

The Winooski Newsletter

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

JULY 2025



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
We are the future.



Honoring the Class of 2025

This June, the Winooski High School Class of 2025 crossed the stage and into the next chapter of their lives. Graduation in Winooski is more than a ceremony—it's a celebration of community, connection, and growth. As each graduate turned their tassel, they carried with them not only academic accomplishments but also the relationships, experiences, and life lessons that defined their high school journey.

In Winooski, students don't just attend school—they become part of a close-knit community. Over the past four years, the Class of 2025 learned what it means to support one another, to lead with empathy, and to embrace diversity. Their education reflected a full spectrum of learning—intellectual, social, emotional, and cultural. And while this chapter has closed, they are prepared to write the next one with confidence and care.

Winooski is proud of the Class of 2025 and excited to see how each graduate will continue to make a difference in the world, both in big and small ways.

Congratulations, Class of 2025!

2025 Graduates

- Theo Abbott-Smith
- Joseph Abdallah
- Ankit Acharya
- Binti Aweis
- Leo Beebe
- Aunglay Ber
- Alexis Blend
- Christopher Buker
- Anthony Cabral
- Ayush Dhakal
- Salimatou Anne Marie Diallo
- Pascaline Furaha
- Samantha Galle
- Badal Gurung
- Evangelina Gurung
- Cyrus Hill
- Noblette Irakoze
- Mea Ree Jan
- Abdifatah Jelle
- Sugam Kadariya
- Anthony Laberge
- Jayda Lawrence
- Winner Mampuya
- Mohamed Mohamed
- Hailey Morrison
- Mathieu Munaba
- Maiella Oliver
- Abdulkadir Osman
- Ashlyn Parris
- Elizabeth Perrotte
- Rohan Pradhan
- Shristy Pradhan
- Ivy Resmer
- Bridgette Rogers
- Julian Senna
- Campbell Sweeney
- Angela Sweet
- Sarah Treadwell
- Fayth White



From the Superintendent

By Wilmer Chavarria, Superintendent of Schools

Dear Winooski Community,

I am thankful for our state representatives and state senators who listened to the voices of their constituents in Winooski while debating the education reform bill (H.454). While the outcome is not what we hoped for, I know that we will continue to do our best work and provide our families and students with the best education possible despite external pressures.

Out of five legislators representing us, four were regularly checking in with our schools and took time to understand our needs during the drafting and debate process. When the vote came on June 16, those same four legislators remained steady in their support of Winooski's interests. While I regret that one senator, who is supposed to represent us, did not engage in communication with our schools, I am encouraged that the majority of our delegation indeed considers us worthy of their time. We have much to lose in Winooski, and

our community deserves high-quality representation.

So, what does this bill mean for us? In the short term, you might not notice much. Many of the most significant provisions of the bill take effect years into the future. What you may see soon, however, is that new district lines will be drawn, and Winooski will most likely be consolidated into a larger district with neighboring schools, with Winooski High School likely ceasing to exist. While we have never explicitly opposed this idea, we know that there are many things that can go wrong with doing away with our district, especially when it is not done in a thoughtful and careful manner. A committee is to be formed soon to bring map proposals for the new districts to the legislature. The composition of this committee was much debated, and the final bill gives legislators, who may or may not know enough about education, outsized power to influence the maps.

We will continue to keep you updated as these decisions develop later in the year.

On my end, I will not stop my advocacy for enormous decisions such as these to be made in consultation with those most affected: our community, our families, and our students. As an education professional and leader, I've dedicated my life to understanding and seeking answers to difficult educational questions, and it is my hope that local decision-makers reach out to me and allow me to suggest to them ways to get this right. As I mentioned, most of our Winooski legislators already do that. Still, few others in the state are as interested in hearing from those closest to the day-to-day operations of our schools and communities.

On a happier note, it is never too early to say that I cannot wait to see our students back from the summer break!

2025 Graduation Scholarships and Awards

The recipient of the University of Vermont Green and Gold scholarship this year is **Alexis Blend** - congratulations!



We would also like to recognize students wearing gold cords, they have completed all 6 capstones. Congratulations!

a love of learning, an openness to the richness of differences among people, and a willingness to use his/her time and talent in service to others. This year's recipient is **Pascaline Furaha**.



ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP - The Academic Scholarship is presented to two students who excel academically. This year's recipients are **Alexis Blend** and **Shristy Pradhan**.

