



June 2017



Jodi Ross,  
Town  
Manager

[jross@westfordma.gov](mailto:jross@westfordma.gov)  
[www.westfordma.gov/tm](http://www.westfordma.gov/tm)  
978-692-5500

**Important:**

Please sign up to receive updates on the latest road construction in town.

[Subscribe to Notifications](#)



**Special Town Meeting**  
Monday, July 10, 7:30PM  
At Abbot School Gym  
25 Depot Street

**Concerts on the Common**  
Begin on July 16, with the  
Nashoba Valley Concert  
Band  
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**Town Beaches are Open**  
Edwards and Forge  
June 18 - August 25  
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Watch Meetings Online  
**westford**   
community access television

[www.westfordcat.org](http://www.westfordcat.org)

**Dear Westford residents,**

The Board of Selectmen recently formed a task force to assist with the coordination of missions and programming between the new Mill Works (sporting complex), our town's Recreation Department and the Community Center in the Roudenbush buildings, to examine and make recommendations to avoid overlap and redundancy in programming. The group includes members of the Parks and Recreation Commission, Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, Recreation Department, The Roudenbush Community Center Inc., Mill Works staff, and residents-at-large.

One of the hallmarks to the start of summer in our town is Memorial Day weekend, and this year's observation continued Westford's tradition of honoring those who have died while serving in the armed forces. The parade on Sunday before the official holiday memorializes the sacrifices of our departed veterans and their families. Thank you to everyone who participated in the events and attended the festivities, and a special thanks to Terry Stader, our town's Veterans Service Officer, for organizing the entire program.



The Board of Selectmen has called a Special Town Meeting next month on Monday, July 10, 2017, at 7:30PM, in the Abbot School gymnasium, located at 25 Depot Street. This Town Meeting is required for two purposes: the Permanent Town Building Committee's need for additional funding necessary to complete the construction of the combined dispatch center; and the School Committee's request for a Massachusetts School Building Authority required vote for funding a Schematic Design Study for a potential partial or full roof replacement project at the Abbot Elementary School. Although the meeting will have a very brief warrant, a quorum of 200 registered town voters is required to begin the meeting, so please attend if you are able. More information may be found [here](#).

You may also mark your calendars for our fall Special Town Meeting which is scheduled for Monday, October 16, 2017, at 7:30PM, located at the Abbot School gymnasium. The Board of Selectmen opened the warrant on June 13<sup>th</sup>, and the article submission deadline and warrant closing date is Tuesday, September 12, 2017, at noon.

(Continued on next page)

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen is cancelled for June 27, 2017 due to a lack of quorum by its members. Therefore, the next regular meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2017.

After hearing abutter's reactions to plans for the installation of a stop light at the Dunstable Road intersection at Groton Road, the Town Manager's Office will be working with the Engineering Department, Highway Department, Police Department, the Northern Middlesex Council of Governments (NMCOG) planning agency, and the residents to determine if there are alternative solutions to make the intersection safer. Information may be found via documents presented at the Board of Selectmen's meeting held June 13, 2017, found [here](#).

You may notice that we are in the process of having the exterior painted on the Cameron Senior Center in Forge Village. The work should be done by August and will help keep this historic gem of our town looking beautiful.

The promise of ice cream and friendly faces brought a great turnout to this year's Strategic Planning Retreat held annually at Kimball Farms. The event drew 268 residents, town officials, town staff, and visitors who attended and participated in discussions concerning healthy communities, pedestrian safety and recreational marijuana. There were also presentations provided by the Economic Development Committee, Cultural Council, Agricultural Commission, Dog Park Task Force, Town Manager's Office for capital projects, and the 12 North Main Street Task Force. It is always wonderful to see the comradery and constructive dialogue between residents and town staff.



*Chief of Police, Thomas McEnaney, leading a discussion with residents on recreational marijuana.*

I am delighted to announce our town's Engineering Department was recently recognized as winner of the 2016 STORMY Award for "best stormwater ideas" from the New England Stormwater Collaborative. The Board of Selectmen commended Paul Starratt, Town Engineer, and Jeremy Downs, Assistant Town Engineer for the receipt of this award. The board also expressed their appreciation for the work done by the Public Works Initiative Committee and Capital Planning Committee in supporting efforts to control and plan for the effects of stormwater in our town.

Congratulations to the 2017 graduates from Westford Academy! We are so proud of the youth of our community, and look forward to hearing of their accomplishments in the future!

