

# Town of Mount Vernon Community Newsletter

www.mtvernonme.org

April Edition 2016

## **Town Office:**

Phone: 293-2379  
Fax: 293-3507  
[clerk@mtvernonme.org](mailto:clerk@mtvernonme.org)

Mon, Tues, Thurs:  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Wed: 1 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
Fourth Sat. of each month:  
9 a.m. - Noon

## **Selectmen Meetings:**

Every other Mon. at the  
Town Office

Warrant 6:30 p.m.  
Regular Business 7 p.m.

## **Planning Board:**

John Hagelin, Chair  
293-2157

3rd Tues. of the month at  
Community Center, 7 p.m.

## **Transfer Station:**

Wayne Colebrook, Mgr.  
458-1425  
Sat. & Sun.  
8:30 a.m. - Noon  
Wed. 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
(Memorial Day thru  
Labor Day)

## **Selectmen:**

[select-  
board@mtvernonme.org](mailto:select-board@mtvernonme.org)

Paul Crockett, Chair  
293-2514  
[paul@@mtvernonme.org](mailto:paul@@mtvernonme.org)

Clyde Dyar  
592-3700  
[clyde@mtvernonme.org](mailto:clyde@mtvernonme.org)

Sherene Gilman  
293-2388  
[sherene@mtvernonme.org](mailto:sherene@mtvernonme.org)

## **Selectmen's Assistant**

Amanda Couture  
458-6389  
[ajcouture2@gmail.com](mailto:ajcouture2@gmail.com)

## **Town Clerk & Tax Collector**

Rachel Meader  
293-2379  
[clerk@mtvernonme.org](mailto:clerk@mtvernonme.org)

## **Deputy Clerk**

Amanda Wheeler  
[depu-  
tyclerk@mtvernonme.org](mailto:depu-tyclerk@mtvernonme.org)

## **Treasurer**

Marti Gross  
293-2379  
[marthaayn@msn.com](mailto:marthaayn@msn.com)

## **General Assistance**

Sherene Gilman  
293-2388  
[sherene@mtvernonme  
.org](mailto:sherene@mtvernonme.org)

## **Road Commissioner**

Lee Dunn  
(h) 293-2179  
(cell) 242-5828

## **Animal Control Officer**

Kevin Wheeler  
778-1815

## **Fire Chief**

Dana Dunn  
293-2114  
(non-emergencies)

## **Rescue Director**

Pat Rawson  
293-2597  
(non-emergencies)

## **Health Officer**

Daniel K. Onion  
293-2076

## **Newsletter Editor**

Tina Mann  
446-3297  
[mtvnewslet-  
ter@gmail.com](mailto:mtvnewslet-ter@gmail.com)

## **RSU #38**

**Supt. Of Schools**  
Donna H. Wolfrom, Ed.D.  
685-3336

## **Board Members**

Michael Apolito (293-3155)  
Trish Jackson (293-8012)  
Michele Pino

## **Local School Comm.**

Abby Dunn  
Madeline Snow

## **CEO, Plumbing & Health Inspector**

Richard Marble  
293-2636  
[ceo@mtvernonme.org](mailto:ceo@mtvernonme.org)  
Wed. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## **Dr. Shaw Memorial Library**

293-2565

Website: [drshawlibrary.org](http://drshawlibrary.org)

Mon. 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
Wed. 9 a.m. - Noon  
3 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
Sat. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

## *Library Trustees:*

George Smith  
Kathleen Kelley  
Fred Webber  
Dorcas Riley  
Shari Hamilton

## **Inside this issue:**

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## **Paid Business Advertisements**

Bus. Card Size \$15/mth  
1/4 page \$25/mth  
1/2 page \$45/mth  
Full page \$90/mth

Checks are to be made payable to: Town of Mt. Vernon. All ads must be prepaid with ad copy and payment sent to:

Tina Mann, Newsletter Editor  
P.O. Box 343  
East Winthrop, ME 04343  
FMI (207) 446-3297

## Selectmen's Desk

Spring is almost here!! This is mud season for many of us and budget season for a few of us.

Your select board, along with the treasurer and the budget committee has been busy since December working on the municipal budget. Sherene Gilman, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year running, has been the lead person on this important task. She somehow keeps the rest of us on track and on schedule – so thanks Sherene!

Meanwhile the RSU 38 Board has been even busier dealing with their budgeting. We encourage all taxpayers to monitor the budgeting process and ask questions or provide input. As you may know the majority of local property taxes go to the RSU in support of education. Their current status and minutes can be found here: <http://www.maranacook.org/budget/>

Please be aware of several important dates:

RSU budget vote at Maranacook: May 18<sup>th</sup> (see the link above for more details)

State primary, RSU budget validation referendum and local elections: June 14<sup>th</sup>

Mount Vernon Town Meeting: June 18<sup>th</sup> at the elementary school at 9:00 a.m.

The road commissioner, after taking input from the select board, has been budgeting for various road repairs and improvements. The price of asphalt pavement is down this year so that will be helpful from a budget perspective. He is also planning to replace numerous culverts on some roads that will need some significant rebuilding over the next few years. Many of you noticed a few years ago when Readfield upgraded a lot of roads in one year and have read that Belgrade is doing the same thing this year. Both towns financed those improvements with municipal bonds. While that method of borrowing is possible for us, we have been trying to avoid having to incur the borrowing costs and keep working on the roads with the annual budget that town meeting approves for this important municipal function. Of course this sort of financial commitment is also associated with the "right" timing. Over the past 8 or 10 years we have taken on financial obligations for a rescue vehicle, a fire truck, salt shed, trash compactors, etc. Several of the older investments will be paid off this year and next.

