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### Greetings from the All-America City of Lewiston:

Each month, this report from the City Administrator's office provides a brief summary and update of major activities, events, projects, and programs that impact the community of Lewiston. Feel free to send your comments and suggestions.

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Video conferencing equipment in the Couture Conference Room is now  
Available for use by local organizations! – See Page 7

## CITY ADMINISTRATOR

### Five Year Capital Improvement Program

The City Council, Planning Board, and Finance Committee met jointly on January 31<sup>st</sup> to begin reviewing the City's five year capital improvement program. Over the five year period, the plan calls for \$151.6 million in projects with \$67.5 million of that from City resources and \$17.2 million from school resources. During the coming fiscal year, \$2.9 million in City borrowing is projected. The School Department, responding to growing enrollments, is seeking just over \$9 million in bonds for a number of projects including expansion of McMahon Elementary and the initial phase of renovations to the Middle School. Other notable projects include updating the City's core financial and management software, road rehabilitation and reconstruction, completing the Ultraviolet Treatment Facility at Lake Auburn, conducting a Jepson Brook Drainage Channel study and addressing deferred maintenance items at the Library, City Hall, and the Police Department. The Council will consider adopting the plan in February. Specific authorizations for any project must be subsequently approved by the Council during the annual operating budget process.

### Fireworks Returns to Council Agenda



With the Ward 4 seat on the Council now filled, potential regulations for fireworks will be returning to the Council agenda in February. A number of options will be considered including: a city-wide ban; prohibiting fireworks in developed areas while permitting them in rural areas, either year-round or only on holidays, and allowing them throughout the City with developed areas restricted to holidays only. This issue was reviewed in depth by the prior Council without resolution. *If you have thoughts or comments on whether or how the City should regulate fireworks, please contact your City Councilor.*

### Annual Budget Process Initiated

The various City departments submit their initial budget requests to Administration in January. During February, these submissions are reviewed and the City Administrator presents a recommended budget to the City Council in late March. While the City's finances have stabilized as the economy has bottomed out, the coming year will continue to present challenges. Potential state actions could impact local revenues and expenditures in such areas as General Assistance. More information will become available later this spring. We urge all citizens to become informed about the City's budget as well as to monitor State actions that may have an impact on our property taxes.

## ASSESSING

In January, the Assessing Department spent much of its time preparing for the following:

- 2012-13 tax roll, based on the April 1, 2012 tax date
- 2012 Personal Property, and associated return letters
- Non-resident real estate notification forms



## Reviews

The four-year review program is continuing as well as reviews on multi-family dwellings.

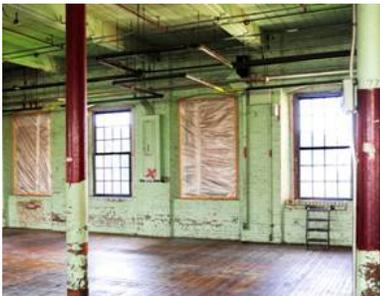
### **BETR (*Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement*)**

Preliminary information for the 2012-13 personal property indicates 64 new businesses opened and 37 businesses closed. It is estimated that over 50% of paid personal property taxes are returned to the taxpayer via the BETR program. Currently 332 businesses participate in the BETR program.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### **Downtown Living Redefined**

Over the last several months, two new exciting housing projects have been completed or are underway. The former In-Town Manor/Healey Asylum located at 81 Ash Street has been reborn as **Healey Terrace**, a 32-unit affordable senior living apartment complex. The February ribbon cutting was standing room only. The developer, Developer's Collaborative, utilized state and federal historic tax credits as part of the financing and did a fabulous job on the renovations, preserving and showcasing many of the original features of the building. The Lewiston Housing Authority will own and manage the property.



Construction has begun on **The Lofts at Bates Mill**, a 48-unit, mixed-income housing project in Bates Mill #2. Most units will overlook Fountain Plaza, which is located next to Davinci's. Historic tax credits are again part of the financing mix, and the complex will offer elevator access and a fitness room. The units will have



Wi-Fi and one parking space in a public garage included in the rent. Model units will be available in early summer, and the units are expected to be ready for tenants by the end of the year.

## FINANCE

The general fund's second quarter financial reports as of December 31, 2011 are now available. These preliminary reports provide some indication of how we are fairing this fiscal year from a revenue and expenditure budget-to-actual basis for the general fund, excluding the school department.

