

Local yokel

(n.) a country folk living in a quaint neighborhood community

West
Stockbridge
May 2018



This month's cover photo was taken by Leslie Klein, who says, "This adorable chipmunk (we named her Chikita) was just emerging from an old apple tree in my front yard."

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 2005

TOWN MEETING & ELECTION INFORMATION INSIDE



LUCKY 7?

On May 17, the WSFM will begin its 7th season at 3 p.m. on Merritt Green.

Most of our founding and favorite vendors will be returning with their glorious produce and products, and a new group of growers and producers will be joining to offer even more choices to our most appreciated visitors.

Opening day is special. Everyone works very hard to have product to offer and goodies to tempt. Do stop by and welcome your old friends back and meet our newest members. Start planning your own garden—you'll be so glad you did.

So get back in the groove! Wander down, reconnect with your neighbors, shop, select some dinner, and enjoy the music! Moonshine Holler, Reinhardt/Ciccarelli, and Nate Martel will be performing in May.

Don't miss it!



Left to right:

Molly Comstock of Colfax Farm has been busy prepping for the seventh season.

Chef Tony Carlotto of Rolling Rock Farm is ready to share technique and recipes.

Taft Farms veggie starts waiting to be taken home.

Villa Mia's luscious treats will be back again.

All photos by Robin Schmitt



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

KIDS' CARNIVAL: FOR KIDS, BY KIDS



Photos by Robin Schmitt

HOORAY!

Opening Day, May 17, will feature the return of last year's immensely well-received Kids' Carnival!

Designed by, built by, and run by area children, the Kids' Carnival is an entertaining and fun-filled tribute to the creativity of youth. Using readily available items, the kids put together games to amuse and test skills! Are you ready for the challenge? There will be prizes!

Don't Miss It!

Board of Selectmen Meeting Summaries

By Doane Perry

Note: Copies of official board minutes are available at the West Stockbridge Public Library. Video recordings of town meetings are broadcast on Charter Cable channel 190. Residents can be notified by e-mail of town events and meeting agendas by subscribing at <http://weststockbridgema.virtualltownhall.net/subscriber>.

Open Meeting: March 26, 2018

Annual Town Meeting

The board continued its discussion of the annual town meeting warrant and FY 2019 budget.

Gennari Letter Regarding Troy's Garage

The selectmen decided that discussion will be held when both parties are present, which was not the case this night, to encourage chances of reaching agreement.

Electric Rates

Mark Webber reported that National Grid has announced its electricity rate, which is 10.7 cents now and will be 10.87 cents after May 1. The selectmen want residents to know that the town has negotiated a favorable rate.

Other Business:

- Mark Webber reported he has sent a letter to Crane Lake Camp asking for a donation for the playground renovation.

Open Meeting: April 2, 2018

Building Use Requests

Karen Carmean, president of the Guild of Berkshire Artists, presented a proposal to exhibit art in the Town Offices and library. Peter Skorput

said he would call the state fire marshal to find out what regulations pertain. Discussion of the exhibit plan will be on the agenda of the next meeting.

A proposal to use the gym for basketball will be discussed when Mark Webber returns (Mark was absent from this meeting).

Spectrum Cable

Peter announced that Spectrum Cable is adding the Fusion Channel to its service in West Stockbridge.

Annual Town Caucus

The caucus was moderated by Joe Roy, and Town Clerk Ronni Barrett took notes. A quorum of 20 citizens was present.

Nominations for elected offices:

- For moderator, incumbent Eugene Dellea was nominated for a one-year term; there were no other nominations.
- For Board of Selectmen, Doane Perry was nominated for a three-year term; there were no other nominations.
- For Board of Assessors, Susan Lupo was nominated for a three-year term; there were no other nominations.

...continued on page 5

**BERKSHIRE
PROPERTY
AGENTS.COM**

413 528 6800

MARKETING AND SELLING BERKSHIRE,
COLUMBIA AND LITCHFIELD COUNTIES

TIM LOVETT JEN HARVEY TOM LYNCH
SHEA POTOSKI BARBARA SCHULMAN
SELINA LAMB CLAUDIA CRANE
RUSS STEIN DEBORAH LEVINSON
SUSAN LAIDLAW CHRISTIAN DECKERT
BILL O'LEARY JONATHAN HANKIN
LESLIE CHESLOFF JANE LARKWORTHY

12 RAILROAD ST GREAT BARRINGTON MA

*BASED ON BERKSHIRE BOARD OF REALTORS FIGURES

**#1 TOP SELLING
REAL ESTATE
AGENCY
IN BERKSHIRE
COUNTY
2016***



May History Quiz Question:



**West Stockbridge
Historical Society**
Incorporated in 1994

The annual town meeting has been a fixture in New England, and particularly the Massachusetts Bay Colony, since the late 17th century. Open town meetings started with the Puritans in England, who wanted to retain responsibility for their own local government and taxes. They brought the practice to the New World, where it quickly became an institution. When Governor Thomas Hutchinson tried to abolish town meetings in 1773, it caused the uproar that fueled the resulting revolution. He lost his job and almost his life over that move.

In 1854 Henry David Thoreau said, in a speech on slavery, "When, in some obscure country town, the farmers come together to a special town-meeting, to express their opinion on some subject which is vexing the land, that, I think, is the true Congress, and the most respectable one that is ever assembled in the United States."

What was the first town meeting like in West Stockbridge? How did it differ from our current town meetings?

(Find the answer somewhere in this issue!)

When friends, neighbors, or relatives move, downsize, or just clean house, *please* ask them to think of the West Stockbridge Historical Society before they discard any old books, pictures, postcards, letters, or memorabilia of the Town of West Stockbridge. E-mail info@weststockbridgehistory.org or call 232-4270.



Kevin Holden Inc.

Tree Trimming & Removal

Richmond, MA (413) 698-2696
www.khtree.com

A Little About Us: Established in 1976, we have been in the art and science of tree care for over 40 years. Using state-of-the-art equipment we provide safety for our employees. We offer a wide range of tree care services and our meticulous work on clients' property ensures a beautiful and safe landscape every time.

- Stump Removal
- Land Clearing
- Cabling & Bracing
- Crane Rental
- Tree Removal
- Tree Pruning
- Tree & Shrub Fertilization
- Storm Damage Clean-up

All Types of Tree Work Insured



Member International Society
(New England Chapter)

ISA Certified Arborist

NE 6430A



Thom Lipiczky

Woodworking
& Design



One-of-a-kind furniture, cabinets, commissioned built-ins using traditional joinery, native and exotic woods, occasional salvaged materials, and whimsical designs.

413-717-0118 | thomlipiczky@gmail.com

West Stockbridge | [f Thom Lipiczky Woodworking & Design](https://www.facebook.com/ThomLipiczkyWoodworkingDesign)



The *Local Yokel* is published monthly. Please send submissions to: *Local Yokel*, P.O. Box 238, West Stockbridge, MA 01266 or info@thelocalyokel.org. Copy deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the publication. Editors:

John Parker, 394-4368, john.j.parker53@gmail.com; Vicki Grayson, 232-6131, vicki.grayson@rocketmail.com; Susan Fisher, 232-4443, suefish12@gmail.com; Anne Lesser, 232-8577, anne@annelessercommunications.com.

Contributor: Doane Perry, (617) 547-1413, doaneperry@yahoo.com; Designer: Kim Bradway, kim@bloominarts.com.

