



THE South Street Sentinel

WESTMINSTER VILLAGE FOUNDATION PRESENTS
Eleventh Annual
WESTMINSTER

Cracker Festival & 5K

MR STICKLAND Featuring Kris Lucander
FREDDY & THE FREeloaders
FRED ELLSWORTH • THE TRIBE

SATURDAY OCTOBER 17th, 2026
10:00am - 5:00pm • VILLAGE CENTER
MUSIC • FOOD • BEER/WINE • CRAFT VENDORS • 5K
\$1000 CHILI CONTEST • FAMILY FUN • RAIN OR SHINE

PRESENTED BY
Platinum Sponsors



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Business Sponsors: Powell Stone & Gravel • Central Mass Tree, Inc.
INFO & RACE REGISTRATION VISIT WWW.CRACKERFESTIVAL.COM
Westminster Cracker Festival

Mark your calendars! One of our town's biggest community celebrations is back! **The 11th Annual Westminster Cracker Festival & 5K, presented by the Westminster Village Foundation, takes over the Village Center on Saturday, October 17, 2026, from 10:00AM to 5:00PM.** Best of all, admission is FREE, and the festival happens rain or shine!

Since its beginning in 2015, the Cracker Festival has grown into a much-loved Westminster tradition, bringing thousands of residents, families, friends, and visitors together in the heart of town. For one special fall Saturday, the Village Center is transformed into a lively gathering place filled with music, food, craft vendors, family fun, beer and wine, the annual 5K, and the always-popular \$1,000 Chili Contest!

A Great Day of Live Music

This year's festival will feature a fantastic lineup of live entertainment, including Mr. Stickland featuring Kris Lucander, Freddy & The Freeloaders, Fred Ellsworth, and The Tribe. Grab something delicious to eat, find a spot to enjoy the music, and soak up the atmosphere of a busy downtown filled with friends and neighbors.

Start the Day with the Cracker Festival 5K!

The annual Cracker Festival 5K is also back, giving runners and walkers another way to be part of the celebration. Race information and registration are available through the Cracker Festival website.

More Than a Festival—It's Community

What makes the Cracker Festival so special isn't just everything happening throughout the day—it's the people who fill the Village Center. It's a day when neighbors reconnect, families make memories, local businesses and organizations are showcased, and visitors get to experience the hometown spirit that makes Westminster unique. From cheering on 5K participants and browsing local vendors to enjoying live music and sharing a meal with friends, the festival creates countless opportunities to simply come together as a community.

Hosted by the Westminster Village Foundation, the festival also has a lasting impact beyond one Saturday in October. Proceeds are put back into supporting the community, making a day of fun an investment in Westminster as well. The Cracker Festival wouldn't be possible without the tremendous support of its presenting, gold, silver, business, and community sponsors, along with the vendors, volunteers, performers, organizations, and countless others who help bring the celebration to life each year.

So gather your family, call your friends, and make plans to spend the day in the Village Center!

CONNECTING AND BUILDING COMMUNITY WWW.WESTMINSTER-MA.GOV

WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL



PEOPLE • PLACES
PROGRAMS • COMMUNITY

TOWN OF WESTMINSTER IMPORTANT MASSACHUSETTS STATE ELECTION DATES!

State Election
November 3rd, 2026

*Your
Vote
Matters!*

STRONGER
COMMUNITIES
BRIGHTER
TOMORROWS



**LAST DAY TO
REGISTER TO VOTE**
for the STATE ELECTION is

**Saturday, Oct. 24th
by 5:00 PM.**



**LAST DAY TO APPLY
FOR A VOTE BY MAIL
BALLOT:**

**Thursday, Oct. 27th
by 5:00 PM.**



**LAST DAY TO APPLY
FOR ABSENTEE
BY MAIL:**

**Thursday, Oct. 27th
by 5:00 PM.**



**LAST DAY FOR
IN PERSON
ABSENTEE VOTING:**

**Monday, Nov. 2, 2026
@ 12:00 PM.**



SCHEDULE FOR IN PERSON EARLY VOTING WILL BE POSTED ON OCT. 8TH 2026.



You may register by mail-in form, online or in person
at the Town Clerk's Office.



If you have any questions,
please call the office at **978-874-7406**.



See additional information for voters by clicking here.

*Informed Voters
Stronger Communities*

TOWN OF WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

PEOPLE ♥ PLACES ♥ PROGRAMS ♥ COMMUNITY

IMPORTANT LINKS

[REGISTER TO VOTE ONLINE](#)

[PRINTED FORM TO REGISTER
TO VOTE BY MAIL](#)

[ONLINE APPLICATION
VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT](#)

[PRINTED FORM TO APPLY
FOR VOTE BY MAIL](#)

[PRINTED FORM TO APPLY FOR
AN ABSENTEE BALLOT BY MAIL](#)

VETERAN PARKING SPOT

The Town Hall recently added a
'veterans parking spot' to honor
our veterans when they come to visit
the Town Hall.

After adding the sign, the DPW came
to re-line the parking spaces and
decided to add just a little extra flair
to the veteran spot!

*Thank you to all of our veterans
for your service!*



Thank You
FOR YOUR SERVICE



Adams Street Comprehensive Permit (40B) — INFORMATION & SCHEDULE —



**10/20
6:00 PM**

Next Meeting
Conditions / Determination

Dates subject to change. Be sure to check the town website:
<https://www.westminster-ma.gov/minutes-and-agendas>

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

RDOHERTY@WESTMINSTER-MA.GOV



**SCAN HERE
FOR MORE
INFORMATION**



Please scan the QR code
for a link to all documents
or find them under
Zoning Board of Appeals >
Pending Applications
on the town website.

