

WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS!

AUGUST 2016

ALSO INCLUDES
Community News!
STARTING ON PAGE 8

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 11

Celebrating Our Achievements!



SAVE THE DATE!

WSD Back-to-School Family BBQ

- **When:** Thursday, August 25th, 5:30-7:00pm
- **Where:** Winooski School
- **Who:** All families and staff members
- **Why:** To celebrate the beginning of the 2016-17 school year, meet teachers and enjoy a delicious BBQ dinner

*Preschool to 12th grade welcome!
We hope you can join us!*

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French Heritage Day 2016

By Steve Norman

On Sunday, June 26, under sunny skies with a cooling breeze the second edition of Winooski's annual French Heritage Day unfolded its banners and tents beside the Sunday Farmers' Market on the weekend of St. Jean Baptiste Day, Québec's national holiday and a three-day weekend there. "We made a special effort to attract more visitors from north of the border," said Rita Martel, President of the Winooski Historical Society, the event's producer. "A city employee said they estimated we had a total of 900 visitors throughout the day."

In addition to demonstrations of traditional crafts including lacemaking, tinsmithing, and clock repair, the greenspace fronting the Champlain Mill hosted exhibits from the French-Canadian Genealogical Society, offering mentoring and online access to specialized databases for tracing French and other ancestry, and St. Joseph's Parish in Burlington, the first specifically French parish established within the United States. The Mill Museum and the Winooski History Museum were open to the public for a rare weekend date, and special exhibits inside the Mill included vintage sound recording and playback appliances by Joseph Perron, as well as handmade banjos and mandolins displayed and demonstrated by Paul St. Gelais.

The day's main attraction was at the music tent featuring a 5½-hour program of franco music from North America, France and Africa, with seats under the Falls Way trees for the audience. French-American CVU grad and a rising recording artist, singer-songwriter Francesca Blanchard led off the program, introduced by Colchester resident George Bouffard of Catholic Financial Life, a major event sponsor for the first time. Yankee Chank, a Cajun band based in Vermont and Massachusetts, was sponsored by Winooskiite restaurateur Bob Conlon's Leunig's Bistro and Café.

At noon Mayor Seth Leonard introduced soon-to-retire City Manager Deac Decarreau for the official Welcome followed by a short community sing led by 90-year old Middlebury



Marianne Bonnard, QC Délégation



Nancy Pecca, Lacemaker



Francesca Blanchard & audience

(continued on page 12)

Why is it so busy at WSD this summer?

By Sean McMannon, Superintendent of Schools

Although the 2015-16 school year has ended, WSD continues to offer student opportunities, staff development and to make improvements to our facility throughout the summer. June and July have been very busy with the following student activities:

- **Nordic Soccer Camp:** On June 13-17 over 30 middle schoolers and June 20-24 over 25 elementary-aged students worked with Nordic Soccer Club (NSC) coaches on their soccer skills. Spartan Hoop Camp: Over 120 students in grades 2-10 attended three, week-long sessions this summer!
- **Middle School Summer Camp:** Over 30 middle schoolers have attended the joint Winooski & Burlington School District summer camp which runs for five weeks. WMS students have done everything from graphic novel creation to swimming lessons to Pre-Algebra.
- **VYCC/WMHS Garden Project:** WHS students have been working with our partner, VT Youth Conservation Corps to spruce up our existing gardens and construct a new garden behind the school. The new garden will hold potatoes.
- **JFK Summer Program:** Over 130 K-5 students will work on literacy, math and other important skills to combat summer learning loss.
- **Shader Croft Summer Program:** 33 WMHS students work on their literacy and oral communication skills, learn to swim, and enjoy various community experiences during this 5 week program.
- **THRIVE:** Over 30 families have taken advantage of this full-day 8:00am-5:30pm program.
- **JFK Newcomer ELL Program:** This program welcomes and acclimates our elementary-aged students who have just arrived in VT.
- **WMS & WHS Basketball Open Gym:** This weekly option for our WMHS students is a great way to stay in shape and enjoy time with friends.
- **Little League Baseball:** Our baseball fields have been busy with regular season games and tournaments over the course of the summer with many of our Winooski youth participating.
- **Therapeutic Jiu-Jitsu:** Centerpoint staff have offered this opportunity for middle school students this summer as a continuation of the program during the school year.
- **VT Foodbank:** WSD has worked to add two summer food drop-offs, Friday, July 1, and Friday, August 5
- **Summer Food Service Program:** Breakfast and Lunch each day from June 13 to August 5 at WSD. Monday-Friday, Breakfast: 7:45-8:30 and Lunch: 11:30-1:00

Also, the adults have been busy learning and improving our facility:

