

For the Week of September 14, 2026

Manager's Message

Town Manager Aaron Frank

Thanking Kathi O'Reilly, Retiring Economic Development Director

Last week we said a bittersweet goodbye to Kathi O'Reilly, the Town's Economic Development Director.

Kathi served the Colchester community for many years before joining the Town as Economic Development Director thirteen years ago. Kathi cared deeply for the businesspeople, their employees, their businesses and the value they brought to Colchester; she advocated for regulatory and permitting reform, and advocated for fiscal responsibility in Town affairs, understanding that the Town's lower than average tax rate was a key economic development tool.



In addition to economic development, Kathi lent her skills to Town marketing efforts, the Town's Newsletter, creation of the Town's Fall Market, served as a board member of the Colchester-Milton Rotary and the Special Services Transportation Agency (SSTA), and more!

We thank Kathi for her dedicated service to this community and wish her a well-deserved retirement!

Traffic Alert – West Lakeshore Drive

Starting Monday, September 14th, the Town of Colchester's contractors will be completing repairs in the roadway in front of 760 and 794 W. Lakeshore Drive.

A single lane closure will be in place starting after 8:30 am, with alternating traffic in the open lane controlled by flaggers. The closure will be removed by 2:30 pm.

This work, including pavement restoration, is expected to be completed by Friday, September 18th.

Questions can be directed to the Department of Public works at (802) 264-5620 or DPW@colchestervt.gov

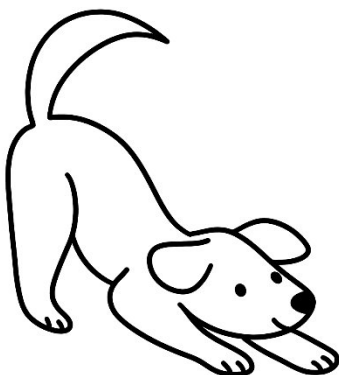
Upcoming Event from the Colchester Historical Society – Learn about the History of Colchester Schools!

September 14, 7 p.m.
828 Main Street, Colchester
(please use the back porch entrance)

You're invited to attend this special program about early Colchester schools hosted by the Colchester Historical Society. Charlie Farrell of the Vermont Schoolhouse Project will present wonderful photographs and information about Vermont's early schoolhouses, with a special emphasis on Colchester Schools. Charlie has been studying the history of Vermont schoolhouses for over 20 years. Light refreshments to follow. Parking and admission are free. Overflow parking is available at Our Lady of Grace Church, next door. All are welcome.



Keeping our Parks and Paths Clean – Please Pick Up After Your Dog



Colchester is home to many parks and trails that people enjoy with their dogs. Niquette Bay, Airport Park, Colchester Pond, and many others are popular locations for dog walks.

While we love seeing our furry residents around Town, we do not love to see dog waste left behind. Not only is it unsightly, but dog waste can spread a handful of diseases to the environment including Tapeworm, Giardia, Hookworm, MRSA, Rabies, Salmonella, and many more.

Additionally, we have noticed an increase in bagged dog waste left behind in our parks. Please remember to take the bag with you when you use it. Dog waste wrapped in plastic is also harmful to our environment.

We care deeply about keeping our parks and paths clean so they can be enjoyed by all. Thank you for being a responsible pet owner and cleaning up after your dog!

Department Updates

Burnham Memorial Library Book Review

***This is How You Lose the Time War* by
Amal El-Mohtar & Max Gladstone**

**Adult, Science Fiction, Romance, Fantasy:
2019**

**Review by: Mary DeVarney, Circulation
Services Librarian**



In a war waged by competing futures, two operatives from opposite sides begin a correspondence that spans time and space.

While standing in the ruins of an interplanetary battlefield, Red finds an unexpected letter from Blue, an agent from the other side of the time war. Unable to let her enemy get the last word, Red leaves her own message in the middle of one of Blue's missions—and soon the two are hiding missives for each other all throughout time.

What starts as taunts and mockery turns into a real connection, as the two discover just how similar they actually are. Soon they are sharing the parts of themselves that no one else knows about—that are too dangerous for them to have ever shared with their compatriots. As their bond grows, their loyalties are tested, and they both must figure out how far they are willing to go to keep each other safe.

This is How You Lose the Time War was written by two friends, with El-Mohtar writing the character of Blue and Gladstone writing the character of Red. Both authors use incredibly vibrant and descriptive language, to the point where you can tell that they each wanted to do their best to impress the other. The idea of using letters was inspired by their own correspondence, and their desire to explore letter writing as its own form of time travel.

Despite being a novella, this story is chock-full of intriguing ideas. With Red and Blue constantly on the move, each chapter brings the reader somewhere (and sometime) new. From ancient Mongolia to Atlantis to a teahouse in fantasy London—this book not only has possible futures, but alternate histories and different versions of our own world.

This is How You Lose the Time War is available in hardcover at the library, and as an ebook and audiobook through the Libby app.

Department of Parks & Recreation - Fall Concert

Join us on **Friday, September 18 from 6:00 - 7:30 PM** for this year's fall concert! The concert will be held at the Colchester Recreation Center.

The evening will feature music from the Devon McGarry Band!

Comprised of four seasoned musicians with common ambitions, The Devon McGarry Band presents an original music endeavor that can't be ignored. In the ever-changing world of rock music, they seek to be refreshing yet accessible. The music is rooted in McGarry's heartfelt lyrics and rhythms, but has been sculpted by his bandmates into a movement of sound. For nearly every catchy hook, Jeff Messina (lead guitar) offers up a blistering guitar solo to follow. Mitch Terricciano (bass guitar) and Rich Armstrong (drums) lock in to provide dynamic rhythms and uplifting grooves. Some songs harken back to the 90's alternative scene, while others break the mold and blend genres.

We hope to see you on the 18th!



Upcoming Town Meetings & Agendas

Selectboard Meeting: Tuesday, September 22, 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: https://records.colchestervt.gov/Colchester-vt?docId=AGENDA&path=Colch_CityCouncil%2CColchester_BOS_Agendas%2CAGENDA%2C

Recreation Advisory Board: Wednesday, October 14, 7:00 a.m. at the Colchester Recreation Center, 80 Dick Mazza Drive. Agenda: https://records.colchestervt.gov/Colchester-vt?docId=RecAdv_1&path=BOARDS%2CRecAdv%2CRecAdv_1%2C

Planning Commission: Tuesday, September 15, 7:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Agenda: https://records.colchestervt.gov/Colchester-vt?docId=PLANAGENDA&path=PLAN%2CPLAN_Agendas%2CPLANAGENDA%2C

Development Review Board: Wednesday, October 14, 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://records.colchestervt.gov/Colchester-vt?docId=DRBAGENDA&path=DRB%2CDRB_Agendas%2CDRBAGENDA%2C

Library Board of Trustees: Thursday, September 17, 4:00 p.m. in the Burnham Room of the Burnham Memorial Library. Agenda: <https://records.colchestervt.gov/Colchester-vt?docId=LibBoard&path=BOARDS%2CLibBoard%2C>

Colchester Conservation Commission: Monday, September 21, 5:30 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 2nd floor Champlain Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Agenda:

<https://records.colchestervt.gov/Colchester-vt?docId=ConservCommssn&path=BOARDS%2CConservCommssn%2C>

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<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/zBiFlto/ColchesterTownNewsletter>

For more information or to comment, call 802-264-5509 or email townmanager@colchestervt.gov