

The Winooski Newsletter

A newsletter created in partnership by the City of Winooski and the Winooski School District.

APRIL 2024



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
We are the future.



Superintendent Update

By Wilmer Chavarria, Superintendent of Schools

Dear Winooski Community,
I hope you are enjoying the warmer-than-ever temperatures; we might as well. Our wonderful students always remind us of how resilient and adaptable we are as humans, and there is always time for play and joy, even in strange times. Here in the schools, the learning and fun have not ceased, and we are

sincerely grateful that the community chose to properly fund our schools for one more year.

This was an unprecedented budgeting season for many reasons. Some would say it was a “perfect storm” of factors in the same year, including a city-wide reappraisal that will update home values reflected in bills, the unprecedented increases in labor-related costs statewide, and the messy implementation of Act 127 in its first year. Still, at the end of the day, we celebrate the passage of our budget and cannot wait to deliver on its potential. The very first thing we will do is to open two new Pre-K classrooms. Our Early Childhood Program at JFK will offer a full-day 8:00am–3:00pm option for the 2024-2025 school year. We will prioritize 4-year-old students for the full school day opportunity, allowing us to support the growth of school readiness skills.

Among other important things to note for next year, we have already released our new 2024-2025 school calendar, which includes updates on holidays such as MLK day, a holiday the day after Halloween, and a first day for students on August 26.

It also moves the start of the school day to 8:15am rather than 8:00. The school doors will continue to open at 7:30am as usual, and class will still end at 3:00pm, but the bus and class schedules in the morning will move by 15 minutes. If you are a parent, caregiver, or guardian, please remember this as you plan for the next school year. We hope that by allowing teachers an extra 15 minutes before school for professional learning, planning for student support, meeting with families, and collaboration, the quality of instruction for students will be strengthened over time.

Finally, please note that the collective of districts in the Chittenden area modified its original plan regarding the April 8 eclipse. As a group, we decided to close all schools, given the high level of uncertainty about what that day may bring and what it may entail for student safety. While I prefer not to change plans that have already been set, I also understand the value of collaborating with our neighboring districts regarding weather-related closures. If you have students or children who want to witness the eclipse safely, please know that we provide free eclipse glasses in our offices.

Thank you for partnering with us in providing the most comprehensive educational program to the children and youth of Winooski.

Students Gain Real-World Financial Skills at Financial Reality Fair

By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications

Winooski High School was abuzz with activity as over 200 students engaged in an immersive Financial Reality Fair. This unique event aimed to equip students with practical skills in budgeting and financial management, preparing them for real-world financial challenges ahead.

During the Fair, students stepped into the shoes of adults, complete with assigned careers, incomes, and family situations. Working in pairs, they navigated through various financial decisions, including housing, transportation, groceries, childcare, and discretionary spending. The ultimate objective was to successfully manage their finances and avoid accumulating debt.

The Financial Reality Fair was made possible through the generous support of NorthCountry Federal Credit Union, a steadfast partner of Winooski High School.





School Board Update

By Isaiah Donaldson, Secretary, Board of School Trustees

Spring is here in Vermont! The sun is shining and I am seeing this amazing area just shift out of Winter mode and glow through with its true beauty. We have just been through a bunch of changes within our amazing little city of Winooski and these are beyond positive. The main changes from my end I wanted to spotlight is with our school district. The FY25 budget

has been approved and we have secured 3 board trustees. With the budget passing this is giving our district what it needs to operate as we have and continue to grow and mold our youths minds and bodies in our district to prepare them for adulthood and get them ready to be adults. This is just amazing to say and I am grateful to each and every one of our members in this community. Also, 3 board trustee seats have been filled securing our district with a full board going into this year.

Please join me in welcoming our newest member - Elom Kpesse to the board! She is a huge add to our board and I am thrilled to start working along side her. Also, we are welcoming back Nicole Mace & myself - Isaiah Donaldson to the board. WOOHOO!

