



# WESTFORD NEWSLETTER

*June 2024*



In the late 1800s, dairy became the foundation of Vermont's agriculture. **Butter** dominated the industry into the 20<sup>th</sup> century and won Vermont an international reputation for quality butter.

## Westford Town Office

1713 Vermont Route 128 - Westford, Vermont 05494

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

<https://westfordvt.us/>

## TOWN OFFICE NOTES

### Dog Licenses

If your dog was licensed in 2023, but you have not licensed your dog in 2024, the Town Clerk's office recently sent you a letter notifying you about what you need to register your dog. Any dogs that go unregistered by June 12 will be on the warrant given to the Selectboard.

Dog Licenses were Due on April 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have not yet licensed your dog, please do so as soon as possible. Dogs are legally required to be vaccinated for rabies and licensed in Vermont if they are over the age of four months. New dogs will not incur any late fees for registration, but those that have been licensed in the past will now be \$14.00 for a spayed/neutered dog and \$17.00 for an intact dog.

### Senior Luncheon

Summer is almost here which means our last luncheon until fall is approaching! Please join us at the RBMH on Monday June 10th for our summer picnic. Doors open at 11:30 and meal service will begin around 12 noon. Bring a friend and /or neighbor for a community meal served up by our wonderful volunteer cooks! Westford's own Julia Andrews - one of our State representatives and our frequent diner State Senator Irene Wrenner will be on hand to discuss and/or answer questions on topics related to seniors.

On another note, there will be a new class beginning in June at the Westford Common Hall. On Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:30-11:30 a representative from the United Way will guide participants in a FREE Bone Builders class - a low impact weight training class designed to help prevent and reverse osteoporosis. This class is open to any adult male or female. This sounds like a great class! The exact start date is uncertain but for more information, please reach out to Danielle Schwer at the United Way of Northwestern Vermont. 1-802-861-7821. [www.Unitedwaynwvt.org](http://www.Unitedwaynwvt.org)

**Co-presidents Mary Fay (802- 878-1215) & Cori Hill (802-238-1018)**

### Spring Yard Clean Up

Spring has arrived! When cleaning up your yard, please keep the following in mind:

- Burn permits are required prior to any burning. Burn permits are available online (<https://westfordvt.us/administration/fire-warden/>), from the Fire Warden (Dennis Angiono, 879-1231) or from the Town Office during regular office hours.
- Yard waste, such as leaves, brush and topsoil are not considered household garbage, therefore Myers will not collect these materials when picking up your garbage. You can compost yard waste or bring it to a participating CSWD drop off center. For a list of centers please visit <http://www.cswd.net/>

### Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the July Newsletter is 12:00 noon on Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup>.

## TOWN OFFICE HOURS

The office is open:

- Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-4pm
- Friday, 8:30am-1pm



## SUMMER ROADS

What you need to know about summer 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 damaged 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 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.
- **Repairs:** roads are repaired as weather allows. Know that this takes time, especially if conditions are poor, so it may take the road crew some time to get to your road. Highly traveled roads are prioritized.
- **Dangerous Driving:** We've reached the unofficial start of summer, which means beautiful days for recreating on town roads. This is also a time of year where the Selectboard hears concerns from residents about cars speeding or driving dangerously along our roads. The Selectboard urges citizens to reach out directly to our contracted Deputy Sheriff, Brian Welch, at 802-863-7507 to report traffic incidents or routinely speeding vehicles. The more details you can share, the better! Where was the speeder? What were they driving? What time of day was it? Do you notice a pattern of behavior from a particular driver? Deputy Welch is glad to assist, but if you cannot reach Brian directly, please alert the Town Office and share details that can be passed along.

Happy Summer!

### **Reminders:**

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

## WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES

Free Concerts at the Westford Common Hall  
21 Brookside Road, Westford, VT  
4pm – 5pm



- June 2 – Play in Every Town VT; David Feurzeig @ the Red Brick Meeting House
- June 23 - FREVO



## WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES

PRESENTS

# CONCERT FOR A COOLER CLIMATE



**DAVID FEURZEIG w/ MICHAEL FARMER & CHARLIE CAVANAUGH**

*-free will donation-*

**4 - 5 PM: RED BRICK MEETING HOUSE**

**SUNDAY: JUNE 2, 2024**

Part of the Play Every Town Project, David Feurzeig specializes in genre-defying recitals that bring together music in an astonishing variety of styles from ancient to classical to jazz, avant-garde, and popular traditions. Each performance is locally tailored and Westford musicians Michael farmer (violin & mandolin) and Charlie Cavanaugh (guitar) will join David for a set of Scandinavian tunes while other pieces honor historical dates and individuals from Westford.

**DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED TO BENEFIT  
THE WESTFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION.**

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY

The Town of Westford has several volunteer opportunities to serve the community. To apply for one of the positions below, please submit an application ([APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO \(westfordvt.us\)](https://westfordvt.us)) to [townadmin@westfordvt.us](mailto:townadmin@westfordvt.us) or mail/drop off at the town office.

### **The Clean Water Advisory Committee**

The 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 [Clean Water Advisory Committee - CCRPC \(ccrpscvt.org\)](https://ccrpsc.org). For more information contact Dan Albrecht, CCRPC Senior Planner, at [dalbrecht@ccrpscvt.org](mailto:dalbrecht@ccrpscvt.org) or 846-4490.

### **CCRPC Lamoille Basin Water Quality Council**

The responsibilities of a BWQC as outlined § 39-502 of the CWSP Rule are:

- (a) The purpose of a BWQC is to establish policy and make decisions for the CWSP regarding the most significant water d-quality impairments that exist in the basin and prioritizing the clean water projects that will address those impairments based on the basin plan.
- (b) When prioritizing clean water projects and prioritizing the most significant water quality impairments in the basin, the BWQC shall consult with the basin plan and CWSP and utilize the Agency's project selection protocols.
- (c) The BWQC shall participate in the basin planning process established in 10 V.S.A. § 1253(d).

