Volume 14, Issue 4 April 2017

Town of Readfield. 8 Old Kents Hill Rd . Readfield . Maine . 04355

www.readfield.govoffice.com

Readfield Messenger

Special points of interest:

- Drug Take Back Day April 29th for 10-2:00.
- RSU #38 update letters.
- Pre K screening information
- Community Calendar

Public Budget Meeting Wednesday, April 12th, 2017 Gile Hall at 6:30pm.

Please join us to discuss the proposed Fiscal Year 2018 Budget with members of the Readfield Select Board and Budget Committee. The purpose of these meetings is to present the draft budget and hear questions and comments from the public.

Nomination Papers Available

Papers available for the following board positions:

1-three year term for a Select Board Position
1-one year term & 1-three year term for the RSU 38 Board
1-one year term , 1-two year term and 1-three year term for the Local School Board

- Papers are available at the Town Office and requires 25 signatures of Readfield registered voters in order to be put on the Annual Town Meeting Ballot for the June 13th, 2017 vote.
- Papers are due back by April 28th, 2017 by 3:30 pm.

If you have any questions about this process please give the Town Office a call at 685-4939.

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ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT!

Sponsored by the Readfield Recreation Com.

WHERE: Maranacook High School

WHEN: Saturday, April 15th, 10am

WHO: Kids ages 1-10 Years old

Bring your own baskets (and boots if the snow has not melted) Donations of candy or fun egg fillers can be dropped off at RES or the Readfield Town Office.

This is not a school sponsored event.

Animal Control by ACO, Anna Carll

Spring is right around the corner, snow is melting, trees are budding, and grass is growing. But don't forget this also means TICK season is coming. Using a Veterinary recommended product will help keep these pest out of your home, Time is ticking, keep your pets as well as yourself safe.

Dog licensing was due January 1st, late fees began February 1st Warnings are being issued for all unlicensed dog(s), if you no longer have the dog(s) PLEASE contact the town office so we can update our records, or if your dog(s) is overdue for a Rabies Vaccination and you have scheduled an appointment with your Veterinarian, contact the town office and let them know the date of your appointment.

Rabies Vaccinations are required by Maine State Law. In 2016 Kennebec County had 15 Confirmed Rabies Cases. On Monday, March 27th, we received notice that Readfield has the first confirmed case of rabies for Kennebec County in 2017. PLEASE get those vaccinations and protect not only your animals but your family.

Have a Happy Healthy Spring

Avoiding ticks

Even more effective than early diagnosis and prompt treatment, Sears said, is avoiding exposure to ticks in the first place.

"There are a number of very good tick-prevention strategies," he said. Mainers should start by respecting Lyme disease as the potentially serious condition it is and understanding that it is spread by deer ticks, he said. They should know the difference between a deer tick and the larger dog tick.

Venturing into woods and fields in spring, summer and fall, people should protect themselves from ticks by wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants tucked into socks. Wearing a DEET-containing repellent or spraying a pyrethrum-based repellent on clothing will help keep ticks from biting or even hitching a ride. Light-colored clothing makes ticks more visible.

Homeowners should keep their grass cut short and leafy or brushy material cleared away. And people who have spent a day outside should do a "tick check" before bed, looking closely in the folds of knees and elbows, along hairlines and in other spots that tend to stay dark and damp. Having a buddy system will ensure thoroughness.

"There are places on our bodies we can't see ourselves," Sears observed.

Ticks typically do not bite for several hours after finding a likely host, and it takes 12 to 36 hours to transmit the Lyme disease microbe. Ticks that are not attached can simply be picked off with fingers or tweezers. Those that are already attached should be gripped with tweezers and pulled straight out. The bite area should be washed with warm soapy water followed by a dab of rubbing alcohol or antibiotic ointment.

From the Town Managers Desk by Eric Dyer, Town Manager

Although it seems to be a little late this year the snow is finally departing faster than it is arriving, and with the spring melt comes a few challenges I want to consider. They include the freeze thaw cycles that damage our roads and driveways, and the prospect of flooding that is always just one weather event away. Town maintenance staff are taking steps to minimize the impact these forces of nature have on our infrastructure and residents. Roads were posted in March and we're keeping a close eye on many of the culverts in town. As we are all eagerly waiting for things to dry out there are some steps you can take to stay safe, help support the work of town staff, and minimize the cost of spring road maintenance and repair.