To date, the total amount of revenues earned is \$32,044,121 or 54% of the city's \$59,335,195 budget estimate for the year. Last year's collections for this same period amounted to \$31,356,690 or 53% of estimated budget. Specific revenue items that are worthy of note are listed below:

- Current real and personal property tax collections, including the Homestead and BETE reimbursements, were \$24,285,557 or 52% of the \$46,659,041 estimate. Collections of current real estate tax, tax liens, and current and delinquent personal property tax are slightly outpacing last year's collection rate. Collection efforts initiated at the beginning of the fiscal year have produced positive results. The City has collected \$55,765 more in delinquent personal property and \$121,756 in tax liens than last year at this time. The State continued their tradition of deferring 25% of the Homestead Exemption reimbursement or \$179,497 till July 2012.
- Excise tax on motor vehicles totaled \$1,734,245 or 48% of the budget at the close of the second quarter compared to \$1,701,980 or 47% in 2011.
- Licenses and permits, at \$139,748 or 39%, are trailing behind both budget estimates and prior year's results of \$157,207. The three elements that contribute to this differential are: Building Inspection Fees at \$35,078 vs. \$50,018; Electrical Licenses at \$11,267 vs. \$15,001; and Motor Vehicle Fees of \$29,513 vs. \$34,624. All elements illustrate the effects of the slow economy. Although, the values of the cars being registered have increased slightly, the actual registration count has declined.
- Intergovernmental revenues in total are on the mark at \$2,665,542 or 49%. I would remind you that we increased the budget estimate between the two fiscal years in this category by \$271,236. Particular items of note are: State Revenue Sharing of \$2,070,690 or 52%; General Assistance Aid of \$228,619 or 38%, and State Highway funds of \$211,590 or 50% of budget projections.
- The fines and forfeits category of \$81,751 or 41%, is also trailing behind both budget estimates and prior year's results of \$92,386 or 45%. Traffic violation fines have declined in the current year by \$17,923. A few years ago, the City contracted with an outside collection firm to pursue collection on severely delinquent parking tickets. I believe we are now experiencing a leveling off of collections of past due amounts and may need to modify next year's budget projection accordingly.
- Interest, rents and royalties totaled \$987,374 or 75% compared to 2011's collection rate of 60%. Interest rates remain at historically low levels, but the budget estimate has been adjusted to produce a flat collection rate between the two fiscal years. A complete analysis of the City's investment portfolio will be provided in a separately issued semiannual investment report. Monthly parking revenues at most of our parking facilities (\$612,154) are outpacing last year (\$458,149). The Lincoln Street Parking Garage became operational in early spring, so 2012 is the first complete fiscal year of operations. This facility has provided \$97,834 of additional revenue.
- Other financing sources of \$263,178 or 96% is \$115,864 below last year's balance. In the current budget, the City converted its recycling program to a single stream, net cost program resulting in a decrease in recycling revenue of \$59,982. This decline was partially mitigated by an increase in the sale of scrap metal of \$41,146. The sale of surplus property dropped by \$123,810, which is directly attributed to the success of the City's first municipal auction in the prior year.



City expenditures including encumbrances amounted to \$20,941,503 or 49% of the approved budget, excluding the school department, compared to 2011's second quarter total of \$20,682,847 or 48%. Highlights of the municipal expenditure by function are as follows.

