

Readfield Messenger

www.readfield.govoffice.com



ROCKY XI+

A KJ story about my resignation as Town Manager was partly right, saying my recent time here has been rocky. The truth is much of my service since 2003 has been rocky, starting with my job interview in front of a full room of Select Board members, town employees, volunteers from different boards and committees, and members of the public. A burly, white-haired fellow with a booming voice stood up that evening, demanded to know if I was on the cover of the newspaper, and slammed the paper down in front of me. I looked at the photo of a burning vehicle on some street in Iraq, and said I had nothing to do with it. “Not that!” he yelled and flipped the paper over to a story about some recently-fired town manager. Again I said it wasn’t me, or anyone related to me. The Select Board chair murmured to the resident that the story was about the next interview candidate.

Continued on pages 4 and 5

Thank you!



A big thank you goes out to Peter Davis, our local veterinarian. Dr. Davis provides a great service to our community by volunteering to hold a rabies clinic twice a year here at the Town Office. As a rule we hold a clinic in October when the dog licensing season begins and again in January before the late fee of \$25.00 per dog kicked in. Hopefully you were one of the owners that took advantage of these clinics and licensed your dog(s) before February 1st.

Inside this issue:

Industry in Early Readfield	2
Select Board Corner	3
Town Manager’s Message	4-5
Conservation Commission	6
Readfield Recreation	6
Readfield Winter Fun Days	8
Reminders from the Clerks	10
Trails Committee	20
Calendar	23

Industry in Early Readfield



The Woolen Factory was located on Factory Street (Giles Road) in Readfield.

Industry in Early Readfield – March 18th

Maranacook Community and Adult Education will offer a new class by Dale Potter-Clark on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 titled *Industry in Early Readfield*. Best known is the industrial center at Factory Square but, in fact, there were others. Industry began early on in East Readfield and at other locations throughout town. Learn more about some of the businesses in town when Readfield was young, and about the men who owned and operated them.

The class will be held at Maranacook Community School on Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 6:30-8:30pm. Registration fee is \$15. To register contact Maranacook Adult and Community Education Phone: 207-685-4923 x 1065 or Register online using a debit or credit card. For details and to view all classes go to <http://maranacook.maineadulted.org>.

Select Board Corner by Sue Reay, Chair

This month's article is dedicated to addressing multiple questions residents have concerning the town. Going to begin with "Where is the town on the union issue?". The board was notified that the employees will be mailed a secret ballot on January 23rd and that the Maine Labor Board will open them publicly on February 10th. This is the final step to letting us know how the employees wish to continue. The vote will let us know if a union will be formed or not.

We are now in the budget season. Multiple residents still are unsure as to how this process is hearing what their feelings are. A survey is going to be put on the web site and also be available in hard copies at multiple locations; Town Office, Library, Post Office, Transfer Station, so please fill these out and let us hear your thoughts. All your responses are anonymous through this survey. Whether you have a suggestion on how to lower the mil rate or lower the budget, we want to hear from you. Please take the time to fill out the survey. Budget meetings are being held jointly with the select board and are televised live so that all can become informed of details contained within the town's budget.

Various executive sessions have been held with the public questioning our reasons. The "personnel" sessions can pertain to multiple people. They have not all been about the Town Manager as some are assuming. Personnel may include all select board members as well. Yes, sometimes we have issues with each other. Other sessions, dealing with legal, poverty abatement and the union are clearly spelled out in the motion.

Everyone needs to agree to disagree on issues. With that said, respect needs to be shown to each and every individual. All boards, committees, commissions, town employees and residents need to work together to do what is in the best interest of our entire community.

Concerning recycling at the Transfer Station, it's my belief that people don't understand that you no longer have to remove paper on cans, bottles, etc., rinsing out mayonnaise jars and peanut butter or fluff containers doesn't mean they have to be absolutely clean. Toilet paper rolls, cereal boxes, paper, envelopes, etc., are all acceptable in the single stream waste. Please try to do whatever you can to help us become a town with high recycling numbers that will save tax dollars!!!!

Lastly, hearing residents complain that this board is not accomplishing much. Per our roles and responsibilities, I, speaking for myself, looking at the policy, we have 22 specific duties to accomplish besides our retreat goals. I feel that so far this year we have accomplished a great many of our goals from the retreat along with fulfilling our obligations as board members. Annually we are tasked with reviewing all policies and ordinances of the town, many of which have been completed, along with new policies and reviewed dates being placed on ones that didn't need changing. This process will help future boards know that they were reviewed. Take time and look online at our Select Board roles and you might be surprised at how much is required to be done.

"If we try to see something positive in everything we do, life won't necessarily become easier but it becomes more valuable"

**"Every day is a new opportunity to be grateful, and enjoy the world, and improve it
— in our own little ways"**

ROCKY XI+ CONT.

