



The Puddledock Press

April 2016

Published
by the Town of Felchville

Community Luncheon
Thursday, April 7th, 2016
Noon at the Reading Town Hall

Menu

Stuffed Roast Pork
Mashed Potatoes
Glazed Carrots
Dessert and Beverage



Seniors (60) \$4.00 All others \$5.00
Please make reservations by Monday, 4/4 ,
by calling Tom & Calista Brennan at 484-0276

Attention Reading High School Seniors

Don't forget the annual Paul Robbins Service Award

Sponsored by the Reading Friends & Neighbors Committee
Applications are available at the Town Office, at the Woodstock High School
and on the Reading website: www.readingvt.govoffice.com

Deadline for submission is May 20th to the Reading Town Office

Notice

The **Felchville Cemetery Association's** Annual Meeting will be held at the home of Duane Wyman, 98 Tyson Road on **Tuesday, April 26, 2016** at 6:00 pm

At this time, officers will be elected, the secretary and treasurer's reports will be acted upon and any other necessary business will be transacted.

Any owners of lots, or descendants of lot owners, belonging to the Felchville Cemetery Association are welcome and urged to attend, said meeting. This is your cemetery.

Duane Wyman, Chairperson



Reading Energy News - March 21, 2016

Sign up to Solarize! Reading residents are encouraged to take advantage of this round of Solarize 2016, in partnership with Sustainable Woodstock and the towns of Pomfret, Barnard, Hartland, and Woodstock. Twelve people attended the launch event at Keepers on 3/15, and several signed up for site visits with Catamount Solar, the installer who was selected for the Solarize program. The more residents of the 5-town region that sign up to go solar by June 30th, the less costly the installations will be for everyone.

To sign up for a site visit, contact Catamount Solar at (802) 728-3600 or Solarize2016@catamountsolar.com. For more information on the Solarize program, go to <http://www.sustainablewoodstock.org/energy/solarize-2016>.

The energy committee is also working with ResTech to look at possible sites for a solar array that would serve municipal buildings. Contact Becky Basch at rebecca-basch@comcast.net to get involved with this project.

Becky Basch

Selectboard's Meeting

March 21, 2016

UNAPPROVED

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

Present: Robert Allen, Gordy Eastman, Jim Peplau, Glen Town, Calista Brennan, Kurt Voight and Noella Pickett, Vermont Standard Reporter.

Robert started the meeting asking if there were changes to the agenda. Items added to the agenda were Appointment of Town Officers and Representatives, Election of Board Chair, and Town Hall Siding Update.

Minutes of the February 15th Selectmen's meeting were approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report: As of 2/29/16, Expenses were \$58,167.91; Revenue was \$31,596.15. Balance in LSB \$106,760.12 and balance in the sweep account \$754,418.16 for a total of \$861,178.28. Delinquent taxes for 2013-15 are \$100,938.12. Calista reported that 5 tax sale notices have been mailed. Jim moved to approve and Gordy seconded. Report is accepted.

Action Items:

Appointment of Town Officers and Representatives: Planning Commission for a 6 year term – Becky Basch, Recreation Commission for a 3 year term – Diane Moore, Solid Waste Management District Representative for a 1 year term – James Peplau, Tree Warden for 1 year – Michael Barr, Memorial Day Administrator for 1 year – Patrick McLean, SWCRPC Representative for 1 year – Kathy Rondeau, Energy Coordinator for 1 year Rebecca Basch. Fire Warden for a 5 year term – Nathan Willard. Jim moved to accept the entire group, Gordy seconded. Letters were signed to send to Solid Waste Management, SWCPRC and the State for the Fire Warden.

Election of Board Chair: Gordy nominated Robert, Jim seconded. Robert was elected Chair.

High Meadow/Mill Brook Engineering Grant: Discussion about a possible grant for the culvert on Agony Hill Road by SWCRPC and High Meadows Fund.

Town Farm Bridge Engineering Status: Should have some information by April 1st from Holden Engineering.

Better Back Roads Grant – Town Hill Diversion Culvert: SWCRPC is working with Robert on the grant. We are applying for two grants for this area. Currently getting bids for this work that must be submitted with the grant paperwork by April 15th.

Town Hall Siding Update: Greg Smith submitted a bid. Paul Brosseau from Vt Corrections also submitted a bid for the labor and estimates for materials that the Town must purchase directly. Selectmen need to get prices on debris removal and staging as well as a 'high lift'. Robert will look into the cost of those items. If anyone else wishes to bid, now is the time. We hope to move forward this summer.

