

Local yokel

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

West
Stockbridge
July 2018

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 2005



Summertime at Card Pond. Photo by John Parker

July Brings a Bounty of Produce and More



The market is a special place to make new friends. Photo by Peter Cohen



Kids learn about the wonderful creatures around them. Photo by Roland Dudney



Fall in love with your neighbors at Sebring Farm! Photo by Roland Dudney

Ah, July, the peak of the season! The crops are bursting out of the earth, picked in the morning for your afternoon purchase.

The food producers are working their magic to produce wonderful products for your pantry (and dinner table). The weather will hopefully cooperate, and friends new and old can meet up and visit.

Michael Lesko, Moonshine Holler, Firepit, and Linda Worster & David Grover will be bringing their own special brands of entertainment throughout the month.

Seasonal growers will be on hand as their crops come in, so dive into the diversity. The market lineup varies a bit every week. Watch for John Senger of Windrush Farm to return with his lovely produce and spectacular gladioli.

There'll be animals and contests and fun for the whole family. Expect the unexpected, and . . . 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

Help Bring Back "Fun With Kids"

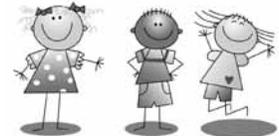
Last year a weekly event called "Fun with Kids" was a major hit.



This year, it was canceled because the woman organizing it, Cheryle Fudge, had to change her work schedule.

Now that schools are out, if anyone or any group of friends would like to take it over, the kids would be very happy. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. would be the time investment.

Interested? Call 917.209.0926. The kids will be glad you did!



Board of Selectmen Minutes

[Editor's note: This is the text of the official minutes of the meetings, lightly edited for clarity, length, and format. Copies of the official board minutes are available at the West Stockbridge Public Library. Residents can receive notification by e-mail of town events and meeting agendas by subscribing at <http://weststockbridgema.virtualltownhall.net/subscriber>].

May 21, 2018

Open Meeting. Quorum present: Peter Skorput, Chair; Bernie Fallon; Doane Perry. Also present: Administrative Assistant Mark Webber. No press present.

Board reviews and approves previous meeting minutes and warrants.

Board reorganizes following the May 14 annual election. Peter Skorput welcomes newly elected selectman Doane Perry to the board and nominates Bernie Fallon as the new board chairman for the ensuing year. Doane seconds the nomination; vote taken, 2-0 in favor, with Bernie abstaining. Bernie then nominates Doane as board clerk and Peter as board secretary. Nominations are seconded and votes taken, 2-0 in favor with appointees abstaining.

Bernie accepts the chair, thanks his fellow board members, and congratulates Doane on his election. Bernie continues and notes that the town is in very good shape both physically and financially and gives credit to the town's appointed and elected officials. Bernie states that the board welcomes and needs to hear the concerns of residents so the board can address and, hopefully, resolve them.

Resident David Potter addresses the board regarding his displeasure with the way some of the votes at the May 7, 2018, annual town meeting were conducted by the town moderator and refers to an e-mail recently sent to the board. David asserts that normal town meeting procedures were not followed, that Robert's Rules of Order were not followed, and that Article 11 (Discontinuance of Orchard Street) was rushed. Mark Webber explains that the town moderator runs the town meeting and has broad discretion in the process of same. He notes that Moderator Gene Dellea addressed David's concerns immediately following the meeting. In response to David's concerns, the board provides him with a written response and notes that the moderator is an elected position that comes up each year, and challengers are always welcome. Following further discussion, David thanks the board for addressing his concerns.

Other Business/Action/Discussion Items

➤ Board reviews the results of the May 7 annual town meeting. Mark informs the board that Article 12, a petition article seeking the transfer of town land within the borders of the Viola farm estate off Hotel Street, required a two-thirds rather than a simple majority vote. The hand card

vote was 27 yes/18 no. So it was a few votes shy of two-thirds, and, accordingly, the vote failed. Town counsel confirmed and noted that petition articles have to be offered to voters as presented without notation or comments. So it was up to the petitioner to state that the vote required a two-thirds majority.

➤ Board discusses the need for an end-of-fiscal-year special town meeting that would be scheduled at the end of June. Some, but not all years, a special town meeting is required in June to address housekeeping and budget items. Mark will meet with the town accountant prior to the June 4 board meeting to review all accounts, which will determine whether or not a special will be needed. Board has an inconclusive discussion on whether or not to address the ATM Article 12 issue and place it on the warrant for the special.

➤ Bernie discusses cleaning of the public restrooms adjacent to the post office for the coming season now that they're open. He volunteers to do the weekend checks and cleaning for the time being while the town custodian does the weekday cleaning. Board thanks Bernie for volunteering.

➤ Board sets June 11, 2018, to hear and act on a Rent Control Board petition for eviction.

➤ Mark informs the board that the local access government TV vendor was in the Town Offices over the weekend installing equipment; the project should be completed in the next few weeks. Then the board meetings will be televised on the Charter local government TV station.

➤ Bernie and transfer station attendant Wayne Cooper discuss and approve a plan to put up displays of what is acceptable and unacceptable for recyclables.

There being no additional business to come before the board and no takers on citizens speak time, the meeting was adjourned.

June 4, 2018

Open Meeting. Quorum present: Bernie Fallon, Chair; Doane Perry; Peter Skorput. Also present: Administrative Assistant Mark Webber. No press present.

Board reviews and approves previous meeting minutes and warrants.

...continued on page 5

Girdler Electric

MA Master License 16255

Barry Girdler

owner

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West Stockbridge MA 01266

413-237-5957

barry@girdlerelectric.com
girdlerelectric.com



An advertisement for Hoffman Pottery. It features a woman smiling in the center, surrounded by various pottery items including vases, mugs, and decorative pieces. The text "Hoffman Pottery" is written in a large, stylized font, with the tagline "works that dance with energy" below it. At the bottom, the address "103 Great Barrington Rd/Rt 41 • West Stockbridge, MA 01266" and phone number "413.232.4646" are listed, along with the website "www.EHoffmanPottery.com" and a QR code.



West Stockbridge Resident Participates in Fenway Run to Home Base

By John Parker

Michelle Laramee-Jenny of West Stockbridge will participate in the ninth annual Run to Home Base, a fundraising event for Home Base, a partnership of the Red Sox Foundation and Massachusetts General Hospital dedicated to healing the invisible wounds suffered by veterans, service members, and their families. The 9K (5.6 miles) run, set for July 28, starts and ends in historic Fenway Park, home of the Boston Red Sox. Last year, approximately 2,500 runners and walkers participated.

Home Base (www.homebase.org) operates the first and largest private-sector clinic in the nation devoted to healing posttraumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, anxiety, depression, substance use disorder, sexual trauma, family relationship challenges, and other issues associated with military service. Home Base has served more than 15,000 veterans and family members and trained more than 55,000 clinicians, educators, and community members nationally.