Readfield's politics were turbulent in 2003. I was the fourth town manager in nine months when counting the time the Select Board stepped in to manage. Staff morale was low. The Transfer Station budget was bleeding red ink. Contracts weren't managed and roads were in the usual poor shape for small towns. I asked my interviewers: Was something amiss in town that had led to the turnover that year? Was there a time when the town ran well, was stable, and did folks know why it might be different now? They said the town had been in a bad patch, but assured me nothing was inherently wrong with the town. There certainly had been stable times in the past, and they knew that could be achieved again.

The booming fellow who thought I was a terrorist or fired town manager or both later became a trusted Select Board partner, mentor, and good friend. He often said to me: "Thank you for what you do, but I wouldn't have your job for all the tea in China!" He knew all too well what I also learned along the way: town management is like swimming across a river with strong currents, back eddies, and lots of rocks both visible and below the surface. It doesn't have to be difficult, but the chances are high that it could be hard at times as that's just the nature of local politics.

I never pleased everyone with what I did or the decisions that we're mine to make as manager. If I did my job correctly, someone or some group would not like it and would tell me so. The keys were to stay focused on the whole community and the legal framework of local government, and to listen carefully and communicate clearly even when others would not.

Despite the many rocks I hit on the way, I also enjoyed working with the community on a wide array of issues and opportunities. Some of these accomplishments included:

- ◇ Returning stability and integrity to town government operations;
 - ◇ Strengthening the town's financial position and operations, including good financial audits for every year, and rebuilding the unassigned fund balance to the auditor's recommended level;
 - ◇ Rebuilding every town road, except the Giles Road and bridge, and establishing a robust road maintenance program to protect the investment in infrastructure,
 - ◇ Writing the proposal and receiving a \$150,000 grant to start the Readfield Enterprise Fund to support local small businesses;
 - ◇ Working on the proposal, negotiating a \$692,000 grant to build the sidewalk, and managing that work with MDOT;
 - ◇ Bringing the Transfer Station budget under control, improving operations, building a safer new road, exploring and then managing the switch to single-sort recycling which reduced the budget, saved taxes, and reduced employee injuries;
 - ◇ Supporting conservation properties and development of a system of local trails;
 - ◇ Hiring and retaining qualified Town employees, investing in them to develop their skills and authority, and building a capable team of experienced professionals;
 - ◇ Promoting more engagement of Town committees, and supporting them in reaching their objectives;
- and

ROCKY XI+ CONT.

- ◇ Promoting more regional collaboration with surrounding towns and the Maranacook school district, saving taxes on joint fuel bids, joint purchases of office supplies, joint contracting options for energy audits and copiers, and securing a \$100,000 grant to promote cost-effective regional efforts which led to establishing the Public Works Department (PWD).

The PWD made evident just how rocky my job could be. Although it was the far-sighted leadership of the Select Board that established the PWD, it was my job to make it happen. I got to plan it, build it, manage it, evaluate it, improve it, and ultimately got to dismantle the PWD in an orderly way. Throughout this time, I served the Town's objectives, presented accurate information, facilitated open discussion, and got pilloried as well as praised for my work. The debate could go on, but the data showed for two years the PWD delivered more services than ever before, stayed under budget, and left a surplus reserve of almost a quarter million dollars that was later used to off-set road reconstruction and higher costs for contracted services that have continued since then.

The highest cost of the PWD period and afterwards probably was the political turmoil that affected the fabric of the community and how Town government operates. Hopefully the divisiveness can recede a bit further as new management comes in without any relation to the past. Perhaps someday the Town could again explore practical, cost-effective service delivery options in a rationale conversation without ideological rancor.

In parting, I would ask everyone here the same questions from my interview long ago: What has led to the current turnover? When did the town run well, with stability and progress? Is it different now, and if so, why? Plus, what could everyone do to make a brighter future here?

Readfield always has been and will be a good place, where the residents can achieve as much as they want together. Pay attention, listen carefully, get involved, communicate clearly, share compassion, and embrace different perspectives as they will strengthen everyone. Thanks for all the good work and challenges we met together. I am forever blessed for being part of your community.

Stefan Pakulski

IMPORTANT TOWN VOTE DATES!!

Feb. 04th—Joint meeting Budget Committee and Select Board at 5:30pm (Make up meeting if needed or Budget Committee alone to vote.)

Feb. 10th—Joint meeting Budget Committee and Select Board at 5:30pm

Feb. 18th—Joint meeting Budget Committee and Select Board at 5:30pm (If needed to finalize all votes by both boards.)

