

# CITY of SHIPS

Issue 15

City of Bath Newsletter

2016



*The City has initiated the design and permitting process for the Bath Riverwalk, a connecting pathway running north along the Kennebec River in the Downtown.*

## Years in the making: Riverwalk advances

The City of Bath has initiated the design and permitting process for the Bath Riverwalk—a connecting pathway running north along the Kennebec River in the Downtown. The design, permitting, and construction process is expected to take 2-3 years.

Conceptual-level plans were reviewed by the City Council in March. The path, which is still fluid in scope, would start its southern terminus at the Train Station and Visitor's Center, meander through the Guilford Lot (beneath and beside the Sagadahoc Bridge), and

rely on a new sidewalk along Commercial Street to connect to the renovated Waterfront Park. From Waterfront Park, the trail will run along the banks of the Kennebec River and north towards Front Street.

*(continued page 5)*

## Landfill projects will extend life of facility

Bond goes to voters in November for funding of new cell

Projects during the 2016 and 2017 construction seasons at the City's Landfill will extend the life of the facility for another 11 years.

The projects, including intermediate cover, are taking place in 2016 are funded through the landfill fund capital budget. The projects proposed for 2017 will include new cell construction (Phase 3) with leachate and gas collection systems. The plan also includes converting an existing leachate surge pond into waste disposal area, greatly increasing the capacity of Phase 3 of the Landfill.

The City Council authorized the issuance of the landfill bond in August that will be put out to referendum at the November 8 Election Day.

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*An example of games that may be included in the Guilford Lot as part of the Bath Riverwalk.*



### 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
Chamber of Commerce.....	725-8797
City Clerk.....	443-8332
City Manager.....	443-8330
City Planner.....	443-8363
Codes Officer.....	443-8334
Community Development.....	443-8372
Finance.....	443-8338
Fire Dept.....	443-5034
General Assistance.....	443-8335
Landfill.....	443-8356
Main Street Bath.....	442-7291
Maintenance.....	443-8365
Parks and Recreation.....	443-8360
Patten Free Library.....	443-5141
Police.....	443-5563
Public Works.....	443-8357
Sagadahoc Cnty Court.....	443-8200

## Warm reception for MCEDD's Solarize Midcoast Maine

In early 2016, Mid Coast Economic Development District unveiled Solarize Midcoast Maine, a bulk-purchase solar energy initiative. This program was available to MCEDD's 20-member communities, including Bath.

Under contractor Sun Dog Solar, Solarize Midcoast Maine received enough participation to provide discounted rates to homeowners based on are-awide interest. With this discounted rate, combined with Federal tax credits, homeowners and small businesses could expect to save approximately 10 percent on a solar installation.

The program concluded on June 30, 2016, but there is potential for the program to continue.

The Midcoast Economic Development District serves communities in Sagadahoc, Lincoln and Knox Counties and portions of Cumberland and Waldo counties, in a district that reaches from Brunswick to Northport. One of seven federally designated economic develop-



ment districts (EDD) in Maine, EDDs have also been recognized by Governor LePage and Department of Economic and Community Development Commissioner George Gervais as key partners in the State of Maine's economic development efforts.

MCEDD develops a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the region, offers a financing program to assist small business start-ups and expansions, facilitates a municipal cooperative purchasing program that saves approximately 10% on common and heavily used products or services, and provides direct assistance to municipal members such as grant procurement or administration and tax increment financing expertise.

For additional information, e-mail [info@sundog.solar](mailto:info@sundog.solar) or visit [www.solarizemidcoastmaine.com](http://www.solarizemidcoastmaine.com).

