

# The Winooski Newsletter

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

MARCH 2024



**WINOOSKI SCHOOLS**  
*We are the future.*

## Welcoming our New Chief of Police, Justin Huizenga

By Elaine Wang, City Manager

I am pleased to announce that I have appointed Justin Huizenga, formerly a Winooski Police Department Lieutenant, to serve as Winooski's next Chief of Police.

After a rigorous national search and screening process (managed by Vermont-based law enforcement specialists JW Consulting), I am confident that Justin is the best possible next Police Chief for our community. Chief Huizenga brings to the role a deep commitment to community policing, improving the profession, and building meaningful relationships with residents, colleagues, and partners. The desire for these priorities were evident in all of the feedback we received for this role and the department.

Justin's law enforcement career of 18 years includes a degree in Criminal Justice from Champlain College, an Executive Development certification from Roger Williams University, and



experience as Patrol Sergeant, Detective, Lieutenant, and Interim Chief.

I appreciate the many community members who provided critical feedback not only to aid this decision, but to inform how the Police Department operates into the future. We received 347 responses to the community input survey, and numerous people participated in

interviews or focus groups held by JW Consulting. The focus group invitations prioritized those who otherwise might not be heard through an online survey, including New Americans, youth, and seniors.

I am grateful to Justin for his willingness to step up to this level of leadership, and to everyone in the Winooski Police Department for continuing to provide excellent and professional service during the interim time between Chiefs.

Additional thanks are due to Winooski Police Chief Advisory Committee for their important work to improve the search process and outcomes. Justin and the Police Department have already been ramping up their efforts on community policing. Please stay tuned for opportunities to connect with him and other officers so we can all work together towards our shared goal of safe, healthy, connected people.

## 2024 Myers Memorial Pool Passes Now Available



The City of Winooski is thrilled to announce the launch of our 4th season at the Myers Memorial Pool! Season passes for Winooski residents are now available – get yours at [winooski.vt.gov/pool](http://winooski.vt.gov/pool). Scholarship options can be applied at checkout. Non-residents passes will be available in late March. Season passes

provide unlimited access to daily open swim hours, weekly lap swim hours, and our popular Aqua Aerobics program. Swim lessons are also available for all ages/levels and are free for Winooski residents! The Winooski Waves Swim Team will be open to new members – this incredible community swim team has regular practices, outstanding coaches, and a fun atmosphere. Stay tuned for the full summer schedule.





### Superintendent Update

*By Wilmer Chavarria, Superintendent*

Our district continues to work hard to provide a welcoming and productive space for our students. Every month, I produce a report to the Board where I cover everything from operations to learning and more, and I include pictures of our wonderful students in action. I invite you to look at these monthly reports, which you can find on our website under the “Board” section.

A critical piece of information in this month’s report is our potential later start time for next year (by 15 minutes). After much discussion about the state of support systems for students in the district and the level of readiness of staff to meet the changing demands in education, I have concluded that our schools are under-equipped to promote consistent and relevant professional development that is embedded throughout the school year.

One major factor that contributes to this deficiency is the very limited contractual time in the day for teachers, staff, and administrators to engage in effective, efficient, and meaningful collaboration and collective learning. Staff meetings are usually carried out quickly in the short 30 minutes before students arrive at the classroom door, and professional learning is limited to little windows of opportunity here and there. As a strong believer in the power that professional learning and collaboration can

have in the quality of learning that our students receive, I am exploring the modification of the start time for our schools from 8:00am to 8:15am. This would still provide more than the legally required instructional time, putting us just above the average total instructional time in the region.

Currently, our teachers teach for more total minutes in the day than most schools in the area. The additional 15 minutes will make a significant difference in the flexibility that it provides administrators and staff to finally have more productive meetings and potentially allow us to initiate bi-weekly Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) to allow teams of educators and staff to discuss student data and strategize best practices in response to the data.

I trust that the improved quality of instruction for our students resulting from this ongoing professional growth is a worthy exchange for these 15 minutes. I hope the community will support this change because I believe it will yield a higher quality of instruction and the ability to better personalize learning for students who need additional support. An announcement will be made concurrently with our new calendar.

