



July 2017



Jodi Ross,
Town
Manager

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

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

[Subscribe to
Notifications](#)



**Concerts on the Common
Begin on July 16, with the
Nashoba Valley Concert
Band**

**Agricultural Commission
Community Gardens
Open House
Wednesday, July 19
Page 8**



Watch
Meetings Online
westford 
community access television

www.westfordcat.org

Dear Westford residents,

At our Special Town Meeting held July 10, 2017, we approved both articles presented: to cover the unforeseen costs of completing the construction of the combined dispatch center; and to pay for the design of a new roof for the Abbot Elementary School, so we may apply for a Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) reimbursement. Both projects are being paid for out of capital stabilization funds. Each project's costs will be partially reimbursed: using mitigation funds from the developer of Cornerstone Square for the dispatch center; and MSBA funds for up to half of the cost of the school's roof. Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting, and I congratulate our new Town Moderator, Susan Spuhler, on her first Town Meeting and its success. Please be sure to mark your calendars for our next scheduled special town meeting at 7:30pm on October 16, 2017 at the Abbot School.

We were pleased to have our State Representative Jim Arciero and our State Senator Eileen Donoghue at our July 11th Board of Selectmen's meeting, both of whom enlightened us about our FY 2018 state budget. State aid to our town is up slightly over last year. The state's revenues are down from projections so they have reduced several budgets to absorb the decrease. Luckily they did not reduce our local aid in the process.

I am very excited to announce that our town will be awarded \$250,000 from the state's Green Communities Grant Program! The money will be used towards energy saving projects at a number of town and school buildings, including the water department, senior center, Blanchard School and Westford Academy. We are always striving to implement systems that are energy-efficient and environmentally-responsible. This is the fourth such grant we have received from this agency.

Goodrich Corporation, a UTC Aerospace Systems company, is seeking a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) from the town as an incentive to stay in town and expand into 50,000 sq ft of vacant space in Tech Park East. This move promises to add 180 new highly skilled jobs at the facility. A task force will work with Goodrich executives to negotiate a reasonable TIF, it will then go back to the Selectmen for consideration, and then to Town Meeting on October 16th.

The construction of our new fire station on Boston Road begins next week. We will be holding a formal ground-breaking ceremony on August 10, 2017.

(Continued on next page)

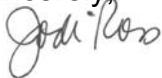
Members of the town's Dog Park Task Force are continuing to survey the town for possible locations to set up a dog park. They are working with other town committees, boards, and town staff to determine viable spots for our community to enjoy outdoor time with our canines in a safe and friendly environment. Stay tuned as they zero in on their preferred location. They are seeking a grant from the Stanton Foundation to pay for the construction costs of creating this park.

There are several openings on other local boards and committees, including: the 12 North Main Street Task Force, Affordable Housing Committee, Agricultural Commission, Commission on Disability, Communications Advisory Committee, Cultural Council, Energy Committee, Historical Commission, Master Plan Implementation Committee, Parkerville Schoolhouse Committee, Parks and Recreation Commission, Pedestrian Safety Committee, Permanent Town Building Committee, Public Works Initiative Committee, Town Center Parking and Traffic Study Committee, Westford Scholarship and Grant 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 you are enjoying your summer.

Sincerely,



Jodi Ross



Town Manager

J.V. Fletcher Library

A Reading "Format" for Every Occasion

Traditionally, reading was an activity relegated to a comfy chaise, a bed, an airline seat or a beach recliner! Nowadays you can literally read while you are exercising, running, driving, cleaning, weeding and of course in bed before you turn out the light. For the purposes of this article please know that if you are listening to a book, you are reading it! Reading formats include print materials, books on CD's, Playaways, cell phones and electronic devices; whether you are planning your summer vacation or just choosing titles for the work week, having the choice of multiple formats allows reading to be a larger part of your life.

There is no better repository for all the available choices of format than a library. For those who like to read/listen while they commute, we have Audiobooks on CD and Playaways (a book stored on a device-the size of an MP3 player that can be listening to via your car's radio.) Playaways are so light and portable (they easily hang from a lanyard) that you can read while you do almost any physical activity. You can listen to eAudiobooks that you have downloaded to any of your devices including your cell phone, and if you have Wi-Fi, from your Laptop. Print materials that can be checked out include hardcovers, paperbacks, and magazines whereas digital versions of books and magazines can be accessed as well by downloading or streaming them.

