



WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS!

ALSO INCLUDES 8 PAGES OF
Community News!
STARTING ON PAGE 8

AUGUST 2020

Celebrating Our Achievements!



PowerSchool Launched

By Kirsten Kollgaard

This year the Winooski School District will be transitioning to PowerSchool as our student information system.

New student families, including kindergartner families, will be receiving a letter in the mail in late July/early August that explains how to register a new student in the PowerSchool system.

Everything, including uploading documents, can be done online.

Returning student families will also receive a letter explaining how to update their students' information in PowerSchool.

All of this can also be done online, so there are no more of those paper packets that get sent home at the beginning of the year.

If you have questions about the shift to PowerSchool, or if you have not yet provided our district with your contact information including mailing address, please email Lauren Broadbent, lbroadbent@wsdvt.org or call her at 802-383-6028.

Winooski School District Reopening, Anti Racism & the Capital Project

By Sean McMannon, Superintendent of Schools

Dear Winooski families, I hope you are safe, healthy and finding ways to enjoy the summer time. As we move from a hectic spring that brought new stressors on students, parents and school staff through a unique summer and into a new school year that will be like no other in many respects, I will do my very best to lead WSD with creativity, collaboration and compassion. Right now, WSD has three very important pieces of work that we are spending a lot of time and effort on to ensure their success: The reopening of our school district this fall, working with students, staff, parents and community members to develop plans and actions to combat racism and continuing to support the important process of improving our school building for the future.

WSD Reopening Planning

Before I get into the process and details of the reopening planning I want to address the ongoing concerns being expressed about returning to an in-person model in August/September. Let me be clear, the #1 stated Purpose in our Reopening Plan is to **“Safely reopen WSD schools for all students, staff and families”** and the #1 stated Guiding Belief is **“Student and staff health, safety, and wellbeing first for ALL”**. It was intentional that these were the first statements to ensure everyone of not only the intent of the WSD Leadership Team but also to guide the work of our reopening teams.

Thanks to all parents who participated in our Family Survey and Virtual Community Forum on School Reopening to share their concerns, ideas and questions. I have been listening carefully to your input and using it with our District, JFK and WMHS reopening teams. We are moving into a wonderful space to be creative and innovative in how we plan for learning this coming school year.

Based on current health data our district will be starting the school year with a student-centered, hybrid-learning model focused on social-emotional wellbeing and assessing critical proficiencies such as reading and math skills so we can better understand how student's skills have shifted since March. Specifically, this hybrid-learning model will have the following characteristics:

Dividing students into two groups—A and B

- Groups will attend 2 consecutive days (Monday and Tuesday or Thursday & Friday) and then 3 days remotely
- Wednesday will be for additional support in person and/or remotely and staff professional planning and learning to improve our remote learning techniques.
- A full-time remote learning option that will require significant parent/caregiver support and will be monitored by a licensed teacher.
- Case managers of students with special needs on Individual Education Plans (IEPs) will meet with their educational teams to determine the best way to provide their IEP services in this learning model.
- ELL Newcomers may attend school in-person more frequently to support their continued acquisition of English language

We will do our very best to meet the needs of families with multiple children across our schools so they can attend on the same days. This model might change based on health data. Our job right now is to develop health and *(continued on page 1)*

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NOTES FROM THE CENTRAL OFFICE



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
We are the future.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE *(continued from cover)*

and remote) and helpful communications so we are prepared for whatever health situation we find come August/September and so we are prepared for shifting health scenarios prior to the development of a vaccine.

The rhetoric coming from the federal government about reopening schools is not helpful and the growing number of positive cases across states in the South and West parts of our country is worrisome. Our President and US Secretary of Education have been pushing hard for reopening schools without any regard for the current health data in each individual state and threatening to withhold federal funds if schools do not reopen. While Vermont continues to have encouraging data across many important metrics we must remain vigilant in implementing our health precautions and understand that this could change quickly as we gradually reopen our state.

On June 25th the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) said "the AAP strongly advocates that all policy considerations for the coming school year should start with a goal of having students physically present in school".

Then on July 10th, in conjunction with American Federation of Teachers (AFT), National Education Association (NEA) and AASA, The School Superintendents Association said: "Returning to school is important for the healthy development and well-being of children, but we must pursue re-opening in a way that is safe for all students, teachers and staff. Science should drive decision-making on safely reopening schools. Public health agencies must make recommendations based on evidence, not politics. Local school leaders, public health experts, educators and parents must be at the center of decisions about how and when to reopen schools, taking into account the spread of COVID-19 in their communities and the capacities of school districts to adapt safety protocols to make in-person learning safe and feasible. For instance, schools in areas with high levels of COVID-19 community spread should not be compelled to reopen against the judgment of local experts.

A one-size-fits-all approach is not appropriate for return to school decisions."

Given all of this uncertainty and changing positions I want all of you to know that we are committed to making decisions that prioritize the health and safety of our students, staff and families, being as prepared as possible for all the possible school scenarios and using the latest health data to inform our decision-making.

Antiracism Action Committees

I was very proud to witness many current and former WHS students address the school board on July 15th to strongly advocate for actions related to their eight demands to create an anti racist environment at WSD. While their stories were painful to hear, their advocacy was compelling and I am convinced we will all work together to make substantive changes and improvements to combat racism in our schools. The school board and student group will be working to figure out how to organize teams to address these eight demands. Please read more about this important work later in this newsletter and at <https://www.wsdvt.org/antiracism-work-in-winooski/>

Capital Project

It is amazing to see what ReArch has accomplished in less than two months onsite! They have moved a tremendous amount of earth including remediating a significant amount of contaminated soil out near the front soccer field which means all aspects of our campus will be safer and healthier when the project is completed. Concrete has been poured

for the new middle school and gym, the new road around the side and back of the building will be cut in soon and our new wells are being drilled. In addition, there has been significant site work such as electrical, septic, water and gas lines and plumbing. Please read more about our progress later in this newsletter and at <https://cp.winooski.org/>

Lastly, please continue to take care of yourself and everyone in Winooski by following social distancing precautions, wearing masks when you go out, wash and sanitize your hands frequently, contact your doctor if you are sick, and stay positive! We will get through this together and be stronger because of it! Thank you for working with WSD to benefit our students!

First Day of School is August 31!

Student schedules will vary based on our hybrid-learning model. More details will be shared in the coming weeks. See contact information for each school on page 3 if you have specific questions.



