



Windham News & Notes

Volume X, No. 2

September-October 2012

Update on Voluntary Regional Educational District Merger Study Informational Meeting for Windham Residents and Property Owners September 10, 2012, 7:00 p.m. at the Windham Elementary School

From the Windham School Board

by Carolyn Partridge, Antje Ruppert, Beth McDonald

The Windham School Board participated in a Voluntary Regional Educational District Merger Study which began in August of 2011 and involved the towns of Windham, Jamaica, Townshend, Brookline and Newfane. The study was designed to research the pros and cons of forming a Regional Education District or RED as stipulated by Act 153 with regard to increased student opportunities. The quality of education for Windham's children was our most important guiding principle as we participated in the RED discussion process.

At the recent RED Study meeting on July 25, 2012, the WES Board announced its decision to withdraw from the study and the potential formation of a RED for what we believe are valuable and important reasons. These, briefly described here and presented in detail in an informational meeting for the residents of Windham on September 10, 2012, at 7 p.m. at the Windham Elementary School, are as follows:

The current situation at the Windham Elementary School. Our students are doing very well. The most current standardized test results revealed that the WES students scored well above district, state and even national level. We currently have the best staff we could possibly wish for, and the children leave WES well-prepared for middle school. We have a projected increase in student population, and our school is structurally in excellent condition.

The findings of the RED Study Committee. In January of this year, the study committee came to the unanimous conclusion that a mere consolidation of boards would not result in increased or better student opportunities. A proposal was then made to look into the possibilities of constructing a unified elementary school for the towns of Windham, Townshend and Jamaica. Townshend and Jamaica both face serious structural issues with their buildings and a decreasing student population. This unified elementary school was envisioned to be constructed equally distant from the three towns. In April, several members of the study group declared that a RED should be formed only on the premise that such a unified elementary school be built.

The town of Windham is geographically isolated and there are students who live more than 5 miles north of the Windham Elementary School. We feared that the additional distance to a school situated in West Townshend or East Jamaica would be a challenge for parents to transport their children (especially for pre-school age students or after school activities).

The drafted Articles to be reviewed by the Vermont State Board. The Articles, as written, state that a RED would be formed with or without the construction of a unified elementary school. In case a unified elementary school is not constructed, a RED Board will have the authority to close the Windham School upon unanimous consensus or town vote after 4 years and the building will become

Continued on page 3

Selectboard News *by Mary Boyer, Margaret Dwyer, and Frank Seawright*

Summer 2012 has been unusually busy for the Windham Selectboard. What is usually a time for vacations and summer fun, this year has meant long hours and extra meetings to address pressing business that needed our immediate attention.

With news of a proposed commercial wind development in Windham, the Selectboard met with representatives of Iberdrola, the wind development company, and the owners of Meadowsend Timberlands, who own the site of proposed wind-measurement towers. An informational meeting regarding the project was held on July 11. Read more about the meeting on page 4 in this issue of the News and Notes.

Bids were received and reviewed for a professional audit for the Town of Windham for 2011. Bonnie Batchelder was awarded the project and met with the Selectboard and the town auditors to review the process. Her company will also audit the expenses incurred by the Town during flooding from Tropical Storm Irene.

The road crew has conducted a culvert survey with the help of the Windham Regional Commission. The map showing the location of the Town's culverts had not been updated in many years and WRC had grant monies available to help with the study. Two WRC employees examined our main roads and met with the road crew to develop a protocol. One road crew member and one WRC employee completed the job. The updated map shows recently placed culverts and the condition of all the other culverts.

The contract with the Windham County Sheriff's Department for law enforcement was renewed for another year. Please be aware of the speed limits within the Town; many bicyclists, equestrians,

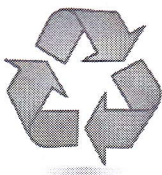
and pedestrians are out on our roads enjoying the perfection of late summer and early fall in Vermont.

The Town has sponsored a project on the Garrett property to repair damage to 80 feet of stream bed incurred during Tropical Storm Irene. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service approved a grant through its Emergency Watershed Protection Project, with the stipulation that the homeowner be sponsored by his or her town. The grant will cover 90% of the project cost, with the homeowner picking up the remainder of the expenses. An agency representative reviewed the project and gave an estimate, after which the Town put the job out to bid. Three bids were received and Gurney Brothers was awarded the project.