The WSD Board of Trustees has done loads of work to get to where we are and we will continue to put forth that work as we have promised. Gratitude is what I hold close to my heart and that just pours into my life. Winooski, VT is the place to be and the place to watch. Our community is amazing and lets all join together in continuing to make this a place we enjoy calling our home. Robert Millar, Kamal Dahal, Elom Kpesse, Nicole Mace and myself are here for everyone. Cheers to Spring!

Winooski School Antiracism Steering Committee Update

By Christie Beveridge, Program and Communications Director, UP for Learning

On Monday, March 11th, youth and adults from the Winooski community gathered for the tenth meeting of the 2023-2024 Antiracism Steering Committee (ARSC). This team is tasked with implementing the six demands of the Winooski Students for Antiracism (WSA): to form a truth and reconciliation commission, hire and retain more faculty of color, establish a multilingual mentoring program, implement an ethnic studies curriculum, conduct an equity audit of the school, and host a yearly workshop for students where they can learn about their civil rights.

At this meeting, the ARSC took part in analyzing the data they collected through a student survey that they created and distributed this winter. At a previous meeting, members of the committee had identified five major concerns from the survey, including the disparities between students of the global majority and white students who agreed with statements such as "I have at least one adult I trust in the school/community," and "I have experienced racial biases, prejudice, and injustices at my school." The team discussed the five concerns, writing down possible root causes and ways to address them. At the close of the meeting, Middle School Math Teacher Maeve Poleman announced that the administration had asked if any students on the ARSC were interested in being on the hiring committee for the new Multilingual Mentor Program



Coordinator, and several volunteered. Next week, the team will meet virtually with a member of the Vermont Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) to learn more about what they do and to see how the team can apply the state's model to Winooski School's own TRC. If you have any questions about the work of the ARSC or would like to learn how to become involved, please get in touch with Christie Beveridge at christie@upforlearning.org.

News From Around the District

By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications



Photo courtesy of sanders.senate.gov.

Harmony in Action

In March, our Winooski Middle/High School Chorus took the stage at the Bernie Sanders Choral Concert, and they were absolutely phenomenal! A huge round of applause to our students for their hard work and dedication, and to Chorus teacher Mikayla Kelemen!



Junior Iron Chefs For The Win!

Our Winooski Wild Onions celebrate winning the Junior Iron Chef Crowd Pleaser Award for the second year running with their delectable Street Corn Risotto Cakes. A flavorful fusion of color, texture, and taste that wowed the crowd once again!



Boys' Basketball Team Soars to Semifinals in Inspiring Season

The Winooski Boys Basketball Team has showcased resilience and skill, defying expectations to reach the semifinals of the Vermont state championship. Despite graduating nine seniors last year, their determination and talent shone through, bringing them within just one point of the final. A season to remember, filled with pride and admiration for our incredible team!



Student Artwork on Display

Our 7th and 8th grade artists unveiled their symbolic self-portraits, blending surrealism with personal symbolism to convey their unique identities. Catch a glimpse of their creativity at Scout & Co. Coffee Shop in downtown Winooski, where a selection of these captivating artworks from our fall and spring semester classes is on display until May. A huge thank you to Scout & Co. for showcasing our students' talents!



From the Desk of the Winooski School Resource Officer

By Officer Jason Ziter

Hello, Students, Families, and Community. We've had a pretty mild winter, and with the clocks "springing" ahead, we know spring is right around the corner. I've even seen some flowers poking through the ground and trees budding. That all means warmer weather will be staying around. Warmer weather brings more outside activities.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone who may be riding bikes to and from school to wear helmets. When you are riding your bike, make sure you are following the rules of the road and riding with traffic, not against it. As you've learned in P.E. with Coach B, bike riders have rules they need to follow to ensure their safety.

- Make sure bikes are in good working order, and the brakes are working correctly, too.
- Walkers need to make sure they use the sidewalks and cross at marked crossings as well. We have 2 school facilities staff who help with crossings in the morning and the afternoon. They are there all year to make sure everyone crosses safely. If you're listening to music with AirPods or headphones, please take them out before you cross so you can hear vehicles and instructions. Utilize crosswalk signals if they are present where you cross.
- Students who walk to school and home should always walk with friends and relatives. This way, you're safer in numbers. Report any suspicious circumstances quickly so the police department can look into these reports promptly. Things to try and remember: vehicle description - color, style, and stickers or markings on the vehicle. How many people were in the vehicle and a good description of the driver as possible.

