

## Town of Charlemont Newsletter December 2022

### Important Dates:

**January 10, 2023**

### Special Election

Hawlemont Regional  
Elementary School  
10 School Street  
12:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

### SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION NOTICE

The Charlemont Select Board has called a Special Election to fill 2 Select Board positions. The Election will be held on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, from noon to 8:00 P.M. at the Hawlemont Regional Elementary School.

If you are interested in running for one of these positions and would like your name to appear on the ballot, please visit Town Clerk Kathy Reynolds to obtain nomination papers. Nomination papers are available until, and due back to, the Town Clerk by 4:00 P.M. Friday, December 16, 2022. If you have questions, please contact the Town Clerk at 413-339-4335 x 7.

## Charlemont is in need of an Animal Inspector

Do you like animals? The town needs an animal inspector, this position does have a stipend of \$1,023.47 broken into two payments a year. A description of the position is here:

The Division of Animal Health appoints a municipal animal inspector for each and every city and town in the Commonwealth. The primary duty of the Animal Inspector has recently become rabies control in the domestic animal population. Municipal Animal Inspectors are also responsible for barn inspections and may be called to assist with domestic animal disease quarantines in the event of an outbreak.

More information can also be found at: <https://www.mass.gov/municipal-animal-inspector-program> If you are interested in the position, please contact the selectboard at [selectboard@townofcharlemont.org](mailto:selectboard@townofcharlemont.org)

### NOTICE FROM ASSESSOR'S OFFICE: PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS AND STATE INCOME TAX TIPS FACT SHEET

Property tax exemption applications for Seniors/Surviving Spouse/Minors, Veterans with a service connected disability, Legally Blind and Financial Hardship/Active Military/Age & Infirmary are available in the Assessor's Office and on the town website: [Board of Assessors - Town of Charlemont \(charlemont-ma.us\)](http://www.charlemont-ma.us) or you may contact the office at 413-339-8586, x2 to request an application.

Seniors and Retirees may find the following link from Mass.gov for tax tips and information on the Massachusetts senior Circuit Breaker tax credit helpful: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/dor-tax-tips-for-seniors-and-retirees/download>. If you have any questions on this, you can contact the Massachusetts Department of Revenue's Customer Service Bureau at (617) 887-6367 or toll-free in Massachusetts at 800-392-6089 or talk to your tax preparer.

## Senior Center News

The senior center is now serving congregate meals provided by Life Path for more information please contact Lida Forbes at 413-834-7413

### Charlemont Blooms and Fairgrounds News

Though the beauty of flowers has departed Route 2 and the area on and near the Fairgrounds and Bissell Bridge, some of the “Charlemont Blooms” crew are working to extend the color through the end of the year with lights, greens and other decorations for the holidays.

Greens and bows are visible in the planters at Treasures on the Trail, The Village Cemetery, and the Veteran’s Marker at Town Hall. Private homes and businesses, along Route 2, have begun to decorate and are beautiful to see. (We are grateful for these! They add a great deal to the cheeriness of our Main Street ...!)

The Bissell Bridge is looking quite special, sporting festive wreaths. You’ll see the adjacent “viewing platform/mini park” also quite decked out for the end of 2022 with a potted tree and wreaths along the fence. (You may notice, it’s a beautiful spot for a holiday photo).

One of Charlemont’s older landmarks is decorated this season as our cherished, historic Grandstand has lights and a tree that will be lit from 4:30-8:30 PM, December 2 through January 2.

One Family has already taken a Fairgrounds “night walk” with head lamps, and reported it as “a lot of fun...” and now look forward to taking the night walk again when the Grandstand is lit.

We hope you will enjoy the lights, greens and other decorations as you are in the last month of 2022... and welcoming 2023. We wish you a Safe and Happy Holiday Season, The Elves at Charlemont Blooms

### Clothing and Textiles banned from trash

*State Waste Ban begins November 1<sup>st</sup>*

New state “waste ban” rules require textiles be kept out of the trash so they can be reused or recycled. Residents should place clean, dry clothing, textiles and footwear in a plastic bag and bring to a textiles drop off location. Never place textiles in a recycling bin.

What is banned from the trash and accepted in textile drop-off locations? Textiles are defined as anything from clothing (shirts, sweaters, pants) to footwear (sneakers, sandals, cleats) to accessories (bags, belts, hats) to linens (sheets, towels, fabric, and more). These items can be torn, stained, out of style, or missing a mate, but they must be CLEAN and DRY. Items that cannot be reused or sold in thrift stores are sorted, baled and sold to recyclers who make insulation, padding, and wiping cloths. To see a longer list of accepted items, please visit: [franklincountywastedistrict.org/p/68/Textiles](http://franklincountywastedistrict.org/p/68/Textiles)

**To retain their reuse value and avoid mildew contamination, all textile donations must be clean and dry. Keep them dry by placing in a plastic bag and tying it up. Textiles that are contaminated with mold, bodily fluids, insects, oil, or hazardous substances may go in the trash.**

There are many local drop-off locations. Textile drop boxes accept the widest range of items; smaller, independent resale shops may be more restrictive in what they want. Some organizations will even pick up from your home.

Every municipal transfer station in Franklin County hosts a textiles drop box for their residents or permit holders. Some transfer stations might require access fees or annual permits. These 19 transfer stations are in: Ashfield, Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Colrain, Conway, Deerfield, Greenfield, Heath, Leverett, Montague (Turners Falls), New Salem, Northfield, Orange, Rowe, Shelburne, Warwick, Wendell, and Whately. In addition, textile recycling is now accepted at local Salvation Army Thrift Stores.