



# WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS!

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

DECEMBER 2020

## *Celebrating Our Achievements!*

### Students Learn about Slavery

By Caitlin MacLeod-Bluver

A group of Winooski High School (WHS) students met with a representative from the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) as part of their examination of the history and contemporary impact of slavery in the United States.

EJI works across the U.S. with communities that have been marginalized by poverty and discouraged by unequal treatment. The organization recently launched a national effort to create new ways to address the legacy of slavery, lynching, and racial segregation, which shapes many issues today.

During the fall, WHS students were immersed in a thematic unit about the legacies of slavery, exploring both the Reconstruction era and contemporary data. Students investigated a variety of primary and secondary sources on the topics of sharecropping, Black Codes, convict leasing, and the rise of anti-Black violence. Then, students analyzed contemporary data to make connections between the legacy of slavery and the present day.

Ultimately, students wrote letters to Bryan Stevenson, the founder of



the Equal Justice Initiative, where they evaluated a statement he made on the evolution of slavery. On November 10th, students got an opportunity to meet with Trey Walk, a fellow with EJI. His energy and knowledge was empowering for many students. Moseka, a WHS student, said, "It was cool to hear from someone who was so young and doing so much for racial justice."

Ayush, a WHS student, was struck by the personal story Mr. Walk shared about his own family's history of oppression in America. "I learned that people in your family were sharecroppers," said Ayush. "This helped me to understand that the things we learned about in history are actually not that long ago."

With Mr. Walk, students discussed our nation's history

of racial violence and terror, the ongoing work to combat racial injustice, and how high school students can use their voice to advocate for change.

Another student, Ruby, saw the experience as an opportunity to bring what she learned outside of the classroom. "I got to learn a lot more about what EJI does and how I can educate my peers about these important issues."

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<b>Notes from the Central Office</b>	<b>2-5</b>
<b>District and Contact Information</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>School Matters: K-12</b>	<b>5-7</b>
<b>Community News</b>	<b>8-15</b>
<b>Health Corner</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Menus</b>	<b>17</b>

THE WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER IS OFFERING

## FREE FLU SHOTS FOR STUDENTS

THE FLU SHOT CLINIC WILL BE HELD AT THE WSD FROM 9-11:30AM ON

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS IN DECEMBER (THE 1ST, 3RD, 8TH, 10TH, 15TH, 17TH)



## School Board Update

By *Tori Cleiland, Board of School Trustees President*

I opened my August article with a quote from Robin DiAngelo about how the institution of public education is a mechanism for perpetuating systemic racism and inequities, now the opening is Belonging: recognition of where we're starting and commitment to where we're going. Commitment to becoming an antiracist school district means we are setting a course to belonging on the pathway shaped by Winooski students and alumni in eight demands. Arriving at partnership to move this work forward is like all things human: complicated and not straightforward. Yet, there is progress, slow and steady, focused on three goals for now:

1. Acknowledging harm on the path to acceptance of the Demands.
2. Building an equal partnership between WSA, WSD LT, Board, Faculty, Spectrum, and City to move demands forward.
3. Establish process, functioning, monitoring, and structure for the inclusion of multi-stakeholders in 'demand groups' to commence work.

There is an hour at each board meeting dedicated to antiracism. Join us in dialogue as we learn together and share

*Belonging is about freedom – freedom from having to change in order to be accepted and valued and respected for being who you are.*

— *Bréne Brown*

updates. Join to listen, join to speak, join to question. The work will lead to assembling multi-stakeholder demand-based work groups, co-facilitated by a youth and an adult.

Dismantling systemic racism is not simple. It is helpful to understand that systemic racism is about systems, not individuals. Systemic racism gets its strength from “group prejudice backed by institutional power”. We inherited it, and it permeates every facet of American life.

It is helpful to understand that race includes white people knowing and understanding our whiteness, moving beyond possible guilt, not knowing, or resistance to the realities of current inequalities that cause BIPOC great harm while advantages white people.

In the Sept. board retreat, the co-facilitators offered the group a poem to set the tone for our work together. I offer you the spirit of approach in the work before us in this excerpt:

### **An Invitation to Brave Space**

by *Micky ScottBey Jones*

“We call each other to more truth and love

We have the right to start somewhere and continue to grow.

We have the responsibility to examine what we think we know.

We will not be perfect.

This space will not be perfect.

It will not always be what we wish it to be  
But

It will be our brave space together,  
and

We will work on it side by side”.

Becoming an antiracist school district will create something extraordinary in our schools for our kids that will mutually benefit our Winooski community. Please join us!

#### **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)  
Matthew MacNeil, 802-999-3218  
[mmacneil@wsdvt.org](mailto:mmacneil@wsdvt.org)  
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.

*“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](mailto:newsletter@wsdvt.org)*



# December Update:

By Emily Hecker, WSD Communications and Development Director

### Middle School Addition:

As seen from the photographs below, the concrete floor slab is complete. Exterior wall framing is on track to be complete



mid-November. Outside facing brick work should begin mid-December, and will be similar to the current red brick of the existing building. Roofing on track to start mid-November

and be complete mid-January. With much of the outside structure done, the interior framing and interior mechanical systems is set to start this month.

### New Gym Addition:

The new gym is the closest to feeling like the final product, although there is still plenty of work left to do. The concrete floor slab is complete and the exterior brick will be complete by early December. Much of the roofing is complete as well, just in time for the rooftop mechanical unit which will be delivered late December. (ReArch Assistant Project Manager, Danylo Whalen, is pictured in the nearly complete gym - photo taken 11/12/20).



### Elementary School Addition:

The steel structure is complete and the concrete floor slab will be complete by mid-November. In the photo below, the yellow material in the floor is for the air barrier to protect the slab from



moisture. The exterior wall framing started mid-November and the roofing will start mid-December.



### Maintenance Building:

The exterior framing and under slab plumbing of the maintenance building will be complete by late-November. The concrete slab will be placed by early-December.

### Sitework:

Sitework will continue through the fall/early winter. In recent months, the additional parking for WSD staff has been completed. A major milestone for new utilities, the new septic pump station, (pictured below) is fully installed and operational! New underground utilities are being installed around the existing maintenance shop and will wrap up late-November.