Here are some suggestions I hope you consider:

- Please report any problematic melting of snowbanks or driveway spillage that could freeze and create a safety hazard.
- If you have a driveway that tends to allow water to trail off into the road then please try to redirect the flow of water to your side yard or into the ditch before it reaches the road.
- If you plow in the spring, try to avoid packing dense icy material into the ditch.
- Slow down for washboard and potholes on the gravel roads.
- Avoid sharp turning and heavy loads on paved and gravel roads.
- If it has washed out or has a lip, throw some material down at the end of your driveway to help support the pavement edge.
- Clear out the ends of your driveway culvert(s).
- And last but not least, watch out for increasingly active wildlife.

Thank you and I wish you all a warm and sunny spring!
Eric Dyer,
Town Manager

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.

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

Age Friendly Community

It may not look or feel like it outside but Spring has arrived! It is time to sign up for the **Senior Farm Share Program**. Residents of Readfield have a variety of farmers close by who participate in this program.

Thanks to a grant from the USDA, the Senior FarmShare program provides low-income seniors the chance to receive fresh vegetables and fruits from Maine farmers during the growing season. Farmers sign up in January, seniors sign up the second week of **April**.

Information for Seniors

Eligibility Requirements: To participate in the Maine Senior FarmShare Program you must:

- Be a Maine resident, 60 years old or older

Meet the income guidelines below:

- Maximum of $21,978 per year for a one-person household; or

Maximum of $29,637 per year for a two-person household

These eligibility guidelines are updated annually. If you want to check your eligibility contact the ELDERS-1 toll-free number at 1-877-353-3771.

Benefits of FarmShare

Participants in the Senior FarmShare Program are entitled to receive a FarmShare ($50 worth) of first quality, fresh, local produce from a Maine farm for a core 8-week period during the growing season. The variety of produce and supply method will vary depending on the farm you choose.

How and when to sign up Seniors sign up directly with a participating farmer each year during April. Please do not assume that you are automatically signed up if you participated in a prior year. You may choose a different farmer each year, but you can only sign up with one farmer per year.

This Program is limited. You can ask to be put on a waiting list if the farm you contact has filled all of their FarmShares. Please understand that meeting the eligibility requirements does not guarantee you a FarmShare.

You must complete and sign an agreement with a farmer. These forms are available to the farmers in April. It is the senior's responsibility to contact a local farmer to sign up. Either use the **participating farmers list** or contact the Area Agency on Aging for assistance by calling the ELDERS-1 toll free number at 1-877-353-3771.

Senior Responsibilities

.Things you should consider when signing up with a farmer:

- Does the farm grow fruits and vegetables that you enjoy?
- Are you required to go pick up your produce from the farm, or does the farmer deliver to you?
- If you have to pick up your produce, do you have transportation to get to the farm enough times over the 8-week season to use your full $50 FarmShare?
- Is the place where you have to pick up your produce close enough to your home?

Do you choose what you will receive or does the farmer choose for you? (This will be explained by the farmer and written on the agreement form.)

Additional Resources Additional Resources available to Low-Income Seniors Seniors that qualify for Senior FarmShare may also qualify for other benefits. Contact the Area Agency on Aging by calling the ELDERS-1 toll free number at 1-877-353-3771 regarding other benefit opportunities, or do a self-assessment test online.

Reminder: Coffee Saturday Mornings at the Weathervane

The Weathervane continues to set a few tables aside for seniors to gather on Saturday mornings from 8:30 until 10:00 am. Come and gather with neighbors and friends.

Readfield Transfer Station from 10am to 2pm. Please leave medications in their original containers. NO Drive thru Service!

READFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

The Historical Society held its annual meeting on March 18th at Gile Hall. The meeting was well attended by several members.

The nomination and election of the Executive Committee and Officers included:

President: Robert Harris
Vice President: Andrews Tolman
Secretary: Dale Potter-Clark
Mary Jernigan
Members: Nicole Danielson, Jeanne Harris, Doreen Crocker

Author George Smith of MT Vernon, our guest speaker, was a hit. Many of his stories filled the hall with laughter and the questions he answered about current wildlife conditions were very interesting. RHS would like to thank George for his excellent presentation.

Tuesday, April 25, 2017 6:30-8pm

Was the Underground Railroad Really in Readfield?

It has been proven that the Underground Railroad was in Winthrop, Farmington, and Jay, so why not Readfield? In this presentation, Dale Potter-Clark will share some of the clues she has unearthed in researching old homes and 19th century Readfield that led some to believe if, when and where the Underground Railroad passed through town. She welcomes participants to bring and share their own clues.

Friday, April 28, 2017 10am-12 noon.