**ZBA HEARING CLOSES
12/31**



www.facebook.com/westminstermacommunityservices

Welcome to the new Westminister Community Services Department Facebook Page!

We're excited to introduce a new, dedicated space designed to keep our community connected, informed, and engaged!

This page will serve as a central place to showcase the many things happening across Westminister. From important Town business and announcements—including elections, Town Meetings, public notices, deadlines, and other municipal updates—to the programs, activities, and events that bring our community together, we hope to make it easier for residents to stay connected to what's happening around town.

You'll find information about Senior Center programs and events, youth activities, recreational opportunities, seasonal programs, community celebrations, special events, and much more. We'll also share reminders, registration information, volunteer opportunities, photos, event recaps, and other helpful updates throughout the year.

The page will also highlight the work of Westminister's Community Services Department and the many community-wide events and activities it helps coordinate. From Community Center events, family activities, holiday celebrations, and other special events, there is always something happening in Westminister.

Just as importantly, Community Services is about collaboration. Many of the programs and events you see throughout the year are made possible through partnerships with our Town departments, boards, committees, local organizations, volunteers, businesses, and community members. This page will give us another opportunity to highlight those joint efforts and the people who help make them possible.

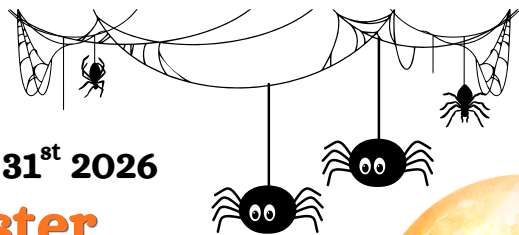
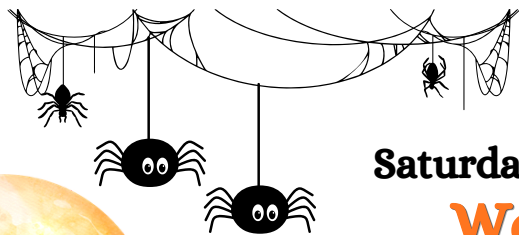
Our goal is simple: to create one welcoming place where residents can discover what's happening, find ways to participate, and feel more connected to their community.

Whether you're looking for an upcoming Town Meeting, an activity for the kids, something happening at the Senior Center, a community event to attend with friends and family, or simply want to see what's new around Westminister, we hope you'll follow along.

People. Places. Programs. Community.

It's all happening right here in Westminister—and we look forward to sharing it with you!

Have an idea for an event, or want to share something with the community, reach out to Community Services Director Audra Kirtland: akirtland@westminster-ma.gov



Saturday, October 31st 2026

Westminster

TRICK-OR-TREAT

Come join us for our annual Trick-or-Treat fun on Bacon, Pleasant and Elliott Streets from 5-7PM!

Donations Appreciated! Please drop to the Public Safety Building or Town Hall!



Join us after Trick-or-Treating for a Bonfire presented by the Westminster Fire Department held behind the VFW! Stay tuned to all of our Facebook pages for continued updates about Halloween!

FALL WORD SEARCH

Fall Word Search

P	Y	A	I	M	N	L	M	E	O	N	L	T	E	C
A	W	C	Z	G	R	Q	W	N	F	W	H	T	E	X
C	N	S	E	P	T	E	M	B	E	R	S	R	F	Y
O	Q	O	B	S	J	W	A	B	A	Q	T	E	A	U
R	X	E	V	D	I	N	U	H	M	U	J	E	L	S
N	Q	N	D	E	X	T	X	Z	A	B	T	S	L	W
S	T	G	B	C	M	A	C	O	R	R	S	U	V	K
W	A	A	N	U	X	B	D	I	C	Z	V	Z	M	R
E	H	P	C	Q	I	T	E	Y	D	T	I	E	Q	N
M	Y	P	K	C	O	C	Z	R	J	E	O	Y	S	M
L	G	L	E	M	H	U	W	J	Y	C	R	B	E	T
J	V	E	A	R	I	P	K	P	U	V	O	W	E	X
H	D	S	W	E	A	T	E	R	Y	P	O	M	Z	R
N	M	C	B	G	J	E	X	P	V	G	D	U	T	W
S	N	R	U	K	S	C	A	R	E	C	R	O	W	Y

SEPTEMBER
HARVEST
ACORNS
TREES

SCARECROW
SWEATER
CIDER
APPLES

OCTOBER
AUTUMN
FALL
NOVEMBER

PJSANDBOARD.COM

VOLUNTEER

Make a Difference
IN WESTMINSTER

Do you enjoy meeting people, being part of community events and having fun? The Town of Westminster is looking for volunteers to help out at community events!

We have some great events in the works – and now all we need is YOU!



COMMUNITY
EVENTS



PARKS &
RECREATION



TOWN
PROGRAMS



& SO MUCH
MORE!



PEOPLE • EVENTS • COMMUNITY



Contact Audra at
978-874-7461



or email
akirtland@westminster-ma.gov

Get Involved!

THE WESTMINSTER FOOD PANTRY



SEEKS DONATIONS

To Help Local Residents in Need!

The Food Pantry is located in the basement of the First Congregational Church of Westminster, 138 E. Main Street and is open to Westminster residents on Thursday evenings.

Donate Food: Food donations can be dropped off at the Congregational Church in the collection bin on the side porch. If you have a larger, food-drive sized donation, please call us at 978-729-8934.

Consider a Monetary Donation: These can be sent to the Westminster Community Food Pantry, P.O. Box 767, Westminster, MA 01473.

Get down with **MOTOWN**

A COMMUNITY DANCE NIGHT

For one night only, we're dropping the lights, and transforming the social room at the center into an immersive dance club!

