Colchester Town News

VERMONT

Colchester – What do you want to do today?

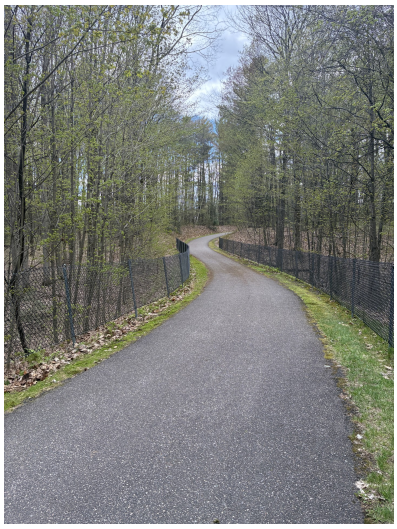
For the Week of July 20, 2026

A Note from the Town Clerk's Office: Colchester Municipal Services and State Education Property Tax Billing Delay

Property Tax billing for the tax year 2026/2027 has been delayed due to the town-wide reappraisal. Please be aware that the first installment will be due 30 days after the billing date on the tax bill. The remaining two installments, due in November 2026 and March 2027, will not be delayed.

Questions about tax payments can be directed to townclerk@colchestervt.gov or (802) 264-5520

Upcoming Public Hearing – Electric Bicycles



On July 14, 2026, the Selectboard considered changes to the Town's Code of Ordinances. The initial ordinance change proposal was made to modernize the Town Ordinance to conform to state law which provides local choice on allowing class 1, class 2, and class 3 e-bikes on multiuse paths and sidewalks.

Specifically, the ordinance change proposal contemplated allowing class 1 and 2 e-bikes, but not class 3 e-bikes on multiuse paths and sidewalks.

The Selectboard held a public hearing on July 14, considered the public input, and has adjusted the proposed ordinance change to allow class 3 e-bikes on multiuse paths and sidewalks in addition to the initially proposed class 1 and class 2 e-bikes.

A hearing about the revised proposal will be held on August 11.

For a memo describing the proposed ordinance changes and a complete set of the updates, visit: https://clerkshq.com/Content/Attachments/Colchester-vt/260811a_2.pdf?clientSite=Colchester-vt

Residents are welcome to attend the meeting. Alternatively, you can email comments to TownManager@colchestervt.gov with "Citizens to be Heard – Electric Bicycle Ordinance" in the Subject and include 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.

Social Media & Town Requests: You are welcome to post on social media, but if you wish for the Town staff or Selectboard to act on or consider something, please contact us directly by phone or email. We may need to obtain more specific information or dialogue with you about the issue to understand and resolve it through more direct communication.

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For issues of local concern that you believe should be addressed by your Town government, please contact the Town Staff Directly. The staff directory of phone and email contact information for various Town departments is provided here: https://tinyurl.com/Col-Town-Dir

If you are uncertain who to contact, or what level of government may have responsibility and jurisdiction for an issue (town, regional, state or federal), or are not satisfied with the response from a Town Department, feel free to contact the Town Manager's office at 802-264-5509 or TownManager@colchestervt.gov. The Town Manager generally oversees the Town departments in their implementation of the Town budgets and capital projects proposed by the Selectboard and approved by the voters.

Your Town Selectboard serves as the legislative and judicial branch of your municipal government, and oversees the Town Manager. If you have something to be shared with them at a Selectboard meeting, you are welcome to send a note, up to 1,000 words, to TownManager@colchestervt.gov with "Citizens to be Heard" in the Subject and your name and address in the body of the email. The email will be shared with the entire Selectboard prior to the upcoming Selectboard meeting and included in the following information packet.

Individual Selectboard member contact information is available here: https://www.colchestervt.gov/401/Selectboard.

Information from the Colchester Historical Society!

New Jigsaw Puzzles Support 1815 Log Schoolhouse

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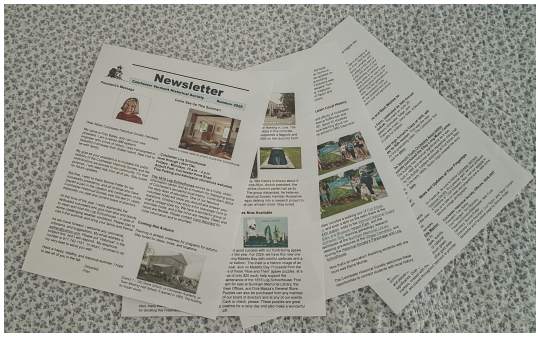
The Colchester Historical Society had good success with its fundraising jigsaw puzzle last year. For 2026, there is a new one featuring Malletts Bay with colorful sailboats and a hot-air balloon. The inset is a historic image of an ice boat, also on Malletts Bay. Proceeds from the sale of these "Now and Then" jigsaw puzzles, at a price of only $20 each, help support the upkeep of the 1815 Log Schoolhouse located at Airport Park. Find them for sale at Burnham Memorial Library, the Town Offices, and Dick Mazza's General Store. Puzzles may also be purchased from any member of the Historical Society's board of directors and at any of its events. Cash or check, please. These puzzles are a great pastime for a rainy day and also make a wonderful gift.