Potential members should be:

- knowledgeable on clean water topics for the applicable basin
- Interested in prioritizing and selecting non-regulatory clean water projects for funding at quarterly BWQC meetings
- Interested in participating in the applicable Tactical Basin Planning process

**Please contact the Town Office at 878-4587 or [townadmin@westfordvt.us](mailto:townadmin@westfordvt.us) if you are interested in being appointed to one of these positions.**

## 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

## MUNICIPAL JOB OPENINGS

### DOG WARDEN

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.

Qualifications: 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. You may think you need a kennel to be a Dog Warden. This is not the case. However, a stray dog does need to be kept in a healthy environment until it is reunited with the 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 and there are funds available for training, supplies and mileage. The Town also has supplies, including a dog house, that can be utilized. If you would like more information on helping your community by serving in this position, please contact the Selectboard at [selectboard@westfordvt.us](mailto:selectboard@westfordvt.us) or call the Town Office at 802-878-4587. Westford residency is preferred but not required.

## FULL TIME ROAD CREW MEMBER

The Town of Westford is seeking qualified applicants for a full time Road Crew position with benefits. This position involves skilled and unskilled labor tasks and the knowledge and operation of highway equipment for maintenance and repair of town roads.

Requirements: valid Vermont CDL Class B license; good driving record; experience operating various highway equipment; willingness to work long hours, especially during winter months; ability to maintain logs; participate in random drug/alcohol testing; possess physical strength, agility, endurance, and mental ability to concentrate, mechanical abilities and good communication skills. Must pass pre-employment physical exam and drug test. A full job description can be viewed at <https://westfordvt.us/administration/highway-department/>.

For consideration, please submit resume, references, and employment application (found at <https://westfordvt.us/administration/highway-department/>) to: Town of Westford, Attn: Sean Cushing, 1713 VT Route 128, Westford, VT 05494.

For more information, contact Sean Cushing at [road\\_foreman@westfordvt.us](mailto:road_foreman@westfordvt.us) or 802-879-4306  
Position open until filled. Westford is an Equal Opportunity Employer.





# Volunteer Opportunity



## DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD ALTERNATE MEMBERS

The Town of Westford has 2 volunteer opportunities available in the field of land use planning, design and permitting. There are two vacant spots for ALTERNATE MEMBERS on the DRB. Alternate members will temporarily serve as Board members in the event of a recusal or absence of three or more members. Members of the Development Review Board evaluate local land use and development applications using the Westford Land Use & Development Regulations.

Benefits include:

- Increasing opportunity and a sense of community in Westford.
  - Gaining experience in and knowledge of land use law.
- Boosting your knowledge and understanding of natural resource planning, neighborhood design, context sensitive design and form-based code.
  - Gaining experience communicating directly with municipal officials and the public.
    - Understanding how to participate in project and board meetings.
      - Learning how to read surveys and site plans.
  - Growing your career experience working with a dynamic team of individuals.

The Development Review Board meets on the second and fourth Monday of the month on an as-needed basis.

**For more information and/or to apply please contact:**

Harmony Cism, Administrative Officer & Planning Assistant, at 878-4587 or [zoning\\_admin@westfordvt.us](mailto:zoning_admin@westfordvt.us)

**Applications can also be obtained from the Town Website at:**

<http://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/APPLICATION-FOR-APPOINTMENT.pdf>

### COMMON USE POLICY

The Westford Common Committee wants to remind residents that any major use of the Common or gazebo requires an application. This does not apply to small gatherings like friends meeting for coffee or a couple of folks having a picnic. This policy has been implemented to avoid conflicts since the Common and gazebo are being utilized more. We ask all town organizations to also follow this procedure so the calendar will reflect all activities.

**Here is a link to the application:**

<https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Common-Use-Application-August-2023.pdf>

If you have any questions, please call the Town Office for assistance: 802-878-4587.



## WESTFORD SUMMER CONCERTS LINE UP 2024

This year there will be one run of five concert Sundays in a row, with a reserve rain date at the end of the season, if needed for a rescheduled show. We are having a slightly later start this season due to my being away for the first couple weekends in July. I am also still looking for sponsors to help with any future concert series funding, so if anyone would like to support any of the following acts (or suggest your own for next year), please contact me and you can get credit for helping out with this series. I will be making some poster designs for the series sometime soon. If anyone would like either a hard copy or a digital PDF file for your own use and distribution, please contact me at [mpk802vt@gmail.com](mailto:mpk802vt@gmail.com). All shows run from 6:30-9 pm. We will have Girls That Grow taco truck here for all concert events, in addition to Deb Nevil our Kingdom Ice Cream vendor. Hoping to get Gracie's Popcorn stand for one or two of the shows as well. Here's what we've got on tap for 2024:

### July 21 – The Eames Brothers Band:

This band is self-described as “Mountain Blues” and is one of my favorite Vermont original bands. Seth Eames as lead singer/songwriter and guitarist and brother Ralph on Bass present a formidable front for lyrical and thoughtful tunes all based in infectious grooves. Phil Carr will round out the brothers on drums. If you haven't heard these boys before, you are in for a treat.

### July 28 – The Tenderbellies:

Hinesburg based Tenderbellies is a string band that goes where no string band has gone before. Mixing Americana with bluegrass, new grass, jazz and rock elements, they serve up a tasty amalgam of newly written tunes with old favorites baked in a way you've never tasted before. I love that they have a bluegrass harp player.

### August 4 – Shellhouse:

A return of local favorites Shellhouse, playing classic and varied rock standards for your listening pleasure. Bob Teer and company will also be rolling out some newly written tunes, soon to be recorded, so be sure to be the first to hear some of these at our summer show.