# Faces of Winooski

Mohamed Diop, Behavioral Interventionist



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*We are the future.*

## What do you do at WSD?

I've been working here since 2015. I started as the study hall coordinator for the high school. The following year our middle school advertised a Behavior Interventionist position and I went for it. Currently, I am a middle and high school Behavior Interventionist.

I'm also a member of several teams that have recently been created to assist our school in becoming an "antiracist school":

- Staff Restorative Justice circle keeper/Circle facilitator
- Recruitment & Hiring More Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) committee
- Equity Visioning & Professional Learning Planning Committee

## What is a Behavior Interventionist (BI)?

A behavioral interventionist assists individuals to eliminate or replace disruptive, harmful, disrespectful, or negative behaviors with positive actions.

As a BI in a school setting, I anticipate challenging student behaviors and situations. Understanding our student population, I tend to forecast and work through teaching, pre-teaching, reteaching, and assisting in classroom management when needed. At the end of the day, I am happy knowing I've helped students move from challenging situations so they are able to focus on their academics and social-emotional wellbeing.

I also cover teachers sometimes. I enjoy doing it because I have a teaching background. I taught French and English as a second language for 11 years in Mauritania, Northwest Africa. I taught in public schools, taught and ran a private school, and taught at the US embassy to help officials communicate with the locals. I also did some translations for the US Embassy Officials and translated for the Washington Post, the UN, and the Mauritanian government.

## What brought you to the US?

I visited about seven times before I settled here. It took me a while to decide to become a US citizen because I have so many opportunities back where I come from. After being here for a while and looking into opportunities and ways I can contribute I decided to become an American citizen. I also have a beloved family, biracial kids, and friends here. This is my home.

Living here as a Black man I have had some difficult experiences but luckily I have acquired the skills to deal with challenging situations mostly from my dad. My brain works like a bookshelf and I put everything where it goes. Meaning, whatever issues I may have out there won't affect me working with our students. That's one of the skills that allow me to handle challenging situations.

Growing up, my dad was a community leader. He ran Restorative Justice (RJ) circles. That is how I learned a lot about RJ. He handled challenging situations and brought peace to our community. I am happy I am able to practice those skills here when working with our students.

## What's something people in the district might not know about you?

I thrive in multiracial and multicultural environments. I speak seven languages. English is the 7th language I've learned, and I look forward to learning a few more languages.

I come from a family of five. I was the 2nd born, the only male. It was a position of responsibility and I am grateful I am able to support my sisters in their needs.

I lost my mom when I was ten. It was absolutely hard but I see my growth and strength in it. I lived with her for only ten years but it felt like much more. She shaped me into who I am. She was very caring, welcoming, and a good cook!

I left home when I was 13. I needed to focus on my education and chose to do so because I came from a house with a lot of guests and an open door policy. People came by to hang out all the time and spend the night. It was crowded and it led me to ask my dad for a more private space. I have always valued education.

I do not take anything for granted. I am always grateful. I busted my arm to get a degree and I have never failed a school year. I work hard.

## Why do you heart WSD?

I love that Winooski is a mixture of races and backgrounds and I can contribute my knowledge and skills as a BI, or as a guest teacher. I just fit perfectly in the community.

## Advice for current students or your current life mantra?

For our students, it is all about a matter of trusting somebody. Trust is not easy but it is something we build. I came from a culture where we trust everybody until the trust is broken.

When you break it, it doesn't mean you are punished, it means RJ circle time. Let's talk about it, resolve it, and move on. We don't linger on an issue for years.

I also urge our students to value education, and not take it for granted. They almost all have everything they need to be one of the best students in the US. Many students across the world don't have laptops while in elementary, or secondary schools. Here, students even get fed at school.

More advice for students: Listen to your gut in terms of career. Do what you want to do in terms of jobs. It shouldn't always be about money. Some of our students get a job at McDonald's and the little money they earn gets in the way of their learning. Students focus on their part-time job. Working at a restaurant can develop good skills but academics are more important.

There should be a sense of balance. I understand some families need some extra financial support. Even though you're trying to support your parents, don't take your education lightly because that's where your long term success is.

I have never done a job I don't like. My happiness counts the most. No one will ever have enough money in their lifetime. Even rich people. So, you have to focus on being happy and find a sense of purpose.





## Meet the Heart of Winooski Foundation Board

By Emily Hecker, Director of Communications

Welcome to the newly formed Heart of Winooski (HOW) Foundation board! HOW is a new non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the ENDS statement of the Winooski School District.

The HOW board will oversee the financial operations of the foundation, advising on how funds raised by and donated to the foundation should be spent.

- Raseda Be, Student Representative
- George Cross, Community Representative
- Jim Duncan, City of Winooski Representative
- Stephanie Hackett, WSD Staff Representative
- Emily Hecker, Secretary
- Nicole Mace, Treasurer
- Matthew MacNeil, Winooski School Board Representative
- Sean McMannon, President
- Evelyn Monje, Student Representative
- Kassian Prior, Alumni Representative
- Joy Yonan-Renold, PTO Representative

The HOW Board is still looking for one additional WSD employee to round out the 12-member board.

Questions - [info@howvt.org](mailto:info@howvt.org)

Website: [www.howvt.org](http://www.howvt.org)

## SCHOOL MATTERS — K TO 12

### JFK Update

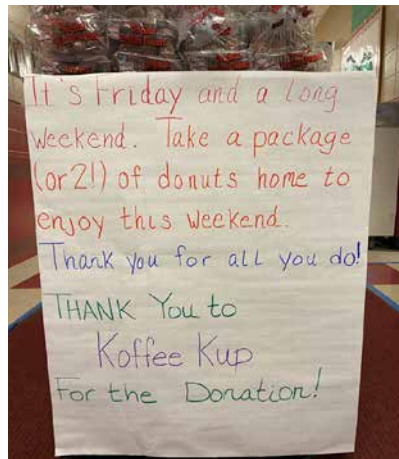
By Sara Raabe, Principal

I have worked at five schools in Vermont, either as a teacher or in administration. Each school has been a different experience for me. I have said it a million times, and I will say it a million more - JFK and WSD by far have the most dedicated staff that I have ever worked with.

