

WESTFORD NEWSLETTER

May 2014



Westford Town Office
1713 Vermont Route 128, Westford, Vermont 05494
Phone (802)878-4587 • Fax (802)879-6503
www.westfordvt.us

Town Office Notes

Property Taxes Due - Final Installment

The final property tax installment is due Thursday, May 15th. Payments postmarked (US postal, UPS, FedEx) by the 15th are considered timely as well as payments placed in the drop box before the office opens on Friday, May 16th. The drop box is located to the left of the town office door. **Please note: any taxes received or postmarked later than the above date will be subject to 1% interest and an 8% penalty.**

Senior Luncheon

May's Spring Luncheon will be on Monday, May 12th. Anyone 55+ is welcome and our numbers have increased monthly. We now offer books and DVD's from our local library as well as magazines and local newspapers for bringing home. Please stop by for a delicious meal at 12:00 noon. For information, call 879-7382. No need to RSVP.

Dogs

If you have not licensed your dog(s) please do so ASAP (licenses were due April 1st). A current rabies certificate is required. If you are unsure if the current certificate is on file, please call the Town Office. For your convenience, you may mail or drop off the fee and rabies certificate along with a self-addressed stamped envelope and we will mail the license to you. The fee is \$16.00 unless your dog is spayed or neutered, in which case the fee is \$13.00.

With warmer weather, we want to remind you to please keep your dog(s) under control at all times either by voice command or restrained by a leash, fence or other appropriate apparatus. Please contact the Dog Warden (Diane Forsey 363-2545) for dog related issues.

Town Office Closed

The Town Office will be closed Monday, May 26th in observance of Memorial Day

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the June Newsletter is 12:00 noon on Tuesday, May 27th.

Spring Yard Clean Up

Spring has arrived! When cleaning up your yard, please keep the following in mind:

- Burn permits are required prior to any burning. Burn permits are available online (www.westfordvt.us), from the Fire Warden (Dennis Angiono, 879-1231) or from the Town Office during regular office hours.
- Yard waste, such as leaves, brush and topsoil are not considered household garbage, therefore Gauthier Trucking will not collect these materials when picking up your garbage. You can compost yard waste or bring it to a participating CSWD drop off center. For a list of centers please visit www.cswd.net.

WESTFORD CEMETERY REMINDERS

Artificial flowers, glass containers and items with wire are NOT allowed in any of the Westford cemeteries. They will be removed by cemetery officials. Also **the planting of trees and shrubs is NOT permitted**. There are signs posted in each cemetery.

Thank you for your cooperation,
Westford Cemetery Commission, Brookside Cemetery Commission, Pleasant View Cemetery Association

*****IMPORTANT*****

**CHANGES TO TOWN NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION
ACTION REQUIRED**

In an effort to save taxpayers money, the Selectboard has decided to change the way the newsletter is distributed. Given today's technology, the newsletter is available electronically by email and on the Town's website, therefore mailing of hard copies will be limited to those who contact the Town Office to request to be put on the mailing list. This change goes into effect for the July Newsletter.

If you currently receive your newsletter in the mail and would like to continue to, please contact the Town Office at 878-4587.

**Westford Volunteer Fire Department
Betty Fay Memorial Scholarship**

We are pleased to announce we are accepting applications for the **2014 Betty Fay Memorial Scholarship**. Applications for this scholarship must be postmarked by May 2, 2014.

At the time of her passing, Betty requested that donations be made to the fire department in her memory. Many of you generously responded to her request, for which we continue to be truly grateful. The Westford Fire Department & Auxiliary set aside these donations to establish a scholarship fund to honor Betty's life and contributions in community service. The scholarship is awarded annually to a qualified graduating Westford high school senior based primarily on their record of achievement in community service, wherever performed. The student receiving this scholarship will also have their name engraved on a plaque commemorating the recipients of the Betty Fay Memorial Scholarship.

Westford students graduating from high school this year should contact Pauline Perry at (H) 878-5606, (W) 878-5932 ext. 6522 or perryrb@aol.com to request a scholarship application form. Please be sure you clearly state your name, mailing address and phone number when leaving a message.

