

# Local yokel

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

West  
Stockbridge  
*September*  
2022



State  
Primary  
Election



Tuesday  
September 6

(more info inside)

*Widow Skimmer dragonfly. Photo by Kate Meyer*

## About the Artist: Amy Pressman

Amy Pressman has always loved nature and drawing. Her permanent move to West Stockbridge in 2011 brought those two passions together. Still exploring artistic avenues, Amy works in many mediums but has taken a deep dive into encaustics, a technique in which pigments are mixed with hot liquid wax, painted onto a surface, and fused with a torch. That surface can be scraped and layered. The medium easily allows integration of other materials and a wide range of textures. Recent works have incorporated found materials from nature and photography gathered during daily walks in the gentle woods of the Berkshires and trips across the country. Amy's



professional life as a commercial designer also incorporates a fascination for materials of all kinds.



*Moss*

Amy has found a wonderful and supportive community of artists and friends in the Guild of Berkshire Artists. She recently became its president. The guild has grown to more than two hundred members, welcoming artists at all levels of experience. The Art on Main Gallery, recently opened at 38 Main Street in West Stockbridge, represents the art of the guild. The gallery exhibits new work weekly or biweekly. Each show is curated and run by guild members and features one to three artists at a time.

Amy Pressman, ML Kammel, and Marion H. Grant will have a show from September 8 to 18 in the Art on Main Gallery called "Clay Wax Paper." Each artist explores the essence of their chosen mediums: Amy in encaustics, ML in ceramic sculpture, and Marion in paper collage. The work is organic in nature and filled with colors and textures. All are welcome to the opening reception on Saturday, September 10, from 4 to 6 pm. For more information about Amy, visit [apressman@pressmandesign.com](mailto:apressman@pressmandesign.com).



*Lily Pads*



*Winter Trees*

*Images courtesy of the artist*



# State Primary Election Tuesday, September 6 Polling hours: 7 am–8 pm

**Location:** Town Offices, 21 State Line Road, West Stockbridge, MA 01266

**On the ballot:** Representative in Congress, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Auditor, Governor's Council, State Senator, State Representative, District Attorney, Sheriff, County Commissioner (only in certain counties).

**For more information:** visit <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleupcomingelections/upcoming-elections.htm>

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# Public Invitation to Serve/Participate: Berkshire Hills Regional School District School Committee

The Berkshire Hills Regional School District (BHRSD) School Committee is recruiting residents from its three member towns (Great Barrington, Stockbridge, and West Stockbridge) to serve on the following committees:

*BHRSD School Committee:* At least one write-in candidate is needed from each member town for the November 2022 election. Open seats are for 4-year terms. Write-in candidates must be a resident of their respective town. The School Committee typically meets twice a month, and members serve on one or more subcommittees that meet once a month.

*MMRHS Building Committee:* The district is working with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) to analyze and plan a new or renovated high school. The Building Committee will support that research, leading to a recommendation and vote. Numbers and roles are set per MSBA guidance.

*Outreach Committee:* The Outreach Committee, composed of at least five residents from each of our three towns, will share that research, engage community members, and develop support for the vote.

If you would like more information about serving on any of the committees just described, please contact BHRSD superintendent Peter Dillon, [peter.dillon@bhrsd.org](mailto:peter.dillon@bhrsd.org); Stephen Bannon, chair, BHRSD School Committee, [scbannon@gmail.com](mailto:scbannon@gmail.com); or mail a note to the Berkshire Hills Regional School District, P.O. Box 617, 50 Main Street, Stockbridge, MA 01262.



**Note: The priority deadline is Monday, August 29, 2022, at 4 pm, but we will accept interest until all roles are filled.**

If you have questions, please feel free to contact the District Office at (413) 298-4017, ext. 719.

Peter Dillon, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

## September History Quiz Question:

West Stockbridge is divided, geographically and historically, into five hamlets or neighborhoods: Village Center, State Line, West Center, Williamsville, and Rockdale/Freedleyville. The fifth one, Rockdale, is the least known of the five. Many people drive through it without giving it much notice; nor are they aware what once was there.

