

CHESTERFIELD TOWN HAPPENINGS SEPTEMBER 2024

Board of Selectmen Notes

September 2024

HAPPY RETIREMENT TO CLAUDETTE RUSSELL

Please join the Board of Selectmen in wishing Claudette Russell a very happy retirement. Claudette has worked at the Chesterfield Library for 38 and 1/2 years. She has led the children's department, young adult, cataloging and is currently the assistant director. Thank you for all your years of commitment to the town of Chesterfield and the Chesterfield Library, Claudette.

There will be an Open House at the library on September 3rd and 4th to celebrate her last two days there. Please see the Library notes below for more information.

NH STATE PRIMARY VOTING

Voting in the New Hampshire state primary will take place at the Town Hall on Tuesday, September 10th from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm. If you are not currently registered to vote and are qualified to do so, you may register that day at the polls. Please see the Town Clerk News below for more information on absentee ballots.

MORE CONGRATULATIONS TO BAYARD TRACY

Bayard Tracy has been recognized as August's Granite Stater of the Month by New Hampshire U.S. senator Maggie Hassan. Thank you for all you do for Spofford Lake and the Chesterfield community, Bayard.

More information on the honor may be found on Senator Hassan's website or the Spofford Lake Association's website.

TOWN OFFICE - HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2024

The Town Offices will be closed on the following dates:

2024 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Monday, September 2, 2024 – Labor Day

Monday, October 14, 2024 – Indigenous Peoples' Day

Monday, November 11, 2024 – Veterans Day

Thursday, November 28, 2024 – Thanksgiving Day

Wednesday, December 25, 2024 – Christmas Day

Please note that the Transfer Station dates are different and listed below



Board and Commission Meetings

(Note: all meetings and updates to meetings can be found on the Town Website www.chesterfield.nh.gov)

Board of Selectmen		
Wednesdays, September 4 & 18	6:00 pm	Town Office/Zoom
(Every other Wednesday)		
Economic Development Committee		
Thursday, September 12 & 26	6:00 pm	Town Office
(2nd and 4th Thursdays)		
Planning Board		
Mondays, September 16	7:00 pm	Town Office/Zoom
(1st and 3rd Mondays) - 1st Monday cancelled due to Labor Day holiday		
Zoning Board of Adjustment		
Thursday, September 19	6:30 pm	Town Office/Zoom
(3rd Thursday - hearings begin no earlier than 6:45 pm)		
Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Commissioners		
Monday, September 16	6:30 pm	Center Fire Station
(3rd Monday)		
Spofford Fire & Rescue Commissioners		
Thursday, September 19	6:00 pm	Spofford Fire Station
(3rd Thursday)		
Cemetery Commission		
Wednesday, September 11	6:30 pm	Historical Soc.
Building		
Budget Committee		
Tuesday, September 24	7:00 pm	OEM Room - Town Office
Library Board of Trustees		
Tuesday, September 17	7:00 pm	Chesterfield Library
(3rd Tuesday)		
Conservation Commission		
Monday, September 23	7:30 pm	Town Office
(4th Monday)		
Chesterfield Revitalization Group		
Monday, September 9	5:00 pm	Town Office
(2nd Monday)		
Chesterfield Historical Society		
Tuesday, September 24	7:00 pm	Town Office
Boat Ramp Committee		
Tuesday, September 3	10:30 am	Town Office
Watershed Committee		
Thursday, September 19	9:30 am	Town Office



The Chesterfield Police Department is Hiring!

If you are looking for an exciting and rewarding career, come work for the Chesterfield Police Department! We offer competitive benefits, personally assigned cruisers, and a sign on bonus.

We are looking for two full time patrol officers and will be accepting applications and resumes to fill these vacancies until September 30, 2024. Part-time positions are also available. Come join our team today! For more information, contact Acting Chief Lance A. Rouse at lrouse@pd.chesterfield.nh.gov or by phone (603) 363-4233."

MORE THAN A JOB - A CALLING!

CHESTERFIELD POLICE NOW HIRING

\$28.67hr Starting Pay (Uncertified)

Come work for the Chesterfield Police Department,
a Town you can call home!

