



# Readfield Messenger



## TOWN OF READFIELD

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2017

### Address:

8 Old Kents Hill  
Rd. Readfield,  
Maine 04355

### Phone number:

207-685-4939

### Web Site:

[www.readfield.gov](http://www.readfield.gov)  
[office.com](http://office.com)

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field@roadrunner.  
com

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## Thank You for Showing Your Support

Thank you to the residents of the Town of Readfield for showing your support. during the holidays. Readfield residents supported the Town's Giving Tree which the school appreciated so much. The Giving Tree made many families holidays a very special time. Choosing gifts for your kids and food for the table should not be a choice for Readfield families. Thank you very much!

The Readfield Community Library held their Annual Tree Lighting at the Library on December 2nd this year. The pictures below are from the gathering at Gile Hall where Santa was the special guest following the tree lighting.



## From the Clerks Desk, Robin Lint



### Important Dates and Information

- 2014 Unpaid Property Taxes will foreclose on January 27th.
- 2017 Dog Licenses are due December 31st. Late fee of \$25 per dog will start on February 1st. If your dog(s) need a Rabies Shot you may make an appointment at the Rabies Clinic below.
- 2017-18 Budget Meetings are on the Calendar included in this publication. The public is always welcome to attend all meetings.
- We are still looking for volunteers to fill some committee seats. If you are interested please let us know and we will send you an application or just stop by and make one out. The list of openings appear on the back page of this publication.
- The Town Office will be CLOSED on January 2nd for New Years and January 16th for Martin Luther King Jr. day.



# Last Chance Rabies Clinic

January 26th from 3:30 - 5:00pm

- . Pre-Registration is required
- . By Appointment only
- . A \$15 Pre-payment is required
- . You do not have to be a Readfield resident
- . Residents may license their dogs at the same time to avoid the \$25.00 late fee starting Feb.



Held at and sponsored by the Town of Readfield



## From the Desk of the Town Manager, Eric Dyer



### Winter Maintenance of Town Properties

With several winter storms already behind us I want to address a few questions I've received and give a little more information with respect to winter maintenance of municipal properties and infrastructure. The Town of Readfield and our capable maintenance staff are responsible for maintaining Gile Hall, the Fire Station, the Library, and several recreational parking areas (including the Fairgrounds and trailheads on Fogg Rd. and at the Torsey Pond Preserve). We are also responsible for the sidewalk from the corner by Millard Harrison Drive (the access road to the High and Middle schools) to the Town office and the small sections in front of the Family Market and Emporium. We are not responsible for the area in front of the Post Office, any of the parking spaces at Readfield Corner, or the access road to the bank building.

As you might expect there are differing service needs for the areas the Town maintains. The Fire station is a top priority for obvious reasons. No more than a few inches of snow should be allowed to accumulate at any time and the building must always be accessible. The Town Office, Library, and Transfer Station are the next highest priorities and as a general rule they should be clear ½ hour prior to opening and no more than a few inches of snow should be allowed to accumulate in the parking lots during open hours. Access areas, stairs, and walkways should be kept clear and safe to foot traffic at all times these buildings are in use. Keeping these buildings and lots clear can take a lot of time, so lower priority is given to the less frequently used sidewalk and "remote" parking areas. They are of course taken care of as soon as possible, but should always be cleared and sanded no less than 24 hours after the end of a storm.

The unpredictability of the weather, equipment failures, and the availability of staff can impact our ability to meet these expectations all of the time but we do make every effort to do so. Feedback from residents is a very important part of ensuring this happens so if you notice an area that needs attention or have any questions about winter maintenance of town properties, please contact me.



# MIA LINAS

**ITALIAN EXPRESS  
RESTAURANT**

PIZZA.PASTA.CALZONE. MORE....

