



Readfield Messenger

Town of Readfield: www.readfieldmaine.org

From the Town Manager's Desk

Municipal Budget Highlights and Dates - Fiscal Year 2019 -2020 (FY20)

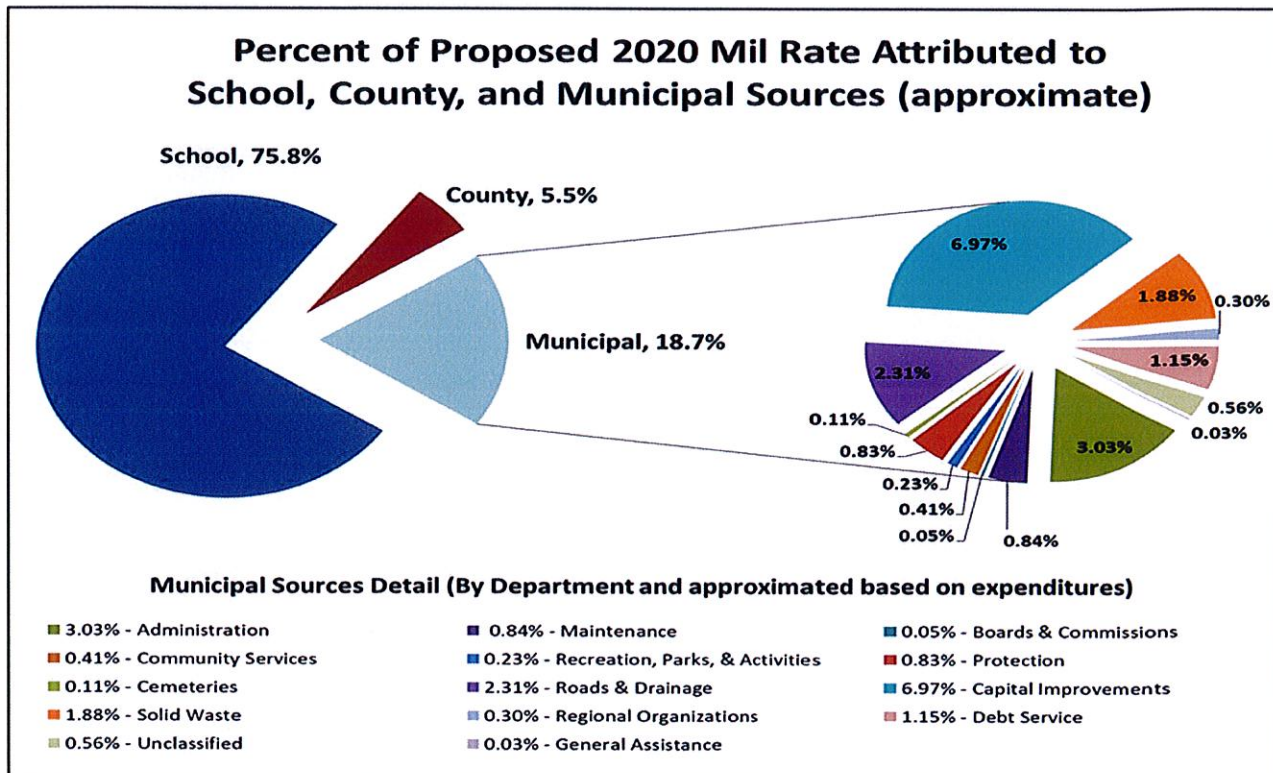
We're wrapping up the municipal budget and so I am presenting a few budget highlights and important dates. Let's start with highlights:

- The net Municipal Budget, and our portion of the mil rate, is expected to drop in FY20.
- We are retiring a road work bond, but reinvesting a similar amount in paving and road related capital improvements. This is just one example of how we balance the budget.
- We have two municipal building projects (major repairs to the Library and an expansion of the Fire Station) that require the use of designated and undesignated funds combined with bonding in order to be financed. This is important work I hope to see completed in FY20.
- Our multi-year outlook indicates a stable (but probably not flat) Municipal Budget and mil rate.

Here are the dates you want to keep in mind:

- May 10, 2019 – Municipal Absentee Ballots available
- May 16, 2019 – Final Public Budget Meeting & Hearing (to discuss
- June 11, 2019 – Town Meeting / Secret Ballot

Want the big picture? Take a look below! You can also find budget summary and detail information at our website: www.readfieldmaine.org/budget-information.





Spirit of America Awards 2019

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

The Town of Readfield will be accepting one page nominations until April 30th at 4:30pm. Nominations will be submitted to the Select Board. Recipients will be recognized at the Volunteer Appreciation Event this summer. Please send your nominations by e-mail to clerk@readfieldmaine.org or you may send them to Town of Readfield, 8 Old Kents Hill Rd, Readfield Maine 04355 and of course you may also just drop them at the office.