### August 11 – Skip Gorman:

Skip Gorman is a national treasure that has devoted much of his musical career to the rediscovery of original American folk string music. He has contributed to a number of Ken Burns' documentaries, the most recent being American Buffalo. He was our guest artist last winter for our Common Hall show of December 17, and had more tunes to play that we had time for him to play. We are fortunate to have him return to our concert series to share his love of deeply historical string music, and associated instruments.

### August 18 – Steph Pappas Experience:

Steph Pappas was one of Burlington's original girl punk rockers, forming the all-girl Burlington based band, Miss Bliss. Now recording under the self-managed and owned Guitar Girl label and known for fronting an evolving and eclectic band of merry-makers that can steer self-directed-in-the-moment creations that veer from folk to jug band to hard core to audience participation and back to country flavored offerings in a delightfully dizzying array. Truly an experience not to miss bliss.

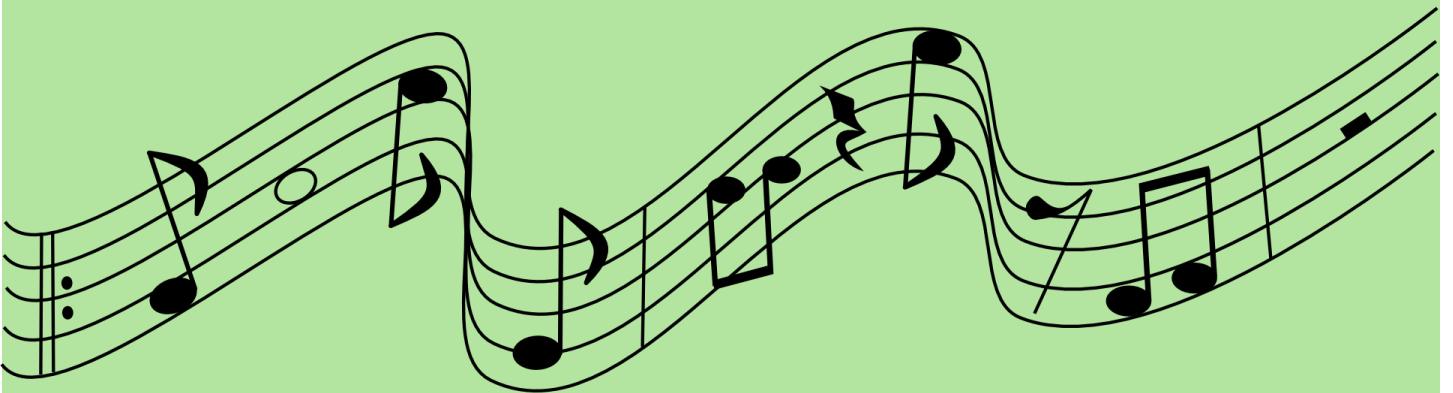
### August 25 – RAIN DATE if needed.



## RED BRICK COFFEE HOUSE UPDATE

The Westford Red Brick Coffee House will be teaming up with the new Westford Country Store for Friday evening music during the summer months. For the last few years, the coffee house has been taken to the Common gazebo as the preferred place to hold the Coffee House during warm summer weather. With the Country Store also looking to have live music outside on their back porch on Fridays as well, I didn't want to have two different outdoor events going on within earshot of each other, so we have agreed to merge our events together. So, for June 7 and August 2 we will move our Coffee House to the store. July Coffee House will be postponed due to my being away. The store will have music set for that date. We will have to see how September pans out.

For the Country Store dates there will be a set up for vocal mics and a small personal amp for instruments. Participants should plan to bring whatever support equipment they need for their presentation. All forms of presentations are welcome for the Coffee House (stand up, single or duo or full band time slots, storytelling, juggling, fire dancing, magic acts, etc.). If you want to schedule a time block for a personal segment, please let me know so we can arrange for that. Power is available at the store porch where we play from. Again, all ages are welcome, and the store will have food and beverages for purchase. Some chairs and tables are in the store's yard, but you may want to bring your own chairs and picnic blankets to be sure you have a sit-down space for yourself. Any questions please call the store for info or me directly at 802-363-0930.





**WESTFORD  
COMMON  
HALL**



**YOGALATES WITH ERIN MENUT**  
Come join Erin's Yogalates class being held at the Westford Common Hall on Wednesdays and Saturdays for the next 5 sessions: 8:30am - 9:30am on May 29th, June 5th, June 8th and June 12th. Please contact Erin Menut for more info at: [Erin@Radiantenergyforlife.com](mailto:Erin@Radiantenergyforlife.com)

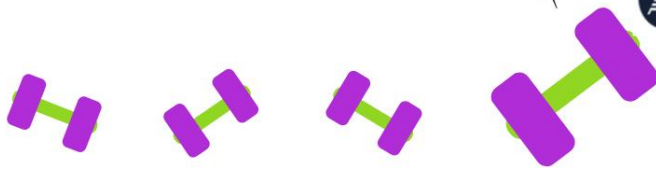
**Ringing the Steeple Bell on Mother's Day**  
Thank you to all who came out or attended in spirit the bell ringing on Mother's Day at 11:00 AM. We wanted to remember and support of all the mothers around the world suffering under oppression and the atrocities of war.



**Join RSVP**

**Bone Builders  
at the**

**Westford Common Hall!**



**Starting June 5th, FREE classes will be held every Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Westford Common Hall. Remember to wear comfortable clothing and bring water!**

The RSVP Bone Builders Program focuses on balance and light weight training to protect against fractures caused by osteoporosis. Based on studies conducted by Tufts University and published in the New England Journal of Medicine, those who participated in this program just twice a week gained muscular strength, balance and increased bone density.

Join us to get fit, reduce your risk of falling, maintaining independence, and have fun!

