

ALSO INCLUDES
Community News!
 STARTING ON PAGE 11

WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS!

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 10

JULY 2015

congratulations Class of 2015!



Presenting... The Class of 2015!

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Jordan Ashe | Abdullahi Mayange |
| Natalie Georgia Bailey | *† Michaela Anita Metivier |
| * Har Wa Bi | Ahmed Ali Mohamed |
| Mark James Billado | Fahmo Mohamed |
| Nathalie Margaret Bray | Halima Abdi Mohamed |
| Kylie Nicole Bryant | *† Amanda Lynn Nattress |
| *† Uyen Y Thi Bui | * Chanefer Nheb |
| Jared William Burlingame | Santa Rai |
| Jake T. Corrigan | * Hunter Charles Robare |
| Natalie A. Davis | Hiba Ali Shakir |
| * Durga Dhamala | Samar Ali Shakir |
| *†‡ Mina Dhamala | *† Samuel Abraham Treadwell |
| *† Connor Keith Drown | *† Victoria Reed White |
| *† Avah Marie Eaton | Dustin Wildes |
| Keana Shay Ferguson | Aymen Yahya |
| Christopher Michael Francis | Abdikhafar Yussuf |
| Trevor J. Guilmette | |
| * Santa Kadariya | * Honor Student |
| * Randall George Knox III | † National Honor Society Member |
| Hasan Ko | ‡ National Technical Honor Society |



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Congratulations to all 2015 Scholarship Recipients!

Here is a list of the members of the Class of 2015 who were honored with financial awards at the graduation ceremony:

GREEN AND GOLD SCHOLARSHIP -

The University of Vermont awards this full-tuition scholarship for eight semesters provided that full-time enrollment and at least a 3.0 GPA are maintained. The



student who has attained the highest academic distinction at the end of their junior year shall be the recipient. The Green and Gold Scholar for Winooski High School is **Amanda Lynn Nattress.**

CLASS OF 2003 SCHOLARSHIP – The class of 2003 scholarship, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is presented to a senior who has demonstrated dedication to his/her class, and exhibited genuine care and respect for Winooski High School. The 2015 recipient of the Class of 2003 scholarship is **Samuel Treadwell.**

WINOOSKI EAGLES SCHOLARSHIP

- The Winooski Eagles Scholarship is presented to a deserving student continuing his/her education. The 2015 recipient of the Winooski Eagles Scholarship is **Santa Kadariya.**

SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP - The Service Scholarship, sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is awarded to a student who volunteers dependable and well-organized assistance within the school and/or within the community. The 2015 recipient of the Service Scholarship is **Uyen Bui.**

VFW COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD –

The VFW Community Service Award is presented to two graduates in recognition of outstanding community service. The 2015 recipients of the VFW Community Service Award are **Amanda Nattress** and **Victoria White.**

MAIDA F. TOWNSEND SCHOLARSHIP

- The Maida F. Townsend Scholarship, sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is given to a student who has demonstrated a love of learning, an openness to the richness of differences among people, and a willingness to use his/her time and talent in service to others. The 2015 recipient of the Maida F. Townsend scholarship is **Mina Dhamala.**

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP -

The Academic Scholarships, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is presented to two students who excel academically. The 2015 recipients of the Academic Scholarships are **Amanda Nattress** and **Uyen Bui.**

VERMONT HONOR SCHOLARSHIP -

The Vermont Honor Scholarship, initiated by the Vermont Legislature, is presented to a student with outstanding academic achievement going on to college. The 2015 recipient of the Vermont Honor Scholarship is **Amanda Nattress.**

STUDENT COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP

- The Student Council Scholarship, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is presented to a student who has made notable contributions to bettering WHS, who has served his/her community, who is active in school activities, and who handles responsibilities willingly and efficiently. The 2015 recipient of the Student Council Scholarship is **Avah Eaton.**

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

AWARDS - These awards, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, are presented to two graduates who who have shown the most improvement during their four years of high school. The 2015 recipients of the Board of School Directors Award are **Jake Corrigan** and **Keana Ferguson.**

WOODY AND SUSAN MARTEL

SCHOLARSHIP - The Woody and Susan Martel Scholarship, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is presented to a student with financial need who is pursuing higher education and who has participated in athletics, attained good grades, and been a good school and community citizen. The 2015 recipient of the Woody and Susan Martel Scholarship is **Avah Eaton.**

WINOOSKI EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

SCHOLARSHIP - The Winooski Education Association Scholarship is presented to an individual entering the field of education in recognition of exceptional contributions to school activities and all around excellence in academics. The 2015 recipient of the Winooski Education Association Scholarship is **Michaela Metivier.**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

SCHOLARSHIP - The Winooski Knights of Columbus, a Catholic fraternal organization, supports Winooski High School graduates who aspire to continue his/her education at a Catholic college or university. The 2015 recipients of the Knights of Columbus Scholarship are **Hunter Robare, Samuel Treadwell,** and **Nathalie Bray.**

WINOOSKI BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

SCHOLARSHIP - The Winooski Business Department Scholarship is awarded to students who have excelled in Business classes and are pursuing a degree in business or a related field. Recipients will have demonstrated a desire to learn about business, by challenging themselves to learn beyond the classroom and contributing their knowledge to class discussions. This scholarship is paid for by fundraisers done in the Winooski High School Business Department. The 2015 recipient for the Winooski Business Department Scholarship is **Hunter Robare.**

CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP - The Challenge Scholarship, sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is presented to a well-rounded, highly motivated student (in the top 25% of the graduating class) who has overcome obstacles in achieving his/her success. The 2015 recipient of the Challenge Scholarship is **Har Wa Bi**.



Winooski Chorus singers Brianna Knox, Oo Mai Be, Lubna Abdulkhaleiq, Zu Ti Nar, and Thong Nguyen perform at graduation.

PTO SCHOLARSHIP - The PTO Scholarship, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is presented to a student who is pursuing a career in education and who has displayed community involvement through school or work experience. The 2015 recipient for the PTO Scholarship is **Michaela Metivier**.

FRIENDS OF WINOOSKI SCHOLARSHIP - The Friends of WHS Scholarship, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is given to two students who have shown an over-all commitment to and involvement with the high school in multiple and varying ways. The 2015 recipients of the Friends of WHS Scholarship are **Victoria White** and **Hunter Robare**.

ALS FRENCH FRY'S SCHOLARSHIP - The Al's French Frys Scholarship, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is presented to a graduate with financial need, planning on a 4-year post-secondary program. The 2015 recipient of the Als French Frys Scholarship is **Avah Eaton**.

THE BOB WEIS SCHOLARSHIP - A scholarship awarded to a student who demonstrates his/her curiosity about the world through asking questions and demonstrating determination in the pursuit of understanding. The 2015 recipient of The Bob Weis Scholarship is **Amanda Nattress**.