We are very pleased to be able to offer this opportunity and look forward to hearing from you. In this way and many others, Betty was and will continue to be a great blessing to our community. Applications should be mailed to the 2014 Betty Fay Memorial Scholarship, c/o Westford Fire Department, PO Box 54, Westford VT 05494. Thank you for your support!

PLEASANT VIEW CEMETERY

The annual meeting of the Pleasant View Cemetery Association will be held:

Date: Sunday, May 18, 2014

Time: 6.00 PM

Place: Westford Town Library

- To hear reports of officers and committees.
- To elect officers for the coming year.
- To discuss the future of the cemetery.
- To transact any other business deemed necessary.

SCHOOL BOARD NOTES

There are a number of education related issues being discussed by the Legislature. None will be decided until the end of the session yet we thought it would be helpful to update you on these discussions.

Education Property Taxes: The House passed its version of this bill several weeks ago and it is now being considered in the Senate. The House version reduces the base increase in the homestead rate by 3 cents from what was recommended by the Commissioner of Taxes in December. The reduction was made possible by several factors. Proposed school budgets across the state came in lower than projected saving almost a penny. Changes to income sensitivity and the renter rebate program as well as using some one time funding were also used to achieve the 3 cent decrease. There are two other provisions of interest in the bill. The "slope" for those whose household income is over \$90,000 was extended by raising the house value on which some income sensitivity can be claimed to \$250,000. Finally, the bill asks that the legislature move to a financing system that uses a small homestead property tax rate coupled with an income rate to pay for education by 2017.

Education Governance: Three committees in the House have been working for several months on a proposal to change the governance of schools in Vermont. The focus is on larger K-12 districts in hopes that they can increase equity in the quality and variety of educational opportunities available to students. A second purpose is to increase operational efficiencies and sharing of best practices. The bill encourages districts to use the present process and incentives that are available for district realignment. The incentives remain available as long as voters approve a new district prior to 7/1/2017. For those districts that do not achieve realignment, a design team will propose new K-12 districts, will conduct public hearings before and after their preliminary proposal and will present a final proposal to the legislature by 1/1/2018. All districts would be realigned by 2020.

-- There has been a significant change in the bill recently. It now contains provisions that preserve school choice for those districts that currently do not operate schools. This means that a community like Westford would either retain its own school board or be realigned with other districts that offer high school choice. One possibility would be that Essex Town, Essex Junction, and Essex High School would become one district, Westford would remain a district and the two districts would share a superintendent and a supervisory union board.

-- The Senate is working on an entirely different proposal that would reduce the number of supervisory unions and thus the number of superintendents would retain all the present school districts and boards, and would redefine the roles of principals and superintendents.

-- It isn't clear at this time whether any change in governance will become law this year. The discussion has raised many issues about how to best govern schools to create better outcomes and opportunities for students and to operate as efficiently as possible.

-- A lot of information can be found on the legislative website including very interesting information from public hearings on the topic. If the subject interests you, please go to the legislative website (www.leg.state.vt.us) and look for the Standing Committee Web Pages. If you click on the name of the committee (not the blue icon) you can read the materials that have been submitted. In this case you would want to look at the pages for both House Education and House Ways and Means. The House bill number is H.883.

Moratorium on Privatization of a Public School: The Senate passed a bill that would impose a two year moratorium on converting a public school into a private school as was done in North Bennington. When the bill came up for action in the House, some parliamentary maneuvers led to a motion to order the bill to lie. It is unlikely to come up again in the House but the Senate could attach it to a different bill. The bill, S.91, was passed by the Senate in response to the privatization of the public school in North Bennington. Many legislators have questions about using public money to fund schools that don't operate under the same rules and regulations as public schools particularly with regard to admission, special education, and opportunities like Free and Reduced Lunch programs.

Our board will continue to monitor the progress of these bills in the legislature. Our next meeting will be held on May 5th. Please visit the CCUS website at www.ccsuvt.org to review agendas, read minutes and find other interesting information about our school district.

PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY

The Town of Westford is seeking a candidate to fill the position of Planning Commissioner. The Planning Commission is a five member board whose duties include writing the town plan, writing the zoning and subdivision regulations and conducting other studies as necessary. The Planning Commission meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month with a special meeting date of the 1st Wednesday of the month, to be held if necessary due to work load.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Melissa Manka, Planning Coordinator, at 878-4587 or planner@westfordvt.us. Applications are available at the Town Office and Town Website (www.westfordvt.us) or can be emailed by request.

