



WESTFORD NEWSLETTER



August 2021

A year-round resident, the **Red Breasted Nuthatch** lives mostly in conifer trees and gets its name from how it hammers seeds into the cracks of trees to open them. They can also walk on the underside of branches!

Westford Town Office

1713 Vermont Route 128 - Westford, Vermont 05494

Phone: (802)878-4587 Fax: (802)879-6503

<https://westfordvt.us/>

TOWN OFFICE NOTES

Senior Luncheon

Hello everyone! If nothing changes between now and September, we are planning on getting back to seeing everyone on Sept. 13th. For new people in Westford, we meet the 2nd Monday of each month at the Red Brick Meeting House on the Common. We open the doors at 11:30 a.m. with lunch at 12:00 p.m.

There is a brief meeting after our meal. September is Election of Officers, so it's a good time to start. It's been almost a year and a half since we have been together and that is a very long time in the world of seniors. We have lost several seniors during this time, and I want to give you my heartfelt sympathy. I have personally lost several elders in my family, and I know what a great loss it is. My prayers are with you, and may the days ahead begin to bring you the wonderful memories that each person gave you during their life.

I have missed everyone and am looking forward to seeing everyone on Sept 13th. We always look forward to seeing new faces, too. Mark your calendars now. If you are 55+, please come for a home cooked meal and a chance to visit with your neighbors and friends. If you have any questions, please call me at 878-3090. Carol Howrigan, President

Dogs Licenses

If you have not licensed your dog(s) please do so as soon as possible (**licenses were due April 1st**).

A current rabies certificate is required. If you are unsure if the current certificate is on file, please call or email the Town Office (878-4587 or townclerk@westfordvt.us). For your convenience, you may mail or drop off the fee and rabies certificate along with a self-addressed stamped envelope and we will mail the license to you. The fee is \$13.00 unless your dog is spayed or neutered, in which case the fee is \$11.00.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the July Newsletter is 12:00 noon on Monday, August 23rd.

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

The Town Office is **OPEN:**
Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-4pm
Friday, 8:30am-1pm

WESTFORD CEMETERY REMINDERS

Artificial flowers, glass containers and items with wire are **NOT** allowed in any of the Westford cemeteries. They will be subject to removal by cemetery officials. Also, the **planting of trees and shrubs is NOT permitted**. There are signs posted in each cemetery.

Thank you for your cooperation,
Westford Cemetery Commission



SUMMER ROADS

What you need to know about warm weather road conditions

- **Road Projects:** many projects are being done on the roads at this time. Slow down and give crews space to work.
- **Dust:** roads can become dusty in dry weather and potholes can appear in heavily traveled areas. Going the speed limit can reduce dusty and damage roads.
- **Roadside Mowing:** roadsides are mowed to increase visibility and keep invasive plants at bay. Mowing occurs twice a year: once in late spring/early summer and once later in the summer.
- **Traffic Speeds:** due to the hard-packed conditions of the roads this time of year, overall vehicle speeds can increase. Be aware of speed limits.
- **Heavy Loads:** do damage to thawing roads. Traveling roads with heavy equipment may be prohibited at any time.
- **Repairs:** roads are repaired as weather allows. Know that this takes time, it might take the road crew some time to get to your road. Highly traveled roads in poor condition are given priority.

Reminders:

- Watch for increased pedestrian traffic including walkers, bikers, horseback riders etc. Please slow down and give other users of the road lots of room as you pass.

Please Join Us for a
Celebration of Life
In Loving Memory of
FRENA W PHILLIPS

February 15, 1933 – December 5, 2020

Saturday September 18, 2021 • 1pm-4pm • The Red Brick Meeting House

1685 VT Route 128

Westford, VT





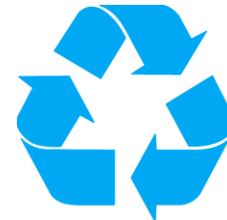
TRASH, RECYCLING & FOOD SCRAPS IN WESTFORD

Can I Recycle That?

Did you know that you are not supposed to put your recycling in plastic bags of any kind? The only exception to this is shredded office paper, which is accepted only if it's in a CLEAR BAG that's tightly closed.

Here are some other items that do NOT belong in your recycling bin:

- Dirty containers
- Plastic wrap
- Durable plastic (e.g., Tupperware, laundry bins, etc.)
- Styrofoam
- Motor oil or hazardous waste containers



For more information on the proper way to recycle, please visit <https://cswd.net/recycling/>. There is even an interesting video of a tour of the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) where your recycling goes to be sorted.

Food Scraps *(Effective July 1, 2020, per Act 148, food scraps are banned from landfills.)*

What are food scraps?

Food scraps are parts of food that are typically discarded rather than eaten: peels, rinds, cores, eggshells, seeds, pits, bones, shells, coffee grounds and filters, loose-leaf tea, and fats/oils/grease. Food scraps is also food that was eaten but not finished: "plate scraps" or leftovers that went bad. Any type of food can become food scraps including bread, pasta, soup, vegetables, fruit, sauces, meat, fish, dairy, sweets, etc.

What should I do with meat and bones?

If you compost in your yard, the law allows you to put meat and bones in the trash, so they don't attract animals to your composting bin. If you chose to bring food scraps to a drop-off center, you can include meat and bones with the rest of your food scraps.

