



TOWN OFFICE STAFF

Town Office

Phone: 207-293-2379
Fax: 207-293-3507 clerk@mtvernonme.org
Mon 8am-5pm
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
Amanda Mills @ 207-293-2114
(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
*June thru September 30th open on
Wednesdays from 3-6pm*

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

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

**Select Board Meetings are now live
streamed here:**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3UCATx3K5rgMCNacBCqnLQ/live>

IMPORTANT NOTICES

**Submissions for the
newsletter must be in my
email no later than 5 pm on
the 25th of the month!**



Greetings to all:

Summer warmth is here, along with our many summer residents. Welcome back! The increase in activity is palpable. Just ask the transfer station crew! There is hope that the rains we saw early in July are now giving way to sunnier skies.

Congratulations to Bob Grenier on being voted as the Selectboard chair for another year. Bob is everywhere all the time. Thank you, Bob.

As many of you have seen, we now have backup power for the community center in case of an emergency. The intent is to use the community center as a warming /cooling station should the need arise as well as to keep the pipes from freezing. A project was also completed to close any gaps in the foundation of the community center and implement a slope away from the foundation to keep water out. We are talked with the DOT about putting in a curb in front of the community center to divert water away from the foundation. They were onboard with the idea. We will talk with Lee about implementing this.

We hired an engineer to do an inspection of the community center, the fire department building and the transfer station salt shed to help us direct any needed work to the tasks laid out by the inspector. The community center was reported to be in good condition. It was recommended that we reinforce the bell in the bell tower, add 2 dehumidifiers in the basement, and add additional support for the floor in 2 areas. The Belgrade Rd side of the fire station has an issue with the cinder blocks moving. The recommendation was to replace the cinder block section of the wall. The salt shed has structural concerns. It was recommended we increase the frequency of the inspections to every other year and begin planning for a new structure.

Speeding is a concern on our roads both for paved and unpaved roads. Please slow down and recognize that people may be walking or crossing the roads. Lee Dunn, our road commissioner noted that whenever he gets one of our dirt roads smoothed, he starts getting complaints about people speeding down those roads – which, in turn, causes the washboard and potholes to return quicker. We are planning to work with the state to get an electronic speed sign to make people aware of their speed.

Unfortunately, due to the increases in the cost of many things, our tax commitment for the new year was increased to 19 mills to keep up with energy costs, wages and rising prices of operations.

On a positive note, two grants were received to start a pilot program to assist people with basic technical and application specific issues they are having with using their computers or phones. Please check with the library for more information about how to get assistance. Thanks to the broadband committee's digital equity team for writing the grant and determining the kinds of assistance needed.

School board vacancy – we want to thank Cathy Jacobs for her leadership role on the school board over the years. Cathy decided it was time to step back and so resigned her role. As a result, the selectboard sought candidates for the position and will select a new school board member for Cathy's remaining term at our next meeting. Thank you to the 5 candidates who put their hat in the ring. The town is fortunate to have good candidates.

Finally, congratulations are in order to, Sarah Duda who opened her new eating establishment "Scapes." It's great to have a dining place in town again! We are all looking forward to checking it out!

As always, please let us know of your concerns. Carl and the Selectboard.

Happenings in the Area!



Dr. Shaw Memorial Library Summer
Monday 2 pm
Wednesday 9 am – 1 pm, 3 pm
Saturday 9 am

Tech Help is available Wednesdays

Knitting & Crochet are the 1st & 3rd Wednesday from 1

First Baptist Church Food Bank
Saturdays 9:30 am – 11:30 am



Vienna Historical Society Annual Plays



Restful Afternoon and



Perking Up Aunt Prudy

Written by
Beverly Wight Smith

Thursday, July 20 & Friday, July 21 -- 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 22 – 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Union Hall – Vienna

Suggested Donation \$12

I considered having a photo of the sun here, just to remind ourselves of what it looks like - but this photo of Jaime (l) and Sean (r) Oshima playing at the Vienna Union Hall on July 1st brings a similar warmth and lightness. Thank you to all who could join us for this one-of-a-kind evening of originals and covers sung in beautiful harmony and backed by a band of many (looped instrumentals). The Hall, filled to the brim, was truly entertained by these talented young men from Whitefield, Maine. We're looking forward to having them back again next year.



Up and coming productions at The Vienna Union Hall

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Up and coming productions at The Vienna Union Hall

This coming week we are witness to homespun drama and comedy when the **Vienna Historical Society** takes the stage once again after a Covid hiatus. They will present two plays written by our own Beverly Smith. Shows are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights at 7 PM with a Saturday matinee at 2 PM. Tickets are available at the door and a suggested donation is \$12.00.

Musical guests **Matt Davis and Kyle Knuppel** return to the Hall on Friday, August 4th at 7 PM (\$15) for a fourth time around. Beginning in 1970, we've had the pleasure to see these talented musicians perform a diverse mix of Americana, folk, jazz and singer-songwriter influenced music.

Matt Davis is a guitarist, teacher, and composer based in the Philadelphia region. He has received numerous awards for his work from ASCAP, the American Composers Forum, Chamber Music America and the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. Matt serves as Adjunct Associate Professor and Chair of the Guitar Department at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. Having earned degrees from Temple University and the Manhattan School of Music, Matt has performed across the United States and Mexico as well as in Europe and Asia. For more information, visit www.mattdavisguitar.com.

