

Local yokel

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

West
Stockbridge
November 2017

Halloween

around

Photos by John Parker



Town

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 2005

APPLE PRESSING AT THE JOHNSON BARN

Photos by Doane Perry



The apple pressing at Don Johnson's barn on Great Barrington Road on Saturday, October 14, was a wonderful treat from the moment we arrived. We talked with friends and admired Don's handsome pieces of restored farm equipment. Families went on tractor-pulled hay wagon rides around the fields. Peter Thorne and Craig Moffatt loaded apples into the apple press while youngsters took turns turning the handle. In the open barn door, under an American flag, the Zydeco Hillbillies performed for the guests pictured here. The hot dogs, sauerkraut, and cider were delicious! And it was all for a good cause: donations were collected to support the Community Health Association.



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 and on the Internet at <http://vimeo.com/channels/weststockbridge>. Residents can be notified by e-mail of town events and meeting agendas by subscribing at <http://weststockbridgema.virtualtownhall.net/subscriber>.

Open Meeting: September 25, 2017

Police Report

Chief Marc Portieri reported that September has been quiet. The speeding signs are working well, especially with early morning traffic. The Lenox Road sign might be moved to Shaker Mill. Eighty speeding tickets and 25 parking tickets have been issued. One accident occurred on Main Street between a vehicle backing up and a motorcycle. There have been no complaints about the curb at Main Street and Swamp Road. Drug paraphernalia was found on Baker Street. Chief Portieri added that Officer Forest is a top trainee.

Astore Quarry Event

Mark Webber said he wanted to make the selectmen aware of the educational event planned for the Freedley Quarry on October 7 and 8, as announced in the *Local Yokel*. The quarry is privately owned, but parking to gain access in the past has involved trespassing. Mark plans to let the police chief handle it. Organizer Sissy Gunn Astore has arranged parking at the Sportsmen's Club and shuttle transportation to the quarry.

Route 41 Paving Project Update

Curt Wilton said that the Route 41 repaving project would start September 28 and take 3 to 4 days.

Fire Department Report

Chief Peter Skorput reported that the department is operating well. The ideal roster is 18 persons. Currently 14 people are in the department. Two people recently resigned.

Cable Commission

Peter said that the Cable Commission will be discussed at the next meeting. Town counsel says the commission's documents are fine as submitted but has added two procedural items to the commission's duties.

Maple Hill Road Curb Cut


Curt reported that William Kaiser and Kelly Smedvig Kaiser have asked for a curb cut permit at 44 or 46 Maple Hill Road so they can adjust their driveways around their 4,800-foot frontage.

Marijuana Distribution Ban

David and Maria Carls of West Center Road read from a statement supporting a permanent ban on marijuana distribution proposed by Richard Squailia. They argued that the ban should be on the agenda along with the moratorium because the town's majority vote in the state referendum did not ask if people wanted to have stores in their downtown selling marijuana in all its permitted forms. David said he is disappointed by what he perceives as distortion by the *Local Yokel* of the discussion concerning the sale of recreational marijuana at a recent Board of Selectmen meeting he had attended.

Asked by David if he has submitted the proposal to town counsel, Mark said no because he has not been instructed to do so. Mark explained that Richard's proposal was during Citizens Speak and not on the agenda. The matter will be on the agenda on October 2. Mark explained that the moratorium is the item currently on the agenda.

...continued on page 5


**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

Hoffman Pottery



Holiday Sale
Nov. 24 - Dec. 31

10-15% off Everything
in the Gallery
15% off Garden
frogs & turtles
Bargain Bazaar
50-75% off

413-232-4646
EHoffmanPottery.com

103 Great Barrington Rd./Rte. 41 West Stockbridge, MA 01266

West Stockbridge to Sparkle

Save the date!

Friday, December 1, is the date. Mark your calendars and join the fun. Sign up now for the help that is desperately needed. Setup begins the day before. Call (917) 209-0926.

Holiday stroll, 4–8 p.m.

Crafts & cookie decorating at the Congregational Church, 4–7 p.m.

Tree lighting, 6 p.m.

Caroling

Santa arrives at 6:05 p.m.

Visit Santa in his sleigh until 8 p.m.

Get your elf on!

THE JEREMY KITTEL TRIO

Friday, November 10, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

WEST STOCKBRIDGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1854 Town Hall, 9 Main Street
West Stockbridge, MA

Tickets \$25, payable
via Cash or Personal Check only

A short reception with the musicians will follow

Please call 413-232-5055 for reservations!



Girdler Electric

MA Master License 16255

Barry Girdler

owner

P. O Box 20
West Stockbridge MA 01266

413-232-7719

barry@girdlerelectric.com
girdlerelectric.com



Stanmeyer Gallery & Shaker Dam Coffeehouse

2 Main Street • West Stockbridge, MA • 413.232.7707 • Open Mon-Thur 8-4, Fri-Sun 8-6

Open Meeting: October 2, 2017

Cable Commission

The commissioners and the selectmen discussed the additions to the responsibilities and duties of the access coordinator received from town counsel. The commissioners raised questions about signal quality monitoring and standards. Access Coordinator Richard Squailia said he doesn't agree with the document because it does not include recommendations that he made. Peter Skorput said there seemed to be agreement with the description of the commission's duties but not that of the access coordinator.

Peter said the town has similar commissions that handle invoicing and budget where the chairman runs the show. Peter suggested that the commission and selectmen go with town counsel's documents, see how it goes, and review and revise them in the future. The selectmen voted to rescind the previous documents and approve the new documents.

Oak Street Fence

Bob Thibeault and Curt Wilton discussed plans for a fence on Oak Street. Bob has paid for a surveyor to mark property lines. He and the selectmen discussed how to achieve various objectives, that is, no road narrowing, maintaining the 25-foot road right-of-passage, no fencing in front of another fence, snow removal, and permitting. The new fence was approved.