Lunch.Dinner

**377-2289**

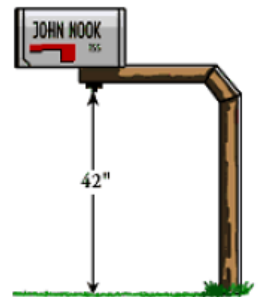
206A Main Street  
Winthrop, Maine 04364



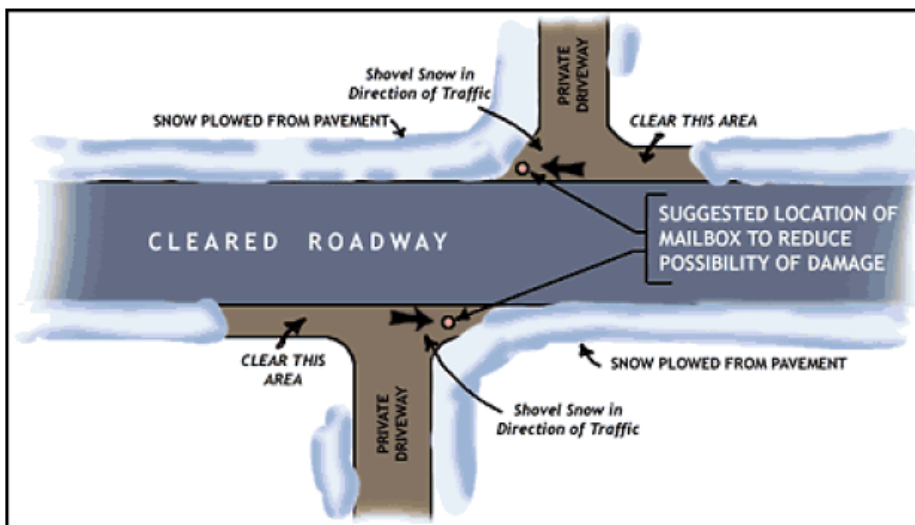
# Mailbox Guidelines

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, John Cushing 242-8075 or 685-4742 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.



*"Life is an escalator:: You can move forward or backward; you can not remain still."*

**PATRICIA  
RUSSELL-  
MCCLUD**  
Motivational  
speaker

## Select Board Corner by Bruce Bourgoine, Chair

Dear Neighbors;

I wish you, your family, and everyone in the Readfield Community a Happy New Year. As we head into 2017, at this time of year many of us make resolutions and look at our future personal plans with fresh perspective.

However, Readfield's fiscal year is different from the calendar year and runs from July 1<sup>st</sup> each year through June 30<sup>th</sup>. Thus, at this date, we are halfway through the current 2016/2017 fiscal year. The Select Board is now receiving from our Town Manager,

Eric, Dyer, on a monthly basis, a treasurer's report which gives us and citizens a good amount of information on current budget activity and performance.

Each year's municipal budget is a result of an intensive planning and process to ensure we are delivering the services our community values with appropriate attention to managing overall town operating costs and making prudent long-term investments. The process itself intensifies during the final six months of the current

fiscal year beginning now to prepare the next year's budget to be proposed to voters in June.

We are now ramping up our planning our 2017/2018 fiscal year budget and you can find on the Town website the timeline for budget building process, key Select Board and Budget Committee meetings, and public hearings. Broad participation is very key to the process and I hope you'll take the opportunity to be informed and involved.

Happy New Year!  
Bruce Bourgoine

### *Readfield Emporium*

Gourmet pizzas, entrees,  
eat in & take out, wine & beer  
Wed. through Sun. 5—9ish  
9:00am Brunch Sat. & Sun.  
685-7348

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

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Independent Designer

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201997241



## Readfield Community Library

### Check out our newest Titles

Looking for something new to read or watch on a snowy day? Then check out our list of new arrivals for December. New books include works by David Baldacci, Michael Chabon, Mary Higgins Clark, Alexander McCall Smith, Thomas L Friedman, Trevor Noah, and Helen Fielding. New movies include Florence Foster Jenkins, Sully, Suicide Squad, and The Secret Life of Pets.

