



SEPTEMBER, 2018

WATT'S NEW?



ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT

A reminder that regular office hours are Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9 a.m.— 1:00 p.m. Appointments may be made for Thursdays and Fridays by calling 354-7811 in advance.

Payments or correspondence for ANY Town Department may be placed in the **BLACK BOX** on top of the mailboxes at the Town Hall any time day or night.

Board of Assessors

Telephone (413) 354-6318 Fax (413) 354-2268

The Board of Assessors would like to remind classified Chapter 61A and B Agricultural, Horticultural and Recreational land taxpayers that applications are due October 1, 2018. If you owned classified Chapter 61A or B land last year, an application will be mailed to you on or about the first week of September. Applications are available in the Assessor's Office or online at www.mass.gov. Click on DOR, Div of Local Services, Publications and Forms, then the appropriate Chapter form. The Assessors Office is open 9-2 Monday through Wednesday, and every 2nd and 4th Monday evening from 6-8 pm. If you need additional time to file your return, please contact the office @ telephone (413) 354-6318, fax 354-2268 or e-mail:

assessors@comcast.net.

Real estate tax exemption applications are also available to qualified persons over age 65, disabled veterans and blind persons.

Why did Tony go out with a prune?

Because he couldn't find a date!!!

What did one elevator say to the other elevator?

I think I'm coming down with something!!!

How many books can you put in an empty backpack?

One—After that it's not empty!!!

Why do sea-gulls fly over the sea?

Because if they flew over the bay they would be called bagels!!!

What do you call the new girl at the bank?

A Nutella!!!

What did the judge say when the skunk walked in the court room?

Odor in the court!!!



Council on Aging News – Help Us Help YOU!

The Chester Council on Aging will be mailing a survey to all seniors. This effort is to collect information that will allow us to help all seniors in the event of a major emergency in town. Please watch your mailbox for this important piece of mail. When you get it, fill it out right away and return it to the COA. A post-paid envelope will be included. The information you share will be kept securely, and only emergency personnel will have access to it. Help us to help you in a major emergency.

Fall begins September 23



September 9 is Grandparents Day



PLEASE DRIVE CAREFULLY

SCHOOL IS BACK IN SESSION



- September has three **birth flowers**: the forget-me-not, the morning glory and the aster. Forget-me-nots represent love and memories, asters represent love as well, and the morning glory represents unrequited love. These are all very passionate flowers.
- The **birth stone** for the month is the sapphire.
- In the northern hemisphere, the **Autumn Equinox** occurs and fall begins. This takes place on September 22nd or 23rd, depending on the year. 2017 Fall begins September 22
- September 9, 1776: The Continental Congress changed the name of the United Colonies to the United States.
- September 18, 1851: The New York Times published its first edition.
- September 24th, 1789: The US Supreme Court was established.
- September 1st, 1830: The poem "Mary had a Little Lamb" was published.
- September 2, 1666: The Great Fire of London occurred.
- September 5, 1774: The 1st Continental Congress was called to order.

CHESTER STATION PRESENTS 'RAILYARD RASCALS'

The Chester Railway Museum will present a multi-media program, "Railyard Rascals; Life of the American Hobo", on Saturday, Sept 8, from noon to 8 PM. The program will have something for all ages including music, folklore, demonstrations and re-enactments. Dennis Picard and his living history troupe will stage the events. Picard counts Old Sturbridge Village, Hancock Shaker Village, Storrowton Village where he was Director and Westfield State University among the institutions where he has perfected his historic interpretation skills over 40+ years.

The day's activities will culminate with a showing of "Emperor of the North", starring Lee Marvin and Ernest Borgnine, at 6 PM. This film has been acclaimed as one of the most accurate portrayals of 'life on the road' ever produced. Refreshments will be available throughout the event. A donation of \$5.00 per person is suggested; children under 12 free.

Cornerstone Christian Church

Starting September -7th and the first Friday every month after, we will be having Family Fun Night. More information coming soon. Cornerstone Christian Church is a Bible based, non-denominational church. All are welcome to Sunday service at 10 am, with children's church during service at 10:30 am. No need to dress up but, it's OK if you do. Either way, God's just happy you're here! If you have any questions, please call the church at 354-7832 and leave a message (they are checked daily) You can also find the Cornerstone Christian Church on Facebook or at: www.vmchurches.org/page/cornerstone-christian-church/ email us at ChurchOnTheCorner@hotmail.com