VFW Scholarship - A scholarship presented to a student with a GPA of a 3.0, pursuing a degree, who has fulfilled their community service and has been involved in sports and other extra-curricular activities. The 2015 recipient of The VFW Scholarship is **Avah Eaton**.

CAROL L. KESSLER, R.N. MEMORIAL AWARD - The Carol L. Kessler, R.N. Memorial Award is presented to a student or students who are in the upper 25% of the senior class and who have demonstrated a love of life, acted as role models or mentors to peers, and who, preferably, are intending to continue their education at any accredited post-secondary institution to pursue a career in healthcare or a related field. The 2015 recipient of the Carol L. Kessler, R.N. Memorial Award is **Connor Drown**.

LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP - The Leadership Scholarship, sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is given to a student who has demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities and exemplified positive attitudes. The 2015 recipient of the Leadership Scholarship is **Nathalie Bray**.

PART-TIME SCHOLARSHIP - The part-time scholarship, sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, is awarded to a student in the top 25% of the senior class, who have financial need, and a dedication to pursue a post-secondary degree on a part time basis. The 2015 recipient of the Part-Time Scholarship are **Santa Kadariya** and **Durga Dhamala**.

Class of 2013 Scholarship - A scholarship for a senior who has demonstrated dedication to his/her class and exhibited a genuine care and respect for Winooski High School. This year's recipient of The Class of 2013 scholarship is **Chanefer Nheb**.

ROUSSELLE/FLAHIVE SCHOLARSHIP - The Rousselle/Flahive Scholarship is awarded to a deserving student who is representative of the "Winooski Experience," having been a longtime member of the Winooski School Community. The 2015 recipient for the Rousselle/Flahive Scholarship is **Chanefer Nheb**.

JOHN J. MALCOVSKY COMMUNITY SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP - The John J. Malcovsky Community Service Scholarship is given to a deserving student who has participated actively in community service. The 2015 recipient of the John J. Malcovsky Community Service Scholarship is **Uyen Bui**.

WINOOSKI BOOSTERS SCHOLARSHIP - The Winooski Booster Club Scholarship awards four athletes who participated in sports throughout high school, especially their senior year, and demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities on and off the playing field. The 2015 recipients of the Winooski Boosters Scholarship are **Michaela Metivier**, **Amanda Nattress**, **Connor Drown**, and **Jared Burlingame**.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP - The Mayor and City Council Scholarships, co-sponsored by Dollars for Scholars, are presented to one male and one female student who have shown the most improvement over the four years of high school. The 2015 recipients of the Mayor and City Council Scholarships are **Nathalie Bray** and **Samuel Treadwell**.

THE VERMONT BASKETBALL COACHES' ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP - Presented to a graduate who was nominated by the coach and chosen by the state committee: This year's winner is **Hunter Robare**.

OMYA EMPLOYEE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD - Presented by the Omya company to a graduating senior possessing high academic ability and a well-rounded individual: This year's winner is **Keana Ferguson**.

What is Success?

By Sean McMannon, Superintendent of Schools

Success is a very complex and layered concept that society finds difficult to agree upon a widely-held and shared definition. How do you define success? Merriam-Webster defines success as:

- the fact of getting or achieving wealth, respect, or fame
- the correct or desired result of an attempt

I like the second interpretation because it implies that a goal(s) exist, a desired outcome is known and one must try or “attempt” in order to achieve success. The “attempt” fits in perfectly with our Persistence Graduate Expectation (GX) because we know it is important to demonstrate grit when pursuing deep and sustained learning. The other reason I like the second definition is Thomas Gibbs.

In the spring of 2010 while I was the principal down the road at Champlain Valley Union High School (CVU) a teacher told me Thomas’ story and I immediately met with him to see if he would be willing to share his story at graduation. He agreed and this is what he told over 3000 people on June 18, 2010 at UVM’s Patrick Gymnasium:

“This is dedicated to to everyone who helped me reach the first steps of my dreams, and for those who are just starting out like I did.

The day was August 30, 2006, Freshman Day for the Class of 2010. Everyone had dreams of graduating high school and going to college. My dreams were not any different, but I felt like they would not come true. I was born with a severe learning disability that mostly affects my reading. We need reading for almost everything we do in school in order to learn, like studying for exams or researching the next big project. With my learning disability school was extremely

tough and I struggled for many years before coming to high school. Before I came here to CVU I had teachers tell me “Good luck in high school because you’re going to need a lot of it”. The sad thing was that I felt the exact same way. When I first came to CVU and had to tell teachers that I have a learning disability to make sure they were aware of the situation, it felt like I was saying “Don’t be surprised if I don’t make it through your class”.

However, my my freshman Algebra teacher, Peter Booth told me that at CVU every student has an opportunity to succeed no matter what disability they have or don’t have. This is what I needed to hear as I started my high school career! So, through this opportunity given to me with much support, technology, our wonderful Learning Center, personal sacrifices, and my ability to work hard and never give up I was able to succeed and carry out my dream of graduating from CVU, and now will be attending college! (Huge applause!!)

Today I am not here just to talk about my story of success but to give everyone a lesson that I ask you to carry with you for the rest of your life: You can do anything you want in life. Don’t let any statistic, person or any disability hold you back from accomplishing your dreams! It may be hard, and you may need to make personal sacrifices but as long as you stay with it and keep working hard at your dreams...the rewards will be much greater! I can tell you that I gave all of my heart and everything I had in me to trying to graduate from high school and when I walk across the stage in a few minutes it will be the most special day of my life so far!

When you remember me it won’t be because I was the most popular kid or the greatest athlete because I was neither of these. Instead, I hope you remember me and my story when you are in a situation similar to mine. Never give up on your

dreams and persevere even when the odds are 100% against you.

I would not have been able to make it here today without the help of many people along the way. First, I would like to thank David Blanchard and Rosanne Fredriksen for making sure I had all the supports I needed the past four years. For all the teachers I’ve had, although I cannot give back all the time I took from you guys when I was getting help during free blocks and after school, I can’t tell you how much I appreciate it and how much it meant to this process. I thank you all. For the past four years, my reading teachers have worked with me on attacking the main source of my disability. Kristen Johnson, Renate Parke and Gillian Conant this truly meant the most and I thank you for that. Every tutor and special educator that I’ve worked with on my assignments, the list is too long to name them all, but thank you so much.

Finally, I would like to thank my family who were the backbone in my tired journey; everyone from Westport, NY to Fort Lauderdale, FL. They were the only ones who believed in me when no one else did and most importantly, they taught me how to believe in myself. It’s because of all of them, everyone I just mentioned, the entire CVU community and the Class of 2010 that I now believe I can do anything in my life and so should everyone here. Don’t let anything hold you back from accomplishing your dreams!”

