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Established 2006

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THE MEDVIL MESSENGER

For all the Medvil community since 2008.
July 2021

Medvil pride.....shows inside!
Edition 143

BOARD NOTICES

GOOD NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Starting with the July 17th coffee house, and continuing forward, we will be gathering “live and in-person” at the Partridge Lane Club House, beginning at 8:30 am. Of course, we know this can change, depending on what the COVID virus decides to do, but until further notice all coffee houses will be in-person without ZOOM access.

What about the board meetings? The July meeting (7/20) will still be conducted solely via ZOOM but beginning with the August meeting (8/17) board meetings will also be “live and in-person” in the conference room at the Donald Drive Club House. We are holding off until August to give us time to investigate and hopefully implement a way to broadcast the meeting to residents who still aren't comfortable, or prefer, to view the meeting via ZOOM in the comfort of their home. We'll update you as we get closer to August 17th.

Masks will not be required but wear one if it makes you feel more comfortable. And if you have not been fully vaccinated you are encouraged to wear one for everyone's safety.

Thank you,
The Board of Directors



OPERATIONS

Another month is going by quickly, but I can't say that I'm sorry the paving project has come to an end. At times it was stressful for everyone, but we all stuck together and managed to get through it. I think Seal Tight did a great job and I hope you're all pleased with the outcome. On behalf of myself and the Maintenance team I want to thank everyone for their patience and support.



Thanks to all the residents that attended the Flag Day Ceremony on Saturday. I believe we had at least 30 in attendance and fortunately the weather cooperated. If you missed it this year you should plan on attending next year. It's quite an impressive ceremony involving all who attended. Thank you to Bob Blais who made the arrangements and thank you to Jeff who came in on a Saturday to set up tables and chairs.

Next on the agenda is the pedestal replacement project. It's tentatively scheduled to start Tuesday June 15th from 8:30 till 1:30 if the weather cooperates. The rain date is Thursday June 17th same time frame, 8:30 to 1:30. All residents affected were notified by me with a phone call. Should any of these residents have issues during the power outage, please feel free to call the office and they will notify me of your concerns.

I'm sure you've all noticed in your travels through the community that we have some extra hands-on deck helping Jeff with the scheduled tasks. I would like to welcome back Fred who is working part time as he did last year and Jarod who is a college student we hired for the summer. You've both made a big difference with the workload, and Jeff and I appreciate you being here, so thank you!

Mulching is continuing to get done. We still have a few areas to address, one of them being Donald Drive entrance. The plants at the entrance are all thriving and doing well as are the plants at the Partridge Clubhouse. Mowing continues by Gerry Montminy and as usual he is doing a remarkable job. There's a lot of area to cover but he's always right on top of it. Thank you, Gerry for donating so many hours out of your day. Hopefully it doesn't cut into your fishing schedule too badly!

We have a newcomer to our Maintenance volunteer list. Norm Proulx has volunteered to do the majority of the weed whacking for us. This is an enormous help and frees up Jeff, Fred and Jarod to pursue other tasks. Thanks, Norm!!!

The old siding on Donald Drive Clubhouse will be stripped soon to prepare for the installation of the new vinyl siding. As they say, "Vinyl is final." Once that is done and a bit of painting is completed, it will look like a whole new building.

I want to thank whoever it was that started with cleanup around the pond. Maintenance was out there cleaning up last week and what you accomplished was a big help to them. Much appreciated!

Work orders are getting caught up. We still have a few things to address such as picking up wood chips from the stump grinding and seeding road edges on Donald Drive and My Way due to the paving, but I think considering the rough month we had, we're making good progress.

One last thing. I would like to thank all the volunteers who help with trash on Wednesdays. Hot or cold, wet or dry weather, they are there and ready to help. It's a task that couldn't be completed without you. I know Jeff appreciates you all, as do I.

That's a wrap for this month. As always, thank you Jeff, Fred and Jarod for all your hard work! Any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out.

Odie/OD



FRIENDLY REMINDER

Trash and recycle pickup is on Wednesday, starting at 7:00AM. We have noticed that some residents have been placing their containers by the roadside on Monday. We are asking that you discontinue doing so for various reasons such as the bears and crows possibly getting into the bags.