The Westford Fire Department recently trained with PanAm Railroad to learn of safety features and other factors pertaining to locomotives and tank cars. Firefighters from Chelmsford and Littleton were also invited. A training evaluation was incorporated in the occasion to boost the readiness of town's emergency personnel.

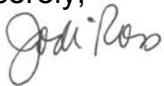
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There are several openings on other local boards and committees, including: the 12 North Main Street Task Force, Affordable Housing Committee, Agricultural Commission, Communications Advisory Committee, Cultural Council, Energy Committee, Finance Committee, Historical Commission, Master Plan Implementation Committee, Parks and Recreation Commission, Permanent Town Building Committee, Public Works Initiative Committee, Town Center Parking and Traffic Study Committee, Zoning Board of Appeals, and others. I urge you to peruse our website for information about the work of these committees; and 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](#).

I hope to see you at the Special Town Meeting on July 10<sup>th</sup>!

Sincerely,



Jodi Ross  
Town Manager



*Selectmen - Mark Kost, Elizabeth Almeida, Andrea Peraner-Sweet, Scott Hazelton, and Thomas Clay.  
Attending the 2017 Strategic Planning Retreat.*

## J.V. Fletcher Library

### Summer Reading Programs

If you are an adult, a teen or tween, in elementary school or a preschooler, the Fletcher Library has a Summer Reading Program just for you! Last summer over 2,000 residents signed up to have fun, win prizes, attend a dizzying array of programs and did I say, win prizes?

June is sign up month for all three Programs; Adults and Young Adults can sign-up in person or online (just go to the Program descriptions on the Library's home page and click on the appropriate links) while Children sign-up at the Library (it's a tradition!) Westford children love printing their names and ages on their registration forms, coloring a Lego and getting their fancy logbooks, program brochures and special bookmarks. Children's Programs this summer are a dazzle of magic, Storytellers, "Sciencetellers," Sky Pirates, exotic animals and much more. One highlight of the summer will be Harry Potter's Birthday Party, replete with, well you'll see.

Teens and Tweens will be kept very busy and highly stimulated as they participate in mini food challenges, a Ukele workshop, a Percy Jackson role play, mixed media painting, coding for Mindcraft and more. Prizes will be awarded for the most creative use of materials, ice cream and popsicles will be served and Grand Prizes will be raffled.

Adults, you deserve a Summer Reading Program too! Look forward to winning a Kimballs ice cream cone once you reach the goal you've set for yourself like reading War and Peace or perhaps just a good beach read. Another perk for adults are the weekly raffles for gift certificates to Barnes and Noble. And of course there is a grand, Grand Prize. This summer we have at least one program a week for adults to enjoy and explore.

Your summer of fun at the Library is generously funded by the AMAZING Friends of the J. V. Fletcher Library, Inc. and by: The Massachusetts Library System, the Boston Bruins and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.



[WWW.WESTFORDLIBRARY.ORG](http://WWW.WESTFORDLIBRARY.ORG)

## Town Clerk's Corner

It is our great pleasure to inform you that Marilyn Frank has been selected by the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women as one of the Commonwealth's **Unsung Heroines of 2017**. The MCSW will honor and celebrate Marilyn Frank and the other Unsung Heroines from across the Commonwealth at the 2017 Unsung Heroines Ceremony on Wednesday, June 21 at the Massachusetts State House.

### Voter Registration Deadline

In order to vote at the July 10, 2017 Special Town Meeting, you need to be a registered voter by Friday, June 30, 2017. The Town Clerk's Office will be open until 8:00pm that night.

### Dog Licensing

There are many dogs that have not been licensed this year. Please contact the Town Clerk's office 978-692-5515 regarding the status of your 2017 Dog License.

You Know It's  
Against the Law  
to Walk Around  
Without a  
License!



## Recreation Department Sound Bites

### The Beaches are Open!

Westford Parks & Recreation oversees Forge Beach and Edwards Beach. Weeks before the beaches are opened, Parks & Recreation and Westford Board of Health work together to ensure the beaches are safe, clean, and ready to go. Pond water is tested, concession stands are reviewed, and permits are issued once all criteria are met. According to the Board of Health, this year's beach opening was one of the smoothest ever. Thank you to Board of Health employees, Food Inspector Arnie Price, and Health Agent Rae Dick for supporting this annual initiative.