The *Local Yokel* is supported in part by a grant from the West Stockbridge Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

- For Finance Committee, for two three-year positions, incumbent William Kie and Kathleen Keresey were nominated. Dan Buhler was nominated for a third three-year term, Gary Schieneman having resigned. There were no other nominations.
- For Planning Board, Sarah Thorne was nominated for a five-year term, and Sue Coxon was nominated for a three-year term. There were no other nominations.
- For Board of Health, Luci Leonard was nominated for a three-year term; there were no other nominations.
- For Library Trustee, Sue Coxon was nominated for a three-year term, and Gail Garrick was nominated for a one-year term. There were no other nominations.
- For Cemetery Commission, Earl Moffatt was nominated for a three-year term; there were no other nominations.

Open Meeting: April 9, 2018

National Grid/Verizon Joint Utility Pole Hearing

A National Grid representative requested permission to install two poles at 44 Maple Hill including 2,500 feet of underground cable to provide new service to a customer. As Highway Department chief, Curt Wilton said the installation would be OK with him if it is well off the road, since the area has steep hills and storm drains. Curt added that National Grid is responsive at the start of an installation but

doesn't like to make changes later. As an example, he cited Pixley Hill where, as the road grew wider, the poles were in the way of traffic.

Curt said it has been a practice to hold a carrier seeking a new permit "hostage" for so-called half-pole removal. A half-pole has occurred on Main Street, and Curt asked National Grid to remove it. The National Grid representative said he would arrange for removal.

Administrative Assistant Mark Webber explained and commented there used to be so-called Verizon-set towns and Grid-set towns where the carriers managed both pole installation and removal by the assigned town. Since a rule change in October 2017, National Grid installs all poles; Verizon removes all poles. But Curt said that Verizon frequently does not fulfill its responsibility.

Town Signage Improvement

West Stockbridge Village Association president Joe Roy asked the board for input on promotion of the town. The 40-member association spends most of its money on their annual brochure. Joe presented a letter to the Board of Selectmen proposing to promote the town through creation of a Promoting West Stockbridge Committee, and presenting a mission statement.

Peter Skorput asked if the association would agree to operate under Board of Selectmen guidelines. If so, Mark said Town Moderator Gene Dellea would appoint a committee. Curt and Bernie Fallon both said they see a merchants' committee as created by the moderator,

...continued on page 7

WANDERING JEWS
 WONDERING JEWS
 CULTURAL JEWS
 MIXED MARRIAGE JEWS
 MIXED UP JEWS
 NON-JEWS
 LGBT JEWS
 CREATIVE JEWS
 SPIRITUAL JEWS
 JEW BU'S
 JUSTICING JEWS
 POLITICAL JEWS
 APOLITICAL JEWS
WELCOME
 YIDDISH SPEAKING JEWS
 INTELLECTUAL JEWS
 SEARCHING JEWS
 OBSERVANT JEWS
 NON-HEBREW-READING JEWS
 PASSIONATE JEWS
 HIGH-HOLY-DAY JEWS
 ARTISTIC JEWS
 AGNOSTIC JEWS
 HAVEN'T-BEEN-IN-SHUL-SINCE-
 MY-BAR-MITZVAH-JEWS

Sound like you? We invite you to call our spiritual leader, Barbara Cohen, at 413-528-4197. Or visit us to learn more.

**RECONSTRUCTIONIST
 CONGREGATION AHAVATH SHOLOM**
 THE CREATIVE SPIRIT DWELLS HERE
 ahavathsholom.com North St., Great Barrington

SHAKER MILL

Fresh BBQ off the smoker EVERY day!

Open for LUNCH

TAVERN
Family
SMOKEHOUSE

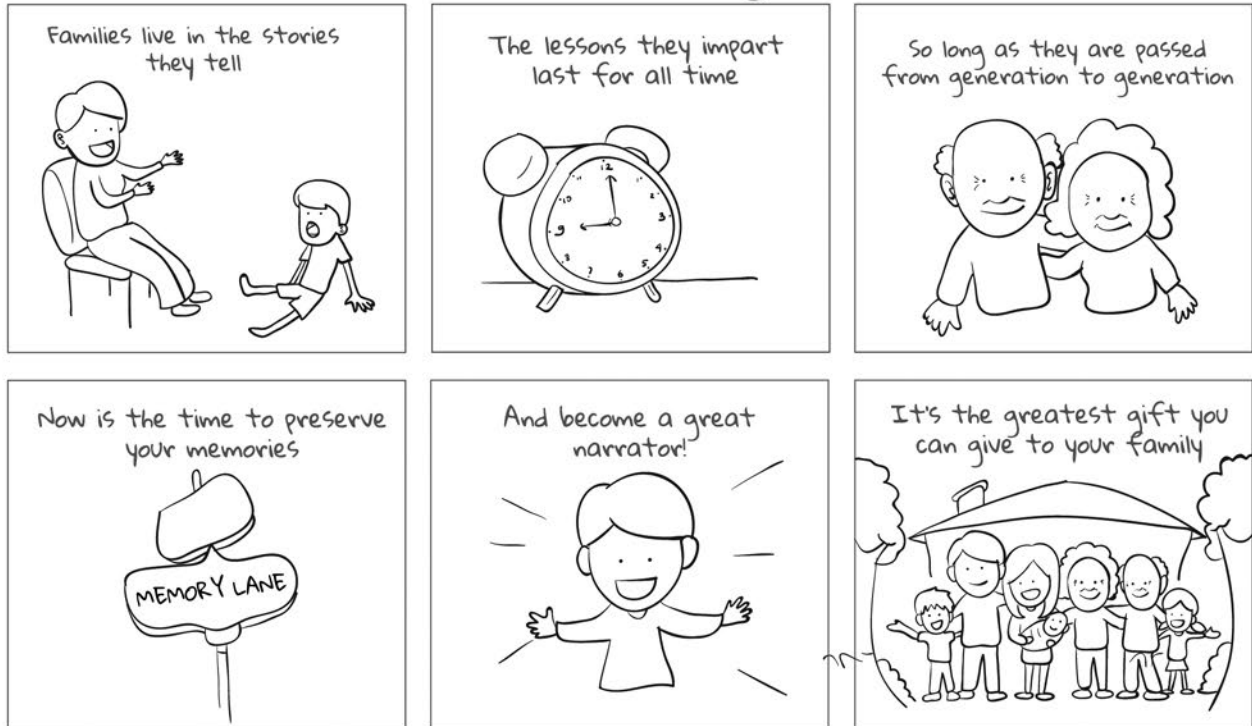
WEEKLY SPECIALS SERVED AFTER 5 PM

Mondays: \$10 Italian Night	Fridays: Prime Rib Smoked or Reg
Thursdays: Mexican Night	Pork Loin Smoked
Sundays: Beef Short Rib	Chicken Picatta & Marsala
	Saturdays: Beef Tomahawk for 2 Smoked or Reg

Mon. 5-9, Thurs. - Sunday 12-9
5 Albany Road, West Stockbridge, MA
413-232-8565 • 413-232-8564

S72856

Storytelling



Debra Ann Levinson, CEO of New York-based DALCO Reporting and a nationally certified court reporter, unveils ScribeTalks, her new publishing company. She takes down narrative memoirs word for word, then, preserves them forever in a perfect-bound paperback-style book.

Your Stories Matter

In honor of Mother's and Father's Day, ScribeTalks is offering Legacy Gift Certificates. Email scribetalks@gmail.com or call 646.217.1271. Visit ScribeTalks.com to learn more.

What some of the narrators are saying:

"Who better to record your life history than a court reporter who has spent her professional life preparing verbatim records for the courts. I'm having a great deal of fun telling these stories and trust it will be a source of information to help my three terrific children make decisions in their lifetime." - FAN

"I synthesized a great deal of material that poured out of me. Debra Levinson redid that outpouring of my 'oral history' and made it readable, a document that fills me with great pride and should satisfy everyone as to her fantastic abilities." -SGF

"No question. The one person to call for a memoir that is completely accurate." -JBK



PO Box 105, West Stockbridge, MA 01266 | 280 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10016

reviewed by the Finance Committee and Planning Board, and directly reflecting the taxes that the town receives from the merchants. Funds would come from general receipts paid by visitors for meals and rooms, so the town would be helping businesses by giving back to the merchants that provide some of its revenues. Because such a committee would require a town meeting vote and it is too late for this year, the selectmen advised the merchants to form a committee to make plans.