Readfield History Walk #39 "Readfield Corner Fires of 1921 & 1924"

Walk the areas where the 1921 and 1934 fires occurred to see and learn about some of the businesses, homes and residents who were impacted by these fires. This promises to be an enlightening first walk of 2017.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Fridays May 19th and June 16th Readfield History Walks #40 and #41

Saturday May 27th Opening Day at Readfield Historical Society

May 31st Maranacook Adult Ed presentation by Dale Potter-Clark

FMI follow http:// readfield history walks.blogspot.com and refer to the next issue of the Messenger in May.

DOCENTS

RHS is looking for volunteer docents to fill our summer schedule on Thursdays and Saturdays from 10am-2pm. If you are interested please contact Bob Harris at 377-2299.

Union Meeting House

The Readfield Union Meeting House Board has been busy through this past cold and snowy winter making plans for the future of the Meeting House. Winter is over, right? A new Mission Statement and Vision Statement have been adopted:

> Mission Statement: To restore and maintain the Readfield Union Meeting House for the benefit of the community and to continue its status in the National Register of Historic Places.
>
> Vision Statement: A restored Readfield Union Meeting House, listed in the National Register of Historic Places, that will link to unite the past and present to the future, enriching and educating the community.

Our first major restoration project, Phase I of the undercarriage work in the narthex has been completed! The Maine Barn Company from Edgecomb Maine worked below the main floor in some very cold temperatures through the winter. Included below are a couple more pictures taken by board member Jim Tukey.

Our fund raising efforts are continuing. We want Maine Barn to be able to go right into Phase II, which will be restoring the large sanctuary undercarriage area. Our bank loan request has not been finalized, so **ALL** donations and pledges from here on out will make us look more favorable to the bank because it would be clear to the loan department that there is a committed group of financial supporters coming forward. Call John Perry, UMH Treasurer, at 685-3531 for pledge sheets or for more information.

If you have not sent in your 2017 membership dues, perhaps consider pledging that amount for the next 3 years on a pledge sheet. Again this would show the bank that we have commitment from the community thus giving proof that we'd be able to pay back the $125,000 loan we have requested.

Our International Dinner, originally scheduled for April 1st, was postponed due to a conflict with another fundraiser at the high school. It's rescheduled to April 22nd. Please see the flyer also included in this edition of the Messenger for more information. Jeff Bridges, the food service director at Maranacook High School is coordinating the food preparation and Drew Albert, music director at the high school, is going to have some of his talented students provide entertainment during the meal. We are hoping for a large community turn out. Hope to see you on the 22nd!

The narthex wall and beam as seen from the sanctuary side.

Oak joists supported on piers at main entrance where brick pockets had been removed for granite steps.

Readfield Union Meeting House Company presents an

International Dinner

Saturday, April 22, 2017 5 - 7 pm

Maranancook Community School Cafeteria

$15 adults, $10 children 12 and under

Reservations suggested. Call 685-3531 or 685-4481

Menu items from Italy, China, Morocco, Germany, Sweden, Cuba & more!

Musical Entertainment!

Proceeds will benefit restoration of the Readfied Union Meeting House.

MIA LINAS

ITALIAN EXPRESS RESTAURANT

PIZZA.PASTA.CALZONE. MORE....

Lunch.Dinner

377-2289

206A Main Street

Winthrop, Maine 04364

READFIELD TRAILS SPRING (no, really it is!) UPDATE

Well, the calendar may read as official spring but -5 degree wind chill factors tell a somewhat different story! Given that fact, it seems Readfield residents and visitors continue to find new and exciting ways to use the Fairgrounds trail system to their advantage. Except for perhaps our blizzard days this winter, rare is the day when someone is not out getting some quiet woods time and exercise on the trails.

Hikers using crampons on their boot bottoms were spotted after freezing rain turned beautiful snow into ice in late February. Throw in skiers, snowshoe enthusiasts, and the occasional fat tire bike rider and our trails get quite the use in the winter. These users mingle their tracks and paths with man's best friend (alas, no cats on leashes have been spotted), deer, snowshoe rabbits, squirrels, and a few ruffled grouse tracks along the trails.

The parking lot at the Fairgrounds has been made readily accessible soon after the storms clear so users can park safely which leads us to some info on safety at the Fairgrounds. The Trails Committee, with support from the Conservation Commission, plan to develop a new side trail skirting the parking lot by going behind the porta potty and the rock wall. This spur trail will connect the McDougal Trail on the south side of the parking lot with the Upper Trail on the northwest side of the parking area.

