

mmer WESTWOOD

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Summer 2011 Volume 23 Number 4

Municipal Health Care Reform

A Primer on Westwood's Resolve

ver the past several months, the Governor, legislature and public sector employees have been discussing proposed legislation which is intended to reduce the cost of providing municipal health care insurance plans to employees. In order to fully understand the issue, it is important to understand the difference in the way employee health insurance is provided to state employees and municipal employees.

State employees are covered by health plans designed by the Group Insurance Commission (GIC). The design of these plans occurs annually and, like the private sector, the GIC is constantly changing its co-payments and deductibles in order to moderate the annual increase in premiums. The state has no obligation to bargain with the employee unions over these modifications.

Municipal governments, on the other hand, are not allowed, by a court decision, to modify terms of their health care plan offerings without bargaining the changes with the employee unions, except if the municipality has elected through a bargaining process to offer its health care through GIC. As a result, most municipalities have retained the same health care plan (so called Legacy Plans) with low co-payments and no deductibles that were the standard offering 20 years ago.

The proposed legislation would require unions and municipal government to agree to health care plans that are the actuarially equivalent to the GIC Plan offerings within a specified period of time yet to be determined, or be required to join GIC. As a result, municipal health care continued on page 3

Invitation to a Summer Tradition

FREE Summer Concert Series 2011

esidents can make plans for another season of Nestwood's Summer Concert Series. These concerts are wonderful community events for adults and children of all ages. Bring a blanket or chairs and pack a picnic dinner and make it an evening out! Refreshments, including pizza (pies or slices) from Westwood Pizza will be sold at each of the concerts.

Concerts are free, but residents can make a difference!

The Westwood food pantry is in need of canned fruit and cereal. Please bring one (1) item to the concert to be donated to the food pantry, and together we can make a difference.

The summer concerts are organized and sponsored by The Westwood Young Women's Club with the generous

support of the Westwood Recreation Department. These FREE concerts will be held on

continued on page 6

A perfect mix of blankets, lawn chairs, strollers, shady trees and fun music. Crowds arrive and eniov the early evening festivities.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE - almost too much to fit!

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Library Programs

The newsletter is also available online at http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/

Did You Know . . .

Summer Camps 2011

• *Did You Know* that the Westwood Board of Health inspects and licenses summer camps held in Westwood? Summer will soon be here and families are in the process of choosing summer programs for their children. The Health Department would like to inform parents that summer camps, including day, residential, sports, travel and trip camps, are governed by 105 CMR 430.000 of the State Sanitary Code, Chapter IV, Minimum Sanitation Standards for Recreational Camps for Children.

In order to protect campers and ensure that they have a fun, safe experience, camp operators are required to do the following:

- Conduct criminal background checks on all staff and volunteers
- Hire a health care consultant to approve a medical plan and standing orders
- Hire a health supervisor who is overseen by the health care consultant, to care for injured or ill campers and staff, to dispense medication, to follow the approved medical plan and to review camper and staff medical records
- Hire enough staff to ensure proper ratios of campers to staff
- In programs with high-risk activities, such as swimming, boating or horseback riding, the camp has to ensure that all staff is trained appropriately and that all precautions have been taken
- Provide written policies on discipline, abuse and neglect, disaster, lost swimmer, lost camper, transportation, care of mildly ill or injured campers, to name a few

If you would like more information regarding summer camps, please contact Linda Shea at the Westwood Board of Health office at lshea@townhall.westwood .ma.us or call 781-320-1026. The goal is to ensure a safe summer for all. ❖

Westwood Youth & Family Services

- *Did You Know* that the Westwood Youth & Family Services will again be offering 'Girls Only' groups for Westwood girls in grades 4 to 6 and grades 6 to 8? These groups will focus on navigating friendships and cliques, avoiding peer pressure and improving body image, confidence and self-esteem. We will utilize art projects, video discussions and games to help reinforce these important topics in fun and creative ways! The groups will run for 12 weeks with one group beginning in September 2011 and the other in January 2012. The exact days of the week will be determined by participant availability and placement will be at the discretion of group leaders. Please contact Tracy Gabriel at 781-251-2575 or tgabriel@townhall.westwood.ma.us for a registration form and/or if you have any questions. Registration forms are due by July 15th. The "Girls Only" group program is funded through a grant from the Westwood Young Women's Club. �
- *Did You Know* that the Westwood Youth and Family Services will again be running a **Single Parent Support Group** for single parents in Westwood this summer? This popular program consists of eight consecutive Wednesday evening meetings, from July 6th through August 24th and offers parents the opportunity to discuss such topics as raising children alone, time management, finding time for personal interests, parenting strategies, and stress management. Group membership and childcare are provided free of charge, along with pizza and snacks for both kids and parents thanks to the generous sponsorship of Westwood Young Women's Club and the Westwood Early Childhood Council.

For more information and/or to register for this summer's Single Parent Support Group, please contact Tracy Gabriel, LICSW of Westwood Youth & Family Services at (781) 251-2575 or tgabriel@town hall.westwood.ma.us/. Please note that space is limited and registrations will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. ❖

Westwood Community Blood Drive - Be there! Bring a friend!

The Westwood Community Blood Drive will be held on Saturday, August 27, 2011 from 9:00 am–3:00 pm at the Westwood Masonic Building, 655 High Street (Rt. 109) across from the library. Summertime is always a crucial time for blood donations. Every two seconds

someone in the United States needs blood, and every pint donated could save up to three lives. Call 1-800-REDCROSS to make an appointment, or just stop by when you have some time. Be sure to bring your Red Cross Donor Card or other form of positive ID. ❖

Did You Know . . .

