

Subscribe

The Berkshire Eagle

(/)

Main menu

Berkshire Family YMCA plans \$5M overhaul for historic North Street complex



(/uploads/original/20190323-

195132-YMCA02-T5_71558.jpg)

Months have been spent planning for an estimated \$5 million renovation of the Berkshire Family YMCA in Pittsfield. Proponents of the project say it will help revitalize that section of Pittsfield's downtown, likening it to major anchor projects like those surrounding the Colonial Theatre and Barrington Stage.

IMAGE PROVIDED BY BERKSHIRE FAMILY YMCA



Posted Saturday, March 23, 2019 7:51 pm

By Amanda Drane, The Berkshire Eagle

PITTSFIELD — You wouldn't know the Berkshire Family YMCA was there unless you looked for it.

That realization occurred to the organization's president and CEO, Randy Kinnas, one summer day in 2017 as he met with a donor at Hotel on North. The donor glanced across the street at the historic brick building that quietly houses the North Street mainstay and wondered aloud about what was inside it.

"That was it. Then the lightbulb went off," Kinnas said.

That moment sparked months of planning for an estimated \$5 million renovation project aimed at opening up the building, making it more inviting and visible from North Street. The project, set to begin in early 2020, focuses on replacing much of the building's brick exterior with glass.

Proponents of the project say it will help revitalize that section of Pittsfield's downtown, likening it to major anchor projects like those surrounding the Colonial Theatre and Barrington Stage.

"It's going to be the talk of the town for some time, this project," said Matt Scarafoni, a member of the board at Berkshire Family YMCA.

Scarafoni and Kinnas are spearheading the project, which Kinnas said also entails revamping the organization's classrooms, relocating the fitness center, adding a fresh basketball court — complete with an indoor walking track — and making the building more efficient.

The plan is to move the fitness center to where the gymnasium currently resides, Scarafoni said.

He draws on his experience at Scarafoni Financial-Berkshire Fairfield as the nonprofit embarks on a fundraising initiative for the project, with a final price tag expected to land at \$5 million to \$6 million.

"We have met with a significant amount of large donors who have embraced the project and are excited to support it ...," Scarafoni said. "We are very confident that we are going to be able to raise the money that we need going forward."

Hill Engineering is working on the project, Scarafoni said, and Skanska USA is the project manager. The project requires a contractor, he said, and a bid is going out soon.

Kinnas said he filed a \$200,000 request with the city's Community Preservation Commission for help removing bricks placed over large windows along the Melville Street side of the building. He said the windows were installed with the original building, when it was built for the YMCA in 1909, but were later bricked in during the late 1960s or early '70s.

ARTICLE CONTINUES AFTER THESE ADS

(<https://www.berkshireeagle.com/stories/berkshire-united-way-to-bid-farewell-to-ceo,577703>)

Berkshire United Way to bid farewell to CEO

[Click here for more](#)

The goal is to allow more natural light to enter the building and to restore that section's architecture to its original intent.

"We feel that this entire renovation will open up our building, make us more visible and enhance our membership going forward," Kinnas said.

The south side of the building — it's the part that extends to the corner of North and Melville streets — was built later, in the 1980s, Scarafoni said. They plan to retain the brick facade on the historic portion and remake the exterior of the newer addition with glass paneling.

This Rule in Chicopee, Massachusetts Leaves Drivers Confused

Auto Rates USA

(https://autoratesusa.com/articles/v4r?utm_source=Taboola_ins&utm_medium=newenglandnewspapers-berkshireeaglecom&utm_term=This+Rule+in+Chicopee%2C+Massachusetts+Leaves+Drivers+Confused&utm_campaign=2346473&s=400&device=Desktop&adposition=http%
(http://gundrymd.com/cmd.php?ad=873650&utm_source=taboola&utm_medium=referral)

Top Cardiologist: This One Thing Will Properly Flush Out Your Bowels

Gundry MD Supplements

(http://gundrymd.com/cmd.php?ad=873650&utm_source=taboola&utm_medium=referral)
(http://clickster.io/api/visitors/57ac89e0a38746122f4af882/5d0bd20478b6e25aa505b9ec/incoming?adi=swatchwrist1&adh=watchimporttown&addet=swatchwrist1-
watchimporttown&cadid=1MCEgmAN4hR&appr=lo161_06272019&utm_source=newenglandnewspapers-berkshireeaglecom&plcid=1075035&adid=244882714&taboolaclickid=CiQ4ZTg4NGE3OC1jNTU4LTQ5ZTkYTEwYi05NGZmYzY5MTBhZWMSGHNtYXNobWVkaWEtZS1jb2