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS AWARDS -

These awards are presented to two graduates who have shown improvement during their four years of high school in achieving at least one of the boards ends, college and career ready, lead healthy, productive lives, or engage with their local and global community. This year's recipients are **Pascaline Furaha** and **Bridgette Rogers**.

THE KYLE TIPSON MEMORIAL

SCHOLARSHIP - The Kyle Tipson Memorial Scholarship is given in memory of Kyle, a graduate and lifelong member of the Winooski Community. It is given to 2 students, who are continuing their education and have participated in sports for at least 2 years. This year's recipients are **Joseph Abdallah** and **Christopher Buker**.

MAIDA F. TOWNSEND SCHOLARSHIP

- The Maida F. Townsend Scholarship is given to a student who has demonstrated

NICHOLAS CUSSON-DUCHARME

ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP - The Nicholas-Cusson Ducharme Athletic Scholarship is given in memory of Nicholas Cusson-Ducharme to a hard-working, dedicated, student athlete who has participated in athletics throughout high school, especially their senior year, while demonstrating outstanding leadership qualities. This year's recipient is **Ashlyn Parris**.

BILL EVERTS MEMORIAL

SCHOLARSHIP - The Bill Everts Memorial Scholarship, given in memory of Bill Everts, is given to a senior who is the first in their family to go to college. This year's recipient is **Evangeline Gurung**.

VERMONT HONOR SCHOLARSHIP -

The Vermont Honor Scholarship, initiated by the Vermont Legislature, is presented

NOTES FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE

to a student with outstanding academic achievement going on to college. This year's recipient is **Samantha Galle**.

WINOOSKI EDUCATION ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP - The Winooski Education Association Scholarship is presented to two individuals entering the field of education in recognition of exceptional contributions to school activities and all around excellence in academics. This year's recipients are **Binti Aweis** and **Samantha Galle**.

SKILLS AND TRADE SCHOLARSHIP - A scholarship awarded to a senior furthering their education in a skill or trade. This year's recipient is **Winner Mampuya**.

CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP - The Challenge Scholarship is presented to a well-rounded, highly motivated student who has overcome obstacles in achieving his/her success. This year's recipient is **Maiella Oliver**.

PTO EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP - The PTO Education Scholarship is presented to a student who is pursuing a career in education and who has displayed community involvement through school or work experience. This year's recipient is **Salimatou Diallo**.

PTO SCHOLARSHIP - The PTO Scholarship, is given to two students who have shown an overall commitment to and involvement with the high school in multiple and varying ways. This year's



recipients are **Theo Abbott-Smith** and **Noblette Irakoze**.

CAROL L. KESSLER, R.N. MEMORIAL AWARD - The Carol L. Kessler, R.N. Memorial Award is presented to a student or students who are in the upper 25% of the senior class and who are intending to continue their education in healthcare or a related field. This year's recipients are **Ashlyn Parris** and **Shristy Pradhan**.

LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP - The Leadership Scholarship is given to a student who has demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities and exemplified positive attitudes. This year's



recipient is **Theo Abbott-Smith**.

PERSISTENCE SCHOLARSHIP - The Persistence Scholarship is given to two students who have shown perseverance through all they have faced to make it to high school graduation and plan to pursue a post secondary education. This year's recipients are **Hailey Morrison** and **Abdifatah Jelle**.

CLASS OF 2013 SCHOLARSHIP

- A scholarship for a senior who has demonstrated dedication to his/her class and exhibited a genuine care and respect for Winooski High School. This year's recipient is **Evangelina Gurung**.

JOHN J. MALCOVSKY COMMUNITY SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP - The John J. Malcovsky Community Service Scholarship is given to a deserving student who has participated actively in community service. This year's recipient is **Fayth White**.

VFW SCHOLARSHIP - A scholarship presented to a student pursuing a degree and has been involved in other extra-curricular activities. This year's recipient of the VFW Scholarship is **Alexis Blend**.

WINOOSKI BUSINESS DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIP - The Business Department Scholarship is presented to a student who has excelled in Business classes and is pursuing a degree in business or a related field. This year's recipient of The Business Department Scholarship is **Christopher Buker**.

School Board Update

By Elom Essiba, Board of School Trustees

As the school year winds down, I want to recognize and celebrate the hard work, growth, and resilience of our students, families, and educators. Whether you're graduating, moving up a grade, or simply reflecting on another year completed, you've earned every bit of pride that comes with it.