THINGS EVERY PROPERTY OWNER SHOULD KNOW ABOUT...

THE WATER RESOURCE OVERLAY DISTRICT

&

FLOOD HAZARD OVERLAY DISTRICT

The Town of Westford has a Water Resource Overlay District and Flood Hazard Overlay District. The purpose of these districts is to protect water quality, public health, safety and welfare. Please note that these districts could affect the use of your property. ALL property owners should be aware of the district(s) location as well as the uses and restrictions in the district(s).

Please review **Map 5 (Water Resources, Wetlands & Floodplains) of the Town Plan** to determine whether your property contains locally regulated water resources or floodplains. It is important to note that the Water Resource Overlay boundaries are determined by the Town using the best available data and the Flood Hazard Overlay boundaries are determined by the State and Federal governments. It is also important to note that 2009 brought about changes to both these boundaries. Town Plan Maps can be viewed on the Town website www.westfordvt.us or at the Town Office.

Once you have determined whether your property is located in the Water Resource Overlay and/or Flood Hazard Overlay, you should familiarize yourself with the regulations associated with these districts. Below is a summary of the regulations for each district. A complete copy of the regulations can be reviewed on the Town website at www.westfordvt.us or at the Town Office. We highly recommend you review the regulations in their entirety if you own property in either of these districts.

Water Resource Overlay District Regulations Summary:

Permitted Uses:

- Low impact forms of recreation
- Snowmobiling
- Agricultural operations conducted in accordance with the VT Accepted Agricultural Practices
- Logging conducted in accordance with the VT Acceptable Management Practices for Maintaining Water Quality
- Maintenance of existing lawn or open land
- Use and maintenance of man-made ponds
- Reforestation projects
- Control of non-native species
- Wastewater systems and potable water systems permitted by the State of VT

Conditional Uses:

- Construction of man-made ponds
- Construction of public facilities, infrastructure & services
- Construction of boardwalks
- Construction or expansion of private driveways, private roads or private bridges

- Construction of public or private trails greater than 4 ft in width
- Seasonal use, non-permanent arrangements such as docks, gazebos, etc.

Prohibited Uses:

- Cutting vegetation, such as trees or shrubs, except for logging operations in accordance with VT Acceptable Management Practices for Maintaining Water Quality
- Manipulation of water or shoreline such as excavating, dredging, draining and filling
- Construction of permanent structures
- Installation of underground power and communication lines, unless located under a DRB approved roadway
- Storage of hazardous materials

Please note: State and/or Federal permits may be required in addition to Town permits if disturbing, developing in or developing near a water resource.

Flood Hazard Overlay District Summary:

Ultimately, the Flood Hazard Overlay District is a no build and no fill zone. However, new accessory structures (which meet flood hazard definition of an accessory structure), roadways and substantial improvements of existing structures are allowed with conditional use approval.

Please feel free to contact Kate Lalley, Zoning Administrator (zoning_admin@westfordvt.us), or Melissa Manka, Planning Coordinator (planner@westfordvt.us) with questions or concerns.

Note: The Town of Westford does not delineate boundaries or locations of Class two wetlands. Therefore, individuals should contact the State of Vermont Department of Environmental Protection with wetland concerns and questions.

MOVING EARTH? YOU MAY NEED A PERMIT....

If you plan to move a large amount of earth by means of excavation or fill please contact Kate Lalley, Zoning Administrative, prior to doing so. You may need to apply for a zoning permit pursuant to Section 4.1 of the Zoning Regulations. This regulation is in place to ensure that excavation and fill does not impact the Water Resource Overlay District (streams, ponds & wetlands) and/or the Flood Hazard Overlay District. Furthermore, it ensures that proper erosion control measures are taken during land development and commercial excavation does not occur without the proper permits in place. If you have questions or would like to know whether your property is located in the Water Resource Overlay and/or Flood Hazard Overlay Districts please contact Kate Lalley, Zoning Administrative (zoning_admin@westfordvt.us) or Melissa Manka, Planning Coordinator (planner@westfordvt.us) at 878-4587 or by email.