At JFK, I am always amazed by the staff's commitment to our students. Each adult in the building makes decisions with the students at the center. I have never heard a staff member make a decision because it was easier for the adult. Instead, I constantly hear staff members making decisions based on the student's needs, even if it means more work for the adults.

As we have moved to 4 days a week of in-person learning, I have again seen that same commitment in all of our staff to our students and families. The adults in our building are dedicated to educating the students in our community, and working their hardest to keep them safe as we move forward together.

Our staff has risen to every challenge presented to them during the pandemic. They have worked tirelessly to support our students in their learning and in their social and emotional



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*We are the future.*

growth. Each individual in the building plays an important role in our organization, and helps to contribute to a climate that is student centered.

As we all know, the COVID-19 pandemic has added extra stress and pressure to everyone's lives. While the effects of the pandemic and the resulting stress have been different for everyone, it has touched all of us as well. Koffee Kup bakery donated over 100 packages of donuts to JFK. On Friday,

November 13th, each staff member got a package (or 2!) of donuts to take home and enjoy over that long weekend. Thank you Koffee Kup! Twincraft also donated over 100 bars of soap to help our staff keep their hands clean during this pandemic. Thank you Twincraft! The support from our community and the surrounding businesses has been amazing, thank you.



# Patience, Love, and Science

By Co-Principals Jean Berthiaume & Kate Grodin

Most students, without our prompting, have maintained the important discipline we need to keep our community safe in a pandemic. It's annoying. It's hard and not fun. We get it. But it really matters. We all want our school to stay open!

In this time of uncertainty, when so much of what we understood and believed about the world, and the way we organized our lives, has been turned upside down, there are a few things we can remember and do to maintain our center and make the best choices for our health and well-being.

First, **listen to the CDC.** COVID-19 is a serious issue. If we do NOT do the right things, it will get worse.

**Maintain Perspective.** While COVID-19 is serious, and thousands will die or lose loved ones, most of us are going to be OK. The steps we need to take to contain and slow the spread of the disease are inconvenient and hard. But social distancing, sheltering in place, and canceled vacations will become part of a shared memory. The restrictive steps we are taking are frustrating and produce anxiety but will not last forever. You are stronger than you realize, more creative and resilient. You got this!

**Exercise.** Social isolation can lead to depression. Disrupted routines, uncertainty, and fear can increase anxiety. Make sure to take time to exercise. We all know that doing so offers physical benefits. However, the most profound effects may be seen from the neck up. Exercise regulates mood, increases our vitality, and reduces anxiety and depression.

**Look for the Good.** We are wired to notice the bad and dangerous. They demand our attention and drown out the myriad of things that are going well. Look for the humanity around you, people taking care of one another. Look for humor.

**Start a New Habit/Learn Something New.** The best time to create a habit is during a time of transition. As we are all adjusting our routines, start a new positive habit, or learn something you've always wanted to do. They can be little things.

These are just a few things you can do, but there are many more. Get outside. Savor the chance to have meals with your family. Never let go of the hope that will keep you going. During this year's holiday season let us remember to appreciate everything you have and not everything you want.



## Middle School Girls Soccer

By Coach Mikayla Kelemen

The middle school girls soccer team had a great season. The coaches and players were flexible with their expectations of a normal season and did what they could to ensure that their love of the sport was a priority.

Players practiced on days that they were in the building for school in their pods. Practicing in these smaller groups allowed for more individualized instruction and support.

On game days, the twenty-two players came together and played as one. Though it was a short season, the players were able to practice foundational skills and get some time on the field.

Looking forward to next year!



## Varsity Boys Soccer

By Coach Stephen E. Feiss

The Varsity Boys' Soccer team finished the season 7-3. We finished 3rd in the Mountain League and made it to the quarter-finals of the State Tournament. It was another successful season full of improvement and fun. We had several players earn high NVAC individual honors this year:

### 1st Team All-Mountain League:

- Hussein Amuri and
- Yusufu Mami

### 2nd Team All-Mountain League:

- Ekyoci Lumambo
- Emmanuel Omar, and
- Sebastian Syharaj

As always we want to thank our fans, the teachers and administrators at WSD, and our families for all their support this year. We hope to see you all next fall for another great season of Spartan soccer.



## Girls Varsity Soccer

By Coach Roger Prescott

The 2020 Lady Spartans had a very satisfying season. Although they recorded just one win, in a 1-8 campaign, two losses came in overtime and another by a goal scored in the final 5 minutes of play. The team also held Division 2 Missisquoi Valley Union scoreless for 70 minutes. Importantly, the 6 seniors blended well with 7 freshman and team morale remained high throughout the season and each game. The good vibe has coaches Roger Prescott and Hector Tamayo optimistic about next season. Award recipients at the recent year end banquet include the “Golden Boot Award” (Penny Ly with 4 goals), “Defensive Players of the Year”, Keeper Kiara Mack (92 saves) and Ruby Ly (sweeper, 1 goal, 1 assist), “Princess Warrior” Alisha Rai “a fierce competitor”, “Rising Stars” (9th graders Jean Heintz for her stellar defense and Passy Matendo for offense 3 goals). Tulasha Pradhan was also recognized for her nifty passing and offensive moves. Special thanks to the seniors who have each contributed greatly to a successful program and will be missed by coaches



and teammates—Anita Pradhan, Dah Ler Moo, Eh Ka Luu, Hiba Laaroussi, Penny Ly and Tulasha Pradhan. We wish them well knowing that each young lady will be successful in whatever they decide to do in the future.



## Air National Guard Career Exploration Day!

Stephanie Hackett, Community Based Learning Coordinator

A helicopter landed at the Winooski School District on Thursday November 12th, to provide opportunities for Winooski middle and high school students to learn about career options in the National Guard.

Students, whilst socially distanced and wearing masks, were in the baseball field to view the take off and landing of the helicopter, and to see the EMT truck roll in.

Once the helicopter landed, pod classes had the chance to safely view it, and then to discuss what it means to be a part of the National Guard. Many students were curious about the different career options that are available, how much training it takes to fly a helicopter, and in what ways the National Guard helps our community.

A huge thank you to Jason Ziter and The National Guard for providing this amazing opportunity!





# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Municipal Update December 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, 9am - 3pm 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 [winooskivt.gov](http://winooskivt.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 [winooskivt.gov](http://winooskivt.gov)

#### 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@winooskivt.gov](mailto:evorwald@winooskivt.gov).

#### Building Permit Application Submission

To the extent possible, applications for building permits, including any supporting documents should be sent via email to [lkeating@winooskivt.gov](mailto:lkeating@winooskivt.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 [winooskivt.gov/covid-19](http://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:

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

Visit the city website at [winooskivt.gov](http://winooskivt.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 @winooskivt



[winooski.vt.gov/remotesources](http://winooski.vt.gov/remotesources)

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 remains in effect. The mandate 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 neighbors,  
I want to take a moment to thank the 3700+ Winooski residents who showed up to vote during the 2020 General Election.

Vermont joined the nation in breaking so many turnout records - I am very proud to see residents doing their civic duty and being engaged! Unofficial election results can be found at [winooski.vt.gov/vote](http://winooski.vt.gov/vote).

All three charter changes passed with strong support, including Article 1, which continues the process of allowing Winooski's non-citizen legal residents to vote in our municipal elections. The next

step in this process requires approval by the State Legislature. For full details on this process, please visit [winooski.vt.gov/charter](http://winooski.vt.gov/charter).

In other big news, Winooski has joined Burlington and South Burlington in a pilot partnership with Vermont Gas Systems (VGS) and the Burlington International Airport to leverage \$4.5 million in federal funds for F-35 sound mitigation. VGS announced that they will be funding the 10% local match required to receive FAA funding and intends to include their home weatherization efforts, combining energy efficiency with noise mitigation – a win-win. The work is intended to begin with a design pilot in 2021 and home improvements in 2022. Learn more at [btvsound.com](http://btvsound.com).

Looking forward, our annual city budget process continues throughout December and January. Councilors recently discussed the very real economic impacts Winooski is feeling from the COVID-19 pandemic and the important city services that continue to be provided. Thus far, our consensus for the FY22 budget is to retain the same level of services we currently offer while keeping any tax rate increase below the cost of living adjustment (just under 2%). We welcome public input as we decide how to move our community vision and priorities forward – how do you want your tax dollars spent? Please visit [winooski.vt.gov/fy22](http://winooski.vt.gov/fy22) for full details, documents, and meeting information.

We hope you join us for these meetings.

Feel free to reach out at any time - Kristine Lott, [klott@winooski.vt.gov](mailto:klott@winooski.vt.gov)

## 2020 General Election – Unofficial Winooski Results



The following unofficial Winooski results only reflect a selection of the total ballot items. To view full unofficial

results, please visit [electionresults.vermont.gov](http://electionresults.vermont.gov).

**Total registered Winooski voters:** 5508  
**Ballots cast in Winooski:** 3734

For US President and Vice President

- Joe Biden, Kamala D. Harris - 3005
- Donald J. Trump, Michael R. Pence - 585

For Representative to Congress

- Peter Welch - 2833
- Miriam Berry - 491

For Governor of Vermont

- Phil Scott - 1947
- David Zuckerman - 1575

For Lieutenant Governor

- Molly Gray - 2303
- Scott Milne - 918

For State Representative

- Hal Colston - 2320
- Taylor Small - 2212
- James Ehlers - 802

ARTICLE I: REVISED CHARTER

(PART 1) Shall the voters of the City of Winooski approve and adopt amendments to the “Charter of the City of Winooski” authorizing all legal residents of the City (including those who are not U.S. citizens) to vote in City and school elections and meetings, to provide certain protections to the voter checklists maintained by the City Clerk, and to make other conforming amendments.

- YES - 2479
- NO - 999

ARTICLE II: REVISED CHARTER

(PART 2) Shall the voters of the City of Winooski approve and adopt amendments to the “Charter of the City of Winooski” to permit voters to adopt Charter amendments that have been approved by the Vermont Legislature for other municipalities.

- YES - 2587
- NO - 724

ARTICLE III: REVISED CHARTER

(PART 3) Shall the voters of the City of Winooski approve and adopt amendments to the “Charter of the City of Winooski” making certain administrative changes to the Charter and described as follows: 1) To conform the Charter to state law requirements for signing petitions (Section 19-205); 2) To remove language referring to volunteer firefighters (Section 19-305); 3) To permit the City Manager to give to the staff person performing human resource functions the title of “Human Resource Director” (Sections 19-506 and 19-603); 4) To amend the provision relating to the tax assessment of commercial properties to conform to current practice (Section 19-717); and 5) To modify the Oath of Office language to eliminate religious references (Section 19-903).

- YES - 2607
- NO - 716

## 2020/2021 Winter Parking Ban Reminder



Winter is here, and overnight street parking is prohibited during winter parking bans in Winooski. To receive up-to-date winter parking ban alerts, text ‘Winooski’ to 888-777 or register at [nixle.com](http://nixle.com).

Overnight street parking is prohibited in Downtown Winooski from 2:30am to 6am (December 1st to March 31st). For the rest of the City, winter parking bans are made on a case-by-case, weather-dependent basis or for area-specific snow removal where overnight street parking is prohibited from 11pm to 7am.

- When issued, bans may last more than one evening and are in effect until further notice
- The City of Winooski reserves the right to tow vehicles at the owner’s expense
- Landline users must retrieve their updates by calling the dedicated parking ban line at 802 655 3908
- Winter parking ban signs (East Allen St. near the Exit 15 off-ramp and entering Winooski via the Burlington/Winooski Bridge) will flash when a winter parking ban is in effect
- Overnight parking in the Winooski Parking Garage on Cascade Way is available for \$2 (pay at the kiosk or by the ParkMobile app) from 6pm to 7am

If you have questions regarding winter parking bans, please call 802 655 6410. If your vehicle has been towed, please contact Elite Auto and Truck Service and Sales: 802 497 0176 Visit our parking page at any time: [winooski.vt.gov/parking](http://winooski.vt.gov/parking).

## Reminders from the City Clerk’s Office

### New After Hours Drop Box

The City Clerk’s Office has installed a new, after hours drop box! Need to get us a document, payment, or other information after we close? Simply use the drop box built into the wall of the City



Clerk's Office, just outside and to the left of the main entrance of Winooski City Hall.