To our graduating students: Congratulations on reaching this important milestone. Your persistence and commitment have brought you to this point, and we're excited to see where your path leads next. For those returning next year, enjoy the satisfaction of finishing

strong you're building the foundation for your future.

At our most recent board meeting, we continued work on administrative planning for the upcoming year, reviewed updates to district policies, and discussed how best to support our schools moving forward. These efforts ensure we remain responsive, organized, and focused on student success at every level.

As we shift into summer, I want to encourage all families to enjoy the season and take advantage of the many opportunities available right here in Winooski. The Winooski Farmers Market

is a wonderful place to explore fresh local produce, food, and crafts while connecting with our vibrant community. And if you're looking to stay active and cool, the Myers Memorial Pool is now open for the summer. Family memberships are available, and season pass scholarships are offered exclusively for Winooski residents. All the details can be found at www.winooski.gov/pool.

Lastly, remember that our School Board meetings remain open to the public, and your input matters. Agendas, recordings, and resources are always available online.



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Free Summer Meals for Winooski Students

By Sarah Haven, Director of Finance & Operations

The Winooski School District is participating in the Summer Food Service Program.

As always, students participating in summer programming offered through the Winooski School District or the City of Winooski will have access to breakfast, lunch, or both, depending on the program's hours.

Students who are not registered in programming are also eligible for meals. Starting on Monday, June 23rd, students may come to the Myers Memorial Pool for lunch only. Meals at the pool will be available at 12:30pm, Monday through Friday. This meal service will run through August 22nd.

Every child in Winooski, aged 0-18, is eligible for summer meals. **Summer meals will be provided to all children without charge** and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027), found online at <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf> and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992.

Submit your completed form or letter to the USDA by:

- (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Ave SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
- (2) Fax: (202) 690-7442 or
- (3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov

Honoring Our Many Graduates



Senior Clap Out

As the school year came to a close, the Winooski School District was filled with joy, pride, and plenty of smiles as we celebrated our students moving on to their following chapters. Graduation season is always a special time in our community, and this year was no exception.

Our youngest learners reached a significant milestone with their **Pre-K Graduation**. Surrounded by proud families and teachers, these young students celebrated a year of growth and discovery. They will take their next big step this fall—heading into kindergarten eager to learn and explore.

At JFK Elementary, we celebrated our **5th grade Moving Up Ceremony**. (see photo on page 5, taken by a 5th grader!) These students are ready to embark on the next part of their journey at Winooski Middle School. The ceremony was a wonderful reminder of how much they've learned, and we extend our gratitude to the teachers and families who helped guide them along the way.

8th grade students were honored during **Middle School Graduation**, marking the completion of their middle school years. The event reflected their hard work, resilience, and readiness for the new opportunities that high school will bring.

The capstone of our graduation season was the Winooski **High School Graduation**, where we celebrated the Class of 2025.

These seniors have shown determination and leadership and now head off toward bright futures—whether in college, careers, or other meaningful pursuits. We couldn't be prouder of all they've accomplished.

A beloved Winooski tradition, the **Senior Clap Out**, added to the excitement of the final week. Because our entire district is housed in one building, seniors can walk the halls and be cheered on by students of all ages— from Pre-K through 12th grade— as well as teachers and staff. The energy and emotion of this tradition remind us of the connections and community spirit that make Winooski so special.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the teachers, staff, families, and community members who made each of these celebrations so meaningful. And to all of our graduates: congratulations! You inspire us all, and you make Winooski proud.



Pre-K Graduation

Honoring the Harlem Renaissance: A Showcase of Student Creativity

By Emily Jacobs, Grades 7/8 Art Teacher

Seventh- and eighth-grade students concluded their Harlem Renaissance expedition with an unforgettable culminating event—a moving slam poetry performance paired with a stunning student art gallery.

Inspired by the rich cultural legacy of the Harlem Renaissance, students channeled the voices of the past through original spoken word and visual art. The event celebrated their deep learning, bold expression, and the powerful connections they made between history and their own creative identities.

Through poetry and artwork, students showcased not only their talent but also their courage and collaboration.



JFK Collaborative Art Night was a Joyful Celebration of Creativity!

Students beamed with pride as they shared their artwork and

collaborated with family and friends on new pieces. From vibrant community murals and glowing neon art to whimsical chalk drawings and glittery sculptures, every corner of the building was bursting with imagination.

