

Local yokel

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

West
Stockbridge

March
2026

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 2004



Looking toward Harvey Mtn. Photo by John Parker

Calling All Pets!

The *Local Yokel* is planning a cover or a color photo spread in the coming months to show off some of our favorite West Stockbridge companion animals.

If you would like your pet to be featured, please email us at info@thelocalyokel.org:

- ⇒ A color photo of your pet
- ⇒ Your pet's name
- ⇒ Your name
- ⇒ Something you'd like to share about your pet for a short caption: 25 words or less, a Word document or in the body of your email



March Art Calendar

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

2026

March 15, Berkshire Photo Gathering.
See web: berkshirephotogathering.com/online-meetings

Upcoming Workshops:

March 2-23, "Explorations in Cold Wax" with Carolyn Abrams at Berkshire South. See Guild website for all details and signup link.

March 26, "Explore Pastels" with Tia Maggio at Berkshire South. See Guild website for all details and signup link.

June 19-21, Plein Air workshop with Chris Morel. West Stockbridge. See Guild website for all details and signup link.

See www.berkshireartists.org for all the in-person and online events offered by the Guild of Berkshire Artists!

Upcoming Workshops



Explorations in Cold Wax
with Carolyn Abrams
March 2-23



Explore Pastels
with Tia Maggio
March 26



Plein Air Workshop
with Chris Morel
June 19-21

WEST STOCKBRIDGE FARMERS MARKET



We are searching for a new **Market Manager** to join our team!

For information & to apply:
WSFarmMarket@gmail.com

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 March 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.virtualtownhall.net/subscriber>].

Select Board Meeting Minutes January 5, 2026

The quorum was present consisting of Select Board members Chair Andrew Krouss, Kathleen Keresev, and Toby Casey, as well as Town Administrator Marie Ryan.

Chair Andy Krouss opened the meeting at 6 PM.

Toby moved, seconded by Andy, to approve the minutes from December 22, 2025. Kathleen abstained.

All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Citizen Speak:

None

Town Administrator Update:

None

Department of Public Works Update – Director of Public Works Curt Wilton and Highway Superintendent Stephen VanTassel

Curt presented the following Report:

DPW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1/05/26

Highway Funding News

Municipal Pavement Program

This program supports small towns that own and maintain state-numbered routes and is 100% funded by Mass DOT. Great Barrington Road (aka Route 41) will be resurfaced in its entirety from the Mass Pike I-90 ramp straight to the Town line in Housatonic. Marie, Stephen, and I will attend a meeting on 2/3/2026 to review all project details.

Bridge Preservation Projects:

Mass DOT has sent a letter to the Town informing us that the Highway Division's Project Review Committee has approved two (2) Bridge Preservation projects in West Stockbridge. The 2 bridges are owned and maintained by Mass DOT: the first is Route 41 (Great Barrington Road) over I-90, and the second is Route 102 (State Line Road) over I-90. Preservation can range from painting to structural repairs/upgrades. I will monitor the project's progress and forward any updates once I receive more information.

Complete Streets (Awarded \$112,611.60)

Project #1: Swamp Road/Main Street Pedestrian and Intersection Improvements

Project #7: Swamp Road/Main Street Geometry Improvements

Project #15: Depot Street municipal parking lot pedestrian improvements

All 3 projects are progressing in a combined effort, and the following tasks have been completed.

Item #1: Compiled Base Plan Preparations (100%)

Item#2: Preliminary Design (100%)

Item #3: Final Design Plans & Details (60%)

Item #4: Technical Specifications and Bid (a.s.a.p)

Item #5: Construction Phase Services (during construction period)

Once the Bids are opened, we can award, and my target is a late-2026 spring start date.

Stephen Van Tassel will address the Board regarding additional Highway Department news.

Town Hall:

Boilers:

Both boilers are running in redundancy, and we are keeping our fingers crossed that the compromised unit does not fail. FY26 appropriated \$65,000 to upgrade the failing unit, but tariffs delayed delivery. The unit is in the area and will be shipped soon. Once here, we can schedule the switch over.

Town Hall Solar Array:

After years (before 9/12/2022) of being out of commission and numerous back-and-forth communications with the owners of the rooftop solar units on the Town Hall roof, we are finally back online. On November 21, 2009, the Town entered a 20-year lease agreement with EOS Project Berkshire Bundle LLC. My estimates show that their products failed after just 12-13 short years, and the parts became obsolete and unavailable for replacement. After years of troubleshooting, the Solar Array was retrofitted with an upgraded inverter and wire harness. I mention this today because, in just a few years (2028), the lease will be up, and any future agreements should consider this.

Fire Protection Sprinkler System:

The sprinkler system here at Town Hall has been completed, and all the deficiencies have been corrected. The system is operating at 100%, but some cosmetic access panels still need to be addressed by the contractor.

Highway Superintendent then presented the following report:

Highway Department – Winter Operations Report Overview

The Highway Department has had a very active winter season so far.

- High volume of small to mid-sized storms
- Most storms have been in the 1–3 inch range, keeping us

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Meet the Candidates Forum



Back by popular demand, the *Local Yokel* is hosting an informational Meet the Candidates Forum on **Thursday, April 9, at 7 pm**. The event will allow candidates for open elected positions in town government to introduce themselves to voters, explain the duties of the office for which they're running, and answer questions from the public. Participants will have five minutes for an opening statement and five minutes of question time.

The event will be held at the Town Offices on State Line Road and also be available online through Zoom. Representatives of the press will be informed of the event and permitted to question candidates afterward.

John Parker, Managing Editor of the *Local Yokel*, will moderate. Refreshments will be served.

If you're considering running for office, please inform Town Moderator Joe Roy Jr. at joeroyjr@gmail.com. He will provide potential candidates with more information about the forum to help everyone prepare.

The last date to submit nomination papers at the Town Offices is March 23 at 5 pm.
The list of open positions is on the town website. Town elections are on Monday, May 11.

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- Lawn & Field Mowing
- Fall & Spring Cleanups
- Building & Maintaining Gardens
- Firewood

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busy around the clock right through the holidays. Thankfully, Christmas Day gave us a chance to catch our breath.

- The crew and I took a trip over to Stockbridge DPW with two trucks to be calibrated so we can better improve public safety, reduce wasted salt, save taxpayer money, and protect the environment.
- An upcoming hydraulic license refresher is scheduled for the end of the month to keep the crew and me up to date on proper procedures, requirements, and safety guidelines.

