

Madison County Government Newsletter



MADISON COUNTY SENIOR CENTERS & NUTRITION SITES

If you or someone you know living in Madison County is at least 60 years old and looking for ways to connect to other seniors, Madison County has **eight** sites dedicated to active living, education, and socializing. It all starts with sharing a meal together. From field trips to guest speakers to games and activities, the senior centers and nutrition sites offer a wide range of activities. For more information, visit <https://www.madisoncountync.gov/nutrition-sites.html>.

VOLUNTEERS are needed, too! If you'd like to volunteer, visit <https://www.madisoncountync.gov/volunteer.html>.



Town of Marshall Memorial Day Observance

The Town of Marshall will be holding a Memorial Day program on Monday, May 30, 2022 at 11:00 AM at the Madison County Courthouse. Refreshments will be served.



Child Abuse Prevention Month

Thank you to the Madison County Library for allowing the Department of Social Services use of the window in the main branch to promote child abuse prevention during the month April.

The Social Services Board also approved a resolution promoting awareness of child abuse and encouraging county residents and groups to support families they know as a means of prevention.

To make a report of child abuse or neglect, please call the Madison County Department of Social Services at 828-649-2711 during regular office hours. After hours, on weekends or holidays, call the Madison County Sheriff's Department at 828-649-2721 and ask them to contact a social worker.



**Madison County Offices will
be closed Monday, May 30,
2022 in observance of
Memorial Day.**

Madison County Social Services Board approves Resolutions!

This month, the Madison County Social Services Board approved three resolutions to promote awareness of elder abuse, foster families and Older Americans month.

Vulnerable Adult and Elder Abuse Awareness Month

The period of time from May 8, 2022 (Mother's Day) through June 19, 2022 (Father's Day) is recognized statewide each year as Vulnerable Adult and Elder Abuse Awareness month.

Madison County residents are encouraged to watch for signs of abuse such as physical trauma, withdrawal, depression, anxiety, fear of family members, friends or caregivers. Anyone who suspects that a vulnerable or older adult is being abused, neglected or exploited and is in need of protection is required by North Carolina General Statute to report this information to the department of social services in the county where the adult resides.

To make a report, call the Madison County Department of Social Services at 828-649-2711 during regular office hours. After hours, on weekends and holidays, call the Madison County Sheriff's Department at 828-649-2721 and ask them to contact a social worker.

Older Americans Month

To acknowledge the important contributions of older Americans to our county and to our way of life, the month of May is recognized each year as Older Americans Month.

According to 2020 Bureau of Census information, residents above the age of 60 account for 31% of the population (6,627 individuals) in Madison County. Additionally, Madison County has more residents above the age of 60 than under the age of 17 (3,634 in the birth to 17 age group).

The Madison County Department of Social Services provides a number of programs to benefit our older residents such as the State/County Special Assistance and Special Assistance In Home programs, Adult Protective Services, Guardianship, Representative Payee services, Adult Home Specialist, Veterans Services, the In Home Aide program, congregate nutrition at our Active Living Centers and Home Delivered Meals.

Foster Care Month

12 foster families in Madison County have opened their homes and hearts to children who are in crisis. These families play a vital role in helping children and families heal and launch children into successful adulthood.

Foster families are an invaluable resource and perform an extraordinary service by working in partnership with child welfare and other professionals to nurture children and provide an opportunity for healthy growth and development while ensuring safety and well-being, and sometimes by providing permanency through adoption.

Madison County residents are encouraged to consider if they could help children by becoming a licensed foster parent or share their talents, energies and resources on behalf of Madison County's foster children in some other way.

For additional information, please call 828-649-9498 and ask to speak with Rebecca Parker.

Coming up in May at Madison County Public Libraries!

Stretch Your Budget

The Madison County Public Libraries, in partnership with the State Employees Federal Credit Union, presents a Financial Budgeting program for adults (and young adults) on **May 18** at 12pm at the Marshall branch. Talk about the basics of spending and saving, ways to budget your money, and preparing for emergencies. Learn tips and tricks from an expert! Registration recommended - <https://bit.ly/mcpl-budgeting> - or call one of the library branches to register.

Author Terry Roberts – Live and In Person!

The Friends of the Hot Springs Library presents author Terry Roberts, reading and discussing his latest book, *My Mistress Eyes Are Raven Black*. Follow Madison County native Stephen Robbins as he seeks to solve a series of murders on Ellis Island. Terry will be presenting at Chestnut Hall (64 South Spring Street) in Hot Springs on **May 19** at 7pm. Registration recommended – <https://bit.ly/mcpl-TerryRoberts> - or call one of the library branches to register.

Does Exploring the Internet Feel Like a Challenge?

Join the Mars Hill Library for a FREE in-person Internet Basics series during the months of May and June. Laptops will be provided, or you can bring your own device.

May 19 – 10:30am – Searching the Internet Successfully

May 25 – 10:30am – Search Results

June 2 – 10:30am – What Can You Trust on the Internet?

June 8 – 10:30am – Keyboard Shortcuts for the Internet

Register to attend the classes at <https://bit.ly/NS3-internet> or call 689-5183 to register.

Native Plant Sale – Online and In-Person

Support the library's Marshall Native Gardens through the biannual online plant sale – just in time for spring planting! The online sale at <https://fmcp.square.site/> will run from **May 7 to May 16**, with plant pickups on Friday, May 20 from 1-5:30pm and Saturday, May 21, from 9:00-2:00. New this year – MNGI will be hosting an on-site in-person plant sale – plus live music - in the Marshall Library parking circle on May 21 with numerous local nurseries offering plants for sale.

Organizing and Archiving Photos

Join the library's genealogy team on **May 25** at 12pm at the Marshall branch for a class on ways to organize and archive your family's photos. Learn how to store old photos, how to save and create a backup copy, how to label an actual photograph, and things you shouldn't do with physical photos. Registration is recommended – <https://bit.ly/mcpl-photos> - or call a library branch to register.

Summer Reading Kickoff Challenge

The Egg Drop is back! Can you build a container sturdy enough to protect your egg when it is dropped from a ladder truck? Youth, age 3-17, can bring their eggs-cellent creations to the Marshall branch on Thursday, **May 26**, at 4pm. Each one will be dropped from the ladder truck to see whose creation can handle the fall without cracking up. Every entry gets a prize; surviving eggs get a special treat! Please register at <https://bit.ly/DropEgg> (this will help us reach you if there are any weather issues). You can also call a branch to register.

Exploring Images from Rural America

Join the library for this month's Documentary & Discussion on **May 26** at 6pm at the Mars Hill Library. The group will be viewing *Hillbilly*, a documentary film that examines the iconic hillbilly image in media and culture. The film explores more than 100 years of media representation of mountain and rural people and offers an urgent exploration of how we see and think about rural America. Watch the film and hang out to talk about it.