



WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS!

ALSO INCLUDES 11 PAGES OF **Community News!**
STARTING ON PAGE 12

APRIL 2021

Celebrating Our Achievements!

Gratitude and Community

By Sr. Pat McKittrick

What is gratitude? According to the dictionary, it is the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for, and to return kindness.

It seems that 2020 and the beginning of 2021 have been filled with challenges for everyone. Are there opportunities or blessings to be found within these same challenges? I believe there are. As I look back over the past year, I am aware of the difficulties that the pandemic brought for everyone. Hard to believe a year ago we were desperate to find toilet paper and hand sanitizer. We were isolated and missing our families, friends, co-workers.

What have I seen and what am I grateful for?

As time went on, I saw people pulling together to help each other. A new group started in Winooski, neighbors helping neighbors. Their motto is "Solidarity Not Charity, Zero-Barriers and No Questions Asked." Find out more about this amazing group of volunteers. Everyone has gifts. What is your gift? How do you contribute to the community? On the other hand, do you have unmet needs? Learn more about

WMA (Winooski Mutual Aid) <https://www.winooskimutualaid.org/> Look for them on Facebook/Instagram.

Many studies show that gratitude affects our lives. It is not a one-and-done activity. It is a regular practice. How can we nurture gratitude in our lives? As I searched the Internet, I found simple ways to help us practice gratitude:

- **Start a gratitude journal.** Jot down three things you're grateful for each day.
- **Take a gratitude break** at work or school. Name people that you are grateful for and why. Just a few minutes will brighten someone's day and will make you feel better.
- **Volunteer** in your community, in or out of school.

- **Write little "Thank You Notes".** Everyone needs to feel appreciated.
- **Buy local.** Let our local businesses know how much you appreciate them. We have such a variety in Winooski – Flowers, Restaurants, diverse markets and so much more.
- **Let those who serve us regularly know we appreciate them.** People who often work behind the scenes: Library, Firemen, Police, Crossing guards, etc.
Mostly, I am grateful for a diverse and active community. Looking forward to a time when we can re-connect, have coffee hours and community suppers and share our stories.
Stay strong, healthy and safe, Winooski!

Spring Assessments Are Expected

By Jean Berthiaume & Kate Grodin, Co-Principals

Schools across Vermont have been informed that the federal requirements for SY21 summative assessment administration have not changed, although there has been flexibility granted for accountability purposes. Here in Vermont, we use the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) to assess in the areas of English Language Arts and Math for all students in grades 3-8 and in grade 9.

If flexibility related to testing administration is not granted by the US Department of Education, students enrolled in a public school and/or funded through public funding will be required to participate in statewide summative assessments, as per usual. All statewide summative assessments will be administered in person. It is the school's responsibility to provide valid and appropriate opportunities for their enrolled students to be assessed.

All remote learners will be participating in SBAC testing. Fully remote students receiving instruction through schools' virtual academies are required to test in person at their school. Virtual academies will need to coordinate and communicate schedule adjustments that will allow remote students to attend the scheduled test administration at the school, as well as access the practice test in advance of the testing date.

SBAC will provide our school with important information that will inform our efforts to focus on a learning recovery plan for our students. You will read more about our school's learning recovery planning next month.

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School Board Update

By Steven Berbeco, Board of School Trustees

The snowy winter is finally melting into springtime, with warmer breezes and the slow change of snow into... mud, at least in our yard! It is a good time to reflect on how far we have come as a community that strongly supports its schools. I would like to thank you, neighbors in Winooski, for your belief in our students, their teachers, and the schools' staff and administration by passing this year's school budget. The past twelve months have challenged all of us financially as well as socially. I feel humbled as a school board trustee, and encouraged as your neighbor, that the school budget passed by such a large margin despite these difficult times. Thank you!

Town Meeting Day also saw the election of three school board trustees: Kamal Dahal, Alex Yin, and myself. Although we each ran unopposed for our seats, I see that the sheer number of votes in favor of all of us is a testament to the faith and trust that our community has for us. I also read it as a clear mandate from Winooski to continue to pursue our Ends Statement: "All students will graduate from the Winooski School



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
We are the future.

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."

I would also like to let you know about recent activity that may significantly impact our schools — positively! School board trustees, and Alex Yin in particular, have been supporting the implementation of a recently completed Equalized Pupil Weighting study. This state-wide effort, aimed primarily at Vermont's legislature, would change the way that education funds are allocated to schools so that districts like Winooski would likely receive more funding based on the property taxes that we already pay. Communities like us would get a bigger piece of the education funding pie to support our students, many of whom need additional services as English language learners. Please consider

showing your support for Senate Bill 13 by contacting the representatives that we elected: Senator Philip Baruth, Senator Thomas Chittenden, Senator Ginny Lyons, Senator Christopher Pearson, Senator Keshia Ram, Senator Michael Sirotkin, Representative Hal Colston, and Representative Taylor Small.

Again, thank you for your continued support of our schools. Your voice is important! The school board encourages our neighbors to participate in its meetings and we believe that public participation is very important to the successful functioning of the schools. We want to carry out our business with the benefit of public input and expertise, and also want to keep the public informed and up-to-date on what is happening in the community's schools. Our next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 14, at 6:30pm. Keep an eye on the school website for a link to join the meeting. Hope to see you there!

WINOOSKI PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.wsdvt.org

Superintendent of Schools

Sean McMannon: 655-0485
smcmannon@wsdvt.org

John F. Kennedy Elementary School

Principal: Sara Raabe
802-655-0411
sraabe@wsdvt.org

Winooski Middle and High School

Co-Principals:
Kate Grodin and Jean Berthiaume
802-655-3530
kgrodin@wsdvt.org
jberthiaume@wsdvt.org

Board of School Trustees

Tori Cleiland, *President*, 802-655-7678
tcleiland@wsdvt.org
Steven Berbeco, 858-376-7269
sberbeco@wsdvt.org
Kamal Dahal, 802-503-7195
kdahal@wsdvt.org
Mike Decarreau, 802-310-4032
mdecarreau@wsdvt.org
Dr. Alex Yin, 516-423-9601
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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New Gym Transformed into Classroom Space and Middle School Tour

By Emily Hecker, WSD Communications Director

The nearly completed gymnasium will serve as a temporary home to eight classrooms, and a few office spaces, which will be used as renovations begin on their current locations in the building.

To see how the new gym looks with eight classrooms inside watch this video: bit.ly/NewGymClassrooms

The middle school wing is nearly complete. To get an inside look at the construction process, watch this video: bit.ly/MSTourMarch



Students Build 3D Models of New Learning Space

By Emily Hecker, WSD Communications Director



Middle school students in Nancy Keller's class are building scale models of either the new gym or cafeteria. The emerging mathematicians are using the construction

project, taking place right outside their classroom, to learn about surface area and nets of polyhedra.

Students also connect the amount of surface area to the total cost of a building. Nancy said that her students have started to reason that the purpose of a building has a lot to do with the cost, and suggested that a cafeteria might be more expensive given all of the equipment.

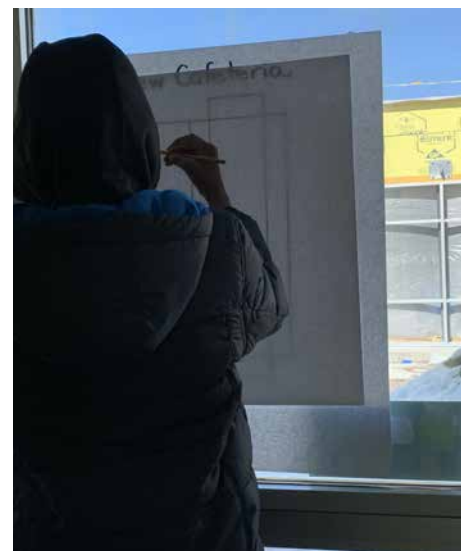
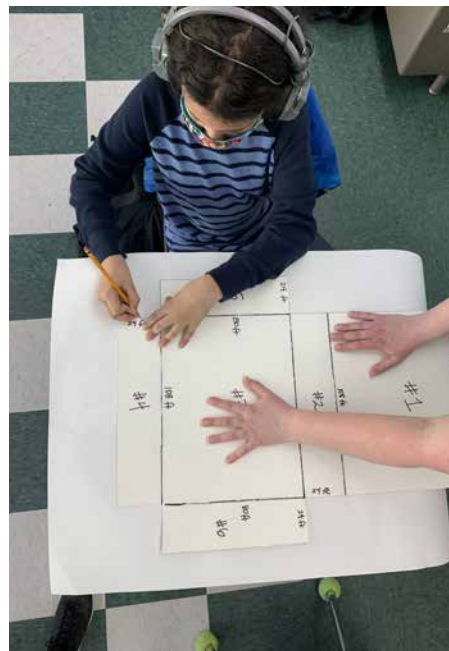
"There is plenty for us to notice and wonder about the building project, as well as apply our 3-D geometry skills."

ReArch Assistant Project Manager, Danylo O'Hara Whalen, helped support the students' project. Danylo said he really liked Nancy's plan for working with students to develop models of the construction project, as it was an opportunity to share some of the practical application of basic mathematics and expand on the model building activities. "My goal was to provide all of the information necessary for the calculation of area, volume,

ceiling heights, and a framework through which the students could expand on their existing knowledge and lessons."

On a personal level, he was excited because it was a great opportunity to see the Capital Project through the lens of Nancy's lesson planning and her students.

Due to the long-term building process, which won't be done until summer of 2022, there will be additional opportunities for students to learn from certain components of the project as they align with existing lesson plans, such as this super creative activity with Nancy's middle school students.



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE IN THE WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Winooski Restorative Justice for Multicultural Youth Project, launched in 2020, is a collaboration between the Winooski School District, Spectrum Youth and Family Services, UP for Learning, and the City of Winooski with funding from the Vermont Department of Children and Families and an anonymous donor. This monthly column will highlight the Restorative Justice work happening across the district among different groups. For more information please scan the QR code to visit our website.