- General government expenditures are at 50% of budget estimates or \$1,379,231 compared to 2011's amount of \$1,486,610 or 53%. The City Administrator's expenditure variance between the two fiscal years of \$15,491 accounts for 14% of the total expenditure variance. Since the retirement of the former Human Resources Director, the duties assumed by the Deputy City Administrator provided an overall savings. The 2012 Finance Department reorganization provided a savings of \$31,321 between fiscal years. Additionally, maintenance and support items within the Management Information Services Department resulted in an increase of \$27,898 over the prior year. In spite of the Lincoln Street Parking Garage becoming fully operational at a cost of \$8,768, parking facility operational costs have declined by \$48,348 from last year. FY2011 marked the final year of the facilities equipment lease payment resulting in the current year savings.
- Public safety charges totaled \$5,828,683 or 50% compared to the same period last year of \$5,880,632 or 51%, and remain relatively flat.
- Public Works' total expenditures amounted to \$3,960,730 or 60% of budget in comparison to 2011's amount of \$3,967,444 or 58%. Although there are startling fluctuations of actual costs incurred between fiscal years in the Highway (-\$336,027) and Parks & Cemeteries (\$128,007) Departments, the current budget provided for an operational transfer between those departments to better reflect where services were being provided. This is why there is no abnormal ratio in the percentage of budget expended. Municipal Garage expenditures totaled \$320,045 or 103% in the present year compared to \$315,791 or 73% in 2011. This fluctuation is largely due to timing of equipment purchases.
- Social service spending is an area that is closely monitored throughout the year. Presently, the City has spent 40% of the budget, or \$393,303 vs. last year's statistics of 41% or \$436,176. The 2012 fiscal year budget was reduced by \$91,700 based upon trends we were experiencing. We will continue to track costs as changes made at the State level may result in greater utilization at the local level.
- Cultural and recreation expenditures totaled \$779,216, or 51% compared to 2011's actual expenditures of \$786,584 or 51%, remaining flat and meeting the targeted projection.
- The miscellaneous category which includes health and general insurances, employer's share of retirement plans, and dues and donations, amounts to \$2,432,837 or 36% of budget estimates. Although current results align with the prior year, the fiscal year 2012 budget posted increases of \$308,753 for insurances and \$177,801 in employer retirement contributions due to plan cost increases. The City experienced a 15% health insurance increase effective January 1, 2011 and a 5.94% increase effective the first of this month. The City budgeted for a 10% increase, so it is anticipated that we will experience a surplus in this account.



Overall, revenue collections continue to do well and may even have picked up slightly. On the expenditure side, we are seeing the results of a lean 2012 budget, where there isn't a significant fluctuation of actual expenditures incurred between the two fiscal years (\$258,656). At 49% expended, the City is at the target of 50% expended. We will continue to monitor potential budget-breaking, externally driven costs such as snow removal and social services needs closely and make necessary adjustments as deemed prudent.

If you have any questions in regards to the report, please feel free to give me a call or send me an e-mail.

## FIRE



### The Lewiston Fire Department Bids Farewell to two of its Finest:

**Captain Timothy Meyers (left) and Private Donat Nadeau (right)**



Captain Timothy Myers joined the department on April 22, 1978 and had numerous assignments until his promotion to the rank of Lieutenant on October 10, 1989. On January 5, 1992, Tim attained the rank of Captain in which capacity he served with great pride until his retirement on January 31, 2012.

Private Donat Nadeau entered the Lewiston Fire Department on July 7, 1985. During his career as a firefighter, Don had many assignments and met each one with great enthusiasm and true dedication. His final assignment was at the Main Street sub-station Engine #5. He proudly retired on January 31, 2012.

The Department would like to thank Tim and Don for their many years of service and their unwavering dedication to the community. We wish them a very happy and healthy retirement.

### Recognition Awards - Congratulations!

**30 Years:** Lt. Brian Bernier, Pvt. Richard Dostie

**25 Years:** Lt. David Beaulé, Pvt. Marc Goulet

**15 Years:** Lt. Mark Caron

**10 Years:** Lt. James Pelletier, Pvt. Alan Hodgkins, Pvt. Richard Emmons, Pvt. Billy Bergeron

**5 Years:** Pvt. Matthew Wiers, Pvt. Dennis Eveson, Pvt. Timothy Berry



City Administrator Ed Barrett congratulates Lt. Brian Bernier (left) and Pvt. Richard Dostie (right) on their 30 years of service with the City of Lewiston.



# LIBRARY

## LPL Unveils Video Conferencing Equipment

The Library's newly-acquired video conferencing equipment in the Couture Conference Room is now available for use by local organizations. The system allows for two-way or multi-way communication with other remote sites through one of three software options—Tandberg, Polycom, or Movi. Libraries, colleges, and organizations across the country offer similar access points, making for an excellent way to conduct face-to-face meetings with distant colleagues, clients, or business partners. Use of the room and the video equipment is free for local non-profits and is available to businesses for a \$50 fee. (This equipment was provided to the City/Library through a Broadband Technology Opportunities Program grant administered by the Maine State Library.)

## Free Public Fax Service Offered

The Library's Adult Services Department is now offering a free public faxing service at the second floor desk. Faxes of up to three pages can be sent at no cost. Library staff is using the FaxZero.com website to provide this service. The information is scanned through a PC, converted into an Adobe PDF file, and sent to the destination fax machine.



