



Richard B. Stillman
Chief of Police

BRIDGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



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Bridgton Police Department **Monthly Report** **October 2018**

Activities

The police department totaled 526 calls for service in October, with 20 motor vehicle accidents, 4 disturbance calls, 5 domestic violence, 41 citizen assists, 44 alarms, 6 harassment complaints, 3 citizen disputes, 1 blood tech call-outs, 28 arrests, 1 noise complaints, 128 traffic violations, 6 reports of thefts, 3 criminal mischief, 35 911 hang-ups, 20 animal problems, 17 checks for suspicious activity, 27 agency assists, 20 attempt to locate, 7 reports of fraud, and 6 welfare checks.

Our Twitter account, @BridgtonPolice, now with 448 followers. You can follow us on Twitter or just check in periodically by Googling @BridgtonPolice.

Events

In October, I attended the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Conference in Orlando, FL. As a member of the Board of Directors of IACP, I represented the Board in numerous events and classes including President Trump's presentation.



I interviewed Animal Control Officer applicants and recommended Carl Hoskins to the Town Manager for hire. Carl is a certified ACO and is currently working in a few of our neighboring Towns. He comes highly recommended by Harvest Hills. It will be great to have a qualified ACO working in Bridgton again.

Sergeant Jones and I met with representative of Tri-County Mental Health including their Executive Director, Catherine Ryder, to discuss ways we can improve outcomes and reduce repeat calls for service to people struggling with mental illness. The past year we have seen an

enormous increase in the calls involving people with mental health issues and although officers have training in Mental Health First Aid, we need additional resources brought to bear. The Bridgton Police will share information with Tri-Mental Health who will in turn, reach out and try to help these individuals.

Select Persons Glenn Zaidman and Carmen Lone, Town Manager Bob Peabody, Assistant Town Manager Georgiann Fleck and I attended an informal meeting at Bridgton Hospital with Central Maine Family about concerns with what is happening with Central Maine Health and the dramatic loss of doctors and staff. They admit to a huge communication failure and tell us they are working to bring staff back but were short on specifics. The main message we conveyed is that they have lost the trust of the community.

The department issued tourniquets and carriers to each officer. Officers are always now expected to have these with them as it has been shown tourniquets save lives.

Halloween was a big success again this year with over 250 children coming to the police station for “tricks and treats”. Thank you to Ashley for organizing this including staying out on a cold October night to make it happen.



Training

Sergeant Reese, EMA Director Todd Perrault, Fire Chief Steve Fay and I met to brainstorm for an emergency drill scheduled at Bridgton Hospital. It was a good meeting where we shared thoughts and ideas about plans and resources.

Sergeant Reese, EMA Director Todd Perrault, Fire Chief Steve Fay, Trooper Pyburn and I attended a “tabletop” emergency drill at Bridgton Hospital. Our group and hospital staff played out different emergencies and how we might respond. It was a great meeting to talk out concerns and opportunities.

Our new officer candidate, Brandan George, completed the two-week Phase II training in Vassalboro and the 80 hours of required field training, Phase III, in Bridgton and is now a “Green Pin” or certified reserve officer. Brandan will continue to work with experienced officers until he attends the full recruit academy starting in January.

Officer Todd Smolinsky attended police combat and survival training course in Sanford, ME. Todd had already brought back that training for Brandan and other officers and has been a huge advocate for the tourniquets.

Sergeant Phil Jones attended the Roger Williams University Command Series, Mid-Management” police executive course in Portsmouth, RI. Sergeant Jones and Reese continue to work on executive training in an effort to be able to better themselves and the department.