Thomas is one of my heroes! He is a living example what it takes to be successful: clearly defined goals, belief and commitment, persistence and support. How will you find your own success? How will you support WSD students in their pursuit of success?

Thank you for working with WSD to benefit our students!

News about us, news about legislation and news about our meeting

By Julian Portilla, Board of School Trustees

What a year it's been for Winooski School District. We've been in the news for all kinds of things lately, have you noticed? Elsewhere in the newsletter you'll read about rising junior **Rainbow Chen** being chosen by the governor to be on the State Board of Education, a first for Winooski. Remember last year when the board received the "Board of the Year" prize from the Vermont School Board Association?

Perhaps you also saw our recent feature in the Local 22 news for being a "Cool School" back in May. Or maybe you read about WSD in VtDigger.org when they covered the **Parents and Youth for Change** effort to figure out better ways to get our children to school? Maybe you also heard about the extension of the grant with the Partnership for Change?

Also in the news recently has been the passage of H.361 in the state legislature, a bill the Vermont School Board Association has called "the most comprehensive reform of Vermont's education governance system since 1912, the year supervisory unions were created." The motivations for this reform have primarily to do with some facts about education in our state: in Vermont we have the lowest student-to-staff ratio in the country at 4.7 to 1; the highest per pupil spending in the nation; the lowest class size in the country (see vtdigger.org from June 2, 2015 for more details), basically, it's expensive. But, as seems to happen so often, Winooski is an exception. We don't fit in, and we like it that way. Compared to the state average our classes are bigger, our spending is lower and our student to staff ratio a bit larger. Nonetheless, the new legislation is something we're watching very closely on the board since it was written with other schools in mind but could affect us. Here are some important facts to know about the new bill:

- The "preferred structure" of schools as outlined in the bill are schools with single districts with 900 or more students. WSD has about 800 students. That said, there appears to be language in the bill that allows for exceptions and

waivers for situations in which it doesn't make geographic sense for schools to merge or for schools that are performing well in their current format. Our sense at the moment is that this portion of the bill won't negatively impact our school or force us into arrangements we wouldn't choose on our own.

- In an effort to contain the rising costs of school budgets, the bill has created a penalty for "exceeding allowable growth" in its budget. There is a range of allowable growth that is determined by what the school spent the previous year. The maximum allowable growth is 5.5%. In the last three years we've not asked for more than 2% and the vast majority of those costs have come from increasing health care costs and modest salary increases for our hard working teachers. We don't believe the spending cap will affect our budgets given how hard we already work to keep costs down and limit the tax increases each year.
- The bill encourages schools to do self-studies on various issues through the year 2018. In 2019, the Agency of Education will review the self-studies and make recommendations on changes.

The ink on the bill is still fresh and we don't feel like we've understood every detail

yet. As we learn more about it and begin to get more clarity on the implications for our district (if any), we will be sure to keep you informed!

And finally, I'd like to extend an invitation to you all to come to the first 15 minutes or so of our board meetings. It's a time when we do something called *focus on learning*. This is my favorite part of each meeting as it's an opportunity for the school to showcase something they're proud of to the board and to the community. We've seen live music from students, gotten reports on project-based learning from first and fifth graders, heard about various initiatives like Spartans in Motion, mindfulness and other wellness programs, witnessed the way in which teaching math and reading is evolving through presentations by teachers and students and sometimes even parents. You can count on our *focus on learning* to be at the very start of each meeting, to be interesting and brief and you don't have to stay for the whole meeting if you're unable or uninterested in doing so. It's a great way to get some insight into all the great things happening at your school so please come join us when you can. We meet every second Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm.

Summer Food Service Program for Children Announced

Winooski School District is participating in the Summer Food Service Program for Children. Funded by the United States Department of Agriculture, the program is designed to ensure that children who rely on free or reduced price meals during the school year continue to have adequate nutrition throughout the summer. Meals will be provided to all children without charge and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service.

Free meals are available to all children 18 years of age or younger at the following locations:

- Winooski School District, 60 Normand Street, Winooski, VT 05404
- Monday -Friday • June 15, 2015 to July 31, 2015 (No service on July 3, 2015)
- **Breakfast**- 7:45 am to 8:30 am • **Lunch** -11:45 am to 12:45 pm

For additional information, contact Rebecca Goulet at 802-383-6001



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Winooski PTO Thanks You

By Tammy Cusson-Ducharme,
PTO President

As school comes to an end and summer vacation for the children is in full swing, I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the members of the PTO for all of their hard work this year. We are a small but mighty group and accomplish many things throughout the year including continuing to provide end of the year field trips to students in K – 8, organizing monthly dances for middle school students to enjoy, and sponsoring our teacher-run Fun Fair for JFK students. The PTO also provides teachers with a little additional grant money to purchase items for their classrooms and the list goes on.

I would also like to thank the many teachers, parents, community members and business, as well as former PTO members who continue come back and help out. We couldn't do what we do without all of you!

The PTO serves students in grades K-12 and is always looking for new members. If you are interested, new to the community or just have questions, please check out our information at the school website (www.wdschools.org) or call me at 923-6670. Happy Summer Everyone!

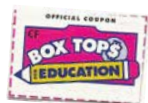
Remember the 2014- 2015 School Year with a JFK Yearbook!

JFK Yearbooks are now on sale for \$10.00. They can be purchased in the JFK office during the summer or from Mrs. Goetz in room 15 once school starts again in the Fall.

Save Box Tops!

The PTO is continuing to collect Box Tops this year. Please save them over the summer and bring them to school. This year we collected over 12,000 Box Tops which helped us earn \$1,235.00!

Please note: We no longer collect Campbell's Soup Labels. Thank you!



What is YouthBuild?

By Julie Hankins, AmeriCorps YouthBuild Community Partnership Coordinator

YouthBuild is an alternative high school completion program that serves men and women ages 16-24. The majority of our students come to us from BHS, WHS, and CHS. YouthBuild students have the opportunity to gain meaningful job skill training in construction and weatherization, engage in leadership development, and complete 675 hours of community service. While fulfilling their high school completion requirements, YouthBuild members earn industry recognized certificates, like PACT, OSHA-10, First Aid and CPR, and Work Keys. Students serve their community as part-time AmeriCorps members, and can qualify for an education award to use towards college or training programs.

What's happening at YouthBuild now?

Carpentry Challenge:

On May 21st students went to Methuen, Massachusetts to compete in the YouthBuild Carpentry Challenge. YouthBuild students from across the region demonstrated their carpentry skills, and we are proud to say that YouthBuild Burlington took home the gold!

