

# Local yokel

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

West  
Stockbridge  
**October**  
2025

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 2004



***MMRHS building project  
informational session Oct. 6***

***Special Town Caucus Oct. 8***

***Special Town Meeting Oct. 20***

*Autumn farm scene, Woodruff Road.  
Photo by Emily Weiland.*





## Monument Mountain High School Building Project

The Building Committee is hosting a series of community-based information sessions to review the final design, cost, and tax impact ahead of the November 4<sup>th</sup> district-wide vote, and to ask questions in a conversational setting. All residents are welcome to attend the session most convenient to them.

### West Stockbridge Library

21 State Line Rd, West Stockbridge  
**Monday, October 6 • 6:30–7:30 PM**

### Mason Public Library

231 Main St, Great Barrington  
**Tuesday, October 7 • 4:30–5:30 PM**

### Stockbridge Public Library

46 Main Street, Stockbridge  
**Tuesday, October 7 • 6:30–7:30 PM**

### Ramsdell Public Library

1087 Main St, Housatonic  
**Wednesday, October 15 • 4:30–5:30 PM**

### Claire Teague Senior Center

917 Main St, Great Barrington  
**Thursday, October 16 • 12:30–1:30 PM**  
 (refreshments provided)

To stay connected, learn more, and contact the team, visit our website: <https://monumentbuildingproject.org>



# 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 september 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 August 18, 2025

The quorum was present remotely, consisting of Select Board members Chair Andrew Krouss and Kathleen Keresey, and Town Administrator Marie Ryan.

Chair Andy Krouss opened the meeting at 6 PM.

Kathleen made a motion, seconded by Andy, to approve the meeting minutes from August 4, 2025.

All were in favor; minutes approved.

### Citizen Speak:

none

### Town Administrator Update

Marie explained that due to Andy Potter's resignation, there is an open position on the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority. She asked the Board if either of them would like to fill that seat. They asked Marie to post the opening on the website and see if any residents would be interested in doing it. If no one shows interest, then Andy Krouss stated he would fill the position.

Marie stated that she would like to add a discussion of a possible Special Town Election to fill Andy Potter's seat to the next meeting agenda. The Board agreed.

### Dog Park Update: Mike Bolognino, Chair of Dog Park Committee

Michael informed the Board that the Dog Park is coming along and looks great. He has been very pleased with the work that Clark & Son has been doing and thinks the park is looking even better than he imagined. The only items they are waiting for are the fencing, the benches, and the water fountain, which are all on back-order. The Committee would like to hold a grand opening of the park on Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. They intend on having face painting, a few vendors, and food. He invited the Board and all to attend.

### Department of Public Works Update: Director Curt Wilton

Curt stated that before his injury, he had suggested the Town hire a new Foreman for the DPW after Jamie Boyer's resignation. He would then jump in and assist the crew with their duties as well. Since Curt's injury, he will be out for a couple of months and will be unable to help the crew physically during this time. He now

...continued on page 7

## Important Dates Upcoming Special Town Meeting and Elections

### **Caucus, Oct. 8, 2025**

- Last day to withdraw nomination: Oct. 15, 2025
- Last day to register to vote: Nov. 7, 2025
- Last day to request mail-in ballot: Nov. 10, 2025, by 5 pm

### **Special Town Meeting, Oct. 20, 2025, 6 pm**

- Last day to register to vote: Oct. 10, 2025

### **Special Election on School Question, Nov. 4, 2025**

- Last day to register to vote: Oct. 24, 2025
- Last day to request mail-in ballot: Oct. 28, 2025, by 5 pm

### **Special Town Election for Select Board Position: Nov. 17, 2025**



# Upcoming Special Town Meeting to Consider Zoning Changes

By the West Stockbridge Planning Board

West Stockbridge residents will soon have the opportunity to vote on several important zoning changes.

**At a Special Town Meeting on Monday, Oct. 20, at 6 p.m.**  
at the Town Offices, voters will be asked to consider these items:

- New regulations for *short-term rentals (STRs)*
- Revisions to the town's *accessory dwelling unit (ADU)* zoning, updated to align with new state mandates
- A change allowing the *Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)* to have three associate members

In addition, the Special Town Meeting warrant has a new general town bylaw for the administration of STRs.

To help residents better understand the proposals, the Planning Board will host an **Informational Meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 14, at 7 p.m.** at the Town Offices.

## Short-Term Rentals

STRs are a new use and growing trend, commonly known through platforms such as Airbnb, that have outpaced traditional zoning rules. State law defines an STR as any residential rental of a room, apartment, or house for a period of no more than 31 consecutive calendar days. Rentals longer than 31 days are not regulated as STRs.

...continued on page 5

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The proposed regulations have two parts:

1. **Zoning changes** to allow STRs as an accessory use to a primary dwelling, with specific limits.
2. A **general town bylaw** establishing registration, fees, and administrative oversight. (Under the bylaw, all STRs must register with the town and pay an annual fee.)

Key aspects of the proposed zoning regulations:

- STRs may only be operated by owner-occupiers or long-term residents. Generally, the owner must live on the property for at least six months of the year. Exceptions allow long-term full-time residents to operate STRs by special permit on property where they do not reside.
- STRs are treated as accessory uses to one- or two-family homes. (Commercial uses such as weddings or business conferences are not permitted.)
- Rental limits:
  - Up to 80 days per year “by right.”
  - 81 to 120 days per year with a special permit.
  - More than 120 days is prohibited.
- All STRs must comply with state building codes for “transient occupancy” that include health and safety requirements (e.g., inspections and confirmation of compliance). Note: These regulations are not part of zoning, but the proposed bylaw requires compliance with all applicable codes and laws. The building inspector will serve as the point of contact for building code requirements related to STRs.

An aim of the “owner-occupier” requirement is to prevent absentee landlords and corporations from acquiring multiple single-family homes for short-term rentals, thereby reducing the local housing supply.

A key consideration behind the proposed regulations is that, without the owner-occupancy requirement, a short-term rental effectively becomes a hotel business operating in a residential zoning district. An STR is comparable to a home-occupation business activity in that, with limits, the “business” use is allowed by right or by special permit. For both home occupations and STRs in residential districts, the accessory use must be limited and not unduly disturb neighbors.

### Accessory Dwelling Units

West Stockbridge first adopted an ADU bylaw in 1992 that has become outdated. For example, the current bylaw does not permit detached ADUs.

In December 2024, a new state law was passed requiring all towns to allow ADUs up to 900 square feet *as of right*. This law took effect in February 2025. The Planning Board’s proposed zoning changes will bring West Stockbridge into compliance.