This Watch May Be the Most Important Thing You Own

Smart Life Weekly

(http://clickster.io/api/visitors/57ac89e0a38746122f4af882/5d0bd20478b6e25aa505b9ec/incoming?adi=swatchwrist1&adh=watchimporttown&addet=swatchwrist1-
watchimporttown&cadid=1MCEgmAN4hR&appr=lo161_06272019&utm_source=newenglandnewspapers-berkshireeaglecom&plcid=1075035&adid=244882714&taboolaclickid=CiQ4ZTg4NGE3OC1jNTU4LTQ5ZTkYTEwYi05NGZmYzY5MTBhZWMSGHNtYXNobWVkaWEtZS1jb2
(http://citybeauty.com/cmd.php?ad=887134&utm_source=taboola&utm_medium=referral)

Lift Sagging Skin And Jowls Without Surgery (Do This)

City Beauty

(http://citybeauty.com/cmd.php?ad=887134&utm_source=taboola&utm_medium=referral)
(http://beverlyhillsmid.com/cmd.php?ad=891871&utm_source=taboola&utm_medium=referral)

This Fruit Is The Best Way To Help With Sagging, Aging Skin, Announces Plastic Surgeon - Learn How

Beverly Hills MD

(http://beverlyhillsmid.com/cmd.php?ad=891871&utm_source=taboola&utm_medium=referral)
(https://www.energybillcruncher.com/pa/?
tg_ref=prd_all&&camp_id=Massachusetts+May+Pay+You+to+Install+Solar+if+You+Live+in+Chicopee&keyword=newenglandnewspapers-berkshireeaglecom&sub2=http%3A%2F%2Fcdn.taboola.com%2Flibtrc%2Fstatic%2Fthumbnails%2Fe99fc68ca4b24d3d394a6e640bb3e082.jpeg&csg_ref=pagen&pag_ref=gen_

Massachusetts May Pay You to Install Solar if You Live in Chicopee

Energy Bill Cruncher Solar Quotes

(https://www.energybillcruncher.com/pa/?
tg_ref=prd_all&&camp_id=Massachusetts+May+Pay+You+to+Install+Solar+if+You+Live+in+Chicopee&keyword=newenglandnewspapers-berkshireeaglecom&sub2=http%3A%2F%2Fcdn.taboola.com%2Flibtrc%2Fstatic%2Fthumbnails%2Fe99fc68ca4b24d3d394a6e640bb3e082.jpeg&csg_ref=pagen&pag_ref=gen_&utm_source=jaguar11&utm_campaign=1986200&utm_term=188971729)
(https://wikibuy.com/blog/how-i-save-money-on-construction-supplies-c13a8e42b3cd?hno=true&utm_source=jaguar11&utm_campaign=1986200&utm_term=188971729)

If You ever Shop at Home Depot, You're Going to Love This Trick

Wikibuy

(https://wikibuy.com/blog/how-i-save-money-on-construction-supplies-c13a8e42b3cd?hno=true&utm_source=jaguar11&utm_campaign=1986200&utm_term=188971729)

This Week's Circulars



LOCAL NEWS

Pittsfield man killed in motorcycle crash on West Housatonic Street (/stories/pittsfield-man-killed-in-motorcycle-crash-on-west-housatonic-street,578338)

Stockbridge selectman claims 'clear violation' of Open Meeting Law, asks for probe in complaint to AG (/stories/stockbridge-selectman-claims-clear-violation-of-open-meeting-law-asks-for-probe-in-complaint-to,578318)

Dalton sets wheels turning on 2020 road repairs (/stories/dalton-sets-wheels-turning-on-2020-road-repairs,578306)

Pittsfield parade organizers reach \$85k goal, ensuring a future for 4th of July tradition (/stories/pittsfield-parade-organizers-reach-85k-goal-ensuring-a-future-for-4th-of-july-tradition,578300)
(https://www.berkshireeagle.com/stories/berkshire-united-way-to-bid-farewell-to-ceo,578297)
Berkshire United Way to bid farewell to CEO

