



Jodi
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Manager

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October is
Breast Cancer
Awareness
Month



Special Town Meeting
Saturday, Oct. 17, 9:00AM
Held Outside at Westford
Academy Trustees Field
30 Patten Road
Rain Date
Sunday, Oct. 18, 9:00AM

Brush Chipping
Saturday, October 17
10:30 AM - 4:30 PM



Watch Meetings
Online



www.westfordcat.org

Dear Westford residents,

Our Special Town Meeting will be held this Saturday, October 17th, at 9:00 AM, outside on the turf field at the Westford Academy Trustees Field located at 30 Patten Road. In the event of inclement weather or if business does not conclude on Saturday, the meeting may be continued to Sunday, October 18th at 9:00 AM. Due to the COVID -19 pandemic, the town is taking precautionary measures to reduce the spread of the virus. All residents should wear face coverings. Seating will be spaced to ensure social distancing; however seats will be available to allow couples to sit together. We highly recommend residents bring water, sunscreen, a sweater or jacket, possibly even a blanket if it is chilly, a hat, and an umbrella. This year, for safety reasons, we will not be providing lunch, however at 12:00 noon we will break for lunch, so residents may return home to eat and refresh, and restart the meeting at 1:15 PM. The following is a summary of the 25 articles to be voted on. The full text of the Warrant and Motions, along with a visual plan of the field are available online by using your smart phone camera to scan the QR code and then tapping on the pop-up notification or, by visiting the following link: [2020 Special Town Meeting](#).



Article 1 is to pay any unpaid bills from a previous Fiscal Year (FY), but as we have none, this will be dismissed.

Article 2 will reduce FY 2021 Town Operating Budgets by \$515,436.

Article 3 will be dismissed as we have no budget transfers.

Article 4 will make appropriations from Free Cash in the sum of \$55,000 to address DEP required perchlorate remediation efforts.

Article 5 seeks to fund the construction of a new amenities building at the Westford Academy Trustees Field using Community Preservation funds as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee.

Article 6 seeks capital appropriations for FY 2021.

Article 7 will transfer available funds to reduce the net amount to be raised by taxes for FY 2021.

Article 8 will authorize the Selectmen to accept easements on Oak Hill Road, Plain Road, and Moore Road for the construction, alteration, maintenance, improvement, repair and/or replacement of sidewalks, drainage, utilities, slope work, traffic improvements, driveway reconstruction and grading, tree protection and landscaping.

Article 9 will authorize the Selectmen to accept easements on Carlisle Road for the construction of a new sidewalk, including related public works improvements necessary for that project.

Article 10 (a) will authorize the Selectmen to acquire easements by gift, purchase and/or eminent domain in parcels of land abutting and/or near Beaver Brook Road and Webber Road for the reconstruction, installation, inspection, maintenance, improvement, repair, replacement and/or relocation of a bridge, rights of way, sidewalks, drainage, utilities, driveways, retaining walls, guardrails, slopes, grading, rounding and landscaping and other structures and/or appurtenances to enable the Town to undertake the Beaver Brook Road Bridge Reconstruction Project and for any and all purposes and uses incidental or related thereto; (b) appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$75,000 to fund the foregoing and any and all costs related thereto.

Article 11 is a citizen's petition asking that Indigenous Peoples' Day be observed by the people, with appropriate exercises in the schools and otherwise, to the end that the culture, history and diversity of Native American Peoples be celebrated and perpetuated.

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Article 12 is a citizen's petition that the petitioner has requested town meeting dismiss.

Article 13 is a citizen's petition that the petitioner has requested town meeting dismiss.

Article 14 is a citizen's petition that provides a resolution to promote clean energy and reduce fossil fuel use to achieve the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' limit of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

Article 15 will amend the town's General and Zoning Bylaws to reflect inclusive language, however due to the Town Charter changes not having been acted upon yet by the State Legislature, and the numerous zoning bylaw changes proposed at this town meeting, the Selectmen will recommend dismissal, to be brought back to our annual town meeting.

Article 16 will amend the Zoning Bylaw to clarify minimum lot frontage requirements.

Article 17 will amend the Zoning Bylaw to extend the time for lapse of Special Permits from two years to three years.

Article 18 will amend the Zoning Bylaw to clarify area standards for accessory dwelling units.

Article 19 will amend the Zoning Bylaw to regulate Massage Establishments in certain zoning districts.

