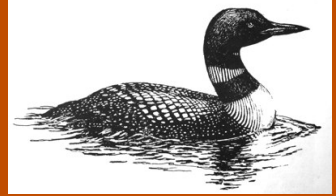


# Town of Mount Vernon Community Newsletter



[www.mtvernonme.org](http://www.mtvernonme.org)

November 2022 Edition

## TOWN OFFICE STAFF

### **Town Office**

Phone: 207-293-2379  
Fax: 207-293-3507  
[clerk@mtvernonme.org](mailto: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](mailto:clerk@mtvernonme.org)

### **Deputy Clerk**

Rachel Meader @ 207-293-2379  
[deputyclerk@mtvernonme.org](mailto:deputyclerk@mtvernonme.org)

### **Treasurer**

Kerry Casey @ 207-293-1103  
[treasurer@mtvernonme.org](mailto:treasurer@mtvernonme.org)  
Mon, Wed 10-12

### **Select Board**

[selectboard@mtvernonme.org](mailto:selectboard@mtvernonme.org)

Anna Libby @ 207-951-2385  
[anna@mtvernonme.org](mailto:anna@mtvernonme.org)

Robert Grenier @ 207-293-2783  
[bob@mtvernonme.org](mailto:bob@mtvernonme.org)

Carl Rogers @ 207-200-8058  
[carl@mtvernonme.org](mailto:carl@mtvernonme.org)

### **Select Board Admin. Assistant**

Open position

**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

**Planning Board Meetings are  
held the 3rd Tuesday of each  
month at the Dr Shaw Memorial  
Library @ 344 Pond Road**



## TOWN DEPARTMENT STAFF

### **Animal Control Officer**

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

### **Cemetery Sexton**

Bob Grenier @ 207-293-2783  
[bob@mtvernonme.org](mailto:bob@mtvernonme.org)

### **Code Enforcement Officer and Plumbing Inspector**

Bill Butler Work: @ 207-293-2636  
Cell: 207-446-6541  
[CEO@mtvernonme.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://drshawlibrary.org)

Email: [librarian@drshawlibrary.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3UCAtx3K5rgMCNAcBCqnLQ/live)

## Help wanted

The select board is looking for a new Administrative  
assistant. Email: [selectboard@mtvernonme.org](mailto:selectboard@mtvernonme.org)

See page 3 for more details.

## **From the Select Board**

Hello to our friends and neighbors,

Every season feels like a busy one here in beautiful Mt. Vernon! We hope you are enjoying the remaining foliage and getting your gardens tucked away for winter. Despite the shorter days, many wonderful events and opportunities for community engagement continue in the month of November. For example, join the fire department for a harvest breakfast on November 12th or donate to support the annual giving tree to help make the holidays brighter for other folks here in town (see elsewhere in this newsletter for both of these and other community endeavors).

Another important event this month is, of course, election day which is coming up on Tuesday, November 8th. As usual, residents can vote at the Community Center. Among other important items on the ballot, our community will be voting on our broadband initiative. The work on this initiative began after our town worked to write a new comprehensive plan back in 2019. That plan outlined a desire for reliable and accessible internet that would enable families to live and work here in Mt. Vernon while preserving the rural nature of our town.

The committee that sprang from that plan has been working diligently over these past few years to find a solution that would work well for our community. They have explored a wide variety of options, surveyed the residents of the town about their needs and desires, and have now come to the town with a proposal. The proposal relies on a mixture of funding from Matrix (the proposed internet provider), grants, and tax dollars and the end result will be high speed, reliable internet access throughout the town. The Selectboard would like to extend our thanks to all the committee members for their excellent work and is in full support of the proposal. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Broadband committee (or check out their resources online) ahead of the election!

