

Madbury Musings

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Madbury, NH 03823

May 2022

www.townofmadbury.com

SELECT NOTES

Nute Road ditches have been cleaned and the road's deteriorating pavement has been ground in along with new base materials. Paving is expected within the next couple of weeks; weather, manpower, and supplies permitting.

The NH Department of Transportation needs to replace a failing culvert on Route 108 just north of the Madbury/Dover town line (near GC/AAA Fence). They could make the road a one-way road for three weeks, but that would likely cost more, be less efficient and more inconvenient. They have opted for a 3-5 day road closure. Signage and media outreach will promote a detour using Mast Rd., Pudding Hill Rd., Rt. 155, Madbury Rd., and Route 4. The current plan calls for the work to occur at the end of June.

Cardboard, we seem to be using a lot of it. And recycling it is a good thing, but if it is just left on the side of the road in a pile it is difficult and time-consuming to deal with. Two foot by two foot tied or taped bundles are ideal. They must not be larger than 4x4 bundles, or risk being put in with regular trash. Small cardboard can be put in a small cardboard box. An alternative is to use the Dover Recycling Center at 265 Mast Road in Dover. They take other recyclable items and their website has more information.



Selectmen accept donation of a new utility all-terrain vehicle (UTV) from the Madbury Voluntary Firefighters Association. See the article on page two. (l to r, Janet Wall, Fritz Green, Fire Chief Tom Perley, Mark Avery)

TOWN OFFICE NEWS

OFFICE CLOSURES: Town Offices will be closed on Memorial Day, May 30th, and on July 4th.

TAX BILLS: The first issue tax bills for 2022 have been mailed and are due by July 6, 2022.

DOG LICENSES: 2021 licenses expired on April 30. You are encouraged to license your dog prior to June 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 may register one dog for \$2.00. A current rabies certificate is required. Licensed dogs with a current rabies vaccination on file may be renewed online at www.townofmadbury.com.

MADBURY TRANSFER STATION is open. Monthly hours are 9:00 to 4pm on 1st & 3rd Saturdays, as well as 4pm to dusk on 2nd Wednesdays.

DOVER RECYCLING CENTER is open year round and available to all Madbury residents. The Center is currently open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 8:30am to 3:30pm. www.dover.nh.gov

Madbury Volunteer Fire Department History

At the March 2022 Town Meeting, Fire Chief Tom Perley spoke about a new firefighting tool that was on display outside the building. While the tool was shiny and new, its history is traced back to 1947. Summarized here from Tom's remarks is the story.

In the mid 1940's the Northeast suffered from a drought which brought major wildfires to some parts of the region. One fire ranged from the Ossipee Pine Barrens down the Route 16 corridor through Rochester to the border with Barrington. A call too close for Madbury.

In 1947 a group got together and incorporated the Madbury Volunteer Fire Department. On March 11, 1947, the Madbury Town Meeting passed Article 12, which approved the purchase of firefighting equipment, Included were backpack forestry tanks, hose and pumps. On April 1, 1947 the Selectmen gave the firefighters a 1942 Chevrolet truck (purchased from the War Assets Administration). Using the pipe shop at Elliot Rose, managed by Jim Colprit, and a tank donated by Daniel F. Richard, Madbury's first engine was home built. It still exists today, as Madbury's Forestry 1. Without a garage it spent its first couple of years in Barrington, under an agreement that Barrington could use it if they needed it, but they would bring it to Madbury if we needed it.

Also in 1947, the town found it more cost effective to tuition its students to surrounding communities, thus closing the Central School on Madbury Rd. In 1949, the Town Meeting voted to allow the fire department to use the

southwest corner of the old school to store fire equipment.

1947 also happened to be the year that a Madbury resident, Willard Sanders, graduated from the Dover High School. Willy soon joined the Madbury Fire Department and served in the department until his passing in 1995, holding various positions including Director of the Madbury Volunteer Firefighters Association. Willy married Marilyn Hale, who has family ties to the Taylor Hale Egg Farm on Littleworth Road. They settled on Mill Hill Road. Upon Marilyn's passing in 2016, the Madbury Volunteer Firefighters Association received a donation from the will.

Jumping to 2021, Madbury had a 20 acre wildfire on the north side of the Bellamy Reservoir near the Tolend Landfill. It may hold the distinction as the largest wildfire in New Hampshire for 2021. Besides Madbury's 1965 Mercedes Unimog 4x4, several utility all-terrain vehicles (UTV's) came from surrounding communities to gain access to that wet soil area. Also in 2021, the Fire Department responded to two medical aid calls which were supported by Durham's UTV.