- **Responsive Classroom Teacher Training:** The approach emphasizes academic, social, and emotional growth in a strong school community. It believes that how children learn is as important as what they learn, and that academic success is inextricably tied to building social-emotional competencies. Independent research has found that the Responsive Classroom approach is associated with higher academic achievement in math and reading, improved school climate, and higher-quality instruction. All JFK teachers will be trained in this method by the end of the summer.
- **Developmental Designs Teacher Training:** The belief is that student success relies on a blend of good relationships, social skills, and engagement with learning. Developmental Designs practices build skills and engagement in three key areas of school life: social-emotional, relationship and community and academic. All WMS teachers will be trained in this method by the end of the summer.
- **JFK Bathroom renovations:** Some much needed improvements are nearly completed in these bathrooms.
- **JFK Classroom movement:** Classrooms will be moved so there is a flow from the kindergarten rooms which will stay in the same spaces, up to 5th grade classes which will be at the end of the main hallway leading to the baseball fields. This will allow teachers and students in the same grade easier access to each other for things like literacy and math groupings.
- **WHS Moveable walls:** Two moveable walls at WHS are being created to allow the flexibility for larger spaces.
- **New Walk-In Cooler:** Our food service provider, The Abbey Group, will be getting a new cooler as the current one is on its last legs.
- **New Electronic Sign:** Thanks to the school board and our PTO an electronic sign has been ordered. The PTO has granted WSD a very generous \$10K toward this important project. The new sign can be remotely programmed to display multiple messages and images to improve overall communication to parents of important events.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school at our **Annual WSD Back-to-School BBQ on Thursday, August 25th** at 5:30 pm and appreciate your support so we can continue to offer great programming for students and keep our facility in excellent shape! Thank you for working with WSD to benefit our students!

School Board Update

by Mike Decarreau, Winooski School Board President

Summer is moving right along. Here we are — August already. I was thinking the other day as I waited for my lunch to warm in the microwave that 2 minutes seemed to take forever, yet I turn around to go back to my desk and 2 weeks seem to have passed.

In our June letter we noted that Mohamed Abdi submitted his resignation from the Board as his time was at a premium as he pursued his degree. We sent out a request for interested candidates to get in touch for interviews on July 13th. We concluded that interview session with four great candidates giving us their views on various aspects of our governance model and how they would fit into it. In the end, all four candidates would have made a positive impact. We chose Matthew MacNeil to finish out Mohamed's term. In September we will introduce Matt more fully. The Board is excited to continue our work and add an incredible new perspective as Matt brings a wealth of experience with him to this role. (As an aside I would like to thank Sarah Robinson for her indoctrination efforts for new Board and City Council members!)

The second item to bring forward this month is some changes in the tax details we presented to you in March. After five years on the board I am finally getting to understand the intricacies of both negotiations and putting the budgets together. Both of these are difficult tasks for different reasons.

Negotiations are by their very nature an exercise in conflict and conflict resolution. The piece that makes negotiations cleaner is that you sit across the table from the other team and talk about the issues, their impact on each other and the possible outcomes or avenues to resolve them. In the end, with perseverance and an eye on the goal you close them out.

Contrast this to the budget cycle. In the budget cycle, you set a goal for the administrative team to achieve for a spending limit and they come back with ideas on reaching that limit. In some

cases that means making cuts to some aspect of the operations. We try to keep that away from the students as much as possible. At the end you come up with a plan and a budget that fits the needs of the students and the pocketbook of the community. We then vote on the spending and the amount of taxes this would require us to raise. The community shows tremendous support and accepts our budgets. Thank you and we have a passed budget. Done? No, that would be too easy.... At this point we have a spending plan, contracts that are supported by the new budget and the Legislature still has not finished playing with the variables.

We found that at the end of the legislative session several changes were made that impacted the information we shared in March. We presented to you that if your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) was below \$99K your taxes would essentially remain flat. This part did not change. The limit was actually raised from \$99K to \$137K which means that the school portion of more community members taxes will be a flat rate based on income. For those with AGI over \$137K the tax rate is still based on your property value. This means that we mentioned in March that AGI over \$99K with house value = \$250K the tax increase would be \$184 for the year. This change now moves this to \$248 increase on the same \$250K house value. The main change made was a decrease in the per pupil allotment from the state from \$9,870 to \$9,701. The effective tax rate moves up from 5.35% to 7.11%.

At least with negotiations you know what you have and where everything stands. You may not like it but at least you know. With this budget haziness not only do you not know what you have, you don't know until after you are done what you have.

I might try learning how to play cricket instead! Have a great summer and we hope to hear from you.

Food Service News

By Rebecca Goulet

As we prepare for the new school year, the Winooski School District will begin its third year of participation in the Community Eligibility Program (CEP). Since over 40% of our students are certified to receive free school meals, we can continue to serve ALL students free breakfast and lunch. Bag Suppers will also be available for students participating in afterschool programs.

Please keep in mind that families that are not directly certified for free meals, will still be asked to complete a form, to verify household income. Completing the form is very important, as the data for our school to qualify for other federal and state grants. Forms will be mailed out Mid-August and can be returned to either Principal's office or the Copy Center in the main lobby.

Miss a School Board Meeting? Watch it Online!

Did you know you can watch Winooski School Board meetings on the internet on your own



schedule? Visit www.retn.org and click on "Meetings" under the "Watch" heading. You will find Winooski School Board listed alphabetically at the bottom of the list of area schools.

DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS

Would you like to sponsor a Winooski High School graduate and help make their dreams come true?