Restorative Justice Prior to the Spectrum Grant

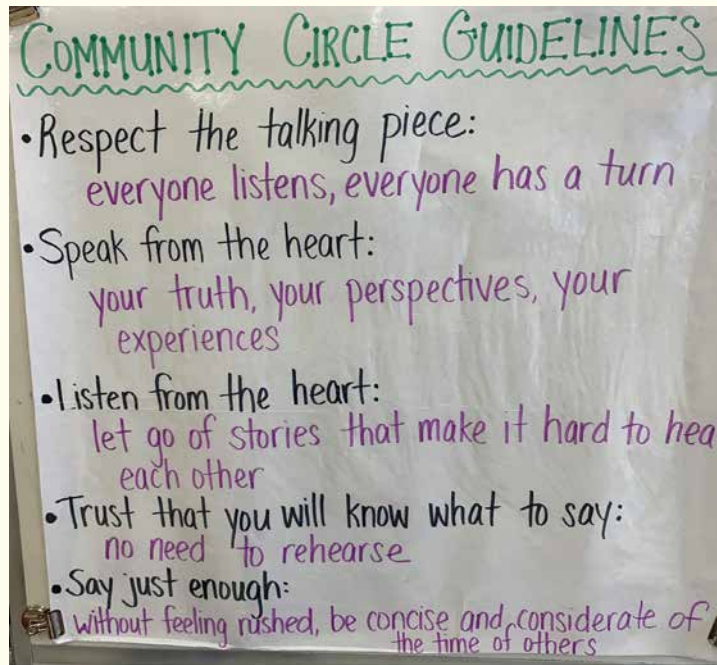
By Kayla Loving

Prior to Spectrum Youth & Family Services involvement with restorative justice in Winooski, there were members of the WSD community that had already made steps to bring restorative justice practices to Winooski. Lindsey Cox, Heather Win, and Kari Bohlen learned about restorative justice in different ways, but all of them saw the value in it and used their positions to bring it to Winooski students.

In 2013, Lindsey Cox was able to visit different schools around New England along with WSD and Burlington School District representatives to learn about encouraging youth voices and family participation. A school in Brooklyn stood out for her. It was a 6-12 school with restorative justice as its foundation. Circles were an everyday experience for students. There were two full-time positions within the school that were focused on restorative practices within the school. When visitors asked how the school would respond if two students got into a fight, the school representatives looked confused and said that that would never happen there. It was clear to Lindsey that there had been an impactful cultural shift.

Heather Win became interested in restorative justice during the movement led by the Winooski Students for Antiracism (WSA). As she began looking more into WSA's demands and learning about restorative justice, she realized that the school she was working at in New York City from 2007-2012 was very much rooted in restorative justice even though they never used the phrase "restorative justice". At that school, students participated in circles weekly while parents and staff participated in circles monthly. At the school, it never felt like there was a problem that couldn't be solved. There was an outlet for processing feelings and everyone "knew each other really well as humans," not just someone filling a role.

In 2013, Kari Bohlen was a fifth grade teacher at a school



in San Francisco. She attended a multiple-day professional development training on restorative justice as a universal framework for the school. There was a restorative coach at her school who co-facilitated circles with her as she learned how to bring the practices into her classroom. Circles were used to build community and when conflict occurred, there were a series of questions to refer to. Kari explained, "I appreciated that it reinforced the necessity and importance of community, relationships, and trust. It shifted the framework of teachers as authority to everyone as

members of a community." It helped members of the school to see that everyone - school staff and students - can cause harm and healing. This motivated Kari to reflect more on her own actions. She took ownership of them and sought feedback from her students to create a space that served everyone there.

Lindsey was able to use the knowledge she gained from the site visits to inform how she might be able to bring a restorative justice culture to Winooski. In 2017, she received the Rowland Fellowship and began looking at ways students could be better supported. The fellowship supported Lindsey in creating the advisory program. She worked with Vermont-based restorative justice practitioner, Jon Kidde, to incorporate restorative practices into the advisory program. High School advisory teachers learned about the circle process in workshops. Lindsey provided the scripts and many students were exposed to circles through their advisory. Students were even given the opportunity to be circle keepers through their role as advisory rep. Lindsey had plans for moving restorative justice forward within the school, but many of the plans were interrupted by the pandemic.

During the 2019-2020 school year, Heather served as the Middle School Advisory Coordinator. She included circles as an option in the curriculum she provided for advisory



teachers. Heather facilitated circles for her advisory students once a month. Many of the middle school staff weren't ready to facilitate circles yet because they hadn't received the training, though their work with Developmental Designs "Circles of Power and Respect" had some important commonalities to build upon. During the summer of 2020, Heather participated in a book group set up by Graham Clarke where a group of WSD staff members read *Restorative Justice in Education* by Dorothy Vaandering and Katherine Evans. This year, Heather is one of the members of the Youth-Adult Restorative Justice team. She appreciates that it "gave students the time and language and importance to talk about safety and belonging".

When Kari began teaching in Winooski, she brought the knowledge she learned in San Francisco to Winooski. As a 3rd grade reading teacher, Kari has included community circles as a regular practice with her students. It took some time, but she was even able to adapt and provide COVID-friendly circles this year. "When problems have come up in the classroom, we've been able to use restorative practices to understand conflict and figure out a way to move forward that is collaborative." Students have requested circles. They've asked to meet weekly to discuss their friendship dynamics in order to strengthen their relationships. Kari also engaged with the book group over



the summer and she serves as a member of the Youth-Adult Restorative Justice team. She participates in the optional staff circles this school year as well. "They have been powerful to talk about things that are difficult and to build connection and community in the process."

Lindsey, Heather, and Kari all have hopes and visions for the future of restorative justice in Winooski. Lindsey hopes that the advisory program will be built up to include restorative practices again. Lindsey hopes that the work of the youth-adult team will help inform the path going forward. Having funding, personnel, and support from the community is key for keeping the momentum going. Heather would like to see all of the elementary school students experience restorative practices. That way, when they get to middle school, they will be better equipped to deal with whatever comes their way. Kari hopes that "community circles as a foundational practice, and restorative dialogue as a way to address and resolve conflict, will become a common and widespread practice across the school, for students and adults". All of them envision a true cultural shift to restorative justice practices where everyone is seen as a valuable member of a community, it is understood that we all make mistakes, and where problem-solving conversations become the norm.



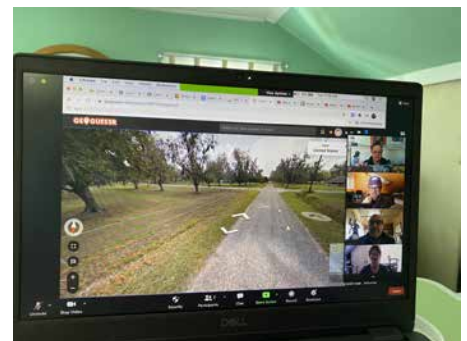
Wellness Day During a Pandemic

By Jacyie Puttlitz, Wellness Coordinator

The Winooski School District employees look forward to Wellness Day each year. For the past eight years, staff has come together to enjoy meals, build relationships with colleagues, and personally share in our different and varied ways of rejuvenating and taking care of ourselves. This year was different. With the pandemic and health & safety of our staff in mind, taking care of our wellness had to be done in a physically distant format.

It usually takes several months of planning to provide a full wellness day experience. This year, we had to remain flexible and keep in mind that we could go fully remote at any time or have to increase in-person learning days if state guidelines changed. This threw a wrench in planning where nothing could be “set” until we got closer to March. The WSD Wellness Team got creative and resourceful with brainstorming and guiding the planning along the way until we could confirm what kind of experience we could plan for our staff.

Every year, we kick off Wellness Day with an all-staff activity. This year, we decided to tap into the restorative justice work that the district has taken on. Over 180 staff members broke into 20 virtual rooms to be guided through a “Collective and Individual Wellness and Care” restorative discussion. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Many staff who have not been able to participate in the district’s monthly restorative practice expressed a desire to be more involved in them, and others mentioned that the circle discussions gave them a chance to meet new staff and connect with



colleagues from across the district.

Eleven staff members led workshops, most of which were virtual. Watercolor painting, self-manicures, Tai Chi, home circuit training, and beaded suncatchers were all adapted for a remote experience. Phoenix books donated a gift card for our book discussion workshop. GeoGuessing and “Among Us!” are online games that some staff played together. We also had a personal cooking lesson from Jamey Magowan of “Chowin’ with Magowan.” And while we relied heavily on technology and internet connections, our staff has become so resourceful and savvy that when technology fails, they immediately find solutions. A few staff members went fat biking at Catamount Outdoor Family Center, and many did brave the cold for skiing, snowshoeing or walking in their hometowns.

The most-attended workshop this year was online Yoga, led by WSD parent Lucy D’Aponte who has graciously been a part of Wellness Day the past three years. We also were honored by a special message and guided stretch break video from Arica Bronze that helped us maintain our

well-being through a day of heavy screen time.

Quotes from school staff about wellness day:

“I love that this is an annual tradition at the WSD. Maybe it sounds a bit cheesy, but it makes me feel honored as a human being.”

“Everyone in my circle group was very kind, understanding, and empathetic to the situations we are all in, and our individual stories of struggle this school year. I always appreciate being able to connect with colleagues I currently know, and new ones I do not. Especially this year!”

“This one will stand out for sure. It was a creative solution to keep something we value, and I appreciate that.”

“Making time for human relationships is important work. I cherish the fact that Winooski cares about us as humans.”



WSD Alumni Profile: Kassian Prior

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

What are you doing today?

I'm selling real estate and trying to contribute to all of the community programs that contributed to me getting where I am. That's why I'm excited to be part of the Heart of Winooski Foundation as an Alumni Representative.

The real estate job keeps me really busy. I'm excited to be on the Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Committee at Keller Williams. Our D&I Committee focuses on training and outreach because Real Estate is an industry where, for example, agents are working with marginalized people who might traditionally be excluded from owning their own homes. It is important that we are intentional about how we approach and achieve equity. There is a direct correlation between home ownership and higher education and increasing generational wealth.

Being part of the small, tight-knit, diverse community of Winooski was a really great thing for me. I feel prepared and comfortable in a way that I can finally give back.

What is your fondest memory of WSD?