Books serve many purposes in our lives and now they can be enjoyed and incorporated into your multi-layered lifestyle as well.



WWW.WESTFORDLIBRARY.ORG

Hill Orchard Farm Stand is Open

The farm stand at Hill Orchard located on Hunt Road, just off Chamberlain Road is now open Fridays and Saturdays with produce from Farmer Dave including beets, carrots, cucumbers, squash (lots of varieties), lettuce, kale, swiss chard, radishes, scallions, and onions. Sounds like a great summer salad. Farmer Dave manages the orchards for the Conservation Commission and expects the local peaches and nectarines will be ready at the end of the month. You can also pick up Shaw Farm milk and ice cream at the farm stand, along with Farmer Dave's strawberry bread and whoopie pies. Visit his website at:

www.farmerdaves.net/farm-stands/hill-orchard

for more information and/or visit his table at the Farmers Market on the Town common on Tuesdays.



Be Prepared and Informed Incase of an Emergency

**Set Your Radio Preset to
Westford Emergency
Management's
1630 AM**

In an emergency
tune in
to Westford's
1630 AM for local
information.



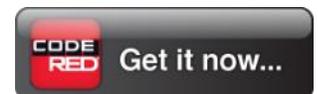
Register Additional Phone Numbers with Reverse 911

CodeRED is a Community Messaging System, used to notify residences of emergency, and general information through an automated telephone dialing system.

Most residents will not need to take action in order to receive notification of events on their home telephone. However, if you have recently moved into Westford, changed your home phone number, or have an unlisted phone number you will need to register your phone number

[Click here](#) to register additional phone numbers or email addresses.

Download the CodeRED Mobile Alert App for your smartphone [Here](#):



Health Department

Westford Health Department Staff Participate and Get Trained in “Until Help Arrives”



Gail Johnson, Public Health Nurse, of the Westford Health Department and Nancy Burns, Coordinator of the Upper Merrimack Valley Medical Reserve Corps attended the nation's third classroom offering of the new curriculum, "Until Help Arrives," in Nashua on May 25. Instructors represented FEMA, the city's Emergency Management and EMS.

The Upper Merrimack Valley Public Health Coalition worked in tandem with the HMCC to provide a grant for \$3939 to its local MRC. The funds were to be allocated towards a project that would benefit the entire region and be completed by June 30.

The UMV MRC proposed an initiative called 'Beyond First Aid' with two key deliverables: 1) Create a basic supply kit, with medical training and treatment protocols, for patient assessment at public events. 2) Launch the new national curriculum, "Until Help Arrives," that was presented in April at the NACCHO Summit – plus a related program that was released last October, "Stop The Bleed." Visit www.ready.gov/untilhelparrives and www.dhs.gov/stopthebleed for details.

These new courses are particularly exciting because they offer skills that the general public and first responders can apply. Trauma is the leading cause of death for Americans under the age of 46. More trauma victims can be saved when bystanders apply five steps to help someone who may have a life-threatening injury.

The UMV MRC launched "Until Help Arrives" in Massachusetts on June 14 and 29. Anyone who would like to be among the first students in Massachusetts to take this innovative course are urged to call 978-399-2549 or e-mail nburns@westfordma.gov

Health Department

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 **only** 2017 licensed and inspected Recreational Camps for Children located in Westford are...

1. **One Stop Fun –Powers Rd.**
2. **Westford Swim and Tennis Club Camp –Littleton, Rd.**
3. **Empow Studios at Nashoba Technical High School**
4. **Marcus Lewis Day Camp Program-East Boston Camps**
5. **Emily Piper of Rumphius-Meadowbrook Farm**

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

Recycling Commission

Westford Recycling Guide July 2017 - June 2018



In late June, the 2017-2018 issue of the Westford Recycling Guide was mailed to residents. It includes the Curbside Collection Calendar, Special Collection Events, recycling tips, who to call for problems with pickups and for general questions, plus how to buy a 64 gallon recycling toter and an Earth Machine composter. If you want additional copies of the Guide, they are available at the Town Clerk's office. You can view the Guide online: www.westfordma.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/4782

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

OPEN HOUSE



The Westford Agricultural Commission
welcomes residents to an

OPEN HOUSE

at the

Westford Community Gardens

at Day Field

41 Graniteville Road, Westford, MA

from 5-7pm

Wednesday July 19, 2017.