Highlights of the proposal:

- ADUs up to 900 square feet are permitted *by right* in connection with one- and two-family homes.
- Larger ADUs may be allowed by special permit.
- ADUs may be rented as STRs if they meet STR requirements. (This was discussed at the public hearing held for ADU zoning changes, where the Planning Board decided to proceed with this aspect of the proposal to give individual property owners more flexibility in generating income from their properties. ADUs must remain as a use that is accessory to the principal residential use on the lot and cannot be sold separately.)

These changes aim to expand housing options while preserving the character of residential neighborhoods.

### Zoning Board of Appeals

Over the past several years, the ZBA has faced a heavy workload, with multiple appeals and frequent recusals due to conflicts of interest. To ease this burden, a proposed zoning amendment would allow the board to appoint three associate members instead of the current two. This would provide more flexibility in filling seats when recusals occur.

### Next Steps

The Planning Board encourages all residents to learn about the proposed changes and participate in the decision-making process. The proposed zoning amendments can be viewed in the Warrant for the Special Town Meeting, posted on the town’s website at [www.weststockbridge-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf4031/f/agendas/stm\\_warrant\\_10-20-25.pdf](http://www.weststockbridge-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf4031/f/agendas/stm_warrant_10-20-25.pdf).

- **Informational Meeting:** Tuesday, Oct. 14, 7 p.m., Town Offices
- **Special Town Meeting:** Monday, Oct. 20, 6 p.m., Town Offices

These zoning decisions will shape how West Stockbridge balances housing needs, neighborhood character, and community life for years to come.

# TurnPark Fairy House Festival

October

11th

4-8pm

Make your own fairy house,  
enter the competition, get a prize!

## What to expect:

Fairy dust, twinkling lights, music,  
fall market, face painting, workshops,  
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forest spirits, and magical creatures!  
Let's create magic together!**

TURN  
PARK

...continued from page 3

suggests that the Board hire a new Highway Superintendent to fill Jamie's position. John Lyford has been temporarily promoted to foreman but does not wish to continue in this role. Curt requested that the Board allow him and Marie to get an ad posted and get started with the search and hiring process. Both Board members agree that this is a timely issue.

Curt informed the Board that Andy Potter had asked Curt to work with him to complete a T-Mobile grant application. This grant was to pay for electrical upgrades to the Town Hall gazebo. Curt was recently notified that the Town did not receive the grant. After this news, Curt said he would try to work out a plan to complete the upgrades at some point.

#### **Town Charter Discussion: Kathleen Keresey**

Kathleen requested that the Board skip over this agenda item. She stated it may be better if the Board waits and has Town Counsel attend a meeting to explain the process of creating a Town Charter and what the benefits would be for the Town. Andy agreed.

#### **Housatonic Water Litigation Discussion:**

Andy stated that Great Barrington has recently withdrawn its appeal against the Housatonic Water Company, allowing the Company to secure financial support to complete the required projects. Kathleen noted that the Board had previously decided to follow Great Barrington's lead regarding the Housatonic Water Company, as they have the most significant interest in the issue.

Andy made a motion, seconded by Kathleen,

I move that the town withdraw its appeal to the Single Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court in *Town of Great Barrington and Town of West Stockbridge v. Department of Public Utilities*; SJC Docket No. SJ-2024-0312).

All were in favor; the motion was approved.

#### **Select Board Speak:**

Kathleen noted that the Zucchini Festival was terrific this year. She thanked all of the volunteers and the Police for doing such a great job.

Andy also agreed that the Zucchini Fest was a great success and thanked everyone involved.

Andy motioned to adjourn, seconded by Kathleen, at 6:39 PM.

All approved, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marie Y. Ryan*

Marie Y. Ryan  
Town Administrator

#### **Select Board Meeting Minutes**

**September 2, 2025**

**The quorum was present remotely, consisting of Select Board members Chair Andrew Krouss and Kathleen Keresey, and Town Administrator Marie Ryan.**

Chair Andy Krouss opened the meeting at 6 PM.

Kathleen stated she would like more time to review the meeting minutes and requested to move to approve at the next meeting. Andy agreed.

#### **Citizen Speak:**

Frank Landsberger suggested that the Board appoint a Citizen Committee to create a Town Charter. He also commented that the Board should be a five-member board and the Town should have a Town Manager who can have increased responsibilities.

#### **Town Administrator Update**

Marie stated the Planning Board intends to hold an informational session on October 14th to discuss the upcoming Special Town Meeting articles regarding Short-term Rentals and Accessory Dwelling units. The Board already has a scheduled meeting on that date; therefore, Marie asked them if they would approve moving the Select Board meeting to the following evening, October 15th. Kathleen and Andy agreed.

#### **Library Update: Rachel Alter, Librarian**

Rachel informed the Board that the Library business has been steady. They average approximately 100 people per month coming to the library. Some upcoming events involving the Library include the Farmers Market on October 2 and the Parks & Recreation Commissioners' Halloween party.

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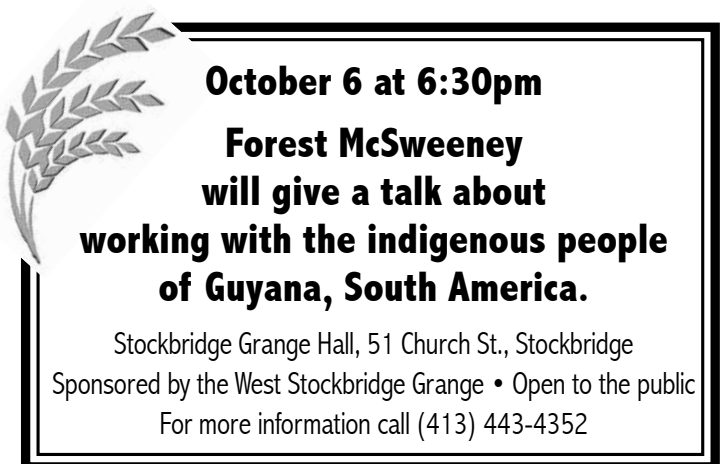
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floorstorews@gmail.com



**October 6 at 6:30pm**  
**Forest McSweeney**  
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**of Guyana, South America.**

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## Reminder!

**West Stockbridge Cultural Council  
Invites Grant Proposals for 2026**

**Application Deadline: October 16, 2025**

For specific guidelines and complete information and application forms, visit [massculturalcouncil.org/communities/local-cultural-council-program](http://massculturalcouncil.org/communities/local-cultural-council-program). Click on your local Cultural Council of West Stockbridge to apply. If you have questions, please contact any Cultural Council member or Marjorie Powell at (413) 429-7053.