Mar. 05th—Select Board holding public meeting on articles at 6:30pm

Mar. 12th—Select Board holding Public meeting on articles at 6:30pm

Mar. 16th—Nomination Papers available

Mar. 23rd—Select Board vote on final warrant articles at 6:30pm

Readfield Conservation Commission

At the Dec 18, 2014 meeting of the Readfield Conservation Commission, Readfield resident Ellen Blanchard presented a proposal for her Maine Master Naturalist 'capstone' project. She plans to create a brochure for the Fairgrounds parking lot kiosk identifying/describing some of the interesting large stones/rocks that John Cushing placed last fall around the border of the new parking area. John C. reports that he specifically selected particularly different and attractive rock/stones from Mace's gravel pit here in Readfield. Ellen will paint small numbers on selected stones/rocks to use as a key with the brochure she develops. She has consulted with Bob Marvinney, Maine's State Geologist and Readfield resident. The project was unanimously endorsed by the RCC and should be available for all to enjoy later in the year. For an interesting discussion of the difference between rocks and stones (you will note that the author concludes--'clear as mud'), consult the website:

<http://geologywriter.com/blog/stories-in-stone-blog/rock-or-stone-is-there-a-difference/>

The RCC, which meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30, still has openings for members, so please call Dan M at 685-3698 if you are interested.

Submitted by Dan Meyer, RCC Chair



Update from the Readfield Recreation Committee:

The Basketball season is going well. Players are having fun and improving their skills. Thank you to all the coaches for their help in running practices and coordinating the games!

Winter Fun Day is in the works! On Sunday February 22nd, join neighbors and friends for a day of fun winter activities like skating, sledding, ice hockey, ice fishing, cross country skiing and snowshoeing. Share a cup of cocoa while you watch a fish being pulled from Maranacook Lake or witness the amazing skating skills of your neighbors, or debate the merits of old fashioned sleds versus newer ones. Let's get out and enjoy the beauty of Maine in winter and have some fun!

See you there!

We are looking for volunteers to help staff and supply hot chocolate stands and coordinate activities, please contact Carrie Knight at 332-6522 or carriehknight@hotmail.com if you are available.

Classes & Events – Maranacook Adult Education - Readfield

For details or to register, please visit <http://maranacook.maineadulted.org>. For more information, email us at adulatel@maranacook.org or call 685-4923, x 1065

January 2015

HiSET/High School Diploma Classes—Ongoing Year-round

Cardio Tennis, 5 Saturdays, 9-10 a.m., begins January 17.

Basic Dog Obedience, 6 Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m., begins January 20.

Aromatic Yoga Nidra, 5:30-7 p.m., Wednesday, January 21.

New Mindset: Make Positive Things Happen Every Day, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Monday, January 26.

Substitute Teaching Training Course, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Monday, January 26.

Acoustic Jam Session, 5 Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., begins January 28.

Adult CPR/AED, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 28.

Welding Basics, 12 Wednesdays, 5:30-8:30 p.m., begins January 28.

Intro to Chair Caning, 5 Thursdays, 6-8:30 p.m., begins January 29.

February 2015

HiSET/High School Diploma Classes—Ongoing Year-round

Driver Education, begins February 2. See web site or call for details.

New Mindset: Body Language and Tone of Voice, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Monday, February 2.

Hula Hooping, 2 Tuesdays, 6-8 p.m., Begins February 3.

New Mindset: Curious About Hypnosis? 3:30-5:30 p.m., Monday, February 9.

Aromatic Yoga Nidra, 5:30-7 p.m., Wednesday, February 11.

Basic Karate Techniques, ages 8-adult, 4 Mondays, 6-7:15 p.m., February 16.

New Mindset: Becoming a Master Communicator, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Monday, February 23.

Ceramic: Beginning/Intermediate, 5 Thursdays, 6:30-8 p.m., begins February 26.

Gymnastics for Children, 6 Fridays, ages 3-4, 5:30-6:30 p.m.; ages 5-7, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; ages 8 & up, 7:30-8:30 p.m., begins February 27.

CDL Class B: Dump Truck or Bus, late March, date TBA.

READFIELD WINTER FUN DAY

Sunday February 22nd, 2015 10am – 3pm (snow & ice conditions permitting)



Activities: All Day

Sledding – Maranacook High School

Skating – Readfield Beach

Ice Fishing – Readfield Beach



Ice Hockey pick-up games - 11am and 1pm at Readfield Beach

Guided Cross Country Ski tour - 11am, meet at Old Fairgrounds

Guided Snow Shoe tour - 1pm, meet at Old Fairgrounds

Massive Relay Race (teams of 3 for Snow Shoe, Cross Country Ski, Skate) - 2pm Readfield Beach

Snacks and Hot Cocoa at Readfield Beach and Sledding Hill

For questions, donations, or to volunteer call Carrie Knight 332-6522 or email at carriehknight@hotmail.com



READFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

-- by Florence Drake



There isn't much by way of earth-shaking news to talk about this time, but we do want to remind you all that the Readfield Historical Society Annual Winter Meeting will be held upstairs at the Town Office on Saturday, February 7th, beginning at 1PM for members and 2PM to attend our speaker.

Thatcher Freund, our speaker, is a published author, editor, and many other things, who goes around the countryside giving talks on the importance of preserving people's memories. He stresses that all people have lives worth hearing about, that everyone has a story to tell, and that when the person dies, all their memories die with them.