Staffing & Overtime

Due to the volume of winter weather events, the department has accrued more than **70 hours of overtime** so far this season. The repeated short-duration storms have required multiple call-ins and extended shifts, which has kept the crew very busy.

Operations & Equipment

Overall, operations have been running smoothly.

- No major equipment or vehicle breakdowns.
- Regular maintenance and inspections of equipment/trucks are helping to keep everything in good working order.
- Additional salt has been ordered, and the sand and stone stockpiles have been replenished as required to maintain adequate supply.

Superintendent's Statement

As Highway Superintendent, I feel that I am adjusting well to how the Highway Department, acclimating on how the Department operates, learning the roads, plow routes. I have no complaints and truly enjoy working with the crew, the town employees, and the residents of West Stockbridge. The cooperation, communication, and shared commitment to keeping the roads safe has made this a positive and productive winter season.

Fire Department Update – Fire Chief Vinny Garofoli

Fire Chief Garofoli stated that it has now been a full year of holding the Chief position in West Stockbridge, and it has been a good year. The Department has responded to 215 calls, of which approximately half were medical calls. He believes the Department's morale has improved now that they have their own tones back for calls. The department has been training with the Stockbridge Fire Department, which has been a valuable team-building experience for both departments. He has promoted Jim Hallock to Captain

and has additional support of Larry Morse as Assistant Fire Chief. He stated that he will provide an article on Fire Safety to the Local Yoke! next month and is always open to public suggestions. He also asked that anyone interested in becoming a member of the Department in any capacity please reach out to him at any time. He has only received positive feedback from the public and hopes to continue that trend. The Fire Department's budget for this year is in good shape, and all equipment has been repaired and upgraded as necessary. Overall, Chief Garofoli said the Department is in excellent shape.

Police Department Update – Chief Nicole Miller

Chief Miller informed the Board that the old Ford Explorer has been sold for \$2,250, so we no longer have that vehicle.

Chief Miller stated that she has been meeting with her officers to complete some improvements to the department's infrastructure. She prepared and presented the Board with the following presentation and reviewed it with them.

Police Department Updates

What The Updates are:

Paint, new carpeting, Sgt's room moving to the kitchen area, Kitchen cabinets removed, cubicles for officers doing reports, and Chief's office moved.

What We Need:

Secure Booking Area, Officer Changing Space, Secure Storage, and Space for reports and records.

Request Approval:

Meeting with Select Board, Approval from Departments and Building Permits.

Next Steps:

Schedule updates could take as little as 1 week.

What the Remodel Will Address:

Officer Safety

- Secure holding area for prisoners
- Suitable station to boost Officer effectiveness
- Officers will have an area to keep track of their own records.
- Technology safeguards
- Surveillance cameras.

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Friday, March 13 at 7pm

**Scott Muir, EMT
will talk about**

**Safety and Health and what to do
while waiting for an ambulance.**

Stockbridge Grange Hall, 51 Church St., Stockbridge

Sponsored by the West Stockbridge Grange

Open to the public ~ Lite refreshments will be served

For information call (413) 464-4277

**Stockbridge Grange Dinner
Sunday, March 8**

Corned beef and cabbage, lemon and chocolate pies

Take out only/pick up - 12-1:30pm - Cost \$17

Grange Hall, 51 Church Street, Stockbridge

**To place an order please call:
(413) 243-1298**

Call if the weather is iffy to see if the dinner will be moved to the following Sunday, March 15

West Stockbridge Village Congregational Church

ST. PATRICK'S DAY MAKE n' TAKE DINNER

March 17th . 4-6pm

\$20 per plate.

Call (413)454-0054 to reserve your meals by
March 13th.

Cash, check, and Venmo only.

WHAT IS A MAKE n' TAKE DINNER?

You come inside and **make** up your to-go container with your preferred servings of the following: corned beef, wedge of cabbage, oven roasted potatoes & carrots, and an Irish soda muffin. Choice of mustard or horseradish sauce on the side.

Then you **take** it home to enjoy!

Did You Know?

If you are unable to attend a Select Board meeting or would like to view recordings of past meetings, you can access a video of the meeting. Visit the home page of the West Stockbridge town website (<https://www.weststockbridge-ma.gov/>). Under the Citizens Action Center heading, you'll see a list of links. In the column on the right, click on the next to the last item: "Select Board Meeting Recordings."



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3-5 CENTER STREET, WEST STOCKBRIDGE

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- Separate zones for evidence, weapon storage, and the need for higher security areas.

Operations Limitations:

- Disorganization
- Carpeting needs to be replaced.
- Equipment storage.

Public Assess/Service Improvement:

- Trust & Transparency\
- Welcome Lobby\
- Officers able to sit with someone to take report in private
- Able to provide quick and relevant info-again, privately.
- Social distancing for turning in LTC applications.

Why Adequate Facilities Matter:

- Secure area for evidence, records, and equipment.
- Safe workspace for officers and the public.
- Compliance with legal and safety requirements.
- Efficient operations and reduced liability to the Town.
- Supports recruitment, retention, and professionalism.

Chief Miller explained that she believed she had gone through the proper channels to complete this work. She met several times with the Building Superintendent Frank Alfonso, the Town Administrator Marie Ryan, and discussed the available funds with the Town Accountant Elaine Markham. She also got a building permit from the Building Inspector as needed. Chief Miller stated that Elaine informed her that she could encumber FY25 funds to carry over into FY26 to cover the necessary updates. She also said that she has additional funds allocated in her Equipment budget and other charges & expenses to cover the difference in the cost of the updates. The Board had concerns about whether funds carried over to pay for the improvements were legal, given that they were voted for another use at Town Meeting. Nicole will meet again with Elaine and return to the Board with additional information. The Board said they would like more communication and information as the projects move forward. The Board agreed that the changes were needed, but would like to see plans that consider using the building as a whole rather than for a single department. Moving forward, they would also like greater input and involvement from the Public Works Director, Curt Wilton, and the Building Superintendent, Frank Alfonso. Kathleen said she appreciated the Chief's

efforts to make improvements; however, they need to move more slowly to ensure everyone who needs to be involved is.

Discussion and Review of Consultant's Report

Kathleen explained that the Assessment of Town Governance Report is considered a living document in draft form. She stated that the Board will discuss the next steps. Things to consider include how to move forward; whether the Board should appoint a committee to review the report's recommendations; whether any updates should be brought before the Town meeting, such as creating a Town Charter; or whether each Board member should work on a particular section of the report. The Board will need to determine how to proceed.

