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Arctic Blast Sends Temperatures Tumbling!

Joe Roy recorded a temperature of -11° one recent morning and took this photo of the Williams river.

What's Happening At The Board of Selectmen?

Editor's note: Because of the past holidays, there are no Board of Selectmen Minutes to report in this issue. They will resume next month.

A Friendly Winter Season Reminder

By Curt Wilton, Highway Superintendent

Now that we've seen our first real snows of the season, I'd like to take a moment to remind everyone about snow removal etiquette. We will continue to clear the roads and sidewalks as efficiently as possible during and following storms and your cooperation would be great help to us. There are three snow-related Town bylaws that not everyone may be aware of:

1. Overnight parking (Chapter IV, Sec. 4). The Chief of Police shall have the authority to remove or cause to be removed from public ways any vehicle parked thereon, after reasonable effort to contact the owner thereof, which interferes with the normal functions of removing snow or ice there from, or normal cleaning/maintenance of the roadways. Any vehicle so removed shall be taken into a public garage and stored. The owner of such vehicle shall be liable for payment of charges incurred in removing the vehicle and storing the same in accordance with the provisions of MGL, Chapter 40 Section 22D, as amended.

2. Snow covered sidewalks (Chapter IV, Section 5). The owner of the premises, and his tenant or licensee, shall as soon as practical after any snowfall or ice storm, cause all public sidewalks abutting said premises to be cleared reasonably of such snow and/or ice and said sidewalk to be made usable by the public with as much safety as is possible under the circumstances.


3. Proper plowing (Chapter IV, Section 6). No person other than an employee in the service of the Town or an employee in the service of an independent contractor acting for the Town shall pile, push or plow snow or ice onto a Town way so as to impede the flow of traffic on such way. Whoever violates this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100).

In return for your patience and courtesy during heavy snowfalls, we will continue to do our absolute best to keep your roadways and pedestrian ways as safe and clear as we possibly can. Thanks for your help. ■



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Congregational Church Food for Thought Program

By Joanne Wodecki

On Monday, February 9th at 6pm, Thatcher Kent from Western Massachusetts Labor Action (WMLA) will be our guest speaker. WMLA is an all-volunteer, non-government funded membership association of low-income families who have built a self-help benefit program to address economic problems that many face in Berkshire County. This winter, thousands of working families are struggling with lost jobs or cuts in hours, while the cost of basic necessities such as heat, hot water, electricity, food and health care continues to rise.

WMLA's year-round program includes emergency food distributions, preventive medical care, non-emergency dental care, free legal advice and more. During the winter months, volunteers canvass the hardest hit neighborhoods to reach people who need the organization the most. Volunteer advocates fight for members to work out fair payment plans to prevent utility shut-offs and assist people in connecting to resources to get oil, while organizing to stop rate hikes and shut-offs. Volunteers also collect and distribute warm winter clothes and blankets. Volunteers are urgently needed all of the time!

Please join us and learn more about this organization, which is dedicated to helping those in need. A light soup and salad supper will be served. Free to the public. Please RSVP to (413) 232-4256 ext. 1. ■

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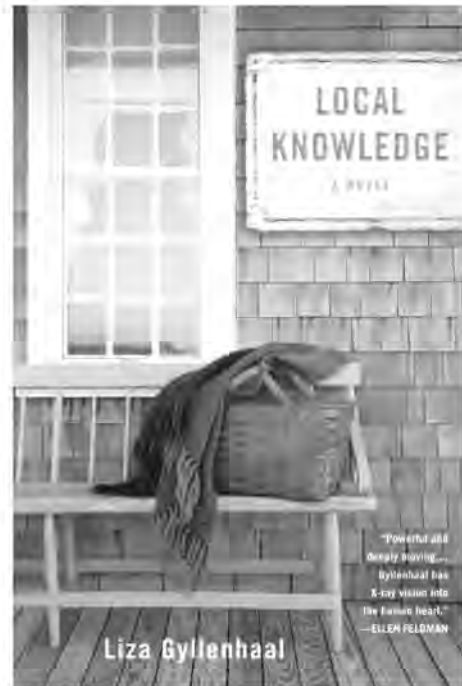
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Published by New American Library

Memories of Helen Zanconato

By Lenora Campoli, with Anita, Helen, Lenora & Linda

Born Helen Lena Barrett on October 6, 1919 in Brattleboro, Vermont, you moved all over the Berkshires from farm to farm until you finally settled in State Line. The one room school house, walking a mile to get there; the very hot irons under your bed to keep warm in the winter, are some of the many wonderful stories you told us.

Married February 26, 1938 to Vasco Zanconato, you moved to West Stockbridge for the rest of your life. You loved to embroider and enter them in the Great Barrington and Richmond Fairs and won ribbons for your excellent work. You were a 4-H and a Girl Scout Leader.

Sacrificing yourself, working very hard, being a stay at home Mom, you did this until we were in high school. Then you went out and found your first job at Iona's Millenary (Hat Factory) from 1962-1972; then the Individual Laundry in Great Barrington from 1972 until you retired in 1984. Buying your own car, you finally had a little life of your own.

