

For the Week of March 17th, 2025

**Women's History Month:
Remembering Joyce Severance Sweeney**

This year for Women's History Month, the Colchester Historical Society is proud to honor the memory of Joyce Severance Sweeney. Joyce was born in Colchester at the Thompson farm on Middle Road in 1928. She was raised and lived in Colchester all of her life. In recollecting some of her childhood memories to local historian Inge Schaefer, Joyce said, "I was able to ride my horse in the mid-1940s down Lost Nation, Bay, Depot, and Blakely Roads, all of which were dirt roads at the time."

For more than 50 years, Joyce worked for the Town of Colchester in many capacities, including auditor, lister, cemetery



Siblings Malcolm Severance and Joyce Sweeney hold a painting of the Severance home in Colchester.

commissioner, assessor, town clerk, and as a justice of



Joyce Severance Sweeney, 1928-2016

the peace. Joyce also served in the Vermont House of Representatives. "Her energy seemed boundless" said Inge, "I smile every time I think of Joyce." Joyce passed away in 2016 at the age of 88. Her name continues to pop up now and then around town and she is still very missed. A room at the Historical Society's Parsonage building has been named in her honor.

For more information about the Colchester Historical Society, please

visit <https://www.colchestervt.gov/422/Colchester-Historical-Society> and Facebook

at <https://www.facebook.com/ColchesterVermontHistoricalSociety>.

A Message from VTrans: Exit 17 Construction Update

DATE: Friday, March 14, 2025

Work on the Exit 17 Project is scheduled to resume for the 2025 construction season on Monday, March 24th, 2025, weather permitting. The work done this year will include completing the new U.S. 2 Bridge over I-89.

TRAFFIC IMPACT AND DURATION: From Monday, March 24 through Friday, March 28, there is potential for I-89 to be intermittently reduced to a single lane in both directions near Exit 17 during off-peak hours: 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. on I-89 northbound and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on I-89 southbound.

Visit the project website for more information: <https://vtrans.vermont.gov/projects/colchester-exit17>

Questions and concerns about the project can be directed to VTrans at:

- Email: info@ColchesterExit17.com
- 24-Hour Project Hotline (802) 595-4399

Department Updates

Burnham Memorial Library:

Beginning March 17th, the Burnham Memorial Library will be opening earlier, and will stay open later on Fridays. See the updated hours below.

Mondays | 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Tuesdays | 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Wednesdays | 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Thursdays | 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Fridays | 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Saturdays | 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Sundays | CLOSED

Colchester Police Department:

On Wednesday, January 29th, 2025, the Colchester Police Department welcomed Samuel Ferreira into its ranks. Ferreira holds degrees in Sociology and Criminal Justice from Suffolk College and brings with him meaningful experience. Town Manager Aaron Frank thanked Ferreira for his desire to work in public service and for his commitment to our community. Of the Colchester Police Department, Ferreira said he “knew this was the right place” after the first interview.

Ferreira is currently completing his basic training at the Vermont Police Academy. The Town of Colchester is proud to welcome Samuel Ferreira to our team!



Read the full article from the Colchester Sun here:

https://www.colchestersun.com/news/government/samuel-ferreira-sworn-into-colchester-police-department/article_942056b4-de70-11ef-b570-ef455c30f07c.html

Department of Parks & Rec:

Sign ups are now open for the Causeway 5k & 10k Race! Race day is Saturday, June 7th, 2025. The race is open to all ages, however, anyone running in the 10k must be 12 years of age or older. The race will start and finish at Airport Park. The fee to enter is \$40.00 plus a processing fee.

For more information or to sign up visit: <https://colchestervt.gov/358/Causeway-5K-10K-Race>

Upcoming Town Meetings & Agendas

Selectboard Meeting: Tuesday, April 8th, 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

Planning Commission: Tuesday, April 1st, 7:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docid=PLANAGENDA>

Recreation Advisory Board: Wednesday, April 9th, 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>

Development Review Board: Wednesday, April 9th, 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&path=DRB%2CDRB_Agendas%2CDRBAGENDA%2C

Library Board of Trustees: Thursday, March 20th 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: Monday, March 17th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Champlain Room, Colchester Town Office. https://clerkshq.com/Content/Colchester-vt/Boards/ConservCommsn.htm#_CPA1

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