



WESTWOOD

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Fall 2009

Volume 22 Number 1

Spirited Fun that's *Totally Ghoul!* Even for Groan-ups!

Take a Halloween Hike at Hale Reservation



Ms. Spider awaits her guests.

Have you ever come face to face with a talking bat? Would you like to be quizzed by a spider? Did you ever have a turtle guide you on a tour? Well, now's your chance.

On Thursday, October 22nd, Hale Reservation will open its trails for a fun and informative walking tour with friends from the forest. Hiking through the trails, visitors will come upon costumed characters who will share their stories of life in the great outdoors. You'll learn something about the animals that call Hale their home as well as other animals beyond Hale's borders.

This annual event is always popular with kids and adults alike so you are encouraged to call Hale early for your preferred starting time, 781-326-1770. Guided tours begin at 4:00 pm and will run every 10 minutes. The last tour of the evening will leave at 7:00 pm. Allow one hour for the walk through the trails and a little extra time for a campfire treat at the end. Arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled start and have your face painted before your tour.

Admission is \$8.00 per child and Adults are free. Please pre-register by October 19th as spots fill up quickly. For more information about Hale Reservation visit www.HaleReservation.org. ❖



A Coyote talks to the visitors.

Successful "Happy Halloween for Children in Need" Campaign Returns for 2009

Halloween truly kicks off the holiday season in the Ouellette home. All the costumes and decorating begins several months of happily celebrating Thanksgiving, birthday parties, and other holidays, too. Six years ago, the Ouellette children were sad to learn some children could not celebrate Halloween because of the expense and they really wanted to help. A venture into the attic produced some outgrown costumes. A mention of the idea to some friends and, sure enough, they donated. Easy as that – a drive was born! The following year, their school became involved. A year or two after that, the Westwood schools were approached and embraced the idea. The drive has increased each year, from 25 items the first year, to 100, 400, 650, 1,100 and 1,850 items in 2008! Because of the continuously increasing number of donations, the range of children helped this past year alone included not only greater Boston but also many towns extending from the north shore to Cape Cod!

In a classic case of pay-it-forward, when churches and recreation centers heard about the donations to the needy families, halls were donated to allow the foster families a safe place for Halloween parties. In the history of the Department of Children and Families, there has never been Halloween donations, until this drive. With over 10,000 children in foster care, there remains a need to continue and increase the donations.

So many people in town have asked how to help. Contributions of gently used or new costumes, candy, face paint, paper goods, pretzels, Halloween accessories (e.g., witches hats, trick or treat bags), decorations, party supplies, new costumes – anything to help bring Halloween to children in need, are requested. Every little bit helps and is greatly appreciated! Once all of the donations are collected, the next step is to assemble Halloween parties in boxes! *If you are donating a gently used costume, please place the costume in a plastic bag, and label it, for example, 'girls size 4 – Snow White.'*

Flyers will be going home with children in participating Westwood schools the first week of October with specific information. A collection bin will also be available outside of the Ouellette home, at 42 Partridge Drive beginning October 1st. The Department of Children and Families will pick up from the Ouellette's on the 23rd.

The Ouellette family feels that without the generous support of the wonderful families in Westwood, the donations could not have grown the way they have. Watching this little drive grow is a shining example of the goodness that can be achieved together, through simple acts of kindness. Each and every person that contributes is responsible for making a difference. Please help them increase the number of children they help this year! ❖

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Did You Know . . .

Information about SEASONAL FLU and H1N1 (swine) flu vaccination

Did you know that **Seasonal Flu and the H1N1 (swine) Flu are two different illnesses?** The vaccine to protect you from these illnesses is different as well. This year there will be two separate vaccines. One vaccine will be for seasonal flu and an additional vaccine will be for H1N1 (swine) flu. The seasonal flu vaccine will be available beginning in September and the H1N1 will be available sometime in October or November.

Seasonal flu seems to most commonly affect those older than 50 years of age with greater frequency, while H1N1 seems to affect the younger population who have not been exposed to a similar virus in the past. As a result of differences in age groups affected, the target populations for these two vaccines are very different.