In any case, please do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions about the budgeting. All our meetings are open and given the small size of our town we always have time for input from citizens.

### A quick Transfer Station note

Spring and summer are really busy at the transfer station as our population swells with our summer friends.

Please remember that recycling is mandatory in Mount Vernon. With zero-sort recycling it could not be easier as you can toss paper, plastic, tin cans and glass in ONE receptacle at home and dump it all in at once in the recycle compactor. As always StyroFoam is NOT recyclable at all and must be tossed in the trash.

On behalf of the Mount Vernon Select Board,

Paul Crockett, Chair

### Town of Mount Vernon Select Board Meeting Synopsis of Minutes - February 22, 2016

7:01pm **LifeFlight Donation Request.** The LifeFlight letter was emailed to Dana asking his opinion. LifeFlight is asking for a donation of \$820 from Mt. Vernon. Crockett moves to table this issue until next meeting to allow time to get input from Dana. There was a discussion regarding if Fire/Rescue may want to add this into their budget, and also if this is something that needs to go through a petition process.

7:10pm **Budget Status Update.** Next Monday, February 29 the Beach Committee, Athletic Association, and Community Center Committee will be submitting their budgets at the Budget Meeting. The ACO and Public Access TV will also be in attendance to submit their budgets. The Road Commissioner was not able to at-

tend last meeting because of the storm, so that meeting will be rescheduled.

7:15pm **Other Business.**

-Discussion about handling of calls at the **town office**. There are several companies that host a **telephone service**. The Town currently pays \$240 for internet and phone. Crockett spoke with OTT and they submitted a proposal for a 3 year contract including 5 phones, one virtual extension, and internet for \$187/month. There is an initial expense of \$1500 to buy the individual phone sets and equipment. The Board and Budget Committee will discuss this at next Monday's meeting.

-The Community Partnership Corp (CPC) has been working diligently doing **wetland delineation** to help the ecology of the spring and lake. They need money to get them started off with grants to do research and

some engineering work. Dyar suggests the \$3,000 in an account that was originally raised for community housing and asks for the Board to consider using that money to match the CPC in the work they are doing to improve the Town. The Select Board has the authority to use this money for town match grants. Crockett is in favor of using it. Gilman is in favor of using it for this cause, but would like to make sure they replenish that money so the line item remains in the warrant. Dyar motions to use up to \$3,000 for wetlands delineation downtown that the CPC is undertaking. Gilman seconds. Vote 3-0 in favor.

**Town of Mount Vernon Select Board Meeting Synopsis of Minutes - March 7, 2016**

7:01pm **RSU 38 Budget Status.** Crockett attended the meeting at Maranacook last week. All the Maranacook school budget info is online at their website Maranacook.org. Their current proposed budget includes about a 3% increase. This will depend on the valuation and Mt. Vernon's valuation is up. Mt. Vernon currently has approximately 150 students and pays approximately \$250,000 per month. Capital projects include a roof in Readfield and some bigger projects in the next five years, like the entire roof on the high school. The Select Board encourages citizens to look at the budget on the website- <http://www.maranacook.org/budget/>

Dyar suggests getting the senator/ representative into a Select Board meeting to discuss the Budget. The lower income tax has resulted in increased property taxes for citizens. Municipalities by law are supposed to get 5% of the sales tax back in revenue sharing and the state government has been ignoring that.

7:10pm **Town Budget Status Update.** The last meeting included the Beach Committee, Athletic Committee, and the Community Center. The ACO was unable to come in but sent in his budget request. There were no increases requested by anyone.

The CEO, Town Clerk, and Treasurer will be

coming in next Monday, 3/14 at 6:30pm. The public is invited to attend.

The Select Board discusses maintenance that will be needed within the next couple years at the Town Office. There is also a discussion about getting a pc for the assessor. Dyar suggests the CEO and assessor utilize the same pc since they are here on separate days. Crockett asks Marble about this and he said that would be ok. Obtaining a laptop for the Road Assessment software is also talked about.

7:15pm **Contract Renewal Check.** Couture still needs to follow up on the Humane Society contract.  
-Need to pick up on option year for snow plowing.

-The Assessor will increase to 600 hours. The contract would go from \$24k to \$30k. There is a discussion about converting the maps to CAD.

7:23pm **CEO Budget.** Marble presents his budget, which is the same as last year. He said he is fine with the same budget and the 3% raise that all town employees are receiving.

7:25pm **Other Business.** Crockett followed up with OTT about the virtual phone answering. There would be a one-time up front cost to purchase the phones and the fee for long distance is 2.9 cents/minute. Rachel stated there are very few long distance calls made from the town office.

7:30pm **Executive Session to discuss legal matters.** Dyar motions to enter Executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E) Consultations with Legal Counsel. Gilman seconds. Vote 3-0 in favor. Dyar motions to exit executive session. Gilman seconds. Vote 3-0 in favor. No action was taken.

To view entire meeting minutes contact the Select Board Assistant at [ajcouture2@gmail.com](mailto:ajcouture2@gmail.com) or call 458-6389.