BUILDING? YOU MAY NEED A PERMIT....

If you plan on building a *structure* you will need to first apply for a zoning permit. The permit is required to ensure the *structure* conforms to the Town Zoning Regulations (district setbacks, uses, etc). A *structure* is defined as an "Assembly of materials for occupancy or use that is a minimum of 100 square feet in size *OR* is on a permanent foundation, including but not limited to, a building; sign; wall or fence, except a wall or fence on an operating farm, or a wall or fence less than 6 feet in height." Also, please be aware that interior work such as finishing basements or attics, adding bedrooms, etc. may also need a zoning permit. If you have questions and/or would like to apply for a zoning permit, please contact Kate Lalley, Zoning Administrative, at 878-4587 or zoning_admin@westfordvt.us.

CARING FOR YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM

Septic systems are very much like automobiles. They need periodic inspections and proper maintenance to continue working properly. Also, like automobiles, they must be operated properly and cannot be overtaxed without the owner suffering consequences such as repair or replacement bills.

WHAT TO DO

- **HAVE YOUR SEPTIC TANK PUMPED** every 2 to 5 years by a seepage hauler. At the same time, the tank should be inspected for leaks or damage to baffles and pipes. Any leaks or damage should be repaired immediately. This is not a do-it-yourself job. You should, however, check the level of sewage scum and sludge in the tank yearly.
- Each spring, after the frost is out of the ground, check your leachfield for wet spots. You should also **INSPECT THE DISTRIBUTION BOX (AND PUMP OR SIPHON CHAMBER if you have one)** to make sure they are level. If these components are not level, the leachfield will not receive even distribution and the siphon or pump may not function properly. It may be necessary to call a designer or installer to reset and repair these components or any shifted or broken piping going in or out of them.
- Several times each year (set up a regular schedule) **INSPECT THE SIPHON OR PUMP** – if your system has one. Observe the operation of at least one cycle. Run water in the house until the chamber is filled and the siphon or pump activates. If the chamber does not fill or does not empty and fill to the specified levels, then servicing is required.

WHAT NOT TO DO

An absorption field generally does not require any maintenance. However, to protect and prolong the life of the absorption field, follow these simple rules:

- Plant only grass over and near your septic system. Roots from nearby trees or shrubs may clog and damage the absorption field.
- Do not drive or park over any part of your septic system. This can compact the soil and crush your system.
- Direct all wastewater from your home into the septic tank. This includes all sink, bath, shower, toilet, washing machine, and dishwasher wastewaters. Any of these wastewaters can contain disease-causing microorganisms or environmental pollutants.
- Keep roof drains, basement sump pump drains, and other rainwater or surface water drainage systems away from the absorption field. Flooding of the absorption field with excessive water will keep the soil from naturally cleansing the wastewater, which can lead to groundwater and/or nearby surface pollution.

SEPTIC SYSTEM HEALTH TIPS

- Conserve water to avoid overloading the septic system. Be sure to repair any leaky faucets or toilets. Use low-flow fixtures.
- Do not use caustic drain openers for a clogged drain. Instead, use boiling water or a drain snake to open clogs.
- Do not use septic tank additives, commercial septic tank cleansers, yeast, sugar, etc. These products are not necessary and some may be harmful to your system.
- Use commercial bathroom cleansers and laundry detergents in moderation. Many people prefer to clean their toilets, sinks, showers, and tubs with mild detergent or baking soda.
- Your septic system is not a trash can. Do not put disposable diapers, sanitary napkins, tampons, paper towels, facial tissues, plastics, cat litter, or cigarettes into your septic system. These items quickly fill your septic tank with solids, decrease the efficiency, and will require that you pump out the septic tank more frequently. They may also clog the sewer line to the septic system causing wastewater to back up into your home.
- Avoid dumping grease or fats down your kitchen drain. They solidify and the accumulation may contribute to blockages in your system.
- Keep latex paint, varnishes, thinners, waste oil, photographic solutions, pesticides, or other hazardous chemicals out of your system. Even in small amounts, these items can destroy the biological digestion taking place within your septic system.

If you would like more information or a copy of your septic system plans please contact Melissa Manka, Planning Coordinator, or Kate Lalley, Zoning Administrator, at the Town Office (878-4587).

WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

<http://westfordpubliclibrary.org>

(802) 878-5639

westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

1717 VERMONT ROUTE 128, WESTFORD VT 05494



5th and 6th grade students at the Westford School have been reading Wonder. Parents of those students (and anyone else in the community) are encouraged to read this powerful and amazing book, the Vermont Humanities Council's 2014 Book of the Year. Multiple copies are available to check out. We will be hosting a multi-age book discussion Wednesday, May 21 from 7-8pm. All who have read the book are encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Library Hours

Wednesday:	1-7pm
Thursday:	10am-6pm
Friday:	1-7pm
Saturday:	10am-2pm

May is "Maker" Month at the Westford Public Library!

What is a "maker"? Simply, someone who makes something. Maker culture is a technology-based extension of DIY culture. Typical interests include electronics, robotics, 3-D printing, as well as traditional activities such as metalworking, wood-working, and arts and crafts. "Makers" stress new and unique applications of technologies, and encourage invention and prototyping. There is a strong focus on using and learning practical skills and applying them creatively.

So... we are presenting Jeffrey Pierce and David Howell and their project "IN.C" on Friday, May 23 from 7-9pm.

"in.c is designed to allow anyone, regardless of musical ability, to join in a performance of Terry Riley's landmark minimalist composition, In C. Riley wrote this piece as set of 53 musical phrases to be played sequentially, but repeated an arbitrary number of times. In this way, each performance unfolds uniquely, according to the collective whimsy of the ensemble." Using a combination of artistry and arduino technology, in.c has delighted participants at Burlington City Arts, UVM, and the Art Hop. Reception and refreshments to follow.

We are pleased to announce that we won a "maker" grant - more to follow.

Pajama Storytime - Last One until Fall!

Wednesday, May 28 6-7pm

Theme: Science!

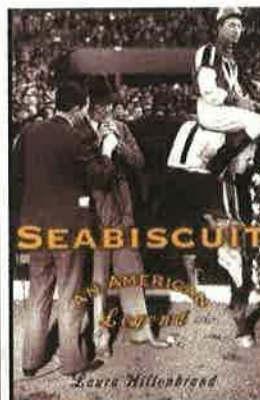
Come hear fun stories about science and get excited for this year's summer reading theme: Fizz, Boom, Read!

Come dressed in your PJs for a good time!

We'll read stories and do a craft.



Book Group Discussion



Wednesday, May 14, 6pm

Seabiscuit: An American Legend

By: Laura Hillenbrand

Seabiscuit was one of the most popular attractions in sports history and the single biggest newsmaker in the world in 1938. But his success was a surprise to the racing establishment, which had written off the crooked-

legged racehorse with the sad tail. Three men changed Seabiscuit's fortunes: Charles Howard was a bicycle repairman who introduced the automobile to the western United States and became a millionaire. Tom Smith, a mysterious mustang breaker from the Colorado plains. His jockey, Red Pollard, was a failed boxer who was blind in one eye, half-crippled, and prone to quoting passages from Ralph Waldo Emerson. Over four years, these unlikely partners transformed Seabiscuit into an American sports icon. Laura Hillenbrand, author of *Unbroken*, brilliantly re-creates a universal underdog story. (amazon.com)

Extra Copies Available at the Librarian's Desk.
Next Month: *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*

Early Literacy Storytime : Birth to Pre-School Every Thursday at 11am No registration required!

5/1/14: Theme: Snakes

5/8/14: Theme: Flowers

5/15/14: Theme: Gardens

5/22/14: Theme: New Books

5/29/14: Theme: Cars and Trucks

Storytime consists of several stories around a theme, as well as a theme-based craft. All ages and levels of attention are encouraged to come. Don't worry if they fidget - they are still getting a lot out of it!

The WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY provides access to materials, technology, reference services and programs to meet the informational, educational, and recreational needs of the Westford community.

WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

<http://westfordpubliclibrary.org>

(802) 878-5639 ♦ westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

May Library Events

May 7 - Trustees Meeting 7-9pm

May 8 - Medical Mission to Haiti - Talk given by Kristy and Lily Trask 7-9pm.

