



TOWN OF CHESTER NEWSLETTER

July 2017

Summer

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TOWN CLERK

Tax bills will be mailed out the second week of July. To avoid a penalty and interest, please be sure to get the full payment into the Town Office on or before the due date of September 15, 2017. The Town of Chester can now be found on Twitter, so please look us up and *Follow Us* to get the latest news. Also, we are updating the Business section of the website. If you would like your business to be part of our website, please go to www.chestervt.gov and submit the form found under the Town Services Tab/Community Development/Submit Your Business. The Calendar on the website is up to date with the latest meetings and events. If you have an event that you would like added to the Calendar, please go to the website and scroll to the bottom of the Calendar page and submit the form found there. This quarterly Newsletter can be mailed or emailed to you. Please call 875-2173, or send an email to amie.obrien@chestervt.gov if you would like to be added to list.

Town Manager's Message

The Town of Chester is considering adding the option to pay by Credit/Debit card very soon. By adding this option, making payments to the Town of Chester will become more convenient. Currently, payments can be made automatically by debiting a checking/savings account. If you are interested in setting this feature up, please call the Town Office at (802) 875-2173.

During the past three months, contractors have completed a new 8" diameter water main loop on Coach Road and the 3,500 ft. 12" diameter transmission main from Route 103 to the storage tank site. Also, excavation at the new storage tank site has been completed in preparation for the tank construction. The tank contractor is currently preparing for the tank floor construction and pre-casting the concrete wall panels on-site. Electrical work is also in progress to upgrade the tank level monitoring system for the existing tank. Based on the current schedule, the new tank will be online at the end of August.

In mid-May, Granite State Industries began replacement of sidewalks and curbing on Main Street, Grafton Street and Maple Street. Construction administration is being provided by Staff Sterling Management. This project is scheduled to be complete by the end of August. In the meantime, the town is applying for additional grant funds through the VTrans Municipal Assistance Bureau to replace sidewalk on Depot Street and install street lighting along the route.



Tank site preparation

EMS CORNER

Chester Ambulance has updated its billing procedures to a more efficient, industry standard billing program. The system we have updated to is called TriTech, which many neighboring ambulance services are using already. During our research of the new program, we found that other ambulance services have been billing patients for the amounts not covered by insurance companies. By doing so, it has allowed these other ambulance services to lower their operating costs. Therefore, our new billing procedure will help Chester tax payers by requiring less tax funding to operate the ambulance service.

With all of this being said, folks that use Chester's Ambulance services will be seeing a bill for amounts not covered by their insurance companies. Bills will be sent from Trizetto, which is the ambulance's clearing house, or sent directly from Chester Ambulance. If you happen to receive a bill, please do not hesitate to call Meghan at 802-875-2211 to talk about payment options as we have a number of ways to fit a patient's needs.

Chester Ambulance gets called out on roughly 350-400 calls a year. This year we are right on track with seeing similar call volumes. Our new program, TriTech, will help immensely with the billing process allowing Chester Ambulance to operate more proficiently.

Chester Townscape

Enhancements Galore!

Flowers Abound! Chester Townscape volunteers planted annuals in 17 public and 34 private pots, 21 whiskey barrels, and 18 boxes for Town bridges, along with impatiens at the Brookside Cemetery wall, Family Center, and Whiting Library. Gaining beauty with every passing day of sunshine, these colorful displays welcome residents and visitors to many parts of Chester. The over \$6500 cost of the annuals and new pots, boxes, and barrels that were added this year was covered by donations from businesses, organizations, and members of the public. Watering at all locations is a daily effort by volunteers, so anyone interested in helping is encouraged to call Jane Davis at 875-1855 for information on how to adopt a convenient pot.

Hearse House Educational Foyer. Plans for a simple ADA-compliant ramp to the Hearse House have been worked out with materials and labor to be supplied by the Town and design help and placement of certain stones to come from Landscape Architect Scott Wunderle of Terrigenous. Meanwhile master artist/craftsman Hugh Pennell created a stunning, soon-to-be-installed sign to identify the building for passersby. Lastly, three items on long-term loan from the Chester Historical Society have been moved into the Hearse House and are being cleaned and prepared for display while research continues on the Brookside Cemetery and other text and pictures that will be featured. Progress is slow, but sure on this unique project.



