



# THE Cheshire Chatter

Cheshire Council on Aging  
PO Box 507 • Cheshire, MA 01225

May / June • 2023

## Smile! You're on Camera!

The Cheshire Police Department would like to announce the implementation of their Body-Worn Camera System. The department applied for and received a grant totaling \$34,872.00. This grant allowed them to purchase and place in-service seven Axon Body Worn Camera's along with the system to safely download and store the videos recorded.

On April 7, 2023 all officers received the final training. All of the Cheshire officers will be wearing the cameras and all incidents will be video and audio recorded. This is a huge step for the department for insuring the safety of the public and the officers behind the camera.

Chief Alibozek encourages residents to talk with officers when an opportunity presents itself. "If you see an officer, please feel free to take a look at our cameras and ask any questions you may have," he expressed.

Additionally, residents are reminded that they are always welcome to stop in and see the Chief with any question(s) every Tuesday night at the station from 4:00pm - 8:00pm or email him at [cpd@cheshire-ma.gov](mailto:cpd@cheshire-ma.gov).

## 2023 Annual Cheshire Memorial Day Parade

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate in the Annual Cheshire Memorial Day Parade. Cheshire is hoping for a really big turnout in recognition and honor of the significance of Memorial Day, as well as for the flag of the United States of America, which must be displayed on each vehicle, float, or marching group.

The Parade will take place on Monday, May 29, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. Lineup for the event will begin at noon at the former Cheshire Elementary School, 191 Church St. Parade route will follow be Church St., Dean St., Richmond St., Rt. 8 back to Church St., east to the War Memorial at Town Hall where a short ceremony will take place.

Contact [mfrancesconi@cheshire-ma.gov](mailto:mfrancesconi@cheshire-ma.gov) for more information or to register to participate.



*Officer Cody Alvarez is shown here sporting one of the new body cameras, which were recently purchased for the Cheshire Police Department. (See picture inset for greater visual detail.)*

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## Brenda's Thoughts

We had soooooo much fun making these cute little guys in March, just in time for Easter! How could you not love them? It's amazing what one can do with some socks, rice, felt, and embellishments! It was nice to see some new faces (and young faces) along with the ones who try to make it to all the crafting events.

The April crafting event was a flower pot painting/planting party; again with more new faces and lots of talent/variations/creativity.



Be sure to check out the activity & events calendars for more new events and the return of some favorites like the very popular card making with Lorraine. As well as the "matter of Balance" class which started Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup> and will continue on Monday for the next 8 weeks. There are currently 12 people signed up for the class, but there is room for more! See the information about that and other items of note on the next few pages.

The Cheshire COA for Active Living has events in-house as well as "on-the-road." A new group called the Hilltown Travelers has been formed that will be doing road trips. Be sure to read more about the group within this edition of The Cheshire Chatter.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

### COA Board Members

Robert Balawender .....	413.743.3356
John Bianchi .....	413.743.5723
Carol Francesconi .....	413.743.5028
Mal Gwozdz.....	413.743.9356
Liseann Karandisecky .....	413.743.7244
Barbara Proper .....	413.743.4945
Peter Traub .....	413.743.3496

### Alternate Board Members


Suzanne Boyle .....	413.743.5187
Val Tyska .....	413.743.3802

### Resources and Contacts

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Director	
Van Transport.....	413.446.2559
Car transport (Adams COA).....	413.743.8333
Medical appointments	

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# TOWNWIDE TAG SALE REMINDER

## *The Cheshire Community Tag Sale & Bazaar*

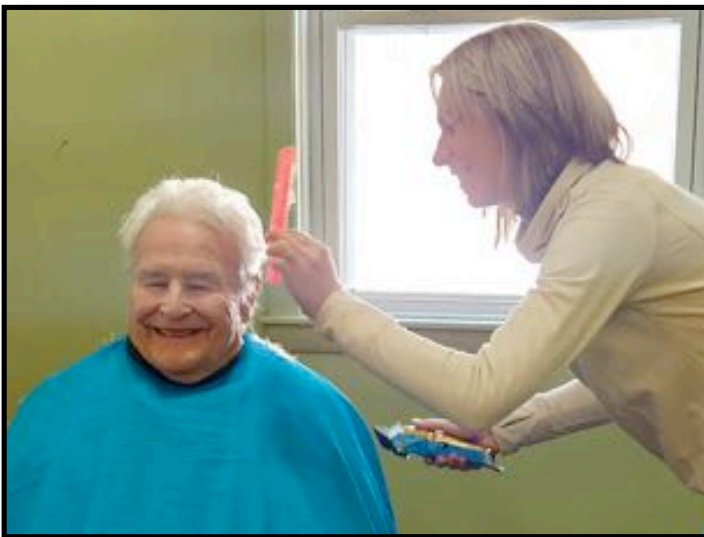
will be held

**Saturday, May 6th from 9AM until 2PM**

Bazaar Participants will be setup in the cafeteria of the former Cheshire elementary school.