DONATE NOW to Winooski Dollars for Scholars at www.winooski.dollarsforscholars.org/.

CITY AND SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

WMHS Fall Soccer Starts August 18th!

By Dennis Barcomb, WSD Athletic Director

The Fall soccer season is right around the corner. High School Boys and Girls Soccer starts on Thursday, August 18th (times vary) and Middle School Soccer starts on the first day of school Wed 8/31. All players must have an updated physical to play soccer. If you have any questions please contact the coaches:

Middle School Girls Soccer:

Chris Magistrale: cmagistrale@wdschools.org

Middle School Boys Soccer:

Lucas Dunn: ldunn@wdschools.org

High School Girls Soccer

Roger Prescott: rprescott@drm.com

High School Boys Soccer:

Steve Feiss: stephenfeiss@gmail.com

Got Yogurt Cups?

By Jessica Bruce, Art Department

The Winooski Middle High School Art Department is looking for small plastic yogurt cups for special projects in the classroom. Please drop off washed and clean cups to the Middle/High School office. Thank you!

You Can Help!

Please don't forget to keep saving your Box Tops. **Last year we made \$1,000.00 after collecting 10,000 Box Tops!**

You can send them with your child to school when school starts. Each classroom

at JFK is collecting or you can drop them off at the JFK or Middle/High School offices.



Katherine "Deac" Decarreau

The City of Winooski would like to extend a message of thanks and gratitude to Katherine 'Deac' Decarreau who has fearlessly managed the City for the last seven years. Her service has been paramount in fostering relationships across generations and cultures, balancing a fiscally responsible budget, and supporting a thriving community. Deac's leadership came with many perks, including her sense of humor, her penchant for tea, and her historical anecdotes on everything Winooski. Deac is moving on to become the Chief Financial Officer for the Chittenden Central Supervisory Union, where her expertise in finance and management will support the lives of students and families - continuing her legacy in community improvement.

Deac, we couldn't have done it without you.

Namaste,
City of Winooski Staff



Onboarding Meeting

by Linda Gregoire

We are proud to be here for your families. And we sure would like you to join ours. We are inviting you to Our First Onboarding Meeting - which will take place at the beginning of the school year. Watch for details and remember: when we work together every student can benefit!

Remember the 2015-2016 School Year with a Yearbook!

JFK Yearbooks are now on sale for \$10.00. They can be purchased in the JFK office or in room 27.

Winooski Farmer's Market — In Full Swing!

by Maura O'Neill

Join us each Sunday from 10am-2pm on Winooski Falls Way for the Winooski Farmers Market through October 9th.

Each week we have live music, prepared food, craft and agriculture vendors, plus a free raffle and of course the Power of Produce (POP) Club For Kids ages 5-12.

The POP Club is our free kid's program in which kids get a Passport to Health (we hold onto it for the season), and \$2 worth of wooden market tokens to buy fruits, vegetables and food bearing plants. Each week the kids participate in an educational activity and receive a stamp in their passport along with \$2 worth of tokens.



Summer School Snapshot

See the full story about this great summer program on page 7 of this newsletter!



Alexis shows off her her clay creation as Jackson works on his project



Hiba and Eh Ka Lu make art they can wear!

JFK ELEMENTARY NEWS

August News from JFK

By Sara Raabe - JFK Elementary School Principal

Summer work at JFK is moving along! The maintenance and custodial staff have been working incredibly hard. They have cleaned all the classrooms and moved 14 classrooms. For the 16-17 school year, Kindergarten will stay where they are. 1st grade will move into the hall by the music and art rooms. In the main hallway, classrooms will start with 2nd grade, and move up in grades as you move down the hallway, ending with 5th grade by the back doors. These moves will allow grade level classrooms to be next to each other. This allows for more collaborative planning for teachers.



Summer school is in full swing! This year, our Kindergartners are coming for two weeks of summer school. This gives them the chance to meet some of the teachers, and see the spaces where the classrooms are. After Kindergarten summer school is over, the kindergarten teachers will be making the kindergarten class lists. The goal of waiting is so that the teachers will now the students well enough to make balanced class lists for the 16-17 school year.

Our 1st - 6th graders are attending summer school for three weeks this summer. Through the Summer Olympic theme, students are working on their math and literacy skills. Each day every student is fed breakfast and lunch, they do academic learning, and they participate in some sort of physical activity. Summer school is a great way to keep our students minds and bodies engaged during the summer months!

When students return to school on August 31st, there will be a few changes:

- Supervision for students will not start until 7:45. Please DO NOT drop off students before 7:45.
- School starts at 8:00. Students that arrive after 8:05 are considered tardy.
- Dismissal is at 3:00. If you have to pick up your student before 3:00 it must be for a valid reason, such as a doctor appointment.
- If your student is frequently tardy, absent or picked up early, you will receive a letter at 5 and 10 days. At 15 days we will require a family meeting. At 20 days, information gets forwarded to the State's Attorney.
- Every classroom will start their day with breakfast and morning meeting. Part of morning meeting each day is sharing. Students may not bring in objects, such as toys, to share. Instead, we want our students to share stories, experiences, news, and announcements. If your student would like to share a picture of an experience, please email the picture or bring it to the classroom teacher.