Library Construction – Schedule Changes

- With construction now underway for the new main library, weekly schedules have been revised to add more hours at the Islington Branch Library. Summer programs will continue at both libraries with some children's programs at Westwood's Temple Beth David. For a schedule of hours, project photos, and the Director's blog go to the Library's website at www.westwoodlibrary.org/.
- The Westwood Food Pantry needs your help. Please consider making a donation. The Food Pantry is committed to providing essential provisions to individuals and families in our community who need temporary assistance. Donations are welcome at the Food Pantry, Westwood Council on Aging, 60 Nahatan Street between 8 am and 4 pm. More information is available in their brochure, available at http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/westwood/file/FoodPantry Brochure2010.pdf ❖

TOWN BULLETIN BOARD

| June 13 | Comprehensive Plan Summit: all invited | |
|--|---|--|
| 7:30 pm | Champagne Meeting Room at 50 Carby St. | |
| June 22 | Last Day of School | |
| July 4 | Independence Day | |
| | Town Hall Closed | |
| July 10 & | Westwood Historical Society Open House & Exhibit: | |
| August 7 | "Waldo & Katherine Hodgdon Collection" | |
| 1:00-4:00 | | |
| Aug. 27 | Blood Drive, Westwood Masonic Building | |
| 9:00-3:00 | 655 High Street (bring an I.D.) | |
| Sept. 6 | Students' First Day of School | |
| October 1 | SAVE THE DATE for: Westwood Day | |
| Volunteers needed! Call the Recreation Dept. at 781-461-0070 | | |

Municipal Health Care Reform - continued from page 1

John J. Cronin Public Service Award Recipient

Each year, the John J. Cronin Public Service Award committee awards this high honor to an individual who has served the Town of Westwood. John J. Cronin, Town Treasurer for many years, selflessly gave of his time and expertise for the betterment of the community both as an elected official and in numerous volunteer activities. To recognize this same spirit of community involvement as exemplified by John Cronin's life, it is with great pleasure that the committee chose Howard Messing as the ninth recipient of the John J. Cronin Public Service Award.

Howard Messing has displayed exemplary service, dedication and commitment to the Town of Westwood. Through his service on numerous Town boards and organizations, Howard has made valuable contributions to the Westwood community. To see all of Howard's accomplishments, please visit the Town of Westwood's website under the Board of Selectmen, John J. Cronin Public Service Award page www.townhall.westwood .ma.us/.



David W. White, Jr. received a resolution from the Board of Selectmen at the 2011 Annual Town Meeting recognizing him for his years of service on the Sewer Commission from 2002 thru 2010 as well as selfless volunteer work on many other committees and organizations within the community. •

plan offerings will be designed similar to the standard health care plan offerings being provided in the market place today for both public and private employees, which have much lower premiums, at considerable savings to the municipalities and their employees.

In recent years, the rapidly rising cost of health care has not affected Westwood's operating costs to the same extent it has affected other communities for several reasons. First, the average municipal cost sharing of premiums between employer and employee is 75/25 with some cost sharing as high as 90/10, whereas Westwood's cost sharing is 60/40. Second, the Town of Westwood was one of the founding members of West Suburban Health Group, comprised of 17 like communities who have pooled their health care programs into a self-insured fund, which has allowed the member communities to have more reasonable premiums.

In an effort to satisfy the expected requirement to have health care plan offerings that are the actuarial equivalency of the GIC plans, the Board of Selectmen and employees recently reached an agreement to restrict the Town's health care offerings to West Suburban Health Group Rate Saver Plans, which were designed 5 years ago with much higher copayments than the Legacy Plans designed 20 years ago. As a result, it is expected that the total premium cost of providing health care will be \$1 million less in the upcoming fiscal year, if all of the unions ratify the agreement. ❖

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 KELLIE NOUMI and JOAN GIBLIN

66 TX Te are all tied together in a single garment of **V** destiny...I can never be what I ought to be until you are allowed to be what you ought to be," spoke Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. while aiding the advancement of triumph over racial prejudice and bigotry. In sharing his vision, his wife, Coretta Scott King, added this application in more recent years to homophobic attitudes and policies. "I believe all Americans who believe in freedom, tolerance and human rights have a responsibility to oppose bigotry and prejudice based on sexual orientation." While many of us have been learning what the term "homophobia" means, along with hearing increased usage of the labels "gay" and "straight," a steady movement has long been underway to overcome bigotry and prejudice directed at those who have a different orientation towards sexual identity. Hoping to help us understand this better, Westwood residents, and same-sex married couple, Kellie Noumi and Joan Giblin have opened their hearts and home to share their story, as reported by Westwood Human Rights Committee member, Marge Griffin.

Meeting Joan and Kellie

Joan: Of Irish and Italian ancestry, Joan was born and raised in Stoughton in a house her Italian grandfather built. Says Joan, "My grandfather, who came over from Italy when he was a boy, became a general contractor. He bought a large patch of farmland in Stoughton and built my entire neighborhood. All my extended family lived there." Her mom, an elementary school teacher in the Brockton School system, started an extended day program at her school which led the way for many other Brockton elementary schools to establish one. Her dad worked in computers.

Joan studied at Colby College, majoring in East Asian studies with a minor in Japanese language. Upon graduation, she was awarded a Watson Fellowship which she explained is the creative version of the Fulbright Scholarship and is awarded annually to only 50 graduating seniors in the country. With that, she spent a year in Japan creating a series of short stories about young women who didn't fit into traditional culture. Next came graduate studies at the University of Chicago, and being awarded an MA in History with a concentration in Modern Japan. Her career path, taking a different direction, has included being Director of Housing and

Residence Life at Clark University, and currently she's Director of New Student Programs at Wentworth Institute of Technology.

Kellie: Of Irish, Lithuanian and Russian descent, Kellie's family lived in Holbrook until her dad passed on when she was a year old. Then came the move to Westwood, to live near her grandparents. "We moved to a house on Washington St., next to St. Dennis Church," said Kellie. "There was a fire and the house burned down when I was two." Kellie, her older sister, and her mom were safe, but she added sadly, "The family upstairs did not survive." With the help of her grandparents, Kellie's mom was able to purchase a house nearby, which became their permanent home. Kellie and her sister attended Westwood schools, as did their mom a generation earlier. Now the sole supporter of her family, Mrs. Noumi initially drove a bus for disabled students before securing a long-term position in the Needham School system as a Cafeteria Manager.