There has been concern expressed about safety for pedestrians as vehicles exit and enter the parking lot for practices and games. Parents pushing strollers, kids on bicycles, and people returning to their vehicles or heading down to a game will have a way to avoid moving traffic. The plan is to get the trail built this spring. Depending on the often fickle Maine weather, we do have a student group from Kents Hill School arriving April 13 that will be able to help with construction of the trail. Both Kents Hill School and Maranacook Community High School for several years have provided much appreciated and needed physical labor to build and maintain our trail system.

The Trails Committee's next major project will be building a proposed trail across from the Fairgrounds using the water district's property. Members of the water district met with Trails members to do a walk - through of the property last summer assessing where a potential trail could be developed. This type of plan fits in with the Trails Committee's mission as outlined in Readfield's Comprehensive Plan. Hopefully this trail building can get started this summer.

So, as the **REAL Spring of 2017** starts to show with warm weather and greenery, perhaps make a plan to get to the trails. If you have never gone on them, treat yourself to a walk or bike ride on them. A regular user? How about next time taking a friend along who has not availed him or herself the opportunity to enjoy the natural beauty of Readfield as seen from a trail.

As a reminder, green trail signs mark trail openings at the town library, Old Kents Hill Road, the Readfield Fairgrounds, on Maranacook school road near the Superintendent's Office, on Church Road near the Union Meeting House, and on Route 17 at the entrance to the Old Fairgrounds Road. Pamphlets with trail maps can be picked up at the town office.

Enjoy spring everyone!

Select Board's Corner by Bruce Bourgoine, Chair

Dear Neighbors;

During this past month the Select Board met with the RSU #38 School Board in a joint meeting with the other three towns in our school district, Manchester, Mount Vernon, and Wayne, to get an overview of the RSU's budget and discuss its challenges and impacts. It was a productive exchange and a video of it can be viewed on the Maranacook.org website under School Board Budget headings. It was clear we have shared concerns regarding state funding and a number of suggestions were made on addressing this long-term ongoing situation.

As of this writing, the Select Board has also scheduled a workshop meeting with our Legislative Delegation, Representative Craig Hickman and Senator Shenna Bellows, to discuss state impacts on local budgets and also to host questions and public dialog with their legislative representatives. This meeting will also be available to watch on the town's website.

These efforts have been designed to meet with other governing bodies that have a direct impact on our tax mil rate. Local town services in our Readfield town budget account for just less than 20% of the total mil rate. In the future we will reach out to Kennebec County which also has a mil rate impact by inviting the County Commissioner for our District to meet with us.

Hopefully, these communication initiatives will help begin to raise awareness of shared concerns on behalf of Readfield citizens.

Kind Regards;
Bruce Bourgoine
Readfield Select Board

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

Readfield Community Library

Check out our newest Titles

Looking for something new to read? Then check out our list of purchases for the month of March. New Books include works by Debbie Macomber, Lisa See, CJ Box, Jacqueline Winspear, and Neil Gaiman. New movies include Fences, Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them, and Moana.

The Maine Humanities Council Continues!

This is 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. Come join us for a lively discussion. Part three coming up.

04/12/17-Where Am I? The Individual & the Community: The Lord of the Flies by William Golding will be discussed on Wednesday, April 12th at 6:30PM.

05/17/17- Where Am I? The Individual & the Community: Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe will be discussed on Wednesday, May 17th at 6:30PM.

06/21/17- Where Am I? The Individual & the Community: Doing Time: 25 Years of Prison Writing edited by Bell Gale Chevigny will be discussed on Wednesday, June 21th at 6:30PM.

Spring Programs

04/05/17- Cribbage Club- Come to the Readfield Community Library and play cribbage! Bring your own board, and we'll provide the cards. Drop by anytime in between 2:30-4:30 to take part.

04/15/17- Cloud Library Walk in Workshop– Would you like to learn how to download library ebooks or audiobooks on your phone or tablet? Then show up anytime between 1-3PM on this Saturday to learn how to use the new Cloud Library app.

Delivery for Homebound Residents

Recognizing that getting to the library can be difficult for some patrons, especially during the winter months, the library offers free delivery of books and other materials to homebound library patrons. If you do not have a library card (free to all residents) Call librarian Nancy O'Toole Meservier at 685-4089 to arrange for a card and for delivery.

