



Washington

# WESTFORD NEWSLETTER

February 2016

Westford Town Office

1713 Vermont Route 128

Westford, Vermont 05494

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

[www.westfordvt.us](http://www.westfordvt.us)



Lincoln

## Town Office Notes

### Important Information & Deadlines for Town Meeting & Presidential Primary

- **February 24<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)** – 5pm deadline to submit an application for addition to the 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 Town Meeting.
- **February 29<sup>th</sup> (Monday)** – 5pm deadline to request absentee ballots.
- **February 29<sup>th</sup> (Monday)** – Town Meeting and public hearing for Australian ballot questions (including town and school budgets), 7pm, at the Westford School in the gym.
- **March 1<sup>st</sup> (Tuesday)** – Voting day for Australian ballot articles and for Presidential Primary. Polls will be open from 7am to 7pm in the Westford School gym.

Town Meeting ballots will be available no later than February 10<sup>th</sup>. The Presidential Primary ballots have already been received. If you have requested a town ballot and a Presidential Primary ballot, both ballots will be mailed once the town ballots are received (unless otherwise requested by the voter).

Please note, we are required to ask voters which ballot – Democrat or Republican - they want for the Presidential Primary. When requesting an absentee ballot by email for the Presidential Primary, please indicate which ballot you would like.

If you have any questions concerning Town Meeting or the Primary, please call or email the Town Office.

### Dog Licenses

Dog Licenses are due by April 1<sup>st</sup>. A current rabies certificate is required. If you are unsure if the current certificate is on file, please call the Town Office. **If you no longer have your dog or your dog has died, please let us know!** For your convenience, you may mail or drop off the fee and rabies certificate along with a self-addressed stamped envelope and your license will be mailed to you. The fee until April 1<sup>st</sup> is \$11.00 for spayed or neutered dogs and \$13.00 for dogs that are not spayed or neutered. Dog licenses obtained **after April 1<sup>st</sup> are subject to a late fee.** We encourage all dog owners to register their dogs before April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### Senior Luncheon

The Senior Luncheons are on a winter break. They will start up again in March and that date is the 14<sup>th</sup>. We have had a couple of changes in officers. Bernice Weston has stepped down as Vice President and Maureen Estus has filled that position. Also, Janet Franz has turned over her secretary duties to Beth Menut. I want to thank both Bernice and Janet for their many years of service to the senior citizens. It's been greatly appreciated. It's looking like winter has arrived after all. Now, let's hope that it doesn't stay until June. Carol Howrigan, President 878-3090

### Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the March Newsletter is 12:00 noon on Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### Town Office Closed

The Town Office will be closed Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>

## **TOWN OF WESTFORD - WINTER ROAD POLICY**

The Westford Highway Department has the responsibility of maintaining 39.4 miles of town roads, of which 36.9 miles are gravel and 2.5 miles are paved. This policy is based on the goal of obtaining safe highway travel surfaces during winter months. It is our goal to achieve this at the earliest practical time and in the most cost efficient manner during and after a storm event. Providing bare, dry travel surfaces during a winter storm event is not practical and therefore not expected.

Each winter storm event is unique. It is impractical to develop specific rules on winter maintenance operations. Therefore, the judgment of the Road Foreman often governs the quantities and type of applications used to control snow and ice.

### **Snow Plowing**

The Town of Westford begins plowing when snow has accumulated 2 to 3 inches. Plowing may begin as early as 4:00 a.m. and stops when the storm has ended or 10:00 p.m., whichever comes sooner.

### **Sand**

Sand will be applied to all gravel roads. With the use of sand in winter maintenance material, some particles may be as large as  $\frac{3}{4}$ " in size and may cause windshield damage. Travelers should use caution and avoid following other vehicles or town trucks too closely. The Town will not pay for any vehicle repairs, such as the replacement of windshields. When ice is present under the sand, instant stops are impossible.

### **Plow Routes**

Each plow route takes approximately 4 hours to complete, sometimes longer depending on the storm. This means if plowing started when there was 2 inches of snow on the road, by the time the truck finishes the route there is the potential for up to 6 inches or more of snow on the road again. Therefore, during a heavy snowstorm, at times there will be snow on the roads. There shall be no riders in the town trucks other than the operator of the truck and authorized town officials. All town trucks shall be pulled to the side of the road when the operator is using a cell phone.

### **Freezing Rain**

It is important to note that salt or sand is less effective if applied before the rain stops. There is little the Westford Highway Department can do during a freezing rainstorm. Salt and sand will be applied to the roads sparingly during the event and more aggressively as needed once the storm is over.