Highways: Glen reported that most of the roads are in good shape with the exception of N. Puckerbrush that had to be closed for a few days. The International dump truck is at Reed's for repair.

The annual financial plan was signed to be delivered to District 4 AOT.

We are applying for a grant to shim and pave Tyson Road with the State - again.

Town Hall Parking Lot: Three Bids have been received – Twin State Paving, – Springfield Paving and Black Top. Selectboard is waiting for possibly two more bids that are due March 25th.

Liquor License: The Selectmen signed a liquor license for Reading Greenhouse.

Other: Robert requested that the information about filing Homestead Exemption be in the April Informer. The L.E.O.P. is due May 1st.

Being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 7:00PM Next Selectboard meeting will be on Monday, April 11, 2016 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Calista N Brennan

Meeting Schedule

Board of Selectmen

Second Monday
6:00 PM at Town Office

Cemetery Commission

Fourth Wednesday
6:00 PM at Town Office

EC Fiber

Second Tuesday at 7pm
Oaks Hall 1st floor of Law
School
In S. Royalton, VT

Fire & Rescue Dept.

First Tuesday
7:00 PM at Fire Station

Fire Dept. Auxiliary

First Monday
7:00 PM at Fire Station

Library Trustees

Last Tuesday
6:00 PM at Library

Parent Teacher Org

Third Monday
6:00 PM at Reading School

Planning Commission & Zoning Board

First Monday
7:00 PM at Town Office

R.A.T.S

2nd Wednesday
7:00 PM at Fire Station

School Board

Third Wednesday
6:00 PM at Reading School

Snowmobile Club, Little Ascutney

Second Thursday at 7PM
Sept-April, at Fire Station

Emergency Telephone Numbers

Fire and Ambulance 911

State Police 457-1416

**Domestic/Sexual Violence Hotline
866-348-WISE (9473)**

Town Contact Information

Town Clerk/Treasure Office

484-7250

Mon—Thurs 8am-4pm

First Saturday of the Month: 9am-12pm

Website: www.readingvt.govoffice.com

Email: readingvermont@comcast.net

Post Office

484-5994

Retail Counter

Monday – Friday

9:30 am-12:30 pm, 1:30 pm—4:30 pm

Saturday Retail Counter

9:00 to 12:00

Lobby

Monday – Friday

8 am to 5 pm

Saturday

8am to 12pm

Library

484-5588

Tuesday 12:00 to 3:30, 4:00 to 7:00

Thursday 10:00 to 1:30, 2:00 to 5:00

Saturday 10:00 to 2:00

Listers

Call for appointment – 484-7258

Email: rtownhall_464@comcast.net

Reading Elementary School

484-7230

Fire Warden - Fire Burning Permits

Nathan Willard 484-0094

Reading– West Windsor Food Shelf

Monday 2:00 to 4:00 (Food Shelf)

**Thursday 4:00 to 6:00 (Thrift Store & Food
Shelf)**

Located at 3456 Tyson Road

in South Reading

at the Stone School House

The Thrift Store is open to anyone, not just
food shelf members. Please feel free to stop in

Inquiries please contact

Sara Norcross 484-5097

Dana Waters 802-291-3299

To send a donation please mail to:

Reading– West Windsor Food Shelf

PO Box 384 Brownsville, VT 05037

Copies of the *Informer* can be found on
our Town website at

www.readingvt.govoffice.com

Or we can e-mail a copy to you.

Send the Town Clerk an e-mail at

readingvermont@comcast.net

to request this.

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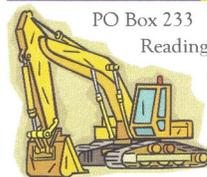
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Librarian's Note

The Reading Review was a local paper Sherm Howe put together and sent out to folks every 2 weeks in the 1950's. He lived in the stone house next to what is now Keepers Cafe. In the May 15, 1953, edition, there is this line: "Some of the children in Hammondsville have a very nice custom of leaving May baskets of wild flowers hanging on the door on May Day."

In that spirit, we at the library thought we'd offer up a free program on Saturday, April 30, at 10:30 a.m. Children are invited to come to the library, where they'll make paper flowers and create a little flower pot to put them in. We'll have tea and sweets and read a story. The kids will prepare their flowers to give to a parent, other family member, or neighbor the following day, which will be May Day.

