



WESTWOOD

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Ogres and donkeys and dragons – Oh, my!

*Westwood High School to present 'Shrek the Musical'
March 13, 14, 15*

Saturday matinee offers convenient daytime option for families with young children

Westwood High School (WHS) announces this year's musical theatre production, *Shrek the Musical*, to be presented Thursday and Friday, March 13 and 14 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 15 at 2:00 and 7:30 p.m. in the school's auditorium at 200 Nahatan Street, Westwood, MA. Tickets are \$10.00 for children, students and seniors; adults \$15.00.

According to WHS drama teacher and *Shrek* director, Jim Howard, the cast of approximately 40 high school students has been rehearsing since mid-December, 2013, working on songs, dances and scenes, bringing excitement and enthusiasm to every rehearsal. In addition, the WHS technical theatre class has been building scenery, painting, and hanging stage lights in anticipation of what he says is sure to be one of the most memorable shows ever presented by Westwood High School.

Howard says the students cannot wait to perform the hilarious magical tale for their friends, families and neighbors. "Without a doubt, there is something in *Shrek the Musical* for everyone in the community, young and old," Howard said. "Between the three evening performances, plus the Saturday matinee that includes a character meet-and-greet after the performance, we're hoping everyone who wants to see the show can come out for it."

Based on *Shrek*, Dreamworks' popular 2001 movie, *Shrek the Musical* enjoyed extensive runs on both Broadway and in the West End of London. Theatre-goers familiar with the movie will see many of their favorite characters, and be introduced to new songs and dances created for the stage. The storyline remains the same.

When *Shrek*, the grouchy and reclusive ogre (played by WHS senior Bobby Brennan), sets out to take back

continued on page 15



Cast members readying for this fun production. Lots of hard work and laughs have gone into the preparation.



Children invited to mingle with characters after 2:00 PM matinee

Pre-sale tickets available March 1 and 8 from 9 AM - 12 noon in WHS Auditorium Lobby; remaining tickets available at the door day-of-show

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Did You Know...

- **Did you know** that it is time to plan for mosquito control for 2014? As you know, mosquito spraying is conducted in the summer months by request only, weather permitting. However, if you do not want your property sprayed you must notify the Westwood Town Clerk, 580 High Street, Westwood, MA 02090 in writing, with a copy to the Norfolk County Mosquito Control District, 61 Endicott Street, Building 34, Norwood, MA 02062, by March 1, 2014. The District does honor exclusion requests throughout the season. State law requires this notification, as well as a requirement to post your property.

The District is also preparing for the spring aerial application of the biological larvicide Bti to control mosquito larvae. Helicopter applications will be conducted in mid-April over specific large wetlands in Westwood and other communities within the county. Specific information and maps of the wetlands to be treated will be available on the website as spring approaches.

For more information please contact the Westwood Board of Health at mrc@townhall.westwood.ma.us or the Norfolk County Mosquito Control District's website at www.norfolkcountymosquito.org/ or call 781-762-3681.

Town Clerk

Important Dates from the Town Clerk's Office

- Monday, March 31, 2014 — Last day for residents to register their dog(s) for the 2014 licensing period.
 - Failure to do so will result in a \$50 fine.
 - Dog(s) 6 months and older must be licensed on an Annual basis.
- Wednesday, April 9, 2014 — Last day to register voters for Town Election and Town Meeting.
- Tuesday, April 29, 2014 — Annual Town Election, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Monday, May 5, 2014 — Annual Town Meeting.

If you have not returned the 2014 Census that was mailed to every household in early December, please do so. Failure to return the Census may affect your voter status.

Please contact the Town Clerk's office with any questions at 781-326-3964 or townclerk@townhall.westwood.ma.us

Please turn to page 12 for an informative article on Town Meeting Guidelines and protocol.

Your Pictures, Feedback, Stories, Events, Suggestions, News Items Wanted!

The next quarterly newsletters are due to be delivered to homes on or about June 15, September 15, and December 15, 2014. Please submit articles for consideration 6 weeks prior to these expected delivery dates. Please send any submissions, suggestions, observations, or feedback of any kind to:

Editor, Westwood Community Newsletter, 580 High Street, Westwood, MA 02090
or email: newsletter@townhall.westwood.ma.us

Department of Public Works

REVISIONS TO CEMETERY RULES & REGULATIONS

The Department of Public Works and the Cemetery Commission would like to announce revisions to the cemetery rules and regulations as well as updated fees and pricing. These changes have been approved by the Board of Selectmen and implemented on February 1, 2014.

The most important and significant changes is what is allowed at each gravesite. Safety, aesthetics, and neighboring lots being encroached upon by others were all major considerations in having these necessary revisions accepted. Lot owners will be allowed a planting bed of 18" in front of their upright monument ONLY. No shrubbery, trees, mounding, borders, mulching, or other decoration will be allowed including to the sides and backs of monuments. As spring approaches, we are asking lot owners or family members to have lots conform to these new regulations. The Cemetery Department will begin making these modifications to all cemetery lots as of July 1, 2014.

You can download a copy of the guide book with these changes from the town website at www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/ in the Cemetery Commission section under the Public Works tab. We will also have booklets in our office at 50 Carby St. If there are any questions on these changes please contact the cemetery department directly at:

Office: 781-320-1037

Fax: 781-320-1070

Email: dpw@townhall.westwood.ma.us

Or contact Brendan Ryan, Highway & Grounds Superintendent at 781-320-1038 (office) or bryan@townhall.westwood.ma.us (email).

Contributed by Brendan Ryan

Community Blood Drives

There are two opportunities to donate blood this Spring: Saturday, April 5th and Saturday, June 7th. Both Blood Drives will be held at the Westwood Masonic Building, 655 High Street (across from the new library) from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Individuals who are at least 17 years of age and are in generally good health and meet the weight and height requirement (110 pounds or more depending on height) are usually eligible. Contact the Red Cross at www.redcrossblood.org or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS for more information and to schedule an appointment. As usual, breakfast will be served, so bring a friend.

Contributed by Jeff Jarvis

A snapshot from the blood drive in October.

Breakfast is rumored to be worth it! Bring a friend and double the help you can give.



Finance and Warrant Commission

A Message from Chairman Marianne LeBlanc Cummings

As the Finance and Warrant Commission (Fincom) prepares for the 2014 Annual Town Meeting, I would like to invite Westwood residents to learn more about the role of the Commission and participate in our upcoming public hearing.

The Fincom is a fifteen member Commission whose members are appointed by the Town Moderator to serve three-year overlapping terms. In accordance with the Town Charter, the Commission:

- Considers all articles in Town Meeting Warrants and reports in print its advice, estimates, and recommendations to residents.
- Studies the financial and other affairs of the Town and advises with officers of the Town as to expenditures and recommendations for appropriations.

Preparations to address the articles and the two major budgets, municipal and school, actually commence in September each year. As a Commission, we educate new members through workshops and presentations made by various representatives in Town; monitor budgets approved at the previous Annual Town Meeting; and receive information on possible articles for the upcoming Town Meeting.

Beginning in January and continuing until early April, members of the Commission engage in a thorough review of all Town Meeting warrant articles. Each article sponsor comes before the Commission on at least two occasions and sometimes as often as four times to discuss their article.

The Fincom conducts two sets of public hearings devoted to discussing the important issues on which residents will vote at the May 5, 2014 Annual Town Meeting. These hearings are intended to provide residents the opportunity for public participation and input into matters facing our Town. At these meetings and during additional Fincom meetings, members of the Commission are apprised of the intent, background and details of each article. Through sponsor presentations, member questions and input received from the public, Commission members determine their position and formulate recommendations on the articles. Following public input, the Fincom may vote their recommendation(s) at the first public hearing or may do so at any of their regular meetings held during the month of March.