Off-site participants who paid the \$5 fee will be listed on a special map, which will be available the day of event. Be sure to pick yours up at the Bazaar.

*Contact Jenny Gadbois for more information  
(413) 841-0844 • [jlgadbois@icloud.com](mailto:jlgadbois@icloud.com)*



Meraki Salon Stylists of Adams will be visiting the Center again in May and June to offer discounted haircuts for Seniors. The stylists are planning to make a monthly event at the center. Reserve your spot the make the cut! Contact Brenda at 743-9719.

## Plant Sale Set for May 20th

The Cheshire Garden Club is having their annual plant sale on May 20th at Shed's 'n' Stuff. We will be selling organic annuals, houseplants, vegetables, herbs, perennials, and our own fresh dug perennials. This sale supports our annual scholarship given to a Hoosac Valley High School graduating senior in the green industry or sciences.

If anyone is interested in becoming a new member, to share plant knowledge and help maintain some of the town gardens, they can sign up at the plant sale, or contact Autumn Mastroianni at: [mastroianni7382@roadrunner.com](mailto:mastroianni7382@roadrunner.com)

## Traveling Group Has Been Formed

A newly formed group called the Hilltown Travelers has created the following bus trips. If interested in going on a trip please contact the listed COA Planner.

**JUNE 23** - *Dutch Apple Cruise*, Peter Traub, 743-3496

**AUGUST 19** - *Jersey Boys*, Sarah Kline, 458-8250

**SEPTEMBER 21** - *Patsy Cline*, Pat Lescarbeau, 662-3125

**OCTOBER (TBD)** - *Weston VT Country Store*, Peter Traub, 743-3496

**NOVEMBER 7** - *Country Jamboree*, Mary Lamke 655-4137

**DECEMBER (TBD)** - *NYC Rockettes*, Mal Gwozdz 743-9356

CHRYSLER Jeep RAM DODGE

(413) 743-0014  
Rte 8 Cheshire, MA 01225 [www.bedardbros.com](http://www.bedardbros.com)

## Eighteen Bikes and Counting

by Patricia Gebarowski



*Leo Skubel*

After owning motor scooters, which were all the rage in the early 1960's, Leo Skubel decided to up his game.

He heard of a 1958 Harley Davidson motorcycle being sold by a guy he knew. He bought that bike in 1962 and he's just never looked back, racking up 356,000 miles on a series of motorcycles in the intervening years. It started a lifelong love of motorcycling and the joys of the open road.

There was a bit of a gap in his riding from Fall 2019 to June 2021 when his mobility had become increasingly impaired. He gave his new motorcycle away and was sure his riding days were over. But then, with two new hips, he's logged another 19,000 miles since June 2021 when he started riding again.

He can talk with you and recite the type of bike, the year, the mileage, the cost of it, and where it came from by memory

without missing a beat.

The Vespa motor scooter came from Shapiros in North Adams, a model costing \$521. It ran on a mixture of gas and oil. With a 160 cc engine, it got 35 miles to the gallon.



*The Puch*

Then came a Puch (pook) scooter, 49 cc motor, bought from Sears and Roebuck in Allendale that cost \$269.

It didn't even need to be registered to be on the road.

But low horsepower engines were lacking something.

The powerful motorcycles roaring by him on the highway were a different thing altogether.

At age 25, on his Harley the freedom was exhilarating and he's never lost that feeling when he's on a bike.

In 1964, another Harley, a 1945 1,000cc machine was purchased in a private sale that he only rode for 1,000 miles.

In '65 and '66 there were Triumph Bonneville 650s, from Grangers in Northampton, blue and silver, with two carburetors, new costing \$1030. He put 14,000 and 15,000 miles on those two.

In '67 and '68, there were two more Triumphs, TR6s, single

carburetors. 14,000 miles were ridden on each.

In '69 and '70 two more 500cc Triumphs, 10,000 and 9,000 miles logged on each.

