

## For the Week of May 30, 2023

### Manager's Message

Aaron Frank, Town Manager

The State of Vermont Health Department reported a recent case of rabies in a raccoon in the Town of Colchester. The State was able to share just the nearest cross-street location, which is Colchester Point Road. **Please take steps to protect humans and pets from rabies.**

**If you are bitten by an animal:** wash the wound very well with soap and water and contact your health care provider. Follow all their instructions.

**If your pet or farm animal was exposed to a wild or stray animal that might have rabies** contact your veterinarian. Pets should be vaccinated for rabies. [State law requires](#) dogs and cats to be vaccinated — even barn cats.

**If you see a wild or stray animal acting strangely, or are concerned about a rabies exposure,** call the Rabies Hotline (1-800-4-RABIES), or report it to your town's animal control officer.

**Do not touch or pick up wild or stray animals** – even baby animals – or try to make them into pets. Doing so can put yourself or your family at risk of exposure through a bite or a scratch. You can't tell if an animal has rabies just by looking at it. Interacting with young wildlife may result in them being orphaned or, if tested for rabies, requires humanely euthanizing the animal. So, for their own sake, leave wildlife in the wild.

Learn more about rabies in Vermont – visit [www.healthvermont.gov/rabies](http://www.healthvermont.gov/rabies).

Rabies is a deadly viral disease of the brain that infects mammals and is fatal to both humans and animals. In Vermont, rabies is most commonly found in wild animals such as raccoons, skunks, foxes, bats and woodchucks. Cats, dogs and livestock can also get rabies if they have not been vaccinated. Rabies virus is spread through the bite of an infected animal. Rabies is transmitted only when the virus is introduced into a bite wound, open cuts on the skin, or onto mucous membranes, like the mouth or eyes.



**Public EV Charger Update:** The new, level 2 electric vehicle (EV) charger will have two charging ports in front of the Colchester Town Offices. A contract was executed for the work in December of 2022, and the charger is currently on order. The site work for the project has been completed, and the actual charger will hopefully be delivered within the next two

months. The charger will have a credit card payment system for public use. The total cost of the project is \$14,199.

**Volunteer Opportunity with the Selective Service System:** The Selective Service System (SSS) is looking for individuals to serve, in a volunteer capacity, as a Local Board Member.



The Selective Service System is an independent agency within the Executive Branch of the U.S. Federal Government who register men and maintain a system that, when authorized by the President and Congress, rapidly provides personnel in a fair and equitable manner while managing an alternative service program for conscientious objectors. The Selective Service System is not part of the Department of Defense; the SSS is responsible for availability of young men while the Department of Defense is responsible for acceptability in the event of a draft. For interested individuals, please review the Board Member Information Booklet and Board Member Brochure that was shared in a [previous Selectboard packet](#) and which contains additional information about the mission, goals, how Selective Service Boards work, and how to join.



**5K Fun Run & Jiggety Jog to benefit the McClure Miller Respite House:** On **Saturday, June 10, at Malletts Bay School** join UVM’s Home Health and Hospice in supporting the beloved McClure Miller Respite House.

This fundraising event is the single largest fundraiser for McClure Miller Respite House, Vermont’s only Medicare-certified hospice home. Every dollar raised goes directly toward providing room, board, personal care and special services for residents, regardless of their ability to pay. For more information and to register for the run, please visit: <https://www.uvmhomehealth.org/event/fun-run-jiggety-jog-2023/>



**“Make and Take” Children's Classes Offered in June at Historic Log Schoolhouse**

Fun and educational “Make and Take” classes will be offered this summer for children ages 5–10 at the historic Log Schoolhouse located at Airport Park here in Colchester. All materials are provided, and the topics are linked to life and pastimes of the Log Schoolhouse time period.

These classes will be presented by Michelle Penca, a long-time volunteer teacher of art, gardening, literacy, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). She has taught classes in five different states to learners of all ages. Michelle has a passion for sharing the love of learning while making it fun and

*Students for these classes are welcome to have a seat in the historic Log Schoolhouse. Depending on the weather, some classes may be held outdoors.*

accessible. These classes are hosted by the Colchester Historical Society.

