

Local yokel

West
Stockbridge
November 2019

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

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 2005



Steve Elling performs with the
Zydeco Hillbillies at the Apple
Pressing. Photo by John Parker



Dear Friends,

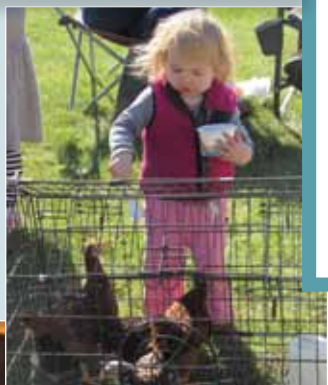
It was a perfect sunny day for the Annual Apple Pressing on October 19 at the Johnson Barn. The event raised \$1,408.25 for the Community Health Association, surpassing last year's amount by more than \$400.

We pressed over 100 gallons of apple cider, and attendees enjoyed music by the Zydeco Hillbillies, food, hayrides, antique gas engine displays, farm animals, and raffles.

We would like to say a big thank you to our friends and neighbors who volunteered their time and efforts to make the day go off without a hitch. Also, thank you to those who donated apples for the event. The different varieties created a crisp, flavorful cider.

Hope to see you next year!

Don Johnson and Erin Gray



Clockwise from top left:

Sorting apples for cider. Photo by Lear Levin; Don Johnson oils his 1900 Fairbanks Morse single-cylinder gas engine; Peter Thorne pressing apples for cider; Bob Gray drove the hayride and Erin Gray co-hosted the event with

Don Johnson; antique engine display courtesy of Century Museum Village & Collectors Association; plenty of good food to go with the cider; Shetland sheep from Springstube Farm; The Zydeco Hillbillies rocked; feeding the chickens; shelling corn. All photos by John Parker except as noted.

Select Board Meeting Minutes

Editor's note: The minutes of the September 4 Select Board meeting include minutes from the executive session conducted on that date. Minutes of the executive session were read in open session at the next meeting on September 11. They are therefore public record, and are presented here as they were provided to us. The minutes of the September 11 Select Board meeting also include a summary of discussions conducted in executive session concerning the salary of a town employee. Town Administrator Marie Ryan informs us that all executive session minutes are public record after the issue has been resolved. The agreement was signed, and so we include the summary here as provided to us.

Select Board Meeting Minutes

September 4, 2019

6:00 PM: Open Meeting

Quorum present: Bernie Fallon, Chair; Doane Perry; and Eric Shimelonis. Also, present: Town Admin Marie Ryan and Peter Skorput, Fire Chief.

Board reviews and approved warrants; payroll and vendor as well as minutes from August 21, 2019 SB meeting.

Board approved and signs Intermunicipal Agreement between the Towns of Richmond and West Stockbridge for Town Administrator to be filed with State for Special Legislation.

Agenda Items/Action/Discussion Items: Meeting Opened at 6:00PM

Bernie asked audience if they had any issues to discuss prior to adjourning into executive session.

Elizabeth Digrigoli – asked that the camera/video be fixed so people can watch the meetings from home. Marie and Eric will work on getting that up and running again.

John Whalen – asked about the junk cars status at Brian Zancanato's house. Bernie stated that it is in the court's hands at this point. Bernie asked Marie to get a status update from the Police on this.

Annie Kilmer – mentioned a reminder about the junk cars at the trailer park. Bernie asked Marie to contact Liza Gennari about this and get an update/status report.

Joe Roy – asked about getting the updated zoning bylaws and map that should include the VCOD. Marie said she would look in to that and get back to him.

At this point BERNIE stated the Board will into executive session. Bernie made a motion to go into executive session, Doane seconded. Each member voted yes. The room then cleared out with the exception of Peter Skorput.

Executive Session convened at 6:30 PM:

PETER– began by stating that he had a monthly report and improvement plan and he handed out his papers to the Board.

BERNIE- said he wanted to begin by saying a few things. He would like there to be measurable strides at this meeting and for everyone to get along and be on the same team. This meeting is a discussion in regards to the fire department. He said we all had similar goals that need to be implemented asap and need to be respectful of each other.

DOANE – said he is hopeful and encouraged that we all can make progress here tonight.

BERNIE – stated that he wants the Board and Peter to do what is best for the Town and not be a fragmented meeting and we need to have good Public relations for the town as well.

ERIC– He feels that the functioning of the Department is above good PR and that he was frustrated with the timing of this. Eric stated that we need to start from scratch with the department. He said that the Board had this issue in January and now we only beginning to deal with it. Eric said he feels like he is carrying the load and he doesn't want to be.

BERNIE- stated that he agrees that the Board should have done more before but this is where we are now. He believes that the functioning of the department is more important than PR but they affect each other.

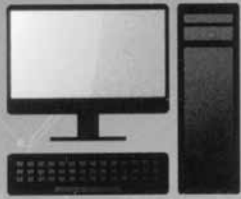
A discussion ensued in regards to the culture at the Fire Department and reasons that members leave.

BERNIE – explained that we will go over the list, but that sometimes we have to get through the hard questions and move on once they are discussed and this is the only way to get through the issues. Marie talked with Peter who said that he had the paperwork 40 days prior, but the meeting was cancelled by Eric.

PETER – discussed his list:

Train the Trainer – they are actively searching for a class for Billy Filiault

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Notice of Special Town Meeting

Wednesday, November 13, 7 p.m.

Town Offices, 21 State Line Road, West Stockbridge

Article 1

To see if the town will appropriate the sum of \$75,000 from available Overlay Reserve for the purpose of conducting repairs to the Highway Garage on Albany Road, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 2

To do and transact any other business to be done by the town.

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The *Local Yokel* is published monthly. Please mail submissions to: *The Local Yokel*, P.O. Box 238, West Stockbridge, MA 01266, e-mail info@thelocalyokel.org, or visit www.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, 717-0277, anne@annelessercommunications.com; Designer: Kim Bradway, kim@bloominarts.com.

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

OSHA – he reached out to other Chiefs and got ideas of things to be prepared for an audit by OSHA and soon will be calling OSHA to come do an audit.

Level 300 Training - he will attend in October in Great Barrington.

Fire Academy – he will be having 2 members attend.

Grants – he is currently searching for grants and will ask Richmond for assistance in applying.

Recruitment – he uses Local Yokel but will start doing it on the website and is creating a mission statement for the website.

Standard Operating Guidelines & Standard Operating Procedures – they are updated regularly.

Training Sheets – created new sheets for signature of members as they attend per OSHA.

Rewards for Training – He feels they just want to do it currently get \$15 per training session attended but will think about this for future.

DOANE – stated he wants everyone to not look at the past but to move forward to unify the FD. He would also like to have Marie and Peter discuss the insurance risks with Bob Salerno (Finance Committee member). He is concerned and the Town being sued and liability. Marie will set up a meeting with Bob and Peter in near future.

