



WESTWOOD

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Fall 2008
Volume 21 Number 1

The community newsletter keeps us connected to each other and to our town...

– Barbara Friedman

Newsletter Editor from 1988-2006

Inside this issue

2

Did You Know...

3

Length of Service Commendations

4

Westwood Station Update

Community Chest

Alumni Association News

Historical Society News

5

League of Women Voters

Recycle Facts

Happy Halloween for Children in Need

6-7

School News

8

Town Bulletin Board

Embracing Diversity –

The Mission of the Human Rights Committee



The exhilarating performance of the Watoto Children's Choir from Uganda was part of a series of offerings promoting and celebrating diversity.

The History of the Westwood Human Rights Committee

Early in 2005, in response to a public incident of religious bigotry in town, the Westwood Interfaith Council introduced the No Place For Hate Program (NPFH) to the Westwood community. The Westwood Human Rights Committee (WHRC) is an outgrowth of the Westwood NPFH program. NPFH was endorsed by the Annual Town Meeting in the Spring of 2005. In the fall of 2007, the Board of Selectmen embraced the idea of supporting the full range of human rights, resulting in the creation of the Westwood Human Rights Committee.

With the creation of this committee, the Town of Westwood is committed to:

- Welcoming the richness of cultural, racial and religious diversity.
- Respecting each individual's expression of life-style.
- Advocating for the rights of all community members.
- Promoting programs for the sharing of ethnic traditions.

The Mission of the WHRC

The WHRC will help to develop and support a culture of diversity, tolerance, and appreciation in the Town of Westwood, Massachusetts. To further this mission, the Committee plans and implements activities that inform and sustain our community.

Westwood has sponsored many educational and enrichment programs in the recent past:

- A Police Open House was held in partnership with the Westwood Police Department where helpful information was shared with the community.
- An Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service, in partnership with the Westwood Interfaith Council, took place at Temple Beth David. Rabbi Zoob gave an inspiring sermon on counteracting hate.

- A Speaker Program, "Standing up to Hate," was presented in partnership with the Westwood Public Library. Speakers shared information and moving stories about their personal experiences and challenges in standing up to hate.
- "A Toast to Diversity," in partnership with the Westwood Community Chest, was a catered event with delicious food, authentic art work and music celebrating cultures from Asia, Africa, and South America.
- "Westwood Has a Dream," in partnership with METCO, was a celebration of the life of Martin Luther King, Jr., featuring an exhilarating performance by East Africa's Watoto Children's Choir from Uganda.
- Conversations and Coffee, "So Easy a Caveperson Can Do It" was the first of a planned series of open discussions, in a safe and comfortable venue, relating to the social blunders expressed by people in efforts to connect with one another.
- Westwood Fair Housing Forum was a luncheon program to educate local realtors on fair housing practices while highlighting their role in creating a diverse and welcoming community in Westwood.

More about the WHRC

The committee is composed of Town officials, residents, and high school students representing the diversity in our community. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month, September to June, and are open to the public. The committee is also open to welcoming new members.

For more information, visit: www.townhall.westwood.ma.us and click on "Boards and Committees." ♦

Did You Know . . .

- The **Adopt-an-Island program** is now in its 9th year and this year's three new sponsors are: Dover Design Group, Goldfish Family, and Nick Nicolazzo Landscaping. Over the years, this program has received continuous support from the following companies, landscapers and community organizations:



Spectra Energy/Algonquin Gas is the sponsor of this beautiful island.

Buonato Granite & Marble, Coldwell Banker, Cooperative Bank, Dedham Institution for Savings, Donlon Draper Inc., Einstein's Landscaping, First Parish Church, Garden Tech Horticultural Services, Guidon Landscape, Hale Reservation, High Rock Garden Club, Ian Brown Landscaping, New England Golf, R&A Pisano, Sovereign Bank, Spectra Energy/Algonquin Gas, Westwood Historical Society, Westwood Rotary, and the Westwood Young Women's Club.

Their support is greatly appreciated! If anyone is interested in "adopting an island," please call the Board of Selectmen's Office at 781-326-4172.