Our first public hearing was held on February 24th and 25th. The Fincom urges your participation at our final public hearing scheduled for March 24th and 25th at 7:30 p.m. at the library.

Contributed by Town Hall

Community Access Television

WestCAT Online

WestCAT.tv is your online source for streamed programming, news from the Executive Director, program schedules, upcoming Westwood events, contact forms, and membership information. WestCAT strongly encourages you to tinker around on WestCAT.tv and enjoy our presence on the web!

Information from <http://westcat.tv/>

Westwood Environmental Action Committee

Westwood Household Recycling Day – May 10, 2014

The Westwood Environmental Action Committee and the Department of Public Work (DPW) will hold a **Westwood Household Recycling Day** on Saturday, May 10, 2014, from 8 am to 12:30 pm at the DPW facility on Carby St. This is an opportunity for residents to clean their basements and attics and put their discarded materials to good use rather than in the trash. Materials that will be collected include:

- **Electronics** (anything electric). This year there will be **NO CHARGE** to recycle computers, monitors, televisions, or anything with a plug, thanks to **CRT Recycling of Brockton**. 
- **Large rigid plastics** such as patio chairs, toys, garbage cans, recycling bins, etc. will be recycled by **Waste Management, Inc.**
- **Textiles** including clothes, towels, sheets, shoes, purses, backpacks, stuffed animals, throw rugs, pillows, etc clean and dry, in any condition (ripped or stained ok) will be recycled by **Bay State Textiles**. Small toys will be reused (no games, puzzles or toys requiring batteries please). 
- **Bikes. Bikes not Bombs** will collect them for programs that provide skill development, jobs, and sustainable transportation. The group asks for a donation of \$10/bike to support the program. 
- **Tires. Hogan Tire** will accept for a charge of \$2 each.

Other items may be added, watch for announcements closer to the date.

Building materials, supplies and non-upholstered furniture may be accepted by **Habitat for Humanity ReStore** on Rt. 1A in West Roxbury 617-327-1170, or the Salvation Army on Rt. 1 in Norwood 781-440-0235.

Anything Metal Removal Service picks up **metal items** such as lawn mowers, appliances, and gym equipment at your home, most at no charge. Call 781-385-1404. (Please remove gas and oil, store safely and bring to the fall *Household Hazardous Waste collection.*)

For information on alternative disposal options for items not suitable for curbside trash and recycling, please go to www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/townofwestwood/file/2014-2015%20Recycling%20and%20Trash%20Guide.pdf.

Contributed by Claire (Sullivan) Galkowski



Youth and Family Services

Thank You to Holiday Giving Sponsors

A big thank you to the local businesses, groups and individuals who sponsored Westwood Youth & Family Services' 2013 Holiday Giving Program!

*The Staff and Families of the Barn Yard Child Care Center
Lucille Bailey and the Staff of Century 21 Commonwealth
The Staff and Patrons of Dedham Savings
Josepha Jowdy and the Staff of Keller Williams
Parents and Staff of the Tobin School
Karen Cagan and Mothers of 8th Grade Students
Westwood Girl Scouts, Girl Scout Troop 74302
Westwood Rotary*

Kris Blue

Judy Brown

Leslie Carver

Kris Ginsberg

Liz Holler

Kelly Honohan

Leslie Joseph

Kendall Family

Hania Khuri-Trapper

Kate Leary

Jenn Levering

Rachel Meltzer Lipton

Sara Michelmore Ortega

Alice Moore

Barbara Moore

Maya Plotkin

Erin Sibley

Ann Wood

Charlene Wood

The Holiday Giving Program, now in its thirteenth year, connects local sponsors with Westwood families in need of support during the holidays. Sponsors provide holiday gifts for children in a confidential program coordinated by the Youth & Family Services department.

This past November and December, 37 Westwood families and 69 children received support through Holiday Giving – a wonderful program that would not be possible without the generosity of our sponsors!

Thank you to all of our sponsors, and a special thank you to the children at the Tobin School who made beautiful cards that were included with the gifts for each family.

Contributed by Danielle Sutton

Community Newsletter Editor sought to begin with June 2014 issue.

If interested, please submit resume and expression of interest to:
Westwood Community Newsletter,
580 High Street, Westwood, MA 02090
or *email*: newsletter@townhall.westwood.ma.us

Dear Friends,

Sadly, I am stepping down as Editor of the Westwood Community Newsletter. I loved being a part of Westwood since the day I moved into town -- and I wanted my readers to become a part of it also! During the years that I have been the editor, my desire was to promote a heartfelt sense of community to readers -- to make sure residents felt involved in the town. "Good old-fashioned" town pride is here and growing, as is evidenced in town-wide events like Westwood Day, school ball games, parades, town meetings, and more. Town spirit is a good thing! Keep it going, Westwood!

Very fondly,

Diane Thornton

Recreation Department

Summer Fun with the Westwood Recreation Swim Team!



The Westwood Recreation Swim Team is part of the Summer Suburban Swim League including the towns of: Canton, Dedham, Framingham, Medfield, Millis, Natick, Needham, Newton, Norwood, Sherborn, and Walpole. This summer Westwood competes in eleven dual meets; seven meets in Westwood and four meets away; with a season-end Championship in Newton.



What could be better than swimming in the Westwood Pool for the summer?! The group in this picture is happy about it!

The goal of the summer team is to provide the opportunity for swimmers to develop and refine the four competitive strokes in a safe, supportive, and fun atmosphere. The coaching staff offers skills and drills to enhance the swimmers' progress, including corrective feedback, with emphasis on speed and endurance. Whether a seasoned swimmer, or just embarking upon the sport, this program will meet your needs. Practices are divided by age group and then by ability.

Additionally, being a member of the team provides the opportunity to make friendships, develop sportsmanship and encourage physical well-being. If you are considering joining the team for the first time, please contact Susan Perry, Aquatics Manager, at sperry@townhall.westwood.ma.us to set up a pre-season evaluation. This evaluation confirms that your swimmer is safe to participate in swim team.

If you are spending the summer in Westwood, joining the swim team makes available the chance to meet with friends in a healthy and positive environment. The swim practices and meets occur from 5 to 7 p.m., Monday through Thursday; a great way to ensure physical activity and face-to-face socialization. There are no practices on Fridays or the weekends to accommodate families who may have weekend plans.

Come by the Westwood Pool on March 15th, 2014, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for our celebration of **March Into Summer**, a preview of our summer programs. Meet with the swim team coaches, pick up a meet schedule, and learn more about the benefits of joining the *Westwood Summer Swim Team*. In a relaxed atmosphere, the summer swim season is a great opportunity to experience the world of competitive swimming.

Adult Basketball League

Westwood Recreation's *Adult Basketball League* has scored a busy winter season with the league growing to ten teams, while three other teams had to be turned away due to a lack of gym space. The Kehillah Schechter Academy in Norwood is now being rented on Monday nights in order to help facilitate the overwhelming interest in this program offering.

For those who might have an eye out for a summer league, there is one currently being planned that will take place at the Morrison Park Basketball Court. Details will be posted in May at www.westwoodrec.com/ as they develop. Check in soon!