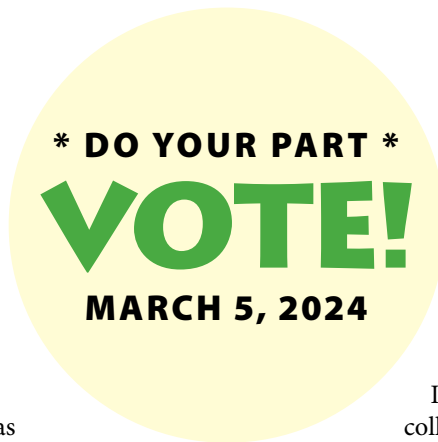
### School Board Update

*By Nicole Mace, School Board Trustee*

If you read this article before March 5th, here is your friendly reminder to vote on the school district’s proposed budget for next school year, along with three trustee seats up for election. Information about how to vote in this year’s Town Meeting Day election is available at: <https://winooski.vt.gov/1564/Town-Meeting-Day>.

I would like to express my deep appreciation to the community members who participated in the FY25 budget process as school board “budget buddies”: Elom Kpesse, Carsen Small, Eli Phillips, Ken White, and Mike Decarreau. Your involvement was critical to developing a budget that balances the need to maintain and expand services with the need to maintain affordability for our taxpayers. I also want to thank community members who engaged in the budget development process by attending presentations, watching board meetings, completing surveys, and emailing individual board members with questions and feedback.

Establishing a budget to present to the voters is one of the most important functions of the school board. Just as important is the board’s role in monitoring the outcomes that result from the investments our community is making in our schools. As a Policy Governance board, we monitor outcomes through policy.



The most important policy we have is our District’s 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.

Now that the budget process is complete, I look forward to working with my Board colleagues and the administration to define key metrics and data sources to monitor this Ends Statement over the coming year. How do we know our students are graduating college and career-ready? How do we know if they are leading healthy, productive, and successful lives? This work excites me most about being on the school board and work that I invite you all to participate in.

All community members are invited to attend school board meetings in person or online. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:00pm. The agenda is posted on the WSD website several days before the meeting ([www.wsdvt.org](http://www.wsdvt.org)).

I look forward to continuing to collaborate with my fellow board members, the administration, and community members to ensure that our investments in our students’ futures produce excellent results.

## Black History is Our History

By Daviah Lawrence, Newcomer ML Teacher/ Reading Specialist

For the month of February, the Newcomers at JFK Elementary School spent each day learning about a different person of color who has had an impact on the lives of those around them. As students of color in a predominantly white state, it is vital that we, as educators, provide opportunities for students to learn about the lives of those who came before them and those who continue to pave the way for people of color in our country.

On February 21st, the Newcomers, alongside the 5th graders, attended a dance performance at the Flynn by the Dance Theater of Harlem. This opportunity allowed students to find a different entry point into our history through the form of dance while also appreciating a multicultural perspective. By exposing students to black history through various avenues, it creates an opportunity for them to make connections and reflect upon our history while also being inspired to continue to make progress on social justice goals.

Social justice has been a long-term need in our country, and by connecting with the history of people of color, we are continuing our social justice work. Black History month is a chance for allies to also reflect upon our nation's history and the contributions of people of color, while having the opportunity to work on their anti-racist skills and awareness. This is why it is important that we teach both students of color and their allies how to advocate for themselves and stand up for what they believe in.

## Winooski Kindergarten Screening

By Sara Raabe, JFK Elementary Principal

If you live in Winooski and have a child who will be 5 by September 1, 2024, they are eligible for Kindergarten for the 2024-25 school year, and you need to sign them up for Kindergarten Screening. The screening will be on **April 4th and 5th**. Call 802-655-0411 or email [lcasier@wsdvt.org](mailto:lcasier@wsdvt.org) to sign up. At least one parent or legal guardian must attend with their student.

## Get Involved with Winooski PTO: Join Us in Supporting Our School Community!

By Libby Daghlian, Winooski PTO member

The Winooski PTO is a dedicated group of parents working together to support the WSD learning community. Several more activities are planned this school year, including school dances, staff appreciation events, and a community dinner. Join us and share your enthusiasm and ideas for supporting our students, teachers, and staff. Our next meeting is on **Tuesday, March 19th** at 6pm at the school. We can't wait to meet you! Visit <https://www.wsdvt.org/parents-families/pto/>, check out our Facebook page (Winooski PTO), or email us at [PTO@wsdvt.org](mailto:PTO@wsdvt.org) for more information.

