
Madbury Musings

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SELECT NOTES

Here we are, well into February already, and still waiting for winter to do its worst. While some of us are missing the x-c skiing and snowshoeing that winter brings, there are plenty of others rejoicing in clear roads and blue skies. Either way, spring isn't that far away.

At the suggestion of our insurance provider through the Local Government Center, an internal control overview was recently completed for the town by Municipal Resources Inc. All aspects of our financial procedures were studied, and suggestions were made as to where we could improve. The report was very good, and there were very few suggestions made. This reinforced what the Selectmen have known for some time – that we are in very good hands with our Treasurer Deb Ahlstrom in charge! She is very knowledgeable concerning municipal fiscal affairs, and we are fortunate to have her in charge of our financial affairs. She has two able assistants in our Town Clerk/Tax Collector Kitty Cornwell and our Selectmen's Assistant Colette Clickman. They care about this community, and it shows in so many ways.

The Oyster River Youth Association no longer has access to the

playing fields at the winery in Lee. Because of this, ORYA has been hard pressed to find enough field space for all the children who want to participate in their programs. In order to compensate for the loss of the Lee fields,

ORYA has approached the Selectmen with a request to expand the size of the playing field at Tibbetts Field. Their plan is to build a second field of the same size adjacent to the existing field. They propose installing a well

TOWN OFFICE NEWS

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING will be held March 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. Polls will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. for action on Article 1 – the election of town officers.

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST will be in session at the Madbury Town Hall on March 3, 2012 from 11:00 – 11:30 a.m. This will be the last time to register prior town meeting day, however, you may register at the polls that day. The Supervisors will also be meeting on June 5, 2012 from 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. (last day to change party affiliation and on September 4, 2012 from 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. (prior to the state primary).

DOVER RECYCLING CENTER: The Center, located at 265 Mast Road, is available to Madbury residents: be prepared to show documentation that you are a town resident. As hours open are periodically adjusted, call 516-6450 or visit their website at dover.nh.gov for current information.

WINTER PARKING ORDINANCE will remain in place until April 1, 2012. This ordinance prohibits parking on all streets and roads during snow plowing and removal operations. Any vehicle so parked will be towed at the owner's expense. Placing of snow in the town road right-of-way during personal snow removal is prohibited. Your cooperation will help keep the roadways open and safe for all travelers.

DOG LICENSES: 2012 Dog Tags are now available. You are encouraged to license your dog prior to May 1 to avoid penalties. A male or female dog license is \$9.00 and spayed or neutered dogs are \$6.50. Owners over 65 years old can register one dog for \$2.00. A current rabies certificate is required. For previously licensed dogs, you may renew the license via mail by sending in a check and a self-addressed stamped (.44) envelope. If you would like an e-mail reminder, please e-mail tcmadbury@comcast.net and in the subject line type in Dog License.

and an irrigation system, and will build a large shed on site to hold equipment and shelter the well-head. This shed could accommodate a snack service area at some point, as well. They propose expanding the existing parking area, and installing a small additional parking area to service the fitness trail that the recreation commission is considering installing. This fitness trail will loop around the proposed and existing fields, and will contain several exercise stations. ORYA will bear the cost of the improvements, with the exception of the fitness trail, which is a town project. Because ORYA will be investing heavily in constructing this improvement, and would assume the cost of maintenance, they have proposed a lease arrangement with the town. This is a new way of approaching playing field use, as in the past, the town has built, controlled and maintained the fields. ORYA was given permission by the Selectmen to do preliminary

site work and develop a plan for the improvements, but no decisions about this project have been made at this time. This will be discussed at Town Meeting, when the Selectmen ask for a “sense of the community” about this project.

Recently several Madbury residents took advantage of the City of Portsmouth’s invitation to tour the newly completed water treatment plant on Freshet Rd. The reservoir is a fact of life in town, with the water it contains leaving our community due to a long-ago act of the Federal government. The tour itself was quite interesting, and it was reassuring to know that the new plant is state-of-the-art and is one of the first in the country to be LEEDs certified, since our community will be hosting this plant for the foreseeable future.