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**West Stockbridge Village Congregational Church**

# Annual Blessing of the Animals

**Sunday, October 19th at 10am**

**West Center Outdoor Chapel  
at 141 West Center Road**





...continued from page 7

She stated that the Library currently offers Cyber Senior Assistance, where seniors can drop by the Library for free technical assistance during certain hours. Rachel secured five internet hotspots, which she will provide to five families at no cost for use in their homes for up to twelve months.

Rachel's primary concern is that the statewide funding may be cut for libraries, which could specifically imperil the e-books and streaming of audiobooks. The state has helped fund that cost for years, and without their assistance, the library may not be able to offer them. She hopes things will work out; however, she has been searching for additional funding just in case.

#### **Police Department Update: Chief Nicole Miller**

Chief requested that the Board appoint two new police officers to the Department. She introduced Dave Lupiani, a former West Stockbridge Police Officer. He had left due to scheduling issues; however, those issues are not a problem now, and she would like to have him back in West Stockbridge as a Part-Time officer. The second officer she requested to be appointed is Donald Rhodes. He is new to the area, currently in the process of moving here from Texas. He is closing on a house in mid-September and has already been trained and certified in Massachusetts. He requested to work the night shift and can start by the end of September as a Full-Time officer. She stated that both officers are extremely community-oriented and will be a great addition to the Department.

Andy made a motion, seconded by Kathleen, to appoint Dave Lupiani as a new Part-Time Officer and Donald Rhodes as a new Full-Time Officer.

Both were in favor, and the motion was approved.

Chief Miller then discussed the possibility of the Department having a Comfort Dog. She explained that the Manager at Crane Lake Camp, up the hill, contacted her and stated they would like to donate a puppy they had been fostering to the Town as a comfort dog. She went there and took the puppy home with her. She believes that this dog could be an excellent comfort dog for the Town. She would like to get it trained and be the handler. She would send the dog to Board and Train, where it would stay for 3-4 weeks to be trained. After that, she would also undergo training. The cost of this would be approximately \$3000-\$4000. The dog is current on her shots and is a very calm and sweet dog. Nicole also suggested the Town get health insurance for the dog.

The Board stated they would like Nicole to create a policy and procedure document to include all the responsibilities regarding the dog. The Board would also like to have input from Town Counsel, the employees working at Town Hall, and our Town insurance. Nicole agreed that this was all the information they needed before she would request the Board to vote on this issue. She will return to the Board with further details at a meeting for their approval.

Marie noted that the Town's Emergency Management Director, Lou Oggiani, had recently passed away. She stated he was an asset

...continued on page 11

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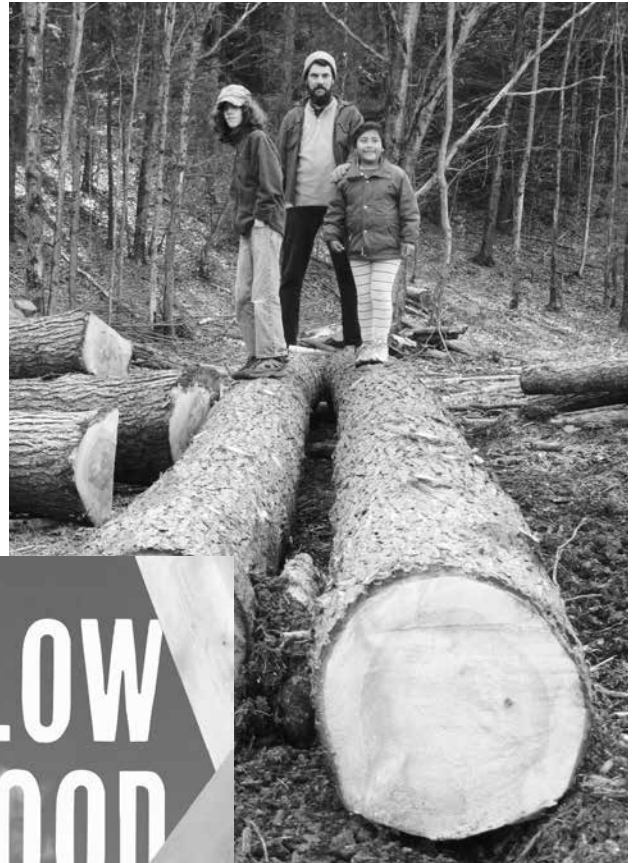
# Next in the *Berkshire Nature Talk Series:* **Slow Wood: Having Our Forest and Cutting It Too**

Join us for a program on Friday, October 17, at 7 pm at the Old Town Hall, 9 Main Street, sponsored by the West Stockbridge Historical Society. Professor Brian Donahue presents a radical approach to healing the relationship between humans and forests through responsible, sustainable use of our local Berkshire woodlands.

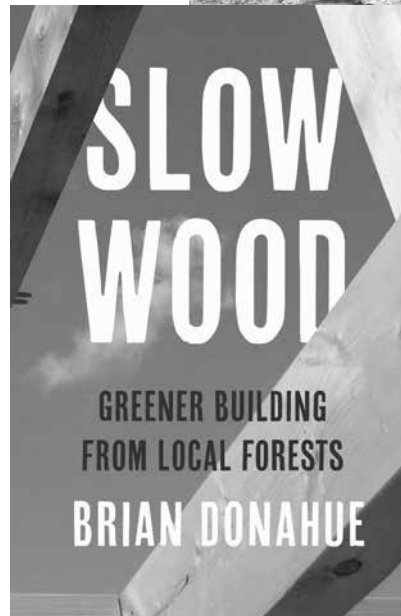
Drawing from his acclaimed book *Slow Wood* and his personal experience building a timber-frame home using trees from his own land, Professor Donahue will explore how we can address the modern housing crisis while protecting our region's diverse forests. Rather than relying on lumber from global extraction systems, he advocates for "worst first" forestry, a sustainable practice that allows us to have both healthy forests and the wood we need for building.

In this talk focused specifically on the Berkshires, Donahue will share stories of our local trees—sugar maple, black cherry, black birch, and hemlock—and examine how our region's history reflects the broader American story of our evolving relationship with forests. He'll discuss how the rise of industrial resource extraction broke the traditional bond between local communities and their woodlands, and present practical solutions for restoring a more sustainable approach to both forestry and building in our area.

This presentation offers both a blueprint and a stewardship plan for living more responsibly with the Commonwealth's woods, grounded in ecological wisdom and community values.



