

CHESTERFIELD TOWN HAPPENINGS November 2023



Board of Selectmen Notes November 2023

We are looking to hire for 2 positions in the Town of Chesterfield. Our long-time sexton is retiring and we will need a new sexton in the spring. Please see below in the Cemetery Commission news for a full description of this position.

Also, we are looking for an additional person in the Board of Selectman office.

Planning/Zoning & Office Secretary

The Town of Chesterfield is currently accepting applications and resumes for a full-time (35 - 40 hours) per week position with benefits. Starting pay is \$21.00/hr.

Duties will include but are not limited to: performing a variety of clerical, secretarial and administrative work, keeping official records, assisting in the administration of the standard operating procedures of the Town and providing administrative support to the Planning Board, Zoning Board and Selectmen's Office including the attendance of three evening meetings a month for minute taking. An employment application can be printed from the town website (www.nhchesterfield.nh.gov) or pick up an application at the Selectmen's Office 490 Route 63, Chesterfield, NH 03443. Drop-off or mail your application and/or resume to PO Box 175, Chesterfield, NH 03443, or email at townadmin@nhchesterfield.com

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Some residents have recently had issues getting on the town website. There is a problem associated with our hosting company and they have a solution posted on their website - <https://charlesworks.com/consolidated-communications-dns-issue-a-guide-for-charlesworks-customers/>.

NHDOT Intersection Collision Avoidance System Survey

The NHDOT has contacted the Town of Chesterfield and they are looking for feedback on the Intersection Collision Avoidance Systems they deployed around the State including the intersection of NH 9 and NH 63 in Chesterfield. Please take a minute to fill out the survey regarding the matter.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=719249356896847&set=a.2393352582215...>

TOWN OFFICE - HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2023

The Town Offices will be closed on the following dates:

Friday, November 10, 2023

Thursday, November 23, 2023

Monday December 25, 2023

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, November 1, 15 & 29 6:00 pm Town Office/Zoom
(Every other Wednesday)

Economic Development Committee

Thursday, November 9 6:00 pm Town Office
(2nd and 4th Thursdays)

Planning Board

Mondays, November 6 & 20 6:00 pm Town Office/Zoom
(1st and 3rd Mondays)

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Thursday, November 9 6:30 pm Town Office/Zoom
(3rd Thursday - hearings begin no earlier than 6:45 pm)

Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Commissioners

Monday, November 20 6:30 pm Center Fire Station
(3rd Monday)

Spofford Fire & Rescue Commissioners

Thursday, November 16 6:00 pm Spofford Fire Station
(3rd Thursday)

Library Board of Trustees

Tuesday, November 21 7:00 pm Chesterfield Library
(3rd Tuesday)

Conservation Commission

Monday, November 27 7:30 pm Town Office
(4th Monday)

Budget Committee

Tuesday, November 14 7:00 pm Town Office

Historical Society

Tuesday, November 28 7:00 pm Town Office

Chesterfield Revitalization Group

Monday, November 13 5:00 pm Town Office
(2nd Monday)

Watershed Committee

Thursday, November 19 9:30 am Town Office



A message from Chief Chickering -- As we start to see the seasons change from fall to winter, please remember that wet roads could lead to black ice. Also, please don't wait until the last minute to get your winter tires. I am sure you would rather get to your destination than sit next to the road with us waiting for a tow truck. Please drive safely and enjoy the upcoming holidays.

The Chesterfield Police Department is seeking Full Time Certified applicants to fill (3) Full-Time Police Officer Positions for the Town of Chesterfield NH.

Qualifications:

- An associate degree, or higher, from an accredited college or university, is preferred.
- A physical agility test, oral board interview, background investigation, psychological evaluation, medical evaluation, and polygraph examination are required.

The Town of Chesterfield does have a residency requirement. If you are not currently a resident of Chesterfield, you must live in New Hampshire within 30 miles of the Chesterfield Police Station which is located at 490 Route 63 Chesterfield NH.

Benefits:

We are offering a competitive benefits package and starting salary of \$58,000.00. and a \$10,000.000 sign on bonus for New Hampshire full-time certified officers and \$5,000.000 sign on bonus for non-certified officers.

Applications with cover letter and resume' should be mailed to P.O. Box 231 Chesterfield, NH. 03443 or dropped off at the police department; Attention: Chief Duane Chickering.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Even though we are currently experiencing some terrific fall weather, keep in mind that the ground will be freezing before long. Now is the time to place any winter grade stakes or driveway markers for winter plowing by the highway department. Also, please make sure your culverts are cleaned out before winter. Thank you!



