



The View from Main and Marshall



Although the leaves are only just starting to change, fall in New England is an amazing time of year. As we all know, North Adams is at the heart of everything this wonderful season has to offer, and our amazing Fall Foliage Parade is always an exciting centerpiece to our celebration of the season.

This year's parade was especially engaging and memorable. From floats and marching units to the amazing musical performance anchored by our great Drury High School Band and Band Front, parade participants truly embraced, and had fun with, the YEAR OF THE DOG theme. This was true during the parade, as well as other weekend events including the children's parade, the dog parade, and the inaugural Brew and Chew fair. And, of course, it always helps to be blessed with a perfect early fall weekend!

The parade succeeds the way so much of what we do in North Adams and Berkshire County does — thanks to partnership that exists among the City, the business community, and local residents to ensure that the parade and all our annual traditions maintain all the spectacle, fun, and wonder that has been a hallmark of the fall foliage season for decades.

Everything that happens along the parade route is the result of the tireless efforts of the parade organizers (including an amazing local committee and our partners at 1Berkshire), community volunteers, and city staff. Thank you to everyone who offered their time, talent, and energy to create yet another great and memorable celebration of the civic pride and spirit of community that makes North Adams a special place to live!

Tom Bernard

North Adams Public Schools START WITH HELLO to build community



In collaboration with the national organization Sandy Hook Promise the [North Adams Public Schools](#) designated September 24-28 as START WITH HELLO Week. It was wonderful to join Brayton students, educators, and parents and guardians for Walk to School Day, and to welcome Drury and Colegrove students to school on START WITH HELLO day.

Thank you to the students, staff, faculty, and community members who came together to promote and to affirm that our schools are welcoming and engaging places for all learners.

North Adams represented on statewide economic development panel



On Monday, September 24, 2018, the [Massachusetts Association of Regional Planning Agencies \(MARPA\)](#), the [Metropolitan Area Planning Council \(MAPC\)](#), and the Commonwealth's [Division of Local Services \(DLS\)](#) hosted a Municipal Partnerships conference at the [College of the Holy Cross](#) in Worcester. During the conference program, Juan Vega, Assistant Secretary for Communities and Programs with the state's [Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development](#), moderated a panel on economic development strategies in Holyoke, North Adams, and New Bedford.

Administration and Council collaborate to establish new senior and veteran volunteer programs

At their September 25, 2018, meeting, the North Adams City Council approved a proposal from the city administration to establish pilot programs that will enable eligible seniors and veterans to qualify for property tax abatements in exchange for providing volunteer service to the city. Eligibility criteria and application materials are being developed and will be available soon.

Charter Spectrum Update



On Friday, September 28, 2018, Senator Ed Markey announced his intent to file legislation to help restore channels [5](#) and [22](#) to Charter Spectrum cable lineups in the Berkshires.

The fact that the Senator's announcement was covered by WWLP in Springfield but that coverage was not available to cable subscribers in the Berkshires, underscores why this market modification is so critical.

In addition [The Berkshire Eagle](#) recently covered the city's recent [notification](#) to Charter Spectrum of violations of the city's cable license agreement and request for additional performance information from the company.

North Adams Public Safety departments receive federal grants

The North Adams Fire Department recently received a grant from the United States Department of Homeland Security's 2017 Assistance to Firefighters grant program. The \$15,250 award will support the purchase of a new battery operated cutter and spreader (the "Jaws of Life") used to extricate victims from motor vehicle accidents, and other departmental initiatives.

The North Adams Police Department was awarded a grant through the Bureau of Justice Assistance's 2018 Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) program. This \$12,500 grant will support the purchase of new armored vests for North Adams Police officers.

Recognitions and Transitions

- Congratulations to [MCLA](#) professor Christine Condaris, [Berkshire Cultural Resource Center \(BCRC\)](#) director Michelle Daly, [North Adams](#) director of community events Suzy Helme, and [North Adams Public Schools](#) community outreach coordinator Emily Schiavoni on their recognition as members of the 2018 cohort of Berkshire Magazine's [Berkshire 25](#) honorees.
- Kudos to the [1Berkshire](#) Trendsetter award nominees from North Adams, including [B&B Micro Manufacturing](#), [Berkshire Scenic Railway Museum's Hoosac Valley Service](#), MCLA's Lisa Donovan, [Greylock WORKS](#), [Miner Combat](#), [Moresi & Associates Development Company](#), [TOURISTS Welcome](#), Geeg Wiles, and David York.
- Congratulations to [North Adams Public Schools](#) Superintendent Barbara Malkas, who was recognized as an inaugural Changing Lives After 55 honoree in the category of youth development by [Berkshire Family YMCA](#).
- Congratulations to the officers and staff of the North Adams Police Department who were recognized with the Silver Ribbon award from [NAMI Berkshire County](#) in recognition of the department's "commitment to the care of those whose lives are affected by mental illness."
- Welcome to Leah Demarest, who recently joined the city's Office of Community Development as fiscal and compliance officer.
- Welcome also to Carol Jammalo, new office clerk in the Office of the City Clerk.
- Thank you and farewell to community development director Larysa Bernstein as she relocates to Indianapolis.

Upcoming Events

- North Adams Farmers' Market, St. Anthony's parking lot, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Saturdays through October 20.
- The Massachusetts State Election will be held Tuesday, November 6, 2018. Eligible voters who are not currently registered who wish to vote in this election must register by 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at the Office of the City Clerk.

For an expanded list of city events visit the [North Adams event calendar](#) or subscribe to the [North Adams Happenings](#) email list.

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