News

Weary drivers think the worse is yet to come gas pricewise

BY MATT ROCHELEAU FOR THE SUN CHRONICLE Tuesday, July 1, 2008 2:44 AM EDT

DREW PILLSBURYThe sign in front of a Mobil station on Route 106 in Mansfield on Monday. Prices have remain the same for the past two weeks.

Gas prices in Massachusetts have not changed in two weeks, but many local motorists believe that trend will not last.

"It's not going to stop. It's not going to be less. It's going to keep going up," said one Attleboro resident while fueling up Monday at the Gas Plus on Pleasant Street. "I don't even look at the gas prices. I can't change them," she said.

A statewide survey Monday by AAA of Southern New England found an average price of $4.06 per gallon for regular-grade self-serve, 2 cents below the national average.

Prior to the past two weeks of steadying prices, the average had increased for 10 consecutive weeks, to rise above $4-a-gallon for the first time.

"I think as long as people keep paying the increased price it will keep going up," said Robert McAllister of Attleboro. "It's supply and demand." McAllister said he would support any alternatives to bring demand down.

"I think it is crazy. It's insane that they are getting away with this," said his wife, Donna, referring to the high prices oil companies are charging.

However, some motorists were more optimistic.

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"I think it's a good sign. I think they might go down a little bit. I'm hoping," said Diane Ward who commutes from Bourne to work in Attleboro.

Looking ahead, drivers speculated on what gas prices will be like by the end of summer.

One driver said she expects gas to be around $5 a gallon by the end of summer.

Delores Santaniello of Attleboro agreed.

She said she expects prices to jump right after the July Fourth holiday..

"Americans have let this happen. And, no one's done anything about it because Americans are spoiled," Santaniello said.

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chiman1111 wrote on Jul 1, 2008 11:09 AM:
" Its crazy to think we will ever see $2 a gallon ever again. Unless you are from Venezuela paying around $0.15 a gallon you are going to pay alot. Canada have seen these prices years ago. Europe...yeah ok France is paying around $11 a gallon! We are suffering from $4 a gallon? I am sorry to say it but we have taken low prices for granted for way too long! We all want the biggest,baddest,newest everything that the next guy has. We never just settle. Escalades, Expeditions, Denalis, Hummers, that is just vehicles. What about big screen tvs? Big houses? Why do people buy houses they cant afford? I think it's clear we are victims of our own demise. There are other countries that have it much worse and seem to make it happen. With out going bankrupt, foreclosed or moneyless. If you have a big family then perhaps you should have thought about what that intails financially in the future rather than relying on the state to pay your way and than get upset when the state stops funding. We need to get off our butts and make things happen! Its our own fault. Get up and vote! Make a difference don't be morons! Don't just complain. Take your anger and direct it to making a change in your own home, neighborhood, town, city, state, country! Ok I feel better now I vented and need to get back to work so my bills get paid...lol! "

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