

WNAW –AM 1230

ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT

NORTH ADAMS MASSACHSETTS

**JANUARY. FEBRUARY. MARCH
2015**

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North Adams, Massachusetts

ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT

JANUARY – FEBRUARY – MARCH
2015

COMMUNITY ISSUES IN THE 1ST QUARTER OF 2015

What were the issues in our community? Read on.

BMC EXPANDS SERVICES AT BMC NORTH CAMPUS

Berkshire Medical Center expanded services in March at its Northern Berkshire Campus in order to help provide for the health needs of the northern Berkshires. The operating rooms at the former hospital are being put back into use after a nearly \$1 million upgrade. Two of the four surgical suites at the Northern Berkshire Campus of Berkshire Medical Center were to begin orthopedic outpatient surgeries. Other outpatient services have previously been restored. All of this comes after North Adams Regional Hospital suddenly closed its doors last year. The community and local advocacy groups continue to push for a full service hospital in North Adams.

KINDER MORGAN STILL TRYING TO GAIN PUBLIC APPROVAL

Kinder Morgan continues to gain the public's approval of their proposed Natural gas pipeline, as the topic remains prevalent in local community meetings and council meetings. The company did at one point change the proposed route to try to satisfy some residents that were vehemently opposed to the planned route. As of February, the proposed natural gas pipeline would pass through Cheshire, Dalton, Windsor, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesborough and Peru.

POTHoles, POTHoles, POTHoles

The city of North Adams and the surrounding northern Berkshires towns are dealing with a massive crop of giant potholes – the result of a very brutal winter and the subsequent frost heaves. Faced with a large undertaking and high cost, the Berkshires received some help in the form of infrastructure improvement money released to the county by Governor Charlie Baker.

CITY AND TOWN BUDGET CHALLENGES

The City of North Adams and other local towns in the northern Berkshires, dealt with the lengthy process of the formation and passage of their 2016 fiscal budgets. The new fiscal year begins July 1st.

Gamma Broadcasting 2015

WNAW –AM 1230

ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT



**JANUARY. FEBRUARY. MARCH
2015**

NEWS

This is a sampling of news copy presented on air during a normal broadcast Day.

The Berkshire News Network provides extensive and rounded coverage of stories throughout Berkshire County and beyond. Stories are shared between stations on a daily basis

NA 01-05-15

NORTH ADAMS MAYORAL CANDIDATE CITED FOR CAMPAIGN FINANCE ERRORS (NA)

Former North Adams mayoral candidate Robert Moulton Jr. has been warned by the state Office of Campaign and Political Finance for apparently mishandling campaign funds in 2013. Office director Michael Sullivan found Moulton, who was defeated by incumbent Mayor Richard Alcombright in the November 2013 election, received in-cash and anonymous donations in violation of state regulations. The November decision, which has since circulated on social media, did not include any financial or otherwise tangible penalty against Moulton. Should Moulton run for office again, he must provide the office with "copies of bank statements, all deposit tickets, and contributor checks for further review. Moulton admitted to the mistakes but said he believes they were reported to the state out of a malicious intent to discredit him.

BMC ENVISIONS EXPANDED HEALTH SERVICES AT NORTH CAMPUS (P, NA)

Berkshire Medical Center officials are developing a master plan for using the unoccupied portions of the former North Adams Regional Hospital, now known as the BMC Northern Berkshire Campus, and say they fully intend to use the entire facility. The Berkshire Eagle reports that during a year-end interview, hospital officials said they are carefully looking at the current and future health needs of the community and at the remaining space so they can devise a practical building-use plan. Since the sudden closing of NARH, BMC and the state have invested about \$10 million to restore health care services in North County, a figure that includes the \$4 million purchase of the property. Further grant funding is expected to bolster that number in 2015.

VILLAGE AMBULANCE IN WILLIAMSTOWN ADDS NEW GEAR (NA)

To improve patient care and protect the safety of emergency medical technicians, Village Ambulance has equipped a new ambulance with gear to allow safer transport of bariatric patients. Bariatric medicine is the treatment of obesity and the health liabilities that come with it. Transporting bariatric patients, who can weigh between 350 to 650 pounds – and typically suffer from heart disease, diabetes or respiratory issues — presents a unique challenge for EMTs, usually requiring four to five crew members to safely move the patient in and out of a conventional ambulance. The new bariatric gear will allow the same work to be done by three crew members.

MOUNT GREYLOCK REGIONAL REACHES UPDATE MILESTONE (NA)

Efforts to update the aging Mount Greylock Regional High School in Williamstown reached a milestone when the district was approved to begin working with the state on a potential capital project. But while local officials carry out a feasibility study on the project, they must also address issues they say affect the educational environment. Last spring, both town meetings approved an \$850,000 feasibility study that will result in various options for the district, including a renovation or a new building. The committee is working with the state's School Building Authority (MSBA) to carry out the study and at the same time, addressing any building issues that come up.

NA 01-07-15

NORTH ADAMS ARMORY PROJECT (NA)

North Adams will focus its annual Community Development Block Grant on the Armory's parking lot and lower levels and is preparing a request for proposals for an agency to operate it. IBerkshires.com reports that Director of Community Development Michael Nuvallie said the next step toward rehabilitating the building into a youth community center will mark Phase 10 of the project, which began in 2007 when the city purchased the building from the state. A public hearing on the use of this year's CDBG funds was held Monday at City Hall with Mayor Richard Alcombright and involved agencies. The \$5 million project has used state and federal funds to slowly improve the former National Guard building.

ADAMS TO SCALE BACK BERKSHIRE SCENIC RAILWAY PROJECT (NA)

A plan to convert a former Adams car wash into a rail station will have to be scaled back to fit into the town's budget, but officials remain confident the Berkshire Scenic Railway project will launch this year as planned. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the only two bids on construction of the planned Adams Station Pavilion Park on Hoosac Street came in well over budget, prompting officials to prepare for a rebid of the project. Salco Construction submitted the lowest response to the town's request for proposals on the construction, but was still over the town's estimate of \$100,000 by \$62,000. The project scope will likely be restructured and rebid, according to Interim Town Administrator Donna Cesan.

THIEF STEALS ADAMS YOUTH CENTER FUNDS WITH HUNDREDS IN PROCEEDS (NA)

Adams Police are investigating the theft of a safe, containing hundreds of dollars in cash, from the Youth Center last month. Youth Center Director Sonia DiSanti said the theft occurred on December 16th, the Sunday following the nonprofit's "Make-It Take-It" craft fair fundraiser. The safe, which DiSanti said contained more than \$500 in cash and checks, was the only item stolen from the Youth Center's offices on East Street. The amount stolen is only a small portion of the Youth Center's \$180,000 annual operating budget, but DiSanti says, "every little bit counts." The Youth Center's teen students are planning a January 26th fundraiser at Bounti-Fare restaurant to recoup the lost funds.

WILLIAMSTOWN COMMITTEE HOLDS FIRST MEETING (NA)

Williamstown's newly formed Economic Development Committee may be the largest committee in town, but its members want to hear more voices. The now 11-member panel held its first meeting on Monday evening, and although much of the discussion focused on the members getting to know one another and procedural matters, one theme that emerged was the need to garner more input from the community.

WILLIAMSTOWN RESIDENTS TO RECEIVE ANNUAL CENSUS (NA)

The 2015 Annual Street Listing will be mailed to all Williamstown residents this week. IBerkshires.com reports that the census is requirement of the Massachusetts General Law and it is important that all residents return them to the town clerk's office promptly. Failure to respond to the census will result in removal from the active voting list and may result in removal from the voter registration rolls. Residents should not use the census form for the purpose of voter registration. Any resident who is not registered to vote may register by going to the town clerk's office or by mailing a voter registration form to the town clerk's office.

NA 01-08-15

NORTH ADAMS SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS QUIETLY NET \$29,000 IN RAISES (NA)

As the North Adams Public Schools system continues to face a bleak financial outlook, the North Adams School Committee quietly approved \$29,000 in pay raises for 10 administrators last month. The Berkshire Eagle reports after negotiating the raises — two of which exceed \$10,000 — behind closed doors at its December 2nd meeting, the School Committee voted 5 to 1 to approve them. Mark Moulton cast the lone "no" vote. The reason for holding the closed-door executive session wasn't stated on the public agenda posted prior to the meeting. Minutes from the meeting don't indicate if any discussion on the raises took place in open session. Administrators defended the raises, saying most of them are less than what teachers recently received through collective bargaining.

WILLIAMSTOWN COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE QUERIES 2015 APPLICANTS (NA)

The Williamstown Community Preservation Commission on Tuesday evening heard from four applicants seeking a combined total of about \$64,000 in Community Preservation Act funds. The town's Conservation Commission, the Williamstown Historical Museum, the Trustees of Reservations and Sand Springs Pool each are seeking between \$10,000 and \$27,000 to pay for projects that the applicants argue fall under the provisions of the act. The committee did not deliberate about the merits of any of the proposals on Tuesday night. Instead, it asked each applicant questions that the applicants will answer at the committee's January 20th meeting.

CHESHIRE WATER PROTECTION BYLAWS MAY LAPSE OVER MISSING INFO (NA)

Because of missing information, Cheshire may lose extended zoning bylaws that protect three drinking water wells owned by Adams. Board member Charlie Howard told the Selectmen on Tuesday night that the attorney general's office has kept the 2006 expansion of the Zone II areas for those wells on hold for years. He said if this information is not completed by the end of February the town will have difficulties passing its zoning reorganization and the Zone II areas will not legally exist.

A PITTSFIELD MAN CHARGED WITH POSSESSION OF CHILD PORN (P)

A Pittsfield man is facing child pornography charges for allegedly possessing videos and images depicting young children and infants being sexually abused. 54 year old Jeffrey Petryk, of Boylston Street, was arrested Tuesday after police executed a search warrant on his apartment and discovered an electronic storage device containing the images. He pleaded not guilty in Central Berkshire District Court on Tuesday to a single count of possession of child pornography. More charges may be pending, according to the police report. He was released on \$500 bail on the condition he have no intentional contact with anyone under 18. Petryk is due back in court for a pretrial hearing on February 5th.

PATRICK OUT, BAKER IN (All)

Democratic Governor Deval Patrick has left the Massachusetts Statehouse for the last time as governor. Patrick took the traditional "lone walk" from his office down the front steps of the state capitol yesterday, pausing for the national anthem and a thunderous 19-gun salute. The walk followed a private meeting with new Governor, Republican Charlie Baker - sworn in today in the state house chamber.

NA 01-12-15

BAKER GETS WARM WELCOME IN BERKSHIRE COUNTY (All)

The Berkshires may not have voted for Charlie Baker but that didn't stop it from giving the new governor a warm welcome on Saturday. IBerkshires.com reports that around 200 people greeted Baker and Lt. Governor Karyn Polito at Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art in North Adams on Saturday morning; the state's new leaders also toured Soldier On in Pittsfield to talk about affordable housing and met with about 100 local and business leaders at Berkshire Chamber of Commerce event at the Berkshire Museum. Baker was focusing on the positive three days into his term as governor and encouraging bottom up collaboration as they visited six "Spotlights on Excellence."

TRAFFIC STOP IN CHESHIRE TURNS UP 300 BAGS OF HEROIN (NA)

Two North Adams men, 46 year old William Difalco and 30 year old Richard Jones III, face drug charges after a state trooper discovered more than 300 bags of heroin during a traffic stop last Monday in Cheshire. In Northern Berkshire District Court on Friday, Difalco and Jones entered not guilty pleas and were released on personal recognizance. Difalco, of Hall Street, is charged with conspiracy to violate drug laws, being present where heroin is kept, possession of a class B drug, possession to distribute a class A drug, failure to stop, and a marked lanes violation. Jones, of Adams Street, was charged with possession to distribute a Class-A drug and conspiracy to violate drug laws. Both men are scheduled for a pretrial hearing on February 17th.

POWNAI SELECTMEN REVIEW TAX REPORTS, CONSIDER LAND ACQUISITION (NA)

The Town of Pownal Select Board met Thursday night of last week for its regular meeting, to review tax reports, to hear the monthly road foreman report and to discuss the future of the transfer station. The Bennington Banner reports that the select board met a quorum with all five members present. In addition to the aforementioned business items, the selectmen reviewed copies of the access permit for the new Southshire Medical Center proposed on Vt. Route 7. The Development Review Board is in the process of having the proposal signed off on by the zoning administrator.

STATE TROOPERS REPORT FOUR BERKSHIRE CRASHES, TWO INJURIES (NA)

Two people were injured early Thursday as a series of our four unrelated car crashes kept state police hopping busy. The Berkshire Eagle reports that just before 7:30 a.m. 20 year old Dylan James Digennaro, of Adams, crashed his 1997 Volkswagen Jetta while traveling near 761 Wells Road in Cheshire. State police from the Cheshire barracks said that Digennaro was taken to Berkshire Medical Center, where he was treated and released. The cause of the crash remains under investigation. Around 1:10 p.m., 39 year old Amy Reese, of Adams, was injured after the 2003 Chevy Tahoe she was driving collided with another SUV on Route 8 near Lanesborough Road, also in Cheshire. Reese was transported to a BMC emergency room. The extent of her injuries were unclear. Shirley Armstrong, of Adams, the operator of the second SUV, a 2005 Suzuki, and an unidentified 21-year-old female passenger weren't hurt. The rash of crashes began about 5:40 a.m. in Hancock, when a single vehicle ran off the road and hit a sign. The driver wasn't hurt, troopers said. A second one-car accident was reported before 8 a.m. on Route 8 in Cheshire near the Dery Funeral Home.

NA 01-14-15

CAPELESS TAKES OATH FOR THIRD FULL TERM AS DA (All)

District Attorney David Capeless pointed to his 54 employees sitting in Berkshire Superior Court yesterday as to why, after 11 years, he still has a passion for his job. Iberkshires.com reports that Capeless was sworn in by Judge Joan McMenemy, Juvenile Court justice, for his third four-year term as the county's district attorney. The Pittsfield native was appointed by then Gov. Mitt Romney in 2004 to succeed Gerard D. Downing, who died while in office, and won election later that year to complete Downing's term. He went on to win three more consecutive elections, two of which were unopposed.

WILLIAMSTOWN URGED TO OPPOSE PIPELINE; ACTIVISTS SET INFO MEETINGS (NA)

A group of residents came to Monday's Williamstown's Board of Selectmen meeting to ask town officials to endorse a resolution opposing a proposed gas pipeline that would run through Northern Berkshire County. Iberkshires.com reports that according to activists, although no part of the route would go through the town itself, the threat it poses to the county is everyone's problem. And two of those activists were at Town Hall on Monday night to encourage the selectmen to attend one of five upcoming informational sessions about Kinder Morgan's Northeast Energy Direct project. The first is Thursday at 7 p.m. at Lanesborough Town Hall. Another is even closer to home for Williamstown residents: at Williams College's Dodd Dining Hall at noon on Friday, January 23rd.

NORTH COUNTY HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION SET FOR SPRING (NA)

The Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District will hold a hazardous waste collection in the spring. Program Coordinator Sandy Totter told the district's board on Thursday that there were enough funds to hold the collection May 30th. Totter said the collection will be at Adams' Department of Public Works garage on Summer Street. It will be open to residents of the 12 towns that make up the district. Totter said normally people should call and register ahead during the collection to better manage what comes in. The district has not had a collection since October 2012.

CLARKSBURG ELEMENTARY UPGRADE CONSIDERED BY SBA (NA)

For years, Clarksburg Elementary School has struggled with insufficient space. Built in 1952 and twice expanded, the school still is about 5,500 square feet smaller than the state recommends for its enrollment. And technologically, it's well behind the times. The Berkshire Eagle report that the Massachusetts School Building Authority will decide today whether to begin the process of working with the district to renovate or replace the school. Northern Berkshire School Union Superintendent Jon Lev, state Rep. Gailanne Cariddi, and members of the School Committee, will attend the 10 a.m. meeting in Boston. Officials have submitted a comprehensive "statement of interest" to the MSBA multiple times over the past decade, but the district has never been accepted.

PATRICK SIGNS ON AS VISITING FELLOW T MIT (All)

Former Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick has signed on to be a visiting fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The school announced on Tuesday that Patrick, who left office last week after two terms, will participate in MIT's Innovation Initiative. The role will include appearances at seminars and other campus events, and Patrick will have office hours at the school, though he will not be teaching classes. Patrick confirmed before leaving office that he had been in discussions about what he called a "loose affiliation" with MIT. The Democrat has not revealed any other plans beyond his intention to return to the private sector. MIT said in a statement the former governor would focus on "issues at the intersection of policymaking, entrepreneurship, and innovation-based growth."

NA 01-16-15

ADAMS MULLS HIRING FIRM FOR PROPERTY REVALUATION; GETS CHAPTER 90 BUMP (NA)

The Adams Selectmen were notified that the town will receive additional Chapter 90 funds and discussed hiring a firm to conduct property evaluations. IBerkshires.com reports that Chairman Arthur Harrington read a letter from the state Wednesday night at a board workshop meeting that stated that Gov. Charlie Baker will release the remaining Chapter 90 highway money. Baker had made a campaign promise to release \$100 million in Chapter 90 held back by the last administration. Instead of receiving \$291,820, Adams will receive \$437,729 in its Chapter 90 account. Assessor Donna MacDonald went before the board and requested that it consider hiring an independent firm to conduct the town's property re-evaluation instead of doing it in house.

ADAMS TRUSTEES OFFICIALLY RESCIND LIBRARY SERVICE ANIMAL POLICY (NA)

The Adams Free Library board of trustees officially rescinded its approval of a service animal policy. IBerkshires.com reports that the trustees met Monday afternoon to revoke the decision made in December. The policy was immediately attacked by people saying it discriminated against those in need of a service animal and was illegal. Library Director Deborah Bruneau suspended the policy soon after the approval. According to the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, service animals do not have to be licensed or certified and cannot be prohibited or detained. If an animal is acting up, the owner can be asked to remove it.

CLOUD 85, A CO-WORK, PUBLIC OFFICE SPACE, TO OPEN IN NORTH ADAMS (NA)

New office space is opening in downtown North Adams — and for a membership fee, anyone can work there. The Berkshire Eagle reports that, Called Cloud 85, the business is a new concept in office use; members can work there all week and have their own space, or they can use the space on a more sporadic basis. Jeffrey Thomas, a partner in the business and manager of Cloud 85, said he expects the space will appeal to "independent professionals - folks who he says are finding it difficult to be productive in a home office due to household distractions – or freelancers like writers, graphic designers, telecommuters or consultants. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held at 4 p.m. Tuesday at Cloud 85, which is at 85 Main Street; the facility officially opens on Wednesday.