### **Bare Roads**

The Town of Westford does not have a bare road policy. Travelers who use Town roads should exercise due care and reasonable caution while driving during the winter months.

### **Mailboxes**

The Town will not repair or replace mailboxes damaged by snow or ice clearing operations. Heavy snow coming off the plow blade will often knock over and damage mailboxes/posts that have not been adequately mounted and maintained or braced, or those mailboxes with doors left open. Also mailboxes/posts may be damaged by private contractors or homeowners during driveway clearing operations.

### **Trash Placement**

Trash and trash receptacles should be placed in a manner that will not interfere with winter road maintenance. The Town will not be responsible for damage to trash receptacles or trash clean up as a result of its obstruction of snow removal.

### **Parked Vehicles**

No vehicle shall be parked on the Town's right-of-way from the start of precipitation until 48 hours after the storm ends. The Town reserves the right to tow parked vehicles at the owner's expense. The Town is not liable for damages incurred to vehicles parked in the Town's right-of-way.

### **Plowing Across Town Roads**

The practice of plowing snow from driveways across Town roads is prohibited. Residual snow creates a dangerous obstruction (piles, ridges, etc.). Snow shoveling into the roadway will cause similar problems. Once frozen, the piles/ridges can cause vehicles to lose control and can also cause damage to vehicles and town trucks and equipment. Generally, the Town will warn the responsible resident for a first occurrence. Subsequent violations may result in further action, which may include but is not limited to fines.

### \*\*\*\* Planning Commission News \*\*\*\*

On July 1, 2017, the newly formed Essex Westford Educational Community Unified Union School District will assume ownership of all Westford School District properties. At present this is approximately 99 acres of land. Concerned over the future of these lands, the Planning Commission invited the Westford School Board to a public meeting on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was well attended and informative. Westford School District owns the following 4 properties:

- 14 acres occupied by the school building, parking lots and playground;
- 15 acres adjoining the school grounds, where additional recreational and athletic fields are located;
- 50 acres of adjoining the school grounds comprised of forest and meadowland and containing community trails;
- 20 acres jointly owned with the Town located on the corner of Old Stage and Milton-Westford Roads.

The 14 acre property our school is located on will be transferred to the new Unified Union School District on July 1, 2017.

The jointly owned 20 acres on Old Stage Road is removed from the other school properties and unused. It was unanimously decided to pursue the sale of this property. The Schoolboard and Selectboard agreed to develop a sale plan and present an article for voter approval at Town Meeting 2016.

The fate of the 2 remaining properties, totaling 65 acres, adjoining the school on Brookside was cause for considerable discussion. All parties agreed the primary use should remain education and recreation, but without consensus on who should own them. The Planning Commission advocated for Town ownership in order to ensure future public access to our recreational land and town trails. All parties agreed to proceed with Westford citizens' best interest in mind.

Moving forward the Schoolboard appointed Mark Drapa and the Selectboard appointed Dave Adams as liaisons to work cooperatively exploring potential options and legal requirements involved with the transfer of ownership. Once viable options are formulated, a public meeting will be scheduled to present these options to Westford citizens for comment. Public input is strongly encouraged. Your valued opinion is needed to help us accomplish what is best for our Town.

The Planning Commission meets the first Monday and/or third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm downstairs at the Town Offices. Meetings are open to the public and you are encouraged to attend. For more information on current projects and to confirm meeting times and agenda visit <https://westfordvt.us/boards/planning-commission/>

### **RARE OFFER TO SUPPORT THE STEEPLE!**

Peter Miller, renowned Westford oil painter, has offered to sell paintings at cost (\$500 and up) from his studio collection to support the United Church of Westford Steeple Fund. Since Peter uses the landscape of Westford and vicinity as his subject, there will be many familiar views and scenes of the area. The buyer will be able to choose from dozens of pieces of work at Peter's studio. This is a rare offer that will help restore and preserve our landmark building and grace your home with a painting of real value. Call Peter for more information: 879-6093.

### **United Church of Westford February Schedule**

February 7, 8:30am – Worship service with Rev. Katherine Arthaud. Special Guest Speaker, Michael Hechmer, will discuss criminal justice.  
February 14, 8:30am – Worship service with Rev. Katherine Arthaud.

All are welcome!

