

Colchester's Weekly Town News

For the Week of
February 16, 2015

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

What do you get for your municipal property taxes? For just under \$5.00 per day, the average Colchester household receives:

- Round the clock police and dispatching services (Responded to 12,950 incidents last year)
- Rescue services staffed by 4 full-time employees and over 40 volunteers
- Volunteer Fire services
- Public Works maintaining 109 miles of roads, bridges, buildings, vehicles, equipment and 2,500 storm water structures
- Parks and Recreation services (all programs and some staff paid by user fees, not property taxes)
- Burnham Library offering free educational programs and assistance for all ages
- Planning and Zoning, Town Clerk and Assessor Services
- Services such as county court system, Winooski Valley Park District, VNA, Regional Planning and Economic Development Assistance

Want to find out more about these services? You can view department-specific video presentations about the services provided by the Town of Colchester at: http://colchestervt.gov/dept_showcases.shtml

Town Meeting is on March 2nd at 7:30 p.m. and early voting is now occurring at the Town Clerk's office with March 3rd as the final day for voting at CHS from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. For more information on the budget, the articles to be voted upon, (which include the local option tax and capital plan re-authorizations), please visit www.colchestervt.gov or LCATV has videos for your viewing at lcatv.org

For more information about the Town Manager's Office, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/Manager/index.shtml> or call (802) 264-5509.

Burnham Memorial Library—Kelly Tomaseski, Director

At Burnham Library, we'd like to let people know about a few of our recent and upcoming events:

- Book Sale - At Burnham Library, we'd like to thank everyone who came out for our winter book sale this weekend! We'd also like to thank the Friends of the Library and the volunteers who made the sale such a success! This and other fund-raisers by the Friends help to support a range of programs at the library year-round; for more information, or to get involved, stop by the library.

For further information or comment, please call Linda Kingston at 264-5509.

- Susan Flatow Savage Dedication – On Monday, Feb. 23 at 12 pm, we'll hold the official unveiling of the Susan Flatow Savage Memorial Reading Corner, in our Children's Department. Thanks to the generosity of the family and friends of library patron Sue Savage, we have been able to enhance our youth area in so many ways – new artwork, a mural, bookcase, and updated furniture, as well as an expansion of our Reading Buddies program. Light refreshments will be served, and RSVP is appreciated.
- Teen Technology - We'll be celebrating Teen Tech Week at the library from Monday, Mar. 9 to Saturday, Mar. 14. Each day, we'll have a maker-inspired technology program for teens – from circuits and origami to cooking and robots! Stop by the library or our website for more info, and sign up online.
- Audubon Program - On Monday, Mar. 23 at 6:30 pm, join us for an Audubon Society program at the Colchester Meeting House. This time out, we'll be learning about birding in Madagascar!
- Tutoring - Our One-on-One Tutoring program with the Albany College of Pharmacy students is ongoing. The program focuses on grades 1-6, and takes place on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays. We currently have a number of openings, especially for Saturdays. Call the library for more information or to sign up!
- Writing - Interested in writing? Looking for a supportive environment to discuss your work? Stop by on Monday, March 16 at 6:30 pm to join our new writing group for adults.
- Lego Club - Do you know someone who likes Legos? Stop by the library every Thursday at 4 p.m. and join our Lego Club! Each week we'll be creating a new project!

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

Parks and Recreation Department—Glen Cuttitta, Director

The following are a small sample of activities performed by the Recreation division of Colchester's Parks and Recreation Department:

- Meeting with LIFE Advisory Board to identify how to market programs to the public
- Coordinating LIFE program Instructors
- LIFE program is in full swing with many participants registering for programs
- Youth Basketball has completed its season. Thank you to all the coaches and participants for a great season!
- The kindergarten basketball program completed its first season with great success.
- Winter/Spring program brochure has many programs still available
- ACE Afterschool program currently being run in four Colchester Schools
- Working on grant for Building Bright Futures program
- Winter Carnival took place on February 6, 7 and 8.
- Visited all Colchester Cemeteries and will be evaluating maintenance status of each
- Developing a long term maintenance and repair plan for the Colchester Cemeteries
- Working with Vermont Youth Conservation Corps to create a trail network at new Village Park

For further information or comment, please call Linda Kingston at 264-5509.

- Completed Recreation Trails Grant for Village Park
- Completed Land, Water Conservation Fund Grant application for trail network at Village Park
- Identifying space needed for new Parks Maintenance building at Airport Park
- Assisting Public Works in completing the RFP for the Parks Maintenance building at Airport Park
- Artistic Bike Rack competition was completed with the voting taking place at the Winter Carnival
- Summer Camp and Program brochure went to the printers and will be in Colchester mailboxes the week of Feb. 23rd
- Advertising for and contacting summer staff
- Created new refund and weather policy for all race events offered by Colchester Parks and Recreation
- Registrations available for Colchester Triathlon and Causeway 5/15K races
- Registrations being accepted for Colchester Youth Lacrosse program
- Working with three other staff members on design of new Town website
- Airport Park ice rink and cross country trail network maintenance

For more information about the Parks and Recreation Department, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/Recreation/parksNRec.shtml> or call (802) 264-5640.

For further information or comment, please call Linda Kingston at 264-5509.