**Contact Jocelyn Chauvin at 802-999-6387**





WESTFORD  
COMMON  
HALL

Happy Father's Day!

You're Invited!

WELCOME  
to Tara Pereira -  
our newest member of the  
Westford Common Hall Board  
of Directors! We are so pleased  
that she has joined  
our team!

Westford Town Employees & Volunteers Appreciation Wine Down  
on June 22nd, 2024 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the WCH.

Are you a Westford Town Employee or are you a Volunteer on a  
Board, Commission, Committee, Society, or Trustee? Please allow us  
to show our thanks for all of your hard work!

Everyone is invited to come show their appreciation for these folks!  
Light refreshments will be served and guests are welcome to BYOB.



## Westford Music Series Presents:



**PLAY EVERY TOWN**  
252 community concerts for a cooler climate

**David Feurzeig**  
piano

with  
**Charlie Cavanaugh**  
& **Michael Farmer**

**Sunday June 2**  
4 pm  
**Red Brick Meeting House**  
Westford

FREE admission  
donations benefit the  
Westford  
Conservation  
Commission

playeverytown.com    fb: playeverytownVT

### Play Every Town

Come to the Brick Meeting House on  
**Sunday June 2, 2024 at 4:00 PM** for a  
unique **Westford Music Series** offering!  
Composer-pianist and UVM professor, David  
Feurzeig, will continue his offering of Play Every  
Town: 252-free concerts to combat climate  
change through the power of community, music,  
and in recognition of the importance that both  
the Westford Common Hall and the Brick  
Meeting House are to the community.

Taking advantage of the newly tuned acoustic  
antique piano, this Westford Music Series  
concert features pianist David with Westford's  
own Charlie Cavanaugh (Guitar), and Michael  
Farmer (violin and mandolin). The Westford  
Music Series has selected the Westford  
Conservation Commission for any donation  
consideration 'working towards preserving the  
environment of our community'. Concert is free.



## FREVO

at the  
**Westford Common Hall**  
on **Sunday, June 23, 2024**  
4pm - 5pm

## OUR COMMITMENT

We strive to make the Westford Common Hall accessible, welcoming, and open to everyone. Our goal is to promote inclusion, diversity, equity, and access throughout the organization with policies and practices that foster transformative change.

Our mission is to create a gathering space for diverse communities to connect, share and celebrate.

21 Brookside Road, PO Box 53, Westford, VT 05494

Email us at [info@westfordcommonhall.org](mailto:info@westfordcommonhall.org)

Website: [www.westfordcommonhall.org](http://www.westfordcommonhall.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/westfordcommonhall>

Instagram: [westfordcommonhall](https://www.instagram.com/westfordcommonhall)

We are a non-profit 501c3.





# Westford Historical Society

Our biggest news for the summer season is that we will be celebrating along with the rest of Westford on July 6th in our building on the Common from 10:00 until 2:00. We hope you will join us to view the “Town Hall Curtain” which graced the original town hall (now the town library) for many years. It will be on display for all our openings during the month of July. In addition to displaying this newly restored treasure from the very early 1900’s you will get a glimpse of the list of “players” who signed the back of the curtain whether before or after their dances, plays, graduation ceremonies, band concerts or other events. You will likely recognize many of the names.

Mark your calendars for July 6<sup>th</sup> and also for the two Saturday openings. The dates are July 13<sup>th</sup> and the 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 until noon. There may even be refreshments! We plan to be open on the second and fourth Saturdays in August, as well. The dates are the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 24<sup>th</sup> and the time will be 10:00 until noon.

And, finally, our building will be staffed during the Sunday band concerts on the Common in July and August. We hope you will wander over and see our most recent displays. All are welcome.

The Westford Historical Society is always looking for new members, whether you are a long time resident or new to the community. We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 6:30 in our building on the Common. For further information please contact Caroline Brown at 802-878-8890.

## ASSESSOR VISITS HAVE BEGUN!

It is the time of year when site visits are done on properties that have been issued a building permit in the past year or have an open permit from a prior year. This site visit is separate from the Zoning Administrator’s inspection. The Town contracts with NEMRC (New England Municipal Resource Center) to gather the information necessary to determine the assessed value of the improvements (ex. new home, addition, garage, porch, etc.). When an assessor visits your property, they will leave a notice to let you know they were there.

Notices of Change of Appraisal will be sent in May with the new assessment based on information gathered during the site visit. If you have any questions about this process, please contact the Listers at [listers@westfordvt.us](mailto:listers@westfordvt.us).

### Eyeglasses and Hearing Aids for Recycling

The Jericho-Underhill Lions Club have placed collection boxes in the Westford Library & Westford Town Clerk’s Office. The Collection Boxes are there for anyone that has used eyeglasses and used hearing aids that wishes to donate them for recycling. All you need to do is deposit them in the boxes and the Jericho-Underhill Lion’s Club will take care of it from there.



# 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: Spring

- Scavenge for compostable material during your spring clean! This is an easy way to recycle cardboard boxes, just remember to take off any tape!
- When adding new material to your compost pile, breaking down that material into smaller pieces will help it compost faster.
- Did you know you can add ash? Just do so sparingly. Coffee and coffee filters make great composting material as does citrus, just be aware that citrus takes a long time to break down.

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 PUBLIC LIBRARY

<https://westfordpubliclibrary.org>

(802) 878-5639

westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

1717 VERMONT ROUTE 128, WESTFORD VT

## Coffee and Cards 10:30am-Noon

**This month - June 11 & June 25**

Meetup with folks at the library for coffee, conversation, and cards - a great opportunity to socialize and keep those card playing skills sharp. Open to anyone, but especially looking to connect with seniors.



The Westford Public Library is accepting donations for our Fourth of July Book Sale

Please, stick to these times only.

They are: 6/1, 6/15 and 6/29\*  
From 9-11am.

