



TOWN OF BRIDGTON  
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## August 2017 Report



August...Meteorologists have indicated that this will be the hottest summer on record...EVER! August is a great time of year to see falling stars and meteor showers. August was originally named Sextilis in Latin because it was the sixth month in the original ten-month Roman calendar, March was the first month of the year. About 700 BC it became the eighth month when January and February were added to the year before March by King Numa Pompilius who also gave it 29 days. Julius Caesar added two days when he created the Julian calendar in 46 BC giving it its modern length of 31 days and in 8 BC it was renamed in honor of Augustus. (What month are we in???)

**PERSONNEL....**Two positions were open for candidates to apply, **Community Development Director and Executive Secretary**. Interviews were held on both positions with the Community Development position being re-advertised and **Jerusha Murray** being hired to fill the position of Executive Secretary. Jerusha's first official start date was August 2<sup>nd</sup> and she "hit the ground running" and we are so thankful for that! Her office is located in one of the new cubicle spaces in the upstairs conference room. Applications for the Community Development Position are still open and can be submitted up to September 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00p.m.

**TOWN OFFICE....**The Fire Chief conducted the first of several **fire drills** to be held throughout the year. The Fire Chief is the one that schedules the fire drills and no one else knows when they are going to be held. Fire drills are a way to observe staff and how evacuation procedures are handled. The first drill was held on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and, as unexpected as it was, I am pleased to report that the building was evacuated by both staff and customers in an expedient manner. The Bridgton Police and Fire Department "cleared" the building before allowing anyone to re-enter.

**BEACH TESTING....**We continue to test each of our public beaches for the safety of the swimmers, picnickers and our community. On August 8th Highland Lake Public Beach tested above the acceptable limit for E.Coliiform so the beach was immediately closed until a retest could be done. The follow-up test was favorable so the beach was immediately re-opened. Testing will continue until Labor Day 2018. Next season we will review the protocol and policy and will determine how we want to conduct testing on the public Beaches.

**MARKETING...**It has been a great year for tourism. We continue to work with Black Fly Media as a resource to determine best areas to advertise for optimal results. Their knowledge and experience is an extremely valuable resource. They are currently working on a new video of Bridgton which will soon be posted on our website at [www.bridgtonmaine.org](http://www.bridgtonmaine.org). A recent television advertisement done by Reny's features Bridgton and is complementary to our downtown.

*MEETINGS.....*Town Manager, Bob Peabody Jr.; Asher Yousim, Bridgton's Summer Intern, and I attended the Maine Town City Manager's conference in Newry, Maine. The conference was a three day conference and on each day featured several different topics. It was my first time attending and I found the topics to be informative and inspiring. My favorite was using social media and the website to inform the public via videos or flyers, etc. of proposed projects that they may be voting on. Because other Town Officials are present they also offered creative ideas on how to inform individuals that may not have access to social media or internet. I look forward to what the topics might be next year.

*Till next month...*

Respectfully submitted,

*Georgiann*

Georgiann M. Fleck, Deputy Town Manager