

Lewiston Public Works Team Talk

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Employee of the Month



Gerry Lajoie

June 2013

Gerry Lajoie, Highway Worker, has been selected as EOM for June 2013! He was nominated by his fellow crew members who had some great words to share about his positive character and work ethics. "Gerry's ability to handle any job or situation is awesome. His attitude and calmness is needed. Gerry's work ethics are awesome and we know we can count on him in every situation. Gerry is pleasant to work with and does not get excited over bad situations. He always goes above and beyond what others do and we appreciate his willingness to help others whenever he can. We can count on Gerry's ability and knowledge of the work we do. We believe Gerry is the best candidate for Employee of the Month". "Gerry has improved the quality of cleaning basins throughout the city. He works well with anyone who works with him". He has "very good construction knowledge and is always willing to pass that knowledge to co-workers. He's a quiet steady worker gets along well with his peers. He is reliable, punctual & safety minded. He is a good role model and represents the City well."

Congratulations !



SAFETY AT WORK

Sometimes it's really important!



JULY ANNOUNCEMENTS

LPW JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 32 years Jon Elie, Highway
- 26 years Chuck Smith, Highway
- 24 years Sue Whitely, Admin.
- 14 years Tim Cavanagh, Highway
- 10 years Dave Saucier, Bldg. Admin.
- 5 years Kyle Brooks, Mun. Garage
- 4 years Ryan Barry, Dispatch
- 1 year Alphonse Patenaude, Land/tree

Humor for Health

My husband came home one day and told me of an incident at work. His supervisor had put a bagel into the toaster and returned to his office. Minutes later the fire alarm went off, and everyone evacuated the building. Not long after the firefighters arrived, one came out with a burned bagel half in each hand. "Sorry, we couldn't save them," he deadpanned. "I'm afraid your bagel is toast."



Two elderly couples were walking down the street, the women a couple of meters ahead of the men. One man told the other that they'd had a wonderful meal the night before—great food, reasonably priced. His friend asked for the name of the restaurant. "Well, I'll need your help on this. Let's see, there's a flower that smells great and has thorns on the stem?" "That would be a rose," his friend responded. "That's it!" the man replied. Then he shouted to his wife: "Hey, Rose! What's the name of the restaurant we ate at last night?"

Our daughter offered us a computer she no longer needed. "But," she cautioned, "it's old and slow, and it doesn't have much memory." My husband and I looked at each other. "Just like us," he smiled.

After the summer break, our school computer system received some upgrades, including changing from a 14" to a 17" monitor. However, the system still had some bugs. One morning my colleague was using the computer when the principal walked by and asked how he liked the new monitor. "It's great," he replied. "The error messages are much clearer."
- all from *Reader's Digest* on-line



LPW JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 7 Dave Richardson, Highway
- 7 Rick Burnham, Engineering
- 11 Mike Gagnon, Highway
- 12 Phil Brienza, Mun. Garage
- 20 Don St. Pierre, Highway
- 23 Kyle Brooks, Mun. Garage
- 30 Marc Cyr, Mun. Garage

Nothing makes me feel so old as having to scroll down to find my Year of Birth.



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someecards.com

50/50 Raffle Winners

- 06/07/13 Bob Bolduc, Hwy. \$27.00
- 06/14/13 D. Boudreau/R. Morin \$27.00
- 06/21/13 Dave Minkowsky, St. Lt. \$21.00
- 06/28/13 Dan & Reggie, Hwy. \$24.50

Sponsored by R&R.com



Many people guessed correctly that this strapping young goalie to the right is MARCEL ROY!

R&R BBQ returns in August!! Watch for more information!!

Wellness Sponsored Bicycle Information Session

- by Jim Ward

On Tuesday June 11, a Wellness sponsored Bicycling Workshop was held at PW. The presenter was Dominic Giampaolo from Busytown Bikes (996 Sabattus St). Busytown Bikes happens to be one of the newest cycling shops in town. Dominic spoke on many aspects of cycling, including health benefits, where to ride, safety, group rides, types of bicycles to fit individual needs, sizing, tips on kids riding, etc. All to get more people interested in getting on a bike, and using it, and getting fit. There was a lot of information. Dominic basically touched on each of these topics, any one of them could have been a ½ hour seminar in themselves! The idea was to give people some good basic knowledge.

Mike Gagnon assisted by transporting the bikes over from/back to Busytown, and helped with the room set-up. Don Mailhot also lent a hand in getting a sign-in sheet, etc, all of which was much appreciated. We had a total of about 18 people attend.

People hung around a little afterwards approaching Dominic with questions, so I think there was a pretty good amount of interest generated. We handed out 6 door prizes, which included one gift certificate for \$25 to Busytown, won by Dave Rioux.

All in all, a pretty successful event!



