



WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS!

ALSO INCLUDES 7 PAGES OF **Community News!** STARTING ON PAGE 10

APRIL 2020

Celebrating Our Achievements!



Vermonters Feeding Vermonters — Advocacy Day at the Statehouse

By Jaycie Puttlitz, Wellness Coordinator

Winooski High School students are focusing on food justice and access to fresh, nutritious food for Vermonters for their Culture & Community Capstone project. As part of their research and experience, they are working with Vermont Foodbank this semester and learning what it means to be an advocate and get your voice heard by local and state lawmakers. They chose VT Foodbank because one of its programs, Veggie VanGo, delivers fresh produce twice a month to our school.

Sara Schmoll, Ismail Hussein and Hanan Al Samrai visited the Vermont Statehouse on March 10 to meet with legislators and advocate for the VT Foodbank's Vermonters Feeding Vermonters (VFV) program. Through the VFV program, VT Foodbank seeks to purchase more fruits and vegetables from Vermont farmers to bring to their programs. The students' mission was to convince lawmakers why they should appropriate \$500,000 for the VFV program. While they were there, the students learned a lot about what happens at the Statehouse.

The students met with Lieutenant Governor David Zuckerman, Chittenden County Senator Tim Ashe, as well as Winooski's two Representatives: Rep.

Diana Gonzalez and Rep. Hal Colston. With each lawmaker, the students shared personal stories about why the Veggie VanGo program is important to them, their families and their community. They also highlighted the economic, ecological and nutritional benefits from serving locally-grown produce.

All of the legislators that the students met welcomed them warmly, gave them their full attention and carefully explained some of the intricacies of state government. Ismail Hussein reflected, "The political side of things was interesting - just how complicated it is to get specific things done."

When they met with Lt. Governor Zuckerman, he told the students that he was also a Vermont farmer and in his role as the lieutenant governor, he needed to make fair and impartial decisions on everything he reviewed. He also shared some economic history that students found interesting. "It was a very productive and important conversation (with Zuckerman). I learned a lot that I didn't know before. The average wage has stayed the same while the cost of living has gone up. I realized that's the reason we need programs like Veggie VanGo, to help people that need fresh produce in

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April School Board Notes

By Alex Yin, Winooski Board of School Trustees

Thank you to all those who voted “Yes” and helped us pass the school budget on March 3. This was an important vote for Winooski, because it allows us to begin the construction and renovation of our school building. Yet the impact is much more than allowing our school to have a budget to run on a day-to-day basis, but also a commitment to our long-term investment in our community. This investment allows us to preserve and protect the freedoms and democracy that we have today. Thomas Jefferson believed that “An educated citizenry is a vital requisite for our survival as a free people” and no doubt we as a community have resoundingly voted to uphold these ideals.

Why does education cost us more when standardized testing would suggest that our students are struggling? My response is that maybe as a community we evolved and truly believed that all people are created equally and everyone deserves the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The industrialized age education, which truly left children behind, prevented many from appreciating what it means to live in a democracy. However, Winooski has decided that no one should be left behind; hence the school board, teachers, and administrators supported and became innovative leaders in proficiency education. The early outcomes are apparent to me as I see our students empowered to be engaged citizens of our community. I see our students thinking critically on our city commissions and holding us school board members accountable. These students would have been left behind in the old school system because it was too rigid to handle the diversity of learners. In the old system – you either made it or you didn’t.

My day job is about data and I am expert in educational metrics. I have learned in my life there is no single perfect measurement of anything. Thus, it is best to triangulate data.

Of course, I would love it if our students perform well on standardized tests. Yet, I also know that those who can do well on standardized tests, don’t always do well with critical thinking. This is why when invited, I make every effort to watch JanPo and JunePo. It is there I can truly see whether we are truly educating students. And yes, I always leave impressed.

For those who are still hung up on standardized test scores, let’s try this thought experiment. I used to cram for my doctor’s physicals by attempting to eat healthy two weeks before my visit. Sometimes this would work as I learned that my cholesterol levels were in the acceptable range, but other times the county fairs would get me in trouble (I love those bacon-wrapped sausages). I almost moved my physical to April (away from the major eating holidays and country fair season) so that it would be easier to cram for my test. The question becomes: does the test accurately measure my health? Now does a standardized test that is given to a new language learner a true measure of their ability to learn when they only had six months to learn English. To me a better measure is how much progress has been made (and Winooski School District generally does well on these types of metrics).

I share my thoughts because I am grateful that we are going to move forward with the Capital Project. Yet, I want to make sure Winooski residents can see their return on investment. As you hold us accountable, please be sure you to look at the whole picture; otherwise we risk losing the values that our democracy was built upon. A government that is of the people, by the people, and for the people. And regardless of how you voted on the budget, thank you for coming to vote on March 3. This is what makes our democracy great!!!

WINOOSKI PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.wsdvt.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 490 students attending JFK Elementary (grades PreK-5) and 396 attending Winooski Middle/High School (grades 6-12).

As 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: newsletter@wsdvt.org



Stay informed about COVID-19 (Coronavirus Disease)

By Emily Hecker, Communications and Development Director

The Vermont Health Department is closely monitoring the rapid developments in this outbreak. Vermont is responding to protect and support Vermonters. Everyone can do their part to help us respond to this emerging public health threat.

Take these everyday preventive actions to help stop the spread of germs:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Please refer to our website www.wsdvt.org/covid-19/ for resources including links to the Vermont Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control.

- If you have questions about COVID-19: Dial 2-1-1
- If you are returning from China, Italy, Iran, South Korea or Japan: Call Health Department Epidemiology at 802-863-7240
- If you are ill, have symptoms, or concerned about your health: Call your health care provider

Know the facts about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and help stop the spread of rumors.

FACT 1 Diseases can make anyone sick regardless of their race or ethnicity.

People of Asian descent, including Chinese Americans, are not more likely to get COVID-19 than any other American. Help stop fear by letting people know that being of Asian descent does not increase the chance of getting or spreading COVID-19.

FACT 2 Some people are at increased risk of getting COVID-19.

People who have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or people who live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread are at an increased risk of exposure.

FACT 3 Someone who has completed quarantine or has been released from isolation does not pose a risk of infection to other people.

For up-to-date information, visit CDC's coronavirus disease 2019 web page.

FACT 4 You can help stop COVID-19 by knowing the signs and symptoms:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

Seek medical advice if you

- Develop symptoms

AND

- Have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19.

FACT 5 There are simple things you can do to help keep yourself and others healthy.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and before eating or preparing food.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



CS15446-A 03/06/2020

For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19

Q: What is social distancing?
 A: Staying at least 6 feet from other people

Q: Why should I social distance??
 A: It helps to stop the spread of coronavirus. When someone with coronavirus coughs or sneezes, the virus in the droplets can travel up to six feet according to the CDC.

Q: What are some things I can do and not be bored?

- Exercise (while maintaining social distance!)
- Help your family around your home

- Watch a movie
- Text with friends
- Read
- Draw a picture
- Play a video game
- Play music
- Write a story or journal
- Do work for school
-

Where should I go for the newest information about Vermont?

- VT Department of Health Updated Information: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/infectious-disease/2019-novel-coronavirus>

Wellness Day 2020

By Jaycie Puttlitz, Wellness Coordinator

Studies show that being unhappy with work can have a major impact on our health. According to Mental Health America, people in unhealthy work environments are at risk for higher rates of healthcare appointments, weight gain, and absenteeism. Work stress impacts family life, mental health and can increase risks for chronic illnesses and heart attacks.