Article 20 will amend the Zoning Bylaw to delete Section 6.3: Growth Management (and related subsections) which expired on May 11, 2009 and is no longer in full effect.

Article 21 will amend the Zoning Bylaw to define and regulate Short-Term Rentals, and to establish a Summer Village Short-Term Rental Overlay District whereby Short-Term Rentals will be allowed by right.

Article 22 will amend the Zoning Bylaw to define Short-Term Rentals, and to establish a Summer Village Short-Term Rental Overlay District to allow Short-term Rentals by right. (If Article 21 passes, this article will be dismissed.)

Article 23 will amend the Zoning bylaw to allow Restaurant Drive-Through Facilities in certain zoning districts by Special Permit from the Planning Board.

Article 24 is a citizen's petition which authorizes the Board of Selectmen to convey all or a portion of the property at 63 Main Street which was purchased by a vote of Town Meeting October 15, 2018, and further that the conveyance include both the house and the carriage house to be used as a single family residents with an historic restriction to preserve the view of the buildings from Main Street; and that a portion of the property contiguous to the Town Hall parking lot be retained to accommodate not more than thirty-two parking spaces.

Article 25 will authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation permitting the town to disburse funds it currently holds pursuant to an Agreement for Judgment in the matter of DeMauro v. Demauro, which funds were intended for use in completing certain improvements to the subdivision roadway known as Rome Drive Extension, such funds to be disbursed to the owners of the lots located along Rome Drive Extension, who have complete such improvements at their expense.

The Presidential Election is on Tuesday, November 3rd. Our Town Clerk's Office is in the process of mailing out approximately 8,000 Presidential Ballots to residents who have applied. For those who have applied, please keep an eye out for your ballot to arrive within the next week as they were sent out last week. The Westford Post Office has done a tremendous job working alongside our town staff to mail these out in a timely fashion. Once you have completed your ballot, you may return it to our Town Clerk's Office via USPS mail in the self-addressed stamped envelope, drop off in the secure locked ballot box located outside the back of Town Hall, or drop off in person at the Town Clerk's office during regular business hours. Please be sure you sign the yellow early ballot envelope, or your ballot cannot be accepted.

At the Board of Selectmen's meeting on October 13th, the board, along with the School Committee, appointed 22 members to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, with the addition of Anita Tonakarn-Nguyen, as a non-voting selectmen liaison, and Mingquan Zheng, as a school committee liaison. To find out more information relative to this new committee, you may visit the following link: [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee](#).

The Capital Planning Committee has been meeting virtually to discuss our town's FY21 and FY22 capital needs. The committee has been prioritizing our department needs to reflect the decreased funding available due to the loss of town revenue due to the pandemic.

(continued on next page)

The first stormwater utility bills were issued last week and are due on November 2, 2020. The fee is based on impervious surface area in a parcel – roofs, driveways, patios, decks, walkways, etc. Property owners will have the option of paying the bill in total or in two installments; half due November 2nd and half due May 1st. For more information please visit www.westfordma.gov/stormwater, call (978) 399-2900 or email stormwater@westfordma.gov.

On October 13th, our Veterans Service Officer Ryan Cobleigh, requested the board to consider alternatives for events on Veteran's Day on November 11th, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic. His recommendation to create a video, working collaboratively with Westford CAT, was approved as a safe alternative to the usual in-person ceremony. Westford CAT produced a very successful video for this past Memorial Day event and are prepared to do the same for Veteran's Day.



Town Manager Ross with Westford Fire Department and EMS Staff wearing pink this October for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

As the Covid-19 pandemic has evolved, it has become extremely significant for food establishments continuity to have access to serving their patrons outdoors. On September 22, the board, subject to Permitting Department requirements, approved expanding and extending outdoor table service of food and alcoholic beverages, pursuant to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC) Advisory Section 4 of the Covid-19 Order No. 35, from November 1, 2020 for any period up to and until sixty days after the end of the state of emergency, for all licensees, or upon request. For more details about the ABCC's Order, you may click the following link: [Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission Advisory Regarding Extension of Allowance of Outdoor Table Service](#).

For important information on COVID-19, including resident services, the latest town department information, CDC guidance, testing sites in Massachusetts, daily updates, and more, please visit our town's website at westfordma.gov/COVID-19.

Congratulations to our Health Department's Food Inspector, Arnie Price, for receiving the 2020 Michael D. Saraco Award from the Massachusetts Health Officers Association!