**Westford Beach Season:** June 18 - August 25

**Hours:** Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

While at the beach, why not enjoy **paddle boarding** and **swim instruction**, as well as **Fun at the Beach** week – a summer long offering that provides daily activities from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., like tie dye, sand art, and fun with bubbles. Don't forget an important summer tradition, visiting **Edwards Beach and Forge Beach concession stands**, each offering classic summer fare including slushies, candy, hot dogs, hamburgers, and veggie burgers.

Other summer events include the Parks & Recreation sponsored **Friday Movie Night at the Beach**. This great selection of contemporary family friendly movies is free. Movies will be held on Fridays starting at dusk. The first movie will be at Edwards Beach on June 23. No food or drink may be brought in for the movie, but the concession stand will be open. Don't forget to bring a blanket, chair, and bug spray.

For more information on Parks & Recreation Waterfront activities, or for a detailed **Fun at the Beach** weekly schedule, visit **Register>Programs>About Waterfront** on [westfordrec.com](http://westfordrec.com).

### Summer "Save the Dates"

#### Concerts on the Common:

Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and picnic baskets to the Westford Common to enjoy great music from some of our community's most talented performers. Learn more at [westfordrec.com](http://westfordrec.com).

**July 16:** Nashoba Valley Concert Band

**July 23:** Open Mic Night with John Ferullo - original folk; Cooper and Kenneally - americana; Kathleen and Betsi (Betsi Mandrioli and Kathleen Larkin) - original folk; Daisy Flowerchild and the Leftovers(John, Betsi and Bob Morse) -acoustic garage band; Bob Morse - acoustic country blues and instrumentals.

**August 6:** Point of VU Band

**August 13:** Saxophonist, Tucker Antell

**Family Fun Day at Edwards Beach:** Saturday, July 8, 10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

**Fun in the Sun Day at Forge Beach:** Sat, August 5, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., beach and concession will be open until 5:00 p.m.

**Westford Partnership for Children Parent Welcome Night:** Wednesday, August 9, 4:00-7:00 p.m., 22 Town Farm Road (early registration/discount).

**End of Summer BBQ with Fun Games at Edwards Beach:** Sat, August 19, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

(Continued)

## Recreation Department Sound Bites (Continued)

### Tennis for Everyone

Westford Parks & Recreation partners with the Marcus Lewis Tennis Extension Program (MLTEP) to offer the highest quality instruction and programming. The Marcus Lewis Tennis Center has several upcoming programs located at the Stony Brook Middle School in Westford, such as the U18 Tournament Training Clinics, the Summer Tennis League for Juniors for ages 10-16, and Peewee Summer Mini Clinic for ages 5-6.

To register or to learn more about the MLTEP Programs, contact Christi at 978-264-8470 or email [westford@marcuslewisenterprises.com](mailto:westford@marcuslewisenterprises.com)

### More Great Programs

**Impact Speed & Agility with D.J. Brock:** This program focuses on enhancing a young athlete's speed, agility, coordination, and explosiveness by teaching FUNDamental skills and drills. For grades entering 3-12. Session 1 of 7 runs from June 26-29.

Starting in early July, there will be **Beginner Archery** for ages 8-17. This program covers the basics and is excellent for those who have never shot with a bow. Lessons will focus on eye dominance, archery safety rules, warmup exercises, and proper shooting techniques. There is also a **Returning Archers** program.

