



# THE Cheshire Chatter

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

September / October • 2024

## Cheshire Library Welcomes New Director



*Jennifer Luitjens, Esq., the  
new director for the  
Cheshire Library.*

The summer reading program was a great success at the Cheshire Public Library. If you are a regular patron you know first-hand, the library's current offerings, new materials, ongoing programs and activities, and benefits our patrons enjoy. The Cheshire Public Library is a vibrant library in a small community, connected to big networks of

resources. If you are not a regular patron, visit and meet Jennifer Luitjens, Esq., the new director. Her talent and energy will impress you.

The Cheshire Library Board of Trustees recently asked Jennifer a few questions. Here are those questions and her responses.

1. What would you like to tell us (our patrons) about coming to Cheshire and becoming the new librarian?

*Although an "eastern" Massachusetts native, I'm thrilled to have found this beautiful spot in the Berkshires and its gem of a library. Since retiring from the practice of estate planning and elder law and moving here two years ago, I had been exploring different ways to share my time and abilities. When this librarian position came to my attention, I knew this could be a special opportunity to apply some of my experience, tap into my creativity, and serve my community.*

2. The new website:

[www.cheshirepubliclibrary.org](http://www.cheshirepubliclibrary.org) is engaging and informative. Do you have other ideas that might interest patrons?

*Websites are a necessity in today's information world, whereas our Facebook and Instagram posts are intended to solicit more engagement from patrons. But nothing beats an old fashioned, in-person conversation! Regardless of*

*the mode of communication, I want feedback and suggestions from the community. While I do have ideas - trivia night, music bingo, stuffed animal sleepover, blind book date, and more - none will have success if patrons don't share those interests.*

3. You're planning to adjust library hours. What will they be and how might they benefit patrons?

*Our new hours beginning in September are as follows:*

*Monday 10-2*

*Tuesday 12-7, with preschool storytime at 11am*

*Wednesday 12-5*

*Thursday 10-2*

*1st Saturday of the month 12-2, with STEM activity for elementary-aged children at 11am*

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## Brenda's Thoughts .....

Fall? Really? Holy Cow! It seems like this year is just zipping by!

Since the last edition of Chatter, the community of Cheshire has celebrated the 4th of July — who needs to travel to see fireworks when people are shooting them off in their own backyards and up on the mountain side for all to enjoy? Quite the display for two nights in a row! The annual Cheshire Summer Festival took place at the Community Center Grounds, as well as the Annual Cruz Nite and a truly spectacular fireworks display.

Everyone knows what comes next.... Dare I say? Okay, I'm just going to throw it out there! Start thinking/planning for the Fall craft shows, tree lighting, Festival of Trees.... But! Before all that, let's usher in the fall season with apple picking, leaf peeping on the trails and roadways, bring out the fall decorations, have a terrific Halloween and make plans for a wonderful Thanksgiving!

We're considering what we can do/provide in the way of fun activities and craft events here at the Center. Come join the card crafting fun and we have a 2-sided craft in the works that can transcend

fall through winter. As always, if you have an idea, share it! We are always on the lookout for new, fun, entertaining activities for all ages!



*All ages enjoy Shuffleboard at the COA on Wednesday afternoons. Join in the fun!*

### New Library Director

*Continued from Front Page*

*The change in hours serves to better streamline the start and ending times, add an extra day to the week, and to add to the occasional weekend day. With a dedicated Board of Trustees and a regular volunteer generous with her time (thank you, Christine Emerson!), we are able to expand our weekly open hours.*

4. Any advice for new or current Cheshire Public Library patrons?

*Be patient with me as I learn the ropes of serving as your library director. Speak your mind, but also be open to new ideas. Remember that today's library serves in different ways to different people. It can be a resource for information and books, but it can also be a center for community, creativity, and simple fun.*

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#### Alternate Board Members