Limit TWO boxes per person.

\*6/29 date depends on storage space at the library, so don't delay as this date might be cancelled.

We WILL NOT BE ACCEPTING: VHS, Cassettes, Music CDs, textbooks, encyclopedias, magazines, and moldy or damaged books. **Ask yourself "Would I lend this to a friend?" If the answer is no, then keep it out of the book sale.** We WILL BE ACCEPTING: books, DVDs, and audiobooks in good condition. **DO NOT USE THE BOOK DROP FOR DONATIONS - IT DAMAGES THE LIBRARY BOOKS.**

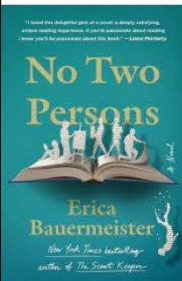


Seeking volunteers for the Fourth of July Book Sale - Setup and Teardown.

Contact Bree at the library if you can help

7/3 - AM Book Lugging (strong helpers are especially needed) PM Book organizers (less heavy lifting)

7/4 - Sale helpers needed 9-1, teardown helpers (strong helpers) needed 1pm until done.



**Erica Bauermeister**, author of *No Two Persons* and *The Scent Keeper*, will be meeting with us **on Wednesday, June 19 via Zoom at 7pm.**

Anyone is welcome to join us. We invited her after we read her latest book for our bookgroup. Email the library for the link.

## OPEN HOURS:

Tuesdays 10am-7pm

Wednesdays 1-7pm

Thursdays 10am-7pm

Fridays 1-7pm

Saturdays 10am-2pm

Closing Early June 4 at 5pm

CLOSED July 3 & 4

## Adult Book Group

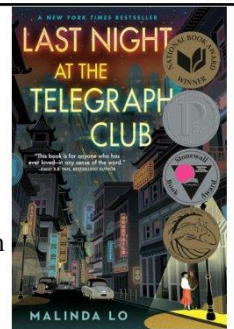
**Wed., June 26**

**7:00-8:00 pm**

**Last Night at the**

**Telegraph Club**

**By: Miranda Lo**



Lily Hu is fully immersed in the life and culture of San Francisco's Chinatown, home to Chinese immigrant families like hers. But as she comes of age in the 1950s, her passion for rockets and space exploration is matched by her curiosity about the Telegraph Club, located in a neighboring part of the city her parents have asked her to avoid.

Lily and her new friend, Kathleen, begin to sneak out at night to the club, which hosts performances by Tommy Andrews, a woman who dresses and performs in a traditionally masculine style. Kath and Lily's interest in each other continues to grow despite the very real danger faced by two girls falling in love in 1954.

At the same time, McCarthy-era fears about Communism, coupled with ongoing anti-Asian hate, shake the stability of the Chinese community and threaten to engulf Lily's own father.

**This book is the 2023-2024 Vermont Humanities Council VT Reads selection.**

**Print copies are available at library and ebook and audiobook are on Libby.**

**Outside Early Literacy Storytime - Birth to Pre-School** Thursdays at 11:30am on the Common.

6/6/24: Theme: Trees

6/13/24: Theme: All Kinds of Dads

\*6/20/24: Theme: Travel Adventures


\*6/27/24: Special FWNI Summer Storytime

**We will sing songs, read stories, move and sometimes have take-home crafts! No sign up needed, all ages are welcome. Storytime moves outside rain (gazebo) or shine. Bring a blanket! Storytimes with an (\*) are part of our Summer Reading Program**



## June Library Events

- June 1 - Book donation drop off - 9-11am**  
**June 4 - Closing early at 5pm for Staff Appreciation Celebration**  
**June 5 - Trustees Meeting 7-9pm**  
**June 6 - Maker's Group 6:30-8pm**  
**June 8 - Welcome Baby Tea 10:30-Noon**  
**June 10 - Grades 1/2 visit the Library to get Library Cards!**  
**June 11 - Coffee and Cards 10:30-Noon**  
**June 12 - Pickle Pandas Robotics Team - Robo Recap 7-8pm**  
**June 13 - Table Top Game Night 6:30-8pm**  
**\*June 14 - Summer Reading Kickoff - sign up begins on-line and in person - opening early at Noon - stop by right after school!**  
**June 15 - Book donation drop off - 9-11am**  
**\*June 15 - Champ Visits to Kick off Summer Reading! Noon-1pm**  
**\*June 18 - Cookies and Cards 10:30-Noon**  
**\*June 18 - Paracord Bracelets 4-6pm**  
**\*June 19 - Read to Bob 5:30 - 6:30, sign up for a slot required**  
**June 19 - Zoom with author Erica Bauermeister 7pm via Zoom, email for the link**  
**\*June 20 - Read to Bob 5:30 - 6:30, sign up for a slot required**  
**\*June 21 - Hike with WCC 4-5:30 at WES parking lot**  
**June 25 - Coffee and Cards 10:30-Noon**  
**\*June 25 - Adventures with Snakes 4:30-5:30**  
**\*June 26 - Paracord Bracelets 4-6pm**  
**June 26 - Adult Book Group 7pm, discussing Last Night at the Telegraph Club**  
**\*June 27 - Special FWNI Storytime 11:30-12:30 - Summer theme - lots of fun!**  
**\*June 27 - Souvenir Baskets 4-6pm**  
**\*June 28 - Orienteering Hike with WCC 4-5:30 at WES parking lot**  
**\*June 28 - Star Party 9-10pm**  
**\*June 29 - Book donation drop off - 9-11am**
- Storytime Thursdays 11:30 on the Common Programs with an (\*) are part of the Summer Reading Program and more info is in the SRP brochure.**



New StoryHike will be up in June - look for the signs in the kiosk at the school trails. Enjoy this wordless outdoor adventure themed story. You get to make up your own! Thank you to the WCC for their continued partnership.