All the teachers in Winooski had an incredible impact on me. Mr. Lit, is one of my all time favorite teachers. And I'm still in touch with other teachers from WHS like Ms. Poquette. The community at Winooski was awesome.

What should people reading this know about you?

I have two siblings in the district. Winooski did a lot for me and I want to be able to contribute. People are drawn to Winooski because it is dynamic and diverse and the schools are amazing. I'm proud that people know that anyone can be really successful coming out of Winooski.

What are you most proud of?

Where I've come from and how it has shaped me. I'm proud of my career and being able to give back to my community through my work and service to the community.

How did WSD prepare you to fulfill your goals and dreams?

One of the things I learned was that there's no limit to what you can become and where you can go. We had so many people from so many places and different paths of life, and I realized that the world was wide open and full of possibilities.

That's why I like working in real estate. There's no limit to the amount of money you can make if you work hard. It's encouraged me to work hard and keep going.

Tell us about one of your biggest challenges, and how you overcame it.

One of my biggest challenges was telling myself I had to know what I wanted to do for the rest of my life...and not knowing. It took me a while to figure it out and I really struggled when I was in high school.

Some people say, "If it happens it's meant to be" but I disagree. You have to go for it. But it's not always easy at 16 years old.



Kassian Prior,
class of 2014

I came to the realization that if you are committed to having a happy and successful life and keep working hard you will find it...whatever "it" is. You don't have to know exactly what your life will be like when you are in high school and taking the PSATs.

Why do you heart Winooski?

It's commitment to growing, changing, and being at the forefront of learning along with taking opportunities when they come along. Here at Keller Williams, even the most seasoned agents are still taking professional development training classes. Everyone can improve and be better at what they do.

I really appreciate that for such a small district there is a profound commitment to progressive change. The district evolves and has a growth mindset - just like the students.

Heart of Winooski Foundation News

By Emily Hecker, WSD Communications Director

The HOW Foundation board met last month for their quarterly meeting. HOW Treasurer, Nicole Mace, provided a financial update. The Foundation currently has account balances of \$75,688.

The board is currently working on finalizing the Foundation's mission statement and planning future fundraising opportunities.

Community member Marguerite Adelman recently shared her plans to donate some of her COVID-19 Relief payment to the HOW Foundation. "A few of my retired and working friends have commented that they don't really need the upcoming \$1,400 COVID relief check. This is true for me too; I can live on my retirement. We each acknowledged how lucky we are, and each of us is planning to give some, if not all, of the money away. Personally, I want to support my community and the organizations that serve my neighbors and friends. I plan to give a substantial portion to the Heart of Winooski Foundation for projects that are not funded in the school budget: food security for students, emergency funds for families in need, 3Dprinters and robotics equipment for the new Stem space, and an inclusive playground for children of all abilities. As Benjamin Franklin said "An investment in children and education is the best investment." We need to do all that we can to support our children because they are the future."

The Heart of Winooski (<https://howvt.org/>) is the school district's 501(c)3 organization that can take tax eligible donations. If you're interested in supporting the HOW Foundation you can mail donations to Heart of Winooski Foundation c/o Emily Hecker, 60 Normand Street, Winooski, VT 05404.



HEART OF WINOOSKI
Foundation

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Preschool Skills Screening and Pre-registration

By Maybeline Lopez, Early Learning Coordinator

If your child is or will be 3 by September 1st, 2021 please complete a Preschool Skills Screening & Pre-registration Form for ACT 166 Publicly Funded Pre-K or to inquire about a Winooski Preschool Program.

For more information about preschool opportunities visit our WSD website under Pre-Kindergarten.

If you have concerns about your child's development, our Winooski Early Childhood team can screen your child's development in the areas of Speech & Language Skills, Motor Skills, Adaptive Skills, Personal/Social Skills, and Academic/Cognitive Skills.

Please contact the Early Learning Coordinator, Maybeline Lopez at mlopez@wsdvt.org or 802-383-6063 for more information on developmental screenings.

Winooski Preschool Programs

Preschool Skills Screening & Pre-registration Form Winooski Early Childhood Program (at JFK)

The Winooski Early Childhood Program (WECP) is located at the JFK Elementary school and collaborates with Head Start. There is a morning session from 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and an afternoon session from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Children attend 2, 3, or 4 days per week. Families participating in the Head Start program attend all 4 days you must also complete the Head Start Application. If you have any questions about the Head Start program please call 802-651-4180.

Head Start Early Learning Center (at the Family Center)

The Early Learning Center (ELC) is a Head Start program that collaborates with the Winooski School District. The program is located at 87 Elm Street with a morning session from 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and an afternoon session from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Where children attend Monday – Friday. To participate in the Head Start program you must also complete the Head Start Application. If you have any questions about the Head Start program please call 802-651-4180.

Champlain Valley Head Start is a federally funded program that is required to follow eligibility guidelines as determined by the U.S. Administration for Children and Families. Check Eligibility Criteria [HERE](#)

**Due to COVID we currently are in a hybrid model and days/times above for 2021-2022 could change.*

ACT 166 Publicly Funded Prekindergarten for children between the ages of 3 and 5 who reside in the town of Winooski, Vermont

Preschool Skills Screening & ACT 166 Pre-registration Form*New and returning families must complete a new pre-registration form EACH year to participate.

What is publicly funded prekindergarten education?

Publicly funded prekindergarten education is defined as: Ten hours per week for 35 weeks in a community private early care and education programs. These pre-approved programs meet specific quality standards and provide developmentally appropriate learning experiences that are based on Vermont's Early Learning Standards. Children who reside in Winooski and are between the ages of three-five are eligible. Prekindergarten education is limited to the academic year (September 2021 – June 2022).

Are these 10 hours/week pre-kindergarten programs tuition-free? The prekindergarten program offered in public school is tuition-free. The prekindergarten program offered through a partner program will charge families for the care and education program the child needs beyond the 10 hours/week during the academic year. Your child's preschool must deduct these public funds from your annual tuition bill.

Is my child eligible for publicly funded prekindergarten?

If your child is 3 years old by September 1, 2021, and resides in Winooski, then your child is eligible to participate.

How much will Winooski School District pay? The statewide rate of \$3,536.00 per child was established by the Agency of Education for the 2021/2022 school year. This covers 10 hours per week of high-quality prekindergarten education for 35 weeks.

How do I apply? Winooski residents must first be enrolled at a pre-qualified preschool program in order to receive Act 166 funding. You need to contact the program directly to enroll your child. To search pre-qualified preschool programs visit: Bright Futures Information System

Once enrolled in a pre-qualified preschool program, then complete the Winooski ACT 166 Pre-registration Form to let WSD know what program your child will be attending for the 2021-2022 school year. *A new pre-registration form must be completed EACH year.

Provide a copy of the child's birth certificate and your proof of residency (a utility bill or mortgage/lease) to the Winooski School District.

Once the necessary documentation is received by WSD, Maybeline Lopez will notify you of acceptance to participate and next steps.

Please send all required documents to Lauren Coppola-Dyer at lcoppola-dyer@wsdvt.org or mail to:
Winooski School District
Support Services Office
60 Normand St.
Winooski VT, 05404.

Please contact our Early Learning Coordinator, Maybeline Lopez at mlopez@wsdvt.org with any questions.

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

By Sara Raabe, Principal

JFK Elementary School became a PBIS school in the Fall of 2016. PBIS stands for Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports. PBIS is an evidence-based three-tiered framework for improving and integrating all of the data, systems, and practices used in JFK every day and is a commitment to addressing student behavior through systems change. When it's implemented well, students achieve improved social and academic outcomes, schools experience reduced exclusionary discipline practices, and school staff feel more effective.

Part of implementing and sustaining PBIS within a school is looking at our data points. As a school district, we use SWIS, which is a PBIS system that tracks behavior data by year, location, student, etc. This data system allows us to look at big picture data, such as our equity data and our multiyear graphs. Each year, the JFK leadership team and staff complete two surveys to gauge the implementation of our PBIS system, and how it is benefiting our students and families. These surveys are called the Self-Assessment Survey (SAS) and the Tiered Fidelity Inventory (TFI). The JFK leadership team spent our meeting on March 10th to review the data collected through these three systems/surveys.

The first set of data we looked at was from our SWIS data collection in a report called Average Referrals - Multi-Year. This set of data (below) reports the number of referrals for each month, September - February, for the school year 2016-17 and the current school year. Even with the changes due to COVID-19 this year, this data is something to be proud of:

	2016-17	2020-21
September	298	43
October	285	98
November	333	149
December	217	41
January	331	53
February	238	91
Total	1702	475

The JFK Leadership team also looked at our SAS and TFI reports from those surveys. In years past, we have had student's families participate in some of our leadership meetings. This year, due to COVID19, we have not had community or family members on our leadership team. The SAS and TFI identified that as a need that we would like to remedy. If, in reading this article, you are excited about the data and want to know more and be involved, then being on the JFK Leadership Team during the 2021-22 school year may be a great next step for you! Please reach out to me via email (sraabe@wsdvt.org) or phone (655-0411) if you have an interest in being a standing member of the JFK Leadership team as a community partner or an adult of a JFK student.

I am incredibly proud of all the gains we have made as a school over the past 6 years. JFK truly has HEART!

Fifth Graders Go to Starbase!!

Fifth Graders at JFK have been going to Starbase for over 20 years and this year was no exception! The Starbase staff helped tailor their program around Covid guidelines to ensure students could still take advantage of this amazing opportunity even in these difficult times. We are thankful to the Starbase staff for



making this happen!

Starbase is a program offered to Title 1 schools and is funded by the department of defense. The goal is to inspire students in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

Students experimented and explored physics, chemistry, technology, engineering and energy. One of the program's highlights,

and student's favorite activity, included building model rockets and firing them off back at school.

Here are some student's comments about Starbase:

"It was a learning and fun experience." -Alexis McMahon

"It was a different educational experience." -Lennon Hayes

"Flight simulator was fun"- Yasmina

In a year where so much has been different, we are thankful to have had the opportunity to continue this program. Thank you to the Starbase staff!



Are Your Kids Safe From Lead Poisoning?

