

WESTFORD NEWSLETTER November 2017

Westford Town Office

1713 Vermont Route 128, Westford, Vermont 05494 Phone (802)878-4587 • Fax (802)879-6503 https://westfordvt.us/

Happy Thankşgiving!

Property Tax Installment

Property taxes are due Wednesday, November 15th. Payments will be considered timely if they are received by this date, have a November 15th postmark, or are in the drop box located to the left of the town office door before the office opens at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 16th.

Selectboard FY'19 Budget Workshops

The Selectboard began working on the FY'19 budget in October. Upcoming workshops will be held on:

- November 9th
- December 14th & 28th

If needed, additional meetings will be held. The Board encourages residents to attend these meetings to provide feedback to assist the Board in developing a budget to be voted on in March 2018.

Senior Luncheon

The Senior Luncheon will be on November 13th at noon at the Red Brick Meeting House on the common. All seniors are welcome. Please join us for a home cooked meal. If you need a ride, please call me at 878-3090 or Beth Menut at 893-2263. If you have a neighbor that isn't coming, please contact them and see if they would like to give it a try. The Adams Turkey Farm has graciously donated turkeys for our meal this month. Hope to see you there. Carol Howrigan, President

Holiday Gift Cards

For the past several years, the Town has collected monetary donations to purchase Hannaford gift cards for Westford residents in need. The gift cards provide recipients with the ability to purchase food and household items as needed and according to their personal preferences.

Monetary donations will be accepted November 27th through December 18th. If you prefer, you can purchase the gift cards (<u>ones that prohibit tobacco and alcohol purchases</u>) yourself. Please mail or deliver your donation to the Town Office. The gift cards will be mailed on December 19th to Westford residents only.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the December Newsletter is 12:00 noon on Monday, November 27th.

Town Office Hours

The Town Office will be closed November 22nd – November 24th for Thanksgiving.

REMINDER

As of June 1, RECYCLING IS BEING PICKED UP ON A WEEKLY BASIS.
You may put your recycling out with your garbage every week.

The Westford Selectboard is pleased to announce two new Road Crew members.

After almost five years of serving as Westford's Road Foreman, Brent Meacham resigned from the position effective Tuesday, September 19th. The Selectboard would like to thank Brent for his years of service to the Town of Westford.

Residents and taxpayers of Westford are fortunate that John Roberts of Westford applied for and accepted the job as Westford's new Road Foreman. John started in the excavation field in 1987, gaining experience with residential and agricultural site work. He then through the next 15 years began to take on significantly larger responsibilities, such as commercial buildings at Maple Tree Place including Dick's Sporting Goods and Shaws, and two of the strip mall sections opposite the Majestic Movie Theater. Mr. Roberts currently owns and operates J. Roberts Excavation in Westford. During 2004 - 2011, prior to his current business, he served as a foreman at C&M Contracting in Barre, as a foreman at S.D. Ireland in South Burlington, and as a Project Manager at Omega Excavation in in Williston.

In addition to Mr. Roberts, we are pleased to announce the hiring of Sean Cushing as a new member of the Westford Road Crew. Mr. Cushing has served since 1998 as a heavy equipment operator with Hayes Excavating in Milton and has over 19 years of experience driving trucks and operating and maintaining heavy equipment.

Please help us in welcoming these Westford residents to their new positions!

OPENING ON REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

The Selectboard is seeking town residents interested in serving as Westford's representative on the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC).

The CCRPC is one of eleven commissions serving Vermont municipalities and operates under the Vermont Municipal and Regional Planning and Development Act and its bylaws. The CCRPC is guided by Commissioners that are appointed by the City Councils, Village Trustees, and Selectboards of the municipalities within the region. The Commissioners meet throughout the year and act as the Board of the organization, conducts business, and is responsible for the fiscal soundness of the organization.

For more information on the CCPRC, please go to http://www.ccrpcvt.org/about-us/commission/. Organization.