About the presenter: Dominic Giampaolo, co-owner of the recently opened Busytown Bikes, is a Lewiston native who is a long-time biking enthusiast. He is an excellent resource for anything cycling related, and certainly qualified. For a while he lived out west and was involved in the elite cycling scene, riding shoulder to shoulder with world class riders. Now, living back in Lewiston, he racks up literally thousands of miles a year on his road and mountain bikes. He thinks nothing of setting out on a Sunday morning from his Lewiston home, cycling out to Buckfield, and back, being home in time for lunch!



Safety matters

Safety Begins with You!!

Members of the Safety Committee are beginning work on a list of safety priorities and better messaging techniques, requested by City Administrators. If you have any ideas for these lists, please contact any of the following members:

Norm Saindon, Chair
Norm Roy, W&S
Hubie Affo, Hwy.
Nick Poland, Hwy.

Steve Damien, Vice Chair
Dave Saucier, Bldgs.
Al Patenaude, Hwy.

Don Mailhot, Sfty. Coord.
Phil Brienza, Garage
Rob Stalford, SWF

Jim Ward, GIS
Jon Elie, Hwy.
Lauren Shaw, Eng.

Work Safety Tips 1-10

1. Safety is a team effort. Ensure that every member of the crew knows the safety requirements before the job is started.
2. Safety is your responsibility.
3. Always communicate with co-workers during a job in order to maintain safety.
4. Don't create unnecessary hazards. Notify others of both new and old ones.
5. Never take shortcuts. Always follow correct procedures.
6. Wear metal mesh gloves to protect your hands when using sharp knives regularly.
7. Keep your work area clean and orderly.
8. If you make a mess, clean it up. Never let safety be someone else's job.
9. Keep access clear to emergency exits, equipment, and equipment shutoffs.
10. Prevent accidents by clearly identifying any hazards that cannot be removed.



THE MANY FACETS OF PUBLIC WORKS

STREET PAVING PROJECTS 2013

Over the past year the Public Works Engineering Department identified four sections of City streets that have become very rough. The problem was caused by very old utility excavations or, in some cases, just deteriorated bituminous pavement. The paving manager Wes Enman evaluated the pavement distresses in each area and determined the best solution was to cold plane the areas and repave them. Individually, the jobs were not that large, but by combining them the quantity of work was large enough to keep the cost down.

The first street involved in this project was Lisbon St., at the bottom of Bleachery Hill. Although this was a very small section of Lisbon St., it had been very rough for a long time. The second was Main St., from Strawberry Ave. to Montello St. The inbound and outbound lanes were targeted as they had moderate to severe potholes and delamination. We had received many complaints for this heavily traveled arterial street. The third area was Farwell St., from Warren Ave. to Connector Rd. The existing pavement here was deteriorated and there were several very old utility trenches in the area. The quality of ride was greatly diminished. The last area was on Sabattus St., between Grove St. and Bailey Ave., where a broken water line had buckled the pavement. By cold planing it out 1 ½ inches, the high spots were shaved off and a uniform surface was established. This allowed for resurfacing without the loss of curb reveal.

These paving projects required a significant amount of coordination between the utilities, Lewiston Water & Sewer, and Central Maine Power that had a structure involved. The manholes that were determined to be not at finish grade were lowered so the large pavement milling machine could pass over them. This allows a new finish grade to be properly established by the cold planing process. Between the City and CMP, there were 8 manholes lowered prior to cold planing. Once the cold planing was complete, the manholes were set right back to the proper finish grade by City crews and the CMP Contractor. Final paving was completed the same week as the cold planing.

My thanks go out to the utility crews involved including Lewiston Water & Sewer, the Lewiston Highway Division, and Pratt & Sons who worked for CMP. This project could not have been completed with such an aggressive schedule without the diligent efforts of these crews. Everyone put forth a great effort to keep everything on schedule.

- by Wes Enman



Main St., above & below, was completed without shutting down the road, making for very tight & dangerous working quarters.



Farwell St., left & right, received a mill & fill job in early June, allowing for better travel conditions for all involved.

THE MANY FACETS cont. . . . Director's Report—June 2013

We certainly have had our share of rain! With more than 7 inches during the month, this has been one of the rainiest Junes on record and it has impacted our Public Works operations. Hopefully July will bring some drier weather and allow our folks to mow the playing fields and parks and get the road and utility work going full speed. Here are some specifics for work during the month:

