

Town Expands Recycling Program

In 2010 Charlestown was, once again, ranked first in recycling by the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (RIRRC) with 33% of Town residents' waste being recycled. Although great news for the Town, the ranking is solely based on the small number of residents who use the Town's transfer station and recycling center. This means that most of the Town's recyclables are either not being recycled or not being properly counted by the RIRRC.

On June 12, 2000, the Charlestown Town Council passed an Ordinance creating the Charlestown Residential Collection Ordinance. Part of that Ordinance requires that Charlestown residents separate their recyclables from their residential solid waste. It also requires haulers to be licensed by the Town and to collect and deliver residential recyclables to a Town or State collection facility. In January 2011, Charlestown will begin to enforce this ordinance. Recycling bins are available from the Public Works Department for a five-dollar fee so that residents can separate their waste. Waste haulers will be required to notify the RIRRC that their waste is from Charlestown so it can be properly counted. Please make sure that your waste hauler becomes licensed with the Town and take the time to separate your residential waste. If you have any questions they can be answered by the Department of Public Works. Thank you for your assistance.

Waste Water Management Update

The Town of Charlestown is and has been fully committed to policies that enhance water quality within our three salt ponds as they are fundamental to the financial well being of the Town. However, these policies must first take into consideration any financial burden that is placed on our property owners. The January 2008 Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management's (DEM) On-Site Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) regulations require a significantly expanded usage of denitrification OWTS. This places a unique and significant financial burden on some property owners within the Salt Ponds Critical Resource Area (CRA).

The Charlestown Town Council and Wastewater Management Commission have been working with the DEM in an effort to identify a more cost effective approach to reducing nitrogen loading to our Salt Ponds CRA from OWTS. Most recently, members of the Town Council and Wastewater Management Commission met with Director Sullivan of DEM on September 29, 2010 to request that DEM allow the Town to implement an alternative to costly denitrification systems in certain circumstances.

At that meeting, DEM committed to working with the Town to expeditiously achieve a solution to this costly regulatory mandate. Director Sullivan stated at the meeting that the DEM could commit to a resolution by the end of October 2010. The Charlestown Wastewater Management Commission is currently preparing a revised proposal that if approved by DEM, would incorporate the use of lower cost septic system technology in some circumstances within the CRA. It is anticipated that this revised plan will be submitted to DEM by mid-October.

Additionally, based on the recent discussions with DEM, the Wastewater Management Commission voted on October 4, 2010 to extend the deadlines for the required cesspool phase-out for those cesspools located in prioritization Zone 2 and Zone 3 by an additional year.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS!



The Pipeline

November 2010 Volume 14, No. 3

Don't be Frustrated on Election Day

If you are uncertain as to your exact polling location you can access the Town's website at www.charlestownri.org. On the right hand side of your screen click on the big red words that say, "Voter Information Center." Then scroll all the way down to the bottom to where you see the words, "Street list with voting district." Click on this link and it will provide you with a list of all the streets in Town with the appropriate voting district and location. If you don't have access to a computer you can call the Town Clerk's office at **364-1200**.



Polling Locations

District	Location
0501	Charlestown Elementary School—LEFT SIDE 363 Carolina Back Road
0502	Charlestown Town Hall 4540 South County Trail
0503	Charlestown Police Station—Community Room 4901 Old Post Road
0504	St. Andrew Lutheran Church 15 East Beach Road
0505	Charlestown Elementary School—RIGHT SIDE 363 Carolina Back Road
0506	Dunns Corner Fire Station—RIGHT SIDE (next to Quonnie Grange) 5660 Post Road
0507	Meadow Brook Inn 168 Carolina Back Road

A Message from your Town Council...

The Charlestown Town Council is pleased to provide you with *The Pipeline* "Election Edition." This edition provides you with a sample ballot for the November 2nd election. The first page of the ballot varies slightly for each of the seven voting districts in Charlestown. The remainder of the ballot contains the same information; four questions that address state-wide issues and nine questions that address changes to the Town Charter.

It has been an honor and a privilege to represent Town residents during these past two years. We encourage all residents eligible to vote to do so on November 2nd.

Very truly yours,
Gregory Avedisian, Charlene Dunn, Marjorie Frank,
Richard Hosp and Forrester Safford



**Polls will be open
Nov. 2nd
7:00 AM to 9:00 PM**

THE TOWN HALL PIPELINE

Charlestown Town Hall
4540 South County Trail
Charlestown, RI 02813

PRESORTED STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 34
CHARLESTOWN RI

«Resident»
«RR #1»
«Charlestown, RI 02813»

**MUNICIPAL
INFORMATIONAL
NEWSLETTER**

QUESTIONS 5 – 13
AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARLESTOWN HOME RULE CHARTER
(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 12, 2010)