Community Service:

Students worked with Burlington Department of Parks and Recreation to complete the rejuvenation of the Archibald Community Garden. Additionally, students have completed yard maintenance with VNA Respite House and The Shelburne Museum.

Member Spot Light:

Derek from Winooski has completed over 550 hours of community service as a part-time AmeriCorps member in YouthBuild. Currently he is working hard on his Capstone requirements, and recently he completed the Introduction to College Studies course at CCV with his crew.

Recruitment:

We are accepting applications for our fall session, which begins in September. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about YouthBuild contact us today at (802)658-4143 ext 27 or e-mail Jhankins@resourcevt.org.



A Warm Good-Bye

By Barbara Russ, 21C Program Director

Dear members of the Winooski community,

At the end of June, I will be retiring from the Winooski School District as the 21C Afterschool Program Director. It has been an honor and privilege to work with your children, the WSD teachers and staff, and our community partners over the past eight years as we have all worked together to provide our K-12 students with high quality afterschool enrichment and academic support program opportunities. I have fond memories of my time working in the school district and so appreciate your ongoing support as we expanded our afterschool and summer program offerings over the years.

Please welcome Suzanne Skaflestad, who will be the new 21C Afterschool Program Director starting on July 1st. Suzanne brings great energy and expertise to Winooski and will be a wonderful addition to the WSD staff. Feel free to stop by the middle school/ high school office this summer to say hi and to introduce yourself!

Thank you for the many wonderful memories. I feel so fortunate to have been given the opportunity to know and work with all of you.

Join Us: Free Community Breakfast July 26th!

The Winooski Police Department and the Coalition for Safe and Peaceful Communities will be hosting a free pancake breakfast on **July 26th** from 8am-noon at the Winooski Senior Center. Join us to discuss any and all community issues you may have. For more information, call Kate at 655-4565 or email katenugent@wpcspc.org.

Graduates and Enrichment Opportunities

The Dollars For Scholars board is excited to present scholarships to many graduating seniors this June. We appreciate the help of teachers and staff at the school with administering the application process and wish the best of luck to the graduating class of 2015.

Please keep in mind that **we also provide enrichment scholarships on a case by case basis to middle and high school students who are participating in educational activities during the summer or in the school year.** Please contact us for more information or to request assistance.

As we look to the 2015-2016 year we are excited to announce the return of our annual Calcutta: details to follow. Our board is always eager to welcome new members, so if you are a parent, teacher, or community member who is interested in getting involved with our organization please contact us at winooskids@gmail.com.

Donate today at Winooski.dollarsforscholars.org.

Wolfgang Automotive Show Returns!

By Anthony Fitzsimmons

Wolfgang is the Northeast's "premium quality" automotive show, car rally, and all weekend camping event in beautiful Vermont. Wolfgang hosts all classic and modern, German and European, automobiles and motorcycles, such as Volkswagen, Porsche, Audi, BMW, Mercedes and much more!

This year, the city of Winooski will be hosting **Saturday night's Wolfgang Air-out gathering (August 1st).**

This spectacular central location makes Wolfgang the ultimate vacation destination. With tons of great sites to see, amazing outdoor activities, water sports, boutiques for shopping, Vermont breweries, places to dine and the famous Burlington and Winooski urban nightlife, Wolfgang is the complete Automotive Event.

The main event will take place on **August 1 and 2** at the Champlain Valley Exposition, in Essex Junction, Vermont. Join us for a fun weekend with German/ European cars and motorcycles. For more information, visit www.wolfgang.com.



MELISSA RIVAS

Community Support Group Starting

By Eileen Fraga

I am starting a local support group where parents relatives and friends of children with disabilities can share stories, ask questions, discuss the IEP process, school issues, etc. or just talk.

The hope is to share with each other and to have someone who understands what we are going through. I am a grandmother of a beautiful little girl with disabilities who is entering Kindergarten next year. I have worked as a Para-professional for my granddaughter for the past 3 years at the Winooski School.

If you are interested in being a part of this support group please contact me by phone, e-mail or facebook.

Contact me at 802-825-8057, or efragaw3@msn.com. I look forward to meeting you.

Winooski Youth Football 2015

By Adam Barndt

The Winooski Youth Football Program is holding registration Thursday, July 23rd at the Winooski High School football field from 5:30 to 7:30pm.

We are a member of the Northern Vermont Youth Football League. We accept registration from Boys and Girls, grades 1st through 8th!

Participation in the NVYFL is by age. **1st through 4th Grade:** Participate in the Flag Program

5th and 6th Grade: Play Tackle Football

7th and 8th Grade: Play Tackle Football

Winooski Youth Football has invested in the most state of the art helmets and all of our Coaches are members of USA Football and certified in "Heads Up" tackling techniques. No previous football experience is required, we are committed to teaching the game to any kid who wants to play! The cost for participation is \$40 for the flag program and \$65 for the tackle programs.

The season begins August 10th.***

For more information about the program and upcoming dates for area football camps and clinics please e-mail Adam Barndt at Adam4b11@gmail.com.

A Year of Growth and Celebration

By Leon Wheeler, Principal, WMHS

On Saturday, June 12, the 2014-15 school year officially concluded with our graduation ceremony. Twenty nine students completed their studies and graduated on a beautiful Saturday afternoon, joined by family, friends, and community supporters, including **Mayor Seth Leonard** who presented the graduation speech!



This day was a fitting end to an incredible year of growth and celebration. During the final few weeks of school there were two tremendous recognitions earned by Winooski students:

Rainbow Chen was appointed by Governor Shumlin as the student representative to the Vermont Board of Education. “It is a pleasure to appoint Rainbow Chen to the Vermont’s State Board of Education,” said Gov. Shumlin. “The student perspective on the Board of Education has never been more crucial as we work together to ensure that every Vermont student receives a high-quality education, equitable and varied academic opportunities, student-driven personalized learning, and an intentional connection to college and career. I am confident that Rainbow is the student we need to help get the job done.” Rainbow will serve a two-year term on the board.

Each year the Vermont Small Business Development Center sponsors a very competitive statewide Business Plan competition to encourage and prepare our youth to become entrepreneurs. This year the winners were:

- 1st Place - **Hunter Robare** - *Supreme Kicks* - Winooski High School
- 2nd Place - **Taylor Langlais** - *Fly So High* - Winooski High School

The **GX Champ** process was born at the beginning of the 2nd semester as a way to identify and celebrate students who are championing a component of one of our Winooski graduation expectations. Each day students are nominated and a Champ selected and announced over the intercom, school web site, and the Twitter feed “WinooskiLearns.” During this time, 330 middle and high school students were nominated, and 102 were selected as GX Champ!

