



# WESTWOOD

## A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

### Westwood prepares for Annual Town Meeting



As we do every Spring, Westwood is hard at work gearing up for our annual Town Meeting. Held on Monday, May 4th 2020, Town Meeting provides residents an opportunity to learn about various projects occurring within the Town and any proposed modifications to existing legislation.

Residents are presented with the ability to vote on all the articles that are on the meeting's agenda. These articles have been in the work's for an entire year (in some cases, more) and have the impact to positively change the future and landscape of Westwood. All residents are encouraged to attend for the opportunity to remain in the know about happenings around Town and to let their voices be heard. See you there!

#### **An important note from the Police Department:**

From now until - March 31st, there is a Town wide overnight parking ban. In order to ensure snow plows can efficiently clear roads and emergency vehicles can quickly reach their destinations, it is imperative that you do not park on the street. If you violate this ban, you are subject to ticketing and towing.



# 30th ANNUAL WESTWOOD FISHING DERBY



**Sponsored by**  
North Walpole Fish and Game  
Westwood Permanent Firefighters Local 1994  
Bass Pro Shops

Sat, May 9th 7:00-11:00  
at Buckmaster Pond

## YOUTH DIVISION

*ages 15 & under - FREE*

Prizes will be awarded! Participants must bring their own fishing pole.

## ADULT DIVISION

*ages 16 & up - \$10*

Prizes will be awarded for heaviest fish caught. Adult participants must obey all Massachusetts Fish & Game regulations. Adults register on the day of the event.

## FUN & GAMES

Concessions—Coffee, Doughnuts, Water, Soda, Hot Dogs and more  
Dry land fishing games led by North Walpole Fish and Game

## Westwood Community Electricity Aggregation

Back in May 2019, Westwood residents approved the **Community Electricity Aggregation (CEA)**, a program to aggregate the electricity supply for residents and businesses in Westwood and provide options for increasing the use of local, renewable energy.

The implementation of the CEA program is a multi-step process regulated by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and can take a year or more to be completed. The Select Board is responsible for the development of the program and for entering into an agreement with an energy supplier.

As mandated in the Warrant article, the Select Board (SB) appointed a 5-member advisory group (referred to as a Working Group) to oversee the process, keep it on track, and communicate with residents. We, the Working Group members, wanted to let you know where the town is in the process.

### What has been happening with CEA since May?

- In August (8/5/19), we signed the agreement with a broker (Good Energy) to help us design and implement the aggregation and provide future monitoring. Good Energy was vetted and recommended, after a competitive bidding process, by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), had been working with area towns, and has experience in the aggregation of multiple communities.
- This fall, we developed, provided to the public for comments, and approved the Community Electricity Implementation Plan. This process was completed at the SB meeting of November 12, 2019, when the SB authorized our broker to submit the Plan to the Department of Public Utilities (DPU).
- Our next step is to submit the Plan to the DPU. Our broker is currently waiting to submit our plan (as well as plans of other towns in the queue) in order to incorporate some new best practices from the DPU. Once it is submitted, the timeline for the DPU approval of our plan is variable.
- After that the Town will issue a request for proposals and select an energy supplier. At that point we will start to have more details about the optional percentages of local, renewable energy and their costs.

### What do residents need to know?

- The CEA has not started in Westwood. The earliest anticipated start date is summer 2020. Any offers residents receive via email or phone or mail to sign up for renewable energy supply are not related to the CEA.
- Updates on the process will be posted on the CEA web site <https://westwood-cea.com>
- When the CEA program is ready to be launched, postcards will be sent to residents and articles will be published in the WIRE and local newspapers. All information regarding the program's choices and how to opt in or out of the program will be provided by mail on Town letterhead. The Town website will also post information on the main page.

For any questions please contact, the CEA Working Group  
Maria Costantini, Juliana Belding, Julianne Bride, Peter Kane, and Jack Wiggin

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## Westwood Department of Public Works

**Summer Paving Projects:** Brook Street, Chester Avenue, Conant Road, Country Lane, Dover Road, Dover Terrace, High Street, Lorraine Road, Lynn Terrace, & Sunset Road.

**Household Bulk Collection Event: Week of March 23, 2020**-mark your calendars (or rely on the Recycle Coach App for reminders):

- Free Curbside pickup of ONE bulk item (per household) on your regular trash day
- Item must be at your curbside by 7:00am on your regular trash collection day
- No appliances, TVs, computers or monitors (nothing with a plug)
- No construction waste, hazardous waste or metal items
- Visit [westwoodrecycling.com](http://westwoodrecycling.com) or call 781.251.2587 for more information

## Westwood Cultural Council

The Westwood Cultural Council, part of the larger Massachusetts Cultural Council, has finalized its grant awarding process for the 2020 grant year. This year they received 17 applications.

The Council has funded, either whole or in part, a variety of projects. The COA will receive funding for a musical performance by Tommy Full. In addition, the Audubon Society will present a program on birds at the COA. The Library received funding for two programs. Gregory Maichach will be presenting another of his well received pastel painting workshops, and Books in Bloom will brighten the winter.