Friday, October 16th 7:00-9:30pm

Westminster Senior & Community Center ~ 69 W. Main St.

RESERVE A TABLE & BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

Motown-inspired outfits encouraged

MOTOWN'S GREATEST - ON THE BIG SCREEN

The Four Tops | The Supremes | Jackson 5
The Temptations | The Spinners | and more!

Open to All Adult Westminster Residents

Snacks & Drinks Provided - Bring More to Share!
Or You May Bring Your Own Beverage (non-alcoholic)

Suggested Donation
\$5.00 per person

Reserve Your Spot Today!
Call/text **508.633.7405**

WESTMINSTER COMMUNITY SENIOR CENTER



Community **FITNESS** CLASS UPDATE

*Move
Feel Better
Together*

SENIORS &
COMMUNITY MEMBERS
ARE WELCOME!

STARTING IN OCTOBER!

Starting on **Monday, October 5th**, Paula Magee, who teaches fitness classes at the Westminster Senior Center during the day, will now be offering two classes on **Monday evenings**, open to both seniors and other community members. While the classes are geared more towards seniors, anyone is welcome to join in for either of the following classes.



MONDAY
5:00 - 5:45 PM

Cardio Strength

GET MOVING | BUILD STRENGTH
FEEL GREAT



MONDAY
6:00 - 6:45 PM

Yoga

STRETCH | BREATHE | FIND YOUR BALANCE



No registration
required — just
show up!



Wear comfortable
clothing and
sneakers.



We provide the weights,
balls, chairs, and exercise
bands as needed.

*All
Fitness Levels
Welcome!*



WESTMINSTER COMMUNITY SENIOR CENTER
69 West Main Street, Westminster

*A Healthier
Westminster Together*



COMMUNITY MAHJONG

Tuesdays 6-8PM

**Westminster Community
Center**

This new community program is open to all ages and levels! It's an open play style where you can choose your group. A great opportunity to meet new people. You must have your own mahjong card to play which can be purchased at NATIONALMAHJONGLEAGUE.ORG

NO MEETUP on SEPTEMBER 1ST DUE TO THE ELECTION AT THE COMMUNIT CENTER!



FIRST ANNUAL TOWN OF WESTMINSTER EMPLOYEE OUTING

A reminder that all non-essential Town Office Buildings will be closing at 4pm on Thursday, September 24th!

MONTACHUSETT
PUBLIC HEALTH
NETWORK



VACCINE CLINIC

Tuesday, September 29th
Westminster Senior Center
69 West Main St, Westminster
9:00AM - 12:00PM

Flu vaccine available for ages 5 years old+

COVID vaccine may be offered, pending availability and recommendations

Registration encouraged; walk-ins accepted
Please bring insurance card if you have one

**Call the Montachusett Public Health
Network at 978-602-2356 for registration
and questions**

♥ Lifting Lives ♥ Through Local Care

Together
We Make a
Difference!
♥

The Women's Fellowship of the First Congregational Church of Westminster will be collecting **personal care items** to help stock the shelves at the Food Pantry located at the church. Every day hygiene products cannot be purchased with SNAP benefits making these donations incredibly vital for families right here in Westminster. All personal care items are deeply appreciated especially:



Bar soap and
body wash



Shampoo and
conditioner



Toothpaste,
mouthwash,
toothbrushes



Body and
hand lotions



Shaving cream
and razors

Small
Items
Big
Impact!
♥



Healthy
Communities
Stronger
Neighbors
♥



NOVEMBER 2 – NOVEMBER 20, 2026

You may leave your donations in the designated collection boxes at any of these wonderful locations. We are grateful to them for partnering with us!



- First Congregational Church of Westminster, 138 Main St. (side entrance)
- Forrest Farms - Micro Flower Farm & Event Venue, 127 Main St. (under the covered ramp on the left side of the building)
- The Vice - Coffee, Ice Cream & Deli Shop, 134 Main St.
- Vincent's Country Store - Family Owned Market, 109 Main St.

Thank you for your generosity
and making our neighbors
feel their best! ♥



Women's Fellowship
First Congregational Church
Westminster

Care
Share
Support
Our Community
♥

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE ♥ A STRONGER WESTMINSTER ♥ TOGETHER

Cub Scout Fishing Derby

Open to all boys and girls Kindergarten to 5th grade



Sunday October 4th

1pm

Crow Hills Pond (Route 31)

Westminster



Open to boys and girls ages 5 to 11 (grades K-5) Prizes for the most fish caught!

Come learn more about all our amazing activities at Pack 33!

**FUN, FELLOWSHIP,
and ART!**

Interactive Painting Class

Instructed by
Bob Ruberti



Thursday October 8, 2026
10AM



First Congregational
Church
Covenant Hall
138 Main Street,
Westminster

COST IS \$10 PER PERSON



No art
skills
necessary!



All
materials
supplied!



Every participant
will take home a
completed and unique
work of art!

Space is limited! Register today!



Contact: Sammi Dawley



978.430.9359



scdawley@yahoo.com

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Hosted by the Women's Fellowship of the First
Congregational Church



The Festival Season is underway! Located just around the corner at Wachusett Mountain!
Mark your calendars now!

**October: OktoberFest, Columbus Day
Swap, AppleFest & BooFest.**

**CLICK HERE FOR A FULL
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**



You've likely seen the flyers around town, or seen a Facebook post with details, but in case you've missed it... Tyler Careau, age 17, and nearly lifelong Westminister resident, is working on his Eagle Scout project. His project is conceptualizing, fundraising and working with the general contractor in the design/build process for the construction of a 20' x 30' permanent pavilion at the VFW Post 7389 in Westminister.

