

## Annual Tree Lighting

Help celebrate the season  
with holiday songs,  
yummy treats,  
and our special guest.



Friday December 2nd - 6:30 PM  
Bad weather date Sunday December 4th - 4:30 PM  
Readfield Community Library front lawn  
Refreshments to follow at Town Hall  
(Flashlight recommended for short walk)



*Last years Giving Tree!*

*Tags now available on this years Giving Tree at the Town Office. A gift under every child's tree is the goal.*

**Gifts due back  
by December  
13th unwrapped.**



Dog Licenses are due Dec. 31st. Come into the office or go to the Town's web site at: [www.readfield.govoffice.com](http://www.readfield.govoffice.com) and click on the on line services button.

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## Winter Update: Readfield Mill Stream Dam Project

The Mill Stream Dam area restoration project is moving towards actual construction in the summer of 2017. This past fall, the Select Board gave approval for the committee to apply for several grants. With the \$2,700 of the approximately \$7,000 needed generated by a fundraiser held last spring and grants being written as you read this, the project is becoming more of a reality. More fundraisers are planned including a road race this spring. Get your running shoes ready!

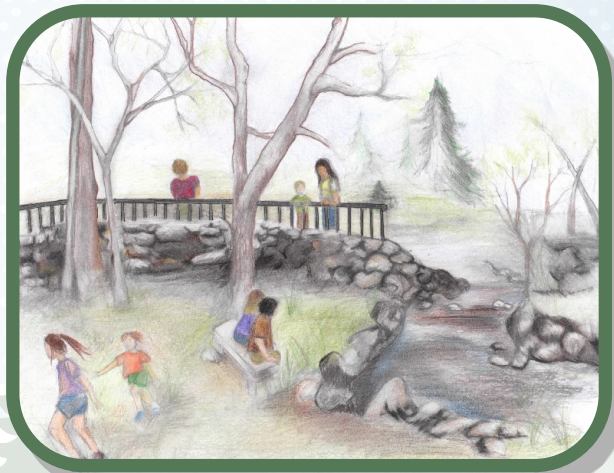
In way of background, the Mill Stream area is a proven gem tucked away between Old Kents Hill Road and Route 17. There is a Mill Stream trail connecting the area with Old Kents Hill Road. The main goal of the project is to restore the area to its once held beauty so residents and visitors alike can visit and enjoy the views and peaceful environment in a historical setting where mills were once a vibrant part of Readfield's early days. The dam was washed out years ago, and although there is no plan to replace the dam, the artist rendering in the photo provides an idea of what the area can look like with trails and a viewing area. The Readfield Historical Society plans to assist with interpretive signage. The committee is working on a trail agreement with an abutting landowner that will provide exceptional viewing of the landscape behind the dam.

There have been two meetings with DEP personnel who have provided guidance on setbacks, invasive vegetation removal, appropriate plantings, and the permitting needed. Readfield's CEO has been involved and we received preliminary indication that our plans

and permit requests will be approved. We will be applying for the required permits this winter.

Members of the committee have been approached by residents volunteering to help with the project's construction. No tax dollars are being used and there will be an opportunity for residents to come out and work with their neighbors to restore a significant piece of Readfield's past.

Submitted by Jerry Bley, Greg Durgin, Bob Harris





# Veteran's Day Celebration Nov. 11th





# veteran's Day Celebration

## SPECIAL EVENT FOR VETERANS' DAY IN READFIELD

"This far exceeded my expectations" said Val Gay Pomerleau who, along with Chris Grover Sammons, Nancy Russell, Deb Doten and Dale Potter-Clark planned the Veterans' Day history walk and a tribute to veterans. Last year Readfield somehow managed to let Veterans' Day slip by without special notice and this came to the attention of the selectboard. Val and Chris, both members of the board at that time, committed to help plan something in 2016. Chris chaired a planning committee; Dale dovetailed the event with a history walk; Nancy proposed that Readfield United Methodist Church (Torsey Church) provide a soup and bread luncheon afterwards which all agreed was a splendid idea. Together the group organized a meaningful honoring that was attended by about 50 people, of all ages.

The event began at Readfield Corner Cemetery where American flags were passed out to everyone. They would carry them to Gile Hall and place at the veterans' monument later, they were told. Veterans who were present were invited to introduce themselves and to share what branch of the armed services they had served in, when and where. Some who stepped forward included Bob Harris, Bob Mohlar, Milt Wright, Andy Tolman, Larry Perkins and Harvey Boatman. There were others. John Tyler brought his father's American flag and dog tags to share. The elder Tyler was among those American soldiers who invaded German-occupied France in the WWII Normandy Beach invasion. Dale read a story she had prepared about Charles Morse, a Readfield man who served in the Civil War. Then they all walked through the cemetery, quietly and with reverence.

From there they followed Church Road, the Library Trail and Main Street - destination Gile Hall where more people joined in. A wreath was laid on the veterans' monument, a bell rung, and the American flag was raised as all sang the Star Spangled Banner. Bruce Bourgoïn, selectboard chair, gave a short address; Ellen Bowman and her son Aaron led the group in singing Battle Hymn of the Republic; people in attendance were invited to speak the names of veterans they wished to remember. All were moved to hear dozens of names spoken over the course of several minutes. My Country Tis of Thee was sung in unison for the closing. A sincere thank you is extended to Bill Starret who set up a sound system, making it possible for all to hear over the roar of significant wind and the traffic on Main St.