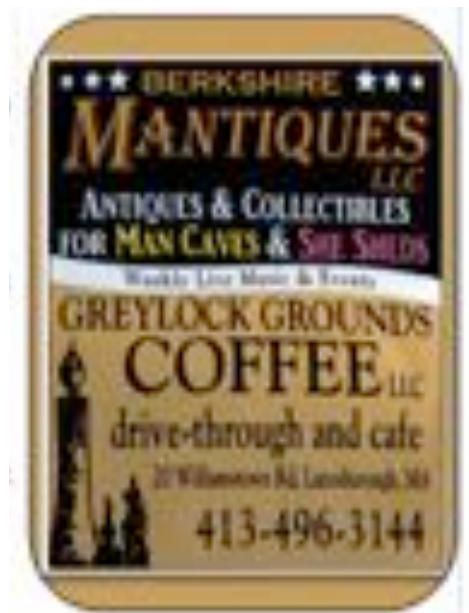
Leo wishes he had kept the 1970 model. The American Pickers found one with extremely low mileage, saying it was worth \$70,000.

In '71 there was a 450 Honda and he drove that one 31,000 miles. That was also bought from Ray Goodrich in Hoosick Falls. He kept that one until the fall of 1978. The problem he had with it was a broken chain in the engine. He ended up giving it to the Goodrich mechanic.

Then there was a '91 Honda 750 Nighthawk picked up in Belchertown. He put 52,500 miles on that one over the next eight years.

Next was a 2000 650 Kawasaki from Ronnie's cycle riding 14,000 miles on that one.

Two years later in 2002,



another 750 Honda Nighthawk caught his eye at Ronnie's. He rode that one for 60,000 miles until 2009.

A 250 Yamaha from Ray's in Greenfield replaced it. It was good for 41,500 miles.

In 2014, He bought another Harley, a Sportster 883, to replace the Yamaha. He rode 42,500 miles on it and gave it to a young relative in November of 2018 who's still riding it.

Next was a 2019 Suzuki 650. Leo rode it 10,000 miles in spite of increasing hip pain until he couldn't ride it anymore and he gifted that one as well.

After two hip replacements in late 2020 and 2021, he was back on the bike 48 days after the second hip replacement in the spring of 2021.

He needed to be on a bike again. But the pandemic was upon us and new bikes were hard to find.

A 2007 Suzuki 650 was for sale privately. He's had that one since, putting 19,500 miles on it. He put it up for the winter in December 2022. He will be on the road again on his trusty 2007 Suzuki and plans to get a new bike soon. He's not sure what the next one will be.

Leo says, over the years, the improvements in motorcycles have been steady. In his opinion, the most significant being that they are belt and not chain driven now. The new ones need less maintenance because of that. The brakes haven't changed much, tires wear differently according to how the rider uses his bike. Off-roading can be hard on tires. Leo prefers, mostly highway riding, just cruising wherever he pleases and he doesn't really have a favorite route or destination. He's happy just to be out there. He's never been in a biker club, sometimes enjoying a ride with a friend.



From 1961 to 1975 Leo was a mason tender for Roger Nadeau Construction in Springfield, staying there during the week and coming back home to Cheshire on the weekends. From early Spring to late Fall, the motorcycle was how he commuted.

He was very happy to have that form of transportation in 1973 and 1974, during the energy crisis when gas was so expensive and rationed. Getting 50 miles per gallon was great.

Considering all the years and all the miles only a few mishaps have occurred. Once on a construction site in Longmeadow "showing off" he says, he gunned the bike, losing control and was thrown but not hurt. The only damage was his broken glasses and his ego. That was in April 1967 one month before the Massachusetts helmet law requirement went into effect in May of 1967. Although he didn't usually wear a helmet when it wasn't mandatory, that day he had one on, and it saved Leo from serious head injury.

Another time he skidded on gravel on the road and went down with the bike on his left side. He was saved from serious injury because the leather wallet he carried in his left back pocket took the force.

There was also an incident at a stoplight where he got rear ended, which caused him to be thrown from the bike, but again he was unscathed. When asked if he would consider getting a three-wheel bike this time he shook his head. No, they're not as maneuverable, he believes.

When pressed to name his favorite bike of all the ones he owned, his '65 Triumph is the one he loved best. It's the image depicted on his gravestone at Cheshire cemetery.

He plans to keep riding as long as he can, and now in his 87th year, you may see him flash by on a shiny new bike one day soon.