Tyler presented an update to the project at the Select Board Meeting on Monday, September 21st. In this meeting Tyler informed the community that his project, which was initially projected to need \$40k in donations to complete, has increased to \$55k due to the recent increased costs of goods. They have currently raised approximately \$47k and are hoping to be able to break ground this fall. In an effort to help offset the rising costs, the Select Board unanimously voted to waive the Building Permit Fee for the project.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL HEROES!
WESTMINSTER VFW POST 7389

HELP CREATE A TOWN PAVILION AT THE VFW!

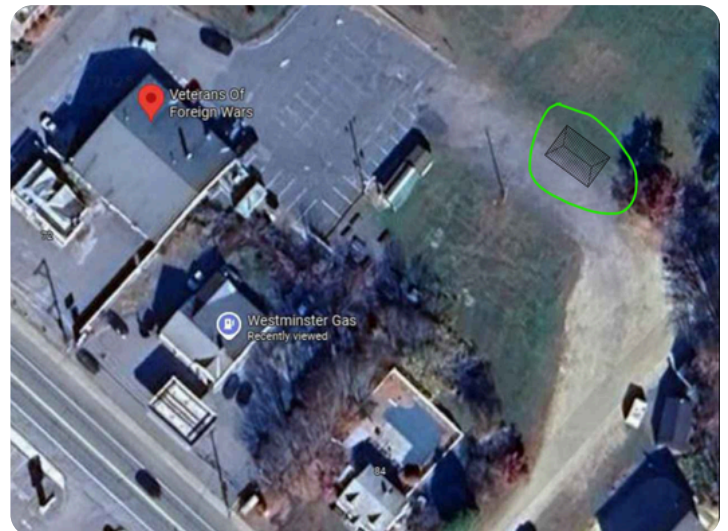
DONATE TODAY!
MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO VFW
POST 7389 ATTN. PAVILION
EAGLE PROJECT

MAIL TO VFW POST 7389 PO BOX
388, WESTMINSTER MA 01473

SHOW THE YOUTH THAT YOU CAN DREAM BIG!
QUESTIONS? EMAIL VFWPAVILIONEAGLE@GMAIL.COM

Additionally, Jen Shenk, of Keller Williams North Central, shared a question and answer session in her newsletter with Tyler, explaining the full project. You can read the full transcript by visiting: <https://jenshenk.com/westminster-vfw-pavilion-project-qa-with-eagle-scout-candidate-tyler-careau/>

"I wanted a project that I could someday take my kids to and say look what I accomplished. I also wanted to set an example for the future of this troop." – Tyler Careau



WESTMINSTER FARMERS' MARKET

Open Fridays from 3-6pm

RUNNING THROUGH OCTOBER 16TH!

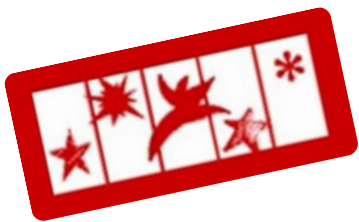
We are nearing the end of what has been amazing Farmer's Market season in Westminster! But there's still four weekends of Farmers' Market fun left this season! The fall harvest is abundant with treasures!

2026 Farmers' Market Upcoming Entertainment Schedule

SEPT 25 - LOUIS ARNOLD | OCT 2 - JOE PETE IS 3'N1

OCT 9 - JOHN SULLIVAN | OCT 16 - THE WESTMINSTER STRUMMERS

Friday, September 18th was a huge success as the market held their annual Celebrating Agricultural event... showcasing the best of fall and farming!



Westminster Cultural Council

Seeks Funding Proposals

This year the Westminster Cultural Council will distribute funds for community - oriented arts, humanities, and science programs. Funds can be used for a variety of projects and activities in Westminster including, but not limited to exhibits, festivals, short-term artist residencies, workshops, lectures, performances, etc. Programs can service children, teens, adults, or our elderly.

Grant applications are available through the Massachusetts Cultural Council as of Sept. 1, 2026 at: massculturalcouncil.org/communities/local-cultural-council-program/application-process/

The online process must be completed by Thursday, October, 15, 2026.

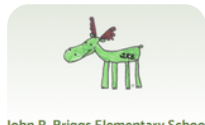
For details about the Westminster Cultural Council and the results of the "Cultural Needs Survey" indicating the types of programs the community would enjoy, please visit:

www.westminster-ma.gov/665/Cultural-Council

Applicants are welcome to reach out to local contacts Sammi Dawley scdawley@yahoo.com and Pat Gendron pgendron@yahoo.com.

SCHOOL NEWS

THE 2026-2027 DISTRICT CALENDAR IS NOW AVAILABLE! [CLICK HERE TO VIEW IT!](#)



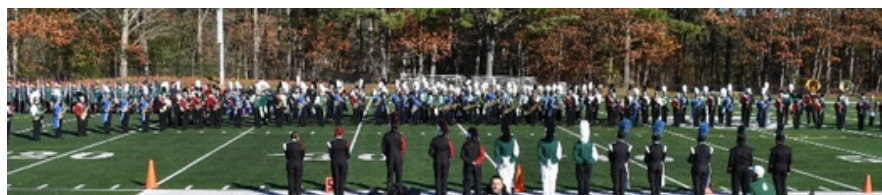
Our Mission

In the Ashburnham Westminster Regional School District every student is **known, challenged and supported** every day so that they all graduate prepared to **do good and to do well while being well.**

REMINDER
NO SCHOOL



MONDAY, OCTOBER 12TH



OAKMONT MARCHING BAND INVITATIONAL
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31ST

Early
Release!

WEDNESDAY,
OCTOBER 21ST
EARLY RELEASE!
ALL GRADES!