Whether you record a person by way of video, audio, or plain pencil and paper doesn't matter. The important thing is to get their stories. And, you don't even have to wait until they are old. There's no law against recording them now, then 20 years from now. What is important is to DO IT.

So, come listen to and be inspired by Mr. Freund. And remember, there are always yummy refreshments at our meetings. Plus, there is no charge to come and you don't have to be a member. As always, the general public is invited.

Meanwhile, take heart that the days are getting longer by a bit now and winter is half over. We're on the home stretch!

Hope to see you all at the meeting.

For more info, email readfieldhistorical@gmail.com or call 685-4662.

READFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL MEETING

Sat., Feb. 7, 2015 upstairs in Town Office Building

1:00PM -- Business Meeting followed by yummy homemade goodies

2:00PM -- Speaker: Thatcher Freund, on preserving our life's memories

General public enthusiastically invited!



Reminders from the Clerks

- * Dog licenses are due by December 31st for the 2015 year. **Late fees of \$25.00 per dog start February 1st.** You may go on line to our web site at www.readfield.govoffice.com and click on the link at the bottom of the home page or stop by the office with a current rabies certificate.
- * Second half of your 2014-15 taxes are due February 27th. If you are in Tax Club disregard this notice you have until June 30th, 2015 to pay your bill in full.
- * 2012 Real Estate tax liens are going to be foreclosed on February 18, 2015. Please do not disregard any mailings you receive from this office about overdue taxes. This is an automatic foreclosure the only thing that will stop it is payment.
- * The Budget season is gearing up and it's more important than ever to participate in the process. The vote will be by secret ballot so there will be no more on floor town meetings. If you want to express your opinion about certain expenditures you need to attend the meetings. All meetings will be posted on the calendar in this publication and on the Town's web site.
- * RSU 38 meetings. It is very important to attend the RSU budget meetings also and those as well can be found on the calendar and on our web site or the school's web site.
- * Homestead Exemptions: If you are a new resident don't forget to apply for your Homestead Exemption by April 1st in order for the exemption to be effective in the 2015-16 tax year. You may call the office for your form at 685-4939.

KENTS HILL CARES

Join the School Spirit Challenge and
HELP

GOOD SHEPHERD FOOD BANK

Feed Our Neighbors

**Donations accepted until
February 27 at Bearce Hall**

To donate online: <http://bit.ly/kentshillfooddrive>
For info: www.kentshill.org/kentshillfooddrive

207-685-1672




**KENTS HILL
SCHOOL**



Union Meeting House

A short while ago the UMH reported that it wanted to restore its late 19th century organ. At that time there was one wedding booked for the spring and the Board wanted the bride and her groom to walk down the aisle to the sound of organ music. Now, there is a second reservation for another wedding in the fall, so that adds to the desire to have the organ in playable condition.

Some welcome donations have come in from various friends and the Board felt secure enough that the remainder of the \$1,500 restoration estimate would be forthcoming by spring that it contacted the restorer and he came and took the "guts" of the organ (the keyboard, reeds and wind chamber) off to his workshop in Port Clyde. He promises to bring everything back and to reassemble the organ in its black walnut case before the spring wedding.

There is need, however, for some more donations so that the full \$1,500 will be on hand when the work is completed. You may send your donation to the "UMH Organ Fund" at 158 Thorp Shores, Readfield.

The returns are coming in nicely as a result of the 2015 membership mailing that went out a few months ago. The Board thanks to all who have been generous. Apparently, the offer of a complimentary print of the UMH to those who gave \$250 was attractive to some of you since we have been mailing out the print to those who so responded. All gifts are welcome and will add to the amount the UMH can spend this year on the floor rebuilding. From an examination of the membership renewals it appears that many of you are increasing the amount of your membership gift. The UMH is most appreciative.

At its last meeting the Board talked of different possibilities for summer programs. If you have suggestions please contact us. Are their concerts lectures, exhibits or other activities you would like to see at the Meeting House? Drop us a postcard or e-mail us at: mpeladeau@roadrunner.com. If you are a local group looking for a venue for your talents to shine we'd appreciate your dropping us a line.

Kindergarten Screening Registrations!

Readfield Elementary School would like to inform parents that appointments for Kindergarten Registrations will be held at Readfield Elementary School on the following dates:

Wednesday, March 25th

8:00 am –1:00 pm

and

Thursday, March 26th

8:00 am – 1:00 pm.

This registration is for children entering Kindergarten in Readfield Elementary School for the 2015-2016 school year. Current RES Pre-K Students do not need to sign up for a time, as we will screen our Pre-K students during the time they are at school. To be eligible to start school in the fall, a child has to be five years old on or before October 15th. All students, including those currently enrolled in the RES Pre School Program, are expected to be screened. Parents must present the following for admission:

- Birth Certificate
- Proof of vaccinations
- Proof of 5 year Physical
- **Please call Sherry in the office at Readfield Elementary School for an appointment at 685-4406.**

Readfield Spirit of America Awards

The Spirit of America Foundation Tribute is presented in the name of Maine municipalities to local individuals, organizations and projects for commendable community service.

