



# City of Lewiston

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## Greetings from the City of Lewiston

Each month, this report from the City Administrator's office provides a brief summary and update of major activities, events, projects, and programs that impact the community of Lewiston. Feel free to send your comments and suggestions.

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# ITEMS OF INTEREST

## NEW LA Metro Chamber of Commerce

Congratulations to the Lewiston Auburn Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce on their recent rebranding launch. This initiative is symbolic in reinforcing that the Chamber is ready for new growth and new opportunities. Kudos to all who were involved!

Also, congratulations to the award winners from the January 28th Chamber ceremony:

- Chip Morrison, the Ray Geiger Award for Chamber champion;
- Sandy Marquis, the Theresa Sampson Award for women's business leadership;
- Diane Jackson, the Ken Additon Award for small-business advocacy;
- Mark Cayer, the Community Service Award;
- Oxford Casino, the Business Leadership Award;
- Peggy Rotundo, the President's Award; and
- Francis Gagnon, the Outstanding Member Award.



## Upcoming Job Fairs in Lewiston

Spring is the time for job fairs in our state, and the Department of Labor has recently released a list of upcoming fairs in our area. The Department's CareerCenters will sponsor or participate in these fairs, at which hundreds of employers will be hiring for both permanent and seasonal positions. The Lewiston CareerCenter is located at 5 Mollison Way and will host Job Fairs on:

- ◆ **March 7, 10 a.m. to Noon**
- ◆ **April 1, Time TBD**
- ◆ **May 2, 10 a.m. to Noon**



If you or someone you know is seeking work, the CareerCenter is a good resource where you can update your resume, practice your interviewing skills, or obtain other no-cost help.



## CA\$H Maine at the State House

January 26th was EITC Day at the State House. Regional officials with CA\$H, a group dedicated to helping Mainers achieve financial stability, spent part of the day meeting with their legislators, promoting CA\$H programs and resources, and advocating for greater awareness of the Earned Income Tax Credit, or EITC.



## FREE TAX PREPARTATION!

The L/A CA\$H Coalition has trained, IRS-certified tax preparers to assist individuals with filing their taxes. **Appointments are necessary and can be made by calling 513-3160.** There are two tax sites, one in Lewiston and one in Auburn. See below for location and schedules.

### ◆ Lewiston Memorial Armory (entrance at corner of Vale & Central Avenue)

Mondays 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
Thursdays 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Fridays 12:30 PM - 4:00 PM  
Saturdays 9:00 AM - 12 Noon

### ◆ Auburn City Building (60 Court Street)

Tuesdays 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM



## 2016 ELECTED OFFICIALS OUTLINE PRIORITIES FOR THEIR TERM

As is our normal practice, the elected officials who took office in January spent most of a Saturday shortly after assuming office to discuss the priorities that they wish to pursue over their two year term. These are intended to assist the Council and staff in focusing our efforts on key issues. The priorities identified are:

**Housing.** The creation of an overall city housing plan was perhaps the highest priority. This would include all types of housing including single- and multi-family, condos, and co-operative housing. Issues involve providing quality market rate housing options for employees of our major institutions such as Bates College and our hospitals, upgrading rental housing to meet the need of workers with limited incomes, increasing code enforcement efforts and inspections, and continuing to address the lead issue associated with older housing.

**Downtown/Riverfront Development.** Our elected officials remain strongly committed to downtown development, including reducing the first floor vacancy rate on Lisbon Street by supporting continued business development downtown, particularly locally owned businesses that will generate traffic and attract people and activity, supporting upper floor residential development, and working to improve the appearance of Lisbon Street and diversify its growing “international” flavor. At the same time, we remain committed to moving the Riverfront Island Master Plan forward through such efforts as continuing to work to acquire the canal system, replacing the Beech Street Bridge to improve access to Simard-Payne Park, and supporting redevelopment of Island Point, the Continental and Bates Mills, and the in-town portion of Lincoln Street.

**Economic Development.** Job creation and workforce development remain important, and the City’s priorities include recruiting manufacturing, supporting the development of the Exit 80 area, improving the outer Lisbon Street corridor and expanding employment opportunities there, supporting population growth, and identifying ways to improve the economic status of lower income and undereducated residents.

**Fiscal Stewardship.** As always, our elected officials recognize the importance of strong fiscal stewardship. Goals include lowering the mill rate through a variety of strategies including increasing the City’s current assessment ratio from its presently estimated 80% of market value, exploring revenue sources other than the property tax, and advocating for adequate state school aid and revenue sharing. Note that this priority is closely related to the economic development, especially in regard to attracting new taxable value to Lewiston.

**Community Amenities.** Providing amenities can improve the image of the community and attract new businesses and residents. To that end, we will support greater use of Simard Payne Park for festivals and events, where possible improve our streets to be bike and pedestrian friendly, support greater night life in our downtown and riverfront, support museum LA, emphasize open space, trees, and trails, and expand recreational opportunities.

**Transportation.** Evaluate expanding our public transit schedule to evenings and weekends and providing additional routes could assist residents without vehicles in seeking and maintaining employment. Support for passenger rail service could assist in development of our downtown and riverfront areas, and we should work to complete a rail study and economic impact analysis of this option. Transit should also serve the needs of our vulnerable populations and alternatives to traditional public transportation should be sought to support ways for residents to commute to job centers and Portland.

**Community Immigration.** A stakeholder group should be convened to identify the needs and issues of our immigrant residents to assist them in acclimating to Lewiston and developing economic independence. This should include seeking federal and state financial support to meet these needs. The City should utilize the resources of the City and Schools to encourage employment and entrepreneurship.

