



WESTFORD NEWSLETTER

October 2015

Westford Town Office

1713 Vermont Route 128, Westford, Vermont 05494

Phone (802)878-4587 • Fax (802)879-6503

www.westfordvt.us

School Merger Vote - Important Dates

- **Voter Registration Deadline, October 28th (Wednesday)** – 5:00 p.m. deadline to submit an application for addition to the voter checklist, or to file a written notice of intent to apply for those who are not eligible to register to vote but will be by voting day, November 3rd. Applications are available at the Town Office or on the Secretary of State's website (<https://www.sec.state.vt.us/elections/voters/registration.aspx>).
- **Absentee Ballot Deadline, November 2nd (Monday)** – 5:00 p.m. deadline. Last day a voter, or an authorized person on behalf of a voter, may request an absentee ballot. If you want to vote by absentee ballot you may request one now by calling the Town Office (878-4587) or sending an email (townclerk@westfordvt.us).
- **November 3rd (Tuesday)** – Voting day at the Westford School in the gym. Polls will be open 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

If you have any questions concerning the school merger vote, please contact the town office at 878-4587 or townclerk@westfordvt.us.

Selectboard FY'16 Budget Workshops

The Selectboard will begin working on the FY'17 budget in October. Workshops will be held on:

- October 8th & 22nd
- November 12th & 24th
- December 10th & 22nd

If needed, additional meetings will be held. The Board encourages residents to attend these meetings to provide feedback to assist the Board in developing a budget to be voted on in March 2016. A joint informational meeting with the School Board will be held in January to present the proposed town and school budgets before finalizing them for the vote in March.

Senior Luncheon

Our October luncheon will be on October 12th. Our September luncheon had a very small turnout. We have been watching our numbers go down since last spring. We're not sure why this is happening. If anyone has any suggestions that would improve our attendance, I would appreciate hearing from you. Also, if you know someone that hasn't been coming, but should be, try to bring them with you.

On another note, I want to thank Dave Adams for the chickens he donated to us for our last luncheon. It was greatly appreciated. Our volunteers cook, work, set up and tear down each month. We would love to have some new helpers join us. We put out a notice on Front Porch Forum of our need and did have 2 new residents sign up. We could still use more. If you are home on Mondays, and would like to work with us, please call me. There isn't any kind of commitment to helping every Monday. Caroline Brown sends out the menu and items needed and we sign up for the item we will bring. If you can't come to that particular day, you just don't sign up. You might want to give us a heads up that you won't be able to attend that particular day, but it's that simple. We are also looking for a gentleman that can set up the tables the morning of the luncheon. Caroline has been doing it "forever" and Ann Drinkwine has said she could come and help her, but the ideal situation would be a strong man to do it for us, at least some of the time. Nothing is a commitment for every time.

See you in October,

Carol Howrigan, President
878-3090

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the November Newsletter is 12:00 noon on Monday, October 26th.

HEAR IT FIRST ON THE FRONT PORCH FORUM

If you have not joined the Westford Front Porch Forum, please consider doing so. Everyone is invited to participate and it's free! This is a great way to connect with neighbors and the community.

Check it out at www.FrontPorchForum.com!

This community service is brought to you by Burlington residents Michael and Valerie Wood-Lewis.



REMINDER! Please see the announcement in the newsletter concerning the Jackson Farm and Forest Trail Walk on Saturday, October 17 at 12:45 p.m. It would be wonderful to see as many Westfordians there as possible to show interest and support for preserving this property as an integral part of the Town of Westford. See you there!

UNITED CHURCH OF WESTFORD OCTOBER SCHEDULE

October 4 & 11, 8:30am: Traditional Services with Rev. Katherine Arthaud officiating

LEAVE YOUR MARK ON OUR VILLAGE LANDMARK! HELP SUPPORT THE HISTORICAL WHITE CHURCH STEEPLE

Westford, we need your help! Our landmark building, The White Church, has stood the test of time since 1840. For 175 years it has been the point of reference for our town. The building was built well, but has needed critical repairs. The mast of the spire that supports the weather vane was rotting from leaks at the peak. The mast and the beams that support it have been repaired. While the spire is off of the church, we have the opportunity to expand the job we originally contracted for to include the flashing at the base of the lantern. This makes sense to do NOW, as it will be difficult to get to and more expensive to repair once the spire is back on the building. We needed \$5,500. \$1,300 of this has been raised.