The schools received grants as well. The Integrated Preschool will host a program combining art and yoga. The Martha Jones students will learn more about recycling, and some Westwood High students will be able to experience a hands on J term experience,

The Council will be accepting applications later for next year's grant cycle. For more information go to: [www.mass-culture.org](http://www.mass-culture.org).

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### WestwoodWinds invites musicians for 10th Season

WestwoodWinds Community Band, invites all Westwood-area musicians to participate in its 11<sup>th</sup> concert season. Rehearsals are scheduled on seven consecutive Mondays from 6:30 – 8:30pm in the Westwood High School Band Room starting June 15, 2020. Interested residents can sign up at <https://westwoodwinds.org/join-us> or by attending the first “open house” rehearsal on June 15. Any interested musician can sit in, try the music, meet the people and then decide with no obligation to join. Refreshments will be served.

The band performs variety of musical styles including, light classics, patriotic, pop, TV and movie themes, Broadway, and jazz. This year’s concert theme is “Going Places” will feature pieces that represent major cities or areas of our country as well as a premier of a piece composed especially for this year’s band concert.

WestwoodWinds will perform a public concert Monday, August 3, 2020 at 6:30 PM in the WHS Cafeteria Court Yard. Additional concerts will be held at Fox Hill Village, August 4, and on Westwood Day, September 26.

James Giurleo, former Westwood Public Schools K-12 Director of Performing Arts, first organized WestwoodWinds the summer of 2010. Under his direction, musicians ranging in age between 14 and 80 with skill levels spanning amateur through professional, performed rousing concerts each year since. “I look forward to greeting returning band members and to meeting new ones” says Giurleo. “More than 120 band members joined the band over the past nine years and some have faithfully returned every year. Many members are my former students and it is wonderful to see how music still plays such a powerful role in their lives. WestwoodWinds is a great way to bring back the joy of making music with neighbors and friends. Anyone who successfully participated in their high school band will feel comfortable with the musical challenges of WestwoodWinds.”

For more information, go to the WestwoodWinds web site at [www.westwoodwinds.org](http://www.westwoodwinds.org) or contact James Giurleo by email at [westwoodwinds1@verizon.net](mailto:westwoodwinds1@verizon.net) or call (508) 468-5288.



## Can You Help a Young Child In Need?

Did you know that there are families in Westwood that cannot afford preschool due to a family crisis, job loss, or medical emergency? The Westwood Early Childhood Council is seeking financial assistance for Westwood children. In an attempt to help these families, the Westwood Early Childhood Council established a tuition assistance program. This fund was created in memory of Kathy Scales, a long time Westwood resident and much loved preschool teacher. Please donate today to make a difference in the life of a child in our community. Your donation, no matter how big or small, may be the difference between a child going to preschool or missing out on a very valuable experience. Preschool programs provide supportive environments where children can learn and develop age appropriate skills.

Together we can build a foundation for a lifetime of learning for children in need. Thank you for your generosity.

Please make checks payable to:

Westwood Early Childhood Council  
Hanlon School  
790 Gay St.  
Westwood, MA 02090



For more information please contact Janet Lucey (781) 461-9548 or [jlucey@westwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:jlucey@westwood.k12.ma.us)

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## Westwood American Legion Post 320

The Westwood American Legion Post 320 made their annual contribution to the American Legion Charities. Donations help provide: financial assistance to military and veteran families with children at home who are in need; relief for families of veterans who have suffered devastating losses after natural disasters; employment opportunities for transitioning service members through the hosting of job fairs; representation on Capitol Hill to protect military retiree benefits and to ensure quality of life for military members and veterans, and youth an opportunity to participate in one of the Legion's premier youth programs such as Legion Baseball, Boys National, Oratorical Contest or Shooting Sports.

The following are the specific charities that are included. The Legacy Scholarship provides college scholarship money to children of post-9/11 veterans who died on active duty or have a combined VA disability rating of 50 percent or greater. Operation Comfort Warriors donation will be used to supply wounded warriors with comfort items and assistance. National Emergency Fund helps distressed veterans in the aftermath of a natural disaster. Child Welfare Foundation "To contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual needs of children and youth; to improve the lives of children and youth through funding projects or in other ways, including youth activities and programs sponsored by The American Legion." Soldier's Wish was designed to identify the unmet needs of U.S. military personnel, veterans and their families, and provide the necessary resources to meet those needs. The non-profit organization is saluting and serving our nation's heroes this summer by traveling to seven special events throughout the country with The American Legion and the History Channel to grant wishes and educate Americans about the needs of veterans and service members.

Membership in the American Legion offers many benefits that include involvement in community programs, a voice in Washington DC, investment in children's activities, education and camaraderie. Of course our main focus is for veteran's rights and their families. Which is why we continue to lobby in Washington for veterans as well as current servicemen and women.

To learn more, contact the Westwood American Legion please call 781-329-6241 or visit us online

<http://westwoodalpost320.com/>

## Westwood Historical Society

### Maureen Taylor, Photo Detective



**Tuesday, April 14, 7:30 pm**

Maureen Taylor will present a special program on her work using old photos to map a path to other relatives, preserve the story of your ancestors and share it with future descendants. Maureen Taylor is an internationally recognized expert on historic photograph identification, photo preservation and family history research.