The center of Rockdale is located on Route 41, south of the town center, at the intersection of Cobb, Pixley Hill, and Glendale roads, and the crossing of the Williams River. Rockdale played an important role in the early establishment of the town that continued through the 19th-century industrial period.

What made this drive-by intersection on a state road so important?

(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](mailto:info@weststockbridgehistory.org) or call (413) 232-4270.



**West Stockbridge  
Historical Society**  
Incorporated in 1994

# Housatonic Heritage Walk: Touring the Neighborhoods of West Stockbridge - Rockdale

Saturday, September 24, 2022

10:30 am–noon

As part of the Housatonic Heritage Walks program, join Bob Salerno and John Parker to learn about Rockdale, a lesser known but prominent early area of industrial West Stockbridge. Our tour will start at Rockdale Cemetery, burial place of some of the town's major residents during the height of the industrial age. Time and weather permitting, we will continue along the old railroad bed and see some industrial ruins from the early 19th century.

The walk will be approximately a half mile long and take about 1½ hours. We will meet at the Rockdale Cemetery on Route 41, about two miles south of the village center. Please register by sending an email with name/s of participants to [info@weststockbridgehistory.org](mailto:info@weststockbridgehistory.org).



Gravestones at Rockdale Cemetery.  
Photo by John Parker

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 **Mass Cultural Council**

The *Local Yokel* is published monthly. Please mail submissions to: **The Local Yokel**, P.O. Box 238, West Stockbridge, MA 01266, email [info@thelocalyokel.org](mailto:info@thelocalyokel.org), or visit [www.thelocalyokel.org](http://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](mailto:john.j.parker53@gmail.com); **Vicki Grayson**, 232-6131, [vicki.grayson@rocketmail.com](mailto:vicki.grayson@rocketmail.com); **Susan Fisher**, 232-4443, [suefish12@gmail.com](mailto:suefish12@gmail.com); **Anne Lesser**, 717-0277, [anne@annelessercommunications.com](mailto:anne@annelessercommunications.com); Designer: **Kim Bradway**, [kim@bloominarts.com](mailto: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.



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# “We Remember When . . .” Growing Up in West Stockbridge in the 1950s

*A Series of Recollections by John Bormolini and Friends*

## Fragrant Memories of 1950s West Stockbridge, Part 1

*By John Bormolini with Louise Faggioni and Judie Masiero (Bodnar)*

As I was thinking about another “Remember When” article, I realized that the articles so far had dealt mostly with the senses of sight and touch. We had never used smells as a theme or, as I decided to call them, aromas and odors.

Recently my dear friend Louise Faggioni called me. (Louise was my accomplice on several previous articles.) She was quick to let me know I had not called her in quite some time. I asked if she had attended the ceremony at Keresey Field commemorating the baseball legends who played there when Garrett Troy owned the team back in the 1930s. She had not but had passed it several times on her way to the Catholic Cemetery. Her Aunt Mary (Biasin) Censato had recently passed away at the tender age of 97.



*C.H. Baldwin & Sons.  
Photo by John Parker*

After expressing my condolences, I proposed an article based on odors and aromas. Her response was initially tepid, but after hanging up, it wasn't more than 10 minutes that she sent me a text about the “smell idea.” I took that as a yes and that she found it to be a plausible theme.

Earlier, I had exchanged emails with Jackie Moffatt of Charles H. Baldwin & Sons. I told Jackie that my wife Barb and I were flying to Albany and planning to spend a few days in West Stockbridge on our way to Boston. I thought I would stop by the store because one of my fondest memories is the aroma of vanilla extract and maple syrup that envelops you as soon as you walk in the door. I worked there during the summer of 1958 and was always drawn to those aromas. I took a deep breath and found that little had changed. If you have never been there, stop by and tell Jackie that you heard about it from John and Louise.