School Board Meetings Available Online

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

Kindergarten Screening

In-person screening for incoming kindergarten students will be held on Monday, August 31, and Tuesday, September 1. To sign up, please call Linda Casier 802-383-6025. Families will be contacted about their child's placement on Wednesday, September 2.

All kindergarten students will attend their first day of school on either Thursday, September 3, or Friday, September 4. Each student's selected day will be communicated on Wednesday, as well.

School Board Update

By Tori Cleiland, Board of School Trustees

How did America get to a place where over 40 years of research has determined that public education is the “most efficient mechanism for reproducing racial inequality”? It wasn’t by accident. It was by design. Yet this fact is hard to reconcile when thinking about Vermont public schools, and harder still when thinking about our own Winooski Schools. The hopeful thing I see in Dr. DiAngelo’s stark statement is a focused clarity that antiracism work and action must happen in Winooski’s schools and community. NOW.

What is true? Current America inherited systemic racism from the founding fathers. What was present at the founding of our country is still with us today. Systemic racism is a system of laws, policies, institutions, and an economy created on “the premise of the white race as the human ideal” for the sake of free labor and seizure of land. White supremacy is the system created on this premise. White supremacy is not about individuals, it is about systemic racism.

Systematic racism doesn’t require our participation; it runs itself through precedent, policy, and practice. However, disrupting and dismantling systemic racism requires focused awareness and action by individuals.

What is helpful? To move beyond false dichotomies of being a racist (bad people) or not being a racist

(good people), and being honest about America’s full history (not patriotic) or being blind to America’s full history (patriotic). To move toward “antiracist”, a term coined by Dr. Ibram X. Kendi.

“An antiracist is someone who is expressing an antiracist idea or supporting antiracist policies with their actions. Antiracist ideas are ones that express that there is nothing inferior or superior about any of the races. Antiracist policies are policies that lead to equity and justice,” writes Dr. Ibram X. Kendi.

The time is Here. The time is Now.

The Black Lives Matter Revolution is a call to duty to fulfill America’s promise of ‘liberty and justice for all’.

In last month’s newsletter, the board offered a statement of solidarity with the dismantling the inherited system of racism and injustice that founded our country. At the July 15 board meeting, alumni and current students asked what actions the board had taken to back up that statement. ... nothing yet ...

Former and current WHS students came to the board meeting to demand eight specific actions from the board. They demanded because they had asked politely for years. They demanded because for far too long and far too frequently they, as athletes, had endured being dismissed and called racist names when they played other VT sports teams under the care of WSD white adults who

“Schools are the most efficient mechanisms for reproducing racial inequalities.”

—Dr. Robin DiAngelo

turned a blind eye to their experience. They demanded because of their experience of racism and harm in the building by caring, professional people hired to protect them. They demanded because they had to get the school board and the school’s leadership team to take action from their perspective, not from the perspective of white people in power.

Winooski students, former and current, organized, researched, analyzed, and articulated eight reasonable and thoughtful demands for how to move Winooski Schools in an antiracist direction, signed by 249 former and current students. Winooski students are powerful, exceptional, and actively engaged in their local and global communities. All they demanded was for Winooski Schools to do better for all students by becoming antiracist because they have affinity and pride for their alma mater.

Winooski is not an exception to systemic racism. Yet, Winooski students are the FUTURE and they are leading the adults to be better and to become exceptional in antiracism actions. Thank you, Winooski Students!

WINOOSKI PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.wsdvt.org

Superintendent of Schools

Sean McMannon: 655-0485
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John F. Kennedy Elementary School

Principal: **Sara Raabe**
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Winooski Middle and High School

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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



Renderings provided by TruexCullins Architecture and Interior Design. Visit our website at <https://cp.winooski.org/>

Capital Project Updates

Questions answered by ReArch Company

WSD Capital Project construction is fully underway! Our dream of a better school building is becoming more real day-by-day.

We asked Mike Hollister, Project Manager for ReArch Company, to answer a few questions about their progress to get us all up to speed:

How have things changed inside the school?

The construction management company, ReArch, is working in the existing boiler rooms, weight room and room 101. Exterior doors on the north, east and south sides of the building are closed except for emergency egress only; some are permanently closed due to construction actively happening where those doors exit. Temporary barriers have been installed to separate construction zones from the school.

What disruptions can staff and students expect?

There will be active construction zones on the north, east and south sides of the existing building. Access to the back fields is via a path, setup on the south elevation, through the existing play structure area. This access will be revised as needed to coordinate with required utility work in this area. ReArch will provide 1-week notice when the access route needs to be revised due to construction. Parking spaces have been reduced due to construction. George Street parking lot is closed due to construction. Pedestrian access to the back fields should be via Bellevue Street & Franklin Street Extension.

What has been happening so far during construction? What will be going on at the end of July/beginning of August?

Completed work so far: We have mobilized, installed erosion control measures, temporary contractor parking & material laydown areas, construction fence & trailers, demo of some existing trees, existing maintenance sheds, baseball field, Pre-K/Community Room #56 and a portion of room 101,



started foundations in Area A (new middle school) and Area E (new elementary school), got a new gas line installed along with new communications cabling, the pre-K playground was relocated, and we started new underground utilities.

Upcoming work for the remainder of summer will include: Complete foundations and concrete slabs in Area A + Area E + Area B (new gym), exterior walls in Area B (new gym), start structural steel in Area A, and new utilities ongoing.

We are excited about this progress and eager to share further updates.

BBQ Cancelled

By Sean McMannon, Superintendent

Sadly, due to health and safety concerns, our annual WSD Back-to-School BBQ in August has been cancelled.

Summer Music!

By Randy Argraves

It was so good to reconnect with several of my students last week through music making! Some students wanted to review music that we were working on before we were dismissed from school, some wanted to play new music, and some students wanted to try a new instrument. It just goes to show you that it doesn't matter whether it's summer or winter, or whether we play pop music or the "standard repertoire" -- music brings joy to students (and teachers) and instills a thirst that lasts a lifetime!



Winooski High School Athletic Banquet

By Dennis Barcomb, Athletic Director



The 76th annual Winooski Spartan Athletic Banquet was held in June via a YouTube video. Special thanks to Matt Gile for making the video, as well as the support of the Winooski Booster members, and President Sarah Freije.