QUESTION 5
Editing and Terminology Changes

(Amends Article II § C-2; Article V §§ C-13, C-15, C-16; Article VI § C-23; Article VIII § C-31; Article IX §§ C-33, C-36, C-38; Article X § C-42; Article XI § C-43; Article XIV § C-47; Article XIX § C-53; Article XXI § C-58; Article XXIV §§ C-72, C-73; Article XXV §§ C-79, C-81, C-82, C-83, C-84; Title to Article XXVI and Article XXVI §§ C-86, C-87, C-89, C-90, C-91, C-93, C-100; Title to Article XXXI; Title to Article XXXII and Article XXXII § C-115; Article XXXIII §§ C-116, C-117; Article XXXV § C-125; Article XXXVI §§ C-129, C-130; Article XXXIX §§ C-144, C-145; Article XL § C-149; Article XLIV § C-156; Article XLVI §§ C-159, C-161; Article XLVII § C-162; Article XLVIII § C-164; Article L § C-166; Article LII § C-170; Article LIII § C-172; Article LVI § C-179.1; Article LVII § C-182; Article LIX § C-186; Article LXI § C-188; Article LXII § C-189; Article LXVIII § C-203)

“Shall the Charter be amended to incorporate editing and terminology changes that would bring continuity and clarity to the Town Charter?”

Explanation: This amendment will bring continuity to the language regarding the Budget Public Hearing and Financial Town Referendum. It will also clean up inconsistencies with the use of the words “Council” and “Town Administrator” and includes the word “calendar” before the word “days” for clarity. Also, the word “Zoning Official” will be added to the heading of “Building Inspector” along with the removal of language under the “Building Inspector” category.

QUESTION 6
Council, Commissions and Boards Meetings

(Amends Article VII § C-27 and Article XLIX § C-165-Council, Commissions and Boards Meetings)

“Shall the Charter be amended to require the inclusion of an agenda item for public comment at all regularly scheduled public meetings?”

Explanation: This amendment will require an agenda item for public comment at all regularly scheduled public meetings held by the Town Council, and all Commissions and Boards.

QUESTION 7
Town Council, Town Administrator, Acting Administrator, Department of Public Records, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Tax Assessment, Public Works, Building Inspector, Police Department, Department of Parks and Recreation, and Department of Planning.

(Amends Article VIII §§ C-30, C-31; Article X §§ C-41, C-42; Article XI § C-43; Article XIV §§ C-46, C-47; Title to Part 5; Title to Article XVII and Article XVII § C-50; Article XVIII § C-51; Article XIX § C-53; Article XXI §§ C-56, C-58; Article XXII § C-59; Article XXIII § C-64; Article XXVIII § C-105; Article XXXI § C-112; Article XXXIV § C-119; Article XXXV §§ C-125, C-126; Article XXXVI § C-129)

Letter to the Community from Newly Appointed Parks & Recreation Director

Dear Charlestown Community Members:

Thank you for entrusting me with the responsibility of serving as your Director of Parks and Recreation. I am now engaged in maintaining and improving existing quality programming, while developing new programming for the community members, expanding our Senior and Pre-Senior involvement in recreation programming, management of three beaches, maintenance and development of two major parks and the planning and scheduling of major events for our parks system. While these challenges are of great proportion, I have hired a staff capable of completing these tasks. We are willing and eager to approach these challenges in whatever manner it takes to get the various jobs completed in a timely manner. It is our intent to provide quality recreation experiences to *you* the community members, along with our many seasonal citizens and vacationing visitors eager to enjoy the ocean, parks system, programming, natural oceanic landscapes and vistas and other facilities in our community.

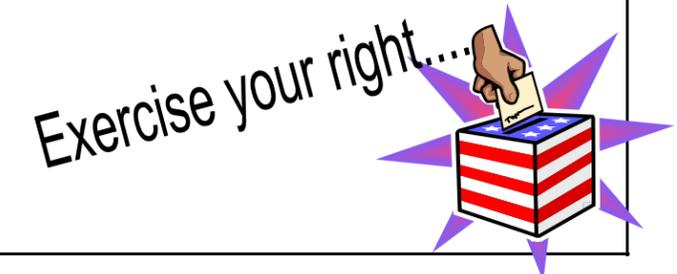
Since the very first day of my interview in April of this year as I previewed the Town’s recreation facilities and I drove to Blue Shutters Beach, I was able to recognize the width and breadth of this very special opportunity to serve the community of Charlestown in preserving the natural beauty of this beach front community. The ocean is a great motivator. As I continued my tour I recalled that I had been to Charlestown’s Ninigret Park on only a few occasions to watch my daughters play soccer, but I hadn’t investigated the many jewels somewhat hidden in the park’s aviation history prior to my visit. I marveled at and continue to marvel at the potential for this park. I work each day with a reminder of the mission to improve the park and to complete the Master Plan that so many of you have worked so diligently on over the past ten years or longer. I have heard many a story about the Park’s guru George Bliven and his vision for the park. It is our goal to complete the vision initiated by Mr. Bliven and to make the Charlestown Parks and Recreation Department the model for the entire region.

