



November 6

This Week's Protest

November is Native American Heritage Month, or as it is commonly referred to, American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month.

The month is a time to celebrate rich and diverse cultures, traditions, and histories and to acknowledge the important contributions of Native people. Heritage Month is also an opportune time to educate the general public about tribes, to raise a general awareness about the unique challenges Native people have faced both historically and in the present, and the ways in which tribal citizens have worked to conquer these challenges.

Join us on the steps of the post office this Sunday as we continue to have engaging conversations and learn from each other. This week, we will be inspired once again by the music and words of **Frank Pendola**.



Last Week's Protest

We celebrated Children's Day on Sunday, October 30 with a Halloween Party. Stories, refreshments and crafts were featured. A few of our young activists added to the festivities by wearing scary and lovely costumes.

Refreshments were exquisitely prepared by **Christine Davidson**. Sweet treats of spider webs, spiders made from cookies and spooky finger-looking sugar cookies delighted everyone. Thank you Chris and Larry for always coming through.

Crafts and fun for children of all ages was directed by **Anne Pearce**. Bat rings, decorating spooky skull necklaces, and sidewalk chalk art led by **Meredith Ingram** rounded out the day's adventures. Westerly ARC thanks everyone who participated and joins in every week as we continue our efforts to make our community of Westerly a welcoming place to live and work.

We meet every **Sunday from 11:00-1:00** on the steps of the Westerly Post Office on High Street. Join us anytime!

Empower



Speak Out Against Lies

At the November 2 Westerly School Committee meeting a private citizen accused ARC of holding secret meetings with the members of the Town Council and School Committee in 2020 and 2021, claiming that this violated the Open Meetings Act. Although he has brought this up before and was told that no violation occurred, he continues to pursue this claim and accused Leslie Dunn and Kevin Lowther of misleading the public. Both Leslie and Kevin are candidates for School Committee and Town Council, respectively. You can see this exchange on the [Westerly Schools Facebook page](#) at 3:14:40 in the recording. The Westerly ARC Steering Committee has written a response which will be posted on social media and is linked below.

In the face of outright lies regarding Westerly ARC, as well as attacks on two candidates and others who are ARC members, it is important to defend the truth. We urge all of our readers to find space to share your experience with Westerly ARC and speak out against these unfounded accusations. Whether it is through social media posts, conversations, letters to the editor, attending our rallies, speaking at town meetings, emails, or any other method - now is the time to let your voice be heard.

Candidate Forums, Stay Informed

As we approach the final days before the election, make sure you take the time to make an informed decision and have a plan to vote (if you haven't already voted by mail)!

Ways to get involved:

- Write a letter to the editor in support of your candidates.
- Volunteer to canvas with a candidate.
- Do your research. See the links below for helpful resources on candidates and voting.
- Talk to others about your voting decisions and encourage everyone to vote!

Making Sense of This Election

Confused about the issues in this election? Read this letter from Westerly ARC about the issues we have been following to help you make an informed choice.

[Read about the Issues](#)

[Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce Candidates' Night](#)

[League of Women Voters Town Council Candidate Forum](#)

[League of Women Voters School Committee and State Senate](#)

Town Meetings

Westerly ARC encourages those who can to attend Westerly Town Council and School Committee meetings. Your presence and involvement is an important way to show our elected officials that creating a more equitable and inclusive town and school system must always be a priority.



Monday, Nov 7 Town Council Workshop, 5:30 pm

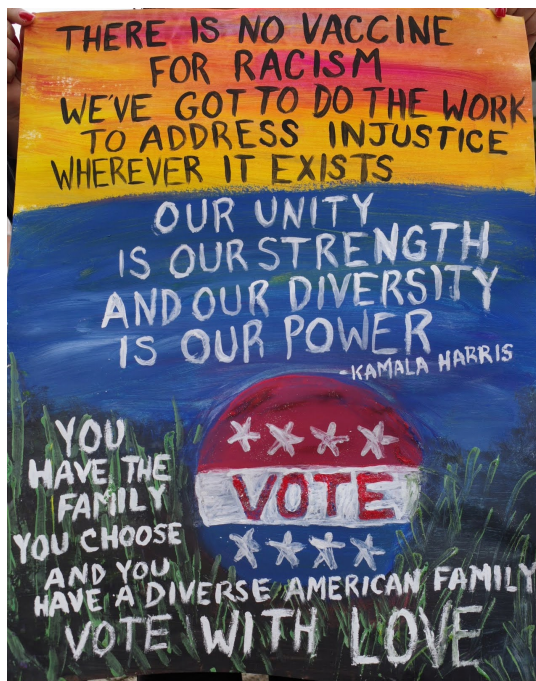
Monday, Nov 14 Town Council Meeting, 5:30 pm

Wednesday, Nov 16 School Committee Meeting, 5:00 pm

Monday, Nov 21 Town Council Workshop and Regular Meeting 5:30 pm

Here is the link to meeting schedules and agendas:

<https://clerkshq.com/westerly-ri>



Voters' Corner

Early Voting Oct. 19–Nov. 7 (Town Hall)

Election Day: November 8

Click button below for sample ballot

Voting Resources

- Vote.RI.gov - Update your voting record, register to vote, find your polling place, view a sample ballot, apply for a mail ballot and more!
- [League of Women Voters of Rhode Island](https://www.lwvri.org/) - a nonpartisan political organization encouraging informed and active participation in government; conducts candidate

forums and has many local resources.

