



OCTOBER, 2018

WATT'S NEWS



TOWN OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED
MONDAY, **OCTOBER 8**,
FOR COLUMBUS DAY

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS
SUNDAY, **NOVEMBER 4**

Remember to turn your clocks back 1 hour.
Also It's a good idea to change your batteries
in your smoke detectors.



NEWS FROM THE TAX COLLECTOR

First quarter tax bills were due on 8/1/18. The next quarter is due 11/1/18. If for some reason you have lost or did not receive a bill please contact the tax collectors office. Motor vehicle bills are due and payable as noted on bills. Failure to pay will result in possible non renewal of license or registration. Payment plans are available upon request.

Pam Zebrowski Retires

Pam began working at CMELD in November of 2010 and will be retiring this October. Pam has left an incredible mark, we will miss her professional expertise and her smiling face in the office. CMELD wishes her only success and happiness in her future endeavors - may they be all that she hoped for! As Pam moves on into the next amazing chapter of her life, know that you will be missed, know that our very best wishes and thoughts go with you. Please come and visit us often - for this is farewell and not goodbye.

Roseanne McClaflin Steps In as the New Admin Assistant

We are excited to welcome Rosanne (warmly known as Ro) to the CMELD office. Ro brings 40 plus years of experience in customer service and office administration with her. Rosanne worked in the Chester Highway Department and Selectmen's office for three years and has successfully pursued grants for the Town in excess of \$1,000,000. She has demonstrated her work ethic through her dependability and willingness to provide assistance to all Town Hall departments. Ro is eager to call the job her own and seems to be fitting in perfectly. Ro has worked closely with Pam for weeks so the transition should go smoothly. We wish her the best in her new position.

FROM OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT



Halloween is fast approaching. The Police Department will be out to help ensure public safety. We are encouraging proper behavior and asking your help in ensuring personal safety and preventing unsightly vandalism. We have a beautiful community; let's help keep it that way. You can help ensure the well being of children by making them visible and following safe Trick or Treat practices. Everyone should consider this Halloween a time to ensure your own safety by practicing some good common sense tips. Many resources are available to help in this effort. Please visit the following government site as one safety resource. <http://www.cdc.gov/family/halloween>



EARLY WINTER SEASON REMINDERS

The Fire Chief reminds residents to inspect their chimneys before the heating season begins and to keep them clean through out the season. Also, if burning candles, please do not leave unattended.

CMELD reminds residents to make sure their house numbers can be read from the road. If your power goes out or you have a medical, fire or police emergency it is crucial for those responding to be able to locate your residence quickly.

FUEL ASSISTANCE BEGINS NOVEMBER 1, 2018

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) will begin November 1 for the 2018-2019 season. If you are experiencing energy related financial difficulties please call Valley Opportunity Council, Inc. at [413-552-1548](tel:413-552-1548).

Busy October for Fire Department

The fire department will be going to the elementary school during Fire Prevention Week. Students will see a fire safety video by Sparky the Fire Dog and then go outside to see and sit in the fire trucks. October 20th will be the annual fall grinder sale. Pre-order only. Ham, turkey, sausage or meatball. Orders must be placed by Oct 17. Light the town with your jack-o-lantern(s). CFD invites you to carve your jack-o-lantern(s) and line the sidewalks of downtown for trick or treat. Streets to line will be; Middlefield Rd as far as Olin Ave, Main St as far as Blue Note, all of Maple St and Route 20 from Middlefield Rd to the Fire Station.

For more info or to place an order Call or text Kathy at 413-374-3578 or Flo at 413-530-1326

Follow us on Facebook for the latest updates

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.

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 or **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, which 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 chestertown-clerk@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.