BERNIE - discussed the organizational structure and the training involved. He asked for the following information:

Chief, then Asst. Chief then Lieutenant and what are the trainings required for each level?

PETER – gave the following information:

Chief – should have Level 100 and 700 which he has plus Level 30 which he will do in Great Barrington in October.

Asst Chief – Larry Morse is a full Fire Fighter so he is all set with requirements.

Lieutenant – Billy Filiault has Fire Fighter level 1 and 2. He will also be getting Training to be the trainer.

All other members have the Level 1 & 2.

He stated that he hopes to increase his budget next year to get more training and replace equipment. He said he came up with a five-year plan for the department but did not have it with him.

Then there was a discussion in regards to hydrants and a tanker truck.

BERNIE – asked Peter if the members are all trained as first responders.

PETER – said yes and that he has 2 EMTs and has two more members that are waiting to get their EMT training completed. He again mentioned that he has two young members that are going to attend the academy as well.

DOANE – asked Peter if he has done an analysis of different parts of the town.

PETER – said they do situational training on different types of calls. He stated he wants the members to be able to think on their feet and they also go over radio procedures and Standard Operating Guidelines.

BERNIE – Mentioned that Peter runs the FD with little money and is very frugal for the Town and that the FD is very clean and looks organized. He feels maybe Peter needs to let the town support it more financially to get even better.

PETER – said that he had bought a tanker but they had no where to put it. They just don't have room for more things. He said he had a drawing done to apply for a grant to get a new bigger fire station that included the Police but that it was turned down twice. He will be asking someone in Richmond to assist him in applying for more grants.

BERNIE – stated that Peter knows all the ins and outs of the equipment and building and runs the department on a little budget and that possibly ERIC is suggesting things that through his experience was in a much more well-funded FD that has had more money coming into it.

ERIC – feels that this issue is not about funding. This is about proprietary management for the betterment of the town. He stated that he tried to make changes with Peter getting the glory.

BERNIE – asked the Chief about what happened with an issue with a 14-year-old that supposedly went into a home that had a carbon monoxide issue. He asked PETER about what the facts were in regards to this incident.

PETER - stated that this did not happen and that there was no 14-year-old on site for that call. The information was not correct.

ERIC – said that he had discussed this with others and that he agrees that was the case. There had been a miscommunication in regards to this.

BERNIE - stated that this type of meeting is a positive opportunity to clear up any misleading information that may help the Board on assessing the Fire Department.

A discussion ensued about the hydrants and the fire at State Line Road. Peter stated that the reason was not because of the fire hydrant but

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Peter Hand. Photo by Jeff Nestel-Patt

A Vibrant Night of Jazz from the Peter Hand Trio

by Liza Bennett

From the first chords of “Autumn Leaves,” it was clear to the crowd at the Old Town Hall that it was in for an exciting and intimate evening of music. Led by guitarist, composer, and arranger Peter Hand, the trio included bassist Harvie S and drummer Steve Johns, each a highly respected and accomplished musician in his own right. Hand has worked with the likes of artists Lee Konitz and George Coleman as well as having performed with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra; Harvie S has performed and recorded with Stan Getz, Tony Bennett, James Brown, just to name a few; and Steve Johns has played with Benny Carter, Diane Schuur, and the Count Basie Orchestra, among others.

With selections ranging from jazz standards and classics to original compositions such as Hand’s own “Berkshire Blues,” the whole evening had a lovely, mellow vibe. The appreciative audience was treated to two 45-minute sets as well as a post-concert reception that continued long after the rest of the town went dark.

The second in the West Stockbridge Historical Society’s Jazz Series, held to help raise funds to restore the Old Town Hall, the evening also gave the young, talented trumpet player Soren Smedvig a showcase to perform downstairs in the reception area before the concert began. The evening drew a large and diverse crowd from all over the area, as well as a couple from Virginia, many of whom had not visited the Old Town Hall before. Information will be coming soon on the next jazz concert scheduled for April 2020.



Peter Hand on guitar, Steve Johns on percussion, and Harvie S on bass. Photo by Jeff Nestel-Patt

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because the gasket had fallen off the hose and no one realized it at the time and that is why there was a water issue for that fire.

BERNIE – told Peter that they are not trying to make Peter look bad, they are just asking questions to get issues/facts cleared up. He stated this is not an attack on Peter but it is important for the Board to get the facts and get things cleared up and it can be a painful process but sometimes you have to go through it to get better.

ERIC – stated that he feels the fire incident is more about the reporting. He said the documents don't have the detail they should have on the reports.

PETER – stated that he recently did a training on filling out reports and that he stressed to the members that they have to write everything down and be more detailed. He did a training exercise with them writing reports.

ERIC – thanked Peter for working on the list of set goals.

BERNIE – asked the Board and Peter to move and be more positive for the betterment of the Town. He said Eric wanted to help the department when he was a member and that did not happen. Eric can now help in this position as Board member but we cannot keep butting heads. We all need to contribute and move on in a positive direction. There are still things we need to work on and talking about different things can be painful, but as we clear things up we can move on in a more positive way.

PETER – stated he will come back next month with an updated report.

BERNIE – asked Peter to be positive when discussing things with his members. He also mentioned that as we move forward if we need the

members to have more training then, they have to find a way to get it without excuses.

BERNIE – asked Eric if he is happy with this issue at this time moving forward.

ERIC – answered yes.

BERNIE – stated that Eric is somewhat satisfied. Bernie wants to have the Board resolve and defuse what they can. He acknowledges that they all need more improvements to be done.

PETER – thanked the Board and left at 7:50 PM.

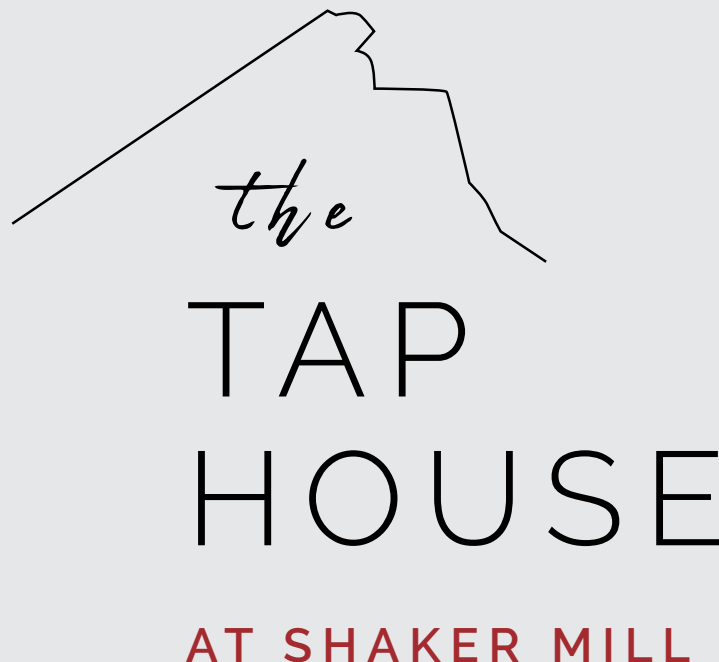
Eric asked the Board to sign a request to the Fire Marshal asking for copies of fire reports from the Town for the past few years. The Board had a discussion but did not make any decision on signing the requests at this time. Bernie asked that letters like these be discussed prior to being printed on letterhead for signatures in the future. Doane asked about examples of reports that possibly can be given to PETER to assist in getting better at that. Eric stated he would get some examples from the internet.

