



Readfield Messenger

www.readfieldmaine.org

May 2021

MEET THE ★ CANDIDATES NIGHT

Candidate's Night will be held on **May 12th** via ZOOM only, but will feature a classic call in show format!

Select Board Candidates will participate from 6:30-7:30pm and School Board Candidates will participate from 7:30-8:30pm.

Remote / virtual participation for both of the above events will be essentially the same:

- ⇒ The public may participate by calling (929) 436-2866 or using the online ZOOM platform with Meeting ID: 881 4960 8367 and Passcode: 781405.
- ⇒ Residents without internet or long-distance phone service are welcome to call 685-1813 with questions or comments - this only applies to Candidate's Night call-ins.
- ⇒ Written comments can be submitted in advance on the Town Website: www.readfieldmaine.org

The final Public Hearing on the budget & warrant will be May 13th @ 6:30pm.

It will be held via ZOOM & in-person (w/ masking & distancing) at the Town Office.

We will have an occupancy cap of 24 and residents are encouraged to participate remotely.

Readfield Roadside Clean-Up Returns for 2021

The annual Readfield Roadside Clean-up returns for May 2021! Take part in a great community effort to keep our roads, sidewalks, and walkways free of trash, garbage, and debris. Dedicated to late Select Board member, John Parent, the Roadside Cleanup Day is just another way that we get #ReadfieldTogether.

Like last year, the cleanup will span the entire month of May, with Saturdays designated as drop-off and pick-up days at the Transfer Station. Volunteers who are interested are encouraged to adopt a road and clean it up at their own pace. We use a program called "Signup Genius" to help us coordinate this effort, online. This is a safe, trusted service that helps us know which roads are clean, and which ones still need help! To choose which road(s) you want to volunteer to clean **SIGN-UP HERE** ! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040b44aaa623aaff2-2020>

Cleanup bags, debris grabbers, and other supplies will be available at the Transfer Station - just ask an attendant for help!

We want you to be safe, so we ask that you wear comfortable and appropriate Maine spring clothing, gloves, and BRIGHT COLORS (either yellow or orange safety clothing) so motorists can clearly see you. Volunteers are encouraged to use appropriate social distancing (6 feet) when working together.

Bagged waste can be brought to the Transfer Station any Saturday in May. Just let the attendant know that you are bringing in waste from the cleanup. Unfortunately, bagged waste from the cleanup effort cannot be accepted on any other transfer station days.

If you find items that won't fit into a bag, are too bulky, or require a fee at the transfer station (tires etc), please contact the Town Office and they will arrange for pick up. Email **Kristin Parks** or call 685-4939



Select Board Corner

Dear Neighbors;

With many of us vaccinated and guidelines changing in relation to the pandemic, the future is looking brighter. This board and many town committees kept the work of governance in motion with Zoom meetings and other efforts.

However, there's hands-on work that is vital and necessary in operating a town like Readfield and I invite you to focus on our town staff. They made a big difference in our day-to-day lives during this uncertain period and our recognition of their adaptations, can-do efforts, and care about the services we depend on is greatly warranted.

Services at the town office may have been in a bit of flux from time to time but they were always delivered with the appropriate safety concerns for the public and with a smile. The transfer station operated at full capacity as we depended on it for recycling more shipping cardboard than ever and our usual household waste. Our library services provided welcome respite as we spent more time at home than usual. Facilities, roads, and cemeteries were continually maintained to our high standards. Permits got issued, elections got handled, fire and safety protection reassuringly covered us, and animal control concerns were addressed as needed.

In short the town of Readfield operated like a well-oiled machine despite challenge after challenge and change after change in protocols. I won't single out any member of our staff in particular in this column because I'm recognizing the total team effort that benefited our community. However, I hope you will join me over the next few weeks in thanking individual staff members as you happen to run into them or connect with town services. It will be a well-deserved thanks and I know it will be appreciated.

Thank you all!

Kind Regards;
Bruce Bourgoine
Select Board Chair

Select
Board

<u>Bruce Bourgoine:</u>	(207) 624-1977	bbourgoine@readfieldmaine.org
<u>Ralph Eno:</u>	(207) 685-3177	reno@readfieldmaine.org
<u>Dennis Price:</u>	(207) 577-4919	dprice@readfieldmaine.org
<u>Christine Sammons:</u>	(207) 685-0051	csammons@readfieldmaine.org

From the Town Manager

Town Manager's Report - Budget Process and Secret Ballot / Town Meeting Update

Thank you to all of the residents, volunteers, and staff who have been working together to move our town forward through the last several months of the budget and warrant process, despite the many compounding challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Since our last budget process we have found that the financial and economic impacts of the Coronavirus have fortunately been in most cases less than anticipated. We were prepared for the worst however and that positioning during the current fiscal year put the town on a strong footing to prepare a municipal budget that anticipates a reduction in the financial impact on taxpayers this coming year. The Regional School Unit #38 budget is anticipated to see a small increase of .7%, and I want to thank our School Board members and the RSU #38 Administration for their efforts to keep the increase as small as possible. When combined, we expect a small net decrease in the amount of taxes paid by property owners. Here are some summary points:

- Municipal revenue projections were revised to account for the milder than expected impacts of COVID-19. Most non-tax revenue streams are up.

- Assigned and unassigned municipal fund balances were applied in a way that utilized available surpluses while staying on target with our reserve policies.

- We are continuing to focus on investing in our physical infrastructure like building and equipment, but also increasing investment in our many recreational resources and properties.

- Budgeted municipal expenditures will remain elevated in a few key areas - Poverty Abatements and General Assistance. We know a lot of people will still need help, and these are two of the primary resources we can offer as a town.

- The municipal portion of tax bills went down as projected revenues exceed expenses.

Moving on from what financial matters voters will consider on their ballots I want to briefly address how, when, and where they will do so. While public health appears to be headed in the right direction we are not out of the woods yet and the Town is pursuing steps to ensure that public activities can happen safely and efficiently. Here are a few key dates and details:

- The final **Public Hearing** on the budget and warrant will be on **May 13th at 6:30pm**. It will be held via ZOOM and in-person (with masking and distancing) at the Town Office. We will have an occupancy cap of 24 and residents are encouraged to participate remotely.

- Candidate's Night will be held on **May 12th** via ZOOM only, but will feature a classic call in show format! **Select Board Candidates will participate from 6:30-7:30pm and School Board Candidates will participate from 7:30-8:30pm.**

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 - Written comments can be submitted in advance on the Town Website: www.readfieldmaine.org

 - Watch us on cable channel 7 (and potentially on our Facebook and YouTube channels).

