

The Hallowell Champion



Hallowell All-Age-Friendly Newsletter Volume 4 Issue 1

Fall 2022

The Power of Public Investment

Spending tax dollars is serious business. Big projects require a significant investment and deserve careful consideration. Hallowell has seen the benefit of a couple of projects that demonstrate how process can play out. First, comes someone with an idea.

Arthur Moore grew up in Hallowell with an eye to the river. He eventually attended the US Merchant Marine Academy in 1944 and then served on merchant ships during World War II. He eventually earned a maritime pilot's license with endorsements from Maine to the Mid-Atlantic. He was most proud of his license for the Kennebec River from Popham to Augusta. All the while he continually argued that Hallowell should celebrate the Kennebec River and its vital role in the City's history.

The 1972 Clean Water Act and



Before and after: Bulkhead and Granite City Park

the ensuing improvements in water quality made Captain Moore's arguments more palatable. The turning point came in 2005 when the deteriorating condition of the old bulkhead, combined with significant waterfront erosion, threatened the riverfront lot.

Captain Moore, along with others, began imploring the City Council to take action. Months if not years of intense discussions followed, with detailed studies and proposed plans that finally bore fruit when the Council voted to fund rebuilding the bulkhead. There were no grants available. The City committed nearly three-quarters of a million dollars for the project. When construction was complete, the Hallowell Area Board of Trade launched a chair campaign and donors ponied up \$14,000 to purchase the colorful chairs that entice folks to the waterfront. The development didn't stop there.

Key Bank, encouraged by Al Hague, donated a granite crane from a small quarry on Edison Drive to the City of Hallowell. The Last Crane Standing Committee then raised funds to refurbish the crane and install it in what is now known as Granite City Park. More recently two sculptures created as part of last fall's Granite Symposium were selected by attendees to be purchased and installed in the expanded park. Meanwhile, the City Conservation Commission volunteers have beaten back invasive plants, created native pollinator plantings, and expanded the park's footprint making even

POWER continued on PAGE 8

General-Municipal Election Tuesday, November 8, 2022

Polling place - Hall-Dale

Elementary School, 26 Garden Lane

Polls open from 8am to 8pm



Candidates Night at City Hall

Candidates Open House

Tuesday, October 18, 2022, 6:30pm



Volunteer Opportunities

Page 11

THE INSIDE SCOOP

Diane Polky	Page 2
Election Day	Page 2
Referendum	Page 3
Heart & Soul	Page 4
Spectrum Generations	Page 5
Hallowell Grow Green	Page 6
UMA: Back to School	Page 7
Climate Action Meeting	Page 8
Food Pantry	Page 9
HABOT	Page 10
Hallowell Helps	Page 11
Hallowell Memory Quilt	Page 12

Thank You, Diane Polky

After serving for 24 years as Hallowell's Deputy City Clerk, City Clerk, Registrar of Voters, Deputy Tax Collector, General Assistance Director, and Cemetery Trustee (among other things), Diane Polky is retiring and passing the baton.

She has seen many changes in the City of Hallowell and in City Hall, not to mention working with eight City Managers, and is glad she could help. Her favorite part of her job? "Everything. I enjoy working with people. Hallowell is known as being a welcoming and friendly place to live and visit. My philosophy is that no question should go unanswered. I have been told more than once: 'Because of your kindness to me the last time I came in, I'm back for more help.'"

She has always felt welcomed in Hallowell as a member of

the community even though she doesn't live here. She has known generations of Hallowell families from birth to death.

Some changes during her tenure: Changes to the Charter, renovations to City Administrative offices and upstairs auditorium, new elementary school, changes in polling places, changes in Wards, Absentee Ballots new after 2016, and Water Street business changes and the 2018 reconstruction.

The low point in her career was dealing with Covid, following CDC guidelines while figuring out how to stay open and keep everyone safe.

She is proud to have helped restore and preserve Hallowell's City Government records; many are more than a century old. These records contain vital records (births/marriages/deaths), important

decisions made by many City Councils, and the original layout of the City's streets. She said, "These records are irreplaceable. They are just wonderful history."