Please place your containers by the road Tuesday evening or if you're an early riser, Wednesday morning. Trash or recycle will not be picked up on a Monday or Tuesday.



Your cooperation is appreciated.

MAINTENANCE NOTICES



FOR SALE

The Maintenance Department was given the OK by the Board to sell mulch and loam to the residents.

We will begin taking orders on Monday, June 21st. Bark mulch will be \$45.00 per yard. Loam



will be \$27.00 a yard. Unlike with other establishments, there will be no delivery charge.

If you are interested, this is what you need to do: Order for mulch/loam will be taken at the reception office at Donald Drive Clubhouse. The receptionist will complete a sales receipt with your name, address and telephone number, what you're ordering and how much. There will be no color choices for the mulch. It will be the same color that is being used throughout the community this year. Maintenance will be picking up all order slips on a weekly basis.

Payment is expected at the time of the order and will be noted on the receipt. If you wish for a receipt for your records, a copy may be made for you at that time.

All deliveries will be made on Friday morning ONLY. Please specify where in the front yard you want the mulch or loam but please keep in mind that the delivery will be done with the backhoe. You may not want it driving on your grass. A suggestion would be to have it dumped in your driveway, on a tarp if you have one, for easy cleanup. However, please do not sweep excess mulch/loam into the street.

Please note. This is the only way you can order mulch or loam. We will not be accepting any orders via email, voicemail, text or face to face. The only way to place your order is through the reception office.

It's important that you follow the procedure above so that we can keep things simple for the

Maintenance Team and convenient for the residents.

We hope this service will help many in the community who do not have the capability of picking up mulch or loam themselves but still enjoy working in their yards.

Thank you.
Maintenance

RELATED ITEMS

HOW TO MULCH TREES AND SHRUBS

From UNH Extension Service, via Dan Daigle



Never build a “mulch volcano” around a shrub or tree! It spells disaster. Trees treated like the one above will die due to rot, insect activity or root overgrowth--all triggered by the excessive cover.

There's no arguing that mulching trees and shrubs is a good idea. Among its many benefits, mulch conserves soil moisture, suppresses weeds, and protects the trunks of plants from damage from mowers and string trimmers. However, while mulching may be a seemingly easy task, it does take a little understanding to be done well. Though the benefits of mulch are many, if improperly applied it can do more harm than good (pictured above).

Organic mulches are the best choice for trees and

shrubs, and bark mulch and woodchips are probably the most common materials used. Begin by weeding the area where the mulch is to be applied. Next, spread two to three inches of mulch evenly from trunk to the dripline of the plant, keeping the mulch at least three inches away from the trunk or branches. It's as simple as that!



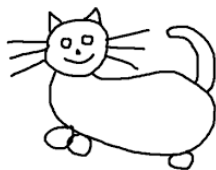
While a little bit of mulch is good, too much can be detrimental. It may be tempting to apply a fresh layer every spring, but it may not be necessary. If much more than three inches of mulch is spread, problems can begin to develop. Deep mulch can create excess moisture and invite insect, rodent, and disease to take up residence. Many well-meaning gardeners injure their plants by creating “mulch volcanoes” by piling mulch up around the trunk. When excess mulch is piled against the bark, it may begin to rot, causing further disease and insect problems. Trees that escape issues with rot may start to develop new secondary roots from the trunk. These secondary roots are prone to girdling the trunk and primary roots. Excess mulch can also provide habitat for voles which eat the bark off of trees, often killing them.

The symptoms and results of over-mulching may take years to appear, but it is safe to assume that an over-mulched tree is in for a long, slow death.

Got questions? The Ask UNH Extension Infoline offers practical help finding answers for your home, yard, and garden questions. Call toll free at 1-877-398-4769, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., or e-mail us at answers@unh.edu.

FERAL CAT PROJECT UPDATE

The Feral Cat Program has been very busy!



There have been four litters of kittens born in Medvil that we know of. Spaghetti was rearing her four kittens (or so we thought) under a house on River Ledge. She was trapped and then Nicole Saitta, Manchester Animal Shelter's Feline Manager, crawled under the house to retrieve kittens Orzo, Gemelli, Linguine, and Farfalle. The next night, while I was monitoring the trap that was set for the other adult cat seen with Spaghetti, I

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Mother and kitten from Rachael Circle



*Kittens by the hammock-full
from Riverledge!*





The Roger Road Three!

heard a kitten cry. Nicole and I were able to save little Macaroni and reunite her with her family. They are all doing well in a foster home.

