

The Winooski Newsletter

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

MAY 2025



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
We are the future.

From the Superintendent

By Wilmer Chavarria, Superintendent of Schools

Dear Winooski Families and Residents,

The legislature is quickly advancing significant potential changes to the way education is delivered in Vermont, and you may be left with many questions when hearing about it on the news. Please rest assured that the Winooski School District administration and Board are paying close attention to these developments and exerting active advocacy to ensure that these changes are still protective of valuable resources for our schools and the things the people of Winooski value. We are in close communication with our local representatives and they are always happy to hear from you. If you have any questions or concerns about what you are hearing, please contact Representatives Daisy Berbeco and Chloe Tomlinson, or contact me directly if you want to understand the local impact of these potential decisions.

For now, Winooski's high level position is to encourage legislators to carefully consider how the elements of the proposals impact the amount of resources our students will receive in the future, particularly our most vulnerable subgroups, such as our students eligible for Special Education services, student meeting poverty eligibility criteria, and students who benefit from higher language-acquisition supports. We are also encouraging decision-makers to not rush into drawing arbitrary boundary lines for districts, but rather to carefully engage the local community and



educational experts deeply familiar with the Vermont reality before deciding on new districts. This does not have to take a long time, but it cannot be done artificially or carelessly. On this end, I am supportive of the role that the Commission on the Future of Public Education can play if allowed to continue its charge as originally intended or at least to allow a thoughtful approach to drawing (or not) new boundary lines. Importantly, we support any proposals that fix the unpredictability and unnecessary complexity of the way in which residents are taxed to fund education and that address the unequal distribution of the tax burden when accounting for people's ability to pay. Addressing the tax question along with the costs that are not in the schools' power is, at the end of the day, what voters are asking decision makers to do, not to simply flip the schools upside down.

Finally, you may have seen on the news that Winooski publicly refused to sign Trump's anti-DEI orders when the state directed me to comply. I want to make it clear that I disagree with the state's approach since then to downplay the severity of these kinds of orders. Dismissing the legitimate concerns of Vermonters who are targeted by the factually discriminatory intentions of the executive is not what I hoped our state leaders would do. But here we are. I wish I did not have to be in a position to constantly have to remind the state of why standing up for every one of our students matters, but I will continue to do it because ensuring safety and belonging in a learning space is the number one duty of our public schools.



Winooski's Mapenzi Selemani Heads to Nationals After Winning Vermont Poetry Out Loud® Competition

Winooski High School junior Mapenzi Selemani has made history, winning the Vermont Poetry Out Loud® Competition and earning the opportunity to represent the state at the national finals in Washington, D.C., in May. Selemani secured the title at the Flynn Center in Burlington on March 14, standing out with a powerful performance that showcased her talent, confidence, and deep connection to poetry.

For Selemani, this victory is about more than just competition—it's about representation.

"It is a great honor to represent Winooski," said Selemani. "As a young Black woman, I take immense pride in representing my town and my state. I am proud to showcase the diversity of our Winooski community." Selemani's journey to the state championship was an unexpected but transformative experience. "I feel like I've just discovered a new passion," she shared. "I had

never done anything like this before, and I'm so happy to have found something I truly love."

Her success is a testament to the supportive environment at Winooski High School, where educators encourage students to explore their voices and embrace new opportunities. "We're so proud of Mapenzi and thrilled that she will represent our school and state at the national finals," said Caitlin MacLeod-Bluver, a Winooski High School teacher and Vermont Teacher of the Year. "Educators strive to create spaces where students can share their voices. It's inspiring to see them embrace that opportunity and make their voices heard."

Now, Selemani is preparing to take the national stage, where she will compete against top students nationwide. With her passion, dedication, and pride in her community, she is ready to bring Winooski's voice to a national audience.



School Board Update

By Emily Bowers, Board of School Trustees

Happy May, Winooski! I want to start by introducing myself. I'm Emily Bowers, the newest member of the Winooski School Board. I moved to Winooski from Florida three years ago, and I love every minute of living here. I am proud to be part of such a dedicated and caring team, working with my fellow board members and Wilmer to ensure we do what is best for all Winooski students and staff.

Thank you to everyone who showed up to vote last month on Town Meeting Day. The budget the board presented was passed by a majority of our community, and for that, we are all incredibly grateful!