After graduating from Westwood High School, Kellie earned a degree in Economics, with a minor in History, from Framingham State College and is currently working towards her MBA. Her career path began in event planning where she negotiated hotel contracts which led to her current position as Sr. Project Manager for Passkey, providing online reservation systems for the hospitality industry. To qualify for this work, she undertook an intensive course of study for which she was awarded the Project Management Professional (PMP) credential, the most important industry-recognized certification for project managers.

Serving the Community

Kellie and Joan have devoted themselves to two causes. One is the American Heart Association for which they have walked to raise money and now volunteer to help at walks. The other organization they loyally support is "Shelter Box," which responds to the needs of families worldwide, such as in New Orleans, Haiti, Japan, and local tornado zones, who have lost everything when disaster hits. They provide temporary housing units, along with cooking instruments, clothes, food, and other vital items.

Relationships

High school experiences were mostly typical. Joan attended a private girls' school, played sports, and loved to read. Kellie was very involved with sports at Westwood

From the Department of Public Works

Curbside Pick Up of Leaves and Grass Clippings

Leaves and grass clippings will be collected on your regular rubbish day the week of:

No collection in June October 17, 2011

July 18, 2011 Nov 7 – Dec 2, 2011

August 15, 2011 April 16, 2012

September 19, 2011 May 14, 2012

- Leaves must be placed in biodegradable leaf recycling bags or loosely in barrels that are clearly marked "LEAVES."
- Barrels & bags must be placed at the curb by 7:00 am.
- Barrels and bags should not exceed 45 pounds in weight.
- Leaves placed in any kind of plastic bag cannot be collected (otherwise the entire load will be rejected at the compost site).
- Collection will consist of leaves and grass only. No other material is allowed.

Call 617-933-4929 for home composting information. Call 781-251-2589 for other questions.

Disposal of Yard Waste, Branches, and Limbs

- Call the Westwood Fire Department for a Burn Permit at 781-326-3885;
- Take them to a Private Disposal Location; or
- Call a local contractor for pick-up. For a list of local contractors call 781-251-2589.

As winter ends and snow melts, broken branches and other storm damage becomes evident. In spring, the Town works diligently to repair damage, fill potholes, keep the drains open, prepare fields and grounds, clean the streets, and provide safe public places. In March, Public Works completed cleaning storm-related limbs and debris from public trees in the public ways. Although we would love to help each and every resident, the town cannot clean branches and debris that fell on private property from private trees, even if they have been moved into the public way. Should you need help with the removal of your brush or limbs that fell on your private property, please take them to a private disposal location or call a landscaping contractor that will pick up the waste for a reasonable fee. If you have additional questions, please feel free to call 781-251-2589. ❖

Stormwater Runoff

Helpful Education to Save Resources

The Westwood Department of Public Works has plenty of work throughout the year. No sooner has the burden of snow removal diminished when the department gears up to repair drainage, fill potholes, keep the drains clear, open the fields and grounds, clean and pave the streets, provide safe public places, and meet regulatory requirements for clean water runoff.

Stormwater Runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snow melt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks, and streets, prevent stormwater from naturally soaking into the ground. Stormwater can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt and other pollutants, and flow into the drainage system or directly to a stream, pond, or wetland. Anything that enters the drainage system is discharged, untreated, into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing and drinking water.

Catchbasins are cleaned once a year, and all streets are swept at least once per year through the combined efforts of town equipment and a contractor. A dozen main streets, including Gay, Canton, Hartford, High, and Washington streets, are swept 2-3 times per year.

In the last two years all of the more than 2000 catchbasins in town have been stenciled as part of two separate Eagle Scout projects. "Keep it Clean, Drains to Stream" is the message used near the basins to remind residents not to throw pollutants into the storm drain system because it will drain directly to the nearest stream, untreated.

The Department of Public Works asks residents to do their part to keep the streams, ponds, and wetlands clean in Westwood. Suggestions include: use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly, vegetate bare spots in the yard, pump septic tanks every one to three years, and do not flush household chemicals down the drain. For additional information please visit the Town of Westwood website at http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/index.cfm?pid=24553.

A survey is also posted online that will help direct our public education in the upcoming years. Please visit the Town of Westwood website at http://www.townhall .westwood.ma.us/index.cfm?pid=24652 to provide us with your feedback. ❖

Dedham Savings Celebrates 180 Years

Dedham Institution for Savings celebrated 180 years in business on May 11, 2011. Dedham Savings is the second oldest bank in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts functioning under the original charter and original name. The first location of the Bank was the front parlor of the



Dedham home of its first Treasurer, Jonathan Cobb. At first, the Bank was only open on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The first depositor was a woman who made a \$50.00 deposit. Now Dedham Savings has over one billion dollars in assets and the bank currently employs 215 full and part-time employees covering eight full service locations and three satellite branches.

The Bank celebrated its 180th birthday by providing gifts for its customers as well as the opportunity to win several prizes including \$511.00 commemorating its birthday on May 11th. Employees also participated in an internal trivia contest on the history of the Bank.



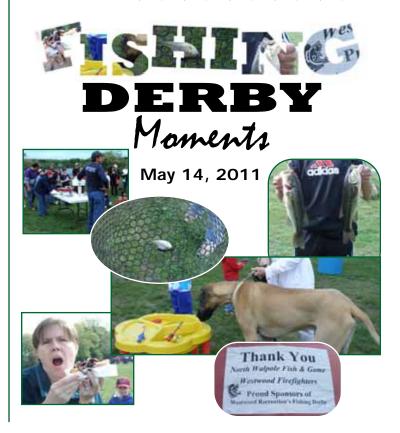
On April 8, 2011, Dedham Savings Bank was invited to participate in a Math and Science Fair at the Hanlon School. Two bank employees, Marcella Musto

and Laura Macs, engaged students in grades kindergarten through fifth grade in various activities about banks and banking. They discussed such important topics as how to earn interest by leaving your money in a bank, the safety considerations in banking and they even touched upon lending when a student inquired. The students were given packets to take with them and, as it was home opening day for the Red Sox, each student had the opportunity to win a Red Sox tote bag with Red Sox items. One bag was given to one student from each of the six grades. ❖

Introducing a new, special section from the Recreation Department!

