

Town of Mount Vernon Community Newsletter



www.mtvernonme.org

March 2023 Edition

TOWN OFFICE STAFF

Town Office

Phone: 207-293-2379
Fax: 207-293-3507
clerk@mtvernonme.org
Mon 8am-6pm
Tue, Wed, & Thu 7am-3pm
Fri, Sat & Sun - Closed

Town Clerk & Tax Collector

Heather Wheeler @ 207-293-2379
clerk@mtvernonme.org

Deputy Clerk

Rachel Meader @ 207-293-2379
deputyclerk@mtvernonme.org

Treasurer

Kerry Casey @ 207-293-1103
treasurer@mtvernonme.org
Mon, Wed 10-12

Select Board

selectboard@mtvernonme.org

Anna Libby @ 207-951-2385
anna@mtvernonme.org

Robert Grenier @ 207-293-2783
bob@mtvernonme.org

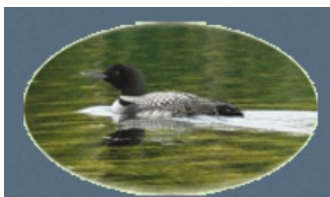
Carl Rogers @ 207-200-8058
carl@mtvernonme.org

Select Board Admin. Assistant

Tina Cagle @ 207-293-1105
tina@mtvernonme.org

**Select Board Meetings are held
every other Monday at the Town
Hall Office @ 1997 North Road**

Warrant @ 6:30 pm
Regular Town Business @ 7:00pm



TOWN DEPARTMENT STAFF

Animal Control Officer

Eric Johnson 207-931-7684
dogs, cats and other domesticated animals only.

Cemetery Sexton

Bob Grenier @ 207-293-2783
bob@mtvernonme.org

Code Enforcement Officer and Plumbing Inspector

Bill Butler Work: @ 207-293-2636
Cell: 207-446-6541
CEO@mtvernonme.org
Tuesdays 8am-4pm

Fire Chief

Jason Beckler @ 207-293-2114
(non-emergencies)

General Assistance

Anna Libby @ 207-951-2385
anna@mtvernonme.org

Health Officer

Rachel Criswell, MD

Rescue Director

Pat Rawson @ 207-293-2597
(non-emergencies)

Road Commissioner

Lee Dunn @ 207-242-5828

Tax Assessor

Roger Peppard @ 207-293-1105
3rd Thursday of each month
Call Town Office for Appointment
assessor@mtvernonme.org

Transfer Station

Megan Goucher @ 207-213-3523
Sat & Sun 8:30 am - Noon

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library

207-293-2565
Website: drshawlibrary.org
Email: librarian@drshawlibrary.org

Mon 3pm-6pm,
Wed 9am-12pm & 3pm-7pm
Sat 10am-3pm

*Masks appreciated.
Curbside always available.
Call or email us in advance.*

Mt. Vernon Post Office Hours Retail Window

Mon-Fri 7am-10am, 11am-2pm
Sat 9am-11am

Newsletter

**All articles to be submitted by
25th of each month to:**

newsletter@mtvernonme.org

Paid Business Advertisements

- ◇ Business Card Size \$15/month
- ◇ 1/4 page \$25/month
- ◇ 1/2 page \$45/month
- ◇ Full page \$90/month

Select Board Meetings are now live streamed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3UCAtx3K5rgMCNAcBCqnLQ/live>

Important Announcements :

Nomination Papers! Available March 16!

Select Board—3yr
School Board—3yr
Elementary Advisory Board—3yr

GET INVOLVED!

From the Select Board



There are a couple of bills before the legislature that will affect our citizens. One will change the property tax stability that is in effect now. Currently anyone who is 65 or older and has 10 years of homestead exemption can apply to have their taxes bill frozen at the current rate. The homestead exemption is about \$23,000 in savings on your evaluation. The new bill would remove the freeze on taxes and raise the homestead exemption to \$40,000 to 50,000, depending on your income. Let's wait and see what happens.

Metal gates in front of the metal and bulky waste bins at the transfer station have been installed and seem to be working to keep the area safer. The chains were not enough protection from falling into the bins, and were an accident waiting to happen.