You took care of Diane Yeager in 1958 while her mom was getting her degree and later Joey Barrett. You really enjoyed walking him to and from school and



taking care of him after school. You worked very hard all of your life, you took care of our Pop-Pop and your daughters four. Not really complaining most of the time.

Our father was called home on October 20, 2007. This was a shock to all of us, especially you. You missed him so much as we do; you tried really hard to continue and as the weeks went by you were doing pretty good on your own. We knew the month of February was coming which meant a great deal to you – father's birthday, Valentine's Day, and your anniversary, too.

Quietly at home, early Monday morning, February 4, 2008, you left us to be with father, we think. To be early enough to celebrate a full day of his 98th birthday on Feb. 7, Valentine's Day, and especially we know you didn't want to miss being with him forever on your 70th anniversary on Feb 26.

Your work was finished here on Earth, you did the best you could; now you're in heaven, never tired again. God blessed you as you reached heaven's door. I'm sure father greeted you plus many, many more: No-no, your son, your grandson, your mom and dad, your brothers and sisters; all those special people you ever had. ■

*Thank you Mom from your
daughters four,
Thank you Grammy from your
grandchildren twelve,
Thank you Gt. Grammy from your
Gt. Grandchildren eleven,
Thank you from your family and
your friends
For loving us the way you did and
for being you.*

*WE ALL LOVE YOU
AND MISS YOU BOTH SO
VERY, VERY MUCH
AND GOD BLESS YOU
ALWAYS*

Special Town Meeting Slated for February 9th

The Board of Selectmen has called a Special Town Meeting on Monday, February 9th at 7:00 pm in the Conference Room of the Town Offices at the Village School. The Warrant has six articles seeking Town Meeting approval. The following is a look at the articles on the agenda.

Article One: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from certified free cash the sum of \$22,000 and appropriate the same amount to the FY2009 Highway Construction account.

This article seeks to correct a shortfall created by an unanticipated increase in blacktop costs related to this year's paving projects.

Article Two: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from certified free cash the sum of \$18,000 and appropriate the same amount to FY 2009 Unemployment Account.

This article seeks to correct a deficit in this account caused by a claim filed by a former Town employee.

Article Three: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from certified free cash the sum of \$27,000 and appropriate same amount to the FY 2009 Town Counsel account.

This article seeks to correct a deficit in this account caused by the J. S. Lane vs. Town lawsuit.

Article Four: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from certified free cash the sum of \$10,000 and appropriate the same amount to the FY 2009 Town Buildings account.

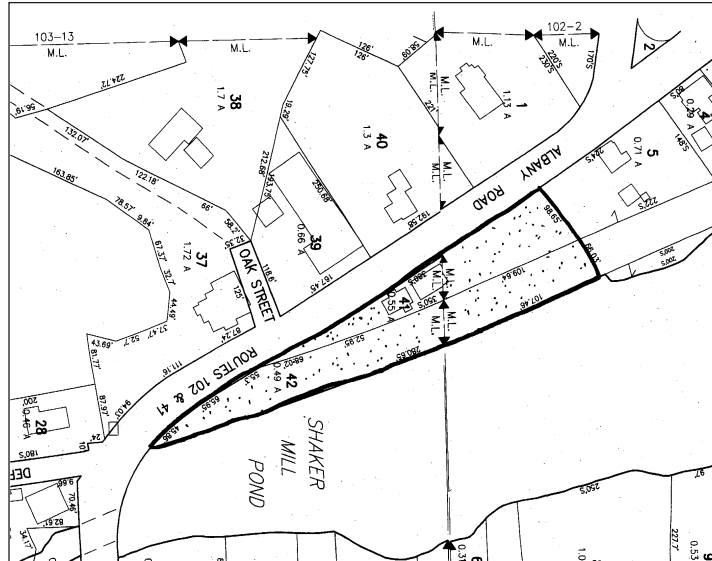
This article seeks to correct an anticipated deficit in this account caused by the unanticipated higher cost of heating fuel oil.

Article Five: To see if the Town will vote to charge for each written demand issued by the Town

Collector a fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) to be added to and collected as part of the tax, as authorized by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60 Section 15, effective July 1, 2009.

This article seeks to increase the current demand fee for delinquent taxes from five dollars to ten dollars.

Article Six: To see if the Town will vote to amend its Zoning Bylaws as follows: As per attached map, change a section of the Town of West Stockbridge Zoning Map from Manufacturing to Commercial to include two parcels described as follows on Town of West Stockbridge Assessors' Maps: Map 104 Lot 41 and Map 104 Lot 42.



A zoning change will be voted on

This article requires a two-thirds vote for approval.

Article Seven: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from certified free cash the sum of \$167.10 and appropriate the same for the purpose of paying a prior year (FY 2008) bill for an outstanding obligation to the Planning Board Secretary.