Add your name to the spire! Please donate to help us restore and preserve this community space we count on for gatherings of music, meetings, and services. For a minimum of \$100 you can sign your name to a board that will be secured in the steeple. LEAVE YOUR MARK on our village LANDMARK and help support the steeple.

United Church of Westford, PO Box 53, Westford, VT 05494

PLANNING COMMISSION NEWS

During the past few years, in response to public opinion, the Planning Commission has updated the Town Plan and re-drafting the zoning and subdivision regulations in order to lay the foundation that could support and encourage increased economic activity, including a market, shops, eatery, and moderately priced housing options that residents indicate they want to see built in the Town Center area.

However, even with a new Town Plan and zoning regulations designed to encourage this type of growth, there is still one big obstacle that will prevent such development from happening at all: the lack of wastewater capacity. Worse yet, the current wastewater situation in the Town Center is dire. Not only does the Town lack capacity for future uses, it runs the risk of losing the limited capacity it already has. The septic system serving the Town Office and Library is inadequate and running on “borrowed time.”

The Planning Commission has been working on trying to find alternatives to the current wastewater situation. A 2008 feasibility study identified potential community wastewater locations in the Town Center Area. Unfortunately, after further study, most of those areas proved unsuitable for a community wastewater site. However, one of the locations---the Jackson Farm on Brookside Road--- has proven to be an exceptionally good location for a sizable amount of wastewater capacity. In May, 2015, the owners of the Jackson Farm approached the Town with an opportunity to buy part of the farm property, which contains soils very well suited for a community wastewater system.

The Planning Commission believes this is an opportunity well worth pursuing for the many potential benefits to the Town. While there are still many questions to explore and answer about costs, timing, and the specifics of how such a land transfer might occur, there is a volunteer group of residents who are currently exploring various options as to how the Town might be able to be involved in the acquisition of such property. In fact, there will be an organized walk of the forest land on the Jackson Farm on October 17th. It will be the first of several public opportunities to find out more about this project. Look for notice on Front Porch Forum and in this Newsletter. In addition, the Planning Commission has set up a page on the Town's website where you can find more information about the process and the potential benefits to the Town.

<http://westfordvt.us/westford-town-center-community-wastewater-project/>

Westford Planning Commission:

Jeremy Berger (Chair), Wendy Doane, Seth Jensen, Gordon Gebauer, Mark Letorney

WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

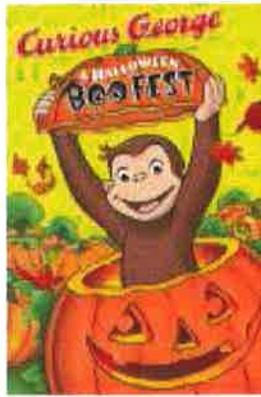
http://westfordpubliclibrary.org

(802) 878-5639

westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

1717 VERMONT ROUTE 128, WESTFORD VT 05494

**The Westford Public Library and
VTPBS presents:
Curious George: Boofest!
Saturday, October 24
10:30am - Noon**



We will watch this hour long, not so scary, Halloween special, do a craft, and enjoy Boonana splits! Come in costume if you want.



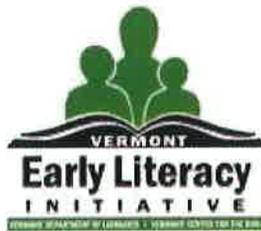
**Mask Making and Halloween Carnival
Saturday, Oct 31 10:30-Noon**

Wear your costume and have a ghoulish good time!

Mask making in the Library and NEW this year, a Halloween carnival with games and spooky obstacles on the Common! All participants get a goodie bag! Co-sponsored by the Rec. Dept.

**VELI Training for FFNs (Friend, Family & Neighbor)
Thurs., Oct. 22 7-9pm at the Milton Public Library
Register by calling MPL at 893-4644.**

VELI (the old "Mother Goose") is hosting a training to get non-registered child care providers (friends, family, neighbors) who care for young children up to speed on the latest authors and literacy techniques, math terms, emotional issues, etc. Westford residents are encouraged to attend. FREE BOOKS AND TOYS!!!