Button and her kittens, Felt and Velcro, were trapped on Rachel Circle, and Tagliatelle with kittens Fusilli, Rotini and Bocatini were recently trapped on Roger Road. All are in foster homes. When Cavatappi was trapped, she was lactating. A search for her kittens came up empty, so she was spayed, her ear was tipped, and she was returned to Medvil to take care of her litter, who we hope to trap soon.

One more adult cat was trapped, who has been named Lasagna.

Fettuccine is still taking care of her kittens, and when they are old enough, she will be returned to Medvil because she is too wild to be adopted. Rigatoni is still in the special needs program with hopes that he can be adopted. And, finally, Tortellini has been ADOPTED!

=^..^=

Donna Duford

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EVENTS COMMITTEE



Now that things are starting to open up a bit in New Hampshire, and the Governor has lifted the Emergency Order, we're also hearing that many of our members have been vaccinated. We're also starting to have some very nice weather (despite the occasional downpour.)

So the Events Committee thinks it's time to have a couple of outdoor gatherings to begin our Social Calendar this year. Note that these are for Medvil



members only—please don't invite family members just yet.

On Friday, July 16, 2021, we'll be holding our first Fish Fry of the season, a haddock dinner, at the picnic area by Donald Drive Clubhouse. There will be two seatings, 4:30 PM and 6 PM. The cost is \$10 per person and we ask that you please pay when you sign up at the office by Wednesday, July 14.

We're also planning another Fish Fry for August, so be on the lookout for more info to come. Watch for the flyers in the mailhouses and the club houses. We're eager to see you all again soon—in person!

Until then, please stay safe, stay well, and keep an eye out for each other!

Cat Pragoff



FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Contact Irene Gagne at 603-622-1869

MONTHLY POOL

The 6/1 winner was Karen Kirkpatrick for \$250. All numbers are being played with a guaranteed winner. However, we do not have anyone on the waiting list.

Please call Irene Gagne at 603-622-1869 to place your name on the list. It's only \$5/month and you can play more than one number.

We will be setting up a collection day in August for the last four months.

Yard Sale—Our yard sales for this year are cancelled. We hope to have another yard sale next spring. This will depend on where the country stands on the coronavirus.

Committee Members—We are a committee of nine with two individuals interested. We are looking for more members with fresh ideas that will benefit the Medvil community.

Ideas Needed—You don't have to be a committee member to give us suggestions for projects to use our funds—call Irene with suggestions, including costs.

Irene Gagne

REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE



Happy July! The real estate committee activities during June: 1 closing, 6 showings, 1 pending sale, and 1 listing. We do get lots of inquiries about Medvil homes for sale from our website. Our inventory is low and these interested buyers want to be on our waiting list! Take a look at the video on our website, and you will see why we have a waiting list to get into Medvil! Enjoy the beautiful warm weather. 🌻

If you are thinking of selling your home, the first step is to fill out the Intent to Sell form. **This form can be found on our website at medvilcooperative.com**, filled out and sent to the office. The second step is to locate a realtor. Please consider Medvil Real Estate to help you sell your home. Sales benefit Medvil community.

NOTE: If any resident has a friend or relative who would be interested in viewing any of our listings, please inform them that the way to contact us would be to call the office at 603-497-4440 EXT 2 only, not our real estate representatives' personal phone numbers. Thank you.

Medvil RE Committee - 497-4440 Prompt 2

Website: www.medvilcooperative.com Homes for Sale

Dorrie Kossuth, Chairperson





It is not uncommon for a person to find themselves in need of a little help from time to time.

If you could benefit from a little friendly assistance, don't hesitate to reach out to the Helping Hands Committee.

Need a prescription picked up? Maybe a few groceries? Or even a ride to/from a doctor's appointment?

Safety and health are of great concern and importance to everyone so gloves and masks will be available.

If you need help or have questions about the committee and what they do, please reach out to Anita O'Brien at akelliher38@gmail.com or by phone at (603)494-4246.



