



WESTFORD NEWSLETTER

March 2019

Westford Town Office
1713 Vermont Route 128, Westford, Vermont 05494
Phone (802)878-4587 Fax (802)879-6503
<https://westfordvt.us/>

Town Office Notes

Property Tax Installment

The third property tax installment is due Friday, March 15th. Payments will be considered timely if they are received by this date, have a March 15th postmark (postal, FedEx and UPS), or are in the drop box located to the left of the Town Office door before the office opens at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, March 18th.

Please note - If you pay your taxes using Bill Pay (generating a check online through your financial institution), please make sure you allow sufficient time for mailing. These envelopes do not bear a postmark therefore will be acknowledged by the date received at the Town Office not by the date on the check.

Annual Town Meeting

- **March 4th (Monday)** – 5pm deadline to request an absentee ballot
- **March 4th (Monday)** – 7pm Town Meeting (floor votes) and public hearing for Australian ballot questions (including town budget), at the Westford School in the gym
- **March 5th (Tuesday)** – Voting day by Australian ballot. Polls will be open from 7am - 7pm in the Westford School gym

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

Annual Essex-Westford School District (EWSD) Meeting

The annual meeting for the EWSD will be held on April 8th with Australian ballot voting taking place on April 9th. The warning and sample ballot will be posted when available.

- **April 8th (Monday)** – 5pm deadline to request an absentee ballot.
- **April 8th (Monday)** – Annual meeting and public hearing for Australian ballot questions at the Essex High School.
- **April 9th (Tuesday)** – Voting day for Australian ballot articles. Polls will be open from 7am to 7pm in the Westford School gym.

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

Senior Luncheon

Our next luncheon will be held on March 11th at the Red Brick Meeting House on the Common at 11:30. We had a wonderful turnout for our February luncheon. Chittenden Solid Waste District joined us for a very informative talk on what we can and can't recycle.

If we do get a major snow storm or it's extremely cold, we will cancel. We have everyone's telephone number and will give you a call that morning or the night before if we know that far ahead. Please put the date on your calendar and try to come. It will brighten your winter. Please spread the word to other 55 + residents that may not know about us. It's corn beef and cabbage this time as well as 3 casseroles for those that don't like corn beef and cabbage. As always, we like to see new faces. Hope to see you there! Carol Howrigan, President 878-3090

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the April Newsletter is 12:00 noon, Monday, March 25th.

Town Office Closed

The Town Office will be closed Tuesday, March 5th for voting at the Westford School.

2019 MOWING SEASON – SEEKING BIDS

The Selectboard is soliciting bids for roadside mowing and mowing of town properties for the 2019 mowing season. The Request for Bids can be found on the Town website at <https://westfordvt.us/>.

The Brick Meeting House and Westford Cemetery Commission are also soliciting bids. Their requests can also be found on the Town website.

DOG LICENSES DUE APRIL 1ST

Dog Licenses are due by Monday, April 1st. 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 1st is \$11.00 for spayed or neutered dogs and \$13.00 for dogs that are not spayed or neutered. Dog licenses obtained **after April 1st** are subject to a late fee.

WELCOME NEW TOWN EMPLOYEES!

Assistant Town Clerk

Callie Hamdy was hired to as Assistant Town Clerk to fill the vacancy left by Sue Adams. Callie grew up in Essex and lives in Westford with her husband, Haney. Callie is adjusting to her role well and is enjoying meeting Westford residents.

Recreation Coordinator

Tonya Calley was hired to serve as Recreation Coordinator. Tonya lives in Westford with her family and is enjoying her new role.

Road Crew Member

Torrey Webster was hired to fill a vacancy on the Road Crew that was created in September 2018. Torrey lives in Milton and comes with prior municipal road maintenance experience.

Please introduce yourself and welcome Callie, Tonya and Torrey when you see them!

Selling or Refinancing? Zoning FAQs

If you plan to sell or refinance your property be aware that most banks, title attorneys and mortgage brokers now require borrowers to verify their property is in zoning compliance. Discovering your property is not compliant can be an unpleasant (and sometimes costly) surprise and can impact the timing of your property closing.

Before you refinance or sell please check on your zoning status with Westford Zoning Administrator Kate Lalley. She can help you resolve any outstanding zoning requirements that may exist before you close. You can reach Kate at zoning_admin@westfordvt.us or 878-4587.

Getting into zoning compliance can take time! Depending on the situation, it can take 30 days or longer to achieve zoning compliance. Only afterwards can the ZA certify the full zoning compliance most purchasers and lenders now expect. Plan ahead!

WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

http://westfordpubliclibrary.org

(802) 878-5639

westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com

1717 VERMONT ROUTE 128, WESTFORD VT 05494



Travel Talk
Wednesday, March 13
7-8:30pm
Destination: Denmark
Presenters: Patricia and Michael Hechmer

One of the most bicycle friendly cities in the world, a Viking capital, a Baltic island closer to Sweden, Germany, and Poland than to the rest of Denmark. These were the highlights of our July 2018 trip to Copenhagen, Roskilde, and Bornholm, Denmark. What was it like

to stay at a hotel without staff or travel on the world's fastest catamaran ferry. How does an island the size of Nantucket operate a fast, reliable bus service? How can a major port provide water clean enough for swimming? Welcome to Denmark.

Celtic Coloring (1nd grade & up)
Wed., March 13 afterschool-5pm
Kids can ride Bus #3 (w/note from home) to the library and enjoy detailed Celtic drawings to color, listen to Irish music and have some Irish goodies. Get ready for St. Patrick's Day by exploring a bit of Ireland!

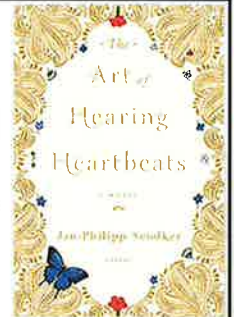


Art with Janet is Back!
Thursday, March 28
Afterschool - 5pm
Kids can take bus #3 with a note from home.
We will be making puppets!
This activity is for ages 7 and up.
Space is limited - Sign up required.

Library Hours

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

Adult Book Group
March 20
7:00-8:00pm
Pick up your books at the front desk!
The Art of Hearing Heartbeats
by: Jan Philipp Sendker



The first book in the Art of Hearing Heartbeats series, this is a passionate love story, a haunting fable, and an enchanting mystery set in Burma.

When a successful New York lawyer suddenly disappears without a trace, neither his wife nor his daughter Julia has any idea where he might be...until they find a love letter he wrote many years ago, to a Burmese woman they have never heard of. Intent on solving the mystery and coming to terms with her father's past, Julia decides to travel to the village where the woman lived. There she uncovers a tale of unimaginable hardship, resilience, and passion that will reaffirm the reader's belief in the power of love to move mountains. (from Amazon.com)

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

3/7/19: Theme: Green

3/14/19: Theme: St. Patrick's Day

3/21/19: Theme: Caldecott Winners

3/28/19: Theme: Doreen Cronin Stories

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

March Library Events

- March 6 - Trustees Meeting 7-9pm
 - March 8 - Crazy 8's Math Club begins!
 - March 13 - Celtic Coloring afterschool - 5pm
 - March 13 - Travel Talk 7-8:30pm, Destination: Denmark, presented by: Patricia and Michael Hechmer
 - March 16 - St. Patrick's Day Storytime 10:30-11:30
 - March 20 - Adult Book Discussion 7-8pm, discussing The Art of Hearing Heartbeats by Jan Philipp-Sendker
 - March 22 - No Crazy 8's Math Club
 - March 28 - Art with Janet: Puppets - afterschool - 5pm, sign up required
 - March 29 - Stuffed Animal Sleepover - drop off animals by 7pm
 - March 30 - Breakfast with your Animal after the Stuffed Animal Sleepover, 9-10am. All animals must be picked up by 2pm.
- Storytime every Thursday at 11am
Knitting Group meets Thursdays 6:30-8pm
Crazy 8's Grades K-2 Fridays



Begins March 8 and runs through May 10
Fridays: Grades K-2 (no class on 3/22 or 4/26)
Bus #3 from Westford School
Class ends 4:30pm, pick up as late as 5pm
This class is FULL, but there is a waitlist if interested. Contact Bree for more info.

Stuffed Animal Sleepover and Breakfast with the Animals!

Sleepover: Drop off by 7pm March 29
Breakfast: March 30 from 9:00-10:00am

We're having a stuffed animal sleep over at the Library! Drop off one of your furry friends anytime the week of 3/27-3/29 and the animals will have a fun sleepover at the Library the night of March 29.

Bree will treat them to a good time and then you can pick them up and have breakfast with your animal at the Library! Breakfast will be from 9:00-10:00am - all animals should be picked up on Saturday by 2pm.

Bree will have a slideshow ready of all the fun things they did at the library that night. Will they get into trouble? Be well behaved? We'll have to see!