BERKSHIRE FAMILY BURGLARY RING STRETCHED ACROSS STATE (All)

State police say they have broken up a family-run ring of thieves who were responsible for more than 130 break-ins stretching from the Berkshires to the Cape going back to 2010. The Berkshire Eagle reports that Nancy and James Tarjick, and their sons Aaron and James Jr., were arrested Wednesday after a multiple police agency raid on four properties in various locations in Berkshire County. They were held overnight pending their arraignment yesterday in Central Berkshire District Court. Judge William Rota released Nancy and James Tarjick Sr. on their own recognizance and held Jamie Tarjick on \$10,000 cash or \$100,000 surety bail. All three defendants are due back in court February 11th.

NA 01-19-15

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY OF SERVICE TODAY (NA)

The Martin Luther King Day Committee is inviting everyone to join the Northern Berkshire community today as they celebrate the life, principles, and ideals of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by participating in a "Day of Service". The celebration begins with registration at 9am at the MCLA Church Street Center. There will be plenty of coffee and pastries on hand. You can participate by providing service to the community at more than ten sites including: Louison House, North Adams Skating Rink, local churches, weatherization for homes, the YMCA, food collection sites, and projects onsite at the MCLA Church Street Center. After the morning service projects, all participants are invited to return to MCLA Church Street Center at 12:30pm for a free luncheon and community celebration including local entertainment and some uplifting words. The annual Peacemaker Award will be presented today to Al and Cindi McLain during the celebration. The event is free and everyone in the community is encouraged to volunteer and celebrate.

SUNDAY ICY WEATHER CAUSES ACCIDENTS (All)

Sunday's freezing rain had motorists sliding off area roads. According to the National Weather Service office in Albany, up to an inch of liquid precipitation fell in parts of the county before changing over to snow early in the evening. The steady rainfall began mid-morning on Sunday and continued throughout the day creating slippery conditions and some street flooding that caused numerous motor vehicle accidents. The Adams Police Department was among the busiest law enforcement agencies responding to several traffic mishaps including a rollover on East Road with a minor injury and a two-car collision on Commercial Street. Emergency personnel in Lanesborough were sent to Partridge Road in Pittsfield for a vehicle that had flipped over, but no serious injuries were reported in that accident.

ATTACKS IN ADAMS AND PITTSFIELD (NA, P)

Three men involved in what police described as a "brutal" beating in Adams were arrested on Friday morning. According to Adams Police, the three men stabbed and severely beat a male victim at about 2:30 a.m. in the Elm Street area of town. The assault was the result of a previous argument between the victim and his attackers. All three men are presently being held at the Berkshire County House of Correction on separate bail amounts. They will be arraigned in Northern Berkshire District Court tomorrow morning. In Pittsfield, a city man was treated and released from Berkshire Medical Center for stab wounds to his leg following an apparent altercation at the Inter-model Center on Columbus Avenue yesterday morning. According to police, the victim described his assailants as two Hispanic men in dark-colored clothing. But the man was otherwise uncooperative.

BRPC RAISING COMMUNITY ASSESSMENTS 2.5 PERCENT (All)

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission is asking member communities to pay 2.5 percent more in fiscal 2016. IBerkshires.com reports that the organization set the increased assessment on Thursday. The increase will add \$2,254 to the organization's general fund — bringing the fund to \$92,408. The cost per municipality ranges with Pittsfield being assessed \$32,292 at the top end and New Ashford at the low end with \$164. The assessments are based on population.

NA 01-19-15

BERKSHIRE COUNTY RESIDENTS HEAR CONCERNS ABOUT KINDER MORGAN PIPELINE (NA)

North County citizens packed Lanesborough Town Hall on Thursday night for an informational meeting about the proposed Kinder Morgan gas pipeline. Jane Winn of the Berkshire Environmental Action Team led the meeting that focused on how the natural gas pipeline could affect residents. Kinder Morgan and its proponents say the pipeline is safe and critical to meeting the growing energy needs of New England. Environmental groups have disputed the need for the 36-inch diameter pressurized line and its safety. Thursday's meeting did not involve any Kinder Morgan representatives, although Winn said they were invited.

BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SET TO EMBARK ON CONSTRUCTION SURGE (All)

Berkshire Community College is on the verge of a construction surge expected to provide the most significant revival of the West Street campus since it opened for classes in 1972. The Berkshire Eagle reports that out to bid now is renovation work in the Field Administration Center. Also set to begin over spring break is preliminary work for a \$23 million renovation of Hawthorne and Melville halls. Pending as well on campus is the planned creation of an artificial turf field near Paterson Field House across West Street from the academic buildings. And a study is underway to prepare a comprehensive plan for restoring the campus driveways, parking lots and pathways, some of which are in deteriorating condition.

WILLIAMSTOWN ELEMENTARY COMMITTEE STARTS BUDGET DISCUSSION (NA)

The Williamstown School Committee last week began the discussions that will lead to a fiscal 2016 budget proposal later this spring. District Business Manager Lynn Bassett told the committee that she is awaiting guidance from Town Hall about how much money the school will have to work with, but she provided some preliminary insights.

BERKSHIRE ARTS & TECHNOLOGY CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL EXPANSION NEARLY DONE (NA)

An expansion of Berkshire Arts & Technology Charter Public School in Adams is nearing completion. School officials hope to have temporary occupancy in early February — just in time for the school wide science fair on February 12th, according to Executive Director Julia Bowen. The \$4.6 million project will build upon the Commercial Street location, which was a former hotel and restaurant before the school was founded in 2004.

NEW ADAMS ADMINISTRATOR GOES TO WORK ON BUDGET (NA)

He's barely moved into a new job and new community, but Adams Town Administrator Tony Mazzucco already finds himself tackling one of the year's most important tasks: crafting the town budget. The Berkshire Eagle reports that Mazzucco, the former assistant city administrator in Caribou, Maine, officially took the reins last week from Interim Town Administrator and Community Development Director Donna Cesan. The Randolph native said he's been spending long hours getting up to speed in Town Hall, with January being the beginning of municipal budget season — one of the busiest times of year.

NA 01-21-15

NORTHERN BERKSHIRE TRIO HELD WITHOUT BAIL IN ADAMS BEATING (NA)

Three Northern Berkshire men were held without bail on Monday for their alleged role in the brutal beating and stabbing of man in Adams last month. The Berkshire Eagle reports that according to witnesses, 38 year old Daniel Chao of Adams, 24 year old Thomas Barrett of Savoy, and 24 year old Dean St. Jacques of North Adams, allegedly waited for Joshua Deeley in a parked car near Temple Street and jumped him shortly after 2 a.m. on December 27th and beat him in the head with a tire iron. The suspects, who were arrested on Friday, pleaded not guilty in Northern Berkshire District Court yesterday to multiple felony charges and held without the right to bail.

WILLIAMSTOWN OFFICIALS DISCUSS MOUNT GREYLOCK EXPANSION PROPOSAL (NA)

Williamstown officials had some tough questions about the Mount Greylock Regional School Committee's plan to seek expansion of the junior-senior high school district. IBerkshires.com reports that School Committee Chairwoman Carolyn Greene appeared last week at a joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee to discuss the proposal to ask Williamstown and Lanesborough to incorporate their elementary schools into the Mount Greylock district. The School Committee studied expansion in 2013, convening an ad hoc committee of representatives from both towns and all three schools. But Mount Greylock put the initiative on the backburner in fall '13 after the district was accepted into the Massachusetts School Building Authority's building program.

BERKSHIRE COUNTY EATS IS BACK...YUM! (NA)

North County Eats is back for a second year in the northern Berkshires... and after the success of last year's event organizers expect this year will be just as successful. Former Williamstown Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jen Civello was a consultant on this year's 2nd annual event. She explains how it all works...

: 19 Civello – Cue: slow for restaurants

The event is organized by the Williamstown Chamber of Commerce, the North Adams Chamber of Commerce, and the North Adams Office of Tourism – and it runs from this Friday January 23rd through February 1st. You can get more information at www.berkshirecounty eats.com.

SELECTMAN SAYS TOWN NEEDS TO TAKE STANCE ON PIPELINE (NA, P)

Cheshire Selectman Robert Ciskowski warned his colleagues yesterday that the town will eventually have to take a position on the controversial Kinder Morgan gas pipeline. Ciskowski attended last Thursday's meeting in Lanesborough about the pipeline and shared his concerns with the rest of the board. The meeting was one of several being sponsored by groups opposed to the Northeast Energy Project line.

NA 02-03-15

NORTH ADAMS MAN ACCUSED OF THREATENING WALMART EMPLOYEE (NA)

A North Adams man is facing assault charges for allegedly threatening a Walmart employee with a knife last month, after the employee confronted him and another man on January 24th for allegedly trying to cut open a package of razors with a knife. 24 year old Sean Miller, of Front Street, was arrested Thursday. Miller pleaded not guilty in Northern Berkshire District Court on yesterday to charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, intimidating a witness, and malicious destruction of property under \$250. He was released on the condition that he has no contact with the alleged victim and that he stays at least 50 yards away from the store. He is due back in court March 18th.

BE WELL BERKSHIRES EXPANDS REACH WITH ADDITION OF BHS (All)

Three health-conscious organizations have teamed up to ensure county residents can practice a healthy lifestyle. The Berkshire Eagle reports that Berkshire Health Systems has joined Tri-Town Health Department and the Northern Berkshire Community Coalition to expand the reach of Mass in Motion Municipal Wellness and Leadership program throughout the 32 cities and towns. Mass in Motion is a statewide program that funds local efforts to promote healthy living at home, in schools and the workplace. Last fall, Tri-Town and NBCC jointly received a \$150,000 grant from the Mass in Motion continue funding the Be Well Berkshires initiative through 2017. Each entity will equally share \$50,000 for each of three fiscal years with renewal options, pending the availability of state funds.

PIPELINE GIANT INVESTS IN BERKSHIRE1 (All)

An energy giant in the midst of developing and seeking regulatory approval for a controversial \$5 billion gas pipeline project that would run through part of northern Berkshire County is a recent investor in 1Berkshire – the not-for-profit economic development organization composed of Berkshire Chamber of Commerce, Berkshire Creative and the Berkshire Visitors Bureau – encompassing 1,500 local businesses. The Berkshire Edge.com reports that according to 1Berkshire spokesman and Berkshire Chamber of Commerce President and Chief Executive Jonathan Butler, Kinder Morgan Energy approached 1Berkshire, asking at what level they could become a “leadership circle investor.” The leadership circle is the highest level of investment and requires a \$20,000 annual donation. Kinder Morgan gave that donation sometime around the late summer or early fall, making the company only one of nine investors in that category.

ADAMS MAN TAKES ON THE BOSTON MARATHON FOR GOOD CAUSE (NA)

An Adams runner is committed to running the Boston Marathon to raise money for the American Liver Foundation. 1Berkshires.com reports that Brian Alarie likes to run. In fact, the Adams native can cross the New York City Marathon and the Chicago Marathon off his list. However, at the age of 51, Alarie has decided to take on Boston, which some consider one of the hardest 26 miles, 385 yards in the country. People can donate to Alarie personally or through his Run for Research page on the American Liver Foundation website.

NA 02-06-15

METHADONE CLINIC SEEKS TO OPEN IN NORTH ADAMS (NA)

Spectrum Health Systems is planning to open a methadone clinic at 1274 Curran Highway North Adams. IBerkshires.com reports that the private non-profit operates 16 program centers in Massachusetts, including one in Pittsfield that initially ran into opposition but has operated quietly since 2012. It also has treatment centers in six other states and treats nearly 50,000 patients annually. The building, formerly an A&W and more recently a child-care center and postal service business, will have 12 parking spaces and extended curb cut. Spectrum has applied for a special permit to operate a professional office and business services and will appear before the Planning Board on Monday night.

MASS MOCA SETS FREE 'HOMETOWN' DAYS FOR NORTH ADAMS RESIDENTS (NA)

Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art is opening its doors to the North Adams community for free on the "18ths" of the next four months. The museum for years has hosted a community free day and provides free access through passes available at the public library. It also has a strong partnership with North Adams Public Schools and the North Berkshire School Union that brings local children to its Kid-Space gallery, which is also free to visitors. The new "hometown residents only" program will open the museum's doors on rotating days of the week to help address accessibility.

BART CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL TO OFFER HANDS-ON COURSE IN 3-D DESIGN (NA)

Berkshire Arts and Technology Charter Public School students will get a chance to experience the latest design equipment — including a 3-D printer — in a new hands-on course this fall. According to Principal April West, the Adams school was recently awarded funds to purchase new equipment to establish a digital fabrication lab and to create a new high school course called "Discover, Design and Build." She says the year-long elective scheduled to start this fall will introduce high school students to a 3-D printer and 3-D scanner, a laser cutter, and a large format printer in addition to design and modeling software.

WILLIAMSTOWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PANEL DIVIDES WORKLOAD (NA)

Williamstown's town's Economic Development Committee discussed earlier this week how it will break up the sizable task it faces over the next 12 months. IBerkshires.com reports that Chairman Jeffrey Thomas recommended that the 11-person panel break up into three working groups to tackle the task of creating an economic development plan that can be submitted to the Board of Selectmen by next December. The 11-person committee, which includes two members of the Board of Selectmen and representatives pulled from the local business community, has met twice and plans to meet every other Monday, alternating with the select board's standing schedule of meeting the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

NA 02-10-15

MORE SNOW AHEAD, WHERE CAN WE PUT IT (All-Berkshires)

The Berkshires has been blasted with multiple snow storms over recent weeks, but the county has fared better than the Boston area, where Governor Baker says they have seen up to six feet of cumulative snow. Berkshires county picked up anywhere between 8 to 16 inches of new snow in the most recent storm, and now an extended period of frigid temperatures and more snow is in the forecast. Forecasters say that two fast-moving snow storms are predicted by early next week, with temperatures not predicted to break 30 degrees during the time in which the storms are taking place. Highway crews and local snow removal budgets have been strained and finding a place to dump plowed snow is becoming an issue.

MASSACHUSETTS IS RUNNING OUT OF SPACE FOR SNOW (All)

Governor Charlie Baker says Massachusetts is battling the cumulative impact of storms that have dropped more than six feet of snow in recent weeks in parts of the state. Baker told a Monday morning briefing at the state's emergency management center that highway crews have removed enough snow from state roads over the last two weeks to fill Gillette Stadium 90 times over. The latest storm was expected to leave up to two feet of additional snow in some areas and Baker says local communities are running out of places to put it. Meanwhile, state and environmental officials are giving cities and towns the green light to dump snow into open water if necessary.

NORTH ADAMS CEMETERY COMMISSION UPDATING REGULATIONS (NA)

The North Adams Cemetery Commission has made its final pass through the updated rules and regulations for the city's cemeteries. Berkshires.com reports that the commission met last week with a few last-minute unanswered questions about what will be on the final list of rules and regulations. The commission's first adjustment had to do with potted plants or pots being placed on or near the memorial. The rules state they can be placed on the memorial's foundation or immediately adjacent to it to facilitate mowing. The body has agreed to meet with the city solicitor before its next meeting to see how far their liability actually goes.

SCHOOL OFFICIALS HOPEFUL VOTERS STUDY FUNDS/BUDGET INCREASE (NA)

Clarksburg School officials are hoping that residents this spring will sign off on funding for a feasibility study for improvements to the aging elementary school. Officials are also looking to finalize a school building committee that will oversee a potential building project with the state. The district recently was accepted into the Massachusetts School Building Authority's eligibility period last month after years of applying and was given 270 days to show it can financially support a building project and establish a school building committee. Meanwhile, school officials in the town are dealing with a 6 percent increase in the draft budget for 2016. The budget plan distributed by Superintendent Jonathan Lev last Thursday had a bottom line of \$2,567,736, up \$144,782 over this year. Major hikes include salaries, insurance, tuition and energy costs.

NA 02-12-15

HOSPITAL ADVOCATES RALLY AT CITY HALL (NA)

A large group of advocates for a full service hospital in North Adams gathered together in frigid temperatures last night in front of the North Adams City hall to lay out their reasoning for restoring inpatient services in North Berkshire. IBerkshires.com reports that, armed with more research from the Massachusetts Nurses Association, the newly named North County Cares Coalition said it had the data to prove an 18-20 bed hospital would be sustainable. Berkshire Medical Center purchased the former NARH property through U.S. Bankruptcy Court in August, established an emergency satellite facility and began restoring outpatient services. It also has invested about \$13 million in upgrades, hired about 250 NBH employees and is making plans for more wellness and supportive services. Mike Leary, spokesman for BMC, said all indications show that inpatient services would not be financially viable at the Northern Berkshire Campus. Meanwhile, BMC officials say they are continuing to develop a master plan for the use of the entire facility.

PITTSFIELD, NORTH ADAMS OFFICIALS TOIL TO REMOVE MOUNDS OF SNOW (NA, P)

Officials in both North Adams and Pittsfield are scrambling to remove mountains of snow accumulated on city streets after two weeks of harsh weather, while salt supplies and overtime budgets dwindle. The Berkshire Eagle reports that in North Adams, Mayor Richard Alcombright used his platform at a City Council meeting on Tuesday to defend the city's Department of Public Works against critics who say they have done an inadequate job of plowing roads and removing snow this season. In Pittsfield, crews have deployed a "super snow-blower" and multiple dump trucks to move the white stuff to a city park. North Adams crews also began clearing snow from its main arteries this week. The city will rent two large trucks to export the additional snow. After the main roads are cleared, the city will begin to tackle the large snowbanks that have accumulated at street corners.

ADAMS SALT SUPPLY RUNNING LOW (NA)

With delayed salt deliveries, the town of Adams expects to be cutting it close with any upcoming storms. IBerkshires.com reports that Department of Public Works Director Joe Bettis told the Selectmen at their workshop last night that Adams could run out of salt. He said the town received two loads of salt yesterday and even if it's cut with 50 percent sand, he does not expect it to last another big storm. Bettis said delivery from Morton Salt has been an issue all year. He said he has continued to contact them and they do not have an answer. As of now, the company is behind on delivering 800 tons of salt to Adams.

FIRM PICKED FOR TOWN MANAGER HUNT (NA)

The Williamstown Board of Selectmen on Wednesday selected a human resources firm to help with the search to replace retiring Town Manager Peter Fohlin. On a vote of 4-0, the board chose Gov-HR USA of Northbrook, Illinois and agreed to authorize Chairman Ronald Turbin to negotiate a contract of up to \$17,500. The special Wednesday meeting was necessitated by the cancellation of Monday's meeting because inclement weather and the urgency of Fohlin's April 26th retirement date. Gov-HR was chosen from a list of four firms, three based in Massachusetts.

