



WESTWOOD

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



how2recycle.info

So you think you know what to do with used plastic bags?

Plastic bags in recycling bins are wreaking havoc on recycling processing facilities. The switch to single stream has come with a perceived message that “anything plastic goes in.” *In fact*, the material mix that recycling facilities can handle hasn’t changed much—acceptable materials are still clean paper, cardboard, bottles cans and rigid containers.

Plastic bags are the single most troublesome contaminant. Those involved in the recycling field are trying to figure out how to re-educate consumers. Take this quick quiz and realize what you can do to...

Recycle plastic bags the right way

- Where should unwanted plastic bags go?
 - in the Plastic Bag recycling container at the supermarket
 - in the trash
 - in the recycling bin with bottles and cans
 - release into the wild
- What can go in the Plastic Bag recycling container at the store?
 - plastic retail bags
 - newspaper and dry cleaning bags
 - bread and produce bags
 - plastic overwrap from toilet paper, napkins, diapers, etc
 - food and goop
 - twist ties and staples
 - paper receipts
- How many plastic shopping bags does the average American discard in a year?
 - Dozens
 - Hundreds
 - Thousands
- How many plastic shopping bags does the average American properly recycle in a year?
 - Thirty
 - Three hundred
 - Three thousand
- How can each of us reduce the amount of plastic bags wasted?
 - Decline bags for small purchases, use your pocket
 - Get in the habit of bringing enough reusable bags into the store, and putting them back in your car when unpacked.
 - Collect clean, used plastic bags near your recycling bin and recycle them when you go to the grocery store
 - All of the above

To find out the answers, please continue to page 7.

*Submitted by Claire Galkowski,
Executive Director of South Shore Recycling Cooperative,
member of Westwood Environmental Action Group*

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Firefighters of the Year

Story on page 14

Did You Know...

Westwood Department of Public Works Pavement Index

Did You Know... The Department of Public Works has recently reviewed the pavement index (rating) for all streets throughout the Town? The overall rating came in at an astonishing 85.9, which happens to be one of the highest ratings the consultant performing the review has ever seen. The average rating for Massachusetts communities is 70. The previous rating, back in 2011, was an 80. Having a jump of nearly 6 points is a testament to the support from the Commonwealth, the Board of Selectmen, the Financial Commission, the citizens of Westwood, and the hard work from the Department of Public Works to ensure funding that has been made available is spent with efficiency and effectiveness.

Contributed by Todd Korchin

Westwood Department of Public Health Flu Vaccine Available

Did You Know... that the Westwood Board of Health has flu vaccine available? If you or a family member needs a flu shot you can contact the Public Health Nurse at:

mrc@townhall.westwood.ma.us *or*

call her at 781-251-2576 to make an appointment.

The Public Health Nurse will immunize individuals 5 years of age and older. Children under the age of 18 years must be accompanied by an adult.

There is no cost for the vaccine but we do ask that you bring your insurance or Medicare card with you so that we may bill your health insurance. For more information please visit our website at www.townhall.westwood.ma.us or contact the Health Department at 781-320-1026/1027.

Contributed by Linda Shea

Dedham Westwood Water Department Watering Restrictions Lifted

Did You Know... Mandatory Outdoor Watering Restrictions are lifted effective November 3 as the outdoor watering season has ended. Rainfall however has been lower than normal and Dedham Westwood Water Department encourages the conservation of water inside homes and businesses. Customers may take advantage of our rebate program available for water conserving washing machines and toilets. Free water conservation kits, including low-flow shower heads, kitchen and bathroom faucet aerators and toilet leak detection dye tablets, are always available at our office at 50 Elm St., Dedham, MA. Questions should be directed to our Customer Service Office at 781-329-7090. Check our website, dwwd.org, for any additional information or update.

*Contributed by Eileen Commene
Executive Director, Dedham-Westwood Water District*

Westwood Department of Public Works Deerfield Field

Did You Know... that the Department of Public Works and Green Acre Landscaping are making nice progress on the Deerfield Field reconstruction? The project consists of re-grading, irrigation, sodding the entire field, and the installation of a walking trail along the entire perimeter of the complex. The field is slated to open in 2016 (weather permitting).

Contributed by Todd Korchin

Westwood Public Library Children's Department

Raise a Reader

To celebrate the reopening of the main library, the Children's Department is excited to announce the start of the **1,000 Book Before Kindergarten** reading initiative in Westwood! A nationwide program to promote pre-literacy building as a family, 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten is a simple program to encourage parents to share 1,000 books with their children before their first day of kindergarten. We will offer ways to track books shared and celebrate in your families' pre-literacy milestones. This program will be ongoing and we hope to celebrate reading with Westwood families for many years to come!

Where In Westwood...
will you find this beautiful flag?



Roche Bros!

I admit a fondness for an American flag strutting in a wind. This moment of impending sunset and a bit of blustery breeze prompted me to snap a picture. Look for the flag when you're passing through Islington.

~Editor

News from the Department of Public Works

Department of Public Works

Projects

Pavement Preservation:

The Westwood Department of Public Works Highway Department is anticipating pavement preservation work being done on the following streets: Nahatan Street; Circuit Road, Whitewood Road, Juniper Road; Grove Street; and Wight Lane starting July 1, 2016.

Traffic Calming:

Please visit the CEF traffic calming link on the town website for more information.

Street Lights LED Conversion:

The 1,200+ street lights have been converted to LED during the Fall. Converting the system to LED will save almost 65% of the current energy consumption of the lights.

Trash and Recycling:

Westwood residents are provided one 64-gallon trash cart for weekly trash pickup. All trash must fit inside the cart so that the lid is fully closed. Overflow bags are available for purchase at Roche Bros., Walgreen's (on High Street only), and Shaw's in Medfield and Norwood. A second trash cart may be rented for a \$150 annual fee. Barrel requests will only be taken from May through November. No deliveries during the winter months!

University Avenue:

The reconstruction of University Avenue, along with the reconstruction of the Canton Street and University Avenue and Blue Hill Drive have been substantially completed. New sidewalks, landscaping, drainage, LED street lights and traffic signals were all replaced to accommodate and provide an attractive streetscape to compliment the new development.