Suzanne Boyle .....	413.743.5187
Doreen Aleshevich .....	413.446.8212

#### Resources and Contacts

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

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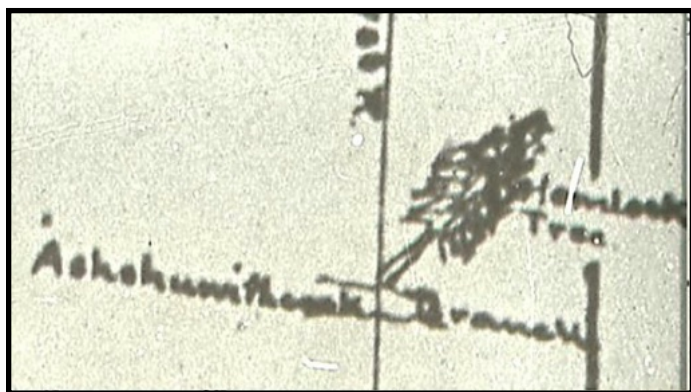
# Meaning of Ashuwillticook?

*Submitted by Barry Emery*



*Note: The articles included here and other information about Cheshire were displayed in the kiosk near the reservoir that was recently destroyed in a violent storm when a tree toppled on it. A replacement is planned that may be relocated on the causeway.*

It is an old Native American word meaning *river between the hills*. The river is the Hoosic and the hills are the Hoosac Mountains (each spelled differently but pronounced the same). The earliest printed example of the word Ashuwillticook appears on this 1739 map survey (below) of the area around the south branch of the Hoosic River where a notation appears as "Ashulwithcook Branch".



The Hoosic River is one of the few rivers that flows in a northerly direction in this area, but eventually it turns westward and flows into the Hudson River in New York state. The spelling of the river's name through out history is quite varied. Some other spelling variations are Hoosac, Hoosuck, and Hoosick. The spelling of the river name even changes at the border between New York and Massachusetts.

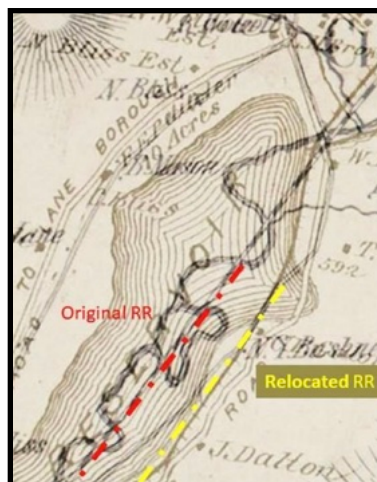
The Cheshire Reservoir has also been called by a variety of names including Cheshire Lake, Hoosic

Reservoir, and Hoosac Lake. It meets the definition of a reservoir because it was *created by a man-made dam for a specific purpose* (Webster's). In 1866 the state gave permission to mills located in Adams to dam the meandering stream, known locally as Muddy Brook, thereby creating a more reliable flow of water in the Hoosic River to the factories.

The Railroad was constructed in 1846 and crossed the Muddy Brook in several places. However, when the dam was constructed in 1866 the resulting reservoir flooded the original railroad route. Prior to creating the reservoir the rail line was relocated to its current location, now the bike/walking trail.

The overlay (below) of the 1858 and 1876 maps from the book *What Is and What Was: Historic*

*Virtual Tour of Cheshire* by Barry Emery shows the original winding brook and rail line (red) along with the reservoir outline and the new rail location (yellow). When the water is at a lower level one can walk along the former rail bed with the water only up to their knees.



# It Was A Dark and Stormy Night

*by Patricia Gebarowski*

October 31, 1963 was a dark and, if not stormy night, very windy and cold at 11 PM and I felt it seeping through my heavy Adams Memorial High School varsity sweater as I was walking down Jenks Road along with three or four of my senior class girlfriends.

As the wind blew in gusts, pushing the clouds to quickly cover the moon, creating total blackness then only to reveal it again as the clouds hurried on. We were quiet, probably a little scared, as we walked down the dark narrow lane. We were carefully following instructions from Cindy, our Club Leader who had told us very specifically what to do out there, without deviation. Any misstep in carrying out this initiation rite would get the guilty party thrown out of The Club.

If there was anything girls of our age cared about, it was conforming to the made-up rules of our peers so as to remain in the group's good graces. To be ostracized and not be in The Club was something none of us wanted to think about.

So, nerves jangling, we parked across from Jayko's farmhouse, crossing Wells Road as instructed, and proceeding on down Jenks Road to the old abandoned piece of land, which was the Old Baptist Cemetery, the earliest burial site in Cheshire.