Regarding town signage, the selectmen commented that in the past the town had many signs, and developer Gordon Rose was responsible for them. Gordon's signs are still at the turnpike and near the former site of the information booth. Gordon set strict rules about signage at first until some merchants began putting up their own signs. Contention developed between Welcome to West Stockbridge and individual merchant messaging. Joe said the current association puts most of its dollars into its brochure, website, and Facebook, but because existing signs are falling apart, the association wants to put up a few signs. Bernie said he would like signs to promote the town and show creativity.

In a discussion of the organization of the association, Joe commented that in the past the association purposely had no chair and no hierarchy, but today the association should establish a more formal structure. Curt said the association has too many leaders and needs one chairperson in order to relate more effectively to town government.

Peter Skorput predicted that a newly structured, funded, and named merchants' committee will be able to get more done. Curt said the board is very interested in working with a new merchants' organization to promote West Stockbridge.

Town Offices Art Display

Berkshire Artists Guild president Karen Carmean and Peter discussed the guild's request to hang art in the hallway of the Town Offices.

Local Access Cable TV

The selectmen agreed to go ahead with a proposal to implement local access cable television over the Spectrum system that was presented by cable commissioner Bill Barth. Bill said he is comfortable with the plan proposed by What's Heavy Technical Video Services of Great Barrington. Curt thanked Bill for his "good hustle" and asked the commission to focus on implementation. The plan will cover equipment and installation, and cost about \$9,100 of the \$20,000 that Spectrum put into the local access fund.

Other Business:

- Mark Webber reported on his request to the Crane Lake Camp for a donation to the town to help with the expense of new playground equipment being installed at the Town Offices recreation fields. Debbie, the camp's liaison, offered \$306. Since the camp's tax-free status saves it \$30,000 a year and camp counselors use the town's recreational facilities and parking, Mark asked Debbie to go back to her board and ask them to be more generous.
- Mark reported that he has entered into discussions with the Mass Department of Transportation about installing some screening with evergreens at the solar energy array by Exit 1 of the Turnpike.
- Mark reported he has ordered a survey of the 2.02-acre property along Moscow Road that the town is buying from National Grid. Curt Wilton called it the "next hub of the downtown streetscape," and said he has been admiring a massive maple tree in the area.
- Mark asked the selectmen to review the annual report he wrote for them.

The board then went into executive session to discuss litigation. ☐



Opening Day
Thursday, May 17th
through October 4th
3 - 7 PM

Join us each Thursday:

For

- Live Music
- Fabulous Food!
- Entertainment!
- Fun!
- Meet the Farmers

Celebrate the Season!



Find the Rooster at the Market

Win a Prize

That's something to crow about!

Merritt Green on Harris St.
Rain or Shine

Don't Miss It!

fresh local food artisan goods cooking demos kids activities

www.WestStockbridgeFarmersMarket.org

Music Co-Sponsored by W. Stockbridge Cultural Council

Annual Town Meeting and Budget Review

By Mark Webber, Administrative Assistant

Annual Town Meeting May 7 • Annual Town Elections May 14

Special articles to be included on the annual town meeting warrant for FY 2019:

- Discontinuance of Orchard Street. Town counsel has drafted a warrant article.
- Attorney Lori Robbins proposed article to gift town land back to owners off of Orchard Street. Article appears on the warrant via registered voter petition.
- Free cash transfer article to fund aggressive town road improvements multi-year program. Amount: \$70,000.
- Sewer Enterprise article to transfer \$46,809 from available sewer enterprise retained earnings to correct a deficit due to required local share for recent sewer expansion project. This will leave a balance of \$97,000 in available sewer enterprise fund surplus.
- Free cash transfers of \$35,000 each to both Stabilization Fund and Capital Stabilization Fund. Prior years have appropriated \$25,000 to each fund.
- Free cash transfer of \$40,000 for a new police cruiser. Police chief proposes to maintain three cruisers for the department.
- Free cash transfer of \$35,000 for upgrade of Village School playground equipment.
- Free cash transfer of \$35,000 for repairs to Fire Station/Highway garage roof.
- Free cash transfer of \$10,000 for purchase of National Grid public bathroom area property.
- Free cash transfer of \$30,000 for installation of “swap shop” at Transfer Station.
- Free cash transfer of \$2,100 for e-permitting system to enable online building, electrical, and plumbing permitting.
- If all free cash articles (listed above) are approved, a balance of \$208,000 will remain in certified free cash.

Girdler Electric

MA Master License 16255

Barry Girdler

owner

P. O Box 20

West Stockbridge MA 01266

413-237-5957

barry@girdlerelectric.com
girdlerelectric.com



SHAKER MILL INN

West STOCKBRIDGE, MA

*A FAMILY & PET
FRIENDLY INN*

PHONE: 413.232.4600

INFO@SHAKERMILLINN.COM
WWW.SHAKERMILLINN.COM

*BOB & MARY THIBEAULT
KEEPERS OF THE INN*



Polls open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. • Town Offices Gymnasium, 21 State Line Road

Proposed FY 2019 budget highlights:

- Total FY 2019 Raise and Appropriate budget is up \$91,967, or 1.8% over the current year.
- See following chart showing Fiscal Year 2019 budget line items with significant changes from year to year and explanations:

FY 2019 Significant Line Item Changes from Year to Year

Budget Line item	FY 2018	FY2019	Change	Change, %	Notes
Administrative Assistant Salary	\$48,223	\$62,000	\$13,777	29%	To move the salary in line with comparable area towns. Need to establish a competitive salary as current administrator transitions toward retirement.
Town Accountant Expense	\$1,050	\$2,400	\$1,350	128%	Accountant/Treasurer software needs to be updated because current system will no longer be supported.
Treasurer/ Accountant Software Maintenance	\$3,400	\$4,672	\$1,272	37%	Associated annual support cost of new software.
Town Collector Expense	\$10,620	\$12,250	\$1,630	15%	Town collector software also needs to be upgraded. Support will no longer be provided.
Police Salaries	\$264,470	\$280,326	\$15,856	6%	Reflects contracted chief salary increase and market adjustments to patrolmen's wages to keep them competitive with area departments.
Building Inspector Expense	\$1,200	\$2,400	\$1,200	100%	Associated maintenance expense of new online e-permitting system
Highway Salaries	\$203,758	\$211,120	\$7,362	4%	Annual adjustments and staying competitive with area departments.
Solid Waste	\$97,500	\$99,450	\$1,950	2%	Per contract with Valley Trucking
Council on Aging	\$10,800	\$15,000	\$4,200	39%	Reflects increase in use of COA van and driver
Village School Debt	\$150,000	\$156,500	\$6,500	4%	Prior years utilized a free cash subsidy on this line item. This year does not.
New Highway Truck Debt	\$0	\$26,180	\$26,180	100%	First year debt payment attached to this new purchase.
County Retirement	\$101,187	\$105,073	\$3,886	4%	As calculated by County Retirement System.