COMMUNITY ASK!

Please let me know what type of information you would like to see in this "School Section" of the Sentinel. The schols all send out their individual newsletters, so I'd love to know what you'd like to see here!

Email
akirtland@westminster-ma.gov

This community clinic is brought to you by:
Nashoba Associated Boards of Health
Your COMMUNITY, your CHOICE since 1931
In partnership with your local Board of Health

Clinic Administered with Our Partner



WESTMINSTER
PHARMACY

Ashburnham

FALL VACCINE CLINIC

Protect yourself and your loved ones –
join us for our community clinic!

When: Wed. 10/14/26, 3 PM - 6 PM

Where: Oakmont High School
Cafeteria (9 Oakmont Dr.)

Who: Ages 6 months+*

Flu, COVID,
and RSV
vaccines
available

If you are uninsured or registering a child under 5, WALK-IN, no pre-registration. These attendees will be registered onsite. Pre-registration is recommended for all others! Visit www.nashoba.org/calendar for the full clinic schedule, registration links, and FAQ. Please bring your insurance card if you have one.



<https://form.jotform.com/262417352763156>

Please note: You will not be denied a flu or COVID vaccine if you do not have insurance.

*Please consult FAQs for further eligibility guidance



TEXTILE RECYCLING PSA

Please be aware that the collection bins in our town are designated for **TEXTILES** only! This includes **clothing, shoes, and household linens.**

- NO Dumping
- NO Couch cushions
- NO Car seats
- NO Mattresses
- NO Furniture
- NO Household items
- NO Food
- NO Trash
- NO Wet items

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

CLOTHING	• TOPS	• SOCKS	• SHORTS
FOOTWEAR	• PANTS	• SWEATSHIRTS	• PJAMAS
ACCESSORIES	• UNDERGARMENTS	• T-SHIRTS	• COATS
LINENS	• SWEATERS	• DRESSES	• SLACKS
	• JEANS	• SKIRTS	• TANK TOPS
	• SNEAKERS	• WORK BOOTS	• SANDALS
	• BOOTS	• DRESS BOOTS	• WINTER BOOTS
	• CLEATS	• PUMPS	• FLIP FLOPS
	• HATS	• SLIPPERS	• FLATS
	• SCARVES	• POCKETBOOKS	• BELTS
	• SHEETS	• DUFFLEBAGS	• TIES
	• PILLOWS	• TOTE BAGS	• BATHROBES
	• COMFORTERS	• BLANKETS	• DRAPIES
	• STUFFED ANIMALS	• TOWELS	• TABLE LINENS
		• THROW RUGS	• PLACEMATS

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ANY ITEMS ON THE GROUND OUTSIDE THE BIN

TOWN CRIER PODCAST



**Hosted by Town Administrator
Stephanie Lahtinen**

We want to hear from you!

Have an idea for a podcast? A topic that you think should be covered? Are you a member of a group in town with a special event coming up you'd like to share? We want to know!

Please reach out to Stephanie Lahtinen with your comments or ideas:
podcast@westminster-ma.gov.



Episode 33: Chief LeMay: One Year In and What's Ahead

In Episode 33, Stephanie sits down with Westminster Police Chief Matthew LeMay to reflect on his first year as Chief and discuss what residents can expect from the Department moving forward. They cover Westminster's new police drone and motorcycle programs, provide a trustworthy answer to your questions about Flock cameras and privacy safeguards, and share an update on the proposed Public Safety Building. Plus, we recap the latest Select Board meeting, highlights State Primary results, provides a brief PFAS-area update, and previews our local 9/11 Ceremony, the Singing Trooper, Westminster Cracker Festival, Halloween activities, and other fall happenings around Town.

Episode 34: A Department Built for Community:

This week Stephanie sits down with Community Services Director Audra Kirtland to discuss the launch of Westminster's independent Community Services Department, its new Town Meeting-approved budget and what residents can expect next. They explore upcoming programs and community-wide events, local partnerships, volunteer opportunities and the work behind the South Street Sentinel. Plus, hear local updates and important dates from around Westminster. You can check out this episode and all past episodes by **CLICKING HERE!**

Mental Health Awareness



Clinical Support Options (CSO):

- 978-488-8888 – 24/7 emergency screenings, behavioral health assessments for all ages
- 978-730-1275 – Family Resource Center: parenting groups, clinical services, skill building
- 978-632-9400 – CBHI: wraparound in-home family services

Other Resources:

- GAAMHA – Gardner 978-632-0934
- Open Sky – 774-502-5334 – Emergency Rm Diversion
- Learn to Cope – 508-738-5148 – Support for families of loved ones with addiction
- PPAL (Parent/Professional Advocacy League) 508-767-9725
- YWCA – Domestic Violence Services – 508-767-2505
 - 24/7 Hotline: 508-755-9030
- Community Health Link 800-555-9777 – Youth & adult emergency behavioral screenings
- LUK Crisis Center – 800-579-0000
- McLean LEADER Program – 617-855-3141 – First Responder Mental Health

Suicide & Crisis Lines:

- National Lifeline: 800-273-8255 or text 988
- Good Samaritans State Hotline: 877-870-4673
- Veterans Crisis Line: 800-870-4673
- Deaf/Hard of Hearing Hotline: 800-799-4889
- Trevor Helpline (LGBTQ+ youth): 866-488-7386
- Runaway Safeline (Youth/Teens): 800-786-2929

Local Help:

- Westminster Food Bank: 978-874-7970
- Addiction Support: addictionresource.net



2ND QUARTER REAL
ESTATE & PERSONAL
PROPERTY TAXES ARE
DUE NOVEMBER 1ST!



SAVE THE DEADLINE!