Visit the 1815 Log Schoolhouse This Summer!
Be sure to visit the historic Log Schoolhouse now through Labor Day, Fridays - Mondays, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., at Airport Park, on Colchester Point Road. Parking and admission are free, and donations are always welcome and appreciated. The 1815 Log Schoolhouse serves as a lovely visitor information center and as a museum for displaying some of Colchester's wonderful local history. Come learn about the early days of education. One of the fabulous volunteer hosts will show you around and answer your questions. Children may enjoy a fun scavenger hunt or craft a vintage-style toy. Bring your family, friends, and summer guests. A few more volunteer hosts are needed. Dates and hours are flexible. Please contact Carol Reichard at winchris65@comcast.net for more information and to volunteer.

Historical Society's Summer 2026 Newsletter Now Available
Our Summer 2026 Newsletter is now available. Check out what's new with old! See what's been going on and what programs and events are coming up this fall. Here's the link:
https://colchestervt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/12151/Summer-2026-Colchester-VT-Historical-Society-Newsletter



Summer Blood Shortage!

The American Red Cross is alerting the public about an emergency blood shortage as the blood supply fell nearly 25% in June. The shortage comes during the height of trauma season, when hospitals frequently see increased demand for blood due to serious injuries and other medical emergencies.

If you are able, please consider donating blood!

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The next blood drive in Colchester will be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2026, from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, 784 Main Street.

Sign up for a local blood drive, or schedule an appointment at a local donation center by visiting: https://www.redcrossblood.org/

Department Updates

Department of Parks and Recreation
Summer Concert Series – Satin & Steel



This week's concert (Thursday, July 23) will feature music by **Satin & Steel.**

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets to Lower Bayside Park for our concert series on Thursday evenings. **This year, all concerts will begin at 6:30 p.m.**

Maharaja Spice will be serving food at this week's concert!

Admission is free and parking is available at Bayside Park. We look forward to seeing you there!

LIBRARY EVENTS

MONDAY
Music with Liz—MH at 10:30am
Porters Point Days—Children's Area 1:00-3:00pm

TUESDAY
Tuesday Book Discussion: The Stranger in the Woods—BR at 1:00pm
Mini Golf (All Ages)—Library Lawn at 2:00pm

WEDNESDAY
Summer Storytime—Children's Area at 10:30am
Chamber Music Concert—BR at 11:00am
Lego Club—MH at 4:00pm
Family Trivia: Dinosaurs Galore!—BR at 5:30pm
Virtual Needlecrafters—at 6:00pm



THURSDAY
Weekly Activities for Kids: Tie-Dye Rescheduled—Outside at 3:00pm
Teen Craft: Tie-Dye Rescheduled—Outside at 4:00pm
Watercolor Workshop for Adult Beginners—BR at3:00pm



FRIDAY
Summer Storytime—Children's Area at 10:30am
Movie Screening: Jaws (1975)—BR at 2:00pm
Dino-Themed Escape Room for Kids Session 1 (Ages 5-11)—Children's Area at 2:00pm

SATURDAY
Summer Storytime—Children's Area at 10:30am



For more information about our programs, visit https://colchestervt.gov/calendar

For more information about library programming, visit: https://colchestervt.gov/3100/Library

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Upcoming Town Meetings & Agendas

Selectboard Meeting: Tuesday, August 11, 6:30 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road.
Residents are welcome to attend the meeting. 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

Recreation Advisory Board: Wednesday, August 12, 7:00 a.m. at the Colchester Recreation Center, 80 Dick Mazza Drive. Agenda: https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=RecAdv&path=BOARDS%2CRecAdv%2C

Planning Commission: Tuesday, July 21, 6:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Agenda: https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docid=PLANAGENDA

Development Review Board: Wednesday, August 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 pzinfo@colchestervt.gov or by mail to Town of Colchester, c/o Development Review Board, 781 Blakely Road, Colchester, VT 05446. Agenda: https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docid=DRBAGENDA&path=DRB%2CDRB_Agendas%2CDRBAGENDA%2C

Library Board of Trustees: Thursday, August 20, 4:00 p.m. in the Burnham Room of the Burnham Memorial Library. Agenda: https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=LibBoard&path=BOARDS%2CLibBoard%2C

Colchester Conservation Commission: Next meeting date TBD.

Subscribe to the Town Newsletter:
https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/zBiFIto/ColchesterTownNewsletter

For more information or to comment, call 802-264-5509 or email townmanager@colchestervt.gov