The following awards were presented:

Freshman Boy: **Trevon Bradley**

Freshman Girl: **Cynthia Hunt** and **Alisha Rai**

Sophomore Boy: **Sharras Mclver** and **Ayoob Musanovic**

Sophomore Girl: **Ruby Ly** and **Kiara Mack**

Junior Boy: **Hussein Amuri**

Junior Girl: **Penny Ly**

Senior Boy: **Lek Nath Luitel**

Senior Girl: **Alexis Gordon**

Ralph Lapointe Award: **Milan Magar**

Scholar Athlete: **Dhiraj Dhakal** and **Azee Zar**

Mona Williams Fan of the Year: **Hon and Ky Ly**

Lady Spartan Award: **Penny Ly**

Spartan Award: **Lek Nath Luitel**

Classics for Kids Foundation Awards Scholarship to Winooski

By Randy Argraves

The foundation seeks to "empower young people to shape positive futures through music, build sustainable stringed instrument music programs, and provide grants for high-quality instruments." Winooski was granted \$2,000 from the Classics for Kids Foundation for five new instruments!

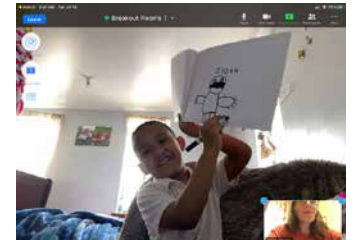


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We are the future.

Summer School by Zoom

By Suzanne Skaflestad, 21C Afterschool Director

Summer school was still taking place... even over Zoom! Mark (an incoming first grader) and Miss J were able to talk about some of their favorite animals and then refer to those animals when working on beginning sounds. S is for sloth!



Student Meals Continue All Summer Long!

- Free for all Winooski children (ages 0-18)
- Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00am-10:00am at the following locations:
 - » Winooski Family Center, 87 Elm St.
 - » O'Brien Community Center, 32 Malletts Bay Ave.
 - » Winooski School District, 60 Normand St.

More information about the meal menus and health and safety requirements at meal pick-up sites can be found at our website: www.wsdvt.org/meal-distribution/

This Institution is an equal opportunity provider
Menus are subject to change

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
WG Oven Baked Chicken Nuggets	Turkey Taco on WG Soft Shell	WG French Toast Sticks	Turkey & Cheese on WG Round Roll	Roasted Spice Chicken	WG Turkey Corn Dog	WG Cheesy Breadsticks w/Marinara Sauce
WG Seasoned Rice	Black Beans & Corn	Turkey Sausage Patty	Fresh Vegetable Sticks	WG Rice Pilaf	Steamed Peas & Corn	Fresh Vegetable Sticks
Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit	Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit	Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit	Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit	Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit	Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit	Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit
Milk	Milk	Milk	Milk	Milk	Milk	Milk
Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
WG Flatbread w/ Marinara Sauce, Cheese & Turkey	Turkey & Cheese on WG Round Roll	Homemade Turkey Chili	Roasted Spice Chicken	WG French Toast Sticks	Chicken Patty Sandwich on WG Roll	Cheeseburger on WG Bun
Pepperoni	Fresh Vegetable Sticks	WG Rice Pilaf	WG Rice Pilaf	Turkey Sausage Patty	Oven Baked Tater Tots	Fresh Vegetable Sticks
Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit	Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit	Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit	Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit	Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit	Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit	Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit
Milk	Milk	Milk	Milk	Milk	Milk	Milk

Meals are intended for students age 18 and under

Keep cold food at 41F
Keep hot food at 135F

SFSP Daily Meal Pattern

1 oz. Grain
2 oz. meat/meat alternative
3/4 Cup Fruit & Vegetable or 3/4 cup of 2 different vegetables
8 oz. milk

Winooski Summer Meals
2020-Lunch
2-week cycle

1% White & Fat Free Chocolate Milk offered Daily

Select Four Components for a Reimbursable Meal

The Abbey Group

“Portrait Studio”: Summer Art Programming

By Emily Jacobs, Art Teacher

In the final week of June, many Winooski students chose to continue their learning in Visual Art through opportunities in virtual summer art programming!

Our afternoon program, called the “Portrait Studio”, centered around the artwork of Kehinde Wiley---one of America’s most prominent contemporary portrait artists---and creating detailed, large-scale portraits inspired by his artistic style. Kehinde Wiley is known for his larger-than-life paintings celebrating black and brown bodies and personalities within the context of the Western art world, which has historically underrepresented, demeaned, or entirely excluded people of color.

Most historic portraits in the Western art tradition have featured white aristocrats (typically male) and have either omitted people of color, or relegated them to the background; to the shadows and peripheries, often in servile positions. Sadly, these historic artworks reflect an accurate and systematic marginalization and oppression of People of Color in our society. Kehinde Wiley---himself a queer, African American man---seeks to critique and counteract this oppressive history by centering and celebrating black and brown beauty and strength in his large-scale portraits. By grounding elements of his portraits in the trappings of traditional European portraiture but centering Black, Latinx, and Indigenous individuals and families



IMAGE VIA GETTY IMAGES. SOURCE: [HTTPS://TWENTYTWOORDS.COM](https://twentytwoords.com)

dressed in their preferred styles of clothing; and often infusing his color palettes with vivid or neon colors, Wiley subverts tradition and critiques the historic marginalization of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) in art history and in society as a whole. While Kehinde Wiley has painted well-known political and pop culture figures---like



President Barack Obama, LL Cool J, Notorious B.I.G., hip hop trio Salt-N-Pepa, and film director Spike Lee---the majority of his portrait subjects have been ‘everyday’ individuals he has encountered on the streets of cities, towns and villages around the globe, from Harlem to Mumbai; Senegal to Rio de Janeiro.

In our “Portrait Studio” summer art class, students met on Zoom to study and discuss the work of Kehinde

Wiley, as well as the history and ideals that drive it. Each student then created their own large-scale portrait inspired by Wiley’s artwork, and featuring a BIPOC individual, whether themselves, a friend, or a celebrity they admire. Sherihan Abulaziz shared her thoughts on the importance of including individuals of all races and cultures in art “so that people of all colors feel included and welcome”. Nadine Ikizakubuntu agreed and commented on the way in which seeing yourself represented or reflected in art “can help people to feel seen and loved and important.”



Welcome to Kayla Loving, WSD's Restorative Justice Coordinator

By Emily Hecker, WSD Communications and Development Director

Kayla is a Restorative Justice Coordinator employed by Spectrum Youth & Family Services and will be working in our district and building regularly. We asked Kayla a few questions so we could all get to know her better.

First of all, explain for people who don't know, what is Restorative Justice? And why is it so important?