Kyle Knuppel is a songwriter and musician with a remarkably powerful singing voice. His musical talents were evident as a teenager when he first began singing and playing guitar with friends. He continued to develop his musical abilities by studying at the Frost School of Music in Miami, and further studies in vocal performance at both Julliard in New York City and Berklee College of Music, Valencia Spain. He has recorded several albums of his own songs and has performed his original music all over the world. He is currently based in Colorado. In addition to being sought after musician and singer, Kyle is also a medical doctor specializing in family medicine.

Aging in Place
Mt Vernon Town Committee

In service of our elder community, the Aging in Place committee currently has a Resource Specialist, Amy Blaisdell, who is happy to connect seniors in the Mount Vernon, Vienna and Fayette communities with resources to support them staying in their homes. Amy can be reached at,

207.485.4778

and also

Amy.Perezblaisdell@gmail.com. In addition, Aging in Place also has an Outreach Coordinator, Kelly O'Neil, who is interested in hearing our elders wishes, concerns, ideas and all things related to healthily and happily aging in our communities. Kelly can be reached at 207.314.6571 and also at outreachaip@gmail.com. They are looking forward to hearing from you!

Readfield United Methodist Church

1564 Main St. Readfield, ME

Phone number: 207-685-4211

Email: office@readfieldchurch.net Website: readfieldchurch.org

Come worship with us every Sunday 10:00 a.m.

The church is handicap accessible

August 2023

NEAC Summer Study The UMC

This video series is created and hosted by New England Conference clergy who have come together from across the connection — Vermont to RI and spaces in-between — to share their wisdom on how The United Methodist Church came to be a denomination, where we are now, and what our hopes are for the future. Each week during July and August a new video on a specific topic will be shared. Worship communities are invited to engage with this content in whatever way works best for you.

Interested in Hosting an International Exchange Student this year? Contact

Amy Hayes

Community Outreach Advisor

Email: ahayes@afsusa.org

Tel: 1-646-381-3291 (preferred number)

Cell: 1-651-356-5181

www.afsusa.org

PUBLIC SUPPER NEWS

There were 87 adult meals for \$870 and 3 children's meals tonight for a total of \$885. This beats the first supper which was \$700. Our next public supper is August 12.

Great Food and Great fun.

Public Supper

August 12 4:30-6:00 pm

Baked Beans, pot pies, casseroles, salads & desserts

Adults \$10.00, Children 5-12 \$5.00, Under 5 free

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

Vacation Bible School finishes out the month of July with the theme Court Tales. We will be focusing on the Story of Esther for the remainder of the month. The final Sunday will end with a Salad Picnic.

Please join us for food crafts and stories. Sundays 10:00

Streams: a bi-weekly source for nourishing ministries and souls

July 12, 2023

Look at the birds in the sky. They don't sow seed or harvest grain or gather crops into barns. Yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Aren't you worth much more than they are?...Notice how the lilies in the field grow. They don't wear themselves out with work, and they don't spin cloth. But I say to you that even Solomon in all of his splendor wasn't dressed like one of these. (Matthew 6:26-29)

Beloved Siblings in Christ,

One of the things I appreciate about the summer months is the way the pace of life slows down a bit. I used to work in the restaurant business in a tourist area, so summers were our busiest season, requiring long shifts and high energy. But in the church, we tend to slow down in the summer, so that even district superintendents can find some breathing room. I'm so grateful for that, because the slower pace gives me an opportunity to notice and celebrate all the everyday blessings that I sometimes overlook or take for granted. Slowing down enables me to recognize the extraordinary in the ordinary – the evidence of God's love and care that's all around us, all the time.

For some of us, that evidence is easy to miss because we're perpetually busy, with full calendars and long "to do" lists. Every hour of the day is filled with some responsibility, or appointment, or activity. Our days are productive, but we miss a thousand wonders a day because we're too distracted to notice them. I confess that I spend an awful lot of my days hurrying from one commitment to another, focused on what I need to do next, without being aware of the extraordinary in the ordinary all around me.

For some of us it's not busyness that's the problem. It's that our lives have fallen into a rut, and everything seems entirely too mundane to be extraordinary. One day is pretty much like the last, and we become less and less attuned to everyday miracles – to the beauty and wonder that's all around us. It's there – we just don't notice it.

Jesus reminds us that all we need to do is look around to see evidence of God's love, and care, and goodness, and creativity, and beauty. Look at the birds, he says – how God takes care of them. Think about how they represent the way God provides everything you need. Or study the wildflowers growing in the field – how beautiful God has made them. They're more magnificent, intricate, and extraordinary than the finest of all King Solomon's handsome clothes or ornate jewelry. Here are living illustrations of how much God loves you and provides for you – there are examples everywhere.

Slowing down our pace and being observant enables us to find the holy in the ordinary. It's there in the wonder of the natural world – in a spectacular sunset or the cry of a loon, in the warm smell of a pine grove or the summer sun glinting on the ocean like diamonds. It's there in the smile of a stranger, in the laughter of a child, in the hug of a friend. What we think of as ordinary is overflowing with the extraordinary grace of God – but we need to be aware.

Earth's crammed with heaven and every common bush afire with God. Heaven. The divine presence. God's grace. It's everywhere, all the time. But not everybody recognizes it. It's an awareness that has to be cultivated. So, let's try to remember that no day, no time, no experience, no thing is ordinary. It only becomes ordinary when we fail to notice it, appreciate it, and celebrate God's grace in it. If we can learn to more intentionally observe and enjoy the ordinary, then everything every day becomes extraordinary.

Grace and Peace,

ware. As poet Elizabeth Barrett Browning wrote:

*Earth's crammed with heaven,
And every common bush afire with God;
And only he who sees takes off his shoes;
The rest sit round it and pluck blackberries.*