At the last town meeting we tried to raise money to look at the condition of all our roads and develop a plan and schedule to fix them. This did not pass. Recent storms have caused a great deal of damage to our already fragile roads. The Christmas storm is a good example, which cost about \$20,000 to repair them. Fortunately, we did not get another snowstorm while we were fixing the many washed out and almost impassable roads. I don't know how we would have handled that.

We had a request from a citizen that we refrain from mowing town lots and cemeteries during the month of May, so that the beneficial insects can feed on the flowers. We decided against this, and suggested that maybe the citizens of the town may wish to do a "no mow May" project. We encourage volunteers to plant flower gardens at the Town Office and memorial lot.

The transfer station does not accept LP gas tanks. Tim's RV in Chelsea will take them for free if you drop them off. Check with Megan for Tim's RV phone number and address.

We are looking at raising some fees at the transfer station on items which cost the town more to get rid of than normal trash. These include items such as demolition debris, bulky waste, and electronics. Roads have been posted, a sure sign that spring is on the way. Let's hope our roads make it through this season without too much damage.

Bob –Select Board

Did you know....?

The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry maintains a website where you can book State park campground reservations and NOW is the time to do so.

The Maine Bureau of State Parks and Lands' reservations system and call center opens for **Sebago Lake State Park and Lily Bay State Park campground reservations only on Wednesday, February 1, at 9:00 a.m.** (storm date February 2 if State Government is forced to close), and for **all other state park campgrounds on Monday, February 6, at 9:00 a.m.** (storm date February 7 if State Government is forced to close).



Although fees do vary between campgrounds and depend on location, state residency and the need for water and electric hookups, we are happy to announce there will be **no new fee increases for the 2023 season!** As always, our friendly and helpful reservation staff will be happy to assist with your questions or concerns as you plan your 2021 Maine state park camping adventure.

FMI: [Click here](#)

MARCH, 2023 UPDATE FROM THE MT VERNON BROADBAND COMMITTEE

The Broadband Committee continues its work on two main two objectives. It is monitoring infrastructure development in Maine and searching for ways to promote local digital inclusion and equity.

State of Maine Connectivity Authority (MCA) announces grant awards January 2023.

This new State Authority, in its first grant application process, received 29 grant requests and awarded 15 projects, including projects for Fayette, Vienna, and Wilton awards of \$2.6 million, \$2.4 million, and \$3.7 million respectively. The total monies awarded were over \$50 million. All approved projects involved applications that partnered towns with an Internet Service Provider (ISP) such as Consolidated Communications, Matrix, or Axiom. The awards generally covered 50%-80% of the project cost with the towns and ISPs contributing the balance of the . The committee is carefully reviewing MCA's actions to understand the matching contribution and other requirements that will affect prospective town project applications.

Consolidated Communication, Inc. (CCI) agrees to do an internet engineering study for Mt. Vernon. The Broadband Committee and the Selectboard accepted CCI's offer to conduct an engineering study this March to assess the cost of their providing a fiber optic network throughout Mt. Vernon. There would be no cost to the town for this study. Preliminary conversations with CCI are promising. They will need a grant award and a contribution from the town, but because they own or already lease the utility poles, the cost could be lower than previous proposals we have reviewed. Stay tuned for more details.

This chart from Purdue University shows how Mt. Vernon, Kennebec County and Maine lag other states in developing FCC-standard (100/20) broadband. Five years from now we will be looking at charts like this where other states and communities will be experiencing speeds of 5 to 10 gigabytes, more than 100 times faster than those shown below. The committee sees the need to continue to look for a satisfactory broadband solution for our town to consider.

Selected Measures of the Digital Divide			
Location	Avg. Download Speed	Avg. Upload Speed	Population Not Using 100/20 Mbps*
Mount Vernon**	71.2	8.8	99%
Kennebec County	136.3	14.4	95%
Maine	120	17	90%
New Hampshire	176	39	48%
Vermont	130	33	70%
Massachusetts	196	57	38%
Rhode Island	198	76	14%
Connecticut	192	41	43%
Mississippi	102	67	54%

*Data for Mount Vernon and Kennebec County are for "Population with no access to 100/20 Mbps" ** data for Census Tract 23011015500, which includes parts of Vienna, Rome and Belgrade; Source: Purdue University, "2021 Digital Divide Trends"

Promoting Digital Inclusion and Equity

Providing modern broadband infrastructure is necessary, but not sufficient. Our Digital Equity & Digital Inclusion (DEDI) initiative is aimed at assisting our residents in overcoming barriers to acquiring the practical benefits of using broadband. You can see the DEDI plan on the Town's [website](#).