Restorative justice is a voluntary process in which the responsible party comes to term with their community rather than confront a punitive system. It gives the affected party the opportunity to address the responsible party and ask them questions to help them realize the impacts of their actions. The responsible party is then expected to do what they can to repair the harm they have caused. This can be done through community service or paying restitution. This process in turn can provide healing for the affected party. Studies show that restorative justice reduces the chance of reoffense, creating safer communities. Restorative justice has been used for both major and minor

offenses. It can also be used in conversations around racial healing.

What did you do before you started as a RJ Coordinator?

Prior to Spectrum, I was the Family Shelter Team Lead at the Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS) and served as a panel volunteer for the Restorative Justice Panel in Winooski. I earned an MA in Conflict Resolution and Coexistence at Brandeis University. I spent time researching alternative dispute resolution in Cambodia and Liberia. I also taught English to college students as a Peace Corps volunteer in China.

What do you hope to accomplish in your time with WSD?

I hope to facilitate conversations that will encourage healing and understanding. At this moment, restorative justice can be an impactful tool to facilitate conversations on race



within the community. Through my work, I also hope to help reduce the school to prison pipeline by both getting students more involved in the community and encouraging the community to support them.

What is your proudest accomplishment?

When I was teaching English in China, I had to learn to put myself out there. As a naturally shy person, I learned to be more expressive and open in order to engage my students. As a result, I was given more opportunities to immerse myself into the culture and learn from my students.

Why do you heart Winooski?

Winooski is a small place with a lot of love. It's a tight-knit community where there are many opportunities to learn from your neighbors. There are also wonderful places to enjoy nature and eat delicious food!

What Is A Restorative Justice Grant? Leslie Ferrer Explains

By Emily Hecker, WSD Communications and Development Director

Kayla's work in our district is funded through a special grant by Spectrum Youth & Family Services. We talked to Leslie Ferrer, Spectrum's Clinical Director, about the Restorative Justice grant and why they wanted to partner with the WSD.

Can you tell me more about the origins of this grant?

We were invited to apply for the grant to fund a restorative justice program for youth that would interrupt the school to prison pipeline. The specific donor studied restorative justice in law school and was interested in funding something that would make a local impact.

We were granted \$100,000 for the program and began our own research into what is already being done locally and looking into the successes in restorative justice programs for youth nationally. We've been talking with local Community Justice Center staff and educators engaged in restorative justice work in local high

schools. We've also been working with Up for Learning which has been providing consultation to the learning community in Vermont about restorative practices and school culture change.

Why did Spectrum choose to partner with the Winooski School District?

Several of the people that we've talked to have directed us to Winooski since they recently lost funding for their Community Justice Center (CJC). The people we spoke to also mentioned that Winooski has the interest and readiness to implement restorative justice programs within the school.

Our next step was to contact Margaret Bass who worked with youth through the Winooski Community Justice Center, Ray Coffey, the Community Services Director, and Sean McMannon, WSD Superintendent, to discuss the possibilities. After our initial meeting, everyone was in agreement that this

would be a great partnership.

Spectrum's role will be to coordinate restorative justice efforts between the school, youth, and community in collaboration with Up For Learning. Together, we'll access consultation and participate in the learning collaborative to implement restorative practices in Winooski. We see our role being able to coordinate efforts by building bridges between the school, youth, families and community members.

What do you hope this work will bring to our schools?

We hope that through the implementation of restorative practices and helping to nurture youth and adult partnerships, we can transform the school and community culture to one where everyone's voice is heard and valued—fostering collaborative problem-solving and building a more equitable culture.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Municipal Update August 2020

By Paul Sarne, Communications Coordinator



**COVID-19
Information
& Updates**

Municipal Services

The City of Winooski is following up-to-date guidance from the CDC and the State of Vermont to reopen a number of municipal services. The City has continued to provide essential services throughout the pandemic. We are pleased to be able to open more services and are thankful to residents for following public health guidelines and slowing the spread of COVID-19. Winooski City Hall reopened to the public on July 13, 2020 and remains open from 9am-3pm where:

- members of the public will be required to wear masks when in City Hall and masks will be available for those without them
- stanchions, dividers, and standing points will be installed in the lobby of City Hall to facilitate a socially distanced line that may be extended outdoors if needed
- a log of all individuals coming to City Hall will be maintained by the City Clerk's Office
- the land records vault will remain open by appointment only (call 802 655 6410 to schedule)
- a maximum of two individuals will be allowed in the vault at a time
- to meet space guidance, no more than ten staff will be present at any one time
- we encourage residents to do as much business on-line as possible at winooski.vt.gov

Police, Fire, and Public Works

Services remain fully operational.

City Council, Boards, Commissions, and Committees

Public meetings will continue remotely/virtually via Zoom for the foreseeable future. Participation information is shared with each meeting

warning. If you plan to attend or provide public comment, please view our recently updated Remote Meeting Procedures and fill out our Public Comment Request Form included with each meeting warning on winooski.vt.gov or available by calling 802 655 6410.

Parking and Code Enforcement

Parking enforcement began on July 6th. We encourage people to use the ParkMobile app as much as possible (available at parkmobile.io). Parking kiosks will be sanitized daily.

Utility Disconnections

All disconnections due to utility non-payments are canceled for the quarter.

Code Enforcement Residential and Commercial Inspections

Following public health guidance, we plan to restart inspections in the Fall. Housing complaints will continue to be processed.

Zoning Permit Application Submission

To the extent possible, applications for zoning permits including any supporting documents should be sent via email to evorwald@winooski.vt.gov. The required application fee will be calculated after the application is received to ensure accurate payment information is identified. The applicant will be notified of the fee and payment options once the application is reviewed. If applications cannot be

sent via email, they can be dropped off using the drop box or window at City Hall. Please put the application in an envelope with the words "Zoning Permit Application" on the outside. Properties will continue to be posted for the required 15-day appeal period by the City and zoning permits will be sent to the applicant once it is issued. Questions about applications or submission requirements can be directed to Eric Vorwald, at evorwald@winooski.vt.gov.

Building Permit Application Submission

To the extent possible, applications for building permits, including any supporting documents should be sent via email to lkeating@winooski.vt.gov. If applications cannot be sent via email, they can be dropped off using the drop box or window at City Hall. Please put the application in an envelope with the words "Building Permit Application" on the outside. The application will be reviewed to ensure complete information is provided. The applicant will be contacted if additional information is needed or to indicate the status of the permit. Once a building permit is approved, the applicant will be contacted to indicate start of construction. The permit card will be sent to the property owner for posting at the property. Questions related to the application or submission requirements can be directed to Captain Liam Keating at lkeating@winooski.vt.gov.