*The gate at Jenk's Cemetery  
~ photo by Gene Gebarowski*



*Sign marking the site of the first Baptist Church  
organized in Western Massachusetts  
~ photo by Gene Gebarowski*

The site dates back to 1769, I have since learned. It featured a church building whose churchyard was the final resting place of many of the oldest settlers of New Providence, the center of which was on Stafford Hill. That was where a band of Baptist's from Rhode Island had come to settle. Three of the original settlers of New Providence are known to have been interred there.

Just knowing we were going to a cemetery on Halloween at midnight, a place where the scariest stories and movies of our childhood took place, was enough to put mortal fear in our hearts, had we admitted it. We had been told to bring only one flashlight and not to use it until we found the old cemetery. We were instructed to find a certain headstone and write down the name on it, and the inscription carved into it. We stayed in as tight a knot as possible near our one, kind of dim, flashlight and made our way from stone to stone,

*Continued on page 5*



peering at the name and the writing on each. They were not arranged in well aligned rows as you might see them in a newer burial place.

Sticks and leaves crunched under our feet. We hardly dared to breathe very deeply lest we offend these sleeping souls with our laughter or chatter. As we crept from one marker to another, dark shadows appeared and disappeared, thanks to the inconsistent moon. It seemed like time had slowed or perhaps even stopped. Our fates just might be to stalk this cold dark place eternally.

Just as all seemed to be lost, Joanne, the keeper of our flashlight exclaimed "Here it is!"



*Image of "the headstone" supplied by Barry Emery*

It then became Anne's job to get down on her knees, peer closely at the carving on the marble slab, and read it aloud so that Pat could write it down. That job was not accomplished easily since the light was trained on the writing and Pat could only scribble what she thought was being recited. She read the chilling words once and then once again just to be sure.

Everything, or so it seemed, rested on that accuracy.

So finally, having found the right name, on the right headstone in the right overgrown piece of land on the night that all souls were supposed to walk, we turned off the only illumination we had out there, as instructed. The moon had given up any pretense of coming out from behind a huge black cloud.

All the time we had been out there we never saw another car or anyone else in that dark forsaken, overgrown place. We made our way back to the car, piled in, laughing nervously and telling each other that had been so much fun. We drove to the prearranged meeting place in someone's family room basement. Cindy and Sally stood before us by candlelight and listened as Pat recited the name of Martha Mason, died March 12, 1822 age 42 years, 4 months and 28 days, and then the inscription found on her gravestone:

*All you readers who now pass by*

*As you are now so once was I*

*As I am now so you will be*

*Prepare for death and follow me.*

### ***Authors note:***

This episode is true to the best of my recollection. Since this happened 64 years ago, my recall of the exact details could be somewhat unreliable. I do know that it happened. I was there to witness it.

We all became members in good standing of The Club, which was the point of the initiation rite.

Now I don't remember the real name of The Club, the purpose of The Club or even having attended any other meetings of The Club. I do remember that it had an unforgettable motto:

*Illigitimus non carborundum est*

I was told that translated from the Latin it meant:

*Don't let the bastards grind you down*

While the details of The Club, and maybe even much of that October night have wafted away into the mists of time, that fractured Latin saying, the origin which is another story, has survived in my memory all these years.

Those words have always seemed, to me at least, to be words to live by... until I follow Martha Mason into the next world.

## Kathleen McGrath, Following Her Passion

Except for a few years in Boston, Kathleen McGrath has lived her entire life in Adams and Cheshire. She went to school in Adams and in 1968, graduated from the former Adams Memorial High School. Two years later, McGrath received her Associates Degree from Berkshire Community College and became a secretary. Soon after, she married and while raising her four children, she went back to school and received her Bachelors Degree from MCLA in elementary education. Kathleen worked as a second and fifth-grade teacher in the Adams/Cheshire School District for 25 years, and when she was in her 50's, she received her Master's Degree from Cambridge College in Boston.