**Education.** Continue to develop a positive relationship with the School Committee and meet with them more frequently outside of the budget process on items such as their plans for the new elementary school and their strategic plan. Efforts should be made to spread the word about positive school accomplishments and opportunities.

**Planning and Zoning.** A new comprehensive plan should be adopted. This should be followed by efforts to implement its recommendations, including revising our land development code and ordinances to remove obstacles to development.

**Develop a Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.** The City's current solid waste management system has developed over time based on needs and issues. As a result, it does not always function well and cost effectively. Our recycling rate, at less than 10%, is very low and well below the state goal of 50%. The system should be comprehensively reviewed to ensure that it is designed to meet the City's priorities in a cost-effective way.



# Economic & Community Development

Lincoln Jeffers, Director

## More Great Things Happening on Lisbon Street



46 Lisbon Street

In January, PoMo & Co. LLC, members Dianna Pozdniakov and Kevin Morin closed on the redevelopment financing for their project at 46 Lisbon Street. The couple purchased the building in March 2015 and spent the year planning, designing, and securing financing. The building will be owner occupied, include first floor commercial space, and contain one additional apartment for rent.

The City of Lewiston provided \$18,000 in Façade Program funding, and \$5000 in Life Safety Program funding. The Façade Program funds will be used to update windows, repoint the granite façade, and improve the commercial showcase window on the first floor. The Life Safety Program funding will be used to help bring the commercial space into compliance with the National Fire Protection Act 101 regulations. Both of these funding sources were provided as 50% grant, and 50% loan and required a 1:1 match of other funds.

Additionally, a Neighborhood Stabilization grant of \$38,000 was awarded to assist with the rehab of the third floor apartment. As part of the grant award, this apartment will need to be leased to an income-qualified tenant (120% LMI) for a period of ten years.

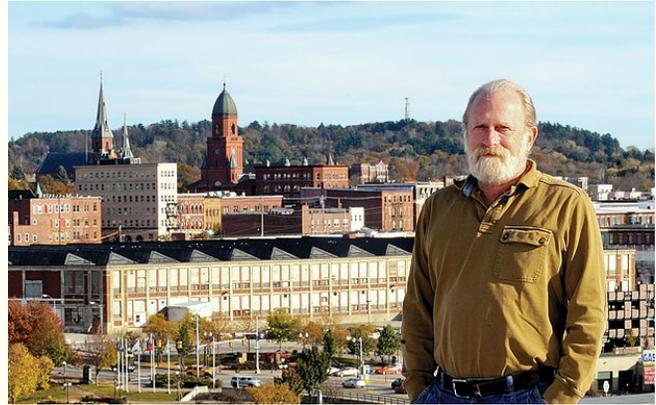
This city funding is helping support private sector investment that is bringing new life to another historic building in the heart of downtown. The neo-classical building was designed and built in 1898 by Coombs, Gibbs, and Wilkinson for Lewiston Trust and Safe Deposit Company. The significant historical features of the building include the ashlar granite façade with quoins and a metal cornice. The windows are round arched on the second story and square headed on the third story.

Grants Clothing moved into the building in 1926 and in the 1940's remodeled the first floor with black and white Carrara glass and a Moderne style marquee. Grants Clothing remained in the building until 1985. Since then, a number of commercial and office uses have tenanted the space, the most recent of which was Terry & Veronica's Bridal Shop.



## Bates Mill 5

Bates Mill #5 is a city owned 350,000 square foot building with a saw tooth roof that greets visitors coming over the Longley Bridge from Auburn. It has been mostly vacant since 2000. On February 18th, 2015, the City entered into a Purchase and Sale Option with Bates Mill LLC for the transfer of the building for \$1. The principal of Bates Mill LLC is Tom Platz, who owns the majority of the rest of the Bates Mill complex and who has been the City's partner in the redevelopment of the



complex since 1996. Since 2015, Bates Mill LLC has been conducting architectural and engineering studies, courting tenants, developing concept plans based on tenant needs, and has initiated historic tax credit, legal and financial work. On January 26, 2016, a City Council workshop was held at which Mr. Platz provided an update on the status of the project.



Central Maine Medical Center plans to lease 75,000 square feet for sports medicine, rehabilitation and weight management offices, and for a satellite of the Dempsey Center. The YMCA also plans to lease 75,000 square feet and make Bates Mill #5 their flagship location, offering daycare, lap and therapy pools, an indoor track, weight and cardio equipment, and classrooms. CMMC and the YMCA have developed a model for collaboration and joint utilization of

facilities. Representatives from CMMC and YMCA were present at the council meeting. They have provided Letters of Intent to lease space and will seek Board approval over the next few months. Bates Mill LLC has also been in discussions with a bakery, a potential grocery store, and other office users about the space. While many have expressed interest, no leases have been signed. Significant forward momentum and tenant interest has been built, but more time is needed to bring the project to fruition. The project is estimated to cost \$70 million. In order to secure financing, 200,000 square feet of tenant commitments are needed. In addition to the design work, complex legal and financial work needs to be accomplished and the project needs to go through development review. Details are being worked through on a public/private partnership to provide parking and other public infrastructure in support of the project. The legal documents for that partnership will be brought before the City Council for action later this year.

