

Local yokel

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West
Stockbridge

May

2022



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 2005

Annual Town Meeting & Election

Piglet in pasture. Photo courtesy of Baldwin Farm

Baldwin Farm: *A Home-Grown Family Enterprise*

By Tobias Casey



In early 2017, Toby and Cameo Casey, longtime residents of Berkshire County, decided to purchase the farm in Toby's family. Situated in West Stockbridge, the farm was established by the Baldwin family in the 19th century. The turkey farm and dairy complemented a hardware store and well-known extract business as part of the family's collection of enterprises. Samuel Pomeroy constructed the farmhouse that currently sits on the property in 1859. The house was then passed into the Baldwin family when Samuel's daughter, Esther, married Henry Baldwin. After restoring the property to working status, Baldwin Farm was incorporated in 2018 to begin offering the sale of eggs and meat. The farm currently sits on more than 130 acres and includes the farmhouse, providing plenty of room for the seven children who still live at home, and their two eldest children, who regularly visit for the holidays.

Baldwin Farm is a family enterprise, which would not come as a surprise for those familiar with farming. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that 98% of farms in the United States are family owned, providing nearly 90% of the products produced annually. It's a reminder that another family likely makes the food you purchase and prepare for your family.

That is certainly the case for Baldwin Farm. Declan Casey, 19, oversees daily operations of the farm, handling everything from the birth of baby animals and daily feeding to maintaining equipment and other everyday chores. Toby, Cameo, and several of their children regularly pitch in to handle demanding projects, but Declan deals with lots of the daily work.

"For a lot of kids my age, it's probably not common for them to have this kind of responsibility," Declan says. "But

I love it. Even when there are challenging days, I can look at the work we've done that day and realize we helped to feed another family."

The quality of food we eat was a significant motivation for Toby and Cameo to reinvigorate the farm. "A trip to the grocery store is one of the most important things you can do for your family," Cameo says. "The food you buy can make a big difference in being able to tackle busy schedules better and just having better health overall."

Toby agrees. "As a family, we wanted to become more food conscious. One of the most important ways to be more food conscious is to pay attention to the meat we consume. Processed meats—with lots of chemicals and other additives—can have a major impact on health. We make the choice to feed and finish our cattle purely on grass while feeding our chickens and hogs an organic soy-free feed."

Baldwin Farm has one store available for customers to purchase various meat products, including steaks, roasts, sausages, hot dogs, and ground beef. The Casey family plans to open a second store by this fall, and shipping options will be available by the end of the year.

"We want this farm to be a part of the community," Toby says. "At the end of the day, for anyone who wants a better sense of where their food comes from, who wants to be more conscious about what they eat, we're thrilled to have the opportunity to help."

The Casey family asks, "Are you interested in learning more about farming? Visit our website, BaldwinFarm.com, to see what products are available for purchase. And follow us on social media to see what daily life is like on the farm."

Photos courtesy of Baldwin Farm

Select Board Meeting Minutes

[Editor's note: At the town administrator's request, the Select Board minutes here are reprinted verbatim with no editing of text. Official board minutes are available at the West Stockbridge Public Library and on the town website, <https://www.weststockbridge-ma.gov/>. Select Board meetings are on Zoom and may be viewed by clicking on the link in the meeting agenda posted on the town website calendar. Residents can receive email notification of town events and meeting agendas by subscribing at <http://weststockbridgema.virtualltownhall.net/subscriber>].

Select Board Meeting Minutes February 28, 2022

Quorum present: Eric Shimelonis, Select Board Chair and Members Roger Kavanagh, Kathleen Keresey and Marie Ryan, Town Administrator.

Eric called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM and listed Select Board members present.

Approval of Minutes:

Eric made a motion, seconded by Roger, to approve the minutes from February 9 and 14, 2022.

Roll call vote:

Roger	Yes
Kathleen	Yes
Eric	Yes

All minutes are approved.

Town Administrator Update:

Marie will be mailing postcards to all voter households in the beginning of April to remind everyone about the Annual Town Meeting and Annual Town Election dates. The postcard will also include information about where to get the Town Report which will include the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting. She provided a sample of the postcard to the Board and they approved.

Marie asked the Board what the status of the Noise Bylaw was and if she should include that in the Annual Town Meeting warrant. The Board requested to have a meeting to perform a sound level check to determine what noise levels they may want to include in the bylaw. Marie will set up a site visit meeting at Town Hall for next week.

John Masiero informed Marie that Berkshire Natural Resources Commission (BNRC) will be mailing a letter to the Town in regards to a hiking trail on Town property through Samantha Lane. Once the Town receives the letter, a representative from BNRC will attend a meeting to discuss this.

Charter Cell Tower Lease Agreement

Eric asked the Board if they had any questions or need for any discussion on the final version of the Cell Tower Lease Agreement with Charter Communications for property on Albany Road. Seeing no further discussion required, Eric made motion to approve the Lease Agreement with Charter Communications, seconded by Roger.

Roll call vote:

Kathleen	Yes
Roger	Yes
Eric	Yes

Motion passed.

Annual Sunday Entertainment License -The Foundry, Amy Brentano

Amy Brentano, owner of the Foundry, requested to have the Board approve an Annual Sunday Entertainment License for the Foundry. Roger stated that the Annual Entertainment License had typographical errors. In the section for Times of Entertainment it read: Thursdays through Sundays 10 AM – 10 PM, which should not have Sundays included.

The Board also discussed and approved having the original License include Monday through Saturday.

The Board will have the same conditions from the Special Permit attached to the Annual Sunday License just as the Annual Entertainment License does.

Roger questioned the capacity number listed on the Certificate of Inspection from the Building Inspector. The Certificate stated 89 but Roger believed it should be 99. He also questioned why the Certificate stated that they had limited capacity due to the lack of parking as per conditions of the Special Permit. He asked Marie to get an explanation from the Building Inspector. Roger would like the original Entertainment License to state hours of Monday through Saturday 7 PM – 10 PM and the Sunday Entertainment License have hours listed as Sundays from 1 PM- 10 PM.

Eric made a motion to approve the Annual Sunday Entertainment License for the Foundry, seconded by Kathleen.

Roll call vote:

Roger	Yes, conditional, as long as the original License is corrected and he receives an answer from the Building Inspector.
Kathleen	Yes
Eric	Yes

License approved.

Select Board Speak:

None.

Citizen Speak:

Director of Public Works, Curt Wilton, informed the Board that the 2012 Dump Truck used for sanding and plowing has broken down. The truck needs a new motor. The estimated repair cost will be \$30,000-\$35,000. He wanted the Board to be aware of the fact that he will be over budget this year in order to get this truck repaired. Once the new truck they ordered comes in, they will use this truck as a spare. He also wanted to thank the Town of Richmond for use of their spare truck during the recent storms and to Alford for covering some of the roads for us as well. The Board thanked Curt and his crew for the outstanding job they have done on the roads during all the storms this winter.

Eric made a motion to adjourn at 6:33 PM, seconded by Kathleen.

Roll call vote;

Roger	Yes
Kathleen	Yes
Eric	Yes

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Y. Ryan

Town Administrator

Documents:

-Minutes from February 9 and 14, 2022

-Annual Sunday Entertainment License application – The Foundry

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2022 Annual Town Meeting and Town Election: What You Need to Know

The annual town meeting will take place at the Town Offices gymnasium this year on May 2, 2022.