My next memory of an enduring aroma was at A.W. Baldwin's Hardware Store across the street. It was much more than a hardware store. I recall that it smelled of feed for the farm animals. Most farmers in the area relied on the store for their animal feed, usually buying it by the truckload.

On the same block as the Baldwin businesses was a small shoe repair shop operated by Tony, Jimmy Dellea's father. The aroma there was of leather and glue. In the 1950s, the mentality wasn't “use and throw away”; rather, it was “use, repair, and reuse.” Tony Dellea was kept very busy.

Another business was named Shoemakers, owned and operated by Felix Zanconato and his wife Judita (Julia). It also had a leathery aroma much like Mr. Dellea's, but in addition there were the smells of cooking, usually garlic, emanating from the kitchen because the shop also served as their home. The store included a plethora of other commodities, such as clothing, footwear, cigars and cigarettes, and—best of all for us kids—penny candy in a glass-enclosed case. My favorite was the candy button strips. Judie Masiero commented, “We kids loved hanging out there to the point where we were often asked to leave.” So much for customer service!

Judie remembered a couple of other favorite aromas: one was the library in the Old Town Hall. She recalls a unique “booky” fragrance. She noted that to this day a library is one of her favorite places to linger and reminisce. Judie also loved the smell of burning leaves in the fall. The smoky smell would linger in the air. She did not have leaves to rake because she and her family lived above their grocery store (more on that another time).

The business that gets the gold ribbon for the smelliest was Mooney's chicken farm north of the town center. The height of the odor was overwhelming when the hundreds of chickens were ready to go to market. They had done their part by eating (and pooping) for about 8 weeks since arriving as chicks.

On the way north to the chicken farm was St. Patrick's Catholic Church. The aroma I recall from there was that of burning candles. It would hit you as you walked in the door. People would stop by and light a candle in remembrance of a loved one who had passed away. It was beautiful.

More on this topic to follow in Part 2!

*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 email John at [johnbormo@aol.com](mailto:johnbormo@aol.com).*



# Artists Guild Opens New Gallery in Downtown West Stockbridge

by Margie Skaggs

The Guild of Berkshire Artists is pleased to announce the opening of its own home gallery at 38 Main Street in West Stockbridge. Carrying over the “ART on MAIN” title from the summer show at the Old Town Hall, the new venue, just a block further down Main Street, is called “ART on MAIN Gallery” and will showcase work by guild artists.

Two or three member artists will typically partner to produce a show running for two long weekends: Thursdays through Sundays. The first show, “Oil and Water,” opened August 4 and featured abstract paintings in oil by Marcelene Mosca and Berkshire-area watercolors by Adrian Holmes. Following up in early September will be Mike Coyne and Bruce Shickmanter, presenting works in oil and watercolor/gouache.

More teams of artists will exhibit in the gallery during the fall months and beyond with planned gallery hours of Thursdays and Fridays, 2 to 5 pm, and Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays from 11 am to 5 pm.

Over its eight-year history, the guild has mounted numerous shows in various locations in the Berkshires, including West Stockbridge. The gallery is its first permanent location and allows us to feature small rotating groups of artists throughout the year.

The guild’s many visual artists work in a variety of media, such as paintings, sculpture, photography, textiles, ceramics, wood, varieties of mixed media, and more. Visit [berkshireartists.org](http://berkshireartists.org) for further information on the gallery and the guild’s varied activities.

## September 2022 Events

**Sept. 1–5:** “Imagination Creates Reality”  
Mike Coyne and Bruce Shickmanter  
(Oil, Watercolor, Clay)

**Sept. 8–18:** “Clay, Wax, Paper”  
Amy Pressman, ML Kammel, and Marion Grant  
(Encaustic, Clay, Mixed Media)

**Sept. 29–Oct. 2:** “Soul Vision”  
Carolyn Abrams, Susan Sabino, and MJ Marx  
(Mixed Media, Photography, Clay)

**Typical Gallery Hours**  
Thursdays & Fridays: 3–7  
Saturdays & Sundays: 11–5  
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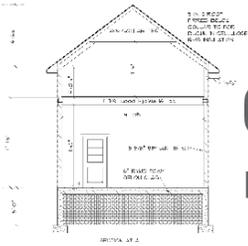
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# On the Home Front