Speaking of wind, it was biting that morning so after the ceremony all welcomed the opportunity to enter Gile Hall to enjoy the warmth, a delicious lunch and camaraderie. Inside, several ladies from Torsey Church greeted us with steaming pots of chili and chowders as well as homemade breads and desserts. A special surprise was musician Tom Giordano, who had learned about the event from his friend Bill Starret and showed up to serenade us during lunch. Donations received that morning will be given to a veterans' organization. All in all this was a very special morning and plans are already in the making for next year.

### IMAGINE...

Read by Dale Potter-Clark at Readfield Corner Cemetery  
Veterans' Day, November 11, 2016

It is Sunday morning, December 7, 1941 and your family is listening to the radio when a news flash interrupts announcing that Japan has bombed Pearl Harbor on the island of Oahu, Hawaii. The following morning a special broadcast aired as President Franklin Delano Roosevelt addressed the U.S. Congress. People throughout the United States listened in on their radios - there were no televisions in 1941. Roosevelt began by saying *"Yesterday, December 7th, 1941 - a date which will live in infamy - the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan...."* He went on to speak for seven minutes as people hung on to his every word with fear, confusion and dread. That day the United States Congress officially declared war on Japan. Four days later Nazi Germany declared war against the United States and WWII began. Over the next four years the entire world changed as did people all over the globe, including right here in Readfield where one-hundred and sixty men and women were either drafted or enlisted in the Armed Services. Three Readfield men lost their lives during the War and some died soon after from the effects of the War but most of them came home to help rebuild our country and to instill a sense of pride and patriotism that people of my baby boomer generation remember well. WWII was the worst of times but the people who suffered through that terrible war and triumphed helped bring forth the best of times. Few of our WWII veterans, now in their late 80s and 90s, are still alive today so it is up to us - the baby boomer generation - to pass on that sense of pride and patriotism to our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Now let's go to an earlier time in our history as I tell you the story of the Civil War veteran, Charles S. Morse. His name appears on a memorial stone just behind me (in Readfield Corner Cemetery).

## Veteran's Day Celebration

Charles Sanford Morse was born in Readfield in 1827. He was a carriage and ornamental painter by trade. On October 31, 1858, at age 31 he married Olive Whittier of Readfield. Her father Joseph had served in the militia during the War of 1812. He died the same year Charles and Olive were married and her mother was still living on the family homestead (Aaron Whitcomb's farm) on North Road. The newlyweds made their home with Mrs. Whittier. Two children soon came – Emma in November of 1860 and “little Charles” on Feb. 23, 1864. Twenty six days after his son was born Charles Morse enlisted in Company K, Massachusetts 57<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. His enlistment record tells us that he was an artist, 5 ft. 10 ½ inches tall, light in complexion; blue eyes and brown hair. Little else is know about him except this...

Private Charles Sanford Morse was captured at the battle at Cold Harbor, Virginia on June 6, 1864 – ten weeks after his enlistment. He was taken to the Camp Fort Sumter Confederate military prison at Andersonville in southern Georgia. The prison, which existed for fourteen months, was the largest Confederate prison and confined 45,000 Union soldiers during those fourteen months. 13,000 of them died. Charles survived Andersonville – most likely because he was retained there for less than three months and he must have still been in good physical condition at the time of his imprisonment.

General Sherman captured Atlanta on September 1, 1864, three months after Charles' capture. Andersonville was thought to be on Sherman's path so Confederate prison authorities made plans to relocate the approximately 30,000 Union prisoners they were holding at Andersonville at that time. Florence, South Carolina had three railroads, and was thought to be secure so it was chosen as a site for a newly constructed prison. The Union soldiers were told that they were being paroled so to keep them in order during the relocation. Many of those who were unable to walk or not stable enough to travel were left behind in Andersonville. Charles was among those they moved. How his hopes must have soared to think he was being paroled.

First, they were transported to a prison camp at Charleston, South Carolina before making their way 90 miles inland to the “Stockade” at Florence, which was still under construction and continued to be even after the prisoners arrived at their final destination. The Florence Stockade covered 23.5 acres of land with a trench dug out around the outside to prevent prisoners from tunneling out. Lieut. Thomas Barrett of the 5th Georgia was in charge, a cruel man who was known for inhumane behavior and the murders of Union prisoners.

After a month of operation, there were about 12,000 prisoners at Florence and a death rate of 20 to 30 per day. Supplies were scarce for both the prisoners and the guards. Men did not have clothing and slept without blankets. An account written by a captive after the war states “I think that all who experienced confinement in both (Andersonville and Florence) are united in pronouncing Florence to be, on the whole, much the worse place and more fatal to life.” About one man in three imprisoned there died because they were already weakened by their stay in Andersonville. The Union soldiers who died there were buried in unmarked trenches. Charles was one.

Charles Morse died six weeks after his arrival at Florence Stockade, and two weeks after his and Olive's 6<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. She became a 28 year old widow and was left to raise a 4 year old daughter and a 9 month old son. Olive and her widowed mother continued to live together. They sold the farm and bought a smaller place near Readfield Corner (Nancy Barnes, Old Kents Hill Road). Olive remained single for a decade, until she married William Laughton in 1874. He had served in Company E, Maine 3rd Infantry Regiment, but by the grace of God, he had survived the war.

So, as you follow me through part of this cemetery please walk quietly, with reverence. Take note of how many flags mark the graves of our Veterans and say a silent thank you for the sacrifices they made to protect us and our freedoms. But also take note of the graves without flags – they represent the men, women and children who also sacrificed; those who kept the home fires burning. Children who lived without their fathers, women who had to raise and support their sons and daughters alone during, and sometimes after, the war, and the elders who did their part; the wives who went to work in factories; planted Victory Gardens; made bandages for the soldiers; volunteered for the Civil Air Patrol and so much more. Together they all helped save and restore our Country during each and every war.