Copies of the warrant are available on the town website, ATM 2022 WARRANT (west-stockbridge-ma.gov). Town reports will also be on the website and handed out to voters as they arrive at the meeting. They will also be available at the annual town election and at the town library.

The annual town election will be held in the Town Offices gymnasium on Monday, May 9, from 10 am until 7 pm. If you qualify for an absentee ballot for the election, or if you have any questions, please contact Town Clerk Ronni Barrett at 332-0300, ext. 300, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:30 to 3:30 pm.

There will also be a special town election for a 2-year term for a Select Board position. The town caucus for this position was held on Thursday, April 21. The Special Town Election will be held on Tuesday, May 31, 10 am to 7 pm at the Town Offices gymnasium.

Annual Town Election May 9, 2022

Elected Office	Term Length	Incumbent/Challenger
Moderator	1 year	Eugene Dellea
Select Board	3 years	Eric Shimelonis / Andrew Potter
Town Clerk	3 years	Veronica Barrett
Town Collector	3 years	vacant
Board of Assessors	3 years	J. Edward Sporn
Finance Committee	3 years	Michael Skorput (not running for reelection) / J. Edward Sporn
Planning Board	5 years	Ryan Beattie
Board of Health	3 years	Earl Moffatt
Library Trustee	3 years	Sarah Schaeffer
Cemetery Commission	3 years	Marion Loring

Special Town Election May 31, 2022

Elected Office	Term Length	Incumbent / Challengers
Select Board	2 years	Roger Kavanagh (resigned) / Andy Krouss, Peter Skorput

Annual Town Budget & Warrant Highlights FY 2023

By Select Board Chair Eric Shimelonis

To the townspeople of West Stockbridge:

The Select Board has continued to work with all town departments to maintain level budgets, and it has been able to offset some significant municipal costs through successful grant acquisitions. The FY23 budget presented at the annual town meeting on May 2 includes a modest 3% increase over FY22, due in part to an increase in the Berkshire Hills Regional School District budget.

Similar to FY22, the FY23 budget strikes a reasonable balance between fiscal restraint in a challenging economic environment and the allocation of funds necessary to (1) ensure the continuity and quality of our town services, and (2) maintain our aging infrastructure. Additionally, the Finance Committee has worked closely with the Select Board and our department heads to adjust some town salaries that were below standards and averages.

Copies of the town's annual report are available at the Town Offices and at the library, or you can download a PDF on the town website, weststockbridge-ma.gov. You'll find the annual town meeting warrant on pages 65-78.

As you review the articles in this town meeting warrant, you'll see that the town will be voting on a good number of special bylaw articles. As we navigate this increasingly complicated modern era, we continue to discover disparities and weaknesses in our local bylaws, and we'll need your help in amending them. Each of these town votes will comprise a critical amendment to a specified section, many of them to bring our local bylaws into compliance with state laws.

Additionally, you'll find a citizen petition: a resident is proposing changes to our zoning bylaws as they relate to marijuana. These changes will allow him greater scope and latitude in his cultivation business.

Please take a moment to look over the annual report and town meeting warrant before the annual town meeting. Highlight any details you have questions on, and we'll work through them together as we accomplish this important town business. We look forward to gathering with you on May 2!

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Town Election 2022

The Candidates: In Their Own Words

Looking ahead to the annual town elections on May 9 and 31, the *Local Yoke!* invited each candidate for a contested or vacant town office to provide a written statement and photograph. Statements by candidates were limited to 250 words. These are all the statements received by the deadline for publication.

Andy Krouss

Candidate for Select Board



In 2012, my wife and I decided to retire from our respective careers and move permanently to our home in West Stockbridge. My father was from North Adams and graduated from Drury High School. I guess you could say the Berkshires are in my DNA. I wake up every day, whether the sun is shining or there is five inches of snow on the ground, always grateful for that decision.

I brought with me to our Swamp Road house pictures of me as a cheerleader at Akron University (seriously!) plus over 50 years of professional experience in business, finance, and insurance. In the past 10 years, I have been fortunate to have served as the coach of the freshmen soccer team at Monument Mountain Regional High School, sat on the Regional Agreement Amendment Committee (RAAC) for the Southern Berkshire Regional School System, spent seven years as a member of the Finance Committee of West Stockbridge, became a member of the Berkshire Ukulele band, and, what remains my personal passion, I have been an active member of the board of the West Stockbridge Historical Society.

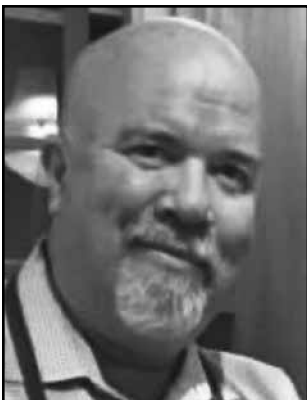
My wife told me the other day that when I return home after a trip to the Transfer Station, or Baldwin's Hardware, or the Public Market, I am always smiling. I am truly humbled by the nomination to be on

the Select Board. If chosen, I will work hard to support all the wonderful people in West Stockbridge with my enthusiasm, knowledge, and dedication.

Editor's note: Andy Krouss is running in the Special Town Election to be held on May 31 to fill the seat held by Roger Kavanagh, who has resigned effective May 9.

Andy Potter

Candidate for Select Board



My name is Andy Potter, and I am running for West Stockbridge's Select Board. I am asking for your trust and vote.

With more than three decades of policy, process, and compliance experience working with federal agencies, I have implemented records and information policy ensuring access and transparency in the conduct of the people's business. I've used that experience to serve West Stockbridge as its representative with the Berkshire Hills Regional School District for six years and on our library's Board of Trustees for three. I would be honored to have the opportunity to serve again as a member of the Select Board.

I believe that any approach to what sort of town West Stockbridge should be must consider the overall health and harmony of the community. Our collective vision for the future of West Stockbridge must be grounded in respect and a keen understanding of the efforts of those who helped to make our town what it is today.

I hope we can focus on healing the divisions that the toxic tone our town politics have taken on these last few years. In my 26 years as a resident, I have seen things get contentious at times, but what I've seen recently has no comparison. We cannot lose sight that we are all neighbors.

I am committed to being part of the solution, to listen and learn, and to engage proactively with elected colleagues and employees who have served our town tirelessly.

To find out more, visit andy-potter.com.

Sarah Schaeffer

Candidate for Library Trustee



Sarah is the mother of four wonderful kids: Tess, Annie, Cole, and Rhys. She recently started a fabric and yarn business called Sweet Somerby which sells yarn that comes from the sheep they raise on their farm in West Stockbridge. She's always been an avid reader which is why she loved being manager of financial reporting at Barnes & Noble where she was able to pick up books just released.

Eric Shimelonis

Candidate for Reelection to Select Board



It's been an honor and privilege serving you on the West Stockbridge Select Board, and I thank you for your support with these first-term accomplishments:

- Officially changing the title "Board of Selectmen" to the more inclusive "Select Board."
- Spearheading the first town Master Plan process since 1959, plus an Open Space & Recreation Plan, funding both projects with a \$50,000 grant from the Massachusetts Community Compact Program.
- Getting West Stockbridge designated as a Massachusetts Green Community, yielding a \$127,556 grant to make our municipal operations more efficient.
- Leading the process of strengthening our fire department, culminating in (1) a highly beneficial partnership with the town of Richmond, (2) over \$35,000 in state grants for additional gear, and (3) plans for a full-time professionally staffed ambulance service for our two towns.
- Negotiating a no-fee public/private partnership with local merchants to establish our largest municipal parking lot in the town center.

