



Colchester Town News

Colchester-What do you want to do today?

For the Week Ending February 19, 2016

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**

Election Day, arch 1st, is coming up quickly. While national politics may be capturing most of our attention, it's the local town elections that have the most direct effect on the quality our lives every day. Local government *works*. Absentee ballots may be requested from the Town Clerk's Office at 264-5520 or you can vote early in person at the Town Offices until 4:30 p.m. February 29th. The polling place on March 1st for both districts 9-1 and 9-2 is Colchester High School off Blakely Road on Laker Lane.

Along with the proposed FY 2017 Town Operating Budget on the ballot, there are three important Capital Plans to be voted upon. The Parks Capital Plan and Transportation Capital Plan are up for re-authorization; they've been voter-approved several times in the past and there's **no** cost increase for either one.

The proposed Public Safety Capital Plan will apply the same sensible, "save-toward-it" approach to funding future equipment needs for the Colchester Police, Rescue and Technical Rescue departments. Our capital plans are cost-effective funding tools that save taxpayers' dollars.

- To learn more about the proposed 2017 Town budget visit our website:
<http://colchestervt.gov/367/Proposed-Budget>
- For more details about the capital plans visit:
<http://colchestervt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1350>

I hope to see you at the Community Dinner (5:00 PM) at the Colchester High School cafeteria and at Town Meeting (6:30 PM) in the CHS auditorium on Monday, February 29th.

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**

Greetings from Burnham Library. The Library will be getting fresh paint and new carpet on the main floor Monday, February 29 - Friday, March 18. Be sure to check our website or call before visiting to make sure that upstairs items you want are accessible. Youth areas will be open as usual.

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



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Tax Forms - We now have IRS 1040/1040A/1040EZ forms and instructions. We didn't receive schedules but we should be able to print them. Unfortunately, State tax forms are not available, but you can download them online or request them by email or phone.

Here are a few of our upcoming programs:

- **Bi-Weekly Craft for Kids** - Mondays: February 2, March 7 and March 21 at 3:30 PM. Join us for our new program: Kids age 5 and up work on a new craft project every session.
- **Snakes Alive!** - Monday, February 22, 6-7 PM. Kevin Clarkson of K.C. Reptiles will provide a hands-on experience with a variety of docile, exotic snakes. The program is for everyone, from animal enthusiasts to those who have never seen a snake close-up. Feel free to take photos of these fascinating reptiles.
- **Family Games** - Tuesday, February 23, 1-3 PM and Friday, March 18, 2-4 PM. Want to try new games with old friends or old games with new friends? Bring a friend or come solo; bring your favorite game if you choose. For all ages.
- **Family Movie** - Friday, February 26, 2 PM. The entire family can enjoy a recent film. We'll bring the popcorn! Call the library or visit our website for title and sign-up.
- **Audubon Program: Animals in Earth's Coldest Places** - Wednesday, March 2, 6:30 PM. Join grad student and nature guide, Sean Beckett, as he presents the coldest places in North America and the animals that live there.
- **Teen Tech Week** - March 7-11. Join us for Young Adult programs including coding, origami, and more! Find more information on our website, or contact Kelsey at kpsaute@colchestervt.gov.
- **Young Writers & Storytellers** - Wednesday, March 9, 4-5 PM. We have a new library writing club for children from K-3rd grade. Let's create stories! Call 264-5660 for more information and sign-up.

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

We regret that the Airport Park Skating Rink will not be built this winter. Due to the fluctuations in temperatures, rain, and lateness of the season, it would not be cost-effective to construct this year.

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



The following is a small sampling of tasks completed by our department.

- The Parks Maintenance Building construction is proceeding nicely; interior walls are being sheet-rocked and windows and doors installed.
- The Spring/Summer Program Brochure is at the printer and will be mailed on March 3rd. Be sure to check it out.
- Now accepting applications for summer seasonal help for programs, camps and park operations.
- Colchester Youth Basketball has concluded and was a success. More than 280 children participated in the program.
- The February Colchester Winter Carnival had a record number of attendees despite the lack of snow.
- GreenPlay LLC of Colorado has been selected to work on the Bayside Park and Health and Wellness Center master plans and needs assessment. We will schedule public forums to obtain community feedback.
- We will begin accepting reservations for summer Pavilion rentals on March 1st. Request forms are available on our website; the new Concession Request form for park vending will be available soon.
- Informational items on Park Capital Plan reauthorization will be available to residents on Town Meeting Day.
- Archeology sign-off on the North Trail project has been received.

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