*Top: Professor Brian Donahue presents a radical approach to sustainable forestry in the Berkshires*



*Left: Slow Wood book cover*

*Images courtesy of the author*

**Free for West Stockbridge Historical Society members; \$10 suggested donation for nonmembers.  
Please register at [weststockbridgehistory.org](http://weststockbridgehistory.org).**

*This program is funded in part by grants from the Alford-Egremont, Richmond, Stockbridge, and West Stockbridge cultural councils, local agencies which are supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.*



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## October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Stone House Properties will make a donation for every property sold during the month of October to the Denise Kaley Fund, which supports local women with their day-to-day expenses while undergoing cancer treatment.



...continued from page 9

to the Town and will be missed. She noted that she had discussed with the Police Chief, Nicole Miller, and the Fire Chief, Vinny Garafoli, who should take his place as the Director, and both agreed to have Nicole take this position. Marie then asked the Board to appoint Nicole as the new Emergency Management Director for West Stockbridge.

#### **Special Election for Vacant Select Board Seat: Marie**

Marie asked the Board if they have decided to hold a special election to fill the vacant Select Board seat due to Andy Potter's resignation. They both agreed to go forward with a special election. Marie suggested that they have this election on Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.

Kathleen made a motion, seconded by Andy, to hold a Special election on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

Both agreed, motion as approved.

#### **Full-Time Employees Benefits Policy Updated:**

Andy stated that Kathleen has been working with Town Counsel to update language in the Full-Time Employee Benefits policy to make everything consistent for all employees.

Kathleen made a motion, seconded by Andy, to approve the new updated Full-Time Employee Benefits Policy.

Both agreed, motion approved.

#### **Select Board Speak:**

Andy stated that he appreciated all that Lou Oggiani has done for the Town and sends prayers to the family.

Kathleen motioned to adjourn, seconded by Andy, at 6:53 PM.

Both approved, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marie Y. Ryan*

Marie Y. Ryan  
Town Administrator

## September Donor Roll Call

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Martha Hamilton  
Bob Lee

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## WEST STOCKBRIDGE CHAMBER PLAYERS

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Supported by the West Stockbridge Cultural Council



The *Local Yoke!* is published monthly. Please mail submissions to: **The Local Yoke!**, P.O. Box 238, West Stockbridge, MA 01266, email [info@thelocalyoke.org](mailto:info@thelocalyoke.org), or visit [www.thelocalyoke.org](http://www.thelocalyoke.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@annelesserscommunications.com](mailto:anne@annelesserscommunications.com); Designer: Kim Bradway, [kim@bloominarts.com](mailto:kim@bloominarts.com).

The *Local Yoke!* 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.



Source of image:  
<https://www.visitweststockbridge.com/churches-library>

## News from the Pews

**By Bob Edwards,  
St. Patrick's Church**



*Photo courtesy of St. Patrick's Church*

Although we agree that we really could use some rain, it's hard not to thoroughly enjoy the sunshine and warm weather that's continued after Labor Day. With the great weather, several projects have been going on at St. Patrick's. The church is getting a well-deserved painting of all the trim. It's a tedious job, with all the intricacies of the overhang and moldings, but well worth it in the long run. The project of siding the garage and replacing its windows is ongoing; hopefully, it will be finished before any sign of Old Man Winter.

Fall cleanup began on September 27 and will continue on October 4. It will include trimming the shrubbery around the rectory and some further plantings around the sign in front of the church.

Back by popular demand and a fan favorite, our Fall Breakfast will be held November 2 after the 8:30 Mass. There will be lots of good healthy food and several baked goodies to satisfy your sweet tooth. Devilishly good, but no confession required—join us!

Until next issue, enjoy the fall foliage, and see you in the pews.

## Stockbridge Grange Dinner Sunday, October 12

Ham, au gratin potatoes, vegetable,  
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*Compost Facility Accepting Yard & Wood Waste*





*New Dog Park nears completion. Photo courtesy of Friends of West Stockbridge Dog Park*

## It's Time to Let the Dogs Out!

The West Stockbridge Dog Park Committee

The West Stockbridge Dog Park Committee is throwing a party for all our neighbors and friends to celebrate the grand opening of the park, located next to the Town Offices, on October 5 from 12 to 3. Please join us, rain or shine, for a fun-filled afternoon!

- **12:30 Pet Parade.** Gather on the soccer field to kick off the festivities with a grand opening parade. Furry, or human, participants are welcome to show off with creative costumes.
- **1:00 Ribbon Cutting.** The customary ceremony will take place at the park entrance after which the hounds will be unleashed.
- **2:30 Raffle Drawing.** Join us at the pavilion as we announce the lucky winner of a custom pet portrait painted by local artist Vivian Outlaw.

We invite you to enjoy refreshments from local favorites, check out vendor booths, and visit with Rika, West Stockbridge Fire Department's service dog, also a nationally certified crisis-response dog. The Berkshire Humane Society will have an information table to answer questions about its programs and training classes. Attendees are encouraged to bring donations of unopened pet food to be collected and distributed to pet owners in need by Iris's Pet Pantry.

Our members will also have a table with information about the park and our group. You still have time to enter the raffle before the drawing and purchase a commemorative brick for the walkway. Please check out our website, [friendsofwsdogpark.org](http://friendsofwsdogpark.org), and stay tuned for any updated details about the festivities.

## Harvest Dinner & 50/50 Raffle



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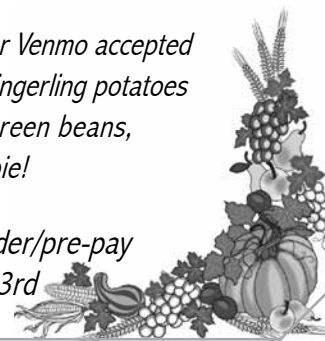
***Sunday, November 9th***

*West Stockbridge Village Church  
45 Main St, West Stockbridge*

*Pre-order, pre-pay  
Take-Out 4:30 to 6pm, DINE-IN at 6PM*

*\$25 per person – cash, check or Venmo accepted  
Turkey, stuffing, gravy, roasted fingerling potatoes  
& butternut squash, sauteed green beans,  
dinner roll and slice of apple pie!*

*Call 413-454-0054 to pre-order/pre-pay  
Deadline: Monday, November 3rd*





## FRIENDS OF THE WEST STOCKBRIDGE LIBRARY BOOK SALE

WEST STOCKBRIDGE TOWN OFFICES COMMUNITY ROOM

21 State Line Road, Route 102

SATURDAY, OCT. 11, 9 am–5 pm

CASH OR CHECKS ONLY

The Friends of the West Stockbridge Library are looking forward to seeing you at our annual sale, offering fiction, nonfiction, biography, history, cookbooks, art books, some vintage titles, and a wide variety of children's books.