## Renowned Podcaster Jane Lindholm Inspires First Graders with Eclipse Workshop, Igniting Curiosity and Safety Preparations for April 8 Spectacle

By Amanda Chung, First Grade Teacher

Jane Lindholm, the renowned host, executive producer, and creator of the acclaimed Vermont Public podcast *"But Why: A Podcast for Curious Kids,"* recently visited our first-grade classrooms. Lindholm, known for her expertise in making complex subjects accessible to young minds, took on the task of unraveling the mysteries of the total eclipse slated for April 8.

Bringing her expertise to the classroom, Lindholm engaged the eager first graders in a lively discussion about the celestial phenomenon, captivating their imaginations with tales of the sun, the moon, and the dance they perform during an eclipse. Lindholm guided the students in a hands-on activity as the excitement grew, teaching them how to craft their own eclipse viewers!

Each first grader made their own homemade eclipse viewer and will be given special glasses, ensuring their safety while witnessing the event. The classroom



buzzed with anticipation as Lindholm shared the significance of the upcoming total eclipse, emphasizing the rarity of such an event occurring in their lifetime. Vermont's location is within the solar eclipse's path of totality, which makes it an ideal place to take in the wonder and spectacle of this natural event.

This fantastic workshop seamlessly aligned with our first-grade literacy unit on the sun, stars, and the moon. The interactive session left an indelible mark on the first graders, igniting their curiosity and leaving them eagerly anticipating the upcoming eclipse. We are incredibly grateful to Jane Lindholm for bringing this enriching experience to our classroom. Her passion for education and her ability to make complex topics accessible to young learners is truly commendable.

As the countdown to April 8 begins, the first graders are brimming with excitement, eagerly awaiting the rare total eclipse that they are now ready to witness safely!



**WINOOSKI SCHOOLS**  
We are the future.



## Preschool Skills Screening and Pre-registration

By Nicole Chalke, Early Childhood Special Educator

If your child is or will be 3 by September 1st, 2024 please complete a Preschool Pre-registration Form for ACT 166 Publicly Funded Pre-K or to inquire about a Winooski Preschool Program

and attend our preschool skills screening day. If you have concerns about your child's development, our Winooski Early Childhood team will screen your child's development. This screening is play-based

and free for 3 and 4-year-old children living in Winooski.

- **When:** Friday, March 15, 2024
- **Where:** In the preschool classroom at JFK Elementary School, room E121.
- **How:** Please contact our Early Childhood Special Educator, Nicole Chalke at [nchalke@wsdvt.org](mailto:nchalke@wsdvt.org) or 802-383-6061 to schedule an appointment for you and your child to come into the program on March 15, 2024.

\*Teachers will also be filling out applications for all preschool slots at this time.

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

## HEALTH CORNER

### Health Office

By Elizabeth Parris BSN, RN, NCSN

A few reminders from the health office as we head into spring!

#### Spring Sports:

- If you have a student-athlete planning to participate in spring sports, they must have had a sports physical within the past two years, and we must have a copy on file.
- If your student-athlete has already played in a fall or winter sport, and we already have a copy on file, they are good to go. Please reach out to our athletic director or the nurses with any questions.

#### Kindergarten Registration:

One of my favorite days is kindergarten registration! I love seeing all the little ones and their families prepare for the next chapter of their lives. When you arrive at kindergarten registration, the health office will need the following information:

- Immunizations: copy of the complete set, incomplete set with date of next PCP appointment or religious exemption form
- Medical information: please plan on notifying the nurse if your child has a medical condition or will need to take prescription medications in the health office during the school day.

#### Illness:

Lastly, we still see an uptick in illnesses throughout the school year. Monitor your child's symptoms and call your primary care physician's (PCP) office when needed. It's still not too late to get the flu shot. Ask your child's PCP office if it's right for them.

### Dental Services at School

By Tracy Towers, RDH, BS

Advantages: Child does not need to leave school, parent/guardian does not need to take time off from work

WSD provides Preventive Dental Services on site! These services include dental cleaning, Fluoride Varnish, Dental Sealants, and SDF (Silver Diamine Fluoride)

A Registered Dental Hygienist provides services through the 802 Smiles Dental Network.