The final week of school we piloted **EXPO Week**. During the week each middle and high school student demonstrated her/his growth in oral communication (through a speech) and in critical thinking / problem solving through a project display. Students were focused, nervous, and proud as they shared and received feedback from peers and adults. This first EXPO week was a solid affirmation that our students can each become champions in our graduation expectations, and as they do, they will be well prepared for college, career and citizenship!

As I close this final article of the year I want to acknowledge the staff members who have served our students, school, and community and are now moving on to new adventures and opportunities. Thank you and best wishes to **Barb Russ, Steve Forman, Deb Gonter, Donna Issenberg, Cathy Mander-Adams, Emmy Charron, Niki Crocco, and Whitney Dubie!**

8th Graders Receive “Moving Up” Awards

The following awards were given to 8th grade students “moving up” to high school next year. Congratulations to everyone!

Vermont Association for Middle Level Education - Scholar Leader Awards - Public recognition to students who have distinguished themselves in outstanding scholarship and leadership. Awarded to **Vijayata Dahal** and **Tiffany Phuong**.

Almedina Orucevic Award - Recipient demonstrates qualities of friendship, musical talent, helpfulness, thoughtfulness and loyalty. Named after a former 8th grade student who passed away. Awarded to **Amna Cicak**.

Little Spartan Award - Spartan stands for: S = sacrifice, p = perseverance, a = positive attitude, r = respect, t = tolerance, a = ability, n = never say die. Awarded to **Destiny Syharaj**.

Resiliency Award - Established by Lynn Granger, retired teacher, and given to individuals who have overcome adversity in their lives. Awarded to **Kirstin Stillwell, Dante DuBose** and **Kayle Willard**.

Good Citizenship Award - Given to students who inspire enthusiastic school spirit, strengthen student self-esteem, promote appreciation of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, and build responsible, knowledgeable citizens. Awarded to **Rebekkah Lambert, Katie Berger** and **Tasha LaRose Terry**.

“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.”



Varsity Softball Wrap-up

By Kyle Blindow

The Varsity Softball team had a fun year. Despite being 1-15, the softball team won their first game in 3 years versus Hazen at home by the score of 15-12. There were a few other close games, but the most important things is the girls stayed strong and showed good sportsmanship throughout the season.

The team was captained by seniors Nathalie Bray and Michaela Metivier. The team was also comprised of Senior, Amanda Nattress, with Taylor Langlais, Lydia Nattress, Mariah Metivier, Chanda Pringle, Arbay Madey, Nafisa Mohamed, Shelby Hayden, Jocelyn Booher, and Olivia Treadwell. Throughout the season, everybody on the team scored at least one run, and 5 freshmen bode well for steady and optimistic seasons to come. Head Coach Kyle Blindow and Assistant Coach Tom Nattress filled in for one year and loved every minute of coaching these incredible girls.

Varsity Track & Field Wrap-up

By Laura Abbene

The Spartans Varsity Track & Field program had an outstanding 2015 season. The entire team qualified for, and competed in, the Vermont State Championships at Green Mountain High School in Chester. Freshman Rachel Wilondje placed 6th in the 200m dash. Sophomore and Team Captain Madey Madey placed 5th in the 200m dash. The boys 4x800m relay team, Hussein Sadik, Abdi Mohamed, Santi Subedi and Sujan Acharya, was state runner ups. The 4x100m relay team, Bishal Bista, Madey Madey, Sujan Acharya and Santi Subedi, placed 4th. Six freshmen/sophomore school records were broken this season:

200m: Madey Madey (sophomore) ... 25.44
 400m: Madey Madey (sophomore) ... 58.90
 1500m: Abdi Mohamed (freshman) ... 4:50.46
 3000m: Hussein Sadik (sophomore) ... 11:30.94
 4x100m: Bishal Bista, Madey Madey, Sujan Acharya, Santi Subedi ... 51.23
 4x800m: Hussein Sadik, Abdi Mohamed, Santi Subedi, Sujan Acharya ... 9:50.74



WMS Track Wrap-up

By Chris Magistrale

This may have been the biggest middle school track and field team Winooski has ever produced: 26 student-athletes. With a wide range of ages, abilities and experience it was a season packed filled with experiential learning and growth. We competed in 5 meets in total, including our annual home meet on May 6. Student-athletes competed and improved steadily throughout the season in areas including: jumping, throwing, short distance and long distance running.



Special thanks to Mr. Forman for his continued volunteer support of our program and his caloric contributions. Thanks for a great season.



This years athletes were mostly underclassmen and/or new to Track & Field. With their continued dedication, persistence and hard work, 2016 is sure to be an exciting season.

The Track & Field Team included Madey Madey, Jarod Fountain, Abdi Mohamed, Hussein Sadik, Rachel Wilondje, Bishal Bista, Sujan Acharya, Santi Subedi, Oo Mai Bi, and Marie Ly.



Winooski Business Department Receives Grant from NorthCountry Federal Credit Union

By Courtney Poquette

At the start of the 2015-16 school year students in the Business of Board Games class will be fortunate to receive new games because of a generous \$500 grant from NorthCountry Federal Credit Union! Business of Board Games was a new class designed this year by Ms. Poquette and a group of students. In this class students apply many of our graduate expectations such as: critical thinking and problem solving, cross cultural understanding, effective oral and written communication and creativity as they play games against each other, research & reflect about them and then create their own board games. We were fortunate to receive this educator grant and are excited to pick out some new games so students can continue to have fun while learning. Thank you to NorthCountry Federal Credit Union for supporting our students.

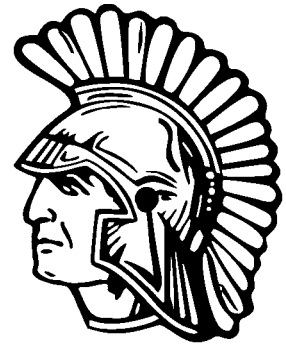
We also welcome donations of old board games from the community, which will either be played or repurposed into the new games students create. Board games can be dropped off to the school anytime between the hours of 7:30-4:00 Monday to Friday at the visitor's entrance office. Thank you!

Athletic Banquet Held

By Dennis Barcomb, Athletic Director

A school-sponsored banquet is held each year to honor all athletes who participated in the high school program throughout the school year. The banquet, a potluck dinner, has been an annual event for 70 years. In addition to sharing a meal together, special athletic awards are presented. Coaches nominate athletes based on their performances during the year. The athletic council made up of all the coaches, vote on the candidates.

Athletes who have been dismissed from a sport by a coach, have quit a team, or remained academically ineligible, are not eligible for nomination for any awards.



The 2015 awards were as follows:

Freshman Awards: Presented to a boy and a girl in the freshman class for achievement and contribution to the athletic program in their first year of eligibility. Winners: **Elli Nahimana** and **Lydia Nattress**.