Think of it! Nearly every person buried in this cemetery has lived through a time when this Country was engaged in a war – the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, Spanish and American War, WWI, WWII, Korean War, Vietnam War, Grenada, Iraq or Afghanistan. Every one of them made sacrifices that we must never forget or take for granted. Especially our Veterans. Young men and women – many who had never left Readfield say nothing of Maine or the Country until they went to war. They did so knowing they were entering into areas far more dangerous than anything they could imagine – but they did it because they loved their Country, humankind and each of us – the children and grandchildren they were yet to have and know. Because of their sacrifices we can stand here today in freedom.

A public meeting was held at the Town Office on November 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss the highlights from the Age Friendly Survey and to begin the discussion of its findings. It was a well attended meeting. Thanks to all who participated. Four lucky winners of the \$25.00 gift card were drawn from a very fancy Stetson hat, provided by Ann Mitchell.

## Key Takeaways from the Readfield Survey of Seniors

**The survey of Readfield seniors had broad participation.** 114 Readfield residents age 55 or over responded– 1 in 12 of all older residents. The responses covered all neighborhoods, income ranges, and ages.

### Social life

\* **The good news:** 81% of seniors see friends and family at least a few times a week. Most are involved with volunteer work, town boards, church activities, adult education courses, the Senior Café, Guys and Gals, etc. Seniors are involved in the community.

\* **The challenges:** About 1 in 7 seniors only sees friends and family once a month or less. More than 1 in 3 thinks the availability of social opportunities in Readfield is only fair or poor.

### Transportation

\* **The good news:** 3 out of 4 seniors have no trouble driving any hour of the day or season of the year. Only 3% are unable to drive and unable to find a friend to help out on a weekly basis.

\* **The challenges:** Among seniors 75 or older, 9% are unable to drive and unable to find help on a weekly basis. 85% say that it would be important for the Town to recruit and coordinate a system of volunteer drivers.

### Housing

\* **The good news:** 89% of seniors say that their housing is fine, no big problems.

\* **The challenges:** Among residents 75 or older, 37% say that their housing is hard to maintain; 12% say their home is difficult to get around. Property taxes are a problem for 43% of all seniors. 81% want more affordable housing options for seniors. 87% support a home repair service for low-income in town.

### Volunteering

\* **The good news:** Over half of seniors volunteer in the community. 90% of respondents listed skills they have to offer. 80% said that the availability of volunteer opportunities was “good” or “very good.”

\* **The challenge:** 8% said that they wanted to volunteer but weren’t doing so yet. Lack of time and health issues prevented others from volunteering. One said more information about where to help is needed.



## Update from the Age Friendly Committee

By  
Romaine Turyn  
Chair



**We cannot direct  
the wind, but we  
can adjust the sails.**

BERTHA CALLOWAY

Founder of the Great Plains  
Black Museum

**Continued next page**





## Update from the Age Friendly Committee Continued

### Other highlights

- \* **Sidewalks, trails, exercise opportunities** are considered “important” or “very important” to over 80% of respondents
- \* 2 out of 3 find that the **availability of information about programs and services in Readfield** is “very good” or “good”
- \* About 1 in 3 seniors “frequently” or “regularly” **uses the Readfield Community Library**. 20% of respondents didn’t know about – but are interested in – the Library’s genealogy and technology programs.

There is much more detail provided by the survey results. If interested, the complete survey is posted on the town website and hard copy is available at the Readfield Library.

The Committee plans to explore the findings further with small groups. The following meetings are planned. If interested, all are welcome to the meetings.

Wednesday December 7 at 6:30 – Meeting with the Library Board at the Library

Monday December 12 at 9:30 - Meeting with the Senior Café - Maranacook Middle School Cafeteria

Monday December 12 at 12:00 – Meeting with members of the Guys and Gals.

Again, thank you to the members of the Readfield Community for your support in helping to make Readfield a better place to age in place.



## Town of Readfield Cemeteries

The Fall clean-up of Readfield cemeteries has begun.

Kindly remove all flowers, baskets, urns and other decorations by December 5th.

All cemetery access roads will be closed to vehicle traffic from December 12 through May 1, or at the discretion of the Sexton.

The cemeteries will remain open to walk-in visitors.

Special arrangements for vehicle access can be made through the Sexton.

The cemeteries will remain open to walk-in visitors.



## Readfield Emporium

Gourmet pizzas, entrees,  
eat in & take out, wine & beer  
Wed. through Sun. 5—9ish

9:00am Brunch Sat. & Sun.  
685-7348



# From the Town Manager's Desk

**Happy Holidays!** As we wrap up 2016, I am hopeful that we can apply many of the lessons learned throughout the year to make 2017 even more productive and beneficial for the Town of Readfield.

I am ever impressed by the dedication of our volunteers and recognize them as one of our most valuable assets. The more we can empower them the more they will do to improve our community. Conveying clear direction from the Select Board and taking steps to make their work easier are key actions. Making sure their budgets are sufficient and suitable to meet the needs of the Town is a shared responsibility but one that is heavily influenced by the public through their participation in the budget process. **The preliminary budget process and meeting schedule is included in this month's Messenger. Take a look and see where you can contribute,** and of course please consider joining one of our many volunteer groups!