COMMUNITY ADVISORY

The Westminster Police Department has recently received questions about door-to-door solicitors operating in town. The individuals pictured below have completed the Town's registration process and are currently approved to conduct door-to-door business in Westminster.

Approved solicitors should carry their Town-issued identification and present it upon request. Residents are never required to open their doors or speak with a solicitor. Please do not confront or photograph someone solely because they are soliciting.

To verify whether a solicitor is registered, call the Westminster Police Department at 978-874-2900. If someone behaves suspiciously or refuses to leave your property after being asked, please contact us. Call 911 for emergencies.



WESTMINSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

7 South Street
Westminster, MA 01473
Phone: 978-874-2900
Fax: 978-874-0503



Matthew D. LeMay
Chief of Police

COMMUNITY NOTICE

APPROVED SOLICITORS

 Name: TYLER BRASSARD Company: POWER HOME REMODELING Issued: 9/22/2026 Expires: 03/22/2027		 Name: DANIEL LIBERATORE Company: POWER HOME REMODELING Issued: 9/22/2026 Expires: 03/22/2027
 Name: MARIO BORCI Company: POWER HOME REMODELING Issued: 9/22/2026 Expires: 03/22/2027	TOWN OF WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS SOLICITOR PERMIT  Name: KEVIN READ Company: POWER HOME REMODELING Issued: 9/22/2026 Expires: 03/22/2027	 Name: CHRISTOPHE LUDWIG Company: POWER HOME REMODELING Issued: 9/22/2026 Expires: 03/22/2027
 Name: DOMENIC CAPUTI Company: POWER HOME REMODELING Issued: 9/22/2026 Expires: 03/22/2027	TOWN OF WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS SOLICITOR PERMIT  Name: ANDREW MELO Company: POWER HOME REMODELING Issued: 09/22/2026 Expires: 03/22/2027	 Name: BRADLEY STACKPOLE Company: POWER HOME REMODELING Issued: 9/22/2026 Expires: 03/22/2027
 Name: DUNCAN BRUNZELL Company: POWER HOME REMODELING Issued: 9/22/2026 Expires: 03/22/2027		 Name: SAMUEL ANTIS Company: POWER HOME REMODELING Issued: 9/22/2026 Expires: 03/22/2027

Thank you for your cooperation and support.



FIRE DEPT



NEWS & UPDATES!



Brandon Truax – At a recent Select Board Meeting, Pvt. Truax was sworn in as a fulltime firefighter. Congratulations! He is replacing Sam Johnson who has taken a position with the Marlborough Fire Department.



Smoke Detectors – A friendly reminder that you should check your smoke detectors. It is the time of year where we receive an uptick in calls received for smoke detectors going off. With the temperature change and cool nights batteries that were missed in the spring or weak batteries voltage is affected. This can trigger chirping detectors or fire alarms.

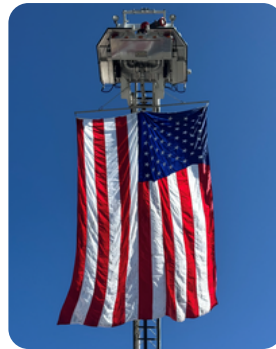
If you missed the spring battery change now would be the time to change those out. We always recommend changing your batteries when we change our clocks. This ensures that the batteries continue to have the correct power to the detectors reducing chirping and alarm issues.

St. Edwards Fall Fair – Thank you to Pvt. Kelly Provencial and FF Cassidy Cox for participating in St. Edwards Fall Fair over the weekend. The Devens Fire Department was kind enough to allow us to use their kids firefighting prop allowing the children to use the brush line from the Forestry Truck to spray targets. This was a great attraction to allow them to deliver key fire safety messages and provide fire safety training/safety information to both the parents and children.





9/11 Ceremony – A lovely ceremony was held on 9/11 in front of the station. Thank you to all who attended our 9/11 Services, the speakers and all of the responders for taking time out of your day to remember and honor the sacrifices made on that day 25 years ago.



District 8 Board of Directors – This week Mass Fire District 8 held a special election to replace two Directors positions for retiring Chiefs Smith from Winchendon and Sullivan from Lunenburg. Chief Lagoy from Gardner and myself were elected to the open vacancies along with Chief McQuillen from Berlin who was elected to the Second Vice Presidents position.

Training – Recently, groups have been training on water supply, pumping and the operation of the new gate valves on the Engine. Group 3 focused on dry hydrant training, drafting and tank to hydrant change overs while flowing water.



New AES Alarm System – In September, the Department rolled out a new municipal alarm monitoring system. The new platform continues to utilize the same reliable wireless mesh radio subscribers already installed throughout Town, but introduces a modern, web-based monitoring interface. This provides greater flexibility in how the system can be accessed and used while also improving overall reliability and resiliency.

A few years ago, Westminster was forced to begin exploring an alternative solution after our previous alarm system vendor changed its business model and was no longer interested in supporting municipally operated alarm systems.

Westminster's use of the municipal alarm system extends far beyond traditional fire and burglar alarm monitoring. The system also monitors critical components of the Town's water distribution and sewer systems, along with generators, flood sensors, panic alarms, and other equipment located throughout several municipal buildings.

The new platform allows us to preserve the existing radio infrastructure while modernizing the monitoring side of the system, providing a more flexible and sustainable solution for the Town moving forward.



Forbush
Memorial Library



TUE-THU: 10AM-8PM
FRI: 10AM-5PM | SAT: 9AM-2PM
SUN & MON: CLOSED

HAUNTED LIBRARY RETURNS!

Volunteers needed!

We need ghosts to help haunt the library!

Contact Library Director Deric Wilson at
dwilson@cwmares.org to sign up.



