



Town of Westford Massachusetts

Town Manager's Newsletter

February 2025



Kristen Las
Town
Manager

klas@westfordma.gov
www.westfordma.gov/tm
978-692-5500

Sign up to
receive latest town
updates:

[Subscribe to
Notifications](#)



Sign up for



Smart911

Annual Town Meeting
Saturday, March 22
Starting at 9:00 AM
Westford Academy
30 Patten Road

New Town Hall
Operating Hours

Monday, Wednesday,
Thursday:
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Tuesday:
8:00 AM - 6:30 PM

Friday: 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM



Watch
westford 
community access television
www.westfordcat.org

Dear Westford residents,

As we embrace the chill of February, and even though the groundhog told us that there will be 6 more weeks of winter, I can tell that we are slowly approaching spring as the days are getting longer. We also recognize February as Black History Month and American Heart Month. It's a great time to get out and enjoy all of the open space and trails that Westford has to offer in the snow-covered paths and fields.

In observance of Presidents' Day, our Town Offices will be closed on Monday, February 17th. Please plan accordingly. Trash and recycling will be picked up on schedule.

We are finally seeing some winter storms come in. Please make sure to sign up for news alerts through our [website](#) and follow our [Facebook](#) and [X](#) pages for up-to-date information on town operations.

Facilities Assessment Community Conversations #2: On February 5th, we held the second of our community conversations regarding the [Facilities Assessment](#). It was a wonderful opportunity for residents to share their thoughts and ideas as we work to evaluate and improve our town's facilities. Thank you to everyone who participated. Your feedback is invaluable, and we look forward to continuing the conversation as we make decisions that will benefit our town for years to come. A survey is open for your consideration until February 19th.

On February 25th, the Select Board will review and sign the Town Meeting warrant. This is an important step as we prepare for the upcoming [Town Meeting](#) scheduled for March 22nd at Westford Academy. Information about the meeting will be posted on the website and meetings with the Finance Committee and Select Board regarding the articles will be held in February and March. Please see the [Town Meeting timeline here](#). We encourage you to stay engaged and informed on the issues that will be discussed. This is a vital opportunity for all of us to shape the future of our community, and we hope to see you there.

There will be open seats on several elected boards and committees, including the Select Board, Planning Board, Housing Authority, Board of Library Trustees, and School Committee. If you're interested in serving our community in one of these roles, you can pull papers at the Town Clerk's office and return the signed documents by Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 5:00 pm. The Town election will occur on May 6, 2025 from 7AM-8PM.

Please see below for matters that were discussed or acted upon by the Select Board in late January and the beginning of February.

At their meeting on January 28, 2025, the Select Board recognized Firefighter/EMT Bill Cashman who retired on January 24, 2025 after 24 years of service to the Fire Department.

The Select Board held a joint meeting with the Board of Library Trustees to appoint Mary Siegel as a trustee until the May 6, 2025 election.

The Select Board reviewed the proposed warrant articles and voted 5-0 to close the warrant for Annual Town Meeting to be held on Saturday, March 22, 2025 at 9AM at Westford Academy.

(Continued on next page)

WWW.WESTFORDMA.GOV

At their meeting on February 11, 2025 Resident Wendy Gloyd spoke on behalf of the Westford LGBTQ+ group and her concerns regarding the current Presidential Administration's stance on immigration and transgender groups and reminded residents they are hosting ongoing Friday night support groups at the First Parish Church United from 7PM-9PM. All are welcome to attend.

Westford Cable Access Television (CAT) Director, Sarah Fletcher, announced that Westford CAT is celebrating its 20th anniversary and is now offering a 12-week trial print subscription of its local news that can be delivered to your home for \$27. For more information you can visit their [website](#) or call them at (978) 692-7152.

The Select Board approved 5-0 to accept the Town of Westford Strategic Plan which aims to align what the community wants Westford to be in the next five to ten years with the work of local leadership and government. You can view the online booklet [here](#). Hard copies will be available in the coming weeks.

Capital Strategic Solutions gave a presentation on the Communications Plan for Westford, and asked the Select Board for their feedback and concerns on their long-term vision for communication with residents. Town staff will continue working with them to integrate the Town-wide Strategic Plan, enhance crises communications and develop a multi-channel consistent flow of information. You can view their presentation [here](#).

