

WNAW –AM 1230

ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT

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JULY. AUGUST . SEPTEMBER . 2016

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- . What Were The issues**
- . News stories**
- . Public Service Weekly Programs**
- . Public Service Announcements**



North Adams, Massachusetts

ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT

JULY – AUGUST – SEPTEMBER COMMUNITY ISSUES IN THIS QUARTER OF 2016

What were some of the issues in our community this quarter? Read on.

CICCOLO PLEADS INNOCENT TO TERROR CHARGES:

Alexander Ciccolo, facing two terrorism-related charges, pleaded not guilty in U.S. District Court. The 23 year old Adams man was arraigned on several charges leveled in a superseding indictment released by the U.S. Attorney's Office. He was arrested on July 4th, 2015, and subsequently held on a federal weapons possession charge. While in custody, he also was charged with an assault against a prison employee. Initially they were the only charges.

RUN-UP THE STATE PRIMARY ELECTION:

Campaigning was heavy and there were several debates during the run-up to the State Primary Election on September 8th. Two races were the main focus here in the Berkshires. There was a three-way race for two spots on the general election ballot for State Representative in the 3rd Berkshire District including the incumbent, Tricia Farley Bouvier. There was also a three-way race for ballot spots for the open State Senate seat.

REGULATIONS FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES:

With medical marijuana now a reality in the state, Adams officials are taking steps to ensure the town has appropriate regulations in place just in case a company tries to open a dispensary in the community. Select Board Chairman Jeffrey Snoonian says that there's nobody knocking on the town's door right now trying to bring in a medical marijuana dispensary, but if there is no bylaw on the books, the town would have no control over where such a facility would be allowed.

NORTH ADAMS COUNCIL ENDORSES CULTURAL DISTRICT DESIGNATION:

The North Adams City Council endorsed the pursuit of a Cultural District designation for a large part of the downtown. Work on the application began some three years ago but languished during a change-over in staffing. The designation will help in marketing the city and will include signage and a map detailing the cultural and historical elements of the walkable area.

WNAW

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NEWS

This is a sample of news copy presented on the air on the air during a normal broadcast day.

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

Gamma Broadcasting 2016

NA 07-06-16

NEW MARLBOROUGH MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN MULTIPLE RAPES OF TWO GIRLS (NA, GB -All Interest)

A New Marlborough man has pleaded guilty to a dozen sexual assault charges in connection with rapes of two girls dating back to the early 1990s. The Eagle reports that 57 year old Eric Cohen was released on \$27,500 bail, pending his sentencing hearing in Berkshire Superior Court next week. The charges to which he pleaded guilty are spread out among two different cases. In the older case, Cohen admitted to sexually assaulting a girl between January 1992 and May 1994, beginning when she was approximately 11. Those assaults took place in North Adams. In the more recent case, Cohen admitted to raping a girl between September 2012 and January 2014, beginning when she was 15. Those assaults took place in New Marlborough.

NORTH ADAMS CEMETERY PANEL REVISES MONUMENT REGULATIONS (NA)

With the help of monument setters and dealers, the North Adams Cemetery Commission has cleaned up some rules and regulations in regards to monument installation. IBerkshires.com reports that representatives from the Department of Public Works, Bellevue Memorials and Berkshire Monumental Works attended a Cemetery Commission meeting last week to help the commission revise rules and regulations.

STATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SECRETARY TOURS WILLIAMSTOWN'S WAUBEEKA (NA)

The commonwealth's top economic development officer said last week that he liked what he saw at Waubeeka Golf Links and thinks it might be a good fit for the kind of resort and conference center envisioned by its owner. IBerkshires.com reports Secretary for Housing and Economic Development Jay Ash spent last evening touring the South Williamstown golf course and chatting with local government and non-profit leaders. He told the group assembled in the clubhouse that, in his mind, the venue had potential as a destination conference center.

ASSAULT CHARGES FOR NORTH ADAMS MAN WHO ALLEGEDLY KICKED OFFICER IN GROIN (NA)

A Walnut Street man is facing assault charges for allegedly kicking a North Adams police officer in the groin after being subdued with pepper spray. The Eagle reports that 61 year old Kenneth Rock allegedly knocked out a man and attempted to punch a woman at about 8:30pm on Friday following a day of drinking on Willow Dell. When police arrived on scene, Rock was allegedly still threatening to assault the woman and later bragged to officers that he had knocked out the man "with one punch to the nose," according to the police report. Rock also threatened to fight the officer as revenge for the last time he was arrested, according to the report.

ANNUAL FLUSHING OF HYDRANTS (NA)

The City of North Adams began its annual flushing of city fire hydrants yesterday. The flushing will be conducted through tomorrow night between the hours of 8pm and 11pm. City officials say that the flushing can cause some temporary discoloration of your water which can be cleared by running your faucets before use.

NA 07-01-16

TERRORISM CHARGES LEVELED AGAINST CICCULO (NA-interest)

Alexander Ciccolo, who has been held by federal authorities since his arrest last July 4th of last year, was indicted yesterday in connection with a plot to engage in terrorist activity inspired by and in the name of ISIS. | Berkshires.com reports the 23 year old Ciccolo, a resident of Adams at the time of his arrest, was indicted on one count of attempting to provide material support to a foreign terrorist organization and one count of attempting to use of weapons of mass destruction. The charges from a superseding indictment were added to a pending indictment charging Ciccolo with one count of being a convicted person in possession of firearms and one count of assaulting a nurse during a jail intake process by use of a deadly weapon causing bodily injury. Ciccolo is scheduled to appear in U.S. District Court in Springfield on July 7th.

FIVE FACE CHARGES IN BUST OF ALLEGED NORTH ADAMS HEROIN OPERATION (NA, P)

Five people, including three members of a suspected drug distribution operation, are facing charges following their arrest and the seizure of more than 400 bags of heroin. The Eagle reports that police had been investigating 29 year old Joshua Stimpson, of Pittsfield, and 21 year old Courtney Tatro, of Clarksburg, since March, and 23 year old Gavin Mahar, of North Adams, since April, according to a probable cause report. Police believed Stimpson and Tatro were utilizing two vehicles to transport heroin from the Holyoke area to North Adams, while Mahar was suspected of selling heroin with and for Stimpson in North Adams.

MISTER TIRE SET TO REOPEN UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP (NA)

Mister Tire will soon be back in business, but under new ownership. The Eagle reports the 558 Curran Memorial Highway business was closed in June by owner Larry Davis, but a Vermont-based company has purchased the facility effective July 1st. The new owner will continue to offer drive-thru service of tires and vehicle alignments. Owner Larry Davis operated Mister Tire for 38 years before deciding to retire earlier this year. Pending planning board approval, the business is slated to open in August and will have hours of 9am to 5pm Monday through Friday and 8am to noon on Saturday.

STATE OFFICIALS DISCUSS PROPOSAL TO EXTEND MUNICIPAL WATER LINES (NA)

The Bennington Banner reports that Bennington residents have more questions about two proposals to connect homes and businesses impacted by PFOA contamination with municipal water systems. Among them: Will they be required to hook into the new water main in front of their home, and how much would the project cost compared to long-term maintenance of home filtration systems? More than 100 people turned out for a meeting at Bennington College on Wednesday night on the PFOA water issue, the state's response and two proposals to extend municipal water lines from the town and village.

NA 07-08-16

CICCOLO PLEADS INNOCENT TO TERROR CHARGES (NA)

An Adams man facing two terrorism-related charges pleaded not guilty in U.S. District Court yesterday. IBerkshires.com reports that 23 year old Alexander Ciccolo was arraigned on several charges leveled in a superseding indictment released last week by the U.S. Attorney's Office. Ciccolo answered "not guilty" to each of the counts presented in front of U.S. Magistrate Judge Katherine Robertson. After the 15-minute hearing, Ciccolo's attorney declined to speculate about the possibility of a plea bargain on the charges, which include accusations that he attempted to provide material support to a foreign terrorist organization and attempted to use weapons of mass destruction. Ciccolo was arrested just more than a year ago, on July 4th, 2015, and subsequently held on a federal weapons possession charge. While in custody, he also was charged with an assault against a prison employee, a nurse who was examining him at the Franklin County Correctional Center. Until last week, those were the only announced charges against him.

JUDGE DISMISSES CHARGES AGAINST BENNINGTON DAYCARE PROVIDERS (NA)

A judge has dismissed charges against a daycare owner and one of her former employees who were accused of waiting too long to call 911 over a sick child in their care. The Eagle reports that 54 year old Debi Miller, of Bennington, and 47 year old Kristie Clough, of Eagle Bridge, N.Y. had been scheduled to appear in Vermont Superior Court Criminal Division Bennington Unit in June to answer misdemeanor charges of reckless endangerment and cruelty to a child under 10. They were never arraigned. On June 17th, Superior Court Judge David Howard dismissed the charges against both women, stating that there was not enough evidence to find probable cause for either charge.

WILLIAMSTOWN SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR HIKING TRAIL MAINTENANCE (NA)

The Conservation Commission in Williamstown is looking for volunteers to attend a July 14th lesson on how to help maintain town-owned hiking trails. IBerkshires.com reports that at the commissions June 23rd meeting, hiking enthusiast and commission member Robert Hatton asked his colleagues to organize the session, scheduled for 6:30 at Town Hall in advance of the committee's next regular meeting. Hatton first announced his plan to generate a volunteer trail maintenance crew at a Board of Selectmen meeting on June 14th. He explained to his colleagues a week later why it is necessary to find new volunteer labor for continuing maintenance issues.

CHESHIRE SELECTMEN HANDLE FENCE DISPUTE (NA)

Selectmen in Cheshire have brought in special legal counsel to help settle a neighborly dispute over fences and wandering cattle. IBerkshires.com reports that Attorney Jeffrey Grandchamp issued an opinion Tuesday in an ongoing stalemate between local farmer Edward Clairmont, Cheshire resident Bertram Beisiegel and Fence Viewer Mark Warner. Clairmont, the owner of Gulf Farm on Savoy Road, originally came before the board in May and stated that the fence viewer overstepped his purview and demanded that he make repairs to his fence when areas of Beisiegel's fence are also in disrepair.

NA 07-13-16

NORTH ADAMS MAN HELD AFTER CAR BREAK-IN AND FOOT CHASE (NA)

A North Adams man is being held on \$1,000 cash bail after allegedly using a hand-held tool to break into a car and then leading police on a brief foot chase. The Eagle reports that 35 year old Zachariah Chaffee, of 150 Ashland Street, is charged with daytime breaking and entering into a vehicle to commit a felony, two counts of malicious destruction of property over \$250 and possession of a burglary tool. A woman from Stamford witnessed a man with long dark hair, a beard, and dark clothing breaking into a vehicle. According to police, the woman chased the suspect and grabbed him, tearing his shirt. Several police officers joined the chase and Chaffee was spotted hiding in some bushes in the River Street area. Chaffee was expected to be arraigned today at the Northern Berkshire District Court.

WILLIAMSTOWN SELECTMEN BEGIN PROCESS TO EVALUATE TOWN MANAGER (NA)

The Williamstown Board of Selectmen on Monday discussed how it plans to evaluate its first-year town manager. IBerkshires.com reports the board hired Jason Hoch a little more than a year ago to replace retiring Town Manager Peter Fohlin. Chairman Andrew Hogeland reminded his colleagues on Monday that they had not been through the evaluation process in a few years. Hogeland suggested that instead of doing the evaluations on their own, the board members should actively solicit feedback from town employees who answer directly to Hoch and community groups — like Williams College and the Clark Art Institute — that have extensive interaction with Town Hall.

COMMUNITY CHEST RECEIVES \$750,000 GIFT FROM FLYNT FAMILY (NA)

The Williamstown Community Chest is the beneficiary of a nearly \$750K bequest from the estate of Henry N. Flynt Jr. and his wife Mary. The financial gift is the largest received by the entity to date. The Eagle reports the gift was given on the condition that it must be used to create an endowment fund benefiting endeavors that improve the lives of Williamstown residents. Applications for the first-time grant funds will be available July 15th on the Community Chest website which can be found at www.WilliamstownCommunityChest.org. The application deadline is Sept 15th.

ADAMS WILL TAKE FORMER CURTIS PAPER MILL FOR HALF-MILLION IN BACK TAXES (NA)

The town of Adams has had enough of chasing a local business down for delinquent taxes. The Zoning Board of Appeals voted yesterday to revoke MJD Real Estate's operating permits after the company accumulated more than \$477,000 in unpaid real estate and personal property taxes. The vote was unanimous to pull the permits for the freight transportation terminal facility operating at 115 Howland Avenue, the former Curtis Fine Paper mill.

NORTH ADAMS' EAGLE STREET BEACH PARTY SET FRIDAY (NA)

The Eagle Street Beach Party returns to North Adams for its 18th year of building sand castles on the historic byway; and for the seventh year, the adults-only Mexican Fiesta takes over the party for an evening of margaritas and volley ball. IBerkshires.com reports that this year's event is on Friday with a rain date of July 22nd. Originated by artist Eric Rudd in 1999, the beach party has become a summer staple for creative fun in the sand. The family event runs from 3:30 to 6:30pm. At 7 p.m., the adult games take over with margaritas and Corona beer available from Desparados, food from local eateries, and live music until 10pm.

NA 07-19-16

CHESHIRE, RAIL TRAIL RAVAGED BY STORM (NA, P)

An early afternoon thunderstorm swept a path of destruction through a residential section of Cheshire, leaving downed trees and wires and damaged utility poles in its wake. The Eagle reports Town Emergency Management Director Corey Swistak said the police and fire departments began receiving multiple calls about damage as the storm passed through about 1:30pm. Most of the destruction was along the Main Street, East Main Street, Mill Hill Road and Meadowbrook Drive areas. Power was knocked out to about 1,300 customers initially. All but about 115 customers had power restored by around 5:30pm, according to information from National Grid. East Main Street was closed for a time due to the number of downed trees.

NORTH ADAMS POLICE SHOOT, KILL DEER INJURED IN DOG ATTACK (NA)

North Adams police shot and killed a wounded deer Sunday after it was attacked by a dog. The Eagle reports that two callers reported the attack on Harris Street shortly after noon. When officers arrived, the deer was found to be in significant distress from serious injuries to its rear leg and neck. The dog was placed in quarantine with its owner, who has not been identified. Police said the owner told them that the dog escaped from a backyard. The municipal animal control officer and state Department of Energy and Environmental Affairs Environmental Police officers will conduct an investigation into the attack.

WILLIAMSTOWN SEEKS 'TRAIL-BLAZING' VOLUNTEERS (NA)

Trails do not maintain themselves. That was the message from town Conservation Commission member Robert Hatton during a recent trail maintenance tutorial meeting held at the Williamstown Town Hall. IBerkshires.com reports that Hatton spoke to an interested group of nine volunteers gathered to learn about properly caring for town-owned hiking, snow-shoeing, and cross-country skiing trails. The trails Hatton would like to see maintained include a Berlin Road trail; a town-owned section of the Stone Hill trail; the Linear Park trail, and trails around Margaret Lindley Park and Torrey Woods Road.

