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Strategic Planning
Retreat
Thursday, June 16
at Kimball Farm

Senior Day at
The Westford Farmers
Market
Tuesday, June 28
at the Town Common

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Dept. Summer Programs
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Available
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Watch
Meetings Online
westford 
community access television
www.westfordcat.org

Dear Westford residents,

I would like to thank all who participated in our Memorial Day services on May 29th. I am delighted to announce that the first piece of the Westford Minutemen and Revolutionary War Memorial, designed and crafted by Firefighter David Christiana, was unveiled. The full size bronze Battle Drum specifically honors those Middlesex County Minute and Militia Companies who fought at the Battle of North Bridge on April 19, 1775. The drum will sit out in front of the Minutemen Statue at the base when the full Monument is completed. According to David, few of us realize that Westford Minutemen were on that Bridge for what is recognized as the first Historic Battle of the War for Independence. He explained, Westford resident, Lt. Col. John Robinson and Concord's Major John Buttrick, Isaac Davis and his Companies, and Concord and Westford Minutemen marched two by two onto the Bridge and faced the British. According to Chrisitana, one of the first shots fired by the British went through Robinson's coat and hit an Acton private behind him; another killed Isaac Davis, the first Officer killed in the war. More Westford Companies arrived with several other Middlesex Companies and they were able to take the Bridge and then began a chasing fight all the way to Charlestown.



*Christiana's replica of a drum used by Westford Minutemen in 1775.
Photo Courtesy WestfordCat News.*

Our 6th Annual Strategic Planning Retreat will be held at Kimball Farm on June 16th from 5:30pm – 8:30pm. This is a great event to meet and chat with other residents, town officials and staff, and learn about the important projects our town is considering. The topics to be discussed include the large capital building projects currently approved or under review by the Board of Selectmen. These include the new center fire station and combined dispatch building, what to build to replace the existing fire station, the Roudenbush Community Center which is in need of extensive renovations, a possible J.V. Fletcher Library expansion utilizing a grant, and the future of the Recreation Department, which may include a leased facility or modular units, at least in the interim. More information may be found about this terrific event here:

[Town-wide Strategic Planning Retreat 2016](#)

(Continued on next page)

At their May 24th meeting, the Selectmen heard two requests to establish medical marijuana dispensaries in town, to be located at 3 Lan Drive and 317 Littleton Road. The board has the right to issue a letter of support, or a letter of non-opposition, or take no action at all. The board was concerned with several public safety aspects of the new dispensaries, along with unease of the impact if the state ballot question legalizing recreational marijuana passes - what would become of the dispensaries. For these reasons, when it appeared a supportive vote was not likely to occur at the meeting, the proposed establishments withdrew their applications.

The Library Trustees and Library Director Ellen Rainville presented the plans for a 21st Century Library, which includes applying for matching grants from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. The potential award and construction would occur in 2020.

At the same meeting, Edie Fruscione presented a request that the board consider supporting the creation of a dog park, by appointing a town committee to identify land and seek grant funding for the expenses related to the park. The board approved the request and Selectman Chair Kelly Ross volunteered to work with the group to develop a charge.

Congratulations to Daniel Measer, the recipient of the Westford Scholarship and Grant Committee's 2016 SAG Scholarship. This \$2,500 scholarship award recipient is selected by reviewing applicant's community participation, civic contribution, and commitment to making Westford a better place.

Ebi Masalehdan presented the board with revised proposed restaurant plans and an amended Agreement for his property at 66 Boston Road. The board had several questions which they agreed would be posed to counsel. The board asked the Drew Garden's Task Force to reconvene, and update their charge, and they asked the town manager to advertise for two abutters (or near abutters) to be appointed to the task force.

There are several openings on other local boards and committees, including the Agricultural Commission, Bylaw Review Committee, Communications Advisory Committee, Economic Development Committee, Energy Committee, the Historical Commission, Tax Possession Sale Committee, and others, and I urge you to peruse our website for information about the work of these committees. If you have interest, please complete a Citizen's Activity form at this link: [Citizen Activity Form](#) or stop by and fill out a form in the Town Manager's office.

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

Sincerely,



Jodi Ross
Town Manager



J.V. Fletcher Library

Planning for a 21st Century Library

The J. V. Fletcher Library is concluding a 24-month-long “Planning and Design Grant” and will be seeking support from the Town to pursue a state-funded “Public Library Construction Project Grant” in a long-term initiative that may not see a grant award until 2020.