Chester Historical Society meeting will be held Saturday, Sept. 8 at the Chester History Museum at 9 am and as all monthly meetings are open to the public anyone is welcome to attend. BITS AND PIECES - Does anyone have information on what happened to the Veteran's Memorial that was placed on the High School lawn during or right after World War II? Marguerite Tracey a long time resident organized and supervised the funding and building of this U.S.O. Memorial during World War II. It is remembered that near Memorial Day each year the children from Chester Elementary would cross the street to stand in front of the Memorial and hold services to honor those who served. This is a treasure we would like to have for our Museum and if anyone has any information please contact a member of the Society. Marguerite also had much information on the first hand-cranked telephone and worked over 50 years in the telephone service including the office located in the former Bevan's Drug Store in Chester. (A picture of this office was printed in one of our Historical Calendars). Berkshire Eagle- July 28, 1956- New Chester Bank Open House – Chester Cooperative Bank will hold open house at its new quarters on Main Street tomorrow from 3 to 9 pm. The bank was incorporated Dec. 21 1923 and has been located in rear of Bevan's Drug Store since then. The new one-story building on Main Street was financed by a group of citizens organized as the Chester Development and Improvement Co. It is being leased to the bank with plans for eventual purchase to the institution. Architect Ralph Sizer of Westfield designed the new building. The contractors were Smith and Fisk of Middlefield. On hand for the Open House will be President Samuel J. Donnelly, Vice President Charles F. Pease, Treasurer Lester W. Simmons, Clerk Willard A. Pease and the following Directors: Richard Bevan, Stuart Eames, Harry C. Haskins, Dr. John Huffmire, George W. Olds, Thomas Rose, Seigle Shafer and William H. Stevens. Frank Fay was the first president of the 33 year old bank. The bank's FIRST annual report showed assets at \$ 17,841.42 with 1,258 shares and 163 accounts in force. This month's report showed assets at \$ 496,776 with 2,861 shares and 415 accounts in force. Records show the first loan was made to Burt H. Rix, one of the charter members of the corporation. We continue to ask for pictures of those who have or are now serving our country. We will make copies and return all originals. These are used in our annual calendar and also for our Museum binders on servicemen and women.

Southern Hilltowns Adult Education Center September 2018

All Courses are Free for Hilltown Residents www.SHAEC.org

To register for a class, call **413-354-1055** or email Southernhilltownsaec@gmail.com

GED/ HiSet: Math Village Enterprise Center | 26 Main St, Chester

Wednesdays, beginning September 12, 3:00pm-5pm

GED/HiSet Test Prep: Village Enterprise Center | 26 Main St, Chester (no class 9/27)

Thursdays, beginning September 13, 10am-noon

Computer Classes

Beginner Computer: Getting Started with Gmail, attachments, and more: VEC: 26 Main Street, Chester

Wed Sept 5, 12, 19, 26 10am- noon

Help with computer. Laptop, phone, and more: Russell Senior Center 65 Main Street, Russell

Tuesday, September 11, 10am-noon

Open Computer Lab Village Enterprise Center | 26 Main St, Chester

Weekly: Tuesdays 10am to 12pm

Support for Small Businesses

Intro to QuickBooks teacher Dorine Lasky, VEC: 26 Main Street, Chester.

Wednesday and Thursday, Sept 5 & 6, 6:-8pm

Website Workshop with Jeanne LeClair: Village Enterprise Center, 26 Main Street, Chester

Wednesday, September 12, 6-8pm

Biztro: Drop-in small business support Village Enterprise Center, 26 Main Street, Chester

Monday, September 17, 4-7:00pm

Everything you need to know to start a small business teacher Dorine Lasky, VEC: 26 Main Street, Chester.

Tuesday, September 18. 6-8pm

Jacobs Ladder Business Association (JLBA) Monthly Meeting Chester Common Table, 30 Main St Chester

Thursday, September 20, 6-8pm

Economic Development and Your Business with Jeanne LeClair: VEC, 26 Main Street, Chester

Wednesday, September 26, 6-8pm

New class location! These classes are at the Hilltown CDC 387 Main Rd Chesterfield:

Selling on ETSY: Online Sales for Art and Vintage Items: Hilltown CDC, 387 Main Rd, Chesterfield

Thurs & Friday, September 20 & 21. 6-8pm

Photographing your products for Online Sales Hilltown CDC, 387 Main Rd, Chesterfield

Thursday, September 27. 6-8pm

Sustainability and Special Interest Classes

Gardening Beyond Summer Master Gardener Ken Conway: VEC, 26 Main Street, Chester

Wednesday, September 19, 5-7pm

Intro to Aromatherapy: The Basics Taught by Kay Judge. \$25 Material Fee, VEC, 26 Main Street, Chester

Friday, September 21, 10am-noon

Hikes & other outdoor events

Becket Quarry Hike: Park at parking lot/trail head at 456 Quarry Road, Becket.

Saturday September 22, 10:am – 12pm

From the Town Clerk

The State Election is scheduled for Tuesday, November 6. If you are not already registered to vote, the last day to register so that you can vote in this election is Wednesday, October 17. You can register to vote

- **in person** at the Town Clerk's office during regular office hours on Monday evenings from 6-8 pm and Wednesdays from 10:30 am - 4PM
- **by mail** Mail-in forms are available at the Town Hall, the Chester Post Office, and the library
- **Online** visit www.sec.state.ma.us and click on the button for Elections and Voting.

There will be an Early Voting Period before this election that will include evening and weekend times that you can vote. The schedule for early voting will be printed in October. If you need an absentee ballot for this election, please contact the Town Clerk at 354-6603 or by email at chestertownclerk@comcast.net.

For more information on the ballot or referendum questions, visit www.sec.state.ma.us, and watch for the booklet that will be mailed to each household.