Toby believes the Board could accomplish several smaller tasks related to organizational structure. He would prefer to focus on those issues rather than on creating the Town Charter at this time. One item of interest that could be a simple, relatively quick project is setting up a digital program to track time off and payroll for all employees. He has already discussed this with the Treasurer and is awaiting a response from the payroll service regarding the services they provide for this type of program.

The Board decided to review the document in greater detail independently and provide comments on each section of the report. They will add a discussion to their next agenda and begin reviewing and discussing how to proceed and which items to focus on.

Select Board Speak:

Kathleen mentioned the passing of a longtime resident, Lori Rose. She was very active in the Town for many years. She was well respected and will be missed by many.

Andy also stated that Lori was a good, kind, and friendly person and will definitely be missed by all.

Kathleen motioned to adjourn, seconded by Toby, at 7:22 PM.

All approved, and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Y. Ryan

Marie Y. Ryan
Town Administrator

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**Select Board Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2026**

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

Chair Andy Krouss opened the meeting at 6 PM.

Kathleen moved, seconded by Toby, to approve the minutes from January 8, 2026, and hold on approving the January 5, 2026, minutes until the next meeting.

All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Citizen Speak:

Joe Roy, a Vision Committee member, gave the Board an update on the Candidate Forum they plan to hold in April. The Committee has formed an Ad Hoc Committee to work on this. They plan to hold this forum on Thursday, April 9th, in the evening in the Meeting Room. Joe stated they plan to hold this as a hybrid meeting and have asked Marie to run the Zoom portion. They are not completely sure of the process at this time, but the Forum will not be political; it will be about what the candidates hope to do if elected to help the Town. As the date gets closer, Joe will return to the Board with additional information.

Colin Mathews, resident, expressed his support for the work proposed to the Police Station. He mentioned he attended the last regular Select Board meeting and was encouraged by the plans for the Police Station laid out by the Police Chief at that time. He urged the Board to support this modest, well-thought-out upgrade for the Officers.

Town Administrator Update:

Marie informed the Board that the website platform will no longer be supported and that she has been meeting with Civic Plus to upgrade the website. She will have an updated contract for the Board to review and sign at the next meeting. Once signed, the timeline will take 10-15 weeks to roll out the new website with no interruptions during the upgrade.

Marie mentioned that she has included a notice alerting residents to a phone scam currently targeting them, in which the caller claims to be from the Sheriff's Department and seeks money residents supposedly owe. She encouraged everyone to be alert and not to give anyone money over the phone.

Marie requested that the Board approve the Friends of the Library to host a BINGO night on February 21st in the community Room. This is not a fundraiser, just a community gathering. The

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March History Quiz Question:

During the period of unrest before the American Revolution, one strength of the colonies was their ability to communicate with each other. Although the British viewed them as operating independently, the postal system enabled the colonies to act together. A formal postal system was created by the Continental Congress in 1775 with Benjamin Franklin as the first postmaster. After independence, the postal system became an important way to bring the colonies together into a United States. West Stockbridge became connected to the rest of the world.

Our first official West Stockbridge Post Office opened in 1804 in the Village Center. Through the 1800s, three others were added, in West Center, Rockdale, and State Line. The first two were closed during the late 1800s; the State Line office lasted until 1972.

Unlike the others, the Village Center post office has a unique history. What made it such an interesting institution? Also, why do we have a single lonely post office box on Main Street, only a few hundred feet from the current post office?

(Find the answer somewhere in this issue!)

When friends, neighbors, or relatives move, downsize, or just clean house, *please* ask them to think of the West Stockbridge Historical Society before they discard any old books, pictures, postcards, letters, or memorabilia of the Town of West Stockbridge. Email info@weststockbridgehistory.org or call (413) 232-4465.



**West Stockbridge
Historical Society**
Incorporated in 1994

**BRIDGE
OPEN**

**The Baker Street bridge
is now open to traffic!**

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Friends will be supplying gift cards as prizes and will not charge to participate. The Board agreed this was a good idea and approved the event.

Marie explained that the Board will need to appoint a new Emergency Management Director. She has spoken with the Town's Deputy Fire Chief Scott Muir, who is currently also the Emergency Management Director in Stockbridge, and he has agreed to fill that position in West Stockbridge. Marie will request this as an agenda item at the next meeting.

FY26 Community Development Block Grant (CBDG) – Brett Roberts, Berkshire Regional Planning

Brett Roberts, a member of the Berkshire Regional Planning Staff, presented the Board with a request to assist the Town in applying for a Housing and Transportation grant. He explained that BRPC supports Berkshire County Towns in applying for grants that could help their communities. The fee the Town pays to BRPC covers BRPC's costs for all work on the application, as well as for administering the grant and guiding the community on how to use the money if awarded. They review all available grants and determine which towns would be the best fit for each grant. They currently have a grant that they feel would be a great fit for West Stockbridge. The grant is provided to communities with a high percentage of low- to moderate-income residents and would total \$950,000. The grant has two components.

One component of the grant concerns transportation. Nate Cole, Great Barrington Tri-Town Connector Director, explained that this grant could help purchase an additional vehicle, which could be

housed in a designated space for West Stockbridge residents. He stated that currently, the ridership from West Stockbridge historically requests rides last-minute, usually the night before, or on the same day, and many times, the drivers are already booked. The additional vehicle earmarked for West Stockbridge would increase availability for West Stockbridge riders.

Brett stated that the second component of this grant would support feasibility studies for possible housing sites in the Town. One study would involve an environmental assessment of different parcels in Town to determine whether they are suitable for housing, and the second study would assess whether the location meets all the additional requirements, such as zoning, to locate housing on that property. Once these studies are completed, the Town will be in a good position for BRPC to assist with applying for funds to purchase the properties and to begin issuing Requests for Proposals to attract housing developers.

This process requires no money from the Town. BRPC will write the grant application and provide all the administrative duties associated with the grant. Should the Town decide to apply for the grant, BRPC will have the Board sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to allow BRPC to apply for the grant on its behalf. If the Town is awarded the grant, BRPC will meet with the Select Board to create a budget. The Board will need to hold a Public Hearing to get the residents' input. The Board could approve a committee, such as the Affordable Housing Trust, to work with BRPC on how best to utilize the funds.

Brett said the grant application is due on April 1st, and the Town must hold the public hearing no later than 14 days prior to that date.

The Board agreed that they would like to see additional information and have some time to review it. They asked Brett to return for additional discussion before signing the MOU at their next meeting. Brett agreed to come back to the Board's February 2nd meeting with additional information

Appointment of New Library Trustee – Molly Meador, Chair
Library Trustee Chair, Molly Meador requested that the Board appoint Peg Korte as a Library Trustee until the next Annual Town election in May. Molly explained that Peg is a frequent, avid patron of the Library and would be a good addition to the Trustees.

