



October 2014

John F.X. Keator Memorial Pumpkin Walk

The John F.X. Keator Memorial Pumpkin Walk will be held on Friday, October 24th 6-10PM
Trick-or-Treating 6:30-7:30

Bonfire, Hayrides, Refreshments

We are looking for donations of votive candles & jars to put them in (baby food jars work) and monetary donations to help with the cost of pumpkins, candles and food for everyone.

Donations will be accepted at the Transfer Station until Saturday, October 18th.

We are always looking for more pumpkins! If you would like to carve one, please drop it off at the park Thursday evening or the Friday morning of the walk.

Please do NOT bring any pets to park events for everyone's safety :)

Senior Potluck

The monthly Senior potluck dinner will be held October 17 at town hall at 5:30 pm. This is a Halloween party, so plan to wear a costume and enjoy the pot luck. Washington Seniors should join this potluck. Enjoy the food and meet some new Washington friends.

Election Day Bake Sale

The Washington Scholarship Committee is seeking donations of baked goods for its Election Day bake sale which will be held at the Town Hall on Tuesday, November 4, from 7am-8pm. Those wishing to drop off baked goods may do so either Monday night, November 3, from 7-9 (leave in the kitchen refrigerator, labeled "for bake sale") or any time November 4.

In addition, volunteers are being sought to run the bake sale table. If you would be willing to help for an hour or two, please contact Linda Levernoch at 623-8309.

Thanks for helping to support our young people! Hope to see you on the 4th!

From the Town Clerks Office

Thanks to all who came out to vote in the State Primary on Tuesday, September 9. Of our 421 registered voters, we had 80 ballots cast; a 19% voter turnout. This is slightly above the state average of 17%

The general election will be on Tuesday, November 4 with polling hours from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Please come out and vote.

If you are not currently registered to vote in Washington or need to change your party enrollment, the deadline to do this for the general election is Wednesday, October 15. A voter registration session will be held on this date from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM and again from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

If you need an absentee ballot for the general election, please contact me and I will send you an application for an absentee ballot. You can also find the application on Elections Division website: www.sec.state.ma.us

A note from WMECO

"There will be two brief power outages during WMECO maintenance work that may affect some Washington residents. The first will take place on Tuesday October 7 at approximately 4:00 AM and the second on Saturday, October 11th at approximately 6:00 PM. Neither outage should exceed 30 minutes."

Public Hearing

There will be a public hearing at 7:30 pm at Town Hall on Monday, October 20, 2014 about the issuance of a liquor license to Family Unity International at Bucksteep.

Berkshire Botanical Garden

Live music, crafts, food, haunted house, silent auction, plant sale, book sale, gigantic tag sale, farmers market & fun activities for all ages.

Saturday & Sunday, October 11 & 12 10:00-5pm

Adults \$5, kids under 12 FREE. NO DOGS

Intersection of Rtes 102 & 183, Stockbridge, MA (413) 298-3926 www.berkshirebotanical.org

A letter from the Selectboard

To our fellow Washington residents:

October 2014

Congratulations to two Town employees: Dave Fish for being named a "Roads Scholar" by the Baystate Roads Program by completing 7 workshops to enhance his skills, and our newest Assessor, Greg Viner, for acing his accreditation exam.

Two of Washington's three signature events were held last month, the Hilltown Hoot on September 7 and the 105th annual Sons & Daughters reunion on September 14; the John F. X. Keator Pumpkin Walk will start at 6 pm on Friday October 24 at the Town Park. Taken together these unique events celebrate our Town and are possible only because of the hard work and volunteerism of our citizens.

- One memorable moment at the Hoot came from Arlo Guthrie who pointed out that in many places in the world people are afraid to even go out in public and that what we have in Washington should be valued and appreciated. Thanks to the three generations of Guthries who entertained us!
- The Sons & Daughters witnessed a changing of the guard: Judge Sacco stepped down after more than 15 years as Chairman and Carol Kennedy stepped down as Treasurer. Dick Grillon and Ellen Bond will replace them and Ken Nonken will backfill Dick as Vice-Chair. Special thanks to Trish Drugmand for stepping up to prepare the food when the expected caterer was not available.

Tennessee Gas Pipeline (TGP) has filed a preliminary notification with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for their proposed natural gas pipeline. The initial plan for the 36" pipeline does not call for a compressor station in Western Mass, but does talk about a metering facility in Dalton and adds an otherwise undefined "Pittsfield loop" of 1.8 miles of 12' pipe. The formal application will be made September 2015 with construction planned between January 2017 and November 2019. Construction dates for Berkshire County were not broken out. The FERC process is fully open to the public. The 14 page TGP application and a 2 page "fact sheet" are posted on the Town's website.

Dr. Putnam, our new Superintendent of Schools, is meeting with students, parents groups and all seven towns to gather information from which he will develop goals for the District. We welcomed him to the 9/15 Select Board meeting during which he listened to many ideas from attendees. We look forward to learning his plans - and appreciate his work as Hoot Emcee and musician!

Our tax rate for 2015 has been certified at \$13.41- two cents below last year's.

Free flu shots will be available at the Town Hall from 4:30 to 7:00 on Monday October 6.

Anyone who is using Airbnb or any similar service to rent out a house or room for short periods of time is reminded that Board of Health permits are required. If you are renting out your property please contact Jodi Hostetter.

Highway updates:

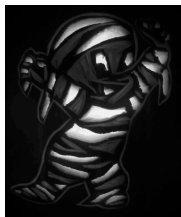
- We received many responses to our RFP to replace culverts on Lower Valley, Cross Place and Lower Sargent. We expect to have a proposal for our voters next month.
- No word yet from FEMA on grant funding for Depot Brook/Eden Glen; the National Park Service will do a site visit next week.

See you at the Pumpkin Walk!

Jim Huebner
Select Board Chair

Shaun Lennon
Select Board Clerk

Mike Case
Select Board



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