Street/Road & Sidewalk Improvement Projects

- ◆ Our USDA-Wildlife Services partner Ben Nugent trapped 3 beavers (Dad, Mom and Baby Beaver) who had blocked drainage off North Temple St. See photos
- Contracted projects. The following projects either are already under construction or soon will be:
- Walnut St. Rehab & Sidewalk Improvements (Bates St to Howe St) construction is continuing;
 - Work began by AD Electric on MDOT PIN 19007.00 Rte. 126 Sabattus St. Traffic Signal Improvements (Main St. to Pond Rd.)
 - MDOT PIN 014049.24 New Freedom Grant-Park St. (Oak to Ash) sidewalk & ADA access awarded to J. Pratt (100% state and federal funds). MDOT pre-construction meeting scheduled for July;
 - MDOT PIN 017316.00 & 017874.00 Main St. Rte 202/11/100 highway improvements (Memorial Ave. to Stetson Rd. with replacement of Stetson Bridge. Project scheduled for 2014 construction.
 - Maine Turnpike Authority contract to upgrade the Old Lisbon Road bridge – construction has begun, the bridge will be closed until November;
 - Paving included: small stretch on Lisbon St., Farwell St., Main St., Montello St., and Sabattus St (for a total of 926 tons).—see article on previous page.

The crews completed the following workload:

- General pavement patching 15 locations and ongoing pot-hole patrol;
- Maintenance street sweeping and catch-basin cleaning continues throughout the summer/fall;
- Installed 14 bench slabs in Kennedy Park, painted concrete deck, cleaned pool house, hooked up showers, power washed the splash pad and repaired the pool fencing;
- Crosswalk and stop bar painting around school zones began early in May and continues through the summer;
- Roadside mowing began;
- Graded gravel roads;
- Repaired 5 damaged storm man-holes;
- Planted and maintained flower beds and green spaces around the City;
- Completed confined space refresher training for employees.

Buildings –

- Began repair restoration of walls in the Pine St. entrance of City Hall;
- Upcoming projects include applying fireproof membrane to ceiling of Violation Bureau's parking area, painting overhead doors, shop store area and Pole Barns at Public Works;
- The Parking Garage Crew is scheduled to power-wash all stairwells for the five parking garages;
- Haskall & Hall contractors will begin work to clean and repoint brick work on the library in mid-July and expect to be complete in August.

Solid Waste –

- Recycling – The most recent 4 month average for Lewiston's residential recycling is 118 tons, a 36% improvement over the same period last year!! This reduces the cost and amount of solid waste hauled to the incinerator at MMWAC.

Maine DEP completed their evaluation of our 2012 annual report for groundwater monitoring and found the facility in compliance with all governing regulations. An evaluation of enhanced methane gas monitoring concluded methane was not migrating away from the attenuated landfill.



Ben holding baby beaver

Continued next page....

THE MANY FACETS cont. . . .

Director's Report cont.

Mom & Dad beaver.



Water, Sewer and Stormwater –

Upcoming construction projects. The following projects are nearing design completion and expected to be advertised in the next few months;

- The Maine DEP approved our application to apply algaecide to Lake Auburn and issued a permit. Our consultants' Diagnostic Study, which is addressing the causes of the algae bloom that killed fish in the lake last summer, recommended this action. This will only be done if an algae bloom threatens the lake again and only to protect the drinking water supply. The algaecide will be applied at doses small enough such that it will not affect fish or humans;
- Lewiston Contract 2013-001 King Ave. & Fair St. Water Main Replacement: Pratt & Sons. Construction is complete with only minor punch-list items remaining;
- Lewiston contract for Oak St. Sewer & Storm water Improvements.

Work beginning soon;

- Jepson Brook Phase 3 of the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Sewer/Storm water project (5 streets on the north side of Sabattus St. near the intersection with Russell St. Gendron & Gendron - work has begun;
- Bartlett St. Water line replacement (Adams Ave. to Sabattus St.) Gendron & Gendron -work is underway;
- Jepson Brook Phase 4 of the CSO Sewer & Storm water project (south side of Sabattus St., Genest to Wildwood Dr.) Longchamps & Sons -work is well underway;

Work performed by the Water & Sewer crews included:

- Assisted the USDA-Wildlife Services and Maine Warden Service in a "Geese Round-Up" on Lake Auburn. During the molt stage, when they lose feathers, the geese cannot fly. The geese were transported to Flaggstaff Lake. (see more below).
- Crews repaired 2 sewer cave-ins;
- Dug and replaced 3 hydrants;
- Crews responded to 24 customer concerns (E-GOV'S), all completed;
- Crews have responded to 255 Dig Safe requests;
- Crews removed all temporary water lines on Fair St. and King Ave.;
- Crews installed new culverts and underdrain, repaired the roadway, installed 350' of curbing, 250' of head-wall, sidewalk & stairs, loamed & seeded the UV facility;
- Crews coordinating and working with contractors on the above CSO projects;
- Ongoing hydrant painting, sewer flushing, gate valve cleaning and operation program, meter reading and replacement program;



Bill & Ben from USDA releasing geese



Check out the GIS Map Applications link: <http://www.lewistonmaine.gov/index.aspx?nid=194>

Beaver Relocation (see photo above and on previous page): A large beaver pond was discovered within the City of Lewiston that was flooding the cross country sewer line, as well as adjacent properties. USDA Wildlife Services was asked for assistance in resolving this issue. Two large adult beaver and their young were live trapped and relocated to a large wetland where they shouldn't cause any more unwanted damage issues. The family that owns the property is hoping that the new beaver family will restore prime duck habitat that used to exist at the site.