Please contact the Town Office at 878-4587 or townclerk@westfordvt.us if you are interested in representing Westford on this commission.

ATTENTION DOG LOVERS

The Town of Westford is looking for someone who is interested in serving as Dog Warden. What is a Dog Warden? A Dog Warden is a person who helps dog owners comply with the Westford Dog Ordinance. What qualifications do you need in order to be considered for the Dog Warden position? A love for dogs, the ability to communicate effectively, and a location to bring dogs until they can be reunited with their owner, to name a few. Some people think they need a kennel in order to be a Dog Warden. This is not the case. However, a stray dog does need to be placed in a healthy environment until it is reunited with its owner. A healthy environment includes shelter, food, water and a suitable area for them to relieve themselves.

The Dog Warden position receives an annual stipend of \$500. The Town budget also includes funds for training, supplies and mileage. If you would like more information on helping the community by serving in this position, please contact the Town Office at 878-4587 or townclerk@westfordvt.us. You do not need to be a Westford resident to apply for this position.

PLANNING COMMISSION NEWS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Westford is a great town due in large part to the efforts of many volunteers. Things happen because people come together to make them happen. If you enjoy the benefits of living in Westford, please consider volunteering. There are many opportunities.

Many of the groups and committees in town always have openings for volunteers. Some of the volunteer groups in town are: Development Review Board, Planning Commission, Conservation Commission, Board of Civil Authority & Abatement, Cemetery Commission, Energy Committee, Recreation Committee, Road Committee, Trail Committee, Historical Society, United Church of Westford, Brick Meeting House Society, The Committee for Westford Children & Families, Westford Parent Teacher Organization, Westford School volunteers.

Some community activities brought to you by volunteers and civic groups are: fun runs, Recreation Committee opportunities and activities, concerts on the Common & church concerts, lectures, kid's story time, afterschool programs, summer programs, yoga, senior lunch, coffee house, holiday baskets for those in need, recreation trail maintenance, school enrichment programs, July 4th parade, ice rink, Westford food shelf.

Several people have recently inquired about whether the ice skating rink will be assembled and maintained this winter. For many years the ice rink was the winter gardening project of Dave Adams. Unfortunately, Dave and Sue Adams have moved out of town. If there is an interest in having the ice rink be a part of the Common this winter, it will take a group of volunteers to construct and maintain it throughout the winter. A good start would be to attend the Selectboard meeting on October 26th at 7PM. The ice rink is on the agenda.

Beyond the ice rink, Westford is always in need of volunteers. It's a great way to gain a better understanding about the workings of the Town, and to meet and work alongside some of your neighbors.

If you have the interest and the time to serve your community, please check in with the Town Clerk, Nanette Rogers or the Town Planner, Melissa Manka. <u>802-878-4587</u>

Westford Planning Commission:

Koi Boynton, Wendy Doane, Gordon Gebauer (Chair), Seth Jensen, Mark Letorney

WINTER WEAR SHARE!

Community members will be holding a drive for our community this month to share our good condition used winter wear or new donations with neighbors who can use them! Coats, hats, gloves, mittens for all ages in clean, serviceable condition, to share on November 18, at the United Church of Westford (the White Church above the common). Open to all, come and drop off, or come and browse...you never know what you may find! Open 8:00am to 10:00am.

Clean items in good condition can be dropped off at the Westford Town Office or Library through November 16, or email Carol Winfield (carol@vtwildlife.com) to make arrangements for pick up what you would like to share.

Please note this event will be the same day as the Westford Food Shelf, but is not affiliated with the Food Shelf, as they cannot accept clothing. This is a one-time only event. Thank you for your support!

SCHOOL BOARD NOTES

Equity: The Essex Westford School District Board has been learning about and discussing equity in several different contexts over the past two months. In preparation for a recent meeting, board members received reading materials on the subject. At the meeting, we held a good discussion of the topic focusing on the difference between equality and equity and what schools need to do to create an equitable school system.