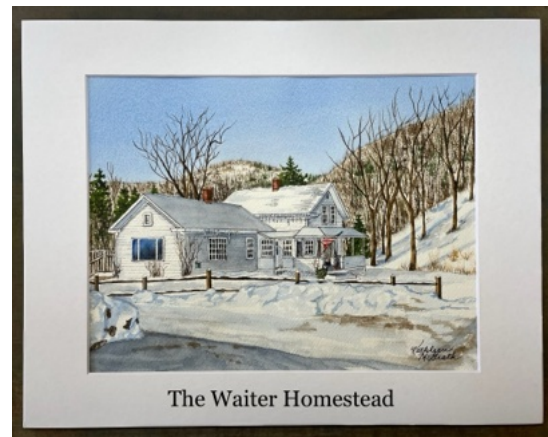
Over the years, Kathleen has enjoyed many hobbies such as cake decorating, crafting, sewing, quilting and photography. She has baked wedding cakes, won awards for some of her quilts, and taken the senior photos for her grandchildren and some of their friends. While traveling around the United States and to different countries, and hiking around Berkshire county, McGrath has found many interesting subjects to photograph.

At the age of 72, Kathleen began a new hobby — watercolor painting. She took a five-night class, and now she is hooked. Now Kathleen combines her photography interests with painting by taking photos and using them as references for when she paints. "I love this new medium and paint just about every day — over 200 thus far.

So what is the moral of this little story? "Follow your passions, you're never too old to learn something new."

Anyone interested in seeing some of the artwork of Kathleen McGrath, some of her watercolor paintings will be on exhibit at the Cheshire

Glassworks between October and Christmas 2024. The exhibit is called "Farms and Barns of Cheshire," and more than 20 paintings will be on display. The hours at Cheshire Glassworks are Tuesday through Saturday from 11:00 AM until 5:00 PM. McGraths paintings will be available for sale at Cheshire Glassworks..



The Waiter Homestead



Spring on the Old Moses Wolcott Land

*Pictured above is a sampling of the beautiful works created by Kathleen McGrath.*

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# Making a Difference With the Cheshire Lions Club

## *A letter from the President*

Hello Cheshire Friends and Neighbors,

Are you wondering how you can make things better? Do you wonder: "What does the Cheshire Lions Club do?"

The Cheshire Lions Club is a member of an international organization that supports the Cheshire community and beyond. Over the last year we have raised money to support the following: the Cheshire Food Pantry, the Cheshire Library, the cheese press monument, the Friends of the Cheshire Council on Aging, the Michael Larrabee Scholarship Fund, and the American Flag project that places the flags on our streets and maintains them. The Cheshire Lions Club has also awarded three scholarships to Cheshire students: one student going to trade school, one college bound, and one post-graduate student. We have given help to families in need of sight and hearing support. Beyond our small town, we have donated to Mass Eye Research and the International Lions Club. All this, done just this past year!

How can you make things better in our community? Join the Cheshire Lions Club. We meet once a month from September to June. Our meetings are on the second Wednesday of each month at 6 PM. Most meetings are held at the Harbor House Inn. If you are interested in learning more about ways to support our community, contact me at 743-5723 or 244-3420. Hoping to see you at our next meeting.

Thank you.

Lynda Bianchi, President  
Cheshire Lions Club



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## 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 becoming a "Friend" you will be supporting the activities of our seniors. The fee for joining in 2024 will remain at \$10 and will be due in January of 2024.

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. Among the activities the "Friends" have financially supported in the past are:

- Cultural events such as a play at Barrington Stage and Millionaire Dollar Quartet at the Colonial Theatre.
- Sponsorship and funding for Sheryl Faye's presentations.
- The annual nonagenarian birthday party.
- Apple picking at Lakeview Orchard.
- Financial support of the Cheshire Food Pantry.
- Other social and craft activities.

Any support which you are able to provide would be most appreciated.

Please fill out the bottom portion and return to  
Ed St. John at 4 Edmunds Street, Unit N101, Adams, MA 01220  
or call at 743-5603  
or email to [estjohn1@roadrunner.com](mailto:estjohn1@roadrunner.com).

If mailing, cut here, fill out and return to address above.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Please remember to enclose your membership fee of \$10, if by check payable to the Friends of the CCOA.

Thank you.



