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Issue 1 | December 2018

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Message from Peter Owen, City Manager

Dear Bath Citizens,

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the monthly Bath community newsletter. This publication will serve to update the public on City business, share local events, and celebrate our community. There is much going on in the City, ranging from planned construction to economic and community development. These efforts will be reported in forthcoming issues. We hope that you find *Front & Centre* a valuable resource and share it with others.

With December upon us, you can expect to see the downtown area bustling with visitors. Please support our Bath merchants by shopping local. In addition, help us keep the streets clear by observing our [winter parking ban](#), which limits overnight parking on any street in the City to 30 minutes between 12:00am (midnight) and 6:00am and prohibits overnight parking in municipal lots.

I would like to extend special thanks to everyone who has helped decorate the City for the holidays, including the [Rotary Club of Bath Sunrise](#), the [Rotary Club of Bath](#), [Main Street Bath](#) and its affiliate merchants, and the City departments of forestry, parks and recreation, and facilities. It's thanks to you that Bath stands out during this special time of year.

Please enjoy a safe and happy holiday season with your family and friends.



Peter H. Owen
City Manager

City News

Community FYI

- **Green Street Rehabilitation** - The first public meeting for the upcoming reconstruction of Green Street was held on December 13th at City Hall. Thank you to all who attended!
- **Commercial Street Construction** - Construction is complete on Commercial Street - thank you for your patience! The Bath Water District will be paving the entire street next year.
- **Cemeteries are closed for the season** - Cemeteries are closed to vehicles and burials have stopped for the season.
- **Winter moths are back** - If you would like to learn how to manage winter moths and protect your trees, [Click Here](#) to view a presentation from Kyle Rosenberg, City Arborist.

City Offices and Landfill: Upcoming Holiday Closures

Please note that City offices and the [City of Bath Landfill](#) will be closed on:

- **Monday, December 24th**, in observance of Christmas Eve. Curbside collection will follow normal schedule.
- **Tuesday, December 25th**, in observance of Christmas. Curbside collection will be delayed until the next business day.
- **Tuesday, January 1st**, in observance of New Years Day. Curbside collection will be delayed until the next business day.
- **Monday, January 21st**, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Curbside collection will follow normal schedule.

Christmas Tree Curbside Collection

Christmas tree curbside collection will take place on **Monday, December 31st, Monday, January 7th, and Monday, January 14th**. In the event of a winter storm, please check the [City of Bath Facebook page](#) for reschedule information.

should be placed on the curb, but out of the snow plow path.



Winter Plowing

Did you know that our Public Works Department maintains 52 miles of City roads during the winter? Learn a little more about winter procedures and what to expect during a storm by visiting our [Division of Streets and Sidewalks](#).



Sand Bucket for Seniors Program

The Bath Police Department is continuing its Sand Buckets for Seniors Program which is made possible by the generous donation of buckets from [Rocky's Ace Hardware](#) and sand from [Bath Public Works](#). If you are someone you know are a Bath resident, 65 or older and would like sand for your walkway, please call Corporal Garrett Olson at 207-443-5563 ext. 2209, or email golson@cityofbath.com

Need Sand?

Bath residents can pick up sand at our Public Works Department on 450 Oak Grove Ave free of charge, two buckets per storm. This is a pile adjacent to the south entrance of the parking lot.



Bath Ironworkers Youth Wrestling Program at Bath Parks and Rec.

Online registration is now available for the [Bath Ironworkers Youth Wrestling Program](#)! No experience necessary - open to Pre-K through 5th Graders. Two practices per week.



Did you know? Parks and Rec. is also offering [Maine Mainers Ice Hockey Tickets!](#)



Bright Night Bath Lights Up the City!

Thank you to [Main Street Bath](#) for organizing *Bright Night Bath*, part of [An Old Fashioned Christmas in Bath](#). The magical event drew residents and visitors to the downtown area for attractions including trolley caroling, fire and ice sculptures, and holiday music by the Salvation Army Brass Ensemble, in addition to special promotions from our wonderful shops and restaurants. We hope to see everyone back next year!

