

Colchester's Weekly Town News
For the Week of November 22, 2013

Preamble: "Colchester, Vermont, located on Lake Champlain's Malletts Bay, is a diverse, civic-minded community endowed with a rich heritage of commercial, agricultural, recreational, and educational gifts. Proud of the quality of life already enjoyed here, the people of Colchester seek to build upon this foundation to ensure economic prosperity, recreational opportunity, and an entrepreneurial spirit for future generations."
—Vision Statement, Heritage Project, 2012

While by no means a total representation of all the work performed by the Town, the following information highlights some activities which occurred:

Town Manager's Office—Dawn Francis, Town Manager

Burnham Memorial Library—Kelly Tomaseski, Director

Thanks to everyone who attended the Christmas Tree Lighting last week, and to those who stopped by for cider and cookies this week. The book drive for holiday baskets has been extended until Dec. 12; we're looking for new and like-new books for kids and teens. Next Friday, Dec. 13, we'll be having another family movie night at 6:30 pm; call 264-5660 for more information, or register on our website. Behind the scenes, volunteers and staff will be running an inventory of our entire collection over the next several weeks, to develop an updated list of items that are missing or misplaced. Here are a few of our upcoming events:

- Preschool Holiday Story Time - Monday and Thursday at 10:30 am (till Dec. 19)
- Toddler Holiday Story Time - Tuesdays at 10:30 am (except Dec. 24)
- VT Health Connect Help - Tuesdays from 2-6 pm (sign-up for an appointment)
- Family Movie Night - Friday, Dec. 13 at 6:30 pm
- Young Adult Film Crew with LCATV - Monday, Dec. 16 at 6:30 pm

For more information about Burnham Memorial Library's events and services, visit <http://colchestervt.gov/Library/> or call (802) 264-5660.

Economic Development—Kathi Walker O'Reilly, Director

- Kicked off Community Logo Contest
- Met with Art Department heads at CHS & CMS regarding student participation in logo contest
- Finalized work with LCATV Community Center Video
- Met with CCV Professor on partnership for semester long branding roll out
- Held meeting with local developers on Community Center Initiative
- Attended Lake Champlain Chamber's Regional & Government Affairs committee meeting
- Met with existing large financial institution
- Attended Colchester/Milton Rotary Meeting
- Working with potential new business and schedule TRC meeting

For further information or comment, please call June Campbell at 264-5509.

- Met with and toured Local 64 Co-working facility in Montpelier
- Work on December Legislative Breakfast
- Continue working on building vacancies throughout the town

For more information about the Economic Development Office, please visit <http://www.colchestervt.gov/CommEconomicDev/index.shtml> or call (802) 264-5508.

Information Technology—Alice Greig, Technology Department

- Continuing preparation for the installation of a new domain server next week.
- Cleaning old computers to be recycled.
- Removing unnecessary files and data from our current domain server.
- Updating user policies, moved antivirus software to another server.

For more information about the IT Department call 264-5507

Police Department—Jennifer Morrison, Police Chief

- Colchester police experienced a quiet Thanksgiving holiday this past week. Officers responded to 148 calls for service and had contact with 75 motorists for driving infractions.
- Four people were arrested during the week including 37 year old Jayson Yandow after he reportedly forcibly entered a residence in the Malletts Bay area on November 30th. Yandow is scheduled to appear in Vermont Superior Court in Burlington on felony charges of unlawful trespass and 3rd offense driving under the influence as well as driving with a suspended license.

For more information about Colchester Police Department, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/Police/index.shtml> or call (802) 264-5556 (non-emergency).

Rescue and Technical Rescue Squads—Amy Akerlind, Rescue Chief

- Rescue responded to 22 calls, and transported 13 people to the hospital.
- Tech Rescue took delivery of a new truck that houses their Dive Rescue gear. This vehicle replaces a 15 year old truck.

Parks and Recreation—Glen Cuttitta, Director

In the Recreation Division

- Youth basketball is in full swing
- Preparing for Breakfast with Santa on December 7th
- Village Park Phase IA paving will be completed in the Spring of 2014
- Bayside Park Phase II project is waiting for benches to be installed
- New Playground at Heritage Park was installed
- Planning for winter programs.

For further information or comment, please call June Campbell at 264-5509.

- Designing new program brochure
- Software upgrade to RecTrac, WebTrac and Mobile WebTrac registration program

Bayside Activity Center- Week of December 9th

- Monday, Wednesday and Friday- Walk In hours 10 am-4 pm
- Monday- 10 a.m. Body N Mind Mix
- Monday- 10:30 a.m.- Drop in Game Time
- Tuesday- 1-2 pm Tai Chi
- Tuesday- 5:30-7:30 Holiday Block Printing Party
- Wednesday- 9-9:45 Hatha Yoga
- Thursday- 1-2 pm- Tai Chi
- Friday- 11-12 pm Crafty Club

In the Parks Division, the following is a list of projects/work they accomplished this week

- General maintenance duties.
- Seasonal Park Employees are finished work for the year.

For more information about the Parks and Recreation Department, please visit

<http://colchestervt.gov/Recreation/parksNRec.shtml> or call (802) 264-5640.

Public Works Department – Bryan Osborne, Director

- On November 26, 2013, the Phase 1B archeological reconnaissance survey was completed for the proposed West Lakeshore Drive Share Use Path from Church Road to Prim Road. No significant historic or pre-contact artifacts were identified and no further archeological investigation is needed for the project.
- Reconstruction of the Meadow Drive drainage ditch is progressing smoothly and is expected to be completed to 6-8 weeks.
- Sidewalk plows may be seen operating on the Town's sidewalks in the absence of any snow. Please be advised that this is a training exercise for new operators. These employees are from the Town's Park Department and are being cross trained into Public Works snow removal operations to achieve greater efficiencies within our maintenance operations.

For more information about the Public Works Department please visit

<http://www.colchestervt.gov/PublicWorks/Home.shtml> or call (802) 264-5620.

Planning & Zoning—Sarah Hadd, Director

- The Planning Commission met on 12/3 and began their review of the Town's wastewater allocation ordinance.
- The Development Review Board packet information, containing staff review of all proposed projects, was uploaded to ClerkBase on the Town's website in preparation for the 12/11 meeting.

For further information or comment, please call June Campbell at 264-5509.

- The November monthly report was also generated and uploaded to the Planning and Zoning Department website under “development statistics” showing construction as exceeding that of November 2012.

For more information about the Planning and Zoning Department, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/PlanningZ/planningZHome.shtml> or call (802) 264-5600.

Assessor’s Office – Bob Vickery, Assessor

- If you have built or have purchased a newly constructed Condo or House we will be attempting to contacting you to set up an appointment for an inspect of the interior and exterior of your new dwelling.
- A typical inspection takes roughly 30 minute.
- The purpose of these inspections is to assess all properties in Town to the Fair Market Value using the most up to date and accurate data possible, this will ensure that no property owner pays more than their fair share of the tax burden.
- If you would like to set up an appointment to have the Assessor inspect your new dwelling please call Donna at (802) 264-5670.

For more information about the Assessor’s Office, please visit <http://www.colchestervt.gov/Assessor/assessorHome.shtml> or call (802) 264-5671.

Finance – Aaron Frank, Assistant Town Manager/CFO

- FY 15 Budget meeting with Selectboard and related budget preparation
- Working with Parks and Recreation on the Village Park contract
- Applied for training and equipment grants with Technical Rescue Chief Mike Cannon

For more information about the Finance Department, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/Finance/financeHome.shtml> or call (802) 264-5650.

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