Those incidents made it reasonable to consider using the Sanders' donation to purchase a UTV for Madbury. The vehicle, pictured on page one is outfitted with a forestry skid (water tank and pump) and has a place for a rescue litter. It has been donated to the Madbury Volunteer Fire Department by the Madbury Volunteer Firefighters Association.

If you have not already done the math, 2022 is the 75th anniversary of the Madbury Volunteer Fire Department.

Happy 75th! Thank You!

Madbury Day News

Madbury Day is moving to
Saturday, September 10th.

We're hoping we'll have better weather and an expanded farmers' market with the change.

We're looking for lots of volunteers this year for some new booths and activities, in addition to having all our old favorites.

Anyone who is interested in volunteering or has an idea for a booth or activity can reach out to Karen Matta Oshima at: karen.mattaoshima@gmail.com or 508-345-2172.

Madbury Historical Society

The Madbury Historical Society will have a meeting on June 14, 7:00 PM at the Madbury Town Hall. The presenter will be Glenn Knoblock.

The Program will be "New Hampshire on High: Historic and Unusual Weathervanes of the Granite State". This program offers a fun and engaging look at the historic and unusual weathervanes found on New Hampshire's churches, town halls and other public buildings from earliest times down to the present. Highlighted by the visual presentation of a representative sampling of the vanes found throughout the state, Glenn Knoblock will trace the history of weathervanes, their practical use and interesting symbolism, as well as their varied types and methods of manufacture and evolution from practical weather instrument to architectural embellishment.

THIS PROGRAM IS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH A GRANT FROM THE NEW HAMPSHIRE HUMANITIES AND THE "HUMANITIES TO GO PROGRAM".

Planning Board

"Do you operate a business in Madbury? If so, please read on. In Madbury, we are blessed with a range of businesses from established companies, to "mom-and-pop" businesses, to home-based enterprises. Some of these are based in our small Commercial District, but the majority are located in our Residential and Agricultural District. As such, most of the business sites in Town either predate our Zoning Ordinance or are run out of people's homes. However, such businesses still need approval from the Planning and or Zoning Boards. The approval process is straightforward and largely focused on consistency with the neighborhood and mitigating any nuisance, safety, or environmental concerns. If you haven't received approval for your business yet, please give the town a call at (603) 742-5131 or email the Planning Board at: MadPlanBoard@gmail.com to get the process started. We will help you determine what approval is necessary and help guide you through the process."

Madbury Water Resources Board

FREE TESTS FOR HOUSEHOLD RADON AVAILABLE

Radon is an odorless, colorless gas naturally released from rocks, soil, and water as part of the decay process of uranium, thorium, or radium. These radioactive metals are often present in granitic rocks, which are highly prevalent in New Hampshire, the Granite State. Why is this a concern? Breathing radon, especially over a long period of time, can in-

crease your chances of lung cancer. 30 to 1,800 deaths per year in the United States are attributed to radon from household water.

Radon can enter your home through the foundation, or through water from private wells. Showering, washing dishes, and laundering can disturb the water and release radon gas into the air you breathe. The most significant radon exposure is typically through the air; radon aerosolized from water is not the most significant contribution in your household unless the level in your well water is significantly elevated.

Based upon data from New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NHDHHS), there's about a 50% probability that a home in Madbury will have radon levels above 4.0 picoCuries per liter (pCi/L). Current recommendations in New Hampshire are to consider reducing radon in water when the level is between 2,000 - 10,000 pCi/L and the airborne radon level in the home is 4pCi/L or more. There is no safe level of radon, but the concentration does matter as higher levels equal higher exposure and therefore higher risk. However, there are ways to reduce the amount of radon in your home.

The most common method of radon mitigation is a sub-slab depressurization (SSD) system, which uses a fan and pipe to draw air from below the basement floor or slab and then vent it above the roof, where it dissipates very quickly. Sealing cracks in your foundation and basement also help mitigate household radon.

If radon is also detected at a significant level in your well water, there are two options to treat it. One is a ventilation or aeration treatment, where water is sprayed or mixed with air and then vented prior to use. The other option is granular activated carbon (GAC) treatment, where water is filtered

through the GAC to remove the radon. This necessitates special handling in disposing the cartridge if radon levels are high. Either way, it is important to treat water at point-of-entry so all water is treated.