# **SPECIAL EVENTS**

## SEPTEMBER

**Monday, September 2nd ~ CLOSED ~ for Labor Day**

**Sunday, September 8th - @ 2pm**

**Outdoor Concert on COA Lawn** featuring group QLC (quarter life crisis). Bring a lawn chair and beverage; enjoy the music.

**Monday, September 9th • 9 - 11am**

**Senior Haircuts @ COA Center**

Stylists from Meraki Salon of Adams. Discounted Senior cost is \$20. Call 413-743-1690 ext 107

**Tuesday, September 10th-**

**BBQ luncheon.** Call ahead to reserve a plate and for grab n go dinner. 413-743-1690 ext 107

**Thursday, September 19th 8:30am - 1pm**

**Foot Clinic.** appointments only. It is held inside the Center. Call Brenda @ 413-743-1690 ext 107 to schedule an appointment and for protocol. There is a \$40 fee for this clinic.

**Wednesday, September 25th-**

**BBQ luncheon.** Call ahead to reserve a plate and for grab n go dinner. 413-743-1690 ext 107

**Thursday, September 26th 9am - Noon**

**CHP Van @ COA.** Besides their usual services, this will be a Fall Flu Clinic.

**Sunday, September 29th @ 2pm**

**Outdoor concert** Featuring the band Straight Up. Bring a lawn chair and beverage; enjoy the music.

## OCTOBER

**Wednesday, October 2nd • 1pm**

**Card Making with Lorraine.** Creating Fall & Holiday designs. Call ahead to reserve a spot at the event.. 413-743-1690 ext 107

**Monday, October 7th • 9 - 11am**

**Senior Haircuts @ COA Center**

Stylists from Meraki Salon of Adams. Discounted Senior cost is \$20. Book your appointments. 413-743-1690 ext 107.

**Cheshire Library 2nd Annual Tiny Art Show - pick up mini 4x4 canvas anytime after September 1 and return final project by September 26**



**Monday, October 7th 12:30**

**Wooden Scarecrow / Snowman 2-sided Craft** transcends fall through winter. Call ahead to reserve a spot at the event.. 413-743-1690 ext 107

**Tuesday, October 8th-**

**Homemade Soup n' Sandwich Lunch at COA.**

Call ahead to reserve a plate and for grab n go dinner. 413-743-1690 ext 107

**Monday, October 14th ~ CLOSED ~ for Indigenous People's Day**

**Wednesday, October 23rd -**

**Homemade Soup n' Sandwich Lunch at COA**

Call ahead to reserve a plate and for grab n go dinner. 413-743-1690 ext 107

**Thursday, October 24th • 9am - Noon**

**CHP Van @ COA.** Besides their usual services, this will be a Fall Flu & Covid Clinic.

## NOVEMBER

**Thursday, November 14th from 9am - 1pm**

**SHINE counselors** will be at the Cheshire Senior Center; call 743-9719 ext 107 for an appointment.



# **COMMUNITY NOTES**

## Town Clerk's Office:

### **Presidential Primary,**

Election Dates for 2024:

State Primary, Tuesday, September 3rd

Presidential/State Election, Tuesday, November 5th

## **Cheshire Library - Has new extended hours!**

*Monday* 10-2

*Tuesday* 12-7, with preschool story-time at 11am  
AND

*Third Tuesday* is Trivia Night @ 7pm

September 17th Travel Trivia

October 15 Movie Trivia

*Wednesday* 12-5

*Thursday* 10-2

*1st Saturday* of the month 12-2, with STEM activity  
for elementary-aged children at 11am

### **Other special events include:**

- ❖ 2nd Annual Tiny Art Show - pick up mini 4x4 canvas anytime after September 1 and return final project by September 26
- ❖ Stuffed Animal Sleepover - Friday night, October 4th
- ❖ Halloween Take It & Make It during Cheshire Trick-or-Treat night

**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.

**Cheshire Ladies' Reading Club** is the oldest continually meeting reading club in the United States, carrying on a tradition first inspired by Emma Petittclerc in 1879. 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.

**The Cheshire Community Book Club** will begin again on Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 6 PM.

Our September book is *The Lost Man* by Jane Harper. On Thursday, October 10, 2024 we'll discuss *The English American* by Alison Larkin.

The Book Club meets the second Thursday of each

month from September through May at the Senior Center on School Street.

