

Town of Mount Vernon Community Newsletter

www.mtvernonme.org

March Edition 2016

Town Office:

Phone: 293-2379
Fax: 293-3507
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

Clyde Dyar
592-3700
clyde@mtvernonme.org

Sherene Gilman
293-2388
sherene@mtvernonme.org

Selectmen's Assistant

Amanda Couture
458-6389
ajcouture2@gmail.com

Town Clerk & Tax Collector

Rachel Meader
293-2379
clerk@mtvernonme.org

Deputy Clerk

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

Treasurer

Marti Gross
293-2379
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
Wed. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library

293-2565

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

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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

A very strange winter we are having. The budget season rolls along and soon it will be town meeting time. There are many interesting issues that we face such as the drainage project getting started this spring on the north side of Main St. The Community Partnership Corp. is working with the board and have a project in the planning stages to help mitigate erosion by the stream (behind the fire station). If you would like to have more information or would like to help, call Sandy Wright, President of the Corporation. The new fire truck purchase is moving along very nicely. I'm sure that Chief Dana Dunn would be more than glad to talk to you about the status. Library expansion is in good hands with George Smith in charge and raising funds. They can use donations to help reach their goal. Transfer station is looking good and looks like a good year for them. Chair Paul Crockett has brought forth an interesting proposal for better phone service for you to access the Town Clerk and municipal building. The Community Center is really going great, thanks to a very smooth transition to the new board. The cell tower is up, hopefully running soon. All the boards and committees are very busy and this is good for building and caring for the town.

Spring brings many good things to us, not to mention the annual "pot holes". Enjoy and please slowdown in the village area as there are many children having fun and sometimes are not thinking about the traffic. Drive safely.

We welcome your input and volunteerism to help Mount Vernon be a better place for all to enjoy.

Clyde Dyar,
On behalf of the Mount Vernon Board of Selectmen

Town of Mount Vernon Select Board Meeting Synopsis of Minutes - January 25, 2016

7:05pm **Contract renewal review.** Discussed whether to extend on road snow plow contract or go out to bid. Dunn is interested if 0.3 miles of Desert Pond Rd. was added to contract. The contract will be discussed during the 02/15/16 budget meeting and if selected to extend, then the 0.3 miles will be added at that time. The 2016-17 cost would be approximately \$5k more if the Town chooses to extend the contract.

The new State of Maine PSAP Contract arrived in the mail. The Board tables this for now and will sign it at a later date.

Need to contact Winthrop Ambulance before 4/1/16 about getting the cost for the new contract.

-The Board discusses the disposition of the assessing contract. Crockett will check with the assessor.

-Gilman motions to accept Mason's Agreement and have the Chair sign on behalf of the Board. Crockett seconds. Vote 3-0 in favor. Dyar signed on behalf of the Masons.

-FD Administrative Assistant contract. Couture will email Dana for this.

-Energy Contract Question. Crockett will look into this.

-Preventative maintenance contract for compactors from Atlantic Recycling.

-One Steel Scrap Metal price list. Crockett will look into this.

-MMA Safety Grant in book is obsolete

7:32pm **Appointments to Board of Appeals and maybe**

Athletic Committee. Dyar moves to appoint Carl Rogers and Scott Herrick to the Board of Appeals. Gilman seconds. Vote 3-0 in favor. Their terms will expire in 3 years. Couture will make sure there are two LUO booklets for them. Crockett will remind them to stop by town office and get sworn in by Rachel.

-The Select Board is still looking for additional Athletic Committee members.

7:37pm **Road committee and project update.** Gilman came in and keyed in the remaining info. The next step is to look at the reports and see if they are useful. The reports need to go to Dunn and the Road Committee. Gilman emailed Phil Curtis to receive additional info about what other towns list for duties for a Road Committee.

7:40pm **Five Seasons Family Resort Liquor License renewal hearing.** Dyar motions to sign the Five Seasons Resort liquor license. Crockett seconds. Vote 3-0 in favor. Since the resort has had the license for over five years with no issues, a public hearing is not required.

7:42pm **Other Business.**

Dyar suggests someone drive the roads with a dash cam. If there is a citizen that could do this, please contact the Select Board. Dyar states he may have one that someone could use.