The DEDI working group is developing a strategy to move the digital inclusion agenda forward. This means finding a) volunteers, b) partner groups and c) funding opportunities that support reaching out and learning from Mt. Vernon members about their online interests and goals. Grant opportunities have been identified and so far in 2023, a new proposal has been written.

At the same time, the group is searching for additional grant opportunities earmarked to achieving local DEDI objectives (see the Plan). The Working Group has been studying state and federal sources [organizing regional and tribal digital inclusion interest groups](#). In the meantime, Mount Vernon's DEDI working group has been working with (3) volunteers, the Shaw Memorial Library and [the National Digital Equity Center](#) in Wiscasset to design models of individual outreach that are both encouraging and rewarding for individual members of the town.

Universal access to affordable, reliable internet will be a key ingredient for identification of and response to emergencies.

Jason Beckler
Chief, Mount Vernon Fire Department



Lastly, the Working Group has been continuing to educate itself about the huge variety of broadband services available (i.e., telemedicine, emergency and smart home services) for town members. At the same time, we recognize the need to continue to learn from town members themselves. In the coming months we will be offering opportunities for town members to tell the Committee more about their frustrations, needs and priorities.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH MOUNT VERNON FOOD BANK

The First Baptist Church Mount Vernon Food Bank serves the communities of Mount Vernon, Vienna, Readfield and Fayette. We are located at the First Baptist Church, 321 Pond Road, Mount Vernon. You can reach us on Saturday mornings at 293-2141. Our hours are from 9:30 to 11:30 Saturday mornings.

If your SNAP benefits are being reduced starting March 1 and you need help meeting your food needs, please feel free to come see us at the food bank.

We now have a Facebook page (Mount Vernon Food Bank), please check us out on Facebook.



In case of inclement weather, please call us at 293-2141 before heading out to see if we are open or check our Facebook page.

We offer full pantry items, eggs, meats, meal kits and toiletry items on the first and third Saturday of the month; however, customers may come in every Saturday for fresh fruits, vegetables, bread, pastry items and deli items.

If you are a new customer, you may come in any Saturday and we will provide you with enough food to get by until your next scheduled visit.

We also have a small supply of clothing and miscellaneous items.



**Mount Vernon Community Partnership Corporation,
Inc. (CPC)**

DO YOU LIVE IN MOUNT VERNON AND NEED FUEL ASSISTANCE?

The Community Partnership has a fund that **may** be able to help. Do the following first:

- Contact Anna Libby, General Assistance Manager for the Mount Vernon Select Board, at 293-2532. Make an appointment to meet with her and apply for town assistance. She'll determine if the town can help or she'll contact the CPC and request our help.
- If you qualify to get food at the Food Bank, when you go there to get your weekly food, let them know you need fuel assistance. They will contact the CPC.

Dr. Shaw Memorial Library

March 2023

293-2565

librarian@drshawlibrary.org

<https://drshawlibrary.org>

"Books are the plane, the train, and the road. They are the destination and the journey. They are home."
Anna Quindlen

We have our children's books about maple sap season displayed on the table in the children's room, if your young readers are interested!

Many thanks to Rhonda Marquis, fabulous Mt. Vernon gardener, for planning the **Winter Seed Sowing** program on **March 5, 1:00PM** (pre-registration required, call the library 293-2565), at the **Mt. Vernon Community Center**, for us all. Starting seeds in milk jugs or other clear containers which can act as mini greenhouses in winter is an easy, inexpensive way to start seedlings. Rhonda has so much knowledge and experience about all phases of gardening, and we are grateful that she shares her skills with us! In case of bad weather, please check our library Facebook page.



