



The Reading Informer *October 2019*

Published by the Town of Reading



**Reading Volunteer Fire Department
and Auxiliary invite you to attend
Fire Prevention Fair
Sunday, October 13th
11:00-2:00**

Come visit *your* Fire Station

Learn Fire Prevention Facts and HAVE FUN!!

- ◆ **Bring your Family and make a Family Fire Safety Plan**
- ◆ **Try on a Firefighter's Clothes**
- ◆ **Get Free Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors**
- ◆ **Find Common Fire Hazards and Learn Fire Safety Tips**
- ◆ **Take Your Picture in the Firetruck**
- ◆ **Have a free Lunch (while it lasts)**
- ◆ **Hands on Fire Extinguisher Demonstrations**
- ◆ **Sign up for door prizes**
- ◆ **Face Painting, outdoor games, kids activities**
- ◆ **Bounce House**

We hope to see you at the Fire Station





Leaf Peeper Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, October 13th

8 am — 10 am

Reading Elementary School

The PTO welcomes the community to join us at the school for our annual Leaf Peeper Breakfast. Come and enjoy homemade pancakes with local maple syrup, bacon, eggs, pastries, fruit and more.

We are looking for donations of eggs, juice and fruit. If you are able to donate any of the above, please contact Barbara at lord.barbara@sky.com

Hope to see you there. Reading Parent Teacher Organization



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***Fright Night in Reading
Halloween Fun
Thursday, October 31st***

4:30 p. m. Pizza in the Town Hall downstairs dining room. Everyone will get a ballot to vote for carved pumpkins on display at Reading Public Library

5:00 p.m. Trick or Treating in the Village, Trunk or Treating* in the Town Hall Parking Lot. Ghouls and Goblins can drop off their carved pumpkin ballots at the library by 6 p.m.

6 p.m. Winners of the carved pumpkin contest announced

6 p.m. Fright Night (activities and games) at Town Hall

*Trunk-or-Treating is a chance for people who don't live in the Village to hand out candy from the decorated trunks of their cars.

A prize will be awarded for the best decorated trunk!

Fright Night is free and we welcome children of all ages. 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 want to be a Trunk-or-Treater or want to help out with set up or clean up, contact a member of the Reading Recreation Commission.**



Sponsored by the Reading Recreation Commission

Stephen D'Agostino (stephen.d.dagostino@gmail.com), Gerry Marletta (gmarlettaiii@gmail.com), Lisa Kaija (lqkaija.com), Lisa Morrison (morrlisa@gmail.com), and Kelsey Coyle (kels32884@aol.com)

Meeting Notice: Let's Bring Old Home Day Back!

We want to hear what you have to say, so we are inviting you to a community meeting on **Wednesday, October 2 at 7:00 pm at the Reading Town Hall**. At this meeting, we would like to hear your thoughts on the following:

- **Should our community continue to host an annual celebration?**
- **Should it take place around Independence Day or some other time in the summer?**
- **What did you miss most about Old Home Day this summer?**
- **What is worth keeping and what can be let go?**
- **What can we add to the celebration?**

Who can you recruit to help with the celebration?

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, October 2 and hearing your great ideas about how we can keep this Reading tradition going!

If you are unable to attend the Old Home Day meeting, please e-mail your thoughts, questions and/or ideas to ReadingOldHomeday@gmail.com

Many townspeople and regular visitors to our town missed having Old Home Day this past July. For over 100 years, it has been a part of summer in Reading, starting on August 14, 1901. Back then, Old Home Day was a day full of speeches, songs and food. By the 1950's, Old Home Day included a parade, a band concert, a BYO picnic and a softball game.

The responsibility for running Old Home Day passed to the Reading Historical Society, probably in the 1960's, then to the Reading Volunteer Fire Department in 1976. The Ox Pull was added in 1992 and the Ducky Derby in 2007. In past years, the Reading Public Library hosted a book sale. More recently, people who live along Rt. 106 have held yard sales and "Reading Friends and Neighbors" (now the Reading Recreation Commission) sponsored carnival games and concessions around Felchville.

