

CITY of SHIPS

ISSUE 10

CITY OF BATH NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2012

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MUNICIPAL MEETINGS

For holiday changes and additional meetings, please see the calendar on www.cityofbath.com

- City Council—1st Wednesdays, 6:00 pm, City Hall, Council Chambers
- Planning Board—1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 6:00 pm, City Hall, Council Chambers
- Community Forestry—2nd Wednesdays, 7:00 pm, City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room
- Community Development Committee—2nd Thursdays, 4:00 pm, City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room
- Zoning Board of Appeals—1st Mondays as needed, 7:00 pm, City Hall Basement Conference Room

Did you know? The City Treasurer's Office has two drop boxes for customers who do not want to wait in line, or cannot make office hours. One is located inside City Hall on the first floor, and the other is outside on the north side entrance of the building. We hope this will help customers pay their property taxes or other City bills with ease.

Meet Charlie, Bath's New Trolley



Charlie, the City of Bath's new trolley, was named after the late Charlie Burgess. The Recognition Committee sought out names from the public and received over 125 suggestions. The Recognition Committee narrowed down the list and ultimately unanimously chose to name the new Trolley after Mr. Burgess in recognition of his years of service to the City of Bath and its residents.

Charlie Burgess was born and raised in Bath and was widely known to be a great athlete in his youth. While attending Morse High School Charlie lettered in Football, Basketball and Baseball. He was also named an All Youth Running Back and later helped the University of Maine football team to win a Yankee Conference title.

In 1955 Charlie returned to Bath to help his parents run Burgess Market. Charlie grew that business into a new supermarket in 1965 along with several other neighborhood markets and a restaurant.

Charlie's real contribution to Bath however, came from



(continued on page 5)

City of Bath Commonly Called Numbers:

Animal Control.	443-5563
Assessor's Office.	443-8336
Bath Area Family YMCA.	443-4112
Bath Community TV.	443-8387
Bath Water District.	443-2391
Cemeteries	443-8345
Southern Midcoast Chamber of Commerce.	725-8797
City Clerk's Office.	443-8332
City Manager's Office.	443-8330
City Planner's Office.	443-8363
Codes Office.	443-8334
Community Development Office.	443-8372
Finance Dept.	443-8338
Fire Dept.	443-5034
General Assistance.	443-8335
Landfill.	443-8356
Main Street Bath.	442-7291
Maintenance Dept.	443-8365
Parks and Recreation Dept.	443-8360
Patten Free Library.	443-5141
Police Dept.	443-5563
Public Works Dept.	443-8357
Sagadahoc County Courthouse.	443-8200
Treasurer's Office.	443-8340
U.S. Post Office, Bath.	443-9778
West Bath District Courthouse.	442-0200

Information about municipal happenings such as meetings, new construction projects, changes at the landfill, are published in the local newspapers and advertised on Bath Community Television. You can also find up-to-date information on the City of Bath's website at www.cityofbath.com or by calling the appropriate department.

Bath Recognized: *Certified Business Friendly Community*



City of Bath Council Chairman David Sinclair (left) received the award from Governor LePage (center) and Department of Economic & Community Development Commissioner George Gervais (right).

The City of Bath was recognized as a Certified Business Friendly Community on June 6th at ceremony held at the State House in Augusta.

According to the Governor's Office press release, "The program is designed to recognize Maine communities for their commitment to job creation, reducing red tape and being 'open for business.' The program accepts applications from Maine communities on a quarterly basis and awards the designation for a period of two years.

The City of Bath was among the first 19 communities to apply for this designation and was one of 9 selected to be recognized. The eight other communities include Augusta, Biddeford, Brewer, Bucksport, Guilford, Lincoln, Saco and Sanford. "I want to congratulate and thank the recipients for their continued commitment to business excellence. These nine communities have set an example for others to follow as we move Maine forward as a place where businesses and communities can thrive," said Governor LePage.