# A Bit More History About The Cheshire Library and The Cheshire Library Association

*From:* History of the Town of Cheshire by Mrs. Ellen M. Raynor, Mrs. Emma Petictlerc, Judge James M. Baker (Introductory Chapter), 1885; History of Cheshire Massachusetts 1793-1993; Multiple Town of Cheshire Annual Reports; and annual notes from the Cheshire Library Association

Remember: "The present library was organized in 1866 through the efforts of Ed D. Foster and was known as the Cheshire Library Association. It was formed as a corporation under the laws of Massachusetts. Shares were sold for \$5 and taxes were \$1 per year, payable in two payments. The first meeting of the new association was held on December 3, 1866. A committee of five was chosen to draft the Constitution and By-Laws which were adopted article by article (12 articles). In 1867, a small two-room building located on a hill west of the Universalist Church was purchased for \$130 and the library was open Saturday afternoons and evenings from 2:00 till 8:00 PM. Miss Kate Richmond was paid a salary of 50 cents per week. This two room building was used until 1898 when the present town building was erected in the center of town. The small library building was removed to Depot Street and used as a Town Office. Miss Emma Martin, the last Librarian in the old Library became the first Librarian in the new building and served the town as such for some 45 years. A bookplate recording 'Cheshire Library' and dated 1796 was given to the Cheshire Library several years ago by Mrs. Burlingame of Adams. The bookplate of '[The Adventures of] Roderick Random' by Tobias Smellet is worth noting:

Cheshire Library .....No. 68  
 Brought A.D. 1796 ..... Price 10 schillings  
 This book may be kept out of the library for 30 days. For keeping it longer, ..... 3¢ a day  
 For turning down a leaf or corner of a leaf, ..5¢  
 For a drop of tallow or grease dropped on it, 9¢  
 For bending back or warping the corners so as to damage the binding, ..... 18¢.  
 For sullyng the readings or covers, ..... 9¢.  
 For each scratch on the cover to damage the book, ..... 9¢.

For tearing book, one-third the value of the book, with other penalties in the By-Laws.

Library/Town Hall Combined At a special meeting of the Cheshire Library Association on April 16, 1898 it was voted to unite with the town to build a building, a portion of which, on the south side for good lighting, was to be used for library purposes. The agreement was that the Library would donate \$2500 towards the building and the town would supply the other half of the \$5000 to build the building. Mr. W. G. Waterman, a former resident, sent a check for \$275 to be used toward expenses. Arrangements were made and the building was erected in 1898. The use of the library was to be free to all town citizens and funds for support of the Library was to be received from a Dog Tax. Interest from money left to the Library in former years by 'Will or in Memory' was also added to the fund to purchase books.

Cheshire Ladies Reading Club On December 5, 1879 at the home of Mrs. George Z. Dean, the Cheshire Ladies Club was organized with 26 members. Mrs. Emma Petictlerc, who five years later co-authored the 'Cheshire History', was chosen as president. Their by-laws stated their object was literary improvement and culture. They met weekly, with no dues but a five cent fine was imposed for absence. Their programs were varied with speakers addressing the club on many subjects. Through the years, books read at meetings have been donated to the library, additionally, a book on a subject of special interest to a deceased member is purchased and given to the library in memory of a deceased member. The club is regarded as one of the oldest reading clubs in existence in America."

**From Annual Reports:**

1997 "Without aid from the Massachusetts state and regional system, the library could not serve you, the people of Cheshire, as you have shown you want and need it to do. The system of state aid is based on use and town funding. The people of Cheshire should realize that their commitment will determine the state's assistance; if the people of

Cheshire desire a library which will help them, they must help the library.

1998 "The state has raised the requirements for library directors in towns under 10,000 population – they must now hold a full bachelor's degree as well as completing state run courses in library operation."

2000 "The year 2000 marked the one hundredth anniversary of the library being located in the Cheshire Town Hall."

2004 "It is heartening to the Cheshire Library Association to see that in the age of electronic media wonders, the Library continues to be a regular destination for many adults and children of our community."

2005 "March 2005 brought news that the library was the chosen recipient of the Martin Luther King Book Award." Also: "Two boxes of children's books [were packed] to donate to Feed the Children program, which were added to other school supplies from C.T. Plunkett School, and sent to children affected by the floods caused by Hurricane Katrina."

2012 "November 1, 2012 marked the initiation of the Cheshire Library circulating items via computer through C/WMARS (the Central and Western Massachusetts Resource Sharing Network)."