May 10 - Welcome Baby Tea - 10-11:30am. RSVP appreciated

May 14 - Book discussion 6-7pm, Seabiscuit

May 16 - Older Kid Craft Night - Paper Spheres (drop off 9+ ok)

May 21 - Multi-age book discussion 7-8pm, Wonder. Especially geared towards 5-6 graders and their parents, all welcome.

May 23 - Maker night - Kick-off presentation: In.C - 7-9pm. Refreshments served.

May 28 - PJ Storytime 6-7pm. Theme: Science - Wear your PJs!

Storytime every Thursday 11am

Tai Chi every Monday and Wednesday from 11:15 to 12:15 starting 3/12/14

Haiti Medical Missions Trip



Presented by Kristy and Lily Trask

**Thursday, May 8th
7-9pm**

Pictures, slide show and discussion. Come see our pictures and share our experiences about our life changing trip. Refreshments will be served.

The Building Bright Futures Playgroup meets at the Library Mondays from 9:00-10:30am. Contact Abby at abbybbf@myfairpoint.net for more info.



Westford Welcome Baby Tea

May 10, 10:00-11:30am

Do you have a child born March 2013-March 2014?

The Library dedicates a book to every child in Westford! What will your

child's be? Invitations went out in April, if you do not get one, please contact Bree with your child's information.

There will be refreshments, a GREAT raffle, lots of prizes and fun!

Co-Sponsored by the Westford Rec Dept and Building Bright Futures.

Please RSVP to Bree at the library ASAP.

Older Kid Craft Night - Paper Spheres

Friday, May 16 - 6-7pm

Drop off 9+ is ok, younger kids bring an adult



Channel your inner "maker" as we learn how to make a sphere from flat paper. Because of the complexity of this craft, younger crafters will need hands on assistance.

WE WANT TO DELIVER YOU BOOKS!

We have funding to provide outreach services to FIVE childcare providers in Westford. You DO NOT need to be a registered daycare - just provide care to at least 2 children that are not your own. Perfect for grandparents, friends or neighbors. Contact Bree to sign up. No names, just numbers, will be given to the granting agency!

The Westford Public Library is now accepting **donations** of books, audiobooks, and DVDs for our annual Fourth of July Book Sale. Please make sure items are in GOOD condition - clean and free of mold. **Ask yourself - would I loan this to a friend?** We do not accept textbooks, encyclopedias, magazines, VHS or cassette tapes, music CDs, or old travel guides.

The WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY provides access to materials, technology, reference services and programs to meet the informational, educational, and recreational needs of the Westford community.

MISSION STATEMENT

May 2014

The Westford Recreation Department was created to provide recreational, educational, athletic, cultural, and entertainment activities to all Westford residents and neighbors. We strive to offer programs for a wide variety of ages, abilities and interests. We depend on community input, support and volunteers to make these programs successful.

Coordinator's Corner-

Thank you to the Adams Family and all the other volunteers that help make the Ice Rink on the Common possible each year! We had a banner skating season and are ever grateful to the community members that keep the rink going so that you can enjoy free skating on the Common all winter long!

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE sign up your children for the upcoming Nature Camp and Summer Soccer Camp. We need to know if we are going to have enough children to run the programs, so that the families that have signed up can make plans. MANY community members asked for summer programs in Westford, so now that it is here, we NEED you to sign your kids up! May 15th is the deadline for the Nature Camp and you only need to pay a \$25 deposit at this time. Thank you for cooperating. As always, you can contact me at (c) 338-8235 or WestfordVTRec@gmail.com.

Yours in Recreation~ Heather Armata



Our Next Committee Meeting is May 20th. Please let us know if you would like to attend, and we'll put you on the agenda! Thanks!

LOOKING FOR.....

1. Someone to Volunteer to Create a Website for our Rec Dept. (High School or College Student?)
 2. Coaches for Summer Soccer (Pre-K to Grade 2...no Experience needed)
 3. Coaches for Summer T-Ball (Pre-k to Grade 2..No Experience Needed)
- Email Heather if you can help!!!!

THANK YOU to ALL the businesses that donated towards the Annual Egg Hunt goodie bags!! It was cold and wet but the kids had a blast! Thank you to committee member Maureen Carpenter for organizing the event.....we appreciate it!



