



# WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS!

ALSO INCLUDES 8 PAGES OF **Community News!** STARTING ON PAGE 9

NOVEMBER 2020

## *Celebrating Our Achievements!*

### **Beyond Reopening: How Education Might Emerge Stronger Than Before**

*By WMHS Co-Principals Jean Berthiaume & Kate Grodin*

As we move beyond the opening of school and our fall student centered family conferences, there is so much that is emerging for us as we have fast tracked the transformation of education. We would be the first to recognize that our hybrid model is not perfect and there is certainly room for improvement, however, there are some encouraging signs of societal transformation that compliments a more student centered learning environment.

School transformation is something that Winooski and so many other schools across the nation have worked at for many years. At the same time schools have remained consistent and similar to our own experience when we went to school. Along comes COVID-19, and school transformation is forced and kicked up into high gear and certainly a lot faster than ever before. Fortunately, some incredible work done before school closure has positioned us fairly well for this moment in time. We have already transformed from an antiquated, subjective, and at times punitive grading system to a proficiency learning system that strives to make learning more

transparent to students and families, where feedback and practice are valued. We have become trauma informed to better support our students. Now, we are focusing on transforming teaching and learning so that we are inclusive of the diverse backgrounds of our community and on attending to inequities within our school from policies to curriculum. Student voice has emerged at this point as a power force for positive and overdue change!

Today we are seeing signs that students are more focused on learning and that students for whom school did not work for before are doing better. Before our shift to hybrid learning and our pod-advisory classrooms, students had to manage the hidden social curriculum and then attend to their academic learning. Now, students are more than ever the center and focus of their learning, engaging their teachers in their personal learning endeavors, taking advantage of dual enrollment classes (high school and college classes), participating in community based learning experiences, and getting more creative and collaborative with their teachers on their educational paths. Relationships are the foundation of much of the early success of this model of teaching and learning. Teachers are building relationships and are becoming increasingly the first point of contact for our families.

We are seeing many students benefiting and reaching beyond the limitations of a traditional schedule. Students are coming to school at a more reasonable hour of the morning in line with the research about when adolescents should start school. Each and every student is seen and greeted upon arrival to the school, offered breakfast, and able

to settle in before learning. Behavioral issues have declined significantly. We acknowledge and respect that students will make mistakes as misbehaviors are genuine opportunities for teaching or reteaching. However, the lack of misbehavior this fall, reflects a positive manifestation of practicing the social curriculum when it is explicitly taught. Additionally, social anxiety has seemed to diminish and students appear to be more present.

In closing, we are appreciative of the newfound public recognition of how essential schools are in our society and we have been provided an opportunity to leverage this support for making our schools stronger. We see this in our partnerships with service organizations who have always been incredibly important in our efforts to support our students as well as new education allies who are emerging from parents to social welfare organizations—to support children’s learning like never before. Innovation has moved from the margins to the center of our education system, and there is an opportunity to identify new strategies, that if sustained, can help young people get an education that prepares them for our changing times.

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**November Early Dismissal and Parent-Teacher Conference Days**

JFK student parent/teacher conferences will take place on **November 23 and 24**. All Winooski students will be dismissed at 11am on those dates.



### School Budget Planning During a Pandemic

By Matt MacNeil, Board of School Trustees

It's budget season again and the board and administration are again at work trying to maximize the education experiences and opportunities for our community. Before I became a School Trustee, I would read about any given year's School Budget proposal and wonder to myself, 'where did that number come from?' As a board member, the budgeting process has been an ongoing learning curve. Understanding how public education is funded at a district in Vermont is not exactly an intuitive exercise. If you ever looked at an educational budget proposal and experienced some confusion in tracking where the money is coming from and going to, don't worry, you're not alone.

Last year in the newsletter, I highlighted three factors that greatly impact every aspect of school budgeting including the tax impact felt by citizens. These three factors are:

**1) Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)** - According the Vermont Department of Taxes, CLA is a method of ensuring that each town is paying its fair share of education property tax to the state's Education Fund.

**2) Equalized Pupil Count -** According the Agency of Education, Equalized Pupil Count assigns weights for different types of pupils, is designed to reflect the per capita spending on

students who fall under varying criteria.

**3) Special Education Funding -** There has been a considerable amount of press regarding potential changes to the funding mechanism for special education in Vermont (check out <https://education.vermont.gov/> to learn more about each of the above).

And because nothing about 2020 has been easy, there is another important factor to consider this year, COVID-19. I was fortunate to be able to be able to review the potential impact of the pandemic on school budgets with Winooski's outstanding Finance Manager, Nicole Mace. Nicole related that in her perspective, COVID-19 is expected to have a substantial effect on the Education Fund in FY 22. According to Nicole, the State is predicting a \$67 million deficit in the Education Fund due to lower than expected sales tax and meals and rooms tax revenues. While the Legislature has indicated that it does not expect local school districts to make up that deficit through higher tax rates or lower spending, there is no clear path for resolving the revenue shortage. Nicole went on to point out that this issue could be resolved by an additional COVID stimulus package passed by the U.S. Congress, if it provides needed revenue to state and local governments. Unless or until that happens, there is a lot of

uncertainty regarding how Vermont's education funding system will be affected by the shortage of revenue due to the economic slowdown caused by COVID.

Despite this added complexity, our administrators and staff undergo a painstaking process to allocate every single dollar of funding to the exact areas that we believe will provide the highest educational value to our students and families. The ultimate goal is a budget that creates the conditions for WSD to flourish an innovative education system that holds Winooski as an educational destination for families. At the same time we constantly attempt to balance attainment of that goal with keeping a watchful eye on maintaining the affordability for life in our great city. Clearly this is no easy task. The challenge is only magnified by the multitude of complexities within educational funding, all the while wrapped in a pandemic.

This is where you come in. We want community feedback to help us meet our budgeting goals. We welcome your feedback and wisdom. Please feel free to reach out to myself or any board member with any thoughts, ideas and questions you may have. Or better yet, come join us for our budgeting meetings. Details including times and locations will be available in Front Porch Forum (and the school website).

### Do You Heart Winooski? Join The Heart Of Winooski Foundation Board!

We are excited to announce a new opportunity to get involved and support our schools. Heart of Winooski (HOW) Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to supporting the Ends Statement of the Winooski School District. Through fundraising from local and national grants, corporate gifts, personal donations and community involvement, HOW Foundation will collaborate with parents, teachers, students, board members and the community to achieve the goals of the district.

The HOW Foundation will be governed by a 12-member board with broad community representation. HOW bylaws require one community member to sit on the board.

Please fill out this questionnaire ([bit.ly/HOWBoard](http://bit.ly/HOWBoard)) if you are interested in applying for a position on the board. Find out more here: [www.howvt.org](http://www.howvt.org)



### Miss a School Board Meeting?

#### Watch it Online!

Did you know you can watch Winooski School Board meetings on the internet on your own schedule? Visit [www.retn.org](http://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.