Volunteers are the unsung heroes of our community! Thank you for helping to recognize the important work they do.

Readfield Roads Posted to Limit Heavy Loads

All roads in the Town of Readfield have been posted with spring weight limits. Travel on posted roads by overweight vehicles is only permitted when the road is solidly frozen, or by special permit from the Road Commissioner. The Road Commissioner may be contacted in the office at 685-4939 or by cell phone at 242-5437.

Thank you for respecting the posted weight limits and maintaining the integrity of our road network.

Staff Contact Information:

Town Manager, Eric Dyer:

manager@readfieldmaine.org

Finance Officer, Teresa Shaw:

finance@readfieldmaine.org

Town Clerk, Deborah Nichols:

clerk@readfieldmaine.org

Code Officer, Gary Quintal:

ceo@readfieldmaine.org

Front Desk Clerk, Kristin Parks:

info@readfieldmaine.org

Animal Control/Maintenance, Anna Carll:

maintenance1@readfieldmaine.org

Sexton, Ben Rodriguez:

sexton@readfieldmaine.org

Select Board Corner

Dear Neighbors;

One key multi-year Select Board goal to carry out on behalf of our community has been the following:

“Refine determining the status of town buildings to focus on the Library and the Fire Station to recommend appropriate long-term facilities planning to serve the community’s needs and expectations. Work with the Library Board of Trustees and the Readfield Fire Department to gather background information and understand future needs.”

We have been diligently working with Readfield Fire Chief Lee Mank, Library Board of Trustees Chair Deb Peale, and Town Manager Eric Dyer to understand and plan for addressing existing concerns and long term needs regarding these town buildings in the coming decades. As a result we are placing before the town a plan to update the Fire Station and address structural integrity at the Library.

Both of these buildings are important hubs of service to Readfield. Our fire department volunteers are highly regarded both in and outside our community and their building expansion and updating needs to appropriately train and house equipment is a sensible wise investment by the town. The library is a hub of community activity and it has been determined that continuing at the current location with the appropriate structural investment in the existing building is the best path forward to support the program, its volunteers, and our community as a whole.

Readfield is very careful in managing debt that invests in infrastructure. Our plan includes the strategic use of existing funds and a bonding plan that does not increase the portion of property taxes due to municipal government expenses. I urge you to learn more about and support these investments, built on the foresight of town leaders, volunteers, and residents in past decades to ensure their value to the town for decades more.

Warm Regards;

Bruce Bourgoine
Select Board Chair

Town Office Hours

Monday & Tuesday 8:30am—4:30pm

Wednesday 12-6:00pm

Friday 7:30am—3:30pm

(207) 685-4939

Code Enforcement Officer Hours

Tuesday 8:30am—1:30pm

Wednesday 12-6:00pm

Thursday (by appointment only) 8:30am—1:30pm

(207) 685-3290

Cemetery Sexton Update

Readfield Cemeteries Spring Clean-Up

The Readfield Sexton will be doing spring clean-up and is asking for your help. If you have a loved one at one of the cemeteries and have left items through the winter on their lot please go by and pick-up any items you would like to keep. The Sexton may throw out any items that are faded, worn or not seasonally appropriate. If you have any questions or would like to make special accommodations related to the removal of personal items please contact Ben Rodriguez (Sexton) at:

Office Phone: (207)-685-1812

Cell Phone: (207)-557-2790

Email: sexton@readfieldmaine.org

Readfield Blizzard Busters

What a great season we had for winter sports throughout the state of Maine. It was so iffy at the start, but old man winter came through with lots of snow and colder temperatures, all of which make it ideal for snowmobiling on Readfield's thirty plus miles of trails. Our volunteers labored in excess of five-hundred hours preparing the trails for smooth and safe access. Several riders we met along the trails commented on the excellent trail condition. We love positive comments – it encourages our groomers to keep up the demanding work.

The new Augusta Water District trail (36S) that hooks up with Winthrop trails was also well received. Use of it was contingent upon using it properly (staying on marked trails) and in my estimation people were respectful of the rule. Unfortunately the connection to the Wayne trail never came to fruition, due to a homeowner revoking access privileges. It is so important that snowmobilers ride only where access is posted; otherwise privileges are at risk of being lost.

Trails are apt to be closed by the time this article is published and we will be looking forward to another fabulous outdoor season – summer (certainly not mud season). The club would like to thank all our landowners, members, donors and volunteers and the Town for their participation in making the Readfield Blizzard Busters Snowmobile Club such a success again in our 2018/2019 season.



Marge Livingston, Secretary

Readfield Blizzard Busters Snowmobile Club



AGE FRIENDLY READFIELD

Too often people wait too long to ask for assistance or are afraid to ask for just a little help. Sometimes just a little help can make a big difference in a person's life.