SEASONAL FLU VACCINE target population groups

- ✓ Persons aged 50 and older
- ✓ Healthcare personnel
- ✓ Close contacts of immunosuppressed persons
- ✓ Pregnant women
- ✓ Breastfeeding mothers
- ✓ Persons with medical conditions that put them at risk of flu complications
- ✓ Children

H1N1 FLU VACCINE target population groups

- ✓ Pregnant women
- ✓ Household contacts and caregivers of children younger than 6 months of age
- ✓ Health care and emergency medical services personnel
- ✓ Children from 6 months through 18 years of age
- ✓ Persons aged 19-24 (because they often live in close proximity)
- ✓ Persons aged 25 through 64 years who have medical conditions that put them at risk of flu complications.

Initial inoculations of H1N1 influenza vaccination, which will be in limited supply, will be given to as many people as possible in these target groups. After initial target populations have been vaccinated for H1N1, most often twice, vaccine will be provided for healthy adults age 25 through 64 years old. H1N1 vaccination will be offered to persons aged 65 or older once vaccination programs are capable of meeting demand for vaccination from younger age groups.

Health experts agree that immunization with both seasonal flu vaccine and H1N1 flu vaccine will help prevent people from being infected with both illnesses and can help minimize the effects of a pandemic on schools, workplaces and the population in general.

Please follow these tips to stay healthy and prevent the spread of illness.

- ✓ **Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze.**
- ✓ Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective.
- ✓ Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
- ✓ Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- ✓ **STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK!** The CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

- The **Adopt an Island Program** is now in its tenth year with continued support from the community.

New sponsor this year is: **Westwood Garden Club**

Current sponsors:

Buonato Granite & Marble	High Rock Garden Club
Coldwell Banker	New England Golf
Dedham Institution for Savings	Nick Nicolazzo Landscaping
Donlon Draper Inc.	R&A Pisano Landscaping
Dover Design Group	Sovereign Bank
Einstein's Landscaping	Spectra Energy/Algonquin Gas
First Parish Church	Westwood Historical Society
Garden Tech Horticultural Services	Westwood Rotary
Guidon Landscaping	Westwood Young Women's Club

If anyone is interested in "adopting an island," please contact the Board of Selectmen's office at 781-326-4172.

- The **Library Building Committee** received 18 proposals for the project and short-listed four firms as finalists. Committee members visited a library designed by each of the finalists. Interviews with the four firms were held on April 16th.

The Town has chosen Finegold, Alexander and Associates as the architect for the new **Westwood Public Library**. The Town's **Permanent Building Committee** finalized a contract with the firm in July. Funding for the phase one work was approved at the 2009 annual Town Meeting. The current schedule calls for a completed schematic design and cost estimates by early fall.

Finegold has previous public library design experience including an addition to the Newburyport library, which is located in a historic district. Finegold's staff also has experience with green architecture applications, state bid laws, and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners construction program.

- The **Westwood Food Pantry** is committed to providing food to people in need. Food and monetary donations are accepted on a daily basis. All non-perishable items are gratefully appreciated. Currently, we are in need of paper products, canned fruit (no soup please), and baking goods (sugar/flour).

DYK from the Town Clerk's Office

There has been an influx of wild animal sightings in Westwood in recent months, including Wild Turkey, Foxes, Coyotes, and Deer. Below are some basic practices residents should follow to avoid problems and make your property less attractive to them:

- Don't Feed Wildlife.
- Keep all trash around your yard contained and picked up.
- Keep Barbeque Grills clean and remove grease trays.
- Keep compost in a container that allows the material to vent but keeps wildlife from getting into it.
- Do not feed pets outdoors.
- Keep your pets restrained at all times.
- Remove bird feeders especially if problem wildlife species are seen around the feeders.
- Close off crawl spaces under porches and sheds.
- Protect livestock and produce by fencing certain areas and clearing fallen fruit from around fruit trees.
- Cut back brushy edges in your yard.
- Do not hesitate to scare the predators with loud noises, bright lights, or spraying water from a hose.
- Don't approach or try to pet wildlife.
- Capturing and releasing a wild animal in another area is prohibited by Massachusetts Law.

If you are experiencing a problem, please contact Mass Wildlife at 978-263-4347 or visit their website at www.masswildlife.org. ❖

News from the Town Clerk's Office

We are in the process of codifying our Town bylaws

What is codification? To "codify" means to arrange and systematize.