CSWD has an abundance of information on their website including answers to questions, ways to reduce waste and how to compost to name a few. Please go to <https://cswd.net/scrapfoodwaste/> or call **872-8111** to get more information.

SEASONAL COMPOSTING TIPS: SUMMER

- Break up material (both food scraps and browns) into small pieces. This allows for decomposition to happen quickly, meaning you'll have usable compost faster!
- Water your compost! If compost is dry, it stops generating heat. Keeping compost moist will help things decompose quickly.
- Dry grass and eggshells make a great addition to your pile. For best decomposition, your pile should be 1/4th browns and 3/4^{ths} other items such as food scraps, coffee grounds, and green lawn clippings.

How to make compost fast: <https://thisismygarden.com/2018/07/summer-compost-pile/>

STAY UP TO DATE WITH OUR HAULER

Myers has now set up a Facebook page for Westford specific trash & recycling communications! You can find it here: <https://www.facebook.com/Town-of-Westford-Waste-104918838111423>

WESTFORD SUMMER CONCERTS - 2021

We are happy to announce our Westford Summer Concerts series line up for 2021! We have a great season coming up. All shows are scheduled for July and August and are all on Sunday evenings starting from 7 – 8 pm for the main musical performance. We have also been able to confirm that food trucks will also be setting up starting at 6 pm so your evening can be extended to include dinner on the Common as well. So come early, stay late, and bring the family for a real summertime outdoorsy treat.

We were extremely lucky last year in that we did not get any rain cancellations. In a usual year, if rain seems pending, we will just move the show inside the Red Brick Meeting House; however, Covid restrictions have made that option unavailable, and we have to assume that the same conditions may apply this season as well. With that in mind, (2) rain dates have been built into the schedule. If a headline band gets rained out, they will perform at one of the remaining rain dates. If the rain dates do not need to be exercised for the headliners, then local fill-in bands are willing to take those dates at short notice, but we don't know who that will be ahead of time. So, we will have concerts **every** Sunday night in July and August (except July 4th) unless it rains on a Sunday evening.

As like last year, we are asking all participants to adhere to Covid protocols that are in effect for each date. We would assume that would entail social distancing practices for all attendees that are not from the same household and wearing of masks whenever not able to maintain proper social distances from others. BYO chairs, blankets, picnic baskets, beverages, etc. for those not purchasing from vendors.

We ask everyone to clean up any trash and use the standard hiker's policy of "carry in, carry out". There are (2) sets of trash cans and recycle barrels at the Common, so please seek them out and use them. No cars should be parked on the Common directly, but cars can be parked on the side of the roads that ring the Common, preferably on the south side dirt road, or use the designated parking areas at east and west ends of the Common. Please be courteous and leave spaces available at the west end area so that patrons of the Westford Country Store that are not attending the concert can get in and out for store purchases.

Please note the following updated band listings:

August 1 – RAIN DATE

This rain date may be used for a special concert still in the works if unused. Things are still in the formative stages but check next month's newsletter for exciting update.

August 8 – Mr. Chris and Friends

VT PBS award winning TV music series for the younger audience is coming to Westford. Think a Vermont Mr. Rogers that lives on a Vermont farm and sings about it. New second series of shows just released. Check out <https://www.musicforsprouts.com> for sample tunes and more.

August 15 – VT Bluegrass Pioneers

The Starline Rhythm Boys are sidelined for this season, so we are bringing one of Danny Coane's other stellar projects to town. This is the real deal for bluegrass at it's classic best. With Banjo Dan Lindner, Matt Flinner (mandolin), and Sam Blagden (bass) backing, this is as solid a traditional bluegrass outfit you could find in Vermont. Remember the days of fiddle and banjo contests once again. For more info check out <http://www.skyblueboys.com/pioneers> and <http://www.mattflinner.com>

August 22 – Erin Harpe Country Blues Duo

Award winning Boston based blues diva and rocker puts aside her electric axe for some back country, back porch acoustic style of finger picking delightfulness. Back by partner Jim Countryman on acoustic bass, you can sip some southern comfort and spend an hour on the Mississippi delta. For more info check out: <https://www.erinharpe.com>

August 29 – RAIN DATE





News from the Westford Historical Society

As reported last month, our efforts to build a replica of the old blacksmith shop are continuing. The permit process is nearly complete and our building lot at 10 Common Road has been cleared of much of the brush thanks to a small, but industrious, work crew.

We would also like to thank Patrick and Crew from Heritage Tree Care of Rt. 128 in Essex for donating their expertise on trimming the large trees. Their help is greatly appreciated.

We're planning the "groundbreaking" for August 7th 1-2pm. We plan to have pictures of the original blacksmith shop (the shop of 'R.G .Grow Shoeing and Jobbing') and sketches of the new building for all to view in the gazebo. There may even be refreshments!

The Westford Historical Society has the funds to erect the building but there will be many more expenses to get it "up and running" and to maintain it. This building has been a project that we've worked on for a long time and it's exciting to see it finally materialize! So, to that end, we will be looking to fundraise in our community and beyond. We are a 501c3 organization, so donations are tax deductible.