Bernie motion to adjourn at 8:20 PM, Doane seconded.

Marie confirmed with the Select Board that their next meeting would be on Wednesday, September 11th at 6 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Y. Ryan
Marie Y. Ryan
Town Administrator

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West Stockbridge Sites to Be Featured on Stockbridge Main Street at Christmas Holiday House Tour December 7, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

This year, for the first time, three West Stockbridge properties will be featured on the Stockbridge Main Street at Christmas Holiday House Tour on Saturday, December 7, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. West Stockbridge properties on the house tour include the Kniffen House (owner Connie Eagan), the West Stockbridge Congregational Church, and the Old Town Hall/West Stockbridge Historical Society.

Now in its 30th year, the event sponsored by the Stockbridge Chamber of Commerce offers activities Friday evening, December 6, through Sunday, December 8. Highlights include seasonal Readings Around the Hearth at the Stockbridge Library on Friday evening; the Holiday House Tour, Children's Holiday Sing-Along, Caroling at the Red Lion Inn porch, Luminaria Walk, and Holiday Concert on Saturday. It ends with the re-creation of the famous *Stockbridge Main Street at Christmas* painting by Norman Rockwell on Sunday.

Stockbridge Chamber Executive Director Barbara Zanetti said, "We have been trying to get the tour to loop into West Stockbridge for years now. While not all properties are homes, the ones we have will be a treat to patrons and a great addition to the tour."

Tickets may be purchased in advance online through the Stockbridge Chamber of Commerce at www.stockbridgechamber.org until November 29. Starting November 30, tickets are only available at the Red Lion Inn. Tickets to all events are limited. Advance purchase is strongly suggested because they can sell out.

**Thank
you all!**



Many thanks to all of our vendors who brought us the best of the best each week and to all of you who came & supported our local economy. It all contributes to the wonderful community we live in!!



Wishing you all a
**Happy
Thanksgiving**

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Select Board Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2019

6:00 PM: Open Meeting

Quorum present: Bernie Fallon, Chair; Doane Perry; Eric Shimelonis, and Town Administrator Marie Ryan.

Board reviews and approves warrants; payroll and vendor.

BERNIE stated that the meeting is being broadcasted as the video is now working.

Agenda Items/Action/Discussion Items: Meeting Opened at 6:00PM

Assistant Wire Inspector – Marie stated that Doug Wilber will no longer serve as the Town's Assistant Wire Inspector. Karl Cooper, Wire Inspector gave the name of Lawrence Ray and Theodore Piontek to be appointed Assistant Wire Inspectors.

Bernie made a motion to approve, Doane seconded and all were in favor.

Bernie asked that if anyone in the audience wants to speak to please come up to the microphone.

Junk Cars - Chief Portieri stated that 5 people got summons from the Court Magistrate for a court date of September 17. They must appear in court in a closed session. He also discussed the junk cars at the trailer park. He said that he had a discussion with Liza Gennari. She is having help from a lawyer on this issue. The Board of Health has also had the Chief deliver several letters to the trailer park. The Chief assured the audience that things are being worked on it just takes some time but that things are moving forward.

Signs for Card Lake Inn Parking lot – Curt Wilton, Highway Superintendent asked the SB what type of signs they would like in the parking lot or rules. Bernie stated he would like just simple signs stating "Parking". Curt Wilton said the highway can spruce it up a little with some new gravel and will let it be parking and see how it works for now. If it gets abused, they can decide on further restrictions. Joe Roy also commented that the Vision Committee would like to work on it as well as far as the trees around it. Curt Wilton said he will work with the Tree Warden to take care of some of the trees around the area and will research how to get the trees back to being healthy. Joe Roy said the Vision Committee would like to be involved and help.

Fire Department Update – Bernie said he would like to update everyone on the executive session meeting that the Select Board had with Peter Skorput, Fire Chief on September 4th, 2019. Bernie stated that Town Counsel advised that the meeting could be executive session as a continuation of their previous meeting. He believes in order to move on they needed to accomplish things in executive session. He then read the minutes of that meeting to the audience with his explanations as he read.

After Bernie read the minutes, Doane stated that he feels positive for the future but was still concerned about risks. Doane thanked Marie for her work on this issue with Peter. Bernie said he knows that the meetings at times have gotten heated but he believes sometimes this is what needs to be done to flush things out in to the open. He then suggested that this issue rest for now and have Peter give his monthly report in another 3 weeks or so.

A member of the audience stated that they appreciate Peter but that it is important to have the facts of any issues be brought out in public so that there are no false information going around. They said that leadership is important and they trust that the SB and Peter will do what is in the best for the Town. Another person thanked Eric for shaking things up because sometimes it is necessary to shake things up to get to a safer place.

Brian Butterworth spoke and stated that he has had great professional experience with dealing with Peter. He said that the Town has a management problem and they all need to help with instruction and check in periodically and everyone needs to figure things out together.

Another member of the audience stated that she read the report on the Fire Department and it frightened her to learn of the issues. She said we need to address all these issues. In response to her statements, a member of the Fire Department said that the report is 3 years old. We have all new people in the Department now and we have met and taken care of almost all of the issues listed. We are working hard to improve but we need your help to make it happen.

Bernie stated that they have completed a lot of the work and we need to be supportive, especially with factual information.

A member of the Fire Department said that they need help and support and not people coming to calls and looking over their shoulders. They are afraid of doing something wrong and getting called out on it. They can't function like this with the pressure, it makes us feel threatened. This has been the 4th meeting on this and we need support and time to get things completed.

The audience all said they appreciate the Fire Department and all that they do for the Town.

Eric said that even the Boston Fire Department, who are all well training and have huge financial support have members get killed. This is about regulation and policy and I only brought the issues to the forefront. This is a bigger issue that deals with things happening currently, recent events, not what was in the past as per the report.

Bernie stated that we all need to have confidence that the Fire Department is working on the issues and we need to move forward. He wants to wrap this up and pull together. Bernie felt there had been a lot of positive things said tonight. The Board will have Curt Wilton, Police Chief Portieri and Fire Chief Peter Skorput all come in and give monthly reports on their departments. The Fire Department is doing a great job and they need our support and not to be looking over their shoulders. Let's take the next three weeks and let them breathe.

