



WESTFORD NEWSLETTER

March 2026



The **American Bird's Wing Moth** is recognizable due to the bird-shaped pattern on its forewings. They are found in fields, forest edges, and wetland areas and can be seen from April to August.

Westford Town Office

1713 Vermont Route 128 - Westford, Vermont 05494

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

<https://westfordvt.us/>

TOWN OFFICE NOTES

Town Meeting

In person Town Meeting is at 7pm on Monday, March 2 at the Westford School (146 Brookside Road) in the gym. On site childcare will be available:

Where: Childcare will be provided in the open space of the Elementary School, by the prek-2nd grade rooms.

Age: This childcare will be for children 2 and up.

Time: Childcare will be provided from 7pm until the end of Town Meeting.

Town Meeting Day polls is on March 3, 2026 from 7am-7pm in the Westford School gym. Please try to bring the ballot that was mailed to you if possible or be prepared to sign an affidavit to receive a new ballot.

You can view all Town Meeting Day information here: <https://westfordvt.us/voting/town-meeting/>

Dog Licenses

Dogs in Westford are required to be vaccinated against rabies and licensed with the town by April 1st. This is required legally by the State of Vermont. The fee for spayed/neutered dogs is \$13.00 and the fee for intact dogs is \$15.00. After April 1st late fees will begin being assessed.

Senior Luncheon

Sugarin' season is almost here.... Yay! Current and past Westford residents 55+ are welcome to join us on Monday March 9th, at the Brick Meeting House for our St. Patrick's Day feast! Not a fan of corned beef & cabbage? No worries.... There will be plenty of other options. Doors open at 11:30 with lunch to follow around 12:00pm

Co-Presidents. Mary Fay(878-1215) Cori Hill (238-1018)

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

The office is open to the public:

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

Closed:

- March 3 – Town Meeting Day Election
- April 14-15 – School Budget Election

Newsletter Deadline

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



UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION

BROWNS RIVER COVERED BRIDGE REPAIRS

Westford's beautiful, covered bridge, originally built in 1838, repaired in 1976, and fully restored in 2001, will be getting some needed maintenance to keep it enjoyable for years to come, thanks in part to a grant from Vermont Historic Preservation. Water damage due to faulty flashing has caused the wood to rot at the four corners where the bridge sits on its concrete abutments.

The Selectboard has chosen Miles Jenness from Vermont Heavy Timber (<https://www.vermontheavytimber.com/>) to do the repairs which will begin this summer and wrap up in the fall. The bridge will be lifted from the abutments, new wood timbers will be installed, and superior flashing will be applied to keep rot from forming again in the future. During this work, there will be times when traffic may be limited to one lane on Cambridge Road. Any disruption will be minimized as much as possible. Thank you for being patient while we fix up this wonderful, historic landmark in the heart of Westford



MUD SEASON!

What you need to know about spring road conditions.

- **Mud:** appears on gravel roads as snow thaws. Reduce your driving speeds to ensure safety and to preserve road conditions.
- **Snow:** a mix of precipitation can occur. Snow on top of muddy roads will become more slippery.
- **Potholes:** WILL appear on gravel roads. They cannot be fixed in freezing temperatures. Do your part to help reduce potholes by driving slowly and avoiding areas in poor condition if you can.
- **Heavy Loads:** do damage to thawing roads. Traveling on 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 activity by wildlife including bears coming out of hibernation, wild turkey and young animals navigating roads for the first time.
- Pedestrian & recreational use of roads will increase starting at this time of the year, slow and allow room for all road users.
- Please keep pets and other animals under leash or vocal control when on or near roadways.



GROOMED TRAILS – Thanks to Tom Lane and Joel Fay for grooming the Misty Meadows Trails at Westford Elementary. And thank you to whoever has provided all the snow. The trails are open to all, but to maximize everyone’s enjoyment, please maintain “lanes” on the groomed trails. The set track is for cross country skiers, the corduroy is to be shared by snowshoers and skate skiers.

EXCLUSIVE – Be one of the very few to own an authentic Westford hoodie, with proceeds going to benefit the WCC. Locally printed on a high-quality Gildan sweatshirt by New Duds in Colchester. Available in navy or forest green, L or XL. Supplies are very limited, so act now! \$50 each. Contact westfordcc@googlegroups.com for ordering.



DONATIONS!: The WCC is funded in part by donations. If you appreciate our efforts, and would like to help fund our work, please send a donation to: Westford Conservation Commission, 1713 Vt. Rte. 128, Westford, VT 05494. Thank you!