The Age Friendly Committees of Readfield and Mount Vernon recently met with Lynn Kidd from the SEARCH Program to find out more about what they can do. They can do quite a bit!

SEARCH connects seniors with community volunteers in Androscoggin, Kennebec, and Sagadahoc Counties, and in parts of Franklin and Lincoln Counties, along with Brunswick & Harpswell in Cumberland County. Volunteers bring skills, enthusiasm, and companionship to someone living at home while assisting with a variety of support services:

- Friendly visitation and companionship
- Telephone reassurance
- Helping them with appointments/errands and grocery shopping
- Assistance with some in home tasks/projects
- Doing socialization activities together
- Help with correspondence/forms
- Help with yard work
- Referral to other services & programs when needed

Call 530-0137 if you'd like to discuss what they could do for you. There is no income eligibility guideline and the only requirement is that one must be over 60. This is a volunteer and is not a paid service.

~OR~

If you would like to volunteer and help a fellow Readfield resident call the number above as well. SEARCH connects people volunteering in Readfield to residents of Readfield. The two people discuss a plan of activities together...what the individual wants or needs and what the volunteer is able to do.

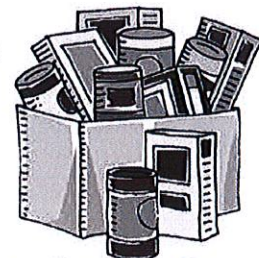
Sounds perfect. Give it a try!

Mount Vernon Food Bank

People in Readfield who find they are in need at any time during the year do not have to go hungry. The Mt. Vernon Food Bank, located at the First Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon, serves the people of Readfield in addition to Vienna, Fayette and Mt. Vernon. It is open every Saturday morning from 9:30am to 12pm and is supported by the schools, churches and individuals from the area.

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

If you are in need of help during off hours, please call: Betty White at 480-1525 or Helen Wilkey at 293-2351.



**Feeding the
Community**

A MORNING ON SNOWSHOES

A bright, beautiful, cloudless Readfield sky welcomed me as I pulled into the fairgrounds parking lot. Yes, it was a mild mid March day and a new coat of 6 inches or so of new snow had fallen the day previous to my visit. Thinking I would be the one to break a new trail, my first view of the North Trail proved me wrong: new ski and snowshoe tracks greeted me. I always try to envision who has been on the trails just before me and who I might meet there on any given day. I enjoy breaking new paths after a storm, but the "softie" in me did not protest too loudly this day and I set out to take advantage of the trailblazer's efforts who left their marks before me.

My trek this day took me over 2 miles as I pushed ahead and looped back to head up the trail by the Superintendent's office. This is a great climb but in winter made much easier by snowmobiles that keep that section well groomed (thank you riders!). I always stop at the crest of the hill to look back at the landscape behind me with Route 17 snaking up the hill towards the depot and beyond. The view of Maranacook Lake's sparkling white expanse stretching towards Winthrop is always enjoyable for me no matter what the season.

I soon leave the smooth trail and am back in the woods. At the trail's junction behind the backstop I meet Dixie. Although on a leash, Dixie must sense I want to greet her as she springs forward. She agrees to a couple of my pats but quickly moves on to follow nature's winter aromas. Left alone again, my next stop is at the bench overlooking the ball field. Hard to imagine that in a few weeks, the sights and sounds of Readfield kids, coaches, and spectators enjoying baseball will make this day a fading memory. The noisy cackle of crows and a few chirps from some smaller birds brought me back to the present. I finished in the parking lot and headed home wondering how many more days remain before the small stones covering the trails appear and my snowshoes are stored away until next winter arrives and perhaps I can then capture another day like this one.

-Reflections of a trail user



RECYCLE BEYOND THE BAG

Recycle your household bags & wrap into Trex's Earth-friendly composite decking and railing!



FROM THE GROCERY STORE

- ✓ Produce & bread bags
- ✓ Grocery bags
- ✓ Cereal box liners
- ✓ Ice bags

FROM YOUR PANTRY

- ✓ Ziploc® & other reclosable bags
- ✓ Case overwrap

FROM YOUR FRONT DOOR

- ✓ Newspaper sleeves
- ✓ Dry cleaning bags
- ✓ Plastic shopping bags
- ✓ Bubble wrap



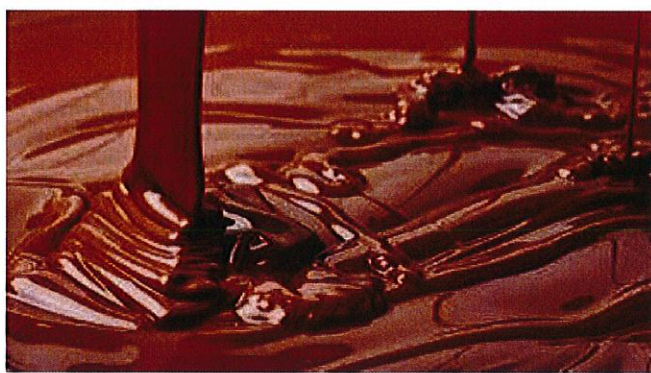
trex.com/recycling 1-800-Buy-Trex

Readfield Community Library



Moms, Dads and children of all ages: Are you looking for a fun activity for a Saturday afternoon in April?

