

For the Week of July 25, 2022

Manager's Message

Aaron Frank, Town Manager

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.

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>.

Town News Interviews: Boards and Commissions Edition

Colchester Recreation Advisory Board

What is the Colchester Recreation Advisory Board?

Formed in the 1980's, the Colchester Recreation Advisory Board is made up by volunteer members of the Colchester community. Their function is to advise the Colchester Parks & Recreation Director on the development and management of recreational facilities and programs on behalf of the Colchester citizens. In addition, they volunteer at Parks & Recreation events, such as the Winter Carnival and Triathlon, and work to generate ideas for and plan long-term projects. The Board meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7 AM on the second floor of the Town Offices, and the meetings are open for the public to attend.



How do I get involved?

All member positions are filled, but there are many other ways for citizens of Colchester to volunteer with the Board and Department. Youth sports, the Fourth of July events, and the triathlon are just a few opportunities that take many volunteers from the community to make happen. If you are interested in helping during any time of the year, please call or email the Colchester Parks & Recreation Department at 802-264-5640 or recreation@colchestervt.gov, as there are numerous ways individuals can get involved and contribute.

Why and how did current members begin volunteering with the Recreation Advisory Board?

"I submitted my application to the Selectboard to join this committee in 2013 when my husband and I moved to Colchester, and I have now been on the committee for nine years. I wanted to get involved in my new community and this seemed like the perfect fit for me. I am the Program Director at Essex Parks and Recreation, so it's been really nice to lend my 'professional' knowledge and interests to the community where I live."

-Adriane Martin, Recreation Advisory Board Chair

“My first wife Cathy worked in Parks and Recreation from 2005 to 2012 after her first bout with breast cancer. She was the Administrative person for the department that everyone saw and spoke to, and had a playful personality. Sadly, she passed away in 2014 of breast cancer. The department’s ‘Cathy Neary Scholarship Award’ is named after her. Glen, Derek and Jenn (and Town employees) were so generous to Cathy over the years, that a few years after she passed away, I felt compelled to give back to the department that cared for her and had given her such a welcome opportunity. And I am so happy I did.”

-Jim Neary, Recreation Advisory Board Member

“I heard there was interest in building a Town community center, and I thought I could help with that effort, but I began volunteering for a variety of Town committees, boards, and activities as far back as 1969—volunteering feels good and even better if it seems to make a difference.”

-Inge Schaefer, Recreation Advisory Board Member



What do current members enjoy about volunteering?

“I began volunteering to get involved and learn about the community. I continue to volunteer because it's fun! I really enjoy working with other board members and staff. My favorite part is volunteering at events!”

-Adriane Martin, Recreation Advisory Board Chair

“I enjoy being on the board to help provide input to the Department; to hear future plans; and to continue to build on the positive image the Department has within our community.”

-Jim Neary, Recreation Advisory Board Member

“I admire how everyone on the Board is dedicated to addressing and solving the issues surrounding recreation and park maintenance in Town.”

-Inge Schaefer, Recreation Advisory Board Member

Department Updates

Parks & Recreation:

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Join us for Colchester's summertime tradition. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and picnic dinner to Lower Bayside Park for our summer concert series on Thursday evenings. Enjoy great music with the beauty of Malletts Bay as your backdrop! All Concerts begin at 7:00pm, admission is FREE, and parking is available at Bayside Park.

July 28th: InCahoots is based out of Plattsburgh, New York and has been providing their audiences with a fresh new look at an American tradition: Entertainment with a smile. A four-piece band consisting of John Geno - Fiddle, Guitar, Sax, Keys and Vocals; Kevin Connelly - Guitar, Keys, Harmonica and Vocals, David Long - Drums and Vocals and Ryan Finney – Bass. Playing music from Charlie Daniels to AC/DC and everything in-between, InCahoots entertains with airtight harmonies, instrumentation and a beat you can really stomp your feet to!

36th COLCHESTER TRIATHLON

Sunday, July 31st, 2022, 8:00 AM

Annual sprint triathlon hosted in the Malletts Bay Area. Swim 500 meters OR Kayak 1.5 miles, 12 miles of biking, 3 miles of running. Limit 400 participants.

For more information and to register: <https://www.colchestertri.com/>

Clerk's Office:



[The Immigrant Health Insurance Plan \(IHIP\)](#) is a new, State of Vermont-funded health care program intended to support the health and well-being of immigrant children under age 19, pregnant and post-partum individuals who are not eligible for Medicaid (partly federally funded), and those who are otherwise uninsured. They must live in Vermont, or at least be seasonally employed here, and meet the eligibility rules for the program. IHIP covers doctor visits, prescriptions, dental care, and hospital stays. This was approved by the State Legislature through [Act 48 of 2021](#).

Upcoming Town Meetings

Selectboard: Tuesday, July 26th, 6:30 pm at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Residents are welcome to attend the meeting or alternatively send a note, up to 1,000 words, to TownManager@colchestervt.gov with “Citizens to be Heard” in the Subject and their name and address in the body of the email. The email will be shared with the entire Selectboard prior to the meeting and included in the information packet at the next meeting (as the information packet for the current meeting is sent out along with the agenda).

- Watch the Meeting Online via Live Stream: <http://lcatv.org/live-stream-2>
- Agenda: www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas

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

Note: Agendas are posted at least 48 hours before the meeting, so you may find past agendas when clicking the link. Revisiting the link closer to the date of the meeting should provide you with the current agenda.

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.