

For the Week of July 3, 2023

Manager's Message

Aaron Frank, Town Manager

In observance of Independence Day, the Town Offices and the Library will be closed Tuesday, July 4th.



July is National Parks and Recreation Month!



Parks and recreation is an integral part of communities throughout this country and state, including Colchester. Parks and recreation promotes health, wellness, and time in nature and with others, while affording opportunities for learning a variety of recreational activities and sports. Parks and

recreation establishes a physically and mentally healthier community. We thank the incredible Parks and Recreation staff and volunteers for helping make Colchester a vibrant recreational community!



Colchester Parks and Recreation offers year-round, multi-generational programming and maintains the community's recreational areas and facilities. Annual events, like tomorrow's Fourth of July celebrations, are another wonderful way to enjoy Colchester Parks and Recreation's work. If you haven't utilized Colchester's parks or recreational opportunities, you can learn more here: <https://colchestervt.gov/333/Parks-Recreation>.



Retirement of Deputy Chief Jeff Barton: On June 29th, Deputy Police Chief Jeff Barton retired after serving Colchester for the past 40 years. The Selectboard approved a [resolution](#) honoring him last Tuesday, which highlights his achievements and dedication to Colchester. Deputy Chief Barton has held many policing roles during his years of service, while has also mentoring the youth of Colchester through his involvement with coaching, volunteering, and coordinating youth sports and programs. We thank him for his many years of service, leadership, and commitment to making Colchester a safe place, and wish him the best in his retirement!

Colchester Historical Society:

It's been a busy season already for the Colchester Historical Society. Check out our Summer Newsletter to learn all that's been going on and what's coming up. We've been popular in the news lately, have acquired some new historical treasures, and the Log Schoolhouse is open for the summer. Learn about an exciting event coming up on August 12 – YOU'RE invited! Here's the newsletter link:



<https://colchestervt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/8157/Summer-2023-Colchester-VT-Historical-Society-Newsletter?bidId=>

Clean, Drain, Dry: Help Stop the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species:

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is urging lake visitors to help stop the spread of aquatic invasive species. Aquatic invasive species are organisms such as zebra mussels or water chestnuts that have spread or been introduced beyond their native range. These organisms can harm the environment, economy, and human health. Currently over 100 lakes and ponds in Vermont are infested with aquatic invasive species, with three new infestations in 2022.



Volunteers line up to complete a survey of aquatic invasive species on the Connecticut River.

To help stop the spread of invasive species, Colchester residents, or anyone visiting the Bay, can report [aquatic invasive species](#), learn about aquatic invasive species or get a free boat-invasive species inspection from Public Access Greeters at public boat launches. Other opportunities include becoming a volunteer with [DEC monitoring programs](#). For those moving boats between bodies of water, help stop the spread by taking the following steps:

1. **CLEAN** off any mud, plants, and animals from boats, trailers, motors, and other equipment. Discard removed material in the trash or on high, dry ground where there is no danger of them washing into any water body.
2. **DRAIN** all water from boats, boat engines, and other equipment away from the water.
3. **DRY** anything that touches the water. Drying boats, trailers, and equipment in the sun for at least five days is advised if rinsing with hot, high-pressure water is not an option.

To learn more, please visit this link to the [Aquatic Invasive Species Program](#) or contact Oliver Pierson, Lakes and Ponds Program Manager, DEC, Agency of Natural Resources at 802-490-6198 or Oliver.Pierson@vermont.gov.

Department Updates

Parks and Recreation: Start this celebratory month off by joining us tomorrow at our annual 4th of July events!

4th of July Parade

- The parade starts at 10:00 a.m. at Colchester High School
- Parade Route: The parade will process from Colchester High School, down Blakely Road, and end at Lavigne Road. Road closure is expected to be approx. one hour.



5K Fun Run

\$5.00 per participant

7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.: Fun Run Registration at Union Memorial School

8:15 a.m.: 5K Race Begins - Middle Road

Bayside Beach

Lifeguards will not be on duty for the 4th of July.

Bayside Park

5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.: Inflatables and Food Vendors

6:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.: Music Entertainment: **THE HITMEN**

- The Hitmen are: Jim Cheney (Bass and Vocals), Bob Young (Guitar and Vocals), Brian Donnelly (Drums and Vocals), and Bob Boedecker (Keys and Vocals).
- Musical Style: 1970s- and 1980s-party rock & roll, featuring hot guitar, organ, and impressive vocal harmonies! The Hitmen play anything from John Mellencamp to Santana, The Atlanta Rhythm Section to Steely Dan - don't miss this fantastic group!

Fireworks

- Fireworks will take place at dusk from the Bayside Softball Field. Please stay behind the safety fence.
- Parking available at: Colchester High School, Colchester Middle School, and the Malletts Bay School.

Burnham Memorial Library: Upcoming Adult/Senior Programs for Summer

Mah Jongg

Monday, July 10th at 1 p.m.

Whether you're new to the game or have played for years, you're more than welcome to join us at the Meeting House!



Evening Book Discussion

Tuesday, July 11th at 6 p.m.—*Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt

Copies of the book are available to borrow at the library.

Adult Craft: Tiny Canvas Creations

Wednesday, July 12th at 2 p.m.

Paint or decorate a mini canvas for our upcoming community-sourced Tiny Art Show, which will be on display during the month of August. No art experience necessary—we will have lots of ideas on hand.

Henna Tattoos for Adults

Thursday, July 13th at 5 p.m.

Come get some henna art painted onto your hand with Henna artist Rupali Agrawal—it should last for several days if you're careful!

Upcoming Town Meetings

Selectboard: Tuesday, July 11, 6:30 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Alternatively, send a note, up to 1,000 words, to 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

Planning Commission: Tuesday, July 18, 7:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road.

Development Review Board: Wednesday, July 12, 7:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd 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 or by mail to Town of Colchester, c/o Development Review Board, 781 Blakely Road, Colchester, VT 05446.

Recreation Advisory Board: Wednesday, July 12, 7:00 a.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 2nd Floor, Champlain Room, 781 Blakely Road.

Library Board of Trustees: Thursday, July 20, 4:00 p.m., in the Burnham Room of the Burnham Memorial Library.

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

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.



Colchester – What do you want to do today?

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