



August 2011

At the Becket Arts Center in August: The galleries are open Friday through Monday, 12-4pm. Artist Receptions, Lectures and Writers Reading are free open to the public. Join us in a celebration of imaginative creativity at the heart of the arts in western Massachusetts and the Center develops Fall Workshops: Yoga, Youth ARts, Adult Landscape Painting; "Wild Winter Whatnots" open exhibit - no fee, no jury, no censorship, open to all interested to present one work of visual or performance art over one weekend; and the Becket Washington Elementary School Student project and exhibit.

Artists in the Galleries through August 15:

Susan Sommer, Painting; Steven Filmus, Landscapes; David Stein, Photography; Susan Ryza, Jewelry.

August 19 through September 4 with Artists Reception on Saturday, August 20, 3-5pm

Barbara Winters, Photography; Nina Rossi, multi-media; Members Show.

Tuesday, August 2 7-9pm "Shot in the Dark" A Film Screening. No admission fee.

Producer of HBO's documentary film, SHOT In The DARK, Jonathan L. Davidson, will show the film. Before the HBO series, Entourage, Adrian Grenier goes on a search to find his father and to find out if in fact he needs a father. Audience questions and comments will be welcome after the screening.

The word as an art form, performance and discussion by area writers reading and performing their own work. All events are free:

Saturday, August 6, at 2pm join Michael Wilson for a Spoken Word performance. On-the-spot lyrics about issues and topics both local and abroad for the whole family.

Saturday, August 27, 2pm Poets Hannah Fries, Michelle Gillett and Susan Wojtasik read their work.

Free Lectures, Monday evening at 7:30pm:

August 1, "Native and Heirloom Plants - a Vibrant Display" with Jess Savory, Senior Gardener at Berkshire Botanical Garden.

August 8, "Liberating Your Creative Dream" a hands-on presentation by Roberta Wall, lawyer, mediator, trainer, mindfulness practitioner.

August 15, "Music from Bach to John Williams in Live Performance" Ronald Feldman, conductor, Berkshire Symphony; cellist and Elizabeth Morse, harpist, Berkshire Symphony and Rhode Island Philharmonic. Performance will be at the Becket Washington School Auditorium.

See the website at www.becketartscenter.org or the 2011 Season Catalog for details on Adult and Young People's Workshops through August. Great instruction, fun classes, low costs. The Becket Arts Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. You can support the arts in our community by becoming a contributing member, attending events and spreading the word. Changes are taking place, and your voice, your interest is important to making it happen. Call 623-6635 for information and to register for workshops.

Low or No cost Youth Programs in August are:

Saturday August 6, 9:30am-12:30pm. The Bawd of the Bard: William Shakespeare - His Words, His Wit, His Wisdom: 2 day Multi-Generational program for students 8+

Tuesday, August 9, 9:30am-4pm Marmalade Production's Big Puppet Day, ages 8+

Thursdays, August 4, 11, 18 • 5-6pm. Families Dance Together at the Pillow, ages: 5-18 accompanied by an adult.

Thursdays, August 11 & 25, 1:15 - 4:15pm. Clay Work Basics - Multigenerational.

Congratulations to this year's recipients of the Washington Scholarships: **Mackenzie Fisher** is planning to attend Berkshire Community College this fall; **Cassidy Keator** has been accepted into the business program at Santa Clara University; **Brendon Lennon** will be furthering his education at the College of St. Rose, pursuing his interests in music and math.
Best wishes to these young adults and to all members of the class of 2011.

The 5th Annual Hilltown Hoot is on Sunday, September 18, 2011

from Noon - 7PM @ The Washington Town Park.

Performances by

Krishna Guthrie * Ryan Blessing Family Jordan Weller * Annie Guthrie * Terry a la Berry & Friends
Hilltown Zydeco String Band * Xavier * Local Legendary Folksinger and more

The HILLTOWN HOOT is "fun"raising in the Hilltown style: local people getting together in the great outdoors to eat good food, see old friends, make new friends, dance to good music, and support our community's children.

If you are interested in vending at the Hoot, please email hilltownhoot@gmail.com

www.hilltownhoot.com

Canterbury Farm will present **Music in the Garden** on **Sunday, August 14, 2011**, from **1 pm to 7 pm** at the Farm, 1986 Fred Snow Road, Becket. Musical guests include Bobby Sweet, the Dana Welts Band and the Becket Praise Team. A family friendly event, tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door, with children under 10 free. The gate will open at noon. **Proceeds benefit the Becket Athenaeum**, Becket-Washington's Community Library. In addition to a full-day of music, activities include kids crafts and performance and an antique car exhibit. Food and beverages will also be available. Tickets may be purchased at the Becket Athenaeum and Canterbury Farm in advance, or at the gate on the day of the event. This program is supported in part by grants from the Becket and Washington Cultural Councils local agencies which are supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

For more info: www.canterbury-farms.com or 413.623.0100, or Becket Athenaeum at 413.623.5483

Mark your calendars. The Washington Sons and Daughters will hold the **102nd Annual Sons and Daughters** meeting on **Sunday, September 11** starting at **12:00 PM** at the **Old Town Hall** on Washington Mountain Road.