St. Patrick's Day Story Time Saturday, March 16 from 10:30am-11:30am

Come in for a "lucky" story time. We'll read stories, do a craft, sample some Irish goodies and maybe even look for some gold left behind by a leprechaun. Plan to come for the whole time, rather than drop in (especially if you want to find gold!)



The Library is **no longer accepting donations** of books, audiobooks, and DVDs **at this time** for our annual Fourth of July Book Sale. We will begin accepting donations in the spring of 2019. Thank you for supporting our annual Fourth of July Book Sale.

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

We currently have an opening for a Recreation Committee Member. If you are interested in helping to shape the recreation programs in Westford please reach out. Our meetings are the first Tuesday of each month at the Town offices at 7pm. You can also email us at recreation@westfordvt.us

Join Miss Bree at the Library on St. Patrick's Day for storytime!

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be on The Common on April 20th for kids of all ages. After the festivities Miss Bree will be hosting crafts at the Library.

Yoga with Cat; March 7th-April 25th, Thursdays at the Red Brick Meeting House. \$84 for the session, \$13 drop in's welcome.

Did you miss the deadline for Lacrosse registration? Tiny Cats, 3|4 and 5|6.

We have extended the deadline to March 1st.

Tiny Cats program will run mid-April to early June with practices on Thursdays 6-7pm. We are hoping to play one or two games against St. Albans and Milton.

Players will need their own sticks. Registration fee is \$30.

3/4 and 5/6 coed will run early April to mid-June with practices on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 530-7pm with Saturday games starting in May.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR ALL PROGRAMS

Players will need their own sticks, padding and helmets. A limited number of helmets are available for loan from the Rec Department on a first come first served basis. Please note you would like to use on the registration form.

Registration fees for 3/4 are \$50 and 5/6 is \$75 per player. Registration with the US lacrosse association is also needed, last year the additional cost was \$25.

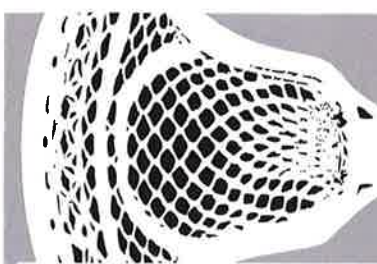
Any question? Please reach out to Coach Brent Carpenter at brent.carpenter29@gmail.com or Tonya Calley, recreation coordinator at recreation@westfordvt.us or 802.324.7132.

This summer we will be offering Soccer Camp and Art Camp. Stay tuned for more information.

Keep up to date with all recreation happenings on our Facebook page, Westford Recreation Department, the Town Newsletter and Front Porch Forum. You can also visit the town website at www.westfordvt.us/recreation.

Yours in recreation,

Maureen Carpenter, Danielle Trudeau, Ben McElvany, Kristi Griffin, Megan Valyou-Orisko, Chuck Medick and Tonya Calley



WESTFORD

LACROSSE

REGISTER BY MARCH 1, 2019

Tiny Cats K—2

3/4 & 5/6 Coed

Mid April to Early June

Early April to Mid June

Thursdays 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Tuesdays and Thursdays and Fridays

Players need to have their own sticks. The fees are still \$30.00 per player.

5:30 - 7:00 PM Saturday Games

Games begin Saturdays in May. In the beginning of the season, we will practice three times a week until we start playing games in May.

We are hoping to play one or two jamborees against St. Albans and Milton. Players will need to have their own sticks, gloves and elbow pad are recommended.



**We are open to any players wishing to join our team!
Same rate all towns!**

Players will begin to build on skills and basic game play. In the beginning of the season, practices are three times a week until we start playing games in May. The team will play around ten games during the season. We are part of the Northern Vermont Youth Lacrosse League.

Players need their own sticks, padding and helmets. A limited number of helmets are available from the Rec. Department use on a first come first served basis. Please put a note on the registration form if you need a helmet.

Registration fees: 3/4 \$50.00 per player • 5/6 \$75 per player

Players will need to register with US Lacrosse also.

Previous season cost was an additional \$25.00.

If you have questions about the game of lacrosse, or wish to speak to the coach

Contact Brent Carpenter at brent.carpenter29@gmail.com.

Tonya Calley, Recreation Department Coordinator: 802-324.7132 or recreation@westfordvt.us

Committee members: Danielle Trudeau, Greg Baker, Ben McElvany, Maureen Carpenter, Kristi Griffin, Megan Valyou Orisko and Charles Medick

Westford Recreation Department—Registration Form

NAME (Parents) _____

ADDRESS _____ TOWN _____ ZIP _____

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

HOME PHONE _____ ALT 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. _____	_____	_____	_____

Total Fee: _____

Would you be willing to coach or be a parent helper? ____Yes ____No

I agree that Westford Recreation may use photographs of registrants with or without their name and for any lawful purpose, including for example such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content.

