

SORRENTO NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2025

79 Pomola Avenue, Sorrento, ME 04677 ☎Tel (207) 422-6889 ☎Fax (207) 422-3737

townoffice@sorrentomaine.org www.sorrentomaine.org

Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards.

Søren Kierkegaard

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 8 am – 3 pm

Wednesday: 10am-3pm

Friday: 8 am – Noon

Office Staff

Town Clerk: Sherri Tracey

sherri-townclerk@sorrentomaine.org

Deputy Clerk/Registrar of Voters:

Joanne Holmes

townoffice@sorrentomaine.org

Select Board:

Diana Gazis 207-422-3697 term expires 2025

diana.gazis@sorrentomaine.org

Hilly W. Crary 207-422-3462 term expires 2026

Hilly.crary@sorrentomaine.org

Rob Wilpan 207-422-9115 term expires 2027

rob.wilpan@sorrentomaine.org

Code Enforcement Officer & Plumbing Inspector:

Stephen Cox 207-263-6887

dennysriverpipe@yahoo.com

Fire Chief/Road Commissioner/Public Safety Officer:

Joey Clark 207-812-2208 term expires 2025

tonkajoe801@yahoo.com

Harbormaster:

Lou Sutherland Jr 207-266-5706

harbormaster@sorrentomaine.org

E-911 Addressing Officer:

Maggi McCaw

911officer@sorrentomaine.org

Public Access Officer

Maggi McCaw

Public.access@sorrentomaine.org

RSU 24 School Board Member:

Newbold Noyes 207-422-3396 term expires 2026

nnoyes@rsu24.org

Frenchman Bay Regional Shellfish Conservation Warden

Mike Hall 207-400-6183 or 207-963-7104

**FRIDAY COFFEE 9AM TO 12PM
SORRENTO COMMUNITY BUILDING**



SORRENTO SELECT BOARD MEETINGS

Are held the first and third Wednesday of each month
7:00 p.m.

In person at the Sorrento Community Building
and via ZOOM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86535623920?pwd=ajZHVE9sbStmQXpZSGM rZkNwUT09>

Meeting ID: 865 3562 3920

Passcode: 307652

**April Select Board Meetings
4/2/2025 & 4/16/2025
Community Building 7PM**

PLANNING BOARD MEETING

Regularly scheduled meetings will resume

First Thursday of each month

In person at the Town Office 5pm or ZOOM

Meeting ID: 889 8753 5935

Pass Code: 470621

planningboard@sorrentomaine.org

Budget Committee Meetings

Mondays 8am-10am, March 24th thru April 28th

ZOOM Meeting 828 664 7932

Pass Code 735806

Sorrento Comprehensive Plan Committee

Please visit the Sorrento Comprehensive Plan
website to review presentations and discussion
group results.

<https://aphilson.wixsite.com/sorrentocomplan>

Committee Meeting

Tuesday April 22nd 10AM

Town Office

Credit and debit cards are now accepted at the Town Office!

Minimum Fee \$1 up to \$40.00

2.5% Fee on charges \$40 and over



**Sandra Libby, Celebration of Life
Sorrento Community Building
April 19th, 1pm-3pm**

The family of Sandra Libby invites the community to a "Celebration of Life" gathering for her at the Sorrento Community Building on Saturday, April 19, 2025, from 1:00-3:00. We'll start with an open time for people to share stories about Sandra, as well as Ron, and listen to some of their favorite music. This will be followed by visiting, looking at family photos, and snacking.

Sandra died during the first week of February 2025 and Ron passed that same week in 2015. They had lived on the West Side of Sorrento since 1965 where they raised their four children - Russell, Pam, Chris, and Ronda.

Those wishing to remember Sandra can make gifts to:
Frenchman's Bay Library, P.O. Box 215, Sullivan, ME 04664.

ANNUAL EARTH DAY ROADSIDE CLEANUP

Please join our Annual Earth Day Roadside Cleanup!
This year on Saturday, April 26th (rain date: Sunday April 27th).
Meet at Town Office parking lot at 10 a.m.