- Did you know that the Town of Westwood is forming a **Community Sheltering Team**? The town recently received shelter certification from the American Red Cross for the high school gymnasium, which is our designated shelter. The Board of Health would like residents to know that the American Red Cross will open and manage our shelter with Red Cross volunteers in the event of an emergency. However, if several communities need shelters opened at the same time, there may not be enough American Red Cross volunteers, leaving some communities without shelter services. Therefore, the Town is forming a Community Sheltering Team. Team members are required to attend two courses on sheltering – Shelter Operations and Shelter Simulation – and must be willing to respond to help open Westwood's shelter or help the American Red Cross open and manage our shelter if necessary. If you would like to become a member of Westwood's Community Sheltering Team, please contact Linda Shea at the Health Department at 781-320-1026/1027.
- The **Westwood Public Library** now offers fiction and foreign language instruction titles in an easy-to-use MP3 format. Called "Playaways," the pre-recorded titles come in a small plastic case and the Library supplies the single AAA batteries to power the unit. Instructions are simple and controls allow users to pause and then resume listening anywhere on the recording. Users need only a pair of headphones to enjoy these full-length recordings. Fiction titles include authors Dennis Lehane and Jodi Picoult. Language instruction tapes range from Spanish to Chinese.
- Every three years, each town in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is required to revalue all properties in its jurisdiction. The Town of Westwood is scheduled to establish new values for Fiscal Year 2009. The **Assessors' office** is currently reviewing all 2007 sales to determine how assessed values compare to those sales. This project should be completed by the fall of 2008. The Assessors' office will notify the residents by placing an article in the local newspaper. Look for the article around mid-October of 2008. The residents will have a short period of time to review the values before they are certified by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Any questions regarding this should be directed to the Assessors' office.
- Free workshops are provided to assist people with employability skills by Employment & Training Resources Career Centers. For a list of upcoming workshop locations and training session locations visit www.etrcc.com.
- The **Westwood Police Department** will be hosting their **6th Annual Open House** on Saturday October 18 from 11am to 2pm. Residents and their guests are invited to stop by the police station and meet Chief Chase and his officers. The day will feature many safety related displays and presentations as well as tours of the station. There will also be a display of antique police cars. Refreshments will be served. For more information call Sgt. Paul Sicard at (781) 320-1000.
- \$3,830,000 Bonds Net 3.62%**. James Gavin, Town Treasurer, received competitive bids from bond underwriters on Thursday, July 31, 2008 for a \$3,830,000 15-year bond issue. Morgan Keegan & Co., Inc. was the winning bidder on the bonds with an average interest rate of 3.62%. The Town received a total of 8 bids. Bond proceeds will be used to permanently finance bond anticipation notes originally issued for high school projects, road reconstruction and land acquisition.

Prior to the sale Standard & Poor's Ratings Services, a municipal bond credit rating agency, upgraded the Town's rating from AA+ to AAA with a stable outlook. The AAA Rating is the highest credit rating attainable. The upgrade reflects the Town's strong economy, good financial position, high wealth and income levels, and low debt burden as positive factors.

Also, prior to the sale Moody's Investors Service, a municipal bond credit rating agency, affirmed the Town's rating of Aa1. The rating agency cited the Town's sizable tax base, high wealth levels, and manageable debt position as positive factors.

- The Westwood **Board of Health** is pleased to notify Westwood residents about the new **Westwood Sharps Collection Program**. An amendment to the Massachusetts Medical Waste Regulations (105 CMR 480.00) requires all communities in Massachusetts comply by removing sharps (**needles, syringes and lancets**) from the residential trash stream. Residents can no longer dispose of sharps in the residential trash program.

Sharps are considered medical waste and as such must be disposed of in a safe and sanitary manner. Throwing sharps in the trash exposes the waste haulers and the public to a possible sharps exposure.

In order to dispose of sharps in the sharps collection kiosks, you must use a red, one-liter sharps disposal container. These disposal containers are now available free of charge at the Westwood Health Department, 50 Carby Street, on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and Tuesday evenings from 3-6 p.m. The containers will also be available at the Westwood Town Hall, 580 High Street, and the Senior Center, 60 Nahatan Street during regular business hours.



Sharps Collection Kiosk

Effective immediately, residents can dispose of their red, one-liter sharps disposal containers in the new sharps collection kiosks. The kiosks have been installed outside of the Senior Center, 60 Nahatan Street and the Islington Fire Station, on Washington Street. The collection units will be accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for disposal.

We encourage all Westwood residents to take advantage of this new program and protect our community from sharps dangers. If you have any questions about the Westwood Sharps Collection Program, please call the Westwood Health Department at 781-320-1026/1027.

News from Westwood Town Clerk's Office

- The State Election will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2008.
- For those residents not registered to vote, and those who want to change their political parties, you may do so up until Wednesday, September 15th.
- Our office will be open until 8:00 p.m. to accommodate those residents.

Absentee Voting Guidelines

You may only vote by absentee ballot if you:

- Will be absent from the town on Election day, and/or
- Have a physical disability that prevents your voting at the polling place, and
- Cannot vote at the polls due to religious beliefs.

You may not vote by absentee ballot without first submitting an application.

The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is 12:00 p.m. on Monday, November 3rd. Once your application is received the ballot will be mailed to you. You may mail or hand-deliver your absentee ballot to the Clerks office. It must arrive before the close of polls on Election Day, which is 8:00 p.m., November 4th.

