

COMPASS CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY JUNE 7TH

So many exciting things are happening at Compass. We have been so appreciative of the strong community support we have experienced in the recent weeks. We look forward to continuing our strong community connections next year.

Our outreach extended across the ocean last month as the junior class traveled to Puerto Rico. They performed service through an amazing organization called Conservation Opportunity and partnered with a coco farm, a tree survey at a national park and some trail work in the rainforest. Westminster residents Jason Carlstrom and Kory Hallock were two of the team. If you would like to learn more about the trip, the group will be sharing with the community the evening of May 8 at 6 p.m.

Also on May 8, the 9th and 10th grade will be creating a 1940s U.S. Living His-

tory Museum. This decade is full of twists and turns and students have been creating 40s propaganda, diving into research, putting together costumes, and crafting exhibitions in order to prepare for the big event. The museum is free and open to the public; doors open at 5:30pm. Light fare will be served.

Heads up that June 7th will be a huge celebration at Compass School. We are celebrating our 25th year, and if you have any Compass connections, you are welcome to come.

For all these events, please rsvp with the office at 802-463-2525 or info@compassvt.org

In photo, a group of Compass students with leaders from Conservation Opportunity.



CAN YOU HELP KAT ATTEND DIABETES CAMP?

For many children with Type 1 diabetes, managing their condition can feel overwhelming. But thanks to specialized summer camps, young people with diabetes can learn to navigate their health in a fun and supportive environment. This year, our community has a special opportunity to help one of our own attend such a life-changing camp.

Katalaeya Parson, an 8-year-old student at Westminster Center School, was recently accepted to Camp CareFree, a renowned summer program that provides children with diabetes the chance to develop independence, learn critical self-care skills, and connect with others who share their experiences.

The camp combines traditional summer fun with expert medical support, ensuring that campers receive proper care while gaining confidence in managing their diabetes.



"I really want to go to this camp because there are not a lot of diabetics anywhere here, which makes me feel different than other kids," said Katalaeya. "I'm excited that there's going to be more diabetics and I get to stay there for a week, overnight!"

Community members can donate directly to Kat's mom, Amber, via Venmo.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Jennie Perry (jennowersperry@hotmail.com).

If you'd like to support Katalaeya on this journey, please consider donating or sharing her story. Together, we can help send a deserving student to camp and give them the tools they need for a healthier future.

In photos, Katalaeya Parson.

WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER ABOUT CHICKERING LIVESTOCK SALES?

Cattle Auction Features Trio Of Humor, Noise Business Every Week

In the December 2023 issue of the *Westminster Gazette*, we ran the *center photo* here as a Mystery Photo, a view up Route 5 towards Westminster Flats, with the Goodell Farm in the distance.

The farm has also been known over the years as the Hackett Dairy Farm, home to 1000 milk cows, and going back to the 1940s and 1950s it was also known as Chickering Livestock Sales or Westminster Commission Sales.

Levi Chickering, who was a principal in that business from 1956 to 1961, contacted the *Gazette* a few weeks ago. He said he was working on a history of the farm and wondered if we might be able to get the word out so that our readers might be able to help him with the story.

He attached a couple of fascinating articles written about the farm in 1951 from the old *Vermont Journal* and the *Vermont Sunday News*. The latter was written by well known Springfield resident Edgar May.

As the *above* headline indicates, the cattle auctions,



presided over by Arb Chickering, *right*, were unorthodox, "chaotic, humorous, noisy, unbankerish" and often attended as much for their entertainment value as well as cattle buying.

Levi wrote, "Any further information available would be helpful in putting together our story. Articles and or old photos - 1936 Connecticut River flood of the Winn farm, so called, the big fire of the barns in the 1940s or any others that would show the property would be greatly appreciated."

What do you remember about the historic farm?

If anyone has information or photos that they would like to pass on to Levi, please contact the *Gazette* at



westminsternews@gmail.com, and we'll forward them to him.

RFPL LOON PROGRAM

Join Ian Clark as he describes the natural history of the common loon and follows a loon family through the breeding season in the North Country on Saturday, May 3 at 1 p.m. at the Rockingham Library.

With their haunting cries and beautiful plumage, common loons are an iconic symbol of the northern wilderness. Photographer Ian Clark spent over 2,520 hours kayaking with loons over the last two years and taken over 350,000 photos of loons and their behaviors.

More information on Clark is available on his website www.ianclark.com

For more information, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.com, call (802) 4634270 or stop by the library at 65 Westminster St. in Bellows Falls.

Our Monthly Community Newspaper

May 2025 Vol. 21 No. 5

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

BUSINESS OF THE MONTH: MILKWEED FARM

If you are looking for fresh local produce in Westminster West, consider Milkweed Farm! Now in their 9th season, owners Jonah Mossberg and Emily Hartz (with the help of two wonderful part-time employees) use organic no-till practices to grow a diverse array of vegetables and fruits on about two acres.

They grow the classics, like juicy slicing tomatoes and crunchy peas, as well as more unique varieties like Jimmy Nardello and shishito peppers, Red Long of Tropea Onions, sprouting cauliflower, radicchio, young fresh ginger, asian pears, and shitake mushrooms. Milkweed Farm Salad Mix is a crowd favorite.

The Milkweed Farm Store at 27 Earth Bridge Road is open to the public every day of the week, all year long. The store highlights the farm's produce and flowers, and



also carries other locally produced meat, dairy, eggs, fruit, bread, pantry and baked goods and more. Milkweed Farm also proudly feeds 130 CSA members/families with weekly pickups on the farm and in Brattleboro from May - October.



To learn more about Milkweed Farm, keep tabs on what's fresh in the store, and be the first to hear about CSA sign-ups and events, please check out www.milkweedfarmvt.com. Milkweed Farm would love to feed you!

THANKS FROM SENIOR SOLUTIONS

Dear Westminster residents,

Thank you. Yet again, you have shown your support for Senior Solutions, the local area agency on aging, by approving our request for town funding. As the executive director, it is heartwarming to see Westminster's commitment to our aging neighbors and family members.

For over 50 years, Senior Solutions has been a trusted partner in providing services, support, and advocacy for older adults and their caregivers in southeastern Vermont. The approval of this fund-

ing highlights Westminster's dedication to building a community where people of all ages can thrive.

Senior Solutions looks forward to continuing our work in Westminster and ensuring that all older adults have the support they need to lead fulfilling lives. For more information, please visit our website at: www.seniorsolutionsvt.org

Warm regards,
Mark Boutwell,
Executive Director
Senior Solutions

SEEKING BIBLIOPHILES & BOOKWORMS

The Westminster West Public Library is looking for new Board Members!

If you love books, if you love people who love books, please consider joining us. You will have the opportunity to become part of the wonderfully vibrant library community and serve the town.

The Board meets once a month and

also assists with fun fundraising opportunities.

Please email a brief biography (just a few sentences to describe yourself) and a statement of interest to Craig Hawkins, Interim Chair of the Board of Trustees, Westminster West Public Library, to chawk1@comcast.net.

