



MARCH 2021



To our Washington neighbors:

March 2021

Berkshire County's COVID-19 infection rate, number of confirmed cases and positivity rate all peaked in mid-January and are now at pre-Thanksgiving levels. Roughly 50% of those eligible for vaccination (those over 75, emergency workers and care givers) have received at least one shot. On February 18 everyone 65 and over and those with pre-existing conditions became eligible. However, vaccine supplies remain quite limited.

- If you are eligible contact the Berkshire County Vaccination Hotline (413-449-5575) or use the reservation website <https://www.getvaccinatedberkshires.org/>
- The best defense against a rapid rise in cases from variants of the disease is to prevent the spread of COVID, so please continue to stay home, wear a mask if you do go out and avoid gatherings. Wash your hands. Stay safe.

After reviewing all the available data about our Town and the opinions and evaluations of our residents who responded to our Town Planning Survey, The Capital and Town Planning Committee has, with the help of BRPC, developed a rough draft of a Town Plan. The intent is to solidify our finances and provide guidance for decision making to preserve the Town's character for the foreseeable future.

- The Plan will be expressed as a series of projects for which volunteers will be needed.
- Highlights of the Plan will be presented at the Annual Town Meeting and follow-up sessions will provide more details.

The Middlefield Road bridge over Coles Brook is complete but the Metropolitan Planning Organization will not consider our application to rehabilitate the road itself.

We are ordering the hardware for the dedicated server and backup being funded by our IT grant. John Les will be developing the user manual and training the Town Hall staff. When the parking lot is paved this Spring an underground conduit will be installed to our electronic shed where the equipment will be housed.

According to his attorney the current owner of Bucksteep no longer wishes to retain it. Next step will be for the court-appointed Receiver to make a proposal for the use of the property to our Planning Board before proceeding with extensive remedial work.

The Division of Ecological Restoration has an interest in removing the Eden Glen dam and will perform a site evaluation which will help the Town to decide how to best use the area.

In addition to Nature Conservancy a private citizen has expressed interest in buying Virginia Lakes lots which should help get the property off the Town's inventory.

We are a year into living with COVID but with vaccinations started we will get back to normal. Don't give up: stay home, wear a mask if you must go out and get your shot!.

Jim Huebner
Select Board Chair

Tricia Drugmand
Select Board Clerk

Dick Grillon
Select Board

2021 Annual Town Census

The 2021 Annual Town Census was mailed the last week in February. Please note the return deadline on the cover letter should be by March 28, 2021, not February 28.

Included in the census mailing is an envelope to mail the census form to the town hall. Alternately, you can drop the census form in the drop box at the town hall.

2021 Dog Licenses Available

Just a reminder that the current (2020) dog licenses will expire March 31, 2020. The dog licenses for 2021 are now available. As the Town Hall is still closed, please send the following to the Town Clerk:

- Current rabies certificate
- Proof that your dog is spayed or neutered, if applicable
- Appropriate fee. \$4 if dog is spayed or neutered, \$10 if not
- Mail the above to the Town Clerk, 8 Summit Hill Road, Washington, MA 01223 and a license and tag will be mailed to you.

Any questions please contact the Town Clerk 413-207-7526 or washington.ma.townclerk@gmail.com

Town Nomination Papers Available
Nomination papers are available for the following town positions that are up for election this year:

- Auditor (3 year position)
- Finance Committee (3 year position)
- Moderator (3 year position)
- Planning Board (5 year position)
- Select Board (3 year position)
- Town Clerk (3 year position)

If you would like to take out nomination papers, please contact me via email and I will send them to you either electronically or by mail. You will need to collect 25 signatures from town residents that are registered to vote and the completed nomination papers must be returned to me by Thursday, March 25, 2021. Any questions please contact the Town Clerk 413-207-7526 or washington.ma.townclerk@gmail.com.