We welcome new members! You don't have to be a long-time resident of Westford – if you have an interest in the history of our town, please join us. We meet on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 at the Brick Meeting House. For further information or sending a donation: P.O. Box 21, Westford, VT 05494 or contact Caroline Brown at 802-878-8890



The Town of Westford will be hosting **Summer Farmers' Markets** from 4:30-7:30pm on July 18th and August 15th.

The markets will take place before the Sunday Concert Series on the Town Common. If you are interested in participating as a vendor at one or all of the scheduled markets, please use the following link to complete the application. Once submitted, a coordinator will be in contact with you directly with more information. Link to Vendor Application: <https://forms.gle/ssuv1V2LHo75fbNA7>. Or please reach out to Peter Jenkins directly to receive a vendor application - Email: peter.jenkins341@gmail.com OR call: 802-735-4551



PLANNING COMMISSION NEWS

The Westford Planning Commission hopes that all Westford residents are enjoying the summer and finding an opportunity to experience some of what Westford has to offer. If you participate in events in town or use any of the many amenities available to us, you may not realize how those events came to be or who maintains and repairs our community facilities. The Planning Commission would like to extend its sincere gratitude to all of our neighbors who volunteer to make Westford a wonderful community in which to live, work and play. In no particular order, and without meaning to leave anyone off the list, we would like to thank:

Michael Kirick, for single handedly organizing and producing live music on the Common every Sunday evening during July and August;

The Common Committee, for maintaining the Common in good repair and making it the jewel of our village and so inviting to use;

The Conservation Commission, for maintaining and clearing our lovely town and school trail system and for creating fun events for young walkers and hikers (like the passport);

The Mutual Aid Society, for providing much needed help and assistance to our neighbors in times of crisis and when they unable to provide for themselves;

The Westford Food Shelf, for helping to reduce food insecurity within our community through its regular, no questions asked, distribution of food to those in need;

The Board of the Westford Common Hall, (which also oversees the Brick Meeting House) for providing meeting spaces for civic events and for repurposing a beautiful old building;

The Recreation Committee, not only for the traditional 4th of July celebration, but also for organizing and running many different physically challenging, fun and crafty events for young and old(er) alike;

Our librarian, Bree Drapa and the Library Trustees for providing learning opportunities and activities for young and old(er) and for maintaining a quiet space for when a quiet space is needed;

And all the volunteers who serve in various civic functions such as dog warden, health officer, fire warden etc., and those who serve on various committees and contribute their precious time and experience to help make Westford such a great community:

THANK YOU!

WESTFORD PLANNING COMMISSION



From the **Westford Common Hall**

The Westford Common Hall (WCH) is making progress towards the vision of becoming a landmark assembly space committed to growing community spirit.

We hope you were able to enjoy the Artisan POP-UP event this past weekend. It was exciting to have local artisans filling the sanctuary. The POP-UP Shop is continuing August 28, from 11AM - 3PM. If you would like to be a vendor, please contact Jenny Hughes <http://moxiemamahughes@gmail.com>

WCH is open for other events as well. We now have mounted casters on all of the pews so that they can be rolled into a variety of seating configurations, thanks to the handiwork of Rich Staab. This will allow us to accommodate a variety of activities. The Music Series will be starting again soon. If you have an idea for an event or if you're interested in holding a life celebration, contact us at info@westfordcommonhall.org

We continue to reimagine the many potential uses of the space. An energy 'trifecta' of weatherization, heat pump, and solar array is the plan to replace the old oil burning furnace which is in demise. Grant writing and other fund-raising efforts will continue for this effort along with the need for exterior painting, window restoration and some creative solutions we have for ADA accessibility. Efforts to clean out the second floor are beginning and with WIFI coming soon, the WCH will entertain rental of that space for business or studio work. Contact us if you have ideas for use of this space. We look forward to hearing from you!

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY!

The Selectboard is seeking town residents interested in serving as Westford's representative on the following:

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commissioner Alternate Representative

The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission was founded in 1966 to promote the mutual cooperation of its 19 member municipalities and to facilitate the appropriate development and preservation of the physical and human resources in Chittenden County.

CCRPC is composed of 19 municipal commissioners and five at-large commissioners (representing Agriculture, Conservation/Environment, Socio-Economic/Housing, and Transportation). The legislative body of each of Chittenden County's municipalities selects its own commissioner and alternate commissioner. The Full Commission selects the five at-large representatives. Each commissioner has one vote.

CCRPC's regular monthly meeting is on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:00pm in the Main Conference Room. These meetings are open to the public.

For more information go to <https://www.ccrpcvt.org/about-us/commission/commissioners-alternates/>.

CCRPC Clean Water Advisory Committee (CWAC)

The Clean Water Advisory Committee (CWAC) oversees the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission activities and policy development regarding but not limited to, the Vermont Lake Champlain Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Plan and its related plans and programs. The Committee typically meets the first Tuesday of the month. To view minutes, agendas and other documents, please go to <https://www.ccrpcvt.org/about-us/committees/clean-water-advisory-committee/>. For more information contact Dan Albrecht, CCRPC Senior Planner, at dalbrecht@ccrpcvt.org or 846-4490.

Please contact the Town Office at 878-4587 or townclerk@westfordvt.us if you are interested in being appointed to one of these positions.