Kathleen made a motion, seconded by Toby, to appoint Peg Korte as a Library Trustee to fill the vacancy until the Annual Town election in May.

All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Parks & Recreation Request for Open Gym Use – Lauren Hyde, Parks Member

Parks Commissioner member Lauren Hyde requested that the Board approve use of the gym for an Open Gym. The Parks Commissioners have been discussing the use of the Town's current facilities. They would like to hold an Open Gym for residents to use. She said one of the Commissioners would be in attendance and clean up after. The Commissioners have been discussing this with Marie, who suggested the best night for an Open Gym would

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Winter Parking Ban



The West Stockbridge Winter Parking Ban will be in effect from NOVEMBER 15 to APRIL 1, between 11 pm and 7 am for all town roads.

Violation of the ban may result in a \$25 fine for parking in a prohibited area, as well as a \$50 fine for impeding snow removal. The vehicle may also be towed at the owner's expense for impeding snow removal.

Municipal parking is located on Hotel Street and on Center Street. Snow removal in these areas will be between 7 am and 8 am.

❁ Thank you for your cooperation! ❁

West Stockbridge Police Department (413) 232-8500

Cultural Council Announces Grants for 2026

The West Stockbridge Cultural Council recently completed its granting process for FY 2026. For this cycle we received 34 applications and provided funds for 13. All of these met our top criteria for funding: supporting local programs that appeal to our diverse West Stockbridge constituency and some free benefits. The grants include school and library programs, local music events, theater, arts, nature, and literary programs.

These organizations are receiving funding for 2026:

- Arts in Recovery for Youth (AIRY)
- Berkshire Jazz, Inc.: Jazz in the Schools Workshops
- David Anderegg: Freiheit-Musik (Freedom Music)
- Flying Cloud Institute, Inc.: S*M*Art Lab for Muddy Brook & Girls Science Club for DuBois
- Guthrie Center Corp.: Check It Out (Borrowing musical instruments)
- Scott David Anderson: Berkshire Nature Talk Series
- Shakespeare & Company, Inc.: 2026 Fall Festival of Shakespeare
- The W.E.B. Du Bois Center for Freedom and Democracy Inc.: Learning with W.E.B. Du Bois: Exploring Black History and Local Heritage in the Berkshires
- West Stockbridge Farmers Market Company: Music
- West Stockbridge Historical Society, Inc.: West Stockbridge Chamber Players Winter Concert
- West Stockbridge Historical Society, Inc.: WSHS Jazz Program
- West Stockbridge Public Library: Book distribution to Muddy Brook School
- West Stockbridge Public Library: Library passes to local cultural venues


Current members of the Cultural Council are Chair Marjorie Powell, Jill Beasley, Julia Erickson, Jackie Moffatt, Miki Reuchlin, Scott Sawyer, and Curtis Thierling. We always welcome comments and suggestions from our West Stockbridge neighbors.

For more information about the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the local grants process, visit www.massculturalcouncil.org and click on Grant Programs and then click on Local Cultural Council.

Girdler Electric
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Barry Girdler
owner

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be on Sunday night, and that everyone would be required to have a signed liability waiver prior to using the gym. Marie and Lauren decided the Parks Commissioners would try an Open Gym and see how it works before making it a regular event.

The thought this was a great idea.

Kathleen made a motion, seconded by Toby, to approve the Parks Commissioners to hold a trial for an Open Gym.

All were in favor, and the motion was approved.

Police Station Update – DPW Director Curt Wilton

Curt explained that, due to the current situation at the Police Station, where the carpeting and asbestos tiles were removed, the Town has some financial responsibilities. The Station is currently completely safe, and all asbestos has been remediated. Toby requested that Kathleen inform the Board of the content of her discussion with the Town Accountant, Elaine, last week, prior to the Board making any decisions. Kathleen explained that after the meeting with Elaine, it was determined that the unspent funds from FY25 were carried over for a specific use in FY26, and this was a legal process and allowable for the Accountant to do. The amount currently available for the Police Station is \$ 32,344.71. Kathleen suggested that even though it is legal for Elaine to do this, she feels that, for small amounts, she would be comfortable letting Elaine determine to carry over; however, the Board, in the future, may want to discuss having a limit where Elaine would have to discuss with the Board for approval.

Curt explained to the Board that the Town is responsible for several invoices. These invoices all include completed work or services rendered. He would like the Board to approve payment for the following invoices:

ABIDE (Asbestos testing)	\$200
ABIDE (Asbestos removal & cleaning)	\$12,940
Gleb Jerebtsov (Contractor – door jam)	\$1,140
BBE (Office copy room)	\$11,047
TOTAL	\$25,327

He stated that in addition to these bills, the Town also owes for the dumpster still on site and for the POD, which contains some of the furniture from the Police Station. He does not have the invoices for these items yet, but will receive them as soon as possible. Curt will have the dumpster and the POD removed as soon as possible.

Curt suggests that the Town also have new flooring installed as soon as possible so the Police can return to the station. Frank, the Building Superintendent, is currently painting the walls before the flooring is installed. The flooring would cost an additional \$7,940.15. This would bring the total budget needed to be over budget. He discussed the matter with Acting Chief Mike Renton, who believes there may be funds available to cover the difference in their current budget.

As for the office furniture required for the Police Station, Curt said that BBE has the special order that Chief Miller made. BBE understands the current situation and is willing to work with the Town. Once the Police return to their Station, Curt and Mike will try to gather what we have available in the building and then determine what additional furniture may be needed.

Toby suggested that he is comfortable allowing Curt to pay for the invoices totaling \$27,327, the dumpster, the POD, and the flooring using the carryover funds and any additional funds available from the FY26 budget. He asked that Curt and Mike keep the Board updated on any future purchases that may be required. They agreed.

Kathleen thanked the curt and Mike for stepping up. The Board agreed to allow Curt and Mike move forward with paying the invoices, getting the flooring installed, and the dumpster and POD removed.

Rent Control Board Bylaw – Kathleen

Kathleen explained to the Board that the Rent Control Board by-law was created in 2013 by a special act. Even though there may be no meetings for years, when there is a need, they can be extremely demanding and time-consuming. The bylaw states that the Board is composed of the Select Board members, and this past year, the Rent Control Board has been extremely busy. She feels that the Board is not qualified, nor does it have the time to put in what is required. Kathleen expressed concern that the Board has had to rely on Town Counsel to guide them through the entire process, which can be extremely expensive. The reason she has brought up this subject is to ask the Board to discuss possibly changing the bylaw to create a Rent Control Board composed of specific individuals, such as an attorney and someone with housing experience.