The month of November also means some potential road closures. The Selectboard voted at a recent meeting to allow for the closing of parts of Mooar Hill Road and Cottle Hill Road for winter maintenance. Lee, our road commissioner, will now be able to close these roads when it becomes necessary. We also expect that the Castle Island bridge will be closed for much of the winter so it can be rebuilt (though it is open at the time of the writing of this newsletter column). Please see the "news" section on the town website for more details about this project.

Thank you to all of you for all you do to make our town a wonderful place to live.

See you around town!                      Anna and the Selectboard

## Help wanted—Administrative Assistant to the Select Board

### **Some of the duties of the Administrative Assistant include:**

- ◆ Attends Board of Selectmen meetings, helps prepare agendas, provides supporting documents and information pertinent to agenda items, and writes meeting minutes.
- ◆ Organizes and maintains filing of both electronic and physical documents.
- ◆ Works in a collaborative manner with Board of Selectmen, Tax Collector, Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, department heads, and the public; supports processes for effective information flow and sharing.
- ◆ Acts as liaison between selectmen and all Town departments, boards, committees, commissions, as well as citizens. Advises and communicates with the Board of Selectmen thereof.
- ◆ Organizes and prepares for Town Meeting and special town meetings including preparing warrants, producing the town report, and ensuring set up of meeting space and that copies of materials are available.
- ◆ Produces the monthly town newsletter.
- ◆ May also need to attend and take minutes for other committees, such as Planning Board and Board of Appeals.

Essentials skills and experience should include:

- ◆ Significant experience with the Microsoft Office suite of products.
- ◆ Communicating effectively orally and in writing, including research capability and reporting ability.
- ◆ Listening to, and accepting, criticism; must possess conflict resolution skills and public relation skills. Practices discretion and sound judgement.

Email [selectboard@mtvernonme.org](mailto:selectboard@mtvernonme.org) if interested.

### **November Dates to Remember:**

- 11-02-22—Broadband Committee (Zoom) Meeting at 06:30 – 08:00PM (tentative)
- Every Tuesday—Men's Breakfast in the Community Center at 7:00AM
- 11-07-22—Select Board Meeting in the Town Hall at 7:00PM
- 11-09-22 - Broadband Committee (Zoom) Meeting at 06:30 – 08:00PM (tentative)
- 11-11-22 Digital Inclusion and Digital Equity working group (Zoom) Meeting at 09:00 AM (tentative)
- 11-15-22—Planning Board Meeting in the Dr Shaw Memorial Library at 7:00PM
- 11-21-22—Select Board Meeting in the Town Hall at 7:00PM

If you have a meeting you want to post, please Email [newsletter@mtvernonme.org](mailto:newsletter@mtvernonme.org)

## Broadband Committee Update

### **Infrastructure Vote Update**

The utility pole survey has been completed. We have begun to prepare an application to the Maine Connectivity Authority for grant funding. The October 22 public meeting was attended by approximately 25-30 residents. Efforts to engage town members at the transfer station will continue until November 6<sup>th</sup> (the Sunday before Election Day, weather permitting). In mid-November, the Committee is regrouping and assessing its efforts and opportunities for the remainder of the year.

### **The Digital Inclusion Plan**

Now that the town is voting with reference to the (Matrix) Public Provider Partnership, the committee continues to focus on grant seeking and the Digital Equity and Digital Inclusion (DEDI) Plan. “Partnering” is the November priority as the group is engaging MaineGeneral, the Shaw Memorial Library, Neighbors Driving Neighbors and the town’s Aging in Place Committee to determine what possibilities there might be to improve broadband supports for town members irrespective of the outcomes on Election Day. At the same time, the search for grant development opportunities in conjunction with the Community Partnership Corporation is slowly making progress. These partnering efforts are in support of better informing town members about opportunities for free broadband skills development and reducing barriers to telemedicine support and safety services to town members.