The Inauguration of the new City Council in January 2023 will be her last event as City Clerk. It will be a great opportunity to welcome the new Council members and the new City Clerk and bid farewell to Diane. She says, "In with the new as we say good-bye to the old." (MW)



General-Municipal Election Tuesday November 8, 2022

In-person Voting: Hall-Dale Elementary School, 26 Garden Lane, 8 AM to 8 PM.

Absentee ballot application requests are available through the City Clerk's office, by telephone, in person during business hours, or you may fill out an application online under the State of Maine website: www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/voter-info/absent.html, and an absentee ballot will be mailed to you.

Your absentee ballot request must be turned in to the City Clerk's office by the close of business on Thursday, November 3, 2022, unless special circumstances exist.

Ballots will become available 30 days before the election. You may vote absentee in person at City Hall or return your ballot in the Ballot Drop Box located outside the Second Street entrance. You can return a ballot in person during



business hours or mail via the US Postal Service.

There will be two Non-Binding Questions on the ballot. See Page 3.

Questions? Contact City Clerk/Registrar of Voters Diane Polky at 207-430-4400; email cityclerk@hallowellmaine.org.

A Different Kind of Bucket List Sand Bucket Brigade

Hallowell Public Works and volunteers are teaming up to help make sure it is a safe season. If you or someone you know can use some extra traction, sign up for the Sand Bucket Brigade. A call to the City Clerk's Office is all it takes. A volunteer will be dispatched to deliver a bucket of sand/salt and pick up an empty bucket, if one is available. Call 207-623-4021, press 3 for the City Clerk, and ask to be placed on the bucket list. Volunteers will spread the sand on request if the homeowner is unable. (DP)



Old Town Hall (Old Fire Station) and Public Works Building Non-binding Referendum

The November 8, 2022, election ballot will have two special non-binding questions for Hallowell voters to choose in addition to the choices for statewide and local races. The City Council decided to submit these questions to voters to gauge opinions concerning the renovation of the historic Town Hall (old fire station) and construction of a new public works facility.

City Councilors want to assess current voter sentiment before taking the next steps that would include going out to bid for architectural services and developing full construction plans. Voters would be asked to approve the final construction costs in a later referendum. If voters approve these two non-binding ballot questions, then the City Council and staff will move forward.

Draft floor plans for the old fire station renovation can be viewed in the City Manager's office or on the City website. They show the Hallowell Food Pantry continuing operations in the basement but with more space (and real heat). The middle floor would be new police department space. The top floor would be one-third police and two-thirds community meeting room/museum space. An elevator will be required to service all three floor levels.

A new public works facility does not have a firm location yet or any floor plans, but would probably have at least four large bays for plow trucks and one smaller equipment bay. It could have radiant heat, solar panels on the roof, and be a heavily insulated building.

Hallowell is fortunate to have many residents who are actively involved in city affairs. Knowing voters' opinions on these questions is very important. (GL)



Question 1. Do you approve of the renovation of the old Second Street fire station for a new Police Department on the middle floor, food pantry to continue in the basement level but with more space, and most of the top floor for community meeting or museum space, for an estimated amount of \$4 to \$5 million?

EXPLANATORY NOTE: This project would gut most of the building down to the original framing, install new utilities, and modernize it structurally for decades of more community use. It would continue the Food Pantry's 27-year mission in the building, give our Police Department a proper and professional downtown facility, and allow for diverse community uses in the top floor meeting spaces. The City will be pursuing all manner of grants for renovation of this historic building to reduce the need for taxpayer dollars. This renovation concept had architectural assistance in 2021 with the use of \$25,000 of local tax dollars for some concept floor plans. The architect's construction estimate for their recommended renovations was \$3.2 million in June of 2021.

Question 2. Do you approve of the acquisition of land (if no City-owned land is suitable) and the construction of a new multi-bay Public Works facility for an estimated amount of \$2 to \$3 million?