*Note: This letter was sent to our state legislators to continue our effort to affect change to Act 129 (limited High School choice). It is being published to inform our greater Westford community. Please contact our legislators with your thoughts and feedback.*

Westford School Board  
Westford, Vermont 05494  
January 8, 2016

Dear Legislator,

We are writing to ask you to consider making changes to Act 129, Vermont' limited high school choice law. Our desire for change is the result of our district's study of consolidation under Act 46.

As Westford considered merging with Essex Junction and Essex Town, one of the biggest stumbling blocks was the need to give up high school choice. 65-70% of Westford's students attend Essex High School. For the other 30-35% consolidation will represent a big change. Because Westford has a relatively small number of high school students (90 or so), we thought the most popular high schools in the area would still be able to accommodate our students under Act 129. As we did our research we were very surprised to learn that both Mt. Mansfield UHS and BFA Fairfax define their capacity for accepting incoming students VERY narrowly. In reviewing the Agency of Education's latest report on Act 129, it's clear that the lack of consistency and clarity around definition of capacity is a problem that should be addressed.

There is clear definition for how many students must be allowed to leave a school under Act 129. There is no such clarity around a district's decision about defining their capacity to accept students. While AOE provides guidelines for determining capacity, there is not a formula as there is for determining the number of students that can leave a school. The AOE's report cites one district that defined its capacity as 38 students one year and 1 student the next.

We urge you to address this lack of clarity. We have thought of several different ways this could be done. Undoubtedly legislators will be able to add to this list.

- Allow the receiving school to count the student or some portion of the FTE for that student. A monetary benefit would motivate schools to define their capacity more accurately.
- Provide funding for incoming students on a six semester rolling average as is done for technical education.
- Define capacity in a standard way, for example as 2% of the school's enrollment.
- Create strict guidelines for defining capacity and have AOE monitor their implementation. (This is the least desirable due to the AOE's lack of staffing capacity to do the work.)
- Other

High school students in communities that voluntarily give up high school choice when merging under Act 46 should have the opportunity to consider high schools that have been chosen by students in their community in the past. Providing clarity to school boards to use when they determine their high school's capacity for accepting students would be very helpful in this regard. We urge you to consider this problem carefully and to act during the upcoming legislative session.

Sincerely,  
Westford School Board

## Westford School News

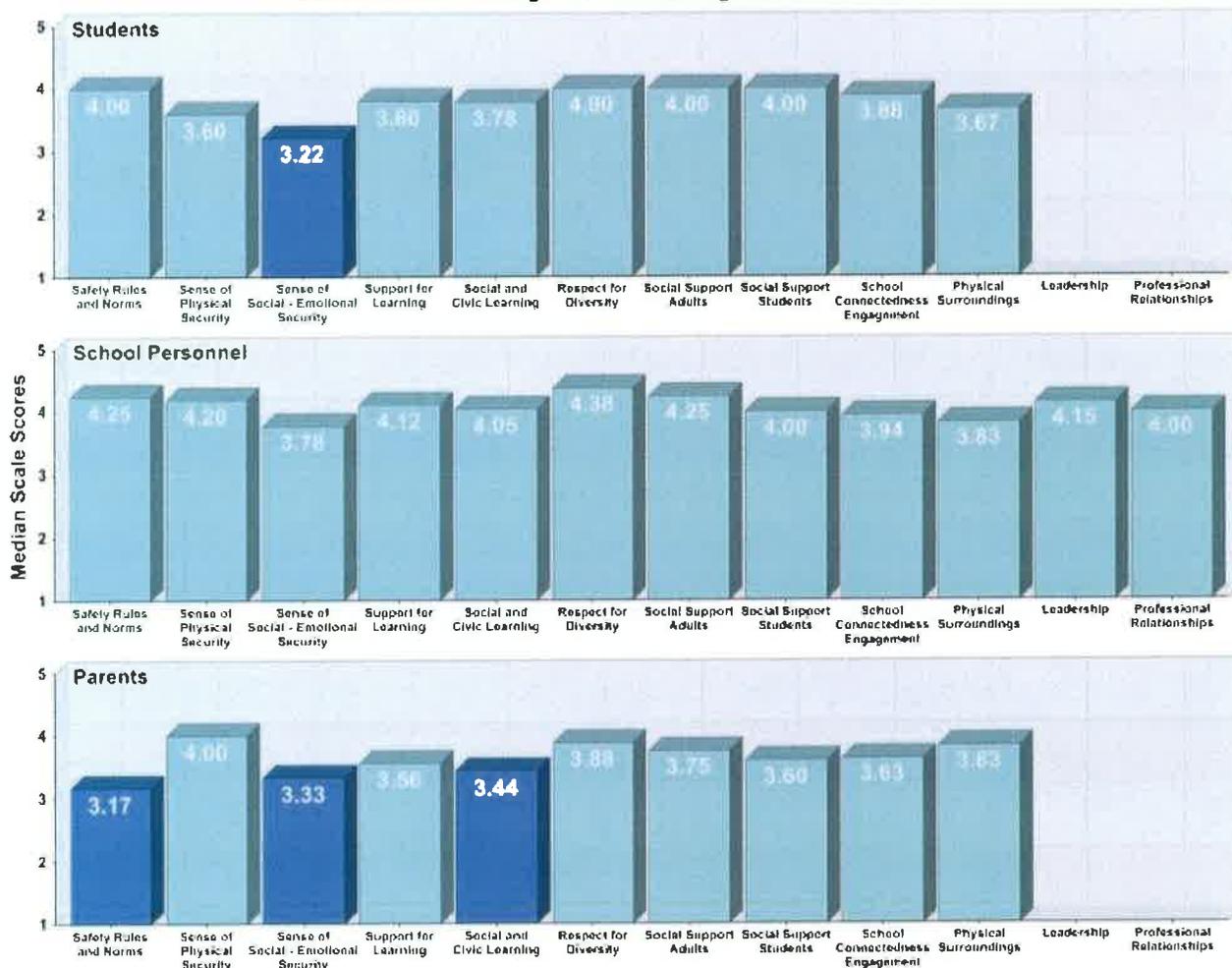
Westford School is ramping up for many spring events including the Italian Dinner, school play, and the science fair. We hope you will continue to check the webpage and school events calendar and attend these events.

### Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

Throughout this school year, I have highlighted several pieces that support a strong vision related to curriculum and instruction. A foundational piece that cannot be overlooked that equally supports student success is school climate. Westford School acknowledges that an effective school must be safe and welcoming. We have monitored school climate over the past three years using the Comprehensive School Climate Inventory (CSCI) designed by the Center for Social and Emotional Education. The CSCI measures school climate in two important ways. First, it evaluates virtually all of the dimensions that scholars and researchers believe shape school climate. Second, it is a measure that recognizes the perspectives of all parents/guardians, school personnel, and students grades three through eight through an anonymous survey. On a 5 point scale, scores lower than 2.5 indicate a negative perception, scores 2.5-3.5 indicate a neutral perception, and scores above 3.5 indicate a positive perception. The CSCI measures each area of climate on this 5 point scale for parents, teachers, and students. As you can see by the results below, Westford School performs exceptionally well in all areas of climate measured. Accordingly, climate is an area of excellence and strength.

### Comprehensive School Climate Inventory Survey Results: 2014/15

**School Climate Ratings - Positives, Negatives and Neutrals**



Even with such positive results, a growth mindset, as well as other information specific to a safe and welcoming school, prompts actions for continuous improvement. For example, we increased access to social and emotional curriculum this year and began personalized learning plans. We increased movement breaks and physical education opportunities to meet the needs of all students as well. For instance, all K-2 students have extended learning opportunities in a guidance class that reinforces Responsive Classroom principles led by the school counselor and social support coordinator. All kindergarten students have access to PE three times per week and all students have a recess daily. A final step aimed at improving climate factors includes seventh grade students utilizing the Naviance program to create personalized learning plans that will follow them to high school.

We appreciate the partnerships with parents, community and students to ensure our continued success including a positive school climate. We intend to continue improving even in areas in which we are currently strong.

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## SCHOOL BOARD NOTES

My name is Christian Frenette, and for those of you who don't know me, I am the newest member of the Westford School Board. I submitted my name to fill a vacant seat and was confirmed by the Board. I will complete the existing term and then be on the ballot for the next election. My wife and I have lived in Westford for close to 10 years, we have a son in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and a daughter who is a senior at Essex High School. I have worked in education my entire professional life as both an administrator and a teacher. Presently I am teaching history to juniors and seniors at Rice Memorial High School in South Burlington. Rice is a private Catholic School with about 400 students.

I am familiar with some of the challenges our school faces as I worked with other members of the community on the Sustainability Study. I look forward to doing what I can to help Westford Elementary School move forward. I would like to thank the other School Board Members and School staff for their patience as I become acquainted with the full range of issues we are facing. I look forward to hearing from the people of the town with questions and concerns.

### **School Land Transfers:**

The School Board continues to work with the town regarding the sale of a jointly owned 19 acre parcel of land on the corner of the Milton-Westford Road and Old Stage Road. There will be more information and an article for voter approval for Town meeting.