COMPASS SCHOOL

LEARNINGCOMMUNITYDEMOCRACYDIRECTION

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

WaterSoft

WATER CONDITIONING

K. BEEBE, INC

PUMP SERVICE
Plumbing and Heating

Established 1946

FULLY INSURED * ESTIMATES GIVEN

CALL 463-3725

51 SAXTONS RIVER ROAD
BELLOWS FALLS

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

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR WINDHAM COUNTY WOMEN

The Brattleboro Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) is continuing 73 years of academic financial assistance for women and girls by again offering scholarships of up to \$1000 each to qualified female candidates who live in Windham County.

Both graduating high school seniors from area high schools, preparatory schools or home schools and women who are considered college ready by federal financial aid guidelines are eligible to apply. Applications will be judged on academic performance, community involvement, and financial need.

The applicant must be accepted or enrolled as an undergraduate student in a one-year certificate or two- or four-year accredited college degree program for 2025-2026.

Applicants must have been legal residents of Windham County for a mini-

mum of two years.

Guidance counselors in area high schools have posters and application forms. They can also be obtained from area college financial aid offices or by contacting the AAUW scholarship committee at grussgot@sover.net.

Applications must be postmarked by Monday, May 5 and can be sent to AAUW Scholarship Committee, c/o CCV, Attn.: Melanie Crosby, 41 Harmony Place, Brattleboro, VT 05301.

Members of the Brattleboro scholarship committee are Crosby, Michele Delhaye, Norma Shakun, and Karen Davis.

Now in its 98th year, the Brattleboro branch is part of a national organization that has advanced equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research since its founding in 1881.

BRENNAN

BUILDING EXCAVATION SEPTIC SYSTEMS

802 869 2866

www.BrennanConstructionVT.com

BEST SEPTIC

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

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

Jeff & Lisa Ruggiero
Owners

(802)-463-9444

BIG OR SMALL WE PUMP IT ALL!

ADVERTISE IN THE GAZETTE!

Annual Rates:

Pages 2-3 - approx. 4"x5" \$300 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" - \$200 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

TWIN FALLS TRAINING CENTER COMPLETES SEASON

Twin Falls Training Center is proud to announce the completion of its 2024-2025 meet season. The 2025 State Meet took place at St. Johnsbury Academy March 22-23. It brought together over 400 gymnasts from 10 different clubs around the state.

To qualify for state, a gymnast must score a 32.00 or higher in the all-around. Each gymnast showcased their talents in Balance Beam, Uneven Bars, Floor Exercise, and Vault.

Under the coaching of Cassandra Thomas and Katharine Wilkinson, Xcel Platinum, Silver, and Bronze level gymnasts from Twin Falls Training Center competed over the weekend. The Silver Xcel team and Bronze Xcel team brought home championships. Xcel Silver taking 4th place overall and Xcel Bronze taking 3rd place overall, respectively.

Notably, 15 out of 22 gymnasts placed individually in their age groups. Overall, the Bronze Xcel team's collective score was 114.275 and the Silver Xcel team's score was 111.250.



“Watching these athletes compete this weekend and bring home state championship banners made me beyond proud,” said coach Cassandra Thomas. Coach Thomas is the co-owner of Twin Falls along with Coach Kari Gypson. Coach Thomas went on to say “that after three years, Twin Falls is here and making a name for itself”.

Gymnastics cultivates discipline and strength, imparting valuable life lessons such as perseverance,



teamwork, and the importance of setting and achieving goals. Coach Thomas expressed her admiration in a Facebook message saying, “they truly are my family.”

Twin Falls is located in Rockingham. They offer both competitive and recreational gymnastics, play-groups, ninja, cheer, toddler classes, birthday parties, and school and summer vacation camps.

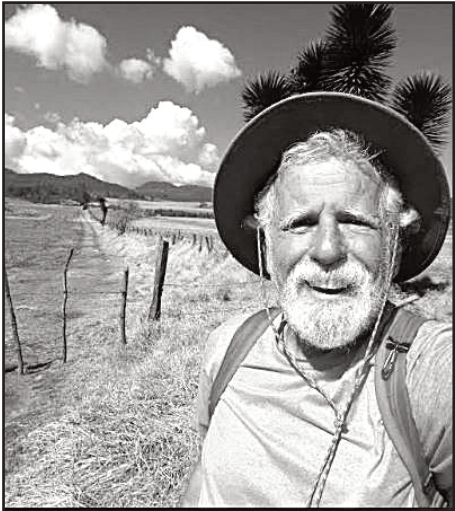
For more information, contact Twin Falls at 802.732.8063 or visit their website at www.twin-fallsgym.com.

HOWIE PETERSON ON TRAVELING, BOOK DONATIONS NEEDED

The “Magic Pueblo” of Patzcuaro, Mexico with Howie Peterson will be presented on Tuesday, May 13 at 6:30 p.m. at Putney Library.

Peterson is a 76-year-old resident of Putney, VT who loves to travel and explore, so far visiting 6 continents and 44 countries.

He has spent parts of 10 winters in the beautiful “Magic Pueblo” of Patzcuaro, Mexico. Come



enjoy highlights of his time living and hiking in this lakeside mountain town and the surrounding area.

Howie’s previous library presentations about his walking treks were exciting, engaging and enjoyed by all.

The Putney Public Library seeks book donations to support our Book Sale Fundraiser, which will take place on Saturday, May 17th 9am-1pm and Sunday, May 18th 11am-1pm. The Library will close at 1pm on Friday, May 16th to set up for the book sale.

While books of all kinds are welcome, we are unable to accept encyclopedia sets,

magazines, textbooks, Reader's Digest condensed books, VHS, DVDs, CDs, audiobooks or anything that is musty or moldy. Donations of this kind will be sent back with you so please donate responsibly. We can only accept two boxes of books per household.

Please bring donations only during library hours: Monday-Friday 10:30am-6pm and Saturday 10am-1pm. Donations cannot be left outside the library after hours. We may have stop accepting donations later in the month, so please call for more information: 802-387-4407 or email request@putneylibrary.org.

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

In photo, Howie Peterson

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER CARES

The Westminster Cares Board of Directors met Thursday, April 10.

For residents of Westminster: If you are a homebound senior or adult with a disability and would like to learn more about receiving Meals-on-Wheels, please call Donna Dawson in the office for further information; 722-3607.

In Westminster, Meals-on-Wheels are delivered to your home five days per week at lunchtime by Westminster Cares’ volunteers.

Donations Received through April 2025

Honorary:
In honor of Chris Harlow and Matt Conklin from Woody Fuller and Fran Renaud

Memorials:
In memory of: Bill O’Connor, Lori Miller, Gerri Palmer, Kevin Shrader and Rose Stoodley from Millie Barry

In memory of Clarence Gochey from Audrey Gochey

In memory of our friend and neighbor, Tom Goldschmid, from Bob and Linda Bushway

In memory of Peggy Jager from Carolyn Chaudoir and from Peggy Dougall

In memory of Fred Robling and in celebration of his life; on the occasion of his birthday from Deb and Fred Robling III

In memory of Charlotte Kurkul from: Millie

Barry, Sheldon and Betsy Beebe, Pete and Judy Harrison, Don and Ethel Pike

Programs and Services

Community Nurse Program: Our Community Nurse, Kathy Shuster, held a Blood Pressure Clinic at monthly SOUPer Wednesday events hosted by WeCares on March 26th and April 23rd . To schedule a home visit appointment, please call the office at 722-3607.

