



Town of Chester

Newsletter

July-September Summer 2019 www.chestervt.gov

TOWN CLERK

The laws related to applying for birth and death certificates in the State of Vermont have changed as of July 1, 2019. Act 46 enhances the security, provides better protection against misuse of these legal documents, and reduces the risk of identity theft. The changes to the law are as follows:

- Certified copies of certificates can only be issued to family members, legal guardians and certain court-related parties and legal representatives.
- Applicants must complete an application and show acceptable identification.

Where to apply for certified copies:

- Any Vermont Town Clerk's Office
- secure.vermont.gov/VSARA/vitalrecords
- Vermont State Archives and Records Administration (VSARA)
- Vermont Department of Health Vital Records Office

Town Manager's Message

I want to take this opportunity to bring you up to date on a number of things happening in Chester.

Paving of Route 35 will start soon. There have been a number of people that have expressed their concern about the condition of the road. The work that will be done should greatly improve the driving experience on this important section of roadway. Coach Road and First Avenue are also included in this year's paving plans.

The Recreation Department is happy to announce that the disc golf course has been expanded to 18 holes. People throughout the area have commented on the quality of the course. If you and your family have not tried it yet, you should consider playing a game in the future. If you don't have the equipment you need, discs can be purchased at Chester Hardware.

The second floor of Town Hall is being renovated. The job is expected to be completed by the end of August. When the work is finished you will notice quite a change. A new roof is being installed to ensure there will not be any ongoing leaks in the building. The fire escape has already been removed; it was unnecessary since there are two separate means of egress. The masonry will be repointed, too.

A new ceiling and lighting system will be installed. A fresh coat of paint will also happen as part of the upgrade. A bathroom on the second floor will also be added. When finished it should create a much more useable space for many types of meetings and events.

The Public Works Department has a new Director. Graham Kennedy retired after 30 years with the Town and Kirby Putnam has been promoted to take his place. He has worked in the department for 8 years and should make a fine transition into his new position.

The staff have enjoyed working with Graham and everyone wishes him the best in his retirement.



The Chester Disc Golf Club

(CDGC) is pleased to announce that after a busy winter of scouting and design, and an equally busy spring of clearing and infrastructure development, the Chester Disc Golf Course now features a full 18 holes. Thanks, and gratitude go out to the many local volunteers who helped make the course expansion plan a reality.

Holes #10-18 (the 'back 9') officially opened on June 1, 2019 and feature a variety of challenging holes as the course loops around the base of the pinnacle before climbing to the relatively flat, wooded summit near the cell tower. Most of the back 9 fairways wind through tall pine tree stands, before culminating on hole #18 and a sharp downhill approach to a basket located near the new picnic pavilion.

Throughout the rest of this year, the CDGC will be focused on installing additional benches, adding permanent signage on the back 9 holes and completing other course maintenance and enhancement projects. The course continues to be a popular destination for local-area disc golfers as well as many out-of-state players who are finding the course listed on several disc golf course directory websites.

Information about the course and photos can also be found on the 'Chester Disc Golf Club' Facebook page.



Chester Ambulance Corner

Chester Ambulance and Chester Fire are privileged to have the effort of Laurie Cloud, EMT work with the Fetch Foundation for a donation of a FIDO Bag for our emergency services.

The FIDO Bag Program supplies Emergency Services with lifesaving tools to administer medical attention to your family's pet at the point of rescue. "In cases such as fire or automobile accidents etc., emergency services need special tools on their trucks to save your best four-legged friends life just as they do you." States Marie Peck- Founder of The Fetch Foundation.

The Fetch Foundation is a 501c3 organization. This unique nonprofit charity is dedicated to serve our community while saving you and your pets. The fetch Foundation's vision is to have a FIDO BAG on every fire truck in the country.

For more information on The Fetch Foundation, please contact Marie Peck at 602-617-2656.

If you would like to contact the Chester Fire and Ambulance Services, the non-emergency number is 875-2211.

Do Not Resuscitate Information

You, a spouse or family member may have a DNR (Do Not Resuscitate) or Advanced Directive order that they have completed with their physicians. What you may not know is that Vermont Pre-Hospital Practitioners cannot honor these requests unless a Vermont DNR/COLST Form is completed by patient or caregiver and the patient's clinician. This form is three pages and gives patient's options about different interventions they would or would not like during a cardiac arrest.

In the absences of a VT DNR/COLST order, neither a spouse nor a healthcare agent/durable POA may direct EMS to withhold resuscitation in the event of a cardiac arrest.

If you have access to the internet, Advanced Directive Rules, forms and instructions can be found at:

<http://www.healthvermont.gov/systems/advance-directives/do-not-resuscitate-dnr-colst>

The DNR/COLST form is also available at your clinician's office. You may also obtain instructions and a form by contacting Chester Ambulance at 875-2211. Photocopies of the DNR/COLST form are legal and valid.

Chester Historic Preservation Committee

Town Hall. Renovation of the second floor and repairs to the roof and exterior should start in July.

Jeffrey Barn. CHPC informed the Select Board that it has been unable to find potential renters that would justify spending Town funds on renovation and/or restoration. The Select Board will now seek a museum or potential buyer to remove the structure and restore a clean site.