- The **Annual Town Meeting / Secret Ballot** vote will be held on **June 8th from 8am until 8pm at the Kents Hill School Alford Athletic Center.**

We are encouraging residents to use an **Absentee Ballot** to vote remotely! These ballots will be available at the Town Office beginning **May 10th**.

As always, visit www.readfieldmaine.org for more information!



VOTING INFORMATION



JUNE 8, 2021

ABSENTEE BALLOT INFORMATION

TOWN MEETING WARRANT/SECRET BALLOT VOTING

- Absentee Ballot requests are currently being accepted.
- You must be a registered voter in the Town of Readfield. To register to vote, or for questions concerning voter registration, contact the Clerk at 685-4939.
- How to request a ballot:
- Online, visit the Town website www.readfieldmaine.org.
- Call the Town Office at 685-4939 and we can take your request over the phone – *phone requests must be made directly by the voter and the voter must speak with Town Office staff; voice mail and email requests are not accepted per State of Maine law.*
- Mail a ballot application to the Town Office at 8 Old Kents Hill Rd., Readfield, ME 04355.
- Absentee Ballots will be mailed to you during the week of May 10th.
- Absentee Ballots may be returned by mail or placed in the Town Office DROP BOX by the voter OR an immediate family member.
- For this election, there are no time restrictions on requesting/returning your ballot, other than it must be received by 8 pm on June 8th.
- To return your ballot on Election Day, PLEASE NOTE the polling location is at: Kents Hill School - Alford Athletic Center, 1617 Main St.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE
TOWN OFFICE at 685-4939 or at
www.readfieldmaine.org**



Application for Absentee Ballot

June 8, 2021

Annual Town Meeting Election & Referendum

Application Received:

Date: _____ Time: _____

Ballot Sent/Delivered:

Date: _____ Time: _____

An absentee ballot request must be received by the Municipal Clerk by the close of business on Thursday, June 3rd, 2021, unless special circumstances exist.

Voted absentee ballots must be received by the Municipal Clerk by 8 pm on June 8th, 2021

1. Full Name of Registered Voter Requesting the Ballot _____
2. Residence Address of Voter _____
3. Voter's Date of Birth ____/____/____
4. Daytime Phone Number ____-____-____
5. Email Address: _____
6. Method of Delivery of Ballot to the Voter
 - a. ☐ Issued to Voter (Application only Required if Voter will Vote Outside the Municipal Clerk's Presence)
 - b. ☐ By Mail to this Address: _____
 - c. ☐ By Immediate Family Member of Voter: _____
(name of family member and relationship)
 - d. ☐ By this 3rd Person (Designated by the Voter) Name: _____ Phone: _____
7. Signature of Voter OR
Immediate Family Member of Voter: _____ Date: _____

Note: If an immediate family member of the voter is completing this application, the relationship to the voter must be provided in 5(c) above. The absentee ballot can be delivered to the immediate family member in person or mailed to the address provided in 5(b).

8. Signature of Immediate Family Member Returning the Ballot: _____
Relationship to Voter _____

(Complete Section #7 Only if Ballot was Delivered to the Voter or a Different Immediate Family Member of the Voter)

AIDE CERTIFICATE (Must be Completed if Applicant was Assisted as Designated Below) The voter received assistance in reading and/or signing this application, the person who assisted the voter must complete and sign this certificate.

I helped this voter: ☐ read the application ☐ sign the application ☐ read and sign the application

Signature of Aide _____ Printed Name of Aide _____

Application may be mailed to: Readfield Town Office, 8 Old Kents Hill Rd., Readfield, ME 04355

Town of Readfield

MEET

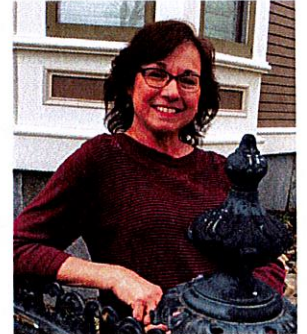
the

CANDIDATES

Candidate's Night will be held on **May 12th** via ZOOM only, but will feature a classic call in show format!

More information on front of messenger and in the Town Manager article

I am Carol Doorenbos, and I am seeking a seat on the Select Board in the election on June 8. My husband, Doug, and I purchased the house with the iron fence on Maine Street, Readfield 25 years ago. It was an exciting challenge. From the very start, over 20 neighbors came to help us clean up the house and yard. That was our introduction to this friendly village where neighbors help neighbors. It has taken a lifetime for us to preserve our small piece of Readfield history, the Asa Gile House, while raising a family. Now I would like to serve the people that have been so supportive of us.



I have been a pharmacist for Rite Aid and Osco for many years working with the public and managing the department. For the past 4 years, I have been working for the VA at Togus. It has been very rewarding to work with the veterans who have bravely served our country. I also have my MBA, so I understand budgets and finance. I would like to use my experience to help our town recover from isolation after the pandemic shut down. The challenge will be to do that while limiting additional spending.

I served on the Maranacook School Board when the local schools were consolidating into RSU 38, and our daughters were starting school. On the same day as the election, our two daughters will be graduating from Maranacook High School. Our town is so fortunate to have excellent schools and very dedicated teachers. Local schools are one important thing that attracts young families to move into this area.

Another important aspect of a small town is its small businesses. I have seen so many small businesses come and go in town. Strong local businesses help our tax base, lessen the burden on those with fixed incomes, and give us a strong sense of community. I would like to see an atmosphere where Readfield is ready to reopen for business, however with fair and proper guardrails in place. Perhaps one day our home will become a small business, which has always been our dream.

I believe you will find me trustworthy and hardworking. I would like to serve by listening to your concerns and ideas on how together we can help this area thrive and prosper. I would appreciate your vote for Select Board on

Hello Readfield-iens!

My name is Sean Keegan. You may know me as Omalley's Dad, Mackinley's Dad, Declan's dad, or the guy from the rec board. All great ways to have met you!

I am proud to announce I am running for a spot on the Select Board. I have lived in town for 14 years (wow!). My wife and I spent the first few years renovating our home on Sadie Dunn Road. Since then, we have had three terrific kids, though I am biased. Once we had kids, I started volunteering, something I loved doing as a young adult and what ultimately landed me here. When our oldest, Omalley, was big enough to join the Readfield Rec Soccer program, I could not wait. I volunteered to coach and luckily worked with 40 or so pre-k/k kids my first season. I had no idea what I was doing or how the program ran, but I went with it. I had a great time, and so did Omalley. I joined the Rec Board as soccer commissioner that year, before taking on the role of Treasurer.