# News and Notes from WSD

By Emily Hecker, WSD Communications and Development Director



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## The Winooski School District Is Hiring!

The Winooski School District, like many other districts across our state, needs qualified Instructional Assistants and Support Staff.

If you, or someone you know, are looking for meaningful work and to make a difference in the life of a Winooski student, please consider applying.

The rate of pay starts at \$16/hour, includes full benefits for full-time work, and schedules follow the school-break calendar.

## Virus spread risk at holiday celebrations

As many of us begin to plan for fall and winter holiday celebrations, the Center for Disease Control offers important considerations to help protect individuals and their families, friends, and communities from COVID-19. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/2Fx6F3D>.

## Show your spirit in style!

The Winooski Parent Teacher Organization is excited to announce that you can now buy Spirit Wear online ([www.wsdvt.org/spirit-wear-available-online](http://www.wsdvt.org/spirit-wear-available-online)).

There are a variety of sizes and styles

available for elementary students right up to staff.

Order online and have your purchases shipped directly to you. A portion of all sales goes to the Winooski

School District PTO to keep support for our school and kids going.

## Travel Safely Over November Break

The crisp air and jaw-dropping foliage are signs that November break is fast approaching. **The WSD urges all of our staff and families to exercise caution when making plans to visit friends and family over the break.**

The Vermont Department of Health maintains a website of places that are safe to travel to without quarantine. The site also offers guidance about the quarantine protocols in place for visitors from other states. The State of Vermont has determined that any county with less than 400 active cases of COVID-19 per one million residents is now eligible for quarantine-free leisure travel. The Agency will update the map below each Tuesday identifying quarantine and non-quarantine counties throughout the Northeast including New England; New York; Pennsylvania; Ohio; New Jersey; Delaware; Maryland; Washington, D.C.; Virginia; and West Virginia. Find more information at <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/restart/cross-state-travel>.

Celebrating virtually or with members of your own household poses low risk for spread. **In-person gatherings pose varying levels of risk.** Consider the risk of virus spread based on event size and use of mitigation strategies.

**Remember, travel increases your chance of getting and spreading COVID-19.** Staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

You can get COVID-19 during your travels. You may feel well and not have any symptoms, but you can still spread COVID-19 to others. You and your travel companions (including children) may spread COVID-19 to other people including your family, friends, and community for 14 days after you were exposed to the virus.

**Your travel plans may impact our school community when the November break is over and we all return to school together. Stay safe and stay healthy!**

## WINOOSKI PUBLIC SCHOOLS

[www.wsdvt.org](http://www.wsdvt.org)

### Superintendent of Schools

Sean McMannon: 655-0485  
[smcmannon@wsdvt.org](mailto:smcmannon@wsdvt.org)

### John F. Kennedy Elementary School

Principal: Sara Raabe  
802-655-0411  
[sraabe@wsdvt.org](mailto:sraabe@wsdvt.org)

### Winooski Middle and High School

Co-Principals:  
Kate Grodin and Jean Berthiaume  
802-655-3530  
[kgrodin@wsdvt.org](mailto:kgrodin@wsdvt.org)  
[jberthiaume@wsdvt.org](mailto:jberthiaume@wsdvt.org)

### Board of School Trustees

Tori Cleiland, President, 802-655-7678  
[tcleiland@wsdvt.org](mailto:tcleiland@wsdvt.org)  
Mike Decarreau, 802-310-4032  
[mdecarreau@wsdvt.org](mailto:mdecarreau@wsdvt.org)  
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Dr. Alex Yin, 516-423-9601  
[ayin@wsdvt.org](mailto:ayin@wsdvt.org)

### 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.

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# Aid for Struggling Vermonters

By Emily Hecker, WSD Communications and Development Director

During these difficult times, new financial help programs are available to many Vermonters. The state does not want people to be struggling to pay bills, so please apply, even if you don't usually get public help. Vermont Legal Aid has more information on these programs at <https://vtlawhelp.org/>.

Vermont Legal Aid is also able to help individual tenants and homeowners. Call us at 1-800-889-2047 or go to <http://vtlawhelp.org>. For the fastest response, leave a message explaining what you need in a sentence or two.

## 1. Help with past-due rent

For help with past-due rent, Vermonters should apply for the Rental Housing Stabilization Program through the Vermont State Housing Authority (VSHA). Tenants and landlords apply for this program at the same time. There are no income limits. VSHA pays landlords directly to bring the tenant's rent account current. This program will last until December 30 or until the money runs out. You can get help now, and apply again if you still need help later. Learn more about this help for paying past-due rent on our website or reach us for help.

## 2. Moving to a new home

Some people need to move because of life safety problems with their rental unit, the rent is too expensive, they have trouble with the landlord or other tenants, or the unit is too big or too small. If you need to move and have found a new landlord, apply together for the Money to Move Program at [vsha.org](http://vsha.org). The program can cover the money needed to move in, such as first and last month's rent and security deposit. It also may cover rent payments through the end of this year. Learn more about this help on our website or reach us for help.

## 3. Emergency housing for people who do not have a home

The Department of Children and Family's (DCF) Economic Services Division is extending housing supports for homeless households. For more information or to apply, contact the Benefits Service Center at 1-800-479-6151. Follow this link for the program rules: <https://dcf.vermont.gov/sites/dcf/files/CVD19/ESD/Temp-Housing-COVID19.pdf>.

If you stay in a shelter or motel, you need to participate in "coordinated entry." Through coordinated entry, you will be assigned a housing case manager who will help you access subsidies and programs to help you get permanent housing. To learn more about coordinated entry, call 2-1-1. If you worked with your case manager to apply for a subsidy or other program and your application was denied, call Vermont Legal Aid at 1-800-889-2047.

## 4. Past-Due Utility Bills

The Department of Public Services (DPS) can help pay past-due utility bills. The bills can be for electric, natural gas, landline telephone service or regulated private



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water bills (not municipal water). Homes and small businesses are eligible. There are no income limits, and you don't have to have a disconnect notice. However, your difficulty paying the bill must be linked to COVID. The funding only covers arrearages after March 1, 2020. If you need help to fill out an application online, contact your local community action agency. Learn more on the Department of Public Service website.

## 5. Mortgage Assistance Program (and maybe Property Tax Assistance)

This program can pay up to six past-due mortgage payments on your home. It is available to all Vermonters who:

- are at least 1 month past due on mortgage payments
- have a COVID-related hardship, and
- meet the income requirements.

Even people who have mortgages in forbearance are eligible. If you have a mortgage and are behind on property taxes that you pay directly to the town, you may also be eligible for assistance. Vermont Housing Finance Agency (VHFA) is taking applications for the Vermont COVID Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program. (You do not need to have a VHFA mortgage to be eligible.) Learn more about the mortgage assistance on our website or reach us for help.