If you wish to cast your ballot in the clerk's office before Election Day, you may complete your application and cast your vote in one visit.

If you wish to vote by absentee ballot for more than one Election in a year you may complete one application and request that ballots for all Elections during the calendar year be sent to you.

Absentee ballots will be available three weeks prior to the Election.

Dog License Reminder

Annually, prior to May 1st, any resident who has a dog must license them with the town Clerks office. Failure to do so will result in a fine and a visit by the Animal Control officer.

Resident Books are available for a fee of \$15.00.

Please contact our office with any questions or concerns.

Dottie Powers, Westwood Town Clerk, 781-326-3964

Selectmen Commend Those Who Serve Our Town

The Board of Selectmen recently acknowledged a diverse group of gentlemen for their length of service to the Town. Their duties have ranged from the expected firefighter and police officer to the not-so-expected position of Keeper of the Pound. Their commitment to our Town shows a high standard for which they deserve their recognition. The Selectmen wish to bestow thanks to them all!

Captain William Cannata, Jr.

William Cannata presently serves as the Captain on Group 2 in the Fire Department. In this capacity he has overall command of a rotating duty shift, which entails overseeing the rescue service, fire fighting and fire prevention services to the community.

Captain Cannata joined the Westwood Fire Department on April 4, 1983 as a firefighter. He was also a certified Emergency Medical Technician. He was promoted from Firefighter to Lieutenant on December 2, 1997. On August 30, 2007 he was promoted to the rank of Captain. He continues to be stationed at Fire Headquarters.

William graduated from Westwood High School before joining the U.S. Army where he served as a firefighter at Fort Campbell in Kentucky and Fort Wainwright in Alaska. After his discharge from military service he received an Associates Degree in Fire Science from Massasoit Community College. He is the State-wide coordinator for the Autism Law Enforcement Education Commission. The commission's goal is to teach first responders effective ways of dealing with autistic people in the event of an emergency. He and his wife, Tessa, live in Walpole where they raise their two sons, Dan and Ted.

Firefighter Joseph Henry-MacDonald

Joseph Henry-MacDonald presently serves in the Westwood Fire Department. In that role he provides emergency medical services, rescue transport, fire fighting and fire prevention services.

Firefighter Henry-MacDonald joined the Westwood Fire Department on March 7, 1983. He is a certified Emergency Medical Technician and is currently assigned to Engine 2. In addition to his Firefighter/EMT duties, he also spent 20 years as a member and then coordinator of the department's dive team.

Joe is seen by the other employees as a senior member on his shift of which juniors seek advice and counsel.

He was employed by the Westwood Highway Department before joining the Fire Department. He grew up in Westwood on Pond Street, graduated from Blue Hills Regional High School and served in the U.S. Army. After marrying, he and his wife, Martha, moved to Medfield where they raised their two children, Leah, and Joe, Jr. Joe also enjoys playing hockey and lifting weights.

Sergeant Bruce McDonald

Bruce McDonald was born & raised in Westwood. He graduated from Westwood High School in 1974 and attended Northeastern University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. After graduating from college, he was employed as a Campus Police Officer at Babson College in Wellesley. He was appointed to the position of Westwood Police Officer on January 25, 1983. He attended the Brookline Police Academy and graduated in July 1983. His appointment to Sergeant occurred on March 18, 1990. Since his promotion, he has served as the Patrol Supervisor on various shifts and is currently assigned as a Patrol Supervisor on the 11 p.m.-7 a.m. shift. He has also long held the position of Property and Evidence Custodian of the Department. He and his wife, Marian, live in Westwood and have two children, Kathleen and Brian.

Lieutenant Christopher Sheehy

Chris Sheehy was born and raised in Westwood. He graduated from Westwood High School in 1979 and attended both Northeastern University and Western New England College, where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. While attending Northeastern University, he worked for the Medfield Police Department, as a dispatcher and Special Police Officer from July 1980 until January 1983. He was appointed to the position of Westwood Police Officer on January 25, 1983. Chris attended the Brookline Police Academy and graduated in July, 1983. He was appointed as a Detective on November 20, 1991. His appointment to Sergeant occurred on August 1, 1983 and he served as a Patrol Supervisor on the 11-7 shift for four years. In November 1997, he was appointed to the position of Police Prosecutor. His appointment to Lieutenant occurred on April 18, 2004. He is currently assigned as the Administrative Lieutenant. He also holds the position of Head Firearms Instructor. He lives with his wife Susan, and their daughter, Julia in Sharon, MA.



From left to right: Ronald Chiuiri, Sergeant Bruce McDonald, Captain William Cannata, Jr., Lieutenant Christopher Sheehy, Selectmen: Patrick Ahearn, Phil Shapiro and Nancy Hyde, Veteran's Service Agent, James Sullivan (seated). Firefighter Joseph Henry-MacDonald (not in picture).