BERKSHIRE BANK FOUNDATION AWARDS \$1.1 MILLION IN FUNDING (ALL)

Berkshire Bank's charitable foundation awarded \$1.1 million in grants to nonprofit organizations in Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut and Vermont between January 1st and June 30th. A total of 365 nonprofit organizations received funding. In Berkshire County, they include 1Berkshire Strategic Alliance, Berkshire Community Action Council, Berkshire Family YMCA, and Central Berkshire Habitat for Humanity.

LAWMAKERS RULE OUT MASSACHUSETTS' SUMMER SALES TAX HOLIDAY (All-state)

Shoppers in Massachusetts can forget about saving a few dollars on that new television or furniture set. Legislative leaders say there will be no sales tax holiday in the Bay State this summer. Senate President Stan Rosenberg and House Speaker Robert DeLeo blame the state's tenuous fiscal situation, which has prompted belt-tightening throughout state government. The Democratic leaders say that the state can't afford to lose an estimated \$26 million if the 6.25 percent sales tax is suspended for one weekend in August. Massachusetts has held sales tax holidays in all but one year since 2004. The holidays are popular with shoppers and merchants who welcome increased traffic during an otherwise slow summer retail period.

NA 07-22-16

ADAMS SELECT BOARD WANTS REGULATIONS FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES (NA)

With medical marijuana now a reality in the state, Adams officials are taking steps to ensure the town has appropriate regulations in place just in case a company tries to open a dispensary in the community. Select Board Chairman Jeffrey Snoonian says that there's nobody knocking on the town's door right now trying to bring in a medical marijuana dispensary, but if there is no bylaw on the books, the town would have no control over where such a facility would be allowed if a proposal should surface. The Eagle reports that the Select Board on Wednesday voted unanimously to direct the Planning Board to draft a bylaw as a pre-emptive measure. State voters approved allowing the use of medically prescribed marijuana in 2012.

POKEMON GO PLAYERS ASKED NOT TO BLOCK CHESHIRE FIRE STATION (NA)

The Cheshire Fire Department is asking Pokemon Go players not to hang around the station after players have been found blocking doors with their vehicles. IBerkshires.com reports that the department posted on its Facebook page yesterday that they have had numerous incidents lately where they have gone to the station to respond to an emergency call and have found vehicles parked in front of the stations bay doors. Players are out and about everywhere since the game launched a couple weeks ago trying to catch the fictional digital "pocket monsters" created more than two decades ago.

ADAMS MOVIES UNDER THE STARS STARTS FRIDAY (NA)

The town of Adams Movies Under the Stars returns for the summer tonight at the Visitors Center. IBerkshires.com reports that according to organizer, Police Officer Gregory Charon, who also organizes Dana Labbee Summer Basketball, Movies Under the Stars will kick off tonight with "Zootopia" at 7:30pm. After the disbanding of the Events Planning Committee, many town events were left without organizers. However Dana Labbee Summer Basketball and the town decided to take over this event.

PEDAL 'N PLOD RACE IN ADAMS (NA)

More than three decades of tradition will continue in Adams on Sunday as the 33rd Pedal 'N' Plod running and bicycling race gets underway. The Eagle reports that an events planning committee that was in charge of organizing the race and other town events disbanded late last year, but private citizens including Myra Wilk, Carol Cushmanette and Peter Lipka – and members of the Western Massachusetts Athletic Club decided to step up and keep the race on the summer calendar. The race will begin at 8:30am at St. Mark's Church on Commercial Street.

NUNS ON THE BUS STOP IN BENNINGTON (NA)

The colorful bus bearing the "Nuns on the Bus" tour rolled into the parking lot at Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Church in Bennington just before 4pm on Thursday. Inside were eight nuns from around the United States, along with some support staff. This is the fifth 'Nuns on the Bus' tour – this one with the theme "Mend the Gaps: Reweaving the Fabric of Society." The tour includes 23 cities in 13 states. This is the first time the tour has ever come to Vermont.

NA 07-25-16

BERKSHIRE DELEGATION STEPS UP AT DNC (All)

Members of the Berkshire Delegation will serve a role at the Democratic National Convention this week. State Rep. Tricia Farley-Bouvier is going to the convention to serve as the Massachusetts whip, after being appointed to the role by the Hilary Clinton campaign. This will be Farley-Bouvier's first time at a national convention. State Representative Paul Mark has the chance not only to cast a vote on the nominee but also the platform and the vice president. Congressman Richard Neal will be at the convention as a super-delegate. Neal has been a longtime Clinton supporter — despite his congressional district voting for Sanders — but he, too, believes Sanders is making a large impact.

PEDAL N PLOD RACE DOUBLES ATTENDANCE THIS YEAR (NA)

The 33 Pedal 'N' Plod was held yesterday in Adams. The Eagle reports the race almost didn't happen this year, as a town events planning committee disbanded several months ago. Town residents Peter Lipka and Myra Wilk, and Carol Cushenette teamed up with members of the Western Massachusetts Athletic Club and organized the 33rd annual race. Participation nearly doubled from last year. Cushenette said that last year there were 49 teams registered to race; this year 90 teams participated. More than 40 people competed as part of the Iron-person category.

SIGN AND PARKING CHANGES PLUS FLASHING CROSSWALK SIGNS APPROVED (NA)

Motorists parking along the western side of Columbia Street in Adams will have an extra hour to conduct their business, and pedestrians will have an easier time crossing Commercial Street. The Eagle reports that the changes are among a set of eight Traffic Commission recommendations approved by the Select Board after some discussion and a presentation by town police Chief Richard Tarsa Jr., who is chairman of the commission. The parking time limit, which will impact numbers 46, 48, 50, 52 and 56, is two hours, extended from a previous one hour parking limit.

NORTH ADAMS SUPERINTENDENT ADDS TO HER TEAM (NA)

Just a few weeks into her new role as superintendent of North Adams Public Schools, Barbara Malkas has surrounded herself with familiar faces. The Eagle reports that Malkas has announced the appointment of two experienced local education professionals to administrative positions at a recent School Committee meeting. Thomas Simon was hired as the director of student support services while Kimberly Roberts-Morandi was brought on as the director of curriculum, instruction, and assessment.

COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER TO IMPROVE RUSSELL FIELD (NA)

Members of the Adams community and local businesses came together for a community service day Thursday of last week to scrape and repaint the softball building and shelter at Russell Field. The team started at 9am and spent the day scraping and painting the facilities.

NA 07-28-16

PARKING METER PLAN GETS MORE TIME (NA)

A plan to install meters at the Center Street parking lot is on hold so the City Council can further vet the proposal and explore enforcement options. The Eagle reports that most members seemed supportive of the plan, but the council opted to delay a vote after an extensive discussion at Tuesday's meeting. Mayor Richard Alcombright and Police Director Michael Cozzaglio introduced the proposal, with support from the city's traffic commission, to charge 25 cents per hour via new parking meters at the city-owned lot. It was unanimously recommended to the full council following a public safety committee meeting on Monday.

ADAMS TOO ADOPT COMPLETE STREETS PROGRAM (NA)

Selectmen in Adams plan to adopt the state's Complete Streets program and focus possible funds on the southern Route 8 corridor. IBerkshires.com reports that Director of Community Development Donna Cesan encouraged the board yesterday during a workshop meeting to adopt the state Department of Transportation's program that awards qualifying communities funds to improve streets, sidewalks and intersections to better transportation for all travel modes. Cesan said she would like to focus the policy on the southern Route 8 corridor. If approved, the town can apply for up to \$50,000 that can be used to perform an inventory of all street projects in town and prioritize them.

NORTH ADAMS COUNCIL ENDORSES CULTURAL DISTRICT DESIGNATION (NA)

The City Council on Tuesday endorsed the pursuit of a Cultural District designation for a large part of the downtown. IBerkshires.com reports that the work on the application began some three years but languished during a change-over in staffing. Now being spearheaded by Jennifer Crowell of the Berkshire Cultural Resource Center and the city's Director of Community Events Suzy Helme, the unanimous approval of the resolution to the Massachusetts Cultural Council completes the application process. The designation will help in marketing the city and will include signage and a map detailing the cultural and historical elements of the walkable area.

CHARTER UPGRADING INTERNET, CABLE IN LANESBOROUGH (NA)

High-definition cable access will be in most of Lanesborough on August 2nd and, a week later, high-speed internet. IBerkshires.com reports that as part of the merger with Time Warner Cable, Charter Communications is upgrading the systems in three Berkshire towns — Lanesborough, West Stockbridge and Hinsdale. For weeks workers have been in various parts of the town replacing wiring and bringing the new digital signal to the majority of the homes. Tom Cohan, a government representative for Charter, told the Board of Selectmen that the new system will be turned on August 2nd — requiring residents to switch cable boxes for that date — and a week later on August 9th, 60 to 100 megabit packages will be available for broadband access.

NA 07-29-16

ADAMS MAN APPARENTLY DROWNS WHILE TUBING ON DEERFIELD RIVER (NA)

A 51-year-old Adams man has apparently drowned in the Deerfield River in Charlemont, according to the Northwestern District Attorney's Office. The Eagle reports that 51 year old Thomas Hereford was tubing with co-workers Wednesday near the intersection of the Deerfield and Cold rivers. The incident remains under investigation by Massachusetts State Police. No foul play is suspected. Hereford's body was recovered by members of the Northfield Dive Team. The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner will determine the official cause of death.

PITTSFIELD MAN DIES AFTER REAR-ENDING FLATBED TOW TRUCK IN ADAMS (P, NA)

A Pittsfield man was killed yesterday morning when the car he was driving crashed into a flatbed tow truck on Howland Avenue in Adams. The Eagle reports that 23 year old Ethan Piaggi-Cornell was driving a 2001 Hyundai Sonata around 11:15am when he struck the rear end of the truck, which had stopped to make a left turn into Gene's Sales and Service, according to Adams Police Chief Richard Tarsa. He was taken to the North Adams Campus of Berkshire Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead, according to the Berkshire District Attorney's Office. The driver of the truck was uninjured. There were no passengers in either vehicle. An autopsy will be conducted at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Holyoke.

2ND ARREST FOR MAN ACCUSED OF DEALING HEROIN IN NORTH ADAMS (NA)

A Connecticut man believed to be funneling heroin into North Adams is being held without bail after being arrested for the second time since December. 24 year old Brian Ducksworth was arrested on Tuesday for allegedly setting up a heroin distribution center in North Adams. He allegedly had more than 100 bags of heroin. While out on bail after the December arrest, police received information from multiple confidential informants that Ducksworth was distributing heroin in the city, according to a probable cause report.

NORTH ADAMS POISED TO DECIDE ON DOG PARK PLAN (NA)

The city of North Adams is close to having a new dog park near the Houghton Street playground. The Eagle reports that a proposal for a 6,217-square-foot, fenced-in dog park, introduced by a group of canine-loving residents earlier this year, will be decided on by the city's Parks and Recreation Commission in August. The volunteer group believes that the construction of a dog park would be a boost to residents and tourists, who often look for dog amenities when they visit. It would also benefit the dogs, that would learn socialization behaviors and be mentally stimulated. It's expected to formally vote on the proposal on August 8th.

ADAMS CONSERVATION COMMISSION APPROVE GLEN MODIFICATIONS (NA)

The Adams Conservation Commission has approved some small modifications of the Greylock Glen trail plan in the preparation of public bidding. IBerkshires.com reports that an official from the state Department of Conservation and Recreation, asked the commission last week to make minor tweaks to the plan, including eliminating some trails, cutting back on unneeded erosion control, and restoring current trails instead of building new ones. Mass-DCR's proposal includes some 14 miles of new trails for multiple recreational uses; another 15 miles of existing trails to be rehabilitated and restoring or closing 13.5 miles of existing trails. Initial plans had been approved six years ago.

NA 08-05-16

NORTH ADAMS FIREFIGHTERS RESCUE MAN FROM GORGE (NA)

Firefighters rescued a 21-year-old man last night who became trapped in a gorge at Natural Bridge State Park in North Adams. |Berkshires.com reports that Taylor Sheldon of North Adams had been swimming with friends at the park when the group headed back up toward where their car was parked at the Franklin Street gate. Sheldon apparently climbed up through a waterfall and became separated from the group. They found him nearly an hour later stuck in the dark in the rushing water at the bottom of the 60-foot gorge. He couldn't make his way back down in the dark and couldn't get out from the top. Firefighter Matthew Davis took the lead in the rescue as a member of the Western Massachusetts Regional Technical Rescue Team. Other firefighters were also trained in rope rescue at an operational level, according to Fire Director Stephen Meranti.

HOOSAC VALLEY CLASS OF 2012 MOURNS LOSS OF TWO CLASSMATES (NA)

The Hoosac Valley High School class of 2012 was left reeling last week when it lost two classmates within days of each other. |Berkshires.com reports that friends of Ethan Piaggi-Cornell and Mary Wilk remembered them both as fun-loving, adventurous, and kind people, who left their mark on the high school community. The 22 year old Wilk, of Cheshire, valedictorian of the class and a University of Vermont graduate, was struck by a vehicle while riding a bike along Route 1 in South Kingstown, R.I., on July 26th and died four days later. The 23 year old Piaggi-Cornell, of Pittsfield, was killed after hitting a stopped flatbed tow truck on Howland Avenue in his car in Adams on July 28th.

LANESBOROUGH LIKELY TO LEAVE WIRED WEST WITH MBI, CHARTER PLANNING EXPANSION (NA)

The Board of Selectmen in Lanesborough are trusting Charter Communications to connect close to 100 percent of residents to broadband — essentially cutting ties with WiredWest. |Berkshires.com reports that the board voted during an emergency meeting Wednesday to forfeit future funding from the Massachusetts Broadband Institute and to instead allow Charter to receive a grant to build out the high-speed internet system. Charter recently purchased Time Warner Cable and is upgrading the existing service with high-definition cable television and high-speed internet. The upgraded cable system went live on Tuesday and the internet is going live next week.

42ND ADAMS AGRICULTURAL FAIR FEATURES TONIGHT (NA)

The 42nd Adams Agricultural Fair gets underway tonight with more vendors and more excitement according to its organizers. Two truck-pulling competitions, a demolition derby, a birds of prey program, horse pulling contests, and many more family-friendly events will be featured as the fair kicks off at 6pm tonight. State Commissioner of Agriculture John Lebeaux is expected to be in attendance tomorrow.

NA 08-08-16

NORTH ADAMS FIREFIGHTER INJURED WHILE BATTLING HAY FIRE (NA)

A North Adams firefighter sustained a broken ankle while battling blazing hay bales. The Eagle reports Fireman Raymond King was hurt on Friday while trying to extinguish flames that ultimately consumed about 30 large bales of rolled hay at 579 Daniels Road. The fire was reported just after 9:15pm. Some siding on the rear of the house melted during the fire but the house was saved. The cause of the fire is undetermined.

VILLAGE AMBULANCE REACHES OUT TO COMMUNITY (NA)

Despite the relative affluence of the communities it serves, Village Ambulance in Williamstown is working hard to remain sustainable. The Eagle reports that although it's based in Williamstown, the nonprofit has been negatively impacted by the closure of North Adams Regional Hospital and continuing changes in the health care landscape of the Berkshires and country. Village Ambulance and its board of directors are now on a mission to educate the community about the services — and related expenses — it provides to Williamstown, Hancock and New Ashford as it plans for a donation campaign next month.

