

Town of Charlemont December 2025 Newsletter



Special Town Meeting

There will be a Special Town Meeting on December 9, 2025 at 6 pm at the Hawlemont Elementary School, to vote on the following warrant article:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$200,830.00 for the purpose of improving and renovating land known as The Tennis Court located at School Street in Charlemont, for park and active recreation purposes, and to meet said appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow the sum of \$100,000.00 pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 7(1) or any other enabling authority, and further to transfer the amount of \$100,830.00 from the Town's Recreation Earmark funds, in anticipation of receiving a grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) program (300 CMR 5.0) in the amount of \$100,000.00; and further to dedicate said land to park, playground, and recreation purposes pursuant to MGL Chapter 45, Section 3; and to authorize the Select Board to apply for, accept, and expend said PARC grant funds, and to enter into all necessary agreements and execute all instruments and take any other actions required for the project, or act on anything relative thereto.

School Committee News

December 6 is the **Hobby Horse Bazaar** from 9 - 3 in the HRS Gymnasium with crafters and vendors, bake sale, face painting and other activities for children.

Play Group for children aged 0 - 6 with families is December 6 and 20 from 9:30 - 11 in the HRS Gym staffed by the CFCE (Coordinated Family & Community Engagement branch of the Massachusetts Department of Education).

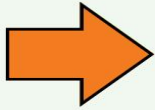
HRS is offering a **backpack food program** once a week to hungry Charlemont and Hawley residents in need (not just students and families of students— contact office at 339-8316 for more info).

Fun facts: 1. Last year's 5th graders at HRS scored higher than the state average on the Science MCAS! 2. Rosie, the school's pig, had 8 piglets who are growing and thriving!! 3. HRS successfully raised funds (with help from the town of Charlemont) to purchase and install brand new play structures for students to use during recess and for the entire community after school hours!!!

Digital Devices

For Qualified* Charlemont Residents

*Low-income, disabled, veteran status, or the elderly qualify.



Get your laptop, Chromebook, or tablet today!

The Town of Charlemont has launched a device distribution program. Get your device while supplies last!

Visit the Broadband Committee page on the Town website or see the Town Administrator at the Charlemont Town Hall to find out more.



This project was funded by the Massachusetts Broadband Institute at the MassTech Collaborative under the Municipal Digital Equity Implementation Program. Funding was provided by Massachusetts ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Funds.

 GREENFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE Connecting Generations Cyber-Seniors™	 
Get support tailored for your needs!	
What We Offer: • Basic Computer Skills • Using the Internet • Email Support • Setting up New Devices • Accessing Services	Free Tech Support Saturdays, noon-2 p.m. No appointment necessary Tyler Memorial Library Located in the Charlemont Town Hall 157 Main St, Charlemont, MA
This program is a partnership with the towns of Northfield, Charlemont, Colrain, Leyden, Wendell, and New Salem, and is funded by the Massachusetts Broadband Institute at the MassTech Collaborative under the Municipal Digital Equity Implementation Program. Funding was provided by Massachusetts ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Funds.	



New Broadband Subsidy Available to Federal Lifeline Subscribers

Beginning in July, 2025, subscribers to Charlemont's municipal broadband service who receive the federal Lifeline benefit through Whip City Fiber will have an additional \$30/month subsidy automatically applied to their internet bills. This town subsidy is in addition to the \$9.25 credit from Lifeline.

Digital Equity Opportunities for Community Engagement Subscribers currently using Lifeline for a different service, can qualify for Charlemont's \$30/month subsidy by switching the Lifeline credit to Whip City Fiber. Subscribers not enrolled in Lifeline can learn more about this federal program at <https://www.lifelinesupport.org/> Subscribers who already receive benefits such as SNAP, SSI, MEDICAID or other similar federal assistance programs may qualify automatically under federal guidelines.

To check eligibility and apply for the program through Whip City Fiber, visit <https://lifeline.whipcityfiber.com>



Not your Boston
Tea Party

An exploration of the social function of tea in 19th century America
(and at the Boston Tea Party)

with Jane Wald of the Emily Dickinson Museum

Tea will be served ... and eventually dumped in a nearby stream!

Holiday cookies to share are welcome.

December 13, 2025 2-4 p.m.

Tyler Memorial Library
157 Main Street, Charlemont, MA
charlemontlibrary.org

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library and Museum on Main Street: Voices and
Votes with support from the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities and
the Charlemont-Hawley Arts Council.