The Readfield Select Board is looking for nominees for the 2015 Spirit of America Award and the Unsung Hero Award. If you wish to nominate a fellow resident or group for either award, nominations must be in writing and received at the Readfield Town Office, by February 27th, 2015. Please be sure to include an explanation in your nomination of why the nominee deserves the award.

Spaghetti Supper

Readfield United Methodist Church

Saturday, February 7, 2015

Route 17, Kents Hill, 5 – 6:30 pm

Adults \$7, Children \$3; under 5 years free

This supper will support a team of 25 faculty and students from Kents Hill School as well as members of the Readfield UMC who are traveling to LA in March.



“Open Mic Night”

Everyone is Welcome

February 14th 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Readfield United Methodist Church

Rte 17 Readfield, Me.

Readfield United Methodist Church will be hosting “Open Mic Night” in fellowship hall on Valentine’s Day February 14th.

Singers and musicians, soloist or small combos, are invited to showcase their talents. Both originals and covers are acceptable, and all musical genres encouraged, but please keep lyrics appropriate. Refreshments will be offered with proceeds going to local charities. For more information contact hosts John Twitchell @ 685-4170 drjohnnyt@yahoo.com or Rick Smith @ 860-2794macsuist117@yahoo.com.

Maranacook Area School District
Regional School Unit No. 38

A Caring School Community Dedicated to Excellence

Donna H. Wolfrom, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Nancy Harriman, Ph.D.
Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

Tel. 207-685-3336

Ryan Meserve
Special Education Director

Brigitte Williams
Finance Manager

Fax. 207-685-4703

RSU#38 Budget Update #1 – January 12, 2015

The RSU #38 budget development process unofficially began in December with district administrators developing budgets in their areas based on the question, "What do we need to provide the best possible education for our students?" These budgets were then compiled to create an Original Request Budget that formed the basis for an administrative team meeting on January 7, 2015. This meeting focused on student need and anticipated increases. (At this point we have received very little information from the state and other sources concerning expenditures and revenues.) In the following days administrators will continue discussions as we work to develop the First Draft FY16 Budget.

On January 21, 2015 at the RSU #38 School Board Meeting (6:30 p.m. at Maranacook Community High School), administrators will present the elementary, middle school, and high school portions of the FY16 budget. I would like to encourage community members to attend as many budget meetings as possible in order to stay informed during the process. As was the practice last year, I will publish budget updates after every budget meeting.

The FY16 RSU #38 budget development process officially began at the January 7, 2015 School Board Meeting with a discussion of the preliminary work that is being done by district administrators and with the adoption of a budget goals statement for the FY16 school budget. The goal for the FY16 budget will be: *"providing support for students in order to promote academic success."* Board members will deliberate and make decisions with this goal in mind.

As we approach the FY16 budget season we would like to inform the citizens of RSU #38 about some of the initiatives and successes that we celebrate:

1. Creation of a cohesive and consistent curriculum:

- Securing a PreK-12 Curriculum Coordinator
- Creating a common, standards based curriculum for all four elementary schools in Math, Reading, and Writing.
- Creating a pacing guide and common assessments for grades K-5 so that all elementary students will experience the same curriculum.
- Creating a common, standards based math curriculum and assessments for all middle school teams. Beginning similar work in reading and writing.
- Creating a standards-based curriculum in high school in order to meet the proficiency-based diploma law. Mathematics and English are the two content areas that we are addressing first, although work is being done in all content areas at the high school level. We have identified a data management system to track student progress toward proficiency.
- District math coach (Sarah Caban) and literacy coach (Barbara Bourgoine) working with teachers to improve instructional strategies as they work with new curricula.
- Purchasing library materials/resources (including expansion of elementary nonfiction reading collection) that are coordinated with curriculum topic areas.
- Piloting a National Assessment for foreign language in grades 6-12 and identifying proficiency benchmarks.

2. Support for students:

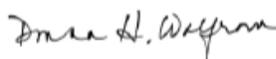
- Developing a Readiness Skills program in FY15 to provide support for elementary students with special needs. This program is housed at Readfield Elementary School but is available to students throughout RSU #38.
- Revamping of alternative education program 6-12.
- Providing a district Autism program to provide in-district support.