## HEALTH CORNER

By Elizabeth Parris, School Nurse

Traditionally, November is a time for reflection and a time to remember the things you are most thankful for. Today, that's what I want to do. As school nurses working in the middle of a pandemic, we are often asked how it's going at the school. My response is always the same. It's going really well and the students are doing an amazing job. I am so impressed with their ability to wear masks, follow the markings on the floor and maintain distance from others. We are so thankful to be a part of their lives and this community. Parents, thank you for a job well done! You are raising wonderful children!

Lastly, what would a note from the health office be without reminding everyone to contact your doctor and see if the flu shot is right for you. Wash your hands often, wear your masks and have a wonderful month reflecting on the things that matter the most to you!

## **Building a Better School - November Update: Middle High School Students Tour the Capital Project**

*By Emily Hecker, WSD Communications and Development Director*

It would be hard to miss the construction work happening all around the WSD building. The campus is a hive of activity with huge machinery and workers digging, pouring concrete, erecting steel, and laying bricks, all with coordinated precision, detail, and speed.

The WSD Leadership Team recognized that there were exciting opportunities for student learning and career exploration happening right outside the classroom. ReArch Construction Company is also committed to getting Winooski students and staff involved with the massive, \$57.8M project as much as possible. ReArch Assistant Project Manager and Winooski resident, Daylo O’Hara Whalen, said, “I’m a firm believer that a successful project is based on the end user’s satisfaction, so getting these folks excited about the project and advocating for it themselves is very important to me.”

During the month of October, WMHS students were invited on perimeter tours of the Capital Project construction site. Students were able to see the work taking place around the campus, discuss the various roles of each subcontractor that make a project successful, and see architectural renderings to help visualize the end goal of the project.

Students are engaged and excited about the project. “I am proud to be at Winooski,” said Shabani Omar, a high school student. “I am excited to see the new middle school and excited to see what the high school will look like.” Student Ellie Muzaliwa said, “I am excited to see the new gym and PAC.”

The Owner Project Manager for the WSD project, Tom Barden, has worked in the construction industry for half a century. He hopes the project will spark some Winooski students’ interest in considering the rewards and challenges of working in construction. “The construction field presents many interesting challenges including solving engineering

problems, scheduling problems and logistics problems,” Tom said. “Solving any of these problems result in being able to see the results of one’s efforts in a physical building, a bridge, a railroad, a roadway, a dam or an energy saving complex.”

Even after 50 years in the field, Tom says each project keeps him interested and on his toes. “The thing I like most about the construction industry is that every project is different from every other project. For example, I was involved in building 21 McDonald’s, and one might think they are all a cookie-cutter version of each other. Nothing could be further from the truth, as each one of them was different from each other and each one presented their own set of challenges.”

For those students who might not be interested in a construction or trade career, the project will still make their future in Winooski brighter. While many students are excited about performing at the new Performing Arts Center and eating lunch with friends in the new cafeteria, others are just excited that the Winooski community is investing in a place that brings everyone together.

“It makes me happy to come to Winooski,” said student Claudine Sifa.



*Middle High School students tour the Capital Project*



## Fire Prevention Day

By Sara Raabe, JFK Principal

October 9th was Fire Prevention day. Due to COVID, the Winooski Fire Department was unable to hold their Annual Fire Prevention Open House. However, Assistant Fire Marshal Liam Keating sent our staff fantastic things they could do to educate our student about the importance of fire safety. This year's theme was "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen". Students and staff learned all about the hazards of cooking and how to prevent fires related to cooking.

We are fortunate that our School Resource Officer, Jason Ziter,



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is also a Volunteer FireFighter! Jason went into classrooms, and brought all his gear. He talked to students about fire safety and fire prevention. He even got the adults to try on all his gear. They all said it was really heavy!



## 21C Afterschool Partners with the VYOA

By Suzanne Skaflestad, 21C Director

While afterschool may look and feel a little different this year, our partnership with the VYOA remains the same! The VYOA and Patricia Jancova were open to working with the 21C Afterschool Covid-19 Model to make this class happen. We really appreciate their flexibility and support. Our 3rd grade students are very excited to begin their lessons afterschool.



## "What Is Your Smart?"

By Tiffany Denmore

In Mrs. Demore's class we know everyone is smart! How smart do you ask? We are so smart that we know there are Eight Ways to be SMART! We learned about the Eight Ways that you can be smart

by reading *Ellie Rae Discovers Eight Ways to Be Smart* by Mary R. Massey.

In the book, Ellie Rae discovered that you can be "Art Smart, Body Smart, Nature Smart, Number Smart, People Smart, Music Smart, Word Smart, and Self Smart." These types of smart are based on Howard Gardner's Multiple Intelligences.

Everyone then thought about their own strengths and decided what type of smart they are. Did you know that you can be more than one kind of smart? We do now, and are excited to show off how we use them this year.



# Congrats to this Season's Student Spotlights!

By Jessica Bruce, Visual Arts Teacher

Winooski High School teachers and staff would like to recognize and congratulate these fine students for their hard work and dedication to their education this school year. Amidst all the challenges these students face in 2020, they have been rockin' it!

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**  
WINOOSKI HIGH SCHOOL



CAMDEN BENOIT HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED AS A PLAYER TO WATCH FOR THE UPCOMING FOOTBALL SEASON. HE COMPETES FOR THE SBHS/BHS FOOTBALL TEAM.

**CAMDEN BENOIT**

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**  
WINOOSKI HIGH SCHOOL | FALL 2020



OJ has done a good job advocating for work and learning materials for himself while also being respectful of all that teachers have on their plates.

*OJ Daring!*

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**  
WINOOSKI HIGH SCHOOL | FALL 2020



Pascaline works incredibly hard at all times and has greatly improved her writing in the last month. Her focus and determination is really paying off. She has big plans for her future and will surely achieve them!

*Pascaline Furaha*

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**  
WINOOSKI HIGH SCHOOL | FALL 2020



Suvisha has been working hard to make sure everyone in our pod can hear her during our in person days. She has also identified 2 new subjects she is interested in learning (Spanish and Piano) and set up learning experiences to support her this year.

*Suvisha Gurung*

**Student Spotlight**  
WINOOSKI HIGH SCHOOL | Fall 2020



Mohamed is SO ON TOP of his communication capstone work. He is organized, motivated, and self-driven. He has already started interviewing business owners and he shows great work ethic. We are so excited to see where he goes with this project!

*Mohamed Jelle*

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**  
WINOOSKI HIGH SCHOOL | FALL 2020



Shabani has done an amazing job with both in-person and remote engagement. His thoughtful responses and written insight to assignments have been a joy to hear and read and he has shared a lot about himself and his culture!

*SHABANI MANYUGU!*

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**  
WINOOSKI HIGH SCHOOL | FALL 2020



Emmanuel has become a strong leader and helper to everyone in class. He always is willing to help other people and is kind, positive, and hardworking.