Week Long Summer Soccer Camp...July 7th to July 11th!!

The Rec Dept. is hosting a summer soccer camp for 5 days, from 8:30 until 11:30am, for Boys and Girls in Grades 3-6. Coach Asa Hoover is back and excited for this program! Registration fee is \$55 for the week. Start sending in your registration forms now to secure your child's spot!!! Drop off at town office or scan and email it to

WestfordVTRec@gmail.com!! We also NEED parent volunteers to stay during the sessions, as supervisors, not coaches. If you are parent, and can supervise a morning, or afternoon session (or a couple), email me ASAP. It will only run if we can get parent volunteers!! Email Heather at WestfordVTRec@gmail.com or call 338-8235

facebook

Want to stay up to date on Rec Happenings? Like our Rec Dept page on Facebook or sign up for Front Porch Forum. You will be in the know!!



front porch forum™
HELPING NEIGHBORS CONNECT

Recreation Department Committee Members

Heather Armata, Coordinator	338-8235	George Lamphere	879-6488
Maureen Carpenter	893-5096	Randy Aiken	872-0841
Noel Boutin	878-3632	Meredith Irish	373-9980
Martha Bennett	878-9269		

Or Email us at: WestfordVTRec@gmail.com

KEEPING YOUR ACTIVITIES LOCAL AND AFFORDABLE!!!



Integral YOGA w/ Tiffany @ RBMH
Every **WEDNESDAY** evening, now from 6:30-8pm at the Red Brick Meeting House. \$13 drop-in fee; \$100 for 10-class punch card.

Contact Tiffany at tiffshannon@gmail.com.
Watch Front Porch Forum for updates/cancellations.



Pick-up Adult Volleyball!!!

When: **Monday** evenings

Where: The Westford Elementary School

Time: 8:00-10:00pm

Fee: \$2 donation per player suggested

Contact: Tammy Brown 872-8333

We are **LOOKING** for **MORE** players! All abilities welcome!!!



YOGA with

Cat Earisman @ RBMH

Cat Earisman, E-RYT will be coming to the

RBMH on **THURSDAY** evenings to teach Flow Yoga! Breathe, stretch, strengthen and laugh in this athletic style of yoga---all abilities welcome, because everyone is encouraged to work at their own level. Class will be held from 6:15-7:30, and you can prepay for the month for \$40, or drop in for \$12.



ZUMBA
fitness

ZUMBA FITNESS CLASSES are HERE!

Tuesdays at the RBMH from 6-7:00pm

Fee: \$5/Class and your **First class is FREE!**

Zumba fitness is the Latin inspired dance fitness class that has taken the world by storm. No fitness or dance experience required. Let Stephanie take you through great music & fun moves that will get your heart moving. Modifications available for all fitness levels. Drop-in class...no pre-registration required!

Welcome Baby Tea

Do you have a baby that was born between April 2013 and March 2014? If so, join us on May 10th from 10:00 until 11:30 at the Westford Public Library for a Welcome Baby Tea! Come meet other families with children of the same age, enjoy good food and drink, be entered to win prizes, and view the book dedicated in honor of your child; a long-standing tradition of Westford Public Library! Invitations were mailed, so if you are new to Westford, or just had your little bundle, please contact Bree Drapa, Librarian, so that she can get your address and child's information. This event is co-sponsored by the



Westford Public Library and Building Bright Futures. Any additional questions, email Heather at WestfordVTRec@gmail.com or call 802-338-8235.

Save the Dates!!

6/15/14—Father's Day Hike on the Schultz Trail— Come join us for a nice hike on one of Westford's nicest trails! We will meet at 10:00am at the



Shultz Trail off of Old #11 Road. Hike at your own pace and celebrate Father's Day with your friends and neighbors. Co-sponsored with the Conservation Commission.

4th of July Celebration!

The Perfect Scoop Shop will be back on the Common selling ice cream



and water. **NEW THIS YEAR...4th of July, 4 mile Run or Walk for \$4!** Start location TBD and start time will be 8:30am. A great way to get your 4th of July celebration started!

DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR A NEW REC PROGRAM? CONTACT US!!!