The Select Board approved 5-0 to support the Municipal Empowerment Act Bill filed by the Healey-Driscoll Administration which will enhance the ability of local leaders to deliver high quality services to their residents. Updated provisions include reducing school bus service costs, supporting the prevention of drug overdoses, easing procurement of snow hauling services and expediting the removal of utility company double poles. More information can be found on the Mass.gov [website](#).

The Select Board approved the request from the Armenian National Committee of Merrimack Valley to sign the proclamation in remembrance of the Armenian Genocide of 1915.

There are several openings on our local boards and committees, including:

Affordable Housing Trust

Bylaw Review Committee

Clean Energy and Sustainability Committee

Dog Park Task Force

Healthy Westford Committee

Historical Commission

Northern Middlesex Stormwater Collaborative

Pedestrian Safety Committee

Permanent Town Building Committee

Recycling Commission

Scholarship and Grant Committee

Tax Possession Disposition Committee

I urge you to peruse our website for information about the work of these committees; and if you have interest, please complete and submit a Volunteer Activity Form (formerly the Citizen Activity Form) at this link: [Volunteer Activity Form](#).

Would you like more detailed information on the Select Board's meetings? Click the following links to access: [Select Board Documents](#) & [Select Board Meeting Videos](#).

If you have any suggestions for articles or added features in future newsletters, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Town Manager's office at (978)-692-5501 or email at klas@westfordma.gov.

Sincerely,



Kristen Las, Town Manager

Town Clerk's Corner



Laurie Shaw, Town Clerk
LShaw@westfordma.gov

Annual Town Meeting	Saturday, March 22, 2025 Meeting Starts at 9:00 AM Westford Academy Gymnasium 30 Patten Road
Annual Election	Tuesday, May 6, 2025
Early Voting Hours	TBD

Voter Registration Deadline for March 22, Town Meeting is March 12, 2025

Annual Town Election – May 6, 2025
Last Day to register to vote – April 25, 2025
Polling Hours: 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Not registered as a voter in Westford yet?
It's easier than ever ... just go online!
www.sec.state.ma.us/OVR



When you register to vote, you may

- Register in a POLITICAL PARTY by selecting one of the listed parties (currently Democratic or Republican) OR
- Register in a political designation, OR
- Register with no party affiliation by selecting “NO PARTY (unenrolled),” which is commonly referred to as “independent” meaning that you do not have a party designation

If you do not enroll in a party (i.e., choose unenrolled or a political designation), you may still vote in state and presidential primaries by choosing a party ballot and will remain unenrolled.

If you enroll in one of the parties listed above, you may vote only in that party's primary. In a general election, all voters receive the same ballot regardless of party enrollment.

From the Moderator



It's that time again! Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 22, 2025 starting at 9:00 AM at Westford Academy.

This is your opportunity to state your opinions, ask questions and vote on our Town budget and other important issues and expenditures.

Every town resident who is registered to vote on or before Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 5:00 pm can attend, speak and vote at Town Meeting.

Need to register? Contact the Town Clerk's office or register on line [here](#)

Voters at Town Meeting constitute the legislative body of our Town, deciding on budgets, by-laws and Citizen's Petitions. If you attend you can learn what makes Westford tick and vote on how our community is run and how your tax dollars are spent. For more information on the Town Meeting process see the links below or check out the material on the Town Moderators page:

[League of Women Voters Guide to Town Meeting](#)

[Town Meeting Explained](#)

Please mark your calendar now and plan to attend our Annual Town Meeting. More details about logistics and the specifics of items to be discussed and voted on will be coming soon, along with instructions for reserving free child care on site and free transportation to and from the meeting. Keep your eye on the Town of Westford website and particularly the [Town Meeting](#) page and the [Town Moderator](#) page where relevant information and materials will be posted as they become available.

I hope to see you at the meeting. Remember, you may attend for the entire meeting or just a part of the day. The more people who attend the better our decisions will be. DEMOCRACY WORKS BEST WHEN EVERYONE PARTICIPATES.

Feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions.

See you soon!

Angela Harkness

Westford Town Moderator

aharkness@westfordma.gov

February / March at the J.V. Fletcher Library



Unless otherwise noted, the following programs are made possible by the Friends of the Library.