The Readfield Community Library is delighted to welcome Hannah Flannery to the Readfield Town Hall for a Chocolate candy making session!



Saturday April 6, 2019 2:00 PM

In order to ensure adequate supplies of chocolate and other ingredients sign-up is necessary.

**Sign up by April 3rd:
Please call the Library 685-4089 and
leave a message with name(s) of attendee(s).**

Summer Book Sale

As you may know The Library can no longer accept book donations due to building constraints. A suitable alternative location has not been found.

The Library is looking to continue the summer book sale but we need help from book and library lovers who have donated gently used books in the past and would like the tradition to continue.

Our solution: For those willing to hold on to books they would like to donate to the summer book sale, bring them to the Readfield Fire Station Saturday August 10th between 7:30 and 10:00am, the day of the sale. The space will be prepared for donors to place their donations on sales tables. It would be a true community effort.



JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT!

**SATURDAY APRIL 13TH, 10AM
MARANACOOK COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL
KIDS AGES 1 - 10 YEARS OLD
BRING YOUR OWN BASKET**



SPONSORED BY THE READFIELD RECREATION COMMITTEE

Candy donations can be dropped off at RES or the Readfield town office.

This is not a school sponsored event.

BLACK BEAR BOUTIQUE AND MARANACOOK FOOD PANTRY

Maranacook Community School is pleased to provide support to our community through the Black Bear Boutique and Maranacook Food Pantry.

With colder months coming and the high cost of clothing, the Black Bear Boutique helps students by providing quality used clothing for free. Students will find jackets, sweaters and pants, footwear and gym clothes. Clothes for all seasons are also available. The Boutique is open to everyone during school hours.

The Maranacook Food Pantry, "Sandy's Place", is also open during school hours, and may be accessed after school by contacting Ellen Turgeon, school nurse. Our shelves are stocked with non perishable food items as well as basic hygiene products. Backpacks are available for students to take home food for their families at any time.

Both of these services are supported by Maranacook staff and community volunteers. If you would like to make a donation, please stop by the Health Center or call Ellen Turgeon at 685-4923 ext. 1033.





MARANACOOK AREA SCHOOLS

A Caring School Community Dedicated to Excellence

James Charette
Superintendent of Schools

Nancy Harriman, Ph.D.
Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment
Tel. 207-685-3336

Ryan Meserve
Special Education Director

Brigette Williams
Finance Manager
Fax. 207-685-4703

Budget Update #5 - RSU #38 School Board Budget Meeting, March 22, 2019

"Promoting student success in all areas, as we strive for academic excellence while maintaining fiscal responsibility."

The RSU #38 School Board met on March 20, 2019 and continued discussion and deliberation on the FY20 School Budget. There was a time scheduled for Citizens Comment, however no one signed up to speak.

In response to comments made at the previous March 13, 2019 combined RSU #38 and area Select Board meeting regarding the concern for the increased District budget, the Administrators and Managers met to discuss areas where efficiencies could be made in the general fund budget to assist in funding some of the new requests.

Based on the budget presented this evening, the draft budget stands at \$18,773,535.21 which represents a 4.76% increase over the current budget. This reduction is reflected in the [20 Summary Budget 3.20.19](#).

We reviewed the anticipated revenues as well as the anticipated carry-forward. The changes in revenue are reflected on the [20 Revenue Summary 3.20.19](#).

To date the expected increases in the local contributions are 5.40% for Manchester, 3.32% for Mt. Vernon, 5.87% for Readfield, and 7.77% for Wayne. Additional information is available on the [20 Local Dollar Calculation 3.20.19](#).

We also reviewed a document listing budget changes since the first draft budget was presented ([20 Summary Budget Changes 3.20.19](#)).

The RSU #38 School Board and Administrative Team continue to work on the FY20 Budget as we move forward in our effort of "Promoting student success in all areas as we strive for academic excellence while maintaining fiscal responsibility".

The next RSU #38 Budget meeting will be held on March 27, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the Maranacook Community High School Student Center. There will an opportunity for citizen comment regarding the budget. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting.

Sincerely,

Jay Charette
Superintendent of Schools

**RSU #38 - Readfield Elementary School
FOR THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR
PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

It is time to register your child for the 2019-2020 Pre-K or Kindergarten class.