Elected Office	Term Length	Incumbent	Challenger/s
Moderator	1 year	Eugene Dellea	
Board of Selectmen	3 years	<i>Vacant</i>	Doane Perry
Board of Assessors	3 years	Susan Lupo	
Finance Committee	3 years	William Kie	Dan Buehler
Finance Committee	3 years	<i>Vacant</i>	Kathleen Keresev
Planning Board	5 years	Sarah Thorne	
Planning Board	3 years	<i>Vacant</i>	Sue Coxon
Board of Health	3 years	Luci Leonard	
Library Trustee	3 years	Sue Coxon	
Library Trustee	1 year	Gail Garrick	
Cemetery Commission	3 years	Earl Moffatt	

The Candidates: In Their Own Words

Looking ahead to the annual town election on May 14, the *Local Yokel* invited each candidate for a contested or vacant town office to provide a written statement and photograph. Statements by candidates were limited to 250 words. These are all the statements received by the deadline for publication.

Dan Buehler

Candidate for Finance Committee



In 2005, after selling our inn in Richmond, my wife Jerri and I bought a piece of land in West Stockbridge and built our retirement home. Now, after 12 years of living in this bucolic environment and enjoying every minute of it, the time has come for me to “give something back to the community.” Therefore, I welcomed the opportunity to serve on the Finance Committee of this wonderful hamlet when the idea was first suggested to me.

I believe that my credentials for the position are in order. I spent 30 years running a family-owned steel fabricating and erecting business in New York City. Simultaneously, I rehabilitated and managed some commercial properties in the city as well. We moved to the Berkshires in 1994 to convert an old horse farm into a bed and breakfast. A few years later, I bought a few parcels of land, on which I either built or restored a few homes.

Although I do not have impressive degrees, I can tell you that my hands understand hard work and my mind understands the need for money management and long-term financial planning. I assure you that if I’m elected to the Finance Committee, I will take the position seriously, attend meetings regularly, and give the position the attention it deserves. I thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sue Coxon

Candidate for Planning Board



I moved here from Chicago via Hartford 17 years ago and have always been involved with the town in some way, shape, or form, starting with the Zucchini Festival. I have been a trustee of the library for the last five years and was instrumental in creating the new vestibule along with many other improvements such as the logo, signage, and events. My background is real estate and all different forms of it. I am always interested in what’s going on. I love this town and would like to keep its character yet still improve it.

Committed to our Community, Education,
Culture and Natural Resources in the Berkshires and
West Stockbridge Since 1984



38 Main Street, West Stockbridge, MA • (413) 232-4253
www.StoneHouseProperties.com

Kathleen Keresey

Candidate for Finance Committee



My name is Kathleen Keresey, and I am running for a position on the Finance Committee.

I was born and raised in West Stockbridge, a fifth-generation resident of the town. I've spent a number of years living in New York City pursuing a career in film and video production and am now happy to be living in West Stockbridge on a full-time basis.

In my role as a producer for various commercial, entertainment, and fundraising productions, I have been responsible for creating and managing complicated line item budgets. I feel that this experience would allow me to serve the town well in a position on the Finance Committee.

As West Stockbridge continues to grow and evolve, I look forward to working with my neighbors and our various town boards as we determine how best to allocate our valuable resources.

I ask for your support in the election on May 14.

Doane Perry

Candidate for Board of Selectmen



Four years ago I volunteered to write summaries of the meetings of the Select Board to learn as much as possible about West Stockbridge.

Since 1963 when my parents Tod and Helen Perry built our house on Lenox Road, and before then when we rented a house on Main Street, West Stockbridge has been important to me. Tod, managing director of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, wanted to be close to Tanglewood. One summer I worked on a W.E. Williams asphalt paving crew.

My wife Karen Carmean and I lived in Richmond and in Cambridge, had bed and breakfasts both places, and worked at Digital Equipment Corporation. I was president of the Berkshire Lodging Association. In Cambridge I was president of a neighborhood association and the Boston Area Returned Peace Corps Volunteers.

Karen and I both taught social studies. I went to Yale and have a PhD in anthropology. I have two sons. Tod worked at the Square Rigger and Williamsville Inn, got a PhD in science at Harvard, and works in energy. Curt scooped at Berkshire Ice Cream, and he graduates in May from Yale with a MD/PhD in immunology.

I thank Curt Wilton who nominated me and has great program management skills, Earl Moffat for his future thinking, Peter Skorput for listening to people, Bernie Fallon for community building, and Mark Webber for his resourcefulness. I look forward to working with the people, commissions, committees, employees, and merchants to plan a great future for our wonderful West Stockbridge.

The Local Yokel Needs You!

Would you enjoy being part of the team that produces this free monthly newsletter serving our community, now in its 10th year of publication?

Do you enjoy writing or photography? We need regular and occasional contributors on subjects of local interest.

Or would you like to lend a hand a few hours each month to help with distribution, mailing, and other projects?

Call John Parker at (413) 394-4368 or e-mail info@thelocalyokel.org for more information.

BerkChique Coming to West Stockbridge



BerkChique, a “pop-up boutique” fundraiser, will take place at the Old Town Hall, 9 Main Street in West Stockbridge, over the weekend of May 11–13. On sale will be clothing and accessories collected from some of the most fashionable and stylish closets in the Berkshires. Profits from the annual event, founded in 2012 by Nancy Fitzpatrick, go to area nonprofits including WAM Theatre, Berkshire Humane Society, Community Access to the Arts, and IS183 Art School of the Berkshires.

The event starts with a First Dibs Party on Friday, May 11, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., including complimentary refreshments. Tickets are \$25, or 2 for \$40. Early admission VIP Shopping is \$100 starting at 5:30. Admission on Saturday and Sunday is free, with hours 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Donations of new and gently used women’s and men’s clothing, shoes, and accessories are welcome. For more information, visit <http://berkchique.com>.

Rouge
restaurant & bistro

William Merelle
owner / chef

Maggie Merelle
owner

3 Center Street • West Stockbridge MA 01266
tele 413-232-4111 fax 413-232-0111

Please send your Birthdays & Anniversaries to the Local Yoke!
We are happy to include them in the next issue.



The Local Yoke, P.O. Box 238, West Stockbridge, MA 01266 or by e-mail to info@thelocalyoke.org

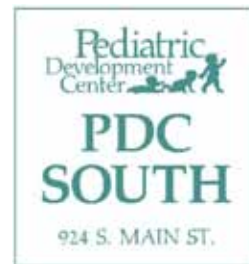


Bark Mulch Topsoil Compost

413-243-4111

**Meadow Farm LLC
PO Box 393
1125 Meadow Street
South Lee, Ma 01260**

Compost Facility Accepting Yard & Wood Waste



Concerned about your Infant or Toddler’s development?

Call PDC SOUTH today & we’ll set up an appointment to come to your home to talk with you about any concerns you might have.

Trained therapists offer evaluation & home visits to eligible children.
Dept. of Public Health Certified
Early Intervention Program.

We’re located at:
924 S. Main Street in Great Barrington.
You can reach us at: 413-717-4083.
www.pediatricdevelopmentcenter.org

The Community Health Association &
the Massachusetts Senior Medicare Patrol Program
invite you to dinner and a free workshop

“Protect Yourself from Medicare Fraud”

Health care errors cost consumers and Medicare billions of dollars annually. A representative from the Massachusetts Senior Medicare Patrol Program will present a workshop and host a discussion on how to prevent, detect, and report health care errors, fraud, and abuse. This free informational program will provide you with the tools to become a more informed and engaged health care consumer.

Cost: Workshop is free of charge; \$10 per person for the buffet-style dinner

When: Wednesday, June 6, 5–7 p.m.

Where: Richmond Congregational Church, 1515 State Rd., Richmond

~Reservations are required~

When making your reservation, please indicate if you are planning to join us for both the dinner and workshop or the workshop only.

To make a reservation, contact Emilie Jarrett, RN: (413) 232-0122; Emilie@charws.com.

This program is supported in part by ACL grant no. 90-MP0226-03-01.