Poetry and Passport are taking a break this year.

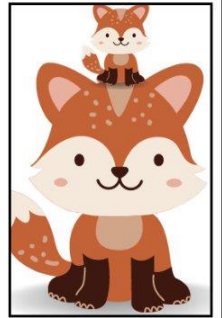
PETE OSWALD  
© New York Times Best Selling Illustrators

Two Programs Taking a Break for the Summer:  
 These are the last meetings until Fall

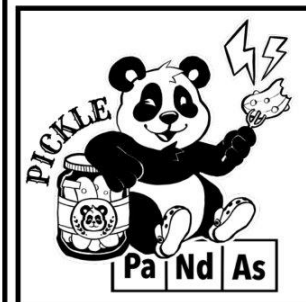
Maker's Group will meet June 6 from 6:30-8pm

Table Top Game Night - June 13 from 6:30-8pm

Welcome Baby Tea  
 Saturday, June 8, 10:30-Noon  
 RSVP please by June 6



We are celebrating all children born from March 2023-March 2024. If your child was born in Westford, you should have received an invite in the mail. If you have moved into town and your child fits into that age category - you are invited too! Please contact the library with your child's info. We can't wait to celebrate our littlest patrons!



Pickle Pandas  
 Westford Robotics Team  
 Robo-Recap  
 Wednesday, June 12  
 7-8pm

Come hear all about the kids trip to California - that many of you helped support. Pictures and takeaways from the team!



Snakes at the Library!  
 Tuesday, June 25 from  
 4:30-5:30pm. See the SRP brochure for more info.

Summer Time Star Parties on the Common  
 9-10pm - June 28, July 12 & August 2

Join amateur astronomer, Molly Drapa, on a tour of the night skies. We will have several telescopes set up for viewing, but feel free to bring your own. (leave your flashlights at home) All levels of star lovers are welcome. Weather dependent.



Excited for Summer Reading? We are too!  
 Summer Reading begins June 14 - See our brochure in this newsletter for more details.





**Westford Public Library Summer Reading Program 2024 June 14-August 9**  
**www.westfordpubliclibrary.org 878-5639 westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com**

\*Online registration opens June 14. Registration link on our website, Facebook page, and Front Porch Forum. You can also register in person. Reading logs, stickers, etc. are available starting June 14 at noon. All registrants get a FREE creamee coupon to the Westford Country Store and Café.

**Age Levels, Reading Goals, and Prizes**

**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/150 minutes read per raffle ticket, one sticker per book or 15 minutes read**

**Ages 9-12 (twens) - 3 books/240 minutes read per raffle ticket**

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



Raffle tickets will be made by Ms. Bree when reading logs are turned in - logs are due August 8. **Raffle tickets will also be given for coming to programs.** Prizes consist of gift certificates to Essex Cinemas, Phoenix Books, & more! Prizes will be awarded at the end of the SRP Ice Cream Party on August 9.

**STICK TOGETHER** Every time you come to the library you can work on our sticker mosaic! What will it be this year? Get a strip of stickers every time you visit. It's an adventure just coming to the library!

Every time you visit, find the hidden polar bear in the library and get a prize! New this year - library charms! New charms each week to put on a special bracelet, neck chain, or key ring. Collect them all! All ages welcome to participate in "each visit to the library" activities.



**Adventures in Baseball - Vermont Lake Monsters Game!**  
**Tuesday, July 9 - 6:30pm vs. the Road Warriors**  
 The library has purchased 20 kids tickets (12 and under) and reserved a block of seats. Call the box office to reserve your kids tickets (no max - so bring a friend!) & order reduced price tickets (\$7/\$5) in our very own "Westford" block. It's also 25cent hotdog night! Gates open at 5:30. **Champ is coming to visit the library on Saturday, June 15 from Noon-1pm on the Common!**



**ABC** Early Literacy with Ms. Holly  
 All sessions are from 2-3pm  
 Keep literacy skills sharp through fun activities and practice. Age groups are suggestions, but you can come to whatever works.  
 7/17 - PK-K, 7/19 - Grades 1-2  
 7/24 - PK-K, 7/26 - Grades 1-2  
 8/7 - Grades 1-2, 8/9 - PK-K  
 8/14 - Grades 1-2, 8/16 - PK-K

**Adventures in Storytime - On the Common - Thursdays at 11:30am**  
 Bring your lunch, a blanket and be ready for fun! Rain location is the gazebo. Every week we will read stories, sing and move too! Take home crafts will be available for some storytimes. 6/20 -Travel Adventures, 6/27 - Special FWNI Summer Storytime, 7/11 - Adventures in Imagination, 7/18 - Close to Home Adventures, 7/25 - Water Play, 8/1 - Adventures with I Spy, 8/8 - Adventures with Friends



**CHAMPLAIN VALLEY FAIR** The library will have FREE fair tickets for kids in grades K-8 who have read at least three books this Summer. Tickets will be available in August. They are good any day of the fair - August 23 - Sept. 1

## Summer Reading Program Events Schedule and Details

Events with a (\*) require pre-registration.