NA 02-23-15

LEGAL ISSUES HOLD UP NORTH ADAMS MUSEUM PLANS (NA)

North Adams Plans for the Hodge Mill Museum on Houghton Street have hit a wall. IBerkshires.com reports that the four buildings, dating to between 1840 and 1870, were facing the wrecking ball until Alan Horbal pushed to turn them into a walk-up museum of mill-worker housing. But legal obstacles have prevented the newly created Hodge Mill House Museum Inc. from entering or taking possession of the property. Two legal teams have researched the deeds to determine if the titles were clean — both had come up with different results. A third attorney has been hired to do another search. In the meantime, the estate trust and the nonprofit museum association are unable to come to terms. Nor can the museum get insurance to cover anyone working on the property or inside the buildings.

LANESBOROUGH TO INTERVIEW THREE FOR POLICE CHIEF POSITION (NA)

Lanesborough will interview three candidates for the police chief position. This past week the Police Advisory Commission opted to interview Sgt. Erik Josephson from Saint Albans, Vt., Detective Chelsea Tovar from Richmond City, Va., and Lanesborough Investigator Timothy Sorrell. Sorrell is the most senior officer currently on staff. Tovar is an experienced detective with a larger department and has family living in Lanesborough. Josephson is a sergeant with similar level of experience as the other two. The commission felt all three could handle the job. Commission members were somewhat disappointed that they hadn't received more resumes. Those three were the only three to apply.

THUNDERBOLT SKI RACE IN GOOD SHAPE FOR NEXT WEEKEND (NA)

Although many Berkshire County residents have had enough of the recent influx of snow, Thunderbolt back-country skiers are reveling in it. The Berkshire Eagle reports that according to Thunderbolt Ski Runner Trail Crew Coordinator Josh Chittenden, the 80th anniversary of the Thunderbolt Ski Run will make up for years when the snow just was not abundant enough to do the race justice. When the race is held next Saturday, racers will all start at the Greylock Glen Gazebo and ascend 1.3 miles up Mount Greylock. Normally racers would break at the War Memorial at the top of the mountain and prepare for the timed descent. Chittenden said 35 racers have signed up and they expect to have near 60 by race day.

NEW-LOOK SIGNS IN NORTH ADAMS (NA)

In an effort to better connect and highlight its assets, the city is slated to get new way-finding signage with a new look. The North Adams Partnership, a nonprofit that selectively develops and seeks to improve the city and city government have teamed up in an effort to a new logo, new way-finding signs, and a different overall feel to tourists and residents alike. Bankrolled entirely by the North Adams Partnership, Stoltze Design has been hired to introduce a number of design options at a 6:00 p.m. public meeting on Feb. 25th at the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts' Feigenbaum Center for Science and Innovation. Through the new imagery, Mayor Richard Alcombright said he hopes people will begin to see the city in a different way.

NA 02-24-15

NORTH ADAMS NEIGHBORHOOD ENDURES WEEK WITHOUT WATER (NA)

Residents at the five homes on a small cul-de-sac on Overlook Terrace in North Adams have been without water for a full week. And with the street's frozen line apparently broken in several places due to a deep frost, the Department of Public Works has changed its game plan to a full replacement of the underground piping, which is expected to continue today. The Berkshire Eagle reports that despite a crew being on the job for 12-plus hour shifts through the weekend — and several feet of water line repaired — tireless city employees haven't been able to get water flowing back to residents since it stopped last Tuesday. Although Overlook Terrace has been the primary concern, the city has had to devote resources to slew of other breaks and freeze-ups. The situation worsened on Sunday when the line feeding 497 Church Street, at the corner of Church Street and Overlook Terrace, also blew out.

NO BAIL FOR LANESBOROUGH MAN AFTER HIGH-SPEED CHASE WITH CHILD (NA, P)

A Lanesborough man who led three police agencies on a high-speed chase with his child in the vehicle Sunday evening is being held without bail. 36 year old James Roots, of Old State Road, initially fled from Pittsfield police in his Jeep Grand Cherokee about 5:30 p.m. after allegedly failing to stop for a stop sign on Madison Avenue. His flight turned into a pursuit by the Pittsfield, Lanesborough and Massachusetts State Police that reached speeds of 85 mph through Pittsfield, onto Route 7 in Lanesborough and through various parts of that town. Roots pleaded not guilty in Central Berkshire District Court on Monday to 10 charges, including multiple counts of reckless operation of a motor vehicle, reckless endangerment of a child, and a single count of assault and battery on a police officer, among others. Bail was set at \$1,000. The defendant is due back in Central Berkshire District Court March 25.

METHADONE CLINIC GIVEN APPROVAL IN NORTH ADAMS (NA)

A planned methadone clinic was given approval by the North Adams Planning Board last night. IBerkshires.com reports that Spectrum Health Services, which runs 16 clinics in the state, is leasing a property at 1274 Curran Highway. The only condition on the special permit was the screening of its dumpster. Kristin Nolan, Spectrum's director of outpatient services, told the board that there was a need for its services in North County. The clinic, which also provides educational services and counseling, will have a dozen staff members and be open seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 3 or 4 p.m.

BMC ACHIEVES THIRD STRAIGHT TOP 'CLINICAL EXCELLENCE' AWARD (All)

Berkshire Medical Center has received Healthgrades' Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence for a third straight year. The 2015 honor places the hospital in the top five percent of the more than 4,500 hospitals nationwide that are evaluated on clinical performance. Healthgrades is a leading online resource for comprehensive information about physicians and hospitals. For more information about how Healthgrades determines its Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence, you can visit www.healthgrades.com/quality.

NA 02-25-15

COLD WEATHER SLOWING NORTH ADAMS SCHOOL PROJECT (NA)

The bitter cold has been slowing down some of the renovation work at what will be Colegrove Park Elementary School in North Adams. IBerkshires.com reports that with the project at about 50 percent, officials are confident the contractor will meet the "substantially complete" deadline of July 22 — but the weather isn't helping. A good portion of the three-story former high school has been covered in plastic and portable heaters are working full blast to keep workers and materials from freezing. The main issue has been the masonry work, which requires warm temperatures.

WILLIAMSTOWN SELECTMEN AGAIN DECLINE TO TAKE PIPELINE STANCE (NA)

The Williamstown Board of Selectmen on Monday for a second time declined a request to approve a town resolution opposing the proposed natural gas pipeline. But its members encouraged organizers to take the resolution to May's annual town meeting. IBerkshires.com reports that the three members of the board in attendance were clear that they did not necessarily disagree with petitioners Anne O'Connor and Shira Wohlberg. However, Selectmen Hugh Daley and Andrew Hogeland questioned whether the board should be speaking for the entire town on issues of national and global importance, and Daley and Selectwoman Jane Patton indicated they don't feel sufficiently informed to speak for the town even if it was the kind of thing the board should address.

NORTH ADAMS MAN FACES FELONY CHARGES IN ALLEGED BREAK-IN, ASSAULT (NA)

A North Adams man is free on personal recognizance after allegedly holding a woman in her own home against her will last month. 56 year old James Morandi of Hall Street pleaded not guilty yesterday to felony charges stemming from an incident January 20th at his ex-girlfriend's Bracewell Avenue apartment. Morandi pleaded not guilty to charges of felony breaking and entering in the nighttime, domestic assault and battery, intimidating a witness, and malicious destruction of property over \$250. He is due back in court for a pretrial hearing on April 1st.

WILLIAMSTOWN MAN ESCAPES INJURY IN CRASH (NA)

A Williamstown man escaped serious injury recently after his car collided with a tractor-trailer on Route 7. According Vermont State Police, 56 year old Raymond Gaudette was traveling on Route 7 near the former Green Mountain Race Track just after 8:30 p.m. Feb. 17th when his 2011 Toyota Camry struck a Freightliner tractor-trailer that was being backed into a driveway. Gaudette's Toyota was totaled in the crash, which only caused dents to the truck. State police reported the weather and road conditions to be clear. Gaudette told state police he was inattentive while operating his vehicle. No tickets were issued in the accident. Gaudette was transported to Southern Vermont Medical Center in Bennington, where he was treated for minor head injuries and released. The driver of the truck, 36 year old Robert Counihan, of Pownal, was not injured.

NA 02-26-15

BERKSHIRE ARTS & TECH SCHOOL UNVEILS NEW GYM, CAFETERIA (NA)

Jeannette Lambert did the honors of cutting the ceremonial ribbon as the Berkshire Arts and Technology Charter Public School unveiled its \$4.5 million, two-story addition to students, staff and invited guests. BArT, in Adams, hopes the new space will be a gift for the community as well. IBerkshires.com reports that the school is partnering with Main Street Stage to hold productions in the gym/auditorium. Johnson noted that the school potentially could be a polling station to replace the town garage.

MOUNT GREYLOCK COMMITTEE SENDS PRELIMINARY BUDGET TO TOWNS (NA)

The Mount Greylock Regional School Committee on Tuesday voted unanimously to send a budget to both its member towns with assessments that are higher than either town has signaled it wants to pay. On a vote of 6-0, the committee agreed to submit a preliminary fiscal year 2016 budget with a 2.61 increase from the fiscal 2015 budget. That is the budget that will be considered at a pair of public hearings — at Lanesborough Elementary School on March 16 and at Mount Greylock in March 17th. While Lanesborough officials have been vocal in their opposition to increased assessment, the near 8.6 percent rise may not be any more palatable in Williamstown, where the elementary school and other town departments are seeing their budgets rise by just 2.5 percent in fiscal 2016.

NORTH ADAMS LIBRARY BUDGETS WAGE HIKES FOR PART-TIME STAFF (NA)

The North Adams Mass library will ask for salary increases for its part-time workers. Librarian Mindy Hackner told the trustees on Monday afternoon that she has submitted the library's preliminary budget with the wage increases included. IBerkshires.com reports that the salary budget has been increased to \$231,000 to bring the part-time workers' wages in line with the new state minimum wage of \$9 an hour. At this time, they receive \$8.24 an hour. Hackner said she anticipates push back on this line item because once the city raises one salary, other departments may ask for increases. She said she has a scheduled meeting with the mayor to discuss the budget.

LAWYERS FOR EVAN DOBELLE SEEK TO WITHDRAW OVER NONPAYMENT (All)

Lawyers representing former Westfield State University President Evan Dobelle in a suit filed against trustees and other officials over his ouster from the post are seeking to withdraw from the case. The Boston Globe has reported that the firm, Shipman & Goodwin, of Hartford, Conn., cited "fundamental disagreements" with Dobelle and his failure to pay their bills. The law firm has represented Dobelle — who was twice elected mayor of Pittsfield during the 1970s — since he filed suit in federal court in 2013, prior to his resignation from the position he held for six years. He left amid allegations of lavish spending of university funds on personal expenses, such as travel and dining. In a separate lawsuit filed in 2014, former Attorney General Martha Coakley alleges that Dobelle misspent \$98,000 and also filed false expense reports with the college.

NA 03-02-15

OPERATING ROOMS RE-OPEN AT BMC NORTH CAMPUS (NA, P)

The operating rooms at the former hospital are being put back into use after a nearly \$1 million upgrade. IBerkshires.com reports that two of the four surgical suites at the Northern Berkshire Campus of Berkshire Medical Center will begin orthopedic outpatient surgeries today. Beginning today, the campus will be able to offer outpatient procedures such as treatments for carpal tunnel, torn rotator cuffs, and joint repairs three days a week. Full joint replacements will still be done at BMC because they require a hospital. The opening of the operating rooms is the latest medical service to be restored to the former Northern Berkshire Healthcare campus.

BERKSHIRE STATE REPS GIVEN ASSIGNMENTS (All)

On Thursday of last week, Speaker of the House Robert DeLeo assigned committees, which placed local officials in leadership roles. State Rep. Smitty Pignatelli was promoted to vice chairman of the Joint Committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development (on which he's served for some time), Rep. Paul Mark to vice chairman of both the Joint and House Rules Committee and Rep. Gailanne Cariddi to vice chairman of the Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies. State Rep. Tricia Farley-Bouvier was not appointed to a leadership role; the Pittsfield Democrat vocally opposed some of DeLeo's decisions last session. She will continue in her role on the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities. She was added to the committee on Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

WILLIAMSTOWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PANEL HEARS FROM NORTH ADAMS PLANNER (NA)

The Williamstown Economic Development Committee heard from North Adams' city planner earlier this month, and one piece of advice stood out: Keep seeking advice. Mackenzie Greer sat down with the ad hoc committee to share North Adams' experience developing the city's first comprehensive plan in 40 years. IBerkshires.com reports that the Williamstown committee's objective is not quite so comprehensive. It was created by the Board of Selectmen with the specific charge of creating an economic development plan. At its meeting tonight, the EDC will hear from Tom Matuszko of the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission.

ADAMS DRAFT BUDGET WOULD CUT 4 FULL-TIME POSTS (NA)

New Adams Town Administrator Tony Mazzucco introduced the first annual budget of his tenure last week, balancing a structural deficit by cutting four full-time town positions. The Berkshire Eagle reports that, citing the town's "difficult" financial position, Mazzucco wrote in a public letter posted to the town's website that he expects to cut town staff by at least three to four positions over the next several years — through attrition or reallocation of staff whenever possible. This year's cuts include one position in the highway department, one at the wastewater treatment plant and one clerical assistant job at town hall. In justifying the cuts, Mazzucco pointed to a structural deficit facing the town as it approaches fiscal 2016 and an "over-reliance" on reserves to offset the impact of the budget on the tax rate.

NA 03-03-15

FIELD RENOVATION MAKES IT TO PRELIMINARY ADAMS BUDGET (NA)

The Russell Field master plan has been written into the town of Adam's preliminary budget. |Berkshires.com reports that the Parks Commission in reviewing the budget last night said the proposed \$15,000 master plan made the first round of the budget process. During the commissioners' last meeting, they voted to make the Russell Field master plan a main priority. They said they would like to start construction by 2016 and believe grant funding could help renovation of the field. Chairman Todd Shafer said the budget is still preliminary and they still have to go before the Finance Committee and the Selectmen.

HINSDALE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS HIRING FULL-TIME TOWN ADMINISTRATOR (NA, P)

A seven-member committee has recommended Hinsdale hire a full-time town administrator at a salary range between \$50,000 and \$65,000. The Berkshire Eagle reports that Shaun Galliher, a member of the committee, presented the committee's findings during last week's meeting of the Select Board. The committee first convened early last year to consider the question of whether to hire a top administrator in Hinsdale. According to Galliher, Hinsdale's ability to address big issues like the environmental regulations, tightening school budgets and the Kinder Morgan Northeast Energy Direct natural gas pipeline proposal — which affects Hinsdale — would improve with a managerial leader. The board has yet to decide when the position will be advertised and hired.

HINSDALE OFFICIAL ACCUSED OF DIVULGING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION (NA)

A Hinsdale candidate, who was passed over for a town position, has filed an Open Meeting Law complaint alleging that a selectman improperly revealed confidential information that was discussed in an executive session about the hiring process. The Berkshire Eagle is reporting that the December 2nd meeting in Town Hall concerned candidates for the town's transfer station attendant position, which since has been filled by Barry O'Keefe. After the Select Board's other two members left the meeting, Selectman Bruce Marshall was seen sharing information with a group of bystanders in the hallway outside the meeting room — an interaction that was captured on video by security cameras. Among the group was Bruce Stetson, the former transfer station attendant who was fired in April for insubordination.

READ ACROSS AMERICA (All)

More than 45 million people were on the same page yesterday, as schools and communities celebrated the 18th annual national "Read Across America Day." The Berkshire Eagle reports that March 2nd marks the birthday of the beloved Springfield-born author and illustrator, Theodor Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss. He would have been 111 years old yesterday. Around the Berkshires, schools celebrated the day of literacy and whimsy with volunteer community readers, by wearing Seuss-inspired costumes and accessories, and even eating green eggs and ham — the latter done in homage to a Seuss book by the same name.

NA 03-06-15

BERKSHIRE TOURISM FUNDS WOULD BE SLASHED UNDER BUDGET PLAN (All)

Gov. Charlie Baker wants to nearly eliminate direct state funding for the Berkshire Visitors Bureau and other regional tourism centers, starting this summer. The Berkshire Eagle is reporting that Baker's proposed fiscal 2016 budget, which he released Wednesday, looks to slash \$4.5 million from the remaining \$5 million being spent on tourism agencies across Massachusetts. Originally, the state Legislature appropriated \$7.5 million, but a series of spending cuts to close the current fiscal 2015 deficit reduced the figure to \$5 million. With the state facing a projected \$1.5 billion deficit when the new fiscal year begins July 1st, Berkshire legislators and local tourism leaders expected spending cuts across the board, but not so severe for tourism promotion.

MCLA SELECTS U. WISCONSIN PROVOST AS 12TH PRESIDENT (NA)

The Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts board of trustees voted unanimously to name Gregory Summers as the college's 12th president. |Berkshires.com reports that the position is dependent on approval of the Board of Higher Education, at a special meeting on March 10th, and negotiations with Summers. Summers, currently provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point, was one of three finalists from an initial 59 candidates.

ADAMS-CHESHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT CONSIDERS RESTRUCTURING (NA)

Adams-Cheshire Regional School District officials are exploring the possibility of restructuring the school district, making one if its elementary schools the site of pre-K through second grade and the other school for grades three through five. The Berkshire Eagle reports that currently, students who live in Adams attend C.T. Plunkett Elementary School while those from Cheshire go to Cheshire Elementary. District leaders, who introduced the concept at a recent School Committee meeting, say it is worth looking into. Superintendent Kristen Gordon said restructuring the elementary schools could consolidate — and maximize the efficiencies of — school resources while also saving on costs. The administration expects to delve into the issue fully after the budget — which is due on March 31 — is complete.

SHAKESPEAR AND COMPANY LEADER RESIGNS (All)

In an unexpected shakeup that stunned insiders at Shakespeare & Company in Lenox, the theater's new executive director and president resigned suddenly on Thursday to return to his previous position in St. Louis. The Berkshire Eagle reports that Rick Dildine, who took the position last September after founding member and theater director Tony Simotes (sim-OH-tiss) was suddenly ousted as artistic director after five years, is leaving to resume the top job at Shakespeare Festival St. Louis. He originally held that position from 2009 to 2014. Dildine had announced the Lenox troupe's upcoming summer season just three weeks ago.

LENOX SINGER KATHERINE WINSTON ELIMINATED (All)

Lenox resident Kathrine Winston was eliminated from American Idol last night. The 18 year old Winston was one of 12 semifinalist women who sang last week in hopes of making through to the next round.

NA 03-09-15

NORTH ADAMS MAYOR'S \$42 MILLION BUDGET SHOWS 3.4 PERCENT INCREASE (NA)

North Adams Mayor Richard Alcombright has proposed a \$41.97 million budget for fiscal 2016, which leaves an estimated \$542,000 budget gap despite a 3.4 percent increase in total expenditures. The Berkshire Eagle reports that, as was the case last year, the largest increases in the fiscal 2016 proposed budget are retirement costs, employee health insurance and commitments to school funding, combining for well more than a \$1 million increase. The city expects to see a modest increase in state aid, but not enough to cover such increases, and overall revenue remains mostly flat.