The Westwood Community Newsletter is happy to help the Recreation Department provide quarterly information of upcoming Recreation sponsored programs and special events. Notice the next four pages are highlights from the Recreation Department's full summer programming and you can pull out the section to refer to later.

In an effort to "Go Green," the Recreation Department will be seeking to provide information to residents in a more technologically "green" avenue – via email, website, downloadable PDFs, strategic placement of printed brochures, and phone information. Check out the next four pages and make plans to sign up, or log in for lots more to do!



FREE Summer Concert Series - continued from page 1

Monday evenings on July 11th, 18th, 25th and August 1st at 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center, 60 Nahatan Street, on the outside green. In the event of rain, the concert will be held at the Islington Community Center, 288 Washington Street. Please call 781-461-0070 for a taped program report after 4:30 p.m. on the day of the concert.

Musical groups performing the following summer Mondays are:

July 11: Westwood Community Swing Band: 6:30-8

July 18: Overboard: 6:30-7:30

July 25: The Bubble Music Man: 6:30-7:30

August 1: MackSeeDoodle: 6:30-7:30

The Westwood Young Women's Club is a community-based organization established to further the educational, philanthropic, and social life of its members and its community. Any woman who is a resident of Westwood is eligible for membership. For more information please visit us at http://www.wywc.org/. ❖



Going Green

NEWS ELASH

Westwood Recreation Summer 2011 Brochure was the last issue to be mailed to Westwood residents

PLANNING AHEAD...

To receive future Recreation Brochures please do one of the following:

 Sign up for Recreation Listserv and receive it electronically. www.westwoodma.gov/recreation

Download a copy from the website
 www.westwoodma.gov/recreation



•Pick up a copy at:

The Recreation Department, Town Hall, Council on Aging Main Library, Islington Library, or Islington Community Center.

Special order:

If you are unable to obtain a copy via one of the above options call 781-461-0070.

Recreation Listsery

Sign-up Today!

www.westwoodma.gov/recreation
Sign up for Email. Next time you log onto your email, please reply to the mailing list subscription confirmation notice.

There are many advantages!

- Electronic Brochures and Flyers
- Program Updates
- Special Events
- New Programs

Summer is Coming! What Are Your Plans?

Register Today!

On-Line www.westwoodma.gov/recreation
Click Online Recreation Registration. Under Main Menu select Register for Activities. Under Register for Activities click program category and select program/class.

Walk-In Office Hours

 Mondays
 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

 Tuesdays
 8:30 AM-7:00 PM

 Wednesdays
 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

 Thursdays
 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

 Fridays
 8:30 AM-1:00 PM

The Basement 2011-2012

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM - GRADES 6-8 ISLINGTON COMMMUNITY CENTER

Purpose: To offer a quality after school program for students in Grades 6-8 that is safe, fun, and supervised. There will be activities and a homework period daily.

Hours of Operation: After School Dismissal-6:00 p.m. Early Release Dismissal-6:00 p.m.

Days of Operation: School Days, Monday through Thursday with a two-day minimum. (September 6, 2011 through June 18, 2012). February/April Vacation Weeks and Staff Development Days are optional for an additional fee. Closed Holidays and snow days.

Staffing: Program Manager, Kristin Scoble and Recreation Staff.

Transportation: At school dismissal, participants will be transported by school bus from the Thurston Middle School to the Islington Community Center. Families who do not have a bus contract will be charged an additional fee to cover the bus.

Activities: billiards, pinball, ping pong, Wii, XBOX, movies, homework, reading, crafts, board games, computers with internet for homework, academic books, Morrison Park basketball court and field, sports & games, and walking trips.

Fees: Early Registration Incentive Register by June 16 and save 20% off September's tuition.

| Day | Monthly Rate | Early Registration |
|-----------|--------------|--------------------|
| | - | September Only |
| Monday | \$85 | \$68 |
| Tuesday | \$85 | \$68 |
| Wednesday | \$120 | \$96 |
| Thursday | \$85 | \$68 |

Questions: Please contact Kristin Scoble

<u>basement@townhall.westwood.ma.us</u> or call 781.329.0632.

Summer Programs

Aquatics: Aqua Fitness, Lap Swim, Open Swim, Swim Team, Swimming Lessons, Swing and Swim, and Water Polo.

Sports: Archery, Baseball, Basketball, Field Hockey, Flag Football, Golf, Jr. Wolverines, Karate, Lacrosse, Soccer, Swing and Swim, Tennis, Track, and Volleyball.

Summer Days: Two, Three, and Five Day options. Summer Days Swim Lessons, and Summer Days Tennis Lessons.

Parent/Child and Preschool: Tot Time, and Safety Town.

Performing Arts: Broadway Bound, Hercules, and Bye Bye Birdie.



Special Events

FIREMAN'S FOAM

IT'S WET. WILD & SUDSY!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

2:00-3:00 PM

DEERFIELD SCHOOL FIELD

ALL AGES WELCOME

FREE



It's the summer event you do not want to miss! Come and cool off in piles of suds. Footwear is recommended.

SUMMER BAND CONCERTS

Sponsored by: Westwood Young Women's Club

MONDAY EVENINGS 6:30 PM CONCERTS ARE FREE ALL AGES ARE WELCOME



WESTWOOD SENIOR CENTER - FRONT LAWN

July 11 Westwood Swing Band

Local Jazz Band

July 18 Overboard

Nationally-renowned acapella group

July 25 The Bubble Music Man

Bubble Show and Music for children

August 1 Macksee Doodle

Educational & Fun Music for children

WESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL - CAFETERIA COURTYARD

August 8 Westwood Winds Community Band Family Entertainment

Partnership With...

L.L.Bean

KAYAKING AND FLY-CASTING

BUCKMASTER POND

AGES 8 AND OLDER

FREE



Families, youth, teens, seniors – register today and take advantage of this spectacular opportunity.