Good communication has never made a problem worse and I see a lot of opportunity to improve communication between residents and town government. Our website will continue to be revised and we will make better use of technology to gather and present information. Having a conversation is decidedly low tech but it is one of the very best ways to learn. Although I have an open door policy for many issues I am implementing **"Office Hours"** to give residents an hour or so of undivided attention every week. **I am available to hear any questions, concerns, or comments every Friday morning from 8:30 to 9:30am.** Please call or email in advance to schedule a few minutes, and if this time is not workable please contact me so we can schedule a different time to talk.

The last thing I want to comment on (again, because I am sure I have said it before) is how much I have enjoyed meeting people in town in a variety of contexts. Very often at meetings but the most gratifying experiences are the ones that take place a little off the traditional path - the Christmas tree lighting at the Library, the Veteran's Day lunch at Gile Hall, the pancake Breakfast at the Fire Station, and the roadside cleanup that takes place every spring are just a few. These are the times and places where you really get to know people. With that in mind I am inviting anyone who has an interest and a little time around lunch to meet up **the first Wednesday of each month from 12:00 to 1:00 to play music on the second floor of Gile Hall.** Everyone is welcome to listen or play.

Thanks and be well,

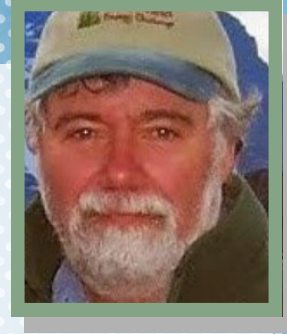
Eric Dyer, Town Manager





# Select Board's Corner

Dear Neighbors;



On November 17, I joined other residents at a presentation and discussion lead by the Age Friendly Committee. Highlights from their recent survey were shared and I'm sure you will hear more about the results in the near future.

Less than a week earlier on November 11, I participated in Readfield's Veterans Day ceremony at the town's Veterans memorial in front of Giles Hall. It was an opportunity for recognition and remembrances followed by a warm community luncheon upstairs in town hall.

What I found most rewarding about both gatherings was the opportunity to share in small groups. At the luncheon we chatted informally and learned a little bit about each other. At the meeting we heard from people in small group breakout discussions followed by each group sharing its findings.

For me, both gatherings demonstrated that our community is comprised of individuals with many different ideas and ideals who are willing to work together for our common benefit. And in a small town like Readfield, one can still meet people you have not met yet and share perspectives. I count this neighborliness as one of your great strengths.

Kind Regards;

Bruce Bourgoine

Select Board Chair

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



Do you have your cross-country skis and snow shoes ready? Thanks to hundreds of volunteer hours by Readfield citizens as well as students from Maranacook High School and Kent's Hill school the trails are in great shape for winter activities. Both students and citizens spent a lot of time this season pruning out the trails and doing erosion control for a high and dry trail experience. Thanks to their work a January thaw that in the past would have had water running across the trail in some places will no longer happen. That same erosion control will be especially appreciated come spring runoff. We also have decreased the slope on a section of trail that starts at the kiosk off the route 17 trail head. Readfield Trail committee members, past and present, continue to express their gratitude for having the opportunity to work alongside these students.

If you do not have cross-country skis or snow shoes, but a good pair of winter boots just wait 24-48 hours

after a heavy snow storm and you will most often find trails well packed down for your walking enjoyment. Looks like we will be seeing fat tire bikers out on the trails this winter season. Many fat tire bikers are already checking out the trails. With the super large tires, just a little bit of trail packing makes winter riding possible.

We still have openings on the trails committee. If you enjoying working outside in a moderate pace with individuals of all ages let us know. Over the 10 years of the Readfield trails Committee, a very important part of our success has been the tractor volunteers. We could not have created the kind of trails we have without them. If you have a tractor and would like to be part of the process, building trails for people of all abilities, come join us. One does not need to be a member of the committee to join in the work activities.

Gary Keilty

Chair- Readfield Trails



If you want to go faster, go alone.

If you want to go farther, go together.