Central High School (aka Academy Building). CHPC arranged for a plaster expert to look at the fallen ceiling in preparation for a bid on repair. The committee then used the new comprehensive form it had created to review the interior and exterior of the building. CHPC will seek out additional maps and information to complete the form and submit a report, with photos, to the Town Manager to aid in prioritizing necessary repairs and improvements.

Yosemite Firehouse. Wright Construction replaced the tilting piers under the addition at the back of the building next to the Williams River. That was the first essential step in beginning to right the structure, but the slow jacking process to align the building must continue. A conceptual plan for the proposed museum was recently submitted to the architect. The next step is preparation of a measured drawing of the proposed building layout in order to obtain approvals from State officials. The Town still has hopes of meeting the October 1 deadline for a grant from the State of Vermont for essential structural work. In the meantime, CHPC continues to ask anyone with photos of the previous Fire Chiefs and information about them, as well as any other fire-related memorabilia and equipment they would like to donate to the future museum, to contact Committee Chair Lillian Willis at 802-875-1340 or at lbwillisct@comcast.net.



Above: Wright Construction workers created new piers to replace the tilting ones that did not have a proper footing, and the surrounding reseeded area is growing grass to hold the soil. This was a most difficult job with very little room between the building and the river, but the men were skilled and careful. The new piers should help with the realignment of the building, which is the first important step in its restoration.

Chester Townscape's Summer Beautification

Flowers Abound! Beauty is blossoming in pots at private and public locations around town, in the flower boxes on the bridges, around the two gazebos, and at the Brookside Cemetery wall and Information Booth. Chester Townscape volunteers and friends feed and water those public displays all summer. Willing helpers are encouraged to contact Lynn Russell at jrussell02@att.net.

Village Green Gazebo and Town Info Booth Makeover

The new landscaping improvements around the gazebo at the Town Green and at the Town's Info Booth across the way were an early spring project by Chester Townscape with partial financial support from the Town. Visitors, hikers, and bikers are enjoying the enhanced attractive and welcoming atmosphere in the center of town.



Hearse House Museum Is Open

This unique small museum is a white, clapboarded building across from the Town Green and located next to the entrance to the Brookside Cemetery and the Public Tomb. The museum features the Town's handsome house-drawn hearse, associated photographs, and information about death and funeral customs. It is open for self-guided tours daily in dry weather from Memorial Day through Columbus Day.



Town Pool Hours

Monday

Open Swim: Noon - 7PM

Adult swim: 5PM - 6PM

Tuesday – Friday

Open Swim: Noon - 8PM

Adult Swim: 5PM - 6PM

Saturday & Sunday

Open Swim: Noon - 5PM

Adult Swim: 5PM - 6PM

*Adult Swim every 15 minutes before the hour except the last hour. NO 15-minute adult swim the last hour Monday-Friday.

**Children under the age of 10 MUST be accompanied by an adult.

Whiting Library

Passes and Summer Reading Program Fun!

Celebrate Summertime at Whiting Library, located on Main Street in Chester. The Library is a great place to get books and magazines to read in your lawn chair, movies to watch on rainy days, and CDs for listening as you drive. Here at the Library there are LEGOs for building, friendly Story-times and a “cosmic” summer reading program!

The Whiting Library's Children Department will again participate the National Collaborative Summer Library Program. This year's theme is *A Universe of Stories* and we hope you'll join us for some fun space-themed activities, programs, and of course, prizes this summer! Sign-ups start June 10th and the program begins July 10th. We are also happy to announce that The Nature Museum's *Summer Unplugged* series will be back for another year of programs. Join us Wednesdays at 1pm in the library for a different topic every week! Questions can be directed to Stephanie, Children’s Librarian at the Whiting Library.

Did you know that the Library also has *passes* for museums, parks, and historic sites! These passes are for members of Whiting Library to borrow, then return for others to share. Please contact Whiting Library for more information.

Calendar

July

11: Kate Lorenz and the Contellations on the lawn at the Academy Building
6:30pm

18: Gypsy Reel on the lawn at the Academy Building
6:30pm

18-21: Ludlow and Chester Harley Davidson Iron Run

25: Stone Cold Roosters on the lawn at the Academy Building 6:30pm

August

1: Chris Kleeman Band on the lawn at the Academy Building

3: Green Mountain Flyer Old Home Days Fireworks Train
Chester- Bellows Falls 6:30-11:15pm

8: Ida Mae Specker on the lawn at the Academy Building

10: Car Rally at MacLaomainn’s Pub

11: Hot Dog Cook-Off for the Chester-Andover Family Center at Stone Hearht Inn 1-4pm

September

21-22: Chester Fall Festival on the Green 10am-4pm

20-October 5: Green Mountain Flyer Fall Foliage Train. Visit www.rails-vt.com

October

4-6: Wheels in the Field

6: Christmas Under the Tent Chester-Andover Family Center 10am-3pm

18-19 & 25-26: MacLaomainn’s Haunted House

26: Halloween Trunk or Treet at CAES 5:30Pm