The committee is working with MaineGeneral Health to design a pilot project for enhancing telemedicine capacity in town. The second pilot under development entails a part-time Digital Navigator position. A Digital Navigator at the library will facilitate digital literacy training opportunities and provide individualized support to town members taking advantage of federal support for internet subscriptions, acquiring devices or making use of services and apps.. A third pilot project is deferred until the first two get underway. Further details can be found in the DEDI Plan on the website.

## **Mount Vernon Selectboard Meeting Minutes – September 26th, 2022**

Attending: Bob Grenier, Chair, Anna Libby, and Carl Rogers (Selectboard), Kerry Casey (Staff)  
Penny Baker and Alice Counts (Guests)  
Ken Elliot and Chuck Wright (Broadband Committee)  
Michelle Pino, Heather Roberts, and Sue Herman (Ordinance Review Committee, Chair)  
Pat Rawson (Rescue Director)

### **Meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Bob Grenier**

A motion was made to accept the meeting minutes from the September 12th meeting. Approved 3-0  
**GA – table for maximum amounts has changed.** Bob made a motion to adopt the new amounts to be paid. Approved 3-0

### **Broadband Infrastructure Update – Chuck Wright presented**

- Nov 8 broadband ballot information – let Heather know attorneys do not need a petition for the ballot language.
- Chuck discussed ballot language and expected costs for project – no questions.
- Intend to set up information table at transfer station over next several weeks
- Scheduling October 22<sup>nd</sup> public information meeting at 11:00 at Community Center.
- Bob moved that we accept article brought forward for the ballot language by the Broadband Committee. Approved 3-0.
- Bob to give Heather the ballot language tomorrow.

### **Broadband, Digital Equity – Ken Elliott presented**

- Broadband committee is working with the National Digital Equity Center
- Requesting town get a membership to the Maine Philanthropy Center for \$65.00
- The purpose of this membership will be to gain access to funding sources as well as access to specialist to help with writing grants.
- Goal is to move forward with 3 pilot projects
- Digital Navigator – tech support to connect people who qualify.
- To work with Maine General to gain better access for seniors to use telemedicine and understand in-house safety issues.

### **NDE center free courses**

- Question raised was does CPC have a membership to the Maine Philanthropy Center? Check with CPC leadership.
- Ken to get application form to Kerry if CPC does not have a membership.
- Aging in Place Committee might be able to help.
- There was a conversation about the elderly using technology and safety concerns.

### **Aging in Place – Pat Rawson – Dr. Criswell not able to make today's meeting**

Looking for a social worker – Bob put an add into the Kennebec Journal 2 days ago – got 1 response so far – current ad runs through the 30<sup>th</sup> of September.

Consider placing add in the Daily Bulldog, town newsletter, add to town website.

Anna emailed a copy of the state required update form to Rachel to complete

### **Ordinance Review Committee – Sue Herman, Chair**

Sue sent board an email asking what the assignments are this year?

Big projects – start ordinance review at the beginning of the new year

- Number of building units on a lot – new override July 1, 2023
  - State resources supposedly available
  - Consult with professional help – possibly KVCOG
    - Wind ordinance 10 years ago. Fred Smith helped connect with technical details per KVCOG
  - Meeting with KVCOG on Monday (to talk about becoming a member)
  - Need to identify resources available that may be helpful – committee will need help.
  - New law doesn't override shoreland zoning – need technical assistance