Your City Officials	Email addresses	Telephone
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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

Thrive Summer Program

Thrive began summer operations at the Winooski School District on July 6th with explicit guidance from the Vermont Department of Health and the Agency of Education.

Winooski Memorial Library



While the library remains closed to the public at this time, we are still offering pickup and home delivery. Materials can be picked up

on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to 1pm! Please contact the library at 802-655-6424 or winooskilibrary@winooskivt.gov to request materials, schedule a pick up, or request an at-home delivery. All due dates have been extended and we never charge late fees. Patrons can also view our remote resources at www.winooskivt.gov/library

Public Parks

Following State guidance, parks are open for safe, responsible use. As always, if you are feeling sick or have been exposed to someone who is sick, please stay home to help keep your neighbors healthy! Also, it is important to remember that physical distancing (maintaining 6 feet of space from people outside your immediate household) and maintaining small group sizes are recommended. We encourage park users to follow the “Arrive. Play. Leave.” approach when using our parks, and ask users not to congregate or gather before or after activities, especially in our parking areas. The City’s many trails remain open, however, the need for courtesy and respect among users is even more important during this pandemic than it is in normal times. Please refrain from gathering or congregating at parking areas or trailheads, and please give each other plenty of space (including on our trails), whether masks and other protective measures are utilized or not. Per City ordinance, please keep dogs on leashes at all times when they are in public places. A few specific restrictions remain:

- The softball field at Landry Park is “open” for informal use by groups of 10 or fewer, however no leagues or organized events will be occurring at this time.
- We will not be installing portalets

at Landry Park at this time due to challenges with sanitation, so please plan accordingly.

- Our Community Garden program is open for the season, and gardeners are asked to limit group sizes to 10 or less, observe physical distancing when gardening, and wear a mask when in the garden with others. We will not provide access to shared tools this year, so gardeners are asked to bring their own tools as needed.

For current updates, resources, and municipal service information please visit winooskivt.gov/covid-19 or dial 802 655 3908. At this site, you’ll find many links and resources organized by topic, including:

- Businesses and Employees
- Families and Childcare
- Federal/State/Local Support
- Food Security
- Health and Safety
- Multilingual/Translation
- Seniors & Older Vermonters
- Volunteering
- Winooski School District

Seniors and older Vermonters can call our dedicated support line: Tuesdays & Thursdays: 10am-2pm / 802 655 6425 / Voice Mail 24/7.

Our Community Services Department has provided remote resources for community members during this difficult time. They include everything from health and safety resources to education and entertainment offerings. We’ve got a little something for everyone, organized by department:

- Children and Family Programs
- Recreation and Parks
- Senior Programs
- Winooski Memorial Library

To view our remote resources, visit: winooskivt.gov/remoteresources

We also encourage you to go to the Vermont Department of Health for regular state-wide updates, data, and resources: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19>

COVID Testing in Winooski

The City of Winooski would like to thank our partners at the Vermont Department of Health for their continued support, guidance, and leadership in providing extensive testing in our community. To learn more about

testing opportunities in Winooski, visit humanresources.vermont.gov/winooski.

Winooski Business Resources



We are proud and grateful to our business community in Winooski for taking good care of their customers and employees during this challenging time. Please continue to support our small business community if you are able! Downtown Winooski has created a “support Winooski businesses page” where you can find out how to help and support our business community: downtownwinooski.org/support-winooski-businesses-during-covid-19

Business owners can also access their Winooski Business Portal for an extensive list of resources for businesses: downtownwinooski.org/covid-19-winooski-business-portal

In response to the profound impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Winooski business community, the City of Winooski has adapted the Winooski Small Business Loan (WSBL) Program to provide businesses with emergency loans to assist them in bridging this difficult time. The new Tier 4 COVID-19 Relief Loan through the Winooski Small Business Loan Program offers businesses a 0% interest rate for the first 24 months of the loan term through a City interest rate buy-down and defers the principal payments for the first four months of the loan. This proposed loan structure will allow businesses leeway while they remain under mandatory closure orders and is serviced by Opportunities Credit Union.

To learn more about this program and to apply, visit winooskivt.gov/332/Small-Business-Loan-Program

Assistance and Resources for Homeowners, Renters, and Landlords

The City of Winooski is concerned about supporting our residents with stable housing during the COVID-19 pandemic, from homeowners to landlords and renters. For those residents who may be struggling to pay their rent or mortgage, there are resources available. As of the end of June 2020, the Vermont Legislature passed and the Governor signed H.966, which creates a rental assistance program known as the Rental

Housing Stabilization Fund.

The Rental Housing Stabilization Program was launched by the State on July 13, 2020. Renters, Landlords, and low-income homeowners should check accd.vermont.gov for updates on rental relief programs. Tenants, landlords, and homeowners will be able to apply for financial assistance for rental payments or mortgages missed due to the COVID-19 emergency.

To help slow the spread of COVID-19, many resources are available through the Vermont Department of Health, the CDC, and the EPA. These pages, documents, and signs offer guidance and instructions that cover a wide range of subjects including health, safety, prevention, hygiene, sanitization, and more. Translated materials are provided.

- accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/individuals
- healthvermont.gov/interest-groups/homeowners
- healthvermont.gov/interest-groups/landlords-renters
- healthvermont.gov/interest-groups/building-professionals-realtors
- healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/resources
- cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/print-resources.html
- epa.gov/coronavirus

Wear a Mask or Face Covering in Winooski



The City of Winooski strongly encourages all of our residents and visitors to wear a mask or face covering when you're not at home. This simple, thoughtful, and selfless act shows that you care about your neighbors. Governor Phil Scott and The Vermont Department of Health continue to ask all Vermonters to wear a mask or face covering whenever you are not at home. This includes inside any public building and outside whenever you are within 6' of another person. Data shows that wearing a mask or face covering slows the spread of COVID-19, especially before a person has any symptoms. A mask or face covering protects other people around you.