Our newest Selectboard member, Frank Seawright, is to be commended for his persistence in advancing the Town into the "electronic age". He has improved the Town website and made our meeting minutes readily accessible. He set up a computer in the Town garage so that the road crew can now receive e-mail and have access to information on the Internet. He has undertaken to educate the rest of the Selectboard and the Town Clerk on electronic communications. He even convinced the Town Clerk to get an answering machine so she can post her office hours. Thank you Frank, for your patience with the rest of us as we get up to speed on all of the new technology available to us, now that most of the Town has high speed Internet!

That is all for now, enjoy the late summer days and look forward to cooler weather!

New recycling rules at the transfer station



The Londonderry transfer station is switching to "dual stream" recycling beginning August 2012. Previously we had to separate recyclables into several different types of material. Now there are only two types. "Comingled" is glass, tin cans, steel cans, #1-7 plastics, and rigid plastics like toys, frozen food cartons, juice boxes, milk cartons, plastic clamshells, aluminum foil and pie plates. "Mixed fibers" is envelopes; computer, fax and copy paper; brown grocery bags; magazines and catalogs; chipboard; paper egg cartons; telephone books; paperbacks; junk mail and fliers; and newspaper.

Recycling is still free, and now it's easier. For more information email londonrecycle@vermontel.net or visit the website londonrecycle.org.

From the Windham School Board —Continued from page 1

property of the RED. The town of Windham would then have to buy the building back from the RED Board subject to any outstanding debt.

The projected budget. Frank Rucker, Chief Financial Officer of the Windham Central Supervisory Union, was asked to calculate a hypothetical budget for a unified elementary school based on today's student numbers and costs. His calculation, however, did not include the fact that the schools of all three towns will have to stay operational until the construction of such a school is completed. The projected costs according to Frank Rucker's calculations amount to \$11,205 per equalized student. The current costs per equalized student at WES are \$12,434, i. e., the savings are marginal and would not be instant, since the projected timeline for the completion of such a construction is 4 – 5 years. During that time the WES annual budget would have to take the construction costs into consideration, which might push us over the penalty level. Although the state is willing to fund about 50% of the construction costs, it is unclear when this funding would be made available.

It is also very unclear whether the residents of the towns of Newfane and Brookline will consent to funding the construction of a unified elementary school that does not serve their students.

Overall, considering the above points and with the best interest of our students in mind, the WES Board is of the opinion that while there may come a time when changes in the current structure may have to be considered, at this time, our school and its students are doing well and it would not be beneficial to the quality of education of Windham's students to become part of a RED.



WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES

is a publication of the Windham Community Organization, published six times a year. Please send donations to the address on the last page.

THE WN&N TEAM

Dawn Bower
Mary Boyer
Bev Carmichael
Leila Erhardt
Imme Maurath
Frank Seawright
Edith Serke
Nancy Tips

Thanks to all who provided articles. Their names are noted with their submissions. Send articles of around 300 words to the address on the last page or email to:
windhamnews@hotmail.com

Next deadline:

October 15, 2012

CPR/AED Class Offered Free to Windham Residents

On Thursday September 20th from 5:30 pm to 8:30 p.m. at Windham Elementary School, there will be a class on the basics of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and how to use an automatic external defibrillator (AED). The class will be free to all Windham residents, courtesy of the Windham Volunteer Fire Department. CPR card is \$3. Class price is \$25 for non-Windham residents. The class will be taught by Cathy Howland, RN. Cathy, who is a Stowell AND a Dutton, has deep roots in Windham and is the nurse manager of the Emergency Department at Springfield Hospital. Please reserve in advance so we know how much equipment will be needed. Call Meredith Tips-McLaine at 875-1550 or email at meredithtipsmclaine@yahoo.com.

PROPERTY TAXES

DUE

OCTOBER 31

Update on Industrial Wind in Windham



Overflow crowd listens to an audience member addressing the informational panel at the July 11 meeting on industrial wind in Windham.

