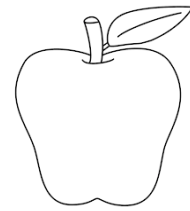


September 2015



106TH Annual WASHINGTON SONS AND DAUGHTERS

The Washington Sons and Daughters will be holding the 106th Annual reunion at the Old Town Hall on Washington Mountain Road on Sunday, September 13, 2015 beginning at 12:00 PM.

All Washington residents and anyone who has ever lived in the Town of Washington are welcome to join us. Bring your family, meet your neighbors and share your memories, stories, and the history of our town. Enjoy refreshments and entertainment.

BAKE CONTEST

Please bake your favorite PIE recipe and enter your baked goods in our contest. Please tape your name on the bottom of your plate. This is our dessert so please enter the contest and bring enough for all to share. Prizes will be awarded.

ENTERTAINMENT

We are proud to announce that this year's entertainment will be The Housatonic Philharmonic.

The Becket Federated Church puts out an annual calendar which YOU can be a part of. We do this fundraiser to help defray expenses for our church, so that we can continue to reach out to our community.

Businesses can purchase ad space by contacting Mary Peltier at 623-8844.

You'll see local businesses at a glance for Becket, Washington, Dalton and Pittsfield.

Residences can buy a calendar for \$5.00 and list family birthdays, anniversaries or in memory of for \$1.00 each - if you have more than 5 listings, then it's only \$.50 for each additional listing.

We thank you in advance for all of your support in this endeavor. God Bless.

To our Washington neighbors:

September 2015

Congratulations to Ralph Simmons on the award of the cane that honors the Town's oldest long-time resident. We hope Ralph owns the cane for a long, long time.

As high-speed internet comes to the Town it will be increasingly easy to operate a home business. While this is a positive development, we have to make sure that the character of the Town is preserved. Accordingly, the Select Board, Planning Board and Finance Committee agreed on an addition to the Town's by-laws at our joint meeting on August 17. The proposed new by-law would require anyone with a home business to register annually to make sure that all business activity conforms to our zoning.

- We also agreed on a course of action for Eden Glen. Phil Clark is developing more detailed costs for either the removal of the dam or the restoration of the site for swimming and recreation.
- The voters will be asked to decide on both of these issues – approval of the by-law and what to do in Eden Glen - at a Special Town Meeting (STM) we will schedule this Fall.

Update on our road and bridge projects:

- The contractor awarded the complete reconstruction of Washington Mountain Road will not complete the project before next spring. They may do the drainage basins this fall.
- Holden, the contractor for the Cross Place culvert design, now has promised to complete their work in time for construction this fall. We have told them that if they fail the Town will seek recovery of the money we have paid them.
- DOT's plans to go out for bids to replace the Summit Hill bridge over the CSX tracks next spring.
- Hinsdale has reconstructed Kirchner Road between the Town line and Dalton; our resurfacing of Blotz Road – which is in far better shape – may wait until next spring.

Thanks to Mike Case for agreeing to act as our Veterans' Agent while the details of Pittsfield taking over are still being worked out.

Tennessee Gas has announced that they will formally file for the proposed pipeline on October 23rd. The filing triggers a 20 day time period which interested parties may file as "interveners". We expect most of the municipalities directly affected to file. Meanwhile the group hosted by Berkshire Regional Planning (BRPC) continues to develop areas of concern to be submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regarding the potential impact of the pipeline.

- The legal counsel engaged by BRPC has sent a draft agreement which we expect to sign as part of our current participation.
- Since we do not expect the pipeline to directly affect us, we will also ask the voters at our next STM whether the Town should continue to participate in – and fund – this effort.

See you all at the Annual Sons & Daughters Reunion at the Old Town Hall on Sunday the 13th!

Jim Huebner
Select Board Chair

Shaun Lennon
Select Board Clerk

Mike Case
Select Board

The Town of Washington is currently seeking town residents interested in serving on the Washington Cultural Council. There are at least 2 vacancies on the council that need to be filled beginning in November. The Washington Cultural Council is part of a grass-roots network of 329 local councils that serve every city and town in the state. The program is the largest, most decentralized one of its kind in the United States. The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Massachusetts Cultural Council, which then allocates funds to each local council.

The Washington Cultural Council is responsible for awarding grants each year to support cultural activities in town and Berkshire County, using the funding the town receives from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. The Washington Cultural Council generally meets 3 times a year in the fall.

Anyone interested in serving on the council should contact Denise Johns at 413-358-8801 or email at nisijohns@gmail.com.



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www.washington-ma.com

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