Continued next page

- Providing interventionists' support for students who are not meeting grade level standards in math and reading for grades K-8, and tracking data about their progress.
 - Adding Focus Time at the high school where teachers can electronically "tag" students to come in for extra support.
3. Increased dual enrollment opportunities from 6 credits that were formerly available to the present 68 credits for no added cost to students or the district. Students will graduate from high school with college credit.
4. Development of a Teacher/Administrator Evaluation System:
- Adopting the Marzano Teaching Standards. (These standards were recommended to the Board by the Stakeholder Committee for Teacher Evaluation and provide a framework of instructional strategies.)
 - Focusing the teacher evaluation process on professional growth and accountability. Teachers and administrators in the district are piloting the process this year.
5. Increased opportunities for collegiality:
- Providing time for elementary teachers K-5 to meet ½ day monthly by grade level with the curriculum coordinator, the math coach, and the literacy coach to plan curriculum, design and score assessments, analyze assessment data, and discuss instructional strategies.
 - Providing time for middle school math teachers and middle school literacy teachers to meet ½ day per month with the curriculum coordinator, the math coach, and the literacy coach to plan curriculum, design and score assessments, analyze assessment data, and discuss instructional strategies.
 - Providing time for high school teachers to meet during late start Wednesdays to plan curriculum, discuss instructional strategies, and examine student work in order to provide a more cohesive educational experience for our students.
 - Providing common planning time for grade levels/teams/departments, grades PreK-12.
6. Implementation of the RSU #38 5 Year Strategic Plan that was adopted by the RSU #38 School Board. Evidence of progress toward goals is collected and analyzed by the administrative team periodically.
7. Improvement of NECAP scores K-8.
8. Implementation of Technology:
- Providing students 6-12 with one to one technology (ipads)
 - Expanding the number of ipads in every elementary classroom
 - Providing access to laptops for all grade 4 and 5 students
 - Elementary students blogging about books with students at our other district elementary schools.
9. Development and implementation of a new Emergency Management Plan, facilitated by Kennebec Emergency Management, including vertical Crisis Team coordination and periodic joint meetings.

RSU #38 staff and administrators have accomplished much over the past year and our work is on-going as we continue to support and improve our "caring school community dedicated to excellence." Again I urge you to attend RSU #38 budget meetings, to ask questions, and to voice your opinions and concerns as the RSU #38 administrators and School Board work to develop a budget focused on "providing support for students in order to promote academic success."

Sincerely,



Donna H. Wolfrom, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Tel: 685-4064



Visa/Mastercard

KEN'S DRAG IN AUTO INC.

Rt. # 135, Readfield, Maine

Used Auto and Truck Parts • Auto Repair
Used Cars and Trucks • Buying Junk Cars

Ken Edgecomb

Mark Edgecomb

Maranacook Area School District Regional School Unit No. 38

A Caring School Community Dedicated to Excellence

Donna H. Wolfrom, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Nancy Harriman, Ph.D.
Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

Tel. 207-685-3336

Ryan Meserve
Special Education Director

Brigette Williams
Finance Manager

Fax. 207-685-4703

RSU #38 Budget Update #2

Re: January 21, 2015 RSU #38 School Board Meeting

"Providing support for students in order to promote academic success"

The RSU #38 School Board met for a budget workshop on January 21, 2015 at 6:30 pm at the Maranacook Community High School. As we start the FY16 budget process there are many unknowns, those of largest impact being state subsidy/EPS Allocation and rate of health insurance. Last week Education Commissioner, Tom Desjardin, stated that we should receive our EPS information by the second week in February. We have no information about a date for insurance information.

Moving forward, RSU #38 administrators have met to develop the first draft of the FY16 budget. There will be many revisions to this draft as we receive more information, examine programs and staffing, and engage in budget deliberations. We will provide copies of revised drafts throughout the budget process both at our meetings and on the district's web site.

At the January 21, 2015 budget meeting, elementary principals Janet Delmar (Manchester and Mt. Vernon) and Jeff Boston (Wayne and Readfield), Maranacook Community Middle School principal, Cathy Jacobs, and Maranacook Community High School principal, Dwayne Conway, explained various staff and instructional items in their budgets. The items are included in the **Draft 1 General Fund School Summary Budget**. Please keep in mind that the budget proposal is a first draft and will be changing as we progress through the budget process.

Principals highlighted the following items that have been included in the first draft budget:

Manchester Elementary School:

Afternoon ed. tech. for Pre-K (currently paid by town of Manchester)

Mt. Vernon Elementary School:

Additional Grade 1 teacher

½ day per week each, increased time for Art, Music, Computer due to increased number of classes

½ day per week increased guidance

3 ½ days per week math interventionist

Readfield Elementary School:

Afternoon ed. tech. for Pre-K

Wayne Elementary School:

½ time Certified Literacy Specialist

1 day per week increased guidance

1 ½ days per week math interventionist

Elementary district-wide:

½ time increased nursing

Middle School:

Behavior Interventionist position

Writing Curriculum Materials

24 HR. SERVICE

207-685-4403

POTTER PLUMBING CO.

JOSEPH L. POTTER

MASTER PLUMBER



P.O. BOX 477

READFIELD, ME 04355

WWW.WATERTREATMENTREADFIELD.COM

WATER TREATMENT
& PUMP SERVICE

Continued next page

High School:

Literacy Interventionist
Math Interventionist
Textbooks, on-line textbooks, materials for new classes and to replace outdated materials.