Elder Tech Program: The next Elder Tech session is scheduled for Saturday, May 31st from 9:00am – 12:00pm at the Institute. Call the office to schedule an appt.

SOUPer Wednesday Speakers: On March 26 we co-hosted the SOUPer Wednesday. Shari May, the Hospice Program Coordinator from the newly re-branded “Center for Solace” and another staff member were on hand to speak about the programs and services that Hospice offers.

On April 23, we co-hosted another speaker, Elliott Greenblott, from

AARP Fraud Watch. Elliott’s presentation on “Recognizing, Understanding and Preventing Computer Scams and Internet Fraud” was interesting and informative.

Westminster Cares is very appreciative of the opportunity to partner with the First Congregational Church of Westminster to host this speaker series for the second year.

We’d like to express our gratitude to all the church members and our board members and volunteers for making soups and desserts and assisting with set-up, serving and clean-up.

This would not be possible without your efforts.

Vermont's Largest Farm Stand

Garden Center & Nursery

Fresh pies and award winning cider donuts made daily!

Visit us: Exit 5 off I-91

Route 5 South, Westminster, Vermont

802-722-3395 • allenbrothersfarms.com

Open 7 days a week: Mon-Sat 6 a.m.-8 p.m. • Sun 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

Give Your Home a Hug!

With a low cost Green Mountain Home Repair loan.

Maintaining your home matters, and now there's an affordable way to tackle those home improvement projects.

Health & safety issues

Structural problems

Failing mechanical systems

Energy efficiency upgrades

Interior & exterior modifications for elderly or disabled

Home Matters Here

Windham & Windsor Housing Trust

(802) 254-4604

HomeMattersHere.org

Let us help!

GREEN MOUNTAIN Home Repair

NeighborWorks

Edward Jones

> edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

This Memorial Day

Sending warm wishes to you and your family on this day of remembrance.

Jessica Fuller, CFP®

Financial Advisor

P O Box 96

Walpole, NH 03608

603-756-2513

EJB-9811F-A-E-DA AECSPAD 2495315H

Nature Notes - My Yellow-bellied Sapsucker is Back

by Alma Beals, Vermont Master Gardener and Naturalist

Yes, there really is a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. There are four different sapsuckers but the yellow-bellied is the one in our area.

They are different from the usual woodpeckers that are here all year in that they migrate. They arrive here in late March or early April and are gone by late September or October. They are a little larger than the Downy and a little smaller than the Hairy. The males have a red throat, black bib, red on the head and a slightly yellow-tinted breast while the females have a white throat.

Every spring I would spot a sapsucker drilling holes on a birch in my yard and know “my” sapsucker was back. Their favorite trees to drill are birch and maple because they have the sweetest sap. They drill horizontal rows of holes, called “wells,” on a tree’s trunk and limbs to gather sap to drink and to draw insects to eat.

This year I first spotted him on the big, old maple in front of my house instead of the birch. In closer inspection of the tree, I discovered it loaded with old scars looking like it had been hit by a machine gun. How had I missed all those old scars?

Then I realized I previously had only seen a male. Did I have a female each year and not realize it and were they nesting here? The females look like the males except they have a white chin instead of the male’s red chin. Time for more research. I discovered that yes, they do nest here. The males do most of the excavating of the nest cavity in live deciduous trees that have rot-



Yellow-bellied sapsucker photos by Don Clark

ten heartwood, often using the same species of tree they use for drilling and often using the same cavity for several years. Rotten heartwood is caused by a fungus that makes excavating easier. Now I remember taking down a second birch a few years ago that was diseased. Was there a nest cavity in that tree that I had overlooked?

Many other birds take advantage of the sap and insects from the wells including hummingbirds. I have never seen a hummingbird near the wells. Have I



missed that, too? I even observed two butterflies drinking the sap.

Do sapsuckers destroy the trees they drill? Usually they don’t but occasionally they will. Now with these clues, go outside and listen to their drilling. You will discover their drilling is different from the Downy or Hairy with hesitations between sounds.

THE LOST ART OF LETTER WRITING

By Rachael Shaw

A few years back, I got out a pen and paper and wrote a long letter to an old friend, catching her up on my life and inquiring about hers. It was the beginning of the rekindling of our friendship from middle and high school in the early 80s. The written word was a really big part of our life back then.

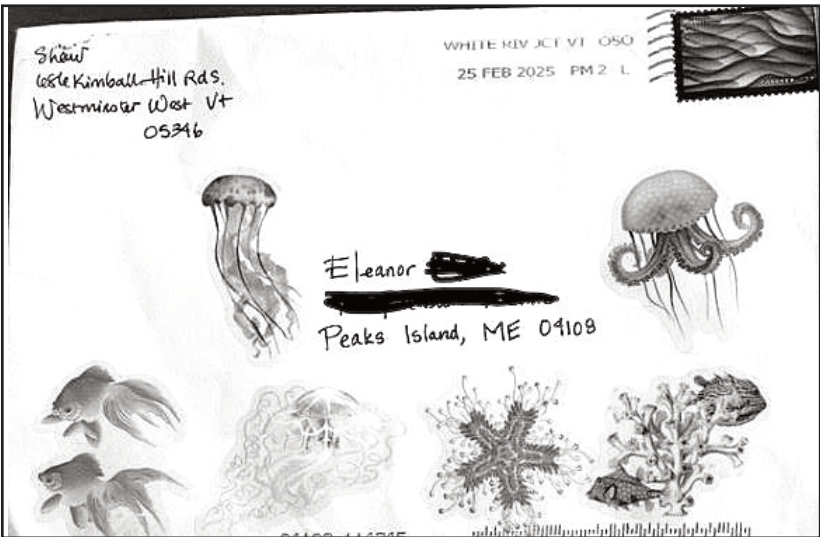
We wrote notes, letters and journals and expressed ourselves voluminously on the pages of notebooks and Trapper Keepers! This particular friend and I had been especially devoted to writing letters to each other so the process came back quickly and easily. Since then, I picked up the habit and started writing to more friends and family members. I made a list, and have tried to stick to writing at least one or two letters a month.

The tendency to physically write has diminished tremendously in recent years, almost to the point of extinction. That may be an appropriate way for our culture to evolve, but there's something lost as well. Beginning that process of writing letters has become a great joy and pleasure in my life; both writing and receiving cards and letters is a real treat.

Because it has brought me such pleasure, I thought I would share some of the techniques which have made it fun and easy. First get yourself a nice pen that will make the actual writing process enjoyable. There’s nothing more frustrating than a bad pen.

I recommend the Zebra pens which take gel refills, and are sometimes called space pens because they can write upside down. It makes the process of writing way more enjoyable if you can be in any position, for example, reclined on the couch and your pen still works. Also, look around for some interesting stationary or paper, but it can just be an old notebook. Take advantage of all the amazing postage stamps that are available these days.