- [Vote.org](https://www.vote.org/) - online voter guides for every state, including where to vote, what's on the ballot, voter registration forms, absentee ballot applications and more!

- Vote411.org - another resource to access personalized voting information, including your ballot, polling place, upcoming debates, and more.

Sample Ballot

Act

Here are a few ongoing ways you can support the work of Westerly ARC.

[View our Calendar](#)



Share

Spread the news!
Forward this newsletter to at least one person you think might be interested in it. Ask them to sign up for our newsletter on the [Westerly ARC website](#).

We have **over 200 subscribers** as of now; help us reach an even wider audience!



Donate

ARC member Amanda Dunn continues to collect toiletries, personal care items, and non-perishable food to distribute to our community. Please bring your donations to Amanda at our Sunday rallies. Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated.



Show Up

Stop by one of our weekly protests, join one of the events listed in this newsletter, attend a town meeting, sign up for one of the trainings linked above.

"We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented."
— Elie Wiesel

[Read More](#)

Educate

Guest Opinion: Ballot Questions

Geoff Kaufman, ARC member and resident musician has written a letter in reference to several local questions that are on the ballot this year in the town of Westerly. Although we do not take a formal

position on any of these issues or candidates we welcome the opinions of our membership. [Click here to read Geoff's thoughts](#) on these ballot referendums.



Books Unbanned: From Freedom Riders to Freedom Readers Book Club

The African American Policy Forum is proud to welcome **Ibram X. Kendi** to be in conversation with **Kimberlé Crenshaw** discussing his two children's versions of *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism and You* on **November 9, 2022 at 7 pm**. [Register here](#). The following topics will be discussed:

- How book bans targeting Black and LGBTQ+ authors represent an assault on our democracy.
- What politicians really mean when they object to anti-racism as “divisive” or “age-inappropriateness.”
- What are the best tools educators have to talk about anti-racism in their classrooms.



Picking Up Stones: Grappling with the Moral Dilemma of Israel and Palestine

This 50-minute one-woman monologue was written and will be performed by Sandra Laub, an actress, playwright, and teacher. “Sandra grapples with the moral question of how to remain pro-Israel while disagreeing with Israeli policies and attitudes towards the Palestinian people who live within Israel’s borders.”

This performance will be held on Zoom on Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 3:30. [Click here for more information and to register](#) for the performance.

Culture Calendar

[American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month](#) - November

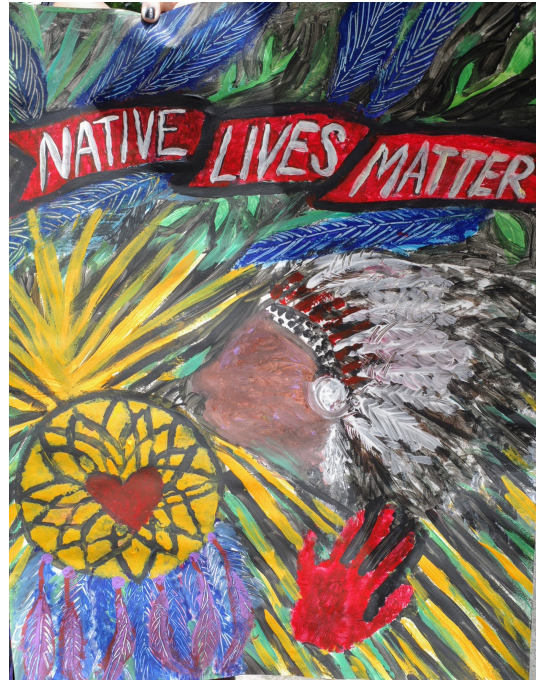
This month is a time to recognize the history, culture, and contributions of Indigenous people. The link above has many relevant resources from the New York City Department of Education. Another great resource is [this article](#) which includes ways to celebrate and [podcasts from the Native community](#).

[Veterans Day](#) - November 11

See the link above to learn about ways you can honor veterans on this important day and year round.

[World Kindness Day](#) - November 13

Did you know that being kind can lower your blood pressure? Find out more in [this article](#) about World Kindness Day.



Artwork by Cookie Rivera

Up Next

Calendar of Events	
November 7	Town Council Workshop, 5:30 pm
November 8	Election Day. Vote!
November 14	Town Council Meeting, 5:30 pm
November 16	School Committee Meeting, 5:00 pm



Westerly Anti-Racism Coalition

Join our weekly protests

westerlyarc@gmail.com

Sundays 11-1

Downtown Westerly Post Office steps

You received this email because you signed up on our website or at one of our events.



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[Megaphone, Fast, Give icons created by Freepik - Flaticon](#)