By Thom Lipiczky

## “The Continuing Adventures of Two Intrepid Homeowners”

I had a minor battle with one of the forces of nature, and—surprise—gravity won out. Recently I was navigating my riding mower near a hillside and made a miscalculation that sent me and the mower down a slope with me ending up pinned underneath the upturned mower. My leg was trapped between the steering column and a tree stump, and although I was pretty sure I hadn’t broken anything except the laws of common sense, I could not get out.

My wife called neighbors Bob Edwards and Joe and Anne Roy, and a call to 911 was deemed the most prudent action. Within 25 minutes, we had the West Stockbridge Police and Fire/Rescue teams, as well as paramedics from Great Barrington, on the scene. After some puzzling over the best way to get me free, five members of the team just lifted the mower up, and two others pulled me out. The paramedics took to me to BMC where another team hovered over me before eventually sending me home in my wife’s care. No serious injuries to me. The mower is another story.

First, I want to express my immense gratitude and admiration to all the amazing people who rushed to my rescue. And then I want to remind other homeowners that using a riding mower near a slope is best left to Evel Knievel or Hollywood stunt performers.

And lastly, I want to talk about the history of lawns.

It was the wealthy landowners of France and England in the 18th century who started the practice of closely cut grass areas in gardens. Sheep and servants with scythes kept the “lawn” a relatively consistent length. Thomas Jefferson copied this practice at Monticello, a showplace of the latest technology and style.

After the Civil War, several patents for lawnmowers and sprinklers made the front lawn more desirable for middle-class America. The vegetable garden moved to the backyard, and large-scale urban parks (like Central Park in NYC) made expansive lawns more popular.

Golf courses became numerous toward the end of the 19th century. (Side note: Mark Twain called golf “a good walk spoiled.”) The growth in suburbs after the Second World War increased the demand for well-manicured monoculture expanses of grass, often maintained with chemicals toxic to other plants and to bees, birds, and other wildlife.

So now here we are experiencing the loss of many of those insects that pollinate our plants, including our food stock. Declines in bees, butterflies, and other creatures that provide a vital service to us have made many people question the advisability of the widespread monoculture turfgrass lawn. This past spring there was a “no mow May” movement in the hopes of reviving wildflowers that provide food for the pollinators.

Although here in West Stockbridge we are starting to participate in a modest way in the “less lawn, more meadow” philosophy, we still plan to keep some of our property mowed—just not the areas near slopes!

Comments, questions, and rants can be directed to [info@thelocalyokel.org](mailto:info@thelocalyokel.org).



*Rescue in progress. Photo by Anne Roy*

# Parks & Recreation Update

By Cait Graham

The Parks & Rec Committee has spent time lately in planning mode, and we're excited for the town to enjoy the fruits of our labor in the coming weeks, months, and years. Here's a glimpse at what we're considering.

There have been a number of recent requests for a local dog park, and we are officially looking into two locations. We're very hopeful we will find a site and move forward with this project! An inquiry was made about the possibility of installing a bocce court on the grounds of the Town Offices. This sounds like a fun idea, and we plan to do some measuring and see if it could become a reality.

The annual "West Stockbridge Sparkles" event was so well attended last December, we decided it was time to invest in a beautiful town tree, to be planted at the Town Offices for all to enjoy. Keep an eye out for the new evergreen tree sometime soon. Finally, we're looking forward to the town's Halloween festivities. You will hear much more about it next month.

If you have any questions or ideas for Parks & Recreation, we encourage you to send them along to us at [weststockbridgeparks@gmail.com](mailto:weststockbridgeparks@gmail.com).



## September Donor Roll Call

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# Cultural Council Invites Grant Proposals for 2023

By Margie Skaggs

The West Stockbridge Cultural Council has set an October 17, 2022, postmark deadline for local organizations, schools, and individuals to apply for grants that support cultural activities in our community.

