



August 2019

110th Annual WASHINGTON SONS AND DAUGHTERS

The Washington Sons and Daughters will be holding the
110th Annual meeting at the Old Town Hall
Washington Mountain Road
Sunday, September 8th
12:00 – 3:00 PM

All Washington residents and anyone who has ever lived in
the Town of Washington are welcome to join us, children included.

Meet your neighbors and share your memories, stories
and the history of our Town.

Let's make this the Best Attendance year yet!

FOOD AND DRINK (Hot and Cold) WILL BE PROVIDED
By the Committee. Come hungry!

BAKING CONTEST

Ladies and Gentlemen please bake your favorite pie recipe
and enter it in our Contest.

Please tape your name on the bottom of your plate.

This is our Dessert so please enter the Contest
and bring something delicious for all to share.

Prizes will be awarded.

WASHINGTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Washington Historical Commission will have a display
With lots of interesting information about the town's
History for you to view.

*****ENTERTAINMENT*****

We are thrilled to announce that this year's
Entertainment will be provided by
David Bacon on keyboard

A wide range of music, sure to play
something for everyone!

You won't want to miss this folks!
Come one and all and enjoy!



WASHINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT TARGET PRACTICE NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT



Residents must notify the Police Chief by
texting or calling (413)446-4294 or by
email at washingtonpdchief@gmail.com
prior to the start of target practice.

Thank you for your cooperation.

NICOLE M. MILLER
Chief of Police

BROADBAND PROJECT UPDATE

Eversource has finished with their make-ready in town.
Verizon has declared that they will be finished by the end
of September. We aim to schedule the fiber-optic
construction to begin as soon thereafter as possible.
The results of the broadband survey will play a role in
determining in what order the various sections of town
get built out. If you haven't yet filled out a survey to
indicate your level of interest, please do so now. See
below. If you've already completed a survey, thank you!

Lower Valley Rd Has Reopened . . . Finally!

It took much, much longer than anyone anticipated at the
outset, but we have finally completed the Lower Valley Rd
underground conduit project. The pathway is now
prepped and ready for when our contractor starts running
the fiber-optic cable in town in a few months.
Thanks to Tom Johnson and Dave Waldron of the
Highway Dept. and to Dick Spencer for all their long
hours and hard work making this important section of the
network possible.

Broadband is Coming! Take the Survey

To help with our planning and to make sure that you will
be directly notified when sign-ups begin later this fall,
please take our Broadband Survey online at:
www.wiredwest.net/towns/washington
(If you have no internet access at all, paper copies of the
survey can be found at Town Hall. Or get in touch with
Kent Lew at 413-446-7897.)

COA

Ongoing at the Town Hall
Free Classes

Yoga 10AM Tuesdays

Osteoporosis class 10AM Thursdays

Tai Chi/Qi Gong 10AM Fridays

Pot Luck Dinner 5:30 Friday, August 17th

Becket Federated Church Parish House
3381 Main St., Becket (across from library)

Becket Food Pantry - 1st and 3rd Sat., 9-11am

Free Supper - 1st Friday every month

The Washington Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that Hannah Mikaniewicz is this year's scholarship recipient. A life-long resident of the Town of Washington, Hannah is enrolled in the vet tech program at Holyoke Community College. Congratulations and best wishes to all members of the Class of 2019.

The Two Of Us Productions present

Trouble at the Tropicabana

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater

Papa Bob's

Route 20

Becket

August 10th

6:30PM

Pre-sale tickets at Papa Bob's

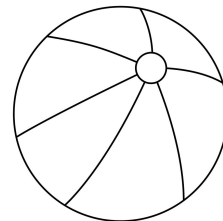
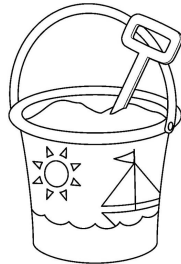
\$25/person

For reservations: call Laurel Burgwardt

413.464.6169

www.thetwoofusproductions.org

Dinner & a show!
Join in the fun!



Becket/Washington Family Fun Day

August 24th, 10AM-3PM

FREE games & prizes, waterslide,
balloon man, hotdog, bag of chips &
lemonade
for children 12 and under!!

Papa Bob's

Route 20

Becket

For reservations call Laurel Burgwardt
413.464.6169

To our Washington neighbors:

August 2019

We have applied for the maximum amount of \$100,000 through Housing Choice Small Town Capital Grant program. This amount will allow us to complete our fiber optic network without additional borrowing.

- As part of the application the Town has committed to make our Town Hall fully compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). A preliminary review last month with a representative of the Mass Office on Disability and Mark Roos - who has agreed to be our ADA Coordinator - showed that we need a few changes. We are applying for a planning grant and will subsequently apply for funding to make the needed changes. We invite any and all interested residents who want to participate in planning to contact Jodi.

BRPC Planner Matt Dovell will be working with us on shared services and our Capital and Town Planning initiative. Here, too, any residents interested in participating in planning our Town's future please let Jodi know.

- We have requested assistance from BRPC to help us with our third try at getting Green Community status for the Town. The application has to be in by the end of October.

Highway:

- Lower Valley Road has been reopened now that the new culverts and fiber optic cable are in place.
- The Board authorized an additional \$3000 for Tighe & Bond to provide the additional information requested by MEMA on our grant application for the replacement of the deep culvert on upper Frost Road.
- There has been no movement from DOT on how we can repair the three bridges on Lenox-Whitney Road without spending any of the Town's money.
- Similarly we have let DOT and our legislative delegation know that the "temporary" bridge on Middlefield Road over Coles Brook will remain in place until we get a design that can be built for less than the \$500,000 Small Bridge grant. It is almost five years since DOT lowered the weight limit on the old span.