### **Select Board minutes 9/26/22—continued**

- Ordinance booklet now 3 years out of date
  - Decision on numbering/formatting will be a big decision
  - Sue has opinions that were voiced
  - Ordinance needs to be recodified – work cut out for the committee
  - Heather Roberts and Michelle Pino attending from Ordinance Review Committee
  - Animal control ordinance was redone recently. Sue to send section.
  - Town clerk should have copies of the last 3 years that are not currently in the ordinance book
  - Housing law is a BIG lift – can the most recent ordinance Sue sent be used?
  - Sue – good idea is to go through the entire ordinance and renumber/redone so that it is up to date.
  - Currently in the format that most ordinances are in with neighboring communities.
  - Needs to be easier to find things
  - TOC in new reformatted version was very good, page numbering may be helpful.
  - Maine state statutes are more conceptual than simply using search terms.
  - Reach out to KVCOG, DCD, MMA
  - LD2003 negates letting municipalities do anything
  - Sue-okay to get in touch with KVCOG
  - Planning board has an issue that will be coming to ordinance
  - Bob doesn't feel the decision on formatting is his to-do.
  - Possible grants through DECD? – Technical assistance would need a budget
- Ordinance committee – 6 people
  - Sue to send a potential candidate's name
  - Bob has 2 names
    - Green light to start on affordable housing

### **Castle Island Bridge Update – Carl**

The Castle Island bridge will be replaced this winter. The plan is for all work to be complete by Memorial Day of 2023.

Bids go out at the end of September/early October with selection shortly after.

The road may be closed as early as late November or as late as early January.

All work in the water will be done by April 1 per DEP regulations.

DEP expects a single lane of traffic could open in April. All work to be done by Memorial Day.

Belgrade is requesting that some erosion control work be done on the Mt Vernon side (not in Mount Vernon) of the Castle Island area but that is not confirmed.

**Selectboard will meet with Maine DOT** about catch basin and culvert from Matt Dunn's driveway to the stream behind the Fire Station on Monday October 3.

### **Transfer Station – Issues - Bob**

- Audit by MMA Risk Management resulted in a number of issues identified that need to be fixed.
  - Need safety manuals for each department (Transfer Station, Fire Department, Public Works, Town Office, Community Center)
  - Need lockout procedures clearly posted.
  - Blood borne pathogens, enclosed spaces
  - Lee, as a town employee needs to have a set of manuals
  - Bob talked with Belgrade – they have a set of manual at each place – will cost to implement the required manuals. Expect cost to be about \$2k per manual

**Select Board minutes 9/26/22—continued (2)**

- Need to have department heads from each department meet next Monday to review
- Hire consultant to assist with Manuals. This person will be at the meeting next Monday.
- Provide safety training at least 1x/year via an independent contractor
- Will get a fee reduction from MMA; Get outlines from state for what is required.
- New solid bars will replace the chains that are currently in place next to transfer station dumpsters to keep people from inadvertently falling in.
  - A person at the transfer station recently got tangled in the chains and almost fell in.
  - Bob went to Readfield to see how they have their dumpsters set up. Solid bars across are used.
  - Will require some work to put the rails up. Bob investigating
- George will return to his station on or about Dec 1.

**Accept Patricia Jackson's resignation** from the Appeals Board. A motion was made to accept her resignation – Approved 3-0

**Dunn's Corner Rd will be closed for 3-4 days to replace a 3-4' culvert**

Anyone over 65 with homestead exemption eligibility on primary residence for 10 years can apply for the tax stabilization tax freeze. Owners carry the freeze with them if they move within Maine.

Kennebec Land Trust – wants to have a link on our website. Carl to reach out to Theresa.

A motion was made to add Jamie Clough, Paul Crockett and Peter Lewis to the Appeals Board. Motion approved 3-0

Bob reported there has been 1 applicant for the Admin Assistant position, so far.

**Next meeting - we plan to close roads for winter**

Move adding Aaron Berls and Cathy Jacobs to the Governance Committee next meeting

---

**Mount Vernon Selectboard Meeting Minutes – October 10, 2022**

Attending in person: Bob Grenier ( Selectboard Chair) Carl Rogers and Anna Libby (Selectboard), Kerry Casey (Staff)

Kathie Smith (Guest)

Bill Rosenberg (Chair, Broadband Committee)

Jason Beckler (Chief, Fire Department)

Pat Rawson (Director, Rescue)

Rachel Criswell (Health Officer and Rescue, Medical Consultant)

**Bob Grenier called the meeting to order at 7:05**

**Select Board minutes 10/10/22—continued**

Minutes from the prior meeting 9/26, were approved as amended by Bob and Anna - 3-0

**Rachel Criswell – Health Officer** - welcome and introduction

Rachel needs to come in to be sworn in

Anna made a motion to support Rachel Criswell's nomination as Rescure, Medical Consultant. Approved 3-0.

