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**the beat**

Thursday, March 15, 2018

**Greetings.**

Never mind the snowflakes, spring is in the air, or at least it will be in exactly 6 days! The first day of spring is March 21 and just like the fresh season, this week's news feels like the start of something big: there's a **new president** at Williams College, a new movement to **save a 120-year-old Native American fountain** in Lee, and we're on the cusp of **St. Patrick's Day** celebrations (March 17th).

Peep the new hat Chan Lowe got for Secretary of Education **Betsy DeVos**.

Check out how your school is **protecting students**: the Eagle took a countywide look at what Berkshire schools are doing to make the environment safe.

And **thrill** at Taconic basketballs dramatic win over Northampton.

**Bored?** See what the weekend has in store (scroll down or get a **digital subscription** to The Berkshire Eagle for all the goings on in the Berkshires and beyond.)

**Best wishes and thank spring!**

Kristina Pajani, staff writer  
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**theNews**

**Williams College names Maud Mandel, dean at Brown, as new president**  
WILLIAMSTOWN — Mandel, who will begin her tenure in July, will be the first woman president at Williams since its establishment in 1793. ... [more](#)

**How safe are our schools?**  
The Eagle found out. Read up on security measures in each school district in Berkshire County. ... [more](#)

**Aim of fundraiser in Lee: Save (a) face and get a fountain to flow again**  
LEE — What do Native American Chief Kookapi, famed sculptor Daniel Chester French and the Temperance Movement have in common? A 120-year-old fountain in Lee that needs help. ... [more](#)

**Basil A. 'Rick' Petreica dies, was ex-CEO of Petreica Industries, founder of Unistress Corp.**  
FITTSFIELD — You may not have known Basil A. "Rick" Petreica, but you've certainly seen his work. Petreica and his companies were involved in significant, large-scale construction projects and real estate deals over his lifetime. ... [more](#)

**theWeather**



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**theView**

**Our Opinion: Patrick would bring welcome class to presidential race**  
The prospect of two-term Massachusetts governor Deval Patrick running for president in 2020 is an intriguing one for Democrats, as well as Berkshirites who include the part-time Richmond resident among their own. ... [more](#)



**theLandscape**

**Vintage Christie stays on track with Orient Express**  
HARTFORD, Conn. — The train becomes snowbound, and as the train sits, stalled, awaiting rescue, Paige takes charge when one of the passengers is found brutally stabbed to death. ... [more](#)

**Toast to St. Patrick's Day with these Guinness-inspired recipes**  
Tired of blamming through corned beef and cabbage recipes? Check out some odd-ball recipes involving Guinness and tested by Eagle features folk - all winners, no dud! ... [more](#)

**theSpotlight**

**Jayne Atkinson, Alison Larkin highlight WAM Theatre's 2018 season**  
Atkinson plays Texas governor Ann Richards in the WAM Theatre/Dress Theatre Festival production of Holland Taylor's "Ann," this fall at Shakespeare & Company. ... [more](#)

Spring Click Here! Fix-Up! Loan

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**theScore**

**Walcomah takes team crown at state bowling championships**  
Tom Hanksy Jr., a national bowling champ, wins individual title. ... [more](#)

**No. 6 Taconic boys basketball team knocks off No. 1 Northampton to win Western Massachusetts Division II title**  
Javier Ouaris let the foul shot go, but it rimmed out. Northampton's Andy Grygorevich grabbed the rebound and threw a lead pass to Jaden Johnson. Now the Braves' storybook ending appeared to be heading toward a nightmare. ... [more](#)

**thePlan**

- Music**  
Thursday, March 15  
Pittsfield  
\$5 Comedy Garage featuring comedian JR De Guzman.  
More info: [berkshiresbestcomedy.com](#)
- Theater**  
Friday, March 16  
Ghent, N.Y.  
Head to Ghent Playhouse for the opening night performance of "Cabaret."  
More info: [ghentplayhouse.org](#)
- Dancing**  
Saturday, March 17  
Lenox  
Lenox Contradance, with live music by Cedar Stanistrot, fiddle, Guillaume Sparrow-Pepin, accordion and piano, Arthur Davis piano, trumpet, banjo and vocals, with clogging by Jim Fowles.  
More info: [lenoxcontradance.org](#)

For up-to-date calendar listings, places to go and things to do in Berkshire County, MA download the GOberkshires app onto your phone.  
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**theNext**

The Berkshires is home to a number of world-class museums, which means it is also home to world-class art. In Sunday's Landscapes, we take a look at one of the people who ensures that those precious works remain secure: Dave Fortier, a security officer at the Clark.

**theSnap**



Nancy Nigood performs during the Legs and Eggs Drag Brunch at the American Legion in Pittsfield on Sunday morning.  
See more photos of this event in The Berkshire Eagle's digital photo gallery.

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**The Art of the String Quartet**  
with music by Beethoven and Brahms  
Saturday, March 17, 6pm

**The Mahaiwe Orchestral Ensemble**  
www.mhaiwe.com  
413.528.0100

SPRING 2018  
my solution

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