

Madbury Musings

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Madbury, NH 03823

May 2023

www.townofmadbury.com

SELECT NOTES

A reminder to motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians alike! With warm weather here our roads will see more bicyclists, joggers, walkers, and dog walkers out on our roads. Since we don't have sidewalks we must share the roads. We challenge everyone to respect the rights of all to use our roads in safety.

Pedestrians, please stay to the side of the road and keep your dogs under your close control. Bicyclists, please remember that you are operating a vehicle and need to follow the rules of the road. Drivers, please move over and give pedestrians plenty of space. Also, it's very easy to become too comfortable on familiar roads and let speed creep up. Please follow the speed limit and slow down around pedestrians.

Chief Perley and Selectman Burt have been busy researching options to hire a consultant to complete a "Fire Department needs assessment, develop a plan, and assist in negotiating any agreement for future fire protection", pursuant to Article 6 approved at Town Meeting. A draft proposal from a reputable consulting firm, that has successfully completed similar projects for other NH communities, has been put before the Selectmen for further discussion and consideration. Once a consultant has been cho-

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Madbury Selectmen (l to r) Mark Avery, Janet Wall and Tim Burt threw out the first pitch at the Oyster River Youth Association open day on May 6, 2023.
Photo by Liz Keenum Photography, lizkeenumphotography.com

TOWN OFFICE NEWS

OFFICE CLOSURES: Town Offices will be closed on Memorial Day, May 29th, and on July 3rd.

TAX BILLS: The first issue tax bills for 2023 have been mailed and are due by July 6, 2023.

DOG LICENSES: 2022 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

sen, that firm will work with Chief Perley to conduct an assessment of our Fire Department in order to suggest ways to bring fire and emergency services to the recommended levels and to meet the needs of our town. Options to be explored will include such things as department staffing as well as collaborating with nearby towns in order to improve response times and to increase the overall level of emergency services. This important assessment phase will produce options for the Selectmen to consider. These well-researched options will ultimately be brought before the town for input and decision-making.

Recently, the Selectboard has been grappling with a number of Home Occupations operating in the Residential-Agricultural zoning district without proper permitting. Madbury strongly supports home-based businesses and professions; however, operating without a permit is unfair to neighbors and could create safety and or environmental issues.

Generally a Home Occupation is a recurring activity conducted on the property at which an individual resides and for which remuneration is received. The activity could be creating a product, providing a service, conducting support activities for offsite work, etc.

Business activities that have no visible exterior evidence and generate no additional vehicular traffic, such as office work from home, do not require any permits. However, they still must comply with noise, traffic, and environmental guidelines listed in our ordinances.

Business activities that have a visible impact, generate additional traffic (e.g., such as through client trips or deliveries), or have persons who do not live at the

residence working at the residence require a permit.

In all cases it's best to check with the Town to find out if you do need a permit. The town will let you know if a permit may be required and help guide you through the process. You can contact the Town at (603) 742-5131 or email: adminmadbury@comcast.net

The following boards or commissions have openings for members: Cemetery Trustees, Conservation Commission, Lamprey Regional Cooperative, Water Resources Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment. Contact the Town Hall if you have in interest in learning more about serving the town.

Planning Board

The Town has received a grant from the InvestNHHousing Opportunity Planning Grants program to prepare an update of the Housing and Demographics chapter of the of the Master Plan. Community involvement is critical to making this your plan!

A master plan is a document that serves to guide the overall character, physical form, and development of a community (NH RSA 674:2). It is also a planning tool that allows local residents to have a say in determining the community's future. It guides decisions on budgets, capital improvements, and land use regulations. The plan can also be very useful in obtaining grants from state and federal agencies and private foundations for a variety of purposes. Having a current and comprehensive plan is a prerequisite for a zoning ordinance. NH RSA 674:3 recommends that the plan be updated every 10 years.

The Planning Board hopes to engage a diverse cross section of the community including new and long-time residents, kids, teens, adults, seniors, business owners, and people who work in Madbury.

What can you do?

- Participate in the upcoming survey.
- Attend a community workshop.
- Share your story about living in Madbury, your home, and what type of housing you may be looking for in the next chapter of your life.
- Let us know if you, your neighbors, or a group, organization, or classroom you are a part of would like to get more involved with engaging your community.

An informational flyer with a schedule can be downloaded from the Planning Board webpage along with a link to the beginning of a "story map."

Cemetery Trustees

The Cemetery Trustees are asking residents to consider donating hardy, deer resistant perennial plants to be used in the Memorial Garden area. Iris, yarrow, day lilies, hyssop and thread-leaf coreopsis are all varieties that should do well. If your gardens are in need of some thinning out, please consider contacting Sandy at: sandy_oneill@comcast.net for pick-up or to schedule a drop off time at the cemetery.

Scholarship

The Madbury Community Club is offering a scholarship to a recent high school graduate from Madbury who plans to pursue a career in a trade. For more information please contact Amy Avery at: Avery96@aol.com.

Madbury Day News

Madbury Day will be
Saturday, September 9th 2023.

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.

Public Works Exploratory Committee

The Public Works Exploratory Committee (PWEC) is a group of residents and town officials actively investigating how the town can provide public works in the future. It was formed because it's unlikely that Madbury can continue to deliver public works the same way as it has in the past. The PWEC has been meeting since November and has researched current operations, studied other towns' experiences, and reached out to possible contractors. Currently it is preparing a range of options to allow the Selectboard to make an informed decision on the best way to handle public works tasks in the future.