*EMMANUEL OMAR*

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**  
Winooski High School | Fall 2020



Shabani has come to school everyday ready to engage in the work. His writing has improved tremendously in a short period of time. He is a leader and brings laughter to our pod!

*Shabani Omar*



## The Library Welcomes You

By Suzanne Skaffestad, 21C Director

**The Library Welcomes You** afterschool program has begun with students from Ms. Plasse and Ms. Mezetovic's newcomer class participating Monday-Friday, 2:35-4:00. The students have been engaged in fitness, literacy and art activities after school. Here's what the students have to say:

- "After school: it is very good!"
- "Next time, we will run a whole lap without stopping! We can do it!"
- "I love to run!"
- "We run, we read, we make boxes and candles. We play games and we practice social distancing. We like it!"

Ms. Poleman remarked, "Who knew staying after school could be so fun?! The students who stay are rays of sunshine and we laugh a lot while we run and dance and play games. We plan to make some spooky art in the coming weeks."



## Join the Winooski Front Porch Forum

It's a free and easy online way to get on the local grapevine, connect with neighbors, and build community. You can post and read about helping neighbors in need, free furniture, lost pets, tradespeople recommendations, and all kinds of good stuff at [www.frontporchforum.com](http://www.frontporchforum.com).



**front porch forum**<sup>™</sup>  
HELPING NEIGHBORS CONNECT

## Support Winooski Students, While Saving Money!

Courtney Poquette, High School Business Teacher

This year our fundraising efforts in the Business Department will look different, while we wait to return to "business as usual." We are still able to offer the SaveAround Coupon Book, but this time it will be all online and the shipping will be FREE. These books are filled with coupons to local businesses and restaurants as well as some national chains. There are over \$2,000 in coupons in each book, plus an app for even more savings. The best part is your purchase supports Winooski students with 40% of each purchase returning to the school! You can find the link to our school's fundraising page here <https://www.supportourgrouops.com/GN/76111>

Our fundraising was cut short for our Hamilton trip in the spring, but we plan to continue fundraising and use these funds once we know we can take this trip.

If you have any questions, please contact [cpoquette@wsdvt.org](mailto:cpoquette@wsdvt.org). Thank you for your support.

## YOUR LOCAL MEDIA

Watch local programs, events, and meetings on cable TV and online.

Learn how to make community media.



- [VERMONTCAM.ORG](http://VERMONTCAM.ORG) + Channels 1074 (Comcast), 15 (BT), HD 215 (BT)
- [RETN.ORG](http://RETN.ORG) + Channels 1094 (Comcast), 16 (BT), BTV-HD 216 (BT)
- [CH17.TV](http://CH17.TV) + Channels 1087 (Comcast), 17 (BT), 317 (BT)





# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Municipal Update November 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 continue to provide municipal services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### **Winooski City Hall is open to the public, M – F, 9 AM - 3 PM where:**

- members of the public are required to wear a mask or face-covering - masks are available for those without them
- stanchions, dividers, and standing points are installed to facilitate a socially distanced line that may be extended outdoors if needed
- a log of all individuals will be maintained by the City Clerk's Office
- the land records vault is only open by appointment - call 802 655 6410 to schedule
- a maximum of two individuals will be allowed in the vault at a time
- no more than 10 staff will be present at any time
- phones are answered at City Hall between 7:30 and 4:30
- online business is strongly encouraged - visit [winooski.vt.gov](http://winooski.vt.gov) to learn more.

#### **Police, Fire, and Public Works**

Services remain fully operational.

#### **Public meetings**

City Council, board, commission, and committee meetings will continue to hold their meetings remotely via Zoom for the foreseeable future. Participation information is shared with each meeting warning. Sign up for our meeting notices and email updates at [winooski.vt.gov](http://winooski.vt.gov)

#### **Parking and Code Enforcement**

Parking is being enforced downtown. We encourage people to use the ParkMobile app as much as possible, available at [parkmobile.io](http://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 have restarted inspections with safety procedures in place. Housing complaints 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](mailto: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](mailto:lkeating@winooski.vt.gov).

#### **Public Parks**

Following State guidance, parks and trails remain open for safe, responsible use.

- If you are feeling sick or have been exposed to someone who is sick, please stay home
- Masks or face coverings are required when near others
- Please respect 6' physical distancing and maintain small group sizes and do

not congregate/gather - especially in our parking areas

- The softball field at Landry Park is "open" for informal use by groups of 10 or fewer
- Portalets at Landry Park are not provided, so please plan accordingly

For current updates, resources, and municipal service information please visit [winooski.vt.gov/covid-19](http://winooski.vt.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

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

Visit the city website at [winooski.vt.gov](http://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

everyone, organized by department:

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

To view our remote resources, visit: [winooski.vt.gov/remoterresources](http://winooski.vt.gov/remoterresources)

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>

## Wear a Mask or Face Covering in Winooski



Governor Phil Scott's Statewide mask mandate began on Friday, August 1, 2020 and remains in effect. The amendment requires all Vermonters to wear masks or cloth facial coverings any time it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least six feet with others from outside their household. Those who are not required to use masks include those exercising outdoors, those under the age of 2, those with a medical or developmental condition that is complicated by a facial covering and those with difficulty breathing. Businesses and other entities may require customers to wear masks, including signage explaining mask requirements and denial of entry or service to those who decline to wear masks.

Please visit our COVID-19 page for full details regarding the mandate and view our comprehensive mask and face-covering resources: [winooski.vt.gov/covid-19](http://winooski.vt.gov/covid-19)

## 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](http://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](http://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 [winooski.vt.gov/332/Small-Business-Loan-Program](http://winooski.vt.gov/332/Small-Business-Loan-Program)

## Housing Assistance for Homeowners, Renters, and Landlords

- ACCD Housing Assistance Programs - Governor Phil Scott, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Vermont State Housing Authority, and the Vermont Housing Finance Agency announced a new program connect to the federal CARES Act funding to provide relief for those tenants unable to pay rent, landlords suffering from a loss of rent payments, and those lower-income homeowners needing assistance in paying the mortgage. Learn more at [accd.vermont.gov](http://accd.vermont.gov)
- Rental Housing Stabilization Program - Landlords and tenants who have been affected by COVID-19 can apply for assistance through the Rental Housing Stabilization Program, provided by The Vermont State Housing Authority (VSHA). This program will provide the VSHA Payment Standard or the actual amount due for the month(s) being claimed, whichever is less, per household as a single unit who meet

eligibility criteria. The goal of this program is to prevent homelessness and to provide housing stability. Learn more at [vsha.org](http://vsha.org).