Several charts and graphs were sent to board members and included in packets that were handed out at the January 21 meeting. Throughout the budget process additional materials will be distributed. All materials that are produced will be available on the RSU #38 web site.

Regional School Unit #38 State Valuation Yearly Comparison: Our subsidy from the state is dependent on enrollment and valuation. The best circumstance is when enrollment is up and valuation is down. You can see by this chart that every town valuation except Manchester has gone down from FY15 to FY16. Unfortunately, while valuation is down our enrollment has also gone down. We expected this decrease in enrollment due, in part, from the elimination of the Phoenix House program. (Phoenix numbers were approximately 14.)

RSU #38 Enrollment History: The next chart shows total RSU #38 enrollment. The attending line (top) shows tuition students. Residents (bottom) are those students who live in district.

RSU #38 (Elementary) Enrollment: This describes the class sizes in each elementary school as of January 5, 2015.

RSU #38 Middle School Enrollment for Semester 1 in 2014

RSU #38 High School Enrollment for Semester 1 in 2014

RSU #38/Union #42 Budget/Subsidy History: The top line is the budget history and the bottom line is the subsidy history.

RSU #38 Budget Pie Charts show a breakdown of the past three budget years. You can see that the largest portion of money goes to staff salaries, and the second largest to benefits. Other portions of the budget have remained fairly proportional in the last 3 years.

Summary of Staff Increases for FY16 Budget

New Program/Positions/Account Evaluation Templates offer an explanation of new items that are included in the Draft 1 Budget proposal.

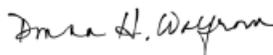
Summary of Budget Reductions from Original Requests as of January 21, 2015: After submitting original requests, administrators met to prioritize items in the budget. This chart lists those items that were cut in order to develop the first draft budget that was presented to the RSU #38 School Board. This list will continue to change throughout the FY16 budget process.

The next RSU #38 School Board meeting will be held on February 4, 2015 at the **Readfield Elementary School** in order to highlight student work on Promethean Boards. Budget topics for this meeting, which starts at 6:30 pm include Special Education, Technology, English Language Learners, Gifted and Talented. The RSU #38 School Board will continue to make decisions through their FY16 budget goal,

"Providing support for students in order to promote academic success."

We invite RSU #38 citizens to attend budget meetings in order to be informed about the FY16 budget.

Sincerely,



Donna H. Wolf from, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Sponsored by



A Cribbage/Scrabble Social

February 22, 2015

2:00 to 5:00 pm

Readfield Town Hall



Enjoy an afternoon of game playing and socializing! Learn to play the game of cribbage or scrabble! Extra cribbage boards and cards are welcome. Scrabble boards and dictionaries will be available but feel free to bring your own.

Door prizes will be drawn every 30 minutes (must be present to win)

Light refreshments will be sold

Donations accepted at the door

All proceeds to benefit the Readfield Community Library

RSVP: friendsofthercl@gmail.com

TRAILS COMMITTEE



This is budget season as the Budget Committee and the Select Board listen to proposals from various committees to justify their proposed budgets. The Trails Committee has presented its proposed budget with an expected decrease of 48% from the current fiscal year to the next fiscal year or from \$4,985 to \$2,576.40.

And what will this proposed budget achieve?

The Trails Committee is committed to building a trail on the 300' of the discontinued portion of the Morrill Road where the Morrill Road meets the Sturtevant Hill Road. Although this trail was proposed to be built during 2014, it was not built. Since then there has been an increase in the hourly cost of use of the Town's backhoe and operator for installation of a culvert and the cost of warning signs for crossing Route 17 (Main Street) between Giles Road and the Sturtevant Hill Road. The construction of this trail will provide access to Giles Road, historical Factory Square, Mill Stream Road, Morrill Road, Nickerson Hill Road, Old Kents Hill Road and the sidewalks along Main Street and Millard Harrison Drive as well as the trails in the Fairgrounds Complex.

Also on the Trails Committee agenda for 2015 are preventing erosion on a short, steep incline on the David McPhedran Trail in the Fogg Farm Conservation Area by the installation of waterbars to direct water off the trail and the possibility of building a trail on Town-owned land at the former capped town dump. This is a Town-owned area of 61 acres. Although much preliminary work still needs to be done, the trail would go along an esker far behind four contiguous private property owners' properties parallel to and far back from the North Road. The Trails Committee envisions building a small parking area near the entrance gate on North Road to the former dump. And the Kennebec Land Trust has granted the Trails Committee authority to build a relatively short trail on KLT's Echo I property across from the Torsey Pond Nature Preserve parking lot that will provide access to a large beaver bog and a stream lined with hemlock trees. The trails at the former capped town dump and behind the private property owners' properties and the trail on KLT's property will require either a trail agreement or a trail easement. An item to authorize the Select Board to enter into either a trail agreement or a trail easement will be on the ballot at the June election. These trails will also be wilderness trails and will not be built to handicap accessible standards as are the trails in the Fairgrounds Complex.