Town of Mount Vernon Select Board Meeting Synopsis of Minutes - February 8, 2016

7:01pm **Board of Appeals Resignation.** Holly Dumaine tenders her resignation from the Appeals Board. Dyar regretfully accepts Dumaine's resignation. Gilman regretfully seconds. Vote 3-0 in favor.

7:05pm **Public Hearing- Beer Tasting.** Crockett opens public hearing. Crockett motions to close public hearing and sign off on the beer tasting. Gilman seconds. Vote 3-0 in favor.

**Town of Mount Vernon Select Board Meeting
Synopsis of Minutes - February 8, 2016
(cont'd)**

7:10pm **Land & Water Conservation Fund grants opportunity.** Received letter from the Dept. Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry about periodic inspection of projects that were completed with monies from LWCF grants. Crockett will follow up with Sandy Wright on this.

7:12pm **Sheriff's offer for speed enforcement input.** Email from interim Sheriff Reardon asking town for areas where speed enforcement is needed.

7:15pm **Other Business.**

-Email from Fayette that they can no longer take waste or recyclables to the town of Jay. They have asked Mt. Vernon to consider letting the commercial trash haulers bring Jay waste to the Mount Vernon landfill. Dyar suggests the Transfer Station Committee look into this. Crockett will let Fayette know that the Transfer Committee will discuss this.

-**Letter form assessing agent-** Assessor is still interested in doing assessing for the Town, but will need 600 hours instead of the 480 hours that was in the previous contract. The assessor again suggests the town have the tax maps converted from paper to CAD files. Dyar states he is looking into this. The

assessor also states the need for having access to another pc when they are at the town office during the week. The Select Board will discuss the info in this memo in detail at the next Board meeting.

-03/02/16 will be the combined **School Committee and Select Board Meeting** at 6:30pm at the Maranacook High School cafeteria.

-Note from **metal recycler-** the amount of light tin scrap metal was less than the actual freight charge, so the town will not receive any money for the metal but they are not being charged the freight fee either.

-**USDA Rural Development** community facility program may be able to help fund construction of a new facility or upgrade facilities with new equipment.

-Two **safety problems** MMA found. One has been fixed. The railings at the Transfer Station still have not been fixed. They need to be made higher to meet OSHA standards. The Board would like to hire someone from town to do this work.

To view entire meeting minutes contact the Select Board Assistant at ajc couture2@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

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library

contributed by Mary Anne Libby



"The library was the tree I could climb up into to get a glimpse of the outside world." Richard Russo

There was a great article on Richard Russo in the Portland Press Herald this past week – he'll have a new novel out in May, entitled Everybody's Fool (we have it on our wish list). He talked about his local public library in his rather hardscrabble town in New York state, and how it buoyed him up by providing just the right stories and resources to support who he was, and who he would become. The library was his "lifeline".

How does a library become a lifeline for a citizen in this time when needs are so diverse within a community? We've been planning and working on various ideas regarding providing further services.

Part of the planning process must include assessing our current resources. You know, of course, that we have all sorts of reading materials: magazines, fiction and non-fiction books for all age groups (including a large Print Collection), as well as audio books and movies. Because we live in a rural area where people make do and keep items till they can't be used anymore, our audio and video collections still even include some cassettes and VHS! We also subscribe to the Maine State Library's Downloadable Books Project so our patrons can access e-books. We will work with you to find library materials for the blind and disabled. And, we can interlibrary loan materials for you, too. We also keep a stack of paper copies of the current town newsletter. Come grab one.

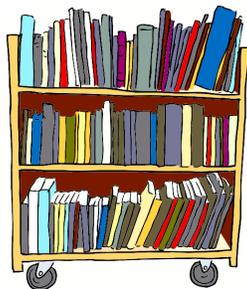
Beyond those expected items, we have also been trying to develop a few other measures in recent years which reflect local interests. So, we've begun a small seed exchange (it is that time of year! Please donate vegetable & flower seeds to us so we can share with other gardeners!), and a kitchen & bakeware collection. We have local history materials to use in the library (and Ancestry.com lets people use their website free as long as access to the site happens at the library. We have public access computers and free wi-fi, as well as a printer and photocopier.