Being a part of the Recreation Board has allowed me to interact with many families in town and be a part of something that I cannot get enough of- the Readfield Community. After seven years on the Recreation Board and assisting with events like Heritage Days, Clean Up days, Halloween parties, work at the beach, and other town projects, I think it's time to do more. Through my municipal engagements, I have enjoyed working closely with the Select Board, but now I'm ready to take a seat on the other side of the lectern.

I appreciate your vote, and I look forward to meeting more Readfield-iens, soon!

New Town Office Staff!

When you walk into the Town Office you may notice some new faces. Please help us welcome Sherene Gilman as the new Town Clerk and Chip Stephens as the new Code Enforcement Officer.

Town Office Staff Contacts

Town Manager, Eric Dyer: manager@readfieldmaine.org

Finance Officer, Teresa Shaw: finance@readfieldmaine.org

Town Clerk, Sherene Gilman: clerk@readfieldmaine.org

Code Officer, Chip Stephens: ceo@readfieldmaine.org

Front Desk Clerk, Kristin Parks: info@readfieldmaine.org

Animal Control/Maintenance, Anna Carll: maintance1@readfieldmaine.org

Sexton, Ben Rodriguez: sexton@readfieldmaine.org

Assessor, David Ledew: assessor@readfieldmaine.org

Librarian, Melissa Small: librarian@readfieldmaine.org

2021 Boat & ATV Registrations are now available!



**IT'S TIME
to register**

First time registrations need to be completed at the Town Office.

Re-Registrations can be done online thru our website under online services or thru the Inland Fisheries & Wildlife website.



Please call with any questions - 685-4939

2021 Readfield Beach Permit Application

RESIDENT PERMIT: (Readfield Residents & Taxpayers) FREE
Includes couples and their unmarried dependent children 21 & younger living in household

NON-RESIDENT PERMIT: (No exceptions or grandfathered passes) \$85 (all year)

GUEST PASSES: Your Resident Permit is your guest pass for any guests who are Readfield residents. Non-resident guests require the purchase of a day or week guest pass. Permit holder must remain with guests during visit. Children 5 years old and under do not require a guest pass.

• **DAY GUEST PASS:** \$ 8 / one guest
\$16 / 2-4 guests

• **ONE WEEK GUEST PASS:** Permit is valid for seven (7) consecutive days only \$45 Start Date: _____

NAMES: _____ **MAILING ADDRESS:** _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____ **TOWN:** _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

TEL#: _____ **CELL#:** _____ **E-MAIL:** _____

LICENSE PLATE # 1: _____ **LICENSE PLATE # 2:** _____

Childcare Provider Name: _____ **TEL#** _____ **License Plate #** _____

I am a legal resident of: _____. I am the legal parent/guardian or grandparent of all the children listed below and they are all 21 or younger. They will be using the beach under this permit and I will be supervising them at all times.

Name	Age	Name	Age
1		5	
2		6	
3		7	
4		8	

I am interested in learning more about **Swim Lessons** (price TBD) ____ Yes ____ No, for a child aged ____, ____, ____, ____

I am interested in learning more about **Canoe / Kayak rack rental space** (\$40 per season) ____ Yes ____ No

I hereby acknowledge that the Town of Readfield does not provide lifeguard services or supervision at the Readfield Beach and therefore users must exercise constant observation and supervision of children and guests at the facility. I understand that this permit can be revoked at any time if policies are abused or information provided does not hold true. Beach rules and procedures are attached. **CHILDREN 14 AND UNDER MUST BE SUPERVISED BY AN ADULT REMAINING ON THE PROPERTY AT ALL TIMES.**

Signature: _____ Date: _____ Town Clerk Initials: _____ Payment: _____

You will be issued ONLY two (2) permits per family.

Please know your license plate numbers when completing application, as permits **will not be issued** without license plate numbers.

ALL Permits are non-transferable and non-refundable.

Please make checks payable to: The Town of Readfield

RULES OF THE READFIELD TOWN BEACH

1. All users of the property are required to have a season permit or purchase a guest pass.
2. All users of beach, water and property assume all risk. There is **NO LIFEGUARD** available at any time.
3. Beach hours: 9:00 am – 8:00 pm.
4. All attendants have the right to stop any behavior which they feel is dangerous.
5. All posted public health rules must be followed.
6. All children 14 and under must be supervised by an adult remaining on the property at all times.
7. When arriving at Beach please:
 - a. Drive slowly and use caution in parking area
 - b. Show permit to attendant on duty (or purchase day pass from attendant)
 - c. Keep permit visible on dashboard at all times
8. Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages or drugs is prohibited.
9. No glass of any kind is allowed on the property.
10. No animals of any kind are allowed on the property.
11. All boats (including windsurfers, canoes, and kayaks) are to be kept out of the swim area, and may come ashore on the west side of the beach, outside the buoys.
12. No fishing allowed within the beach buoy area.
13. No swimming beyond the buoys and no rough play anywhere.
14. The use of floats and rafts in the swim area will be limited by the discretion of the attendant on duty.
15. Swimming diapers are required for all children wearing diapers. Soiled swimsuits or diapers may not be rinsed out in the lake. Failure to provide a swim diaper for your child while in the water is cause for immediate revoking of your permit.
16. There are no trash cans available anywhere on the Beach property; therefore we have a “carry-in, carry-out” policy for all trash.
17. There is absolutely no tobacco use or vaping allowed anywhere on the property.
18. All holes dug in the sand must be filled in when play is finished.
19. Permit holders wishing to have any group function should call the Readfield Town Office at 207-685-4939 in advance to arrange fees and schedule times.
20. No inappropriate language of any kind will be allowed.
21. All music must be kept to a level as to not disturb others using the beach.
22. All grill fires need to be doused with water before leaving.

Thank you for keeping your beach safe and enjoyable!