## Perform Your Mind!



LPL is partnering with Bates College and the Auburn Public Library to present and host a teen spoken word poetry workshop series every Monday evening through April 2<sup>nd</sup>. The series is now full with 18 participants who are working with a Bates College student to sharpen their writing and performance skills. The students will do a public showing of their work at the end of the series and will also participate in a master class being offered by Marc Bamuthi Joseph (courtesy of the Bates Dance Festival).

## Third Grade Class Visits

Beginning this May, all 17 Lewiston public school third grade classes will be visiting the library for a tour and orientation program and to receive library cards. Library staff has been working with school administration to get this important program re-instated after being cut from the school department's transportation budget several years ago.



## Teen Room Quilt Completed and Installed

A brightly-colored quilt which was designed and created by library teens was recently hung in the Teen Room. This stunning work of art is now a centerpiece of the room and comprises a statement of values expressed by the young people: "Honesty," "Love," "Dreams Come True," "Read," "Joy," "Dance Your Heart Out," and "Don't Worry, Be Happy."

## PLANNING & CODE ENFORCEMENT

**Riverfront Master Plan** - On January 18, the second of three public workshops to discuss the Riverfront Master Plan was held at the Bates Mill Atrium. With over 90 citizens attending, the consultant team from Goody Clancy reviewed three scenarios which grew out of the November 16th public workshop, interviews with community members, discussions with the Advisory Committee, and consultant team analysis. These scenarios are a starting point for discussion about what the key ingredients of the master plan should be. The master plan that will emerge in February and March may be a combination of the three scenarios or may include new approaches and ideas. At this time, there has been broad public agreement on many aspects of the riverfront's potential:

- The river can become a far stronger public asset through improved public access to its edge and to the water itself.
- The canals are a unique and untapped asset.
- Stronger connections are needed between the Island and Lisbon Street.
- Better pedestrian and bike access are needed throughout the area.
- Island Point land is major opportunity for new development.
- Creative lighting of the fall's, the river and its bridges, the canals, and key public structures is a low cost initiative that could really highlight the area's unique assets.
- The reuse of the Bates Mills complex is a major success story for Lewiston.
- Both the Continental Mill and Bates Mill have the potential to accommodate housing.
- Museum L-A and the Franco-American Heritage Center are important Cultural anchors for Riverfront Island.



The future of the Bates Mill #5 site is the topic that draws the most divergent opinions in the Lewiston Auburn community. It's generally agreed that the Bates Mill #5 site will define the identity of the city going forward and determining its future is a critical decision to be defined through the Riverfront Island Master Plan process. It is also recognized that the use of this property shapes the use and potential of many surrounding properties.

The next public workshop is scheduled for March 28th at Museum LA. More information can be found at <http://www.riverfrontislandmasterplan.com/>

### Planning Board

On January 9, 2012 the Planning Board voted unanimously (7-0) to recommend to the City Council an amendment to Article XII, Performance Standards, Section 16 (c)(2)(c)(2) of the Zoning and Land Use Code to allow wall and projecting signs to extend above the roofs of single-story attached structures and to clarify that ground signs may extend above the level of a principle building's roof. The Council subsequently voted to approve the change to the sign ordinance.

### Permit Activity January 2012

- 23 Building Permits with a dollar value of \$102,510
- 6 Plumbing permits

- 40 Electrical permits

### Permit Activity January 2011

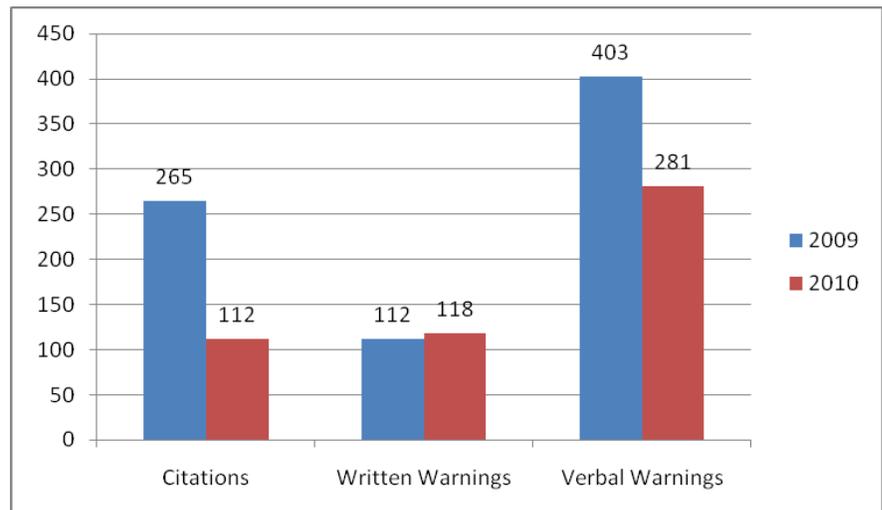
- 24 Building Permits were issued with a dollar value of \$825,832 (1 new single family home)
- 7 Plumbing Permits
- 25 Electrical Permits