The Transfer Station is now accepting credit card payments. We also accept checks but we do not accept cash payments. Thanks for your understanding.

The Recycle Center is open from 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM, please arrive no later than 4:15PM to dispose of your rubbish.

Please crush your plastic bottles before placing them in the dumpster to ensure there is more room!

TRANSFER STATION - HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2023

The Transfer Station will be CLOSED on the following dates:

Saturday, November 11, 2023
Wednesday, November 22, 2023
Tuesday, December 26, 2023

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

CHESTERFIELD TOWN CLERK



Town Clerk's Office

The holiday season is fast approaching and this means that the Town Clerk's Office may at times be short staffed or closed early on certain days. Please make sure to check the Town Clerk's Office Hours on the website for any changes from the normal schedule.

The town clerk's office will not have evening hours (4-7pm) on November 22nd and will be closed for Thanksgiving on November 23rd. We wish everyone a joyous and warm holiday!

CHESTERFIELD CEMETERY COMMISSION NEWS

The Cemetery Commission is seeking to fill the Sexton's position. The Sexton is responsible for maintenance and upkeep of twenty-four (24) cemeteries in the Town of Chesterfield, as well as mowing grounds of various town-owned properties. Performs skilled labor in the operation of all types of mowing equipment, as well as the operation and use of vehicles, trailers and related equipment to transport same. Duties are varied, and include light equipment operation and manual labor assignments with lifting up to 75 pounds. Minimum qualifications required include high school diploma or equivalent plus experience in the operation and maintenance of various types of mowing equipment. Possession of a valid driver's license. Willingness to be on call and ability to work outdoors under extreme weather conditions at certain times when necessary.

Send your resume to: The Chesterfield Cemetery Commission, Post Office Box 175, Chesterfield, NH 03443-0175 or email to mwinn3028@gmail.com.

NEWS FROM CHESTERFIELD HOUSING WORKING GROUP

The Chesterfield Housing Working Group (CHWG), operating as a working group of the Planning Board, continues to gather information on the housing inventory and future housing needs in the Town of Chesterfield. More hands are always needed and welcome in this endeavor! Please contact the Town Office if you would like to assist.

Data gathering events in the form of "dot surveys" and printed surveys are being utilized. Dot Surveys have been conducted at the farmer's market and in the hallway of the Town Office building. These surveys solicit input from residents about the perceived housing needs and desired solutions to housing issues in the Town.

The Dot Surveys simply ask a respondent to place a sticky dot on a board of choices indicating support or non-support of specific groups in need of housing and specific types of housing. Sticky notes are available for "off the board" comments or choices.

The printed surveys, available by email link or hardcopy, are a little more specific, linking socio-economic groups to the overall responses. The printed survey is structured in this way to allow the data to be gathered from a wide range of sources within the Town to help assure that everyone's voice is heard. Results can be submitted electronically to a blind tabulator or returned anonymously to the Town Office, assuring the respondents' privacy.

The gathering of information is ongoing. Any of the forms of the survey take only a few minutes to complete. If you have not completed a survey, please consider requesting an online or hardcopy survey from the Town Office or stop into the Town Office to participate in the Dot Survey.

Going forward the CHWG will share some trends emerging in the data, but at this early point it is important to get everyone's raw opinion without tainting the information pool with existing data.

If there is sufficient public interest in holding one or more public informational sessions the CHWG is prepared to schedule time to answer questions and explain the importance of the ongoing work. Please let the Town Office know of your interest in attending such sessions and watch Happenings or the Town website for more information.

Thank you for your help in helping to chart the future of Chesterfield!



Chesterfield Public Library

November 2023 Events

Everyone

Night Sky Viewing, Monday, November 6 at 6:00pm Erik Schmidt from the Keene Amateur Astronomy Club will be visiting the library to lead us in a tour of the night sky outside the library. Join us to view astronomical objects such as Saturn, Jupiter, the Galilean moons, globular clusters, nebulae and more using 12" Dobsonian and 8" Schmidt-Cassegrain telescopes! Dress warm, bring a chair, and hot chocolate will be

provided. Please note that this event is very weather dependent. Rain/cloud nights are Tues. 11/7-Thurs. 11/9. If you would like to be directly alerted to date changes please let us know in person or by phone/email and we will contact you.

Children/Youth

Monday Storytime, Mondays at 11:00am Join us for stories, songs, and crafts aimed at the preschool age group.