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

Essex Westford School District

Early Education Options

The Essex Westford School District is committed to providing quality early education options to the residents of Essex Junction, Essex Town, and Westford

Westford Residents

School-Based Preschool

Westford School

OR

Community-Based Preschools

Universal Pre-K/Act 166 available for 3 & 4 year olds who attend state approved/ qualified programs

The deadline to apply for EWSD school-based programs is

Friday March 1, 2019

Application for Pre-K Act 166 slots can be made at any time.

Please complete the online form at www.ewsd.org or on the Westford Elementary School web page to enter your child in the preschool lottery and to learn more about EWSD's early education options.

**Questions?
Please contact:**

Clara Moreno
cmoreno@ewsd.org
(802) 857-2013
58 Founders Road



*The 8th Grade Class
of Westford Elementary School
invites you to attend an*



ITALIAN DINNER!!!

April 5, 2019

5:00-6:00pm Senior Appreciation Hour (daylight hours, quieter dining environment, more available parking, \$1 off your dinner).

5:00-6:30pm Curbside Pickup (Can't make the dinner? Order and pay online, drive up through our special curb-side pickup line, and your order will be brought out to your car! Easy and fast. Link coming soon!)

6:00-8:00pm General Public Dinner Hours (Seating is on a first-come first-served basis!
We look forward to serving our community)!

Cost:

\$7 per person w/Max Family price of \$30

\$1 off per meal during Senior Appreciation Hour

Raffle Tickets will be sold during event for all the amazing prizes we have gathered! You do not need to be in attendance to win.

Raffle Tickets \$1 each/ 6 for \$5 / Arm's Length for \$10

Menu

Each Dinner includes the following:

Drink (milk, water, fruit punch or coffee), Bread & Butter, Salad with Italian or Ranch Dressing, Main Course (choice of Meat or Veggie Lasagna, Ziti w/Butter, Sauce, and/or Meatballs) and Dessert of Ice Cream & a Cookie



*ALL proceeds from the dinner and raffle
will go towards paying for the 16 students
in the WES 8th Grade Class to travel to
Washington D.C. May 7-10th.
We APPRECIATE your SUPPORT!!*



THE WESTFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT TAG SALE

To benefit the Westford Volunteer Fire Department

Drop Off Dates:



- * Saturday, April 27, 9-11am
- * Monday, April 29, 7-9pm
- * Friday, May 3, 4-6pm

Declutter your attic or garage and bring items for donation to the Westford Town Garage on Cambridge Rd. NO CLOTHING, BOOKS, COMPUTERS, TV's, OR EXERCISE EQUIPMENT, PLEASE. For more information, please call Susan Schmidt (878-7573).

Tag Sale Date:

Saturday, May 4; Green Up Day; 9 AM – 2 PM

Westford Town Garage, Cambridge Road, Westford

Come find bargains and support your local volunteer fire department.



VERMONT INCOME TAX FORMS

Ways to get your Vermont Income Tax forms from the Vermont Department of Taxes

1. Download, complete and print fillable PDF forms from the web: www.bit.ly/vttaxforms
2. Order forms by email: <https://tax.vermont.gov/form-request>
3. Order forms by phone: call toll-free in the U.S. at (855) 297-5600

WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES

PRESENTS

MAPLE JAM



When: Sunday, March 3, 2019, 4-5pm
Where: Westford White Church on the Common, Route 128, Westford Village
Contact: Marjorie Hamrell at mhamrell@comcast.net or 802-879-4028

Vermont's premier a-cap-paella vocal jazz group, Maple Jam, will be returning to Westford to perform their sweet swing and popular musical arrangements on Sunday, March 3rd. With their lush close harmony, wide vocal range and oft times amusing renditions they have created a large following among Vermonters who love the best in vocal music. Maple Jam has been entertaining audiences throughout Vermont since their days when they informally began as fellow performers with the Vermont Symphony Orchestra Chorus. Having recently taken a year off to regroup as a seven-singer ensemble, they have come back even stronger with beautiful renditions of irresistible blends in the finest singing tradition. From the music of Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Neal Hefti, Miles Davis and more, Maple Jam's got it covered.

Concert will be free will donation. Refreshments to follow. Call 879-4028 for information.