Marijuana Regulation

Peter described the upcoming Planning Board hearing on bylaws. The board has referred the matter to the Planning Board. The views expressed at the hearing will be referred back to the Board of Selectmen for action. The hearing is about amending the bylaws to require a moratorium, a 14-month pause on permitting medical and recreational marijuana. The purpose of the moratorium is to allow discussion of permanent bylaws.

According to Town Counsel Brian Riley, adopting a ban is a two-step process that can be initiated by the Board of Selectmen. The board can vote on a ban during the moratorium. The moratorium offers time for discussion and does not exclude action on a ban.

Selectman Bernie Fallon advised residents to relax, learn to talk the same language, and consider all elements of the enterprise: medical (already established in Great Barrington and Pittsfield), recreational, and cultivation including small farmers. Don't ban all the elements.

Bernie encouraged residents to sign up for the town e-mail. Richard Squailia also suggested people consult the bulletin board at the entrance to the Town Offices. Curt praised the hearing process and predicted all sides of the issue will be heard including farmers and chronically ill people. Joe Roy reminded everyone that town meeting decides, adding that West Stockbridge is a well-trafficked

...continued on page 7

**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***



Community Garden Farewell

By Dan Lewis

The West Stockbridge Community Garden officially closed this season, after a promising start to our fourth year, due to a combination of factors including the relocation of the garden's creators Dan and Megan Lewis. The project was an ambitious one that never really had the staff to achieve its mission. That being said; everyone involved, most especially Anne Lesser and Thom Lipiczky, deserve a lot of credit for trying to make it happen. We distributed hundreds of pounds of fresh organic produce to families in need for several seasons, a great way to spend days in the sun. We will be working over the next few weeks to restore the site to its original condition, and we will liquidate the remainder of the garden budget into the Santa's Wish List to be equally distributed among the organizations.



BALDWIN HARDWARE

Depot Street
West Stockbridge, MA 01266

Henry Baldwin

(413) 232-7757

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

November History Quiz Question:

One hundred years ago, the United States entered World War I, also known as the Great War or the "war to end all wars." It was neither. There were over 20 million deaths, including 10 million civilians, and 21 million wounded. The United States had avoided entering the conflict for three years, and public sentiment was largely isolationist, although anti-German sentiment ran high. Newspapers featured atrocities and the injustice of sinking civilian ships by the new weaponry, submarines. Public sentiment finally shifted, and by April 1917, the United States entered the war.

Once war was declared, the country rallied around the effort. How did West Stockbridge respond to the war effort?

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.

(Find the answer somewhere in this issue!)



West Stockbridge Historical Society
Incorporated in 1994

town on the way to everywhere, and merchants love traffic. Bob Thibeault asked about Ipswich Pharmaceutical's prediction for gross sales and revenue.

Other Business:

- The selectmen appointed Margie Skaggs and Jackie Moffatt to the Cultural Council.
- Selectman Bernie Fallon and Floor Store owner Joe Roy discussed options for painting and tiling the floors of the public restrooms.
- The selectmen approved disclosures concerning Board of Health agent Earl Moffatt, as required by the Ethics Commission and on file with the town clerk.
- The selectmen discussed a suggestion from Transfer Station attendant Wayne Cooper that a shed be built at the station to protect the "trash to treasure" items from weather.

Open Meeting: October 16, 2017

Curt Wilton chaired the meeting; Peter Skorput was away for Fire Department training. Richard Squallia videotaped the meeting but, when asked, would not say for what or whom he was recording.

Special Town Meeting

The selectmen approved scheduling a special town meeting on November 13, 2017, to act on town zoning bylaw amendments on a medical and recreational marijuana moratorium.

Land Issue

The selectmen discussed attorney Lori Robbins's request to resolve a long-standing issue by placing a warrant before the special town meeting. The purpose of the warrant is to obtain a waiver from the Planning Board to create enough frontage to allow a subdivision on some 87 acres once owned by Mark and Amelia Viola in 1879, located above Maple Street, and described on a 1904 map as "easterly of my barn," and also mentioned in a 1911 town report. Selectman Bernie Fallon commented that one issue is what happens to Orchard Street, owned by the town but not accepted as a road (Mark Webber called it a "paper road").

Shaker Mill Hydro

Mark reported on a letter from the Massachusetts Division of Wildlife and Fisheries regarding an exemption license that Shaker Mill Hydro has resubmitted to the state.

Transfer Station Swap Shop

Bernie reported on plans for a new building at the Transfer Station that would resemble the Talbot Center in Stockbridge and be built by donated labor on a weekend. Building Inspector Brian Duvall supports the idea, Bernie said.

Curt said the Department of Environmental Protection promotes this sort of program, noting it would need approval of the Board of Health and yearly inspections. Curt said instructions should be provided on site and in the *Local Yokel*.

Curt praised Transfer Station attendant Wayne Cooper for doing a great job. Wayne commented that the town makes money from recycled tin cans, but users should crush water bottles that otherwise take up too much space in the dumpsters.

Selectmen's Report Program

Bernie said the purpose of the Selectmen's Report program is to become more aware of who we are and what is great about West Stockbridge. Part 1 of the three-part program is about improving communications. Bernie proposed a "Selectmen's Corner" feature in the *Local Yokel*. It was suggested that Bernie be the selectmen's liaison to the newsletter.

Another suggestion was to review the open meeting law in a Board of Selectmen meeting.

Bernie commented that West Stockbridge needs to make a good town video. Doane Perry suggested learning from some of the organizations in town such as the Historical Society and the Artists' Guild.

Retaining Wall Repair

Curt reported that the town is re-starting repair of the Williams River retaining wall by the Shaker Dam Coffeehouse and has filed a notice of intent with the Department of Environmental Protection.

Traffic Issues

Curt reported that Route 41 south of town has been repaved, but there has already been one accident caused by speeding drivers. Residents reported that vehicles fly along Pomeroy Street between Routes 41 and 102, perhaps because GPS systems direct drivers to turn. There has been a comparable issue on turns onto Deer Hill from Lenox Road. The best solution is to call the police.