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR STATE SENATOR TRY TO SEPARATE THEMSELVES IN FORUM (ALL)

The three candidates for an open state Senator's seat spent Sunday morning in front of about 40 voters in Lenox trying to create separation between each other at a "debate" at the Lenox Town Hall. The event was sponsored by the Lenox Chamber of Commerce and the Lenox Democratic Committee. The three Democrats are Rinaldo Del Gallo and Adam Hinds both of Pittsfield, and Andrea Harrington of West Stockbridge. State Senator Ben Downing announced earlier this year that he would not be seeking another term after serving in the role for the past 10 years.

FOOD, FUN, FARMING AND FENDER-BENDERS AT ADAMS AGGIE FAIR (NA)

The 42nd Adams Agricultural Fair on Sunday wrapped up a weekend of food, fun, farming and fender-benders. The Eagle reports the final day's signature event, the demolition derby, drew the usual capacity crowd surrounding the exhibition ring thirsting for automobile mayhem. The fairgrounds was filled with all types of food, live music each day, animal demonstrations, a truck pull and a climbing wall sponsored by Adams Boy Scout Troop 38. State's agricultural commissioner John Lebeaux attended the fair on Saturday.

NORTH ADAMS STEEPLECATS ELIMINATED FROM NECBL PLAYOFFS (NA)

The North Adams SteepleCats were eliminated from the NECBL playoffs when a passed ball in the ninth inning allowed the Valley Blue Sox to win 4-3 on Saturday night. North Adams entered the bottom of the ninth of the decisive third game of the Northern Division semifinals with a 3-2 advantage, but the Blue Sox scored twice to win.

NA 08-10-16

ADAMS POLICE CAPTURE SUSPECTED RABID FOX (NA)

Adams Police have captured a fox believed to be the one that bit a child at Big Basin on Sunday night. iBerkshires.com reports that according to Police Chief Richard Tarsa, the fox was discovered Monday evening on Meadow Street. The fox was transported to Greylock Animal Hospital in North Adams for testing. Tarsa said although the police are pretty sure they have the right fox, there is always the chance of another sickly fox running amok. This is only the most recent incident of rabid animals. A child in Pittsfield was bitten by a fox in late July that proved rabid, and a cat was suspected of rabies in North Adams. There also are reports of rabies in South County.

VERIZON TOWER PLAN IN CLARKSBURG TO TRY TOWN'S NEW BYLAWS (NA)

A proposal for a Verizon cell tower at the former North Adams Country Club will test the town's new communications bylaws. The Eagle reports Verizon is asking the Planning Board, which will hear the matter in a meeting tomorrow, for a special permit to construct a 125-foot-tower on a small section of the 8-plus acre River Road property owned by Todd Driscoll. The proposal by Verizon, however, operating as Pittsfield Cellular Telephone Company, will require multiple exceptions from the Planning Board to regulations under Clarksburg's recently approved communications bylaws. Those new rules were passed at the annual town meeting earlier this year.

BROADBAND BOOST: TOWNS TO GET INTERNET UPGRADE (All)

Current and future customers of Charter Communications in Hinsdale, Lanesborough and West Stockbridge are getting high-speed internet service. The Eagle reports the Massachusetts Broadband Institute has awarded the country's second largest cable television operator a \$1.6 million grant to extend broadband to those unserved Berkshire communities. The state grant will also support the extension of broadband and digital television service to an estimated 440 households without either form of communications in the three towns, according to state officials.

MEETING SET FOR INPUT ON NORTH ADAMS PARKING LOT CHANGES (NA)

The North Adams City Council last night passed a controversial parking ordinance to a second reading. But that doesn't mean the debate is over. iBerkshires.com reports that the decision to move forward with changing the cost for parking in the Center Street lot — and eliminating the free first two hours — may still face opposition when it reappears in two weeks. Public Safety will again take up the issue to allow business owners and residents a chance to air their concerns on August 16th.

FORECAST POSTPONES 20TH ANNUAL NORTH ADAMS DOWNTOWN CELEBRATION (BA)

Due to the inclement weather forecast for today and tomorrow, the 20th annual Downtown Celebration in North Adams has been postponed until Wednesday, August 17th. The event will still take place during the same hours, 5:30 to 9pm.

NA 08-12-16

NORTH ADAMS MAN CHARGED WITH RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT, ASSAULTS (NA)

A 36-year-old North Adams man was arrested this week after he allegedly forced a 13-year-old boy to drink alcohol and flicked a cigarette at a 12-year-old. The Eagle reports that a witness relayed those allegations to police, who responded shortly after midnight on Tuesday to a West Shaft Road apartment complex, who later arrested Edward Demers Jr. Officers found the 13-year-old sleeping on a couch, and it took several attempts to wake him. A breath test showed he had a .101 blood alcohol content. Witnesses also alleged that Demers had broken into a nearby apartment, stealing approximately \$700 in cash from a wallet.

INTERIM ADAMS-CHESHIRE SUPERINTENDENT PUTNAM TACKLING YEAR-AHEAD (NA)

Adams-Cheshire Regional School District interim Superintendent Robert Putnam told town selectmen that goals for the upcoming year include charting a definitive course that either he or a successor can navigate successfully. Putnam was hired in May with a one-year contract as interim superintendent. He has met with town and Cheshire selectmen as well officials of the three district schools, members of teachers' associations, and is planning meetings with administrators of the town-based Berkshire Arts and Technology charter school and the Charles H. McCann Technical School in North Adams.

CLARKSBURG PLANNING BOARD REJECTS CELL TOWER PLANS (NA)

The Planning Board in Clarksburg marked the application for the proposed Verizon cellular tower at the defunct golf course as incomplete yesterday and told the applicants to go back to the drawing board. IBerkshires.com reports that the board voted to not accept Verizon's request for a setback variance for the 125-foot monopole. Pittsfield Cellular Telephone Co., doing business as Verizon, has applied for a special permit under the town's new wireless communications bylaw to install a cellular tower on the 641 River Road property, formerly the North Adams Country Club.

PAIR OF DEBATES HELD LAST NIGHT (All)

In the second of back-to-back debates last night, the three candidates for the Democratic nomination for state Senate reiterated their viewpoints and fielded an array of questions. IBerkshires.com reports that Rinaldo Del Gallo, Adams Hinds and Andrea Harrington are all seeking the nomination on September 8th. The winner will face Republican Christine Canning-Wilson in the general election. The seat is open because Sen. Benjamin B. Downing of Pittsfield has opted not to run for re-election after a decade in office. The Berkshire Brigades held two debates at Berkshire Community College — the first being between the two Democratic candidates for the state House of Representatives.

JUSTICE FRANCIS X. SPINA RETIRING FROM STATE'S HIGHEST COURT (ALL)

For the first time in 17 years, Francis X. Spina isn't preparing for the opening of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court sessions in September. The Eagle reports that the Pittsfield native, who will turn 70 later this year, is retiring after a distinguished legal career that included work as a public defender, an assistant district attorney, assistant city solicitor, a private practice attorney, a Superior Court judge, state Appeals court judge, and since 1999, one of the seven justices on the state's highest court.

NA 08-16-16

WILLIAMSTOWN MAN SENTENCED IN CHILD SEX ABUSE CASE (NA)

A Williamstown man was sentenced yesterday in U.S. District Court in Springfield in connection with persuading a 16-year-old boy to travel to New York three years ago to engage in sexual activity. |Berkshire.com reports 53 year old Ronald Brown was sentenced to 15 years in prison and 10 years of supervised release. In November 2015, he pleaded guilty to one count of interstate travel with intent to engage in illicit sexual conduct with a minor and one count of possession of material involving the sexual exploitation of minors. Brown is registered sex offender based upon a prior conviction for a sexual assault of a 14-year-old. Brown engaged in thousands of online interactions with a 16-year-old boy between December 2012 and January 2013, to persuade him to run away from his Midwestern home to engage in sexual activity.

NORTH ADAMS PAIR FACING ASSAULT CHARGES AFTER ALTERCATION (NA)

Two North Adams men are facing assault charges for allegedly fracturing a man's face in a fight last week. The Eagle reports that 34 year old Richard Sifton and 50 year old Karl Barber allegedly assaulted Craig Avery in a dispute over a shared kitchen, according to prosecutors, but both men claim they were acting in self-defense. As a result of the fight, Avery suffered multiple fractures to his orbital bone. He was been transported to Albany Medical Center and could lose an eye, according to prosecutors.

NYC MAN ACCUSED OF BEATING LANESBOROUGH MAN WITH FRYING PAN (NA, P)

A Lanesborough man had to be hospitalized with a fractured ankle, a pair of fractured ribs and injuries to his face and head after allegedly being beaten with a frying pan Sunday afternoon at his home. The One of the alleged attackers, 20 year old Kenneth Ducharme, of West Lebanon, N.Y., denied attacking the man, telling police he'd been at his mother's home that day.

NEW HEARING SET ON NORTH ADAMS PARKING METER PLAN (NA)

A plan to charge for parking on Center Street in North Adams is not quite finalized. The Eagle reports that the City Council's Public Safety Committee will give the public one last chance to weigh in on a plan to install meters in the Center Street parking lot. Although the council voted in favor of the proposal last week, it must be approved a second time next to become official. In the meantime, the Public Safety Committee will hold another public hearing on Tuesday to hear last-minute concerns.

ADAMS PARKS COMMISSION CONCERNED OVER STORAGE (NA)

The Adams Parks Commission is concerned about equipment storage at Renfrew Field. Commissioner James Fassell told the commission last week that because teams often use the locker rooms in the main building at Renfrew for storage, it may be beneficial to purchase an additional shed. |Berkshire.com reports Fassell suggested purchasing the shed that was lent to the high school to store equipment while the new concession stand was built. Instead of taking the shed back, the owner is willing to sell it for \$3,500. Fassell said some of the teams that use the field offered to pay for it.

NA 08-18-16

LOCAL MAN GETS 15 YEARS (NA)

A Berkshire County man already listed on the state's sex offender registry has been sentenced to 15 years in prison for persuading a 16-year-old boy to travel to New York to engage in sexual activity. Federal prosecutors say 53-year-old Ronald Brown, of Williamstown, was also sentenced Monday in federal court in Springfield to 10 years of probation. Brown pleaded guilty in November to inter-state travel with intent to engage in illicit sexual conduct with a minor and possession of material involving the sexual exploitation of minors. According to U.S. Attorney Carmen Ortiz, Brown met the teen in an online chatroom in December of 2012 and between then and January 19th engage the teen in a long series of texts, chats, emails and video chats, many of which involved explicit sexual communications.

MCLA LANDS \$65,000 IN STATE FUNDS FOR BERKSHIRE STEM NETWORK (NA)

The Berkshire STEM Network, a collaborative convened by the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, has received \$65,000 from the Massachusetts STEM Pipeline Fund to promote and continue science, technology, engineering and mathematics education in the region. The Eagle reports that the funding, according to the college, is part of more than \$250,000 in recent grant money awarded to support the commonwealth's regional STEM networks. This new award will support STEM education, community and business partnerships in the Berkshire County and Pioneer Valley region.

ADAMS EMERGENCY RESPONDERS SAY DISPATCH HAS IMPROVED (NA)

Emergency responders in Adams agree that the outsourced dispatching service has improved after initial complaints about communication and procedure. IBerkshires.com reports that Adams Ambulance Service Manager Michael Gleason and Fire Chief Paul Goyette told the Selectmen yesterday during public comment that after a few meetings and tweaks to the system, the new dispatch service through the Berkshire County sheriff's office has improved. The switch is expected to save up to \$100,000 a year. But emergency responders have been leery of the changeover and, once completed, found there were serious issues with communication, radios and preferred protocol.

WILLIAMSTOWN CLOSSES TOWN HALL FOR CLEANUP ON WEDNESDAY (NA)

Williamstown town Hall was closed yesterday, but on today, it will have a little more open space. IBerkshires.com reports that as discussed at a Board of Selectmen meeting earlier this summer, Town Manager Jason Hoch decided to close the town's offices for one day to allow staff to do weed through some of the mountains of paperwork that have accumulated over the years.

NORTH ADAMS HISTORICAL SOCIETY OBSERVING SIEGE OF FORT MASSACHUSETTS (NA)

The 270th anniversary of the siege of Fort Massachusetts will be celebrated this year on the ledge that overlooks where the fort had been built. IBerkshires.com reports that the event will be at 1pm on Saturday, August 20th, at what is called St. Francis Indian Ledge, 799 Massachusetts Ave. Free parking is available at Renee's Diner across the street. On August 19th and 20th of 1746, 900 French and Indians of the St. François tribe besieged Fort Massachusetts, a frontier outpost what was then East Hoosuck. The 45 colonists surrendered the next day.

NA 08-25-16

NORTH ADAMS CITY COUNCIL NIXES METERS (NA)

Downtown businesses in North Adams have successfully lobbied against a proposal to install parking meters on Center Street. The Eagle reports that in a reversal from its August 6th vote, the council unanimously quashed a proposal to charge 25 cents per hour in the spots currently designated as free two-hour parking. Met with sharp criticism by representatives from downtown businesses after the council's initial approval, the proposal had been introduced by Mayor Richard Alcombright in July as a way to simplify enforcement of the parking lot.

NORTH ADAMS POLICE CHASE SIGNIFICANT LEADS AFTER THEFT OF ANOTHER TV (NA)

North Adams police are actively pursuing significant leads after receiving more reports of burglaries involving television sets. The Eagle reports that a Highland Avenue resident reported the theft of a television set from a home around lunchtime yesterday, according to Sgt. James Burdick. It was the latest in a series of burglaries or attempts in the city. An Elmwood Avenue resident reported the theft of a television of last week. Police also responded recently to a Church Street residence where a television and a laptop computer were taken.

LANESBOROUGH SCHOOL OFFICIALS LOOK TO SHORTEN BUS RIDE TIMES (NA)

Lanesborough bus routes can't be much more efficient than they are now, but school officials are looking at small ways to reduce the time students spend traveling to and from school. 1Berkshires.com reports Elementary School Principal Martin McEvoy said on Tuesday that he traveled the three bus routes with a staff member from DuFour Bus Co. and could not find a way to truly reduce the time students spend riding. Instead, he's looking to see if there could be more common bus stops, instead of always bringing students to their doors.

WEEDS STILL CLOGGING BOAT RAMP (NA)

SOLitude Lake Management workers in Cheshire used a mechanical harvester to remove about 80 dump truckloads of dead and rotting tape grass, from the northern section of the Cheshire Reservoir last week, but weed clogs and tangles remain at the launch – and as a thick carpet along the shoreline. Water currents and wind continue to push more dead vegetation upwards to the north edge.

LINGNER APPOINTED AS POWNAL'S ACT 46 COMMUNITY REP. (NA)

The Pownal School Board has appointed their community representative for the Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union's Act 46 Study Committee last week, after they initially had trouble finding a volunteer. The Bennington Banner reports the board appointed Laurie Lingner, who works for the SVSU as its payroll and benefits manager, as their community representative. Board member Jim O'Connor also serves on that committee.