The library subscribes to more than thirty periodicals that may be of interest to folks. Titles for adults include American History, Cooks Illustrated, Entertainment Weekly, Esquire, Fine Gardening, Money, the New Yorker, Nutrition Action, Real Simple, Scientific American, Sporting Classics, Sports Illustrated, Time, Upper Valley Life, Vermont Magazine, Yankee, and the Vermont Standard newspaper.

We carry children's magazines as well: American Girl, Ask (Arts & Sciences for Kids), Dig (into history), Family Fun, National Geographic for Little Kids, and Ranger Rick. We keep several back issues of each, and these along with current issues are available for checkout.

The library has both a Nook and a Kindle available for borrowing. Patrons must be at least 18 years old with a library account in good standing (no overdue materials).

Libraries offer sanctuary. They are safe spaces in their communities. They provide information, resources, and support to individuals or groups who may otherwise feel vulnerable. With that in mind, I want to remind patrons that the building is available for use after hours to local individuals and groups. Contact me for details.

Cordially,

Tony

Reading Public Library. Tues. 12-3:30 p.m. & 4-7; Thurs. 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. & 2-5; Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mail: P.O. Box 7, Reading, VT 05062. Tel. 802-484-5588. E-mail: reading.public.library@comcast.net. Web: www.readinglibrary.org. The board meets the last Tues. of each mth. at 6 p.m. Wi-Fi 24/7.

Reading Historical Society

Finding Puddledock

I'm fairly new to Reading, and I'm still trying to figure out the difference between Reading and South Reading, as well as where Felchville is in relation to Hammondsville. So when someone brought up Puddledock, I was certain the town of Reading was playing an April Fool's joke on me. For a pretty small place, there are lots of place names!

So, I did what anyone looking for information would do. I contacted the library. More specifically, I spoke with Reading's librarian, Tony Pikramenos, a good man to talk to if you want to talk about the history of Reading. He explained to me that Puddledock was the name given the part of town on Route 106 between the water trough and the Indian Stones. It got its name because it was swampy. Not surprisingly it was the last part of town to be inhabited. Today, we know it as Felchville.

What do you know about Puddledock? Does your family have an oral history you'd like to share? Does your Puddledock have different boundaries than those Tony described? We at the Reading Historical Society would love to hear from you. Share your stories by emailing them to stephen.d.dagostino@gmail.com.

The Rushford Family would like to thank everyone who has helped us out during our time of terrible tragedy. Our community has been so amazing and for that we are very grateful. We would like to give a special thanks to Wayne and Carol Geise for being there for us and giving us a place to stay while we get back on our feet.

They are truly amazing friends that we are very grateful for.

*Thanks to all!
The Rushfords
David, Teena and Victoria*

Homestead Declaration

Reading Listers' Reminder

This applies to all Reading parcel owners

Homestead Declaration- Reading parcel owners who have their domicile in Reading are required to file a Vermont Homestead Declaration **annually** on or before April 15! This is the criteria for determining income sensitivity eligibility for any residential state-wide educational property tax adjustment. Individual circumstances may require filing for an income tax extension. Remind your tax preparer of the annual Vermont Homestead filing requirement and the date for filing. *There are no extensions for the Homestead Declaration*

Late filings are subject to late penalties.

Per the Selectboard there will not be any waiving of penalties!

Non-residents- These parcel owners pay the non- resident state-wide education tax only adjusted for the Local CLA.

Impact of not filing Homestead Declaration-If you have your domicile in Reading and fail to file a declaration, you are subject to paying any difference between the residential and non-residential education tax plus a substantial penalty. Forms are available by going on line, and entering Vermont.gov, clicking on VT Tax Department, and clicking on forms.

The Reading Common Level of Appraisal for 2016 is 101.01.

Reading Listers,
John Fike, Penny Allyn, Richard Sullivan





Outside Burning !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Sprucing up your yard this spring.
Please remember that permits are required**

BEFORE

you start ANY outside burning.

**Contact Fire Warden, Nate Willard,
at 484-0094 for a permit.**

Thank you Reading Fire Department

**Dog not licensed! Your late after April 1st
and you will have an additional late fee**

The Town Office will be open on the 1st; 8 am—4 pm

In accordance with the State of Vermont Statute Title 20: 3541-3591 and 3801-3813 the municipal clerk shall issue licenses for dogs and wolf hybrids.