NEW TRANSPORTATION CENTER EYED TO HELP VETERANS (All)

Some 25,000 veterans are treated at Veterans Affairs medical center in Leeds but a lot of appointments aren't kept. IBerkshires.com reports veterans and their families continually struggle getting to medical appointments, jobs, or school. Some 50,000 veterans across the country are homeless and 90 percent of veterans families are living on the edge of poverty or below. On Friday, a partnership between the federal and state government, the nonprofit Soldier On, veteran's offices and the Berkshire Regional Transportation Authority started something new. Soldier On is using a \$2 million grant to open up a call center staffed by veterans and will coordinate any transportation needs for area veterans.

MOUNT GREYLOCK RSD CALLS FOR TEACHER AND CUSTODIAL REORGANIZATION (NA)

Mount Greylock Regional School District officials presented the latest round of cuts last week as they continue to trim the fiscal 2016 budget. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the latest proposal calls for teacher and custodial reorganizations, in addition to previously reported cuts that include staff reductions and eliminating electives and co-curriculars. Public hearings for the budget are scheduled at Lanesborough Elementary School on March 16th and at Mount Greylock Regional High School on March 17th.

ADAMS HIRES NEW WASTE-WATER SUPERINTENDENT (NA)

The Adams Selectmen ratified the hiring of new waste-water treatment plant Superintendent Robert Rumbolt on Wednesday. IBerkshires.com reports that Town Administrator Tony Mazzucco said Rumbolt was the obvious choice out of the three final candidates. Mazzucco said joint budget meetings between the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen will start next week. The meetings will be held at the Visitors Center and departments will only present their budgets, there will be no vote. He said he urges residents to download the budget that is on the town's website and attend the meeting.

HANCOCK WEIGHS NEED FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EXPANSION (NA)

School officials believe that an expansion project is necessary at Hancock Central School to continue strong academics. But feedback from roughly 25 residents who attended a recent presentation at the school led School Committee members to agree to create a written report. Some residents agreed an expansion was needed and commented positively on preliminary drawings. Others were more cautious, questioning the process and requesting more information.

NA 03-10-15

NORTH ADAMS MAN GETS PROBATION IN KNIFE ASSAULT (NA)

A North Adams man has been sentenced to a year's probation for allegedly slicing a woman's hand with a knife after a night of drinking in March 2014. According to a probable cause report, 22 year old Bryce McBee, of State Road, had been involved in an argument while several people were drinking at a West Main Street residence on March 23rd, of last year. Witnesses told police that he left, but allegedly later returned with a knife in hand, tapping it on the glass of the front door as he asked to be let back inside. According to the report, the alleged victim exited the back door and walked around to the front porch in an effort to calm him down. The two argued before McBee allegedly cut her right index and ring fingers. Officers discovered blood on the porch when they responded to the disturbance. McBee was arrested later.

NORTH ADAMS MAN HELD ON ASSAULT CHARGE AFTER FOOT CHASE (NA)

A North Adams man wanted in connection with a domestic assault led police on a foot chase through a residential neighborhood early Sunday before being arrested in a backyard. According to police, 41 year old Jayson Daniels, of New Street, was being held without the right to bail yesterday after his arraignment in Northern Berkshire District Court on charges of domestic assault and battery and threatening to commit a crime, specifically murder. Daniels is due to appear for a dangerousness hearing on Wednesday. If determined by the court to be dangerous, Daniels could be held for up to 90 days without the right to bail.

PRELIM LANESBOROUGH ELEMENTARY BUDGET CALLS FOR \$100K REDUCTION (NA, P)

Lanesborough School officials are proposing to cut the budget by nearly 4 percent. IBerkshires.com reports that business manager Lynn Bassett presented last week the first draft of the fiscal 2016 budget, which is \$101,417 less in appropriations than last year. However, the School Committee may add more back in for a contingency. The biggest cut in the budget is \$164,330 in special education salaries. The administration is suggesting cutting about seven positions. Another change is with preschool program. The program was halted a few years ago because it wasn't paying for itself through tuition. Now, the school is trying to absorb some of the costs into the operating budget. A little more than half of the teacher's salary — \$28,155 — is now proposed to be paid out of the appropriated budget.

SCHOOL DISTRICT FACING CUTS (NA)

The Adams-Cheshire Regional School District is preparing for cuts that could eliminate up to 28 positions. IBerkshires.com reports that School Committee Chairwoman Darlene Rodowicz said both the committee and the towns' selectmen have tough decisions ahead of them. The School Committee met last night with Superintendent Kristen Gordon and discussed hearings for the draft budget of more than \$19 million. Rodowicz said the committee can either alter the budget or propose a budget the towns say they cannot afford. She said if this happens, the towns can either make other cuts to compensate or trigger a Proposition 2 1/2 override vote. Gordon said if the district has to cut anymore they will have to cut much needed positions.

NA 03-11-15

NORTH ADAMS SKATING RINK MANAGER PLACED ON PAID LEAVE (NA)

The manager of the Peter W. Foote Vietnam Veterans Memorial Skating Rink North Adams has been placed on paid administrative leave for undisclosed reasons. The Berkshire Eagle reports North Adams officials have confirmed that Darin Lane, who was absent from the Bay State Games last weekend, was placed on leave last week. Lane both manages the rink and coaches the Berkshire Battalion hockey team, which plays its home games at the facility. Rink operations will continue with little to no interruption, according to Mayor Alcombright. City Administrative Officer Michael Canales will take over day-to-day management of the facility, which is owned by the state and leased by the city.

NEW MCLA PRESIDENT APPROVED; WILL START JULY 1 (NA)

Greg Summers will be the next president of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. The state Board of Higher Education in Boston unanimously approved the trustees' recommendation yesterday that Summers be the school's 12th president. Summers, the current provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, will start in his new position on July 1, according to Board of Trustees President Tyler Fairbank. Salary range and contract details are still being finalized, Fairbank said. His predecessor, Mary Grant, earned just over \$243,000 in 2014.

POWNALE FIRE DISTRICT NO. 2 MULLING SOLAR ARRAY (NA)

Pownal Fire District No. 2, working with solar developer Green Lantern Capital, is seeking feedback on a proposed 500-kilowatt solar array on its 5.4 acre parcel on Route 346. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the array would provide revenue to support the entity's operating costs, according to Prudential Committee chairman Ray Bub. Pownal's Fire District No. 2 is its own municipality with authority to tax and is overseen by a Prudential Board. The entity provides water for some 140 households in the village of Pownal, the southernmost of the town's three villages.

LANESBOROUGH FIRE REPLACES FOUR VEHICLES IN TWO YEARS (NA, P)

In the last two years, the Lanesborough Fire Department has replaced three vehicles and added another. IBerkshires.com reports that next year, firefighters hope to continue to modernize their vehicle fleet with a new fire truck. The four vehicles are owned by the town but used by the Fire Department. Next year, the town is looking to buy a new fire truck. That comes at a cost of some \$500,000 and by then the town will have half of that saved. The Fire Department has applied for a grant that typically requires only a 10 percent match and he's hoping the town's additional contribution will help win it.

NORTH ADAMS ADS NEW POLICE OFFICER (NA)

The latest member of the North Adams police force was sworn in last night. IBerkshires.com reports that Officer David Lemieux took the oath from City Clerk Marilyn Gomeau before the City Council. Mayor Richard Alcombright has made it a point to recognize new full-time members of the Fire and Police departments by introducing them at the televised meetings. According to the mayor, Lemieux was officially sworn in a few weeks ago and then put immediately to work.

NA 03-12-15

BASHEVKIN LEAVING AFTER 29 YEARS (NA)

The founder and executive director of the Northern Berkshire Community Coalition, Alan Bashevkin, is stepping down after nearly 30 years of leading the agency. IBerkshires.com reports that the board of directors, under Chairwoman Courtney Shapiro-Van Dusen, has enlisted the services of Executive Transitions Program of Third Sector New England, to aid in the search for a new executive leader. Transition consultant Nancy Jackson will lead this process with the NBCC's nine-member transition team. Bashevkin anticipates staying on through the end of the fiscal year in June as the budget for the next year is set and the board goes through its nominations and elections. And he'll work with transition team to ensure a smooth transfer of leadership.

NORTH ADAMS MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CALLING IN PHONY MCLA BOMB THREAT (NA)

A North Adams man admitted he was off his prescribed medication when he called in a phony bomb threat which evacuated the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts campus in October 6th. 21 year old Jarret Ferriter appeared in Berkshire Superior Court yesterday to plead guilty to the charges, which were brought forth in a District Attorney's Complaint, bypassing the normal process of submitting the case to a grand jury for indictment. Judge John Agostini accepted the agreed-upon sentencing recommendation and continued the count of threatening the use of an explosive without a finding for two years.

NORTH ADAMS MAN GETS 15 MONTHS IN JAIL FOR BREAKING AND ENTERING (NA)

A North Adams man has been sentenced to 15 months in jail for breaking into an acquaintance's apartment late one night last year, prompting the tenant to bludgeon the intruder with a pellet gun. A Chase Avenue resident told police on December 27th that 42 year old Shawn Bulson, of North Holden Street, had come to his apartment earlier that night and asked to talk. Given the late hour, the man turned away Bulson — a person he had met through mutual friends. Bulson pleaded guilty in Northern Berkshire District Court on Tuesday to a charge of breaking and entering in the nighttime for a felony and malicious destruction of property under \$250. He was sentenced to 15 months in Berkshire County House of Correction, but offered 68 days of credit for time already served.

COUGHLAN HITS GAME-WINNING SHOT IN 2OT, SENDS HOOSAC TO STATE FINAL (NA)

Hoosac Valley's Jameson Coughlan scored on a baseline inbounds play from Austin Milesi with 1.6 seconds left in the second overtime to give the team a 54-52 win over Uxbridge in the Massachusetts Division 3 state semi-finals yesterday at the MassMutual Center. Coughlan scored 27 points, including seven of Hoosac's 12 points in OT and all four points in the second overtime to send the Hurricanes to Saturday's state championship game against Old Rochester at the DCU Center in Worcester on Saturday. The game at 12:30pm will be broadcast on WNAW. Meanwhile, Madi Ryan scored 16 points to lead the Hoosac Valley girls basketball team to a 63-57 win over Bellingham in the state Division 3 girls basketball semi-finals yesterday, also at the MassMutual Center. The Hoosac Valley girls will take on South Sectional champion Archbishop Williams on Saturday at 10:45am in the state championship that will also be broadcast on WNAW.

NA 03-16-15

ADAMS PROPOSED BUDGET REQUESTS TWO POLICE CRUISERS (NA)

The Adams proposed fiscal 2016 budget requests the purchase of two police cruisers for a total of \$72,000. IBerkshires.com reports that Police Chief Richard Tarsa presented the public safety budget Thursday night to a joint meeting of the Selectmen and Finance Committee. He urged the boards to consider the purchase of two cruisers for \$34,818 each with additional costs for equipment to upgrade the town's aging fleet. Tarsa said police cruisers should be rotated after five to six years of use, but because of the "magic" the Department of Public Works mechanics can do. He said they have allowed repairs to be made in house which ultimately saves the town money.

WILLIAMSTOWN AIMS TO ELIMINATE SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAGS (NA)

Williamstown residents may have noticed a growing effort to ban single-use plastic bags and containers made of polystyrene, such as Styrofoam cups, food containers and cup lids. The Berkshire Eagle reports that some local businesses, such as Wild Oats and Hops & Vines, already emphasize the use of non-plastic containers. Other businesses are watching the debate, as the switch over from plastic to paper will take some time. A number of retailers are also expressing concerns about any additional cost, and the strength of paper bags that might be used for carrying heavier merchandise. According to a report issued by the Massachusetts chapter of the Sierra Club, plastic bags are often mistaken as food by both domesticated and wild animals.

MCCANN SCHOOL COMMITTEE OKS \$8.8M BUDGET FOR FISCAL 2016 (NA)

The McCann School Committee on Thursday approved an \$8.8 million nearly level-funded budget for fiscal 2016. The budget is up 1.8 percent overall from this year. Officials point to fixed costs, health insurance and state minimum spending that is not keeping pace with cost increases. The largest culprit is health insurance costs, accounting for \$1.4 million of the budget.

THREE CANDIDATES WILL VIE FOR LANSBOROUGH POLICE CHIEF POST (NA, P)

Three candidates, one local and two from other states will vie for the Lanesborough police chief position during interviews in the coming weeks. The Berkshire Eagle reports, the Police Advisory Commission recently revealed the identity of the three applicants: Lanesborough Police Investigator Timothy Sorrel, police Sgt. Erik Josephson of Saint Albans, Vt., and police Detective Chelsea Tovar of Richmond, Va. They were the only candidates to apply for the position, which will be left open when Police Chief Mark Bashara departs in mid-May.

WILLIAMSTOWN-LANESBOROUGH SCHOOLS SET TO NARROW SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH (NA, P)

A list of finalists for the next Williamstown-Lanesborough Public Schools superintendent could be available within a week. School officials conducted a first round of interviews in executive session this week for the position, according to Regina DiLego, chairwoman of the superintendent search committee and Lanesborough School Committee. A handful of finalists will be interviewed in public meetings this April and officials hope to have someone in the position for the 2015-16 school year.

NA 03-18-15

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DISCUSSES FINANCIAL STRATEGIES FOR ADAMS (NA)

The Adams Town Administrator has some ideas for overcoming the growing structural deficit in the annual budget. IBerkshires.com reports that Tony Mazzucco met with the Maple Grove Civic Club on Sunday afternoon to explain some strategies and the direction he wants the town to go in. The town has been unable to match growth with expenses, according to Mazzucco, and it has been relying on declining reserves. He is looking at a few things that may help close the deficit. He said one of the main plans is to create an economic development committee that will specifically work on bringing jobs to town. He envisions the committee focusing on small manufacturing companies to complement manufacturing that already exists in the industrial park.

MOST ADAMS OPEN GOVERNMENT SEATS TO BE UNCONTESTED (NA)

As a 5 p.m. deadline came and went on Monday, few Adams non-incumbents had filed the paperwork necessary for running an available seat in town government, according to Town Clerk Haley Meczywor. The Berkshire Eagle reports that Select Board Chairman Arthur "Skip Harrington" and Vice Chairman John Duval will run unopposed for new two-year terms for the two open seats on the board this year. The two incumbents were the only to file paperwork for the May 4th town election. The town clerk position, a seat on the Board of Health, an assessor, two seats on the library board of trustees, two seats on the Cemetery Commission, a seat on the Adams Cheshire Regional School District's School Committee, and a seat on the Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School District's committee all will be uncontested, barring any write-in campaigns. Additionally, nobody took out papers to run for an empty seat on the town's Planning Board, while multiple seats on the Redevelopment Authority are expected to remain open. According to Meczywor, the only contested race is for the three open seats on the Parks Commission, which has four potential candidates.

WINDSOR COUPLE DENY CHARGES THEY STORED SONS' STOLEN GOODS (NA)

A Windsor couple accused of warehousing items allegedly stolen by their children from throughout the state remain free on personal recognizance after denying the charges. 62 year old James Tarjick and his wife Nancy both pleaded not guilty in Berkshire Superior Court yesterday to seven counts each of receiving stolen property valued over \$250. Their son, James Tarjick, Jr., was arraigned on similar charges in Central Berkshire District Court in January, but has not yet been arraigned in Superior Court. All three were arrested on Jan. 15 after police raided four Berkshire County properties. Because the accusations involve towns in Hampshire County, prosecutors from the Northwestern District Attorney's Office will become involved. The elder Tarjicks are due back in court on June 24th.

BERKSHIRE COUNTY HIGHWAY CREWS BATTLING BRUTAL POTHOLE SEASON (All)

Potholes are showing up fast around the Berkshires, and as local highway crews patch them, the more they show up. Public works officials expect that to be the case for another month. Municipal pavement repairmen were out in force throughout the Berkshires on Monday, primarily using cold patch until the hot asphalt plants re-open in mid-April for another road construction season. Many roads will likely require a complete resurfacing job, while others will need to be patched up. Meanwhile, Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito says that the Baker administration is devising a plan to help cities and towns fill the plethora of potholes caused by severe winter weather.

WNAW -AM 1230

ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT



**JANUARY. FEBRUARY. MARCH
2015**

Public Service Locally Produced Programs

WNAW PRODUCES TWO 30 MIN WEEKLY PROGRAMS CALLED "COMMUNITY INSIGHT" AND "SPOTLIGHT" ALLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND LEADERS TO CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY. IN ADDITION WE PRESENT "INFO-TRACK", A WEEKLY SYNDICATED PROGRAM WHICH INFORMS OUR AUDIENCE OF NATIONAL ISSUES OF CONCERN.

**“WNAW SPOTLIGHT”, AIRING Mondays 8:30-9 AM.
Interviews with local newsmakers on topics of interest to the community.**

2015

- 1/5: Diane & Jerrid Burdick; Berkshire Bridal Expo
- 1/12: UCP Telethon; Leigh Uqdah, Paul Hutchinson & Dan Bosley
- 1/19: North County EATS!; Jen Civello & Wendy DiSanty
- 1/26: BFAIR Executive Director Rich Weisenflue
- 2/2: Colleen Janz, Exec. Dir., Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum, Adams
- 2/9: Maple Grove Civic Club; Eugene Michalenko
- 2/17: Winterfest; Wendy DeSanty, Dir., North Adams Office of Tourism & Community Events
- 2/23: Thunderfest; Andrea Stump, Pro-Adams; Josh Chittenden & Paul Cherowski, Thunderbolt Ski-Runners
- 3/2: Berk. Co. Kids Place—Dinner, Road Race & other April events (Laura Baran)
- 3/23: Goodwill Industries; Brenden Farrell & Lou Marable
- 3/30: “Get BART Smart”; Julia Bowen, BART Charter School Fundraiser

WNAW COMMUNITY INSIGHT Interviews with local officials and representatives. Thursdays 8:30-9 AM; rebroadcast Sundays at 8 AM

2015

1/1/15: NEW YEAR'S DAY

1/8: North Adams Mayor Richard Alcombright

1/15: 1st Berkshire District State Rep. Gail Cariddi

1/22: Adams Town Administrator Tony Mazzucco

1/29: Bay State Winter Games—Exec. Dir. Kevin Cummings

2/12: North Adams Mayor Richard Alcombright

2/19: Gail Cariddi, 1st Berkshire District State Rep

2/26: Pastor Dave Anderson, 1st Baptist Church North Adams, Bob St.Pierre, PopCares & Kim Miller, cancer survivor: "Fighting with Faith" new support group for cancer patients & caregivers

3/5: Adams Town Administrator Tony Mazzucco

3/12: North Adams Mayor Richard Alcombright

3/19: Gail Cariddi, 1st Berkshire District State Rep.