In addition to my Select Board service, I continue to volunteer as an EMT and consult with our Historical Society. My career is in music, scoring films and composing works for the concert stage. As my wife and I raise our 6-year-old son, we also produce two popular educational children's podcasts: *Circle Round* and *Who When Wow!*

I relish our town's deep history and unique atmosphere and am proud to call it home. I remain deeply committed to our collective progress, safety, and well-being, and hope you'll give me the opportunity to continue my conscientious service.

Eddie Sporn

Candidate For Finance Committee



I love living in West Stockbridge with my wonderful wife Dee Dee and slightly off-kilter but loveable dog Zuzu. As a town resident, it's important to me that the funds in the town's coffers are spent responsibly. "Responsibly" means spending efficiently to meet today's needs while keeping an eye on the future. Another way of saying this is that the town's budget should be a financial blueprint for the next 365 days that also factors in the requirements of future years.

As a city planner and administrator, I've been formulating and monitoring budgets since the early 1980s. I've done budgeting for a hospital, a law enforcement agency, and a hedge fund. In almost all circumstances, the needs outstrip the financial resources, hence the process of budgeting, or the allocation of limited resources. The optimal budgeting process is undertaken collaboratively with comprehensive needs analyses, financial analyses, and input from stakeholders. I've been involved in such efforts many times and believe I have much to contribute to their successful completion.

West Stockbridge is a wonderful town today, and I want it to be even more amazing tomorrow. The foundation for the future is sound fiscal management. I hope to be one of those lucky citizens who

helps lay the fiscal foundation for today and tomorrow.

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**Select Board Meeting Minutes
1 PM Meeting
March 14, 2022**

Quorum present: Eric Shimelonis, Select Board Chair and Members Roger Kavanagh, Kathleen Keresey and Marie Ryan, Town Administrator.

Eric called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM and listed Select Board members present. This meeting began outside of the gym in the parking lot at Town Hall.

Eric began by stating that he will test several different sound levels of music and other sounds. A speaker was placed in the opening of the gym door turned sideways.

Eric played sounds of different genres of music, a chain saw and construction noises at the levels of 60, 65, 70 and 75 decibels. Everyone stood back about 40 feet from the door to hear the sounds. After this demonstration, everyone went into the gym for a discussion.

Eric asked the Board for their reactions to the different sound levels.

Roger stated that he believes the issue is not just the sound levels but a question of enforcement. Who will enforce this, where will they stand to measure it, how long will they need to take the measurement? He has reservations on creating a bylaw that may not be able to be enforced. Kathleen agrees with Roger in the context of enforcement. She also felt that 70 decibels sounded reasonable.

Eric stated that though there are certainly difficulties of enforcing a noise bylaw, that adopting clear limits would help venues and residents to "self-enforce." He went on to point out that we are a town of reasonable and considerate folks, and that no one is out to create an un hospitable

atmosphere. If someone were to create a consistent and problematic noise problem, then enforcement would actually be much easier.

Eric made clear that he wrote this bylaw in response to our changing climates in town, but would personally rather the Town be able to move forward without a new bylaw. He feels it is the responsibility of the Board to put forward a comprehensive solution for consideration. The important factor, he said, was to come to a consensus as a town, and for there to be a clear mandate either for a bylaw or against.

Marjorie Powell, resident, added that years ago she and her husband had an issue with the noise at Crane Lake Camp and it got worse every year. The noise has to be dealt with so that everyone is taken into consideration with creating a noise bylaw.

Truc Nguyen, resident and business owner, suggested that the Board is trying to push this bylaw through at Town Meeting too quickly. She would like to see the Board take time and do more research on the issue. The Board disagreed with Truc and said they have been working on this bylaw for months and have done a lot of research to draft this bylaw. Joe Roy, resident, agreed, he felt the Board was pushing this through too quickly. He would like to see the Board have more community input with community meetings on the issue.

After further discussion, the Board decided to not include the draft Noise Bylaw in the Annual Town Meeting Warrant but to have more community input, and to hold a special Town Meeting in the near future to include this bylaw. Joe Roy suggested that the Vision Committee could work on this draft bylaw and assist with community input to bring an updated draft before the Select Board in the near future to be placed on a Special Town Meeting Warrant.

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Eric stated that the Board is advocating for all sides of this issue and thanked everyone for their input.

Eric made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kathleen at 2:26 PM.

Roll call vote;

Roger Yes

Kathleen Yes

Eric Yes

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Y. Ryan

Town Administrator

Select Board Meeting Minutes

Open Meeting

March 14, 2022

Quorum present: Eric Shimelonis, Select Board Chair and Members Roger Kavanagh, Kathleen Keresey and Marie Ryan, Town Administrator.

Others in Attendance: Police Chief Marc Portieri and Director of Public Works Curt Wilton

Eric called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and listed Select Board members present.

Approval of Minutes:

The Minutes of the February 28, 2022 Select Board meeting will be approved at the next meeting.

Town Administrator Update:

Marie informed the Board that she and Curt are working with the Richmond Town Administrator Danielle Fillio and Highway Superintendent Peter Beckwith on a grant to aid with Stormwater issues in the Towns. The State will pay for 2/3rds of the projects and the Town will need to pay 1/3rd of the costs. The application is not due until May and Marie will keep the Board updated.

The West Stockbridge Board of Health has lifted the masking advisory issued in August 2021. They have stated there is no longer a mask advisory in public buildings, unless people are not fully vaccinated or have a weakened immune system.

Marie reminded the Board and the public that the Town Caucus will be held next week on Thursday at 7 PM in the Town Hall gym.

Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate Member Appointment- Randy Thunfors

Zoning Board of Appeals Chair, Randy Thunfors presented a bio and testimonial for resident architect Robin Bankert, and requested that the Select Board appoint her as a ZBA Alternate Member.

Eric made a motion to approve the appointment of Robin Bankert as a ZBA Alternate Member, seconded by Kathleen.

Roll call vote:

Roger Yes

Kathleen Yes

Eric Yes

Appointment approved.

Annual Town Meeting Warrant:

Marie asked the Board to hold off on approving the Annual Town Meeting Warrant because she has a few more articles to add to it. One of the additional articles will be for the School District. Peter Dillon was present to explain the article to the Board.

Peter explained to the Board that the Massachusetts School Building Authority choose our School District to be in the eligibility field to apply for money to build a new high school. On Thursday, March 10th the School Committee voted to request the three Towns to place an article on their Annual Town Meeting Warrant. The article will be to ask the Towns to allow the School District to borrow 1.5 million dollars for a feasibility and design study. The borrowing will not affect the FY23 budget for the Towns and will be a short-term loan. If the project gets approved then the new larger loan for the new project will roll over the

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May History Quiz Question:



West Stockbridge Historical Society
Incorporated in 1994

The Shaker Mill Tavern was also known as the Square Rigger, Family Smokehouse, and Tap Room, depending on what generation you are and when you arrived in town. It is now opening as Amici, our newest restaurant in town. The building has a long history, starting back with the original farmhouse in the mid-1830s, becoming a post-Prohibition local watering hole, and then a major purveyor of pizza in the 1980s and 1990s.