Celebrate the Visual Arts in May 2018

May Art Calendar

Creating Art Outdoors: Berkshire Plein Air. Part of #ArtWeek MA by Highland Street Foundation and Boch Center. Join our Plein Air group to paint, draw, and photograph outside at different Berkshire locations each day of the week. Nonmembers may participate for \$15 a day including entry fee during ArtWeek 4/30–5/6, then \$50 for the season plus entry fees. See a demo, watch other artists, work until noon, and then join us for lunch followed by a positive critique for helpful suggestions. Bring your supplies and lunch.

M: Hancock Shaker Village. Meet at picnic tables.
T: Great Barrington: Bard College at Simon's Rock, meet at Lecture Hall parking on May 1. Later town center, Riverwalk
W: Stockbridge: Berkshire Botanical Garden. Town center
Th: The Mount. Meet at the Stables. We will explore grounds.
F: Lenox: Eastover: Sign in at Mansion. Town center
Sat: West Stockbridge. Meet at parking lot across from P.O.
Sun: Norman Rockwell Museum grounds
See Facebook "Berkshire Plein Air" at 8 a.m. for daily updates.

Figure Painting: Open Studio. Tuesdays, Feb. 6–June 5, 10–1. 15 183, Stockbridge. 525 members Bring your supplies. RSVP (413) 298-2522, ext. 100. Sign up for first Tuesdays or all dates

Art seminars and Business Meeting. Wed., May 2, 4 p.m. Submit your 2D or 3D work for our rotating show at Shaker Mill Inn. 4:30 p.m. How to take credit card payments on Square. Seminar: 5–6:30 p.m. Annual meeting and planning upcoming shows in Lenox. West Stockbridge Community Room, Town Offices, 21 Stateline Road (Route 102)

May 4, 5–8 p.m. www.firstfridaysartwalk.com. Pittsfield

Shaker Mill Inn Reception: Opening of Exhibit. Thurs., May 10, 4–6 p.m. Light refreshments served

Meet the Artist: Marcelene Mosca, Abstract Painter, Fri., May 25, 12:15–1:30 p.m., Six Depot. West Stockbridge. RSVP

Art Book Gathering Friday, May 25, 2–4 p.m. Share a favorite book: artist, process. Shaker Dam Books, West Stockbridge

Photo Explorers. Join Carole Quinn on Tuesday, May 29, at 8:30 a.m. at Fuel Coffee Shop, 293 Main St., Great Barrington Carole will demonstrate how she selects from what she sees. Together we will explore Great Barrington with cameras or smartphones. Stay as long as you like. Join The Berkshire Plein Air group, lunch at noon followed by positive critique for constructive suggestions

Guild of Berkshire Artists
(Formerly Richmond-West Stockbridge Artists' Guild)
RSVP: BerkshireArtists.org "Our Programs,"
or See Facebook

Creating Art Outdoors: Berkshire Plein Air. Daily in good Weather, 9:30–1 p.m.



Art Studio Tours July 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 15, Oct. 6, Sat. 11–5 p.m. Free and open to the public. Artists sign up \$50 for season

Exhibit

OPEN HOUSE: Shaker Mill Inn

More than 80 Paintings and Photographs by Local Artists

Thurs May 10
4–8 pm
Light Refreshments

Shaker Mill Inn
2 Oak Street
West Stockbridge



See Photos of Work On Facebook: "Berkshire Local Art Shaker Mill Inn"

Guild of Berkshire Artists
8077 French Hill Road
"Our Programs for Annual Tours" and Facebook

Join us for a rare opportunity to see some of the fine masterpieces created with art by local artists and enjoy light refreshments at the Shaker Mill Inn. Representative works by artists in the show, clockwise from top left: Mike Schiffer, Dana Gondowagom, David Edgcomb, Anne Poulos, Marjorie Orton, Peg Doolittle, Bill Grady, Bob Poulos and Adrian Holmes. By RSVP and for more information contact Karen Carman at kcarman@shaker.com

Community News & Events

Community Health Association

Blood pressure clinics are held Mondays and Wednesdays, 9–10 a.m., at the CHA office at the West Stockbridge Town Offices. For more information, contact Emilie Jarrett, RN, at 232-0122.

Council on Aging Potluck

The Council on Aging will meet in the Community Room at the Town Offices for its next potluck luncheon on Tuesday, May 8, at noon. Hopefully the weather will be better by then. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

Stockbridge Grange Dinner

The Stockbridge Grange will host a baked beans and ham dinner in the Grange Hall at 51 Church Street on Sunday, May 20, from 1 to 2 p.m. Cost for adults is \$12; \$6 for children under 12. Take-out is available; call (413) 298-3185.

West Stockbridge Congregational Church

The West Stockbridge Congregational Church will hold a bake sale in front of Baldwin's Extracts starting at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 19.

On Monday, May 28, the West Stockbridge Congregational Church at 45 Main Street will host a *free* bike, trike, and wagon decorating station near the start of the parade route from 9 to 10 a.m. for any children wishing to participate in the Memorial Day parade. Rain or shine!

Send your notices for Community News & Events to the Local Yokel, P.O. Box 238, West Stockbridge, MA 01266, or by e-mail to info@thelocalyokel.org.

Photo Contest Update

“Congratulations and thanks to West Stockbridge resident Leslie Klein, who submitted the photo of Chikita the chipmunk we used for our cover this month. We’ll share more submissions with you next month!”

This Space Could Have *Your* Byline!

Yes, the *Local Yokel* is looking for local content. We invite residents, businesspeople, and creative folks of all ages to submit material of interest to our readers for consideration. Submissions can include articles, columns, profiles, photos, artwork, poems—you name it! You don’t have to be a pro, just have something to share. Our editors will help you prepare your content for publication.



“Spring Is Coming” Photo Contest

As a special incentive, we invite you to submit photos on the theme of “Spring Is Coming.” As judged by our editors, the best photos will be published in upcoming issues of the *Local Yokel*, and we are offering a **grand prize of \$25 for any photo selected for the cover!** Photos may be in color or black and white, must be submitted as a digital file, and must be taken in West Stockbridge (we’ll need you to tell us the date and location the photo was taken). The contest will run from now until May 15. Depending on how many are submitted, photos may be published in the April, May, or June issues. Deadline for each issue is the 15th of the preceding month.

For more information and submissions, please contact *Local Yokel* editor John Parker at john.j.parker53@gmail.com or by phone at (413) 394-4368.

Scott Wilton

*Restoration & Conservation
Fine Furniture & Interiors*

*Restore & revitalize old finishes
Repairs, re-gluing, veneers, replacements
varnishes, shellacs, Japan colors*

*P.O. Box 338
West Stockbridge, MA 01266 (413) 232-4349*

 **K.G.COOPER ELECTRICAL**

Karl G. Cooper Jr.
New Construction - Renovations -
Service Upgrades - Generators

413-232-0244

P.O. Box 138
West Stockbridge, Ma. 01266
kgcooperelectric@yahoo.com
Ma. Master 12365A

Local yokel

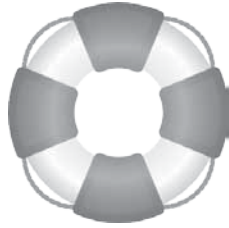
Pick up
a copy
FREE
AS ALWAYS
at these locations
around town:

Berkshire Bank
Charles H. Baldwin & Sons
Flourish Market
Library
No. 6 Depot
Public Market
Queensboro Wine & Spirits
Town Offices
Transfer Station

Or you can choose
to have the
Local Yokel
mailed to you for a
minimum annual
contribution of \$25.

*Outdoor distribution boxes: Baldwin Hardware, The Floor Store,
& the Shaker Dam Coffeehouse and Stanmeyer Gallery*

**NO
LIFEGUARD
ON DUTY**



Don't let this be a summer reality!