Knitting, crocheting, & crafting group: The group is starting up after a couple of years' hiatus, and will be meeting at the **library on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, beginning March 1, from 1:00 – 3:00PM**. Bring a knitting or crocheting project to work on, or come get help or learn about the craft. Knitting needles, crochet hooks, & yarn are available if you are just starting out! You can also bring any craft or sewing project you are working on, or just come to work on a puzzle or word search. In case of bad weather, please check our library Facebook page, or call Amy at 685-0012.

Kids Create! We are putting together an afternoon **March 8th (and then March 22nd)**. We are still working **4:00 – 5:15PM on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday after-early spring, for a total of 6 gatherings**. We will have choices. Each session will offer an optional challenge. an adult. Watch our Facebook page, we'll post any offer this chance for our young patrons to create to-



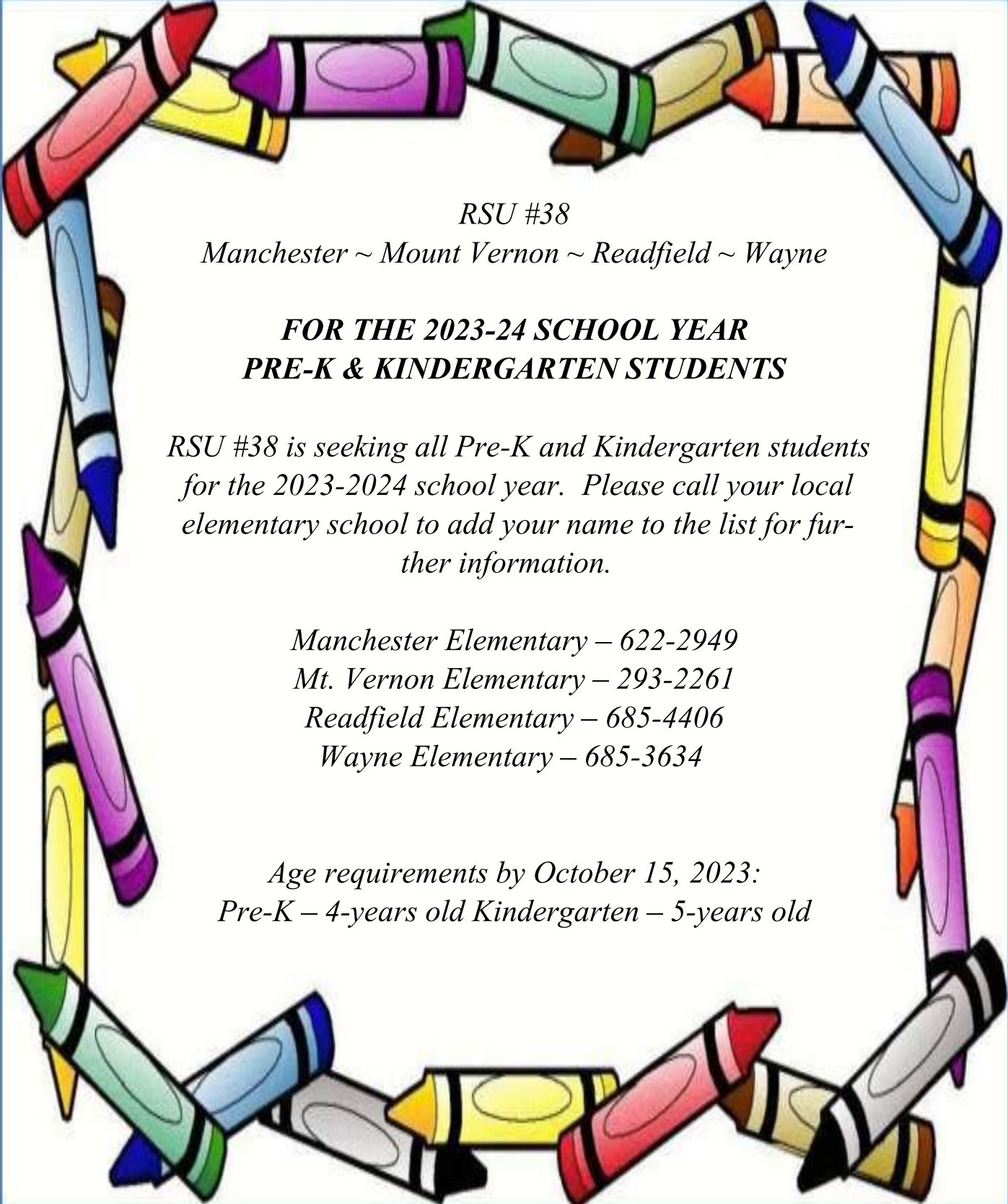
gathering time for kids, with Bobbi Jo, **starting on Wednesday**, ing our way through some ideas, but we figure it will be **from noons of each month throughout the rest of the winter and** Legos, Playdoh, various craft and art supplies, games, and other Children under the age of 10 will need to be accompanied by changes or additions to this new activity. We are so happy to gether!