Last month, the board adopted a policy to make Winooski a Sanctuary School District. This policy defines expectations for staff and administration on what to do "when confronted with questions related to US immigration enforcement in our schools." The safety and security of students and their families is a top priority of the board and district. Adopting this policy gives staff and administration the tools needed to help students when they need it most.

We have also had in-depth budget discussions since Town Meeting Day. In our last meeting, we reviewed plans for upcoming renovations to the school, costs, and what those projects will look like from start to finish. We are excited about the continued updates that are being made to the school - we want our students and teachers to have the best!

I want to give a special shout-out to the students who have been speaking out and sharing their thoughts on the anti-DEI movements coming from higher offices. Most recently, two students came to our April meeting and spoke on the importance of DEI in schools and what that means to them. I am so impressed with each student's bravery in speaking up and courage to get in front of leaders and stand up for their beliefs.

Thank you for your support. We will see you next month with more updates from our wonderful board.

Winooski Senior Leo Beebe Named Finalist in Senator Sanders' 2025 State of the Union Essay Contest



A huge congratulations to Winooski High School senior Leo Beebe for being named a finalist in Senator Bernie Sanders' 2025 State of the Union Essay Contest! As one of 15 winners and finalists, Leo was invited to participate in a roundtable discussion with Senator Sanders at the Vermont State House on March 29. We are so proud of you, Leo!

Introducing Miss Dee

By Daviah Lawrence, Ethnic Studies, Justice, and Belonging

Hello Winooski Families,

I'm excited to introduce myself! My name is Daviah Lawrence, but most students call me Miss Dee. This past year, Winooski launched a new class for K-5 students called Ethnic Studies, Justice, and Belonging (formerly Social Justice). This course helps students explore their identities, build strong communities, and understand fairness, justice, and action.

I am deeply passionate about this work. Before this role, I was a teacher for Newcomer Multilingual Learners, where I saw how students thrived when they were valued for who they are. As someone who also navigated a new culture growing

up, I understand the importance of feeling seen and heard in the classroom. That's why I am committed to making sure all students feel empowered and included.

In this class, students:

- Learn about themselves and others
- Recognize unfairness and injustice in the world
- Explore ways to create a more fair and caring community
- Develop skills to take action for social justice

Our curriculum is based on Winooski's guiding educational frameworks and was developed in response to the 2020 Winooski Students for Antiracism (WSA) Student Demands. With the support of district leaders, educators, and community members, we worked hard to create a meaningful learning experience for students.

Throughout the year, I shared updates about our topics, books, and projects. I truly valued the conversations I had with educators and community members, and I want to continue those conversations with you and our Winooski families.

Thank you for your support in making this program a success. I look forward to continuing this important work together!



Farewell to Nurse Emily: A Heartfelt Thank You and the Need for a New School Nurse

By Liz Parris, WSD Nurse

As the end of the school year approaches, our school community bids a bittersweet farewell to Nurse Emily, who has been an invaluable part of our school for the past 2 years. Her dedication, compassion, and unwavering support for students and staff have left a lasting impact that will be felt long after her departure.

Nurse Emily has provided excellent medical care and served as a calming presence during times of illness, injury, and uncertainty. Her ability to connect with each student and staff member, making them feel heard and cared for, is a testament to her professionalism and genuine concern for others. As she moves on to new opportunities out of state, we cannot help but feel a sense of loss. While we are excited about her future endeavors, we are also deeply grateful for her time with us.

With Emily's departure, we will be working on hiring a new school nurse. If you know a registered nurse who is interested in school health, please have them visit schoolspring.com to apply.

Winooski Career Café

DATE: Wednesday, May 28

TIME: 4:30–6:45pm (before the Spring Concert at 7pm)

Join us for **Winooski Career Cafe**—a networking event and open house where students, families, and local organizations come together to explore career pathways and celebrate community connections.

Students and parents will have the chance to:

- Meet local businesses and organizations
- Learn about internships, summer jobs, volunteer roles, and long-term career opportunities
- Hear success student stories of students who found meaningful opportunities to network and build relationships that can open doors to the future

Students are encouraged to bring their resumes!

Stay for the WMHS Spring Concert at 7pm—a whole evening of connection and celebration!