Doane said that he felt there is two areas that need to have improvement, risk liability and reporting but that he feels a positive future.

Bid Opening for Resurfacing Swamp Road – 7:10 PM

Bernie stated he was opening bids received for the resurfacing of Swamp Road. He said we received three bids, from Eurovia Atlantic Coast LLC, LB Corporation and HMA Contracting Corporation.

Curt Wilton took the bids and will go over them to see which was the most responsible and eligible bidder. He will announce next week who won the bid.

The following were issues/questions brought up to the Board:

Traffic Survey for Swamp Road – Marie said she got an estimate of about \$450 for a company to do a traffic survey on Swamp Road. This would be the first step in trying to eliminate heavy vehicle traffic on Swamp Road per the SB past request to begin the process. The Board decided to have the study done but reserve the right to decide to continue with the process after the study is completed and they review it.

Berkshire Regional Planning – Bike Share System Grant-

Marie told the SB that Berkshire Regional Planning would like several towns to be part a grant application for a survey for a bike share system in Berkshire County. Once the application is accepted and if we were to be awarded the grant, each town would have to chip in \$3000 and

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the grant pays for the rest. The Select Board was encouraged because this works into the future plans of the Vision Committee. Marie will let Berkshire Regional Planning know that West Stockbridge is interested in this process.

Parks and Recreation Committee – BERNIE stated that he has hopes of the Parks and Rec Committee starting to get together and get things done around town. He said that he spoke with Caitlyn Graham and she was very excited to get to work on things. He said the committee has plenty of money to get some things accomplished around town and looks forward to that.

At this point Bernie stated the Board will into executive session. Bernie made a motion to go into executive session, Doane seconded. Each member voted yes. The room then cleared out with the exception of the Board, Marie and Curt Wilton.

Executive session convened at 7:50 PM:

The reason for this executive session was to review and sign a new agreement for Curt Wilton's new position of Director of Public Works. Doane asked Curt if he would be comfortable with a midyear review and Curt said absolutely and that is needed so both parties know how the agreement is working. Curt told the Board that he has met with Elaine Markham, Town Accountant and gone over the proposed salary and that what they will be doing is taking monies from each department he is overseeing to create his new salary. Bernie said he would like to see good public relations for each of the departments through Curt. Doane said he feels that the Vision Committee would be relevant to Curt's operations. Eric agreed this was a good idea. Curt thanked the Board

and said that he had been thanked by many people in Town already for taking over these departments. The Board then signed the agreement.

Marie reminded the Board that next week, Wednesday, September 18th is the Special Town Meeting in regards to the Solar Bylaw at 7 PM. MARIE stated that the next regular meeting would be October 9th however, Eric would not be in Town for that meeting.

Bernie motion to adjourn at 8:25 PM, Doane seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Y. Ryan
Marie Y. Ryan
Town Administrator

Select Board Meeting Minutes

October 09, 2019

6:00 PM: Open Meeting

Quorum present: Bernie Fallon, Chair; Doane Perry, and Town Administrator Marie Ryan. Board Member Eric Shimelonis was absent.

Board reviews and approves warrants; payroll and vendor.

Board signs Pole Location petition for Baker Rd./Albany Rd.

Board signs one day liquor license for Historical Society.

Board signs Community Room Usage Request for Paul Cunningham.

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Celebrate the Visual Arts in November 2019

November Art Calendar

First Fridays Artswalk Friday Nov. 1, 5:00-8:00 p.m.
Pittsfield, North and South Streets. Carole Quinn, photographer, and Jonathon Nix, painter, at 13 www.firstfridaysartwalk.com

Meet the Artist John Clarke. "Drawing on Memory"
Gallery Talk. Mixed mediums. Sat. Nov. 2, 3-4pm.
Stockbridge Station, 2 Depot Street, Stockbridge.

Members' Potluck. Sun. Nov. 3, 4-7pm Great
Barrington. Bring main dish, hors d'oeuvres or dessert
for ten and what YOU want to drink. Partners
welcome. For location, RSVP: ftsegal@nycap.rr.com

Art seminars, Demonstration, and Business Meeting.
Wednesday Nov. 6, 4pm Bring work for new show at
Shaker Mill Inn or on Nov. 19 to SMI at 9:30-10.
Seminar: **Jill Gustavis 4:15- 5:15. 5:15:** Bring a recent
work to share. 5:00-6:00. Plan upcoming shows and
activities. Community Room Town Hall, 21 Stateline
Road (Route 102) West Stockbridge (WS)

Meet the Artist Cynthia Wick. Gallery Talk. Oil,
Acrylic, Painted Paper Collage. Sun. Nov. 17, 2-3pm.
Berkshire Botanical Garden, 5 West Stockbridge Road,
Stockbridge.

Meet the Artist Jonathon Nix. Gallery Talk. Painter,
Sculptor, Designer. Wed. Nov. 20, 4-5pm. TKG Real
Estate, 137 North Street, Pittsfield

Photo Explorers: Electra's Cafe. 439 Pittsfield Rd.,
Lenox. Join Carole Quinn on Fri. Nov. 22, 8:30am for
coffee/breakfast. Explore the area.

Collage Group. Friday Nov. 22, 12-30-3pm Richmond.
This group is currently closed but inquire for waiting
list. RSVP: BerkshireArtists@gmail.com

Berkshire Photo Gathering. Sun. Nov. 24, 2-4 p.m. \$5.
Berkshire South Regional Comm. Center, 15 Crissey
Road, Great Barrington, MA 01230 Put Photos on
website to share.

Guild of Berkshire Artists
RSVP: BerkshireArtists.org
BerkshireArtists@gmail.com See Facebook

Works currently in Shaker Mill Inn



Joel Hotchkiss



Karen Carmean



Howard Greenhalgh



Adrian Holmes



Walter Pasko

Art Book Gathering Friday, Nov. 29, 2-4 p.m. Share a
favorite book: artist, process. Shaker Mill Books, West
Stockbridge

Classical Drawing: DVD and still life drawing. Join us.
RSVP BerkshireArtists@gmail.com. WS Town Hall. Will
begin in fall.

Figure Painting, Open Studio Tuesdays 1-4pm. IS 183,
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Agenda Items/Action/Discussion Items: Meeting Opened at 6:00PM

Chief Marc Portieri – The Chief gave an updated list of all Police Officers to the Board. He then reported that the Department has been working hard on the traffic issues in town. They have made 143 stops for speeding in town since July. The Chief stated that when residents call the station in regards to concerns about speeding on a particular road, they have a list on the wall and when shift changes happen, those are the roads that the police will patrol. Doane asked the Chief if he could give an update to the Yokel Local so people know how much work the Police are doing on this. The Chief agreed.

