



# THE Cheshire Chatter

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

September / October • 2023

## The Town of Cheshire has New Hires, Prepares for Move

by Jennifer Morse



Shown here from left to right are the new hires :  
Corey McGrath, Whitney Flynn and Corey Swistak.

### Town Hires for New Position: Department of Public Works Director

Corey McGrath was hired by the Board of Selectmen to serve as the First Department of Public Works Director. Corey will oversee the day-to-day operations of the Highway Department, Facilities, Cemetery Groundskeepers, Water Department and Transfer Station. Corey has worked for the Town since January 2022 as a Water Laborer and Facilities Manager.

As Facilities Manager for a little over a year he oversaw large building projects including the installation of the new heating systems at the Community House and Fire Station, Heat Pump Upgrades and Weatherization at the Police Station, Generator Installation at the Highway Garage, LED Upgrade at the Community House and the popular Festival of Trees event. Corey's skill set, enthusiasm, team approach and love for the community are some of the reasons why he was chosen for this evolving position.

The DPW Director Office will be located at the Community House (former Cheshire Elementary School) by mid-September. Corey lives in Cheshire with his wife and children. Corey can be reached at [dpw@cheshire-ma.gov](mailto:dpw@cheshire-ma.gov) or 413-743-1690.

### Municipal Clerk and Assistant Treasurer/Collector

Whitney Flynn was hired by the Board of Selectmen to serve as Municipal Clerk (working with various boards) and Assistant Treasurer/Collector.

This position was created based on the recommendation of the Financial Management Review

conducted by the Department or Revenue in September 2022.

Whitney comes to the Town of Cheshire after working for six years with the Adams Water District, her vast knowledge of water operations and collection is a great asset to the Town. Whitney lives on Dean Street with her husband and two small children. Please stop in to meet with Whitney and welcome her to her new position.

### Highway Foreman

Corey Swistak was hired by the Board of Selectmen to serve as Highway Foreman. Corey has been working for the Highway Department since November 2019, serving as Co-Interim Superintendent since November 2022. Corey serves as Assistant Fire Chief, EMT and Emergency Management Director for the Town of Cheshire. Corey lives in Cheshire with his wife and daughter.

### Other News

Town Offices will begin to transition to the Community House (former Cheshire Elementary School) in September and October, updates will be available on the website and on facebook.

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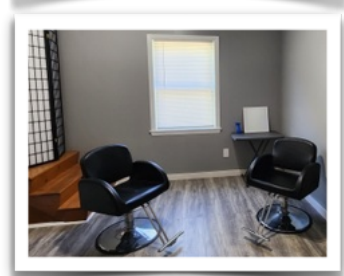
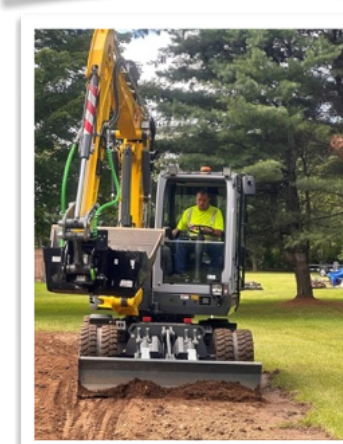
## Brenda's Thoughts

There has been SO MUCH happening these past couple of months; it seems Summer is quickly slipping away. In just a couple of weeks, we will be celebrating the arrival of Fall. The leaves will be changing and there will be Fall Bazaars from now until (nearly) Christmas. The mums will burst into their fall displays, scarecrows, pumpkins and a host of other types of autumn decor will begin popping up throughout the community.

Special mention should be given in regards to the BBQ/Cookouts the Center has been having over the summer. There will be two more in September and then the Center will be having "Homemade Soup and Sandwich Days, beginning in October. Both of these are in addition to the Grab-n-Go lunches.

The group that congregated for the Sunflower Clothespin Wreath making had lots of fun putting their own personal twist on their creations. While similar, each one was its own work of art!

