## What's Going On In Maynard?

(Note: I first posted a version of this article in the Town Wide Mall news feed, on 7 May 2023; This article revised on 16 June 2023)

Although Maynard is a small town, both in size (just 3 square miles, effectively) and in population (around 11,000, give or take), it's a very active place! But, without any central reference, such as a local newspaper, how does anyone find out about all the events and activities going on, in order to choose those in which they might be interested?

To help answer that, I decided to create this article.

Here are some links to sources I know about so far. If you think I've left something important out, please let me know and I will add a link. Also, if you see any errors here, please inform me. I want this to be a true community effort, and as such, I invite you to help maintain and improve it.

## Discover Maynard https://discovermaynard.com

This site includes a calendar of community events, along with a list of shops, restaurants, and activities in town. It's sponsored by the Massachusetts Cultural Council and supported with donations.

### Maynard Town Government https://www.townofmaynard-ma.gov

As you might expect, this site includes information related to all town departments, a calendar of meetings and other events related to government, including voting and elections, as well as a guide to services the town provides and how to access them.

# • Maynard's School Department https://www.maynard.k12.ma.us

Although the public schools are part of town government, they have their own web site, with its own calendar of events, and other information regarding resources provided by the schools.

#### • Maynard Public Library https://www.maynardpubliclibrary.org

Again, the Library is also a part of town government, but it also has its own web site, calendar of events, and other information about library services.

### • A Field Guide to Maynard https://maynardartwindows.files.wordpress.com/2015/05/ fieldguidetomaynard\_interactive.pdf

This brochure was prepared by local citizens with support from the Maynard Local Cultural Council, an agency of the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Although copyright in 2015, much of the information it contains is still relevant. This guide may be downloaded, printed, then folded to take with you wherever you go in Maynard.

#### Kiosks

The town maintains a number of kiosks in various public places in town, outdoors, where flyers and notices are posted with information on events in town. These are essentially bulletin boards visible through a framed glass window to protect the pages from the weather. You can find them near parks, parking lots, and along the Assabet River Rail Trail that runs through town.

#### Action Unlimited

https://www.actionunlimited.com

The Action Unlimited is a for-profit weekly publication with a primary content of display and classified advertising by local businesses and individuals. It is intended to be mailed to every household in Maynard, typically arriving on Fridays. It also carries some notices of community events. Each edition typically covers a group of two, three, or four towns. Their web site provides a way to read each edition online, even if you don't receive one in the mail.

#### Inspiration

On a warm Saturday evening (6 May 2023), my partner and I walked down to the center of town, just after 5 PM, to participate in ArtWalk, an annual event with artists and musicians all along Nason and Main streets, sponsored by the Maynard Business Alliance.

https://www.maynardbusinessalliance.org/spring-artwalk

After it was over, I realized that I didn't post anything on the Town Wide Mall news feed, to help publicize this event. I wondered, after this great start at creating a news web site, was I slipping?

I also realized that, as I started to post news articles on this site, I focused on events and issues of interest to me, or what I

happened to learn about from a variety of sources. Many people I have met since have expressed support for what I've been doing.

But I'm only one person and there is so much going on in Maynard! I can only post just so much information on a regular basis; how can I possibly keep up with all that's going on?

The answer is, I don't have to! All I have to do is provide the links to other web sites, already being maintained by other people, to help people find what they are looking for.

#### **Background**

When I first moved to Maynard in 2019, I had some impression of how active the town was, but it was a few years before I learned about the "Discover Maynard" web site. It took people at a table at Maynardfest (the annual fall street fair in Maynard), plus a chance discovery of a link near the bottom of a page on the town government web site. Finally, I realized what a treasure trove of information was hiding there!

- Glenn C. Koenig, webmaster at Town Wide Mall.