Nominees were evaluated in several areas including customer service, business involvement and collaboration, input from the public, and licensing and permitting. Each community was evaluated on an individual basis by a panel of business experts which included Amy Downing, Maine State Chamber of Commerce; John Butera, Sr. Economic Advisor for Gov. LePage; Chris Steele, CWS Consulting Group; Chuck Graceffa, Pierce Atwood; George Gervais, Commissioner, DECD; Peter DelGreco, President Maine & Company; and Andrea Smith, Office of Community Development, DECD.

Sen. Susan Collins Christens new “GARC” built in Bath



Tim Hodgdon (left) owner of Hodgdon Yachts and Dave Packham (center) President of Hodgdon Defense Composites speak with Senator Collins (right) at the North End Boat Launch after she test drove the GARC.

Senator Susan Collins visited Bath on July 3rd to christen a new military vessel that is being built in the City by Hodgdon Defense Composites. The vessel known as GARC is short for Greenough Advanced Rescue Craft. These vessels will be used by the military for rapid response style missions. The GARC is manufactured and capable of being dropped from aircraft, such as the C-130, into the water so that rescuers or assault forces can quickly engage in their missions.

In her comments before christening the vessel Senator Collins stated, “It is so important to our state families that Hodgdon is adding jobs and keeping our highly skilled workers right here in the great state of Maine.” She also thanked the City of Bath for their assistance in making the City owned facility known as Two Town Landing ready for HDC within such a tight timeframe.

After christening the vessel an employee of Hodgdon Defense Composites took Senator Collins for a test ride on the GARC in the Kennebec River. After a few passes the Senator switched positions and proceeded to drive the GARC for herself.

The City is pleased that the Two Town Landing facility is now being used by a solid company such as Hodgdon Defense Composites. The repurposing of the building was an effort that took many years to complete and a wide range of financial investments.

**To see the GARC in action visit:
hodgdonddefensecomposites.com**

Council Meetings Online

Residents can now view City Council and Planning Board Meetings online. Meetings will be available to watch live and will be archived for up to 12 months. You can view these meetings by going to the City Council page of the City of Bath website and clicking on **Meetings Online: Live/On-Demand**

or by going directly to TownHallStreams.com and select “Bath” from the list of towns. The City hopes this will make viewing meetings more convenient and make City government more transparent.



Bath is Recycling

Single Stream Recycling -
 Don't let your money go down the drain.
 Fill your Bath tub.

One Tub - No Sorting

What to Include

- Mixed Paper:** direct mail/envelopes (all types), paper (all colors, staples/paperclips are okay), computer paper, folders
- Newsprint:** newspapers/inserts, magazines, catalogs, telephone/soft cover books
- Paperboard:** cereal boxes, food boxes, shoeboxes, paper towel rolls
- Milk/Juice Cartons or Jugs**
- Corrugated Cardboard (flattened)**
- Brown Paper Bags**
- Plastic Bottles/Containers #1 thru #7:** soda/juice/water bottles, food containers (margarine, yogurt, etc.)
- Glass Bottles/Jars (any color)**
- Aluminum Products:** pie plates/trays/foil
- Metal Cans:** tin/steel/aluminum

What NOT to include

Plastic bags, foam packing material, Styrofoam, food liners, hardcover books, rope, twine, unmarked plastics, window glass, mirrors, light bulbs, dishes, Pyrex, ceramic, aerosol cans, spray paint, paint cans, hazardous or universal waste, recyclables containing food waste

FMI: Contact Bath Landfill @ 207.443.8356
www.cityofbath.com

Community Development Director Al Smith Retires



Al Smith working at his desk on the second floor of City Hall.

This May, Al Smith stepped down as the City of Bath's Community Development Director after 17 years with the City. Mr. Smith joined the City of Bath in 1995 after serving as a consultant for the communities of Augusta, Chelsea, Damariscotta, Hallowell, Newcastle, Randolph, Readfield, Richmond, Topsham and Waldoboro.