Lifeguards are needed at Card Pond.

**Anyone interested,
call (917) 209-0926.**

Est. 1888

Charles H. Baldwin & Sons

Manufacturers of

Baldwin's Pure Vanilla Extract

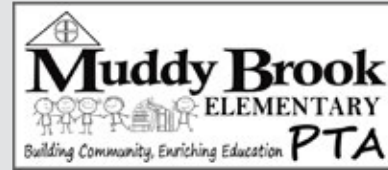
Flavoring Extracts, Spices, Baking Supplies,
Maple Table Syrup, Serious, Mushy & Hilarious
Greeting Cards, Retro Toys, Candy
& So Much More!

*Not just a store...
It's an experience!*

**1 Center Street
West Stockbridge
Massachusetts**

**MONDAY - SATURDAY 9-5
CLOSED SUNDAYS
413-232-7785**

www.baldwinextracts.com



MUD DAY NEWS! This year's MUD DAY will be on Saturday, May 19, from 12 to 4 on the Muddy Brook playground—rain or shine. Every year, Mud Day celebrates the Berkshire landscape by bringing the classroom outdoors in playful, festive, and creative ways. A variety of local conservation and education organizations will be participating. The theme is conservation and how we can we work together as a community to maintain the integrity of the great natural resources the Berkshires have to offer. Of course, there will be MUD: muddy pools for digging, mud for making pies, and mud for planting seedlings. All activities are available to children for a onetime fee of \$5 (\$15 family maximum). Adults are free. Bring a change of clothes for the kids and a towel.

Teacher Appreciation Week

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 7–11. Teachers are superstars and provide so much to our students. That week we will celebrate teachers and show our gratitude. Teachers change the lives of millions of children every day, and their work and impact extend far beyond the boundaries of the classroom. Thank you, teachers!

Rewards for Muddy Brook

Clip and save Box Tops coupons from more than 330 participating products including Annie's, Nature Valley, Cheerios, Cascadian Farms, Ziploc, Lysol, and more. Each coupon is worth 10 cents when redeemed. Last year we earned over \$1,500 in Box Tops alone! Mail Box Tops to Muddy Brook Regional Elementary School PTA, 318 Monument Valley Road, Great Barrington, MA 01230.

Please join fellow parents and teachers in making this year very special for the students of Muddy Brook. Visit muddybrookpta.com for information on upcoming events, and like us on Facebook! Thank you for your continued support.

Geezers with Skills

A Collection of Semi-Retired Carpenters

Decades of Experience in the Building Trade

Licensed/Insured/LOCAL

GOT NEEDS?? CALL A GEEZER TODAY!!!

877-500-4030



BALDWIN HARDWARE

Depot Street
West Stockbridge, MA 01266

Henry Baldwin

(413) 232-7757



Pilates
GYROTONIC®

16 Albany Road
West Stockbridge, MA
413.232.7979
Bellagraziaipilates.com

Bella Grazia Pilates

Master Teachers in Pilates
for over 20 years



BOOK DONATION REQUEST DONATE YOUR GENTLY USED BOOKS/CDs/DVDs

The Friends of the West Stockbridge Library are requesting donations for their August book sale. Books (no textbooks, magazines, or videocassettes) may be brought to the library during regular hours. Please do *not* leave donated books in the library book return box.

We can only accept books that are in good and salable condition.

Thank you!

Deadline for receipt of donated books:
Saturday, July 28

THE WEST STOCKBRIDGE LIBRARY
Town Offices, 21 State Line Road



Interested in the Business of the Market?

Go behind the scenes at the market and see what it takes to keep that rooster crowing.

Call (917) 209-0926 for details. Don't miss it!

If you have the time and inclination to assist in the continuation of the Farmers Market,

Call (917) 209-0926 or

E-mail us at wsfarmmarket@gmail.com

Exhibit

OPEN HOUSE: Shaker Mill Inn

More than 60
Paintings and
Photographs

by Local Artists

Thurs., May 10

4-6 p.m.

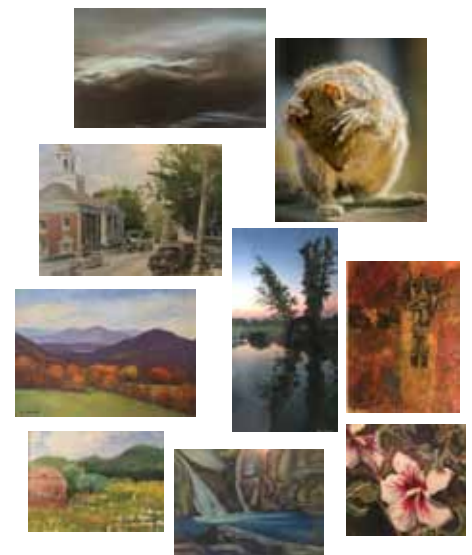
Light Refreshments

Shaker Mill Inn
2 Oak Street
West Stockbridge



See Photos of work
on Facebook: "Berkshire Local
Art: Shaker Mill Inn"

Guild of Berkshire Artists
(formerly Richmond-West Stockbridge
Artists' Guild)
RSVP www.BerkshireArtists.org
"Our Programs: Art Around
Town" and Facebook



Join us for a rare opportunity to see some of the nine rooms decorated with art by local artists and enjoy light refreshments at the Shaker Mill Inn. See photos of work on Facebook, "Berkshire Local Art: Shaker Mill Inn." This exhibit rotates and other artists will be added. Representative works by artists in the show, clockwise from top left: Mike Schiffer, Dana Goedewaagen, David Edgecomb, Anne Pasko, Marilyn Orner, Peg Dotchin, Bill Graulty, Walt Pasko, and Adrian Holmes. The work will be rotated and other artists will participate in future exhibits. You may see the work, background information, and contact the artist on the Facebook page "Berkshire Local Art: Shaker Mill Inn." To RSVP and for more information, contact Karen Carmean at kcarmean@gmail.com.



WEST STOCKBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

21 State Line Rd | West Stockbridge, MA 01266 | In the Town Offices
weststockbridgelibrary.org | 413-232-0300 ext. 308

TUESDAY 10am-5pm | WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY 2-6pm | SATURDAY 10am-2pm

Greetings to all and best wishes for a very merry month of May from all of us at the West Stockbridge Public Library.

We had a busy and fun April, with two events held during school vacation week. On the 17th, we hosted a story and craft event run by the incomparable Miss Vicky, a longtime children’s librarian and expert storyteller. Vicky’s theme was springtime and especially frogs, and she taught us how to make origami frogs. Frog makers were invited to enter their frogs in a race, and two lucky winners went home with a gift certificates.

On the 19th, we held a homework night for area students with help available for finding research articles on the free statewide databases and for studying alone and in groups.

Also in April, Bill Biggs, our remarkable technology volunteer, organized and led a computer class. The topic this time around was Microsoft Excel. We are grateful to Bill for giving so generously of his time.

Here are the titles of new items at the library. Stop by and pick up something to read or watch when you have some free time!

ADULT FICTION

City of Endless Night/Preston
The Hush/Hart
The Wife Between Us/Hendrick

DVDs

Call Me by Your Name
I, Tonya
The Shape of Water

CD AUDIOBOOK

Book of Joy/Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu
Force of Nature/Harper

CHILDREN’S DVDs

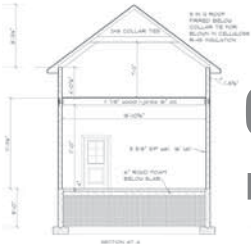
Coco
Ferdinand

ADULT NONFICTION

Fire and Fury/Wolff
How Democracies Die/Levitsky
Soul Friends: The Transforming Power of Deep
Human Connection/Cope

Please note: The tardy movies Rachel posted prematurely have now arrived and are being loaned out at a quick pace. So if it seems like the movie you want is not on the shelf each time you stop by, remember just to ask us to put it on hold for you to be the next borrower. We are also very happy to show you how to place a hold request online.