The Vermont Department of Health promotes worksite wellness because “better health leads to financial benefits, reduced health care costs and a more productive and engaged workforce.” You can find their worksite wellness toolkit here: www.healthvermont.gov/wellness/worksite-wellness

Recognizing the numerous benefits of creating a well worksite, Winooski School District (WSD) held our annual Wellness Day for all faculty and staff in early March. This was the 7th year that our district offers an opportunity for all staff to promote their well-being together. Wellness Day is not only a day to rejuvenate, but it is a day to spend building relationships with colleagues across the district and strengthening our school community's emotional well-being.

Staff-led workshops included vegetarian cooking, needle felting, mindful coloring, wellness collages, personal training, manicures, and improvisation. Winooski High School students offered a financial investing workshop and an introduction to boxing. Other wellness topics covered include improving your oral health, exploring emotions through physical movements, and backyard composting.

1. WHS student teaches boxing
2. Financial planning workshop lead by WHS students
3. Employees took a Life Balance Assessment
4. Relaxing Yoga Class
5. Learning to cook with meat alternatives
6. Trying Jazzercise!

"I so appreciate working at a place that values wellness and felt energized by the day!"

— WSD faculty member

WSD Wellness Coordinator, Jaycie Puttlitz, has been organizing Wellness Day for six years, and feels each year improves based on employee feedback and participation. “The best part of this day is the activities are run mostly by staff members who volunteer to lead others employees in doing what they love to do to take care of themselves. These activities range from team sports, jazzercise, crafts & hobbies and cooking. We are also

grateful for some activities that are run by community volunteers who just want to show their appreciation for what teachers do every day,” she said.

Steven Hauke, WSD Special Educator, said, “I stepped out of my comfort zone by participating in activities that took place out of the gym. In doing so I was able to spend time with people I don't usually find myself with. It was a very relaxing and chill day.”



WSD Alumni Profile: Oo Mai Be

Winooski School District prepares students to lead healthy, productive and successful lives. The paths our students take after graduating can be as different — and interesting — as our incredibly diverse students themselves. So, we created a place to celebrate the work WSD grads are doing in Winooski, in Vermont and around the world. If you know of a person who should be featured, please email Emily Hecker, ehecker@wsdvt.org.

What are you doing now?

I am currently a senior attending Northern Vermont University at Lyndon, studying psychology and human services. I'm graduating in Spring 2020.

How did WSD prepare you for your success?

WSD is a home to many international students seeking education and better future. For me personally, when I attended WSD I had no prior knowledge in speaking English. I had a difficult time understanding English, reading and writing but with the help of my teachers I was able to understand a lot of that content that was being taught. While other kids were enjoying their summers being a part of sports teams or taking vacations, I attended summer school.

Tell me more about your background?

I came to Vermont in 2011. I was born in Myanmar/Burma. I grew up in a Thailand refugee camp. I was 12 years old when we came to the United States. I didn't speak English at all. People used to tell me, "Go back to your country! You don't belong here?" Mrs. Greene helped me and called the translator to help me work it out so I felt better. A lot of teachers got to know me and helped me through this hard time.

What are you most proud of?

I am so thankful to live in the US and be able to get the education I want. In my culture, women don't have a lot of rights. Going to college is really hard for women in Burmese culture. I am proud that I am strong enough to fight for my education. I love my culture, but I also think that people need to be able to make their own decisions. When you try to change something within a culture it might scare people and makes them reject you. You might lose people but you will also gain people.

What is your advice for current students?

You only go to high school one time. Get more involved in the things you love. Be proud of where you came from. Stand up for what is right. Don't worry about having a set plan for your future, and don't worry about doing something just because your friends are doing it. I feel like a lot of students aren't trying hard enough. So, I say: try harder! They think they don't need to pursue education because there are easier ways to make money. I want everyone to recognize the incredible opportunity they have to get a good education.

Why do you heart WSD?

I love Winooski because it's diverse. The teachers are very understanding. They help you in life and give good advice and prepare you for college and a bright future. Winooski is all about having heart.



Oo Mai Be,
Class of 2016

ANNOUNCEMENTS

| Winooski High School Hamilton Trip Fundraiser | | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| LEONARDO'S 12" pizza (2 winners) | Southpan 2 - 20oz beer etched Yeti Tumblers | 60 minute massage or facial | color STREET Gift box with pancake mix, maple syrup, coffee, jam, honey, chocolate & a candle | City Market From CornerMarket: Nail Strips Gift Bag (4 winners) |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| APRIL CORNELI Dinner and coffee valued at over \$80 | Twincraft Skincare Gift basket full of soaps \$150 value | LOCAL MOTION Blue Fairy Mason Jars | SURE'S PUBLIC HOUSE \$25 gift certificate | Bagels \$20 gift certificate |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| \$10 gift certificate (5 winners) | \$25 coupe certificate | Four month membership | CAR WASH One two or wash coupons | WHEEL LESSON two small coupons (2 winners) |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| One year family membership | Two movie passes | Small family membership | WATERWORKS \$50 gift certificate | phoenix \$15 gift certificate (2 winners) |
| DRAWING ON MARCH 31ST AT 3PM TICKETS \$1.00 EACH OR 6 FOR \$5.00 You select your prize(s). Winners will be notified by phone. Complete list of winners will be sent to provided email address. Thank you for your support! | | | | |
| Special thank you for a generous donation! Community Bank N.A. | | | | |
| 100% of the proceeds will go towards the trip expenses. Thank you to our business community for the incredible support! *Trip may be postponed until the fall* | | | | |

| Winooski High School Hamilton Trip Fundraiser | | | | |
|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| Two dozen mini chocolate | Pair of tickets to a select performance | One family day pass | Put driving tourant | Super soft trademark beer |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| From Avenue Bow: Shave and style, see just across, top hair and \$25 coupon | Jersey and Blankets | \$10 gift certificate (4 winners) | Gift basket full of products | Two scenic movie tickets |
| 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 35 |
| 13 Bites Bakery Gift bag with body oil, hair products, lip-gloss, and foundation | From Mobile Deans: Basket full of products | \$50 gift certificate | \$5 off coupon (10 winners) | \$25 gift certificate |
| 36 | 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 |
| ferries One way ticket (4 winners) | One night stay at the Colchester, VT location | Mask, tea & snack package | \$25 gift certificate (2 winners) | One month membership (2 winners) |
| 41 | 42 | 43, 44, 45, 46, 47 | | |
| \$20 gift certificate | \$25 gift certificate | Handcrafted items from Crossroads VT 43. Black walnut cheese board 44. Black walnut & cherry collage board 45. Cherry & black walnut cutting board 46. Maple cutting board 47. Birch beaker | | |
| DRAWING ON MARCH 31ST AT 3PM TICKETS \$1.00 EACH OR 6 FOR \$5.00 You select your prize(s). Winners will be notified by phone. Complete list of winners will be sent to provided email address. Thank you for your support! | | | | |
| Special thank you for a generous donation! COMMUNITY Bank N.A. 32 tickets will be selected for a FREE pint coupon | | | | |

High School Fundraiser Underway

By Courtney Poquette

Students are raising money for an upcoming trip to see Hamilton on Broadway. Thank you to so many businesses here we have nearly 100 prizes that we will be given away. To purchase tickets, please contact teacher Courtney Poquette at cpoquette@wsdvt.org. Many thanks in advance!