**Aging in Place – Pat Rawson**

Pat asked about candidates for Social Worker position. Bob noted he has 1 application out of 4 inquiries. Applications were sent to each of the individuals inquiring but only 1 application so far.

Pat wants to keep the position posting open until 3 applications are received unless there is an outstanding candidate. Rescure will review the 1 application submitted to date.

**Fire Department – Jason Beckler**

- Jason indicated he received the last bill from Meader's garage for \$10,619.63. This is in addition to the \$2,144.63 previously invoiced for a total of \$12, 764.26 for Engine 53 repair work.
- The net is there is a \$3,764.26 shortfall relative to the budgeted amount plus we still need to do spring pump tests that are estimated at \$1,200 per truck for a total pump test estimate of \$3,600.00 leading to a \$7,364.26 projected shortfall.
- Jason reported that Ron took Engine 53 out to test and feels the truck performs like new again.
- Bob recommended that Jason allocated the needed funds against the repair budget category even if it goes negative.
- Engine 53 is scheduled to be replaced in 2028 so we have another 5 years of service expected.
- Lucas Rumbler – Working on a new grant. The objective is to apply for new equipment for 10 sets of gear for new firefighters. The total grant is for \$36,500. Otherwise, the current budget only allows for 1 set of gear without the grant.
- Door lock changeout is complete at the Fire Station.
- Fire detector work is in progress
- Paul and Scott are working on security cameras.
- Fire escape will be the next order of business
- Jason noted the need to replace an overhead door panel as it is becoming structurally deficient.
- The outdoor water faucet needs to be tested for e-coli contamination
  - Bob recommended Jason pick up an e-coli test kit
  - Bob noted the water faucet is available for people to fill gallon water jugs but it is not there to fill 100+ gallon tanks.



**Broadband update – Bill Rosenberg**

- Lots of activity
- Pole survey is in progress with the field work scheduled to wrap up in the next week or so.
- Lots going on in terms of communications planning
- Legal services will be needed to support creating the agreement between Matrix and the town prior to the ballot on November 8<sup>th</sup>. The agreement is needed to support the grant application to the Maine Connectivity Authority which is due the day after the election.
- Bill suggested we reach out to the Kennebec County commissioners to request a portion of the 22 million dollars in ARPA funds the county received but has not communicated how the funds will be deployed.
- Next steps for Broadband are:
  - Communications – primarily at the transfer station
  - Broadband meeting will be held at the Community Center at 11:00 AM on October 22, 2022. The public is invited to hear the latest and ask questions.
  - Lawns signs to be provided by Matrix
  - Matrix to send letters to individual owners of record in Mount Vernon.
  - Bill asked for letters of support from:
    - Education – schools
    - Local businesses
    - Town Committees
    - Selectboard

**Transfer Station**

Bob reached out to sheriff about a drug take-back day.

Sheriff recommended that Mount Vernon piggyback with Belgrade as they don't have resources to schedule a day at Mt. Vernon.

Need gates to replace the chains at the transfer station.

Anna made a motion that the selectboard approve purchase of steel gates for in front of the dumpsters. Motion seconded by Bob. Approved 3-0

Bob noted Lynn Poole will put the gates up

Swap shack needs to have metal braces put in place where 2"x6" rafters come into the shack for safety. The 2"x6" boards are currently toe nailed which isn't sufficient per safety report.

