

YESTERDAY

**YESTERDAY ...**  
**10 years ago - Aug. 18, 2006**  
(As reported in the Bangor Daily News)

**OLD TOWN** — City officials' efforts to diversify the community's economic base are dovetailing nicely with the state's plans to redevelop the Georgia-Pacific Corp. mill, which closed five months ago, according to City Manager Peggy Daigle.

"There's a lot of good things going on," Daigle told the City Council on Thursday at a committee meeting to discuss the municipal pool and development in the city.

"There are some things in the works that I can't talk about at this time," Daigle said.

A member of the pool committee asked the manager if the state has plans to take over the mill.

"I think the plan is for the state to get ownership and then go to phase two and make plans from there," she said, noting that she believes it would be a short-term ownership.

Daigle explained that at a recent meeting with Gov. John Baldacci and state Economic Development Commissioner Jack Cashman, she told them not to "make any firm decisions until you at least consider what our plans are."

When G-P announced more than four months ago it was closing the Old Town facility and associated chip mills, more than 450 people were put out of work. The company agreed to work with the state to find a buyer, but a deal has not yet been completed.

Baldacci said earlier this week that the state has reached an oral agreement concerning the redevelopment of the mill, but no one is releasing any specifics.

The governor also declined to release the identity of the potential buyer, believed to be Montreal-based Cascades Inc., which produces specialty packaging and paper products, mostly from recycled fibers. The company is believed to be interested in reopening the pulp operation at the facility.

Baldacci did state that an announcement should be made in the next couple of weeks.

Meanwhile, the city is moving forward with its own economic development efforts to create a commerce park at DeWitt Field airport and to find a new fixed-base operator, as well as to create an industrial park on Penney Road.

Airport operator Bob Bouffard is retiring and the city has been in discussions with potential new operators.

"A lot depends on what Bouffard does with [his company] Old Town Aviation and selling it," Daigle said.

**HERMON** — Four firefighters who rushed into a burning home to search for a child last month were recognized at the Town Council meeting on Thursday night.

Councilors presented Capt. Ben Donnerstag, Capt. Eric Pelletier, Lt. Kelli Leighton and Vicki Gonyea with certificates, applauding their efforts at the fire at 375 Billings Road on July 17. When the four first responded to the home, the firefighters were told one child was missing.

"If the little girl had been in there, it would have given her a chance to live," Fire Chief Larry Willis said.

The child had safely traveled across the street, and was not in the home, but Willis said the firefighters' efforts should still be recognized, since they took a big risk entering the home without all the safety equipment completely set up.

Eric and Melissa Tableman lived in the home with their three children, and Melissa Tableman was home with her children and two neighborhood children when the fire broke out. Everyone escaped the blaze without injury, and 10 fire departments fought the fire.

Also at the meeting, councilors discussed a tax revaluation.

Last year, the town was at 89 percent of the state's valuation. To avoid falling further off the mark, officials are proceeding with a revaluation.

The intention is for the mill rate to drop, so that most taxpayers will see minimal effect, Town Manager Clint Deschene said.

"This will have little effect on most people, un-

PICTURE FROM THE PAST



BANGOR DAILY NEWS FILE PHOTO BY SPIKE WEBB

**Shown above are the dedication ceremonies of a new cabin held at Camp Jordan on Sunday afternoon, July 1, 1951. The cabin was presented to the camp by the Bangor Junior Chamber of Commerce. Standing in the middle of the picture are (from left) Joseph Taylor of the Jaycee Youth committee; William T. Bennett Jr., camp director; W. Weldon Dunnett; the Rev. Charles A. Marsteller, pastor of the Essex Street Baptist Church; and Danforth E. West, Jaycee president.**

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less they have been under-assessed for a long time," Deschene said.

The town will be sending out letters only to residents who will see a 25 percent increase in their revaluation and a 10 percent rise in their property tax bill over last year.

Councilors entered into executive session for more than an hour and a half to discuss three topics, one being litigation.

Councilor Louis LaChance was absent from the meeting. LaChance is filing a lawsuit against the town to retain his snowplowing contract and remain on the council. He has agreed to remove himself from executive session when the council discusses the lawsuit with the town's attorney in the case, Richard Violette.

**25 years ago - Aug. 18, 1991**

Brewer city officials are exploring a business telephone system that will not only make transferring calls easier, but also will reduce the telephone bill at City Hall by at least \$500 a month.

Intellipath Digital Centrex Service, a distance-sensitive service that fits municipalities well, could save the city \$37,000 over seven years, according to Michael Tremble, an agent for New England Telephone Co..

"We should definitely consider it," said James Hill, Brewer's administrative assistant. Hill is preparing a report on the city's existing telephone system and why Centrex should be considered.

"Unless there's some compelling reason not to do it, I'm all for saving money," Councilor Ronald Harri-man, who brought the matter to council's attention, said Sunday.

The city pays about \$2,000 a month for its 30 phone lines and for long-distance calls, Hill reported. The lines alone cost \$1,300 a month.

With the distance-sensitive system, the closer a phone line is to a telephone switching station the cheaper it will be to use that line, Hill said.

The city also will save money by grouping together onto one phone bill long-distance calls made on different phone lines, Hill explained. The city will receive bonuses for the greater number of calls made.

The Brewer School Department began using Centrex in June 1990.

Centrex caused "substantial and dramatic" savings for the school department, according to Lester Young, budget manager. The department regained the installation fee of \$1,900 within a few months of the installation, he said.

A business phone line costs \$39 a month. With Centrex, Young said, a business line in the school department costs \$21. He added that he has recorded savings of up to 40 percent.

A drawback? "Most of your numbers have to be changed," Young said. Centrex forced the department to change four of its 27 phone numbers.