### New Puzzle Section at Readfield Community Library

Attention serious puzzlers! The next time you stop by the library, feel free to check out something from our brand new puzzle section. This is the perfect selection for the next big snow day.



### Snow Shoes

*Library is looking for donations of modern, good condition snowshoes and ski poles. The donated snowshoes and poles will be available for patrons to check out as they would a book.*

We're asking people to take a look in their garages and basements for gently worn snowshoes and ski poles that they'd like to donate. With the town's extensive trail system, we're excited that more Readfield community members will have the chance to enjoy being active during our long Maine winters.

### Speaker: Dawn Brown of Second Chance Wildlife

**01/30/17-** This January, meet Dawn Brown, who specializes in bear rehabilitation and behavioral research. Come and learn about the different bear cubs that she has rehabilitated, and released back into the wild. This program will take place at **Gile Hall at the Town Office- located at 8 Old Kents Hill Rd and will begin at 6PM.**

**The Maine Humanities Council To Return!** The Maine Humanities Council will be returning to do another "Let's Talk About it" book club program in 2017. This time, the program will be "Where Am I? The Individual & the Community."

**02/15/17- Where Am I? The Individual & the Community: Year of Wonders by Geraldine Brooks**— This is part one of a five part book club put out by the Maine Humanities Council, focused around the concept of community, and how it is viewed from the people on the inside, and outside. Our first book will be Year of Wonders by Geraldine Brooks, and will be discussed on Wednesday, February 15th at 6:30PM. Please contact Nancy in advance to receive a copy of this book. You can email her at [librarian@readfield.lib.me.us](mailto:librarian@readfield.lib.me.us) or call her at 685-4089.

**Library Hours:** Monday: 6-8, Wednesday: 2-8, Thursday: 10-12 & Saturday: 10-4





## READFIELD TRAILS

building community a step at a time

*"There are spaces  
between our  
fingers so that  
another person's  
fingers can fill  
them in."*



Have you had a chance to check out the trails after our latest snow storms? Bruce, our Readfield town maintenance man, has done a great job keeping the Church Road parking lot well plowed. One big advantage of the Church Road trail head parking lot is it also gives those who are visiting the cemetery a place to park rather than out on the busy road. In the past those trying to access the cemetery in the winter would have to blaze their own trail, however with all the snow shoeing, cross country skiing and hiking that has been eliminated.

The heavy winter trail use will break up the "crusty" snow that occurred as a result of both snow and rain coming at the same time.

In the spring of 2016 both Readfield Trails and Readfield Conservation held a fund raising event at the Emporium restaurant to benefit work to be done at the historic Mill Stream Dam. All the food and supplies that made the evening an outstanding success were donated by Bob and Helen Bittar, the owners of the Emporium. Once again Bob and Helen have played an integral role in bringing this project to fruition. The Town of Readfield has received both a Trail Agreement and Easement on adjacent properties owned

by the Bittars. The trail that brings you to the Mill Stream Dam starts just 50 yards north of the Town Office on the Old Kent's Hill Road or off route 17 on the Mill Stream Road. In the upcoming spring we will let you know about additional fun raising projects.

Easements and Agreements with private land owners continue to play a major role in accomplishing the goals of the 2006 Open Space Plan to create a safe trails system that connects many areas of Readfield without residents walking on the open road.

Gary Keilty, 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



The Town of Readfield and the Age Friendly Committee are beginning it's first joint initiative. We are looking for seniors who may need a bucket of sand to keep near their door. With winter here and icy conditions it is helpful to have sand handy for the walkway and driveway. If anyone wants a bucket of sand delivered, please call the town office and a bucket will be provided.

Anyone wanting to volunteer to help deliver the buckets please contact the Age Friendly Committee through the town office.