Coming in April: **Improv theater presentation** on aging issues in Maine communities, at the **Mt. Vernon Community Center on April 15th at 4:00PM**. The Marti Stevens Interactive Improvisational Theater group, supported by an AARP Community Challenge grant through Spectrum Generations, will be performing scenarios about the challenges many Maine citizens age 50 and older encounter as they live and age in their communities. The group came to us last year, and the interactions between the stage characters and the audience were helpful and thought-provoking. Each scenario is followed by an opportunity for the audience to ask questions of the characters (while they are 'in character') and suggest solutions to the challenges presented. This can be useful training for caretakers and family members & friends of elders, and is open to all. We hope to see you there!

The Mt. Vernon CPC (Community Partnership Corp.) is asking area citizens to fill out a brief survey about senior housing possibilities. You can drop off your survey at the library if you have already filled it out, or you can grab a blank survey from us, and complete it here at the library and leave it with us. The members of the CPC group are hoping to get your feedback about this possible new resource for our citizens.

Remember, if you would like to receive a brief weekly email about area events or happenings, please email the library (librarian@drshawlibrary.org), and use the word "events" in your subject line. We just need your name and email address to sign you up. If you have a community event that you would like to promote, please email us and we'll get it into the weekly email for folks to see.

I just finished reading Lynda Cohen Loigman's novel, The Matchmaker's Gift, a nice story. I'll donate it to the library collection this spring sometime. What are you reading as you clear yet more ice and snow, tap your trees, and dream about your garden?



RSU #38

Manchester ~ Mount Vernon ~ Readfield ~ Wayne

***FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR
PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS***

*RSU #38 is seeking all Pre-K and Kindergarten students
for the 2023-2024 school year. Please call your local
elementary school to add your name to the list for fur-
ther information.*

Manchester Elementary – 622-2949

Mt. Vernon Elementary – 293-2261

Readfield Elementary – 685-4406

Wayne Elementary – 685-3634

Age requirements by October 15, 2023:

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



This is a Fire Hydrant...




This is a Vehicle...



This is Our Beach where the above
Fire Hydrant rests...

Any vehicle found parked in front of
this Fire Hydrant will be
**TOWED AT THE
OWNERS EXPENSE**

March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Community Center Café Knitting, Crochet & Crafts—Library 1—3 pm	2	3 POLLINATORS! Town Office Parking Lot @10 am	4 MT Vernon Food Bank—9:30—11:30 am
5 Winter Seed Sowing @ Community Cen- ter—1 pm	6	7	8 Kids Create @ Library 4 –5:15 pm	9	10	11 MT Vernon Food Bank—9:30—11:30 am
12	13 Selectboard @ 6:30 @ town office	14	15 Planning Board @ 7 @ Dr Shaw Memorial Library Knitting, Crochet & Crafts—Library 1—3 pm	16 Nomination Papers! Select Board –3yr School Board—3yr Elementary Advisory Board—3yr GET INVOLVED!	17 	18 MT Vernon Food Bank—9:30—11:30 am
19	20	21	22 Kids Create @ Library 4 –5:15 pm	23	24	25 MT Vernon Food Bank—9:30—11:30 am
26	27 Selectboard @ 6:30 @ town office	28	29	30	31	

Selectboard Meeting Minutes – January 30, 2023

Members Present: Selectman Grenier, Selectman Rogers, Selectman Libby
Members Absent: None
Note Taker: Tina L Cagle
Attendees: Treasurer—Kerry Casey, Doug Stevens, Barry Skilling, Alice Counts,
Wendy Stevens, Kathie & William Smith, Barbara Skapa

MINUTES FROM 01/16/2023

Motion by Selectman Grenier to approve the minutes of 01/16/2023.