Sewer Department:

The Sewer Division is initiating the next phase of Infiltration/Inflow reduction projects with an assessment of past projects to develop a scope for the next project. These projects help to reduce the non-wastewater flow entering our system along with prolonging the life of the town's pipes and manholes. These projects are funded in part through a MWRA grant.

The Sewer Division completed the conditional assessment of the pump stations and developed a replacement/improvement plan looking out 20 years. This was done through our sewer CIP program. We will be initiating the

In preparation for winter we ask that you remove all basketball nets off the roadways and continue to help our efforts by following parking bans during snow and ice events.

Snow Removal Information

Storm Drain Cleaning

There are over 2200 catch basins (storm drains) in the Town, making it almost impossible to clear snow and debris from all of them. We would appreciate it if you could keep the drain in front of your property clean, so it won't cause an ice hazard or puddle on the street.

Winter Parking Restrictions

The Superintendent of Streets or the Chief of Police, for the purpose of removing or plowing snow, or removing ice, from any way, may remove or cause to be removed any vehicle interfering with such work, and the cost of such removal and of the storage charges, shall be imposed upon the owner of such vehicle.

Snow Clearing

No person shall lay, throw, place or cause to be placed any snow or ice on any town street or sidewalk so as to create a hazardous condition or public safety concern. If after having received notice from a duly authorized agent of the Town that such a condition exists, the owner of the property from which the snow or ice was removed (or his agent having charge thereof) fails to correct the condition within a reasonable amount of time, the owner or agent shall be deemed to be in violation.

Town Layout Information

Nothing damaged by the Town that is constructed, built, or placed on the Town layout will be repaired or replaced, i.e.: mailboxes, fences, stonewalls, etc. Please remove all basketball hoops from the roadway.

Contributed by Brendan Ryan

facility upgrade with a contract to be bid at the end of 2015 to address immediate repairs and will continue with necessary replacements on a scheduled basis.

Stormwater:

The DPW continues to prepare for the new NPDES permit that will be issued by the EPA. The permit is expected to be issued as this newsletter goes to press.

Contributed by Todd Korchin

News Items Wanted!

Please send suggestions, observations, or feedback to the editor at newsletter@townhall.westwood.ma.us.

If you want a story to be considered for inclusion in the *Westwood Community Newsletter*, please submit your article, by February 5, 2016. The next quarterly newsletter is due to be delivered to homes on or about March 15, 2016.

Diane Thornton, *Editor*, Westwood Community Newsletter, 580 High Street, Westwood, MA 02090

Email: newsletter@townhall.westwood.ma.us



News from the Early Childhood Council

Westwood Early Childhood

We have moved!

Our new location is in room 14 at the Hanlon School, 790 Gay Street, Westwood. We are next to the Extended Day Program. Please stop by to see us!

Our new website is <http://www.westwood.k12.ma.us/early-childhood-council/>. The Winter Program Guide highlighting all of our current programs, events and registration links are on this site. Preschool registration information is also listed under documents.

This year we have started a new group – **Babies in the Mix** – for parents/caregivers and their infant (birth through 12 months). Join Janet Lucey, Early Childhood Coordinator and Lizzy McGovern, Children’s Librarian for singing, reading, playing and exploring while discussing parenting, child development and related topics. This monthly program is for Westwood residents and will be held at the library on Mondays: January 11, Feb. 22, and Mar. 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Register at <http://tinyurl.com/wecbbmix/>.

Are you struggling with preschool tuition payments? Has your financial situation changed due to a job loss or medical crisis? Thanks to a generous donation from Dedham Savings, The Kathy Scales Memorial Preschool Scholarship Fund can help support preschool children of Westwood whose families are unable to afford tuition for early education programs. Families with children aged 3 and 4 years old who are Westwood residents and can demonstrate a financial need are eligible to apply. Contact Janet Lucey for more information and/or request an application form. All inquiries are confidential.

The Westwood Early Childhood Office is funded through the Department of Early Education and Care: Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Grant, local grants and generous donations. It is supported by the Westwood Public Schools. Through fundraising, we are able to offer all monthly programs and special events free of charge to Westwood families with young children. Join families across Westwood and participate in our ongoing Mabel’s Labels fundraiser. Mabel’s labels are customized, personalized, durable labels designed to help keep better track of belongings. Mabel’s labels are laundry, dishwasher and microwave safe and 100% guaranteed. They are perfect for sports gear, household uses, school supplies, and more. It’s simple just go to mabelslabels.com to get started.

Janet Lucey, Early Childhood Coordinator
Westwood Public Schools
<http://www.westwood.k12.ma.us/early-childhood-council>
jlucey@westwood.k12.ma.us
(781) 461-9548

New Brain Building in Progress Campaign

Website Features Events for Families and Children in Westwood

The Westwood Early Childhood Council, a partner in Massachusetts’ Brain Building in Progress campaign, is among the organizations featured in the campaign’s newly redesigned website, www.brainbuildinginprogress.org. Brain Building in Progress is an effort to provide resources and raise public awareness in support of young children’s healthy development and learning, jointly led by the Department of Early Education and Care and United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley.

Westwood Early Childhood Council’s events for children and families are listed on the enhanced Brain Building in Progress website (www.brainbuildinginprogress.org), which includes a “Brain Building” calendar of local enriching activities and events for families that can be searched by town or city. Other features on the newly redesigned Brain Building in Progress website are “Brain Building” activity guides for families and educators, a “Brain Building” Zone Finder that lists places that support “brain building” such as museums and libraries, and marketing resources for organizations to hold a Brain Building event or for businesses to create their own Brain Building Zones.

Janet Lucey, Westwood Early Childhood Coordinator, recognizes parents as their child’s first teacher. The Brain Building in Progress campaign emphasizes that whenever you see children interacting and learning in enriching environments, what you’re really seeing is brain building in progress. All families with young children are invited to participate in our monthly programs and special events. Parents and caregivers will receive take home learning activities and be encouraged to make any moment a brain building moment. The Westwood Early Childhood Council is also a supporter of the Westwood Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Program.

“Each and every one of us has an important role to play in the development of young children in Massachusetts,” said Early Education and Care Commissioner, Tom Weber. “The Brain Building in Progress campaign and website provide important resources to engage and support families, educators, business leaders, public officials, and the general public in helping children to learn and succeed.”