Huge thanks to Ms. Renee, our incredible art teacher, for pouring her heart into this event.

Her dedication and vision brought the entire school to life with color, creativity, and connection.

We're so grateful to the PTO for the delicious pizza and cookies, and to all the families and community members who joined us to support our young artists. It was truly a night to remember!



Capturing Milestones Through a Student Lens

Rising 6th grade photographers documented some of the most meaningful moments of the school year — the 5th and 8th grade Moving Up ceremonies. Their images offer a beautiful, student-centered perspective on these special milestones. Take a look and see the celebrations through their eyes!



From the Health Office

It has been a true joy to serve the needs of your students this year. To date the health office has logged 4,000 student visits district wide, triaged hundreds of phone calls and sent many students to the dentist via SSTA. This year we were also able to offer eye exams for students through our Health Office by partnering with UVMHC Pediatric Ophthalmology. Additionally, we began a partnership with UVM's Physical Therapy Department to offer physical therapy appointments for students through the Health Office.

Our School Based Health Center (SBHC) continued to serve several hundred students throughout the year with 3 days a week of onsite operations and televideo appointments. Our amazing dental hygienist, Tracy, worked on site several days a week providing cleanings, screenings, sealants, and fluoride treatments to students.

A few reminders for the end of the year and as we look forward to next school year:

Immunizations:

If your child is going to be in kindergarten then they will need an updated copy of immunization records. Please make sure they have had 5 doses of DTP/Dtap, 4 doses of IPV, 3 doses of Hepatitis B, 2 doses of MMR and 2 doses of Varicella. If they don't then please call your child's primary doctor to schedule an appointment for them.

If your child is entering the 7th grade, please make sure they have had their 2nd dose of Varicella and a tdap booster.

Forms can be sent to the health office fax which is 802-383-6017 or they can be emailed to nurses@wsdvt.org.

Medical Conditions:

Does your child have asthma and/or allergies? If so, then please get the asthma/allergy action plan completed over the summer and have an inhaler, spacer and/or epi pen ready to bring in on the first day of school. The forms can also be faxed to 802-383-6017.

We have enjoyed serving the health needs of your kids this year and wish everyone a safe, happy and healthy summer.

The Importance of Special Education

By Alexis Blend, WHS Class of 2025 UVM Green and Gold Scholarship Recipient

For my Culture and Community Capstone project, I chose to focus on the importance of special education in the context of our political world today. It is vital to hear voices from those who receive services to continue to uphold education equality.

It is important to note that the Winooski school district and community are very accommodating towards all students with special needs or disabilities. We have wonderful special education staff who I spoke to about the vitality of their roles. Katherine Blair, director of Support Services, describes her role as “to oversee and manage our district’s special education programs in order to make sure that students with disabilities receive a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).” Katherine Blair’s job is to not only provide accommodations for students but to continue to improve on those programs and ensure high quality. Without her, Winooski students with disabilities would not be learning within systems that were ever-improving and consistently meeting requirements.

I also got to sit down and have a conversation with Jessica Perrotte, the reading interventionist, 504/IEP coordinator, and the screening process coordinator. She is also coincidentally the person who made my personal 504 plan. As someone who works so much for students with disabilities and knows the systems inside and out, it is impactful that she, too, is scared of the possibility of the abolishment of her department or others who work closely with students. She told me in an interview, “It’s scary. In my 27 years in education, they keep saying that they are gonna do things differently, but then they don’t. This feels more real than that. If they truly abolish 504 or IEPs, so many students will suffer, and unfortunately, not many schools would still offer accommodations without the legal requirement too.” This is also interesting because funding for special education services has begun to become less and less. Schools are beginning to have to fund these programs independently.

Though this task may sound impossible, it is the responsibility of the state of Vermont to support all students. There are thousands of children in Vermont, like myself, who will not succeed without the benefit of special education programs and resources. Though money may begin to be debated with respect to where funding should be placed, I firmly believe that special



education classes are not an option but a necessity for the future generations of Vermont.

I have personally benefited from special education services as a student with severe anxiety and a speech impediment. In my freshman year, I carried the same ambition I do now but was stunted by my struggles with mental health and public speaking. I knew I had the potential to succeed, but I felt imprisoned by mainstream education rules and policies. By my sophomore year, I realized that if I didn’t take action, my grades would continue to slip. I was missing classes and getting zeros on presentations as I could not meet time limits. Some days, I was too anxious to get out of bed, let alone complete a full day of school. I was completely stuck and felt like there was nothing I could do. My parents reached out to the special education coordinator for our school district, and I was set up with a 504 plan (which

falls under the special education category) and immediately saw positive change. I was able to take breaks when I needed them, as opposed to having to wait until the end of classes. I was given more time and choice on assignments and was even able to take my SAT and AP tests in an alternative testing environment.