2017 "New this year is our 'Little Library' which is located in Leland Park, across from the Cheshire Post Office. Now anyone can get a book at any time."

2019 "The library continues the service project of 'Boxes of Love' for the military. The Cabin Fever Program was again offered to adult, young adult and children. A new addition to our library was STEAM SPACE. An area has been set-up that features STEAM themed activities."

2021 "Cheshire Library has a page on Facebook. The Page is used for updates and notices, as well as posting on the Town Website, [www.cheshire-ma.gov](http://www.cheshire-ma.gov) and the Cheshire Fire Department digital board."

Past and Present Devoted Members (25+ years) of the Board: Miss Emma Martin-45 years, Miss Jessie Cole-41 years, Carmen Girard-40 years, Lois Leonard-40 years, Thelma Parker-40 years, Inez Jepson-30 years, Jack Girard-28 years, Harold Reynolds-27 years.

2023 Today, the Cheshire Library Association, Director, and volunteers strive to make the Cheshire

Library relevant, available, accessible, and technically up-to-date. There are 649 current patrons, fiction and non-fiction books, magazines, DVDs, Blu-ray, e-books, and audio books. The Cheshire Public Library curates 11,251 items (10,525 titles). Interlibrary loans allow patrons to check out print and other media from libraries across western Massachusetts and beyond through CW MARS (Central and Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing) system. There is a convenient drop box for after hour returns. Over recent years, The Boston Museum of Science program has presented Rockets - Then and Back Again, Blizzard, and planetarium programs. There is an adult Facebook club and the Library allows Wi-Fi access and services to hikers. Presentations from Beekeeping, to Erratic Wanderings, and many topics in between continue to engage patrons with local entrepreneurs, authors, bakers, historians, and artists. The Fire Department, Police Department, and Adams Ambulance Service have all presented and along with youth and adult reading programs, Cheshire Library patrons enjoy access to important as well as for-pleasure opportunities. Library cards are free; with a library card Cheshire residents can use discount or free passes to: The Berkshire Museum, The Francis and Sterling Clark Museum. MASS MoCA, Hancock Shaker Village, and Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory.

The Cheshire Public Library and the Cheshire Library Association have long histories thanks to the decades of inspiration and dedicated service by select boards, trustees, library directors, volunteers, donors, patrons, and the Cheshire Community in general who appreciate the importance of a viable town library. 2023 is the 125th Anniversary of The Cheshire Public Library at its present location.





# MEMORIAL DAY ESSAY CONTEST

ADAMS & CHESHIRE ARE RUNNING AN ESSAY CONTEST FOR MEMORIAL DAY  
SHORT ESSAY THEME "WHAT MEMORIAL DAY MEANS TO ME"

THREE ENTRANCE CATEGORIES

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (GRADES K-3) | MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 4-8) | HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9-12)

## RULES:

OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN WHO LIVE IN  
ADAMS AND CHESHIRE REGARDLESS  
OF WHICH SCHOOL THEY ATTEND!

ALL SHORT ESSAYS SHOULD BE  
BETWEEN 50 - 200 WORDS.

ALL ESSAYS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE  
APPROPRIATE ADDRESS LISTED ON THIS PAGE  
BY MAY 1ST

PLEASE INCLUDE STUDENT'S NAME, AGE, GRADE, SCHOOL, AND  
PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT INFORMATION

STUDENTS WHO LIVE IN ADAMS  
MAIL ESSAYS TO:

Essay Contest  
c/o Keith McLearn  
160 Forest Park Ave.  
Adams, MA 01220

STUDENTS WHO LIVE IN CHESHIRE  
MAIL ESSAYS TO:

Essay Contest  
c/o Bob Balawender  
271 Notch Rd.  
Cheshire, MA 01225

WINNING STUDENTS WILL READ THEIR ESSAYS AT THE MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY IN THEIR TOWN AND RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL PRIZE  
RUNNER UP ESSAYS WILL BE PUBLISHED ONLINE AND/OR IN PRINT

## GETTYSBURG ADDRESS - WE ARE SEEKING ONE STUDENT IN EACH COMMUNITY TO READ

Students in grades 5 and above who are interested in reading the Gettysburg Address on Memorial Day, should submit a letter of interest accompanied by a written recommendation by a teacher. Please mail letters to the appropriate address listed above by May 1st.