*Sponsored by the Westwood Historical Society, the program will be held at the Fisher School (830 High Street), Westwood. Free, handicap-accessible and open to the public.*



### 1800s School Day

In May, the Historical Society will once again host all of Westwood's third graders at the Fisher School. This program gives our schoolchildren the opportunity to step back in time and see what school was like in the 1800s. The program was originally designed by Joan Swann and Elaine Nye, continued by Irene Buonopane and is now coordinated by Charlie Donahue. This year, Charlie expects to have the help of over 20 volunteers!

**Question: Would You Come to an "1800s School Program"?** We'd like to offer a one-hour program on the 1800s School Program – during May (while everything is set up), but in the evening for **anyone** (not just Westwood third graders). Charlie Donahue has graciously offered to host this program: provide us all with information about the lessons and books they use, the games they play and share more about the history and excitement of the day. **If you would be interested in such a program, please send us an e-mail at: [westwoodhistorical@comcast.net](mailto:westwoodhistorical@comcast.net).**

### Quarter Century Award

The Quarter Century Award is presented each year to a person or couple who have made significant contributions to the Westwood community for more than 25 years. The contribution can be in any field, such as education, religion, arts, civic or social service. (See our website for past recipients.)

*To make a nomination, please send a letter to the Historical Society describing your nominee(s) and their contributions to Westwood. Letters should be mailed to: Westwood Historical Society, P.O. Box 2575, Westwood, MA 02090 – and received by May 31, 2020 for the 2020 Quarter Century award.*

For more information, please visit ([www.westwoodhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.westwoodhistoricalsociety.com)) or e-mail us ([westwoodhistorical@comcast.net](mailto:westwoodhistorical@comcast.net))

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## Westwood Public Schools



Bus Drivers will have a list of Registered Students. At the end of August, the Bus Routes will be posted on the District Website. Please check your Aspen Portal to see what Bus # your child(ren) have been assigned.

The annual bus fee for 2020-2021 will be \$180.00 per student. The annual family cap will remain at \$450.00 for all students in grades K-12.

### Online Bus Registration

If you are interested in Bus Transportation for your child, please visit the Westwood Public Schools' website at [www.westwood.k12.ma.us](http://www.westwood.k12.ma.us) and click on, On-Line Payments, Bus Transportation Registration & Payment. After reading the FAQ's, you can Register and pay online for Transportation.

**To guarantee a seat on the bus, registration and payment must be received by the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.**

Parents will need their child's Student ID # (except for Kindergarten) which can be found on elementary school lunch invoices, middle school lunch cards, report cards or high school ID cards. Please make sure to enter the grade your child will be entering **next** September.

## Westwood Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee



Westwood's Comprehensive Plan Update is nearing final draft form. A Comprehensive Plan is a long range policy document that focuses on Westwood's vision and strategies to achieve that vision. The Steering Committee has been working over the last year and half to update the 2000 Plan for 2020. The Committee is in the process of incorporating all comments received and working on final editing to return to the Planning Board in spring 2020 to present a final updated Comprehensive Plan for 2020. The Committee is working towards a goal of presenting a final updated in late April or early May.

For more information and drafts please visit the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee's webpage at [www.bit.do/WWComprehensiveplan](http://www.bit.do/WWComprehensiveplan). The first drafts are available for viewing and the updated final drafts will be uploaded as they are finalized and available, which is anticipated in April 2020.

The best way to stay informed about meetings and when a public hearing on a fully updated Comprehensive Plan will be presented to the Planning Board at a public hearing is by signing up to receive email notifications for public meetings. Please subscribe at <http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/mytown/>

Please contact Abby McCabe, Town Planner at [amccabe@townhall.westwood.ma.us](mailto:amccabe@townhall.westwood.ma.us) or 781-251-2581 with questions.

## Spring at the Council on Aging

Here at the Westwood Senior Center, we are planning some new and interesting programs that we hope you will stop in and enjoy! Please call the Center (781-329-8799) to sign up for any of these lectures and check out our newsletter for more details and other programs.

To begin with, we are offering a few mind/body programs that will help you stay healthy and involved as you age.

### Cooking Class at Powisset Farm

**Thurs, March 26 & April 23, 11am—\$15/ per class**

Join us at Powisset Farm as we learn new and unique cooking techniques and recipes. In March we will work on breakfast foods and in April we will learn about Dumplings from Around the World. Space is limited so you must sign up in advance.

### Lunch and learn with Eddie

**Tues, March 31, \$3 donation, registration required**

"CBD, Fact and Myth". What is CBD and the difference between THC. What is the 2018 Hemp Farming Act? What questions to ask when pondering purchases, and what meds will interact with CBD. Come with your questions and concerns and learn the facts.

### Intro to Drawing with Brenda

**Thurs, Mar 12 & 26, Apr 9 & 23 10am, \$5/ class**

Learn basic drawing techniques & composition. Explore new materials while creating your own artwork.

### Walking Club with Maria & Angie

**Tuesdays at 9:30 am**

Meet at 9:30 at the trail head (*or at 9:10 at the Senior Center for carpooling*). Winter hiking requires water proof boots, micro spikes or other traction devices, possibly snow shoes, hiking poles for extra balance and traction, gaiters and/or waterproof pants. Please check you email in case of inclement weather.

**March 10**—Rocky Woods, Hartford St. Medfield

**March 24** - Powisset Pond and Strawberry Hill Trail, Hale Reservation on Carby St.

**April 7** Oak Hill and Powisset Farm—294 Powisset Road in Dover

**April 21**—Broadmoor Audubon Sanctuary, 80 Eliot Street in Natick

For more information about the above programs, including their associated cost, please contact:

**Westwood COA: 781-329-8799**

### Legends in Music with Bruce Hambro

**1pm, \$3 donation requested**

*March 10 - Cole Porter and Irving Berlin*

*April 21—Rogers and Hammerstein*

Come hear the music and stories of legendary Nat King Cole and Dinah Shore!

### Community Spotlight with Anna Jean, Mary, and Karen

**March 5 (at the library) & April 2. Registration required.**

*Thursday, March 5, 7pm at the Westwood Public Library*  
A special presentation on the topic will be given by Suzanne Mahler, an avid Gardener, Photographer, and Lecturer. On Thursday, April 2, at 1:30 pm at the COA . Abby McCabe the Town Planner will be reporting on the long-range goals for Westwood over the next decade.

### Shredding Day at the Senior Center

**Thursday, April 16 10-1pm**

No cost for this program but please bring your material in easy to lift (not too heavy) paper bags. You are invited to quickly and safely dispose of sensitive and personal documents to further protect yourself from identity theft and fraud. Shred tax, financial, legal and other confidential documents for free and on site. Please remove 3 ring binders and large binder clips. It is not necessary to remove paper clips, staples and/or elastics.



### Volunteers drivers needed for Meals on Wheels

Can you spare a few hours once a week to deliver meals to homebound seniors in Westwood? If so, Elaine is looking for drivers. Please call her at 781-329-6514.





## Another Successful Year for the Bullying Prevention Theater Program!

Since 2011, Westwood Youth & Family Services has coordinated the Bullying Prevention Theater (BPT) Program. This unique program was developed by both adult staff and high school students, with a primary goal of creating a realistic and powerful way to educate and support the sixth-grade students of Westwood on the topic of bullying, particularly the effectiveness of bystanders. Given its distinctive approach and creative content, BPT won a Governor's Citation Award in 2011.

This year's BPT program began in September 2019 with thirty-three high school mentors spending over 600 total hours preparing and rehearsing for the performances which took place at Thurston Middle School in January. Mentors enthralled the sixth-grade class at Thurston with five skits about bullying, followed by thoughtful classroom discussions and related activities. The 223 sixth-graders were presented with real-life scenarios about bullying based on stereotypes, gender differences, and peer pressure, among other topics. Mentors acted out various ways in which bystanders can help to stop bullying from happening and offered strategies to take the power away from bullies.

The success of the program would not have been possible without support from the faculty and staff at both Thurston Middle School and Westwood High School. Most of all, Westwood Youth & Family Services wants to thank the high school mentors for their dedication to rehearsals and the performances, despite their very busy schedules! The 2019-2020 BPT Mentors were: Dylan Mullen, Emily Rast, Alex Mansour, Roisin O'Keeffe, Rachel Marcus, Jack Fascaldo, Nicola Midiri, Ava Gundal, Adrianna Centofanti, Fiona Garrity, Sophia Hebert, Eve Polvay, Ryan Mazzola, Holly Sullivan, Samantha Nelson, Grace Polvay, Cynthia Choueiri, Stacey Li, Annie Li, Sarah Bernardo, Olivia Methot, Olivia Lee, Alexandra Lapin, Isabell Rands, Magnus Woytek, Caroline Cole, Lucy Vitali, Alex Adourian, Julia McWeeney, Nick Horsfall, Emma Serrecchia, Julia Middleton and Lilly Hunter.



## Recognize a Youth Award

Westwood Rotary and Westwood Youth & Family Services (WY&FS) are seeking the public's help in identifying young people in our community that have demonstrated a commitment to helping others. We would like to celebrate these individuals by honoring them with the R.A.Y. (Recognize-A-Youth) Award. Recipients will have distinguished themselves through their initiative and commitment to community service and have demonstrated an ethic of caring for others that is essential to the health of our community. If you know of a young person that should be honored please nominate them for a R.A.Y. Award. The R.A.Y. Program will recognize more than one person should a group of young people be nominated for a group community service effort. The deadline for nominations is March 31st, 2020. Nomination forms will be accepted online, via email and by mail.



For more information go to:

[www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/departments/youth-family-services](http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/departments/youth-family-services) or contact:



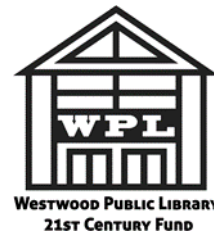
## Westwood Children Supported with Holiday Giving Program

This past December, for the nineteenth year in a row, Westwood Youth & Family Services managed the Holiday Giving Program for the town. The WY&FS Holiday Giving Program connects local sponsors with Westwood families in need of support during the holidays. This year, thirty-seven Westwood families and a total of sixty-eight children were supported due to the generous donations of fellow Westwood residents and businesses. Sponsors provided holiday gifts for children in a confidential program coordinated by the department. WY&FS happily distributed hundreds of gifts.

WY&FS would like to thank the many Westwood residents along with the following businesses and organizations for their support of the program: Dedham Savings Bank, The Rotary Club of Westwood, Westwood Girl Scouts, The Tobin School Westwood, Westwood Children's School, Westwood Police Department, Boy Scout Troop 1 Islington, First Baptist Church of Westwood and the Deerfield PTO.



## News from the Library– Spring 2020



### Westwood 21st Century Fund Invests in the Future for the Library

More than a decade ago, the Library Trustees created the non-profit Westwood Public Library 21<sup>st</sup> Century Fund as part of an ambitious capital campaign to build a new library for Westwood. After making a substantial contribution toward the construction of the new building, the Fund was able to establish an endowment for future capital needs and ongoing staff development.

Since its inception, the endowment has provided more than \$15,000 to fund staff development activities. Each year, library staff attend valuable courses and conferences, enabling them to develop innovative program offerings and improve service to patrons. Today, the effort to relocate and renovate the Islington Branch Library represents a new opportunity for the Fund to supplement town funding for our library system's capital, equipment and end user technology needs.

In order to preserve the library's endowment and provide for future library support, the Fund relies on the continuing support of the community. We strongly believe in the Fund's ongoing mission to help maintain and enhance the Library as a cultural center for all Westwood residents - children, teens and adults. Please visit the Fund online at [www.westwoodlibrary.org/wpl21stcentury](http://www.westwoodlibrary.org/wpl21stcentury) to learn more about our mission and make a tax-deductible donation.

With your support, we can continue to help the Library adapt to changing needs in the community and provide an even better level of service to patrons. If you have already donated to our recent fund raising drive, thank you!

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### Kids' Programs at the Islington Branch

280 Washington St, Westwood— 781-326-5914

**Lego Mania:** Join us Tuesday afternoons @ 3:30pm to hear a story and build a creation around the book.

**Drop in Craft:** Join us Thursday, April 23rd for a spring craft 3-4pm! Registration Required, please call 781-326-5914.

**Pajama-Rama Storytime:** Stories and songs with a sleepytime theme. Please come in your PJ's and bring a favorite blanket and stuffed animal, too!

3rd Wednesday of the Month: Mar 18th, Apr 15th, May 20th & Jun 17th @ 6:30PM

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### Adult Programs at the Islington Branch

#### Islington Branch Historical Fiction Book Group:

Join us to discuss some great historical fiction. Copies available at both libraries. Meeting at Dunkin Donuts in Islington temporarily. First Tuesday of the month @ 10am, check the website for titles and location. Drop in program.

#### Islington Branch Book Group:

Copies available at both libraries. Second Wednesday night of the month @ 6:30pm, check the website for titles. Drop in program.

#### 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, cozy mystery, or a knitting magazine. Thursdays, 10:00am-12:00pm temporarily at the Main Library. Drop in program.

## News from the Library– Spring 2020

### Adult Programs- Main Library:

wwdmail1@minlib.net – (781) 320-1045

#### **First Line Frenzy:**

FLF is a community learning project from longtime freelance book editor, Rebecca Heyman. Participants submit the first line of their novel (anonymously!), and Rebecca provides educational, supportive, nuanced critiques that help lead authors to a better understanding of what makes a great opening line. Authors who wish to have their work included in the live presentation should email their novel's first line to [beccaheyman@gmail.com](mailto:beccaheyman@gmail.com) with subject line "First Line Frenzy". All are welcome! Join us to learn about what makes a strong opening line, and get other tips & writing advice from Rebecca. Registration is encouraged, though not required.

*Wednesday, March 4 @ 7:00pm*

#### **Narcissism and How To Recover From It:**

The word narcissism is heard frequently today. Where did it come from? What does it mean? How does its presence in our world affect the human race? Who benefits from it? Who suffers from it? What is the antithesis of it? Can knowing more about it help the human race? Our speaker, Susan Lynne Arnold, will offer her thoughts and other experts' thoughts about these questions, and she will also invite attendees in the audience to share their questions and comments. Ms. Arnold will read aloud the Introduction to her book, and then take questions and comments about it from the audience. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing, courtesy of the author.

*Thursday, March 5 @ 4:30pm*

#### **Color in Your Landscape All Year:**

Learn about displaying color in your landscape all year, but especially between April and November. Suzanne Mahler has been sharing her passion for gardening for more than 30 years, having spoken at the Boston, Rhode Island, and New England Spring Flower Shows, Art in Bloom at the Museum of Fine Arts, the Environmental Protection Agency, gardens clubs and more. This program is free to the public through generous sponsorship by The Friends of the Westwood Library and the Friends of the Council on Aging, and is organized by Community Spotlight.

*Wednesday, March 18 @ 7:00pm*

#### **What is Music Therapy?:**

Come learn what Music Therapy is, what settings and populations music therapy benefits, and hear about some common misconceptions about the practice. Graduate Research Assistants from the Music Therapy department at Berklee College of Music will present all this and a brief overview of the history of music therapy in the United States, as well as a description of the music therapy program at Berklee. No registration is required and all are welcome.

*Wednesday, March 25 @ 7:00pm*

**Drop-in Mah Jongg:** Do you know how to play American Mah Jongg? If so, join our open play group on Wednesday mornings led by Mary Beth Persons, Library Trustee and Mah Jong devotee. If you have your own set, please bring it along. Please note these games are non-betting as gambling is not allowed in the library. If you don't know how to play Mah Jongg, this group is not for you. There is no need to register, and feel free to bring friends that are able to play, or are happy to sit and watch.

*Wednesdays, 10:30 -11:45am*

#### **Attracting Native Pollinators:**

Pollinators are the lifeblood for good production. Representatives from Blackstone Valley Veggie Gardens will discuss ways to attract bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other beneficial to your garden. No registration is required, and all are welcome.

*Thursday, April 2 @ 7:00pm*

#### **Pastel Paint the Miracle Flowers with Gregory**

**Maichack:** The Westwood Public Library will host award-winning pastel artist Gregory John Maichack to present an adult hands-on workshop. This pastel painting workshop is designed for sheer beginners to experienced artists. Participants will freely experiment with hundreds of the artist's professional grade pastels, pastel pencils, and pastel paper, in this fun pastel painting workshop. Registration is required

*Tuesday, April 7 @ 6:00pm*

#### **The Learning Lab for Digital Resources:**

Public libraries are access points to materials and information in various formats that extend beyond the realm of books, audio, DVDs and museum passes. Each lab will focus on a specific service that provides valuable, expert knowledge at the highest possible level outside of a university. If you are unable to bring a laptop, please speak with Molly Riportella, Head of Adult Services to reserve one of the library's laptops. Please note that these sessions require basic computer and online knowledge; for beginner lessons please call to inquire about our Individual Computer Classes.

*Wednesdays @ 7:00pm*

4/8: NewsBank World Access

5/20: Morningstar Investment Research Center

6/10: Ancestry for Libraries

## News from the Library– Spring 2020

### Adult Programs- Main Library:

wwdmail1@minlib.net – (781) 320-1045

#### **Greene & Cornwallis in the Carolinas: The Pivotal Struggle in the American Revolution, 1780-1781.**

Local authors Jeffrey A. Denman & John F. Walsh will discuss their new book, *Greene & Cornwallis in the Carolinas: The Pivotal Struggle in the American Revolution, 1780-1781*. Drawing extensively on their letters, this book follows the campaigns of General Nathanael Greene and Lord Charles Cornwallis as they fought across the Carolinas, offering a compelling look at their leadership. The theater of war the two commanders entered in was populated by various ethnic and religious groups and separated geographically, economically and politically into the low country and the mountainous backcountry, setting the stage for what was to come. No registration is required, and all are welcome.

*Sunday, May 3 @ 2:00pm*

#### **The Organic Approach:**

Bugs taking over your life? Weary of spraying the wrong stuff on your food? Representatives from Blackstone Valley Veggie Gardens will discuss ways to help take all the guesswork out of everything. No registration is required, and all are welcome.

*Thursday, May 7 @ 7:00pm*

#### **The Road to the Vote:**

The Boston Women's Heritage Trail will present a slide show, "The Road to the Vote" which tells the history of people and activities in Massachusetts during the struggle for the right of women to vote. Learn about the arrest of suffragists during President Wilson's visit to Boston in 1919, the 1915 suffrage parade, and women including Lucy Stone, Alice Stone Blackwell, Julia Ward Howe and others. No registration is required, and all are welcome.

*Wednesday, May 13 @ 7:00pm*

#### **Keepsake Garden Stepping Stones:**

Children, Teens and Adults of all ages are all welcome to create personalized stepping stones! It makes a great "Father's Day" gift and looks fabulous in any garden! To register for a time slot, please call the Children's Department at the Library at 781-320-1042, or sign up for a time slot on your next visit to the Westwood Public Library. Stepping stones must be left overnight to set up, so you'll need to return to the Library front patio anytime on Sunday or Monday to retrieve your stepping stones. Supplies are kindly provided by Buddy's Tile Outlet of Norwood, MA and the Friends of the Library.

*Saturday, June 20 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm*

#### **Armchair Travel with Barry Pell:**

All are welcome! Coffee and light refreshments will begin at 10 am, and the photo journeys begin at 10:30 am. *Tuesdays @ 10:30am*

March 24: Travels in Argentina and Ecuador, April 7: The Beauty of Switzerland, May 5: Finland

**Great Decisions:** Join America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves reading an article about a particular global issue, watching the DVD & meeting in a Discussion Group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. Registration is required. The Library is able to offer two meeting options: a day session or an evening session.

*AM Session | Select Tuesdays @ 10:00am*

3/10: Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, 3/24: U.S. Relations with the Northern Triangle, 4/7: China in Latin America, 4/21: The Philippines, 5/5: Artificial Intelligence

*PM Session | Select Thursdays @ 7:00pm*

3/26: India and Pakistan, 4/20: Red Sea Security, 5/21: Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, 6/11: U.S. Relations with the Northern Triangle

#### **Friday Book Club / Thursday Book Club:**

Due to the popularity of the Friday AM Book Club, we are adding a second session on Thursday evenings! The groups will read the same titles.

*Select Thurs @ 7:00pm or Select Fri @ 10:30am*

Thurs, March 19; Fri, March 20: **American Dirt**

Thurs, April 16; Fri, April 17: **Little Women**

Thurs, May 14 ; Fri, May 15: **Unsheltered**

Thurs, June 18 ; Fri, June 19: **Furious Hours: Murder, Fraud and the Last Trial of Harper Lee**

**Individual Computer Classes:** Register for a 40 minute appointment with Kristen or Brendan. To sign-up call 781-320-1045 or stop by the Information Desk on the 2nd Floor. \*Registration Required

Mon 2:30pm & Fri, beginning at 3:30pm

#### **Technology Help Drop-in:**

Do you have a new laptop, tablet or e-reader, and are looking for a little help getting started? Grab your device & come to our Technology Help Drop-in! No registration is required. Mondays at 6:00pm

#### **Westwood Library Quilters:**

Bring your hand or machine quilting projects to work on in the friendly company of other local quilters. Show and tell is encouraged! An iron, ironing pad, cutting mats, and cutting tools will be available. No registration required. Mon at 6:30pm, March 30, April 27, May 18 & June 29.

## News from the Library– Spring 2020

### Kid Programs- Main Library:

wwdchildrens@gmail.com – (781) 320-1042

#### For Kids 0-5

##### **Messy Mondays**

For children ages 2-5 and parent/caregiver. Children are welcome to come for seasonal craft activities and sensory play. Monday, April 13th, 10:30am.

##### **Wiggle & Giggle Storytime**

For all ages, no registration. Kids and their caregivers are welcome to come and wiggle and giggle with us as we enjoy music, movement, storytelling, and more! Tuesdays 10:30am, March 3rd-April 7th & April 28-May 19th.

##### **Wondrous Wednesdays Storytime**

For all ages, no registration. Children and their caregivers are welcome to come listen to stories, songs, rhymes, and more! A short activity will be available for those who wish to stay after storytime. Weds 10:30 AM March 4th-April 8th and April 29- May 20th.

##### **Baby Rhyme Time**

For babies 0-24 months and a caregiver. Come enjoy the magic of rhymes and music with your little one! Miss Lizzy will lead everyone in traditional rhymes and music as well as wonderful new favorites! Fridays, 10:30 AM March 6th-April 10th and May 1st- May 22nd.

#### For School Age Kids

##### **Mother-Daughter Book Club**

For kids in grades 3-5 and a female adult. Share your enthusiasm for reading with other book lovers and join us for a lively discussion, a game of Pictionary, snacks, and fun! Books will be available at the Children's Department. Email ehmcgovern@minlib.net to register or for more info. Weds, March 18th, April 15th, May 13th at 6:30pm.

##### **Creative Kids**

For Kindergarten and 1st graders, registration required. Children will have lots of fun as they participate in creative dramatics and arts & crafts activities. Thursdays, March 5th -April 2nd, Registration Required.

##### **Books and Bites**

For kids in 2nd and 3rd grade. Each month 2nd and 3rd graders will read a chosen book and participate in discussions, activities, and themed snacks. Registration Required. Fri, March 20, April 17th, May 15th @ 4:00pm.

##### **First Friday Drop in Craft**

This winter, join us on the first Friday of every month for a cozy afternoon of craft making. Crafts will be geared at ages 5 and up, but younger kids are welcome if accompanied by an adult. Fridays, March. 6, April 3rd, May 1st

### Teen Programs- Main Library:

Fokeefe@minlib.net – (781) 320-1042

#### Teen Programs

##### **Teen Book Club**

For tweens and teens in grades 6 and up. Join Felicia and Lizzy every 2nd Early Release Wednesday at the library for snacks and discussion of the book of the month!

Weds Mar. 25th, Apr. 29th, and May 27th at 1:45pm

##### **Gamer Lounge with One Up Games**

For tweens and teens in grades 6 and up, no registration. Middle Schoolers can come to the library on Early Release Wednesdays for two hours of open game play with One Up Games.

Weds Mar. 11th, Apr. 8th, & May 13th, 2-4pm

##### **YAB (Youth Advisory Board)**

For tweens and teens in grades 6 and up. Interested in volunteering at the library and participating in our Youth Advisory Board? Join us on the first Thursday night of the month to help to revamp the Teen Department at the Westwood Public Library! We will plan events, pick out books and games for the YA collection, and decorate the teen space. Typical volunteering activities may include: Sorting and shelving library materials, adopt a shelf program, assisting with special projects and producing materials for library programs, miscellaneous work, and special events.

Thurs, Mar. 5th, Apr. 2nd, and May 7th @ 6:30pm-8:00pm

##### **Fri-Yay!**

For tweens and teens in grades 6 and up. Come hang out with your friends in a relaxed informal setting. Eat, play video or board games, listen to music and catch up on new movies and books. Each week you can get your craft on with new projects! We need you there to make sure something interesting is always happening! Fri, 3:00pm.

#### April Vacation

**Toddler Sing & Swing-** Bring your toddlers to the library for music, dancing, and instruments in this fun morning sing-along. Tuesday, April 21st @ 10:30am.

**Disney Family Trivia Night-** Families are welcome to join us for a Disney themed trivia night! There will be Disney songs playing, lots of laughs, AND themed prizes for the winners! Tuesday, April 21st @ 6-7pm, **Reg Required.**

**Upcycling Book Craft-** For Children ages 5 and up. Kids are welcome to repurpose old library books and create upcycled crafts! Weds, April 22nd @ 2-4:00pm.

**Family Board Game Afternoon:** For all ages with a parent/caregiver. Join us for a cozy winter afternoon at the library for crafting! Thursday, April 23rd, 1-4:00pm.

## News from the Town Clerk

Thank you to all residents who participated in Early Voting and those came out to vote on Election Day, March 3, 2020 for the Presidential Primary. The total turnout for the Election was 46%. Election results are on the Town Website (<https://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/departments/town-clerk/voting-elections>) or you may visit the Town Clerk's office for a paper copy.

Election set up takes many, many hours and attention to detail. Staff worked diligently for many months to plan and facilitate the election in accordance with state election laws to ensure Westwood voters had a pleasant voting experience.

Special thanks to the following Town Staff:

- Town Clerk's office who worked tirelessly preparing and administering Absentee Voting, Early Voting, Election Day voting, and answering questions regarding a voter's status before and on Election Day.
- Department of Public works staff for delivering election equipment to the polls and ensuring its safe return and storage at the conclusion of the election.
- Town Maintenance staff & ACO for setting up and breaking down each polling location.
- Police Chief & Town Administrator for working with the Town Clerk to facilitate Early Voting and Central Tabulation in the Jaillet Meeting Room at the Westwood Police Station.
- Town Hall staff for assisting with Central Tabulation of Early Voting on Election Day.
- Police Officers who worked Election Day details delivering supplies to the polling places and returning them at the end of election night and assuring all voters of a safe environment in which to vote.

A very heartfelt thank you to:

Election Wardens, Clerks, and Inspectors who worked the Early Voting polls and Election Day polls to ensure that every voter was treated with respect, given pertinent information, and had the opportunity to engage in this democratic process. These folks worked long hours and are very much appreciated for their service to the Town of Westwood and its citizens.

There were many people who went to vote and may have experienced some frustration if their name did not appear on the voter list or they were marked as inactive. A voter is marked inactive if they have not returned an Annual Town Census (M.G.L, Ch.51, § 4) , or, if someone in a household indicated on the census form that the voter was no longer living in Westwood. At that point a pre-paid confirmation card is sent to any inactive voter so that they have an opportunity to return it stating that they have either moved, which would then cause the voter to be deleted or that they still reside in Westwood which would then re-activate the voter.

If you are a new resident, perhaps you did not re-register when you moved to Westwood, voter registration does not move with you, you must re-register to vote by either doing this online using the following link: <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/OVR/> ) or visiting the Town Clerk's office to register in person.

We want every voter to have an opportunity to vote, Please check you voter status before going to the polls so we can solve the issue before you go. Be aware, you must register 20 days before an election to be eligible to vote in that election.

There was some frustration regarding voting in a Primary: If you were Unenrolled, formerly known as Independent, you had to choose a specific ballot: Democratic, Green Rainbow, Libertarian or Republican. For those registered in a particular party, (Democratic, Green Rainbow, Libertarian or Republican) you were only allowed that party ballot. Those enrolled in a party who wished to vote in another party, had to make that change 20 days before the election. There is a State Primary on September 1, 2020 with the same rules applying. Please be sure you are aware of the procedures and have registered in the correct party.

Please contact the Town Clerk's office with any questions at: [townclerk@townhall.westwood.ma.us](mailto:townclerk@townhall.westwood.ma.us) or 781-326-3964

This Spring in Westwood  
580 High Street  
Westwood Ma, 02090

## Information from the Town Clerk

**Dog licensing for 2020 is ongoing until March 31, 2020**—You may license your dog online, in person, or, 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 are valid from January 1, 2020 until December 31, 2020.

You must license your dog on an annual basis.

If you own more than four (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, 2020 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

Residents ages 70 or older the fee is waived for one dog per household (proof of age is required)

Kennel fees—please contact the Town Clerk’s office

### The 2020 Annual Town Census was sent to each household in January.

We still have many households that have not returned their census. It is extremely important that you fill this out and return the census in the envelope provided as soon as possible. You may also scan and email it to [census@townhall.westwood.ma.us](mailto:census@townhall.westwood.ma.us) provided you have filled it out and signed it. Failure to return the Census may cause a voter to be designated as inactive on the voting list (M.G.L, Ch.51, § 4). Also, please note that you may not register to vote or change parties via a census form.

Data from the Annual Town Census is used to create the annual street list, to project future school enrollment and costs, housing and related benefits for the elderly, by local emergency responders; serves as proof of residency, which is needed to qualify for Veterans’ benefits; and in state tuition at Massachusetts colleges, as well as providing information for selection of jurors.

**Annual Town Election: Tuesday, April 28, 2020**

**Annual Town Meeting: Monday, May 4, 2020**

**Last day to register to vote for the Town Election and Town Meeting: Wednesday, April 8, 2020**

**Please contact the Town Clerk’s office at 781 326-3964 if you have any questions.**