



January 2023

Winter Writing Workshop Series

❄️ January 23-February 20, 2023

Five Mondays, 6-8 pm ET

ONLINE



SWIFT INK
STORIES

Join a friendly, supportive
writing community and
jumpstart your prose in
2023.

with Lara Tupper
laratupper.com

For details: laratupper.com/contact

"The Washington Cultural Council is a local agency funded by Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. The purpose of the local agency is to support programs that promote access, education, diversity, and excellence in the arts, humanities, and sciences in communities across the Commonwealth.

The cultural council would like to hear from YOU! Please go to the town website and complete the community input survey between January 1st and January 31st! We appreciate your participation and look forward to continuing to support our community!"

Yours in community,

Washington Cultural Council



The Washington Cultural Council is a local agency funded by Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Harm Reduction Mobile Services

In order to conserve resources the mobile van will no longer be available at the Town Hall. There are scheduled van visits in Pittsfield and other Berkshire Towns. See the Town website or the website below for the current calendar.

The Harm Reduction Services van provides free naloxone and overdose education; syringe services and safe sharps disposal; testing and prevention for Hepatitis C, HIV, and STDs; as well as outreach for local recovery programs.

For more program details, visit www.berkshirehealthsystems.org/programs-and-services/berkshire-harm-reduction/

Our community is not immune to the unfortunate trends affecting Berkshire County regarding declining mental health and increased substance abuse, which have only worsened during the Covid pandemic.

This mobile program helps bring these vital health services directly to rural areas like ours where access and support can otherwise be out of reach.

Dear Washington Friends & Neighbors:

January 2023

The pre-holiday storm turned out not to be quite as disruptive as it could have been perhaps. And after a Christmas deep freeze, we're now looking at a warm wet mix to usher in the new year. Mother Nature has certainly been keeping us on our toes and reminding us who's in charge.

After a decade working for the Town, Adam Southard has now moved on from the Highway Dept. We thank him for his years of service and wish him well in his next venture. The crew will be running short-handed until we can find a replacement. Our thanks to Dave Fish for pitching in during recent storms. Anyone with a CDL who is interested in the open position should check the job posting on our website: www.washington-ma.gov/job-opportunities.

The Conservation Commission is also still looking for new members. Tricia Drugmand has stepped down, and we thank her for her service. Anyone who might be interested in stepping up please reach out to Michelle Lampro or the Select Board. Our Town relies on volunteers.

Last month, we finally managed to clear all hurdles and meet the State's criteria to achieve designation as a Green Community. The award was announced by the Governor on Dec. 20th, just before the holiday. Thanks to all the hard work of Dave Drugmand with Tina Hayward, Susan Colgan, and Peter Matson, this designation now paves the way for a \$126,500 grant to invest in facility upgrades at Town Hall and the Highway Garage, with the goal of reducing our municipal energy consumption by 20% or more (and thereby reducing our operating costs as well!).

Meanwhile, a December deadline in the Bucksteep tax-title case passed without any response from the owners. So the Town has now filed a motion with the Land Court for final judgment.

Unfortunately, despite all hopes, we begin the new year with the Shared Town Administrator position still unfilled. The Washington and Middlefield Select Boards will be continuing to interview candidates in the weeks ahead.

Although less in the news lately, Covid-19 remains an active concern this winter. Especially in conjunction with an active influenza (flu) season and an elevated RSV infection risk for children (the so-called "triple-demic"). The State is providing more free at-home Covid tests to communities. Tests are available at Town Hall during office hours. When we get the new shipment this month, our Board of Health will work to make test kits available at the Transfer Station as well.

We wish a safe, happy, and healthy New Year to one and all!

Kent Lew
Select Board chair

David Ellis
Select Board

John Fish
Select Board clerk

Just a reminder...

2023 dog licenses are available at the Town Hall
Open burning will run from January 15-May 1.

For more information, you can view our December 2022
issue of the Tracks on our town website: washington-ma.gov

We have entered flu season and are experiencing an outbreak of Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). Please observe the mask and social distancing protocols that helped minimize COVID infections. Meanwhile, COVID itself remains a threat. If you have symptoms you can get a free COVID test kit at the Town Hall. If you test positive free therapies like Paxlovid are available to moderate the symptoms.