Director's Corner: With the exception of Mother Goose, Virtual Job Seekers and Adult Book Groups, programming and Meeting Room use are temporarily winding down, as the Library prepares for its off-site move to the Temporary Library in late March/early April. Stay updated via this e-newsletter and the [Library website!](#)

Mother Goose: Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Meeting Room. Mother Goose will continue through February! Join Miss Jill and Miss Hannah every Tuesday and Wednesday for stories, songs, finger plays, and more! No registration required.

Virtual Job Search Help for 50 & Over – "Career Story- Tell Me a Bit About Yourself": Wednesday, February 19 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. The Massachusetts Library Collaborative's 50+ Job Seekers Group meets biweekly on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, from 9:30-11:30 a.m., via Zoom. If you are unemployed and actively looking, underemployed, seeking a new career direction, re-entering the job market after a long employment gap, or recently retired and looking for your "Encore Career", this networking group program is perfect for you! Take advantage of these *free*, weekly skill-building and networking group meetings. A new topic will be covered at each meeting. Register [here](#).

Monday Mystery Book Club: Monday, February 24 at 3:00 p.m. Wake up your week with a stimulating book discussion! We'll meet upstairs in the Mary Atwood Room to discuss *The Burning* by Linda Castillo. Copies of the current selection are available at Main Desk. The e-book and audiobook are both available to download from Libby. Email [Linda Ernack](#) for details! No registration required.

Museum Passes: Looking for something fun to do with your children or teens over February break? Check out our Friends funded Museum Passes. Spend a day in Boston visiting the New England Aquarium, Museum of Science, Gardner Museum, or the Museum of Fine Arts. Looking to stay closer to home? Don't miss the Discovery Museum in Acton, the Concord Museum or Orchard House. Check out our [Museum Passes page](#) for many other places to visit and to reserve your pass!

Adult Nonfiction Book Club: Tuesday, March 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room. Join us to discuss *Secondhand Time: The Last of the Soviets* by Svetlana Alexievich. Copies are available at Main Desk. The e-book and audiobook are both available to download from Libby. Email [Charles Schweppe](#) for details! No registration required.

Freegal Music: Freegal Music is our free digital music service that gives you access to 15+ million songs from 200+ genres, including Sony Music's catalog of legendary artists. The collection also features music videos and audiobooks. Streaming is unlimited and you can download up to 5 DRM-free songs each week. You can also create and save playlists and share them with others.

Freegal Music is free and easy to access from your computer or mobile device, as well as from our public computer stations. All you need is your library card and PIN. [Learn more about Freegal Music – here.](#)

(Continued on next page)

Friends of The J.V. Fletcher Library (Continued)

Adult Book Club: Thursday, March 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the Mary Atwood Room. Join us to discuss *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver. Copies are available at the Main Desk and there are downloadable copies (audio and e-copies) available from Overdrive/Libby and Hoopla. Email [Kristina Leedberg](mailto:Kristina.Leedberg@westfordma.gov) for details. No registration required.

Wifi Hotspots: Now, You Can Borrow the Internet! Did you know that the J.V. Public Library has mobile hotspots available for checkout! Hotspots may be reserved just like a book through the [Library catalog](#) or by calling the Information Services Desk at 978-399-2304.

BookBrowse: Looking for your next great read? Find it at "[BookBrowse](#)" your guide to exceptional books! Search for book information by theme, read-alikes, book club resources, articles and reviews, and much more! This engaging database can be accessed from the library or from home with your Westford Library card number.

If you have questions or need assistance, please call us at 978-399-2300 or send us an email at westfordlibrary@westfordma.gov

Quick Links to Our Most Popular Services!

[Programs - Adults](#)

[Programs - Kids](#)

[Programs - Young Adults](#)

Follow us!

