



Lunenburg - Gilman Newsletter Volume 2 Issue 1 Winter 2026



This newsletter is the result of our work with the Vermont Council on Rural Development Task Force to Increase Community Events, Social Engagement, and Community Recreation.

Mission Statement: Our goal is to inform our community residents about activities, cultural and social events. We publish a newsletter four times a year. It is available at the Alden Balch Memorial Library, The Senior Center, The Lunenburg Variety Store, The Transfer Station, The Lunenburg and Gilman Post Offices as well as via email.

We invite members of committees, organizations, churches, and other groups to send us information about upcoming events (three months in advance) in time for us to publish the events. A suggested date by which to guarantee acceptance would be the following:

March 12th for the April - June Newsletter
June 12th for the July - September Newsletter
September 12th for the October - December Newsletter
December 12th for the January - March Newsletter

Please submit event information to email address:
lunenburggilman@gmail.com or by calling Carol Wenmark at (802) -892 -5914.

~~ If you would like to receive an electronic copy of the newsletter please send an email to the above address and we will add you to the list.

CESER TASK FORCE 2025 The Year At A Glance

The Community Events, Social Engagement & Recreation (CESER) Task Force was formed following The "Lunenburg-Gilman: One Community Working Together" Community Visit of 2024. We sincerely appreciate the outpouring of community support for our task force. Goals established during the process included the following:

- Increase communication

During the 2025 year, members of the CESER Task Force focused on key projects such as publishing quarterly newsletters, featuring special events, and showcasing community spaces and events within those spaces. Quarterly newsletters are posted in six locations throughout our community. Community members may sign up for digital newsletters at lunenburggilman@gmail.com

- Create events and opportunities for all ages to connect across the community

Memorable events sponsored by the CESER Task Force in 2025 include [Hello Summer](#), [Family Glow and Dance Night](#) and [You've Been Booed](#). Despite a deluge of rain, the Hello Summer event was enthusiastically attended by our community. Various organizations and vendors were on hand to introduce themselves in a light-hearted setting. Folks enjoyed a variety of outdoor games and activities. In October, the baseball and soccer fields were glowing in the dark as families danced and played a variety of games. [The Family Glow and Dance Night](#) was so much fun! Participants eagerly expressed a desire for CESER to book another event soon. The "[You've Been Booed](#)" event increased social engagement as families secretly sponsored Halloween goodie bags paying it forward to other families within our community.

- Increase the use of existing community spaces and assess current recreational resources to enhance the accessibility of spaces

In March, community members participated in a comprehensive survey to gather information about the recreational interest of the town and community spaces. Synthesis from a *Fox Field Visioning* activity during the [Hello Summer](#) event revealed community support for a variety of activities and spaces including a pavilion and an accessible multi-use court. Stay tuned for updates about these CESER Task Force led projects. Folks wishing to make donations for the pavilion or accessible multi-use court, may do so at the Lunenburg Town Office with a notation specifically earmarked for either the pavilion or court.

- Create recreational opportunities by improving recreational fields, courts, and more

CESER sponsored events of 2025 included: Spring and Autumn Stewardship Days, Trekking Tuesdays, Thursday Night Corn Hole, Weekend Family Backyard Games at Fox Field, Saturday Night Cribbage Games, [Hello Summer](#) and [Family Glow Night](#) featuring games and dancing.

CESER general email: lunenburgthriveconnect@gmail.com

CESER newsletter email: lunenburggilman@gmail.com

The Top of the Common Committee is selling the following t-shirt design contact Chris Lingley to purchase one! Call 802-892-6654 (landline), or email comments@topofthecommon.org Currently these are not available through the mail



Our Gildan Unisex Ultra Cotton T-shirts are 100% Cotton. They've been pre-washed, so they won't shrink (we tested this by washing our own in hot water!) They are available in Small, Medium, Large, Extra Large and 2X.