This Article requires a nine-tenths vote for approval. ■



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WSLY "Santa's Wish List" Appeal Donations

In our December 2008 issue, the Local Yokel included an appeal for donations to the West Stockbridge Fire and Rescue Department, the Friends of the West Stockbridge Library, The West Stockbridge Parks and Recreation Committee and (of course!) the West Stockbridge Local Yokel. The result was a total of \$1,725 raised for these worthy causes.

We thank all of those who gave so generously. Here are the results:

Fire and Rescue Services:	\$725.00
Friends of the Library:	\$305.00
Parks and Recreation:	\$290.00
The Local Yokel:	\$405.00

Parks and Recreation News

Open Gym will be held the week of February vacation, February 16th thru February 20th. Look for posters around town for details in the next couple of weeks. The Parks and Recreation Committee has received some interest in forming a Unicycling Club. If you have any interest, please contact Eileen Quinn for details at emquinn@verizon.net.

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee will be Tuesday, February 10th at 6:30 pm at the Town Hall. As always, anyone is welcome to attend and we are always looking for new members and ideas. ■



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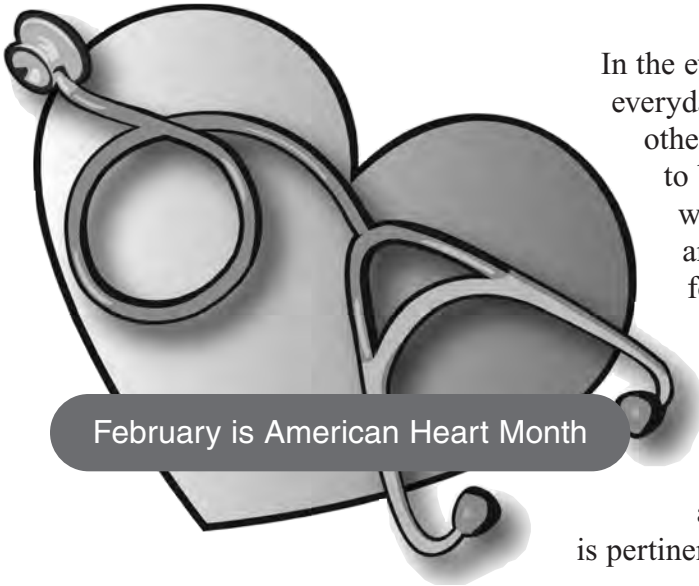
CHA FEBRUARY EVENT SCHEDULE			
DATE	EVENT	TIME	PLACE
February 4	Office Blood Pressure Clinic	9:00am-10:00am	West Stockbridge Town Offices
February 5	Richmond Blood Pressure Clinic	9:00am-10:00am	Congregational Church
February 11	Office Blood Pressure Clinic	9:00am-10:00am	West Stockbridge Town Offices
February 18	Office Blood Pressure Clinic	9:00am-10:00am	West Stockbridge Town Offices
February 19	Richmond Blood Pressure Clinic	9:00am-10:00am	Congregational Church
February 25	Office Blood Pressure Clinic	9:00am-10:00am	West Stockbridge Town Offices

Health and Wealth Program Description: The vision of the program is to promote wellness and to give people the tools to create a foundation of health and well being in their own lives.

Appointments are suggested for the office clinics, so please call
 Emilie Jarrett RN., CHA director, at 413.232.0122.

Do You Know Your Numbers?

By *Luci Leonard*



In the evolving world we live in numbers are a part of our everyday existence. Some affect our financial health while others our physical health. The numbers we are urging you to become aware of is your cholesterol. Cholesterol is a waxy substance found in all cells of your body and among the fats in your bloodstream. It is very important for our health related to cell membrane growth and some hormones. There are two sources of cholesterol: food and your body. Genetic testing of your cholesterol can give you a preview of your heart health risks. Elevated levels of cholesterol may cause cardio-vascular disease, which may lead to a heart attack. Prevention is the key. Management of cholesterol is pertinent. Let's look at a few measures to evaluate often:

- Get a free cholesterol screening! 2nd Thursday each month, 2–4 pm at Town Hall.
- Diet – go lean and decrease saturated fat. Eat 5-9 servings of fruits & vegetables daily.
- Be Active – during winter months walk around the open gymnasiums in the area.
- Maintain a healthy weight.
- Your BMI (body mass index) can be a measuring tool. To calculate your exact BMI, multiply your weight in pounds by 703. Divide by your height in inches; divide again by your height in inches. A BMI of 25+ is considered overweight/obese
- Talk openly with your health care provider. Write down questions before your appointment.

February is American Heart Month. Information in this article was adapted from www.americanheart.org. CHP-Healthy Communities Access Project provides free cardiovascular screenings and health insurance enrollment assistance. For additional inquires, call (413) 528-9311 ext. 2147. ■

What's your BMI (Body Mass Index)?