### City Council contact information

#### Ward 1 — Gregory Page

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#### Ward 5 — Mari Eosco, Chair

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#### Ward 7 — Leverett "Tink" Mitchell

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#### At Large — James Omo

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#### At Large — Steve Brackett

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*City Hall hosted a collection box for a holiday food drive to benefit the Bath Area Food Bank. City Councilor Sean Paulhus, City Councilor Bernie Wyman and City Council Chair Mari Eosco display drive donations. The Bath Area Food Bank, located at 150 Congress Ave., is open Tuesdays and Fridays from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.*





# RSU 1 to pursue Wing Farm for new high school site

RSU 1 has decided to pursue Wing Farm as the potential site for a new Morse High School. The RSU has presented an option agreement to the City of Bath for its consideration.

A signed option agreement covering the project site would give RSU 1 "right, title, and



interest" necessary to apply to the State Board of Education for Site Approval of the construction project. An option agreement allows the RSU to further review and investigate

the potential of the site for development without committing the RSU to purchase the site until later.

To allow development of the Wing Farm site as a school, an application must be filed with the federal government to release the site from economic development

grant restrictions.

The Bath City Council received and reviewed the option agreement at its September regular meeting and is expected to respond to the offer during the fall.

*For more information on the new high school project*  
[www.rsu1.org](http://www.rsu1.org)

## 19 years of Tree City designation

For the 19th consecutive year, the City of Bath has been awarded the prestigious Tree City USA award by the Arbor Day Foundation.

To qualify as a Tree City USA community, you must



**TREE CITY USA** meet four standards established by the Arbor Day Foundation and

the National Association of State Foresters. These standards were established to ensure that every qualifying community would have a viable tree management program and that no community would be excluded because of size.

### Harvest Dinner

The Bath Community Forestry Committee will host its annual Harvest Dinner on Sunday, Oct. 16, at 5 p.m. For tickets or more information, contact [thanna@cityofbath.com](mailto:thanna@cityofbath.com) or 443-8345.



### Community Update

#### PHASE 1

Drainage work is nearing completion.

#### PHASE 2

Demolition, then reconstruction of the Viaduct begins **October 11**.

U.S. Route 1 traffic will be redirected to frontage roads.

## IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOU KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT.

Preliminary drainage work related to the Bath Viaduct reconstruction will be completed in the next few weeks. MaineDOT and our contractors want you to know what to expect as we move into the heavier work of demolition and then reconstruction of the Bath Viaduct.

On October 11, the day after Columbus Day, the Viaduct will be closed and U.S. Route 1 traffic will be rerouted over frontage roads. Heavy construction will start. Day and night work will continue through winter/spring to Memorial Day. Those in the immediate area should expect noise, vibration, dust and truck traffic at any time. Work has been scheduled for a time of year when most have windows closed, so that may help. We recognize this is unwelcome, but it is unavoidable. Working day and night shortens the total duration of the project dramatically. When it's done, it won't have to be repeated for many decades. So we ask for your patience and understanding.



MaineDOT wants everyone to know that businesses in Historic Downtown Bath will be accessible throughout the project. Plus, MaineDOT encourages everyone to stay informed – here's how:

- Sign up for email updates at [MaineDOT.gov](http://MaineDOT.gov)
- Visit the Bath Viaduct construction project page at [MaineDOT.gov](http://MaineDOT.gov)

Connect with MaineDOT



**MaineDOT**



## Marine One hits the water



*Marine One, the City's new public safety boat, made its way onto the Kennebec River this spring and proved to be a valuable resource for the police and fire departments. Harbormaster Nathan Gould talked with City staff about the boat's benefits and capabilities, top and left photos. In the right photo, police and fire staff oversee the construction of the boat at Eastern Boat in New Hampshire.*

## Grant funds earmarked for police K-9 unit, radios and study

The City has recently received a number of grants, including funds that will go toward a police K-9 vehicle, fire department radios and a downtown stormwater study.

### Safe Neighborhoods

Maine Department of Economic & Community Development awarded the City \$54,000 through the State's Community Development Block Grant Safe Neighborhoods program.

The Safe Neighborhoods Program provides resources to support new or expanded local law enforcement and crime prevention programming in designated neighborhoods which will benefit low/moderate income persons.