\$19.00 each (Forest Green) - regardless of the size

\$18.00 each (Maroon, Navy Blue) - regardless of the size

"Although Multitude Takeaway Restaurant is currently closed for the season, we are still offering gift certificates for purchase. To inquire, please contact us through Facebook messenger on our MTA restaurant FB page or via email at multitudetakeaway@gmail.com. We look forward to serving you again in April for our 3rd season."

Thank you

Hartley and Kimberly

ATTENTION ICE FISHING ENTHUSIASTS

The Lunenburg Variety Store

Will Have Live Bait Available In January



The Lunenburg Black Bears ATV Club is Vermont's newest VASA affiliated ATV club and is based right here in the greater Lunenburg-Gilman area!

Our organization strives to combine outdoor recreation and community development within our home community. We invite anyone with ideas or questions to join our monthly club meetings and help us grow our local membership!!

Meetings are held the second Thursday of every month at 7pm in the Lunenburg community room, and zoom options are typically available as well!

Find us on Facebook for more details!" [Facebook](#)

LUNENBURG POLAR BEARS FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

TICKETS
\$10 each

OR
Three tickets for \$25



DRAWING IN FEBRUARY • All tickets are entered into a general drawing for all prizes • Purchase your tickets at Lunenburg Variety • Please support our businesses that donated!

\$5,000 IN PRIZES!

GRAND PRIZE!

Two drawings for a Chair & Ottoman set value \$1,900 each **Abbott's Furniture!**

AND MORE!

- **Husqvarna 120 Mark III Chainsaw** value \$220 **All Around Power**
- **Topdon AD500 Scanner** value \$170 **Victory Lane Automotive**
- **\$50 Gift Cert T-Shirt & Mug** **BlackLine Printing**
- **\$100 Gift Cert Dalton Mountain Motorsports**
- **\$75 Gift Cert O'Reilly's**
- **2 Yards of Mulch** from **Kirby Mulch**
- **\$65 Voucher Oil Change** **North Country Ford**
- **\$50 Gift Cert Miggy's**
- **\$30 Gift Cert Granite Grind**
- **Two Drawings for \$15 Propane Fill** **Fitch Fuel**



The North Country Crafting Club will hold its very first meeting for adults only on Saturday, January 10th from 10AM - 12PM

at The Rev. George L. Fox Memorial Chapel in Gilman, VT.

- Please send a PM to Creative Stitches by Kate on Facebook, or email to katescreativestitches@gmail.com to receive a registration link.

This contains all the information about the club.

The Alden Balch Memorial Library is having a Stuffed Animal Sleepover!

January 16, 2026

Drop off your stuffed animal for a cozy stay where they will make new friends and maybe get into a little mischief overnight!

The adventure will be captured in a photo for you to bring home the next day.

Bring your beloved stuffie to the library for a bedtime story and sleepover on Friday, January 16, 2026, between 5 and 6 p.m.

Pickup is Saturday, January 17, 2026, at 10 a.m., with homemade donuts and juice for the stuffie's owner and coffee for the adults.





