

The Winooski Newsletter

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

OCTOBER 2024



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS
We are the future.



Support Winooski Businesses on Main Street!

By Elaine Wang, Winooski City Manager

The City of Winooski calls on our residents and visitors to support businesses on Main Street during the Main Street Revitalization project. While this voter-approved project addresses the goals of our shared community vision and Master Plan with a focus on long-term economic vitality and municipal infrastructure improvements, maintaining the current vibrancy of this essential city gateway is a top priority. The City of Winooski cares deeply about our business community, recognizing them as the heartbeat of our local economy. Winooski's 100-year legacy of opportunity includes many eras of change and growth where the community has come together to keep Winooski an amazing place to live, work, and visit.

Many Winooski businesses report a 30-70% drop in revenue due to construction. City officials are hearing that some businesses may close as early as October of this year; with two already closed citing construction impacts. As of today, most of the water, sewer, and stormwater work will be completed by the end of the 2024 season in November/December. Unpaved sections of the road will be patched for the winter. Work

resuming in 2025 will be easier to travel through and focused on sidewalk, curbing, and street tree work.

The Public Information Team continues to provide weekly construction updates for residents and visitors to use while planning their trips through the construction area. Patrons can also follow the businesses and Downtown Winooski, on social media, to be kept up to date on business operations.

The City, Downtown Winooski, and the Winooski Working Communities Challenge are partnering to explore local, state, and federal support options including loans, grants, donations, marketing, wayfinding, and facilitating access to technical support.

Call to action: A local stakeholder group has also assembled to brainstorm, vet, and implement solutions. Community members who care and have some time to help are encouraged to join this group by sending an email to biz@winooski.vt.gov.

For construction-specific questions and comments, please continue contacting the Public Information Team. Learn more about the project at winooski.vt.gov/mainstreet.



From the Superintendent

By Wilmer Chavarria, Superintendent of Schools



Dear Winooski Community,

We are incredibly lucky to have highly qualified staff serving our students. Although this is obvious on a daily basis to anyone observing the care and hard work our staff put into their interactions with our students, it has been reassuring to receive statewide recognition as well by currently having the “Principal of the Year” recipient at our high school,

Jean Berthiaume, and the “Teacher of the Year” finalist, Caitlin MacLeod-Bluver, who could potentially bring the title to our district later this month. Last year, two of our wonderful teachers were named finalists for the same state title. I am pleased to see that our educators are able to activate their expertise in service of a unique and special community. Every one of our students brings assets and opportunities that make it so that the adults in the district cannot help but become innovators and designers of unique experiences. Every child is different anywhere in the world, but there is something extra special about bringing additional layers into the mix in the way that Winooski can. This may not be a priority for some in the state, but it matters to us.

In an environment of constant pressures statewide, where we are measured against standards that ignore the day-to-day realities of our community, it is important to remind

ourselves that we are successful in many of the goals we have set for ourselves while acknowledging the areas where we must creatively and bravely improve, even when our resources are limited.

As we move into the future, it is important to carefully consider how we can keep some of our most precious services while adapting to our ever-shrinking resources and increased costs so that our community does not bear an unsustainable tax burden. We are hopeful that we can achieve this balance in the short and long term, but we will all have to be ready to make small sacrifices. While it is the board’s role to adopt a budget and present it to the voters, the administrative team provides the board with all the information they need to make good decisions, including potential areas for optimization of resources. Over the next few months, we will engage in our regular budgeting adoption process, and you will be able to access the information we provide to the board in real-time by attending our board meetings and checking the materials and documents in their board packet. You can also provide public comment during this time or ask specific questions to the board or to my office. I strongly encourage you to consider becoming involved in any way you can. Knowing how the funding for our schools works is critical in garnering support for our budget.

Thank you again for your continued support of our schools.

Happy October, Winooski

By Elom Essiba, Winooski Board of School Trustees

Hello Winooski Community,

I hope everyone is settling into the 2024/2025 school year! We’ve officially begun with the new start time of 8:15 AM, and it’s been great to see how families, students, and staff are adjusting. So far, it seems to be working out well for most, though we’re always listening for feedback to help everyone transition smoothly. I’d love to hear from you all about how the new time is impacting your mornings.