**Please note: Advance registration is required. The fee is \$5 per class, per child. These classes fill up fast, so register early at [winchris65@comcast.net](mailto:winchris65@comcast.net)**

### **Codes and Ciphers**

**Saturday, June 10, 10 – 11 a.m.**

**Fee: \$5 per child**

In use for thousands of years, codes and ciphers can be simple to amazingly complex. The focus for this class will be on basic codes that children will use to code their name and maybe a secret message. The instructor will demonstrate Atbash, Grid, Caesar Cipher, and Scytale. Each child will go home with cipher wheels and code sheets to continue using the knowledge learned.

**This class, open to ages 8-10, is a nice STEM activity. Class size is limited to 8 children.**



### **Old Time Toys**

**Saturday, June 17, 10 - 11 a.m.**

**Fee: \$5 per child**

Before toy stores, children were shown how to make toys from scraps and items that were in almost every home in the era of the Colchester Log Schoolhouse. Yarn, paper, fabric, and clothes pins made charming toys for young children. Every child will make and take home one or two simple toys. **This class is limited to 8 children between kindergarten age and 2nd grade.**

### **Math Games**

**Saturday, June 24, 10 - 11 a.m.**

**Fee: \$5 per child**

For a very long time and across many continents, children have played variations of some really great games that only required paper, pencils, and game tokens. These screen-free math games help develop strategic and critical thinking, boost memory and mathematical confidence, and can be successfully played by math lovers and those who have not yet learned to love math.

**This class is for children ages 7 to 10 and is open for 8 students.** The students will bring home examples of the games they learned to share with their family.

## **Department Updates**

**Colchester Police Department:** For the first time in several years, there will be three Community Service Officers patrolling the community bike paths and recreation areas and attending to the Malletts Bay Fishing Access. Our CSOs act as eyes and ears for our officers who stay in contact by radio with our dispatch center. CSOs are funded by the Town and the State of Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife. This year's officers are Sam Crowley, a Colchester

High School graduate; Addison Cook, a Saint Michael’s College rising senior; and James St. Cyr, and Champlain Valley Union High School senior.



---

### Upcoming Town Meetings

**Selectboard:** Tuesday, June 13, 6:30 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Alternatively, send a note, up to 1,000 words, to [TownManager@colchestervt.gov](mailto:TownManager@colchestervt.gov) with “Citizens to be Heard” in the Subject and your name. As with in-person Citizens to be Heard, we ask that you SHARE YOUR ADDRESS. The email will be shared with the entire Selectboard prior to the meeting and included in the information packet at the next meeting.

- Watch the Meeting Online via Live Stream: <http://lcatv.org/live-stream-2>
- Agenda: [www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas](http://www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas)

**Planning Commission:** Tuesday, June 6, 7:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road.

**Development Review Board:** Wednesday, June 14, 7:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Residents are welcome to attend the meeting or public comments can be submitted prior to the hearing by email to [zmaia@colchestervt.gov](mailto:zmaia@colchestervt.gov) or by mail to Town of Colchester, c/o Development Review Board, 781 Blakely Road, Colchester, VT 05446.

**Recreation Advisory Board:** Wednesday, June 14, 7:00 a.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Champlain Room, 781 Blakely Road.

**Library Board of Trustees:** Thursday, June 15, 4:00 p.m., in the Burnham Room of the Burnham Memorial Library.

**Agendas available:** <http://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt>



## Colchester Town News

VERMONT

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

**Note:** Agendas are posted at least 48 hours before the meeting, so you may find past agendas when clicking the link. Revisiting the link closer to the date of the meeting should provide you with the current agenda.

**Subscribe to the Town Newsletter:** <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/jkMAO2v>

For more information or to comment, call 802-264-5509 or email [townmanager@colchestervt.gov](mailto:townmanager@colchestervt.gov)