Foster Parents needed

By Kristy Haapala, Recruitment and Retention Specialist

Are you ready to celebrate his first ever birthday party? Can you help a teen discover her growing independence in healthy ways? Do you and your family have a lot of patience, determination, and most of all, an abundance of love to share?

BECOME A FOSTER PARENT! The Family Services Division of the Department for Children and Families may be looking for someone just like you to provide foster care for a child. Could you offer a safe, stable, loving home for an infant, toddler, siblings, child with special needs, school-age child, teen? Can you set age-appropriate expectations and boundaries? Are you patient, kind, and resilient to the demands a child may place on you? Are you able to navigate through the many demands that being a foster parent will create in your life? If so, we would love to hear from you. Foster parenting can be challenging but it also provides one of the richest rewards you'll ever experience.

For information call (802) 863-7370

Ask to speak with our Recruitment and Retention Specialist or the Resource Coordinator. White Cap Business Park, 426 Industrial Ave. Ste. 140, Williston, Vermont 05495

Kindergarten Registration and Screening for 2020-21 School Year

Children who will be five years of age prior to September 1, 2020, should attend. Kindergarten registration and screening will be at John F. Kennedy Elementary School on Friday May 15th and Monday May 18th. Please call the J.F.K. office at 655-0411 to make an appointment. All appointments are 90 minutes. Please be sure you are on time for your appointment and you bring your child, your child's birth certificate, (or I-94 if your child was born in a country that doesn't issue birth certificates), updated immunization record and his/her Social Security number and proof of residency to the appointment, and register your child while he/she is being screened. Thank you.

Preschool Planning

By Robin Hood, Director of Support Services & Early Learning

The Winooski School District is planning on expanding our preschool options. If you are a parent or guardian who has children birth to five, please complete a survey by entering the link below on your computer. Your input is important and valued as we work to plan for the future of preschool in Winooski. Here is the link to participate: https://bit.ly/WSD_PRE_SCHOOL_SURVEY.

Join us at the Winooski Farmers Market!

Mark your calendars! The Winooski Farmers Market opening day is **May 31, 2020**. Apply to be a vendor and get more information by visiting www.downtownwinooski.org or emailing farmersmarket@downtownwinooski.org. We're looking forward to a great season!



JFK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

April Update

By Sara Raabe, JFK Principal

Many of our students have TikTok accounts on their phones, tablets, or other devices. TikTok is an app, however it can be accessed on a computer through a web browser such as Chrome or Safari. We have found that many of our students have public TikTok accounts, not realizing that this meant that anyone in the world can see their videos, even without having a TikTok account, download them, and do whatever they want with them. We have also found that many of our students have several TikTok accounts with different user names. The adults at school have begun having conversations with our older students about Social Media, and TikTok in particular.

We wanted to share some information about TikTok with the community that we have already shared with our families, so that the adults have an understanding of what risks may be associated with using the app:

1. TikTok is currently the #1 concern for many state and federal police and cyber crime units. It's a huge source of child pornography, and is a favorite place for pedophiles to create fake accounts and stalk children online. This is part of the reason why TikTok changed the account rules for people under the age of 13: they can *view* curated content (i.e. parent-approved), but not *create* videos if under 13. This is only true if they admit that they are under 13 when they create their account. We found that many of our students lied about their age when creating accounts.
2. The U.S. government has been investigating TikTok because of serious concerns the company is sharing users' data with the Chinese government. The TikTok database is also not very secure, making it easy for hackers to gain access to user data - including the videos posted there.
3. TikTok has a third party agreement. This means that when you create an



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account, you are agreeing that they own all of your information and the content you create, and can share it with other companies, etc.

4. If a child lies about their age when creating a TikTok account, pretending to be over 13 so they can create their own video and get "followers," what's to stop an adult from also lying about their age and pretending to be a youngster in order to gain access to kids online?
5. Posting images and names of students online, especially when also identifying them as living in Winooski, is incredibly dangerous. This is a pedophile's dream. We may have parents or families who have fled conflicts/violence, or are hiding from abusive family members; posting these videos makes it easy for those seeking to harm our families to find where they live.
6. TikTok has clear rules and age restrictions; for every person who breaks these rules for something "harmless" there is another person breaking the rules for something more dangerous.
7. Some language used in these videos is highly inappropriate and some crosses over into cyberbullying.
8. Please know that when your child has hundreds of followers, many of those people are not who they seem to be.

TikTok is a popular app, and for the most part people use it in a very innocent way. We encourage our families to check devices frequently, and have serious conversations about all social media, including Facebook, Instagram, SnapChat, and TikTok.

Managing Ourselves for the Sake of our Children

By Jean Berthiaume & Kate Grodin, WMHS Co-Principals

Sometimes we can be our own worst enemies. When adults are not caring for themselves, physically or emotionally, young people are often the first to see it. Teachers, parents, caregivers are the container for our children and adolescents. When a crack forms in this container, it may add stress or anxiety to young people. It is especially challenging when faced with lack of information or ever-changing information. At the time of writing this article, we know less about the coronavirus than we will at the time it is published. Adults must use strategies for managing their own stress and wellness, that way we can be present for our children.

As schools work to safeguard student health and prevent the spread of the

coronavirus (COVID-19), school counselors are challenged to meet student needs both at school and outside school in the event of closures. The American School Counselors Association has developed some recommendations for both situations. Here you'll find a number of resources for talking to students about the virus, including:

- encouraging parents to limit their children's exposure to news media,
- providing a calming influence to students as needed, and
- helping students address their fears.

These strategies are helpful to adults as well as young people. Please remember when choosing to engage with a child about this issue to rely on factual information. Since young people are



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always listening, we must be cautious when we post about our fears or chat freely at home and take precautions regarding who might hear or see these messages and conversations.

Schools, working together with local health departments, play an important role in slowing the spread of diseases to help ensure students have safe and healthy learning environments. Please review the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

[Interim Guidance for Administrators of U.S. Childcare Programs and K-12 Schools to Plan, Prepare and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\).](#)

“Around the World on a Plate” New Public Art Displayed in the Winooski School Library

By Alissa Faber

Students from Winooski middle school met for 6 weeks during their 21C afterschool program to learn about public art and decide what they wanted to make for their community. Logan E. is happy to be part of a public art project. “The fact that it’s getting put up in the school and everyone will be able to see our art makes me happy, because we put a lot of hard work into these pieces.” The process and planning of Around the World on a Plate was completely student led. Students in grades 6th-8th worked together to plan a tile project to decorate their cafeteria. Each student sculpted three-dimensional food out of clay to create an assortment of foods to display in their school. “We chose to make art for the cafeteria because it would be fun to make art about food! I liked the idea of food and drinks because there is a wide variety of stuff that you could make. The final creations look really cool! I will feel honored to have a piece of my art on display in the cafeteria.” -Natalie D.

This is the first time that middle school



students have a full time art teacher. Connecting with art teacher Emily Jacobs after school helps cultivate creativity and build relationships with students. Iris P. loved participating in the food-tile creation process specifically, “because we all worked as a team. We helped each other with ideas and techniques.”

You can view Around the World on a Plate in the Winooski school library. The students are looking forward to sharing their artwork in the new cafeteria after construction.

This project was made possible by the BCA Community Fund. All supplies and teaching artist fees were covered by Burlington City Arts.



WMHS Parent Engagement Meetings

By Jean Berthiaume & Kate Grodin, WMHS Co-Principals

Reasonable people can disagree on both the what and the how of schools. But one constant is that students learn best when their parents or guardians are informed and actively engaged in their education, regardless of a school's location, its demographics, or the age of its students.

