

In memoriam

As we meet each week to promote justice, peace, and empathy towards our fellow citizens, we all mourn the loss of life in yet another mass shooting in our country. Our hearts are with the community of The Covenant School in Nashville. Let us never relent in our work for peace and responsible gun laws.

April 2

This Sunday

As the days get longer and warmer we hope you will join us on the post office steps one day soon. On Sunday, April 2, from 11-1 pm we will be there supporting each other by sharing stories, music and laughter. Many new people have been showing up, some with their small children and dogs. It is a welcoming space and as we build this beloved community we encourage you to come as you are whenever you can. We are peacefully standing together to bring awareness to the dangers we are facing as a nation as our democracy faces its latest, but not entirely new threats of racism, sexism, homophobia and radicalization.

Artwork by Cookie Rivera



Last Sunday

Frank Pendola presented us with an engaging lesson on learning history in a way that tells a more complete story. Frank used Joy Hakim's *A History of Us* series in his fifth grade classroom over twenty years ago. Hakim's award winning books tell the stories of lesser known heroes of our history, including those typically underrepresented in traditional textbooks. It is interesting to note that when Frank was "teaching truth" and having uncomfortable conversations with his fifth graders two decades ago, no one accused him of indoctrinating his students or asked him to stop. Frank left us to ponder the words of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in his poem "[The Arrow and the Song.](#)"

Juneteenth Update

The Juneteenth committee is planning a lovely celebration for Juneteenth 2023! This will be our 3rd year observing this federal holiday that commemorates the emancipation of enslaved people

in the United States. Sunday, June 18th is the proposed date with the theme "Celebrating the Journey" We will use our regular Sunday time from 11-1pm so as not to interfere with Father's Day. The exact location will be announced soon. There will be music, speakers, performers, crafts and traditional foods. All ages are welcome. If you would like to bring refreshments or help in any other way please contact us by sending an email to westerlyarc@gmail.com or speak to one of the organizers at the Sunday gathering. With everyone's help we can make this the best Juneteenth ever!



peace parade

Nonviolence is active and challenges us to stand up to injustice on personal and societal levels. The principles and steps can be applied to virtually all situations that we experience in our lives each day. Learn about what nonviolence is and ways to manifest it within your community.

Join us on Saturday, 4/29 at Saugutucket Park in Wakefield

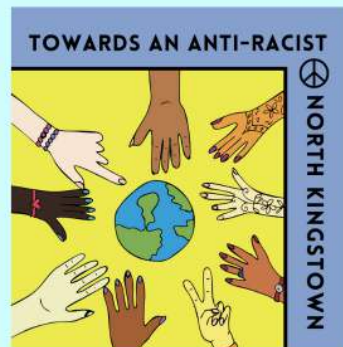
**Kid and pet friendly!
Face painting for kids**

10am - 12pm

Snacks

Information

Activities for kids



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

EMPOWER

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.



April 3 Town Council Meeting 5:30 pm

April 5 School Committee Meeting 5:00 pm

April 13 Multicultural Committee Meeting 5:30 pm

April 17 Town Council Meeting 5:30 pm

April 19 School Committee Meeting 5:00 pm

Here is the link to meeting schedules and agendas:

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

Help Improve Our Newsletter

Help Wanted

Thank you to Lisa Chen who has volunteered to assist with the ARC newsletter. She will be a wonderful addition to our tiny staff and has vast experience. We have plenty of room for more volunteers! Ask the young people in your life and encourage them to get involved!

- **Compiling, formatting, and publishing** - We will train you in how to use our newsletter template to add previously created content. You will work with an experienced person and be able to add your own ideas!
- **Creating content** - You will assist with researching and creating specific content for our newsletter. We have some ideas, and you can bring your own.

- **Taking photos** - Can you take some photos at our weekly gatherings on the post office steps and/or at other events? We'd love to use your photos in the newsletter.

Maybe you know a young person who is good with technology or would like to earn some community service hours! Click below to contact us if you are interested or talk to Madeline or Tim on Sunday. Thank you!

[Click here to contact us](#)

Click the images below for details on these two empowering opportunities



6th annual Kingian Nonviolence Global Summer Institute 2023

[Register Here](#)



- Acquire skills to enhance the community within your classroom
- Practice effective problem solving skills
- Use the Nonviolent Steps to reconcile conflict and restore relationships
- Maximize teaching time by utilizing proactive techniques to decrease disruptions

August
1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22
via Zoom

9:00-11:45 a.m.
E. S. T. (U.S.A.)

