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## Around town

### Basketball shoot-out

WILLIAMSTOWN — A Boston Celtics Eastern Seal Basketball Shoot-Out will be held at 6 p.m. Friday at Williamstown Elementary School, coordinated by Bill Madden of the Williamstown Youth Center. Youngsters aged 18 and younger who obtain pledges from sponsors for each basket they score will participate in three minutes of shooting. Prizes will be awarded, with funds raised to benefit those with disabilities in Massachusetts.

### Bartenders contest

WEST STOCKBRIDGE — The 2nd Annual Bartenders Contest will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the Shaker Mill Tavern. Bartenders sponsored by local bars and restaurants will compete by entering their personal and house specialty drinks. There will be prizes and entertainment.

### Holistic medicine

GREAT BARRINGTON — "An Evening With Holistic Practitioners" will be held at 8 p.m. in the lecture center of Simon's Rock of Bard College. Psychotherapists Pheobe Phelps and Harvey Kaminoff, nutrition consultant Sarah Bingham, physician Jesse Stoff, acupuncturist Charles Stuart, yoga instructor Mona Young, and massage therapist Christopher Resnik—all practicing in Berkshire County—will present a panel discussion on holistic healing and health. The program is free to the public.

### Music concert

PITTSFIELD — Singer Sherri James and pianist Mike Schiffer will perform songs of Irving Berlin at the Pittsfield Community Music School's Barn Recital Hall, located behind the main building at 30 Wendell Ave., at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. Admission, at the door, is \$2.50 for adults and \$.50 for children under the age of 18. Refreshments will be served at 7:15 p.m., prior to the concert.

### Moonwalk

LENOX — A "Moonwalk," an evening snowshoe hike under the spell of the full moon, will be held by Berkshire Sanctuaries Wednesday from 8 to 9:30 p.m. at Pleasant Valley on West Mountain Road. Bring your own snowshoes or rent a pair from the sanctuary. Preregistration is required.

### Ski tour

PITTSFIELD — A "Moonlight Ski Tour" will be held at Canoe Meadows off Holmes Road Thursday from 8 to 9:30 p.m., sponsored by Berkshire Sanctuaries. The guided tour offers a unique view of the sanctuary. Beginners are welcome but ski equipment must be self-supplied. Hot cider will be served after the tour. Preregistration is required.

### Owl prowl

NEW MARLBORO — An "Owl Prowl" will be held Thursday from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Flying Cloud Institute. Sponsored by Berkshire Sanctuaries, the event involves a search for native owls, including Great Horned, barred, screech and saw whet owls. The search will be led by naturalist Tim Flanagan. Preregistration is required.

### Salamander saga

PITTSFIELD — The "Saga of the Salamanders," part of a series on non-game animals in Massachusetts, will be held in the auditorium of Western Mass Electric Co.'s West Street building at 7:30 p.m. Naturalist Tom Tynning will present the program on the 14 different types of tailed amphibians in the state and what is known about their lifestyles.

### Crime watch

LANESBORO — Police Chief Stanley J. Misiuk will discuss the Neighborhood Crime Watch program Tuesday following the 11:30 a.m. lunch for senior citizens to be held at the Lanesboro Fire Station. The talk is geared to the starting up of such crime-watch programs.

### Legion dance

DALTON — A dance will be held today from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the American Legion, sponsored by the Youth Center Benefit Association. Music will be by "Twice Around," including songs of the 1950s and 60s. Tickets at \$6 per couple can be purchased at the door, with proceeds to benefit the center.

## Move for homeowner status making progress

By DAVID A. VALLETTE  
Union correspondent

PITTSFIELD — The Morningside Heights Homebuyers Association will be presented Monday night with an indemnification clause which the city wants in return for acceptance of the housing project's streets.

The street acceptance is a primary prerequisite for the residents of the project to convert their status as renters into homeowners, the goal under which the project of 50 homes was built.

Approval of the clause by the association membership could bring the Pittsfield

Housing Authority before the City Council Tuesday night to ask for the street acceptance.

The street problem is the second to be tackled under a new effort to have the now-rented homes purchased by the tenants, putting the property back on the tax rolls.

Already settled is a problem with gas metering. The homes were linked into a master meter system so that individual private ownership of the homes would create a cost-for-gas determination problem. The authority, however, recently put in individual gas lines and meters.

The streets, according to the associa-

tion's advisor, Daniel Tuchscherer of Western Massachusetts Legal Services, are really in great shape, but in several ways do not meet city standards. The biggest shortcomings are that they are from five to six feet too narrow, and have a sub-surface two or three inches too thin, he said.

Since the project streets are not through streets, and serve only the homes, the shortcomings should not stand in the way, according to Tuchscherer.

The indemnification, put together by the city's legal department, keeps the city from being responsible for the conditions and the setup of the roads, although the

city would maintain them.

Tuchscherer said at this time he sees no reason for the association members not to go along with the clause.

Following acceptance, efforts will turn toward exploring financing of the purchases through federal Housing and Urban Development programs. Failure to secure such assistance would send potential buyers looking for more conventional financial mechanisms for purchase, Tuchscherer said.