<https://www.instagram.com/westfordlibraryma/>

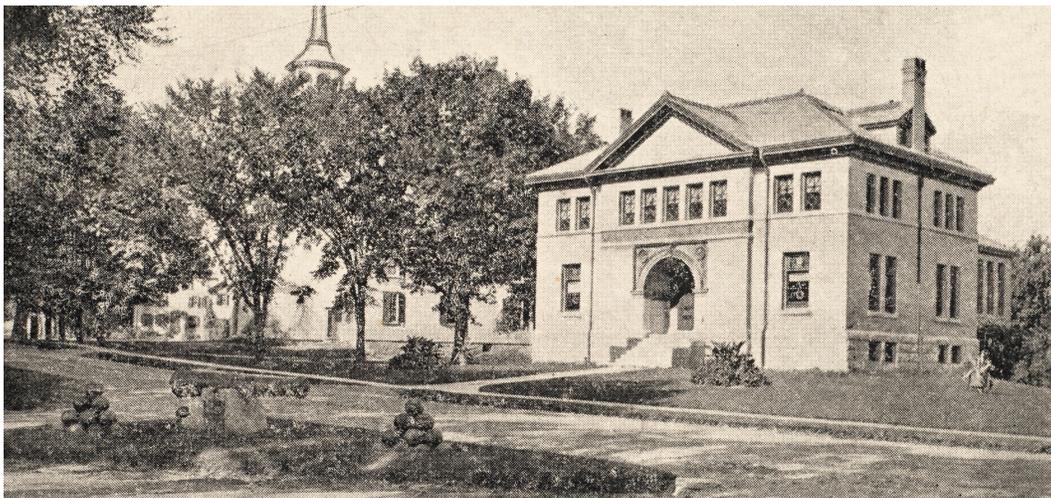
<https://X.com/westfordlibrary>

<https://www.facebook.com/J-V-Fletcher-Library-131093656901445/>

Friends of the Library e-newsletter: The best way to learn about our upcoming programs and new services is through the FOL weekly e-newsletter. [Sign up here.](#)

Check out our [Museum Passes page](#) or call the Library for reservations. Unless otherwise noted, our museum passes are generously funded by the Friends of the Library. [Have you joined the Friends yet?](#)

If you have questions or need assistance, please call us at 978-399-2300 or send us an email at westfordlibrary@westfordma.gov.



FEBRUARY 2025

Westford Recreation

WPC After School Enrichment Program, Grades K-5. Register at Any Time.

Recreation's WPC program is safety focused, with flexible schedules, and cool activities, which includes homework time! Conveniently located at Abbot, Crisafulli, Day, Miller, Nabnasset, and Robinson schools. Runs Monday-Friday, from school dismissal to 6:00 p.m.

Recreation Special Programs, Grades K-8, Winter Break, February 18-21

Join us for fun and ADVENTURE! Special programs are 9am-3pm, with options for Early Arrival, 7:30AM, and Extended Day, 6:00PM. All communities are welcome.

Tuesday 2/18: Chuck E. Cheese

A full day of games, arcades, pizza and more.

Wednesday 2/19: Glow Party

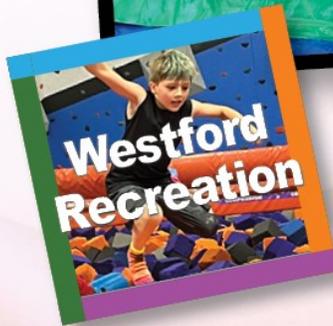
Glow - Glow - Glow in the dark games and dance party.

Thursday 2/20: Animal Adventures

Chinchillas through Alligators – each visit is unique.

Friday 2/21: XtremeCraze

Soft inflatable airpark, arcade games, and more.



SUMMER Fun To Come!

Registration 2025 opens for Summer Weekly Programs early March. Kids Club, Destination Exploration and Beach Party!

- 1) After School at Abbot, cheering them on.
- 2) Early release day with After School, peeky sneaky.
- 3 & 4) Recreation Special Program's last visit to Animal Adventures: a very nice weasel; tangled up in snake.
- 5) Summer '24, Destination Exploration, slipping and sliding.

MORE INFO | REGISTER ONLINE AT WESTFORDMA.MYREC.COM | SEASONAL PROGRAMS FOLLOW >>>

65 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Westford MA, 978-692-5532 | Photos: Recreation Staff.

Winter & Spring

"Not to Miss"

happening this **February**

RECREATION SPECIAL PROGRAMS WINTER BREAK

GRADES K-8 | 9AM-3PM

EARLY ARRIVAL (7:30AM) AND EXTENDED DAY (6:00PM)

FULL-DAY AND FULL-WEEK PROGRAMS DURING PUBLIC SCHOOL'S PARENT CONFERENCES, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS, AND SCHOOL VACATIONS.