Great time to stock up!

We will be collecting gently used books—please, no dictionaries, magazines, or textbooks—at the Town Offices gym on Thursday, Oct. 9, and also on Friday, Oct. 10, from 10 to noon and from 4 to 6 pm.

All proceeds will go toward funding programs, activities, and supplies for the West Stockbridge Library.



## HOME MODIFICATION LOAN PROGRAM

Are you or a loved looking for ways to make your home accessible as you age-in-place? Are you a person living with disabilities looking for ways to remain in your home? The Home Modification Loan Program (HMLP) may be for you!

HMLP is a 0% interest, deferred payment loan program that provides modifications for home accessibility improvements that could help you or a loved one live more independently. Possible modifications include bathroom and kitchen modifications, ramps, stair lifts, accessory dwelling units, and more.

For more information, please contact  
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission at  
[HMLP@berkshireplanning.org](mailto:HMLP@berkshireplanning.org).



Friends & Neighbors

Come Celebrate with us!

8:30 Sunday Mass  
followed by  
Coffee Hour

St. Patrick Church  
30 Albany Road  
West Stockbridge





# WEST STOCKBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

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

Hello from West Stockbridge Public Library! We hope you all have a scary-fun October and enjoy Halloween!

## BORROW THE INTERNET FOR YOUR HOME FOR A YEAR

The hotspots are made possible by the Hotspot Distribution Pilot Program through the Digital Equity Connectivity Fund provided by the Massachusetts Broadband Institute and Alliance for Digital Equity in collaboration with the United Way of Franklin Hampshire Region (UW-FH).

## Don't miss out on the chance to join Miss Vicky at this season's last WS Farmer's Market!

On October 2, our very own Miss Vicky will appear at the Farmer's Market Community Table to welcome all listeners for some fun story-reading. Come lend your ears!

## August at a glance:

- 901 hardcopy items borrowed and renewed
- \$17,400 saved by library users because they borrowed instead of buying
- 491 eBooks, eMagazines, and streaming audiobooks borrowed

We look forward to seeing you in the library! Vicky, Rachel, Sarah, Francesca

\*\*\*\*\*

## NEW ADULT FICTION

Adams, *No rest for the wicked*  
Bertino, *Beautyland*  
Brown, *Secret of secrets*  
Dean, *The death of us*  
Deaver, *The grave artist*  
Ebbott, *Among friends*  
Edwards, *The wasp trap*  
Galbraith, *The hallmarked man: a Cormoran Strike novel*  
Jones, *The buffalo hunter hunter*  
Kaufman, *Ruth run*  
MacLean, *These summer storms*  
Michallon, *Our last resort*  
Robb, *Framed in death*  
Schwab, *Bury our bones in the midnight soil*

## NEW ADULT NONFICTION

Baron, *The martians*  
Burrough, *The gunfighters: how Texas made the west wild*  
Francis-Baker, *Microseasons*  
Harp, *Fort Bragg cartel*  
Holt, *The beast in the clouds*  
Levin, *On power*  
Rebanks, *The place of tides*  
Selby, *Hotshot: a life*  
Whitcomb, *Anonymous male: a life among spies*

## NEW CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULT TITLES

DK, *Eyewitness weather*  
Osborne, *Magic tree house fact tracker graphic novel*  
Osborne, *Midnight on the moon graphic novel*  
Smith, *In the wild*

## NEW DVD

*Captain America, Brave New World; Red One; White Lotus*  
(complete third season); *Wolf Hall* (complete series)

**We have free hotspots to lend to West Stockbridge residents.**  
**If you don't have the Internet at your home, please contact us to pick up a hotspot at the library.**  
**The hotspot will connect you to the internet via a free T-Mobile account.**



## Scrapbook Questions/created by

**Paula Farrell**

## TEST YOUR TRIVIA KNOWLEDGE!

1. In the early 1970s, West Stockbridge was lined with deteriorating vacant buildings. What happened?
2. The 2015 West Stockbridge town meeting had a warrant that contained 38 articles with \$4,945,786 in spending attached. What was the budget increase?
3. One of the questions asked the voters to decide if the town should borrow \$1,917,600 for what?
4. What didn't the town have to commit to?

1. During the next decade, private enterprise working with town officials succeeded in creating a downtown renaissance  
2. 2.6%  
3. Its share of the cost to construct and install a high-speed broadband network  
4. WiredWest or a different contractor



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.

West Stockbridge Jazz Series

# THE NATALIA BERNAL QUARTET

Saturday, October 11, 2025  
at 7:00 p.m.

Old Town Hall, 9 Main Street, West Stockbridge



with generous support from West Stockbridge, Richmond, and Alford Egremont Cultural Councils

#### TICKETS:

\$35 Members, \$40 Non-members  
Card for Culture Tickets available

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

Talk and slide show by local author Liza Bennett  
on her new book about the fascinating, lifelong friendship of  
GEORGIA O'KEEFE and ANITA POLLITZER



Friday, October 3, 2025 at 7 p.m.

Old Town Hall, 9 Main Street, West Stockbridge

A reception and book signing will follow the event.

Co-sponsored by the Friends of the West Stockbridge Library



West Stockbridge Historical Society

Please register at [weststockbridgehistory.org](http://weststockbridgehistory.org)

## September History Quiz Question:

It seems that culture wars have been part of the U.S. national psyche since the beginning. Think of the way the Puritans treated Quakers, Catholics, and Native Americans at the start of the Commonwealth. There are always some individuals who insist on imposing their view of proper social behavior on others.

The 1950s through the early 1960s were seen as a quiet social period, with people recovering from the horrors of World War II and the Korean War. Think of *Leave It to Beaver* and *Father Knows Best*. Sit-ins, Freedom Rides, and antiwar protests were still to come, and Perry Como and Lawrence Welk were top-selling entertainers.

But change is inevitable, and even isolated West Stockbridge started to experience some new cultural mores in a small way. One incident showed that change in May 1962. What was it, and how did it reflect the times?

(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) 232-4465.



**West Stockbridge  
Historical Society**  
Incorporated in 1994





# Chaos and Control: Fiber in Art

Oct. 2–26, open Thursday to Sunday, 11 am–4 pm

Special Holiday Hours: Monday, Oct. 13, 11 am–4 pm

Opening Reception: Saturday, Oct. 4, 2–4 pm, meet the artists!