Codification is the collection and organization of all ordinances of a general and permanent nature into a numbered and stylized document that is easy-to-read and easy-to-access. Codifying can also include review and revision of ordinances to correct conflicts and inconsistencies.

The completed Code will be a useful resource for everyone in our community. It will contain all of our administrative and regulatory laws of a general and permanent nature, modernized in accordance with statute as well as with actual conditions and practices of our local government. It will be published in an easy-to-use, expandable format designed to accommodate future legislation.

There are many reasons to codify:

- **Fulfill a community obligation.** It is the duty of every municipality to maintain its laws in a comprehensive, up-to-date and understandable form in a location that the average citizen can find and use.
- **Avoid confusion and ensure accurate interpretation.** By compiling our basic ordinances and all amendments into one up-to-date document, we eliminate the need to refer to many separate documents. The most current information will be easily accessible.
- **Eliminate hours of research.** A Code is a single reliable resource for appointed officials, enabling them to respond accurately to questions and provide certified copies quickly and efficiently.
- **Support enforcement.** A Code is a practical and efficient tool for our courts, police and other enforcement officials, enabling them to enforce our laws with confidence and consistency.
- **Plan for the future.** A Code provides a clear view of existing situations and makes it easier to determine the impact of proposed changes and amendments.

The Town Clerk, along with the Town Administrator, and Town Counsel are working closely with General Code, a consultant, to complete this project. General Code has developed, implemented, and maintained codification projects for various municipalities throughout the United States.

This project will identify any duplications, conflicts and inconsistencies within our code. A draft of the codified bylaws will be submitted to Town Meeting for approval.

Internet Access will also be provided in an easy format for viewing 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from the convenience of your own home or office. This tool will give the community all new and amended legislation on a timely basis. ❖

Passings

Joe Wieder, Director of the Westwood Food Pantry passed away in July.

Joe started the Westwood Food Pantry in 1989 at the Council on Aging and over the years had expanded the operation to a free standing facility located behind the Senior Center. He worked diligently to provide food to families in Westwood. He spent his entire life in the service of others and will be deeply missed by all. The Westwood Food Pantry will now be administered by the Council on Aging. Anyone wishing to become a client is most welcome to call the Senior Center at 781-329-8799 and ask for the Outreach department.

Donald Henry MacLellan, longtime resident of Westwood, passed in July at 94 years old. Among many other accomplishments, one passion of his life was his affiliations with the Boy Scouts of America. His 25 years as scoutmaster of Troop One in Islington saw 48 scouts rise to the coveted rank of Eagle Scout. Many will have fond memories of his generous spirit and commitment to community.

Westwood Newcomers Club

Whether you are new to Westwood or a long-time resident and would like to meet some new people, the Westwood Newcomers Club is the place for you! We have many exciting social events planned throughout the year, for families, women and couples. To see our complete schedule of events and for membership information please visit our website at www.westwoodnewcomersclub.com. ❖



Pool Party Saturday, October 24

4:00-5:30 PM
Westwood High School Pool
\$5 (per family)

Affordable Family Fun!

- Poker Chip Pick-up
- Noodle Races
- Marco Polo
- Magazine Relay
- Cannonball Contest
- Messy Backyard
- Red Light Green Light
- Refreshments

Westwood Recreation Department
Register on-line at www.townhall.westwood.ma.us
or at the Recreation Department.
Call 781.461.0070 for more information.

TOWN BULLETIN BOARD

TOWN – SCHOOL EVENTS – HOLIDAYS

September 26 9 am-noon	Westwood Board of Health <i>Seasonal Flu Clinic</i> Westwood High School (see insert for more information)
September 26 9 am-noon	Hazardous Waste Day Westwood Public Works Department Highway Yard, 50 Carby Street
September 28	Yom Kippur Schools closed
October 7, 14, 21, 28 7 pm-9:30 pm	Westwood Human Rights Committee presents Race and Place Film and Dialogue Series (4) First Parish Church – Parish Hall (see insert for more information)
October 12	Columbus Day Schools and Town Hall closed
November 11	Veteran's Day Schools and Town Hall closed
November 26-29	Schools closed Thanksgiving break
November 30	Schools closed All-Day Inservice for teachers
December 5 10 am-2 pm	Westwood Young Women's Club Winterfest Westwood High School
December 24- January 1, 2010	Schools closed Winter vacation

RAINBOW PROFILES: Celebrating the Cultural Diversity of Westwood

(Rainbow Profiles is a series of articles based on interviews conducted by the Westwood Human Rights Committee with Westwood residents who display the richness and cultural diversity of the Westwood community.)