*Rev George L Fox Memorial Chapel
cordially invites you*

THIRD ANNUAL FOUR CHAPLAINS
CEREMONY
FOLLOWED BY THE

Museum GRAND OPENING

Special guest, Army Chief of Chaplains
(Major General) William Green, Jr

Saturday
February 7, 2026 at 11AM
52 Elm St, Gilman, VT

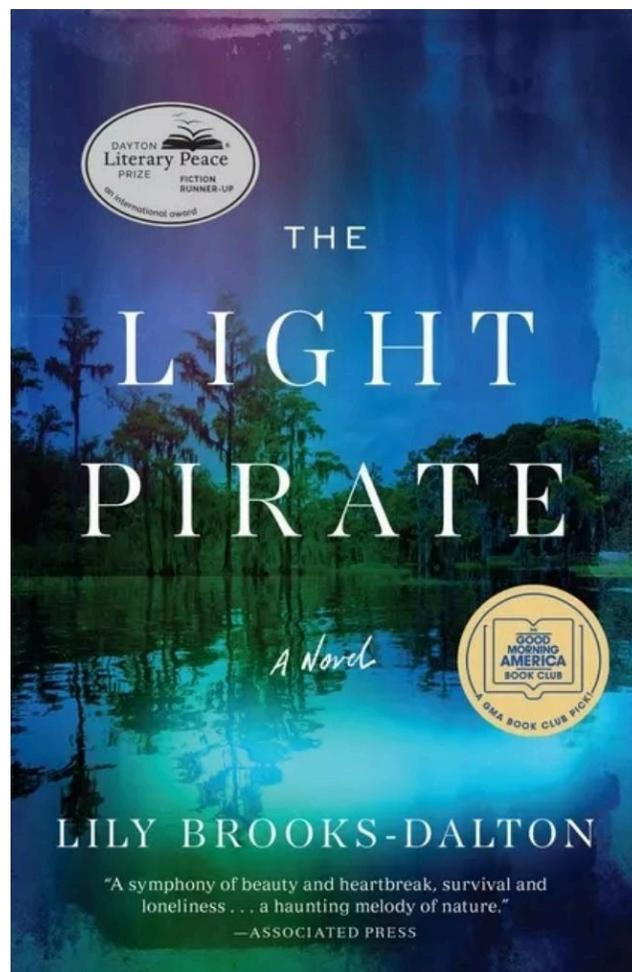
Catered by NEK Catering
RSVP by January 24, 2026
gfox.memorialchapel@gmail.com



Free Copies of *The Light Pirate* Are Available

Lunenburg and Gilman have again been accepted into the Vermont Reads Program. This year's chosen book is *The Light Pirate* by Lily Brooks-Dalton. Free copies of the book are available at the library and Town Clerk's Office.

A book discussion will be scheduled in early 2026. Stay tuned for more information.



Celebrating Opportunities To Gather With One Another

<p style="text-align: center;">Fostering Social Engagement</p>		<p>Thank you to all who participated in the “You’ve Been Booed” pay it forward Halloween themed goodie exchange. We appreciated photos of the various goodies sent to families. Well done!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Oh What A Night!</p>		<p>Family Glow Night featuring games, dancing, and refreshments was a huge hit enjoyed by community members of all ages. We look forward to Family Glow Night 2026!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">A Covered Bridge Armchair Adventure At the Alden Balch Memorial Library</p>		<p>On Saturday, November 8th Beth Brown-Limmer, President of the Vermont Covered Bridge Society, took participants on a virtual tour of area covered bridges. Her extensive knowledge and light hearted delivery captivated all in attendance.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">22nd Annual Veteran’s Day Breakfast</p>		<p>A community breakfast honoring area veterans was held at the Lunenburg Elementary School on November 11th. Students created decorations, sang songs and served breakfast to our local veterans.</p>

<p>Veteran's Day Commemoration on the Lunenburg Common 10 am November 11th</p>		<p>Following the Veteran's Day Breakfast, students and staff of the Lunenburg Elementary school joined veterans and community members in commemorating Veteran's Day.</p>
<p>Squishmallows BINGO</p> <p>November 21st</p> <p>Gilman Senior Center</p>		<p>Girl Scout Troop 30356 hosted a Squishmallows bingo event which was open to all ages. Non-perishable donations were made to the Gilman Senior Center.</p> <p>"It was a blast and so much fun!" remarked one participant.</p>
<p>Memory Tree Lighting Ceremony on the Common</p>		<p>On Thursday, December 4th, Girl Scout Troop 30356 hosted the annual Memory Tree Lighting Ceremony on the Common.</p> <p>Bulbs were lit in memory of loved ones.</p>
<p>Gingerbread Bazaar</p>		<p>On December 6th, the TOCC sponsored the annual Gingerbread Bazaar at the Lunenburg School.</p> <p>Enthusiastic crowds could be observed throughout the day, enjoying all of the festivities. Highlights of the day can be found by clicking the Gingerbread Bazaar tab on the TOCC website.</p> <p>www.topofthecommon.org</p>

Santa Claus visited the Alden Balch Library



Librarian, Debbie Thomas, welcomed Santa Claus to the Alden Balch Memorial Library on December 14th.

