

YESTERDAY

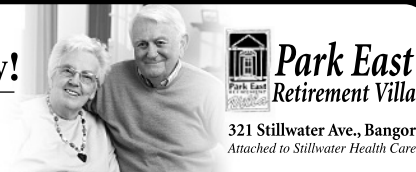
PICTURE FROM THE PAST



BANGOR DAILY NEWS FILE PHOTO
Blues guitarist Johnny Rivers is fitted to a handmade western hat on the midway of the 1984 Bangor State Fair.

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**YESTERDAY ...
10 years ago - July 28, 2006**
(As reported in the Bangor Daily News)

BREWER — The Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System advisory committee has released its final study and applied for state funding for a project to help curb traffic congestion on North Main Street.

The study calls for the relocation of traffic lights, realignment of streets and elimination of on-street parking for a large portion of the roadway.

Although the city has requested money for the project, its completion depends on how quickly the \$500,000 necessary for the project is allocated.

“If all the stars lined up perfectly we could begin construction in 2009,” Frank Higgins, Brewer’s city engineer, said Thursday, noting he’s an optimist.

The advisory committee began work in September 2005 to address the congested traffic and the increased use of the roadway between the Joshua Chamberlain Bridge and the Penobscot Bridge on North Main Street. The committee is made up of a city councilor, residents, local business owners, BACTS officials and Higgins.

The city submitted the project as part of the state’s process for BTIP, the biennial transportation improvement program, for 2008-2010. BACTS compiles a list of projects every two years and when state funding is granted, the organization must prioritize the projects.

“We just have to sit for now, until the funding comes through,” Higgins said, adding BACTS never receives enough funding to complete every request.

While the city must wait for funding, officials already have taken steps to simplify the construction process.

The city has acquired the properties at 172 and 176 N. Main St., and the council has approved this week the demolition of buildings on both lots, Higgins said. Moving the roadway so it crosses through those two properties will straighten the intersection at Parker and Betton streets and a street light will be added.

During a public comment session in May, most residents and business owners were concerned about the elimination of on-street parking, Higgins said.

When the city receives funding for the project, an official design will be created and then treated like any ordinary city construction project, Higgins said, complete with public hearings and comment.

“At that point we will make more of an effort to get the public and businesses involved because it’s right in the middle of the business district,” Higgins said.

- The final plan includes:
- Realignment of Betton Street and Parker Street to create a four-way intersection.
 - Relocation of the traffic signal from Center Street to the newly aligned Betton and Parker streets’ intersection.
 - Turning Center Street into a one-way road.
 - Coordination of traffic signals in favor of north-bound traffic.
 - Elimination of on-street parking between Betton and Wilson streets to provide additional travel and turn lanes.
 - Designating Union Street and Center Street, at their junctions with North Main Street, right-in, right-out only.

BANGOR — Even though gas prices are galloping toward \$3 a gallon throughout most of the state, fuel costs haven’t affected transporting dairy cows, racing pigs and even bears and sharks to the Bangor State Fair, and they shouldn’t drop attendance either, officials said Thursday.

More than 65,000 people attended the fair last year and have for the last nine years. Bass Park Director Mike Dyer said Thursday that he doesn’t expect that number to drop when the fair opens today at Bass Park.

“Sixty-five thousand is the benchmark,” Dyer said during a press conference at the Bangor Civic Center. “We look at a five-year average, not each year, because crowds can be down for weather or something.”

In planning for the annual event, the city official also wanted to maintain the agricultural aspect of the Bangor State Fair, he said.

“The 4-H awards and auction on the second Friday is an integral part of the fair,” the director said.

Dyer said he hopes the weather will be in the 70s and overcast, instead of the hot weather that the area has been experiencing.

“We don’t want beach weather - we want fair weather,” he said.

Crews finished setting up most of the rides earlier in the week, but the group of 80 workers were busy Thursday setting up the usual carnival games and food stands in preparation for today’s opening.

The 157th Bangor State Fair, kicking off at noon today and running through Sunday, Aug. 6, brings back the racing pigs for the first time in 12 years and lemon and nurse sharks for the first time in 10 years.

4-H also will put on a horse show, for the “first time in anyone’s memory,” Dyer said. The horse show starts at noon Sunday, Aug. 6.

Bangor Councilor Gerry Palmer told a group of media and community members that there is something for everyone this year.

A live 4-H auction, plenty of rides for the kids, varying attractions and rides fill the Bass Park area this year.

“Not your moms’ and pops’ state fair, but your state fair,” Palmer emphasized.

Although the fair will feature the staple rides such as the Zipper, the giant Ferris wheel and the Freak-Out, which was last year’s hit, officials with Fiesta Shows, which again will provide the midway entertainment, said they are excited about the newest ride.

The new NASCAR-theme coaster, Pole Position, an Italian ride being presented for only the second time, twists fairgoers 360 degrees around while on a roller coaster.

Media representatives and others were allowed to test the ride. The deceptive roller coaster track didn’t seem that challenging, but the combination of surprises and spinning did leave some riders screaming, but most smiling, after the experience.