Industrial Wind Meeting. On July 11, 2012, the Town of Windham Selectboard convened an informational meeting on the prospect of an industrial wind installation in Windham. An estimated 150 people filled the multi-purpose room at the Windham Elementary School. The panel of speakers included Jenny Briot of Iberdrola Renewables; Steven French and Jeremy Turner of Meadowsend Timberlands; Annette Smith of Vermonters for a Clean Environment (VCE); and Luke Snelling of Energize Vermont. The audience was mainly composed of Town of Windham residents and property owners, both resident and non-resident. There were also Selectboard members and interested residents of Grafton, Londonderry, and Andover.

Reporters from several Vermont papers attended the meeting, and articles have appeared in *The Brattleboro Reformer* and *The Rutland Herald*. Links to articles are at the community website, www.windhamvt.info, where there is also a link to a full length video of the meeting and a shorter audio-only version of closing remarks made by Selectboard chair Mary Boyer.

Wind Developer Application to Vermont Public Service Board. On August 2, 2012, the developer Iberdrola Renewables took the next step in its drive to place an industrial wind installation in Windham. The developer filed a packet of information with the Vermont Public Service Board (PSB) requesting permission to place three wind-measurement towers (MET Stations) on the Stiles Brook tract, owned by Meadowsend Timberlands Ltd. The application materials can be viewed at www.windhamvt.info.

The Iberdrola application went to the Selectboards of Windham and Grafton and to various other entities, including adjacent-property owners. Recipients of the packet have 30 days to file comments and/or request a hearing with the PSB. Comments must relate to substantive criteria, provide specific information, and be limited to concerns about the MET Stations. At this time, the PSB will not hear comments regarding the actual industrial wind installation, but only comments about the MET Stations.

The Town of Windham Selectboard and several adjacent-property owners in Windham plan to respond to the Iberdrola application.

—News and Notes Staff

Country Diary: Windham's Moths *by Frank Seawright*

I observed these moths in my yard on the first day of August and took this picture. It is clear that the moths are mating



(upper right in photo): the smaller dark one is the male and the larger white one, the female. To the left and below the mating couple, in the crevice in the tree, are two female moths that are in the process of producing egg cases. I didn't recognize this moth at the time but I later identified it as the Asian Gypsy Moth.

I wanted to learn a bit more and what I learned wasn't pretty.

This moth was introduced into the US in 1869 by a French entomologist living about 150 miles from Windham at Medford, MA. Since its introduction, it has become a serious economic pest.

I thought it noteworthy that the two females did not relocate before beginning to produce their egg cases. It turns out that the female can't fly. Not only that, but adult moths don't have mouth parts and don't eat. However, the gypsy moth caterpillar sure does! In fact, it is one of the most destructive defoliators in the US, and control measures are in place to control its spread. For example, all of Vermont is under quarantine and if you want to ship Christmas trees out of Vermont you'll need an inspection certificate to certify that your trees are free of this pest.

Even so, current control measures are pretty ineffectual. Of concern is the fact that for unexplained reasons, the gypsy moth population periodically explodes. The explosion is self-limiting because it triggers an explosion of the moth's natural predators and they eventually bring the numbers back under semi-control. But during the years of heavy population the moths do extensive damage to our beautiful oak trees. They feed on other trees too, but favor the oak. Estimates of overall economic losses vary, but everyone considers this critter that I found in my back yard to be a significant nuisance.

If you would like to share your observations of Windham's great outdoors, please send an article to the News and Notes at windhamnews@hotmail.com. Photos encouraged!

Neighborhood Chefs***Town-Meeting Day Chicken Breasts Stuffed with Spinach and Feta***

Package of 6 split skin-on chicken breasts on the bone
10 oz frozen spinach, defrosted and excess water squeezed out
4 oz crumbled feta
1 egg
salt, pepper, paprika, dried dill, thyme, basil, to taste
paprika

Remove breast meat from bones and use bones for homemade chicken stock, by simmering bones in 4 cups of water with celery, bay leaf, bouillon, salt and pepper, for about 1/2 hour. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix spinach, feta, and egg. Peel back skin on chicken, leaving one side attached. Stuff a handful (about 1/3 cup) of mixture under skin. Put chicken breasts in 9" x 9" baking dish and cover with about 2 inches of homemade chicken stock. Sprinkle with salt, pepper, paprika, and herbs to

taste. Bake about 45 minutes. Pierce a chicken breast with a sharp knife to check for doneness.