The junk car issue status is at the court level at this time. There were 5 people that had court dates with the Magistrate and the Chief that were not open to the public and only one showed up. This person had registered their car and is all set. The other 4 will be getting a new court date at which point if they do not show up for that date, they will then have a warrant out on them.

The Chief reported the evidence room security is being updated. He and Sergeant Messina have been taking a class to do updates that the State is requesting the Departments complete.

Earl Moffatt, Board of Health Agent – Earl stated that the Board of Health has issued 11 Orders of Conditions to people in the Trailer Park. These complaints are mainly due to trash and junk. He explained this is a multi-step process just like the junk car issue. The people are given a certain time frame to comply with the orders. If they do not comply then they will be taken to court for a hearing with the Magistrate. If they still do not comply the next step would be an open court hearing, etc.

Earl asked the Select Board for permission to have Town Counsel assist the Board of Health with the paperwork and procedures on this issue. He stated that he would do most of the paperwork and be the one to show up at the hearings but that he needs Town Counsel to work with him on the legal aspects. He said it would only cost a few hundred dollars and not a large amount of time from Town Counsel. The Select Board asked him to work with Marie and keep her updated and she can then inform the Board as to the status of the progress. Earl agreed to keep Marie up to date.

Joe Roy, Vision Committee – Joe informed the Board that the Vision Committee is starting to form sub-committees and working in groups on different projects. They want to have a Master Plan Committee which would include a few members of the Vision Committee as well as Curt Wilton, Public Works Director; a Zoning Board of Appeals Member; a Planning Board Member; Kathleen Kersey, a member of Vision Committee as well as the Finance Committee; and Eric Shimelonis as a representative of the Select Board. Since these other members are from outside of the Vision Committee, Joe was asking for permission from the Select Board to include them and proceed with the planning. Bernie and Doane both agreed this was a good idea. Kathleen stated she has already started on getting this committee on track.

Joe then listed the six main issues that the Vision Committee are currently concentrating on and wanted to follow up on with the Select Board:

1. Speed Limit signs – mainly the two different speeds on Main Street. Bernie explained to Joe that the Mass DOT is the one who sets those speed limits and we cannot change them. He explained to Joe that the lower speed limit travelling south is due to the curves on the bridge and possibly due to the cars being parked on Main Street going south, trying to back out. Joe agreed that could be one of the reasons as well.
2. Card Lake Inn Parking Lot – Joe asked what the Board was thinking for use of this area. Bernie stated that this was, for now, just going to continue being a parking lot.

3. A. Zoning with Junk Cars – Joe stated that he knows this is being worked on, especially after hearing the Police Chief update.
B. Enforcement of Zoning – The concern is that the Building Inspector needs to do more enforcement, specifically at Troy's Garage. The residents are concerned with junk cars being on the residential area as well as all the golf carts and if they are for sale or not. Kathleen Kersey asked that the Board have Building Inspector Brian DuVal have a paper trail and continue to enforce the zoning bylaws. Bernie asked Marie to contact Brian and have him report at the next Select Board Meeting.
4. Solar Array Buffer – Marie showed Joe and the audience the planting that National Grid prepared for the solar near the turnpike. Everyone was happy with the plans. Joe asked about the Truck Stop solar array buffering. Marie stated that she and Mark Webber were going to look for the contract but that Mark Webber believed that there were no plans in the contract that had to provide buffering/plantings. She will give an update on this at the next Board meeting after researching it with Mark Webber. The Board also thought possibly, if there is nothing in the contract maybe the Board could request some plantings by letter to the owner any way.
5. Burying Utility Lines on Main Street – Steve Hayward from National Grid was present at the meeting and he had spoken with Curt Wilton and gave Curt a phone number and contact to get information in regards to burying the lines. He explained that they use an outside contractor that works with them to do this. Kathleen Kersey said that she spoke with Berkshire Regional Planning and that they said there are not really any grants available that help pay for this and she asked Steve what the cost may be and he stated it would most likely be over quarter million dollars.
6. Affordable Housing – Joe said that on this issue they are trying to include Planning Board, Vision Committee and Select Board to all work together on this issue. There was a possible suggestion of having the Planning Board change Zoning Bylaws to enable people to have accessory dwellings to have more apartments that may be beneficial to families, elderly, and young people to be able to afford to live in West Stockbridge to help increase population.

Miscellaneous Items:

There was discussion in regards to the "No Parking per Police Order" signs on Moscow Road. Marie will ask the Police Chief to have those taken down. Bernie said he believes they are there for the Farmer's Market and will be taken down when that is completed for the year.

The second concern raised was in regards to the fencing in front of the Pumping Station. The audience would like to see some screening like materials woven into the fencing of shrubs planted. Marie will discuss this with Curt.

Marie reminded the Board that the next meeting will be Wednesday, October 23rd.

Bernie motion to adjourn at 8:00 PM, Doane seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Y. Ryan
Marie Y. Ryan
Town Administrator

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 \$8,005 was raised on behalf of these recipients:



- ❖ Community Health Association
- ❖ Friends of the West Stockbridge Library
- ❖ *Local Yokel*
- ❖ Pet Partners of the Tri-State Berkshires
- ❖ West Stockbridge Beautification
- ❖ 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 list, please contact Vicki Grayson at 232-6131 or vicki.grayson@rocketmail.com.



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- *Berkshire Record* and *Berkshire Eagle* are available to read during library hours.



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Happy Thanksgiving from all of us at your library! The library staff is always grateful for the folks who stop in to look for all kinds of information and also for fun reading here.

Thanksgiving hours: Closed Wednesday, November 27, and Thursday, November 28; reopening for Friday, November 29, and Saturday, November 30

NEW DVDs

Mountain, Rocketman

Trevor, *Last Stories*

Wang, *Chemistry*

NEW ADULT FICTION

Atwood, *Testaments: The Sequel to the Handmaid's Tale*

Castillo, *Shamed*

Choi, *Trust Exercise*

Coates, *Water Dancer*

Cornwell, *Quantum*

Czapnik, *The Falconer*

Eisenberg, *Your Duck Is My Duck*

Gregory, *Tidelands*

Hoffman, *The World That We Knew*

Just, *Rodin's Debutante*

Lipman, *Good Riddance*

McBride, *The Lesser Bohemians*

Moyes, *Giver of Stars*

Smith, *Spring*

NEW ADULT NONFICTION

Broom, *The Yellow House*

Campbell, *The Power of Myth*

Epstein, *Attending: Medicine, Mindfulness, and Humanity*

Hilgers, *Patriot Number One*

Lopez, *Horizon*

Szwed, *So What: The Life of Miles Davis*

Waal, *Mama's Last Hug*

NEW DVDs for the kid in all of us

Aladdin

NEW CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULT BOOKS

Dean, *Pete the Cat at the Beach*

Southgate, *Dogs in Space*

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 ask us to hold books or movies for you, and keep track of checkouts, overdue and fees, pickup locations, renewals, and more. If you can't find it in our C/WMARS network, click on the Commonwealth Catalog to borrow items from libraries across the state.
- For everyone with an online CW/MARS account, we hope you will take advantage of the app called Libby (image of a reader with a bow in their hair!) to listen to audiobooks and read eBooks on your phone or tablet. Librarians are very happy to help you set this up; if you would like some help with this, please bring in your phone or tablet.
- All library trustees board meetings are open to the public. Please check the library website for our next meeting.
- We have day passes for many of our local attractions, available at the library thanks to the Friends of the Library and the West Stockbridge Cultural Council.
- As always, we welcome your suggestions about the library.