During Mr. Smith's tenure, the City has been awarded millions of dollars in grants for a wide range of projects including repairs to public infrastructure, municipal facilities, housing improvement and community

outreach. In addition Mr. Smith secured over one million dollars through a Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that has allowed the City to offer low interest loans to developers for the purpose of cleaning up hazardous substances and materials on contaminated sites, encouraging new development within the City.

He is also credited with creating Citizen Involvement Day an annual community event that recognizes the areas many non-profits and service organizations. This event also honors individuals in our City that have given back to the Bath Community.

Mr. Smith has received multiple commendations including the Governor's Award for Administrator of the Year and the Commissioner's Award for Outstanding Achievement with the CDBG program by using \$1,440,000 to leverage \$2,451,000 in matching funds to complete a wide range of projects including economic development, public infrastructure, housing, public service and planning activities.

Mr. Smith intends to continue being involved with the City during his retirement by serving on the Community Development Committee and by Co-Chairing Citizen Involvement Day. Mr. Smith resides in Bath.

Haynes History Lesson: *(continued from page 8)*

residents. So while the War of 1812 may seem like a very long, two hundred years ago, there are relicts of that time in our daily lives.

To focus on one aspect of our local palimpsest, consider the streets, as discussed by Henry Owen in his Bath history published in 1936. The population of Bath in 1810 was just under 2500. By 1811 the residents and visitors traveled on the following streets, still largely known by their original names: High, Washington, Front, Fore (now the lower end of Bowery Street), South, Centre, Vine, North, Oak, Union, Water (which, at that time, stretched from Centre to South Street), Federal (which connected the extended Water Street to Washington Street), Summer, Elm, School, Harward, Pine, Grove, Marshall, and Middle. Many of these streets have been extended from the earlier time period, and others have been covered by modern development, such as Federal Street and the initial portion of Water Street, which now are largely under Bath Iron Works. Nevertheless, streets that remain today laced much of the central portion of Bath in 1812. So you really can walk today in the footsteps of the first Governor of Maine, Bath resident William King, by his bank, once located at Front and Centre Streets, or where the militia paraded – often on Sundays

– near the meetinghouses on High Street, on either side of Centre Street.

William King's stone-house farm on Whiskeag Road, thought to be built in 1812, also testifies to the time of that war two hundred years ago. Of the more than 300 dwellings that appear on the 1814 property-tax roll, a number of residences remain, sprinkled across the current city. Many of those early structures are oriented to the major "road" of the time, the Kennebec River, still another element in the palimpsest, although its edges have been modified by time and human adaptations.

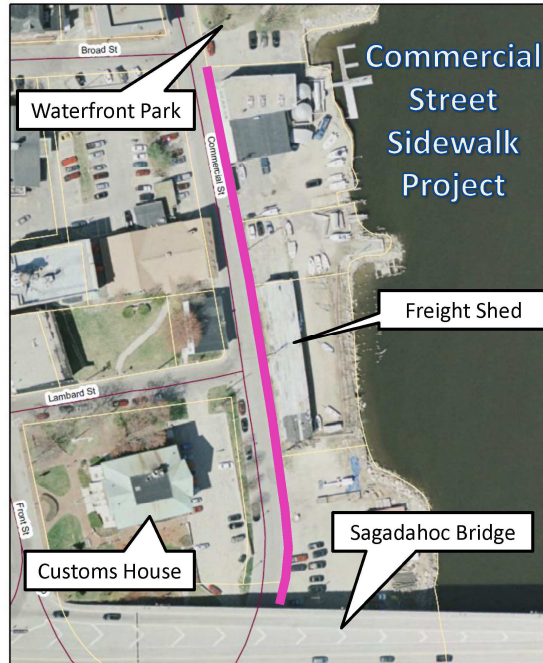
What other elements are written so deeply on the pages of the City of Bath that they continue to speak about a different time, a different place that still exists under our feet everyday?