“The Brain Building in Progress campaign promotes the important role everyone can play in building young children’s brains,” said Michael K. Durkin, President at United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley. “We welcome the business, education, and policy-making communities to be part of this crucial venture. By giving a strong start to our youngest citizens, we create a stronger, more prosperous future for all.”

Babies in the Mix

A welcoming and inclusive group for Westwood parents — where baby is always in the mix!

Parents and babies (birth to 12 months) are welcomed to join Janet Lucey and Lizzy McGovern for a playgroup where families can share and learn together.

We will sing, read, play, and explore while discussing parenting, child development, and other related topics.

Registration preferred.

Register with Janet Lucey, Early Childhood Coordinator by visiting <http://tinyurl.com/weccbbmix/>.

For answers to questions or more information call Janet Lucey at 781-461-9548.

Mondays, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
at the Islington Branch Library
January 11, Feb. 22, and Mar. 21

Co-sponsored by MA Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Grant and Westwood Public Library.



continued from previous page

The Brain Building in Progress campaign is based upon science and research on early childhood development, and recognizes the critical importance of fostering the cognitive, social and emotional development of young children and its future impact on the economic prosperity of everyone in Massachusetts. Since the launch of the Brain Building in Progress in 2010, the campaign has:

- Distributed over 11,000 Brain Building in Progress activity toolkits benefiting over 19,400 children, 13,000 families and 2,700 educators;
- Held over 3,500 Brain Building in Progress events for young children in communities across the state;
- Created seven parent tip sheets in 11 different languages;
- Identified over 270 “Brain Building Zones” in partnerships with community-based organizations, small businesses, recreation facilities, museums and libraries;
- Trained over 150 early education professionals to offer “I am a Brain Builder” workshops geared toward educating parents about how to support their child’s healthy development.

For more information about Brain Building in Progress and to view the campaign’s website, visit www.brainbuildinginprogress.org.

Contributed by Alicia Lamonde

Westwood Town Meeting

Fall Town Meeting Action

On Monday, November 9, 270 registered voters gathered to take action on 18 warrant articles. The following is a summary of the more significant votes taken.

- Voters approved four fund transfers and appropriations within the FY16 budget, including a \$700,000 transfer of savings to the Other Post Employee Benefit (OPEB) Trust Fund for the town’s annual contribution to health care coverage for former employees. These savings resulted from an agreement reached with employees to shift health insurance coverage to the Commonwealth’s Group Insurance Coverage (GIC).
- Voters approved acquisitions of property and rights-of-way from the Eastern Massachusetts Girl Scouts, American Legion, and School Committee, and authorized funding for the extension of Deerfield Avenue to Westwood Glen Road and the paving of adjacent parking lots. In addition to significantly improving safety for vehicles and pedestrians, this work will prepare the land behind Town Hall for the proposed construction of a new Police Headquarters building, so that this next stage of construction can proceed without significant disruption to parking for Town Hall, the American Legion, and the new Deerfield Sports Fields. Authorization to proceed with construction of the new Police Headquarters will be considered by voters at the May 2, 2016 Town Meeting.
- Voters approved two Zoning Bylaw amendments of consequence. One involved amendments to the Flexible Multiple Use Overlay District (FMUOD) section of the bylaw to allow for the Planning Board’s consideration of senior housing on land within the Glacier/Everett FMUOD3 Area. The other involved an amendment to the Definitions and Use Chart sections of the bylaw to permit solar energy facilities with capacities greater than 15kw in residential districts by special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals.
- Voters also approved the acquisition of a 5.1-acre parcel adjacent to the Westwood High School from the First Parish Church.

Contributed by Town Hall

Westwood Public Schools

Preschool Screening

Massachusetts Special Education Law states that each school district shall conduct screenings for three and four year olds. This screening is designed to review a child’s development and to assist in identification of those children who should be referred for an evaluation to determine eligibility for special education services. Participation in the screening is optional.

In accordance with the law, the Westwood Public Schools will conduct screenings of children throughout the school year. The following is a screening date for the 2015-2016 school year. Please call Jeanne Bylsma, Administrative Assistant at 781-326-7500, ext. 5113 to schedule an appointment for your child.

Screening Dates: *Please register at least one month in advance.*

February 24, 2016

NEWS and Program Offerings from the Westwood Council on Aging

Generosity of Blue Hills Charitable Foundation

Westwood Council on Aging is pleased to announce a \$10,000 grant from Blue Hills Charitable Foundation. 100% of this grant will go towards health and wellness programs for seniors in Westwood. We are grateful for their generosity that will help us help others.

Highlighted Programs

The following is a sample of the programs currently being offered at the COA. The Westwood Council on Aging is located at 60 Nahatan Street, Westwood, MA 02090. Their telephone number is 781-329-8799. We look forward to having you join us and find out what else we've got planned for the winter!

CORE/BACK MAT WORKOUT with Stephanie
Wednesdays & Fridays, 8:30-9:00 a.m.
\$2 donation

If you are looking for something a bit more challenging (or combine this with Fun-Fit at 9:00) then this is the class for you! Come join us for a 30 minute workout targeting muscles in our core and back. We will get on the floor and use a combination of exercises to strengthen our abdominals for a leaner, stronger core. Please bring a mat and small pillow and we will meet in the conference room.

FUN FIT EXERCISE with Stephanie
Mondays 10:00 a.m. | Wednesdays & Fridays, 9:00 a.m.
\$3 donation

As winter arrives, we all tend to slow down and gain weight, but that does not have to happen if you stay active! This fun exercise class is a combination of cardio, strength training with light weights/resistance band and a special attention to balance and posture. Please wear comfortable clothing and sneakers.

YOGA with Bonnie

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

\$3 donation requested

During the holiday season, nothing is worse than the stress that comes with it, so why not de-stress with YOGA? The motto in our class is always to do what you can and move in a way that feels good to you. We start out with breath work and gentle movements seated in the chair and then some strengthening and balancing movements standing. Students have the option to come down to the mat or stay on the chair. Each class ends with some kind of guided meditation or relaxing breath work to leave you feeling more balanced and ready for holidays!

TAI CHI TUESDAYS with J. Scott Brumit

Tuesdays, 1-2 p.m.

\$3 donation requested

Does standing in line while shopping for the holidays tire your legs? Practicing Tai Chi on a regular basis will improve balance and strengthen your muscles. Through Tai Chi's gentle movements you will begin to feel more energy and better circulation, so stop by and check us out!