Further, we try to make the library a place of information exchange, as well as one that feels welcoming and warm. We are glad to tackle all sorts of information & reference questions (from negotiating state or federal websites, to genealogy searches, to medical, natural sciences, aging, education, parenting, or other issues that pop up in life). Sometimes we can help right while the patron is there, other times we take that request home and play with it during a quieter time. Information exchange and book or materials advisory is some of the most important, and most rewarding work we do. Add in some comfy rocking chairs, toys for our younger patrons, blank paper and markers or crayons, and it begins to feel like a place full of life, and yet offering a moment's respite at the same time.

We continue our annual programs of summer reading activities with children, the summer Community Poetry Reading, the 3-4 Tax Help days that are so helpful to so many of our citizens at the end of the winter, Cheese-making, and the usual Bird Walk in early June. Whenever we can, we add workshops or brief sessions on topics of interest to our patrons. This year that included a travelogue from an exchange student, an author talk with Stuart Kestenbaum, homework help, how to do Advance Directives, and rural housing issues. We'd like to do more. Let us know what you'd like to see happening.

And that goes for – what comes next? What would you like to see happening at the library, or within the community, that is related to some of our services? Like so many public libraries, we are in the midst of change, looking at what might most further connection and involvement within our lovely towns. Email us at DrShaw@shaw.lib.me.us, or come talk with us at the library. Conversation brings us all forward.

Speaking of conversation, I've been reading a new non-fiction book by Sherry Turkle, entitled Reclaiming Conversation: the Power of Talk in a Digital Age. She manages to be positive about all of our electroic devices and what they bring to our lives (I'm on my computer constantly, both for my jobs and in order to communicate with family and friends) while at the same time asking us to come to a new understanding of how to balance the influence of technology with being deeply connected to those who are here with us now in this space. Good stuff. I'll bring it back to the library soon. What are you reading as we cycle through brief mud "seasons" and winter storms?



Mt. Vernon Fire Department



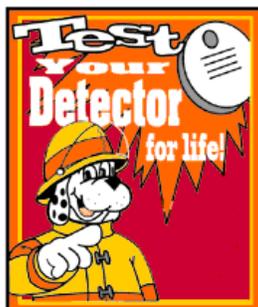
The other day I saw the first robin of spring. At least I think it was a robin. It could have been a chickadee, optimism for Spring may have gotten the better of me and sadly I am not much of a birder. That being said, Spring is just around the corner and it is time to Spring Forward. There are several things I look forward to in regards to Spring: the first robins of the year, the equinox, free ice cream from Giffords around the equinox (March 18th this year, I expect to see all of you in line around 6 p.m.), coming home when it is still light out, and of course checking smoke detectors and replacing batteries in them and checking fire extinguishers.

Many of us check our smoke detectors by simply climbing on something tall enough to reach them, pressing the button, and assuming that if it emits an ear-shattering screech it means it is working. This does in fact test whether or not the alarm itself is working, but it does *not* test to make sure that the detector is detecting smoke. One way to check the smoke detector safely is to hold up a few freshly extinguished matches under the smoke detector. If it goes off, it is working.

Fire extinguishers should also be checked at this time. Check to make sure that the fire extinguishers are clearly visible, easy to access, and that if it has a nozzle there are no obstructions. Make sure there is no corrosion on the fire extinguisher. Check to make sure that you have the right type of fire extinguisher for the right place in the house. A kitchen extinguisher should be capable of dealing with a grease fire. Water based fire extinguishers can make a bad situation worse in the event of a grease fire. Finally, familiarize yourself and your family with the operation of the fire extinguisher. To operate a fire extinguisher, remember the acronym PASS. Pull the Pin, Aim the nozzle at the base of the fire. Squeeze the trigger. Sweep from side to side until the fire is out. **Pull, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep.**

Both extinguishers and smoke alarms have a finite life. They should be replaced by their expiration date or every ten years. When buying a new smoke detector, make sure that it comes equipped with a carbon monoxide detector.