If you haven't read the books, join us anyway. Discussions are always informative, insightful, and enjoyable. If you're not much of a reader, these books are often available on audio tape, audio CDs, or download. Visit The Cheshire Public Library to learn the best way to access good books.

Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting.

**Cheshire Garden Club** - will be meeting on September 19th and October 17th at 6:30 PM in the Cheshire Senior Center. Anyone is free to attend to ask gardening questions, or to join our group. You can contact Margy Gwozdz at:

wgwozdz@roadrunner.com with any questions.

**Cheshire Northern Berkshire Beekeepers Association** meets at 6 p.m. in the Cheshire COA Center on the 4th Wednesday of every month except November and December. Interested parties are welcome to join us. For more information, contact Jeanne Davis. Email with any questions:

Jeannedavis59@gmail.com.

**Cheshire Lions Club** meets once a month from September to June. Our meetings are on the second Wednesday of each month at 6 PM. Most meetings are held at the Harbor House Inn. If you are interested in learning more about ways to support our community, contact Lynda Bianchi, President at 743-5723 or 244-3420. Hoping to see you at our next meeting.

## **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! *Be in the know!*

# CHESHIRE COA CENTER FOR ACTIVE LIVING

**CHP Mobile Health Van** - Thurs., Sept. 12th & Thurs., Oct. 24th. 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 @ 413-743-1690 extension 107



## **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 413-743-1690 extension 107 at least 24 hours in advance. Suggested Meal Donation of \$3.00 for 60 and over.

**Bingo**- Every Tuesday at 12:15, \$1 per card

**Brown Bag** - Free paper bag of food is available between 9:30am and 1:30pm; Monday, September 30th and Monday, October 28th. Pick up at COA Center.

Contact Brenda to sign up. 413-743-1690 ext 107

**Aerobics** - 9am -10am Mondays & Wednesdays led by Jane Bryce \$4 per person/per class and free Aerobic exercise on Fridays at 9am.

**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 19th • 8:30am – 1pm. Sorry, no walk-ins - appointments only. It is held inside the Center. Call Brenda @ 413-743-1690 ext 107 to schedule an appointment and for protocol. There is a \$40 fee for this clinic.

**Quilting** - Quilting and all stitchers are welcome! Please note new meeting days are on the first and third Thursday of the month (unless it falls on a holiday), 1pm-3:30pm led by Betty King. (\$5 suggested donation to benefit the Cheshire Pantry.)

**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 9th and Monday, October 7th.

**Cheshire Northern Berkshire Beekeepers Association** – 6 p.m. at the Cheshire COA Center on the 4th Wednesday of every month except November and December. Interested parties are welcome to join us. For more information, contact Jeanne Davis. Email with any questions Jeannedavis59@gmail.com.

**Shuffleboard** - will continue through November; Wednesdays at 12:30 pm at the Cheshire COA Call the Center for more information. 413-743-1690 ext 107



*Cheshire Transfer Station  
Compost Drop-off*

**Accepted Food Waste**

**Fruits**  
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**Seafood**  
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**Egg Shells**  
**Cores & Shells**