Other updates:

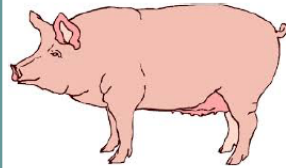
We are meeting with the Senior Cafe on Monday January 9th at 9:00. We will discuss this new initiative and discuss the results from the survey recently completed.

Everyone is welcome.



Readfield

Blizzard Busters



The Knight Farm  
All Natural  
Pasture Raised  
Pork and Chicken



Bacon, Sausage, Chops, and Roasts

[www.myfarmyourtable.com](http://www.myfarmyourtable.com)

207-332-6522

97 Old Kents Hill Road, Readfield

The Readfield Blizzard Busters Snowmobile Club (RBBSC) has been hard at work preparing the trails for this season's use. Believe me - we are looking forward to a white season! Snowmobilers, cross-country skiers and those who venture out in snowshoes share usage of the over 30 miles of trails. Designated marked trails are a result of the Club working with 30 plus generous landowners who allow adventurers to cross their land on foot or snowmobiles only. RBBSC's Trailmaster, Peter Zarella, and a small posse of volunteers have spent the fall marking trails, clearing brush and most recently grooming the trails for safe passage. We are ready for you.....

If you would like to join the club or financially support our efforts, please contact us at [blizzard-busters@yahoo.com](mailto:blizzard-busters@yahoo.com) or PO Box 62, Readfield, ME 04355.





# Summary of Revenue & Expenses

Readfield  
8:50 AM

## Revenue Summary Report

Department(s): ALL  
November

12/01/2016  
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	88.87	70,922.98	4,904,835.13	801,190.87	85.96
25 - COMMUNITY SERVICES	29,875.00	0.00	164.01	19,707.31	10,167.69	65.97
30 - RECREATION, PARKS,& ACTIVITIES	19,201.00	95.00	743.43	7,518.43	11,682.57	39.16
40 - PROTECTION	5,580.00	0.00	2,600.00	2,600.00	2,980.00	46.59
50 - CEMETERIES	0.00	0.00	400.00	400.00	-400.00	----
60 - Roads & Drainage	41,435.00	0.00	35,360.00	44,163.05	-2,728.05	106.58
70 - SOLID WASTE	183,308.00	0.00	18,166.82	77,869.23	105,438.77	42.48
90 - UNCLASSIFIED	21,489.00	0.00	111.10	26,633.26	-5,144.26	123.94
95 - GENERAL ASSISTANCE	2,355.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,355.00	0.00
Final Totals	6,009,269.00	183.87	128,468.34	5,083,726.41	925,542.59	84.60

Readfield  
8:48 AM

## Expense Summary Report

ALL Departments  
November

12/01/2016  
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	29,874.45	733.41	159,480.32	313,990.68	33.68
15 - BOARDS & COM	5,360.00	169.85	0.00	754.53	4,605.47	14.08
20 - TOWN BLDG	34,674.00	1,759.74	0.00	7,592.67	27,081.33	21.90
25 - COMM SERVICE	59,621.00	4,123.97	0.00	27,653.21	31,967.79	46.38
30 - REC,PARKS/AT	26,668.00	5,490.85	67.09	14,884.21	11,783.79	55.81
40 - PROTECTION	137,690.00	4,522.03	0.00	42,979.54	94,710.46	31.21
50 - CEMETERIES	31,906.00	3,977.96	0.00	16,176.29	15,729.71	50.70
60 - Rds & Drain	630,085.00	94,800.98	0.00	342,455.28	287,629.72	54.35
65 - CAPITAL IMPR	140,131.00	2,955.84	0.00	4,989.84	135,141.16	3.56
70 - SOLID WASTE	296,016.00	16,552.87	0.00	94,218.33	201,797.67	31.83
75 - EDUCATION	3,442,351.00	286,862.58	0.00	1,434,312.94	2,008,038.06	41.67
80 - REGIONAL ORG	316,346.00	6,937.33	0.00	275,155.72	41,190.28	86.98
85 - DEBT SERVICE	346,302.00	0.00	0.00	278,396.77	67,905.23	80.39
90 - UNCLASSIFIED	63,938.00	5,000.00	0.00	52,391.11	11,546.89	81.94
95 - GENERAL ASST	4,710.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,710.00	0.00
Final Totals	6,009,269.00	463,028.45	800.50	2,751,440.76	3,257,828.24	45.79



