

The Reading Informer

October 2016

Published by the Town of Reading

Reading Elementary School Holds Clean Up for Good! Community Yard Sale Saturday, October 8th 9 am—2 pm

To honor the many volunteers and neighbors who worked together to clean up Reading after Tropical Storm Irene, RES announces the creation of the **RES Kids Care club** at our school. The goal of RES Kids Care is to inspire and instill in Reading students the same sense of community spirit and responsibility that brought us all together 5 years ago. Irene was hard on Reading, but the focus now is on raising the next generation of community volunteers and neighbors who will keep it strong. RES Kids Care is the place to do that!

The inaugural event for RES Kids Care will be a Clean Up for Good! Community yard sale at RES on Saturday, October 8 from 9am-2pm. To further the tradition of neighbor-helping-neighbor, half the proceeds will be used to start a children-in-need fund at RES. And to pay forward the help Reading received from places far away after Irene, RES Kids Care will donate the remaining proceeds to schools in Louisiana that were devastated by floods just days before school started, much as what happened here in our state.

So start cleaning out your garage and attic and reserve a spot in our field for October 8. A 10x10 site is just \$20 and a 20x10 site is \$30. Bring your own tables and tent or rent them from us for \$5 each. You keep all the proceeds from what you sell. Please call the school at 484-7230 to reserve your spot soon or sign up online by following the link on our school website www.resvt.org. And come shop on October 8! We would love to see our neighbors as well as all our friends visiting for the long weekend!

--
Beth Ann Drinker
Reading Elementary School
First and Second Grade
bdrinker@wcsu.net
802-484-7230 x1504



Meeting Schedule

Board of Selectmen
Second Monday
6:00 PM at Town Office

Parent Teacher Org
Third Monday
7:00 PM at Reading School

Cemetery Commission
Fourth Wednesday
6:00 PM at Town Office

**Planning Commission
& Zoning Board**
First Monday
7:00 PM at Town Office

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

R.A.T.S
2nd Wednesday
7:00 PM at Fire Station

Fire & Rescue Dept.
First Tuesday
7:00 PM at Fire Station

School Board
Third Wednesday
6:00 PM at Reading School

Fire Dept. Auxiliary
First Monday
7:00 PM at Fire Station

**Snowmobile Club,
Little Ascutney**
Second Thursday at 7PM
Sept-April, at Fire Station

Library Trustees
Last Tuesday
6:00 PM at Library

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

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, Tues, Wed, 8 am—4 pm

Thursday 8 am—3:30 pm

First Saturday of the Month: 9am-12pm

Website: www.readingvt.govoffice.com

Email: readingvermont@comcast.net

Post Office Iiri Makkonen

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

Contribute to The Reading Review in
the Vermont Standard. Author, Stephen
D'Agostino is always looking for newsy
items, sweet Reading stories, or tidbits to
share with our community.

Send your ideas to him at
stephen.d.dagostino@gmail.com

Selectboard's Meeting
September 12, 2016 UNAPPROVED

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

Present: Robert Allen, Gordy Eastman, Jim Peplau, Glen Towne, Esther Allen and Mary Vittum

Robert started the meeting asking if there were changes to the agenda. None noted.

Minutes of the August 8th Selectboard's meeting were approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report: As of 8/31/16, YTD expenses were \$115,499.38; YTD revenue was \$149,706.71. Balance in LSB (G/L account) \$131,610.48 and balance in the sweep account \$448,638.51 for a total of \$580,248.99. Delinquent taxes for 2013-15 are \$54,567.05. Jim moved to approve and Gordy seconded. Report is accepted.

Action Items:

Town Welcome Signs Update: Mary Vittum presented a proposal from "VT Hand Carved Signs" in Hartland, Vt. Estimated cost for the 4 signs would be \$6,292. Selectboard asked Mary to get a revised quote from them based on some design changes and to also get a quote from the same company that did the West Windsor signs. Gordy suggested that she also contact "Always on Time Signs & Designs" from Berlin, Vt.

Bartley Field Update: Note from Calista regarding the event on 8/20 by Brad Hinson indicated a low attendance, but a \$75 donation was made to the food shelf. There was confusion on what they were allowed to use; they had to break into building because outside power did not work. There doesn't appear to be an inventory listing of the items that should be in the building from the Rec Commission. A new switch had to be installed on the pressure tank. We were advised that the tank needs to be replaced. Quotes for a replacement tank will be obtained and the work done in the spring.