3/26: Danielle Thomas; Berkshire Chamber of Commerce



Weekly Public Affairs Program

Call Letters: _____

QUARTERLY ISSUES REPORT, JANUARY-MARCH, 2015

Show # 2015-01

Date aired: 1-4-15 Time Aired: 7:30 AM

Gaby Chapman, retired teacher, former school board president, author of "*Let Them Have Books: A Formula for Universal Reading Proficiency*"

Ms. Chapman offered advice for parents who want to encourage a love of reading in their children. She explained why youngsters who read for fun do better in school than those who do not. She also talked about the importance of allowing kids to choose their own reading material.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:48

Literacy
Education

Jeff Reeves, financial journalist, editor of InvestorPlace.com

Mr. Reeves outlined the most common mistakes investors make when handling their 401(k) investments. He explained how frequently an investor should do some housekeeping with their mutual fund portfolio and how to decide when to rebalance investments that have changed in value.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:19

Retirement Planning
Senior Citizens

Sarah Brokaw, author of "*Fortytude: Making the Next Decades the Best Years of Your Life*"

Age 40 is a harrowing milestone for many women. Ms. Brokaw talked about the reasons behind this and how women can navigate the transition into midlife with more enjoyment. She said society sends women many conflicting messages about being their own person and yet conforming to traditional expectations.

Issues covered:

Length: 5:03

Women's Issues
Senior Citizens

Show # 2015-02

Date aired: 1-11-15 Time Aired: 7:30 AM

Edward M. Hallowell, MD, Child and Adult Psychiatrist who specializes in ADD and ADHD, author of *"Driven to Distraction at Work: How to Focus and Be More Productive"*

Many people in the workplace feel increasingly overwhelmed by a mix of nonstop demands and rapidly changing technology. Dr. Hallowell discussed the underlying reasons why people lose their ability to focus at work. He said the most common distraction is caused by electronic screens of all kinds. He offered suggestions on how to sustain a productive mental state at work.

Issues covered:

Length: 7:22

Mental Health
Career

Jill Weisenberger MS, RDN, CDE, Nutrition, Culinary & Diabetes Expert, Registered Dietitian, Certified Diabetes Educator, author of *"The Overworked Person's Guide to Better Nutrition"*

Ms. Weisenberger offered practical steps to plan, cook and eat better for a healthier lifestyle. She explained why meal planning is so important and why an organized kitchen is critical in that process. She explained how to ease a family into a lower-sodium diet.

Issues covered:

Length: 7:44

Nutrition
Personal Health

Jacquelyn F. Gamino, PhD, Research Scientist and Assistant Research Professor at the Center for BrainHealth at the University of Texas at Dallas

Growing up poor can affect a child's behavior and school performance. Dr. Gamino led a study that determined that intervention programs can help bring low-income adolescents up to speed with their more affluent peers. She explained how cognitive intervention could easily be integrated into a normal school setting.

Issues covered:

Length: 4:51

Education
Poverty

Show # 2015-03

Date aired: 1-18-15 Time Aired: 7:30 AM

Tony Lee, employment expert, publisher of CareerCast.com

CareerCast recently completed a study to determine the 10 most and least stressful careers. Mr. Lee explained the factors that his organization used to measure the stress in various jobs. He also discussed the growth potential of careers on the list and why stressful jobs can still be desirable for some people.

Issues covered:

Length: 7:22

Career
Mental Health

Kevin Shird, former drug dealer and convict, President and Co-Founder of the Mario Do Right Foundation, author of "*Lessons of Redemption*"

Mr. Shird shared his story of spending years as young drug-trafficker on the streets of Baltimore, and his eventual arrest and incarceration. He explained how he turned his life around, now working as a community leader, speaking to students about substance abuse prevention and helping children of addicted parents.

Issues covered:
Substance Abuse
Crime
Minority Concerns

Length: 7:44

Sean Burch, multiple world record holder in extreme sports events, fitness and motivational expert, author of "*Hyperfitness: 12 Weeks to Conquering Your Inner Everest and Getting Into the Best Shape of Your Life*"

Mr. Burch shared the story of how he became the first solo climber of Mount Everest. He talked about the importance of diet and fitness, and offered tips on how the average person can lose weight and get into shape.

Issues covered:
Personal Health

Length: 4:58

Show # 2015-04

Date aired: 1-25-15 Time Aired: 7:30 AM

Andrew D. Eschtruth, Associate Director for External Relations at the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College, co-author of "*Falling Short: The Coming Retirement Crisis and What to Do About It*"

Americans are not saving enough for retirement and most won't have enough to maintain their lifestyle, or retire when they want. Mr. Eschtruth explained the reasons behind the problem and what the average consumer can do to better prepare for retirement. He also outlined changes needed in the 401k system that could help avert a crisis.

Issues covered:
Retirement
Government Policies
Personal Finance

Length: 10:54

Ellen Peters, PhD, Professor of Psychology and Director of the Behavioral Decision Making Initiative at The Ohio State University"

Dr. Peters led a study that examined how people perceived their math abilities, then compared it to their actual math skills. About one in five people who say they are bad at math in fact score in the top half of those taking an objective test. But a third of people who say they are good at math actually score in the bottom half. She explained why math perceptions matter in everyday life and why it is important for parents to encourage their children's enjoyment of math.

Issues covered:
Education
Personal Finance

Length: 6:27

Les Bernal, Executive Director of Stop Predatory Gambling, a national grassroots citizen's movement concerned about predatory gambling

Americans in dozens of states can now buy lottery tickets in a growing number of ways. Mr. Bernal talked about the increasingly aggressive ways that governments are marketing new lottery products, and how the targets are typically lower income citizens. He believes that governments have created a mindset that discourages saving and personal responsibility and promotes state-sponsored wagering.

Issues covered:
Gambling Addiction
Government Policies

Length: 5:07

Show # 2015-05

Date aired: 2-1-15 Time Aired: 7:30 AM

Cathy Steinberg, personal safety expert and trainer, author of *"The Fabulous Girl's Guide to Being Fearless: What Every Girl Should Know"*

FBI statistics say that 1 in 4 females in the US will be a victim of violent crime. Ms. Steinberg talked about the most common types of violence directed at young women, and offered suggestions of how to avoid dangerous situations. She explained why it is so important for prospective college students to evaluate campus security before they make a decision on where to go to school.

Issues covered:
Sexual Assault
Crime
Women's Issues

Length: 8:18

Chadwick Wasilenkoff, founder and CEO of Fortress Paper, a specialty paper company that produces secure paper for currencies around the world

Mr. Wasilenkoff discussed the measures that governments take to prevent counterfeiting of currencies. He said that a large percentage of counterfeit US bills are believed to be produced by state-sponsored operations in countries such as North Korea. He explained why recent measures, such as the improved \$100 bill, do slow down counterfeiters temporarily. However, he said criminals eventually adapt to such changes, so it is a never-ending battle. He explained how consumers can try to identify counterfeit bills.

Issues covered:
Counterfeiting
Crime
Government Regulations

Length: 8:55

Megan Moreno, MD, researcher at Seattle Children's Research Institute and Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Washington

Dr. Moreno recently conducted a study that found that teens who smoke cigarettes are 23 times more likely to smoke marijuana, compared to those who don't use tobacco. She talked about the reasons behind this finding. She also explained how the recent legalization of marijuana in several states may affect its use nationwide.

Issues covered:
Substance abuse
Government Regulations

Length: 5:04

Show # 2015-06

Date aired: 2-8-15 Time Aired: 7:30 AM

David Rabiner, PhD, Senior Research Scientist in the Department of Psychology & Neuroscience at Duke University

The use of "study drugs"—prescription medications used illegally by college students improve their academic performance—is on the rise. Dr. Rabiner said the drugs of choice are those typically used to treat ADHD. He discussed the question of whether the practice is a form of academic cheating. He added that students who use these medications without a prescription typically have higher rates of drug and alcohol abuse, perform worse academically and are more stressed out about their grades.

Issues covered:
Substance Abuse
Education

Length: 8:09

Michael Thompson, Director of the Council of State Governments Justice Center

Mr. Thompson's organization conducted a study that examined whether juveniles who commit crimes fare better if they are sentenced to community-based supervision or state-run incarceration. The study found that youth who are locked up in state-run facilities are 21 percent more likely to be rearrested than those who remain under supervision closer to home. He said that community supervision programs are also far less expensive for taxpayers than state-secure facilities.

Issues covered:
Youth at Risk
Crime
Government Policies

Length: 8:55

Doug Goodman, PhD, MPA Director, Associate Professor of Public Affairs in the School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences at The University of Texas at Dallas

Dr. Goodman co-authored a study that found that family-friendly employment policies tend to increase productivity of employees in public organizations. He said it appears that these policies reduce stress, and increase job satisfaction and employee loyalty.

Issues covered:
Workplace Matters
Parenting

Length: 5:01

Show # 2015-07

Date aired: 2-15-15 Time Aired: 7:30 AM

Michael Moss, Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter for The New York Times, author of *"Salt Sugar Fat: How the Food Giants Hooked Us"*

Every year, the average American eats thirty-three pounds of cheese, seventy pounds of sugar and double the recommended amount of salt—most of it from processed foods. Mr. Moss said that the use of salt, sugar and fat increases sales of processed foods, reduces manufacturing costs, and enables these foods to sit in warehouses or on the grocery shelf for months. He offered suggestions for consumers on how to read product labels.

Issues covered:
Personal Health
Consumer Matters

Length: 8:01

Debra Donston-Miller, editor and writer for InformationWeek.com, expert in social networking and information technologies

Ms. Donston-Miller said social media has essentially become an online resume, and that job hunters who do not use it are at a huge disadvantage. She discussed the most effective strategies for using social media in job searches and networking with colleagues. She explained which social networks are the most useful and why. She also recommended sharing content on social networks, such as reports or videos, to demonstrate expertise and abilities.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:59

Employment
Workplace Matters

Tim Lohrentz, Program Manager of the Insight Center for Community Economic Development, a non-profit organization that focuses on policies to build economic health in lower income communities

Mr. Lohrentz recently conducted a study of payday loans and their net impact on the US economy. He found that the burden of repaying the high-interest loans results in \$774 million in lost consumer spending and 14,000 job losses annually. He outlined the alternatives to payday loans that are available to low-income borrowers.

Issues covered:

Length: 5:10

Payday Loans
Poverty
Government Regulations

Show # 2015-08

Date aired: 2-22-15 Time Aired: 7:30 AM

Mark Underwood, PhD, neuroscientist researcher, expert on brain aging and cognitive function, President and co-founder of Wisconsin-based biotech company Quincy Bioscience

Dr. Underwood said most people start to experience mild memory loss by age 40. He explained the relationship of early memory problems to advanced forms of dementia as people enter their 70s and 80s. He outlined basic steps to take to keep the brain active, which may prevent or slow cognitive decline as a person ages.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:01

Personal Health
Senior Citizens

Patty Osterberg, Education & Outreach Director of Sustainable Electronics Recycling International, an organization that sets standards for responsible electronics recycling

Ms. Osterberg discussed the most responsible ways to recycle unused mobile phones and other electronic gadgets. Her organization certifies recyclers with the R2 standard, which verifies that recycling companies perform their services in a responsible and ethical manner. She talked about the environmental impact of throwing a phone in the trash.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:59

Recycling
Environment
Consumer Matters

Susan Carpenter, Program Manager of the Insight Center for Community Economic Development, a non-profit organization that focuses on policies to build economic health in lower income communities

Ms. Carpenter spent two years and thousands of dollars transforming her California home into a test case for sustainable living. She talked about some of the most cost-efficient ways to go "green," along with some of the less successful projects. She outlined the easiest ways the average person can improve their environmental footprint.

Issues covered:
Environment
Consumer Matters

Length: 4:55

Show # 2015-09

Date aired: 3-1-15 Time Aired: 7:30 AM

Catherine Collinson, President of the Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies, a non-profit private foundation

Ms. Collinson talked about the option of "phased retirement," in which an employee begins to gradually put in shorter work weeks. She said the strategy permits workers to test out retirement to see if they enjoy it and can afford it, and allows them to avoid tapping into Social Security or savings until truly necessary. She said many employers welcome it, because it allows the senior employee to mentor younger colleagues and the organization to retain institutional knowledge.

Issues covered:
Retirement
Career

Length: 8:42

Brian Wansink, PhD, behavior economist, food psychologist, John Dyson Professor of Consumer Behavior at Cornell University, Director of the Cornell Food and Brand Lab, author of "*Slim By Design, Mindless Eating Solutions for Everyday Life*"

Dr. Wansink discussed his research at Cornell, which examines how and why we make choices about the food we eat. He said the way a kitchen or other living environment is set up can encourage weight loss naturally. He outlined innovative but inexpensive steps restaurants, grocery stores and school cafeterias can make to encourage healthier dining choices.

Issues covered:
Health and Nutrition
Consumer Matters

Length: 8:34

Cami Walker, author of "*29 Gifts: How a Month of Giving Can Change Your Life*"

At age thirty-five, Ms. Walker was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. As she battled depression about her illness, she received an uncommon prescription from an African medicine woman: Give to others for 29 days. She shared her story of finding small ways to help others, and how it made a dramatic difference in her own health and happiness.

Issues covered:
Charitable Contributions
Volunteerism
Mental Health

Length: 4:24

Show # 2015-10

Date aired: 3-8-15 Time Aired: 7:30 AM

Tony Robbins, motivational speaker, author of *"Money, Master the Game: 7 Simple Steps to Financial Freedom"*

Mr. Robbins picked the brains of more than 50 of the world's most successful investors and money managers, and found dramatically different philosophies. He discussed lessons that anyone can use to improve their personal finances. He also talked about his efforts to feed the hungry and his personal reasons for being concerned about poverty and hunger in America.

Issues covered:
Personal Finance
Consumer Matters

Length: 8:23

Andrew Sperling, Director of Federal Advocacy, National Alliance on Mental Illness

Mr. Sperling discussed the cost of mental health treatment, and the options available to make treatment more affordable. He explained how the Affordable Care Act has affected mental health and substance abuse services. He outlined the most common forms of assistance provided to employees by larger employers. He also talked about the most common forms of mental illness.

Issues covered:
Mental Health
Substance Abuse
Consumer Matters

Length: 8:42

Richard Lichenstein MD, Director of Pediatric Emergency Medicine Research at the University of Maryland School of Medicine

Wearing earphones while walking, biking or driving can be much riskier than most people think. Dr. Lichenstein recently conducted a study that found that headphone-related deaths have tripled in the past several years. He explained who is most likely to become a victim and the reasons that this behavior is so dangerous.

Issues covered:
Traffic Safety
Personal Health

Length: 4:55

Show # 2015-11

Date aired: 8-15-15 Time Aired: 7:30 AM

Tony Wagner, EdD, First Innovation Education Fellow at the Technology and Entrepreneurship Center at Harvard University, Co-Director of the Change Leadership Group at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, author of *"Creating Innovators: The Making of Young People Who Will Change the World"*

Dr. Wagner said that innovative thinking is today's most essential real-world skill. He believes that for the US to successfully compete in the global economy, America needs to make teaching innovation a top priority in schools, at home and in business. He explained the steps that teachers and parents can take to foster more creative problem-solving in youngsters.

Issues covered:
Education
Government Policies
Employment

Length: 9:28

Raymond Francis, MSc, health expert, author of *"Never Be Sick Again"*

Mr. Francis shared his personal story of facing a life-threatening condition at age 48, and how he overcame it. He believes that nearly every disease or illness can be prevented or reversed. He talked about the common denominator of all diseases and the six potential causes. He also offered suggestions to improve health at any age.

Issues covered:
Nutrition and Health
Consumer Matters

Length: 7:45

Darrell W. Gurney, founder of CareerGuy.com, Certified Personnel Consultant, Certified Job & Career Transition Coach, Certified Career Management Coach, and Licensed Spiritual, author of *"Never Apply for a Job Again: Break the Rules, Cut the Line, Beat the Rest"*

Mr. Gurney talked about the critical importance of networking when searching for a job. He said the latest online tools can help, but they are not as effective as meeting and being known by as many people as possible within an industry. He offered advice to the long-term unemployed.

Issues covered:
Employment

Length: 5:03

Show # 2015-12

Date aired: 3-22-15 Time Aired: 7:30 AM

Peter A. Sacco, PhD, psychologist who specializes in addictions, author of *"Right Now Enough is Enough"*

Dr. Sacco discussed the biggest misconceptions about addictions and bad habits. He said pornography and gambling are the least recognized addictions among Americans today. He noted that addicts are frequently able to hide their behavior and lead seemingly normal lives. He also talked about the most effective routes to recovery.

Issues covered:
Substance Abuse
Mental Health

Length: 8:04

Jeff Speck, AICP, City Planner and Architectural Designer who advocates for smart growth and sustainable design, author of *"Walkable City: How Downtown Can Save America, One Step at a Time"*

In the typical American city, the car is still king. Mr. Speck said that downtown areas and local economies can be dramatically improved by becoming pedestrian-friendly. He explained how simple decisions have cascading effects, and how citizens can influence their elected representatives to make wise choices for their communities.

Issues covered:
Urban Planning
Government Policies
Economy

Length: 9:14

John P. Thyfault, PhD, Professor of Nutrition and Exercise Physiology, Director of the Health Activity Center at the University of Missouri

Statins, the most widely prescribed type of cholesterol-lowering drugs, have prevented millions of heart attacks and saved countless lives. But Dr. Thyfault conducted a study that found that statins may also counteract the benefits of exercise, the other tried-and-true way to boost cardiac health. He explained why doctors usually prescribe drugs, rather than recommending exercise or dietary change. He also talked about how much exercise can be effective for people dealing with high cholesterol.

Issues covered:
Personal Health

Length: 5:06

Show # 2015-13

Date aired: 3-29-15 Time Aired: 7:30 AM

Bill Thornton, PhD, Professor of Psychology, University of Southern Maine

Dr. Thornton led a study that found that the mere presence of a smart phone, even if it is turned off, can make it difficult to perform complex tasks. He explained the likely reasons that a phone can be so distracting. He offered suggestions for parents who are concerned about phone usage affecting their child's schoolwork.

Issues covered:
Mental Health
Consumer Matters

Length: 7:27

Sharon Fowler, MPH, Adjunct Assistant Professor, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

Ms. Fowler was the co-author of a study that found that diet soda consumption leads to expanding waistlines. She found that older adults who drank two or more diet sodas a day had waist size increases that were six times greater than those of people who didn't drink diet soda. She discussed the possible physiological reasons and offered suggestions for those trying to control calories.