### **Update on the School Budget:**

On January 6<sup>th</sup>, the School Board presented the budget for FY'17 at the Joint meeting for the School Board and the Select Board. Education spending is decreasing by 1.9% and tax rates are projected to decrease. A separate article will not be presented for the Capital Fund in order to meet the "allowable growth" amounts related to Act 46. Please visit the Board website and click on the link if you are interested in seeing the presentation. On **Monday, February 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm** there will be a Public Informational Hearing at the school on the proposed budget.

### **Letter on Act 129**

The Board is acting to address community concerns regarding the restrictions to school choice options due to the consolidation vote. We have drafted a letter to be sent to officials in Montpelier asking for changes to the current law. Our goal is for lawmakers to amend the formula regarding sending and receiving schools to best serve the town. You can find a copy of the letter in the town newsletter or by visiting the Board website and clicking on the link.

# WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

http://westfordpubliclibrary.org

(802) 878-5639

westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

1717 VERMONT ROUTE 128, WESTFORD VT 05494

## New Adult Program Series: Travel Talk

**Wed., Feb. 10 7-8:30pm**

This Month's Destination is:  
Panama

Presented by Mark Winer

Mark will share his trip through the Panama Canal, immersing himself in the culture and language for over a month, and traveling with a small child.

Share a fun evening with fellow travel enthusiasts.

Refreshments served.



## Library Hours

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

## Adult Book Group

**Wed. Feb. 17**

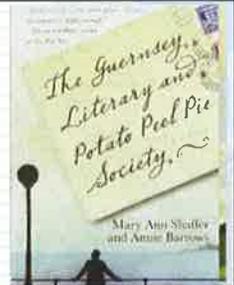
**7-8pm**

**Pick up your books  
at the front desk!  
We will be reading**

**The Guernsey  
Literary and Potato**

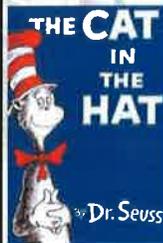
**Peel Pie Society,**

**by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie  
Barrows**



*"I wonder how the book got to Guernsey? Perhaps there is some sort of secret homing instinct in books that brings them to their perfect readers."*

January 1946: London is emerging from the shadow of the Second World War, and writer Juliet Ashton is looking for her next book subject. Who could imagine that she would find it in a letter from a man she's never met? As Juliet and her new correspondent exchange letters, Juliet is drawn into the world of this man and his friends—and what a wonderfully eccentric world it is. (from Amazon.com)



## PJ STORYTIME

**Wed. Feb. 24**

**6:30-7:30pm**

**Theme: Dr. Seuss  
Come listen to stories  
and do a craft IN  
YOUR PJs!**

## New Art at the Library - Art Opening

Amey Radcliffe "Re-Art"

Friday, Feb. 19 7-8pm

Art and functional items made from found objects and recycled materials.

Come meet the Westford artist and enjoy refreshments. Amey's art will be up at the Library February-April.



## Win a pair of tickets to "A Cat in the Hat" at the Flynn Tues, Mar. 8, 7pm

This family-friendly version of Dr. Seuss's classic tale is perfect for all audiences, as the Cat transforms a dull rainy day into an amazing adventure. With some tricks (and a fish) and Thing Two and Thing One, when the Cat is onstage, the fun's never done.

**Enter to win every time  
you visit the Library!**

**Drawing to be held Sat. Feb. 27.**



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

2/4/16: Theme: The number 100!

2/18/16: Theme: Presidents

2/11/16: Theme: Valentine's Day

2/25/16: Dr. Seuss

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](mailto:westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com)

## February Library Events

- February 3 - Trustees Meeting 7-9pm
  - February 6 - Nature Cat with VTPBS - 10:30-Noon  
Video screening, science-based crafts, snacks! Binoculars to take home!
  - February 10 - Travel Talk: Panama 7-8:30pm
  - February 12 - Techo-Valentines - drop in 5-7pm to design a light up Valentine using LEDs, coin cell batteries and copper tape.
  - February 13 - DIY Valentines (w/the Rec. Dept.) 10:30-11:30am, make Valentines and enjoy cookies and hot chocolate.
  - February 17 - Adult Book group 7-8pm
  - February 19 - Art Opening: Amey Radcliffe "Re-Art" 7-8pm, refreshments served.
  - February 24 - Squishy Circuits - drop in 3-6pm to play with electricity! Good for any age!
  - February 24 - PJ Storytime 6:30-7:30
  - February 26 - Lunch and a Movie Noon-2pm - Bring lunch and a drink and we will watch The Good Dinosaur (popcorn provided)
  - February 27 - Drawing for Cat in the Hat tickets
- Playgroup every Monday 9:30am**  
**Storytime every Thursday 11am**  
**Tai Chi 2 every Tues & Thurs 9-9:45am**

### DIY Valentines (with the Rec. Dept.)

Saturday, Feb. 13  
10:30-11:30am

Come make a special something for that special someone. We'll have all the supplies to make the perfect Valentines.

