

For the Week of June 8, 2026

Manager’s Message

Town Manager Aaron Frank

Electric Bicycles and Motor-Driven Cycles: Know the Rules and Regulations!

Electric Bicycles have fully operable pedals, a saddle, and an electric motor of less than 750 watts. Electric Bicycles may fall into one of three categories:

Class 1:	Class 2:	Class 3*:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedal Assist motor only • Max speed of 20 mph 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throttle-Assist motor • Max speed of 20 mph 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedal Assist motor only • Max speed of 28 mph

***Operators of Class 3 E-bikes must be 16 or older and the bike must be equipped with a speedometer that displays the speed of the bicycle in miles per hour!**

When traveling on sidewalks, recreation paths, and public roads, operators of electric bicycles must yield to pedestrian users of the path, travel at safe speeds, and obey all applicable traffic rules and regulations.

Racing of bicycles is prohibited on Town recreation paths.

Motor-Driven Cycles are defined as: motor powered vehicles equipped with a power source capable of reaching speeds of up to 30 mph - *and do not have pedals.*

Motor-driven cycles are not the same as motorcycles, which are higher-powered and require a specialized license. Additionally, a motor-driven cycles’ power source cannot exceed 2 hp or 50cc’s.

As defined under state law, motor-driven cycles are considered motor vehicles. This means motor-driven cycles and operators of motor-driven cycles must:

- Be registered
- Carry insurance
- Be licensed drivers of at least 16 years of age

According to Town Ordinance, motor vehicles of all kinds, including motor driven cycles--are prohibited from riding on sidewalks and recreation paths.

Anyone operating a motor-driven cycle must obey the rules of the road when traveling on public roads.

Thank you for following these rules and regulations to help keep Colchester a safe place for everyone!

Information from the Colchester Historical Society:

Colchester 1815 Log Schoolhouse Museum
Hosted by the Colchester Historical Society
Open weekends June 5 - Labor Day, Friday - Monday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Airport Park, Colchester Point Road



This 1815 Log Schoolhouse serves as a visitor information center and as a charming museum to showcase some of Colchester's wonderful local history. Bring your family and friends! Learn about the early days of education in a lovely one-room schoolhouse. A fabulous volunteer host will show you around and answer your questions. Children may enjoy a fun scavenger hunt or craft a vintage toy. The Historical Society's new jigsaw puzzle featuring Malletts Bay will be available for sale -- \$20 each -- with proceeds to benefit the ongoing maintenance of the Schoolhouse building. Parking and admission are free; donations are welcome and always appreciated.



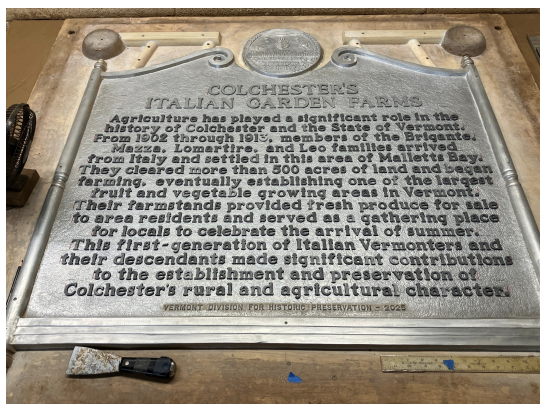
Colchester Historical Society Barbecue and Annual Meeting
828 Main Street at Colchester's Historic Village Green
Monday, June 8, 6 - 8:30 p.m., outdoors, weather permitting

For members and special guests. Potluck -- all are invited to bring a dish to share. Hog dogs, burgers, beverages, and dessert will be provided. Vegetarian options available. Not a member yet? Join now at

<https://colchestervt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/11456/CHS>

[NewMember_MemberRenewalApplication](#)

Unveiling and Celebration of Colchester's Newest Historic Marker
Saturday, June 13, 10 a.m.