The current facility is constrained to find space to put “the public” in the public library and is unable to meet the needs of the residents who use it most. The proposed design for a 21st Century Library devotes almost ALL its new spaces to the public. **It:**

-  **More than doubles the space for Children**
-  **Triples the space for young adults and emerging adults**
-  **Doubles public meeting spaces**
-  **Centralizes Circulation functions**
-  **Increases silent and collaborative study options**
-  **Offers improved technology**
-  **Offers improved traffic flow & increased parking**
-  **Offers flexible spaces to accommodate future trends and uses**
-  **Is fully handicapped-accessible and meets current fire, safety and building codes**

For the Westford Community at large the proposed design offers:

-  **Pre-K Child Literacy and Language Development Programs**
-  **Formal Education Support**
-  **School & Public Library Collaboration (PS/PL Collaborative)**
-  **Home-schooling and Independent Schooling Support**
-  **Free Life-long Learning Opportunities**
-  **\$10.81 Return on each public library dollar invested**
-  **Job Seeking and Small Business Support**
-  **ESL and Literacy Support**
-  **Boost in property values**



Please join the Library and other Town Departments at the Strategic Planning Retreat at Kimballs on Thursday, June 16 to learn more about the Library’s proposed Public Library Construction Project Grant and other Town Initiatives on the slate.

Research, learn and discover.

WWW.WESTFORDLIBRARY.ORG

Recreation Department

Edwards Beach and Forge Pond Beach open for the summer season June 20 through August 27

Beach hours are Monday – Friday 8:30am-5:30pm, Saturday – Sunday 9am - 5am
Westford residents – free with proof of residency
Non- residents \$5/per person/per day. Ages 3 and under and 65 and over are free.
Non- residents may purchase a season pass at the beaches for \$75 for a family of five.
Only Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices (PFD) in good, serviceable condition may be used at Westford Town Beaches. PFD must be appropriate size for intended user. No Lifeguards will be on duty for the general public.

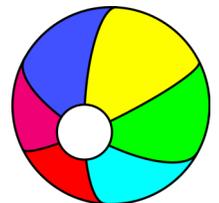
New Program – SUMMER BEACH PARTY – AGES 4-14

Start you summer activities off at Edwards beach!
Three week long sessions are offered June 22-24, August 15-19 and August 22-26.
Come and enjoy games, swimming, fishing, beach volleyball, arts and crafts.
A daily lunch is provided from the Concession stand which includes a beverage, chips, and choice of hot dog, grilled cheese or mac & cheese; pizza party on Friday's
Early drop off (7-9am), weekly full (9am-4pm) & half day options (9am-Noon, Noon-4pm); daily options of half day am/pm or full day, early drop off, and extended day,
Registration form available on line at www.westfordrec.com or at the temporary office location 39 Town Farm Road.



Still time to register for weekly summer programs offered June 27- August 12

- Ready, Set, Go for ages 4-6 held at Robinson School
- Kids Club for ages 4-13 held at Nabnasset School
- Destination Exploration for ages 8-14.
- Held at Stony Brook Conservation Land – EBC Day Camp Site
- BASKETBALL with Coach Bill Denzel for ages 8-13 from 9am-1pm with option to extend for Open Swim at Stony Brook Conservation Land – EBC Day camp site.



Check out the department registration website at www.westfordrec.com
for program description and Registration forms.

Health Department

Recreational Camps Licensed

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health requires that all recreational, day, and overnight camps for children must be inspected and licensed by the local board of health in the city or town where the camp is located.

The primary purpose of the regulations and inspection is to ensure that the camp provides an appropriate environment to protect the health, safety, and well being of the campers. The regulations also establish minimum sanitary and housing standards to protect the children at camp.

At the Health Department, we inspect and check all camp polices, safe structures and equipment, background checks on all staff and volunteers, adequate sanitary facilities, sufficient supervision of campers, appropriate plans in case of medical emergencies, natural and other physical disasters, injury and fire preventions plans, and immunizations.

The proposed 2016 licensed and inspected Recreational Camps for Children located in Westford, are:

One Stop Fun – Powers Road

The Camp at Nashoba Valley – Powers Road

Westford Swim and Tennis Club Camp – Littleton Road

Marcus Lewis Day Camp Program – East Boston Camps – Depot St.

The Maker Farm – Gould Road.

Empow Studios Inc. – Roudenbush Center – Main Street

Any other programs, clinics, or listed camps are not inspected by the Westford Health Department.