**The Town of Readfield and our authorized representatives reserve the right to revoke a permit for violation of any of the above.*



READFIELD BEACH
CANOE/KAYAK STORAGE RACK RENTAL APPLICATION
2020 Season (May 1 – November 1, 2021)



Please Print Clearly

Owner's Name: _____

Residential Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: (day): _____ (evening): _____ (cell): _____

E-mail address: _____

Canoe/Kayak Color: _____ Canoe/Kayak Length: _____

Preferred Rack #(s): _____

TERMS OF AGREEMENT
FOR RENTAL OF CANOE/KAYAK STORAGE RACK - READFIELD BEACH

1. Rack space rentals are available to current year Readfield Beach Pass holders over 18 years of age.
2. Cost of one rental rack space is \$40 from May 1 – November 1. Rental fee must be paid prior to the start of storage.
3. Maximum length/width for the canoe/kayak racks is 18'0" / 2'4". Paddleboards, sculls, etc. may also be stored.
4. Rack rental is not allowed for any watercraft used to access a moored vessel.
5. Rack rental is on a first come, first served basis. Upon receipt of completed application and payment, racks will be assigned by number. Rack rental and assignment is at the discretion of the Town Manager or designee.
6. Before storage, Owner must attach their assigned rack number to the canoe/kayak by a secure means.
7. Owner agrees to remove canoe/kayak by November 1. Failure to remove canoe/kayak from rack by date stated will result in the inability to rent during subsequent seasons.
8. Owner must ensure the canoe/kayak is reasonably secured in its assigned rack and will not pose any danger to any passersby. Owner must provide locking mechanism.
9. Owner must ensure the canoe/kayak rack space is clean and tidy at all times. Nothing other than one canoe/kayak can be left on, in, around or by the rack at any time (e.g., paddles, floatation devices, etc).
10. Canoe/kayak may not be left outside the designated storage area.
11. The storage rack unit may only be used for the one canoe/kayak listed above. Eight rack spaces are reserved for paired use. Paired spaces are 1-2, 3-4, 11-12, 13-14. There is a one space (or paired space) limit per household.
12. Owner acknowledges that canoe/kayak storage rack rental is at their own risk. The Town of Readfield accepts no responsibility for loss of or damages to the canoe/kayak. Failure to comply with above terms will result in termination of this agreement with no refund of rental fees.

I agree to abide by the rules and regulations stated above and I hold myself solely responsible for any mishap/injury or damage to the canoe/kayak listed above.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**** Office Use Only ****

Payment Type: () Cash Amount: _____ () Check # _____ Amount _____
() Visa / MasterCard #: _____ Exp Date: _____ Security Code _____

****All Credit Card transactions will incur a 2.95% convenience fee****

Assigned Rack Space(s): _____ Applicants will be notified of their rack assignments

Make Check Payable to "Town of Readfield" • Send application with notation "Attn: Rack Rental"

AGING FRIENDLY UPDATE



Good News

The Age Friendly Committee recently was awarded a small grant from the **Maine Community Foundation** to improve the trails at the Fairgrounds, help with site preparation for the historical pulling stone exhibition and to add a bench atop of the hill overlooking Maranacook Lake. We are grateful to the generous donor who will make these improvements possible.

Reminder About the Trails

When people hear the word trails in Maine they likely envision hiking across roots and stones and negotiating all kinds of obstacles. This is not the case at the Readfield Fairgrounds. The trails are made of bluestone. Many of them are flat and can accommodate strollers and meet ADA guidelines. They are "friendly" trails. If you haven't been on them, give them a try. They are a gem for the community.

COVID Vaccinations

Hopefully, Readfield residents have been able to get vaccinated. However, if anyone is having trouble getting to a vaccination site the Department of Health and Human Services is offering **free rides to and from appointments for people who otherwise would struggle to get to a vaccination site**. Additionally, people who don't have access to the internet or otherwise need help getting an appointment can call the Community Vaccination Line at **1-888-445-4111**. It is available Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Translation services are available through this line. Deaf and hard of hearing individuals may dial 711 and ask to be connected to the number above. And finally, **the DHHS is working with home health agencies to vaccinate homebound older Mainers** and starting to provide vaccine doses to independent primary care practices. If someone cannot leave their home, and they want a vaccination, call the number above.



Members of the Readfield Age-Friendly Committee gathered at the Fairgrounds to officially place the long-awaited plaque beside the sugar maple sapling purchased by this Committee to commemorate Maine's Bicentennial. This tree is definitely thriving! Committee members (left to right) are Ann Mitchell, Maggie Edmonston, Marianne Perry, Ed Dodge and Romaine Turyn. Absent is Donna McGibney.

Readfield Beach

Two reminders about the Readfield Beach. First, beginning this year, the Beach will be free to Readfield residents. And second, last year a rack was built near the entrance to the water to store a kayak/canoe for the season for a small rental fee. It greatly facilitates access to the water for the season. It's time to start thinking about summer!

MAY 2021—LIBRARY NEWS and EVENTS



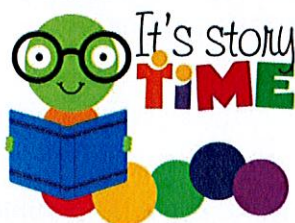
STORY WALK® PROJECT UPDATE

We are halfway to our goal! We have 12 sponsors already, and are looking for 12 more! Thank you to the individuals, families, and businesses that have already generously supported this project by sponsoring a book for our Community Story Walk®, to be located at the Readfield Elementary School and the Readfield Community Library. If you or your business would like to sponsor a StoryWalk® book, to be enjoyed by children and their families in town as they get outside and walk the trails, please connect with the Librarian. We ask that sponsors donate \$40, which will cover the cost of 2 copies of a picture book (from which the pages will be laminated and put into the signposts created by the students). We will have a list of book titles for you to choose from if you would like. And, we would be honored to list your business or your name as a sponsor (if you choose), both on the signage, and in a donor listing at the library/school.

The StoryWalk® "groundbreaking" events will likely happen in late May or early June, with "Grand Opening" events to follow once installation is complete. The students at Maranacook Community High School and Kents Hill School have been hard at work building the posts/sign boards for the project. We are excited to be collaborating with them!

Also, we are so grateful to local businesses By the Board Lumber (Readfield) and Portland Glass (Augusta) for their assistance and generosity with the materials for this project, and to the Healthy Communities of the Capital Area/Let's Go! for the grant funding that allowed us to make this all a reality. [NOTE: StoryWalk® was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and has developed with the help of Rachel Senechal, Kellogg-Hubbard Library.]

STORY TIME is now LIVE and IN PERSON at the Town Beach each Tuesday at 9:30am



Please join us for our weekly STORY TIME each Tuesday at 9:30am to be held at the Readfield Town Beach beginning in May. Perfect for children 5 (older is fine too!) and their parents/grandparents/caregivers. On the first Tuesday of each month we will have special guest visits with musicians from the Pineland Suzuki School to help us explore Books through Music and Music through Books! (Note: if inclement weather, we will meet by Zoom; decision will be made by 8:30am and posted to the library's Facebook page. Zoom meeting ID will be available from the librarian.)



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FREE Audiobooks/e-Books through Cloud Library!!

Attend a WORKSHOP on May 17th to learn how to get started with the app! No

need to spend money on Audible, Amazon, Kindle, etc.—simply use CLOUD LIBRARY, which comes absolutely FREE with your Readfield Community Library card. Interested in learning how to access and enjoy FREE e-Books and/or FREE audiobooks? Please join the Librarian on Monday May 17th at 6:30pm for a workshop on "Getting Started with Cloud Library," where you can learn how to use the app on your tablet, computer, or smartphone and learn how borrowing from the "cloud" works. The workshop will feature a brief presentation on downloading and using the app, followed by time for specific questions and answers. Please contact the librarian for the 207-685-4089 or librarian@readfieldmaine.org to register. We may conduct the workshop by Zoom; or, if the weather allows and the group is small, we may hold the workshop outside behind the library.



