



Director's Report

Tricia Perry

9 May 2016

STRATEGIC PLAN: WESTWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY IS PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE!

We are well on our way in terms of the planning process for our strategic planning initiative. Two focus groups were held last week. On Tuesday evening, 4/26 the Library hosted the Community Focus Group. There were 28 participants from the community and they really did an incredible job! On Thursday, 4/28, the Library staff met as a focus group as well.

I expect to have a draft of the plan ready for review by the Trustees by July/August. The deadline for submittal to the MBLC is October 1st. We will be following up with the members of the Community Focus Group as well to ask for their input once the written draft is complete.

RESOURCES AND COLLECTIONS

One of the most highly used sections of the Library's Collections is the travel section. Efforts are currently underway by the Reference Staff to conduct a thorough analysis of the collection and identify areas for updating. This project is being overseen by our Adult Services Librarian, Molly Riportella.

PROGRAMMING

School Visits – beginning in the next few weeks, our Children's Department staff will begin their annual classroom visits. Visits will be conducted at all of the elementary schools and will also include several day care visits as well. Participating are Lizzy McGovern, Head of Children's Services, Hannah Gavalis, Karen Cagan, Suzie Canale and Jenny Durant.

Summer Reading Programming is being finalized. In addition to the Children's Summer Reading initiatives, this year the Library will also be highlighting Young Adult and Adult Summer Reading Programs. Additional details will be available soon!

Exam Study Week – looking forward to another Final Exam Study period. Will be coordinating efforts with Principal Sean Bevan and High School PTO. Dates proposed for Teen Study Nights: Wednesday 6/19; Thursday 6/16; Monday 6/20.

MUSEUM PASSES: The warm weather is here, and it's a great opportunity to explore using the Museum and Destination Passes available at the Westwood Public Library. Pawtucket Red Sox, Boston Harbor Cruises, Museums and Zoos are just a few of the options. **New in 2016 is the Mass Parks Pass**, which allows free day parking at over 50 facilities in the Massachusetts State Parks System that charge a day-use parking fee. Locations include Horseneck Beach; Hopkinton State Park (think canoes, paddleboards, kayaks and swimming); Nantasket Beach; Borderland State Park and many other locations. A list of the Library's current passes is attached. You can reserve up to 30 days ahead – and there are so many places to explore!

Visit our website: www.westwoodlibrary.org

STAFFING:

Library staff is currently working on developing updated job descriptions in preparation for a Library Re-Classification Study. This work is being done with the support of the Town's Human Resources Department – and Linda Unger and Joan Courtney Murray are working closely with the staff as we move forward. The last reclassification was done in 2004; and many of the responsibilities and duties have changed since that time.

Position Vacancy: Nancy Weinrich has given notice that she will be resigning her position as a Part-Time Reference Librarian in order to be able to devote more time and energy to her full-time job. Nancy has worked here in Westwood for several years on Wednesday evenings, and it has been a pleasure and a privilege to have had her as a member of our staff. The Board of Selectmen approved our request to post and fill this position at their meeting on May 2nd.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY – Upcoming meetings

The Friends of the Westwood Library are in the process of revising their by-laws. A by-law review committee was established, and under the direction of Sue Burgess, revisions to the by-laws have been proposed. If you have responded to the Friends of the Westwood Public Library Annual Appeal with a donation, you are a member of the Friends Corporation. As a member, you are invited to join us for any of their deliberations. Meetings will be held at the Westwood Public Library.

April 5th/7 pm Friends of the Library Meeting
Elephant Company – author evening with Vicki Croke Constantine

May 25th/7 pm Friends of the Library Annual Meeting
Election of Officers; Voting on revised by-laws

June 6th/9 am Friends of the Library Board Meeting

SENIOR INDEPENDENT PROJECT PROGRAM – SIPP

This past year I have been working with Ilana Goldberg on her Senior Independent Project Program. This program offers High School Seniors an opportunity to create a project around a passion outside of the school curriculum. Students must apply for, interview for, and be accepted into the program during their junior year. This year the course had 36 students. Ilana approached us last May with an interest in developing a program related to reading and literacy. For the past year, I have worked with Ilana as her project mentor. Her project was the creation of a reading group for teens – which she titled the “JUST FOR FUN TEEN BOOK GROUP”. Lizzy McGovern, Hannah Gavalis, Molly Riportella and Teresa Kerrigan also worked with Ilana and provided encouragement, information and feedback.

Ilana has a tremendous work ethic, and took her role very seriously. She worked hard to prepare for the project, and continued to make adjustments during the course of the year to improve the experience for those participating, and to reach out to generate more interest and involvement. I hope that we will be able to build on her success and continue the book group moving forward. Ilana is headed off to Marist College in the fall, and I know that she will do great things there as well!