To learn more about Bath's experience of the War of 1812, please consider reading portions of Henry Owen's or Parker McCobb Reed's histories. For a more modern and concise look, Colin Woodard wrote "The War that made Maine a State" in the *Maine Sunday Telegram* of June 24, 2012. This excellent article, which discussed the pivotal role of the war in state history, can be found online www.pressherald.com/news/200-years-ago_2012-06-24.html.

Contributed by Robin A.S. Haynes, Bath resident and historian.

Sidewalk Project is the Start of the Riverfront Pathway

In 2011, the City of Bath received a Transportation Enhancement Grant for the engineering and construction of a sidewalk along Commercial Street, from its current terminus under the Sagadahoc Bridge to the newly-renovated Waterfront Park. City Staff, working with adjacent land-owners and an engineering firm, have developed a design for the project that respects the future and continued use of the Guilford lot, Freight Shed, and Bath Fuel Company building. Transportation Enhancement Grants are federal funds, distributed by the state government, that are matched by the local community.



Bridge will now have a safe walk to their downtown workplaces!

New parallel parking will be provided in front of the Guilford lot, with a wide sidewalk that matches the sidewalk located under the bridge in materials. As the sidewalk moves north, to in front of the Freight Shed, it becomes brick with granite curb, until it ends at the corner of Commercial Street and Broad Street. These improvements, coupled with the recent exciting work of the Bath Freight Shed Alliance, will bring new life to lower Commercial Street!

This project is a component in a larger, long-term vision—including the redevelopment of the train station, renovation of the Waterfront Park, and development of a riverfront pathway. This sidewalk is very important to Bath, as (1) no safe pedestrian-way is located along this section of Commercial Street and (2) the project links important downtown-destinations, encouraging pedestrian and vehicular movement along southern Commercial Street. Employees parking under the Sagadahoc

Bath, the planning and engineering will be complete and a bid package will be finalized. After receiving authorization by the MDOT, the construction bidding process will commence and a construction firm will be hired. Dependent on weather, workload, and project complexity, construction will likely be complete in two years.

If you have questions or comments on this or any other project within the City, you may contact Andrew Deci, Director of Planning & Development, at 443-8363 or adeci@cityofbath.com.

Meet Charlie, Bath's New Trolley *(continued from page 1)*



City Council Chairman David Sinclair (right) cuts the ribbon on the new trolley with Trolley Coordinator Debby Labrecque (left) before its maiden trip around the City.

his compassion for those who were less fortunate. Charlie always tried to make sure that everyone had enough food to eat, a place to keep warm and clothing on their backs. Charlie was also known for giving out popsicles to children visiting his store.

Charlie Burgess has been recognized by many organizations and has an impressive set of accolades and awards including the Morse Alumni Mainsail Award, Bath Elk's Club Citizen of the Year, and the Knights of Columbus Member of the Year, and more than 2,600 people attended a recognition of Charlie's lifetime of "Random Acts of Kindness" to the community.

Bath's new trolley was purchased last November from Cable Car Concepts of New Jersey, the same company that built the City's previous trolley, Emma. The new trolley took nearly 4 months to build and now can hold several more passengers than the previous trolley. We look forward to Charlie taking over for our little green trolley, Emma, for years to come.



Main Street Bath

Since 1995, the National Trust Main Street Center has given Great American Main Street Awards to communities that exemplify the use of the Main Street approach in the revitalization of their traditional downtowns. Each year only five are selected for the honor from approximately 850 qualifying Main Street communities nationwide, and in 2012 Bath was one of the winners!