African proverb



Origami Owl<sup>®</sup>  
CUSTOM JEWELRY

VIRGINIA  
PARKER

Independent Designer

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201997241



# PRELIMINARY MEETING SCHEDULE AND NOTICE

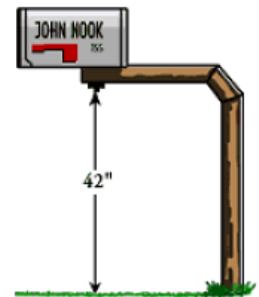
2017-2018 (FY 18) BUDGET & WARRANT PROCESS		
Date	Task	Responsibility
11/03/16	Joint Capital Investment Planning Workshop	SB / BC
11/14/16	Select Board Meeting - Budget process review and approval	SB
11/18/16	Budget process memo sent to Depts., Boards, & Committees - To include PY & YTD #s	Various
12/12/16	Select Board Meeting - Board goals & warrant arrangement	SB
12/21/16	Budget Committee Meeting - Budget goals	BC
12/30/16	Preliminary Dept., Board & Committee budget #s & goals due	Various
01/04/17	Budget Committee Meeting - Departments I	BC
01/09/17	Select Board Meeting - First budget draft presented	SB
01/18/17	Budget Committee Meeting - Departments II	BC
01/23/17	Select Board Meeting - Second budget draft presented	SB
02/01/17	Budget Committee Meeting - Departments III	BC
02/06/17	Select Board Meeting - Third budget draft presented	SB
02/15/17	Budget Committee Meeting - Budget review	BC
02/20/17	Joint Budget Committee & Select Board Meeting - Comprehensive budget review	SB / BC
03/01/17	<b>Joint Budget Committee &amp; Select Board Meeting - Public Budget Meeting</b>	SB / BC
03/06/17	Select Board Meeting - Fourth budget draft presented (if requested)	SB
03/15/17	6:30pm - School Committee meeting with Select Boards - school budget	SB / SC
03/20/17	85 days before vote - Nomination Papers available	TC
03/20/17	Select Board Meeting - Warrant review	SB
04/03/17	Select Board Meeting - Final Budget & Warrant Review	SB
04/10/17	<b>Joint Budget Committee &amp; Select Board Meeting - Second Public Budget Meeting</b>	SB / BC
04/17/16	Select Board Meeting - Budget and Warrant Approval	SB
04/24/17	Select Board Meeting - Referendum question hearing	SB
04/28/17	45 days before voting - Nomination papers due	Various
05/09/17	35 Days before voting - Signed Warrant due to Clerk (absolute deadline)	SB
06/02/17	10 days before voting - Last day to hold referendum question hearings	SB
06/06/17	7 days before voting - Town Meeting Warrant posted (absolute deadline)	TC / Constable
06/13/17	Town Meeting - State Primary	TC
<b>Budget Process Summary:</b>		<b>Key:</b>
	Two Public Budget Meetings	BC - Budget Committee
	One Referendum Hearing	SB - Select Board
	Five joint meetings	SC - School Committee
	Four Budget Committee meetings	TC - Town Clerk
	Six Select Board meetings with budget drafts	Statutory deadlines
	Nineteen scheduled opportunities for public comment	
<b>Notes:</b>		
<b>Meeting Times</b> - SB meetings are held at 6:30 and BC meetings at 6:00 unless otherwise noted		
<b>Involvement</b> - Although not addressed directly it is expected that the Town Manager, Finance Officer, and Residents of the Town of Readfield will have ongoing roles in nearly all aspects of the budget process.		
<b>Select Board Attendance</b> - Joint meetings and regular Select Board meetings will have full Select Board attendance any budget meetings may have three or more members of the Select Board in attendance.		
<b>Public Budget Meetings</b> - These meetings are intended to provide opportunity for extensive public comment, feedback, and recommendations on the draft budget and budget process in conjunction with budget presentations.		
<b>Departments I</b> - Includes the following: <b>General Government</b> (Administration, Insurance, Office Equipment, Assessing, Coder Enforcement, Boundaries, Maintenance, Grant writing / Planning, Heating Assistance), <b>Boards &amp; Commissions</b> (Appeals Board, Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Trails Committee), <b>Buildings</b> (Fire Station, Giles Hall, Library, Building Maintenance)		
<b>Departments II</b> - Includes the following: <b>Community Services</b> (Animal Control, Kennebec Land Trust, Library, Public Access TV, Street Lights, Town Farm, Maranacook Lake Dam), <b>Protection</b> (Fire Department, Ambulance, Water Holes, Dispatching, Personal Protection Gear Replacement), <b>Cemeteries</b> (Cemeteries), <b>Regional Assessments</b> (Cobbossee Watershed, Kennebec County, KVCOC, First Park, Debt Service)		
<b>Departments III</b> - Includes the following: <b>Recreation</b> (Beach, Recreation, Heritage Days, Open Space, Community Park), <b>Roads &amp; Drainage</b> (Roads & Drainage), <b>Capital Improvements</b> (Admin Technology, Fire Station Addition, Gile Hall, Ball Field, Library, Transfer Station, Maranacook Lake Dam), <b>Solid Waste</b> (Transfer Station, Backhoe), <b>Unclassified</b> (Non-profits, Snowmobiling, Enterprise Fund, Revaluation, General Assistance)		

\* As Approved 11/14/2016 - Select Board Vote

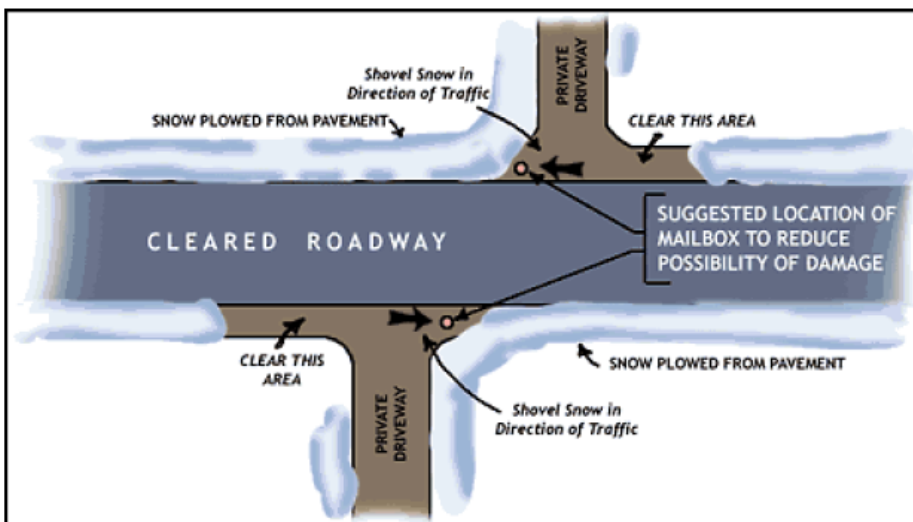
# Mailbox Guidelines

Readfield's snowplow contractor will take all precautions to avoid striking mailboxes with the wing of the plow. Below are some tips for mailbox placement to help reduce the chances of damage during winter plowing:

- Mailbox post size must not exceed 4" by 4" for a wooden post or 2" diameter for a steel pipe post for roadside barrier safety. Posts that are more substantial in construction are considered "deadly fixed objects" and are not permitted within the Town's right-of-way.
- Mailboxes and any supports should be installed at least 42 inches high to provide clearance for the plow wing as shown in the picture. We recommend the use of an extended arm type of post with a free-swinging suspended mailbox. This allows snowplows to sweep near or under boxes without damage to supports and provides easy access to the boxes by carrier and customers.
- Below you will find a sketch showing the recommended location for your mailbox. Placing the mailbox on the side of your driveway away from approaching traffic will allow our driver to properly clear the roadway and to get as close as possible to your mailbox to minimize the amount of shoveling you will have to do to clear the mailbox for the postal carrier.
- For uncurbed roadways set the mailbox back at the far edge of the road shoulder (at least 3 feet back from pavement edge, when possible) to provide the maximum possible roadway clearance. For curbed roads the face of the mailbox should be 8-12 inches back from the curb face.
- To assist emergency vehicles, please place reflective material on the side of the box visible to approaching traffic with 4" high letters to identify the address.



In the event your mailbox is damaged by the plow we ask you to make any needed temporary repairs. If you are unable to make such repairs on your own please call our Snow Plow Contractor, Steve McGee at 776-8007 or 776-8011 and his crew will attempt to repair or replace the mailbox when time permits. Substantially damaged property will be replaced in the spring with a basic metal mailbox. Newspaper boxes will not be repaired or reset by the Town or plow contractor in any event.



The Town and plow contractor will not replace or reimburse for custom made mailboxes, ornate posts or granite post, etc., existing mailboxes with rotted posts or in obviously poor condition, or any mailboxes that have not been located according to these guidelines. State of Maine law views mailboxes as an encroachment in the public way put there at the owner's risk and municipalities are not legally liable for any damage or repairs to mailboxes due to plowing operations.



## **ecomaine encourages alternatives to recycling plastic bags in municipal recycling programs**

*consumers are encouraged to opt for re-usable shopping bags  
to reduce single-use plastic bags from the waste stream*

PORTLAND, Maine (November 21, 2016) – Just in time for the busiest shopping season of the year, and in a move to reinforce the “reuse” rung of the waste management hierarchy and reduce recycling contamination, ecomaine is encouraging the use of reusable shopping bags and directing plastic film recovery to neighboring grocery stores and big box retail collection points effective immediately.

Maine’s leader in long-term, economically sound sustainable waste management strategies, has been accepting #2 and #4 plastic shopping bags and recycling as many as it can recover since 2007. However, the recycling markets for plastic bags is very weak, and the technology used at ecomaine to separate paper and cardboard from the remaining plastic, metal and glass recyclables is not equipped to adequately handle the volume of plastic bags and film that come through the facility. On average, non-recyclable contamination comprises about 7.5 percent of the 42,000 tons of recycling that ecomaine typically processes annually. Plastic bags and films are estimated to comprise between 60% and 70% of these contaminants and end up as fuel in the waste-to-energy plant.

“Every day, no fewer than seven ecomaine recycling facility employees are required to climb into the sorting equipment to cut out the plastic bags and films that get wrapped around the recycling separation equipment. Sometimes, the contamination even requires shut downs mid-shift,” explained ecomaine Recycling Facility Manager John Morin. “This ensures optimal recovery of the recyclable materials, which cannot flow adequately past the plastic film jams and through the sorting equipment.”

The decision comes on the heels of several ecomaine owner communities, including Portland, South Portland and Falmouth, instituting plastic bag fees of five cents per plastic grocery bag. Freeport recently voted to ban plastic shopping bags altogether from all grocery and convenience stores, and instituted a five-cent fee on paper bags. These ordinances aim to reduce waste and incentivize shoppers to opt for reusable bags, thus reducing fossil fuel and natural resource consumption and our overall carbon footprint.

“We support movements across Maine to reduce our dependence on plastic shopping bags and also recognize that there are more ideal avenues established to ensure the best possible recovery of plastic bags and films from the waste stream,” said ecomaine Recycling Committee Chairman Caleb Hemphill.

As an alternative to reusable shopping bags, most major grocery stores and big box retailers have plastic bag recovery boxes set up in their stores, which are used to produce products such as recycled plastic lumber. Find a complete list of stores that will accept plastic bags and films near you at [plasticfilmrecycling.org](http://plasticfilmrecycling.org).

*ecomaine is a community-owned sustainable waste management operator of a single-sort recycling facility, waste-to-energy plant, and food waste recovery transfer point in Portland.*





## Definite Progress at the Union Meeting House

As reported last month, it is an encouraging development to see workmen at the Union Meeting House starting on Phase I of the floor rebuilding. Simultaneously, inside the sanctuary conservator Tony Castro is beginning the repair and restoration of the badly cracked murals on the arch that leads into the apse.

Maine Barn Co., which has the contract to do the floor project, first provided new supports in the basement for the arch which has settled badly in the past 25 years due to improper engineering when foundation work was done in 1985. By undertaking some masonry repairs, and inserting a new header and vertical support beams on new concrete pads, it became possible to jack up the right side of the arch to its original position.

This has allowed Mr. Castro, one of the best and most highly regarded decorative painting conservators in the country, to remove loosened pieces of plaster, re-adhere them with special adhesives, and in-fill cracks. In the coming weeks he will then begin painting the cracks to match the original murals after he receives a report from a technician which will tell him the exact paint pigments that were used originally by Charles Schumacher in 1868.

Maine Barn will now begin work on the narthex, the front part of the church. The huge support beam that supports the tower and all the floor joists will have to be replaced. This will be difficult since the space has very little head room. This work will continue through the fall.