Rachel Alter, Vicky Cooper, and Brad Havill



Scrapbook November 2019: TEST YOUR TRIVIA KNOWLEDGE!

- What year did the town's government move into new offices at the former Village School?
- What café was formerly at the Six Depot location in 2011?
- What store was robbed in West Stockbridge on January 1, 2012?
- Gary Quadrozzi has what "dream job"?
- What does robotics involve?

Answers: 1. 2007; 2. Caffè Pomo d'Oro; 3. Queensboro Wine & Spirits; 4. Coordinator of robotics at Berkshire Medical Center; 5. Science, technology, engineering, and math together.

Jill Gustavis

Jill Gustavis

Watercolor Artist

Teaching to Practice



Wed. Nov. 6
4:15-5:15 Talk and discussion

West Stockbridge
Community Room
21 Stateline Rd.
(Rt. 102)

Guild of Berkshire Artists
www.BerkshireArtists.org and
BerkshireArtists@gmail.com



Jill Gustavis will discuss her interest in education and sharing art and techniques. She will describe how she uses social media platforms and demonstration events to educate through exposure and offer the opportunity for questions.

An area of personal development, Jill will also talk about the online platform, Skillshare, where she has begun teaching a class on how to practice for more consistent improvement. Online teaching venues not only enable artists in both rural and metropolitan areas to reach people that are not local, but also allow them to connect to and learn from a wide array of other artists and professionals.



Jonathon Nix

Jonathon Nix

*Painter,
Sculptor
Designer*

"The contemplation of things as they are without substitution or imposture without error or confusion is in itself a nobler thing than a whole harvest of invention."
— Francis Bacon



"I want to see with my whole being, and to communicate what I experience. William Blake called it seeing through the eye rather than with the eye: instead of superimposing my own expectations on a subject, I seek what the form will reveal of essence, what the visible will tell me of the invisible. It is an effort that requires intense, prayerful attention, but if the seeing is honest and the hand is well trained, a revelation will emerge. The reward is bliss."
— Polly Thayer

Wed. Nov. 20
4-5p.m.

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Guild of Berkshire Artists
www.BerkshireArtists.org and
BerkshireArtists@gmail.com

Join Jonathon Nix for a gallery talk and informal discussion of his process. Jonathon Nix is a painter, sculptor and designer. After studying at the University of Arizona and the San Francisco Art Institute, he spent years as a print and environmental graphic designer, serving notable clients such as the Smithsonian Institution, Oxford University Press, The Getty Trust, and numerous northeastern museums and colleges, and winning several national-level awards including the Federal Design Achievement Award, the highest level award from the National Endowment for the Arts. In 1995, he combined his design studio and his painting/sculpture studio into a single space, and since then has split his time between the two disciplines, sometimes overlapping them in institutional projects. He has created installations for synagogues in Omaha, Nebraska, Birmingham, Alabama, and in Weston and Gt. Barrington, Massachusetts, among others.

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“We Remember When . . .”

Growing Up in West Stockbridge in the 1950s

A Series of Recollections by John Bormolini and Friends

West Stockbridge Resident at Center of International Standoff

By John Bormolini

The incident occurred 60 years ago on February 3, 1959, at a checkpoint in the Soviet Occupation Zone in Germany. The hero's name is Richard Masiero, a West Stockbridge resident. At the time he was a corporal in charge of a convoy traveling from Berlin to West Germany. It all started when Corporal Masiero refused to allow the Russians to inspect his cargo at a small checkpoint on the border between West Germany and the postwar Russian zone.

As reported in *Life* magazine, February 16, 1959, pp. 23–27:

One U.S. soldier, knowing his orders and taking no guff, last week (February 3, 1959) stood off the Russians in Germany. Refusing to be pushed around, Cpl. Richard Masiero showed what the cold war was all about in one small but wonderfully gutsy performance. It was forced upon him as he led a U.S. Army convoy out of West Berlin through the Russian Zone. He was halted by the Reds within 50 yards of reaching West Germany. A Russian sentry announced that he was going to inspect his cargo. Corporal Masiero announced that he was not. Then the corporal and four drivers set up a wagon-train defense (more later) with vehicles until the Russians freed their trucks. It was a small incident—involving a meaningless cargo of old jeeps—but for 54 hours the whole Berlin crisis was focused on it.

The incident drew the attention of the U.S. Secretary of Defense Dulles, Prime Minister of England Macmillan, President de Gaulle of France, and German Chancellor Adenauer. Dulles was on a mission to unite and shore up Western resistance to Russia's fast expiring ultimatum to get out of Berlin. For 54 hours the incident pitted the Western alliance against the Russian Bear!

While this was happening, Richard's parents, Carlo and Mary, were nervously keeping up with unfolding events at their home above their market in West Stockbridge and surrounded by “news people.” Richard's sister Judie remembers vividly the events that captured the attention of the free world:

You are correct about the news people coming to West Stockbridge. Of course, technology was not what it is today, and there was placed in our kitchen what I can only believe now must have been a ticker-tape machine to keep my family abreast of what was happening. It continually spit out information about what was going on during those tense 54 hours.

Needless to say, my parents, Carlo and Mary, were in a continually nervous state, watching everything that came out of that machine. I cannot remember who notified my parents when the entire situation was settled. I only know that many prayers were answered. My mother was very relieved to learn that he was no longer in danger and I heard her say, “I'm very proud of him.”

The *Berkshire Eagle* carried headlines: “Russians Detain U.S. Trucks, Defiant W. Stockbridge GI” and “Local Hero of Marienborn Is Husky 6-foot-3 MP.” Corporal Masiero became the “poster boy” of the free world in the struggle against the “wicked Russian Moguls.”

Richard later chronicled the incident after returning to Berlin (paraphrased):

I was able to get in contact with the American in charge of the American checkpoint, CPT Jennings. While we waited, CPT Jennings provided hot coffee and spam sandwiches and sleeping bags for Monday night. We slept in the cabs of the trucks as it got down to about 10 degrees.