AN INTERVIEW WITH DIANNE REES

Frequently the lives of our ancestors influence us in ways we never would have imagined and guide us on to unexpected paths, commemorating the challenges, successes, tragedies, and dreams of family members gone before, by finding ways to raise human consciousness while improving a life situation in the present. However modest or grand an effort may be, it's a gift to humanity, and we have such stories right at home in Westwood. Let yourself be touched while reading Dianne Rees' story which has roots in all four of her grandparents' survival of the Armenian genocide of the early 1900's, as told in an interview with Westwood Human Rights Committee (WHRC) representative, Marge Griffin.

Dianne, let's start with a short "bio," including your family, education, occupation, and interests.

"My husband Bill and I met in high school in Lowell, MA. After college we both went on to graduate school at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN where I earned my PhD in biochemistry and Bill earned his JD. We married while studying there." Dianne went on to say that after they relocated to Needham, their first child, Megan, was born. Then after a move to Westwood, nearly 25 years ago, David and Evan were born. Presently, Dianne is Director of Science for grades K-12 in the Braintree Public Schools. Her interests have been focused on church and community, serving her church in many capacities, including singing in the choir, and serving the Westwood community as past president of the Friends of Westwood Performing Arts, as well as currently serving as a member of the WHRC.

Where were you born and what is your ethnic background and family history?

"I was born and raised in Lowell. My grandparents had immigrated there. Lowell was a gateway for immigrants, offering employment in the textile mills and shoe factories." Dianne explained that all of her grandparents were Armenian and had come from eastern Turkey. The territory of Turkey, which is adjacent to modern day Armenia, encompasses much of the ancient Armenian empire and was home to millions of Armenians up through the early part of the 20th century. That changed during the years of 1915-1918 when mass deportations and massacres of Armenians living in Turkey led to the death of an estimated 1.5 million Armenians and effectively eradicated the Armenian population from that part of the world. The term "genocide" was coined at that time to describe this deliberate effort to eradicate the Armenians in Turkey.

"My grandparents' story is heartbreaking to me because of what they suffered, but also inspiring because they found the strength to survive and prosper." Dianne related their experience. Her paternal grandfather was orphaned in Turkey during a raid by Turkish soldiers on Armenians at the turn of the century, prior to the genocide. He eventually made his way to America, graduated from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, and served in the U.S. Infantry during WWI. During the genocide, her paternal grandmother, then a young teen, was separated from her parents and younger sister as Turkish soldiers moved into her village. She was taken by a Turkish soldier and sold to travelers. Dianne gratefully explains, "My grandmother was saved by the kindness of these travelers who delivered her safely to an orphanage in Syria. She eventually made contact with an aunt in Palestine and traveled there to live with her. A marriage was arranged with her aunt's brother-in-law, my grandfather. Their first child, my father, was born there in Palestine, and then the young family journeyed to Lowell to settle there." Dianne added a happy note that, in the United States, her grandmother was reunited with her parents, but sadly her younger sister was killed in Turkey.

During the deportations of the genocide, Dianne's maternal grandmother and great-grandmother were taken in by a Turkish couple – her great-grandmother as a servant and her grandmother as the bride-to-be for their son. On market day, an opportunity to escape presented itself. The two fled to Syria and then to France. There Dianne's grandmother and grandfather met and were

married. Her grandfather, along with one sister, were the only members of their large family to have survived the genocide, their parents and all their siblings having been killed. After traveling to the United States, Dianne's grandfather, a former sheep herder, began a new life as a barber and eventually bought property in Lowell and settled there.

Dianne adds, "Lowell continues to provide a safe harbor for waves of struggling immigrants. Today, approximately 25% of the city's population is Southeast Asian. Many of the Cambodian families there are survivors of the killing fields of the Khmer Rouge."

As Dianne's story continues, a connection between her interests and her family's genocide experience surfaces.