Both Tuchscherer and authority Chairman Nicholas Speranza are expressing optimism that the obstacles to purchase will soon be overcome.

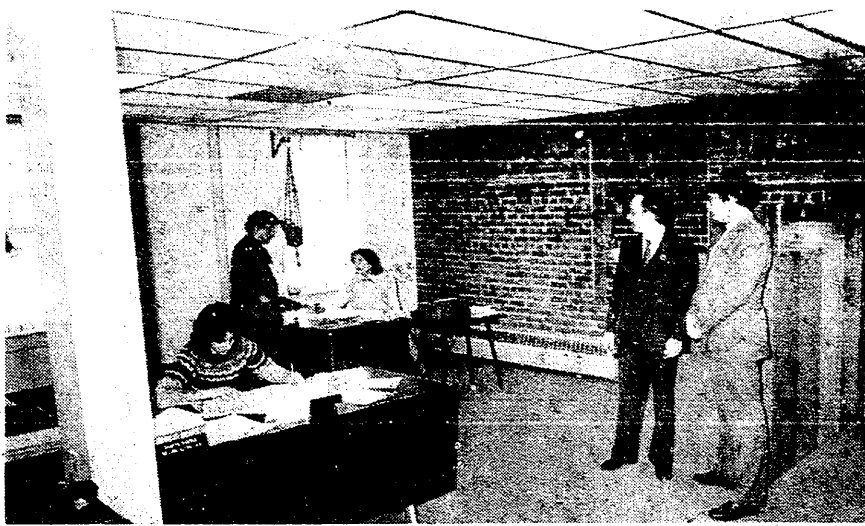


Photo by David Vallette

Administrators Bernard Shapiro, right, and George Leonard proudly show the combined in-patient and out-patient business offices established by North Adams Regional Hospital in the adjacent Clark House as part of a consolidation for efficiency.

## North Adams hospital ends reorganization

By DAVID A. VALLETTE  
Union correspondent

NORTH ADAMS — North Adams Regional Hospital completed Friday its nine-month effort to reorganize hospital offices and business functions, converting space in Clark House, a former nurses' dormitory.

The changes, according to Administrator Bernard Shapiro, will offer immediate two-pronged benefits, greatly increasing the efficiency of fiscal operations and ending problems for clients who often had to deal with the hospital in one building and do other business in another.

Funding for the project, which cost \$47,000, came from the will of a former hospital president, Herbert Clark, which provided funds for construction of Clark House.

Clark recognized that there would be ongoing expenses associated with the building's use and upkeep and provided for establishment of a trust fund with earnings to pay them.

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Shapiro said the costs were kept to \$47,000 primarily because almost all of the renovations were handled by hospital staff members. Only wiring and sprinkler-system work were done on contract, he said.

"Prior to this consolidation, in certain instances, people found it necessary to first go to one building and then another to take care of their financial arrangements with the hospital. Combining all of the financial functions in the Clark House, including patient accounting, will make for a much more efficient

process," Shapiro said.

The former lack of consolidation stemmed from staggered development of the hospital and the decision to consolidate reflects the growing importance of fiscal dealings in the modern organization of a hospital, he said.

As a byproduct of the expected new efficiency, treatment, the hospital's primary function, will be enhanced, Shapiro feels.

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"Through this move, space on the main floor of the hospital will be available for the expansion and more appropriate allocation of clinical and other patient services," he said, calling the consolidation the first step in long-range plans to improve space utilization.

Vacated areas in the main building have been subjected to new architectural studies now before the board of trustees. Expansion of the physical therapy department and central sterile supply, creation of a new "quiet" area separate from the lobby for use by families of patients, relocation of the new ambulatory surgery unit and redistribution of administrative offices are being considered, along with possible renovation of the entire first floor.

Clark House was built as a residence for student nurses at the former North Adams Hospital Training School. Along with the fiscal facilities, it now houses the personnel department, social services, a conference room, training areas for local high-school students, the hospital's employee credit union, Hospice of Northern Berkshire, public relations and nursing education.

## Capital group withdraws Mount Hope Farm bid

By JOHN HITCHCOCK  
Union bureau chief

WILLIAMSTOWN — The proposed \$2 million sale of Mount Hope Farm, once owned by the Rockefeller family and, later, Williams College, apparently has been dropped.

The owner, August E. Mansker, said Friday that Carley Capital Group of Madison, Wis., had withdrawn its offer.

Carley's vice president of development, John L. Wilson, could not be reached for confirmation.

Mansker, who operates health clubs and various self-improvement correspondence courses, said he has put the property back on the market with a \$2.5 million price tag.

A group of Williams alumni had offered Mansker about \$1.2 million for the property before Carley made its \$2 million offer.

Attorney Bruce D. Grinnell of Williamstown, a Williams alumnus, had been retained by the college to fight the sale. He recently obtained a Berkshire Superior Court order temporarily blocking it on grounds that the proposal was too vague.