FEBRUARY 18-21.

TUESDAY 2/18 - CHUCK E CHEESE | WEDNESDAY 2/19 - GLOW PARTY

THURSDAY 2/20 - ANIMAL ADVENTURES | FRIDAY 2/21 - XTREME CRAZE

PUZZLECLASH WITH LITTLETON RECREATION

AGES 10-ADULT: EXCITING PUZZLE-BUILDING COMPETITION!

TACO TUESDAY – MINGLE AND PLAY.

February 25.



starting in **March**

YOUTH CHESS - INT'L MASTER PRATHIBA Y

AGES 5-14: FUN. CREATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING.

Winter Session 2. Starts March 7.



CPR, FIRST AID & AED - MIKE VOTANO

AGES 9-ADULT: EXPERIENCED PARAMEDIC AND ER NURSE.

Starts March 12.

starting in **APRIL**

NEW SKYHAWKS PROGRAM: MULTI SportTots

AGES 2-5: THREE SPORTS PACKED WITH FUN, LEARNING, AND TEAMWORK

Starts April 28.

NEW SKYHAWKS PROGRAM: BEGINNER GOLF

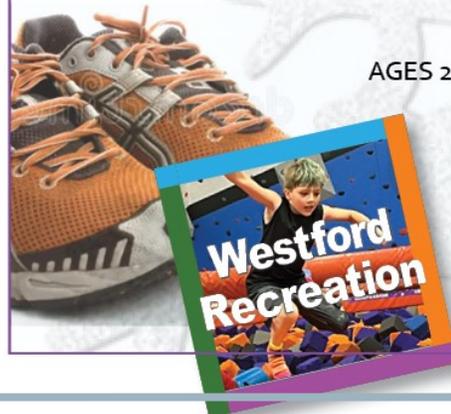
AGES 5-6: ACING A CURRICULUM THAT'S PERFECT FOR BEGINNERS.

Starts April 30.

SOCCER SHOTS

AGES 2-5: KIDS LEARNING FUN-DAMENTALS WITH JOY.

Dates to be announced.



new!
THIS SUMMER
FAST SKILLS ARCHERY
with Pat Gendron
SKYHAWKS
Field Hockey



Experienced Instructors! Great Coaches!

REGISTER at WESTFORDMA.MYREC.COM

Westford Recreation | 65 Main, 3rd flr, Westford, MA | 978-692-532

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

WWW.WESTFORDMA.GOV

Clean Energy and Sustainability Committee (CEASC)

Westford's Strategic Plan is seeing GREEN!

The CEASC was happy to hear the Select Board approve the Strategic Plan, which includes a focus on sustainability. Our Town's Vision includes a commitment to creating a sustainable future, and our Committee is charged to help guide the Town in that direction. The CEASC was thrilled to see the Strategic Outcome Area "Commitment to Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action," which has been growing in Town for many years.

The CEASC appreciates the Town staff and consultant efforts to consider the Town's sustainability goals - especially to be net zero for greenhouse gases by 2050 - and the strategies identified in Westford's Climate Roadmap, linked [here](#).

These goals and strategies are some of our Committee's major responsibilities, but not the only ones. We are also tasked to consider ways to reduce energy use and energy costs. This support extends across municipal, residential, and commercial sectors.

To make progress on all that, CEASC has recommended starting with:

1. Our buildings – our largest source of greenhouse gas emissions
2. Our vehicles – our second largest source of emissions
3. Solar energy – our best resource for clean electricity generation in Town

Westford has already made progress on all three fronts. Westford has received over \$1 million from a state program that has reduced the up-front costs of municipal building energy efficiency projects, which dramatically lower energy usage and operating costs. Our municipal fleet has been acquiring hybrid and all-electric vehicles when available and appropriate. Our Town staff have been reviewing municipal building roofs for potential solar sites.

Going forward, our Climate Roadmap identifies dozens of ways to make progress towards our sustainability goals. In the near-term, look for proposals at the upcoming Town Meeting for a revolving account to help pay up-front costs for energy efficiency and clean energy projects, and for the adoption of a building code to further promote energy-efficiency, electrification, and solar energy in new construction.