I cannot stress enough how tremendously positively these special education services have impacted me. I now hold the top GPA of our graduating class and received a full scholarship to the University of Vermont next fall for nursing. But on a more personal level, I was able to come to school confident that I had the support I needed to be able to work with my struggles, not against them. Without the support of my school and teachers like Ms Annie, who worked with me to create my 504 plan, I would not be able to write about my own story.

In February, Alexis Blend testified to the House Education Committee about the value of special education and the importance of funding it. This was part of her Culture and Community Capstone project advocating for the value of special education.



Letter from the Mayor

By Mayor Kristine Lott | klott@winooski.vt.gov | 802 766 1988

Hello, Neighbors. My update this month focuses on **housing in Winooski** and our efforts to prioritize a mix of quality opportunities that enhance Winooski’s unique sense of place and address our community needs. We’ve done a lot of work to support housing, and it shows - over the last five years, **Winooski has had the highest per capita housing production in Chittenden County**. But we know there’s more to do. At the end of 2023, the City enacted a Short-Term Rental (STR) registration and license program, which allows the City Council to set a **cap on non-owner-occupied STR licenses** (issued each year before July 1). The cap is intended to curb the expansion of short-term rentals, which can have long-term impacts on housing availability and affordability. Following the recommendations of staff and the Housing Commission, the City Council voted to set a cap of 50 licenses, which is close to the current number of existing short-term rentals (STRs). We’ll review this number annually to determine if changes in the housing landscape indicate a lower or higher number. In related news, we discovered that **growth in STR units in Winooski has**



slowed considerably. Several units have withdrawn from the STR market, indicating that licenses and fees do make STRs a little less appealing for property owners. **We’ve collected nearly \$51,750 in license fees to support Code Enforcement (inspections) and the Housing Trust Fund**. This policy is so far meeting its goals. To help address the growing need for affordable three+ bedroom units in Winooski, we are working toward an agreement for Champlain Housing Trust to **purchase the former Armory property on Lafountain Street** from the National Guard and develop much-needed housing on the site. This project presents an exciting opportunity to meet a critical housing need that the private market has not addressed. The current vision includes a mix of rental units and shared equity homeownership. The property is zoned residential, so any development will need to comply with existing zoning regulations. There will be opportunities in the future for members of the public to provide feedback on the design of the buildings. And remember, current and new or interested residents can always check out the housing resources page on our website at winooski.vt.gov/housing.

From Your Local Representative

By Representative Daisy Berbecco



What Do Legislators Do When the Session Ends? Every year, the Vermont legislature adjourns in late spring—usually in May—after months of intense committee work, floor votes, and negotiations on everything from housing to health care. But for many of us, the end of the legislative session doesn’t mean the work stops.

It just changes. Vermont’s citizen legislature is part-time by very out-dated design. Previously, most lawmakers would go back to their fields in the off-season. But even today while we’re not under the Golden Dome, our responsibilities to our communities continue year-round. **Constituent Services Continue:** The most important role I play in the off-season months is helping Winooski residents navigate state systems. That includes assisting with housing access, health care issues, or reaching the right person in a state agency. If a form gets stuck, a benefit is denied, or a process feels unfair or unclear, my job is to help troubleshoot. Even when the legislature isn’t meeting, I can contact agencies on your behalf, flag gaps in state programs, or help residents understand their rights under Vermont law. If you’re unsure whether your problem is a “legislative” one —ask. Often I can help or point you in the right direction. **Community Engagement and Listening:** Off-session is also when I have the most time to be out in the community: attending city council and school board meetings, visiting summer programs, talking to local nonprofits and businesses, or showing up at neighborhood events. These are where I’m naturally at as a resident and they’re