A network of 329 Local Cultural Councils across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the LCC program is the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, applied sciences, and humanities every year. The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, which then allocates funds to each community. With this funding, the state acknowledges the importance of cultural activities to the economy of the Berkshires. In West Stockbridge, our priorities are to provide a variety of cultural resources for our diverse community from preschoolers to older adults.

Our grants support many kinds of cultural projects and activities, such as performances, lectures, school programs, festivals, concerts, and more. Subsidies may also be available for school-age children to attend cultural field trips to local museums and other cultural sites. The council typically grants around \$5,000 annually. Examples of previously funded projects are the West Stockbridge Public Library, the *Local Yokel*, Shakespeare in the Park, Greenagers, and Berkshire Wildlife Sanctuaries.

For specific guidelines and complete information on the West Stockbridge Cultural Council, contact Marjorie Powell at ladyeasland@gmail.com or (413) 232-0222. Application forms and more information about the LCC program are available online at [www.mass-culture.org](http://www.mass-culture.org) (click on “application process” and “how to apply”). Please note that all applications must now be made online.

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# West Stockbridge Historical Society Jazz Series Presents the Rick McLaughlin Trio on Sept. 24

The final WSHS concert for the season will take place at the Old Town Hall on Saturday, September 24, at 8 pm featuring bassist Rick McLaughlin and his trio, guitarist Sheryl Bailey and drummer Yoron Israel.

Rick is one of the most highly regarded musicians on the Boston jazz scene today. His playing embraces the full spectrum of jazz, from straight-ahead acoustic jazz to his work with the Either/Orchestra, a post-bop/avant-garde big band led by saxophonist/arranger Russ Gershon.

Rick will lead a pre-concert discussion at 7:15 pm to provide a behind-the-scenes look at how a jazz group approaches a song and then how they work together to bring the song to life through improvisation.

For ticket information, visit the West Stockbridge Historical Society website, [www.weststockbridgehistory.org/](http://www.weststockbridgehistory.org/).



*Rick McLaughlin.  
Photo courtesy of the artist*

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## History Quiz Answer:

Early West Stockbridge was centered in the farmlands of West Center. The soil was better for growing food than the hilly areas in the rest of the area, and trade could flourish with both Massachusetts and New York State. The only problem was the requirement of attending all-day Sunday services at the mission in Stockbridge. (Note: Not attending could be prosecuted as a crime.) The most direct route to Stockbridge was down Cobb Road, across the Williams River, and up Pixley Hill Road and Dugway Road or Glendale Road, then over to Stockbridge. Attending services was a major commitment, particularly in the winter or when the so-called roads were all mud in the spring.



*Rockdale Mill. Photo courtesy of West Stockbridge Historical Society*

Rockdale was at the main crossroads of a north-south trail (now Route 41), the east-west path to Stockbridge, and the crossing point of the Williams River. It was the natural meeting place for travel. Rockdale also had the major advantage of a drop in the Williams River, perfect for waterpower and the increasing energy needs of the area.

As West Stockbridge grew and split off from the other Stockbridge, the Williams River became the primary source for industrial activity. The natural drop in the riverbed, plus its narrowing through a gorge, created a strong hydraulic head to power mills. An early gazetteer (1838) lists a sawmill, blacksmith shop, fulling mill (for cleaning, shrinking, and felting cloth), nail factory, forge, and turning shop in Rockdale. The 1831 survey of the town in the Massachusetts Archives shows a bridge over the Williams River and three major dams south of the Route 41/Pixley Hill Road intersection. There was also worker housing along the river and the supporting roads.

The largest and most successful operation was the Rockdale Mill, pictured here, that milled the locally grown grain and buckwheat from New York State. This spot had the deepest drop through a gorge, creating a consistent and powerful source of energy. As the grist mill business ended, a generator was installed there in the 1920s by Southern Berkshire Power and Electric. The mill building was taken down and the dam destroyed in the 1960s. Parts of it are still visible in the woods on the east side of the river.