October Book Sale

OCT. 17TH, 10AM-1PM

Friends of Forbush have received hundreds of book donations this summer! All books are \$1, and Friends of Forbush canvas book bags are \$15 - or fill a bag with books for just \$20! Proceeds will fund a wide range of library programs and events!



Ted Reinstein Presents "Greetings from Breed's Hill: Fact & Folklore for America's 250th"

OCT. 18TH, 7-8PM

A fast-paced and entertaining look at lesser-known stories behind famous moments of the Revolutionary War!



Halloween Harvest: Celebrating the Season

OCT. 18TH, 6-7PM - AFTER HOURS!

All ages! Celebrate harvest time, Halloween, and New England's diverse cultural heritage with award-winning performer Davis Bates through stories, songs, sing-alongs, spoon playing, and a visit from Bingo, a dancing wooden dog!



Haunted Library

Join us on Westminister's Halloween night as we transform the library into a HAUNTED LIBRARY!

Goblins and Giggles with Rona Leventhal

October 16th, 4-5pm | Ages 5+ | Registration required

This show will have you tappin' your feet, huggin' your seat, singin' a tune and even laughing as Rona Leventhal shares silly, serious, mysterious, and monstrous stories!

Come on board and hear a tale or two that will put shivers up your spine and send you home with a smile!



Chapter Book Club

Oct. 1st
(first Thursdays)
4-5pm
Grades K-2



Zumbini with Mindful Hearts Yoga

Weekly on Wed., starting
Oct. 7th, 10-10:45
Ages 0-4
Funded by Friends of
Forbush. Registration
suggested



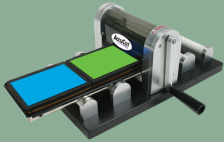
Graphic Novel Book Club

Oct. 20th (third
Tuesdays)
4:30-5:30pm
Grades 3-5



Paying for College with All One Credit Union

Oct. 8th, 5-6pm
Get answers about student
loans, scholarships, FAFSA,
and paying for college!



Use Our Die Cut Machine!

Our die cut machine and all of its dies are now available for use in the library! We have letters, numbers, shapes, animals, and more! Please ask a staff member before using.

Little Art Gallery

AT THE TOWN HALL

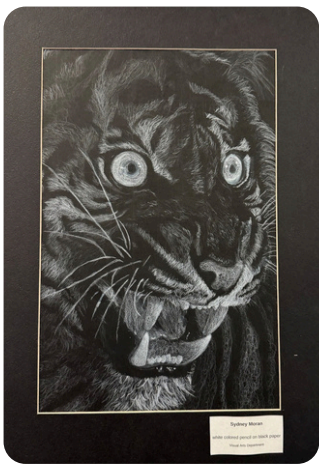
Currently Featured Artist:

Oakmont's Visual Art Exhibition!

Running through the end of October

Alyssa Breen | Bella Callahan | Jocelyn Croteau
Mike Donahue | Jackson Eichel | Kaelyn Hildreth
Sydney Moran | Dhruvi Patel | Elysa Promisel | Abby Short
Abby Smith | Rosie Tzilkowski | Zoe Williams

See Artwork on the next Page...



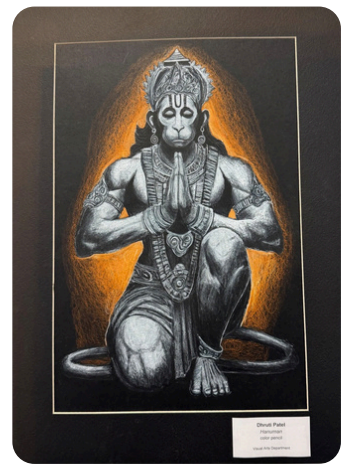
Stephen Brown
Tiger
Visual Arts Department



Allyssa Brown
Eye of the Tiger
Visual Arts Department



Jonathan Coleman
Pink Girl
Visual Arts Department



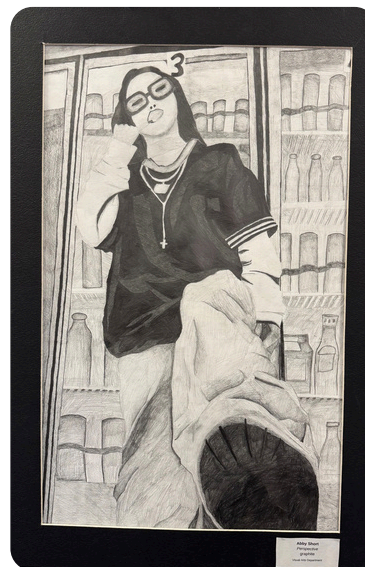
Shivaiah Prasad
Deity
Visual Arts Department



Zoe Williams
Alien Boy
graphite, paint markers
Visual Arts Department

Oakmont's Visual Art Exhibition!

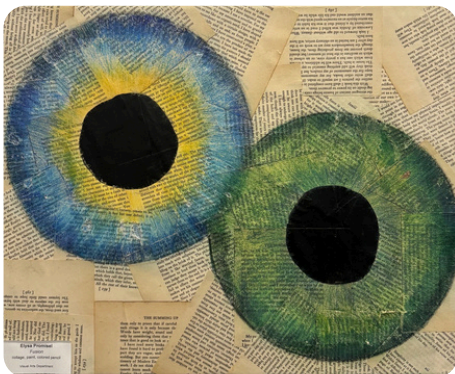
Artists and
details on the
previous
page...