EXPLANATORY NOTE: This project consists of the construction of a proper Public Works facility with multiple truck bays for snowplows, shop area, small office area, lunch/break room, bathroom with shower, and some inside storage areas for signs, etc. It would be a single-story slab-on-grade structure with in-floor heat, roof solar panels and heat pumps, as well as a separate pole barn or similar unheated storage structure for seasonal equipment and vehicles. A possible new sand/salt shed is not part of this project at this time. The City intends to sell the present Water Street facility to offset construction costs and get that property back on the tax rolls.

From the beginning!

The Heart & Soul process started when the Orton Foundation, creators of the Heart & Soul community development process, approached Hallowell to gauge its interest in becoming part of the program. This process has been fine-tuned by communities across the nation, many right here in Maine, such as Gardiner, Damariscotta, Bucksport, Biddeford, and Bethel. Meetings were held in City Hall in the winter and spring of 2019. A group of volunteers decided to guide the process for the city and Hallowell Heart & Soul was born.

Two specific goals:

1. Create community statements that reflect what matters most to the community (Heart & Soul Statements). These statements resulted from interviewing over 80 individuals from all walks of life, ages, city Wards, incomes, and diversities.

2. List ideas and wishes people have shared that will make the community even better. These ideas will be prioritized through a community process during the winter of 2022-2023. The list will be shared with community groups interested in including the ideas/wishes in their yearly goals. Some ideas may be adopted by groups whose sole purpose is to see the idea realized. For example, Gardiner wanted a dog park and more community events and now has both.

Goal: Spring 2023

The Hallowell Heart & Soul process will wrap up in Spring 2023 with the final Statements and a prioritized list of actions. The decision of how to use the statements resulting from the Hallowell Heart & Soul process is up to the community. Some communities add them to the Comprehensive Plan as



an addendum, some place them in their council chambers to remind elected officials what matters most to the community, thereby providing guidance in making decisions. Once the process concludes, Hallowell will continue to be a Heart & Soul community, connected to the national Heart & Soul process and communities.

Get Involved!

Volunteers are the heartbeat of Hallowell Heart & Soul! Your time, energy, and ideas are more than welcome! Send an email to Hallowellheartsoul@gmail.com or call Karen at 207-530-2754. Friend us on FaceBook and share what we are doing with your friends and neighbors. (SS)

HALLOWELL HEART & SOUL STATEMENTS

A selection of statements drawn from over 80 interviews along with input provided at various events are informing the Hallowell Heart and Soul plan. Topics include Community Culture, The Arts, Business, Downtown, Celebrations, Housing, City Services and Nature. The complete draft of statements is

available on the Hallowell Heart and Soul Facebook Page. Take a look. Do the statements capture what you value in Hallowell? Is your “voice” contained in them? If not, please share your voice with us so it is included in the final statements.

Heart and Soul Statements Public Review, Sunday, October

16, 2022, 12PM–6 PM at 172 Water St. Review the Hallowell Heart & Soul Statements in person and decide what matters most to you. Light refreshments will be served. Unable to attend? Provide your ideas by email to hallowellheartsoul@gmail.com or call 207-530-2754.





Midcoast Tree Festival!

Brimming with gifts worth more than \$500 each, beautiful Christmas trees are donated by businesses and organizations in the vibrant Midcoast Maine area. These incredible trees are raffled off to the public, who buy tickets for chances to win! Join our Spectrum Generations team at St. John's Community Center, 43 Pleasant Street, Brunswick, for the Midcoast Tree Festival this year beginning November 18 through the 27th. See schedule below.

Proceeds from the Midcoast Tree Festival support: Spectrum Generations' programs and services including Meals on Wheels, St. John's Parish, and the Bath-Brunswick Regional Chamber. The three partner organizations utilize this unique and special fundraiser to help the community in diverse ways throughout the midcoast and central Maine.