Regular hours are M-F, 9 am-3 pm.

### **Important Dates:**

Virtual City Council Meetings:

- December 7, December 14
- City Hall Closed:
- December 24 (1/2 day) – Christmas Eve
- December 25 – Christmas Day
- December 31 (1/2 day) – New Year's Eve
- January 1 – New Year's Day

## **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 [winooskivt.gov/thrive](http://winooskivt.gov/thrive) to learn more and enroll!

### **Winooski Memorial Library**



#### Curbside Pickup Hours Expanded

We're pleased to announce that our curbside pickup hours have expanded! Email or call us with your reading requests and stop by the library anytime Monday - Friday, 10am - 4pm to grab and go: 802 655 6424 / [winooskilibrary@winooskivt.gov](mailto:winooskilibrary@winooskivt.gov).

### New Wireless Access Point

Looking for WiFi that's free and open to the public? We've got you covered! With support from the Vermont Department of Public Service, the Winooski Memorial Library has just recently installed a commercial-grade outdoor Wireless Access Point that allows anyone with a WiFi enabled device free and open access to the internet. Sign-in to our network "Winooski Hotspot" and while there, don't forget to check out the Library's digital holdings for Ebooks, audiobooks, or to learn something new from Mango Languages and Universal Class.

Virtual Academic & Career Support is here to help you with your challenging assignments for class and life. Are you stuck on an assignment? Trying to write an essay for your college applications? Applying for a job? We've got the support you need - experienced community volunteers and tutors from the University of Vermont's Education Program will personally help you with your academic and professional development. This program is supported by the VT Agency of Education 21st Century Learning Center Grant in partnership with the Winooski School District.

Now featuring special breakout sessions - give your brain a break and enjoy one of our special activities!

- **Pictionary** / Tuesdays / 3 - 4:30pm - Play a round of Pictionary with us. In this quick-draw classic, the guesses can be just as hilarious as the sketches. You only need your imagination.
- **Karaoke** / Wednesdays / 3 - 4:30pm - Sing your favorite songs karaoke-style with your friends.

Learn more at [winooskivt.gov/library](http://winooskivt.gov/library).

To sign up, please call or email Josh Neilson, Youth Services Coordinator: 802 655 6424 / [jneilson@winooskivt.gov](mailto:jneilson@winooskivt.gov)

### Volunteer Library Clerks Needed!

The Winooski Memorial Library is looking for Library Clerk volunteers. The role is flexible in terms of tasks and will be made to fit the volunteer's interests and strengths. Love to organize? Help with re-shelving! Love to keep your hands busy? We need help with a range of processing projects! The Library Clerk will work with a staff member to help keep the library organized and running smoothly.

The Winooski Memorial Library is committed to engaging with and increasing access for everyone in our community. Volunteers with skills and experience that can support engagement and access to library services for all, including volunteers with experience in new American or immigrant communities (or working with those who speak English as a second language) are encouraged to apply. In addition, bilingual and multilingual volunteers are encouraged to apply.

We currently have an immediate need for volunteers on Saturdays, 10am - 2pm, and Mondays, anytime between 10am - 1pm, but will welcome any and all availability!

Learn more and apply at [winooskivt.gov/volunteer](http://winooskivt.gov/volunteer).

### Yard Tools Now Available

Ready to rake up those fallen leaves? Need to turn the garden soil one more time before winter? Call, email, or visit our online catalog to request access to our collection of yard tools! Our community shed includes rakes, hoes, garden and snow shovels, pitchforks, and pruners

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

Learn more and apply for any of our volunteer opportunities at [winooskivt.gov/library](http://winooskivt.gov/library).

### 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.

Time Commitment: 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 Volunteer

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. There are two ways you can volunteer:

1. Meals on Wheels Driver: Meals on Wheels are delivered every weekday, Monday through Friday from 9:30 – 11am. You will need access to your own vehicle. We currently have a need for drivers on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays.
2. Meals on Wheels Packers/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 8:30 - 9:30am. No vehicle needed.

## 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.



## Truth and Reconciliation Commission

By Representative Hal Colston,  
Chittenden 6-7

Many years ago, Archbishop Desmond Tutu led an historic effort to create the first Truth and Reconciliation Commission in the wake of the dismantling of apartheid in South Africa. Up to the dissolution of apartheid many lives of South Africans were destroyed and lost. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission was put into place to capture the many stories of pain, hurt and loss in order to begin the healing process of broken relationships.

As your State Representative I will be introducing a bill in the 2021 Biennium for Vermont to stand up its own Truth and Reconciliation Commission to understand the harm that systemic racism creates for all Vermonters. I believe this structure is necessary if we want to heal from the wounds of racism. Reconciliation leads to forgiveness that leads to healing that leads to the renewal of broken relationships between people who identify as White and Black and Indigenous People of Color.

This movement is growing around the country in various cities and state as well as the State of Maine through the legislative process. I am imagining that our state would take on this work in partnership with several statewide organizations that have a focus on achieving racial and social justice. I will pursue this strategy because these organizations have the ability to secure foundation grants to fund the process.

Why am I pursuing a Truth and Reconciliation Commission process? I believe as a state if we are to dismantle systemic racism, put in place reparations for BIPOC, or enact racial justice laws, we must come from a common place of reconciliation, healing and understanding. I truly believe that ALL of us are harmed and impacted by systemic racism. The time for a Vermont Truth and Reconciliation Commission has come.

## Howard Center Corner

### Celebrating Sober

By Adam C. Brooks, Assistant Director  
of Communications

We send our good wishes to all for their seasonal celebrations and offer resources to help our communities celebrate sober. If you or a loved one need support, Howard Center's main number is 802-488-6000 or our 24/7 First Call for Chittenden County crisis line is available at 802-488-7777. Help is here 24 hours a day, every day.

#### Tips for Celebrating Sober:

- Plan Ahead: Identify potentially stressful situations ahead of time. Recognize that even some happy situations may cause someone to overindulge.
- Plan activities that don't involve alcohol or drugs: Choose to spend time with friends who want to celebrate substance-free.
- Take care of yourself: Be sure to get enough sleep, eat well, and exercise. Plan an exit strategy: Understand your transportation options and know where you're staying, so if someone offers you a drink and asks why you're refusing, you can exit gracefully.
- Find a supportive crew: It's important to have people who know your story, and to know that you can talk to them if things get tough.