More information can be found at the PWEC website. You can find it under the "Government - Selectmen" tab on the Town's website. If you would like to participate or provide information to the committee, please call Town Hall or email the committee's chair at:

MarkAveryMabury@gmail.com.

Scouts BSA Troop 154 celebrates 100th Anniversary!

Scouts BSA Troop 154 is headquartered at the Durham Community Church, but serves the youth population of Durham, Lee, Madbury and beyond. Founded in 1923, the troop is celebrating 100 years of continuous service, leadership and community building in our towns.

In honor of such a huge milestone, we have planned several events to celebrate in the community and with our families and friends.

We will be running Daniel Webster Council's Mobile Base Unit twice this summer. The Mobile Base Unit includes inflatable BB and Archery ranges, a gaga ball pit, and various other fun activities to engage the community and introduce youth to Scouting. Stop by and visit us at Durham Day on June 3rd, or at Madbury Day on September 9th.

A few quick facts about Troop 154:

- In 100 years over 100 of our scouts have achieved Eagle, the highest rank in Scouting.
- In 2019 we started one of the first Girls' troops in New Hampshire and in 2023 we hope to honor our first female Eagle Scout.
- We continue to do service projects in our towns. In Madbury last year we marched in the Madbury Day parade and ran games from our Mobile Base Unit, built the story trail signs at the library and helped to build the preschool playground.

If you were a member of Troop 154 in the past, please go to our website (link below) and contact

us – we're looking to reconnect with our former members, leaders and families, and we'd love to see you at our annual picnic on June 14th.

If you have youth aged 11-17 and are interested in learning more, please check out our website!

<https://www.troopwebhost.org/Troop154Durham/Index.htm>

Rebecca McEwan,
Committee Chair
Amy Keese, Scoutmaster

Madbury Water Resources Board

Residents who participated in the 2022 Seacoast Private Initiative Pilot Project have all received their laboratory results and a "Be Well Informed" report. A summary table of the results from these 84 wells can be found on the Water Resources Board webpage on the town's website.

From these results we can make the following observations:

- Arsenic and Radon are two naturally occurring contaminants of concern found in many of Madbury's residential wells. The 2022 results for arsenic and radon are similar to those in past testing events.
- PFAS chemicals in the tested wells generally showed levels below NH current limits.
- Residents on a prescribed low sodium diet should take note of the sodium levels contributed by their well water.
- Flushing plumbing is an effective mechanism for reducing exposure to lead and copper.

The Water Resource Board plans to present a more in depth analysis of the test results at Madbury Day in September.

Madbury Public Library

Library Hours – Monday & Wednesday 10am to 7pm;
Thursday 10am to 5 pm;
Saturday 10am to 2pm.

OPEN TILL 8:00pm Mondays & Wednesdays, June 19 - Labor Day!

UPCOMING HOLIDAY HOURS
Monday, May 29: Closed
Monday, July 3: 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!

Book Sale + Lawn Games at the Library! ~ Saturday, June 3, 9:00-2:00pm.

Join the Friends of Madbury Library for a family friendly day of fun! There will be a book sale from 9-2pm and lawn games from 11-2pm. Ice cream? Count on it!

New England Legends with Jeff Belanger ~ Wednesday, June 7, 6:00pm, Durham Public Library.

Join the award-winning and Emmy-nominated host, writer, and producer of the New England Legends series on PBS and Amazon Prime. For more than 25 years, Jeff Belanger has been telling stories about the ghosts, monsters, roadside oddities, and general weirdness found throughout New England. This program is free and does not require registration.

2023 Summer Reading Program: All Together Now!

This year's Summer Reading adventure, "All Together Now," is about friendship, community, and teamwork, all of which have been part of planning the four joint programs with our fellow Oyster River libraries. Weekly activities in Madbury include Wednesday S.T.E.A.M sessions (more teamwork!) plus three story times

Sign-ups begin Saturday, June 3 at the Friends lawn party!

Our Official Summer Reading Kick-Off ~Thursday, June 29, 10:30pm, Durham Public Library,
Featuring musician and storyteller Keith Munslow.

Foam Party! ~ Thursday, July 6, 10:30pm, Little River Park, Lee.
Presented by Foam Invasion.

Wildlife Encounters ~ Thursday, July 13, 10:30pm, Madbury Public Library.
The always-popular live animal show will return again this summer. Come early, bring blankets!

Cactus Head Puppets ~ Thursday, July 20, 10:30pm, Durham Public Library
Come see "The Pied Piper of Hamelin."

Summer Reading Finale with Bryson Lang ~ Thursday, July 27, 10:30pm @ Little River Park, Lee.

Plus

On the Story Trail: June & July: *Strictly No Elephants!* August: *Saturday Night at the Dinosaur Stomp.*

Storytimes for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, everyone!
Mondays (except July 3), all ages are welcome to join Miss Jacky

for story time at 10:30. Miss Kayla will hold Yoga Story Time Wednesday at 11:00, and Jacky will provide lapsit/toddler story time during June and also July 20 & 27.

Look for information about all these activities and more on the Children's Page of our website.

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. 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, 603-743-1400.

Let's Walk Together!
Join Susan Wednesdays at 12:30pm during June and July for walks on the trails behind the library and Town Hall.

Regular Programs @MPL

Writer's Group ~ Wednesday, June 7, 5:30pm. The group will not meet during July & August.

Quilting Group will meet most Mondays, 1-3pm.

Friends of the Library meeting, June 8, 7:00pm .
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 3pm, September through June.