Speaking of the building code, CEASC just held another information session on it on February 6. The Massachusetts Specialized Energy Code requires stronger building efficiency standards for new building construction (NOT renovations or additions), and moves development towards high-performance standards, incentivizing (but not requiring) all-electric heating and cooling systems. You can watch the info session recording and see the presentation and learn more about the Code [here](#).

www.westfordma.gov/299/Clean-Energy-and-Sustainability-Committee

Cameron Senior Center

At The Cameron-

A vibrant community proudly serving adults aged 55 and over - All welcome!

TECHPALS

Pictured is Mary Kelsey Ramos who is so pleased to have Tech Pals assist with her technology devices.



TECHPALS is a non-profit run organization made up of WA student volunteers who have a desire to help older adults navigate today's tech-driven world with confidence and joy. By bringing in the next generation of tech experts- high school volunteers-to share their digital know how with seniors one "Pal" at a time tablets, laptops, cell phones don't have to be a frustration or worry anymore. Join TECHPAL for their next informative workshop on February 26th at 2:30. Please RSVP by calling 978-692-5523.



Westford Garden Club made festive **Valentine Centerpieces for Cameron Valentine Luncheon** that was hosted at First Parish Church on February 10. A special thank you to Anne Rosenberg requesting the abundant donation of flowers from WHOLE FOODS MARKET in Town!

FREE Monthly Health Series

February 18th at 4:30PM

Join Jessica a registered and dietician and in nutrition counselor with **Great Wave Acupuncture and Wellness** in Westford. She holds a master's degree in food and nutrition and has a passion for helping people create a positive relationship with food. Please RSVP-978-692-5523

FISCO- Friends of Indian Senior Citizens Organization presents **HOLI 2025**

March 19th from 11:15-1:30PM

Cameron Multi-Purpose Room

Sponsored by SAI CANTEEN- Free Veg Meal

Join us for a vibrant celebration with food, entertainment and fun.

Calling All performers! Show Us Your Talent- Dance, Sing, Tell Jokes or perform a skit to make this celebration unforgettable!

*Senior Only event-60 + RSVP by March 10th Visit www.thefisco.org to RSVP

Contact US: Call Rita Shah-339-234-0738 or Mita Patel-978-979-1236

(Continued on next page)

Cameron Senior Center (Continued)

Lunch and Learn with Bridges by EPOCH Westford

Friday, February 28 at Noon

Topic: Proactive Brain Health

We also would like to thank **Bridges** for providing their wonderful food for our meal.

RSVP-978-692-5523

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING- NEED Transportation

Saturday, March 22, 2025 at 9 am

Annual Town Meeting is set to take place on Saturday, March 22 at Westford Academy. Transportation to and from the Town Meeting will be available via the Cameron Senior Center's Transportation Department, by way of their Town of Westford vans. If you need transportation, please call the Cameron Center Transportation Department at: 978-399-2322, or check the transportation website for online at www.westfordma.gov/1433/Town-Meeting-Transportation

SPRING AHEAD / ENCORE CASINO TRIP!

Tuesday, March 25

As we look forward to warmer weather, we will be traveling to **Encore Casino in Everett** for a fun day! We are **inviting all those ages 50 and over** to join us on **TUESDAY, MARCH 25th**.

MBT Worldwide Coach will be driving us with **departure from the Franco American Club at 9:00 AM. Please arrive by 8:45 AM and park at the rear of the lot. Departure from Encore at 3:30 PM.** The fee for this trip will be **\$45**, which includes driver's gratuity and is **due at sign-up** as there will be **limited seating. Encore does give a \$20 bonus** which you will receive upon arrival at the Casino. If you already have an Encore Card, please bring it with you. If you have any questions, please call and ask for Claire. **Please call 978.692.5523 to sign up** for this fun day at Encore!

Museum Of Fine Arts

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Tour offered By Bloom Tours

Our first stop of the day is to enjoy a delicious lunch at the Cheesecake Factory. You will have a choice from an extensive menu. After lunch, you will enjoy a self-guided tour of the Museum of Fine Arts. Your motorcoach will depart at 10:15AM from the Franco-American Club and returns

approximately 5:00PM. For reservations, please call the Cameron front desk at 978-692-5523. The cost is \$130 per person and includes gratuities. Full payment due at reservation to guarantee seat and no refunds after April 8, 2025.