Visit our website at <https://howardcenter.org/celebrate-sober/> for a list of resources, including videos and articles about substance use; and a listing of local, state, and national resources.

### Time to Connect

By Martina Kerkerer, Howard Center

Dear families, caregivers, and kids! Please join me for some much needed time to connect. Whether you would like to do a little yoga, read a story, or just enjoy a little chat. I offer family support every Tuesday from 11am-12pm via Zoom. Use the following login-information to connect with me: Meeting ID: 995 8367 9898 • PW: 162 291

If that time does not work, feel free to send an email or a text message to Martina: [mkerkerer@howardcenter.org](mailto:mkerkerer@howardcenter.org) or (802) 324 6405.





# 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 want to stay connected with you! Seniors and older Vermonters can call our dedicated support line: Tuesdays and Thursdays: 10am-2pm / 802 655 6425 / Voicemail 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.

## Pen Pal Program with Winooski Youth

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 802 863 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 daily from 8:30 – 10am. Interested? Visit [winooskivt.gov/volunteer](http://winooskivt.gov/volunteer) to learn more or call 802 655 1392.



## 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)!

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

United Way United Way of Northwest Vermont

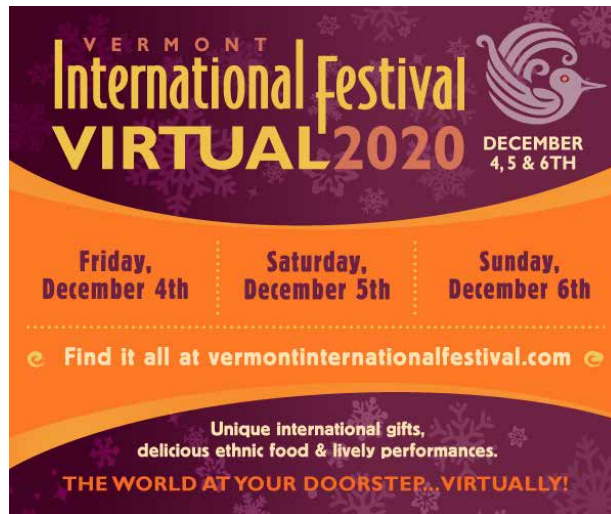
# Virtual Vermont International Festival

By Sharon Radtke

## December 4-6 • At a computer near you

For 27 years, the Vermont International Festival has entertained and educated Vermonters about people from other cultures living in Vermont, by providing three days of international music, dance, crafts and cuisine at the Champlain Valley Fair and Expo in Essex Junction. This year, the Vermont International Festival will be going mostly virtual. Music and dance performances will be premiered online throughout the weekend of December 4-6. The performances will include a variety of genres popular around the world from traditional to contemporary.

Stories about featured performers will be included throughout the performance schedule, and viewers will be amazed by the variety and quality of international artists living in Vermont. Craft vendors will participate in a special online Vermont International Festival Marketplace, beginning in mid-November and extending through the Festival weekend and the remainder of the holiday season. The one LIVE component of this year's



festival will be International Cuisine. All you need to do is pre-order online and then show up at your assigned time on Festival weekend at the O'Brien Center in Winooski to receive your delicious meals, appetizers, and/or desserts.

For more details about all aspects of the Vermont International Festival, go to [vermontinternationalfestival.com](http://vermontinternationalfestival.com).

## Winooski's "Everybody Eats" at North End Studios O'Brien Community Center

A meal distribution program has been organized by the Intervale Center and Winooski Mutual Aid to be held at North End Studios O'Brien Community Center, every Thursday beginning in November through mid-December. Meals can be picked up at the North End Studios O'Brien Center located at 32 Malletts Bay Avenue on Thursday afternoons from 4:00 to 6:00 through December 12th. To sign up, go to [hillary.gombar@gmail.com](mailto:hillary.gombar@gmail.com). Meals are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis, so make sure to come early.

## Why Should We Talk To Young People About Our Own Substance Use?

By Jane Henderson, She/Her, Grants Manager, Winooski Partnership for Prevention

Caretakers and parents have a significant impact on whether or not their child will decide to experiment with alcohol and other drugs. Although it might not feel like it sometimes, young people are listening and watching the ways that adults speak and interact with different substances. Wondering what age is best to start the conversation? SAMHSA's "Talk. They Hear You" caretaker resources indicate that it is never too early to start (in Chittenden County, 9% of students have tried alcohol before age 13 and by age 15 it jumps to 52% according to our county's Youth Risk Behavior Survey). Speak to your kids directly and honestly and they are more likely to respect your rules and advice about alcohol and drug use.

We hit Main Street in October for Winooski Clean-Up, here's what we found...

In October we decided to take a look at what items are most often littered along the pathway to the Winooski School District. Starting at Normand Street and Main Street - and looping down to Burling Street - far and away the most common piece of litter was cigarette butts.

Cigarette butts are more than just an eyesore for Winooski's youth, "Cigarette filters are made of a plastic called cellulose



WSD Student (and WPP Board of Trustees Member), Lukas Zweres and UVM student (and WPP intern), Lily Deware

acetate. When tossed into the environment, they dump not only that plastic, but also the nicotine, heavy metals, and many other chemicals they've absorbed into the surrounding environment" (National Geographic). The short of it? Cigarettes are bad for the human body and bad for the environment - especially the Winooski River.

Interested in joining us for our next Winooski Clean-Up Day? We'll be starting the cleaning up at the O'Brien Community Center and heading towards Main Street on Tuesday, December 15th.

## Free Meal for Winooski Residents

Sign-up for a free meal on Wednesday, December 9th! We've teamed up Sherpa Foods (<https://sherpafoodsusa.com/>) - a gift of traditional Nepalese delicacy from a Himalayan state to The Green Mountain State - to do take-out from 4-6PM (up to 50 meals). To reserve a meal, email [jhenderson@winooskiprevention.org](mailto:jhenderson@winooskiprevention.org) with how many servings you need (up to 4 per family) or call and leave a message on the WPP office voicemail, 802-655-4565. Participants will be asked to fill out a short survey prior to, or at the time, of pick-up.