Stay Tuned for More Information About a Summer EMT Class Tentatively Scheduled for May 23 through August 31 Mondays and Wednesdays Mt. Vernon Fire Station Interested? call Pat Rawson 293-2597

RSU #38  
Manchester ~ Mount Vernon ~ Readfield ~ Wayne  
PRE-K OPEN HOUSE  
FOR THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR

Who:

- Potential incoming 2016-2017 Pre-K students
- Any child age 4 or below October 15, 2015
- Living in Manchester, Mount Vernon, Readfield, or Wayne

WHERE:

- Manchester Elementary – Pre-K Classroom
- Mt. Vernon Elementary – Pre-K Classroom
- Readfield Elementary – Pre-K Classroom (Wayne children welcome!)

WHY:

- Visit your school and classroom before the screening day
- Meet your teachers and classmates
- Ask questions about Pre-K and the screening process

WHEN:

- Friday, May 13, 2016, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

FMI: call your school  
Manchester 622-2949  
Mt. Vernon 293-2261  
Readfield & Wayne 655-4406

## Dr. Shaw Memorial Library

*contributed by Mary Anne Libby*



"A library is a place vibrating with ideas."  
Nancy Kunhardt Lodge

We are planning our upcoming summer reading program. The theme this year is: "On Your Mark, Get Set, READ!" It is designed to support and promote the passion for play – and reading is always an important part of imaginative play. We're thinking: dance or yoga and games, hula hoops, movement of all kinds. Maybe some music, gardening. And of course – plenty of stories and books!

It looks like the annual Bird Walk will be back on the docket. We are talking with our two lead birders, and once we come up with a definite date, we'll let you know more.

Thank you to our wonderful tax gurus for once again helping so many of us in the surrounding community with our income tax paperwork! Yet again we had quite a waiting list, and David found a way to fit in a few extra people here and there. This is such a wonderful service offered to our citizens.

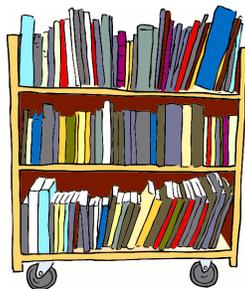
We (and by "we", I mean mostly Alice and Marianne Archard and Jim Anderberg) are constructing a website for the library! Lots of editing happening at this point, and there are always a few more things to add, but we are ready for you to take a look! You can visit our site at [drshawlibrary.org](http://drshawlibrary.org). It is yet another way for you to connect with us.

With all of the emphasis on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) learning for young people, we have been looking at our collection lately, taking stock of our science-related resources for all ages. What we look for in literature having to do with science for our youngest readers are topical books that also tell a good, engaging story through narrative, cool information, and – always – remarkable artwork. Our picture book collection includes books that introduce physics (Darlene Stille's [Air Outside, Inside, and All Around](#); and [Motion: Push and Pull, Fast and Slow](#)); biology and nature (Stockland's [Sandy, Leaf, or Coral Reef: a Book About Animal Habitats](#); [I Am Water](#), by Jean Marzolo); earth systems (Rosinsky's [Rocks: Hard, Soft, Smooth, and Rough](#)); and applied science ([The Day-Glo Brothers](#), by Chris Barton). Top authors to keep in mind are Gail Gibbons, Jim Arnosky, and Joanna Cole (we have her Magic School Bus series of books, as well as videos). There are so many more titles and authors that bear mentioning, but we'll stop there for now.

The Juvenile 500s (science) collection covers chemistry, physics, magnetism and electricity, science experiments, water & earth, sea life, animals & insects. Our go-to authors are Seymour Simon and Steve Jenkins – they give us great information and narrative coupled with gorgeous illustration. The Eyewitness book series is always popular, no matter what topic.

Don't forget to check our 500s in the adult nonfiction, too. There's plenty to pique your interest. Besides a wide array of field guides, there is lots of fascinating narrative, creative writing by beloved authors like Rachel Carson, Dean Bennet (local nature writer), Diane Ackerman, and Stephen Hawking.

Meanwhile, to "depart the text", we have a new Maine Poet Laureate, Stuart Kestenbaum. Stuart came to do a reading at Vienna Union Hall last year, to quite an appreciative crowd. We have three of his books in our collection. This week, I lent out my own copy of Mary Oliver's most recent book of poetry, [Felicity](#), to a dear friend; and I've been paging through an old favorite book, [Birch Stream and Other Poems](#) by Maine poet Anna Boynton Averill. All of it keeps me in mind of a phrase written by our young patrons who leave encouraging and thoughtful notes for us to find around the library. They spoke, in a recent note, of living "deep, like a poet". This seems to be a wise and beautiful way to shape a life, don't you think? Something to aspire to. What are you reading during the slow turning towards spring?



## Mt. Vernon Fire Department



Warmer days are coming. For some reason, when it gets warmer, people decide it would be a great time to set things on fire and burn their old burn pile. Personally, I give it time and let mother nature work her magic and decompose it naturally. I realize that not everyone has the same philosophy, and some people use these events as an opportunity to get their friends over for a get together. If your friends are so fickle that you need something to entertain them to get them over, I say get new friends- but to each their own I guess.