The grant will go toward purchase of a new K-9 police cruiser, several pieces of drug investigation equipment and increased personnel training.

### Assistance to Firefighters Grant

The Fire Department received \$25,000 to replace radios from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant, administered by FEMA.

The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant is to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and non-affiliated emergency medical service organizations.

### Maine Coastal Program

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry awarded the City \$42,000 for a downtown stormwater study. The funds, from the DACF Maine Coastal Program, are awarded through the DACF Municipal Planning Assistance Program.

The City will conduct a study to assess downtown stormwater runoff patterns and how they can be managed to mitigate the risk of flash-flooding and the volume of pollutants that are discharged into the Kennebec River.

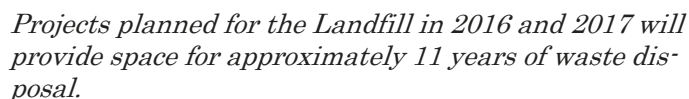




Prior to 2003, the City's landfill operated as a "dump". Waste materials were placed on the ground. New waste was placed on top. Water moving through the waste became leachate and entered the groundwater, causing contamination. Landfill gas escaped as necessary. 2003 was the end of the dump.

liner system, creating a secure landfill, Phase 2 of the Landfill.

Layers of plastic and clay were installed to prevent any additional leachate from contaminating the groundwater. New waste was placed on top of the liner and the leachate was collected in pipes installed into the waste and pumped to the wastewater treatment plant. These were disposal cells



*A bird's eye view of the Bath Landfill.*

2-1 and 2-2.

In 2007 the City constructed a landfill gas collection and management system. Thousands of feet of plastic pipe were buried in the waste and connected to a fan. The fan sucks the gas out of the landfill before it has a chance to escape to the air. This largely eliminated odors caused by the gas. The gas is burned in a flare.

In 2008, the second portion of secure landfill

was built adjacent to the first portion. This area was called cells 2-3 and 2-4. Waste placement has continued in these cells. It is expected that these existing secure cells will be full by late 2017.

The new cell proposed in Phase 3 would open to disposal of waste in fall of 2017.

The landfill will continue to accept waste

For more information on the landfill  
project and the proposed bond  
**[www.cityofbath.com](http://www.cityofbath.com)**

The trail is designed for walking and meandering with an 8'-wide paved surface. Integrated opportunities for family recreation will be apparent, including games and sculptures for climbing and playing on. In addition to the fun things, the project will bring a new parking lot under the bridge and add access to the river for fishing

guides.

The project's funding has been authorized by the City Council. Project design is being led by City Planner Andrew Deci and executed by Jennifer Claster of Wright-Pierce Engineers. Additional information or suggestions can be directed to Andrew at [adeci@cityofbath.com](mailto:adeci@cityofbath.com).





## Main Street Bath

### Hitting the streets



*In August, Open Streets Bath! gave residents and visitors the opportunity to mingle, play and shop in downtown Bath in a safe, car-free environment. The next Open Streets Bath! is scheduled to be held Sept. 25.*



## 15th anniversary celebrated at gala

Main Street Bath celebrated the organization's 15th anniversary by hosting "Over the Moon and Under the Stars," a gala event in City Park.

From its humble beginnings as the Bath Business Association, Main Street Bath emerged as one of Maine's first National Main Street Communities in 2001. Bath continues to be a leader in the Main Street Maine Network. Through the hard work of MSB and its volunteers, Downtown Bath has been recognized by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as a Distinctive Destination in 2005 and a Great American Main Street in 2012. Most recently, Bath was ranked No. 9 among the Best Main Streets in America by USA Today.

"Main Street Bath's success is largely due to our community, and the large group of incredible volunteers that dedicate themselves to the MSB mission and to continually working towards a better Bath in all that we do," said Gayle Hunt, President of the Main Street Bath Board of Directors. Proceeds from the gala benefited MSB and its mission to preserve and promote the downtown as a vibrant civic, community and commercial center.