According to Brig. Gen. (ret.) Jack Hammond, executive director of Home Base, "The funds raised help enable Home Base to provide individualized, innovative, world-class care on a local and national level—regardless of discharge status or ability to pay. Participating in the Run to Home Base is a great way to give back to those who have served our country." This year's Run to Home Base will include a special tribute to the families of the fallen.

Michelle Laramee-Jenny will run to support Home Base, an organization serving veterans and their families. Photo courtesy of Michelle Laramee-Jenny

Regarding her participation, Michelle says, "I just want to give back and say thank you for their service. The sacrifices they have made for their country I just can't imagine. It's not just the servicemen and women; it affects the whole family. I hope I can be a little part in easing their invisible wounds."

As of this writing, Michelle has raised \$1,420 toward her goal of \$2,000. To donate to Michelle's fundraising efforts in support of Home Base, visit <http://www.runtohomebase.org/2018RuntoHomeBase/michellesveteranssupport2018>.

Celebrate the Visual Arts in July 2018

July Art Calendar

Creating Art Outdoors: Berkshire Plein Air. Join to paint, draw and photograph outside at different locations each day of the week. Nonmembers may participate \$50 for the season plus entry fees. See a demo, watch other artists, work till noon, then join us for lunch followed by a positive critique for helpful suggestions. Bring your supplies & lunch. We recommend a NARM level membership.

M: Hancock Shaker Village. Meet at picnic tables.

T: Great Barrington: Great Barrington: Downtown, Riverwalk, Bard College at Simon's Rock.

W: Stockbridge: Berkshire Botanical Garden. Town center and other Stockbridge locations

Th: The Mount. Meet in lower parking lot by 9:30.

F: Lenox: Lilac Park, Library Park, Eastover: Sign in at Mansion and other Lenox locations

Sa: West Stockbridge, meet at parking lot across from Post Office. TurnPark, Shaker Mill

Su: Norman Rockwell Museum grounds.

See Facebook "Berkshire Plein Air" at 8 am for daily update

Lenox Library Welles Gallery Art Show: "Light and Motion" July 2-15, 10-5 Mon.-Sat, except July 2 opens at 1pm. 18 Main Street, Lenox MA 01240. Reception July 7, 2-5pm

First Fridays Artswalk Fri. July 6, 5-8pm. Pittsfield, North Streets. www.firstfridaysartswalk.com

Meet the Artist: Robert Goldstein. Tuesday July 10, 4:00-5:30 p.m. in Richmond. RSVP

Photo Explorers. Join Carole Quinn on Fri. July 13 at 8:30 a.m. Lenox Coffee, 52 Main St. Lenox 01240 and then explore Lenox together with your camera or smart phone.

Artist Studio Tours, Sat. July 14, Aug 11, Sept. 15 and Oct. 6. 11am-5pm. See our website and brochures for details!

Berkshire Photo Gathering. Sun. July 15, 2-4 p.m. \$5, 15 Crissey Road, Great Barrington, MA 01230 Bring 2-5 photos.

Lenox Library Welles Gallery Art Show: "Imagine" July 16-29, 10-5 Mon.-Sat, except July 16 opens at 1pm. 18 Main Street, Lenox MA 01240. Reception July 16, 2-5pm

Art Book Gathering Friday, July 27, 2-4 p.m. Share a favorite book: artist, process, Shaker Dam Books, 3 Depot St., W.S. **Members Potluck.** Sat. July 28, 4-7pm. In Richmond. Bring main dish, hors d'oeuvres or dessert for ten and what YOU want to drink. Partners welcome. RSVP and for address

Guild of Berkshire Artists
RSVP: BerkshireArtists.org "Our Programs." See Facebook

Helen Febbo**

Bruce Shickmanter*

Recent Art Works

Myron Schaffer*

Janet Pamphrey*

Bernard Isaacson**

GUILD OF BERKSHIRE ARTISTS

LENOX 2018 FINE ART SHOWS

JULY 2-15 Reception Sat July 7, 2-5 pm
JULY 16-29 Reception Sat July 21, 2-5 pm

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WELLES GALLERY
18 MAIN ST.
LENOX, MA

GALLERY HOURS 10-5 MON-SAT, SUN 11-3
Special Hours July 2 & 16, opening at 1 pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION BerkshireArtists.org berkshartinfo@gmail.com

Family Fun!

West Stockbridge Historical Society

Open House Reception • View progress on the Old Town Hall Construction

90th Anniversary of the West Stockbridge Fire Department

Meet Fire Department members • See old and new fire trucks

Saturday, July 14 • from 11am – 2pm

Free!

Old Town Hall
9 Main Street, West Stockbridge, MA
413-232-5055 • weststockbridgehistory.org

The West Stockbridge Fire Department is celebrating its 90th Anniversary, and you're invited!
Come enjoy: a display of historical photos and memorabilia • tours of fire trucks old and new • great barbecue • hands-on activities for children and adults. Ever wanted to sit behind the wheel of a fire truck? Or try on some fire gear? Now's your chance!

Bernie Fallon makes a motion to enter executive session per GL 30a, Section 21(a)(2), to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel and to return to an open meeting session upon completion of the executive session. Peter Skorput seconds the motion. Voice vote taken: Bernie Fallon, aye; Doane Perry, aye; Peter Skorput, aye.

-- Executive Session --

After voting to come out of executive session, regular meeting continues.

Other Business/Discussion/Action Items

- Board instructs Mark to purchase a *Massachusetts Moderator's Handbook* to use as reference for future meetings.
- Board discusses future meeting schedule. Board will meet next on June 11 to conduct a Rent Control Board petition for an eviction hearing. Then the board will meet on June 18 at which time they will decide whether to meet again on June 25.
- Mark informs the board that, following a meeting with the town accountant, it will not be necessary to schedule an end-of-fiscal-year special town meeting to address year-end transfers for account deficits. The town's books are in balance.
- Since there is no need to call a special town meeting at the end of June, Mark is instructed to contact attorney Lori Robbins to inform her that the town will not be taking up the matter of the annual town meeting failed vote regarding the transfer of town-owned land adjacent to the Viola farm, located off Hotel Street, back to the Viola family heirs. The vote required a two-thirds majority and fell short.

➤ Mark informs the board that National Grid has been contacted. The electricity account for the town-owned (via tax title taking) property at 16 State Line Rd has been switched to the town from the former owner and disconnected.

➤ Board has a discussion with cable TV commissioner Bill Barth, who notes that the local access government television setup is nearing completion and is being tested this evening. Bill has several ideas on how to best promote viewing and programming. Board thanks Bill and the commission for their continued efforts.

➤ Board has a discussion on the installation of a Swap Shop at the town's Transfer Station. Attendant Wayne Cooper provides brochures and pricing on a variety of preconstructed structures for the board to review. It is decided that the Board of Health will be invited to a future meeting to finalize the siting and operation details.

