



CAROL BAZIN RETIRES FROM KURN HATTIN

After 35 years of dedicated service to Kurn Hattin Homes, Mrs. Carol Bazin has retired. Carol and her husband, Real, were local farmers when they were approached with a special opportunity—a farm manager position for Real and a houseparent to the farm boys position for Carol. On April 6, 1987, they began their new lives. Then after three years, she became an assistant residential director.

“We never regretted our decision,” Bazin says. “Many changes have occurred over the years, but Kurn Hattin has remained true to its core values—caring for the children and making a difference. Knowing that the work we were doing helped others, teaching children that there is a better way, giving them the tools to make good decisions and take care of themselves, and watching them grow are what kept us here all these years.”

“I enjoyed driving the bus and chaperoning the children on off-campus excursions to Home Olympics, music and 8th grade class trips, and the Heritage Tour to Washington D.C. Being able to watch them have these great opportunities, perform with pride, have fun, and learn history and other information was amazing. It was hard work at times—setting boundaries and limits—but the children were prepared, used their social skills and were proud to be from Kurn Hattin.”

When asked what she would like to impart on current and future staff, Mrs. Bazin replied, “Be supportive while setting clear limits and holding everyone



accountable. Kurn Hattin Homes has expectations and guidelines that need to be followed. They were written and are followed to keep everyone safe and let the children know that we are a staff that cares.”

Carol chuckled, “When I started I was called ‘Kurn Hattin Mom.’ Now I’m ‘Kurn Hattin Gram.’ While Real will continue as farm manager for a while longer, there are other things in my life that are calling me now. Kurn Hattin Homes will always remain dear to me and it has been a very rewarding career.”

Many well wishes from staff, alumni, and students were shared to congratulate Mrs. Bazin on her retire-

ment. One of the alumni stated, “You have helped so many children better themselves. Thank you for helping me as a kid. I had difficulty at times and you were always so understanding.” The residential staff gifted Carol two lilac bushes—one to be planted on campus so that she will always be a part of KHH and one to be planted at Carol’s home so that KHH will always be a part of her. Long-time houseparent, Mrs. Karen Rumrill, in her speech stated that you could always count on Carol.

She was always available and willing to assist. Assistant Executive Director, Sue Kessler said, “Carol’s dedication to KHH, her commitment to our children and to our staff have been unwavering through all kinds of challenges. Her impact has been enormous and we are all better from having had the pleasure of knowing and working with her.”

Angela Hooper, Class of 1999, who came to speak in person, said, “I will forever be thankful to you and Kurn Hattin. She (Mrs. Bazin) made me feel whole. I was given the chance to have a better life. I didn’t know I would have the opportunity and how grateful I would be.” The children’s choir sang, “You are the Reason” to Mrs. Bazin. The entire farewell ceremony was heartfelt and beautiful.

Congratulations on your retirement Mrs. Bazin!

In photo, Angela Hooper and Carol Bazin.

JOEY JACQUES WINS JR. IRON CHEF TITLE

On April 2nd Joey Jacques of Bellows Falls Union High School competed in the Junior Iron Chef VT competition and took home the Mise en Place award cooking by himself. His winning dish was Portobello Katsu over a Sweet Potato Curry and Coconut Rice.

Jr. Iron Chef VT is a statewide cooking competition for middle and high school students. Teams are invited to create healthy vegetarian dishes using seasonal ingredients and show off skills formed in after-school clubs at their local schools. The program was started in 2008 and has grown extremely popular, with over 5,000 students participating over the years.

Due to a winter storm, the March competition date was postponed. Because of rescheduling, Joey’s teammate Kevin Patterson could not compete, so Joey Jacques had to cook solo—a rarity at Jr Iron Chef, where teams are usually three or more students.

However, cooking solo did not dampen the team’s abilities. In fact, Joey was able to win one of the three awards up for grabs at the competition. Quite a remarkable achievement!

Joey had put quite a bit of preparation time into the event. He and Kevin had met eight times with their coach Jake Gallogly, the Nutrition Assistant at BFUHS. Both students had significant experience cooking with their families at home, but both also mentioned the techniques they had learned under Jake’s guidance. Joey shared, “I 100% learned new techniques and vocabulary here. Julianne, mince, mise en place. Learning how to do things correctly is a big thing here”.

It makes sense, then, that Joey took home the Mise En Place Award!

Coach Jake Gallogly remarked that “watching Joey cook was pretty awesome. I don’t know if he noticed or not, but all of the judges and many of the coaches kept coming up to me and asking if he was really competing alone. They were really impressed.”

So Jake wasn’t completely surprised when they announced Joey’s name as the winner. But the extra reward came when the captain of the judges told Jake, “his dish was by far the best, and they’d pay for it in a restaurant!”

Jr. Iron Chef helps build confidence in students and offers them a unique opportunity.



Jake reflects, “Jr. Iron Chef is a great program. All three times that I have had the opportunity to coach a team, I feel that the kids walked away with more confidence in the kitchen. Cooking aside, I think some of the students that participate in the program aren’t always involved in competitive sports, so showing up to the expo center with all the energy and the big crowd of people there has to be exciting. Everyone needs a few butterflies in their stomach once in a while!”

GARDEN TOUR FUNDRAISER JULY 8 & 9

Please Join us for the Westminster Garden Tour on Saturday and Sunday, July 9 and 10 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days. Tickets are good for both days.

This year’s Tour will again feature the stunning gardens of Gordon and Mary Hayward. Three additional lovely Westminster gardens will be on the self-guided tour: Cheryl Charles and Family, Obe and Lonnie Lisai, and the Westminster Center School’s vegetable garden.

Attendees will also be able to take a meditative walk in a stone labyrinth and attend demonstrations such as “Container Gardening” and “Saplings: Sculpting, Bending and Weaving.”

On Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m. the William Czar Bradley Law Office will be open for visitors and in the Town Hall an exhibit titled “O! Horrid Scene,” about the Westminster Massacre will be open.

Another beautiful quilt has been donated for our Raffle by Ann Ashcroft. The Raffle will have many other wonderful prizes as well such as an overnight stay at the Grafton Inn, which includes a gift certificate for the Phelps Barn Inn and breakfast.

Lunch and refreshments will be available under the tents at the Hayward’s. Tickets will go on sale in early June. The Tour is held rain or shine and tickets are good for both days.

Please support our sponsors who make this event possible: Faith’s Toyota/Ford; Mascoma Bank; Silver Forest; 802 Credit Union; Cota and Cota; Savings Bank of Walpole and C & S Wholesale Grocers.

Proceeds from this event go to support the programs and services of Westminster Cares whose mission is: Creating opportunities for seniors and adults with disabilities to live with dignity and independence in the community.



Tickets are available for purchase during the event. To purchase tickets before the event go to: www.westminstercares.org and like us on Facebook for updates on the Garden Tour.