Thank you for paying attention to your travel and your safety. We can all work together to make getting to and from school safe! Remember, ride P.H.A.T.! Protect your Head at All Times.

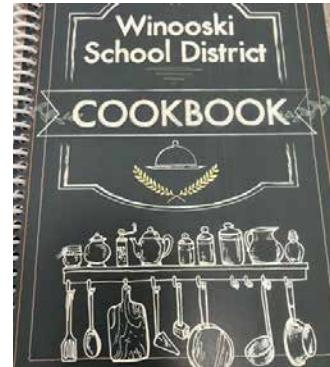


WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
We are the future.

Help Support the Winooski High School Prom

By Karen Greene

Winooski School and Community Cookbook; Enjoy recipes from staff, students, and community members. \$5.00 a book. Email kgreen@wsdvt.org or call 802-383-6109 if interested!



Winooski School District Legal Notification

Per the Vermont State Board of Education the Special Education Office of the Winooski School District hereby gives notification of the destruction of Special Education records of many students who graduated or attended the Winooski Schools during the following school years: 2018-2019.

Be advised that select information from these Special Education records may be useful later for non-educational purposes such as qualifying for social security benefits.

If you wish to collect these records before they are destroyed, please contact Sandy Castle at 802-383-6009 or at scastle@wsdvt.org. The deadline is 30 days from this ad.

HEALTH CORNER

Health Office News

By Emily Gallina, RN, BSN

Happy Spring! April is here, and the weather is starting to warm up!

Please remember to:

- Apply sunscreen to your children whenever they play outside.
- Encourage your children to drink plenty of fluids to keep them well-hydrated.
- Help keep your children's smile intact by having them wear mouthguards whenever they play contact sport

If your child is playing a spring sport for the first time this school year, please make sure to have their PCP fax us an updated sports physical. The health office fax is 802-383-6017. On behalf of the health office, we want to wish all of you a happy spring break!

SCHOOL MENUS



Winooski Elementary School Breakfast April 2024

Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Blueberry Bread Slice Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit, Milk Variety	2 Cinnamon Granola Breakfast Round Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit, Milk Variety	3 Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit, Milk Variety	4 Iced Breakfast Bun Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit, Milk Variety	5 Chocolate Chip Muffin Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit, Milk Variety
8 Blueberry Bread Slice Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit, Milk Variety	9 No School	10 Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit, Milk Variety	11 Iced Breakfast Bun Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit, Milk Variety	12 Chocolate Chip Muffin Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit, Milk Variety
15 Blueberry Bread Slice Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit, Milk Variety	16 Cinnamon Granola Breakfast Round Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit, Milk Variety	17 Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit, Milk Variety	18 Iced Breakfast Bun Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit, Milk Variety	19 Chocolate Chip Muffin Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit, Milk Variety
22 Spring Break!	23 Spring Break!	24 Spring Break!	25 Spring Break!	26 Spring Break!
29 Blueberry Bread Slice Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit, Milk Variety	30 Cinnamon Granola Breakfast Round Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit, Milk Variety			

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Meals Are Free To All Students

Adult Breakfast \$2.90

Adult Lunch \$4.75

Milk \$0.50

Please Click Links Below for Nutrition Information on Daily Options:
Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit, Skim White Milk, 1% White Milk, & Fat Free Chocolate Milk Offered With All Meals.