New Service! Check out the State Park Pass

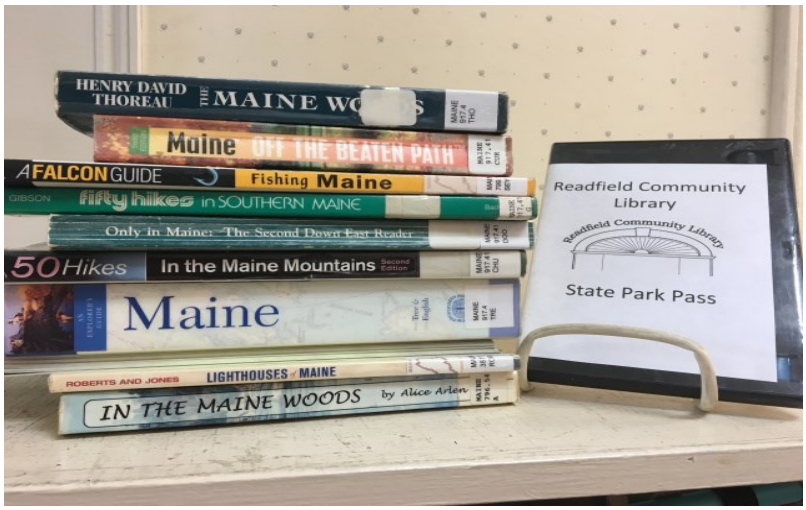
Looking to spend a little more time outside? Maybe visit some of Maine's beautiful State Parks? Then why not check out the Readfield Community Library's very own State Park Pass!

The Readfield Community Library has recently acquired a vehicle pass, which will allow the pass holder, and the occupants of their vehicle (up to seventeen passengers total) access to the day-use facilities of the Maine State Parks. The park pass can be checked out just like a book. All you need is a library card. The pass can be checked out for up to one week. Once the due date arrives, it must be returned when the library is open. It cannot be left in the book drop. If you are planning a trip, you can reserve the pass in advance. Just check with the librarian so you can be sure of its availability.

For more information on the park pass- including a list of parks who will not accept the pass- please check out the park pass section on the State of Maine Website.

Readfield Community Library Cont.

Thank you to the Harris family for making this wonderful new feature possible!



Library Hours

Monday: 6-8
Wednesday: 2-8
Thursday: 10-12
Saturday: 10-4
The Librarian can be reached at librarian@readfield.lib.me.us or call her at 685-4089 for more information.

BEACH ATTENDANT POSITION AVAILABLE

The Readfield Recreation Board is looking for part time beach attendants.
Responsibilities include, picking up litter, mowing the grounds, collecting money for day pass, along with checking season permits.
Applicants should be at least 17 years of age.
The beach is open 7 days a week from 10:00am to 8:00pm. Attendants will work flexible five hour schedule.

You may obtain an application from our web site or stop by the Town Office during their regular business hours.

Golden Guys and Gals

The Golden Guys and Gals decided to briefly escape mother natures healthy dose of winter by treating themselves to lunch at Readfield's Weathervane Restaurant.

Twenty hardy souls turned out to enjoy a choice of several entrée's including haddock, chicken and pork followed by a choice of tasty desserts.

Winter appeared to fade, no matter how briefly, in the minds of all who lingered well into the afternoon. It was an enjoyable event and all reminded themselves that a repeat event should not be too far into the future.

READFIELD HERITAGE DAYS 2017 APRIL UPDATE

A small but dedicated group of volunteers from town have been meeting since February to plan Heritage Days for August, 2017. Please mark your calendars for Friday & Saturday August 11, 12. Heritage Days are now held every other year and funded in a two year cycle voted on at Election Day in June.

The meetings have been publicized at the town office and on the town's website and we would love to have more volunteer help designing the two days. Can't commit to biweekly meetings but have some ideas or suggestions? Contact Val Pomerleau at 458-2124 or vpomerleau@readfieldmaine.org and let her know what you have in mind!

For several years Karen Dube organized Heritage Days and kept the ball rolling, sometimes working all alone. We are trying to expand the choices somewhat but also keep some of the activities she made so popular. Some volunteers and groups have stepped up and agreed to organize particular events. We are trying to develop events that are centered around town and are easily accessible by sidewalk and our popular trail system. A couple of events that seem to have some traction being included involve fry pan tossing, spouse/partner carrying races, and a variety of food options during the day and night. Start lift training now for that partner carry!

Planning, attending and supporting Heritage Days is a fabulous community builder. Become a part of it. See your friends and neighbors out enjoying what Readfield has to offer. Now, let's all hope for great weather!