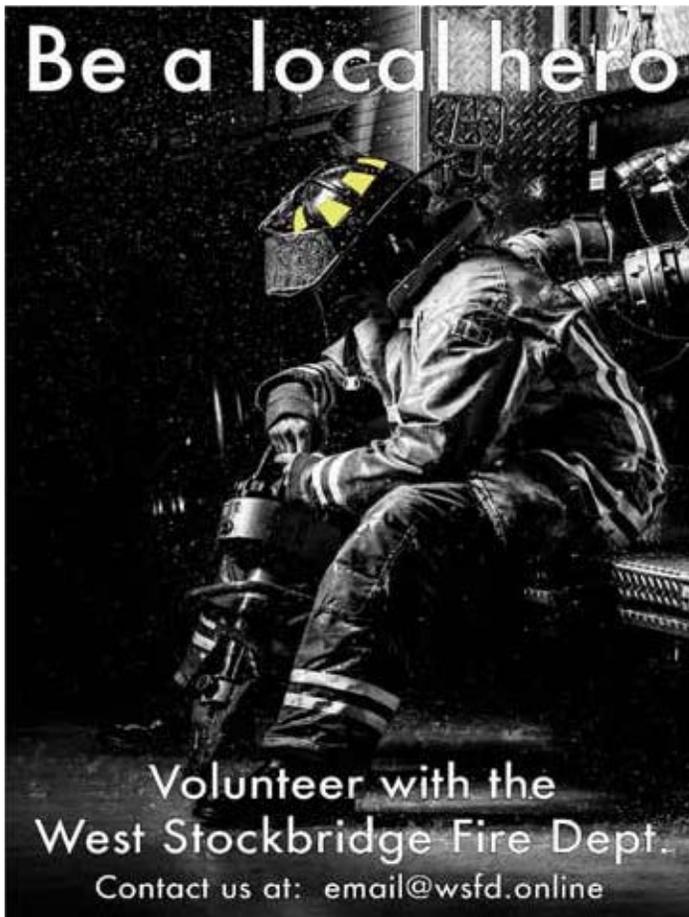
➤ Mark informs the board that he has been facilitating a handful of requests for Internet service from residents who are having difficulty connecting with Charter.

➤ Mark provides the board with a list of annual officer appointments for review before making annual appointments at their June 18 meeting.

➤ Board reviews a draft document to be delivered to the owners of Troy's Garage. Board discusses and agrees that all used car/junk car license holders will be reviewed, and the conditions of those properties and licenses along with unregistered vehicles around town in general will be addressed in the coming months.

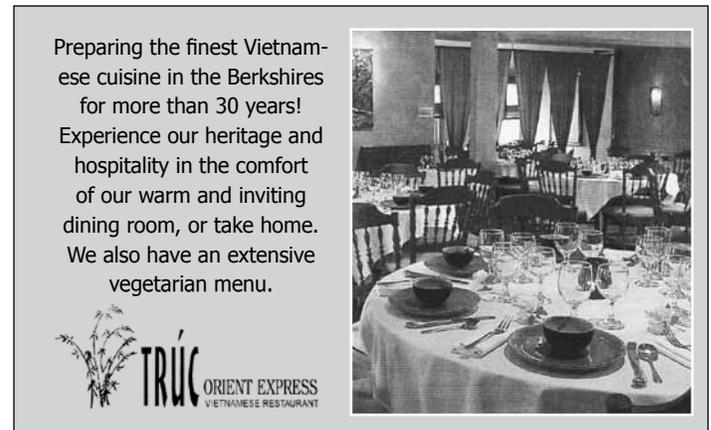
There being no additional business to come before the board and no questions/comments from those in attendance, the meeting was adjourned.

...continued on page 7



Be a local hero

Volunteer with the
West Stockbridge Fire Dept.
Contact us at: email@wsfd.online



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June 11, 2018

Open meeting. Quorum present: Bernie Fallon, Peter Skorput, Doane Perry

Review and act on June 4, 2018 minutes and warrants

Rent Control Board Eviction Hearing

➤ Bernie Fallon opened the hearing and said trailer park owner Liza Gennari is unavailable but is available by phone. Bernie moved to approve a certification of eviction; Peter Skorput seconded the motion. All the selectmen voted in favor.

Other Business/Discussion/Action Items

Chapter 90 signatures required, Highway Department Superintendent:

➤ Curt Wilton explained the department's reimbursement request for the street scan of the town's paved roads that enables the department to prioritize road repairs. A total of \$13,870 is coming back to the town. The selectmen signed the appropriate forms.

➤ Curt commented that 70% of the town's roads are in good shape; among the seven bridges in town, repairs to five have been 100% paid by the state. The Cone Brook bridge is next. The town is requesting \$255,000 for the last section of Route 41.

➤ Don Wood of West Alford Road will be submitting a petition at the next meeting on June 18.

Request to appoint two new members to the Cultural Council:

➤ Marge Powell asked the selectmen to add two members to the Cultural Council, Susan Leo and Miki Reuchin. There will be eight members on the Cultural Council. Bernie moved and Doane seconded the motion, and all the selectmen voted in favor. Bernie asked Marge to follow up with Town Clerk Ronni Barrett to fill out the required forms.

➤ Cable Commissioner Bill Barth told Marge that he is interested in joining the Cultural Council, and they will follow up.

➤ Marge asked the selectmen for permission to use town property for a picnic on August 11. All of the selectmen agreed. Because August 11 was the date of the Zucchini Festival, the council and the board declared

the Zucchini Festival back. Peter commented that it is nice to get people together again, since people have been asking for it.

Other Unanticipated Business

Troy's Garage:

➤ Bernie said that he has asked the owners of Troy's Garage for copies of all documents and that the owners have complied.

➤ Bernie set a date of July 2 for a hearing. All three selectmen said they can attend.

Cable Commission:

➤ Cable Commissioner Bill Barth asked the selectmen if they have recommendations for a third member of the commission in addition to himself and Doane. Doane recommended a woman. Peter Skorput recommended Truc Nguyen, and Doane recommended Jennifer Knopf. There can be more than three members on the Cable Commission.

➤ Bill commented that the Cable Commission needs the Board of Selectmen's support. Bernie suggested surveys to get a clear vision. The selectmen discussed the assets and needs of the town such as plans for the future and more hiking trails.

➤ Bill reported that failure of the piece of equipment called the Lightronics organizer has delayed implementation of the cable origination system in the Town Offices.

➤ In the meeting audience Roger Kavanagh described the West Stockbridge Vision Committee, formed to talk about visions of the future for the town and to develop recommendations about how to get the public better ready for the future.

Cones on the Corner:

➤ Doane Perry and Bernie Fallon reported about the orange cones they placed on the sharp corner that is causing blowouts after Vern Tower urged Doane to get the town to warn motorists.