Great Barrington losing the war on wipes (/stories/great-barrington-losing-the-war-on-wipes,578297)

Read more ▶ (/local-news/)

Click here for more

TRENDING

Pittsfield man a suspect in 1978 murder, kidnapping of Louisiana girl (/stories/pittsfield-man-a-suspect-in-1978-murder-kidnapping-of-louisiana-girl,578263)

2 suspects face fresh indictments in Asiyanna Jones killing (/stories/2-suspects-face-fresh-indictments-in-asiyanna-jones-killing,577977)

Woman who crashed car into Lanesborough eatery acquitted of OUI (/stories/woman-who-crashed-car-into-lanesborough-eatery-acquitted-of-oui,577869) (https://www.berkshireeagle.com/stories/berkshire-united-way-to-bid-farewell-to-ceo,577703)

Dalton biker's injuries from deadly NH crash said to be severe (/stories/dalton-bikers-injuries-from-deadly-nh-crash-said-to-be-severe,577805) **Berkshire United Way to bid farewell to CEO**

Woman claims sexual assaults by former Lee priest (/stories/woman-claims-sexual-assaults-by-former-lee-priest,578007) Click here for more



Pro Football News (https://pro32.ap.org/berkshireeagle/articles)

Report: Nike pulls flag sneaker after Kaepernick complaint (<https://pro32.ap.org/berkshireeagle/article/report-nike-pulls-flag-sneaker-after-kaepernick-complaint>)

4 hrs ago

XFL's plans for upcoming season starting to take shape (<https://pro32.ap.org/berkshireeagle/article/xfls-plans-upcoming-season-starting-take-shape>)

11 hrs ago

Browns speak with suspended RB Hunt after argument near bar (<https://pro32.ap.org/berkshireeagle/article/browns-speak-suspended-rb-hunt-after-argument-near-bar>)

18 hrs ago

The Latest: Super Bowl MVP Mark Rypien pleads not guilty (<https://pro32.ap.org/berkshireeagle/article/latest-super-bowl-mvp-mark-rypien-pleads-not-guilty>)

24 hrs ago



(<https://pro32.ap.org/>)



(<https://pro32.ap.org/>)



(<https://pro32.ap.org/>)



(<https://pro32.ap.org/>)



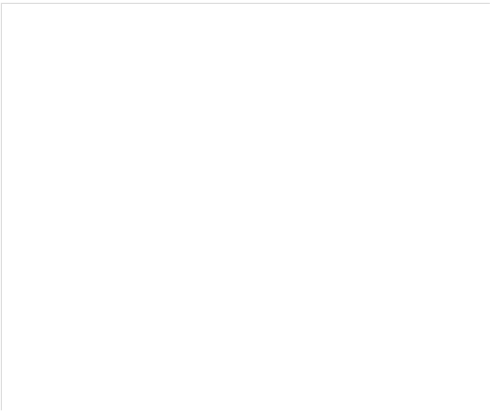
(<https://pro32.ap.org/>)



(<https://pro32.ap.org/>)



(<https://pro32.ap.org/>)



ADVERTISEMENT



(<https://www.berkshireeagle.com/stories/berkshire-united-way-to-bid-farewell-to-ceo,577703>)

Auto Racing (<https://racing.ap.org/berkshireeagle/articles>) **Berkshire United Way to bid farewell to CEO**

The Latest: Bowman earns first NASCAR Cup Series win (<https://racing.ap.org/berkshireeagle/article/latest-bowman-earns-first-nascar-cup-series-win>)

Jun. 30, 2019 09:22 PM EDT

Verstappen wins Austrian GP to end Mercedes' unbeaten streak (<https://racing.ap.org/berkshireeagle/article/verstappen-wins-austrian-gp-end-mercedes-unbeaten-streak>)

Jun. 30, 2019 02:13 PM EDT



(<https://racing.ap.org/>)



(<https://racing.ap.org/>)



mercedes-unbeaten-streak)

Red Bull driver Max Verstappen wins Formula One's Austrian Grand Prix (<https://racing.ap.org/berkshireeagle/article/red-bull-driver-max-verstappen-wins-formula-ones-austrian-grand-prix>)

Jun. 30, 2019 10:43 AM EDT

Bowman gets 1st Cup Series win at Chicagoland (<https://racing.ap.org/berkshireeagle/article/bowman-gets-1st-cup-series-win-chicagoland>)