There are definitely right ways and wrong ways to take care of your burn pile. The first thing you need to do is get a burn permit (I guess technically speaking, the first thing is to gather things to burn- true, but a close second is the permit). You can get a burn permit on days that fires are allowed by visiting the fine people at the Mount Vernon General store. They are able to issue permits seven days a week, weather permitting. Also, they have great pies, so while you're there you might want to pick one of those up- and a first aid kit- you might need it. The other way to receive a burn permit is to go online at <https://www13.informe.org/burnpermit/public/index.html> and purchase one from the State, although they don't have pie, and you can't get your first aid kit there.

The other thing you need to make sure you have is water. Lots of it. Some for drinking (fires are warm, and dehydration is no fun). Most of it for putting the fire out if things go wrong. Make sure that your hose has enough length to reach all corners of the prospective fire and have some additional length in case things don't go as you had planned. When you burn, make sure that your fire will be contained in either a fire ring, pit surrounded by stones or other non-combustible material, or a burn barrel. Make sure there is nothing combustible outside of the fire, either around it or above it (I learned this one that hard way when I was a teenager).

As always, make sure that you are safe. It makes our job at the Fire Department a lot easier. Accidents happen, and never hesitate to call if you find yourself in trouble. It is a lot easier to put out a fire that is just getting started than one that is already out of control.



## Mount Vernon's Heroes

*contributed by Wayne Davis*

When I purchased "Ray's Garage" in 2003, I had no idea of the inherent challenges to come: no plumbing, electricity, heating or even walls, and I had no plan. I was blind to the impossible mess but happy to have a new place to work in and call my own.

I was quickly overcome with the magnitude of what I'd undertaken. And then **Stan Hapeman** drove by and said "Jump in!" He drove me around Mount Vernon and introduced me to **Ralph Hopkins** who became my source for tons of quality and affordable lumber and who also built a beautiful staircase, and **Sid Smith** who became my source of advice on landscaping, sewage system and much more.

Sid passed me on to **Tunny Leighton** for smaller jobs. Tunny said his grandson **Eric Dunn** might help. Eric worked his artistic magic on every aspect of our present home/business. He also provided advice to earn **Richard Marble's** trust. In recent times Eric worked with **Erik Groenhout** to diagnose a dangerous foundation failure and together, they rebuilt a beautiful deck as well as a stylish new kitchen.

From all that early help my wife and I were able to create a business, The Lakeside Loft guest house. We've received many referrals from folks like the Berry's, the Robinsons and the Gleichenhouses. **Paul Crockett** helped create a communication system and wouldn't accept any payment, thus giving me a desire to contribute to the community.

**Russell Libby** asked me to participate on 2 town projects and through these eyes, I began to discover and appreciate the diverse contributions of so many others; assistance that **Betty White** provided for many families at the Food Bank; a local library that is about so much more than books via **Mary Ann, Alice, Anne** and others.

Our Fire Department: "**Chief**" **Dunn** and many dedicated volunteer firefighters, **Pat Rawson** and the **EMS personnel, Bob & Vicki Wallach** at the **Old Post Office Café** who complimented and contributed to the success of our business; the many volunteers who create vibrancy and connectedness through the Community Center morning breakfasts and yearly activities, "the little engine that could" **Sandy Wright and the Community Partnership** committee, working tirelessly to take on impossible projects like combating erosion into the jewel of our village, Minnehonk Lake, and another group formed in 2009, the **Greater Minnehonk Lake Association**, which just completed their second 5K Loon Lap in coordination with the CPC.

When I shared some of this with **Mary Ann Libby** she said "Maybe everyone is heroic in one or more ways." It's this sense of a working, caring village that I think our guests find charming and inspiring in addition to the welcome they receive when they arrive to relax and recreate or visit family in the area. I've gradually discovered that a great community is in no way accidental. It is the numerous contributions of many people over time that create the fabric which shapes who we are and connects into the tapestry that is uniquely Mt. Vernon. We are so proud and pleased to have retired and begun a new life/career in Mt. Vernon,

Wayne Davis

The Lakeside Loft

386 Pond Road

Mount Vernon, Maine 04352

(207) 293-4855

[TheLakesideLoft@gmail.com](mailto:TheLakesideLoft@gmail.com)



## News from the 30 Mile River Watershed Association

### Summer Employment: Still time to apply!

*Courtesy Boat Inspectors (CBIs)* inspect boats and trailers for invasive plant fragments and educate boaters about aquatic hitchhikers.

*Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) Crew Leader and Crew members* perform erosion control projects for local land-owners, reducing polluted runoff.

*Water Quality Monitoring Intern* will collect and analyze data as part of our newly expanded monitoring program. Open to college students and recent graduates.

Full job descriptions and application materials can be found at [www.30mileriver.org](http://www.30mileriver.org).

Priority deadline **April 1<sup>st</sup>**, but applications will be accepted until positions are filled.

### Mud Season and Camp Roads

*Contributed by Clyde Walton, 30MRWA Board Member and Landscape Architect*

Like black flies, mud season is an annual nuisance. It signals the end of winter and the presence of the flies begins the advent of summer. Mud season is a process of thawing frozen ground. The posting of some public roads serves as a reminder of temporary weight restrictions placed on heavy truck loads travelling over roads with dangerous frost and thawing conditions. Some gravel roads become impassable and accrue expensive repairs during this season.

Why do seasonal roads have fewer ground thawing problems than those used year around? Answer: Seasonal roads require no snow plowing. Therefore, the snow cover remains undisturbed and insulates the ground from excessive frost penetration while having a shorter thawing time period. An early snow cover in November and no "January thaw" are ideal for minimal road damage.