Last week several members of the board attended the annual Vermont School Boards Association conference. The keynote speaker focused on equity and relationships and their importance in closing the achievement gap in our schools. I liked the analogy he used to describe the difference between equality and equity. He said equality is giving every student in a classroom a pair of shoes. Equity is giving every student in a classroom a pair of shoes that fits. A strong public education system must provide the supports that truly give students access to an equitable education.

Finally, at our last meeting we heard from our Student Support Services Directors about a report from an outside consulting group that is working with selected school districts across Vermont. The report looked at what the EWSD is doing to provide quality services to struggling students. The report emphasizes the importance of high quality first instruction. In other words, the classroom teacher must be trained to make learning accessible to students with different learning styles and different abilities. A second emphasis was on the importance of extra time for struggling students. And it talked about the importance of additional instruction being provided by experts in the teaching of the subject. The report provides a lot of food for thought as the board looks to find more ways to close the achievement gap by providing equitable opportunities for all students. The report will become public once it has been shared with teachers and support staff.

Negotiations: We are pleased to report that the school district and the teachers' association have successfully negotiated a two year teacher contract. The following is the press release that describes the settlement:

The Essex Westford School District Board and the Essex Westford Educators Association are pleased to announce that an agreement has been ratified for a two-year contract. This agreement created a unified teacher contract to replace those that existed in Essex Town School District and Chittenden Central Supervisory Union.

The new master agreement will result in a unified salary and seniority schedule, a consistent number of school days, and a common length of work day in the second year across the ten schools.

With respect to health care, beginning January 1, 2018, teachers will pay 19% of their premiums through June 30, 2018, and 20% of their premiums July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019, with teachers paying the first \$400 in out of pocket expenses for a single plan and \$800 for a two-person or family plan under an HRA (health reimbursement arrangement). This represents a similar overall cost structure for the teachers, does not increase the overall costs for the school district, maintains benefits, and moves toward the State health care model which is the basis for the calculation upon which state revenue will be determined.

Finally, the settlement also includes 3% total "new dollars" in salary for each of the two years of the contract.

"This agreement is the result of a year of carefully listening to the concerns on both sides of the table," said Mike Gilbert, co-lead negotiator for the teachers.

Kim Gleason, who represented the board in the negotiations, shared those sentiments. "We worked collaboratively and respectfully to arrive at a contract that would support the needs of our students, respect the professionalism of our educators and honor the investment of our taxpayers. We would like to thank all who participated in and supported these negotiations for their time and commitment to the process and this unified outcome."

The board is still negotiating a support staff contract. These negotiations are at impasse.

Community Conversations: The Voices for Education group is conducting community conversations this month to help inform the school board in creating a vision for our new district. We are pleased to note that there are members of the Westford community who volunteered to part of these conversations. We are grateful for their willingness to engage in these important conversations. The results of these conversation will be reported out at a gathering on November 28th from 6;30 to 7;30 at the Essex Junction Parks and Recreation building on Maple Street in Essex Junction. Please join us there!!

School Budgets and Ratios: School board members recently received a communication from the Secretary of Education regarding FY19 budget issues and staffing ratios. The FY19 school budget picture is not a pretty one. Last year the state

relied on significant one time funds to balance the Education Fund. Those funds will not be available to pay for next year's budgets. Furthermore the cost of special education is increasing and budgets are expected to increase by 2-3%. All of these factors are projected to result in an 8 cent increase in property tax rates and a corresponding increase in the rate for those who pay based on their income.

Secretary Holcomb believes school districts need to take a hard look at staffing. As our student population declines are we "right sizing" our staff accordingly? Are we taking advantage of attrition (staff retirements and resignations) to look carefully at how we might do things differently? Are we properly staffing Special Education based on the research on what works best for these students?

Our district's first task will be to examine the various ratios that the state has attributed to our district to make certain they are correct. Then we must have a careful discussion about where we might make changes in staffing levels while maintaining and improving the quality of education our students now enjoy.