Hot chocolate and cookies will be served.



### VTPBS Presents: Nature Cat

**Sat. Feb. 6 10:30-Noon**  
View 2 episodes of this new show, do a science-themed craft, and have a great snack! There are binoculars to take home!

### Techno-Valentines Fri., Feb. 12 Drop in 5-7pm

Make something super special - a light up Valentine! Use LEDs, copper tape and coin cell batteries and "Light up" someone's life. Any age can do with this adult help.



### Bored Kids over February Vacation? Bring them to the Library!

- 2/24 - Squishy Circuits 3-6pm
- 2/24 - PJ Storytime 6:30-7:30pm
- 2/25 - Storytime 11am
- 2/26 - Lunch and a Movie Noon-2pm

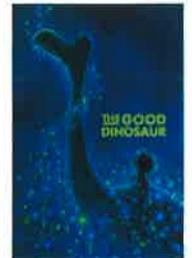


### Squishy Circuits

Drop in anytime 3-6pm  
Come experiment and play with electricity! Good for ages - you can get as complex or simple as you want to be! We'll be using regular & SOLAR batteries.

### Lunch and a Movie Pixar's The Good Dinosaur

What if dinosaurs had not become extinct?  
Bring your lunch and drink, we'll provide the popcorn!  
Rated: PG 94 minutes



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.

# Westford Recreation Department

### Mission Statement:

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.

## Afterschool Art Club

Tuesdays \* February 2 - March 22  
(No Club Feb 23 and Mar 1)  
3:00pm - 4:45pm \* Grades 2 - 5  
Minimum enrollment: 8 \* Maximum: 15  
Fee: \$75 / student



After school Art club where we will create a variety of projects using different materials from clay to painting, drawing and more!

## Afterschool Chorus

Thursdays \* Dates: 2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 3/3, 3/17, 3/24  
Concert 3/24 in the evening  
3:00 pm - 4:30pm \* Grades: 2-5  
Minimum enrollment: 10 \* No max!  
Fee: \$40 / student



This is the ensemble for our young students who want more opportunities to sing. Through a variety of genres including folk, pop, Broadway, and classical, students will experience being able to sing in parts, harmonies, and rounds, while also learning how to produce beautiful sound even when singing in unison or alone. Expressive interpretation of text and some basic verbal understanding of rhythm are taught to students participating in this ensemble. Students will perform together in a concert the evening of our final rehearsal. Please have students bring a snack to enjoy afterschool before singing.

## Grades 1/2 Basketball



Saturdays \* February 13 - March 26 \* 9:00am - 10:00am  
\$25 / player \* Coach Jeff Labossiere

## Valentine's Happenings

Saturday February 13 \* 10:30am - 12:00pm \* Westford Library  
Make and Take your own Valentines. Hot Cocoa and Cookies will be served.



Sunday February 14 \* 2:00pm - 4:00pm \* Common Ice Rink  
Strap on your skates join us for a couple of hours. Music. Hot Cocoa. Sugar Cookies.

### In This Issue...

#### Broomball Roundup

#### This Month's Events

- Open Gym
- Afterschool Art Club
- Afterschool Chorus
- Grade 1/2 Basketball
- DIY Valentines
- Valentine's Family Skate
- Adult Nordic Ski Clinic

#### Upcoming Events

- Stretch your Shamrock
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Kid's Cooking Classes
- Spring Lacrosse

#### Stay Tuned...

- Ready, Set, Run

#### Please Note:

Ancient Egypt February Vacation Camp has been cancelled due to low enrollment.

## Open Gym

Sundays through February 28th  
10:30am - 12:00pm  
Westford Elementary School Gymnasium



### ZUMBA!

Tuesdays @ RBMH

5:30-6:30pm

Fee: \$5/Class First class FREE!  
Heather Sanders will 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! Try something New!

## Stretch Your Shamrock



Saturday March 12th

10:30am - 11:30am

Westford Library

Celebrate St Patrick's Day with some healthy green snacks and yoga. Miss Anne from our Tuesday Evening Yoga Class will lead us in Stretching our Shamrocks!