What causes the variety of mud season damages that occur on year round gravel roads? Answer: Snowmelt and rainfall that cannot penetrate frozen soil. Instead, it puddles against snowbanks and overflows across the hard, frozen ground surface in downhill directions. This is called *storm water runoff*. Depending on the duration and intensity of runoff, numerous rills and gullies cut into the ground to create concentrated runoff flow and soil displacement. The transported soil moves long distances in water/soil slurry that ultimately reaches lakes, streams and other water resources. The slurry contains soil particles laden with phosphorus, a major pollutant nutrient that enhances unwanted algal blooms in lakes and waterways. When left unattended, the problem only gets worse. So do the mosquitoes!

How can we fix the mud season problem? Answer: 1) photograph the damaged site immediately; 2) as the thawing process permits, redirect the runoff off the road travel way and into the roadside ditches; 3) keep culverts and ditches free of debris; 4) trim back roadside tree branches to let in more winter sunlight/heat; 5) add more culverts and ditch turnouts to better apportion runoff flow; and 6) upgrade the gravel road surface with a coarse gravel blanket and crown graded shape. Utilize professional help where needed.

For more information on how 30MRWA can help with your camp road management, as well as other organization news, visit [www.30mileriver.org](http://www.30mileriver.org).

30 Mile River Watershed Association  
P.O. Box 132  
Mount Vernon, Maine 04352  
(207) 860-4043



**Opening Camp**  
contributed by Dan Onion, MD  
Mt. Vernon Health Officer  
[dkonion@gmail.com](mailto:dkonion@gmail.com)  
293-2076

Spring is here! Many families are planning to open up the summer camp soon. I hope it might be helpful to make some specific suggestions about disease and illness prevention which you might like to consider.

First, mice. All camps have them; they are white-footed deer mice who move in for the winter to escape the cold. They appreciate it if you leave out accessible food, but they will come in even if you don't. They'll make warm nests out of rags, paper towels, insulation or even your bedding; and they abandon them after they've had a litter or two and the urine/poop concentrations become intolerable to them. They also leave droppings wherever they go; at our camp, that's over the top of the stove and kitchen counters. All those residua can carry a disease called Hanta virus, which causes severe, sometimes fatal pneumonia. It was first described in the Southwest, but appeared in Maine in 2011. Breathing dust from droppings and urine infects humans. So try to clean up with as little dust as possible by using chlorox-soaked cleaning clothes rather than vacuum cleaners, which tend to stir up the dust. Clearly the food preparation areas are your highest priority. Wash potentially contaminated bedding. Vacuum everywhere else. The mouse nests also can obstruct crucial machinery, like air intakes of cars, home ventilation systems, refrigerators, and furnaces. Then try to keep them out for the summer with mouse traps and mouse-proof food containers.

Mold is a potential problem for many people because of allergic sensitivity. It isn't a problem when things are cold, but grows wherever there is moisture and warmth. As you open camp for the summer, look for it (black spots) on sheetrock, in the laundry room, or on basement walls or ceilings. It will awaken and spread with the onset of summer, so you can try chlorox scrubbing after fixing the water source (which you must do!), or excise the material it is growing on.

Drinking water testing should be done every year or two (see URL below). If you use lake water, don't drink the water! That's how people get Giardia, or "beaver fever", a nasty stomach infection that is hard to get rid of. You should be bringing in bottled water for drinking, tooth washing, etc. But if you've got your own well or spring, do test the water for coliforms (bacteria found in feces) each year and every 2-3 year for arsenic and lead, both of which can contaminate water around here and can damage children's brains, as the recent lead poisoning from the Flint Michigan water supply reminds us. Several Maine towns have found lead in their school water this winter. Radon and uranium can be found in Maine water and accumulate in the air of tight houses, but are much less likely to cause disease in summer camps because windows and doors will be open much of the time and let them escape.

And speaking of screens, make sure yours are tight; they protect your family from mosquitoes, which now carry Eastern Equine Encephalitis here in Maine. Stock up on DEET insect repellent for the same reason; it also helps prevent tick bites. Be sure you've got some tick spoons in the camp; they are perfect for removing ticks carefully without breaking off the heads.

Stock up on sun screen for you and the kids to prevent skin cancer decades from now. At least spf 20 or more.

Prevent house fires and protect your family by replacing smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Make sure chimneys and stove pipes are open and not rotted through or plugged by creosote or debris.

And finally, check your septic system for your own comfort and to protect our lakes and rivers from septic contamination. If you have a system which requires pumping uphill to a septic field, as many lake camps do, be sure the pump and its alarm are working.

Have fun with the family!

Maine water testing help: <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/environmental-health/eohp/wells/documents/whattotest.pdf>



## MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP



### *Neighbors Driving Neighbors (NDN)*

*FREE transportation for residents of*

*Belgrade, Fayette, Mount Vernon, Rome, Vienna*



Do you recognize the riders and drivers in these pictures? The drivers are **NEIGHBORS DRIVING NEIGHBORS**. The riders are neighbors who need a ride.

Do you or someone you know need a ride to shop, run errands, go to the doctor or to another place? If you live in any of the five towns listed above, our volunteer drivers will take you if the location is within 30 miles or so.