# Winooski Food Shelf Schedule for December

By Linda Howe, Winooski Food Shelf Coordinator

<b>Wednesday, December 2nd</b>	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Pantry staples, meat and eggs
<b>Saturday, December 5th</b>	9:30 am to 11:00 am	Fresh fruit, veggies, bread and deli items
<b>Wednesday, December 9th</b>	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Pantry staples, meat and eggs
<b>Saturday, December 19th</b>	9:30 am to 11:00 am	Fresh fruit, veggies, bread and deli items

The Holidays are keeping the food shelf volunteers very busy! Clients will pickup the fixings for a Holiday meal when they pickup their Pantry box on Wednesday, December 2nd or Wednesday, December 9th (we are not handing out holiday meal fixings on a special day like we used to).

**We are most grateful for donations of food. However, we may not handout food that has an expired expiration date and must throw out packages that have been opened or are outdated.**

**We could use your help supplying Holiday fixings:** packaged store bought cookies, small (half) hams, whole chickens, a few small turkeys, canned peas, canned green beans, cream of mushroom soup, packets of instant mashed potatoes, white rice and canned gravy or gravy packets. The non perishable items can be dropped off at either Commodities Natural Market on Winooski Falls Way or at J & J's Corner Market on Malletts Bay Avenue..

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.

### Volunteers needed:

If you have some free time and would like to do some pickups and deliveries, pack food boxes, set up for food shelves or serve our clients, please reach out to us at our e-mail address: [winooskifoodshelf@gmail.com](mailto:winooskifoodshelf@gmail.com). We have a great group of volunteers but always need more. We especially need help serving clients on Wednesdays. Volunteers should be able to lift 25 pounds.

**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 website: [winooskifoodshelf.org](http://winooskifoodshelf.org) 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!

**YOUR LOCAL MEDIA**

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

Learn how to make community media.

- VERMONTCAM.ORG + Channels 1074 (Comcast), 15 (BT), HD 215 (BT)
- RETN.ORG + Channels 1094 (Comcast), 16 (BT), BTV-HD 218 (BT)
- CH17.TV + Channels 1087 (Comcast), 17 (BT), 317 (BT)

Logos for MEDIA FACTORY, VCA, RETN, and TOWN MEETING TV.

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**COVID SUPPORT VT**

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



### Greetings from the WSD Health Office Team!

By Katharine Monje, School Nurse

Winter is upon us Get your flu shot!

Free flu shots are available at Winooski Schools for all students on the following dates:

- 12/1
- 12/3
- 12/8
- 12/10
- 12/15
- 12/17

If you are interested, please call the health office at 802 383 6094 to register.

#### Holiday Planning:

In Vermont, we are strongly encouraged to keep family gatherings to no more than 10 people from only 1 or 2 families and to NOT to travel outside of the state. If you decide to travel outside of Vermont, you will be required to quarantine at home upon your return.

#### Quarantine means:

- No work
- No school
- Stay home

- No errands (groceries, banking, visiting friends)
- Wear a mask
- Wash your hands
- Keep physical distance
- Disinfect surfaces

You can quarantine for a full 14 days or call your doctor for a COVID test on day 7. Once you complete the 14 day OR have a negative COVID test result you may return to work, school and errands.

2020 has been a very challenging year around the globe. We wish you peace and solace as this year comes to a close.

—Katharine, Liz, Leanne and Julie

## Keep Vermont Safe Over the Holidays

While the Health Department does not recommend travel during the holidays, we understand that many of us are missing family at this time. **Consider the following when traveling out of state:**



**CHECK** the **MAP** to find the risk of COVID-19 infection. Does your destination require a negative test result?



**DECIDE** if the **risk** is worth it for your family.



**PLAN** to have a safe trip if you decide to go. Get a **flu shot**, remain flexible in case somebody is sick at the time of travel and schedule time away from work or school to quarantine when you return.

**QUARANTINE** in Vermont means staying home for 14 days or 7 days followed by a negative test. You may go outside to exercise or be in private outdoor space.

We are counting on you to keep yourself, your family, and other Vermonters safe. For prevention tips, please go to our website [www.healthvermont.gov/covid19-prevention](http://www.healthvermont.gov/covid19-prevention).



## Healthy Mouth, Healthy Body

By Tracy Towers RDH, CDHC

We've got something to smile about!! We have resumed our SSTA transportation to Dental appointments at Vermont Dental Care through our School Linked Dental Program. So far, we are only transporting students in grades K-4 who are already participating in the program. I know that since March, many dental appointments have been cancelled due to COVID-19. The good news is that dental offices are OPEN, and are busy trying to reschedule cancelled appointments. If your child is a patient at Vermont Dental Care, please call the office directly to schedule an appointment. Please keep in mind that you may be scheduled a few weeks out. I have been busy updating our students' dental records, working from home. If I have reached out to you by phone or email, please respond as soon possible with the requested information. Please let me know if I can help in any way in setting up appointments to ensure our students have ongoing dental care.

Keep Smiling :)







# Winooski Elementary School Breakfast

## December 2020



Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1 <b>WG Croissant</b> Grape Jelly Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>WG Asst. Cereal</b> Graham Crackers Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety	2 Remote- See Side Panel	3 <b>Breakfast Round</b> Fresh Grapes Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>WG Asst. Cereal</b> Graham Crackers Fresh Grapes Milk Variety	4 <b>WG Iced Honey Bun</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>WG Asst. Cereal</b> Graham Crackers Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety
7 <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Fresh Apple Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>WG Asst. Cereal</b> Graham Crackers Fresh Apple Milk Variety	8 <b>WG Croissant</b> Grape Jelly Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>WG Asst. Cereal</b> Graham Crackers Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety	9 Remote- See Side Panel	10 <b>Breakfast Round</b> Fresh Grapes Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>WG Asst. Cereal</b> Graham Crackers Fresh Grapes Milk Variety	11 <b>WG Iced Honey Bun</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>WG Asst. Cereal</b> Graham Crackers Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety
14 <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Fresh Apple Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>WG Asst. Cereal</b> Graham Crackers Fresh Apple Milk Variety	15 <b>WG Croissant</b> Grape Jelly Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>WG Asst. Cereal</b> Graham Crackers Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety	16 Remote- See Side Panel	17 <b>Breakfast Round</b> Fresh Grapes Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>WG Asst. Cereal</b> Graham Crackers Fresh Grapes Milk Variety	18 <b>WG Iced Honey Bun</b> Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>WG Asst. Cereal</b> Graham Crackers Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety
21 <b>Whole Grain Bagel</b> Cream Cheese Fresh Apple Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>WG Asst. Cereal</b> Graham Crackers Fresh Apple Milk Variety	22 <b>WG Croissant</b> Grape Jelly Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety <b>OR</b> <b>WG Asst. Cereal</b> Graham Crackers Assorted 100% Juice Milk Variety	23 	24 	25 
28 	29 	30 	31 	