“Wearing a mask to protect others shows strength, not weakness. Please continue to follow guidance from the Department of Health to help slow the

spread. We're still fighting this pandemic, and it takes all of us working together and caring for one another.” —Governor Phil Scott

To view our comprehensive mask and face covering resources, visit: winooskivt.gov/masks



Message from Mayor Kristine Lott

Hi Winooski. We continue to see low numbers of positive community cases of COVID-19 so I'd like to thank everyone for wearing masks, getting tested, and generally protecting each other by following health guidelines.

Speaking of masks, we've got many amazing educational resources for wearing masks and face coverings which are available at <https://winooskivt.gov/masks>. Volunteer Mask Makers are needed! We've partnered with Vermont Teddy Bear on their mask-making initiative – they will supply you with a kit of cut fabric and elastic, at-home makers only need a sewing machine and thread. Once completed, volunteers can drop their sewn masks off in the book return at the Winooski Memorial Library. A portion of the donated masks will stay right here in Winooski to support our community! If you are interested in being a Volunteer Home Mask Maker, contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Olivia Miller: volunteer@winooskivt.gov / 802 655 1392—please leave your name and contact information.

Visiting the Winooski Food Shelf? Cloth masks can be picked up for free. The Winooski Food Shelf is located on 24 West Allen Street within the United Methodist Church. Stop by on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month from 2-3pm and on Saturdays from 9:30-11am.

While cases of COVID-19 may have slowed in Vermont, the virus is still a very real concern around the country. We must keep up our good efforts for some time to come. Pop-up testing for people without symptoms continues in Winooski, please take advantage of these opportunities. Folks with symptoms should call their doctor instead. Learn more and sign up at <https://humanresources.vermont.gov/winooski>.

The pandemic is still having very real impacts on our health and well-being. If you need help with housing, financial assistance, unemployment, or health and safety, the State of Vermont may have resources that can help you through this tough time. Visit <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/individuals> or call 211 on your phone to get connected. It never hurts to try. The state legislature also recently announced a program to support folks who may be at risk of foreclosure or eviction due to unpaid rent or mortgage. At our last City Council meeting, we discussed how to locally support folks to ensure they're getting connected to resources before eviction or foreclosure happens so we will work to share out the details of the state program once they are available. If you are struggling, we encourage you to contact your landlord or lender to see what leniency they can offer.

At the last City Council meeting, we also set the tax rate and due dates for the fiscal year 2021. When voters passed the city budget on Town Meeting Day back in March, we were projecting a municipal tax increase of 2.45%. I am pleased to share that due to growth in our overall property values, including new developments on East Allen Street and property investment at VT CBD Laboratories on Elm Street, the municipal tax rate will increase only 1.45% this year – about \$37 a year per homes valued at \$225,000. Note that due to the Vermont State tax filing deadline extension to July 15, Winooski will not mail the first quarter's tax bill until August this year and the bill will not be due until September 7. The remaining quarters for the year will be due on the regular schedule on the 15th of November, February, and May. You can access the council meeting agenda and related documents here: <https://www.winooskivt.gov/AgendaCenter>.

In other news, the Winooski Charter Commission recently hosted a question and answer session on Channel 17 about their effort to examine options to present Winooski voters with a charter change that would enable non-citizen residents to vote in Winooski municipal elections. This is a very important discussion for our community, so please watch the recording and share your thoughts with commission members. Recording and contacts can be found here: <https://www.winooski.vt.gov/1387/Charter-Commission>.

As a reminder, we always want to hear from you on any topic of interest in our city. Remote City Council and commission meetings continue online and by phone. I am also hosting an informal virtual meeting at 5:30pm on Thursdays where anyone is welcome to pop in and ask questions or share your thoughts.

Mayor Kristine Lott's Weekly Discussion

- Attend online: <https://zoom.us/j/96685420795>
- Attend by phone: 646 558 8656
- Meeting ID: 966 8542 0795

I'm also always available by email. Feel free to reach out any time to klott@winooski.vt.gov.



2020 Vermont Primary Election Information

When: Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Where: Absentee ballot request by mail strongly encouraged or vote in person from 7am–7pm at the Winooski Senior Center (123 Barlow Street).

Due to COVID-19, the City of Winooski and the Secretary of State's Office is encouraging everyone to vote by absentee ballot. If voters absolutely must vote in-person, the Winooski Senior Center will be open in accordance with Vermont State law and operational health and safety guidance from the Vermont Department of Health, where:

- A mask or face covering is required for building entry
 - Only 10 people allowed to enter at a time
 - Lines will form with a minimum 6' distance from others
- You may have received a white

postcard entitled "Request for Early Absentee Voter Ballot" from the Secretary of State's Election Office. To request your Primary or General Election ballots, fill out the postcard and mail it back. Please do not fold and tape, simply tear off the return portion—the State has generously covered the cost of the postage but the United States Postal Service will be charging the City for folded and taped postcards. If you have already requested absentee ballots, ignore the postcard. Ballots will be mailed soon. Note: There will be two ballots, one for the Primary Election, and one for the Winooski School District Treasurer. Voters will have to fill out and sign these separately, but they can be mailed back together in the postage paid envelope. Questions? Feel free to email Carol Barrett, City Clerk: cbarrett@winooski.vt.gov.

Registering to Vote

Residents are encouraged to register online at: olvr.vermont.gov, or you can register at Winooski City Hall on 27 West Allen Street. To have a voter registration form mailed to you, call the City Clerk's Office at 802 655 6410. There is no deadline to register, you may register to vote up to and including the day of the election. However, if you register online the day before the election or on Election Day, your application may not be processed and your name may not appear on the checklist and you may be asked to fill out another application at the polls. To be sure your name appears on the checklist, please register by the Friday before the election. Residents need to include their Vermont driver's license number or their Vermont Non-Driver ID number on the form. If you do not have a Vermont driver's license or a non-driver ID or your license has been suspended, you may use the last four digits of your social security number. If you are registering to vote in Vermont for the first time by mail, you must include a photocopy of an acceptable form of ID:

Valid photo ID (driver's license or passport)

- Current utility bill
- Current bank statement
- Another government document

Election Resources

- Voting in Winooski, Official Warning, and Sample Ballots:

winooski.vt.gov/voting

- Vermont Secretary of State Resources: sos.vermont.gov/elections/election-info-resources
- Multilingual and Accessibility Resources: sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/accessible-voting

Tax Bills To Be Issued In August



Tax bills will be mailed on August 7, 2020 due to the Vermont State tax filing deadline extension to July 15th. This extension means

the City will not receive homestead declaration information for many taxpayers until August 1st. If we were to proceed as normal, homestead declaration information may not be included leading to confusion and potential overpayment. Act 102 signed by Governor Scott allowed municipalities to change the due date for property taxes. A delay of the first installment was approved by the Winooski City Council at their June 6th meeting. The deadlines for the 2020-21 tax bill as approved are:

- September 7, 2020
- November 15, 2020
- February 15, 2021
- May 15, 2021

Representative Peter Welch Highlights Transformative Infrastructure Bill



On July 1, 2020, Representative Peter Welch held a press conference in Winooski to highlight sweeping infrastructure legislation expected to pass the U.S. House of Representatives. The event was held near two Winooski projects that could benefit from the passage of the bill and included Winooski Mayor Kristine Lott, local developer Jacquie Dagesse and Vermont State Senator Dick Mazza.

