



WESTMINSTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

110 Main Street, P.O. Box 177, Westminster, MA 01473
(978) 874-5569

E-mail: WestminsterHistory@Verizon.net; facebook: Westminster Historical Society; website: Westminsterhistory.org

June 2012

BURN IT AS SOON AS YOU READ IT

This is a letter in our collections, written in 1844 by a 22 year old girl, Caroline Puffer, to her sister Sarah who had recently married Newton Hubbard and moved from Westminster to Brimfield. The Puffers lived at 36 Worcester Road at this time..

Their mother had died in 1843; according to Heywood's History of Westminster, she was a "woman of literary accomplishments, well read, and probably better informed upon political issues and matters of public policy than any woman in town, - than a great majority of the men." Some of this must have been passed down to her daughter Elizabeth. This is a "delicious" letter, filled with gossip and the comings and goings of dozens of people she knew, and one mention of her father who would remarry that same year.

*It's no wonder Caroline wrote on the top of the letter "Burn it as soon as you read it." I wonder if that's exactly why it's survived all these years? Enjoy!
(This is tough to read. It's copied just as Caroline wrote it - in haste with no corrections.)*

Westminster Aug. 4 1844

One word from Matt. How are my dear good friend Sarah Newton. Mary all are you well how much I wish to see you I sometimes harbor the though that it was not kind to take one of our prettiest sisters and keep her so long why don't he bring her back do it and come and live here too. Have just heard from Royalston. Mrs. Tennay is very sick presume she is not living now Mr. Mirick Dearest Brother sister Mary Mirick's brother is dead He was Minerva Simonds gentleman David Foster has moved to his house Calvin Upham was thrown from a cart.

Being detained from church and gasped in consequence of indisposition The thought occurred to me that a few minutes would not be misspent in giving you a brief account of the recent death of Sarah Wendall. She died Wednesday morning was buried Friday two o'clock. PM Lester with myself dismissed school and attended her funeral. The meetinghouse was nearly filled with people from all parts of the town. The exer-

cises were very solemn and deep solemnity seemd to pervade every heart and every individual seemed in part to realize her loss and speak in high terms of her good qualities. A very large circle of mourners took their last leave of her and followed her remains to the silent grave Geog F. and Pamela with H. Whitney sang at the grave "Please ye mourners come to languish at the grave of those you love." You probably recollect the tune and words which are very very appropriate. It was a favorite tune of Sarahs. They also sang "Shed not a tear as you stand around my grave when I am gone when I am gone." She requested them to sing the last tune especial too when she was dying it was the last word she ever said. The night before she died she had an ulcer break they thought her dying and call the family together she was very happy and could hardly wait to go but she hoped to patient and wait her Savior's time. She told her friends not to feel bad when she died but think she had gone home to be with her Savior. George is very calm indeed seems perfectly resigned no doubt he feels her loss sensibly. The morning the bell tolled for Sarah it tolled three times within an hour and a half, for Mr. Rose and Mr. Murray Mrs. Read has buried her son she had a pair of twins born last week the daughter is living and gets along well.

Monday noon have just returned from school and dinner not prepared thought I would spend a few moments in writing Sarah What shall I write to you wish to hear all the new well I will begin and tell you the news if you will allow me to scribble it as fast as I think and not be in the least particular how I word it You will please excuse will you as I am in great haste. Well firstly Marie Whitney is going to attend school next term and means to get an Education to go in to a select school. She very often speaks of you and Newton. Miss Parsons has just commenced attending school to Mr. Merriam attends new term also is preparing herself for a minister's wife. Adaline Wyman is married to a Salve-holder from the south has been on with her husband. Her friends are much displeased with the connection and said so much to

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**2011-2012
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MEETINGS

Meetings are held September through June on the 3rd Tuesday at 7 pm at the House, and are free and open to the public.

HOUSE & GIFT SHOP HOURS

The Historical Society House is open Mondays 7-9 pm and Fridays 9-12 Noon. and other times by appointment.