Clearly, Old Home Day has changed over the years!

Is Reading Old Home Day Coming Back in 2020?

We are grateful to the Reading Volunteer Fire Department for running Old Home Day for 43 years. Now, it is time for the townspeople of Reading to work together to bring back this annual community celebration.

The next iteration of Old Home Day can be something different and still be a wonderful event for the town. It certainly can be a continuation of past celebrations, but there is plenty of room for creativity and innovation.

**Thank you
Fellow Citizens of Reading**

Selectboard Meeting Minutes
September 9th 2019 Unapproved

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm. Present: Robert Allen, Jim Peplau, Gordy Eastman, Esther Allen, Stephen, D'Agostino, John Malcolm, and Chris Recchia; Managing Director of ECFiber.

Robert started the meeting asking if there were changes to the agenda. Fall Fair was added under other.

Minutes of the July 29, 2019 Selectboard's minutes. Jim moved to approve and Gordy seconded. Report is accepted.

Treasurer's Report: As of 8/31/19, YTD Expenses were \$95,807.28; YTD Revenue was \$105,301.40, the balance in Mascoma is \$303,593.20. Delinquent taxes for 2017 and 2018 are \$13,901.55. Jim moved to approve and Gordy seconded. Report is accepted.

Action Items:

- ECFiber Network Hub: John introduced Chris Recchia, director of ECFiber who explained their request to build a hub in Reading locating it at the fire station. The building will be 3' x 4' x 7' high set on a cement pad. In exchange for the hub the Town will receive one free high speed internet connection. This connection will be at the Town Hall. The 25 year lease contract with ECFiber was modified and signed by the Board and Chris. ECFiber will carry liability insurance and the Town will be an additional insured. Construction will take place in early 2020 with the access connection established in late 2020.
- ATV – Mike Colman did not attend the meeting. Jim asked if there had been any change in the roads that ATV's were allowed to be on; answer is no. Jim stated that there is an issue on the 20 Mile Stream Road with ATV's using that road to get to the Colby Pond area. Jim will let Mike Colman and Mike Chamberlin from the Sheriff's Dept. know about the abuse.
- Highways: Truck repairs are complete and warranty updates are being done before it is returned to the Town. Highway crew is installing a 30" culvert on the Brown Schoolhouse Road. Ditching has been completed on the Tyson Road side of Town and the crew will be working on Puckerbrush Road and then will go to Town Hill. Robert will discuss the request for a culvert at the entrance to Weld Cemetery with Glen and also the request for "No Thru Road" signs on each end of Weld Cemetery Road. GPS systems are telling people to use that road as a way to and from Brown Schoolhouse Road.
- Grants-in-Aid – Spear Cemetery Road: All 3 segments of work are complete and culverts installed. Paperwork has been submitted for reimbursement by the Grant.
- Better Roads Grant – Road Inventory for stream protection conformance: The Regional Planning Commission is working with the Town to take this inventory. They review all the roads that have connected segments near streams to determine if there are any issues with silty water running into streams. A course of action would then be determined for any locations identified with issues.
- Better Roads Grant – Caper Hill: This work has all been completed. We need the final vendor payment cancelled check(s) to submit paperwork for grant reimbursement.
- Municipal Planning Grant Resolution: The planning commission requested that the Board sign the resolution so that grant funding can be received to hire professional assistance from the regional planning commission to review and update the Town Plan. Total amount of the Grant is \$10,680 of which the Town would be responsible for paying \$1,068. Motion made by Jim and seconded by Gordy to sign the resolution. Resolution approved.
- Driveway permits: Permits were reviewed and approved by the Board for Richard Grogan at 1400 Grasshopper Lane and Stacy Gallowhur at 100 Baileys Mill Road.
- Other Items:
- Stephen reported for the Rec Commission that the Fall Fair planning is progressing. They would like to have a town truck at the event along with the fire trucks. Glen will see that the new truck is available. The FD will be doing a barbeque. Calista to confirm that the certificate of insurance is enforce for that day for Newhall Farm.
- John asked the select board to consider changing the date of their meetings because it conflicts with the schoolboard meetings in Woodstock. Residents like to attend both meetings. The board will consider the request.
- John asked about the status of the Welcome to Reading signs. Esther reported that the committee is still meeting and working out some location and installation issues.
- Robert reported that the installation of the generator at the Town Hall has been completed and tested. Generator weekly test will happen automatically on Tuesday afternoon.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. Submitted for record, Esther E. Allen, Assistant Town Clerk