Rachel Alter and Jodi Magner



On the Home Front

By Thom Lipiczky

An interesting piece in this week's *Washington Post* by the National Association of Realtors highlights the effect of technology and economic health on the development of the American home. It's easy to forget—even in the haze of nostalgia about the good old days—that what we assume is normal is always a moving target. For instance,

- A hundred years ago, the average size of a single-family house was around 700 square feet—this is just slightly larger than a two-car garage.
- In the early 1900s, fewer than 10% of single-family homes had electricity. It wasn't until the Rural Electrification Administration's efforts during the Great Depression that the rate went up to around 70%.
- Indoor plumbing, including flush toilets, was slow to come to single-family houses. Even by the 1940s, more than a third of homes had privies and outhouses.
- Refrigeration technology changed things a lot. In the early 1900s, most families had ice boxes, requiring a fresh supply of blocks of ice every week. In 1921, only 5,000 electric refrigerators were built, but by 1930, a million were sold.

The Roaring 20s had a big impact on single-family houses. By 1925, 900,000 units a year were being built. But then came the Great Depression, when the number dropped to around 100,000 in 1933. The economics of the 1930s also made smaller, cheaper-to-build Cape Cod styles more popular. Average house sizes were around 1,130 square feet, but the *Wall Street Journal* indicates that the sizes dropped during the 1930s.

The years after World War II saw a boom in population and the economy. The move to the suburbs pushed mass-produced housing including easy-to-build ranch styles with factory-built trusses for roofs, and tract homes. Also, improvements in the ability to ship large pieces of glass made the picture window and sliding patio door increasingly common.

Mortgage interest rates soared in the 1970s and early 1980s, encouraging large builders to concentrate on less expensive per square foot multifamily units. Unfortunately, to increase profits in a tight real estate market, many quality shortcuts were taken.

In an earlier column, I talked about the effect of the Arab oil embargo of the 1970s on heating and energy efficiency in houses. The trend toward increased insulation and its attendant heating/ventilation issues has changed construction techniques radically in the past 40 years.

The economic boom of the dot.com years led to more and more large houses. Whereas the average square footage during the 1990s was around 2,200, this was also the era of the "McMansion," in which splendor and grandiosity was the goal. Also, a big increase in remodeling existing homes—additions and upgrades—fueled the economy.

But lately there seems to be a pullback in the "bigger is better" trend. Although this decade's average size of a single-family home is over 2,600 square feet, newer home sizes are shrinking a bit. The popularity of architect Susan Susanka's "The Not So Big House" book series has brought people's attention back to the *quality* of the space, rather than the quantity. We're reminded of coziness as an important feature. No wonder the tiny house trend is gaining popularity. More on this in the future.

Please send your questions and comments to info@thelocalyokel.org.

Spring Cleaning SALE
MAY 25-28

Hoffman Pottery
works that dance with energy

103 Great Barrington Rd/Rt 41 • West Stockbridge, MA
413.232.4646 • www.EHoffmanPottery.com

InTouch
printing

Just what you were looking for!

Customized local print-solutions
with a personal touch.

413-442-1202
info@intouchprinting.com
www.intouchprinting.com

West Stockbridge History Quiz Answer:

The first town meeting to have an impact on West Stockbridge was actually held in the other Stockbridge in 1768. A warrant was placed on the ballot to allow the residents in the western part of town to keep their "tithings" and not remit them to the main church. This was voted affirmatively and was the first stirrings of the separation to create West Stockbridge.

Our first West Stockbridge town meeting was held July 4, 1774, in the private home of Christopher Brazee on West Center Road (the house was near the West Center cemetery and is long gone). The meeting called for "all inhabitants of the town." There is no record of who was actually considered an inhabitant. It is likely women and those who did not own land were not included.

At that first meeting, they elected the moderator and other town officials. Many of the positions are still what we have now: selectmen, treasurer, assessors, and tax collector. They also elected three fence viewers, two hog reeves, and a sealer of leather. A hog reeve was responsible for catching stray pigs. Fence viewers settled disputes about wandering livestock, and the sealer of leather certified the quality of any leather sold. (All of these positions are currently unfilled.)

Town meetings were held in local houses or taverns. West Center had five taverns and no church or meetinghouse. The selectmen and voters argued for 12 years on where to locate the meetinghouse, finally building one in 1786 that also served as the First Congregational Church.

Shortly after that first meeting, the town had a second meeting to actually settle the important work. They specified which private homes would host the preaching, allocated funds to choose a minister, and a committee to select one. They also voted to set up a town pound (the first town building) and funding for education and highways, budget issues that haven't changed.



*Houses at the four corners in West Center ca. 1900, likely one of the places town meetings were held.
Photo courtesy of Bob Salerno*

JT & Landscaping Tree Services

Fully Insured - Free estimates

413-329-8200

- Tree and Brush Removal
- Tree Pruning
- Stump Grinding
- Plowing & Sanding
- House Checking/Caretaking
- Drainage & Driveway Repairs
- Lawn & Field Mowing
- Fall & Spring Cleanups
- Building & Maintaining Gardens
- Firewood

Donor Roll Call ~ May

Jeffrey Berger
 Norma Comstock
 John & Brenda Elling
 Rose Girdler
 Stephanie & Bob Gittleman
 Andy Goerlach
 Ronald Hanft
 Carol & Joe Kaufman
 Ruby & John Korte
 Tom & Kathryn Lobasso
 Helen Nolan, in memory of her son
 Larry Pratt
 Malcolm & BJ Salter

Thanks to everyone who has donated to WSLY. We couldn't do it without your support! Keep the *Local Yoke!* coming. Please send your gift today! (See response form on page 21.)

Birthdays & Anniversaries

5/3 Dan Epstein
 5/8 John & Angie Korte, 70th anniversary
 5/12 Lisa Parker
 5/28 Melissa Seward

Did we miss your birthday or anniversary? To be sure your listing gets in the *Local Yoke!*, please send it in by the 15th of the month before the desired issue each year.

The *Local Yoke!*, P.O. Box 238,
 West Stockbridge MA 01266
 or by e-mail to info@thelocalyoke.org



Advertise here, just \$3.00

for first ten words
 and 10 cents for each
 additional word

Send ads to *The Local Yoke!* at
 P.O. Box 238,
 West Stockbridge, MA 01266, or info@thelocalyoke.org



8 Carlotto Yoga

Classes taught by Martha Hamilton
 23 years experience

11 classes weekly - all levels

413-446-8883

Live/Work West Stockbridge - \$10

8CarlottoYOGA.com

Counter Culture Coffee • Artisanal Tea • Light Food Fair



Stanmeyer Gallery & Shaker Dam Coffeehouse

2 Main Street • West Stockbridge, MA • 413.232.7707 • ShakerDam.com • M W T H F S 8-4, Sun 8-6

Queensboro Wine & Spirits

26 Main Street ~ West Stockbridge ~ 413-232-8522

250 Carefully Curated Wines
 180 Varieties of Beer

Locally sourced and from around the world

15% discount on case wine mix and match

Monday to Saturday 9:30am - 9:00pm

Sunday Noon - 6:00pm

queensborowineandspirits.com

Every issue costs us about \$1,300 to print and distribute! Please help us keep the *Local Yokel* coming!

With increased printing and postage costs, we need your help more than ever. To get the latest town news, please contribute to the *Local Yokel*. For your donation of at least \$25.00 per year we will mail each issue to you (unless you prefer otherwise). The *Local Yokel* will continue to be available free at selected locations as long as possible, but we hope you will contribute anything you can. The West Stockbridge Local Yokel, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization, and all contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Please check with your employer, or former employer if retired, for matching gift programs.