FOR MORE INFO CALL BOB BALAWENDER - CHESHIRE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE COMMITTEE - 413-743-3356





## Saint Patrick's Day fun

The Cheshire COA event was festive and well attended. Davis Bates presented attendees with a program of stories, song and laughter. Good friends, good fun and good food; for what more can one ask?



*"Lighten Up" is the band shown above, with Davis Bates at right.*

## Become a Friend of the Cheshire Council on Aging

The Friends of the Cheshire Council on Aging provide financial and other support serving the needs of the senior population of Cheshire. By become a "Friend" and paying a ten-dollar annual membership fee, you will be supporting the activities of our seniors.

All non-profits are receiving less money from the government so the need to provide financial support from other sources has become critical. The "Friends" support activities that the Town is unable to finance. Here is a partial list of activities the "Friends" have helped financially support this past year:

- A presentations by local authors, speakers and entertainers.
- The annual nonagenarian birthday party.
- The monthly birthday lunches.
- The Cheshire Food Pantry.
- Cultural events such as plays at local theatres and trips to area museums.
- The purchase of ice cream certificates in support of the annual flag ceremony.

As a "Friend," any monetary support provided is most appreciated. For further information, please contact Ed or Pam St. John in one of the following ways:

Mail: 4 Edmunds Street, Unit N101,  
Adams, MA 01220

Phone: 413.743.5183

E-mail: estjohn1@roadrunner.com

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# Special Events

**Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup> 2-3:30** - *Matter of Balance*: new activity at the Center (every Monday for 7 more weeks) Free. A Matter of Balance is a program designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels among older adults. There are currently 12 participants signed up with plenty of room for more! Did we mention, it's FREE.

**TOWN ELECTIONS** at former Elementary School Cafeteria, 191 Church Street.

**Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> 9:00 - 2:00** - *Townwide Tag Sale and Bazaar*. Start at the former Cheshire Elementary School, get a map, and attend the various tag sales around Cheshire.

**Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.** - *Foot Clinic* - Eleven people have signed up currently; call the center to reserve your spot. There is a fee for this service. 743-9719

**Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 1:00** - *Card Making with Lorraine* 1:00. Most everyone appreciates a handmade sentiment. Join in the fun of creating some lovely cards for sharing. This is an all-occasion class where attendees will make three cards each, includes envelopes. Fee of \$5 to participate.

**Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup> 11:30 - Noon** - *Brown Bag* Pick up from Senior Center. Call to sign up 743-9719.

**Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> 1:00** - *Memorial Day Parade* Line-up begins at noon at 191 Church Street.

*Cheshire Library open house*. Stop by and see new history display.



**Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup> 5:30 pm** - *Sheryl Faye Presents* a historical rendition of Clara Barton at senior center with a light dinner and drinks supplied. Clara Barton was a Civil War Nurse and Red Cross Founder. Cost is \$10 with dinner serving at 5:30 p.m. and show beginning at 6:30 p.m.

**Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm** - *Annual Town Meeting* at former Cheshire Elementary Cafeteria, 191 Church Street.

**Friday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> 11:30 - Noon** - *Brown Bag* Pick up from Senior Center on Church Street. Call Brenda to sign up 743-9719.



**Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup> 2:00** - *Cabaret @ Barrington Stage Co* A Theatrical presentation based on the book by Joe Masteroff. Ticket price is \$15 for Friends of Cheshire members and \$25 for non-members. Transportation is not provided for this event. Contact the Senior Center for tickets to the show and to get more information 743-9719.

Transportation is not provided for this event. Contact the Senior Center for tickets to the show and to get more information 743-9719.

Book Signing By Author  
**DENNIS G. PREGENT**

*For his book*

**BERKSHIRE PATRIOTS  
STORIES OF SACRIFICE**

**Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 6 p.m.**  
**Adams Free Library**  
92 Park Street • Adams, MA

## KEVIN O'HARA PRESENTS

Renowned Author & Humorist Kevin O'Hara will be presenting excerpts from his latest book "Ins and Outs of a Locked Ward." He will appear at the

**ADAMS VISITORS CENTER**  
**3 Hoosac Street • Adams, MA**  
**May 31<sup>st</sup> at 12:30 p.m.**

*This event is sponsored by the Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire and by The Friends of the Adams Council on Aging.*

## ~ Community Notes ~

**Town Clerk-** The 2023 Cheshire Dog Licenses are due beginning April 1<sup>st</sup>. Dogs not licensed by June 1<sup>st</sup> will have a Late Fee of \$15 added to the cost of the licenses. PLEASE LICENSE YOUR DOG.