Days/Hours:

November 18, 4:00pm–8:00pm
November 19, 10:00am–6:00pm
November 20, 10:00am–6:00pm
November 25, 10:00am–6:00pm
November 26, 10:00am–6:00pm
November 27, 10:00am–2:00pm



Tree Festival Volunteers or Sponsors

Holiday spirit, good will, and lots of laughter echo through the Midcoast Tree Festival for good reason. From the businesses who make donations, to employees who buy, create and carefully wrap presents

for each tree, all is fueled by good will and love for our community! Would you like to become part of our event as a volunteer or sponsor? Learn more here: <https://www.midcoasttreefestival.com>. (LM)

Cohen Community Center Seeks Volunteers

Volunteering is a wonderful avenue to give back to those in your community. Serving others brings a uniquely rewarding sense of accomplishment. Your efforts as a volunteer with the Cohen Community Center will help support community members receive nutritious meals/food security, camaraderie, and friendships, activities and learning opportunities that combat social isolation and feelings of loneliness. Get Involved! Check Hallowell Helps Page 11 for opportunities.



Volunteer Spotlight: 50 Years of Combined Service

Our volunteers Carol, Dick, John, Meg, and Wil, come in well before 7:00 a.m. to pack over 50 coolers twice a week. This dynamic team fills bags with milk, juice, fresh fruit, and healthy snacks in under 2 hours! This amazing volunteer team has worked together for over 2 years making cooler packing an enjoyable, sociable, and efficient activity. What is even more incredible is these five wonderful volunteers have been volunteering at the Cohen Community Center for over 50 years of combined service and dedication to our Meals on Wheels consumers!



Central Church Clean-up! Thanks!

A crew from Central Church cleaned, weeded, and beautified the Cohen Community Center as part of their Serve Central weekend. Thank you for your time and efforts to clean up the grounds at our center. Your work creates a welcoming experience for our community members!



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

—Margaret Mead

An Up-close and Personal Lawn Care Story

by Karen Simpson

First my own story. Several years ago the most visible corner of our front yard was an eyesore. There was a large bare spot where nothing seemed to be able to grow. I really needed to fix it. That spring I dug up the dead turf and found a sizable number of white grubs. I picked out those I could, fertilized and reseeded the area, and crossed my fingers. Next year, however, same problem.

This time I did a little research. I discovered that fall, not spring, is the best time to prepare your lawn for the season ahead. Working from my discoveries, I turned over the sod in September and generously layered some compost across the whole area. I overseeded with grass and white Dutch clover seed, a Maine mix available locally. Overseeding, if you're new to this game, means doubling the amount of seed you'd normally use. I watered it in, crossed my fingers, and waited for spring. I was delighted that my former ugly bare spot was alive with lush green grass and remained that way for the rest of the season. It was an easy fix, one requiring no synthetic pesticides or herbicides.

While doing my research I learned a few more tips for fall care that I will share with you.

- Our lawn's best friends are the little "critters" working underground to make a strong, fertile, resistant soil. Feed those bacteria, fungi, and protozoa with a quarter inch layer of seasoned compost in the fall. This added nutrition will strengthen and protect the roots of the grass.



- Grass loves less water than we might think! Lawns need about an inch of water per week to thrive during their prime growing season. In the fall, begin to reduce your watering to give the lawn some time to harden off for winter.
- Mow high (3 inches) throughout the season and leave the grass clippings in place. The added nitrogen is great for the grass. Your last fall mowing should be 2 inches to reduce the chance of snow mold disease.
- Let your soil breathe! If your soil is compacted, use an aerator to open up some air channels for the little soil critters and grass roots.
- Want to vanquish spring weeds? Grass is your most effective "weed killer."

Do this now by overseeding your lawn with good grass seed, labelled "No noxious weeds." Thick grass helps prevent weeds all year round.

For more information about organic lawn care, check out the University of Maine Extension Service website. MOFGA also has some great online articles available.

Check out Grow Green Healthy Hallowell's brochure, available at City Hall, that outlines 7 steps you can take for a healthy green lawn.



Grow Green & Healthy Hallowell is a coalition of concerned citizens working to promote the health of our growing children, adults, family pets, wildlife, pollinators, plants, aquatic life in The Kennebec River and Vaughn Brook Watershed, by reducing toxic pesticide use on our lawns & gardens, children's sports fields, and public spaces. Learn about keeping Hallowell toxin free at the website <https://growgreenhallowell.org>. (KS)

Back to School at UMA



The Fall 2022 semester at the University of Maine at Augusta began smoothly and with a much needed sense of normalcy. In early September, UMA welcomed over 1,000 people across the state as new students, and another 3,000 individuals as returning students who are continuing their education this fall with the university. With the annual welcome back breakfasts and employee recognition events, new student arrivals, new faculty, and new events, one can feel the campuses in Augusta and Bangor and the UMA Centers statewide emerge slowly but surely toward a post-pandemic world.