Our Monthly Community Newspaper July 2022 Vol. 18 No. 7

Westminster Gazette

Town of Westminster
PO Box 147
Westminster, VT
05158

DELIVER TO ADDRESSEE OR
CURRENT RESIDENT

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

**COVID-19 ANTIGEN TESTS
AND N95 MASKS ARE AVAIL-
ABLE TO OLDER ADULTS IN
OUR COMMUNITY. PLEASE
CONTACT DONNA IN THE
WESTMINSTER CARES OF-
FICE @ (802) 722-3607.**

BRENNAN NEW SEVCA CEO

Southeastern Vermont Community Action’s Board of Directors has named Kevin Brennan the agency’s new Executive Director.

Brennan’s background in program development, proven financial management, and PhD focused on the social foundations of education will help the agency to improve programs as well as internal operations at SEVCA. “Kevin brings a terrific blend of experienced leadership, an understanding of our communities and a deep commitment to SEVCA’s mission,” said Tom Dougherty, president of SEVCA’s board of directors. “We are looking forward to working with him, our dedicated staff and our many partners to make real and lasting improvements in the lives of individuals and families across Southeastern Vermont.”

Brennan had been serving the agency in the role of COVID Projects Manager and was responsible for the development and oversight of the Vermont Everyone Eats program. Since accepting the position of Executive Director, he has focused on cultivating a deeper understanding of the challenges facing the agency while enhancing his understanding of potential program improvements in order to continue to provide high impact services to Windham and Windsor Counties.

"As a long-time resident of Windham County, one who has benefitted from SEVCA's assistance, I am proud to take on the role of Executive Director of the organization," says Brennan. "As we look to a post-pandemic future, I look forward to working with my SEVCA colleagues to build a renewed sense of connection within the organization, as well as with the people of the towns we serve. I look forward to building a stronger SEVCA!"


As the agency’s federal statute requires the input of those with lived experience informing program development and impact, the appointment of a local resident and prior beneficiary of SEVCA’s services as Executive Director is intended to strengthen its capacity to mobilize and support community action for improvement.

For information about all of SEVCA’s programs and services, and to get help to navigate and access the maze of available resources, visit <https://sevca.org/>, email sevca@sevca.org, or call (800) 464-9951.

All of SEVCA’s services, and the vast majority, if not all, of the services SEVCA will refer you to or help you access, are provided free-of-charge to all eligible individuals and households.

SEVCA is the Community Action Agency serving Windsor and Windham Counties that was incorporated in 1965 as part of the national War on Poverty launched by President Lyndon B. Johnson. SEVCA’s mission is to empower and partner with individuals and communities to alleviate the hardships of poverty, to provide opportunities to thrive, and to eliminate root causes of poverty and to eliminate root causes of poverty.





The Grammar School

Putney, Vermont



Nurturing a culture of kindness

- Preschool through 8th grade
- Academics, arts, sports, enrichment
- 60 acre campus & outdoor classrooms
- Bus service & financial aid available

Now in session in-person, 5 days per week!

www.thegrammarschool.org



Paul Lawrence
Travis Lawrence
PO Box 174
Westminster, VT 05158


Lawn Maintenance
Landscaping
Plowing
General Labor/Odd Jobs

802-463-9500
www.VermontHillside.com
theguys@vermonthillside.com

TAKE YOUR WEEKEND OFF!

COMPASS SCHOOL

LEARNING COMMUNITY DEMOCRACY DIRECTION



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

Come see what school can be

Generous Scholarships and Financial Aid Available

www.compass-school.org

20 YEARS

BEST SEPTIC


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

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

It's Tough to Beat the BEST

Jeff & Lisa Ruggiero
Owners

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



K. BEEBE, INC

CABLE TOOL WELL DRILLING
PUMP SERVICE
Plumbing and Heating

Established 1946
FULLY INSURED * ESTIMATES GIVEN
CALL 463-3725
51 SAXTONS RIVER ROAD
BELLOWS FALLS

ONE MEDICINE INTEGRATIVE HEALTH



Seroya Pauline Crouch ND
Welcoming New Patients!
Primary care, chronic illness & integrative mental health

Covered by most insurance!

Call 802-387-0124 www.onemedicine.org
126 Main St. Level 2 in Putney

BRENNAN




BUILDING EXCAVATION SEPTIC SYSTEMS

802 869 2866
www.BrennanConstructionVT.com

WESTMINSTER ENERGY GROUP

A Division of
WESTMINSTER FARMS

Top Soil
Compost
Dried Manure



Made in Vermont
By
Vermont Farmers
And
Vermont Cows

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

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

FRIENDS OF KURN HATTIN RENOVATE GYM

Kurn Hattin Homes’ 81-year old Wheeler Gymnasium has recently undergone some very needed renovations, thanks to the help of a few friends—Diana Bacon, Pat & Heidi Crotty, In Memory of Went and Bob Hubbard; and The Estate of John A. and Carol Hubbard.

The gymnasium was built in memory of Marcellus E. Wheeler, whose widow, Julia S. Wheeler, donated the funds for its construction.

The gymnasium floor was the primary project as it was showing signs of both surface and structural deterioration. Many schools opt for an entirely new gymnasium at this stage. Kurn Hattin Homes chose to replace the floor and make a few other renovations, as the building itself is sound and historically distinctive.



In addition to the floor, the chimney and the exterior were re-pointed and the lighting was upgraded. These upgrades have made a big difference and the children are enjoying their freshly redone facility.

They use the gym daily for P.E., sports, performances, trainings, and recreation.

These upgrades were vital to maintaining a safe, functional, and updated gymnasium which supports the transformation of the children in our care and the greater Kurn Hattin Homes’ community.

In photo, Kurn Hattin Homes’ children enjoying their newly renovated gymnasium.

NEWS FROM THE TOWN GARAGE: BRIDGE WORK & DETOURS

Hello Neighbors,

The Sabins bridge that spans the Saxtons River on 121 in North Westminster is undergoing major repair and will be closed starting June 27th, leaving Back Westminster Road the detour to Route 5 coming from Saxtons River, or Rockingham Hill Rd. to 103.

This bridge was built in 1940-1941 by the Work Projects Administration, which was a government program that put folks to work during bad economic times while maintaining self respect, a good work ethic and keeping skills sharp.

We started patching Back Westminster Road, we have more to do all over town and will try to get all we can before winter.

The road side mower will still be mowing grass and brush. If you choose to maintain your own road frontage, please put out a sign alerting us. A sign is not the same as maintenance, you have to keep weeds, grass, limbs and brush back away from the road.

It all looks different with 1 ½” of ice hanging on it bending it into the road. The grass also interferes with drainage and it all inhibits visibility. 1,948 deer were killed in 2020 by motorists, I could not find how many people were killed or injured.

The large yellow thing that I have been getting calls on is a road grader that is used to cut out pot-holes and wash boards on dirt roads (road surface imperfections that cause your chai latte to come out of your travel mug) and mixes the surface gravels back together, re-sloping and allowing for proper drainage.