Contributed by Westwood Recreation Department



March into Summer



SUMMER KICK OFF - OPEN HOUSE

- Swimming • Inflatables • Photo Booth • Sports
- Information Booths • Snack Bar

Saturday, March 15, 10:00-2:00

Recreation Department

All Ages Welcome – Free

Event Sponsored by



10% discount off summer programs paid in full

On Line Registration: March 15-19 • www.westwoodrec.com

Walk In Registration: Westwood Recreation March 15, 10-2 and March 17-19 during office hours

Clapboardtree Nursery School

Clapboardtree Nursery School Collaborates with WHS

Clapboardtree Nursery School (CNS) is teaming up with a new group at Westwood High School (WHS). WHS has developed a new Early Childhood Education course. The inspiration for this course originated with WHS Principal Sean Bevan and Guidance Director Lynne Medsker, who identified a large number of WHS students interested in teaching young children. This Early Childhood Education class provides the perfect opportunity for high school students to both take a challenging course and have the opportunity to work with young children in the community. WHS determined that the Social Studies department was the best fit for creating the class. Brian Shuman, teacher of the Early Childhood Education course, conveyed that he and his class were thrilled when Clapboardtree Nursery School expressed an interest in collaborating with WHS students.

This year's Early Childhood Education course is made up of 19 exceptional high school students who love working with the children at CNS. In their course, the enrolled WHS students learn about various theories of child development as well as best practices in the teaching and learning of young children. Several of the enrolled students volunteer at CNS once or twice a week. One of the highlights of the first semester involved the enrolled students creating their own children's books and sharing with the preschool students at CNS.

According to both Mr. Shuman and Kris Blue, CNS Director, this first year of collaboration between the WHS Early Childhood Education program and the Clapboardtree Nursery School has led to wonderful and positive experiences for all the students, both younger and older!

Contributed by Katie Gavin



*Top left:
Katie Blue (WHS),
Bianca Gennari and Cassidy McMillin (CNS)*
*Top right:
Alison Giovino (WHS) CNS morning class*
*Center bottom:
Dominic Giugliano (WHS),
Matthew Layden and Thomas Whelan (CNS)*

Dedham Savings

How to Talk to Your Children about Money

To celebrate Financial Literacy month (April), Dedham Savings is working with Janet Lucey, the Westwood Early Childhood Director. These two organizations are collaborating to offer a free presentation to the public on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at the newly constructed Westwood Library. The topic for the presentation will be “How to Talk to Your Children about Money.” This will be an interactive presentation and those that attend will leave with some helpful resources to approach an



oftentimes difficult topic. This is the second year that Dedham Savings has collaborated with the Early Childhood Council. Childcare will be provided. Please register online at <http://www.westwood.k12.ma.us/index.cfm?pid=14678> or contact Janet Lucey at (781) 461-9548.

Contributed by Laura Macs

Westwood Young Women's Club

The Westwood Young Women's Club will be hosting an *Egg Hunt* on Sunday, April 13th at the high school during the Rotary Club's breakfast with the Easter Bunny! The hunt will begin at 11:15 a.m. Please have your child bring their Easter Basket!



The club is also hosting *Westwood Touch-A-Truck 2014!* Bring your family and join us on Saturday, June 21st, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Westwood High School parking lot and get up close to a number of trucks! This year, we also have a 4H Club petting zoo, games, face painting and an obstacle course!

Details for all our events are posted in our new and improved website – wywc.org – and on our Facebook page!

The club meets on the first Wednesday of each month, and we are happy to welcome any new members who are interested in joining! See our website for more details!

Contributed by Jamy Sesselman

Foundation for Westwood Education

Your Donations at Work

Can you spell prodigious? We're sure that all of the 3rd, 4th and 5th graders who participated in the 18th annual Elementary Spelling Bee can. The bee, which is put on each year by the Foundation for Westwood Education, was held this year on January 10th. Over 275 students participated. These students were so well prepared that teams in some rounds correctly spelled over thirty words before one could be declared the winner. Moderators Sean Bevan, principal of the High School, and Allison Borchers, principal of the Thurston Middle School, turned to auxiliary lists of spelling words to stump the 4th and 5th grade finalists. Superintendent John Antonucci ultimately called a draw for the 3rd grade bee after the students spelled so many words correctly that it was clear they could have gone on all night! It was a fun and energetic evening, for which the students clearly studied hard. They should be proud of their efforts!

The Spelling Bee is always a fun event for the Foundation organizers, because it provides a chance for us to see first hand many of the students in town whom we hope the Foundation's educational grants are assisting. Seeing the students' enthusiasm – and watching their older siblings, parents and grandparents in the audience spelling along to see if they can keep up – is a great reminder that we all enjoy learning and challenging ourselves, whether we are 7 or 70. It is in this spirit that the Foundation carries out its work to support and sponsor educational programs that will benefit Westwood residents of all ages.

In November and December, through the generosity of donations from Westwood residents, the Foundation was able to award 14 new grants to fund programs across the town, and to sponsor two lecture series at the Senior Center. Some of the new grants awarded included:

- **One World at the Public Library**, a series of three multicultural awareness programs at the library allowing children will actively engage with and explore different cultures while learning about the diversity of backgrounds in our own town



- **Visit to Columbia Teachers College for Westwood Teachers**, an opportunity for elementary public school teachers to attend a day of workshops geared to raising the level of instruction and inspiring use of new ideas
- **Westwood Jazz Night Workshops**, an opportunity for middle and high school students to have clinics with professional musicians before performing with them at the annual Westwood Jazz Night
 - **Building Bridges**, a chance for children in the integrated pre-school to learn cooperation and introductory engineering concepts by working together to build a bridge they can actually cross themselves

The Foundation awarded another round of grants in February (finalists were not announced as of the date of this publication – look for information in June!), and will be considering grant applications again in April. The deadline to apply for the April grant cycle is April 1st, and unlike the process for grant applications in November and February, there is no set limit for the amount of funding requested. We are excited to hear your ideas for innovative, inspiring, or unique educational opportunities geared to any age group. Applicants can visit the Foundation's website at www.foundationforwestwoodeducation.org for more information.

The Foundation depends on the continued generosity of Westwood residents to be able to fund these outstanding grants. We wish to thank the many generous residents and local businesses who have donated nearly \$30,000 toward our goal of funding \$80,000 in educational programs this year. We are still collecting contributions for our Annual Fund drive and are looking forward to our Entertaining for Education Appeal. During the month of March, party hosts and guests get together to socialize and make contributions to support the Foundation. We would welcome any contribution you are able to make. Contributions may be made by visiting our website at www.foundationforwestwoodeducation.org or by mailing a donation to Foundation for Westwood Education, PO Box 2507, Westwood, MA 02090.

Contributed by Amy Barnett

Early Childhood Office

The Westwood Early Childhood Office serves families and children from birth through school age. This program provides parent education, educator support, assistance with family needs, community collaboration and early literacy programs. Families can access child development information, parent/child activity sessions, resources and referrals, transition information and supports, and assistance in periods of crisis. We are funded by the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Grant: MA Department of Early Education and Care and the Westwood Public Schools.

We welcome you to join us at our upcoming events and programs. For more information and registration go to <http://www.westwood.k12.ma.us/index.cfm?pid=14678>



SPRING EVENTS

Westwood Connections
Celebrating Family Diversity
 Saturday, March 22, 2014
 10:30 – 12:00 pm
 Westwood Main Public Library
 All families are unique!



Painless Portraits” by Lisa Hull
Individual and/or Family Photos
 May 17 and 18, 2014
 9:30 – 3:00 pm
 Annual Fundraising Event



Making “Cents”
 Tuesday, April 8, 2014
 6:30-8:00 pm
 Westwood Main Public Library
 Co-sponsored with the Dedham Savings Bank
 Learn how to teach your children about money.



Kids at Play-Brains at Work
 Sunday, April 6, 2014
 3:00-5:00pm
 Westwood Main Public Library
 Community Resources that help
 children learn.