—Imme Maurath

Share your best recipes with the rest of us. Email to windhamnews@hotmail.com

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Windham Town Notes



From the town Health Officer, by Marcia Clinton

Should you get the shingles vaccine? This vaccine is recommended for people who are 50 years and older. It lowers your chances of getting shingles and prevents long-term pain. If you get shingles, the vaccine will probably make it less severe. Shingles is a painful skin rash caused by the chickenpox virus, varicella zoster. It is most common in older adults and people who have weak immune systems because of stress, injury, certain medicines, or other reasons. It occurs when the virus, which was dormant in your nerve roots if you had chickenpox as a child, starts up again in your body. Symptoms happen in stages: at first you may have a headache or be sensitive to light; later, you may feel itching, tingling, or pain in a certain area—that's where a band, strip, or small area of rash may occur a few days later. The rash turns into clusters of blisters that fill with fluid and then crust over. Blisters heal in 2-4 weeks, and they may leave scars. Shingles is treated with antiviral and pain medicines; early treatment may prevent post-herpetic neuralgia, which is pain that lasts for at least 30 days after the blisters heal, and which can continue for months or years. Most people who get shingles will get better and will not get it again. To get the vaccine you must get a prescription from your doctor and have it filled at a pharmacy. The vaccine will cost \$212. Your doctor will give you the injection. Although private insurance may cover the cost of the vaccine, Medicare will only pay for the cost of the injection, which is \$29.

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From the Windham Library, by Bev Carmichael

The library now has a website:

www.windhamlibrary.wordpress.com, designed to help you gain information from several comprehensive sources, including: *Universal Class*, which has 500 online continuing education courses; *Heritage Quest*, for genealogy research; *Project Gutenberg* for free eBooks; and *Internet Archive* for free eBooks, music and movies. The website also features upcoming Book Club selections and reviews, and a page for town news and events.

New books this month include: *Wicked Business*, by Janet Evanovich, *The Time in Between*, by Maria Duenas, *In One Person*, by John Irving, and *Sum-*

merland, by Elin Hilderbrand.

The Windham Library is operated exclusively by volunteer Trustees and is open every Wednesday from 3 to 5 p.m. for your book borrowing convenience.

**

A note from the Selectboard, by Mary Boyer, Margaret Dwyer, and Frank Seawright

We would like to thank the Windham residents and property owners who turned out in large numbers for the July 11 meeting on industrial wind in Windham. We especially appreciate the thoughtfulness and civility of the people at the meeting regarding this very difficult topic. The meeting received quite a bit of press coverage. The general sense of the press articles was supportive of Windham's position that the voters and property owners have expressed their opposition to commercial wind development in our Town Plan and Zoning Regulations. In addition, coverage of the meeting focused a growing awareness in the Vermont press that many Vermont communities are concluding that the destructive potential of industrial wind installations outweighs their benefits to small communities and to Vermont as a whole.

The Selectboard is energized by your response and plans to work diligently in the following areas:

- Advocacy—We will continue to advocate on behalf of the Town Plan and Zoning Regulations by speaking to members of the Windham community, also to members of adjacent and other affected communities; to lawmakers, to the press, and to any other entities who might help us resist contravention of our Town Plan.

- PSB Process—We will contest Iberdrola's application to the Vermont Public Service Board for permission to erect wind-measuring towers, on the basis that such an installation is in clear violation of the Town Plan and Zoning Regulations and therefore contrary to the expressed wishes of a majority of Windham's residents and property owners.

- Community Renewables—We are eager to join concerned citizens to explore creating a community renewable energy project, combined with energy conservation. We invite you to join us in this endeavor!