Milk Condiments

Fresh, Dried Or Canned Fruit

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



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

Click Image Below for employment opportunities



Winooski Elementary School K-8 Lunch April 2024

Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Cheeseburger Flatbread Hand Cut French Fries Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	2 Buffalo Chicken Dip w/ Tortilla Chips Steamed Corn Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	3 Turkey Apple Cheddar Panini Sandwich Tomato Basil & Brown Rice Soup Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	4 Cheesy Ravioli Bake Seasoned Green Beans Garlic Breadstick Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	5 Chicken Curry Rice Pilaf Roasted Cauliflower Curry Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety
8 No School	9 No School	10 Chicken & Cheddar Quesadilla w/ Salsa Rice Pilaf Confetti Corn Salad Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	11 Cheesy Breadsticks Marinara Sauce Garlic Butter Roasted Carrots Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	12 Hot Turkey Sandwich Chef's Mashed Potato Seasoned Green Beans Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety
15 BBQ Chicken Sandwich Hand Cut French Fries Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	16 Taco Bar w/ Hard or Soft Shell Garden Salsa Rice Pilaf Mexicali Corn Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	17 Chicken & Cheese Calzone Marinara Sauce Steamed Broccoli Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	18 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce Garlic Breadstick Seasoned Green Beans Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar	19 Oven Baked Chicken Nuggets Dinner Roll Oven Baked Potato Puffs Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar
22 Happy Spring Break! 	23 Happy Spring Break! 	24 Happy Spring Break! 	25 Happy Spring Break! 	26 Happy Spring Break!
29 Meatball Sub (Beef & Chicken Meatballs) Roasted Potato Wedges Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	30 Chicken & Cheese Fajita Southwest Rice Pilaf Black Bean & Corn Salad Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety Birthday Celebration			

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Meals Are Free To All Students

Adult Breakfast \$2.90

Adult Lunch \$4.75

Milk \$0.50

Please Click Links Below for Nutrition Information on Daily Options:

Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola, Deli Turkey & Cheese Sandwich, Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich w/Cheese Stick

Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit, Skim White Milk, 1% White Milk, & Fat Free Chocolate Milk Offered With All Deli Options K-8

Express Options

Grab & Chef Salad or Yogurt Parfait w/Oat Milk Condiments

Fresh, Dried Or Canned Fruit

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



Harvest of the Month: Whole Grains

Click on the image above for more info on the Harvest of the Month!

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



REPRESENTATIVE UPDATES

Letter from the Mayor

By Mayor Kristine Lott

Hello neighbors! March brought us another successful Town Meeting Day election. Many thanks to our City Clerk's Office, election workers, and volunteers for your great work in managing this beloved Vermont tradition, and congratulations to Councilors Renner and Hurd on their re-elections. Please join me in thanking these folks for their dedicated service! The City and School budgets and bond votes all passed. With the passage of Article 6, we'll reallocate existing debt to complete deferred paving on Reginald, Rogers, Bernard, and Gail Streets, by replacing curbing next year to support repaving and sidewalk repairs the following year. We're happy to use these existing funds to get this back on the annual paving schedule.

With the passage of Article 7, we're able to take up to \$4.6 Million of new debt for our local share of the Burlington-Winooski Bridge replacement, with state and federal funding covering 90% of the costs. This keeps the project on the timeline required by the federal RAISE grant that's allowing this significant infrastructure upgrade to happen, improving safety for all users. We'll continue to work towards reducing Winooski's

From Your Local Representative

By Representative Daisy Berbeco

We are at the mid point of our 2024 Legislative Session so what better time to pause for updates on key state policy priority areas for Winooski?

Housing: This year the Governor's proposed budget falls woefully short of the \$200 million required to address homelessness and it reduces funding for housing development. Act 250 reform alone will not solve this crisis we are in, but a long-term strategic commitment will.

The Housing Committee is advancing a ten-year plan (H.829) to address the housing crisis. It includes 300 new beds for unhoused individuals and families, 7,500 additional homes and apartments, eviction prevention resources, and social services. This investment could transform Vermont's affordable-housing landscape.

Health and Wellness: The Health Care Committee is working on the Medicaid Expansion Act, H.721 — the most ambitious effort to improve access to affordable health care in over a decade. While large parts will be undergoing a technical analysis to lessen the burden on taxpayers, this bill will:

- Expand Medicaid eligibility to all Vermonters with incomes up to 312% of the federal poverty level.
- Prevent older Vermonters from falling off of the Medicare benefits "cliff"
- Allow young Vermonters to keep their Dr. Dynasaur benefits until age 26.