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Stats

In January, the Department responded to 3,468 Calls for Service. The agency initiated 548 vehicle stops resulting in 141 citations and 201 written warnings, with the remaining stops resulting in verbal warnings. There were 173 adult arrests and 14 juvenile arrests during this period as well as 80 criminal summonses issued. There were 8 arrests on narcotics violations and 10 arrests for operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. The parking enforcement and patrol divisions issued 1,055 parking tickets in January.

January	2012
Calls For Service	3,468
Vehicle Stops	548
Citations	141
Written Warnings	201
Verbal Warnings	206
Adult Arrests	173
Juvenile Arrests	17
Criminal Summonses	80
Narcotics Arrests	8
OUI Arrests	10
Parking Tickets	1,055



### Community Resource Team

During January, officers from the Community Resource Team connected with the elementary schools to create programs in which the Police Department recognizes students for academic excellence and civic virtue. Sylvia Kane, a 6th grade student from Martel School, was awarded a certificate from the Chief and given a ride to school in a police cruiser for her academic success. Sylvia was the winner of the Martel School geography bee.

Officers Johnson, Jacques, Landry and Lacombe along with Corporal Thomas Murphy attended the Special Olympics winter games at Sugarloaf. Officer Rousseau and Sgt. Ullrich attended an assembly at McMahon School which recognized students for their academic success and good behavior.

### Watch Guard

All cruisers have been outfitted with "Watch Guard" cameras which record both audio and video interactions. These units will be in daily use by the end of February or early March.

### Training

Officer Jason Johnson represented the department at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy by teaching at the 'Reserve Officer' 100 course. Officer J. Johnson also attended Taser instructor 'recertification' training.

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

January saw more storms, but this winter still remains "different" than our normal winter.

### Snow

We had 18.5 inches of snow in January (four plowable storms and a total of eight events when we deployed our salt/sand trucks). This brings our total to six plowed storms and 16 events when our salt/sand truck operators had to respond. Through the end of January, we've had a total of ~ 43 inches of snow starting on Halloween eve last October.



### Public Works Budget

We finished the first draft of the 51 budgets that support PW operations and submitted them to Administration for their first reviews. This is a major effort that will continue through May as we work with the City Council.

### Street/Road & Sidewalk Improvement Projects

- Work on large construction projects is dormant for the winter, but design work continues. Gendron did demo two buildings to clear the way for the Main St project expected to be advertised and awarded in the next month or two.
- In addition to responding to snow storms the crews:
  - ✓ Treated ice conditions and hauled snow from parking lots and problem areas;
  - ✓ Cleared Storm Drain Catch Basins of snow & ice in prep for rain numerous locations;
  - ✓ General patching (at numerous locations. Our asphalt hotbox is going out daily to address potholes;
  - ✓ Big push to address sign repairs this month with more than 25 locations being addressed;
  - ✓ Responded to a number of traffic signal issues to reset the controllers and make repairs;



- ✓ Installed culverts for the cross-country trail near the high school and repaired and painted bleachers for the fields;
- ✓ Inspected and made repairs to Jepson Brook channel and fence;
- ✓ Removed Christmas decorations and chipped and composted disposed of trees;

### Water, Sewer and Stormwater

- Work on Phase 2 of the Joint (Lewiston & Auburn Water District) UV Facility at Lake Auburn continues and is expected to be complete this spring;
- Work on the Joint Chloramine Facility near the Central Maine Community College in Auburn is expected to be complete soon;
- Other work performed by the crews included:
  - ✓ Repairing seven water main breaks, repaired three service leaks;
  - ✓ Responded to 40 customer concerns;
  - ✓ Responded to 135 dig safe requests;
  - ✓ Responded to/repaired seven sewer back-ups (five were private);
  - ✓ Repaired four manholes broken by plows;
  - ✓ Sewer flushing program, water gate exercise program, and hydrant flushing program on-going;
  - ✓ Tested 85 water meters taken out because of lost revenue, installed 105 new water meters;
  - ✓ Repaired six hydrants damaged by accidents;
  - ✓ Ongoing maintenance, meter reading, and GIS updates.