As we look ahead, I want to remind you that we will be starting the Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) budget discussions in October. This is a vital part of ensuring we have the resources to keep our schools thriving. We’re currently looking for budget buddies—members of the community who are interested in getting involved and providing input on how our funds are allocated. If you’re passionate about our schools and want to have a say in shaping their future, I encourage you to join us in this effort. Anyone who’s interested can contact any Board member or Wilmer.

On the food front, we’ve recently partnered with a new company, Genuine, to provide meals to our students. We have received feedback from our students and invite everyone to continue doing so.

We hear you, and we’re committed to making improvements. That’s why I want to invite students to join the food community—a group that provides a platform to share feedback, bring up concerns, and work together to create changes that benefit everyone.

As fall approaches, I’m excited for the changing season and the beautiful foliage, though I must admit I’m not as thrilled about the cold weather! I’m especially looking forward to visiting local farms with my family and going apple picking, which has always been one of my favorite fall traditions.

I hope everyone also enjoys the foliage and fall season with family and loved ones. The colors and atmosphere always bring a special energy to our community, and I’m looking forward to enjoying that.

Lastly, we encourage everyone to get involved by joining us at our board meetings. It’s a great opportunity to participate, share your thoughts, and engage in meaningful discussions about the future of our schools.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools. Let’s continue to work together as a community to make this year successful for everyone!



Farewell to Officer Jason Ziter

By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications

It's with mixed emotions that we say farewell to our beloved School Resource Officer, Jason Ziter. He said in a letter to staff and students, "My family and I are relocating and moving out of state. My wife and I will be helping with the ministry of a church that we'll be attending there, and I have accepted a new job continuing to support children, youth and families in a very similar role as my SRO position. My last day of work will be Wednesday, October 2nd."

Over the years, Officer Jason has been more than just a protector—he's been a mentor, a friend, and a cherished member of our Winooski School District family. His presence in our schools has made a lasting impact, and the students will deeply miss him.

He said, "Working for the Winooski Police Department as well as my position as the School Resource Officer for the School District has been an absolutely incredible experience. This has been the best job I've ever had! I have made many great friends, watched you all grow, and seen many graduate. The impact that the Winooski community has made on me will last a lifetime."

Thank you, Officer Jason, for your unwavering dedication to our community. We wish you nothing but the best in your next chapter. You will always have a special place in our hearts.

2nd Grade Poem

By Angela Moulton, 2nd Grade Teacher

Second graders in Mrs. Moulton's class heard a poem about a very nervous student on their first day of school and then worked together to write their own poem. We talked about how everyone has big feelings on the first day and that however we feel is right. It was a fantastic first day in second grade! It is good to be back. Here is our poem:

On our first day we feel:
Happy
Sad
Mad
Excited
Good
Silly-nervous
Okay
And
Happy!



Game for Change!

By Mukhtar Abdullahi

Join us on Saturday, October 5th, at Winooski High School for a special event—Game for Change! Kick-off is at 11am, but this isn't just any soccer game. Our student-athletes will be raising awareness about the dangers of harmful drugs and how we can all work together to protect our youth. The Winooski School District, in partnership with the Winooski Partnership for Prevention (WPP), is leading this important initiative to educate parents and the community. Come cheer on the Boys Varsity Soccer team and learn how you can help make a difference!

Health Office News

By Elizabeth Parris, BSN, RN, NCSN

We are excited to be back, and we are off to a busy but great start to the school year!

1. We are happy to have the SBHC and dental clinic open three days a week on-site. Please let us know if you are interested in learning more about either of these programs.
2. If you have not already done so, please complete the health information section in PowerSchool. We check this section to review medical conditions, permission for over-the-counter medications, etc
3. If you have a student in grades K-2, we highly recommend that you put an extra set of clothes in their backpack in case of an accident. We have limited items in the health office.
4. We will begin our annual hearing and vision screenings this month. As a reminder, by law, we are required to screen students in Kindergarten, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, and 12th grade. You will only be notified if your child's results are outside of normal limits. PLEASE NOTE: If your child wears eyeglasses or contacts, make sure they bring them for vision screening. JFK will be screened on Mon., Oct. 21st, and MSHS will be screened on Wed., Oct. 23rd. A special thanks to the LIONS Club for helping with the vision screenings
5. Student flu shot clinics will start soon! UVMMC Primary Pediatrics will again offer student flu shots during the school day. Please be on the lookout for dates/times and permission slips.