Library Art Club, Monday November 6th & 20th at 3:00 pm.

Advanced registration is required to attend this program. Come and listen to a story read by one of Chesterfield's librarians and then create a project led by Chesterfield Art Teacher Melanie Fedorowicz. All projects will connect to our monthly theme and we'll explore projects in materials such as clay, paint, and mixed media.

Family Game Night, Thursday November 16 at 6:00-8:00 pm.

Stop by the Library and play a board game with friends, family, or the librarians!

Middle Grade Book Club, Wednesday, November 29 at 3:00pm This event is open to Middle Grade readers. This month we are reading To Catch A Thief by Martha Brockenbrough. Join us for a book discussion—snacks are provided! Sign up for the program and pick up a copy at the front desk.

Teen Book Club, Thursday, November 30 at 4:00pm Open to ALL teens, 8th-12th Grade! Hang out and join our discussion —snacks are provided! This month we will read The Drowned Woods by Emily Lloyd-Jones. Pick up a copy at the front desk!

Adult

Makers Meeting, Tuesday November 7th at 11:00am Come talk to other creators in our community. Bring your lunch!

Chesterfield Quilting Guild, Monday, November 20 at 1:00pm 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.

Spice Club, Monday, November 13th at 6:00pm Join the Friends for an informal and fun hour presenting spices and recipes. This month we will feature Za'atar there will be something for you to taste! Join our group to receive a sample and learn new recipes.

Library Book Club, Tuesday, November 14 at 5:30 pm The library has a new book club for adults. This month we will discuss the novel Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver. Stop by the library to sign up and pick up a copy of the book!

Crochet Club, Thursday, November 16 at 11:00 am

Do you want to learn how to crochet, or craft with other crochet enthusiasts? Join us to learn a new project!

Family Game Night, Thursday, November 16 at 6:00pm

Stop by the Library and play a board game with friends, family, or the librarians!

Tech Drop-In, Wednesdays at 4pm 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, November 7 at 5:30pm 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

CONSERVATION COMMISSION NEWS

Due to the “early to arrive and last to leave” characteristics of the oriental bittersweet and glossy buckthorn, now is a great time to curtail their spread. As other plants lose their leaves, these two are easy to pick out in the landscape. At the very least, cutting the vines of the bittersweet at the base will help go a long way in saving your trees and shrubs from their aggressive growth. The glossy buckthorn, being a shrub or small tree, has a habit of replacing plants that have died off at the edge or an opening, gradually filling in the area with more buckthorn. If the plants are too big to pull,

cutting them at the base can give you some time in keeping them from creating a growing mass of buckthorn. Both plants, when small, can be up rooted but you want to leave them to dry out on a floor where they will not have a chance of re-rooting. You can also place them in a large plastic bag to dry out before discarding. If they have already producing berries, best to leave them until Spring. And marking with tape will make identifying them for future removal all the easier.

There are great resources online, with a few links available at the Chesterfield Conservation Commission web site.



We just finished up a very successful soccer season. Our 4-6th Graders participated in the Putney Tournament last weekend and did very well. We had 2 teams and Maroon finished in 4th place Coached by Greg Esslinger, Mike McCans and Stephanie Ericson. Our Blue team finished in 6th place and they were coached by Mitchell and Brittany Leet and Brad Sanderson. Great job everyone, Thanks to all parents, players and coaches for a great weekend and great sportsmanship.

Basketball season will start at the end of February, once the middle school season is completed as we share the gym with them. It will be grades 2-3 and 4-5 and we will be looking for coaches to help out with the program as it gets closer.

Yoga classes are still happening in the Town Hall on Tuesday Morning with Karen from 10:00-11:00 am and on Sunday morning with Erin 8:15-9:15 am.

Watch for information about a paint n sip at the Town Hall in November and we will do another Parents Night out in December.

Darlene
Park and Rec Director

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The EDC is proposing a **Chesterfield Business Expo** similar to the very successfully sponsored Creative Arts Fairs. This would focus on small businesses like plumbers, electricians, carpenters, appliance repair, landscapers, snow plowing, handymen, consultants, CPA's, bookkeepers, etc. The businesses will not be charged for a table and there will be no admission fee. The event will be held on an upcoming Saturday at the Town Hall. We need at least 12 (up to 20) participants. Right now, the EDC is looking for interested parties. The information we need from the participants is your type of business and any other information you wish to share. In trying to determine when to hold this event, we need input on what time of year is best for your participation. Feel free to include a range of months or if your work is seasonal, the range of months that you will not be available. Once we can establish a date, you will be notified. In the meantime, you may want to consider incentives that will draw customers in. Please send your information to EDC@nhchesterfield.com and you will be sent updates on the event's progress.