Please join me in welcoming our new Minutes Taker for the Planning Board Dana Riegart, Public Safety Dispatcher Sydney Delforte, and the Board of Health's Temporary Nurse Jennifer Ross.

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There are several openings on our local boards and committees, including: 12 North Main Street Task Force, 35 Town Farm Road Task Force, Affordable Housing Committee, Agricultural Commission, Board of Assessors, Commission on Disability, Communications Advisory Committee, Cultural Council, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, Dog Park Task Force, Election Officer, Energy Committee, Historical Commission, Nashoba Valley Technical High School District Committee, Parkerville Schoolhouse Committee, Parks, Grounds and Recreation Commission, Pedestrian Safety Committee, Permanent Town Building Committee, Westford Scholarship and Grant Committee, and Zoning Board of Appeals. 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](#).

Would you like more detailed information on the Board of Selectmen's 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!

Sincerely,



Jodi Ross



Westford Police Department's Pink Cruiser in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Funds raised as part of this effort will be donated directly to the cause, and was made possible by employees of the Westford Police Department who want to make a difference and give back. The 2012 Dodge Charger was brought to Colonial Municipal Group of Acton where graphics designer Bill Camillucci wrapped it in a special pink vinyl. No taxpayer money was spent on the project, as the police association is covering the \$700 cost of materials and Mr. Camillucci donated his time.

Cameron Happenings: Calling all glorious adults age 55+ to join us for classes, programs and educational programs.



VOTING:

The COA van service will be providing transportation to the polls Monday, October 19th thru Thursday, October 29th from 8:00AM -3:30PM for those who need transportation ages 55 plus. Also, any resident who is experiencing a transportation hardship is welcome to use this service. To schedule a ride call Chuck Dutton, COA Transportation Dispatcher at 978-399-2322. Please note that we request a 48-hour notice and donations are appreciated.

BINGO!

Mondays from 1pm -3pm at the FRANCO-American Club
Join us inside or outside at the FRANCO all dependent on the weather. If outside we will be under the large pavillion. \$1 for a colored dobber which is yours to keep and \$3 per paper BINGO sheet that has three BINGO boards. RSVP by calling 978-692-5523



FITNESS CENTER NOW OPEN:

Let's get moving fitness center members!! It's time to strengthen those muscles and get some good cardio Monday thru Friday from 8:30-2:30 however you must schedule your work-out time which are being done in 60-minute increments. We have no more than three members working out at a time and mask required. Plastic barriers are found between each piece of equipment for your safety Fitness monitors are on staff to assist in your work-out needs and disinfect equipment. If you are interested in joining our fitness room equipped with the top of the line Precision Fitness equipment please call the center at 978-692-5523.

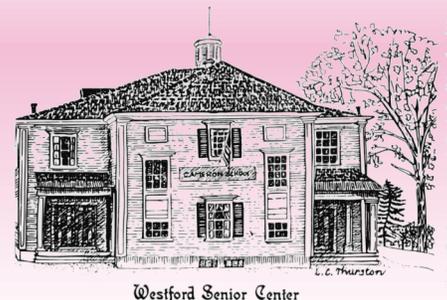
ASK THE LAWYER

Free legal service provided by the office of Attorneys Madge & Johnson is available to all Westford seniors age 60 and over, by phone appointment only. Please call 978-692-5523 to reserve a timeslot.

GIFT CARD PROGRAM – Fall Fundraiser to Benefit the Cameron!

It's easy to purchase gift cards for popular stores, restaurants, gas stations this fall through the Friends of Cameron's Gift Card Program. Use the cards for everyday shopping or give them as gifts to friends and family, making gift giving easier. Cards are available for Amazon, CVS, Game Stop, Land's End, Marshalls, Olive Garden, Shell, Super Cuts, Target, Starbucks, 1800Flowers, and much, much more. Order Forms are available at the Cameron – or just click here: [Gift Card Order Form](#) Orders are due: **October 28** (for November delivery) and **November 23** (for December delivery), just in time for the holidays!

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



Westford Senior Center

Cameron Happenings Continued...