Thursday, July 14 (rain or shine)

| Thursday, bully 14 | rain or sining | | |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|
| Kayaking | 9:00-11:00 | 11:30-1:30 | 2:00-4:00 |
| Fly-Casting | 10:00-11:00 | 11:30-12:30 | |

Wednesday, July 20 (rain or shine)

| Trouniestay, cary to (ram or crimic) | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| Kayaking | 11:30-1:30 | 2:00-4:00 | 5:00-7:00 |
| Fly-Casting | 10:00-11:00 | 11:30-12:30 | |

Monday, August 1 (rain or shine)

| Kayaking | 11:30-1:30 | 2:00-4:00 | 5:00-7:00 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| Fly-Casting | 10:00-11:00 | 11:30-12:30 | |

Tuesday, August 16 (rain or shine)

| Kayaking | 9:00-11:00 | 11:30-1:30 | 2:00-4:00 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| Fly-Casting | 10:00-11:00 | 11:30-12:30 | |

Kayaking: Walk-On Adventure

Exploring nature in a kayak can be a stimulating yet relaxing way to enjoy the outdoors. With L.L.Bean's Walk-On Adventures, you can try kayaking in a comfortable setting with all of the gear, equipment, and expert instruction provided. After brief introductions and a safety talk, you'll be outfitted in a personal flotation device (PFD) and receive paddling instructions that will allow you to paddle safely and effectively. You'll then set out in a solo, recreational kayak to enjoy a guided, interpretive tour, learning about the ecosystem and historical aspects of the area. As with all of our Walk-On Adventures, all of the gear, equipment, and instruction are provided.

Fly-Casting: Walk-On Adventure

A timeless art and skillful sport, fly casting is a relaxing way to spend time outdoors. L.L.Bean's Fly-Casting Walk-On Adventure begins with a brief safety overview, followed by a discussion of the components of a fly rod outfit. Your expert L.L.Bean instructor will then show you how to do a four-part cast, a false cast, and a roll cast - allowing you ample time to practice while you receive individual feedback from your instructor. As with all of our Walk-On Adventures, all of the gear, equipment, and instruction are provided.

Register at Westwood Recreation or on-line. At the time of registration an agreement form with be sent to you. All participants are required to sign and return this agreement to Westwood Recreation no later than the day before program date. No one will be allowed to participate without this signed agreement. Programs will run rain or shine with the exception of thunderstorms.

Don't procrastinate. Register today! Programs are limited. Kayaking: Maximum 14. Minimum 7. (per time slot) Fly-Casting: Maximum 6. Minimum 3. (per time slot)

Programs Sponsored by L.L.Bean



Swim Team 2010-2011

The Westwood Recreation Department Winter Swim Team provides children, ages 5 to 18, the opportunity to exercise, socialize, develop friendships, and challenge them in a safe, supportive, and fun environment. The philosophy of the program is personal growth and development, sportsmanship, friendship and respect.

The season runs from November through March. Throughout these dark and cold months, the Swim Team members enjoy the warm water and camaraderie of other swimmers. All participants are challenged to do their best, receiving weekly recognition for their improvement.

The 2010-2011 Winter Swim Team competed in the Winter Suburban Swim League including: Acton, Belmont, Brookline, Dedham, Framingham, Milford, Natick, Newton, Norwood, Sudbury, Wellesley, Westboro, Weston, and Westwood. Swimming in this league, Westwood swam ten dual meets concluding the season with two championship meets in March. Upon the completion of the season the team gathered for an evening of recognition and awards on April 29, 2011 at the Westwood High Auditorium.

All swimmers were recognized for their personal growth and dedication to the team. Additional awards were given to the Most Improved Swimmer. This award is given to one swimmer per age group for the greatest improvement in swimming speed during the season. The recipients of the Most Improved Swimmer Award are:

Conor Curtin – Age Group 8 and Under Breanna Morgan – Age Group 9 and 10 David Polansky – Age Group 11 and 12 Casey Rideout – Age Group 13 and 14 Grayham Ronan – Ages 15 and Older

Next, the Coaches Award is presented to two swimmers per age group who showed 100% effort in practice. The swimmers were reliable members of the team, who made coaching interesting and fun. The recipients of the Coaches Award are:

Olvia Bloukos and Matthew McDonald – Age Group 8 and Under Ryan Leveckis and Becky Whitney – Age Group 9 and 10 Jasmin Can and Charlie Naylor – Age Group 11 and 12 Ben Dolan and Kathryn Dolan – Age Group 13 and 14 Katelyn Keane and Grayham Ronan – Age Group 15 and Older



The Outstanding Team Contribution is awarded to swimmers who attended most meets, showed great team spirit, set a good example at practice, and put 100% effort into their swimming. The recipients of the Outstanding Team Contribution are:

Morgan Hughes and Dylan Perkins – Age Group 8 and Under Caroline Kremer and Jack Stebbins – Age Group 9 and 10 Mary Kate Charron and Shane Timmerman – Age Group 11 and 12 Justin Hui – Age Group 13 and 14 Jessica Ovalle – Age Group 15 and Older

The Unsung Hero Award goes to swimmers who contribute to the team in unconventional ways. The recipients of the Unsung Hero Award are:

Morgan Turner – Age Group 8 and Under
Olivia Goldberg – Age Group 9 and 10
Madeline Hurwitz – Age Group 11 and 12
Collin Timmerman and Karla Bachiller – Age Group 13 and 14
Erin Curran and Valerie Savage – Age Group 15 and Older

The Team Highest Point Scorer is a perpetual award. The swimmer's name is engraved on a cup which is displayed at the Westwood Recreation Department. This season's highest point scorer is Matthew McDonald.

The last award, The Christina Grueter Sportsmanship Award, was established in memory of a young girl. Christina was an integral member of the Westwood Recreation Swim Team. She was a skilled swimmer with spirit and enthusiasm. Christina died at the age of 15. This award goes to a swimmer who demonstrates those qualities and characteristics that made Christina unique. The recipient of the 2010-2011 Christina Grueter Award is Katelyn Keane.