Readfield Elementary School Play Group

Thursday during the school year from 9AM to 11AM there will be a free toddler play group for ages infant to 4 years of age at the Readfield Elementary School in the multipurpose room. All are welcome to attend with their parent or caregiver. Activities include free play, music, story time in the library and snack. For more information contact Hannah Flannery at 685 7385.



LORD'S CUPBOARD FOOD BANK

Located: at the New Life Church of God

874 Main Street (Rt.# 17)

Serving: Readfield & Manchester Residents

Hours: 1st Friday of the month 5:30—6:30 pm

3rd Sunday of the month 1:00—2:00 pm

If you have an emergency we will open by appointment, call 685-4572.

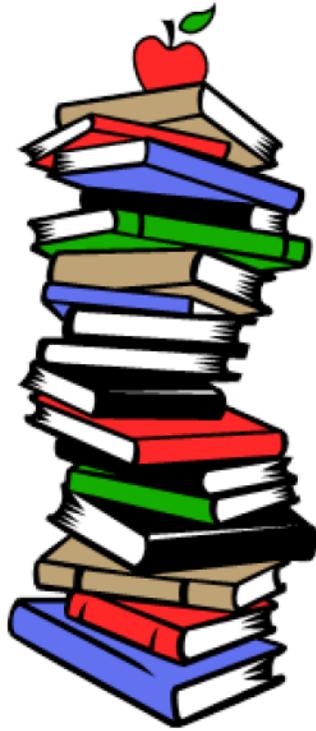
Mount Vernon Food Bank

People in Readfield who find they are in need at any time during the year do not have to go hungry. The Mt. Vernon Food Bank, located at the First Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon, serves the people of Readfield in addition to Vienna, Fayette and Mt. Vernon. It is open every Saturday morning from 10am to 12pm and is supported by the schools, churches and individuals from the area.

Those who are not in need of the food service can become supporters of the Food Bank with tax-deductible checks made payable to the Mt. Vernon Food Bank.

If you are in need of help during off hours, please call: Betty White at 293-2273, Helen Wilkey at 293-2351 or Irene Wadleigh at 293-2308.

Readfield Community Library Annual Winter Booksale!



- **Books for All Ages**
- **Hardcover and Paperbacks**
- **Fiction and Nonfiction**
- **Movies and Audiobooks Too!**

**Saturday, February 28th, 10AM-1PM
At the Readfield Community Library**

**Support Your Local Library and Fight Cabin
Fever at the Same Time**

HEATING ASSISTANCE

Donations to the Heating Assistance Fund are always welcome. We have had a multiple families in need looking for heating assistance this winter.

If you would like to help send your donations to the Town Office or just stop by. Every little amount helps your friends and family of Readfield stay warm. Donations of wood and pellets also welcome.



February 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 \$25 Late Fees on dog licensing starts today	2	3	4 5:30 Budget/ Select Brd. 6:30 RSU 6:45 Library	5 6:30 Plan. Brd.	6	7
8	9 6:30 Select Brd.	10 5:30 Budget/ Select Brd. 6:30 Conser. Com	11 5:30 Budget/ Select Brd.	12 6:30 Plan. Brd.	13	14 Happy Valentines Day
15	16 PRESIDENTS' DAY TOWN OFFICE CLOSED TODAY!	17	18 5:30 Budget/ Select Brd. 5:30 Public Works Adhoc	19 6:30 Plan. Brd.	20	21
22	23 6:30 Select Brd.	24 6:30 Trails Com.	25 6:30 RSU	26 6:30 Plan. Brd.	27	28

Town of Readfield
8 Old Kents Hill Road

Phone: 207-685-4939
Fax: 207-685-3420

www.readfield.govoffice.com



Select Board

Sue Reay, Chair: Phone: (207) 685-9953

selectboard.sr@ne.twcbc.com

Valarie Pomerleau, Vice Chair: Phone: (207) 458-2124

selectboard.vp@ne.twcbc.com

Allen Curtis: Phone: (207) 685-3257

selectboard.ac@ne.twcbc.com

Thomas Dunham: Phone: (207) 685-4524

selectboard.td@ne.twcbc.com

P. Greg Durgin: Phone: (207) 685-4481

selectboard.pgd@ne.twcbc.com

THE SELECT BOARD MEET EVERY OTHER MONDAY NIGHT AT 6:30 PM.

Looking for Board Members for the

Appointment Policy Adhoc Com: 2-public members, 2-committee chairs or members

Appeals Board: 2 members needed (2016 & 2017 term)

Conservation Commission: 1 member 2017 & 1 member for 2016 & 1 associate member for 2017

Library Board of Trustees: 1 member (2016)

Library Building Committee: 1 contractor needed

Planning Board: 1 alt. member needed (5 yr.terms)

Public Works Adhoc Committee: 1 member (till finished)

Local School Advisory Committee: 1 member (2015)

Heritage Days volunteers are needed to form a committee