Westford Trails Passport Program 2021



The Westford Public Library, in partnership with the Westford Conservation Commission brings you a New, Fun and Exciting way to enjoy our town trails this summer and fall. And a bonus --- there are prizes!

IT'S EASY

Pick up your Passport at the Library, Town Office or Country Market. Hike any of the 14 featured trails collecting stamps as you go. With 8 or more stamps, you can redeem your Passport at the library and receive a Westford themed canvas bag as your prize! You can also keep your Passport as a souvenir of your adventures on the Westford Trails.

MONTHLY RAFFLE FOR A GIFT CARD PRIZE

Depending on the month when you redeem your Passport, you will also be entered in a drawing for a \$50 gift card to a local business. The more stamps you collect, the more chances you will earn in the raffle drawings. (See the Passport for additional details.)

July Redeem by 7/31 for chances to win a \$50 gift card to the Westford Country Market & Café
August Redeem by 9/7 for chances to win a \$50 gift card to Steeple Market
September Redeem by 10/2 for chances to win a \$50 gift card to Sweet Clover Market

Lots of folks have already started the challenge.
Several people have already redeemed their Passports with all 14 stamps!
But it's not too late for you, your friends & family to join in.
You can start anytime all summer and into the fall.
This is open to everyone, kids and adults, the whole family is welcome to participate.
Check out the library's facebook page for more information and updates.

LET'S GET HIKING!



WESTSTOCK - COMING JULY 31

We are happy to announce a special fundraising concert event to benefit improvements to the Red Brick Meeting House. This will be a special night of music from 6-9 pm, maybe a little longer, taking place at the gazebo at the Westford Common, just like a typical Sunday night concert. The idea was conceived from the great response we have been getting from the Red Brick Coffee House, especially since moving outdoors during the Covid restrictions given to indoor events. Many talented Westford folk have been attending these open mics over the last few years and we'd like to take the opportunity to share this talent with the greater public as well. This special "all-star" rendition of the coffee house will feature a "house" band with numerous special guest artists coming up on stage to lend a hand at some great down home home-made live music. Think of this as Westford's version of The Last Waltz, which was the last official concert The Band did and made a movie to record the event. Only this time we are celebrating the last of the restrictions for music events due to Covid-19. We are calling it **Weststock**.

The Red Brick Meeting House has been the home of the Westford Red Brick Coffee House, which has been running for the last 5 years. This gem of a building and now a heritage of Westford public spaces needs some TLC and basic maintenance to keep it sound and operating for the future. This last year has restricted operations at the building, preventing typical streams of income for maintenance (and even just basic heat and electricity). We are hoping this event can raise some needed funds and give the town a great night of entertainment as well. We expect to have many styles of music to present, from classical guitar and singer songwriter, to blues, country, and rock oriented presentations. There should be something for everyone to like. Some of the projects we'd like to get going at the building are refinishing the floor, adding a sound system, some exterior painting, and restoring a back porch that the building used to have at the door leading to the kitchen area, but was removed years ago for whatever reason.

We are asking for donations for this event, though it will be freely presented in the format of the Sunday night shows, only on a Saturday night. Some sort of funding site will be set up shortly for people to buy "tickets" on line in advance (or even during the show now that there is WiFi available at the Common). A tip bucket will be also present for any last minute contributions. There will also be a sale of many of the old wooden seats that were used at the building but have been put aside and replaced by the folding chairs and racking system now in place. You can own a piece of history and help our cause at the same time. Chairs will be available for sale starting right after the July 4th parade and at this event.

Look for more information to come via Front Porch Forum or posted at the bulletin boards at the Library and Town Office. Thank you all in advance for supporting this event. It should be fantastic.



WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

<https://westfordpubliclibrary.org>

(802) 878-5639

westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

1717 VERMONT ROUTE 128, WESTFORD VT 05494

Summer Reading is Coming to an End!

Be sure to turn in your reading logs* (via email or web form with the # of books read, or in person) by August 13 to be eligible for the prize drawing! When you turn in your reading log you will get a coupon for a FREE ice cream at the Westford Country Store and Cafe! *if you lost your log - I just need the # of books you read over the summer. You can also turn in your log later (for ICE CREAM!), but you won't be included in the raffle.



End of Summer Reading Prize Pickup is Saturday, August 14 from 10:30-Noon. Celebrate your summer reading success by picking up your reading certificate and ice cream coupon, as well as a sweet treat! If you won something in the raffle, you will also be notified to pick up your prize at this time.

Read and Win at the Fair! (FREE TICKETS!)

Do you want a FREE ticket to the Champlain Valley Fair?

Are you: Entering grades K-8?

Have you: Read at least 3 books this summer?

If YES! Then stop by the Library for your READ AND WIN AT THE FAIR RIBBON good for:

- * FREE Admission to the Fair good ANY DAY 8/27-9/5!
- * FREE Ice Cream
- * FREE Ride
- * FREE Book

Available all August at the Library - needs a parent/guardian signature! This FREE ticket is good ANY DAY 8/27-9/5



Building is OPEN to patrons:

Wednesdays 1-7pm
Thursdays 10am-7pm
Fridays 1-7pm
Saturdays 10am-2pm

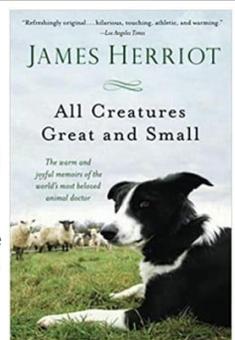
Adult Book Group Wednesday August 7:00-8:00pm On the Common All Creatures Great and Small

By: James Herriot
Delve into the unforgettable world of James Herriot, the world's most beloved veterinarian.