Issues covered:
Personal Health
Senior Citizens
Consumer Matters

Length: 9:43

Regina Leeds, professional organizer, author of "The 8-Minute Organizer"

Nearly everyone can use some help in getting organized. Ms. Leeds talked about the reasons that keeping order in our lives and possessions is so difficult. She offered small, step-by-step suggestions on how determine goals to get organized, and how to create positive routines for the long-term.

Issues covered:
Consumer Matters
Mental Health

Length: 5:06

WNAW -AM 1230

ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT



**JANUARY. FEBRUARY. MARCH
2015**

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

**This is a sample of public service
announcements presented on WNAW during the
4th Quarter of 2015. Announcement are rotated
twice hourly throughout the day from 6am - 7pm.
On WNAW**

FEBRUARY 2015 WNAW COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

PSA KILL 2/15

Everyone is invited to The Susan B. Anthony 195th Birthday Celebration on Sunday Feb. 15 from 3-4:30 at the Adams Free Library. Ms. Anthony herself will be there---in the person of Jean Gehret, renowned Susan B. Anthony impersonator and author--- sharing stories of Anthony's life. A chalk school tablet once belonging to Anthony will be unveiled and yes, there will be cake. For more info go to www.susanbathonybirthplace.com or find them on Facebook. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/7

The BOUTIQUE will be open this Sat., Feb. 7 from 9-Noon at Stamford Community Church. You'll find gently used clothing, bedding and small household items. Proceeds go to benefit the missions. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/13

Each year, the teenagers of the UNITY Youth Leadership Program host a monthly Northern Berkshire Community Coalition forum. This month, the group will lead a discussion about creating teen-led support groups for teenagers in Northern Berkshire. The forum will be held on Friday, February 13, from 10-Noon at the First Baptist Church in North Adams (Eagle Street entrance). The Friendship Center Food Pantry asks friends who attend the nbCC forums to please bring a non-perishable food item for donation to the pantry. For more info please contact Adam Tobin, at 663-7588, or e-mail atobin@nbccoalition.org. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/7

The Department of Conservation & Recreation's Visitors Museum at Western Gateway Heritage State Park will present an illustrated lecture: "The 47 Ronin" on Sat., February 7th at 3pm. In early

February, the Japanese celebrate the founding of Japan, and some consider the story of the 47 Ronin to be Japan's National Legend. Western Gateway Heritage State Park is located south of the Hadley Overpass on Route 8 in North Adams. The Visitors Museum is in Building #4. Information: 663-6312. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/7 (**Alaine sounds like "salary")

Tickets are on sale for a Pasta and Chicken Dinner to benefit Brian's Quest, Brian Alaine's run in this year's Boston Marathon, dedicated to the fight against liver disease. It's this Sat., Feb. 7 from 4-7 at the PMA, 13 Victory St., Adams. Along with great food there will be raffish and music. Tickets are \$12, and each one will bring Brian closer to his goal of raising \$5000. For tickets see Mary at CPDC, 1 Berkshire Square, Adams, call 743-3931 or pay at the door. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/5

MCLA will continue its Green Living Seminar series on climate change on Thursday, Feb. 5, with a lecture by Dr. Mea Cook of Williams College's Geosciences Department. Her lecture, "The Oceans and Climate, Past and Future," is free and open to the public. It will take place in Murdock Hall, room 218, at 5:30 p.m. Green Living Seminars will continue on Thursdays through April 30. For more information, go to www.mcla.edu/greenliving or contact Dr. Dan Shustack at 662-5301. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/7

For the 25th consecutive year, MCLA's Department of Athletics will celebrate National Girls and Women in Sports Day. The theme this year is "Game On." It will take place on Saturday, Feb. 7 from 8:30-3 in the Amisler Campus Center gym. Girls in grades 3-8 and women of all ages are invited to attend. Sports clinics for girls will include basketball, volleyball, tennis, lacrosse and Zumba dance, with other activities for adult women. Pre-registration is required, \$5 for adults but free for youth. Lunch will be provided and you can be a guest at MCLA's women's basketball game against Fitchburg State. To register go to www.athletics.mcla.edu. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/15

On Sunday, February 15 there will be a pancake brunch at the First Congregational Church, 906 Main St., Williamstown, to celebrate Mardi Gras, or Fat Tuesday. Pancakes with delicious toppings plus sausages (including gluten-free) will be served from 11 AM to 12:30. Coffee, tea, and orange juice will be available. To add to the festive occasion, you'll receive Mardi Gras beads and be treated to background jazz. A donation of \$5 or more is requested to benefit The Williamstown Food Party. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/8

The First Baptist Church Youth Group in North Adams is having an all you can eat pancake breakfast fundraiser this Sunday the 8th from 8-10 AM. The cost is \$6 and all money raised will go toward their upcoming April mission trip. Please use the Eagle St. entrance. For more info call the Church at 663-3780. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/15

The Adams Elks will be having their monthly all you can eat breakfast buffet, this Sunday (2/15) 8-11 at the Lodge on Center St. 6 dollars gets you scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, home fried potatoes, toast, juice, coffee and milk. Proceeds benefit the Elks charities. Call the Lodge for more info 743-1335. (Jimmy Dee is cooking again!) If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/13

American Legion Post 90 on Route 7, Pownal VT is holding a Chicken Parmesan dinner this Friday 2/13 from 6 PM on. Cost is \$8 per person. Meatballs and sausage will be available too. If it's happening in the Berkshires or nearby southern VT, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/15

There will be an All U Can Eat Breakfast, sponsored by Naomi Chapter No. 17, Order of the Eastern Star this Sunday Feb. 15. It'll run from 8-11:30 AM at the Masonic Building, 172 Church St., North Adams. For \$7 for adults and \$4 for children under 10 you'll enjoy Scrambled

Eggs, Home Fries, Bacon, Sausage, French Toast and Pancakes, with their Special Pancake of the Month- Red Velvet...plus more! If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/21

VALOR presents: The Battle of Bennington, by John Miles, Director of the Veterans Scholar Program at Southern Vermont College. The program will be on Saturday, February 21 at 2 PM in Patriot Hall at the Vermont Veterans' Home in Bennington. The community is welcome to attend. If it's happening in the Berkshires or nearby southern VT, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/14

The State DCR is inviting adults 18 and up on a 45 minute Valentine's Day hike on Mt. Greylock. Starting at 11 AM, the 2-hour program will also include a short talk on the mating habits of some of the animals found there. The hike, talk and hot chocolate are free. Just be sure to dress for the weather, bring ski poles or snowshoes if needed, and meet at the Visitors Center on Rockwell Rd., off Rt. 7, Lanestboro. Call 413-499-4262 for more info or in case of inclement weather. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/11

The North County Cares Coalition will hold a press conference/rally **today** at 5 PM, calling for the restoration of a Full Service hospital in North Berkshire County. The **location has been changed**. It will be held in the North Adams City Hall parking lot. The rally will feature the presentation of a report that makes the case for a full service hospital in North Adams. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/12

In conjunction with its "Creating Equality" series, MCLA will present "An Evening with Rutha Mae Harris" at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 12 in the MCLA Church Street Center. Harris, one of the original Freedom Singers, will mix history, singing and memories of the civil rights movement at this event, which is free and open to the public. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/12

Sweet Brook Rehabilitation & Nursing Center will be holding a free community heart healthy event on Friday, February 13th from 2-3 PM at the Sweet Brook facility, 1561 Cold Spring Road. Presented by Debra Jarrk, Certified Nurse Practitioner Hospitalist, this fun, informative program can help you to live heart healthy - while not giving up on delicious foods. Please RSVP by February 12 to 413-458-8127. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/13

Celebrate American Heart Month with Freedom Community Yoga! Get your heart rate up with some cardio yoga this week. Come to 40 Main St., North Adams at 8:30 this Saturday morning. These classes are donation based, pay what you can! If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/20

The League of Women Voters of Williamstown invites the public to its annual Susan B. Anthony Dinner on Tuesday, February 24, at 6 PM at the Williams Inn. "Money in Politics" is the topic for guest speaker Becky Shannon of the Amherst League of Women Voters. Tickets: \$30 for dinner, cash bar. Ms. Shannon will speak at 7:15 and there is no charge for attending her talk. For reservations and menu options call 458-8360 or 458-5773 or email: pollymacbethson@yahoo.com. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/24

The Youth Leadership Program, a program of the Berkshire Chamber of Commerce, is currently accepting applications for the Youth Leadership Class of 2016. Applicants must be current high school sophomores, entering their junior year this fall, and all paperwork must be received at the Berkshire Chamber's office, 66 Allen Street, Pittsfield by 3 PM Friday, February 27th to be considered. For more info on Youth Leadership or to obtain an application, visit www.berkshirechamber.com/ylp or call the Berkshire Chamber at (413) 499-4000, x126. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/14

The Department of Conservation & Recreation's Visitors Museum at Western Gateway Heritage State Park will present a Valentine's Day illustrated lecture and reading of The Song of Everlasting Sorrow on Saturday, February 14th at 3pm. It's the tale of a tragic Chinese romance that was dramatically depicted on a Japanese scroll from the 1600s, a true Chinese historic event that became a cherished tale throughout Japan. The Park is located south of the Hadley Overpass on Route 8 in North Adams. The Visitors Museum is in building #4. Info: 663-6312. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/7

Pine Cobble School is pleased to announce that it is accepting applications for the Hunter Family Scholarship, an endowed scholarship available to new students grades 5-9 for the 2015-16 year. Applications are accepted through March 15, and families are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. For more information, please visit www.pinecobble.org/hunterscholarships. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/13

Hopkins Memorial Forest in Williamstown will host an animal tracking adventure for people of all ages, this Saturday February 14, from 10 AM-3 PM. The program will be led by naturalist and tracker Dan Yacobellis, and will start at the Rosenburg Center, near the main entrance to the Forest, 271 Northwest Hill Road in Williamstown. The program is free but space is limited, so make your reservation by emailing: dlewis@williams.edu or calling 413-597-2346. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/25

Join the "Soul Sisters" Relay for Life team for a night of "dining to donate" at the Adams Ale House, 8 Hoosac Street Adams. From 4 PM to closing on Wednesday, February 25, a percentage of sales will be donated to the team as they help the fight against cancer. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/21

The Bay State Winter Games continue Feb. 20-22 with Figure Skating and Bowling. A highlight of the weekend is the Bay State Skate Figure Skating show, featuring top skaters from around New England. It'll be Saturday night (2/21) at 7:30 at Williams College's Lansing Chapman Rink. Tickets are \$10, available at the rink on Friday or Saturday. (WNAW's Mike Garland will once again be the show's emcee). If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/21

Head to Windsor Lake and downtown North Adams for WinterFest on February 21st from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for sledding, snowshoeing, hot chocolate, a chowder competition, ice sculpting, horse-drawn wagon rides, a community camp fire, and more! From 10-Noon there will be many activities at Windsor Lake too. Weather permitting there will be ice skating, sledding, snowshoe hiking, snowman making, and a fire in the campers pavilion with hot cocoa and cookies. This family-friendly, day-long, event will wrap up at the North Adams Skating Rink, with a skate party from 2-4 PM. All events are free. Check North Adams Winterfest on Facebook for updates or call 664-6180. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/28

North Adams Little League is having sign-ups on Monday and Tuesday Feb. 23-24 from 6-7:30 PM, and Sat. Feb 28 from 9-Noon at the North Adams Elks. The cost is \$45 per child or \$60 for two. All boys and girls, ages 8-12 are invited. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/28

Join team "Homeward Bound" in the fight against cancer in the 2015 Northern Berkshire Relay for Life. They'll be holding a Pitch Tournament on Sat. Feb. 28, at Viking Pub in Adams. Sign in is from 12-12:45; play starts at 1 PM sharp. \$20/player; All players will be assigned a partner. There will be cash prizes, free food and a cash bar. Payment and pre-registration required. Contact: Barbara at 413-329-4533 or Chrs at 413-329-4123. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/19

The Williams College Department of Music presents the Williams Jazz Faculty Concert on Thursday, Feb. 19, at 8:00 p.m. in Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall on the Williams College campus. Williams outstanding Jazz faculty will be playing all original compositions by members of the band. This free event is open to the public. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/19

MCLA will continue its spring semester Green Living Seminar series on climate change at 5:30 p.m. this Thursday, Feb. 19, with a lecture by State Sen. Benjamin Downing. Downing's lecture, "Clean Energy Policy in the Commonwealth," will be held in the Sammer Dennis Room (218) in Murdock Hall. It is free and open to the public. Green Living Seminars will continue on Thursdays through April 30. For more information, visit www.mcla.edu/greenliving or contact Dr. Dan Shustack, 662-5301. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/28

The Williamstown Rotary Club invites everyone to "get lucky" at its Annual Casino Fun Night, Saturday, February 28th from 7-10 PM at the Williams Inn. Admission is \$20 and will provide a set of chips for game play. The evening will also feature a silent auction, a gift certificate board and a 50/50 cash raffle. Proceeds will benefit the Berkshire Food Project and scholarships for local students. Tickets are available in advance from any Rotary member or at the door the night of the event. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/14

Northern Berkshire Relay for Life Team "Soul Sisters" will be holding Premier Jewelry Parties to help raise money for the fight against cancer. They will be hosted by Krista Bishop on Saturdays, Feb. 28, March 7, & March 14 from 11AM-1PM, upstairs at the Freight Yard Pub. Enjoy a free dessert when you make a jewelry purchase and have lunch at FYP that day. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/22

This Sunday, Higher Ground will present a fundraiser to benefit the residents of the Spruces community who lost their homes in 2011 due

to Tropical Storm Irene. The show, called "Raise the Roof!" will take place at the Williams Inn from 4 to 6 PM, featuring local talent, including college a cappella groups and community ensembles, with a few audience singalongs. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. Admission is \$10, \$5 for students. Seating is limited. Tickets available at Where'd You Get That? and Wild Oats Community Market in Williamstown and at www.highergroundnb.org. For more info please call Deb Burns at 413-441-5310. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/25

Learn how to control your heart disease risk factors, including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and diabetes. Come see Berkshire Health System medical professionals for blood pressure screening, pulse, health education, and medication review. Feb. 25 at the Friendship Center Food Pantry, 43 Eagle St., North Adams from 9:30 am-1:30 pm. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 4/25

MCLA continues to present a variety of events in conjunction with its "Creating Equality" series, which examines and honors the dedication, leadership and sacrifice that make social change possible. For more information and a complete listing of "Creating Equality" events, go to www.mcla.edu/creatingequality. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/28

Sign ups for Marty's T Ball will be held on Monday Feb. 23rd and Tues. the 24th from 6-7:30 PM, and again on Sat the 28th at the Elks in North Adams. Children ages 5-7 can learn baseball fundamentals in a fun non-competitive environment. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/27

The 13th annual Memorial Poker Run in memory of John Breen will be hosted by the Florida Mountaineers on Sat. Feb. 28. It starts at 8 AM from Hank's Camp on Central Shaft Rd., Florida. A \$10 donation includes the poker run. There will be food, a Chinese auction and more! For directions or more info call Lou at 664-8280. If it's

happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/28

The Department of Conservation & Recreation's Visitors Museum at Western Gateway Heritage State Park will present an illustrated lecture/reading of Jules Verne's "lost novel" Paris in the Twentieth Century on Saturday, February 28th at 3pm. Written in 1863 but not published until 1994, the novel follows a young man who struggles to live in a technologically advanced, but culturally backwards world. The Park is located south of the Hadley Overpass on Route 8 in North Adams. The Visitors Museum is in building #4. Information: 663-6312. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/26

MCLA will continue its spring semester Green Living Seminar series on climate change at 5:30 p.m. this Thursday, Feb. 26, with a lecture by Lauren Gaherty (MCLA '80), a senior planner with the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission. She will speak on "Municipal Planning to Meet Challenges of Climate Change." This lecture will be held in the Sammer Dennis Room (218) in Murdock Hall. It is free and open to the public. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/3

St Elizabeth Rosary Society will meet on March 3 at 6 PM in the Parish Center in North Adams. New members are welcome. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/1

The annual ROPES Fishing Derby is this Sunday March 1st. Fishing will take place from sunrise to 2 pm, with pizza, pasta and prizes at 2:30 at Bass Water Grill. Tickets are available at Bass Water Grill or JCB Bait, both in Cheshire. Tickets are \$20 and all proceeds go to help fund the ROPES program. For info call 413-329-1846. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/5

Northern Berkshire Retirees Club will meet at 10 AM Thursday March 5th at the Greylock Community Club on State Rd., North Adams. The Board of Trustees are being asked to meet 10 minutes prior to the regular meeting to discuss the March luncheon. Coffee and doughnuts will be available. Any questions call 743-9476 or 663-9263. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/28

The Thunderbolt Ski Race and Thunderfest are scheduled for this Saturday in Adams. Skiers will be out challenging Mt. Greylock's Thunderbolt trail from 10-2. You can ride a shuttle from Hoosac St. to Greylock Glen starting at 9 AM to watch the racers for free. From Noon-5 the Free Thunderfest celebration takes place outside the Adams Visitors Center on Hoosac St., with 2 live musical acts, hot beverages, food and craft beer and wine for sale, a campfire and kids activities, plus a chowder cook-off inside the Center, where you can also check out the Thunderbolt ski exhibit. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 6/30

A new support group is available for anyone whose life has been affected by cancer. Fighting with Faith meets the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 6 PM at the 1st Baptist Church, 131 Main St., North Adams. The group is open to all cancer patients, survivors, caregivers, family members or friends, regardless of faith affiliation. For more info, call the Church at 663-3780, email fwcna@verizon.net or look for "Fighting with Faith" on Facebook. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

MARCH 2015 WNAW COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

PSA KILL 3/1

The 1st Sunday of March means another All You Can Eat Breakfast Buffet at the Upton Lodge of Masons, 120 Church St., Cheshire. It'll run from 8-11:30 for \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and \$6 for children, with take-out available. Call Vern for more info: 743-3874. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/8

There will be a Breakfast Buffet to benefit the Relay for Life Team "Stefanie's Supporters". It's this Sunday March 8 from 8-11:30 at the Masonic Temple on Genter St., Adams. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$7 for seniors and children. Everyone is welcome. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/6

Mill City Productions will hold their 6th annual Cabaret Uncorked fundraiser, featuring a tasting of various wines from around the world and cabaret entertainment featuring Mill City company members. A silent auction with items from local businesses will also take place. This 21+ event will be on Sat., March 7th at the Mill City Theater, Building 4N, Heritage State Park, North Adams. The wine tasting runs from 7-8:30 pm with entertainment from 8:30 -11. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased in advance at www.millcityproductions.org or at Draper's Wine and Spirits (next to North Adams Stop and Shop). Tickets will also be available at the door. For more info, visit www.millcityproductions.org. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/8