MISSION

The Westminster Historical Society's mission is to save and share Westminster's past.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

As I write this at the end of May, we have transitioned from one of the warmest, driest winters on record to a fairly wet Spring. We did manage to have a beautiful day for the perennial plant swap on May 19th and can hope we are going to be equally fortunate for the upcoming summer events.

The next event on the calendar is the Town Wide Yard Sale coming up on June 16th. This will be an ideal opportunity to get rid of some of those treasures which have been taking up space in your garage or attic. Register with the Historical Society to get your sale on the map, and pick up your own map at the Society on the day of the sale so you can fill up all of the empty space you just created. The sale is held rain or shine; but of course, we are all hoping for the latter.

Three days later on the 19th, the Finnish holiday of Johannus will be celebrated at the Farmer's camp on Leominster Street starting at 7 PM. Enjoy programs and Finnish food.

The annual Flea Market is currently scheduled for September 22nd this year from 9:00 to 2:00. We are currently accepting donations of useful items. Please bring them to the barn behind the headquarters building. We cannot accept appliances, TVs, computers, monitors or junk. Please to not use the barn as a way to avoid a trip to the dump or to avoid paying recycling fees.

The big project for this and several years to come is the Upton building. We now have the architectural plans for the final renovations. The whole project will take several years to complete with the first stages being stabilization and repairs to halt any further deterioration. The Upton building was constructed in 1912, so this year marks its 100th birthday.

Here's hoping everyone has a great summer.

Jim Biglow, President

NEH GRANT AWARD

The National Endowment for the Humanities awarded the Westminster Historical Society a \$6000 Preservation Assistance for Smaller Institutions grant to strengthen their collections. The grant allowed us to hire two consultants to conduct a general assessment of our collections and help draft a preservation plan with a special focus on re-housing the collection in the Upton Center once it is renovated.

Curator Betsy Hannula and Collections Committee member Joan Longcope met with Melissa Mannon, the archivist we hired. She examined our books, photographs and archives, essentially all of our paper, plus digital items. The Society also hired Barbara Mangum, whose curatorial experience includes many years at the Gardner Museum in Boston. She examined all the rest of the collections: clothing, household objects, tools, art work, and textiles.



Curator Betsy Hannula and Museum Conservator Barbara Mangum prepared to discuss the collections.



Our consultant archivist, Melissa Mannon, stood in front of many of the document boxes which store our archives material at the Historical Society house on Main Street.

Each consultant assessed the collections and the Upton Building to determine how the collections can best be stored there. Another day was spent with both consultants meeting together so each person's work coordinated with the other.

It was thrilling to work with these two professionals in developing plans for the arrangement and storage of our collections in the new space and to provide a safe environment for its preservation. It was also important to get their advice on our goal to provide visible storage for all our objects, essentially making everything we have on exhibit to the public.

This NEH grant award also is a key step in the process to procure additional grants from state and federal foundations. We are busy getting "all our ducks in a row" so to speak, as we begin our fundraising for this important goal of preserving our collections.

NEH requires that we include this statement: "Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this article do not necessarily reflect those of the National Endowment for the Humanities."

MAPLE HEIGHTS FARM VISIT

Andy and Kerri Hertel held an open house at the farm located on Howard Road on May 12. Three organizations participated in the open house, including Westminster Historical Society, Mass Local Foods and home schooled children. It was a busy day with many families visiting the baby chicks in the barn, cows in the field and pigs in the pen and ducks waddling around the yard.



Kattiah and Steve Maillet of Westminster viewing the cows

This was the second year that the Historical Society participated in the Maple Heights farm visit. Thank you to the Hertel family for opening their farm and hosting this fun occasion for the public.

MEMORIAL DAY EXHIBIT

"Hat's Off to Our Vets" is the theme of this year's tribute for the Memorial Exhibit at Westminster Elementary. Roni Beal and Ann Honkonen decorated the glass cabinet inside the main lobby with military hats from World War I & II, along with a replica hat from the Civil War and hats worn in 1980 by servicemen. All hats were donated to the Historical Society by Westminster families.