Height	Minimal risk (BMI under 25)	Moderate risk (BMI 25–29.9) Overweight	High risk (BMI 30 and above) Obese
4'10"	118 lbs. or less	119–142 lbs.	143 lbs. or more
4'11"	123 or less	124–147	148 or more
5'0"	127 or less	128–152	153 or more
5'1"	131 or less	132–157	158 or more
5'2"	135 or less	136–163	164 or more
5'3"	140 or less	141–168	169 or more
5'4"	144 or less	145–173	174 or more
5'5"	149 or less	150–179	180 or more
5'6"	154 or less	155–185	186 or more
5'7"	158 or less	159–190	191 or more
5'8"	163 or less	164–196	197 or more
5'9"	168 or less	169–202	203 or more
5'10"	173 or less	174–208	209 or more
5'11"	178 or less	179–214	215 or more
6'0"	183 or less	184–220	221 or more
6'1"	188 or less	189–226	227 or more
6'2"	193 or less	194–232	233 or more
6'3"	199 or less	200–239	240 or more
6'4"	204 or less	205–245	246 or more

Chart from www.americanheart.org



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There must be at least ONE person out there...

Last month the Local Yoke! Editors ran an ad for someone to help a few hours a month with mailing, and didn't hear from anyone. Couldn't you give just a few hours a month to help our all-volunteer staff? Please call John Parker at 413-232-4123 or Tina Skorput Cooper at 413-717-2963.

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Peter Thorne Woodworking And Design

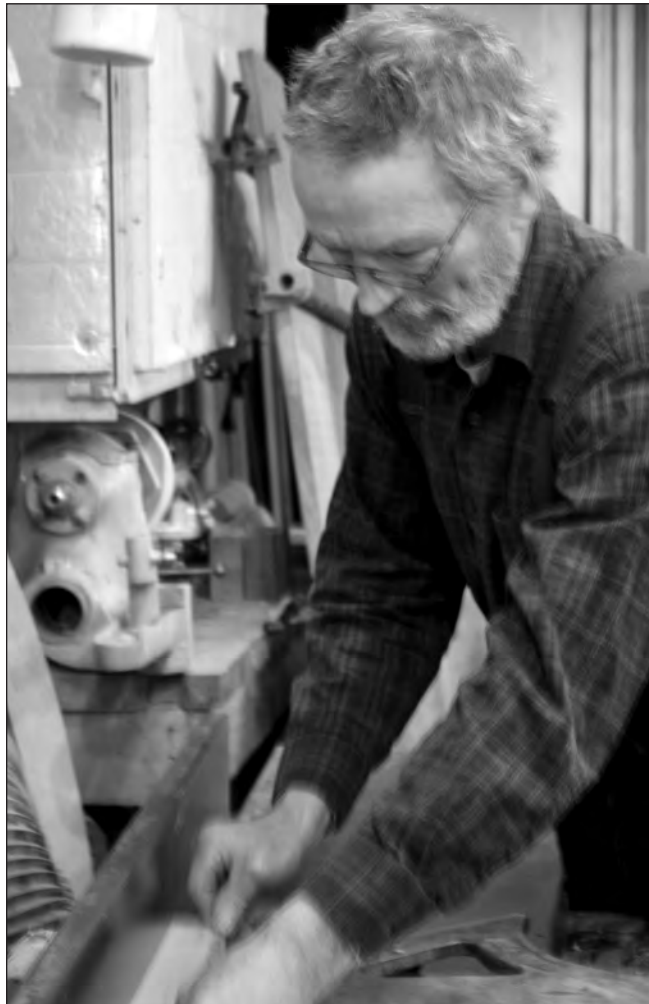
By Brucie Jacobs

Peter Thorne, professional woodworker and designer, is busy these days. With numerous custom jobs simultaneously underway, he spends much of his time in his shop, a two-story yellow barn in West Stockbridge. Demand for his work is strong, even in the face of the current economic crisis.

Thorne can build almost anything in the woodworking realm, including all sizes and styles of tables and chairs and cabinets, beds and pedestals, antique reproduction furniture, and more. He has built custom rocking chairs, and recently completed a 10-foot long dining room table – made from white ash. There’s nothing he can think of that he wouldn’t want to build. “That’s the beauty of it,” he said. “Each piece is a new piece, and one of a kind. Even though I make a lot of cabinets, every one is different.”

Interestingly, Thorne noted that the type of furniture (and wood) that clients want tends to be cyclical. Whatever style happens to be popular at any given time is what most people favor. Not long ago, reproduction antique furniture – Queen Anne chairs, for example – was in high demand, and a significant portion of Thorne’s work. But now, he said, “Modern is in.” Even antique stores are selling 20th century furniture.

Thorne makes furniture from all types of wood, including mahogany, teak, white ash, oak, maple, cherry, wenge, walnut, and so on. While he purchases most of his wood locally – several sources are located within a 20-minute drive from West Stockbridge – he sometimes drives for hours to pick up wood for particular jobs.



Custom woodworker and designer Peter Thorne at work in his shop.