Sophomore Awards: Presented to a boy and a girl in the sophomore class for achievement and contribution to the athletic program in their second year of eligibility. Winners: **Eddy Lamson** and **Mariah Metivier**, **Riley Corrigan**, and **Justice Palmer**.

Junior Awards: Presented to a boy and a girl in the Junior class for achievement and contribution to the athletic program in their third year of eligibility. Winners: **Brandon Bigelow** and **Eh Man**, and **Taylor Langlais** and **Oo Mai Be**.

Senior Athlete Award: Presented to a boy and a girl voted as the top senior athlete in the class. Winners: **Connor Drown** and **Amanda Nattress**.

Scholar Athlete Award: Presented to a senior for excellence in academic and athletic achievement. Winner: Amanda Nattress.

Ralph Lapointe Award: Presented in memory of Winooski High School's most notable graduate to an athlete for outstanding contribution and achievement in the athletic program and equal characteristics in all aspects of school life. Winner: **Michaela Metivier**.

Spartan Award: Presented to Winooski High School's most outstanding male athlete for achievement in qualities as expressed by the words used to describe the Spartan spirit. **Sacrifice - Perseverance - Aggressiveness - Respect - Tolerance - Attitude - Never Say Die**. Winner: **Brandon Bigelow**.

Lady Spartan Award: Presented to Winooski High School's most outstanding female athlete for achievement in qualities as expressed by the words used to describe the Spartan spirit. **Sacrifice - Perseverance - Aggressiveness - Respect - Tolerance - Attitude - Never Say Die**. Winner: **Amanda Nattress**.

Mona Williams Fan of the Year Award: Presented in memory of Mona Williams for continuous support and encouragement of school athletic activities. Winner: **Heather Bigelow**.

Special Thanks to Lori Lambert and the Booster club for all of their work for this event and during the sports seasons!

COMMUNITY NEWS



Winooski Wins First & Second Spots in State's Seventh Annual Business Plan Competition!

By Courtney Poquette

Congratulations **Jared Burlingame, Calvin Hayford, Taylor Langlais** and **Hunter Robare** who spent a semester exploring the idea of starting their own businesses, completing research on these ventures, writing extensive plans and meeting the deadline for the state's business plan competition!

On June 10th, Linda Rossi from the Vermont Small Business Development Center presented awards to the students who participated and named Taylor the second place winner for the state and Hunter the first place winner! Taylor's business idea was Fly So High, which was an indoor trampoline park. Hunter's business idea was a sneaker store with sneaker customization and restoration services called Supreme Kicks located here in Winooski! Both students won a cash award, certificates, and a gift certificate for a class on business planning.



Update from your City Council

By Nicole Mace

One of the best things about being a City Councilor is approving the permits for events that make our city such a lively and vibrant place to live. From **Waking Windows**, to the **Memorial Day Parade**, the **Farmer's Market** and **French Heritage Day** (July 11th- mark your calendar!), these events provide our residents with an opportunity to explore our downtown, connect with each other, and build a true sense of community.

This year, the expansion of the **Farmer's Market** has brought new vendors and even tastier treats to my Sunday. Thanks so much to the Winooski Downtown Partnership and everyone else who works so hard to bring such a fun event to our community every week.

One other city initiative I am truly excited about is our **Summer Teen Employment Program**. Last month, the Council approved several teen employment positions to provide Winooski youth with an opportunity to obtain important job skills and experience and provide needed services to our community. Keep an eye out for these youth this summer – staffing the snack bar at the Meyers pool, checking out books at the library, providing trail maintenance in Winooski's parks and natural areas, and harvesting vegetables from our Community Gardens.

Finally, please join me in congratulating **Chief Rick Hebert** in his appointment as Winooski's Chief of Police. As interim, Chief Hebert demonstrated that he is a highly effective leader and his commitment to community policing was evident throughout the hiring process. The members of the Public Safety Commission and City Council were so pleased to see how many community members came out to meet the two finalists for the position. Thanks to all of you who participated!

City Council will be busy this month planning our agenda and priorities for the coming year. Thanks to all of you who have contacted us to express your interests and priorities for the city. Happy Summer!



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

Gardeners: Plant an extra row for the Food Shelf

We would be most grateful if you could plant an extra row of veggies or think of us when you have a surplus. Favorite veggies include tomatoes, green beans, summer squash, zucchini, corn, potatoes, onions, carrots and beets. If you have fruit trees that provide more than you can use, please think of us. To arrange a drop off time at the Winooski Methodist Church please phone 310-8240. Thank you and happy gardening!

Winooski's Summer Food Program

By Ethan Hausman

The City of Winooski's Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) continues through July. Funded by the USDA, the Program is designed to ensure that children who rely on low-cost breakfasts and lunches during the school year continue to have access to healthy meals and snacks throughout the summer. Food is provided to all children without charge, and no child will be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, or disability.



Children do not need to be enrolled in any recreational or childcare program in order to receive free meals. All children 18 years of age or younger are served meals at the two locations listed below, Monday-Friday. Snacks are available Wednesday – Sunday afternoons at Myers Pool. Meals will not be served on July 3, due to the observance of the Independence Day holiday. Please contact Ethan Hausman in the City's Recreation and Parks Office (655-1392 x21 or ehausman@winooskivt.org) for more info.

MEAL SITE LOCATIONS & DATES

Winooski High School 60 Normand Street Winooski, VT	Now through July 31 (no meal service on July 3) Breakfast 7:45 – 8:30am (Mon. – Fri. only) Lunch 11:45am – 12:45pm (Mon. – Fri. only)
O'Brien Community Center 32C Malletts Bay Avenue Winooski, VT	Now through August 14 (no meal service on July 3) Breakfast 9:00 – 9:30am (Mon. – Fri. only) Lunch 12:30 - 1:00pm (Mon. – Fri. only)

SNACK SITE INFORMATION

Myers Pool at Landry Park Pine Street Winooski, VT	Now through August 22 Afternoon Snacks 3:00 – 5:00pm <i>(Wed. - Sun. only)</i>
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***PLEASE NOTE:** Snacks will not be served on Mondays or Tuesdays. The Snack Bar will also be closed whenever Myers Pool is closed. On weekdays (Wed-Fri), that the Snack Bar is closed due to rain or inclement weather, snacks will be served in the Winooski Memorial Library (32 Malletts Bay Ave). Snacks will not be available on weekends when Myers Pool is closed.

Winooski Food Shelf Schedule for July

The Winooski Food Shelf will be open the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. for pantry staples including canned and dry goods. In July, that will be July 8 and 22nd. You may come one Wednesday every 28 days. The Food Shelf will also be open the second and fourth Saturday of each month just for the fresh fruit and veggies, bread, pastry, and deli items donated by Hannaford. Fresh foods will be available Saturday July 11 and 25th from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Pet food is also available.