- Annual Town Election, Monday, May 1st, 2023. Polls open: 9:00 am to 7:00 pm. Polls location: Cheshire Elementary School Cafeteria
- Annual Town Meeting, Monday, June 13th, 2023. Cheshire Elementary School Cafeteria

**Cheshire Library** - On April 25th the Cupcake Kick-off Celebration of the 125th Anniversary of Cheshire Library with cupcakes and other fun events occurred at the library to launch our year long celebrations.

May 6th we will be part of the Community Tag sale.

Memorial Day we will be hosting an Open House during the Cheshire Memorial Day Parade festivities with a new display of history memorabilia and remembrances.

Mid-June will launch the Summer Reading Program "Find Your Voice." All ages are invited to sign up for a reward and prize based program.



### Cheshire Lions Club -

The Cheshire Lions Club remains an active contributor to our community during these trying times. We are always

looking for new members. Among our contributions, we support ongoing eye research efforts. We have also supported numerous local organizations such as the Youth Center, the Friends of the Cheshire Council on Aging, the Cheshire Fire Department and various charitable organizations and athletic teams. We donate annual scholarships to Cheshire graduates from Hoosac Valley High School, McCann Technical School and BART. Every year, during the Christmas season, we conduct our Give A Gift program to provide those in need, local families and seniors, with Christmas gifts. Our club also installs and cares for the American flags located throughout the town. If you are interested in joining or would like more information or have any questions, please contact Jennifer Waterman at [jen@watermanexcavating.com](mailto:jen@watermanexcavating.com).

Story Time is an ongoing program for preschool and home school children to attend on Tuesdays at 11am. We read themed stories and do a related craft, art piece or project. No sign up required.

Find specific dates/times of all our Cheshire Library sponsored Events on our Facebook page.

**Cheshire Ladies' Reading Club** - Since 1879, the Cheshire Ladies Reading Club has met on a regular biweekly schedule, electing our officers, reading entertaining and enlightening works at the meetings, increasing our knowledge of history, and sharing favorite poems. As we are a reading club, books are read by the members at the meetings.

With the surge in viral activity lately, we have resumed meeting remotely via Google Meet. It's quite user friendly and anyone with email can join. This allows us to continue the long-standing club tradition while assuring safety for our members.

If you are interested in learning more about our group, please contact Pat Gebarowski at [patandgene@gmail.com](mailto:patandgene@gmail.com), 413-743-2177 or 413-242-4663 for more information.

**Historical Commission** - In Cheshire's earliest days (and throughout America), outlying settlers lacked good roads and reliable transportation. Some also followed no church affiliation.

For these and other reasons, a family cemetery plot was sometimes on that family's own home acreage.

Several such small cemeteries exist in Cheshire. However, each of them is on private property. So, while the Historical Commission has verified their existence, they are not available for public viewing without permission.

We are grateful to the property owners for their respectful treatment of these resting places.

**Cheshire Pantry** - In collaboration with the Cheshire Fire Department- The Cheshire Pantry is located in the kitchen of Cheshire Elementary School.

We are open to any Cheshire resident of any age on the first Saturday of every month from 11 am to 12 noon. Pick up will occur in the circle in front of Cheshire School. Delivery is available to anyone without transportation.

Emergency food is also available by calling 743-5028.

Monetary donations and nonperishable food may still be left at the Senior Community Center for later pick up by Pantry personnel.

## Cheshire COA Center for Active Living

**CHP Mobile Health Van** - The CHP medical van is scheduled for Wednesday, May 17 9-12 and Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. Please follow our Facebook page for dates and times as they sometimes change. CHP Mobile Health Unit staff offers blood pressure checks, A1C screenings, cholesterol checks and "sick" visits on top of typical and annual vaccinations. No appointment needed and open to anyone. You may also call Brenda with any questions at the COA office @ 413-743-9719.



**Cheshire COA Van** -The COA Cheshire Center for Active Living van is available Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Please call 24 hours before to schedule a ride. A \$3.00 donation is appreciated. Call: (413) 446-2559.

**The Café at 119 School Street, Cheshire** - Hot Lunch for Seniors - The Elder Services lunches will be served Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays inside at 11:30am with the Grab n Go meals to continue five days a week if there is a need. To reserve your meal, call 743-9719 at least 24 hours in advance. Suggested Meal Donation of \$3.00 for those 60 and over.