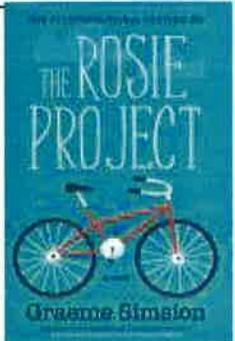


Library Hours

**Wednesday: 1-7pm
Thursday: 10am-7pm
Friday: 1-7pm
Saturday: 10am-2pm
Closing at 6pm on Thurs. 10/22**

Adult Book Group Restarting!!!

**Wed. Oct. 21 7-8pm
Pick up your books now at the front desk! PLEASE join us - we NEED new people! We will be reading The Rosie Project**



**Project, a fun, quirky novel about a scientist experimenting with his love life. (There's already a sequel out and talk of a movie)
November's book: Still Life by Louise Penny**

PJ STORYTIME

**Wed. Oct. 28, 6:30-7:30pm
Theme: Halloween**

Wear your PJs or costume and come listen to spooky stories and do a craft. Great for those who have aged out of morning storytime or who are in school during the day.



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

10/1/15: Theme: Apples

10/8/15: Theme: Pumpkins

10/15/15: Theme: I Love the Letter "H"

10/22/15: Theme: Not so Scary Monsters

10/29/15: Theme: Halloween (wear your costume!)

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

October Library Events

- October 7 - Trustees Meeting 7-9pm
- October 14 - Introduction to EFT 7-9pm, refreshments served
- October 16 - Art Opening: Quilts of Pat Hechmer 7-8pm, refreshments served
- October 21 - Book Group: The Rosie Project 7-8pm, refreshments served
- October 22 - CLOSING EARLY AT 6PM
- October 22 - VELI FFN class at Milton Public Library (open to Westford folks)- 7-9pm Contact the library for more info.
- October 24 - Curious George BOOfest! With VTPBS 10:30-Noon - movie, craft, and boonana splits!
- October 28 - PJ Storytime 6:30-7:30
- October 31 - DIY Mask and Halloween Carnival 10:30-11:30am

Playgroup every Monday 9:30am
Tai Chi every Mon&Wed 11:15am
Crazy 8's Club K-2 - Wednesdays
Crazy 8's Club 3-5 - Thursdays
Storytime every Thursday 11am

Art Opening: Quilts by Pat Hechmer
Friday, October 16 7-8pm
Refreshments served

Pat's lovely quilts will grace the walls of the library for the next three months. Come meet the artist herself and learn how she makes her lovely quilts.



Introduction to EFT (or "Tapping")
With Kim Guidry
Wednesday, October 14 - 7-9pm
Refreshments served.

Learn the simple process of tapping, a healing method to release stress, fear, anxiety and feel yourself move into greater self expression, balance and happiness. Tapping utilizes the body's energy meridian points by stimulating them with your fingertips – literally tapping into your body's own energy and healing power. Participants will learn the process and practice the technique throughout the evening so they leave feeling comfortable using it on their own. No experience necessary. Join us!

"Put away your skepticism, this really works." Wayne Dwyer

It's Here!!

Crazy 8's Math Club!!!

Weekly Starting in October

TURN IN YOUR PERMISSION SLIPS!

Grades K-2 - Wednesdays (10/7) FULL

Grades 3-5 - Thursdays (10/8) 2 spots

Bus transport provided from school, pickup at Library 4:30-5:00pm

Crazy 8s is an afterschool Math Club sponsored by Bedtime Math. There will be two clubs: grades K-2 and 3-5. This is a FUN, exciting enrichment opportunity. Clubs will be led by fantastic moderators and follow an action packed curriculum.

More information will be given to those who sign up. Your child needs to be able to attend all classes - best behavior expected.

MATH WILL NEVER BE THE SAME!

Permission slips emailed home to families - contact Bree if you have not received one.



The Library is **not accepting** donations of books, audiobooks, and DVDs at this time for our annual Fourth of July Book Sale. We will begin accepting donations again in the late winter/early spring. Thank you to community for all your wonderful support!

