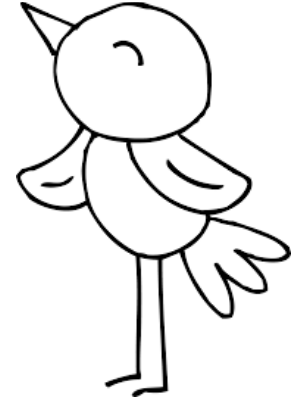
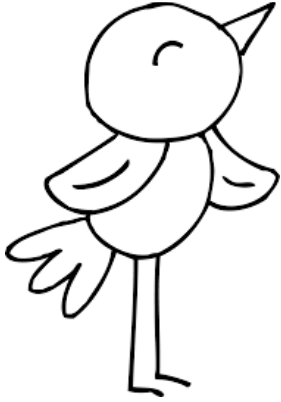




May 2017



TOWN of WASHINGTON SENIORS

POT LUCK DINNER

At the Town Hall 8 Summit Hill Road

May 19, 2017

Time 5:30PM

Please come and enjoy the pot luck dinner with the COA and have a relaxing evening in the company of your fellow Senior Town residents.

Also some important news regarding programs held at the Town Hall every week.

NEW - The Washington COA is sponsoring a "FREE" weekly Yoga session at the Town Hall, beginning Tuesday May 9th at 10AM, this class is open to all residents of the town. Please just bring your own padded mat to use. The class will be called: "Yoga for Healthy Bones" and will run for 8 weeks every Tuesday at 10AM, attend all or just one session.

Your instructor will be: Regina Burgio: She is a lifelong student of holistic living, a certified Yoga Alliance RYT 200-hr teacher through West Hartford Yoga, and is currently enrolled in the 500-hr training at Kripalu.

The COA also wants to remind its' seniors that it holds an Osteoporosis class every Thursday at 10AM, and a Tai-Chi/Qi-Gong class on Fridays at 1PM at the Town Hall. All classes are low key and designed to be enjoyable morning or afternoon sessions with your fellow residents or seniors.

PARK SPRUCE UP

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Folks will be meeting at the Town Park on May 6th at 9:00 AM to spruce up the Park.

Join us in raking, mulching, painting, debris removal to name a few tasks.

If you have any questions call Ed Bond at 623-5782.

Annual Town Meeting

The Annual Town Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 10, 2017 starting at 7:00 PM at the Washington Town Hall, 8 Summit Hill Road, Washington. The warrant for the Annual Town Meeting will be posted no later than Wednesday, May 3, 2017.

Annual Town Election

The Annual Town Election will be held on Saturday, May 20, 2017 at the Washington Town Hall, 8 Summit Hill Road, Washington. Polls will be open from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM.

Offices on the ballot this year are as follows:

- Auditor (1 year unexpired term):
 - No candidates on the ballot
- Finance Committee (3 year term):
 - Sean Connors, Incumbent, running unopposed
- Finance Committee (3 year term):
 - Richard Spencer, Incumbent, running unopposed
- Planning Board (5 year term):
 - No candidates on the ballot
- Select Board (3 year term):
 - Michael Case, Incumbent
 - Richard Grillon, running a write-in campaign
- Tax Collector (2 year unexpired term)
 - No candidates on the ballot

Absentee Ballots for Annual Town Election

Absentee ballots for the Annual Town Election are available. If you will not be able to vote in person at the Annual Town Election on Saturday, May 20, 2017, you can request an absentee ballot. The deadline to request an absentee ballot is Friday, May 19, 2017 at 12:00 PM. You have to request the absentee ballot in writing by either completing the absentee ballot application: <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleabsentee/absidx.htm> or sending a letter to the Town Clerk (postal or email letters are both accepted). Please allow time for the Town Clerk to receive and process your application/letter and mail you a ballot. Allison Mikaniewicz, Town Clerk, washingtontownclerk@yahoo.com or 413-623-2185.

The Becket Athenaeum and Becket Arts Center Announce Winter Evening Workshops

May 18 from 6-8:00. **NOTE : new date** October Mountain History and local Trail System Review presented by Alec Gillman, DCR West Regional Interpretive Coordinator. Alec will cover town histories, Whitney estate, formation of the state forest, Old Bill (the moose), CCC, Camp Eagle, at the Athenaeum, 3367 Main Street. We will serve wine, cheese, and crackers. Please call the Athenaeum by noon on 5/18 if you plan to attend so we can prepare seating. The number is 623-5483.

To our Washington neighbors:

May 2017

Thanks to all of you who took the time to vote in the April 8 special election for the Wahconah Feasibility Study. The measure was passed by a comfortable majority of all the Seven Towns citizens who voted, but Washington's turnout was high and our voters had the highest approval percentage of all.

- The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) will fund more than half of the study.
- The study will result in detailed plans for either refurbishing the high school or building a replacement. In either case MSBA will provide more than half the funding. Any actual construction will need to be approved by both the School Committee and the voters.
- Look for monthly updates on <http://www.CBRSD.org>.

Commonwealth Woodstove Change-Out Program: Massachusetts residents or businesses currently operating a non-EPA-certified wood stove or fireplace insert can get a rebate of up to \$1,750 - or even \$3000 If you meet certain income requirements — by replacing an existing stove with an eligible, cleaner and more efficient model. To see if you qualify, learn more about this year's program, and find a participating stove professional, visit <http://www.masscec.com/get-clean-energy/residential/commonwealth-woodstove-changeout>

Road & Bridge:

- We have issued an RFQ for the design of a bridge or culvert to replace the Middlefield Road over Coles Brook. We are hopeful that a replacement structure will be in place before winter.
- We are still waiting for the Eden Glen project preconstruction meeting to be scheduled; until then we don't know the planned dates for closing the road.
- We have communicated our concerns with Washington Mountain Road (deterioration of the roadbed, restoration of the Town Common, etc.) to DOT and the contractor.
- Work should be started on the Summit Hill Road bridge over the CSX tracks; school buses have been re-routed over the newly-improved Old Middlefield Rd and the Becket PO has arranged for mail deliveries.

The Select Board is considering a contract with Westfield Gas & Electric (WG&E) to design our high speed internet system. WG&E is a Municipal Light Plant, not a corporation, is recommended to us by WiredWest, is doing design work for other communities and provides high speed internet service in Westfield. The expected cost is significantly below what MBI has budgeted for us (the design will cost the Town nothing) and any unused appropriation can go towards construction.

We hope to see you all at the Annual Town Meeting, Wednesday May 10 at 7. There are two new by-laws for consideration: the first, "Revolving Funds", formalizes how the Town's various revolving funds for our inspectors and fund-raising activities are managed; the second, "Right to Farm", assures that any Town resident can pursue farming but precludes commercial farming.

Thanks to the many residents who have donated to the Emma Bailey fund the Town can carry on our long tradition of supporting our college-bound students.

Don't forget to vote in our Town elections Saturday May 20 from 12 to 4.

Jim Huebner

Tricia Drugmand

Mike Case

Select Board Chair

Select Board Clerk

Select Board



Washington Tracks
 Town Hall
 8 Summit Hill Rd.
 Washington, MA 01223

www.washington-ma.com

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The Olde Village Market
 Melissa Spagnuolo-Avalle
 30 Washington Rd
 Becket, MA
 (413) 623.6003
[fb theoldevillagemarket](http://fb.theoldevillagemarket)

Realtor & Notary
 Lisa Peltier
 500 S. Washington State Rd.
 (413) 822-1257

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 By appointment only

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 no exp. date

Email your TRACKS info by the 25th of the month to:
mrsabeski@mac.com
 Please put TRACKS in the subject line.