The WCC’s next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 6:00 pm at the Town Office. Requests to attend the meeting virtually can be emailed to westfordcc@googlegroups.com.

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

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/2025/12/Common-Use-Application-FILLABLE.pdf>

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

WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES

PRESENTS

THE BAND ROWAN



CELTIC

-free will donation-

4-5 PM: WESTFORD COMMON HALL

SUNDAY: MARCH 1, 2026

Rowan is a Celtic and Traditional folk band from Vermont whose sound is shaped by six dynamic players. Drawing on backgrounds that span everything from 1960s folk revival to decades of old-time banjo tradition, Northern Vermont fiddle roots, multi-genre bass work and world-class Scottish piping, Rowan brings audiences a vibrant blend of Celtic melody, American folk energy, and Vermont-grown storytelling.

A pie raffle is included for extra fun! Call 802-734-8177 for more information.

MUNICIPAL JOB OPENINGS

For more information on job postings please visit our Careers page on the website: <https://westfordvt.us/careers/>

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 or call the Town Office at 802-878-4587. Westford residency is preferred but not required.

WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES

PRESENTS

PAUL ASBELL



ACOUSTIC

-free will donation-

4-5 PM: WESTFORD COMMON HALL

SUNDAY: MARCH 22, 2026

Paul Asbell plays his acoustic guitar, laying down intricate, pianistic patterns, as the consummate professional in blues, folk, early jazz, and old-timey music genre, which has placed him among the nations most revered guitarists. From his early years, playing blues on Chicago's south side, to his present multi-faceted career based out of northern, Vermont, Paul has earned an underground reputation as a true 'musicians' musician.

A pie raffle is included for extra fun! Call 802-734-8177 for more information.



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY

Appointed Positions on Boards & Committees

The Town of Westford has several available opportunities to serve the community! These appointments of non-elected positions are made by the Selectboard after Town Meeting Day, and applicants must live in Westford. To apply for one of the positions below, please submit an application for appointment (<https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/APPLICATION-FOR-APPOINTMENT.pdf>) to townadmin@westfordvt.us or mail/drop off at the Town Office at 1713 VT Route 128, Westford, VT 05494. Applications are due by 3/15/2026.

DEVELOPMENTAL REVIEW BOARD

There are 2 terms coming up for re-appointment in 2026. Both seats are 3-year terms, expiring in 2029. There is also an Alternate seat available for a 1-year term to expire in 2027.

Member of this board review and make decisions on:

- Appeals of Administrative Officer decisions
- Conditional Use
- Site Plans
- Subdivisions & Planned Unit Development
- Variances & Waivers

(<https://westfordvt.us/boards/development-review-board/>)

PLANNING COMMISSION

There are 1 term coming up for re-appointment in 2026. This seat serves for a 5-year term which will expire in 2031.

There are also 2 seats that were vacated in the middle of their terms and are available for appointment. One is 3 years remaining of the 5 year term and the other is 2 years remaining of a five year term.

Members of this commission prepare the Town Plan, Land Use & Development Regulations and participate in other planning studies as necessary.

(<https://westfordvt.us/boards/planning-commission/>)

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

There is one term coming up for re-appointment in 2026. This is for a 4-year term to expire in 2030.

The Conservation Commission helps preserve the rural character of the town by maintaining Town trails and planning conservation projects, among other things. (<https://westfordvt.us/boards/conservation-commission/>)

COMMON COMMITTEE

There is 1 term up for re-appointment in 2026. This seat serves a 3-year term and will expire in 2029. The Common Commission oversees the care and maintenance of the Town Common and helps with scheduling activities that take place on The Common. (<https://westfordvt.us/boards/town-common-committee/>)

CEMETERY COMMISSION

There is 1 term coming up for re-appointment in 2026. This seat serves for a 3-year term and will expire in 2029. The Cemetery Commission oversees the care and maintenance of the seven Town cemeteries.

(<https://westfordvt.us/boards/cemetery-commission/>)

Please contact the Town Office at 878-4587 or townadmin@westfordvt.us if you have questions about any of these positions.



Westford Historical Society

NEWS FROM THE WESTFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY MARCH 2026

Members of the Westford Historical Society want to thank all the folks who visited our building during the Winter Fest Celebration. Everyone seemed to enjoy the “old time” games and our great music, thanks to Neil Rossi, and our delicious maple popcorn, as well as exploring our building. We also want to thank our local “sugarmakers” for donating syrup for our raffle. Thank you to Snow Hill Farm, The Wamsganz Family, Cold Shoulder Ridge Maples, the Robarge Family (Stormin' Norman), and the Van Winkles. The lucky winners were very happy!