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.

IMPORTANT UNIFICATION VOTE DATES

- October 28, 5:00pm – Voter Registration deadline
- November 2, 5:00pm—Absentee ballot deadline
- Informational meeting on Monday, November 2 at 7:00pm, Westford School
- Voting by Australian Ballot on Tuesday, November 3 from 7:00am to 7:00pm at Westford School

All RED Study Committee materials can be found at <https://redstudy.wordpress.com/>. Additional community forums will be held in October. Watch the website or Front Porch Forum for details.

Additional archived Q&A for Westford-specific questions can be found at <http://westfordboard.blogspot.com/>.

SCHOOL BOARD NOTES, OCTOBER 2015

As our town debates the merits of school unification with Essex Junction and Essex Town, I feel it is important to provide a perspective on how we arrived at this decision and why the board voted to take a public position in support of unification.

Two years ago at town meeting, our community asked the board to form a Sustainability Committee to look at the long term viability of the Westford School. Education property taxes were rising sharply despite decreasing budgets. Tax rates follow on our “spending per pupil”, and, with a shrinking student population, budget cuts alone could not reverse this trend. We voiced our concerns to legislators in a public forum and open letter signed by hundreds of Westford voters on Town Meeting Day. Our budget failed to pass.

The work of the Sustainability Committee identified unification with a larger student population as our most viable option to balance the effect of decreasing student enrollment (and thus property tax rate increases). The board crafted a budget that further decreased spending and staffing. Our budget failed to pass for a second year in a row.

We were at a turning point where the staffing and program cuts needed to achieve a level tax rate are neither serving students nor the taxpayers well. The budget votes were close and deeply divided. Conditions for the coming years were predicted to be largely the same.

Given the above circumstances, the board studied the Sustainability Committee’s recommendations closely, and voted unanimously to enter a unification study with Essex Junction and Essex Town in January of 2015.

As the study committee started its task, state law was moving underneath us. Plans surfaced that would end Westford’s protection against large percentage student population changes and impose mandatory spending limits. Both of these will apply to Westford this budget year should we not unify, and the results could be disastrous for students and the tax rate. More importantly, consolidation would be forced by the state if districts chose not to do so themselves.

We share a long history with Essex Junction, and the cultures of all three towns have much in common. Westford residents work, shop, eat, play, and worship in Essex. We share a curriculum with Essex Junction, and a majority of our high school students have historically attended EHS. We have been a strong member of the CCSU board for decades.

This cultural connection shows strongly in the final report and articles of agreement from the RED Study Committee. Our representatives were heard, and accommodations were made to support Westford’s unique needs. Examples include the grandfathering of high school choice for students already enrolled elsewhere and the flexibility to honor any land agreements made between the town and school to insure town usage/ownership. It is my belief that these accommodations were made because of our shared history with Essex Junction and the mutual respect we’ve cultivated over the past years. Not all districts would have made these concessions for us.

The board has spent many meetings discussing our options, concerns, and research--all of which were public, open to visitors, recorded, and televised. Our previous governance structure has served us well for many years, but it is now showing its limitations. We believe the proposed unification represents our best option for sustaining Westford School’s vitality both in the short and long term.

Please continue to reach out with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Drapa, Martha Heath, Kim Phinney, Andre Roy

**WARNING
SPECIAL MEETING
WESTFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The legal voters of the Westford Town School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Westford School in said Town of Westford on Tuesday, November 3, 2015, between the hours of 7:00 a.m., at which time the polls will open, and 7:00 p.m., at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot on the following articles.

Article I. Shall the Westford Town School District, which the State Board of Education has found advisable to include in the proposed unified union school district, join with the school districts of Essex Junction Incorporated School District, Essex Town School District, and Essex Community Education Center Union School District #46, which the State Board of Education has found necessary to include in the proposed unified union school district, for the purpose of forming a unified union school district to be named the Essex Westford Educational Community Unified Union School District, as provided in Title 16, Vermont Statutes Annotated, upon the following conditions and agreements:

