



Westwood Public Library
Director's Report
13 October 2016

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. We had several volunteers working with the Recreation Department to staff events and activities, and more than a dozen volunteers for the Library/Friends of the Library tent as well! Miniature Golf, Corn Hole, Henna and a raffle for a Samsung Galaxy Tablet (donated by Hoopla and BestBuy in Dedham) as well as a Family Pass to Plimoth Plantation drew a lot of interested participants.

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 27th with an opening reception from 6 pm – 8 pm. The exhibit will run through December 16th. If you would like additional information about exhibiting art for the show, you can call 781-326-5433 for more information.

Strategic Plan

The Westwood Public Library Strategic Plan for 2017-2021 has been submitted to the MBLC. Copies of the plan will be uploaded to the Library's website. On behalf of the Library Trustees and Library Staff, I would like to thank all of the community members who contributed to the development of this new strategic plan, either by responding to the library survey, talking with Trustees and staff, or by their interaction as part of the Community Focus Group.

Talk With A Trustee: Members of the Library's Board of Trustees will be available to meet with Westwood residents and library patrons from 10 – 12 at the Main Library on Saturday, October 15th and Saturday, November 5th. Stop in and stay for a cup of coffee and conversation!

Departmental Highlights:

- **Reference/Adult Services** – One of the most well-used collections at the Library is the Travel Collection. During the past few months the travel collection has been completely updated, and we have added more than 400 items to the collection. Publishers include AAA, Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC), Berlitz, Birnbaum, Bradt, DK Eyewitness, Explorer's Guide, Fodor's, Footprint, Frommer's, Insiders and Insight Guides, Let's Go, Lonely Planet, Michelin, Moon, National Geographic, Off the Beaten Path, Rick Steves' and Rough Guide. We have also added a new series titled, "Not For Tourists" with 2016 editions featuring some of the most popular U. S. destinations, including Boston, Brooklyn, Chicago, New York, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C.
- **Children's Services:** Lizzy McGovern, Hannah Gavalis, Molly Riportella, Teresa Kerrigan, Karen Gallagher, Caroline Tighe, Liz Keefe, Kathy Rose, Suzie Canale, Karen Cagan and Terry Duane put together another successful series of "6th Grade Visits" this month. On Thursday, October 6th and Thursday, October 13th, 6th grade classes walked over to the library at 9 am with Cathy Bolger (Middle School Librarian), accompanied by Middle School teachers and several parents.

The students 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. This year the book talks were presented by Lizzy, Molly, Hannah and Teresa—and included a variety of genres and reading levels. Special thanks to Lizzy McGovern for organizing this annual event, and for making this such a successful and fun adventure for all involved!

- One particular highlight of the Children’s Fall programming was an **Intro to Engineering with Legos**. The workshop was led by Westwood High School’s Robotic Team, with children in grades 2 and 3 using Legos to learn concepts of engineering in both the building side of engineering and the programming/computer science side of engineering. The Robotics Team hopes to repeat this workshop again in the spring.
- **Islington Branch Library:** Thanks to the efforts of the DPW and Jim McCarthy, the branch library now has a new boiler – which is now installed and operational!

Other activities that are now well underway for the fall include storytimes, MMO visits to the Branch, Sit ‘n Knit on Thursday mornings, and Legos will be starting up shortly.

- **Circulation:** Karen Gallagher has started in her new position as Head of Circulation Services.

Other Upcoming Events/Activities

Evenings at 7 pm in the Library’s Community Room

Sponsored by the Friends of the Westwood Public Library

- **November 1st** – Ted Reinstein from Chronicle presents “Wicked Pissed – Boston’s Most Famous Feuds”
 - **November 3rd** – Marjorie Turner Hollman presents “Easy Walks and More Easy Walks in Massachusetts”.
 - **November 10th** – Stephen Puleo presents “American Treasures: The Secret Efforts to Save the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Gettysburg Address”.

 - **December 10th** – Family Program: Keepsake Ornaments (10 am – 1 pm). Bring photo/or photos that can be photocopied and placed into a special glass ornament that you can decorate for your tree or to liven up a winter window!
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Friends of the Library Booksale will be held from Thursday, November 3rd through Saturday November 5th. If you have books, audiobooks or DVDs that you wish to donate, these materials may be dropped off at the Main Library during regular library hours