



Gun Owners' Action League

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The Honorable Deval Patrick
Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
State House
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Patrick,

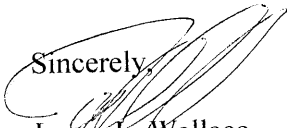
We are concerned about a grave breach of the public trust that is occurring in the unlikely place of the town of Chester, Massachusetts. The enclosed article from the Country Journal of November 1st, 2007, indicates the Police Department is requesting "all town residents to register their firearms with their department." Governor, they have no statutory authority to do so!

The sole statutory authority entrusted with firearms ownership records is the Criminal History Systems Board. There are numerous references to sending records of purchases to that entity. The only time the police chief is specifically authorized to have these records is in the case of lost, stolen, or recovered firearms.

- Chapter 140, §123, conditions of a firearms dealer's license:
 - *"Fifth, That the licensee shall submit a record of all sales, rentals and leases forthwith at the time of such sale, rental or lease via electronic communication link to the executive director of the criminal history systems board."*
- Chapter 140, §128A, concerning private sales between licensed parties:
 - *"provided, further, that such resident reports within seven days, in writing to the executive director of the criminal history systems board on forms furnished by said executive director,..."*
- Chapter 140, §128B, regarding purchases of long guns from dealers out of state,
 - *"shall within seven days after receiving such firearm, rifle, shotgun or machine gun, report, in writing, to the executive director of the criminal history systems board..."*
- And finally, Chapter 140, §129C, regarding loss, theft or recovery of firearms.
 - *"A seller shall, within seven days, report all such transfers to the executive director of the criminal history systems board according to the provisions set forth in section one hundred and twenty-eight A, and in the case of loss, theft or recovery of any firearm, rifle, shotgun or machine gun, a similar report shall be made forthwith to both the executive director of the criminal history systems board and the licensing authority in the city or town where the owner resides."*

Governor, we urge you to contact the town of Chester to urge them to stop this unlawful practice immediately. However, we fear that the damage, in terms of citizen trust in the government, has already been done.

Sincerely,


James L. Wallace
Executive Director

cc: Chester Police Department

specimen. Your service has been extremely soon. Best wishes!

Michael R. Knappik
State Senator

CPD updating firearms records

CHESTER—The Police Department is updating its firearms records and is asking all town residents to register their firearms with the department. Needed information includes: the date the firearm was purchased, make, model, type (pistol, revolver, shotgun, etc.), caliber (.22, .40, etc.), and serial number. Information can be mailed to

Chester Police Department ATTN: Firearms, 15 Middlefield Road, Chester, MA 01011, or phoned in to 354-7822, or sent via email to JessiSorrrell@yahoo.com. Be sure to include your name and permit number on all correspondence. Residents do not need to register handguns or airsoft guns.

Halloween Dance draws crowd

CHESTER—The night of Friday, October 19 was filled with ghosts and ghouls and laughter, as well as some rockin' country music at Chester Elementary School. The school's PTO held its first Welcome Back/Halloween Dance in the gym. The dance was for students and their families and was free of charge.

The PTO had a delicious array of baked goods and treats for sale made by many parent volunteers, as well as pizza from the Russell Inn. Music was provided by the "hick rock group," The Bum Steers. Chester's 4th grade teacher, Bill Knittle, is in the band.

Winners of the costume contest were: Isabelle Beaudry-Hathaway, best homemade costume; Cameron VanBuren, best movie costume; Captain Jack Sparrow; Melinda Main, Sweetest Costume, a black cat; Alexandra Russell, most dazzling costume, a princess; and Samantha Sawyer,

scariest costume, a vampire.

The unofficial "big" winner of the night was Chester's own Principal Tom Nadohy dressed as a giant lobster. A dance contest was won by first grader Evan Lee and third grader Erika Wolf. "A guess how many candy corn are in the jar" contest was won by A.J. Mitchell and Sarah Foley won the 50/50 raffle. All in all, it was a great night for Chester Elementary School.

Card of Thanks

The Chester PTO would like to thank all the parents and the staff of Chester Elementary School for their help with the Welcome Back/Halloween Dance held on October 19. A huge thanks to The Bum Steers for the rock-in show they gave our students. It was a great night.

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Heavyweight Fleece Lined Zip Hooded Sweatshirts.....	\$24 ⁰⁰
Carhartt Button Down Canvas Shirts.....	\$35 ⁰⁰
Heavyweight Flannel Shirts.....	\$28 ⁰⁰
Lightweight Flannel Shirts.....	\$10 ⁰⁰
Ladies Fleece Tops.....	\$20 ⁰⁰
Ladies 100% Cotton Turtle-necks & Mock Turtle-necks.....	\$8 ⁹⁹ -\$10 ⁹⁹

enjoy the 2005 Best Blue, the '05 Bay Blue (the port style wine), the '05 Seyval/Vidal Blanc blend, and the '05

from June to Dec on Sat & Sun, from 1 to 5 pm. For information call 354-2340 or visit www.blueberrywine.com.

More Chester, next page

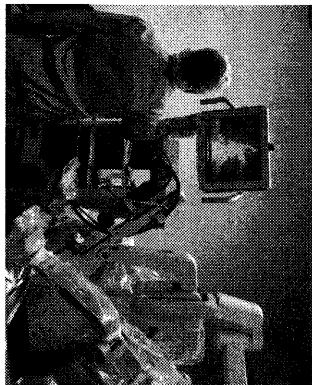
A Hilltown Opportunity

Coolley Dickinson Comes to You

PLEASE
JOIN
US

When: November 8,
6:30-8 p.m.

Where: Chesterfield Senior
Center
(Grange Hall)
400 Main Road
Chesterfield



Come to a community round table and hear Coolley Dickinson Hospital's Acting CEO Carol Smith talk about the impact the hospital's new North Building has had on patient privacy. Carol will also speak about the hospital's new Minimally Invasive Surgery and Robotic Program, its new open MRI in Amherst and the Midwifery Program it is currently developing. There will be time for a question-and-answer period.

For more information, please call
Georgia Moore at (413) 582-2464.