Yes! I want to support the *Local Yokel*.

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____
made payable to WSLY.

Name (as you want it to appear in acknowledgments)

Address (location you would like the *Local Yokel* and/or bumper sticker sent)

City State Zip



Donate \$35 or more and
get a YKL Bumper Sticker

No Thanks, please don't send
me a sticker

Check any that apply:

- I would like my contribution to remain anonymous.
- Thanks, but don't mail the *Local Yokel* to me. Save the postage; I'll pick it up myself.

Please mail this form with your check to:
WSLY
P.O. Box 238
West Stockbridge, MA 01266

Because you should love coming to work.

The Workshires

Private Office Suites
starting at \$450/mo

Shared Workspace
available for \$250/mo

INCLUDES
all utilities, high-speed wifi,
shared kitchen & conference room

For more information, visit
THEWERKSHIRES.COM

5 Albany Road, West Stockbridge, MA 01266, (201) 207-9910

Wisdom Lodge A.F. & A.M. Chartered AL5803



"Supporting Soldier On, Nature's Class Room
Scholarships for Monument Valley Middle
School students, and our local Angel Fund to
assist families and kids thru our annual"

Wisdom Golf Tournament

June 24th at

Pontoosuc Golf Course

8:00 AM - Shotgun Start

Public is Invited - Tel. 413-446-2996

SECOND NATURE GARDENS
DESIGN/INSTALL/SUSTAIN

ADAM WEINBERG
MASS CERT HORTICULTURIST

STONEWALLS, PATIOS, PATHS
FRUITTREE PRUNING, VEGGIE GARDENS

RICHMOND, MA
413-441-7836
SECONDNATUREGARDENS.ORG
ADAM@SECONDNATUREGARDENS.ORG

The Floor Store



Come get floored by the floor store! We have a wide selection of carpet, tile, hardwood, bamboo, vinyl, tile, and so much more!

www.the-floorstore.com

232-7175
We have been flooring people since 1983!
12 Main Street West Stockbridge, MA

Town Government Boards and Commissions, Phone Directory, and Office Hours

Town Offices Main Number 413-232-0300 • Fax 232-7195

Animal Control	<i>John W. Springstube</i>	232-0300	ext. 335	As Needed
Assessors Office	<i>Mary Stodden</i>	232-0300	ext. 303	Tues. 1–5 p.m.; Thurs. 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
Board of Health	<i>Earl Moffatt</i>	232-0300	ext. 314	Fri. 9 a.m.–4 p.m., or by appt.
Board of Selectmen	<i>Bernie Fallon, Peter Skorput, Curt G. Wilton</i>			
Administrative Assistant	<i>Mark Webber</i>	232-0300	ext. 319	Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Building Inspector	<i>Brian Duval</i>	232-0300	ext. 313	Tues. 4–7 p.m.
Conservation Commission	<i>Jennifer Kujawski, Lori Rose</i>	232-0300	ext. 338	Leave Message for Inquiries
Council on Aging	<i>John Zick</i>	232-0300	ext. 340	Leave Message for Inquiries
Emergency Management	<i>Louis Oggiani</i>	528-2175		
Fire Department	<i>Peter Skorput</i>	232-4200 (non-emergency)		Mon. 6:30–9 p.m.
Highway Department	<i>Curt G. Wilton</i>	232-0305		Leave Message for Inquiries
Library	<i>Rachel Alter</i>	232-0300	ext. 308	Tues. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Wed., Thurs., and Fri. 2–6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m.; closed Sun. & Mon.
Police Department	<i>Marc Portieri</i>	232-8500 (non-emergency)	24 hours, 7 days/week	
Post Office	<i>Colleen A. Wich</i>	232-8544		Lobby: 7 a.m.–7 p.m.; 7 days/week; Window: Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m.–12 noon
Seasonal Lifeguard		232-0315		
Sewer & Water Commission	<i>Michael Buffoni</i>	232-0309		
Town Accountant	<i>Elaine Markham</i>	232-0300	ext. 317	Leave Message for Inquiries
Town Clerk	<i>Ronni Barrett</i>	232-0300	ext. 300	Tues. & Thurs. 1:30–4 p.m.
Town Collector	<i>June A. Biggs</i>	232-0300	ext. 302	Wed. 3–6 p.m.; Thurs. and Fri. 10 a.m.–2 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.–1 p.m.
Town Historian	<i>Robert Salerno</i>	232-4465		
Town Treasurer	<i>Karen Williams</i>	232-0300	ext. 316	Thurs. 9 a.m.–4 p.m.
Transfer Station	<i>Wayne Cooper</i>	232-0307		Tues. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–6 p.m. and Sat. 8 a.m.–6 p.m.
Tree Warden	<i>Andrew Fudge</i>	232-4322		
Veterans Agency	<i>Laurie Hills</i>	528-1580		
Zoning Board of Appeals	<i>C. Randolph Thunfors</i>	232-0300	ext. 300	

Official Town Government Website: weststockbridge-ma.gov • Community and Business Website: weststockbridgetown.com

**THE WEST STOCKBRIDGE
CHAMBER PLAYERS**

Spring Concert

Friday, May 25, 2018 at 6 pm

Old Town Hall, Main Street, West Stockbridge

Sheila Fiekowsky, violin • John Holland, violin
Daniel Getz, viola • Oliver Aldort, cello
William Hudgins, clarinet • Catherine Hudgins, clarinet

Crusell: Rondo for Two Clarinets and Strings;

Mozart: Adagio & Fugue in C minor, K. 546;

J. S. Bach: Cello Suite #3 in C major, BWV 1009;

Scriabin: *Romance for Horn and Piano* (arranged
for clarinet and string quartet);

Verdi: String Quartet in E minor

TICKETS \$35 Available April 25th*

PURCHASE ADVANCE TICKETS ONLINE

www.weststockbridgehistory.org

Or call 413-232-5055

**...or look for the "Blue Note"
in downtown business windows...**

* Residents of West Stockbridge under 18
are free with a reservation.

*A reception
will follow
the concert!*

Sponsored by
grants from the
Lenox, Richmond
and West Stockbridge
Cultural Councils



THIS PROGRAM IS A
BENEFIT PERFORMANCE FOR THE
WEST STOCKBRIDGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

West Stockbridge
Local Yokel
 P.O. Box 238
 West Stockbridge, MA
 01266

May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



May 2018 Calendar of Events

5/2	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room
5/3	Board of Health meeting	6:30 p.m.	Town Offices
5/7	Annual Town Meeting	7 p.m.	Town Offices Gymnasium
5/8	Council on Aging Luncheon	12 noon	Town Offices Community Room
5/8	American Legion	7 p.m.	Town Offices
5/9	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room
5/10	Library Trustees meeting	4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room
5/13	Mothers' Day		
5/14	Annual Town Election	10 a.m. - 7 p.m.	Town Offices Gymnasium
5/15	*** Deadline for the next Local Yokel ***		send to info@thelocalyokel.org
5/15	Ramadan begins at sundown		
5/16	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room
5/19	Shavuot begins at sundown		
5/19	W.S. Congregational Church Bake Sale	9:30-noon	In front of Baldwin Extracts
5/20	Grange Dinner	1-2 p.m.	Grange Hall, 51 Church St., Stockbridge
5/21	Board of Selectmen meeting	7 p.m.	Town Offices
5/23	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room
5/28	Memorial Day		
5/28	Free bike decorating station for Memorial Day Parade	9-10 a.m.	W.S Congregational Church, 45 Main Street, near parade start
5/30	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room