



# The Biddeford Beat

THE CITY OF BIDDEFORD WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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## UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Meetings are located in the Council Chambers at City Hall unless otherwise stated. Live meetings can be viewed on the [City of Biddeford website](http://www.biddefordmaine.org/) or on the Public Access Channel.

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>June 25, 2019</b>                             |
| 7:00 p.m.        | School Committee (Live) @ BHS Little Theater     |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>June 26, 2019</b>                             |
| 6:00 p.m.        | General Meeting of Citizens @ BHS Little Theater |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>June 27, 2019</b>                             |
| 6:30 p.m.        | Airport Commission Meeting (Live)                |
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>July 1, 2019</b>                              |
| 5:30 p.m.        | Downtown Development Commission                  |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>July 2, 2019</b>                              |
| 5:00 p.m.        | Finance Committee Meeting (Live)                 |
| 6:00 p.m.        | City Council Meeting (Live)                      |

All meetings are subject to change. [Click here](#) to view updates on the full city calendar.

## 37<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LA KERMESSE FRANCO-AMERICAINE FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

The annual La Kermesse Festival celebrates our region's historic Franco-American roots! Head on down to St. Louis Field this weekend to check out the festivities. Admission is \$15 at the gate for all three days or \$8 per day (Kids under 7 free).

### Friday June 21<sup>st</sup> (Field open at 4:00 pm):

- 6:00 pm: [Parade](#) (starts at corner of Jefferson & South St. and continues to St. Louis Field)
- 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm: Biddeford Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
- 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm: The LeBlanc Family
- 8:45 pm - 10:45 pm: High Ryder Oldies Show

### Saturday June 22<sup>nd</sup> (Field open at 10:00 am):

- 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm: Academy Of Dance
- 1:45 pm - 2:45 pm: Steppin' Out Dance Centre
- 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm: Saco River Ramblers
- 4:45 pm - 6:15 pm: Sylvain's Acadian Aces
- 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm: La Kermesse Pageant
- 8:45 pm - 10:45 pm: Classic Rock Orchestra
- 9:30 pm: FIREWORKS AT ST. LOUIS FIELD!**  
*(rescheduled from Thursday due to rain)*
- All day: On-field activities & outdoor stage

### Sunday June 23<sup>rd</sup> (Field open at 11:30 am):

- 11:00 am. - 12:00 pm. Catholic Mass
- 12:00 pm. - 1:00 pm. Free Crepe Breakfast
- 1:00 pm. - 2:30 pm. Alumni Band
- 2:45 pm. - 4:15 pm. Jose Duddy
- 4:30 pm. - 6:00 pm. Sylvain's Acadian Aces
- 6:00 pm. - 7:30 pm. La Famille Leblanc
- All day: On-field activities & outdoor stage

## GENERAL MEETING OF CITIZENS

A General Meeting of Citizens will be held at the BHS Little Theater from **6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 26**. The purpose of the meeting is to allow citizens the opportunity to address grievances to the City Council. The meeting has been called in response to a [citizen petition](#) regarding downtown parking. At the meeting, the attendees will select a moderator who will determine how the meeting is run. See our [City Charter](#) for more information on a General Meeting of Citizens.

## 2019 BIDDEFORD SPIRIT OF AMERICA TRIBUTE: VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



Each year, the Spirit of America Foundation asks Maine municipalities to select individuals, projects, or organizations for recognition of their commendable community service.

This year, **Annabelle Carpenter** was selected to receive the Volunteer of the Year award, which was presented at the June 18 City Council Meeting. Mrs. Carpenter has spent over 20 years giving back at the Bon Appetit Meal Program. She started as a cook for the organization

and eventually ended up serving on the board and passing out silverware, continuing to be an active volunteer until some physical illnesses slowed her down. She is a humble and well-loved member of the community who has been known to take money out of her own pocket to give to those in need. "For her, the act of giving is as natural as it is for most people to breathe, but we all recognize that her act of giving is really a gift," said Mayor Alan Casavant.

Annabelle is the first Biddeford resident selected to receive this award. Congratulations!

### CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

**South Street:** Phase I of the South Street Construction Project is expected to be complete by mid-July. Phase II, from the turnpike overpass to Elm Street, is expected to be complete in mid-August.

**Main Street:** The Main Street Sidewalk Project is expected to be completed in about two weeks.

Thank you to all of the residents, patrons, and businesses for your patience and cooperation during these two projects!