For Pre-K:
Call 685-3336 x6 to add your child to the list and schedule a time for screening.

For Kindergarten:
Call Readfield Elementary School, 685-4406 x0 to add your child to the list and schedule a time for screening.

Age requirements by October 15, 2019:

- Pre-K – 4-years old
- Kindergarten – 5-years old

REVENUE & EXPENSE SUMMARIES

Readfield
3:57 PM

Revenue Summary Report Department(s): ALL February

02/28/2019
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Account	Budget Net	- C U R R M O N T H - Debits	Credits	YTD Net	Uncollected Balance	Percent Collected
10 - GENERAL GOVERNMENT	5,881,537.00	118.96	51,780.42	5,356,201.27	525,335.73	91.07
12 - Maintenance	0.00	0.00	0.00	118.41	-118.41	----
15 - BOARDS & COMMISSIONS	30,517.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30,517.00	0.00
25 - COMMUNITY SERVICES	34,925.00	0.00	16,471.20	68,781.22	-33,856.22	196.94
30 - RECREATION, PARKS,& ACTIVITIES	27,370.00	0.00	29.00	8,464.62	18,905.38	30.93
40 - PROTECTION	2,600.00	0.00	2,600.00	5,609.38	-3,009.38	215.75
50 - CEMETERIES	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	-300.00	----
60 - Roads & Drainage	35,000.00	0.00	0.00	35,632.00	-632.00	101.81
65 - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	186,022.00	0.00	1,095.84	165,769.62	20,252.38	89.11
70 - SOLID WASTE	193,829.00	0.00	18,241.82	129,398.30	64,430.70	66.76
80 - REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,112.00	-15,112.00	----
90 - UNCLASSIFIED	11,377.00	0.00	0.00	1,343.86	10,033.14	11.81
95 - GENERAL ASSISTANCE	2,250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,250.00	0.00

Readfield
3:51 PM

Expense Summary Report ALL Departments February

02/28/2019
Page 1

Account	Budget Net	- C U R R M O N T H - Debits	Credits	YTD Net	Unexpended Balance	Percent Spent
10 - GENERAL GOVT	481,206.00	25,048.25	637.41	310,955.30	170,250.70	64.62
12 - Maintenance	127,415.00	9,303.40	183.08	64,006.23	63,408.77	50.23
15 - BOARDS & COM	42,112.00	0.00	0.00	30,256.20	11,855.80	71.85
25 - COMM SERVICE	55,961.00	3,154.61	0.00	43,475.72	12,485.28	77.69
30 - REC,PARKS/AT	38,708.00	984.74	0.00	19,747.53	18,960.47	51.02
40 - PROTECTION	132,725.00	429.89	0.00	73,127.40	59,597.60	55.10
50 - CEMETERIES	16,500.00	0.00	0.00	1,140.91	15,359.09	6.91
60 - Rds & Drain	407,930.00	29,147.97	0.00	293,345.52	114,584.48	71.91
65 - CAPITAL IMPR	451,614.00	14,633.72	0.00	126,229.21	325,384.79	27.95
70 - SOLID WASTE	303,686.00	19,196.64	0.00	188,826.43	114,859.57	62.18
75 - EDUCATION	3,564,799.00	296,413.34	0.00	2,371,306.64	1,193,492.36	66.52
80 - REGIONAL ORG	48,000.00	0.00	0.00	26,768.07	21,231.93	55.77
81 - COUNTY TAX	266,694.00	0.00	0.00	266,694.13	-0.13	100.00
85 - DEBT SERVICE	327,956.00	0.00	0.00	320,227.12	7,728.88	97.64
90 - UNCLASSIFIED	135,621.00	5,901.42	0.00	30,226.00	105,395.00	22.29
95 - GENERAL ASST	4,500.00	0.00	0.00	682.34	3,817.66	15.16
Final Totals	6,405,427.00	404,213.98	820.49	4,167,014.75	2,238,412.25	65.05



Readfield United Methodist Church

"We are a welcoming community of believers seeking to grow in Christ and serve in mission"

1564 Main St. Readfield, ME
207-685-4211
office@readfieldchurch.net
ReadfieldChurch.org

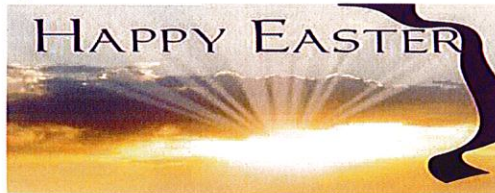
We are an open, inclusive, and affirming church.

Come worship with us every Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Nursery provided.