NA 08-26-16

WILLIAMSTOWN MAN ALLEGEDLY EXCHANGED LEWD MESSAGES, PICTURES WITH 13-YEAR-OLD (NA)

A Williamstown man has been charged with soliciting lewd images from a 13-year-old child. The Eagle reports that 30 year old Thomas Nelson, of Green River Road, allegedly exchanged explicit images with the juvenile, who lives out of state. That's according to a report filed by Williamstown Police. The victim's mother alerted Massachusetts State Police that the juvenile had allegedly been texting with a man who identified himself as a veterinarian named Tom Nelson in Williamstown. Police were able to confirm Nelson's identity through his cell phone number, according to the report. Nelson allegedly sent several lewd images to the juvenile, who also sent "sexually suggestive" images to Nelson, according to police.

NORTH ADAMS MAN ACCUSED OF EXPOSING HIMSELF TO CHILDREN (NA)

A North Adams man is facing charges for allegedly exposing himself to a group of children. The Eagle reports that 40 year old Derrick Altman, of Mohawk Forest Boulevard, allegedly stopped a group of children walking past his door and exposed himself from behind a glass door about 1:30pm Tuesday, according to a probable cause report filed by North Adams Police. He allegedly opened the door and the kids ran away across a parking lot. The alleged victims were able to identify Altman because they have had issues with him in the past, according to the report. Altman allegedly told police that he had been at the apartment cleaning all day and waiting for his girlfriend to come home.

NORTH ADAMS COUNCILORS TO TOUR PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDINGS (NA)

North Adams City councilors will be touring the city's public service structures as the administration lays out the reasoning to spend some \$1.5 million to consolidate everything at the former anodizing plant at Hodges Cross Road. IBerkshires.com reports the council voted to postpone discussion on the agreement until after touring the City Yard and other public service buildings on Monday night; it will convene at City Hall following the tour. A tour of the vacant anodizing building is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 7th.

NORTH ADAMS AIRPORT MAY TRY NEW MANAGEMENT STYLE (NA)

The North Adams Airport Commission may look at a new management model that could possibly generate revenue and sustain staff. IBerkshires.com reports that Commissioner Trevor Gilman said Tuesday that with all of the improvements to Harriman & West, it may be beneficial for the city to work out a one-time lease agreement of the public ramp space to Teamflys, which provides various aviation-related services at the airport. He said this would clean up billing and move the airport toward a self-sustaining management model.

WILLIAMSTOWN'S HIGHLAND WOODS FULLY FUNCTIONAL (NA)

After a five-month delay caused by a sprinkler system failure, the Williamstown Highland Woods senior housing project is now fully operational. IBerkshires.com reports Elton Ogden of Berkshire Housing Development Corporation on Monday gave the Board of Selectmen an update on the 40-unit apartment at the end of Southworth Street, adjacent to Proprietor's Field. Ogden said all but four units in the apartment building are committed, and he encouraged anyone interested in living there to inquire and/or put their name on a waiting list.

NA 08-29-16

MOTORAMA DRIVES HUNDREDS TO DOWNTOWN NORTH ADAMS (NA)

It was hot sun and hot cars, trucks, and motorcycles during Sunday's 6th annual Motorama in the North Adams downtown yesterday. [IBerkshires.com](#) reports Mayor Richard Alcombright said that he was thrilled with the turnout and number of vehicles participating. Event organizer Joseph Dean said that he believes over 500 vehicles were displayed on Main and Eagle streets, a portion of Ashland Street and most of the parking lot serving the downtown mall and Peebles. Dean said he was very pleased with the attendance and the vehicle volume.

NEW BIG Y BUS STOP AIDS RESIDENTS ISOLATED BY PRICE CHOPPER CLOSING (NA)

When the Price Chopper closed its doors in North Adams back in February, residents of the Brayton Hill and Greylock Valley apartment complexes were left with no supermarket in walking distance. Those without cars were forced to take the bus to Stop & Shop or the Big Y Supermarket, to which the nearest bus stop was a block away. The *Berkshire Eagle* reports that that now with the help of local community organizations, Berkshire Regional Transit Authority this summer has added a stop directly in front of the Big Y on Veteran's Memorial Drive.

ADAMS CONSERVATION COMMISSION APPROVE GAS MAIN IMPROVEMENTS (NA)

The Adams Conservation Commission approved Berkshire Gas' request to make improvements to a Commercial Street gas main. [IBerkshires.com](#) reports that Travis McCarthy, representing Berkshire Gas, asked the commission last week to approve a notice of intent to make improvements to a bridge-mounted gas main on Commercial Street. He said currently the 6-inch, steel-coated main is turned off but it would service Grove Street and part of Prospect Street. According to McCarthy, Berkshire Gas plans to eliminate an underground regulator system on Columbia Street near the former Memorial Middle School to help upgrade the facilities within the town to a low-pressure system.

SIMMONS ON BALLOT TO CHALLENGE REP. NEAL (ALL)

Thomas Simmons, a longtime professor of business and economics at Greenfield Community College, is running for Congress; his name will appear on the November 8th ballot as a Libertarian Party candidate challenging incumbent Democrat, U.S. Rep. Richard Neal of Springfield. The 56 year old Simmons, of Shelburne Falls, filed more than the required number of valid signatures from voters in 80 cities and towns with the Secretary of State's office to appear on the ballot. The U.S. House district covers all of Berkshire and Hampden counties and parts of Franklin, Hampshire and Worcester counties.

NA 08-30-16

NO. 2 AT DRURY HIGH SCHOOL NAMED INTERIM PRINCIPAL (NA)

A new interim principal is on the job at Drury High School in North Adams. The Eagle reports that Assistant Principal Timothy Callahan has been selected to succeed Amy Meehan, who left the post to become the new principal at Colegrove Park Elementary School earlier this summer. An 18-year employee of the school, Callahan has been "intrinsically involved" in its math and science initiatives as well as other programs, according to Superintendent Barbara Malkas.

NORTH ADAMS COUNCIL BALKS ON PROPERTY PURCHASE (NA)

The North Adams City Council agrees that something has to be done about the Department of Public Works' aged and dilapidated structures. But councilors aren't ready to give a green light to Mayor Richard Alcombright's proposal to buy a former anodizing plant as a solution. IBerkshires.com reports that at a special meeting of the council yesterday, the vote was 7-0 to postpone a vote on authorizing a purchase-and-sales agreement. Instead, the matter was referred to the Finance Committee, expected to meet on Monday, September 12th.

STATE REP CANDIDATES BATTLE IT OUT IN PITTSFIELD GAZETTE DEBATE (P)

The two Democratic candidates for State Representative battled it out during a Pittsfield Gazette sponsored debate last night at Berkshire Community College. Michael Bloomberg has been using a phrase "0-for-25" in describing incumbent Tricia Farley-Bouvier's legislative record. IBerkshires.com reports – that drew the most heated discussion last night as both seek the Democratic nomination as state representative for the 3rd District. He has attacked her record and she responded outlining a number of bills she served leadership roles on. Farley-Bouvier responded by saying that line of thinking shows how little Bloomberg understands the legislative process. Last night's debate was moderated by former and longtime news voice in the Berkshires, Larry Kratka.

PERU VOTERS ELECT NEW TOWN CLERK (NA)

Kim Leach is Peru's new town clerk. The Eagle reports that by a count of 133-70, Leach defeated Kimberly Wetherell in Saturday's special town election. Leach succeeds Candice Cahalan, who resigned in June for personal reasons, according to town officials. Turnout was pretty good for a summer political race — 203 of 595 registered voters, or 34 percent, cast ballots. Former Ashfield town clerk, Ann Dunne, was hired as a temporary replacement for Cahalan and oversaw Saturday's election.

STATE SENATE CANDIDATE CANNING-WILSON OPENS HEADQUARTERS (P)

Republican state Senate candidate Christine Canning-Wilson celebrated the opening of her campaign headquarters at 437 North Street in Pittsfield yesterday. Canning-Wilson thanked all of her supporters during her opening celebration. She is the only sole Republican running for the seat being vacated by Democrat Ben Downing.

NA 09-01-16

VERMONT MAN FACES 3RD OUI CHARGE AFTER NEAR-MISS IN WILLIAMSTOWN (NA)

A North Pownal Vermont man with a history of drunken driving arrests is facing new charges after he was allegedly caught driving with a blood alcohol level nearly three times the legal limit. The Eagle reports that 44 year old Gary Hall was heading south on Cold Spring Road in Williamstown about 4pm Tuesday when he nearly struck a northbound Dodge Ram driven by an off-duty Lanesborough Police officer. The off-duty officer reported the driver had crossed the center yellow lines multiple times. Hall pleaded not guilty in Northern Berkshire District Court on Wednesday to single counts of operating under the influence and several related charges. He was last convicted of operating under the influence in 2013, according to court records.

NORTH ADAMS DRUG STING LANDS SPRINGFIELD MAN IN JAIL (NA)

Marked bills and a scale covered in drug residue netted a Springfield man 15 months in jail. The Eagle reports that 25 year old Joveany Santiago was arrested April 15th after members of the Berkshire County Drug Task Force executed a search warrant at a North Adams apartment. The apartment had become a target in an ongoing investigation after authorities suspected the occupant was allowing drug dealers to use it to conduct business. Investigators had orchestrated a series of controlled drug purchases at the apartment and used pre-marked money to do so.

WILLIAMSTOWN'S BELOVED K9 BLUE DIES AT AGE 12 (NA)

The Williamstown Police Department's first K-9, the beloved Blue, died recently in her sleep at the age of 12. IBerkshires.com reports that Blue had retired two years ago after a decade of searches, community events and celebrity status. She joined the force in 2005 with her longtime partner and owner, Officer Michael Ziemba. Outfitted with badge and Kevlar vest, she assisted in numerous rescues and searches and was certified with the American Police Working Dogs in tracking and trailing.

DELINQUENT PROPERTY NETS \$15,500 IN WILLIAMSTOWN (NA)

A local contractor Wednesday purchased a White Oaks residence seized by the town through tax title foreclosure. IBerkshires.com reports Jerry Smith of Williamstown was the successful bidder in a two-person auction, bidding \$15,500 for 87 White Oaks Road on Wednesday morning in the Selectmen's Meeting Room. Town Finance Director Janet Saddler conducted the auction, which she started at \$40,000. Hearing no bids, she dropped the asking price in \$5,000 increments.

NA 09-02-16

NORTH ADAMS APARTMENT BLAZE DOUSED; WEST MAIN CLOSED (NA)

North Adams Firefighters quickly knocked down fire in a storage area at a 75 West Main Street apartment building yesterday. |Berkshires.com reports Fire Director Stephen Meranti said only one tenant was in the building and he was quickly evacuated. Meranti said the Fire Department arrived at West Main St around 2:30pm after receiving a report of smoke coming out of a second-story window. It was initially described as a structure fire. North Adams Police and Ambulance were on scene as well as the Wire and Alarm Division and Berkshire Gas.

ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT APPROVES PUMP STATION INCREASE (NA)

The Adams Fire District voted last week to add an additional \$34,000 to the originally appropriated amount for the replacement of a pump at the Notch Road Pumping Station. |Berkshires.com reports that district members voted August 23rd at a special meeting to add the funds to the original appropriation in May of \$100,000. Because the initial bids for the replacement came in higher than anticipated, the special meeting had to be organized.

BERKSHIRE MALL SET TO BE SOLD (All)

The Berkshire Mall in Lanesborough is set to be sold to a New York investment firm which specializes in distressed malls. |Berkshires.com reports that Mike Kohan, of the Kohan Retail Investment Group of Great Neck, N.Y., said he will close on a sale of the mall Friday for \$3.5 million. His goal is to be a "hands-on" owner and bring new tenants. Kohan's firm owns more than a dozen malls. The firm will be purchasing The Berkshire Mall from Strategic Asset Services, which bought it in 2014 from Pyramid Companies.

HERMINE COULD SPELL STORMY WEATHER FOR BERKSHIRES, VERMONT (NA)

Whether the remnants of Hurricane Hermine, expected to be off the New Jersey coast late this weekend as a weakened tropical storm, will affect the Berkshires and southern Vermont remained a mystery for the scientists tracking the storm yesterday. With the future track still up in the air, Stephen DiRienzo, the warning coordination meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Albany, says they are not looking for extreme weather, but if it stalls offshore, it could mar the second half of the Labor Day holiday weekend.

FORMER PARLOR CAFE TO REOPEN AS SERENITEA PARLOR (NA)

The former Parlor Cafe on Ashland Street is reopening under new ownership and a new name — The SereniTea Parlor. The Eagle reports that, a favorite off-campus hangout spot for students of the adjacent Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, the cafe has taken many forms through the years, and was closed in June. Now co-owners Leanne Wilensky and Todd Hamilton will make it their own. It will open Tuesday; hours are expected to be 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Former owners Jason and Elizabeth Morin listed the business for sale earlier this year. It had been the Elf Parlor before they opened it as the Parlor Cafe in 2012.

NA 09-06-16

SENATE CANDIDATES DEBATE AT UCP IN NORTH ADAMS (All)

The three Democratic candidates for the open state Senate seat took part a nearly three-hour forum Friday night in North Adams, sponsored by the United Cerebral Palsy. Executive Director Salvatore Garozzo was the moderator. The primary election is on Thursday and the winner will take on Republican Christine Canning in the general election in November.

CANDIDATES STAKE OUT TURF AT LGBTQ, SENIORS FORUM (All)

All seven local candidates for contested public office in Berkshire County took part in a candidates' forum at the Berkshire Athenaeum on Saturday afternoon. A total of 52 people attended the event in the library's auditorium. The event was co-sponsored by the Rainbow Seniors of Berkshire County and the Age-Friendly Berkshire Task Force. The event was open to the public, although it was attended, for the most part, by older residents, mostly from Pittsfield.

N.Y. GETS 18 DAYS AND NORTH ADAMS MAN FACES CHARGES (NA)

A New York man wanted by Vermont police on drug charges was sentenced to 18 days in jail on Friday — one day after being arrested in a North Adams raid. The Eagle reports that 34 year old Jeffrey Philpot, of Albany, was in a Bracewell Avenue apartment on Thursday of last week when the Berkshire County Drug Task Force executed a search warrant. Police allegedly discovered a scale, plastic bags and other evidence of drug distribution, according to North Adams Police. Officers also discovered heroin residue on a spoon that was inside a large closet.

NORTH ADAMS COUNCIL TOURS FACILITY PROPOSED FOR PUBLIC WORKS (NA)

The interior of the former Aluminum Anodizing on Hodges Cross Road in North Adams seems to go on forever. Its abundance of space is exactly what Public Services Commissioner Timothy Lescarbeau is hoping to fill with trucks and mowers and sand and workshops. |Berkshires.com reports that the City Council toured the facility last week, a follow up to a recent review of the city's public works buildings. The council is being asked to approve purchase of the anodizing plant and 30 acres of land for use as a consolidated public services building. Councilors, however, have not yet been convinced on the price of \$995,000, the bid amount submitted by the property's owner.

LOCAL ELECTRICIAN REGIONAL AWARD WINNER OF CONTEST (NA)

John Levesque of Adams has been named the Northeast Regional winner of the Klein Tools Electrician of the Year contest. A licensed journeyman and master electrician for 37 years, Levesque owns an electrical contracting business in Adams, and volunteers for Habitat for Humanity and his church. He was selected from hundreds of applicants because of his professional achievement, safety excellence and community dedication.

