



Volume I, #3

November 2014

Sara Campbell Honored by BSCES

Sara Campbell, Town Engineer, was recently acknowledged by the Boston Society of Civil Engineers Section/ASCE as a recipient of their 2014 Government Civil Engineer Award. This award is given to a public sector engineer at a federal, state or municipal authority in the state of Massachusetts in recognition of their many years of dedication to the Society. Sara received the award at the BSCES Dinner at the Boston Museum of Science on Tuesday, Oct. 14 – and returned to Town Hall the next day where she received a mayoral Certificate of Recognition.



No, it's not *THE GREAT PUMPKIN*, Charlie Brown -- just the Greenfield Fire Department's new backup ambulance! The new ambulance has been in service only since October 1, but local EMTs have already transported 9 patients to Baystate Franklin Medical Center in the absence of a MedCare ambulance being available. Prior the agreement with MedCare, which provides primary ambulance service to the Town, GFD paramedics could only act to stabilize a patient while waiting for another ambulance to show up. Now there's no waiting: EMTs can load the patient into the ambulance and head directly to the hospital. Previously, only fire engines responded to car accidents and medical calls, so this new "delivery system" cuts response times for patients while also saving wear and tear on the fire engines. Says Fire Chief Strahan, "This partnership with MedCare is working well, providing stronger EMT services for Greenfield."

Your FEEDBACK

is welcome!

Please send your comments/suggestions to:

Office of the Mayor

mayor@greenfield-ma.gov

ARRIVALS



Although Kimberly MacDonald and Ashley Walsh are by now known to most of us around 14 Court Square, they are the newest faces around the Town Hall.

Kim grew up in Leveret, MA, where her parents still live. She attended GCC, earning an Associate degree in Criminal Justice and from there proceeded to UMass Amherst, receiving her Bachelor's in Sociology. Previously Kim worked at Atkins Farm for 10 years and now lives in Sunderland with her boyfriend, dog and cat. Kim wears a variety of hats here in the Town Hall as Administrative Assistant to both the Assessor's office and the Energy department, as well as handling all the billing for Central Maintenance. Her duties include data entry (a lot), answering phone calls (a lot), and helping citizens (of course) with questions regarding tax/vehicle abatements and assessment inquiries. Kim also produces the bill schedule for the Energy department for all the electric, oil and gas bills. When she's not processing invoices, Kim enjoys working out, bowling, sewing and needlework.



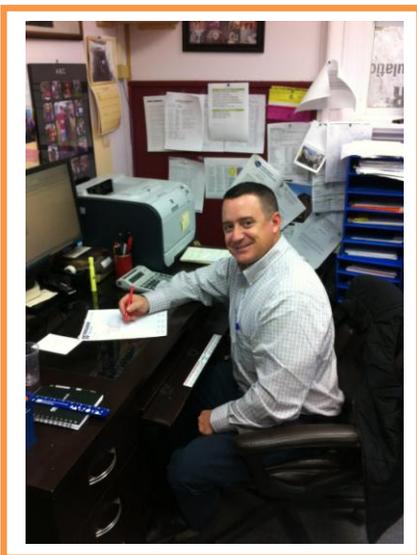
Ashley (l.) and Kim

Ashley joined the HR department in June of this year as Administrative Assistant, working with Diana Letourneau handling active employee insurances, posting job openings and a variety of other administrative duties. She comes well equipped for the job, having obtained her Bachelor's in HR Management just this last April, as well as previously being employed in HR by The Sandri Companies for 7 years. At Sandri, Ashley was responsible for the company payroll, FMLA leave management, workers compensation claims, and a variety of other tasks. Ashley is a Franklin County native, having been born and bred in Colrain. As of only a year ago, she and her husband are also the proud owners of their first home in Orange as well as their first toddler. In her free time – well, with a toddler we all know there's no such thing as spare time – you may see Ashley chasing daughter Carly around various local parks.

. . . . AND DEPARTURES



Sadly, November also brings the loss of two of our Town Hall employees, Art Baker and David Cummings, both from the Department of Public Works.



After 19 months as Director of the DPW, Art has chosen to return to the private sector to pursue his first love, pavement preservation. So just what *is* pavement preservation, you ask? Art defines it as 1) “keeping good roads good”; 2) maximizing the use of available road funding to extend pavement life; and 3) reducing life-cycle costs of pavements (there'll be a test later). According to Art, “It is a proactive and progressive – rather than a reactive – approach to preserving pavements” (in other words, kinda like orthodonture for roads...) Art will be working as Regional Manager for Sealcoating, Inc., with headquarters in Braintree, MA, but hopefully we'll still see him around this area, as he will be working in Western Massachusetts, the largest part of his territory. Said Art, “It's been an absolute pleasure working with the employees, Councilors, residents, volunteers and business owners of the Town of Greenfield. I have been given an opportunity to pursue my career passion full time and ultimately decided it was in the best interests of my family to accept it. The Department of Public Works is exceptional and will continue to provide valuable services to the taxpayers of Greenfield. I wish the Town of Greenfield continued success and hope to help them with all of their future pavement preservation needs.”