## Additional Resources

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

## COVID-19 Testing

For an up-to-date local testing schedule, please visit [winooski.vt.gov/covid-19](http://winooski.vt.gov/covid-19)

### Testing at Walgreens in Essex Junction

Walgreens at 9 Susie Wilson Road, Essex Junction, is conducting drive-thru COVID-19 testing. See if you qualify and schedule an appointment by visiting [walgreens.com](http://walgreens.com)

### Testing at Kinney Drugs COVID-19

Testing for anyone ages 2 and older is now available at several Kinney Drugs locations across Vermont. Appointments are required - visit [kinneydrugs.com](http://kinneydrugs.com) to sign up.

## Mayor's Update



Hello Winooski,

City Council began our annual budgeting process by focusing on goal setting for the Fiscal Year 2022. As always, voting on this budget will take place on Town Meeting Day in March. Councilors

have discussed the severe economic

impacts our community has endured during the pandemic and the ongoing need for municipal services. We reached a consensus that we want to retain the same level of services we currently offer while keeping any tax rate increase below the cost of living adjustment (under 2%). Staff will bring us a budget this fall for review during our meetings in December and January. How do you want your tax dollars spent? Please familiarize yourself with this process - your voices are important! Bookmark this page to learn more and join us for any budget meeting: [winooski.gov/fy22](http://winooski.gov/fy22).

Recently, I attended a Burlington International Airport Sound Committee meeting to receive updates. The noise monitoring grant process is moving along where the airport will seek contractor bids to set up equipment in 2021. The noise compatibility program has been approved by the FAA and the airport is working on a 2022 implementation plan. The draft plan advocates for a large share of homes in Winooski. We will bring updates as this draft comes together, but you can view the presentation and learn more about this process at [bvsound.com](http://bvsound.com).

Thank you for voting by mail during the 2020 November General Election! General Election information for Winooski is available at [winooski.gov/vote](http://winooski.gov/vote). Election results can be obtained at [electionresults.vermont.gov](http://electionresults.vermont.gov). For full details regarding the Proposed Charter Changes and All-Resident Voting, visit [winooski.gov/charter](http://winooski.gov/charter).

Thank you, and feel free to reach out any time to [klott@winooski.vt.gov](mailto:klott@winooski.vt.gov).



Thank you for taking the opportunity to mail in your ballots! In-person, socially distant voting will be available: **Tuesday, November 3, 2020** - 7am-7pm at the Winooski Senior Center (123 Barlow Street). In-person voting will be available 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

## Reminders from the City Clerk's Office

### 2020 General Election

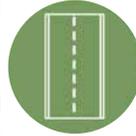
- Only 10 people allowed to enter at a time Lines will form with a minimum 6' distance from others
- Lines will form with a minimum 6' distance from others

For full election info in Winooski, visit [winooski.gov/voting](http://winooski.gov/voting). Election results can be obtained at [electionresults.vermont.gov](http://electionresults.vermont.gov).

### Important Dates

- November 2: City Council Meeting
- November 11: City Hall Closed in observance of Veterans Day
- November 15: Tax and Utility Bills (accepting payments on Monday, November 16)
- November 26 & 27: City Hall Closed in observance of Thanksgiving

## Municipal Infrastructure Updates



**Project**  
[winooski.gov/mainstreet](http://winooski.gov/mainstreet)  
 This project represents the culmination of over a decade of intensive planning, community engagement, alternatives evaluation and design. In 2018 a \$23 million-dollar public bond vote was approved to fund the remaining design and construction of the project. The project includes full reconstruction of the Main Street corridor from approximately Mansion Street north to the city limits along the frontage of the Winooski school campus. The scope of work includes replacing aging underground infrastructure, adding accommodations for improved pedestrian and bike travel and burying overhead private utilities.

approximately \$12.5 million in secured low-interest loans to offset the impact on local property tax payers.

**Myers Memorial Pool Renovation**  
[winooski.gov/pool](http://winooski.gov/pool)  
 Although we're saddened that COVID-19 postponed the opening season, we're thrilled to announce that construction is substantially complete on the Myers Memorial Pool. We look forward to celebrating the opening of this facility next spring. We're very proud of the outcome of this project and are appreciative of everyone involved to make this community vision and reality. Our Community Service team will be providing updates in future regarding programming opportunities and pool passes for next season.

**Hickock Street Reconstruction Project**  
[winooski.gov/hickok](http://winooski.gov/hickok)  
 Winooski voters approved a bond for the reconstruction of Hickock Street in March 2019. The first phase of construction occurred last year and included replacement of the 100+ year old watermain in Hickock Street and West Lane. The remaining scope of work includes rehabilitation of the sewer systems and replacement of the street pavement, sidewalks and curbing. This work was anticipated to start this spring. Unfortunately, the schedule was delayed due to COVID-19 impacts. The final second phase work started last month and will focus on stormwater and sanitary sewer infrastructure rehabilitation. We expect that the majority of the sewer and stormwater work will be complete by Thanksgiving. After a winter shutdown, the project will resume work in the spring when weather allows (around May 2021) and continue until completion in mid-summer (July or August 2021). The project area will be an active construction site during the work, and therefore there will be some impacts to residents. The Contractor is required to maintain local traffic for vehicles and pedestrians, but delays, temporary closures or detours may occur during work hours. Furthermore, street parking in the contractor's work areas will be prohibited during work hours. Green Mountain Transit #9 bus will be rerouted to bypass the project site via

The project is currently in the final design phase. The next steps in order to move towards construction will be to obtain necessary permits, easements and refine the current design to construction level documents. We will also be reviewing updates throughout the remainder of the design phase during regular City Council meetings for feedback. We anticipate bidding on the construction work in the spring of 2021. Throughout the remainder of the design phase we will be working to deliver the project as cost-effectively as possible. To-date, the City has procured approximately \$4.7 million in grants and

Malletts Bay Avenue.

Please visit <https://ridegmt.com/> for service changes and alerts.

### **Vermont Department of Transportation (Vtrans) Projects**

- [Exit 16 DDI \(Diverging Diamond Interchange\) - exit16ddi.vtransprojects.vermont.gov](#)

Please see the above Vtrans project webpage link for updates and an overview of this project located in the vicinity of the Exit 16 interchange at I-89 in Colchester on US Route 2/7 (just north of the City of Winooski limits). You can also sign-up for email updates under the "Stay Informed" page. As described in the most recent update, they anticipate work starting in spring 2021 for utility relocations and ledge removal.

- [US 2/7 Concrete Roadway Repairs](#)

We are currently coordinating with Vtrans on a project to repair the concrete road joints located on the southbound section of the circulator and within a portion of West Allen Street. We are also working with Vtrans to potentially replace the remaining concrete roadway north of the circulator to approximately Mansion Street with bituminous asphalt pavement. Replacing this section of concrete roadway with asphalt would eliminate the joints and improve the ride quality for this section of Main Street. We anticipate the concrete repairs will start spring 2021 and the asphalt replacement project the following year in 2022. For both projects, the City will continue to work closely with Vtrans to coordinate this project with the proposed Main Street Revitalization project and other development work within City.