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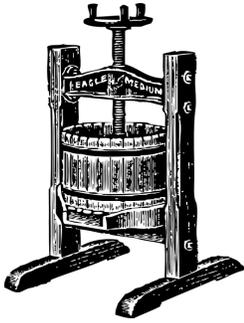
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Town of Reading tax bills

have been mailed and are due on
Monday, November 4, 2019 by 5 PM
Postmarks are not accepted.

Please contact the Town Clerk at 484-7250
if you own property and have not received a bill.



Spring Brook Farm

Annual Open House
734 Caper Hill Road
10 am to 3 pm

Saturday, October 5th, 2019

Free to the public Rain or Shine

Farm Tours

Cheese House Tours

Wagon Rides

Kids Games

Craft Table

Face Painting

Apple Cider Press

Gift Raffles

Free Barbeque

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Meet the Animals—Petting Zoo



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Seasonal Flu Clinic

Monday, October 21, 2019

1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Reading Town Hall—Reading, VT

All adults 18 and over

*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**

Law Office of Peter K. Vollers, PLC

Peter K. Vollers, Esq.

Dana Twigg-Smith, Paralegal

T'Other House
4 The Green

Woodstock, Vermont 05091

Tel: 802-457-2420

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Brownsville, VT 05037

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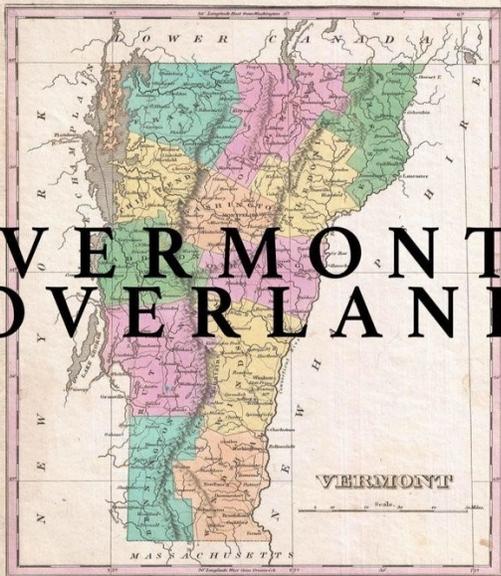
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Librarian's Note For October

The library will sponsor a Make-a-Plate workshop on Saturday, October 19, 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 person. The fee for the workshop is \$4 for one plate. If folks would like additional plates, the cost is \$6.99 each. Fees are due on the day of the event. The finished plates will be returned in time for holiday gift-giving.

Please note that the library cannot accept 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.

The library has 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 can be a transformative space that brings together neighbors, friends, and families. Libraries sponsor events that tie in with the larger cultural practice of coming together as part of a community. With that in mind, come by the library on Halloween night. A guy in a librarian outfit will be passing out goodies to trick-or-treaters.

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 Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. Wi-Fi 24/7.

The Reading Historical Society

Preserving The Past For The Future

A Man Fitting of a Portrait

A sketch of Dr. James P. Osborne, whose photograph hangs in our library

Recently, I asked librarian Tony Pikramenos about the portraits hanging in the library. I was especially interested in those of less than famous locals. One is of Dr. James P. Osborne. A note attached to the portrait reads that it was presented by his wife, Mrs. James P. Osborne. Who was this man, I wondered.