As always, please let us know if you have any questions!



Around the District

By Rahmah Alchaderchi,
Winooski School District Communications Intern



Onion River Schoolhouse

“Education could happen anywhere, whether in a classroom or the community,” said Winooski High School teacher Ms. Howes. Onion River Classroom believes education should be creative and impactful to the community surrounding us. On Friday, the students visited River Berry Farms in Fairfax, Vermont, and learned about the importance of bees and pollination. The students will implement the knowledge they gained at the farm on Winooski school grounds.

Pre-Kindergarten School Supply Donation

Hydro-Québec donated school supplies for the incoming Pre-K schoolers. The students had the opportunity to choose from backpacks, books, playdough, notebooks, crayons, and toys. They are excited to start the new year with their new supplies.



1st Graders Meet Roo

Our first graders were excited to learn about service dogs’ vital role in helping people. They were introduced to Roo, a friendly service dog, and discovered how she assists her handler. After the lesson, the students were thrilled when Roo’s vest came off, signaling her time off duty. The highlight of the day? Getting to give Roo some well-deserved treats!



Physical Education News

Shoutout to Moo July Htoo for hitting a perfect bullseye in our high school PE archery class! Congratulations to Nadia Wheeland and Fatuma Mohamed for their doubles bullseye—teamwork makes the dream work! Meanwhile, our 9th-grade PE 1 class is busy building teamwork skills in the “Welded Ankles” challenge!

High School Advisory Challenge

Nothing is better than starting the school year with a bit of advisory competition on the field. High school advisories competed against each other in a variety of events, such as soccer, egg race, jump rope, and hula hoop.



SCHOOL MENUS

Lunch Grades K-8

	<p>Lunch Entree Chicken Quesadilla Taco Cheese Quesadilla Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Fire Roasted Black Beans Pico de Gallo Daily Salad Bar</p>	<p>Lunch Entree Deconstructed Hot Dog Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Grilled Cheese Sandwich Chicken Caesar Wrap Vegetables Chili Roasted Sweet Potatoes Daily Salad Bar</p>	<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 Sautéed 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 Deconstructed 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 Pizza 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 Chicken Ranch Flatbread Cheesy Flatbread Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Meal with String Cheese Vegetables Steamed Broccoli Daily Salad Bar</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 Shepherd's 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>	

Note: 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.



Letter from the Mayor

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

Hello, Neighbors.

We're nearing the end of the 2024 construction season for the Main Street Revitalization project. I want to thank our businesses, residents, and visitors for your patience as this critical infrastructure project continues. The work completed this year was focused on the much-needed replacement of our water, sewer, and stormwater systems. Next year, traveling through the construction area should be easier with the focus on sidewalk, curbing, and street trees.

While the construction process will remain difficult, I'm enthusiastic about the significant improvements to biking and pedestrian access and the multiple high-priority issues this voter-approved project addresses as outlined through our Strategic Vision and Master Plan.

In the near term, unpaved sections of the road will be patched for the winter, and with a pause in construction, we're hoping for some business rebound. Please consider our businesses on Main Street this holiday season and encourage your families, friends, and neighbors to support them and keep Winooski an amazing place to live, work, and visit. To read our press release on supporting Winooski businesses on Main Street and the City's ongoing efforts, check out the cover story of this newsletter. If you're interested in helping out, email biz@winooskivt.gov.

Please continue to visit the project page for construction updates and information at winooskivt.gov/mainstreet.



Voting Access PSA

Via the Vermont Secretary of State

Vermont Secretary of State Sarah Copeland Hanzas, in collaboration with Burlington Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak and Winooski Mayor Kristine Lott, released a PSA video last month about voting access in Vermont. Scan

the QR code or visit youtube.com/@vermontsecretaryofstate to watch!

"Unfortunately, we've seen efforts around the country — and in our communities — to discourage people from voting, with organized groups canvassing primarily BIPOC community members door-to-door and on the street to dissuade them from voting through a mix of disinformation and intimidation," said Secretary Copeland Hanzas. "There is no place for this activity in our communities. In addition to partnering with law enforcement and municipalities, we wanted to spread the message loud and clear: do not let anyone cast doubt on your right to register and vote in Vermont."