Children were delighted to speak with Santa and share their wishes for presents this year.

Lunenburg-Gilman Home for the Holidays Decorating Contest 2025 Balch Memorial Library!



Community members appreciated the creative efforts of contestants!

Stunning in every way!

Honoring the Memory of Beloved Community Member, Wendy Williams



The library purchased new Christmas books to honor the amazing life of Wendy Williams, who died in August. She and her husband, Brian, decorated their home on River Road every year. Families would visit from neighboring towns to see their huge Christmas display! ❤️📖

Santa and Mrs. Claus Visited The Alden Balch Memorial Library



The 2025 Home For The Holidays Contest

Was A Huge Hit!



Derrick and Michelle Williams



Katelynn Walker

Thank you to everyone who decorated for our 3rd Annual Holiday Decorating Contest! Choosing the winners was not easy for our three judges. The Town is festive for sure as you can see by the pictures. Not all are in the top six, but everyone did a great job lighting up for the season.

Here are the winners, and Happy Holidays to all!

- 1 st place. Derrick and Michelle Williams. \$50 GC to Lunenburg Variety.**
- 2 nd place. Mike and Christl Young. \$25 GC to Multitude Takeaway.**
- 3 rd place. Katelynn Walker. \$25 GC to Mooselook Diner.**
- 4 th place. Kathy and Don Anderson. \$20 GC to Shaw's.**
- 5 th place. Mike and Cathy Mustacio. \$20 GC to Shaw's.**
- 6 th place. Deborah Sweeney. \$20 GC to Shaw's.**

Save The Date

<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:00 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">January 10th & 24th February 7th & 21st March 7th & 21st</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Community Room at Town Office building</p>		<p>For novice and experienced players alike:</p> <p>Join fellow cribbage players for a friendly game of cribbage</p> <p>Contact Leo Enos with any Questions (603) 631-0206</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Alden Balch Library Stuffed Animal Sleepover</p> <p style="text-align: center;">January 16, 2026 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm</p>		<p>Bring your beloved stuffed animal to the library between 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm FMI</p> <p>See the flyer in this newsletter</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday January 31, 2026</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Free Ice Fishing Day In Vermont</p>		<p>VT Fish & Wildlife announced Saturday, January 31, 2026 is Vermont's next free ice fishing day, a day when anyone, resident or non-resident, may go fishing without a license.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday, February 3, 2026</p> <p style="text-align: center;">William's Winter Walk</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:00 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Meet at the Town Office Community Room</p>		<p>Join us for a Winter Walk to celebrate William Balch</p> <p>Born on February 3, 1854.</p> <p>Lunenburg's well known outdoorsman & taxidermist</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday, February 7, 2026 Rev. George L Fox Memorial Chapel</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:00 am</p>		<p>The community is invited to the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rev. George L Fox Museum Grand Opening</p> <p>RSVP by January 24th glfoxmemorialchapel@gmail.com</p>

<p>Saturday, February 14, 2026</p> <p>Valentine's Day Walk-Glide at</p> <p>Fox Field & Forest</p> <p>6:00 pm</p>		<p>Celebrate Valentine's Day with your family at Fox Field & Forest</p> <p>Walk, snowshoe, or cross-country ski around the field area. Light refreshments will be available.</p>
<p>Tuesday, March 3rd</p> <p>Annual Town Meeting</p> <p>10 am</p>		<p>The annual Town Meeting will be held at the Lunenburg Elementary School, starting at 10am</p>
<p>Saturday, March 21, 2026</p> <p>8:00 am - 3:00 pm</p> <p>Lunenburg Maple Festival</p> <p>Lunenburg Elementary School & Tour Local Sugar Houses</p>	 <p>Bernard LaBounty explaining the technique of boiling sap to make maple syrup</p>	<p>Enjoy a day of free and affordable family maple fun!</p> <p>Pancake breakfast 8:00 am – 10:30 am.</p> <p>"Meet" generations of sugarmakers through photographic, static, and interactive displays, antique rich sugaring equipment and so much more</p> <p>FMI www.topofthecommon.org</p>

2026 Marks the United States of America's Semiquincentennial

We are fortunate to live in a town with many local organizations who preserve the historical perspective of our town from 1763 to present day.