Contributed by Lina Arena-DeRosa



White Oak Memory Café

MEMORY CAFÉ:

A SOCIAL GATHERING OFFERED FOR THOSE WITH MEMORY LOSS IN WESTWOOD – NEW LOCATION

The goal of the White Oak Memory Café is to offer an opportunity to meet others in the community who are experiencing similar challenges. The café offers conversation, refreshments and a shared activity that allows everyone to explore something new.

WHAT: Join us for our next Memory Café, a welcoming place for people with memory problems and other changes in their thinking. It is also intended as a social time for family and friends who are caregivers.

WHEN: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 from 2:15-3:30 pm

WHERE: NEW LOCATION! Westwood Senior Center, 210 Nahatan St, Westwood

WHO: Hosted by White Oak Cottages at Fox Hill Village, 6 Longwood Drive, Westwood MA 02090

COST: Free of charge. For guests requiring personal care assistance, a caregiver must be in attendance.

CONTACT: If you would like more information on the Memory Café, please contact via email at guide@whiteoakcottages.com.

Contributed by Kristin Tarsiello



News from the Town Clerk's Office

Dog Licensing

Dog licensing will begin for 2016, on December 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016.

You may license your dog by mail, provided you include a copy of a current rabies certificate and a self-addressed stamped envelope. If you are licensing your dog for the first time, proof of spay or neutering is also required.

- Licenses will be valid from January 1, 2016 until December 31, 2016.
- You must license your dog on an annual basis.
- If you own more than 4 dogs this is considered a "Personal Kennel" per MGL c. 140 §136A.
- You must go through a special permit application process through the Zoning Board of Appeals to license a kennel.
- Failure to license your dog on or before March 31, 2016 may result in a fine of \$25.00, per town bylaws §184-10.B.(1)

Licensing Fees are as follows:

- *Dogs not Neutered or Spayed:* \$15.00
- *Dogs Neutered or Spayed:* \$10.00
- *Kennel fees*—please contact the Town Clerk's office.

Please be sure to include the correct licensing fee. If you are unsure, please contact the Town Clerks office at 781-326-3964.

Annual Town Census

The Annual Town Census will be sent to each household in early December. *It is extremely important that you fill this out and return it within 10 days of its receipt. Failure to return the Census may cause a voter to be designated as inactive on the voting list (M.G.L., Ch.51, § 4).*

Annual Town Election

The Annual Town Election will be held on Tuesday, April 26, 2016.

Nomination papers will be available on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 for those registered Westwood voters who wish to run for Town positions.

The following elected offices will appear on the Ballot:

- Board of Assessors: 1 Seat - 3 Year Term
- Housing Authority: 1 Seat - 5 Year Term
- Library Trustee: 2 Seats - 3 Year Terms
- Moderator: 1 Seat - 1 Year Term
- Planning Board: 2 Seats - 3 Year Terms
- School Committee: 2 Seats - 3 Year Terms
- Selectman: 1 Seat - 3 Year Term
- Sewer Commission: 1 Seat - 3 Year Term

Important dates for candidates to remember:

Tuesday, January 12, 2016—Nomination papers available in the Town Clerk's office.

Friday, March 4, 2016, 5:00 p.m.—Last day to obtain nomination papers. (MGL.ch.53§.9A)

Tuesday, March 8, 2016, 5:00 p.m.—Last day to submit nomination papers to Registrars of Voters for certification.

Tuesday, March 22, 2016, 5:00 p.m.—Last day to file nomination papers with the Town Clerk

Thursday, March 24, 2016, 5:00 p.m.—Last day to object or withdraw nomination papers.

Wednesday, April 6, 2016—Last day to register voters for Town Election and Town Meeting.

Tuesday, April 26, 2016—Annual Town Election, 7:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m.

Monday, May 2, 2016—Annual Town Meeting

Important Dates to Keep in Mind

Elections and Town Meeting Dates for 2016:

- Tuesday, March 1, 2016—Presidential Primary
- Tuesday, April 26, 2016—Westwood Annual Town Election
- Monday, May 2, 2016—Westwood Annual Town Meeting
- Thursday, September 8, 2016—State Primary
- Tuesday, November 8, 2016—State Election (Presidential)

continued from page 1

Recycle Plastic Bags the Right Way

Answers:

1. **A is the best answer.** C and D are the worst.

Bags released into the wild choke and entangle mammals, birds, reptiles and fish.

Plastic bags put in the recycling cart choke and entangle the sorting equipment at our processing facility, and end up in the landfill. This is driving the cost of recycling up and the quality of our recyclables down.

2. **A-D.** All clean, dry plastic bags (#2 and #4, or with a "How 2 Recycle" label) can be recycled into plastic film or lumber such as Trex. They can't use chip bags, or frozen food packaging, and definitely not non-plastic material.



3. **B.**

NRDC estimates that the average American discards at least 500 plastic shopping bags/year. And that doesn't include the many other kinds of plastic bags we use and can recycle!

4. **A.**

About 6% of plastic bags are recycled in the United States. (EPA)

5. **D.** (It's a good idea to wash reusable bags now and then.)

Keep our recycling program healthy—please keep plastic bags **OUT OF** your recycling bin or cart.

For more information, go to www.plasticfilmrecycling.org.

*Submitted by Claire Galkowski,
Executive Director of South Shore Recycling Cooperative,
member of Westwood Environmental Action Group*

Westwood Recreation

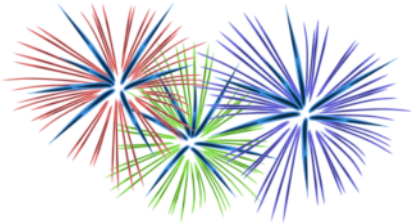
NEW YEAR'S EVE FIREWORKS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

7:00 PM SHARP

WESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO



SAVE THE DATE



SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 10:00-2:00

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

ALL AGES WELCOME - FREE

- Summer program preview and activities
- 10% Discount on Summer programs paid in full

FULL DETAILS COMING THIS FEBRUARY!



Thank you to all who came out to celebrate Westwood Day 2015 with big smiles!



Photo Credit: Doug Hyde



Looking for Mental Health Services?