Property issues:

- The judge hearing our petition to be able to inspect Bucksteep granted Family Unity sixty days to perform the septic inspections that should have been done five years ago when the property changed hands.
- Although Bucksteep was returned to the tax rolls we have not received any tax payments. Here, too, legal action may be required.
- The prospective buyer for Woody's was asked to put a fence around the property and to appear before the Planning Board to flesh out his proposal to make it a music venue for scheduled events. Since neither of these things happened the Board voted to go ahead with summary judgment against the current owner. A fence will enclose the building and a hazardous material inspection will be done in preparation for a request for quotes to demolish the building. A lien will be placed on the deed against these expenses.
- Town Counsel is working on the title transfer of properties donated to the Town in Virginia Lakes.

Summer in the Berkshires! Enjoy it while it lasts.

Jim Huebner
Select Board Chair

Tricia Drugmand
Select Board Clerk

Dick Grillon
Select Board

TOWN OF WASHINGTON AUGUST 2019 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 OSTEOPOROSIS CLASS 10 AM ***** Conservation Commission Meeting 6 PM	TOWN HALL 3 TAI-CHI/QI-GONG CLASS 10 AM	4
5	6 TOWN HALL Selectmen Meeting 7 PM Town Hall Offices Open 7 - 9 PM Assessors/Tax Collector 6-8 PM Police Department 6-9 PM	7 TOWN HALL Yoga with Rena 10:00 AM	8	9 TOWN HALL OSTEOPOROSIS CLASS 10 AM	10 TOWN HALL TAI-CHI/QI-GONG CLASS 10 AM	11 TOWN HALL
12	13 TOWN HALL Selectmen Meeting 7 PM Finance Committee Meeting 7 PM Town Hall Offices Open 7 - 9 PM Assessors/Tax Collector 6-8 PM Police Department 6-9 PM	14 TOWN HALL Yoga with Rena 10:00 AM Planning Board Meeting 7 PM	15	16 TOWN HALL OSTEOPOROSIS CLASS 10 AM	17 TOWN HALL TAI-CHI/QI-GONG CLASS 10 AM ***** COA Pot Luck Dinner 5:30 PM	18
19	20 TOWN HALL Selectmen Meeting 7 PM Town Hall Offices Open 7 - 9 PM Assessors/Tax Collector 6-8 PM Police Department 6-9 PM	21 Yoga with Rena 10:00 AM	22	23 TOWN HALL OSTEOPOROSIS CLASS 10 AM	24 TOWN HALL TAI-CHI/QI-GONG CLASS 10 AM	25
26	27 TOWN HALL Selectmen Meeting 7 PM Town Hall Offices Open 7 - 9 PM Assessors/Tax Collector 6-8 PM Police Department 6-9 PM	28 Yoga with Rena 10:00 AM	29	30 OSTEOPOROSIS CLASS 10 AM	31 TAI-CHI/QI-GONG CLASS 10 AM	

Entity	Contact	Number	Entity	Contact	Number
Assessors	Karen Avalle	717-7216	Finance Committee	Kent Lew	623-0202
Board of Health	Janice Paxton	655-8668	Parks Commission	Dave Drugmand	623-6651
Building Inspector	Paul Greene	446-0964	Planning Board	Marilyn Wiley	623-5859
Chapel Commission	Rose Borgnis	441-0787	Police Chief	Nicole Miller	446-4294
Clerk	Allison Mikaniewicz	623-2185	Selectmen	Jim Huebner	655-8668
Conservation	Michelle Lampro	623-8333	Tax Collector	Gina Campbell	623-0146
Council on Aging	Rose Borgnis	441-0787	Veterans Agent	John Herrera	499-9433

Please **CALL AHEAD**





2019 ANNUAL HOUSATONIC HERITAGE WALKS ANNOUNCED

4 Autumn Weekends of Free, Guided Tours

The Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area announces the 18th annual autumn Heritage Walks on Saturday & Sunday – September 7 & 8, 14 & 15, 21 & 22 and 28 & 29. 71 free, guided interpretive tours will be offered throughout Berkshire County, MA, and Litchfield County, CT.

The public is invited to participate in these family-oriented, interpretive walks, offered in partnership with our region's historic, cultural, and outdoor recreation organizations and the National Park Service. The Heritage Walks are the ideal opportunity to experience and learn about our region's rich and varied local heritage!

Local historians, naturalists, and environmentalists will lead participants on explorations through historic estate gardens and town districts, behind-the-scenes cultural site tours, nature walks, trail hikes, and tours of many of the industrial-site ruins that were once thriving local industries. There will be Native-American and African-American history walks, a canoe paddling trip on the Housatonic River & a bike tour on scenic country roads.

Detailed Heritage Walks brochures are available at libraries, post offices and stores throughout the region. The Walks schedule is also available on our website--
<http://www.HousatonicHeritage.org/events/heritage-walks/> .

Or, contact programs@housatonicheritage.org to request a brochure to be mailed to you.



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WWW.WASHINGTON-MA.COM

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Email your TRACKS info by the 25th of the month to get in to next
month's issue to Lisa at: mrsabeski@mac.com
Please put TRACKS in the subject line.