The Moving Forward Act (H.R. 2) is a comprehensive, \$1.5 trillion

infrastructure bill that addresses critical needs throughout Vermont by funding infrastructure projects to fix crumbling roads and bridges, rebuild rundown schools, provide more affordable housing, replace old waste and drinking water systems, and expand broadband, among other priorities. The bill would create thousands of jobs across the country and includes extensive environmental provisions to reduce emissions and create climate-resilient and sustainable infrastructure.

“The hallmark of a great nation is the recognition of the need to invest in its future,” said Welch. “This bill meets that test. It is a broad, comprehensive and forward thinking plan to invest

in communities across Vermont. Infrastructure spending is more important than ever as we recover from economic devastation caused by the coronavirus pandemic. I have been working with stakeholders across Vermont to ensure their infrastructure needs are met for future generations. This bill includes transformative investment to improve our roads and bridges, connect every Vermonter to internet and make sure that our children are learning in modern schools with clean water. These investments will touch every community in Vermont and this plan should be taken up and passed in the Senate immediately.”

The bill also includes two energy efficiency and sustainability initiatives

authored and championed by Welch:

- The Federal Energy and Water Management Performance Act (H.R. 5650): A bipartisan bill to formally reauthorize the Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) and establish energy and water usage reduction goals for federal buildings.
- The HOPE for HOMES Act (H.R. 7325): A bipartisan bill to pair the HOMES Act rebate program with a grant program for online workforce training designed to prepare workers to conduct comprehensive home energy efficiency retrofits eligible for HOMES rebates.

For full details, visit: welch.house.gov

Winooski Food Shelf Schedule for August

By Linda Howe, Winooski Food Shelf Coordinator

We want to continue to thank all of our volunteers, businesses and donors helping us provide food to Winooski residents! We could not do this without you. We continue to see large numbers of clients each week and are grateful we have the resources to serve their needs.

We want to be sure that anyone experiencing financial difficulty during

this pandemic feels welcome. We are here to help. Shaws, Hannaford and Commodities markets provide wonderful fresh food on Saturdays.

This month our schedule is changing:

Our new Wednesday hours are from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. We will stay open until everyone in line before 3:00 pm. is served.

Our Saturday schedule is also changing.

We will be open on the 2nd and 4th Saturday. Families may come both Saturdays but only one Wednesday.

Please wear your mask and come get some fresh air and some great food! Our volunteers look forward to serving you. A heads up that the City has resumed paid on-street parking.

Saturday, August 8th	9:30 am to 11:00 am	Fresh fruit, veggies, bread and deli items
Wednesday, August 12th	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Pantry staples, meat and eggs
Saturday, August 22nd	9:30 am to 11:00 am	Fresh fruit, veggies, bread and deli items
Wednesday, August 26th	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Pantry staples, meat and eggs

Food Shelf Policy: Winooski residents may access the pantry staples one Wednesday each month. Folks may come every Saturday we are open 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. We are 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 at 24 West Allen Street. 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 is currently

closed. Please visit our other donation drop off locations: Commodities Natural Market, 65 Winooski Falls Way, phone: 448-3340, or J & J’s Corner Market, 12 Malletts Bay Ave., 654-8003. Thank you for caring about your neighbors!

Fresh produce donations are welcome! Please wear a mask, use clean tools and use clean containers while harvesting your donations. We can accept fresh food on days the food shelf is open (come an hour before each opening if possible). Our clients really appreciate your efforts.

Montpelier, We Have a Problem

By Hal Colston, Deputy Mayor, State Representative

We have a people problem. In about 20 years Black, Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) will become the majority demographic in our country's population. Two years ago, more black and brown babies were born than white babies in our country for the first time in our history. This is the trend going forward. While Vermont may lag behind this trend, it will become our reality sometime in the not too distant future.

Economist Art Wolf says that our shrinking population will cripple our economy in the near future. Unless Vermont becomes a theme park, we must attract BIPOC to make Vermont home. While 95% of our population growth in the past ten years has been due to BIPOC, we are the 2nd oldest/grayest state in the country, just behind Maine.

Personally, I know many professional BIPOC who left our state because of systemic racism. How do we attract BIPOC to grow and sustain our economy? As a step in the right direction, I introduced H.427 last session in the legislature. This bill that

was signed into law by the Governor to become Act 10, an act to verify foreign credentials so many professional, foreign-born Vermonters can now work in their field of expertise instead of driving cabs or cleaning hotel rooms.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the national protests against racial injustice have offered Vermont an opportunity. To address systemic racism, I believe we must embark on a Truth and Reconciliation process to make amends and heal the broken relationships between BIPOC and the white, dominant culture in Vermont. There is a long history of systemic and structural racism in Vermont. U.S. cities and states have established Truth and Reconciliation Commissions to dismantle systemic racism. We should go down this path. Once we are able to heal our broken relationships, we can then begin to repair the damage. I believe this approach will allow BIPOC to become an integral part of the new Vermont and our path to a sustainable future.

Winooski Family Center to Close

By Martina Kerkering



Howard Center's Early Childhood Program has been honored to provide a variety of programming to young children and their families within the Winooski Family

Center for over 20 years. We have appreciated this opportunity to be part of the community on a daily basis, with a focus on meeting the current needs of families and the larger community.

So, as the Winooski community requires additional space for early education services, Howard Center will no longer be providing services and programming at the Winooski Family Center at 87 Elm Street. As we leave this space, we remain grateful for our partnership with the Winooski Housing Authority which provided this space for all of these years. Please reach out if you have questions or would like to connect: mkerkering@howardcenter.org.