NA 09-09-16

HINDS WINS DEMOCRATIC NOD FOR STATE SENATE (All)

Voters across the state went to the primary polls yesterday. Although there were no statewide races on the ballot, there were several races of local interest. The one in the Berkshires that garnered the most interest was the Democratic State Senate race. Adams Hinds was the top vote getter with 8,023 votes over all in the Senate District. Andrea Harrington, making her first run for political office did very well, but fell short with 5,522 votes. Rinaldo Del Gallo, who has made several runs at political office in the past, was a distant third with 1,011 votes. Hinds will move on to face Republican candidate Chris Canning in the General Election in November. The turn-out at the polls was low yesterday, as was expected.

INCUMBENT TRICIA FARLEY BOUVIER GETS DEMOCRATIC NOD (All)

3rd Berkshire District State Representative, Tricia Farley Bouvier, has won the Democratic primary in Pittsfield. The incumbent garnered the most votes during yesterday's primary voting. She ended up with a total of 2,687 votes. Challenger Mike Bloomberg had a good showing, but fell short with 2,305 votes. Farley Bouvier will face Independent candidate and Pittsfield City Councilor, Chris Connell, in November. The other incumbent State Representatives in the Berkshire Delegation, Gailanne Cariddi, Paul Mark, and Smitty Pignatelli were all unopposed in yesterday's primary.

CHESHIRE RESERVOIR WEED ISSUE RESOLVED (NA, P)

As of now, the Cheshire Reservoir is clear of the troublesome tape weed that has been causing issues this summer. |Berkshires.com reports the weeds not only caused trouble for boaters whose ramps were clogged but for the Fire Department because it was unable to pump water from the reservoir because the weeds clogged the portable pumps. Last week, Solitude, the water management company that has been cleaning up the lake, returned with a harvester to finish the job. The invasive tape-weed proliferation was attributed to the mild winter and the hot summer temperatures.

ADAMS PREPARING TO CELEBRATE 19TH AMENDMENT'S CENTENNIAL (NA)

The centennial of the 19th Amendment that gave women the right to vote is still four years away but Adams town officials are laying plans now to mark its anniversary. |Berkshires.com reports the Selectmen voted Wednesday to create an advisory committee to organize celebrations and commemoration efforts for the 100th anniversary of the amendment's passage, which will take place in 2020. Civil rights activist Susan B Anthony, who was born in Adams, was an important figure in the women's suffrage movement.

6,000-SQUARE-FOOT PARK IN NORTH ADAMS GOES TO THE DOGS (NA)

One of North Adams' downtown parks now has a dog park. The Eagle reports that year's in the making, the city's new dog park near the Houghton Street playground only took weeks to build after receiving final approval from the city last month. A special fenced-in area is now open for the city's dogs. And although the park officially opens with a special ceremony this afternoon, the park has already been well used in the first days of its existence.

NA 09-14-16

ALCOMBRIGHT PLANS RUN FOR FIFTH TERM AS NORTH ADAMS MAYOR (NA)

North Adams Mayor Richard Alcombright is indicating that he will run for a fifth term next year. |Berkshires.com reports however, that announcement was the one thing missing from his address to supporters at his "Picnic on the Patio" event last week at the Richmond Grille. Alcombright said it was too early for any formal statement, and that anything could happen. He stated "We're seven, eight months out... But right now, yes, I'm running again."

POLICE INVESTIGATING ROBBERY OF CREDIT UNION OF THE BERKSHIRES (All)

Credit Union of the Berkshires in Pittsfield was robbed Tuesday afternoon. |Berkshires.com reports Police say that shortly after 12:30 officers responded to the branch in the William Street Plaza after a man entered the bank, brandished a weapon, demanded money, and took off with an undisclosed amount of cash. The suspect is described as a white man in his early 40s with scruffy facial hair wearing large dark sunglasses and a gray baseball cap with dark curly hair sticking out. The man was described as 5-foot 10-inches or 5-foot 11-inches tall and weighing about 170 lbs. He was wearing a gray and black hoodless fleece, sweatpants, and gray and black gloves. The bank was closed in the afternoon with signs reading that the branch would resume regular hours the next day.

NORTH ADAMS CITY COUNCIL OKS PURCHASE OF PROPERTY FOR NEW DPW (NA)

The city's public service departments could soon have a new home. The Eagle reports that the council voted 7 to 1 to authorize Mayor Richard Alcombright to enter into a purchase and sale agreement with the owner of 59 Hodges Cross Road, which would become the new home of the city's public services should the deal be finalized. Yesterday's decision came after meetings on consecutive nights — the City Council's Finance Committee discussed the proposal Monday and recommended it be approved to the full council by a vote of 2-0, with Chair Lisa Blackmer abstaining.

WILLIAMSTOWN HOUSING TRUST LOOKING AT OPTIONS FOR RESIDENTIAL LOTS (NA)

The board of Williamstown's Affordable Housing Trust last week discussed its options for developing a pair of residential building lots it acquired in spring 2015. |Berkshires.com reports the trust purchased the properties on Summer Street and Cole Avenue with the intention of developing each into owner-occupied subsidized housing. At the time, the trustees consulted with the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity, which the board saw as a likely partner in the development. But the town was told it could be a while before the non-profit could work the projects into its building schedule.

BERKSHIRE COUNTY AMONG NATION'S SITES TO GET NEW VERIZON HIGH-SPEED WIRELESS (All)

While broadband coverage remains spotty in some areas of the Berkshires, the Pittsfield metro area was recently selected as one of 461 similar areas across the United States to receive Verizon's new coast-to-coast LTE Advanced Network. The Pittsfield metro area includes all of Berkshire County, according to Verizon spokesman Andrew Testa.

NA 09-16-16

SAVOY MAN CHARGED WITH SEXUAL ASSAULTS (NA)

A Savoy man is facing charges after allegedly sexually assaulting guests at his home on two occasions this month. The Eagle reports that 55 year old Daniel Tatro allegedly assaulted the first victim, who was staying the night in his guest bedroom, on September 8th. The man told police that he was attempting to sleep when he awoke to Tatro inappropriately touching him. The alleged victim was able to verbally and physically stop the assault, according to the police report. The second victim reported being assaulted in a similar fashion while staying in Tatro's guest bedroom. Tatro pleaded not guilty to two counts of indecent assault.

ADAMS LOOKS AT MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARY PROCESS (NA)

Adams selectmen and the town's Zoning Board of Appeals got a detailed primer on medical marijuana, zoning and state laws. IBerkshires.com reports that the joint session held at the Selectmen's workshop meeting Wednesday included a presentation by attorney Jody Lehrer of the Northeastern Institute of Cannabis and was prompted by discussions over the taxation potential of marijuana dispensaries. Selectman Joseph Nowak brought the idea forth earlier in the summer.

ADAMS TOBACCO 21 PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD IN OCTOBER (NA)

The Adams Board of Health has a few final questions and changes to make to its draft of Tobacco 21 regulations and plans to hold a public hearing in October. IBerkshires.com reports the new regulations provided by Tri-Town Health were reviewed last week to eliminate redundancies already in the Adams regulations. The board also tweaked the draft regulations, and made a list of questions to ask Tri-Town. The board hopes to have the document finalized for an October public hearing.

C.T. PLUNKETT BREAKFAST IN THE CLASSROOM A SUCCESS (NA)

Adams-Cheshire Regional School District staff and School Committee members have deemed the C.T. Plunkett Breakfast in the Classroom program a success. IBerkshires.com reports food Service Director Rosanne Schutz told the committee Monday that the grant-funded program that lets students eat breakfast in the classroom has increased the number of students eating breakfast in school by nearly 200 percent. Because of the number of low-income students that attend C.T. Plunkett, Schutz was able to apply for grants that would allow all students to receive free breakfast and lunch.

FRESHGRASS FEST'S 'SIGNIFICANT GROWTH' STRIKES CHORD (NA)

The sixth annual FreshGrass music festival kicks off today, a three-day festival that has grown from its humble start in 2011 to become a fixture on the roots music scene and part of the rhythm of guests and visitors to the city of North Adams each fall. Organizers expect about 4,500 attendees this year, a few more than last year. The lineup over three days of music and activities features a high-wattage line-up of roots and Americana music. This year's featured performers include Old Crow Medicine Show, Glen Hansard, Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder and Roseanne Cash. Several local artists have been added to the festival line-up as well.

NA 09-20-16

50-50 ON HISTORIC CHURCH REPAIRS (NA)

The city of North Adams has been awarded \$50,000 from the state for emergency repairs to the Notre Dame Church on East Main Street, and now must match it with \$50,000 of its own. The Eagle reports that according to Mayor Richard Alcombright, a proposal to match a \$50,000 commitment from the Massachusetts Historical Commission with \$50,000 from the city's reserve fund is expected to be brought to the City Council at its regularly scheduled meeting next week. The funding would be used to stabilize the historic church building at 225 East Main St. before winter weather sets in and potentially does more damage to its exterior.

MAN CHARGED IN FATAL BEATING AT PITTSFIELD YMCA (P-INTEREST)

When police responded to Joseph Wirtes' Pittsfield YMCA apartment just after 2am Sunday, he was unconscious, pale and bleeding from the nose, but still breathing and showing a pulse. The 44 year old Wirtes later died at the hospital apparently from injuries he sustained, including internal bleeding. The Eagle reports that 27 year old Brian Signor allegedly still had blood on his hands when he was arrested on a charge connected to that death. Signor, whose address is listed in court documents as homeless in Pittsfield, is being held on \$50,000 bail on a charge of assault and battery causing serious bodily injury following arraignment in Central Berkshire District Court yesterday.

MAYORS SUPPORT EMPLOYMENT OF OLDER WORKERS (NA, P)

Forty-three percent of the population of Berkshire County is age 55 and older, and they are looking for something meaningful to do in their golden years. IBerkshires.com reports that according to Heather Boulger, executive director of the Berkshire County Regional Employment Board, they don't want to just go to Florida and enjoy the Sunshine. The comments came yesterday during a ceremony at North Adams City Hall marking the beginning of "National Employ Older Workers Week," which runs September 19th through the 24th. Mayor Richard Alcombright read and signed an official proclamation yesterday morning. In Pittsfield, Director of Administrative Services Roberta McCulloch-Dews, on behalf of Pittsfield Mayor Linda Tyer, also read the proclamation that Tyer previously had signed.

WILLIAMSTOWN: CONCERT TO END GUN VIOLENCE (NA)

First Congregational Church in Williamstown and folk-duo band Long Journey will host a "Concert to End Gun Violence" from 4 to 7pm Sunday, Sept. 25th, in the church's newly renovated Community Hall, 906 Main Street. The free concert is one of many such concerts to be held on this day across the country in support of an end to gun violence. The concert will feature music from musicians Jeb Barry, Good Good, Northern Spy, Eliza Densmore, Norm Burdick, Alyssa Cooper, Long Journey, Sophie Lane, Rosin the Beaux, Thomas Marshall, and others. A silent walk from the Spring Street parking lot to the church will take place at 3:30pm to remember victims of gun violence. A similar concert is being held in the southern Berkshires.

NA 09-21-16

WILLIAMSTOWN ZONING BOARD APPROVES CABLE MILLS SPECIAL PERMITS (NA)

The Zoning Board of Appeals in Williamstown last week approved special permits that will keep the Cable Mills housing project on track to add 14 more housing units. IBerkshires.com reports that Phase 1 of the Water Street project — the renovation of the existing mill building — was completed in the spring and is nearly fully occupied, according to the developer. Phase 2 involves new construction: seven duplexes and six condos in what the developer is calling the "modern mill" on the east side of the property.

CHESHIRE TOWN HALL ACCEPTED INTO REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES (NA)

Town Hall in Cheshire has been accepted into the National Register of Historic Places, which will allow the town to apply for historical restoration grants. IBerkshires.com reports that Historical Commission Chairwoman Diane Hitter told the Selectmen yesterday that the commission attended a Massachusetts Historical Commission meeting at the State Archives in Dorchester last week for application approval. Now that Town Hall is on the Register, the town can apply for restoration grants to make repairs to the 1898 Colonial revival brick building.

NORTH ADAMS' RECOVERY RALLY FOCUSING ON FAMILY, HOPE (NA)

This year's 4th annual Voices for Recovery Rally in North Adams will have time for tears, and smiles. IBerkshires.com reports that Kenna Waterman, founder of Josh Bressette Commit to Save A Life, says the rally at Noel Field Athletic Complex on Saturday will once again have a wall of remembrances, grown from nine names last year to about 30 or so. But it will also have another list of names: those who are in recovery from substance abuse. It will be about the same number but displayed with much more hope.

ST. STANS TO HOST COLOR RUN FUNDRAISER (NA)

St. Stanislaus Kostka School in Adams will host a "My School Color Run" this weekend to raise funds for the parochial school. IBerkshires.com reports that Principal Linda Reardon said the color run is not your standard race or really a race at all, but a chance for the community to get together for a 5k fun run in which participants will be blasted with color. She says it's a healthy alternative to the usual fundraisers involving the purchase of food or other products. School color runs take place throughout the country.

ADAMS: RIBBON CUTTING TO OPEN GREAT CHAIR WALK (NA)

A ribbon cutting will open the Great Chair Walk at 4:30 this afternoon in front of 71 Park Street, in Adams. The chair walk is part of the fourth annual Great Chair Auction & More, a fundraiser for the Youth Center Inc. The walk consists of stores, shops and a bank on Park Street and one on Spring Street previewing the art chairs and other items designed and crafted by local artists being sold at the auction.

NA 09-23-16

PASSENGER SERIOUSLY HURT IN WHITINGHAM CRASH (NA)

A Massachusetts man was arrested early Thursday after he left the scene of a car crash that seriously injured his passenger, according to Vermont State Police. The Eagle reports that 24 year old Patrick Belliveau was driving an SUV about 2am when it went off the road and struck a tree. The passenger was extricated from the vehicle and airlifted to a trauma center in New York. Police said Belliveau left the scene on foot and was found a short time later. He faces charges of gross negligent operation and leaving the scene of a crash, and could be charged with driving under the influence.

ADAMS WOMAN CHARGED WITH SECOND ROUND OF EMBEZZLEMENT (NA)

Adams resident Jennifer Thurston told police she began pilfering checks from Jiminy Peak residents to help support a painkiller addiction she developed while recovering from knee surgery. IBerkshires.com reports that the 44 year old Thurston is accused of illegally depositing over \$23,000 worth of checks, intended to pay for things like landscaping and snow plowing from those that own condominiums on the Hancock resort's campus. She entered not guilty pleas to 59 counts; 29 each of uttering a false check and forgery of a check and one count of larceny over \$250 as an ongoing and continuing offense and was released on her personal recognizance.

NORTH ADAMS AIRPORT TO REPLACE FENCE (NA)

The North Adams airport Commission will seek city funds to repair a downed fence. IBerkshires.com reports airport Manager Bill Greenwald told the commission Tuesday that a portion of the northern fence is in bad shape and partially knocked down. Greenwald said previously the fence was not a huge concern because the ramp did not extend that far, however, with the recent renovations, the ramp now reaches the compromised area.