ISLINGTON BRANCH – LETTERS

In the past several weeks, two letters have been received from patrons who took the time to hand write letters complimenting the staff at the Islington Branch Library.

March 7, 2016

To the Librarians at Islington

Thank you for helping me with setting aside the speed book, My Name is Lucy Barton so that I could have it and finish it for the weekend. Thank you also for helping in my hunt for a good audiobook. You make your library such a welcoming place!

Charles J. Hely, Associate Justice

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Superior Court

Three Pemberton Square

Boston, MA 02108

May 2016

Thank You – You didn't have to do what you did, and that's what made it so special

To Westwood/Islington Library Staff:

Thank you so much for the kindness and support you showed my sister over all these many years. A special thanks to Mary who picked out a new batch of great books every few weeks and somehow managed to make them ones she hadn't read. Books were her window to the world; and because of her CP, she wouldn't have had a chance to experience many things if it were not for the books that took her along with them. She always said she was never lonely as long as she had a good book! Thanks again for brightening her world.

Sincerely

Ann (Glennon) Gallagher and the family of Mary Lou Glennon

Museum Passes

Reserve online with your Westwood Library Card

Visit our website: www.westwoodlibrary.org

Thank you to the Friends of the Library and all of our community sponsors for making these passes available!

MAY 2016! MASS STATE PARKS PASS

Borrow a ParksPass and discover your Massachusetts State Free parking at over 50 facilities in the Massachusetts State Parks System that charge a day-use parking fee

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/>

AUDUBON SOCIETY-DRUMLIN FARM & OTHER AUDUBON SANCTUARIES

Sponsored by Westwood Rotary Club
ADMITS 4—\$2.00 PER PERSON

BOSTON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Sponsored by Coldwell Banker and the Westwood Schools PTOs

www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org
ADMITS 4—1/2 PRICE PER PERSON

BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS

Sponsored by the Boston Harbor Alliance
Boston's Best Cruises, Long Wharf Boston
<http://bostonharborcruises.com/>
2-for-1 Ferry Passes to Boston Harbor Islands Weekdays Only

FAIRBANKS HOUSE

Sponsored by the Fairbanks House
www.fairbankshouse.org
ADMITS 2

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Sponsored by Rockland Trust Bank
www.icaboston.org
ADMITS 2—\$5 PER PERSON

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM

Sponsored by Holly Joe Interiors
www.gardnermuseum.org
ADMITS 4—\$5 PER PERSON

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

Sponsored by Patterson Insurance
www.jfklibrary.org
ADMITS 2 - \$3 PER PERSON

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Sponsored by Dedham Savings Bank
www.mfa.org
ADMITS 2—\$10 PER PERSON

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Sponsored by New England Baptist Hospital
www.mos.org
ADMITS 4—\$10 PER PERSON

MYSTIC AQUARIUM

Sponsored by Mystic Aquarium
www.mysticaquarium.org
ADMITS 4—SAVE \$5 PER PERSON

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Sponsored by Wegmans Food Market, Westwood
www.neaq.org
ADMITS 4—\$10 PER PERSON

NEW ENGLAND QUILT MUSEUM

Sponsored by Quinobequin Quilters Guild
www.nequiltmuseum.org
ADMITS 2

PAWTUCKET RED SOX (April 2016)

Sponsored by AAA New England Westwood Office
www.pawsox.com
With Library Pass: (6) General Admission tickets for \$27;
or \$5 per ticket up to (6) tickets.—at Box Office

PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM

Sponsored anonymously by a Westwood resident
www.pem.org
ADMITS 2— \$6 PER PERSON WEEKDAYS
\$12 PER PERSON WEEKENDS

PLIMOTH PLANTATION

Sponsored by Roche Bros.
www.plimoth.org
2 ADULTS/ \$12 PER ADULT
2 CHILDREN/\$8 PER CHILD

ROGER WILLIAMS PARK ZOO

Sponsored by the Westwood Early Childhood Council
www.rwpzoo.org
ADMITS 4
\$11.95 PER ADULT: \$9.95 PER SENIOR
\$6.95 PER CHILD

USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM

Sponsored by the USS Constitution Museum
www.usconstitutionmuseum.org
Free Admission-groups of up to 9 people
2015/16 Touring Old Ironsides is a separate activity and is subject to dry-docking schedule.

ZOO NEW ENGLAND

Sponsored by the Westwood Early Childhood Council
Franklin Park Zoo—Boston
Stone Zoo—Stoneham
www.zoonewengland.org
ADMITS 6—\$6 PER ADULT
\$4 PER CHILD

