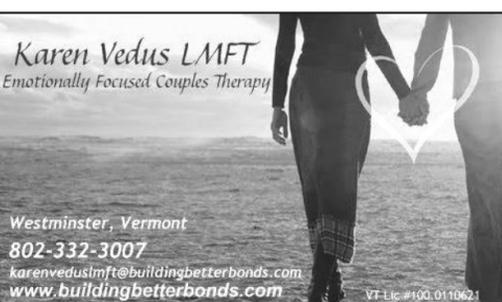
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