Winooski Representatives
Taylor Small (left) and
Daisy Berbeco (right)

share if possible. Visit the project page for more details at burlingtonwinooskibrIDGE.vtransprojects.vermont.gov.

With the passage of the City budget, we'll increase staffing at the Fire Department to ensure adequate emergency response, and at the Winooski Memorial Library to support current open hours. This budget, and last year's budget, were both significantly higher than usual partly due to inflation, but also to address infrastructure and staffing needs to support our growing community. Over the past several years, we've taken on many significant projects: Main St. Revitalization, wastewater treatment plant upgrades, fixing Hickok Street, purchasing two new firetrucks, Community Services Department program expansions, and All-Resident Voting. Coupled with growth in our population and housing density, these have added a lot of expense to the budget for staffing and debt service.

As we look forward to the future, we'll focus on sustainability: We need to take a step back and consider the financial commitments we've already made, the list of projects in the queue, and community priorities, to make decisions about what core services the City must and can provide responsibly while maintaining affordability in Winooski.

- Increase Medicaid reimbursement rates to our providers.
- Give small business owners an affordable option to provide their employees with health insurance through Medicaid.

Purpose and Access: You may already know that due to a long list of factors, our taxes are increasing. The good news is there are tools available that can save you money.

Two of our largest tax credits are the *Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)* and the *Child Tax Credit (CTC)*. The EITC is meant to offset taxes paid by low-wage earners, and the CTC offers a per-child amount to families.

If you own a home, file a homestead declaration! Two thirds of Vermonters are eligible for income-based property tax relief and filing the homestead declaration is the way to receive that discount.

Free Tax Preparation Help: You can always find free tax preparation help at:

- <https://tax.vermont.gov/individuals/free-tax-preparation-assistance>
- <https://states.aarp.org/vermont/aarp-foundation-tax-aide-opens-in-vermont>
- Vermont's Taxpayer Advocate: 802-828-6848 or tax.taxpayeradvocate@vermont.gov.

For a more comprehensive list of resources and updates on legislative activity, please visit my website at www.DaisyForWinooski.com and download the full Mid-Session Report.

CITY UPDATES



City Clerk's Office Reminders

Open 8am–4pm, Monday–Friday
winooskivt.gov/clerk | 802-655-6410

Thank you to all of our volunteers who assisted during the Town Meeting Day and Presidential Primary election last month - you were a great help. Also, thank you to the following restaurants who provided us all with delicious food: Asian Bistro of Winooski, Morning Light Bakery, Misery Loves Company, Monkey House and Mountain Valley Restaurant.

Elections: To register for the upcoming Statewide Primary & General Elections, please register at olvr.vermont.gov. If you would like to request an absentee ballot, please visit mvp.vermont.gov or contact the City Clerk's Office.

Dog licenses: Dogs owned in the City of Winooski must be registered with the City Clerk on or before April 1st-with new year. To register, visit the City Clerk's Office - please provide a currently valid rabies certificate along with the appropriate payment. Cost on/before April 1st: \$14 (altered), \$18 (un-altered)

Winooski's Land Records are now searchable online!

Recorded Land index and images are available from January 3, 2000, to current, and new recordings will be added and kept up to date as quickly as possible. A link to our online Land Records can be found on the City Clerk's page at winooskivt.gov/clerk.

2024 Solar Eclipse Update

On April 8, 2024, a solar eclipse will occur from 2:14–4:37pm. At 3:26pm, a “total eclipse” will darken Vermont’s daytime sky, lasting about 3 minutes. For all eclipse information, please visit vermont.gov/eclipse. This website provides safety and glasses information, updates/alerts, viewing locations, resources, and more.

Regional and local public safety agencies will be keeping an eye on traffic and safety during the event. Please adhere to good “Eclipse Etiquette” - an estimated 20,000 to 120,000 visitors are

Main Street Revitalization Project Update

Construction on the Winooski Main Street Revitalization Project will begin mid-April. The project will improve the roadway along the Main Street (U.S. Route 2/7) corridor, starting at the New England Central Railroad bridge near the intersection with Maple Street and extending to the Winooski-Colchester town line near the Winooski School District.

