



59 Court Street
Westfield, MA 01085



Mayor Brian Sullivan

City News



City of Westfield

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Report a Concern

SeeClickFix

Retire the Fire! – Starts Here

Westfield, MA –

The Westfield Council on Aging has created a program to promote fire prevention and safety awareness specifically targeted at the senior population. The Retire the Fire program was created in 2013 by Tina Gorman, Executive Director of the Westfield Senior Center.

In its 5th year, the program was created in response to a series of fatal fires that occurred within less than a year's time. "A kindly gentleman who was a frequent member at the Senior Center, perished in a home fire. He died from the heat. It was then I knew I had to do something."

After brainstorming with community partners, the "Retire the Fire" campaign was born. The week in March was chosen because it is right at Daylight Savings time, when people are encouraged to change the batteries in their smoke detectors. Retire the Fire Week is March 6 – 10, 2017.

RETIRE THE FIRE!



WESTFIELD COUNCIL ON AGING

This year's Retire the Fire campaign will include a week long observance of all things fire safe, and the promotion of a special program funded through a Senior Safe grant, called "File of Life".

The File of Life is a personal medical home file prepared for emergency first responders and is meant to provide quick and easy access to an individual's basic medical information. It is a red magnetic plastic folder that can be kept on the refrigerator for speedy access in the event of an emergency. The file contains important personal information regarding health and emergency contacts in the event that the person in need is unable to give that information.

Vacant Committee Positions

The City currently has a need for volunteers to serve on a few Boards and Committees. If any city resident has an interest and the time to participate in their local government, openings

exist in the following areas:

Cultural Council,
Commission for Citizens with Disabilities, Flood Control Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission (Ward 2),

Zoning Board of Appeals (2nd Alternate).

If interested, please contact Mayor Sullivan's office at (413) 572-6201.

Western Avenue Improvement Project

“Federal aid will pay for 80% of the project; MassDOT will pay for the remaining 20%.”

There was a good resident turnout at the MassDOT update meeting regarding the Central Phase of the Western Avenue project.

About 50 residents attended in poor weather conditions to hear the latest – thank you to those who attended. MassDOT and the design team from Milone & MacBroom incorporated public comments received from

the last three meetings. The improvements will provide a safe multi-purpose lane for runners, dog walkers and bikers. This path will be on the north side of Western Avenue and continue down Lloyds Hill.

Drivers will realize benefits as well with designated turning lanes at busy intersections and entrances. A permanent traffic light will be installed

where the temporary one is now, providing better alignment with Westwood Drive, and an easier entry into the commuter lot.

Federal aid will pay for 80% of the project; MassDOT will pay for the remaining 20%. The city will provide infrastructure improvements to water, sewer and drainage systems along the same construction route.

Housing Rehabilitation Assistance

The City of Westfield has funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, through its Community Development Block Grant Program, to assist qualified owner-occupants in making necessary repairs to their homes to eliminate building code violations, eliminate unsafe or unhealthy conditions, undertake accessibility modifications, improve weatherization, or undertake other

necessary repairs to improve the quality of living conditions. Funding for this program is being targeted to the downtown area and around Hampton Ponds. Initial funding is available for approximately 3 to 4 units.

The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission will be assisting the City in the implementation of this Housing Rehabilitation Program. Additional information on the application process will be forthcoming in March, and

an informational session will be held to explain program specifics.

Additionally, the program is soliciting qualified **SEPTIC DESIGNERS & INSTALLERS, LEAD PAINT INSPECTORS, BUILDING CONTRACTORS**

Interested contractors/designers/inspectors who meet insurance, licensing, and other application requirements will be added to the bidders list.

For additional information, please contact Peter Miller, at (413) 572-6246.



City of Westfield



Whipping Around Westfield

In March of 2016, the Westfield Historical Commission met the past with the future. In partnership with a company called PocketSights, the “Whipping Around Westfield” app was born.

“Our goal is to be a catalyst for economic growth by boosting tourism and driving more foot traffic into less populated areas.” states the PocketSights website.

The tour includes 9 stops throughout downtown Westfield. The total trip

is 1.4 miles long and can be done on foot or by bike. The app allows for a voice guided tour or self-guided, with written detailed descriptions.

The app is free and available through both the iTunes Store and Google Play.