By Eric Davis, 12th grade

Over the past semester, WHS has been working on testing lead in the city's water supply and soils around Winooski. Lead (Pb on the periodic table) can enter drinking water when plumbing materials that contain lead corrode, especially where the water has high acidity or low mineral content that corrodes pipes and fixtures. Lead was used in paint up until 1978, so any houses before that date had lead on them, so paint chippings from the houses when they fall off landed in the soil causing the lead levels to rise in the soil itself.

According to the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency), adults exposed to lead can suffer from health effects such as cardiovascular effects, increased blood pressure and incidence of hypertension, decreased kidney function, and reproductive problems (in both men and women). Lead levels are measured on a scale of ppm (parts per million) and the level at which lead becomes bad for the grown adult body is 400 ppm. This is different for children, even low levels of lead in the blood of children can result in behavior and learning problems, lower IQ, hyperactivity, slowed growth, hearing problems, and anemia. Children are the most at risk when it comes to being affected by any type of lead poisoning.



The students of Winooski High School started a project in collaboration with the University of Vermont's Geology Department where we have traveled around the town of Winooski and sampled for lead in the soil and water at their homes and parks. Now to test for lead is quite simple, first, you pull up a few pieces of grass out of the ground to expose the soil, then you dig a small hole, roughly an inch deep, into the ground, once that hole is there you take that spoon and take a scoop of the soil/dirt from the ground and put it into a testing bag, we then return back to school and we bring the bags to UVM where they start the testing of the soil.

We have only sampled about 50% of our goal. Our preliminary results show limited contamination throughout the city, mainly in between the areas bordered by Malletts Bay Ave, Main Street, and



Spring Street. We tested 55 locations from across the city and only 5 of them came back over 400 ppm, most inside that area. We also had started to test lead from the water faucets of students and staff homes, but we haven't received any results back on those tests.

Because of the difficulties at the UVM testing center we won't have further information about the results for a little while longer. There will be more updates in the future, closer towards the end of the year, where I will share what we know. Once this project is complete we want to share more, detailed information with all of Winooski, so keep a lookout for future Winooski newsletters.

First Graders Become Firebirds

By Emily Hecker, WSD Communications Director

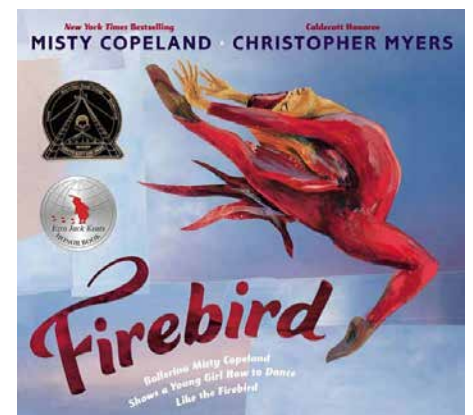
Nancy Johnson's first-grade class read the book *Firebird*, which tells the story of a young girl with fragile confidence who is questioning her ability to succeed. The young girl meets a famous ballerina who encourages her to find faith in herself, and shows her that through hard work and dedication, she can become a Firebird.

The author, Misty Copeland, is a real-life ballet star who struggled with homelessness and poverty as a child. Misty went

on to make history as the first African American female

Principal Dancer with the American Ballet Theatre.

Nancy's friend's daughter, Alexis, made a video about ballet to help introduce Misty's book to the first-graders. The kids had fun learning ballet vocabulary and dance moves. Students also said they loved learning about strong women who don't give up on their dreams. And a few have even decided they too would like to one day become ballet dancers!





Winooski "A" Boys Team has a Great Season

By Dennis Barcomb, Head Coach

The Winooski boys worked hard to have as normal of a season as possible during the COVID -19 Pandemic. The team worked hard in practice and played well the five games they played. Skill work and Sportsmanship were the priorities for the team this season. Team Members: AJ Arou, Jackson Mathys-Vallario, Chris Buker, Joseph Abdullah, Ler Der Star, Anthony Cabral, Destin Enwa, Omar Turnage, Jacoby Hammitt, and Ankit Acharya.



Girls Basketball and SMC Mentorship Program

By Sue Messier, Physical Education Teacher

Even though Winooski middle school basketball looked a little bit different this year, the girl's A team had a successful season both on and off the court. Due to COVID restrictions, we were not able to connect in person with our mentor, the Saint Michael's Women's basketball team, for our usual shared practices and games. Instead, we all learned how to jump rope during our basketball practices, and showed off our skills to each other via Zoom. It was a great way to connect, learn something new, and have some fun! Thank you Saint Michael's!



Winooski B Boys Basketball News

By Cory Payson, Coach

The B boys basketball team had a great season this year. The hard work in practice paid off as they started strong with two wins in their first two games! Their effort and positive attitudes continued throughout the season and the group improved in all areas of basketball. The roster included; Yassir Laaroussi, Biladi Tresor, Mohammed Osman, Mohamed Mayange, Oliver Mathys-Vallario, Hussein Mohamed, Lerder Star, Jacoby Hammitt, and Joseph Abdullah.



JV Boys Team Report

By Josh Safran, Coach

The JV team this year featured many returning players from last year's team and some new faces from the middle school ranks and one new student from another school. As of March 8th the team has had great success with a 4 and 2 record. Highlights include resounding wins vs Richford, Stowe and BFA Fairfax and a satisfying win in their 2nd game vs Milton as they lost to Milton the first time they played them. Also a highlight was a tough one point loss to BHS JVB but still very exciting as this is an opponent from the Metro Conferences which features the larger schools in mostly Chittenden County. **Results:** Winooski JV 62, Richford JV 31 • Winooski JV 42, Stowe JV 26 • Milton JV 36, Winooski JV 27 • Winooski JV 50, BFA Fairfax JV 32 • Burlington JVB 57, Winooski JV 56 • Winooski JV 63, Milton JV 54 • Winooski @ South Burlington JVB 3/9/21 • Burlington JVB @ Winooski JV 3/13/21

Roster: Heritier Mumpuya, Dominique Simmons, Nick Ferdinand, Prabin Bhattarai, Dutin Ayotte, Xavier Perez, Kellen Bourgeois, Alex Chagnon, Heidar Alsamari, George Rogers, Same Freije, Ryan Charbonneau, Sam Parris and Hadyn Bourgeois.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Municipal Update April 2021

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 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

Utility Disconnections

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

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. Parking kiosks will be sanitized daily.

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.

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.

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 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

Your City Officials	Email addresses	Telephone
Mayor Kristine Lott	klott@winooskivt.gov	802-766-1988
Councilor Hal Colston	hcolston@winooskivt.gov	802-922-2908
Councilor James Duncan	jduncan@winooskivt.gov	802-310-7103
Councilor Mike Myers	mmyers@winooskivt.gov	802-355-5348
Councilor Bryn Oakleaf	boakleaf@winooskivt.gov	802-448-2966
City Manager Jessie Baker	jbaker@winooskivt.gov	802-655-6410

Visit the city website at 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

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:

[winooski.gov/remoteresources](https://www.winooski.gov/remoteresources)

We also encourage you to go to the

Vermont Department of Health for

regular state-wide updates, data, and

resources: [https://www.healthvermont.](https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19)

[gov/covid-19](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.gov/](https://winooski.gov/covid-19)

[covid-19](https://winooski.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-](https://winooski-businesses-during-covid-19)

[businesses-during-covid-19](https://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-](https://winooski-business-portal)

[business-portal](https://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.gov/332/](https://winooski.gov/332/Small-Business-Loan-Program)

[Small-Business-Loan-Program](https://winooski.gov/332/Small-Business-Loan-Program)

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.

• acd.vermont.gov/covid-19/individuals

• [healthvermont.gov/interest-groups/](https://healthvermont.gov/interest-groups/homeowners)

[landlords-renters](https://healthvermont.gov/interest-groups/landlords-renters)

• [healthvermont.gov/interest-groups/](https://healthvermont.gov/interest-groups/building-professionals-realtors)

[cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/](https://healthvermont.gov/interest-groups/cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/)

• epa.gov/coronavirus

• communication/print-resources.html

• epa.gov/coronavirus

• epa.gov/coronavirus

• epa.gov/coronavirus

• epa.gov/coronavirus

• epa.gov/coronavirus

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COVID-19 Testing in Winooski

The City of Winooski has partnered

with the Vermont Department of Health

and CIC Health to provide daily on-going

COVID-19 testing in Winooski at the

O'Brien Community Center (32 Malletts

Bay Ave) Registration is preferred, but

walk-ups are welcome. Testing hours and

availability vary from month-to-month.

To view the current schedule, please visit

winooski.gov/covid-19.

For registration help in English: Call

211 or 802 828 2828.

For registration help in other

languages: Call 802 503 5402 or 802 355

0795.

Interpreters will be provided at all

Winooski events.

Transportation options are available.

To schedule transportation to the

COVID-19 testing site, please call

the Vermont Public Transportation

Association at least two days before the

appointment: 833 387 7200.

The Health Department recommends

testing as soon as possible when:

- you have symptoms of COVID-19

- you are referred by your health care

- a person in your workplace or

- provider

household, or a person you attended an

event with, tests positive for COVID-19

• you plan on going to a social gathering

with people you don't live with (other

than recreating with one masked

person outside). You should get tested

before the gathering, right after, and

again on day 7.

If you often gather socially with people

you don't live with, you should get tested

weekly.

College students returning to Vermont

from out of state should quarantine and

be tested on or after day 7 of quarantine

after returning home.

Travelers to Vermont and Vermonters

returning from out of state must follow

quarantine requirements. You have the

option to get a test on or after day 7 of

quarantine and end your quarantine early

with a negative test result.

Testing is provided at no cost. When

you register you will be asked for

insurance information – but, insurance is

not required for testing, and you will not

receive a bill or be charged a copay. The

Health Department encourages people to provide their insurance information when registering. Because the companies can be reimbursed for their charges, it offsets some costs to the state, allowing the Vermont Department of Health to continue offering widespread testing.



COVID-19 Vaccines

The State's COVID-19 vaccine initiative continues! To learn more about the process and eligibility, please visit healthvermont.gov/myvaccine or call 855 722 7878. To speak with someone in a language other than English, call this number, and then press 1.