- (a) **Grades.** The unified union school district will offer pre-kindergarten through grade twelve education to all of the students in the unified union school district. Westford students enrolled and attending a public or an approved independent high school (grades 9-12) during the 2016-2017 school year at the expense of the Westford School District as tuitioned high school students shall be "grandfathered" through June 30, 2020 as provided in Article 2 in the Final Report.
- (b) **Board of School Directors.** The unified district board of school directors will be closely proportional to the fraction that its population bears in the aggregate population of the unified union school district. The initial composition of the unified union school district board of directors will be based upon the 2010 Federal Census, and shall be recalculated promptly following the release of each subsequent decennial census. However, at no time will a combining/forming town/district have less than two board members with a weighted vote of one on the board of school directors. Subject to the previous sentence, each proportionality calculation shall be rounded to the nearest whole number.
- (c) **Assumption of debts and ownership of school property.** The unified union school district shall assume the indebtedness of member districts and assume all operating deficits and/or surpluses or reserve funds of the member districts; acquire and pay for the school properties of member districts; all as specifically identified and provided for in Articles 7 and 8 in the Final Report.
- (d) **Final Report.** The provisions of the Final Report approved by the State Board of Education on August 18, 2015, which is on file in the Westford Town Clerk's office, shall govern the unified union school district.

In the event that the Essex Junction and Essex Town school districts vote "yes" to approve the proposed unified union school district but the Westford Town School District votes "no," pursuant to Act 153 of 2010, a regional educational district will be established. In this case, the name of the new district will be the Essex Educational Community Unified Union School District.

Article II. To elect two (2) school directors from the nominees to serve on the school board of the proposed unified union school district board from the date of the organizational meeting for the following terms:

- One (1) school director for a one-year term.
- One (1) school director for a two-year term.

The legal voters of the Westford Town School District are further warned and notified that a public informational hearing will be held at the Westford School on November 2, 2015 commencing at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of explaining the Articles.

Dated this 17th day of September, 2015 at Westford, Vermont.

Mark Drapa, Chair
Martha Heath, Clerk

Andre Roy, Vice Chair
Kim Phinney

Received for record this 17th day of September, 2015.
Nanette Rogers, Town Clerk

WESTFORD SCHOOL NEWS

The school year is off to a great, fun filled start. Open House was well attended, and we look forward to inviting families back for parent conferences to discuss students individually on October 9th. Upcoming events include a Pumpkin Glow, a Preschool and kindergarten field trip, an author's visit, and a guest speaker. Please check out the events calendar on our main webpage www.ccsuvt.org/westford for details.

Caroline Maguire, renowned ADD coach for children and adolescents visited Westford School as a guest speaker on the topic of bullying. On Friday, September 25th, Caroline conducted student workshops with age-appropriate language and strategies. Caroline's goal is to empower students to stand up to bullying behavior. Classroom presentations were followed by a special presentation to Westford families at 6:00pm.

After months of study, a committee of 20 citizens from Essex Junction, Essex Town, and Westford have unanimously proposed creating a unified school district among our three communities. In September, Westford School hosted a community forum concerning the upcoming vote on unification. Superintendent DeNova has met with faculty and staff to take comments and answer questions concerning unification. The next public forum in Westford is October 15th at 7:00pm. Please check out the RED Study website <https://redstudy.wordpress.com/> for more information.

Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

Within the first few weeks of school, we have practiced student expectations and introduced the structure and routines necessary for effective instruction. We are so very appreciative of family support and school family partnerships. An excellent example of this partnership is in the area of reading. At school, we are working on all kinds of things: writing, mathematics, art, music, science, etc. At home, all K-8 students are reading independently. Countless researchers have found that one of the best predictors of reading achievement is the amount of time a child spends reading, so it's important that children have well-rounded reading lives at home and at school. One becomes a better reader by practicing, just as it is when learning a sport or an instrument, for example. Teachers are coaching students on how to choose books for home and school. Books that they can read with few errors (aim for 97% accuracy or above) while maintaining a "mental movie" that keeps them engaged with plot events and characters' struggles are most appropriate. Along with our school and town librarians, we support students and families in finding books that students are both interested in reading and that will allow them to best practice their reading strategies to become stronger, more confident readers. Creating and maintaining reading expectations at school and home is a great example of a positive school and family partnership. We are no longer administering the NECAP state assessment in October. Our new state assessment is the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC) and is administered in the spring each year. We continue to administer the Science NECAP each spring to 4th and 8th grade students. The results of our first SBAC assessment will be sent to families this fall and school wide results are available on our webpage along with a message from Education Secretary Holcombe. Our strong results are a continued point of celebration and pride. I would like to point out that an initial analysis of the data reveals that our students performed exceptionally well on the writing claims. Since writing has been an area of focus as specified on action plans, it is rewarding and motivating to see state assessment evidence supporting our focus and instructional practices. Westford School is committed to using data to inform instruction, and in addition to the SBAC state assessment, we utilize other assessments as identified on the CCSU Comprehensive Assessment Plan. These high quality assessments are administered at three check points in the year and help teachers monitor student progress and adjust instruction and intervention throughout the school year.