Sangha Yoga with Anne

Tuesdays @ RBMH

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!

## Adult Nordic Ski Clinics

Saturdays \* Feb 20 \* Feb 27 \* Mar 3

1:00pm - 2:30pm

\$20 / lesson (\$55 for all 3 if paid in advance)

Please specify which dates you will be attending on your registration.

Integral YOGA w/Tiffany

Wednesdays @ RBMH

6:30-8pm

\$13 drop-in fee; \$100 for 10-class punch card. Contact Tiffany at tiffshannon@gmail.com. Watch Front Porch Forum for updates/cancellations

## Annual Easter Egg Hunt

March 26 \* 10:00am \* Westford Common

All ages \* All weather

Bring a basket, collect eggs and turn them in for a goodie bag!



## Kids' Cooking Classes

Coming during April Break at RBMH!

Cake Decorating with Leta

Grades 4 - 8 \* \$15/Student \* Minimum 10 Students

Tuesday April 19th \* 9:00am - 12:00pm

Cooking with Kim

Grades K - 8 \* \$30/Student \* Minimum 10 Students

Fee Includes: Pizza Pan, Food, and Recipe Cards

Thursday April 21st \* 9:00am - 12:00pm



Yoga with Cat!

Thursdays @ RBMH

6:15-7:30pm

Fee: \$12/Class or 6 weeks for \$66

Contact Cat with any questions.

cearisman@yahoo.com

### Recreation Department Committee Members

Bekah Gwozdz, Coordinator (802) 662-1042  
Maureen Carpenter (802) 893-5096  
Martha Bennett (802) 878-9269  
Greg Baker (802) 324-5537

Danielle Vierling (802) 871-9404  
Noel Boutin (802) 878-3632  
Meredith Irish (802) 373-9980  
Email: WestfordVTRec@gmail.com

# Lacrosse

**Adult Pick Up Basketball**  
 Wednesdays through May 25th  
 Westford Elementary School  
 8:00pm - 9:30pm  
**FREE**  
 Join us for basketball.  
 Bring a friend or two.

Did you know the school trails are groomed for x-country skiing during the winter months?  
 Thanks to some extraordinary community volunteers, our school trails are groomed for x-country skiing. They are available for public use throughout the year.  
 Please visit our town website and view the maps made available by the Westford Conservation Commission!  
<https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Westford-School-Trails-Map.pdf>

We are looking for community volunteers who are interested in offering a clinic/class/series for adults.  
 We'd love to hear your ideas!  
 Some of the ideas we have been considering are:  
 Paint & Sip  
 Homesteading Classes (i.e. gardening, canning, bee keeping, raising chickens, natural remedies)  
 Crafts  
 Cooking/Cake Decorating

**Next Recreation  
 Committee Meeting**  
**Feb 16th**  
**7pm**  
**Westford Town Office**

Westford Lacrosse registration is due by March 1, 2016  
 We are accepting registration to play Westford Lacrosse now...  
 Exact start dates are to be determined.  
 Kindergarten to Grade 2 (Tiny Cats) This program typically runs for an hour in the evening (6-7 pm). The program will run from the last week of April until the beginning of June (usually 6 weeks). Players need to have their own sticks. Westford Tiny Cats t-shirts are included in the registration fee. The fees are still \$35.00 per player or \$25.00 if received by March 1st. Last year our program was able to play a set of games against Milton. This year, we are hoping to play one or two jamborees against St. Albans and Milton. Scholarships are available.  
 Westford Lacrosse 3/4 Co-ed Team: This program runs from the middle of April to middle of June. Players will begin to build on skills and basic game play. In the beginning of the season, we will practice three times a week (two week nights and Saturday morning) until we start playing games in May. Then we practice twice a week with Jamborees on Saturdays. The team will play around ten games during the season. We are part of the Northern Vermont Youth Lacrosse League. Registration fees are \$50.00 per player or \$40.00 if received by March 1st. Scholarships are available. Players need their own sticks, padding and helmets. A limited number of helmets are available from the Recreation Department use (with deposit) on a first come first served basis. Please put a note on the registration form if you need a helmet so one can be set aside. Players will need to have a US Lacrosse membership. This year membership is \$25.00. As always, we are open to any players wishing to join our team! We currently have players from Westford, Cambridge, Jericho and Essex.  
 If you have any questions, or wish to request a scholarship, email Bekah at WestfordVTRec@gmail.com. If you have questions about the game of lacrosse, or wish to speak to the coach, contact Brent Carpenter at brent.carpenter29@gmail.com.