MONTHLY PARENT/CHILD PROGRAMS

Families With Infants
 Celebrate Reading
 Family Playgroup
 Toddler Active Playtime
 Musical Mondays

Let’s Dance
 Little Yogis
 Walk Talk And Read
 Saturday Active Gym Play

Brain Building in Progress

The Department of Early Education and Care and the United Way are launching a campaign to encourage interactive learning. Whenever you see children interacting and learning in enriching environments, what you’re really seeing is brain building in progress. The latest science shows that these early experiences actually build the architecture of the developing brain; much like a house is built from the bottom up. Each sequential step lays the groundwork for the next set of skills – like reading and math – and a lifetime of learning, success and productive, responsible citizenship. Learn more at brainbuildinginprogress.org,

The Early Childhood Council invites all families with young children to Kids at Play – Brains at Work on Sunday, April 6, 2014 from 3:00- 5:00 pm at the Westwood Main Public Library. As a community wide effort, Westwood early childhood programs, town departments and local businesses will engage children in creative crafts, games and fun activities to stimulate developing brains. Join us for resources and give-aways! If you are a Westwood town department or organization interested in hosting a table, please contact Janet Lucey , Early Childhood Coordinator for more information at (781)461-9548 / jlucey@westwood.k12.ma.us.

Stay tuned for STEM...coming this spring!

Join us for action packed, child focused family workshops incorporating Science Technology Engineering and Math! Share a love of observation and exploration with your children. Dates TBD

Contributed by Janet Lucey

Hale Reservation

Hale Reservation well represented in the 2014 Boston Marathon



Hale Reservation will have several people with Westwood connections running in the 2014 Boston Marathon.

Hale Reservation is excited to be part of the Boston Marathon Charity Program once again this year. In 2013, Hale was selected among a very competitive pool of non-profit applicants looking to obtain the coveted invitational entries for the world's oldest continuous marathon.

Fifteen runners were selected and the inaugural team was formed. Each runner trained for months and raised much needed funds supporting campers at Hale Reservation. With five runners through, Paula McLaughlin, Hale's Director of Development and Public Relations, waited at the Finish Line for the rest of the Hale Team and then the unthinkable happened. Though none of the Hale Team was physically hurt in the explosions that will forever change the Boston Marathon, they will never forget what went on that otherwise beautiful Monday afternoon.

"Ten of our runners did not finish. They worked so hard and most were very close, it was a shame. But the BAA recognized the importance of finishing what was started and gave every runner in

that situation the chance to run again. As a result, we have an even bigger and much more determined team this year," said McLaughlin.

The 2014 team is well represented by Westwood. Jack Wiggin, Jordan Warshaw, Rob Malster were all members of the 2013 team who did not finish but will run in honor of Hale Reservation. Locals Liz Ahearn, Alec Bleday, John Brennan, Qian Ma, Kristin Sementelli and Mark Walter are new members for 2014 with Westwood roots. In addition, Westwood High School's Assistant Principal, Brian Harrigan is also running as part of the Hale Team.

Jack Wiggin was about a half mile shy of the finish when he was stopped by officials and told the marathon was over. Wiggin says he is running again for two reasons, "I can use the opportunity to raise more money for Hale and it was disappointing after training and running almost all of the race not to complete it, so I'll give it another try."

Growing up in Westwood, Wiggin has been an active visitor for Hale for his whole life and is a past president having served on the Board of Directors. For Wiggin, the fundraising and training are a labor of love although he admits that the training was a challenge, joking that "getting prepared to run 26 miles requires several months of consistent and increasingly longer training runs and it takes its toll on an aging body."

Wiggin is really looking forward to the crowd that will be watching this year's event. "I anticipate that it will be particularly large and enthusiastic as a tribute to the people and families affected by the bombings at last year's race. I look forward to being part of that day," said Wiggin.

To find out more about Hale Reservation, visit www.halereservation.org/. To support any of the Marathon Runner's for Hale visit <http://www.razoo.com/story/Hale-Reservation/>.

Contributed by Paula McLaughlin

Music Festival Performers

Local students selected

The Eastern Junior District Festival auditions were held on Saturday, February 1, 2014 at Needham High School. The objective as listed on their website: "The Eastern Junior and Senior District Festivals are extensions of school music programs and designed to offer students in public, private, and parochial schools additional opportunities to rehearse and perform challenging literature with guest conductors." Each student had to prepare a piece of music, perform a music scale, and sightread. Students in grades 7, 8, and 9 in 30 towns and cities competed for a spot in the festival groups. Over 30 students were selected by Dr. Allison Sanders and Mrs. Diana Grace Legere to represent Thurston Middle School at the auditions. Westwood High School 9th grade students also attended the festival auditions. The following students were selected to perform at this year's festival:

Nani Doursounian, Alto - Treble Chorus
 Emily Foscaldo, Soprano - Treble Chorus
 Emma Harte, Flute - Band
 Shelly Hed, Alto - Mixed Chorus
 Michael Lahiff, Baritone Sax - Jazz Band
 Miranda Luiz, Trumpet - Orchestra
 Kelly McGucken, French Horn - Band
 Jordan Mitchell, Alto - Mixed Chorus
 Zane Rahabi, Euphonium - Band
 Noah Stone, Clarinet, Orchestra
 Jamie Vaccaro, Cello - Orchestra
 Amy Tang, Violin - Orchestra
 Rose Kearns, Soprano- Treble Chorus

The Festival will take place on Saturday March 29, 2014 at Lincoln Sudbury High School.

Contributed by Diana Legere



2013 Youth Winner

Sponsors
 North Walpole Fish and Game
 Westwood Permanent Firefighters Local 1994

**Westwood
 Recreation**

FISHING DERBY

IT'S A "REEL" GOOD TIME!

**SATURDAY, MAY 10
 7:00-11:00 AM
 BUCKMASTER POND**

Youth Division: Free: Ages 15 & Under
Prizes will be awarded. Participants must bring their own poles.

Adult Division: Fee: \$10. Ages 16 & Older
 Prize will be awarded for the largest fish caught. Adults must obey all Massachusetts Fish & Game regulations. Adults are to register at Buckmaster Pond on the day of event.

Concession Stand:
 Coffee, donuts, soda, hot dogs and worms!!!



St. John's Nursery School

Upcoming Children's Concert to benefit St. John's Nursery School

Come out for a jumpin' good time! On Saturday, March 15th, *Vanessa Trien and the Jumping Monkeys* will play two shows (9:30 am and 11 am) to benefit St. John's Nursery School. The performances will take place at the Sheehan School, 549 Pond St. in Westwood, MA. Vanessa Trien is a Boston-based children's performer with a national following. She has performed at concerts across the country, including a major performance at Earthfest in Boston last year. With two award-winning CD's, 'Carnival Day' and 'Hot Air Balloon,' under her belt, Vanessa Trien is a star on the rise.

According to a reviewer on BostonChildrensMusic.com, "Vanessa's shows are perfect. It's hard to explain and I can't quite put my finger on what it is they do differently, but whatever it is, it really gets the kids (and parents) excited!" That makes this concert the perfect opportunity to come judge for yourself!

Tickets are \$8 in advance (children under 1 are free) and are available by contacting St. John's Nursery School at concert@stjohnsnursery.org or (781) 329-2032. Tickets can also be purchased at the door for \$10, but they may sell out, so prior purchase is recommended. With help from the support of our sponsors, Dedham Savings Bank and Hammond Residential Realty, all proceeds from this event help support enrichment and educational opportunities for the students of St. John's Nursery School.