Finally, make sure you have evacuation routes planned for you and your loved ones. Everyone should know how to evacuate in the case of a fire, what to grab, and where to meet up. Members of my family once had a fire, and in the haste of getting out of the house and grabbing things to bring with them, one of them grabbed an algebra textbook belonging to their sister. Now the poor sister had no bedroom and no excuse not to do her homework. It was clearly poor planning on her brother's part or a cruel joke. It could go either way. Nothing is worth losing a life over, but be sure the things you grab matter most: photo albums, priceless keepsakes, or the Hope diamond are all wonderful things to grab. Algebra books, not so much.





News from the 30 Mile River Watershed Association

Summer Employment

The 30 Mile River Watershed Association is now accepting applications for the following positions:

Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) Crew members protect and improve water quality in our lakes through projects that reduce erosion and sources of polluted stormwater runoff. YCC's lake-friendly landscaping includes planting vegetation buffers, ditching roadsides, mulching, etc. Crew members perform physically demanding (but fun and meaningful) outdoor labor. The program runs for seven weeks, three days per week.

Courtesy Boat Inspectors work at boat launches throughout the watershed, talking with boaters and inspecting their watercraft for hitchhiking plants. CBIs are the first line of defense against invasive aquatic plants, but they also serve as friendly educators to the boating community. The program runs Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day. These positions are ideally suited for retirees, students, and any others looking for part-time weekend work.

YCC and CBI positions may be combined for fulltime work. For full job descriptions and application materials, visit www.30mileriver.org.

Youth Conservation Corps: Sign up for your project today

The ground may be snow covered, but **now** is the time to get your Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) project requests in before the crew is booked for the season. With its 6th season starting this coming June, YCC works to reduce erosion and polluted runoff that harm water quality. Projects include diverting stormwater off driveways, planting vegetative buffers, stabilizing eroded pathways, building infiltration steps and more. The initial site visit is **free** and project labor and technical assistance are provided at minimal cost to landowners. For more information, visit www.30mileriver.org.

New Water Quality Monitoring Program

With support from the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund, 30MRWA will be implementing an expanded water quality monitoring program this summer. Building off the work of the watershed's dedicated volunteers, we will be monitoring the health of our lakes more thoroughly and frequently than ever before. This will allow us to identify and prioritize problem areas in our lakes before it's too late. If you are interested in volunteering with this program, contact katie@30mileriver.org.

Save the Date: Paddle Trek 2016

Winter blues getting you down? Here's something to look forward to: our 8th Annual Paddle Trek will be held on **Saturday, July 30th**. Mark your calendars!



Getting the Lead out of Flint, Michigan

contributed by Dan Onion, MD

Mt. Vernon Health Officer

dkonion@gmail.com

293-2076

Lead poisoning from Flint,

Michigan's city water has been getting a lot of press recently, and it should, because it is a classic public health issue, which affects a large number of people. Such cases are usually and most effectively prevented or fixed by city health departments. Alternatives, like every family drilling its own well, would be impractical in a city of 200,000. Most cities run their own water companies in this country, although a single private water company or multiple competing ones might work if the city government stipulates safety and service rules. So most towns, cities, and all states have public health departments to detect, monitor and fix problems with such municipal infrastructures that must be maintained to keep us safe, like city water. Let's look at how a public health officer or department goes about meeting those obligations to give us a safe water supply.

A general rule of thumb is that the greater the number of people potentially affected by a problem, the more involved governments should be in order to protect the general population. So a public water supply deserves high priority for money and staff to assure its safety, and public health officers should insist on such support. Many potential water contaminants need to be monitored: fecal contamination, nitrate & nitrite, chloride, total hardness, calcium, magnesium, fluoride, sulfate, antimony, uranium, beryllium, nickel, copper, iron, manganese, zinc, arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, lead, mercury, silver, selenium, sodium, thallium, radon, uranium, volatile organic compound/chemicals like dioxin, benzenes and carbon tetrachloride and lots of others stipulated by the national Environmental Protection Agency.

Flint should have been monitoring water lead levels regularly, along with rest of that long list. But they may have tested water before it went into the pipes, didn't monitor levels, or didn't follow up on high levels. Flint apparently has incredibly outdated plumbing for its public water supply. They still have lead pipes, which I thought had been systematically removed throughout the world 50 years ago. We now know that the lead contamination was markedly increased in 2014 by a cost-saving switch from Detroit Lake Huron water to water from the Flint river, which had higher chloride levels, which drag more lead out of the old pipes. And those lead pipes are still corroding and leaking more and more lead into the public water. So now they have to fix it and ASAP, along with trying to help all the kids permanently harmed.