"I am grateful to have joined Secretary Copeland Hanzas and Mayor Lott in this initiative to help Vermont residents understand their voting rights" stated Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak. "Information sharing and language access are key to ensuring equitable access to our elections, and empowering residents to participate in our democracy."

"Access to voting is an essential right for Winooski residents," said Winooski Mayor Kristine Lott. "Our community cares deeply about local, state, and federal issues and is dedicated to protecting our voters. Elected officials and staff are here to help with anything from voting resources to navigating the election process. I am proud to join Secretary of State Sarah Copeland Hanzas and Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak during this initiative and thank them for their continued support and leadership."

Voters can check their registration status and register to vote at mvp.vermont.gov.

Anyone who is approached by someone questioning their residency/voter registration status is encouraged to report this to their town clerk and local police department.



Winooski Police Department Joins Blue Envelope Program

The Winooski Police Department proudly joins the new Vermont DMV Blue Envelope program which is designed to make routine traffic stop interactions easier, safer, and less stressful for Vermont drivers on the autism spectrum.

Launched in August, The DMV modeled this program on similar ones used in other states and worked with the University of Vermont Autism Collaborative during the development phase.

In short, the blue envelope notifies Winooski Police Department officers that the driver has autism, where printed instructions assist in adapting the approach. The blue envelope is also designed to hold the drivers' documents that are essential during traffic stops: a copy of their license, vehicle registration, proof of insurance, and contact information for their supporters.

The goals of the program are to enhance information for law enforcement officers in order to promote empathy, patience, and more positive interactions, and to reduce anxiety for people on the autism spectrum during traffic stops. To learn more about this program, please visit dmv.vermont.gov/blueenvelope.



City Clerk's Office Reminders

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

Please note, **Winooski City Hall will be closed on Monday, October 14, 2024**, for Indigenous Peoples Day.

Property tax and utility payments are due on November 15, 2024. Please note postmarks are not considered as timely payment. To learn more about payment options, please visit winooskivt.gov/pay.

The General Election is on November 5, 2024. To register to vote, please visit olvr.vermont.gov. The Vermont Secretary of State will be mailing all ballots to registered voters! Please return ballots to the City Clerk's Office by mail, in person, or use the after-hours drop box by November 1st. To view the status of your ballot, please visit mvp.vermont.gov. Learn more about voting in Winooski at winooskivt.gov/vote

Scan the QR code and link below to find out more information about candidates in the 2024 General Election.



Main Street Revitalization Project Update

Construction continues on Main Street from the railroad bridge near Maple Street north to the Winooski/Colchester town line. Crews continue to install new water, sewer, and stormwater systems, and concrete duct bank to underground aerial utilities. This month, crews began roadway reconstruction on Main Street between Maple Street and Spring Street. Typical work hours are Monday through Friday from 7am to 7pm.

Construction activities will require short temporary impacts to driveways and utilities. Crews will knock on doors and post flyers to let people know in advance. The flyers have QR codes that link to videos in 15 languages.

Main Street remains a single lane for northbound traffic only, 24/7. Southbound traffic is redirected to Weaver Street. The intersection of Tigan Street and Weaver Street is restored to a four-way stop. At the intersection of Main Street and Tigan Street, the 'No Turn on Red' sign has been reinstated, requiring southbound traffic on Main Street to wait for the green light before turning right onto Tigan Street. Additional side streets will be closed at their intersections with Main Street, as needed.

Drivers should slow down, yield to pedestrians, and follow signs and flaggers throughout the project area.

Crews will pave and install line striping on the roadway throughout the project area before winter. Normal traffic patterns will be restored in late fall 2024, when construction activities pause for the winter shutdown. Construction will resume in spring 2025.

For weekly project updates about construction activities and impacts to traffic and parking, visit the website at winooskivt.gov/mainstreet or sign up for email updates. The project website has information in 15 languages.

Questions or comments about construction? Contact the project team at 802 595 4399 or info@winooskimainstreet.com.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Winooski Recreation and Parks

802-777-1621 | recreation@winooski.vt.gov
winooski.vt.gov/recprograms

Registration for winter programs is open! Visit winooski.vt.gov/recprograms to sign up and learn more.