There was also a sizable bunch of crafters who came to the Card Making Class sponsored by Lorraine Faucher. She will be hosting another class at the Senior Center on October 19th. Be sure to secure your spot to participate by calling the center 743-9719.



How does that song go.... "Seasons change and so do I..." Well, not me per say, but there have been some changes happening at the Senior Center.

A big change has been the ground-breaking for the pickleball court.

Another is the redesign of the "off-stage" room to accommodate the ladies who come each month from Meraki Salon of Adams. Does it need a name? I'm open for suggestions: "Hair, Stage Right" (theater theme) or maybe "The Hair Station."

*Clockwise from top left: Card-making with Lorraine, Sunflower & Clothespin Wreaths, New Stylist Room, Breaking ground for Pickleball Court.*

### 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

Brenda Caufield .....413.743.9719  
 Director  
 Van Transport.....413.446.2559  
 Car transport (Adams COA) .....413.743.8333  
 Medical appointments

The Cheshire Chatter is published by Beck's Printing in North Adams, MA and is partially paid with funding from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs.

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*Bingo is held every Tuesday after lunch. Join the fun!*

Check out the calendars, community notes, special events and COA pages to get information for the scheduled events of September/October Find and like the Cheshire COA page on Facebook to keep up with changes and updates.

**Happy Fall!**



# 90's Birthday Party aka Nonagenarian

The 90's Birthday Party also known as the Nonagenarian Party was once again celebrated at the Bounti Fare. Present at this year's celebration were five

Cheshire residents: Charles Massaconi (99), Ray Moffett (92), George (93) and Genevieve (90) Beckwith and Lois Eagle (91). -

shown at right. They were joined by a host of friends and family to mark this happy occasion, as depicted in the other photos.



*From top left, these are the five that celebrated their 90th birthday: CHARLES MASSACONI 99. RAY MOFFETT 92. GEORGE 93 and GENEVIEVE 90 BECKWITH, and LOIS NAGLE 91.*



## In Service To The Community

by Patricia Gebarowski



*Carol Francesconi*

*Community minded, wears many hats*

Between shopping trips to buy food to stock the Cheshire Food Pantry, Carol Francesconi stopped briefly to sit for an interview.

About three days a week she shops at various local food markets to keep the Food Pantry stocked with the goods that provide at least eight meals per family with each monthly distribution. When Carol and cofounder Carole Hilderbrand decided to start the food pantry it was done with a food drive from the community. About seven residents showed up to collect the food that first time four years ago. Since then, with the help of 10 volunteers, monetary donations, and several grants to keep it going, the monthly distributions now help about 90 recipients each month. Carol is very proud of recently being awarded 501(c)(3) status for the Pantry as a nonprofit entity, accomplished with the help

of attorney Edmund St. John. That also means that a tax exempt number can be obtained from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts so that certain goods purchased will no longer need tax paid on them and that savings can go toward more goods to be purchased for the Food Pantry.

When she's not working for the food pantry, Carol serves as the chairman of the board for the Council On Aging. They are an advisory board, helping to plan activities at the Senior Center along with Brenda Caulfield, the program Director, assessing the needs of the 1100 Cheshire residents over the age of 55, coordinating with the State Department of Elder Affairs and Elder Services of Berkshire County.

Carol also fills in every Friday morning at the center when no paid staff are scheduled.

Donning another hat, Carol also serves as the chair of the Conservation Commission for the town, a holdover from her days on the Board of Selectmen when they also functioned as the Conservation Commission. In that capacity, over 30 years, she has accumulated a wealth of experience and knowledge, researching wetland laws, slogging through the ins and outs of environmental regulations, holding public hearings on applications while completing voluminous amounts of paperwork. She doesn't think there's a lot or a corner in Cheshire that she hasn't walked doing an inspection in response to a citizen's petition. Now it may be time to step down, she says. She's not sure she'll run again after her current term expires.

Growing up in Cheshire, Carol started very young in her career of service to others. She worked after school in the early high school years as a kitchenaid for her aunt Ruth Kelson, who ran the Beachwood Nursing Home, once a grand Victorian style structure on the corner of South Street and West Mountain Rd.