Sunday School classes for Kindergarten-12th grade

The church is handicap accessible



Holy Week and Easter Schedule

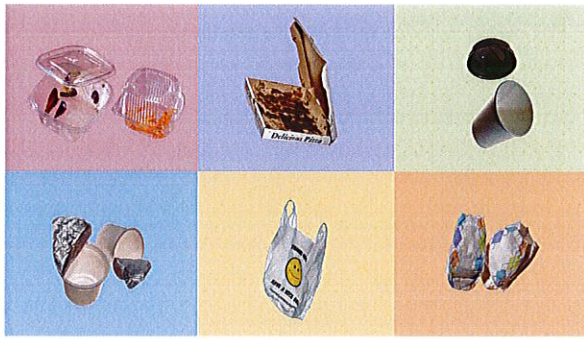
April 14th Palm Sunday 10:00 am
April 18th Maundy Thursday 6:00 pm
April 19th Good Friday Program, Time TBA
April 21st Easter Sunrise Service 6:00 am
@ Jesse Lee Meeting House
April 21st Easter Pancake Breakfast 8:30 am
April 21st Easter Service 10:00 am

*All Services at Readfield United Methodist Church, 1564 Main St. Readfield, unless indicated. The church is handicap accessible. Nursery provided.

What if Church was a Dinner Party?

Join us for *Open Table* from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday evenings

At Open Table, worship takes place at the table around a delicious meal. Communion is made as we share food and ourselves by exploring scripture, singing, and praying together. Come experience **open and inclusive community of Jesus**. Meals will be provided at no cost. Everyone is welcome!



Readfield Solid Waste and Recycling Committee



6 Things You May Be Recycling Wrong

Disposable cups. Most single-use cups are lined with a fine film of polyethylene, which makes the cups liquid-proof but also unrecyclable because the materials have to be separated.

Greasy pizza boxes. Pizza boxes *with no grease* are O.K. to recycle but if the grease seeps into the cardboard, the box should be put in a composting bin or thrown out. The oil cannot be separated from the fiber, making that material less valuable, and less marketable, to buyers. Remember, there are also two sides to a pizza box. If there's a side that's not oily, tear that off and recycle it.


Yogurt cups (and other non-recyclable plastics). In Maine we can still recycle all plastics that have a recycling symbol and number on them. Should you keep the caps on your bottles? At ecoMaine we are asked that anything smaller than the palm of your hand gets thrown in the trash. It is better to leave lids off bottles so they compact; thus small lids in the trash and large lids in recycling.

Oily takeout containers. As much as possible, keep food and liquids out of your containers. You don't have to scrub containers until they are sparkling clean — that could waste water. But too many scraps of food and liquid can contaminate a load.

Plastic bags. Remember to dump your recyclables out of the plastic bag when putting them in the recycling bin. Then place the bag and other plastic film in the separate bin for these next to our compactor or take to Hannaford, Lowes, Target or WalMart.

Dirty diapers. Yuck! They are filled with human waste and do not recycle. Period.

Reference: *6 Things You're Recycling Wrong*, Livia Albeck-Ripka, *nytiimes.com*, May 29, 2018

Tel: 685-4064		Visa/Mastercard
KEN'S DRAG IN AUTO INC.		
<i>Rt. # 135, Readfield, Maine</i>		
Used Auto and Truck Parts • Auto Repair Used Cars and Trucks • Buying Junk Cars		
Ken Edgecomb		Mark Edgecomb



News from the 30 Mile River Watershed Association

Now Hiring Summer and Year-Round Staff

For full job descriptions and application information, visit www.30mileriver.org.



Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) Crew Members:

Protect and improve water quality in our lakes through completing projects that reduce erosion and sources of polluted stormwater runoff, such as planting vegetated buffers, mulching pathways, and installing infiltration steps. Engage in a fun, outdoor, team experience while providing a valuable service to the community by protecting our lakes. *(Summer, part-time)*. Deadline April 9th.

Courtesy Boat Inspectors (CBIs):

The “first line of defense” against invasive aquatic plants, preventing plant fragments hitchhiking on boats, gear and trailers from entering our lakes. Search for invasive plant fragments, educate boaters and raise awareness of the impact of invasive species in our community, while spending time at beautiful lakeside locations. *(Summer, part-time)*. Deadline April 9th.



Program Assistant: Support a wide variety of activities across all programs, including communications, Courtesy Boat Inspections, fundraising, and special events. Must be a strong communicator, well-organized and dedicated to our mission. The position is based out of 30MRWA’s office in Farmington, Maine. *(Year-Round, part-time)*. Deadline March 31st.

Erosion problems on your property?

Sign up for a free YCC site visit!

Our Youth Conservation Corps provides erosion control measures and sustainable landscaping on our lakeshores at a reduced cost. Once the snow has melted and water is running across your property, it’s the perfect time to look for erosion issues that could be harming the water quality of your lake. For more information or to sign up for a free site visit, visit www.30mileriver.org and click on our YCC page.



RSU 38 Maranacook Adult Ed News

Lots of new classes starting soon!!

