



2019 July



*Celebration of Life
for
Roy Wiley*



*1:00 pm, Sunday July 7, 2019
St. Andrew's Chapel
Washington Mountain Rd*

*Please join us to remember Roy, whose loss is felt by
so many community residents and his family.*

*A reception after the memorial will be held at the home of
Marilyn Wiley, 47 Washington Mountain Rd.*

BROADBAND PROJECT UPDATE

Construction of the underground pathway along Lower Valley Road continues at a steady, if slow, pace. We are now just about three-quarters of the way through the project. Again, extra thanks are due to Dick Spencer for his invaluable help with this.

We are aiming to have Lower Valley Rd reopened before the end of July. The Highway crew is anxious to return to their regular duties around town. And we appreciate everyone's ongoing patience.

Final electrical connections for the central hub at Town Hall are still in process. Special thanks to Dave Drugmand for his help procuring and setting our backup generator.

The utilities continue with their make-ready. Eversource is nearing completion of its work. But Verizon may still be a couple months away from finishing up.

At this point, we are still anticipating that the fiber-optic construction might begin by September. If that schedule holds, then we may still be able to see service start to light up in town by the very end of this year. Fingers crossed!

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 summer, 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.)

BECKET ATHENAEUM NEWS:

Hilltown Brouhaha

Please join us on July 13th at the 4th Annual Hilltown Brouhaha at Washington Town Park!!

We need more volunteers to work 3.5 hour shifts (9-12:30 or 12:30-4PM).

Volunteers will receive a free lunch!! To sign up please email bwcpchair@gmail.com or call the Becket Athenaeum at 623-5483!

We need folks to donate fairy house building materials to the fairy garden (bark, acorns, pine cones, etc) or fairies, gnomes, and other magical creatures!!

Please contact Dave Drugmand at Washington Town Parks commission at Washington Town Hall!!

See you all at the Fair!!!

Athenaeum Summer Storytime & Craft

10-11am on the following Saturdays:

July 6, 20, 27 (NOTE: there is NO storytime on the 13th, as that is the Hilltown Brouhaha) August 3, 10, 17, and 24

Join Athenaeum librarians and local school children for our weekly Storytime & Craft this summer!

We have local students from Becket Washington School volunteering to read a book each week to the children ages 0-7 with a fun craft after the story.

Please call 413-623-5483 to pre-register so that we can have enough supplies for the children planning to participate!

THIS IS A FREE PROGRAM!

Pre-school STEAM Program

Science-Technology-Engineering-Art-Math

We will give you fun, easy, and not too messy ways to practice STEAM at home with your child/children. Join Wendy Provencher for an hour of great fun!

This is an opportunity to inspire your kids to engineer, create, design, explore, and build!

Tuesdays

July 9, 16, 23, 30

August 13

1-2pm at the Athenaeum

FREE

The program does not meet on the first Tuesday of the month.

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

Clean Up Day

The Parks Commission would like to recognize local businesses and residents for their support of our Town Park. Craig and Paul Willis of White Wolf Excavation have been maintaining the gravel bike path for a number of years. We thank them for their hard work in giving the path a manicured look. Ernie Lampron of Always Growing donates year after year the mulch surrounding the trees, filling in the fairy garden and other landscaped areas. The Parks Commission greatly appreciates his contribution of material and for donating the propane grill used to cook hotdogs during the pumpkin walk, hamburgers and hotdogs during the girls scout campout and during the annual cleanup held on Saturday June 8th. We are grateful to Mark Levernoch Plumbing and Heating who did a great job weatherizing the bathroom, protecting the plumbing over the winter and then re-opening the facilities again for spring. We are also grateful to LP Adams for donating the wood used to repair the gazebo and benches. Thank you to Mark Roos for repairing the benches and Dave Drugmand for replacing rotten gazebo step boards. The Commissions would like to also thank Selectmen Jim Huebner and Tricia Drugmand, residents Jodi Hostetter, Sara Cobb, Carlos Slutzki and future resident Chet Thomas for helping de-weed, rake and mulch. Thank you to Tom Johnson and Dave Waldon for helping Park Commission Chairman, Dave Drugmand install the foundation pipes for the new grills. Thank you to Amy Johnson for cleaning the gazebo floor and Ed Neumuth for helping the girls scouts make the bird boxes then installing them around the park. It is the contribution of these generous folks that keep the park the jewel of Washington hosting community events like the Hilltown Brouhaha, John FX Keator Memorial Pumpkin Walk, Cops and Rodders Car Show fundraiser, Girls Scout camp out, Dog Frisbee league, holiday tree lighting, residents and their pets. Unfortunately the volunteer turnout has continued to dwindle over the years making it more difficult to complete all the tasks necessary to maintain the safety and ascetics of the park. As a result the Parks Commission will request additional funds in the 2021 budget to allow hiring folks to perform some tasks. Thank you again to all who contributed. We hope to see you enjoying the park.

Sincerely,

The Parks Commission

P. S. A special shout out to Chairman Dave Drugmand for the use of his tractor.

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, July 19th

To our Washington neighbors:

July 2019

Thanks to all who contributed time and materials to the Park clean up on June 8, but we continue to have low participation. In order to maintain this important asset, the Board has to consider budgeting for a landscaping crew next spring.