- Salary Range: \$59,633-\$76,814
- \$10,000 Sign on Bonus (Certified) \$5,000 (Uncertified)
- Personally Assigned Police Cruiser
- Outer Carrier Vests
- Detail Rate: \$54.65
- 11 Paid Holidays
- Health and Dental Plans
- NHRS
- Vacation, Sick and PTO
- Town Beach Pass



CHESTERFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT - For more information contact:
Lieutenant Lance Rouse 603-363-4233/lrouse@pd.chesterfield.nh.gov



HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Highway Department has paved the approaches to these roads in August - Crowningshield Road, North Hinsdale Road, Castle Road, Mountain Road and Poocham Road. Work will start on the gravel portion of Old Chesterfield Road late in September.

TRANSFER STATION HOLIDAY SCHEDULE - 2024

The Transfer Station will be CLOSED on the following dates:

2024 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Tuesday, September 3, 2024 – Labor Day

Tuesday, October 15, 2024 – Indigenous Peoples' Day

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 – Veterans Day

Friday, November 29, 2024 – Thanksgiving Day

Wednesday, December 25, 2024 – Christmas Day

****Please note that the Town Office dates are different and listed above****

TOWN CLERK NEWS

There are two elections coming up - September 10th and November 5th. If you need an absentee ballot, please go to the Town Clerk's Elections and Voting page on the Town of Chesterfield website. Complete the absentee voter application for general and/or primary elections. You can email the completed application to townclerk@nhchesterfield.com. Absentee ballots can be picked up as late as Friday, September 6th from 3-5 pm at the Town Clerk's office. Please note all absentee ballots must arrive before 5 pm on September 10th to be counted. Last mail delivery occurs at 11 am. Ballots may arrive through the mail, dropped off by the voter or be a designated agent. If dropped off by someone other than the voter, an additional form is required to be filled out by the delivery agent and ID provided.



Chesterfield Public Library September 2024 Events

Everyone

Library Open House Celebrating Claudette, Tuesday, September 3 and Wednesday, September 4, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Claudette is retiring! Celebrate Claudette's 38 years of service as a librarian and wish her well as she begins the next chapter of her story. We will have coffee, tea, and treats available.

Puzzle Race, Thursday, September 19 at 5:00 pm Grab a couple of friends, create a team, and race to complete a 500-piece puzzle! The team that works together to complete the full picture first will be named the most Powerful Puzzlers of All! Teams may include up to four people, 5 years and up. Space is limited and registration is required. Call/visit the library or sign up online.

Children/Youth

Storytime, Mondays (Beginning September 16!) at 11:00 am Join us for stories, songs/rhymes, and a craft!

Saturday Songs and Stories, Saturday, September 21 at 11:00 am Children 0-5 and their caregivers are invited to join music teacher Cathy Harvey at the library for simple songs, movement, and stories. Explore small percussion instruments and move to music! This program meets one Saturday a month. September's theme is autumn!

Pizza Book Club, Thursday, September 26 at 3:00 pm Join us for a book discussion, related activity, and of course: pizza! This month we are reading *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown. This program is open to all kids in grades 3-8. Please sign up online or call/visit the library. You can pick up a copy of each month's book at the front desk.

Teen Library Club, Thursday, September 26 at 4:00 pm Join us for our first Teen Library Club meeting of the year! Decorate a notebook to take home, chow down some pizza, and discuss ideas for the library. For teens in grade 7+. Registration is required. Please sign up online or call/visit the library.

Adult

Library Book Club, Tuesday, September 10 at 5:30 pm The Library's adult book club will discuss the novel *The House in the Cerulean Sea* by T.J. Klune. Stop by the library to sign up and pick up a copy of the book.

Makers Meeting, Tuesday, September 3 at 11:00 am Come talk to other creators in our community. Bring your lunch!

Spice Club, Monday, September 9 at 6:00 pm This month we will feature Black Garlic and there will be something for you to taste. Join our group to receive a sample and learn new recipes.

Knit Chicks, Tuesday, September 10 and 24 at 1:00 pm The Knit Chicks meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month to craft gear for people in the Monadnock region. Crocheters welcome!

Quilting Guild, Monday, September 16 at 1:00 pm Our quilting group meets once a month to work on projects and discuss their work. All levels are welcome! Join us to learn from the best.