PK-12th grade students are eligible for this program. This service does NOT take the place of your child's dental home. We recommend your child visit the dentist yearly for an exam/x-ray.

It's easy to sign up! Forms are available in the school's health office and online through the PowerSchool Portal.

Please contact Tracy Towers RDH at [ttowers@wsdvt.org](mailto:ttowers@wsdvt.org) if you have any questions.

# SCHOOL MENUS



## Winooski Elementary School Breakfast March 2024

Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1 <b>No School</b>
4 <b>No School</b>	5 <b>No School</b>	6 <b>Bagel w/ Cream Cheese</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	7 <b>Iced Breakfast Bun</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	8 <b>Chocolate Chip Muffin</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety
11 <b>Blueberry Bread Slice</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	12 <b>Cinnamon Granola Breakfast Round</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	13 <b>Bagel w/ Cream Cheese</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	14 <b>Iced Breakfast Bun</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	15 <b>Chocolate Chip Muffin</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety
18 <b>Blueberry Bread Slice</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	19 <b>Cinnamon Granola Breakfast Round</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	20 <b>Bagel w/ Cream Cheese</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	21 <b>Iced Breakfast Bun</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	22 <b>Chocolate Chip Muffin</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety
25 <b>Blueberry Bread Slice</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	26 <b>Cinnamon Granola Breakfast Round</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	27 <b>Bagel w/ Cream Cheese</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	28 <b>Iced Breakfast Bun</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	29 <b>Chocolate Chip Muffin</b> 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 March 2024

Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1 <b>No School</b>
4 <b>No School</b>	5 <b>No School</b>	6 <b>Buffalo Chicken &amp; Cheese Flatbread Melt</b> Steamed Corn Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	7 <b>Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce</b> Garlic Breadstick Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	8 <b>Fluffy Pancakes</b> Real Maple Syrup Sweet & White Homefries Twin Turkey Sausage Patties Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety
11 <b>Dress Your Own Burger on a Bun</b> Roasted Potato Wedges Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	12 <b>Chicken &amp; Cheese Fajita</b> Garden Salsa Southwest Rice Pilaf Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	13 <b>Baked Potato w/ Toppings</b> <b>Beefy Homemade Chili</b> Dinner Roll Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	14 <b>Chicken Alfredo w/Pasta</b> Seasoned Green Beans Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	15 <b>Grilled Cheese Sandwich</b> Creamy Tomato Soup Sprinkled w/ Cheddar Maple Glazed Carrots Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety
18 <b>Oven Baked BBQ Chicken</b> Maple Baked Beans Garden Pasta Salad Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	19 <b>Sweet &amp; Sour Chicken</b> Roasted Broccoli w/ Maple Glaze Rice Pilaf Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	20 <b>Cheesy Breadsticks</b> Marinara Sauce Maple Dill Carrots Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	21  <b>Homemade Shepherd's Pie</b> Maple Muffins Homemade Cornbread Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	22 <b>French Toast Sticks</b> Maple Glazed Sweet Potato Real Maple Syrup Twin Turkey Sausage Patties Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety
25 <b>Oven Baked Chicken Nuggets</b> BBQ Sauce Roasted Potato Wedges Homemade Dinner Roll Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	26 <b>Taco Bar w/ The Works &amp; Ground Turkey</b> Mexicali Corn Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	27 <b>Buffalo Chicken Dip w/ Tortilla Chips</b> Rice Pilaf Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	28 <b>Creamy Macaroni &amp; Cheese</b> Steamed Broccoli Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	29 <b>Meatball Sub (Beef &amp; Chicken Meatballs)</b> Roasted Potato Wedges Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety

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### 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 link below:



Harvest of the Month: Maple



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



## Letter from the Mayor

By Mayor Kristine Lott

Hello, neighbors.

If you're reading this before the Town Meeting Day election, **please vote on March 5th!**

For all ballot, budget, and election information, visit [winooski.vt.gov/townmeeting](http://winooski.vt.gov/townmeeting).

All legal residents, regardless of citizenship status, can vote on any local (city/school) ballot item.

If you're reading this after Town Meeting Day, thank you for casting your vote on local issues and engaging in the public process. Big thanks to all the staff and volunteers who make this important Vermont tradition a success.