Toby suggested that the Select Board could still comprise the Rent Control Board, with additional members. He stated that he feels part of the elected Select Board’s duty is to adhere to the bylaw and serve as the Rent Control Board. At the same time, he feels there could be slight amendments to the bylaw to include additional experienced residents to assist. Kathleen agreed that this is also a possibility. The Board will discuss further at a later date. The Board also discussed the possibility of having volunteers on the Rent Control Board, but quickly realized it might be difficult to get people involved.

Town Governance Consultant Report – Kathleen

Kathleen stated that she has not had time to fully review the report to date. However, she did have a few specific items of interest to work on. The two items she would like to focus on are overall staffing at Town Hall and the lack of staffing to apply for more grant opportunities. She feels the Board could consider hiring a consultant to assist with grant applications. Kathleen would like the Board to discuss this in a future meeting.

Toby was not able to fully prepare for this discussion either. He stated that he has been working with the Accountant and the Treasurer, involving a program added to the payroll system to track time off. Toby believes that many of the lower items in the report can be accomplished with little effort.

Kathleen motioned to adjourn, seconded by Toby, at 7:30 PM.

All approved, and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Y. Ryan

Marie Y. Ryan
Town Administrator

...continued on page 13

Library | 1. A forum for new ideas. 2. An escape to other worlds 3. A connection to different people 4. A place of learning and growth



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Hello to all from your neighborhood library: West Stockbridge PL. We are very much looking forward to the first day of spring!

The Kids Craft Crew is going strong: Come join us on **March 9** when the talented Tess will be leading the group in creating some spring flowers at **4:30 pm in the Town Offices Community Room.**

January at a glance:

- 600 hardcopy items were borrowed and renewed;
- \$9,700 was saved by library users because they borrowed instead of buying;
- 569 eBooks, eMagazines, and streaming audiobooks borrowed

We look forward to seeing you @ the library! Vicky, Rachel, Brad, and Francesca

NEW ADULT FICTION

- Burke, *Hadacol Boogie*
- Elston, *Anatomy of an alibi*
- Goodman, *This is not about us*
- Hakes, *Pohaku*
- Hurwitz, *Antihero*
- Kellerman *Jigsaw*
- McConigley, *How to commit a postcolonial murder*
- Navarro, *Eating ashes*
- Reynolds, *Shape of dreams*
- Saunders, *Vigil*
- Shapiro, *Where we keep the light*
- Steel, *Devil's daughter*
- Tallent, *Crux*

NEW ADULT NONFICTION

- Chiasson, *Bernie for Burlington*
- Garcia, *Intimate animal*
- Kimball, *Milk Street cookbook*
- Mann, *Black dahlia*
- Murphy, *Why we click*
- Schweizer, *Invisible coup*
- Thompson, *Fear and fury*
- Vartkessian, *Deserving*

NEW CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULT TITLES

- Florence, *The one about the blackbird*
- Mirtalipova, *Vanishing sea*
- Nelson, *Basket ball: the story of the all-American game*
- Shaloshvili, *What a small cat needs*

NEW DVDs

- One Battle After Another*



Scrapbook Questions/created by

Paula Farrell

TEST YOUR TRIVIA KNOWLEDGE!

1. Union Chapel at State Line was built in 1901. What was its purpose?
2. What famous person visited and spoke at the chapel?
3. The chapel wasn't used much in the 1930s. Why?
4. The State Line Chapel sat empty for several decades. What happened to it?

1. Congregational Church "outpost" for many years
 2. Calvin Coolidge
 3. Most locals owned automobiles and could easily travel to the downtown Congregation Church.
 4. It was moved to the Flat Brook section of Canaan, New York. It is now a private home on Miller Road.



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.

...continued from page 11

**Select Board Meeting Minutes
February 2, 2026**

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

Chair Andy Krouss opened the meeting at 6 PM.

Kathleen moved, seconded by Toby, to approve the minutes from January 5 and January 20, 2026.

All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Citizen Speak:

David Anderegg suggested that the Board consider urging all Town Board and Committee members to make their email addresses available on the website. He said that if someone wants to contact a member, it is difficult because all emails go through the Chairs.

Town Administrator Update:

Marie informed the Board that the Police Department Station painting has been completed, and the floor has been installed. The Police have returned to their station today. The Town offices provided a few desks for their use, so they do not need to purchase any additional desks at this time. She urged the Board to stop and see how nice the space is.

She asked the Board whether they were amenable to rescheduling their next meeting from Tuesday, February 17, to Wednesday, February 8th. The Board agreed.

Marie updated the Board on the progress of the MVP grant Safety Building Feasibility Study. She said the group has met with the Police Chief, Fire Chief, and Department of Public Works Director to determine their space needs for the new building. They have compiled this information and will, in the near future, consolidate it into a single building and present a draft to the Board. Focus Groups will be meeting in late February and mid-March for input as well.

Emergency Management Director: Marie

Marie explained to the Board that with the Police Chief on leave, the Town does not have an active Emergency Management Director. She requested that the Board appoint Fire Deputy Scott Muir as the interim Emergency Management Director. She stated that MEMA and FEMA need to designate a point of contact for the Town in an emergency, and that Scott currently serves as the Stockbridge Emergency Management Director and has offered to do the same for West Stockbridge.

Kathleen motioned to appoint Scott Muir as the Interim Emergency Management Director, and Toby seconded the motion.

All were in favor; the motion passed. The Board thanked Scott for helping out the Town.

FY26 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application- BRPC Brett Roberts

Brett provided the Board with an update to the grant application. He stated that the original funding request for a feasibility study on housing locations would not be supported by the grant he had presented to the Board. However, he learned he could apply for housing rehabilitation funding for West Stockbridge. This funding would provide up to \$620,000 to assist low- to middle-income residents in applying for up to \$63,000 per household for home rehabilitation, such as new windows or a roof. He mentioned that countywide,

there is also funding available for seniors to rehabilitate their homes, which could work in conjunction with this grant if the homeowner qualifies for both. Toby asked what happens if the funding is not all used. Brett confirmed that all funds awarded to the Town would be available to Town residents, and that a grant extension would be used if not all funds are applied for. Brett also mentioned that once a resident qualifies and receives funding, they must keep the house or sell it only to a family member for 15 years after the work is completed, after which the loan is forgiven. If a resident sells their house before the fifteen-year term, the Town would receive the sale proceeds and could apply them toward another resident's home.