Just about every vehicle in the area from tractor trailers and school buses to farm tractors and pleasure cars since 1974 have had tires on them from Cheever Tire Service in Bellows Falls, including three generations of my family.



After years of being in the construction business the economy took a down turn. Denis and his father were doing some construction work for Cheever, and his dad ended up buying the business and wa la the Albro family kept the name and started running the show on Valentine’s Day 1974, and a love affair that lasted some 48 years had begun.

After the second year in they hired Rusty Ball to drive a delivery truck as a fill in and worked there for years becoming Vice President of the company until his sudden death last April. In the beginning Denis

said he did not know much more than that tires took air. Today some 48 years later I ask about some 7.00 x 20 tires for a 48 Ford, he said no but he had some 6.50 x 18’s for a Model A but just wasn’t sure where they were.

I want to thank the Albro family for providing a greatly needed service to all the fleet owners, farmers and every day drivers for all these years.

Chuck and Crew

LIBRARY OFFERS CARDHOLDER PASSES TO MUSEUMS, PARKS & EVENTS

The Rockingham Free Public Library offers cardholders passes to museums, parks, and institutions throughout the state and in nearby communities.

Passes can be reserved up to a month in advance and provide free or greatly reduced admission. Each pass can be checked out by Library cardholders age 18 and older for three days at a time. The library recommends that all pass users call or check institution’s website before going. Some may require masks.

Passes available at the Library include:

Brattleboro Museum and Art Center (Brattleboro, VT - free admission for one household)

So. Vermont Natural History Museum (Marlboro, VT – free admission for 2 persons)

Fairbanks Museum (St. Johnsbury, VT - free admission for 2 adults & 2children up to age 17)

American Precision Museum (free for one family: 2 adults & 2 children)

Nature Museum at Grafton (Grafton, VT - free admission for one household)

Vermont's History Museum (Montpelier, VT - free admission for one household)

Vermont Historic Sites (Multiple Sites – free admission for 1 car with up to 8 people)

Vermont State Parks – Day use Only (free admission for 1 car with up to 8 people)

Vermont Institute of Natural Science

And many others.

For more information, call the Library at 802.463.4270.

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER CARES

The Westminster Cares Board of Directors met June 8th at the Westminster Institute with President Lori Larue presiding. The following board members attended: President Lori Larue, Regina Borden, Miriam Lanata, Pete Harrison, Pat Goodell, Don Dawson, and director Donna Dawson.

Unable to Attend: Kathy Elliott, Cindy Moses and Doug Oftedahl. Discussion items included planning for the upcoming garden tour fund raiser and the future of possibly restarting exercising classes and other in person events.

Programs & Services Provided in MAY

Meals-on-Wheels: One resident returned in May and two new recipients were added to the meals route. There are now 28 people registered for Meals-on-Wheels. This continues to be the most residents we’ve ever served. Those in need of weekend meals received two frozen meals each Friday.

Transportation Program: Currently giving rides on a case-by-case basis. Residents must be fully vaccinated and boosted to be eligible.

Healthy Aging Programs: Both of our Strong Living exercise classes, (Karen W. and Ronnie F.; instructors), are happening two times per week on Zoom. Gentle Yoga and Tai Chi classes are also being offered online as well. The Secrets of Healthy Aging Group was on hiatus through June.

Assistance and Referrals: Volunteers picked up prescriptions three times at local pharmacies and delivered them to residents.

Friendly Visiting – ON HOLD however, friendly phone check-ins are happening via the Director and our Community Nurse.

Medical Equipment – In May we loaned out 4 pieces of equipment and accepted 1 return. Also gave out disposable supplies to one person. Two pieces of equipment were donated to us.

Community Nurse Program – In May our Nurse consulted with clients by phone and and in-person on a case-by-case basis. She continued to advise the Board on protocols for re-opening. There were no Blood Pressure Clinics as Senior Lunches have been cancelled indefinitely.

Memorial and Honorary Donations Received through June 22nd:

In honor of Bill Smidutz from Robert Rhodes

In memory of Walt Allbee from Mildred Barry

In memory of Barbara Holton from Claudia and Dave Allbee

In memory of Laura Leonard from Nancy Dalzell

In memory of Joan Smidutz from Sandra Smidutz & Diane Ross; David & MaryJo Robbin

In memory of my mother, Pauline D. White, from Sharon Charuhas

In loving memory of Dorothy Allen from:

Advantage Truck Group

Claudia & David Allbee

Patricia Cutler

Lilla DeCoste

Barbara & Jack Fraunfelder

Susan J. Harlow

Judy and Pete Harrison

Marilyn Loomis

Laura Phillips

Savings Bank of Walpole

Kathleen & Wayne Urbaniak



Jessica Fuller
Financial Advisor
57 Main Street
Walpole, NH 03608
603-756-2513

edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

I Found the Nest

by Alma Beals, Vermont Master Gardener and Naturalist

I found the Baltimore Oriole nest. Each year a pair nest in the deciduous tree that overhangs my gazebo. I was sure they were in that same tree. Then I discovered the tightly woven hanging pouch nest when I was on my hands and knees weeding in my flowers. I had looked up when I heard the oriole calling and spotted the bird near the nest.

Orioles are more vocal than most birds, calling when entering and leaving the nest and singing off and on all day. They are easy to spot. Not only are they vocal but also very colorful. The adult males are black and orange with some being flaming orange and others yellowish orange. The female adults and juveniles are yellowish brown. The male juveniles won't get their bright orange until the fall of their second year.

The nest is always way out on the end of a drooping branch, hidden by leaves and safe from most predators because the branches wouldn't hold an animal like a raccoon. But crows and blue jays are enemies. Twice I have watched the orioles, with considerable noise, chasing off a couple blue jays. The pouch nest is attached by the rim to the drooping branch. The nest which consists of plant fibers, yarn, string, horsehair, and grapevine bark is lined with hair, wool and fine grasses.

The female builds the nest and lays usually 4 eggs that are pale gray to bluish white. The incubation period is about 12 days. If the eggs or young are destroyed, she won't nest again that year.

Orioles migrate to Mexico or the southern coast of the United States but usually winter in Central America or in northern South America. They arrive in our area when the apple blossoms bloom. They stay such a short time here, and how I miss hearing and seeing them when they leave. Orioles don't reside in the deep forest but usually can be seen



high up in leafy trees foraging for insects. Other than in the mating season, they are solitary.

Most birds keep their same name but from 1973 to 1995, the Baltimore oriole and the western Bullock's oriole were lumped together as the northern oriole. They returned to their original names when research showed that they didn't significantly interbreed.

They eat many insects like grasshoppers, beetles, wasps, bugs and spiders. They also eat dark-colored ripe berries and nectar. Many people feed them orange halves and grape jelly which I have never done. I do see them often on the suet. I remember that last year they arrived during a cold, wet spell



photos by Don Clark

and several of them worked the suet for many days until they could find some insects.