Tell us about your interests and in what ways you have used them to become engaged in the Westwood, regional or even global community?

"In Westwood, I am a past president of the Friends of Westwood Performing Arts (FWPA) and presently a member of the Westwood Human Rights Committee." She explained that one of her children is a musician which led her to being an active supporter of FWPA, and that membership in the WHRC was a natural outcome of her interest in human rights issues.

This interest runs deep. Dianne shared information about an extraordinary project, in which she and her family are active participants, that her church, the Congregational Church of Needham, has embraced for over 20 years. Church members were moved to be involved "in support of justice and human rights" explained Dianne. In Guatemala, they have developed a partnership with the village of Santa Maria Tzeja, which is home to indigenous Mayan people. In 1982, during the scorched earth campaign of the Guatemalan civil war, the community came under attack by the Guatemalan army who razed the village, murdered many of the villagers, and sent the rest into hiding. A few years later, as the survivors tried to rebuild, members of the church began traveling there to stand in support of the residents' efforts and to serve as informal human rights observers. Dianne, Bill and their daughter Megan have traveled there many times to help.

Here Dianne paused to share the poignant association she feels between the attacks on the Mayans and the Armenian genocide. "These native people of Santa Maria Tzeja are the indigenous people of Guatemala, but they were attacked and driven out of their homes by their own government's military." She sees a parallel with the indigenous Armenian folks and further explains that both groups of people are engaged in legal efforts to hold accountable those responsible for the destructions and murders. It was commented and agreed that violent aggressiveness towards ethnic groups is an all too-frequent scenario, past and present, all over the world. And, how important it is, even vital, to continue working, in and out of our communities, towards realizing human rights and justice for all.

Now tell us why you and Bill chose to move into the Westwood community?

"We came to Westwood for its good schools for our children, for its beautiful community, and appealing spaciousness. After moving, I felt a community feeling. Neighbors were supportive and at the town library, the librarians knew my children's names. That was valued!"

How would you like to see Westwood evolve to become a more diverse community?

"Westwood is already naturally evolving to become a more diverse community which makes it an interesting place to live. When you have more ethnic, religious, and cultural diversity, you have a vibrant community where you can learn to enjoy and appreciate people whose backgrounds are different from your own. That also makes it a welcoming environment for others to move in and live here." ❖

Rotary Club of Westwood shares details of busy year

The **Rotary Club of Westwood** is an organization comprised of local business men and women who seek to help their communities, both locally and internationally. Internationally, the goal is to eradicate polio. Locally, the Rotary Club of Westwood has been visible in the community through numerous endeavors including funding a scholarship for a student at Westwood High School, assisting with the annual Rabies Clinic, sponsoring a free family golf day, donating holiday gifts to needy children in the community, and sponsoring a free Holiday concert.

Of note, last May, in conjunction with the Westwood Youth and Family Services, the club recognized three outstanding students from Westwood High School for their commitment to community service through the RAY (Recognize A Youth) program. The three students were Peter Campion, Sarina Huang, and Shane Troy. These students were invited to a special Rotary luncheon at the Holiday Inn in Dedham to receive their awards.

Peter Campion is the son of Mary and Jack Campion. Peter has volunteered with Project Hope and Compassion where he assisted in rebuilding homes in Gulfport, Mississippi. Peter has also volunteered with the Relay for Life and assists at the Massachusetts Hospital School in Canton. In his spare time, he is a member of the Theatre Animation Club and the men's swim team. He is a lifeguard at the Westwood High School pool, and signs in the youth choir at St. Timothy's Church in Norwood.

Sarina Huang is the daughter of Christina and Eric Huang. Sarina organized, produced, emceed, and performed in the Annual Chinese Culture Night at Westwood High School. This event has become an annual occurrence since its inception in 2007 and is generally sold out. In her spare time, Sarina is president of the Unity Club, cocaptain of the dance team, a member of the Academic Decathlon, treasurer for the Latin Club, editor for the Yearbook Club, writer for the "No Parenthesis" publication, and a member of the Foreign Language Honor Society. She also teaches Chinese dance to young girls.