A Celebration of Togetherness at Winooski's Community Iftar

Winooski's Community Iftar was a beautiful celebration of togetherness, learning, and reflection. Seeing so many people come together to honor Ramadan and share in this special tradition was inspiring.

We were honored to welcome Winooski Mayor Kristine Lott, Vermont State Representative Chloe Tomlinson, and Senator Peter Welch to this meaningful gathering.

Thank you to Ms. Caitlin for organizing and our incredible students for leading the celebration and sharing their knowledge about Ramadan.

We are grateful to everyone who joined us in fostering community and connection!



**7th & 8th Grade Artists
Explore Identity
Through Symbolic
Self-Portraits**

By Emily Jacobs, 7 / 8 Art Teacher

Our spring semester 7th and 8th grade artists recently completed their symbolic self-portraits! Each artwork features a portrayal of the artist's physical self and thoughtful symbolism about their identity, interests, goals and values -- all integrated in a surrealist way. To inspire, our art classes studied work by Salvador Dali and Frida Kahlo and portraits by contemporary artists Amy Sherald and Kehinde Wiley.

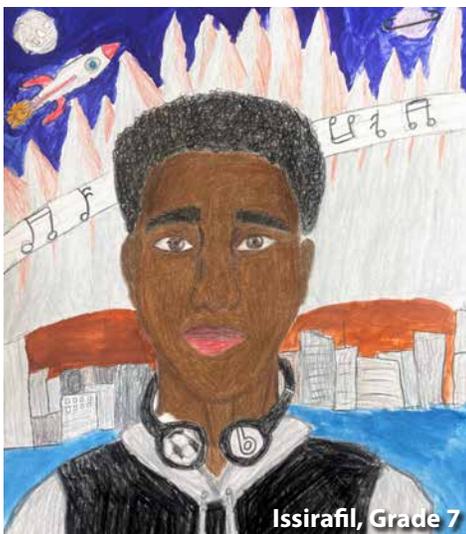
Students also drew inspiration from the work of Winooski student artists created in prior school years for this same project.



Ushika, Grade 7



Asher, Grade 7



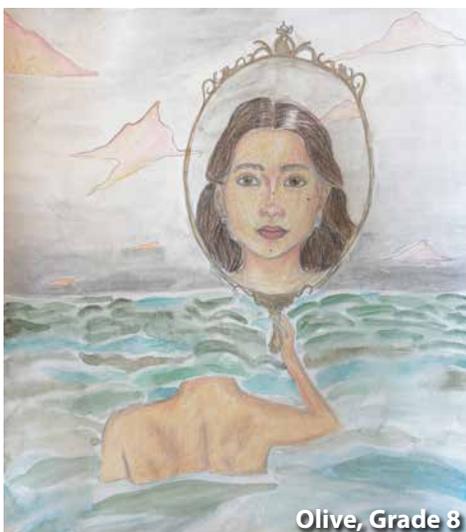
Issirafil, Grade 7



Ketty, Grade 7



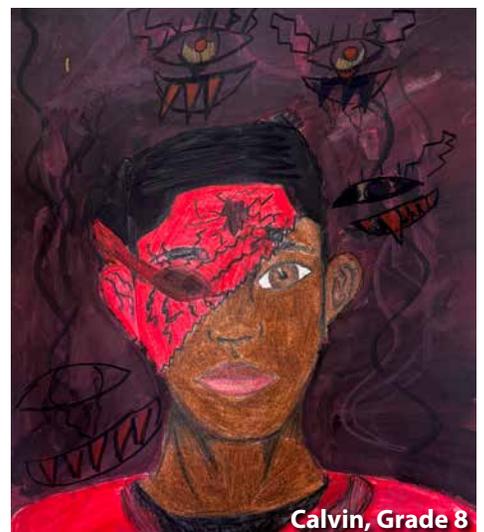
Adrian, Grade 7



Olive, Grade 8



Safira, Grade 7



Calvin, Grade 8



Sam Jackson Receives the KidSafe Collaborative 2025 Outstanding Professional Award

The Winooski School District proudly announced that Sam Jackson, Athletic Director and Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach, was selected to receive the KidSafe Collaborative 2025 Outstanding Professional Award. This prestigious recognition honored Sam's unwavering dedication, skill, and commitment to serving the community's children, youth, and families.