After high school, Carol enrolled in nurses training, as it was called at the time, at Henry Bishop Memorial School of Nursing, affiliated with the hospital that is now Berkshire Medical Center. As a young graduate nurse, her first job was at Plunkett Hospital in Adams. It was a small hospital, but staffing could be limited and the staff was expected to cover every area as needed, be it medical, surgical, pediatrics, maternity, OR or ER. It was an education in itself. Over the years Carol has had other positions, finishing her career as an OB/GYN nurse.

In 1989, Carol, married with two children, decided to run for a seat on the Board of Selectmen. It was



a four way race, Carol was the only woman running and one of the other candidates told her that it was a job for a man and she should drop out. She didn't. She beat those three men and won that seat on board. The three selectmen had a lot to handle. There was no town administrator at that time. The department heads were expected to do their jobs while overseen by the selectmen.

At the end of her first term, deciding whether to run again, Carol felt the call to stay on the job to help Ruth Andrew, the Town Clerk and others to prepare for the celebration of our national bicentennial. She was re-

### 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: 413.743.5603

E-mail: estjohn1@roadrunner.com

elected. Each time an election came around, there was a project or a good cause needing to be completed.

The routine was formidable, juggling work, family and her duties on the Select Board. Somehow it meshed together. Every Tuesday evening Carol and their two children would meet her husband Richie after he finished work at GE. They would have supper at Papa Gino's, and then Richie went home with the children, and Carol went to the selectmen's meeting. She is not able to recall any really difficult times as a member of the Board of Selectman that were enough to discourage her.

When asked what the worst experience she had, she recalled that time in the late 90s when two parents got angry over a decision about the refreshment stand at the Little League baseball field. One man called her a nasty, vulgar expletive, which shocked and upset her, but not enough to cause thoughts of giving up. When asked about what achievements she's most proud of during her 30 years on the board, she talked about helping to see through the purchase of Cheshire Lake by the State of Massachusetts from a private party, thus ensuring it would always be maintained and available for public use. The installation of a traffic light at the intersection of Route 8 and West Mountain Rd, long the scene of many accidents, was another successful project brought to completion.

After finishing 30 years on the board, somehow the call for public service has not faded. She's stepped into different roles, yet as always, in a way that helps others. Cheshire is fortunate to have such unsung heroes who step up and do the work, for love of the community, not expecting fanfare or glory, just happy to be there doing the job.





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# Cheshire Summer Festival

by John Tremblay

On Saturday July 22, 2023 the weather was gorgeous and a nice crowd turned out for the inaugural Cheshire Summer Festival. As expected, those gathered witnessed lots of great music & dancing, along with plenty of smiles.

Big thanks to all of the sponsors, including: the Northern Berkshire Cultural Council; Adams Community Bank; Cheshire Liquors; Casella Waste Systems; Global Partners / Convenience Plus; and Ed & Pam St. John.

Also to be acknowledge are the local businesses that donated so generously to our raffle: Bedard Brothers; Sheds & Stuff; Harbour House Inn B & B; Wood Bros. Music; Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management; Harry's Auto; JCB Lawncare & Tree Service; Lorraine Faucher; Chic's Auto; Whitney's Farm Center; Delmolino & Sons; Berkshire Outfitters; Jay's Modern Bends; Adams Hometown Market; Elle Day Spa; White Light Reiki; Cheshire Glassworks; HD Reynolds; All Seasons Realty; Dancecapade School of Dance; Cheshire Garden Club; A to Z Lettering; & the Cheshire Library.

Lastly, it couldn't have done it without the support of the town Building Superintendent (now DPW



*What's a festival without a bit of dancing? Young and old alike took to the outdoor dance space provided by Dancecapade School of Dance. These youngsters show off their skills. Keeping with the dance theme, Polka lessons and breakdancing demonstrations were also included in the days's festivities.*

Director), Corey McGrath, and the efforts of all the Cheshire Community Association volunteers.

Many great photos have been shared on the Cheshire Community Association Facebook page so please go check them out. Some pictures have been included on the next page.