Rockdale was a busy area with its own post office and schoolhouse nearby on East Alford Road. The railroad went though, following the course of the river and intersecting with the narrow-gauge rail from the Freedley quarries. Pixley Hill Road was a main north-south road, and Route 41 was located closer to the river than it is now to service the mills.

Rockdale achieved infamy in 1898 with a sensational murder-suicide. Fred Webster was "a notorious criminal known to everyone in Southern Berkshire," according to a *Berkshire Eagle* article. Webster was released on parole after 18 years in jail at Walpole to return to his brother's home in Rockdale. The article described brother George as cantankerous and not very industrious. The two brothers quarreled, and George shot Fred with a shotgun, realized what he had done, and took his own life.

The house where the murder occurred no longer exists, along with many of the industrial sites and residences. What does remain is the brick house/post office at the intersection of Glendale Road and Route 41, and the Rockdale cemetery just north of it. The cemetery has its own unique history and will be the subject of another history question.



# WEST STOCKBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

21 State Line Rd | West Stockbridge, MA 01266 | In the Town Offices

weststockbridgelibrary.org | 413-232-0300 ext. 308

Mon., Wed., Thurs., and Sat. 10 am–3 pm | Tues. and Fri. 2–6 pm | Sun. Closed

Greetings! The library is open 6 days a week. All are invited to come and do some reading, use the public computers or WiFi, and borrow books in print, audiobooks on CD, or movies on DVD, plus the world of additional treasures with eBooks and eAudio. New library cards are available, if needed.

We look forward to seeing you soon! Vicky, Rachel, and Tess

\*\*\*\*\*

## NEW ADULT FICTION

- Berry, *Omega Factor*
- Lodge, *Little Sister*
- Macomber, *Best Is Yet to Come*
- Patterson, *Escape*
- Thor, *Rising Tiger: A Thriller*
- Ware, *It Girl*

## NEW ADULT NONFICTION

- Brown, *Facing the Mountain: A True Story of Japanese American Heroes in World War II*
- Garrett, *Lonely Stories: 22 Celebrated Writers on the Joys & Struggles of Being Alone*
- Hegseth, *Battle for the American Mind*
- Sedaris, *Happy-Go-Lucky*
- Sweet, *Sewing Girl's Tale: A Story of Crime and Consequence in Revolutionary America*
- Zabar, *Zabar's: A Family Story, with Recipes*

## NEW DVDs

- Beyond Valkyrie*
- Everything Everywhere All at Once*
- Hotel Portofino*
- Jack Ryan 5-Movie Pack*
- Killing Eve Season 4*
- Montana Story*
- Spider-Man: No Way Home*
- The Outfit*



<b>Monday</b>	<b>10 AM – 3 PM</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>2 PM – 6 PM</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10 AM – 3 PM</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>10 AM – 3 PM</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>2 PM – 6 PM</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10 AM – 3 PM</b>



### Scrapbook Questions/created by Paula Farrell

#### TEST YOUR TRIVIA KNOWLEDGE!

1. What woman performed during the 14th annual interfaith Martin Luther King Day celebration at the First Congregational Church?
2. When was the town sewer system installed?
3. What was the average annual bill of West Stockbridge sewer users in 2013?
4. Who was the governor who frequently visited the Public Market in West Stockbridge?

- 1. Lucretia Leonard
- 2. In the late 1980s
- 3. \$542
- 4. Governor Deval Patrick



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.

## 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.

### Stockbridge Grange Dinner

On Sunday, September 11, the Stockbridge Grange will serve a takeout-only dinner at the Grange Hall at 51 Church Street, Stockbridge. The dinner will be roast pork, with chocolate and lemon pies for dessert. Cost is \$15. 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 Thursday, September 8.

### Council on Aging

The COA will meet outside in front of the Town Offices, weather permitting, on Wednesday, September 14, at noon. Please bring a chair and your own lunch. We will meet in the Community Room if we can't meet outdoors. 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.