YOUTH

Vermont Patriots Soccer

U8-U12 | August 26–October 20
U6 | September 7–October 26

Field Hockey

Ages 5–11 | Mondays, September 9–October 28

Tennis in the Parks

Grades 1–9 | Saturdays, September 14–October 19

Youth Climbing

Ages 5–8 | Tuesdays, October 29–December 17
Ages 9–13 | Wednesdays, October 30–December 18

Very Merry Theatre

Grades 1–6 | Thursdays, September 14 – November 7

ADULTS

Tennis in the Parks

18+ | Mondays, September 16–October 21

Yoga Vinyasa Flow

18+ | Mondays, September 9–October 28
18+ | Wednesdays, September 4–October 30

HALLOWEEN IN WINOOSKI – SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, October 26, 2024

2–4pm: Youth Activities
4–6pm: Trick or Treat Around the Rotary
6pm: Pumpkin Lighting
7:30–10pm: DJ & Party

Sunday, October 27

6pm: Pumpkin Lighting



Winooski Memorial Library

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

Tuesday to Thursday: 10am–5pm
Friday: 10am–4pm

Temporary Relocation of the Library

Due to an unforeseen facility issue, the library is temporarily closed until further notice. During this closure, limited services for the public will remain available in the community room of the O'Brien Community Center. Join us for youth programming, access to public Wi-Fi and printing services, pick up and return materials, or just stop by to say hello! Please note our change of hours as listed above.

As a reminder, online resources including eBooks, audiobooks, film streaming, and more are available 24/7 for Winooski Library cardholders. For more information and to access, please visit winooski.vt.gov/library.

We hope to resume normal operations soon and look forward to welcoming back community members to the library. Thanks as always for your understanding.

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
Lego Club | Ages 4+ | Thursdays | 3:30pm

ADULTS

Monthly Book Group | Ages 18+ | Tue, October 29 | 6pm

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Winooski Senior Center

123 Barlow Street | 802-655-6425

seniorcenter@winooski.vt.gov

winooski.vt.gov/seniorcenter

Tuesday & Wednesday: 9am–12pm

Thursday: 9am–2pm

TUESDAYS

New American Community Connections | 10am–1pm

WEDNESDAYS

Grab-n-Go

10am–12pm | 60+ | \$5 suggested donation

Nutritious takeout meals from AgeWell

Call to RSVP by 12pm the previous Thursday

Breakfast Café

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

Enjoy freshly made breakfast sandwiches, fruit, and drinks

THURSDAYS

Sit Down Community Meals

12pm | 60+ | \$5 suggested donation | Call to RSVP by 12pm the

previous Thursday. Healthy sit-down lunches from AgeWell

No Meals served on October 24

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

Pumpkin Carving Breakfast Party | FREE | Wednesday,

October 23 | 9am – 12pm

Halloween Party | FREE | Thursday, October 31 | 12pm |

costume optional

Bone Builders Exercise | FREE | Monday & Wednesday |

2–3pm

Meals on Wheels | Please call AgeWell at 802 863 0360 to find

out the eligibility requirements. Volunteers are always needed!



Thrive After School

Thrive After School is a state-licensed childcare/enrichment program. Through our partnership with JFK Elementary School and the Winooski School District, we seek to build a community where children can explore, learn, and grow during their after school hours while providing a safe place for children. This program is perfect for caring adults who support working families. Our daily structure provides children with opportunities to expand on the learning that takes place during the school day and allows them to explore and grow through play-based, hands-on learning. We have opportunities for outside time and other gross-motor play, imaginative play, STEM learning, art, literacy, skill-building activities, and exploring hobbies and interests. We also use this time in our program community to guide children's social development with the language of Social Thinking as used during the school day, allowing children to practice what they have been learning socially in their classrooms.

To learn more and sign up for the 2024-2025 season, please visit winooski.vt.gov/thriveprograms.



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



Downtown Winooski & Winooski Organics present...

HALLOWEEN IN WINOOSKI 2024

THE SPOOKIEST PARTY IN TOWN
Rotary Park Concert & Marketplace

featuring

NIGHT PROTOCOL

Live Electronic Synthwave

DJ CRAIG MITCHELL

INDIVISUAL.VIDEO

& THE ANNUAL DISPLAY OF 1000 JACK-O-LANTERNS

- Free Food for the Community
- Drinks from the Monkey House
- Local Vendors
- Photo Booth
- Family Friendly
- Costumes Encouraged



Saturday, October 26th 2024
5:00PM - 9:00PM **A FREE EVENT!**

ADOPT A PUMPKIN!
Support Winooski's vibrant community events! >>>>>>




@downtownwinooski

#downtownwinooski

Winooski Partnership for Prevention

By Kate Nugent, Executive Director

Why are these products next to each other on the shelf?