### Other Information

- The Public Buildings Division has been busy assisting Administration in evaluating alternatives which would allow the School Department to take ownership of the MPC building to meet classroom needs. The City Council approved moving forward with use of underutilized space in the Armory on Central Avenue. We are in the planning stage now and hope to have designs in place and approved by the end of February.
- The Buildings Division is also working with certain departments located in City Hall to identify needs and alternatives for space issues in the General Assistance Department.
- Lewiston's recycling rate remains strong, as compared to last year - a 67% increase. We have seen a small increase of +4.7% in the volume of recyclable material shipped off site and a small decrease, -3.3%, in the quantity of waste shipped to MMWAC from Lewiston. Revenues from the sale of recyclables are down from December due to a decrease in the market price of the material, currently ~ \$80/ton. Prices may continue to remain soft for the foreseeable future.

## RECREATION

### Multi-Purpose Center on the Move

The City Council approved expansion of Longley School into the Multi-Purpose Center to create additional classrooms for their pre-school program. As a result of this decision, most of the Recreation Department programs and meetings will be transferred to the Armory.





City Council also approved plans to renovate space within the Armory as well as new construction to include an elevator, parking lot, diagonal parking etc. The newly renovated Armory space will be flexible and can be used for small and large meetings. In addition, there is also room for adding programs that are not currently offered.

The Recreation Department is planning for the relocation, rescheduling, and implementation of programs and meetings transferring from the MPC as well as evaluating, reorganizing, and rescheduling existing and upcoming programs located at the Armory.

### Charitable Funding Applications

Approximately twenty-five Charitable Funding applications and the Charitable Funding Policy were sent to non-profit organizations who are seeking in-kind support for their events from the City of Lewiston. The support requested is relative to city properties, resources, assets, and/or departments. The application deadline for submitting is March 1, 2012. These requests, if approved by City Council, will be in effect for fiscal year budget 2012-2013.



### Upcoming Spring and Summer Events

The Department received several exciting inquiries from non-profit organizations regarding their upcoming spring and summer park events throughout the City.

### Lewiston Athletic Foundation

The Lewiston Athletic Foundation trustees scheduled a meeting on 1/18/12 to resurrect the Lewiston Athletic Foundation. The specific purpose is to work toward improving the athletic facilities used by Lewiston High School working with Principal and Athletic Director. The reappointed members of the Foundation are: Thomas Fournier, Gerald Berube, Kurt Ellis, Jamie Bolduc and Fern Masse. The Trustees have asked staff to formulate and prioritize a facilities upgrade wish list for the Franklin Pasture Complex as well as Upper Franklin and Marcotte Field. This list will be presented at the next scheduled L.A.F. meeting.

### Winter's Flurry

**Open Gym** is a winter basketball program offered to families and youth from throughout the community. The program operates January through the end of February on Wednesday and Thursday evenings. This program allows participants to shoot baskets and play pick-up games. The participants are very excited to have a wonderful facility allowing them to gather, socialize, play ball or just casually watch from the sidelines. There are approximately 85 participants per week.



**Kinder Youth Basketball** is a six-week program that started January 7<sup>th</sup> and will continue through February 11<sup>th</sup>. Parents have an opportunity to sign up their children ages 4-6 years to participate in the fundamentals of youth basketball. The Director, as well as four parent volunteers, works with the children on dribbling, shooting, and defensive skills. Approximately 25 youth participate.



## Gymnastics

The LRD Gymnastics Team hosted a home meet on Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>; another meet is scheduled for Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>.

The Department is honored to host the Gymnastic State Championship meet scheduled for the end of March. The meet will be located at the Armory.