I have known friends who put out feeders like the hummingbird feeders a few days before they expect the orioles. Having arrived cold, tired and hungry from migrating at night, the first thing the orioles are interested in is finding a reliable food source and then stick to it. If they don't spot the feeders as soon as they arrive, they probably won't start using them later.

A WESTMINSTER SAMPLER: FIVE YEARS LATER A GRAND OPENING

Five years ago the Historical Society closed its museum upstairs in the town hall and dismantled the exhibits, to make way for construction. Just as that was finishing a worldwide pandemic struck which closed us down for a further two years.

We spent most of last summer putting together a new exhibit: "O! Horrid Scene!" (the quote is from Ira Allen) tells the story of the Westminster Massacre in detail and sets it within the context of the revolutionary ferment in the colonies, especially neighboring Massachusetts.

Now, finally, we're ready to let people in. Starting July 2nd, both the museum and the Bradley Law Office will be open Saturdays from 2-4 p.m. with ice-cream on July 2nd to celebrate and possibly with re-enactors. We'll be open through Labor Day weekend, and at other times by special appointment.

If you made a donation to the society in Bob Haas's memory, now is the time to come see the handsome modern museum case we purchased to honor him, and the French-made Revolutionary-era musket it houses. See the actual drum used by the militia 250 years ago, which sounded on our street the day after the Massacre, as angry armed men gathered and prepared to

overthrow the government. Get a good look at the beautiful and practical household implements women of that era used to make food and clothing, and men used to build houses and grow crops.

Pick yourself out in photos of past re-enactments, and if you are interested, sign up to participate as we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Massacre in 2025.

At the law office, our exhibit focuses less on the time-capsule aspect of that building, and shows it more as a work space—albeit an exceptionally beautiful one. This is a rare chance to see the interior of a law office of the early 1800s.

The offices of William Czar Bradley's more famous contemporaries, Henry Clay and Daniel Webster, have been preserved, but are not generally open to the public.

We plan to mount a third exhibit in the fall of this year, circumstances permitting, that will display artifacts from the 13,000 years of human history in this area that preceded the founding of the town we now call Westminster.

We all live in N'dakinna, the homeland of the Western Abenaki people. The thousands of years they

have lived here dwarfs the few hundred that this place has been organized as a town. By the end of the year, we intend that our exhibit will reflect that truth.

Housekeeping details: Masks are strongly suggested inside the town hall museum, and even more strongly suggested in the Law Office. We were wearing them there long before Covid, as the air inside that building is apt to trigger allergies.

Admission to both museums is free, but we do have items for sale, including several books on various aspects of Westminster history, and of course there's the opportunity to become a member. We don't yet have the capacity to take credit cards, so bring cash or a checkbook if you think you might be tempted. Photos are allowed in the town hall museum; no flashes or other lights, please. Photos are not allowed in the Law Office.

Finally, thanks to the town hall renovations, the museum upstairs is handicapped-accessible, and there is air conditioning. The space is beautiful and comfortable, and we hope to see many of you there this summer.

Contact us through our website if you need more information ; www.westminstervthistory.org.

SCHOOL BOARD SEEKS NOMINATIONS

Westminster School Board is seeking nominations for one new board member to replace a retiring member - effective immediately.

The new member will be appointed by the current board to serve until town meeting 2023, without the need for canvassing or a special election.

Please send nominations for yourself or others to board chair Cheryl Charles at: cheryl.charles@wnesu.com.

CABIN FEVER PICNIC DINNER JULY 16

There will be a 'Cabin Fever' Picnic Dinner on Saturday, July 16 at the Congregational Church of Westminster West.

What?? Cabin Fever in July? You heard right.

In the spirit of our famous Cabin Fever suppers, we offer an outdoor picnic version this summer.

It includes all the famous features: a great meal created by our own Tristan Toleno shared in community and your stories!

We will gather outside the church around card tables and enjoy a buffet-style dinner served by masked volunteers.

Be prepared to share or listen to stories of life in this area. New this summer: pre-order pick-up option!

For the full menu and other details, please see the church's website at <http://westminsterwest.org/>.

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE

The Westminster Fire and Rescue Department holds its 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 is July 5 at 7 p.m.

The Prudential Committee normally meets once or twice a month. A warning will be posted 48 hours prior to each meeting.

Number of calls in May: 47
Number of calls through June 23rd: 23
Number of calls calendar year to date: 225
Number of calls fiscal year to date: 435

Association Meeting: The Westminster Fire and Rescue Association met for their regular meeting June 7th with President Greg Holton presiding. There were 38 members present and 8 members excused. Currently there are 49 members of the volunteer fire department.

A new application for membership was approved for Tessa Ellis under the 6 month probation guidelines. Also a letter requesting a leave of absence submitted by George James was accepted.

The June meeting is always when elections for department officers and association officers and trustees take place. The results are as follows: Department officers: Captain C4 Tim Wilder; Captain/safety officer C5Gary Cobb; Lieutenant C6 Dave Russell; Association officers and trustees: President Eyvonne Martin; Vice President J.T. Tabolt; Secretary/treasurer Pete Harrison; 1st trustee Nick Streeter; 2nd trustee Jon Taylor; 3rd trustee Nancy Deitz.

Emergency responses: We had another busy month in May with 47 total calls for the month. The breakdown goes like this: 26 rescue /medical calls; 2 motor vehicle accident; 3 Mutual aid calls: 1 to Putney, 1 to Vernon, 1 to Brattleboro; 1 with alarms sounding; 5 smoke investigations; 1 brush fire; 1 potential hazard from propane tank in the water; 1 water rescue; 1 illegal burn; 1 CO detector incident; 2 calls that were cancelled enroute; 3 lift assist.

Also there were a couple of training classes during the month of June including a live burn training day in May where they actually intentionally burn a building for training purposes.

Storing and disposing of batteries: There was a fire recently that might have been caused by a 9 volt battery igniting items being stored in a drawer. Batteries are hazardous and should be stored and disposed of properly.

Tips for sunscreen and insect repellent: Because the mosquito season is at its peak, we thought it made sense to repeat these tips. Apply sunscreen 30 minutes before going outsideapply every 2 hours. Unprotected skin starts turning red in 20 minutes. Insect repellent is handy to have and apply before going into buggy areas. Also bugs and mosquitoes like dusk so just sitting outside can make youa target. Always read and adhere to label directions and warnings to use products safely. Be aware of ticks and do a body check for ticks each night if you havebeen in a possible tick infested area.

Motorcycles: We have all noticed that there are more and more motorcycles on the road each sum-

mer and that it has become a very enjoyable pastime for many. Motorcycles can be difficult to see as a part of oncoming traffic and their distance is often difficult to judge. Give at least a double look and even an exclusive look for the possibility of an oncoming motorcycle when pulling out into traffic.