MARANACOOK AREA SCHOOLS

A Caring School Community Dedicated to Excellence

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

Nancy Harriman, Ph.D.
Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

Tel. 207-685-3336

Ryan Meserve
Special Education Director

Brigette Williams
Finance Manager

Fax. 207-685-4703

Budget Update #5 – RSU #38 Budget Workshop, March 15, 2017

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

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

The fourth annual joint meeting of the RSU #38 School Board and the Select Boards of the four towns took place at 6:30 pm on March 15, 2017. These meetings are held to share information about the development of the RSU #38 Budget.

The meeting started with a review of some of the successes that our students have had in the past year as a result of the many opportunities that the citizens of RSU #38 have provided in budgets of the past years.

In addition several new documents were presented in our continued effort to make the budget process transparent to the members of the RSU #38 community. These documents represent work on the two aspects of the budget, expenditures and revenues.

The updated **Budget/Subsidy History** includes expected subsidy based on the preliminary ED279 that we received from the state last month. This chart shows the history of state subsidy since FY01. Of particular concern to us is the removal of systems administrative costs from the subsidy formula. Responsibility for this cost is now on local taxpayers. In all, RSU #38's preliminary state subsidy for FY18 represents an actual decrease of $228,268.21. The projected FY18 state subsidy represents the lowest amount of state subsidy received to date.

Expenditures

The **2017-2018 Budget Progression Chart** shows the work on the RSU #38 FY18 Budget to date. RSU #38 administrators began the budget development process by examining their needs in order to provide the optimal conditions for student success. As we examined this budget, identified as the Original Request Budget 1, we realized that an expenditure budget that represented an expenditure increase of 1.4 million over FY17, an 8.55% expenditure increase, was not fiscally responsible nor sensitive to the needs of the RSU #38 citizens. First round revisions were made to the Original Request Budget 1 based on revisions in the projected cost of maintenance projects. These revisions are reflected in **Original Request Budget 2.**

In an effort to reduce the budget, administrators met and developed a list of proposed items to eliminate. During this time period we received our experience rating for health benefits that indicated we might lower our expected rate of increase from 10% to 9%. We also were notified that our Maine PERS rate of increase was lowered from 18% to 17%. First round revisions were also made to the Original Request Budget 2 based on a decision the RSU #38 School Board made regarding pursuing the bond process for major maintenance projects. Included in Version 1 is additional money for legal fees and architect fees, both of which will be needed as first steps of the bonding process. Based on the revisions and the new information, **Version 1 Draft** of the FY18

budget was presented to RSU #38 Board members and Select Boards on March 15. Increases and decreases to the budget draft, as well as proposed cuts are listed on the **Summary of Budget Changes** chart. Maintenance projects included in the Version 1 Draft are listed on the **RSU #38 Maintenance Project 2017-2018 document**.

Also included in the Version 1 Draft are several proposed staff increases and the cost of those additions. These increases are listed on the **Summary of Staff Increases** Chart.

The **Debt Retirement** chart lists local bonds and lease agreements that the district is paying and the dates that those obligations will be paid. The payment of debt is reflected in the expenditure budget.

Revenues

The Revenues Areas: Version 1 Draft/Preliminary ED279 was developed based on the subsidy report provided to our district by the state. (Systems administration funds are not included in this subsidy projection.) This chart outlines the revenues received by RSU #38, the required local dollar amount set by the state based on a 8.29 mill rate (except for Wayne whose enrollment is below state requirements), and the additional local dollars needed to fund the expenditure budget, by town. **A Required Mill Rate History in EPS** was also presented at the March 15 meeting.

The **Local Dollar Calculation** chart breaks down the required local contribution (8.29) and the required additional local dollars by town. This chart also describes the local dollars contributed for each student based on the preliminary subsidy report.

Version 1 Draft/Preliminary ED279 w/System Admin Added Back In offers the valuation scenario if systems administration were to be added back in to state subsidy. The elimination of the cost for systems administration has a tremendous impact on the anticipated revenues for RSU #38 and on the citizens of RSU #38.

District administrators will continue to work on the budget and hopefully we will soon receive our health insurance figures. In addition, we are hearing from the legislature that they believe there will be more money allotted for districts in the budget. However, we are under a time constraint, with our Board budget vote on April 12, and our District Annual Meeting on May 17. I urge you to contact your legislators to ask them to take swift action on school subsidy decisions. Contact information for Senators and Representatives from the RSU #38 communities, RSU 38 Legislative Delegation is posted on our website.

Please make every effort to attend the remaining budget workshops. The RSU #38 Board will be discussing budget priorities and making difficult decisions about what to eliminate in order to support our students while offering a fiscally responsible budget. The budget will be reviewed, as in past years, through the following lenses:

1. What is best for our students?
2. What will move us toward the goals of the RSU #38 Strategic Plan?
3. What is fiscally responsible?