Citizens Speak

- Roland Dudney reported for the Parks & Recreation Committee that the town is not meeting the playground code because it needs an open plan for the playing field. Consequently, the state won't give the town any grants. Curt asked Mark to put the matter on the agenda for the next Board of Selectmen's meeting.

- Regarding the special town meeting, Gunner Edmundsen asked when the November vote will be held. Mark replied that the Board of Selectmen has called for a special town meeting on November 13. The Planning Board has the language for the moratorium, and it is on the town website. An outright ban will not be on the agenda of the November meeting. Mark commented that a ban could happen because a moratorium does not preclude a ban. A member of the audience asked why there can't be an up or down vote.

- Regarding the Maple Street land issue raised earlier in the meeting, an audience member wondered how the town can rule on something they can't identify, specifically an 1890 description as "easterly of my barn." □



2017 Hall of Fame

The backbone of the market is a combination of the wonderful vendors, food producers, artisans, and musicians. The loyalty and enthusiasm of the weekly shoppers makes it a go-to destination every Thursday afternoon!

Thanks to all!

Growers

Colfax Farm (Molly)
First Flower Farm (Georgia)
Maple Corner Farm (David & Jessica)
Running Fox Farm (Dean)
Ryan Landscaping (Joe)
Snow Farm (Susan)
Taft Farms (Dan & Martha)
Township Valley Farm (Michael)
Windswept Farm (John)
Windy Ridge Farm (Julia)

Food Producers

Aunt Elsie's Oatmeal Crisps
Berkshire Blue
Berkshire's Own Fudge (Peter)
Caroline's Scottish Shortbread
Charley's Fund (Lisa)
Cooperstown Cheese Co (Sharon & Tighe)
Lakonia Greek Products (Melissa & Mary)

Pittsfield Rye (Renee)
Reis Fit Food (Josh)
Rolling Rock Farm (Darby & Tony)
Villa Mia (Miradije)

Artisans

DandiLyon Group (Jane)
Darkhorse Lane (Desire)
Glam Gifts (Angeli, Junior Vendor)
Jbaby Baskets (Mary)
JK Custom Furniture (Josh & Kris)
Joy Newton Designs
Michelle Shafto
Pumpkins Crafted by Peggy
Soasa Designs (Robin Marie)
Studio 55 Straw Bags and Handmade Gifts (Caroline)
Turn Again Woodworks (Randy)
Yarnwork (Nora)

Of Special Interest

Green Mountain Energy
N.O.T. Enterprises (Tonya)
Shaker Mill Books (Eric): Books, maple syrup, honey

Musicians

Dreamaholic
Firepit
Mark Fisher
Hotshot Hillbillies
Ray Mason
Donald McGrory
Moonshine Holler
Elizabeth Petty
Reinhardt Ciccarella
Richard Stanmeyer
Linda Worster & David Grover
Ukeville Stringband

And, of course, Bob Thibeault, music man par excellence—the sound of the market!

Queensboro Wine & Spirits

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

Offering the finest in Beer, Wine and Spirits

Wine tastings every Saturday.

Please visit our website for our current specials and event information at queensborowineandspirits.com.

Don't forget we offer 15% Discount on a case of wine, mix and match.

Monday through Saturday 9:30am to 9:00pm
Open Sundays Noon to 5:00pm

Meet the Artist 2017

Peggy Braun

Peggy Braun

Photographer

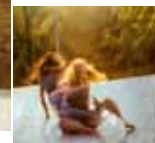
Printmaker

Experimenter

Wed., Nov. 29
12:15–1:30 p.m.

No. Six Depot,
West Stockbridge

Richmond-West Stockbridge
Artists' Guild/Guild of
Berkshire Artists
www.rwsag.org "Our
Programs: Meet the Artist" and
Facebook



Join Peggy Braun on Wednesday, November 29, at No. Six Depot, West Stockbridge, from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. for an informal discussion over lunch. RSVP at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090544a5a72ca71a7-meet>. You will be able to ask her questions.

"Photography, for me, is an act of love—and greed. I love what I see and I want to possess it. And I can—click. But, of course, a picture is like a finger pointing at the moon, as the Buddhists say. So I don't have "it." Now I have an image of something that I saw. But I need to make it represent what I saw in a more internal way. So I work with color and textures and shapes and overlays, and if all goes well, I now have my image of what I originally saw and wanted, translated into my experience of it. Really? Not quite, because if I'm really lucky and all goes well, then it is a complete surprise because I never knew I saw it that way until it appeared. To be surprised is the greatest pleasure of all and, actually, has little to do with the initial motivation for taking the original image."

Berkshire Photo Gathering Highlights Region in New Publication



The Berkshire Photo Gathering has published a visually inspirational book that invites the community and visitors to photograph and explore the Berkshires. Fifty-eight photographers, amateur and professional, contributed 332 photos spanning seasons, weather, and locations to capture the beauty and diversity of the area.

The 140-page book is available in hard cover or as a downloadable e-book. For more information, visit <http://www.berkshirephotogathering.com/come-photograph>. The book is also available at the Stockbridge and Lenox libraries in their nonfiction sections as a noncirculating book.

The Berkshire Photo Gathering meets at Stanmeyer Gallery & Shaker Dam Coffeehouse, 2 Main Street, West Stockbridge. The next meeting is set for November 19, 3–5 p.m.

Source of graphic: <http://berkshirephotogathering.com/come-photograph/>



The *Local Yokel* is published monthly. Please send submissions to: the *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; Design: 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.



Poet's Corner

Do you live or work in West Stockbridge and love poetry? Karen Carmean and Mary Howard will be considering original poems for publication in our latest feature, the Poet's Corner. If you know other poets, please pass the word along. Kids are also invited to participate. Adults, please encourage any budding poets you know! Poetry can offer a sense of wonder, joy, surprise, and a new way of looking at the world. All topics and styles by West Stockbridge poets of any age are welcome! Please send submissions to info@thelocalyokel.org.