Please wear high-visibility clothing, and bring gloves and tick prevention.
Bags and trash stickers and snacks provided!

Sorrento Town Election June 10, 2025

Select Board Member	3yr Term
Fire Chief	2yr Term
Road Commissioner	2yr Term

Nomination Papers are available at the Town Office February 24, 2025
Nomination Papers need to be returned to the Town Office April 9th by 5PM

**Town of Sorrento Annual Meeting
Sorrento Community Building 7PM
June 16, 2025**

The Community Building is reserved April 5th, April 19th & June 10th
The Village Green is reserved July 4th, July 17th- 21st & Sept 6th
Please contact the town office to reserve
The Community Building or the Village Green

Notes from the Chair:

April is National Volunteer Month! And as you know, Sorrento functions better because of the kindness of our Many volunteers. We, the Select Board, are grateful for each one of them.

Here below are the things that Volunteers do to help our little Town:

- Serve on the Fire Department
- Serve as Ballot Clerks and Election Warden
- Serve on Town Committees:
Budget, Planning Board, Comprehensive Plan, Community Building, Town Buildings, Roads Group, Harbor, Board of Appeals
- Work at the Pollinator Meadow Project
- Helped get the CB backroom ready for renovations
- Help with the municipal sewer system
- Help with our FEMA needs
- Organize and participate in Earth Day roadside cleanup
- Organize and participate in Halloween Trunk or Treat
- Organize and participate in Christmas cookie giveaway
- Serve as local Health Officer
- Host Friday morning coffee hour
- Work on fundraising

And all of those who do receive regular town paychecks Also go above and beyond their hours and job descriptions to “do what needs to be done” for Sorrento. Thank You!

Board of Selectpersons Minutes

Town Office

3/5/25

Attending. Hilly Cray (chair), Diana Gazis, Rob Wilpan, four observers in person, and two observers on ZOOM.

Call to order and good news report. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. The good news was that Walsh Engineering will soon put the paperwork for the FEMA project out for bids.

Agenda adjustments. There were no adjustments to the agenda.

Approve minutes of Selectboard meetings on February 19, 2025. A motion was made by Diana and seconded by Rob to approve the minutes of the Selectboard meeting on February 19, 2025. The motion passed unanimously and the minutes were signed.

Approval of Disbursement and Payroll Warrants #17. A motion was made by Rob and seconded by Hilly to approve Disbursement Warrant #17 and the associated payroll warrants. The motion passed unanimously, and the warrants were signed.

Community Building update. There is soot in the building because the dampers aren't working properly and allow soot to escape from the burner. Nobody has been able to fix the dampers, so one solution would be to order the necessary parts and put the dampers back on the factory specs. The burner will need replacement in the future and we need to start setting aside money for this purpose.

CEO/LPI. The question of how to determine a flat rate rather than an hourly rate for our new CEO/LPI was discussed. We will wait until we have an estimate of the CEO/LPI's hourly workload before determining a flat rate instead of an hourly.

Welch tree cutting. The object of the tree cutting, as explained by Teresa, would be to preserve saplings and suckers from stumps and then after 5 years look again to see what of the growth could be cut, the object being to protect the waterfront and preserve a view.

Appointed vs. elected fire chief. The majority of the neighboring towns have an appointed rather than an elected fire chief. The advantage of an appointed fire chief would be being able to ensure that the fire chief had the proper certificates of training needed for the job. This is a change that we might consider for the future.

Walsh Engineering/FEMA update. Walsh is ready to accept bids for the FEMA repair work.

Public Comments on Agenda Items. There were no public comments on Agenda Items.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 PM.

Diana Gazis *Rob Wilpan*

approved with 1 edit above
Hilly Cray

3/19/25

April 2025

FRENCHMAN'S BAY LIBRARY



EVERYONE Welcome!!

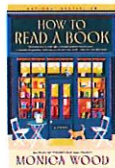
April Events

Library Cards are free!

Every Monday at 10:30 am
Come knit! Everyone Welcome!