Westford Covid-19 Relief Fund:

The goal of the Covid-19 Relief Fund is to provide financial assistance to Westford residents who have experienced financial hardship related to the Covid-19 pandemic. This may be as a result of job loss, decreased working hours and income, or increase in expenses. The assistance that the Fund provides is available as a result of donations from members of the community and is administered through the Westford Council on Aging. Awards are based upon level of demonstrated need and the available balance in the fund at time of application. If you'd like to apply, contact Alison at 978-399-23235. If you'd like to donate, you can do so on the Westford COA website or by check to Cameron Senior Center and note Covid-19 Relief in the Memo line.

VETERANS DRIVE THRU LUNCH SPONSORED BY BRIDGES

Tuesday, November 10th at 12:00pm To honor our veterans and their spouses the chefs at Bridges by Epoch Westford will be preparing grab and go meals to be taken and brought home to be heated up and eaten. We will also have a patriotic photobooth available to take pictures. Veterans and spouses are free. Please sign up at 978-692-5523 and give us the branch of the military you served when you sign up. This event will take place in the Cameron parking lot.



INTRODUCING WRAP (WESTFORD RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM) TO THE WESTFORD COMMUNITY

WRAP is a 3-year rental assistance program, scheduled to start December 1st 2020. The goal of the program is to assist **5 households** who are renting or plan to rent qualifying housing units in **Westford**. Qualifying households must be at or below 50% of the Area Median Income (AMI) for the Greater Lowell area (1person-\$37,800, 2person-\$43,200, 3person-\$48,600, 4person-\$54,000, 5person-\$58,350), have less than \$25,000 in assets, and must be currently spending more than 30% of gross household monthly income on rental housing costs (including eligible utilities). The program is not available to households already receiving government-funded rental assistance-such as Section 8 or MRVP or state or federally subsidized housing. WRAP aims to assist the most cost burdened renters in Westford by offering a housing subsidy paid directly to their landlord, who must agree to accept WRAP payments directly. The program can subsidize



up to \$500 of the household's rent payment monthly, with the expectation that the household will not pay more than 30% of their income toward rent. Households must complete a lottery application the first year of the program.

Information requests and questions should be directed to Westford Housing Authority by calling 978-692-6011. Applications will be available through the Westford Council on Aging at 978-399-2325, Westford Housing Authority by calling 978-692-6011, both departments web pages, and are printable from the Town of Westford website. **Applications are due no later than Friday, October 30th to Westford Housing Authority, 65 Tadmuck Rd., Westford, MA 01886.** Application assistance, accommodation for disabilities, and assistance for applicants with limited English proficiency is available as needed through Alison Christopher. **Lottery: Wednesday, November 11th at 4:10 PM** (if needed due to number of tied qualifying applicants after preferences are verified) at COA Board Meeting-Cameron Senior Center. All are welcome to attend.

October at the J.V. Fletcher Library

Our programs are generously funded by the Friends of the J.V. Fletcher Library, Inc.



Come and see our "Charlie Brown and the Great Pumpkin" window display!
After dark offers the most spooktacular view!

[Friends of the J.V. Fletcher Library, Inc.](#) **October Drive Through Grab Bag Book Sale: Sun., Oct. 25 from 1-4 p.m.** Books will be separated by genre, preselected, and placed into bags for customers to pay, grab, and go from the comfort of their car. There will be mystery, romance, popular fiction, biography, history, and more, 6-8 books per bag for adults. Kids & YA separated by age/grade, 10 books per bag. All bags \$5, cash only! Masks are required.

Virtual Friends of the J. V. Fletcher Library Annual Meeting -Featuring Author & Historian Stephen Puleo: Thursday, November 5, 7-9 p.m. The Friends of the J.V. Fletcher Library Annual Meeting features Stephen Puleo, author of "Voyage of Mercy: The USS Jamestown, the Irish Famine, and the Remarkable Story of America's First Humanitarian Mission." His other works include, among others, "Dark Tide: The Great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919," "The Caning: The Assault That Drove America to Civil War," and "The Boston Italians."

The evening will start with a short Friends business meeting. Friends members will vote on the slate of officers for 2021 as well as hear reports on the Friends' activities over the past year.

Free and open to all. [Register here](#), a zoom invitation with login details will be sent to your email account shortly before the event.