Looking forward, there are several big things on the horizon this year. We'll break ground on the Main Street Revitalization project this spring. Voters approved a \$23 million bond in 2019 to revitalize the Main Street corridor from the bridge above the Rotary to the



Colchester town line - adding an uphill bike lane, wider sidewalks, underground utilities, and improved crosswalks. For details visit [winooski.vt.gov/mainstreet](http://winooski.vt.gov/mainstreet), and save the date for a public meeting at the Winooski School District on March 20th.

Annual street resurfacing is planned for Pine, Shepard, and Hall streets this summer, and

pending approval of the bond vote on Town Meeting Day, Reginald, Bernard, Gail, and Rogers Streets will get new curbing installed ahead of paving and sidewalk repairs.

The hotel, parking garage, and workforce housing project downtown will continue construction this year, adding to the vibrancy of our downtown.

We'll move forward with the Champlain Housing Trust (CHT) to purchase and take over operations of the



O'Brien Community Center (OCC). CHT successfully runs a community center in Burlington and is committed to retaining the community mission of the building. Current tenants and community spaces will be retained, the library and health center spaces will be expanded, and CHT may add additional service providers to expand community support in Winooski.

Lastly, the City-wide reappraisal should wrap up in April, with new assessments sent to property owners in June. Thank you so much for your cooperation with the assessors during this time!

## From Your Local Representative

By Representative Taylor Small

Hi neighbors! The House has been reviewing our spending so far this year and have put forward our adjustments to the FY24 budget, with the House passing the FY24 Budget Adjustment Act (BAA), allocating \$8.69 billion, including \$2.44 billion from the General Fund. The House version of the BAA strategically invests in housing in order to get more affordable units built and updated while also allocating an additional \$13.2 million for emergency housing to address the needs of those experiencing homelessness.

The House also recognized the need to support our municipalities impacted by the recent climate crisis and allocated \$56.59 million for flood relief. Overall the BAA goes on to support areas like human services, organic farming, dam studies, and post-retirement adjustments.

In the realm of public health, the House Human Services Committee advanced S.18, a bill that would ban flavored tobacco substitutes and e-liquids. Recognizing the alarming 89%



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

of Vermont youth aged 12-17 enticed by candy-flavored e-cigarettes, the bill proposes a ban on retail sales of such products, emphasizing youth prevention through school cessation programs and nicotine education. While it delays a menthol cigarette ban for equity review, it won't restrict other flavored tobacco products to align with federal laws. The Department of Health will monitor its progress and report back to the legislature in January 2026.

Lastly, addressing fiscal concerns for the Winooski School District, our superintendent and school board chair testified before the House Ways & Means Committee and expressed reservations about Act 127's 5% tax rate cap on budget increases. In their testimony, they focused on other districts inflating their budgets to exploit the cap, potentially leading to higher equalized tax rates. Facing a projected \$1 million loss in tax capacity due to decreased yield, our district is having to confront tough decisions such as property tax hikes, budget revisions, or necessary cuts. They recommended exploring a temporary revenue source to uphold Act 127's intent while mitigating the impact on districts like Winooski, ensuring equal access to educational resources amid budgetary challenges.

Your voice is important as we address the variety of issues impacting our state, so please be in touch as needed: [TSmall@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:TSmall@leg.state.vt.us).



## Town Meeting Day Election

**Tuesday, March 5, 2024**

**7am–7pm at the Winooski Senior Center**

All ballot, budget, voting and election information can be found at [winooski.vt.gov/townmeeting](http://winooski.vt.gov/townmeeting).

### What's on the ballot?

- City Budget
- School Budget
- Open seats for Mayor, 2 City Councilors, 3 School Board Members, and a Champlain Water District Representative
- Bond votes related to the Burlington/Winooski Bridge Replacement Project, the Hickok Street Project Funds, and the Champlain Water District

**Don't forget, the Presidential Primary election also takes place on Town Meeting Day!**

## City Clerk's Office Reminders

**Open 8am–4pm, Monday–Friday**

**[winooski.vt.gov/clerk](http://winooski.vt.gov/clerk) | 802-655-6410**

- **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)
- **Elections:** To register for the upcoming Primary and General elections, please register at [olvr.vermont.gov](http://olvr.vermont.gov). If you would like to request an absentee ballot, please visit [mvp.vrmtont.gov](http://mvp.vrmtont.gov) or contact us at the Clerk's Office at 802-655-6410. Learn more at [winooski.vt.gov/vote](http://winooski.vt.gov/vote).