Saturday April 12th 10 am - 2 pm - DEAR Time!
Drop Everything And Read Day!
Come read with us! Tea & Treats will be available

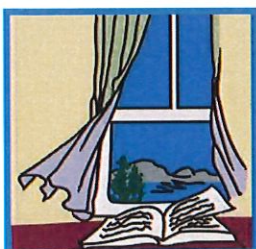
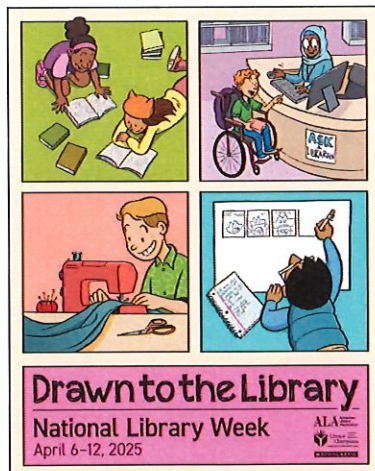


Tuesday, April 15: 2:00 pm - Book Club
How to Read a Book by Monica Wood



Thursday, April 17th 6:30 pm - Board of Library Trustees Meeting
Open to public. We would love to have you join & support us!

CALL for VOLUNTEERS



Frenchman's Bay Library

HOURS: Mondays 10-2, Tuesdays &
Thursdays 1-5; Saturdays 10-2
207-422-2307; fbaylibrary2017@gmail.com
www.frenchmansbaylibrary.org

Two Lights for Tomorrow

In 2026, the United States will commemorate the 250th anniversary (the "Semiquincentennial") of its founding. This anniversary presents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to share the whole history of our nation and make progress in becoming a more perfect union. To kick-off this commemoration, the Maine Semiquincentennial Commission is participating in **Two Lights for Tomorrow**, a nationwide initiative to commence the celebration of the 250th birthday of the United States of America.

The famous rides of Paul Revere, William Dawes, and others alerting their fellow patriots of the movement of British troops occurred overnight on **April 18–19, 1775**. A signal – two lanterns in the tower of Christ Church in Boston – indicated that the British regulars were traveling via the Charles River. Two Lights for Tomorrow uses the imagery of that shining light as a uniting call to action for our fellow citizens, no matter where they are, to commemorate and remind ourselves that our history is about working together for a promising future.

How Can Your Community Participate?

All you have to do is **display two lights in your homes, at your visitor centers, your cultural, historical, and community sites, and in your government buildings** on April 18, 2025 to commemorate the beginning of our continual efforts as a nation to work together for a brighter future. There isn't a specific kind of light, duration of display, or location because the important part is just the willingness to participate!

On Friday, April 18th you'll have two opportunities to join celebrations in Augusta:

- At 11:30am join us in the Hall of Flags in the state capitol for a press conference with Secretary of State Shenna Bellows and enjoy excerpts of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem, *Paul Revere's Ride*, read by Portland Youth Poet Laureate Yashaswini Derisala.
- At 7:30pm join us in Capitol Park for the lighting!

Thank you for helping us kick-off this once-in-a-generation opportunity to share the whole history of our nation and make progress in becoming a more perfect union.

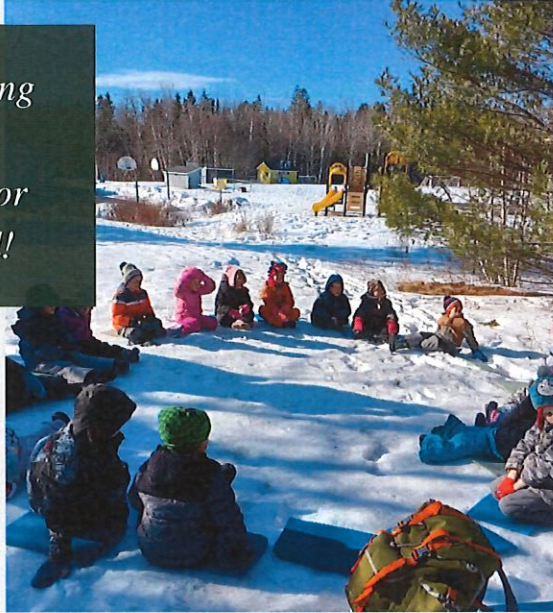
Shenna Bellows, Chair

Sarah Hansen, Executive Director
Maine Semiquincentennial Commission

COUGAR CHECK-IN

bjordan@rsu24.org

*Enjoying
Maine
Outdoor
School!*



OUR SCHOOL GOALS 2024-2025

Update on our school-wide improvement goals.