Call the William James College **INTERFACE** Referral Service
888-244-6843 x1411

<http://interface.williamjames.edu/>

Who

Open to All Westwood Residents and Employees

What

Referrals to Mental Health Providers and information about local Social Services

When

Available Monday - Friday
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

What to Expect When You Call:

Call

Speak with a resource and referral counselor about your needs

Connect

Receive information about potential matches within 2 weeks

Care

Follow-up call to make sure you have made a successful match



Funded by:
The Town of Westwood,
The Westwood Public Schools,
Youth & Family Services, Board of Health,
and The Council on Aging



Westwood Emergency Management

Winter is just around the corner!

Westwood Emergency Management would like to remind residents of the importance of being prepared. Residents are encouraged to prepare themselves and their families for emergencies. Planning ahead will give you peace of mind and can keep your family and friends safe. There is a range of possible emergencies, like hurricanes and blizzards that are especially likely in New England. The following information may help you prepare such events:

- Have an emergency plan for your family. Plan how your family will contact each other and where you will meet, in the event you are separated.
- Have a first aid kit with health products and prescription medications for family members.
- Have an evacuation kit packed with supplies ready in the event that you must leave home quickly. Pack lightly and include basic supplies for 24-48 hours.
- If you have cordless phones, cable or FIOS, you will lose your phones and internet during a power outage. In order to receive the recorded messages from the Police Department, you should register all your phone numbers with the Town's Connect CTY System (<https://www.westwoodpd.org> – Forms, Permits and Applications – Online Forms – Connect CTY Form) or School Department (register your email address and cell phone number with the secretary at your child's school).
- Consider investing in a cell phone. If you have a cell phone, keep it charged. You can charge your phone with a car phone charger, an emergency phone charger, or at a public building that has emergency power.
- Freeze empty soda bottles and keep them in your freezer to help keep your food safe if the freezer is without power. Make sure you have food staples in your home. Do not purchase large quantities of perishable foods right before a storm to avoid loss if the power goes out.
- Make sure you have fresh batteries for flashlights, carbon monoxide alarms and smoke detectors. If you have a generator, make sure to follow the manufacturer's directions on the safe operation of the unit. Use caution with candles. Consider purchasing battery operated candles.
- Make sure you know how to operate your fireplace; consider having it cleaned on a yearly basis.
- Contact friends or family that may have power to see if you can keep warm with them. Westwood's High School serves as the emergency shelter. You should call or go to the Police Station to report any need for a shelter and to see if and when it will be opened.

Be Prepared. Plan Ahead. Emergency Preparedness Begins at Home. For more information, contact the Westwood Board for Health at mrc@townhall.westwood.ma.us or call the Health Department at 781.320.1026/1027.

Contributed by Linda Shea

Westwood Neighbors

Online Community Forum for Bringing Neighbors Together

Westwood Neighbors is a town wide forum for town residents to exchange information with each other easily and securely. It is like a community water cooler, where members can ask for and share recommendations for local services, promote local events, offer items for sale or curb alerts and other matters of interest to the community. Residents only need an email address to register. It has helped people find plumbers, electricians, pet-sitters, baby-sitters—just to name a few of the advantages of the forum.

Inspired by the success of similar local forums, like the 1290-member strong Framingham Neighbors forum, Westwood resident, Chandana Gopal, reached out to her friends and neighbors to determine if there was interest in creating a similar forum. Based on the enthusiastic response, Westwood Neighbors was launched in spring 2015. The community has grown from a handful of families to 125 families in the span of a few months and has seen active community participation.

The forum is hosted on a non-profit platform called E-Democracy, which is a volunteer-based grass-roots project that runs 16 such communities. The organization does not permit any commercial listings or advertisements on the site. Residents can sign-up at: forums.e-democracy.org/groups/westwood using just their email addresses. Members can receive messages via email or post directly at the website.

Forums like this become more and more useful as membership grows. Should you have any questions or have trouble joining, please contact Chandana Gopal at chandana.gopal@gmail.com.

What can you do at Westwood Neighbors?

Discuss and Share

- Community issues & ideas
- Crime & safety
- Schools & parks
- Service recommendations
- Family activities
- Help neighbors in need
- Local stories & history

Announce (for free!)

- Community/cultural events
- Free stuff
- New small businesses
- Local news, photos, video
- Elected official updates
- Lost & found pets
- Construction updates

Why join?

- Neighborly connections
- Vibrant community
- Access info, get answers
- Have a voice, listen actively
- Get free stuff
- Share news & ideas
- It's fun & easy

Contributed by Chandana Gopal

Foundation for Westwood Education

The Foundation for Westwood Education Celebrates Twenty-five Years



This year, the Foundation for Westwood Education celebrates a quarter century of cultural and educational funding to benefit the entire Westwood community. We are delighted to announce that this year also marks our success in awarding \$1 million dollars in grants since our inception twenty-five years ago. As always, we want to thank the residents and business owners who have made this funding possible.

By now, you should have received the Foundation’s 2015 appeal letter. If you have not already done so, please contribute what you can this year. The Foundation relies on donors like you to assist us in supporting the numerous high-quality programs and events that fall outside the town’s budget, but greatly enrich the lives of all Westwood residents, from infants and school children to senior citizens. Please help us keep Westwood the vibrant community that it is. For more information about the Foundation or to donate online please visit our website at foundationforwestwoodeducation.org.

Foundation Funds Seventeen Grants

On Tuesday, November 3 the Board of Directors voted to fund seventeen grant applications submitted this season for a total of over \$17,000.

