

With a bang



RECORDER STAFF/PAUL FRANZ

Fireworks at Beacon Field for the Greenfield Winter Carnival Friday evening.

Fireworks kick off weekend-long Greenfield Winter Carnival

By **SHELBY ASHLINE**
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GREENFIELD — As the lights were shut off, enveloping Beacon Field in darkness Friday night, the gathering crowd let out a collective hurray. The time had come.

In an instant, fireworks were illuminating the snow-covered field in hues of blue, green and red, as well as the faces of enthralled adults and children. Some lay flat on their backs in the fresh snow, some mounded together their own backrests and others sat bundled around a flickering fire below the hill.

Another hurray, louder than the first, and applause broke out as the booming, crackling and fizzling of the spectacle subsided, kicking off the 96th annual Winter Carnival.



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Parade of Lights on Main Street for the Greenfield Winter Carnival Friday evening.

"We pretty much come for the fireworks," said Amherst resident Jana Lussier, who watched the fireworks from Beacon Field with her husband Davis Hawkowl and his 12-year-old son, Galen.

Lussier and Hawkowl, who works at Greenfield's Franklin Hampshire Career Center, said they've attended Friday night's Winter Carnival festivities for at least three years and are al-

ways impressed by the fireworks. The two said they prefer both Greenfield's winter fireworks and those set off for the Fourth of July to those offered in Amherst.

First-timers as well, like Judith Maloney of Greenfield and Sue Katz of Amherst enjoyed watching the show from Beacon Field and warming up by a bon-

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Ice sculpture by Mark Bosworth on Main Street for the Greenfield Winter Carnival Friday evening.

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fire.

"It was right above us, it was great," Maloney said.

Maloney, Katz, Lussier and Hawkowl all took the time to check out the newly carved ice sculptures on Main Street, another popular attraction.

"They're amazing," Katz remarked.

"It's pretty when they're all lit up," Hawkowl added.

Hawkowl, Lussier and Galen's tradition is

to enjoy a slice of pizza while watching the 6 p.m. Parade of Lights from inside, before bundling up to watch the fireworks outside, no matter the temperature.

"There's a saying that there's no such thing as bad weather, only inappropriate clothing," Lussier said.

Supporting a local event, Hawkowl said, is rewarding on its own.

"People work really hard to put this show on," he said. "The least we can do is come out here and enjoy it."

Winter Carnival activities continue into Saturday and Sunday. To see a full event schedule, visit www.greenfieldrecreation.com/wintercarnival.