Goal 1: The percentage of K-5 students meeting their projected growth target will increase from 59% to 65% as shown on the end of year NWEA.

Fall to Winter as of 3/1/25: 71% met winter growth goal

Goal 2: The percentage of K-5 students meeting their projected growth target will increase from 30% to 40%.

Fall to Winter as of 3/1/25: 48% met winter growth goal.

Goal 3: MV's average daily attendance will increase from 93% to 95% by the last day of school.

As of 3/1/25: 92%

Goal 4: Implement Positive Behavior and Intervention Supports. We have created our school-wide matrix of expected behavior as well as classroom matrices.

Trimester 2 Ends

We have just finished trimester two having spent 117 days of growing our brains and making progress!!

What is PBIS? "It is a proactive approach to teaching and supporting positive behavior in students. It is a system of strategies used to create a positive school environment by teaching and reinforcing good behaviors." If you hear us ROAR-ing, it's because we are Respectful, take Ownership, have a good Attitude, and are Responsible and safe.

Mountain View Youth Sports finished the winter season, and we are grateful for the following coaches: Whitney Boucher, Brent Conary, Victor Jacques, Katelyn Cote, Althea Christiansen, and Michelle Bennett.

PTO News: The group is reaching out for sponsors for our Annual Fun Run happening in May. If a business or individual would like to help sponsor the t-shirts, please reach out to mountainviewschoolpto1@gmail.com.



*Trying to
catch those
pesky
leprechauns!*

MONTHLY SUBMISSION

Greetings from RSU No. 24,

It is hard to believe that we are already looking at the end of March and that we have roughly fifty school days remaining. I'm ready for the green grass and warm temperatures!

The Budget and Finance Committee is almost done with their work of reviewing the various department/school budgets of the district. There is an unavoidable rise in our budget with the majority attributed to the much needed increase to salaries and the anticipated increase in health insurance. The full RSUB will consider and hopefully approve the budget at its April 8th meeting. The District Budget Meeting will take place on May 28th at Sumner starting at 6:30 p.m. If you reside in one of our nine communities, you will be able to vote on the proposed budget at this meeting. The next step in the process is the school budget referendum held on June 10th. The referendum vote takes place in each of our communities at the designated voting station. The final budget information will be distributed to our communities after the District Budget Meeting and prior to the referendum and will be accessible on our website.

We are cautiously optimistic that we will get on our baseball and softball fields this spring. We will learn a great deal as we transition into spring and see how the fields bounce back from winter. If you drive by the school, you will notice that the dugouts are nearing completion. Many thanks to the Carpentry Program from Hancock County Technical Center (located at Sumner), as they are putting the finishing touches (roof, siding, paint) on the dugouts.

For those planning ahead, the Sumner Memorial High School class night is Tuesday, June 3rd and graduation is Thursday, June 5th. Sumner Middle School will hold its 8th grade promotion on June 9th. The Adult Education Certificate Ceremony is June 4th and Adult Education Graduation is the 11th.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at meastman@rsu24.org.

Sincerely,

Michael Eastman, Superintendent
Regional School Unit #24
2165 US Highway 1
Sullivan, Maine 04664
Email: meastman@rsu24.org



Sullivan, Franklin, & Sorrento Families:

*If you have a child who will be 4 (pre-school) or 5 years-old (kindergarten)
on or before October 15, 2025, please call the school to sign up! 207-422-3200*



Follow us on Facebook



Mountain View School

Mountain View PTO



The spring weather has finally arrived and wildlife is wasting no time shedding winter's grip to enjoy the spring season!