Enjoy the rest of summer. We are looking forward to a great 2016-2017 school year!

Free Concert in the Park & Myers Public Pool Forum

*Tuesday, August 2nd
@ Laundry Park, Winooski
4:30 pm - 8:30 pm*

Join the City of Winooski in adding your input to the Myers Public Pool forum and enjoy an evening of family friendly fun!



Music by Four Shillings Short
Featuring 20 different instruments from around the globe!

All are Welcome! Enjoy food & refreshments, lawn games, face painting, and more!

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Building A Culture of Excellence

By Leon Wheeler

This summer I've been reading (and re-reading) the new book by Angela Duckworth: "Grit." Dr. Duckworth is one of the world's lead researchers on the subject of grit, which is the another name for our GX, Persistence. I highly recommend the book! One chapter is devoted to the relationship between grit and hope. She writes...

"There's an old Japanese saying: Fall seven, rise eight..."

"What is hope? One kind of hope is that expectation that tomorrow will be better than today...sunnier weather, or a smoother path ahead. The onus is on the universe to make things better.

"Grit depends on a different kind of hope...the expectation that our own efforts can improve our future...I resolve to make tomorrow better.' The hope that gritty people have has nothing to do with luck and everything to do with getting up again."

Summer provides school personnel the time to reflect on the past year: What worked? What didn't work? What can we learn from the past year that can improve in order for all students to excel?

Some things that are working:

GX instruction is embedded in each class; Student demonstrations of GX learning is evident in our January and June Expos; Daily GX Champ celebration; Responding to individual student requests for personalizing learning; Implementation of the next GXs (Wellbeing was piloted, and Persistence was explored...and both will be piloted for 2016-17); Students increasingly indicate that they're valued and important to teachers; Achievable plan to fully implement proficiency-based learning by 2020; Commitment to equity.

Some things that aren't working well:

Consistent expectation of excellence; Reporting and grading process; Capturing and sharing the stories of student learning; Building a culture of hope through hard work; Student ownership of learning.

Based on the above reflection, the 2016-17 year will be focused on building a culture of excellence in all parts of the middle and high school, starting with a common belief that every student can excel, and that working together, staff and parents can support that achievement. We're poised and ready to take steps this coming year that will lead us to excellence in learning!

Enjoy the rest of the summer.

"Grit depends on a different kind of hope....the expectation that our own efforts can improve our future. 'I resolve to make tomorrow better.' The hope that gritty people have has nothing to do with luck and everything to do with getting up again."

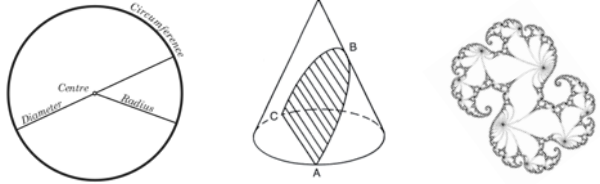
Great Deals Abound at the WHS Online Store!

By Courtney Poquette

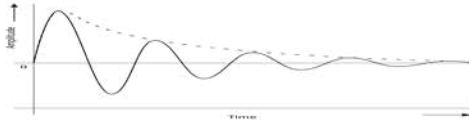
The high school business department has put together a fundraiser in the form of an online store. At the store, one can purchase used items donated from community members. All of the money that is raised will

go toward field trips and scholarships. Check out the store at www.Facebook.com/WHSOnline, and thank you for the support!





WHS Math Lab Summer Sessions



Drop by during the summer and keep the math alive!

Ms. Mellen and Mr. Payeur will be available from 9am – 3pm on:

July 19, 20	August 2, 3
July 26, 27	August 9, 10

Location: Winooski Middle/High School Room 104
Room: To be determined

Let us know if you can make it and stay up to date on our location! tpayeur@wsdschools.org
rmellen@wsdschools.org

Summer Math Support: August!

Do you want to earn math credits in August? It's not too late! Mr. Payeur and Ms. Mellen will be offering math support two days a week, from 9am to 3pm for any interested high school students. No need to pre-register, just show up.

- Week 3: August 2 and 3
- Week 4: August 9 and 10

WMS Students Loved Summer School!

By Suzanne Skaflestad, 21C Afterschool Program Director

Here are photos from the Burlington/Winooski Middle School Summer program which ran for five weeks in June-July, from 9:00-3:00. The program was offered at no charge to students from Winooski and Burlington. Breakfast and lunch was provided along with transportation to and from the program. Nearly 35 students from Winooski signed up for multiple weeks and attended morning and afternoon classes. Take a look at the photos to see what students learned about this summer! It was great to see students developing their literacy and math skills, exploring their interests and learning a new skill. And...they made new friends in Burlington! In fact, a Burlington teacher recently commented that she often sees the Winooski and Burlington students talking and sitting with each other...a nice complement to Winooski and Burlington! Way to go Winooski students for being engaged in your learning, attending your classes consistently and developing new friendships!