Williams bought the 1,000-acre former Rockefeller estate, including a 72-room Georgian-style

mansion, from Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City in 1963 for \$325,000. The property had been willed to the hospital by the Rockefeller family.

The college sold it to Mansker, who operated a chain of health clubs with his wife in 1978, for about \$850,000, but the sales agreement gave the college first option to repurchase the property and 30 days in which to review any proposed sale.

Mansker, recently divorced, said he didn't have time to "enjoy" Mount Hope and that he plans to consolidate his home and business headquarters at another estate he owns in Macon, Mo.

Mansker said he was spending about \$500,000 a year to maintain and improve Mount Hope after spending an equal amount decorating the mansion.

Carley formed a new organization, Mount Hope Realty Trust, and hired Pittsfield lawyer Frederick M. Myers to represent the group.

Wilson had said his group did not plan to subdivide the lush estate, once the home of John D. Rockefeller's daughter, Alta, and her husband, Col. E. Parmalee Prentice. They built the mansion in 1928 and purchased several large farms at that time.

## Cardiopulmonary Week set

PITTSFIELD — Berkshire Medical Center will observe National Cardiopulmonary Week Sunday through Saturday with educational displays and a videotape on the importance of cardiovascular and pulmonary health, officials said Friday.

The programs will be in the hospital's main lobby.

Officials said the purpose of the week is to educate the public about the importance of good pulmonary and cardiovascular health and to promote the importance of cardiopulmonary technology.

County residents are invited to view tapes at the hospital and pick up brochures from the display.

The hospital has a heart station and pulmonary

laboratory for diagnosis and treatment of cardiopulmonary diseases.

The pulmonary laboratory conducts studies of lung functions and evaluates and monitors the effect of disease and environment on the lungs. The most common lung diseases are emphysema, chronic bronchitis and asthma.

The laboratory can hold sleep studies to improve oxygen therapy and detect sleep apnea and run stress tests for exercise prescriptions. It also prescreens patients at risk of post-operative pulmonary complications and tests for the effects of such environmental and occupational hazards as asbestos and dust.

For critically ill patients, it can measure the needed level of nutritional support and evaluate how the lungs, heart and blood work together as a unit.

## Funds sought for snow removal

By DAVID A. VALLETTE  
Union correspondent

NORTH ADAMS — Mayor John Barrett III, calling this winter "severe" because of snow-storm frequency, is asking more money for the snow and ice removal account.

"Let us hope that Spring will come early to the Berkshires this year," the mayor said in expressing hope that even more funds, beyond the extra \$21,000 now being asked, will not be needed.

As of Feb. 1, expenses for rock salt, sand and calcium chloride had consumed \$77,200 of the account's total \$90,000. The remaining \$12,800 has been exhausted as well, he said, for gasoline, diesel-fuel, truck rentals, equipment repairs and other related expenses.

"While we have seen several heavy snowfalls, it has been a winter of numerous small storms which have required larger than usual amounts of rock salt, sand and calcium chloride," Barrett said.

The \$21,000 figure was based on snowfall frequency, which has been 1.5 storms per week.

Barrett recommends taking \$8,000 from the Hillside Cemetery wall-repair account of the Cemetery Division, another \$5,000 from funds now designated for the crusher plant in the highways account and \$8,000 designated for revision of city ordinances in an unclassified account.

The request will be dealt with by the City Council at its public meeting Tuesday night.

## Auto races on lake this weekend's fare

By DAVID A. VALLETTE  
Union correspondent

PITTSFIELD — Auto races on Onota Lake and ski races at Osceola Park will be the fare as the Pittsfield Winter Carnival moves into its next-to-last weekend today.

At Osceola, event chairman Roland E. Blood has pronounced the course ready to go for the already once-postponed City Alpine Ski Meet.

The event is designed specifically for novice skiers, with no prior experience required to compete. Children will be matched with others in their age group in runs during the morning and afternoon.

Blood said registration will begin at 9 a.m., with the first race down the slope launched at 10.

Time trials and auto races will take place on Onota Lake in front of the Controy Pavilion today and Sunday.

The Berkshire Motor Sports Club will sponsor the time trials in conjunction with the carnival committee.

According to event chairman Clark Nicholls, registration for the trials will begin at 9:30 a.m. each day, with familiarization runs to start about 11 a.m. and

the actual trials by about 11:30. The timings will last until about 5 p.m. each day.

Unlike racing, the trials offer an opportunity for people to bring their own cars of all types and find out just how fast they can go, racing against the clock. Only one car is permitted on the track at any one time to avoid accidents.

Simultaneously, the New York State Ice Racing Association will hold its races on the lake on a separate course next to the one used for the trials.

David Hathaway, organizing the event, which is not an official part of the carnival, said the racing will begin each day at 1 p.m., with a finale to take place before 4. Studded tires are used for traction.

Plows and other equipment were on the lake Friday night to prepare the two courses and Nicholls and Hathaway were keeping their fingers crossed that the expected warmer temperatures and possible rain forecast for the weekend would not interfere.

Nicholls said that if the trials, already postponed from last week, could not be held this weekend, they probably would have to be canceled this year.