Exhibit at WES

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him in regard to holding slaves that he threatened killing them if he ever could catch them at it south. Benjamin was so displeased he could not speak to Adaline at all. Oral Gray is liked by much by the girls, very much better than Adaline was. I guess she is rather homesick though Catherine Sawyer is stopping with Elizabeth and Joseph Whitcomb is in town and has again offered himself to Elizabeth but he got vetoed I believe (poor Josey)

Tuesday morn 8 o'clock. Les and I commence school at eight this morning as there is to be a great day in the Granary line besides Eleline is to have all her brothers and sisters today and the sewing society meet also. By the way you must to know who was so very kind as to cary us to the Fourth well Mr. Mitchell possessing a very kind and benevolent disposition wished us to go and be company for Nancy our older sister as he should be obliged to be with the band during the day on these conditions we consented to escort them over. Do you ask if Nancy is agoing to be married to be honest I am afraid she means to wait on naughty steps and change that pretty name of Puffer which Katy and I wise girls mean ever to retain. Oh Sarah come home and I will tell you lots but cannot write it on paper you inquire in regard to fathers plans which I can hardly tell you but don't know but he will exchange places with Raymond on Bacon Street. Mr. Mitchell thinks it would be an excellent plan he has a small farm just large enough for father to work on Our schools close next week and we have thought till quite recently we should visit you but we have given up that idea now as brother Josiah and Mr. Evans and their wives intend visiting you in September we thought you would prefer our coming some other time. How does little May do people say here she is a beautiful looking child sis and I think sometimes we can't wait to see both We wish you and Newton would visit us this Autumn come do do I presume Nancy will be married some time in November you must come then prepared to stay a good while Betsey Minott wants to see you very much and sends her best love. Mary Minotts Sarah sends love to your May Lucy send love and Marion Whitman received your Botony note for which thank you

Yours

Caroline

Father received your cheese and is much obliged. Sarah, excuse the spelling for I have not time to look it over. May Evans thinks of visiting you in two or 3 weeks by school closes this week. I have been avisting every night and could not find time to do up this letter till this morning. Burn it as soon as you read it.

Westminster

August 13

Mrs. Sarah B. Hubbard
Brimfield.

SHAKER BASKET WORKSHOPS

The Historical Society is again holding Shaker style baskets classes. One will be held on Saturday afternoon, July 14, from 1-4 PM, and we will be making the oval basket; and Monday evening, August 6 from 6-9 PM and we will be making the Wall Basket with a ceramic moose or bear; at the Senior Center at the American Legion Hall at 127 Main Street, Westminster. Terry Ouellette will again be the instructor.

The first basket will be an oval basket with an orange curl. The basket is great for putting just about anything in it and is very attractive. It is 10" x 13" oval, and 4" deep. The cost is \$30.00 and covers all materials and instruction. The basket will be completed that afternoon.



The second basket is a wall basket with your

choice of ceramic moose or bear. This basket can be hung just about anywhere with flowers, mail, or any arrangement that you would like. It will have a ceramic moose or bear on the front with two pine trees. It is 10" x 7" and 9" deep. The cost is \$33.00



These classes are popular and fill up quickly. Pre-registration is necessary. Please call Liz Maillet (978) 874-5454.



And finally Terry is offering a third class for those who show interest. The date is to be determined. This basket is a round basket with leather handles; it is 11" round and 5" deep.

CURATOR'S CORNER

We are grateful to the following people who donated items to the collections to be preserved.