Come see our newly expanded gardens
and take a guided tour or enjoy a peaceful
stroll on your own through the beautiful
patchwork of plots being tended by
more than 150 families in town.

email:

westford.community.gardens@gmail.com

follow us

Facebook/Westford Community Gardens

The mission of the Westford Community Gardens is to promote community engagement through gardening. Residents will benefit from growing their own fresh produce, as well as enjoy the opportunities for recreation, exercise, fresh air, education, a connection to the land, and relationships with fellow residents.



Summer is in Full Swing at The Cameron



TO EBI AND DESIREE MASALEHDAN

On Friday, June 30th the Cameron was at full capacity as we enjoyed a wonderful "Jimmy-Buffer style BBQ" with all the food donated and prepared by the Masalehdan family and friends. The food was so delicious it was talked about days after the event by many the menu included: chicken and/or beef tenderloin kabobs, grilled tomatoes over rice, tzatziki salad, pita bread, dessert, lemonade and more. It was a fabulous time and much enjoyed by all.



CYBER SECURITY HOT TOPIC AT LUNCH AND LEARN WITH EKARU OF WESTFORD

For our July Lunch and Learn we were fortunate to have the Founder of Ekaru, Ann Westerheim of Westford presenting current safety measures in email communication, wiring of funds, fraudulent computer scam and what to look for, Credit card and debit card usage and protections and great Q&A by participants. Ekaru is a great partner to the Cameron Senior Center with their financial support and community outreach .

TAX RELIEF COFFEE HOURS

The newly formed Tax Relief Committee for Seniors, Low Income and Disabled (SLIDTR) is hosting 2 coffee hours on Friday July 28th at 11:00 am and Monday August 21st at 10:00 am at the Cameron Senior Center. This is an opportunity for all Westford homeowners to discuss current property tax exemptions, alternative ideas and for the committee to hear your concerns. Please register to attend at 978-692-5523. The committee also meets the first three Wednesdays of every month at 8:00 am in the Town Hall meeting room and the last Wednesday of the month at the Cameron Senior Center. You are welcome to attend. Any questions call Annette at 978-399-2326. JOIN US!

PICKLEBALL IS CATCHING ON ...

Each Tuesday morning at 10:30 you will find residents age 55 and over enjoying this great game over at **The Mill Works located at 22 Farm Road**. Pickleball is a combination of tennis, badminton and ping pong if you would like to try this very popular and great exercise activity join us on Tuesdays. Fee-\$5 paid to Mill Works. Pictured: Alan Jones



Cameron Center Events (Continued)

SANDWICH GENERATION SERIES- LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH FROM 6-7PM

July 25th - It's Not About the Chandelier

This presentation focuses on how to select a nursing center for yourself or loved one. Ellen Levinson, Executive Director of Lifecare Nashoba Valley will talk about what to look for and ask before choosing a place to get short term rehab or long term care. All welcome!

August 29th - Stroke Prevention/Rehab

Future Events, reservations can be made by calling 978-692-5523:

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 ARCIERO'S COOK-OUT

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!

FARM TO TABLE LUNCH- AUGUST 18TH AT 12:30

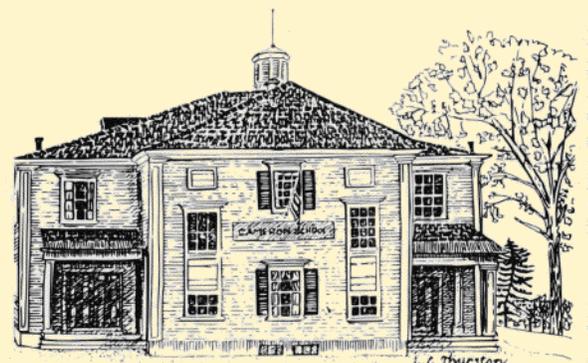
Fresh, organic produce prepared by our very own cooks so enjoy some healthy and tasty offerings coordinated by Pat Reppucci and her very talented culinary dream team. Cost- \$5

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!

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



Westford Senior Center