Photo by: Brucie Jacobs

One visit to Thorne’s shop shows right away the deep respect he has for wood, and for fine woodworking. Templates used for building different pieces of furniture are stored neatly in place. Against one wall sits a beautiful, old 12-inch Oliver jointer machine – used to square boards before gluing them. And an enormous American-made band saw dominates one corner of the shop, drawing your eye. Thorne bought it from a wood shop at Kripalu, saving it from the scrap bin. Upstairs is Thorne’s office, as well as a room reserved for finish work.

Born in North Wales, Peter Thorne moved with his family to Great Barrington when he was 14. Even as a young boy, he knew that he loved working with wood; by the time he was in his twenties, he was doing carpentry work at Turner and Cook (known as the Buggy Whip Factory) in Southfield, MA. Afterward, he spent three years working in Hancock Shaker Village’s reproduction shop, an

experience he said was “a good lesson for my eye, for seeing proportions...and a good lesson in joinery.”

Since 1990, Thorne has devoted himself exclusively to custom woodworking. Though he enjoys being his own boss, and running his one-man shop, he does subcontract some finish and veneer work to others in the area.

When I met with him recently, Thorne was making the legs for a bed that a Berkshire County client commissioned to be built from white oak. The bed’s proportions and intricate design features were laid out on paper, which Thorne noted is an important step in any custom furniture order. Once a client and Thorne have agreed upon the design and size, then they finalize the price. ‘It all works out pretty well,’ Thorne said, adding that, “The first pitfall of custom work is to bid too low...it’s important to have a conversation with people about budget as well as design.

Thorne is not only a professional woodworker, but also a talented designer. Kitchen design is one of his specialties, and he takes on several kitchen projects every year. Coordinating with the homeowner and builder from start to finish, he subcontracts work when necessary, but often buys certain kitchen components himself, and assembles them.

Thorne’s clients cover a broad spectrum. The majority are residential—many living in western Massachusetts, others in Boston and New York, and some in California and other states. He has also received commissions from Harvard University, Smith College, the Kennedy Library, and other well-regarded institutions. Whoever the client happens to be, however, Thorne’s goal is to work with them to move from an original concept to the articulation of a finished piece.

Thorne is President of the non-profit Berkshire Woodworkers Guild, a group of professional woodworkers who live and work in the vicinity of Berkshire County. The purpose of the Guild, which meets monthly, is for its members to exchange information, and to share expertise, tools, and business opportunities. They also work to promote awareness of the benefits, the integrity, and the availability of custom woodworking. Every summer, the Guild holds a furniture show, sale, and silent auction at the Berkshire Botanical Garden in

Stockbridge. For more information about the Guild and its individual members, visit www.berkshirewoodworkers.org.

A story about Peter Thorne would probably be incomplete without mention of the American flag that sits upon the ridge of hills overlooking West Stockbridge from the east. Shortly after 9/11, he felt inspired to raise a flag up there, and so he did. In time, however, it became clear that the flag would need more support, so Thorne, along with his wife Sarah, their daughters, and other family members and friends took on the ambitious task of hauling a metal base and a 22-foot pole to the top of the ridge. “The flag’s doing well now,” Thorne said. It’s visible from his shop; looking through an upstairs window, he can tell which way the wind is blowing simply by glancing at the flag.

Peter Thorne, and Thorne Woodworking and Design, can be reached at 413-232-7098. ■



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Safety Tips for Open Burning Season

Adapted from Mass.gov Fire Safety

Open Burning Season started January 15 and ends April 30. A permit is required from the Fire Department. Permits can be obtained from the Public Market, Williams River Country Store and Baldwin's Hardware Store. The cost of the permit is \$2.00 and it is good for two days.

Burning can be done from 10 am to 4 pm and must be a minimum of 75 feet from all buildings or structures. Weather conditions can change rapidly, especially in the spring. The Fire Chief will determine on a daily basis when it is safe to conduct open burning, permits can be rescinded.

Burning the following materials with a permit is allowed:

- Brush, cane, driftwood and forestry debris from other than commercial or industrial land clearing operations.
- Materials normally associated with the pursuit of agricultural such as fruit tree pruning, dead raspberry stalks, blueberry patches for pruning purposes and infected bee hives for disease control.
- Tree and brush resulting from agricultural land clearing.
- Fungus infected elm wood, if no other acceptable means of disposal is available.

Burning the following materials is prohibited statewide:

- Brush, trees, cane and driftwood from commercial and/or industrial land clearing operations.
- Grass, hay, leaves, stumps and trees.
- Construction materials and debris.

To safely ignite and tend the fire:

- An adult should always be present during open burning and children and pets should be kept a safe distance away.
- Use paper and kindling to start the fire and add progressively larger pieces of wood, parts of a leftover Christmas tree may also be used.
- Never use gasoline, kerosene or any other flammable liquid to start a fire because the risk of personal injury is high.
- Burn one small pile at a time and slowly add to it. This will help keep the fire from getting out of control.
- Select a location away from any utility lines.
- While the fire is burning, an adult must attend the fire until it is completely extinguished.