Sharon Keefe: school books belonging to the Reid Newton family

Judith Gorin: genealogy of her ancestor John Deline

Betsy Hannula: collection of audio tapes of persons interviewed in the 1970s

Lawrence Hicks: collection of items from Gates farm on Beech Hill and Soldier's Monument Dedication booklet

Patricia Lasky: photo album of her career as a teacher in Westminster Elementary School

Roger Smith: collection of copies of photos of school photos

Chet Zaronski: copy of stereopticon card showing Academy Hill and Main Street

In the collection of items sent to us by Lawrence Hicks is a marvelous iron door handle and thumb latch from the Gates farm on Beech Hill. The Gates farm was one of several large Westminster farms taken over by the state when they built the Colony for the Insane, later to be called the Gardner State Hospital. In their plans to use some of these buildings for the hospital, the Gates farm became the Wachusett Cottage and a better lock system was created. The original door handle and latch, along with several other iron pieces, were given to the Gates family and have survived more than a hundred years. Even more startling is the fact that the handle had etched on it the date of construction of the house – 1789. It always amazes me when we receive items as old as this for our collections! Thank you, Lawrence!



The door handle and latch show beautiful workmanship – and a date, most unusual. The Gates house was originally built by Edward Jackson and then lived in by his son John. In 1830 it was sold to the town to be used as the town's first alms house, for people who could not provide for their own support. Some time after the town sold the property the Gates family purchased it again, and they sold it to the state about 1906.

SPITE WALL IN WESTMINSTER

What is a spite wall? It's unique to the town of Westminster, and unless you've been in town for several decades, you probably don't know it exists! It is purported to be the tallest dry stone wall in New England. And it was built for spite.

Edmund Proctor was born in 1819 in Lunenburg and moved to Westminster in 1852, settling on a farm on North Common Road. According to Heywood's History of Westminster he was a "man of marked character and many eccentricities, but a model farmer." His individuality was demonstrated in the naming of his children: Augustus Howard, Alber Hamlin, Alson Hows, Alden Hermon, Ammer Hale, Angia Holbrook, Abbot Herd and Amboy Harlem.

Members of the Westminster Historical Society who remembered stories being told about him before he died in 1890, recall that he was also an excellent plumber and he once submitted a bill to the Cracker Factory written on a board. On the other hand he often left peppermint candies when his clients were away. He was a well know sight, traveling by horse and wagon, and then later by foot, carrying a grain sack of groceries thrown over his shoulder.



His most unusual legacy, and an object that has lasted more than a century, is the spite wall which he constructed. In the mid 1800s, it had been the rule for decades that no one worked on Sundays; it was the Lord's day, and even the preparation of food was forbidden. Mr. Proctor's religious convictions did not keep him from plowing the fields on his farm. Of course, plowing was done with oxen and required a lot of prodding to keep the oxen moving, and was probably accompanied by shout-

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ing and maybe even swearing.

Proctor's closest neighbor, Farwell Morse, complained that everyone should observe the Sabbath in the proper manner and he expected his neighbor to do likewise. Mr. Morse was a quiet unobtrusive man, a zealous Congregationalist who attended church regularly, according to the town history. The Sabbath was for rest, and he apparently complained frequently about Proctor's farming activities on Sundays.

Mr. Proctor decided to build a stone wall so big that it would prohibit Mr. Morse from seeing him work on Sundays, or any day, for that matter. He gathered stones on his property and worked on that wall relentlessly until he died in 1890 at the age of 71. It really was a long labor of vengeance. The wall is L shaped, eleven feet high at the corner, and extends fifteen feet along the roadside and between the fields about sixty feet. The highest point of the angle faced his neighbor, Mr. Morse. It is impressive! And, now you know why it's called the Spite Wall.

The Westminster Historical Society met on a rainy evening in May to view the Spite Wall and afterwards enjoyed refreshments at the Historical Society. We'd like to continue visiting places of historical interest in Westminster. If you have an idea for a future meeting, please let us know.

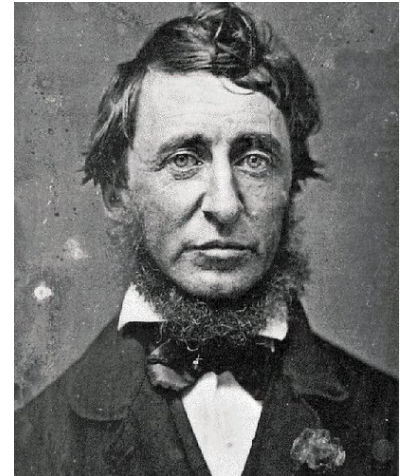
PERENNIAL SWAP

It was a beautiful day for the Annual Perennial Swap and any other outdoor activity. Many helpers showed up at 8:00 a.m. to set up the signs and display the plants. Most all the plants disappeared by noon, even though participation was lower than normal. (Without our Community Journal newspaper and the Community Vine newsletter, advertising local events is now more dependent on email and other electronic modes of communication.)