Right now there are stamps out that feature the Appalachian Trail, Dungeons & Dragons, Shaker furniture and design, Sea Turtles, and Horses! There are always lots of beautiful and historical stamps to choose from and many post offices have a display case where you can see what is available. Also I've discovered sticker books. They are for any age, and they are gorgeous sticker books that feature hundreds of botanicals, insects, animals, ocean scapes, fungi, vintage images and lots of other interesting themes. You can make your own cards with these stickers, and you can decorate the



envelope by creating a sticker scene around the address section and on the back.

You can match the postage stamp to go with the scene you've created. For example, a sea turtle stamp can go with an ocean themed decorated envelope. Decorating the envelope has become one of the best parts of sending a letter for me these days. It's a creative outlet that doesn't take very long. If you have kids in the house, letter writing is a wonderful habit to introduce to them, and they will really love the stickers!

I've noticed that bookstores, farm stores and other local gift stores carry beautiful local handmade greeting cards. It makes a wonderful gift to send an unused local card within a bigger envelope. I bought some big envelopes (8 5/8 x 3 5/8) that have enough room to fit a letter and an unused gift card inside. The recipient can take that card and write to someone else.

You could even put a stamp on the envelope to encourage this! I like to include a cartoon, comic or something silly to make the person laugh when they get their letter. You don't have to write a long letter. Any kind of real mail is so appreciated and you will be pleasantly surprised when you start getting real mail back in the mailbox again. You can write to someone in the next town over, or across the country, it doesn’t matter at all.

I heard an interview with a mail carrier in New Jersey who had been at it for a long time, perhaps 20 years, and she was mentioning how she's lucky if there's one real letter in her mail bag each day. So much of the of what she carries around is junk mail. I hope that my sticker decorated letters give a smile to the mail carriers who handle them, as well as to the actual recipient.

If your hands get sort of tired doing the writing, there are often accessibility options on computers and

other devices. You can use a microphone app and talk to text, then you can print out your letter. It's still a real letter whether it's handwritten or printed as long as it comes through the mail.

In fact, I am writing this article using talk to text right now. I will go back and do some editing, but it saves my hands fatigue, and is also pretty fast. You can write a letter in five minutes if you can talk it out and then just print it sign it and mail it off.

Sometimes it's fun to just print out the “talk to text” letter as is and have your friend try to figure out what you meant with the confusing grammar and and weird voice interpretations. If it was a high school essay, it would come back with lots of red marks, strikethroughs and question marks. But in general, these voice to text

apps have gotten really accurate. They even pick up whispers! Want some privacy as you talk to text? Try whispering it and the computer will still hear you! Writing a letter using that process makes me feel as if I am whispering to a friend. Your state or local representative would appreciate a real letter from a constituent too!

Those big envelopes I mentioned only need one first class stamp, even with a letter, a cartoon, and an extra card and envelope inside. The sticker books that I have purchased are published by the Peter Pauper Press and DK Publishing. Sometimes the stickers in the DK books don't have very powerful glue so they unseal a little bit. I find that if I just put some scotch tape on top of the stickers on the envelopes, it works out well. The Peter Pauper press stickers do not become unsealed.

Pictured are examples of envelopes I created to send to a friend in Maine. One time, she added new stamps over mine, and reused it to send it back to me. Even though she had put on two Forever stamps, one would have been plenty. Perhaps she had put something in the envelope with a bit of weight, as sometimes we send each other little gifts in the envelope. Need a special gift for your new epistolary friend? Put together a little stationary kit to encourage them to write back to you-include some stamps, stickers, envelopes, paper and maybe a good pen.

I had lost track of what a first class postage stamp costs right now because they all say “forever” and not the actual cost, but currently they cost \$.73 which is a little pile of change! However, it's a pretty cheap gift so I hope that some of you will try out this technique and get back into the fun and satisfying art of sending real letters.

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE

The Westminster Fire & Rescue Department holds their monthly meetings at 7 p.m. on the 1st Tuesday of the month and a combined drill on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Rescue training is the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Next association meeting Tuesday, May 6 at 7 p.m.
The Prudential Committee normally meets once or twice a month. A warning will be posted 48 hours prior to each meeting.

Unless otherwise called for a special meeting, the Prudential Committee meets on the 3rd Sunday of every month at the Fire House on Grout Ave at 10 a.m.
Number of calls in March:41

Number of calls through April 23rd :30
Number of calls calendar year to date:164
Number of calls fiscal year, July 1st to date:417

Association Meeting: The Westminster Fire and Rescue Association met for their regular meeting Tuesday April 1st with Vice President J.T. Tabolt presiding. There were 29 members present and 3 members excused. Currently there are 47 members of the volunteer fire department.

Walkers: We see more people than usual walking out on the roads these days and a few of them are walking and running with the flow of traffic.

Be sure to always walk or run facing traffic on the left side of the road. There have been some pedestrian fatalities due in part to walking on the wrong side of the road. When biking, ride with the flow of traffic on the right side of the road.

Remember, you are responsible for your own safety when walking or biking.

Emergency responses: March turned out to be another very busy month with 41 calls for the month. Here is the breakdown for the 41 calls: 20 rescue/medical calls; 2 motor vehicle accidents; 9 Mutual Aid, 2 to Rockingham, 4 to Alstead, 2 to Putney; 1 to Athens; 2 for tree on wires/power line down; 2 service calls; 1 smoke investigation; 1 untimely; 1 lift assist; 1 cancelled enroute; 1 structure fire;

Off Road: The fire department is looking for names of anyone who has an off road vehicle that they would be willing to operate in case of an emergency requiring off road or 4 wheelers. Contact any member

of the department if this is something you are willing and able to make available.

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

The Westminster Fire & Rescue Association welcomes donations throughout the year from anyone wishing to remember or honor a loved one or a friend. All memorial donations go into our scholarship fund to be given out at graduation.

Open donations are also appreciated: Send donation to:

Westminster Fire & Rescue Association
PO Box 111 Westminster, Vt. 05158
Donations received in April:
Bruce Mickle

As always, we would like to thank the members of the community for their continued support of the fire department.

Check us out on our web-site www.westminster-fireandrescue.org.

Aged in Vermont

Westminster Cares, Inc.

How I Became A Softie

by Helen Neswald

Recently I found myself wondering how it is that I’ve become nursemaid for three of my layer pullets, all of whom have become lame for distinct reasons. My habits of hen care never before presented such a consuming challenge!

About four times a day I check in on a severely crippled pullet, making sure she has access to food and protection from the old-timers who feel compelled to retain the flock’s high evolutionary standing by pecking the infirm to death.

There’re no doubts about her inferior status, a serious limb displacement which I guiltily suspected was incurred by me through rough handling in the process of transferring the indoor-raised four month old chicks to their transitional outdoor facility. Unable to walk, this undersized and consequently underfed invalid became my special charge.

Another was added to my nursing subjects by a normal seeming older hen who no longer flew up to any perch at night and so remained on the ground. Though she could walk well enough, the flock’s chief keen-eyed protector singled her out for extinction, so that I had to separate her from the rest.

A third potential victim was noticed to be standing on one leg. For some reason she had not been considered expendable, but this outcast group — a seventh of what had always been a large flock — sent me to google lame pullets. With the additional help of some local advice I began to notice serious foot problems in these last two that most likely resulted from an extreme case of leg mites, a common problem with domestic hens that I had previously ignored and which may have been aggravated by recent wetter conditions.

