



SUMMER
IS
HERE

JULY 2021

HELLO
Sun
Shine

The Washington Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that Vienne Peltier and Shaun Thornton are the recipients of this year's scholarships. Vienne is planning to attend Framingham State University, preparing for a career in biochemistry and molecular biology. Shaun has been accepted into the computer science program at Rochester Institute of Technology. Both are lifelong residents of Washington.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Washington Scholarship. When the Washington PTA disbanded in 1971, the members decided to use the monies remaining in their treasury to start a scholarship to encourage high school seniors in the pursuit of higher education. For the last 50 years, fundraisers have been held to sustain this scholarship. Thanks to the generosity of our community, this scholarship continues to support our young people.

We are especially grateful for the numerous donations received in lieu of our election day bake sale last fall, cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This is a testament to the collaborative spirit of our small town, and the committee is pleased to be able to show support for Washington students.

We are hoping to have Sons and Daughters September 12
if all things go well through the summer.
Save the date ! More info will be coming in August.

Voter Registration for Upcoming Special Town Meeting

Friday, July 9, 2021 is the deadline to register to vote at the July 19th Special Town Meeting. If you are an eligible town resident who is not currently registered to vote, this will be the last date to register and be able to vote at the Special Town Meeting.

You can register to vote online: <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr/>. Or contact the Town Clerk for a voter registration form: washington.ma.townclerk@gmail.com

Dog License Late Fee Reminder

Remember to register your dog before August 31, 2021 to avoid the \$25 late fee. You can register your dog at the Town Clerk's office on Monday evenings from 7:00 - 9:00 PM or mail the necessary paperwork to the Town Hall, Attention: Town Clerk, 8 Summit Hill Road, Washington, MA 01223.

Necessary paperwork:

- Current rabies paperwork showing rabies expiration
- Proof of spay/neuter
- License fee: \$4 for spayed/neutered dog or \$10 for an unaltered dog (\$24 or \$35 after August 31, 2021)
 - If paying by check, make it payable to Town of Washington

COA - Classes continuing with those who are not fully vaccinated continuing to wear masks

Yoga Tuesdays @9:30

Osteoporosis Thursdays @9:00

Tai-Chi/Qi-Gong Fridays @10:00

****COA Open House Luncheon****

Come see what the COA is all about Saturday July 17th from 12:00-2:00

The COA will be providing lunch - all seniors and any residents interested in learning about the COA are welcome.

Visit and reconnect with neighbors

We will also have Farmers market coupons available for those eligible

•Coupon Recipients must be:

• 60 years or older,

•Or disabled and living in housing facilities primarily occupied by older individuals where congregate nutrition services are provided – Providence Court ONLY

•And, have a household income at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Line

• In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

• Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

• To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992.

Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

• (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture • Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights • 1400 Independence Avenue, SW • Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

• (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

• (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

• This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Becket Athenaeum 3367 Main St, Becket

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ALL PROGRAMMING IS FREE

Ongoing: Wednesdays, June 23-August 25, 11am-12pm: Outdoor Storytime, followed by crafts with the Becket Arts Center

Ongoing: June 23-August 25, Summer Reading Program with prizes for meeting reading goals

Thursday, June 24, 6-7:30pm: NASA Ambassador Presentation on the International Space Station and Careers & Diversity at NASA

Saturday, June 26, 1pm: Community Drumming with Otha Day

Wednesday, June 30, 6pm: Cookbook Club: "In Pursuit of Flavor"

Tuesday, July 6, 1:30-2:30pm: Book Club: The Night Swim

Saturday, July 10, 1-2pm: Storytelling by Motoko

Saturday, July 10, 10am-4pm: Indoor Book Sale (free, donations accepted)

Sunday, July 11, 10am: Garden composting workshop with Pat Parkins, owner of Gardens of the Goddess

Saturday, July 17, 1-2:30pm: Author Reading: "Worth the Wait" with Lynne Scott, followed by Local Bird Talk with Dale Abrams and Zach Adams of Mass Audubon, Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, July 31, 11:30am-12:30pm: Storytelling by Eshu Bumpus

Saturday, July 31, 10am-4pm: Outdoor Book Sale

BLOOD DRIVE

Washington Town Hall

July 12, 2021
9am-2:30pm

To sign up,
please contact
413-447-2597 x2,
or
camuso@bhs1.org

Please remember
to eat a well
balanced meal
and drink plenty
of water before
arriving to
donate.



Berkshire Health Systems
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Volunteer Help Wanted: Assistant Broadband Manager

Now that I have taken on more executive duties in town, I would like to find someone to assist me and back me up in my role as Broadband Manager.

This person will be providing general support for the overall responsibilities of the Broadband Manager. You don't have to be a "tech-geek", but you should have an aptitude for technical things in general. I will train and mentor the right candidate. You should have good communication skills and some experience with project coordination. Some customer service background will be a plus.