Painting of Stone Schoolhouse windows and wood work. Esther presented two bids for the work to be done; one at \$4700 and one at \$5000. Selectboard chose Ben Carr Building to do the work as he is the one that did the cupola work and knows lead safe practices. The Historical Society has \$4030.05 to put towards this project and the balance will come out of the Town Stone School account.

Highways: Selectboard approved the Steiger driveway request. Glen reported that the crew is working on replacing culverts and hauling sand for the winter. We need a new contractor for plowing the Bridgewater section of our roads because the previous contractor does not carry Workman's Compensation Insurance which is required by the State for all subcontracted work. Glen will obtain quotes for this. There is still an issue with the town truck that has required many previous repairs. Jim noted a tree on Tyson Road that needs to be taken down. He also asked why the culverts and guard rails were not being weed whacked. Glen explained that they need to purchase an attachment for the power broom to do this.

Bridge Bids: Bids were received from Daniels Construction and M.A. Beam. Gordy will look through the bids and do a detail comparison of the two for further review. He will also generate a list of questions that need further clarification from the bids. Robert will contact Gurney Brothers, Miller Construction and Cold River to determine why they did not bid on the two bridges. The Selectboard may also take a road trip to Athens to review two bridges that were built there by M.A. Beam.

Town Hill Ditch scope of work: Selectboard has the Scope of Work from Alan May at the Better Roads group and will be requesting bids from contractors.

Other: None

Motion to adjourn made by Jim; seconded by Gordy. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Submitted for record, Esther E. Allen

Reading Planning Commission Meeting

Monday, September 12, 2016

Meeting Minutes—Unapproved

Present – Steve Strait, Ken Cox, Becky Basch Guests – Dan Potter, SWCRPC

Minutes of August 2016 – Steve made a motion to approve the minutes as posted on the website, Becky seconded, all were in favor.

Planning Commission vacancy – Steve made a motion to recommend Kathy Callan-Rondeau to fill the vacancy on the planning commission, Ken seconded the motion, all were in favor. The Selectboard will vote on the recommendation at their next meeting.

Act 90 – Dan Potter explained that Act 90 extends Town Plan expiration dates to 8-years from the date of adoption rather than five for plans adopted on 7/1/15 or later. The Act also added requirements for re-adoption of town plans, and added new criteria for confirmation by the Regional Planning Commission. New criteria include a requirement that the Town be actively engaged in implementing the Town Plan (Bylaws, other studies and plans, capital budgeting, etc.), and must discuss forest fragmentation (which Reading already does).

Significant Wildlife Habitat Overlay District – Dan sent out draft language and Steve added to the draft. The SWHOD includes the proposed Wildlife Travel Corridor (WTC) and Deer Wintering Habitat (DWH). Dan suggested that rather than requiring 25-acre zoning for parcels within the overlay district, we extend the 25-acre zoning district to include the area within the Wildlife Travel Corridor (WTC) and then add some additional requirements that would apply to subdivisions within the overlay district. There was discussion about whether to apply the requirements for subdivisions to the Wildlife Travel Corridor (WTC) alone and make those regulations recommendations for Deer Wintering Habitat (DWH) or to apply the subdivision regulations to both areas. After some discussion, members agreed that the parcels within the Wildlife Travel Corridor should be included in the 25-acre zoning district, and that the additional subdivision regulations should apply to both the Wildlife Travel Corridor and Deer Wintering Habitat. Parcels in the Deer Wintering Habitat that are not in the WTC would be zoned according to their underlying districts. Steve commented that most of the land in the deer yards is already conserved. The additional requirements for subdivisions within the Significant Wildlife Overlay District would serve as guidelines for single family development. Discussion on the specific requirement was as follows.

1st bullet – development should be in the periphery of the overlay district, not the lot

3rd bullet – Development should not exceed 15% of total parcel – does that mean the building or cleared land? There was discussion about including a minimum acreage per dwelling unit rather than a percentage of the parcel. PC members agreed to stick with the 15% max development area for now until we come up with an alternative that makes sense.

4th bullet – buffer suggestion. Members agreed to remove the buffer requirement as it was not clear how that would benefit the wildlife travel corridor or what it would look like.