Daddy

I looked to the man in my life to show me the way,
But he was lost to himself.
We wandered in the wilderness on our separate journeys through the world.
Much of my loneliness in my travels
Is because I missed the man who once knew how to push
A little girl on the swing safely.

Kate Meyer

Your Little Room

At the top of the stairs
I hear the bottleneck
Slide across the metal strings of your guitar,
Your foot tapping on the wood floor.

From the hallway,
I see flies so carefully tied
by your big hands –
feathers, hooks –
fixed on the old wine cork.

In your room,
I touch the photo of your trophy bone fish,
Sailboats we chartered,
My surprise birthday party.

I wish you were still here.
Maybe you are.

Mary Howard

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 11th 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.

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

Capacity Crowd Fills Old Town Hall for Chamber Players Harvest Concert

By Liza Bennett

The sun broke through just a few moments before the West Stockbridge Chamber Players took to the stage on Sunday afternoon, October 15, adding to an already festive atmosphere in the hall's crowded second-floor auditorium. As Robert Salerno, president of the West Stockbridge Historical Society, pointed out in his opening remarks, this was the 17th benefit concert for the Campaign to Restore the Old Town Hall by the Chamber Players, the inspired creation of artistic director clarinetist Catherine Hudgins. Joining Hudgins for this performance were Boston Symphony Orchestra members cellist Oliver Aldort, violist Leah Ferguson, and violinist Sheila Fiekowsky, as well as Boston Ballet Orchestra member violinist Lisa Crockett.

Sheila Fiekowsky introduced the first piece, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Duo for Violin and Viola in G major, mentioning that Mozart was a wonderful violist and that he featured the instrument in his duo, rather than relegating it to its usual position as second fiddle to the violin. Catherine Hudgins then reminisced about performing a rarely heard piano concerto with the BSO by the next composer, Ferruccio Busoni, that called for a full orchestra, a six-part men's chorus, and hours on stage. In contrast, the piece Hudgins selected for this concert, Busoni's Suite for Clarinet and String Quartet in G minor, performed beautifully by the five musicians, was lush and melodic and over all too soon.

After the intermission, Oliver Aldort remarked that the final offering, Ludwig van Beethoven's Serenade in D major, a relatively early work by the composer, is often characterized as light entertainment, but that parts of it, especially the adagio, possess an intensity and drama that foreshadow Beethoven's mature mastery. The spirited performance bore out Aldort's introduction and provided a rousing finale to a delightful afternoon of music.

After the concert, musicians and audience members gathered downstairs for a reception, lingering to talk, enjoy light refreshments, and relish the unexpected warmth of a late Indian summer afternoon.



*Chamber players (left to right): Sheila Fiekowsky, Lisa Crockett, Catherine Hudgins, Oliver Aldort, and Leah Ferguson.
Photo by Carol Kuller*

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE



38 Main Street
West Stockbridge, MA
(413) 232-4253

www.StoneHouseProperties.com



WEST STOCKBRIDGE • \$329,000

Community Care Days

Acupuncture & Bodywork Clinics

at **BOUNDLESS**

**Affordable, group-based services
aimed at reducing pain, melting away stress
& improving your overall wellbeing**

FALL 2017 SESSIONS

TUESDAYS, 4:30-6pm

OCTOBER 10th & 24th

NOVEMBER 7th & 21st

DECEMBER 5th

**At each Community Care Day,
you have a choice of participating in the
Acupuncture Clinic, Bodywork Clinic or both.**



Karden Rabin, LMT & Boundless Founder



Kelly Clady-Giramma, L.Ac., Dipl. O.M.

Space is limited to 12 clients per session.
Intake is on a rolling basis, but all clients must arrive at least 30 minutes before a session ends.
Pre-registration is encouraged.

LEARN MORE AT
BOUND-LESS.COM/COMMUNITY

or call us at (413) 822-7394

SELECTMEN'S CORNER

COMMUNICATION IN WEST STOCKBRIDGE

FROM THE WEST STOCKBRIDGE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Communication is a fascinating topic. Just because you have spoken doesn't mean there has been communication. It's not communication until the message is received and perceived. If the message is not received, it's just floating in the air. Communicating a message is like passing a football down the field. If the ball hits the target and is held onto, then the communication is complete. If the ball soars over the receiver's head or stops short, then we have incomplete communication.

As a town, if we have a message, we want to be sure it's received and perceived accurately by the appropriate audience. Similarly, as a citizen, your message needs to be received, perceived, and welcomed. This is open communication. So communication is complete only if it's received on the other end. You can talk all day long, but if it's not heard, you are not communicating. People can shout at you. But if there is a soundproof barrier and you don't hear them, it's nothing.

There was an episode of the 1980s TV show *Cheers* where Rebecca dresses up as a limousine driver to tell her hopeful flame Robin Colcort how much she loves him. With Colcort in the back seat, Rebecca pours her heart out culminating with, "Robin, I love you!" Suddenly she turns her head for his response. She *hits her head on the soundproof window* to an oblivious Colcort reading the newspaper in the back seat.

To get a message through, we need to

1. Eliminate the barriers.
2. Understand our audience.
3. Speak in a language that is understood.

Here is another way to look at it. People have strengths and biases with communication and perception. Some are visual. Some are auditory. Others are kinesthetic. We should think similarly, as a town, regarding avenues of communication. There are channels or sweet spots through which we can communicate. Some work better than others. It depends on the person. We need to know our town and how each person likes to receive his or her information, such as

- Postings at the Town Offices
- E-mail
- Direct mail
- Facebook
- Conversation on the street
- Your Uncle Skip
- Local access on cable
- The *Local Yokel*
- The *Berkshire Eagle*

Which is the most reliable for you? Some forms work better than others. Not all forms work for every person. As the deliverer of messages, we need to know how people listen. Taking responsibility involves knowing your audience and delivering your message in a form in which they can receive!