EWSD board meetings take place on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Essex High School Library beginning at 6:30. The meetings are taped and can be viewed at the school board section of the EWSD website (ewsd.org) Also on the website you can read the agendas and minutes for our meetings. Feel free to contact us at any time if you have questions or concerns.

Martha Heath and Andre Roy EWSD Board Members

Westford Town Eighth Grade Students are Hosting

A Harvest Festival and Haunted Forest

Saturday, October 28th

The Harvest Festival will be at the Westford Town Common 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

- * Play Halloween games.
- * Win Prizes.
- * And enjoy the trunk-or-treat!

The Haunted Forest will be at the woods behind the Westford School 6:30 pm - 8:00pm

* Prepare for a spooky walk, skits, and fun!

Each event is \$5 and all proceeds go to Funding the Westford Town Eighth Grade Class Trip! Don't miss it!





Westford PTO News

November 2017

The Westford PTO mission is to enrich our children's lives with educational and extracurricular activities.

Opportunities to Get Involved



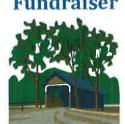
Scholastic Book Fair —October 23-26

The PTO and Westford School Library present our annual Scholastic Book Fair during the week of **October 23** during school hours, with evening hours for our annual **Family Night on Tuesday, October 24, 4-8 pm**.

We are looking for volunteers to help staff the book fair (2-hour shift with the librarian or another volunteer). We still have shifts left – earn a free book (\$10 value) for a 2-hour shift – please contact the PTO, westfordvtpto@gmail.com. All proceeds benefit our school library.

Buy Local Fundraiser — Oct. 27 – Nov. 27

In this, the 8th year of our most successful fundraiser, we're focusing on what we hear you want most — more vouchers! PTO volunteers have scoured the area to create vouchers to favorites and new businesses! Look for this year's *Buy Local* catalog in student Friday folders, at the Westford Town Library, Westford town office, and at the main school office and hallway!



Buy Local

We will offer vouchers through our catalogs and online at our shopify site from October 27 through Thanksgiving break, so plan ahead to share the savings with family, friends and neighbors. Vouchers make great gifts for teachers, neighbors, dinner hosts, and others you may wish to thank this holiday season! Businesses are generous with the amount our school receives, so it's a great way for us to raise funds and support local business.

Holiday Craft Bazaar - Sunday, December 3 at RBMH

The PTO hosts our 2nd annual **Holiday Craft Bazaar** at the Red Brick Meeting House on Sunday, December 3th from 9am-2pm. Vendors tables (\$25 each) are limited. If you would like to be a vendor, contact Heather Armata at <u>cornerstonerevt@gmail.com</u> or call/text – 802-338-8235. Join us for this fun community event and support our amazing local artists and crafters!

PTO Calendar

October 23–26, 8am - 4pm Scholastic Book Fair Westford School Library

Tuesday, October 24, 4-8 pm Book Fair Family Night

October 27–November 27
Buy Local fundraiser
westfordpto.myshopify.com

Tuesday, November 14, 7 pm PTO meeting Westford Town Library

November 20–24 professional development and Thanksgiving break

Sunday, December 3, 9am-2pm Holiday Craft Bazaar Red Brick Meeting House

Tuesday, December 12, 7 pm *PTO meeting*Westford Town Library

Tuesday, January 9, 7 pm PTO meeting Westford Town Library

REMINDER:
Clip your Box Tops!
Collection box in the lobby.



2017-2018 Westford School PTO officers:

President: Rachael Parker; Vice President: Heather Armata;

Treasurer: Meredith Irish; Secretary: Deb Hazel.

Contact the PTO with your questions, comments, and ideas:

E-mail: westfordvtpto@gmail.com

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/westfordvtpto

Website: https://www.ewsd.org/Page/2679

WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

http://westfordpubliclibrary.org (802)878-5639

westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

1717 VERMONT ROUTE 128, WESTFORD VT 05494

The Library will be CLOSED Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 for Thanksqiving.