Have Fire Control Tools on Hand:

- Have fire extinguishment materials on hand including a water supply, shovels and rakes.
- The water supply could be a pressurized water fire extinguisher, a pump can or garden hose, and be sure to test it out before igniting the fire. You do not want to find that the water is still shut off at the house faucet or that the hose is cracked when you need it most.

Watch the wind.

Be prepared to extinguish your fire if the winds pick up or weather changes. Use common sense and don't wait for the fire department to contact you that it has become unsafe to burn. A sudden wind change is how most open burning gets out of control.

Don't delay calling for help.

If for some reason the fire should get out of control, call the fire department immediately. Use the utmost caution to prevent injury to yourself or family members or damage to your home. People conducting illegal burning, or who allow a fire to get out of control, may be held liable for costs of extinguishing the fire and may be subject to fines or possible imprisonment.

April is usually the worst month for brush fires.

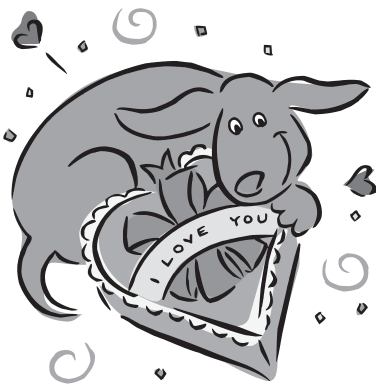
When the snow pack recedes and before new growth emerges, last year's dead grass, leaves and wood can cause dangerous fires. Winds also tend to be stronger and more unpredictable during April.

Prevent wildfires by burning during wet snowy conditions.

Prevent permit fires from becoming wild fires by burning early in the season. Wet and snowy conditions hinder the rapid spread of fire on or under the ground. Weather conditions and increased fire danger may lead to many days when burning cannot be allowed.

Alternatives to Open Burning.

Open burning releases large amounts of carbon dioxide, other gases, and solid substances directly into the air, which can contribute to respiratory problems. Disposal of natural materials is never as good for the environment as using them again in a different form. Tree limbs, brush and other debris can be chipped or composted into landscaping materials. ■



Pay Your W. Stockbridge Taxes Online!

To accommodate our residents who want the convenience of paying West Stockbridge taxes online, we've added a *NEW* payment option. To pay your Real Estate or Personal Property Tax, have your bill and checkbook or credit card in hand, and then...

- 1) Go to: *www.weststockbridge-ma.gov*
- 2) Look for: **Quick Links for Residents**
- 3) Click on **Pay Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes**
- 3) Complete each screen to process your payment.

Credit card payments are accepted.

It's convenient, fast and secure.
See June Biggs in the Collector's Office more information.



Recipe Corner

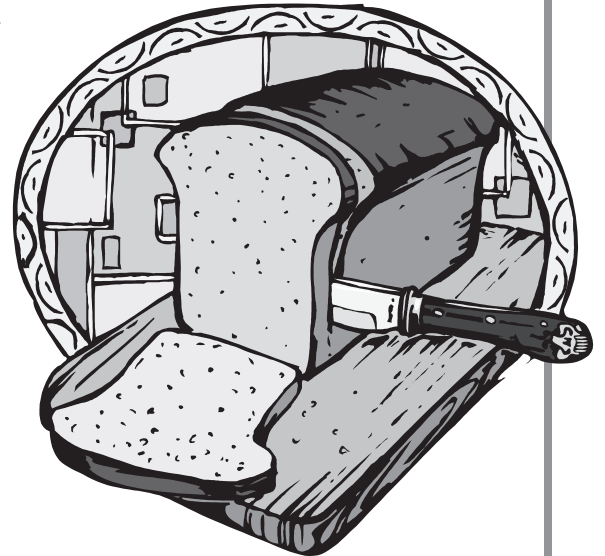
By Lynn Ryan

The BEST Zucchini Bread at Zuke Fest 2008

Because of the huge outpouring of zucchini bread entries this past year, we will have a special category this year just for breads. This recipe by Robin DelGrande won first place in the category. It is soooooo good!

- 2-2/3 cups sugar
- 2/3 cup Crisco
- 3 cups zucchini (shredded)
- 2/3 cups water
- 4 eggs
- 3-1/3 cups flour
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 tsp. baking soda
- 2 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 2 tsp. ground cloves
- 2 tsp. Baldwin's (of course) vanilla extract
- 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 2/3 cup chopped walnuts (optional)
- 2/3 cup raisins
- 2/3 cup chocolate chips

Mix first five ingredients. Mix in vanilla and then add dry ingredients. Add to the zucchini mixture. Stir in walnuts, raisins and chocolate chips. Put into lightly greased and floured bread pans and bake at 350 degrees for about an hour.
Makes 2-3 loaves.



Send your favorite recipes to Lynn Ryan, 17 Lenox Road, West Stockbridge, MA 01266



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HELP WANTED: Life Guard

The Town of West Stockbridge Parks and Recreation Committee is looking for a Life Guard for the 2009 summer season at Card Pond. Interested applicants may contact Tina Bardwell at 413.232.4628 for further information.