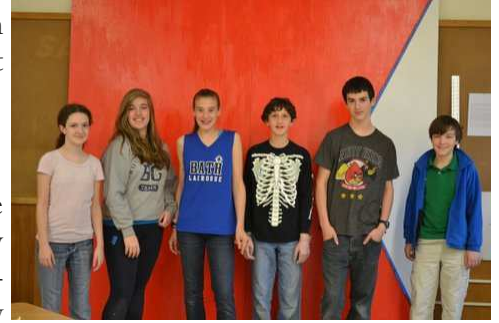
The award recognizes the collaborative work of Main Street Bath and all our partners in revitalizing Bath's downtown over the past few decades. Annual events held throughout the year bring area residents and visitors into the downtown and build community traditions, while flowers, banners and holiday wreaths bring life to the streetscape and build community pride. Downtown businesses participate in coordinated marketing efforts that showcase the attractions of the City. The result is a lively civic, commercial, cultural and community center for the area.

Downtown's vibrant shops, restaurants, studios and businesses bring new life to the district's historic 19th century buildings, helping to make Bath a 2005 National Trust Distinctive Destination, a 2009 American Planning Association "Great Street" designee, and in 2012, a

Great American Main Street Award winner.

Viaduct Murals

Just in time for summer, new murals were installed in early



June along the downtown exit ramp from Rt. 1 under the viaduct. The murals (see below) were a Main Street Bath Design Committee collaborative project with the



students of the Bath Middle School 6-8th grade gifted and talented program, the Morse High School Interact Club, the Regional and Technical Vocational School, and the Rotary Club of Bath.

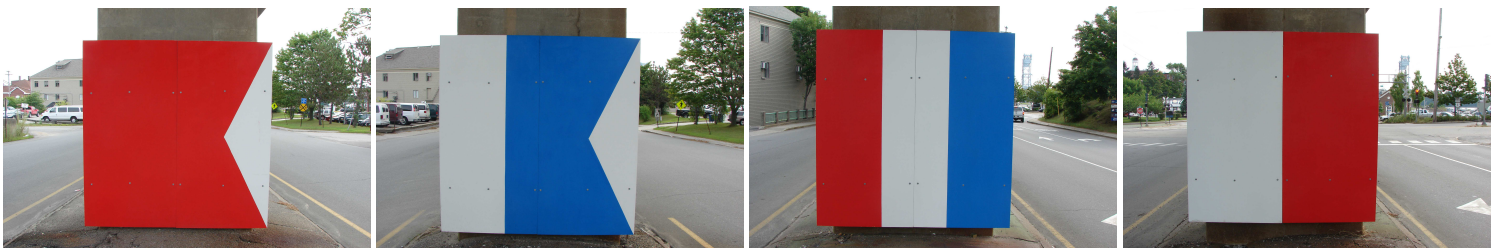
Under the guidance of teacher Laurie Burhoe and design committee volunteer Betsy Fear, the 6th grade students painted the four 8' x 8' panels using the nautical alphabet to spell out B-A-T-H, incorporating lessons in geometry, art, and language in the creation of a graphic welcome for visitors to the City of Ships.

The Regional and Technical School students assisted with the installation, and the Bath Rotary Club donated funds for the project.

Photo captions: Bath Middle School Gifted and Talented program students pose with their viaduct murals.

B-A-T-H

Four 8' x 8' panels using the nautical alphabet to spell out B-A-T-H along the downtown exit ramp under the viaduct. The murals were a Main Street Bath Design Committee collaborative project with the students of the Bath Middle School 6-8th grade gifted and talented program, the Morse High School Interact Club, the Regional and Technical Vocational School, and the Rotary Club of Bath.





Main Street Bath Welcomes New Places, New Faces Downtown

From Bath to Bangkok is a very long trip, but you no longer have to go even as far as Brunswick for Thai food. Now open at 23 Elm Street is **Best Thai II**, run by partners **Prasit Intharakunha** (or Peter) and **Chanint Hanjitsuwan** (or Ko-Wa). Peter runs the *Mekhong Thai* restaurants in Portland, Kennebunk and Wells, while Ko-Wa has cooked at Thai restaurants in Boston and Portland and tells us that **Best Thai II** will be twice as good as his restaurant in Damariscotta. The restaurant will offer a range of Thai specialties with seafood, vegetarian and vegan menu selections. They are open for lunch and dinner, and have a full take-out menu.