For decades, Herriot roamed the remote, beautiful Yorkshire Dales, treating every patient that came his way from smallest to largest, and observing animals and humans alike with his keen, loving eye.

In *All Creatures Great and Small*, we meet the young Herriot as he takes up his calling and discovers that the realities of veterinary practice in rural Yorkshire are very different from the sterile setting of veterinary school. Some visits are heart-wrenchingly difficult, some are lighthearted and fun, and yet others are inspirational and enlightening. From seeing to his patients in the depths of winter to dealing with uncooperative owners and critically ill animals, Herriot discovers the wondrous variety and never-ending challenges of veterinary practice as his humor, compassion, and love of the animal world shine forth.

(Amazon.com) **Print copies available at the library. Audiobook and ebook available on Libby. Bring your own chair for meeting on the Common**



Outside Early Literacy Storytime - Birth to Pre-School

Every Thursday at 11:30am on the Common

8/5/21: NO STORYTIME this week

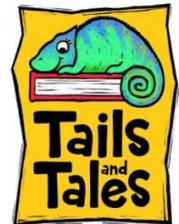
8/12/21: Theme: Animals

8/19/21: Theme: Back to School

8/26/21: Theme: School Buses

Bring a blanket and your lunch (or grab one from school by 11:15). We will sing songs, read stories, move and have fun! If weather is bad, storytime will be cancelled.

Crafts can be picked up as well.



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
(802) 878-5639 ♦ westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

August Library Events

August 4 - Trustees Meeting 7-9pm

August 5 - NO STORYTIME

*August 8 - Mr. Chris and Friends Concert on the Common 7pm - sponsored in part by the Westford Public Library. Free ice cream!

*August 12 - Magic Butterflies - drop in 4:30-6:30 to make paper butterflies that really fly!

*August 13 - END of Summer Reading Program - reading logs due via email, web form, or by turning them in at the library

*August 13 - VINS "Super Powered Critters" 4:30-5:30 on the Common

*August 14 - Summer Reading Certificate and Prize Pickup 10:30-Noon on the Common

August 18 - Adult Book Group -7pm on the Common - discussing "All Creatures Great and Small"

August 25 - First Day of School

Storytime every Thursday 11:30 on the Common, cancelled if weather is bad

Fiber Arts Group meets every Thursday IN PERSON at the library at 6:30pm.

Events with a (*) are part of the Summer Reading Program, see SRP brochure in this newsletter for more details.

New Story Walk on the school trails! Enjoy "Minerva Louise at School" on the school trails. This story will be up for August and September.



Poetry Walk - Enjoy animal themed poetry posted along the Schultz Trail. The Schultz Trail is located at the end of Old #11 Road and Machia Hill Rd.

FREE/DISCOUNTED SUMMER FUN!

Passes are available for a 3 day check out
Passes may not be reserved - passes are on a first come first served basis.

Vermont State Parks (FREE family day use)

Vermont Historic Sites (FREE family pass)

Shelburne Farms (FREE family pass)

Shelburne Museum (1/2 price entrance)

ECHO Center (\$7/person)

Birds of Vermont Museum (BOGO)

American Precision Museum (Windsor, VT)
(FREE family pass)

Vermont History Museum (FREE family pass)

Lake Champlain Maritime Museum (pass not needed this season - free admission for all)

NEW! VINS (\$5 per person up to 4 people)

NEW! Fairbanks Museum (FREE Family pass)

Mr. Chris & Friends Concert

Sunday, August 8 at 7pm on the Common

Referred to as the Mr. Rogers of VT, this VTPBS star will put on a great family-friendly show, sure to be enjoyed by all ages. Many of his "friends" are in great local bands! Food trucks, ice cream and mini golf start at 6pm. **Free ice cream from Kingdom Creamery, thanks to the Library Trustees!**



VINS "Super Powered Critters"

**Friday, August 13
4:30-5:30 on the Common
Great for all ages!**

Discover the amazing adaptations animals have to be the heroes of the natural world. Get up close with two birds, a reptile, and other amazing animal artifacts. Sponsored in part by grants from VTLIB and IMLS.



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 Summer Reading Program 2021 June 12-August 14
 www.westfordpubliclibrary.org 878-5639 westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

*Online registration opens June 12. Registration link on our website, Facebook page, and Front Porch Forum. You can also register in person on June 12 at our "petting zoo" kickoff event or anytime later at the library.