I am indebted to you for your support and I look forward to utilizing my skills and abilities to improve our community. If you would like to join the many volunteers already helping with our sports programs, our Dog Park construction team, our Frosty Drew Center, Disc Golf Course project, Community Center and Senior Center projects or to join the hundreds of volunteers associated with our newest partner that is soon to inhabit the second floor of our Community Center, the Southern Rhode Island Volunteers (SRIV), or to apply to become a member of the steering committee entitled the Parks and Recreation Commission, then I welcome you to do so.

It is an exciting time to be in the wheelhouse of the Parks and Recreation Department. I hope you join us on this voyage.

Sincerely,

Jay Primiano
Parks and Recreation Director



**QUESTION 12
Purchasing**

(Amends Article XXVII C-103)

“Shall the Charter be amended to alter the requirement amounts for competitive bidding?”

Explanation: This amendment would alter the minimum requirement amounts for competitive bidding to allow for purchases without seeking price quotes or competitive bidding of three thousand dollars or less; to require three price quotes for purchases of at least three thousand dollars but not more than ten thousand dollars; and, seek competitive bidding for purchase of ten thousand dollars or more.

**QUESTION 13
Dual Office Holding**

(Amends Article CXLVIII § C-185)

“Shall the Charter be amended to allow appointed volunteer members of the town government to hold up to (2) appointive volunteer positions in the town government?”

Explanation: This amendment will allow appointed members of the town government to serve in up to two (2) appointive positions in town government. Presently appointed members of the town government can only serve in one (1) position of town government.

"Special" Representative/Senate District Information

The following candidates' names will appear on the ballot in the following categories. The candidate you will vote for depends on the district in which you live. These names have been eliminated from the sample ballot, and placed here, to avoid confusion, as there are seven (7) different ballots/districts due to Representative or Senate District lines.

Senator in General Assembly	Representative in General Assembly
District 38	District 39
Dennis L. Algieri (R)	Michael J. Picillo (R)
Write-in	Larry Valencia (D)
	Write-in
District 34	District 36
Francis J. Meyer (R)	Donna M. Walsh (D)
Jon J. Sawyer (D)	Thomas Browning (Moderate)
Write-in	Write-in

Exercise Your Right to Vote November 2nd!



Upcoming Parks and Recreation Events

Children's 4th Annual Halloween Trick or Treat at Town Hall on Friday, October 29th from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Photos will be taken for our "Wall of Fame".

Adult's NYC trip to Cirque Du Soleil at Madison Square Garden on Wednesday, December 1st. Departs Town Hall at 8:00 AM. Showtime at 7:30 PM. Return time directly following show. Cost \$77 pp which includes transportation and show ticket.

Town Hall Tree Lighting Ceremony on Friday, December 3rd at 5:30 PM.

Bonfire at Ninigret Park on New Year's Eve, December 31, 2010 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

For more information or to register, please call Charlestown Parks and Recreation at 364-1222.

Town Initiates On-Line Service, Adding to its Transparency

Over two years ago, the Rhode Island Public Broadcasting Service



discontinued their recording service, which left Charlestown without a person to record local meetings. Last year, Charlestown hired the town sergeant to film Town Council, Planning Commission and Zoning Board meetings so that they could be aired on the local cable station. With the addition of ClerkBase®, Town residents and summer residents will have another way of keeping up to date with local issues.

This July the Town Council added the ClerkBase® system to the Charlestown Website. By Clicking on the ClerkBase® image, you can now access all of the documents related to a Council Meeting and can view the Town Council meeting from your computer. The

Sample Ballot

A sample ballot of the candidates has been included for your review prior to election day. The names under the categories for Senator in General Assembly and Representative in General Assembly, have been blanked out because those positions are based on districts and not the same for everyone in Charlestown. Those candidates are listed on the previous page depending on the district in which you live.

You will notice that for School Committee the ballot states, "vote for any 3", for Town Council "vote for any 5", and for Planning Commission, "vote for any 3." This is the maximum number you can vote for in any of these categories. However, you do not have to vote for that many candidates. **You may vote for less than the number listed if you so choose, or write in a candidate.**

See sample ballot on next page.



most exciting part of this new service is that you no longer have to watch the entire meeting to wait for the portion you are interested in. Now you can click on an agenda item and watch just that portion of the meeting. Within the next year the Town plans to include Zoning Board and Planning Commission meetings. We are also hoping to add additional minutes to ClerkBase® so that anyone doing research can do so from their own computer. ClerkBase® also allows the user to search the documents for specific words or phrases. By November ClerkBase® will be live streaming all Town Council meetings via the Internet. Citizens will be able to view the Council meetings at real time on their computer or on Cable TV the next day.

We hope that you enjoy these new on-line services. Head over to ClerkBase® and check out our newest service. Go to www.charlestownri.org and click on the ClerkBase® icon. If you have any questions concerning access, the phone numbers are listed on the ClerkBase® page for you to call for help.