John "Shane" Troy is the son of Wendy and Jack Troy. Shane has raised over \$10,000.00 since September 2006 for the Room to Read program by



(l to r) Shane Troy, Sarina Huang and Peter Campion – recipients of "RAY" awards.

setting up and running three fundraisers. Shane also assists with the local Food Pantry drives, mentors young lacrosse players, and helps raise money for the Westwood High School Fun Run. He has currently been working with his brother and sister to collect books to send to third world countries. In his spare time, Shane is the treasurer and a mentor for Best Buddies; a member of the Judicial Council; and a member of the Westwood High School soccer, lacrosse, and ski teams.

The Rotary Club of Westwood and the Westwood Youth and Family Services are proud to be able to honor these students for the commitment to volunteerism and community service.

In celebration of Rotary's 100th Anniversary, individual Rotary Clubs endeavored to find a suitable way to distinguish the anniversary in their community. As part of their centennial project, The Rotary Club of Westwood recently dedicated the gazebo located at the Senior Center on Nahatan Street. Memorial bricks were sold to assist in funding the project. Rotary of Westwood president Anthony "Tony" Amico began the dedication. Tony's remarks were followed by those of several local dignitaries, including Board of Selectmen members Phil Shapiro and Nancy Hyde, Bill Brooks from the Council on Aging Board of Directors, and State Representative Paul McMurtry. The dedication ceremony was topped off with an outstanding performance from the Westwood Swing Band under the direction of Mark Rogers. The gazebo will be used for a variety of community events, including the annual concert series.

At a recent Rotary of Westwood meeting, Sgt. Paul Sicard was presented with a check for \$1,500.00 to purchase an AED device. An AED (Automated External Defibrillator) is a computerized medical device. Sgt. Sicard spoke of the importance of the device and demonstrated how simple the device was to use. Sgt. Sicard was instrumental in furnishing the device to all Westwood schools. The device has already saved the life of one school employee. Each of the police vehicles also carries the device.

For more information on Rotary Club of Westwood, address your query to Rotary Club of Westwood, PO Box 795, Westwood, MA 02090-0785 or email Stxx@aol.com. ❖



Tony Amico, presents Sgt. Paul Sicard with funds to purchase lifesaving AED device.

Westwood Community Chest:

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Westwood Community Chest (WCC) is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to helping Westwood residents in need through temporary financial assistance. Specifically, WCC helps individuals and families facing financial difficulties by awarding funds to help with basic needs, such as housing costs, medical expenses, and utility payments. WCC also grants Camperships, which are scholarships to summer camp for school-aged children. Camperships provide the opportunity for physical, social, and emotional growth to Westwood children whose families could not otherwise afford summer programs.

During the past year, applications to WCC were on the rise, and that trend is expected to continue. WCC is funded through donations, and the Board would like to thank those residents and businesses who have donated generously in the past, as well as those who will give during our annual appeal in October. Your generosity makes the work of the WCC possible.

Applications for assistance from WCC are available at various locations in Westwood, including the Police and Fire Stations, both Public Libraries, the Senior Center, Town Hall, the Post Office on High Street, the Recreation Office, and Youth and Family Services. Applications can also be obtained online at our website. The application process is strictly confidential. For more information about WCC, go to our website at www.wcc.cfsites.org. Donations are welcomed and accepted on an ongoing basis at Westwood Community Chest, P.O. Box 250, Westwood, MA 02090. ❖

Westwood Young Women's Club

Celebrating 50 years of serving the Westwood community!

The Westwood Young Women's Club (WYWC) invites the community to help celebrate its 50th anniversary at our Fall Auction Gala and Casino Night on October 16th, 2009 at the Four Points Sheraton in Norwood. Please visit our website (www.wywc.org) and provide us with your contact information so that we may e-mail you an invitation. Join us for this exciting evening of giving back to Westwood, visiting with club members, past and present, and enjoying a fun-filled evening!

The WYWC annual fall auction gala is the Club's biggest fundraising event of the year. This night, more than any other, determines the level of assistance the WYWC can provide to the worthy organizations and charities it serves. Last year's auction raised over \$15,000.