Just a reminder that our transfer station opens for the season on April 28. However, recycling takes place year-round, due to our

agreement with the City of Dover that allows Madbury residents to recycle extensive materials at their facility on Mast Rd.

Town Meeting is March 13 this year. Polls will open at 11:00am for voting, with the meeting scheduled for 7:00pm. Come, participate, be a part of the future of your community while continuing a form of small-town government that is literally centuries old.

Joan Sundberg



Recreation Commission

The Recreation Commission has been working on the details for the New Madbury Fitness Trail, to be located around the perimeter of the Tibbett’s playing fields. The committee met with Mike Feld, athletic trainer at Oyster River High School and employee of Rehab 3 in Rochester. We discussed what types of stations should be included, benefits of different distances between stations, and pros and cons of different surfaces for the running/walking portion of the trail. We hope to get started with the actual installation of the trail in the near future.

As we start heading toward warmer weather and spring, we know many of you are anxious to get out on the Madbury playing fields. Please keep in mind that using the fields when the ground is too wet can cause damage and costly repairs for the town. Please stay off of the fields until they have been officially opened and the signs have been removed.



Peter Rice, Portsmouth ,City Engineer, Water & Sewer Divisions, explains features at the new water treatment plant to Madbury residents. E. Fiegenbaum

Water Resources Board

From time to time the Water Resources Board designs water well testing surveys to collect and maintain data on the quality of water within the town's aquifers, and to assist homeowner's in determining the quality of their individual well water. To encourage participation, past surveys have split the costs of analysis. In 1998 and 2000 surveys were conducted with respect to volatile organic compounds (VOC's).

"VOCs" refers to a group of chemicals that are used as solvents and in many household products; they are also constituents in gasoline and fuel oil. The state recommends testing for VOC's every 5 years, or depending on risk. The Board believes it is appropriate to again survey for VOC's and is in the process of designing a survey and determining costs. We hope to have more details available at Town Meeting, and conduct the testing during the summer. Please watch for upcoming information if you are interested in participating.



Donation Opportunity

Certain civic flags in town are in need of replacement. Anyone interested in donating a new 4"x6', outdoor quality flag should contact Colette Clickman at the Town Hall.

Perambulation

Perambulation might be defined as: to make an official inspection of a boundary on foot. NH statute (RSA 51) prescribes that "The lines between the towns in this state shall be perambulated, and the marks and bounds renewed, once in every 7 years forever, by the selectmen of the towns ..." Rules indicate that it is the duty of the "first incorporated" town to invite the abutting town to the perambulation.

This summer Lee (1766) invited Madbury (1755) to do a perambulation on the common boundary. On August 17, representatives walked the boundary and found all the markers that had been referenced in the last perambulation (1984), in which Sylvia Grimes represented Madbury. The assembled did not come up with an answer to the observation that the engraved town letters and dates are sometimes backward and/or upside down. Over the past year, both Dover and Durham have made gestures toward a perambulation with Madbury, but these have yet to be realized.



The Durham-Lee-Madbury corner monument.

E. Fiegenbaum

Madbury Public Library

Happy 2012 from the Madbury Public Library! Spring is just around the corner! What a wonderful time of year with new beginnings and warmer weather. Since the October edition of the Madbury Musings, a couple of staff changes have taken place at the library. In December, Nancy Bergeron decided it was time to retire, and said farewell after spending five wonderful years as the library director. She was given a farewell party where many friends and patrons stopped by to bid her adieu and wish her well. Happy Retirement, Nancy! I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as Madbury's new library director. My name is Shay Doyon. I live in Pembroke, NH and have been working in libraries since 2003. I graduated from Southern NH University with a Bachelors degree in Business Studies concentrating in Business Administration and a Masters degree in Organizational Leadership. I also became certified in Public Library Management when I was the Director of a small town public library in Iowa. I am very pleased to be a part of such a wonderful community. I look forward to working with the staff, volunteers, and trustees. I also look forward to meeting the patrons and residents of Madbury. Also new to the library staff is Crystal Lisbon our Children's Librarian. Please stop by the library and give her a warm welcome. Crystal started with us on February 8th and is very eager to get involved with the children's programming