A changeover to Centrex will not require an upgrade or change of the municipality's existing phone equipment, according to an NET

pamphlet describing the service. Centrex is designed to save employees' time, the pamphlet states.

**OLD TOWN** — The Old Town Water District will hold its public hearing Monday, reviewing comments on a controversial 40 percent rate increase.

The district's new filtration system came on line recently after years of planning and at a cost of about \$1.5 million. Although implementation is still in progress, some residents already have reported the results of the new program — namely clearer water that tastes better and does not stain sinks and bathtubs.

While nearly everyone has been happy with the new system, which uses so-called green sand to filter the water, many are upset with having to pay for it. During Monday's meeting, district Superintendent Donald Commeau is expected to explain that proposed rate increases are needed to increase annual revenue by \$291,500, a total jump of 42.2 percent.

The average proposed percentage increases would be 36.8 percent for residential, 50 percent for commercial, 77.4 percent for industrial, and 42.2 percent for public fire. The district serves Old Town, Bradley, Milford, and Indian Island.

While some residents complained to the City Council during a recent meeting, city officials told them that a proper redress of grievances should be directed to the Public Utilities Commission, which regulates the district. The PUC, they said, would hold a hearing on the matter if it received a petition from 15 percent, or about 1,000, of the district's customers.

Still Commeau and others had warned about the likely rate increases a year ago. During a recent interview, the superintendent said that the improvements to the system were mandated by tougher federal standards, and that the situation could have been worse — if the district had been forced to meet other regulations, the improvements could have cost \$6.5 million.

**50 years ago - Aug. 18, 1966**

A traveling city on wheels has taken possession of Bass Park and the Bangor Auditorium.

It numbers over 550 people, has its own elected council, advance scouts, ambassador, medical team and traffic force. The small community came into existence six weeks ago at Montreal, Quebec, toured the Canadian Maritime Provinces, visited Cape Breton, N.S. inched along the Gaspé Peninsula and Wednesday passed through Washington County enroute here from St. John, N.B., via the Airline.

Over a span of several hours the caravan of 255 travel trailers entered Bangor piecemeal and formed in neat, efficient rows at the Bass Park oval.

Four traffic guides directed each numbered trailer into specifically assigned parking sections and with the skill of an Army division setting up a new bivouac area, the group's planning committee, lost and

found department, police and safety officers, radio communications and roster personnel coordinated the encampment.

By nightfall a well organized community that numbered tourists from 45 states and three Canadian provinces was efficiently humming and well under way with plans to hold a talent show that evening in the Bangor Auditorium.

According to George Dey, leader of the Wally Byam travel-trailer caravan, there are two other similar tours, one in Western Canada and a third in Alaska this summer. The caravans are sponsored by Airstream Inc., which manufactures the travel trailers.

The Byam Caravan is scheduled to be here for two days and concludes its six-month East Canadian tour today. A farewell banquet will be held tonight at the auditorium.

The Bangor area will play

host for a week to a team of nine trade unionists from three west African countries on a six weeks' tour of the United States under the auspices of the U.S. State Department's International Development Technical Assistance Program.

Maine is one of three states chosen for the visits and the Bangor-Orono-Old Town area one of seven such areas in the three states.

The purpose of the tour is the study and observation of the trade union movement in the United States, the manufacturing operations and various other facets of American life and culture.

The group will arrive in Bangor Sunday and stay in this area until the following Sunday, August 28. They arrived in the United States July 26.

The nine are from the nations of Chad, Togo and Upper Volta. While their individual trades and professions include such fields as pharmacy, accounting, printing, teaching and agronomy, each are influential members or high offi-

cers in various trade unions.

Monday, the group will visit with Bangor city officials and department heads, spending the day touring city departments and facilities, and concluding with a meeting with the school board.

**100 years ago - Aug. 18, 1916**

Maplewood Park is already showing signs of the approaching biggest event of the year, the Eastern Maine State Fair. Space on the midway already engaged indicates that this feature will be as big and lively as ever.

Diamond Lew Walked, one of the old standbys of the local fair, will be on hand as usual with three shows.

Thomas Rudloff will bring his Palace of Wonders from Revere. Charles Russell has place for a snake show and Cross Simmons will put on exhibition what he terms "the largest fat woman on earth." He is coming from Fulton, N.Y.

*Compiled by Ardeana Hamlin & Aimee Thibodeau*

Death Notices

**ACHORN, Arthur L.**, 85, Holden; at Holden, July 30, 2016.

**ACHORN, June M.**, 83, Holden; at Holden, July 14, 2016.

**AMERO, Mary Carmela**, 75, Old Town, Aug. 5, 2016. Birmingham Funeral Home, 438 Main St., Old Town.

**AUSTIN, Michael T.**, Bangor, Aug. 7, 2016. Brookings-Smith, 133 Center St., Bangor.

**BORREGGINE, Anne M.**, 80, Bangor; at Bangor, Aug. 10, 2016.

**DONOVAN, Wayne A.**, Bangor, April 22, 2016.

**JENKINS, Joseph R.**, Bangor.

**LYFORD, Ryan**, 27, Clifton and Kenduskeag, Aug. 6, 2016. Kiley & Foley Funeral Service, 69 State St., Brewer.

**MILLER, Ruth**, 88, Verona Island, Aug. 4, 2016. Direct Cremation of Maine, 182 Waldo Ave., Belfast.

**REDMAN, Donna**, 69, Bangor; at Bangor, Aug. 5, 2016.

**WHEELER, Mary P.**, 90, Orrington, Aug. 3, 2016.

**PRESOCTT, Geraldine A.**, Newburgh, Aug. 11, 2016. Hampden-Gilpatrick Chapel of Brookings-Smith, 45 Western Ave., Hampden.



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