One of our members came across an old poem likely written in the 1880's about a “dried apple pie.” Apparently there was such a pie –made in olden days when drying fruit was a primary method of preserving the harvest for winter. The author of the poem was clearly not a fan! See what you think...

Dried Apple Pies

I loathe! Abhor! Detest! Despise!
Abominate! Dried apple pies;
I like good bread, I like good meat,
Or anything that's good to eat;
But of all poor grub beneath the skies,
The poorest is dried apple pies.
Give me the tooth ache or sore eyes
In preference of such kind of pies.

The farmer takes his knurliest fruit,
Tis wormy, bitter and hard to boot;
They leave the hulls to make us cough,
And don't take half the peeling off:
Then on a dirty cord they're strung
And from some chamber window hung;
And there they serve a roost for flies
Until they're ready to make pies.
Tread on my corns, or tell me lies,
But don't pass me dried apple pies.

Now our energies will focus on the 250th celebration of the birth of our nation. We will be looking into the history of some of the Revolutionary War soldiers who are interred here in Westford. Details will follow in April and May. Your help and ideas with this project are always welcome. Come to 10 Common Road on the 3rd Monday of the month starting at 2:00. All are welcome. For further information or for a private viewing contact Caroline Brown at 802-878-8890.

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.



SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATE IN THE 2026 WESTFORD FARMERS MARKET!!

The Westford Farmers Market is now planning for the 2026 season and is seeking both community sponsors and vendors. Our goal is to foster connections between community members and producers by creating a market for folks to find fresh, local food and unique, hand-crafted products from their neighbors. As we look ahead to 2026, we are working to strengthen the market's financial stability and expand vendor participation.

Sponsors:

Local businesses and community partners are invited to support the market through our sponsorship program. Sponsorship funds help offset operational costs, marketing, and community programming. Please reach out to us at westfordfarmersmarketvt@gmail.com to learn more about sponsorship options.

Vendors:

Looking for local farmers, food producers, and artisans to join us for the 2026 Summer season. The Market will be held on Sundays from 3-6pm, June 7th-September 27th, on the Westford Town Common.

High demand for fresh produce, preserved/prepared foods, eggs, meats and cheese but all types of farmers and artisans from the surrounding communities are welcome to apply. Easy sign up process and flexible scheduling options.

If you are interested in applying as a vendor, please fill out the application here:

<https://forms.gle/vGi5ZSkSgjfCmj4A9>

Reach out to learn more about requirements and availability. Please contact market managers, Kirsten and Kristin at westfordfarmersmarketvt@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook and Instagram

@westfordfarmersmarketvt



March 2026 Newsletter

News & Events

Westford Music Series:



Rowan

**Sunday,
March 1, 2026 4pm**



Spring is coming, and what better way to celebrate than welcoming the energetic, talented band, ROWAN, to the Westford Common Hall, 21 Brookside Road, Westford, VT, at 4 pm on Sunday, March 1st. Rowan is a Celtic and traditional folk band from Vermont whose sound is shaped by six dynamic players: Patrick McKenzie, Katelyn McKenzie, Marshall Paulsen, Hannah Assefa, Scott McGrath, and Hazen Metro.

Drawing on backgrounds that span everything from 1960's folk revival to decades of old-time banjo tradition, Northern Vermont fiddle roots, multi-genre bass work, and world-class Scottish piping, Rowan brings audiences a vibrant blend of Celtic melody, American folk energy, and Vermont-grown storytelling.

Saturday, March 14, 5:30 - 8:30pm
Pi Day Potluck & Bingo
(see page 2 for details)

Sunday, March 15, 2-5pm
Learn to play Crokinole!
Join us for an afternoon of fun with Canada's favorite tabletop game. Whether you're brand new or looking to sharpen your flick, this friendly session welcomes all ages and skill levels.



Bone Builders exercise class is on **Wednesdays and Fridays, 10 am-11:15.** **Drop in any time!** Donations are appreciated.

Westford's Buddhist meditation and study group meets at WCH every Sunday morning from 10:30am-12pm. Come join neighbors for a 25 minute silent meditation, short readings from our current book--*Start Where You Are* by Pema Chodron--and some time for sharing and discussion. All are welcome, no matter your level of experience or if you read the book! Free will donation basis - all donations help cover operating expenses for WCH. Questions? Email eileen.nehme@gmail.com.