Meeting was adjourned. ☐

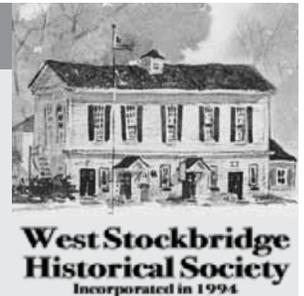
July History Quiz Question:

When West Stockbridge divested itself of the "other" Stockbridge in 1774, the country was in a stage of civil unrest. In 1763, at the conclusion of the French and Indian War (or Seven Years' War), Britain levied a number of tariffs against the American colonies. The Navigation Acts, the Sugar and Molasses Act, the Stamp Act, and the "Intolerable" Act were all designed to have the colonies pay for their own defense. Initially, these tariffs sparked a mini trade war of major smuggling and outright defiance. As the pressure from Britain became more oppressive, the colonies responded with civil, and sometimes not so civil, disobedience leading up to Lexington and Concord in April 1775.

In 1774, the first Continental Congress met. Towns were asked to support the civil action against the tariffs and other laws. How did West Stockbridge respond to this call for support? What was our involvement over the resulting six years of rebellion?

(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.



A Gallery of West Stockbridge Woodworkers

Photos used by permission.

Michael Costerisan/October Mountain Folk Harps

17 Cone Hill Road, West Stockbridge, MA 01266, (413) 232-7937, www.octobermountainfolkharps.com



Michael Costerisan was born in Janesville, Wisconsin, and grew up with an interest in all forms of woodworking. He attended the University of Wisconsin in Madison where he graduated with a BA in 1970, then moved east to pursue a career in fine furniture making and cabinetry. Over the past 45 years, he has developed skills in many woodworking techniques and has built almost every conceivable type of furniture, cabinetry, or architectural fixture.

In recent years, Michael has discovered a passion for instrument making. He is now offering a full line of folk and Celtic lever harps as October Mountain Folk Harps. Every harp is custom made to be a work of art as well as a beautiful-sounding musical instrument.

Michael uses premium-grade hardwoods, tonewoods, and veneers combined with top-quality hardware and strings. He also repairs any make of harp.



Thom Lipiczky Woodworking & Design

86 Great Barrington Road, West Stockbridge, MA 01266, (413) 717-0118, thomlipiczky@gmail.com



Two years ago, after more than 30 years as a successful design/build general contractor specializing in large additions and remodels, I retired to my shop, a 19th-century restored barn.

No, I'm not living there! But I am having a wonderful time making custom furniture, cabinets, and commissioned built-ins. I'm also creating some smaller woodworking projects, like one-of-a-kind boxes. I love developing well-crafted pieces that feature traditional joinery, native and exotic woods, occasional salvaged materials, and whimsical designs. Some of the wood I use is reclaimed from remodeling projects—woods like chestnut and elm that are in short supply these days.

I'm largely self-taught as a woodworker and have no formal training. But while I was teaching music at Simon's Rock College (1974–86), I taught several classes in instrument building and started refining my skills. I've built about 10 guitars over the years as well as many dulcimers, several kalimbas (thumb pianos), and even one hurdy-gurdy! I have attended the Fine Woodworking Live weekend conferences for the past two years and have taken classes with some of the best professional woodworkers in North America. For photos, see Thom Lipiczky Fine Woodworking & Design on Facebook.



Berkshire Woodworkers Guild Fine Arts Show and Silent Auction

Michael Costerisan, Thom Lipiczky, Peter Thorne, and Thom Walsh are members of the Berkshire Woodworkers Guild that will present the Berkshire Woodworkers Guild Fine Arts Show and Silent Auction on July 21 and 22 at the Berkshire Botanical Garden in Stockbridge. Guild members (this year including Peter Thorne and Thom Lipiczky) will exhibit and sell unique handmade products and also provide ongoing demonstrations highlighting their trade and providing an educational component to the weekend event. For more information, visit <https://www.berkshirebotanical.org/woodworkers-guild-show>.



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Peter Thorne Furniture & Design

PO Box 171, West Stockbridge, MA 01266, (413) 854-3331, pgthorne@hotmail.com



I have been making custom furniture and cabinetry since 1990 in my shop at the foot of West Stockbridge Mountain. I started my career building houses while honing my skills as a furniture maker. In the 1970s, I became foreman at Turner and Cook in Sandisfield, producing butcher block tables, then ran Community Industries at Hancock Shaker Village making museum-quality reproductions of furniture from the collection.

After a brief return to carpentry and house building, I started a one-man shop making custom furniture and cabinetry. I have worked for amazing clients, mostly local, but often in New York and once in Australia! My passion is outdoor furniture and sculpture, made from locally sourced black locust and marble. I also make stone and wood sculptures, using stones I find in the streams on the mountain in my backyard or on the rocky shores of Maine.

I founded the Berkshire Woodworkers Guild in 1998 to share expertise, tools and business opportunities, and the benefits of custom woodworking. We have an annual show and silent auction at the Berkshire Botanical Garden. The proceeds of the auction go to our Educational Fund. This year we presented four \$1,500 scholarships to aspiring woodworkers.



A. Thomas Walsh

PO Box 482, West Stockbridge, MA 01266, (413) 232-0249, www.athomaswalsh.com



Thom Walsh graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design with a degree in industrial design. While at RISD, he studied furniture design and woodworking with Tage Frid. After owning a successful architectural woodworking firm in New York City for a decade, he moved to West Stockbridge in 1992, where he has a studio/workshop next to his home.

Using traditional and modern techniques, Thom works with exceptional veneers and woods of the highest quality in both a classic and a contemporary context. He brings an artist's palette of finishes to his designs ranging from dark and rich natural shellac to bright lacquered dyes and deep-colored "hand-rubbed" poly-tung oil. Thom Walsh's work exemplifies the highest disciplines of furniture design and creation.



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Parks and Recreation

Swans Return (and More)



*Card Pond's latest residents inspect their new home while on geese patrol.
From video by Roland Dudney*

A few years ago, as part of the never-ending battle with the geese for the beach, two resin swans were purchased and installed at Card Pond. (Swans and geese are natural enemies, and geese tend to seriously avoid areas inhabited by swans, especially mating pairs.)

Unfortunately, by the end of that first year, both swans were gone, victims, it was suspected, of light-fingered swimmers. Last year, another pair was purchased and introduced because the original pair had been deterring the dreaded geese when in place. Earlier this season, just as the geese began returning, the Highway Department set the second pair out to swim, tethered in the range needed to be patrolled.

At the end of June, beachgoers were reporting the presence of four swans! First assumptions were that the so-called borrowed swans had been returned, but a closer look confirmed that these were in fact real swans. The swan decoys not only repelled the geese but also attracted what could very well be a mating pair.