The surrounding property, especially the parking lot, also has an interesting history. Its location at the entrance of the village center was a convenient site for the early industry in town. What went on in the space that is now the Amici parking lot and around the restaurant's building? (Hint: You can still see some remnants of the activity if you look closely.)

(Find the answer somewhere in this issue!)

When friends, neighbors, or relatives move, downsize, or just clean house, *please* ask them to think of the West Stockbridge Historical Society before they discard any old books, pictures, postcards, letters, or memorabilia of the Town of West Stockbridge. Email info@weststockbridgehistory.org or call (413) 232-4270.

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short-term loan into a single loan. Peter stated that the project, if approved, may get started in July 2024. He explained that a new school project will look more favorable and move faster than a remodel or addition to the school. Design costs are less and the project will take less time, therefore he is leaning towards that type of project. Eric thanked Peter for his explanation.

Main Street Pedestrian Crosswalk:

Curt discussed the issues that the Vision Committee listed as problems in regards to the crosswalk on Main Street. The traffic study completed on Main Street in October showed that about 6000 cars go over the crosswalk per day. Visibility is also an issue on Main Street due to angled parking. The speed limit is 25 mph on Main Street in front of all the businesses. The Town has jurisdiction as to the speeding and traffic on Main Street. He said if the Town placed speed bumps on Main Street, the noise could be a negative issue for the residents in that area. He did not feel that lights at the crosswalk would be a good choice. Crossing guards would cost the Town money and liability which would be covered by the Town. Another suggestion was the use of convex mirrors, which is illegal to affix to any pole.

Curt suggested that the Town update the signage with a different color such as neon green and add flashing lights around the sign, which would be placed in advance of entering Main Street area on both ends, north bound and south bound, and on Town property. This would alert the drivers that there is a heavily settled Main Street area coming up and they need to slow down. The police already have added money to their budget (to be approved at Town Meeting) to cover more police traffic control on Main Street, and throughout the town.

The Board agreed that there needs to be community involvement and outreach on this issue. Curt would like to see a large in person meeting for discussion and see what the residents would like, such as speed bumps. Kathleen suggested placing speed bumps near the crosswalk in front of Shaker Mill where there are no residents. Curt said that could work but a community meeting should take place.

Joe Roy, Vision Committee Chair, thanked Curt for his presentation and discussing all the issues and questions that the Vision Committee had. He disagreed with Curt that lights at the crosswalk are not a good idea. Joe thinks that would be effective. There are speed bumps in Lenox which are more like a rolling bump and make very little sound, Joe thinks these could work in West Stockbridge. He urged Curt to reconsider looking into these suggestions. The Vision Committee is willing to work on this issue if the Select Board would like them to and would like to get going on solutions before the summer months.

Eric mentioned that has seen some low-profile LED crosswalk lights that might serve both the need for warning lights, and Curt's desire to not clutter Main Street with unsightly infrastructure. He committed to sending the links to The Vision Committee, and requested Curt to keep this on the table as an option.

Brian Butterworth thanked the Board and Curt for looking into this issue. He agreed that new signage could help and was pleased to hear that the Police will increase their presence on Main Street. He said this was a good conversation and hopes that the Board will keep working on this issue. Eric stated this will be an ongoing conversation. The Board will have some community meetings to discuss this issue.

The Board asked Curt to get information on new signs to be installed by the spring.

Grant Opportunities:

Eric stated that he has followed up with the USDA about a grant under their Rural Development Program. He is also working with Seth Jenkins at Berkshire Regional Planning on grants as part of the Master Plan

Committee. Kathleen offered to work on that with him.

The Board mentioned the Complete Streets grant, and Marie informed the Board that the Town has a grant from them to prepare a study allowing the Town to be on Tier Two of the Complete Streets program and then can apply for even more grants available.

Kathleen said that the issue that the Town has is that we need more volunteers to assist with grants. Eric suggested possible internships for people that would be able to help the Town. The Town could use people to assist in searching for grants, writing grants, and helping to identify grant projects.

The Board decided to keep this as an agenda item each month.

Select Board Speak:

Kathleen asked the Board if would like to ask the Vision Committee to review the draft Noise Bylaw, get others involved and work on the draft. The Board agreed and Joe Roy said they will be happy to work on this bylaw and will make it a priority.

Kathleen mentioned that this is the second winter the Town property purchased through the Shared Streets Grant has been used. She feels the Town needs to update the inventory of what we have and where items are being stored. The picnic tables could possibly be used around the Town and other items could be reallocated.

Eric informed the Board that he should have some drawings of new signage for the Town Hall by the end of next week, which will be sent to town committees and stakeholders for review. Once the new sign design is approved, the form can be used for new signs throughout the Town. Kathleen asked for multiple designs in order to have choices. Eric agreed to ask for an alternate version to choose from.

Roger stated that he was unhappy with a response to an email from a resident. The email asked if the Foundry had a Special Permit for their sign on their building. Roger had discussed this with Marie and she had intended to place this as an agenda item on the next Select Board meeting. Roger inquired as to the status of this and shortly after that received a copy of an email responding the inquiry stating that the Foundry had all their required permits to date. Roger felt this did not answer the resident's question and seemed an abrupt response. Eric took responsibility for Marie's response, stating that the Building Inspector had a thorough process with the Foundry last year of reassessing their building layout and uses, and that further scrutiny by the town would be onerous and unnecessary.

Roger then read a letter to the Board stating that he will be resigning as of May 9th. This will allow for his position for the remaining two years, to be filled at the Annual Town Election.

Citizen Speak:

Joe Roy, Parks & Recreation Member, stated that he will miss Roger on the board and wished him well. He then thanked Curt for his ideas with the traffic issue on Main Street. He suggested using solar lighting at the crosswalks and he would assist if the Board wants help with public outreach on the issue of traffic and the crosswalk on Main Street.

Joe Roy, Jr thanked Roger for his service to the Town and understood his decision to resign. He told Roger that there is always a place on the Vision Committee for him.

Eric made the following motion, seconded by Roger, to enter into executive session;

Anticipated executive session in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A Paragraph 21 (a)(6), to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the Chair declares that an open meeting may have

...continued from page 11

a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Select Board (Merritt Way)

Roll call vote;
Roger Yes
Kathleen Yes
Eric Yes

Open Meeting adjourned.
Respectfully submitted,

Marie Y. Ryan
Town Administrator

Documents:

- Email from Randy Thunfors to appoint Robin Bankert
- Draft of Annual Town Meeting Warrant
- Email From Peter Dillon with Warrant Article for the 2022 Annual Town Meeting

**Select Board Meeting Minutes
Joint Meeting with Richmond Selectmen
March 15, 2022**

Quorum present: Eric Shimelonis, Select Board Chair and Members Roger Kavanagh, Kathleen Keresey and Marie Ryan, Town Administrator.

Others in Attendance: Richmond Town Administrator Danielle Fillio, Richmond Selectmen; Neal Pilson, Roger Manzolini and Allan Hanson, EMT/Fire Department Member Austin White and Shared Fire Chief Steve Traver.

Eric called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM and listed the West Stockbridge Select Board members present.