Winooski Middle High School Co-Principal Jean Berthiaume, who nominated Sam for the award, shared his thoughts on Sam's influence:

"Sam is an excellent example of someone who goes 'above and beyond' in every aspect of his role. Through his leadership, our students have been able to experience the power of sport as a tool for growth, resilience, and connection. His impact extended beyond the gymnasium or athletic field; he inspired many of our students to develop leadership skills, self-confidence, and a sense of responsibility. He was not just an exceptional athletic director and coach, but an extraordinary human being who embodied the spirit of service to others."

The KidSafe Collaborative Annual Outstanding Service Awards Celebration took place on April 16, 2025 at the DoubleTree Hilton in South Burlington, Vermont.



Poetry Showcase

We held our first district-wide Poetry Showcase in celebration of National Poetry Month. Students from 1st and 2nd grade through high school shared their voices, their stories, and their hearts through original poems and performances. The creativity and courage on stage were inspiring.

Thank you to Ms. Caitlin for organizing this powerful event and Rajnii Eddins for MCing with energy and encouragement. Here's to the power of words and the voices of our students!

Congratulations to the Winooski Wild Onions!

Ankita Dhungana, Aili Olson, and Anisha Tamang brought another title back to Winooski, winning the Mise En Place Award at the Jr. Iron Chef Competition. This marked the third year in which this incredible team earned an award! The Mise En Place Award was given to the team that exemplified teamwork, organization, and cleanliness and approached their dish thoughtfully and intentionally.



The Jr. Iron Chef Winooski Wild Onions also served as guest servers at Waterworks, where they served their award-winning dish, "Korean (mock) Chicken" with Chicken of the Woods Mushrooms." Proceeds from the evening benefited the 21C after-school program.

Thanks to Waterworks Chef Adam Raftery and Middle School Teacher Adriana Penalosa-Kirby for their coaching and support. Their guidance played a big role in the Wild Onions' continued success!

ALL MEALS ARE FREE
for all students.

At every meal, assorted fruit is served, and low fat milk or fat free chocolate milk is available.

			<p>Lunch Entree Chickpea Masala Cheese and Turkey Pepperoni Pizza Cheese Pizza Vegetables Kale Roasted Red Peppers Daily Salad Bar Grains Brown Rice</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Oven Fried Chicken Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Hawaiian Chicken Wrap Vegetables Garlic Roasted Green Beans Daily Salad Bar Grains Cilantro Lime Brown Rice</p>
<p>Lunch Entree Chicken & Andouille Jambalaya Red Beans & Rice Southwest Crunch Salad Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Seasoned/Roasted Carrots Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Chicken Al Pastor Tacos Chicken Quesadilla Chef Salad with Turkey Ham Black Bean Soft Tacos Vegetables Creamy Pinto Beans Pico de Gallo Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Beef Cheeseburger Gardenburger® Veggie Burger Creamy Buffalo Chicken Salad Wrap Garden Salad with Cheese & Egg Vegetables Roasted Potato Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Piri Piri Chicken Greek Chicken Wrap Chicken Caesar Salad Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Collard Greens Daily Salad Bar Grains Jollof Rice</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Chicken Aioli Sandwich Pasta Bar Vegetables Italian Herbed Sauteed Zucchini Broccoli Daily Salad Bar</p>
<p>Lunch Entree Grilled Cheese Sandwich Southwest Crunch Salad Turkey Ham & Cheese Hoagie Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Granola & Yogurt Parfait Vegetables Tomato Soup Carrot Slaw Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Ground Turkey Tacos Hawaiian Chicken Wrap Chef Salad with Turkey Vegetables Fiesta Corn Pico de Gallo Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Hot Dog Grilled Cheese Sandwich Mixed Green Salad with Cheese Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Baked Beans Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Sweet & Sour Chicken Teriyaki Tofu Cheese and Turkey Pepperoni Pizaza Vegetables Honey Ginger Green Beans Daily Salad Bar Grains Fried Rice</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Cheesy Baked Ziti Chicken Ranch Wrap Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Lemon Pepper Broccoli Daily Salad Bar</p>
<p>Lunch Entree Huli Huli Chicken Southwest Crunch Salad Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Seasoned/Roasted Carrots Daily Salad Bar Grains Hawaiian Mac Salad</p>	<p>Lunch Entree BYO Burrito Bowl Southwest Crunch Salad Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Fire Roasted Black Beans Pico de Gallo Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Chicken Parm Sandwich Grilled Cheese Sandwich Turkey & Cheese Melt Vegetables Buttered Parsley Potatoes Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Teriyaki Chicken Teriyaki Tofu Roasted Chicken Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Green Beans Veggie Stir-Fry with Ginger Daily Salad Bar Grains Asian Noodles Brown Rice</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Chicken Tenders Cheese Pizza Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Chef Salad with Turkey Vegetables Chili Roasted Sweet Potatoes Daily Salad Bar</p>
<p>Lunch Entree BBQ Chicken Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Vegetarian Baked Beans Daily Salad Bar Roasted Mashed Potatoes Grains Whole Wheat Dinner Roll</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Nacho Bar Greek Chicken Wrap Vegetarian Chef Salad Vegetables Pico de Gallo Daily Salad Bar Taco Bar: Seasoned Pinto Beans</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Grilled Cheese Sandwich Meatball Marinara Sub Chicken Caesar Salad Turkey Sandwich Vegetables Daily Salad Bar Tomato Soup</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Beef Shepherds Pie Vegetarian Shepherd's Pie Southwest Crunch Salad Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Glazed Carrots Daily Salad Bar Grains Whole Wheat Dinner Roll</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Jerk Chicken Drumstick Cheese Pizza Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Steamed Broccoli Daily Salad Bar Grains Rice Pilaf Whole Grain Corn Bread</p>