The Main Street Revitalization Project includes the installation of new stormwater infrastructure and sewer and water utilities, the relocation of aerial utilities, an enhancement of roadway aesthetics, and an upgrade of traffic signals and pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

Construction activities are anticipated to take place predominately Monday through Friday during the daytime hours. There will be some instances of night and weekend work when necessary. Construction will require single-lane closures with alternating one-way traffic; however, there will be short temporary road closures with detours.

Receive information about ongoing construction activities and traffic impacts along Main Street by signing up for project email updates on the project website at winooskivt.gov/mainstreet. Multilingual project updates are also available on the project website in 14 languages. Questions or comments? Contact the project’s Public Information Team at 802-595-4399 or info@winooskimainstreet.com at any time.

expected to travel to Vermont for the eclipse!

For text or email updates during the eclipse, like traffic and weather, text VTECLIPSE to 888-777.

Don't want to travel? Looking for an eclipse-themed event in Winooski? Visit downtownwinooski.org/eclipse.



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Winooski Recreation and Parks

802-777-1621 | recreation@winooskivt.gov
winooskivt.gov/recprograms

YOUTH

Summer Camp registration now open!

- Outdoor Science | June 17–June 21
- Art in Our World | August 12–August 16
- Xtreme Games | August 19–August 23

VT Patriots Spring Soccer

- U6/U8/U10/U12 | April 29–June 15

Skateboarding with Burton Chill

- Ages 10–14 | Tuesdays, May 7–May 21

Tennis in the Parks

- Grades 1–5 | Tuesdays, May 7–June 11

Green Up Day

- All ages | May 4
- 8:30am–2:00pm | Winooski Senior Center

Winooski Waves Swim Team

- Ages 5–18 | June 10–August 5

ADULTS

Yoga Vinyasa Flow

- A18+ | Mondays & Wednesdays, January 8–May 29

Winooski Bike Gang

- 18+ | Wednesdays, April 10–September 4

Winooski Running Club

- 18+ | Wednesdays, May 1–September 4

Tennis in the Parks

- 18+ | Wednesdays, May 8–June 12



Winooski Memorial Library

32 Malletts Bay Ave | 802-655-6424 | library@winooskivt.gov
winooskivt.gov/library

Tuesday & Wednesday: 10am–6pm

Thursday & Friday: 10am–5pm

Saturday: 10am–2pm

DROP-IN PROGRAMS:

YOUTH

- **Library Playgroup** | Birth & up | Tuesdays | 10:30am
- **Pokémon Club** | Ages 8+ | Wednesdays | 3:30pm
- **Weekly Storytime** | Birth & up | Thursdays | 10:30am
- **Cardboard Kids** | Ages 8+ | Thursdays | 3:30pm
- **STEAM Ahead** | Ages 5+ | Saturdays | 10:00am
- **Birding with Audubon VT** | Youth | Sat., Apr. 13 | 10am
- **Dad Guild Playgroup** | Families/Youth | Sat, Mar 16 | 12:30pm

ADULTS

- **English Conversation Group** | Ages 18+ | Tue & Thu | 11am
- **1:1 Tech Help** | Ages 18+ | Sat., April 13 & 20 | 11:30am
- **Winooski Reads Book Club** | Ages 18+ | Tue., April 30 | 6pm

Celebrate National Poetry Month

Look for our roving typewriter popping up at locations throughout the city during the month and leave us your best word, sentence, verse, or feeling!

Audiobooks, eBooks, & more

Did you know that library cardholders have access to free audiobooks, ebooks, film streaming, language learning, educational/professional development courses, and more? Visit our website at winooskivt.gov/library or stop by info.

Library of Things

Borrow snowshoes, museum passes, headlamps, birding backpacks, a telescope, walking poles, snow shovels, and other items to enjoy!