It's a disturbing story and demonstrates, through its bad example, how urban governments, through their public health systems, must take responsibility for public services like water. When even one person is suspected of having been injured by a public water supply, others will likely be found to have been as well. One of the saddest parts of this story, is that children are most vulnerable to lead ingestion. They gradually suffer permanent brain damage from very low levels, especially under age 6. That damage is manifest by lower adult IQ scores and behavior disorders, like attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, which are worse the higher the blood lead level. That's why lead was removed from paint and gasoline nearly 50 years ago. And there isn't very good treatment available after the lead gets into the body. Taking iron by mouth can competitively interfere with lead wreaking its greatest damage, but only incompletely; and lead chelators (binders) work so imperfectly, they are usually not worth trying. The only effective treatment is to prevent it from happening. The trick with lead is identifying victims, figuring out how they came to eat/swallow it, and from where in their environment the lead came.

Interestingly, the Flint story of contaminated water, has many analogies to the first described public health intervention in history. The lead problem in Flint was first recognized by a pediatrician (Mona Hanna-Attisha, MD, MPH), who realized she was seeing many more children with high lead levels. She began documenting that and showed dramatically increased rates of poisoned children. Interestingly, she also documented other contaminants in the new water supply, including coliform bacteria suggesting fecal contamination as well. She then fought to publicize the problem, but it took over a year for the public and authorities to hear and understand the threat. They have yet to fix it.

So too, John Snow, a London England physician in the 1850s, noticed that he was seeing increasing numbers of patients with cholera in his practice. He carefully mapped where they lived and found most lived within walking distance of a public water source in his neighborhood, the Broad St pump. Cholera is a bacterial gut infection, spread by fecal contamination of food or water, as happened in Haiti recently after their terrible earthquake. Back in the 19th century, no one understood why or how bacteria caused disease. Nevertheless, Dr. Snow's solution, when no one would listen to him, was to remove the handle of the pump and then to demonstrate the disappearance of the disease over the subsequent weeks, since no one fortunately fixed the pump handle! His map of London neighborhood cholera cases looks strikingly like the map of Flint voting ward lead levels in water and children. Dr. Snow's drastic action led to greater government supervision to keep public water clean and also eventually to a city sewer system to replace the open ditches beside the streets.

The public health lesson in both cases, is that government's highest priority should be to monitor regularly and prevent contamination of drinking water before it harms people, especially children! Rural populations like ours that can't rely on public water services, need to regularly test our own water supplies every 2-3 years. You never know when one of those dozens of potential contaminants will find its way into your well, and the state makes it easy to check.

MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP CORP. (CPC)

CPC IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP BUILD INTERIOR STORM WINDOW PANELS



These panels will provide insulation for families in Mount Vernon to keep heat inside their homes. Many families can't afford storm windows, and we want to help them save energy and keep warm.

CAN YOU HELP?

- There will be a workshop for the volunteers in the spring run by Amy and Dan Palmer of Community Energy Challenge of Franklin County, which has been building these panels with volunteers for several years.
- You will learn how to measure for the window inserts, construct them, and install them.
- 4-6 families will help build their own window inserts during the summer with you and our other volunteers for 6 windows in each of their homes.
- The inserts will be installed in the fall.

CONTACT SANDY WRIGHT AT scwright@fairpoint.net OR 293-2582 FOR ANY QUESTIONS AND TO VOLUNTEER.

THANKS!



Neighbors Driving Neighbors

Belgrade, Fayette, Mount Vernon, Rome, Vienna

- **NDN** is looking for **VOLUNTEER DRIVERS** to drive people who can't drive for shopping, errands, or medical appointments in the five towns listed above. Help them to be able to stay in their home town.
- **DO YOU NEED TRANSPORTATION?** Let **NDN** know.

Contact Irene Goff, NDN Coordinator,

- 860-0077 or
- neighborsdrivingneighbors@gmail.com or
- The NDN website at neighborsdrivingneighbors.org.