Evelyn, Alexis and Jackson enjoy Clay Art together with students from Burlington



Yatrika (far left) and KB (far right) enjoy another year of Cooking for Community with students from Burlington



Brooklyn practices her science and art skills in Tinkering



Students Practice their Improvisation Skills in All The World's A Stage



Ayoub and Eric make Kale Chips in Gardening



Sofia works on her Clay Project in Clay Art



Najib, Saruro, Muslimo, Benlor and Amina develop their language skills in the New Arrivals Program at Hunt Middle School

COMMUNITY NEWS

City Council Update

By Mayor Seth Leonard



Hope everyone is enjoying the summer! You have probably heard the big news from the City Government by now: the departure of Katherine “Deac” Decarreau after seven years of serving the community with strong leadership as City Manager. We wish Deac the best in the next steps of her career, and are grateful to her for her many years of service to the City. Deac tackled a number of difficult issues during her time as City Manager, and is leaving a strong foundation from which we can continue moving forward as a community. At the time of this publication, the Council is in negotiations for a potential Interim City Manager to act as Chief Administrative Officer while a search for the next City Manager unfolds.

As we look toward Winooski’s future, the Council recently approved a City Manager hiring process that will guide us over the next few months. A great deal of thought went into the guiding document, to ensure a process that included input from, and opportunities for Winooski residents, city staff, businesses, community partners, and other stakeholders to engage in the hiring process. By August, we expect to have selected a Search Committee of representatives from the community and partner organizations. The Committee will be tasked with helping to determine the scope of our search, the qualifications we will seek in candidates, reviewing applications, and conducting initial interviews before recommending finalists to the City Council. Finalists will have an opportunity to meet with the public and will give a public presentation as part of the interview process. There will be several opportunities for Winooski residents to engage in the process, and to provide feedback on important considerations for the future City Manager. Be on the lookout for more news on this process; we hope you will take the opportunity to get involved! If you have any thoughts, questions, or concerns about the hiring process, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Council.

You have probably noticed the busy project season around town. The extensive Circulator safety improvements are targeted for completion in August, aiming to enhance the overall pedestrian and vehicular experience downtown. If you have missed the pool this summer, we hope you have noticed the number of new recreational activities being offered by the Community Services Department (please visit the city website for more information). Staff is also hard at work supporting the many exciting events, festivals, and ongoing activities throughout the city – we hope you are enjoying the exciting vibrancy in town this summer. There is a lot going on in our one square mile and seemingly something for everyone!

Your City Officials	Email addresses	Telephone
Mayor Seth Leonard	sleonard@winooskivt.org	802-777-3381
Councilor Brian Corrigan	bcorrigan@winooskivt.org	802-999-9270
Councilor Nicole Mace	nmace@winooskivt.org	802-363-7777
Councilor Robert Millar	rmillar@winooskivt.org	802-238-0089
Councilor Brian Sweeney	bsweeney@winooskivt.org	802-734-6902
City Manager Deac Decarreau	deac@winooskivt.org	802-655-6410

Visit the city website at winooskivt.org or call 802-655-6410.

Keep up to date with announcements and news:

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK We are “City of Winooski - Government”
FOLLOW US ON TWITTER We are @winooskivt

Reminder to VOTE in the August 9th Primary Election!

The primary election is on Tuesday August 9th. It is important that we all get out and vote, since these races impact the November general election.

Note: the last day to register to vote is August 3, 2016 at 5:00 pm.

Here’s how it works: In the primary election, you must choose a ballot — Democrat, Republican or Progressive.

- On the Democratic ballot there are races for US Senate, US Congress, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, State Treasurer, Secretary of State, Auditor of Accounts, Attorney General and Chittenden County State Senate, Vermont State Representative (House) and High Bailiff.
- On the Republican ballot there is a race for US Senate, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Auditor of Accounts, Attorney General, Chittenden County State Senate.
- On the Progressive ballot there is a race for Lieutenant Governor, and Vermont State Representative (House).

In Winooski the polls are at the Winooski Senior Center at 123 Barlow Street next to St. Stephen’s Church. The polls are open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm.

As citizens this is one of the most important duties that we have.

Early voting has started and you may vote by going to the City Clerk’s office at City Hall.

Absentee ballots are also available from the Clerk’s Office now. You may pick one up in person, or request yours by calling 802-655-6410. A ballot will be mailed to you with a return envelope. You can then mail it back to City Hall or drop it off in person. It must be received by 7pm on August 9th.

*** DO YOUR PART ***
VOTE!

AUGUST 9, 2016

Police Department Outreach

By Scott D. McGivern, Lieutenant, Winooski Police Department

I wanted to talk about technology in this month's issue, specifically, electronics. We have become very dependant on technology. As technologies evolve, we are provided devices designed to make our lives convenient and less stressful.

MP3 and iPods allow us to play our favorite music while we move throughout our day. This is great for calming us, and for me, it is a great way to keep my energy level elevated. It also can cause us to be less aware of our surroundings. Ear buds and headphones make it more difficult to hear what is going on around us. This could make us vulnerable to being injured or even create a situation where we become a victim of a crime. I am aware of an accident that occurred and investigation found that a pedestrian had a personal electronic device activated and a hood over his head. The pedestrian walked right into traffic without looking and was struck.