**Governance Committee** – Will wait until Bob talks with Sue Herman

### **Select Board minutes 10/10/22—continued (3)**

#### **Appointments:**

- Pat Sheehan was appointed to the Broadband Committee. Motion was made by Anna, seconded by Bob. Approved 3-0.
- Kiley DeHaven was appointed to the Ordinance Review Board per Sue. Motion was made by Anna to appoint Kiley to the Ordinance Review Board. Approved 3-0
- Sally Zeh was recommended for appointment to the Board of Appeals. Anna made a motion
- That Sally be appointed to the Board of Appeals. Bob seconded the motion. Approved 3-0

#### **Department of Labor Safety Procedures:**

Lynn Martin – gave presentation on 10/3 about manuals needed to comply with DOL safety standards.

Motion was made by Bob to sign contracts with Lynn's company for each of the following Departments: Fire Departments, Rescue, Transfer Station, Public Works, Town office and Library. Motion was seconded by Anna. Approved 3-0.

Bob has contracts and pricing for each of the manuals.

#### **FOI request:**

Noted that FOI requests requesting printed copies would not be charged for the first 2 hours of research but that printing would be chargeable. Further, for downloads of Youtube videos of Selectboard meetings, if there is a need to upgrade our type of membership to download videos, the requester would need to pay any associated subscription or device costs. Mount Vernon would need to purchase storage devices for the video and charge that cost. All meeting minutes are available for the requested dates by downloading from our website.

#### **North Road Update**

Bob and Carl met with engineers from Maine DOT regarding the catch basin on the North Rd located near Matt Dunn's property extending to the drainage ditch behind the fire station. Maine DOT provided an agreement that Bob moved the Selectboard vote to approve. The agreement provides for Maine DOT to provide a type F catch basin with a 2' well below the 18" outlet, 130' of 18" culvert HDPE pipe and 30 yards of Rip Rap to be used to line the drainage ditch behind the Fire Department. The town of Mount Vernon will supply the labor to install the catch basin, culvert and rip-rap. The motion was seconded by Anna. Approved 3-0.

#### **Meeting adjourned at 8:11**

## The Mount Vernon - Vienna Giving Tree and the Corona Virus Year 3 - 2022

In spite of the continuing pandemic, there will be a Giving Tree this year. There will be trees around Mt. Vernon and Vienna (Flying Pond Variety store, Dr. Shaw Library, both post offices) as well as one at the Community Center on Voting Day, Tuesday, November 8.

Santa's Elves are requesting cash or checks and will take these donations and purchase gift cards for parents to buy what their children would like to receive from Santa. The donations will also be used to provide families with grocery and fuel cards.

In order to give parents time to shop, Santa is requesting that your contributions be dropped at Flying Pond Variety no later than December 1. Checks can be made out to Mt. Vernon Rescue Company and left at Flying Pond Variety or mailed to 970 Pond Road, Mt. Vernon, ME 04352.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact elf Pat at 207-293-2597, call/text at 500-3306 or elf Leslie at 207-293-2783, call/text at 207-620-6448.

Thanks so much for your generosity!  
Love, Santa



Did you know that Efficiency Maine has insulation rebates up to \$9,000 available now? [Click here to learn more about](#) this program which includes "Any-Income" rebates up to \$5,000 and Income-Eligible rebates up to \$9,000.

There's also an \$850 incentive to upgrade from an old electric hot water heater to a heat pump water heater. [Click here for more details.](#)

**efficiency  
MAINE**  
efficiencymaine.com  
866-376-2463

REV 10/06/2022

**efficiency  
MAINE**

## MOUNT VERNON YouTube CHANNEL



You can watch the Select Board meeting LIVE now on YouTube at the link below. When we have enough subscribers, we can name our own link. Please help Mount Vernon to achieve our own dedicated YouTube Link. All we need is 100 subscribers.

Follow this link and then hit the subscribe button. The current URL is <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3UCAtx3K5rgMCNAcBCqnLQ/live>

Once we have 100 subscribers, the channel would be something like <https://www.youtube.com/townofmountvernon> instead!