Members of the Baptist Church were happy to take some plants to extend their garden in back of the church located on Main Street. Next year's perennial swap will be held on Saturday, May 18, 2013 from 9 am to noon. It is never too soon to mark your calendar for this special event.

HENRY DAVID THOREAU COMING TO WESTMINSTER

Henry David Thoreau will be coming to Westminster. Well, perhaps someone who looks a bit like him. If you go to the Common on top of Academy Hill on Saturday, July 28 from 1-3 pm you will meet him, and learn about his travels to Westminster and Wachusett Mountain.



His first visit to Wachusett Mountain was in 1843, when he and a friend walked and stayed overnight in a tent on top of the mountain. The second trip to Westminster in 1854 was a bit easier on his feet; he took a train to the depot in Westminster. Thoreau loved to wander the countryside and wrote at length about his thoughts of the world. In one of his essays entitled "A Walk to Wachusett" he wrote, "But special I remember thee, Wachusett, who like me Standest alone without Society."

Thoreau will be portrayed by Richard Smith. All are invited to attend.

This event is free and is co-sponsored by the Westminister Historical Society, the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area, and the Westminister Cultural Council which is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Town of Westminister.



Emily D'Onfro, Joan Longcope, Sheryl Vaillette, Marion Knoll, Eileen Grogen, (behind Eileen) Ralph Carey and Ellie Carey in straw hat at the Perennial Swap.

HISTORY DETECTIVES

Thomas Scollay

At the April 17 meeting, Deenie Burgess and Darlene Johnson presented their information about Thomas Scollay, a Civil War soldier who was declared a deserter. Here's what they found. The Scollay family left Ireland in 1848 with thousands of others in search of a better life. Ireland was suffering because of the failed potato crop, a mainstay in that country, and famine was rampant.

The Scollays had 8 children: Kate, Hanna, Mry, John, Thomas, Fanny, Martin, and Helen Kate. They lived for a time in Fitchburg, MA but moved to Westminster in 1861 and settled as tenants on the farm which is today 154 Davis Road. The farm was owned by a Dr. Liverpool who had an office in Fitchburg. There are many deeds to land in this area owned by Tom's mother Mary, who we can see was involved in many real estate transactions throughout her life.

Like many other young men looking for adventure, Thomas enlisted in the Union Army on March 3, 1862 and was assigned to Company B of the Mass 15th Regiment. The Muster Roll of March 17, 1862 lists him as an 18 year old student, with black eyes, dark hair, dark complexion, and 5 ft. 4 ½ inches tall. In reality, Thomas enlisted when he was 14 years old. The Muster Rolls from March 1863 through Sept. and Oct. 1863 list him as absent and sick since April 22/63. Once he was in the Dix hospital, another time in the General Hospital. The Roll of Nov. and Dec. lists him as transferred to Invalid Corps



Tom Scollay

Gen. Order No. 365, from War Dept. The final Muster Roll on July 28, 1864 for him remarks "Transferred Nov. 15/63 to I.R.C."

Meanwhile a death notice in the Fitchburg Sentinel states he died of consumption on March 18, 1863. "He was in all the battles and skirmishes in which his regiment was engaged from the siege of Yorktown to the battle of Fredericksburg under Burnside." At the time of his death he was only 16 years old.

An interesting note is that Thomas was even mentioned in the excellent book that was quoted in the last newsletter, From Balls Bluff to Gettysburg... and Beyond, by Gregory Coco. The men in each fighting unit were very aware of who was missing among them after each battle or who was imprisoned, etc. In the last chapter of the book, in a letter written to Private Roland Bowen while he was in prison, his friend Simonds wrote that word was received that "Tom Scollay is dead."

