

# Madbury Musings

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[www.townofmadbury.com](http://www.townofmadbury.com)

## SELECT NOTES

### To Flood or Not to Flood

FEMA has issued revised flood plain maps. These maps are used in determining eligibility and costs for flood insurance. New high resolution satellite measures of elevation have been used to refine flood plain boundaries. In Madbury the changes have generally reduced the size of floodplains slightly. A number of homes that were within the old floodplain boundaries are now outside the boundaries. If you would like to see a map, contact the Building Inspector at the Town Hall or go to the FEMA website: Start at <http://hazards.fema.gov/femportal/prelimdownload/>. Select NH and Strafford county. Open the "FIRM" with item ID 33017CIND2B. This will help you find which item you need to open to see the map of your area. The Federal government has made important changes to the National Flood Insurance Program in the past couple years. This page provides many helpful links if you are interested: <http://www.nh.gov/oep/planning/programs/fmp/>

### Pothole Postlude

With any luck at all, pothole season is over. Spring roadwork fix up is underway including sand sweeping, brush clearing, culvert

clearing and sign repair and replacement. You may have noticed that permanent culvert guard posts are being planted at culverts all around town too.

### Let There Be efficient low energy Light

Installation of new energy efficient lighting in the Town Hall, Library and Safety Complex is complete. PSNH offered a free evaluation and a contribution of 50% of the cost of any recommended retrofit. After evaluation of the existing equipment and its use, PSNH's contractor, Lighting Retrofit Services Inc. provided proposals for each of the three facilities. PSNH will contribute

half of the retrofit cost. Payback periods (how long it will take to recover the cost of the retrofits from energy savings) on the Town's share of the cost are projected in the range of 3.1 to 3.7 years for the various facilities. Many of the changes involve upgrading older florescent lighting with the newest technology by replacing ballasts and lamps in existing fixtures. The greatest single energy reduction will come from the replacement of the outdoor lights at the Safety Complex with LED fixtures. These are large lights that operate all night, all year round.

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## TOWN OFFICE NEWS

**DOVER RECYCLING CENTER** is open year round and available to all Madbury residents. The Center is currently open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. Additional information can be accessed through their website: [www.ci.dover.nh.us](http://www.ci.dover.nh.us).

**MADBURY TRANSFER STATION** opens on the last Saturday in April and closes on the third Saturday in November. Monthly hours are 9:00am – 4:00pm on 1st & 3rd Saturdays, as well as 4:00pm to dusk on the 2nd Wednesdays.

**DOG LICENSES:** NH state law requires all dogs to be licensed. Dog licenses expired on April 30. Late fees begin to accrue on June 1. Please be sure your dogs rabies vaccination is up-to-date and renew (or get a new license) for your dog during regular business hours. You may call the Town Clerks Office for more information (742-5131)

**TAX BILLS:** It is anticipated that tax bills will be mailed on May 27 and due by July 2.

**OFFICE CLOSINGS:** Town Clerk/Tax Collector office will be closed on September 1 for Labor Day.

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## **Mighty Mailboxes**

Each winter, mailboxes are assaulted by snowplows. Inevitably some of the mailboxes lose. The conflict is unavoidable. The Post Office dictates the location of the box. The plows must move the snow away from the road (has anyone forgotten this past winter?), right past the mailboxes.

We expect our plow drivers to be cautious and diligent but to think it's possible to push the snow back and NEVER hit a mailbox is perhaps unrealistic.

Some mailboxes appear to have escalated the conflict:

The GRANITE citadel – Whether chosen for beauty or perceived strength we don't know but that expensive granite mailbox post is not the pillar of strength it might appear to be. Granite has enormous compressive strength. That granite mailbox post might actually hold up the plow truck if it were balanced on top of the post. Holding up the snowplow however is not a usual function of mailbox posts. They do need to resist a lateral blow from a plow or even one from a fast moving mass of heavy wet snow thrown from the plow. This requires tensile strength. Granite tensile strength is poor. Some kinds of wood have higher tensile strength. When the tensile strength of Granite is exceeded it doesn't flex with the strain, it snaps. Don't do this \$400 physics experiment!

The STEEL and CONCRETE bulwark- Now here is a worthy opponent for that plow. A concrete filled steel pillar has both tensile and compression strength. It might actually stand up to the plow. Unfortunately it might

damage the plow ...or anything else that hits it: car, motorcycle, bicycle, person, etc. If you put up one of these monsters to protect your mailbox make sure your liability insurance is paid up. If you put one in the right of way (25' from center of road generally) you create a traffic hazard. Don't! The Town of Madbury has not created an ordinance restricting mailbox design and we aren't eager to do so but please think twice when replacing your mailbox post. Your local home supply store offers attractive low cost mailbox components that are reasonably strong yet break away in a collision AND are easy to replace if they lose in the winter mailbox war.