# Fire

Chief Paul LeClair

## L.F.D's Newest Addition to the Fleet Engine #4

We are excited to introduce our newest piece of firefighting apparatus ~ **Engine #4**. The **2016 Pierce ARROW XT Pumper** will make it's home

at the Sabattus Street sub-station. Empty, it weighs in at 19.85 tons (38,970 lbs.), holds 750 gallons of water, will house over 2,000 feet of hose and will carry firefighting tools and equipment in specially designed compartments on



the truck.

A Pierce representative has provided training to firefighters on the functions of the pumper and it's capabilities. Crews are now gearing up and getting the truck road and response ready.

**Engine #4 will be available serve the City of Lewiston and it's residents by the end of February.**

## 30+ Years of Dedication and Commitment Bids Farewell



### January 25th marked the end of an era for Pvt. Stephen Beaudin

Steve joined the department on July 11th, 1985. He spent his career on numerous truck assignments throughout his firefighting career with his final tour at Main Street - Engine #5.

As quoted by Chief LeClair, "**Steve is a proud Lewiston Firefighter known for his hard work. He has a polite demeanor and you can trust he will speak honestly at all times. The faces and names change in this job, but Steve, like so many before him, brought a lot to the senior private position. Not just seniority, but experience, support, mentoring, and friendship are as important as other aspects of the job and it takes a strong person like Steve to deliver, and he did.**"

Steve loves to fish, snowmobile, and play golf. All of us at the LFD want to thank Steve for his commitment and service to the Department and wish him the very best in his retirement.

*Pictured above left: Pvt. Stephen Beaudin on retirement day. Pictured right is Pvt. Beaudin and his E-4C crew members Pvt. Wally Lowe, Pvt. Bailey Keating, Pvt. Steve Beaudin and Lt. William Soucy.*



# GET READY!

## WINTER STORMS AND EXTREME COLD

Most of the United States is at risk for winter storms. Severe storms can cause dangerous or life-threatening conditions. The dangers include blinding wind-driven snow, extreme cold, ice road conditions, avalanches, and downed trees and power lines. It's important to prepare before the winter storm season.

### Before

- Stay informed of winter weather.
- Keep a sufficient supply of heating fuel. Consider storing a back-up fuel, such as a good supply of dry, seasoned wood for your fireplace or wood stove.
- Winterize your home. Insulate walls and attics, caulk and weather-strip doors and windows, and install storm windows or cover windows with plastic.
- Insulate pipes with insulation or newspaper and plastic and allow faucets to drip a little during cold weather to avoid freezing.
- Learn how to shut off water valves in case a pipe bursts.
- Winterize your car. Keep a shovel, a windshield scraper, and a small broom in your vehicle.
- Add rock salt, sand, and shovels to your emergency supplies kit, as well as extra socks, hats, mittens, and blankets.

### During

- Conserve fuel.
- Stay safe and dry indoors.
- If you are outside, cover your mouth, keep dry, and avoid overexertion. Dress for the weather, wear layers, mittens, and a hat.
- Watch for signs of frostbite, including loss of feeling and white or pale extremities. If you detect any symptoms, seek immediate medical attention.
- Watch for signs of hypothermia, including uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence, slurred speech, drowsiness, and apparent exhaustion. Get the victim to a warm location; remove any wet clothing; put the person in dry clothing and wrap their entire body in a blanket; warm the center of the body first; give warm, non-alcoholic or non-caffeinated beverages; and seek medical attention.
- Drive only if absolutely necessary. If you become trapped while you have a cell phone, call 9-1-1, explain your situation, and tell them to try to track your location by the phone signal. If you must drive,

travel during the day; don't travel alone; keep others informed of your schedule; and stay on main roads.

- If a blizzard traps you in your car, pull off the highway and stay in your vehicle. Tie a brightly colored cloth to the antenna and turn on the inside light at night for rescuers to see. Run the engine and heater about 10 minutes each hour to keep warm. When the engine is running, open a downwind window slightly and periodically clear snow from the exhaust pipe. In extreme cold, use any available means to insulate and maintain body heat. Make sure at least one person is awake at all times to watch for rescuers.

### After

- Check on neighbors or anyone who may need assistance.
- Use common sense when going outdoors. Dress warmly and always wear a hat. Stretch before shoveling heavy snow. Take frequent breaks. Use caution when walking on snowy walkways.
- Supervise children at all times. Children should be told to play only in safe, supervised areas outdoors—never in the street or snow banks on the side of the road.



For more information, visit the National Fire Protection Association at [www.nfpa.org/disaster](http://www.nfpa.org/disaster).  
Developed by NFPA. Funding provided by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness.



## School Superintendent Bill Webster

### *Lewiston Public Schools*

#### **Community Forum**

The primary purpose of the Forum is for parents and community members to understand where the School District is headed and give input on specific proposed goals. Craig Freshley and Trace Salter of Good Group Decisions, based in Brunswick, will facilitate the evening in order for it to be efficient, inclusive, and productive and will provide a report which will outline specific goals and vision based on the community discussion. The report will be made public. Also on hand during the Forum will be school leadership staff to answer questions and provide input, as will School Committee members to listen to the feedback. The Forum also provides a chance for us all to learn from each other and develop shared understanding and sense of unity around our schools.

#### **Survey**

The School Committee developed a survey to gain insight on how best to provide teachers with additional time for professional development in order to effectively implement proficiency-based learning and other initiatives.

A straw poll was taken at the Community Forum in addition to the survey which included the following three options:

- ◆ Release students two hours early every Wednesday and provide roughly 68 hours of additional professional development at no cost.
- ◆ Release students one hour early every Wednesday and provide roughly 34 hours of additional professional development at no cost.
- ◆ Add additional summer workshop days at a cost of roughly \$200,000 per seven-hour day.