School News

Maranacook Area School District—RSU #38

RSU No. 38 – FY 17 Budget Workshops

Maranacook Community High School
Student Center (unless otherwise noted)
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

March 2* Regular Business Meeting; Joint Meeting with Local Select Boards re: draft FY17 budget

March 16 Budget deliberations, follow-up and decision making

March 23 Budget deliberations, follow-up and decision making

April 6 Budget deliberations, follow-up and decision making

April 13* Regular Business Meeting, Vote on Budget

May 18 Budget Annual Meeting, HS gymnasium, 7:00 p.m.

June 14 Budget Validation Referendum at individual town's polling locations

* Regular RSU Board Meeting in addition to budget workshop

Budget documents may be obtained by visiting www.maranacook.org/budget

Mt Vernon Elementary

Dear Mount Vernon Parents,

As we begin the budget process for next school year, we are looking at the number of incoming preschoolers and kindergartners. In order to properly budget for these kids, we need to know who will be attending. If you have a child, or know of a child, who will be 4 or 5 on or before October 15, 2016, please let us know. You can call Mrs. Fleury at 293-2261x0 or email her at brenda_fleury@maranacook.org. We appreciate your help!

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' - * Christy Owens: * * * : .

Kindergarten Teacher



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***

MARCH 2016		
3/7	Balanced Fitness	Rebecca Bonaventure
3/14	Student Speech and Debate Presentations	Students
3/21	Readfield Library	Nancy Meservier
3/28	Gardening	Sue McIntyre, Longfellow's
APRIL 2016		
4/4	Avoiding Scams – Tips From the Attorney General's Office	Martha Currier, Office of the Attorney General Consumer Protection Division
4/11	Hospice Care	Kandyce Powell, Maine Hospice Council
4/18	Patriot's Day	No Senior Cafe
4/25	Adventures in Nature Photography	Photographer Glenn Leblanc



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 #2 - RSU #38 School Board Budget Meeting, February 3, 2016

To view the video of the budget workshop, as well as all supporting materials, please go to www.maranacook.org/budget

"Promoting student success for all while maintaining fiscal responsibility"

The second RSU #38 budget meeting was held on February 3, 2016. At this meeting the General Fund Summary Budget, Original Request #2 was presented. Version 2 shows a 1% decrease from the first version. The decrease of \$148,921 resulted from dropping the projected increase in health insurance costs from an expected 10% increase to an expected 6% increase. We made this decrease when we received a positive experience rating from the insurance company. This represented a savings of \$76,096. However, we have still not received final word on our increase. In addition, we learned that the interest on several bonds that are outstanding was reduced. This resulted in a savings of \$72, 825.

This positive movement, however, was clouded with the news that our state subsidy has been reduced significantly. Subsidy is figured based on many factors, two of which are enrollment and valuation. Last year we graduated a large number of seniors. This year our PreK population is fairly low. In addition, the valuations of two of our towns, Mt. Vernon and Manchester have increased, with the district total increasing by .89%. The resulting decrease in subsidy is over \$400,000. This is a preliminary figure and we can only hope that the outlook improves as we proceed through the budget process.

At the February 3 budget meeting, administrators continued with their budget presentations. Director of Technology, Diane MacGregor presented the Technology Budget 02/03/16, first sharing information about student participation in the Hour of Code, an on-line program where students learn about and practice coding. Her budget requests focus on 4 areas, an intra office network uninterrupted power supply (UPS) which would take over during short power outages, and additional wireless access points in the elementary schools which would allow for better connectivity in the elementary schools. Ms. MacGregor has also included four SmartBoards in her budget. Last summer Kents Hill School donated several used SmartBoards to the district and teachers are enthused about the increased instructional opportunities offered by those boards. Ms. Jennifer Galletta spoke on her use of the SmartBoard to teach students to use protractors, as required in the fourth grade math curricula.

Finally Ms. MacGregor shared the plan to purchase new laptops for the grades PreK-5 teachers. These teachers are currently using the seven year old laptops that were handed down from the middle school. The laptops are breaking down and require major attention to keep them going. In addition, teachers are not able to access district curriculum that is stored on our website due to limitations of the browsers, and they will not be able to enter data into our district student information system.