Mayor's Update

Mayor Kristine Lott, klott@winooskivt.gov

Hello
Neighbors,

Thank you for coming out to vote on Town Meeting Day and supporting our community. The city budget passed with 73% approval, a high mark in recent years, as did the school's budget and additional ballot items. Please join me in welcoming our new City Councilor, Bryn Oakleaf, and in congratulating Councilor Jim Duncan, who was re-elected. I'm also grateful to serve another 3-year term as your Mayor! I appreciate the continued support and look forward to the work ahead securing our vision as an affordable, livable, and diverse community. You can view the full Town Meeting Day results at winooskivt.gov.



gov/townmeeting.

With the passage of Article Five, Winooski has opted to permit retail cannabis operations in Winooski once the state begins licensing such businesses in the fall of 2022. To support a safe environment for our residents, youth, and businesses, we plan to work with the Winooski Partnership for Prevention to identify and address any ordinance or zoning concerns that may come up during this process. With the passage of Article Six, Winooski City Council will compose a statement urging the State of Vermont and our congressional representatives to halt F-35 training flights over Winooski. The statement will outline the process leading up to the vote, public engagement, and the vote results. This will be shared publicly. In related news, the Federal Aviation Administration's Neighborhood Environmental Survey is now available at btvsound.com. Please be sure to use this survey as an opportunity to share your experiences. You may have also heard Burlington voters approved a charter change that will create a seat for a Winooski representative on the Burlington Airport Commission. Similar to Winooski's recently approved charter changes, a review is required by the State Legislature for consideration. Should the legislature approve, Winooski can appoint a representative to serve on the Burlington Airport Commission. We will share progress updates as they are available.

In other municipal news, the Champlain Housing Trust recently presented their new affordable townhouse project, currently known as "Butternut Station". Construction is planned for the unused space of the O'Brien Community Center parking lot (at the front, near the street). The project will include twenty homes (3-bedroom townhouses) priced for folks making low-to-moderate income. We approved moving this project forward to increase affordable housing for families in Winooski. Speaking of the O'Brien Community Center, we approved a grant application request for our Community Services team to complete a new mural project (behind the Library, facing Hickok Street) in partnership with Juniper Creative Arts. The plan is to highlight native and indigenous plants/techniques used by the new American

gardeners with plots at the adjacent community garden. The mural will have plenty of colors and feature lots of flower blooms so that in the winter it may serve as a reminder of the color and life the gardens bring in the summer months. And in case you missed it, City Council is looking to add historic preservation protection as it pertains to our zoning regulations in Winooski. Our historic preservation consultant, VHB, showed us a fascinating series of properties and historic resources to consider. Council discussed the process where historic buildings might be redeveloped without completely tearing them down, noting that guidelines shouldn't be so strict that they discourage property owners from making the necessary improvements required to keep these locations viable for current and future use.

I also want to take a moment and mention that our City Manager, Jessie Baker, will be stepping down from her role on May 15th where she will begin a new position as City Manager of South Burlington. Please see the details of this announcement later in this newsletter and join me in thanking Jessie for her years of dedicated service.

Finally, I'm happy to report that we've seen a sharp increase in residents taking advantage of the free COVID-19 testing at the O'Brien Center. Cases are decreasing in the community! We're also seeing good vaccination numbers as the State continues through the eligibility groups. Thank you all for continuing to protect yourselves and others by masking up and keeping your distance as we get closer to the light at the end of the tunnel.

Feel free to reach out at any time regarding these updates:

Mayor Kristine Lott - klott@winooskivt.gov / 802 766 1988

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 block parties, neighborhood watches, lost dogs, plumber recommendations, helping neighbors in need, free furniture, and all kinds of good stuff. Check it out at www.frontporchforum.com

2021 Town Meeting Day Election Results

Total Registered Voters: 5023
Total Ballots Completed: 1082

City of Winooski

For Mayor: Kristine Lott - 923
For Councilors:
James Duncan - 607
James McCormick - 295
Samuel Myers - 347
Dallas Wheatley - 247
Bryn Oakleaf - 359

Article Three, City Budget:

Shall the voters of the City of Winooski approve the budget for the Fiscal Year for 2022 in the amount of Eight Million, Two Hundred Thirteen Thousand, Six Hundred Ninety-Five Dollars and Thirty-Five Cents (\$8,213,695.35)? The amount to be raised from property taxes is Six Million, Eighty-Five Thousand, Two Hundred and Twenty-Three Dollars and Twenty-Six Cents (\$6,085,223.26).

Yes - 789
No - 269

Article Four:

Shall the City Council be authorized to apply for and accept funds from sources other than property taxation, and to expend the same for the benefit of the City in addition to sums for which budget appropriation has been made? (Approval of this article will not impact property taxes.)

Yes - 983
No - 73

Article Five:

Shall the voters of the City of Winooski permit the operation of cannabis retailers within the City of Winooski, pursuant to 7 V.S.A. §863(a)(1), and subject to such municipal ordinance and regulation as the City Council may lawfully adopt and implement?

Yes - 804
No - 262

Article Six:

Shall the City of Winooski urge the State to halt F-35 training flights in a densely populated area, such as Winooski?

Yes - 723
No - 354

Winooski School District

For School Trustees:
Steven Berbeco, 3-year term - 847

Alexander Yin, 2-year term - 841
Kamal Dahal, remainder of 3-year term - 846

Article V:

Shall the District accept and expend the sum of Three million, Twenty-six thousand, One hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$3,026,199) or whatever sum is provided by federal programs for the support of compensatory education and special programs? Said sum shall be exclusively federal funds received by the District. (No local or statewide school property taxes included in these funds.)

Yes - 995
No - 69

Article VI:

Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend Nineteen million, Five hundred and sixteen thousand, Two hundred and Forty dollars (\$19,516,240), which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of Sixteen thousand, Six hundred and Twenty one dollars (\$16,621) per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 4.84% higher than spending for the current year.

Yes - 750
No - 304

Article VII:

Shall the voters of the school district authorize the school board to enter into a twenty-five (25) year lease with SolarCommunities, Inc. d/b/a SunCommon, to lease portions of the roof of school property located at 60 Normand St. to SolarCommunities, Inc. d/b/a SunCommon, to install and operate a solar-powered electric generating system, pursuant to the term of the Lease Agreement and Group Net Metering Credit Agreement negotiated by the school board?

Yes - 915
No - 139

Champlain Water District

For Champlain Water District Commissioner, 3-year Term:
Jonathan Stockbridge - 868

Article I:

Shall general obligation bonds of Champlain Water District in an amount not to exceed One Million

Ninety Thousand Six Hundred Seven Dollars (\$1,090,607) representing the balance of previously authorized bonded indebtedness, be issued for the purpose of funding the acquisition of various capital assets through the District's Capital Reserve Fund?

Yes - 841
No - 129



City Manager Jessie Baker to Step Down May 15, 2021

Mayor Kristine Lott and the Winooski City Council announce today that Jessie Baker will step down from her position as City Manager on May 15, 2021. Ms. Baker has accepted the position of City Manager for the City of South Burlington starting in June 2021.

Ms. Baker has served in this role since March 2017 and previously served as the Assistant City Manager in Montpelier, VT.

"We are very thankful for Jessie's service over the last four years," said Mayor Lott today. "Under the leadership of Ms. Baker, we have taken big steps towards achieving our community's vision of an affordable, vibrant, safe and connected community. We have moved forward critical infrastructure projects and complex development initiatives. We have expanded community engagement efforts and made significant progress on creating more equity in our city. It has been a pleasure to work with Jessie. We appreciate the work she has done for Winooski, and know that she will continue to make positive change in our region in her next role, while remaining a valuable member of our community."

"I'm proud of the work the City staff, Councilors, and our community have done in the past four years to move forward the City's Strategic Vision," said Ms. Baker. "Winooski is a special place – committed to serving all, growing

strategically, and ensuring that our infrastructure and public safety services meet the needs of all of our residents. I'm proud to have worked alongside our City team and know there are wonderful days ahead for this community. And I look forward to staying engaged as a resident!"

At advertised meetings in March and April the Winooski City Council will discuss this transition and the process for hiring Winooski's next City Manager.

Community Services Updates



Thrive After School Program April Break Gardening Camp

Join Thrive After School and Winooski Recreation and Parks for a week of spring-themed gardening and food systems fun! Each of our activities will incorporate educational elements of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics). This program is for students grades K - 5 and takes place at the Winooski School District. Campers will spend time focusing on a variety of topics including how to grow seedlings, spring flowers, pollination science, fresh garden cooking, composting, & more!

- Monday, April 19, 2021 - Friday, April 23, 2021 8:30 AM - 3 PM
- \$150 for the full week or \$30 per day
- Lunch provided
- To sign up, visit winooskivt.gov/thrive
- State subsidies are available to cover tuition fees.



Thrive Summer Camp

Thrive After School proudly presents our 2021 Summer Camp! This program is designed to engage kids (grades K - 5)

in outdoor exploration, STEM activities, artistic expression, trips to the pool, and fun in the sun.

- 6 weeks of camp
 - 6.21.21 - 7.31.21
 - full day weeks, \$160/wk & half-day weeks, \$100/wk
 - To sign up, visit winooskivt.gov/thrive
- We have an amazing schedule of activity weeks planned!

Week 1 - Slime Time - Explore and learn about all things messy, slimy, and sensory.

Week 2 - Aquatic Adventures - We'll learn about amazing aquatic ecosystems and the animals that live in them, as well as spend plenty of time cooling off with water balloons, boat-building challenges, and watercolor arts.

Week 3 - Animal Planet - This week at Thrive we'll play animal trivia, learn about adaptations, and go on our own mini-safari to survey the species that live in Winooski.

Week 4 - Edible Engineering - Engage in hands-on activities that are both delicious and fun. We'll build and use solar ovens, design structures using edible ingredients, and explore chemical reactions that create tasty treats.

Week 5 - Fairy Tale STEM - We'll read and explore different fairy tales and design our own versions of wolf-proof houses, beanstalk parachutes, rainbow towers, and more!