Now that the arch at the front of the Union Meeting House has been jacked up and properly supported from below, the noted decorative painting conservator Tony Castro has removed pieces of broken plaster, closed up cracks that have developed over the decades, and is starting to in-fill new plaster into the cracks. He will finish by painting the new plaster to match the original wall colors. Mr. Castro is on the staging up by the bright light at 1 o'clock.

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At the annual meeting of the UMH Board in October, the following officers were re-elected: Marius B. Péladeau, president; Milton R. Wright, secretary, John Perry, treasurer, and Nancy Durgin, membership secretary. Also renamed were Board members Barbara Boenke, Karen Peterson, Jim Tukey, Amy Black, Joan Wiebe and Marianne Perry. The Advisory Board remains

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The Board thanks Don Shook for the preliminary layout of the skills of Ron Simons, a long-time friend of the Meeting House, who lent his design expertise to produce the attractive package that is being used to enlist local folks in supporting the UMH's restoration. Thanks also to Copies, Etc., for its usual excellent printing work.

For more information, or to help support UMH, contact Marius Péladeau at 685-4537 or John Perry at 685-3531.





# Readfield Historical Society

## Notes *By Bob Harris*



On Veterans Day, I attended a History Walk at the Readfield Corner Cemetery. Dale Potter-Clark, who organized the walk, gave a very interesting speech about Readfield Veterans. We then proceeded to a high point in the cemetery and held a moment of silence as we observed ever so many American flags blowing in the wind.

Afterwards we went to the town hall and placed flags and a wreath at the veterans' memorial. In honor of the veterans, we spoke their names and sang patriotic songs. As it was a blustery day, the soup luncheon served upstairs at town hall was perfect.

After all the negativity from the recent election, it warmed my heart to see our community come together to honor the courageous people who put their country before themselves and sacrificed so much during present and past wars. It is the spirit of working together that has made this country great and we have that spirit here in Readfield. I would like to thank all of those who participated.

Nicole Danielson hosted the November 8<sup>th</sup> RHS executive board meeting at Maple Tree Community School. It is so wonderful to see our historic grange hall put to such good use.

The board was really energized and some great ideas for upcoming projects were discussed. Among these were:

- 1.) The annual business meeting to be held on March 18, 2017 and George Smith, a local author, writer, and talk show host has agreed to be our guest speaker.
- 2.) A tentative date of April 23, 2017 is being considered for a country western concert.
- 3.) Dale Clark and Evelyn Potter are working on a new 20-month calendar featuring Readfield clubs. The last calendar they designed was very popular.
- 4.) A house and garden tour during Heritage Days in August is also being considered. If you are interested in showing your house or garden please let us know.
- 5.) We are working on a survey that you can let us know what you need and expect from your local Historical Society.
- 6.) We also looked at a strategic plan that was developed in 2001 by RHS. We were delighted to see how many challenges and goals have been met. Again, we would like to thank Flo Drake for all she accomplished during her tenure.

Our amazing town has a rich and intriguing history. The RHS goal is to preserve that history and share it with our members and community.

Did you know that Readfield and Winthrop were once called Pond Town and it was the first town incorporated that was not on navigable waters (river) in the state of Maine?

Did you know that Readfield was home to four Maine governors and that John Hancock owned two large parcels of land in Readfield?

Here's wishing you all a wonderful holiday season! Until next time – Be safe and happy.



## Mount Vernon Food Bank

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

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

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

**Donations can be left  
at you town office.**

## Readfield Blizzard Busters

Attention all snowmobilers:



Your Readfield Snowmobile Blizzard Busters Snowmobile Club has been hard at work preparing the town's 35+ miles of trails for one of our favorite winter past times – sledding. Every Sunday in the fall, Club volunteers, led by Trailmaster Peter Zarella, are busy trimming prior year trails, blazing new trails and building bridges to safely cross land our generous landowners grant us permission to traverse. In an attempt to demonstrate our appreciation, approximately forty valued landowners were recently honored at a delicious supper cooked and provided by the Club. If anyone would like further information on what is entailed in granting permission for a trail, please contact Peter Zarella, Trailmaster or Bill Brann, President of the Club.

The Readfield Blizzard Busters Snowmobile Club is a small organization with a membership of less than 35. If you are interested in supporting the club, financially, with in-kind opportunities, or just experiencing great camaraderie, please visit us at our next meeting. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month, October through March, at the Readfield Firehouse, 7:00 pm.



## Round-up to Warm-up

Round-up your purchases at the Town Office and the extra change will go the Town's Heating Assistance Fund. You may also make tax deductible donations to this fund.

This fund helps the families who do not qualify for other programs.





Readfield  
8:58 AM

## Expense Summary Report

ALL Departments  
October

11/01/2016  
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	473,471.00	28,498.02	841.14	130,339.28	343,131.72	27.53
15 - BOARDS & COM	5,360.00	156.37	0.00	584.68	4,775.32	10.91
20 - TOWN BLDG	34,674.00	971.05	0.00	5,832.93	28,841.07	16.82
25 - COMM SERVICE	59,621.00	4,900.29	0.00	23,529.24	36,091.76	39.46
30 - REC,PARKS/AT	26,668.00	2,520.30	0.00	9,460.45	17,207.55	35.47
40 - PROTECTION	137,690.00	17,058.86	0.00	38,457.51	99,232.49	27.93
50 - CEMETERIES	31,906.00	2,786.40	0.00	12,198.33	19,707.67	38.23
60 - Rds & Drain	630,085.00	212,977.09	0.00	247,654.30	382,430.70	39.30
65 - CAPITAL IMPR	140,131.00	2,034.00	0.00	2,034.00	138,097.00	1.45
70 - SOLID WASTE	296,016.00	11,757.76	0.00	77,665.46	218,350.54	26.24
75 - EDUCATION	3,442,351.00	286,862.58	0.00	1,147,450.36	2,294,900.64	33.33
80 - REGIONAL ORG	316,346.00	261,281.06	0.00	268,218.39	48,127.61	84.79
85 - DEBT SERVICE	346,302.00	0.00	0.00	278,396.77	67,905.23	80.39
90 - UNCLASSIFIED	63,938.00	7,122.11	0.00	47,391.11	16,546.89	74.12
95 - GENERAL ASST	4,710.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,710.00	0.00
Final Totals	6,009,269.00	838,925.89	841.14	2,289,212.81	3,720,056.19	38.09