Helping Vermont Curtail Green- house Gases: Con- serving Energy in Windham Homes

In Vermont nearly all our greenhouse emissions come from our use of heating and transportation fuels. While there are lots of reasons to shrink our demand for energy in all its forms, the most important thing that we in Windham can do is to find ways to use less fuel to heat our homes and to drive around.

Conserve fuel: the Home Energy Audit

An important step to help you conserve heating fuel is the home energy audit. A home energy audit is an analysis of the energy-efficiency of your home, followed by a plan for appropriate and cost-effective measures to improve efficiency where needed. You can do it yourself or hire a professional. Ask around town: several households in Windham have had an audit and feel strongly that it helped them spot and fix the places where their homes are leaking energy; they have saved fuel and money, and so can you.

Do it yourself: there are websites that will describe in detail how to do an audit yourself. For example, see www.energysavers.gov. Click on the tab "Your Home."

Hire a professional: for people who meet income guidelines, SEVCA Weatherization, at 802-722-4575, provides free energy audits, insulation and air sealing, heating system improvements, and other energy-saving measures. Note that there is a waiting list to apply, and if you believe you are income-qualified, you should get on the waiting list right away. Higher-income households can receive the same services on a fee-for-service basis. There are also professionals in our area who perform audits.

Conserve fuel: Carpool

Whenever possible, find ways to reduce gasoline consumption by carpooling. It's old advice, but it works.

Conserve electricity

Even if it won't shrink Vermont's carbon footprint, saving electricity will save you money. Many people find it helpful to use a plug-in watt-usage monitor to show the operating costs of household appliances. This easy-to-use gadget will show what your electricity dollar actually pays for and may help you make some choices. The Town of Windham has two of these monitors. You can borrow one for free at the Town Office. Three things most often promoted to help you conserve electricity are: switch to lightbulbs that are more efficient than the old-fashioned incandescents; turn off lights when you leave a room; before you go to bed at night, unplug appliances that suck watts—plasma tvs, computers, modems, speakers, printers, and dvd players are all examples of "watt vampires."

—News and Notes Staff

Industrial Wind Installation Tour, Lempster N.H.

October 3 at 2p.m. and October 4 at 10 a.m.

Sign up at the Town Office. Deadline September 21. Sponsored by Iberdrola Renewables.



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Windham Has Talent



Pete Newton at the old Chase barn, now owned by Chris and Jennifer Smith. Pete restored it last year.

Photo: Imme Maurath


Pete Newton rarely advertises for work. He doesn't have to, his work sells itself. Most of his bread and butter comes from building post and beam barns and homes, but what he takes most pride in is working to restore old barns. This one in the picture was the old Chase barn, now owned by Chris and Jennifer Smith, which was restored this past year. The barn looks a little different now than the one that was sported on our yearly library calendar.

Pete considers himself a traditionalist, and is inspired by the way things were done in the 1800s. He has partnered with the State of Vermont's grant program to preserve important barn structures because he is authentic in restoring them to their true being. Go to VT Dept. of Historic Preservation for more information.

Music is also true to himself. He plays the mandolin and fiddle and often plays at the chicken BBQ and Harvest Supper run by the Windham Community Organization.

—Imme Maurath





If you've got a talent you'd like to share, please contact Imme (pronounced Im'may) Maurath at 875-1709, or send a written article to windhamnews@hotmail.com. Photos encouraged


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Windham Recollections

COBB BROOK *by Mary Crittenden Aller*

Growing up in West Windham, the best way to cool off after a hot day of haying was to swim in Cobb Brook. The water was very clean; you could take a drink out of it any time. The brook was full of frogs, the fat green bullfrog kind, and it was fun to hear them peep as they leaped into the water. Now we don't see as many of those big green frogs in the brook. Nevertheless, thanks to much hard work by Diane Newton and others, Cobb Brook has been designated a Class A Pristine Stream, one of only a few in Vermont.

Cobb Brook begins on Glebe Mountain and flows through the West Windham valley before dropping 125 feet over Hamilton Falls. Below the Falls it continues down through a wild and beautiful gorge all the way to the West River above Salmon Hole. People like to fish their way from the Falls down to the West

River but if you are in the brook, in many places the banks are so steep that you must slide down boulders into deep pools and clamber out on the other side. The old switch road parallels the brook, and it's an easy walk.

