



**Westwood Public Library
Director's Report
2 October 2017**

Westwood Day

Thank you to our Library Trustees, Friends of the Westwood Public Library and library staff for their support of this year's town-wide Westwood Day celebration. The Library tent was a very busy place, thanks to all of you. The Friends added 45 new adult email addresses into their Constant Contact database – from the entries for the Kindle giveaway – which attracted 120 entries! The Friends have contacted the winners, and will be sharing their photos and details of the event in the local paper. Lizzy McGovern and Joyce Levine staffed the tent as well – and Manisha Trevidi's creative henna tattoos ensured a great teen participation. I think that Manisha painted well over 250 tattoos in the four hours that she was there. Thank you to everyone who participated! The weather and the company were great!

Community Gallery Exhibit

The Westwood Land Trust and Westwood Public Schools will be the focus of the upcoming gallery display. The exhibit opens on Thursday, October 26th with an opening reception from 6 pm – 7 pm. The exhibit will run through November 30th. This year the opening event will feature a live bee hive (glass-encased) to tie in the nature theme.

LSTA Readers' Advisory Grant

We are closing out our LSTA Readers' Advisory Programming. Some of the activities that staff participated in throughout this grant year include

- November 17, 2016: In-House Staff Training Presentation: "Readers' Advisory Tools – Databases and Websites for Mysteries." Program was led by 2 Library Department Heads.
- Thursday, December 15, 2016: "Filling Your RA Toolbox" presented by Stephanie Anderson, Assistant Director for Public Services at the Darien Public Library, CT.
- Thursday, March 23, 2017: RA Workshop presented by Lean Ellis.
- September 28, 2017: RA Workshop presented by Nanci Hill Milone Workshop with tips and techniques for facilitating book group discussions, discussed women's fiction and mysteries as well as trends in publishing.
- June 13, 2017: 7:30 pm: Mystery Writer Brunonia Barry author of *The Fifth Petal* Author presentation and book talk—open to the public.
- September 28, 2017: Mystery Making BookTalk with members of the Sisters in Crime New England Chapter (Hank Phillippi Ryan, Elizabeth Elo, Sheila Connelly and Clea Simon.
- Friday Morning Mysteries Bookgroup: A new monthly library staff-led mystery book discussion group created – now an ongoing program.
- Staff Development: Massachusetts Library Association Conference in Hyannis, MA Six staff members were able to attend their very first professional conference!

- Book Displays, Shelf-Talkers and engaging conversations -- ongoing!
Handouts featuring additional options for reading choices are also created and are integrated into the displays.

Children's Services: On Thursday, October 5th and Thursday, October 12th -- 6th grade classes will walk to the Library in the morning with Cathy Bolger (Middle School Librarian), accompanied by Middle School teachers and several parents. The students will spend the morning at the library with different stations set up and staffed by the Westwood Librarians. Students are introduced to library resources, including print and digital collections, databases, the Teen Room, and have an opportunity to see first-hand how the sorter and self-check work. The morning visit concludes with a 15-20 minute book talk highlighting some new and interesting teen titles which are sure to be sought out later in the afternoon by some of the students. Special thanks to Lizzy McGovern for organizing this annual event.

Fall Storytimes are back up and running – and this year Lizzy is leading a teen reading group on early-release Wednesdays. This week 19 students participated in the group.

Islington Branch Library:

Activities are well underway for the fall including storytimes, MMO visits, Sit 'n Knit on Thursday mornings, and Legos.

Staffing:

On Friday, October 6, 2017, all permanent municipal employees (who work 20 plus hours a week) will participate in a town-wide team building program. The event will take place at Hale Reservation's Powisset Lodge, from 8:30 am – 1 pm. Most of the activities will take place outdoors (weather permitting) and the event will take place rain or shine. It is considered a mandatory event for all non-emergency personnel.

Other Events/Activities

The Westwood Public Library's Annual Volunteer Reception was held this past week. This is an annual event recognizing the contributions of the many volunteers who give so much of their time and talents to the Westwood Public Library. Special thanks to Terry Duane, Kathy Rose, Liz Keefe, Karen Gallagher and Claire Connors for their involvement in the day's festivities.

The Friends of the Library Booksale

Thursday, October 12th through Saturday October 14th

Fine Forgiveness – October 1st through October 31st -- donations in lieu of fines. Flyer attached