The Winooski Food shelf is located in the Winooski United Methodist church at the corner of West Allen Street and Follett Street. There is a bus stop on that corner. Please use the Follett street entrance and bring proof of Winooski residency such as a utility bill. For questions please call 310-8240.

Myers Pool Is Open!



Come enjoy the summer fun at Myers

Pool! Added bonus: Y members enjoy the Myers Pool all summer long for FREE!

The outdoor, 6 lane pool is located at 40 Pine Street in Winooski across from Landry Park and is open 12:00–5:00 pm M-F and 12:00–7:00 pm Saturday and Sunday. Please contact Jess Lukas by email at jlukas@gbymca.org or by phone at 802-655-2100 for more info.

RATES:

- Winooski Resident Under 18
\$1 Daily, \$10 Season
- Winooski Resident Adult
\$2 Daily \$20 Season
- Winooski Resident Family
\$5 Daily \$35 Season
- Non-Resident Under 18
\$2 Daily \$20 Season
- Non-Resident Adult
\$4 Daily \$30 Season
- Non-Resident Family
\$8 Daily \$50 Season

Please Join Us for a Parks Planning Session, Pool Party & Barbecue!

Saturday, July 18, 10am – 1pm

The City's Community Services Division will be gathering community input about City parks and natural areas at an event on Saturday, July 18. The event will be held at Landry Park, weather permitting, and will begin at 10am. A pool party & barbecue will follow at noon, with the Myers Pool Snack Bar providing free food for all participants. In the event of inclement weather, the Parks Planning Session will be moved to the Winooski Senior Center, and the Pool Party will be postponed to a later date. Families and community members of all ages are invited. We hope to see everyone there!

Rice Memorial High School Graduation

By Susan Cain O'Brien

Rev. Msgr. Bernard W. Bourgeois, principal of Rice Memorial High School, proudly announces that the Class of 2015, made up of 100 students, received their diplomas on June 7, 2015.

The following graduates are residents of Winooski:

- **Jenna Flint**[†], Susan Valley Scholarship, 2015
Linda Cataldo Gerlach Award Recipient
- **Arnold Vainqueur**, Senior Outstanding Performance in Boys' Basketball
[†]National Honor Society

Rice Memorial High School is a Catholic, college preparatory high school located in South Burlington. For information, email sobrien@rmhsvt.org.



A New Year for the Weekend Islamic School

By Fathima Bariyajaan

What a wonderful year! After an incredibly successful school year watching our students learn, develop, and grow, the Weekend Islamic School (WIS) is enjoying a short summer break.

To complete the school year, our students demonstrated their knowledge and recitation of the Qur'an in our annual Qur'an competition and worked together to learn and perform plays and Nasheeds in our Annual show. Both events were an amazing success and we are thankful to all our enthusiastic teachers, helpers, and volunteers for their hard work and dedication. The WIS would especially like to thank the following for their contributions to the students and community this year: Imam Islam Hassan, Ibrahim Cagane, Ahmed Ginawi, Arwa Dawman, Saffiya Medar, Nausheen Ozair, Feyza Basoglu, Salma Amin, Janice Battaline, Fatuma Bulle, Malyun Khasim, Ghazzala K, Linda Hassan, Sadia Siddiqi, Houda Musa, Faiza Mohamed, and special thanks to school custodian Steve.

This summer our students have the opportunity to take part in a 3 week swimming program at the Burlington Y. We are thankful for our swim sponsor, Ms. Sandy Baird for her generous contribution. We look forward to more opportunities for swim lessons for our youth.



The registration deadline for our 2015-2016 school year is August 23rd. We will have an open registration and start the school year with a 'Meet your Teacher' half-day. We encourage you to join us on August 23rd to kick-start the trimester and learn how your student can grow this year!

For information on school registration for the 2015-2016 school year contact the Weekend Islamic School at vtweekendislamicschool@gmail.com. Registration forms are also available at the Islamic Center at 182 Hegeman Ave. and available at Nadia International Market in Winooski.



Got Coffee? Tea?

Please join us from 9:00-11:00 am on Fridays! Come have coffee, tea, sometimes juice, and a bite-size pastry, courtesy of Starbuck's on Williston Road.

Also, there are free blood pressure screenings by Fletcher Allen on the first Friday of every month! The next one is July 11th from 9am - 11am!

Counter Balance Exposes Tobacco Companies Target Youth

The Winooski Coalition for a Safe & Peaceful Community (WCSPC) co-hosted a press conference May 19th at the O'Brien Community Center to bring to light the tactics that tobacco companies use to advertise to youth all over the country--including Winooski.

The Vermont Department of Health performed retailer audits throughout the state and found that stores who sold tobacco products nearby schools were more likely to have tobacco marketing visible from the outside of the store, and were more likely to offer discounts on tobacco products.

In Winooski:

- 17% of retailers were located within 1000 feet of schools.
- 50% of retailers located near schools in our community discounted cigarillos; compared to 15% further away.
- All (100%) of retailers located near schools in our community sold cigarillos.
- All (100%) of retailers located near schools in our community displayed any exterior advertising at all.

Speakers at the press conference included Senator Dick Mazza, Vermont Health Commissioner Dr. Harry Chen, executive director Cathy Hazlett of Health Connections of the Upper Valley, Jill Sudhoff-Guerin of Vermont government relations and advocacy director with the American Cancer Society, and Sarah Wylie of the Vermont Health Department.

Winooski 8th grader Shennelle Bailey represented local youth by sharing



her experiences at the press conference. Attesting to the daily pressures on youth to use tobacco products, she stated "it's unfair that tobacco companies target kids, and I don't want tobacco to stand in the way of my friends or I pursuing our dreams."

Senior Center News

By Barb Pitfido, Winooski Senior Programs Manager

"We don't grow older, we grow riper."
—PABLO PICASSO

I'm very excited to be the new Senior Programs Manager for the Winooski Senior Center. The many happy faces and kind souls at the Center have opened up new doors for me! We will continue the good works of Jahnine Spaulding and wish her much success in her new endeavors! The Center is an active, thriving place because of her work. Thank you Jahnine!

Things sure are hopping here at the Senior Center! Our "Senior"

Senior Prom was a huge success! Over 50 Seniors participated on May 30th in a night of dancing, karaoke, and delicious food. Big thanks to the many people that made the event be such a hit: Chappell's Florist for the donated flowers through their Recycle Vermont



Flowers program, Walmart for the use of their decorative trees, DJ Super Sounds for providing our music, Bonnie Campineau and the Seniors from The Champlain Senior Center for joining us and supporting our efforts, and to the multitude of volunteers who decorated, provided food, cleaned and danced with us... we are so very grateful.