GRANT NAME	BENEFICIARIES	PURPOSE
STEM Robot Programming	Martha Jones students	To supply mini-rover programmable robots to teach students problem- solving, distance and angle measuring as well as programming skills.
Wellness and Recreation Class Equipment	Westwood High School Specialized Resource Room students	To purchase sports equipment for teaching sports, team work, cooperation, and social skills
Bugworks	Westwood Integrated Pre-school students	To bring an on-site program about insects to children too young to take field trips
Responding vs. Reacting to Your Kids	Early Childhood Coordinator, for parents of children 0-8	To present a four-part workshop imparting information to parents about children’s developmental stages and skills for successful parenting
K-5 Math Tools	Elementary school math teachers and students	To purchase and demonstrate the use of Stern’s Blocks, a high-quality wooden tool used to illustrate math concepts
Mindfulness Yoga Program	Thurston Middle School students	To provide workshops featuring techniques designed to improve focus, concentration, and stress management
Non-fiction Author Presentation	Hanlon School students	To engage author Melissa Stewart to speak on non-fiction writing with a focus on science and nature
Promised Land: The Immigrant Experience	Martha Jones School students	To pilot a program to teach students, through song, about the history of immigration to the United States
Tony Vacca: World Rhythms	Sheehan School students	To provide an in-depth multicultural and musical learning experience
Great Decisions Talks at the Westwood Library	The entire Westwood Community	To foster a national, grassroots foreign policy discussion encouraging conversations about global affairs
Aquarium	Thurston Middle School	To purchase a new 20-gallon freshwater aquarium for a science classroom
Mandarin Field Trip to New York	Westwood High School Mandarin II and III students	To fund a one-day program in Chinese language, calligraphy, and martial arts
Picturing Thurston	Thurston Middle School staff and students	To purchase cameras for photographing activities at Thurston Middle School
Lynn Lyons: Anxious Kids Anxious Parents	All elementary parents	To provide a workshop to empower parents to help their children cope with stress
Choose to Be Nice	Thurston Middle School students	To pilot a program designed to improve the school climate and foster healthy relationships among peers, students, and staff
Taking a Stand: Stand-up Desks	Westwood High School students	To purchase standing desks with the goal of improving students’ attention and focus
Yoga for Classrooms Training	Sheehan School staff and students	To fund a professional development training to cultivate a positive, peaceful, productive classroom climate



Westwood Public Library

Winter 2015-2016

PLEASE NOTE: Main Library is due to reopen in January. Please check website for any updates, particularly for January programming.

MAIN LIBRARY

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.

Children's Programming

Winter Programs for Pre-School Aged Children

STORYTIMES: Storytimes are presented in 6 week sessions. Registration is for all 6 weeks of the selected storytime. We encourage families to attend consistently all 6 weeks in order to get the most learning opportunities from storytime.

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

Tuesdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m. ***Registration Required**
Winter Session: Jan. 5-Feb. 9, March 1-April 5

Wondrous Wednesdays: All ages storytime. In this drop-in (no registration necessary) storytime children will hear stories and rhymes, dance, sing songs, and participate in other fun activities.

Wednesdays, 10:30-11:00 a.m. **Drop-in program**
Winter Session: Jan. 6-Feb. 10 and March 2-April 6

Babies & Books: Babies ages 0-24 months & their caregivers will hear short stories and participate in rhymes & songs. After storytime there is the opportunity for children and their parents to play and make new friends.

Fridays, 10:30-10:50 a.m. **Drop-in program**
Winter Session: Jan. 8-Feb. 12 and March 4-April 8

Shake, Rattle, & Roll: For children ages 3-5. This movement program will feature music & dancing, rhythm instruments and organized movement activities. NEW TIME!

Fridays, 1:00 p.m. **Drop in program**
January 8, 15, 22, 29

Saturday Storytime: For families of young children ages 0-5. Families will hear stories, rhymes, songs, & more at this special, Saturday morning storytime. What a perfect way to start the weekend!

Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. **Drop in program**
January 16, February 20, March 26

Winter Programs for School Aged Children

***Creative Kids:** Children in grades K-1. Children will see their favorite stories come alive by participating in creative dramatics as well as arts & craft activities.

Thursdays, 4-4:45 p.m. ***Registration Required**
Winter Session: Jan. 7-Feb. 11, March 3-April 7

***Bookin It:** Children in grades 2-3 will love this fun new program where they will hear about some awesome book series and participate in book-related games and other activities.

First and Third Tuesdays of the month, 4-4:45 p.m.
Jan. 5 and 19, Feb. 2 and 16, March 1 and 15

***Registration Required**

Mother/Daughter Book: For children in grade 3-grade 4 and female adult. This awesome book group for girls and their favorite female adult will feature the classic book *From the Mixed up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E.L. Konigsburg. Books will be available at the Children's ASK! Desk. Share your enthusiasm for reading with other book lovers and join us for a lively discussion!

Wednesday, January 27, 6:30 p.m. **Drop-in program**

Special Programs for Children FEBRUARY VACATION

Wii Just Dance for Kids: Get ready to dance! Think you have some sweet moves? Want to see if you can out dance your favorite librarians? Come for an afternoon of playing the wii game *Just Dance* and maybe even win a prize!

Tuesday, February 16, 2:00 p.m. **Drop-in program**

***ART Incubator—Paper Crafts:** For kids in grade 4–6. Art Incubator sessions we will learn a new and unique art technique. Join us for origami and monster bookmark making. We will provide all the materials & some basic instruction.

Wednesday, February 17, 2-2:45 p.m. ***Registration Required**

Creature Teachers: Animals Around the World: For kids in grades K and up. Come take a trip around the world with us and find out where our animals come from. This program explores the diverse habitats of our planet and the animals that live within them. See why some animals are well suited for certain areas and why some are not.

Thursday, February 18, 2:00 p.m.

Minecraft Madness: For children in K-4th grade and parent/caregiver. Do you LOVE all things minecraft? Come to the library for an afternoon where we celebrate all things pixelated! Featuring creeper toss and slime knockdown games, make your own minecraft mask and pixel art and more! Come while supplies last!

Friday, February 19, 2:00-3:00 p.m. **Drop-in program**

Saturday Storytime: For families of young children ages 0-5. Families will hear stories, rhymes, songs, & more at this special, Saturday morning storytime. What a perfect way to start the weekend!

Saturdays, February 20, 10:30 a.m. **Drop in program**

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

Main Library Teen Events

Just for Fun Teen Book Club: For students in grades 5-8. Come to the library and take a break from homework, talk about books, and eat snacks! This new book group is led by WHS senior Illana Goldberg on early release Wednesdays @ 2:30 p.m. Extra copies will be available to pick up at the library.

January 13: *Red Queen* by Victoria Aveyard

February 10: *Finding Audrey* by Sophia Kinsella

March 3rd: Group Choice-TBA

April 13th: Individual choice-TBA

Main Library Adult Department Programming

Technology Help Drop-ins: Do you have a new laptop, tablet or e-reader, and are looking for a little help getting started? Have you heard about getting free e-books, audio books, tv shows & movies from the library, and want to learn more? Or do you want to learn a new language at home & at no cost? Grab your device & come to our Technology Help Drop-In!