Becket Athenaeum

- Tuesday, January 3, 1:30pm
Book Club: Outliers by Malcolm Gladwell
- Tuesdays, January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 10:30-11:30am
- Pre-School STEAM Program. Preregistration required: BecketAthenaeum.org/events
- Saturdays, January 7, 14, 21, 28, 10:30-11:30am
Library Storytime (2nd Saturday of the month, the craft project is replaced by creative movement.)
- Saturday, January 7, 6:30-9:30pm, movie starts at 7
Movie Night for Adults: Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings
- Monday, January 9, 6pm
Cookbook Club: Mi Cocina by Rick Martinez
- Tuesday, January 10, 6-8pm
- What's It Worth?" Antiques Road Show with Mike Ivankovich
- On Zoom or at the library.
- Preregistration required: bit.ly/BA-whats-it-worth
- Thursdays, January 12, 26, February 9, & 23, 7:30-8:30pm
Beginning Modern Calligraphy with Kristina Mosbo
On Zoom. Preregistration required: bit.ly/BA-calligraphy
- Thursday, January 19, 7-8:30pm
- Pamela Means & the Power of the Protest Song: Our Shared History & Present Day
- Saturday, January 21, 6:30-9:30pm, movie starts at 7
- Teen Movie Night
- Tuesday, January 24, 6-8pm
Athenaeum Game Night, ages 13+
- Weekdays, 2:55-5:30pm
Kids Club After-School Care at BWS. Contact Jon Yetto at the Dalton CRA
413-684-0260 jyetto@daltoncra.org for information and to sign up.

COA

Classes

Chair Yoga Mondays 11:00 AM

Yoga Tuesdays at 9:00 AM

Osteoporosis Thursdays at 9:00 AM

Ti-Chi/QiGong Fridays at 10:00 AM

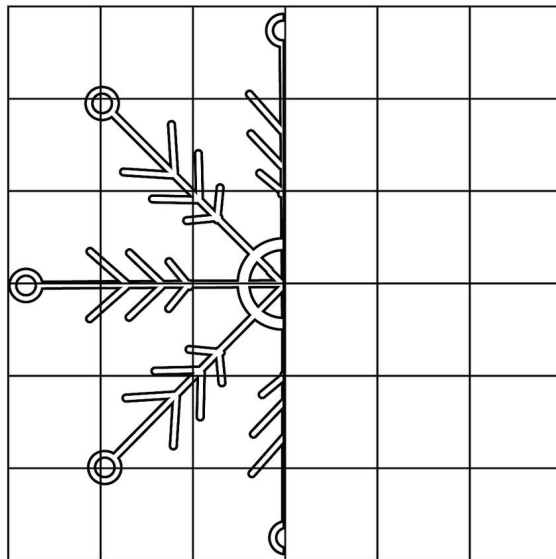
Pot Luck Dinner

Friday Jan 20 5:30 Steve will be serving ham. Bring a dish to share if you can.

We will also be accepting donations for the Becket Food Pantry.

Questions, comments, or need assistance? Call 413-394-0003 or email washingtoncoa@gmail.com

Complete the picture



HAPPY NEW YEAR

E Z J H S G D J K J C A R D S
C A L E N D A R P D E U R L P
H A W N C Q V L T N Q O W L G
W D N O O I F P O P E G K N G
X I X L E I X I A W H I I X E
M U S I C U T R B R O S J D C
W E N H O C T A O N U F M U N
Y L O T E Y L R R C Z L X O A
W B D L S S R L G B M C O B D
E U F T Z A X S A H E G V U W
K E F P V H E M U B Y L W M C
R I W U A O R F M E P H E V N
G O G T H G I N D I M T P C I
E M G C R E S O L U T I O N S
D C T S P C I P B J Y X Q Z B

MIDNIGHT SING
NEW
PARTY
CELEBRATION
GIFTS
CARDS
MUSIC
RESOLUTIONS
WISHES
REFLECTION
FUN
CALENDAR
BALL
DANCE
FEAST



Washington Tracks
Town Hall
8 Summit Hill Rd.
Washington, MA 01223

Presorted Standard
US Postage
PAID
Permit 121
Pittsfield MA

www.washington-ma.gov

Support Our Local Businesses

Horace Mann Insurance Agency
PO Box 772 Becket Ma. 01223
Phone 413.623.2112
Fax 413.623.5551
Provide all Personal Lines of Insurance
Provide Financial and retirement products too

Hilltowns Veterinary Clinic
Dr. Sharon Lynch, MVs
133 South Washington State Rd
Washington, MA 01223
413.623.5329
www.hilltownsvetclinic.com

John Fish Piano Service
413-281-6130
johnfishpiano.com
Piano tuning, repair & restoration; 20
years experience

Mark F. Roos, Broker Associate ABR
The Kinderhook Group
413.822.6143
markfr909@gmail.com
Helping buyers and sellers achieve their
dreams

Pinnacle Painting Company
578 South Washington State Rd
Washington, MA 01223
413.623.8737
Over 35 years experience Painting, wall
covering & light carpentry

Realtor & Notary
Lisa Peltier
500 S. Washington State Rd.
413.822.1257
Neilsen Realty
lisa@neilsenrealty.com

Summit Hill Campground
34 Old Middlefield Rd.
Washington, Ma. 01223
413.623.5761
Great Family Camping
Tents,R.V.s Motor Homes
Full Hook Ups
Pet Friendly
Seasonals Welcomed
Events scheduled May through Sept

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.