More than one Senior admitted that this was their first prom! Many seniors who attended danced for 3 hours! When it was over, the only question was.... When can we do this again! We look forward to having more dances and events where Seniors can be Seniors. Talk of a "Winter Ball" is happening and we'd love to have volunteers come down to share the labor and the good times we all have when we join together and rock out at the Senior Center.

We also presented our first **Volunteer Appreciation Celebration** on June 9th. We presented over 90 certificates of appreciation to our volunteers. We toasted the efforts of folks who deliver Meals on Wheels, provide Hospitality, work in the office, lead activities, host programming, run Bingo, teach Tai Chi, provide medical services and much, much more.

A big shout out of thanks to the Essex High School AFJROTC for their generous donation and to BEVO for their in-kind gift of food, and to UVM Health Network and Americorp VISTA for doing so much to help out with the prep and the organization of the day. Special thanks to the City of Winooski, especially to Jessica Groeling for supporting our event by providing so much time and energy. And to Sneakers for providing us with great, local food.

FREE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES:

We are continuing with **Bocce** every Tuesday evening at 5:30. We play on a grass court and all adults are welcome.



We have **Walking Groups** every Tuesday and Friday at 9:30am. **BINGO!** is played every Thursday at 12:30pm following the Community Meal at 11:30am. **Tai Chi for Arthritis** is presented on Mondays at 10 & 11am and on Wednesday at 5:30pm. Come on down for **"Easy Does It Line Dancing"** on Mondays at 1pm.

Got computer, phone, or tablet issues? Or want to learn how to use a new device? Technology 4 Tomorrow will be holding **free technology workshops** for Seniors to answer your questions and help with your tech problems. Drop in on June 30th, July 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th for instruction and assistance from tech savvy students.

Our center runs on the heart and soul of volunteers. Our certificates say it all: "You get involved and give your time with a sense of duty to your community. By answering the call to service with generosity of spirit, kindness, and energy you make an impact on many lives, and in many ways. For this we can not thank you enough." Want to volunteer? Call the Senior Center at 655-6425 or email us at: seniorcenter.winooski.vt.org. Or visit us at 123 Barlow Street. We have many opportunities available to those who want to make a difference in this community.

New: Winooski's Recreation & Parks Department!

By *Ethan Hausman*

The beginning of July marks some significant changes within the City's Community Services Division. As we shared back in March, the closing of the Winooski Teen Center will be accompanied by an exciting, fresh emphasis on recreational opportunities for all segments of the Winooski community.

I'm introducing myself in my new capacity as Winooski's Recreation and Parks Manager. My AmeriCorps team and I will continue to work out of the O'Brien Community Center, but we'll be adjusting our mission to focus on developing enriching offerings for *everyone* in the Winooski, not just youth. We plan to continue to serve children and teens through school-based activities, off-site programs, and special events. But we will also be working with the Senior Center, Thrive, and Library (as well as with local residents & business owners, community volunteers, and outside agencies) to develop other interest-driven recreational programs for Winooski residents of all ages.

There are already several "parks and rec"-related projects that are moving ahead this summer, including:

- **New trailhead kiosks/trail maps** at Gilbrook Reservoir and Casavant Natural Area;
- **Nuildout of the City's first dog park** at West Allen Park, beginning mid-summer;
- **Six Summer Teen Employment Program (STEP) participants** working on a "Trail Crew" that will be maintaining, improving, and expanding the paths and walkways through Gilbrook, Casavant, and other areas of the City;
- A **free concert-in-the-park** hosted at Landry this summer as part of a series of parks-based events.

Over 260 people have provided a great deal of useful feedback through the recent Recreation Survey. Responding to that input from community members will be an ongoing priority for the Recreation & Parks staff as we seek to improve the quality of life in Winooski. Those efforts will include expanded programming, improved maintenance & management of green spaces, and a wide array of improvements to parks & recreation facilities across the City.

Please don't hesitate to contact me (655-1392 x21 or ehausman@winooskivt.org) if you're interested in volunteering or have suggestions/feedback to share. I welcome your suggestions, and I look forward to the work ahead of us!

Winooski Coalition for a Safe & Peaceful Community (WCSPC) launches new website!

The coalition's new website is up and running. Check out wcspc.org for updates, future events, and ways to get involved. Special thanks to Webskillet for all their hard work in making this possible!

SAVE THE DATE

French Heritage Day on Falls Way – Sat. July 11

By *Steve Norman*



Vermont's 10th Annual French Heritage Day will enliven our downtown on Saturday, July 11, from 10 am-4 pm. The outdoor celebration of all things French -- music, art, crafts, food, language -- until now held in Vergennes, is moving to the Falls Way greenspace, lock, stock, and barrel. Also knifemakers, genealogists, clockfixers, handspinners, fiddlers, singers, historians, lacemakers, fencers, petanque-players, chair-caners, trappers, traders and canoemakers, produced by the Winooski Historical Society. For a great day of free fun for all ages in Vermont's most French-settled community -- just show up! Individuals, groups or businesses interested in participating as exhibitors, please email FrenchHeritageDay@gmail.com.

FREE FOR EVERYONE

Summer Playgroups!

*** Thursdays 11am-1pm ***
2015 WINOOSKI FAMILY CENTER

Join us for playground fun, crafts, field trips & activities for kids 5 and younger (with parent or caregiver).

Free, healthy, nutritious lunches provided by "Fresh Foods"

Families who attend Playgroup can receive a FREE SWIM PASS to use at the Winooski Pool after 12 noon on that day.

* If it rains, Playgroups will be indoors at the O'Brien Community Center Playgroup Space.

***Meet at Landry Park, Pine St. across from the Winooski Pool (unless otherwise noted below)**

JULY 2015 SCHEDULE

- **7/9 Landry Park Playground**, crafts, activities, lunch, stories
- **7/16 Field Trip – Library** (Meet at Library at O'Brien Community Center at 11:00)
- **7/23 Field-Trip – Blueberry Picking** – (Meet at O'Brien Community Center at 10:30)
- **7/30 Field-Trip – Shelburne Farms** – (Meet at O'Brien Community Center at 10:30)

AUGUST 2015 SCHEDULE

- **8/6 Landry Park Playground**, crafts, activities, lunch, stories
- **8/13 Landry Park - Last Day of Playgroup** – Preschool Parent gathering & Ice Cream

Call 655-1422 with questions!



Newsletter of the Winooski School District

Winooski School District
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Winooski, VT 05404

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WINOOSKI PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.wdschools.org

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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 405 students attending JFK Elementary (grades PreK-5), 155 attending Winooski Middle School (grades 6-8), and 227 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