Here at Winooski Middle and High School we value the importance of connecting with families as often we can, and admit that we don't do it often enough! We see family engagement as essential for a student's success in school. With that being said, we are excited about the upcoming parent forums happening throughout this month. These forums will be an opportunity for Winooski Middle and High School families to learn more about the proficiency learning system and the pathways towards graduation.

These forums will provide parents with the chance to clarify misconceptions in smaller groups and settings. They will also offer the opportunity for families

to feel comfortable asking questions and getting their individual needs met. These meetings will be facilitated in collaboration with the VSAC GEAR UP program and offered throughout the Spring.

Topics to be presented and discussed include:

- Proficiencies at WMHS and statewide
- Graduation Requirements
- Graduation timeline & expectations (changing the narrative of what it means to be a high school student)
- Flexible Pathways
- Dual Enrollment
- Post Secondary planning
- Empowering families to actively participate in their students education
- Building relationships with parent/guardian(s) from the community

Here are the dates, times, and location of our parent forums. All are welcome to

attend dates and times that work within their schedules.

- Abeer Alzubaidy - Arabic: 3/28 (postponed - new date TBA) at VSAC 2:00 - 4:00
- Lan Nguyen - Vietnamese: 3/28 (postponed - new date TBA) O'Brien Community Center 9am-11am
- Tul Niroula - Nepali: 4/18 at O'Brien Center 4:00 - 6:00
- Faridar Ko - Burmese/Karen: 4/16 at WMHS 5:00 - 7:00
- Stevya Mukuzo - Swahili/French: 4/11 O'Brien Community Center 2:00 - 4:00
- Dalib- Somali/Mai Mai & AALV for translator TBD: Forum TBD
- General - English: 4/15 at WMHS 5:00 - 7:00

Please connect with your liaison or principals at 655-6410 to confirm these dates.

Business Student of the Month



By Courtney Poquette, Business Teacher

Congratulations **Najlaa Aref!** Najlaa has completed every business class offered at our school and finds ways to connect her learning in her other classes back to business. In addition to her class studies, Najlaa has been dependable and consistent in managing the finances for the School Store over the past two years. Her contributions and leadership with the School Store will be missed when she graduates. Thank you Najlaa!

National Documentary Featuring Winooski High School Students

By Courtney Poquette, Business Teacher

Please join us on **Thursday, April 16** at 5:30pm for a screening of the documentary: **The Most Important Class You Never Had.**

This film featured eight schools across the country about the importance of Personal Finance education. Winooski was a featured school. Please come to view the film and then stay for a student panel discussion following the film. We would love to celebrate our accomplishments with you, and help support surrounding districts move to the gold standard when it comes to this education.

Correction

The WMHS Artist of the Month for February, 2020 was **Ayush Pradhan!**

We mistakenly attributed her recognition to the month of March in our last newsletter. Our apologies! — Editor

March Artists of the Month



By Jessica Bruce, Visual Arts Teacher

Please join me in congratulating **Nurta Ahmed** and **Zahara Aweys!** They have been working so hard in Art1 this year. In the most recent assignment, the class used three student-chosen artworks to help inspire a new, original piece of their own. Nurta & Zahara like to work together often, but it has been amazing to see them begin to develop individual artistic style. Congrats, ladies!

ADVOCACY DAY AT THE STATEHOUSE (cont. from page 1)

their life and they can't always access it," said Ismail.

"I learned a lot from him. Mostly when he was saying the reason we need these programs is because (lawmakers) are not doing everything right for people. People on food stamps aren't getting enough food," said Hanan Al Samrai. "It was interesting learning about his experience running for governor. It was complicated and I don't think I could do it. At first I was nervous that I would have to talk about everything but he helped us lead the conversation."

When the students shared their stories with Senator Ashe, Sara Schmoll was impressed with how responsive Ashe was to their stories. "I come from a house with eight other siblings and we struggle to make ends meet," she said. "He understood what we had to say. And he bounced off what we were saying. He really connected to our stories and wanted to help us with our problems. He wanted to know about the program."

Members of VT Foodbank sat in on the meeting. "Hearing your students talk to Senator Ashe about our program was the highlight of my year," one member reflected.

The statehouse was bustling with activity for what is known as

"cross-over week" when laws move between the House and the Senate. The budget that is currently heading to the Senate has appropriated funding for the Vermonters Feeding Vermonters program.

During lunch, the students met with one of Winooski's own Rep. Diana Gonzalez. The students were able to ask her questions about her work as a Representative. She explained that lawmakers have to be very careful and purposeful when they write laws. She gave an example of if the government does approve funding for the VFV program, they will need to ensure they use specific wording to ensure that the VT Foodbank receives the full funding.

The students were also able to ask Rep. Hal Colston about the work he was doing both in the Statehouse and as a Winooski City Council Member. Rep. Colston mentioned that he was able to see a bill that he introduced last year become a law this spring. As a new Representative, he explained that there is a large learning curve when you first come to work at the Statehouse. Sara said she recognized Rep. Colston from around Winooski. After leaving their meeting she said, "It was so cool to meet the people who are making the laws that really impact my family. I feel like my voice really matters to them."



Varsity Girls Basketball Team

By Jeff Robinson, Coach

The Varsity girls basketball team completed a very successful season. With no seniors and competing in a very strong Lake division made up of Division 1, and 2 teams the ladies held their own every night. The girls met all team goals and that consisted of beating last year's win total which we did with 6 wins, and getting better throughout the year. The girls played the best basketball in the final month of season compiling 5 wins in that time to surpass last year's win total of 5. The girls battled hard in the playoff loss to Bellows Falls 57 to 41, and had it down to 6 point game late in the 3rd quarter against a team that was senior heavy. Along with the great accomplishments on the court the girls also had food drive for the Winooski food shelf during the season, volunteered on a Saturday morning to help the Parks and Rec program, and served food for the boys basketball team and their families for family night. It was a great season and can't wait until next season with all girls returning.



Vermont Senate Education Committee visited the Winooski School District

On March 10th the Vermont Senate Education Committee visited the Winooski School District.

VT Senator Baruth's Senate Education Committee is considering changes to the pupil weighting funding formula, changes that would boost the amount of weighting for districts with high numbers of Free and Reduced Lunch students and ELL students. They are hoping to better understand Winooski (which has profound challenges in both areas), and better understand how educating these populations costs more – and why we may be entitled to greater support from the state.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Municipal Update April 2020

By Paul Sarne, Communications Coordinator

COVID-19 Information - VT. Dept. of Health

The City of Winooski is carefully monitoring information and recommendations about COVID-19.

We encourage everyone to continue to get their updates and health/safety resources from the Vermont Department of Health website: healthvermont.gov/covid-19

A number of municipal services, programs, and events have changed. As we continue to address this unprecedented and ongoing issue, updates can be found on the City's website: winooski.vt.gov/covid-19.