No registration is required, but be sure to bring your device, your library card, and any passwords or other information that might help get you hooked up!

If none of the drop-ins work with your email, email mriportella@minlib.net or call 781-320-1004 to set up an appointment!

Main Library (once library reopens): Mondays, 7:00-8:00 p.m., Fridays, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Islington Branch: Thursdays, 2:00 -3:30 p.m.

***Great Decisions at the Westwood Public Library:** Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watching the DVD and meeting in the library's Discussion Group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. Participants will register one time for all eight sessions. All are welcome!

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Library Conference Room on the following dates: 2/24/16, 3/23/16, 4/13/16, 5/18/16, 8/24/16, 9/21/16, 10/19/16 & 11/16/16.

***Registration Required** Please call 781-320-1045 to sign-up, or visit us at the Main or Islington Branch.

This program is generously sponsored by the Foundation for Westwood Education.

Friday Morning Book Group: Join our book discussion group on Fridays at 10:30 a.m.! No sign-up necessary - read the book, join the conversation! We are looking for members, please join us!

The Book Group will next meet on: January 29 at 10:30, February 26 and March 25 in the Library Conference Room.

Books will be available at both the Main and Islington Libraries.

Celebrating Ireland in Story and Song with Phil Edmonds, Mary King & Dan Lanier:

The Celtic soul is alive and well in the stories and songs you will hear, and your ears and eyes will smile! This program is open to all- families are encouraged to join the fun!

Wednesday, March 2, 7:00 p.m.

in the Library Community Room

Pageturners: A book review program for adult readers. Circulation Supervisor Nancy Hogan will review a combination of fiction, mystery, non-fiction, and biography books. Informal and informative, Pageturners is an entertaining look at what's new in the library. Bring a friend! No sign ups necessary.

Friday, March 11, 3:00 p.m.

ISLINGTON BRANCH

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

Islington Children's Programs

Children's Garden Music Show featuring Ed Morgan: For Families with young children. Join us for a wonderful morning full of singing and dancing as the "music man" Ed Morgan plays all your favorite tunes!

Wednesday, December 30, 10:00 a.m.

***Jungle Encounters: WildCats 101:** For kids ages 6 and up. Do you love Erin Hunter's Warriors series? Or just love cats in general and want to know more about them? This show will give you a greater understanding of the wild felines that live among us! You will learn how they survive in the wild, what they eat, what eats them, the threats they face in the wild and the conservation efforts in place to help ensure their survival. You will meet a few of our amazing animal ambassadors during the show and learn how you can help their wild cousins. **IMPORTANT SHOW INFORMATION: Because there are live cats in this presentation, show can only be performed for kids ages 6 and up.**

Tuesday, December 29, 9:30 a.m. ***Registration Required**
at the Islington Community Center

To register or if you have any questions, please call
Islington Branch, 781-326-5914.

Storytime with Miss Jenny: For children ages 2 & up. Children will hear stories and participate in songs, films and crafts.

Thursdays, 9:30-10:15 a.m. **Drop in program**
January 7-February 11 and March 3-April 7

Pajama-Rama Storytime: Ages 2 & up. Children can come in their jammies and bring a special stuffed animal and blanket to hear stories and songs.

Drop in program
3rd Wednesday of the month: 6:30-7:15 p.m.
December 16, January 20, February 17, March 16

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

Tuesdays, 3:45-4:45 p.m. ***Registration Required**
January 5-March 29

Islington Adult Programs

Islington Branch BookShare: Bring a book you have read to share with the group as you enjoy a cup of coffee with fellow readers!

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. **Drop in program**
January 19 and March 15

Islington Branch Book Group: Join us at the Branch to discuss some great reads!

Select Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. **Drop in program**
January 13 *Under the Wide and Starry Sky* by Nancy

Horan

February 10 *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd

March 9 *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony

Doerr

Sit and Knit: Join us for a morning of knitting, crocheting, needlepointing, cross stitching or hand quilting.... Bring your own projects and supplies with you. Sit and knit while enjoying the comfort of the Branch and check out a new craft book or knitting mystery....

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **Drop in program**

Firefighters of the Year Group Award

Incredible honor bestowed upon an incredible team



Governor Charlie Baker, Public Safety and Security Secretary Daniel Bennett and State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan recognized Westwood and Norwood firefighters.



Maddie Walters embracing Capt. Lund after presenting him with the Medal of Valor

On Monday, November 23, 2015, the Commonwealth awarded the Westwood and Norwood Firefighters with a 2015 Firefighters of the Year Group Award for meritorious conduct and for their heroic actions that saved the life of a young Westwood girl. The following is a summary of the events from that rescue as read by Chief William Scoble.

On May 8, 2015, Westwood Fire Department was called to extinguish a small campfire in an area known as Satan's Kingdom.

Westwood Capt. Steven Lund arrived first and was led by Police several hundred feet up a steep incline, through a heavily wooded area to the fire scene. He determined that the campfire was contained.

With only the light from his flashlight and a small amount from the campfire, he could see several large outcroppings of rocks and boulders, and what appeared to be steep drop offs. He thought he heard a "snoring noise" coming from the woods.

Capt. Lund scanned the area with his flashlight and continued to follow the sound. Within seconds, he discovered an injured teenage girl who had fallen off the cliff. He scaled his way down to her and determined that she had suffered life threatening injuries and had labored respirations. He maintained her airway, stabilized her neck and radioed dispatch to request a MedFlight helicopter and called for the Westwood Ambulance.

Engine 2 members Lt. Andrew Mahan, Firefighter/Paramedic Gerard Smith and Firefighter/Paramedic Neil Martino arrived and began advanced life support treatment. The crews of the Ambulances brought the rescue basket and additional lifesaving equipment onto the scene over the same difficult terrain that has no trails or roads. Within a short time, additional Westwood resources and a Norwood Ambulance arrived. The teenage girl

**Acknowledged at ceremony
held at MIT's Kresge Auditorium (in alphabetical order):**

Chief William Scoble

Deputy Chief Michael Reardon

Captain EMT/P Richard Cerullo

Captain EMT Steven Lund - received the Medal of Valor

Lieutenant EMT/P Andrew Mahan

Lieutenant EMT Luigi Molinaro

Firefighter EMT/P Anthony Burke

Firefighter EMT/P William Little

Firefighter EMT/P Robert Kilroy

Firefighter EMT/P Ronald Kolozie

Firefighter EMT/P Neil Martino

Firefighter EMT/P Gerard Smith

Firefighter EMT/P Christian Pierce

And from the Norwood Fire Department

Firefighter Brian Donohue

Firefighter Paul Ronco

was secured to a long spine board and placed in the rescue basket. EMTs used a bag-value-mask to assist her breathing.