I began spraying the feet of the two older pullets with an anti-fungal three times a day, which seemed to provide some relief, while separating the fully mobile one outside of the sprawling fenced foraging area along with the under-developed chick, in a forced camaraderie.

Such circumstantial responsibilities set me to thinking. I’d been raising laying hens for more than twenty-five years, originally as a cost-saving and convenient way to supply our family’s eggs, and had tried to make it into a viable choice by retiring the older non-producers to a nearby farm during the warmer months, where their lives would doubtless be shortened by the absence of protection from predators. But on entering my 80s I became adverse to treating them as such economic cogs and decided to treat them as pets at whatever cost —an indulgence made easier by my newly gained access to some prize chicken food.

I began to notice that I also felt a protective and nurturing impulse toward creatures of the wild who needed special attentions to retain their existence. Was it a sympathy for underdogs, I wondered, a late in life tenderness for frailty and perhaps a ballooning nurturing instinct?

After all, I might have felt justified for “euthanizing” my crippled youngest chick, as some conservationists felt was a viable choice in dealing with wildlife rejected by its mother in the absence of a foster replacement. At the same time I was surprised to discover my relatively easy acceptance of deaths from old age, whether in hens or amongst the growing circle of elder friends and acquaintances who had died.

On the whole I am satisfied with such an impulse, an increased reverence for life at its start and a passive recognition that all life is time limited.

REMEMBRANCES

MAY 2025:

- DORIS “DOTTIE” ALAMED, 66
3/5/1959 - 4/14//2025
GAGEVILLE, VT
- ANDRE BERNIER, 67
4/7/1957 - 3/31/2025
WESTMINSTER WEST, VT
- HELEN PESCHL BLANCHARD, 68
5/23/1956 – 3/25/2025
RUTLAND, FORMERLY
BELLOWS FALLS, VT
- DANNY CLEMONS, 81
9/15/1943 - 2025
BELLOWS FALLS, VT
- KATHLEEN “KATRA” FAUST, 75
6/1/1949 - 3/30/2025
KEENE, NH FORMERLY
WESTMINSTER WEST
- LYNN LAWRENCE, 88
3/26/1937 - 4/9/2025
BELLOWS FALLS, VT
- GEORGE “SKIP” LUHRMANN, 90
5/20/1934 – 3/15/2025
WESTMINSTER, VT
- RUTH MACK, 69
9/9/1954 – 3/16/2025
WALPOLE, NH
- DALLAS “BRENDA” MILLIKEN, 82
5/8/1942 – 3/30/2025
NO. WALPOLE, NH

- MAXINE FAULKNER MORSE, 80
1/6/1945 - 3/27/2025
FORMERLY BELLOWS FALLS, VT
- LORALEE MUSE-GURNEY, 58
4/1/1966 – 3/12/2025
SPRINGFIELD, FORMERLY
BELLOWS FALLS, VT
- DONNA RICE
D. 2/27/2025
GRAFTON, FORMERLY
BELLOWS FALLS, VT
- STUART “STU” STROTHMAN, 56
1/22/1969 - 4/12/2025
FORMERLY WESTMINSTER &
PUTNEY

COMPASS SCHOOL YARD SALE, SEEKING INSTRUMENT DONATIONS

The Compass School will be hosting a Community market/yard sale on May 17, 2025 from 8 to 2. You can rent a space and sell your crafts, junk, Early produce, or whatever you have! \$20 for a space before May 10th. Drop by with cash or a check to reserve your spot. More information is available at cher.anderson@compassvt.org. Set up begins at seven, and we have inside space in case of inclement weather.

We also seek donations of single drums and acoustic guitars for our musical programs. If you have one and would like to see it well-loved, we’d love to have it.

SAVE THE DATE!
THE WESTMINSTER
GARDEN TOUR
THIS SUMMER,
JULY 5TH & 6TH
WESTMINSTERCARES.ORG

SPRING FLING CRAFT FAIR

The Women of the Moose #1123 will host a Spring Fling Craft Fair on Saturday, May 3 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Bellows Falls Moose Lodge on Westminster Street in Bellows Flls.

There will be food, music and two floors of great Spring shopping with an elevator available.

There will be mixed vendors and hot food available downstairs with seating.

SPRING CELEBRATIONS AT WCS

By Liz Harty, Principal, Westminster Center School

Students at Westminster Center School (WCS) continue to showcase their reading and writing skills! Our most recent celebration was our annual Breakfast and Books event on Friday, March 14th. We had 88% of our families attend this event in which students shared their writing pieces that completed module two of our new reading curriculum, Expeditionary Learning (EL).

Families were invited into classrooms to read and enjoy breakfast with their child. What a great way to start the day!

Between March 17 and March 27th students are learning and growing their biking skills through the Local Motion bike trailer. Our PE teacher, Ms. G, covers biking skills through basic riding, bike safety, and road riding. The progress is amazing as students ride around our parking lot, across the pump track, and down School Street.



We hosted the Twin Falls Training Center the week of March 31st during our PE classes. Students learned all about gymnastics and performed a culminating show for families on the afternoon of April 4th.

Spring is here and WCS is welcoming a new greenhouse! Paid for through the Healthy Meals Initiative Grant, this is a wonderful addition to our learning garden where students will learn more about the world around them and the process of growing and harvesting vegetables and flowers.

Westminster Center School is also looking for an evening custodian. If you are interested in learning more about the position, please contact Liz Harty at elizabeth.harty@wnesu.com.

BOOK REVIEW : THE FEATHER OF TRUTH

By Grayson Cavanaugh (11 years old)

This fascinating book by Emily Weinberg is set in ancient Egypt, the time of pharaoh Rameses III. Young Uli has been raised by the priests of the temple of Kom Ombo, and he makes an exciting and dangerous journey in Egypt to follow the path of truth.

The Feather of Truth is set in Ancient Egypt (1166 B.C.E) in the time of pharaoh Rameses III, in the New Kingdom Period. At the time, Egypt was a very religious country. Most of the country’s population relied on Egyptian gods to give them the things they needed in order to live.