Week 6 - Makerspace Creations - Our classroom will transform into a maker space, complete with a 3D printer. Students will think like inventors and artists as they make robots, racecars, rollercoasters, and their own 3D-printed creations.

As a licensed program, we accept state subsidies to cover the cost of Thrive. Some scholarships are available to meet additional financial needs. Questions regarding this program can be sent to Kate Anderson, Children and Family Programs Manager: kanderson@winooskivt.gov.

Winooski Memorial Library

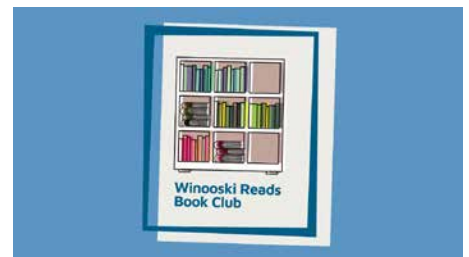
National Poetry Month

Join us in April to celebrate National Poetry Month and be sure to register for our virtual youth (12 -18) writing

workshop led by Bianca Stone and in collaboration with Sundog Poetry Center. Participants will be introduced to Bianca's poetry and have the opportunity to create and share their own work in a supportive and welcoming space. Bianca is a Vermont poet and visual artist and her books include *Someone Else's Wedding Vows* (Tin House & Octopus Books, 2014), and *The Mobius Strip Club of Grief* (Tin House, 2018), while her poems have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Baffler* and *Poetry Magazine*. For registration info, email or call Nate Eddy, Library Director, at neddy@winooskivt.gov / 802 655 6424

Cook the Book Virtual Cooking Series

Calling all aspiring chefs, home foodies, or those new to the kitchen - join our virtual cooking series and learn to prepare a healthy and delicious recipe in real time with a local chef! Our featured April guest is Vermont state librarian Jason Broughton who will be demonstrating baking techniques to participants. Free to take part, email or call Nate Eddy, Library Director, at neddy@winooskivt.gov / 802 655 6424



Winooski Reads Book Group

The Winooski Library is excited to offer a chance to participate in our new Winooski Reads Book Club for adult readers (18+)! Join your friends and neighbors for a lively discussion of each month's selected title and share your thoughts, insights, and reactions to the book. Free to take part, email or call Nate Eddy, Library Director: neddy@winooskivt.gov / 802 655 6424



Read-Aloud Picture Books - Online!

Did you know we have a number of read aloud picture books available for listen online? Follow along as our Youth Services Coordinator, Mr. Josh, reads from classics such as Frog and Toad, Last Stop on Market Street, The Lost Words, and more! Find us at the City of Winooski YouTube channel and subscribe!



Browse and Borrow Sessions Reminder

Reminder that the Winooski Memorial Library remains open by appointment for 30 minute “Browse and Borrow” sessions. Visitors and staff are required to wear masks and maintain a minimum 6’ social distance while inside the library at all times. Visits are limited to one individual or household/family group, and a family group is up to four people who all live together in the same household. Children under 10 must be accompanied at all times by a parent or caregiver 16 and older. Visit to check out books, access computer and printing, and to use the copier. For full details and to make your reservation today, please visit winooski.vt.gov/library or call 802 655 6424.



Virtual Dungeons and Dragons

Welcome to the world of cooperative narrative role play where the story is told by participant players! Build amazing

worlds and learn all about collaborative storytelling through our series of information and gaming sessions. This program is designed for youth ages 10 -18 and parents are welcome to participate. Join us via Zoom on Mondays from 4 – 6pm (elementary) and 6 – 8pm (middle/high school). To sign up, call or email Josh Neilson, Youth Services Coordinator: jneilson@winooski.vt.gov / 802 655 6424



Virtual Academic & Career Support

The Winooski Memorial Library is proud to continue to provide academic & career support for students!

Our 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.

Monday-Thursday, 4:30pm-7:30pm
Virtual/remote sessions via Zoom*
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.

Jeopardy Thursdays / 3-4:40pm-Tutors will test your trivia knowledge in this gameshow favorite.

To sign up, call or email Josh Neilson, Youth Services Coordinator, at jneilson@winooski.vt.gov / 802 655 6424

*Participants will receive a custom Zoom link and password for attendance before the session begins.

Recreation and Parks



Winooski Rec. & Vermont Patriots 2021 Spring Season

Registration is now open for the 2021 spring season of our Youth Soccer program in partnership with Vermont Patriots! The Vermont Patriots base their philosophy primarily on the guidelines by the US Youth Soccer and the Vermont Soccer Association, but their multicultural founding members have included aspects of coaching philosophies from Europe, South America, and Africa. Coaching sessions are first and foremost child-centered, age-appropriate, and fun. The program’s training emphasizes technical abilities, mental and physical speed and agility, and tactical comprehension-each at their age-appropriate level. To view the full schedule and details, visit winooski.vt.gov/rec and sign up today!



2021 Myers Pool Passes Now Available

The City of Winooski is excited to announce that 2021 seasonal passes are now available for the Myers Memorial Pool. To get your season passes today, please visit winooski.vt.gov/pool.

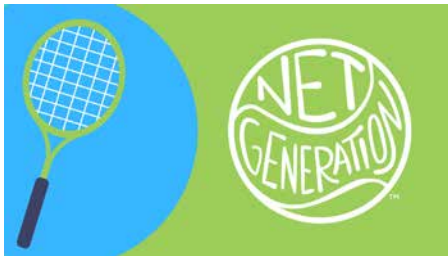
- Passes:
- Adult Season Pass (18-54)-\$60 resident, \$75 non-resident
 - Family Season Pass (all ages)-\$120 resident, \$150 non-resident
 - Senior Season Pass (55/up)-\$45 resident, \$56 non-resident
 - Youth Season Pass (17/under)-\$45 resident, \$56 non-resident
- Lap Swim Schedule:
- Weekdays 7am-9pm (Tuesdays-Reserved for Woman-Identified Community Members)

- Tuesdays 7pm-8pm
Open Swim Schedule
- Monday, Wednesday, Friday /
12pm-5pm
- Tuesday, Thursday / 2pm-7pm
- Saturday 12pm-8pm
- Sunday 12pm-6pm

Information regarding operational dates and aquatic programming for the 2021 season will be posted in the spring.

COVID-19 Disclaimer: The City of Winooski continues to adhere to the guidance provided by the Vermont Department of Health. While the City plans to operate the Myers Memorial Pool in summer 2021, certain restrictions may be in place. Restrictions include but are not limited to: limited capacity, time slot reservations for open swim, closed locker room facilities, mask requirements, and social distancing. In the event the Myers Memorial Pool is not allowed to operate, all season pass holders will receive a full refund, or a pro-rated refund if closure occurs after pool operations have begun.

Questions about the Myers Memorial Pool and season pass scholarships can be sent to Jenny Hill, Recreation Programs Manager: jhill@winooskivt.gov / 802 777 1621



Tennis in the Park

Winooski Recreation and Parks are excited to announce our partnership with the US Tennis Association and Net Generation's "Tennis in the Parks" program! This program is designed for everyone - youth and adult sessions are available right here in Winooski at Landry Park. Participants will learn the skills to serve, rally, and play using the latest fun and engaging techniques. Led by an approved USTA/Net Generation coach, first-time players can feel confident in their new skills and play fun matches with other players in the program.

- Sign up @ winooskivt.gov/rec
- This program will run from 5/4/21 - 6/8/21.
- 18+ / Thursdays / \$75
- 6th grade - 8th grade / Tuesdays / \$65

- 3rd grade - 5th grade / Tuesdays / \$65

This program uses age-appropriate rackets, tennis balls, and court sizes. Participants will receive and keep a new racquet, ball, and Net Generation tee shirt during their first session! COVID-19 precautions apply: the program will incorporate a small group size, pre-session temperature checks, physical distancing, and masks (required) to support the health and safety of participants and staff.

Middle School Nature Walks

We've partnered with the Winooski Valley Park District to offer a new Nature Walk program for middle school students! Do you love Winooski's parks and nature areas as much as we do? Participants are invited to join us and explore Winooski's best nature walks, parks, and open spaces. This program offers 5 weekly sessions in which our Eco-Educators will teach students to use their senses and basic techniques while we discover and identify Winooski's native wildlife, plants, and trees. Jot your findings down in your very own ecological exploration journal (provided at no cost!)

March 31- April 28, 2020

Wednesdays, 2 - 3 PM @ Casavant Nature Area

Sign up today @ winooskivt.gov/rec

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 & Thursdays: 10am - 2pm / 802 655 6425 / Voice Mail 24/7.

Meals on Wheels

If you know of an older Vermonter 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.

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 for the weekly menu and to register for this program.

Pop Up To-Go Cafes

Looking to get outside? Stop by our one of our free once a month Outdoor Pop Up To-Go Cafes. Have a hot drink and bring a home a treat bag. Walk up and pick up or stay in your car and we'll deliver to you. Please wear a mask. Stop by from 1-2pm. Reservations are required. Call us at 802 655 6425.

- Sunday April 18th - April in Paris!
- Sunday May 16th - Cookie Love!

Senior Library Time

Tuesday is Senior Day at the Winooski Memorial Library. Visitors and staff are required to wear masks and maintain a minimum 6' social distance while inside the library at all times. For full details and to make your reservation, please visit winooskivt.gov/library or call the Library at 802 655 6424.

AARP TaxAide

Our partners at AARP TaxAide have come back to the Senior Center this year! They are here for appointments on Tuesdays and Thursdays for free tax filing assistance. Call the Senior Center at 802 655 6425 and leave a message, and someone will call you back to schedule your time.

AARP Smart Driver Online Course

When you take the AARP Smart Driver™ online course, you could be eligible for a multi-year discount on your auto insurance. Plus safer driving can save you more than just money. The course teaches proven driving techniques to help keep you and your loved ones safe on the road. Taking the online course is convenient and cost-effective. And you get 60 days to complete it! Go to www.aarpdriversafety.org

North End Studios-Winooski Adds Sunday Take-Out Dinners

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 2020. Now, these dinners will be offered some Sundays throughout 2021.