Filters fans and coils: It's the time of year for cleaning filters on air conditioners, blowing out or vacuuming fans and cleaning the coils under or on the back of refrigerators and freezers. With the warm weather approaching they will work much better and more efficiently when clean. Also if you have rain gutters they may need cleaning.

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

Donations in May and June: Richard and Carol Johnson; Heather Patrick; Sarah and Michael Doran; Michael & Alice Welch.

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 www.westminsterfireandrescue.org

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

Aged in Vermont

Westminster Cares, Inc.

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

On the back lawn of the Westminster Institute one lovely evening in May, Westminster Cares celebrated and recognized their network of volunteers.

It was the first such gathering since the pandemic began and what a jovial occasion it was. Volunteers enjoyed an evening with food and drink, received gas gift cards as a token of appreciation, and were thanked for their service and dedication.

Board president, Lori Larue, welcomed the volunteers, and stated that “Westminster Cares is successful because we have so many great volunteers. We couldn’t do it without you. Thank you.”

Three volunteers started during the pandemic while others have served Westminster Cares and the community for 10, 20, and in some instances more than 30 years.

Many of the board members, comprised of volunteers, have served for many years. With coordination from director Donna Dawson, they all work hard and



donate many hours to accomplish the organization’s mission.

In addition to our volunteers, we are also grateful to the volunteer-by-proxy members who dedicate their time by virtue of a relationship to a board member; and community members like Jim and Lucy Matteau who serve the Institute and the Women’s Fellowship from the First Congregational Church. Westminster is a small community, but we clearly have a big heart.

ATG DELIVER SUPPLIES TO OUR PLACE

On Friday, employees from Advantage Truck Group in Westminster delivered boxes of canned chicken and rice to the food pantry at Our Place Drop-In Center in Bellows Falls.

The donation is being made through Haulin’ 4 Hunger, a program the company launched ten years ago to provide fresh meals to those in need during the holiday season and expanded to include quarterly donations of non-perishable foods to help meet ongoing need in communities near its dealer locations.

The donation comes at a time when rising food prices are putting a strain on local food pantries and the people they serve. This is the second donation that ATG Westminster employees are making to the food pantry this year through Haulin’ 4 Hunger.

In photo from left, are ATG Westminster employees Eric Bergeron, Mark Bowen and Ed Johnson,



Our Place operations and services coordinator Amanda Reed, and ATG employee Nate Leslie with their first quarter donation to the Bellows Falls food pantry through the company's Haulin' 4 Hunger program.

APPLY FOR COVID UTILITY BILL ASSISTANCE

Vermont utilities are reminding their customers that help is available for those struggling to pay existing and past bills.

Vermonters financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic can apply for two grant programs for renters and homeowners to help with overdue utility bills. Customers may be eligible for tens of thousands of dollars through these programs, and should apply now before money runs out:

- Vermont Emergency Rental Assistance Program (VERAP) provides federal grant money for qualified renters to help pay their past due and ongoing utility bills and rent.

Learn more and apply at <https://vtutilityhelp.com> or by calling 833-488-3727.

- Vermont Homeowner Assistance Program (VT HAP) provides federal grant money for qualified homeowners to help pay up to \$30,000 of their past due utility bills, mortgage, and association fees. Learn more and apply at <https://vermonthap.vhfa.org/> or by calling 833-221-4208.

Customers who have past due arrearages are encouraged to apply through VERAP or VT HAP, or contact their utility directly to set up a payment plan.

Contact information is available at each of the utilities’ websites.

REMEMBRANCES

MARGARET (MAGGIE) CASSIDY, 72
1 / 13 / 1950 - 6 / 4 / 2022
PUTNEY, VT

RHODA DEVARNEY
BELLOWS FALLS, VT

FRAN GALLAGHER, 97
1 / 4 / 1925 - 6 / 13 / 2022
BELLOWS FALLS, VT

GILBERT (GIB) GAY, 86
3 / 22 / 1936 - 6 / 9 / 2022
WALPOLE, NH

ELIJAH HADDAD, 23
1 / 18 / 1999 – 4 / 23 / 2022
BRATTLEBORO, VT

STEVE MAXHAM, 70
5 / 22 / 1952 – 5 / 26 / 2022
PUTNEY, VT

RUTH E. MORSE, 92
11 / 27 / 1929 - 6 / 13 / 2022
WESTMINSTER, VT

LAWRENCE O’CONNOR, 96
3 / 3 / 1926 – 5 / 28 / 2022
WESTMORELAND, NH

MARGARET PERRY, 75
7 / 20 / 1946 – 5 / 14 / 2022
ROCKINGHAM, VT

KEVIN TICINO, 44
10 / 8 / 1977 – 6 / 20 / 2022
WESTMINSTER, VT

CALLING ALL 90+ YEAR OLDS

This year Westminster Cares will hold their annual Celebration of Aging in September. The event will be held outdoors on the back lawn of the Westminster Institute.

Residents of our town who are 90 years of age and older will be recognized and celebrated.

If you are 90 or older or know someone who is 90 or older, please call Pete Harrison at 289-3776 or Donna Dawson at 722-3607.

Help us locate as many 90+ residents as possible. We want everyone to be a part of the celebration!

SUPPORTING POLLINATORS

Come join the Westminster Conservation Commission on Sunday, July 17 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., on Westminster Heights Road in Westminster for an afternoon session of observing our fascinating local pollinator population such as bumblebees, honeybees, butterflies, native bees, and more.

We will also be learning how to create good nesting sites for bees. Please bring a notebook or sketchpad, writing implement, a device with a camera (optional), an insect guide (optional), tick smart clothing and/or bug repellent, a water bottle, and your observational skills.

Limited to 15 participants, children welcome. Snacks will be provided.

To register or for more information, please email to westminstervtconservation@gmail.com.

CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES

The First Congregational Church of Westminster, Vermont has been holding hybrid services every Sunday at 10 a.m.

Those who choose can attend church, following safety precautions by wearing a mask. Others can attend church services via ZOOM. Others may enjoy the recorded service on the church Facebook page. We again have live organ music during our Sunday worship service.

The Strawberry Supper is back. This will be held on July 2nd. Dinner will be ham, potato salad, coleslaw, baked beans and homemade strawberry shortcake.

This will be a take-out meal, with the possibility of outside dining weather permitting. Watch for posters and announcements for times and reservations.

Strawberry Supper on July 2nd, 4:30 to 6:30. Take out meal only, \$13.00 per person.

Reservations Needed: call 802-518-0321

Worship and Communion-in person and on ZOOM July 3rd at 10 am.

Women's Fellowship meets on July 5th, 11 am, at the church.

Bible Study is on each Wednesday at 11 am.

Sunday Worship services are on July 10th, July 17th, July 24th, and July 31st in person or on Zoom.

Pastor Sami preaches for the last time in Westminster on July 31st at 10 am.

