



The Biddeford Beat

CITY OF BIDDEFORD WEEKLY NEWSLETTER | Monday, August 28, 2017

Volume 17.28

Waterhouse Field Update:



Waterhouse Field is so much more than a football field: it's an iconic and storied anchor in our community. A year ago its future was uncertain. Today, thanks to the passionate volunteerism of community stalwarts, the athletic and events complex's future looks brighter than it has in a generation. Student athletes, coaches, school department officials, and countless volunteers and businesses have contributed time, talent and treasure to help make necessary changes to a field that had become unsafe. We can't begin to express how moving and inspiring the effort has been, and our children are truly blessed to have the support of the community, Biddeford City Council and School Board.

Some of the work done to date includes: removal of old bleachers to prepare for renovation, painting of locker rooms, new fence and lighting installed, trenches dug and piping placed for new electrical and communication conduits, new roof placed on visitors' locker room, frame installed and concrete base poured for new scoreboard, footings framed and concrete poured for rebuilt press box, and placement of temporary bleachers thanks to Massabesic High School. The first game will be held on Friday, September 1 at 6pm and we welcome the community to join us in celebrating the success thus far.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monday, August 28 - Zoning Board of Appeals Live
(6:00pm - 7:00 pm)

Tuesday, August 29 – Special City Council Meeting (6:00pm) Executive Session (No Action)

Thursday, August 31 - Downtown Taskforce
(8:00 am at City Hall Mayor's Office)

For Full Calendar, [click here](#)

City Receives Dividend Payment for Loss Prevention Efforts:

Municipal officials are pleased to announce that as a result of its good loss experience and loss prevention programs, the City of Biddeford has received a \$33,587 dividend payment from the Maine Municipal Association. City Officials want to thank every employee for their dedication and commitment to the goal of making the City of Biddeford an injury free employer.

Household Hazardous Waste Day:

Household hazardous waste day is coming up on Saturday, September 9. This important day is critical in keeping hazardous materials out of our environment. There are two major improvements planned. On the cost savings side, we have been able to arrange architectural (building and house) paint recycling via the PaintCare paint stewardship program. This is important because it saves money. Previously, paint recycling had resulted in a per gallon cost to the City for recycling, but the service from PaintCare is free to the City.

On the service side, we will have an additional lane to speed residents through more quickly. We think this should shorten lines significantly. We've also taken some measures to make residents aware of options for recycling beyond HHW Day. For example, we recently sent a series of mailers reminding residents that if you only have light bulbs or paint to recycle, you don't have to come to Household Hazardous Waste Day. Dupuis Hardware on Spruce Street takes fluorescent bulbs up to 8', and Sherwin-Williams at 5 Points takes paint (up to five gallons a day). Recycling those items with those local partners saves a trip to HHW Day.

Other quick tips to remember are that, for insurance reasons, you cannot exit your vehicle once you are in the recycling building. That makes it all the more important to clearly mark which items you would like recycled (or preferably, only have items you would like recycled in the trunk or truck bed), so that the volunteers doing the unloading don't accidentally take items you would like to keep.

Also, if you have old gasoline, oil or solvents to recycle, we can empty the can and return it to you. However, you will need to wait while we do this, and it can take some time to get your can back. It is easiest if you leave these items in an old container which you do not need back. But please do label all materials to make them easier for the crew to sort.

We look forward to seeing you at Household Hazardous Waste Day on September 9 from 8AM to noon at 371 Hill Street. It's a great opportunity to clean out your basement and garage while protecting our fragile environment from hazardous materials. Visit biddefordrecycles.org for further information.

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For questions and comments: t. 207.284.9313 | e. newsletter@biddefordmaine.org | Thank you for reading



A member of the Biddeford Police Department is **Harry**, a three-year-old Labrador retriever. Harry joined the force as Biddeford's Detection and Tracking K-9 in 2016. He is partnered with BPD Officer Kyle Cutler, his handler, to form our Drug Detection K-9 Team.

Harry came aboard after officer's proposal for a narcotic detection dog was reviewed and approved by Chief Beaupre. Harry is a non-apprehension and non-aggressive canine and will be used to detect narcotics and illicit drugs when the department executes search warrants, performs traffic stops, or conducts searches of persons. Additionally, Harry will be trained as a tracking dog. Using the extremely powerful tool of his nose, he will be able to assist in locating individuals such as lost hikers, missing children, the elderly who may be 'off-course' due to dementia type of illnesses, etc.

Before Harry could become a member of the department he had to undergo testing and assessment to ensure his suitability to be a police 'sniffer dog'. He was also required to go through and pass basic obedience training. Since he was already named when he went through his obedience training, we retained this pre-service name of Harry.

The cost to acquire, train, and maintain Harry has been and will be funded from forfeiture funds received from cash and assets seized during drug related crimes. The cost to maintain Harry relates to such items as veterinary expenses, food, equipment and accessories, and any boarding expense that may arise.

Harry will be in a training program for the next six months before he will be eligible for full certification by the Maine Criminal Justice Academy as a Detector Canine. Harry and Officer Cutler were required to complete a minimum of 320 hours of training approved by the Academy's Board of Trustees. Officer Cutler and Harry must certify as a Drug Detector K-9 Team. Officer Cutler was required to pass a written test on related topics and as a team they passed a field competency test; both approved by the Academy Director. Officer Cutler and Harry, as a team, are required to re-certify on an annual basis. They must complete a minimum 8 hours of training every month and must successfully complete an annual field performance test. The K-9 team will also certify through the United States Police Canine Association (USPCA).

The Biddeford Public Works Department modified a marked patrol SUV for the K-9 team with the installation of a specialized transport kennel for Harry. The kennel includes a temperature/ventilation monitoring system and an emergency heat alarm for the safety of the dog during summer months.

Harry is a working dog and must earn his food by performing work related tasks. During his detection and tracking career, he will not eat from a bowl. Harry eats well, but is constantly earning his food from his handler through training and through the detection of narcotics both in the field and in the training environments.

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