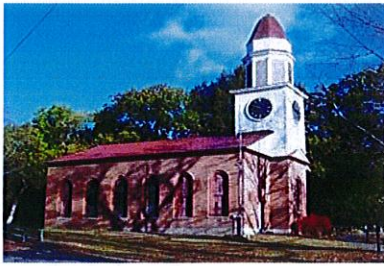
HiSET/Diploma Classes ongoing year-round

Class Name	Start Date
Candle Making with Essential Oils NEW!	4/2/2019
Auras and Chakras NEW!	4/3/2019
Travel Series: The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem	4/4/2019
Driver's Ed	4/9/2019
Reiki Level Two	4/10/2019
Master the iPad NEW!	4/23/2019
Jelly Roll Rug - NEW!	4/23/2019
Cooking with Essential Oils	4/23/2019
Yoga Nidra	4/24/2019
Master the iPhone NEW!	4/25/2019
Become Your Own Travel Agent - NEW!	4/30/2019
AARP Safe Driver Course	4/30/2019
Reiki III Master Teacher Class NEW!	5/1/2019
Registered Maine Guide Training	5/9/2019

To register, or for more details and to view all classes, go to:

<http://maranacook.maineadulted.org>

Or call the Adult Ed office at 685-4923 x1065 for more info



THE UNION MEETING HOUSE

On the National Register of Historic Places since 1982

SAVE THE DATE- April 27th. The Readfield Union Meeting House will host its third International Dinner at Maranacook Community School from 5-6:30 pm. Responses from attendees last year were “Don't change a thing” and “It was great”! Well, there will be a few new menu items offered to entice the return of the 115+ diners from last year. Ticket prices will remain the same \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. Be watching the Community Advertiser and KJ newspaper for more details. There will also be posters throughout the community.

Many of our members and donors have responded to our Challenge Letter that went out at the end of February. Having received \$10,000 from Linda Bean and her sister Diana in memory of Mildred Peladeau, the board challenged supporters to help turn this into \$20,000. The Bean donation was earmarked for the restoration of the *trompe l'oeil* ceiling project. We are pleased to announce over \$6,000 has come in so far. Thank you all for your generous gifts. It's not too late to be part of the Challenge. Donations should be mailed to RUMH, PO Box 451, Readfield, ME 04355.

The Soupah Sunday on March 24th from 12 to 2 pm at the Kents Hill O'Connor Alpine Training Center saw between 50 to 60 people enjoying 13 different soups, chowders, stews, and chili. Also included in the \$7 price were homemade breads, desserts, tea and coffee. Benefit proceeds go to the Friends of the Vestry, Readfield Union Meeting House.

Exciting news for the RUMH is that a coordinator for the new “Meet Me at the Meeting House” Summer Series has been hired. Ben Rodriguez will be overseeing publicity, ticket sales, volunteers, and lighting & sound for the series events. A separate calendar for the Summer Series should be out during April, giving community members plenty of time to coordinate entertainment for their summer visitors.

The full schedule for 2019 events at the Readfield Union Meeting House is included. Copies will be available at all our events, at the town office and post office. All board and committee members are excited to be offering these programs for our town and the surrounding communities.

Nancy Durgin
RUMH Board Member

READFIELD UNION MEETING HOUSE 2019 Events

- Feb 17 Fundraising Dinner at the Weathervane
- Mar 24 Soupah Sunday at Kents Hill ski lodge (benefits the Vestry)
- Apr 27 3rd annual International Dinner at Maranacook High School
- May 23-24 School students visit RUMH
- May 25 Saturday tours of RUMH begin, each Sat. morning 10-12 thru Aug 31
- June 4 Greg Boardman (fiddler) at RUMH
- June 8 Mr. Drew's animal show at RUMH (free)
- June 18 Caroline Cotter (singer & songwriter) at RUMH
- June 22 Build a Gnome House at Town Pathway (free)
- June 22 Bernd Heinrich (naturalist & author) at RUMH
- July 2 Troy Youngblood (singer & songwriter) at RUMH
- July 6 Strawberry Festival at RUMH
- July 16 Gawler Family (traditional & folk music)
- July 20 Traditional children's games at RUMH (free)
- July 30 Open mic night at RUMH
- Aug 3 Scavenger Hunt at RUMH (free)
- Aug 10 Heritage Day at RUMH - Silent Auction, Yard Sale, Dave Mallett (folk)
- Aug 13 Capital City Improv at RUMH
- Aug 23 Members Social at RUMH (free for Members)
- Aug 27 TBA
- Oct 31 Pumpkin Festival & Trunk-or-Treat at RUMH (no charge)

RUMH is at 22 Church Rd, Readfield 04355

READFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Pictured right: Marius Péladeau (left) of Readfield was honored at the Readfield Historical Society's (RHS) annual meeting on March 16th, for decades of preserving Maine history. Bob Harris, RHS president presented the award.



READFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY HONORS MAINE HISTORIAN

More than one-hundred people attended the Readfield Historical Society (RHS) annual meeting and program on Saturday when Marius Péladeau of Readfield was honored for his decades of helping to preserve various aspects of Maine history. Bob Harris, RHS president presented Péladeau with a certificate of honor.

Péladeau's career started in Maine in 1962 when he began working as a sports reporter for the Lewiston Daily Sun. In 1967 he moved to Washington, D.C. and served as press secretary for U.S. Congressman Joseph P. Vigorito of Pennsylvania for five years. When Péladeau returned to Maine in 1972 he shifted his focus to the preservation of Maine history, a passion that he has continued for nearly five decades. His first position in the field was as Director of the Maine League of Historical Societies and Museums, which he held for four years. Following that, he became Director at the Farnsworth Library and Art Museum in Rockland, a capacity he filled for twelve years. Upon leaving the Farnsworth in 1987, Péladeau became General Manager of the Theater at Monmouth where he remained until his retirement.

During the 1992 Readfield Bicentennial Péladeau thoroughly researched Readfield's historic industrial hub, called Factory Square, and created a slide show that he has presented to the public many times over the years. From 2003-2005 he volunteered as Curator and Vice President of the Readfield Historical Society. There, he created historical exhibits for their museum, taught members how to clean historical artifacts, prepare them for display and make informative signage. Many of these displays remain in place to this day.

In 2009 Péladeau took on the challenge of overseeing the restoration and revitalization of the Readfield Union Meeting House (UMH). Built in 1827, the brick building was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1982. Under Péladeau's direction as board president UMH became visible in the community again after a period of neglect. Many structural repairs and improvements were made to the building during Péladeau's tenure and he also oversaw the preservation of rare trompe l'oeil art throughout the interior, painted by Charles Schumacher of Portland in 1868. The trompe l'oeil at UMH is one of fifty-one works that Schumacher completed in Maine, but the only known example to have survived intact. Péladeau also attended to other historical features of the building, such as several stained and unique stenciled glass windows and an 1890 organ produced by the Chicago Cottage Organ Co. Péladeau retired as UMH president in 2017, but he remains on the board of directors as historian and consultant. He also continues his lifelong work in the historical realm in other ways. Péladeau serves as a consultant and lectures throughout the northeast and is now in the process of republishing two of his books. His works include writings on art history, early photography, and the Civil War, of which he is a noted and respected expert.

April 2019

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1 6:30 Select Brd.	2	3 6:30 Library Brd.	4	5 7:30—3:30 Assessor	6 2 pm Chocolate making @ Town Hall (sponsored by Library)
7	8	9 6:30 Conservation Mtg.	10 9-Age Friendly 6:30 Plan. Brd.	11 6 pm Road Com.	12 Select Board & School Board NOMINATION PAPERS DUE BY 3:30 PM @ Town Office	13 10 am Easter Egg Hunt @ MCS
14	15 Town office CLOSED for Patriots Day	16 Town Report Articles due	17 1 pm Cemetery Comm. 5:30-SWRC @ Readfield Town Office	18 6 pm Union Mtg. House	19 7:30—3:30 Assessor	20
21 EASTER	22	23 6:30 Select Brd. 6:30 Trails Com.	24 6:30 Plan. Brd.	25 6:30 Budget Comm.	26 Messenger Articles due for May edition	27
28	29	30	MAY 1 6:30 Library Brd.	2	3 7:30—3:30 Assessor	4

**SAVE THE DATE: 5/15—RSU #38 VOTE @ MARANACOOK HS GYM 7 PM
6/11—TOWN MEETING/VOTE @ GILE HALL 8 AM—8 PM**



Town of Readfield

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SELECT BOARD CONTACT INFO

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Woodsum, Kathryn Mills: Phone: (207) 685-9094

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The Town is seeking volunteer Members for:

- Cobbossee Watershed Dist: 1 Rep. (2019) & 1 Alt. Rep. (2021)
- Cemetery Committee: 1 Member (2021)
- Conservation Commission: 1 member (2021) & 1 Alt. member (2019)
- Heritage Day Committee Members: Multi members needed for the 2019 year
- Local School Board: 1 member (2019), 1 member (2020) & 1 member (2021)
- Planning Board: three Alt. members (2019, 2022 & 2023)
- Readfield Enterprise Committee: 1 CPA or financial specialist (2021)
- Road Committee: 1 member (2019)
- Trails Committee: 1 member for each year (2019, 2020, 2021) 1 Alt. (2020)

If you are interested in joining any of the above committees please complete the Appointment Application at www.readfieldmaine.org, or stop by the Town Office.