



# *Town of Chester*

## *Newsletter*

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October–December    Fall 2018    [www.chestervt.gov](http://www.chestervt.gov)

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### *Town Clerk*

The General Election will be held on November 6, 2018. Voting will take place at the Town Hall (upstairs) from 9am-7pm. Absentee ballots can be requested by stopping into the Town Office, calling (802) 875-2173, or by visiting [www.mvp.sec.state.vt.us](http://www.mvp.sec.state.vt.us).

The Town of Chester's Lister information is now available online. Lister cards, tax maps, and much more can be found online by visiting [www.axisgis.com/ChesterVT](http://www.axisgis.com/ChesterVT)

The new Zoning Rewrite for the Town of Chester has been started. Drafts of this project will be posted on the town's website at [www.chestervt.gov](http://www.chestervt.gov). Planning Commission meetings take place the first and third Monday of each month at 7pm where we encourage residents' comments and input on this project. Meetings will be held specific to this project sometime at the start of next year.

*Have a safe and  
happy holiday  
season!*

### *Town Manager's Message*

Autumn has arrived. Looking back to the summer months, there were quite a few new initiatives underway. A small park is being created at the end of School Street. The park includes a hop-scotch area, benches and will soon have a table for picnics. The tabletop will also include a checkerboard for anyone that wants to use it for chess or checkers.

At the Pinnacle, an additional nine holes of disc golf are being laid out. The course has been very popular not only with residents but also visitors. Much of this work is being completed by volunteers and I applaud their efforts. Also, the town has added a new fire pit near the skating rink for public use. Please follow the rules posted to ensure everyone's safety.

Public Works has a new compaction roller. This is an important tool to help maintain Chester's roads. After the grader passes over a road, the roller follows and compacts the surface. This makes for a better travel surface; potholes are reduced, and dust is lessened. The road should stay in better shape longer as well.

Should the Town purchase the Tomasso property? That is the question the Select Board is researching. A public meeting was held to hear from the citizens about what they think. It was well attended. There is much more to investigate, and as new information becomes available there will be more public meetings to keep everyone up to date. The Board has not made any decisions at this point. They are just looking into the idea as well as seeking input from the public. As future meetings are announced, I would encourage you to attend.

The Board also formed a committee to research constructing a new EMS building. The building would be located on the Route 11 site that was previously proposed and would include space for Fire, Ambulance and Police. As part of this project the group is looking into renovating the current Town garage to allow for an extended life for this structure. If Fire and Ambulance were to move it would of course make more room available for Public Works. This renovation can be completed for a fraction of the cost of building a new facility but should add decades of life to the current building.

## **Chester Historic Preservation Committee**

**Hearse Museum.** The two “Museum Open” signs created and used this summer have attracted many more visitors to Chester’s newest museum. CHPC is still trying to solve a gutter need over the door to prevent the splashing inside the foyer that keeps the Museum shut when rain is forecasted. The Museum is tentatively planned to be open, in good weather, through Columbus Day, and possibly a bit longer.

**Jeffrey Barn.** The Preservation Trust of Vermont is still seeking a barn expert to do the barn’s Condition Assessment that was promised months ago. That assessment is crucial to determine the future of the building. In the meantime, CHPC continues to welcome suggestions for a future use if rehabilitation of that large structure on Route 103, just north of the Stone Village, is possible.

**Yosemite Fire House.** The state Architectural Historian and an administrator of historic grants for the State visited the fire house on August 30. They were most enthusiastic about the Town’s aim to rehabilitate the structure and transform it into the Chester Fire Museum and had many helpful suggestions. The Town is applying for a grant to address the first most necessary repairs to the building, and CHPC is continuing to research workmen and techniques helpful to the process. We are continuing to follow all leads with former firemen who worked out of Yosemite to gather information and to see if they have any memorabilia, records, fire equipment, and other items that they would like to donate to the future museum, so we can better tell the story of the Chester Fire Department in that historic structure. Anyone with suggestions of persons we should contact is encouraged to contact Lillian Willis at [lbwillistc@comcast.net](mailto:lbwillistc@comcast.net) or at 802-875-1340.

### **Chester Historic Preservation Committee:**

Kelly Arrison, Frank Bidwell, Ron Chute, Chris Curran, John DesLauriers, Suzy Forlie, Cynthia Prairie, Margie Straub, Lillian Willis

## *Seasonal Previews from Chester Townscape*

On Saturday October 6, 10 AM-4 PM, Chester Townscape volunteers will be selling bags of spring-blooming bulbs in front of the Fullerton Inn. This is your chance to plant bulbs now that will get established before winter sets in and store up the strength necessary to provide you with glorious blooms in spring 2019.

October is also the month that Chester Townscape’s seasonal displays change over from the flowers that blossomed all summer long in boxes on the bridges and in pots around town to displays of mums, pumpkins, and cornstalks that say, “Welcome to Chester” and “Welcome to Autumn.”

Later in the fall, displays will change again to welcome preparations for Christmas and a beautiful New England winter season.

Chester Townscape is an all-volunteer committee of Chester Community Alliance, a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization. For further information about Chester Townscape and its town projects and contacts for them, please visit [www.chestervt.gov/chester-townscape](http://www.chestervt.gov/chester-townscape).