We are looking forward to offering playgroups again, in Winooski, when we secure a location and the community feels safe in meeting together again. We continue to navigate the changes related to the COVID-19 crisis. We are maintaining our footprint within the community, reaching out to families by phone and other means, seeking creative ways to support families who have been involved with our playgroups and other services of Howard Center's Winooski Family Center in recent years. We will continue to provide information and more details around our playgroups in the near future.

In the meantime, resources, support and clinical services are always available and can be accessed by contacting our Access and Intake Main Number, 802-488-6000, M-F 8 am – 6 pm. Our staff will offer support and connect you with services. Also, our First Call for Chittenden County crisis hotline, 802-488-7777, is available 24/7/365. www.howardcenter.org. Help is here.

Support Winooski Businesses

Your continued support of Winooski's business community is so valuable! Please check out the 'Support Winooski Businesses' list for information about what businesses are open: www.downtownwinooski.org. We are proud of the Winooski small business community for taking such good care of their employees and customers.



TOWN MEETING TV IS NOW ON COMCAST CHANNEL 1087

Find Town Meeting TV on Comcast Channel 1087, BT channel 17/217/317 YouTube & www.ch17.tv

What “Back To Business” Looks Like At North End Studios

By Sharon Radke

Like most businesses in Burlington and Winooski, North End Studios closed their doors in mid-March and have been working on a plan to offer safe services to Burlington and Winooski residents once the restrictions were lifted.

During these challenging times, North End Studios (NES) has needed to be creative with their services.



- NES began by offering Saturday night International Take-Out Dinners at North End Studios-Winooski at the O'Brien Center, 32 Malletts Bay Avenue. All hot meals are packaged and ready for pick-up outside the NES O'Brien Center with an assigned pick up times. Dinners have been offered throughout the month of July and one will also be offered on Saturday, August 1, 2020 from 4:00-6:00 pm Prepared for you by Dosa Love. Pick up your meal, and take it home! Vegan options available. Tickets available now. \$20/adult or \$10/child. Go to northendstudios.org for a list of other August dinners.
- North End Studios is offering online and in-house classes. Go to northendstudios.org for more details.
- North End Studios rental opportunities are now available in Studio A at 294 North Winooski Avenue and the Ballroom space at the Winooski O'Brien location at 32 Malletts Bay Avenue beginning July 1st. All precautions will be taken inside, including limiting capacity, social distancing, handwashing, and wearing masks.



- Outdoor activities are also being developed including a free concert series in the rear of the Winooski O'Brien location, with attendance limitations, handwashing and masks required. The first of these concerts took place on Wednesday, July 15, and featured A2VT (Africans to Vermont). These young African refugees are well-known and well-loved in Vermont and beyond for their unforgettable repertoire of original Afro-pop songs and choreographies.
- On **Saturday, September 5th**, Nine-time winner at the International Bluegrass Music Awards, Chris Jones and the Night Drivers will be doing an outdoor special concert at the O'Brien Center, 32 Malletts

Bay Avenue in Winooski, Vermont. Tickets will be \$20 advance, \$25 at the door, and \$10 for kids 12 and under. Attendance will be limited and all COVID-required restrictions will be in place.

For a complete list of all NES offerings, go to our website at northendstudios.org. You will also find a complete list of ways our organization is working to keep you and your family safe when you participate in our programming.

Call (802-863-6713) or email (info@northendstudios.org) to learn more.

ABOUT US: North End Studio A, the Event Hall at the O.N.E. Community Center, and North End Studios at the O'Brien Community Center in Winooski provide affordable rental spaces for artists, organizations and individuals to hold all kinds of events, special reduced rates for non-profit and local community organizations, technical support services, especially sound and lighting, for on and off-site events, a year-round schedule of performing arts events, and fully handicapped-accessible spaces in which to enjoy the arts.



Chris Jones And The Night Drivers

Winooski Senior Center

By Barb Pitfido, Senior Programs Manager

Stay Connected

Staying socially connected while we're physically distant is so important! Let's continue to practice steps to stay safe and decrease the spread of COVID-19 while keeping in touch. Want to chat? Got a question? Want to know about resources available to you in the community? Want to know the latest Senior Center re-opening plans? Call the Senior Center Support Line at 802 655 6425—we'd love to talk with you! Community members can also email anytime: seniorcenter@winooskivt.gov

Limited Re-opening Programming

We have established protocols and procedures to ensure everyone's safety using The State of Vermont's Senior Center Re-Opening Guide. These include pre-screening of all participants with touch-less temperature checks, physical spacing, attendance logs, and mandatory facial coverings for everyone. We are looking forward to re-opening with limited outside programming at the end of July. Keep an eye out for our official announcement.

New Program: Alfresco Café!

We will be hosting an Alfresco Cafe on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9–11am (weather permitting). Coffee, tea, wonderful breakfast treats and fruit will be served. This program will run with limited attendance outside on the patio (tenting available), and with additional seating in the gardens and the shady lawns. We have designed this program to maintain health and safety standards while providing much-needed services. We invite you to come and chat with us, your friends and neighbors. It's been a long time since we've gathered and I'm sure we have lots of great stories to share. Come tour the Community Gardens and our Perennial Flower Farm (some great photo opportunities await you!), and play some fun lawn games that follow physical distancing policies. Please call us for a reservation at 802 655 6425.

Meals on Wheels

If you know of an older Vermont who has special nutrition requirements or is having difficulty with meal preparation, please call Age Well at 863-0360 to find

out the eligibility requirements. No one is denied meals due to an inability to donate. Volunteer drivers are always needed. We are currently looking for volunteers to assist in processing and packaging meals Monday-Friday from 8:30-10:30am. Interested? Visit winooskivt.gov/volunteer to learn more.

More than a Meal Program

In partnership with Age Well, we are offering Older Vermonters (60+) a free nutritious meal on Wednesdays. We want to continue to support you being well at home and provide you with an opportunity to stay connected to your community while enjoying a healthy and deliciously prepared meal, and some goodies from us! We offer contactless delivery to your Winooski home or apartment building entrance. Curbside pickup is also available. Reservations must be made by noon the Friday before the scheduled Wednesday meal. Please call us at 802 655 6425 or email us at seniorcenter@winooskivt.gov for the weekly menu and all the details.

Community Gardens

The Senior Center Community Gardens are open and growing like crazy!. Check our Facebook page for great photos and updates. [facebook.com/winooskiseniorcenter](https://www.facebook.com/winooskiseniorcenter)





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Construction has begun! Check out our website for more information: <https://cp.winooski.org/>