There have been several sightings since. The birds swim contentedly, fish on occasion, and fly just skimming the surface. If these majestic birds make their home at Card Pond, it will be a giant step toward alleviating the battle for the beach—fingers crossed!

Opening Day Rescheduled

Mother Nature rules—and, to prove it, the weather on June 24 was sufficiently diabolical to cancel the Card Pond opening day party.

The party will be rescheduled, probably in early to mid-August. Posters will be around town, and the new date will be announced in the August issue of the *Local Yokel*.

The pond is in the best shape it's been in many years. Enjoy it!

Ending on a Happy Note

Our July 10 meeting will focus on the actual planning of the new playground at the Town Offices. Monies have been allocated, and bids will be collected once the master design is in place.

If you'd like to volunteer to help out at the Card Pond party or with the actual design of the new playground, please call (917) 209-0926.

artSTUDIO at Sleepy Hollow Farm
Featuring paintings by Marion H. Grant

Summer Hours: Fri.-Sat., 12-5
June 23 - August 25 (or by appt.)

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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.

PAINT & SIP

SUNDAY, AUGUST 5th, 1PM

To benefit West Stockbridge
Congregational Church

Event held in Church Social Room at
45 Main Street West Stockbridge



Paint "Sunflowers in Vase" on authentic Slate roofing tile OR 16x20 Canvas!

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RECYCLING TIPS

... think globally, act locally

Recycling is costing West Stockbridge taxpayers much more than it should. Only *you* can change this!

According to transfer station attendant Wayne Cooper, we are paying approximately \$2,000 monthly for a service that *should be free*.

- WS transfers our waste to a Springfield facility, whose rules are controlled by the state.
- This service is free *ONLY* if we comply with the rules.
 - If we don't comply, the whole load potentially will be deemed trash.
 - Larger towns may have staff to take care of this, but we need to police our own recycling practices.
 - In 2017, China—the final destination for much of our recyclables—began to limit quantities, and in 2018 set contamination limits (trash in the recycling) at 0.5%. Recently, we have been at the 30% level. Wayne goes into the big waste bins about three times a day to remove improper materials. He has removed medical waste, poison containers, and car parts, to name a few.
- Please take the time to save and refer to the info sheet on p. 13 to help you.
- Please ask Wayne if you are not sure. You are not doing anyone a favor by recycling the wrong materials.



Visit www.recycleoftenrecycleright.com for more info on proper recycling.



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THE "YES AND NO" OF WHAT CAN GO IN THE RECYCLING BOXES



YES	NO		
<p>Aluminum <i>Empty and rinse.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ cans ➤ aluminum foil ➤ pie pans, aluminum trays 	<p>siding scrap metal foil-wrapped beverage pouches (Capri Sun) pots & pans utensils tools</p>		
<p>Steel (tin) cans <i>Empty and rinse. Labels do not need to be removed.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ food and beverage cans (metal lids OK) ➤ pet food, soup cans (metal lids OK) ➤ EMPTY aerosol spray cans (food, laundry, beauty) 	<p>hangers scrap metal paint cans pots & pans utensils tools</p>	<p>toys appliances pipes fuel tanks car parts</p>	<p>aerosol spray cans that contained hazardous products: spray paint, insecticides, etc.</p>
<p>Glass <i>Empty and rinse. Labels do not need to be removed. Keep lids on.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ food and beverage bottles and jars 	<p>ceramics baking dishes art dishware corks drinking glasses broken glass</p>	<p>cookware (Pyrex) coffee mugs medicine bottles plate glass mirrors</p>	<p>lightbulbs fluorescent lights eye glasses vases holiday lights</p> <p>windows glass wine canning jars</p>
<p>Plastics <i>Empty and rinse. Keep caps on.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ food containers: margarine, yogurt, cooking oil, condiments, peanut butter ➤ beverage bottles and jugs: soda, water, juice, milk ➤ detergent bottles, dish soap bottles ➤ personal care bottles: shampoo, soap, etc. ➤ clear plastic clamshells (no black or Styrofoam) 	<p>plastic bags plastic wrap/ cling wrap Styrofoam (polystyrene) cups/ take-out containers cups, plates, utensils, straws cookie trays black plastic liners from food packaging compostable plastics cellophane food bags (e.g., candy bars, cookies, pasta) frozen food bags/pouches</p>	<p>meat trays egg cartons medicine & pill bottles "packing" peanuts packaging of any kind: foam, blister pack laundry baskets toys flower pots 5-gallon pails; buckets VCR tapes, CDs, cases tarps</p>	<p>containers that contained motor oil, anti-freeze, pesticides, pool chemicals or other hazardous substances curbside/other plastic bins dry cleaner/garment bags indoor/outdoor/patio furniture swimming pools hoses; PVC piping or tubing containers bigger than 2.5 gallons Nalgene water bottles holiday lights</p>
<p>Cartons <i>Empty, rinse, & flatten. Throw away straws.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ milk and juice cartons (plastic spout OK) ➤ soy milk, soup and drink boxes (remove straws) 	<p>foil-wrapped pouches (Capri Sun) frozen juice cartons frozen food packaging plastic straws</p>		
<p>Paper <i>Clean paper only. Flatten boxes. "Windows" in envelopes, staples, paper clips, tape all OK</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ newspaper, inserts, magazines, junk mail ➤ white, colored, glossy, and construction paper ➤ shredded paper—put in paper bag ➤ corrugated cardboard, clean pizza boxes (no grease or food) ➤ boxboard (for example, cereal boxes) ➤ gift wrap, gift bags, cards, gift tissue paper (no metallic inks, foil, wire, glitter) 	<p>soda, beer plastic rings paper cups paper plates egg cartons frozen juice cartons take-out containers</p>	<p>butter, margarine boxes paper towels, napkins tissues Tyvek or padded envelopes hardcover books stickers & sticker sheeting</p>	<p>glossy boxes that show white strands when torn (frozen food boxes) blueprints dirtied paper (pet waste, paint) copy paper packaging</p>

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 7/1 Anne Lesser & Thom Lipiczky
35th anniversary
- 7/1 Gary Schizneman
- 7/4 Melissa & Steve Seward anniversary
- 7/24 Anne & Joe Roy anniversary
- 7/27 Colby Parker

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

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Quiz from the Friends of the Library Scrapbook Shelf

1. What author wrote a book that “explores the clash of cultures between the long-established local community and the wave of new second homeowners”? What was the title of her book?
2. What artist said, “Each design is evolutionary; it’s like stumbling around in the dark—suddenly I reach a point where it all begins to make sense.”
3. What year was the Young Artists’ Exhibit held in the West Stockbridge Library?
4. What new restaurant opened in West Stockbridge in 2009?

ANSWERS: 1. Liza Gyllenhaal, *Local Knowledge*; 2. Joel Horchhiss; 3. 2009; 4. Nook and Cranny.