This year, take advantage of the opportunities to tap into the legacy of our town's journey.

What events would you like to see made available to our community in connection to the semiquincentennial to foster social engagement and recreation?

Send an email with your suggestions to CESER Task Force at lunenburgthriveconnect@gmail.com

Lunenburg - Gilman Placemakers Where Great Things Happen

The Alden Balch Memorial Library



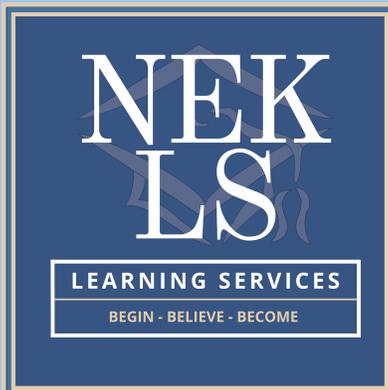
Tuesday 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm
 Wednesday 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm
 Thursday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
 Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
 Story hour 10:30 am



Meetings Held At The Library:

Historical Society
 1/18 @ 2:00 pm
 2/15 @ 2:00 pm
 3/15 @ 2:00 pm

Top Of the Common Committee
 @ 2 pm 1/3 2/7 and 3/7



At the Alden Balch Memorial Library

Local resident, Kat Colby, is offering educational services and support for all.

Services offered: Adult Diploma Program, GED Skill Building, Career Navigation, Support with College Classes, Computer Basics and more

Mondays & Tuesdays 9:00am - 1:00pm

Contact us at: 802-748-5624

katrin.colby@neklsvt.org



Lunenburg Town Offices
New hours for the Town Clerk:
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 8am - 12 noon; 1pm - 3pm
Tuesday: 8 am - 1 pm and 5 pm - 7pm
Friday: Closed
Saturday*: Open 10 am to 1 pm *on the first Saturday of every month

Lunenburg Food Shelf
It is open during the Town Clerk's hours. Please stop in the office during those hours. Also available on Wednesdays from noon to 3 pm. The side door to the community room is open and residents are invited to access the food pantry.



Meetings Held at the Community Room

Selectboard Meeting:
First Monday of the Month @ 6:00 pm

Lunenburg Outdoors: Recreation, Trails, & Tourism Task Force (RTT)
Second Wednesday of the month @ 6:00pm
All Welcome and Encouraged to Attend In Person or via Zoom

Black Bears ATV Club
Second Thursday of the Month @ 7:00 pm

Polar Bears Club
Third Thursday of the Month @ 6:00 pm

Auditor's Meeting:
Last Monday of the Month @ 6:00 pm

Fire Dist. #1
Second Wednesday of the Month @ 6:00 pm

(Meets in the Selectboard Rm.)

Instructor, Kat Colby,
hosts yoga classes

Qigong Yoga Sun. & Wed. 9:00 am

Yin Yoga Fri. 5:30



NEW: STRONGER SENIORS EXERCISE
Wed & Fri 10:30 am- 11:30 am
Bring hand weights if you have some.

Meal Site: Fri. 11:30 am -12:30 pm

BINGO: Mondays 6:00 pm

Bookin' It Book Discussion Club
2nd Wednesday of the Month*
*Note change of day to Wednesday.



Lunenburg School

**Task Force to Increase
Community Events,
Social Engagement and Recreation**
Meeting time 6 pm

All welcome and encouraged to attend.

January 20
February 17
March 17

Helpful resource, the Town Website: www.lunenburg-gilmanvt.gov [The North Star Monthly's event calendar.](http://www.northstarmonthly.com)
[Top Of the Common](http://www.topofthecommon.com) www.lunenburghistoricalsociety.org

Editors: Carol Wenmark, Jessica Simonds and Liz Benoit