EDC will meet on November 9th, there is no meeting on November 26th due to Thanksgiving.

EDC is Sponsoring another:

Creative Chesterfield Artisan Fair

November 11th from 10AM – 2pm

Chesterfield Town Hall

Come Browse Handmade Crafts by 20 Vendors created in a Small Town by Big Talent

Free Event for all

Contact: EDC@nhchesterfield.com for more information.

Chesterfield Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Report – November 2023

Hurricane Season ends on November 1, 2023 – and Winter begins... According to the National Weather Service, this was a relatively quiet time for our region. We did have flooding and occasional high winds – and now winter is upon us so please make sure that you avoid mud roads, get your snow tires on and be more sensitive to driving speed

The Flooding May Have Impacted Your Wells – Have it tested with this link! According to WMUR, the recent heavy rains may have affected your wells. Test them here: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/environmental-health-and-you/water-testing>

Canadian Smoke issues and NH Air Purifier Rebates! The State of NH offers a 2023 Rebate for all certified ENERGY STAR Certified Room Air Purifiers (and, Dehumidifiers and Room Air Conditioners. Visit: <https://nhsaves.com/nh-rebates/>

OEM Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) provide power & shelter for you OEM is creating a THIRD OEM site to be at the Old Town Hall to complement the primary EOC at that OEM office and the secondary EOC at the Spofford Fire Station to serve our town.

Keep Your Pets Safe During Emergency Events! In the event of an evacuation for any reason, all citizens are responsible for their own pets. OEM has 5 clean cages for pets at the EOC, but please bring your own cages, food, etc. We will have very limited storage and accommodations for pets, but will do our best. Thank you

Follow Chesterfield Social Media Sites to Get the Latest News! Our Police Department has an active "Chesterfield NH Police Department Facebook Page" and our town has a very, very active "Chesterfield NH Facebook Page" – check them out!!

Chesterfield School Update! Sharyn reports that the school had a rated table top Active Shooter drill last spring and that teachers will be having additional training for school safety at the start of the school year.

Chesterfield OEM is working diligently to support our community! As our local government prepares for everyday emergencies, the number and scope of incidents can overwhelm conventional emergency services. We always can use new volunteers! *** For info about "your" OEM Office – Please contact us at OEM@NHChesterfield.com ***

Submitted by Ralph Petti, Director – Office of Emergency Management – Cell: 908.310.6381

News from Chesterfield School

Thursday, November 9th - Veteran's Day Celebration, 9:15 am
Monday, November 13th - School Board Meeting, 5:00 pm

Want to get involved? We love to have helpers in the school. If you have some time and would like to lend a hand please reach out to the school. There are many different ways to help support our students such as helping out in the lunchroom, volunteering in classrooms or chaperoning an activity or field trip.

November is a month where there are only 17 days of school. So little time to get so many things done. Each November our school lunch program puts on a special holiday meal. In years past we have had pies donated by families for this day. Every

student in the school may get a piece of pie. If you like to contribute please contact the school or drop off your pies by 10:00 am on Thursday, November 16th.

Community Events

Wednesday, November 8, 12:30 pm

Senior Luncheon at the Town Hall

Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, Gravy, Breads & Pies
For Reservations call (603) 363-9319, Suggested Donation is \$5
Please make your reservations by Friday, November 3rd.

Monday, November 6, 6:00 pm

Night Sky Viewing

Erik Schmidt from the Keene Amateur Astronomy Club will be visiting the library to lead us in a tour of the night sky outside the library. Join us to view astronomical objects such as Saturn, Jupiter, the Galilean moons, globular clusters, nebulae and more using 12" Dobsonian and 8" Schmidt-Cassegrain telescopes! Dress warm, bring a chair, and hot chocolate will be provided. Please note that this event is very weather dependent. Rain/cloud nights are Tues. 11/7-Thurs. 11/9. If you would like to be directly alerted to date changes please let us know in person or by phone/email and we will contact you.

Saturday, November 11, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Creative Chesterfield Artisan Fair

Come browse handmade crafts by 20 vendors created in a small town by big talent - free event for all

Saturday, November 18, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Asbury Church Craft Fair

The best local church craft fair is back and better than ever this year at Chesterfield School. Come check out the wares from more than 30 vendors!

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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