Second by Selectman Rogers. Motion Passes: 2-0 (Selectman Libby abstains due to not being at the last meeting).

KVCOG

- ◆ LD 2003 which is the Affordable Housing Mandate. This mandate does not come with any funds for the Town.
- ◆ To have KVCOG review the Land Use Ordinance, the Town must become a member of which the unbudgeted cost is \$1635.
- ◆ What is the time frame to have this reviewed and approved to be voted on at Town Meeting?
- ◆ Selectman Grenier will look into what the timeline will need to be.

TRANSFER STATION UPDATE

- ◆ After a safety review from Maine Municipal Association, the transfer station has installed “cattle gates” across the metal pile to help prevent residents from falling into the bin.
- ◆ The gates do open for larger, heavier items.

AUTO GRAVEYARDS

- ◆ The select board has sent out letters to all automobile graveyards regarding the property line waiver.

TOWN GENERATORS (TOWN OFFICE AND COMMUNITY CENTER)

- ◆ Three (3) bids came back for the backup generators for the town office and the community center.
- ◆ Attendees would like the bid info from all three (3) bidders.
- ◆ There would be an extra charge to upgrade the town office electric in the amount \$2800.

Motion by Selectman Grenier to approve the bid from Mid Maine Generator in the amount of \$15,471 for the town office and \$13,015 for the community center.

Second by Selectman Libby. Motion passes: 3-0.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

- ◆ Selectman Grenier received a phone call from the Town Manager in Readfield regarding the phone that the Animal Control Officer uses for both Readfield and Mount Vernon.
- ◆ The yearly cost to the Town of Mount Vernon would be \$184.91, as the Town of Readfield is currently paying the entire cell phone bill.
- ◆ The Animal Control Officer would like to have printed a two-part form in order to give violation tickets to the residents, when necessary. This cost is \$32.

Motion by Selectman Libby to approve the cost of the cell phone in the amount of \$184.91 and for forms in the amount of \$32.

Second by Selectman Grenier. Motion passes: 3-0.

MAINE MUNICIPAL SAFETY

- ◆ The town will look into pouring a concrete slab in the basement of the community center, therefore, the select board is waiting for that to occur before scheduling the safety inspection of the stairs.

OTHER BUSINESS

- ◆ Blake Hill Bridge has been put on the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) schedule for the 2024-2025 season.
- ◆ The cost has been estimated to be approximately \$2.5 million dollars to replace the Blake Hill Bridge. The Town does not know what their portion will be at this time.
- ◆ ARPA funds can only be used for infrastructure...Roads, Bridges, and Broadband.
- ◆ The costs for the broadband is \$73,992 to date.
- ◆ Somerset County PSAP will be dropping all Kennebec County Cities and Towns from their service on July 1, 2023 due to lack of employees.
- ◆ The State of Maine is looking into solutions.

Selectboard Meeting Minutes – January 30, 2023 ...continued.

OTHER BUSINESS continued...

- ◆ Aaron Beris would like to be a member of the budget committee.

Motion by Selectman Grenier to approve the appointment of Aaron Beris to the budget committee.

Second by Selectman Libby. Motion passes: 3-0

- ◆ No Mow May...Barbara Skapa would like the Town to not mow the cemeteries and any other Town owned properties in the month of May to help the pollinators.
- ◆ Cemeteries must be mowed before Labor Day.
- ◆ Some residents state that the properties will look unkempt and will not attract other persons to Mount Vernon.
- ◆ Volunteers would like to erect pollinator gardens on town owned property.
- ◆ Could the volunteers use the granite blocks that are located at the Town Office?
- ◆ Electronic Sign...Take it down or fix it. The Town will give it one more try to get it working before revisiting the issue again.
- ◆ There will be upcoming Safety Training for the Town Office, Transfer Station and Library staff.
- ◆ Broadband update from Selectman Rogers.
- ◆ The Select Board has been contacted by a new vendor for broadband.
- ◆ This proposal would bring broadband to every household in Mount Vernon.
- ◆ The informational meetings are still in the very early stages.
- ◆ The Select Board are aware that a broadband proposal was voted down last year, but this is a different company with a different approach.
- ◆ There are still a few years before the unused ARBA monies have to be returned.
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Motion by Selectman Grenier to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm.

