

The Roundtable

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Chiefs

Chief Tom Higgins of the Bangor Fire Department and Chief Mark Hathaway of the Bangor Police Department made it clear that their work is anything but sitting behind desks and writing memos. Their respective department's response to last week's storm and the ongoing drug storm captivated the morning breakfast meeting.

Chief Higgins, who is also the Emergency Management Director for Bangor, recounted how the week began quietly. Suddenly, the wind and the rain caused 62 calls in a very short time.



Police Chief Mark Hathaway

"This was not a 'catastrophic event,'" said Chief Higgins. But the length of time it took for the City of Bangor and Emera to get power restored was disappointing. "It was weird driving down major streets like Broadway and see no lights anywhere." The Fire Department responded to some traffic light outages by placing suitcase-sized generators at critical intersections until the power came on city-wide by Sunday night. "We didn't broadcast the news about the generators. We didn't want people removing them with chain cutters!"

What the department learned from last week's outages was citizens' requests for more warming and charging stations where electronic devices could be recharged. "Schools are natural centers to house people temporarily," he said, "but we want to work to get the schools back to normal so they can open sooner."

Why does a fire truck always accompany an ambulance to a call? "Because the fire trucks carry additional personnel and all the medical supplies that may be needed, backing up the ambulance crew," the chief said.

Chief Higgins said there were no major incidents in the city during the outages.

Speaking of medical supplies, Chief Mark Hathaway said that the Bangor police administer Narcan at least twice a week. Naloxone, sold under the brand name Narcan among others, is a [medication](#) used to block the effects of [opioids](#), especially in overdose. Naloxone may be combined within the same pill as an opioid to decrease the risk of misuse. When given intravenously, naloxone works within two minutes, and when injected into a muscle, it works within five minutes; it may also be sprayed into the nose. The effects of naloxone last about half an hour to an hour. Multiple doses may be required, as the duration of action of most opioids is greater than that of naloxone. (Wikipedia)

“Our problem is that drug dealers are sophisticated. We spend all day every day screwing with gang-affiliated drug dealers,” Chief Hathaway said. New Haven, Connecticut is a center for such gangs, and they have visited New Haven, and officers from that city have visited Bangor. “We just try to drive the dealers out by knocking on doors, arresting them, making it difficult to do business.”

As drug dealers have discovered, Maine is fertile ground for developing expanded “sales territory.” The chief said that drug dealing is a very lucrative business. “It is a constant battle.”



Pudge Harrison, Tom Higgins, Mark Hathaway

Breakfast in the chilly dawn

The Veteran’s Day Breakfast is around the corner- this Saturday at Jeff’s Catering. **Kendra Speed** reports that all is set for the event. Channel 2 is airing a quality promotion announcement about the breakfast.

The annual dinner/auction is around another corner not far away. **Lisa Wahlstrom** said that between 80 and 100 items were donated for previous auctions; she can use more for this year. **Kristy Kimball** needs sponsorships for the auction. And the appeal for supplies of red, white and “top shelf” wines remains valid.

Ken Huhn tuned our radar to Rotary Clubs around the world as he highlighted some of the unusual projects undertaken New Zealand, Canada and the Philippines, among others. **June Kontio** reported on the grant conference she attended last week. **President Doug Townsend** said we will have meetings each Thursday in December. The District Summit is scheduled for May 4-6, 2018 in the White Mountains in New Hampshire.

There is still a lot of nationalist passion in Northern Ireland, where **David Zelz** visited last week. He said he tried to attend a Rotary meeting. He arrived and there was no one there. Name tags were carefully laid out. He waited for a while, and then went to a pub across the street. We don’t know if he found a bunch of Rotarians in there.

While most of us lost only electricity during last week's storm, four trees fell on **Tom Dorrity's** house. But damage was not so serious that they had to leave the home. He did lose a chimney. The Interact Leaders Club will participate in the Festival of Lights Parade. **John Quinn** says they need a small trailer to pull their display and the members. Several sources spoke up this morning to help.

Trudy Darling brought greetings from **Caroline King** whose work with the American Red Cross is keeping her – and it – very busy as they help people recover from last week's storm.

Red Hat Alert! **Greg Jamison** said he will begin wearing his Santa hat next week to remind us to sign up for bell ringing for the Salvation Army. He will negotiate the preferred date of December 15 with the Salvation Army.

Greg was one of three birthday salutes the Mellifluous Duo of **Myers** and **Wahlstrom** performed. **Craig Costello** and **Pudge Harrison** (who introduced out guest speakers) paid fines for the tunes. Pudge benefited from the swelling voices of the entire audience. Pudge was unhappy that he lost the election and that he had to euthanize his 5 ½ year old Great Dane. **Paul Miragliuolo** reminded us of securing placemat ads for the Vets Day breakfast.

Les Myers- November 9, 2017

The Morning Gallery



A hand in Rotary