Ronald J. Chiuiri, Keeper of the Pound

Ronald Chiuiri has served the Town of Westwood as Keeper of the Pound. The Town Pound is located on High Street and is an important historical landmark for the Town of Westwood. It was built in 1700 by Lieutenant Joseph Colburn and marks the location of the first grant of land in Westwood made by Reverend Joseph Allen in 1639. The purpose of the Town Pound was as an area that an escaped cow could be placed until its owner claimed it.

Twenty one years ago, a Selectman asked Ron to help maintain the Town Pound, and he has continued to do so ever since. Ron performed regular maintenance on Westwood's Town Pound, tending to the shrubbery and the maintenance of the grass to ensure that the pound was always kept in pristine condition. Throughout the years, many visitors, and especially school groups, have stopped by to admire this important historical landmark. Each year Ron wrote a piece for the Annual Town Report explaining the history of the Town Pound to our residents. The image of the Town Pound also serves as our official town seal.

Ron and his wife, Peggy, have lived in Westwood since 1979 and have three children. Ron is a retired teacher who taught for 37 years, has also coached Westwood youth basketball and is currently a landscaper.

James Sullivan, Veteran's Service Agent

Jim Sullivan has served the town for thirty years. Jim has lived in Westwood since 1955. He and his wife Beth were married in 1968 and have three children, and they continue to live in Westwood. Jim was elected as an Assessor in 1978. In 1980, he became Westwood's first Mass. Accredited Assessor. In 1984, Jim was appointed as the Veteran's Service Agent. In 1983, he served on the Cemetery Committee where he supervised the construction of Phase I and Phase II of the new Westwood Cemetery. He acted as the liaison to the Veterans Administration, VA hospitals, nursing homes, outpatient clinics, rehabilitation programs, and various veterans' organization. He has secured and assisted many veterans, widows, and dependents with appropriate financial and medical benefits and coordinated veterans' burial benefits, as well as headstone and grave marker programs. Jim was instrumental in having the Veterans' Memorial Park moved to its present location, as a link between the old and new cemeteries where over 500 Westwood Veterans are buried, as well as instituting the Memorial Brick Walkway to honor veterans by their loved ones. On many occasions, Jim has welcomed home Westwood service men and women from active duty and introduced them to their fellow veterans at the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign War, and the Marine Corps League. Over the last twenty four years, Jim has been the Master of Ceremonies at the Memorial Day parade and Veteran's Day ceremonies. ❖

Newsletter correspondence can be sent to:

Westwood Community Newsletter, 580 High Street, Westwood, MA 02090
or email: newsletter@townhall.westwood.ma.us

Future newsletters are due to be delivered to homes on or about December 15, 2008; and March 15, June 15 and September 15, 2009. Please submit articles for consideration 5 weeks prior to the expected delivery dates.

Thank you,
Diane Thornton

Westwood Station Update

As the Westwood Station permitting process enters the final stages for Phase 1, demolition, utility and road construction and site work continues at a breakneck pace in preparation for vertical construction. Were it not for the "T" station and the Nstar and State Street office buildings in the redevelopment area, University Avenue Business Park would be difficult to recognize today (see photo).



Phase 1A and 1AA Environmental Impact and Design Review (EIDR) processes were completed earlier in the year. Phase 1AA included the sound isolation wall, landscaping and screening along the northwest section of the site. Phase 1A included all the retail in the lifestyle area (near the T station) and four hundred and ninety five residential units. Currently, the Planning Board is reviewing amendments to the Master Plan Special Permit and the Sub-Division, in concert with the EIDR for Phase 1B, which includes all the free standing retail to the south of the lifestyle center.

With the first building permit applications and their associated fees in hand, the Town has begun to ramp up its staffing support of construction, inspections and eventual issuance of occupancy permits. With 25 buildings and 90 individual retailers requiring building permits and inspections, the workload will be daunting. But, plans have been well laid and the Town is prepared to support whatever pace the developer establishes.

Westwood has already begun to reap the benefits of the redevelopment of its business/industrial park. These benefits include a \$1 million dollar donation for the recently completed athletic field construction and a \$1.75 million dollar payment for guaranteed net new revenues to support the current fiscal year budget. In addition, the projected financial benefits from the Westwood Station project was an important factor in Standard & Poor's decision to increase Westwood's bond rating from AA+ to AAA placing Westwood among less than 2% of municipalities in the United States that have achieved that top bond rating.

For weekly construction updates and photos on the web, go to: <http://www.wscommunityonline.com/Pages/updates/ConstructionUpdates.html> ❖

View from Nstar building parking lot to "T" station parking garage (top right) on August 8, 2008.