## **Your Opinions**

The Planning Board has conducted a survey of public opinion on several issues related to Master Plan development. The results have been tabulated and posted on the Planning Board web site: <http://www.madburynh.org/Survey/>. This is an interesting snapshot of what we collectively like and don't like, what we agree or disagree about.

## **FIRE PERMITS**

Without snow cover, fire permits are required for all outside fires, including outside fireplaces and chimineas. (charcoal grills are exempt). Permits may be requested by calling the station at 742-1164, or the Duty Officer at 617-0563.

Seasonal permits should be renewed as well.

If you are thinking about installing a fire pit, please contact the Fire Department for guidelines prior to installing it.

## **READY RIDES**

As you may be aware, Ready Rides is a volunteer driver program serving nine towns in our area. Rides are available, free of charge, to disabled residents, and those over the age of 55, to medical appointments. Several Madbury residents have already been approved as drivers and the group is now ready to accept ride requests. If you need a ride, or would like to volunteer, please contact MERI SCHMALZ, the coordinator, at 244-8719 or [info@readyrides.org](mailto:info@readyrides.org) Each town has been asked to find 1 or 2 people to serve on the Board of Directors.

Please contact Kitty Cornwell at: [kitty@myfairpoint.net](mailto:kitty@myfairpoint.net) if you are interested.

## *Madbury Public Library*

Summer is always a busy time at the library and we're hard at work planning for an action-packed July and August. The 2014 Summer Reading Program, Fizz, Boom, Read, is all about science and you won't want to miss our great lineup of events. Here's just a sample:

The kick-off, a joint program with the Lee Public Library, will feature Jungle Jim's Mousetrap Show and will be held Wednesday morning, July 2, 10:30, at the Lee Safety Complex. On Monday, July 7, 10:30, come see Carol and Crew puppets at Madbury Town Hall. Durham, Lee, and Madbury will host Wildlife Encounters on Thursday, July 17, at 10:30, again at Madbury Town Hall. And mark your calendars for Wednesday evening, Wednesday, July 30,

6:30, for fun evening with accordionist Gary Sredzienski. This concert will be held at the Madbury Town Hall. The closing event, on Tuesday, August 4, includes a visit from the Museum of Science, Boston.

In between the events and shows, come to the library for many other activities, including story times and reading clubs for children, teens, and adults.

### **Museum Passes**

Don't forget our museum passes! As an MPL patron, you will receive free or reduced admission to a number of local museums. Please call ahead to reserve; these passes are very popular during the summer.

In the meantime, look for many of our ongoing activities, including:

### **Read to Rosa the Dog.**

Beginning and experienced readers are invited to spend time with Rosa the Dog, either reading or being read to. Children can sign up for 20 minute sessions. Rosa will be at the library every first Monday of the month.

### **Story Times for Children**

Story Time is offered every Monday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. and is hosted by Children's Librarian Crystal Lisbon. Here is a sneak preview of upcoming themes: Pigeons!; all things silly; flowers, gardens. (We might even help plant a garden at the library!) Ms. Crystal reads books with a special fun flair, and children can complete a simple craft (which often features googly eyes!) Both sessions are open to all preschoolers. The final regular session before the Summer Reading Program begins will be the week of June 16

### **Library Groups**

Adults are invited to join these groups that meet monthly at the library:

*Friends of Madbury Library* – meets the second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.

*Daytime Book Discussion Group* – meets the fourth Monday of the month at 3 p.m. Upcoming books include the following: June 2, *The Signature of all Things* by Elizabeth Gilbert; June 23, *Dear Life* by Alice Munro; September 22, *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt. (The group does not meet during July and August.)

*Evening Book Discussion Group* – meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Upcoming books include the following: June 10, *The Art Forger* by B.A. Shapiro; September 9, *The Greater Journey* by David McCullough. (The group does not meet during July and August.)

*Writing Group* – meets the second Monday of the month at 5:15 p.m. Writers are invited to share their works and receive constructive input from other members. The last meeting until September will be June 9.