April & May dinners will include:

Libyan • Saturday, April 3, 4-6 pm

The food is being prepared by Aya, Faiza & Amna. Meal includes: dijaaj bialzaytun (chicken with olives) OR hamas bialjawz alhind walkhider, kasakas bialkhtar (couscous), fatayer bi sabanekh (pastry with spinach & sumaq) & Ghriba .

Caribbean • Saturday, April 10, 4-6 pm

This meal will be prepared by Boba Slobodanka. Oxtail, rice & beans and pineapple upside down cake OR jerk spiced lentil Bolognese & plantains.

Bosnian • Saturday, April 17, 4-6 pm

This meal will be prepared by Mediha Goretic or Meza Bosnian Cuisine.

Argentinian • Sunday, April 18, 4-6 pm

This meal will be prepared by Lorena & Javier of Dale Boca.

Ethiopian/Eritrean • Saturday, April 24, 4-6 pm

This meal will be prepared by Mulu Tewelde of Mulu's Kitchen & Catering.

Greek • Sunday, April 25, 4-6 pm

This meal will be prepared by Sotos Papaseraphim. Somali Bantu Saturday, May 1, 4-6 pm This meal will be prepared by Said Bulle of Jilib's Jiblets.

Indian • Saturday, May 8, 4-6 pm

The food is being prepared by Arunima and Michael of Dosa Love.

Arabian • Saturday, May 15, 4-6 pm

The food is being prepared by Aya, Faiza & Amna.

Filipino • Sunday, May 16, 4-6 pm

The food is being prepared by the Filipino-American community in VT. Meal includes: vegetarian pancit, chicken lumpia, pork adobo, sweet spicy chicken, and cassava cake.

Ethiopian/Eritrean • Saturday, May 22, 4-6 pm

This meal will be prepared by Mulu Tewelde of Mulu's Kitchen & Catering. Bosnian Saturday, May 29, 4-6 pm This meal will be prepared by Mediha Goretic or Meza Bosnian Cuisine.

Tickets are available at sevendaytickets.com. \$20

Winooski Little League and Babe Ruth Baseball

By Jeffrey Brosseau

Online registration is currently open, see our website address below. Open the link to set up your account, and register your child; you can also volunteer as Head Coach, Assistant or Team Manager.



Fees for Little League are \$50 for one player, or \$90 for a family, Babe Ruth Baseball 13-18 year old fee is \$75.00. You will have the option to pay either by Visa/Master Card, or to pay by check. Let me know if you have any issues.

After March 31st, a late fee of \$10 will be added. Winooski Little League and Babe Ruth is open to all Winooski residents and anyone who attends St. Francis School and the Winooski School System who may reside outside of our city boundaries. Website Address: <http://tshq.bluesombrero.com/winooskibaseball>.

For more information contact Jeffrey Brosseau at 802-233-5530, jeffrey.brosseau@aol.com.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

To learn more and apply for any of our volunteer opportunities, please visit winooskivt.gov/volunteer.

Winooski Run/Ride Club Ambassadors

Under the direction of Recreation and Parks, Run/Ride Club Ambassadors will aid the Recreation Programs Manager in the creation and facilitation of weekly (weather dependent) group runs/rides. These weekly community exercise opportunities will cater to all skill levels all while remaining local, reminding participants that Winooski has plenty to offer in terms of fun, safe opportunities to get on your bike or go for a run.

Students will journal their findings

in this ecological investigation of their hometown. Ultimately, our volunteer will work alongside Winooski's Youth Programs Coordinator to help facilitate a fun and educational experience for middle schoolers.

Spring/Summer Yoga Instructors

Winooski Recreation and Parks are looking for enthusiastic, creative, and passionate volunteer yoga instructors who can partner with us on an outdoor, public parks Yoga program we're planning for the spring/summer months. Looking to give back to the community? If you are a certified 200-

hour RYT and interested in getting involved, please call or email Jenny Hill, Recreation Programs Manager: 802 777 1621 / jhill@winooskivt.gov.

Meals on Wheels

Our Meals on Wheels program is made possible through our partnership with Age Well and is operated through the Winooski Senior Center. We are currently looking for volunteers to deliver meals in Winooski, M-F. Meal pick up is located at the Winooski Senior Center (9:30am) and the current route takes about an hour.

Midway Point of Legislative Session

By Kesha Ram, Vermont State Senator

The last two weeks of March, we have been in the legislative process known as “crossover.” This is when bills that have been under consideration in our committees must go from the Senate to the House and vice versa. Most bills that are passing this legislative session are critical to pandemic recovery and hopefully help us learn from what wasn’t working prior to this crisis so we can build back better.

Some of these reforms are before my committees, Senate Economic Development and Government Operations. They include election reforms to strengthen our democracy, unemployment insurance changes that benefit both employees and employers, additional support for small businesses on the path to resuming operations, and keeping our promise on the pensions of our state employees and educators.

Several bills I introduced appear to be moving. S.16 would encourage our schools to implement alternatives to suspension and expulsion for our young people. S.27 honors the life-saving role of our multilingual liaisons and allows municipalities and school districts to share the cost so these liaisons can deliver vital information about emergencies to those in need. S.24 is a bill that eliminates the sale of flavored tobacco and e-liquid products. We have seen the disastrous effects of vaping and menthol cigarettes on lung function exacerbated by the pandemic, and these lethal products are disproportionately marketed to youth and BIPOC Vermonters.

Please be in touch with any thoughts, concerns, or ideas: kram@leg.state.vt.us.

Impact or Reflection?

Presented as the House Devotion – Vermont General Assembly on March 8

By Hal Colston, Winooski/Burlington State Representative

It is February 2021, and it is Black History month. I don’t believe there should be a Black History month. Why? Because it tokenizes black history. While its inception was a noble one from Carter G. Woodson who established Negro History Week in 1926, its reception for me is “less than,” a minority report for BIPOC. And, then I cascade into an abyss abhorring the word “minority” which is pejorative at its root. Less than, not good enough, inferior. I am Not inferior! I don’t think it is possible to bring attention in one month to the myriad of contributions conceived, created, and consummated by Americans who descended from African slaves. Black History has happened everyday of every month of every year that this country has existed. Since 1619! When our country honestly looks into the mirror, this is beyond impact!

James Baldwin, who I regard as one of Black America’s most prolific prophets, wrote a book entitled “Remember this House.” He was only able to write 30 pages before he passed. This work became an award-winning documentary “I Am Not Your Negro.” This is how Baldwin defined a Negro. “What white people need to do is to find out why it was necessary in the first place to have a Negro. Because I am not a Negro; I am a man. If you think I am a Negro, it is because You need it. If I am a Negro here, then you the white people invented him. Then, you have to find out

why. The future of our country depends on that, whether or not it has even asked that question.”

What if the Negro was not invented? How would our country have worked without chattel slavery, the exploitation of black and brown people who became the backbone of our capitalistic system? Who would you be? Who would we be?

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, “We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.”

One way this garment manifests itself for me is through structural racism. Structural racism is the normalization of many dynamics that are historical, cultural, institutional and interpersonal and routinely advantages White people while producing chronic, adverse outcomes for people of color. All of us are wounded by this system. All of us are oppressed by this system. All of us lose part of our humanity because of this system. When our country honestly looks into the mirror, this is beyond reflection.

So, when you look into the mirror, do you see an impact or a reflection? Is your life a reflection of the American experience of white supremacy culture, and I am not talking about “white hoods,” but “white dominance” of nearly every institution in this country? Or is your life an impact of social and racial equity that must shape our country, our state, our communities to be a “more perfect union?”

Are you making an impact or making a reflection? Thank you.

YOUR LOCAL MEDIA

Watch local programs, election coverage, regional events, and municipal meetings on cable TV and online. Learn how to make your own community media.



- VERMONTCAM.ORG + Channels 15 (BT), HD 215 (BT), 1074 (Comcast)
- RETN.ORG + Channels 16 (BT), BTV-HD 216 (BT), 1094 (Comcast)
- CH17.TV + Channels 17 (BT), 217 HD (BT), 317 (BT), 1087 (Comcast)



Winooski Food Shelf Schedule for April

By Linda Howe, Winooski Food Shelf Coordinator

Saturday, April 10th	9:30 am to 11:00 am	Fresh food
Wednesday, April 14th	1:00pm to 3:00pm	Pantry staples, meat and eggs
Saturday, April 24th	9:30 am to 11:00 am	Fresh food
Wednesday, April 28th	1:00pm to 3:00pm	Pantry staples, meat and eggs

The volunteers at the Winooski Food Shelf remain grateful for the support of local businesses, organizations, residents and friends in nearby communities. Your financial donations, food drives and toiletry drives make a huge difference in the lives of our neighbors in need.

Food Shelf Policy: Winooski residents coming for the first time should bring proof that you live in Winooski such as a utility bill or rental lease. Winooski residents may access the pantry staples one Wednesday each month. They may also come both Saturdays to stock up on bread, pastry and some fresh fruits and veggies. Shaw's in Colchester and Winooski's own Commodities Natural Market help supply Saturday's food.

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 and make an electronic donation.

Donation Drop Off Locations: **Please do not leave food on our doorstep when we are closed.** Instead, please bring **unexpired and unopened**

food donations to: Commodities Natural Market, 65 Winooski Falls Way, phone: 448-3340 or to J & J's Corner Market, 12 Malletts Bay Avenue, phone: 654-8003. **We especially need toiletries: toothpaste, tooth brushes, deodorant, shampoo, disposable razors and toilet paper.** Thank you for caring about our neighbors!

Food Shelf 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. 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.

Howard Center Update

By Adam C. Brooks, Assistant Director of Communications

Being a student can be stressful, and according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), approximately one in five youth aged 13-18 live with mental health conditions and approximately 75% of people with mental health issues develop them prior to the age of 24. It has become more pronounced over the past year with a global pandemic preventing youth from attending school, physically distancing from friends, and making the adjustment to remote learning models.

Thankfully, there are some useful tips to keep in mind and resources you can turn to for help:

- Listen with an open mind
- Model and encourage outreach to others, exercise, or listen to or play music
- Do something fun or special with your teen each day, even when things are stressful

- Remember, it's okay to ask for help
- Balance close supervision with giving space
- Avoid power struggles and be open to a different perspective

Our Access and Intake Main Number 802-488-6000 is available M-F 8:00am - 6:00pm. Our staff will help you find the services that best fit your need. Our First Call for Chittenden County crisis hotline 802-488-7777 is available 24/7/365.