Photo by Mari Eosco



Engine 6 - Now in Service at the Bath Fire and Rescue Department!

The Bath Fire and Rescue Department received an impressive addition this July – a 2018 E-One Fire Engine. The machine replaced the old Engine 6 which failed in 2016 due to mechanical issues. Construction took a full year, but the results speak for themselves – Engine 6 features a number of upgrades, including a class A foam system, LED light tower, remote-controlled monitor capable of issuing 1,250 gallons of water per minute, a 4-camera system with DVR, and several other safety

Fire Chief Lawrence "Buddy" Renaud also highlighted the number of compartments in the design. "The number of compartments allows us to house all of the equipment that we would have normally carried on multiple apparatus and allows us to better utilize our limited staffing resources".

All 22 Bath firefighters have completed 16 hours of in-service training on Engine 6, but the complexity of the machine will require ongoing training for its operators.

In the month of November alone, Bath Fire and Rescue responded to 32 fire calls and 152 EMS calls. Year to date, the Bath Fire Department has responded to 448 fire calls and 1,905 EMS calls.

We're glad to know that Engine 6 is on duty, assisting our firefighters and protecting the lives and property of our citizens.

If you are interested in a tour of Engine 6, please visit the Fire Station at 864 High Street or call 207-443-5034. You can also follow the Fire and Rescue Department on [Facebook](#)!

Upcoming Events

Bath Community Longest Night Gathering

Friday, December 21 | 6:30 - 8:00pm
The Neighborhood | 798 Washington Street

The Neighborhood will be hosting Bath's Longest Night Gathering this year. This time of visiting, listening, and prayer, organized by several faith communities in Bath, is offered especially for people for whom the holidays are a difficult time. All are welcome!



Paul Revere Bell Ringing

Monday, December 31 | 11:45am
Bath City Hall at the corner of Front and Centre Streets

This is the 16th Annual Paul Revere Bell Ringing! Please join us for this short, sweet annual tradition as we sing out the old and ring in the New Year on the historic bell at City Hall. [Learn More](#).



South End Transportation Study Public Meeting

Thursday, January 31 | 5:30 - 6:30pm
Bath City Hall | 55 Front Street, 1st floor auditorium

The next South End Transportation Study public meeting will be held on Thursday, January 31st. Thursday, February 7th will be held as the snow date. You can learn more about the project [Here](#), on the City of Bath website.



Meet Sergeant Michelle Small

Sergeant Michelle Small's family line is filled with local leaders – her great-great-grandfather was the Bath City Marshal, her grandfather was an attorney in the City, and her great-uncle was the Sagadahoc Sheriff. They might seem like big shoes to fill, but Michelle is already setting records. She became the first woman on the Bath Police Department to hold a supervisory position when she was promoted to the rank of Corporal in 2013. Small, now a Sergeant, said that she would not have accepted the promotion if they meant giving up the other half of her position: K-9 handling.

"In 2003 I started working with my first dog – Keylo. When I got the position to work with her I was scared to death," Small said. "She was a German shepherd bred in Hungary and selected for police work. All police canines are alphas, which means they are inherently aggressive and energetic. The first time I left Keylo alone, she ate her way through a sheet rock wall."

Keylo retired after 10 years of service, and sadly passed away in December of 2016. "It wasn't until she passed that I realized how deep a connection I had with her," Small said. "They become a huge part of your family."

Small now works with 7-year-old Sampson, another German shepherd who is dual-purpose certified in narcotics detection and patrol. \$5,000 of his \$7,500 price tag was generously raised by the American Legion, and Small assures that he is worth every penny. "People will run all day from law enforcement, but it's completely different when a dog comes on the scene," she said.

In addition to her regular duties as a patrol officer, Small is also an assistant regional trainer with the Maine State Police Canine Unit. With 55 other dog teams across the state, Small helps coordinate training and demonstrations throughout the Midcoast and Southern Maine.

Michael Field, Chief of the Bath Police Department, praised Small for her contributions. "Michelle is an excellent officer," he said. "She has done amazing work with our K-9 program, and her accomplishments have been recognized throughout the state."

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