UMA's residence halls move-in event went off without a hitch, with 100% occupancy of its housing at Stevens Commons in Hallowell with 78 residents. These students arrived with excitement and enthusiasm, greeted onsite by the Dean of Students and student services staff ready to help with financial and technical questions. Vice President of Enrollment Management and Marketing, Jon Henry, volunteered as "grill master" cooking lunch for dozens of new students and parents. Residential students in Hallowell are enrolled in degree programs that require face-to-face instruction, including Nursing, Aviation, and Architecture, to name a few. Out of UMA's 29 programs, over 20 are benefiting from UMA's relatively new housing program.

UMA's military and veteran students were back on the campus with gusto! The Veterans Academic Center was full to the brim, and this wasn't just perception. UMA experienced a 37% increase in new

incoming military/veteran students. This affirms UMA's recognition as a "Best for Vets" higher education institution for more than a decade.

Student athletes (17 of whom are in the housing in Hallowell) were also welcomed, and one can feel their excitement of having the opportunity to compete at the collegiate level. This year UMA is starting a new soccer program for spring 2023 and a new Esports team this fall. Our new Esports Arena is located in the same building as our Library and Learning Commons in Augusta, and will be available late fall for competitive Esports as well as a place for students to drop in to take a break from studying.

The first week of classes typically presents some technology challenges, but UMA's academic technology (which the university continued to invest in during the pandemic) worked flawlessly. The university's commitment to distance learning was on full display as almost 3,000 students were taking at least one course online this fall. UMA also launched a new virtual Student Tech Hub, so that any student technology question for help and support from anywhere in the state can be addressed in a one-stop shop. This is a great example of UMA's commitment and goal: to provide all of our services to all of our students regardless of location.

The university kicked off its new academic year at convocation in September, with this year's theme of "Disability—Visibility," selected

by UMA's Colloquium Committee. Attendees heard faculty and student remarks and recognized the new group of Rising Scholars, students who exhibit great promise in their educational pursuits. The keynote speaker was Dr. Julie-Ann Scott-Pollock, a UMaine graduate and current professor at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. The topic and all the speakers' remarks were a strong reminder that access for all should be our goal. (Visit www.uma.edu/convocation for the recording.)

Finally, UMA welcomed two post-doctoral fellows to support its determined and focused Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) efforts. These are the first post-docs for UMA and should energize and continue the university's quest to become even more welcoming to, and inclusive of, all students, faculty, staff, and the community.

As always, UMA welcomes your visit to its Augusta campus, to explore the nature trails, the Danforth Art Gallery, Katz Library, and the entire campus. (BW)



Move-in day at the UMA dorms at Stevens Commons.

Hallowell Won't Wait!

Climate Action Community Meeting on November 15th

Climate change jeopardizes every aspect of our lives, from our personal health and well-being to the social, ecological, and economic fabric of our society. Hallowell's Comprehensive Plan for 2020–2030 emphasizes these pervasive challenges and recommends various approaches to reduce carbon emissions and mitigate climate impacts. In July, the Hallowell Conservation Commission hosted a community meeting to discuss specific opportunities and actions for Hallowell to address climate change. What emerged is Hallowell Climate Action (HCA), an expanding coalition energized to identify and implement climate

solutions in our city.

The broad goals of the climate action coalition are to *Engage* diverse voices in understanding and planning for climate change impacts; *Educate* residents on climate change impacts in our community and options for people, businesses, and the city to help mitigate and adapt to these impacts; and *Take Action* to reduce carbon pollution and become more resilient to climate change. Recently, Hallowell Climate Action spearheaded joining the state's Community Resilience Partnership. This statewide effort was recommended by Maine's climate action plan, "Maine Won't Wait," to support communities in



climate mitigation and adaptation.