Tech Drop-In, Wednesdays at 4:00 pm Do you have technology questions or need help with using the internet and online resources such as Libby? Stop by the library during our drop-in hour and let us assist you.

Friends of the Chesterfield Public Library Meeting, Tuesday, September 3 at 5:30 pm Join the Friends of the Chesterfield Public to help work on special projects. The Friends of the Chesterfield Public Library are instrumental in providing support to the library.

Inquire at the Front Desk for more information on any event. Reach us by phone at (603) 363-4621 or email FrontDesk@ChesterfieldLibrary.org

Chesterfield Conservation Commission News

I imagine that there are more than a few folks out there who have had unexpected incidents of trees being brought down on their properties in light of the strong winds and downpours we have been experiencing with greater regularity. We have had some limbs and branches coming down but what we also had to acknowledge was the need to address the removal of a tree before the forces of nature took on the task. I knew it had to be done, but found myself grieving the loss of such a long time presence in our backyard, providing not just relief from the sun on a hot summers day, but the simple, soothing beauty of its presence.

As we went through the process of hiring someone to do the job, we were made aware of some trees at the back of the property that needed to be removed as well, due to a beetle infestation. With the cedars gone, we became starkly aware of the privacy they had provided from our neighbors. Yet another wonderful value provided by trees. We have already done some replanting, but it will be a while before they can fill the space left by the cedars.

What this experience has only reinforced in me, is how important it is to tend to any threats that we can control in the care of our trees and shrubs. As we move into the Fall [if not before!] now is a great time to walk around your property and take note of invasive plants and remove them. Many a tree and shrub has been damaged and/or killed by the unchecked growth of such opportunistic plants. Oriental Bittersweet and Virginia Creeper have settled into our region with English Ivy and some of the Grapevines and Honeysuckles moving north and starting to take up residence. These, I'm sorry to say, are just a few of the problematic plants that are in need of our control.

For more information, please check out the Chesterfield Conservation Commission website for links to some good resources in getting on top of these threats to the health and well being of your trees.



Parks & Recreation News

Wow, sure was a fast summer. A very hot July and a very mild August. Gates will close at North Shore on Monday September 2nd at Dusk for the season, Thank You to all the residents that helped take care of our beach. Wares Grove beach gates will be stay open through Columbus Day weekend if weather permits.

Soccer season will begin on Tuesday September 3rd, with a meet and greet up at the Chesterfield School at 5:30. We have 100 kiddos signed up for this year, so it is going to be a great season of soccer.

Thank You to all our volunteer coaches, this program could not run without the help of parents. The Putney Tournament this year for our 4-6 grade teams will be Saturday October 12th and 13th at the Putney School.

Yoga will continue on Tuesday Morning at 10:00 am at the Town Hall and we are waiting to try and find another night time available for another yoga class.

Great News, we are well on our way to begin working on a new Rec Building to replace the old one down at the beach. The design has been drawn up and we will have an informational meeting the second week in September at the Town Hall. When we have the date we will post it on the town website.

Happy Fall
Darlene

Office of Emergency Management/OEM September 2024 Report

As always, our thanks to our Selectmen, Town Admin & volunteer members of the OEM team for their support.

Here is a sampling of OEM activities underway in Chesterfield:

1. SEPTEMBER IS ANIMAL CARE MONTH – tell your family & friends about it !!

When disaster strikes (fires, floods, power outages, etc.) residents will want to relocate with their pets and other animals. Over the past few months, Cheryl, Karen, John & Ralph have acquired the following items to care for pets – Cat & Dog Food, Cages, Leases, Bowls, etc. – and we welcome more donations!!!

CAN ANYONE HELP US TO LOCATE RESOURCES FOR LIVESTOCK, ETC.?

2. Route 9 Accidents – Please make sure you drive safely on Rt. 9 and other roads in our community. We had several accidents and the police are to be thanked for their efforts. Please tell your out-of-town visitors of the need to do so. Thanks!

3. Grants - We are assessing whether our OEM priorities might be eligible. We may hear about available Grants from other communities – soon to be underway.