ADAMS RESIDENTS TO SEE SLIGHT DIP IN TAX RATE FOR 2017 (NA)

The residential tax rate in Adams has declined for the first time since 2010, although only by a few pennies. The Select Board voted 4-1 on Wednesday to set the residential tax rate at \$21.37 for the fiscal 2017 — a decrease of 2 cents from the prior year. The commercial, industrial and personal property tax rate was set at \$24.55 per \$1,000 of assessed value, a decrease of \$1.45 from the previous year.

ADAMS TO HIRE FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER TO REPLACE DEPARTING DISPATCHER (NA)

The town of Adams longest tenured dispatcher is leaving, and the town is hoping to replace his position with a full-time officer. The Eagle reports that Anthony Piscioneri, who has been on the job for 19 years, is leaving for a new position in Pittsfield at the end of the month. The town opted to replace him with a full-time patrolman. The move was approved unanimously by the Select Board on Wednesday.

ADAMS FIREFIGHTERS, RED CROSS INSTALL FREE SMOKE DETECTORS (NA)

Adams Firefighters took to their trucks Tuesday evening not to put out a fire, but to hopefully prevent one by installing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. IBerkshires.com reports the Fire Department teamed up with the Red Cross to install free smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in 12 homes this week funded through the Red Cross Home Fire Campaign.

WNAW –AM 1230

ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT



**JULY. AUGUST. SEPTEMBER
2016**

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

This is a sample of public service announcements presented on WNAW during the 3rd Quarter of 2016. Announcement are rotated twice hourly throughout the day from 6am – 7pm. On WNAW

THIRD QUARTER 2016

Kill 8-18

Houghton Street Summer Playground is a free drop-in program for ages 8 and up! It runs M-F from 9:00 am to noon until August 18. There will be staff on-site and lots of arts and crafts and sports activities. For more information, contact Adam Tobin at (413) 663-7588, ext. 15.

KILL 7-11

The Berkshire Food Project located at the 1st Congregational Church of North Adams, is offering a 'ChokeSaver' course on July 11 from 4 PM to 5 PM at the 1st Congregational Church, 134 Main Street, North Adams. Upon completion of a hands-on skills assessment, participants will receive a certificate of attendance. The course is \$15 per person. To register, contact Valerie or Darlene by calling the Berkshire Food Project at 413-664-7378.

KILL 7-15

Eagle Street Beach Party is Friday, July 15 (rain date, July 22) on Eagle Street. Free! You don't need an ocean to have a beach! More than 250,000 pounds of sand, donated by Specialty Minerals and delivered by the City of North Adams, is spread, curb to curb on the entire length of Eagle Street. The family-friendly beach party runs from 3:30 - 6:30 and the adult-oriented fiesta, complete with margaritas served on the beach, takes place from 7-10pm. Lita Williams will be dj-ing from 3:30- 6:00 and performing live in the evening.

KILL 7-18

Better Job-Better Life: July 18, and August 22 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Ever think about how to make your life better? You are not alone. Join others to share ideas and resources at The UNO Center (the United Neighborhood Organization) at 157 River Street-corner of River and Houghton Streets, North Adams. FREE service. To find out more call Corinne Case, Employment Readiness Coach, at 413.662.5330 or email c.case@mcla.edu.

KILL 7-19

The North Adams WIC office will be distributing their farmers market checks on Tuesday, July 19th, 12p-5p. You must be an active WIC client and children must be 6 months or older to receive checks. This is 1st come, 1st served. For more information call (413) 663-3012.

7-19

Rainbow Seniors of Berkshire County Potluck is Tuesday, July 19 Noon - 2pm at the First Congregational Church of Williamstown. Intrepid reporter Ed Damon of the Berkshire Eagle and the Bennington Banner will be the speaker. Bring a dish to share and your curiosity. For more information, contact rainbowseniorsbc@gmail.com or visit our website: www.rainbowseniors.org.

Kill 7-24

The AYJ Fund Corn Hole Tournament will be held at Noel Field in North Adams Saturday July 27th. This fun event is being held to benefit the AYJ Fund's supports of children's cancer research programs of Dana-Farber

Cancer Institute in Boston. The Corn Hole tournament is open to the public with a \$100 first prize. The AYJ fund was created to honor Anna Arabia of North Adams who was diagnosed with a rare brain tumor at age 13 and passed at age 16.

Kill 8- 21

The 4th Annual North Adams Masonic Fishing Derby will be held Saturday August 20th 8am- 3pm at Windsor Lake North Adams. It's open to all ages with prizes in 3 categories at \$10 per person. The proceeds will benefit Soldier On. Call 413-652-5467 for more information.

KILL 7-27

Free summer concerts continue at Clark Art Institute in Williamstown with the jazz quartet HBH&T Band Tuesday, July 19 at 6 pm. The free concert will feature jazz standards, blues, R&B, and top 40. Tuesday concerts, are held on the lawn adjacent to the Clark Center, and continue through July 26. Concertgoers are encouraged to bring blankets, chairs, and picnic meals; barbecue fare is also available for sale.

(Singer-songwriter Bernice Lewis presents an evening of lively folk music for all ages on Tuesday, July 26 at 6 pm at the Clark Art Institute. The free concert, the last of the Clark's annual summer series, will be held on the lawn adjacent to the Clark Center. Concertgoers are encouraged to bring chairs, blankets, and picnic meals; barbecue fare will also be available for sale.)

KILL 8-5

Family Fun & Fitness Day is Friday, August 5, at Berkshire North WIC. The 25th annual celebration of World Breastfeeding Day, provides families with information on community resources that are available to help keep their families strong and healthy. In an effort to reach even more families, this event is being held at the Commons, in downtown Pittsfield, 10a-1p. For more information call your local WIC office; North Adams: (413)663-3012.

QUAKER MEETING HOUSE TOURS

Adams, 1-4 p.m.

The Quaker Meeting House, built in 1782 by the East Hoosuck Meeting of the Society of Friends, essentially unchanged since its construction, was the place of worship of the family of Susan B. Anthony, born in Adams in 1820. Free tours will be offered by members of the Adams Historical Society and the Adams Historical Commission on Sundays from July 3 to Oct. 9. It is located in the Maple Street Cemetery.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

KILL 8-3

North Adams residents are invited to join forces with thousands of communities nationwide for the "32nd Annual National Night Out" crime and drug prevention event. Tuesday from 4-8 pm. Neighborhood leaders are joining forces with the North Adams Emergency Services to bring National Night Out to Noel Field, where all residents are welcome to come together and share ideas on how to make our city and our neighborhoods a safe and welcoming place to live. North Adams Emergency Services will be providing food and safety activities including car seat checkpoint, Touch a Truck, and more.

KILL TFN

Williams College invites you to experience the wonders of our universe at the Milham Planetarium, located inside the Old Hopkins Observatory, on Tuesdays and Thursdays evenings at 8pm. Shows will last approximately 50 minutes. For reservations (recommended) contact Michele at 413-597-2188 or email. Others will be admitted as space permits. Large groups should call for special appointments.

KILL TFN

Free eight-week parenting course on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. beginning Aug. 3 through Sept. 21 at The Family Center, 210 State St., North Adams. Parents can find ways to be both firm and kind, so that their child can learn cooperation and self-discipline. Class includes a free weekly meal for parents and children. Free on-site child care and transportation if needed. Call 413-664-4821 to register.

KILL 8--9

The South Williamstown Community Association will host Get to Know Your Neighbors Bar-B-Q under the tent at Waubeeka Golf Links Monday 5:30-7:30 p.m. Bring a dish to share and we'll grill burgers along with providing beverages, tableware and melon for dessert. There will be a baked goods auction as well as a silent auction. Suggested contribution for SWCA adult members is \$5, children under 12 is \$3 or Non-SWCA members, adults, \$6 and children under 12, \$4.

KILL 8-12

An "End of the Summer Reading Party" with Robert Rivest will be held at the Adams Free Library Thursday at 3pm . Children registered for the summer reading

program are encouraged to stay after and have cake to celebrate their reading success. Library events are free and open to the public.

KILL 8-14

PopCares 4th Annual Tee'd off at Cancer Golf Tournament takes place Saturday August 13th. 4 man captain and crew. \$40 per person. Includes 9 holes plus lunch. At Forest Park Country Club, Forest Park Ave Adams.

Kill 8-12

The Louison House is hosting a lasagna dinner fundraiser at Mingo's Sports Bar & Grill Thursday 5-7pm. Dinner attendees will get to bowl for free after and local "celebrities" will be tending bar from 5-10 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at 413-663-6323 or kkeeser@familylifesupport.org.

KILL 8-14

PopCares Annual "Tee'd Off at Cancer" Golf Tournament, takes place at Saturday August 13 at Forest Park County Club in Adams. 4 Person Captain and Crew \$40 per person; Includes 9 Holes of Golf, Lunch and Tee Shirt. Raffles and Prizes. For tee Time Contact: Pat Mancuso 413-662-2148 Bill St.Pierre 413-441-7611 Call Forest Park to reserve your cart.

Kill 8-19

The Pownal Vermont United Methodist Church, located at the corner of Route 346 and Church Street in Pownal, VT, will be serving its annual Peach Shortcake Supper on Thursday August 18. with continous servings from 5PM on. Dinner is served family style. Tickets at the door. No reservations needed. The menu includes: grilled chicken breasts & thighs, baked ham, among many other items. \$12 for adults, \$6 for children 4-10 years, and free for children 3 years and under. South side door for take-outs: \$12 for adults, \$6 for 1/2 dinner portion. Filtration system installed. Pownal water is safe. Questions: contact Mary Louise at 802-823-7769.

KILL 8-27

Berkshire Scenic Railway's newly restored Hoosac Valley Line, which runs between Adams & North Adams, will host Friday Night Cabaret Trains on Aug. 12 and 26 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Musical duo Samantha Talora & Ron Ramsay are entertaining on these one-hour leisurely excursions. Tickets are \$25; walk-ins are welcome or tickets can be purchased online hoosacvalleytrainride.com.

KILL 9-23

North Adams, The North Adams Public Library is holding its annual Book Sale on Friday, and Saturday September 23, and 24 from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM at St Elizabeth's Parish Center. A silent auction, a bake sale, and thousands of gently used, categorized books will be available. There will also be DVD's, books on tape and music CD's for sale. Please come and join in on this great community event.

KILL 8-28

On Sunday afternoons through Aug. 28, families are invited to the Clark Art Institute learn more about the Golden Age of Spanish nobility and celebrate the human body, exploring themes central to the Clark's summer exhibit "Splendor, Myth, and Vision: For more information, visit clarkart.edu/events. Summer Sundays are free with admission; children under 18 and members are always free. Certain activities are weather-dependent.

KILL 8-17

A lasagna dinner celebration and benefit for Josh Sargent, 27, who is battling liver cancer, will be held at Mingo's Sports Bar & Grill Tuesday 4-8 p.m. and will feature lasagna, salad and rolls. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for kids under 12 and are available at Mingo's in advance and a limited number will be available at the door and takeout available. There will be raffles, door prizes and more.

KILL 8-20

The Friends of Adams Free Library, 92 Park Street, Route 8, in Adams will hold the annual sale of nearly new, used and donated adult and children's books, paperbacks, magazines and other items from August 17 through August 19. The sale will be held in the lower Miller Annex on: Also on sale that week will be freshly baked items and raffle tickets for gift baskets. The building is fully accessible through the Melrose Street ramp and elevator. Come early for the best selection. For information call: 743-8345.

Kill- 8-22

There will be a Pancake breakfast .. 8 to 11 a.m. at St. Mary's Parish Hall, Cheshire, Sunday August 21 to benefit Adams Babe Ruth and Lassie leagues. Cost is \$7 adults, \$5 for seniors and children under 12.

KILL 8-17

North Adams Chamber will host a Chamber Networking Event Tuesday at Berkshire Art Museum, at 159 East Main St,.. a fun night of great food and great art and great people. Bring your business cards to share.

KILL 9-20

ECMA nominees The SKY Family will be performing their high energy Celtic/pop-rock music, dance and Gospel production Celtic Revival! Monday September 19 at 7pm at First Baptist Church Main Street North Adams. The SKY Family is Eastern Canada's premier Irish Dance production. There will be a Free will offering will be taken. First Baptist Church 131 Main Street North Adams, Massachusetts For additional information call (413) 663-3780. Handicap accessible

KILL 8-24

"Kick off to Kindergarten" Ice Cream Social and School Bus Ride! The Family Center invites all families who have a child who is attending Kindergarten In the FALL to a special "Kick off to Kindergarten" Event August 24 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm at Colegrove Park Elementary School Playground, Church Street, North Adams Come Celebrate

**with us! *Make an Ice Cream Sundae *Ride a school bus
*Meet and talk with Colegrove Park's principal *Learn
more about what to expect in Kindergarten *Meet new
friends and more! Call The Family Center at 664-4821 to
let them know you can attend.**

KILL 8-31

**The annual concerts held at Windsor Lake runs every
Wednesday through Aug. 31 Bring blankets or chairs.
Long Journey; Aug. 24, The Eagles Band; and Aug. 31,
Moonshine Holler. In the event of bad weather
cancellations will be announced by 3 p.m. on the day of the
concert on Facebook.**

KILL 8-31

**Who's ready to get down and dance the night away!' After
DownStreet Art Thursday, the celebration continues with
an after party co-sponsored by Common Folk and
Downstreet Art at the Elks Lodge, Eagle Street. Tickets
are just \$10 for this all-ages show.**

KILL 8-27

**The Family Center recognizes that diapers are expensive,
so they have teamed up with Berkshire Community
Diaper Project to help! If you are in need of diapers,
please come to the Family Center at 210 State Street,
North Adams, on Friday August 26th from 10:00 to
11:00am to pick up a pack of 10 diapers. No need to
register, just stop by.**

KILL 8-27

North Adams, The Drury High School Band will be holding a car wash/bake sale fundraiser at Carr Hardware, 179 State Road 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday August 27th. The cost is \$5 per car, with all proceeds to support student participation in band events during the 2016-2017 school year. For more information email drurybandparents@gmail.com.

KILL 9-3

United Cerebral Palsy of Berkshire County (UCP) and the UCP Self Advocate group invite the Northern Berkshire Community and beyond to attend a debate amongst those who are running in the State Senate race September 2, at 5 p.m., in the Community Room at UCP's North Adams office, 535 Curran Refreshments will be served. For more information on the debate, please contact Sue Bushika, 413-664-9345.

kILL 9-7

There will be a Paint & Sip fundraiser to benefit the Alzheimer's Association hosted by Adams Council on Aging Wed Sept 7 at Forest Park Country Club Forest Park Ave, Adams at 6pm. You'll learn to paint a glowing image of "Sunshine Dragonflies" on a large 16x20 canvas. All materials, instruction and donation included for \$35. Reserve your seats at www.berkshirepaintandsip.com or call (413) 205-8346.

KILL 9-24

The annual Berkshire Walk to End Alzheimer's event will begin at Ashuwillticook Rail Trail, Farnams Road Causeway in Cheshire Saturday Sept. 24 at 8:30 am. Participants will have the opportunity to connect with local service providers and learn more about the programs and services the Alzheimer's Association provides. Online registration is open for the event.