This season we had two team records broken. Matthew McDonald set a new team record in the Boys 8 and Under, 25 yard backstroke with a time of 17.93 on March 13, 2011. The previous record was held by Gregory Bunce with a time of 19.39 set on February 8, 2004. Caroline Kremer has also set a new team record in the Girls 9 and 10, 25 yard butterfly with a time of 15.04 on March 13, 2011. The previous record was held by Georgia Lucas with a time of 15. 49 set on March 7, 2010.

The Winter Swim Team is a wonderful opportunity for school-aged children to build sportsmanship, swimming skills, confidence, independence, and friendships for life. For more information regarding the Westwood Recreation Swim Team and other recreation programs, please go to www.westwoodma.gov/recreation.



Coffee Hour

Monday, June 20, 6:00PM @ Recreation Pool Lobby

All Ages Welcome

We are interested in hearing your ideas for future Recreation Activities.

Please join one of our Coffee Hours and/or partake in the questionnaire below.

Recreation Questionnaire

| What type of programs would you like Westwood Recreation to offer? | | |
|--|--|--|
| Families: | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | ed in outside of Westwood that you would recommend? | |
| | | |
| What Westwood Recreation progran | ns have you participated in that you <u>would not</u> recommend to others and why? | |
| | | |
| Comments? | | |
| | | |
| | Email (optional) | |

Thank you, we appreciate your time.

Please return to Westwood Recreation or email your reply to recreation@townhall.westwood.ma.us

Temple Beth David Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Sixty years ago a dedicated group of about 20 families with vision and faith joined together to worship and share in the practice of Judaism in The Dedham Community Center. In 1961, these dedicated and energetic families incorporated as a Reform Congregation, Temple Beth David. In 1967 the congregation moved to Westwood. They made their home at 40 Pond Street, which had been the Education Center of the First Baptist Church.. Over the years Temple Beth David has grown in size, stature, geography and experience. The congregation spent 20 years in that location, praying, learning and socializing until March, 1987 when its building sadly was the victim of arson. It has since moved to Clapboardtree Street where it has enjoyed much growth.

Temple Beth David is now an established, thriving congregation that encompasses many communities. There are strong bonds with the host community as well as the interfaith community. Rabbi Emeritus, Henry A. Zoob was one of the founders of the Westwood Interfaith Council. In 2006 after 36 years of service, Rabbi Zoob retired. Rabbi Jeffrey Wildstein became the new rabbi of the temple.

For over 50 years Temple Beth David has experienced many joyous occasions with Bar and Bat Mitzvah ceremonies, weddings, baby namings and other congregation milestones.

Over the past year, in celebration of this special anniversary a number of activities including honoring those persons who, having been members of Temple Beth David's Religious School, continued their life's path as leaders in the field of Judaism. These include rabbis, educators, cantors and Jewish camp officials.

On Friday evening May 6th, those who were among the 35 families who founded Temple Beth David were honored. Also honored were the many who over the years served as leaders of the congregation.

On Saturday evening May 7th, a gala dinner dance was held to honor the congregation's 50th anniversary.

As part of the 50th anniversary celebration, to commemorate the first 20 years, a marker will be placed at the site of the original Westwood home of Temple Beth David, in the form of a bench, in the park that now is at 40 Pond Street. The bench will be dedicated on June 18th.



Debbie Wang, History Book Chair; Pat Aronson, Gala Chair



left to right: Cantor Treitman; Pam Weil, Educator; Rachel Reef-Simpson, Soloist; Rabbi Wildstein; and Rabbi Zoob



Rayna Rubin, 50th Anniversary Chair

Rotary is Getting Around!

The Rotary Club of Westwood held another successful Pancake Breakfast at Westwood High School. Pancakes (even blueberry ones!), sausage, juice, milk, and coffee were served. Special guests, Mickey Mouse, Dora the Explorer, and the Easter Bunny



provided photo opportunities for those that attended. Proceeds from the breakfast help the club to provide high school scholarships as well as funds for local and international projects.

The Rotary Club of Westwood holds its weekly meetings at the Holiday Inn in Dedham on Tuesdays at 12:15 pm. If you are interested in attending a luncheon and learning more about Rotary, please contact Michael Razza at stxx@aol.com.

The Rotary Club of Westwood was pleased to award a graduating Westwood High School student the John

Holden Scholarship. John Holden was one of the founding members of the Rotary Club of Westwood and was known for his dedication to community service. The recipient of this annual scholarship is one is also dedicated to helping others.

On April 9, 2011, the Rotary Club of Westwood again assisted Dr. Vincent Durso from the Westwood Animal Clinic at Westwood's annual Rabies Clinic. Members of the club recorded the appropriate information for the dog or cat as well as the pet's owner prior to the administering of the rabies shot. The rabies shots given are valid for one year.

On June 3, 2011, at the Four Points in Norwood, Joseph Federico was installed as the president of the Rotary Club of Westwood for the term 2011-2012. Joe has been a member since 2009 and is a resident of Westwood where he lives with his wife Michele and his two children. •

Rainbow Profiles - continued from page 4

High. Male/female relationships at that time of their lives weren't much a part of their thinking. Although both dated guys, it wasn't the same as other couples. Recalls Joan, "I just didn't get what the big deal was about dating."

It was after high school that each realized they had feelings for women. In high school, they just didn't know. Joan offered, "There wasn't a frame of reference for it." It wasn't discussed in health class and they didn't have books about it to read. Kellie remembers, "When I went to high school, there was a lot of derogatory language, and there still is for kids. Women who were suspected of being gay were definitely teased, but the guys got it much worse. There was so much derogatory language. I thought 'Who cares – just let people be.' I've always felt that." Both hope that the changes that have occurred in society, such as the legalization of same sex marriage, make it easier and more supportive for kids today who are trying to understand and come to terms with their sexuality.