Manchester Mt. Vernon Readfield Wayne
Office of the Superintendent 45 Millard Harrison Drive Readfield, Maine 04355
www.maranacook.org

School News *(cont'd)*

Maranacook Area School District—RSU #38

Ryan Meserve, Director of Special Education presented the Special Education Budget 02/03/16. This included a full time nurse that would meet the needs of a special education student and an additional educational technician who is also needed to meet student needs. In addition he has included in the special education budget a special education speech assistant who is needed to address student needs in the area of speech.

I presented the English Language Learners Budget 02/03/16 (ELLs) that is based on the restructuring of the department this year. Last year the ELL program consisted of a proposed half time elementary teacher and a part time educational technician. The law requires that the teachers working with ELL students be fully certified in ELL, so last year the Board created a .8 FTE ELL teaching position. There is an increase in the ELL budget but it is due to the change in staffing and benefits of the staff member.

Nancy Harriman, Director of Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction presented the Gifted and Talented Budget 02/03/16 that includes supplies, and the benefits and salaries of 2.2 FTE. The budget request is less than last year due to a reduction in a .5 staffing position. The request allows us to meet the needs of our GT students.

A Summary of Budget Requests 02/03/16 on the budgets presented to date was included in the packet information along with the Revenue Summary 02/03/16. This shows the \$203,067 additional state subsidy that was provided to RSU #38 after the FY16 budget was passed, as a balance forward figure in the 2016-2017 column. The sheet includes the required local dollar match, the local only debt, and the additional local dollars figures.

On February 24, 2016 administrators and directors will present original request budgets in the areas of Co and Extra Curricular, Operations and Maintenance, Transportation, Adult Education, Food Service, Health, Professional Development/Curriculum, Systems Administration, and Debt Service. There will be a time for citizen comment as well as Board discussion. I urge you to attend the remaining budget meetings on February 24, and every Wednesday in March. Budget meetings begin at 6:30 in the student center at Maranacook Community High School. The Board welcomes your input. If you are unable to attend the meetings they can be viewed on the link at the top of this page.

Sincerely,

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

RSU #38 Maranacook Adult Education

March Upcoming Classes

HiSET Test Preparation, Ongoing
Perpetual Birthday Calendar, March 3
Karate with My Kid, March 7
Maine Driving Dynamics, March 8
Small Engine Repair, March 8
Adult CPR/AED, March 9
Yoga and Avurveda for Spring, March 23
Dog Obedience (Advanced), March 29
Aromatic Yoga Nidra, March 30
iPad, Intro., March 30
Readfield Depot: History, March 30
Beginning Rug Braiding, March 31
Computers for Beginners, March 31
Facebook for Grandparents, March 31

RSU #38 in Readfield has a new course lineup for Winter/Spring 2016. For details on these and other courses, and to register, please visit <http://maranacook.maineadulted.org> . For more information, email us at adulted@maranacook.org or call 685-4923, x 1065. We look forward to hearing from you!

School News *(cont'd)*

Maranacook Area School District—RSU #38



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 on or before October 15, 2016
- 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 685-4406

Community Announcements and Events

Minnehonk Ridge Riders Snowmobile Club

Winter is upon us! Members have been working on the trail system to smooth riding your machines. We need more members to help with this project which takes many hours to accomplish. Come and join with us for fun on the trails and meeting new people. The trails must be maintained to interconnect with other towns and areas. Club meetings are held the second and fourth Monday evenings at the club house on the North Road. For more information call Chris Currier at 441-5090.

Bearnstow on Parker Pond

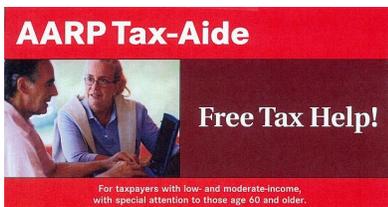
Bearnstow on Parker Pond invites our neighbors and friends to share these special events this summer: Natural History Week (June 20–25), free dance classes each Wednesday evening at 7:30 pm (June 19–August 17) at the Mt. Vernon Community Center, Friday evening showings (July 8–August 19) at 84 Bearnstow 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.

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

FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION SERVICES



The AARP Tax-Aide program provides **free** Federal and State tax return preparation services at the Dr. Shaw Memorial Library in Mount Vernon.