St. John's Nursery School is a NAEYC (www.naeyc.org) accredited pre-school, established to meet the needs of the three-



year-old nursery school child. St. John's has served young children for over thirty-five years in Westwood, MA. A curriculum has been set up to provide a diverse, creative learning experience catering to the child's developmental level. The program follows a structured plan while leaving room for flexibility that allows the children to be creative and explore many materials within an enriching, literacy-based environment. Children grow into relationships with peers while subtly directed by an attentive and dedicated staff. The curriculum is designed to help each child develop emotionally, physically, intellectually and socially in a caring environment. Each child is accepted as an individual and is encouraged to grow with independence, self-assurance, and self-esteem.



To learn more about St. John's Nursery School visit <http://www.stjohnsnursery.org/> or call (781) 329-2032. For more information about *Vanessa Trien and the Jumping Monkeys* visit their website at www.vanessatrien.com.

Contributed by Kathleen Casiero

Rotary Club of Westwood

What international organization, through its local clubs, conducts international cultural, vocational, educational exchanges for young professional people?



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Business men and women of The Rotary Club of Westwood meet Tuesdays from 12:15 to 1:30 at the Holiday Inn in Dedham. The meetings include lunch, conversation, and an interesting speaker. To arrange a visit, to learn more about Rotary, or to speak at an upcoming meeting, contact Mike Razza at stxx@aol.com or Becky Schofield at (781) 329-0216. The Rotary Club of Westwood has just welcomed two new members, John Gould and Dottie Powers, and the club looks forward to meeting you. Come join us!

Contributed by Laura Macs

Upcoming Rotary Events

PANCAKE BREAKFAST With The Easter Bunny



ROTARY CLUB
OF WESTWOOD

SUNDAY, April 13, 2014
8 AM – NOON
WESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

**Come and have breakfast with the
Easter Bunny and friends**

Music by Jeannie Mack from 9:30-11:00
Sponsored by Dedham Savings

Bring Your Camera!
\$5.00 per person
Children under 3 Free!



SPRING FALL CLEANING SAVE THE DATE

MAY 3, 2014

RECYCLE YOUR JUNK!

Sponsored by Rotary Club of Westwood

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2014

First Baptist Church

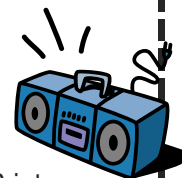
808 High Street, Westwood

9:00 am - 2:00 pm



BRING ANYTHING THAT PLUGS IN:

TVs, Computers, Monitors,
Cell Phones, Lamps, Small Appliances, Printers,
Metal items, Lawn Mowers, Snow Blowers (no fluids)



AND OTHER ITEMS:

Plastic items: Toys, Furniture
Vehicle batteries: Cars, Boats, R.V.s
Appliances: Washers, Dryers, Microwaves,
Refrigerators, A.C. Units

NOTE: \$30.00 per Car or Pick-up Truck

***** TVs - \$.50 per pound • Computer Monitors - \$12.00 *****

Proceeds are used to support the club's
projects and scholarships.
www.westwoodrotary.com

**FREE SHREDDING SPONSORED BY DEDHAM SAVINGS
WILL BE PROVIDED FROM 9-12**

Project Update from the Town of Westwood



UNIVERSITY STATION



Since the Town Meeting approval, the University Station Project has been completing the onsite infrastructure improvements including the installation of site utilities and relocation of Rosemont Road. The core retail and residential building pads have been prepared, which involved a significant amount of blasting and leveling of the construction area. Building Permits are now being applied for and vertical construction of the Hanover Residential units and the core retail including Wegmans and Target are expected to begin once snow has cleared.

Two additional components have been added to the first phase of construction. On December 17, 2013, the Planning Board issued its approval for the Life Time Fitness, an upscale fitness facility that includes a three-story building with approximately 125,643 sq. ft. of floor area. This establishment will be used for fitness, training, sports, educational, and personal services activities, and will include indoor and outdoor swimming pools. This portion of the proposed development will include surface parking for 568 cars and 16 bicycles.

On January 28, 2014, the Planning Board issued its approval for Bridges by Epoch Assisted Care facility which is a two-story building measuring approximately 32' in height with approximately 61,000 sq. ft. of floor area, for use as 64 memory care assisted living apartments. This development will consist of four identical wings that will include resident apartments and shared

dining areas, libraries, living rooms and activity areas, and a central core that will include a kitchen, administrative offices and shared amenities such as a lobby and main activity room. The proposed development will include 65 parking spaces adjacent to the building with access to and from University Avenue.

In addition to the vertical construction of the buildings, three roadway construction projects will begin in the next construction season.

- The state will begin construction of the new Blue Hill Drive off-ramp from I-95 south and the University Avenue intersection. This construction project is designed to accommodate the expected increase the traffic coming off of I-95 to the development and MBTA/Amtrak parking garage and station and includes an extension to the sound wall. Blue Hill Drive will be dead ended just west of the off-ramp.
- The state has awarded the Town of Westwood a \$5.5 million MassWORKS grant for the reconstruction of the intersection of University Avenue / Canton Street / Dedham Street. The reconstruction of this intersection will widen each of the approaches in order to accommodate dedicated turning lanes so that the intersection can more efficiently handle an increase in capacity.
- The developer and the state are finalizing the I-Cubed funding of the widening and signalization of University Avenue, the main roadway serving the new development. The roadway will be widened to two lanes in each direction and include the installation of traffic signals at the intersection of Harvard Street and University Avenue as well as upgrading the signals at the intersection of Rosemont Road and University Avenue. NStar has committed to installing a new gas main and upgraded shut-off valve system along the entire length of University Avenue, improving its gas service to the area.



Wegman's and Target

At the time of the preparation of this update, the Norfolk County Commissioners had conducted one of two public hearings to consider the proposed traffic calming measures on Everett and Canton Streets, which are county roadways. If this proceeds as projected, the County Commissioners will issue its approval for these traffic calming measures and the Town will begin testing each of the proposed measures before beginning construction in the summer.

The first phase of the proposed University Station project is expected to remain in construction through the Spring of 2015 when it is expected that occupancy permits will begin to be issued as various aspects of the project are completed.

The Town and developer will continue to work closely with each other to encourage and support any proposed office and retail development for the future phases of this project. Currently, half of the project has been approved for construction.

For more details please visit www.townhall.westwood.ma.us and click on University Station Info – Construction Updates.

Citizen's Guide to Westwood Open Town Meeting

A Review of Annual Town Meeting Basics

(previously published in the March 2010 Westwood Community Newsletter)

Westwood is governed by Open Town Meeting. The essential feature of open town meeting government which sets it apart from all other forms of local government is that all registered voters of the town are entitled to vote on all issues which are presented at town meeting. In the early years of town meeting government, attendance was mandatory and fines were levied for non-attendance. Today, attendance at an Open Town

Meeting is a matter of the voter's personal decision. Open Town Meeting is the oldest existing form of direct popular government having continuously served its citizens for some 350 years. The Town Meeting remains the purest form of democracy. It is only practiced by communities in New England. The registered voters of Westwood act as the Legislature for the community and vote on applicable issues put before them for decision. It has the two basic powers of a legislature: the power to adopt laws (general and zoning bylaws) and the power to appropriate money. These issues are important – the input of the citizenry is essential. Do your part, attend and participate in Town Meeting.

The Annual Westwood Town Meeting will be held on Monday May 5, 2014 at 7:30 p.m., in the Auditorium of Westwood High School. Per town by-laws, Town Meeting is always held on the first Monday in May.

Town Meeting Basics

Admission to Meeting

At a Town Meeting held for the transaction of Town business, the only persons eligible to vote are those whose names appear on the current voting rolls of the Town. The Moderator has authority to exclude or remove a person who is not eligible to be admitted to the floor of Town Meeting.