Tuesday morning CPT Jennings brought us egg sandwiches, hot coffee, and copies of “Stars and Stripes.” The Russians let us use their latrines, but they weren't very clean and had only cold water. He also told us to line up the trucks' tailgate to tailgate (wagon-train defense), so that we could detect any attempt by the Russians to get into them. That's how we spent Tuesday and our second day and night.

We never thought about being at the front line of the cold war. We didn't think we were in danger; we could see the Americans just down the road. I personally was concerned about getting back to Berlin in time to play a basketball game, our MP company against the service company, which had licked us twice before.

...continued on page 17

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 about additional free skilled nursing services, such as home visits for residents, contact Emilie Jarrett, RN, at 232-0122, or visit our website, www.rwstcomhealth.com.

Stockbridge Grange Dinner

On Sunday, November 10, the Stockbridge Grange will serve a corned beef and cabbage dinner in the Grange Hall at 51 Church Street, Stockbridge, from 1 to 2 p.m. Cost: \$12 adults, \$6 under 12, and under 5 free. Takeouts are available.

Council on Aging

Instead of our usual Tuesday potluck, we will attend the senior concert and luncheon at Monument Mountain Regional High School in Great Barrington at 11 a.m. on Monday, November 18.

A program on Medicare fraud will be presented by a state official at St. Patrick's Church Parish Hall on Thursday, November 14, noon to 1 p.m. This free program will provide tools to become better educated and engaged healthcare consumers to protect ourselves and our loved ones from Medicare fraud and deceptive marketing tactics. Refreshments will be served.

Please try to attend both of these events. Call Paula at 232-4394 to RSVP for one or both programs so we know how many are coming.

West Stockbridge Congregational Church

Thanksgiving Pie Sale! The church ladies are ready to bake your holiday pie for you. Choose from Dutch apple crumb, traditional pumpkin, or chocolate cream. All are \$14 each and must be prepaid by cash, check, or credit card. To place an order, please call 232-4256 and leave your name and contact information. We will return your call. Pies will be available for pickup in the church social hall from 4 to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, November 26, or Wednesday, November 27.

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


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Wednesday morning CPT Jennings brought more sandwiches and coffee and some hot water for shaving. He kept us well supplied. On Wednesday afternoon all of the big wheels showed up. Colonel Howard G Salisbury, the Berlin Provost Marshall, together with his assistant, Major Fred A. Warrick, two lieutenant colonels from Frankfurt, CPT Jennings; Findley Burns, the political advisor from Berlin, and two Russian colonels and captains.



Corporal Richard Masiero. Photo from Life magazine, February 16, 1959.

They all got together in the little one-room Russian guard building. About a quarter to seven, Colonel Salisbury came out and told us to get going to our zone. When we got to the American checkpoint at Helmstedt, it was already dark, and suddenly so many photographers' flashbulbs went off and blinded the drivers. We were told to go immediately to the American billets.

Major Warrick came in about 10 p.m., and I rode with him back to Berlin. I showered and got to bed about 1:45 a.m. It felt wonderful to be back at home for the basketball game. This time we beat the service company, 58 to 47.

Loud sighs of relief were heard from Germany to West Stockbridge. After Richard returned from Germany, he was honored at the State Line Restaurant. The keynote speaker was Silvio Conte, a highly respected congressman representing Berkshire County.

Richard remained in the active Army and Reserves until 1962. He was awarded the Good Conduct Medal and a Commendation Ribbon for his heroism in Berlin and other acts of bravery.

Having served as a military policeman, Richard wanted to continue to work in law enforcement. He was hired as an officer in the Massachusetts State Registry of Motor Vehicles that later became part of the state police. His sister Judie recalled, "He was a stickler for detail. My kids and I would joke that he would probably arrest Grammy if she didn't follow the rules. One time when we pulled into my parents' driveway, Dick's first words to me were, 'Your sticker is due.' He retired from the Registry Police after 22 years of service."

A talented artist, Richard participated in craft shows around Berkshire County and in Brevard County, Florida, after relocating there.

It has truly been an honor to write this article. Much of the information was taken from an original copy of the February 16, 1959, issue of Life magazine. Thanks to Anita Norton (Zanconato) and cousin John Masiero who found information in the *Berkshire Eagle*, and Richard's sister, Judie Bodnar (Masiero), for her "eyewitness" remembrances. We intentionally ran the article in November because it is the month of Veterans Day.

Watch for future installments of "We Remember When..." in the Local Yoke! John Bormolini is a West Stockbridge "ex-pat," now residing in Leavenworth, Kansas. Readers who would like to share their stories of 1950s West Stockbridge are invited to e-mail John at johnbormo@aol.com.

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West Stockbridge Congregational Church

Harvest Dinner THANK YOU!

Many thanks to members of our community who showed support by attending our Harvest Dinner on October 6! We fed the masses and raffled off \$600 worth of prizes donated by so many generous donors. It was a wonderful event and so nice to see folks enjoying each other's company before, during, and after the meal. We would like to recognize all the merchants whose donations added to a successful event:

Six Depot Roastery and Café
51 Park Restaurant & Tavern
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Berkshire Food Co-op
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Big Y World Class Market, Lee
Evergreen Fine American Crafts

Graham Farmhouse Winery and Apiary
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Triplex Cinema
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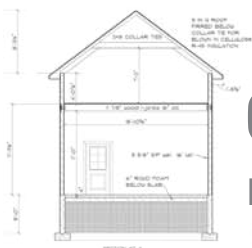


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On the Home Front

By Thom Lipiczky

Do I Need a Permit for That?

This is a frequently asked question of building officials, especially when homeowners are contemplating some improvements on their existing house. The answer is—you guessed it—“it depends.”

Last month I took a 12-hour classroom course to fulfill the continuing education requirement for maintaining my construction supervisor's license (CSL). The course, taught by a local building official, covered many different topics including the amendments to the ninth edition of the Massachusetts Building Code. Affectionately known as 780 CMR by all those who love turgid prose, the state code continues to pull together requirements from a variety of different codes with the intention of standardizing them from state to state.

The “I-codes” (international codes) consist of these sections:

- 2015 IRC (International Residential Code): covers one- and two-family houses and “townhouses”
- 2015 IBC (International Building Code): covers multifamily residences and commercial construction
- 2015 IEBC (International Existing Building Code)
- 2015 IECC (International Energy Conservation Code)

Then there's the many, many amendments to these codes adopted by the Bureau of Building Regulations and Standards (BBRS). *All of these regs are designed to keep places where you live and work from falling down on top of you or electrocuting you or otherwise causing you serious bodily harm.* (I know, I know—jack-booted government thugs in black helicopters squeezing our freedom into a nanny state. Just don't complain when the deck you're entertaining on collapses due to an unlicensed contractor trying to save a few bucks.)

So do I need a permit to replace those leaky old windows? Yes, you do. And the windows need to comply with the energy code.