Patriots' quarterback Tom Brady is great because he puts the ball where it can be caught. If we want our message to be received, then we will intelligently understand methods of communication and perception. The goal is to send communication through our various channels to reach 100% completion.

What about you? What is your preferred method of communicating? How can we best reach you? We would like to connect the entire town so we can communicate confidently. With a "click of the mouse," we can reach everyone. (Or a "snap of the fingers" because not everyone communicates via e-mail, Internet, or mouse clicking.)

The point here is not to risk having no communication. Also, we don't want to rely on grapevine communication because like the game Telephone, the message can be garbled. We want open communication to be as clear as possible.

We invite you to share your preferred method of communication by filling out and returning the enclosed survey on the next page. Also, please sign up for the town's e-mail list at <http://www.weststockbridge-ma.gov/subscriber>.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

**BERNIE FALLON
PETER SKORPUT
CURT WILTON**



Communication in the Town of West Stockbridge

A survey seeking the most reliable forms of communication in our town.

1. Which ways do you receive information from the town of West Stockbridge? Select all that apply!

- A. Postings at the Town Offices
- B. *Local Yokel*
- C. *Berkshire Eagle*
- D. *Berkshire Edge*
- E. West Stockbridge Facebook page
- F. E-mail messages
- G. Word of mouth
- H. Other (please specify)

2. Which way would you prefer to receive information from the town of West Stockbridge? Select just one!

- A. Postings at the Town Offices
- B. *Local Yokel*
- C. *Berkshire Eagle*
- D. *Berkshire Edge*
- E. West Stockbridge Facebook page
- F. E-mail messages
- G. Word of mouth
- H. Other (please specify)

OPTIONAL:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Zip Code: _____

Please:
Drop your completed survey at
the West Stockbridge Transfer
Station, the Town Offices, or
the Public Market.

Thank you

Parks & Recreation: Special Thanks

By Ginna Dudney

As autumn wanders into winter, special thanks are due those who contributed their time so generously in 2017 from Holiday Lights to the Pond Party to defending the pond against the geese to maintaining the grounds and pond and beach, and to those who worked so tirelessly behind the scenes to pull it all together:

Nora Calauth
John D'Aniello
Terri Jo Dixon
Roland Dudney
Bernie Fallon
Paula Farrell
Lois Ferguson
Firepit
Andrew Fudge
Cheryle Fudge
Krysten Kaehn
Megan & Dan Lewis
Local Yokel
Merritt Family
Trai & Luy Nguyen
Helen Nolan
Elizabeth Petty



Summer Fun at Card Pond. Photo by Roland Dudney

Peter Skorput
Lynn Springstube & Family
Bob Thibeault
Mary Thibeault
Sarah & Peter Thorne
Chris Veeland
Anthony Voudren
Mark Webber
Curt Wilton
Joanne Wodecki
WS Conservation Committee
WS Fire Department
WS Highway Department
WS Historical Society
WS Police Department (co-sponsor
of Holiday Lights & Pond Party)

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
SUNDAY 10-2
413-232-7785**

www.baldwinextracts.com



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

All Types of Tree Work Insured



Member International Society
(New England Chapter)

ISA Certified Arborist

NE 6430A



Santa's Wish List Preview

Each December, the *Local Yokel* presents Santa's Wish List, an opportunity for community members to support local organizations and agencies that provide important programs and services. Last year a total of \$8,460 (over \$1,000 more than the previous year) was raised on behalf of the following:



- ❖ Community Health Association
- ❖ Friends of the West Stockbridge Library
- ❖ Pet Partners of the Tri-State Berkshires
- ❖ *Local Yokel*
- ❖ West Stockbridge Beautification
- ❖ West Stockbridge Community Garden
- ❖ West Stockbridge Farmers Market
- ❖ West Stockbridge Fire and Rescue Services
- ❖ West Stockbridge Historical Society

To confirm continued participation in Santa's Wish List or to inquire about adding an organization to this year's Santa's Wish List, please contact John Parker at (413) 394-4368 or info@thelocalyokel.org.

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

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

12 Main Street West Stockbridge, MA

**We have been flooring
people since 1983!**

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

November Art Calendar

Plein Air Daily 10–1 with lunch and critique. See Facebook page by 8 a.m. for update. Propose a location afternoon or morning in good weather.

Shaker Mill Inn Art Exhibit Reception. Sunday, Oct. 29, 4–6 p.m. More than 50 works by local artists. A rare chance to see the works and some of the nine beautiful rooms. Light refreshments served. 7 Albany Rd., WS.

Art Seminar and Business Meeting. Wed., Nov. 1, 4 p.m. Bring paintings and photos for Berkshire Humane Society show. Bring titles, size, media. 4:45 p.m. Pigments and their characteristics, transparent, opaque, drying times, stability, etc. Walt Pasko. 5:30–6:45 p.m. Business meeting and planning in small groups. Community Room, Town Offices, 21 Stateline Rd. (Rte. 102), WS.

First Fridays Artswalk. Fri., Nov. 3, 5–8 p.m. Pittsfield, North and South Streets. www.firstfridaysartwalk.com.

Members Potluck and Movie Night. Wed., Nov. 8, 5:30 potluck. 7 p.m. movie. Bring main dish, hors d'oeuvres, or dessert for 10 and what *you* want to drink. Partners welcome. RSVP aaub@yahoo.com.

Positive Critique. Thurs., Nov. 9, 4–6 p.m. Bring 2–3 pieces of your art. West Stockbridge Town Offices, 21 Stateline Rd. Required reading on our website plus RSVP.

Meet the Artist: Ann Getsinger, Painter. Tues., Nov. 14, 12:15–1:30 p.m., No. Six Depot, WS. RSVP.

Artist-to-Artist Open Studio. Wed., Nov. 15, 6–9 p.m., Community Room, WS Town Offices. Work, chat, experiment. Limited to first 20.