AUGUST 9 PRIMARY VOTING INFORMATION

Make sure you’re ready for the August 9 Primary Election!

Who needs to request a mail ballot?

For the August 9 Primary Election - If you want to vote by mail, you must request a ballot.

For the November 8 General Election - All voters will automatically receive a ballot at the mailing address on their voter registration. If you will be out of town, you must request a ballot to your out of town address.

Return all 3 Primary ballots

When you vote by mail in the Primary Election, you will receive 3 ballots, 1 for each major party. You will only vote 1 ballot. Then, you must return all 3 ballots for your vote to count.

Want to vote in person instead?

Go to your polling location on Election Day—Tuesday, August 9. Find your polling location at mvp.vermont.gov.

Requesting a ballot is easy

You have options:



Online:
mvp.vermont.gov



Paper form:
tinyurl.com/vtballotrequest



In-person, by email, or by phone from your Town Clerk.
Find their contact information at tinyurl.com/vtclerks.

Submit your request as soon as possible!

If you believe you received this card in error, please contact your Town Clerk. Find their contact information at tinyurl.com/vtclerks.

WESTMINSTER HAPPENINGS

Activities

WE NEED HELP FROM OUR READERS AND CONTRIBUTORS TO UPDATE THIS PAGE.

WHILE SOME ACTIVITIES ARE RESUMING, WE RECOGNIZE THAT MANY WILL NOT BE RETURNING.

IF YOU HAVE ACTIVITIES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE LISTED ON THIS PAGE, PLEASE CONTACT US WITH THAT INFORMATION.

IF THERE ARE ACTIVITIES THAT WE HAVE LISTED THAT WILL NOT BE RESUMING, PLEASE ADVISE US AND WE’LL REMOVE THEM.

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.
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been worshipping online. Many of us enjoy getting together virtually Sunday at 10 a.m. and some of us enjoy a recorded service.
If you would like to participate in our digital services, which include a fellowship meeting the first Tuesday of the month and Bible study on Wednesday mornings, please contact Pastor Sami McRae or Deacon Christina Smith via email at westminstercongoline@gmail.com for more information.
See our Facebook page for our recorded services. Watch the Brattleboro Reformer, the Vermont Journal and Shopper or notices posted on the church door for up-to-date information. Activities at the church building will not happen until further notice.
Thank you for your support of the First Congregational Church.

The Congregational Church of Westminster West
The Congregational Church of Westminster West worships online by ZOOM every Sunday at 10 am, and church musicians record music to be played at all services. On the first Sunday of every month, everyone provides their own elements for Holy Communion at home, and on the second Sunday, the congregation still collects a special offering for the food shelf at Our Place in Bellows Falls
The congregation is Open and Affirming, and the Rev. Susie Webster-Toleno is the pastor. Monday is Susie's day off, and she holds telephone office hours on Thursday afternoons; she can be reached at 579-8356 or by email at susiewt@gmail.com. The church building is closed for the duration of the pandemic, but it remains wheelchair-accessible: an elevator provides direct access to the sanctuary on the upper floor.
If you wish to get a zoom invitation, check our website where the zoom link is found under CCWWHOME or email Pastor Susie.

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.

THANK YOU!

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.

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 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m. on the second floor of the Westminster Town Hall

Westminster Gazette Meeting 3rd Monday of the month online, for the time being.

THE GAZETTE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES
THE SUPPORT OF ITS UNDERWRITERS:

Kurn Hattin Homes
Town of Westminster
Sojourns Community Health Clinic
Westminster Cares
Westminster Fire and Rescue Association
Burtco Inc.
The Dascomb Trust
K Beebe Inc.
American Wealth Administration Group

WESTMINSTER GAZETTE
Editor: Robert Smith
Board of Directors:
Charmion Handy - Chairwoman
Donna Dawson
Alma Beals - Treas.
Joyce Sullivan - Sec.
Jennifer Skrocki

Printed by Sentinel Printing, Keene, NH

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



Sojourns
COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC
Holistic Care for Whole People

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

Aaron. G. Springfield, VT

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

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

Please Note:
The Deadline for the Aug. 2022 Issue of the Westminster Gazette is Wednesday, July 20

Publication Date is Wednesday, July 27

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

RFPL SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Celebrate the start of the Rockingham Free Public Library’s annual summer reading program, “Oceans of Possibilities,” with a kick-off event on July 6, 5 p.m. at the Library with a live, in-person performance from Modern Times Theater and the 13th Annual Stuffed Animal Sleepover.

Back with a brand-new show, Rose and Justin of Modern Times Theater, in photo, have continue to update a classic puppet show full of laughs and music which follows the troubles and travails of puppetry’s favorite loudmouth, Mr. Punch.


The skillfully operated hand puppets are made of upcycled materials, and are full of surprises and tricks, as is the elaborate stage. It’s a low-tech, old-time spectacle, entertaining to the young and the young at heart. By taking the best from the long tradition of Punch and Judy shows, and bringing the art form into the 21st century, this classic remains alive, vital, and hysterical to both children and adults today.

Don’t forget your stuffed animal!

The 13th Annual Stuffed Animal Sleepover will also help launch the summer reading program on July 6th. What would your stuffed animal do if it spent the night at the library? Find out by bringing one of your stuffed animals to the Library anytime between Wednesday, June 29 and Wednesday, July 6.

When the Library closes for the day on July 6, the stuffed animals will spend the night (not the people). We’ll create a video of how your stuffed animal spent the night in the library. Find the RFPL Youth Department’s YouTube channel online to see videos from previous years. Don’t forget to pick up your stuffed animal on July 7th!

In addition to special events the Library will feature regular programs including: Monday morning playgroups at 10:30am for infants and toddlers with free play and a light activity; Tuesday and Thursday Storytimes at 10:30am, STEAM activities Wednesdays at 3:30pm (for ages 7-12); Make & Take Crafts on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. (for ages 9+); Friday 5pm Minecraft Club, and Friday Night Movies at 6 p.m.



Come for a program and pick up a lunch! The Library is again partnering with the WNESU to be a summer lunch site. This free program is free and open to youth 18 and younger, no registration or qualifications necessary, simply stop by the Library and pick up lunch.

We're pleased to be a summer food site this year. Not only do we get to help feed kids, we help our families stretch their summer dollars farther. This program will run for the duration of the summer reading program.

Of course, there will be lots of reading this summer! Signing up is simple: stop by the Library and put your name on a reading log. Then start reading! When kids update their reading logs at the Library, they will be able to select a free book to keep – each week! Very young children are also invited to sign up for 1000 Books Before Kindergarten, a year-round program-supported by the Friends of the Rockingham Library to encourage family reading.

For more information email youthservices@rockinghamlibrary.org, call 802-463-4270, go to rockinghamlibrary.org, or stop by the Library at 65 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls. Modern Times Theater performance is supported by a grant from VTLIB.