Mitigating radon through an SSD system is typically cheaper than well water treatment, with an average of about \$1,200 nationwide. The water treatment option is more expensive, ranging from \$1000 plus cartridges for GAC treatment to \$3,000 and up for aeration treatment.

It is best to test for radon annually, as concentration fluctuations can occur. Right now, there is a FREE PROGRAM through the NH Radon Program to test the radon level in your house.

The process is very simple. Please use this link to request your free kit:

drhomeair.fmbetterforms.com/#/new-hampshire-free

Further information on radon can also be found here:

www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/environmental-health-and-you/radon.

Giana Gelsey

Water Resource Board Member

Water Testing for Madbury Homeowners

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) is sponsoring a pilot project later this year in several Seacoast towns/cities to encourage homeowners on private wells to test the quality of their drinking water. Testing will be free of charge to Madbury homeowners. As soon as a date can be set, the Madbury Water Resources Board will host an informational meeting to be presented by NHDES to talk about this pilot project, the need for homeowners to test their well water and how to take a proper water sample. Water testing kits will also be available. Further details will be forthcoming as they are available.

Madbury Public Library

Library Hours - Monday & Wednesday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Thursday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

UPCOMING HOLIDAY HOURS

Monday, May 30: Closed
Monday, July 4: Closed

Address - 11 Town Hall Road.
Phone - 603.743.1400
You can find out about upcoming events at the library's website: www.madburylibrary.org.
Visit us on Facebook!

2022 Summer Reading Program: Oceans of Possibilities

This year's Summer Reading adventure, "Oceans of Possibilities," will explore the deep blue sea and every possible related topic. We hope it will encourage young and old alike to read, study, dream, scan the horizon, or simply stare into a tidepool. The Oyster River libraries (Durham, Lee, and Madbury) are sponsoring five joint programs this summer; all in person and outside. Sign-ups begin Monday, June 20!

Our Official Summer Reading Kick-Off ~Thursday, June 30, 10:30, Durham Public Library. Musician and fan favorite Steve Blunt will play outdoors at DPL. You just might learn how to dance like an octopus!

High Flying Frisbee Dogs! ~ Thursday, July 7, 10:30, Little River Park, Lee. Mike Piazza, K-9 frisbee world record holder, will bring his amazing border collies to Lee.

Mr. Aaron ~ Monday, July 11, 10:30, Madbury Public Library. This multi-instrumentalist singer songwriter will perform under the pop-up tent.

Wildlife Encounters ~ Thursday, July 14, 10:30, Madbury Public Library. The always-popular live animal show will return again this summer. Come early, bring blankets!

Squam Lakes Aquatic Critter ~ Thursday, July 21, Durham Public Library ~ A naturalist from Squam Lakes Natural Science Center will bring three different animals who live in, on, or above New Hampshire's waters

Summer Reading Finale with Toe Jam Puppet Band ~ Thursday, July 28, 10:30 @ Little River Park, Lee. TJPB is almost too much fun!

Plus our Story Trail will be up all summer and fall. During Summer Reading the book will be *Down to the Sea* with Mr. Magee by Chris Van Dusen

Two Weekly Story Times! There will be Monday story times with Jacky at 10:30 and Wednesday Yoga story times with Kayla at 10:30.

How About Museum Passes? Passes to the Children's Museum, Dover; the Seacoast Science Center, Rye; Museum of Science, Boston; Boston Children's Museum, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and New England Aquarium are available through June 30. We also have seasonal passes to Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, Holderness, and NH State Parks. See our website for more information or call us.

Regular Programs @MPL Friends of the Library meeting, June 9, 7:00 pm ~ The Friends support the library in many ways and are always looking for more friends.

Daytime Book Discussion Group ~ Meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 3 pm, September through June. On June 27 the group will discuss *House of Mirth* by Edith Wharton. They will not meet during July and August.

New Playground Grand Opening
Site work will begin this month on the natural playground we're adding to our side yard. equipment will follow in July and August. We'll be having a Grand Opening once all the parts are in place. Look for more information soon.

Madbury Post

The Madbury Post is an email notification service established in order to facilitate the timely distribution of important town information. Messages from the service originate from the Board of Selectmen, Town Clerk or Emergency Services. It is sent once a month throughout the year and when a situation requires it.

You can sign up to receive the Madbury Post by visiting a webpage on the town website: www.townofmadbury.com/html/madburypostsignup.html.