at the library. Crystal is a Dover, NH native that brings to the Madbury Library a world of theatrical experience that will offer dance, music and art during story times. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre from the University of Vermont. She has also worked as a youth counselor and instructor for Camp Center Stage, which is situated on Crescent Lake in Maine.

“Congratulations” to Peggy Wolcott who received the 2011 Library Volunteer of the Year Award! She was presented with a certificate and a Madbury Library mug at the Annual Thank You Breakfast for Volunteers. Peggy is also a very active member in the Friends of the Madbury Library group.



Peggy Wolcott (left) accepts certificate from Nancy Bergeron (right) as Ken Wolcott (center) looks on. E. Fiegenbaum

The Friends of Madbury Library meet the second Thursday of the month at 7pm. They are a group of dedicated Madbury citizens who continue to help develop the concept of our town library. They support the library with their enthusiasm and fresh

ideas, through volunteering, and through generous donations and fundraising. All through the month of February up until March 13th, the Friends are holding a Fundraiser Basket Raffle at the library. Stop by the library and buy your tickets for a chance to win a beautiful basket. Themes include: “Wine & Cheese To Go”, “Movie Madness”, “Winter Breakfast Warm-up”, “Sock It To Me”, “Love Your Cat”, “Little Miss Crafter”, “Prelude To Romance” (Chocolate, Wine & Music), “Book Lover’s Delight” & “Fun Time for Toddlers” (Games and Puzzles). All baskets are on display at the library. All proceeds will go towards to the New Library Building Fund. If you would like to get involved with the fund raising aspect of getting the new library built then the Friends of the Madbury Library Fund Raising Committee is what you are looking for and they meet at various times. Please contact the library for more information.

On Saturday, March 10th from 10:30am-12noon, the library will be hosting a “Tax Talk” workshop with Dennis Shea. Dennis runs the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program at Southern NH University. He will be able to answer your tax questions and give you some insight as to what forms to fill out and file with the IRS for your best tax return. This workshop is free of charge!

Help celebrate National Library Week April 8 – April 14. Stop by the library and “*check out*” the latest titles in print, audio, or DVD format.

A babysitting/First-Aid course will be offered on Saturday, April 14th from 10am-3pm. The cost is

free for Madbury residents. Please bring a bag lunch for the 6 hour course. McGregor Memorial EMS offers the two-year certification through the American Heart Association.

Working in conjunction with the Durham and Lee libraries we will offer two spectacular, fun-filled programs during the kids’ school vacations!

During winter vacation, we will have “Alex the Jester” performing on March 1st @ 10:30am in the ORHS multi-purpose room. He has daring stunts, mind-bending sight gags, musical capers and physical feats! There is audience participation, lavish costumes and lots of laughs. DON’T MISS IT!! All ages are welcome! Admission is FREE!

During Spring Break, please join us for the Scott Jameson Magic and Juggling performance on April 26th @ 10:30am in the ORHS multi-purpose room. Scott is known for captivating his audiences with his talent and innovation. Don't miss this fun performance! All ages are welcome. Admission is FREE!

We have two very dynamic Book Groups. The Daytime Book Group meets on the 4th Monday of each month @ 2pm. Our Evening Book Group meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7pm. We also have a Writing Group that meets on the 2nd Monday of each month @ 5:30pm. New members are always welcome at any of our group meetings!

As always, we thank each and every one of you for your continued patronage and generous support!

Shay Doyon