I found the answer by happenstance. Recently, I was skimming Gilbert A. Davis's *History of Reading, Volume 2*. I stopped to read about the pomp surrounding the opening of the library. Well into the ceremony, the President for the Day (remember, the proceedings were grand), Wade Keyes, Esquire, thanked many people. At one point, Keyes said, "You will also be pleased to hear that Mrs. Dr. Osborne is with you today, and has promised to give a portrait of her husband, who successfully practiced medicine here for many years, more than a generation ago."

Now I know how the portrait got to the library, as a gift given during its dedication. What of the man?

In Chapter 7 of Davis' history, "The Baptist Church and the Baptist Society in Reading," I learned that James Osborne was on the ministerial committee of Reading's Baptist church. In a biographical sketch, one of many in the book, I discovered that James P. Osborne "was for many years a resident physician and surgeon, at Felchville. He was [born] at Piermont, N. H., in 1843, fitted at Newbury, (Vt.) Seminary, and graduated at Dartmouth Medical College. He was a successful and popular physician, both at Reading and Tilton, N. H., and at the latter place was extensively engaged as a manufacturer, and accumulated a large property. He left surviving him a wife and daughter, the latter now dead." The sketch also mentions the portrait hanging in the library.

Also noted in the Wade Keyes's remarks during the library's dedication is that Mrs. Annie E. Robinson promised a portrait of her husband, the late "well-remembered and beloved" Dr. Robinson. He became the "practicing physician of this village" after Dr. Osborne left.

The study of medicine takes a lot of time and, likely, a lot of reading. Its practice requires a lot of knowledge. It is fitting, then, that the portraits of two of Reading's nineteenth-century doctors grace the walls of the town's library.

Stephen D'Agostino

My email address is stephen.d.dagostino@gmail.com, and my phone number is 802-484-5425.

Calling All Crafters!

The **Fourth Annual Reading Historical Society Holiday Craft Fair** will take place on **Saturday, December 7**, in Robinson Hall. If you're a crafty type (or know someone who is a crafty type) and want to participate in this year's fair, please contact Stephen D'Agostino at stephen.d.dagostino@gmail.com.

Meeting Schedule

Board of Selectboard

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
6:30 PM at Fire Station

Library Trustees

Last Tuesday
6:00 PM at Library

Parent Teacher Org

Second Tuesday
6:00 PM at Reading School

Planning Commission & Zoning Board

First Monday
7:00 PM at Town Hall

R.A.T.S

2nd Wednesday
7:00 PM at Fire Station

WCMUUSD School Board

Second Monday
6:00 PM Locations Vary

Snowmobile Club, Little Ascutney

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

Recreation Commission

2nd Wednesday
6:00 PM at Library

Emergency Telephone Numbers

Fire and Ambulance 911

State Police 802-234-9933

**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 7:30 am—3:00 pm

First Saturday of the Month by appointment

Website: www.readingvt.govoffice.com

Email: readingvermont@comcast.net

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Greg Smith 802-384-2101

Post Office Iiri Makkonen 484-5994

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9:00 to 12:00

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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

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Reading Elementary School

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Reading Planning Commission

readingvt.plancomm@gmail.com

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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.

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October 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>Fire & Res- cue 7 pm</i>	2 <i>Meeting Town Hall 7 PM—Old Home Day</i>	3	4	5 <i>Spring Brook Farm Open House 10 am—3 pm</i>
6	7 <i>Fire Aux 6:30 PM Plan Comm. 7 PM</i>	8	9	10	11	12
13 <i>PTO Breakfast at RES 8—10 am Fire Safety Fair @ Fire Station 11—2</i>	14 <i>Selectboard 6 pm</i>	15 <i>PTO 5:30 at RES</i>	16	17	18	19 <i>Make A Plate Library 10 am -2 pm</i>
20	21 <i>Town Hall FLU Clinic 1—3 PM</i>	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 <i>Library Trustees Mtg.</i>	30 <i>Cemetery Mtg. 6</i>	31 <i>Trick or Treat Town Hall 4:30 —8</i>		