- June 14- Sign up online for SRP starts today, signup link on our website, FPF, and Facebook - We are opening early at Noon! Stop the library after school lets out to sign up and pick up SRP material (Logs, stickers, etc.) 12:00-7:00pm**, if you can't make it then, you can pick up anytime at the library.
- June 15 - Champ Visits the Common Noon-1pm-** Champ LOVES reading in the Summer! Come get your picture taken with Champ and grab your Summer Reading logs. We'll have some outdoor fun too.
- June 18 - Cookies and Cards 10:30-Noon - Why let the seniors have all the fun?** Let's meet up to play Uno, War, Go Fish, or other games the group wants to play. Please arrive on time at 10:30 so we can get started. Adults are encouraged to stay and play too!
- June 18 - Paracord Bracelets - 4-6pm** - Drop in to make a bracelet that is both cool and might save your life one day! Project takes about an hour and can be finished at home if not completed at the library. Repeated this summer - catch one or come to all.
- \*June 19 & 20 - Bob, the Reading Tortoise 5:30-6:30pm** - Readers entering 1-5 grades can sign up for a 15 minute reading slot
- June 21 - Guided Forest Hike with the Westford Conservation Commission 4:00-5:30pm (approx.) Meet at the school parking lot and be prompt.** Join a few of our WCC members to learn more about the forests we hike in - plants, ecosystems, etc. Great for any level hiker. Proper footwear and bug spray are best. Hikers get a special item for participating.
- June 25 - Adventures with Snakes 4:30-5:30pm** - Join nature enthusiast Carol Winfield to learn about snakes at the library - live snakes will be in attendance and participants will get to take home a wooden snake of their own.
- June 26- Paracord Bracelets - 4-6pm** - Drop in to make a bracelet that is both cool and might save your life one day!
- June 27 - Special Four Winds Nature Institute Storytime 11:30-12:30 on the Common** - FWNI will be here with a story and lots of hands on materials to play with - this will be an adventure and lots of fun!
- June 27 - Souvenir Baskets 4-6pm** - Using yarn and a plastic form, weave your very own souvenir or keepsake basket. Perfect for all the treasures you collect on your adventures. Project takes about an hour - requires no knot tying, but does require grit and persistence. Can be taken home and finished. Repeated multiple times this summer.
- June 28 - Orienteering Hike with the Westford Conservation Commission 4:00-5:30pm (approx.) Meet at the school parking lot and be prompt.** Learn to use a compass and a few basic forest survival skills from some members of WCC. Good for all levels. Participants get to keep a compass. Proper footwear and bug spray are good ideas.
- June 28 - Star Party on the Common 9-10pm** - Take an adventure to the stars! Join astronomer Molly Drapa for viewing and a tour of the night sky. Telescopes will be set up on the Common, or bring your own. All astronomers welcome! Weather dependent. Repeated.
- July 2 - Float Building 3:30-5:30 on the Common, also July 2 is the last day to sign up to ride the float in the Fourth of July parade, limited to kids entering first grade and older.**
- July 4 - Library Book Sale and Raffle - 9am-1pm - \$5 per bag - bring your own bag. \*Parade 11am** (riders meet 10:30 at Town Garage)
- July 9 - Adventures in Baseball at the Lake Monsters Game - 6:30pm** - see front for details
- July 11 - Adventures in Robotics - 5-7pm** - Members and mentors of Westford Robotics various teams will be present - come check out the robots, do some hands on robotics, and see what robotics is all about. All ages are welcome! See FPF for more details
- July 12 - Souvenir Baskets 4-6pm** - See description above
- July 12 - Star Party on the Common - 9-10pm** - see description above
- July 16 - Cookies and Cards 10:30-Noon** - see description above
- July 16 - Animal Hike with Carol Winfield - 4:00-5:30pm (approx.) Meet at the school parking lot and be prompt.** Geared toward our younger hikers, learn what animals live in the forest and where we might find them. We might even find a few along the way!
- \*July 17 - Teeny-Tiny Terrariums - 4-6pm** - Sign up to make your very own tiny small planter with a real live plant. All ages welcome.
- July 19 - Peaceful Adventures - 4-6pm** - Mandalas are a great way to relax and unwind - come color some lovely designs
- July 23 - Peaceful Adventures - 4-6pm** - Mandalas are a great way to relax and unwind - come color some lovely designs (repeated)
- July 25 - Souvenir Baskets 4-6pm** - See description above
- July 26- Paracord Bracelets - 4-6pm** - Drop in to make a bracelet that is both cool and might save your life one day!
- \*July 30 & August 1 - Bob, the Reading Tortoise 5:30-6:30pm** - Readers entering 1-5 grades can sign up for a 15 minute reading slot
- August 2 - VINS 4:30-5:30pm on the Common** - Learn about the vital role raptors play in our ecosystem from REAL raptors.
- August 2 - Star Party on the Common - 9-10pm** - see description above
- August 6 - Cookies and Cards 10:30-Noon** - see description above
- August 6 - Special Storytime/Concert and Family Picnic with The Busy Morning Duo 5:30-6:30pm** - Bring a picnic and enjoy a story and plenty of music and movement from this creative duo. Geared toward the toddler and younger kid set, but all are welcome to attend.
- August 8 - Reading Logs are due by 5pm** - Turn in at the library or online via google form.
- August 9- End of Summer Ice Cream Party and Raffle - 4-6pm on the Common** - Celebrate the end of Summer Reading with "All you Should Eat" Ice cream! We will announce the winners of our Summer Reading Prize Drawing as well! You do not need to be present to win. Prizes can be picked up anytime at the library. **Volunteer scoopers needed.**



## *Senator Irene Wrenner, Chittenden North*

May 28, 2024

The legislative session ended in the wee hours of Saturday morning, May 11<sup>th</sup>, after a marathon series of voting sessions. Apparently, Friday night was even more exciting back home, thanks to the aurora.



### **Race to the Finish Line**

The last week of the session brought a rash of bills to our desks, including one to relax Act 250 and allow housing to be built with less permitting in certain areas.

H.687 was introduced after a late-night compromise was worked out, leaving Senators little time – in between regularly-scheduled committee meetings the next day – to read and analyze it before being asked to vote.

Several legislators raised concerns during our floor session and proposed amendments to specific parts of the bill. Without a hint of irony, sponsors of the bill reminded their peers that this was a bit late in the process to make changes. Given insufficient time to understand its contents and implications, I voted No.

### **New Division of Animal Welfare**

H.626 is an answer to a number of animal cruelty cases across the state and the ongoing lack of a designated governmental entity to address complaints.

