

For the Week of April 13, 2026

Celebrating National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week:

From April 12-18, we join in celebrating National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

We thank and honor these "headset heroes" from near and far-- including those from neighboring agencies with whom we work closely on a consistent basis, and especially our own: the six full-time Colchester Communications Specialists, the two part time dispatchers on staff, and our two Colchester Police Department employees who are primarily assigned elsewhere but help out in the Communications Center when needed.

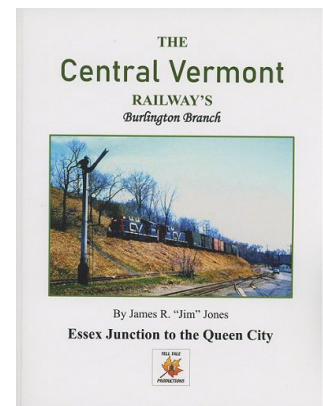


These dedicated, hard workers are the first to answer the call for the public when in need of the Colchester Police Department, Colchester Rescue, the Colchester Fire Department, or Colchester Technical Rescue, and we are grateful for their contribution to emergency response and service for the Town.

Upcoming Historical Society Events: History of Central Vermont Railway's Burlington Branch, including Winooski/Colchester

April 13 (Monday), 7 p.m. Meeting House 830 Main Street

Rail enthusiast [James R. "Jim" Jones](#) will present wonderful anecdotes and photographs about New England Central's wood chip-hauling, waterfront interchange partner with Vermont Railway. "All aboard" for Essex Junction, Colchester's Fort Ethan Allen, Winooski, and beyond. His books will be available at a special rate for those who attend. This event is co-hosted by the Colchester Historical Society and Tell-Tale Productions. Free parking and admission. Overflow parking is available at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church.



Spring Newsletter:

The Colchester Historical Society's Spring Newsletter is now available. Find out what events and programs are coming up, learn about recent acquisitions and donations, and read about Ruth Morgan, the honoree for Women's History Month. Find the newsletter link on the Historical Society's website at <https://colchestervt.gov/422/Colchester-Historical-Society>. The Colchester Historical Society is currently seeking active members to help with various volunteer activities,

including garden maintenance, programs and events, fund raising, and Schoolhouse hosts. For more information and to volunteer, please contact any member of the Board of Directors.

Spring Newsletter



A Message from VTrans: Exit 16 Construction Updates

DATE: Friday, April 10, 2026

TRAFFIC IMPACT AND

DURATION: From Monday, April 13, through Friday, April 17, between 6 AM and 3 PM, there will be a southbound lane closure along the west side of U.S. 2/7 from Whitcomb Street to Mountain View Drive. In addition, there will be an intermittent northbound lane closure along the east side of U.S. 2/7 between South Park Drive and the Interstate 89 (I-89) southbound on-ramp and along the I-89 northbound off-ramp.



Exit 16 DDI

Diverging Diamond Interchange

Motorists should expect significant delays when traveling through the work zone and along adjacent roadways. Please plan ahead, consider alternative routes, or use other forms of transportation (carpooling, ridesharing, transit, biking, or walking). Drivers should slow down, use caution, and follow flaggers and signage.

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES: Crews will continue to work on roadway widening and the installation of light pole foundations and conduit along the west side of U.S. 2/7 between Whitcomb Street and the I-89 southbound off-ramp and the I-89 northbound on-ramp and Mountain View Drive. Crews will continue installing overhead sign foundations along the east side of U.S. 2/7 between South Park Drive and I-89 southbound on-ramp and along the I-89 northbound off-ramp. In addition, temporary traffic signals will be installed at the intersection of U.S. 2/7 at South Park Drive/Highpoint Center.

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

- Email: info@exit16ddi.vtransprojects.vermont.gov
- 24-Hour Project Hotline (802) 595-4399

Department Updates

Burnham Memorial Library Book Review

Adult Fiction: ***Katabasis* by R.F. Kuang**
Published: HarperCollins, 2025
Review by: Caroline Smith, Youth Services



Imagine you are attending Oxford University and are just a few months away from graduating with your doctorate when tragedy strikes, and your advisor ends up dead due to a mistake you made. That's the reality for Alice Law, who accidentally murders her professor when a spell goes terribly wrong. She decides that in order to get her advisor back (and get a recommendation letter from him that guarantees a job anywhere she wants), she must venture into Hell to find his soul. However, she's not able to rescue Professor Jacob Grimes without the help, or rather interference of Peter Murdoch, Grime's other advisee and Alice's rival. Together, the two must wade through the seven sins of Hell to find their advisor.

The trials and tribulations that the two have to go through are beautifully crafted by Kuang, as is the magic system she created for this book. Who knew that chalk could be the basis for a magic system, and that there would be such controversy in their world about what brand of chalk is the best for casting spells. I will leave that argument to the magicians. Overall, this book is highly enjoyable. There are parts where it may drag, but due to Kuang's prose and dedication to world-building, everything, even the small details, feels necessary to understanding the bizarre world we as readers are viewing.

Department of Public Works: Upcoming Work on East Road

Town Highway crews will be working on culvert replacements and roadside ditching on East Road between the Milton Town Line and Farnsworth Road beginning Wednesday, April 8, 2026, in preparation for paving later this season.

Motorists can expect alternating one-way traffic between 7:30am and 5:00pm with temporary traffic signals during the workday. Normal two-way traffic will be reestablished at the end of each workday. We expect to complete the work by Friday, April 17, 2026.



Upcoming Town Meetings & Agendas

Selectboard Meeting: Tuesday, April 14, 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://catv.org/live-stream-2>
- Agenda: www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas

Recreation Advisory Board: Wednesday, May 13, 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, May 5, 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>

Town Plan Meetings: Monday, May 5, 9:00 a.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 781 Blakely Road. Topic – Economic Development & Town Services

Tuesday, May 19, 6:00 p.m. at the Colchester Recreation Center, 80 Dick Mazza Drive. Topic – Education and Parks & Recreation

Development Review Board: Wednesday, May 13, 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, April 16, 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, April 20, 6:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 2nd floor Champlain Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Agenda: 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