Photo Gathering. Sun., Nov. 19, 3–5 p.m., Stanmeyer Gallery. Bring 3–5 photos or on USB or iPhone.

Holiday Art Show, Nov. 24–Dec. 10, 11–5 p.m. Exact location and dates to be determined but a main street in Lenox, Stockbridge, Great Barrington, or West Stockbridge. For more info and to register: Bill.graulty.art@gmail.com.

Art Book Gathering. Fri., Nov. 24, 3:30–5 p.m. Share a favorite book, artist, process. Shaker Dam Books, West Stockbridge. Host Mark Mellinger. RSVP.

Meet the Artist: Peggy Braun, Photographer. Tues., Nov. 14, 12:15–1:30 p.m., No. Six Depot, WS. RSVP.

Richmond-West Stockbridge Artists' Guild
RSVP: rwsag.org "Our Programs." See Facebook



Bill Graulty

Recent Works



Margie Skaggs



Marcie Kammel



Holiday Art Show: Nov. 24–Dec. 10, 11–5 p.m., Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. To register: Bill.Graulty.art@gmail.com.

BERKSHIRE HUMANE SOCIETY New Opening Exhibit

More than 80
Paintings and
Photographs by

Local Artists

Fri. Nov. 17
5:30–7:30 pm

Berkshire Humane
Society

214 Barker Road
Pittsfield



Join us for a new group of art collected Nov. 1 at 4pm. Artists from top left: Keith Emerling, Kinney Frelinghuysen, Anne Auberjonois, Walt Pasko, Karen Carmean, Kim Gerber, and Debbie D. Smith. Open when the Berkshire Humane Society is. Artists may apply to join by clicking "Join Us" on www.rwsag.org.



WEST STOCKBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

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



*From the staff and trustees, a very happy and healthy
Thanksgiving Day to all.*

PLEASE NOTE: The library will close to observe Veterans Day on Saturday, Nov. 11, and for the Thanksgiving holiday, Thursday, Nov. 23, and Friday, Nov. 24.

Congrats to Amanda Houldsworth for scoring the winning tickets in our Steepletop raffle. Last month's event at Edna St. Vincent Millay's home in Austerlitz celebrated the 125th anniversary of the Jazz Age poet's birth.

Be on the lookout for some new additions to our vestibule entrance. Also, many thanks to the Soule and Balestro families and friends for creating a cozy place to bring a coffee, plug in a laptop, and enjoy the view.

A few of our seasonal attractions (including Hancock Shaker Village) have extended their seasons on weekends and for special events. We will be offering patron passes for as long as they stay open!

New DVDs: *The Americans* (Season 5), *The Vietnam War*, *Maudie*, *Megan Leavey*

NEW YOUNG ADULT FICTION

Green, *Turtles All the Way Down*

FICTION

Anderson, *When the English Fall*

Brown, *Origin*

Coben, *Don't Let Go*

Egan, *Manhattan Beach*

Grisham, *Rooster Bar*

Kies, *Random Road*

Malliet, *Weycombe: A Novel of Suspense*

Sandford, *Escape Clause* (LP)

NONFICTION

Chernow, *Grant*

Collins, *The Art of Flora Forager*

Flake, *Conscience of a Conservative*

Franken, *Al Franken: Giant of the Senate*

Gini, *The Importance of Being Funny*

Lilla, *The Once and Future Liberal*

Murray, *The Strange Death of Europe*

Ongoing

- ♦ If you don't have a CW/MARS online account, use your West Stockbridge Library card to create one by going to weststockbridgelibrary.org and clicking on the card catalog picture. Use your account to keep track of check-outs, request items, set a pickup location, and renew eligible items and more.
- ♦ Library trustees board meetings are open to the public. The next meeting will be Nov. 14, 4:25 p.m., in the Community Room.

As always, we welcome suggestions on just about anything to improve our library.

Lee Appelbaum and Jodi Magner

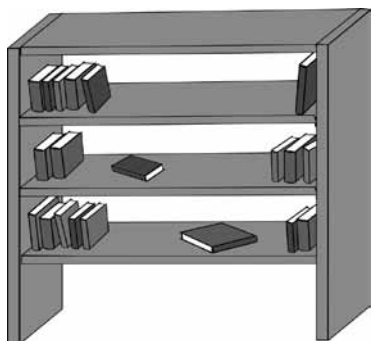


MISSING

From the Community Room
used book shelves:

25 very special and loved children's
Old Golden Books.

Please return when you finish reading them so
other children may enjoy them.



Unusual handmade boxes, each one unique—perfect for holiday gifts. See some on [thom.lipiczky/timeline](https://www.facebook.com/thom.lipiczky/timeline) on Facebook or in person at the fair on December 2 at the First Congregational Church on Main St., West Stockbridge.

Exhibit of portrait photography—couples, family, and children—at the West Stockbridge Congregational Church Holiday Fair. Gift certificates available. Also original design notecards, unique collectables. Visit dominickavellino.com to have a look. Hope to see you on December 2!



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



Flourish

MARKET

FRESH FINDS & VINTAGE FURNITURE

“a curious mix”

- *Rural Intelligence*, August 31, 2017

2 Albany Road • West Stockbridge MA • 413 232 8501



Fall Hours

Wednesday - Saturday 11-5
Sunday 12-4

Closed Monday & Tuesday

www.flourishmarket.com



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



LOCAL YOKEL

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



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



WEST STOCKBRIDGE MA

5 Albany Road | 413-232-8565

Check out our new Main Menu featuring:
House-Smoked items
TO GO Family Dinners/Picnics
Children's Menu & Children's Corner!
Jim & Jenni Roy Hallock

TO GO ONLY

FAMILY/PICNIC DINNER PACK SERVES 4 ADULTS

SMOKED SPLIT CHICKEN \$50.00 COMES WITH COLESLAW/CORNBREAD/SMOKED PORK BEANS
SMOKED SALMON OR RIBS \$60.00 COMES WITH COLESLAW/CORNBREAD/SMOKED PORK BEANS