#### **New Hires**

I am pleased to report that the School Committee has approved my nominations of Louie Turcotte as Facilities Director and Bill Grant as Adult Education Director. Both Louie and Bill have hit the ground running this week. In the short-term at least, Bill is also overseeing Auburn Adult Education as we explore what synergies may be possible between the two programs.

## February School Committee Meeting

The School Committee meeting will include a workshop on proficiency-based learning (PBL), open to the public but will not include public comment. The regular meeting will follow the workshop and will include an opportunity for public comment on PBL and other matters. Other matters of discussion will include a presentation on substitute fill rates, direction for PBL, final recommendation on splitting the Human Resource Departments for the City and Schools, the 2016-17 school calendar and other matters.



### Tweets and Facebook Entries

Follow me on Twitter @LewistonSuper or on Facebook at  
*Lewiston Public Schools Superintendent.*



Date	Tweet
1/8/16	LPS staff - we will pay for you to take the CPR/First Aid/AED class on March 19th. Call Adult Ed 795-4141 for info.
1/11/16	Free family (age 8+) film viewing, Belle and Sebastian, Public Theatre, 2/18, 2 pm. Tickets required - call 782-3200.
1/24/16	NESN's Tom Caron will come home Thurs 1/28, as part of LMS' aspirations prgm. Public talk, 6:30 pm, LMS Auditorium.
1/26/16	Last night School Cmte re-admitted 2 students who came thru our great Dingley School run by Mr Richardson & Ms Hearn
1/26/16	A big thanks to retiring EL Principal Jimmy Miller for all his work over the years. He has always put student first.



## Mayor Macdonald Announces New Library Board Appointments

Three Library Board members were appointed in January and February. Anne Kemper and ZamZam Mohamud were re-appointed for an additional three-year term on the Board and Sarah Yasin was newly-appointed to replace outgoing member, Adam Sherman. The nine member Board is an advisory group that works with Library Director Rick Speer and also makes recommendations to the City Council on policy matters regarding the Library.

## Maine Attorney General Janet Mills at Great Falls Forum

The speaker at LPL's highly successful Great Falls Forum brown-bag lunch event on January 21<sup>st</sup> was Attorney General Janet Mills. In many ways it was a return "home" for Ms. Mills as she served as the District Attorney for Androscoggin County for four terms in the 1980's and 90's.



Attorney General  
Janet Mills

### Other Forum programs include:

February 18

Youth Arts Showcase

March 17

Margaret Micolochek on Restorative Justice in Maine

April 21

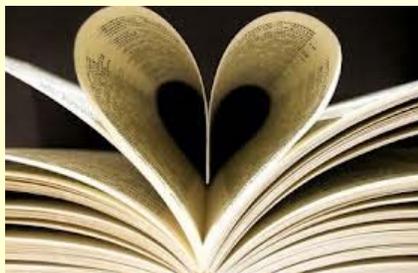
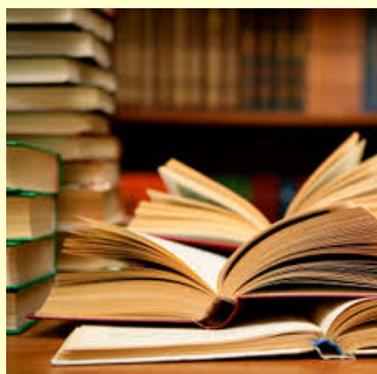
Maxwell Chicuta on Making Maine  
Communities Livable and Safe

May 18

A report from Gene Geiger, Chair of  
L/A's Joint Charter Commission



Gene Geiger, Chair  
Joint Charter Commission



# Planning & Code Enforcement

Gil Arsenault, Director

## Planning Board

### Re-zoning Request

On January 11th, the Board made a favorable recommendation for the City Council's consideration to rezone a portion of 2-4 Avon Street from the Resource Conservation (RC) District to the Urban Enterprise (UE) District to reflect changes in the boundaries of the flood zone as shown on the 2013 FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map.

### Review of Comprehensive Plan

The Board also completed its review of the proposed comprehensive plan and conducted a public hearing on the plan on February 22nd.

## Board of Appeals

On January 20th, the Board of Appeals granted a conditional use permit to Michael Morgan to operate a tattoo parlor at the Market Place Mall, 675 Main Street, in Suite 12.

## Staff Review Committee

On January 28th, the Committee granted approval for a landscape and fire wood business to operate at 899 Main Street.

## Enforcement Action

In addition to numerous notices of violations, two residential buildings were condemned via the International Property Maintenance Code and four solid waste civil penalties were issued.



## PERMIT ACTIVITY - 2016

- 26 building permits with a reported value of \$846,100, (one new single-family home was permitted)
- 7 plumbing permits
- 31 electrical permits

There were no major projects.

## PERMIT ACTIVITY - 2015

- 52 building permits with a reported value of \$4,424,964 – (no new single-family homes were permitted)
- 6 plumbing permits
- 20 electrical permits

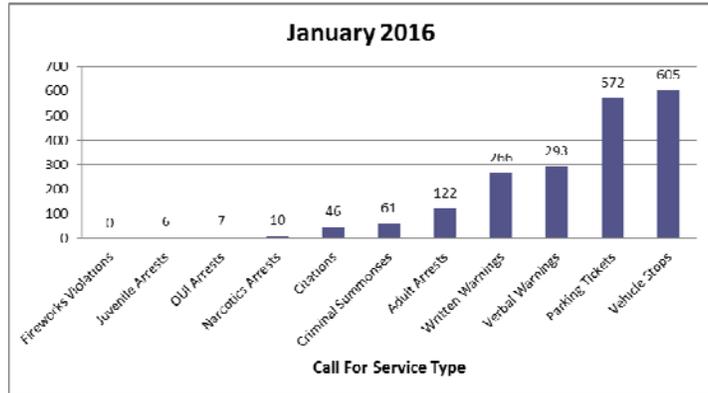
The largest dollar value permits issued were for building foundations in the amount of \$3,200,400 for two Bates College dormitories located at 55 and 65 Campus Avenue.