Second by Selectman Rogers. Motion passes: 3-0

Neighbors Driving Neighbors



**CONTACT: Joe Austin, Executive Director,
NDN**

TEL: 207-860-0677

E-MAIL: jaustin.ndn@gmail.com

Neighbors Driving Neighbors Expanding to Readfield

MT. VERNON, ME (January 19, 2023) – Neighbors Driving Neighbors will soon provide free transportation to residents of Readfield who don't drive. In announcing this expansion of NDN's service area, Harald Bredesen, NDN's President, said, "Readfield and we have had each other in our sights for over a year and are thrilled that this collaboration is now being realized." Readfield Town Manager Eric Dyer echoed Bredesen, noting, "We've been admiring the value NDN delivers to its service-area communities and look forward to a successful launch over the next several months. This is an important piece of the puzzle for communities like ours with close proximity to service centers but limited transportation options."

A working group made up of representatives of NDN and Readfield is now recruiting an initial group of drivers and riders with a plan to initiate service provision in the Spring. "We'll be scheduling training sessions for prospective drivers and conducting intake interviews of residents who are looking for rides," said Joe Austin, NDN's Executive Director.

Bredesen added that NDN volunteer drivers have now driven more than 100,000 miles to help over 180 different riders get to where they need to go. "The heart of NDN is the volunteer driver. It is that community spirit that makes NDN possible and that makes Readfield a natural next step. What better way to mark the 100,000th mile than to invite the neighbors."

About Neighbors Driving Neighbors: NDN is a non-profit organization founded in 2015 to enrich participating communities by matching volunteer drivers with those who do not drive. NDN's current service area comprises Belgrade, Fayette, Mt. Vernon, Readfield, Rome, and Vienna, and 40 volunteer drivers provide rides to 58 registered riders. For more information including FAQs, visit neighborsdrivingneighbors.org.



**KEEP A MOUNT
VERNON
FAMILY WARM
THIS WINTER**

**DONATE TO THE
MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIP'S
FUEL ASSISTANCE FUND**

**TAX
DEDUCTIBLE**

**AND A
REALLY NICE
THING TO DO**

You may send your checks to the Community Partnership (made out to MVCPC) and mail them to Sandy Wright, 1664 North Road.

We work with the Board of Selectmen's General Assistance Manager and the Food Bank* to help people who need fuel or firewood.

(*People needing fuel assistance must apply to the above before assistance can be given. For more information, contact Sandy at 293-2582 or scwright@fairpoint.net.)

DOG OWNERS

The **Animal Control Officer** will be receiving a list of people who have not registered their dogs. If you haven't registered your dogs yet, please do so as soon as you can!

FREE INCOME TAX SERVICES

The AARP Tax-Aide program provides free Federal and State tax return services. Tax-Aide volunteers are trained, tested and certified by the IRS to prepare returns for low- and moderate-income taxpayers, with particular focus on those over 50, but all are welcome!

Low-income taxpayers should note that the only way they can receive the Maine Property Tax Fairness Credit and the Sales Tax Fairness Credit is to file a Maine Income Tax return. Even if you pay no income tax you may be eligible for these credits. These may be worth several hundred dollars, depending on your circumstances.

At this point, Covid-19 masking is optional. Tax counselors will mask, if requested by the taxpayer.

The free tax services are provided by appointment only by calling January 3rd or later and are available at the following sites:

The Dr. Shaw Memorial Library in Mount Vernon (call 293-2565 when the library is open on Saturdays, Mondays and Wednesdays). Tax dates are Saturdays, February 25, March 11 and March 25, with April 8 as an additional day if needed. This site is intended primarily for Mount Vernon and Vienna residents, but is open to all.