New! Registration Mother Goose – Join us Tuesday or Thursday morning at 10:30 a.m. until New England weather tells us no MORE! Due to increased interest and being mindful of the Governor's guidelines for no gatherings over 50 people, and the need for contact tracing, Mother Goose has been changed to an in-person, weekly, REGISTRATION story time for babies and pre-schoolers. Register through our Events Calendar. Each child, baby, and adult must be registered individually and have individual tickets (ie. mom + two kids = three attendees, three tickets). For now, this program is open to Westford library card holders only. We are so hopeful that Mother Goose can come back in some larger format in the spring but for now, this is what we have to do in order to keep everyone safe and to abide by the state guidelines. Thank you for your understanding.

If the weather permits (no snow, no rain, no gale force winds, no temperatures under 55 degrees), we will be OUTDOORS and SOCIALLY-DISTANCED on the grass between the library and the church. We will set out markers to socially distance families – since the ground may be damp from dew, please bring a blanket or portable chairs. Youth Services staff will be masked and performing for you live on the lawn. Masks are required for all who attend except for children age two and under. Please help your children maintain social distance from other families.

Virtual Westford Job Seekers: The J. V. Fletcher Library's "Westford Job Seekers Network" meets weekly on Wednesdays from 3- 4:30pm. Attracting people of diverse work backgrounds and age groups, this group helps you expand your network of business contacts, discover new job opportunities and connect with others who are in job transition and can become part of your support group. Meetings include guest speakers who are experts in the job search process or in career development. Contact Dina Kanabar, dkanabar@westfordma.gov for more information.

(Continued on next page)

October at the J.V. Fletcher Library

[Virtual Tweens and Teens Mug Treat Tuesdays](#), October 20-December 15 (see Event calendar) from 4 to 4:30 pm.

Teens and Tweens can participate in a weekly virtual program showing you how to make a treat in a mug. We will provide you with a full recipe (ingredients and instructions) to review and have ready before each program starts. This is a FREE virtual event for Teens and Tweens entering Grades 5 to 12. This is an eight-week program presented by Julie Manning of Simply Focused Coaching. Please check the [Events Calendar](#) to register for the days you want to attend.

Fake News with Kyle Moody: Thu., Oct. 15 at 7pm. Feeling overwhelmed with the surplus of conflicting information from multiple news outlets? Meet Kyle Moody, Fitchburg State University Assistant Professor in Communications Media. His program will show you how to determine what is trustworthy news and how knowing the difference can make you a more educated consumer. Email Sarah Regan at sregan@westfordma.gov for the Zoom link

Virtual The New Normal New England Road Trip with Ted Reinstein: Thu., Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. Longtime 'Chronicle' reporter Ted Reinstein takes folks along on a rollicking ride around New England — all in just one hour, and all from home. Meet colorful characters, learn odd facts about familiar places, and visit classic diners. Ted will take questions following the talk. Email sregan@westfordma.gov for the Zoom link.

Mummy at Mystery Mansion: Saturday, October 31 starting at 9 a.m. Sciencetellers return to the library with another fantastic virtual, prerecorded event. Frankie and Casey visit their uncle for his annual Halloween party only to find out that a creepy Mummy has been scaring everyone away. Some say the house is haunted, but Frankie and Casey have a different idea. Join them on their adventure to unravel the mystery of the mummy! Along the way, you'll explore some spooky and exciting science concepts about blackouts, mummification, and more! This free VIRTUAL animated program promises to be a Halloween treat! Look for the link on our [Kids Programs page](#) on October 31.

Monday Mystery, Adult Non Fiction, Thursday Night Book Club: All of our adult book clubs will also continue to meet virtually through the fall. Please visit westfordlibrary.org/events/adult-book-clubs/ for more information and upcoming meeting dates.

In-House Browsing Appointments: Appointments are available Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. The 11 a.m. hour is reserved for seniors and our high risk population. Each reservation is for one person. Only the middle floor of the Library is open, with displays throughout for browsing – please “JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER!” as items handled but not checked out must be placed in quarantine. At this time, patrons under the age of 18 will be referred to the Browsing Tent for an outside appointment. Only 10 patrons at a time will be in the library, with patrons exiting and new appointments entering on the hour; [click here](#) and select a date under “Limited Browsing” to make your appointment [for contact tracing purposes only]via our Events Calendar.