PTA Spring Celebration Bid For Education

By Jenni Roy Hallock

Calling all businesses, crafters, entertainers, babysitters, therapists, bakers – calling everyone! Our Muddy Brook Silent Auction is approaching and we are gathering goods and services for bid right now. We offer wonderful exposure to all of our participants. This year, we are trying something different. Instead of having a one night event, we are holding the Silent Auction on-line from March 20th to April 3rd. This allows for much greater advertisement benefit for all of our generous sponsors and involves our entire community much more.

Please contact me regarding any questions, donations, or if you would like to volunteer your time for our Spring Celebration Bid For Education. Thank you! Jenni Roy Hallock, 232-4322. ■



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Library News

By Danielle Chretien



February may be the shortest month of the year, but that does not mean that it is any less busy. Automation has begun and is an exciting process. One concern has come up repeatedly: How are people going to know what new books are popular? Many people used circulation cards to judge how popular an item was. With automation, circulation cards will no longer be needed.

I have developed a combination of methods to keep everyone informed of new additions to the collection. The first will be a list of new books located at the end of the new shelf. Every time a book is loaned out I will place a mark next to the title. This will not only allow everyone to see what new items are in the collection but also how popular they are. The second part of this new system will work with your help. When you take out a new item, before you return it, please take the time to write down what you thought about the book. This could be as simple as “Liked it,” or longer.

The Library will be open for the local schools’ February vacation and we have a variety of programs in the works. Keep an eye on our blog www.wspl.blogspot.com for upcoming programs and events, including a movie afternoon on the 20th of February, featuring *Horton Hears a Who*.

Your suggestions are always welcome. If you have an author or a book that you have heard about please let me know and I’ll do my best to locate a copy. Have a wonderful month – I look forward to seeing you soon. ■

LIBRARY SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY		
DATE	EVENT	TIME
Every Wednesday	Knitting Group	2:00pm
Every Thursday	Scrap Booking Group	4:00pm - 6:00pm
First Friday of the month	Book Club	6:00pm

Conservation Commission News

At its first meeting of the New Year on January 8th, the West Stockbridge Conservation Commission reorganized. The Commission received a letter of resignation from long time Commission member, Chris Williams of West Stockbridge. Chris retired from the Commission effective the 1st of January. Chris was an active member of the Commission for many years, volunteering countless hours to the Town of West Stockbridge.

Lori Rose of West Stockbridge has become a Commission member after serving as the Commission’s Alternate Member for the past two years. The Conservation Commission is seeking a new Alternate to the Conservation Commission. If you are interested in becoming an Alternate, please contact the Conservation Commission at 232-0300 ext. 338 or email clerk@weststockbridge-ma.gov. John Masiero and Ed Denham also stepped down as co-chairmen of the Commission, handing over the reins to Jon Piasecki and Steve Mack. ■

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Local Yokel Donor Roll Call

January 2009

Adelaide Rusch

Thanks to everyone who has donated to WSLY. We couldn't do it without your support! Keep the Local Yokel coming. Please send your gift today! (See response form on page 19.)

West Stockbridge Compactor Station

Bill's Recycling Tip of the Month:



Residents using the Transfer Station are allowed on the premises during regular operating hours only due to liability restrictions. The gate may be open at other times for routine maintenance (e.g. mowing, plowing), but no one else should enter at these times. Thank you!

Hours: Tues., Thurs. 10am-6pm

Sat. 8am-6pm

Phone: 232-0307

Bill Pixley, Attendant



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February Birthdays

Feb. 2	Bernie Fallon Liz DiGrigoli
Feb. 4	Tina Skorput Cooper
Feb. 13	Peter Skorput
Feb. 14	Donna Piretti
Feb. 21	Casey Dupont
Feb. 22	Gabriella Thierling
Feb. 28	Isabella DiGrigoli

The Local Yokel is published monthly. Please send submissions to: The Local Yokel, P.O. Box 238, West Stockbridge, MA, 01266. Deadline is the second Friday of each month prior to the month of publication. Editors: Tina Skorput Cooper, 413-717-2963, wstnclerk@msn.com; John Parker, 413-232-4123, jandlparker49@verizon.net; Vicki Grayson, vicki.grayson@rocketmail.com. Creative Director: Karen Rusch, RuschDirect, 413-274-6800.

Community News & Events

Stockbridge Grange Holds Monthly Dinner

The Stockbridge Grange will serve a public Roast pork dinner, family style in the Grange Hall on Church Street in Stockbridge on Sunday, February 8th from 1:00PM to 2:00PM. The cost is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12 years of age. Take out is available by calling 298-3185.

Town Clerk's Office

2009 Annual Street Listing Forms (Census) are in the mail. Please take the time to review the information on the form and send them back to the Town Clerk's Office as soon as possible. If you did not receive a form, please contact my office and one will be sent to you.