also intentional visits to hear what’s working and what’s not. This summer, I’ll be around the community center, library, pool, farmer’s market, senior center and youth programs to make sure state policies reflect the needs of all Winooski’s families. I also host and attend public forums with Rep. Tomlinson to give updates on legislation and gather feedback. If there’s an issue you care about—education reform, climate policy, immigration protections, housing—I want to hear your perspective. These conversations shape what I bring back to Montpelier next year. **Preparing for the Next Session:** The quieter months are when bills take shape.. I meet with advocates, content experts, state officials, and other lawmakers to shape policies and draft legislation for the next session. That might mean reviewing data and legislative reports, writing bill language, or building coalitions to move an idea forward. My off-session work also includes serving on boards, attending statewide policy meetings, and representing Vermont at national policy conferences. These groups help ensure that complex issues—like prescription drug affordability or mental health services for justice-involved people—keep moving even when the full legislature isn’t in session. **Stay in Touch:** Being a legislator is a year-round commitment. My goal is to make sure Winooski’s voice is heard not just during roll call votes, but in every conversation about Vermont’s future. If you need help, have an idea, or just want to chat about what’s going on at the state level, please don’t hesitate to reach out. Updates and my contact info are at daisyforwinooski.com or [@rep.berbecco](https://twitter.com/rep.berbecco)



Main Street Revitalization

winooskivt.gov/mainstreet

Construction is ongoing for the Main Street Revitalization Project. In June, the contractor started upgrading the traffic signals at the Main Street and Spring Street intersection. Crews continued installing sidewalks and began road work on Main Street between Spring Street and Stevens Street. They installed an underground utility duct bank and vaults between Spring Street and Lafountain Street. The contractor also upgraded the stormwater systems on Main Street from Stevens Street to Normand Street.

In July, road construction will continue between Spring Street and Burling Street. This work involves digging, drainage, gravel, grading, curb, and paving two layers of asphalt. Sidewalk installation will continue between Spring Street and Stevens Street, along with underground utility work between Lafountain Street and Tigan Street. The contractor plans to finish stormwater upgrades on Main Street between Bellevue Street and Tigan Street. The schedule may change due to weather, field conditions, subcontractor availability, and other factors.

Throughout construction, Main Street between Maple Street and Tigan Street is reduced to a single lane, allowing only northbound traffic. Southbound traffic is detoured to Tigan Street and Weaver Street. This traffic pattern will remain in place 24/7 for most of the construction season. Additional impacts include short-term side street closures, on-street parking restrictions, and temporary driveway access and utility interruptions for project abutters.

- **Stay informed** with weekly project updates: sign up at winooskivt.gov/mainstreet (multilingual updates are available in 15 languages)
- **Property owner/resident/business notifications:** The contractor will inform project abutters about utility or driveway interruptions in advance using door hangers or by knocking on doors
- **Questions/Concerns:** Our public information team is here to help - 802 595 4399 | info@winooskimainstreet.com
- **Damage claims:** If your personal property is damaged due to construction, there's a process in place to help - contact the public information team for more details



City Hall Reminders

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

Short-Term Rental License Applications: Last year, new housing ordinances were enacted in Winooski that address short-term rentals. Now, short-term license applications for owner-occupied and non-owner occupied properties must be submitted for the July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026 license year. The deadline for existing short-term rentals is Friday, September 26, 2025. Owners found operating without an active license could receive penalties and fines up to \$800 per day, and may revoke your ability to obtain a short-term rental license for the following year. For full details and to apply, please visit winooskivt.gov/str.

Quarterly tax bill and utility bills will be mailed on or before July 15, 2025 with a due date of August 15, 2025. Please note the tax bill is sent out once a year! To learn about payment options and details, please visit winooskivt.gov/pay, or contact the City Clerk's Office.

Remember: local laws and fees apply when keeping animals (such as chickens and bees) on your property in Winooski. Please complete and return the application available on our website at winooskivt.gov/clerk.

Apply to a Winooski Board, Commission, or Committee!

By Paul Sarne, Communications Director

Are you looking to get more connected to the community and shape our city? Residents with relevant experience, skills, interests, or a willingness to engage are encouraged to apply and participate in Winooski's public process! The City Council and staff welcome diverse voices, and if you've never served on a board, commission, or committee before, we'll do our best to support you! Visit the news updates section on our website to learn more and apply or visit winooskivt.gov/representatives.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Recreation and Parks

winooskivt.gov/recprograms

802-777-1621 | recreation@winooskivt.gov

The Myers Memorial Pool is OPEN! Visit winooskivt.gov/pool to get your passes, learn about our programs, and view the schedule.