Travel Talk Returns! Wednesday, November 8 from 7:00-8:30pm

Destination: California's Sierra Nevada Presented by: Bernhard Wunder

"Everyone knows the well photographed Valley in Yosemite National Park.

But the Sierra Nevada has much more to offer. We especially love its eastern side and have visited the area a few times over the past years. This travel talk will revisit some highlights of that part of California including a 4-day backcountry trip on the John Muir Trail." Refreshments served.

ButtonUp VT with the Westford Energy Committee Thursday, November 9 at 7pm



The Westford Energy Committee will provide a presentation and answer questions about the Button Up VT initiative. The presentation will detail simple steps that can be taken to increase the efficiency of your home and lower your energy bills. The group will answer any technical questions and will also discuss incentive programs available in VT that help increase the efficiency of your home for a fraction of the typical cost.

Fire Safety Storytime is November 9 at 11am. Steve Willard (a real fire fighter!) will read fire fighter stories, teach us about fire safety and will show us the FIRETRUCK!!



Library Hours

1-7pm Wednesday: Thursday: 10am-7pm 1-7pm Friday: 10am-2pm Saturday: **CLOSED November 23&24**

Adult Book Group Wed. November 15 7:00-8:00pm Pick up your books at the front desk!

We will be reading The Zookeeper's Wife



DIVAS VEXEUNT

by: Diane Ackerman

Diane Ackerman (A Natural History of the Senses) tells the remarkable WWII story of Jan Zabinski, the director of the Warsaw Zoo, and his wife, Antonina,

who, with courage and coolheaded ingenuity, sheltered 300 Jews as well as Polish resisters in their villa and in animal cages and sheds. Using Antonina's diaries, other contemporary sources and her own research in Poland, Ackerman takes us into the Warsaw

ghetto and the 1943 Jewish uprising and also describes the Poles' revolt against the Nazi occupiers in 1944. She introduces us to such varied figures as Lutz Heck, the duplicitous head of the Berlin zoo; Rabbi Kalonymus Kalman Shapira, spiritual head of the

ghetto; and the leaders of Zegota, the Polish organization that rescued Jews. Ackerman reveals other rescuers, like Dr. Mada Walter, who helped many Jews pass, giving lessons on how to appear Aryan and not attract notice. Ackerman's writing is viscerally evocative, as in her description of the effects of the German bombing of the zoo area. (Publisher's Weekly, starred review)

We also have the movie!

Early Literacy Storytime: Birth to Pre-School Every Thursday at 11am No registration required!

11/9/17: Theme: Fire Safety (w/a real fire truck!) 11/2/17: Theme: Tigers 11/23/17: No Storytime - we are closed 11/16/17: Theme: Turkeys

11/30/17: Rhymes

Storytime consists of several stories around a theme, as well as a theme-based craft. All ages and levels of attention are encouraged to come. Don't worry if they fidget - they are still getting a lot out of it!

The WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY provides access to materials, technology, reference services and programs to meet the informational, educational, and recreational needs of the Westford community.

WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

http://westfordpubliclibrary.org westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com (802)878-5639

November Library Events

November 1 - Trustees Meeting 7-9pm

November 8 - Travel Talk: California's Sierra Nevada, presented by **Bernhard Wunder**

November 9 - Fire Safety Storytime - 11am

November 9 - Button Up VT with the **Westford Energy Committee**

November 15 - Adult Book Group 7-8pm -The Zookeeper's Wife

November 16 - NOFA's "Vermont Farm Kids" film screening 6:30-8:00pm

November 23 - CLOSED

November 24 - CLOSED

November 29 - 4th grade book group celebration - Ghost - see Ms. Shelley for permission slip

November 29 - Drawing for A Christmas Carol tickets

Storytime every Thursday 11am Crazy 8's Grades 3-5 - Thursdays Crazy8's Grades K-2 - Fridays

Enter our raffle for a pair of tickets to: **A Christmas Carol**



presented by the **Nebraska Theatre** Caravan at the Flynn Center Friday, Dec. 8 at 7pm. Drawing will be held on November 29, enter every time you visit the library.