[Curbside During Covid:](#) Please place your selections on hold through the online catalog. You will be notified when your order is ready and you may come any time during our pick up hours. Inter-library delivery is now available, please expect longer delays than usual. Items received from other libraries will be quarantined for one week. Curbside Pickup is available Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Monday – Thursday 6:30-8:30 p.m. Please do not come until you receive a notification that your order is ready. When you arrive, please call 978-399-2300 (due to heavy call usage, we have updated the number to one that rings at multiple desks) and a masked staff member will place your order under the rear portico. Please wear a mask to pick up your items. **If you have questions or need assistance placing your holds, please call us at 978-399-2300 or send us an email at westfordlibrary@westfordma.gov.**

[“Book the Browsing Tent”:](#) Are you looking for new titles for you and/or your family? Do you miss browsing the stacks of the Library? Look for the form on our website and submit it to schedule a time to come and browse the selections personally picked for you by our staff. The form will inquire about your reading tastes or you can simply have us “surprise you” with some staff recommendations. We will also offer “Book Bundles” for children and adults. Choose a category and we will supply with a “bundle” of books. One of our Library staff will meet you in the tent with personally curated titles just for you! Check the website for the form, submit it, and then a staff member will reach out to schedule your appointed time. Fifteen minute appointments will be available for individuals and thirty minute appointments for families. To comply with Covid-19 safety re-opening guidelines, only one individual or one family will be scheduled at a time in the tent. This service is available Monday – Friday from 10-4. We can't wait to see you under the tent! Per Governor Baker, masks are required.

[“Laptop Loan on the Lawn:](#) Need to check your email or do some research? Perhaps you just want to spend some time catching up with friends and family on social media. You are now able to book up to thirty minutes on a laptop under a tent on our back lawn. Simply fill out the form on our website and a member of our Information Services staff will contact you to schedule a time. This service is available Monday – Friday from 10-4. We can't wait to see you under the tent! Per Governor Baker, masks are required.

www.westfordlibrary.org

Westford Health Department

Congratulations to Arnie Price, CP-FS this years recipient of The 2020 Michael D. Saraco Award from The Massachusetts Health Officers Association (MHOA)



Arnie Price has worked part-time for the Westford Health Department for 14 years. He is a dedicated employee who has gone above and beyond to assist the community and businesses with moving through and understanding the State's COVID-19 changing guidance. Mr. Price has studied and inspected business types beyond his scope of work. He always volunteers to help the Westford Health Department, the community's businesses, and he continually works outside his set hours to assist evenings, weekends, and holidays. Mr. Price exemplifies his dedication to the Public Health mission, his community, his job, and he sets an example to other staff and fellow public health colleagues on what it is to be enthusiastic, loyal, and a leader in the field. It is my honor as Vice president of MHOA and his supervisor to present Arnie Price with the Michael D. Saraco Award!

This award is given in honor of the late Michael D. Saraco, who was instrumental in the formation of the Massachusetts Board of Certification of Health Officers and was appointed by the Governor to serve on that Board for eight years. He was dedicated to the Massachusetts Health Officers Association since its inception and served as its President and Executive Secretary. Mike was involved with many civic associations and served on numerous health committees and task forces in Massachusetts.

This award is given annually to a member of MHOA who exemplifies the qualities of dedication, leadership, friendship, loyalty and enthusiasm (just like Mike did).

Westford Health Department (Continued)

HALLOWEEN 2020

Keep yourself, your loved ones, and your community safe this Halloween by following the CDC and MA Department of Public Health COVID-19 guidelines below.



Unfortunately, we are not holding Trick- or-Treating at town buildings this year due to COVID-19.

General reminders

Wear a face mask

Wash hands frequently

Maintain social distancing

Stay home if you feel unwell

Avoid touching your face

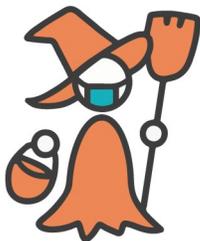
Limit indoor gatherings to ≤25 people*

Limit outdoor gatherings to ≤50 people*

*Gatherings at private residences are limited to 25 people indoors and 50 people outdoors. For indoor and outdoor gatherings of more than 10 people where participants other than those in the same household will be in attendance, all persons over the age of 5 must wear a face covering unless they have a medical condition. For more details, see [Governor's COVID-19 Order No. 52](#).

Trick-or-Treating

Modifications to traditional door-to-door trick-or-treating are required in order to protect everyone's safety. Please follow these simple guidelines to minimize the spread of COVID-19:



FOR TRICK-OR-TREATERS

- Maintain 6 feet physical distance from anyone not in your household.
- Avoid large groups or clustering at doorsteps.
- Make sure your costume includes a mask that covers your nose and mouth and is effective at limiting the spread of COVID-19 (See the [Mask Up MA](#) webpage).
- Carry hand-sanitizer and wash hands thoroughly before eating anything.
- Do not participate if you are feeling unwell, exhibit any [COVID-19 symptoms](#), or if you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19.