As a Community Resilience Partner, Hallowell is eligible to apply for grants to implement high-priority climate actions. HCA is also leading a series of public events to help us all better understand and plan for climate change impacts in our city. The first public event is scheduled for Tuesday, November 15, 2022, 6:30–8:30pm at Hallowell City Hall Auditorium. A guest speaker will share actions other communities in Maine have taken to reduce their susceptibility to climate change. Come join your neighbors in an educational and inspirational evening! For more information, contact HallowellConservation@gmail.com.

POWER continued from PAGE 1

more of the riverfront inviting and accessible. And all this was made possible by the City's investment.

Fast forward a few years and developer Matt Morrill and Mastway Development purchased the crumbling Stevens School property from the State of Maine. Matt's plans were audacious and hinged in part on the City's investment of \$650,000 in streets, sidewalks, and utilities on the campus as well as the use of Urban Development Action Grant funds that had been on the City's books for 20 years. Well-reasoned arguments from both sides of the issue were heard at numerous, often-heated City Council sessions, workshops, committee meetings, and public hearings. Changes in the City Charter required that the decision go to voters in a referendum.

The result was overwhelming approval of the investment. The redevelopment of what is now known as Stevens Commons has resulted in preserving the historically significant buildings on the campus for use as dormitories for students at the University of Maine at Augusta, the renovation of the Central Commons building into affordable senior apartments by Community Housing of Maine, further development of market-rate apartments, the construction of 10 single-family homes and soon-to-be-built condominiums. An anonymous donor funded the construction of a new fire station for the City on the campus and Mastway Development donated an easement of 8 acres for what is now known as the Effie L. Berry Conservation Area that abuts the Howard Hill Historical Park in Augusta.

Now voters are being asked to

consider the major renovation of the old City Hall and former fire station (see page 3) for use as police headquarters, with space for public gatherings and displays, and as the permanent home of the Hallowell Food Pantry. The project has been long in the works. The Hallowell Citizens Initiative Committee along with funding provided by the aforementioned referendum funded stabilization of the building and its historical unique hose tower. Extensive discussions and deliberations ultimately resulted in the City Council's decision to retain ownership of the building. The next steps will again be up to the voters of Hallowell. We will have another chance to become informed on the proposed project and offer guidance to the City Council. We will all benefit from being involved, regardless of the outcome. (BM)

Nourishing Our Neighborhood

An Egg-cellent Addition

This summer, we have been fortunate to receive dozens of fresh eggs from Leslie Adams, owner of the Village of the Fluffy Butts Huts. These have been so popular that we now supplement her chickens' eggs with store-bought ones, for which we need containers. So, before you recycle your egg cartons, please consider donating them to our food pantry. Please call to schedule a drop-off time.



A Powerful Solution

Several years ago, Central Maine Power donated funds to improve the pantry's cold storage. Prompted by this summer's heat and humidity, the Food Pantry was able to purchase two used glass-fronted coolers with ample space to display our fresh produce. Thank you, CMP!

Supporting Each Other

With food costs on the rise, many of our clients have shared that their weekly food pantry trip has become even more vital to making ends meet. Our operation is funded entirely by grants and donations from generous businesses and individuals. No amount is too small, and every dollar helps support your neighbors. Donations can be made online at hallowellfoodpantry.org or by mailing a check to Hallowell Food Pantry, PO Box 214, Hallowell, ME 04347.

Hallowell Champion



Sign of Things to Come

Another improvement we've made this summer was the installation of an outdoor sign, one of our final purchases made with the 2021 Good Shepherd grant. It creates a warm sense of welcome for clients, donors, and passersby alike, while making us much easier to find. Thank you, Good Shepherd Food Bank!



Goodbye and Good Luck!

After more than 20 years as a volunteer and board member, Hanneke McQuoid is leaving to start a new chapter in her already fascinating life. On behalf of all the lives she's touched, we would like to express our gratitude for the countless hours she's donated and the wisdom she has shared over the years.