682 Malletts Bay Avenue, Colchester
Co-hosted by Vermont Italian Cultural Association,
Colchester Historical Society, and Vermont Division for
Historic Preservation

Plan to attend this unveiling and dedication of Colchester's new Vermont Historic Marker honoring the legacy and contributions of Italian immigrant families who settled in Colchester and built a thriving farming community. Well-known garden expert Charlie Nardoizzi will be the Master of Ceremonies. Join in celebrating these wonderful farms and their hard-working people who have been feeding us for nearly 125 years.

Information from the Colchester-Milton Rotary: Honor Local Heroes During America’s 250th Celebration

The Colchester-Milton Rotary Club is inviting residents to honor local heroes through its fifth annual community flag tribute. Families, friends, and neighbors can sponsor a dedicated flag in recognition of veterans, first responders, teachers, family members, or others who have made a lasting impact. Each flag will serve as a visible tribute during the community’s celebration while also helping support local community needs.



Funds raised through the flag campaign will be donated back to the community in the form of scholarships, youth leadership opportunities, support for local food shelves, Veteran organizations, and funds for local emergencies, helping to extend the impact of every tribute far beyond the celebration itself. It is a chance to honor the past, celebrate the present and invest in the future.

Flags may be dedicated for \$50 and include a personal plaque with a message from the donor. Displays will run through Independence Day, Saturday, July 4, 2026, and again in November.

Donations can be made and more information can be found online at cmrotary.org or mailed to:

**Colchester Milton Rotary
Post Office Box 82
Colchester, VT 05446**

Residents are encouraged to reserve flags early and can contact Rotary Chair Chuck Ginsburg at chuckg3434@gmail with questions.

Department Updates

Burnham Memorial Library Book Review

London Falling: A Mysterious Death in a Gilded City and a Family’s Search for Truth

By Patrick Radden Keefe

Adult Nonfiction, Doubleday 2026

Review by: Meg Malone, YA Services & Interlibrary Loan Librarian



In 2024, New Yorker staff writer Patrick Radden Keefe published a piece for the magazine about a London teenager named Zac Brettler, whose body had been found in the Thames River back in 2019. It was only after his death that his middle-class family learned that Zac had been telling people he was the son of a wealthy Russian oligarch; he had been leading a secret life that brought him into circles where money, power, and violence intermingled.

Now two years later, Keefe has expanded this story into a full book. In addition to focusing on Zac, the author also takes a broader look at criminal activity dating back decades and gives context to a version of London that may be less familiar to readers.

I previously read Keefe's book *Say Nothing*, and here's my recommendation for both: be sure to look at the end notes. It's impressive how deeply researched Keefe's work is, and that depth is true even for a book like *London Falling* which relies heavily on firsthand interviews.

A major source of those interviews was Zac's parents, Rachele and Matthew Brettler. As Keefe explains in his "A Note on Sources," he made the decision to structure the book in a way that tries to mirror the experience of the grieving Brettler's as they worked to find answers about their son's complicated life and untimely death.

It is ultimately an effective editorial choice. As the reader, you get a vast amount of information thrown at you, but not in a linear way; it means a need to constantly reassess what you think you know about the people who had become part of Zac's life in the period before his death. There are facts presented, but it's hard to determine what is exactly true.

At a time where true crime writing can easily feel exploitive, this book manages to dig deep with its reporting but maintains a commitment to empathy throughout. Keefe continues to set a high bar for what narrative nonfiction can be.

Upcoming Town Meetings & Agendas

Selectboard Meeting: Tuesday, June 9, 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

Recreation Advisory Board: Wednesday, June 10, 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>



Colchester – What do you want to do today?

Planning Commission: Tuesday, June 16, 6:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docid=PLANAGENDA>

Development Review Board: Wednesday, June 10, 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, June 18, 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: Next meeting date TBD.

Subscribe to the Town Newsletter:

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

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