Howard Center's Community Education Series wraps up on April 6 from 2:00-3:30pm with Erin Roelke and Millie Richard discussing Hoarding and Clutter: Community Support Approaches. Registration is free at howardcenter.org.

Also, our virtual annual conference, **Perspectives on Connection, Compassion, and Belonging** will be held on March 30, 2021 from 9am - 1pm. For more information and to register, visit howardcenter.org.



Winooski Playgroup

By Martina Kerkering



Dear families, caregivers, and kids!

Spring is around the corner! Stay healthy and strong!

Missing your friends? Looking for parenting support?

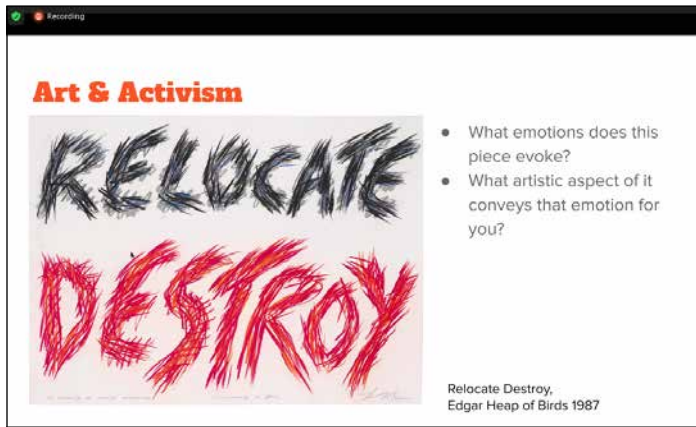
Join us for some much needed time together during our virtual family support group. Whether you would like to do a little Yoga, read a story, or just enjoy a little chat. We offer family support every Tuesday from 11:15AM-12PM via ZOOM. Please reach out via email or phone to receive the ZOOM information!

mkerkering@howardcenter.org or (802) 324 6405.

That's a Wrap: WSD Students Learn the ABC's of Animation

By Jane Henderson, Winooski Partnership for Prevention Grants Manager

A big thank you to Ian (at Scout Digital Media) for leading three classes for Winooski students on the fundamentals of animation and the ways that art can be used for activism! The animation course, offered by the WPP and the school's Above the Influence after-school program in partnership with 21C, taught students the history of animation, the importance of storytelling, and how students can use art for advocacy. In the last session, students helped to build a storyboard for the creation of a new animation to be shared through our social media and newsletter - keep an eye out for it!



S24: Banning Menthol and Flavored Tobacco in Vermont

The Vermont Senate has revived legislation that would ban the sale of menthol cigarettes and flavored vaping and tobacco products. With more than a quarter of Vermont youth vaping, a surge in cigarette and e-cigarette sales, and aggressive marketing by the tobacco industry of menthol to youth and people of color – it is clear that policy changes can reduce health consequences and use. The tobacco industry uses minty flavors and colorful packaging to make e-cigarettes, little cigars and chew seem more appealing. In fact, two-thirds of tobacco-using youth said they use these products because they come in flavors they like. Looking for more information on how caretakers and VT residents can get involved? *CounterBalanceVT.com* educates Vermonters about the impact of tobacco marketing on young people in our state.

Unhyped

Vapes are popping up everywhere in Vermont. But with all the flavors and ads on social media, it's hard to figure out what's really going on. UNHYPED separates the truth from the hype so you can see the real facts about vaping for yourself. Scan the QR code here (via your smartphone) to be directed to the UNHYPE website, where you can get the real facts.



HEALTH CORNER

April Health Update

By Elizabeth Parris, BSN, RN, NCSN

Recently, you may have heard conversations around adolescents who have had COVID-19 needing additional clearance from their PCP before resuming their sports program. This is due to new research that suggests COVID-19 can cause myocarditis. Myocarditis is an inflammation of the heart muscle. It's part of the body's immune response to the illness caused by the coronavirus.

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics: "All patients who have been infected with SARS-CoV-2 or with exposure to SARS-CoV-2, regardless of symptoms, require a minimum 14-day resting period and must be completely asymptomatic for greater than 14 days before returning to exercise and/or competition. They also should be cleared for participation by their primary care physician."

The severity of the illness will determine the extent of the exam. Some students with mild symptoms may only require a check in with their PCP. Others may require an EKG and/or referral to cardiology prior to resuming physical activity.

Please feel free to contact the health office if you have any questions or would like additional information: 802-383-6040 or 802-383-6094.



You are not alone
We are here to help

Call a COVID Support Counselor at 2-1-1, option #2.



COVID SUPPORT VT

Promoting mental health and wellness for all

WITH SUPPORT FROM



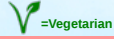
Confidential and FREE • M-F, 8am-8pm

@COVIDSupportVT | Find more resources at COVIDSupportVT.org



Winooski JFK Elementary School Breakfast

April 2021



Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1 Maple Burstn Pancakes Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety OR WG Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	2 WG Iced Honey Bun Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety OR WG Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety
5 Whole Grain Bagel Cream Cheese Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety OR WG Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	6 Blueberry Bread Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety OR WG Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	7 Remote Learning See Side Panel	8 Maple Burstn Pancakes Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety OR WG Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	9 WG Iced Honey Bun Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety OR WG Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety
12 Whole Grain Bagel Cream Cheese Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety OR WG Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	13 Blueberry Bread Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety OR WG Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	14 Remote Learning See Side Panel	15 Maple Burstn Pancakes Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety OR WG Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	16 WG Iced Honey Bun Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety OR WG Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety
19 No School	20 No School	21 No School	22 No School	23 No School
26 Whole Grain Bagel Cream Cheese Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety OR WG Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	27 Blueberry Bread Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety OR WG Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	28 Remote Learning See Side Panel	29 Maple Burstn Pancakes Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety OR WG Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	30 WG Iced Honey Bun Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety OR WG Asst. Cereal Graham Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Please advise us if special meal accommodations are required for allergens or other special dietary needs.

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:

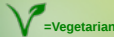


Click Image Below for employment opportunities.



Winooski JFK Elementary School Lunch

April 2021



Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1 Street Tacos ✓Black Bean & Corn Salad Fresh Apple OR Deli Turkey & Cheese Sandwich ✓Black Bean & Corn Salad Fresh Apple OR Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola Milk Variety	2 Baja Chicken & Rice Bowl ✓Steamed Green Peas Pineapple Apples OR Deli Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Pineapple Apples OR Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola Milk Variety
5 Sloppy Joe on a Bun (Ground Beef) ✓Crispie Cut French Fries ✓Steamed Green Peas OR Deli Turkey Sandwich ✓Carrot Coins Peeled Slices OR Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola Milk Variety	6 Chicken Fajita w/ Sautéed Onions & Peppers Cajon Sour Cream Sliced Peaches OR Deli Turkey Sandwich ✓Fresh Green Pepper Strips Sliced Peaches OR Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola Milk Variety	7 Remote Learning See Side Panel	8 Oven Baked BBQ Chicken Dinner Roll Rice Pilaf ✓Chef's Mashed Potato ✓Glazed Carrots Deli Turkey Sandwich ✓Creamy Colleslaw Sliced Peaches Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola Milk Variety	9 Cheeseburger ✓Crispie Cut French Fries ✓Fresh Carrot Sticks Deli Turkey Sandwich Vegetable Slices OR Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola Milk Variety
12 Chicken Teriyaki Rice Pilaf ✓Steamed Green Peas Sliced Peaches OR Deli Turkey Sandwich ✓Fresh Celery Sticks Sliced Peaches OR Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola Milk Variety	13 Homemade Shepherd's Pie (Ground Beef, Corn & Mashed Potato) Dinner Roll Applesauce OR Deli Turkey Sandwich ✓Carrot Coins Fresh Apple OR Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola Milk Variety	14 Remote Learning See Side Panel	15 Corn Dog ✓Roasted Sweet Potato Wedges ✓Steamed Green Peas OR Deli Turkey Sandwich ✓Steamed Green Peas Fresh Apple OR Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola Milk Variety	16 French Toast Sticks Turkey Sausage Patty ✓Mini Hash Browns Fresh Blueberries OR Deli Turkey Sandwich ✓Fresh Carrot Sticks Fresh Blueberries OR Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola Milk Variety
19 No School	20 No School	21 No School	22 No School	23 No School
26 Chicken Patty Sandwich ✓Oven Crisp Tater Toss Sliced Peaches OR Deli Turkey Sandwich ✓Steamed Carrots Sliced Peaches OR Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola Milk Variety	27 Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce (Ground Beef) ✓Steamed Corn Dinner Roll Fresh Apple OR Deli Turkey Sandwich ✓Steamed Broccoli Fresh Apple OR Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola Milk Variety	28 Remote Learning See Side Panel	29 Macaroni and Cheese Dinner Roll ✓Steamed Broccoli Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit OR Deli Turkey Sandwich ✓Broccoli Salad Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit OR Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola Milk Variety	30 Pancakes Real Maple Syrup Turkey Sausage Patty ✓Sweet & White Hominites Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit OR Deli Turkey Sandwich ✓Vegetable Slices Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit OR Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola Milk Variety

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Please advise us if special meal accommodations are required for allergens or other special dietary needs.

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:**
- 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

Deli Options K-8

Milk Condiments

Fresh, Dried Or Canned Fruit

Pay for meals on-line. Click Image Below



Click Image Below for employment opportunities.



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
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Newsletter of the Winooski School District

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**Earth Day is
 Thursday, April 22**

*By Emily Hecker,
 WSD Communications Director*

At the Winooski School District, we try to respect our planet every day. We wanted to take this opportunity to share some environmentally-responsible ways to dispose of your newsletter.



Recycle it!



Line your pet's home to keep it cleaner



Crumple it up and use it to mail something fragile



Shred it and compost it (yes, compost!). Newsprint and other paper is safe to use as mulch or in compost. In fact, paper provides necessary carbon, retains soil moisture, boosts soil volume and makes worms happy.



***Use it to start a fire (*adults only)**