**TOMMY'S**  
COMPOST SERVICE



*Dan Roy, Steve "Hollywood" Hakes,  
Lucan McGrath and Cole Stentiford.*



## 2024 Cheshire Cemetery Crew

### UPDATED TOWN OFFICE HOURS & CONTACT INFORMATION

DEPARTMENT	NAME	HOURS	PHONE	EMAIL
Town Administrator	Jennifer Morse	Monday – Thursday 9 a.m.- 4 or by appointment	413-743-1690 x. 100	<a href="mailto:admin@cheshire-ma.gov">admin@cheshire-ma.gov</a>
Executive Assistant	Mia Francesconi	Monday - Wednesday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.	413-743-1690 x. 101	<a href="mailto:executiveassistant@cheshire-ma.gov">executiveassistant@cheshire-ma.gov</a>
Treasurer/Collector	Rebecca Herzog	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.	413-743-1690 x. 102	<a href="mailto:treasurer@cheshire-ma.gov">treasurer@cheshire-ma.gov</a>
Assessors	Robin Wadsworth	Monday 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.	413-743-1690 x. 103	<a href="mailto:assessor@cheshire-ma.gov">assessor@cheshire-ma.gov</a>
Town Clerk	Whitney Flynn	* Monday 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tuesday 4 – 5 p.m. * Wednesday 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Thursday 4-5 p.m. * Closed for lunch 12:30 -1 p.m.	413-743-1690 x. 104	<a href="mailto:townclerk@cheshire-ma.gov">townclerk@cheshire-ma.gov</a>
Water Department	Ed Bunn	Monday – Thursday 7-4:30 p.m.	413-743-1690 x. 105	<a href="mailto:woperator@cheshire-ma.gov">woperator@cheshire-ma.gov</a>
Board of Health	Members	Monday Office Hours 6-8 p.m.	413-743-1690 x. 106	
DPW Director	Corey McGrath	Monday- Thursday 7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m	413-743-1690 x. 110	<a href="mailto:dpw@cheshire-ma.gov">dpw@cheshire-ma.gov</a>
Building Commissioner	Brian Duval	By appointment	413-743-1690 x. 111	<a href="mailto:bldginspect@cheshire-ma.gov">bldginspect@cheshire-ma.gov</a>
Wiring Inspector	George Sweet	By appointment.	413-743-1690 x. 112	<a href="mailto:Wire1@cheshire-ma.gov">Wire1@cheshire-ma.gov</a>
Plumbing/Gas Inspector	Mike Biros	By appointment	413-743-1690 x. 113	<a href="mailto:Plumbinggas@cheshire-ma.gov">Plumbinggas@cheshire-ma.gov</a>
Cemetery Commission	Members	By appointment	413-743-1690 x. 115	<a href="mailto:cemetery@cheshire-ma.gov">cemetery@cheshire-ma.gov</a>
Planning Board	Members	By appointment	413-743-1690 x. 114	<a href="mailto:asinger@cheshire-ma.gov">asinger@cheshire-ma.gov</a>
Asst. Treasurer/Collector	Whitney Flynn	Tuesday – Thursday 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.	413-743-1690 .x 116	<a href="mailto:atc@cheshire-ma.gov">atc@cheshire-ma.gov</a>

**Town Offices are CLOSED on Friday.**

## SHINE Provides Help With Medicare Open Enrollment at Cheshire Council on Aging Center

*Medicare Open Enrollment is October 15 – December 7.*

State certified SHINE counselors will be on-site at the Cheshire Senior Center on Thursday, November 14th from 9am – 1pm to answer individual questions by appointment only.

The SHINE counselor can help you understand your health care coverage, review cost increases, and tell you what's new with Medicare. You can compare your Medicare benefits and health insurance options at no cost. This appointment could reduce your out of pocket medical and/or prescription drug costs. In addition, meeting with a SHINE counselor during open enrollment can help you identify public benefit programs that can help with premiums, co-payments and health coverage based on income and assets.

*These SHINE appointments will fill up fast so call 743-9719 ext 107 to schedule an appointment.*



### Volunteers Come in All Ages



*This is Mal Gwozdz and her granddaughter (8 year old) Quinn Gwozdz. As a Long time volunteer Mal sometimes brings granddaughter Quinn into the COA Center to volunteer for the day. Both have great smiles to greet COA patrons.*

### New Driver, New Van for Cheshire COA

The COA welcomes Althea Ossenfort to the team as the new van driver.

Althea grew up in Rhode Island, moved to Albuquerque for 34 years then relocated to Cheshire 6 years ago to be closer to family, where she met her late husband Donald. She has 3 wonderful adult children and 2 grandchildren.

Many may recognized her since she recently retired from the local post office after working there 4 years. Althea brings with her a wealth of knowledge; she ran a transportation service for seniors and those with limitations for 8 years... The Cheshire COA is lucky to have her!!



### ADVERTISE IN THE CHATTER

An ad the size of a business card is only \$200<sup>00</sup> for the year and will be seen 6 times.

*Other ad sizes/prices are also available.*

**WANT TO TEST THE WATERS? TRY A ONE-TIME AD!**

To get your business ad featured in the Chatter, contact Carole Francesconi at

**413.743.9719**



# Free Summer Concert

## “QLC”

(Quarter Life Crisis)

\* Brian Benlien & Jim Witherell \*



Sunday September 8th @ 2 pm  
Cheshire Senior Center Lawn  
Bring your lawn chair and drinks!