Artist Talk, Sunday, Oct. 12, 2 pm, Dawna Johnson

Chaos & Control: Fiber in Art, October's show at Art on Main Gallery in West Stockbridge, features five diverse artists who use fiber to create art. Hand and machine stitching, felting, and collage are some of the techniques used by Jessilyn Dearborn, Pat Frik, Elsa Karr, Dawna Johnson, and Sarah Morrison.



*Jessilyn Dearborn, Green Heron*

## Jessilyn Dearborn

Jessilyn Dearborn is a mixed-media artist using hand-painted cut paper to build layered images. Her process involves finding colors and textures in nature to paint on paper that will be cut and used in future projects. There is some amount of play in cutting and arranging paper scraps into specific subjects, which means pieces can evolve organically from sketch to finished product. Her favorite subjects include brightly colored feathered or scaly beasts.

## Pat Frik

Pat Frik's small-scale fiber art derives from patterns and textures found in nature. She uses hand stitching to enhance and reinterpret imagery, sometimes in whimsical ways.



*Pat Frik, Fall*



*Dawna Johnson, Diptych*

## Dawna Johnson

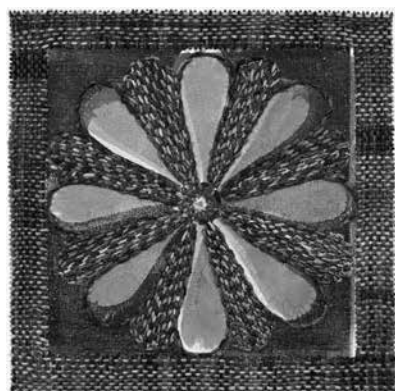
Dawna is a multimedia artist who loves painting, felting, sculpting, stitching, and combining various elements together. She prefers hand stitching over machine stitching. Traditionally most women's work, especially stitching, has largely been invisible. All her stitches are direct and in plain view.

## Elsa Karr

Elsa Karr likes to work in a variety of media. In fiber, she makes art quilts for wall hangings, thread paintings, and collages.

## Sarah Morrison

Sarah Morrison's fiber art is inspired by nature and memories of childhood art making. She enjoys the tactile experience of creating with fiber, especially the process of wet felting.



*Sarah Morrison, Untitled*



*Elsa Karr, Chocolate Front*

# Donations for ZUCCHINI FESTIVAL

## PLATINUM

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Wisecre Farm/Jon Piasecki

## GOLD

Anonymous  
Eugene Dellea  
West Stockbridge Cultural Council

## SILVER

Acqua al 2  
Brian Butterworth  
Gerald Elias & Cecily Patton  
Nancy Howell  
Sharon Kasper  
Kathleen Keresey  
Sandy Klemptner @ Home  
John & Ada Masiero  
Andy Potter  
Bruce & Rhonda Render  
Anne & Joe Roy  
Steve Sautman  
Gary Schieneman & Susan Fisher  
Shaker Mill Books  
Matt & Ella White  
William & Jeannie Zox

## BRONZE

Jill Beasley  
Dan Buehler  
Paula Farrell  
Raquel Levin  
Phyllis & Dina Weiss

## DONATIONS OF GIFT CERTIFICATES/ GOODS

### West Stockbridge

Amici Restaurant  
A.W. Baldwin Hardware  
Charles H. Baldwin & Sons  
Ella May's Ice Cream  
Flourish Market  
Carol Kuller  
Public Market  
Queensboro Wine & Spirits  
Sala Boutique  
Sandy Klemptner@ Home  
Carol Schwartz and Olivia  
Shaker Mill Books  
West Stockbridge Dog Park Committee

### Great Barrington

Barrington Brewery  
Berkshire South Regional Community  
Center

## Big Y

Guido's Fresh Marketplace  
Robin's Candy Shop  
Tom's Toys  
Ward's Nursery and Garden Center

## Stockbridge

Berkshire Botanical Garden  
Once Upon a Table  
Red Lion Inn

## Lenox

The Gifted Child

## Pittsfield

Blue Q: Michael D'Aniello  
Home Depot

## IN-KIND DONATIONS/USE OF PROPERTY

Amici: Property  
Chelsea Bailey, Cale Rathbun, Eva Ward,  
Karlene Kantner, and Chris Powell:  
Specialty tie-dyed T-shirts  
A.W. Baldwin: Property, scale/weigh-off,  
electricity  
C.H. Baldwin: Vanilla extract, prizes,  
property  
Berkshire Bank: Property  
Jen Hallock, Jill Beasley, Marjorie Powell,  
and Jackie Moffatt: Decorating supplies  
Karlene Kantner: Zucchini ceramic "medal"  
workshop  
Billy Kie's West Center Construction: Night  
lighting  
*Local Yoke!*: Advertising/Publicity  
Les Losaw, Chris Powell, Joe Roy Jr., and  
Joe Roy: Use of trucks, forklift, and trailers  
Meadow Farm Equipment: Dumpster  
No. 6 Depot Roastery & Cafe: Property  
Liam O'Gara: Zucchini mural  
Orient Express: Property  
Anne & Joe Roy: Mule and equipment  
Shaker Mill Books: Property  
St. Patrick's Church: Property/Parking  
The Foundry: Property  
Troy's Garage: Golf carts  
TurnPark Art Space: Property/Parking  
David Vartarian: Decorated zucchini,  
cheering squads/Zucchini signage  
West Stockbridge Congregation Church:  
Tables  
West Stockbridge Library: Hotspots  
West Stockbridge Post Office: Property

## ZUCCHINI DONATIONS

Guido's, Great Barrington  
Hilltop Orchard, Richmond  
Old Inn on the Green, New Marlborough  
Price Chopper, Great Barrington, Lenox,  
and Pittsfield  
Public Market, West Stockbridge  
Red Lion Inn, Stockbridge  
Samascott Orchard, Kinderhook, NY  
Stop & Shop, Pittsfield  
Taft Farms, Great Barrington

## MANY THANKS TO THE TOWN OF WEST STOCKBRIDGE

Accountant  
Board of Health  
Cultural Council  
Fire Department  
Highway Department  
Library  
Parks & Rec  
Police Department  
Select Board  
Town Administrator

## A SPECIAL THANKS TO CHRIS POWELL, CO-ORGANIZER

Design/Artwork, print production, creation  
of Zucchini Festival logo, social media/  
Instagram and Facebook pages, online  
store, setup of tablet/Square/hotspots for  
festival, Zucchini website, and so much  
more.

Thanks to all the volunteers who took on  
coordinating a segment of the festival:  
Paint & Build, Pet Parade, Games, Zucchini  
Decorating, Baking Contest, Poetry Corner,  
Duck Races, Parking/Signage, Weigh-Off,  
and Vendor Booth coordinators.