The Committee is looking for volunteers to:

- help organize the food
- judge the Baking Contest (which will be cakes this year)
- help with set-up and clean-up

If anyone has suggestions we'd love to hear from you. Join us at our planning meeting on Tuesday, August 30, 2011 at 6:30 PM at the Town Hall.

Please contact: Carol Kennedy 623-5180

Attention all residents 60 and over: A survey will be coming your way soon. The COA is interested in finding out what you would like the COA to have available for you. Surveys will be mailed in August, once they are filled out they can be returned to the transfer station, dropped off at Town Hall or mailed to Rose Borgnis @ 56 Phillips Rd, Washington MA 01223 Your participation will be greatly appreciated. In the meantime if you have any ideas or concerns that you would like to discuss you can reach me at 413-623-2218 or by e-mail at washingtoncoa@gmail.com

To our fellow Washington residents:

August 2011

After a lively and informative presentation by Jim Barry, Regional Coordinator, Green Communities Division of MA Department of Energy Resources on July 11, the Select Board voted on 7/18 to pursue a Green Communities designation for the Town. Thirty-five MA communities have already achieved this designation, including our neighbors in Becket, Lenox and Pittsfield.

- The Town will need to meet five criteria, including the adoption of by-laws and expedited permitting for renewable energy sources, committing to reduce the Town's energy usage for both buildings and vehicles, and requiring any new construction to demonstrate energy efficiency.
- The work already by the Planning Board on our by-laws and the already improved efficiency of our lighting, heating and hot water at the Town Hall and the new garage doors at the Town Garage stand us in good stead.
- Outside of lowering costs and fossil fuel usage, as a Green Community the Town would be eligible for grants for further improvements.

On 7/18 the Select Board established an Ad Hoc Committee headed by Shaun Lennon to address issues of safety and access at the Town Hall and plan better use of its space. The first meeting of the committee will be Thursday August 4 at 7 at the Town Hall. As with all our meetings we would welcome anyone who wants to participate.

A few updates:

- The new boiler and hot water system have been installed in the Town Hall.
- The emergency generator for the Town Hall has been repaired.
- We received one bid for the insulation/siding of the Town Hall; the amount exceeds the funds available from the Federal EECB Grant by a considerable amount. Negotiations between our project manager at Berkshire Regional Planning and the MA Department of Energy are underway to see how we might use our grant money in other ways or if additional funding might be available.
- Thanks to Dave Fish for donating much of the old metal playground equipment he removed from the Town Hall grounds to the Parks Committee who plan to install at least some of the items at the Town Park.
- Maplewood's grounds have been spruced up, all of the debris and furniture has been removed from the interior and the culvert at the entrance will be replaced in anticipation of the Nursing Home Committee's issuing a Request for Proposals for its sale.
- The Select Board/Board of Health has agreed to enter into an Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) with twenty other Berkshire communities to regionalize many Board of Health services. The IMA sets up a governing board which will work out the details over the coming year. More information can be found at <http://bcboha.org/>. Click on Berkshire Public Health Alliance.
- There have been hints – amid the fire of excessive heat and the rain that seems to pop up when least expected – that we are finally into the sunny days and cool nights of a true Berkshire summer. Let's hope they last. Enjoy them.

Jim Huebner,
Select Board Chair

Shaun Lennon
Select Board Clerk

Mike Case
Select Board

Washington Cultural Council

The "Washington Cultural Council" will be accepting Grant applications from September 1st until October 15th, 2011 for the year 2012. Applications received after October 15, 2011 must have a Postal Stamp date of October 15, 2011 You may read about the guidelines on the internet

<http://www.massculturalcouncil.org/applications/lccguidelines.pdf>

Application forms will be left on the Town Clerk's front desk and will be available on line at the Massachusetts Cultural Council site on September 1, 2011.



Please send your Tracks info by 28th of the month to:
mrsabeski@mac.com or if you do not have email, call Lisa at 623.5088



Support Our Local Businesses

The Becket General

30 Washington Street
Becket, MA 01223
Al & Tracy Lussier, Owners
Coffee bar, Deli, Sandwiches & Pizza
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Ph: 623.5700 / Fax: 623.5707

Bucksteep Manor

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(413)623.5535

The Bucksteep Pub will be open with light fare
Friday 11am-4pm
Saturday 11am-4pm
Sunday 11am-4pm

Horace Mann Insurance Agency

Po Box 772 Becket Ma. 01223. Phone 413)
623-2112.
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carolandfrankr@carolandfrank.com
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