# Police

Mike Bussiere, Chief

Calls For Service	01/2016
Total CFS	3,244
Vehicle Stops	605
Citations	46
Written Warnings	266
Verbal Warnings	293
Adult Arrests	122
Juvenile Arrests	6
Criminal Summonses	61
Narcotics Arrests	10
OUI Arrests	7
Parking Tickets	572
Fireworks Violations	0

## Statistics



Pictured above from left to right are Officers C. Johnson, Meserve, Weaver, Detective Murphy, Sgt. R. St. Laurent, and Officer Griffin at the Special Olympics.

## Community Events

### Meetings Attended:

- ◆ Androscoggin Community Collaborative
- ◆ Community Partnerships for Protecting Children (CPPC)
- ◆ New Mainer Community Collaborative
- ◆ World Refugee Day Planning, hosted at the Chamber of Commerce
- ◆ Juvenile Justice Collaborative
- ◆ Androscoggin Elder Abuse Task Force
- ◆ Young Professionals of Lewiston and Auburn

### Other Community Activities:

- ◆ Officers attended a luncheon hosted at Meadowview
- ◆ Officers of the Community Resource Team held Coffee With A Cop at Blake Street Towers
- ◆ Officer Philippon conducted a police orientation course for Catholic Charities of Maine
- ◆ Officers of the Community Resource Team attended the Special Olympics training day at Lost Valley Ski Resort and Whiting Farm
- ◆ Officers diligently provided housing information to the homeless and transient populations; care packages were also distributed
- ◆ Classes regarding liquor laws were taught at Lewiston High School and Lewiston Regional Technical Center
- ◆ Citizens Police Academy is held weekly at the police department; various officers participate by presenting classes on various topics

### Enforcement

Sex offender notifications of offenders moving within the city were provided to Lewiston residents

#### Traffic Concerns

Additional traffic enforcement was focused in the areas of Webster and Pleasant Streets.

### Training

**Policies & Procedures** are reviewed regularly. January's were as follows:

- Prisoner transport
- Collection of assault kits
- Alarm monitoring
- Encounters with canines

### Project Lifesaver (see flyer on pgs. 16-17)

Work on the implementation of Project Lifesaver continued as the project was introduced to several agencies throughout the city.

#### Recertification

Taser recertification was instructed by officers Griffin and J. Johnson.

CPR recertification was instructed by Officer Weaver.

### Recruitment

Several individuals discussed recruitment and employment opportunities with officers.



The mission of Project Lifesaver is to provide timely response to save lives and reduce potential injury for adults and children who wander due to Alzheimer's, autism, and other related conditions or disorders.

The task of searching for wandering or lost individuals is a growing and serious responsibility. Without effective procedures and equipment, searches can involve multiple agencies, hundreds of officers, countless man hours and thousands of dollars. More importantly every minute lost increases the risk of a tragic outcome.

Working hand in hand with the Lewiston and Auburn Police Departments, Project Lifesaver International (PLI) will help you save time, money and most importantly, your loved ones.

#### **How it works**

Citizens enrolled in Project Lifesaver wear a small personal transmitter around the wrist or ankle that emits an individualized tracking signal. If an enrolled client goes missing, the caregiver notifies their local Project Lifesaver agency, and a trained emergency team responds to the wanderer's area. Most who wander are found within a few miles from home, and search times have been reduced from hours and days to minutes. Recovery times for PLI clients average 30 minutes — 95% less time than standard operations.

#### **How Do I Enroll?**

1. Go to [www.projectlifesaver.org](http://www.projectlifesaver.org) and verify that there is a Project Lifesaver member agency in your area by entering your zip code in the "Where We Are" Page.
2. Contact the PLS member agency that serves your area to discuss enrollment.
3. If your PLS member agency recommends leasing a transmitter from PLI by using Option 2 or Option 3, please call (757) 546-5502 to request your enrollment packet.
4. An enrollment packet will be sent to you.
5. Complete the forms and return the completed packet to our PLI office. Once your enrollment is processed, we will notify your agency and your kit will be shipped.

**What does the enrollment option include?** It includes the lease of one 60-day oval transmitter and tester, and a one year supply of batteries and bands in the amount of \$95.00 initial cost + \$25 monthly fee.



**Additional information**

**PLI-1000 PERSONAL LOCATOR SYSTEM**

The PLI-1000 Personal Locator System is the newest radio frequency based tracking system that is available to member agencies and to caregivers of loved ones who are prone to wandering. This system uses the same type of RF equipment that member agencies use, specifically modified for the individual client and caregiver.



**PAL (Protect and Locate)**

Whether you live in a Project Lifesaver covered area or a Non- Project Lifesaver area, we now have a new solution for you! The solution is PAL which is a new division of Project Lifesaver. For more information on PAL visit <http://www.projectlifesaver.org/Pal-info/>.