Health Department (continued)

SUN SAFETY FOR RESIDENTS

- ◆ Stay hydrated
- ◆ Stay in the shade and avoid direct sunlight between the hours of 10am to 4pm
- ◆ Wear broad spectrum sunscreen
- ◆ Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of 30 or higher; the higher the SPF the better protection you will get
- ◆ Wear large brim hats that protect the eyes, ears, forehead, nose and scalp
- ◆ Wear sunglasses that block out UV rays to protect your eyes
- ◆ Wear protective clothing
- ◆ Yearly visit to the dermatologist for skin cancer screenings
- ◆ Check with your doctor to see if the medications you take might make you more heat and sun sensitive



STAY SAFE AND ENJOY THE SUMMER WHILE TAKING SUN SAFETY PRECAUTIONS!

HEALTHY TIPS FOR KEEPING COOL

As the heating season draws to a close, many of us look to shut off the heater and break out the fans and Air Conditioners. Here are some tips to help keep you cooler and do it more efficiently.

- Prior to using air conditioners and fans, inspect and clean all fan blades and filters.
- Set your thermostat at as high a temperature as comfortably possible in the summer, and ensure humidity control if needed. The smaller the difference between the indoor and outdoor temperatures, the lower your overall cooling bill will be.
- Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and, therefore, unnecessary expense.
- Consider using an interior fan along with your window air conditioner to spread the cooled air through your home without greatly increasing your power use.
- Avoid placing appliances that give off heat such as lamps or TVs near a thermostat.
- Be sure your house is receiving plenty of fresh outside air to be sure your indoor air quality is good!

Health Department (continued)

**Upper Merrimack Valley Medical Reserve Corps (UMV MRC)
Collaborates with Response Partners for Training Day Event**

Ninety participants gathered at the Bedford campus of Middlesex Community College on April 9 for a special program, "Respond, Don't React: Common-Sense Preparedness in an Uncertain World."

For the third year in a row, the event was hosted by the Homeland Security Program at MCC. The keynote speaker was Meg Femino, Director of Emergency Management at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Femino focused on the elements of a resilient community, and how an all-hazards approach can be crucial for disaster planning. Captain Robert Tosatto, Director of the National MRC Program Office, addressed the group via Skype from Washington DC to share his thoughts about the role MRC units can play in protecting their communities.

Eight classroom sessions covered a wide range of topics, helping volunteers from the UMV MRC to sharpen their response skills. Speakers discussed crucial elements in active shooter incidents, managing challenging behaviors in emergency settings, our nation's history with preparedness, international relief missions to Nepal, caring for those with medical special needs, the use of service animals, and issues involving hemodialysis in a disaster.



THANKS
To Our SPONSORS!

Host:
Middlesex Community College
Homeland Security Program

Financial Support:
Enterprise Bank & Trust
PRIDEStar EMS

Breakfast Donors:
Einstein's
Starbucks

Raffle Contributors:

Ancient Echos Arts	Aprile's Restaurant	Boost Fitness
Burton's Grill	Brunswick Zone	Chill's
Eviva Cucina	Family Eye Care	A Floral Moment
Goldfish Swim School	Healing Hands of Westford	InStyle Hair Designs
Ivory Lit Studios	Java Room	JJ Boomer's
Kimball's Farm	Living My Dream Yoga	Mill City Alkido
Minor Chord	Nashoba Valley Ski	O'Connor Hardware
One Stop Fun	Pete's Grain Company	Pricenton Station
Rangoli Grill	Showcase Cinemas	Trader Joe's
Tranquility Yoga	Westford Nail Designs	Westford Regency

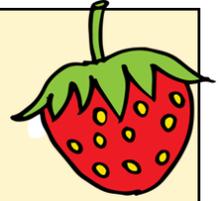
Participants:
Our dedicated speakers, volunteers, and response partners

Thanks to each of you
for making this day possible!



Classroom sessions included:	Speaker:
<i>On The Ground in Nepal</i>	<i>Jacky Nally</i>
<i>Managing Challenging Behaviors</i>	<i>Teo Pique</i>
<i>America's Preparedness Plans</i>	<i>Tom Lawrence</i>
<i>Active Shooter Incidents</i>	<i>Christian Lanphere</i>
<i>Medical Special Needs</i>	<i>Peter Laitinen</i>
<i>Service Animals in Shelters</i>	<i>Lynne Emerson</i>
<i>Hemodialysis in Disasters</i>	<i>Amy Lyn Parker</i>

Council On Aging



SPECIAL SENIOR DAY WITH FREE STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE AND MORE

Join us at the Town center on **Tuesday, June 28th at 3:30**

In partnership with the Westford Farmers market we will be enjoying a day at the center with free strawberry shortcake, music and enjoy the many vendors who will be selling fresh produce, homemade jams, baked goods and crafts, fresh flowers and many friendly faces.