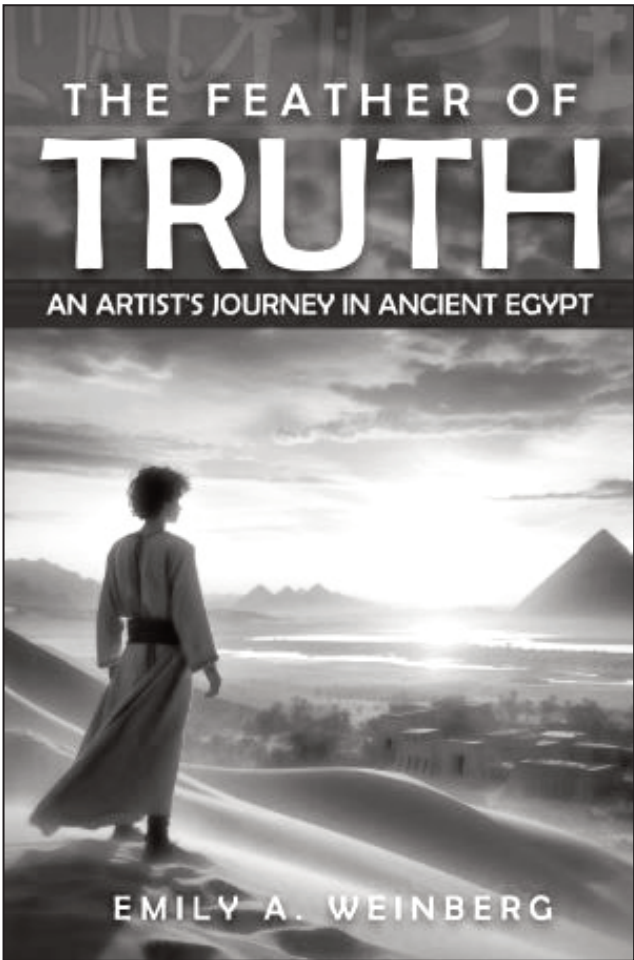
Here is an example: They would have a big festival to celebrate and pray to Opet, the god of water. This means that they could count on Opet to give them water for the crops and then they would have a good harvest.

The main character of the book is a young boy named Uli. When Uli was 11 years old, his mother died, so his father gave him to the priests of the temple of Kom Ombo, so they could train him to become a master artist.

One day, he receives an invitation to the bustling city of Thebes. He is then forced to move away from his beloved friends and home. He was invited here to compete for a position as a royal stone carving artist.

Emily Weinberg has turned the story into a well detailed and fascinating book. As Uli makes his way, he encounters a scorpion bite, a snake bite, and an assassination attempt on Pharaoh Rameses III. This page turner of a book includes Uli making new friends who trust him, and help him on his dangerous journey.

I think *The Feather of Truth* is a well thought out story that I really enjoyed. There were some words I had to look up in the dictionary, but I really learned a



lot about ancient Egypt and I want to keep studying more about it.

I would highly recommend that you read this book. If you want to borrow it, it is at the Westminster West Public Library.

Cover of the Feather of Truth

NEWS FROM BUTTERFIELD LIBRARY: YEAR ONE, VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



I can hardly believe it, but the end of this month marks my one year anniversary here at Butterfield Library — I started training with Linda on May 20, 2024!

It’s been a year of profound change (for the library and for myself), but it’s been so fun and so rewarding for me. I hope it has been for you, too. It’s been my greatest pleasure getting to know so many wonderful members of the Westminster community.

I’m reflecting a bit on my time here and the accomplishments we have been able to achieve — while I do work as a solo librarian, I absolutely must recognize that nothing happens alone. The library has been the lucky recipient of so much time, labor, and talent from many volunteers who have made so much happen that would not have been possible otherwise. To those dedicated volunteers, I am truly grateful. Thank you.

It’s with an understanding that volunteers are so important to achievement that I mention now that the Westminster Institute is recruiting new volunteers. It’s

a great time to get involved and there are many ways to do it — from joining the “Friends of the Institute and Library” (aka FoIL), to helping with day-to-day Institute tasks, from assisting at events to lending a hand at the library.

Volunteers can help out as much (or as little) as they’d like and can engage depending on their interest. Learn new things and lend your specific expertise to the benefit of the Institute and Westminster as a whole. Right now is a great time to get involved and really be an important part of all the great things that are happening in this building — and this community.

Interested? Let me know! Call the library at 802-722-4891 or send me an email at butterfield-lib.05158@gmail.com!

Butterfield Librarian Alison Baitz.

WESTMINSTER HAPPENINGS

WE’RE ALWAYS UPDATING THE HAPPENINGS ENTRIES. PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN THINGS CHANGE OR WHEN SOMETHING SHOULD BE ADDED OR REMOVED. THANK YOU!

FAITH COMMUNITY

The First Congregational Church of Westminster

The First Congregational Church of Westminster is located on Rt. 5 in Westminster. Each Sunday we have a children’s message and fellowship follows in the church hall.

May 4th. Worship at 10:00 am

May 6th Women’s Fellowship 10:30 am in the Hall

May 7th. SOUPer Wednesday last Wednesday end of the Season Cook out 12-2pm

May 7th. Bible Study Easter Series 6:30pm in the Hall and on Zoom

May 11th. Worship at 10:00 am. With Communion. Special Mother’s day service every mom will receive a special gift.

May 14th. Bible Study 6:30 pm. Easter Series in the Hall and on Zoom

May 17th. Spring Sale in the church grounds 9:00-2:00 pm. Plant sale, bake sale, church wide yard sale, Cookout for lunch

May 18th Worship at 10:00

May 19th Standing Committee 5:30 pm on Zoom.

May 25th. Worship at 10:00. Special Memorial Day Service. Veterans will be honored at the service and gifts will be given to those attending. Reception to follow.

All are welcome. Rev. Richard ODonnell serves as the Pastor. Please join us!

week, so there’s something for everyone.

To learn more, call us at (802) 463-4323 or visit us. Also find us on Facebook. We’re always happy to meet new people and welcome them into our church family.

Putney Friends Meeting - Quakers

17 Bellows Falls Rd (Rt 5) just north of Putney Village. Sunday worship at 8:30 and 10:30, Intergenerational Singing at 10. All are Welcome! Check www.putneyfriendsmeeting.org for more information.

ACTIVITIES

Butterfield Library hours are Mon. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Tues. 3-8 p.m. and Thur. 1-6 p.m. Sat. 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Westminster West Library Hours Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 1- 6 p.m., Saturday 10 - 2 p.m.

Gentle Yoga with Lisa Nigro Monday’s 10:30-11:45 a.m. at the Westminster Institute

This is an all levels class with a focus on building strength, increasing range of motion and flexibility, and improving balance. All poses can be modified to be either more accessible or more challenging.

Radiance Yoga: A slow Yoga fusion class with focus on immune and nervous systems, balance, ways of breathing, deep relaxation for over all health. At Westminster West Congregational Church, 44 Church St. Thursdays, 9:30-10:45 a.m. \$15 per class or \$54 for 4 classes (paid for month). Instructor is Elizabeth Bunker, shimmerez@gmail.com. Call for further info : 603 835-2900, text 978 793-2256.

Living Strong Classes with Ronnie Friedman, Karen Walter Online - Mondays & Thursdays 722-3607

Tai Chi Class Tues. 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m. Class Tues. 11 a.m.-noon Class Thursday 6-7 p.m. Westminster Institute

Souper Wednesdays

Homemade soups at Congregational Church Rt. 5 January through April 12-2 p.m. For deliveries Tina 802-376-7330

East Putney Contradance at Pierce’s Hall - 121 East Putney Falls Road off Rt. 5 (look for the signs)

Last Saturday of the month:

6 pm - Family hour with dancing for all ages

7 pm - 7:30 pm - Break with snacks

7:30 pm - Contras, squares, circles for all

9:30 pm - Last Waltz

For information on band and callers, and to check for changes: eputneypierceshall@gmail.com.

Knitting Together

An Enjoyable Experience! Wednesdays 1- 3 p.m. Village Square Booksellers, Bellows Falls

Bring your needles, we have yarn and casual instruction - all products donated locally.