### 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.



*Send your notices for Community News & Events to the Local Yokel, P.O. Box 238, West Stockbridge, MA 01266, email [info@thelocalyokel.org](mailto:info@thelocalyokel.org), or visit [thelocalyokel.org](http://thelocalyokel.org).*

# MUSIC THEATRE DANCE

THE FOUNDRY

[thefoundryws.com](http://thefoundryws.com)  
West Stockbridge MA

## Mill Brook Sugar House

New Lenox Road  
Lenox, MA

[www.millbrookmaplestore.com](http://www.millbrookmaplestore.com)



*From Tree... to Table  
and everything in between.*

Find us on 

Local Delivery  
&  
Shipping available

## The Floor Store

413-232-7175

[www.the-floorstore.com](http://www.the-floorstore.com)

12 Main Street  
West Stockbridge, MA 01266



Come see our variety of hardwood, ceramic, glass, carpet, bamboo and more!

We have been flooring people since 1983!

# 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



## 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**





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

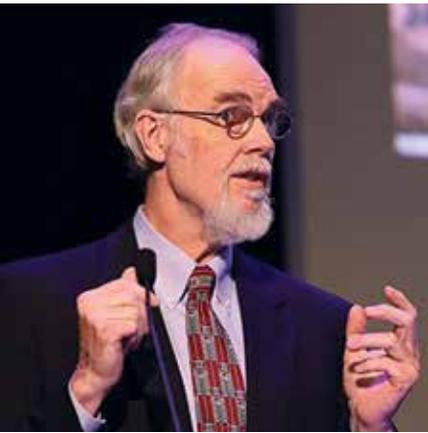


WEST STOCKBRIDGE | \$529,000  
 7 ACRE SUBDIVIDABLE PARCEL IN DESIREABLE AREA

**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>Kathleen Keresev Andy Krouss Andy Potter</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>Kellie Bradbury</i>	232-0300	ext. 302	Tues. 3–7 pm; Wed. 7 am–12 pm; Thurs. 1–6 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](http://weststockbridge-ma.gov) • Community and Business Website: [visitweststockbridge.com](http://visitweststockbridge.com)

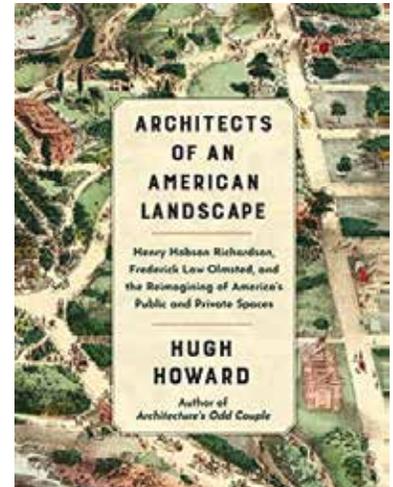


Author Hugh Howard.  
Photo courtesy of author

The West Stockbridge Historical Society presents:  
**A Conversation with Hugh Howard,  
Acclaimed Author of  
Architects of an American Landscape**  
Friday, September 16, 7 pm  
at the Old Town Hall

American architecture and style before the Civil War tended to be derivative of European style or pragmatic colonialism. Two people had a major influence on American architecture and landscape design. Frederick Law Olmstead is best known for Central Park and Yosemite. Henry Hobson Richardson was a lesser known but equally important architect. Both reimagined America's public and private spaces and possibly the country's view of itself.

Hugh Howard is the author of numerous books on architecture and design. He will engage in a conversation and slide show with local architect John Fülöp at the Old Town Hall, followed by a reception and book signing at The Mill at Shaker Mill Books at the corner of Depot Street and Route 102 in West Stockbridge.



## Your business need a little exposure?

If you've got a new business idea, updated business plan, or still chuggin' along, advertise in the *Local Yokel* to let readers know what your business is up to!

