



Westwood Public Library Update
Tricia Perry, Library Director
4 June 2019

Westwood Third Grade 1868 History Day

This year I was invited to participate in the annual Third Grade visit to the Fischer School for the 1868 History Day Program, led this year by Charlie Donahue. I had a fabulous time learning about Westwood history, Reading, Writing (with quill pens) and Arithmetic . A spirited third grade class did a great job with the Spelling Bee – and lunch and recess were quite fun. I brought along embroidery hoops and embroidery floss and several of the students learned how to make “daisy stitch” flowers on muslin during the recess. Just a wonderful event – which is now in its 20th year!

Westwood Media Center created a YouTube video of the school day last year. Here is a link to that video in case anyone is interested in seeing what the program looks like.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YPIgupyGRZ4>

Staffing

Staff Retirement:

Susan White will be retiring from the Westwood Public Library effective June 28th. Susan has been a member of the staff for 18 years, starting first as an intern in 2001, when she retired from the Bank of Boston. We have truly been the lucky beneficiaries of that choice, as both staff and patrons have had the opportunity to experience first-hand Susan's love of laughter and sense of humor!

The position was posted internally, and at this time we have extended an offer of employment as well.

Teen Librarian – Meeting with Select Board scheduled for Monday, June 24th

Employee Evaluations –During the month of June, I will be working with all of our Library Department Heads to coordinate annual employee evaluations.

Professional Development:

The month of May was a busy month for several staff members who participated in and attended several conferences. Molly Riportella and Lizzy McGovern were panelists at the Massachusetts Library Association Conference in May – hosting a presentation on increased staff competencies and some of the enhanced Readers' Advisory services that are available now at the Westwood Public Library, including the “Read Next” program that was rolled out in November 2018. Several other library staff attended the conference as well.

Last week, Claire Connors and Molly Riportella attended the Library “Day of Dialog” and Book Expo in New York City, and returned with many signed copies of new books and a host of ideas for upcoming author events and information about hot new titles.

Kristy Pasquariello will be attending the American Library Association's 2019 Annual Conference | June 20 - 25, 2019 in Washington, D.C.

Teen Mentors: This year we had three mentors who contributed many hours of community service to the Library's "Teen Scene". On May 22nd, Sarah Baroud (YFS) and Library staff celebrated their efforts with a small party. Letters acknowledging their service will be sent from the Trustee Chair, Paul Fitzgerald.

- Maria Kontogiannis
- Parsa Masomi
- Bonnie Liu

Friends of the Westwood Public Library: The Friends of the Library hosted their annual meeting in early May, and they now have a full-time President (Tina Bronkhorst) and Vice President (Megan McCarthy Schmidt).

Programming

Planning for the **Summer Reading** Program is underway, and this year the theme is "Universe of Stories." We will be hosting three programs again this year, targeted for a variety of ages, including children, teens, and adults. New "Summer Reading Champion Lives Here" signs will also be featured again this year. A special event is planned for July 31st featuring "Mini Whinnies" – miniature ponies and bunnies (with the Sunny Rock 4H Group!).

Teen Study Night – Monday, June 10th!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND AUTHOR EVENTS

Summer Reading has now officially kicked off, and school visits are underway. Over the course of the next several weeks, the children's librarians will visit each class in grades K – 5 to share information about the summer reading program, and to highlight some of their new favorite titles. This year, the children's librarians also partnered with Westwood Media Center to create a short video that explains it all! The link to the video is below – and it is also on the library's website as well.

https://youtu.be/_yeFkG71Xa0

Seeding It Forward (Seed Lending at the Westwood Public Library): The Library has received a donation of seeds from several seed growers. We will be sharing these with library patrons and asking that they try to "harvest" some of their seeds in anticipation of a "seed swap" next year.

Keepsake Garden Stepping Stones–Saturday, June 15th from 9 – 1.

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Book Buzz Panel - Favorite Reads from your Westwood Librarians:

- Thursday, July 18th

Library Crawl – the annual Minuteman Library Network Library Crawl will take place on Thursday, August 1st.