5th bullet – F&W review – Ken said that the Dept. of Fish and Wildlife would not charge a fee to review development proposals. He said that there are also consulting wildlife biologists but they may not come up with same recommendations as they would be working for the applicant. Steve suggested adding that a copy of the report or other evidence of F&W review be required.

Additional comments:

Ken suggested that we not use acronyms for Deer Wintering Habitat and Wildlife Travel Corridor.

Steve made reference to the general subdivision regulations – suggested adding lot shape recommendations. This is mentioned in the subdivision regulations. We will discuss subdivision regulations at the next meeting (Becky will send out March 2010 language to everyone).

Next Meeting on Zoning revisions - Steve commented that we should discuss telecommunication towers, wind towers, solar farms. Dan said that the Department of Public Service is coming up with standards for Town energy plans, so we may want to wait until those standards come out and the RPC has developed a regional energy plan. The new regulations say that you can't just put in regulations for solar OR wind. Steve said that as part of this grant, we need to know what can we do to improve the zoning language for now.

2017 MPG – Dan said that a few towns have expressed interest, and that we should check in with Jason Rasmussen if we have ideas for another grant. Becky suggested that we work on mapping possible sites for wind or solar so that we can update the energy plan; we also need to look into public water or sewer in Felchville.

Next meeting - 10/17

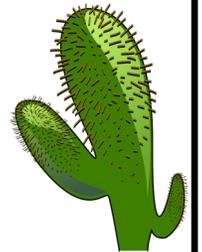
Adjournment – Ken made a motion to adjourn, Becky seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Becky Basch, Secretary

Municipal Tax Bills have been mailed out. Taxes are due to the Treasurer on Friday, November 4th, 2016 by 5:00 pm. Payments must be received by the Town Treasurer at that time; post marks are NOT accepted.



Headed to a warmer climate for the winter? Give the Town Office a note with your winter address and we will change it for the Informer mailing. The US Postal service will not forward your Informer.



Seasonal Flu Clinic

October 3, 2016

1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Reading Town Hall—Reading, VT

All adults 18 +

Please bring your Medicare Part B insurance card so they can bill them directly.

Fee for all others is \$25.

Sponsored by the Visiting Nurse & Hospice for VT & NH.

To locate flu clinics at other locations,

visit www.vnhcare.org or call **888-300-8853**



Recent Local Property Transfers
Edwin Peterson to Alexander Gibb
2311 Brown Schoolhouse Road .76 Acre \$89,900

Law Office of Peter K. Vollers, PLC

Peter K. Vollers, Esq.

KimAnn R. Vollers, Office Manager

T'Other House
4 The Green

Woodstock, Vermont 05091

Tel: 802-457-2420

Fax: 802-457-9960

pvollers@vollerslaw.com

kvollers@vollerslaw.com

Green Mountain Smokehouse

Voted 2014 Best Bacon Yankee Magazine

Rte. 5 Windsor, VT 802-674-6653

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- Garlic/Herb Smoked Chicken
- Bacon & Canadian Style Bacon
- Hickory Smoked Turkey Breast
- Smoked Sausages
- Marinated Meats
- 10 Flavors of Sausage
- Beef Jerky
- Pepperoni

JOSHUA GALE, DC

Chiropractic & Whole Food Nutrition

keyesmountain.com

jtgaledc@me.com

802.291.2288

Offices

39 Central Street, Suite 201A, Woodstock, VT

76 Keyes Mountain Road, Reading, VT

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Upcoming General Election—dates to note

November 2nd, Wednesday — last day to register to vote.

Town Clerk's office will be open until 5 p.m.

November 7th, Monday —last day to request an absentee ballot.

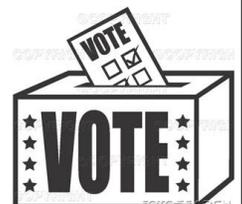
Ballots must be returned by 7 p.m. on Tuesday, November 8th.

General Election Voting

Tuesday, November 8th at the Reading Town Hall.

NOTE ! For your convenience voting hours have been extended.

Polls in Reading will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.



Librarian's Note

The library will sponsor a Make-a-Plate workshop for children on Saturday, October 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Participants are welcome anytime during those hours. The library will supply the materials and will pick up part of the cost of creating one plate per child. The fee for the workshop is \$4 for one plate, due on the day of the event. If parents would like additional plates, the cost is \$6.99 for each. A local art teacher will be on hand to help guide kids through the process. The finished plates will be returned in time for holiday gift-giving.