We heard from a number of residents who were disturbed by two very loud explosions on Saturday June 1. Chief Miller investigated and the apparent cause was a resident using exploding targets for target practice. While target practice is lawful, detonating explosive is not. We ask that everyone be respectful of the impact of their actions on their neighbors. The Chief has also requested that she be notified any time someone plans to do target practice.

We are putting out a Request for Proposals to repair/replace the roof over the auditorium section of the Town Hall. We had a terrible leak last December which prompted the item on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant which was approved unanimously.

Construction continues on our broadband system. Our Highway crew is being augmented by volunteer labor from Kent Lew and Dick Spencer to place the underground cable along Lower Valley Road.

- The control structure for our system is in place next to the Town Hall; the electronics will be installed later.
- If you have not yet done so, please fill out a survey either on-line at www.wiredwest.net/towns/washington or pick up a hard copy at the Town Hall.

A representative from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs presented a plan that would allow for more use of OHV's (off Highway vehicles) in October Mountain State Forest. The Board responded that without additional financial support to maintain the roads from DOT and PILOT funding that it would not support the plan.

Highway:

- MEMA has requested more information on our request to fund the replacement of the deep culvert on upper Frost Road. On a positive note MEMA has approved our Hazard Mitigation Plan, clearing the way for grant approval.
- We have received a two-year extension on our Small Bridge Grant for the Middlefield Road bridge over Coles Brook. Foresight is investigating how we go forward on this seemingly endless project given that any expenditure over and above the \$500,000 grant will not be possible.
- Our engineer, Tighe & Bond, is still negotiating with DOT to determine how the three bridges on Lenox-Whitney Road can be repaired within the limits of the grant.

Property issues:

- We should know more about the future of Family Unity LLC on the Bucksteep property after court on June 26th.
- There is a signed purchase and sale agreement for Woody's; the prospective buyer wants to make it a music venue (for scheduled events only), a recording studio and plans to serve food. There is a long way to go, but we are encouraged.
- Nothing new on the properties owned by the Town in Virginia Lakes.

Don't forget to attend the Brouhaha Saturday July 13 at the Town Park!

Jim Huebner
Select Board Chair

Tricia Drugmand
Select Board Clerk

Dick Grillon
Select Board

TOWN OF WASHINGTON JULY 2019 CALENDAR

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday						
			1 Town Offices Closed Lower Valley Road will be closed for part of the month to install culvert pipes and fiber optic cables.	2 Yoga with Rena 10:00 AM	3	4 	5 TAI-CHI/QI-GONG CLASS 10 AM	6										
7		8 Selectmen Meeting 7 PM Finance Committee Meeting 7PM Town Hall Offices Open 7 - 9 PM Assessors/Tax Collector 6-8 PM Police Department 6-9 PM	9 Yoga with Rena 10:00 AM	10	11 OSTEOPOROSIS CLASS 10 AM	12 TAI-CHI/QI-GONG CLASS 10 AM	13											
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Entity	Contact	Number	Entity	Contact	Number
Assessors	Karen Avelle	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

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SATURDAY, JULY 13, 2019

4th ANNUAL
hilltown
brouhaha

Becket Washington Community Fair

**THANK YOU TO OUR
CORPORATE SPONSORS!**



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<http://an.insure/sinopoliagency>

Berkshire Taconic
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



White Wolf Trucking &
Excavation
CALL THE WOLF!



This project has been supported by a grant from the
Central Berkshire Fund of the Berkshire Taconic
Community Foundation and also in part by funding from
the Becket and Washington Cultural Councils.

Daytime Events at Washington Town Park

9AM-4PM Police Association Kids' Bike Raffle

9AM-4PM Build Your Own Fairy House

9AM-4PM Becket Athenaeum &
Becket Arts Center Silent Auctions

9AM-4PM BOC-YMCA Children's Activities

9AM-4PM Tour Rescue Vehicles

9AM-10AM Dalton Ballet

9AM-3PM Becket Athenaeum Book Sale

10AM-2PM PTO Carnival - Passport to Fun,
Games, Bounce House,
Balloon Ben (12:30PM-2PM)

10AM Congregational Church
Strawberry Shortcake Sale

10AM-11:30AM RadioActive! 60's through
today's favorite radio hits

11:30AM- 4PM Wandering Star Beer Sales

11:30AM-12:30PM Tom Ricardi - Birds of Prey

12:30PM-2PM Proud Poverty, folk favorites
music at the gazebo

2PM-2:30PM American Dance Institute
student performance in front
of gazebo

2:30PM-4PM Lulu and the Shoemakers,
bluegrass music at the gazebo

**Evening Activities at the North Becket
Village Pavilion**

6PM-11PM Food sales by Volunteer Firemen

6PM-11PM Beer Garden hosted by
Wandering Star Brewery

6PM-11PM DJ music (6-8PM), Live music by
Bits 'N Pieces (8-11PM)



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Email your TRACKS info by the 25th of the month to Lisa at:
mrsabeski@mac.com

Please put TRACKS in the subject line.