Letter from the Mayor

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

Hello Winooski,

Green Up Day is on Saturday, May 3! Join your friends and neighbors for this incredible annual tradition of ‘greening up’ Vermont. If you’re reading this after the event, thank you for pitching in. To learn more, visit greenupvermont.org.

Last month, the City Council approved a funding request **to increase the City’s contributions to Downtown Winooski**, which continues to be a vital advocate for Winooski’s economic vitality, community engagement, and small business support - one of Vermont’s most functional downtown districts! Downtown Winooski has made significant progress in expanding community events, strategic planning, board development, staff investment, and financial management. However, its current financial model is fragile, relying heavily on key sponsors. Without stable, recurring funding, Downtown Winooski’s ability to serve our community will be compromised. The City Council voted to approve Downtown Winooski’s one-time funding request (increasing the City’s contribution from \$36,000 a year to \$86,000 by using reserve funds). This increase will be worked into the next proposed City budget to sustain our commitment. With ongoing construction impacts, instability at the federal level, and not having Community and Economic Development staff, maintaining Downtown Winooski’s economic



momentum is critical at this time.

Speaking of business support, check out the Downtown Winooski section of this newsletter to learn more about the **‘Winooski Mosaic Campaign’** and its theme of “Temporary Routes, Permanent Progress” in support of businesses on Main Street during the Revitalization project. Good weather is upon us and I strongly encourage our residents and visitors to learn more about our amazing slate of summer offerings by our **Community Services Department**, such as the community gardens, season passes and programs at the Myers Memorial Pool, youth programs at the Winooski Memorial Library, and our outdoor opportunities with Recreation and

Parks. You can also use our website to request a street closure for a neighborhood block party! Learn more at winooskivt.gov/programs.

Lastly, May is the month when the City Council and staff will hold our **annual strategic planning session** to set priorities for the fiscal year based on the guidelines set by our Strategic Vision and Master Plan (winooskivt.gov/vision). As always, public input is welcomed and encouraged. If there’s something you want to suggest or make sure we consider as a priority, please reach out to me or any member of the Council and Staff to share your thoughts.

From Your Local Representative

By Representative Daisy Berbeco

Moving Education Finance

Forward: Vermont’s education system is facing serious challenges—from declining enrollment and rising student needs to lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. On top of that, health insurance for school staff now eats up about 25% of school budgets. We’ve made progress in recent years through efforts like the Brigham decision, Act 153, Act 46, and most recently, Act 127. But when last year’s property tax bills arrived, it was clear we needed to dig deeper and move faster on education finance reform. That’s where H.454 comes in. This bill is designed to help make our education system more stable, accessible, and affordable. It aims to reduce duplicative administrative work and improve operational efficiency—what many are calling “achieving scale.”