Attendance by Non-Voters

The Moderator can admit to a Town Meeting a media representative or any person whose knowledge, in the opinion of the Moderator, can assist the voters in achieving a better understanding of a question before the Meeting. Visitors, observers and the media will be seated in a specially designated area.

Order and Decorum

The Moderator (an elected official) has the duty and responsibility to preserve order and decorum in a Town Meeting. Regarding parliamentary procedure, the Moderator conducts and controls Town Meeting by using and enforcing existing Town by-laws, the rules contained in Town Meeting Time and officially recognized parliamentary procedures and techniques.

Quorum

One hundred seventy five (175) voters constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at Westwood Town Meeting.

What is a Warrant?

The Selectmen shall issue a warrant stating the time and place for the town meeting and the subjects (warrant articles) to be addressed. The warrant shall be posted at least seven 7 days before the Annual Town Meeting, by a Constable stating the time, place and subject of Town Meeting, on not less than four bulletin boards erected in Town and in at least 8 other public places equally distributed among the four precincts.

The warrant must contain all subjects to be acted upon at Town Meeting. The Selectmen may, at their discretion, include in the annual Town Meeting warrant any articles submitted to them. Such articles are usually by the various boards, officers, or committees of the town or by the Selectmen themselves.

What is a Petition/Citizen article for a Warrant?

The Select Board shall insert in the Annual Town Meeting warrant, any petition/citizen articles requested in writing by ten (10) or more registered voters, per Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 39, Section 10. The petition must include the text of the article, the signatures of the petitioners together with their residence including street and number, if any. Wording and format can be reviewed with Town Counsel to ensure that form and intent are met. The petition must be submitted by the Selectmen to the board of registrars for certification of signatures



Citizen's Guide to Westwood Open Town Meeting ***(continued from previous page)***



Order of Articles

The Moderator shall present to Town Meeting the articles in the warrant in the order in which the articles appear in the warrant.

Speaker Identification

A person who wishes to speak at a Town Meeting addresses the Moderator, and identifies themselves by name and address. The Moderator is authorized to refer to a person by name for the purpose of identification or recognition; other than this instance, no person can refer to another person by name in a Town Meeting.

Debate Question

To ask another Town Meeting voter a question relating to debate, that question must be put to/through the Moderator.

What is a Motion?

A motion is presented by a Town Meeting member from the floor and is used to initiate debate/discussion or a course of action. The Moderator shall put all motions in the order in which they are moved, unless a specific motion is previous in its nature. Regarding motions, the initial vote pertains to the motion upon the article; not the contents of and decision on that warrant article in question.

Key Players and Their Roles at Town Meeting

All boards committees and officials should be present at Town Meeting; however, any person's absence will not invalidate the action taken by the voters at the meeting.

Town Moderator

The Town Moderator is elected annually. According to state law, the Moderator presides over and regulates the proceedings at Town Meetings. He decides all questions of order, and makes public declaration of all "votes." Another very important task assigned to the Moderator is the appointment of the members of the Town Finance Committee.

Town Clerk

The Town Clerk is the chief election official, custodian of the Town's records and recording secretary of the meeting. She is elected every three (3) years. A record of all votes and transactions of the town meeting as announced by the Moderator, are kept by the Town Clerk. The Town Clerks record is the only official record of a town meeting vote. All information pertaining to Town Meeting is kept in the Town Clerks office and is accessible to the general public upon their request.

Finance Committee

Some months before Annual Town Meeting in May, town officers, department heads, and boards, each prepare separate operating and capital budgets for submission to the Finance Committee. This body's function is to examine items in the department budgets; they then recommend acceptance, reduction, postponement, or elimination. The Finance Committee will endorse the amended general budget which includes all projected operating expenses. The Finance Committee makes a general report to Town Meeting explaining why they recommend or do not recommend action on the article.

Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen prepare the warrant for the Town Meeting, and are available at Town Meeting to explain and answer questions concerning the various articles inserted by them in the warrant.

Town Counsel

The Town Counsel is available to answer questions concerning legal matters which may arise during the course of the Town Meeting.

If you have any questions regarding the specific procedures employed by the town, please contact the Town Clerk, Dottie Powers at 781-326-3964 or Town Moderator, Anthony Antonellis at 781-326-4172 or visit the town website at www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/.

This guide is not intended to be an all inclusive text, but a broad overview designed to encourage you to find out more and attend your own Town Meeting.

Transition Resource Fair

BUILDING BRIDGES to the ADULT COMMUNITY



Join the Westwood Public Schools, the Westwood Special Education Parents Advisory Committee and the Westwood Commission on Disability for a Transition Resource Fair.

Building Bridges to the Adult Community

April 30, 2014

Thurston Middle School Gym, 850 High Street, Westwood

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

The resource fair will provide valuable information for parents and students. The evening will bring together representatives of services and programs for students transitioning out of special education into the larger adult community.



The event is provided as a public service and is co-sponsored by the Westwood Public Schools, the Westwood SEPAC and the Westwood Commission on Disability

Shrek the Musical continued from p. 1

his swamp from unwanted visitors, he has no idea what is in store for him. Shrek meets a spirited talking donkey (Linnea Thomas) who becomes his best friend. Together, they set out to rescue Princess Fiona (Halley Husted) from a remote castle guarded by a fierce fire-breathing dragon. Shrek reluctantly befriends a motley group of misfit fairy tale characters, defeats the evil Prince Farquaad (Colin Burke) and ends up finding true love in a surprising and most unlikely character.



With heartwarming songs, a lovable cast of characters, and plenty of laughs to go around, Shrek the Musical is sure to be a local family favorite.

“At its core, the show is about people who, when they get left out and excluded for being different, find pride in who they really are,” Howard explained. “These characters boldly celebrate being different. The audience will undoubtedly sympathize with the colorful outcasts, and they will celebrate with them when they triumph in the end. This show is about community. It is a great piece of theatre for all to come and see.”

In addition to Jim Howard, WHS music teacher, Robert Goldman is serving as music director. Choreography is by Jenna Leavitt. Costumes are designed and created by Susan Costanza.

For more information about showtimes, ticket sales, cast members, etc., follow ‘Shrek the Musical at Westwood High’ on Facebook.

Contributed by Maryann Wattendorf

Encounters with the Arts — Thursday, March 27, 2014

Students at Westwood High School have begun preparing for “*Encounters with the Arts*,” an Open House of Art, Theatre and Music, which will take place on Thursday, March 27th from 7:00 - 9:00 PM. This event will mark the 20th annual celebration of arts achievement at Westwood High School.

March is National Youth Art Month, Music in our Schools Month, as well as Theatre in Our Schools Month. These observances are on full display during the Encounters with the Arts night. The program will showcase various music and theatre performances as well as an expansive visual arts exhibition.

Admission will be free, and all performances and exhibitions will take place in the Visual & Performing Arts wing at the high school.

This is a wonderful opportunity for students to share their talent and creativity with the community. It is also a perfect opportunity for middle school students and parents to observe the wide array of elective opportunities available to them at high school.

For additional information, please contact:

Heather Cote, K-12 Director of Performing Arts
hcote@westwood.k12.ma.us
(781) 326-7500 X4368

Katie Thurston, K-12 Director of Art
kthurston@westwood.k12.ma.us
(781) 326-7500 X4382

Contributed by Katie Thurston

Westwood's American Legion Post 320

Westwood's American Legion Post 320 would like to welcome home all returning service members and extend a sincere thank you to all those who have served, and those still serving, especially those serving in harm's way.