For many of these animals, such as black bears, they have lost a significant amount of body weight and are on the move looking for food after emerging from their winter dens. While denning, black bears enter a state of torpor, slowing their metabolism and respiration, breathing only once per 15 to 45 seconds, and dropping their heart rate to 8-21 beats per minute. Even

with a lowered metabolic rate, bears still lose significant body fat. Unlike true hibernators, bears don't eat, drink, urinate, or defecate during this time.

Once spring comes and bears emerge from their dens, they are working to regulate their bodily functions slowly until normal activity ensues. Bears will seek out limited springtime foods such as insects, grasses, sedges, leftover hard mast from the fall, and other early spring vegetation. While natural foods are limited, bears may take the risk and wander into backyards in search of easily accessible food. It is especially important be proactive about securing and removing backyard attractants this time of year to prevent conflicts with black bears.

Take steps now to prevent black bears from coming to your yard:



Birdseed

- Remove birdfeeders between April 1 and November 1
- Rake up unused bird seed from the ground
- [Learn how to plant natural foods to attract birds, not bears](#)



Garbage

- Store garbage cans in a building or enclosed by electric fence
- Take to curb on morning of pickup
- Keep dumpster lids and doors closed and latched
- Use bear-resistant dumpsters or garbage cans
- Keep outbuilding and garage doors closed at all times and repair broken windows and doors



Grills

- Clean grills thoroughly after use
- Store grill inside when not in use
- If you are having bear conflicts, stop grilling until bear moves on



Pets and Livestock

- Feed pets inside
- Store livestock and pet food inside
- Keep livestock in buildings at night
- Install and maintain effective fencing for livestock



Summer Jobs in Sorrento

The Sorrento VIA is hiring:

- Camp counselors and CIT's
- Sailing Instructors
- Tennis and Pickleball Assistants
- Lifeguards

July - August 2025

\$14.65+ per hour

Application Deadline April 15, 2025

Apply at www.sorrentovia.org/employment

Questions? Contact sorrentovia@gmail.com



Due to ongoing traffic concerns on the Town of Sorrento roads

Rules and Regulations regarding golf carts on Maine public roads

Golf carts are not allowed on a public road that does not have conspicuous signs placed at regular intervals stating that the road is for golf cart access. These roads are only near golf courses or in areas with a large number of courses.

To drive on allowed low speed roads:

The cart must weigh less than 3,000 pounds, must be registered with the [local DMV](#) and operated by a licensed driver. This requires you to get the cart inspected to meet federal and state safety standards. At this point, you'll get a VIN and can register and license your cart. Upgrades that you need to add to your cart include windshields, seat belts, stop lights, turn signals, taillights, headlights, reflex reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirrors, and more. These upgrades must be done according to state and federal law or they may be null and void.

Contact a local golf cart repair technician to upgrade your cart in this way.

Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2093

Dog Licenses

****Dogs must be licensed by January 1 of each year or when they reach 6 months of age.**
\$6 for neutered/spayed... \$11 for unaltered

****Any dog living in the Town of Sorrento must have a Sorrento license/tag.**



Please let the Town Office know if your dog is no longer with us

*****When licensing your dog, you must bring with you your dog's rabies certificate showing the tag number and date of expiration and your certificate of proof of spay or neuter, unless these are already on file at the Town Office.**

Online licensing is available October 15 thru January 31
www.apps1.web.maine.gov

Starting February 1 a fine of \$25 will be due along with the registration fee on any unregistered dog. If you no longer own a dog that was registered last year, please call the Town Office to update our records.

State of Maine's Rapid Renewal system for Sorrento is now available:

[Rapid Renewal | Vehicle & Trailer Registration Renewal Service](#)

If you would like an email reminder for you motor vehicle registration renewal at the beginning of the month, please send your name and email to:

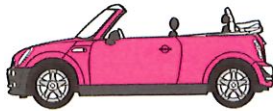
townoffice@sorrentomaine.org

Online Boat Registration Renewal:

[maine rapid renewal boat registration - Search](#)

Online Fishing and Hunting licenses:

[IFW Hunting & Fishing Licenses | Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife](#)



When transferring your auto registration from your vehicle to a new/newer vehicle, you MUST bring in the registration of the vehicle you are transferring from.