Know of a Superbly Renovated Town Hall?

The Chester Historic Preservation Committee has begun visiting similar historic Town Halls that have been nicely renovated in order to gain practical and artistic ideas, as well as a list of proven professionals, that might provide appropriate solutions for renovations to the Chester Town Hall. Anyone with suggestions of good Town Halls to visit is encouraged to call CHPC Chair Lillian Willis at 802-875-1340.



CHESTER FIRE

Chester Fire Department has been quite busy lately, as I'm sure most of you know, we had a major hazmat incident that closed VT Route 103 South for 23 hours. The cleanup was a very long, drawn out process that brought in every Chester Firefighter with help from Springfield Fire, Proctorsville Fire, Brattleboro Fire, Vermont State Hazmat Team, Chester Ambulance, Ludlow Ambulance, Agency of Natural Resources, EPA, VT DMV, State Highway and Chester Police. Chester Fire took this event very seriously due to the multiple chemicals leaking from the truck. The cleanup took a very large team effort; fortunately, the hazmat was contained and removed without any serious injuries.

Chester Fire Department's Water Rescue Team was activated for a canoe recovery in the town of Proctorsville. Proctorsville Firefighters had been looking all evening for a reported overturned canoe in the river. In the morning hours, the canoe was located pinned underwater by the Train Trestle at the Junction of VT Route 103 and 131. Team Members set up rope operations to lower our boat into place to recover the canoe. The Canoe was then overturned and inspected. This same area of water also contained a large tree underwater that was also examined. Luckily no one was found trapped, and as of this date, there have not been any reports of missing persons in that area.

Chester Recreation Department

REGISTRATIONS

Registrations for the fall programs will start on Monday, August 21st at Chester Town Hall from 8AM-4PM Monday through Friday. Grades K-6 Information

Coaching Opportunities: We are also looking for soccer coaches for every age group. Please let me know if you are interested in helping

***Pre-K and K SOCCER: *Must be 4 years old.** There will also be 1st/2nd grade program, and programs for grades 3 & 4 and 5 & 6. Cost is \$25 per child grades Pre-K – 2nd. \$30 for grades 3rd-6th.

1st and 2nd GRADE SOCCER: The 1st and 2nd grade program will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays in September and October. There may be other nights/some weekends as well. Cost is \$25 per player.

3rd and 4th GRADE SOCCER: The 3rd and 4th grade program will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays in September and October. There may be other nights/some weekends as well. Cost is \$30 per player. If numbers allow we will have separate boys and girls teams.

5th and 6th GRADE SOCCER: The 5th and 6th grade program will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays in September and October. There may be other nights/some weekends as well. Cost is \$30 per player. If numbers allow we will have separate boys and girls teams.

Chester Police Department



Chester Police Department has a secured depository for unused or unwanted prescription drugs that is on Security camera surveillance 24-7 inside the Town Hall. You don't have to wait for the Drug Take Back Days. The hours you may deposit unwanted drugs are Monday through Friday 8 am to 4 pm AND /OR if the Town Hall is open for any function.

We would like to congratulate Chief Richard Cloud and Dutch, his K-9 Partner, for their Graduation from K-9 School at the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council on May 12, 2017.



Calendar

July

- 6th - Walter Meyer from Mary Meyer Manufacturing Company 5:15pm-6:30pm at the Fullerton Inn
- 13th - Ida Mae Specker on the lawn at the Academy Building 6:30pm-8pm
- 20th - Chris Kleeman Band on the lawn at the Academy Building 6:30pm-8pm
- 27th - The End of America, Featuring Brendan Thomas on the lawn at the Academy Building 6:30pm-8pm

August

- 3rd - Bondville Boys on the lawn at the Academy Building 6:30pm-8pm
- 10th - Gerry Grimo and the East Bay Jazz Ensemble on the lawn at the Academy Building 6:30pm-8pm
- 13th - 6th Annual Hot Dog Cook-off to benefit the Chester-Andover Family Center at the Stone Hearth Inn 1pm-4pm

September

- 2nd - Labor Day Fireworks Display in the field behind the American Legion at dusk
- 16th & 17th - Chester Fall Festival on the Green in downtown Chester 10am-4pm
- 16th - Green Mountain Railroad Fall Foliage Train starting the 16th and running through October 15th