The Westwood American Legion invites all veterans to join us as a member and attend our regular monthly meetings. Meetings are usually held the first Monday of the month at our post, located at 90 Deerfield Avenue, from the months of September through July. Annual membership dues are \$25.00. Membership is open to all those who have served honorably for the following dates, as set by the US Congress:

Eligibility Requirements

Dec. 7, 1941 to Dec. 31, 1946 (World War II)

June 25, 1950 to Jan. 31, 1955 (Korean War)

Feb. 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975 (Vietnam War)

Aug. 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984 (Lebanon/Grenada)

Dec. 20, 1989 to Jan. 31, 1990 (Panama)

Aug. 2, 1990 to today (Gulf War/War On Terrorism)

We invite all members of the Westwood community to learn about and take advantage of the America Legion's Community Programs, which are open to boys and girls who either live in Westwood or attend school in Westwood (Westwood HS or Xaverian Brothers) which include:

- Boys and Girls State
- American Legion Baseball: boys under 19 – there is a Senior Team and a Junior team.
- Student Trooper
- National Oratorical

To find out more about membership, our monthly meetings or any of the American Legion's community programs check out our web site at www.Westwoodalpost320.com

Contributed by Ken Foscaldo, Executive Board, Westwood Post 320

Library Programming continued from p. 20

MORE WESTWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Programs for Spring 2014

April Vacation 2014 is WESTWOOD LIBRARY'S MINI COMIC-CON

Calling all kid fantasists, gamers, comic book lovers, and superhero fans! This April vacation come to the children's department and meet up with other enthusiasts and show off your passion for your favorite books, shows, and comics! All ages included—there's something for everybody.

Superhero Storytime: For children ages 3-5. Join us for a special storytime featuring superhero stories. It is sure to be a super time! Costumes encouraged.

Monday, April 21st, 11:00-11:30 a.m.

DROP IN PROGRAM, no registration necessary.

Crafternoon: Superhero Edition: For all ages. Come by the Children's Department for some great super hero crafts! We will have plenty of cool crafts to outfit any hero: masks, capes, cuffs, and so much more. Design and make up your very own Hero persona. First come, first served basis. Come while supplies last. Drop in Program, no registration necessary.

Monday, April 21st, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Avengers Assemble: A Comic Book Presentation and Workshop: For children ages 8-12.

Calling all Superhero fans! Experience a fun event with, Dana Perkins, writer of The Mighty Thor Saga (published by Marvel Comics) who will share his knowledge and answer questions about the phenomenon known as Super Heroes. You will find out how Thor, Hercules, and Zeus, share a lot more in common than you think with comic and movie superstar attractions like Iron Man, Spider-Man, and Superman! Then, children will have fun creating their own characters and comic strip. Bring your superhero themed questions, anything you've always wondered, something you need explained, he will be here to chit chat with you about it.

Tuesday, April 22nd, 2:30 p.m.

***Registration Required.**

Superhero Movie Day: For all ages. Come to the library and spend the day watching your favorite superheroes. We will be showing:

Super Buddies (G) at 10:30 a.m., *Sky High* (PG) at 2:00pm, and *The Avengers* (PG13) at 6 pm. There will be something for everyone in the family. It will be a day of Epic proportions! Costumes always encouraged!

Wednesday, April 23rd, Showings will be at 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m.

DROP IN PROGRAM, no registration necessary.

Heroes vs. Villains! For children ages 8 and up. What do you think makes a cool hero? Laser eyes? An awesome costume? Ninja skills? What do you think makes a dastardly villain? Robot hands? A swooshing cape? An evil pet? What's the difference between how heroes and villains act? Join us as we talk about graphic novels and participate in a comic jam activity where together we will design awesome heroes and villains create short comics about them!

Thursday, April 24th, 2:00 p.m.

***Registration Required.**

Superhero Trivia & Costume Contest: For children ages 7 and up.

Think you know everything about superheroes? Where they come from, their secret identities? Throw on your favorite costume/outfit, meet up with other enthusiasts and share your knowledge during an afternoon of trivia, contests, snacks and more. Cosplayers (costumed players) of any and all fandoms are welcome and encouraged to attend in costume. We will be holding a cosplay contest, where you can compete in one of three categories:

- Most Creative
- Best Handmade
- Best In-Character

Come dressed up and answer questions to win some prizes!

Friday, April 25th, 2:00 p.m.

***Registration Required.**

Fandom Frenzy: For all ages. Star Trek, Star Wars, Doctor Who, Sherlock, Minecraft? Which is the best fandom, who has the most fans? Show your support by coming to the library and casting your vote! All week long visit the library to vote for your favorite fandom and we will see who Westwood thinks is the greatest.

The Week of April 21st-April 25th, all day.

All Library Programs are Free.

Registration begins one month prior to program start date.

To register for Main Library programs, please call 781-320-1042

ISLINGTON BRANCH PROGRAMS

***Storytime:** Ages 2 and up. Children will participate in stories, songs, films and crafts.

Tuesdays, 9:30-10:15 a.m.

March 6th- April 10th

***Registration Required**

***PJ Storytime:** Ages 3 and up. Children can come in their jammies and bring a special stuffed animal and blanket to hear stories and songs.

3rd Wednesday of the month @ 6:30-7:15pm

March 19th, April 16th, May 21st

***Registration Required**

***LEGO Mania:** Come and build Lego creations with library Legos. For K and up.

Tuesdays, 3:45-4:45 p.m.

April 1st-29th

***Registration Required**

All Library Programs are Free.

Registration begins one month prior to program start date.

To register for Islington Branch programs,

please call 781-326-5914

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

Community Chest

Westwood Community Chest's Campership Program is in full swing...

Westwood Community Chest (WCC) is announcing its 2014 Campership Program. This program provides scholarships to help Westwood families in need afford to send their children to summer camp.

All school children residing in Westwood are eligible, and funds are awarded based on financial need. Families can apply for up to \$400 per child, with a total campership grant not to exceed \$750 per family. Applications can be found online at <http://www.wcc.cfsites.org> or at the Westwood Public Libraries, the Police and Fire Stations, Westwood Council on Aging, Town Hall, Recreation Department, Westwood Youth and Family Services and the Post Office. The application process is strictly confidential.

Also please look for us at the "March Into Summer Program" hosted by the Westwood Recreation Department on Saturday, March 15th at Westwood High School from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Information about camperships will be available and a representative from the WCC will be on hand to answer questions.

"Again this year we look forward to providing financial assistance to Westwood families so they can send their children to camp this summer. Summer camp is such a memorable part of

childhood. Camp gives children the opportunity to stretch their abilities and learn something new in a safe and fun environment. For many working families this added expense can be difficult to manage, and we want to help take away some of the burden for those needing assistance," says Leigh Wasserman, WCC President. Last year, WCC awarded approximately \$14,355 in camperships to over 47 families, due to the generous support of residents and businesses in our fundraising campaigns.

On the WCC website is a resource information page, which lists area camps and possibilities for additional financial aid which may be available through each individual camp.

In addition to funding camperships, WCC also helps residents in financial difficulty by awarding funds that help with basic needs such as medical expenses, housing and utility payments. Applications for basic needs assistance can be found online and at the locations listed above or call 781-366-0470.

For more information about Westwood Community Chest, go to our website at www.wcc.cfsites.org. Donations are accepted online or at Westwood Community Chest, PO Box 250, Westwood, MA 02090.

Contributed by Mary Ellen LaRose

Westwood Schools Bus Registration

Bus Registration for 2014-2015 begins March 1st and ends June 30th

The annual bus fee for 2014-2015 will be \$180.00 per student. The annual family cap will remain at \$450.00 for all students in grades K-12.