David Cummings came to the Town of Greenfield Engineering Department in February of 2013 from a private sector engineering consulting firm in North Dakota, and he now ventures out west again. This move will enable David to be in closer proximity to his girlfriend, who has an internship with the University of Wyoming Art Department, and in his new position with an environmental energy sector firm in the Northern Range area of Colorado he'll also be reunited with a close friend and former colleague. His work here in Greenfield centered mainly around civil construction and infrastructure projects, focusing on the design, survey and construction management phases in each assignment. David, whose last day was October 24, said, "I am sad to leave the City of Greenfield and the community here in Western Massachusetts, but I am certain this City will continue on its path of innovation and revitalization. There are some great things happening in Greenfield, and I am very proud to have been a small part of it."

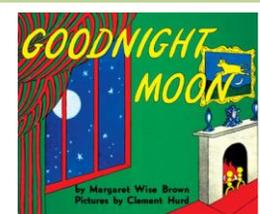


PJ Night at Newton School



Mayor William Martin joined other community readers to celebrate Pajama Night at the Newton School on October 9 at 5:00. Although his PJs were in the laundry that day, the Mayor amused the group of third graders with such classics as "Pete's Dragon" and "The Greatest Dinosaur Ever." Accompanied by Ed Gregory and his fossils, the Mayor then regaled the kids with the true story of dinosaur footprints found in Greenfield. The stones with the fossils were quarried in Gill and actually became sidewalk stones laid on Bank Row and found by Town employee Dexter Marsh. Over 30 years later, they were finally identified by Prof. Edward Hitchcock of Amherst College as being "tridactylous," or three-toed.

Also reading to the third graders that night with Mayor Martin were Bob Pura, President of GCC, and George Forcier of *The Recorder*. They joined a total of 9 other individuals from the community reading to the entire school population from kindergarten up to third grade, invited, as Principal Melodie Goodwin said, "to share the love of a good story." About 250 parents and their children rotated throughout the classrooms so everyone heard a variety of stories from different readers. Afterwards, everyone reported to the gym to hear a reading of "Good Night Moon" displayed on a big screen and read in multiple languages by Newton School students. This year students read in Russian, English, Chinese and Moldavian!



BIG News from the Recreation Department !

On October 27, Massachusetts Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Secretary Maevy Valley Bartlett announced more than \$2.6 million in investments for parks, open spaces and recreational improvements in nine Western Mass communities, with a grant of \$400,000 to Greenfield for the renovation of Green River Park. The project will include the installation of new playground structures, a new pavilion, basketball court, pickle ball court, and Greenfield's very first dog park, as well as upgrades to make the site more accessible to people of all abilities.

"The Patrick Administration is committed to improving our parks and open spaces across the Commonwealth," said Secretary Bartlett. "In addition to preserving open space, improving recreational opportunities and protecting the Commonwealth's natural resources, these investments will create economic growth across the region."

The PARC Program (formerly the Urban Self-Help Program) was established in 1977 to assist cities and towns in acquiring and developing land for park and outdoor recreation purposes. Any community with an up-to-date Open Space and Recreation Plan is eligible to apply for the program. Since 1961, Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) grants have helped cities and towns acquire land for conservation and outdoor recreational uses.

"Greenfield is thrilled to receive this grant in support of the Recreation Department's continued efforts in park improvements throughout town. Kelly Jenkins, our Recreation Program Supervisor, was especially instrumental in securing this award and was a key member of the grant team. Now pickle ball fanatics and dog park enthusiasts will have something exciting to look forward to. What a great addition to our town!" said Christy Moore, Recreation Director. Added Mayor Martin, "The community is thankful for the continued support of Governor Patrick and Secretary Bartlett for their support of Greenfield's plan to improve playgrounds and parks. The focus on the Green River will emphasize our appreciation of the riverfront opportunities for our residents, from walkways and bikeways to sculpture, recreation and cultural exhibits."



Back row, left to right: Bob O'Connor, Director of Land and Forest Conservation and Barbara

Zaccheo, Recreation Commissioner

Front row, left to right: Melissa Cryan, Grant Coordinator, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs; Maevy Valley Bartlett, EEA Secretary; Mayor William Martin; Christy Moore, Recreation Department Director; Sara Campbell, Town Engineer; and Stephanie Cooper, EEA Assistant Secretary for Land and Forest Conservation

DON'T FORGET TO
VOTE
TUESDAY, NOV. 4

Town Hall HALLOWEEN PIZZA PARTY on Friday, Oct. 31 at 12:00 p.m.
\$3.00 to Janine in DPW ASAP!
Come in costume or just as yourself (and be REALLY scary. . . !)