The 2015 Bay State Winter Games wrap up this weekend, bringing athletes from all across New England to the Berkshires to compete for medals in Masters Ice Hockey at the Peter W. Foote Vietnam Veterans Rink in North Adams. Matches are scheduled on Friday, Saturday and Sunday and there's no charge to watch the competition. For more info,

go online to www.baystategames.org. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/10

Kindergarten registration will be held from 8:30-Noon and 1-3:30 on March 9 and 10 at Williamstown Elementary School. Parents of children who will be 5 yrs. old on or before Aug. 31st of this year should stop by. The process should take about 20 minutes. Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate, a copy of their most recent physical with vision test and a copy of your child's immunization records to date. Please call Ms. Burns with any questions: 458-5707. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/7

The Department of Conservation & Recreation's Visitors Museum at Western Gateway Heritage State Park will present an illustrated lecture: "Here Comes the Sun...a history of Daylight Saving Time" on Saturday, March 7th at 3pm. The Park is located south of the Hadley Overpass on Route 8 in North Adams. The Visitors Museum is in building #4. Information: 663-6312. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/7

The BOUTIQUE will be open from 9-Noon, this Sat, March 7 at Stamford Community Church, featuring gently used clothing. Proceeds will benefit the missions. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/13

The next Northern Berkshire Community Coalition monthly forum will be on Friday, March 13th from 10am to noon at the First Baptist Church in North Adams. It will focus on the challenges faced by our current regional transportation network and will discuss the status of transportation in north Berkshire and what we might expect in the future. The organizers of the Friendship Center Food Pantry at 43 Eagle Street ask you to please bring along a non-perishable food item for donation to the pantry. For more info, please call 663-7598, or e-mail Amber: abesaw@nbccoalition.org. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/17

On Wednesday, March 18th from 9 to 11 am BerkshireWorks Career Center, in partnership with the Berkshire County Regional Employment Board will host a FREE information Workshop for businesses and organizations at the Career Center's offices at 160 North Street in Pittsfield. The topic of this month's "Workforce Wednesday" event will be the Workforce Training Fund Program. For more information about the Program, please visit www.mass.gov/wtdp. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/7

March 5-7 at Williams 62 Center for Theatre and Dance, Cap & Bells present "Stop Kiss", a story about love and loss, and the expectations and pressures of the world. Performances will be at 7:30 PM; admission is \$5, \$3 for students. Box Office is open Tuesday - Saturday, 1-5 PM or call 413-597-2425. For more info, please visit www.62center.williams.edu. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/14

First Baptist Church, 131 Main St., North Adams will hold their annual St. Patrick's Day dinner on Sat., March 14 from 5-7 in the Eagle St. room. They'll be serving corned beef (or ham) and cabbage, potatoes, carrots, corn bread and assorted desserts. Dinners are \$12 for adults and \$8 for kids 12 and under. Takeout will be available. Tickets may be bought at the church in advance or at the door. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 9/6/15

The ABC Clothing Sale is now accepting donation. Its new theme is "A Better Community." All net proceeds from September's sale will be used to serve at-risk families and youth in our area and to address issues of hunger, poverty, and inequality in our community. Donations are welcome at the First Congregational Church, 906 Main St., Williamstown on weekdays between 9am- 2pm and on Sunday between 9- noon, plus other times by appointment. Men's and women's clothing, jewelry, outerwear, accessories, shoes, sheets, blankets, comforters, towels, table linens, and other household linens (but no pillows) must be clean and in excellent condition to be useful. For further info or to volunteer, email: abcclthingsale@gmail.com. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/15

The Adams Elks will be having their final breakfast buffet of the season this Sunday (3/15) 8-11 at the Lodge on Center St. On the menu: Scrambled eggs, home fries, sausage, bacon, toast, coffee and juice. All just \$6 per person, \$3 for children under 12. All proceeds benefit the Elks' charities. Call the lodge for more info: 743-1335. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PS: (Jimmys NOT cooking this time)

PSA KILL 3/15

There will be an All U Can Eat Breakfast, sponsored by Naomi Chapter No. 17, Order of Eastern Star, this Sunday March 15 from 8-11:30 AM. It'll be at the Masonic Building, 172 Church St., North Adams. For \$7 for adults and \$4 for children under 10 you'll enjoy Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Sausage, Home Fries, French Toast and Pancakes, including their Special Pancake of the Month-Blueberry! If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/19

The North Adams Public Library is offering a bit of fun to get over the winter blues. It's "Tap and Blues", an interactive presentation with Delta Blues artist Robin O'Henn and rhythm tap dancer Stefanie Weber. The program is on Thursday March 19 at 6:30. It's free and open to the public. For more info call 662-3133 Ext. 13. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/19

Soul Sisters Relay For Life Team will benefit from "Dining for Dollars" at The Gathering, Route 8, Cheshire on Thursday March 19. Includes eat in, take out, and delivery. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/28

There will be a gathering for former NARH family & friends on Saturday March 28 from 7-11pm at the Holiday Inn, North Adams. The night will include appetizers, music, 50/50 and a cash bar. If it's

happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/28

Northern Berkshire Relay for Life Team Homeward Bound will hold a Scotch Doubles Candlepin Bowling Tournament on Sat. March 28, at Adams Turners, 6 Turners Ave., Adams. Start Time is 1:00 & 4:00. A 2nd shift will be added if needed. Sign in runs from 12:15-12:45. Cost for a 2-person team is \$20/person- \$40/team. You may pre-register by calling Pat at 743-4758 or Barbara at 413-329-4533. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/12

The North Adams Democratic City Committee will meet to elect attendees to a Senatorial District Conference. The Conference will elect a woman to fill the female ballot seat vacancy on the Democratic State Committee. The City Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, March 12, 6pm at the Freight Yard Pub in the Western Gateway Heritage State Park. 2 candidates running for the State Committee seat, Sheila Murray and Elizabeth Bell-Perkins will speak at Thursday's meeting. All North Adams Democrats are invited to attend. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/13

C.T. Plunkett Elementary School will be holding Kindergarten registration for incoming children Friday, March 13 from 8:30-2:30 in the office of the School, 14 Commercial St., Adams. Incoming children must be five years old by August 31, 2015. Parents registering their children must bring their child's birth certificate, immunization records and proof of residence. Please call the office at 743-0876 with any questions. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/14

Hopkins Memorial Forest's annual Maplefest is this Sat., March 14, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. You can observe and take part in the process of producing maple syrup, from the tree to the bottle, plus taste homemade syrup on pancakes and "sugar on snow." There will be demonstrations of old-time evaporating methods, children's activities,

videos and more. Maplefest is free and all ages are welcome; it will be held regardless of the weather. Hopkins Forest, owned and operated by Williams College, is located at the Junction of Bulkeley Street and Northwest Hill Road in Williamstown. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/14

The Department of Conservation & Recreation's Visitors Museum at Western Gateway Heritage State Park will present an illustrated lecture: "Extinction is Forever" on Saturday, March 14th at 3pm. The program will focus on some of the members of the animal world who became extinct during modern history. The Park is located south of the Hadley Overpass on Route 8 in North Adams. The Visitors Museum is in building #4. Information: 663-6312. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/17

The Adams-Cheshire regional School District will conduct a developmental preschool screening for all Adams and Cheshire 3 and 4 year olds, March 16 and 17 at the Cheshire Elementary school. Students with special needs qualify for the program on their 3rd birthday. Those without special needs who reach their 4th birthday prior to Sept 1 of this year may qualify. Appointments can be made by calling 743-5202 Ext. 1107, between 8AM-3:30 by Friday. The screening requires parents to bring their child and his/her birth certificate to the school. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/19

The Williams College Department of Music presents Brass Bash 2015 with the Williams Brass Ensemble on Thursday, March 19 at 7:00 p.m. in Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall on the Williams College campus. Brass Bash 2015 offers a varied program of works for solo and chamber brass. This free event is open to the public. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/20

Sts. Patrick and Raphael Parish in Williamstown is holding its annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance on Sat. March 21st at the Williams Inn. Cash bar cocktails at 5:30, delicious dinner buffet (including corned beef and cabbage) at 6, music with DJ Larry Kratka, 50-50 and door

prizes. Tickets are \$25, \$12.50 for children under 13, available after weekend Masses, at the parish office Mon-Thurs 8-Noon and 1-4, from the UPS Store in Colonial Shopping Center, or by calling 663-7312. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/15

Mill City Productions will hold auditions for its spring production of "A Bright New Boise" by Samuel D. Hunter on Thursday, March 12 from 6-8 PM and Sunday, March 15 from 4-6 PM. Auditions will take place in Building 4N at the Heritage State Park in North Adams. Performances will be in early May. Actors of all experience levels are encouraged to audition. For more information email: contactmillcity@gmail.com. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/26

MCLA Gallery 51 will present "Eat This," a student-organized photography exhibition, opening Thursday, March 26 through April 26. In "Eat This," MCLA Gallery 51 showcases artists who use fast food and "junk food" or processed food, as art material. An opening reception will be held on Thursday March 26, from 5 - 7 PM in the gallery at 51 Main St, North Adams. It's free and open to the public. Gallery 51 is open 7 days a week from 10-6. For more info call 664-8718, or go to www.mcla.edu/gallery51. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/16

Are you caring for someone with a cognitive, medical, physical or mental disability? Berkshire County Arc is offering a free information session about its Adult Family Care Program, which is available to individuals who cannot live safely on their own and need help or supervision with daily living skills. The session will be held at Berkshire County Arc, 395 South Street, Pittsfield, on Thurs., March 19 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, contact Amy at 413-464-7262, ext. 22 by Monday, March 16. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/21

The Department of Conservation & Recreation's Visitors Museum at Western Gateway Heritage State Park will present a Spring Equinox Astronomy lecture, "A Universe Portrait" on Saturday, March 21st at 3pm. This illustrated program will investigate our Universe through the beauty of its visual images. The Park is just south of the Hadley Overpass on Route 8 in North Adams. The Visitors Museum is in building #4. Information: 663-6312. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/22

Northern Berkshire Relay for Life Team Dixie Chicks will once again hold their 5k Sap Run, this Sunday March 22. The Run starts at 9 AM from Readsboro Central School, to the power station and back to enjoy a pancake breakfast. Top 3 runners win a prize of maple syrup! Entry fee is \$10 for adults and \$8 for runners 12 and under. If you're not a runner you can still come to the school for breakfast, served from 8-11 for just \$5. For more info or to sign up call Cyndi at 413-652-4512. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/28

Adams-Cheshire Regional School District and the Performing Arts Department of Hoosac Valley Middle and High School will present "Grease", March 26th, 27th and 28th at 7PM in the auditorium at Hoosac Valley Middle and High School. Tickets will be \$10 for adults and \$7 for students, all available at the door the evening of the performances. For more info, please call the school at 743-5200. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 4/9

Berkshire Arts & Technology Charter Public School is holding its annual fundraiser, Get BART Smart, on Saturday, April 11 from 6 to 9:30 p.m. at One Commercial Street, Adams. Teams are needed for this night of fun and knowledge of trivia and SAT questions. The evening also includes a light dinner by Mezza Catering, a selection of beer and wine and an exceptional Silent Auction. For more info, go to www.bartcharter.org and click on "News and Events". If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/31

Goodwill is looking for T-Shirts. Spring is coming and Goodwill's Rag Business is budding and blooming and they need your old, torn, and good for nothing T-Shirts. Get moving and put a bag together and drop it off at any of the Goodwill store donation areas or at the 158 Tyler Street Training Center, Pittsfield. Collecting T-Shirts and turning them into usable rags is what Goodwill's Rag business is all about. It's about Jobs and Creating Skills for the workplace. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/22

March 21-22 is Maple Weekend in Massachusetts. Sugarnouses and restaurants around the state will be celebrating the sugaring season with tours, tastings and special made-with-maple syrup menu items. See www.massmaple.org for details. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/21

This Saturday March 21st there will be a bake sale and Chinese auction to support the Charles H McCann Tech High School Honor Society. It'll run from 9-3 at the Houghton Marston/Masonic Temple, 172 Church St., North Adams. Donations of Chinese auction and bake sale items are welcomed. Please contact the School. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/21

The 3rd Grade class at Williamstown Elementary School will sponsor a pancake breakfast from 9 to noon Saturday, March 21, in the school cafeteria. The cost is \$6 for adults and \$5 for children, with a family cap of \$25. This price includes pancakes, a choice of bacon or sausage, a cup of fruit salad, juice or coffee. There also will be individually priced bagels, yogurt and baked goods. While you're there you can check out the annual PTO Camp Fair in the school gym, where representatives from local camps will have info about summer programs. For more information, call the school at 458-5707. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/28

The Hoosac Valley Baseball team will hold their annual car wash on Saturday, March 28 from 9am-noon at McAndrews-King dealership in Adams. Suggested ticket price is \$5 and it can be purchased at the car wash or from your favorite Hurricane baseball player. All proceeds will

directly benefit the team. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/21

Vermont Veterans' Home "VALOR" presents: "Gallowglass in Ireland", with John Miles, Director of the Veterans Scholar Program at Southern Vermont College. (The Gallowglass were a class of elite mercenary warriors.) The program is this Sat. at 2 PM in Patriot Hall at the Veterans Home, 325 North Street, Bennington. The community is welcome to attend. If it's happening in the Berkshires or nearby Southern VT, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 5/29

This Year's Relay for Life of Northern Berkshire will include the 1st Annual Cancer Survivor Celebration Dinner. It'll be on 4 PM May 29th at Noel Field, North Adams, right before the opening Survivors Ceremony and Lap. Registration is required and you can do that online at www.relayforlife.org/northernberkshires or by calling Laura at 413-493-2100 Ext: 2118. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 5/29

SAVE THE DATE! The 2015 Relay for Life of Northern Berkshire is scheduled for Friday and Saturday May 29th-30th at North Adams' Noel Field on State St. Opening Ceremony is set for 6PM May 29th. To register, go to www.relayforlife.org/northernberkshires or call 1-877-957-7848. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/25

MCLA continues to present a variety of events in conjunction with its "Creating Equality" series, which examines and honors the dedication, leadership and sacrifice that make social change possible. On Weds., March 25, Kate Bornstein, a performance artist and playwright, will present "On Men, Women, and the Rest of Us" at 7 p.m. in the Furst Roberts Auditorium. It is free and open to the public. For more information and a complete listing of "Creating Equality" events, go to www.mcla.edu/creatingequality. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 4/9

United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) of Berkshire County will host two open houses in the coming weeks. The first event will be held at UCP's Pittsfield location, 208 West St on March 26th from 6 to 7:30pm. The second will be held at the Northern Berkshire office, 535 Curran Hwy North Adams, Thurs., April 5th from 6 to 7:30. Find out about all the services available through UCP. Complimentary refreshments will be offered as well as gift basket raffles. For more information, contact Kristen at the Pittsfield office : 413-442-1562, or Katelyn in North Adams: 664-9345. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL TFN

The Hoosic River Revival Board and Advisory Council meet the second Monday of every month from 9 to 11 am in the 2nd floor conference room in North Adams City Hall. These meetings are open to the public. For more information, call 413-212-2996, email HoosicRiverRevival@gmail.com, check out the latest news at www.HoosicRiverRevival.org, or find them on Facebook. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 4/1

Dreaming of owning your own home? Attend a Habitat for Humanity International Session on Wednesday, April 1st from 6 to 7 pm at the Northern Berkshire Habitat Office, 61 Main Street, Suite 244 in North Adams. Children are welcome! For more info, call 664-4440 or visit www.northberkshirehabitat.org. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 4/2

If you're concerned about underage substance use, join nb21 and the City of North Adams for a special parent presentation on Thursday, April 2nd at 6 PM at the North Adams Public Library. It will feature Chris and Kathi Sullivan who struggled with personal and family issues surrounding drug and alcohol abuse. All members of the community are invited. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/24

MCLA will welcome husband and wife team Anastasia and John Stammeyer to campus March 24-26 as this spring semester's Handman Journalists-in-Residence. John Stammeyer, a photojournalist with National Geographic, and Anastasia Stammeyer, managing editor of Berkshire Magazine, each will present a talk, on March 24 and 25, respectively. Both lectures are free and open to the public. For more information, go to www.mcla.edu/About_MCLA. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/30

The Friends of the North Adams Library will meet Monday March 30th at 3:30 PM in the community room at the Library. These meetings are open to the public and those interested are encouraged to attend. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/28

The Department of Conservation & Recreation's Visitors Museum at Western Gateway Heritage State Park will present an illustrated lecture: "The Extinction Files" on Saturday, March 28th at 3pm. The program will journey back to investigate the cause and effects of mass extinctions and consider whether we are currently in the midst of another mass extinction. The Park is located south of the Hadley Overpass on Route 8 in North Adams. The Visitors Museum is in building #4. Information: 663-6312. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 4/9

Grammy and Tony Award winner, singer-songwriter Duncan Sheik comes to the Drury Performing Arts Center on April 10 as part of the 2014-15 DPAC Concert Series. Tickets for the general public are only available online at www.dpac.brownpapertickets.com. General admission tickets are \$20 and \$25. The concert also features regional opener, Adam Michael Rothberg. Rothberg is a singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, side musician, producer, and recording engineer. Learn more about the Drury Performing Arts Management program by going to www.facebook.com/dpacconcertseries. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/28

MCLA's Harlequin Musical Theatre Club will present their production of "Carrie: The Musical" this Thursday through Saturday, March 26-28, at 8 PM and Saturday at 2 PM in the Venable Hall theater at MCLA. Based on the Stephen King novel "Carrie", this show contains graphic and mature content. Tickets are \$5 general admission and \$1 for students, and may be reserved by email at harlequincarrie@gmail.com. All proceeds from this production will benefit KidsAct! at the Barrington Stage Company. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 4/2

Northern Berkshire Retirees Club will meet at 10AM Thursday April 2nd at the Greylock Community Club in North Adams. 1st Berkshire District Rep. Gail Candell will be the guest speaker, followed by a Q and A period. Coffee and doughnuts will be available. This meeting is open to the public.

Also, tickets will be available before and after the meeting for the Spring luncheon at the Boston Seafood restaurant on April 8th. Prices are \$15 for members and \$18 for non-members. Any questions call 743-9476 or 663-9263. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 4/1

There will be an American Red Cross Blood Drive from 11-4 on Weds. April 1 at the American Legion in North Adams. For an appt. please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit www.redcrossblood.org. Appointments are preferred but walk-ins are welcome. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 4/8

The regular monthly meeting of Court Margaret #629, Catholic Daughters of the Americas, will be held on Weds. April 8 at 6 PM, in the St. Elizabeth Parish Center in North Adams. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 4/23

The North Adams-based M-S Support Foundation will hold its 7th annual Gala on Saturday evening April 25th at the Berkshire Museum.