This is an unpaid position and is subject to approval and appointment by the Select Board. If you might be interested in volunteering, please contact me at washingtonfiber@kentlew.com for further discussion.

— Kent Lew, Washington MLP Manager



BECKET ARTS CENTER
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Your Gathering Place for ARTS in the Berkshires

www.becketartscenter.org
Follow us on Facebook & Instagram

July 2nd - Aug 27th, 9am Yoga with Rima Sala, \$10 per class

July 3rd - July 19th - Exhibit 2 on display Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays, 12-4pm

July 3rd, 2pm - Exhibit 2 Opening Reception: Nicole Irene, Claude Beller, Olwen Dowling, Sam Craig, Kathryn L. Jensen

July 9th, 1pm - Small Acts of Art for all ages. \$20 for members/\$25 for non-members

July 9th - Aug 27th, Fridays, 3pm via Zoom - Jacob's Pillow Virtual Families Dance Together. Register jacobs-pillow.org or call 413.243.9919 x 164

July 10th, 5pm - Music Brings Communities Together, Queler/Farber Family Band. Free, outdoor concert - bring a chair/blanket

July 11th, 5pm - "I Was There" Becket Stories. Upstairs Gallery at BAC

July 12th & 26th, 10am - Come Dance With Us! with Fran Hamburg & Louise Heit, \$10 per class

July 17th, 5pm - Music Brings Communities Together, Cliff Eberhardt. Free, outdoor concert - bring a chair/blanket

July 19th, 7pm - Exploration with Chris Post, Wandering Star Brewery

July 24th - Aug 9th - Exhibit 3 on display Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays, 12-4pm

July 24th, 2pm - Exhibit 3 Opening Reception: Harriet Pollack, Janet Pumphrey, Marion Grant, Sally Lebwohl

July 30th, 1pm - Whimsical Weavings for all ages. \$20 for members/\$25 for non-members

July 31st, 1pm - Jacob's Pillow on the Road performs at North Becket Village Park

July 31st, 5pm - Music Brings Communities Together, Elaine Morel & Melissa Brinton. Free, outdoor concert - bring a chair-blanket

Your membership makes this possible
Not a member yet?

www.becketartscenter.org/membership

Dear Washington Friends & Neighbors:

July 2021

The Governor has announced a “VaxMillions” Giveaway. If you are vaccinated for COVID-19 you can enter to win one of five \$1 million cash prizes. For more details, visit mass.gov/VaxMillions.

Our two main Highway trucks are back in service now. And this year the crew was finally able to devote some serious gravel and attention to West Branch Road leading into the State Forest. Now everyone can more easily access this wonderful natural asset in town. Thanks to Andrew & White Wolf for hauling and to Adam for the great grading!

The Select Board has invited Dom Sacco, the regional director for DCR Parks, and his supervisor for October Mountain State Forest to join the Select Board at our July 12 meeting to strengthen our partnership and establish better lines of communication.

Tom Johnson has proposed a modest stop-gap solution to temporarily mitigate the regular flooding on upper Frost Rd (basically an overflow outlet), until we can get federal or state funding for a proper fix for the collapsed culvert. The road may have to be closed for one day this month.

The Select Board has laid new groundwork that will allow us to recover costs of demolishing Woody’s through a court action, rather than rely on the value of the property itself. We are now calling for a **Special Town Meeting on Monday, July 19**, at 7:30 p.m. to see if the Town wishes to approve funding to proceed. Please come and help us make a decision about this difficult situation.

The future of the Bucksteep property remains unclear. The property owner has engaged a new lawyer and the judge seems to be dragging out the Receiver’s progress. No one has stepped forward to pay the back taxes. So we are now engaging in discussions with a Tax Title Attorney about foreclosing the lien. The next court date is August 25.

A group of citizens has formed to undertake a pilot anti-litter initiative to use trail cams to capture evidence of individuals coming up here and dumping trash. Chief Miller is prepared to prosecute. If you’d like to get involved, contact Matt Watson, Ed Neumuth, or Josh Greene.

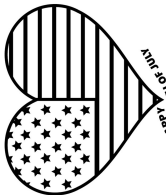
That said, there was a disappointing turnout at the Annual Town Park Clean-up last month. Only five people showed up. Thanks to Dom Sinopoli, Jodi Hostetter, Linda Levernoch, and Matt & Liz Watson. But that’s not enough to be sustainable. We may have no other choice but to add to the budget from taxes to pay for maintaining our Park if residents can no longer make time to pitch in.

Have a safe and happy Fourth of July, everyone. Happy 245th birthday to our nation.

Kent Lew
Select Board chair

Tricia Drugmand
Select Board clerk

Dick Grillon
Select Board



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<http://www.justicedora.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.