Online Bus Registration

If you are interested in Bus Transportation for your child next fall, please visit the Westwood Public Schools' website at www.westwood.k12.us and click on, Bus Transportation on the main page. After reading the FAQ's, you can complete a Registration Form and pay online for Transportation. To guarantee a seat on the bus, a completed registration form with payment must be received by the June 30th deadline.

Parents will need their child's Student ID# (except for Kindergarten) which can be found on elementary school lunch invoices, middle school lunch cards, report cards or high school ID cards. Please make sure to enter the grade your child will be entering next fall.

We hope you find our online registration and payment process informative and easy to use.

Sincerely,

Heath Petracca, *Director of Business and Finance*

No Need to Wait! Sign up now online for next fall

Transportation rates will not be increasing for the 2014-2015 school year.

If you have any questions regarding bus registration, please email busregistration@westwood.k12.ma.us or call the business office at 781-326-7500 x1343.

All Registrations and Payments are due by June 30th





WESTWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

March
2014

page one

Dear Westwood Residents,

We are more than halfway through the 2013-2014 school year, and I could not be prouder about the efforts and accomplishments of our students, faculty, and staff. Simply put, the Westwood Public Schools are thriving.

At the district level, we are in the middle of the FY'15 budget process. As with last year, my recommended budget will allow us to maintain a high level of service, which is something we should not take for granted. If

you are interested in learning more about the school budget, please visit our website at www.westwood.k12.ma.us (About our District > FY'15 Budget Information).

Thank you for your continued support.



John J. Atomei

Design Day Reveals Future Engineers

by Donna Tobin, Martha Jones Principal and Robbie Bartlett, 4th Grade Teacher

Fourth grade students and parents at the Martha Jones Elementary School recently participated in an annual Design Day. The focus of the event was for students to learn more about the design and



Students try to float their balloons for 30 seconds without them rising to the ceiling or dropping to the floor

engineering process. Students in Mr. Bartlett's class were given a selection of design challenges to complete using Legos. The challenges ranged in complexity and each required students to create prototypes to test and then refine in order to complete the challenge. Mr. Bartlett noted that, "Students often have the misconception

Bartlett encouraged both students and parents not to spend lots of time on one design but to experiment with quick designs in order to create increasingly better and more successful designs.

Students and their parents worked together to complete the following design challenges:

Challenge 1: Create a vehicle from Legos that will travel the distance of one meter when set off down a ramp

Challenge 2: Build a weight with Legos to attach to helium balloons that will allow the balloons to float in the air for 30 seconds, without dropping to the floor or rising to the ceiling

Challenge 3: Build a basket that will hold a Lego man upright when sliding down a string zip line at a 45-degree angle

Challenge 4: Build a floating raft that will keep a mini-figure dry when placed in water

Challenge 5: Build a bridge that is at least 30 centimeters long and that will hold the weight of one Harry Potter book



A student and her dad try out their zip line cart to see what adjustments need to be made

continued on next page



WESTWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

March
2014
page two

Gymnastics at Deerfield School

by Allan Cameron, Principal of Deerfield School



The students at Deerfield School participate in many different sports and activities during physical education (PE) class. All students in kindergarten through grade 5 have PE for at least 45 minutes per week. Each grade has specific, rigorous learning standards relating to health, fitness, and wellness that the students are expected to master.

During their time at Deerfield School, students play organized sports like football and soccer, design dances and fitness routines, and learn about nutrition and how to stay healthy. Our students love PE and look forward to every activity. However, for most of our students, the undisputed favorite activity, and



something that is fairly unique to Westwood, is gymnastics.

All elementary students in Westwood spend about six weeks learning

and practicing gymnastics. We have a very elaborate gymnastics equipment system that rotates among all of the elementary schools. The students start by learning the basics: how to climb on, hang from, and dismount the structure. By fifth grade, the students are able to design elaborate gymnastic routines that they demonstrate for their peers. The students love the experience!

We are so fortunate to have interesting and engaging units of study in the Westwood PE program. The students have fun while they strengthen their



hearts, muscles, and minds. Please let your neighborhood school know if you are interested in observing a gymnastics class. It is great to see the students in action! WPS

Left, and opposite: students learn how to climb on, hang from, and dismount the equipment

DESIGN, continued from previous page

One of the most popular challenges for students was to create the helium balloon weight that would float in the classroom. This took a lot of experimentation and micro refinements to get the weight just right, but when their design floated level, students and parents were excited to see their hard work pay off.

Not all the challenges were of the same difficulty or complexity. For some, the simplest solution was needed. Making the floating raft



Mr. Bartlett works with students and parents on their bridge design.

was a good example of this. All students needed to do was put the mini-figure on one flat piece of Lego to make it float. Students who over-thought or over-designed this before trying a quick prototype found that their designs would not float.

When Mr. Bartlett asked his students what they had learned from these challenges, all students said they had a better understanding of how the design process works and—just as importantly—they had a lot of fun doing it. WPS

This Spring in Westwood
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WESTWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Programs for Spring 2014

Call 781-320-1048 for further information

MAIN LIBRARY

Children's Department Programming

Programs for Pre-School Children

Storytimes

***Little Listeners:** Ages 3-5. Children will hear stories, songs, watch films and make a craft.

Mondays 11:00-11:45 a.m.

March 3rd-April 7th

**Registration Required.*

PLEASE NOTE:

No Storytime on Monday Holidays as Library will be Closed.

***Terrific Twos:** Children aged 2 will hear stories, songs, rhymes and make a craft.

Wednesdays 10:30-11:15 a.m.

March 5th-April 9th

**Registration Required.*

***Babies and Books:** Children under 2 years old with a parent/caregiver. There will be short stories, songs, dance, and puppets.

Fridays 10:30-11:00 a.m.

March 7th-April 11th

**Registration Required.*

Family Storytime: Come drop in for this family friendly storytime. Children of all ages will hear stories, rhymes, and sing songs! Please note that though all ages are welcome, stories are geared to ages 2-5.

May 7th, 12th, 23rd @ 10:30-11 a.m. **DROP IN PROGRAM**

Programs for School Aged Children

***Crafty Kids:** Children K-2 are welcome to come and make a craft during this fun, laidback craft hour.

Tuesdays, 4:00-4:45 p.m.

April 29th, May 6th, 13th

**Registration Required.*

***Wishing Well:** K-2nd grade. Children will hear traditional folktales, music, make crafts. **Registration Required.*

Tuesdays, 4:00-4:45 p.m.

March 4th-April 8th

***Growing Readers: Book Program for Beginner readers.**

Children's librarian Lizzy McGovern will present and talk about some great beginner reader books, read short stories, and have a book themed activity. **Registration Required.*

Remember to have child bring his/her own library card as we will have plenty of great books for them to check out at the program!

Thursday, 4:00-4:45 p.m. *For 1st-2nd graders.*

May 8th 4:00-4:45pm

Special Programs for Children at Main Library

NEW! Board Book Book Share: For parent and their baby ages 0-12 months.

Come share your favorite board book and rhymes to share with baby, learn about new board books and old favorites at this laid-back, friendly introduction to pre-pre-literacy.

Mondays, March 31st,

April 28th @ 1:00 p.m.

DROP IN PROGRAM

NEW! Movies for Munchkins: Come to the children's program room to enjoy picture books on the big screen! We will watch short picture book films perfect for preschoolers.

Tuesdays @ 10:30 a.m. March 18th, April 22nd, May 20th

DROP IN PROGRAM

More library programs are listed on page 16!
Don't forget to look!
April Vacation Week programs and
Islington Branch programs too!