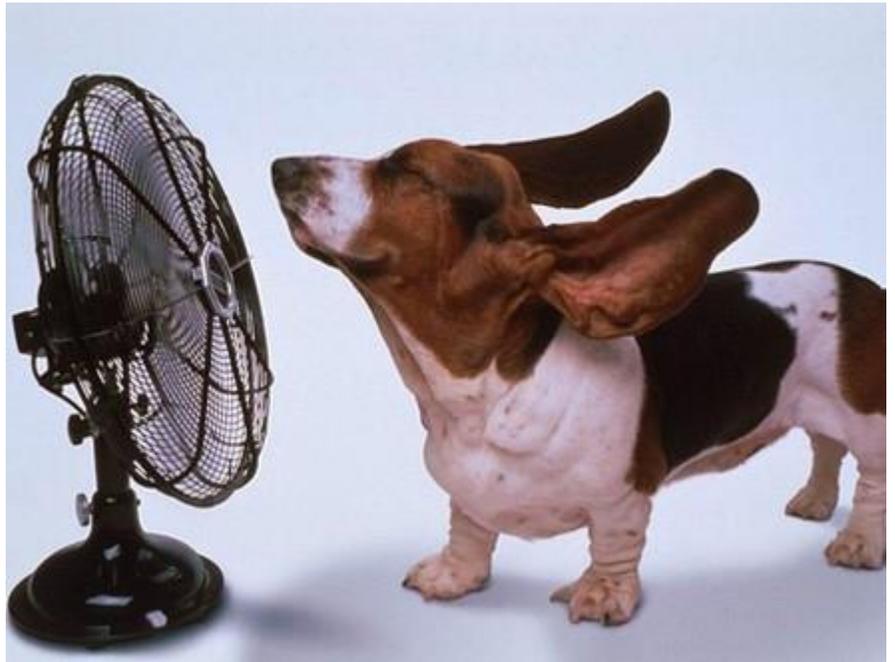
The Parks & Recreation **Summer Weekly Programs** are fun, flexible, and filled with activities chosen for each program's mission and age group. Programs include **Kids Club** for ages 4-13, with thematic activities like Around the World in Five Days, and the **Leadership Program for Teens** that incorporates team building, cpr/first aid certification, and creative thinking, for those entering grades 9-11.

For details visit *Register>Programs>Spring-Summer Youth* at [Westfordrec.com](http://Westfordrec.com)

## Health Department

**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!



For more tips, check out <https://www.cdc.gov/features/extremeheat/index.html>

## Health Department

### Discover These Westford Trails

Experience the nature our town offers: over 2,000 acres of conserved land and over sixty miles of trails. There are trails for everyone: young, old, athletic, contemplative. Come explore!

#### 1) Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (♿)

1.8 mi. in Westford; paved, wide, and flat  
Find out more at [brucefreemanrailtrail.org](http://brucefreemanrailtrail.org)  
This well-shaded former rail line stretches from Lowell through Westford and is ideal for walking, running, biking, snowshoeing, and for strollers.

#### 2) Grassy Pond Life Course & Trail (Easy)

Intersection of Villanova Dr and Plain Rd  
0.5 mi. loop + side trails; wide, flat, stroller-friendly\*  
The loop around the pond is sprinkled with exercise stations and a geocache, and is popular with dog-walkers. Look for pink lady slipper flowers

#### 3) Slifer Conservation Land (Easy)

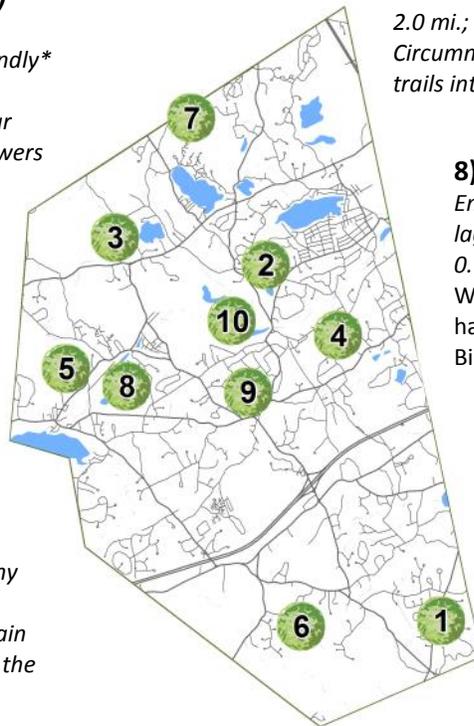
Entrance on Keyes Rd, between Wing & Gould Rds  
~1.0 mi. figure-eight loop; flat and wide  
Take a picnic along on this short trail and find the garden steps to Keyes Pond, a tiny foot bridge, and enormous rhododendrons (blooming in early June).

#### 4) Cider Mill Pond (Moderate)

Entrance on Lowell Rd, between Barn Ln & Stony Brook Rd  
0.5-1.0 mi. trails; varied elevation, uneven terrain  
Explore this gorgeous shady trail network: find the "Indian Grinding Stone" and the old cider mill

#### 5) Kissacook Hill Trails (Moderate)

Entrance behind Day School, 185 N Main St  
1.0 mi. loop; sometimes narrow, uneven terrain  
Wildflowers and birds abound on this trail, and the white birches are spectacular in autumn. The view up



### HEALTHY WESTFORD COMMITTEE

To support the community members of Westford in improving their personal health and safety and that of their households, public spaces, and ecosystems.