To learn more about the Cameron Senior Center programs and services please visit:

www.westfordma.gov/coa,

www.facebook.com/CameronSeniorCenter/

Or please feel free to call us at 978-692-5523 and schedule a tour.

To view the complete Council On Aging Newsletter please visit [COA Newsletters](#).

Community Wellness

Community Wellness Assistance

Westford's Community Wellness Coordinator, Nicole Laviolette, has open office hours the **4th Tuesday of the month from 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM** at **Town Hall, conference room A**. Get help with mental health referrals, substance use disorder referrals, parenting support resources, and linkages to other town and community resources.

No appointment necessary. For questions, please email: nlaviolette@westfordma.gov or call 978- 399-2503

Opioid Settlement funds

Thank you for completing the Opioid Settlement Funds community input survey. We are hoping to hear from residents with lived experience about their ideas and strategies for the utilization of funds.

If you have ideas and strategies, you'd like to share please call or email Nicole Laviolette at 978-399-2503 nlaviolette@westfordma.gov

GLHA Community Health Needs Assessment Survey

The 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment Survey through the Greater Lowell Health Alliance is open! Please take the survey and tell us what health issues you think should be top priority in the Greater Lowell area!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2025GLCHNA>

For more information or help connecting to resources:

Community Wellness Coordinator, Nicole Laviolette

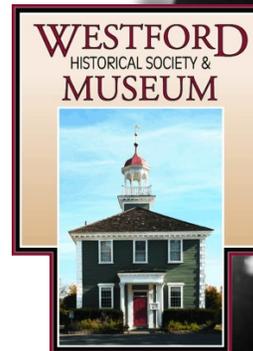
(978) 399-2503 nlaviolette@westfordma.gov

<https://www.westfordma.gov/Wellness>

Westford Museum

Westford REV 250 (1775-2025) Winter Programming Series at the Westford Museum

The Westford Museum and Historical Society proudly presents a patriotic series of programs titled "Westford REV 250 (1775-2025)," celebrating the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in 2025.



**Westford
250
Revolution
1775-2025**

"In the Spirit of Friendship," John Adams and Mercy Otis Warren

Thursday, February 27, 2025, 7-9 PM
Westford Museum, 2 Boston Rd, Westford

This captivating discussion will delve into the profound and historical relationship between John Adams and Mercy Otis Warren, two pivotal figures in American history. Attendees will gain insight into Warren's groundbreaking three-volume history of the American Revolution, published in 1805 as the first comprehensive account of the Revolution in the United States.

"Bartering, Currency, and the American Economy in Colonial Times"

Sunday, March 2, 2025, 1:30 PM
Westford Museum, 2 Boston Rd, Westford

In this program, you will explore and understand the value of money in colonial America, including the types of currency used, how it was tracked and obtained, and what could be purchased. *(Rescheduled due to February 9 snowstorm)*

A Revolution of Her Own!

Deborah Sampson, the first woman to fight the American Military

Thursday, March 13, 2025, 7 PM
Westford Museum, 2 Boston Rd, Westford

Deborah Sampson, the first woman to enlist, fight, and be honorably discharged from the American military, shares her compelling story in an hour-long program. Growing up as an indentured servant in a man's world with limited options, she sought a greater purpose. In the final years of the American Revolution, she disguised herself as "Robert Shurtleff" and joined the 4th Massachusetts Regiment of the Continental Army. Experience the tale of this remarkable American heroine!

**For more Westford Rev 250 programming,
visit the Westford Museum website at www.museum.westford.org**

Westford Public Schools

As many of you are aware, a number of changes have been taking place at the Federal level this month with the new administration taking office. The Massachusetts Attorney General's Office recently released guidance in response to the changes in federal immigration enforcement policy. If you have any questions or concerns, I encourage you to take a moment to review this flyer that was shared with us this week: [Flyer for K-12 Schools on Protecting Students and Their Information.pdf](#)

We remain committed to keeping all of our students safe and protecting their privacy. We only collect the information we need which does not include information regarding their or their families immigration status. As mentioned in the guidance, if U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agents were to request access to a student and or their information, the agents will be referred to our district central office. Our protocol includes notifying the student's parent or guardian and contacting our local legal counsel to determine appropriate responses based on the request.