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## 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:

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

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

Milk is Optional

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



# Winooski JFK Elementary School Lunch

## December 2020

Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1 <b>Turkey Nachos Supreme</b> Rice Pilaf ✓ Garden Salsa ✓ Steamed Corn <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Fresh Celery Sticks Fresh Apple Wedges <b>OR</b> <b>Sunbutter &amp; Jelly Sandwich</b> ✓ Fresh Celery Sticks Fresh Apple Wedges	2 Remote- See Side Panel	3 <b>Chicken Teriyaki</b> Rice Pilaf Garlic Roasted Butternut Squash Pear Slices <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Glazed Carrots Fresh Pineapple <b>OR</b> <b>Sunbutter &amp; Jelly Sandwich</b> ✓ Glazed Carrots Fresh Pineapple	4 <b>Macaroni and Cheese</b> Dinner Roll ✓ Steamed Broccoli <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Broccoli Salad Pear Slices <b>OR</b> <b>Sunbutter &amp; Jelly Sandwich</b> ✓ Broccoli Salad Pear Slices
7 <b>Cape Cod Fish &amp; Chips</b> ✓ Hand Cut French Fries ✓ Creamy Coleslaw Rice Pilaf <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Creamy Coleslaw Fresh Apple Wedges <b>OR</b> <b>Sunbutter &amp; Jelly Sandwich</b> ✓ Creamy Coleslaw Fresh Apple Wedges	8 <b>Homemade Cheese Pizza Wedge</b> ✓ Caesar Salad Pear Slices <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Caesar Salad Pear Slices <b>OR</b> <b>Sunbutter &amp; Jelly Sandwich</b> ✓ Caesar Salad Pear Slices	9 Remote- See Side Panel	10 <b>Cheeseburger</b> ✓ Oven Crisp Tater Tots ✓ Caesar Salad <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Caesar Salad Fresh Apple Wedges <b>OR</b> <b>Sunbutter &amp; Jelly Sandwich</b> ✓ Caesar Salad Fresh Apple Wedges	11 <b>Chicken Fajita w/ Sauteed Onions &amp; Peppers</b> Dinner Roll Cabot Sour Cream Sliced Peaches ✓ Garden Salsa <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Fresh Green Pepper Strips Sliced Peaches <b>OR</b> <b>Sunbutter &amp; Jelly Sandwich</b> ✓ Fresh Green Pepper Strips Sliced Peaches
14 <b>French Toast Sticks</b> Turkey Sausage Patty ✓ Mini Hash Browns Pear Slices <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Fresh Carrot Sticks Fresh Blueberries <b>OR</b> <b>Sunbutter &amp; Jelly Sandwich</b> ✓ Fresh Carrot Sticks Fresh Blueberries	15 <b>Chicken Parm Sandwich</b> Homemade Lemon Broccoli <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Broccoli Salad Pear Slices <b>OR</b> <b>Sunbutter &amp; Jelly Sandwich</b> ✓ Broccoli Salad Pear Slices	16 Remote- See Side Panel	17 <b>Oven Baked Herbed Chicken</b> Homemade Dinner Roll ✓ Chg's Mashed Potato Sautéed Squash <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> Veggie Sticks Sliced Peaches <b>OR</b> <b>Sunbutter &amp; Jelly Sandwich</b> Veggie Sticks Sliced Peaches <b>Holiday Dessert!</b>	18 <b>Corn Dog</b> ✓ Roasted Sweet Potato Wedges ✓ Steamed Green Peas Fresh Apple <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> Veggie Sticks Fresh Apple <b>OR</b> <b>Sunbutter &amp; Jelly Sandwich</b> Veggie Sticks Fresh Apple
21 <b>Homemade Beef Goulash</b> ✓ Garlic Breadstick ✓ Steamed Carrots Chilled Applesauce <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> ✓ Glazed Carrots Chilled Applesauce <b>Sunbutter &amp; Jelly Sandwich</b> ✓ Glazed Carrots Chilled Applesauce	22 <b>Dress Your Own Hot Dog</b> ✓ Hand Cut French Fries Fresh Pineapple <b>OR</b> <b>Deli Turkey Sandwich</b> Veggie Sticks Fresh Pineapple <b>OR</b> <b>Sunbutter &amp; Jelly Sandwich</b> Veggie Sticks Fresh Pineapple	23 	24 	25 
28 	29 	30 	31 	<b>Harvest of the Month:</b> <b>Winter Squash</b>  Click Winter Squash Image to get fun Harvest of the Month information on Winter Squash

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## Meals Are Free To All Students

Adult Breakfast \$1.85  
Adult Lunch \$3.85  
Milk \$0.75

Please Click Links Below for Nutrition Information on Daily Options

Remote Lunch Offerings:

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

Offered Daily: Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich, Yogurt Parfait  
Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit, Skim White Milk, 1% White Milk & Fat Free Chocolate Milk

Milk Condiments

Fresh, Dried Or Canned Fruit

Pay for meals on-line. Click Image Below



Click Image Below for employment opportunities





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*We are the future.*

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**Newsletter of the Winooski School District**

60 Normand Street  
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WINOOSKI, VT 05404



“Americans get big things done during times of intense national division and economic strife, and Winooski is an embodiment of that spirit.”  
*Congressman Peter Welch*



**The Winooski School District (WSD) held a groundbreaking ceremony on Thursday, October 29th at 4pm at the district construction site in honor of the Capital Project.**