The Cohen Community Center in Hallowell (call 626-7777 Monday through Friday, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm). Tax dates are Tuesdays and Thursdays, January 31 through April 13.

ELECTIONS!

June 13th
12 pm—8 pm for in-person voting
No State Election

MOUNT VERNON, MAINE IS MY HOMETOWN

Linda Horne Schultz

BROKER

207-215-9805 | SCHULTZREALTOR@AOL.COM



"Helping my neighbors buy and sell Real Estate in this town is not just my job, it is my passion. I know what it means to live here and love to help others in my community."

I AM PROUD TO CONDUCT MY REAL ESTATE BUSINESS WITH LAKEPOINT REAL ESTATE

#1 LISTING AND SELLING AGENCY IN THE BELGRADE LAKES REGION FOR 17 YEARS IN A ROW

#1 INDEPENDENT AGENCY FOR LAKEFRONT IN THE STATE



Lakepoint
REAL ESTATE

221 MAIN STREET BELGRADE LAKES, MAINE 04918
207-495-3700 WWW.BELGRADELAKEPOINT.COM



We are your premier vacation rental company in the Belgrade Lakes Region proudly serving our community for over 36 years. We have over 40 beautiful cottage rentals for the 2023 season to choose from. Visit our web-site to see our selection of rentals and to check availability.

WEB-SITE: WWW.BELGRADERENTAL.COM

TELEPHONE: (207) 495-2104 | EMAIL: BELGRADELAKESRENTME@GMAIL.COM

Where summer memories are made !

The Town of Mount Vernon Aging in Place Committee, coordinating with Vienna and Fayette, intends to contract with a consultant on a part time basis to act as Outreach/Project coordinator for our Caring Ears and Tri-town Health program.

Besides liaising with our Social Worker, the health officers of the three towns and the Aging in Place Committee the duties will include:

- ◆ Help to develop a supportive network with various departments and volunteer organizations in the 3 towns in an effort to support a regional health outreach program focused on the medical, behavioral and social health needs of the older residents in our towns
- ◆ Develop partnerships and resources to identify older residents and their care partners in need of assistance and support
- ◆ Recruit volunteers who can be trained to assist in meeting the needs of older residents and their care partners
- ◆ Establish data collection needs and procedures
- ◆ Identify spaces in each community that can be used for telehealth visits and establish protocols for use of those spaces
- ◆ Meet with older residents in the 3-town community to determine what types of assistance they need to age in place, be it social opportunities, better access to health care, information/resources to maintain better health etc.
- ◆ Provide support to volunteers in meeting those identified needs
- ◆ Determine how best these efforts can continue once the grant period is complete



POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY GARDEN CERTIFICATION demonstration for citizens of Mount Vernon on MARCH 3 at 10 a.m. THINK SPRING!! OPEN TO ALL and anyone interested in encouraging the pollination of bees, bugs and butterflies on their property is welcome. Pollinators are vital to the health of our ecology. Guess what? Dandelions are vital to bees and other bugs: who knew!

Ms. Laurie Bowen of University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service's Pollinator Garden Certification Program in Bangor will guide us through the process of planning. This takes 4 "Action Steps" - Native Plants, Water sources, protecting habitat and conservation practices.

Laurie's presentation is designed to help us beautify Mt Vernon and at the same time take simple measures to reduce the loss of pollinators that birds, bees, bugs and butterflies need to survive in an environment we all know is challenged. We will be planning to turn the town's current lawn into a Certified Pollinator Friendly Garden Project.

WHERE Meet at the Town office parking lot

WHEN 10 a.m. Friday March 3



COMMUNITY DINNER



with Live Acoustic Music provided by
Dan Simons and Stan Keach

Proceeds benefit Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area

March 4th, 2023 | 5:30 - 7:30 P.M.
Mt. Vernon Community Center

Suggested Donation:

\$10 Adults

\$5 Kids age 10 and under

Kids under 3 **free**



HOSPICE
Volunteers
OF WATERVILLE AREA

Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area
serves 27 communities in Central
Maine including Mt. Vernon, Vienna,
Belgrade, and Rome.