For information contact Project Lifesaver at 877-580-LIFE or visit [www.projectlifesaver.org](http://www.projectlifesaver.org)

**Local Project Lifesaver Partners**



**Lewiston PD**

171 Park St. Lewiston, ME 04240

207-513-3010



**Auburn PD**

60 Court St. Auburn, ME 04210

207-333-6650

# Public Works

Dave Jones, Director



Well, here we are in early February and as I went out to lunch today it was ~50 degrees! Unbelievable! By the end of January last year, we had received more than 65 inches of snow; there had been nine plowable storms and the sanders had been out 18 times. This year we have had 20 inches of snow with only three plowable storms and the sanders have only been out 10 times. Last year we had six water main breaks in January, this year only 1. Quite a change, but after last winter, we deserved this! Remember last February when the temperature never got above 20 degrees? Let's hope this current weather continues the next 6-8 weeks... Punxsutawney Phil predicted early spring-like weather. (I hope I didn't just jinx us!!)

Here is a summary of some of the work completed this month:

## Street/Road & Sidewalk Improvement Projects

The Highway Division crews completed the following:

- Responded to two plowable storms (9.5 inches and 5 inches) and five more sander-only storms;
- Performed night snow removal for downtown, Sabattus Street, Lisbon Street, and East Avenue on January 19-21.
- Ice conditions were addressed on 15 streets to improve safety;
- The paving Hot-Box was out patching pot-holes throughout the month and a second machine was just delivered (see photos right);
- The crews regraded Chadbourne Road and Sandhill Road and performed ditch maintenance on Dyer Road and a section of Summer Street;
- **The Arborist crew** completed tree work at more than 15 locations including removing hazardous trees along the Riverside Greenway (see photo right);
- A cleanup of the tree nursery in Auburn included hauling brush, stumps and rocks to prepare for additional sapling plantings in the spring;
- **The traffic crew** replaced signs at eight locations;



- Miscellaneous work included chipping Christmas trees dropped off at the yard, removing Christmas lights from Raymond Park, repainting ~50 No Parking signs and removing trash from two buildings on Sabattus Street at the request of Code Enforcement;
- Repaired a stormwater cave-in on Taylor Hill Road;
- Responded to 98 Dig Safe stormwater piping location requests.

**Contracted projects status update:**

- **Oxford Street Rehabilitation** is nearly complete. There are punch list items remaining and we will be addressing quality issues with the contractor (C.H. Stevenson);
- **Lisbon Street Rehabilitation** (Chestnut to Main Street) the project was approved by the MaineDOT and is scheduled to be bid during this winter with construction scheduled to take place during the 2016 construction season;
- **The Riverfront Amphitheater** and river access is complete with only reseeding remaining to be done in the spring;
- **Park Street Rehabilitation project** - J. Pratt Construction completed the project in November;
- **The Lisbon Street MaineDOT project**, which repaved Lisbon Street (Westminster Street to Strawberry Patch Road) continued. Work on the ramps to Plourde Parkway and Commercial Street remain along with some striping and signal work;
- **The Sabattus Street Signalization project** has been approved by MaineDOT and bids are scheduled to be opened in February with construction scheduled to take place during the 2016 construction season;
- **MTA bridge and mainline improvements to the Lewiston Interchange project** continues with CPM Constructors continued with abutments being placed for the new bridge for the south-bound lanes;
- **The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the Sabattus Street Traffic Signal project** was approved by

MaineDOT and is scheduled to be advertised in January with construction scheduled to take place during the 2016 construction season;

- **Pavement Management Program** - Gorrill Palmer Consulting Engineers has completed the data collection associated with the Pavement Management Study; they are currently calculating the pavement ratings and drafting a report with their results and recommendations;
- **Bartlett Street (MaineDOT)** – A public meeting was held in January to inform people about the project and answer questions with ~25 people attending. Coordination with MaineDOT to develop Right-Of-Way (ROW) mapping and acquire temporary easements has begun. This will take 7-10 months and will delay construction until summer 2017.



**Water, Sewer, and Stormwater Division**

**Construction projects and studies update:**

- ◆ **The Vale Street Neighborhood** is being surveyed for planned CSO work scheduled to be bid in June 2016;
- ◆ **North Lisbon Road Storm Drain project** – currently being designed by Gorrill-Palmer and will be advertised for construction this spring;
- ◆ **Hart Brook Water Quality Restoration** – Engineering staff met with DEP to develop a work plan for the recently awarded Nonpoint Source Pollution Control (section 319) grant. The meeting resulted in a project that will install a sub-surface filtration system beneath Webster Street which will provide both water quality treatment and stormwater storage for the Hart Brook watershed. The work plan has been finalized and is currently being reviewed by the EPA. The grant awarded the City approximately \$94,000

from Federal Section 319 funds with a City match of \$66,000. Design will occur in 2016 with construction occurring during the fall of 2016 and/or spring of 2017;