### Holiday News

#### First Baptist Church Food Bank

The food bank will be distributing holiday baskets again this year; for Thanksgiving the pick-up date is **November 19** and for Christmas pick-up will be **December 17**. Please sign up as soon as you can so that we can be sure to have adequate supplies on hand for putting the boxes together.

If you have not been a food bank customer but need assistance with the holiday meals, please feel free to contact us on Saturday mornings (293-2141) between 9 and 11:30 so that we can prepare a basket for you. We are located at the First Baptist Church, 321 Pond Road, Mt. Vernon.

If you need transportation to pick up your holiday box, call Neighbors Driving Neighbors (860-0677) to request help. Neighbors Driving Neighbors needs several days notice in order to find a driver.

Since the holiday baskets are being distributed on the third Saturdays of November and December, we will be offering full pantry items on November 12 and December 10. We will be open for fresh produce, fruit, baked goods, breads and miscellaneous items on December 31.



From the Clerk's Office:  
Both dogs and snowmo-  
biles may be registered  
now for 2023.

# Dr. Shaw Memorial Library

## November 2022

"A library is infinity under a roof." Gail Carson Levine

It is November, so one more reminder – on snowy days, please call the library during our usual hours to see if we are open, before you venture out on dicey roads.

**Programming:** We always appreciate how involved our community members are in helping us to provide services. Many thanks to Bobbi Jo for putting together our Halloween story and craft time for pre-schoolers this month! She will be working with us throughout the next couple of months to provide some winter holiday-themed **story times**. We'll let you know, on our Facebook page, the dates for stories once we have it sorted out.

Meanwhile, Alice and her handy Wednesday volunteers will assemble some more **Take&Make** bags in November and December, and we'll make those available to young patrons. We figure they will generally be ready around mid-month.

We, together with the Vienna Historical Society, are sponsoring another **author talk and reading**, with local historian and writer **Dale Potter-Clark**. Dale will come to us on Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 6PM at the library to discuss her historical novel Escape From Bunker Hill, which features the Underground Railroad stops in Maine. Dale is a well-known historian in our area, and has written a number of nonfiction books. This is her first novel, and we are looking forward to hearing about it! She will have copies of the book to sign.

A couple of **websites** that you might find of interest – one for elders, and one for children:

1. AARP has a page on their website that has good information on scams that older Americans are often subject to.

Access it here: <https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/?Intcmp=AE-FRDSC-ABT-FRC#01/>

2. This site is full of math games (and lessons) for kids, a fun way to learn about a subject that can challenge many of us! Try it at: <https://www.coolmath4kids.com/>

Oh, William! Fiction by Maine writer Elizabeth Strout

Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow. Fiction by Gabrielle Zevin

Sugar and Salt. Fiction by Susan Wiggs

Tom Clancy Zero Hour. Fiction by Don Bentley

The Christmas Bookshop. Fiction by Jenny Colgan

The Blackhouse. Mystery by Peter May

Hatchet Island. Maine mystery by Paul Doiron

The Lost City. Movie on DVD starring Sandra Bullock.

The Lobster Lady. Children's picture book by Maine author Barbara Walsh

The Little Wooden Robot and the Log Princess. Children's picture book by Tom Gould

Birds. Juvenile nonfiction by E. Brinkley

I am re-reading one of my favorite all-time books, 84 Charing Cross Road by Helene Hanff. What are you reading as you settle into your chair during the long evenings of late fall and early winter?



# Mount Vernon

## HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

**Saturday, Nov. 26th 9am-2pm**

**at**

**The Community Center**

*2 Main St, Mount Vernon*

**and**

**The Masonic Hall**

*353 Pond Rd, Mount Vernon*

**For more information  
contact Leslie Grenier at  
[lwg929@gmail.com](mailto:lwg929@gmail.com)  
or 620-6448**