Tate Coleman, Tri-Connector Director, noted that the grant includes a transportation component that would benefit low- to middle-income families. This has two parts to it. One part is a prepayment of fees for eligible riders. The second part would be to allocate funds to hire a dedicated driver for West Stockbridge residents. This would allow more open appointments for a driver specific to West Stockbridge residents. Currently, the Tri-Town connector prioritizes seniors and people with disabilities. This additional driver would be designed to help fill open provide potential additional service for residents in the workforce, not just seniors and people with disabilities.

Kathleen made a motion to approve the contract for Berkshire Regional Planning Commission to submit a grant application for the housing and transportation on behalf of the Town of West Stockbridge, seconded by Toby.

All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Tech Environmental Report on Site Visit to Wiseacre Farm:

Andy stated the Board would skip this agenda item.

Website Upgrade Contract: Marie

Marie explained that the current website format is outdated and will no longer be supported by Civic Plus. She stated the Town is also required by the State to have an ADA-compliant website. The website upgrade would include an ADA-compliant component and cost the Town an additional \$ 1,000 per year. She requested that the Board vote to approve and sign the contract so they can begin the upgrade process. The upgrade will take approximately 10-15 weeks.

Toby stated that most Towns use this company and are familiar with municipalities. He would agree to continue with Civic Plus for now; however, he would like to explore alternatives over the next few years.

Kathleen moved, seconded by Toby, to approve the contract with Civic Plus to upgrade the website.

All were in favor, and the motion was approved.

Select Board Speak:

Andy stated that he recently attended a BRTA Board meeting and emphasized a driver shortage and a significant decrease in ridership. He said the BRTA is considering cutting some of its routes. He will continue to update the Board as developments progress to assess how they will affect West Stockbridge.

Andy motioned to adjourn, seconded by Kathleen, at 6:30 PM.

All approved, and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Y. Ryan

Marie Y. Ryan
Town Administrator



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

News from the Pews

St. Patrick's Church

News flash! The famous Chicken, Sausage, & Polenta Dinner held on Sunday, February 15, was again a tremendous success. Many thanks to all those who helped make it so. From sponsors to work crews, it could not be done without you.

Hopefully, everyone enjoyed their long weekend of Valentine's Day, the polenta dinner, and Presidents' Day, because once again we have put "Ordinary Time" on hold and have entered the season of Lent. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 18, we began 40 days of self-reflection and renewal, leading up to Easter Sunday.

There was a communion and distribution of ashes service led by Deacon John Zick on Ash Wednesday. The Stations of the

Cross are being held every Friday at noon, again led by Deacon Zick. This is a relatively short service to help keep us mindful of the season; all are welcome. This year Holy Week begins on March 29 with Palm Sunday and culminates on Easter Sunday, April 5. There will be a number of services beginning with the Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Saturday. You can check the Triparish Community website (avptriparish.org) for locations and times.

Remember, although it's not a Holy Day per se, March 17 is of course St. Patrick's Day. It is in the middle of Lent, but then again, he is the patron saint of our parish, and we hope you will honor him in a celebratory but sensible manner! Until next time,

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
May the rain fall soft upon your fields,
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

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The More Things Change

By Gerald Elias

This year we celebrate the 250th birthday of the founding of our nation. There's also another birthday: It has been 50 years since we purchased our funky cottage in the West Stockbridge woods during the 1976 Bicentennial. Think about it: We've owned that house for exactly 20% of our country's history. Does that make me feel old? You bet it does.

Even older is the house itself. We have it on pretty good authority that a house has been on the site where our current one now stands since at least 1810, so it's conceivable that one could have been there on July 4, 1776.

The stone foundation and wooden cellar beams that still help hold up our house go way back, and when the house was rebuilt by the Upright family, who lived in it for the greater part of the 20th century, they used wood from the previous structure. Those were the days before building codes and most everything was do-it-yourself, so there's nary a right angle to be had, and the stairs going up to the second floor have—count 'em—11½ steps.

We're surrounded by eight acres of regrown woods, though in the 1800s and well into the 20th century the forest had been cleared for grazing and what little farming could be scraped out of the rocky soil. Our understanding is that the Uprights raised sheep and grew potatoes. We still grow potatoes, so one out of two isn't so bad.

Those who have navigated our 250-yard driveway know that it can be a nailbiter when things get icy. But if you look carefully into the woods, somewhat parallel to the driveway, there appears to be what might have been a main road, long before Route 41. Now grown over with bushes and trees, there nevertheless is a flat, relatively straight surface with parallel sides that continues past our house and on down toward the Williams River. It might have been how material was sent back and forth from the mills on the river to wherever it was going.

Along our driveway, you can see the remains of stone walls that once supported mills—perhaps fulling mills. There are also chunks of slag, the by-product of smelting ore, strewn on the ground nearby.

When we bought the house in 1976, it had a bathroom. That doesn't sound particularly revolutionary, but in the good old days they used an outhouse—a deluxe two-seater!—which was still standing when we moved in. Oh, those bitterly cold winter nights when our pre-plumbing Berkshire forebears had to wait in line. *Brrr!*

It was cold enough *inside* our house in winter. The single-glazed windows were ancient, with cracks in many of the six small panes that comprised each window. Some of the windows were stuck shut; others had us wishing that they could be closed all the way. On some nights, it got so cold that ice formed on the inside of the windows.

A woodstove that theoretically was a complementary energy source to our clanging baseboard heaters had been installed a couple of years before we bought the house. "Theoretically" is the operative word here. It was more of an artwork than a stove, unless its main function was intended to blow smoke into the living room. Fast forward one year: We replaced it with a Vermont Castings "Vigilant" woodstove that keeps us nice and cozy to this day.

We had no need for the outhouse, either, and though it was a quaint curiosity we tore it down and built a toolshed in its stead. There was also a barn on the property that wasn't in nearly as good shape. Picturesque but flimsy, it had managed to remain erect, although it had no real internal structure; eventually it fell down of its own accord and a little assist from Mother Nature.

It's amazing how far technology has come in the past 50 years. Of course there was no internet in '76. To get an up-to-date weather forecast, for example, you could call Great Barrington Savings Bank. Their recorded announcement would state enthusiastically: "Barrington Savings. Great!" and proceed with the weather, which, like most forecasts in those pre-satellite days, was as likely to be wrong as right.

To listen to music, one had a radio or a record player. We didn't have a TV for many years, but finally got one because the trees around us had grown so tall that we were losing radio reception. Then, when tube televisions became obsolete, we got a flat screen. Then you had to buy a cable package to watch anything other than network stations. We've done a lot of reading.