Westwood Community Chest

A SOURCE OF HELP IN YOUR TOWN

Westwood Community Chest (WCC) is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to helping Westwood residents in need through temporary financial assistance. Specifically, WCC helps individuals and families facing financial difficulties by awarding funds which help with basic needs such as medical expenses and utility payments. WCC also grants Camperships, which are scholarships to summer camp for school-aged children.

Camperships provide the opportunity for physical, social, and emotional growth to Westwood children whose families could not otherwise afford summer programs. This past year, town applicants submitted applications for Camperships to WCC based upon established deadlines and WCC was able to meet every request. A total of 76 camperships were granted for summer 2008.

During the past year, applications to WCC were on the rise, and that number is expected to continue to rise in 2009 due to economic pressures. WCC would like to thank those residents who have already donated generously, as well as those who will give during our annual appeal in October. Your generosity makes the work of the WCC possible.

Applications for assistance from WCC are available at the Westwood Police Station, the Westwood Public Libraries on High Street and on Washington Street, Westwood Senior Center, Westwood Town Hall, and Westwood Youth and Family Services. The application process is confidential.

For more information, go to our website at www.wcc.cfsites.org. Donations are accepted on an ongoing basis at Westwood Community Chest, P.O. Box 250, Westwood, MA 02090. ❖

Westwood High Alumni Association

The Westwood High Alumni Association was proud and honored to participate in the Commencement Exercises for the Graduating Class of 2008 on Sunday, June 1, 2008. During the ceremony the Association awarded three scholarships. The recipients were Elizabeth Arpino, Chennell Christian, and Darren Fenty. A four-year scholarship was awarded to Chelsey Ristaino on behalf of the Class of 1962.

The Westwood High Alumni Scholarship Fund is an integral component of the mission of the Association. The purpose is to award scholarships annually to one or more graduating seniors from Westwood High School who are going on to further their education.

A fundraiser *Casino Night and Texas Hold 'Em Tournament* will be held on Saturday, October 25th, at Concannon's Village in Norwood. All proceeds will go to the Scholarship Fund. This fundraiser is open to anyone eighteen years of age and older. Muzicology DJ and MC will provide music in the background. Muzicology is an entrepreneurial venture by two young Westwood boys who attend Westwood High School.

Those who attended the Westwood schools and would like to register with the alumni, or learn more about the Association may do so at www.westwoodhighalumni.org. ❖



Last year's Casino Night was a huge success. Mark your calendar for this year!

Westwood Historical Society

The Westwood Historical Society ended a busy year with its annual meeting held at the Butterfly Garden located in Hale Reservation on June 14th. The new slate of officers for the upcoming year are Nancy Donahue, President; Tom Aaron, Vice President; Ann Jessup, Secretary; Ernie Greppin, Treasurer, and Mike Porter, Corresponding Secretary. All upcoming Fall events are held at the Fisher School, 830 High Street.

On Sundays, September 7th and October 5th, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. an exhibition will be on display entitled "Westwood School Days Remembered." The exhibition will display memorabilia from the various Westwood schools with particular emphasis on Westwood High School dating to the first graduating class in 1941. A large collection of photographs from Westwood High School (1957-2003) are unmarked and everyone is invited to browse through them to see if they can help in identification. The exhibit is being presented jointly by the Westwood High Alumni Association and the Westwood Historical Society.

"Give 'em Hell Harry: The Election of 1948" is the title of the program Dr. Gary Hylander will be presenting on October 14th at 7:30 p.m.

From 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sundays, November 2nd and December 7th, Susan (Beal) Dyer will exhibit a collection of Dedham Pottery, "50 Years - A Collector's Journey." Helen's parents Helen and Wendell Beal began collecting the ware during the WW II years, buying pieces directly from the factory. This collection is considered one of the premier collections of Dedham Pottery in New England.

Jean Stahl will be giving a presentation on the "History and the Reproduction of Dedham Pottery" on Tuesday evening, November 11, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in conjunction with the Dedham Pottery Exhibition.

On Sunday, November 2nd at 4 p.m. the Westwood Historical Society will present the *Quarter Century Award* to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the community for more than twenty-five years, making Westwood a better place to live. Nominations for the award may be made, in writing, to the Westwood Historical Society, P.O. Box 2575, Westwood, MA 02090-2575 no later than September 26th.

The Society's *Annual Yard Sale* will be taking place on Saturday, October 25th, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Items for the sale may be dropped off at the schoolhouse at 830 High Street between 9 p.m. and noon on October 18th.

A sing-along and volunteer appreciation will take place at the Fisher School at 3 p.m. on December 14th.

The Westwood Historical Society is a non-profit organization and exists to preserve Westwood's unique history. It supports the study of history by conducting school programs and by educating the community through public programs and exhibitions. Everyone is always welcome. ❖



Are you a Westwood alumni? Come browse memorabilia from various Westwood schools on September 7th and October 5th.