It is believed he is buried in St. Bernard's Cemetery in Fitchburg, although there is no stone to mark his grave. Since his parents were illiterate (as indicated in the 1850 census) they probably did not know that they should have informed the Army of their son's death.

Deenie and Darlene are pursuing two things; one is to correct Thomas's desertion record. The other is to request a stone for his grave from the federal government.



Deenie Burgess speaking at the April 17th meeting

MEMBERSHIP

If you're not yet a member, please consider joining today. It's easy. Just fill out the form below and send it along with your check to the Historical Society. Your membership support is essential to us.

Thank you if you have already renewed their membership this past year. If you are unsure of your status, just call Liz at the office (978-874-5569). You will want to be a member in order to take advantage of the ten percent discount on all items in the Gift Shop! If you are 75 years of age, your membership is free!

WESTMINSTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____ Fax _____
 e-mail _____

Individual	\$25
Family	40
Senior (over 65)	15
Contributing	50
Friend	100
Honorary (over 75)	0

All members receive a 10% discount in the Gift Shop.
 Please contact me about volunteering. These are some of my interests:

- Sorting, cleaning, and cataloging items.
- Putting data about items into a computer database.
- Helping with newsletters and brochures.

Please send form to Westminster Historical Society, Membership Committee, P.O. Box 177, Westminster, MA 01473.

UPTON UPDATE

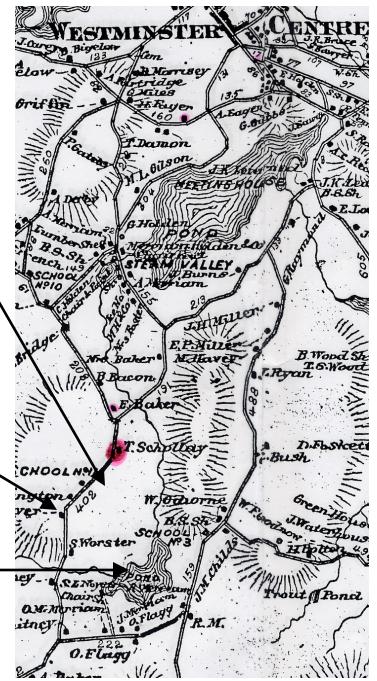
The Board of Directors and Capital Campaign Committee have begun informing members and businesses of the Historical Society's plans for the Upton Center. We are taking persons interested in touring the Upton School through the building in order to better visualize what will be taking place.

We're also continuing our project to list all the persons who were students in the Upton School from 1912 to 2000. The next step will be to contact people by groups; we're planning get together by classes. If you'd like to help, please email us at WestminsterHistory@Verizon.net or call Betsy Hannula at 978-874-0430.

We're planning a kickoff event this fall. We're looking for volunteers to help plan the celebration. Please contact us if you can help. Thank you!

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This is an 1870 map of Westminster. The Scollay family lived at 154 Davis Road. Tom most likely attended school in Fitchburg before their move to Westminster. His siblings may have attended school at the No. 11 schoolhouse shown to the SW of their home or the No. 3 schoolhouse shown to the SE on this map.



UPCOMING PROGRAM

Juhannus, Tuesday, June 19, 7pm. Come celebrate this Finnish holiday celebrating the longest day of the year at the Farmer's Camp on Leominster Street. Enjoy program and Finn foods while we see what's been gathered of the immigrant families in Westminster of years past. Featured will be a special display and program on the history of the Farmers Camp.

PAINT THE TOWN AGAIN THIS SUMMER!

Artists interested in painting scenes in Westminster this summer will have another opportunity to exhibit them and participate in an auction in September. Look for the registration form on the Historical Society web site this month.

TOWN-WIDE YARD SALE

Save Saturday, June 16, 8-3! People who want to participate by holding a yard sale at their house should request an application from the Historical Society by calling 978-874-5569, or by getting onto the Historical Society's web site at www.westminsterhistory.org and downloading a registration form.