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*Pictures speak a thousand words*



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1923 Original Front



# 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Original rear and west wing



Second addition 1950



Final Addition

1961  
\$550,000

**ESTIMATED COST OF THESE FACILITIES**  
\$ 540,000.00 - \$ 550,000.00

Includes  
Construction - Architect - Sewage Disposal  
Landscaping - Cost of Land

**COST TO TAXPAYER**

If Your Assessed Valuation is:	Your Annual Average Tax Increase (First 10 years)	Your Annual Average Tax Increase (Second 10 years)
\$ 1,000.00	\$ 17.25	\$ 12.20
2,000.00	34.50	24.40
3,000.00	51.75	36.60

Includes  
Custodian - Heating and Lighting - Supplies  
Interest - Principal on Capital Investment

These Preliminary Plans have been approved by the Massachusetts School Building Assistance Commission which means that 50% of the total cost of the building and its furnishings will be reimbursed by the State. In addition, we shall file application for Federal aid under Public Law 815 from which source we anticipate a grant of approximately \$ 20,000.00. This would result in some reduction in the above tax rates.

**PRESENT CHESHIRE SCHOOL**



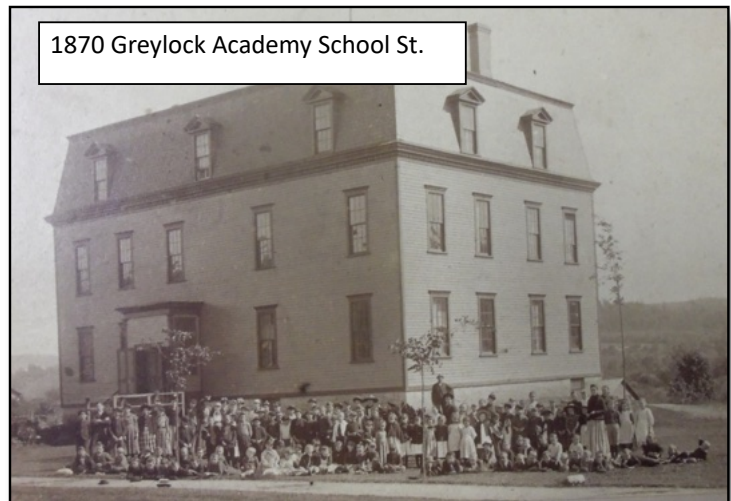
## Brief History of Cheshire Schools

1861 Valuation Book

Division of school money.

Name	# of District	# Students	\$
West	1	38	135.07
Muddy Brook	2	28	119.61
Corner	3	147	303.45
Harbor	4	30	122.70
Hook	5	20	107.25
Scrabble-Lawn	6	76	193.78
Farnum	7	7	87.17
			<u>\$1069.03</u>

Like most towns in New England during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Cheshire had several small one room neighborhood elementary schools. All of those school buildings are gone but one. The



1870 Greylock Academy School St.

area of Cheshire up along Rte. 116 was known as Pumpkin Hook and the 'Hook' school building is the small house on the south side of Rte. 116 directly opposite the intersection with Henry Wood Rd.

A common misconception is that School Street is named for Cheshire Elementary School. However, long before CES there was an impressive building known as Greylock Academy (above) situated across from the play ground where a private house now sits (formerly the Cheshire Grange Hall).

[B. Emery]



**1889 Cheshire High graduation class**

(L-R) Mary Jenks, Anna Flaherty, Hattie Wood, Amy Lane, Henry Farnam, Grace Cole, Mary Flaherty

# SPECIAL EVENTS

## SEPTEMBER

### September 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.

BBQ/COOKOUT  
At the COA Senior Center 119 School Street  
Cost is \$3 for Seniors/\$5 for people under 60.  
Preregister with Center for accurate head count.  
743-9719.

### September 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

TALK AND SLIDE SHOW BY BARRY EMERY.  
At the Cheshire Community HOUSE  
Discover Cheshire's Digital Archive and the reveal of  
book#8 of Barry's collection.  
Free and open to the public.