In college, Joan developed a close relationship with a woman. Here Joan clarifies, "For a long time I thought it was just about this one individual and I was ok with that. I don't use a label for myself of either bisexual or lesbian or anything like that. I am very much attracted to a 'person'." Eventually the two recognized feelings for each other, they became a couple and dated. Although there were other gay students at Colby, they were the only openly gay couple.

As for Kellie, it was after college and while dating a guy that she realized it. She recalled, "One day, I looked at him and said, 'I think I'm gay.' He answered, 'All right then, I can't compete with that. We'll be friends!' He was very supportive, is a really great guy, and still a very close friend. If I had married a guy, he would have been the one."

Sharing This With Family and Friends

When asked what it's like to tell family and friends about this, Joan responded thoughtfully, "I think it's changed quite a bit. But I think in our generation, in order to come out, you had to be willing to risk losing your family and your friends." Indeed, their stories tell of friends who went their separate ways, but there were friends who did understand and were supportive. On a happier note, their families have been very loving and accepting, although at the outset, understandably, for many there was a period of concern for the girls' well being and future happiness. Would they be hurt or discriminated against?

Not long after Kellie's realization, as she describes it, "I didn't 'come' out of the closet, I was 'pulled' out of it." When out one evening with a large group of girlfriends,

her best friend asked her if she was gay. Here Joan interjects that "Coming out is a continual process. Anytime you meet somebody new, you have to do it."

For Joan, while dating the woman in college, it was voluntary. She said, "We told our best friend and that was fine. Things were weird, but fine. And then people on campus were talking a lot about it – a lot of gossipy speculation. So we decided to have a coming out party, because we figured the best way to get people to stop talking about it was to just acknowledge it." It turned out that most friends were accepting and asked many questions out of curiosity.

It was 2001 when Kellie and Joan were introduced to each other by a mutual friend. Family members and close friends were very supportive of their growing relationship. Soon after, Kellie decided to make a career move to California and Joan followed.

The Decision to Marry

While in California, it became clear that they wanted to strengthen their commitment to each other through marriage. Joan explained further, "For us the decision to be married had a lot to do with stability and lifetime commitment. We wanted to be true partners, not just for ourselves but for the world. I imagine it is similar for straight couples. There were also other issues in terms of health care decision making, finances, and legal issues. As an unmarried couple, my parents would have automatically been the next of kin and have all decision making rights. Being married removes that issue." That was 2004, the year after Massachusetts legalized samesex marriage, and since California had not yet taken this step, they decided to move back to Massachusetts to wed. Additionally, they were happy to live close to their families again. The wedding was a wonderful, joyful celebration shared by family and friends.

At Home in Westwood

Home is now the house Kellie grew up in where they've added on an in-law addition for Kellie's mother. Rounding out the family circle is Molly, a very sweet basset/labrador mix and Ninja, a short haired black cat. In answer to how they have been received in Westwood, they report that on all counts people have been great – the neighbors, folks at town hall, and contractors working on the house, have all been fine. It just hasn't been an issue. Living quietly here, blending in with the neighbors and townspeople, likely has helped render it a harmonious experience.

About the Labels – Gay and Straight

"I just wish that those two words didn't exist," offers Kellie. Joan sees it now as mostly a non-issue partly

Summer School at Hale Reservation

Hale Reservation is adding yet another agency to the list of organizations with whom they partner. This time it is the Boston Public Schools (BPS). This unique program, just recently dubbed HOLA (Hale Outdoor Learning Adventures), is a collaboration with BPS and the group, Boston After School and Beyond. The purpose is to address educational gaps by providing practical, experiential, or "hands on learning" opportunities to urban populations.

Research shows that all students learn at a similar pace while in school but during the summer, the opportunities for the urban students drop off dramatically compared to their suburban peers. Suburban students traditionally engage in more structured summer activities. Their urban counterparts, however, have fewer resources and each year they lose ground causing a wider gap in learning over time. Hale hopes the HOLA program will provide opportunities for growth and learning for urban students, helping to close that gap.

HOLA participants will engage in environmental science exploration, ropes course activities, journaling, map and compass adventures, and a wide variety of

outdoor learning exercises. They will also take part in Hale's newest initiative – the Floating Classroom – a pontoon boat where students will explore aquatic life and participate in data collection on Noanet Pond. These students will also have opportunities for more traditional camp activities like swimming, archery, and boating.

"The success of the program will be determined by outcomes measured over time but based on my years as an educator, I can't help but think the HOLA experience will be a positive one for the participants," said Hale's Executive Director, Eric Arnold. "We look forward to having the Boston students join us for the summer." •



Students of the HOLA program will participate in traditional and non-traditional, experiential activities.



A student explores the pond at Hale Reservation.

Rainbow Profiles - continued from page 12

because of where they are in their life experience. She says, "We're married, we have family responsibilities, we have a dog, we have laundry, professional jobs, a mortgage and bills. There's not a whole lot of room for drama around being gay." But both admit that since they have confided with those in their circle of family and friends, since they have established themselves in their professions and have a good home, they are feeling secure and at peace. The risk of rejection within their family circle at this point is very low.

Helpful Ideas For Supporting Understanding of this Aspect of Diversity

The message Joan and Kellie have to offer is primarily one of making the effort to understand and be kind. They point out that they didn't and wouldn't choose to be gay, that life would be a lot easier if they were straight. They emphasize valuing people for the good qualities that define them. They suggest that to help prevent unkind and harmful stereotypes about same-sex couples, reach children early on with books that tell of different kinds of non-traditional families – families not only headed by single parents, grandparents, or an aunt and uncle, but also two dads or two moms. Thinking of children in the context of what they like to play with, if there are unusual preferences, both recommend, "Be kind to your kids.

Don't freak out." Common expressions is another area to watch out for. They spoke of the phrase 'That's so gay!' – pointing out "that although it's more regularly used now in different contexts, it's always a put-down, always negative." They ask for sensitivity towards all those in our community who are gay and who might feel hurt by hearing such expressions.

"In the end, no matter what our differences in culture and beliefs, all people share many common core values," Kellie concludes and added, "While our differences are an important part of who we are, if we all spent as much time focusing on our similarities as on our differences, the world would be a much kinder, gentler, and understanding place."