## **Community Services Updates**

### **Thrive After School Program**

Thrive continues to run after-school programming for JFK Elementary students. Thrive is a state-licensed, 3 STAR childcare/enrichment program that runs from 3-5:30pm. We partner with the Winooski School District to provide a community where children in grades K-5 explore, learn, and grow during their after school hours. During Thrive, students engage with creative arts, STEM and Makerspace activities, literacy

skills, cooperative and socio-emotional learning, outdoor play, and more. Students in grades K-5 can attend Thrive After School on their 4 in-person learning days once the new schedule begins. The cost is \$72 per week, and we accept state childcare subsidy as well as offer scholarships to families in need. Thrive follows all health and safety guidance from the CDC and Vermont Department of Health as well as Winooski School District rules. Visit [winooski.vt.gov/thrive](http://winooski.vt.gov/thrive) to learn more and enroll!

### **Winooski Memorial Library**



The Winooski Memorial Library is working on a plan to safely bring back the Academic & Career Support program in partnership with the Winooski School District. Details will be available soon - learn more at [winooski.vt.gov/library](http://winooski.vt.gov/library), follow us on Facebook ([facebook.com/winooskilibrary](https://facebook.com/winooskilibrary)) or email [volunteer@winooski.vt.gov](mailto:volunteer@winooski.vt.gov) to learn more.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

### **Homework Help Community Tutors:**

Under the direction of the Winooski Memorial Library, Homework Help Tutors provide basic instruction in a variety of content areas to local middle and high school students so that students can master skills needed to succeed in school and beyond. This year's sessions will be held virtually on Zoom to provide a safe way for tutors and students to connect! Tutors will need access to the internet and a device that can utilize Zoom. Tutoring sessions are Monday through Thursday from 4pm to 7pm. Tutors sign up for at least one 1.5-hour session per week. We are also flexible with schedules and will try to work with you.

**Meals on Wheels Driver:** Under the direction of the Winooski Senior Center, Meals on Wheels Volunteers help to combat hunger and to provide a lifeline and companionship for under-resourced community members who might otherwise be isolated. Meals on Wheels are delivered every weekday, Monday through Friday from 9:30am - 11am.

You will need access to your own vehicle. We currently have a need for drivers on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays.

### **Meals on Wheels Food Processor:**

Packers and food processors will aid in packing meals to be delivered to our Meal recipients. Meal components are delivered to the Winooski Senior Center every morning Monday through Friday, and packing takes place onsite from 8:30am - 9:30am. No vehicle needed.

## **Introducing Nate Eddy, Winooski's New Library Director**

The Winooski Memorial Library is excited to announce our new Director, Nate Eddy!



Nate comes to us from the Free Library of Philadelphia

with 15 years of library experience including a BA in English from UVM and a Masters in Library and Information Science from the University of Pittsburgh.

Nate's career has a strong focus on strategic planning, creating programs and services, and increasing access/engagement with new American communities. Please help us welcome him to Winooski!

"I'm thrilled to be joining the team at Winooski Memorial Library and so looking forward to getting to know this amazing community. Vermont is a special place for me, having been born and raised in Rutland, and I'm so excited to be home again and working in such a diverse and growing city. And while these are different times for us all, I'm confident the library will continue to shine and be there as always to meet the needs of our patrons both existing and new. Can't wait to see you soon!"

# Winooski Senior Center

By Barb Pitfido, Senior Programs Manager

As we continue to practice steps to stay safe and work on decreasing the spread of COVID-19 in our community, we are wanting to stay connected with you! Seniors and older Vermonters can call our dedicated support line: Tuesdays & Thursdays: 10am - 2pm / 802 655 6425 / Voice Mail 24/7.

## 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.

## Senior Exercise

Starts January 5, 2021 - Following safety protocols for participants, we will resume our Senior Exercise Program on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10am. Follow along with Barbara Jordan's video and work on balance and stretching. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes. Call us at 802 655 6425 for a reservation to participate, space is limited.

## Bone Builders Exercise

Following safety protocols for participants, we are once again hosting United Way's Bone Builder Exercise Program on Monday and Wednesday



afternoons from 3 – 4pm. Participant numbers are limited and you must have a reservation to attend. RSVP Bone Builders is an exercise program designed to prevent (and even reverse) the negative effects of osteoporosis. The program is based on research conducted and published by Tufts University which shows that strength training just twice a week dramatically reduces the risk of fractures due to the disease. Call us at 802 655 6425 for a reservation to participate.

## Pen Pal Program with Winooski Youth

Starts November 2020 – The Winooski Senior Center and the Thrive After School program are partnering to offer a new intergenerational pen pal program! Each month, participants will be presented with a prompt. Following the prompt, both seniors and students will write a personalized letter to their pen pal. Staff will deliver the letters between the Senior Center and the school. No stamps required! This is an excellent opportunity to connect with a community member that you otherwise might not get to know. Call us at 802 655 6425 for a reservation to participate.

## 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.

## More than a Meal

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](mailto:seniorcenter@winooskivt.gov) for the weekly menu and all the details.

This program was featured via UVM's student run project "The Winooski News" - see it at [thewinooskinews.com](http://thewinooskinews.com)!

**CONNECT TO VOLUNTEERING**

VOLUNTEERS NONPROFITS BUSINESSES

Get started today!  
Visit [unitedwaywvt.org](http://unitedwaywvt.org) and click the "Volunteer" button.

United Way United Way of Northwest Vermont



## Happy Fall!

By Martina Kerkering

The school year has started and the first changes have already occurred. Changes can be very stressful on every member of the family. ROUTINES are key to everyone feeling safe and successful. This is true even for the youngest child!

Reach out to Martina with any questions around this topic or to learn about other ways we can support you during these uncertain times! Email: [mkerkering@howardcenter.org](mailto:mkerkering@howardcenter.org) or text message: (802) 324 6405.

# November Update from The Winooski Partnership for Prevention

By Jane Henderson, Grants Manager

Looking for ways to start hard conversations with your kids around substance-use? Follow us online or through our newsletter - we'll be providing tools and resources for parents to begin the dialogue.

## Youth Advocacy through Animation

We've been busy creating new online tools for furthering prevention work in Winooski. The most fun part for us thus far has been the creation of our Safe Storage animations (see the one for safe alcohol storage on our FB or IG page). And it got us thinking...what if we provided the opportunity for Winooski students to create animations around why they stay above the influence of substances?

As a result, we've teamed up with Scout Digital to offer an "Intro to Animation Creation" event specifically available to local students. Students will also hear from local leaders on the importance - and effectiveness - of youth advocacy! Students will come away with new skills and an animation that represents their creative ideas around prevention.

Have a Winooski student in your life who might be interested? Please reach out to us - all students welcomed!