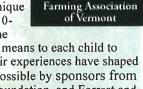


Bedtime Math's Crazy 8's Math Club!!! Weekly October 26/27 - December 21/22 Grades 3-5 - Thursdays (not 11/23) Grades K-1 - Fridays (not 11/24) Bus transport provided from school (Bus #3), pickup at Library between 4:30-5:00pm These classes are full.

Celebrate Agricultural Literacy Week with a Film. Vermont Farm Kids

Thurs., Nov. 16 from 6:30-8:00pm Agricultural Literacy Week is a week-long celebration to inform and educate people about the economic and cultural importance of farms in Vermont communities.

NOFA-VT is proud to present a new film, "Vermont Farm Kids" produced by Maria Reade and filmed by James Chandler. This documentary (40 minutes) depicts the unique and poignant stories of farm kids (ages 10-28) from across the state of Vermont. The



Northeast Organic

film expresses the importance of what it means to each child to grow up on their own farm, and how their experiences have shaped their lives. This project has been made possible by sponsors from Farm Credit East: the Johnson Family Foundation, and Forrest and Frances Lattner Foundation.

"We are so excited to present this new documentary," said Abbie Nelson, NOFA-VT's Education Director. "This film is an oppor-

tunity to hear stories about what it is like growing up on a farm, leaving the farm, and returning. It will highlight the important role farm kids have in Vermont and bring a new understanding to their contribution to our agricultural state." We encourage all farm families to



come and add to the discussion. If you ever lived on a farm - you will love this film. Westford is a rural community, come share in its rich farm heritage. Refreshments will be served.

The Library is **no longer accepting donations** of books, audiobooks, and DVDs **at this time** for our annual Fourth of July Book Sale. We will begin accepting donations in the spring of 2018. Thank you to community for supporting our annual Fourth of July Book Sale.

The WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY provides access to materials, technology, reference services and programs to meet the informational, educational, and recreational needs of the Westford community.

NOVEMBER 2017 • NEWSLETTER

Westford Recreation Department

www.westfordvt.us/recreation

Mission Statement: The Westford Recreation Department was created to provide recreational, educational, athletic, cultural, and entertainment activities to all Westford residents and neighbors. We strive to offer programs for a wide variety of ages, abilities and interests. We depend on community input, support and volunteers to make these programs successful.





Soon to be Announced WINTER 2018

The Westford Snowball Biathalon welcomes all ages of xcountry skiers and snow shoe lovers. We're offering a timed course for both xcounty and snowshoe.



Contestants are also scored on throwing snowballs at designated targets on route.



AUTUMN FENCING SERIES

Begins Tuesdays in November at the RBMH

Youth ages 9-13 3:30 - 5:00 PM

Ages 14+ 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Fee \$90



NEW and COMING SOON: T.W.W.A.X.



December 7 7:00 PM "Our Bears, part one" at the Westford Library

Tom Schmidt, Recreation Department Coordinator: 802-858-6211 or WestfordVTRec@gmail.com Committee members: Danielle Vierling, Greg Baker, Nancy Volkers, Maureen Carpenter, Jeff LaBossiere