Westford PTO

October 2015 Newsletter

The Westford PTO mission is to enrich our children's lives with educational and extracurricular activities.

Opportunities to Get Involved



5K Pumpkin Run & 1K Fun Run

October 11, 8:30-11:00 am — The Westford PTO is sponsoring the food table at Westford Recreation Department's 4th Annual 5K Pumpkin Run & 1K Fun Run. Please look for the signup link on our website—and help provide runners with delicious baked goods!

Pumpkin Glow

October 29 — The Westford PTO will be helping the 8th grade class with their annual Pumpkin Glow at the school. Come for community, stay for the fun!



PTO Calendar

Sunday, October 11

PTO food table at Westford Rec. Dept.'s 4th Annual 5K Pumpkin Run & 1K Fun Run, Westford Common, 8:30 am.

Wednesday, October 14

PTO monthly meeting, Westford School, 7:00 pm.

Thursday, October 29

Pumpkin Glow support, Westford School.

Friday, October 30

Melissa Stewart's Science Clubhouse, author event, Westford School library.

Monday, November 2 – Friday, November 6

Scholastic Book Fair to benefit the Westford School Library.

Wednesday, November 11

PTO monthly meeting, Westford School, 7:00 pm.

November

Buy Local Fundraiser.

Wednesday, December 9

PTO monthly meeting, Westford School, 7:00 pm.

Thursday, December 17

Very Merry Theatre production & Holiday Dinner.



Scholastic Book Fair

November 2-6 — The Westford PTO and School Library will once again present the Scholastic Book Fair to benefit the library. Start your holiday shopping at the library!

Buy Local Fundraiser

Our Buy Local Fundraiser is 100% PTO run and we need your help! Do you have a product or service to offer to the community? Do you have ties to local businesses? Contact us with your ideas and we will work with you to promote local businesses.

Send in your



Westford School gets 10 cents for every box top! They add up quickly and help ensure that all Westford students are financially able to participate in enriching programs and field trips. Look for the drop box in the hallway, or hand in to the main office.

Principal Lewis' Corner

The school year is off to a great, fun filled start. Open House was well attended, and we look forward to inviting families back for parent conferences to discuss students individually on October 9th. Read more: <http://westfordprincipal.blogspot.com/>

PTO Officers: Heidi Coppola, Tammy Garrison, Deb Hazel, Julie Miller.
PTO Members: MC Baker, Susan Barbour, Heather Belcher, Jenny Cady, Lise-Anne Cooledge, Pam Dewey, Lynn Finn, Meredith Irish, Laura Lucas, Jessica Moreland, Kristin Quiet, Marijke Reilly, Kelly White, Tracy Zeppi

Contact Westford PTO with questions, comments, and ideas:
E-mail: westfordvtpto@gmail.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/westfordvtpto>
Website: <http://westford.ccsuvt.org/hope-parent-organization/>

MISSION STATEMENT

October 2015

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-

JOB OPENING!!!

After 3 1/2 years, I have decided that it is time to pass the Rec Coordinator position along to a new person. If you are interested, or know someone who is, please contact me at 802-338-8235 or WestfordVTRec@gmail.com. The position is 15 flexible hours/week at \$12.00/hour. Duties include the planning and coordinating of sports seasons for ages Pre-K through Grade 6, the planning and organizing of all other athletic and/or community events for children and adults, the development of new programming for the community, maintaining the inventory of equipment, yearly budget preparation, marketing of activities on multiple platforms, working with the Recreation Department Committee, town and school officials to implement programming.