*Fact-Check: Did the Main Street construction eliminate on-street parking spaces?*

**No, it did not!** There were previously 58 parking spaces on Main Street, and there are now 54. Those four parking spaces were recently eliminated from Main Street because they were within an illegal distance from a crosswalk. *The new sidewalks and bump-outs did not affect the number of on-street parking spaces.*

### USDA SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

The Biddeford School Department wants to ensure that all Biddeford students in need have access to meals during the summer. Several locations in the city will serve free meals for children under age 18 this summer, as well as meals for adults for \$3. Meals will be available from June 24 to August 16 at the following locations and times Monday through Friday:

**John F. Kennedy Kindergarten Center:** Breakfast 8 to 8:30 a.m. and Lunch 11:30 a.m. to noon.

**Biddeford Middle School:** Breakfast 8 to 8:30 a.m. and Lunch 11 a.m. to noon.

**McArthur Public Library:** Lunch only from 11:30am - noon.

**Community Bicycle Center (45 Granite Street):** Lunch only from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m.

### POLICE DEPT. PSA: MOTOR VEHICLE BURGLARIES

Each year, we take about 150 calls from people reporting that their vehicle has been broken into. During the first five months of this year, we have taken about 55 calls. The break-ins happen throughout our community, but mostly in the downtown area. The scenario is usually the same: people leave their doors unlocked, and they leave valuables in their car. Please make sure to lock your car doors and bring valuables inside!



## BEACH PERMIT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

We have received many questions about how beach permits will be sold and enforced this year. Here are the answers to the most common questions we are hearing:

- Residents **MUST** purchase their beach permits **IN PERSON** at the City Clerk's Office because a vehicle registration and proof of Biddeford residency must be shown at the time of purchase. Residents who have a beach permit **DO NOT** need to use the new kiosks in the beach parking lots.
- Non-residents can purchase 1-DAY, 3-DAY, and 7-DAY parking permits from the kiosks in the beach parking lots. Non-Resident SEASONAL permits can be purchased online at [this website](#) and are **NOT** available from the kiosks. All non-resident permits can also be purchased at the City Clerk's Office.
- All proceeds from beach permits are returned to the "Pool Beach Permits" Fund, which is a special revenue fund that is only used to fund beach operations and maintenance.
- Beach parking enforcement will now be able to electronically check if you have a parking permit.

For more information on beach permits, [click here](#) or contact the City Clerk's Office at 207-284-9307.

## CLEAN WATER WEEK POSTER CONTEST



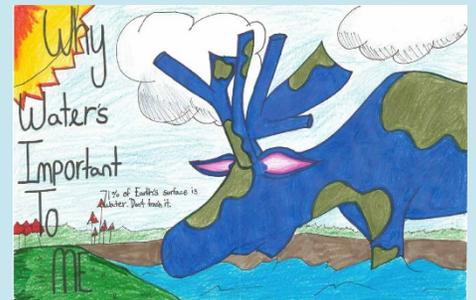
In 1983, the Maine Legislature designated the first full week of June as **Maine Clean Water Week** to celebrate how far we have come in improving the quality of Maine's waterways and to increase the public's awareness of the important role that wastewater treatment plays in protecting public health and the environment. The Maine Water Environment Association (MEWEA) hosts a poster contest during this week to encourage teachers and parents to talk to their students and kids about clean water and the role we all play in protecting it. The theme of the contest is "Why Water's Worth It to Me". Students from

grades 1 through 12 all across the state are invited to participate, and the top twelve winners selected by the association members have their posters included in the Maine Clean Water Week calendar.

We are very proud to announce that this year, Biddeford Middle School sixth grader Jeniece Wilder was included in the group of winners out of the 300 entries that were received. Congratulations to her! This is especially exciting for us in the Wastewater Department because Jeniece attended one of the wastewater presentations that we gave to middle school students earlier this year. This tells us that our efforts to reach out and teach people (especially young people) about what we do are well worth it.

At a ceremony on June 12<sup>th</sup>, Jeniece and the other contest winners were celebrated and presented with a copy of next year's calendar. They had the opportunity to meet the mayor of Auburn and the president of MEWEA as well as take a tour of the Lewiston/Auburn wastewater treatment facility.

This is all part of ongoing efforts to help kids grow up with a better understanding about some of the things that we rely on to stay safe by better protecting our environment. Communities all over the country are facing an aging workforce in the wastewater industry as well as aging infrastructure badly in need of improvements. Cultivating a healthy appreciation though understanding of the wastewater treatment process will play a critical role in addressing both of these concerns in the future.



If you would like a copy of the 2020 MEWEA Clean Water Week calendar, or if you would like to learn more about how we keep the Saco River clean and safe, contact Alex Buechner at [alex.buechner@biddefordmaine.org](mailto:alex.buechner@biddefordmaine.org) or 207-282-1350.