Along with FY26 Budget, our last few School Committee meetings have included discussions about potential changes to the School Start times for next year. The following information was also shared from our principals this week, as well:

The Westford School Committee is considering a change in start times based on research showing that adolescents will benefit from a later school start time. Currently, middle and high schools start at 7:25 AM. The proposal would change Grades 6-12 to 8:00 AM start time, Grades 3-5 to 8:50 AM, and Grades PK-2 to 9:10 AM. Thank you to everyone who took our community survey — we had 1,305 responses with 73% in favor of the change. This topic was discussed at our Jan 21 meeting (recording available here:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/kXoYFpFbPR8>). The committee plans to vote on this proposal at their Feb 3 meeting. More information is available at

<https://www.westfordk12.us/district/school-committee/webforms/school-start-times>

Please send any feedback to SCHOOL-COMMITTEE@WESTFORDMA.GOV.

Finally, we continue to make progress through the Eligibility period with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) regarding a potential project in the future at the Robinson Elementary School. As mentioned in previous updates, a full committee has been formed appropriately named the Robinson School Building Committee (RSBC). They have been meeting to look at the cost estimates of a feasibility study which is a required component of the MSBA process. The feasibility study is designed to determine what options, if any, would be most appropriate to best support the facility infrastructure and provide the best learning environment for our students served at the Robinson School. It will include determining costs associated with bringing the school up to current building codes, potential renovations and or additions that could be made, or whether a new building would be most appropriate. Another piece of the study will consider if a project takes place at the Robinson School could it include consolidating another of our existing elementary schools to maximize efficiency. If the town approves moving forward with a study following this spring's Annual Town Meeting on March 22nd, then a portion of those funds could be eligible for reimbursement from the MSBA. There are multiple points embedded within the process of a building project with the MSBA in which the Town must vote to approve decisions and consider options. So, engaging in a feasibility study does not mean that the Town is making a commitment to a larger project. As we approach this upcoming Town Meeting, the RSBC will be hosting public tours of the Robinson School as well as providing informational materials to help the community make an informed decision as to whether or not we proceed with the feasibility study at this time.

Cheers!

Chris

Christopher Chew, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools





THE FUTURE OF ROBINSON

Town Meeting Vote on Feasibility Study

The Robinson School Building Committee invites you to an information session to learn about its request **"Approval of Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Feasibility Study Funding for Colonel John Robinson School,"** which will be presented at Town Meeting on March 22.

TUESDAY
MARCH 11
2:00 PM

CAMERON SENIOR CENTER
Multi-Purpose Room
20 Pleasant Street, Westford

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 12
7:30 PM

ROBINSON SCHOOL
Cafeteria
60 Concord Road, Westford

Robinson School's aging infrastructure and outdated design have been prioritized by the state-supported MSBA program, which has identified significant concerns about the facility and its impact on teaching and learning compared to other schools statewide. This presents important decisions for our town. Join us to learn how a feasibility study, will explore solutions for Robinson and Westford Public Schools.

For all info relating to the Robinson School Building project scan code or visit WWW.WESTFORDK12.US/DISTRICT/NEWS/ROBINSONMSBA





Westford

Massachusetts

Tecton
ARCHITECTS

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

FACILITIES ASSESSMENT & MASTERPLAN



For project updates, events and more, we recommend:

Visiting our project website at www.westfordma.gov/facilitiesassessment
or emailing tmaa@westfordma.gov

Wed.
1/15
7 PM

Community Conversation #1

Topic: Establish Need, Bold Goals & Customer Experience

Location: Millennium Building, 23 Depot Street

Duration: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Format: In-person/Hybrid + Virtual

Tools: Powerpoint, Mentimeter

Wed.
2/5
6 PM

Community Conversation #2

Topic: What Ifs & Asset Utilization

Location: Millennium Building, 23 Depot Street

Duration: 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Format: In-person/Hybrid + Virtual

Tools: Powerpoint, Mentimeter

Sat.
3/22

Master Plan Update - Informational

Materials Available @ Annual Town Meeting

Location: Westford Academy, 30 Patten Road

Sat.
4/5
10 AM

Community Conversation #3

Topic: Draft Masterplan Feedback

Location: Millennium Building, 23 Depot Street

Duration: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Format: In-person/Hybrid + Virtual

Tools: Powerpoint, Mentimeter