MEMBERS' ARTICLES

IN SYMPATHY

Heartfelt condolences to those who have recently lost a loved one:

- Dennis and June Lamy, on the death of Dennis's brother-in-law



We meet them in the lives they've shaped. We enjoy them in the jokes and wisdom they've passed down. Be active in the community they've built. It is a way of

walking with them into the future. It is a way of never losing them.

Linda Robinson, Sunshine Lady (603) 851-5209

THE LAND ROVER

By Kathy Baer

When I was dating my husband in the mid 70's, he had a 1961 Land Rover that we spent a lot of time in. He loved that Land Rover and did a lot of work on it. We would spend weekends just driving down old dirt roads in southeastern Massachusetts just to see where they went. We got hung up on stumps and stuck in the mud, but we always were able get it free. Except the one time we got it stuck in the back property of an old farmer who read us the riot act and then kindly used his backhoe to get us up and off his property. One night we were going down an old back road and ended up in the woods on a pig farmer's back lot. Boy, that smell can linger for weeks.



After high school my husband went into the Army and left his younger brother his Land Rover to use. He beat the living life out of that vehicle on the back roads of Vermont. There wasn't much left to it when my husband got out of the Army. But by then we were married, and you know, the usual, home and kids came. But the dream of a Land Rover stayed on his mind for years. Then he found an old Land Rover and bought it. By this time, the kids were in grade school, and I was back in college. We would bundle up the kids in the Land Rover, throw in some sleds and go to the state park to go sledding. It was my husband's pride and joy.



Then he decided that the engine needed an overhaul. He set up the metal poles with chains to support the engine when it came out of the engine compartment. He spent hours undoing the bolts and carefully putting them aside so that he would be able grab the ones he needed to put the engine back in. One problem...the unbolted engine would not clear the engine compartment. He spent two hours muscling it this way and that way while it hung on chains. I could hear him cursing from the house. I poked my head out the door and saw the problem. Mind you, I don't have a mechanical bone in my body, but I saw how the problem could be fixed. So, I walked up to him and gently whispered in his ear, "Let the air out of the tires."

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FLAG DAY CEREMONIES, 2021 **Respectful Retirement of Faded and Worn American Flags**

Photography by Peggy Hatfield





Just a Heads Up

If you have a budget plan with Putnam Fuel and you receive an envelope from Haffner's with a check from Energy North Incorporated, the check is legitimate. It's a refund for the balance not used for this year.

Putnam was bought out by Energy North and all payables are processed by them.

Mark Your Calendars!

Bingo will resume on Thursday, September 9th starting at 6:30 pm at the Donald Drive Clubhouse.

\$5.00 for 6 bingo cards; \$3.00 for 3 cards
A weekly coverall with a progressive pot!

Masks will not be required but wear one if it makes you feel more comfortable. And if you have not been fully vaccinated you are encouraged to wear one for everyone's safety.



DEADLINES



and other stuff
YOU want to know about

Deadline for submissions is noon on the Thursday after the Board Meeting. (BOD meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.)

The Medvil Messenger wants material! Recipes, helpful hints, reminiscences, jokes, poems, gardening advice, reviews of your latest vacation and day trip discoveries, hilarious tales of your pets' antics—just about anything! Please keep it upbeat and positive. Original material will take precedence over reprints from other sources, including printouts of email pass-arounds. If you submit previously published material, please try to cite a source. We reserve the right to reject material that may offend, divide our community or cause political arguments. Please submit your items to our email: medvilnewsletter@comcast.net Or you may slide it under the office door and we will ask our office volunteers to let us know that it's there.

Medvil Messenger Staff:
Debbie Cyr and MB. Wulf



Join us for our Medvil summer kickoff!

Second Annual Neighborhood Picnic

Sunday, July 4th 1-3 PM

Donald Drive Clubhouse Picnic Grounds

Picnic to be followed by a

Grand Independence Day Parade @ 3 PM

All Residents Are Welcome. Masks optional. Bring your own food/beverages. Bring your neighbors, bikes, trikes, golf carts and cars. Walkers and joggers: Join us for a block or the whole loop.