Age Levels, Reading Goals, and Prizes

Little cubs - Ages 0-2 (babies and toddlers) - fun activities for families to do together, stuffed animal prize at the end

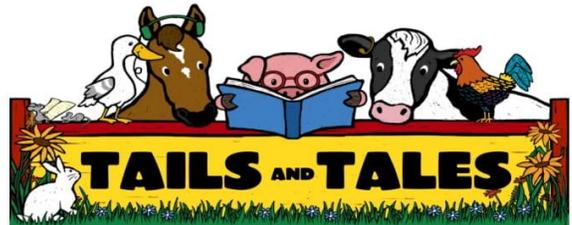
Ages 3-8 (kids) - 10 books read per raffle ticket

Ages 9-12 (twens) - 3 books read per raffle ticket

Ages 13-18 (teens) - 1 book read per raffle ticket

Adults - 18+ (adults) - 1 book per raffle ticket - Adults fill out their own raffle tickets at the library as they read

Raffle tickets will be made by Ms. Bree when reading logs are turned in - due August 13. Raffle tickets will also be given for coming to programs. Prizes consist of gift certificates to Turner Toy & Hobby, Phoenix Books, Westford Country Store, & more! Prizes will be awarded at the end of the Summer Reading Program.



Summer Long Events:



Every time you come to the library you can work on our sticker mosaic! Just like the digital ones you are used to with Ms. Shelley, but this one is real! Get a strip of stickers to place every visit. Together is better!

Creating colorful collaborations, one sticker at a time.

Animal Storytime - On the Common
 Thursdays at 11:30am
 Bring your lunch, a blanket and be ready for fun!



Every week we will read stories about animals. We will sing and move too! Take home crafts available. I hope to have live animals at every storytime.

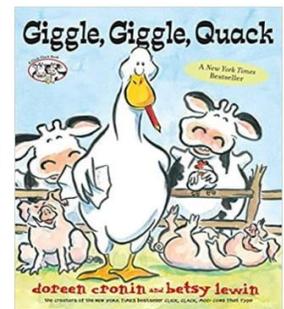
NO STORYTIME on 6/17 or 8/5



Stretch your legs and enjoy Westford's hiking trails!

Poetry Walk on the Schultz Trail - Filled with animal poems to ponder.

Story Walk - Enjoy "Giggle Giggle, Quack" on the school trails starting in June. See the kiosk for the exact trail. We will switch the story out mid-July for another great animal tale.



Westford Trail Passport - An exciting program from the Westford Conservation Commission and the Library - more details to follow! It's going to be fun!

Summer Reading Program Events Schedule and Details

June 12 - Sign up online for SRP starts today, signup link on our website, FPF, and Facebook

June 12 - "Petting Zoo" & SRP materials (Logs, stickers, etc. plus a creamee coupon from Sweet Clover Market) 10:30-12:30 - Pet goats, lizards, snakes, cats, & more! You can also pickup SRP materials anytime after June 12 at the library.

June 19 - Rockin' Ron Kick Off Concert 10:45-11:30am - Family friendly concert by one of the area's best performers. Rain date 6/26

June 24 - Owl Pellets - drop in 4:30-6:30pm - We will be dissecting REAL owl pellets - super cool way to learn about owls!

June 26 - Owl Pellets - drop in 10:30-Noon - We will be dissecting REAL owl pellets - super cool way to learn about owls!

June 28 - Field Trip Day to The Miniature Farm 10am-3pm - The library will be covering the donation to visit [The Miniature Farm](#) all day - just come and explore the farm, pet the animals, bring a picnic! Boots recommended, 247 Mears Rd. Milton, VT - Rain date 6/29

***June 30 - Bob, the Reading Tortoise 5:30-6:30pm** - Readers entering 1-5 grades can sign up for a 15 minute reading slot

July 1 - Float Building 4:30-6:30, also last day to sign up to ride the float in the Fourth of July parade

July 2 - All about Snakes! - 4:30-5:30pm - Carol Winfield will bring several snakes to pet and learn about. Craft as well.

July 4 - Library Book Sale 9am-1pm - \$5 per bag - bring your own bag. Parade 11am (riders meet 10:30 at Town Garage)

***July 7 - Bob, the Reading Tortoise 5:30-6:30pm** - Readers entering 1-5 grades can sign up for a 15 minute reading slot

July 8 - Watercolor Animals with MC Baker - 4:30-5:30 (under 4th grade), *6-7pm - Watercolor Class for those entering 4th grade and up - signup required* - fun with liquid watercolors and animal shapes for younger kids, class on technique and making animal silhouettes for older kids - sign up for the class is required.

July 9 - Animal Yoga with Doris 4:30-5:30pm - bring a yoga mat or towel and water for a fun filled yoga class with animal poses

***July 14 - Bob, the Reading Tortoise 5:30-6:30pm** - Readers entering 1-5 grades can sign up for a 15 minute reading slot

July 15 - All about K-9 Dogs w/Officer Dewey 4:30-5:30 - What does a K-9 dog do? How are they trained?

***July 16 - BristleBots - 2 sessions - 4:30-5:30 or 6-7pm, this program is inside the library** - Make a fun creature and learn about how electric current works - great STEM activity for K and up - 2 sessions, limited to 15 total, sign up required

July 22 - Pet Rocks with MC Baker - drop in 4:30-6:30 - Learn acrylic and other paint techniques, wear "stainable" clothes

July 23 - All about Horses! - 4:30-5:30 - Carol Winfield will teach us about her Pinto horse, no rides at this event

July 24 - Pet Picture Bottlecap Necklaces or Keychains - drop in 10:30-Noon (this session is inside) - bring a picture or two of your favorite animal or pet - needs to fit in a 1 inch circle - make a bottlecap necklace or keychain

July 29 - Pet Picture Bottlecap Necklaces or Keychains - drop in 4:30-6:30 (this session is outside) - see above

July 30 - Folded Book Hedgehogs drop in 4:30-6:30 - this program is inside the library - learn how to make a "book-hog", you can make it right in the library or pick up all the supplies needed to make one at home.