Special SUMMER OUTDOOR EVENTS—Save the dates and stay tuned for more information!

June 21 (Monday, 6:00pm)—Summer Reading Program Kickoff Event (for children/teens); more information forthcoming

July 12 (Monday, 6:00pm)—Kids Workshop with Maine author Katie Coppens (*The Acadia Files/Summer Science*)

July 14 (Wednesday, 6:30pm)—Author Talk with Maine author Sandra Neily (*Deadly Trespass: A Mystery in Maine*)

July 28 (Wednesday, 6:30pm)—Author Talk with Emily E. LB. Twarog (*Politics of the Pantry: Housewives, Food, and Consumer Protest in Twentieth-Century America*)

Heritage Days Weekend August 13-15—Tentative Library Events

Author Talk and Book Signing for *Percy's Patience* with local author Barbara Bourgoine and illustrator Jemelle Besette

Annual Library Book Sale (please save your books to donate the morning of the sale!)

75th Birthday Panel Discussion & Birthday Celebration with Former Readfield Librarians and Board Members

"The History of the Readfield Community Library" Presentation by Dale Potter Clark

August 23 (Monday, 6:00pm)—Summer Reading Program Finale Celebration Event featuring Chewonki!

Other Summer Programs being planned, but dates not yet set—

Author Talk with Maine mystery author Matt Cost (*Mainely Power*)

Program with David Matson, Readfield developer of *Gladiator: Fight to the Finish* card game

Kids/teens Workshops—Nature Program, Build-a-Book, Cook-a-Book

Grand Openings for the Story Walk®s at the Library and the Elementary School

Upcoming LIBRARY BOOK GROUP MEETINGS

Our monthly Library Adult Book Group is open to all! Please let the Librarian know ASAP if you would like a copy of any of the books listed below. The Book Group generally meets on the last Monday of the month at 6:30pm. Note that these groups may meet outside, in person behind the library, or they may be virtual meetings. For virtual meetings, please call 685-4089 or email librarian@readfieldmaine.org for the Zoom meeting ID.

May Book Group Discussion

Ordinary Grace (2013) by William Kent Krueger

May 24th at 6:30pm (note this is NOT the last Monday of the month, as last Monday is a holiday)

Please let the librarian know ASAP if you would like to borrow a copy of this book.

June Book Group Discussion

Prospects (2020) by Robert W. Spencer (Maine author)

June 28th at 6:30pm

July Book Group Discussion

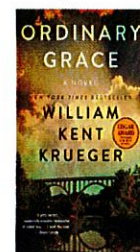
Mill Town (2020) by Kerri Arsenault (Maine author)

July 26th at 6:30pm

August Book Group Discussion

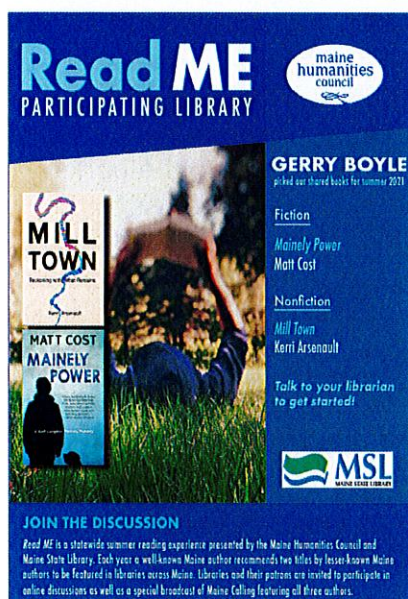
Mainly Power: A Goff Langdon Mainely Mystery (2020) by Matt Cost (Maine author)

August 30th at 6:30pm



SUMMER "Read ME" Program (for Adults)

The Readfield Community Library will participate again this summer in the statewide "Read ME" summer reading program highlighting Maine authors. We have multiple copies of these two books available at the library for check out, thanks to a generous donation from the Friends of the Readfield Community Library. Please note the following book events. These 2 books will also be our Readfield Library Book Group reads for July and August.



Read ME
PARTICIPATING LIBRARY

maine humanities council

GERRY BOYLE
picked our shared books for summer 2021

Fiction
Mill Town
Kerri Arsenault

Nonfiction
Mainly Power
Matt Cost

JOIN THE DISCUSSION
Read ME is a statewide summer reading experience presented by the Maine Humanities Council and Maine State Library. Each year a well-known Maine author recommends two titles by lesser-known Maine authors to be featured in libraries across Maine. Libraries and their patrons are invited to participate in online discussions as well as a special broadcast of Maine Calling featuring all three authors.

MSL
MAINE STATE LIBRARY

Events sponsored by Maine Humanities Council & Maine State Library

Summer Program Kick-off on Maine Calling featuring Gerry Boyle, Matt Cost, and Kerri Arsenault
Friday | June 4, 2021 | 11:00 am – 12 noon

Author talk with Kerri Arsenault (*Mill Town*)

Thursday | July 15, 2021 | 6:00 – 7:00pm | Registration info TBD

Author Talk with Matt Cost (*Mainly Power*)

Thursday | August 19, 2021 | 6:00 – 7:00pm | Registration info TBD

UPDATED COVID-related LIBRARY INFO

The Readfield Community Library strives to continue to offer library services while keeping patrons, volunteers, and staff safe during the pandemic. In-library browsing and services (photocopier, WiFi printer, patron laptop) ARE AVAILABLE during regular library hours. Please use the "Golden Ticket" system (in the basket at the side door) and note that we will be limiting the number of patrons/families for in-building services at any one time. You no longer need to call to make an appointment to come inside, but please note you may have to wait a few minutes in the parking lot if there is not a Golden Ticket available. Face coverings are required to enter the library.

The Library continues to encourage minimal in-person interactions and so we continue to offer Curbside Pickup services as well. Please call 685-4089 or email librarian@readfieldmaine.org to place an order for Curbside Pickup during regular library hours.