The Westwood-Walpole League of Women Voters Invites you to...

Is There an Rx for Health Care? This panel discussion on health care sponsored by the Westwood-Walpole League of Women Voters will be held on Monday, September 22, 2008 at the First Parish Hall located on the corner of Nahatan and Clapboardtree streets in Westwood. The meeting will begin with a short social time at 7 p.m. and the panel discussion will start at 7:30 p.m. The discussion will focus on the Massachusetts Mandatory Health Care Program and how it is functioning. Panel members include a representative from the Massachusetts Department Executive Office of Health and Human Services, John B. Chessare, M.D. MPH, President of Caritas Norwood Hospital; Jennifer Chow, Manager for Outreach and Enrollment at Health Care for All; and Eileen P. McAnney, Esq., Senior Vice President and Associate General Counsel for Government Affairs for Associated Industries of America (A.I.M.).

The Westwood-Walpole League welcomes concerned and interested members of the community to listen, ask questions, and share their information with the panel and fellow members of the community.

The League of Women Voters encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase standing of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Join us! Contact our Membership Chair, Marcia Hirshberg at 781-326-8784. Want to know more about the League? Check us out on our web site at www.lwwestwoodwalpole.org ❖

Recycle Facts – Did You Know...?

Every year, Massachusetts residents throw away 1.5 million tons of paper! Currently, there is a state-wide campaign to recycle more paper, reducing municipal hauling and incinerating costs.

Did you know that the following can be recycled?

- Catalogs
- Envelopes with windows
- Greeting cards
- Paper with staples or paper clips
- Magazines
- Packing paper
- Receipts
- Spiral notebooks (metal spiral – not plastic)
- Calendars
- Fax paper
- Hanging file folders
- Junk mail
- Glossy paper
- Phone books
- Shredded paper in paper bags

Did you know that recycling 1 ton of paper saves 17 trees and 6,953 gallons of water? Also, *did you know* recycling just 1 aluminum can saves enough electricity to run a laptop for 4 hours?

In addition to paper, recycling glass, aluminum, steel and plastic (numbered 1 through 7) also saves our town money, and helps save valuable resources.

Did you know that glass can be recycled to make not only new glass bottles, but also to make marbles, decorative tiles, surfboards and roads? Steel can be recycled to make cars, bicycles, cookware and appliances. Aluminum is 100% recyclable, saving energy and virgin materials every time a container is recycled.

Recycled plastic can be used to produce many different products. Did you know that recycling 5 clear plastic soda bottles produces enough fiber to make one square foot of carpeting, one extra large T-shirt, or enough fiber to fill one ski jacket?

Have you replaced an incandescent light bulb with a compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulb? Because these energy-saving bulbs have a small amount of mercury in them, homeowners are not allowed to throw these bulbs out in the regular trash. However, as part of a national campaign, The Home Depot will accept used CFL's at the returns counter at any of their stores. This is a free service, providing customers with a safe and responsible way to dispose of an energy-saving product!

Help the Town of Westwood celebrate *America Recycles Day* on November 15th, 2008. If you are not currently sorting your trash to recycle, please try to reduce your trash by separating paper, plastic, aluminum, glass and steel from your waste baskets. If you are recycling, look to see if you can pull more paper or plastic from your waste baskets. Need a recycling bin? Contact the Department of Public Works at 50 Carby Street to obtain a bin (781-326-8661). ❖

Ouellette's Seek Donations for 2008 "Happy Halloween for Children in Need"

This year marks the fifth annual *Happy Halloween for Children in Need* drive. Last year, over 500 costumes and 600 additional items, 1,100 total items were given to the Massachusetts Department of Social Services. The drive has increased each year, from 25 items the first year, to 100, 400 and 1,100 this past year! Halloween truly kicks off the holiday season in the Ouellette home. We decorate our house for the first time in months, and the celebrations continue with Thanksgiving, birthday parties, Christmas and New Years! It is a very exciting time! Our children were very sad to learn some children could not celebrate Halloween because of the expense. They really wanted to help. We went into the attic and collected some old costumes, mentioned it to some friends who donated, and a drive was born. The following year, we took the idea to school. The drive allows all children a chance to pick out something special to help bring a smile to a child in need their own age, at little or no cost. If you do not have a gently used or new costume, you can contribute a bag of candy, face paint, etc., every little bit helps and is greatly appreciated! Once we collect all of the donations, we essentially box up Halloween parties. The collections took place at the Downey School, where our children attend, however, after learning there are over 10,000 children in foster care, the school district was approached to ask permission to include the other Westwood schools. The district embraced their request, and this past year was the first year families in all of our schools contributed. In the history of D.S.S., there have never been Halloween donations, until this drive. There remains a need to continue and increase the donations.