YOUTH

Tennis in the Parks

Grades 1-5 | Mondays and Wednesdays, July 14 – 30

CHILL Skateboarding Camp

Ages 11-17 | Monday - Friday, July 7 – 11

Art Fusion Camp

Grades K-5 | Monday - Friday, August 11 – 15

Olympians Camp

Grades K-5 | Monday - Friday, August 18 – 22

Swim Lessons

Ages 0-18 | Monday - Saturday, June 14 - August 18

Winooski Waves Swim Team

Ages 5-18 | Monday, Wednesday, Friday, June 9 - August 4

ADULTS

Winooski Bike Gang

Ages 18+ | Mondays and Wednesdays, April 16 – Sept 29

Winooski Running Club

Ages 18+ | Wednesdays, April 30 – September 1

Aqua Aerobics

Ages 18+ | Tuesdays and Thursdays, June 17 – August 14

Tennis in the Parks

Ages 18+ | Saturdays, July 12 - August 16



Winooski Memorial Library

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

Tuesday to Friday: 10am - 5pm | Saturday: 10am - 2pm

Drop-in programs:

YOUTH

Outdoor Playgroup | Birth & up | Tuesdays | 10:30am

Outdoor Storytime | Birth & up | Thursdays | 10:30am

Messy Art | 18mo & up | Saturdays | 10:30am

Four Winds Nature Play | Birth & up | Tuesday July 1 | 10:30am

Stories in Landry Park | Birth & up | July 11 & 25 | 10:30am

Checkers Game Tournament | Ages 5+ | July 16 | 3:30pm

Food Art for Kids | Ages 5+ | July 9 & 23 | 3:30pm

Crafternoons | Ages 5+ | July 3, 17 & 31 | 3:30pm

Birding for Kids | Ages 8+ | Saturday, July 12 | 10:30am

ADULTS

Monthly Book Group | Ages 18+ | Last Tuesday of each month |

Monthly Writing Group | Ages 18+ | Call or email for specifics

Summer is a great time to explore the world of **Hoopla Digital**, a free online resource featuring a wide selection of audiobooks, eBooks, comics, music, movies, and magazines! Content can be streamed from any computer or mobile device by downloading the hoopla digital app for iOS and Android. Users are allotted up to three (3) checkouts per month. To get started, simply head over to our online resources page at winooskivt.gov/library.

Did you know the library offers passes for free or reduced admission to a number of local attractions? Available to Winooski Library cardholders on a first-served basis, passes include Vermont State Parks & Historic Sites, Shelburne Museum, ECHO, and the Birds of Vermont Museum, and have a loan period of three days. Stop by and start exploring!

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Winooski Senior Center

123 Barlow Street | 802-655-6425
seniorcenter@winooskivt.gov
winooskivt.gov/seniorcenter

WEDNESDAYS

Breakfast Café

9am–11am | Priced by donation | Drop-in
Enjoy fresh breakfast sandwiches, fruit & drinks

Senior Community Connections

9am – 12pm | FREE | Drop-in
Play games, puzzles, craft, sew, and more!

Sit Down Community Meals

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

THURSDAYS

New American Community Connections

10am – 1pm | Games, Activities & Lunch

FRIDAYS

Singing for People with Memory Loss

10:30am – 11:30am | FREE

Senior Swim at the Myers Pool

Fridays June 20 – August 29
11:30am – 12:30pm | FREE for all folks 55+

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

Age Well BBQ

July 16 | 12pm | \$5 suggested donation | RSVP by July 9,
Limited Seating

Medicare Fraud Presentation & Lunch

July 23 | 12pm | Free, RSVP by July 16, limited seating

Natural Plant Dyeing Workshops

August 13 & 20 | 10am – 12pm | Free, Call to Register | Space
is limited

Bone Builders Exercise

Free | Monday & Wednesday | 2 – 3pm

Meals on Wheels

Please call AgeWell at 802 863 0360 for eligibility.
Volunteer drivers are always needed!



Thrive Afterschool

winooskivt.gov/thrive

Thrive Summer 2025: Hey there campers – are you ready for the best summer ever? Explore nature, celebrate different cultures, enjoy STEAM activities, and go on trips to the Myers Memorial Pool all summer long. Join your friends and neighbors to make some lifetime memories!