Neal Pilson called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM and listed the Richmond Selectmen in attendance, Roger and Neal. Richmond Selectmen Allan Hanson joined the meeting at 10:12 AM.

Danielle gave an overview of the purpose of the meeting, a shared ambulance professionally staffed with two EMTs full-time weekdays. She said there currently is an issue with ambulance service in all of Berkshire County. The start-up costs are one of the biggest issues, however, Richmond already has a fairly new ambulance and a place to house it. The only thing needed is to have a full-time staff. She then introduced Austin White, a Fire Fighter in Lee and Richmond and who has a long history of EMT service.

Austin said that one of the issues with ambulance services is that many are staffed by volunteers who have full time jobs at other places causing a long response time. The suggested response time Austin feels, typically is 8 minutes but locally it has been up to as much as an hour. He suggested that the two Towns join and create two full time staff EMTs to give basic service to the residents for a much quicker response time. The cost of housing and maintaining the ambulance vehicle is fully funded through the receipts which the ambulance receives when used. The only cost for the two Towns would be for the two full time staff for their salaries and all benefits. This cost in total would be \$132,000. He said that he and Danielle have applied for a grant that would cover this cost for the first 3 years and the Towns would have to guarantee to pay for and keep the staff for the following three years. The two Towns may also re-apply for this grant. It might not be necessary for the Towns to cover the cost after the initial three years.

Neal asked Austin if he felt that he had two people that are able to fill these positions and Austin replied yes, he does. Austin and Shared Fire Chief Traver would supervise these employees. They will be housed in Richmond but could also work at the West Stockbridge Firehouse as well.

Austin informed the Boards that the grant application has made it to the third round which is a very good sign. He stated that we are the first to come up with the shared ambulance plan so that will also help us to be more attractive to get the grant.

Roger Kavanagh asked if the Town of Richmond still owes money for the 2020 Ambulance and Austin replied that the ambulance was paid for in full by the receipts, so no tax money was used to purchase it. Roger asked how many EMTs are in West Stockbridge and Chief Traver told him one but that there are two currently taking classes.

Eric said this is a great opportunity for our two Towns and fully supports this. Kathleen agreed and stated that we need to modernize and increase our standards. Roger Kavanagh also agreed with Kathleen.

Danielle told the Boards that Richmond would be the lead Town and bill West Stockbridge for the costs of the salaries and benefits of the staff. She also said that she will use some of the money in the receipts account so that each Town would only have to pay \$45,000. This is will be the amount needed to be placed in the warrant for Town Meeting in the budget to cover the costs for this coming year in case we do not receive the grant.

The Boards asked Austin what the difference in call volumes is between the two Towns, and he said that is close to a 50/50 split. The populations are also very similar. The Boards agree that splitting the cost was fair. Danielle explained that the ambulance could receive extra money to become mutual aid for other nearby towns.

Austin stated that recently the ambulance had its state inspection where they received 100% compliance and the inspector suggested that in the future the ambulance may want to increase their status to an advanced support life level. This is something Austin feels would be a good option in the coming years to work on.

Neal discussed the fact that there has been talk in the county to form a county wide ambulance service. He asked Austin if we got this grant and then wanted to join the county program what would happen with the grant money. Austin said that the grant money is transferrable, so if we joined a county service we could put our grant money into that pot.

...continued on page 13



...continued from page 12

The next steps will be for Danielle to engage Richmond Town Council to create an agreement between the two Towns. The two Towns will need to add this money item to the Town Meeting Warrant and get it approved.

There were no public comments.

Eric stated that the West Stockbridge Select Board will invite our Finance Committee to the next Select Board agenda to seek their approval in adding this as an item on the Town Meeting Warrant, and to have another public conversation about this plan.

Austin thanked the Boards for listening to his proposal. Both Boards thanked Austin for his hard work and research on getting this proposal together.

Neal made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Roger Manzolini.

Roll Call vote:

Allan	Yes
Roger	Yes
Neal	Yes

Eric made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Roger Kavanagh.

Roll call vote;

Roger	Yes
Kathleen	Yes
Eric	Yes

Meeting adjourned at 11:11 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie U. Ryan

Town Administrator

Select Board Meeting Minutes March 28, 2022

Quorum present: Eric Shimelonis, Select Board Chair and Members Roger Kavanagh, Kathleen Keresey and Marie Ryan, Town Administrator.

Others in Attendance: Police Chief Marc Portieri and Director of Public Works Curt Wilton

Eric called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and listed Select Board members present. He noted that since there were many agenda items, he would move the guests' agenda items up to the beginning of the meeting.

Discussion of Main Street Crosswalk Safety Issues – Joe Roy, Jr., Vision Committee

Joe read a statement (see attached) from the Vision Committee in regards to their concerns with the safety issues on the Main Street crosswalk. The Vision Committee has discussed two major factors affecting the safety on the Main Street crosswalk, one is the speed of which the traffic travels on Main Street and the other issue is the lack of visibility of the pedestrians and the vehicles on Main Street. The Vision Committee ideas to increase safety on Main Street include; improved signage, possible crossing guard, crosswalk warning lights, speed bumps and increase in police presence. Eric stated the Board is aware of the issue and supports any remedy that the Town and Curt can come up with. The Select Board will continue to keep this topic on future agendas for discussion and will defer to Curt Wilton, Director of Public Works, to continue in his efforts to increase safety on Main Street.

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC)– Five Year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) – Wylie Goodman, BRPC

Wylie made a power point presentation to the Select Board to discuss

a Five-Year plan for resiliency and recovery in the Town due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This plan includes economic resiliency stories from the last 1-2 years during the COVID pandemic, to make note of locations that represent areas of strength, weakness and opportunity or threat in the Town, gather feedback on priority projects and assistance with ARPA allocation and grant management/administration. Wylie said that BRPC is interested in assisting the town in determining what recovery-related concerns we have and finding solutions to those concerns.

Roger asked Wylie if they are able to assist the Town with the process of allocation of the Town's ARPA funds. Wylie said BRPC can definitely assist with the process. The BRPC will assist with community outreach, surveys and how prioritize projects. Eric expressed support for this strategy, and pointed out the current Master Plan process would help to provide answers the questions raised in the presentation.

Berkshire Natural Resources Council (BNRC) – Narain Schroeder and Doug Brown

Narain discussed a power point presentation in regards to BNRC's intention to update a trail on Tom Ball Mountain which begins on East Road. He said there is an existing trail that is in poor condition which the BNRC wants to make improvements on and extend the trail to the summit of Tom Ball Mountain that would pass through Town own property. The intent of their presentation is to inquire if the Town is willing to work with them on this project by licensing or permitting a right of way agreement with BNRC through that property. Fixing the trails will be very expensive and time consuming, therefore, prior to beginning this process which will take 3-5 years, they need to determine if there is an interest by the Town to have an agreement completed. Eric responded that the Town is near completion with an Open Space and Recreation Plan, and timing is perfect for that committee to inform the public in their outreach, to reach a consensus, and to make a recommendation to the Select Board on this project. John Masiero, Conservation Commission Chair, added that the Conservation Commission is 100% behind this project and would like the Town to move forward on this agreement.