Jun. 30, 2019 10:48 PM EDT



(<https://racing.ap.org, gets-1st-cup-series-win-chicagoland>)



ADVERTISEMENT

()

NASCAR Standings (<https://racing.ap.org/berkshireeagle/standings>)

Rank	Trend	Driver
1	–	Joey Logano (https://racing.ap.org/berkshireeagle/driver/joey-logano)
2	–	Kyle Busch (https://racing.ap.org/berkshireeagle/driver/kyle-busch)
3	–	Kevin Harvick (https://racing.ap.org/berkshireeagle/driver/kevin-harvick)
4	–	Brad Keselowski (https://racing.ap.org/berkshireeagle/driver/brad-keselowski)
5	–	Martin Truex Jr (https://racing.ap.org/berkshireeagle/driver/martin-truex-jr-0) (https://www.berkshireeagle.com/stories/berkshire-united-way-to-bid-farewell-to-ceo,577763)

Berkshire United Way to bid farewell to CEO

[VIEW ALL \(HTTPS://RACING.AP.ORG/BERKSHIREEAGLE/STANDINGS\)](https://racing.ap.org/berkshireeagle/standings)

[Click here for more](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

© 2019, The Berkshire Eagle

[About us \(/eagle-about-us.html\)](#)

[Contact us \(/contact/\)](#)

[Manage Subscription \(https://nen.newzware.com/ss70v2/neni/common/template.jsp?_ga=2.243687557.166299531.1544447081-336382800.1543348384\)](https://nen.newzware.com/ss70v2/neni/common/template.jsp?_ga=2.243687557.166299531.1544447081-336382800.1543348384)

[Subscription FAQs \(http://neni-news.com/subscribe/faq.html?_ga=2.244082693.166299531.1544447081-336382800.1543348384\)](http://neni-news.com/subscribe/faq.html?_ga=2.244082693.166299531.1544447081-336382800.1543348384)

[Terms of use \(/terms-and-conditions/\)](#)

[Privacy policy \(/privacy-policy/berkshire-eagle\)](#)

[Advertise with Us \(http://www.neni.news/\)](http://www.neni.news/)

[Come work for us \(https://workforcenow.adp.com/mascsr/default/mdf/recruitment/recruitment.html?cid=38c7673d-b8c5-41d5-9cab-c2e45a0893d8&cclid=19000101_000001&type=JS&lang=en_US\)](https://workforcenow.adp.com/mascsr/default/mdf/recruitment/recruitment.html?cid=38c7673d-b8c5-41d5-9cab-c2e45a0893d8&cclid=19000101_000001&type=JS&lang=en_US)

[Buy Eagle photos \(https://mng-neni.smugmug.com/\)](https://mng-neni.smugmug.com/)

[Place a free classified ad \(https://classifieds.newzware.com/neni/wp/WebClassified/WebBookingClient.html?_ga=2.244082693.166299531.1544447081-336382800.1543348384\)](https://classifieds.newzware.com/neni/wp/WebClassified/WebBookingClient.html?_ga=2.244082693.166299531.1544447081-336382800.1543348384)

[Commercial printing \(http://www.neni.news/commercial/\)](http://www.neni.news/commercial/)

[Bennington Banner \(https://www.benningtonbanner.com/\)](https://www.benningtonbanner.com/)

[Brattleboro Reformer \(https://www.reformer.com/\)](https://www.reformer.com/)

[Manchester Journal \(https://www.manchesterjournal.com/\)](https://www.manchesterjournal.com/)

[UpCountry \(https://upcountryonline.wordpress.com/\)](https://upcountryonline.wordpress.com/)

[Newsletters \(https://www.berkshireeagle.com/thebeat/\)](https://www.berkshireeagle.com/thebeat/)

[\(https://www.berkshireeagle.com/stories/berkshire-united-way-to-bid-farewell-to-ceo,577703\)](https://www.berkshireeagle.com/stories/berkshire-united-way-to-bid-farewell-to-ceo,577703)

Berkshire United Way to bid farewell to CEO

[f](https://www.facebook.com/berkshire.eagle) (<https://www.facebook.com/berkshire.eagle>) [🐦](https://twitter.com/BerkshireEagle) (<https://twitter.com/BerkshireEagle>) [Click here for more](#)

Powered by Creative Circle Media Solutions (<http://creativecirclemedia.com>)