## PLEASE CONSIDER BECOMING A DONOR.

NDN's startup was funded by grants from the Bingham Program and the Betterment Foundation; **HOWEVER, ongoing costs will need to be funded by donations and fund raising.**

**Neighbors Driving Neighbors is a 501(c)(3) organization as defined by the IRS.** It offers no gifts, services, or membership benefits for contributions; thus gifts are completely tax-deductible.

To send a donation, ask for rides, or volunteer to be a driver, here's the contact information:

PO Box 142, Mount Vernon, ME 04352

Website: [neighborsdrivingneighbors.org](http://neighborsdrivingneighbors.org)

Email: [neighborsdrivingneighbors@gmail.com](mailto:neighborsdrivingneighbors@gmail.com)

Phone: Coordinator Irene Goff at **860-0677**



# School News

## Maranacook Area School District—RSU #38

### Maranacook Senior Center - FREE!

For seniors, retirees or anyone 50 and over. Coffee, tea and muffins are provided. The center has special presentations, discussions, learning activities, socializing, games and crafts. Bring your interests, skills, books, writing, musical instruments and friends. Help students with special projects. The center is sponsored by MCMS Parent Association and Maranacook Adult and Community Education. *Adult volunteers welcome!*

***The Senior Café is held Mondays 9-11a.m.  
at Maranacook Middle School cafeteria in Readfield  
(reserved parking marked with cones in front)***

#### APRIL 2016

<b>4/4</b>	Avoiding Scams – Tips From the Attorney General’s Office	Martha Currier, Office of the Attorney General Consumer Protection Division
<b>4/11</b>	Hospice Care	Kandyce Powell, Maine Hospice Council
<b>4/18</b>	Patriot’s Day	No Senior Cafe
<b>4/25</b>	Adventures in Nature Photography	Photographer Glenn Leblanc

### Maranacook Adult Education

Maranacook Adult Education has a new course lineup for Spring 2016. For more information, email us at [adulthood@maranacook.org](mailto:adulthood@maranacook.org) or call 685-4923, ext. 1065. We look forward to hearing from you!!

HiSET Test Preparation, Ongoing  
 Stained Glass, 4/4/2016  
 Substitute Teacher Training, 4/4/2016  
 Hula Hooping, 4/5/2016  
 Advanced Yoga Practices, 4/6/2016  
 Preventing College Sexual Assault, 4/6/2016  
 Getting Started in Nature, 4/7/2016  
 Reiki Level One, 4/13/2016  
 Be Your Own Guru: Psychic Development, 4/27/2016  
 Kents Hill: Still More Buildings, Old Houses & History, 4/27/2016  
 Aromatic Yoga Nidra, 4/28/2016  
 Ceramics: Beginning/Intermediate, 4/28/2016  
 Learn About Lakes, 4/28/2016

# School News *(cont'd)*

## Maranacook Area School District—RSU #38

### 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

Budget Update #4 – RSU #38 School Board Budget Meeting, March 2, 2016

To view the video of the budget workshop, as well as all supporting materials, please go to [www.maranacook.org/budget](http://www.maranacook.org/budget)

*“Promoting student success for all while maintaining fiscal responsibility”*

March 2, 2016 marked the third annual combined RSU #38 School Board and area Select Board meeting. We started with a reminder of the many great things that are happening in the district and then moved in to a review of the budget process and budget documents to date.

Several new documents were also presented in an effort to maintain transparency about the budget development process. Those documents are as follows:

The 2016-2017 Budget Progression traces the various editions of the FY17 budget that have been presented to the RSU #38 School Board to date as we gain more information and continue to work towards a fiscally responsible budget. For example, the Original Request Budget 1 with an increase of 6.25% over the FY16 Budget, included what we believed would be the worst-case scenario for health insurance increases as well as fuel projections based on FY16. Since the publication of that budget, we have a closer projection of insurance costs, we have accepted fuel bids, and administrators and directors have worked to reduce costs for FY17. The Version 1 Draft of the FY17 General Fund School Summary Budget was presented at the March 2 meeting and represents a 3.74% increase over FY16.

A Summary of Budget Changes as of March 1, 2016 was also presented at the March 2 meeting. This summary outlines proposed new staff positions (also see New Staff Requests), repair and maintenance projects, supplies and books needed in FY17, equipment costs, and co and extra-curricular activity plans. Also listed on this sheet are budget decreases as of March 1. Items that have been cut from the budget are listed here as well as new requests that have been eliminated from the budget.

A Version 1 Revenue Summary was presented that represents revenues and the total budget based on the latest Version 1 Draft of the General Fund School Summary Budget. Local Dollar Calculations were also provided based on the latest proposals.

A revised Program/Position/Account Evaluation Template was provided that describes proposed RSU #38 Maintenance Projects for FY17. Included in this list are roofing projects at Mt. Vernon, Readfield, and Manchester. Information was presented on the possibility of securing a bond for these items as well as some larger items such as replacing the Manchester heating system and the high school roof that will be necessary to address in the upcoming years. While the timeline required for securing a bond prohibits the gathering of estimates in the time needed to present the bond for referendum in order to impact the FY17 budget, the RSU #38 Board will be researching possibilities for securing a bond in the future.

Finally, the Board was presented with a list of Budget Priorities 160302 for FY17 that were identified by the Administrative Team as priorities to keep in the FY17 Budget, as well as items to consider cutting. The RSU #38 School Board voted to eliminate all of the items from the items to consider cutting listing for a total additional decrease of \$57,600. This will be reflected in the next General Budget Summary Publication.