# Union Meeting House Work Continues

Fluctuations in the weather, including some very cold days, have not prevented the craftsmen from Maine Barn Co. from moving ahead on the reconstruction of the floor under the front part of the building. The large beams that will hold up the floor, the back wall of the sanctuary, the choir and the back portion of the steeple have arrived. These beams were special ordered since no lumber mill or lumber yard in the state had the capacity to provide such massive timbers. Not only did their size make them difficult to obtain, but they had to be sent out to be pressure treated.

## A Historical Note

It was one hundred years ago that a fierce winter storm blew off the spire at the top of the UMH steeple. The *Kennebec Journal* reported that on Friday, December 22, 1916, the wind caused the spire to fall to the lawn below. It was fortunate, the article said that the spire did not fall backward and come down through the roof. The newspaper called the UMH "this famous old landmark."

## A Challenge

The Union Meeting House is excited that the family of Alvin and June Wagner has issued a challenge to another Readfield person or family: *"We will match your \$1,000 gift to the Meeting House with an equal gift. Please join us in helping to restore this Readfield landmark."*

The Union Meeting House has been called a monument to past generations of Readfield families. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and all gifts to "The Readfield Union Meeting House Co." are fully tax deductible to the donor. The Board is confident that someone in Readfield will step up and meet the Wagner Family challenge. For more information, contact John Perry, treasurer, at 207-685-3531.

## Losses and Gains

The Board notes, with great sadness, the passing of Holly Hock Dumaine, a long-time supporter of the UMH. The Meeting House was a family passion – her mother and two aunts had been devoted to the building for many decades and Holly believed in carrying on the family tradition. When the Board was revived in 2009, Holly joined as an Advisory Board member and her wise advice was always well taken. We will miss her.

Likewise we have to report that Barbara Boenke, who has served on the Board for over five years, has decided that it is time for her to step down. Barbara was always to the point and on target and her involvement will be missed. Our thoughts go with you, Barbara.

The good news is that Donn Harriman, who served as treasurer until he decided to step down last year, has agreed to come back to serve on the Advisory Board. He did much to move the restoration forward so it is a boost to have Donn back as the Board moves forward.

# January 2017

Sun

Mon



Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 <i>Happy New Year</i>	2 <b>Closed</b> for the New Year Holiday!	3 9:00 Age Friend- ly Com. 	4  6:00 Budget Com. w/Dept. I 6:30 RSU 38 Brd. of Dir.  6:45 Library Brd.	5 9:00 Cemetery Com. Budget Workshop 	6	7
8	9 6:30 Select Brd. 	10 6:30 Conserv. Com. 	11 5:00 Road Com.  6:00 Planning Brd. 	12	13	14
15	16 <b>Closed</b> for Martin Luther King Jr.	17	18  6:00 Budget Com. w/Dept. II 6:30 RSU 38 Brd. of Dir. 	20	21	
22	23 6:30 Select Brd. 	24 6:30 Trails Com. 	25 6:00 Planning Brd. 	26	27	28
29	30	31	Feb. 1	Feb. 2	Feb. 3	Feb. 4

## 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)



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

**Age Friendly Committee:** 1 member

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

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

**Heritage Days Committee members (priority):** 1 residents, 1 representative RSU, 1 rep. from a non profit.

**Library Building Committee:** Looking for any volunteers

**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 (suggested composition)

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

**RSU School Board Member:** 1 member (2017)

**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.



Last updated 12/29/2016



## **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.