The public movie site license which permits the Library to legally show films publicly is provided by IMLS and VTLIB. The Summer Lunch Program is provided through a partnership with the WNESU Farm to School Café; this institution is an equal opportunity provider.

WESTMINSTER WEST FAIR SATURDAY, SEPT. 10TH

Plans are being made for the 32nd annual Community Fair, which will be on Saturday September 10th. Due to Covid we recommend that masks be worn when in a building.

While it’s too early for you to bake some brownies, it is not too early to think of what goody you have in your garage or attic that you can donate to the Silent Auction.

We have decided to have a virtual online Silent Auction again this year. It gives folks who can’t be at the fair a chance to bid on the donated auction items. This frees up the community room for people to gather in, especially if it rains. See Auction guidelines at the end of this article.

We hope to have the Golden Elephant Tag Sale this year if Covid is still in recession. The Fair Committee doesn’t want to see this labor intensive but popular event canceled so we are looking for new volunteers to help.

If you want to be a volunteer who saves this event call Laura at 387-2765 or email her at laladust@gmail.com. See guidelines for Golden Elephant Sale at the end of this article.

This year the theme of our parade is “ALWAYS THERE WHEN NEEDED” honoring Tony Coven, the ultimate volunteer. There’ll be the usual selection of entertainment and activities from races in the morning to the talent show in the afternoon.

n between there is the fabulous chicken BBQ, the ever popular and exclusive “Whack a Corn Cob” and don’t forget to view the work of local artists up stairs or the whacky vegetable creations in the foyer of the church.

The raffle will be held again this year. The prizes are a hand-made queen size quilt by Susan Talbot (value: priceless), a painting by Collin Leech (value \$500) and an African drum from the Shaouls (value \$500).

Tickets are \$10 each or 6 for \$50, You pick which prize you wish to win. Photos of prizes are posted on church website (westminsterwest.org) To purchase tickets contact Alison Latham at aliemae1@outlook.com.

This event is a wonderful opportunity to gather together as friends and neighbors, to honor a member of the community, and have fun and share talents with each other. It also provides a significant financial contribution to the annual budget for keeping our village church and community gathering center in good repair and available for community use.

ONLINE AUCTION GUIDELINES

During July and August, folks need to let Cheryl Charles (cherylcharles01@gmail.com).know of possible donations to the silent auction. Please send a photo and description of the item, estimated value, and if there is a minimum bid. Our deadline is August 29th. Ray Huessy, our website guru, will post them on the auction page at the church website (westminsterwest.org).

The bidding kickoff will be announced via an email, but before Labor Day weekend. Sunday September 11th is the last day of bidding. Last bid updates will be posted on the auction website at 1, 2, 3, and 4pm. Bidding closes at 5pm.

In the next week, volunteers will arrange transport of auction items to the winners.

GOLDEN ELEPHANT GUIDERLINES

If you have something for the Sale, you can bring it by the week before the fair (5 to 8pm on Tue, Wed and Thur.) or make an appointment for drop off with, Tom Griffith 387-5694 or Laura Williams 387-2765.

Please remember, no electronics, furniture, broken toys or broken anything, books or clothes and do follow the Golden Rule for the sale: donate only what you yourself might want to buy that doesn’t create more clutter.

DON’T FORGET THE GOLDEN RULE OF DONATING:

Only donate what you would want to keep if you had the room or if you had grandchildren or if you suddenly lost your job.

COMPASS: SOME THOUGHTS ON EVOLVING AS A SCHOOL

by Brian Whitehouse

It’s been a busy and challenging and wonderfully successful year at Compass. Despite the fact that these last couple of years have been anything but predictable, we’ve seen quality outcomes in our students and our community, though tired, has remained strong and committed to making school everything it can be. We’re on the cusp of something different now, though.

The world—and the world of education—is about to become quite different. The effects of the pandemic on students will linger for years to come and schools everywhere will be called upon to adapt. As the admissions director, I’ve been pondering how Compass will do this.

Here are some thoughts.

Even when there is not a pandemic in place, schools are very human institutions. The lives of students and adults are full of both stresses and opportunities as they interact with each other day after day.

There are countless moments throughout the year when everyone is called upon to demonstrate maturity, insight, thoughtfulness, caring, dedication, persistence, creativity, humor, grace, and any number of other qualities that don’t necessarily show up on a standardized test, but that are essential to creating the kind of individuals, the kind of community, the kind of society we hope for. These moments are, of course, so much more important in the context of life these days.

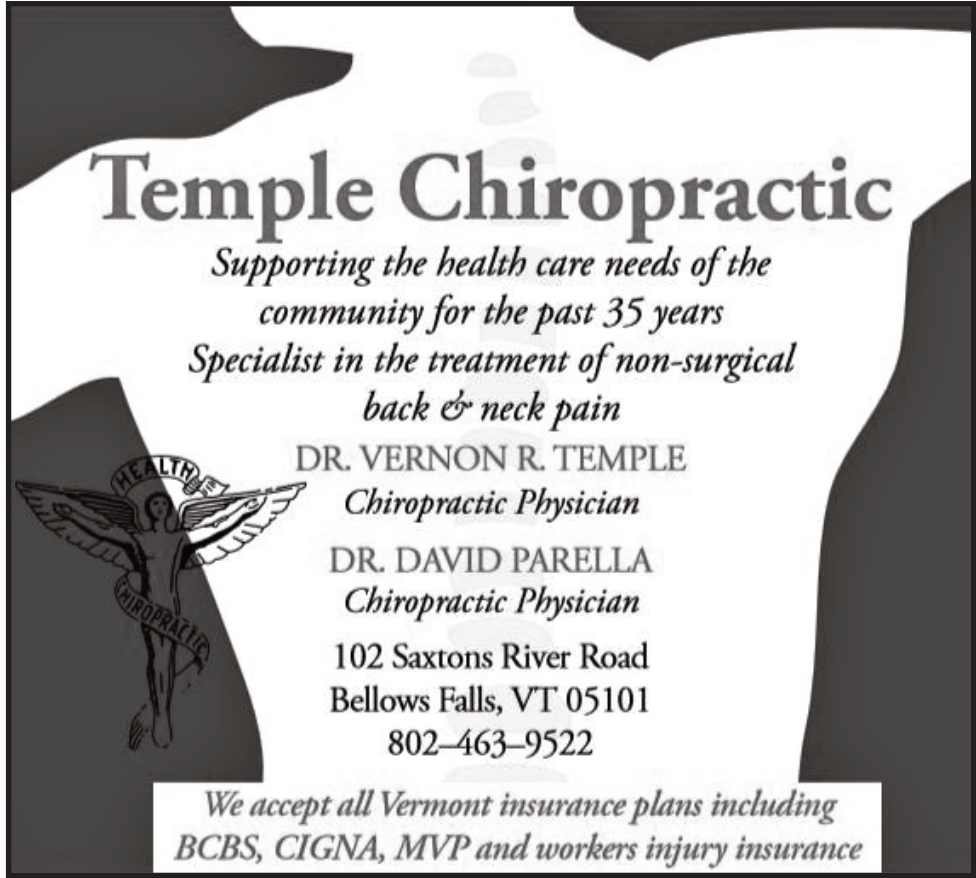
Sometimes, the most challenging events we experience lead us to be more honest with ourselves and others. We can become brave and share our feelings, ask for support, and wrestle with ambiguity.