There will be an opportunity for citizens to speak at each meeting. We look forward to your input.

Sincerely,

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

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Budget Update #6 – RSU #38 Budget Workshop, March 22, 2017

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

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

The RSU #38 School Board held a budget deliberation meeting on March 22, 2017. The meeting began with updates on work completed after the March 15, 2017 meeting. The following question had been asked during the week by an RSU #38 School Board member:

> "How much would our budget increase if we added nothing new but just fulfilled existing obligations?"

Using the prepared roll-over budget which included a 10% increase in health benefits and an 18% increase in Maine PERS (retirement) the budget to budget increase with no additions would be 3.01%.

The following documents were distributed and discussed:

The **Priorities for FY18 Budget** document lists the reductions to date based on the work of the RSU #38 administrators. This document lists the priorities to keep, as identified by administrators, and suggested items that the Board might consider eliminating if necessary. A discussion about the necessity of several of these items followed.

Version 2 General Fund School Summary: This document shows the budget to date based on the most recent cuts as listed in the above document. This proposed FY18 budget is $17,382,414.28 and represents a 5.42% increase over FY17.

Revenue Area Version 2 Draft/Preliminary ED279 shows the FY18 anticipated revenues, including state subsidy, other revenues, balance forward, and property tax based on the Version 2 expenditure budget.

Local Dollar Calculation, Version 2 Draft shows the impact of the proposed FY18 budget on the RSU #38 towns with the percentage of local dollar increase for education for each town.

The 2016-2017 Budget Progression shows the work on the FY18 budget to date and the increase of each version over the corresponding FY17 version.

2015 Memo from MSSA: The final document presented at this meeting describes the three types of warrant articles that can be added to the district budget meeting warrant should the local district budget meeting be held before the adoption of the State Budget, and should the district receive more state subsidy than expected at the time of the district budget meeting.

The first article allows the district to name an amount that would be kept by the school district with the remainder returned to the towns to reduce local assessments. The second article would be appropriate if the RSU #38 School Board wants to return the entire amount of additional state subsidy to the towns to reduce local assessments, and the third article allows the district to expend the entire amount of the additional state subsidy without returning any amount to the towns to reduce local assessments. The RSU #38 School Board will continue discussions on these three options and will vote on the option they wish to use should the state budget not be adopted at the time of the RSU budget adoption.

The RSU #38 School Board directed administrators to further discuss budget priorities. The Board will meet on March 29 at 6:30 pm at Maranacook Community High School for further budget deliberations. All citizens are invited and encouraged to attend the budget meetings. There will be an opportunity for citizens to speak to the Board at each meeting.

Sincerely,

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

We are excited to announce that we are hosting an event called, "Town Welcoming Social" on Saturday, April 29 from 12:00-2:00pm. This will be a great opportunity for local residents and groups to get to know their neighbors, to learn about their town groups/organizations/businesses/restaurants, to build up community and stronger relationships. This event will especially offer lots of resources to the relatively new residents who would like to learn more about their community of Readfield, Mt. Vernon & Fayette. Mark your calendars so you won't miss this exciting event! Visit our website at www.readfieldchurch.org Free lunch will be provided!

RSU #38

Manchester ~ Mount Vernon ~ Readfield ~ Wayne

FOR THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR

PRE-K SCREENING

Who:

- Any child age 4 on or before October 15, 2017
- Living in Manchester, Mount Vernon, Readfield, or Wayne

WHY:

- Gain knowledge of your child's growth and development
- Receive information about RSU #38 Pre-K programs for Fall 2017
- Register to attend Pre-K in the RSU #38 district, if you choose to

WHERE:

- Screening will be held at the Readfield Town Hall, 8 Old Kents Hill Rd.

WHEN:

- **Thursday, May 11 and Friday, May 12**
- Call 685-3336 ext. 6 to schedule an appointment or for more information

Screening provided by RSU #38 Staff

PRE-K OPEN HOUSES

WHY:

- Visit your school and classroom before the screening day
- Meet your teachers and classmates
- Ask questions about Pre-K and the screening process

WHERE:

- Manchester Elementary – Pre-K Classroom, 10:00–11:00 a.m.
- Mt. Vernon Elementary – Pre-K Classroom, 8:00–9:00 a.m.
- Readfield Elementary – Pre-K Classroom, 8:00-9:00 a.m. (Wayne children welcome)

WHEN: **Friday, May 5, 2017, (see individual times above)**

FMI: call your school:

Manchester 622-2949 ~ Mt. Vernon 293-2261 ~ Readfield & Wayne 685-4406

RSU 38 Maranacook Adult Ed News

Lots of new classes starting soon!!

