



For the Week Ending September 10, 2015

While by no means a total representation of all the work performed by the Town, the following highlights some Departments' activities:

Town Manager's Office **Dawn Francis, Town Manager**

I had the opportunity to sit in on portions of four interviews for two vacant positions in our Parks and Recreation Department. The four candidates we interviewed were exceptional individuals and it was difficult to choose among them given their level of experience and enthusiasm for working in Colchester. One position will oversee our many events that we hold for the community and the other will coordinate our youth sports and programs for all ages. We hold 15 special events in our community and it is estimated we attract over 5,000 participants total. Over the course of a year, we offer over 500 programs with over 7,700 participants. Of that number, over 5,000 youngsters participate in our after-school programs and/or summer day camps. Over 100 volunteers join the Parks & Recreation Department to help ensure we have plenty of support with both programs and events. We offer scholarships or reduced fees for many of our families to ensure everyone can participate.

You can rest assured that with the caliber of the new staff members we will be hiring soon and our veteran staff, we have the best Parks and Recreation Department in Vermont. There is a program for everyone and I hope you take a look at our Fall offerings and "optimize the experience of living" by signing up for one today, or take advantage of our many beautiful parks.

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

Assessor's Office **Bob Vickery, Assessor**

- The Assessor's Office has been upgrading the GIS Map / Assessment Data web page.
- Now that we are coming to the end of summer construction season we are reviewing and inspecting all permits that have been issued over the last year to update the parcel record data.
- We have completed the preliminary review of the State's Equalization Study. This is the study that will set the Common Level of Assessment (CLA) that will be used in determining the State's Educational Property Tax.

For further information or comment, please call Linda Kingston at 802.264.5509



- We are also reviewing and correcting any parcels on our Town web page that may not have data linked to them. Lack of data can be caused by a number of reasons such as one owner of contiguous lots that generate only one tax bill; one lot owned in common by several owners; or a new subdivision with data not yet linked. This is an ongoing process as owners change and new parcels are created every year.
- We are also working on a new version of the GIS map that will not require a Silverlight download. This new version will be accessible to more users including those with iPhones and iPads. We would appreciate feedback from the public to help us track the performance of the new map and improve the accessibility further.

For more information about the Assessor's Department, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/assessor> or call (802) 264-5670.

Town Clerk's Office
Karen Richard, Town Clerk

- The first installment of taxes was due on August 17th. It was a busy month for tax collection.

August amount billed:	\$13,803,171
Amount collected:	\$13,593,500
Balance due:	\$ 209,671

- August was also a busy month for passport processing. Please remember to stop by if you need to apply for a passport. We have the forms and can do the passport photos.
- The Clerk's office recently started managing the cemetery administration, with the assistance of an appointed Cemetery Advisory Committee and the expertise of Glen Cuttitta, Director of Parks and Recreation and his grounds crew. The Malletts Bay Cemetery has had recent improvements, including tree removal and new fencing. Look for signage and new grass to appear in the near future.
- The Cemetery Advisory Committee has also been busy researching fees, rules, maintenance and software. A software package has been selected and installed. We will be trained and then start the process of transitioning many years of meticulously hand-written notes and information into a computerized format. The maps will be computerized and reflect the

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Colchester Town News

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Colchester - What do you want to do today?

ownership, dates and associated notes of each lot in each of the six cemeteries.

For more information about the Town Clerk's Office,
<http://colchestervt.gov/townclerk> or call (802) 264-5520

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