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*, *Science News*, *Sporting Classics*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Time*, *Upper Valley Life*, *Vermont Magazine*, *Yankee*, and the *Vermont Standard* newspaper. And we carry children's magazines as well: *Ranger Rick*, *American Girl*, *Ask* (arts & sciences), *Dig* (history), and *National Geographic Little Kids*. 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 are living spaces, not just warehouses for books. Part of the library's business is to generate social capital. The library is a transformative space that brings together neighbors, friends, families, and future families. Libraries sponsor events that tie in with the larger cultural practice of coming together as part of a community. Oftentimes people go to a library to find information but come away with new relationships.

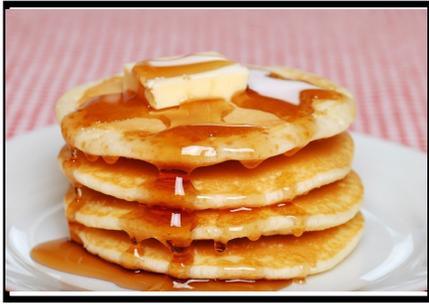
Quinn Bulkeley is a 17-year-old senior who homeschools along with taking a class at Woodstock. She and her family are long-time patrons of the Reading Public Library. Quinn and a friend have created a non-profit called SPELL (www.spellinitiative.org). They work with students in other countries who are learning English as a second language by providing them with children's books, developing pen-pal relationships with them via email, and video-chatting with them in their classes.

The SPELL initiative is presently partnering with a school in rural China. You can help Quinn by dropping off children's books—pre-K through grade-6 levels only—at the library. All we ask is that the books be in good condition. Please note, however, that the library can accept no other book donations at this time due to a lack of space. (You can try one of the neighboring libraries or Violet's Book Exchange in Claremont; if the books are in poor condition, you can put them in the recycling bin with the newspapers at the dump.)

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.



Leaf Peeper Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, October 23rd

8 am –10:30 am

Reading Elementary School

Come enjoy a delicious, homemade breakfast that includes:

HOT PANCAKES

FARM FRESH EGGS

LOCAL BACON And more.....

Cost: \$20 for families

\$ 8 for ages 12 and up

\$ 5 for children ages 5–12

Free for kids ages 4 years old and younger

Sponsored by The Reading Elementary School PTO



Spirit Night in Reading—Halloween Fun

Saturday, October 29th

4:30 p.m. Town Hall — Pizza in the downstairs dining room

5:00 p.m. Trick or Treat in town.

5:30 p.m. Parade to the Library for carved pumpkin judging

A guy in a librarian outfit will be passing out goodies to trick-or-treaters.

6:00 p.m. Town Hall — Activities and games.

These activities are free and we welcome children of all ages. Make sure carved pumpkins get to the steps of the Library and don't forget to put your name on it. If you would like to donate candy to help your neighbors in the Village with trick or treating, please drop it at the town office. If you are interested in helping with set up or clean up of these events, please call Esther Allen at 484-5027.

Sponsored by the Reading Recreation Commission

Reading Historical Society *Preserving The Past For The Future*

MORE READING FOLKLORE (AND A GUEST AUTHOR)

After last month's Reading Informer was delivered, I got an email from Hazel King offering another fun bit of Reading folklore. I was honored that she read my story. I am also happy—as we all should be—to have someone so knowledgeable of our town's history as a fellow resident.

Hazel and several other people compiled some of the town's history, recorded stories from friends and neighbors, and wrote personal essays about their own history in our town. All this work came together in a book called *Reading Stories*. It was published in 2011 in honor of 250th anniversary of the signing of the town charter, which occurred in 1761. The book is available at the library for a modest price. All proceeds from the book go to the library.

Hazel offered this story, which first appeared in Gilbert Davis' *History of Reading*, published in 1874. Hazel modified it from what Davis had written, but, she says, "the basic yarn remains as he wrote it."

MISSING STONES – OR MAYBE A TREASURE?