AARP Tax-Aide volunteers are trained, tested and certified to prepare returns for low and moderate income taxpayers, with special focus on those over 60.

The free AARP Tax-Aide services are provided **by appointment only**. Call the Dr. Shaw Library at 293-2565 for an appointment and a list of documents to bring. Tax dates for 2016 are Saturdays, March 12 and March 26.

Community Announcements and Events *(cont'd)*

Readfield United Methodist Church Route 17, Readfield

2016 CABIN FEVER OPEN MIC

Open Mic Nights every Wednesday until March 30th
6-9 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Singers and musicians, soloists or small combos, are invited to showcase their talents. Both originals and covers are acceptable, and all musical genres are encouraged, but please keep lyrics appropriate. Refreshments will be offered, with proceeds going to local charities.

For more information contact hosts John Twitchell at 685-4170; drjohnnyt@yahoo.com, or Rick Smith at 860-2794; macsuist117@yahoo.com.

Readfield United Methodist Church Route 17, Readfield

Sewing dresses for Haiti!



Monday March 14th, 2016, 9 am - 2 pm
Saturday March 19, 2016 9am-2 pm
Light lunch will be provided

Can you help? We need:

- Lots of helpers! Join us!
- Portable sewing machines to borrow
- Material, 100% cotton fabric, notions, thread, elastic, ribbon
- Monetary donations accepted to purchase needed supplies!

Ms. Susan Baker will be leading a medical mission trip to Haiti in April and will take dresses for little girls. Join us Monday March 14th and/or Saturday March 19th if you'd like to help us sew simple dresses for Haiti. Sewing machines, patterns, material, and notions provided - just come and sew!

We will also be putting together Layette Kits and Health Kits. **There are lots of help needed if you do not sew you can cut out patterns or iron! Everyone welcome!**

Community Announcements and Events *(cont'd)*



**Vienna Union Hall
5 Mountain Road, Vienna
Saturday, March 5th, 7 p.m.**

Whopping Good Time!!

What do you call a show that has never happened before in the Vienna/ Mt Vernon area?? It can't be called a variety or talent show. That would conjure up the annual show that has been performed for probably 20 plus years.

This show will be nothing like that. It can't be called a musical although it will have music...lip syncing + a 14 person dancing chorus line! It can't be called a play but it will have a couple of skits: an original by the Dr. Shaw Library folks based loosely on a Seinfeld episode and an audience participation, old fashioned Meller Drammer.

It could be a comedy show, complete w/ a monologue by Hetty Pease (from Vienna Historical Society plays). It will be an eclectic mix of sketches and skits by friends and neighbors so we're calling it The probably once only, not necessarily for children, Vienna - Mt Vernon Community Review.

The show will be Saturday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the Vienna Union Hall, 5 Mountain Road in Vienna. Tickets will be \$8.00 at the door, no advance sales. Parking might be challenging. There will be overflow parking at the Baptist Church, Grange + Post Office with a short walk to the hall. Folks can be dropped off at the hall first if needed.

Refreshments will be served. All proceeds benefit the Union Hall.

SNOW DATE will be Sunday, March 6 at 3:00 p.m.

Holy Week Readfield United Methodist Church Route 17, Readfield 207-685-4211

March 20th - **Palm Sunday**, 10 a.m.

March 24th - **Maundy Thursday** with Wayne Community Church at Torsey Church

March 25th - **Good Friday** Prayer and Meditation Stations that follow the 7 last words of Christ, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

March 27th - **EASTER**

6 a.m. Sunrise at the Jesse Lee Meeting House, move out to greet the morning

10 a.m. Torsey Church

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



Winter has arrived as well knew it would eventually. The children are happy making snowballs, snowmen and coming inside for "mom" to dry their mittens and snowsuits. 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



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



First Baptist Church

Route 41, Mount Vernon Village
Church Office: 293-2141

Easter Sunday, March 27

Sunrise Service, 7 a.m.

Easter breakfast, 10 a.m., *(following service)*



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

Easter Sunday

March 27 Sunrise Service, 7 a.m.
Easter breakfast, 10 a.m.,
(following service)

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

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