## Main Street Revitalization

The City of Winooski invites you to attend a construction public meeting for the Winooski Main Street Revitalization project on **Wednesday, March 20, 2024**, starting at 6:30pm.

This meeting will be held in person at the Winooski School District's Performing Arts Center and virtually via Zoom Webinar. A rain date is scheduled for Tuesday, March 26, 2024, if needed. For additional information, please visit the project website, [winooski.vt.gov/mainstreet](http://winooski.vt.gov/mainstreet).

The City of Winooski is improving the roadway along the Main Street (U.S. 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 with construction starting this spring.

The construction public meeting will include a presentation comprised of a project overview, construction schedule, anticipated traffic impacts, and ways to stay informed throughout construction. Following the presentation, there will be an opportunity to ask questions of the project team and the contractor, Kubricky-Jointa Lime, LLC.

Requests for translation, interpretive, or other accommodation services, must be made by March 11, 2024, well in advance of the meeting for which services are requested. Please make requests to Annabelle Dally, Public Information Consultant at 802-595-4399 or [info@winooskimainstreet.com](mailto:info@winooskimainstreet.com).

## Winter Parking Ban Reminder

In Downtown Winooski, there is a blanket winter parking ban from December 1–March 31 where overnight street parking is not allowed from 2:30am–6am.

For everywhere else in Winooski (December 1–March 31), overnight winter parking bans are made during winter storms and for snow removal where street parking is not allowed from 11pm to 7am.

Please visit [winooski.vt.gov/parking](http://winooski.vt.gov/parking) for full details.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAMS



### Winooski Recreation and Parks

802-777-1621 | [recreation@winooskivt.gov](mailto:recreation@winooskivt.gov)  
[winooskivt.gov/recprograms](http://winooskivt.gov/recprograms)

#### YOUTH

Summer camp registration is now open!

#### Youth Drop-in Indoor Soccer

- Saturdays, March 9–April 13
- U10 & U12 | 9:30–10:30am
- U8 | 10:30–11:30am

#### Very Merry Theatre

- Grades 1-6 | Wednesdays, March 6–April 17

#### Cartooning and Comic Book Club

- Ages 7-12 | Mondays, March 11–April 15

#### VT Patriots Spring Soccer

- U6/U8/U10/U12 | April 29–June 15

#### Tennis in the Parks

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

#### ADULTS

#### Yoga Vinyasa Flow

- Ages 18+ | Mondays & Wednesdays, January 8–May 29

#### Learn Irish Songs on Ukulele

- Ages 18+ | Tuesdays, February 20–March 12

#### Community Ukulele & Celtic Sing-Along

- All ages | Tuesday, March 12

#### Tennis in the Parks

- 18+ | Wednesdays, May 8–June 12



### Winooski Memorial Library

32 Malletts Bay Ave | 802-655-6424 | [library@winooskivt.gov](mailto:library@winooskivt.gov)  
[winooskivt.gov/library](http://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
- Hot Cocoa Storytime | Ages 4+ | Fri., Mar 3 | 3:30pm
- Dad Guild Playgroup | Families/Youth | Sat, Mar 16 | 12:30pm

##### ADULTS

- English Conversation Group | Ages 18+ | Tue & Thu | 11:00am
- 1:1 Tech Help | Ages 18+ | Sat., Mar 2 & 23 | 11:30am
- Intervale Veggie Distro | Wed., Mar 6 | 3:30pm
- Winooski Reads Book Club | Ages 18+ | Tue., Mar 26 | 6:00pm

#### 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](http://winooskivt.gov/library) or stop by info.

Friends of the Winooski Memorial Library is recruiting new members! Interested in supporting the values and mission of the Library? Email Samantha Wayne to learn more: [sami.kordonowy@gmail.com](mailto:sami.kordonowy@gmail.com)

#### Library of Things

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



## COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAMS



### Winooski Senior Center

123 Barlow Street | 802-655-6425

seniorcenter@winooski.vt.gov

[winooski.vt.gov/seniorcenter](http://winooski.vt.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