Pi Day Potluck & Bingo Night



Saturday, March 14, 2026

Come celebrate everyone's favorite mathematical constant at the Common Hall! It's Pi Day on a Saturday night, so let's get together for food and games. This family-friendly event is sure to be well-rounded!

Schedule:

5:30 PM: Potluck Dinner

7:00-8:30 PM: Bingo & Kids Games

Food: Feeling the pi theme? Bring a savory or dessert pie, pizza, or quiche. Not feeling it? Bring your favorite potluck dish! Or skip the cooking and make a donation when you arrive—suggested \$7-\$15 per person. WCH provides drinks, plates, utensils, and napkins.

Games: Bingo for all ages with multiple rounds and prizes. Yes, we have the classic bingo cage for authentic vibes. Separate activities for younger kids too, so the whole family can have fun.

Flexibility: Come for the whole evening, just dinner, or show up for bingo—whatever works for you.

Scan here to RSVP ↓





Westford Music Series 2025/2026 Season

Sundays: 4-5 pm, Westford Common Hall
21 Brookside Road, Westford VT

March 1, 2026: Rowan band

March 22, 2026: Paul Asbell

April 10, 2026 *Special Friday Concert 7pm: Minor Gold band

April 19, 2026: Lewis Franco band

May 17 th , 2026: FREVO quartet

June 7 th , 2026: John McBride's Big Easy; ALL THAT JAZZ

September 13, 2026: Missisquoi River Band

October 18, 2026: Marsh Lights

November 15, 2026: Twangtown Paramours

December 11, 2026: HOLIDAY CONCERT at 7:00 pm Fairfax Westford Band

December 20, 2026: Carol Ann Jones

January 10, 2027: The Vermont Mandolin Trio

February 7, 2027: Dave Roberts & Chicky Stolz

March 7, 2027: Spenser Lewis

April 4, 2027: The Buck Hollars

May 16, 2027: FREVO

See <https://westfordcommonhall.org/westford-music-series> for more info!

coming soon



Get ready for Bird Walk & Talk!



Explore nature. Discover birds. Learn together.

In the coming months, the Westford Library and Westford Common Hall will be sponsoring a fun and engaging series of bird-focused events, including guided bird walks and educational presentations.

Whether you're a seasoned birder or simply curious about the feathered friends in your backyard, we invite you to join us to connect with local wildlife and fellow nature enthusiasts.

Keep a bird's-eye view out for details coming soon!

THANK YOU!

The ***Earth and Sky*** Photography Exhibit came to a close at the end of February, and we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made it such a success.

To our talented artists — thank you for sharing your incredible work and for spending time connecting with fellow art lovers in the community. Your creativity and generosity made this exhibit truly special.

Westford Common Hall | PO Box 53 | Westford, VT 05494



**WESTFORD
COMMON HALL**



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

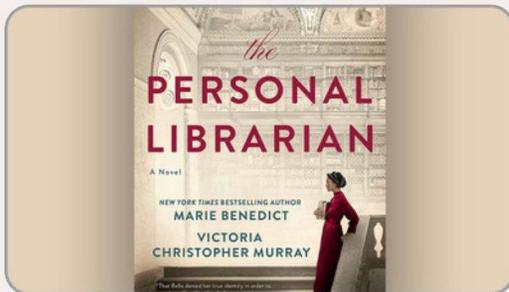
Myers has now set up a Facebook page for Westford specific trash & recycling communications! You can find it here: <https://www.facebook.com/Town-of-Westford-Waste-104918838111423>.



WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

MARCH NEWSLETTER

This month's Adult Book Group: The Personal Librarian



Join us on on March 18th at 7:00 PM.
for our Adult Book Group. We are
reading "The Personal Librarian," by
Marie Benedict and Victoria
Christopher Murray. It is a historical
fiction novel detailing the life of Belle
da Costa Greene, a Black woman who
passes as white to become J.P.
Morgan's personal librarian in Gilded
Age New York.

Upcoming Events



Coffee and Cards Tuesdays, 10:30-12:00

Join us weekly for card games and good
conversation. All levels welcome!



Homeschool Meet Up Group Wednesdays 2:30-4:00

All families interested in homeschooling are
invited! This space is intended to help
homeschooling families connect.



Knitting for Neighbors + Board Games Wednesdays in February, 5:30-6:45

Come and knit or crochet at the library! Enjoy
the company of other fiber artists and share
tips and tricks. We will have board games
available for all ages.





Upcoming Events



Early Literacy Storytime: Thursdays, 10:30

Our storytime has changed to 10:30. Join us for a gentle, engaging storytime full of rhymes, songs, stories, and parachute play. Playtime follows storytime!