As low as  
**\$15!**

Visit [thelocalyokel.org](http://thelocalyokel.org) for our rates or email Vicki for more information at [info@thelocalyokel.org](mailto:info@thelocalyokel.org).

*"You can't get any more local than advertising in the Local Yokel!  
Stay safe and shop local!"*

— Jackie Moffatt at C. H. Baldwin & Sons

## September Art Calendar

Guild of Berkshire Artists | [BerkshireArtists.org](http://BerkshireArtists.org) | [infoberkshireartists@gmail.com](mailto:infoberkshireartists@gmail.com) 2022

**September 6, Photo Editing Workshop, 1:30-2:30pm.** Work on mobile photo editing with others via Zoom.

**September 2, TKG First Friday Reception, 5-8pm.** "Finding Gold in West Stockbridge" featuring 7 Local artists and photographers. TKG Realty in Pittsfield. Zoom link available.

**September 3, Urban Sketching, 9-11am.** Join Jill Gustavis to have fun sketching/painting around Pittsfield's downtown. See website for how to register.

**September 14, Monthly Meeting, 4-6:30pm.**

**September 11, Potluck, 4-5pm.** Join hosts Freya Segal and John and Linda Mancina in person and over Zoom.

**September 27, Meet the Artist, 3pm.** Featuring Tony Connor, watercolorist.

**September 25, Berkshire Photo Gathering.** Online. See webpage for information: [berkshirephotogathering.com/online-meetings](http://berkshirephotogathering.com/online-meetings).

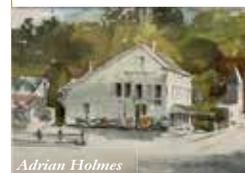
**September 29, Art Book Gathering, 9:30-11am.** Share a favorite book: artist, or process

*Unexpected insights into the bucolic heart of quintessential Berkshire County.*



Susan Sabino

*Artist residents capture the quiet magic of hidden places.*



Adrian Holmes

*A look, a moment of light, a glimpse of another time.*

### Finding Gold in West Stockbridge

featuring 7 Local Artists & Photographers on display at TKG Realty  
137 North St., Pittsfield, MA  
Reception w/First Friday Artswalk:  
September 2, 5-8pm

**Wednesdays, Art Together.** Join GBA artists together online using Zoom.

**September 13 & 27, Positive Critique, 7:30-8:30 p.m.** Join Michele Caplan for a positive critique session for Guild members via Zoom.

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

[thelocalyokel.org](http://thelocalyokel.org)



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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	

September 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.

9/1	Farmers Market	3–6 pm	The Foundry Green, Harris Street
9/1	Zoning Board of Appeals meeting	7 pm	Town Offices and via Zoom
9/5	Labor Day		
9/6	State Primary Election	7 am–8 pm	Town Offices, 21 State Line Road
9/8	Farmers Market	3–6 pm	The Foundry Green, Harris Street
9/11	National Grandparents' Day		
9/11	Stockbridge Grange takeout dinner		See Community News for details
9/12	Select Board meeting	6 pm	Town Offices, 21 State Line Road
9/14	COA luncheon	12 noon	Town Offices, 21 State Line Road
9/15	*** Deadline for the next <i>Local Yokel</i> ***		Send to <a href="mailto:info@thelocalyokel.org">info@thelocalyokel.org</a>
9/15	Farmers Market	3–6 pm	The Foundry Green, Harris Street
9/16	Author Talk with Hugh Howard	7 pm	Old Town Hall, 9 Main Street
9/22	First Day of Autumn		
9/22	Farmers Market	3–6 pm	The Foundry Green, Harris Street
9/24	Housatonic Heritage Walk: Rockdale	10:30 am–12 noon	Rockdale Cemetery, Route 41
9/24	WSHS Jazz: Rick McLaughlin Trio	8 pm	Old Town Hall, 9 Main Street
9/25	Rosh Hashana begins at sundown		
9/26	Select Board meeting	6 pm	See town website for details
9/29	Farmers Market	3–6 pm	The Foundry Green, Harris Street