FOR THOSE HANDING OUT TREATS

- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before and after preparing treat bags or candy for trick-or-treaters.
- Consider lining up pre-packed treat bags for families to take outside while maintaining social distancing, such as at the end of a driveway or yard.
- Wear [a mask](#) and maintain 6 feet physical distance from any trick-or-treaters.



AVOID THE FOLLOWING HIGH RISK ACTIVITIES

- ✗ Attending crowded indoor costume parties, or any other large indoor gatherings.
- ✗ Going to an indoor haunted house where people may be crowded together and screaming.
- ✗ Participating in activities like hayrides or tractor rides if you cannot socially distance 6 feet from other participants who are not in your household.

Stormwater

How to Properly Get Rid of Fallen Leaves & Yard Waste

Leaves and yard waste **CLOG** storm drains which can cause **FLOODING** and can also be a significant source of stormwater **POLLUTION**.

Leaves, grass clippings, and other debris from your lawn that end up in our **STREETS, SIDEWALKS, and STORM DRAINS** will eventually make their way into local **STREAMS, PONDS, and LAKES** which can cause serious water quality issues like **ALGAE BLOOMS**.

Properly dispose of yard waste by:

- *Mulching into lawns with your mower*
- *Bag for curbside pick-up*
- *Use in compost piles*

Never:

- *Blow into the street*
- *Dump into wetlands or waterbodies*
- *Rake into drainage ditches*
- *Put into regular trash containers*
- *Burn*



However you get rid of leaves and yard waste, make sure you **KEEP THEM OUT OF THE STORM DRAIN**.

For more information on Yard Waste Collection visit the Westford Recycling Commission webpage at: westfordma.gov/recycling

Highway Department

Streetlights are now being managed by the Westford Highway Department. We have completed the replacement of more than 1,100 fixtures. The new LED lights are International Dark Sky Compliant creating less light pollution.

Lights were replaced using a grant opportunity offered by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources, managed by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC).

Please contact us at the Highway Department, 978-692-5520, if you have questions or would like to report a streetlight problem.



Westford Parks & Recreation

Westford Partnership for Children (WPC) After School Enrichment Program

at the Millennium for grades 1-8

For the 2020/2021 school year, a modified Westford Partnership for Children After School Enrichment Program (WPC) will operate at the Millennium Building. The program provides a safe, stimulating and fun environment, Monday through Friday, beginning with school dismissal and running through 5:00 or 5:30 p.m., depending on grade.

Flexible Scheduling

The WPC program offers families the flexibility to register from 1 to 5 days a week. Please note, selected days are for the entire session and may not be changed. If you join a session already in progress, the session fee will be prorated from the day your child attends the program.

Safety

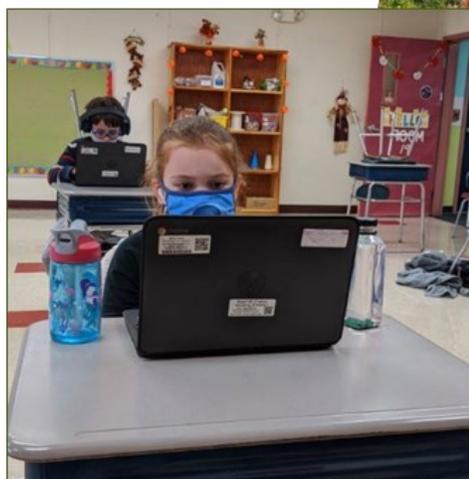
WPC participants will be transported directly from their respective schools to the Millennium Building, ensuring an easy and safe transition from the classroom to the program. The program is aligned with the current health and safety protocols for school reopening, including social distancing, use of masks/face coverings, and mask breaks. In addition, all WPC staff maintain current CPR and First Aid certification.

Support and Socialization with Social Distancing

The WPC program will provide supervised asynchronous learning during afternoon school hours. During this time, staff will be available to offer technical support and help with understanding assignments. Upon completion of the school day, participants will transition to a wide range of after school activities, including homework help, outdoor play, arts & crafts, sports, games and more. WPC at the Millennium allows children to connect with their peers in a safe and meaningful way – we're in this together!