Thinking of all this helps the interviewer to understand more of how much better a place our community and world would be to live in if we adopt Kellie and Joan's sentiment of liberating each other from stereotypes and just defining, valuing, validating, and supporting our fellow neighbors and citizens for the good they do. After all, if what Dr. King said is true that, "We are all tied together in a single garment of destiny," then it stands to reason that each improvement we make in how we view and act towards each other, each success we reach in judging each other in a positive light, is bound to help all of us reach the higher and more peaceable destination of "Good will toward men" and equitable co-habitation.



WESTWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

June 2011

page one

Dear Westwood Residents,

It is hard to believe that another school year is coming to a close. I am pleased to report that Westwood students continue to thrive, thanks in large part to the generous support of the community. Although recent



budgets have been lean, our public schools have a strong foundation that we build upon each year. I can say with conviction that Westwood students receive a first-class educational experience, and we continue to compete with the top districts in the Commonwealth. I look forward to another great year in 2011-2012, and as always, I thank you for your continued

support.

Deerfield School Students Shine on Stage

by Allan Cameron, Ph. D., Deerfield School Principal acameron@westwood.k12.ma.us

In late April the curtain went up on the annual Deerfield School 4th and 5th grade play. Fifty-eight of our 4th and 5th graders, a record-high number,



performed Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Jr., adapted from the Roald Dahl book Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. The play was about a humble boy who inherited a chocolate factory because he was honest. The students met after

school for months to practice their lines, learn songs, and build sets. They performed two shows for their

relatives, the staff, and the rest of the Deerfield students. There were many great songs and lots of laughs. I brought my daughter Annie, age 5, to the evening show. She loved the performance and on our way home said, "Daddy, I wish my school had a play!"



This wonderful production would not have happened without the work of many people. First, I



want to thank the student actors and stage crew. They worked hard to make the play a reality. I really enjoyed seeing them in action. I also want to thank the Deerfield PTO. Producing

a play is an expensive and time-consuming undertaking. We are very fortunate to have parents willing to support an elementary school play.

I am already excited to see what the students and our PTO parents produce next year!







WESTWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

June 2011

page two

Westwood Public Schools Capital Budget Overview

by Heath Petracca, Director of Business and Finance

I would like to present you with an overview of the capital budget process in order to provide you with a better understanding of the process and how the capital budget ultimately impacts our schools.

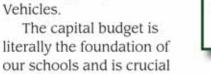
The Westwood Public School Department, along with all other departments in the town, develop a



five-year capital plan to address the capital needs of our facilities. This plan is updated each year as needs and priorities may change over time.

The plan itself consists of the following categories:

HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning), FF&E (Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment), Roofing, Repair and Maintenance, Technology, Copiers and Vehicles.



for supporting our educational system. In order to



maintain our facilities and equipment, often we have to anticipate what our needs will be in the future. We do this through our five-year capital plan. The development of the plan starts with the assessment of our facilities from our boilers to our roofs. This assessment takes place

annually where we have outside contractors monitor the condition of many of our systems and provide us



with feedback as to their life expectancy. From there we make decisions that will help prolong the life of the various systems within our buildings.

The Westwood community has been very supportive of the schools and our facilities over the

years. As with most budgets, there never seems to be enough to accomplish what is needed, especially in these tough financial times.

Over the past ten years there has been a shortfall in the capital budget that limits our ability to maintain the buildings and equipment to the level that the town deserves. With the shortfall in funding, priorities change as needs come up within the system.



For example, over this summer we are fortunate to be working on several of our roofs that need our attention that we have not been able to work on in recent years.

Consistently funding the capital budget is necessary for the proper maintenance of our



buildings and equipment, which in turn supports the high level of education for our students that we enjoy here in Westwood.

Thank you for your continued support of our school facilities.

WESTWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Summer 2011

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the library building project, the locations of some programs have been changed.

Sign up for the 2011 Collaborative Summer Reading Program

ONE WORLD, MANY STORIES

Begins on the last day of Westwood's Schools -June 22nd

Main Library Programs for Preschoolers

Bedtime Storytime – All ages July 12-Aug 16 Tuesdays, 7:00-7:30 p.m. **Location:** Main Library Meeting Room Registration will be required for this program.

Storytime – Ages 3 and up July 13-Aug 17 Wednesdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m. **Location:** Westwood's Temple Beth David 7 Clapboardtree Street Registration will be required for this program.

Babies & Books – Under 2 years with caregiver July 15-Aug 19 Fridays, 10:30-10:50 a.m. **Location:** Islington Branch Library Registration will be required for this program.

Special Programs at the Main Library

A Series of Fortunate Library Events

Celebrating our favorite stories:

A Look Back at The Life and Adventures of Harry Potter

July 11 Monday, 7:00-8:30 p.m. For readers of the *Harry Potter Series* **Location:** Main Library Meeting Room Registration will be required for this program.

Islington Branch Programs

Storytime – Ages 3 and up July 12- Aug 16 Tuesdays, 9:30-10:15 a.m. Registration will be required for this program

For additional summer programs, please call or visit the Main Library, the Branch library or www.westwoodlibrary.org

Westwood Main Library Teen Programs

The Art of Sketching – Grades 9-12 A Pastel Workshop with Greg Maichack Tuesday, 2:00-4:00 p.m. July 26 Location: Main Library Meeting Room As sign up is limited, registration is required.

For additional programs and further information, please call the Main Library Children's Department at 781-320-1042 or the Islington Branch Library at 781-326-5914 or visit the web site at www.westwoodlibrary.org

Calling any town organizations, any community endeavor activists: Your Stories, Events, News Items Wanted! The next quarterly newsletters are due to be delivered to homes on or about September 15, December 15, 2011 and January 15, Please submit articles for consideration 6 weeks prior to the expected delivery dates. Newsletter correspondence can be sent to: Diane Thornton, Editor, Westwood Community Newsletter, 580 High Street, Westwood, MA 02090 or email: newsletter@townhall.westwood.ma.us

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