KILL 9-9

Adams Community Bank's Walk To End Alzheimer's Team "Mangia Mangia" Night at Richmond Grille located at Holiday Inn in North Adams, MA – will be Thursday, September 8th from 5:30pm – 8:00pm. Tickets are \$25, includes Italian food stations, red and white sangrias, as well as a complimentary italian wine tasting provided by Martignetti Wine Company. Tickets can be purchased at any Adams Community Bank branch location. Information: 413-743-0001.

KILL 9-13

Pregnant? You are invited to a Baby Care Workshop. Get a FREE Baby Box (full of baby items valued at over \$100) for women in their last trimester of pregnancy and/or their partner September 13th 6:00-8:00 pm, at Child Care of the Berkshires, 210 State St. North Adams. Call the Family Center at 413-664-4821 soon to reserve your spot. Space is limited. Priority will be given to 1st time parents. Baby Boxes are being supplied by Berkshire Baby Box.

KILL 9-17

United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) of Berkshire County will be hosting its 55th Annual Meeting at the Country Club of Pittsfield on September 16th where the past fiscal year achievements will be celebrated along with the celebration of consumer, volunteer and employee awards. The event will begin at noon on September 16th and include a buffet lunch with awards presentation to follow. Reservations are required at \$25 per person and can be made by calling 413-442-1562.

KILL 9- 25

Save the Date! Join the Voices for Recovery Rally/Walk/Vigil, a community event to help raise awareness for recovery from substance abuse on Saturday, September 24 from 1:00pm - 5:00pm at Noel Field, North Adams. This event will include a recovery walk through downtown North Adams, activities for children, participate in the making of a recovery quilt and live music and entertainment. Food will be available for purchase. For more info, contact Wendy Penner at wpenner@nbccoalition.org.

TFN

The Mediation Services Program of Berkshire County offers free, voluntary and confidential conflict intervention services. They help individuals, schools, neighbors, family, elders, businesses, and community organizations resolve conflicts and increase their effective communications and an opportunity to work out issues on their own terms with the support of an impartial, third party mediator. For more info call 413) 344-4817.

TFN

Volunteers are being recruited for a September training of the Family Promise Mentoring Program to provide advocacy for individuals or families in need of support to become more self-reliant. Volunteers will be trained to become mentors for families with varied dynamics - one or two-parent households, with one or more children. Mentors will receive training and ongoing support to fulfill their role with a willing family. A commitment of one to two hours each week is requested. If you think you can be a positive influence and make a difference for a local family, contact Program Coordinator Ida Patella at (413)344-4803.

TFN

The HomeBase Program is a new program designed to provide a housing solution to families who are at serious risk of homelessness, and provide an alternative to going to a family shelter or motel. The type of assistance is based on the individual needs of a family, and will be determined through an assessment. Families who are determined to be Emergency Assistance (EA) e may be eligible for the HomeBase Program if the reason for homelessness relates to health and safety, overcrowding, asked to leave or evicted from housing, among other reasons. IF YOU KNOW OF A FAMILY IN A HOUSING CRISIS AND NEEDS HELP, TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE HOMEBASE PROGRAM, YOU CAN CONTACT:BCRHA: 1-800-248-9002.

KILL 9-30

Don't forget the Fall Foliage Festival Annual Ziti Supper Thursday, September 29th 4-7PM at St. Elizabeth's of Hungary Parish, North Adams. \$10 per adult; \$6 for ages under 10.

Meal includes: pasta, salad, roll, beverage and choice of assorted desserts

KILL 9-26

The Magic of everyday moments. A New Series for Parents with Children Birth to 3 Years Old. Will be held Mondays, September 26, October 3, 17 and 24th from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at The Family Center State Street, North Adams. Understanding a young child's development is the key to understanding the child. The series will feature videos, discussion and handouts that will give parents an understanding of the ages and stages of their unique child. This is an opportunity for both moms and dads to meet, learn and talk with other parents in a friendly, nurturing

environment. Free on-site child care available.
Transportation if needed. Call 413-664-4821 to register.

KILL 9-28

Did Louis Armstrong “single-handedly” invent jazz or swing or improvised solos or “scat” singing? To whom did he turn for inspiration? How and what did he practice? Lewis Porter of Rutgers explores rare recordings, photos, and films to find the answers Tuesday September 27. It’s Free and it’s at Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall Bernhard Music Center, Williams College, Williamstown @ 4:15 p.m.

KILL 9-30

The Family Center recognizes that diapers are expensive, so they’ve teamed up with Berkshire Community Diaper Project to help! Any families in need of diapers, please come to the Family Center on State Street, North Adams, pick up a pack of 10 diapers on Thursday, September 29th from 12:00- 2:00 pm. No need to register, just stop by. If these times don’t work, please call 413-664-4821 to arrange a diaper pick up.

KILL 10-1

There will be a Concert of Hope and Healing - A community response to violence at home & abroad: September 30 at 7:00 pm, First Congregational Church located at Main Street in North Adams. Dessert to follow concert and goodwill offering to support local nonprofits. For more information call 413-652-8466.

KILL 10-2

Williamstown Elementary School on Church Street features Children's a Clothing Sale Saturday with all proceeds going to the Williamstown Elementary School PTO. The sale is October 1 @ 8:30 am - 3:00 pm. There will be tons of gently used ALL SEASONS clothes boys and girls – size 0 – 16 yrs., sportswear/PJS/maternity Jackets/Snowgear/ swimsuits/SHOES/BOOTS designer brands. 50% discount after 12:00

KILL 10-4

It's Music and Movement Playgroup Friday, September 30, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Freedom Dance Studio, 40 Main Street, North Adams. Drop in with your children for a Friday morning creative movement and music playgroup! We will end with a circle time and story. A snack will be provided. This group is a collaboration of The Family Center and Freedom Dance Studio. Thank you to parent leader, Olivia Moran for sharing her time, talent and space! Call 413-664-4821 for more info.

KILL 10-6

Save the Date! October 5th is International Walk to School Day and all 3 North Adams Public Elementary Schools will be walking to school via walking school buses on this day. Families are welcome to join. There will be park and walk sites for families living off the walking school bus routes or farther from the school. Maps and fliers will be sent home with students before the event. For more information, questions and/or to participate please call or email Amanda Chilson at: 413-663-7588 or achilson@nbccoalition.org.

TFN

It's time to register for the North Adams Winter CSA! If you would like to eat locally grown organic vegetables all winter long after our Farmer's Market closes, here is your chance. Wildstone Farm of Pownal VT will make deliveries to North Adams twice per month, November-March, of boxes full of their certified organic produce. Sign up for your share by contacting them at (802) 823-0141 or wildstonefarmvt@gmail.com. A limited number of subsidized shares may be available, be sure to ask if you qualify.

TFN

Toddler story time and songs at the North Adams Public Library is in the Youth Services Department. Ages birth to 3 years old, siblings welcome. 1 - 2 stories read with lots of songs and gross motor skill activities as well. Every Tuesday on the 2nd Floor at 10:30 am. For more information call 413-662-3133 ext 14.

TFN

Preschool story time and craft is at the North Adams Public Library in the Youth Services Department. Ages 3 - 6 years old, siblings welcome. Several stories will be read and time to share ideas and thoughts as well as a craft. Every Wednesday on the 2nd Floor at 10:30 am. For more information call 413-662-3133 ext 14.

TFN

PCHP /Parent Child Home Program/. is accepting new families. They can help enhance the skills you already give your child. Eligible children are ages 18-36 months. You will receive free books, toys and home visits twice a week, scheduled at your convenience, with a trained home visitor. The program is open to residence of Adams, Cheshire, Clarksburg, Florida, Hancock, Lanesborough, New Ashford, North Adams, Savoy and Williamstown. Please call 413-664-4821 for more information.

TFN

The Louison House THANKS the entire Northern Berkshire community for the outpouring of so much love and support. Ongoing, they can always use towels, copy paper, food, cleaning supplies, and laundry detergent. Donations will help to physically repair and update areas at the 395 Old Columbia Street, Adams shelter location in order to safely move residents back into the shelter in Adams, hopefully by next spring. Call 413-663-6323 or visit the Flood House location, on Church St. in North Adams. For updates email kkeeser@familylifesupport.org to be added to the newsletter list.

KILL 9-29

St. Elizabeths of Hungry parish will hold it's annual ziti super at the Parsih Center Thursday Sept 29th from 4-7pm. Dinner includes ziti and meatballs, garden salad and

more along with assorted deserts. Tickets can be purchased at the door or reserved by calling the church rectory at 663-5316.

KILL 9-29

This Thursday 5- 8pm will be the final Downstreet Art for the 2016 season.

KILL 10-1

The Annual Fall Foliage Children's Parade is Friday on Main Street in North Adams . This years theme is "Satlute to National Parks and Monuments. Line up is at 5pm The parade steps off at 5:30.

KILL 10-3

Don't forget the North Adams Eagles Fall Foliage Parade breakfast Sunday Oct. from 7am- 11 am. The menu includes pancakes, eggs, sausage, home fries, toast, milk and coffee. During the parade get yourself a hot dog or Hamburger.

KILL 10-1

A Concert Of Hope And Healing will be held Friday Sept 30 at the First Congregational Church on Main Street North Adams at 7pm. Desert will follow the concert and a Goodwill Offering to support local non profits will be taken.

KILL 10-2

Join your friends and neighbors for the Fall Foliage Craft Fair in Downtown North adams on main street between Holden and Eagle streets Saturday from 9am to 3pm. Shop at dozens of local artisan and craft booths.

Kill 10-2

WNAW –AM 1230

ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT



JULY. AUGUST .SEPTEMBER. 2016

Public Service Programs

WNAW presents a public information half-hour program every Sunday called INFO Trak from 7:30- 8:00 am. In addition the station runs two public service program on Tuesday and Thursday with invited community leaders. The programs ar “Community Insight and “Spotlight”.

WNAW COMMUNITY INSIGHT (Thursdays 8:30-9 am)

7/7/16: AYJ FUND fighting childhood brain tumors. Local residents Joe & Kathy Arabia

7/14: 1st Berkshire District State Rep. Gail Cariddi

7/28: Adams Agricultural Fair; Betty Randall & Pat Wojcik

8/4: North Adams Mayor Richard Alcombright

8/18: 1st Berkshire District State Rep. Gail Cariddi

9/1: Elizabeth Freeman Center "Walk a Mile In Her Shoes" (Domestic Abuse awareness); Janis Broderick, Exec. Dir. & Mary Mueller North Adams office advocate

9/8: Berkshire Chamber of Commerce Fall Foliage Parade; Danielle Thomas, 1Berkshire

9/15: North Adams Mayor Richard Alcombright

9/22: Fall Foliage Festival of Events; Suzy Helme, North Adams Dir. Of Community Events & Danielle Thomas, 1Berkshire.

9/29: Adams Ramblefest; David Bissaillon & Myra Wilk (Pro-Adams) & Kent Lemme, Berkshire Running Center

WNAW SPOTLIGHT (Tuesdays 8:30-9 AM)

7/5/16: Colleen Janz, Exec. Dir., Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum, Adams

8/2: Colegrove Park Concerts & Downstreet Art; Jen Crowell

8/9: N. Adams Downtown Celebration; Suzy Helme, N. Adams Dir. Of Community Events

8/23: Motorama; Joe Dean

8/30: Berkshire Community College; Julie Hannum

9/6: Berkshire Humane Soc'y "Woofstock"; Cheryl Truskowski, Shelter Mgr.,

9/20: Voices for Recovery Walk/Rally/Vigil; Wendy Penner, Northern Berkshire Community Coalition & North Adams Mayor Richard Alcombright

QUARTERLY ISSUES REPORT, JULY-SEPTEMBER, 2016

Show # 2016-27

Date aired: _____ Time Aired: _____

Mike Gikas, Senior Electronics Editor at Consumer Reports

Smart phone theft is on the rise. A projected 3.1 million were stolen last year, according to a Consumer Reports survey. Mr. Gikas outlined the sensitive information that many phones contain, and he offered security tips to both prevent thefts and to minimize the loss of personal data if a phone is lost or stolen.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:56

Crime
Consumer Matters

Robert D. Morris, MD, PhD, environmental epidemiologist, drinking water research scientist, author of "*The Blue Death: Disease, Disaster & the Water We Drink*"

Dr. Morris believes that despite better overall health conditions, the nation's water supply remains a serious health risk. He talked about potential disease pathogens, toxic chemicals, decaying pipes and cancer risks. He discussed the growing body of research linking the chlorine relied on for water treatment with cancer and stillbirths. He also talked about the history of water-borne pathogens like cholera and typhoid.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:17

Community Health
Environment

Lynsey Romo, Assistant Professor of Communication, North Carolina State University

Prof. Romo led a study of school-aged kids and what their parents tell them about family finances. She found that parents often make gender-based distinctions in what they choose to talk about, and kids pick up on what they're *not* being told — sometimes drawing incorrect conclusions that can have repercussions for them in the future.

Issues covered:

Length: 4:59

Parenting
Personal Finance

Show # 2016-28

Date aired: _____ Time Aired: _____

Richard Bolles, career development expert, author of *"What Color Is Your Parachute? Guide to Rethinking Resumes"* and *"What Color Is Your Parachute? Guide to Rethinking Interviews"*
Mr. Bolles discussed the rapidly changing way companies locate and hire employees. He explained why the value of a resume has declined, and how job hunters can use more effective alternatives. He said prospective employees must be as up-to-the-minute in job hunting skills as they are in the work skills that they offer an employer.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:58

Employment
Career

Jean Illsley Clarke, PhD, internationally known parent educator, co-author of *"How Much Is Too Much?: Raising Likeable, Responsible, Respectful Children"*

Ms. Clarke believes that many of today's parents overindulge their children, often without even realizing it. She explained how to recognize overindulgence and why can be so damaging as kids grow into adulthood. She said assigning ongoing household chores to children is an excellent way to foster their responsibility and independence, and offered other tips for parents.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:13

Parenting Issues

Ron Montoya, Consumer Advice Editor at Edmunds.com

Mr. Montoya offered suggestions for shoppers who have poor credit to buy a new car. He said it is important for potential buyers to carefully check and clean up credit reports before applying for a car loan, and to try to get pre-approval before shopping. He also outlined other ways that buyers can demonstrate that they are a good credit risk.

Issues covered:

Length: 4:53

Consumer Matters
Personal Finance

Show # 2016-29

Date aired: _____ Time Aired: _____

Laura M. Bogart, PhD, Senior Behavioral Scientist at the RAND Corporation, a nonprofit research organization that develops solutions to public policy challenges

Dr. Bogart directed a five-week obesity prevention program for seventh grade students that helped obese students lose an average of nine pounds over the following two year period. She outlined the methods that were most effective, which included school-wide environmental changes and encouragement to eat healthy school cafeteria foods, along with a student-led education and marketing campaign.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:26

Childhood Obesity
Education
Parenting

Susan S. Silbey, PhD, Leon and Anne Goldberg Professor of Humanities, Professor of Sociology and Anthropology, Professor of Behavioral and Policy Sciences, Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

The number of women enrolling in engineering school has increased steadily over the past four decades, but Dr. Silbey said one-third of women graduates soon leave the profession to pursue other careers. She said the reasons behind this problem are primarily related to the culture of engineering itself. She offered suggestions for women who are entering the profession, and explained why an engineering career should be such an attractive option for women.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:47

**Women's Issues
Discrimination
Career**

Dong Zhao, PhD, Assistant Professor of Construction Management, Michigan State University

Prof. Zhao led a study that found that more than 50 percent of potential energy savings from energy efficient homes can be lost if users don't know how to use the buildings properly. Dr. Zhao said this is a concern both for individual homeowners as well as for commercial property owners.