Westford Summer Camp

@ The Westford Elementary School

Theme: Nature and Outdoor Activities

JUNE 23—27, 2014

Daily 8:30-4:30pm

Ages: 5-12

\$165/5 Days & 10% sibling discount per each additional child

minimum 6 kids to run program

registration due May 15th

Tentative Daily Schedule:

8:30-9:00 Welcome Time

9:00-10:00 Daily meeting to explore themes

10-10:30 Healthy Snack (provided)

10:30-12:00 Outside exploration

12-12:30 Lunch

12:30- 1:00 Reading of Themed materials

1:00-3:00 Outdoor games & free play

3:00-3:30 Healthy Snack (provided)

3:30-4:30 Craft & Free Choice

4:30 pick up

Daily Themes; Morning/Afternoon:

Meadow Exploration/Water Games

Predator & Prey/Olympic Games

Birds/Obstacle Courses

River Exploration/Soccer, Kickball

Nature Art/Native American Games

Policies:

* Healthy snacks include carrots and hummus, crackers and cheese, homemade muffins, nuts and berries, juice and water

*** \$25 non-refundable deposit due at time of registration and is applied toward your full week tuition**

* Registration is on a first come, first served basis

* Full registration is due one week before the start of camp, or your space will be forfeited and given to the next person on the waitlist

* If enrollment is less than minimum amount allowed, and the camp is cancelled, you will be reimbursed your deposit and any monies paid toward tuition.

About your Instructor:

Naturalist and educator Sarah Stein M.Ed. creates experiences that allow your children to use their senses within nature, developing a relationship with their local environment. Nature serves as a tool, to achieve passionate enjoyment, creativity and engagement, which are a springboard for life.



Mail your registration form to; Westford Recreation Dept., 1173 VT Route 128, Westford, VT 05494 with checks made payable to the Westford Recreation Dept. Questions?? Call Heather at 338-8235 or email WestfordVTRec@gmail.com

WESTFORD RECREATION DEPARTMENT – REGISTRATION FORM

NAME (Parents) _____

ADDRESS _____ TOWN _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS (only to be used for WRD mailings) _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELL/WORK PHONE _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____ PHONE _____

DOCTOR'S NAME _____ PHONE _____

Please list **medical conditions**, physical limitations, allergies, or restrictions WRD should be aware of:

NAME	PROGRAM	GRADE	T-SHIRT SIZE	FEE
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL:				_____

How did you hear about this program? Please circle: Front Porch Forum Town Newsletter

Parent/Neighbor Westford Elementary School VTGrandpa.com Rec Dept. Member Other _____

*****Please contact a Recreation Department member if your financial situation is preventing you from signing yourself, or your child, up for a program. Scholarships are available.*****

RELEASE/WAVIER AGREEMENT:

I am fully aware of the inherent risk, and give my consent for the above named applicant(s) to participate in the program(s) listed above. I hold harmless the Town of Westford, Westford School, their employees, elected officials, and/or any volunteers or instructors from any and all liability from any injury, claim, costs or loss of services which may be incurred by me, or us, or our minor children on account of participation in said program(s). Permission is hereby granted for me or us, or my child(ren) to receive emergency treatment if needed and I authorize the attending physician to administer any needed medical attention. Furthermore, I certify that I, or we, or my child(ren) are in good health and that there are no limitations to my/our participation except in writing above. I have read this document carefully and sign it voluntarily with full knowledge of its significance.

Signature _____ Date _____

**Send registration with check payable to:
WESTFORD RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Town of Westford, 1713 VT Rt.128, Westford, VT 05494**



SOUP N' CHOCOLATE SUPPER

SATURDAY, May 3rd, 5-7PM
BRICK MEETING HOUSE, RTE 128, WESTFORD

Soup, Chili, Salad, Artisan Bread, **Chocolate** desserts

SILENT AUCTION

Great Prizes

ADULTS \$8, CHILDREN \$5(over 5 years),
\$25 Max for family

Benefit: UCW White Church Preservation fund



UNITED CHURCH OF WESTFORD MAY SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 3, 5-7pm - Soup and Chocolate Supper at the Brick Meeting House
Sunday, May 4, 8:30am - Traditional worship service with Rev. Katherine Arthaud
Sunday, May 11, 8:30am - Alternative service with Pat Hechmer, "Healing through the lens of homeopathy."

All are welcome!