Hometown Pride

The Food Pantry was excited to take part in the Old Hallowell Day parade. Our crew was so touched by the affection and shouts of support from the gathered crowd. It is heartwarming to live in a community that looks out for its neighbors.



Pantry Volunteer marchers left to right: Maggie Warren, Debbie Wheawill, Jeanne Langsdorf, Stephen Doore, Claudia Glynn, Libby McCullum, Rick Cote, Jean McWilliams, and Bob Ladd. (VG)



Learn more about the Hallowell Food Pantry. Contact Vicky Gabrion, Director. Call (207) 992-6899, or email hallowellfoodpantry@gmail.com.

Visit the website www.hallowellfoodpantry.org and click on "Contact" or check out the Facebook page www.facebook.com/HallowellFoodPantry

Fall 2022

HALLOWELL AREA BOARD OF TRADE



The Hallowell Area Board of Trade carries on a century-old tradition of supporting community life and enterprise in our city. Our Mission Statement is as follows:

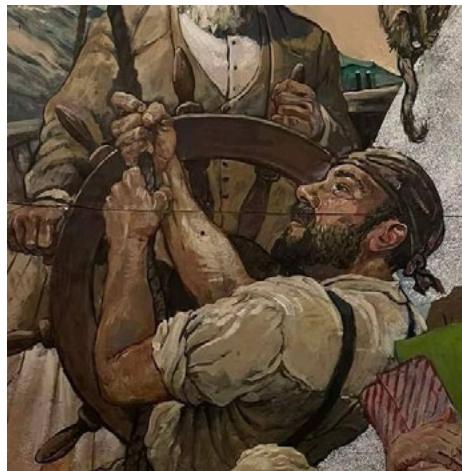
"The mission of the Hallowell Area Board of Trade is to create an economic environment for members to succeed and prosper. The Hallowell Area Board of Trade supports its membership by providing information, services, support of community events and providing advocacy on important community and membership issues. HABOT works with city government and community organizations to achieve a strong local economy."

We have lots of celebrations taking place over the next 12 months, all of which bring a big influx of customers to the Hallowell area. The board and members met on September 6, 2022, at Maine Local Market and planned our 2022/2023 celebration



dates. This year's Halloween event will take place on Saturday, October 29, 2022, with a parade at 6 pm. Christmas in Hallowell will take place on December 3, 2022. This year Christmas in Hallowell will be in conjunction with some Hallowell Pride events. Mardi Gras will be held Saturday, February 28, 2023.

WHAT'S NEW HALLOWELL MURAL PROJECT



The stunning mural created by Hallowell's own Christopher Cart is DONE. The wall located at 89 Water St. is repointed and skim-coated and ready for the mural. Early spring, we will be having a celebration as Chris unveils this stunning piece of art. This beautiful piece of art will change the face of downtown as people enter this beautiful City.



Bistro Milliard: Located at 167 Water St. features both French and Italian Cuisine.



Painting with Michael Paul: Located at 168 Water St. features a gallery and painting with Paul Cyr.



Condominiums: Downtown Hallowell has 6 new Luxury Townhouse Condominiums being built across from the boat landing. Units are scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2023.



Worster House: The Worster House that has been vacant for 3 years is once again filling up. The building is approximately 80% leased.

MEMBERSHIP

The Hallowell Area Board of Trade is looking to increase membership. We will be sending out invoices to current and past members, while also trying to attract new members. Invoices will be mailed out in December. We are also looking for new board members. We will be holding our annual meeting in January 2023 and will be looking for Future Officers for the Board of Trade. We are seeking a new president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary.

Do You Need Help? Do You Want to Help? Make the Connection!



Hallowell Volunteer Fire Department

The Hallowell Volunteer Fire Department has openings for firefighters. Training is available. Contact Chief Jim Owens at 207-754-2518 or email firefd29@aol.com for more information.



Cohen Center/Spectrum Generations—Volunteers Needed

Meals on Wheels “packers”: Tuesdays and/or Thursdays. Assist with sorting meals for home deliveries (need a detail-oriented person).

Volunteer dining staff: Monday through Friday 10:30a.m.–1:00p.m. May include meal prepping in the kitchen—a great opportunity for cooking enthusiasts.