Send the registration form with the \$25.00 registration to the Historical Society by June 10.

Every participating home will be placed on a map of the town along with a list on the back of all the homes and some of the choice items being sold at the each home. The Historical Society will advertise the Town Wide Yard Sale in all the local papers, cable TV stations and radio stations. An official poster will be given to each home setting up for this event.

On the day of the Town Wide Yard Sale maps will be sold for \$1 in front of the Historical Society House on Main Street, beginning at 7:45 AM and all day.



GARDEN CLEAN-UP DAY

A crew of five Westminster Garden Club members weeded, pruned and raked the historical perennial garden in mid-April. Susan Taylor separated some of the lily plants and Roni Beal potted the



Emily D'Onfro - one of five people who helped clean the flower beds at the Historical Society this spring.

plants for the upcoming perennial swap at the end of May. Thank you to Susan Taylor, Emily D'Onfro, Sheryl Vaillette, Eileen Goguen and Roni Beal for their help.

WESTMINSTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY GIFT SHOP

When looking for a unique gift for birthdays, anniversaries, and other holidays or special occasions, be sure to browse the WHS Gift Shop. You are sure to find the perfect gift here. The Gift Shop is open on Mondays from 7-9 pm and Fridays from 9 until noon and other times by appointment. Members receive a 10% discount on all purchases.

Books

<u>Cemetery Inscriptions</u>	25.00
<u>History of Westminster</u> , 1832 by Hudson	5.00
<u>History of Westminster</u> , 1893 by Heywood.	96.00
<u>History of Westminster 2008</u> by WHS	95.00
<u>History of Westminster</u> , by Tolman	20.00
<u>Homestead Heritage of Westminster</u> , by WHS	25.00
<u>Images of America</u> , by WHS	19.99
<u>Olin Warner, Sculptor</u> , by Hyson	4.50
<u>200th Anniversary of Westminster</u> ,	5.00
<u>Wajusett Gatherings</u> , by Sinclair (hardcover).	30.00
<u>Wajusett Gatherings</u> , by Sinclair (softcover)	20.00

Tapestries

Cotton afghan in green, navy, burgundy	45.00
Tapestry wall hanging	35.00

Other

<i>New Wachusett Mountain</i> charcoal drawing	60.00
Calligraphy sampler	12.00
Cross stitch sampler Kit "Mosman"	36.00
<i>Cracker Factory</i> print.	45.00
framed pen & ink of <i>WHS house</i> by Santora	28.00
Map of Westminster 1855.	6.00
Notepaper Westminster scenes, pkg.12	3.50
<i>Downtown Westminster 1831</i> by Peckham	30.00
Postcards	3/1.00
Children's books	7.95
Paper dolls, Assorted	5.00
Tobacco Shed pottery	priced as marked
Tote Bags	priced as marked

Westminster Historical Society
110 Main St., P.O. Box 177
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DATES TO REMEMBER
TOWN-WIDE YARD SALE June 16
Buy or Sell!
JUHANNUS June 19 (History of
Farmers Camp)
HENRY THOREAU VISIT July 28

Historical Society members have received recent issues of this newsletter in paper form and by email. We want to meet your needs. If you would like to receive this newsletter only by email, please let us know.

LOOKING FOR COLLEGE CHAIRS

We are looking for donations of college chairs to use in the Research Library of the Upton Center once we move there. Our first donation was an anonymous donation for the Flea Market last year; it had Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary printed on the back, likely for someone who had graduated from or worked there.

The Historical Society now has its second donation, a chair given by students to Wilho Aalto for 28 years of dedicated service to the Westminster Elementary School in 1979 when he retired. Both chairs were made by Nichols and Stone Company.

WISH LIST

If you have any of the following, we could use it!

- Filing cabinet in good condition
- Snow blower
- Lawn mower
- Power Point projector



This chair was recently donated to the Historical Society by Wilho Aalto's children, Betsy Hannula, Mary Leiter, and John Aalto.