## Armory Events/Activities Scheduled

- Men's and Women's Volleyball games
- Travel Basketball 5/6<sup>th</sup> – 7/8<sup>th</sup> Girls/Boys Home Games – 14 games to date.
- Co-ed Basketball practices, games - 14 Teams registered
- Grade School Basketball - 24 Teams registered
- Kinder Basketball Clinic - 25 Youth participating
- L.A.Y.C. Cheering practices
- L.E.A.P. Activities – Armory
- Central Maine Christian Academy basketball practice

## MPC Events/Activities Scheduled

- Co-ed Volleyball games
- Gymnastics meets
- Gymnastics classes and practices
- Longley School activities
- L.A.Y.C. Cheering practices
- Just-Us practices
- L/A Veterans meeting
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters activities
- Franco-American War Veterans meeting
- Open Door Christian Academy Volleyball/Basketball games
- Marine Corps meeting
- Veterans Post 22 meeting
- L/A Cash Coalition tax preparation
- Lewiston Democrats monthly meeting
- Prime Time After-School Program



## SOCIAL SERVICES

➤ **ALL GENERAL ASSISTANCE CLIENTS ARE SEEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.**

Due to the new fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2011, our reimbursement from the state will start at the 50% rate. Once we reach our threshold, we will begin receiving reimbursement at the 90% rate. I anticipate that to be in April or May of 2012.

Statistical Activity	January 2012	FYTD 7/1/2011-6/30/2012
Office Traffic (Duplicated)	679	4689
New Clients	76	498
Households Served (OT) (Unduplicated)	222	1454
Housing Expenditures	\$59,517.50	\$ 455,243.38
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$73,742.51</b>	<b>\$531,531.73</b>
State Reimbursement	<b>\$36,871.26 (50%)</b>	<b>\$265,550.23 (50%)</b>
SSI Reimbursement	\$ 7,627.61	\$ 45,158.55
Other Reimbursements	\$ 0	\$ 481.98
<b>Actual Municipal GA Cost (net)</b>	<b>\$29,243.64</b>	<b>\$220,340.97</b>
Workfare	January	FYTD 7/1/2011-6/30/2012
Cases	80	503
Clients	107	673
Hours Performed	3,444.00	20,489.40
Dollar Value (\$7.50 per hour)	\$25,830.00	\$153,670.50
Percentage of Cases Assigned Workfare	36%	35%

- Able-bodied recipients are required to participate in the workfare program. The number of hours assigned are calculated by dividing the amount of assistance the recipient receives by minimum wage.

<b><i>Length of Time Clients Receive GA</i></b>	<b>1-3 MONTHS</b>	<b>4 -6 MONTHS</b>	<b>7-12 MONTHS</b>	<b>MORE THAN 12 MONTHS</b>
<b>FY 2011</b> 7/1/2010-6/30/2011	<b>65%</b> (36% received GA for only 1 month)	<b>16%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>10 Year Prior History</b> 7/1/00-6/30/10	<b>72%</b> (45% received GA for only 1 month)	<b>13%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>6%</b>

- Approximately 35 % of GA clients have SSI pending. These clients are mentally and/or physically disabled and require GA for longer periods of time. These clients tend to cycle in and out of GA throughout the years.

### **FRAUD CASES AND REIMBURSEMENT**

The City of Lewiston's Social Services Department is aggressively referring fraud cases and pursuing reimbursements.

- General Assistance clients who commit fraud— those who attempt to receive GA and those who actually receive GA— are disqualified from receiving GA benefits throughout the state for 120 days. All cases are reported to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The cases that are receiving the DHHS Food Supplement are disqualified from receiving the Food Supplement for the 120 day GA disqualification period.
- The cases involving clients who have actually received General Assistance by fraudulent means are reported to the DHHS and to the Lewiston Police Department (LPD) for potential prosecution. For calendar year 2011, the GA office referred 33 cases involving clients who received general assistance fraudulently. This constituted only 5% of the total GA cases that were assisted, but the amount of money that was fraudulently received was in excess of \$50,000. An Androscoggin County grand jury recently handed up an indictment for one of the referred cases.
- From September 2011 to December 2011, the City of Lewiston's GA office was reimbursed approximately \$18,550 from three Supplemental Social Security (SSI) recipients who were referred to the LPD in calendar year 2011 for committing fraud (the entire amount of \$18,550 was not fraudulently received). All clients who receive GA and have SSI pending sign an agreement to have the Social Security Administration (SSA) reimburse the municipality when the clients receive their retro-active lump sum SSI payment.

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