- Yogi's Birthday "Pawty" | March 7 | 12pm
- Pet food donations suggested | Call to RSVP by March 1
- St. Patrick's Day Luncheon | March 14
- 12pm | 60+ | \$5 suggested donation | Call to RSVP by March 7
- Bone Builders Exercise | Free | Monday & Wednesday | 2–3pm
- AARP Tax-Aide - Free tax preparation, call to make your appointment!
- 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 [winooski.vt.gov/thriveprograms](http://winooski.vt.gov/thriveprograms)

Hey there, summer campers - are you ready for the best summer ever? We've got a ton 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. 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–August 9



Scan the QR code to learn more about and sign up for anything on these pages!  
[winooski.vt.gov/programs](http://winooski.vt.gov/programs)

## Community Created Art Installation in Rotary Park

By Melissa Corbin, Executive Director, Downtown Winooski

Downtown Winooski is partnering with long-time resident and local artist, Terry Zigmund, to build a community created stained glass and tile mosaic to be permanently installed in Rotary Park. This mosaic will visually celebrate the vibrant and culturally diverse city that Winooski is. The concept for the design will be based on a quilt, measuring approximately 4' tall x 8' wide.



Throughout the 2024 event season, community members will be invited to create individual 4"x 4" mosaics that will be combined to create a quilt pattern. Each participant will create their mosaic using glass and tile colors that reflect their relationship to Winooski. For instance: I have lived in Winooski my entire life, I have lived in Vermont for my entire life, I have lived in the United States for my entire life, I came to Winooski from another country. Each prompt will be represented by a different color. When assembled, our quilt of 288 4" squares, will reflect the diversity of our community. If you have interest in assisting in the art assembly at our events this season, please be in touch at [info@downtownwinooski.org](mailto:info@downtownwinooski.org).

Above is an example of a similar project done in Burlington.

### Downtown Winooski's 2024 Event Schedule

- Winooski Farmers Market  
May 26th–October 20th  
Sundays from 10am–2pm
- Winooski Wednesday Showcasing Juneteenth  
June 19th 5pm–9pm, Music by Kerubo
- French Heritage Day at Winooski Farmers Market June 30th  
11am–2pm
- Winooski Wednesday Downtown Block Party July 10th  
5pm–9pm, Music by Pontoon
- Best Pooch in the Noosk at Winooski Farmers Market July 28th  
11am–2pm
- Winooski Wednesdays Downtown Block Party August 14th  
5pm–9pm, Music by Rough Francis
- Fiber Fair at Winooski Farmers Market September 1st  
11am–2pm
- Winooski Wednesdays Showcasing Pride September 11th  
5pm–9pm, Music by Purple
- Animal Day at Winooski Farmers Market September 29th  
11am–2pm
- Allium Fest at Winooski Farmers Market October 20th  
11am–2pm
- Halloween in Winooski October 26th and 27th
- Winooski Holiday Pop-Up December 5th 5pm–9pm

Stay up to date with programming plans on our website: [www.downtownwinooski.org/events](http://www.downtownwinooski.org/events)



## Winooski Food Shelf

24 West Allen Street | [winooskifoodshelf.org](http://winooskifoodshelf.org)

### March Dates:

- Saturday, March 9th: 9:30am–11am
- Wednesday, March 13th: 1pm–3pm
- Saturday, March 23rd: 9:30am–11am
- Wednesday, March 27th: 1pm–3pm

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 2 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](mailto:winooskifoodshelf@gmail.com). We need volunteers to pack produce boxes and pantry staples. We especially need help the third Wednesday of each month (March 20th) at 9:00 a.m. to help bring inside and shelve the food dropped off by the Vermont Foodbank truck.

## SERVICE PROVIDERS



### Howard Center's Suicide Prevention Initiative: Free Firearm Cable Locks

By Paul Detzer, Development and Communications Engagement Manager

#### Community Outreach



In response to the significant link between firearm access and suicide rates in Vermont, Howard Center continues its suicide prevention strategy of distributing free firearm cable locks. This initiative aims to enhance community safety by offering a practical step toward safer firearm storage practices. Firearm cable locks provide a critical barrier, potentially delaying impulsive actions and giving individuals more time to reconsider and seek help. We encourage Winooski residents to take advantage of this free resource, helping to take the steps to prevent suicide.