Thanks to all of the creative people of  
the Paint & Build Crew, who contributed  
so much of their time and talents that  
makes this festival so unique and  
special . . . and fun!

THANKS TO ALL THE RESIDENTS AND  
VISITORS WHO PURCHASED ZUCCHINI  
FESTIVAL MERCHANDISE! THE PROCEEDS  
ALSO HELP FUND THE FESTIVAL.

**PLEASE ACCEPT OUR APOLOGIES FOR ANY  
ERRORS OR OMISSIONS.**

To donate or volunteer for next year's Zucchini Festival,  
please contact us at [wszucchinifest@gmail.com](mailto:wszucchinifest@gmail.com).

# Volunteers

Ash Adler  
 Fred Adler  
 David Anderegg  
 Scott Andrew Anderson  
 Samantha Anderson  
 Sandra Antunes  
 Sarita and Lucas Anzalone  
 Matt Barnard  
 Bob Beasley  
 Jill Beasley  
 Anja Beattie  
 Karen Beebe  
 Jeanne Bill  
 Debra Bowen  
 Jerri Buehler  
 Amy Butterworth  
 Melissa Candee  
 David Capeless  
 Matt Cardillo  
 Aki Clark  
 Andy Clark  
 Jennifer Crews  
 Judie Culver  
 Ann Davis  
 Barry Davis  
 Doug Davis  
 Scott DeMaio  
 Maddie Elling and Elgin  
 Julia Erickson  
 Susan Fisher  
 Caitlin Graham  
 Vicki Grayson  
 Jenni Hallock  
 Lauren Hyde

Karlene Kantner  
 Kathleen Keresey  
 John Korte  
 Kathy Korte  
 Peg Korte  
 Betsy Kosheff  
 Andy Krouss  
 Jen Kujawski  
 Pat Kujawski  
 Ron Kujawski  
 Zon Lai  
 Steven Lieberman  
 Les Losaw  
 Allie Luscier and Ruby  
 Nanci McConnell  
 Kate Meyer  
 Earl Moffatt  
 Jackie Moffatt  
 Jackie Murray  
 Octavio Nallin  
 Truc Nguyen  
 Liam O'Gara  
 John Parker  
 Lisa Parker  
 Cecily Patton  
 Jon Piasecki  
 Daniel Pomerantz  
 Andy Potter  
 Chris Powell  
 Marjorie Powell  
 Bob Powell  
 Gary Quadrozzi  
 Maggie Ramos  
 Brad Richer

Maryann Richer  
 Joshua Rodrigues  
 Jason Rosa  
 Lauren Rosa  
 Liam Rosa  
 Alex Roy  
 Anne Roy  
 Joe P. Roy  
 Joe Roy Jr.  
 Mary Roy  
 Zach Roy  
 Scott Sawyer  
 Gary Schieneman  
 Robin Schmitt  
 Carol Schwartz  
 Stu Schwartz  
 Jesse Self  
 Conor Seward  
 Margie Skaggs  
 Alan Thiel  
 Curtis Thierling  
 Melanie Thibeault  
 Chris Tonini and members of Wisdom Lodge  
 AF&AM 31st Masonic District  
 Kathy Valenti  
 Audrey Vandervort  
 David Vartanian  
 Sharon Vidal  
 Chris Vreeland  
 Molly Vreeland  
 Mark Webber  
 Pat Webber  
 Kathy Wilson  
 Sean Wilson



*Scott Wilton*

*Restoration & Conservation  
 Fine Furniture & Interiors*

*Restore & revitalize old finishes  
 Repairs, re-gluing, veneers, replacements  
 varnishes, shellacs, Japan colors*

*P.O. Box 338  
 West Stockbridge, MA 01266 (413) 232-4349*



**Dana Bixby ■ Architecture**  
 danabixby.com 413-232-7834



## History Quiz Answer:

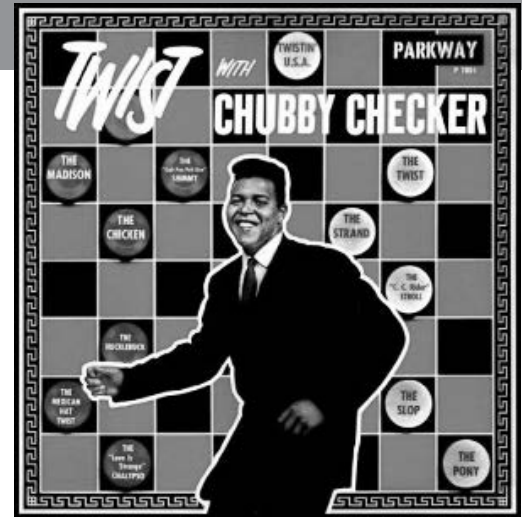
The early 1960s experienced underlying social changes that persisted throughout the next two decades and even later. Demographics were trending younger as the baby boomers reached their teen years. West Stockbridge saw that increase in numbers of young people like the rest of the country. For these teenagers, emphasis was shifting away from parental cultural values and their traditional view of the world. Partly it was reflected in music, dance, movies, and dress.

As part of regular youth activities, the American Legion Auxiliary sponsored "record hops" in the Village School gym. These dances were a new phenomenon. LPs and 45s became available and popular in the late 1950s, along with equipment to play them on, enabling affordable, portable, and loud enough music for dancing. The dancing was energetic, with rhythm and blues, rock 'n roll, and all kinds of new styles, definitely not the crooning music favored by the older generation.

In May 1962, a local minister preached against local record hops and the local decline of moral values and irresponsible secular conduct. He cited a dance in the Village School gym where some preteen children stayed up too late. Plus the parents didn't stay around at the dance to supervise. He claimed in his sermon that the adults in charge were not entirely sober and that these dances reflected a moral decline in the community and a failure of responsibility of the parents in his congregation. Following up on his first homily, the following week his sermon was titled "The Current Absence of Morals in Municipal Life in Massachusetts."

Apparently, West Stockbridge was going downhill. The music played at record hops was likely the popular "Twist" by Chubby Checker and the "Peppermint Twist" by Joey Dee & the Starlites. The play list for dances also included Little Eva's "The Loco-Motion" and "Twist and Shout" by the Isley Brothers. These were clearly signs of moral decline!

West Stockbridge responded in traditional fashion with a large emotionally charged meeting at the church. The consensus was that such preaching was beyond "legitimate ministerial areas," and it was also bad for local business. Our citizens didn't care to be lectured on their moral values. The minister served another year before moving on to a more traditional church in the state, and the dances continued for another year or two.