This was an extremely difficult and dangerous rescue and extraction that needed to be completed in a timely manner if the teenager had any chance of survival. Rotating crews of eight personnel at a time carried the rescue basket, while other members removed branches, cleared brush and provided lighting to assist with the extraction. Due to the weather issues, MedFlight was unable to respond. The teenager was transported by Westwood Fire Department Ambulance to the Children's Hospital in Boston with five (5) Firefighter/Paramedics on board.

The actions of Capt. Lund, being attentive to his surroundings, resulted in finding a victim that no one realized had fallen, assuring that sufficient help was requested at the beginning of the incident, performing initial lifesaving skills and expertly commanding the overall incident, which lead directly to the survival of the teenager. For these actions, Capt. Lund was presented with the Medal of Valor.

Maddie Walter, the teenage girl that was rescued by the Westwood Fire Department, attended the award ceremony in Cambridge. Joined by her parents on stage and receiving a standing ovation, Maddie presented and placed the Medal of Valor around Capt. Steven Lund's neck.

*For more pictures, visit the Town of Westwood's Facebook Page
Contributed by Town Hall*

Proposed New Police Department Facility

Dore and Whittier, the Town's architects, have diligently worked with the Task Force, the Police Chief and his staff to design a new Police Headquarters that meets the needs of the Police Department.



Since July 2013 the Public Safety Task Force, which is comprised of elected and appointed officials and Town staff, has engaged in a thorough assessment of the conditions of our public safety facilities, and has recommended replacement of outdated and inadequate facilities. An appropriation for the construction of a new Islington Fire Station was approved at the May 2015 Annual Town Meeting, and construction of a new state of the art facility is currently underway with its anticipated completion next fall.

The Task Force reviewed the condition of the existing Police Station, which was constructed in 1967 and has not been significantly upgraded since, and found that the 48-year old facility is meaningfully undersized for its current use. The existing facility presents safety hazards and fails to meet regulatory code requirements, including state and federal accessibility standards. The station also fails to adequately address evidence storage and confidentiality requirements, and has limited ability to effectively house detainees.

Since the Police Station was built nearly a half century ago, there have been significant changes in the community and its police force, including an increase in population from 10,354 to 14,618 and a change in the number of employees in the police department from 29 employees (all male) to 42 employees (34 male and 8 female). Criminal investigations have increased from 1,033 to 2,736 cases per year and total calls for service have gone from 6,976 to 16,934. Calls for service this year are expected to approach 25,000, which is an average of 68 calls per day.

Dore and Whittier, the Town's architects, have diligently worked with the Task Force, the Police Chief and his staff to design a new Police Headquarters that meets the needs of the

Police Department and facilitates efficient and effective operations. The proposed facility will meet all current code requirements and police standards for accreditation, and will significantly exceed current requirements for energy efficiency. The new facility size, when compared with other police stations built in Massachusetts communities similar to Westwood, is on the low end of the spectrum.

The recent Fall Town Meeting approved articles to acquire the Girl Scout property and rights-of-way through the American Legion and Deerfield School properties. This will allow for the construction of a bypass road and necessary parking facilities in advance of the new Police Headquarters, so that the existing Police Station and Town Hall can continue to operate during the development of the new Police Headquarters. These right-of-way improvements will also provide a safe connection between Deerfield Avenue and Westwood Glen Road for vehicles and pedestrians alike.

The Task Force will continue to work with the architects to refine the design plans. Final bid documents will be prepared to obtain a firm contract price for construction of the Police Headquarters for presentation to the Spring Annual Town Meeting.

For more information on the proposed new Police Headquarters:

Visit the website at <http://bit.ly/WestwoodPublicSafetyFacilities>

You can also check out the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/WestwoodPublicSafetyFacilities>

Residents are also welcome to call the Town Administrator at 781-326-4172 or the Police Chief at 781-320-1080.

Contributed by Town Hall



Westwood Police Explorer Program

Explorer Program

The Westwood Police Department is always recruiting and are constantly accepting applications for their Explorer program. The Westwood Police Department's Explorer program is for high school students interested in a future career in law enforcement, law, or public service. Explorers meet at the police station twice a month, learn police procedure, ride along with officers, and provide traffic and crowd control at town

events. Guest speakers come from the FBI, Secret Service, Homeland Security, and other local and national agencies.

For more information, or to request an application, visit the Explorer page under the "Services" tab of www.westwoodpd.org, or contact Sgt. Sicard at psicard@westwoodpd.org, or at 781-320-1000.

Contributed by Steven Cromack



Two Westwood Explorers demonstrate proper procedure while "in training."

Local Postal Customer



Where In Westwood...
will you find this beautiful flag?
Answer on page 2!

BULLETIN BOARD ***Winter 2015-2016***

Now through March 31, 2016

Dog Licensing at the Town Hall.
See story page 9.

December 22, 2015

Memory Cafe
2:15-3:30 p.m.
Westwood Senior Center
See story page 6.

December 24, 2015 through January 3, 2016

Schools closed for Winter Break

December 31, 2015

New Years Eve Fireworks
7:00 p.m.
High School
See page 8.

January 12, 2016

Nomination papers available for those registered
Westwood voters who wish to run for Town
positions will be available.
See story page 7.

January 18, 2016

Schools closed for Martin Luther King Day

February 5, 2016

Submissions due for the next quarterly publication of
this newsletter, which is due to be delivered to
homes on or about March 15, 2015.

Submit by mail to:

Diane Thornton, Editor,
Westwood Community Newsletter,
580 High Street, Westwood, MA 02090
or by e-mail: newsletter@townhall.westwood.ma.us

February 15, 2016 to February 19, 2016

Schools closed for February vacation

February 24, 2016

Preschool Screening. Contact Jeanne Bylsma,
Administrative Assistant at 781-326-7500, ext. 5113
to schedule an appointment for your child.
See story page 5.

March 12, 2016

March into Summer
High School
10-2 p.m.
See page 8.