What about a new roof? That's not changing the structure. Well, actually it does pertain to the amount of weight the existing roof framing can handle, so—yes—you do need a permit. Furthermore, most likely you'll have to strip the old shingles and sign a Debris Removal Affidavit (assuring that the old shingles are disposed of safely).

Can I put up a little garden shed or a fence without a permit? If the one-story detached accessory structure is less than 200 square feet, you don't need a building permit, but you might need to check with the zoning requirements to make sure it's within the property line setbacks. And a fence shorter than 7 feet in height doesn't require a permit.

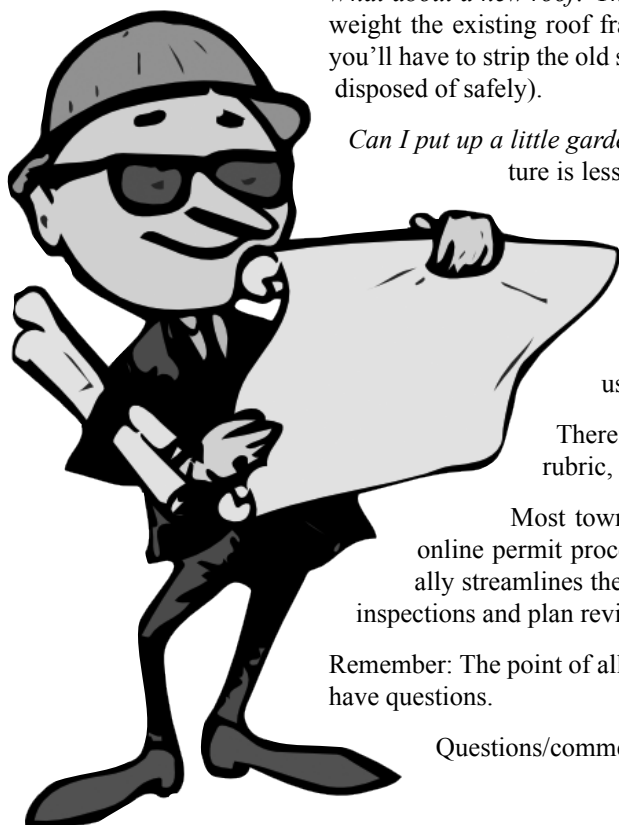
I'm remodeling my kitchen with new cabinets and countertops. No permit needed, unless you're changing the plumbing or electric, in which case you don't need a *building* permit, but you'll need plumbing and wiring permits, usually handled by your licensed plumber and electrician.

There is also a category called “ordinary repairs,” and if the scope of work falls in this rubric, no permit is required.

Most towns in the state—including our fair town as of earlier this year!—now use an online permit process. There are still occasionally some kinks to using the system, but it generally streamlines the process of permitting, allowing building officials more time for actual on-site inspections and plan review.

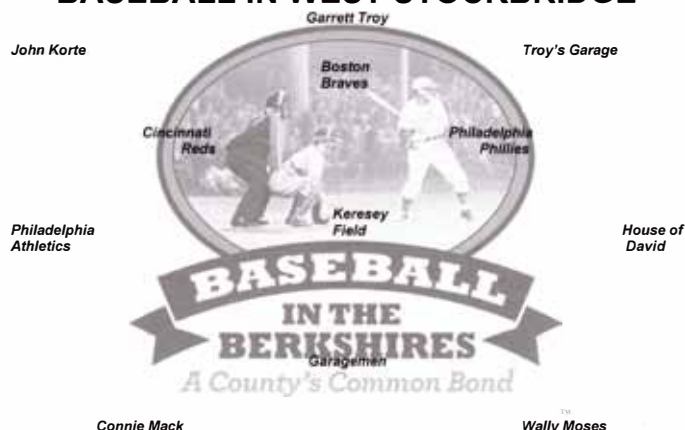
Remember: The point of all these regulations is *public safety*! Check with your building department if you have questions.

Questions/comments/complaints can be sent to info@locallyokel.org.



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Richard Ziter
Anonymous: 1

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(See response form on page 21.)

Birthdays & Anniversaries

11/9 Thom Lipiczky
11/9 Edward J. O'Brien
11/19 James Hallock, Jr.
11/22 Sarah Bedini Weaver

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

The Local Yoke!, P.O. Box 238,
West Stockbridge MA 01266,
e-mail info@thelocalyokel.org,
or visit www.thelocalyokel.org



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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- ☐ Yes, please do send me a YKL Bumper Sticker for my donation of \$35 or more.



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WSLY

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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>Brian Hoskeer</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.
Select Board	<i>Bernie Fallon, Doane Perry, Eric Shimelonis</i>			
Administrative Assistant	<i>Marie Ryan</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: visitweststockbridge.com



HALLOWEEN HAUNTS!

A SURPRISING NUMBER OF WITCHES, GOBLINS, AND OTHER CREEPY (AND CUTE) COSTUMED CREATURES BRAVED INTERMITTENT RAIN AND BLUSTERY WINDS TO TRICK OR TREAT ON HALLOWEEN. IN ADDITION TO THE TRADITIONAL HALLOWEEN HAUNTS PARADE, THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH HOSTED A HAUNTED CHURCH, SPOOKY WSPD OBSTACLE COURSE, AND HALLOWEEN PARTY.

THIS FREE COMMUNITY EVENT WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS OF THE WEST STOCKBRIDGE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND FIRE DEPARTMENT. THANKS TO ALL THE BUSINESSES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND INDIVIDUALS WHO HELPED PROVIDE A FUN EVENING FOR ALL.

All photos by John Parker



West Stockbridge
Local Yokel

P.O. Box 238
 West Stockbridge, MA
 01266

thelocalyokel.org

November 2019

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 2019 Calendar of Events

11/3	Daylight Savings Time ends: set clocks back 1 hour		
11/3	Harvest Concert	2 p.m.	Old Town Hall, 9 Main Street
11/6	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room
11/6	Select Board meeting	6 p.m.	Town Offices
11/7	Board of Health meeting	6:30 p.m.	Town Offices
11/10	Grange Dinner	1-2 p.m.	Grange Hall, 51 Church St., Stockbridge
11/11	Veterans Day		
11/12	American Legion meeting	7 p.m.	Town Offices
11/13	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room
11/13	Special Town Meeting	7 p.m.	Town Offices
11/14	COA Medicare fraud program	11 a.m.-noon	St. Patrick's Church Parish Hall
11/15	*** Deadline for the next Local Yokel ***		Send to info@thelocalyokel.org
11/15	Baseball in West Stockbridge	7 p.m.	Old Town Hall, 9 Main Street
11/18	COA Senior Concert and Luncheon	11 a.m.	Monument Mountain Regional High School
11/20	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room
11/20	Select Board meeting	6 p.m.	Town Offices
11/27	Knitters & More	2-4 p.m.	Town Offices Community Room
11/28	Thanksgiving Day		