*Twist with Chubby Checker. Source: Wikipedia*

## Community News & Events

## Stockbridge Grange Dinner

This month's dinner is on October 12. See advertisement on page 12 for details.

## Council on Aging

We will be making Halloween candy boxes, on Tuesday, October 7, at 9:30 am in the Richmond Town Library. Pre-register to reserve your space and materials by calling Heather at Richmond Town Hall, (413) 553-7793.

The class is free to COA residents of Richmond and West Stockbridge.

It's a fun time—hope to see you there!

## 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.

## Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library Committee meets every second Wednesday of the month from 3:30 to 4:30 pm in the Community Room at the Town Offices. All are welcome.

*Please 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).*



**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

**Join a Local Grange**

**We are always looking to  
expand our membership to people  
who are concerned about their  
communities and our nation.**

**Grange members participate  
in events and activities in  
their communities,  
are active in local schools  
and government, and  
help those less fortunate.**

**The Grange meets the  
1st or 3rd Monday at 6:30 PM  
Call to verify the day/date**



*West Stockbridge Grange  
51 Church St.  
Stockbridge, MA 01262*

*Donald McClelland  
413-356-4870*

**Queensboro  
Wine & Spirits**

26 Main Street ~ West Stockbridge

**Carefully curated wines,  
unusual spirits and  
awesome beers**

**Don't see what you're looking for?  
Just ask and we can get it in for you!**

**413-232-8522**



**Monday to Saturday 10am to 9pm  
Sunday Noon to 6pm**

*When you drink, plan ahead and do not drive !!*

Pick up  
a copy  
**FREE**  
AS ALWAYS  
at these locations  
around town:



Berkshire Bank  
Charles H. Baldwin & Sons  
Flourish Market  
Gallery on Main  
Library  
No. Six Depot  
Public Market  
Queensboro  
Town Offices

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

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

## 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 Keresey Andy Krouss</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>Kathy Korte</i>	232-0300	ext. 300	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>Nicole Miller</i>	911 or 232-8500 (non-emergency)		24 hours, 7 days/week
Post Office	<i>Randy Bates</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>Kelli Bradbury</i>	232-0300	ext. 302	Tues. 1-5 pm; Wed. 7 am-12 pm; Thurs. 1-6 pm
Town Historian	<i>Robert Salerno</i>	232-4465		
Town Treasurer	<i>Benjamin Gelb</i>	232-0300	ext. 316	Tues. 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>Tom Beasley</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)





## October Art Calendar

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

2025

**October 2 - 26, "Chaos & Control: Fiber in Art"** featuring 5 artists. Art on Main Gallery, West Stockbridge, MA.  
**Reception:** Saturday October 4, 2-4PM  
**Artist Talk:** w/Dawna Johnson, Sunday October 12, 2pm

**October 26, Berkshire Photo Gathering.**  
 See web: [berkshirephotogathering.com/online-meetings](http://berkshirephotogathering.com/online-meetings)

**Mon-Sat until Oct 10, Plein Air.** Various Berkshire locations. Learn more & sign up: <https://www.berkshireartists.org/pleinair>

**September 30 - December 16, Fall Art show** at the Colonial Theatre.  
 See website for theatre hours.

See [www.berkshireartists.org](http://www.berkshireartists.org) for all the in-person and online events offered by the Guild of Berkshire Artists!



**Reception: October 6, 2-4pm**

**Artist Talk w/Dawna Johnson, October 12, 2pm**



**Chaos & Control**  
*Fiber in Art*

Jessilyn Dearborn | Pat Frik | Dvuna Johnson  
 Elia Karr | Sarah Morrison

October 2 - 26, 2025



38 Main Street, West Stockbridge

# THANK YOU



TO  
**OUR VENDORS,  
 SHOPPERS, SPONSORS  
 AND OUR ENTIRE COMMUNITY**  
**WHO HELP MAKE THIS A THRIVING,  
 WELCOMING SPACE FOR ALL TO COME  
 TOGETHER AND ENJOY**

**SINCERELY,**  
**WEST STOCKBRIDGE  
 FARMERS MARKET**

**TO FIND OUR WONDERFUL VENDORS DURING  
 OUR OFF SEASON + UPDATES FOR 2026 GO TO  
[WWW.WESTSTOCKBRIDGEFARMERSMARKET.ORG](http://WWW.WESTSTOCKBRIDGEFARMERSMARKET.ORG)**

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

thelocalyokel.org



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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	

## September Calendar of Events

10/1	Yom Kippur begins at sunset		
10/1	Knitters Group	2-4 pm	Community Room
10/2	WS Farmers Market: last one of the season	3-6 pm	Foundry Green, Harris Street
10/3	WSHS Georgia & Anita book talk	7 pm	Old Town Hall, 9 Main Street
10/5	Dog Park Grand Opening	12-3 pm	Outside Town Offices
10/6	MMRHS Informational Session	6:30 pm	Town Offices Meeting Room
10/7	Council on Aging Craft Group meeting	9:30 am	Richmond Library History Room
10/8	Knitters Group	2-4 pm	Community Room
10/8	Friends of the Library meeting	3:30 pm	Community Room
10/8	Special Town Caucus for Select Board Position	6 pm	Town Offices
10/11	Library Book Sale	9 am-5 pm	Town Offices Community Room
10/11	WSHS Jazz Series: Natalia Bernal Quartet	7 pm	Old Town Hall, 9 Main Street
10/12	Stockbridge Grange Dinner (See ad page 12)	1 pm	Grange Hall, 51 Church Street, Stockbridge
10/13	Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day		
10/14	Planning Board meeting	7 pm	Town Offices
10/15	*** Deadline for the next <i>Local Yoke!</i> ***		
10/15	Knitters Group	2-4 pm	Community Room
10/15	Select Board meeting	6 pm	Town Offices and on Zoom
10/17	WSHS Nature Series: Slow Wood	7 pm	Old Town Hall, 9 Main Street
10/19	Annual Blessing of the Animals	10 am	West Center Chapel, West Center Road
10/20	Special Town Meeting	6 pm	Town Offices
10/22	Knitters Group	2-4 pm	Community Room
10/26	WS Chamber Players' Harvest Concert	3 pm	Old Town Hall, 9 Main Street
10/27	Select Board meeting	6 pm	Town Offices and on Zoom
10/28	Planning Board meeting	7 pm	Town Offices
10/29	Knitters Group	2-4 pm	Community Room
10/31	Finance Committee Joint Meeting with Select Board	9 am	Town Offices
10/31	Halloween (see details inside)		Downtown and Town Offices Pavilion
Note: Town Offices (including Community Room and Library) are located at 21 State Line Road, West Stockbridge.			