Cell phones keep us connected with each other. Smart phones keep us connected to everything with Wi-Fi and Internet capabilities. It is like having a mini laptop computer. The distraction of looking at or using a cell phone became so problematic that laws were recently enacted restricting cell phone use to hands-free devices while driving. On a daily basis the police department stop motorists who are not abiding by this statute. The fine for using an electronic device while driving is \$162.

This article is to remind you that you should always be aware of your surroundings while out in public. Technology can help us be be aware, like back up cameras on motor vehicles. It can also be a distraction. These products are tools developed to assist us in day-to-day living. It is important to use these devices safely.

CCTV Invites You to Meet the Candidates!

By Meghan O'Rourke

The media and public are invited to attend all events at the Channel 17 Studios, located at 294 North Winooski Avenue in Burlington.

Meet candidates for contested Chittenden County and Statewide Primary Elections (Primary voting in Vermont takes place on August 9th, from 7:00 am - 7:00 pm).

Live call-in forums start July 12th at 5:25 pm and continue through July 27th.

Candidate Forums will be aired LIVE on Television by Channel 17/Town Meeting TV. Viewers can also tune in online. For the full schedule, visit: <https://www.cctv.org/news/calendar-2016-live-general-primary-election-forums>



Get Involved, Make Media, and Connect with Your Community!

We're looking for volunteers to help us produce our Live at 5:25 shows -- especially on Wednesday and Friday evenings. We welcome volunteers of all ages, and experience. Email Christopher Wiersema to discuss current volunteer opportunities or call 802.862.3966 x13

Improve Your Heart Health

By Doug Bishop, Director of Communications, Greater Burlington YMCA

Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring

Work with a trained Healthy Heart Ambassador at the Winooski branch (32 Malletts Bay Avenue) of the Greater Burlington YMCA over the course of a four-month program aimed at getting your heart health on track.

Participants will be encouraged to:

- self-measure their blood pressure at least two times per month
- attend two personalized consultations per month
- take part in monthly nutrition education seminars

Participants will record their blood pressure readings using an easy-to-use, self-selected tracking tool. The Y will provide options for participants who need a home blood pressure monitor.

The goals of the program are:

- to help reduce blood pressure,
- to better manage blood pressure,
- to increase awareness of triggers that elevate blood pressure, and
- to help participants develop healthier eating habits.

To participate, you must be at least 18 years old, be diagnosed with high blood pressure and not have experienced a recent cardiac event.

For information, contact Denise Schomody at 652-8195 or Kristin Magnant at 652-8196 with the Greater Burlington YMCA.

Winooski Library Update

By Amanda Perry

With your library card, you can now access OneClickDigital Ebooks and Downloadable Audiobooks. There are over 2600 adult books and 900 children's books. You may check out up to 15 audio books at one time for up to 21 days. Visit winooskilibrary.wordpress.com to get started!



Winooski Food Shelf Schedule for August

By Linda Howe

Wednesday, August 10th	2 pm to 4:30 pm	Pantry staples, meat and eggs
Saturday, August 13th	9:30 am to 11:30 am	Fresh fruit and veggies, bread, pastry and deli items
Wednesday, August 24th	2 pm to 4:30 pm	Pantry staples, meat and eggs
Saturday, August 27th	9:30 am to 11:30 am	Fresh fruit and veggies, bread, pastry and deli items

Food Shelf policy: Winooski residents may access the pantry staples one Wednesday each month. Folks can come both Saturdays to stock up on bread, pastry and some fresh fruit and veggies. Hannaford's provides Saturday's food. New clients should bring proof of Winooski residency such as a utility bill.

Any Winooski resident in need is welcome. You might have just lost a job, become ill or injured and can't work, had a new baby or have large medical bills. We all have experienced sudden life changes. The Food Shelf is here to help support you. For questions call 318-0460.

Where to find us: The Winooski Food Shelf is located in the United Methodist Church at the corner of West Allen and Follett Streets. There is a bus stop on that corner. We do not provide rides so please bring a wheeled cart or suitcase and some reusable bags to lug your food home.



Girl Scout Troop 30187 Update

By Amy Snow Lothrop

On June 1st, we celebrated our accomplishments with an End of the Year ceremony and led by our Color Guard. We awarded badges earned in the last quarter for Simple Meals, the aMuse Journey and Global Action. Patches were given out for their participation in the Empty Bowls dinner, Winooski Memorial Day parade, Color Guard, Mary Poppins, JFK Chorus, Girls on the Run, U10 soccer & basketball, JFK Student Council, VYOA violin and YMCA Swim team. We celebrated our new troop record of #5375 boxes of cookies sold as well as our top performers: Isabella 921, Gabriella 904, Amoni 483, Madison 449 and Olivia 445 boxes. Thank you Winooski!