*Free Summer Concert*  
*“Straight Up”*



Sunday September 29th @ 2 pm  
Cheshire Senior Center Lawn  
Bring your lawn chair and drinks!



# SEPTEMBER 2024

## Cheshire COA & Community Calendar of Events

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2  Labor Day	3 Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:15	4 Aerobics 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Shuffleboard 12:15p	5 Grab-n-Go 10-12 <b>Quilting 1-3:30</b>	6 Aerobics 9-10 Grab-n-Go 10-11 Chair Yoga 10-11	7 <b>Cheshire Pantry 11-12</b>
8	9 <b>Outdoor Concert</b> 2 pm on the COA Lawn	10 BBQ Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:15	11 Aerobics 9-10 Shuffleboard 12:15p <b>Lions Club 6pm @ Harbour House Inn</b>	12 Grab-n-Go 10-12	13 Aerobics 9-10 Grab-n-Go 10-11 Chair Yoga 10-11	14
15	16 Aerobics 9-10 Lunch 11:30	17 Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:15	18 Aerobics 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Shuffleboard 12:15p	19 Grab-n-Go 10-12 <b>Quilting 1-3:30</b> <b>Foot Clinic 8:30-1</b> <b>Garden Club 6pm</b> @ COA	20 Aerobics 9-10 Grab-n-Go 10-11 Chair Yoga 10-11	21
22	23 Aerobics 9-10 Lunch 11:30	24 Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:15	25 Aerobics 9-10 BBQ Lunch 11:30 Shuffleboard 12:15p Beekeepers 6 pm	26 Grab-n-Go 10-12 <b>CHP Van 9 - Noon</b>	27 Aerobics 9-10 Grab-n-Go 10-11 Chair Yoga 10-11	28
29	30 <b>Outdoor Concert</b> 2 pm on the COA Lawn	1 Aerobics 9-10 Lunch 11:30 <b>Brown Bag 9-1:30p</b>	2 Aerobics 9-10 BBQ Lunch 11:30 Shuffleboard 12:15p Beekeepers 6 pm	1 Blood pressure readings available @ Senior Center M-W-F 10-11	4 Aerobics 9-10 Grab-n-Go 10-11 Chair Yoga 10-11	5 \$4 Cost for Mon. & Wed. Aerobics class. Free Fri.

# OCTOBER 2024

## Cheshire COA & Community Calendar of Events

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
Blood pressure readings available @ Senior Center M-W-F 10-11		Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:15	Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Shuffleboard 12:15p	Grab-n-Go 10-12 <b>Quilting 1-3:30</b>	Exercise 9-10 Grab-n-Go 10-11 Chair Yoga 10-11	<b>Cheshire Pantry 11-12</b>
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Exercise 9-10 <b>Hair Cuts 9-11</b> Lunch 11:30 <b>Wood Craft @ COA 1pm</b>	<b>Homemade Meal 11:30</b> Bingo 12:15	Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Shuffleboard 12:15p	Grab-n-Go 10-12 Comm. Book Club 6pm	Exercise 9-10 Grab-n-Go 10-11 Chair Yoga 10-11	
13	14 <i>Columbus Day</i>	15	16	17	18	19
	<b>Center Closed for Indigenous Peoples Day</b>	Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:15	Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Shuffleboard 12:15p	Grab-n-Go 10-12 <b>Quilting 1-3:30</b> <b>Garden Club 6pm @ COA</b>	Exercise 9-10 Grab-n-Go 10-11 Chair Yoga 10-11	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30	Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:15	Exercise 9-10 <b>Homemade Meal 11:30</b> Shuffleboard 12:15p Beekeepers 6p	Grab-n-Go 10-12 <b>CHP Van 9 - Noon</b>	Exercise 9-10 Grab-n-Go 10-11 Chair Yoga 10-11	
27	28	29	30	31 🎃 <i>Halloween</i>	1	2
	Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 <b>Brown Bag 9am-1:30pm</b>	Lunch 11:30 Bingo 12:15	Exercise 9-10 Lunch 11:30 Shuffleboard 12:15p	Grab-n-Go 10-12		