July 31 - Folded Book Hedgehogs drop in 10:30-Noon - this program is inside the library - see above

August 8 - Mr. Chris and Friend Concert on the Common 7pm - sponsored by The Westford Public Library - PBS singer and Vermont kids superstar Mr. Chris will be playing a concert to delight the whole family. Not to be missed!

August 12 - Magic Butterflies - drop in 4:30-6:30pm - Drop in to make a rubber band powered butter that actually flies!

August 13 - Reading Logs Due - Turn in your log or fill out the online reporting form, raffle winners will be notified

August 13 - VINS - Super Powered Critters 4:30-6:30 - VINS will show off some of its creatures and their awesome features!

August 14 - Summer Reading Prize Pickup - TBD

Events with a (*) require pre-registration. **EVENTS ARE ON THE COMMON UNLESS NOTED**



AUGUST 2021 NEWSLETTER

WESTFORD RECREATION DEPARTEMENT

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST

8/3 Recreation Board Meeting
7pm @ Town Common Gazebo

SEPTEMBER

9/12 Pizza & Ice Cream PARTY FREE
4-6pm @ Town Common Gazebo



Soccer Coaches Needed

Volunteer Today!

recreation@westfordvt.us

Rec Programs are made possible by volunteer coaches and parent helpers.



FALL SOCCER PROGRAMS

PRE-K & K \$35 GRADES 1-2 \$45 GRADES 3-4 \$45

Dates & Times TBD @ Westford Elementary School.
Programs begin in September and run thru October.

SIGN UP DEADLINE IS AUGUST 23RD!

COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION FORM TODAY

PARENT & ME SOCCER

Every Third Sunday @ 9am in Sept. Oct. & Nov.

- FREE Parent & Me Soccer (Ages under 4) @ Westford School

SUMMER PROGRAMS

July 3 - August 21

- \$25 T-BALL (Ages 3-6) Saturdays 9-10am
- \$20 ADULT PICKUP SOCCER Thursdays 7-8:30pm
- \$20 5th - 8th Grade PICKUP SOCCER Thursdays 6-7pm

July 12 - August 9

- \$50 Basketball Clinic (Grades 3-8) Mondays 5:30-6:30pm

PIZZA & ICE CREAM PARTY ON THE TOWN COMMON

Lets have some fun making our
own Pizza!

Dough it Yourself...

- The Recreation Department will supply dough, sauce and cheese.
- You build it and we will cook it.
- If you have extra garden goodies that you would like to share for toppings please feel free to bring them down
- Bring your own chairs/blankets and beverages to enjoy your pizza on the Town Common.

After you enjoy your self
made pizza and some good
company, head over to our
expert scoopers for a sweet
treat, on us!



Sunday, September 12, 2021

4pm-6pm

Westford Town Common

This is a free event for all Westford Residents brought
you by the Westford Recreation Department.

Rain date Sunday, September 19, 2021



PARENT & ME



Soccer



9AM

SUNDAYS

WHO: KIDS UNDER 4 & THEIR PARENT(S)
WHERE: WESTFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GYM
WHAT: PLAY SOCCER! JOIN US FOR FUN
GAMES AND DRILLS HOSTED BY THE
WESTFORD RECREATION DEPARTMENT

SIGN UP TODAY!

EVERY THIRD SUNDAY THIS FALL

9/19 10/17 11/21



Registration

WESTFORD RECREATION DEPARTMENT NEW REGISTRATION FORM

ONLINE!

<https://forms.gle/1nPDEvP6FeoCxKGD6>

This link also available on the town website:

<https://westfordvt.us/recreation/>



Thank you for helping us save trees with less paper waste!





Westford School Newsletter August 2021

Featured Programs & Activities

Our outdoor graduation ceremony was a beautiful tribute to an amazing group of students. Thank you to everyone who helped pull off this event. Check out pictures on the school website. The two elements that make the Westford celebration so special are the individual student recognition statements and the student slide show. We were able to accomplish both of these elements again this year using an outdoor screen for invited guests.

Click this link for our [Kindergarten Orientation](#) slide show. Kindergarten Open House is scheduled for Monday, August 23rd. Please contact the main office if you have a child who will enter kindergarten at Westford School. Our kindergarten teacher, Ms. Cassidy Shumway, will continue to communicate directly with families registered to begin school next year.

Welcome New Westford Faculty Members

Please help welcome our new additions. We will update the Westford Faculty and Staff 2021/22 document by the end of the summer to include pictures and a brief description of all new employees. In addition to the three introductions below, we welcome **Megan Mamarella** as our new 1st grade teacher as Jackie Richardson is our new Literacy Interventionist. Holly Cunningham, Deb Carlin, and Deanna Norton also join the Westford team.