The Westwood Young Women's Club, Inc. is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts Junior Membership. The club was organized and federated in 1959. The object of our club is to further the educational, philanthropic, and social life of our members and residents of Westwood. Funds raised through the club's two major fundraising events, the Fall Auction in October and Winterfest in December, are donated to charitable, educational, and civic groups in Westwood. The largest donations in recent years went to the Westwood Early Childhood Council, Westwood Elementary Schools, Westwood Community Chest and to the Westwood Recreation Department to present the Summer Concert Series. ❖



WESTWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Westwood Residents,

Although school is not in session during the summer months, the work does not end for our employees. Ensuring that Westwood students receive a first-class education is a challenge we take on with energy and enthusiasm twelve months a year. In July and August our schools were bustling with activity, with summer camps in full swing, teachers attending professional development sessions, and our maintenance crew preparing the buildings for another year. Despite the tremendous budget challenges that lie ahead due to the weak economy, we are excited for 2009-2010, and will do our best to provide Westwood students the education they deserve.



John Antonucci

Downey School Introduces New Principal

Downey School Principal **Debra Gallagher** proudly joins the Westwood Public Schools after 12 years' experience in the public schools of Brookline. During her time in Brookline, Deb was a classroom teacher in grades five and six, and a math specialist in grade three. During the last four years of her career in Brookline, she served as the vice principal at the William H. Lincoln School, a pre-kindergarten through grade eight building.



Deb was a very active participant in the school community. She was a member of the Simmons College Learning

Teaching Collaborative, served on the town-wide Math Curriculum and Review Committee and the Professional Development Council, co chaired the Child Study Team and the Crisis Team, was responsible for the operations of MCAS testing and was a member of the MCAS Data Analysis Team.

Deb earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Quinnipiac University, a master's degree in elementary education from St. Joseph College and a master's degree in educational leadership from Simmons College. Deb resides in Dedham with her husband, Matt, and daughter, Olivia.

THURSTON MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS RECOGNIZED



Thurston Middle School eighth graders **Kimberly Huang** and **Aran Rangarajan** were honored in May by the New England League of Middle Schools (NELMS) as student "scholar leaders." At right, Kimberly is presented a certificate of achievement from School Committee Chair



Barbara Delisle and Superintendent **John Antonucci**. Congratulations to Kimberly and Arun!

In January, 30 eighth graders signed up to take a nation-wide academic challenge sponsored by the American Scholastic Achievement League. Students answered questions online about everything from pop culture to algebra. **Matthew Masi-Phelps** was not only the top scorer for Thurston Middle School, with 84 correct answers out of 100, but he also tied for the top score in Massachusetts! Matthew received a certificate from the Westwood School Committee and Superintendent **John Antonucci**. Congratulations on a job well done!



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Tayla Allen Wins Division IV Title in 100m Dash

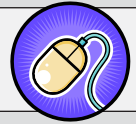
Westwood High School sophomore **Tayla Allen** won the 2009 Division IV 100-meter dash state championship after posting a time of 12.77 seconds in the state finals. The Westwood School Committee honored Tayla at its June 18 meeting for her outstanding accomplishment. She is pictured at left with School Committee Chair **Barbara Delisle**, Athletic Director **Karl Fogel**, and Superintendent **John Antonucci**.



Director **Karl Fogel**, and Superintendent **John Antonucci**.



CONTACT Us!



Main Telephone
(781) 326-7500

Superintendent's e-mail
jantonucci@westwood.k12.ma.us

Website URL
www.westwood.k12.ma.us

Address
220 Nahatan Street, Westwood, MA 02090

Central Office Hours
Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.

Senior Citizens!

Get Your Westwood Public Schools "Green Card"

The Westwood Public Schools Green Card gives seniors free admission to:



- All regular season home athletic events

- All school plays and musical performances



- All other school-sponsored cultural activities and events

To request your free Green Card, contact the Office of the Superintendent at (781) 326-7500 x1341. We look forward to seeing you at school events!

Girls Lacrosse Team Repeats as Division I State Champions

At its June 18 meeting, the Westwood School Committee recognized members of the Westwood High School Girls Lacrosse Team for winning their second consecutive Division 1 State Title. The Wolverines, who ended the year with a 24-1 record, defeated Longmeadow by a score of 11-10. The girls have won the state championship in 2003, 2005, 2008 and 2009. The school community is proud of these scholar-athletes, who demonstrate leadership on and off the lacrosse field. A big congratulations to our champions!