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

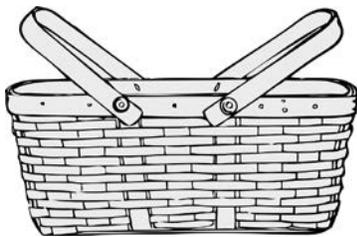


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SAVE THE DATE:
AUGUST 11

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

Staff Transitions

After many years of wonderful service, Library Assistant Jodi Magner has left us for a full-time job at the Lee Public Library. We will all miss her, and we wish her the very best!

Two terrific substitutes are helping to keep the library running smoothly: our very own former director, Lee Appelbaum, and Vicki Cooper, a former library director from further back in the past.

Summer 2018 Preview

- Our super-talented substitute librarian Miss Vicky began holding a weekly story time for all fans of picture books (and simple crafts and songs). Please come on in on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. to enjoy the fun! Find out about a summer game we will be playing involving a little (toy) creature named Pete the Cat.
- Thanks to the Friends of the Library and the West Stockbridge Cultural Council, we offer day passes to a wide array of attractions. Pick up a pass and enjoy discounted and sometimes free admission.
- The Trustees of Reservations is offering **GO (Get Outside)** passes to library card holders. This pass allows two adults and two kids under 18 a onetime admission to any Trustees property. Our unique Berkshire sites include Naumkeag, Ashley House, the Mission House, Field Farm, and more.
- As in past years, we're looking for students entering grades 7-10 to help in the library this summer. Jobs include assisting library patrons, shelving books, helping with the summer reading program, and more. Pick up an application at the library.
- Please note that the library will be closed on Wednesday, July 4, for Independence Day.

NEW DVD

Jack Reacher: Never Go Back

NEW ADULT FICTION

Backman, *Us Against You*
 Blum, *Lost Family*
 Brown, *Moscow Offensive*
 Burton, *Social Creature*
 Child, *Midnight Line: A Jack Reacher Novel*
 Dallas, *Patchwork Bride*
 Horowitz, *Word Is Murder*
 King, *Outsider*
 Oates, *Night-Gaunts and Other Tales of Suspense*
 Orange, *There*
 Patterson, *17th Suspect*
 Patterson, *The President Is Missing*
 Pearson, *How Hard Can It Be?*
 White, *Dreams of Falling*
 Woods, *Turbulence*

NEW NONFICTION

Basu, *Victoria and Abdul: The True Story of the Queen's Closest Confidant*
 Dyson, *What Truth Sounds Like: Robert F. Kennedy, James Baldwin, and Our Unfinished Conversation About Race in America*
 Goldberg, *Suicide of the West: How the Rebirth of Tribalism, Populism, Nationalism, and Identity Politics Is Destroying American Politics*
 Hurston, *Barracoon: The Story of the Last "Black Cargo"*
 McNamara, *I'll Be Gone in the Dark: One Woman's Search for the Golden State Killer*
 Parr, *Martin Luther King Jr. Comes of Age*

JUST FOR KIDS

Border, *Peanut Butter's First Day of School*
 Hale, *Danny and the Dinosaur and the Sand Castle Contest*
 Le, *Drawn Together*
 Lehrhaupt, *Chicken on Vacation*
 Messner, *Breakout*

Ongoing

- Set up a CW/MARS online account by going to weststockbridgelibrary.org and clicking on the card catalog picture. Your personal account allows you to keep track of checkouts, requests, overdues and fees, pickup locations, renewals, and more.
- If you use an e-reader, explore the new statewide Commonwealth e-book Collections (CEC) at eBooks.masslibsystem.org.
- The next Library Trustees Board meeting take place on August 23. All are open to the public.
- As always, we welcome suggestions on just about anything to improve our library.

-Rachel Alter

Collector's Notes for July 2018

The first-quarter FY 2019 real estate and personal property tax bills were mailed during the last week of June. Full payment of these bills must be made by August 1, 2018. After that date, interest will begin to accrue on the unpaid balance. Included with some of these bills will be about a hundred newly issued motor vehicle excise tax bills due on August 2, 2018.

Anyone who made a prepayment of FY 2019 real estate taxes in December 2017 will have that payment credited to their account as of July 1, 2018. Since the bills you have just received were printed before July 1, 2018, the first quarter FY 2019 real estate tax bills *will not reflect prepayments*. Please deduct the amount you prepaid from the bill received for quarter 1 and submit the balance owed.

At the end of June, bills for the second utility billing cycle of 2018, the period from April through June, were also issued. Please note the due dates, and *do not include water/sewer payments* in the same check as real estate tax payments.

As a reminder, my e-mail is collector@weststockbridge-ma.gov, and I check it regularly even while I am away from my office. It is an easy way to bring something to my attention, and I try to respond within a day or two.

If you are unable to complete a transaction at the Registry of Motor Vehicles because of unpaid balances on motor vehicle excise taxes, and I am not available in my office, you may contact my deputy collector, Arthur P. Jones, at (413) 527-2388 or at his office in Easthampton, MA, at 98 Cottage Street. The deputy collector's e-mail is art@apjones.com. His office hours are Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. He has the ability to clear registry marks and reports all payments to my office.

June Biggs, Collector

Tel.: 232-0300, ext. 302

E-mail: collector@weststockbridge-ma.gov

Office hours: Wednesday: 3-6 p.m.;

Thursday and Friday: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Saturday: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.



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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.

Stockbridge Grange Dinner

No public dinners will be served at the Stockbridge Grange during July and August. The dinners will resume in September.

Council on Aging Potluck

The Council on Aging potluck luncheon will be held at noon on Tuesday, July 10, in the Community Room at the Town Offices. We will discuss a combined picnic with the Richmond Council on Aging. We had a good group last month and hope to see all of you again in July.

West Stockbridge Congregational Church

The West Stockbridge Congregational Church at 45 Main Street will hold a pancake breakfast on Saturday, July 14, from 7 to 11 a.m. Pancakes, eggs, sausage, and coffee/tea/juice will be served, and a 50/50 raffle is planned too! All proceeds benefit the West Stockbridge Fire Department and the church. Cost: \$8 adults/\$5 children.

The church will hold a bake sale in front of Baldwin's Extracts from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 21.

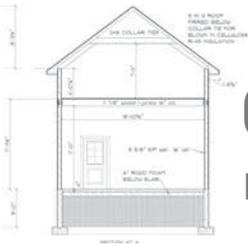
Send your notices for Community News & Events to the Local Yokel, P.O. Box 238, West Stockbridge, MA 01266, or by e-mail to info@thelocalyokel.org.

WANDERING JEWS
WONDERING JEWS
CULTURAL JEWS
MIXED MARRIAGE JEWS
MIXED UP JEWS
NON-JEWS
LGBT JEWS
CREATIVE JEWS
SPIRITUAL JEWS
JEW BU'S
WELCAME
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APOLITICAL JEWS
YIDDISH SPEAKING JEWS
INTELLECTUAL JEWS
SEARCHING JEWS
OBSERVANT JEWS
NON-HEBREW-READING JEWS
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On the Home Front

By Thom Lipiczky

Decisions, Decisions Continued...