Challenge and bravery are, in fact, central to a culture of inquiry. This idea of inquiry is an important part of the process of keeping a school like Compass responsive to the needs of its students. As the world becomes ever more complex, educational programs need to adapt quickly to prepare students for life after school. Based on our 23 years of experience, we know well what we should see from our students to be ready for the world once they graduate.

Working together with students, faculty, and parents, we use that understanding to evolve the Compass program to embody the school mission to “inspire and educate students to gain the knowledge, skills, and personal qualities essential to pursuing their dreams and having a positive impact on the world.”

Compass has been exceptional at creating well-rounded, interesting, vibrant graduates prepared for the world beyond its walls. Since the school’s founding, students have been part of creating the educational program, along with teachers, the board, and parents.

They give feedback directly to their classroom teachers. They participate actively in town meetings, all-school discussions, and an annual symposium to review and propose changes to everything from content to the daily schedule. This involvement consistently lends a sense of dynamism and ownership to the experience of school for students and it is through the deep and open conversations these groups have among themselves that the school is able to constantly “re-form” the Compass program to be successful.



**JACKLYN ATWOOD
REAL ESTATE**

JACKIE ATWOOD
616 NEWCOMB ROAD
WESTMINSTER, VT 05346

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

jackieatwoodrealestate@gmail.com

**Harlow
Farmstand**

Rte. 5 Westminister VT
802.722.3515

S.B. and Company Auctioneers, Antiques

**SHARON
BOCCELLI
& COMPANY**

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

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

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

**GREATER FALLS
INSURANCE** serving VT and NH since 1996

celebrating 20 years

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

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

FIREWOOD
Frederick McKenny

Quality Hardwood
1993 Pine Banks Rd Putney, VT 05346

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

Jessica Fuller
Financial Advisor

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

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

JUDD'S
**POWER EQUIPMENT
AND AUTO REPAIRS**
802-722-4200

THE CHIMNEY DOCTOR
Chimney & Stove Care
Sweeping • Repair • Installation & Relining
Pellet Stove & Dryer Vent Service
Internal Video Inspection
Ian Conway – Master Sweep
still sweepin' since 1987

273 Earthbridge Rd.
Westminister, VT 05346
(802) 387-6037
chimneydoctor@gmail.com

CCP Master Sweep
www.chimneydoctor.com

JULY BUSINESS OF THE MONTH: VERMONT SHEPHERD



Vermont Shepherd has been grazing sheep and making cheese here in Westminister for 34 years. The sheep you see grazing along Patch Road and along the Westminister West Road near Ranney Farm are all part of our farm.

About 170 ewes lamb in the barn during the month of March. Another 60 or so ewes lamb on pasture in early June.

These ewes are our more experienced “grandma sheep” and you can see them teaching their colorful newborn lambs to graze in the fields on both sides of Patch Road in June. Most of the ewes have twins, which means that for a while we have as many as four or five hundred lambs around the farm. Once the lambs are about two months old we sell them to people who want to milk sheep and to others who want to raise them up for meat.

The sheep also produce about 2000 lbs. of wool a year, because we shear them in late February and early March. After we wean our lambs, we milk the mothers. Then we turn the milk into aged and fresh cheese and yogurt; while the Ladies of Bellows Falls use the milk to make soap and Vermont Gelato uses the milk to make gelato.

We sell most of these products in our farm store off Patch Farm Road, and other food places as near as Harlow Farm Stand and as far as Skychef kitchens serving airlines around the globe. We very much appreciate the support of our local community over the past year and invite you to visit ours and all the local farm stands.

JULY BUSINESS OF THE MONTH: VILLAGE SQUARE BOOKSELLERS



Village Square Booksellers was purchased by Pat and Alan Fowler in November 2000 and moved to its current location in April 2002, with books, toys and gifts for all ages. They provide many gifts for birthdays, anniversaries, etc. with free gift-wrapping available year round, perfect for that last minute gift. Gift Certificates are also available.

The bookstore carries an eclectic selection of toys, games, stationery, notecards, journals, tea, chocolate, art supplies, jigsaw puzzles, stuffed animals, mugs, socks, and scarves. They host author events, writing courses plus Knitting Together (starting again soon) meets in the store to make mittens and hats for schools (acrylic yarn donations are welcome). 2nd Saturday Poetry Open Mic and the 1st Saturday Magic The Gathering and Pokemon Group meets at the bookstore. The bookstore sells strategy cards, and Dungeons and Dragon materials.

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

Village Square Booksellers and their staff are very involved in community events and their window displays often feature local organizations, and tickets are sold for local fundraisers. Pat, Alan and former Westminister resident Myles Mickle serve on the boards and committees of many local organizations.

Tim E. Lillis - Builder

**Comprehensive Carpentry Services
for both small and large jobs**

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

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

Karen Vedus LMFT
Emotionally Focused Couples Therapy

Westminister, Vermont
802-332-3007
karenveduslmft@buildingbetterbonds.com
www.buildingbetterbonds.com

VT Lic #100.0110621

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

Since 1996 believing that art makes a difference!

www.ramp-vt.org
802-463-3252

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

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

HEIDI BERNIER, CBR
LICENSED VT & NH

**Berkley & Veller
Greenwood Country
Realtors**

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

Vermont Shepherd Cheese

VISIT OUR FARMSTORE
BETWEEN WESTMINSTER + PUTNEY:
281 Patch Farm Road

SHOP ONLINE:
vermontshepherd.com

**Sheep's milk cheese,
gelato, yogurt,
maple syrup, honey**

**BROOKSIDE
EXCAVATING**

JEFF POTTER 802-376-5266
TYSON POTTER 802-289-2655
SMALL EXCAVATION, PLOWING, SANDING FULLY INSURED

WESTMINSTER ANIMAL HOSPITAL
PO BOX 90
WESTMINSTER STATION, VT 05158
(802)722-4196

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

**LAWRENCE & LOBER
ELECTRIC**

www.llelectricservices.com
info@llelectricservices.com

15 Barker St.
Bellows Falls, Vt 05101

Tel: 802-460-3479
800-559-3479
Fax: 802-460-3480

**Allen
Bro's
OIL COMPANY**

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

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

info@allenbrosoil.com

**Village Square
BOOKSELLERS**

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

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

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

RUGGIERO
TRASH REMOVAL

802.869.2235

Box 434, Saxtons River
Vermont 05154

Joe 802.384.0397
Jeff 603.209.4441