I supported this bill, which creates a new Division of Animal Welfare, to be housed in the Department of Public Safety, and designates a single employee to develop a comprehensive plan for handling animal cruelty cases, once hired.

### **Miscellaneous Ag Bill**

The Senate passed an initial version of S.301, but was asked to consider two additions in early May. I approved of both updates.

This bill now prohibits pet shops from selling dogs, cats and wolf hybrids unless the pet shop lawfully offered animals for sale prior to July 1, 2024 and meets several qualifications. The measure is intended to eliminate the sale of puppies from puppy mills.



Another recent addition: banning the sale of “paws or internal organs of a black bear separate from the animal as a whole”.

Black bear gallbladders are used in Chinese medicine and their paws are used to make soup. The measure is intended to reduce poaching and the movement of bear parts to out-of-state markets.

### **Timber Trespass**

For decades large quantities of wood have been taken from Vermont forests without payment to landowners by certain loggers. The crime families are well-established and well-known, but no law has protected landowners’ interests until H.614 came along. Fines and felonies for land improvement fraud are defined in this bill, which I supported.

### **Right to Repair Ag Equipment**

H.81 would have allowed Vermont farmers and loggers to independently repair their agricultural equipment, but the bill died after lawmakers in the House and Senate failed to agree on details, much to my disappointment.

Lawmakers introduced the bill last year, and they were quickly met with an onslaught of lobbying opposition from national interest groups and equipment manufacturers. The bill would have compelled manufacturers like John Deere, Caterpillar, or Husqvarna to offer the manuals, codes, diagnostics and equipment parts necessary to repair farm and logging equipment at fair market value.

In the weeks before adjournment, a lot of language changed on the Senate end to favor the manufacturers. The Senate also appeared to run out the clock by delaying its third reading: by the time H.81 returned to the House, no time was left to negotiate differences between the two versions.

At the Senior Luncheon on June 10<sup>th</sup>, House Rep Julia Andrews and I will discuss recently passed legislation that impacts seniors and answer your questions from this biennium. Look for me at the Westford Library for Cards and Coffee or the Concerts on the Town Common, in between door-knocking this summer. Yes, it’s an election year. Register to vote [here](#) if you’re new to town!

Send email to [iwrenner@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:iwrenner@leg.state.vt.us). I post highlights from the State Senate and our district at [www.facebook.com/SenatorIreneWrenner](http://www.facebook.com/SenatorIreneWrenner). Thank you!

**WESTFORD'S**  
**4TH OF JULY**  
**CELEBRATION**

**THURSDAY, AT THE TOWN**  
**JULY 4TH COMMON**  
**10:00AM - 1:00PM**

**F-35 FLYOVER!**

*Featuring:*

PARADE | LIVE MUSIC | FARMERS MARKET | LAWN GAMES  
FACE PAINTING | GAMES FOR KIDS | DUCK RACE & MORE!

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

**WESTFORD RECREATION DEPT**

**Book Sale starts at 9:00AM @ The Westford Public Library**

# Summer Soccer 2024

Starting the week of July 8 @ Westford School fields

Grades 1-2 - TBD, COACH NEEDED

Grades 3-4 - days & days 5:30 - 6:30

Grades 5 - 8 Thursdays 7-8 Pick-up with coaches



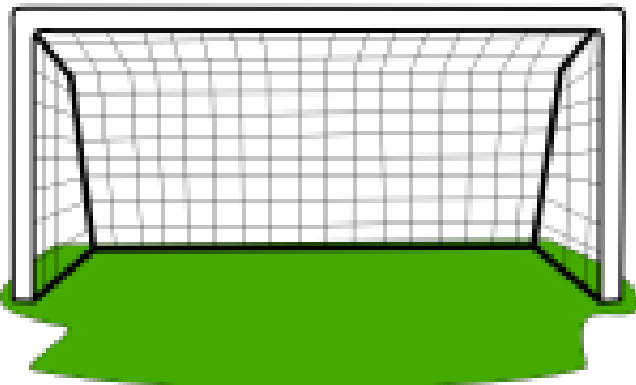
Age 16 & over Pick-up Wednesday 6:30 - 8:30 or drop-in (minimum of 10 sessions)

Shin guards required for all under age 18.

Cleats strongly suggested for all, required for grades 5-8.

All programs \$25 (Pick-up drop-in \$5 per day)

**Westford Recreation Department** <https://westfordvt.us/recreation/>



# Westford Recreation Parent & Me

Must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

## T-Ball

Focus on the fundamentals of  
baseball and softball

Dates - Fridays, July 12 through August 16

Time - 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Ages 3 - 6 at time of program

Fee - for 6 to 8 sessions - \$25



## Soccer

Focus on the fundamentals

Dates - Tuesdays July 9 through August  
13, 2024

Time - 6:00 to 6:45 p.m.

Ages - 1 to 6 at time of program

Fee - \$25

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



## WESTFORD RECREATION DEPARTMENT

June 2024

**June 4 Recreation Committee Meeting** 7pm @ Town Office & via Zoom

**Coaches needed** for **summer soccer** grades 1 & 2 up to three of your own children may participate for free! Please e-mail [recreation@westfordvt.us](mailto:recreation@westfordvt.us) for more information.



**4th of July Celebration** - see flyer. Register at the website to march in the parade, have a vendor table on the common, or the farmers' market.

**Parent & Me T-Ball and Soccer** starting soon, see the flyer and register at the website.



**Summer Soccer** starting in July, register at the town website! See the flyer for the days/times for the various ages.

Links to registrations and more information available on the town website:  
<https://westfordvt.us/recreation/>

## SUBSCRIBE TO THE TOWN NEWSLETTER

If you would like to receive a copy of the Town Newsletter by email, send an email to [townclerk@westfordvt.us](mailto: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.