Drivers and subs needed for Meals on Wheels. Check in with homebound older adults on Friday mornings. Contact Tracy Lloyd, Regional Center Director, at: tlloyd@spectrumgenerations.org or 207-626-7777.

Hallowell Champion



SEARCH (Seek Elderly Alone, Renew Courage & Hope) and RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) of Catholic Charities.

Need Help? If you are 60 years and older and need support with companionship, grocery shopping, or doctors' appointments, please call us.

Companions, Shoppers, Drivers Needed: Families, singles, retirees, college, and high school students: Volunteer a couple of hours a week for seniors who need a helping hand. Provide companionship, assistance with grocery shopping/errands, and/or rides to doctor appointments for senior clients 60 years and older who live in Kennebec County.



AmeriCorps Seniors

SEARCH utilizes AmeriCorps volunteers. Contact SEARCH Program Coordinator Lynn Kidd at 207-530-0137 or lkidd@ccmaine.org.



Hallowell Conservation Commission

The Hallowell Conservation Commission (HCC) needs additional volunteers to assist with projects or events targeted to protect and conserve the City's natural assets, manage invasive species, and maintain our open spaces and streams. If you are interested in being added to our Volunteer List, please email hallowellconservation@gmail.com and follow us on Facebook.



Hallowell Food Pantry

Join the Food Pantry Reserves. If you're interested in helping, contact Vicky Gabrion, Director. Call (207) 992-6899.

Visit the website www.hallowellfoodpantry.org and click on "Contact" or check out the Facebook page www.facebook.com/HallowellFoodPantry.

Hallowell Memory Quilt Comes Home

Some years back Nancy Bryant of Mechanic Falls donated a memory quilt to the local library. Quilts of this kind were often sewn by members of a church congregation or community group and given as a keepsake to a member who was moving from the area. Nancy said that the quilt was given to her by her mother-in-law Elsie Bryant, and was thought to come from a church in Mechanic Falls. It was often used as a couch covering in the Bryant household.

Nancy Petersons, the librarian, accepted the quilt. Her husband is president of the local historical

society, and the gift would be greatly appreciated. When she unfolded the quilt she realized, much to her surprise, that the quilt wasn't from Mechanic Falls after all! It came from Hallowell! The back of the quilt bore the inscription, "Presented to Mrs. W. H. Holmes by the ladies of the M.E. Church Hallowell, Maine March 30, 1899." The names of 391 members of the congregation are neatly written in longhand around the edges of the red and white quilt. The M.E. or Methodist Episcopal Church was renamed the Cox Memorial Church in 1928.

A quick web search led to www.historichallowell.org and a call to the Historic Hallowell Committee. Would we like the quilt? You bet! The weekend of the Maine Quilt Show in Augusta provided an occasion for Nancy



Nancy Petersons with the Hallowell Memory Quilt.

and her husband to visit Hallowell and bring the quilt home. The quilt, which measures 79" x 81", is made up of red and white squares so neatly stitched together that it looks like it was sewn by machine. Laurie LeBar, Chief Curator of History and Decorative Arts at the Maine State Museum, examined the quilt and provided guidance for its safe storage as part of the Hubbard Free Library collection. A list of the church members and close-up pictures of the quilt appear on the website www.historichallowell.org.

The Hallowell Memory Quilt is on display this fall at the Hubbard Free Library.

The Champion Publishing Partners:



Contributing Writers: Vicky Gabrion (VG), Karen Knox (KK), Gary Lamb (GL), Lindsay MacDonald (LM), Bob McIntire (BM), Hilary Neckles (HN), Diane Polky (DP), Sam Shepherd (SS), Karen Simpson (KS), Maggie Warren (MW), Brent Wooten (BW).

Edited by Maggie Warren and Bob McIntire.

Graphic design by Brian Ayotte, At Sea Graphic Design.

Printing and distribution by Quality Copy.

Comments and suggestions welcomed! Email hallowellagefriendly@gmail.com or mail to *The Champion*, PO Box 43, Hallowell, ME 04347

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

Local
Postal Customer