If you own or keep a dog or wolf-hybrid that is six months or older on or before April 1st of each year you must license the pet. If you become an owner or keeper of a dog or wolf-hybrid that is six months old after April 1st, you have 30 days to license the animal.

Stop in at the Town Clerk's office to register any new dogs or renew your dog's license.

You must have a copy of a current rabies vaccination certificate.

Dog Fees:

Males/Females \$13.00 Neutered/Spayed \$ 9.00

After 4/1 add a late fee of \$2.00 / \$4.00

Replacement Tag \$ 3.00 New Dog after 10/1 Half Fee



**Reading Elementary School
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Meeting Minutes — Unapproved
Wednesday, March 16th, 2016, at 6 PM**

ATTENDANCE: SCHOOL BOARD: Justin Sluka, Chair; John Philpin, Vice Chair; Shiri Macri, Clerk. SCHOOL: Zoey Zullo, Principal; SU: Richard Seaman – Finance Director; Sherry Sousa – Director of Instructional Support
VISITORS: None

Call to Order. Sherry Sousa calls the meeting was called to order at 5:56p

Reorganization of the board –

Sherry opens the floor for nominations for School Board Chair. John Philpin nominates Justin Sluka for the Chair's position. Shiri Macri seconds the motion. Discussion – Discussion over how to best serve RES. Justin accepts the nomination. All are in favor. The motion is accepted.

Justin Sluka opens the floor for nominations for Vice Chair. Shiri Macri nominates John Philpin for the Vice Chair's position. Justin Sluka seconds the motion. John Philpin accepts. No discussion. All in favor. The motion is accepted.

Justin Sluka opens the floor for nominations for the Clerk's position. John Philpin nominates Shiri Macri for the Clerk's position. Justin Sluka seconds the motion. Shiri accepts. No discussion. All in favor. The motion is accepted

Board operation: John Philpin makes a Motion to maintain to the current board meeting schedule (3rd Wednesday 6p), posting locations & publication (Watroba's, Town Hall, Greenhouse, School, and Vermont Standard) and use of Robert's rules for small boards. Shiri Macri seconds the motion. No discussion. All in favor. The motion is approved
Code of Ethics: John makes a motion to accept the code of ethics for Vermont school board members. Shiri Macri seconds the motion. Discussion over the language. The motion is tabled until further information is obtained from VSBA.

Amendments to the agenda if necessary – Add approval of tuition and special education costs related to out of district student placement.

Approve minutes: February 24th, 2016

John Philpin made a motion to approve the minutes of February 24th, 2016. Shiri Macri seconds the motion. Discussion – 1 amendment – Correction to preschool update: the highest preschool rating is 5 stars not 4. No further discussion. All are in favor. The motion is approved with 1 amendment.

Action/Discussion

Staff Appointment – John Philpin makes a motion to approve staff appointments for the 2016-2017 school year. Shiri Macri seconds the motion. Discussion – reviewed list. All are in favor. The motion is approved.

Revisit Tuition for Pre-K. Zoey asks board to reconsider the previously set rate (\$3500). The State has settled on a reimbursement rate of \$3098. John Philpin makes a motion to set the pre-kindergarten rate for the 2016-17 year to be consistent with the state's established, 10h/week, annual pre-kindergarten rate. Shiri Macri seconds the motion. Discussion – discussed how this might affect current operations. All in favor. Motion approved.

Budget Update 2016 – In light of requests from town meeting for the year-to-date budget update, Justin asks Richard to provide a detailed year-to-date update. Justin also inquired about it being printed in the Reading Informer. Reviewed line items. Richard summarizes that at this point, the budget is on target and projected to remain so barring any unforeseen needs.

Staff Approval: One-to-One Aide position. John Philpin makes a motion to approve the cost for an out of district placement for special education student from mid-January through the remainder of school year. Shiri Macri seconds the motion. Discussion – discussed how support staff is structured within schools and the district. All in favor. Motion is approved.

Reports

Chair – Justin reports on SU board reorganization. Shiri reports on Act 46 – at the last meeting, Raph Adamek provided a presentation on equity in the district. Discussed the SU comparison of equity, as well as how education quality standards meets student needs. Per the presentation, RES appears to be meeting educational quality requirements in all most areas. Zoey is aware of and planning for ways to meet the remaining needs.