Noise Bylaw Discussion with the Board of Health – Earl Moffatt, Board of Health Agent

Earl explained to the Board that the 310 CMR state regulation contains a reference to noise pollution which is under the authority of the Board of Health. He stated that the Town already has a noise bylaw which is used for residential properties and works well. However, he feels that the noise issue in the industrial and manufacturing districts is a different issue all together and is governed by 310 CMR. 310 CMR is a regulation that can be used by the Board of Health, under the DEP authority, to address noise as a source of noise pollution. This process is triggered by an initial complaint directly sent to the Board of Health, which deals with eliminating the manmade noises, such as construction and equipment in and industrial/manufacturing setting. Earl said that the 310 CMR regulation will not assist with any issue where an event has been permitted. He suggested that when permits are given for events, that they include special conditions to assist with noise issues. The Board of Health feels that creating, and most importantly, enforcing a new noise ordinance in a commercial area is entirely different. This is where 310CMR could be effective, perhaps, with an additional, more definitive/restrictive local ordinance attached to it.

Eric said that the Select Board has handed off the issue of a new noise bylaw to the Vision Committee for now. Joe Roy, Vision Committee Chair, asked Earl to forward the 310 CMR regulation to him. This regulation may assist the Vision Committee when working on an updated draft of the noise bylaw, Earl agreed. Joe stated that the Vision

...continued on page 14

Committee has been assigned to understand the draft noise bylaw, include community input, and present a new draft bylaw to the Select Board for review prior to a Town vote on a new noise bylaw. The Board agreed with the Vision Committee's work plan to update this bylaw.

Sign Permit for the Foundry – Amy Brentano

Amy was unable to attend the meeting tonight but Eric asked the Board if they wanted to proceed with the permit. The remainder of the Board agreed. Roger stated that he reviewed the Sign Bylaw and felt this sign was within the guidelines. Eric agreed. Roger inquired about the electrical permit for the lit sign and Eric explained that after the Select Board approves the sign permit, then the owner would complete the process with the Building Inspector.

Kathleen made motion, seconded by Roger, to approve the sign permit for Amy Brentano at the Foundry.

Roll call vote;
Roger Yes
Kathleen Yes
Eric Yes

Motion approved.

Municipal Parking Lot Agreement – Eric Shimelonis

Eric requested that the Board continue this agenda item to the next meeting on April 11th. The Board agreed.

Discussion/vote to Send the Layout for Merritt Way to the Planning Board for Review

Eric stated that the next step in the process to layout Merritt Way was for the Select Board to send a request to the Planning Board to review and for the Planning Board to send a recommendation back to the Select Board.

Roger made a motion, seconded by Kathleen, to send the Merritt Way layout to the Planning Board for their review.

Roll call vote;
Eric Yes
Kathleen Yes
Roger Yes


Motion approved.

Vote to Hold a Special Town Election for Roger's Position on May 31st

Eric made a motion, seconded by Roger, to hold a Special Town Election on May 31st, 2022 for Roger's Select Board position for two-year term.

Roll call vote;
Kathleen Yes
Roger Yes
Eric Yes

Motion approved.



BALDWIN HARDWARE
Depot Street
West Stockbridge, MA 01266
Henry Baldwin (413) 232-7757

Approval of Minutes:

Eric made a motion, seconded by Kathleen, to approve all the minutes listed below to include Kathleen's changes to the minutes from March 14, Open Meeting and March 15, Joint meeting with Richmond Selectmen from:

- February 28, 2022
- March 14, 2022 at 1 PM
- March 14, 2022 Open Meeting
- March 14, 2022 – Executive Session meeting
- March 15, 2022 – Joint meeting with Richmond Selectmen
- March 15, 2022- Executive Session meeting

Roll call vote;
Eric Yes
Kathleen Yes
Roger Yes
All minutes approved.

Town Administrator Update:

Marie informed the Board that the Town Report is at the printers and should be ready next week. After she gets the Reports she will mail out the postcards to the residents that informs them that the Town Reports are available and the Town Meeting and Town Election dates and times.

Marie stated that the Sportsmen's Club has been purchased by the Masonic Temple group and that all the back taxes have been paid on the property.

She requested that the Board come in to Town Hall to sign the paperwork for the posting of the Special Town Caucus and the Special Election.

Select Board Speak:

None.

Citizen Speak:

None.

Eric made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kathleen.

Roll call vote;
Roger Yes
Kathleen Yes
Eric Yes

Open Meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Y. Ryan
Town Administrator

Documents:

- Power Point Presentation from BRPC – Wylie Goodman
- Map and sample permanent right of way agreement from BNRC – Narain Schroeder
- Sign Permit Application from Amy Brentano – The Foundry



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cesared@aol.com
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203-560-2034 (cell)

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LITTLE FREE LIBRARY! Please notice the new tiny library in the center of town! You might find a wonderful book to take and keep—for free. Visitors are invited to place a book on the shelves if they have one they want to share. We deeply thank the people from several town departments who helped install, paint, finish, and make the little library easy to use. And we also thank local artists in word and wood, Leslie Klein and Scott Wilton, for creating an elegant sign.

Anyone who can tell a librarian where the mini library is located can pick a free book from the Friends of the Library book sale room in the Town Offices. The Friends book sale is very well stocked with choices just waiting for you!

New Adult Fiction

- Allende, *Violeta*
- Box, *Shadows Reel*
- Deibel, *Lady of Galway Manor*
- Engberg, *The Harbor*
- Ferencik, *Girl in Ice*
- Ferrante, *The Lost Daughter*
- Foley, *The Paris Apartment*
- Fowler, *Booth*
- Greaney, *Sierra Six*
- Kanon, *The Berlin Exchange*
- Keegan, *Small Things Like These*
- Kistler, *The Cage*
- Quinn, *The Diamond Eye*
- Otsuka, *The Swimmers*
- Robuck, *Sisters of Night and Fog*

New Adult Nonfiction

- Atwood, *Burning Questions: Essays and Occasional Pieces, 2004 to 2021*
- Brooks, *From Strength to Strength: Finding Success, Happiness, and Deep Purpose in the Second Half of Life*
- Davis, *The Bald Eagle: The Improbable Journey of America's Bird*
- Presser, *The Far Land: 200 Years of Murder, Mania, and Mutiny in the South Pacific*
- Weill, *Off the Edge: Flat Earthers, Conspiracy Culture, and Why People Will Believe Anything*
- Weinman, *Scoundrel: How a Convicted Murderer Persuaded the Women Who Loved Him, the Conservative Establishment, and the Courts to Set Him Free*

Children and Young Adults

- Four Mad Scientist Academy McElligott titles: *Mad Scientist Academy: The Dinosaur Disaster, The Ocean Disaster, The Space Disaster, and The Weather Disaster*



Scrapbook Questions/created by Paula Farrell

TEST YOUR TRIVIA KNOWLEDGE!

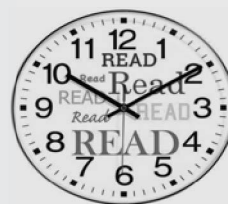
1. When and by whom was the safe in Baldwin's Hardware built?
2. Which residents succeeded in eliminating a passing zone on Route 41 in the Williamsville area?
3. The Public Market has had many previous lives. What were they?
4. How many residents were listed on the rolls of the West Stockbridge Fire Department in November 2012?

1. 1904 by the Mangnese Steel Safe Company
2. John & Kristen Piascki
3. Tavern, police station, grocery and meat market, an option-gathering place
4. 21



This program 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.