Distributors pay for shelf space at stores and it can help us as we're shopping to ask why certain products are placed where they are including shelf height, amount of shelf space they take up, and the design of the label, and what other products they are near. In this instance, notice that the alcoholic drink is next to a similar tasting, youth-appealing drink and how seeing them together sends a message that they are the same, specifically that the alcoholic product is harmless and similar to lemonade.



COMMUNITY EVENTS & DINNERS

Join Mukhtar Abdullahi on Saturday, October 5, at Winooski High School for a special event—Game for Change! Kick-off is at 11am, but this isn't just any soccer game. Our student-athletes will be raising awareness and answer your questions about substance use and the impact on youth, and how we can all work together to protect our youth and support healthy development. The Winooski School District, in partnership with the Winooski Partnership for Prevention is leading this initiative to inform parents and the community. Cheer on the team and learn how you can help make a difference!

Above the Influence with Mukhtar Abdullahi continues, along with other volunteer and recreational opportunities, this fall. Please see Mukhtar at school to learn more!

Come see us on Sunday, October 13 at the Farmer's Market.

Save the Date!

October 22, Winooski Coalition Meeting
Winooski Partnership for Prevention
RSVP here: <https://forms.gle/291H4gB1qeZcn5xL7>

Vermont Help Link

What is it and what can it help me with?

VT Helplink is your statewide, public resource for finding substance use treatment and recovery services in Vermont. Learn more on their website here: <https://vthelplink.org/>.

Town Meeting TV

Vermont's General Election is on Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024. Before heading to the polls, watch Town Meeting TV's election forums to hear directly from all candidates running for local and statewide offices! Do you have a question for the candidates? They're ready to listen!

Call 802 862 3966 during any live forum to ask your question on air. For a complete schedule and more details, visit cctv.org/general. You can watch election forums on Comcast 1087 or stream them online at [YouTube.com/TownMeetingTV](https://www.youtube.com/TownMeetingTV).

Don't miss Town Meeting TV's Live Election Night Results Show on Nov. 5 at 7:30pm for real-time results, commentary, political analysis, and interviews with newly elected officials.

Winooski Food Shelf

Winooski residents may access the food shelf one (1) Wednesday and both Saturdays. It is time to update our client data. Please bring a gas, electric, phone bill, or lease during your next visit.

- Wednesday, October 9, 1 – 3pm
- Saturday, October 12, 9:30 – 11am
- Wednesday, October 23, 1 – 3pm
- Saturday, October 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 Update



By Paul Detzer, Development and Communications Engagement Manager

Coming Soon: Mental Health Urgent Care

Later this month, Howard Center will open a new Mental Health Urgent Care in partnership with the University of Vermont Medical Center, Community Health Centers, and Pathways Vermont as a therapeutic alternative to the emergency department.

This new service will help reduce wait times and improve access to urgent mental health care for residents across Chittenden County, including Winooski.

Opening October 28, the clinic will offer mental health support services, peer support, and medical care to adults over 18 in a trauma-informed, suicide-safe setting located at 1 South Prospect Street in Burlington.

To learn more about Mental Health Urgent Care, please join our public town hall webinar on October 16 from 6:00–7:30pm. A recording of the webinar will be available for viewing at a future date for those who are unable to attend. Registration is free but required: howardcenter.org/mhuc.

Howard Center helps people and communities thrive by providing supports and services to address mental health, substance use, and developmental needs.

If you need support or information, please contact our Access and Intake Main Number at 802 488 6000; Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 5pm. Our staff will help you find supportive resources and services.



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
 Kamal Dahal, *Vice President*, 802-310-2821, kdahal@wsdvt.org
 Isaiah Donaldson, *Secretary*, 802-999-8410, idonaldson@wsdvt.org
 Elom Kpessa, 802-324-9431, eessiba@wsdvt.org
 Nicole Mace, 802-363-7777, nimace@wsdvt.org

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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