When last we left our intrepid heroes, they were dangling over the precipice of the dreaded new house chasm. Yes, we are still at it. After 42 years of remodels and additions on our house, we're planning a new smaller and much more energy-efficient house that'll be easier to maintain.

I listed in my last thrill-packed column the early decisions we had to make. These included siting the house on the land and general house design with choices about heat, plumbing, electric, and more.

As of mid-June, we have completed these steps:

- Closed on our land and had the deed registered
- Received an official property address from the town clerk (thanks to Ronni Barrett)
- Designed our house, sited it on the land bearing in mind setback requirements to property lines and wetlands (Areas of Environmental Concerns)
- Arranged for financing during the building process until we move and sell our existing little piece of paradise
- Had a perc test on the property to determine the ability of the soil to absorb effluent from a leach field (thanks to Earl Moffat, Board of Health agent)
- Had a septic system designed and located by a licensed civil engineer (thanks to Mark Scoco's team at SK Design)
- Applied for a well permit and septic permit (the well comes first; we must have proof of a potable water source before a building permit is issued)
- Had an engineer from National Grid determine how best to get electricity to the house, located about 400 feet from the road
- Secured a place on the agenda for the next Conservation Commission meeting for a Request for Determination of Applicability, where the commission decides whether the building site falls within an Area of Environmental Concern, like wetlands, rivers, etc. (must be advertised in the newspaper before the meeting)
- Received prices from various subcontractors and suppliers for materials and services. (President Trump's new tariffs on imported goods from our former BFF Canada will increase the cost of lumber by as much as 50%! Didn't see this coming when we started plans.)

In the meantime, faithful reader Rudy H. asks some specific questions about septic system requirements. He wonders why it's the number of *bedrooms*, not bathrooms, that determine the minimum size of the system.

The answer, as my mother used to say, is "because I said so." That's just the wisdom of the Commonwealth Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). (And the system must be able to handle 110 gallons per day per bedroom, not 55 as I said last month.)

It's the *size of the septic system* that determines how many bedrooms can be claimed. If your system is rated for three bedrooms, you can't advertise the house as more than that, even though people can, of course, sleep anywhere in the house.

A legal definition of a bedroom is outlined in the building code. A bedroom must have these characteristics:

- Two means of egress—a door and a window that has an opening of 5.7 square feet, 20" wide and 24" high, not more than 44", and not less than 24" above the floor; in place of a window, a second door is OK as long as it exits to the outside
- Minimum floor space of 75.5 square feet, minimum width of 7 feet, minimum ceiling height of 7 feet
- A smoke detector
- Room for some sort of storage—a closet, chest, or armoire; a closet isn't specifically defined in the code

Rudy also asks how to find out if an existing septic field is large enough to handle adding a bedroom to an existing house. A Title V inspection by someone certified by the DEP may be required if the septic system plan is not on file at the Town Offices. It involves checking the condition of the septic tank, distribution box, and leach field. Sometimes this procedure requires some excavation. An inspection is good for two years. (Any time a property is sold or transferred to someone *not* in the seller's family, a Title V inspection is required.) Contacting the Board of Health agent is advisable.

Please submit your questions to info@localyokel.org.



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:

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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.

What's Going On Behind the Old Town Hall?

By Robert Salerno

It all started a few years ago when some folks were standing on Main Street looking at the upper parking lot behind the Old Town Hall. The stone wall in the space between the Masonic Lodge and the Old Town Hall was being pushed out by tree roots, potentially endangering cars in the lower lot. The trees and scrub brush on top of the hill were not very pretty, and there was a collection of old beer bottles and trash on the top of the hill. The question was how we could make this attractive for the town and save the limestone wall that probably dates back to the mid-1800s.



A cherry picker removed trees to protect the stone wall.

Last September our Highway Department took the first step and removed the large trees to protect the wall. It was impressive. A large cherry picker topped the trees, and the trunks and brush were removed. For the first time in many years, morning sun shone earlier on Main Street. That was the good news. What it also exposed was the scrub brush, trash, historic beer cans, and other debris that had been tossed on that knoll.

A few weeks ago, when the snow finally abated, our Highway Department came back, cleared out the trash, bushes, and poison ivy, leveled the knoll, and provided a layer of topsoil. This work exposed a small rock that Curt Wilton told us they didn't have time to remove. Later they power-washed the limestone rock and found it's the size of a mid-sized SUV. It's not going anywhere!

On June 5, a crew of Berkshire Bank employees, as part of the bank's employee volunteer program (see our separate thank you to them), spread the topsoil and added grass seed. They also helped clear brush from the upper lot and clear trash from inside the Old Town Hall.

What started as a what-if discussion is on its way to becoming a community space. An attractive fence will be installed next, along with some plantings and a few benches. The goal is to have a quiet space where people can sit and overlook Main Street, watch the world go by, and enjoy West Stockbridge in the center of town.

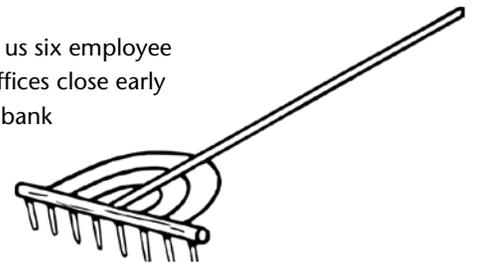
Photos courtesy of Bob Salerno



Berkshire Bank volunteers cleared brush and trash, spread topsoil and grass seed.

Thank You Berkshire Bank!

A big THANK YOU from the West Stockbridge Historical Society to Berkshire Bank for loaning us six employee volunteers on June 5, the bank's "Xtraordinary Day, The Power of Giving Back," when their offices close early so employees can volunteer in the communities the bank serves. Under the direction of local bank manager Becky Sorrentino, the Berkshire Bank team along with Historical Society members tackled landscaping in the upper area between the Old Town Hall and the Masonic Lodge and also assisted in clearing out a cluttered storage room in the building. Their friendly and very valuable help was much appreciated!



Local yokel

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Donor Roll Call ~ July

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



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NAMAS DAY

a reading of a new play
by Samantha Cullen



Sunday, July 29th, at 4 PM

West Stockbridge Historical Society
9 Main Street, Vaber Hall, West Stockbridge
Brief talkback following the reading
Free- donations accepted

Cast includes Rudi Bach, Maggie Barkin, Emma Dweck, Hunter Washburne, Maizi Broderick Scarpa, Dana Harrison, James Lawrence, Deborah Morris, Alex Sovronsky, Noah Pott and Rishi Mutalik

Namas Day is about the interpersonal dynamics that take place in a yoga retreat center. The play goes beyond yoga and meditation and dives into the lives and struggles of the people who live and work at the center. Most importantly, it finds the humor in the struggles we all face in the search for deeper meaning in our lives.