Council Liaison Update Highlights

Here are a few highlights from our City Council Liaison Updates. To read our full Council Liaison Updates (and to subscribe), visit winooski.vt.gov

- The Winooski Housing Commission continued the discussion surrounding gentrification and explored data related to the overall condition of our housing and rental markets. City Staff analyzed data on recent home sales, cost burdens for owners and renters, income distributions, building permits and code violations. Based on this analysis, there are no additional signs of gentrification, and the data suggest that Winooski is providing a mix of housing that is relatively affordable for owners and renters compared to the rest of Chittenden County, with median 2018 home prices and median 2018 rental prices below the county average. A further look back at the data shows changes over the past five years do not indicate a cause for immediate concern that our community is gentrifying.
- The Winooski Planning Commission held a public hearing on a proposed zoning amendment related to

parking. Winooski's regulations require minimum parking spaces for different land uses including residential, commercial, hotel, theater, industrial, and office – but not for “unlisted” uses, for example, a school or educational facility. The proposed amendment aims to create a waiver process to establish parking requirements for the unlisted uses by having the project apply for a waiver from the minimum requirements through the Development Review Board (DRB). The applicant would need to provide a parking study and other evidence to support the amount of parking they propose to include in their project. The DRB would consider the evidence, existing minimums, the ability for the project to support parking needs in the site plan and potential impacts on surrounding parking facilities including City maintained streets or parking structures. The Planning Commission debated heavily on this amendment: On one hand, there is a need for non-listed use cases to be able to build appropriate parking – we don't see a bunch of unused parking spaces taking up land in Winooski, causing negative impacts to stormwater management. On the other hand, there are concerns that new developments may underprovide parking and force residents to crowd public streets. Ultimately,

the Planning Commission voted to forward the amendment to City Council for their consideration.

City Updates



Reminders from the City Clerk's Office

- Unofficial 2020 Town Meeting Day results can be found at winooski.vt.gov
- Reminder: all dogs owned in the City of Winooski must be registered with the City Clerk before May 1st of each year. In order to register your dog, you must have a copy of the current Rabies Certificate – visit us at Winooski City Hall (M – F, 7:30 AM – 4:30 PM) to register your dog.

Employment Opportunities

Learn more and apply for our employment opportunities by visiting winooski.vt.gov/jobs



| Your City Officials | Email addresses | Telephone |
|---------------------------|--|--------------|
| Mayor Kristine Lott | klott@winooski.vt.gov | 802-766-1988 |
| Councilor Hal Colston | hcolston@winooski.vt.gov | 802-922-2908 |
| Councilor James Duncan | jduncan@winooski.vt.gov | 802-310-7103 |
| Councilor Amy Lafayette | alafayette@winooski.vt.gov | 802-598-7704 |
| Councilor Mike Myers | mmyers@winooski.vt.gov | 802-355-5348 |
| City Manager Jessie Baker | jbaker@winooski.vt.gov | 802-655-6410 |

Visit the city website at winooski.vt.gov 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 @winooski.vt

Winooski Police Department Officer

The Winooski Police Department is currently accepting applications for a full-time Police Officer. We are a progressive, community-oriented, 24-hour police department, serving a diverse population of over 7,500 citizens in the heart of Chittenden County. WPD provides a wide range of police services for its residents and is a highly motivated, professional organization that embraces the Community Oriented Policing philosophy. The department is committed to building relationships of mutual trust, understanding and respect of individual rights and responsibilities.



Part-Time, On Call Firefighter

The Part-time Firefighter serves the community by responding to a wide variety of situations, ranging from emergencies that immediately threaten life or property to routine citizen request for information or assistance. This work shall be done within the Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG's) of the Winooski Fire Department and City policy, within the following general categories: fire suppression, rescue, hazardous material responses, training, equipment and station maintenance. It will be a requirement to attend regularly scheduled training(s) in order to maintain the level of knowledge, skill, and ability to work as part of a team. Candidates who live within a 5-minute response time near the Winooski Fire Department are encouraged to apply for this position.

Per-Diem Firefighter

A Per-Diem Firefighter serves the community by responding to a wide variety of situations, ranging from emergencies that immediately threaten life or property to routine citizen request for information or assistance. This work will be done within the Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG's) of the Winooski Fire Department and City policy, within the following general categories: fire suppression, rescue, hazardous material responses, fire

prevention, training, equipment and station maintenance. Per Diem Staff will be on a pre-qualified list and utilized as assigned by the Fire Chief to enhance coverage during service demands.

Many of our Community Services programs, events, and services may currently be postponed due to COVID-19. This includes the Library, Senior Center, Recreation and Parks, and our Thrive After School program. Please check the City's website for updates: winooski.vt.gov/covid-19

Community Services Programs and Events



Myers Memorial Pool – Opening Day Announcement

The City of Winooski Community Services Department is excited to announce that the official opening day for the newly renovated Myers Memorial Pool will be Sunday, June 14, 2020!

The full schedule of open swim and programs is available on the City's website. Highlights include:

- Daily open swim hours, 7 days a week all season long
- Lap Pool
- Universally Accessible Program Pool
- Splash Pad
- Water Slide
- Aquatics Programs (Swim Lessons, Aqua Aerobics, etc.)
- Event Space Rentals (birthday parties & more)

Season passes for families and individuals are on sale now! Please note that any residential season pass will have scholarship options available.

Family Season Pass

- Resident: \$120
- Non-resident: \$150

Adult Season Pass

- Resident: \$60
- Non-resident: \$75

Youth/Student Season Pass

- Resident: \$45
- Non-resident: \$56

Senior (55+) Season Pass

- Resident: \$45
- Non-resident: \$56

Day Passes

- Adult: Resident \$6 / Non-resident \$7
- Youth/Student: Resident \$4 / Non-resident \$5
- Senior (55+): Resident \$4 / Non-resident \$5

Visit winooski.vt.gov/pool for full program and pricing details.

The City of Winooski would like to thank the Myers Memorial Pool Foundation for their incredible and ongoing support of this project! From community engagement to fundraising, their role in revitalizing this amazing community feature has been integral to its success. We look forward to seeing all of our friends and neighbors this summer

Winooski Memorial Library

Sign up for and learn more about all of our programs at winooski.vt.gov/library

Call or email with questions regarding our programs: 802 655 6424 / winooskilibrary@winooski.vt.gov



Dungeons & Dragons

WANTED! Wizards and warriors, druids and rogues, Elves, dwarves, halflings, and all other adventurers are welcomed. Come on a journey of the mind at the Winooski Memorial Library and join our new Dungeons & Dragons Club. Battle dragons, learn magic, ride a unicorn — the imaginative possibilities are endless.

This program is free and open to all — available Fridays at 5pm. Unexpected cancellations will be posted to the Library's Facebook!



Pokémon Club

Join the Winooski Memorial Library for our brand-new Pokémon Club:

- Fridays / August 23-Nov 15 3:15-5pm
- Ages 12+
- Free & Open to All
- New Players: no experience necessary — learn the rules of the game, we'll provide the cards.
- Experienced players: improve your strategies, trade with others, and build your deck. Bring your cards!

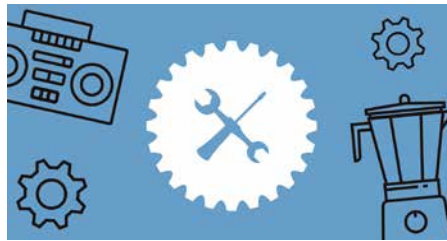
The Pokémon card game is the best way to practice your reading and math skills in the most fun way possible. All experience levels welcome. Youth under 12 require adult permission. Unexpected cancellations will be posted to the Library's Facebook page (facebook.com/winooskilibrary)



Academic & Career Support

Are you stuck on an assignment? Need help coming up with ideas? Trying to write an essay for your college applications? Applying for a job? Our Academic & Career Support program at the Winooski Memorial Library is here to help you with your challenging assignments for class and life. Make and revise your resume, research a career, apply for college or a job, get help in math, or finish a paper for Language Arts.