Sorrento Town Office hours Monday 8-3, Wednesday 1-6 and Friday 8-12

Sorrento now has vehicle plates!

EXPIRATION DATES

VEHICLES: Expire a year from when they are registered (unless you are transferring)

TRAILERS: Can be registered for 1 or 2 years, same month, except over 2000 lb.

Trailers expire in Feb. (1 or 2 years)

BOATS: Expire Dec. 31st ATVs: Expire June 30th SNOWMOBILES: Expire June 30th

MOTORCYCLES: Expire March 31 of every year, except antique

SORRENTO SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Residents of Sorrento are eligible for scholarship funds to pursue additional learning after high school. These scholarships can be used for a wide variety of education – college, technical school or many other accredited programs. Students receive up to \$1500 per semester plus a bonus for achieving top grades.

Please consider a gift to this fund and become a part of the community encouraging the next generation of high school graduates to pursue additional education after high school.

Please make checks payable to: Sorrento Scholarship Fund

and mail or drop off checks to: Gina Bennett, PO Box 93, Sorrento, ME 04677

Sorrento residents, who are currently or will be starting post high school education in the future, please contact Wendy Worrell at 402-689-8682

To submit news or advertise in the Sorrento Newsletter, email townoffice@sorrentomaine.org or call 207-422-6889



The deadline is the 20th of the month.

The Schoodic National Scenic Byway Committee would like to have a member from Sorrento! If you are interested please email: info@barbaraeshanahan.com or call 207-479-2699. And check out their website: schoodicbyway.org

CARTER BROTHER'S SCRAP METAL PICK-UP

Danny Carter 207-422-9120

We pick up appliances, plumbing material, household wiring, or any metals.

Call us to schedule a pick-up



Sorrento Fire Department

BURN PERMITS

You are required by Maine law to have a permit to burn, even for a small pile of grass clippings or leaves. A Forestry Warden will be called if you burn without a permit, possibly resulting in you being summonsed to court and fined.

The person who signs the fire permit is responsible for the fire. Do not leave any fire unattended.

To obtain a burn permit contact:

Joey Clark, Fire Chief	207-812-2208	Craig Clement, Chief Engineer	207-460-7340
Brian Clement, Deputy Chief	207-460-4772		
Mike Parker, Asst. Chief	207-460-7340		

Required for burning:

- **at least two adults to attend the burn,**
- **some form of water supply and hand tools must be on hand,**
- **and it is recommended you have a cellular phone or other communication device to call for assistance should the fire escape. YOU are responsible to see that the fire is out before leaving.**

TAKE NOTE

BURNING TRASH IS ILLEGAL!!

State Laws (12 MRSA 9321-25) governing the backyard burning of household trash are enforced by the Maine Forest Service.

If you think someone is burning trash **please call 973-3700 immediately!** 24 hours/day, 7 days a week.

ONLINE BURNING PERMITS

Traditional hand-written burn permits are still available, but the state online system allows permits to be acquired 24 hours a day, seven days a week, throughout the state, provided that the fire danger is not high.

For more information, call 287-4989 or visit www.maineburnpermit.com.

SORRENTO FIRE FIGHTER MEMORIAL

Fire Chief Joey Clark is looking for volunteers to form a committee for the Sorrento Fire Fighter Memorial to be built on the old Sorrento fire house property, honoring deceased members of the Sorrento Volunteer Fire Department.

Contact Joey at 207-812-2208 or email tonkajoe801@yahoo.com

Please consider donating to the Sorrento Fire Fighter Memorial Fund. Checks can be made out to the Town of Sorrento (write FF MEMORIAL in the memo field) and mailed/dropped off at the Town Office, 79 Pomola Avenue, Sorrento, ME 04677