Sam Cullen is a writer, actor, play producer, and registered yoga instructor. She is a native of the Berkshires and thrilled to be sharing her new play with an audience. She started Homespun Theatre Co. over four years ago and has held a number of staged readings and a full-length show in various performance spaces throughout the county.

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West Stockbridge History Quiz Answer:

West Stockbridge, newly granted town status, joined in with other Berkshire County towns to support the Continental Congress and the rebellion movement. Although an agricultural community, we were impacted by the tariffs and trade war. At the May 1, 1775, town meeting, the town voted to procure 120 pounds of powder, lead, and flint for the town inventory. A local "militia" with twelve officers, two drummers, and a clerk was raised. They immediately joined the two Berkshire County regiments lead by Colonels Patterson and Fellows and marched east.

The regiment went to Boston and participated in the Bunker Hill battle. It was held in reserve and did not get the chance to fight because the battle was over before they could be deployed. They stayed for a week at the siege of Boston, however. Most were on short enlistments and returned home for planting time. This was not expected to be a long war, and growing food for your family took priority.

As the war dragged on and the theater of battle shifted from Boston to other states, the towns were asked for more men. Some of our men participated at the Battle of Bennington in 1777. Over 690 Hessians and Tory soldiers were captured, and many were brought to Berkshire County. Legend has it some of the Hessians stayed on and settled in the area although none in West Stockbridge.

By the end of the war, a total of 48 men from West Stockbridge served in the Continental Army, or about 25% of its male population. Most had short enlistments of six months maximum. The longest serving resident was Frank Dunkins. He was a slave, owned by Elijah Williams. He enlisted in 1777 and served at Boston, Ticonderoga, and New York. He was mustered out in 1783, given his freedom, and promptly left the area.



Graphic courtesy of Bob Salerno

Thom
Lipiczky

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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.

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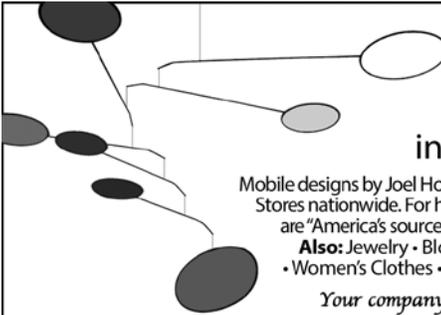


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Town Government Boards and Commissions, Phone Directory, and Office Hours				
Town Offices Main Number 413-232-0300 • Fax 232-7195				
Animal Control	<i>John W. Springstube</i>	232-0300	ext. 335	As Needed
Assessors Office	<i>Mary Stodden</i>	232-0300	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, Doane Perry</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

Berkshire Eagle Publisher Rutberg Honored at Historical Society Benefit Event

By Liza Bennett



Rep. Smitty Pignatelli greets Eagle president and publisher Fredric D. Rutberg.

On Friday, June 8, the most beautiful day of the year so far, the West Stockbridge Historical Society held its second annual benefit at Turn Park Art Space. Along with celebrating the start on the construction of a new service addition to the historic Old Town Hall, the event paid tribute to the *Berkshire Eagle* and its president and publisher Fredric D. Rutberg for all they've done to strengthen and enhance the Berkshires and beyond.

Robert Salerno, the society's president, welcomed the large crowd and thanked the many people who had come together to make the benefit a success including Turn Park's founders Igor Gomberg and Katya Brezgunova. Ms. Brezgunova then talked movingly of the love the family feels for the community and was followed by her daughter Alyona who performed a charming guitar solo. Matt Russett, staff assistant to Congressman Richard Neal, and State Representative Smitty Pignatelli both spoke with warmth and appreciation about the work of the West Stockbridge Historical Society and the *Berkshire Eagle*. Honoree Fredric Rutberg concluded with a powerful speech about how he and his partners' endeavors to revive the newspaper mirror the Historical Society's Campaign to Restore the Old Town Hall. Both are efforts to return important institutions to the heart of our community.

The guests lingered well into the evening, enjoying the cocktail fare by Rouge, wine from Queensboro Wine & Spirits, curated tours of Turn Park's museum and grounds, musical entertainment by the Jeff Link Quartet, and a dance event choreographed by Rozann Kraus.

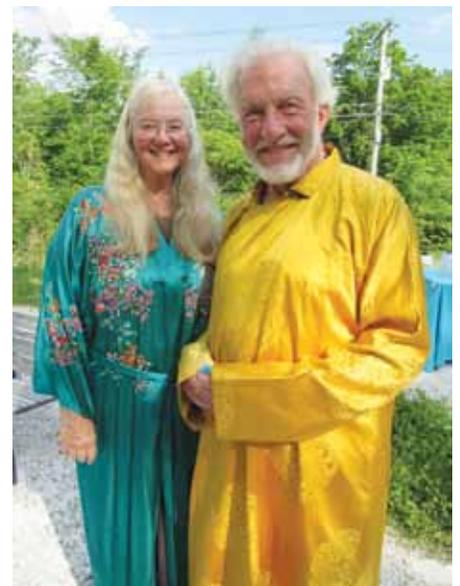
All photos by John Parker



The event included a dance choreographed by Rozann Kraus.



Don Quixote sculpture by Nikolai Silis.



Karen Carmean and Selectman Doane Perry.

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



July 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				

July 2018 Calendar of Events		Date	Event	Time	Location
		7/2	Board of Selectmen meeting	7 p.m.	Town Offices
7/4	Independence Day				
7/5	Farmers Market	3-7 p.m.	Merritt Green		
7/5	Board of Health meeting	6:30 p.m.	Town Offices		
7/10	Council on Aging Luncheon	12 noon	Town Offices Community Room		
7/10	Parks & Recreation Commission meeting	7 p.m.	Town Offices		
7/10	American Legion meeting	7 p.m.	Town Offices		
7/11	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room		
7/12	Farmers Market	3-7 p.m.	Merritt Green		
7/14	W.S. Cong. Church Pancake Breakfast	7-11 a.m.	W.S. Cong. Church, 45 Main Street		
	90th Anniversary Celebration, W.S. Fire Department	11 a.m.-2 p.m.	Old Town Hall, 9 Main Street		
7/15	*** Deadline for the next <i>Local Yokel</i> ***			send to info@thelocalyokel.org	
7/16	Board of Selectmen meeting	7 p.m.	Town Offices		
7/18	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room		
7/19	Farmers Market	3-7 p.m.	Merritt Green		
7/21	W.S. Congregational Church Bake Sale	9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	In front of Baldwin Extracts		
7/25	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room		
7/26	Farmers Market	3-7 p.m.	Merritt Green		
7/29	Namas Day play reading	4 p.m.	Old Town Hall, 9 Main Street		