- ◆ **CSO Separation** (Main and Chestnut Streets- Engineering staff has begun preliminary design for two separate CSO separation projects, one on Main Street in front of Marden's and the second on Chestnut Street near the parking garage. The Main Street project will complete the sewer separation started with the MaineDOT project last year, while the Chestnut Street project will potentially eliminate the Beech Street CSO.
- ◆ **Cure-in-place Sewer Lining** – Engineering is beginning to review inspection videos completed this summer in order to prioritize streets for a new lining contract. The 2016 cure-in-place lining contract will be put to bid this winter for spring construction;
- ◆ **Replacement of the River Road Sewer Pump Stations** – St. Laurent and Son has been working on installation of Pump Station #1. The pump station, generator and electrical panels are all installed and connected. Startup is scheduled within two weeks. St. Laurent is beginning work on Pump Station #2 installation by the landfill. Both new stations should be running by the end of February;
- ◆ **Hart Brook Sewer Repair** – The City has received the NRPA permit from DEP for repair of the erosion problems in Hart Brook near Goddard Rd. A biological evaluation is currently being completed as required for the Army Corps permit;
- ◆ **Dumont Avenue Water and Sewer Replacement:** A project to replace the water and sewer mains on Dumont Avenue was awarded to Gendron and Gendron in the amount of \$374,999.99. Construction will begin next spring;
- ◆ **Sunnyside Area Sewer Separation** – Design work for a new storm drain system on Spring Summer, Bridge, Winter, Holland, West Bates and Whipple Street is about 70% complete. The project will be bid this winter with construction to begin next spring;

#### **Work performed by Water & Sewer crews included:**

- ◆ Responded to one main break and zero service leaks
- ◆ Responded to five sewer back-ups
- ◆ Responded to 14 EGOVs (customer concerns) with three remaining active
- ◆ Continued to do daily water meter readings and changing out meters failing to register correctly
- ◆ Continued to work on the water gate valve program and the sewer flushing program
- ◆ Continued to monitor and maintain all 750 plus hydrants making sure they operate properly and don't freeze, along with snow removal
- ◆ Continued to dig and repair curb boxes for house services impacted by the water meter program
- ◆ Doing maintenance on all water and sewer vehicles and equipment
- ◆ Replaced 186 old water meters as part of the meter program and have tested 150 meters with most failing to properly record high and low flows
- ◆ Constructed an 8'x60' storage area to protect temporary poly water lines used during construction season and painted interior spaces of the meter room, offices and breakrooms
- ◆ Responded to 74 Dig Safe requests during the month



## Solid Waste Division

- ◇ A letter documenting performance issues for the months of October, November, and December 2015 was sent to Almighty Waste.
- ◇ Newly hired Solid Waste Worker, Bob Belanger, has been checked out to perform daily and weekly inspections of the Solid Waste Facility.
- ◇ Tyler Technology was hired to complete modifications to the MUNIS software to improve the transfer of billing data from the Solid Waste Facility's Scale Management System to the MUNIS billing software.
- ◇ Annual landfill volume survey was completed. 46,039 yd<sup>3</sup> of space was consumed through waste disposal operations in 2015. The five year annual average for landfill space consumed was ~17,000 yd<sup>3</sup>. The increase in 2015 was the volume of material accepted from Re-Energy.
- ◇ Trash collection surveys were performed during the weeks of January 18 and January 25. These surveys are performed to confirm payment is received from owners of multi-unit apartment buildings who are receiving City-provided trash collection services.
- ◇ A site visit of MB Bark's (located in Auburn, Maine) waste food composting operation was performed. The firm processes and distributes compost made from food waste with approval by Maine regulatory agencies. The firm charges a \$30/ton tip for the disposal of food waste.
- ◇ ACME Scale performed annual preventative maintenance on the inbound & outbound truck scales.

## Building Maintenance Division

- The crew is painting and installing protective covers for the Armory steam radiators.
- Resolved 33 E-Gov requests during the month of January.
- Specifications for projects to replace City Hall's second floor doors and flooring were prepared and are going out to bid in February.
- Staff is evaluating custodial services for various buildings to decide on contract changes.



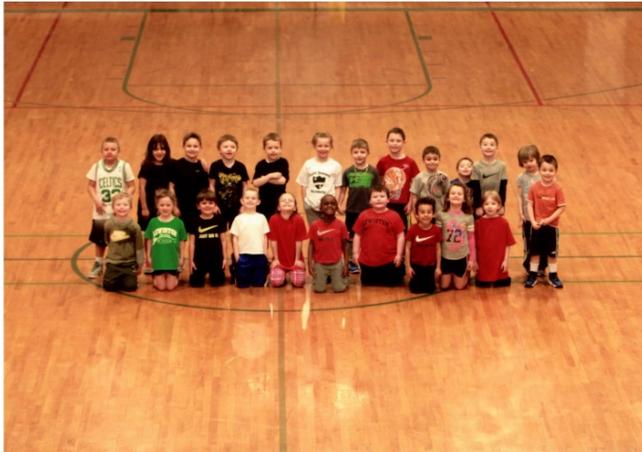
## WINTER PROGRAMS

### Co-ed Basketball:

youth in grades 1-8 are now playing on Saturdays. Grades 3-6 have one mid-week practice. There are 114 youth participating this season. February 6th marks the last day of the program. "UCLA" and "Ohio State" are pictured below:



**Kinder Basketball:** Coach Tanya Estabrook is doing a fine job instructing the 4-6 year olds. She is new to the program this year, but loves basketball. She enthusiastically teaches the children basic skills and drills. Our Kinder Kids are pictured below:



**Grade-School Basketball:** There are 22 teams this season, playing games four days a week at the Armory and Longley School. This program wraps up on February 11 with another successful season!

**Volleyball:** Men's, Women's, Co-ed (A's, B1 and B2) teams continue with their regular league play at both the Armory and Longley School. Standings are posted weekly by the director via Facebook for the Co-ed division players.

### JANUARY ARMORY EVENTS

**The Elks Club Hoop Shoot** was held in the Armory on Sunday, January 3. Winning area youth had a chance to participate in local, regional, state and national competitions. Two participants from Lewiston went on to the next level in the competition!