Issues covered:

Length: 4:57

**Energy
Consumer Matters**

Show # 2016-30

Date aired: _____ **Time Aired:** _____

Christopher Wildeman, PhD, Associate Professor of Sociology, faculty fellow at the Center for Research on Inequalities and the Life Course, faculty fellow at the Institution for Social and Policy Studies at Yale University

Dr. Wildeman recently conducted a study at Yale that found that approximately 12% of American children will suffer from neglect or physical, emotional, or sexual abuse before they turn 18 years old. He explained why his research yielded dramatically higher rates of maltreatment than official government figures. He offered suggestions for changes in public policy to deal with the problem.

Issues covered:

Length: 9:10

**Child Abuse & Neglect
Government Policies
Parenting**

Cash Nickerson, employment expert, attorney, author of "*BOOMERangs: Engaging the Aging Workforce in America*"

As nearly 80 million Baby Boomers approach the traditional age of retirement, Mr. Nickerson said many want to continue to work, and the economy needs them. He discussed the challenges that surround an aging working population and offered ideas on how older workers can make a gradual transition into retirement, rather than a sudden exit from the workforce.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:07

**Senior Citizens
Employment**

Jeff Haig, Chair of the UCLA Scholarship Admissions Committee, co-author of the book *"Unlock Your Educational Potential"*

Mr. Haig talked about the value of summertime activities as a strategic opportunity for students planning for college. He believes that many common summer activities can be used to broaden a student's horizons and get a leg up in the competitive college admittance process.

Issues covered:
Education
Children's Issues

Length: 5:02

Show # 2016-31

Date aired: _____ Time Aired: _____

David Casarett, MD, MA, Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine Director of Hospice and Palliative Care, University of Pennsylvania Health System, author of *"Shocked: Adventures in Bringing Back the Recently Dead"*

Most people don't survive cardiac arrest or significant trauma. Dr. Casarett discussed the latest developments in resuscitation and just how far science has come in the past few years. He talked about the ethical dilemma posed by reviving a person who may not have a good quality of life in the aftermath. He talked about the impressive survival rate of those who receive competent CPR treatment.

Issues covered:
Personal Health
Emergency Medicine

Length: 8:20

Greg McBride, Chief Financial Analyst for Bankrate.com

Mr. McBride's organization recently conducted a study that found that a third of all Americans have nothing saved for retirement. He said the one encouraging aspect of the survey is that more people in their 20s are saving for retirement than ever before. He explained why this issue should be such a serious concern and what someone can do if they believe they are starting to save too late in life.

Issues covered:
Retirement Planning
Senior Citizens
Personal Finance

Length: 9:00

Rick Maurer, author of *"Beyond The Wall Of Resistance: Why 70% of All Changes Still Fail – and What You Can Do About It"*

Seventy percent of all major changes in organizations fail - and that number hasn't changed since researchers started examining success and failure rates some fifteen years ago. Mr. Maurer talked about the most common reasons for failure and what leaders can do about it.

Issues covered:
Workplace Matters
Employment

Length: 5:03

Show # 2016-32

Date aired: _____ Time Aired: _____

Anthony G. Comuzzie, PhD, obesity researcher and scientist with the Department of Genetics at the Texas Biomedical Research Institute in San Antonio

Recent government data shows that since the late 1980s and early 1990s, the average American has put on 15 or more additional pounds without getting any taller. Dr. Comuzzie explained why this is such a grave health concern. He also discussed potential causes and solutions to the nation's epidemic of obesity.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:34

**Obesity
Personal Health**

Doug Lamov, literacy and education expert, Managing Director of Uncommon Schools' Teach Like a Champion team, co-author of *Reading Reconsidered: A Practical Guide to Rigorous Literacy Instruction*

Mr. Lamov discussed the importance of teaching students to read with precision, rigor, and insight. He explained how Common Core curriculums are affecting reading programs across the country. He believes that most students are not given challenging enough assignments. He also offered suggestions for parents who want to instill a love of reading in their children.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:44

**Education
Literacy
Government Policies
Parenting**

James Kingsland, Science Production Editor of the London newspaper "The Guardian," author of *Siddhartha's Brain: Unlocking the Ancient Science of Enlightenment*

Mr. Kingsland discussed the latest research by leading neuroscientists and clinical psychologists that suggests that mindfulness practice reconfigures the brains. He said meditation can make people healthier and happier, and that it can help treat stress, chronic pain, hypertension and substance abuse.

Issues covered:

Length: 4:56

**Mental Health
Aging**

Show # 2016-33

Date aired: _____ Time Aired: _____

Jennifer B. Johnston, PhD, Assistant Professor of Psychology at Western New Mexico University

Dr. Johnston recently led a study that examined the role that media coverage may play in fueling the increase of mass shootings in the U.S. Her study concluded that one of the most effective ways of curbing mass shooting incidents may be to drastically change how news organizations cover them. She is in favor of an organized campaign to convince media organizations to focus more on the victims, rather than the killer, his weapons and his motivations.

Issues covered:

Length: 9:45

**Media
Mass Shootings**

Brian Roe, PhD, McCormick Professor of Agricultural Marketing and Policy at Ohio State University

American consumers throw away about 80 billion pounds of food a year. Dr. Roe led a study that examined Americans' attitudes and misconceptions about food waste. He said many consumers think they have good reasons to throw food away, but those perceived benefits are often not real. He noted that food waste is the largest source of municipal solid waste in the U.S. and the most destructive type of household waste in terms of greenhouse gas emissions.

Issues covered:
Environment
Consumer Matters
Food Safety

Length: 7:28

Jan E. Stets, PhD, Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Riverside

Cheating to get ahead is likely to reduce your level of happiness, according to Dr. Stets' research. In her study, participants were given the opportunity to cheat to get ahead. The 30% who cheated were more likely to report a reduction in happiness, once they considered that others would not see them as moral persons.

Issues covered:
Mental Health
Workplace Issues

Length: 4:58

Show # 2016-34

Date aired: _____ **Time Aired:** _____

Lisa Gill, Prescription Drugs Editor at Consumer Reports

Prescriptions for opioids have climbed 300% in the past decade and more than 46 Americans die each day from legal pain pills, such as OxyContin, Percocet and Vicodin. Ms. Gill discussed the reasons behind this trend. She also talked about the little-known dangers posed by over-the-counter painkillers like acetaminophen. She offered advice to patients who are dealing with pain. She also explained how the federal government is trying to deal with the issue.

Issues covered:
Drug Abuse
Personal Health
Government

Length: 10:07

Tony Lee, Publisher of CareerCast.com and JobsRated.com

Mr. Lee outlined his organization's list of the most overrated and underrated jobs, based on factors such as pay, hiring outlook, work environment, stress and physical demands. He explained why certain jobs are not as attractive as they may seem, and why other great career choices are often overlooked. He also offered advice for those who are seeking to change careers or move up the ladder in their present industry.

Issues covered:
Employment
Economy

Length: 7:15

Pam Mueller, graduate student, Department of Psychology, Princeton University

Laptops, tablets and other electronic devices are commonplace in today's classrooms. But Ms. Mueller co-authored a study that found that taking notes by typing, rather than writing, interferes with students' ability to process and remember information. Her research indicated that students who take notes with pen and paper recall more material and perform significantly better in class.

Issues covered:
Education

Length: 4:51

Show # 2016-35

Date aired: _____ **Time Aired:** _____

Bob Rusbuldt, CEO of The Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America

A consumer survey commissioned by Mr. Rusbuldt's organization found that many homeowners lack adequate insurance coverage, do not fully understand their homeowners policies and do not have enough savings to support their households in the event of a disaster. He discussed the most common misconceptions consumers have regarding homeowners insurance and what to do about it.

Issues covered:
Disaster Preparedness
Consumer Matters

Length: 8:37

Tomas Hult, PhD, Byington Endowed Chair and Professor of Marketing in the Eli Broad College of Business, Director of the International Business Center at Michigan State University

From recycling to reusing hotel towels, consumers who participate in a company's "green" program are more satisfied with its service, according to Dr. Holt's research. He explained the reasons behind these feelings, and the surprising way consumer decisions are affected when companies offer additional participation incentives.

Issues covered:
Recycling
Environment
Consumer Matters

Length: 8:40

Rachel Arocho, PhD, Research Fellow in Human Development and Family Science at Ohio State University

Dr. Arocho led a study that found that teenagers and young adults who expected to get married within the next five years reported committing fewer delinquent acts in the next year than those who weren't thinking about wedding bells. She discussed the possible reasons behind this finding.

Issues covered:
Crime
Youth at Risk

Length: 4:45

Show # 2016-36

Date aired: _____ Time Aired: _____

Sally Satel, MD, Resident Scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, editor of *"When Altruism Isn't Enough: The Case for Compensating Kidney Donors"*

12 people die each day while waiting for a life-saving kidney transplant. Dr. Satel discussed the shortage of organ donations and shared her story of receiving a kidney donation in 2006. She believes that a program to compensate organ donors, through in-kind rewards, such as a contribution to a retirement fund, an income tax credit, or tuition vouchers for their children—rather than lump-sum cash payments—would eliminate the shortage of available organs.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:28

**Organ Donation
Government Policies
Personal Health**

James Betts, PhD, Senior Lecturer in Nutrition, Metabolism & Statistics at the University of Bath, England

Conventional wisdom has always maintained that breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Dr. Betts led a study that examined whether people who eat breakfast are healthier or lose weight more effectively than those who skip it. He said his research found that breakfast eaters consumed more calories each day and were more physically active overall, but there was no difference in weight. He believes that while breakfast doesn't matter for adults, it still is important for children from a nutrition and learning standpoint.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:47

**Nutrition
Personal Health**

Monica Betson Montgomery, author of *"The Keys to College: A Roadmap for Parents to Guide Their Children"*

Ms. Betson-Montgomery read and scored over 20,000 freshman college applications throughout her career. She believes the process of preparing for college should begin in grade school or even earlier. She outlined possible strategies for parents navigate their way through their child's educational career.

Issues covered:

Length: 4:57

**Education
Parenting**

Show # 2016-37

Date aired: _____ Time Aired: _____

Michelle Mazurek, PhD, Assistant Professor, Computer Science, University of Maryland College Park

Nearly everyone today struggles with a myriad of passwords for their online activities. Professor Mazurek was involved in research at Carnegie Mellon University that found that long passphrases are more effective and easier to remember than an incomprehensible string of letters, numbers and special characters.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:52

**Online Security
Crime
Consumer Matters**

Chris Voss, former FBI's lead international kidnapping negotiator, founder and principal of The Black Swan Group, author of *"Never Split the Difference: Negotiating As If Your Life Depended On It"*

Mr. Voss discussed the skills that helped him and his colleagues succeed where it mattered most: saving lives. He explained how of those same negotiating tactics and principles are critical in everyday life, in areas such as buying a car, negotiating a salary, buying a home, or parenting.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:25

**Career
Parenting**

Christine Fahlund, Senior Financial Planner and Vice President of Investment Services at T. Rowe Price Investment Services

Ms. Fahlund discussed the effect that today's economy has on retirement planning. She believes that many Baby Boomers have been naive when it comes to planning for retirement. She also explained why some employers are becoming more proactive in helping their workers save for their senior years.

Issues covered:

Length: 5:04

**Personal Finance
Retirement Planning
Senior Citizens**

Show # 2016-38

Date aired: _____ **Time Aired:** _____

Erica Reischer, PhD, psychologist, parent educator, author of *"What Great Parents Do: 75 Simple Strategies for Raising Kids Who Thrive"*

Children don't come with an owner's manual, but many parents wish they did. Dr. Reischer offered simple, action-oriented steps anyone can take to improve their parenting skills. She discussed the importance of empathy, how to distinguish between goals and methods, and why it's helpful for parents to view their kids as little explorers and scientists.

Issues covered:

Length: 7:51

Parenting

Andrew Scott, Professor of Economics at the London Business School, Fellow at All Souls College, Oxford University and the Centre for Economic Policy Research, co-author of *"The 100-Year Life: Living and Working in an Age of Longevity"*

Many Americans have been raised on the traditional notion of a three-stage approach to life: education, followed by work and then retirement. However, Prof. Scott said this well-established pathway is already beginning to collapse: life expectancy is rising, pensions are vanishing, and increasing numbers of people are juggling multiple careers. He offered suggestions for how to better plan for a productive, longer life and retirement in today's rapidly-evolving economy.

Issues covered:

Length: 9:23

**Retirement Planning
Senior Citizens**

Brian Fligor, Chief Audiology Officer at Lantos Technologies, Inc., former Director of Diagnostic Audiology and Children's Hospital in Boston

An estimated 2 million students in the US play in middle- and high-school marching bands. Dr. Fligor believes that parents should be concerned protecting their kids' hearing when they are exposed to loud sounds for long periods. He talked about the warning signs of hearing damage and explained the ways to prevent it.

Issues covered:
Hearing Loss
Parenting Concerns
Senior Citizens

Length: 4:58

Show # 2016-39

Date aired: _____ **Time Aired:** _____

Anna S. Mueller, PhD, Sociologist and Assistant Professor in Comparative Human Development, Research Associate at the Population Research Center at the University of Chicago

Teen suicide clusters are a recent discovery, and little is understood about their causes and how to prevent them. Prof. Mueller studied of the phenomenon in a small town. She found that intense pressure to succeed academically and athletically, plus the ease with which private information became public, due to social connectedness, left teens and their parents unwilling to seek help for mental health problems. She said suicide prevention strategies need to be tailored to fit the unique dynamics of individual communities.

Issues covered:
Teen Suicide
Mental Health
Parenting

Length: 7:57

Shola Richards, author of *"Making Work Work: The Positivity Solution for Any Work Environment"*

A surprising number of Americans have experienced bullying on the job. Mr. Richards discussed the reasons that some people become bullies, and offered suggestions for how to deal with bullying in an effective and positive way. He said documenting dates, times and details of incivility are crucial, and that approaching the HR department with an issue is the best place to start.

Issues covered:
Bullying
Workplace Matters

Length: 9:21

Rodger Alan Friedman, chartered retirement planning counselor and financial advisor with more than 30 years' experience, author of *"Fire Your Retirement Planner: You! Concise Advice on How to Join the \$100,000 Retirement Club"*

More than half of all Americans are not confident or just slightly confident when it comes to making the right retirement investment decisions. Mr. Friedman believes retirement planning is not a do-it-yourself exercise, but that professional help is vital. He explained how to find a competent financial advisor.

Issues covered:
Retirement Planning
Senior Citizens

Length: 5:04