Contact: Caroline 802-463-4653

Coffee Mornings - Coffee, Community, Conversation Westminster West Library, Saturdays from 10 to 2. All welcome, please drop in!

Zumba Fitness at Westminster Institute: Latin and world rhythm music, set to easy-to-follow choreography. Hybrid Classes: Tuesdays & Thursdays at 4:30 p.m Pre-registration and status review is required; contact: ZIN Certified Instructor: Pauline Blake O’Brien, 802-376-5397, paulineblakeob@outlook.com.

MEETINGS

Town Clerk - 802-722-4091

Selectboard 2nd and 4th Tuesdays 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 7 p.m. alternating between Westminster West Library and the Westminster Institute. To attend via Zoom,contact westminstervtconservation@gmail.com.

Development Review Board 1st Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Town Hall.

The Westminster Fire and Rescue meet on the 1st Tuesday every month, at 7 p.m. and a combined drill on the 3rd Tuesday at the Fire Station. 802-722-3178

911 Committee as needed

Westminster Cares Board 802-722-3607

Second Thursday, 4:30 p.m., Westminster Institute on-line & in person

Westminster Historical Society Board

3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m. Town Hall 2nd floor

Westminster Institute Board 2nd Tues. 6:30 p.m., Westminster Institute jimmatteau@gmail.com

Westminster Gazette westminsternews@gmail.com

3rd Monday, 5 p.m., Westminster Institute

Westminster West Library Board 802-387-4682

2nd Wed. 7 p.m. at the WW Library

Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association

3rd Thurs. 7 p.m. In-person or Zoom

Contact: coordinator@windmillhillpinnacle.org

The Living Earth Action Group most Fridays at 5 p.m. Westminster West Congregational Church

Contact: Caitlin Adair pcadair@sover.net

WVFD Prudential Committee meets on the 3rd Sunday of the month, at 10 a.m. at the Westminster Fire Station.

Early June Deadline

The deadline for the June 2025 Issue of the Westminster Gazette is Wednesday, May 14 Publication Date Is Wed. May 21 To Contact the Westminster Gazette E-mail: westminsternews@gmail.com

THE GAZETTE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE SUPPORT OF ITS UNDERWRITERS:

Abigail Altabef
802 Credit Union
Stacey & Tim Allen
Kurn Hattin Homes
Town of Westminster
Westminster Cares
Westminster Fire and Rescue Association
Burtco Inc.
The Dascomb Trust
K Beebe Inc.
American Wealth Adminstration Group

WESTMINSTER GAZETTE

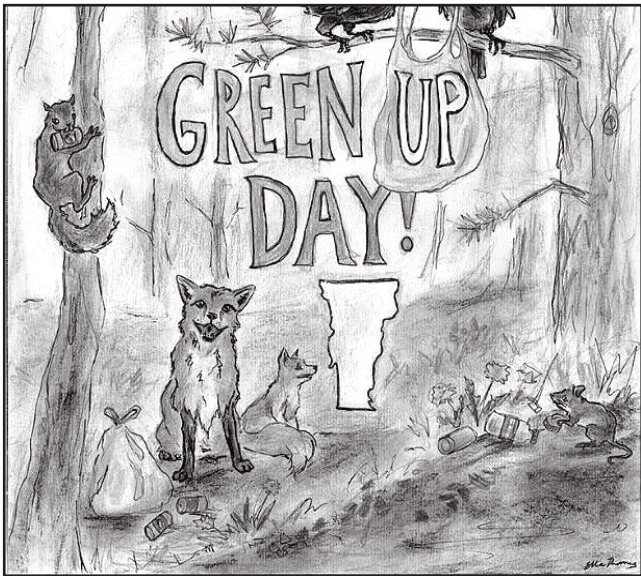
Editor: Robert F. Smith

Board of Directors:
Charmion Handy - Chairwoman
Donna Dawson
Alma Beals - Treas.
Joyce Sullivan - Sec.
Mary Scherbatskoy

Printed by Sentinel Printing, Keene, NH

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

MAY 3RD IS GREEN UP DAY



Join your neighbors on Vermont Green Up Day, Saturday, May 3, and help clean up a Westminster road or street.

Green Up bags are available before May 3 at the Town Hall in Westminster, the Westminster West Li-

brary, and The North Westminster Community House. You may also pick up bags in front of Town Hall on Green Up Day, Saturday, May 3, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

The bags you've used to gather trash may be placed on town roadsides after April 30 (so the bags aren't left along the road for long periods of time.) Please do not leave them on private roads.

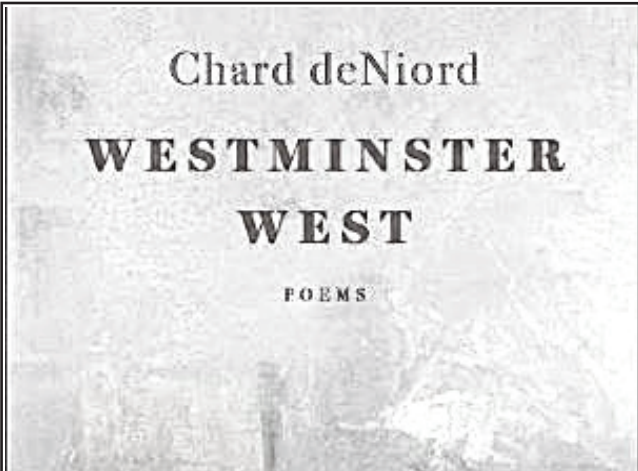
On Monday and Tuesday, May 5 and 6, the Westminster Town Highway Dept. will pick up bags, including any of your own trash bags used for Green Up.

As a safety reminder: Please wear gloves when picking up trash. Do not remove dead animals or suspected toxic/hazardous waste. Don't disturb needles or questionable debris.

If you have a safety concern, please inform the proper local authorities. Or contact VT State Road maintenance personnel (<http://vtrans.vermont.gov/>) or the State Police (<https://dps.vermont.gov/>)

Contact the Westminster Conservation Commission with questions at: westminstervtconservation@gmail.com.

DENIORD READS IN WESTMINSTER WEST



Chard deNiord will be at the Westminster West Public Library, Thursday, May 29 at 7 p.m. to read from his new book.

Chard deNiord is a former Vermont Poet Laureate. He has published several books of poetry and collections of conversations and reflections with 20th century poets.

His new book of poetry is titled *Westminster West* and it deals with such ancient subject matter such as love, betrayal, landscape, loss, grief, aging, and ecstasy.

Westminster West is divided into three sections that complement each other in their themes which range historically, mythologically, and cathectically.

OLD GRAVESTONE PRESERVATION VOLUNTEER EVENT



Your help is needed to restore and preserve the history and art on the cemetery stones in the historic Old Westminster Cemetery on Route 5. VOCA, the Vermont Old Cemetery Association, is having a volunteer work event Saturday May 24 th from 8 a.m. to 12. Any amount of time is appreciated!

We will be cleaning stones and straightening those that are leaning, preventing them from falling and breaking. The proper way to clean stones will be demonstrated to protect the history and art for future generations.