[www.westfordma.gov/708/Healthy-Westford-Committee](http://www.westfordma.gov/708/Healthy-Westford-Committee)

Find us on Facebook!

\*For strollers with large or jogging wheels

#### 6) Nashoba Brook Watershed (Easy)

Entrances at Trailside Way & Texas Rd  
1.5 mi. loop + side trails; narrow & rocky, mostly flat  
Explore more than 500 acres! See Nashoba Pond, glacial boulders, wetlands, wildlife, and wildflowers.

#### 7) Greystone Pond (Easy)

Entrance near Greystone Fields, off Russell's Way  
2.0 mi.; stroller-friendly\* in parts, then narrow  
Circumnavigate the pond or take some of the side trails into the woods, and be sure to look for the

#### 8) Stone Arch Trail (Easy)

Entrance on Cold Springs Rd, between Forge Village Rd & Pine Ridge Rd  
0.7 mi.; wide, stroller-friendly\*  
Walk to the iconic Stone Arch Bridge, traverse half-mile meandering side trails, including Russell Bird Sanctuary, and spot the abundant wildlife.

#### 9) Tom Paul Trail (Moderate)

Main entrance across from Town Hall, at 55 Main St  
3.0 mi.; narrow, crosses streets, varied elevation  
Stretching from Cold Spring Road to Town Hall, this trail features wetlands, streams, old stone walls, and is

#### 10) Stony Brook Conservation (Moderate)

Main entrance at intersection of Plain & Depot Rds  
1.75 mi. pond loop; wide variability  
A network of trails, including the beautiful loop around Burge's Pond and the trail along Stony Brook, makes this town favorite perfect for hiking, dog-walking, fishing, and more.

### FIND MORE TRAILS

[www.westfordconservationtrust.org](http://www.westfordconservationtrust.org)

Or purchase the 2014 Westford Trails brochure (\$5) at Town Hall or the Roudenbush Community Center

## Recycling Commission

### WIN A FREE EARTH MACHINE COMPOSTER

Visit the Westford Recycling Commission table at the Westford Farmers' Market on June 27, 2017, from 2:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Answer a brief recycling questionnaire and enter your name in the drawing for a free new Earth Machine (\$45 value). You must be over 18 and a Westford resident to enter. The winner will be announced in July and must give permission to be photographed for publicity purposes.



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#### An Alert from the Westford Recycling Commission:

Westford's recycling vendor Republic Services will strictly enforce the town's policy NOT to accept recycling in plastic bags whether in or out of the receptacle.

Workers will not open plastic bags to empty recyclables. Therefore, any and all recycling taken in plastic bags will be discarded as trash.



For more information on recycling, visit [www.westfordma.gov/recycling](http://www.westfordma.gov/recycling)

## Cameron Center Events



### **CAMERON SUMMER PARTY AT KIMBALL FARM BAND: JUMPIN' JUBA BAND-BLUE BASED AMERICANA SOUND SPONSORED BY THE WESTFORD CULTURAL COUNCIL**

**FRIDAY JULY 14<sup>TH</sup> AT 12:00**

Enjoy a BBQ buffet with grilled chicken, burgers, veggie burgers, potato salad, corn on the cob, watermelon and the **legendary ice cream buffet** and an assortment of non-alcoholic drinks. Also everyone can enjoy many free amenities such as 18 whole mini golf, 9-hole pitch and putt golf course, driving range,, etc.. We will also have our 1<sup>st</sup> annual spelling bee and a water balloon toss with cash prizes so to participate please sign up for these contests at the front desk. Event cost-\$15 (A special thanks to the Friends of the Cameron Senior and the Cummings Foundation for helping fund this event.)

### **55+ EVENING PROGRAM: PLANNING FOR MEDICARE-COUNTDOWN TO 65**

Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 6PM

Come learn how to enroll in Medicare, avoiding fees, Medicare Parts, Medigap plans and drug plans. Heather Hurd, a Blue Cross Blue Shield representative will be leading this talk.