- M-Th, 4:30-7:30pm
- Get help from an experienced tutor from the University of Vermont's education program — WIFI, computers, and printers are available.
-



Tinker Thursdays

- Thursdays: 3:15pm-4:30pm
- FREE!
- Youth Ages 8+ (under 10 require adult supervision)

Recreation and Parks



Ukulele 101 & 102

There are two levels of instruction, perfect for those who want to master this beautiful instrument:

101 - Four-week Level 1 classes are for folks who have never played the ukulele or who want a refresher of the basics. It's light-hearted and fun, and we cover how to hold the uke, strum it, form chords, and play songs. You don't have to have any musical experience for this class - just a song in your heart and eagerness to learn!

- Professional instructor: Clare Innes
- \$50 resident, \$55 non-resident
- Ukuleles available for rent (\$20 for the duration of the course) or purchase in class
- Note: baritone chords not covered
- Registration deadline: Friday, April 17, 2020



102 - Four-week Level 2 classes delve into various techniques to improve strumming, moving smoothly among chords, and playing well with others. You'll pick up some tricks and tips that will help make you a stronger, more

confident player. Please be familiar with maintaining a basic strum and be able to move with relative ease among these chords: Am, C, D, Em, F, G & G7.

- Professional instructor: Clare Innes
- \$55 resident, \$60 non-resident
- Ukuleles available for rent (\$20 for the duration of the course) or purchase in class
- Note: baritone chords not covered
- Registration deadline: Friday, May 22, 2020



Learn to Play the Harmonica!

Did you know that all harmonicas are already in tune and playing them can actually help tune your ears to the right pitches, which can help you become a better singer? Playing them regularly can also help improve your lung capacity and function, which is great for anyone with lungs, especially those with respiratory issues.

- Tuesdays / April 21 - May 12 6:45 - 7:45pm at the O'Brien Community Center
- \$55 resident, \$60 non-resident
- Led by professional instructor Claire Innes
- Participants will need a harmonica in the key of C for this class. Bring your own or purchase from us!



Camp Winooski

Begin summer with a splash in Winooski's brand-new Myers Memorial Pool! Adventure deep into nature and have fun while learning with the Winooski Valley Park District exploring fields, forests, and wetlands through

hands-on activities and games. Enjoy the summer with new friends from Camp Winooski!

- Youth Ages 8 - 12
- \$150 resident / \$170 non-resident
- Session 1: June 15 - 19 (M - F)
- Session 2: August 3 - 7 (M - F)

Children and Family Programs

Sign up for and learn more about all of our programs at winooski.vt.gov/thrive

Call or email with questions regarding our programs: 802 655 1392 / thrive@winooski.vt.gov



2020 Summer Camp

The City of Winooski proudly presents our 2020 Thrive Summer Camp Program! Our summer camp program is designed to engage youth participants in outdoor exploration, STEM activities, trips to the pool, and fun in the sun. Subsidy available for qualifying families, and additional scholarships available if needed.

- \$150/wk for the full day week of 6.22
- \$100/wk for half-day weeks
- \$100 for the 4-day week of 6.29

Week of 6/22: Ecosystem Explorations

Learn about wetlands and water quality, habitats, adaptations, and local Vermont wildlife! We will engage in hands-on activities led by guest educators from the Winooski Valley Parks District.

Week of 6/29: Edible STEM

Engage in hands-on activities that are both delicious and fun. We'll build and use solar ovens, design structures using edible ingredients, and explore chemical reactions that create tasty treats.

Week of 7/6: Slime Time!

Explore and learn about all things messy, slimy, and sensory! We'll follow and adjust recipes to make different kinds of slime, stress ball balloons, oobleck, and Play-doh, and compete to see who can create the most powerful bouncy ball.

Week of 7/13: Makerspace Creations

Our classroom will transform into a makerspace as we build, design, and create. Students will think like inventors and artists as they make robots, racecars, rollercoasters, and more.

Week of 7/20: Aquatic Adventures

Cool off with water-themed activities and games! We will create our own ocean animal sensory bottles, simulate an oil spill clean-up and apply scientific principles to design boats that can hold the most weight and travel the fastest.

Week of 7/27: Construction Week

We'll take advantage of the learning opportunities at the WSD campus this week, interviewing the workers who are helping the Capital Project become a reality. We'll design and build prototypes of our own visions of the new school.

Earth Day Is Everyday!

By Sr Pat Mckittrick

How important is our earth? Remember this is our life, it's not a dress rehearsal. Some of our valuable resources could be lost forever. What can we do to make a difference? Here are 10 simple ways to do your part for the environment.

In an article, *Reclaiming The Earth, One Drop At A Time*, Jo Ann Showalter, SP writes:

"We all know we're supposed to reduce, reuse, recycle; conserve energy and water; and try to avoid the car. Here are some other ways to take action.

1. Reduce food waste
2. Swap out meat and dairy items for plant-based options
3. Eat locally
4. Use less food packaging
5. Carry reusable beverage bottles and utensils
6. Use or make non-toxic cleaning products
7. Purchase products from renewable resources
8. Choose secondhand goods (clothing, furniture, tools, toys, etc.)
9. Say no to the throwaway culture
10. Get involved in a community activity or cleanup."

It's nearly time to think about gardening. What will you do this year? Make a difference by planting flowers and/or vegetables. Need a few plants to get started? We have a limited amount to help you get started. Contact Sr. Pat at pat.mckittrick@uvmhealth.com.



VOLUNTEER CORNER

By Olivia Miller, Community Engagement & Volunteer Coordinator

Many community members have inquired about volunteering during this difficult time and are interested in helping their neighbors. For the time being, the City of Winooski has postponed all current volunteer opportunities and activities to focus our attention on COVID-19 related requests. Our top priority is the health and wellbeing of our staff, volunteers, and residents while following the state-

wide goals of minimizing transmission and promoting social distancing. We can't guarantee a volunteer position to address this issue, but we will do our best to safely place people appropriately for recognized needs. To learn more, visit winooski.vt.gov/volunteer or contact our volunteer coordinator, Olivia Miller: volunteer@winooski.vt.gov / 802 734 1836

Rice Memorial High School Honor Roll

By Christy Bahrenburg

Congratulations to Winooski students who made the second quarter Honor Roll at Rice Memorial High School:

Q2 First Honors: Claire Vincent

Q2 Second Honors: Lisa Uwiduhaye

Q2 Honorable Mention: Seth Cardinal

Winooski Playgroups

Please reach out to Martina (mkerkering@howardcenter.org or 802-655-1422) to find out about playgroup closures. When open, we meet Tuesdays from 9:30-11:30am, 87 Elm Street in Winooski. Playgroups provide an opportunity for playing, singing, laughing and enjoying each other's company.



New American Safety Festival 2020

Sunday, May 17 | 10 am – 1 pm
 Winooski School District
 60 Normand Street, Winooski, VT
 Rain or Shine

AALV. SAFE KIDS VERMONT. Children's Miracle Network. THE University of Vermont Children's Hospital

New American Safety Festival Scheduled for May 17

Join us for this free event on Sunday May 17 from 10-1! Information on bike safety, swimming lessons and carseat checks will be available.



OLOP Residents Display Artistic Talents at Burlington Exhibit

By Gail Callahan, Communications Manager

What started off as an art class turned into a vehicle for a number of residents and friends of Our Lady of Providence (OLOP) Residential Care Facility to home their artistic skills, leading to an exhibit of the work- drawn and painted- at a local library for much of March.

Dubbed as “Vintage Seniors,” and displayed in the Fletcher Free Library’s Pickering Room, drawings and paintings of just under one dozen artists lined the walls. The vibrant colors jumped from the frames. The themes of the art varied, ranging from what looked like a Vermont tree in full bloom of foliage to pencil drawing of a person.