Twenty years ago or so, I saw what remained of an ancient car about two thirds of the way down to the West River. What happened is this: when the Great Hurricane of 1938 was about to blow through, a Newton School teacher, perhaps seeing water already rushing over the top of the little bridge, chained his car to a big pine tree on a nearby hill. The water rose very high; the chain didn't hold, and the car was washed away. Imagine that car going down the brook and over Hamilton Falls, end-over-end, and then being swept farther down the brook with every Spring snow-melt. It is very likely that Hurricane Irene took that car on its last journey and carried it downstream in

A Couple of Plants You Shouldn't Touch *by Ginny Crittenden*



Giant Hogweed

We are fond of saying that Vermont is a very benign place to live – no earthquakes, forest fires, tornados, hurricanes, none on a regular basis at least! But there are some plants that have been introduced to our state that we should avoid contact with. Two of these are Poison Parsnip and Giant Hogweed. They are both in the carrot family, along with Queen Anne's Lace, but they are the only members of the family that cause misery to those who try to cut them down and get the milky sap on their skin. Poison Parsnip is related to the garden variety and has taken over

roadsides all around the state, spreading even more when mowed with a flail mower instead of a cutter bar. It will give you a very nasty rash that doesn't go away for a long time. Giant Hogweed is "Parsnip on steroids", to quote an article in the Northern Woodlands Magazine of Summer 2009. It can grow to 14 feet high and is loaded with that sap that will do your skin a lot of damage! If you see any sign of this noxious weed, please report it to the University of Vermont. To see more photos, look on their website. And be careful!



FRESH FOOD MARKET
Fresh Produce, Deli, Bakery, Meat
Beer, Wine, Natural and Gourmet Foods

MOUNTAIN MARKETPLACE
 Jct. Route 100 and Route 11 in Londonderry

The Valley Bible Church invites you to check out their updated website at www.valleybibleVT.com for more information and a calendar of upcoming events.

Around Windham

New Community Center in West Townshend

Two and a half years ago, West Townshend resident Clare Adams became aware that the West Townshend Post Office and its building were likely to shut down. The building owner had moved out of town and no new owner had been found. The building, which had once been home to the old West Townshend Country Store, was the last commercial building in the area and Clare decided it had to be saved. Together with some neighbors she found a way to save the building and with the blessings of its owner, it began a new life. Michael Donahue and Sally Newton joined Clare in her efforts and started a series of musical evenings, open-mike nights and coffeehouses. Now, twice monthly on Thursday evenings the site is home to a music event with a potluck dinner and dessert. Other activities include a book club, yoga, art and music for children, printmaking and more. A group of neighbors started the West Townshend Country Store (WTCS) Thrift Shop. New and gently used clothes are on sale at the shop, with fresh items each week. The selection is large and the deals are great. Stop by and take a look. You can donate clothing too--a great way to share with others while updating your own closet.

In the past year volunteers registered the West River Community Project as a non-profit organization. The West Townshend Country Store became our first undertaking and today we have a 20-year lease and hopes of becoming a food hub for the region. The store has baked goods, produce and ice cream for sale. We are open Wednesday through Saturday from 3-5 p.m. for both the thrift shop and

the store. We are looking forward to hosting a monthly pizza night, using our just-completed outdoor pizza oven.

In other efforts to help folks gain access to good local food, we offer membership in an online wholesale Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) and buying club. Now in its second year, the CSA offerings include fruits, vegetables, and cheese. In addition, our four Jersey cows have just moved to Windham, and we are well on our way to producing raw milk and eventually yogurt and ice cream. And finally, plans are underway for a community kitchen for certified processing and canning of garden produce, expected to be ready for summer 2013.

We hope this effort will be embraced by all, and that everyone will find something of interest, whether it's the thrift store, food, dancing, or listening to music. The project needs the folks of Windham as volunteers, members, and customers. The annual membership fee is \$10 for an individual or \$20 for a family. For more information, call 802-221-0466 or e-mail us at: info@WestTownshend.org. You can check us out on Facebook, too.