On the 11th, we traveled to the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park in Woodstock, VT during the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service. Ranger Mary taught us about stewardship and the pivotal roles played by Julia Billings and her daughters Laura, Mary and Elizabeth as well as granddaughter Mary French to influence the conservation, stewardship, design and designation of this 643 acre area as a national historic park in 1992. Despite the rain, we hiked the carriage trails and learned how our park is leading the nation in sustainable forest management and renewable energy.

It is never too late to join in the adventure! We always welcome any new scouts or volunteers at anytime. Our mission is to build girls of courage, confidence and character. If you can't wait to be a part of it, please contact Amy Snow Lothrop at 802-373-7288 or AmyLothrop@Comcast.net for more details.



Stay in Touch: Join Front Porch Forum!

Front Porch Forum's mission is to help neighbors connect and foster community within the neighborhood.

Go to www.frontporchforum.com to sign up for this free community resource.

Join Us For Coffee and Socializing!

By Sister Pat McKittrick

Please join us Friday mornings from 9am-11am for a **free coffee hour** at the O'Brien Community Center. Friendly atmosphere, great way to meet your neighbors. Everyone is welcome. We also provide blood pressure screenings on the first Friday of the month. (*Coffee and pastries are provided by our friends at Starbucks on Williston Road.*)



Community College of Vermont (CCV) Winooski News

By Amy E. Stuart, LICSW, Coordinator of Academic Services

Register NOW
Classes start Sept. 6th!

www.ccv.edu
(802) 654-0505



Free college credits are a terrible thing to waste!

Do you know that you may take college classes as a high school student? The Community College of Vermont (CCV) offers several opportunities to current high school students free of charge.

Juniors and seniors are also eligible for **Dual Enrollment Vouchers**, each good for one free college course. The free credits earned at CCV may also count as credit toward your high school graduation – that's why it is called Dual Enrollment. Check out the fall schedule for all the options.

CCV Community Choir Starts Up Again in September!

The choir is open to all. No auditions are required, beginners and "shower singers" are welcome! Director Amity Baker helps members to sing and harmonize as a group while they learn a variety of music including spirituals, world music and music by Vermont composers.

Choir meets Wednesdays from 7pm – 8:30pm from September 7 through December 10. Fee for the semester is \$55.00. Apply on-line or call 802-654-0505 to register.

Introduction to College Studies (ICS)

ICS is a free class designed to prepare high school students to be successful in college. You will learn how to search for and apply to the right college, pick up a few good study habits and explore career options connected to your academic interests.

ICS (DEV 0280 vu01)	Tuesdays	4:00 – 6:10 pm	9/20 – 12/13
ICS (DEV 0280 vu02)	Wednesdays	4:00 – 6:10 pm	9/21 – 12/14

Audit One Course for Free as a Vermont Resident 65 yrs or Older!

Do you know that as a Vermont resident 65 years of age and older you may audit one course at CCV tuition-free beginning with the fall semester 2016? And additional classes are available at a reduced rate! That's a perfect reason to explore a new topic or deepen your knowledge in an area of interest; take classes in a wide variety of subjects including mind stimulating course work from Intercultural Communication and Drawing I to Natural History of Vermont and Computer Essentials!

News from the Winooski Coalition for a Safe & Peaceful Community

by Kate Nugent



Hope your summer has been going well! We love summer as a great time to enjoy healthy fresh vegetables from our gardens or from any of the many local farms we are lucky to be near in Winooski. Getting outside is also easier and more enjoyable!

For many families, summer can also be challenging in terms of keeping our kids occupied with healthy and positive activities, so we thought we'd provide some tips for doing just that:

- While you are away at work during the day, accidental poisonings and or use of substances can be reduced by making sure any alcohol, prescription drugs, or other adult-only substances are stored securely, out of sight and away from curious youth
- Checking in with your child or children at regular intervals during the day can also help prevent them from experimenting with substances that will harm them
- Talking to your children about your expectations for their behavior can also help them learn to make healthy decisions. It may not always seem like it, but parents are the biggest influence on the choices their children make, so anything you do helps.

For more helpful tips, personal stories, and information, check out Vermont's ParentUp.org!

And we have program updates! In the month of July, thanks to the Burlington Partnership for a Healthy Community, the WCSPC was lucky enough to be able to bring one Winooski student Lukas Zweeres to the summer camp run by Dover Youth to Youth / One Voice Youth Empowerment program. During this weeklong-training, both adults and youth observed and experienced how this Dover program has coached hundreds of youth in learning public speaking, media literacy, and youth advocacy. Adults from Oregon, Nebraska, New York and other states working in similar capacities attended in the hopes of bringing this understanding back to their own communities. Five youth from Vermont, including Lukas, received the same training that this program provides to its middle school students every year. We were so proud of how much they grew in the that short time! Listen to the PSA they recoded on our Facebook page.

We hope you have a wonderful rest of your summer! Stay in touch and be on the lookout for community dinners to resume starting in September.



Youth advisors coach middle school students at DY2Y 2016.

FRENCH HERITAGE DAY (continued from page 1)

College Emeritus Professor of French Simon Barenbaum. Va-et-vient then took over, a Vermont trio playing and singing traditional and modern tunes from Québec, France and Vermont, which has supported and participated in the French Heritage Day event throughout its evolution from nine summers in Vergennes to its second year in Winooski.