**Bingo**- Every Tuesday at 12:30, \$1 per card

**Brown Bag** - Free paper bag of food available on the 4th Friday of each month between 11:30am and 12:30pm. Dates are May 26<sup>th</sup> and June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Contact Brenda to sign up.

**Morning Exercise** - 9am -10am Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Come join the group.

**Chair Yoga** - 10am -11am Fridays, Led by Maryann Kuffs

**Blood Pressure Readings** - 10am -11am Mon., Wed., and Fri.; performed by Mal & Carol

**Foot Clinic** - The Foot Clinic will be scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup> 8:30am - 1pm. Sorry, no walk-ins - appointments only (11 people have currently signed up). It is held inside the Center. Call Brenda @ 413-743-9719 to schedule an appointment and for protocol. There is a fee for this clinic.

**Quilting** - Quilting and all stitches are welcome on the second and fourth Thursday of the month, 1pm-3pm led by Betty King. (\$5 suggested donation to benefit the Cheshire Pantry.)

**Cheshire Senior Club** - Members and have a monthly chance to get out and have some fun and friendship. In the next two months they will be going to the Golden Eagle and Ozzies restaurants. And who knows, maybe one of the group will come up with a place to visit for a spring field trip. We meet every Wednesday after lunch about 12:30 PM at the Senior Center. Drop by and hang out for a meeting, they're fun and you can be yourself. Questions, or for information call Gene @ 743-2177.

**Community Book Club** - The Club continues to meet at the Community Center every second Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM. If you enjoy discussing books you've read or just enjoy listening to discussions about books in the current orbit of attention, please join us. Bring a friend.

**Senior Haircuts** - 10 a.m. - Noon. Haircuts by Meraki Salon Stylists of Adams. Discounted Senior cost is \$20. Call center to book your appointments for Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup> and Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup>.

# May

# 2023

## Cheshire COA Calendar of Events



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
Blood pressure readings available @ Senior Center M-W-F 10-11	Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Matter of Balance 2-3:30 Town Elections	Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:30	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior club 12:30	Grab-n-Go 10-12	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11	Cheshire Pantry 11-12 Town-wide Tag Sale 9-2
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
	Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Matter of Balance 2-3:30	Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:30	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior club 12:30	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Quilting 1-3:30 Community Book Club 6pm	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11	
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
	Exercise 9-10 Haircuts 10-12 Lunch 11:30 Matter of Balance 2-3:30	Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:30	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior club 12:30 CHP Van 9-12	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Foot Clinic 8:30am - 1pm Card Making 1pm	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11	
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
	Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Matter of Balance 2-3:30	Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:30	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior club 12:30	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Quilting 1-3:30	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11 Brown Bag 11:30	
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			
	Center Closed for Memorial Day Parade @ 1 pm Cheshire Library Open House	Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:30	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior club 12:30	Storytime @ Cheshire Library every Tuesday at 11 am for pre-school and home-school children  Check Facebook for updates/changes in events or to see other events that may be added after publication.		

# June

# 2023

## Cheshire COA Calendar of Events



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Blood pressure readings available @ Senior Center M-W-F 10-11	Storytime @ Cheshire Library every Tuesday at 11 am for pre-school and home-school children. Summer reading program launches mid-June ----- Check Facebook for updates/changes in events or to see other events that may be added after publication.			<b>1</b> Grab-n-Go 10-12	<b>2</b> Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11	<b>3</b> Cheshire Pantry 11-12
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Matter of Balance 2-3:30	<b>6</b> Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:30	<b>7</b> Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior club 12:30	<b>8</b> Grab-n-Go 10-12 Quilting 1-3:30 Community Book Club 6pm	<b>9</b> Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11 Sheryl Faye Presentation 5:30 -7:30pm	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Haircuts 10-12 Balance 2-3:30 Town Meeting 6pm	<b>13</b> Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:30	<b>14</b> Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior club 12:30	<b>15</b> Grab-n-Go 10-12 CHP Van 9-12	<b>16</b> Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Matter of Balance 2-3:30	<b>20</b> Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:30	<b>21</b> Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior club 12:30	<b>22</b> Grab-n-Go 10-12 Quilting 1-3:30	<b>23</b> Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11 Brown Bag 11:30	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> Cabaret @ Barrington Stage Co. 2pm	<b>26</b> Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30	<b>27</b> Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:30	<b>28</b> Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior club 12:30	<b>29</b> Grab-n-Go 10-12	<b>30</b> Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11	