Dog Licenses

2009 Dog Licenses are available at the Town Clerk's Office starting February 2, 2009. All dogs

six months and older must be licensed by April 1, 2009. The fee for licensing is as follows: Male/Female Dogs (Intact): \$12.00 each and Spayed/Neuter Dogs \$6.00 each. When licensing your dog(s) please remember to have a valid rabies certificate available. A license will not be issued without one and there is a fine for dogs that do not have current rabies shots. Licensing reminders will go out to all 2008 dog owners in the beginning of February, please contact the Town Clerk's Office with any questions.

Town Caucus

Before we know it, spring will be here and it will be time to think about Annual Town Elections! The Town Caucus is currently scheduled for March 30, 2009. More information on the Town Caucus will be in the March edition of the Local Yokel.



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Every issue costs us about \$600 to print!

Please help us keep the Local Yokel Coming!

With increased printing and postage costs, we need your help more than ever. To get the latest Town news, please contribute to The Local Yokel. For your donation of at least \$20.00 per year we will mail each issue to you (unless you prefer otherwise). The Local Yokel will continue to be available free at selected locations as long as possible, but we hope you will contribute anything you can at our Contribution Jars you'll see around town in the next few months.

YES! I want to support the **Local Yokel**.

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get a YKL Bumper Sticker
FREE!

Check any that apply:

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- Thanks, but don't mail the *Local Yokel* to me. Save the postage. I'll pick it up myself.

Please mail this form with your check to:

WSLY
P.O. Box 238
West Stockbridge, MA 01266.

Name (as you want it to appear in acknowledgements)

Address (location you would like the Local Yokel and/or Bumper Sticker sent)

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Town Government Offices and Hours	
Assessors Office	Tues. 5-7pm; Wed., Thurs., 9:30-12:30pm; Sat. morning by appointment
Board of Health	Fri. 9am-4pm
Board of Selectmen	Mon. thru Fri., 8:30am-4:30pm
Building Inspector	Tues. 4-7pm
Compactor Station	Tues., Thurs., 10am-6pm; Sat. 8am-6pm
Conservation Commission	Leave a message for inquiries
Fire Department	Fire Chief's Office Hours Mon. 6:30pm-9:00pm
Highway Department	Leave a message any time
Library	Tues. 12 Noon-5pm; Wed. 1-5pm; Thurs. and Fri. 2-6pm; Sat. 10-2pm
Police Department	24 hours, 7 days a week
Post Office	Lobby: 7am-7pm, 7 days/week Window: Mon.-Fri. 9am-4:30pm; Sat. 9-12 noon
Town Accountant	Leave a message for inquiries
Town Clerk	Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 8am-3pm
Town Collector	Wed. 4pm-6pm; Thurs., Fri., Sat. 10am-2pm
Town Treasurer	Thurs. 9am-4pm

Phone Directory	
Town Hall Main Number	413-232-0300
Town Clerk	ext. 300
Town Collector	ext. 302
Board of Assessors	ext. 303
Library	ext. 308
Building Inspector	ext. 313
Board of Health	ext. 314
Treasurer	ext. 316
Accountant	ext. 317
Board of Selectman Administrative Assistant	ext. 319
Conservation Commission	ext. 338
Town Hall Fax	413-232-7195
Police Department (Non-Emergency)	413-232-8500
Fire Department (Non-Emergency)	413-232-4200
Highway Department	413-232-0305
Transfer Station	413-232-0307
Sewer Plant	413-232-0309
Seasonal Lifeguard	413-232-0315
Council on Aging	413-232-4317
Post Office	413-232-8544

Official Town Government Website: www.weststockbridge-ma.gov

**The Local Yokel is online at the Community and Business Website:
www.weststockbridgetown.com**

West Stockbridge
Local Yokel
 P.O. Box 238
 West Stockbridge, MA
 01266

The Local Yokel is supported in part by a grant from the West Stockbridge Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.



massculturalcouncil.org

FEBRUARY 2009

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

FEBRUARY 2009 Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	TIME	PLACE
February 5	Board of Health Meeting	7:00pm	Town Offices
	Conservation Commission Meeting	7:00pm	Town Offices
February 8	Stockbridge Grange Dinner	1:00pm - 2:00pm	Stockbridge Grange Hall
February 9	Special Town Meeting	7:00pm	Town Offices
	Board of Selectmen's Meeting	6:30pm	Town Offices
	Food For Thought Program	6:00pm	Congregational Church
February 10	Parks and Recreation Meeting	6:30pm	Town Offices
February 13	Local Yokel Submissions Deadline for March Issue		
February 14	HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!		
February 16	PRESIDENT'S DAY – TOWN OFFICES CLOSED		
February 16-20	WINTER SCHOOL VACATION BRHSD		
	Open Gym Week	TBA	Town Offices
February 17	Finance Committee Meeting	6:30pm	Town Offices
February 23	Board of Selectmen's Meeting	6:30pm	Town Offices
February 25	Ash Wednesday		