*Quilting Group* – meets the second and fourth Monday of the month at 6 p.m. We're beginning a new project, a pot holder quilt. If any quilter/sewer is interested, we need pieced squares no bigger than 10 inches square. We'd like to have as many as possible participate. Please drop off your square, pieced or appliqué in a bag with your name and phone number attached at the library so we can contact you for the next step. I will be at Madbury Day to answer questions or call me at 742-542, Martha Mercer

### **We Love Requests!**

Did you know that you can borrow library materials when the library is closed? Just visit our website, [www.madburylibrary.org](http://www.madburylibrary.org) and look for the link "click to download audiobooks & eBooks." (It's located on the left hand side of the page.) You can download all types of eBooks and audiobooks – bestsellers, biographies, teen novels, and so much more. Best of all, they are free! If you have a Madbury Public Library card barcode number and a computer, Nook, Kindle or similar device, you are all set. Call the library for help!

And, don't forget how many other ways there are to borrow materials, both new and not. We borrow many items each week from other New Hampshire libraries so just let us know what you're looking for. And, we happily accept requests for new item. Our philosophy is that, if one Madbury resident is interested in a new book, audio, or DVD, there are probably a few more. So please ask...you very likely will receive.

### **A Word from the Friends of the Library**

The Friends of Madbury Library have had a busy spring. A total of \$1,086 was raised from the March basket raffle! Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who bought tickets and donated baskets. The Friends provided support for several events – PuppeTree's "Caps for Sale" on April 24 and Raptors Rapture on May 3 and approved support for upcoming events -- Jungle Jim's Mousetrap Show, the kick-off for the summer reading program, and Carol & Crew puppet show on July 7. Funding for museum

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| <i>Tentative Schedule</i> | <b>Madbury Day ~ Saturday, June 14, 2014</b>   | <i>Subject to change</i> |
|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Time                      | Event  | Location                 |
| 9:15 – 11:30am            | Music in the Morning Cafe - Music, coffee and desserts.  | Town Hall                |
| 9:00am - 2pm              | Friends of Library Book Sale & Open House  | Madbury Public Library   |
| 9:30am - 2pm              | Historical Society, Water, and Conservation exhibits, Moharimet School display, ORHS Robotics, quilting an spinning crafts, farm animals, bouncy tent, strolling minstrel, birds of prey, alpacas, and more. | Town Hall and beyond     |
|                           | Church yard sale Plant sale Pottery crafts American and Indonesian food concessions Roberta's Clown, balloons & bubbles  | Madbury Church           |
| 10:30am                   | Joshua Chamberlain Documentary Clips from WMUR's "Chronicle" in Madbury Karate demo  | Town Hall                |
| 11:30am                   | Parade Line-up at Cherry Lane (cars line up at Madbury Woods)  | Cherry Lane              |
| 12 noon                   | Parade! - Everyone is welcome to join in!  | Town Hall Rd             |
| 12:30pm                   | Oyster River Middle School Jazz Band.  | Town Hall                |
| 1:15pm                    | Sweaty Turtle Theater  | Stage in the Woods       |
| 5 pm                      | FAST Squad Dessert Auction   | Town Hall                |
| 6 pm                      | Madbury Fire Department Chicken Barbecue Tickets available from any firefighter, the Town Clerk or Town Library. Reserve now! Adults \$12.00 Children \$6.00   | Town Hall                |

### **Road Closure and Parking**

From 8:00am until after the 12:30 Jazz Band concert, Town Hall Rd will be closed from Rt. 155 to the Moharimet School bus access lane. A detour route will be available through the School parking lot.

Parking will be at the School, and the lower Demeritt and Tibbetts fields off Rt. 155. The upper Demeritt field lot (by the Library) will be for official handicapped placard holders only. Additional parking may be available near the Cemetery on Town Hall Rd, if conditions permit.

Shuttle vans will make rounds from the Tibbetts Field lot.

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passes to the Seacoast Science Center and the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum was also approved.

We wish to thank our donors and volunteers for all their generous support. The year 2014 is off to a great start to what we hope will be a record-breaking year in support for the Madbury Library. We will be reaching out to the broader community in the weeks ahead to update the town on our

efforts, and to request additional funds for both ongoing and future projects. Residents should watch for an annual campaign letter in May. The Friends are prepared to kick it off, as continued support of the community is vital to a successful library. Please consider making a tax-deductible gift to the annual fund today. Checks may be made payable to Friends of the Madbury Library. The annual book sale will be held on Madbury Day – June 14, 2014! A wide as-

sortment of used books will be available for sale - fill a bag and make a donation! All proceeds from the sale benefit the Friends of Madbury Library and are used to support educational services and programs. If you have books to donate, please bring them to the library during business hours.

The Friends are a group of Madbury citizens committed to supporting the growth and success of our town library.