John Sawyer built Charles Buck's house. When preparing to build the chimney he wanted a stone some nine or ten feet long for a mantle tree and got Charles brother Benjamin Buck to go with him and find one. They went to the hill north of his house and went along to the border of the Buck farm. They found a stone that was large, but by splitting would make three large stones. So these frugal fellows left that one for later and went on to find one the size they wanted. At the time the next house was being built, the men went back for that big stone that could be split into three parts. They couldn't find it! They called on Uncle Ben who said he would bet his white mare that he could go find it blindfolded. He could not find the stone either. Benoni Buck, brother to Charles and Benjamin, did find the stone and marked the trees around it so they could find it again, but lo, when they went back, the stone was gone!

The story evolved that the stone was a sentinel or guard for a hidden treasure. So . . . is there a hidden treasure out there in them thar hills? Mebbe. The story goes on to tell about many who hunted for that treasure but none who ever found it. And, did the resulting piles of dirt grow grass and become part of the rolling hills of Reading's

Do you have a bit of history you want to get into public print or would like explored? If so, send me an email at stephen.d.dagostino@gmail.com, and I'll do what I can to get it into the pages of the Informer.

--Stephen D'Agostino

Calling All Crafters

The Reading Historical Society is planning a craft fair for December 3 at Robinson Hall. If you have a handmade craft business, knit sweaters, make Christmas ornaments, blow glass, carve wood, sell maple syrup and maple products, make things that would be perfect gifts—you get the idea—we want to hear from you!

Email stephen.d.dagostino@gmail.com if you want to learn more!



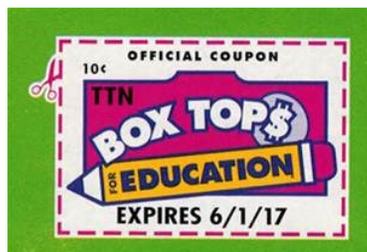
Reading Rockets information from the principal, Cathy Knight's blog

Ways to help Reading School at no cost to you -

The **AmazonSmile** Foundation will donate .5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers. If you'd like to help, please go to smile.amazon.com, and choose "Reading Parent Teacher Organization Reading PTO" from the list of organizations. Every little bit helps our students!

Price Chopper Grocery Store - AdvantEdge Card

Tools for Schools program - RES School Code is - 13970. Register your AdvantEdge Card and designate Reading, VT Elementary School at the local Price Chopper, at our school, or online at pricechopper.com. Schools can redeem accumulated points for free supplies and equipment. Tell your friends, neighbors, co-workers to register their card and designate Reading Elementary!



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION - Please save your box tops for the school. These can be found on hundreds of products; cereals, soups, food storage products, frozen foods, dairy, school & office supplies, household cleaning items, snacks, juices, tableware, waste bags. **You can leave these at the Town Hall; there is a wooden box hanging on the wall by the town clerk's office marked for these box tops.**

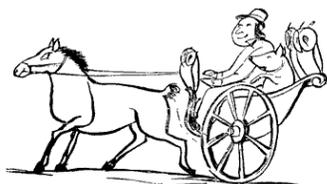
VOLUNTEER - We love community members involved in our school! Perhaps you can help "count" box tops, read in a classroom, plant flowers, share one of your skills with a classroom, or any number of other things! Feel free to e-mail Cathy Knight - cknight@wcsu.net with questions or call Libbet at 802-484-7230

Upcoming School Events

Thursday, October 6—"Back to School" Night

Monday, October 10—NO SCHOOL—Teacher's Inservice Day

Wednesday, October 19— School Picture Day



Green Mountain Horse Association

"Fall Foliage Rides"

Please note that there will be carriages as well as horses on the following roads.

Please travel safely.

10/ 7/16

10/15/16

Caper Hill Road

Spears Cemetery Road & Caper Hill Road

The Reading Informer
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October 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 <i>Fire Auxiliary 7 pm Fire Station</i>	4 <i>Fire & Rescue 7pm Fire Station</i>	5	6	7	8 <i>RES Community Yard Sale</i>
9	10 <i>Selectboard 6 pm</i>	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 <i>PTO 7 pm—RES Plan Comm 7 pm</i>	18	19 <i>School Board 6 pm</i>	20	21	22 <i>Library—Build a Plate program</i>
23 <i>PTO Breakfast</i>	24	25 <i>Library Trustees Mtg. 6 pm</i>	26 <i>Cemetery Commission 6 pm</i>	27	28	29 <i>Trick or Treat Night</i>
30	31					