### September 20<sup>th</sup> 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

TINY ART SHOW  
First Annual art show to be held at the Cheshire  
Library. See Community Notes for additional  
information.

### September 26<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.

BBQ/COOKOUT  
At the COA Senior Center 119 School Street  
Cost is \$3 for Seniors/\$5 for people under 60.  
Preregister with Center for accurate head count.  
743-9719.

## OCTOBER

### October 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.

HOMEMADE SOUP AND SANDWICH DAY  
At the COA Senior Center 119 School Street  
Cost is \$3 for Seniors/\$5 for people under 60.  
Preregister with Center for accurate head count.  
743-9719.

### October 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.

CARD MAKING WITH LORRAINE  
At the COA Senior Center 119 School Street  
Preregister with Center for accurate head count.  
And supply needs. 743-9719.

HILLTOWN TRAVELERS BUS TOUR  
Essex Steam Train and Riverboat  
Contact Peter Traub at 743-3496 for details.

### October 26<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.

HOMEMADE SOUP AND SANDWICH DAY  
At the COA Senior Center 119 School Street  
Cost is \$3 for Seniors/\$5 for people under 60.  
Preregister with Center for accurate head count.  
743-9719.

### October 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

7TH ANNUAL LIBRARY HALLOWEEN EVENT  
At the Cheshire Library  
Take-it/Make-it  
Free and open to the public.

## NOVEMBER

### November 7<sup>th</sup>

HILLTOWN TRAVELERS BUS TOUR  
Country Jamboree Contact Mary Lamke  
at 655-4137 for details.

### November 13<sup>th</sup>

HILLTOWN TRAVELERS BUS TOUR  
MGM Casino. Contact Barbara Proper  
at 743-8333for details.

### Time to think about getting annual Covid boosters and flu shots.



The CHP Van will be at the  
COA Senior Center  
September 21st and October 19th  
from 10am-12pm.

*All are welcome. First come, first served.*

## BE IN THE KNOW!

Sometimes events get added after publication, or for reasons beyond the control of the COA, dates or times get changed. BUT, you can always be in the know by visiting the Cheshire COA Facebook PAGE. While you are there, check out the pages of other local organizations and businesses!

# **COMMUNITY NOTES**

**Cheshire Library** - Story Hour is every Tuesday from 11:00 am to 12:00pm, stories and a craft each week. Library hours: Monday 9:30 to 2:30; Tuesday 12:00 to 7:00 and Wednesday 11:00 to 3:00.

*Drop-in Lego STEM/STEAM nights* Third Tuesday each month 5:30-7pm. For ages 3 and up

*Cheshire Library's first "Tiny Art Show"* to be held on Sept 20th at the library. Calling ALL creatives to stop and pick up a 4x4 easel and canvas to create ART. Free for ALL AGES and skill levels! Easels can be picked up from Aug. 17 thru Sept 6th. DEADLINE for return is Sept 18th

*Historical talk and slide show* by Barry Emery at Cheshire Community House sponsored by the Cheshire Library . Sept 13, 2023 7pm. Free and open to the public. Will feature highlights from his upcoming new book and his digital archive of over 20,000 items.

*Monthly Raffle* for various items each month. Read TWO books and earn a ticket to win fun giveaways.

*Monthly "take a guess" candy raffle.* Continuing To celebrate our 125th anniversary.

Cheshire Library will continue its *7th annual Halloween Trick or Treat "take it -make it event"* during trick or treat hours.

*Story Time* will continue at 11 am on Tuesdays for preschoolers and home schoolers. no sign up necessary.

Keep an eye out for future 125th Celebrations like an afternoon tea, guest speakers, community holiday events.

**Cheshire Ladies' Reading Club** meeting since 1879, will begin its fall meeting bi-monthly schedule, alternating between members' homes starting September 7th. As we are a reading club, books are read at the meetings themselves.

If you have an interest in helping to continue a long Cheshire tradition contact club president Pat Gebarowski @ 413-743-2177 for information.