4. Emergency Supplies – to be added to our 500 MREs, cots, blankets, water, PPE.

5. Mailing lists – Fran will assist with Opt-In mailings requests from other sources.

6. Special assistance – analyzing needs for residents to relocate during disasters.

7. Mutual Aid - Check in w/Spofford and West Chesterfield Firehouses for support.

8. Training – Ralph and John are registered for ICS 300 training we had the ICS 100/200 levels. Training will be by the Massachusetts Emergency Mgmt Agency.

9. Maine partnering – Ralph met with the Maine Emergency Mgmt Agency for new ideas. We also received names of their key contacts in NH for our information.

Submitted by Ralph Petti, Director, OEM • John Keppler, Deputy Director, OEM Cell: 908.310.6381
ralphpetti1@gmail.com Cell: 802.579.7940 jpkep@myfairpoint.net

As always, stay safe and please let OEM know of any needs or ideas

Community Events

SENIOR LUNCHEON

*Wednesday, September 11 - 12:30 pm
At the Chesterfield Town Hall*

*Menu - Ham, Cowboy Beans, Cole Slaw, Rolls & Blueberry Cake
Please call (603) 363-9319 to make a reservation
by 5 pm on Monday, September 9th*

ACTORS THEATRE PLAYHOUSE **Corner of Brook & Main Streets,** **West Chesterfield**

Spotlight
*Saturdays, September 7 and 14
Curtain time 7:30*

Spotlight is ATP's new literary variety show. This year, local actors, musicians - and perhaps audience members – will explore what it means to be "good" (and not so good!) through readings of poetry, quotes, short stories, excerpts from plays, and songs. The evening includes works of Mark Twain, Bertolt Brecht, Arthur Miller, Dorothy Parker, John Prine, Shirley Jackson, John Steinbeck and others.

Dylan Thomas' Under Milk Wood

Fridays & Saturdays
September 20, 21, 27, 28 7:30 pm
Sunday Matinee September 22 2 pm

Under Milk Wood was first commissioned by the BBC in 1953, and described by poet Dylan Thomas as 'a play for voices'. It tells the story of one Spring day in a small fictional Welsh village populated by some of the best-loved characters in British literature. Thomas' interest is not only in what happens in the streets and houses of Llareggub but also what is inside the minds and souls of the residents. It shows their dreams and desires, their loves and regrets, their passions, strengths and frailties. Lyrical, funny, bawdy, and moving, it speaks with a universality for all generations. A Welsh epic, a work of poetic genius, a modern classic, it holds a mirror up to the audience and shows them their own humanity.

*Reservations recommended
atplayhouse.org*

CHESTERFIELD FARMERS' MARKET

*Every Saturday in September
Summer veggies, flower bouquets, International breads, local ice cream, potato chips, preserves, honey
and maple syrup, and crafts.
9 to Noon
Route 63, Chesterfield Center.*

River Valley Artisans Tour – September 7th & 8th, 2024

*The tour is from 11-5 each day and is located at 2 venues - Summit Winery in Westmoreland and Branch
& Blade Brewing in Keene.*

*Come try a wine tasting or get lunch as you stroll through the work of over 25 area artists.
We also have a free raffle.*

*Please visit our website: www.rva-art.com for a map, directions and information and photos on each
artist.*

For more information, please write to: rivervalleyartisanstour@gmail.com

If you would like to add to the Community Happenings next month, please see the guidelines below!

Anyone can post an event so long as it is of broad public interest, is open to all Chesterfield residents and is not meant solely to enrich the individual or organization. The following criteria also apply:

No tag sales;

No "help wanted" or "for sale" ads;

No politics or religion (Churches may list suppers or bazaars so long as they are open to the general public and have no overt religious function;)

No business advertising (Businesses may list events of community interest, i.e. grand openings, blood drives, food drives, but not any event that requires a purchase or is for the financial gain of the business itself.)

All submissions must include the name, address and phone number of the person submitting the item.

Each entry is limited to a maximum of 25 words.

The coordinator and Town reserve the right to reject any submission. Items may be rejected because of incomplete information, lack of clarity, or for going beyond the word limit. Neither the coordinator nor the Town will contact the submitter for corrections. Deadline for submissions: the 22nd of the month preceding. Email to jwscott924@gmail.com with the subject line "Happenings".

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