# Broomball Round Up



**Congratulations**  
**Dave Adams Fan Club**  
**17th Annual Westford Broomball Tournament Champions**



Thank You to All Participating Teams!

- Fat Chance
- SMH
- Menace to Sobriety
- Will Sweep for Beer
- Gare Sesh
- Motorboat Nation
- GameOnVT
- Dr Laura and the Naughty Photos
- Imminent Brooms
- Cool Beans
- The Wet Bandits
- Wet Cleats
- Bad News Brooms
- The Padded Asses
- Eastside
- Aardvark Ranch
- Catalina Wine Mixers

I want to thank everyone who stepped in and did what needed to be done in order to make this tournament successful.

A special thanks to:  
 Dave and Sue Adams  
 Alex Weinhagen  
 George Lamphere  
 Noel Boutin  
 Greg Baker  
 Peter Thomas  
 Justin Schwartz  
 Mark Winer  
 Julie Miller  
 Jason Morse  
 Recreation Committee Members

# 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	Grade	Program	Fee
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
<b>Total Fee:</b>			_____

**How did you here about this program? Please circle:**    Front Porch Forum    Facebook    Town Newsletter

Rec Dept Member    Parent/Neighbor    WES    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 Music Series & Young Vermont Traditions**

*present*

## **Katie McNally & Neil Perlman**



**~Free Concert~**

**Sunday, February 7, 2016**

**4-5 p.m.**

**UCW White Church, Westford**

Two talented young performers Katie McNally & Neil Perlman will be the featured artist for the February Westford Music Series in collaboration with Young Vermont Traditions, on Sunday February 7<sup>th</sup> at the UCW white church from 4-5 pm.

Katie McNally was introduced to fiddle music by her classical violin teacher at age 10 and found her musical home in the Celtic tradition. Years of study have seen her win several US National Junior titles and debuted her first CD to a 'sold out' audience. Katie tours throughout the US and is much sought after for her lively, warm and infectious playing. Katie graduated Magna Cum Laude from Tufts University with a concentration in music and attended both The University of Glasgow and The National Piping Centre in Glasgow Scotland.

Pianist and mandolinist Neil Pearlman is rapidly distinguishing himself as a uniquely innovative artist in the contemporary traditional music scene. Called "a tremendous pianist" on BBC radio and "a force to be reckoned with" by WGBH's Brian O'Donovan. Rooted in Traditional Cape Breton piano styles, Neil brings in ideas from many genres. An accomplished Cape Breton dancer, as well, Neil grew up in the family band Highland Soles. His career has taken him to Spain, Mexico, Scotland, and Canada and across the U.S.

The concert has free will donation admission followed by refreshments and opportunity to meet the performers.

For more information call Marge Hamrell@ 802-879-4028 or [mhamrell@comcast.net](mailto:mhamrell@comcast.net)

## **TAI CHI 2 AT THE WESTFORD LIBRARY**



**Tai Chi 2 is coming back to the Westford Public Library!**

**Starting in February – Sign up now!**

**DIFFERENT DAYS AND AN EARLIER TIME!**

**Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 – 9:45 am, February 11 – April 7**

**Class is limited to 12 participants.**

**Teacher: Georgette Huffman**

**Since this is an advanced class (Tai Chi 2), previous Tai Chi 1 is required.**

**Tai Chi for Arthritis is a joint safe activity – proven to reduce pain while you improve balance, agility and strength. Can be done seated or standing. Classes are sponsored by CVAA and are offered at no charge for adults age 50 plus.**

**Building on skills learned in each class, consistent attendance is encouraged, especially for the first several sessions.**

**Please email or call Bree at the Library to sign up (878-5639).**

### **VERMONT INCOME TAX FORMS**

**3 Easy ways to get your Vermont Income Tax forms from the Vermont Department of Taxes**

**1. Download fillable PDF forms from the web**

Download, complete, and print forms at [www.bit.ly/vttaxforms](http://www.bit.ly/vttaxforms)

**2. Order forms by email**

Email request to [tax.formsrequest@vermont.gov](mailto:tax.formsrequest@vermont.gov)

**3. Order forms by phone**

Call toll-free in the U.S. at (855) 297-5600

**When ordering, please provide**

1. Your name
2. Mailing address
3. Form number or form name; and
4. Daytime phone number

**Quick Tips:**

- Order your paper forms early for timely delivery
- Use current year forms from the same source
- Do not use photocopied forms
- E-file your taxes for a faster refund!