Tickets are available for this special event, which will include dinner as well as silent and live auctions. For more info, call 664-2011 or go online to www.massupportfoundation.org. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 4/1

The "Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers", or PARCC is a new K-12 testing system which may replace the MCAS tests. MCLA will host a panel discussion on issues and questions related to PARCC at 3 PM this Wednesday, April 1, in the Fitzpatrick Room on the second floor of Murdock Hall. This event is free and open to the public. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

JANUARY 2015 WNAW COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

PSA KILL 1/3/15

The Department of Conservation & Recreation's Visitors Museum at Western Gateway Heritage State Park will present an illustrated lecture: "The Spin Starts Here! A History of Globes" on Saturday, January 3rd at 3pm. You'll journey back in time to investigate the early making of globes and the role they played in history and science. Western Gateway Heritage State Park is located south of the Hadley Overpass on Route 8 in North Adams. The Visitors Museum is in building #4. Information: 663-6312. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/6/15

Hospice of Western & Central MA invites you to take part in a Grief Support Group on Tuesdays, 4-5PM, Jan. 6- Feb. 10 at Moments House, Pittsfield. You'll learn about the grief process, talk about your own experiences, learn to understand how to cope, find the way to move forward and discover where help, strength and resources are available. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/3/15

The BOUTIQUE will be open this Sat., Dec. 6, 9-Noon at Stamford Community Church. It'll feature gently used clothing. Proceeds to benefit the Church missions. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/10

The Department of Conservation & Recreation's Visitors Museum at Western Gateway Heritage State Park will present an illustrated lecture: "The Map Monsters" on Saturday, January 10th at 3pm. Ancient maps were not only adorned with land and sea but included monsters of all sorts. This lecture will go in search of historic maps and try to make sense of the whys and wherefores of these map monsters. Western Gateway Heritage State Park is located south of the Hadley Overpass on Route 8 in North Adams. The Visitors Museum is in

building #4. Information: 663-6312. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/31

The Berkshire Medical Center Patient & Family Advisory Council is actively recruiting new advisors from the northern Berkshire community to attend a monthly meeting at the BMC North Campus. The Council's mission is to provide a forum that enables patients and families to have direct input and influence on policies, programs, and practices at BMC, as it pertains specifically to northern Berkshire County. Those interested should contact Christa Meilillo, BMC Patient Relations Manager, at cmelillo@bhsi.org or (413) 447-2466. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/31

The Friends of Milne Public Library is accepting new or gently used book and media donations through March 31 for their April book sale, silent auction, cafe and bake sale. Donations can be brought in bags or boxes to the front porch of 184 Southworth St. To arrange for large donations, please call 652-2064 or 458-2276. For more information, or to volunteer your help at the sale, visit www.milnelibraryfriends.org or email friends@milnelibraryfriends.org. The event helps support children's programming, staff development, and technology at the library. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/16

The Friday, Jan. 16 meeting of the Northern Berkshire Interfaith Action Initiative will feature a presentation by Alan J. Rilla, program director of the Berkshire County Sheriff's Office Re-Entry Initiative. This program is aimed at keeping ex-offenders out of jail by helping them find jobs, safe places to live, and reunite with their families. The meeting will start at 10 a.m. in the Eagle Street Room of the First Baptist Church of North Adams. All are welcome. For more information, call Mark at 663-0130. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/19

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Committee welcomes everyone to join them on Monday, Jan. 19th for their 21st Annual "Day of Service" to the

community. The day begins at 9 AM with coffee and pastries at MCLA's Church Street Center. Around 9:15, participants start their choice of a community project, either on- or off-site. A free luncheon and community celebration begins at 12:30 at MCLA's Church Street Center, highlighted by the presentation of the Peacemaker Award to Al and Cindy McLain. The event is free and open to everyone. Contact Kathy Keeser at KathyKeeser@gmail.com or (413) 346-7196 or Liz Boland at the Northern Berkshire Community Coalition at 663-7588. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/23 (More info on "Spotlight", 8:30 AM Mon, 1/19)

North Berkshire restaurants will once again have the opportunity to showcase their good "eats" during North County EATS! Restaurant Week 2015. In a continued effort to encourage area locals and visitors to dine out in the Northern Berkshires, the Williamstown Chamber of Commerce, the North Adams Chamber of Commerce and the North Adams Office of Tourism and Community Events have collaborated to create North County EATS, running from Jan. 23-Feb. 1 (yes, that includes 2 Saturdays this year!) Participating restaurants and menus can be found at www.NorthCountyEats.com. You can also find North County EATS on Facebook. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/20 **REVISED: NO tx at door:

The 2014 Western Massachusetts Division Six Champion McGarr Hornets football team will be holding a benefit Chicken Dinner on Tuesday, January 20 at the Bounti-Fare Restaurant on Howland Ave in Adams from 4:30 to 7:30 pm. Raffles including gift baskets and a 50/50 will also be available. Tickets are \$11 and are available from any McGarr Football parent or by calling 663-9069. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/11

The Berkshire Lodge of Masons, 62 Center Street in Adams, will be hosting a breakfast to benefit Hoosac Valley Boys Basketball on Sunday January 11 from 8 to 11:30 am. The cost is \$7, children 5 and under are free. Breakfast includes pancakes, waffles, eggs, potatoes, bacon, sausage, coffee, juice and much more. For more information you can email Berkshire Lodge at events@berkshirrelodge.org. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/10

Governor Charlie Baker will make remarks to the public when he visits MASS MoCA as the first stop in the Berkshires on his "Spotlight on Success" tour of the Commonwealth. The event is scheduled for Saturday, January 10, 11am. Remarks are expected at 11:30. The public is invited to convene in the lobby of MASS MoCA, to greet and hear from the Governor as he visits sites through the Berkshires. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/21

Northern Berkshire Relay for Life 2015 will hold its Kick Off event on Wednesday January 21st at 6PM, at Bounti Fare Restaurant, Rte. 8, Adams. There is no registration fee for Relay for Life in 2015! Bring your friends and find out how you can help fight cancer in this Spring's annual event. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/18

The Adams Elks will be having their monthly breakfast buffet this Sunday morning 8-11 at the Lodge on Center St. On the menu: Scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, home fries, toast, juice, coffee and milk. Just 6 bucks. Call the Lodge for more info: 743-1335.

(Jimmy Dee will be cooking) If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/18

Sunday January 18 from 8:30 to 11:30am Berkshire Lodge of Masons will be putting on a breakfast to benefit the Hoosac Valley Nordic Ski Team at St. Mary's Church, 159 Church Street in Cheshire. The cost is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors and students. For more information you can email Berkshire Lodge at events@berkshirrelodge.org. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/17

The Department of Conservation & Recreation's Visitors Museum at Western Gateway Heritage State Park will present "Maps of the Unmappable" on Saturday, January 17th at 3pm. This illustrated lecture will journey back to a time when Heaven and Paradise and the realms of the gods could be located on a map. How does one locate

and create a map of a place one has never been to? The attempt was always intriguing. Western Gateway Heritage State Park is located south of the Hadley Overpass on Route 8 in North Adams. The Visitors Museum is in building #4. Information: 663-6312. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/19

Now through March 20, Williams College will host "Geographies: New England Book Work," an exhibit by the New England Guild of Book Workers. The exhibit will include new bookbinding and artist books, all of which connect to the New England theme. The exhibit will be located in Sawyer Library, split between the main lobby and the Stephen Schow Gallery on the 4th floor. The main lobby exhibit will be accessible during library hours (library.williams.edu/hours) and the gallery is open Monday-Friday from 10 to 5. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/31

The 2015 Annual Town Census is underway in Adams. This year, census forms have been mailed to all residents. You are asked to review it, make changes if needed and return it to the Town Clerk's office or to the drop box in Town Hall. Your participation is extremely important in helping the town apply for state aid and grants. If you did not receive a form, or would like to respond by phone, please call Town Clerk Haley Meczywor at 743-8300 Ext. 176, Mon-Fri 8:30 to 4. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/19

Williams College will celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. with events on Friday, Jan. 16; Sunday, Jan. 18; and Monday, Jan. 19. All are welcome to attend these free, public events. On Friday, January 16: there will be an assembly at the Williamstown Elementary School at 10 AM as 4th, 5th and 6th grade students reflect on the question, "Who is Martin Luther King Jr.?" On Sunday from 4 - 6 PM, Williams Recovery of All Perishable Surplus will host a meal-packing session in Paresky Dining Hall, with all wrapped food to be given to the Mohawk Forest Housing Project. Various activities will take place on campus on Monday from 11:30 to 5:15. More info at www.williams.edu or look for "williamscollege" on Facebook. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/7

The Bay State Winter Games are returning to the Berkshires with a new-look schedule for 2015. Alpine Skiing will take place at Bousquet on Feb 7th; the Figure Skating competition and Bay State Skate show will run the weekend of Feb. 20-22 at Williams' Lansing Chapman Rink; Bowling has been added to the lineup for Feb. 21-22 at Greylock Bowl and Golf in North Adams and Masters Ice Hockey will be March 6-8 at the Peter W. Foote Vietnam Veterans Rink in North Adams. For more info visit www.baystategames.org. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/7

MCLA's Berkshire Cultural Resource Center will present the 10th Annual Blues and Funk Festival on Friday, Feb. 6, and Saturday, Feb. 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the MCLA Venable Gym, 375 Church St. This year's lineup will feature two nights of music by five bands including the Arthur Holmes Blues Band, Misty Blues Band, and the Albert Cummings Band. Special 2-day general admission pricing is \$15. Admission is free for MCLA students and MCLA Presents Members; \$5 for staff and faculty and non-MCLA high school or college students; \$8 for MCLA alumni, and \$10 for general admission. For tickets, call 662-5204. For more info: 664-8718 or visit www.mcla.edu/presents. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/18

A meeting of the Maple Grove Civic Club will be held on Sunday, January 18 at the P.N.A. Hall on Victory Street, Adams. The meeting will start at 3 p.m. and installation of officers will be conducted. Dawn Broadwell, business development specialist of the Franklin County CDC will talk about creating new businesses. A roast beef dinner social will follow and attendees are asked to contribute \$5.00 to offset the cost of the meal. Members who have not yet paid their annual membership dues are requested to do so. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/24

Mill City Productions will host an Open House/General Interest event at its theater space on Saturday, January 24th from 3-6 pm. You're invited to stop by and meet Mill City members, learn about the 2015 season, and find out how you can get involved with the multi-generational theatre group. Mill City is especially interested in multicultural casting for their 2015 season. Actors of any ethnicity are invited to learn more about the 2015 plans. You'll be invited to look at materials or read from scripts for the directors. Refreshments will be

provided. Mill City Productions is in Building 4N, Heritage State Park, Rte. 8 in North Adams. For more info go to www.millicityproductions.org or email contactmillicity@gmail.com. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/30

BEAIR will hold a Family Fun night to benefit programs for adults and children with developmental disabilities, autism, and acquired brain injuries. It will be on Friday, January 30th from 6-9 at Mingo's Sports Bar and Grill in North Adams. Enjoy a great buffet and activities including bowling, simulated golf, pool and ping-pong. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids 12 and under. For more info or tickets please e-mail: galteley@bfair.org or call 664-9382. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 3/18

The 3rd Wednesday of every month is "Wellness Wednesday" at the Northern Berkshire YMCA in North Adams. All residents of northern Berkshire are invited to check out and use any of the Northern Berkshire YMCA's amenities, as well as partake in free offerings that will be given by health practitioners. For more information, class descriptions or questions please contact the YMCA at 663-6529 or visit their website: www.ymcanb.org. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/27

The Williams College Dept. of Music presents the Williams Opera Workshop in a concert on Tuesday, Jan. 27, at 7 PM in Chapin Hall on the Williams campus. This free event is open to the public. Williams Opera Workshop is a newly founded project involving talented Williams student singers and young professionals working together to prepare operatic scenes in a semi-staged performance. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/29

MCLA Gallery 51 will present "Winter Green," an interdisciplinary exhibition that examines plants from scientific and artistic points of view. An opening reception will be held on Jan. 29, from 5 to 7 p.m., in the gallery. This event is free and open to the public. "Winter Green" will run from Jan. 29 through March 22. MCLA Gallery 51 is

open seven days a week from 10-6, at 51 Main St. in North Adams. For more info: 664 8718, or go to www.mcla.edu/Gallery51. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/29

The non-profit Hilltown Families has organized their 7th Annual community-wide Handmade Valentine Swap, a free event open to all families in Western MA. It gives local families an opportunity to be creative together while connecting with other families in Western MA. Send out 10 hand-made Valentines and get 10 back! Signup deadline is Thursday Jan 29. For more info visit www.hilltownfamilies.org or email hilltownfamilies@gmail.com. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/24

Williams College Athletics will hold their annual Girls and Women in Sports Day event this Saturday from Noon-3 in Towne Field House. All girls in grades K-6 are welcome to attend and learn all about volleyball, softball, lacrosse, and soccer from Williams student-athletes. All participants are encouraged to bring sneakers and enjoy the Williams versus Hamilton women's basketball game in Chandler Gym at 3 PM. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/25

The Williams College men's and women's ice hockey teams will be holding their third "Skate With the Ephs" on Sunday, Jan. 25. This free skate session with the players on both Eph teams is open to the public and will be held in Lansing Chapman Rink from 1-3:30 p.m. Skate rental is available from Goff's on Spring Street and a limited number of skates will be available at Lansing Chapman Rink. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/26

BerkshireWorks will hold a "Creating Your Resume" Workshop on Tuesday, January 27th, 10-Noon in Room 106, North Adams City Hall. Learn to create the perfect marketing tool to use in your job search... YOUR RESUME. References and cover letters will also be discussed. To register, please call 413-672-0097 or visit www.berkshirereworks.org.

If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/31

The Maple Grove Civic Club will sponsor a Dana Labbee Summer Basketball fundraiser from 4-7 PM on Sat Jan 31, at the PMA on Victory St., Adams. It's a dinner of chicken breast, stuffing, potatoes, green beans, bread and coffee, all for \$9 for adults, \$8 for kids under 12. For tickets call 743-1225 or 743-5175. Tickets will also be sold at the door. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/4

On February 4 at 4 PM, Professor William Minardi will lecture at Sweetwood of Williamstown Retirement Living Community. Minardi's teaching career spanned 59 years, 54 of those at MCLA. His astronomy lecture is titled, "The Organization of Space". There will be a question and answer session following the lecture. This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. Sweetwood is located at 1611 Cold Spring Road - Rt. 7 Williamstown. For more info, please call 458-8371. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/5

Sweet Brook Rehabilitation & Nursing Center is hosting a benefit trivia night on Thursday, February 5 from 5-8 p.m. at Mingo's Sports Bar and Grill in North Adams. Donations are \$20 per ticket, which includes complimentary appetizers and a chance to win some great prizes. All proceeds will go to the Sweet Brook resident activities fund. For tickets, call Tracy at 458-8127 ext: 6364 or drop by Sweet Brook, 1561 Cold Spring Road, Williamstown. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/2

BerkshireWorks will hold an "Interview More Effectively" Workshop - Tuesday, February 3rd, 10-Noon in Room 106, North Adams City Hall. Learn how to present a positive first impression, know what to expect, and be prepared for each stage of the interview. To register, please call 413-672-0097 or visit www.Berkshireworks.org. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/10

There will be a Valentine's Day Pinterest Party Fundraiser for the 2015 Relay for Life Team Soul Sisters. It's a Do-it-Yourself Chocolate Covered Candy Bar, and it's on Thurs. Feb 12 from 6-7:30 PM at the Adams Ale House. Cost is \$30 per person and there will be appetizers and raffles. Registration is required so please call or text Ashley at 413-212-7687 to sign up. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 1/25

American Legion Post 160 will be holding a Breakfast this Sunday from 8-11:30 at the Post, 160 Forest Park Ave., Adams. French Toast, bacon, sausage, eggs, potatoes and coffee all for just \$6 per person. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/17

Mad Science presents: "Sounds Like Science" on Tuesday, February 17th, 6 PM in the North Adams Public Library 3rd floor meeting room. Suitable for ages 5 and up, this fun, funky and free educational show explores the science behind sound! After the show, the kids can enjoy a hands-on activity booth. Call 662-3133 Ext. 14 for more info. This event is made possible by the Northern Berkshire Community Television Corporation. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/14

Back by popular demand! A 4-H February School Vacation Baby-Sitting Course for ages 12 and up, at the North Adams Public Library. The course runs from Tuesday, Feb. 17th - Friday Feb. 20th from 2-4:30 P.M. in the 3rd floor meeting room. Youngsters must pre-register at the Library with a signed permission form and must attend all four days of program. Space is limited to 12 participants. North Adams Public Library is at 74 Church Street, downtown North Adams. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 5/1

Williams College invites you to experience the wonders of our universe at the Milham Planetarium, located inside the Old Hopkins Observatory

on Main St. Astronomy students will host free shows for the public on Friday evenings at 8 PM beginning Feb. 6 and running through May 1 with the exception of Spring Break March 20, 27, and April 3. Shows will last about 50 minutes. Reservations are recommended by contacting Michele at (413) 597-2188 or email at micr4@williams.edu. Others will be admitted as space permits. Large groups should call for special appointments. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/5

Northern Berkshire Retirees Club will meet at 10 AM Thursday February 5th, at the Greylock Community Club on State Rd., North Adams. The speaker will be Tim Morey, Clerk Magistrate of the Northern Berkshire District Court who will speak on the court judicial system. Coffee and doughnuts will be available. Any questions call 743-9476 or 663-9263. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/8

The Berkshire Lodge of Masons, 62 Center Street in Adams, will be putting on a breakfast on Sunday Feb. 8 from 8 to 11:30. The cost is \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors and children under 14. Breakfast includes pancakes, waffles, eggs, potatoes, bacon, sausage, coffee, juice and much more. For more information look for "berkshirielodge" on Facebook or email: events@berkshirielodge.org. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.

PSA KILL 2/13

The Williams College Department of Music presents the Grammy-winning vocal ensemble Roomful of Teeth on Friday, Feb. 13 at 8 p.m. in Thompson Memorial Chapel on the Williams College campus. The performance features the combined voices of Roomful of Teeth and the Williams Concert Choir. The group will also present a master class along with Williams music students on Thursday, Feb. 12 at 4:15 p.m. in Brooks-Rogers Rectal Hall. Both events are free and open to the public. For info go online to music.williams.edu or call the concert hotline: 413-597-3146. If it's happening in the Berkshires, you'll hear about it on WNAW Radio 1230.