

For the Week of April 8, 2024

Manager's Message

Aaron Frank, Town Manager

Solar Eclipse Eye Safety: Today, beginning at approximately 3:26 p.m., a total eclipse of the Sun will be experienced from northern Vermont for the first time since 1932. **To view the eclipse, you either need special eclipse glasses or a handheld solar viewer that meets the ISO standards.** From April 9th-13th, you can bring your used glasses to the library to have them recycled. The Chittenden Solid Waste District (CSWD) will also be collecting used glasses at its [drop-off sites](#).



Traffic Alert: Please be prepared for significant traffic congestion. A very large number of vehicles and people will be traveling around today. Burlington will be closing the Beltline and other significant roads including Battery Street, parts of North Avenue, North Champlain Street, and Pearl Street.

If you wish to avoid possible significant traffic disruptions—stay home if you can today—especially if you live in the Bay, west of the Blakely/West Lakeshore Drive intersection.

To learn more about how to protect your eyes during the event and to prepare for traffic disruptions, please visit this link: https://clerkshq.com/Content/Attachments/Colchester-vt/info240326_a3.pdf?clientSite=Colchester-vt

Town Closures: The Colchester Burnham Memorial Library is closed today for an employee training and the Colchester Town Offices will close at noon.



Parking Lot Closure: The Colchester Causeway and Mills Point parking lot will be closed for maintenance April 10th-12th, and it will re-open on April 13th.

National Library Week: Ready, set, library! National Library Week is April 7th through the 13th, 2024, and the Colchester Burnham Memorial Library encourages everyone in the community to visit the library year-round, but especially this week, to explore all the library has to offer!



Libraries give us a green light to experience something truly special: a place to connect with others, learn new skills, and pursue your passions through book clubs, storytimes, crafting classes, and more. The Colchester Burnham Memorial Library offers a wide array of programs, classes and resources, and you can review them here: <https://colchestervt.gov/1833/Our-Services>

No matter where you find yourself on the roadmap through life's journey, the Colchester Burnham Memorial Library offers the resources and support you need and an inclusive and supportive community where you will feel welcome. So, get ready to explore, become inspired, and connect with others this National Library Week. Learn more here:

<https://colchestervt.gov/3100/Library>

Colchester Blooms! Donations

For over a decade, a committee of Colchester volunteers known as Colchester Blooms! has sought donations for the planting and maintenance of public flowerbeds at several Colchester locations: two traffic islands at the junction of Malletts Bay Ave and Blakely Road and the entrance to the Bayside Park. This has been possible thanks to generous donations from local businesses and residents. Any amount helps us add to the beauty of Colchester.

Can we count on your support so Colchester will bloom this summer?

Checks should be made payable to the "Town of Colchester" and sent to Colchester Blooms! c/o Liz Hamlin-Volz, 123 Holy Cross Road, Colchester, Vermont 05446. **Please include "Conservation Reserve Fund" on the memo line of your check, so the money is allocated properly.** All deductions are tax-deductible, and a receipt will be provided.

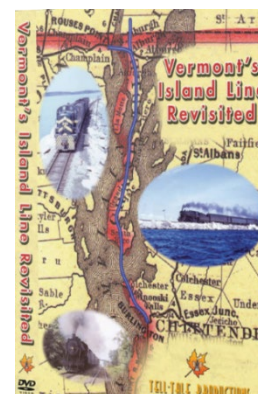


Questions? Contact Theresa Carroll at tcarroll110@gmail.com or visit <https://colchestervt.gov/3293/Colchester-Blooms>

Thanks for your support in advance!

***The Island Line Revisited* by James "Jim" Jones**
Monday, April 15, 7 p.m.
The Meeting House
830 Main Street, Colchester

Please join the Colchester Historical Society for this presentation by James "Jim" Jones based on his latest railroading book, *The Island Line Revisited*. This 204-page book chronicles the life and times of the Rutland Railroad's fabled island-hopping route from Burlington across the Colchester Causeway through the Champlain Islands to Alburgh and Rouses Point. It features 477 images, many of which Jim will be



Courtesy of James "Jim" Jones

showing as part of his presentation. He promises to have signed copies of the book available for sale at the meeting.

A third-generation railroad enthusiast, a Burlington native, and currently a Colchester resident, Jim has maintained a life-long interest in railroading. His love for the iron horse stems from early Alco cab rides with his father, noted railroad author Robert C. Jones. Jim's grandfather, Cecil O. Jones, began the family tradition when he signed on with Canadian Pacific in 1916.

All are welcome to attend this program. Parking and admission are free. Light refreshments and fellowship will follow.

Colchester Historical Society Spring Newsletter Now Available:

History mystery solved! What were Colchester firefighters doing at the Parsonage recently? Who was Ruth Wright? Read these stories and more in the Spring 2024 issue of the Colchester Historical Society's quarterly newsletter:

<https://colchestervt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/8844/Spring-2024-Colchester-VT-Historical-Society-Newsletter?bidId=>



About the Colchester Historical Society:

The Colchester Historical Society is a local nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving Colchester's history. It shares historical information and hosts history-related events within the community. To learn more or become a member, please visit

<https://www.colchestervt.gov/422/Colchester-Historical-Society>. Everyone is welcome at programs and events. Membership fees, sales, and donations help support the organization's mission to preserve and share Colchester's wonderful local history.

Upcoming Town Meetings & Agendas

Selectboard Meeting: Tuesday, April 9, 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

Recreation Advisory Board: Wednesday, April 10, 7:00 a.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd floor, Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Agenda:

<https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=RecAdv&path=BOARDS%2CRecAdv%2C>

Development Review Board: Wednesday, April 10, 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. Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=DRBAgenda>

Colchester Conservation Commission: Monday, April 15, 6:00 p.m., at the Colchester Town Offices, 2nd Floor, Champlain Room, 781 Blakely Road. Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=ConservCommssn&path=BOARDS%2CConservCommssn%2C>

Library Board of Trustees: Thursday, April 18, 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>

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