A reception was slated to be held March 11, the opening day of the exhibit, but was cancelled after concerns about the COVID-19 virus surfaced. The show ran through the end of March.

The art of creating the works were the fruits of an art class led by Karen Fay, who started the experiment two decades ago at Mount Saint Mary’s in Burlington. The location for the group shifted to OLOP after the decision to shutter the Mount was made.

Most of the students in the class were novice artists, while a handful had put brush to canvas, harnessing their creative skills and imagination. “It’s an amazing process,” said Fay. “It’s so exciting to see them excited. Their work is just exceptional.”

Fay was a constant presence during the class, suggesting ways to tweak a painting. Esther “Dennie” Work is an experienced artist. She is both surprised and pleased with her return to the creative studio.

“I naturally never thought that any of my artwork would be on display,” she said. “It’s a great feeling.”

Winooski Food Shelf Schedule for April

By Linda Howe, Winooski Food Shelf Coordinator

Due to increasing concerns regarding the spread of Covid-19 virus, the Winooski Food Shelf will be asking clients to remain outside the building. We will have a host outside registering clients. On Saturdays, a volunteer will come to the door, explain what food was donated by Hannaford, Shaws and Commodities and ask the client what they would like. On Wednesdays, each client will receive a number and a piece of paper with a list of food items available and their own pen. Clients will put their name on the form and check off the items they need. The paper will be handed to a pantry volunteer who will bag up the order. The order will be brought to the door and handed to the client. Clients who are not feeling well are welcome to write us a note or leave a message on our answering machine (802-655-7371) and send a neighbor, friend, or family member to pick up the food. Thank you for your understanding. We must all work together to keep everyone safe. **We are seeing a lot of very outdated food that we must throw away. Please only donate food that is within the expiration date marked on the can or box.**

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Wednesday, April 8th | 2:00pm to 4:00pm | Pantry staples, meat, eggs |
| Saturday, April 11th | 9:30am to 11:00am | Fresh fruit, veggies, bread, deli items |
| Wednesday, April 22nd | 2:00pm to 4:00pm | Pantry staples, meat, eggs |
| Saturday, April 25th | 9:30am to 11:00am | Fresh fruit, veggies, bread, deli items |

Food Shelf Policy: Winooski residents may access the pantry staples one Wednesday each month. Folks may come both Saturdays to stock up on bread, pastry and some fresh fruit and veggies. Hannaford's and Winooski's own Commodities Market supply Saturday's food. New clients should bring proof of Winooski residency such as a utility bill. Any Winooski resident in need is welcome. The Food Shelf is here to help support you. For questions call 802-318-0460.

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 bags to lug your food home. The church phone number is 802-655-7371.

Cash donations needed: The Food Shelf is growing rapidly. More and more of the food must be purchased since donations of food items cannot meet demand. Checks can be mailed to: The Winooski Food Shelf, P.O. Box 53, Winooski, VT 05404.

Donation Drop Off Locations: The Winooski Senior Center, 123 Barlow Street, will accept donations of food or toiletries Tuesday thru Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.. Their phone number is 655-6425. And J & J's Corner Market, located at 12 Malletts Bay Avenue is our other drop off location. They are open Monday thru Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Their phone is 654-8008. Thank you for caring about your neighbors!

SATURDAY, MAY 30

Bluegrass Fans: Chris Jones and The Night Drivers are Coming to Winooski!

Nine-time winner at the International Bluegrass Music Awards, Chris Jones and the Night Drivers will be doing a special concert on **Saturday, May 30** at 7 pm at North End Studios Winooski, located at the O'Brien Community Center, 32 Malletts Bay Avenue. Tickets will be \$20 advance, \$25 at the door, and \$10 for kids 12 and under. If weather permits, the concert will take place outdoors behind the Center.



Chris Jones has a unique connection with Burlington spending his early years as a musician here. Chris has made a name for himself in the bluegrass world, performing extensively throughout

North America and overseas. He hosts a Bluegrass program on Sirius Radio, and writes a regular humor column in Bluegrass Today magazine. Banjo player/actor/director Steve Martin declared that,

“Chris Jones’s voice is there with the great masters,” and called The Night Drivers “some of the best players in bluegrass.”

The band is led by Chris Jones’s soulful lead-singing, songwriting, and solid rhythm and lead guitar. Chris boasts extensive performance credits as a sideman with artists like Lynn Morris, Vassar Clements, Special Consensus, Dave Evans, Earl Scruggs, and the acclaimed Irish band The Chieftains. Other band members include Mark Stoffel on mandolin; bass player, Marshall

Wilborn” (IBMA’s Bass Player of the Year award four times); and banjo/ukulele player and vocalist Grace Van’t Hof from Grammy-nominated group Della Mae.

For tickets, go to sevendaystickets.com.

Saint Francis Xavier Middle School Student Appointed To Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award Renaming Committee

A change is coming for The Dorothy Canfield Fisher Book Award and Addy Eldred, a 7th grader at Saint Francis Xavier School in Winooski, will have a major say in how that change is made.

The Dorothy Canfield Fisher Book Award was created in 1957 to honor excellence in children's literature. Each year, Vermont students in grades four through eight select their favorite "Dorothy's List" book from 30 nominees. Last spring, however, the Vermont State Librarian announced that the award will be renamed in response to critics who said the author's legacy is tainted by ties to the Vermont eugenics movement in the 1920s and '30s.

A renaming committee comprised of Vermont librarians and three middle school students has been formed to carry out this task. Students from across Vermont were invited to submit an essay to be part of the committee. Saint



Addy and Mrs. Finn

Francis Xavier School Librarian Kathleen Finn is not surprised that Addy was one of just three students chosen to serve on this committee. "For the last three years, Addy has been one of the most committed members of the SFX Dorothy's List book discussion group, always adding thoughtful comments to our conversations. She is an avid and discerning reader, an excellent writer and a student who takes great initiative in her academics," said Finn.

In her essay, Addy explained what motivated her to become part of the committee. "This great award needs to be recognized with a great name to go along with it. I think I could contribute to this renaming committee because I enjoy reading and I know enough about books and Vermont to have good judgment about the name of this award."

Mrs Finn was delighted at the selection. "I know I speak for all of us at SFX when I say that Addy will be an outstanding addition to the renaming committee and is most deserving of this honor."

April News from the Winooski Partnership for Prevention

By Elaine Ezerins, Communications and Development Manager, Winooski Partnership for Prevention

Preventing underage drinking and its impact on teens' health

Most often, when teens use alcohol, where they get it is closer than we may think. According to state surveys, teens access alcohol from their own homes, or those of friends; less often, they are able to access it at parties, or by giving money to someone else to purchase it.

One important way to help teens make better choices is to prevent access to alcohol in our homes. Below are some ways we can do this:

- Lock up alcohol that may be stored in a cabinet, basement or garage.
- Exercise your influence. Data shows that teens continue to care what their parents think, even while they are in high school and college. Let your teen know that you don't want them to drink and that most teens in fact don't drink.
- Provide an example of how you refuse a drink when you do not want to use alcohol, and share this with your kids. Kids who see adults refusing successfully will be more confident when the time comes for them to do so.
- Share with your friends, neighbors, and family members that the minimum drinking age is a policy that protects teens' health and brain development, and that you don't want other people serving alcohol to your teen or allowing teen drinking.