Kristen Johnson; 7th and 8th Grade Math & Science Teacher



I live in Bolton with my husband and 5 year-old daughter. We are outdoor explorers while skiing, walking, hiking and gardening. I love to read, repurpose items, cook and visit both new and familiar places. Most of my life has been connected to the Champlain Valley. I grew up in a dairy farming family in Shoreham and returned to Vermont in 2004 to teach in Charlotte. Before the classroom, I worked in education programs in Pittsburgh, Alabama, and Oregon as well as aboard boats on Long Island Sound and in the Baltimore Harbor. Most recently, I taught for four years at Essex Middle School. I look forward to being part of the Westford school community in the future.

Sarah Macdougall; Social Support Coordinator & Behavior Management Assistant



I have been living in Essex for 15 years. When I am not at work you can find me out adventuring with my husband and two children. From hiking and biking to skiing and finding swimming holes, we just love to soak up all that Vermont has to offer. I have been working at Essex Elementary School for four years and am so excited to start my next adventure at Westford School!



Hannah Danis; K-4 Special Educator

Hello! I am Hannah Danis, and I am so excited to be a Westford Wildcat! I am joining the team as a K-4 special educator, and can't wait to start getting to know my students, their families, and the whole school community.

I graduated from UVM this past spring with a dual endorsement in middle level education and special education. In addition to the education I received from UVM, I plan to draw from my experience as a PCA, and from my student teaching and subbing experience at Williston Central School. All of these experiences have fostered my passion for helping students grow

and succeed.

I grew up here in Vermont, and I haven't found a reason to leave yet. I like to spend my free time sipping Dunkin' iced coffee with my friends, making homemade pizza (and since quarantine, sourdough bread), and shredding pow on the slopes. I love music and making art as well. On weekends, you can find me waitressing at JP's Restaurant and Deli in Essex.

I can't wait for the start of the school year! I can already tell we will have an awesome time together!

Mariah Burke; Literacy Interventionist Assistant

Hello! My name is Mariah Burke and I am excited to be supporting students and families this school year as the new literacy interventionist assistant. I've lived in Vermont my whole life and I am thrilled to be joining Westford this school year! I graduated with my degree in Elementary Education from Plymouth State University in 2017 and have been working in schools ever since. I spent two years supporting students at Shelburne Community School and have spent the last two years teaching Kindergarten-2nd grade at Alburgh Community School. During this time, I also worked at EWSD summer school!

In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my friends and family. On sunny summer days, you can find me at my family camp on Lake Dunmore in Salisbury, VT. On cold winter days, you can find me at my family hunting camp in Hebron, NY!

What do we know about the 2021/22 School Year?

The one big question on everyone's mind is what will this school year look like? You can expect both school and district updates specific to COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines. We will rely on the same practices as last year in building our procedures off of the Agency of Education and the Department of Health Guidance. I anticipate sending a mid-August family update based on the most recent guidance. For now, here is what we know.

New Student Registration

Please call Terri Martin, Office Manager, at 878-5932 or email her at tmartin@ewsd.org for support in registering a new student. She will walk you through the school registration paperwork. New student registration paperwork is also available online @ <https://www.ewsd.org/domain/171>

School Calendar & Upcoming Dates

The first student day of the 2021-22 school year is Wednesday, August 25th. The school calendar is available online and easily accessible @ <https://www.ewsd.org/calendar#calendar12112/20210721/month>

PreK – 8 th grade Orientation to the classroom	Monday, August 23 rd – by appointment
First student day	Wednesday, August 25
No School	Labor Day
Open House	Thursday, September 16 th 6:00-7:00pm
Picture Day	Tuesday, September 28

Professional Learning Communities & Equity

EWSD will continue to focus on the power of professional learning communities (PLCs) to move our vision for all student learning forward. This is an integral part of how we do business. One big idea of PLCs is that our fundamental purpose is to ensure all students learn at high levels and that we must maintain strong teams working

together to accomplish this. We do this by collaborating and learning together as we examine our results and continue to grow. I have communicated a great deal over the years about our professional development specific to literacy and math as well as social and emotional learning. This work is never complete as we continue to learn and grow each year as we respond to how our students are learning.

In addition to our work specific to math & literacy instruction and social & emotional learning, we at Westford School, along with the rest of EWSD, are focused on providing educational equity for every child. You may have read one or all of the communications specific to EWSD equity work. If not, here is a brief summary taken from “[An Explanation of Equity in EWSD](#)”. *The EWSD is dedicated to ensuring equity for all students and is striving to support the concepts of ridding our system of inequalities associated with race, gender, language diversity, socioeconomic status, and other forms of marginalization. Barriers to equity include a lack of a sense of belonging, stereotyping based on characteristics, limiting access to high-level classes, harm from racism, harm from gender discrimination, antisemitism, disability discrimination, a lack of access to adults who are like you to view as role models, a lack of access to finances to have an equal opportunity as your peers, and many others.* More about this important work can be found on the [EWSD Equity & Inclusion page](#).

There is a direct link between our commitment to equality and our fundamental purpose of ensuring that all students learn at high levels; PLCs are the way in which we do the work. I thank you immensely for your continued community support as we strive to serve our students.

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If you would like to receive a copy of the Town Newsletter by email, send an email to townclerk@westfordvt.us with your name (required), email address (required) and address (optional). To view current and past newsletters visit: <https://westfordvt.us/documents/newsletters/> If you do not have access to the Internet or have a computer, you can call the Town Office at 878-4587 to request being added to the mailing list.