## The Passing of Senate Bill 54

On October 8th, Vermont became the eleventh state to legalize commercial production and retail sale of marijuana. Under this plan, prior to the operation of any licensed cannabis retailer, cities and towns will decide whether to permit commercial activities within their community.

What does this mean for Vermonters?: Although there is still much to be decided with the passing of S54, we are looking to learn from other states who have already legalized marijuana. According to a new study in the Journal of Health Communication by Washington State University researchers, it is the location of marijuana retailers that can influence a city's youth population to use marijuana. "Study participants who said they lived within five miles of a marijuana shop were more likely to report intentions to use the drug than those who perceived they lived farther away" (WSU).

Smart Approaches to Marijuana, a non-profit organization looking to



prevent another big tobacco, released a report on lessons learned from state marijuana legalization. From this report - compiled through publicly available state-level data, reports, and investigatory findings, peer-reviewed studies, and government health surveys - they found that there was a 25% increase in Cannabis Use Disorder (CUD) among 12-17 year-olds in "legal" states.

We'll continue to keep you updated on what S54 looks like in Winooski as well as providing tools for talking to your kids about marijuana. We hope you and your families are all staying safe and healthy this holiday season!



## 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](http://www.downtownwinooski.org). We are proud of the Winooski small business community for taking such good care of their employees and customers.



★★ BE AN ★★  
**EDUCATED  
VOTER**

**WATCH CANDIDATE FORUMS**

JOIN US FOR OUR  
**LIVE RESULTS SHOW**  
ON NOVEMBER 3RD

**TUNE IN**  
On Comcast 1087, BT 17 & 217  
or LIVE on [youtube.com/townmeetingtv](https://www.youtube.com/townmeetingtv)



# What's Happening at North End Studios Winooski

By Sharon Radtke

North End Studios at the O'Brien Center in Winooski has been offering International Take-Out Dinners at their 32 Malletts Bay Avenue location every Saturday since July and will carry this forward all the way through November and the holiday season, and on into the new year. November dinners will include: Greek on November 7; Middle Eastern on November 14 and Ethiopian/Eritrean on November 21. All hot meals are packaged and ready for pick-up outside the NES O'Brien Center with an assigned pick up time! Tickets are available at [seven-daytickets.com](http://seven-daytickets.com). \$20 per person, meat and vegetarian options available.

North End Studios has some exciting news to share. The Vermont International Festival will happen despite the pandemic, although it will look much different from past years. For 27 years, the Vermont International Festival has entertained and educated Vermonters about other cultures who live in Vermont by providing three days of international music, dance, crafts and cuisine at the Champlain Valley Expo in Essex Junction. This year, the Vermont International Festival will be going mostly

virtual. Music and dance performances will be featured online throughout the weekend of December 4-6. Performances will represent cultures from around the world. Stories about featured performers will be included throughout the schedule and viewers will be amazed by the variety and quality of international performers living right here in Vermont. Craft vendors will offer their goods in a special virtual Festival Marketplace, beginning in mid-November and extending through the festival weekend and the remainder of the holiday season. This is a great opportunity for VIF customers to do some serious online holiday shopping for unique, international gifts for family and friends. The one live component of this year's festival will be the 2020 version of the Food Court. The International Take-Out Dinners that have been held at the O'Brien Center since July will be



extended and enhanced on the festival weekend offering food from all over the world, including vegetarian and non-vegetarian sample appetizer and dessert plates as well as full dinner offerings from Africa, Asia and South America. For more details about all aspects of the Vermont International Festival, go to [vermontinternationalfestival.com](http://vermontinternationalfestival.com).

North End Studios is gradually resuming classes and rental opportunities at their O'Brien Center facility and Studio A in Burlington. All recommended precautions are taken inside, including limiting capacity, social distancing, disinfecting, handwashing, and wearing masks, to keep you and your family safe when you participate in programs at the two locations.

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

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## Our Lady of Providence Director of Health Services Uses Her Love of Knitting to Benefit the Community and Residents

By Gail Callahan, Communications Director

Ann Marie Sullivan's love of knitting stretches back to her childhood when her mother taught her how to cast on.

"I'm in love with crafts," said Sullivan, who became director of the department earlier this year. "I love knitting and (followed by) quilting."

Sullivan put her crafty skills to use during the height of the pandemic when she introduced knitting to an Our Lady of Providence resident.

Sullivan touts the therapeutic benefits of knitting, calling it a healthcare tool.

"There's a psychological benefit of knitting," Sullivan said. "It's a type of meditation, and it helps with hand-eye coordination and helps slow dementia."

Esther "Dennie" Work is thankful Sullivan shared her knitting talents. Work called the pandemic and its ensuing

lockdown "difficult days."

"A friend (Ann Marie) taught me how to put the skill of knitting to good use," Work said. "It served to take my mind off myself and to relax while making knit dish clothes, which were colorful and distracted me during this difficult time."

Sullivan is pouring her talents into Warm Up America! The non-profit organization donates knitted and crocheted items to people in need.



Above: OLOP Director of Health Services Ann Marie Sullivan models a knitted face mask that includes a filter pocket inside.

Left: Ann Marie Sullivan shows a sampling of items she's knitted, some of which will go to Warm Up America!

# Winooski Food Shelf Schedule for November

By Linda Howe, Winooski Food Shelf Coordinator

<b>Wednesday, November 4th</b>	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Pantry staples, meat and eggs
<b>Saturday, November 7th</b>	9:30 am to 11:00 am	Fresh fruit, veggies, bread and deli items
<b>Wednesday, November 11th</b>	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Pantry staples, meat and eggs
<b>Saturday, November 21st</b>	9:30 am to 11:00 am	Fresh fruit, veggies, bread and deli items

Well, the Holidays are here! The Food Shelf volunteers are busy preparing for Thanksgiving. Clients should plan to pick up their turkey when they come to either the November 4th or November 11th pantry day (*we are not handing out turkeys on a special day this year, like we used to.*). They will receive their monthly box of food plus turkey and fixings.

### We could really use help supplying

**Thanksgiving fixings:** small turkeys, turkey breasts, packets of gravy, boxed stove top stuffing mixes, cranberry sauce, canned green beans, canned peas and we need lots of store bought packaged cookies. Other items always in need are: cooking oil, canned diced tomatoes, tomato paste, canned fruit -- especially pineapple and applesauce, garbanzo and kidney beans, toilet paper, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and disposable razors. Size 4 and 5 diapers are a big hit right now!

We are providing food to about 250 families each month -- about 1,000 people in those families. We are seeing many young families with babies. Many jobs have been lost. We are here to help during this difficult time. We hope anyone experiencing financial difficulty will come and check us out.

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.

