

For the Week of October 28, 2019

**Manager's Message**

Aaron Frank, Town Manager

The Selectboard, Town Manager's Office and Police Chief have received a higher than usual number of citizen complaints over the last few months regarding speeding vehicles, motorists running red lights, and other traffic violations in Colchester. In response, the Colchester Town Police will be increasing emphasis on traffic enforcement.

Please, folks, be observant of the posted speed limits, other traffic signage, and obey traffic signals. Remember that speeding, inattentive driving, and trying to make it through a traffic light after your turn is up places pedestrians, animals, fellow motorists and you at risk. For everyone's safety—and to avoid a costly traffic ticket—slow down and drive responsibly and courteously. Your fellow residents will appreciate it!

Since the above was written, a resident's grandchild was very nearly hit while crossing the street at a crosswalk. Again, please slow down and especially be aware of pedestrians. Lives depend on it!

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

Police Department  
Douglas Allen, Police Chief

- With Officer Mellen's departure, we fell back upon an experienced D.A.R.E. Officer to fill that role. Starting at the end of September Cpl. Jaime Bressler was assigned as the second of two officers assigned to work with Colchester students. As our D.A.R.E. Officer, Cpl. Bressler provides to students in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade a proven curriculum on ways to avoid drugs and violence by making sound decisions. If you are interested in how we present these lessons and our choice of using the D.A.R.E. curriculum, please contact Chief Allen at the number listed below.
- Please use caution during Halloween. Darkness is arriving earlier and trick or treaters will be out in force in our neighborhoods. We will be posting Halloween Safety tips on our Facebook page.

- Since September 25<sup>th</sup>, CPD has responded to 1022 calls for service. These calls resulted in 42 arrests for violations including Identity Theft, Burglary, and Embezzlement, among others.

For more about Colchester Police Department visit <http://colchestervt.gov/police> or call (802) 264-5556 (non-emergency).

Rescue and Technical Rescue Squads  
Scott Crady, Rescue Chief

- We have started upgrades to the rescue station. This project is anticipated to take approximately 3 weeks. When finished, we will post pictures on the Town website. These upgrades will include:
  - Energy efficient upgrades to the interior lighting
  - Energy efficient upgrades to the air conditioning system
  - Relocating the duty staff office to gain more space, and reorganizing the work flow of the station to accommodate the growth of the organization
- Colchester Rescue personnel will continue to staff home football games for Colchester High School Lakers until the end of their season.
- There were 153 emergency medical calls in the last 30 days, compared to 146 calls last year for this time frame.

For more about Colchester Rescue, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/rescue> or call (802) 264-5990.

Upcoming Town Meetings:

- **Planning Commission:** 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 7:00 PM. November meetings: 11/5 and 11/19
- **Development Review Board:** 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7:00 PM. November meeting: 11/13
- **Recreation Advisory Board:** 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7:00 AM, Champlain Room, 2nd floor. November meeting: 11/13
- **Cemetery Advisory Committee:** Next meeting: Thursday, **12/19**, 8 AM in the Champlain Conference Room, Colchester Town Offices, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.
- **Conservation Commission:** 3rd Monday of the month, 7:00 PM, at the Bayside Activity Center or per agenda. November meeting: 11/18
- **Library Board of Trustees:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, 4:30 PM at Burnham Library. Next meeting: 11/21
- **Selectboard:** 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm. Next meeting: 11/12  
The 11/26 meeting has been cancelled.

(All meetings take place at the Colchester Town Offices, 781 Blakely Road, in the Outer Bay Conference Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor unless otherwise noted.)

Upcoming **Veteran's Day** events:

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

- **A Veterans Town Hall: Bridging the divide between veterans and the communities they served.** Sunday, November 3rd at 1 pm at the McCarthy Arts Center, Saint Michael's College, Colchester, Vermont.  
*Veterans are invited to speak, unscripted, and all community members are invited to attend and listen.*

Inspired by author Sebastian Junger, the gathering aims to establish a greater understanding between local veterans and the friends and neighbors they fought for. In the tradition of warrior storytelling, veterans are invited to describe the pride, grief, rage, or quiet appreciation of life that the war bestowed upon them —to share a story, summary of service, message, letter home, excerpt from a war journal, or even the story behind a photograph. This event is non-political and all perspectives are valued.


**RSVPs encouraged:** [vtvetstownhall.eventbrite.com](http://vtvetstownhall.eventbrite.com) For more information, email [kristen.eaton@gmail.com](mailto:kristen.eaton@gmail.com)

- **Special Veterans Day Program: The American Legion -- 100 Years!** Monday, November 11, 2019 at 7 p.m. at 828 Main Street, Colchester  
The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans' organization. Over the years, the Legion has influenced considerable social change in America, won hundreds of benefits for veterans, and produced many programs for children and youth. Join us for this special Veterans Day program to learn about Colchester's local Post 91 and the 100-year history of the American Legion. Past Post Commander Barbara Bushaw will be our presenter. Parking, admission and refreshments are free. Donations are always appreciated. Please note that additional parking for this event is available at Our Lady of Grace Church.

Notices:

- The Colchester Town Offices will be **closed** on Monday, November 11 in observance of Veterans' Day.
- The November 26 Selectboard meeting has been **cancelled**.

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