The team poses for a photo with Assistant Coach **Amy Troiano** (far left), School Committee Chairman **Barb Delisle**, Superintendent **John Antonucci**, and Athletic Director **Karl Fogel** (middle)

WESTWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

For further information, please visit or call the Main Library Children's Department at 781-320-1042 or the Islington Branch Library at 781-326-5914. Also, please visit the library web page at www.westwoodlibrary.org/home

2009 Main Library Programs for Preschoolers

Preschool Literacy Adventures

Sept 15-Oct 20 Ages 2 & up with caregiver
Nov 10-Dec 15 Tuesdays, 10:15-11:00 a.m.

Storytime

Sept 16-Oct 21 Ages 3 and up
Nov 18-Dec 16 Wednesdays, 10:15-11:00 a.m.

Babies & Books

Sep 18-Oct 23 Under 2 years with caregiver
Nov 13-Dec 18 Fridays, 10:30-10:50 a.m.

Children must be the appropriate age by the first day of each session.

Registration is not required.

There are no sessions during public school vacations or holidays.

Main Library Programs for School Age Children

Wishing Well

Sept 15-Oct 20 Ages 5 and up
Nov 10-Dec 15 Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Registration begins Aug 10th

Massachusetts Book Award Book Club - Grades 3-5

Sept 21 *Swindle* by Gordon Korman
Oct 26 *My Haunted House* by Angie Sage
Nov 16 *Emmy and the Incredible Shrinking Rat* by Lynne Jonell
Mondays, 7:00 p.m. Monthly discussion of a MA Book Award title. Participants must have read the book by the meeting date. No pre-registration.

Special Programs at Main Library

Storytelling Saturdays

Oct 3 Ages 2½ and up with families.
Nov 7 Saturdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Registration begins 1 month prior.

A Story for Every Season

Oct 15 All ages
Dec 10 An Early Childhood Council, Council on Aging and Library CPC Program. Registration will be required, please call the ECC @ 461- 9548.

Halloween Storytime and Parade

Oct 27 All ages
Halloween stories, treats and a costume parade!
Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. Registration is not required.

Young Adult Programs

Princeton Review's Annual Free National PSAT Test Fest

Sept 26 *Or Full-Length Practice SAT Exam*
Try these exams without the stress of fees and reported scores.
Saturday, 12:00-3:00 p.m. for PSAT
12:00-4:00 p.m. for SAT

Comprehensive Score Report and More!

Oct 3 Follow-up with an analysis of your strengths and weaknesses.
Saturday, 12:00-1:30 p.m.
For further information, please call the Reference Dept.

Adult Programs

PAGETURNERS

Sept 11 & Nov 13, 2009 A book review program for adult readers.
Mar 12 & June 11, 2010 3:00 p.m.

Author, Dick Lehr

Oct 8 Dick Lehr will discuss his book,
"The Fence: A police cover-up along Boston's racial divide."
Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

The World of Cartooning with Eddie Germano

Oct 22 Cartoonist, Eddie Germano, will talk about his career as a sports and political cartoonist.
Thursday, 7:00 p.m.

Author, Michael Tougias

Dec 2 Michael Tougias will give an illustrated talk on his new book,
"Finest hours: The true story of the U.S. Coast Guard's most daring sea rescue."
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

Islington Branch Programs

Storytime

Sept 17-Oct 22 Ages 3 and up
Nov 12-Dec 17 Thursdays, 9:30-10:15 a.m.
Registration required, please call the Branch.

Young Readers Book Club

Oct 6, 13 Grades 2-4
Oct 20, 27 Tuesdays, 3:30-4:15 p.m. Snacks provided!
Registration begins Sept 15th

Children's Book Share

Sept 23 Wednesdays, 7:00-7:45 p.m.
Nov 18 Bring a favorite children's book recommendation; go home with a list of great reads! Registration required, please call the Branch.

Adult's Book Share

Sept 15 Tuesdays, 10:00-10:45 a.m.
Nov 10 Bring a favorite adult book recommendation; go home with a list of great reads!

Future newsletters are due to be delivered to homes on or about December 15, 2009 and March 15, 2010. Please submit articles for consideration 5 weeks prior to the expected delivery dates.
Newsletter correspondence can be sent to:
Westwood Community Newsletter, 580 High Street, Westwood, MA 02090
or email: newsletter@townhall.westwood.ma.us

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