Designed for school staff, administrators, and those who work with or for young people

website: NonviolentSchoolsRI.com
Contact: NONVIOLENTSCHOOL5@GMAIL.COM



24th Annual International Nonviolence Summer Institute June 5-16, 2023
On-campus



Nonviolence and conflict resolution training based on the philosophy and strategy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Level I Nonviolence Training Certification: June 5-16 (Training fee: \$825 tuition + \$100 registration) Housing fee for Level I: Two weeks of campus housing at Barakat Hall (Incolod): \$750

Level II Nonviolence Leadership Training: June 12-16 (Training fee: \$550 tuition + \$100 registration) Housing fee for Level II: one week of campus housing at Barakat Hall, if needed: \$385

Some scholarships, Azechem, credits available for Summer Institute I
More info at: www.uri.edu/nonviolence

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND CENTER FOR NONVIOLENCE AND PEACE STUDIES

The URI Center for Nonviolence and Peace Studies organizes educational programs, training workshops, documentary films, and guest lecture series to promote nonviolence, foster peace, well-being, human rights, and a beloved global community. Learn more: www.uri.edu/nonviolence Phone: (401) 874-2872

[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/uri.nonviolence) [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/uri.nonviolence) [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/uri-nonviolence) [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) [TikTok](https://www.tiktok.com/@uri.nonviolence)

Positions Available on Town Council Boards

Get involved and make positive changes in Westerly by volunteering for one of the many boards.

Applications can be obtained on the Town of Westerly's website www.westerlyri.gov and submitted to the Office of Town Clerk.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (ALTERNATE MEMBER)

LICENSING BOARD (AUXILIARY MEMBER)

VETERANS 'ROLLS OF HONOR' MEMORIAL COMMITTEE (1ST AND 2nd ALTERNATES)

HOUSING AUTHORITY (ONE MEMBER)

MULTICULTURAL COMMITTEE (TWO MEMBERS)

CONSERVATION COMMISSION (FULL MEMBER)

CONSERVATION COMMISSION (AUXILIARY MEMBER)

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (ALTERNATE MEMBER)

BOARD OF FINANCE (TWO FULL MEMBERS)

CONCERTS ON THE BEACH COMMITTEE (TWO FULL MEMBERS)

COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (ALTERNATE MEMBER)

MUNICIPAL LAND TRUST (FULL MEMBER)

HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Act

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



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](#).

Don't forget to like, subscribe, comment, and share on our social media posts!



Donate

ARC advocate 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 gatherings, join one of the events listed in this newsletter, attend a town meeting, etc.

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

— Elie Wiesel

[View our Calendar](#)



April 29

Picking Up Stones: An American Jew's Moral Dilemma

Sandra Laub's "Picking Up Stones: An American Jew's Moral Dilemma" blends wry humor, tragedy, and the voices of Israelis from differing political and religious stripes to create a fresh commentary on what it means to be a liberal Jew in America

today: balancing allegiance to Israel, taking a stand against antisemitism and trying to act out of a morality based on Jewish values. See this one-hour performance at the United Theater on Saturday, April 29 at 2:00pm. Read more and [order tickets here](#).

Culture Calendar

April 2 **World Autism Day**

"The narrative around autism is gradually moving away from misconceptions of curing and converting autistic people to an inclusive approach focusing on accepting, supporting and involving autistic people, and embracing the concept of neurodiversity – the idea that people experience and interact with the world in many different ways and that there is no one "right" way." [Read more](#) from the United Nations.

April 5-13 **Passover**

Passover (AKA Pesach) is the springtime holiday observed by Jewish people everywhere on the date when G-d took the Jewish people out of Egypt. It lasts for eight days (seven days in Israel), during which no bread, or anything that contains grain that has fermented, is to be consumed or even owned. (Chabad.org)



Up Next

Calendar of Events	
April 3	Town Council Meeting, 5:30
April 5	School Committee Meeting, 5:00

April 13	Multicultural Committee Meeting, 5:30
April 17	Town Council Meeting, 5:30
April 19	School Committee Meeting, 5:00
April 29	Peace Parade, Saugatucket Park in Wakefield, 10am-12pm
April 29	" Picking Up Stones ," United Theater, 2:00



Westerly Anti-Racism Coalition

Join our weekly gatherings

Sundays 11-1

Downtown Westerly Post Office steps

westerlyarc@gmail.com

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



[Unsubscribe](#)

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