The library has expanded hours, effective July 1, 2022



Monday	10 AM – 3 PM
Tuesday	2 PM – 6 PM
Wednesday	10 AM – 3 PM
Thursday	10 AM – 3 PM
Friday	2 PM – 6 PM
Saturday	10 AM – 3 PM

Community News & Events

Due to the coronavirus health situation, many meetings and events are being cancelled or postponed. We are including all information available to us up until publication, but with the likelihood of changes, readers should check with the office, department, or organization for the latest information.

Community Health Association

Weekly blood pressure clinic schedule: every Wednesday from 9 to 10 am at the Town Offices, 21 State Line Road, West Stockbridge, and every Thursday from 9 to 10 am at the Richmond Congregational Church, State Road, Richmond.
Info: Emilie Jarrett, RN, (413) 232-0122, or Emilie@charws.com.

Stockbridge Grange Dinner

On Sunday, May 15, the Stockbridge Grange will serve a takeout-only dinner at the Grange Hall at 51 Church Street, Stockbridge. The dinner will be baked beans and ham, with chocolate and lemon pies for dessert. Extra beans are available for \$5 per container. Cost is \$14. Pickup time is 12 to 1:30 pm. To place an order, call (413) 243-1298 or (413) 443-4352. The deadline for ordering is Friday, May 13.

Council on Aging

The COA will meet at noon on Wednesday, May 11, in the Community Room at the Town Offices, weather permitting. Bring your own lunch or a potluck item we can all share. Any questions, please call Paula at (413) 232-4394.

The Knitters Group

The Knitters Group meets every Wednesday from 2 to 4 pm in the Community Room at the Town Offices. All crafts are welcome.

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

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Changes in Public Health Nursing Services

Laura Kittross, Director of the Berkshire Public Health Alliance

As of July 1, 2022, the towns of Richmond and West Stockbridge will contract with the Berkshire Public Health Alliance for public health nursing services following the retirement of longtime public health nurse Emilie Jarrett, RN, BSN, and the closing of the Community Health Association of Richmond and West Stockbridge.

The Berkshire Public Health Alliance was formed in 2011 when 21 (now 26) municipalities in Berkshire County signed an intermunicipal agreement with each other and with the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission as fiscal host that allowed, but did not require, them to share public health services.

The alliance has extensive experience providing public health nursing services to many municipalities in the county, both before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. Two experienced public health nurses, Nancy Slattery, RN, and Leslie Drager, RN, provide most of the public health nursing services to contracted communities, although the alliance may hire backup nurses as needed during flu clinic season or during COVID-19 surges.

In addition to the mandated infectious disease investigation and follow-up, the alliance provides flu vaccination clinics and wellness activities, such as blood pressure clinics, educational events, and/or falls prevention classes. More details are coming soon on specific offerings. Did you know that more than 90 diseases are reportable to the local Board of Health in Massachusetts? It's not just COVID-19!

Starting in July, you can reach Alliance Administrative Coordinator Lydia Shulman at Alliance@berkshireplanning.org or (413) 442-1521, ext. 60, with any general questions. Or you can reach out to Nancy (nslattery@berkshireplanning.org) or Leslie (ldrager@berkshireplanning.org) directly. We look forward to working with Richmond and West Stockbridge!



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Please apply through the guidance office at Monument Mountain Regional High School.



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A reminder from the Board of Health . . .



Responding to recent complaints, the West Stockbridge Board of Health would like to remind the public while exercising their pets to clean up after they have defecated. Please be respectful of public and private property while preserving the natural beauty of our town and preventing a public health hazard.

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History Quiz Answer:

A few years ago in the History Question, we talked about the early 1840 engine house on part of the parking lot. That engine house was not very big, slightly larger than a modern car garage, and could only hold one engine that had to be towed in and out by horses. It lasted almost a hundred years until 1939 when it was taken down and the bricks were allegedly used in the extension of Troy's Garage.

The lot also had another active business complex. Early maps (1855) show the existence of a marble quarry on the hill next to the rear parking lot and current Shaker Mill Tavern building. The entrance area off Oak Street has a rock wall that still shows the drill pattern where the marble was cleaved off the hill. The tavern building wasn't as large as it is now, and the farmhouse on the site was close to Oak Street. The drilling and quarrying must have been a challenge for the residents.

As West Stockbridge became a lime-processing center, more industry opened in the center of town. By 1904, maps show the F.C. Tobey Lime Company operating in the space extending from the current post office north over the Shaker Mill parking lot to Oak Street. That space held a cooperage, lime kiln, and storehouse for the finished product. Directories show the Tobey enterprise as an active lime manufacturer until 1920. Just south of it, Truesdale & Sons also operated a lime kiln in the area of Hotchkiss Mobiles Gallery and Studio. It was a busy space.

What today is now a quiet parking lot and commercial area was a major industrial center 120 years ago. A lime kiln burns 24/7, reducing the stone to a usable powder for construction and farming fertilizer. The smoke in town, along with the railroad's steam engines coming through, must have created a tough place to breathe clean air or even hang out clean laundry to dry.

By 1924, all the town center kilns had closed. West Stockbridge was advertising to urban tourists and praising its clean therapeutic air. In this case, the parking lot played a bigger role in the commercial development of the town than the tavern itself.



Rock wall remnant of marble quarry



Larkin Cooperage workers

Photos courtesy of West Stockbridge Historical Society



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE



For Residents of:

Alford Becket Dalton Egremont Great Barrington Lee Lenox Monterey Mount Washington
New Marlborough Otis Richmond Sheffield Stockbridge Tyringham West Stockbridge

When: Saturday, May 14th, 2022, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Where: Lee Wastewater Treatment Plant
379 Pleasant Street, Lee, MA, 01238

What to Bring

From The Yard/Garden

Pesticides, Fungicides
Herbicides
Insect Sprays
Rodent Killers
Muriatic Acid
Flea Powder
No-Pest Strips
Chemical Fertilizers
Lighter Fluid
Moth Balls

From The Workbench

Rust Proofers
Wood Preservatives
Wood Strippers & Stains
Paint Thinners
Lead & Oil-Based Paint
Varnish
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Sealants
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Solvents

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From The Garage

Fuels/Gasoline/Kerosene
Brake & Transmission Fluids
Car Wax, Polish
Engine Degreaser/Motor Oil
Swimming Pool Chemicals
Driveway Sealer
Antifreeze
Car-Lead Acid Batteries

Mercury Products:

Thermometers
Thermostats
Other mercury
Button Batteries

DO NOT BRING

Latex Paint, Medical Wastes, Asbestos,
Fireworks & Explosives, Ammunition, Construction
Debris, Gas or Propane Cylinders, Smoke Detectors,
Radioactive Material, Fire Extinguishers, Fluorescent Lamps,
Electronics, PCB's, Medications, Medical Sharps

Pre-Registration is required.
Please register online at www.tritownhealth.org

For additional questions, call
Tri-Town Health Department at 413-243-5540

The Local Yokel meets the 21st Century!