Resident Canada Goose Relocation (see photo above): A goose roundup was conducted at the outlet beach of Lake Auburn on 6/27/13. USDA Wildlife Services, City of Lewiston, Auburn Water District, and Me. Dept. of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife personnel assisted with the effort. The resident Canada geese, which pose a threat to water quality at Lake Auburn, were found at CMMC on the morning of the round-up. The roundup crew was able to "herd" the geese back down the lake to the outlet beach using kayaks, a canoe, and a motor boat. The geese were then guided into a net enclosure and were captured. Twenty-nine geese were captured (9 adults and 20 goslings). The geese were transported to Flaggstaff Lake where they were banded and released. - by Ben Nugent (pictured above right)

From the Past

Do you ever stop and think about the history that surrounds us every day? The National Register of Historic Places lists the following National Historic Landmarks/Buildings specifically in Lewiston. More detailed information can be found at:

<http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/me/Androscoggin/state2.html>

Androscoggin Mill Block: 269-271 Park St.
Atkinson Building: 220 Lisbon St.
Bergin Block: 330 Lisbon St.
Blake-Ham House: 354 Main St.
Bradford House: 54-56 Pine St.
John D. Clifford House: 14-16 Ware St.
College Block-Lisbon Block: 248-274 Lisbon St.
Continental Mill Housing: 66-82 Oxford St.
*Cowan Mill: Island Mill St.
Dominican Block: 141-145 Lincoln St.
First Callahan Building: 276 Lisbon St.
First McGillicuddy Block: 133 Lisbon St.
First National Bank: 157-163 Main St.
Sen. William P. Frye House: 453-461 Main St.
Grand Trunk Railroad Station: Lincoln St.
Hathorn Hall: Bates College Campus
Healey Asylum: 81 Ash St.
Captain Holland House: 142 College St.
Holland-Drew House: 377 Main St.
Jordan School: 35 Wood St.
Kora Temple: 11 Sabattus St.
Lewiston City Hall: 37 Pine St.
Lewiston Public Library: Pine/Park Sts.
Lewiston Trust & Safe Deposit Co.: 46 Lisbon St.
Lord Block: 379 Lisbon St.
James C. Lord House: 497 Main St.
Lower Lisbon St. Historic District: Cedar-Chestnut
Lyceum Hall: 49 Lisbon St.
Main St.-Frye St. Historic District
Maine Supply Co. Building: 415-417 Lisbon St.
Manufacturer's National Bank: 145 Lisbon St.
Marcotte Nursing Home: 100 Campus Ave.
Dr. Louis J. Martel House: 122-124 Bartlett St.
*Oak St. School (Dingley): Oak St.
Odd Fellows Block: 182-190 Lisbon St.
Osgood Building: 129 Lisbon St.
*Peck's Dept. Store: 184 Main St.
Bradford Peck House: 506 Main St.
Pilsbury Block: 200-210 Lisbon St.
St. Mary's General Hospital: 45 Golder St.
Savings Bank Block: 215 Lisbon St.
Second Callahan Block: 282 Lisbon St.
St. Joseph's Catholic Church: 253 Main St.
Sts. Peter & Paul Church: 27 Bartlett St.
Trinity Episcopal Church: Bates/Spruce Sts.
US Post Office: 49 Ash St.
Union Block: 21-29 Lisbon St.



Above: Until fire destroyed the Cowan Mill in 2009, it was one of the 2 oldest textile mills still standing along the Androscoggin River in Lewiston. Its neighboring mill, seen here to the right, is the Libbey Mill, formerly known as the Lincoln Mill. The Libbey Mill was partially destroyed by fire in 1999, then fully torn down in 2007. In addition to wool and cotton, the Libbey Mill produced acrylic blankets starting in the 1960s until the operations were moved to South Carolina in 1991.



Above: The Dingley Building on Oak St. known as Oak Street School. Built in 1889 by architect George M. Coombs it served as the Oak Street Training School as a normal school to train teachers. It was then used as an elementary school until it became the offices for the Lewiston Board of Education. The name was changed to the Dingley Building in 1899 in honor of Congressman Nelson Dingley Jr. It now also houses the City's Human Resources Department.



This photograph shows Peck's department store, popularly known as "The Great Department Store." The store was founded in 1880 in the Music Hall block on Lisbon Street, moved six years later to the Sands Block, and in 1899 to Main Street at Lisbon Street. The LL Bean Call Center & Brann & Isaacson law firm (City's attorneys) occupy it now.