The board meets the first Tuesday of the month and visitors are welcome. We encourage our neighbors to visit, volunteer, shop at the thrift store, join the CSA, and generate new ideas and uses for the WTCS.

—Leigh Merinoff
Secretary and co-founder
West River Community Project

From the Windham Community Organization



A BIG "THANK YOU" to all who attended our annual 30+ year Chicken BBQ to help support WCO and our neighbors in need. Also special thanks to all the volunteers who worked under the direction of Imme Maurath. She really has it down and makes it happen with such ease. Thanks also to Walter and his hand-picked Pit Crew who once again cooked to perfection some 100+ super-sized chickens. Also, many thanks to Sparky Electric for providing the excellent tent. It seemed everyone left with a smile on their face and a full stomach.

In place of our August meeting, WCO sponsored a special presentation by Charles Marchant featuring many of Harry Chapman's photographs. It was held at the Meeting House on August 15. Our next scheduled meeting will be September 26, 7:00PM at the Meeting House. We welcome everyone to attend and to plan for future interesting speakers and meetings.

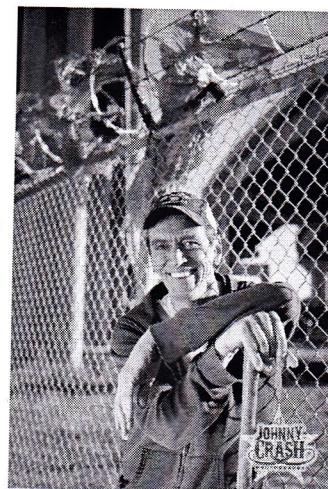
—Dona Robinson, President Windham Community Organization

Around Windham

One-man Show Comes to Windham***Vermont Boy In West Oakland*****Written and Performed by Mike Sommers****Wednesday, September 5, 7:00 p.m. at the Meeting House**

Vermont Boy In West Oakland is the true story of a transplanted Vermonter who buys a foreclosed home in a tough inner city neighborhood in West Oakland, California. As he overcomes his fear and ignorance and that of his neighbors, Mike Sommers takes his audience on an eventful ride through misunderstanding, danger, acceptance, and loving laughter. Sommers plays twenty rich characters with a caring comic honesty. This 90-minute show is at once heartfelt, hilarious, musical, and courageous. Admission is free, and donations are welcome.

Michael Sommers is a character actor living in the San Francisco Bay Area. He has family ties to the Town of Windham.

**WINDHAM FIRE CO. AUCTION AND BBQ**

Auctioneer Aaron Thibodeau holds up a beautiful antique

Saturday, August 11th was a day of typical New England weather; some sun, some rain and some thunder. But that didn't deter a substantial crowd for both the auction and the evening BBQ. Thanks to many generous donors there were many nice, almost new items for Bob and Aaron to auction off. Even though the highest bidders got some real bargains, the Fire Co. had its most successful auction ever. Despite light rain in the evening over a hundred folks came out for

the chicken BBQ and stayed for the pie auction afterwards. The Fire Co. wishes to thank all the volunteers who came out to lend a hand. Without you we could have never pulled it off. This is definitely one fund raiser that has the emphasis on fun!!



The motivated crowd

—Marcia Clinton



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Windham VT 05359

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submissions. Send articles of up to
300 words to the Editor at the
above address or preferably by
email to windhamnews@
hotmail.com

*Please keep us informed of any
address changes*

Regular Meetings and Schedules

- Town Office Hours:** Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Select Board:** Note: Tuesday, September 4, otherwise Mondays, Sept. 17, Oct. 1 and 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Office. Open meeting.
- School Board:** Note: September 10, at 4 p.m., otherwise first Monday of every month at 4 p.m. at the Elementary School. Open meeting.
- Listers:** Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Town Office.
- Planning Commission:** Second Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Office. Open meeting.
- Library:** Wednesdays, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Meeting House. Reading Group first Wednesday of the month.
- Emergency Planning Committee:** September 24, 6:30 p.m. at the Town Office. Open meeting.
- Windham Volunteer Fire Company:** First Thursday of every month, 7:00 p.m. at the Firehouse.
- Windham Community Organization:** September 26, October 24 at 7:00 p.m. at the Meeting House
- