

# WESTWOODWORD



WINTER 2023



*Happy  
New Year!*



## WINTER WEATHER SAFETY TIPS

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

**Tuesday,  
April 25, 2023:**  
Annual Town Election

**Monday,  
May 1, 2023:**  
Annual Town Meeting

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### BOARD OF HEALTH

Winter in Massachusetts almost always includes periods of extreme cold weather. Exposure to cold can cause frostbite or hypothermia, both of which can become life-threatening conditions. Although anyone can suffer from cold-related health issues, some people are at greater risk than others. Older adults, young children, those who are sick, and those without adequate shelter are most at-risk.

To reduce the risks associated with extreme cold weather conditions, residents are advised to take the proper safety precautions to protect themselves and their family.

The National Weather Service issues wind chill advisories and warnings to alert the public of potential extreme temperatures.

**WINTER CONT. ON PG 2**

### FIRE DEPT.

Winter is here and the Westwood Fire Department would like to share some very important safety information. Home fires occur more in the winter than in any other season. Here are some things to keep in mind as the weather gets colder:

- Home heating systems can produce carbon monoxide, so it's very important to have them professionally maintained and to test your carbon monoxide detectors monthly.
- Never use your oven, gas or electric, as a source of heat. If you are using space heaters make sure they are on a solid flat surface and keep them at a least three feet from any flammable objects. Make sure the cords are not cracked or broken, and never use an extension cord with

**FIRE SAFETY CONT. ON PG 2**

### MORE WINTER UPDATES:

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### WINTER CONT. FROM PG 1

"It's important that Westwood residents stay informed about any potential weather warnings," said Jared Orsini, REHS/RS, Health Director. "You can sign up for alerts, warnings and public safety information before, during and after emergencies and weather events."

Households should also make emergency plans that address the needs of your family and include how to make a safe emergency evacuation and what food and other items you should have on hand if you must shelter in place for an extended period of time.

"Staying safe in extreme cold weather really is about taking common sense precautions," said Orsini. "Every household should have an emergency kit and it's a good idea to keep one in your car. Make sure your vehicle is ready for the winter as well."

During any extreme cold weather event, it's important to continue to check local news media for emergency information,

and follow instructions from public safety officials. You should also stay inside when possible and keep your pets inside as well.

"If you must spend time outside, it's recommended you wear several layers of loose-fitting, lightweight clothing instead of a single heavy layer," said Orsini. "Outer layers should be tightly woven and water repellent. Mittens will keep your hands warmer and safer than gloves."

Orsini also recommends wearing sturdy, waterproof boots to protect your feet. Since we lose 7 to 10% of our body heat through our heads, a hat is a must, as is covering your mouth with a scarf or neck warmer to protect your lungs.

There are signs and symptoms to be on the lookout for which are telltale signs of cold weather-related health problems. Loss of feeling and white or pale appearance in extremities, such as fingers, toes, earlobes, face, and the tip of the nose is a sign of frostbite - which is the

freezing of skin and body tissue.

"When someone suffers from frostbite, the first thing to do is to get them to a warm location," said Orsini. "Cover their exposed skin, but it's important that you not rub the affected areas, and you should seek medical attention immediately."

Hypothermia is abnormally low body temperature and is life-threatening. Symptoms of hypothermia include shivering, exhaustion, confusion, memory loss, and slurred speech. If symptoms of hypothermia are detected take the person's temperature. If it is below 95°, seek medical attention immediately. Get the victim to a warm location. Remove wet clothing. Warm the center of the body first by wrapping the person in blankets or putting on dry clothing. Give them warm, non-alcoholic beverages if the person is conscious.

"We also ask that our Westwood residents keep an eye on their neighbors - especially the elderly - who live alone, and those with medical conditions," said Orsini.

## FIRE DEPT.

### FIRE SAFETY CONT. FROM PG 1

them. Plug only one heat producing appliance, like a space heater into an electrical outlet at a time.

- It's important to shovel out the fire hydrant closest to your property. When a building is on fire, every minute matters. If firefighters must shovel out hydrants, that wastes precious time that could have been used saving lives and property.
- Winter storms can cause power outages and portable generators can come in handy. Always keep generators outside and as far away from the house and windows as possible. Chimneys should be cleaned and checked by a qualified professional annually. Cooled ashes should be stored in a covered metal container outside at least 10 feet from any buildings.
- Hypothermia is a dangerous, potentially life-threatening condition that is the result of your body temperature getting too low. Keeping your thermostat setting between 68 and 70 degrees, wearing loose layers, changing out of wet clothes and limiting the amount of time spent outdoors will help you stay warm and avoid hypothermia.

Have a safe winter!



**LEARN TO HOW  
ADOPT-A-HYDRANT &  
TO CLEAR A HYDRANT:**



## *Dear Westwood Community,*

It's hard to believe that we are approaching the half-way point of the 2022-2023 school year. We have had a busy and productive fall in the Westwood Public Schools!

Across the country and the state, schools continue to assess the impact of the COVID pandemic on our students, both academically and socially. There is hopeful news in Westwood: our assessment data suggests that our students fared better than many students in the state and that Westwood's students are rebounding quickly. On the 2022 MCAS, our fourth-graders ranked 11th in the state on ELA and 9th in the state on math. Our fifth-graders ranked 2nd on ELA, 3rd in math, and 7th in science; our sixth-graders were 11th in ELA; and our eighth-graders were 11th in science statewide. Educators in the WPS continue to monitor students' progress and skill development and to design instruction to meet each student's needs.



Students in Westwood are also fully engaged in the myriad of activities and pursuits that are so important in schools. Field trips, dances, and pep rallies have resumed. During the first semester, drama and music programs were in full swing across the district with impressive performances. And our student athletes experienced success on the playing fields. All of the WHS fall teams (Boys and Girls Soccer, Volleyball, Field Hockey, Football, and Golf) qualified for the MIAA tournaments. Boys and Girls Cross Country and Golf qualified for the State Championship Meet, and Volleyball and Field Hockey were TVL Champions. Our Cheer Team qualified for State Sectionals, and our Unified Basketball Team won the Natick Invitational Jamboree.

Even with this return to relative "normal," new challenges have emerged. Like residents in their homes, the district is navigating significantly increased costs in areas such as transportation, utilities, and special education that have to be managed this year and budgeted for going forward. I encourage residents to stay engaged as proposed budgets are discussed at public meetings throughout February and March leading up to the Annual Town Meeting.

Finally, as anyone who drives down Gay St. can see, the Hanlon-Deerfield School building construction is proceeding on schedule. Right before the December break, students from both Hanlon and Deerfield schools gathered at Hanlon to sign their names on the final steel beam before it was placed onto the building, forever connecting our current students to the future!

As always, I thank the Westwood community for your continued support of our schools and hope to see you at upcoming events.

With appreciation,

Emily J. Parks  
Superintendent

# New School Project Update

Construction continues to move along at a swift pace on our town's new elementary school which is set to replace the aging Hanlon and Deerfield schools. The steel "topping out" ceremony happened in late December. These ceremonies commemorate the installation of the highest peak in the building and the completion of the steel frame and are marked by a rather unusual tradition - perching a tree on the frame's highest peak.

This tradition dates back to 8th century Scandinavia when sheaths of grain were used. The tradition evolved to include what looks like an undecorated Christmas tree, and in the United States often



Photo Courtesy Parker Harrington

also includes a beam signing and an American Flag being hoisted up with the tree. Some superstition is also involved with topping out - some in the construction industry believe bad things will happen at the site if you skip this tradition!

The new school is scheduled to open in February 2024.

Residents interested in following along with the project's progress can log onto the website below to learn more: [www.westwoodschoolbuilding.com](http://www.westwoodschoolbuilding.com).

## FLAGS HIGHLIGHT THURSTON MIDDLE SCHOOL'S INCLUSIVITY EFFORTS

Thurston Middle School celebrated Inclusive Schools Week with a colorful display of flags from around the world. Inclusive Schools Week honors the ways in which school communities recognize and celebrate their progress creating a welcoming and inclusive space for all. The Geography Flags, as they are known, are prominently featured in the school's cafeteria, where visitors to the building can see them.

"We want every student, staff, and visitor to know, see, and feel that this community is theirs," said Thurston Middle School Dean of Students Ed Walker.

More than 200 flags are hanging near the school's Bulldog mascot. According to Walker, the display



has proven to be a great source of educational engagement. Students and staff alike have been seen gazing at the flags, familiarizing themselves,

and seeking out the flag that identifies the place of their family origin. "This wall of flags is for us all," said Walker.



## Recent Alumni Offer Advice to the Westwood High School Class of 2023

Think of it as College 101. Six alumni from Westwood High School's classes of 2021 and 2022 came back to their alma mater in late December to talk to the current senior class about college life.

While this year's seniors were anxiously awaiting decisions from the colleges of their choice, the alumni talked to them about what they could expect during their first months on campus—wherever that may be.

Jayson Onanian is in his second year at Providence College.

"I wish someone had told me that you can't go out every night," said Onanian. "There's a lot of work and it's not just written. There's also a lot of reading and a ton of prep work. Save going out for the weekends."

Current seniors had the opportunity to pre-submit questions as well as participate in direct Q&A towards the end of the 90-minute session.

Maeve Hutton just completed her first semester at The Ohio State University.

"The biggest adjustment and realization for me was that you have to rely on yourself," Hutton shared. "Whether it's going to class, studying, or turning things in, it's all on you."

The group also shared practical advice about living in a dorm with roommates they didn't know. Several of the group

said their college randomly paired them with a roommate, while others found their roommates through social media sites.

"My roommates and I have a code for when we need to be alone in the room and just have some space," said Hunter Lee, a freshman Northwestern University. "We also have a rule that if something is bothering us, we can't let it fester for long. We talk about it."

Will McEachern is in his first year at Berklee College of Music in Boston and also offered roommate advice.

"You don't have to be friends with your roommates, but you do have to respect them," said McEachern. "Being in a dorm is weird at first. You can't fall asleep, but it pretty quickly becomes home."

Time management was a hot topic as the panel explained that it's a shock to go from the structure of having class for six or so hours every day of the week, to having big gaps of time during your day. They advised the seniors to use those gaps wisely and hammer out some homework between classes. Cafeteria food, taking a gap year, dealing with homesickness, and managing finances were also topics of interest.

"It was very informative," said senior Grace Sterling. "They did a really good job explaining all the different aspects of college from the academics and social life and everything in between including



WHS Alumni Hunter Lee address the Class of 2023

how to deal with roommates."

"I thought it was very real and honest," said senior Will Lynch. "We learned a lot and I think it was very good for us to understand their perspectives in terms of making connections and managing classes."

Getting to class might seem like an obvious piece of advice, but Onanian put it into financial terms. "One of my finance professors at PC broke it down for us," he said. "It costs us about \$350 per class at PC, so that definitely makes you go to class!"

Some members of the panel went in with a declared major while others were undecided. Derek Miller, a sophomore at the University of Michigan, offered advice that hit home with many in the audience.

"Look into what majors people regret the most," said Miller. "You wouldn't buy a car you don't like, and you shouldn't buy a degree you don't like either."

## Boston Teacher Credits her Experience in WHS's SIPP Program with Inspiring her Career

Celia Condrick has fond memories of her days as a Westwood student, starting at the Martha Jones School. Condrick is a 2014 graduate of Westwood High School. She still has ties to the town and the high school; her stepfather David Fredrickson is a guidance counselor at WHS.

During her time at WHS, the school launched a new program for independent study called SIPP, which stands for Senior Independent Project Program and was designed to help students explore potential career options in a way not afforded through the typical classroom experience. Condrick was a member of the inaugural class, and that experience is what eventually led her to Boston Prep, a charter school in Hyde Park.

"I actually presented a proposal to the school committee asking for funding for SIPP during my junior year," recalled Condrick. "I was part of a focus group that signed up and had a lot of conversations about the logistics of it and how the program would be built. We talked a lot about what each of us might want to



Celia Condrick at the finish of the 2022 Chicago Marathon



Celia Condrick works with a student at Boston Prep in Hyde Park.

do. Obviously, our request was granted and about eight of us took part in SIPP in its first year, 2013."

Condrick chose to work with a student who had learning and communication challenges and who wanted to develop stronger social relationships with other Westwood students. Condrick said the idea began with a friendship she'd developed with a student when she was in eighth grade. For the better part of her senior year, Condrick focused on her SIPP.

"The structure of SIPP provided allowed me to be a peer mentor on a regular basis. I was very interested in working with students with disabilities and what that career might look like."

That SIPP experience led Condrick to get a job at Hale Reservation as a lifeguard for children with autism.

After graduating from WHS in 2014, Condrick attended Union College and majored in Math. After graduation, she worked for a nonprofit in Buffalo, NY called Teach for America. During that time, she earned a master's degree in Urban Education at nearby Canisius College.

"I started out teaching as a sixth-grade special education teacher here at Boston

Prep.," said Condrick. "I changed roles recently to become a math educator because of my major."

The concept of inequity was not something Condrick says she understood while at Westwood High School.

"It's unparalleled what we get in Westwood," said Condrick. "I was so prepared going into college, and I had no understanding until I graduated what privilege I had. It really compelled me to help bridge that gap between different public schools."

When she is not in the classroom at Boston Prep, you'll find Condrick outside running and training for marathons. The former high school and college lacrosse player says marathons help her keep her competitive edge. She's completed both the Buffalo and Chicago marathons and has qualified for the Boston Marathon, which she is planning to run in 2024.

Condrick often thinks about how her SIPP experience guided her career path.

"It was so special to take part in SIPP," said Condrick. "It's such a cool way to pursue something you're passionate about but can't experience in the typical classroom setting. I'm so happy to hear it's still going strong all these years later."

**This is the first in an occasional new series catching up with notable graduates of the Westwood Public Schools**  
If you would to nominate a WHS alum for a future profile, please email Harley Pease at [hpease@westwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:hpease@westwood.k12.ma.us)

# DPW WINTER UPDATES

## Overnight Parking Ban/Restrictions in effect until March 31, 2023

Starting in December, Westwood implemented a Town wide ban on overnight parking. To ensure that snow plows can efficiently clear roads and that emergency vehicles can quickly reach their destinations, it is imperative that you do not park on the street overnight. The ban remains in effect through March 31. For snow or ice removal, the Public Works Assistant Director or the Chief of Police may remove or cause to be removed any vehicle interfering with such work. If you violate this ban you are subject to ticketing and towing. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

## Snow Removal Information and How You Can Help

### Snow Clearing and Clearing of Hydrants

Please do not lay, throw, place any snow or ice on any town street, sidewalk or on top of hydrants as this can create a hazardous condition of public safety concern.

§ 355-5 Placement of snow or ice; penalty.

*B. No person other than an employee in the service of the Town of Westwood or an employee in the service of an independent contractor acting for the Town of Westwood shall pile, push, plow, or blow snow or ice onto or across a public way which is plowed and/or sanded by the Town or deposit snow in such a way as to obstruct the operation of any fire hydrant. Violations of this section shall be subject to a written warning for the first offense; a fine of \$50 for the second offense; and \$100 for third and each subsequent offense.*

### Storm Drain Cleaning

There are more than 2,200 catch basins (storm drains) in Westwood and it is nearly impossible for town crews to clear snow and debris from all. It would be greatly appreciated if you could keep the drain in front of your property clean, to avoid causing street puddling or ice hazards.



### Town Layout

Nothing damaged by the Town that is constructed, built or placed on the Town layout will be repaired or replaced. That includes mailboxes, fences, stone-walls, etc.

**All basketball hoops, sports nets, etc. must also be removed from roadways.**

### 2023 Trash & Recycle Guide

The 2023 Trash & Recycle Guide/Calendar was mailed to every residence in December. It includes information on holidays that prompt one day delayed collections, our Household Bulk Collection event, Recycle Day, Hazardous Waste Day and yard waste collections. For more information/updates visit the Public Works/Recycling & Waste Management page on the town website: [townhall.westwood.ma.us](http://townhall.westwood.ma.us)

### Mattresses and box springs will no longer be collected or accepted

On Nov. 1, 2022, textiles, mattress and box springs were added to the Mass DEP's (3/25/22) Waste Ban List. That means textiles, mattress and box springs will no longer be accepted at curbside, transfer stations, landfills or waste to energy facilities for ultimate disposal. To help residents dispose of such items, Westwood has partnered with Green Team Junk Removal and CMRK. There is more information on the "Mattress/Box Spring & Textiles Ban" page on the town website.

### Everything (TRASH / RECYCLE / YARD WASTE / BULK) to be collected must be at curbside by 7:00 a.m. on your scheduled day.

Any missed pick-ups of items that were curbside by the appointed time should be reported to [dpw@townhall.westwood.ma.us](mailto:dpw@townhall.westwood.ma.us) or 781-251-2587 within 24 hours of your scheduled day.

# WINTER PROGRAMS AT THE WESTWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Main Library

660 High Street  
Westwood, MA 02090  
781-326-7562  
askwestwood@minlib.net

## Islington Branch

273 Washington Street  
Westwood, MA 02090  
781-326-5914  
wwdmail2@minlib.net

## ADULTS



### BEST OF 2022

What do sunflower seeds, the *Hamilton* Broadway cast recording, and *The Maid* by Nita Prose all have in common? They topped our lists of seeds, streaming music, and books borrowed from the Westwood Public Library in 2022!

- Here are some other fascinating findings from the past year: Three of the most-streamed music CDs on hoopla were soundtracks: *The Greatest Showman*, *Encanto*, and *Sing 2*. And don't worry, dear reader: Taylor Swift's *Midnights [3am Edition]* made the top 5, too.
- Local home chefs sought inventive salads with Jess Damuck's *Salad Freak*, Middle Eastern-inspired recipes from *Ottolenghi Test Kitchen: Shelf Love*, and quick weekday meals from Michael Symon's *Fix It With Food: Every Meal Easy*. In case you missed it, our Cookbooks collection moved to a brand new spot on the second floor of the Main Library this past October!
- Herbs, fruit, vegetables, and flowers were all in high demand

during our Living Library's inaugural year! Did you know that you can stop by either library location to select packets of seeds for your garden at home?

Curious about what other movies, programs, comic series, or audiobooks were most popular this past year? For a full view of all of the library's Best of 2022 lists go to our website: [www.westwoodlibrary.org](http://www.westwoodlibrary.org) or scan the QR code.



### WINTER READING CHALLENGE FOR ADULTS

**When:** January 3 through February 28, 2023

**Who:** Adults ages 18 to 118+

1. Pick up a Winter Reading Challenge bookmark at the Main Library or Islington Branch
2. Read a book, write a review, or do a winter activity of your choice
3. Drop off your completed bookmark at the library to earn a raffle ticket toward a cozy prize basket
4. Then, pick up another bookmark and keep going - No limit to raffle entries!

### DEMENTIA EDUCATION AND SUPPORT SERIES

This series is brought to you by the Westwood Public Library, Bridges® by EPOCH at Westwood Senior Advisors, and Cornerstone Caregiving and is geared towards family caregivers and caretakers of loved ones with memory loss.

Join Pete Bruce and Maggie Kuriakose, Bridges® by EPOCH at Westwood Senior Advisors, who will be running this series. Pete has a masters degree in counseling and is a dementia practitioner trainer and has worked for Bridges for 6 years. Pete has been working with clients and families for over 25 years.

**This series occurs on the fourth Wednesday of each month from January - April 2023 starting January 25 at 6:30 p.m. at the library's Main Library.** Please see below for specific dates and topics. This series is geared towards caregivers and caretakers and run by staff at Bridges by EPOCH in Westwood.

#### NORMAL AGING VS MEMORY LOSS

January 25

#### SIGNS AND STAGES OF DEMENTIA

February 22

#### EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

March 22

#### PANEL DISCUSSION: WHERE DO I BEGIN?

Coordinating Your Loved Ones' Care  
April 26





## SIGN UP FOR THE LIBRARY'S NEWSLETTER!

Get a list of upcoming events in your inbox every month.  
Sign up at [www.westwoodlibrary.org/newsletter](http://www.westwoodlibrary.org/newsletter)



The new Living Library located at the Islington Branch

**LIVING LIBRARY:** Our series of Living Library plant programs (formerly "Bloom Zoom") brings you floral and gardening programs to encourage hands-on horticultural learning.

### Topics include:

- Outdoor planting and maintenance
- Seedling cultivation
- Floral crafting and arranging
- Flower fun facts

The Islington Branch Library's old card catalog has been recycled to make home for a new Living Library. Patrons have donated plants, and starter plants have been rooted in water. There are also bulbs and seeds to take away now. Once plants are split and mature they will be given away to patrons.

The Living Library is supported in part by a grant from the Westwood Cultural Council, a local agency

which is supported by the Mass. Cultural Council, a state agency. Thank you Bentley Seeds for the donation of seed packets to the Library.

**GREAT DECISIONS:** Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs and will meet the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. (some dates may change). See website for dates, topics and registration. Main Library.

**SIT AND KNIT:** Join a friendly group to knit and chat. Meetings are weekly on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. at the Branch.

**WESTWOOD QUILTERS:** Join a friendly group to sit, sew, and share quilting ideas. All skill levels are welcome. No registration required. Quilters meet on the fourth Monday night of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Main Library.

**SERIES FOR SENIORS:** The Westwood Public Library and the Council on Aging collaboration will bring to our senior community a series of programs on the first Tuesday of each month from February through April. Stay tuned for more information. These events will take place at the Main Library.



## CELTIC MUSIC WITH JEFF SNOW

Sunday Concert on  
March 26 at 3:00 p.m.

The Softer Side of Celtic combines music, stories and a wee bit of history from Scotland, Ireland and England into a program that will keep you on the edge of your seat. Main Library.

Photo Courtesy: Lauren Hourihan Photography



Julie Stepanek brings ukulele play-along to Zoom Monday nights.



### VIRTUAL UKULELE

**PLAY-ALONG:** Have a ukulele but don't play it enough? Join a group of learners for an hour of playing on Zoom, led by musician Julie Stepanek. Chords and lyrics provided. To join in each Monday, visit the Ukulele Play-Along Zoom Links page on our website. Please note that there is a different link for each week of the month. **This is a virtual program. Attendees will provide their own ukulele. No registration required.**

### AUTHOR VISIT – JANE

**HEALEY:** Bestselling historical fiction author Jane Healey will join us at the Islington Branch Library to discuss her new book *Goodnight from Paris* on **Wednesday, April 12 at 6:30 p.m.**

### MUSICAL BASEBALL SHOW -

**HOWIE NEWMAN:** Howie is an experienced musician and singer. His show on **April 19 at 4:00 p.m. at the Islington Branch Library** will include baseball songs, trivia, and stories about his days as a sportswriter.

### BOOK CLUBS

#### HISTORICAL FICTION BOOK

**GROUP:** Join Claire for a discussion of historical fiction selections spanning every era. Held on the **first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at the Branch.**

#### ISLINGTON BRANCH BOOK

**CLUB:** Join Claire for a discussion of books new and old with this Wednesday evening book club. Meetings are held on the **second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.**

### TRUE CRIME BOOK CLUB:

Do you always know the culprit before they are revealed? Join us at the Islington Branch Library the **third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.**

**MYSTERY BOOK CLUB:** Come join us at the Islington Branch to discuss mystery and thriller reads on the **fourth Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m.**



### TECHNOLOGY HELP

Reference librarians are available to help with general troubleshooting with phones, tablets and laptop computers, and also with library apps and websites. If you have a question, please call 781-320-1045 or email [askwestwood@minlib.net](mailto:askwestwood@minlib.net).

### LIBRARY ONE-ON-ONE TECH HELP

Technology help hours are available at the Islington Branch on **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.** Email [wwdmail2@minlib.net](mailto:wwdmail2@minlib.net) or call 781-326-5914 to sign up.

## YOUTH

### BABIES, TODDLERS AND PRESCHOOLERS

**PLEASE NOTE:** registration is required for all storytime events. Please sign up two weeks before each date on the library website.

#### BRANCH BOOKS AND BOOGIE:

Join Miss Caitlyn at the Islington Branch for an all-ages storytime full of stories, songs, and more! Each story time will be accompanied by a simple craft. Register on the website for each date. **Mondays at 10:30 a.m. through Feb. 13; March 6 through March 10; May 1 through May 22.**

**MOVE AND GROOVE:** Join Miss Caitlyn for some music and movement in this all ages program that teaches a love of music and rhythm! Register on the website for each date.

**Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. through Feb. 14; March 7 through April 11; May 2 through May 23.**

**TALES AND TUNES:** Read books and follow along with rhymes, songs and dancing in this all ages storytime with Miss Kristy. Register on the website for each date. **Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. through Feb. 15; March 8 through April 12; May 3 through May 24.**

**BABY RHYME TIME:** Babies 0-18 months are invited to join us for a lapsit with songs and rhymes, followed by open play. Register on the website for each date. **Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. through Feb. 9; March 9 through April 13; May 4 through May 25.**



## YOUTH

### SCHOOL AGE KIDS

**CREATIVE KIDS:** Kids in kindergarten and first grade are invited to get their creative juices flowing in this fun weekly program with Miss Karen. We will read a story and then act it out. Each child will get a related craft kit to take home! Register on the website. **Running Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. through Feb. 16; March 9 through April 13.**

**BOOK EXPLORERS:** Kids in second and third grade are invited to join us one **Friday per month at 4:00 p.m.** for this fun, in person book club. We will read a book, play games and do a fun activity each month. Register on the website. **Fridays, running Jan. 20, Feb. 10, March 17, April 28, May 19.**

**MCBA BOOK CLUB:** Kids in fourth-sixth grade are invited to join us one **Tuesday per month at 4:00 p.m.** for this in-person book club dedicated to this year's Massachusetts Children's Book Award nominees. We will read, discuss and vote on our favorite title at the end of the year. Register on the website. **Tuesdays, running Feb. 14, March 14, April 11, May 9.**

**LEGO BUILDERS:** Kids in grades Pre-K-5 are invited to drop in for some STEM-inspired engineering fun. Each week, we will put out our collection of Legos, Keva Planks, and other building toys. Kids under 9 must be accompanied by a parent. **Half Wednesdays, running Jan. 25; Feb. 8; March 1, March 15, and March 29; April 12 and April 26; May 10 and May 24.**

**STEAM TEAM - Writing and Drawing Comic Strips:** Kids in grade 3-5 are invited to learn about creating their own comic strips with author and cartoonist Jonathan Todd. Before there were graphic novels, there were comic strips and one-panel magazine cartoons. In this workshop, students will get practice writing and drawing one-, two- three- and four-panel cartoons that will make their reader laugh, think, or observe something



interesting. Register on the website. **Monday, Feb. 13 at 4:00 p.m.**

### SATURDAY PROGRAMS

**SATURDAY STORYTIME:** Join us for songs, stories and dancing in this all ages story time. Register on the website. **First Saturday of the month, 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., running Feb. 4, March 4, April 1, May 6.**

**READ TO A DOG:** Kids in grades K-5 can sign up for a one-on-one appointment with a therapy dog to practice their reading. Families must call or stop by the Children's Room to sign up. **Second Saturday of the month, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., running Feb. 11, March 11, April 8, May 13.**

**FAMILY DROP-IN PLAY:** Families are invited to drop in to this self-directed playtime on the third Saturday of each month. We'll provide Duplo's, blocks, toys, games, and coloring. **Drop-ins are held the third Saturday of the month from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., running Jan. 21, Feb. 18, March 18, April 15; May 20.**



### TEEN

**\*YAB (YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD):** Interested in volunteering at the library? Join us on the second Wednesday of the month to help revamp the Teen Department at the Westwood Public Library, **Meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m., running Feb. 8, March 8, April 12, May 10, and June 14.**

**COVER TO COVER BOOK CLUB:** For tweens and teens in grades 7 and up. Join Felicia on the second Early Release Wednesday of the month at the library for snacks and discussion of the book of the month! Check the website for book selections and dates. Register on the website. **Second early release Wednesday of the month at 1:45 p.m.**

**GAMER LOUNGE WITH ONE UP GAMES:** Middle Schoolers can come to the library on select Early Release Wednesdays for two hours of open game play with One Up Games featuring Super Smash Bro., Fortnite, Mario Kart, and more! **First early release Wednesday of the month from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., running Feb. 8, March 1, April 12, and May 10.**

**FRI-YAY!:** Come hang out with your friends and relax. Play video or board games, listen to music and catch up on new movies and books. **Fridays after school at 3:00 p.m.**



**Westwood Youth & Family Services is a town department that provides community-based programs and free confidential counseling services for the children and families of Westwood.**



Visit our website for more information:  
[www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/departments/youth-family-services](http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/departments/youth-family-services)

## Parent Café Series

### CONVERSATIONS TO KEEP YOUR FAMILY STRONG.

Attention Westwood parents of young children! Join us for some fun, free casual gatherings to discuss the joys and challenges of parenting. Take away tips and tools to strengthen your family. Refreshments will be provided.

The series will run on Tuesdays: February 7, March 7 and April 4 from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at the Westwood Public Library. This series is co-sponsored by the Westwood Coordinated Family & Community Engagement Program, Westwood Youth & Family Services and the Westwood Library.

For more information contact Janet Lucey, Early Childhood Coordinator at (781) 329-6904.

Register at [tinyurl.com/wparentcafes](http://tinyurl.com/wparentcafes)

## Local Children Supported with Holiday Giving Program

December marked the 21st annual Westwood Youth & Family Services Holiday Giving Program. This initiative connects local sponsors with Westwood families and families of Westwood Public School students in need of support during the holidays. In 2022, 46 families and a **total of 97 children** were supported thanks to the generous donations of 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.



Fitness of Westwood, Girl Scouts Troops 64055, 67207, 62277, The Tobin School of Westwood, and the Westwood Children's School. Thanks also to the students and families of Deerfield Elementary and Thurston Middle School eighth-graders for their generous donation of small gifts and stocking stuffers.

For more information regarding WY&FS Holiday Giving and/or our Birthday Giving Program please contact, Mary Ellen LaRose at [mlarose@townhall.westwood.ma.us](mailto:mlarose@townhall.westwood.ma.us).

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, Orange Theory



Dedham Savings Bank employees participated in the WY&FS Holiday Giving Program

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS FOR ELEMENTARY-AGED STUDENTS

### STRUCTURED PLAYGROUP:

Registration begins January 30 for WY&FS Spring Structured Play Group for kindergarten and first-grade students. **The program is free and runs on Mondays, from March 20 to May 15 from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. at Wentworth Hall.** This eight-week group emphasizes the development of social skills, as well as building self-esteem and confidence. Organized play and activities are used to reinforce topics such as initiating and developing friendships, working cooperatively, and recognizing personal strengths.

### TACKLING OUR TROUBLES GROUP:

Registration begins January 30 for WY&FS Tackling Our Troubles: an emotion regulation group for second and third-graders. **The group is free and will be held on Thursdays from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. from March 23 to May 18 at Wentworth Hall.** This eight-week interactive group will focus on identifying and expressing feelings in healthy ways, managing big emotions, and building confidence through fun activities, games and movement.



### GIRLS GROUP:

Registration begins January 30 for WY&FS Girls Group for fourth and fifth-graders. **The group is free and will be held on Tuesdays from March 21 to May 16 from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. at Wentworth Hall.** This eight-week group will focus on navigating friendships and exploring topics such as body image, confidence and self-esteem.

For more information contact Shea Lonergan, LCSW at (781) 320-1006, [slonergan@townhall.westwood.ma.us](mailto:slonergan@townhall.westwood.ma.us) and/or scan the QR code below to register starting on January 30.

# Body Safety Theater Mentor Program

Westwood Youth & Family Services is seeking high school student volunteer mentors for the Body Safety Theater Program. Mentors rehearse and perform a series of skits for Westwood third-graders, which teach basic rules about body safety and sexual abuse prevention.



A call for mentors will be held in February and rehearsals for the program will be on Tuesday evenings 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. from mid-February to early May at Wentworth Hall in Islington. Performances will be held the week of May 22 at the Westwood elementary schools.

No previous acting experience is necessary and the two performance days are excused absences from school. If you are interested, please email Shea Lonergan at slonergan@townhall.westwood.ma.us.



Students take part in Body Safety Theater in 2022.



Public Safety Dispatchers Jeff Abate, Dotty Mucciarone, Shawn McKee, and Public Safety Communications Manager Brian Kamp

## *Greetings from the voice that is only heard, never seen, and always here to take your call!*

The Westwood Public Safety Communications Center is a 24-hour, 365-day combined police and fire dispatch center that houses the first, first-responder you will encounter when dialing or texting 911, or when calling the non-emergency business line. The Westwood Public Safety Communications Center is the vital link that connects our residents and visitors with public safety services.

Our primary function for the Town is to provide emergency assistance to those who are in need. This year, Dispatcher Jeff Abate came up with the idea of taking it a step further and helping those who needed some holiday magic over Christmas.

With Abate's coordination, the Westwood Public Safety Communications team joined forces with the Westwood Fire and Police Departments as one of the drop off points for the Toys for Tots program.

The team worked together to collect new and unwrapped toys from generous Westwood residents and employees as well as many businesses from the Westwood area.

On December 16, members of the communications department, fire department and police department filled a police cruiser, police van and a fire ladder truck with these toys. The convoy delivered over 1,000 toys to the Ernie Boch/ WEEI Toys for Tots event in Norwood.

The Westwood Public Safety Communications team is very proud of our success in collecting over 1,000 toys for Toys for Tots, and looks forward to participating in the program again next December.

When you call at your worst, we'll send our best as we are always committed to service!



## WINTER IS HERE!

BRRR ... Winter is here! But don't let that deter you from coming in from the cold and joining us. Isolation is a huge issue for seniors and we don't want you to ever feel alone. We have over 18 regular programs for you to enjoy, plus plenty of special programs, so check out our newsletter for details.

To keep everyone safe, we have partnered with the Westwood Fire Department's Emergency Response Management Team. In order to help us and the Response Team, we would like to update your information in case of emergency. Forms are available in our January/February newsletter and at the Center. And we have free File of Life Cards available for any Westwood senior. It is imperative that everyone fills out both of these forms, even if you think you won't need any help. As the saying goes, "Better safe than sorry."

### FILE OF LIFE CARDS

The File of Life program provides potentially life-saving information to medical personnel in the event of an emergency. The File of Life is an information card on which people can list their medical conditions, allergies, medications, doctors' contact information, emergency contacts, recent surgeries, and more. The card is kept inside a bright red vinyl sleeve, marked "File of Life," which users post on their refrigerator or another highly visible place. There is also a pocket-size File of Life to keep in one's wallet or purse. In the event of a medical emergency, the File of Life allows paramedics and EMTs to administer the correct treatment quickly. We encourage everyone to stop in our Center to pick up a File of Life for themselves and their loved ones. They are free for Westwood seniors and are underwritten by the Friends of the Westwood Council on Aging.

## UPCOMING SPECIAL PROGRAMS AT THE CENTER

For any program which requires advance sign up, please call 781-329-8799

### COUGH AND COLD REMEDIES

Jan. 30 at noontime Lunch and Learn Sponsored by Big Y Pharmacy and Featuring Pharmacist Eddie Martucci. \$4 donation. You must sign up in advance. Join us as Big Y Pharmacist, Eddie Martucci discusses products that relieve certain symptoms, the most common bacterial/viral culprits, and when visiting the doctor is warranted. He will explain how some drug interactions are okay and which adverse events he most commonly sees. A light lunch will be served.

### COOKING CLASSES AT POWISSET FARM

We meet at Powisset Farm at 11:00 a.m. \$25 per class  
No take home food will be allowed

**NOTE:** WE CANNOT ACCOMMODATE FOOD ALLERGIES OR DIETARY RESTRICTIONS. You must sign up in advance as space is limited

### SOUPS: FEBRUARY 9

Nothing says winter like a beautiful soup simmering on the stove. Chef Thai will show you how to make a hearty season roasted vegetable stew, combining farm ingredients and winter favorites. This class will also show you how to make a classic Italian Pasta e Fagioli, chock full of herbs and flavor. And a quick focaccia bread to accompany the soups so you can sop up every last bit of liquid ... so comforting! Sign up begins Jan. 25 at 8:00 a.m.

### ALL THINGS CHOCOLATE

With Historian Anthony Sammarco  
The Baker Chocolate Company:  
A Sweet History

February 7, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the Library  
\$4 donation. You must sign up in advance

In 1765, Dr. James Baker of Dorchester stumbled upon Irishman John Hannon crying on the banks of the mighty Neponset River. Hannon, though penniless, possessed the rare skills required to create chocolate, a delicacy exclusive to Europe, and Baker, with pockets bursting, wished to make a name for himself. Using a mill powered by the same river upon which they met, the duo built America's oldest and most beloved manufacturer of this



Cooking classes at Powisset Farm



Top left: Integrated Preschool students singing holiday songs to seniors at the Center  
 Bottom Left: Volunteers at the Center creating an herb garden for everyone to enjoy  
 Right: Sixth Grade students delivering donated holiday gifts for homebound seniors

rich treat. Local historian Anthony Sammarco details the delicious saga of Bay State's Baker Chocolate Company, from Hannon's mysterious disappearance and the famed La Belle Chocolatier advertising campaign to cacao bean smuggling sparked by Revolutionary War blockades. Both bitter and sweet, this tale is sure to tickle your taste buds and of course, we will have chocolate for everyone to enjoy!

**MOVIE WITH GREYDON**  
**CITY LIGHTS** by CHARLIE CHAPLIN  
**Wednesday February 8 at 1:00 p.m.**

*No cost for this program, but please sign up in advance so we know how many to expect.*  
 Join Greydon Gavin, a junior at Westwood High school, as he discusses and presents this month's movie, City Lights, by Charlie Chaplin. This movie is often considered Chaplin's best, while also being regarded as one of, if not the, greatest silent movie of all time. Popcorn, candy and water will be provided.

**THE WESTWOOD COA**  
**IS STARTING A NEW CLUB**  
**A DINNER CLUB FOR SENIORS**  
**AT CHIARA RESTAURANT**

**Wednesday February 8 at 5:00 p.m. Sign up begins on January 3. Dinner at Chiara, 569 High Street in Westwood** Enjoy great food & make new friends! Payment must be made no later than February 1. \$60 per person includes meal, tax and gratuity. **The dinner will include:** Soup (Roasted Tomato & Fennel Bisque with a Basil Drizzle), pan roasted free range



COA hosts Dinner Club at Chiara Restaurant on Feb 8th.

chicken piccata with white wine, lemon and capers, artichoke and parmesan risotto, garlicky French green beans and a dessert trio of mini crème brûlée, dark chocolate peppermint truffle, and white chocolate macadamia nut cookie. The price includes a choice of beer or glass of Pinot Grigio, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Tuscan Red Blend, Pinot Noir or Malbec. **Space is limited so YOU MUST SIGN UP (with payment) no later than Wednesday, February 1.** *Grab your spouse, a friend or just come alone with the intention of meeting new and interesting seniors!*

## Westwood Facilities Director Wins National Management Award

James (Jimmy) McCarthy, the Town of Westwood's Facilities Director, is the winner of the American Public Works Association's 2022 Professional Manager of the Year Award in the Facilities and Grounds category. The award recognizes outstanding achievements in the area of facilities and/or grounds management within the public works field and inspires excellence, leadership, and dedication to the public good.

McCarthy has worked for the Town of Westwood since 2011, when he was hired as a part-time custodial supervisor/facility maintenance worker. At that time, he was the town's sole staff member focused on facilities and grounds. His attention to detail and proactive nature quickly caught the eye of town leaders who asked him to take a more active role in important initiatives,

including rehabilitating the historic gazebo in Old Westwood Cemetery; updating town buildings to meet the needs of today's digital workforce; developing Westwood's Emergency Operations Center; demolishing and rebuilding the Islington Community Center, Fire Station and Police Station; and, most recently, constructing Wentworth Hall, which houses the community's Youth & Family Services staff and the Islington Branch Library.

McCarthy also played a pivotal role during Westwood's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, helping identify the threat of the virus and procuring air-filtration devices for the town's nine municipal buildings, along with personal protective equipment such as shielding, masks and gloves for town staff. He was one of the first facilities directors

in the area to help organize and host a large outdoor public meeting during the pandemic.

"Jimmy always has the comfort and safety of the municipal facilities' staff in mind," said Westwood Public Works Director Todd Korchin, who credits McCarthy with updating technology and modernizing aging and outdated facilities in the town's many historic buildings. Through his efforts, Westwood installed new building maintenance software "that has streamlined our ability to monitor and serve all of the facilities, saving the town both time and money," Korchin added.

McCarthy received his award on August 29 at the Public Works Expo in Charlotte, North Carolina. Join us in congratulating him on this well-deserved recognition!

*Congratulations to Jimmy McCarthy, Westwood's Facilities Director, who was named the 2022 Professional Manager of the Year. Jimmy was acknowledged in the "Facilities and Ground" category by the American Public Works Association.*





# Westwood Town Clerk Selected as the Clerk of the Year

The Massachusetts Town Clerks Association selected Westwood Town Clerk Dorothy (Dottie) Powers as the state's Clerk of the Year. Powers received her award at the association's 2022 summer conference, held in Plymouth. The association, MTCA, seeks to recognize the importance of the role town clerks play supporting and strengthening the quality of local government.

Powers was first elected Town Clerk in 2007 and is a valuable member of the town's management team. During the past year, she served as president of the New England Association of City and Town Clerks, helping mentor new clerks and serving as a valuable resource for both new and experienced town clerks across the region.

She was chosen by the State Elections Division to serve on the Voter Registration Information System (VRIS) Steering Committee, which is working to implement a new voting system and platform. She was also pivotal in securing electronic voting devices for use at town meetings.

Powers has been instrumental in the logistics, planning, and coordination of the town's elections. She played an integral role in Westwood's recent consolidation of five voting precincts into one location—providing residents the opportunity to vote in a centrally



Dottie Powers, pictured with her family, during the Massachusetts Town Clerks Association Clerk of the Year Presentation

located public facility. She coordinated with the Legislative Council at Westwood High School to give students volunteer experience at the polls on Election Day, which helped them gain valuable insight into the election process.

In addition to her Town Clerk duties, Powers is an active member of several community organizations, including the Westwood Community Chest; the Westwood Memorial Day Committee; the Rotary Club of Westwood; the South Shore Habitat for Humanity; and the Charter Review Committee. No matter the task, she is always willing to roll up her sleeves and get involved.

Throughout her years of service, Powers has routinely volunteered her time during non-office hours to provide services, to discuss residents' marriage intentions and perform marriage ceremonies. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she was one of only a few town clerks who offered those services. She has always been the go-to person for all questions about Westwood and she treats each resident with kindness, patience, and respect.

On behalf of the Town of Westwood, we offer our congratulations to Dottie Powers on a well-deserved recognition!



Keep warm  
and safe this  
Winter!

## CONNECT WITH WESTWOOD

Staying on top of what's going on around Westwood is easier than ever! The town has several options - on a variety of platforms - for all residents to stay informed about public safety updates and town business. Residents can visit the town website at [www.townhall.westwood.ma.us](http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us), and click on "notify me" on the main page to sign up.

### ALERT Westwood

The town uses ALERT Westwood for all emergency and non-emergency notifications. Once enrolled, residents have the option to receive notifications via phone, text message, email, or a combination of the three. It is our hope that with more advanced software, we will be able to communicate with residents more quickly than ever before.

### Westwood Wire

The Westwood Wire is a monthly e-newsletter that includes news provided by the town and information from groups and organizations within the community.

### Westwood Word

The Westwood Word is the town's new and improved print publication featuring town and community submissions that highlight events, happenings and news within Westwood. The Westwood Word is mailed to all residences three times per year: April (Spring/Summer), September (Fall), and January (Winter).

### Social Media

Westwood has two social media accounts that are regularly updated. You can find us on Facebook and Twitter.

### Website Notifications

Residents have the option to sign up for specific email updates of their choice to stay up-to-date on all town news or just specific information from a particular town board or committee.

## Westwood Receives \$90,000 Green Communities Grant

The Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) has awarded Westwood two energy efficiency project grants. After becoming a Green Community seven years ago, Westwood has applied for - and been granted - funds each year to pay for energy efficient projects in the town.

Westwood Energy Manager Thomas Philbin filed for a Green Communities Grant for LED lighting at the Sheehan Elementary School and an HVAC upgrade with air cleaning at the Thurston Middle School. Purchase orders for these projects have been awarded and installation work is expected to begin soon. These projects are in addition to an on-going program of installing solar energy on municipal buildings and parking lots.

In addition to DOER funding for the conservation projects, Westwood benefits from incentives provided by Eversource. Westwood participates in the power company's municipal program which helps offset project costs through the use of pre-approved contractors and the cash incentives. The Eversource Municipal program has actively partnered with towns in Massachusetts for the past 10 years.

"These projects do more than just save money," said Philbin. "They increase Westwood's commitment



Massachusetts  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES

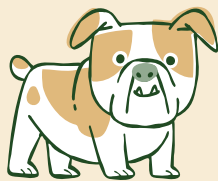
to conservation thus reduce the town's carbon footprint and electric energy use. The town thus keeps its utility costs under control which, allows us to use saved funds for other productive purposes. With the help of these grants, the costs of these projects are recovered in a very short period. Essentially these projects pay for themselves many times over."

As a Green Community, Westwood is committed to reducing its energy consumption by 20 percent. These newly funded projects, in addition to others completed in past years and those planned for the future, are helping the town achieve its reduction goal. Over the last five years, the town has spent over \$2.5 million on more than 50 projects. The energy savings from this program has more than covered the cost of the town's outlay in just a few years.

***"These projects do more than just save money. They increase Westwood's commitment to conservation thus reduce the town's carbon footprint and electric energy use. The town thus keeps its utility costs under control which, allows us to use saved funds for other productive purposes...Essentially these projects pay for themselves many times over."***

## 2023 Dog Licensing

- Dog licensing has begun and will continue through March 31, 2023
- You may license your dog online, in person, or, by mail, provided you include a copy of a current rabies certificate.
- If you are licensing your dog for the first time, proof of spay or neutering is also required.
- Licenses will be valid from January 1, 2023 until December 31, 2023.
- 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, 2023, may result in a fine of \$25.00 per town bylaws §184-10, C. (1).
- Please contact the Town Clerks office if you no longer have a dog(s) so we may update our records.



### LICENSING FEES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Dogs not Neutered or Spayed: \$15
- Dogs Neutered or Spayed: \$10
- Residents ages 70 or older the fee is waived for one dog per household
- Postage (if licensing by mail): \$1
- Kennel fees-please contact the Town Clerk's office
- Please be sure to include the correct licensing fee. If you are unsure, please contact the Town Clerks office.

## 2023 Annual Town Census (Annual Street Listing)

### WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE ANNUAL TOWN CENSUS/ STREET LIST?

Massachusetts General Laws require that cities and towns conduct an annual census of its residents as of January 1st of each year. The local census data is used to maintain voting and jury lists as well as aid in school enrollment projections, public safety, senior citizens' needs, veterans' benefits, and proof of residency.

A census form was mailed to every household earlier this month.

It is extremely important that you fill out

the census form and return it within 10 days of its receipt. **If you have not done so already, please return the form as soon as possible.** You may also scan and email your completed and signed form to [census@townhall.westwood.ma.us](mailto:census@townhall.westwood.ma.us).

Failure to return the Annual Town Census may cause a voter to be designated as inactive on the voting list (M.G.L, Ch.51, § 4).

It is important to note that you may not register to vote or change parties via a census form.

For information on Registering to vote or changing political parties please visit [www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleidx.htm](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleidx.htm).

## VOTING BY MAIL

In 2022 a new election law was passed to allow every registered voter in Massachusetts the opportunity to vote by mail, without needing an excuse to do so. To vote by mail, you will need to submit a new request on an annual basis which would apply to all elections taking place during that calendar year.

## ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

- The **Annual Town Election** will be held on Tuesday, April 25, 2023
- The **Annual Town Meeting** will be held on Monday, May 1, 2023
- Nomination papers are now available in the office of the Town Clerk for those registered Westwood voters who wish to run for Town elected positions.
- Last day to obtain nomination papers will be 5:00 p.m., Friday, March 3, 2023.
- For those residents not currently registered voters, the last day to register to vote in order to participate in the Annual Town Election and Annual Town Meeting will be Friday, April 14, 2023.
- **Voting by mail** is available to those who file an application with the Town Clerk on or before 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

### THE FOLLOWING ELECTED OFFICES WILL APPEAR ON 2023 ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION BALLOT:

- Board of Assessors:  
1 Seat - 3 Year Term
- Collector of Taxes: 1 Seat - 3 Year Term (term subject to change pending possible charter change)
- Housing Authority: 1 Seat - 5 year Term
- Library Trustee:  
2 Seats - 3 Year Terms
- Moderator: 1 Seat - 1 Year Term
- Planning Board: 1 Seat - 3 Year Term
- School Committee:  
2 Seats - 3 Year Terms
- Select Board: 1 Seat - 3 Year Term
- Sewer Commission: 1 Seat - 3 Year Term

**WESTWOODWORD**

580 High Street  
Westwood, MA 02090

PRSRT STD  
ECRWSS  
US POSTAGE  
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NORWOOD, MA  
PERMIT 81

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSEDDM\*\*\*\*\*  
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER



## **WANT TO STAY INFORMED ON TOWN EVENTS?**

Scan this QR code with your smartphone/tablet camera, and you will be directed to the town's notification page.



There you can sign up to receive ALERT Westwood notifications, view the monthly Westwood WIRE (town's e-newsletter), or access the town's social media pages.