So many people in town have asked how they can help. Flyers will be going home with children in participating Westwood schools the first week of October with specific information. A collection bin will also be available outside of the Ouellette home, at 42 Partridge Drive, beginning October 1st. Gently used costumes, face paint, candy, pretzels, Halloween accessories (witches hats, trick or treat bags, etc.) decorations, party supplies, new costumes, anything to help bring Halloween to children in need, are requested. *If you are donating a gently used costume, please place the costume in a plastic bag, and label it, for example, 'girls size 4 - Snow White'.*

In a classic case of 'pay it forward' when churches and recreation centers heard about the donations to the foster families, halls were donated to allow the foster families a safe place for Halloween parties. Watching this little drive grow is a shining example of the goodness we can achieve together, through simple acts of kindness. Without the generous contributions, and support of the wonderful families in Westwood, the numbers could not have grown the way they have. Each and every person that contributes is responsible for making a difference. Please help us increase the number of children we help this year!!

Thank you all in advance so very much!

The Ouellette Family
Fred, Joanne, Kyle, Gabrielle and Bianca



The Westwood Recreation Department and the North Walpole Fish and Game sponsored a very diverse Fishing Derby last May. This annual event draws anglers of all ages.

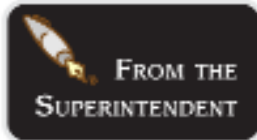


WESTWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

September
2008
page one

Dear Westwood Residents,

This year is bound to be exciting for the Westwood Public Schools. Our academic and co-curricular programs are stronger than ever, our faculty and staff continue to perform at the highest levels, and we have the resources we need to keep the district moving forward. In addition, we welcome five new members to our administrative team. After conducting extensive search processes, I am confident that we found the best candidates on the market. Their biographies are below—please read and enjoy them.



John Ataman

Westwood Schools Welcome New Administrators

ALLISON BORCHERS

Principal, Thurston Middle School

Allison has worked for most of her 15 years in education in the Westwood Public Schools, where she has been an English and social studies teacher, 8th grade team leader and assistant principal at Thurston. She taught English and served as admissions coordinator for the Steppingstone Scholars Program in Boston, and she was a resident tutor at Harvard University. She received her undergraduate degree in Philosophy from Harvard and her Master's in Middle School Education from Lesley. Originally from the Pacific Northwest, she lives in Westwood with her husband, Doug Edwards, and their son, Lincoln.



ALLAN CAMERON, JR.

Principal, Deerfield Elementary School

Allan brings 14 years of experience as an educator and a leader to Westwood. He has taught elementary, middle, and high school students. He served as a residence hall



coordinator at Fairfield University, lead teacher in Westport, Connecticut, and vice principal in Brookline. He was an officer in the Army National Guard and was honorably discharged after 10 years. Allan earned B.A.'s in English and Psychology from the University of Connecticut, an M.A. in Elementary Education from Fairfield University, and a Ph.D. in Education Administration from Boston College. He lives in Walpole with his wife, Laura, and two children.

KRISTEN EVANS

Principal, Sheehan Elementary School

Kristen brings 15 years of experience as an educator and leader to Westwood. She taught elementary students in grades two through five in the Milton Public School District. She served as a member of the district Mentoring Leadership Team, as elementary coordinator on the District Wide Assessment Planning Team, and as co-chair of both the math and foreign language instructional review teams. Most recently, Kristen has served as the assistant principal and math coach of the Glover School for the past three years. Kristen earned a B.A. in Communications and French from Boston College, an M.A. in Elementary Education from Lesley University and her Principal's License through Eastern Nazarene College. She lives in Hull with her husband, Dan, and her daughter, Hannah.



Continued on next page



WESTWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

September
2008
page two

NEW ADMINISTRATORS, from page one

HEATH PETRACCA

Director of Business and Finance

Heath has worked for the school department for the past nine years as the director of operations. In this role, he was responsible for the buildings, grounds, maintenance, and food service operation of all school buildings. He has dedicated the past nine years to improving the school system as a whole and will continue this effort in his new role as the director of business and finance. Heath has a B.S. in Hotel, Restaurant and Travel from the University of Massachusetts, has completed significant graduate course work in facility management, and is currently working on an M.B.A. at Northeastern University. He lives in Walpole with his wife, Carolyn, and their five children: Anthony, Stephen, Emma, Vincent, and Christopher.



KEN ARIES

Director of Operations

In July, Ken joined on as the director of operations of the Westwood Public Schools. Ken comes to us after 24 years with Verizon, most recently in the role of project manager. Ken, a 20-year resident of Westwood, has served in many volunteer roles in town, including chairman of the Recreation Department. Ken's management experience, combined with his connections to many of the town's departments, make him a perfect fit as the director of operations.



When not hard at work, Ken enjoys spending time with his wife, Susan, sons Bryan and Kevin, and daughter, Katie, who is set to graduate from Westwood High in the spring. Ken is looking forward to his first full school year as director of operations.

RUSSELL E. DOWNES FIELD

WHS Baseball Field Named for Russell Downes

On Sunday, June 15th, a large group of friends, relatives, and baseball players, both current and alumni, gathered at the backstop of the newly-constructed and newly-named Russell E. Downes Field. **Coach Downes**, as he is known to several generations of Westwood High School students, coached the Westwood baseball team from 1959-1990. His commitment to the students as both teacher and coach, his dedication to the Town of Westwood, and his love of the game, all contributed to the decision of the Westwood School Committee to name the new field in his honor.

After being presented with a new baseball jacket by Westwood High School Athletic Director **Karl Fogel**, and being recognized by Town Moderator **Anthony Antonellis**, Assistant Superintendent **Ed Kazanjian**, and High School Principal **Emily Parks**, Coach Downes himself thanked those present, recounted great stories of past teams, and said he would be around for the future teams as well.



Coach Downes's son and grandchildren threw out the first pitch to begin the Alumni vs. Varsity Baseball game organized by Westwood resident (and former player) **John Henderson**. Baseball Coach **Brian Whelan** presented Downes (pictured at center) with the first baseball hit for a home run at the new field.

TOWN BULLETIN BOARD

TOWN and SCHOOL EVENTS and HOLIDAYS

Sept 27 Hazardous Waste Collection Day – 9 a.m.-noon
Dept. of Public Works, 50 Carby Street
Oct 1 2008 Happy Halloween Collection begins – see page 5.
Oct 9 Schools closed – Yom Kippur
Oct 13 Schools and Town Hall closed – Columbus Day

Oct 18 6th Annual Police Open House – see page 2.
Nov 4 Schools closed – All Day Inservice for Teachers
Nov 11 Schools and Town Hall closed – Veteran's Day
Nov 15 America Recycles Day – see page 5.
Nov 27, 28 Schools and Town Hall closed –Thanksgiving

WESTWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Fall 2008

Main Library Programs for Preschoolers

Sept 9-Oct 14 *Preschool Literacy Adventures* –

Nov 18-Dec 16 Ages 2 & up with caregiver
Tuesdays, 10:15-11:00 a.m.

Sept 10-Oct 15 *Storytime* – Ages 3 and up

Nov 12-Dec 17 Wednesdays, 10:15-11:00 a.m.

Sept 12-Oct 17 *Babies & Books* – Under 2 years with caregiver

Nov 14-Dec 19 Fridays, 10:30-10:50 a.m.

Children *must* be the appropriate age by the first day of each session.

Registration is not required.

There are no sessions during public school vacations or holidays.

Main Library Programs for School Age Children

Sept 9-Oct 14 *Wishing Well* – Ages 5 and up

Nov 18-Dec 16 Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Registration begins Aug 15th

Massachusetts Book Award Book Club – Grades 3-5

Monthly discussion of a MA Book Award title

Participants must have read the book by the meeting date.

Sept 22 *Punished* by David Lubar

Oct 20 *The Sacrifice* by Kathleen Benner Duble

Nov 17 *Shakespeare's Secret* by Elise Broach

Dec 15 *Gossamer* by Lois Lowry

Mondays, 7:00 p.m.

No pre-registration.

Special Programs at Main Library

Oct 4 *Storytelling Saturdays* – Ages 2½ & up with families.

Nov 1 Saturdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Registration begins 1 month prior.

Oct 16 *A Story for Every Season* – All ages

Dec 11 An Early Childhood Council, Council on Aging and Library CPC Program. Registration will be required, please call the ECC @ 461- 9548

Oct 28 *Halloween Storytime and Parade* – All ages

Halloween stories, treats and a costume parade!
Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. Registration is not required.

Islington Branch Programs

Sept 11-Oct 16 *Storytime* – Ages 3 and up

Nov 14-Dec 19 Thursdays, 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Registration required and begins Aug 12

Oct 7, 14 *Young Readers Book Club* – Grades 2-4

Oct 21, 28 Tuesdays, 3:30-4:15 p.m. Snacks provided!

Registration begins Sept 15th

For additional programs and further information, please call the Main Library Children's Department at 781-320-1042 or the Islington Branch at 781-326-5914 or visit the web site at www.westwoodlibrary.org/home

Lecture at the Library



Plant Sale at the Historical Society



Memorial Day Ceremony at Veteran's Park



This Fall in Westwood
580 High Street
Westwood, MA 02090

Presort Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #22
Westwood MA 02090

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

Westwood, MA 02090