Like most everyone, we had one phone, tethered to our kitchen wall, courtesy of Ma Bell. To call someone locally, you only had to dial five numbers: 4-xxxx. If you were lucky, there was no one else already on the party line when you made the call, because they were just as able to listen in on your conversation as the person you had called. Long distance calls, you might recall, required an operator, who you would inform if you were calling collect. She (all the operators were female) would then call the party you wanted to talk to and ask whether they would accept the charges. Making an international phone call was exponentially more complicated and expensive. I guess that's why we wrote so many letters in those days.

One could go on and on about how things have changed, but one thing seems clear: the pace of change seems to be accelerating. In the past few years we've installed solar panels, high-efficiency heat pumps, and a backup battery. Who knows what technological wonders there'll be by the time we celebrate America's 300th birthday? In our minds, though, it will always be our funky cottage in the woods.



Photo courtesy of the author

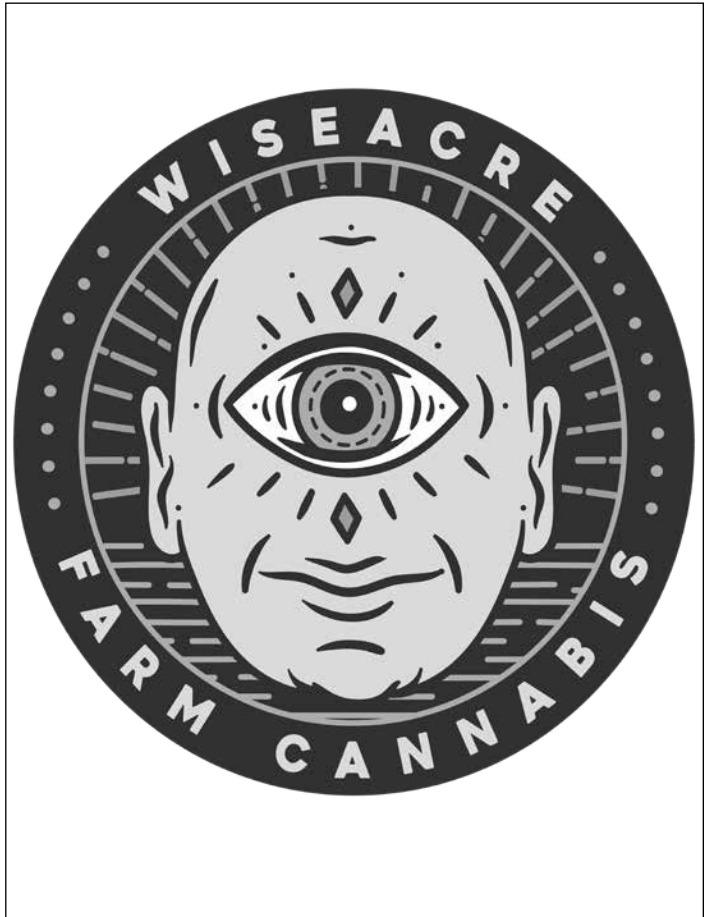
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<https://theberkshireedge.com/lori-rose-61-of-west-stockbridge/>

Obituary: Lori Rose, 61, of West Stockbridge A celebration of life will be held in the spring.

Written by Edge Staff

January 6, 2026

Lori Rose died January 2, 2026, surrounded by her beloved husband Joe, family, and friends. She was born in Natrona Heights, Pa., on July 9, 1964, to Martha Rugh (Plever) and the late David Plever.

Lori attended Kent State University, graduating with a major in business administration. She used that training to successfully create and grow every business venture she was involved in, from starting a bustling coffee shop to her partnership at Stone House Properties Real Estate. Lori is well known in our Berkshire community as a friend, a realtor, West Stockbridge Conservation Commission member, board member of the West Stockbridge Historical Society, and as a director of the Berkshire County Board of Realtors.

Lori will be most remembered for her kindness, vivaciousness, her robust love of life, and her smile. She approached each encounter with warmth and humanity. She was an avid tennis player, swimmer (especially in the Bay at the Cape), hiker, dancer, and as the consummate hostess, created many memorable dinner parties for family and friends. She loved her friends and made each one feel they were the most important person in the world. She loved being swaddled in cashmere; she loved her dogs, Cordelia, Isaac, Cooper, and Oskar; and she always wished she spent more time with horses!

Lori leaves her husband Lloyd "Joe" Rose; her mother Martha Rugh; sister, Jodi Plever Reimer (Chas.); her nieces, Chelsey Reimer (Derek Edwards) and Jessa Doutt (Devin); her stepdaughter Katie Rose; her grandchild Jean-Luc Ruel; and a host of friends. She will be greatly missed by all.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Berkshire Humane Society. A celebration of life will be held in the spring.



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Community News & Events

Stockbridge Grange Dinner

The Grange dinner will be on March 8; see the ad elsewhere in this issue for details.

Council on Aging

We will be making St. Patrick's Day Gnome Tags, on Tuesday, March 3, 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, or visit thelocalyokel.org.

An Invitation to Veterans

Since November 2023, the *Local Yokel* has produced a series of profiles of local veterans to honor their service. We invite all West Stockbridge veterans and their families to share their stories. We will continue sharing these profiles as they become available. If interested, please contact Renee McCormick at drreemccormick@gmail.com or text her at (914) 629-6314. We look forward to hearing from you and telling your story!

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History Quiz Answer:

The first West Stockbridge Post Office, organized in 1804, was located in the town center with our first postmaster, Philander Rathborn. The first question was why in the village center when most of our residents lived over in West Center and State Line. Our village center, although small, was a major stop on the main line of travel from Hartford to Albany and points west. It was an easier location to deposit mail and pick it up.

In the early 1800s, there were no federal post office buildings, and mail was handled in taverns and inns, or even private homes. One of the original taverns in town was the current Stone House Realty/Art on Main Gallery building. Amasa Spencer was postmaster from 1810 to 1830 and owned the tavern and likely handled the mail as well. Good for business!

With the advent of the railroad in 1838, the Village Center grew. The post office moved out from taverns into private homes. Many of the prominent people in town served as postmasters: Boynton, Rees, Kellogg, Moore, and Woodruff, all of whom had large homes. Then in 1854, our Town Hall opened, and William Spaulding, our local lawyer, town clerk, secretary and treasurer, and justice of the peace, became postmaster as well. The post office was moved to his office in the Old Town Hall, at the south end of the building (which in modern times was formerly the police station). This was a more formal official space than in someone's parlor or a tavern.