I would be happy to go over in detail the position and what it entails. I will be staying on until the end of December, to aid in a smooth transition to the new coordinator.

Yours in Recreation~ Heather Armata

JACKSON FARM TRAIL WALK! Saturday, October 17th, 12:45 pm.

In conjunction with the Conservation Commission, the hike is an opportunity for all to get out, enjoy our beautiful fall colors and lay foot on this historic and significant land. We will be breaking some trail through open pasture land and into the forest toward two very large and beautiful beaver ponds and then we will follow some old logging trails into the interior of the woods before coming back into pasture lands. This event is part of efforts taking place that may allow for Westford to see the Jackson Farm and Forest remain intact and be a valuable asset and resource to our Town. Please meet at the Westford School parking lot at 12:45pm. Release forms will be distributed and collected prior to this free walk/hike. As a single group, we will begin the walk/hike promptly at 1pm. Appropriate footwear is advised, Plan for 2 hours.



Our Next Committee Meeting is October 21st. Please let us know if



you would like to attend, and we will put you on the agenda! Thanks!

DIY HALLOWEEN Mask-Making and Ghoulish Games!!!

When: October 31st
Time: 10:30-11:30am
Where: Westford Public Library
Who: Kids all ages!
What: Come dressed up in your costumes and decorate masks at the library. Afterward we will head over to the Common for some fun games, like pin the spider on the web and bean bag toss. All participants will receive a goodie bag!!



ZUMBA FITNESS update!

Tuesdays at the RBMH from 5:30-6:30pm you will shake it! \$5/class and all abilities welcome!!

YOGA with Cat- Cat Earisman, E-RYT

will be returning this fall to teach Flow Yoga at the RBMH on **THURSDAY** evenings. We'll post on FB and FPF when we have a confirmed start date.



Sangha Yoga with Anne
Tuesday evenings from 7-8:00pm join Anne

Whitney at the Red Brick Meeting House for some restorative and/or flow yoga. \$12/class. Call 802-598-6299 or email aeorellana@yahoo.com with any questions. All ages and abilities welcome!!



Integral YOGA w/Tiffany

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.



Recreation Department Committee Members

Heather Armata, Coordinator	338-8235	Danielle Vierling	871-9404
Maureen Carpenter	893-5096	Noel Boutin	878-3632
Martha Bennett	878-9269	Meredith Irish	373-9980
Greg Baker	324-5537	Email: WestfordVTRec@gmail.com	

Fall Sport are HERE!!!! Keep yourself moving!!!

**The 4th Annual Great Pumpkin 5K Run/Walk
& 1K Fun Run**

*Date: Sunday, October 11, 2015

*Time: 1K Fun Run Starts at 9:30am. Registration opens at 9:00am.

5K Run/Walk Starts at 10:00am.
Registration opens at 9:00am.

*Where: Westford Town Common, off Rte. 128

*Fee: \$10/Adults

\$3/Children up to age 17, or bring 2 non-perishable food items to donate to the Westford Food Shelf and your registration is Free!

*Registration: You can drop off, or mail your registration ahead of time to the Town Office.,Attn. Westford Rec Dept., 1713 VT. Rte. 128, Westford, VT 05494. Or, you can register the morning of the event. Make checks payable to WRD.

*Prizes: Awarded for the Top Male, Female, Under 18 Runners, & Top 3 Walkers.

*The race is open to all towns!

*Volunteers are needed for timers, food table, results board; please email

WestfordVTRec@gmail.com or call

338-8235. Thanks and see you there!



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**

WESTFORD TURKEY TROT



Saturday, November 21, 2015

Registration: 8:30 a.m. Race Start: 10 a.m.

Snow, Rain or Shine

Westford School

Brookside Road, Westford, VT

10k run ★ 3k walk/run ★ 100 yd Tot Trot (6 & under)

\$12, pre-register online by Nov 19

\$15, day of race

Random Drawing for Prizes!

Homemade treats & chili for sale!

Proceeds benefit The Committee for Westford Children and Families

www.westfordturkeytrot.wordpress.com