## Hilltown Travelers

The following bus tours have been created by the Hilltown Travelers for the months of October and November. If interested in going on a trip please contact the listed COA Planner.

*October 19* - Essex Steam Train and Riverboat,  
contact Peter Traub, 743-3496

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

*November 13* - MGM Casino, Barbara Proper, 743-8333

**Historical Commission** - The Cheshire Historical Commission is again accepting donations of items or documents relating to our town's history. Please call 743-5423 for details.

## Barter

In early America, a widely accepted commercial tradition was barter.

Currency was still variable and changeable from area to area during America's beginnings.

Participants could choose experienced "judges" to ensure correct value.

For many "land poor" farmers this was the solution to keeping their beloved farms.

~ Diane Hitter

**The Cheshire Community Book Club** will reconvene on *Thursday, October 12* following a summer hiatus. October's discussion will be about the book *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. The Cheshire Community Book Club plans to meet on the second Thursday of the month at 6 PM at the Senior Center/Cheshire Center for Active Living, 119 School Street. You don't have to read the book to enjoy the discussions. Please join us.

**The Cheshire Senior Club** meets every Wednesday at 12:30 at the Cheshire Senior Center. The group goes out to a different area restaurant once a month for lunch on either the 3rd or 4th Friday.

Stop by any Wednesday and chat with some friends. If you think you would like to dine out once in a while, but don't like to eat by yourself, this group may be of interest to you. No long-term commitments, come when you like.

For more information drop by one of the meetings or call Gene @ 413-743-2177.

## PLEASE NOTE:

The Cheshire Ladies Reading Club and the Cheshire Community Book Club are two separate groups. The Ladies Club read the books at their meetings while the Community Club read the books beforehand and discuss at the meetings.

# New Van Driver Hired for Cheshire COA Van

*By Jennifer Morse*

Give a big welcome to Stephanie Bordeau. Who has been hired as the new Van Driver for the Council on Aging here in the Town of Cheshire.

Stephanie and her husband, Joe, moved from Adams to Cheshire in 1997. Their intention at the time was to open a business out of their house, since part of the house had previously been used for business purposes.

Stephanie grew up in Hinsdale, MA in a very large family (5th/9) and her grandmother also lived with the family during the winter months.

Some of you might remember that Stephanie owned a flower shop in Adams called Stephanie's Floral Design for many years. She is very creative and loves both doing crafts and teaching crafts to others.

After closing the flower shop, she worked for Berkshire Cabulance for 10 years. Then she was hired by the Town of Adams as a van driver for their Council on Aging.

The next step in her extensive working career was with Lyon Aviation at Pittsfield Airport where she had the pleasure of meeting many high profile people, such as Governor Patrick and James Taylor who was a regular.

Stephanie worked for many years as the Volunteer Coordinator for Hospice, a job she truly loved. And years later, she was the Volunteer Coordinator for RSVP in Pittsfield. She also worked for Seniors Helping



*Stephanie Bordeau is shown here next to the Cheshire COA van, ready to report for duty.*

Seniors until the owner withdrew from the Franchise. After Seniors Helping Seniors shut down, Stephanie continued to care for many of her clients privately.

Most recently, she was the Business Office Manager at Cameron House Assisted Living in Lenox until they closed.

She has two daughters and three grandchildren.

To date, their blended families consist of seven children, seven grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.

With all of Stephanie's experience, she will be a great addition to the Cheshire COA team!

# All Ages Have Fun With Sunflower Wreaths



## Cheshire COA Center for Active Living

**CHP Mobile Health Van** - The CHP medical van is scheduled for Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup> • 9-12 and Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> • 9-12. 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 12:15, \$1 per card

**Brown Bag** - Free paper bag of food available on the 4th Friday of each month between 11:30am and 12:30pm. September/October dates are September 22<sup>nd</sup> and October 27<sup>th</sup>. Contact Brenda to sign up.

**Morning Exercise** - 9am -10am Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays

**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 Thursday, September 21<sup>st</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 \$35 fee for this clinic.