But the big question remains: How do we make these changes while protecting the programs that matter most to Winooski students? That’s been my focus in recent months, working alongside fellow legislators, school leaders, and community



Representatives Chloe Tomlinson (left) and Daisy Berbeco (right)

members. Governor Scott offered his own plan, but it would have actually cost taxpayers more while pushing Vermont closer to a voucher-style system—one that risks deepening inequities. Worse, the plan wasn’t released until a week before our bill drafting deadline, leaving no time for public input or expert testimony. Thankfully, the House Education Committee stepped up and proposed H.454. While not perfect, it’s a more thoughtful and grounded approach. It emphasizes shared resources and better coordination across districts, which could lead to real savings. Still, there are some standardized proposals in the bill that may not align with Winooski’s unique needs.

I’ll continue advocating for flexibility so our schools can keep doing what they do best: supporting a diverse, vibrant student body. Reforming education finance isn’t easy, but it’s essential. Our students deserve a system that is fair, sustainable, and built for the future—and Winooski deserves a seat at the table as we shape it.



Main Street Revitalization

winooskivt.gov/mainstreet

In March and April, the project kicked off for the season with the installation of a new sewer main and water/sewer services between Normand Street and the Colchester town line. Lafountain Street was connected to the new water main, finishing the water and sewer upgrades for the project. Crews also began constructing the sidewalk on the southern end of the project limits. Main Street between Maple and Tigan streets were reduced to a single lane, allowing only northbound traffic. Southbound traffic is detoured to Tigan/Weaver streets. This detour will remain in place 24/7 for most of the construction season, allowing crews to install stormwater systems, move overhead utilities underground, and fully reconstruct the road (including pavement, line striping, curbs, sidewalks, traffic signal upgrades, streetlights, and landscaping).

Moving into May, crews will install stormwater pipes beginning at Spring Street moving north to Tigan Street. Duct bank installation between Spring and Stevens streets is expected. Roadway construction on Main Street will start at the Spring Street intersection with excavation, drainage, gravel, grading, curb, sidewalk, and paving. Road construction will continue north on Main Street in sections. Please note: the schedule may change due to weather, field conditions, subcontractor availability, and other factors!

- **Stay Informed:** View and sign up for weekly construction updates at winooskivt.gov/mainstreet. Multilingual updates are also 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 and concerns:** 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.



Burlington/Winooski Bridge Project Team Visits Winooski School District

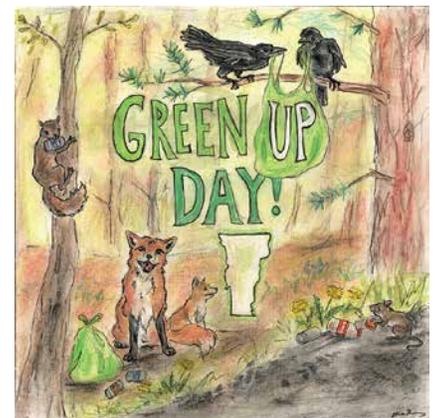
In April, the Burlington/Winooski Bridge Project Team presented to the Winooski School District 'Advisory' program, which focuses on professional development. About 150 high school students were engaged and learned how the 100-year-old bridge will be replaced, community input provided to date, expected construction impacts, and other project basics. The Vermont Department of Transportation (VTrans) and consultants provided context to how their individualized jobs support the project, highlighting the career value of public service, infrastructure, engineering, design, marketing, and more. VTrans also invited students to sign up for the National Summer Transportation Institute Camp, which provides hand-on learning, field trips to construction projects, and other real-world experiences. A heartfelt thank you to the students and teachers for this incredible opportunity that empowered young voices to make a meaningful impact in their community.

City Hall Reminders

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

Green Up Day 2025:

This beloved annual tradition of 'greening up' Vermont takes place on Saturday, May 3. To learn more about where to pick up bags and how to get involved, visit winooskivt.gov/greenuptday or call 802 655 1392.