“A lot of favorites are back this year. The giant wheel is the best to see downtown Bangor at sunset, and there are many other things that spin and twist you around,” Dyer said.

Excited more about the 10-day exhibits, such as a Kenyan acrobat group, Mapapa, Bear Mountain and Live Shark Encounter, Dyer stressed the educational value of the exhibits.

“The goal is to be educational at this state fair,” he said.

The fair kicks off a busy month for the city, with the Senior Little League World Series and the American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront to follow.

“All in all it’s great for the town,” the director said.

25 years ago - July 28, 1991

ORONO — Wanting to be ready to attend to whatever disasters might befall the area, officials here are working to create a Hazardous Materials Team.

Formation of a so-called Haz-Mat Team has been discussed here before and appears likely to win council approval. The matter appears as a continued item on Monday’s town council agenda.

Perhaps the most attractive aspect of the proposal is that it would come to the town cost-free.

While the team would not cost the town any money outright, the proposal does call for \$60,000 in startup funds and an annual budget provision, which will be determined by the Fire Department and other involved facilities, but has been estimated at about \$15,000.

Most of the funding will come from facilities mandated to have their own response team or a contract with the Haz-Mat Team to contend with a hazardous materials event, and half of the initial budget will come from the University of Maine, according to documents on the proposal.

Also, if the team responds to a spill at a facility that is not a member of the Haz-Mat network, the owner of the facility would be charged \$400 per hour with a four-hour minimum, which would cover over-time costs for team members.

Orono now has four “extremely hazardous substance facilities,” according to Fire Chief Robert J. Burke, who in a memorandum to Town Manager Nancy H. Orr listed the University of Maine, Striar’s Textile Mill, the Water Pollution Control Facility and the Orono-Veazie Water District. All of these are mandated to have either their own response team or a contract with a Haz-Mat Team to attend to any product releases.

In addition, the James River Co. transports a number of dangerous chemicals through the town en route to its Old Town mill, including caustic soda, chlorine, sulfuric acid and liquid petroleum gas.

According to the proposal, the team will include 17 Haz-Mat trained specialists for actual control of a spill or leak of a dangerous substance with the command team coming from the call division. The full-time Haz-Mat members are firefighters with the Orono Fire Department, while the call division is comprised of firefighters and volunteers from the University of Maine department and local industry.

Also, some others might be involved, filling the need for science officers, public relations and communications, according to the proposal. While many of the proposed Haz-Mat Team members have piecemeal training, those who will work in the “hot zone” will receive additional instruction.

With a proposed start-

up date of Sept. 1, the team must first be approved by the town council and then must receive funding, training and approval from the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

50 years ago - July 28, 1966

BANGOR — Francis Goodwin Shaw, having served the Northern Conservatory of Music at Bangor “in positions of ever increasing responsibility since its founding in 1929,” has been named Dean Emeritus by the board of trustees.

The honor comes to Shaw at a time when Music in Maine, Inc., is poised to take to the school children of Maine Shaw’s kind of music.

Shaw described his kind of music in an exclusive interview with the NEWS, by recounting the anecdote of James Russell Lowell’s estimate of Ralph Waldo Emerson.

“What he said is unimportant,” history records Lowell as saying. “What is important is how he said it.”

Dean Shaw is surrounded in his retirement at No. 62 High St., by the things he loves and needs for contentment, television sets to bring him the music all the world is hearing, an organ and record player for his own enjoyment, the ticking clocks and weather instruments, accoutrements of a fascinating hobby. From her desk across the street at the conservatory, his wife, Anne, official registrar, keeps him in touch with the classrooms.

The gathering of young musicians to form the MIM orchestra makes vivid to Dean Shaw the years he spent in Boston developing his own musicianship and absorbing the culture of Boston. He recalls seeing William James at the Boston Public Library, attired in a great black cape. He remembers sitting in a near empty hall listening to the Boston Symphony Orchestra in rehearsal.

The recollections cover years when he was a lad in fifth grade, and was promptly advanced to sixth because his Bangor schooling had been so proficient. They include teenage years when, beginning at 17, he played in the orchestra at the Colonial Theatre. His first show was “The Chocolate Soldier.”

Boston then was the hub of the New England Renaissance of the 19th century.

“It had the indescribable thing a community has, character in a city ... You can’t become a good performer unless you have an environment.”

That was what Boston gave to Francis Shaw.

A technical team from the U.S. Public Health Service will meet with state and Bangor health officials August 4 to begin the federal survey of how the Dow AFB hospital facilities might fit into the community’s medical needs after deactivation in 1968.

The study, undertaken by Dr. Mabel Ross, regional director for the U.S. Public Health Service, was requested by the City of Ban-

gor after the proposal was advanced that the modern military facility at Dow replace the present city hospital on lower Main Street.

Heading a team of three PHS technicians who will make the initial visit here will be Julius Ozog, P.H.S. chief of hospital and medical facilities.

Also attending the session will be Woodrow E. Page, director of the health facilities program, and Alan Bridges, executive director, Maine Health Facilities Planning Council. Both are with the state health department.

The group will tour the Dow hospital during the morning and join the city’s Health and Hospital Advisory Committee, Richard C. Wadsworth, M.D., chairman, for a luncheon meeting. During the afternoon, technical data on the facility will be collected.

Bangor Health Director William Shook and Steen Merryweather, chairman of the Bangor Dow-Reuse Executive Committee’s subcommittee on reuse of the hospital, will brief the federal-state group on the facilities and the city’s proposals.

Interested members of the Bangor City Council and Dow Reuse group are invited to the session.

100 years ago - July 28, 1916

BREWER — Mrs. Annie Worth entertained the Ladies Aid Society of the Methodist church on the lawn at her home on Brimmer Street Thursday afternoon in honor of her guest Miss Eliza Ladner of Everett, Mass.

The invitation was extended to the ladies of the church organization because of the common bond of interest, Miss Ladner being the president of the Methodist Ladies Aid Union of New England.

The Brewer society is one of the many societies in this union and has been for the past five years. Plans were discussed informally for the organization of a federation of all Ladies Aid Societies in the East Maine Conference. The time and opportunity to formulate plans for such a federal seemed to be very exceptional since Miss Ladner is a guest in the city and knows the proper steps to be taken for such an organization.

Miss Ladner addressed the ladies present, upon the work of the union, the benefits the Aid Societies derive from such a union and the many interesting things about the work in general.

Miss Ladner is a very entertaining speaker and delighted as well as instructed the large number who heard her address. Since the Brewer Ladies Aid Society has been in the New England federation for a number of years, the society took the initiative in starting the union for the Eastern Maine Conference.

It is 70 years ago this summer that Henry D. Thoreau made the first of three trips into the great Maine woods. Yet along these wonderful trails and streams and lakes there is no mark to indicate his passing.

No one has looked with more intelligent eyes nor recorded with more facile pen the facts about this vast summer vacation land than the man who was the intimate of Emerson, Hawthorne, Longfellow, and Lowell, the companion of Agassiz, and the close friend of Horace Greeley.

It is to Horace Greeley that we are indebted for the preservation of Thoreau’s accounts of these journeys in Maine woods. After Thoreau had tried in vain to publish the manuscript of his trips, Horace Greeley finally sold it to the Union Magazine for \$75, keeping \$25 as commission.

Ralph Waldo Emerson had made a trip into the Maine woods as early as 1858; James Russell Lowell, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Henry W. Longfellow had also tasted these wondrous solitudes. But it was Thoreau, the poet-naturalist, who seemed to absorb them into his very being. Therefore his story of them has an added interest both to those who have traversed these marvelous waterways and those who can contemplate doing so.

His first trip, which was to Mount Katahdin, was made in September 1846. He started from Bangor, where he had relatives, and then went to Old Town, where he stopped to visit the Indian Island which even then was, as it is today, a government reservation.

Compiled by Ardeana Hamlin & Aimee Thibodeau

**Send us your
Calendar item**

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TheWeekly

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Death Notices

ABBOTT, Shawn, 44, Brewer, July 18, 2016.

AMES, Stephen B., Albany, La. and Bangor, July 9, 2016.

BABCOCK, Tyler A., 18, Bangor; at Glenburn, July 17, 2016.

BERRY, Kobe J., 13, Bangor; at Island Falls, July 15, 2016.

BOUCHARD, Lionel S., 92, Orrington; at Orrington, July 18, 2016.

BROWN, Judith “Judie” (Pelletier); Bangor, July 14, 2016.

BRYANT, Ella A. (Dall), Coventry, RI and Orono, July 14, 2016.

BURNS, Althea “Ava” Moor, 78, Hermon and Clearwater, Fla., July 17, 2016.

CHABRE, Alex Xavier Vernon, 17, Bangor, July 17, 2016.

CHALOUX, Al, 94, Old Town, July 21, 2016.

DIMARCO, Asperino Toni, 84, Brewer and Millinocket; at Bangor, July 17, 2016.

DUNN, Lawrence L.; Bangor, July 15, 2016.

GRAY, Charlotte M., 89, Brewer; at Bangor, July 17, 2016.

GREENLAW, Alfred J., 66, Orrington and Stonington; at Stonington, July 18, 2016.

HALL, Bradford Allyn, PhD, 83, Orono, July 11, 2016.

KELLY, Terry, Levant, at Bangor, July 21, 2016.

LEIGHTON, Norma E., 90, Bangor, July 20, 2016.

MCGARRY, James, 48, Bangor; at Bangor, July 13, 2016.

MELANSON, Doris Helen, 85, Old Town; at Old Town, July 19, 2016.

NEGRON, Bonnie (McKusick), 73, Bangor and Miami; at Miami, July 18.

PARK, Beatrice L., 93, Brewer; at Bangor, July 4, 2016.

ROBBINS, Wallace Clifton, 89, Brewer; at Bangor, July 21, 2016.

SHANE, Marvin, Bangor; at Bangor, July 16, 2016.

SHERWOOD, Eva (Towle); 95, Hampden, July 2, 2016.



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