SMOKE TURKEY'S AVAILABLE BY REQUEST - 3 DAY NOTICE IS NEEDED



Muddy Brook



ELEMENTARY

Building Community, Enriching Education **PTA**

Annual Online Auction:

Bidding Begins on Wednesday, November 22

The auction is the PTA's largest fundraiser. It helps pay for many things that enhance our children's experience at Muddy Brook including teacher grants, classroom supplies, artist residency programs, field trips, and much more. You can view items in our auction at <https://www.biddingforgood.com/mbpta> or on your mobile device at <https://bforg.com/mbpta>. On Wednesday, November 2, the auction will open and bidding will begin. Before the start of the auction, go to that same link and click on the "Register to Bid" button at the top of the page to open an account, a simple and secure process. The auction includes all kinds of items from the Berkshires and beyond—from practical to luxurious (like a spa day at Canyon Ranch) and everything in between. Get a jump start on holiday shopping while keeping it local and supporting our school.

Rewards for Muddy Brook

In October we collected a little more than 2,000 Box Tops! We're off to a great start and hope to keep the momentum going. 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. Share your ideas, start something new, get involved, visit muddybrookpta.com, and like us on Facebook!

Thank you for your continued support.

West Stockbridge History Quiz Answer:

The Great War was the first time the United States emerged as a world power committing resources and personnel, not for territorial or commercial gain as in the Spanish-American War, but as a global leader. The war had a major impact on the country and particularly small rural towns like West Stockbridge. In the early 1900s, our town's population was smaller than today, only 1,200 people. Farming was the prime occupation followed by lime and iron quarrying. Global concerns took a back seat to the local economy and school and library politics. Most people had never left the region, let alone the country. In many ways, we were in our own bubble.

Once war was declared, West Stockbridge rose to the call enthusiastically. Fifty-four men and one woman enlisted in the army or navy. Many came from prominent merchant families at the time, such as Bossidy, Troy, Vaber, Fallon, Truesdell, and Baldwin. Some came from farming families such as Shaw and Smith, although farmers were needed at home to support the war effort.

Many who served were second-generation Irish. Five were recent Italian immigrants. The total number was significant given the size of the town. Part of this response could be due to the draft that included all white men between the ages of 18 and 30 (and later 18 and 45), but more than half of those who served volunteered rather than being drafted.

Our local Red Cross got involved. Women regularly met at the Old Town Hall in work sessions where they rolled bandages, made blankets and socks, and raised money for the war effort. It was a town-wide effort.

A more telling measure of the town's response was in the results of the fund drives for the war. The town raised over \$67,000 for the war effort, over 1.5 times the annual total taxes raised. Every bond drive and fundraising effort was exceeded, a real measure of support coming from a poor farming/mining community.

The war ended relatively quickly for the United States, and fortunately, none of our citizens were killed in action. We did lose two people at the end to the Spanish influenza epidemic, but that's another story.

Image source: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SheetMusicCoverAmerHeresMyBoy1917.jpg>



MEADOW FARM EQUIPMENT

We carry all of your landscaping and garden supplies

- SNOW BLOWERS
- SNOW PLOWS & SANDERS
- CHAIN SAWS
- GENERATORS
- TRACTORS
- LAWN MOWERS
- HYDRAULIC HOSES
- POWER EQUIPMENT
- MULCH, TOPSOIL
- COMPOST, FERTILIZER
- GRASS SEED
- Ice melt, bulk salt, and sand/salt

FULL SERVICE DEALER

Meyer GENERAC Simplicity RedMax Husqvarna ECHO SNAPPER

413-243-0777

We also do repairs on your equipment!

Route 102, 1160 Pleasant St. South Lee, MA

Open Sat. 8-2; Closed Sundays



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

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

The Stockbridge Grange will hold a corned beef and cabbage dinner in the Grange Hall at 51 Church Street on Sunday, November 12, from 1 to 2 p.m. Cost for adults is \$12; \$6 for children under 12. Takeout is available; call (413) 298-3185.

Council on Aging Potluck

On Tuesday, November 14, instead of a potluck luncheon, we will attend the fall concert at 11 a.m. followed by a senior luncheon at 12:15 p.m. at Monument Mountain Regional High School in Great Barrington. If you need a ride, please contact Paula at 232-4394.

Congregational Church Holiday Fair

The West Stockbridge Congregational Church Holiday Fair will be held on Saturday, December 2, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at 45 Main Street, in the Social Hall.

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.

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



Fire Department

LOG FOR SEPTEMBER

Date	Time	Nature of Call
9/2	6:02 p.m.	Medical
9/3	6:26 p.m.	Medical
9/4	1:13 p.m.	Motorcycle accident
9/5	3:59 p.m.	Medical
9/7	11:31 p.m.	Medical
9/8	7:27 p.m.	Medical
9/9	9:41 a.m.	Lifting assistance
9/11	3:59 a.m.	Medical
9/16	10:17 p.m.	Carbon monoxide alarm
9/26	7:10 p.m.	Medical
9/27	3:44 p.m.	Medical
9/27	8:51 p.m.	Motor vehicle accident

Birthdays & Anniversaries

11/9 Edward J. O'Brien

11/19 James Hallock, Jr.

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.

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



Donor Roll Call ~ November

Rosemary & Jim Dellea
Jerry Elias & Cecily Patton
Jeanne Kangas & Robin Lazarow
Edie Raspuzzi
Eric Reimer
Stockbridge Grange

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 25.)



Planning an Event?

Here's a Tip from the Post Office

Before mailing any type of invitation (wedding, shower, etc.), please bring in a sample. We will weigh it and check the dimensions. This will ensure the invitations have the proper postage and timely delivery!

Colleen A. Wich, Postmaster
4 Center Street
West Stockbridge, MA 01266-9998
Tel.: 232-8544 Fax: 232-7068

Meet the Artist 2017

Ann Getsinger

*Ann
Getsinger*

Oil Painter

"balancing freedom and discipline"

"to explore this temporary existence, to consider the sensuality of nature and my personal connection to it"



Tues., Nov. 13
12:15–1:30 p.m.