Members of the Select Boards and the RSU Board commented on the \$400,000 cut in state subsidy for the district as well as the proposed 55% state support of education that has never occurred. Members of both Boards urged citizens to contact their legislators regarding these issues. Contact information for Senators and Representatives from the RSU #38 communities, RSU 38 Legislative Delegation, was provided and is posted on our website.

Sincerely,

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

# School News *(cont'd)*

## Maranacook Area School District—RSU #38

### Maranacook Area School District Regional School Unit No. 38 *A Caring School Community Dedicated to Excellence*

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Budget Update #5 – RSU #38 School Board Budget Meeting, March 16, 2016

To view the video of the budget workshop, as well as all supporting materials, please go to  
[www.maranacook.org/budget](http://www.maranacook.org/budget)

*"Promoting student success for all while maintaining fiscal responsibility"*

On March 9, 2016 the House and Senate overwhelmingly passed a bill that would send \$15 million in additional aid to schools for FY17 and set up a commission to recommend changes to public education funds and ways to improve student performance. The vote in the House was 131 to 8, and the vote passed unanimous in the Senate. The additional funding reduces the mill rate required by the state from the initial 8.44 to 8.3. [Version 2 Draft Budget Revenue Sheet](#) shows the increased allocation, from \$3,281,138, our original FY17 allocation to \$3,394,830. While the increase of \$113,692 is appreciated we were hoping to recover more of our \$400,000 loss with this action.

At the last RSU #38 budget meeting the Board voted to approve the \$84,389 in proposed budget cuts that were suggested by the RSU #38 administration as noted in [Version 2, General Fund Budget 160316](#). A list of Budget Increases, Budget Decreases, and New Requests that have been Eliminated or Reduced are available on the [Summary of Budget Changes](#). This reduction amount and the additional subsidy amount of \$113,692 are included in the [Version 2 Draft Budget Revenue Sheet](#) as well as the [Version 2 Local Dollar Calculation](#). The required local contribution at this time is \$8,156,483, a decrease from the last projection of \$8,270,174. The resulting district average is a 5.12% increase over FY16, down from the last projection of a 6.82% increase over FY16.

We are still waiting for the notification of our health insurance increase. Today we received word that we would be notified by April 1. We are hoping that our rating will result in a decrease to our expenditure budget.

As RSU #38 School Board member Steve Hayes pointed out, we started the FY17 budget process with an expenditure budget increase of \$997,864, up 6% over FY16. We are down to an increase of \$511,381.94, a 3.2% increase from FY16. Approximately \$232,000 of that increase is designated to negotiated staff contracts and benefits, and \$220,834 to an increase in building projects, for example, roof restoration projects that must be completed in order to preserve our buildings.

The next RSU #38 Budget Deliberation Meeting will be held on March 23, 2016 at 6:30 at Maranacook Community High School. We urge all community members to attend.

Sincerely,

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

Manchester Mt. Vernon Readfield Wayne  
Office of the Superintendent 45 Millard Harrison Drive Readfield, Maine 04355  
[www.maranacook.org](http://www.maranacook.org)

## Community Announcements and Events

### Bearnstow on Parker Pond

**Bearnstow on Parker Pond** invites our neighbors and friends to share these special events this summer: Natural History Week (June 20–25), free dance classes each Wednesday evening at 7:30 pm (June 19–August 17) at the Mt. Vernon Community Center, Friday evening showings (July 8–August 19) at 84 Bearnstow Road, and formal dance concerts on August 13 and 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the Union Hall in Vienna. More information can be found at [www.bearnstow.org](http://www.bearnstow.org).

All these events are offered admission free. However, they do incur expense, and we would greatly appreciate any sum you may be able to donate for their presentation. Bearnstow is a 501-c-3 organization, and all donations are tax deductible.

### Intern Opportunity

Do you know a college student who is interested in the environment and is looking for a summer internship? Interns work with staff and volunteers of the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program on lake protection issues including water quality monitoring, screening for invasive plants and more. Contact [vlmp@mainevlmp.org](mailto:vlmp@mainevlmp.org)

## READFIELD

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Route 17

Readfield, Me 04355

Visit our webpage <http://readfieldumc.org>

Invites you to Worship with us every Sunday 10:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m. we offer Sunday School for all Ages.

Everyone is Welcome to join us.

Come as you are.

The church is handicap accessible.

# Community Announcements and Events *(cont'd)*

Vienna Union Hall presents Bad Little Falls

The Vienna Union Hall Association is kicking off the 2016 performance season at 7:00 PM on Saturday, April 23rd with a local group called *Bad Little Falls*.

*Bad Little Falls* is a musical collaboration that incorporates elements of classic blues, soul, jazz and Americana into a unique formula that showcases the breathtaking vocals of Jan Schmidt and the soulful guitar of Dave Richardson.

"Bad Little Falls" is a reference to Machias, Maine where Dave was born and raised. Machias roughly translates in Passamaquoddy as "bad little falls."

Dave has performed in blues, rock and soul bands over the last 20 years in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Maine. He has a distinctive style reminiscent of his early blues oriented influences (Stevie Ray Vaughn, BB King). Dave's vocals reflect his appreciation for classic soul, Bill Withers and Van Morrison.

Jan Schmidt, originally from Rhode Island, has toured worldwide as a vocal performer with 35 years of stage experience. Her influences include Billie Holiday, Eva Cassidy and Etta James. It has been said that her passionate performances are often reminiscent of Janis Joplin.