Come with your questions and please sign up by July 7<sup>th</sup> at 978-692-5523

### **COA TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR SENIORS 60+ AND THE DISABLED SERVICE AREA: ACTON, AYER, CARLISLE, CONCORD, CHELMSFORD, GROTON, LITTLETON, LOWELL AND WESTFORD**

- Please call 48 hours prior to your appointment and please be flexible in your schedules.
- Our first priority are rides to medical appointments, we will also take you to local errands, and all Cameron Senior Center sponsored activities. Round trip cost within Westford \$3.00; to connecting towns \$6.00 (Acton, Carlisle, Chelmsford, Groton, Littleton); out-lying towns \$8.00 (Ayer, Concord, Lowell) . **15-minute rule:** We ask that you be ready **15 minutes before** your scheduled pickup time and understand that we may pick you up **15minutes after** your pickup time.
- Vans run Monday thru Friday **8:00 am – 3:00 pm**. Bingo: Mondays at 1:00 pm and Thursday nights at 7 pm
- For **same day** appointment changes please call the front desk at 978-692-5523
- When leaving a message please be sure to leave: **YOUR NAME, YOUR PHONE NUMBER, DATE, TIME AND LOCATION OF YOUR APPOINTMENT. Please give Chuck a call at 978-399-2322 to get your seat on the van.**

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



Westford Senior Center

Cameron Center Events (Continued)

**LUNCH AND LEARN WITH EKARU OF WESTFORD**

**FRIDAY, JULY 7<sup>TH</sup> AT 11:00**

**CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS**

Are you worried about the risks of working with a solo "computer guy"?  
Are you working with a bigger support firm that ignores you?  
Does your tech support refuse to come on site or keep you waiting for days or weeks?  
Are you handling all your tech support in-house and you're getting overwhelmed?  
Has your "computer guy" moved or retired?  
Are you worried about HIPAA data security requirements and MA Data Security Law requirements? Have you lost data?  
Are you concerned about viruses like Cryptolocker?  
If you answered yes to any of these questions, we can help you! Just RSVP to 978692-5523.

**FARM TO TABLE**

Fresh Organic vegetables and fruit dessert prepared by our very own cooks will be the menu selection offered at the Cameron on Friday, July 21 and August 18 at 12:30. These locally grown vegetables are been supplied through our partnership with Gaining Grounds, Concord and WorldPeas Sustainable Farming project out of Lowell.



If you would like to help with this community prepared lunch please contact [Patreppucci@comcast.net](mailto:Patreppucci@comcast.net). Lunch cost-\$5

**KIWANIS COOKOUT**

**Tuesday, August 1 at 5:30 pm**

The Kiwanis will again be hosting an evening cookout at the Cameron. Please bring a salad or dessert for all to share.

**REPRESENTATIVE COOKOUT**

**Wednesday, August 16 at 11:30 am**

Representative Jim Arciero will again be hosting his well-received cookout at Cameron. This is a great opportunity to meet and share questions with him!

**SENATOR DONOGHUE LUNCH & DESSERT**

**Tuesday, August 22 at 11:30 am**

Senator Eileen Donoghue will be sponsoring a lite summer lunch and dessert. Join us to hear what information the Senator has to share. She will be happy to answer your questions!

## Memorial Day - 2017

Town-wide Memorial Day services took place on Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. Starting out in Forge Village, then to Graniteville, on to Nab and finally the parade from the Roudenbush to Town Common.



With participation from our veterans, honor guards from both our police and fire departments, the Westford Academy Band, Westford Colonial Minuteman and the Westford & District Pipes and Drums. The WA Band gets a big kudo to their drum and bugler section that did EVERY stop with us providing honors with cadence for the troops and then "echo" taps at each war memorial. Brave Zulu to them!

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.

This year, we received a Governor's Proclamation which was read by Westford's Project 351 Ambassador Megan Tierney.

It was so great to see so many spectators in the villages and in the center as we paused this day to honor our deceased service members.



On the week prior to Memorial Day, all of the veteran's graves in the cemeteries in town were decorated with an American Flag.

*(Photos by Tricia Targ)*

## Flag Day - 2017



A Flag Day and Old Glory Retirement service took place at the Nab American Legion Post 437 on Dunstable Rd on Wednesday, June 14th. A very meaning full service was held to recognize the history of the flag of the United States. Fitting tributes and poems were read prior to the solemn destruction of the worn and tattered flags.

Flags that are no longer suitable to be displayed can be turned in to receptacles located throughout the town: each Post Office has a collection box, as well as; the Veterans Services Office in the Millennium School building; the lobby of American Legion Post 437 on Dunstable Rd.