- Grades K- 5 (must have completed Kindergarten)
- Monday – Friday
- 8:30am - 5pm at the Winooski School District

Summer Camp Dates and Themes:

- July 7 – 11 – Crazy Critters Week
- July 14 – 18 – Thrive on Wheels Week
- July 21 – 25 – Music Week
- July 28 – August 1 – Water Week

State scholarships have expanded and offer some level of support for most Winooski families to pay for Thrive. Applications are encouraged – visit dcf.vermont.gov/benefits/ccfap for more info or email thrive@winooskivt.gov for help.

Thrive Afterschool is accepting new students for the remainder of the school year and as a state-licensed program, most families are eligible for help with program costs. For more info and to sign up, visit winooskivt.gov/thrive.

Sign up for
Community Services
Programs & Events!



winooskivt.gov/programs



Downtown Winooski

downtownwinooski.org

Support businesses on Main Street during the ‘Winooski Mosaic’ campaign! Visit downtownwinooski.org/mosaic and follow us on social media to learn more. With the tagline “Temporary Routes, Permanent Progress,” the initiative aims to maintain business patronage and community engagement during the Main Street Revitalization Project and includes everything from print and digital advertising, social media content, wayfinding signage, business highlights, and exciting programs for gift cards, receipt raffles, delivery options, and opportunities to share your experiences supporting businesses.

This July, we are excited to bring **Best Pooch in the ‘Noosk** back to the Farmers Market! Join us on **Sunday, July 27th** from 10am – 2pm at 20 Winooski Falls Way to celebrate the pups of Winooski and award 5 silly prizes for categories like Cutest and Worst Breath. The \$20 contest entry fee per dog benefits both the market and For The Love of Dogs, a Vermont rescue, which helps dogs of all breeds find forever homes. Enter your pup, browse dog vendors and guest organizations, or just come to watch!

We owe a big thank you to all of the community members who made the Juneteenth celebration so special! We’re keeping the momentum going in July with another **Downtown Block Party** in Rotary Park on **July 18th** from 5 – 8pm featuring live music, activities for folks of all ages, local community groups, snacks and drinks available for purchase, and lots of fun. We’re so excited to come together with you all once again and celebrate our Winooski family!

Winooski Food Shelf

winooskifoodshelf.org



Winooski residents may access the food shelf one (1) Wednesday and both Saturdays.

Wednesday, July 9	1 – 3pm
Saturday, July 12	9:30 – 11am
Wednesday, July 23	1 – 3pm
Saturday, July 26	9:30 – 11am

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 at 9am to help bring inside and shelve the food dropped off by the Vermont Foodbank truck.

Howard Center

howardcenter.org

Howard Center’s

Mental Health Urgent Care (MHUC) provides



a therapeutic alternative to emergency department visits for adults experiencing a self-defined mental health crisis. We offer person-centered, coordinated care tailored to meet each guest’s needs. With a team of clinicians and peer specialists available, no appointment is needed. Walk-ins are welcome Monday-Friday, 9am – 5pm. Services are Free. Call 802 488 MHUC (6482) or visit 1 South Prospect Street in Burlington, with Free parking and easy public transit access. More info available at howardcenter.org/mhuc. Help is here.

Winooski Partnership for Prevention

winooskiprevention.org

This summer, the Winooski Partnership for Prevention will be offering small bites of local food, help, and information for community members of all ages. See us at Winooski Farmer’s Markets, and join a WPP-hosted mini “green up” event or two at the O’Brien Community Center and other neighborhoods. Get in touch if you’d like our help organizing your own neighborhood event! Stay informed about details of upcoming events and programs by subscribing to our newsletter, following us on social media, or our website WinooskiPrevention.org. Remember Vermont offers two free online resources for helping people with addiction: 802quits.org, which is focused on quitting tobacco (electronic and combustible) and vthelplink.org, for addressing overuse and addiction to alcohol, Cannabis, and other substances.



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
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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
 Nicole Mace, *Vice President*, 802-363-7777, nimace@wsdvt.org
 Isaiah Donaldson, *Secretary*, 802-999-8410, idonaldson@wsdvt.org
 Emily Bowers, 802-383-6000, ebowers@wsdvt.org
 Elom Essiba, 802-324-9431, eessiba@wsdvt.org

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA We are @WinooskiLearns

CITY OF WINOOSKI
www.winooski.vt.gov, 802-655-6410

Mayor
 Kristine Lott, 802-766-1988, klott@winooski.vt.gov

City Manager
 Elaine Wang, 802-655-6410, ewang@winooski.vt.gov

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

City Clerk
 Jenny Willingham, 802-655-6410, jwillingham@winooski.vt.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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