Please call Parks & Recreation with any questions at 987-692-5532.

LEARN MORE | REGISTER at
[Westford Partnership for Children \(WPC\)
After School Enrichment](#)
at the Millennium.



*Study and play
at the Millennium,
October 2020*

Town Clerk's Corner



IN PERSON EARLY VOTING FOR THE NOVEMBER 3rd GENERAL ELECTION

In person early voting will be offered at the former Fire Station, 51 Main Street at the following times:

Saturday, October 17 th	10 am – 2 pm
Sunday, October 18 th	9 am – 1 pm
Monday, October 19 th	8 am – 4 pm
Tuesday, October 20 th	8 am – 4 pm
Wednesday, October 21 st	8 am – 4 pm
Thursday, October 22 nd	8 am – 4 pm
Friday, October 23 rd	8 am – 4 pm
*Saturday, October 24 th	2 pm – 4 pm 6pm – 8 pm
Sunday, October 25 th	9 am – 1 pm
Monday, October 26 th	8 am – 4 pm
Tuesday, October 27 th	8 am – 4 pm
Wednesday, October 28 th	8 am – 4 pm
Thursday, October 29 th	8 am – 4 pm
Friday, October 30 th	8 am – 12 pm

* Last Day to register to vote for the General Election if you are not currently a registered voter in Westford. You may register in person or online at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr/>

NOTE: VOTE BY MAIL IS ONGOING. DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT IS OCTOBER 28TH AT 5 PM.

Special Town Meeting: Saturday, October 17, 2020 (WA Trustees Field) 10:00 AM

Presidential/State Election: Tuesday, November 3, 2020 (Polls will be open 7 am – 8 pm)

WESTFORDMA.GOV/CLERK

Recycling Commission - Fall Dates

ELECTRONICS & MORE COLLECTION

Saturday, November 14, 2020, 9 am – 2 pm

Westford Highway Garage, 28 North Street

Due to the tremendous response we experienced for the September 19, 2020 Electronics & More Collection, surpassing any previous one, we faced significant flow issues resulting in a high time investment for many residents and major traffic problems. This resulted in many residents being turned away or electing to not participate due to the congestion.

The Westford Recycling Commission subsequently worked with Northeast Materials Handling, the Highway Superintendent and the Town Manager to develop a plan which will create a 50% increase in throughput and a greatly modified traffic pattern which will streamline the drop-off process significantly. On September 19, Chip Barrett was the key reason we were able to continue the event as he implemented innovative traffic flow changes allowing it to continue and this experience gave us first-hand knowledge to create the improvements. We greatly look forward to the November 14 event and absolutely appreciate the support of all the wonderful employees we have in the Town of Westford.

Important Covid-19 protocol:

- This is a fee-based collection open to Westford Residents only
- Residents are required to stay in their vehicles and wear masks.
- The Northeast Materials' staff will take the items from the vehicle for them and collect fees from the driver's side window.
 - ◊ Westford utilizes the services of Northeast Materials Handling of Ayer, Massachusetts.
- CASH OR CHECK – No credit cards accepted
 - ◊ Checks should be made out to "Northeast Materials Handling".
- The Town of Westford receives no proceeds from this event arranged by the Westford Recycling Commission.
 - ◊ For acceptable items (free) and chargeable items, check the event brochure at www.westfordma.gov/recycling.



Recycling Commission - Fall Dates

BRUSH CHIPPING EVENT

Saturday, October 17, 2020, 10:30 am – 4:30 pm
at Westford Highway Garage, 28 North Street

Important Covid-19 protocol: Residents are required to wear masks and social distance. Please unload your brush as directed by the Highway Department personnel. **Deposit your \$10 check, payable to the Town of Westford, in the marked container.**

PLEASE NOTE: Proof of Westford residency required.

Accepted: Brush and branches up to 3 inches in diameter and 10 feet in length. Must be average residential brush categories and reasonable amounts: A load ranges from a trunk to pickup truck -----volume, includes tow behind a full trailer.

Not accepted: Building materials (e.g. fences, boards), land clearing materials and debris (e.g., roots, bushes, anything mixed with poison ivy), grass, and leaves.

Cost: \$10 per load, checks only, payable to the Town of Westford, deposited in the marked container.

Please visit www.westfordma.gov/recycling
for your recycling and trash questions.
Reduce! Reuse! Repurpose! Recycle!