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Winooski Senior Center

123 Barlow Street | 802-655-6425

seniorcenter@winooskivt.gov

winooskivt.gov/seniorcenter

Tuesday & Wednesday: 9am–12pm

Thursday: 9am–2pm

TUESDAYS

Grab-N-Go Meals

- 10am–12pm | 60+ | \$5 suggested donation
- Nutritious takeout meals from AgeWell
- Call to RSVP by 12pm the previous Thursday

WEDNESDAYS

Breakfast Café

- 9am–11am | Priced by Donation | Drop-in
- Enjoy freshly made breakfast sandwiches, fruit, treats, and drinks

THURSDAYS

Sit Down Community Meals

- 12pm | 60+ | \$5 suggested donation | Call to RSVP by 12pm the previous Monday
- Healthy sit-down lunches from AgeWell

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

- **Story Quilt Project Coffee Chat** | Free | Wednesday May 1 at 10am. Meet the instructor, Lisa Therrien and learn about this free exciting quilting workshop project starting May 22 with the Winooski Heritage Mill Museum
- **Bone Builders Exercise** | Free | Monday & Wednesday | 2–3pm
- **Meals on Wheels** - Please call AgeWell at 802-863-0360 to find out the eligibility requirements. Volunteers are always needed.

Thrive After School

2024 Summer Camp

Sign up at winooskivt.gov/thriveprograms

Hey there, summer campers — are you ready for the best summer ever? We've got tons of fun activities planned for you. We'll start by exploring nature and learning about the world around us. Then, we'll travel through time and discover different cultures. And after that, we'll become mad scientists and experiment with all sorts of cool things. And let's not forget about the mysterious creatures in the ocean! We'll have a blast together and make memories that will last a lifetime.

- Grades K–5
- Monday–Friday, 8am–5pm at the Winooski School District

Camp Themes and Dates:

- **Nature Explorers:** June 24–28
- **Time Travelers:** July 1–3
- **Around the World:** July 8–12
- **Olympic Weeks:** July 15–19
- **Mad Science:** July 22–26
- **Mysterious Ocean:** July 29–August 2
- **Summer Favorites:** August 5–9



 Sign Up

Scan the QR code to learn more about and
sign up for anything on these pages!
winooskivt.gov/programs

Be a Goal Getter: Downtown Winooski is using crowdfunding and leveraging state and private funding to make Rotary Park a place where people love to gather and connect!



The Crowdfunding Campaign:



The Flow of Funds:



You scan the code above to give as little as \$10 to the campaign

The Better Places Program gives DOUBLE that amount



We work with local artists and contractors to improve Rotary Park



Amazing Downtown Block Parties commence

**Learn more & have your donation tripled through May 5:
Scan the code above or visit patronicity.com/rotary**

SERVICE PROVIDERS



Winooski Food Shelf

24 West Allen Street | winooskifoodshelf.org

April Dates:

- Wednesday, April 10th: 1pm–3pm
- Saturday, April 13: 9:30am–11am
- Wednesday, April 24th: 1pm–3pm
- Saturday, April 27th: 9:30am–11am

Howard Center Collaborates with Winooski Police

By Paul Detzer, Development and Communications Engagement Manager

In 2018, Howard Center's Community Outreach team began providing mental health and social services in Winooski, collaborating closely with the Winooski Police Department. This partnership allows for a co-response approach to active calls involving mental health concerns and social service needs, ensuring comprehensive care and support for individuals in need of help or assistance.

"It's incredible to see the impact of combining police work and social services. Every day is a chance to learn from each other and to deepen our understanding of how best to serve our community's needs. Police are often the first to encounter individuals requiring assistance, making their referrals vital to our mission. It's about partnership, respect, and shared goals." - Liam Walsh, Winooski's primary Community Outreach team member.

Community Outreach meets with the department daily. This ongoing interaction informs and enhances interactions with the community through direct engagement and follow-up referrals from the police. Our efforts focus on proactive community engagement, we are frequently visible at community events and on the streets, emphasizing our commitment to being a part of the community. Community Outreach's efforts are rooted in collaboration and direct communication to address the mental health and social service needs of the Winooski community.