HiSET/High School Diploma Classes – Ongoing Year-round

Class Name	Start Date
Firearms Hunter Safety Class - Session 2	4/4/2017
Alcohol Ink Painting on Yupo	4/6/2017
Yoga & Ayurveda Workshop for Spring	4/12/2017
Acrylic Painting	4/13/2017
Psychic Development	4/13/2017
ATV Safety Class	4/23/2017
Acoustic Guitar	4/24/2017
Was the Underground Railroad REALLY in Readfield?	4/25/2017
Advanced Dog Obedience	4/25/2017
Aromatic Yoga Nidra	5/4/2017
Dream Journeys	5/4/2017

To register, or for more details and to view all classes, go to:
http://maranacook.maineadulted.org

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

As you saw on the front page!

Public Budget Meeting
Wednesday, April 12th, 2017
Gile Hall at 6:30pm.

WILL I SEEM SILLY IF I ASK QUESTIONS? No. Most articles in the warrant are less than brief and are written to comply with legal requirements. Which is to say, many articles are not self-explanatory. When legally possible we will include a reader-friendly "explanation" along with the article. But even if you don't see one and you want or need more information before you vote, you have a duty to ask for it. Voting for something you do not understand is worse than not voting at all. Most likely your neighbor has the same questions you do. Once you break the ice with your question, others will feel more comfortable asking their questions.

Some tips for asking questions: Keep your questions short and to the point. Ask one question at a time. Direct your questions to the person running the meeting. Don't interrupt the person who is trying to answer your question. Don't get personal.

THANK YOU AND WE WELCOME EVERYONE TO ATTEND!!

e Join us for a Free Benefit Supper for Pets for Vets
Readfield United Methodist Church
Route 17- 1564 Main St.
Readfield, Me.
April 8th, 4:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
207-685-4211 or email office@readfieldumc.org

We will be having a special speaker Tom Targett from the "Pets for Vets" program and will be doing a goodwill offering with all proceeds to go to this program. Tom will be speaking at 5:30 p.m. about this wonderful nonprofit organization. This organization seeks to heal the emotional wounds of military veterans by pairing them with shelter dogs specially selected to match the vet's personality.

Easter Sunday
@
Readfield United Methodist Church
Route 17
Readfield, Me 04355

Invites you to Worship with us every Sunday 10:00 a.m. Nursery provided.
Sunday School classes for Kindergarden-5th grade
Everyone is Welcome to join us.
Come as you are.
The church is handicap accessible
www.readfieldchurch.org
Easter Services on April 16th
6:a.m. @ Jesse Lee Meeting House Easter Sunrise Service
Come join us @ 9:00 a.m.-9:45 a.m. Pancake Breakfast
10:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Worship @ Torsey Memorial Church.

April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Mar-26	27	28 6:30 Trails Mtg	29 6:30-RSU Mtg	30 6-Heritage Days Meeting	31	1
2	3 **6:30-Select Brd.** **Budget review**	4	5 9-Age Friendly 6:30-RSU Mtg. 6:45-Library Brd 7-Blizzard Bust.	6	7	8
9	10	11 5:30-Consv. Com. @Torsey Pond Pres.	12 6-Plan. Brd. **6:30-Joint SB & Budget Com.** 6:30 RSU Mtg.	13 5-Road Com.	14	15
16	1 Town CLOSED!	18 **6:30-SB & Budget Com.**	19 2-Cemetery Com	20	21	22
23	24 **6:30-Select Brd Mtg. & Public Hearing on Ref. Questions.**	25 6:30-Trails Com.	26 6-Planning Brd.	27	28 Nominations Papers due back by 3:30pm.	29
30	1-May 6:30-Select Brd.	2	3 9-Age Friendly 6:30-RSU Mtg. 6:45-Library Brd 7-Blizzard Bust.	4	5	6

Select Board Contact Information

Bourgoine, Bruce: (207) 624-1977 bbourgoine@readfieldmaine.org
Dunham, Thomas: Phone: (207) 685-4524 selectboard.td@ne.twcbc.com
Parent, John: Phone: (207) 242-7420 jparent@readfieldmaine.org
Sammons, Christine: Phone: (412) 779-4368 csamons@readfieldmaine.org
Woodsum, Kathryn Mills: Phone: (207) 685-9094 kwoodsum@readfieldmaine.org