# Revenue & Expense Reports

Nov. 1, 2016



Readfield  
9:00 AM

## Revenue Summary Report

Department(s): ALL  
October

11/01/2016  
Page 1

Account	Budget Net	- C U R R M O N T H - Debits	Credits	YTD Net	Uncollected Balance	Percent Collected
10 - GENERAL GOVERNMENT	5,706,026.00	1,248.98	52,525.87	4,833,470.70	872,555.30	84.71
25 - COMMUNITY SERVICES	29,875.00	0.00	3,328.35	19,531.30	10,343.70	65.38
30 - RECREATION, PARKS,& ACTIVITIES	19,201.00	0.00	2,695.00	6,870.00	12,331.00	35.78
40 - PROTECTION	5,580.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,580.00	0.00
60 - Roads & Drainage	41,435.00	0.00	6,555.55	8,803.05	32,631.95	21.25
70 - SOLID WASTE	183,308.00	8,263.04	21,124.13	59,702.41	123,605.59	32.57
90 - UNCLASSIFIED	21,489.00	0.00	0.00	26,522.16	-5,033.16	123.42
95 - GENERAL ASSISTANCE	2,355.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,355.00	0.00
Final Totals	6,009,269.00	9,512.02	86,228.90	4,954,899.62	1,054,369.38	82.45

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# BELGRADE REGIONAL HEALTH CENTER Food Mobile

## Tuesday, Dec. 6

### 10:30 a.m. to Noon

Belgrade Regional Health Center parking lot

**4 Clement Way  
Belgrade**

(off Route 27)



**Anyone struggling  
to keep food on the  
table is welcome**

PARTNERING TO END HUNGER



**Good Shepherd**

FOOD BANK OF MAINE

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*Belgrade Regional Health Center is a part of*



**HealthReach**  
Community Health Centers

**207-495-3323  
BelgradeCHC.org**





# December 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Nov 27	Nov 28 6:30 Select Brd 	Nov 29	Nov 30 6:30 Plan Brd 	1	2  1:30 Age Friendly w/ Cemetery Com.	3
4	5 1:30 Cemetery Com. 	6	7 6:30 RSU#38 6:45 Library Brd. 7 Blizzard Busters 	8  	9	10
11	12  9:30 Age Friendly w/ Senior Cafe 6:30 Select Brd 	13 6:30 Conserv. Com. 	14 6:30 Plan Brd (if needed) 	15	16	17
18	19 	20	21  5:30 Age Friendly Mtg. 6:30 RSU#38 	22	23	24  Special Hours! Transfer Station Hours 8-12 
25 	26 <b>Closed</b> for the Christmas Holiday!	27 6:30 Select Brd  6:30 Trails Com. 	28 6:30 Plan Brd (if needed) 	29	30	31  Special Hours! Transfer Station Hours 8-12 

## **We are looking for volunteer Members for the following Boards and Committees:**

**Appeals Board: 1 member (2017)**

**Age Friendly Adhoc Committee: 1 member (1 year)**

**Cobbossee Watershed Dist.: 1 resident for an alt. Representative member**

**Conservation Commission: 1 Alt. member (2019), 1 member (2017)**

**Heritage Days Committee members: Looking for any volunteers**

**Library Building Committee: 1 resident building contractor**

**Local School Board 10/14: 1 member (2018), 1 member (2019)**

**Planning Board: 3 alt. members (2017)(2018)(2019)**

**Readfield Enterprise Committee 10/18: 1 Select Board Member, 1 CPA or finance specialist, 1 attorney of legal professional, 1 Readfield Resident**

**Road Committee: 1 member (2018)**

**Trails Committee: 2 members (2019), 1 Alt. (2017)**

**30 Mile River Board 10/14: 1 resident appointed yearly**

**If you are interested in joining any of the above committees please contact the Town Office at 685-4939 or [readfield@roadrunner.com](mailto:readfield@roadrunner.com) for an application for appointment.**

### **Select Board Contact Information**

**Bourgoine, Bruce:** (207) 624-1977 [bbourgoine@readfieldmaine.org](mailto:bbourgoine@readfieldmaine.org)

**Dunham, Thomas:** Phone: (207) 685-4524 [selectboard.td@ne.twcbc.com](mailto:selectboard.td@ne.twcbc.com)

**Parent, John:** Phone: (207) 242-7420 [jparent@readfieldmaine.org](mailto:jparent@readfieldmaine.org)

**Sammons, Christine:** Phone: (412) 779-4368 [csamons@readfieldmaine.org](mailto:csamons@readfieldmaine.org)

**Woodsum, Kathryn Mills:** Phone: (207) 685-9094 [kwoodsum@readfieldmaine.org](mailto:kwoodsum@readfieldmaine.org)

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