Principal – Report submitted

Superintendent – Report submitted

Visitors – none.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 7:54p.

Next meetings:

WCSU Board meeting: Monday, April 18th, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. - WCSU Conf. Room

RES Board meeting: Wednesday, April 20th, 2016 at 6:00 P.M. - RE

Reading Elementary School
Zooney Zullo, Principal

Dear School Community,

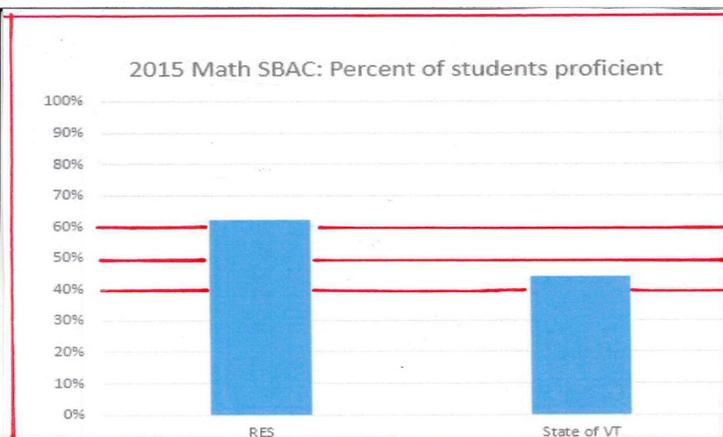
RES Test Score Report For 2015

Reading Elementary School exceeded the SBAC Vermont test score averages in both reading and mathematics. In the fall of 2014, Vermont switched to the SBAC or A Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium as its state-wide assessment tool for student progress. SBAC is a Common Core aligned measure of student annual progress in mathematics and language arts. It is an adaptive computer based test which means that based on student responses, the computer program adjusts the difficulty of the questions throughout the assessment. For example, a student who answers a question correctly will receive a more challenging item, while an incorrect answer generates an easier question. By adapting to the student's responses as the assessment is taking place, an individually tailored set of questions is generated and can quickly identify which skills students have mastered. SBAC is administered in the spring of each year. Results are available in the fall.

In English Language, RES outperformed the State average: 71% of RES students were proficient or above versus 53% of the State average in grades 3-6.

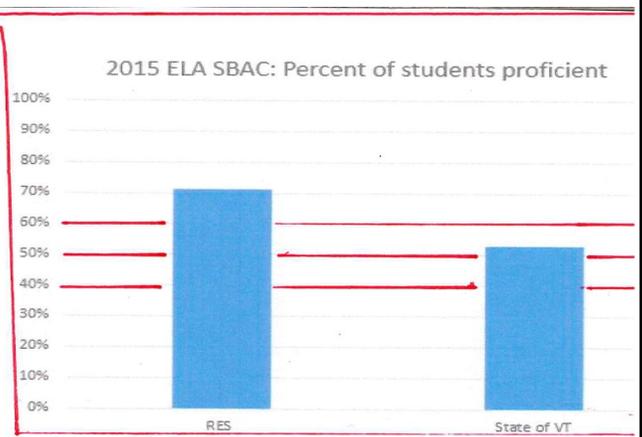
In mathematics, RES outperformed the State average: 62 % of RES students were proficient or above versus 44% of the State average in grades 3-6.

The Reading Elementary School's SBAC performance is especially noteworthy because we have a 44% FRL profile. FRL, which stands for Free and Reduced Lunch, is the tool the federal government uses to measure the level of economic challenge faced by families in a school community. This is the sixth year that RES has exceeded the state average. Congratulations to the Reading School community especially the students and teachers. To paraphrase an African adage: It takes a village to support a school.



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>Dog</i>	<i>License Due</i>	1	2
3	4 <i>Fire Auxiliary 7 pm Plan Comm 7 pm Town Hall</i>	5 <i>Fire & Rescue 7 pm Fire Station</i>	6 <i>RATS 7 pm Fire Station</i>	7 <i>Community Dinner Noon Town Hall</i>	8	9
10	11 <i>Selectboard 6 p.m. Town Hall</i>	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 <i>PTO 6 pm - location TBD</i>	19	20 <i>School Board 6 pm at RES</i>	21	22	23
24	25	26 <i>Library Mtg. 6 pm</i>	27 <i>Cemetery Commission 6 pm Town Hall</i>	28	29	30