



## Colchester Town News

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*Colchester-What do you want to do today?*

### For the Week Ending November 20, 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**

On behalf of the Selectboard, we extend our gratitude to Colchester's dedicated and hard-working employees and our over 300 volunteers who serve on boards and committees, as well as coach and support the Town's many recreational offerings. Our recent recognition received by *Money Magazine* as the 40th Best Place to Live in America is partially due to these individuals who give selflessly of their time, energy and expertise.

Happy Thanksgiving!

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

#### **Burnham Memorial Library** **Kelly Tomaseski, Director**

Thanksgiving greetings from the Burnham Library! We hope that everyone will have a nice holiday. The library will close at 5 PM on Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> and be closed on Thanksgiving and the day after (Thursday and Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>). We'll be open our normal hours, 9 am-3 PM, on Saturday, November 28<sup>th</sup>.

Here are a few of our upcoming events:

- Christmas Tree Lighting & Caroling - Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, starting at 4 PM - It's that time of year again! Gather for crafts, songs, cocoa, cookies, and lights on the tree. At 4 PM, children can make a holiday craft in the library. Around 4:30 PM, we'll all sing with the Colchester Community Chorus at the Meeting House. The annual tree lighting follows outside around 5 PM. No sign-up required.
- Gingerbread House Contest - Build a tasty gingerbread structure and bring it to the library for our annual contest. Entries may be dropped off beginning December 1<sup>st</sup> and voting starts December 7<sup>th</sup>. Entries will be accepted after voting begins. We'll display your creations and every entrant will be eligible for a raffled basket of goodies. Gingerbread kits are welcome, and family

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



entries are very much encouraged. Guidelines and entry forms are available at the library or from our web site.

- Cider & Cookie Week – December 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>. Stop in for homemade cookies and spiced cider, compliments of library staff!
- Adult Book Discussion – Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM. The 2015 VT Humanities Council Vermont Reads book is “Haroun and the Sea of Stories,” by Salman Rushdie. Kelly will lead a conversation about stories and themes in the book and how these issues have affected participants. Join us and share your opinions about the book! Copies are available at the library.
- Free Vermont Health Connect Enrollment Event: Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 5-8 PM. Get information and assistance enrolling in health insurance coverage from a Vermont Health Connect Navigator. December 15<sup>th</sup> is the enrollment deadline for new or renewal coverage, to take effect on January 1, 2016. Contact [navigator@cvoeo.org](mailto:navigator@cvoeo.org) or 860-1417 x115 for more information about this event or free Navigator services.
- Teen Tinker Tuesday: Making Gifts – Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 PM. This month, Teen Tinker invites our younger friends to join us in creating items that could be great holiday gifts. We’ll be making boxes, jewelry, cards, and other fancy things. Please register at our website to reserve your spot—supplies are limited! For kids & teens of all ages.

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 is a small sampling of tasks completed by our department.

- Artistic Bike Racks have been installed at Bayside and Airport Parks
- New Park Maintenance Building construction is progressing; concrete work is complete and steel work will begin this week
- New roof on lower Bayside Park Bath House was completed
- Leaf Drop Off weekend yielded over 100 tons of leaves
- Parks staff assisted Eagle Scout Aric Donerkiel with a bench project at Airport Park
- Bayside dinghy dock has been permitted and purchased; installation is scheduled for Spring 2016
- Seasonal Park staff working on general maintenance and winter preparation at all parks

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- Malletts Bay Cemetery renovation is complete and awaiting new sign delivery; seasonal clean up at the other cemeteries
- Congressman Peter Welch conducted a press conference at Bayside Park in support of the Land, Water and Conservation Fund
- Colchester Youth Basketball practices have begun
- Assisted with Capital Budget Planning and completed Parks and Recreation FY17 budget and presented to Selectboard
- Creation of Winter Program brochure in progress and will be available at the end of December
- Winter Carnival Committee has begun planning the event
- Colchester Pride Volunteers Social was held at Hampton Inn on November 6th
- Working with State of Vermont ACT 250 regulators to obtain permit for Village Park recreational trail

Youth Basketball is still in need of volunteer coaches! If you would like to help with a great program and have fun doing it, give Mike a call at 264-5640.

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