The Cameron is providing transportation from the center if you would like to park at the Cameron, and/or we will provide our door to door service.

Just bring a lawn chair and RSVP to 978-692-5523.

GOLF - TIME TO GET TO THE GREENS

Come enjoy nine holes of golf on Tuesday mornings at Quail Ridge in Acton.

The fee is \$25, includes nine holes and an electric golf cart which is paid each time at the Club House. Please pre-register by calling the Cameron at 978-692-5523.

We ask that you arrive at Quail Creek by 8:30 AM and be ready for the links at 9AM.

Please note the change in Tee off times on 9/13 and 10/11 will be 10:00.

A great way to enjoy neighbors and a round of golf.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION WITH BILL VULLO

Join us on Thursday, June 23rd at 12:30 for chicken and vegetable kabobs, potato salad, watermelon and of course BIRTHDAY Cake and ice cream. Lunch is free for our birthday celebrants in the month of June.

Cost is \$5. All are welcome to join us for cake and ice cream at 1PM.

Please RSVP-978-692-5523



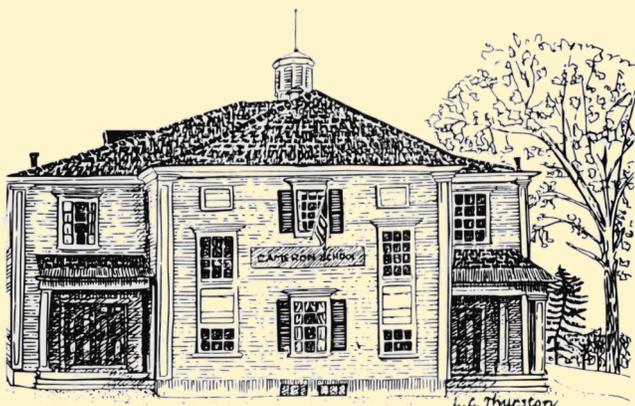
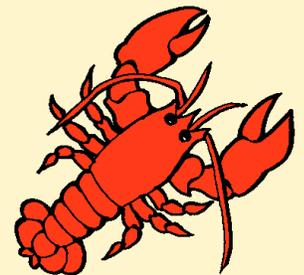
OUR FIRST ANNUAL LOBSTER BAKE

Friday, July 15th at 12:30

Menu: fresh boiled lobster prepared by Market Basket, seasoned potatoes, Cole slaw, bread, summer dessert and beverage.

\$10 for Friends members and \$13 for Non-Friends members.

RSVP 978-692-5523



Westford Senior Center

To view the complete Council On Aging Newsletter please visit our website: www.westfordma.gov/coa and click on [Newsletters](#).

Recycling Commission

HOME COMPOSTING with an EARTH MACHINE

In 1993, Massachusetts banned yard waste from the trash in an effort to reduce garbage, save money, utilize valuable organic waste, and provide nutrient rich compost for home lawns and gardens. Using compost on the soil adds essential nutrients, improves root growth, and helps retain moisture, which will help cut down on your water bills.



By placing kitchen scraps, grass clippings, and leaves in your compost bin instead of in the trash, you will end up with a rich conditioner for your soil that will result in healthier vegetables, flowers, or grass.

Composting benefits the environment by reducing the need for pesticides. It also reduces Westford's trash collection costs.

Westford residents can purchase an Earth Machine composter at a discounted price of \$45 by contacting Denise Seyffert at 978-692-6986.

The Westford Recycling Commission
thanks you for reducing, reusing,
repurposing, and recycling!

www.westfordma.gov/recycling



Memorial Day 2016

Town-wide Memorial Day services took place on Sunday, May 29th. Starting out in Forge Village, then to Graniteville, on to Nab and finally the parade from the Roudy to Town Common. With participation from our veterans, honor guards from both our police and fire departments, the Westford Academy marching band, Westford Colonial Minuteman and the Westford Firefighters Pipes and Drums.



On the Town Common, Westford veterans who served in every war since the Revolutionary War to today's Global war on Terrorism who are now passed were read by a group of volunteers in the Hour of Remembrance.

A video archive of the Memorial Day services is available at the following Link:

[Westford's 2016 Memorial Day Ceremonies](#)



Memorial Day 2016 (Continued)