**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.**

**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.

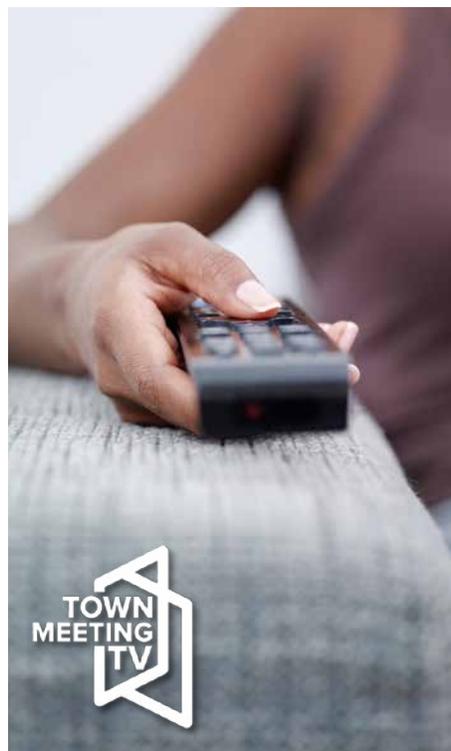
**Where to find us:** The Winooski Food Shelf is located in the United Methodist Church at the corner of West Allen and Follett Streets at 24 West Allen Street. There is a bus stop on that corner. We do not provide rides so please bring a wheeled cart or suitcase and some bags to lug your food home. 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. You may also go on-line to our Web Site and make an electronic donation.

**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.



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## Winooski Elementary Breakfast November 2020

**The Abbey Group** ✓ =Vegetarian Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 <b>Breakfast Round</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety	3 <b>WG Iced Honey Bun</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety	4  Remote- See Side Panel	5 <b>Breakfast Round</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety	6  <b>No School</b>
9 <b>Breakfast Round</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety	10 <b>WG Iced Honey Bun</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety	11  Remote- See Side Panel	12 <b>Breakfast Round</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety	13 <b>WG Iced Honey Bun</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety
16 <b>Breakfast Round</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety	17 <b>WG Iced Honey Bun</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety	18  Remote- See Side Panel	19 <b>Breakfast Round</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety	20 <b>WG Iced Honey Bun</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety
23 <b>Breakfast Round</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety	24 <b>WG Iced Honey Bun</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety	25  <b>No School</b>	26  <b>No School</b>	27  <b>No School</b>
30 <b>Breakfast Round</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety	<b>NOVEMBER</b>			

### Meals Are Free To All Students

Adult Breakfast \$1.85  
Adult Lunch \$3.85  
Milk \$0.50

Please Click Links Below for Nutrition Information on Daily Options:

- 1. WG Assorted Cereal w/Graham Crackers
- 2. Fruit Filled Muffin w/Cheese Stick
- 3. Iced Honey Bun

100% Fruit Juice, Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit, 1% White Milk, & Fat Free Chocolate Milk Offered With All Meals.

[100% Fruit Juice](#)   [Condiments](#)

[Fresh, Dried Or Canned Fruit](#)

[Milk](#)

Pay for meals on-line. Click on Link Below:



Click Image Below for employment opportunities



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## Winooski JFK Elementary School Lunch November 2020

**The Abbey Group** Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 ✓ <b>Macaroni and Cheese</b> Dinner Roll ✓ Steamed Broccoli Pear Slices <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Broccoli Salad Pear Slices	3 <b>Beef Nachos Supreme</b> <b>OR</b> <b>Nachos w/Cheese</b> ✓ Garden Salsa Rice Pilaf <b>OR</b> ✓ Steamed Corn <b>Tuna Salad Sandwich</b> ✓ Fresh Celery Sticks Fresh Apple Wedges	4  Remote Learning See Side Panel	5 <b>Chicken Stir Fry</b> ✓ Steamed Green Peas Fresh Pineapple <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Glazed Carrots Fresh Pineapple	6  <b>No School</b> 
9 ✓ <b>Corn Dog</b> Roasted Sweet Potato Fries Applesauce <b>OR</b> <b>Tuna Salad Sandwich</b> ✓ Fresh Celery Sticks Applesauce	10 <b>Chicken Alfredo</b> Dinner Roll ✓ Tossed Garden Salad Fresh Strawberries <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Tossed Garden Salad Fresh Strawberries	11  Remote Learning See Side Panel	12 <b>Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce (Ground Beef)</b> Dinner Roll ✓ Caesar Salad <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Caesar Salad Fresh Apple Wedges	13 <b>Chicken Fajita w/ Sautéed Onions &amp; Peppers</b> ✓ Garden Salsa Fresh Apple <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Fresh Celery Sticks Fresh Blueberries
16 <b>French Toast Sticks</b> Twin Sausage Links ✓ Mini Hash Browns Fresh Blueberries <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> Fresh Cucumber Sticks Fresh Blueberries	17 ✓ <b>Cheese Pizza</b> ✓ Tossed Garden Salad Fresh Strawberries Applesauce <b>OR</b> <b>Tuna Salad Sandwich</b> Applesauce ✓ Tossed Garden Salad Fresh Strawberries	18  Remote Learning See Side Panel	19 <b>Oven Roasted Turkey</b> Dinner Roll ✓ Chef's Mashed Potato Turkey Gravy Cranberry Sauce Oatmeal Cranberry Cookies <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> Fresh Cucumber Sticks ✓ Glazed Carrots	20 <b>Cheeseburger</b> ✓ Oven Crisp Tater Tots ✓ Caesar Salad <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Caesar Salad Fresh Apple Wedges
23 <b>Turkey &amp; Biscuits</b> ✓ Steamed Green Peas ✓ Steamed Corn Pear Slices <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Glazed Carrots Pear Slices	24 ✓ <b>Cheese Pizza</b> Steamed Green Beans Applesauce <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> Veggie Sticks Applesauce	25  <b>No School</b>	26  <b>No School</b>	27  <b>No School</b>
30 <b>Oven Baked Chicken Nuggets</b> Dinner Roll ✓ Roasted Sweet Potato Fries Applesauce <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Fresh Celery Sticks Applesauce	<b>Harvest of the Month: Sweet Potato</b>  Click Sweet Potato image to get fun Harvest of the Month information on Sweet Potatoes			

### Meals Are Free To All Students

Adult Breakfast \$1.85  
Adult Lunch \$3.85  
Milk \$0.50

Please Click Links Below for Nutrition Information on Daily Options:

**Remote Lunch Offerings:**

1. Cheesy Bread Dippers w/Marinara Sauce & Steamed Corn
2. Oven Baked Pasta, Sauce and Beef Casserole, Garlic Bread, Green Beans
3. Chicken & Rice, Broccoli w/Chick Peas

**Offered Daily:** Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich

Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit, Skim White Milk, 1% White Milk & Fat Free Chocolate Milk

[Fresh, Dried Or Canned Fruit](#)

[Milk](#)   [Condiments](#)

Pay for meals on-line. Click on Link Below:



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**Winooski Boys Varsity Soccer • Fall 2020 • GO SPARTANS!**



Photos by Rebecca Savage