**The Town of Chester** has started its town wide reappraisal. Presently NEMRC (New England Municipal Resource Center) who is doing the property visits has almost completed the Smokeshire area and is working in Popple Dungeon. They are also starting the Route 10 area next. They will leave a yellow card if no one is home, requesting an appointment. Since we share these people with other towns doing reappraisals, appointments are done on Mondays and Fridays. So far it is going well, and we are getting a good response from property owners. Call the Listers at (802) 875-2173 if you have any questions or concerns.

## Chester Disc Golf

The Chester Disc Golf Course experienced a busy and productive summer. In addition to the rehabilitation of the former tow rope engine shack into a new picnic pavilion, the course also received upgraded signage, several new carved wooden benches and a granite bench made from sidewalk curb extracted along Main Street. By early October, the first phase of the course expansion plan will be nearly complete with the addition of three new holes which will bring the total number of current playable holes to 12. During the Fall and through next Spring, the remaining six holes will be scouted and designed with a goal of having a full 18-hole course installed and playable by Summer 2019. The course has gotten a tremendous amount of play and positive review from disc golf players near and far, who travel specifically to Chester to play the course.



## Chester Ambulance Corner

Colds. They can hit any time of the year. Coughing, sneezing, sore throat and body aches that seem to last forever. Generally, colds last about 7-10 days; however, in people with weakened immune systems, the common cold can develop into more serious medical conditions.

Take some preventative measures by washing your hands for at least 20 seconds, hum Happy Birthday or the ABC's. Make sure you don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth without first washing your hands. Disinfect commonly used items and toys. Stay away from people who are ill, and if you are ill, stay home. Make sure if you do come down with cold symptoms that you drink plenty of fluids and rest.

Another defense against illness is to keep current on your vaccines. When you visit your primary care professional ask about vaccines and if you are due to have any immunizations.

It is a good rule of thumb to see your primary care professional if your symptoms last longer than 10 days, or if you have onset of severe pain or shortness of breath. In the case of a child becoming lethargic, not eating or drinking see a medical provider. When in doubt call your medical professional.

### Leaf Peeper's PANCAKE FEAST (Breakfast, Brunch, or Lunch) Saturday October 13, 9 AM-1 PM



REAL Chester maple syrup  
Bacon & pancakes  
Blueberries  
Cider  
and hot  
Beverages

Adults: \$8  
Children:  
ages 6-12: \$4  
under 6: free

No reservations necessary!  
At Willard Hall, St. Luke's Church!

St. Luke's Church, 313 Main Street (Route 11W)  
By the Village Green in Chester, Vermont  
Willard Hall is downstairs, at the back of St. Luke's.



# Chester Recreation

Director: Matthew A. McCarthy  
(802) 875-3603

e-mail: [matt.mccarthy@chestervt.gov](mailto:matt.mccarthy@chestervt.gov)

Website: <http://www.chestervt.gov/recreation.html>

Join us on Facebook: Chester, VT Recreation Dept.

Registrations for the grades 1-6 winter basketball program will be from Monday, October 29th – Friday, November 16th. HOURS: Monday through Friday 8AM-4PM at Chester Town Hall. COST: Basketball Registration fee is \$25 for Grades 1 and 2 & \$30 for grades 3-6. Take off \$5 for each additional child.

## Chester Fire

Department has been very busy the last few months in Chester and providing mutual aid to other towns. These calls have ranged from structure fires, forrest fires, motor vehicle crashes, rescues, alarms and many more. Chester Fire attends trainings twice a month every month with a lot of extra trainings in the last few months including using the live burn house at the Vermont Fire Academy. Not to worry.....when we are away our great partners, Proctorsville , covers our area, which we do for each other often.

Our new truck is now serving the citizens of Chester. Having a full crew in one truck has made our response time to incidents much quicker and brought Chester Fire Department up to speed with modern times. We would like to thank the community for their continued support.

Our long time Christmas tree supplier in VT is no longer in business which made this year a bit of a challenge. We pride ourselves on providing VT trees to the community. After some searching, we have found a new supplier in Barton,VT that will meet our needs. The trees will be available for purchase in the afternoon on the day after Thanksgiving. Cost of trees may increase some this year, but we will keep them as low as we can. Every year trees are stolen and as we say, there shouldn't be a family without a Christmas Tree for the holidays. So, if you cannot afford a tree for your family, please private message us on Facebook.

On an exciting note, the Chester Fire Department Color Guard was chosen to present the colors at Fenway Park. Such an amazing experience and honor for the Department and Town.



# Calendar

## October 6<sup>th</sup>:

- Wheels in the Field
- Spring blooming bulb sale from 10am-4pm in front of the Fullerton Inn

## October 6<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>:

- Green Mountain Railroad Fall Foliage Dinner Train. For more info visit [www.rails-vt.com/green-mountain-dinner-train](http://www.rails-vt.com/green-mountain-dinner-train)

## October 13<sup>th</sup>:

- Leaf Peeper's Pancake Feast from 9am-1pm at St. Luke's Church
- Keewaydin 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade soccer tournament. Fundraiser starting at 9am at Cobleigh Field

## October 27<sup>th</sup>:

- Trunk or Treat starting at 5pm at Cobleigh Field

## November 6<sup>th</sup>:

- General Election from 9am-7pm at the Town Hall (upstairs)

## November 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>:

- Holiday Wreath Decorating workshop at St. Luke's Church

## November 26<sup>th</sup>-December 2<sup>nd</sup>:

- 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Overture to Christmas

*For more detailed descriptions of these events, please visit [www.chestervt.gov/calendar](http://www.chestervt.gov/calendar)*