**Learn American Mah Jongg
Thursdays from 1:00-3:00**

Limited space, please email:
westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com to register.



Maker's Group

Thursday, March 5th at 6:30

Bring anything you are currently working on and spend time with other makers in a relaxed, creative space.



Library Trustee Meeting

Wednesday, March 11th at 7:00



Shakespeare Group

Friday, March 20th at 2:00 PM

Join us to talk about the first part of Romeo and Juliet. All are welcome! Copies available at the library.



Legislative Updates

Representative Brenda Steady – Chittenden-25 House District

I attended the **2026 Outdoor Recreation Day** at the State House on February 5. This annual event—co-hosted by the Vermont Outdoor Business Alliance and several partner organizations—highlights the outdoor recreation sector’s contributions to Vermont’s economy, environmental stewardship, and community vitality. I was pleased to meet **Westford’s new Town Administrator, Tommy O’Connor**, during the event. Congratulations to Tommy on stepping into this important role.



Although the Legislature typically does not meet on Mondays, the **Essex Westford High School** students visited the State House recently, and I was invited to speak with them. Their questions were thoughtful, well-prepared, and demonstrated a strong understanding of the issues before the Legislature. Among the group was **Westford student Dominick Barrows**, who was recognized last session as a John Lewis finalist. He continues to represent Westford with maturity and pride.



On Thursday, the Legislature participated in the process to elect a new **Vermont Adjutant General**, following the retirement of General Greg Knight. I had the opportunity to meet both candidates—**Brigadier General Henry “Hank” Harder** and **Colonel Roger “Brent” Zeigler**—each of whom brought strong qualities to the role. The Legislature voted **147–23** to elect **Brigadier General Henry “Hank” Harder**.

The Legislature will be in recess during **Town Meeting Week, March 2–6**, allowing representatives to spend time in their home districts following “cross-over.” Cross-over is the point in the session when House bills that have been approved move to the Senate for further review, and Senate bills move to the House. After the recess, these bills will receive focused attention as top priorities.

One of the major responsibilities before cross-over is advancing the **FY 2027 State Budget**. House committees are working intensively to finalize language for the Appropriations Committee so the budget can be voted out of the House before the recess.

Please feel free to reach out with any feedback or concerns. You can contact me at bsteady@leg.state.vt.us or **802-338-8374**.

Respectfully, Representative Brenda Steady

Senator Chris Mattos

The second month of the 2026 session is nearing an end. Not much activity on the Senate floor, most committees are still working on bills to meet the crossover deadline. Crossover is when bills must be voted out of committee to continue their journey to the House and vice versa. Committee bills shall be acted upon by March 13 and money committees by March 20.

Two bills to note that have been passed by the Senate I mentioned in last month's letter, S.208 and S.209. These bills started in Judiciary; the morning committee I am a member of. S.208 is an act relating to standards for law enforcement identification which would require all law enforcement officers to display their name and badge number. In addition, officers would be prohibited from wearing masks or personal disguise unless they meet certain exemptions. S.209 is an act relating to standards for law enforcement identification which would require all law enforcement officers to display their name and badge number. In addition, officers would be prohibited from wearing masks or personal disguise unless they meet certain exemptions. I supported both bills in committee and on the floor. I had constitutional concerns about S.208, but through more work in committee and edits to the bill, those concerns were addressed. They now head to the House to start the process all over.

In Judiciary, we recently voted out Proposal 4, declaration of rights; government of the people; equality of rights which is an amendment to the Vermont Constitution. A copy of Prop 4 can be found on the judiciary committee website. I voted for this amendment while I was in the House, most recently now in Senate Judiciary and I will continue support it on the floor. If the proposal passes both bodies, it will head to the voters this November.

Senate Finance, my afternoon committee, has been surprisingly quiet the past month. We have continued to take testimony on bills introduced. There has not been much action taken. Over the next couple weeks, we will see an influx of bills coming out of committees that will be referred to Finance when they have fiscal implications. We are still waiting for further work to be done on Act 73. The education committees have been starting that work.

Don't forget, Town Meeting is coming up! If you haven't already, be sure to vote March 3!

As always, please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions, comments, or concerns at cmattos@leg.state.vt.us.

cmattos@leg.state.vt.us.

Chris Mattos
State Senator
Chittenden-North District

SUBSCRIBE TO THE TOWN NEWSLETTER

If you would like to receive the Town Newsletter in your email inbox, send an email to townclerk@westfordvt.us with your name and email address. To view current and past newsletters visit:

<https://westfordvt.us/documents/newsletters/>