Picnic

Annual Meeting 2021

Nominations Committee

Yes, it's getting to be that time of year again when the Nominations Committee goes looking for residents to step forward and run for office. Sometimes people come forward willingly, enthusiastic and committed to the success of our community; sometimes we must cajole folks into putting their name on the ballot. Regardless of how it happens, it is important to have at least one individual running for every available position.

What questions do the folks running for the board ask most often? What do I need to know/be in order a good board member?" Here are a few of the qualities that we feel would be useful to an individual who is considering running for the board:

- ❖ Passion for the community
- ❖ Empathy
- ❖ Honesty
- ❖ Ability to listen to what is being said or not being said
- ❖ Good communicator
- ❖ A team player
- ❖ Ability to use email and be responsive to email requests
- ❖ Fiscal responsibility to keep our community affordable for all
- ❖ Attend meetings and actively participate
- ❖ Take ownership of ideas and follow through with implementation
- ❖ Willingness to give of your time
- ❖ Volunteer to take on a project
- ❖ Have a good sense of humor

The positions on this year's ballot are president; secretary; operations director; and 2 directors-at-large. Here is an overview of each position.

President (commentary submitted by Kim Capen)

As for time spent, it varies by any President's style in support of the board and the community. We serve to promote the common good and it's important to remember that every collective board over the 15 years has been instrumental in how we got to this place of prominence among cooperatives around the country. We are servant leaders. We are not self-serving as leaders, but here to serve a community with policies, practices and process' that serve the common good. We are here to seek the truth, to explore the best approach to all issues and to give guidance to the board. There are many ideas about what the President should be doing or not doing, and each President will have to decide that. My preference was to be available to anyone and everyone as a sounding board. I freely gave out my phone number and have had many residents call me directly. That was just my style. Most other Presidents preferred to take messages through the office. The bottom line is, directing, delegating, encouraging, and supporting, as well as being a cheerleader are the most important roles. There is no requirement that the President can't have a full-time job and do this as well, although it is difficult. We don't want anyone who has the interest to be held back because the right person can work full time and devote the time needed if they have an active board to

support them. The hours required are simply dependent upon the management style of the candidate and the support afforded them by other board members.

What I enjoy about my role is building community. The board must enforce rules and sometimes make decisions that are difficult, but for the same reason I serve on the Events committee, I serve on the board. To offer my experience, talents, and most times calm approach to building a community that every resident can be proud of. Encouraging folks to contribute and to care about their community is most important for a successful community, because as the saying goes, it takes a village.

The simple answer is a commitment to community living and all that goes into building community.

Secretary

Additional tasks for the Secretary include but are not limited to:

- Take and transcribe minutes of meetings
- Provide the minutes to the Board for approval
- Send the approved minutes to the appropriate depository
- Send out letters to the residents of the community who are not following the rules and regulations as needed
- Follow up on the letters sent
- Post the meeting announcements
- Currently hosting the virtual component to our meetings
- Sending out email blasts as needed
- Checking generic email accounts and forwarding those emails to the appropriate personnel
- Updating the rules and by laws following the annual meeting and ensuring they are distributed appropriately.

Director of Operations

- Oversee all maintenance needs that are the responsibility of Medvil
- Strong leadership skills as they work with the Maintenance Manager
- Maintenance Manager (MM) reports directly to the Operations Director
- Meet regularly with Maintenance Manager
- Review weekly and monthly projects
- Support and assist the MM working with current vendors and vetting new vendors
- Assist MM developing time management skills and as needs arise
- Redirect members who reach out directly to the MM
- Oversee maintenance standards and procedures
- Monitor maintenance expenditures to ensure that all projects stay within budget
- Create projected annual maintenance budget
- Provide input to the capital improvement plan

The job synopsis is pretty clear; this job requires whatever it takes on a given day or week.

Director at Large

- All of the qualities listed above for all Board Members
- Volunteer to chair committees or possibly be appointed to chair ad hoc committees
- Be a positive role model
- Ensure the Medvil by-laws and rules are followed
- Make sure policies and procedures are applied consistently and fairly

This is the position where we seem to see the most interest in the community, however it too is an active role.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the board of directors, please reach out to committee chair Anita Kelliher O'Brien at 494-4246. She is also available via email at akelliher@comcast.net. Or you can call the office at 497-4440 and leave a message; a member of the Nominations Committee will contact you.