WESTFORD RECREATION DEPARTMENT – REGISTRATION FORM

NAME (Parents)			
ADDRESS	TOWN	ZIP	
E-MAIL ADDRESS (only to be used f	for WRD mailings)		
HOME PHONE	CELL/WORK PHONE	B	
EMERGENCY CONTACT		PHONE	
DOCTOR'S NAME	PHONE		
Please list medical conditions , physical limitations, allergies, or restrictions WRD should be aware of:			
NAME	PROGRAM		FEE
1,		-1. 1	
3	-	-2 2 	
4		e :	
5		-	
		TOTAL:	
Would you be interested in being a coach or be a parent helper? YesNo			
Please contact a Recreation Department member if your financial situation is preventing you from signing yourself, or your child, up for a program. Scholarships are available.			
RELEASE/WAVIER AGREEMENT: I am fully aware of the inherent risk, and give my consent for the above named applicant(s) to participate in the program(s) listed above. I hold harmless the Town of Westford, Westford School, their employees, elected officials, and/or any volunteers or instructors from any and all liability from any injury, claim, costs or loss of services which may be incurred by me, or us, or our minor children on account of participation in said program(s). Permission is hereby granted for me or us, or my child(ren) to receive emergency treatment if needed and I authorize the attending physician to administer any needed medical attention. Furthermore, I certify that I, or we, or my child(ren) are in good health and that there are no limitations to my/our participation except in writing above. I have read this document carefully and sign it voluntarily with full knowledge of its significance.			

Send registration with check payable to: WESTFORD RECREATION DEPARTMENT Town of Westford, 1713 VT Rt.128, Westford, VT 05494

Signature_

Date_



Saturday, November 18, 2017

Registration: 8:30 a.m. - Race Start: 10 a.m. - Snow, Rain or Shine

Westford School

Brookside Road, Westford, VT

10k run ★ 3k walk/run ★ 100 yd Tot Trot (6 & under)

\$12, pre-register online by Nov 15 * \$15, day of race

Random Drawing for Prizes!

Homemade treats & chili for sale!

Proceeds benefit The Committee for Westford Children and Families www.westfordturkeytrot.wordpress.com

BRICK MEETING HOUSE SOCIETY OF WESTFORD

As 2017 begins to wind down and the holidays are approaching the giving season is upon us. The Brick Meeting House (BMH) is a valuable community resource that has hosted numerous events for the town over the years. We provide space to the Seniors for the monthly luncheons, space for yoga and fencing, a place for family get togethers and holiday parties.

Please keep the BMH in mind while considering your annual holiday giving. We are a recognized 501(c)3 charity by the IRS and your donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. All donations stay local! Help us to keep providing this valuable service in Westford.

Please send your tax deductible gift to: Brick Meeting House, PO Box 63, Westford, VT 05494. Please call Greg Barrows at 878-4395 if you have any questions.

Westford Community Holiday Gathering & Tree Lighting



Saturday December 2nd
6:30pm on the
Westford Common

Bring your flashlights and your singing voices for a holiday sing-a-long and the annual lighting of the tree in the gazebo!

HEAR IT FIRST ON THE FRONT PORCH FORUM

If you have not joined the Westford Front Porch Forum, please consider doing so. Everyone is invited to participate and it's free! This is a great way to connect with neighbors and the community.

Check it out at http://frontporchforum.com/!

This community service is brought to you by Burlington residents Michael and Valerie Wood-Lewis



WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES

HELIAND CONSORT

Folk & Classical Music with Woodwinds and Vocals

Sunday, November 12th, 4-5 p.m. Westford UCW white church

The HELIAN CONSORT will perform an innovative program entitled, "Crossing the Bar", exploring the relationship between classical and folk music ranging from creative selections of Flemish Renaissance folk songs to music of Bartok, Gershwin and Dvorak. The talented trio features Berta Frank on flute, Katie Oprea on oboe and Elizabeth LeBlanc on clarinet. All long-time Vermont residents, the Heliand Consort trio present engaging programs combining great classical repertoire with song and story. This performance will feature vocals of traditional songs of the British Isles associated with the setting of Alfred Lord Tennyson's "Crossing The Bar". Celebrating their eleventh season, Heliand Consort is known to bring spirited performances to audiences throughout Vermont.

Free will donation. Refreshments served. Call Marge Hamrell at 879-4028 for more information.