By popular demand as a return act from 2015, Colchester clogger Ann Whiting performed onstage accompanied by Winooski duo High-Low-Jack, John Mowad and Sarah Hotchkiss.

Bob Eaton, Manager of sponsor TD Bank's Winooski branch, made the introduction for A2VT, Winooski's home-grown high-energy hip-hop dance and vocal ensemble of young African-NewAmericans, who are winning recognition and awards from Montréal and Québec City.

Finally Marianne Bonnard, Director of Cultural Affairs for the Québec Delegation to New England in Boston, which has been the earliest major sponsor to underwrite French Heritage Day both last year and this year in Winooski, stepped onstage to introduce Les frères Jordan et Tommy Bélanger (the Bélanger brothers), a talented young traditional-music duo on guitar, fiddle, mandolin and kickboard from Victoriaville, QC. The brothers had enjoyed a warm reception earlier this year at the UVM Recital Hall, after winning the 2015 Young Trad competition in Burlington last year.

The French Heritage Day is produced by the Winooski Historical Society with support from numerous local businesses and individuals, including in addition to those already mentioned Twincraft Skincare in Winooski, Hazelett Stripcasting in Colchester, and almost two dozen members of the Pause-Café collective of weekly French-language conversation groups in Burlington, Middlebury, Jericho and elsewhere. The conversation group meetings, listed in the Seven Days Calendar, are open to the public for unprogrammed, informal socializing and conversation practice with French speakers of all levels of proficiency, and their email list reaches more than 650 members.

The Winooski Community Partnership had helped to underwrite the 2015 French Heritage Day, and has scheduled discussions with the Winooski Historical Society regarding combining forces to continue and expand future years' editions. Direct inquiries to FrenchHeritageDay@gmail.com.



Ann Whiting & High-Low-Jack



Winooski Historical Society

Senior Center News

By Barb Pittido, Winooski Senior Programs Manager

With a new fiscal year upon us, we delight in making changes to our programming at the Senior Center. We will be hiring a Senior Programs assistant to create even more opportunities for senior growth and connectivity. The Senior Center will be looking to expand our offerings of wellness programs and special events.

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*"If nothing ever changed,
there'd be no butterflies."*

— Unknown
.....

Do you have a talent or a passion to share with us? Do you have some time to volunteer? We would love to hear from you. Summer is a great time to volunteer or participate! Call us to find out more.

COMING UP:

- Aug 2 - Senior Lunch & Meeting
- Aug 18 - Beach Blanket BINGO!
- Aug 30 - Last Tuesdays B'day Lunch
- Sept 6 - Senior Lunch & Meeting
- Sept 15 - Pirate Day BINGO!
- Sept 27 - Last Tuesdays B'day Lunch

EVERY MONTH

- **Do Drop In** - (Mon 9-11a)
Join us for coffee, treats and great conversation!
FREE!
- **Tai Chi** - Mondays
10-11am advanced class, 11-12pm for arthritis,
5:30-6:30pm for wellness FREE!
- **Open Art Studio**
- (Wed 9a-12p) Try a new skill and be creative with fellow art & craft lovers.
Snacks provided.
FREE!
- **Senior Lunch** - (Thurs 11:30a) Join us for a great lunch and great company! \$4.00 RSVP
- **BINGO!** - (Thurs 12:30p) Always a blast! Free Popcorn! \$10.00
- **NEW! Last Tuesdays** - 11:30 lunch and Birthday celebration \$4.00. RSVP
- **NEW! Walking w/ Megan** - Thurs 8:30a ('til Aug 11) meet at 83 Barlow Patio. Weather permitting. FREE!
- **Van rides** to The Winooski Food Shelf, Shaws, Hannaford's & the Mall and the Winooski Memorial Library. Call for times. FREE!



The Winooski Senior Center... the most exciting place in Winooski! We are located at 123 Barlow Street. Office hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 12:00pm, Thursdays until 2:30pm. You can reach us by phone at 802-655-6425 or by email at seniorcenter@winooskivt.org



Newsletter of the Winooski School District

Winooski School District
60 Normand Street
Winooski, VT 05404

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WINOOSKI PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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WSD ENDS STATEMENT

All students will graduate from the Winooski School District (WSD) college and career ready at a cost supported by a majority of the Winooski community. WSD students will lead healthy, productive and successful lives and engage with their local and global community.

ABOUT OUR DISTRICT

The Winooski School District is a PreK through 12 system that is housed in one educational center. At press time, there were 410 students attending JFK Elementary (grades PreK-5), 161 attending Winooski Middle School (grades 6-8), and 234 attending Winooski High School (grades 9-12).

One of the most diverse school districts in the state of Vermont, Winooski's teachers and staff are highly involved in professional development programs that help increase student achievement, address the needs of a diverse student population, and allow students to thrive in an engaging environment with high expectations.

"District News!" is published by the Winooski School District, 60 Normand Street, Winooski, VT 05404. Anne Linton Elston, Editor. Phone: 802-655-0942. Email: aelston@wdschools.org