Sometime before the 1880s, the post office moved to its own location in a small building next door to the Town Hall, now a town parking lot. Our post office was on the second floor with a barber shop on the first floor. This post office had the unique distinction of being robbed in 1882 and then having its safe blown up seven times between 1897 and 1906. Postal rules at the time required the postmaster to pay for the new safe!

Sometime in the early 1900s, the post office was moved across the street to a building next to the current Queensboro Wine & Spirits. The large wooden structure burned and was replaced by the cinderblock structure pictured here. This blockhouse-type building also housed the American Legion next door. The only "remote" post office box in West Stockbridge still sits outside on Main Street in front of that former post office location.

Our post office finally got its own building in 1976, on property that was once an early lime kiln, but that's for another History Question.



*Post Office on Main Street prior to 1976.
Photo courtesy of West Stockbridge Historical Society*



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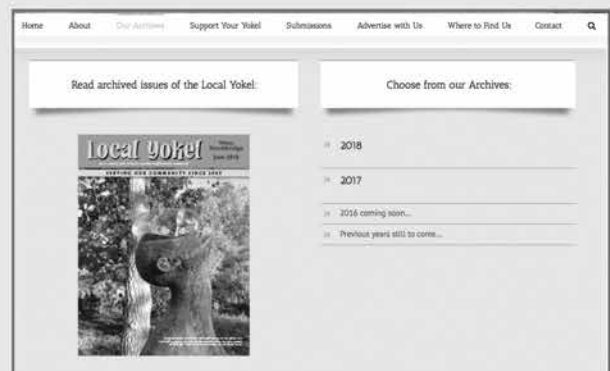
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Select Board	<i>Kathleen Keresey Andy Krouss Tobias Casey</i>	232-0300	ext. 319	Mon.-Thurs. 7 am-3 pm Fri. 7-11 am
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Building Inspector	<i>Brian Duval</i>	232-0300	ext. 313	Leave Message for Inquiries
Conservation Commission	<i>David Evans</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>Mike Renton</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>Mike Renton</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 · Community and Business Website: visitweststockbridge.com

WEST STOCKBRIDGE CHAMBER PLAYERS

WINTER CONCERT

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026

AT 3:00PM

The Old Town Hall
9 Main Street, West Stockbridge

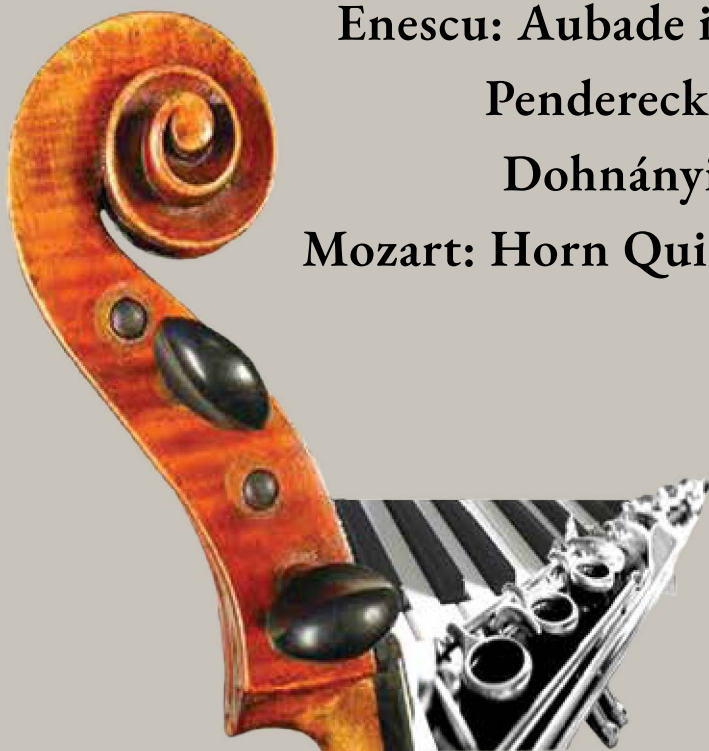
MUSIC

Enescu: Aubade in C major for String Trio

Penderecki: Clarinet Quartet

Dohnányi: Serenade, Op.10

Mozart: Horn Quintet in E-flat major, K. 407



MUSICIANS

CATHERINE HUDGINS, *Clarinet*

JASON SNIDER, *Horn*

SHEILA FIEKOWSKY, *Violin*

DANIEL GETZ, *Viola*

CARA POGOSSIAN, *Viola*

LELAND KO, *Cello*

TICKETS:

\$35 members / \$40 non-members

PURCHASE ONLINE AT

www.weststockbridgehistory.org



Supported by the West Stockbridge Cultural Council





March						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

March Calendar of Events

3/2	Parks & Recreation Commission	5 pm	Town Offices and on Zoom
3/2	Select Board meeting	6 pm	Town Offices and on Zoom
3/3	Council on Aging Craft Group meeting	9:30 am	Richmond Town Library
3/3	Zoning Board of Appeals public hearing	6 pm	Town Offices
3/3	Planning Board meeting	7 pm	Town Offices
3/4	Knitters Group	2-4 pm	Community Room
3/4	Conservation Commission meeting	6 pm	Town Offices and on Zoom
3/8	Daylight Savings Time begins: "spring ahead" 1 hour		
3/8	Stockbridge Grange Dinner; see ad in this issue for details	12-1:30 pm	Grange Hall, 51 Church St., Stockbridge
3/9	Kids Craft Crew	4:30 pm	Community Room
3/11	Knitters Group	2-4 pm	Community Room
3/11	Friends of the Library	3:30 pm	Community Room
3/15	*** Deadline for the next <i>Local Yokel</i> ***		Send to info@thelocalyokel.org
3/15	WS Chamber Players Winter Concert	3 pm	Old Town Hall, 9 Main Street
3/16	Select Board meeting	6 pm	Town Offices and on Zoom
3/17	St. Patrick's Day		
3/17	Annual Town Caucus	6 pm	Town Offices
3/18	Knitters Group	2-4 pm	Community Room
3/20	First Day of Spring		
3/23	Deadline for town office candidates to submit paperwork	5 pm	Town Offices
3/24	Planning Board meeting	7 pm	Town Offices
3/25	Knitters Group	2-4 pm	Community Room
3/29	Palm Sunday		
3/30	Select Board meeting	6 pm	Town Offices and on Zoom

Note: Town Offices (including Community Room and Library) are located at 21 State Line Road, West Stockbridge.