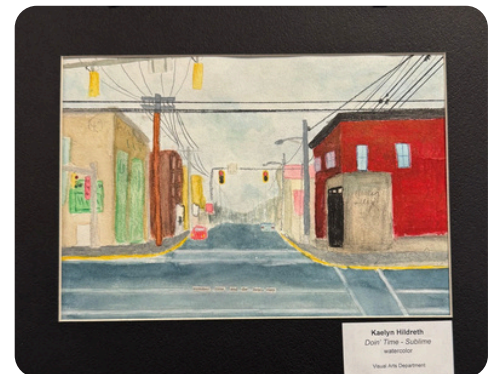
Allyssa Brown
Person
Visual Arts Department



Mattie Coleman
IRONMAN
Visual Arts Department



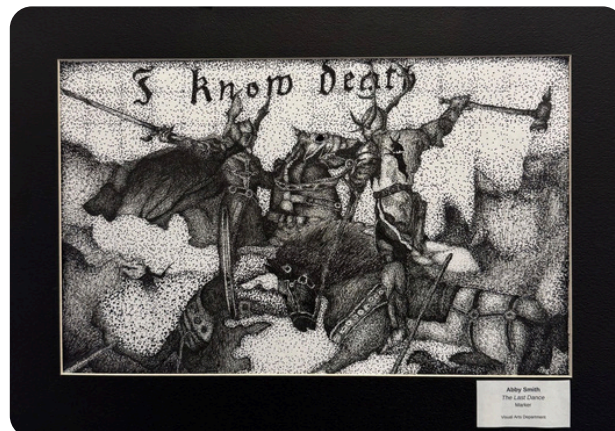
Bella Coleman
Pig
Visual Arts Department



Kaelyn Hildreth
Door Time - Sublime
Visual Arts Department



Bella Coleman
Person
Visual Arts Department



Allyssa Brown
The Last Dance
Visual Arts Department



Jonathan Coleman
Person
Visual Arts Department

Council on Aging Updates

Important Community Resource Numbers

Westminster Sr. Center	978-874-7402
MART Transportation	978-345-7111 x1
Elder Helpline	800-243-4636
Exec. Office Elder Affairs	800-922-2275
MOC Meals on Wheels	978-345-8501
Aging Services NCM	978-537-7411
Mass Agency on Aging	508-852-5539
Westminster Food Pantry	978-874-7970
SNAP (food stamps)	978-665-8700
Veterans Department	978-829-1797
Fuel Assistance	978-342-4520
Mass Health	800-841-2900
Medicare	800-633-4227
Legal Aid of Central MA	978-516-5155



Are you concerned about a Senior living in our community? Please let us know so we can help!

Contact the Community Senior Center at 978-874-7402 or email klawrence@westminster-ma.gov and we will conduct a confidential wellness check and provide any assistance or services that may be needed.

NEXT COA BOARD MEETING!
Tuesday, October 13th at 11:30am
All are welcome to attend!



Integrity Medicare Advisors
Medicare Made Easy

Join Keith Aubin from Integrity Advisors for any of the following sessions discussing the upcoming Medicare changes everyone needs to know about. Find out what you need to know before changes take effect. The sessions will include a presentation followed by a question and answer session.

Workshops will take place:

Thursday, October 15th
10:30-11:30AM

Thursday, October 29th
10:30-11:30AM

Thursday, November 19th
10:30-11:30AM

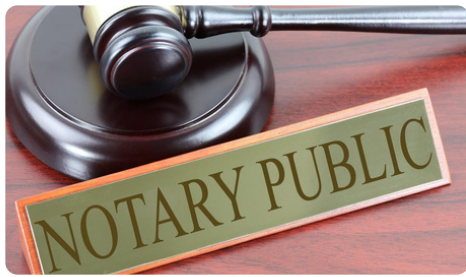
These workshops will take place in the Lounge Room. Sign-ups are preferred, but not necessary.

The Center will be closed on October 12th for Columbus Day and on November 2-3 for the Election.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29TH FROM 1:00-3:00PM

Get ready for a spooktacular afternoon of Halloween fun! Join us for festive games, prizes, delicious finger sandwiches, wickedly good treats, and a sip or two from our Witches' Brew! Come ready to laugh, mingle, and enjoy a little Halloween mischief with friends. Help us make our dessert table frightfully delicious by bringing a favorite sweet treat to share with everyone. And don't forget your costume — costumes are highly encouraged, and the more creative, the better! No tricks... just treats, friends & plenty of fun! There is no cost to attend! Please sign-up at the Senior Center! Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes!



Walk-in notary services are now available. Appointments are not required but are appreciated. We do not notarize any deeds or documents for a real

estate closing. In addition, if your documents require witnesses, you need to bring your own witnesses with you. The individual who is having their signature notarized must have proper identification. All documents to be notarized need to be signed in the presence of the notary public, not before you arrive with your document to be notarized.

Have an event coming up? News that you think our community would want to hear? Want to see something in the Sentinel? **Please send your ideas and details** to Community Services Director, Audra Kirtland: akirtland@westminster-ma.gov

Click below to bring you to our Town Calendar.

October 2026						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	01	02	03
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

See our job **OPENINGS!**

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BOARD AND COMMITTEE VACANCIES

COMMUNITY NEWS



CLOSED MONDAY OCT. 12th
(and Friday, Oct 11th as usual)



Online Payments



Agendas & Minutes

"TOWN DUMP HOURS"

Monday: 7:30am-3pm
Tuesday-Thursday: Closed
Friday: 7:30am-3pm
Saturday: 7:30am-1pm
Sunday: 9:00am-1pm

*Please check the town website or sign up for town alerts for updates.



TOWN HALL HOURS

Monday: 7:00am-7:00pm
Tue-Thur: 7:30am-4:30pm
Friday: CLOSED



TOWN HALL

11 SOUTH STREET
WESTMINSTER, MA 01473
[EMAIL US](#)



www.westminster-ma.gov