A limited number of cleaning kits will be available.

If you choose to clean stones – it is helpful for you to bring a pail, a soft nylon brush and a spray bottle of water if you have them.

If you choose to help straighten stones – please bring a shovel if you have one.

Everyone should have sturdy shoes, water, and gloves are helpful as well. Snacks and pizza will be provided for volunteers. Come join us, rain or shine!



Rent the Westminster Institute

Convenient location! Affordable rates!

Rooms are available for rent by the public for social functions, meetings, classes, weddings:

- Large community room with stage
- The elegant Dascomb Room
- Downstairs room for meetings or classes
- Kitchen
- Extensive outside grounds

For information, go to bit.ly/RentTheInstitute, email butterfieldlib.05158@gmail.com or call 802-722-4891 during library hours.

WESTMINSTER GARDEN TOUR 2025

SAVE THE DATE: JULY 5TH & 6TH

FEATURING THE GARDENS OF GORDON AND MARY HAYWARD, CYNDY FINE OF GENIUS LOCI & MORE

LUNCH IN THE GARDENS • WORKSHOPS • RAFFLE

MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON AT westminstercares.org

Listen, Join and Support Your Community Radio Station

WOOL 91.5 FM

www.blacksheepradio.org

Join The Team
Local Shows and Local DJ's Needed

SEASONAL, HANDMADE, RAW MILK CHEESE

PRESERVED SUNSHINE, IN A VARIETY OF STYLES

Unique, complex flavors start with healthy cows out on pasture under open skies.

Raw milk, creamery-made autochthonous starters, natural rennet, & sea salt from Maine.

Our cheese ages slowly, developing distinct flavors and textures that deliver the taste of this place.

VISIT OUR FARMSTORE

873 PATCH ROAD

WWW.PARISHHILLCREAMERY.COM

Temple Chiropractic

Supporting the health care needs of the community for the past 35 years

Specialist in the treatment of non-surgical back & neck pain

Dr. Vernon R. Temple
Chiropractic Physician

Dr. Tarontè Venable
Chiropractic Physician

102 Saxtons River Road
Bellows Falls, VT 05101
802-463-9522

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

SHARON
BOCCELLI
& COMPANY

Antiques & Auctioneers
PO Box 634, Putney, VT 05346
Purchasing Single Items Or Entire Estates
Clean Out Services Available
Probate Appraisals

www.sbauctioneers.com
sharon@sbauctioneers.com
Phone 617.413.4054

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

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

GREATER FALLS
INSURANCE

serving VT and NH since 1996
celebrating 20 years
Home • Auto • Farm • Business • Motorcycle • Recreational Vehicles

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



Jessica Fuller
Financial Advisor

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

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



STILL LOCAL
AFTER ALL THESE YEARS
Switch to Savings Bank of Walpole's
TRULY FREE local checking.
To open an account online visit
walpolebank.com, or call (603) 352-1822.





Maple Leaf
Chimney Sweep

(802) 380-9890

Mapleleafchimney@gmail.com
www.mapleleafchimneysweep.com
Facebook.com/mapleleafchimneysweep

Fred's Rock Shop

Frederick McKenny
1993 Pine Banks Road
Putney, VT 05346
802 376 7313

Fredrocksrockshop.com
fredrocksrockshop@gmail.com

Open Saturdays
10:00am – 4:00pm


Or for an appointment
to browse or any questions
please call or email.



TRASH REMOVAL

802.869.2235

Box 434, Saxtons River Vermont 05154 Joe 802.384.0397
Jeff 603.209.4441




Myles Mickie • Jon Midura
32 The Square, PO 245
Bellows Falls, VT 05101
802-463-9404
info@villagesquarebooks.com

Books for all ages • Toys • Gifts • Journals
Full Service Independent Bookstore Open 7 Days a Week

www.villagesquarebooks.com
Open 24/7 for Book, Audio & e-Book web orders

APRIL BUSINESS OF THE MONTH:
VERMONT SHEPHERD



Vermont Shepherd has been grazing sheep and making cheese here in Westminster for 35 years. The sheep you see grazing along Patch Road and along the Westminster 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 400 or 500 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 ewes. Then we turn the milk into aged and fresh cheese and yogurt; while the Ladies of Bellows Falls use the milk to make soap.

We sell most of these products in our farm store off Patch Road. This year for the first time, we are selling lamb in the farm store that is processed by the Fedal Brothers at Westminster Packing House. Our products can be found at 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 years and invite you to visit ours and all the local farm stands!

YOUR AD COULD BE
HERE! ASK US ABOUT IT.

Livewater Farm & Dairy

Eggs • Milk • Butter
Milk Fed Pork
Grass Fed Beef

Fresh Mozzarella
Aged Tomme
Maple Syrup • Hay

Stop in and see us at the farm stand !
Open 9-6 Thursday thru Sunday,

1289 Westminster West RD, Putney, Vermont 05346
www.livewaterfarm.net • 802-222-1525 • livewaterdairy@gmail.com



BALD HILL BEES
Westminster, VT
Raw, Local
HONEY
EST. 1981

BALD HILL BEES

Raw, Local Honey

Chip & Diane O'Brien
802-579-6115

566 Bald Hill
Westminster VT 05158



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



MILKWEED
FARM

Visit our
Farm Store
in West
West!

Open all year, full
of fresh local
goodness!

www.milkweedfarmvt.com

Christopher Hinds
LICSW, ACSW

Free telephone
consultation

PSYCHOTHERAPY

Adults, Adolescents
Couples


404-989-4320
39 The Square,
Suite 201
Bellows Falls, VT
05101

www.hindstherapy.com On: psychologytoday.com



Harlow
Farmstand
Rte. 5 Westminster VT
802.722.3513

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



Karen Vedus LMFT
Emotionally Focused Couples Therapy

Westminster, 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



Berkley & Veller
Greenwood Country
Realtors
Family-owned since 1965



Heidi Bernier
CBR, SRES, Realtor®
Licensed VT & NH
heidi.bernier@berkleyveller.com

O: (802) 254-6400 X 135
C: (802) 380-1585-Best

119 Western Avenue • Brattleboro, VT 05301
www.berkleyveller.com

WESTMINSTER ANIMAL HOSPITAL
PO BOX 90
WESTMINSTER STATION, VT 05159
(802)722-4196
Andrea Neiley, DVM Megan Peddigree, VMD
Kristin Anderson, DVM Susan Oswald, DVM



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




Cota & Cota

HEATING OIL
PROPANE GAS
PLUMBING

Your Local Heating & Cooling Experts
Delivering Peace of Mind Since 1941

WWW.COTAOL.COM (802) 463-0000

24HR SERVICE



MORSE BROOK FARM

Pasture Raised Lamb
Maple Syrup
Yarn, Woolen Blankets,
Sheep Pelts
Herdin Demonstrations

226 Kurkul Rd Westminster, VT 05346
802-528-2155 morsebrookfarm.com

JUDD'S AUTO REPAIRS
6109 US ROUTE 5
WESTMINSTER, VERMONT 05158
802-722-4200
David & Elaine Judd, owners
Steve Godfrey, mechanic
Automotive Repair Vermont State Inspection