ATI visits Outright Vermont

Outright Vermont, an organization which aims to build safe, healthy, and supportive environments for LGBTQ youth ages 13-22, is one of our community partners.

During ATI's visit to their Burlington drop in space this February, Outright staff discussed with ATI how the alcohol and tobacco industry have historically targeted LGBTQ populations with advertising and marketing and other reasons, including minority stress theory, for why LGBTQ youth have higher rates of substance use than their heterosexual peers.



Winooski Partnership for Prevention
Education | Awareness | Engagement

Downtown Winooski Happenings

Enjoy a discount at your favorite local business, discover new ones and support Downtown Winooski with the 2020 ACCESS Winooski Card! Visit www.downtownwinooski.org/access to find out how to buy and what discounts are included (so far!)



Student Meal Pickup Through April 6

The Winooski School District (WSD) is committed to strengthening our community by providing healthy and well-balanced meals to all of our students year-round. WSD schools and afterschool programs were closed as of Wednesday, March 18 to students.


While schools remain closed to students, we will continue to feed them. Our food service providers, The Abbey Group, will be preparing bagged meals (breakfast and lunch) out of our WSD production kitchen, where they prepare meals in a safe and sanitary environment. To practice recommended social distancing students must pick up their meal package and leave immediately. Students will be handed their meals by WSD staff or volunteers, following USDA meal distribution guidelines. Socializing or waiting at food pick-up sites is not allowed.

- **Meals are free to all WSD students.** All meals will be familiar to students, following typical WSD breakfast and supper menus.
- **Meal distribution will begin Wednesday, March 18, and continue through Friday, April 3.** (Monday through Friday. No delivery will be made on weekends.)
- **Meals will be available for pick-up at the following locations from 9:30am - 10:00am:**
 - » Winooski Family Center, 87 Elm St.
 - » O'Brien Community Center, 32 Malletts Bay Ave.
 - » Winooski School District, 60 Normand St.

We will communicate any updates as they become available. **Visit www.wsdvt.org for more information.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please email Jaycie Puttlitz (jputtlitz@wsdvt.org) or call 802-338-7061.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MENUS — APRIL



Winooski Elementary School Breakfast

April 2020

Meal Prices

Community Eligibility Provision

Meals to all Students are free





Snacks & Snack Milk not included

Adult Breakfast \$3.85

Adult Lunch \$3.85

Milk \$.50

Menus are subject to change

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|--|--------------------|--|
|  |  | 1 Danimals Yogurt Scooby Grahams Cinnamon Toast Crunch Bar | 2 Breakfast Round | 3 Blueberry Bread Rice Chex Cereal |
| 6 Iced Honey Bun Honey Roasted Sunflower seeds | 7 Strawberry & Cream Cheese Bagel Stick WG Frosted Flakes Cereal | 8 Danimals Yogurt Scooby Grahams Cinnamon Toast Crunch Bar | 9 Breakfast Round | 10 Blueberry Bread Rice Chex Cereal |
| 13 Iced Honey Bun Honey Roasted Sunflower seeds | 14 Strawberry & Cream Cheese Bagel Stick WG Frosted Flakes Cereal | 15 Danimals Yogurt Scooby Grahams Cinnamon Toast Crunch Bar | 16 Breakfast Round |  NO SCHOOL |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 27 Iced Honey Bun Honey Roasted Sunflower seeds | 28 Strawberry & Cream Cheese Bagel Stick WG Frosted Flakes Cereal | 29 Danimals Yogurt Scooby Grahams Cinnamon Toast Crunch Bar | 30 Breakfast Round |  |

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Breakfast in the Classroom

Please Click Links Below for Nutrition Information on Daily Options

OFFERED DAILY

100% Fruit Juice & Fresh Fruit

1% White Milk, Skim White Milk & Fat Free Chocolate Milk


Students may take two fruit servings with each meal. They must take at least one to qualify

Daily Available Breakfast Nutrition


Fresh Fruit & Juice Condiments


Milk

Pay for meals on-line. Click Image Below



Click Image Below for employment opportunities





Winooski Elementary School Lunch

April 2020

Meal Prices

Community Eligibility Provision

Meals to all Students are free



Snacks & Snack Milk not included

Adult Breakfast \$3.75

Adult Lunch \$3.75

Milk \$.50

Menus are subject to change

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|--|--|--|---|
|  | Harvest of the Month: Whole Grains Taste Test Event Wednesday, April 15, 2020 | 1 Pepperoni Pizza Cheese Pizza Veggie Pizza Caesar Salad Fresh Cucumber Sticks | 2 Maple Garlic Glazed Chicken Roasted Potato Wedges Dinner Roll Steamed Corn | 3 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Creamy Tomato Soup Fresh Carrot Sticks |
| 6 Dress Your Own Beef Burger Hand Cut French Fries Baked Beans | 7 Chicken & Cheese Quesadilla Garden Salsa Rice Pilaf Fresh Celery Sticks | 8 Pepperoni Pizza Cheese Pizza Veggie Pizza Roasted Broccoli Fresh Carrot Sticks | 9 Bag Lunch Extravaganza | 10 Bag Lunch Extravaganza |
| 13 Corn Dog Oven Crisp Tater Tots Steamed Broccoli | 14 Beef Nachos Supreme Garden Salsa Rice Pilaf Baked Beans | 15 Cheesy Breadsticks Marinara Dipping Sauce Cheddar Broccoli Soup Fresh Celery Sticks | 16 Oven Roasted Turkey Chef's Mashed Potato Glazed Carrots Dinner Roll Spring Luncheon | 17 Hearty Chicken & Biscuits Steamed Green Peas Creamy Coleslaw |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 27 Chicken Patty Sandwich Hand Cut French Fries Fresh Carrot Sticks | 28 Beef Taco Bar w/ The Works Garden Salsa Rice Pilaf Warm Black Beans | 29 Pepperoni Pizza Cheese Pizza Veggie Pizza Broccoli Salad Fresh Cucumber Sticks | 30 Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce (Ground Beef) Garlic Breadstick Caesar Salad Steamed Green Beans |  Happy Birthday Celebration Wednesday 29, 2020 |


This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Deli Bar K-8


Fresh Fruit & Juice

Milk

Pay for meals on-line. Click on link below:



Click Image Below for employment opportunities



Daily Lunch Offerings:

Main Meal, Cabot Yogurt Parfait, Deli Bar, Express Lane, Homemade Pizza or Vegetarian Option. Fresh Fruit, 100% Fruit Juice & Milk offered with all meals. Students may take two fruit servings with each meal. **All meals are FREE for students.**

PLEASE NOTE: Lunch is available for all students on early dismissal days! Pick up yours at either door on your way out.

ALSO: Middle and High school menu information is available at <http://wsdfood.abbeygroup.info>. You can also learn about options for managing your child's account at the website.



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
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Newsletter of the Winooski School District

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Winooski High School Students Perform at Statehouse

By Emily Hecker, Communications Director

Two WHS students, **Bonne-Idee Kasindi** and **Rashid Muzaliwa**, sang their popular song, *Twende Shuleni*, for the Vermont Statehouse “devotional” on March 12. Their mothers attended the performance and were honored during announcements by Representative Kate

Webb, chair of the House Committee on Education.

Three additional Winooski students, **Hussein Amuri**, **Susmita Rai**, and **Rahmah Alchaderchi**, were invited to share their perspectives and stories of being newcomers to Vermont schools with the

Committee on Education.

Thank you to Home-School Liaison Stevya Mukuzo and teacher Mike Webster, who supported our students during this exciting day at the Capitol.