The locks are available at Howard Center's Burlington office, located at 208 Flynn Avenue, from Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 4pm. Supplies can be limited, so it's always best to call in advance to check availability at 802-488-6912 or email [developmentteam@howardcenter.org](mailto:developmentteam@howardcenter.org). More resources for firearm safety can be found at [gunsafevt.org](http://gunsafevt.org).

#### Community Education Series

Mark your calendar for Howard Center's free and open to the public Community Education Series on March 27 and May 2 from 6:30-8:00pm at Dealer.com in Burlington. Sessions will be held on mental health and substance use disorder.

#### CCTV / Town Meeting TV

Tune in to Town Meeting TV's coverage of Winooski election results on **March 5th at 7pm.**

Our live results show will feature comprehensive results for Winooski and other Chittenden County elections, interviews with voters at the polls, conversations with newly elected representatives, and commentary by local politicians! Watch on Comcast channel 1087 or at [YouTube.com/TownMeetingTV](https://www.youtube.com/TownMeetingTV). Contact Emily Brewer with any questions ([outreach@cctv.org](mailto:outreach@cctv.org)).



### Winooski Partnership For Prevention

By Kate Nugent, Executive Director

#### March 25 Community Dinner



The WPP is very excited to bring Harmony's Kitchen to our community for our last scheduled dinner for the year. These events combine a free, delicious meal with an informal conversation with the Chef and resources to help us build a healthier community. Sign up for the WPP newsletter on our website [www.winooskiprevention.org](http://www.winooskiprevention.org) to be the first to reserve your meal(s).

#### Resources and news

- 802Quits is there for people, including teens, trying to quit vaping, as well as e-cigarettes
- Local coalition success story: St. Albans store voluntarily removed tobacco ads
- ParentUpVT and A.S.K.
- If you or someone you know wants help to end an addiction to drugs and or alcohol, VTHelpLink can help.



#### Youth Leadership Opportunities

Youth can join ATI on Thursdays after school with Mukhtar Abdullahi to learn more about how to keep themselves and their communities healthy, participate in leadership opportunities, attend conferences off-site with other youth from around the state and region, and make a difference. Contact the Suzanne Skaflestad or Mukhtar Abdullahi directly for more information or to sign up!





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**IMPORTANT NUMBERS IN WINOOSKI**

**WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
[www.wsdvt.org](http://www.wsdvt.org)

**Superintendent of Schools**  
 Wilmer Chavarria, [wchavarria@wsdvt.org](mailto:wchavarria@wsdvt.org)  
 802-383-6000

**John F. Kennedy Elementary School**  
 Principal: Sara Raabe  
 802-655-0411  
[sraabe@wsdvt.org](mailto:sraabe@wsdvt.org)

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

**Board of School Trustees**  
 Robert Millar, *President*, 802-238-0089, [rmillar@wsdvt.org](mailto:rmillar@wsdvt.org)  
 Steven Berbeco, 858-376-7269, [sberbeco@wsdvt.org](mailto:sberbeco@wsdvt.org)  
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 Isaiah Donaldson, *Secretary*, 802-999-8410, [idonaldson@wsdvt.org](mailto:idonaldson@wsdvt.org)  
 Nicole Mace, 802-363-7777, [nimace@wsdvt.org](mailto:nimace@wsdvt.org)

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**CITY OF WINOOSKI**  
[www.winooskivt.gov](http://www.winooskivt.gov), 802-655-6410

**Mayor**  
 Kristine Lott, 802-766-1988, [klott@winooskivt.gov](mailto:klott@winooskivt.gov)

**City Manager**  
 Elaine Wang, 802-655-6410, [ewang@winooskivt.gov](mailto:ewang@winooskivt.gov)

**City Councilors**  
 Aurora Hurd, 802-734-7082, [ahurd@winooskivt.gov](mailto:ahurd@winooskivt.gov)  
 Charles Judge, 802-655-6410, [cjudge@winooskivt.gov](mailto:cjudge@winooskivt.gov)  
 Bryn Oakleaf, 802-448-2966, [boakleaf@winooskivt.gov](mailto:boakleaf@winooskivt.gov)  
 Thomas Renner, *Deputy Mayor*, 802-922-3265, [trenner@winooskivt.gov](mailto:trenner@winooskivt.gov)

**City Clerk**  
 Jenny Willingham, 802-655-6410, [jwillingham@winooskivt.gov](mailto: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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