Allison Mikaniewicz
Town Clerk
Washington, MA



Friday, March 12

Happy Dr. Seuss Day!



"The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go."

Dr. Seuss

This last month Heather Anello, former owner of the Becket General Store had a grand opening for 3 businesses at the same location 3235 Main St., Becket Stop by and wish her well :)

- * Canna Corner Dispensary 10am-7pm everyday
www.cannacornerecket.com 413-770-4283
- * Route 8 Pub 11am-9pm eat-in take-out
www.route8pub.com 413-623-6026
- * Becket Liquors 10am-8pm 413-623-6026




International Day of Happiness ~ March 20th





Coming up at The Becket Athenaeum
413.623.5483 info@bwlibrary.org becketathenaeum.org

You are invited to hear the Powerful and Uplifting

RACE AMITY ZOOM PRESENTATION





Lecture and Media Presentation
by Award Winning Race Relations Media Producer,
Writer, Author, and Documentarian
William H. "Smitty" Smith, Ed.D.

Co-presented by:   **March 6
1-2:30
on Zoom**


Preregistration is required:
bit.ly/raceamity

This program is funded by a grant from
the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation.

413-623-5483 info@bwlibrary.org
BecketAthenaeum.org
bit.ly/WestStockbridgePublicLibrary

Follow us:  


March 20
1-2pm
on Zoom



Questions?
413-623-5483
info@bwlibrary.org

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VIRTUAL AUTHOR READING & DISCUSSION





Lara Tupper
Amphibians
Lara Tupper

Discussion led by
Matt Tannenbaum,
long time proprietor of
The Bookstore in Lenox

Preregistration required:
bit.ly/BA-lara-tupper

This program is funded by a grant from the Central Berkshire Fund of
the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation.

Exploring Wild Edibles on a Virtual Housatonic River Walk with Russ Cohen





Part 2

**March 25
7-8pm
on Zoom**

discussion facilitated
by **Meredyth Babcock**

Preregistration is required:
bit.ly/BA-housatonic-part2

Funded by:  

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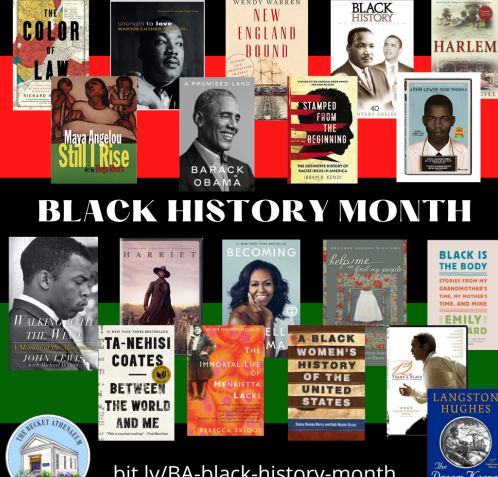
413-623-5483 info@bwlibrary.org BecketAthenaeum.org
WestfieldRiverWildScenic.org

February was Black History Month



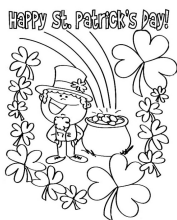
**BLACK HISTORY
MONTH
Books for Children**

bit.ly/BA-black-history-month-books-for-children



**BLACK HISTORY
MONTH**

bit.ly/BA-black-history-month



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WASHINGTON, MA 01223

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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, MVB
133 South Washington State Rd
Washington, MA 01223
413.623.5329
www.hilltownsvetclinic.com

Justice of the Peace

Dorothy Filanowska
413.446.6921 justicedora@gmail.com
<http://www.justicedora.com>

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
Keller Williams Realty
LisaPeltier413@gmail.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

Your Way Computer

Frank Kennedy
1153 Washington Mt. Road
Washington, MA 01223
Call: 623.5180 / Fax: 623.2018
E-Mail: carolandfranksr@carolandfrank.com
By appointment only

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.