

Colchester's Weekly Town News
For the Week of September 20, 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.

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

- Bid a fond farewell to Coral Coleman, a veteran employee with the Finance Department for 34 years. Coral was a dedicated and detail oriented employee who will be missed!
- Met with the Natural Resources Board and the Vermont Agency of Transportation to discuss the current Act 250 Process and the effects of Traffic Mitigation Fees on development projects in Colchester.
- Prepared and distributed copies of the Selectboard's position on shoreland protection standards to area legislators and advocacy groups.

Burnham Memorial Library: Kelly Tomaseski, Director

- At Burnham Library, our biggest news is the installation of our new phone system. We now share the same system as the rest of town government, and have significantly more flexibility than we did before. The new number is (802) 264-5660, whether you're calling the adult or children's department. Here are a few of our upcoming programs:
- Preschool Story Time - Mondays and Thursdays at 10:30 am
- Green Mountain Audubon Society Program on Birds - Wednesday, Sept. 25 from 6:30-8 pm (at the Meeting House)
- Saturday Drop-In Story Time - Saturdays at 10 am
- Intergenerational Dessert Book Discussion - Poetry 180, by Billy Collins - Monday, Sept. 30 at 6:30 pm

Economic Development – Kathi O'Reilly, Director

- FY 15 Budget Preparation
- Continue to meet and call upon Colchester businesses to see if we can help in the expansion, retention or business process.

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

- Developing options for the Town Branding and Marketing Campaign.
- Met with the Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation regarding partnering to help the local business community.
- Attended the Northwestern Board of Realtors meeting.
- Met with Special Services Transportation Agency regarding their services and needs.
- Met with UVM regarding the building and land at South Park Drive.
- Met with cutting edge manufacturing company to see if we could assist in future endeavors.
- Meeting with local educational institution to seek opportunities for partnerships.
- Review of website and other marketing materials.

Police Department –Jennifer Morrison, Police Chief

- CPD responded to 195 calls for service and had 55 contacts through motor vehicle stops.
- CPD made three arrests for various crimes this week.
- Check us out on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Colchester-Police-Department/129387157104112>
- Chief Morrison gave the keynote speech at the 1st Annual Vermont Women in Law Enforcement Conference this week.
- We would like to remind all residents and visitors to lock their cars. We had five larcenies from motor vehicles this week. All five vehicles were left unlocked. Please help prevent crimes of opportunity by locking your vehicles and not leaving valuables in sight.

Rescue & Technical Rescue Squads - Amy Akerlind, Rescue Chief

- Rescue responded to 25 calls, and transported 17 patients to the hospital.
- Tech Rescue assisted Essex Rescue with a mountain biker, who had fallen on a trail, and had a possible broken hip.

Parks and Recreation – Glen Cuttitta, Director

- Will be attending meeting about Local Motion Permanent Ferry Service Project
- Reviewing and revising program practices
- Village Park parking lot and path has started with completion date of Oct. 15th
- Bayside Park Phase II project has started.
- Repairs to Causeway were completed on September 20th . Path will be open for weekend ferry service.
- New playground for Fort Ethan Allen will be installed the week of Sept 23rd.
- Airport Park entrance road widening project completed
- Planning for winter programs.
- Organizing the Junk in the Trunk event on October 5th.

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

Bayside Activity Center- Week of September 23rd

- Monday, Wednesday & Friday Walk In hours 10 am-4 pm
- Monday- 10 a.m. Body N Mind Mix
- Monday- 4-5 pm- Chair Yoga
- Monday- 5:30-7:30 pm- Nature Photography
- Tuesday- 9:30 – 11:30 am -Beginner Water Color
- Tuesday- 1-2 pm Tai Chi
- Tuesday- 7-9 pm- Composting
- Wednesday- 9-9:45 am- Hatha Yoga
- Wednesday- 10-11:45 am- Colored Pencil Fundamentals
- Thursday- 1-2 pm Tai Chi
- Thursday- 6-7 pm- Financial Workshop
- Thursday- 6:30 – 8 pm- Anyone Can Learn to Draw
- Friday- 5:30 – 7 pm- French Beginners
- Saturday- 11-1 pm- Essential Oils

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

- General maintenance duties.
- Painted Airport Park Bathrooms
- Trimmed bushes and trees in the parks and municipal buildings
- Aerated and seeded lacrosse/football field
- Repaired washed out entry to Rossetti Natural Area

Public Works – Bryan Osborne, Director

- Replaced the street lights on So. Park Drive. 250watt and 400watt fixtures were replaced with 67watt LED fixtures.
- The Meadow Drive Ditch Project has been advertised for bid with a public bid opening scheduled for October 3, 2013.
- Engineering and Design proposals are due on September 26, 2013 for the replacement of the Morehouse Brook culvert on Malletts Bay Avenue.
- Right-of-way packages have been delivered to all property owners on River Road where easements will be needed for the construction of sidewalks.
- DPW Staff has been receiving training on new software that will allow improved management of work orders and public infrastructure.
- A planning session for the Departments Snow and Ice removal Program has taken place with all DPW Maintenance Staff.
- Attended a project Team Meeting for the Colchester-Essex Network Transportation Study, (CENTS)

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

- Attended a design review meeting for the construction of an emergency storm water overflow for the Smith Estates Sub-division

Planning & Zoning - Sarah Hadd, Director

- Planning and zoning staff were busy this week with computer training, in anticipation of the implementation of our new software.

Clerk's Office – Karen Richard, Town Clerk

- This week we received the second “download” from the Tax Department, notifying us of the amount of credit due to the late filers for the education tax. There were 138 names on the list, so we are in the process of mailing revised tax bills to those residents. If you receive a revised bill and have questions re: the tax bills please give us a call. There is still time to file if you have yet to do so. The deadline is October 15th. Call the office if you have any questions at 264-5520.

Assessor – Bob Vickery, Assessor

- The 2013 Preliminary Equalization Study was sent to the state. The Assessor's office will receive the study back from the state for review. If the study is accepted by the Town we will then have the Common Level of Appraisal to help in determining the Educational tax rate for 2014. If the study is not accepted, the Town can appeal the study to the State for a more accurate reflection of the market level.

Finance – Joan Boehm, Asst. Town Manager/CFO

- Finance is busy preparing for the audit which will begin September 30 and the FY 15 Budget

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