Patrons should be aware that there is some risk inherent in using shared indoor spaces with shared materials. We cannot guarantee a completely safe space. Library visitors are entering with this knowledge of risk. Please see the library website's "COVID-19 Response/Info" page for the most updated information:

<https://readfieldlibrary.wordpress.com/covid-19-response-info/>

Library Hours

Mondays	3pm-7pm
Tuesdays	10am-4pm
Wednesdays	1pm-7pm
Saturdays	10am-4pm

NEWS & NOTES

FROM THE TRAILS



Our main news this month is that we are welcoming two new members to our committee. Steve Hayes and Jackie Drouin were appointed by the Select Board at their April meeting. Both are regular trail users and we are glad to have their enthusiastic participation as we maintain existing trails and develop new ones. Even with these appointments we still have a couple of openings we would like to fill. So if you are interested in joining please contact the town office for the appropriate paper work. If you would like to discuss what we do please feel free to call me at 207-458-4259 or our chair, Greg Durgin, at 685-4481. If you are averse to meetings but would like to help with trail work we would also be interested in including you as one of our volunteers. Just let us know.

The only trail work accomplished recently is some upgrades to the Esker Trail and sign replacement on the Fairgrounds Trail. Although the Esker Trail is already one of our driest trails, we have done some minor re-routing, and put down some additional wood chips to smooth the trail and deal with potential wet areas. If you haven't visited this trail yet, it begins behind the small cement block building on the south side of the parking lot for the Maranacook School Bus Garage (just north of the access road to the transfer station). The trail is about a two mile round-trip walk to the esker terminus and back to the parking lot. On the way it crosses the transfer station access road, goes past the sand/salt shed, crosses the shed access road, and continues out to and around the town's closed landfill. It includes views of the grassed-over landfill and a bog area. It is a mostly natural surface trail that is also suitable for biking. The trail is mostly on town property but private landowners have graciously allowed us access to the land where the trail ends at a large bog.

May is a great month to be out on our trails as the greenery comes back and bird migrations reach their peak. We hope you are able to go out and enjoy both along with the warmer weather!

Our trail maps continue to be available at the town office and on-line ([https:// www.readfieldmaine.org/sites/readfieldme/files/uploads/readfield_trails_2019_map.pdf](https://www.readfieldmaine.org/sites/readfieldme/files/uploads/readfield_trails_2019_map.pdf)). Please let us know if you encounter damage or other issues when on our town trails.

Dog owners please note: Dogs are required to be on leash or under voice control on all town properties including our trails.

Respectfully submitted by Rob Peale, Vice-Chair,
Readfield Trails Committee.



Tel: 685-4064



Visa/Mastercard

KEN'S DRAG IN AUTO INC.

Rt. # 135, Readfield, Maine

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

Ken Edgecomb

Mark Edgecomb

Solid Waste & Recycling

Roadside Cleanup in Readfield

The Select Board set the month of May as our time to gather discarded materials left on the roadways throughout town. Saturdays have been designated as the official drop-off and pick-up days at the Transfer Station. Volunteers who are interested can adopt a road and clean it up at their pace. We're using Signup Genius to coordinate our efforts. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040b44aaa623aaff2-2020> Cleanup bags, debris grabbers, and other supplies are available at the Transfer Station; just ask an attendant for help. Debris can be brought in on Saturdays only please. If you locate a large item, please contact the Town Office and they will arrange to retrieve the item.

Though not an official effort of the SWRC, we are pleased to see the town supporting this effort to help reduce waste in our communities.



Readfield Awarded Maine Food Composting Grant

We are now receiving supplies, equipment and signage for our new food composting program at the Readfield Transfer Station. We are working to prepare the site and coordinate efforts with or partners at KVCOG, UMaine and Maine DEP. Be on the lookout for changes in the compost area.

Materials will become available in late May for us to begin this exciting program to divert food waste from our 'trash' and to create valuable useable compost for our residents.



Change of Operation Practices continue due to Covid-19

We will continue to operate meeting standards from the Maine government including the following practices:

- All vehicles must stop at the Attendant Booth to speak with an employee about what materials you are bringing in, to receive directions on where to dispose of these materials, and to pay any required fee. Paying by check is preferred and if using cash to please have exact change and place it in the mailbox within easy reach for the driver.
- Please wear a face covering at all times while at the Transfer Station.
- Please leave when you are finished to avoid making the space congested.
- Please do not approach the employees within 6'. Our goal is to maintain social distancing for their health and safety.

**WASTE LESS
SAVE MORE**



**RECYCLE
COMPOST**

Readfield Solid Waste and Recycling Committee



THE READFIELD UNION MEETING HOUSE
 22 Church Road ~ PO Box 451 Readfield, ME 03455
on the National Register of Historic Places since 1982

The RUMH recently received this card from Ann (Macomber) Hecker to enter into our archives. It is titled "Brick Church, Readfield, ME." It is a picture of 2002 Maine Folk Art by Olive Bishop Smith. Many of you readers will remember that Olive had a gallery on Sturtevant Hill Road. If you know where the original painting is located please let our historian, Marius Peladeau, know. (RUMH PO Box 451 Readfield, ME 04355).

The Friends of the Vestry & Meeting House hosted a well received "Make Your Own Pizza" fund raiser on April 15th. Thank you to all who supported this event. This was so popular that there are plans to hold it again in the fall.

Pledges for the Push To The Top restoration campaign are still being solicited. These pledges are very important when grants are applied for. There are requirements that matching funds be available for grants that are awarded. Lending institutions want to be assured that loans will be able to be repaid, hence, we need to have a stock pile of money. As mentioned in the newsletter that went out, we are planning the largest restoration effort to date. Donations to this campaign can be mailed to the address above.

Vestry news: work will begin again on the handicap accessible bathroom and kitchen. Most of the labor for these 2 projects is being done by volunteer help. If you have a skill that you'd like to offer please contact Larry Dunn at dunnlarry38@gmail.com. By the Board Lumber has donated materials for these projects. We are very gratefully to them for their community support.



Last, the RUMH has received 2 donations this month in recognition of Christopher Dumaine's 86th birthady. Christopher is on our Advisory Board. He and his deceased wife Holly H. Dumaine have given generously to the restoration efforts for decades.

E-Alerts Subscription: www.readfieldmaine.org

An easy way to keep up-to-date with Town Happenings! The Town of Readfield website has a feature to subscribe to e-alerts. Please provide your email address below and select the e-alerts you would like to receive. Your email will be treated as confidential information. Our privacy policy is available on our website www.readfieldmaine.org.

Email: _____

- ☐ Emergency notifications and closure information
- ☐ General announcements and notifications
- ☐ Readfield Messenger newsletter
- ☐ Recreation announcements and Youth Sport sign-ups
- ☐ Voting, election, and Town Meeting information
- ☐ Budget information
- ☐ Select Board agendas, packets, and videos
- ☐ Planning Board agendas and packets

News From The Broadband Committee

The committee met twice in April, once to discuss progress being made with the regional group, the WKLCBA, and secondly, to discuss a report created by one of our members. Both meetings were informative and are helping us to understand where the town is currently with regards to broadband and how best to determine a path forward. We now have a page on the town website for this initiative to make finding information easier.