No. Six Depot,
West Stockbridge

Richmond-West Stockbridge
Artists' Guild
www.rwsag.org "Our
Programs: Meet the Artist" and
Facebook

Join Ann Getsinger on Tuesday, November 13, at No. Six Depot, West Stockbridge, from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. for an informal discussion over lunch. You will be able to ask her questions.
RSVP: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090544a5a72ca7fa7-meet> or if necessary kcarmean@gmail.com.

Ann Getsinger is known for her oil paintings and drawings. As the youngest of five in a creative household, her earliest memories are of making artwork. She spent time at the dairy farm next door, at a nearby horse farm, and in the surrounding woods and fields where connections to nature influenced her powerfully. After studying at Paier School of Art in New Haven, CT, and the San Francisco Art Institute, she settled permanently in western Massachusetts where she studied with realist artist Sheldon Fink. The artist's home and studio, since 1988, is in the rural Berkshire town of New Marlborough, Massachusetts, and the midcoast area of Maine.

"Making artwork is the closest I've come to having my life make any sense at all. It's both indulgent and essential. It's about balancing freedom and discipline, gut and brain, in order to explore this temporary existence, to consider the sensuality of nature and my personal connection to it."

Happy Thanksgiving



*from our Family
to Yours!*

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

WANDERING JEWS
WONDERING JEWS
CULTURAL JEWS
MIXED MARRIAGE JEWS
MIXED UP JEWS
NON-JEWS
LGBT JEWS
CREATIVE JEWS
SPIRITUAL JEWS
JEW BU'S
POLITICAL JEWS
APOLITICAL JEWS
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

WELCOME

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



16 Albany Road
West Stockbridge, MA
413.232.7979
Bellagraziapilates.com

Pilates
GYROTONIC®

Bella Grazia Pilates

Master Teachers in Pilates
for over 20 years



In Touch
printing

Just what you were looking for!

Customized local print-solutions
with a personal touch.

413-442-1202

info@intouchprinting.com

www.intouchprinting.com

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*

Town Government Boards and Commissions, Phone Directory, and Office Hours Town Hall 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	Sat. 10 a.m.–1 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>Lee Appelbaum</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



It Takes a Village!

The sixth annual West Stockbridge Farmers Market season wrapped on October 5 with a truly spectacular Spooktacular! It was a culmination of a season that continues to build on the beginning premise of the market—community. A hard-working volunteer committee pulled it together every week with the essential help of dedicated villagers' work and donations. Neighbors from all segments of the community joined in to make it happen. Sensational vendors and dedicated visitors kept it jumpin'.



Guess Who?



Jill Pixley and Nancy Howell of the Friends of the WS Public Library with Ada and John Masiero and a sampling of free books for kids



Pumpkin by Peter (Cohen, that is)

Special thanks to:

Alison & Marshall Ash
Henry Baldwin
Jerri & Dan Buehler
Amy & Brian Butterworth
Peter Cohen
Terri Jo Dixon
Cathy Dorazio
Roland Dudney
Bernie Fallon
Paula Farrell & Digger Lockenwitz
Beth & Rich Fentin
Lois Ferguson
Susan Fisher & Gary Schieneman
Friends of the West Stockbridge Public Library
Andrew Fudge & Family

Cheryle Fudge
James Fudge
Irma & Bob Gal
Gail Garrick
Najma & Rocky Ghouse & Family
Vicki Grayson
Zina Greene
Elaine Hoffman
Nancy & Walter Howell
Don Johnson
Krysten Kaehn
Sandy Klempner
Carol & Stuart Kuller
Lear & Raquel Levin
Dan Lewis
Megan Lewis
Madeline & Martin Lizt
Local Yokel

Ada & John Masiero
Pam Matson
Mac McClellan
Mary McClellan
Merritt Family
Elizabeth Morse
Luy Nguyen
Trai Nguyen
Helen Nolan
Joe Roy
Robin Schmitt
Carol & Marvin Schwartzbard
Michelle Shafto
Laura Skorput
Peter Skorput
Richard Squailia
Victor Stannard
Danny Tawczynski
Martha Tawczynski

Bob Thibeault
Mary Thibeault
Peter Thorne
Sarah Thorne
Anthony Voudren
Karen & Jerry Waxberg
Mark Webber
Dave Weedon
Curt Wilton
Joanne Wodecki
WS Cultural Council
WS Fire Department
WS Grange
WS Historical Society
WS Parks & Recreation
WS Police Department
Jeannie & William Zox

The market is a community project—join in, be proud!

*A Spooktacular Job!
Photos by Peter Cohen*



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

November 2017

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		



November 2017 Calendar of Events

11/1	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room
11/2	Board of Health meeting	6:30 p.m.	Town Offices
11/5	Daylight Savings Time ends (set clocks back 1 hour)		
11/6	Board of Selectmen meeting	7 p.m.	Town Offices
11/8	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room
11/10	Veterans Day (observed)		
11/10	Jeremy Kittel Trio Concert	6:30 p.m.	Old Town Hall
11/11	Veterans Day		
11/12	Grange Dinner	1-2 p.m.	Grange Hall, 51 Church St., Stockbridge
11/13	Special Town Meeting	7 p.m.	Town Offices
11/14	COA fall concert & luncheon	11 a.m.	Monument Mountain Regional High School
11/14	Library Trustees meeting	4:25 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room
11/14	Parks & Recreation Committee meeting	5:30 p.m.	Town Offices
11/14	American Legion	7 p.m.	Town Offices
11/15	*** Deadline for the next Local Yokel ***		send to info@thelocalyokel.org
11/15	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room
11/20	Board of Selectmen meeting	7 p.m.	Town Offices
11/22	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room
11/23	Thanksgiving Day		
11/29	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room