Visit our website for past issues, plus information about how to support your West Stockbridge community newsletter, submit material for publication, advertise, contact us, and more!



thelocalyokel.org

Girdler Electric

MA Master License 16255

Barry Girdler

owner

P. O Box 20
West Stockbridge MA 01266

413-237-5957

barry@girdlerelectric.com
girdlerelectric.com



Dana Bixby ■ Architecture

danabixby.com

413-232-7834

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

Email

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



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

Bark Mulch Topsoil Compost

GRAVEL PRODUCTS

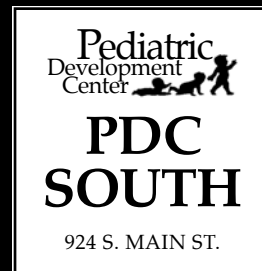
DELIVERY

413-243-4111

Meadow Farm
1125 Meadow Street, Lee
meadowfarmorganics.com

Compost Facility Accepting Yard & Wood Waste

Concerned about your Infant or Toddler's development?



Give us a call and we can set up an appointment to talk with you about any concerns you may have.

Certified Therapists offering evaluations & visits at your home, in our center, or through telehealth

Dept. of Public Health Certified Early Intervention Program

924 Main Street
Great Barrington
413-717-4083

www.pediatricdevelopmentcenter.org

Local yokel

Pick up
a copy
FREE
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around town:



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Charles H. Baldwin & Sons
Flourish Market
Library
Public Market
Town Offices

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

Outdoor distribution boxes: Visitors' Booth, Baldwin Hardware, Shaker Mill Books, The Floor Store, & the Transfer Station

Town Government Boards and Commissions, Phone Directory, and Office Hours				
Town Offices Main Number (413) 232-0300 • Fax 232-7195				
Animal Control	<i>John Drake</i>	464-2148		As Needed
Assessors Office	<i>Mary Stodden</i>	232-0300	ext. 303	Tues. 1–5 pm; Thurs. 9 am–1 pm
Board of Health	<i>Earl Moffatt</i>	232-0300	ext. 314	Fri. 9 am–4 pm, or by appt.
Select Board	<i>Roger Kavanagh, Kathleen Keresev, Eric Shimelonis</i>	232-0300	ext. 319	
Town Administrator	<i>Marie Ryan</i>			Mon.–Thurs. 7 am–3 pm Fri. 7–11 am
Building Inspector	<i>Brian Duval</i>	232-0300	ext. 313	Leave Message for Inquiries
Conservation Commission	<i>John Masiero</i>	232-7063		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>Steve Traver</i>	911 or 329-7153 (non-emergency)		Mon. 6:30–9 pm
Highway Department	<i>Curt G. Wilton</i>	232-0305		Leave Message for Inquiries
Library	<i>Rachel Alter</i>	232-0300	ext. 308	Mon., Wed., Thurs., and Sat. 10 am–3 pm; Tues. and Fri. 2–6 pm; closed Sun.
Police Department	<i>Marc Portieri</i>	911 or 232-8500 (non-emergency)		24 hours, 7 days/week
Post Office	<i>Colleen A. Wich</i>	232-8544		Lobby: 7 am–7 pm; 7 days/week; Window: Mon.–Fri. 9 am–4:30 pm; Sat. 9 am–12 noon
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. 1:30–3:30 pm
Town Collector	<i>June A. Biggs</i>	232-0300	ext. 302	Wed. 3–6 pm; Thurs. and Fri. 10 am–2 pm; Sat. 10 am–1 pm
Town Historian	<i>Robert Salerno</i>	232-4465		
Town Treasurer	<i>Karen Williams</i>	232-0300	ext. 316	Thurs. 9 am–4 pm
Transfer Station	<i>Wayne Cooper</i>	232-0307		Tues. & Thurs. 10 am–6 pm and Sat. 8 am–6 pm
Tree Warden	<i>Andrew Fudge</i>	212-9206		
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



**WEST STOCKBRIDGE
FARMERS MARKET**
ON THE FOUNDRY GREEN

OPENING DAY

Thursday, May 26, 3-6pm

**WE ACCEPT SNAP +
OFFER MARKET MATCH**

**ADDITIONAL PARKING AT
HOTCHKISS MOBILES + TURNPARK**

**FOLLOW US ON FB + INSTAGRAM
WESTSTOCKBRIDGEFARMERSMARKET.ORG**



West Stockbridge
Memorial Day

Monday, May 30th

9:30am Bike Decoration
in front of the Congregational Church

10am Parade begins
in front of the Congregational Church

Ceremony to follow
at the memorial in front of the town hall

Hosted by West Stockbridge
Parks & Recreation



May Art Calendar

Guild of Berkshire Artists | BerkshireArtists.org | infoberkshireartists@gmail.com

2022

May 3, Snapseed Workshop, 1:30-2:30pm.
Work on mobile photo editing with others via Zoom.

May 8, Potluck, 4-5pm. Join hosts Freya Segal and John and Linda Mancia over Zoom. See website for more details.

May 9, Collage & Mixed Media Workshop, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Join Carolyn Abrams for Collage & Mixed Media.

May 11, Monthly Meeting, 4-6:30pm. History of Illustration with Robert Horvath. Berkshire South, Great Barrington. In-person with Zoom access available. Sign up required, see the Website for more details.

May 17, Best Practices, 3pm. "Plein Air" Panel discussion with Susan and David Honneus.

May 22, Berkshire Photo Gathering. Online. See following webpage for more information: berkshirephotogathering.com/online-meetings

May 26, Art Book Gathering, 9:30-11am. Share a favorite book: artist, or process. Visit www.berkshireartists.org for more info.



**Seminar: The History of Illustration
presented by Robert Horvath
Wednesday, May 11, 5pm**

Join us as we learn how much of illustration began, its journey over the years, and its impact on our world today.

Mon & Wed, Art Together. Join GBA artists together online using Zoom. See website for times.

May 2 & 16, Procrastinator's Challenge!, 10-11am. GBA members can join for a jumpstart on their creative productivity via Zoom.

May 10 & 24, Positive Critique, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Join Michele Caplan for a positive critique session for Guild members via Zoom.



Come see what's happening
at the Old Town Hall!



May 28th 12 to 4 p.m.

Old Town Hall
9 Main Street
West Stockbridge

See new additions to our collection
Artistic Needlework by Lucy Bellville
Wood carvings by Al Sabatino
Photos of early Main Street
Concert by the Lee Bell Choir
Refreshments and Good Friends



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

thelocalyokel.org



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

May 2022 Calendar of Events

Due to the coronavirus health situation, many meetings and events are being canceled, postponed, or held online. We are including all information available to us up until publication, but with the likelihood of changes, readers should check with the office, department, or organization for the latest information.

5/2	Eid-al-Fitr (begins at sundown)		
5/2	Annual Town Meeting	7 pm	Town Offices
5/6	Cemetery Commissioners meeting	9 am	
5/8	Mother's Day		
5/9	Annual Town Election	10 am–7 pm	Town Offices Gym
5/10	Select Board meeting	6 pm	See town website for details
5/14	Household Hazardous Waste Collection	9 am–1 pm	Lee Wastewater Treatment Plant
5/15	*** Deadline for the next <i>Local Yokel</i> ***		Send to info@thelocalyokel.org
5/15	Stockbridge Grange takeout dinner		See Community News for details
5/23	Select Board meeting	6 pm	See town website for details
5/28	WS Historical Society Open House	12–4 pm	Old Town Hall, 9 Main Street
5/30	Memorial Day (parade at 9:30 am)		
5/31	Special Town Election	10 am–7 pm	Town Offices Gym