Chester Historical Society

With cooler weather arriving November is closer and closer and brings the Annual Snowflake Holiday Craft Fair one of our major fundraisers of the year. Held at the Chester Town Hall on Saturday November 3 from 9 AM to 3 PM, it remains an excellent time to do early Christmas shopping while supporting the Chester History Museum and local vendors. There will also be a 50/50 raffle and Yankee Auction as well as music. This event always proves to be a great time to meet many old friends as well as making new ones. The Town Hall is handicap accessible and parking available at the old Chester Elementary School directly across from the Town Hall. Take time to stroll around the quaint village. Visit the Chester Village Market, Pease Store, A & L Market, Chester Common Table, and Classic Pizza/Blue Note Cafe. We wish to thank the Chester Cultural Council for partially funding this event. NOTE - Because of this event the November monthly meeting will be held on November 10 at 9 AM at the Historic Museum. **Bits and pieces:** DID YOU KNOW that "back in the day" when the Chester Community Development Planning Committee composed of John Baldasaro, Donald Ellershaw, Richard Hozman, Terry Murphy, Andrew Myers and Fay Piergiiovanni was active; a study was made which included 76 sites in Chester that had natural resource potentials. The study was done with funding from the Commonwealth of Mass with Technical assistance provided by the PVPV. Statement was: "We the residents of Chester aim to preserve our rural community character and scenic beauty while striving to balance residential growth and economic development with our service and infrastructure needs." Find out more about these 76 sites and much more by visiting the Historical Society meetings and learn more about the history of Chester. We welcome all to visit the Chester History Museum, and those who have never visited the Old Jail directly across from the Museum please call any member who will welcome you for a visit. **Help:** The Society members have been working on a listing of all Chester residents who have served or are currently serving and do NOT have their names listed on the correct monuments to contact a member. A new monument is planned for Veteran's Park and we want no veteran left off. When a new listing has been made it will also appear in local papers and postings before listing on a monument. Look for future announcements concerning this project. Donations are also welcome for this and we thank all for support given to us for our past and future projects.

Southern Hilltowns Adult Education Center October 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 3:00pm-5pm

GED/HiSet Test Prep: [Village Enterprise Center | 26 Main St, Chester](#)

Thursdays 10am-noon

Computer Classes

Beginner Computer: VEC: 26 Main Street, Chester

Weekly, Wednesdays 10am- noon

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

Tuesday, October 9, 10am-noon

Open Computer Lab [Village Enterprise Center | 26a Main St, Chester](#)

Weekly: Tuesdays 10am to 12pm

Computer Basics: How to find Help when you need it: VEC, 26a Main St, Chester

Tuesday, October 23rd, 10am- noon

Excel for Beginners: with Randall Austin. VEC 26a Main Street, Chester

Tuesday and Wednesday, October 23 & 24, 6-8pm

Staying Safe on the Internet Russell Town Hall, 65 Main Street, Russell.

Tuesday, October 30, 6-8:00pm

Support for Small Businesses

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

Monday, October 1, 4-7:00pm

Grantwriting with Dave Christopolis, VEC, 26a Main Street, Chester

Tuesday, October 9, 6-8pm

Business Plan Workshop with Jeanne LeClair: VEC, 26a Main Street, Chester

Wednesday, October 17, 6-8pm

Selling on ETSY: Online Sales for Art and Vintage Items: VEC: 26a Main Street, Chester. 6:-8pm

Thurs & Friday October 25 & 26,

Jacobs Ladder Business Association (JLBA) Monthly Meeting High Hope Sugar House, Worthington 11:30am

Saturday, October 27th, 9 to

Photographing your products for Online Sales VEC: 26a Main Street, Chester.

Thursday, November 1, 6-8pm

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

Everything you need to know to start a small business with Dorine Lasky, Hilltown CDC, **387 Main Rd, Chesterfield** Thurs, October 4, 6-8pm

Website Workshop with Jeanne LeClair, 387 Main Rd, Chesterfield

Wednesday, October 10, 6-8pm

Intro to QuickBooks teacher Dorine Lasky, Hilltown CDC, **387 Main Rd, Chesterfield** Monday and Tuesday October 15 & 16, 6-8pm

Sustainability and Special Interest Classes

Aromatherapy & Skin Care: Topical Applications by Kay Judge. \$25 Material Fee, VEC, 26a Main Street Chester, Friday, October 19, 10am-noon

Cheesemaking at Home- 657 Huntington rd (Rt 20) Russell. Next to Countryside Woodcraft (**This class is full**) Thursday, October 11, 6-8:30pm

Hikes & other outdoor events

Narrated Hike of the Keystone Arch Trail by Dave Pierce of the Chester Foundation. Park the Chester elementary school and car pool to trail head. Parking is limited. Saturday October 6, 10:am – 12pm

****PUBLIC POWER WEEK** - OCTOBER 7-13, 2017**

Community-owned electric utilities around the country and the American Public Power Association will observe Public Power Week, October 7 through 13. Public Power Week is a national celebration of benefits of hometown, community-owned electric utilities. CMELD has served Chester for over 90 years and looks forward to serving this community's needs for many years to come. CMELD is committed to more than delivering power. Because we are locally owned and controlled, we're accountable only to you, our customers. You can count on us for safe, neighborly, and reliable service.