*Bad Little Falls* provides a unique musical experience that is both nostalgic and refreshing.

**VIENNA UNION HALL ASSOCIATION PRESENTS  
BAD LITTLE FALLS**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 23  
7:00 PM - VIENNA UNION HALL.  
SOULFUL - NOSTALGIC AND REFRESHING!**

**FOR TICKET INFORMATION**  
Call 293-2674 or email [viennaunionhall@gmail.com](mailto:viennaunionhall@gmail.com)

**\$8 ADVANCE  
\$10 AT THE DOOR**

# Community Announcements and Events *(cont'd)*

MT.VERNON  
COMMUNITY  
CENTER



## Mount Vernon Community Center

**Tuesday A.M. Breakfast**  
**6:30 a.m.—7:30 a.m.**

*For more information, call 293-4082*

**Saturday, Community Center Café**  
**9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.**

*Come enjoy coffee, eats and conversation*

*Available for public and private functions.  
For more information on the Community Center availability,  
please contact: Linda Stanton, 293-4082*

*Board of Trustees: Linda Stanton, Anna Libby, Kathleen Farrin, Tom Ward, Tammy McLaughlin,  
Donna Williams, Mariah Brinton, Julie Weaver and Jane Rogers*

## First Baptist Church Food Bank



March is fading away with its' spring-like weather and we now wait for April with all the expected showers. If you have a need our food bank is located at the First Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon Village and is open each Saturday from 10 a.m. to Noon. If you are in need when the food bank is not open, please call Helen Wilkey 293-2351 or Irene Wadleigh 293-2308. If there is no answer, please leave a message and a phone number and your call will be returned.

**Needed: We have a family in need of a washer and dryer. If you have either you would like to donate, please call Helen Wilkey at 293-2351 or Irene Wadleigh at 293-2308.**

## Mt. Vernon Masonic Lodges

Vernon Valley Lodge #99 meets the first Tuesday each month.

Vernon Valley Chapter #68 meets the second Tuesday of each month.

For further information, please contact Charles Wadleigh at [moosemaster1940@yahoo.com](mailto:moosemaster1940@yahoo.com)



## Mt. Vernon Weekly Playgroup

**Mt. Vernon Community Center**  
**Tuesdays 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.**

Play, learn and socialize

Ages: 6 months—5 years

Contact: Jessica 480-0292





# Our Churches



## **Belgrade**

Union Church of Belgrade Lakes  
Main St, Belgrade Lakes  
(United Methodist)  
Church Office: 495-3599  
Rev. Bill Meyer

9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship  
(nursery care provided)

Children's Sunday School during  
Worship

Wednesday – Adult Bible Study

## **Mt. Vernon**

Dunn's Corner Baptist Church  
Wings Mills Road, Mt. Vernon  
Church Office: 685-9829  
Rev. John Dunn, Jr.

9:15 a.m. Sunday School classes  
toddler to adult

10:30 a.m. Worship service,  
Nursery is available

Jr. Church for children up to age 9  
during worship service.

6:00 p.m. Sunday Evening Service

Wednesday, 7 p.m. Prayer meeting  
- the HOUR OF POWER

Youth group Young Adults 4  
Christ both Jr. & Sr. groups  
meet 4 p.m. every Sun. at the  
church, Sept. to June

Jr. ages 8-12; Sr. ages 13-18

For more information:

[youngadults4christ-  
dunnscorner@yahoo.com](mailto:youngadults4christ-dunnscorner@yahoo.com)

## **First Baptist Church**

Route 41, Mount Vernon Village  
Church Office: 293-2141  
Rev. Jay Wilson  
10 a.m. Sunday worship service  
Coffee and Refreshments follow

## **North Vienna**

United Methodist Church  
572 Tower Road, North Vienna  
Laura Church, Pastor  
Church Office: 293-3710

9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship  
Sunday School

Creation Station, an after-school,  
faith-based, arts-intensive program  
for any children in grades K-  
6. Meets on Wed. afternoons from  
3:30-5:00 following the MSAD #9  
school calendar.

Youth Group for any youth grades  
6 & up meets the 1st & 3rd Sundays  
of each month.

## **North Wayne**

North Wayne Church  
(non-denominational)

10 Church St., Wayne

Pastor Jon Olson  
Church Office: 293-2502

[jolson@fairpoint.net](mailto:jolson@fairpoint.net)

9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship;

Coffee, refreshments & conversa-  
tion follow each service

## **Readfield**

United Methodist Church  
1564 Main St., Route 17  
Rev. Desi Larson  
Church Office: 685-4211  
[office@readfieldumc.org](mailto:office@readfieldumc.org)  
“...extending God's open  
arms in fellowship and  
mission.”

10 a.m. Sunday Worship  
10 a.m. Sunday School/Nursery  
Care

## **Vienna**

Vienna Baptist Church  
116 Main Street, Vienna

9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship  
Pastor Everett Maxim  
293-3061

## **Winthrop**

St. Andrews Episcopal Church  
Winthrop Ctr. Friends Church  
219 Winthrop Center Rd.,  
Winthrop

Church Office: 395-4669

[www.standrews.episcopalmaine.org](http://www.standrews.episcopalmaine.org)

10:30 a.m. Sunday Eucharist, coffee  
fellowship to follow