New at 192 Front is **Sea Hag**. Owner **Danny Dalton** stocks items that he and his brothers have specially manufactured for their stores, including women's jackets, men's and women's sweaters and tops, and other sportswear. Items can be custom-embroidered with the name and logo of your school or event.

Maine Shades, is now offering custom-made lampshades, shade restoration, and lamp repair at *Ornament* on 11 Centre Street. Owner **Betsy Paré** will add her special design flair to *Ornament's* eclectic and elegant mix of home and garden décor. *Ornament* is open daily, and Betsy is on-site for consultations Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Joy and Larry Scott traveled from New York to Bath to open their new business, **Coastal Art Glass Studio**, at 233 Water Street, which is in the basement beneath *The Co-op* at 110 Front Street, and faces the municipal parking lot. Joy grew up in Greenwich Village, and worked in the fashion industry for many years. Her fashion savvy shows in the vivid colors and striking designs of her fused glass earrings and necklaces, and abstracted art glass sculptures. The studio is open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M., or by appointment, and for Bath's Third Friday Art Walks, from 5 to 8pm.

SAVE THE DATE
Bath Citizen Involvement Day
 Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012
 10 am to 1 pm
 Waterfront Park

FMI Marc Meyers at 443-8330 or mmeyers@cityofbath.com



InspireMe Fitness has expanded and moved to the second floor of the Customs House at One Front Street, where **Perian Moore** has been joined by **Dr. Louise Bryant**, a licensed Doctor of Chiropractic with a degree also in nutrition.

Bath's **3rd Friday Artwalks** are also a great opportunity to explore some of the many new and existing studios that occupy the spaces above the retail level. Pick up a brochure at Bath City Hall or the Visitors Center for a listing of dates and open studios.

Heart of Bath Healthcare is the new name for the businesses at 9 Centre Street, which include **Radiant Health and Wellness, Integrative Medical Arts, and Wu Waves Wellness**; together they offer acupuncture, herbal remedies, massage, rolfing and other therapies. **Little Bambinos** is still selling "pre-loved" children's and maternity clothing at 26 Centre Street but has new owners, **Crystal and Keith Palmer**.

At 15 Vine Street, **Maine Home Realty** has replaced **Allen & Selig**, with **Terry Driscoll** and **Jon Leaver** in the same office but with their own new company. And at 101 Centre Street, the historic Steen building is the new location of **Fenique Boutique**, whose owners call it "a dress agency, clothing exchange and up-cycled art studio".

Please welcome all these new faces to their new places in historic downtown Bath!



Main Street Bath volunteers carry illustrations of their accomplishments in the Bath Heritage Days parade



Bath City Hall
55 Front St.
Bath, ME 04530

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Bath, ME 04530
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ECRWSS

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Haynes' History Lesson: Palimpsest of the Past.

Palimpsest is a “fifty-cent” word, a useful, if highfaluting, term, which refers to a handwritten page, where, despite being scraped of the original ink and reused, a ghost image of the former letters remains. The concept has been applied to physical landscapes to remind viewers that although modern development, fires, and other changes have altered both the natural and human terrain, elements of the past continue to be visible. What is appealing about the idea of a palimpsest is how much it reminds us all that, every day in the City of Bath, residents walk, drive, and bicycle through history. Elements range from the subtle to the obvious, but the history is there in the architectural fabric, the organization of space, the arrangement of physical features, and the names of locations and current *(continued on page 4)*



*A stereographic card of about 1875, from a private collection, shows William and Ann King's Stonehouse Farm on Whiskeag Road. The dwelling, thought to be built in 1812, was one of the earliest, if not the earliest, residences built in the Gothic-Revival style in Maine, and possibly all of New England.. *Courtesy of the Sagadahoc History and Genealogy Room, Patten Free Library.*

The *City of Ships* newsletter

For questions, comments and other inquiries
about the newsletter, please contact
Justin Poirier at 443-8330 or by email at
jpoirier@cityofbath.com.