Our first meeting consisted primarily of a discussion about where the WKLCBA is currently headed. That group is having a financial and operating proforma created for the member towns as a group so we can see if there are indeed cost savings for combining our efforts as a regional group. Then we can decide if Readfield is interested in pursuing advancements together or just as one town. We expect to have that information by the beginning of June.

Our second meeting was a presentation, created by one of our committee members who works in the communications industry, of a report detailing the services currently provided in town by Spectrum/Charter and Consolidated and what options exist for expansion with each company, along with an analysis of how various solutions we have been looking at would affect the town in terms of costs and risk factors. It was an excellent presentation that was easy to understand, full of a lot of information to digest. We will discuss this at our next meeting and have our consultant with us to address issues that were raised.

All meetings are public and will be held on Zoom for the near future. Look for links on the town website and for email alerts if you have signed up for them. Signup for email alerts is available on the town website. We will publish monthly updates of our progress.

Town Meeting Question on Broadband

The Select Board has approved an article on this year's town meeting warrant concerning broadband in Readfield. This is a non-binding question that will assist the town in understanding how to best plan for and prioritize for Readfield's future. This is a chance for every voting resident to register their input on this subject. It is the voting body of the town that determines where funds are spent and what projects are approved. Please be sure to vote this year and let the Select Board know what you want.

Article 40: The following is a non-binding question to establish interest and guidance for future town considerations: Should the Select Board in 2021 and 2022 pursue the establishment of a fiber to the home high speed internet network available to all residents?

WKLCBA Information

Readfield is a member of the Western Kennebec Lakes Community Broadband Association along with five other towns: Fayette, Leeds, Mt. Vernon, Vienna, and Wayne. We are working together to find solutions for the affordable delivery of high speed, reliable broadband internet access to all locations in our towns that have electric service. Please see their website to find the studies we have completed and many articles pertinent to this effort.
www.wklcba.org

Mount Vernon Food Bank

open every Saturday morning ~ 9:30 am to 11:30 am

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 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: Bob Peterson 685-7292 or Helen Wilkey 293-2351.



Spirit of America Awards 2021

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

The Town will be accepting one page nominations through May 28th.

Nominations will be submitted to the Select Board and recipients recognized at the annual Volunteer Appreciation Event this summer. Please send nominations to clerk@readfieldmaine.org or by mail to Readfield Town Office, 8 Old Kents Hill Road, Readfield, ME 04355. You can also submit nominations in the drop box located on the right side of the Town Office building.

Board/Committee openings - May 2021

Age Friendly Committee: 1 member (2021)

Cemetery Committee: 1 member (2021)

Cobbossee Watershed District: 1 alt rep (2021)

Comp Plan 2022 Committee: 1 alt member (2022)

Conservation Commission: 1 alt member (2022)

Library Board of Trustees: 1 member (2021)

Local School Board Advisory: 1 opening (2023)

Maranacook Outlet Dam Committee: 1 alt member (2023)

Planning Board: 3 alternates-terms 2022, 2023, & 2024

Road Committee: 3 vacancies (all 2022)

Solid Waste & Recycling Committee: 2 vacancies (2022 & 2023)

Trails Committee: 2 member terms: 2021 (2) & one Alternate 2023

If you are interested in joining any of the above committees/boards please complete the appointment application at www.readfieldmaine.org or stop by the Town Office for an application.



Readfield Church

A Place For All

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Come Worship with us via zoom in the comfort of your own home.
Visit our website for the link. <https://unionmeetinghouse.org/>

Our next kindness food box giveaway is scheduled for May 15h from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Jesse Lee church. Anyone is welcomed to come get a box of non-perishable food. You just pull up in the parking lot and we put a kindness box in your vehicle. No questions asked. If you would like to help us with filling these boxes there is a list of items, we suggest on our website or you can call or email the office and we will get the list to you.



For more information visit our website or call the office.

Readfield United Methodist Church introduces an anti-racism book group. It is open to public. Welcome all on our journey!

Below is an invitation written by one of the participants of a previous book group.

A homemade poster in the hands of a young black girl seen on the internet says:

WE SAID-----BLACK LIVES MATTER
NEVER SAID-----ONLY BLACK LIVES MATTER
WE KNOW -----ALL LIVES MATTER
WE JUST NEED YOUR HELP
WITH #BLACK LIVES MATTER
FOR BLACK LIVES are in DANGER!

Why are black lives (and now Asian lives) in danger? What do I need to know and understand? How did this happen? How am I unknowingly (and maybe knowingly) contributing?

I want to help but I can't if I don't understand how and why we got here, so I was really glad to take advantage of a small group (in a safe space) who have gathered on Zoom to struggle together to learn about systemic racism and what it really means in our country.

Though I believed I was not racist, I discovered many ways in which I am. I learned through powerful books and short videos that **when I have no understanding of black culture/language/religion or when I try not to see and recognize their color or when I don't learn how to pronounce their name correctly or when I see them as likely unintelligent or a potential physical threat or so many other things,** I am denying that they are persons worthy of everything I am worthy of.

I have now only begun to understand my white privilege and how this reality truly makes them second class citizens in every aspect of life. This journey of awareness feels to me like the most important thing I can do right now.

If you think this exploration would benefit your understanding of what is happening in our society right now, please feel welcome to join us on Zoom as we begin a new book: **Caste The Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson. We meet on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. beginning May 10th.**

Contact: Pastor Myung Park at The Readfield United Methodist Church for details (pme208@gmail.com / 207-685-4211)

READFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HISTORY WALKS ARE COMING BACK!!

Our overall summer plans are in flux, due to lingering concerns about COVID. But, after a 20 month lapse due to COVID, we have set the date for a History Walk in June. We are in hopes of setting one up for May also and will get the word out as soon as we know for sure. We have missed these interactions with the community and hope to see many of you this spring and summer!

Good news – we have purchased a portable microphone and amplifier so History Walkers will be better able to hear Dale Potter-Clark or whoever else is speaking. We are in the process of making some other exciting plans for this summer which we will be announcing soon.

We have a few 2020 annual reports leftover that were mailed out to members in April. If you are not yet an RHS member and wish to join, so to receive our tri-annual publications, here is more about how: annual dues are \$5 for seniors, \$10 for family and for a lifetime membership \$100. Mail to: RHS PO Box 354 Readfield, ME 04355.

History Walk #55 in May – Day and Place will be announced.