**Quilting** - Quilting and all stitchers 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 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.

**The Community Book Club** - meets at the COA Senior Center every second Thursday of the month at 6:00 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** – 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.. Haircuts by Meraki Salon of Adams. Discounted Senior cost is \$20. Call center to book your appointments for Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup> and Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

# THEIR STORIES

## VIETNAM ERA VETERANS OF CHESHIRE, MASSACHUSETTS

Recently, I completed a book on the Cheshire Civil War Veterans and I would like to do the same for the Vietnam Era Veterans serving February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975.

On Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 10:00 a.m., I am inviting all Vietnam Era Veterans to the Cheshire Community House Cafeteria to share your story. Also invited is anyone who may be of assistance to you and family member(s) of deceased Vietnam Era Veterans.

An information sheet will be available to you to fill out, including your date of birth, parents' names, where you were born, rank(s), where you served, and any experiences you would like to share. My plan is to take all your information and publish a book that will be available to you at my cost. Also, your military picture and pictures you would like to share, would be greatly appreciated.

Special guest will be Steve Roy, VSO of Northern Berkshire County.

If you are not available for the gathering and would like to contribute to the book, please contact me at: [cheshiremavets@gmail.com](mailto:cheshiremavets@gmail.com) or 413-446-7220

Thank you for serving,  
*Sandra Sloane*

# SEPTEMBER 2023

## Cheshire COA & Community Calendar of Events

August							October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
27	28	29	30	31			22	23	24	25	26	27	28
							29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
Blood pressure readings available @ Senior Center M-W-F 10-11					Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11	Cheshire Pantry 11-12
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	<b>LABOR DAY</b> Center is Closed	Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:15	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 <b>Lunch / BBQ 11:30</b> Senior Club 12:30 Veterans Event 10:00 a.m. Community House	Grab-n-Go 10-12 <b>CHP Van 10-12</b>	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 BBQ 11:30	Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:15	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 <b>Lunch/BBQ 11:30</b> Senior Club 12:30 Barry Emery 7pm @ Community House	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Quilting 1-3	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30	Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:15	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior Club 12:30	CHP Van 10-12 Grab-n-Go 10-12 Foot Clinic 8:30-1:30	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11 Brown Bag 11:30-12:30	<b>FALL EQUINOX</b>
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Hair Cuts 9-11 Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30	Lunch 11:30 BBQ 11:30 Bingo 12:15	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior Club 12:30	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Quilting 1-3	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11	



Baby woodchucks emerged to checkout the world... as well as nearby blueberry bushes and clover patches.

Photo by T.F. Williamson

Be sure to check the *Special Events* and *Community Notes* pages in this issue of *The Chatter* for additional events at the Cheshire Library and the Cheshire Community House.

# OCTOBER 2023

## Cheshire COA & Community Calendar of Events

September							November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30		



Sunflowers come in a variety of colors, including this one in a deep red hue.  
Photo by T.F. Williamson

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30	Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:15	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior Club 12:30	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior Club 12:30	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Community Book Club 6pm	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11	Cheshire Pantry 11-12
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>Columbus Day - Center Closed</b>	Lunch 11:30 <b>Homemade Soup &amp; Sandwich Day 11:30</b> Bingo 12:15	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior Club 12:30	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior Club 12:30	Grab-n-Go 10-12 CHP Van 10-12 Card Making 1pm Essex Bus Trip	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30	Lunch 11:30. Bingo 12:15	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior Club 12:30	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior Club 12:30	Grab-n-Go 10-12 CHP Van 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Hair Cuts 9-11 Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30	Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:15	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior Club 12:30	Exercise 9-10 Coffee Hour 10-11 Lunch 11:30 Senior Club 12:30	Grab-n-Go 10-12 <b>Homemade Soup &amp; Sandwich Day 11:30</b>	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Exercise 9-10 Chair Yoga 10-11 Brown Bag 11:30-12:30	
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30	Happy Halloween Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:15 Cheshire Library Trick or Treat 5:30-7p					Blood pressure readings available @ Senior Center M-W-F 10-11