## 'Spirit of Bath, City of Ships' unveiled

Main Street Bath unveiled and dedicated a mural at the corner of Front and Vine streets in July. The mural, entitled "Spirit of Bath, City of Ships," was produced by artist Christopher Cart and sponsored by Main Street Bath, dedicated the

mural in honor of MSB's 15th anniversary.

The dedication ceremony included remarks from members of the Main Street Bath Board of Directors and Design Committee.

The mural, which sits on a city-owned retaining wall and received City Council blessing in May, highlights the city's rich shipbuilding history, architectural details, character, and community. The mural includes wayfinding components and recognition of Main Street Bath.



*Main Street Bath unveiled a mural at the corner of Front and Vine streets in July. The mural was dedicated in honor of MSB's 15th anniversary.*

Best Main Street



9th



## Big Brothers Big Sisters expanding school based mentoring

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bath/Brunswick programs are expanding throughout Bath.

Adult volunteers in the BBBS School-Based program commit to a one-to-one match with an elementary or middle school student for the course of the academic year. Bigs and Littles meet one day per week for an hour during a lunch or recess break and participate in games, arts and crafts, academic support, share lunch and have conversations.

In Bath, programs are available at Fisher Mitchell and Dike Newell Elementary Schools. This fall marked the beginning of a new program and partnership between Bath Middle School, Morse High School and the Bath Area Family YMCA that will pair high school Bigs with middle school Littles for after school mentoring at the Y.

Volunteer candidates are encouraged to apply for this opportunity and will undergo an interview, reference check and background



*Little Brother, Isaac, and Big Brother, Jim, have been matched in the Big Brothers Big Sisters School Program since 2010.*

screening. Volunteers will be trained and supported throughout the course of a match. Volunteers are asked to commit at least one full school-year to developing a relationship with their Little Brother or Sister. School-Based programs are supervised directly by BBBS staff and supported by school personnel.

Please connect with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bath/Brunswick to learn more. Contact Program Manager Lindsey Reed at: 729-7736 ext. 103, or via e-mail at [school@bbbsbathbrunswick.org](mailto:school@bbbsbathbrunswick.org). Information about the programs is also available online at: [www.bbbsbathbrunswick.org](http://www.bbbsbathbrunswick.org).

## Maine Maritime Museum on the Pumpkin Trail

Squashbucklers, fall foliage seekers and artists young and old: make your way to the Mid-coast for Maine's Pumpkin Trail! From Labor Day through October, celebrate the arts, history and giant fruit with the Maine Maritime Museum, Farnsworth Art Museum, Boothbay Railway Village and Damariscotta Pump-kinfest and Regatta.

Maine's Pumpkin Trail covers 50 miles of Maine's most charming coastline and features cruises, train rides, giant racing pumpkinboats, parades, street art, flying & smashing pumpkins, and events for the entire family! All aboard for Maine's Pumpkin Trail!

Follow Maine's Pumpkin Trail on Facebook and be sure to visit each member online and in person.

Maine's Pumpkin Trail is supported by the Maine Office of Tourism.



[www.cityofbath.com](http://www.cityofbath.com)

**the  
BATH  
TROLLEY  
443-8363**

WEDDINGS • EVENTS  
PARTIES

*Celebrate  
an Old Fashioned Christmas  
in Bath*

**November 26th  
to December 31st**

Children's Tree Lighting/Jingle Bell Walk  
Downtown Open House  
Trolley Caroling  
New Year's Bell Ringing

Brought to you by Main Street Bath  
For more information  
442-7291 or [visitbath.com](http://visitbath.com)





Bath City Hall  
55 Front St.  
Bath, ME

Postal Patron  
Bath, ME 04530

**18th annual Bath Citizen Involvement Day**  
Saturday, October 8, 2016 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Waterfront Park

Part of **Bath's Autumnfest** Music Scarecrow Making Games Street Festival