History Walk # 56 ~ June 11th 10am-12noon Dale Potter-Clark will lead this tour on the 100th anniversary of a devastating fire that nearly wiped out all the buildings at Readfield Corner. A history walk is planned in remembrance of that tragic event. Stay tuned for more details. No reservations necessary and there is no charge, although donations are appreciated. Please remember to bring a mask.

Watch for announcements about these and other summer happenings that RHS plans to offer. If you wish to be added to our History Walks email list send a request to crossings4u@gmail.com

RHS is closed for the season but questions and inquiries for historical information are welcome at any time. Contact us via Email at readfieldhistorical@gmail.com or phone 377-2299. RHS is a 501C3 founded in 1985 to preserve the rich history of Readfield and its people. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Dale Potter-Clark, Secretary Readfield Historical Society

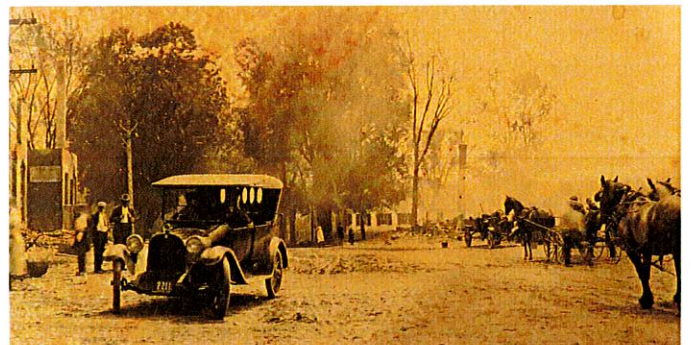
dmclark1@roadrunner.com



Pictured Above:

In front of where the Masonic building had stood, which was rebuilt in the same location. This is looking east towards Readfield Depot.

Pictured Below: Merriman's Store also burned flat (Readfield Emporium 2021). In this photo you can see four buildings that survived the fire. L to R: Elmwood Hotel; Dr. Currier house (Readfield Library); Ed Sedgley's store and apartment house on the corner of Main St. and Church Road. The later two were originally owned by James & Hannah (Bean) Fillebrown, Jr. The house Fillebrown's father built across the street and adjacent to Merriman's store, also survived and still stands



Town of Readfield Covid -19 Updates

The Town Office is now open to the public without an appointment! However, residents are still being requested to avoid conducting business in-person if possible and to call, email, or utilize our many [online services](#) as an alternative. A maximum of four residents will be allowed in the entry and lobby at any one time, 6' apart.

All residents must wear a face covering while in the Town Office or make alternative arrangements for service. Town Staff are available to assist with this process.

Public Meetings and Communication: We will continue with remote meetings as a primary mode, but will once again allow in-person Board and Committee meetings at the Town Office. No private rentals.

Up to 25 people are permitted on the second floor of Giles Hall (with proper social distancing and face coverings) once per day. All in-person meeting attendees are required to socially distance and wear a face covering. If they are not able to do so they are welcome to submit comments and questions in writing or electronically, participate remotely if this option is offered, and to review minutes and other meeting records. All in-person meeting attendees must sign in for contact tracing purposes.

Those interested in attending, listening, or watching public meetings and proceedings remotely should look for web conference and teleconference links and instructions on meeting notices and agendas. Phone and email are still the best way to reach municipal staff and appointed and elected officials. Call the Town Office 685-4939 or visit the website for this information.

The town website continues to be an excellent resource. It is located at www.readfieldmaine.org. Sign up for [E-Alerts](#) to get important news and updates.

Community Needs and Volunteering: Those needing assistance, or aware of a need, should contact the Town Office at (207) 685-4939 or [Sign Up Online to Request Assistance](#)! Volunteers may contact the Town Office at (207) 685-4939 or [Sign Up Online to Volunteer](#)!

Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration



Pre-K and Kindergarten Students Manchester ~ Mount Vernon ~ Readfield ~ Wayne

RSU #38 is seeking all Pre-K and Kindergarten students for the 2021-2022 school year.

Please call your local elementary school to add your name to the list for further information.

Manchester Elementary – 622-2949 • Mt. Vernon Elementary – 293-2261 • Readfield Elementary – 685-4406 • Wayne Elementary – 685-3634

⇒ Pre-K parents please call Readfield Elementary 685-4406

Age requirements by October 15, 2021: Pre-K – 4-years old Kindergarten – 5-years old

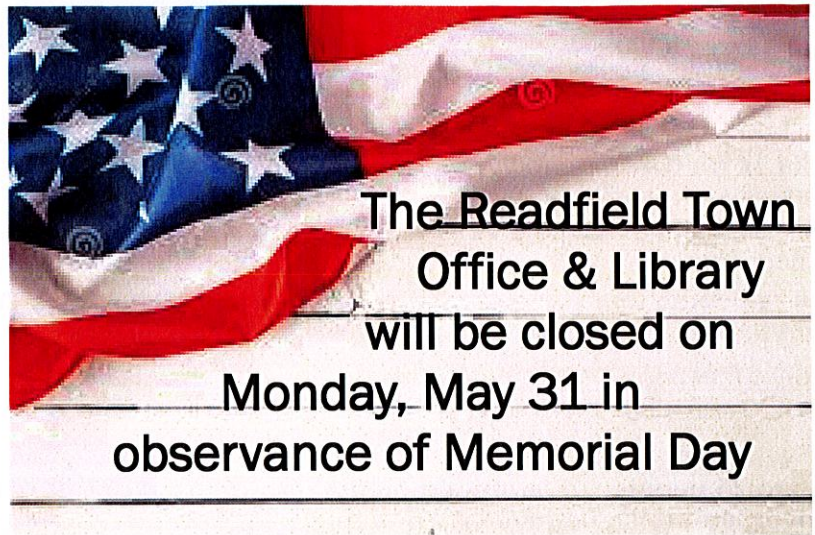


Town of Readfield

www.readfieldmaine.org

8 Old Kents Hill Road
Readfield ME 04355

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



MAY 2021

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1 
2	3	4	5	6	7 Assessor In	8
9	10 Absentee Ballots Available	11 Planning Board 6:30 PM	12 Meet the Candidates Night 6:30 PM	13 Warrant Public Hearing 6:30 PM	14	15
16	17 Cemetery Com- mittee 10:30 AM Select Board 6:30 PM	18	19 Comprehensive Plan Committee 6:00 PM RSU38 Annual Meeting 7:00 PM	20 Broadband Committee 6:30 PM	21 Assessor In	22
23	24 Library Book Group 6:30 PM	25 Planning Board 6:30 PM	26 Trails Committee 6:30 PM	27	28	29
30	31 Memorial Day Town Office & Library Closed					