For those in Winooski seeking assistance or wishing to refer someone in need, Help is Here. Howard Center's Community Outreach Program can be reached at 802-488-7778. To learn more, visit howardcenter.org/outreach.



The Winooski Food Shelf is busy! We now have over 350 Winooski households accessing our services. The line moves right along since we hand out pre boxed veggies on Saturdays and bagged pantry staples and veggies on Wednesdays. We also have eggs and meat. We currently have Halal chicken. We have no diapers.

Food Shelf policy: Clients may come one Wednesday and two Saturdays each month. New clients must bring a utility bill or lease. Winooski residents can also access Feeding Chittenden, 228 North Winooski Avenue in Burlington.

Where to find us: We are located at 24 West Allen Street inside the green United Methodist Church. Our phone is 802-655-7371.

Volunteers needed: Please reach out to us at our e-mail: winooskifoodshelf@gmail.com. We need volunteers to pack produce boxes and pantry staples. We especially need help the third Wednesday of each month (April 17th) at 9am to help bring inside and shelve the food dropped off by the Vermont Foodbank truck.

Winooski Youth Baseball, Softball, and Babe Ruth Baseball

Online registration is currently open for Little Leagues for youth ages 4 -12! Visit tshq.bluesombrero.com/winooskibaseball to sign up.



Our programs are open to all Winooski residents and anyone who attends St. Francis School and the Winooski School District that may reside outside of the city limits. You will need to set up your account to register your child or to volunteer as Head Coach, Assistant, or Team Manager.

Fees: \$50 for one player, \$90 for family. Babe Ruth Baseball: Youth ages 13 – 18 - \$75 fee. Pay with credit card or mail a check! Options available for players interested in Youth Softball, age groups 6 - 8, 8 - 10, and 10 - 12 (combined with Colchester).

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

Free Throw Contest Winners

Winooski Knights of Columbus, St. Stephens Council # 2284 and Saint Francis Xavier CYO jointly sponsored our annual free throw contest on Thursday, February 15th & Monday, March 4th at the Winooski High School Gym. Congratulations to all (fifty-five) local youths who participated in the event!

The winners were: Evan Barcomb, Audrey Luck, Cade Barcomb, Viviana Andreescu, Isaak Hussein, Olive Knight, Aiden Asarese, Abby English, Brinton Ohler, and Paige Barcomb.

Each winner received a Knights of Columbus winner's certificate Barnes & Noble gift card prize and is eligible to participate in the State level free throw competition on Saturday, March 30th at Vergennes Union High School. Congrats to all!



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS

We are the future.

The Winooski Newsletter

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IMPORTANT NUMBERS IN WINOOSKI

WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT

www.wsdvt.org

Superintendent of Schools

Wilmer Chavarria, wchavarria@wsdvt.org
802-383-6000

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

Robert Millar, President, 802-238-0089, rmillar@wsdvt.org
Kamal Dahal, Vice President, 802-310-2821, kdahal@wsdvt.org
Isaiah Donaldson, Secretary, 802-999-8410, idonaldson@wsdvt.org
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CITY OF WINOOSKI

www.winooskivt.gov, 802-655-6410

Mayor

Kristine Lott, 802-766-1988, klott@winooskivt.gov

City Manager

Elaine Wang, 802-655-6410, ewang@winooskivt.gov

City Councilors

Aurora Hurd, 802-734-7082, ahurd@winooskivt.gov
Charles Judge, 802-655-6410, cjudge@winooskivt.gov
Bryn Oakleaf, 802-448-2966, boakleaf@winooskivt.gov
Thomas Renner, Deputy Mayor, 802-922-3265, trenner@winooskivt.gov

City Clerk

Jenny Willingham, 802-655-6410, jwillingham@winooskivt.gov

Winooski Police

Emergency: Call 9-1-1
Non-emergency: 802-655-0221

Winooski Fire Department

Emergency: Call 9-1-1
Non-emergency: 802-655-6420

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