Quarterly tax and utility payments

are due on May 15, 2025. To learn about payment options and details, please visit winooskivt.gov/pay.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Recreation and Parks

802-777-1621 | recreation@winooskivt.gov

Summer camp and pool passes/programs are now open for registration! View all programs at winooskivt.gov/recprograms

YOUTH

Vermont Patriots Soccer

U6 | Saturdays, May 3 - June 14

U8 - U12 | Weeks of April 28 - June 8

Tennis in the Parks

Grades 1-5 | Wednesdays, May 7 - June 11

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

Budding Gardeners Camp

Grades K-5 | Monday - Friday, June 16 - 20

Very Merry Theatre Camp

Grades 1-6 | Monday - Friday, June 23 - 27

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 0-13 | 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

Tennis in the Parks

Ages 18+ | Wednesdays, May 7 - June 11

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

YOUTH

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

Baby & Toddler Storytime | Ages 0-2 | Thursdays | 10:30am

Preschool Storytime | Ages 3-5 | Fridays | 10:30am

STEAM Ahead | Ages 5+ | Saturdays | 10:30am

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

Lego Time | Ages 4+ | Tuesday, May 6 & 20 | 3:30pm

ADULTS

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

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

Spotlight on Resources: Mango Languages: | Now is a great opportunity to explore the world of Mango Languages, a free online resource offered to Winooski Library cardholders! Featuring over 70 languages, Mango offers self-paced learning opportunities for anyone looking to freshen their skills, take a deeper dive, or embark on a new language journey. To get started, simply head over to our online resources page at winooskivt.gov/library.

Preschool Storytime: Join us for stories, songs, crafts, and playtime every Friday! Open to children ages 3-5 with an adult caregiver, no registration required.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Winooski Senior Center

123 Barlow Street | 802-655-6425

seniorcenter@winooskivt.gov

winooskivt.gov/seniorcenter

Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9am – 12pm

TUESDAYS

Singing for People with Memory Loss

10:30am – 11:30am | Free | Ends May 20

WEDNESDAYS

Breakfast Café

9am–11am | Priced by donation | Drop-in

Enjoy fresh breakfast sandwiches, fruit & drinks

Senior Community Connections

9am – 12pm | FREE | Drop-in

Come and 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

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

Backstrap Weaving Workshops | Wednesdays April 2 – May 28

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. Volunteers are always needed!



Thrive Afterschool

winooskivt.gov/thrive

Thrive Summer 2025: Hey there campers – are you ready for the best summer ever? We've got tons of fun activities planned for you! Registration for Thrive Summer opened on February 1, 2025, and we encourage families to sign up soon. We'll be exploring nature, celebrating different cultures, and enjoying STEAM activities, and 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:

- June 23 – 27 – Outdoor Explorers Week
- June 30 – July 3 (partial week) – Bouncing off the Walls!
- 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 AND SERVICE PROVIDERS



Winooski Food Shelf

winooskifoodshelf.org



**winooski
food shelf**
sharing food & giving hope

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

Saturday, May 10	9:30am – 11am
Wednesday, May 14	1pm – 3pm
Saturday, May 24	9:30am – 11am
Wednesday, May 28	1pm – 3pm

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

During May, we observe **Mental Health Awareness Month**, a time to promote

the importance of mental health and well-being for everyone in the Winooski community. Howard Center is committed to supporting our community by offering a comprehensive array of services.

Our dedicated staff provides compassionate care and supportive services designed to address mental health, substance use, and developmental needs. We offer support for children, adults, and families through counseling, care coordination, and various other community-based supports and services.

For detailed information about our services and how we can assist you, please visit howardcenter.org or contact us at 802 488 6000.



Downtown Winooski

downtownwinooski.org

**TEMPORARY ROUTES,
PERMANENT
PROGRESS.**



Winooski Mosaic

The City of Winooski has launched the ‘Winooski Mosaic’ campaign! Visit downtownwinooski.org/mosaic to learn more. With the tagline “Temporary Routes, Permanent Progress,” the initiative aims to maintain business patronage and community engagement from April 2025 through June 2026 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. Main Street Winooski brings together a diverse collection of businesses and services that form the heart of our community. From dining and retail to essential services and professional establishments, each contributes something unique to our shared experience. Every visit supports both the vibrant culture and the necessary infrastructure that residents rely on daily. During construction, the Mosaic Campaign encourages your continued patronage to preserve the distinctive character and complete ecosystem that makes Winooski unlike anywhere else in Vermont.

2025 Farmers Market

The Winooski Farmers Market is returning on May 18! Join us from 10am -2pm every Sunday until October 26 for fresh farm-grown food, delicious lunch options, artisan goods, live music, kids activities, and lots of community fun. We’ll be returning to our summer home on the Champlain Mill green at 20 Winooski Falls Way and we can’t wait to see you there. Learn more at downtownwinooski.org/winooski-farmers-market.



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

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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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