

**For the Week of March 29, 2021**

Manager's Message  
Aaron Frank, Town Manager

Ann Doubleday is retiring from Colchester's Burnham Memorial Library after twenty-three years. Ann began as a volunteer, was hired in the Children's department, then transferred to circulation services, and most recently served as cataloger. Ann's calm, steadfast, and detail-oriented work served the library well. Join us in wishing Ann an enjoyable retirement!

---

**COVID UPDATE**

**Recent Cases:** Chittenden County has had 644 cases in the last 14 days. Last week, there were 438 recent cases. Given our regional social, employment, and shopping networks, countywide cases seem more important than cases in Colchester although our cases are up also. <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/vermont-dashboard>

**Vaccination Progress:** As of 3/27 in Vermont, 192,790 people received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, and 107,000 of those completed vaccination. <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-dashboard>





**Set up an account.** You may set up an account in advance of your vaccine registration opening date. <https://vermont.force.com/events/s/selfregistration>

**Please be careful:** Keep masking, distancing, avoiding crowded places, washing hands, and get tested when you have symptoms so we can wind this pandemic down with as little additional sickness as possible.

---

Kelly McCagg  
Library Director

We are thrilled that so many of our patrons have been able to receive one of the new COVID-19 vaccines and we understand your enthusiasm to travel, see friends, and visit the library. However, due to the vaccination roll-out, most library staff--and the community at large--have not yet received the vaccine.

Multi-family gatherings are still substantially restricted in Vermont. We are well above the level of daily cases that closed our library to indoor public access last spring. In order to protect the health and safety of the community and our staff, the library will remain closed to indoor public access until conditions improve. We have learned enough about the virus and its capricious nature to be careful about predictions, so we are not ready to say exactly what needs to change.

Please know that there is nothing that Colchester's Burnham Memorial Library staff would like more than to open to indoor public access. We are monitoring the cases, state guidance, and business sector guidance daily in order to inform these decisions.

We appreciate your continued patience and understanding as we navigate this challenging time.

We are continuing to offer curbside service and virtual offerings to our patrons. Curbside service days are Tuesdays from 1-4 pm, Thursdays from 3-6 pm, and Saturdays from 10 am–12 pm. You can reserve books through our card catalogue on our website, or by sending us an email at [burnhamlib@colchestervt.gov](mailto:burnhamlib@colchestervt.gov), or calling us at 802-264-5660. We do ask for 24-hours notice to get all your items ready for you.

In addition to curbside services, we are pleased to host weekly virtual storytimes on our Burnham Library Youth Services page. Join Miss Hannah and Miss Pam on Tuesdays and Fridays at 10:30 am for stories, songs, and lots of giggles. Past storytimes are available on our Facebook page if you've missed any:

<https://www.facebook.com/burnhamlibyouth>

Thanks to the fundraising of the Friends of the Burnham Library we are adding many e-books and audiobooks to our Green Mountain Library Consortium digital collection!

Head over to our website to find out how you can check out and place holds on so many wonderful new titles: <https://colchestervt.gov/182/Downloadable-Audiobooks-eBooks>

Here is an example of a book that is both part of our physical and digital collection:

*The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett - Adult Fiction, 2020  
Katarzyna Janiga, Circulation Services

Desiree and Stella Vignes were born in a small, rural community in Louisiana, comprised of mostly black citizens in the 1940s. Years after witnessing the brutal lynching of their father, they ran away to start new lives in New Orleans. Shortly after they settle in New Orleans, Stella disappears. In this brilliantly written multi-generational family saga, Bennett delves into the Vignes sisters' early beginnings and follows their lives after they separate. Bennett explores themes of racial identity and loss, as she solves the mystery of what happened to Stella after she left New Orleans, through the lives of her and Desiree's daughters. As their stories all intersect, mysteries are solved and questions are answered; the four women in this powerful narrative are left with the realization the past is something that can never be fully left behind, but continues to shape the way they move forward and make decisions about their future.

---

Bob Vickery  
Town Assessor

We are reviewing all Certificates of Occupancy that have been issued since April 1, 2020 and will be starting our annual field review this week. The assessor will be driving through every neighborhood in town in a silver Nissan pickup. Because of COVID-19 he will not be making any interior inspections.

All parcel data is available online; go to the Assessor's page at; <https://www.colchestervt.gov/149/Assessor>

If you have any questions please call the Assessor's Office at (802) 264-5671.

---

## Upcoming Town Meetings

Agendas available at: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt>

- **Planning Commission:** April 20 at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom:  
<https://zoom.us/j/9359846003>; Zoom Meeting ID: 935 984 6003:

- Live stream:  
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLljLFn4BZd2MtMV4SzmzYl6grkrjrcbym>
- Mail or email public testimony prior to the hearing (shadd@colchestervt.gov or Town of Colchester Planning Commission, 781 Blakely Road, Colchester, VT 05446)
  
- **Development Review Board:** Next meeting: April 14 at 7:00 PM via Zoom:  
<https://zoom.us/j/9359846003>; Zoom Meeting ID: 935 984 6003
- Live stream: <http://lcatv.org/live-stream-2>
- Mail or email public comments prior to the hearing ([lriddle@colchestervt.gov](mailto:lriddle@colchestervt.gov)) or Town of Colchester, c/o Development Review Board, 781 Blakely Road, Colchester, VT 05446) or participate at public comment periods during the Zoom meeting.
  
- **Recreation Advisory Board:** Next meeting: TBA
  
- **Conservation Commission:** 3rd Monday of the month. Next meeting: April 19, 2021 at 6:00 PM. Dial: 1-929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 940 0941 6919; Passcode: 291046
  
- **Library Board of Trustees:** Next meeting: April 15, 2021 at 4:30 PM. Dial: 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 915 3778 8889 Passcode: 167274.
  
- **Selectboard:** -Next meeting: April 13, 2021 at 6:30 PM. Attend via phone: 1-929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 936 3297 3311; Passcode: 692394 Alternatively, send a note to [TownManager@colchestervt.gov](mailto: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>

Selectboard Agenda: [www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas](http://www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas)

Subscribe to the Town Newsletter: <https://www.colchestervt.gov/list.aspx>

For more information or to comment call 264-5509 or email [townmanager@colchestervt.gov](mailto:townmanager@colchestervt.gov)