**The LA CASH Coalition** trained volunteers are began free tax prep on January 23rd.

### FEBRUARY EVENTS

**LA CASH Coalition's Super Saturday free tax preparation event** is on February 13th.  
**FREE TAX PREP - By Appointment**

To make an appointment to have your taxes prepared, call: 513-3160.

### BATTING CAGES

Batting cages will be installed in late February. The cost is \$35 per hour with the pitching machine and \$25 per hour without.

An advertisement for the Lewiston Artisan &amp; Craft Fair. The background is a light green textured pattern. At the top, the text "LEWISTON ARTISAN &amp; CRAFT FAIR" is written in a large, black, serif font. Below this, there is a graphic of a colorful quilted bag and a pair of blue and yellow beaded earrings. A yellow banner with black text reads "Lewiston Armory 65 Central Ave., Lewiston". Another yellow banner with black text reads "Saturday, April 9th 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM". Below the graphics, the text "Local Crafters &amp; Vendors Silent Auction" is written in a smaller font, followed by "FREE ADMISSION &amp; PARKING". At the bottom left, there is a QR code and the text "Presented by the Lewiston Recreation Division For more information: (207) 513-3005". At the bottom right, there is a logo for the City of Lewiston Recreation, which consists of four colored squares (blue, green, yellow, orange) with icons of a person running, a person jumping, a person playing tennis, and a person playing basketball, with the text "CITY OF LEWISTON RECREATION" below them.

# Wellness Information & Updates



**THE POWER OF 10**

Burn more calories, lose more fat, and improve your cardiovascular fitness level...all while spending *less* time working out!

Sound too good to be true?

Well, this is one of those rare times when your natural it's-too-good-to-be-true reaction could be mistaken.

If you want to take your fitness and fat loss to the next level—without spending more time in the gym—then **The Power of 10** could be the plan you're looking for!

**Join Abby from Wellness Works to learn how this program works and to get your program started on:**

**Date:** Wednesday, January 27  
**Time:** 11:30 am-12:30 pm  
**Location:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room, City Hall  
**Sign-Up With:** Joyce Sarchi  
**By:** January 22 via-email

Wellness Works is the Health Education and Promotion Program of the Maine Municipal Employees Health Trust  
[www.mmeht.org](http://www.mmeht.org)

**SNOWSHOE WINNERS!**

Dave Jones, PW  
 Marc Cyr, PW  
 Debra Milazzo-Shannon, PD  
 Karen Jones, LPL



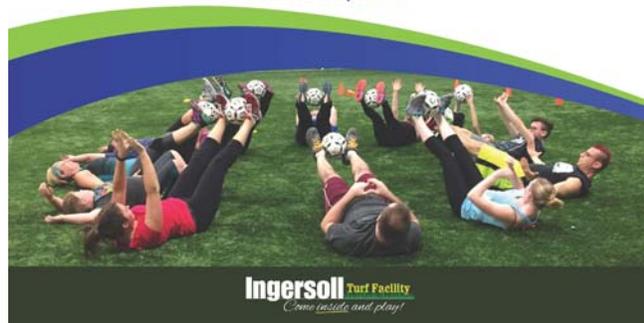
## BE HEALTHY...STAY ACTIVE



The Foundation of Cardio Sport is its uncompromising ability to bring out the best of you. Cardio Sport's one-of-a-kind fitness environment sparks a motivation and a purpose for each and every participant unlike any other group exercise experience. It's not what you do, it's how you do it! The revolutionary fitness program is coming to you under the instruction of Mike Laliberte. You've never seen anything like this.

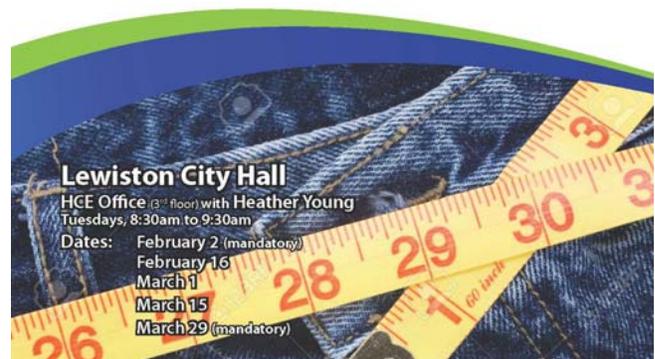
**Ingersoll Turf Facility**  
 48 Pettengill Park Road, Auburn, Maine  
 January 30<sup>th</sup> and February 6<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> (6:00pm), & 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Time: 8:00am (unless otherwise noted), Cost: \$8.00 per class

For details, please contact  
**Mike Laliberte**  
 Cardio Sport Instructor  
 207-576-1423 or mikelalib@gmail.com  
[www.cardiosport.net](http://www.cardiosport.net)



**2-PERSON TEAM WEIGHT-LOSS CHALLENGE**

- Enter a 2-person team.
- Both team members must complete the initial weigh-in on February 2nd and the final weigh-in on March 29th.
- Join Heather every other week to track your weight loss progress.
- Winners will be based on the total percentage lost as a team. Grand prizes for the top three teams and bi-weekly incentive prizes just for weighing in!
- Need a partner? Contact Heather Young and she will set you up with someone!



**Lewiston City Hall**  
 HCE Office (3<sup>rd</sup> floor) with Heather Young  
 Tuesdays, 8:30am to 9:30am  
**Dates:** February 2 (mandatory)  
 February 16  
 March 1  
 March 15  
 March 29 (mandatory)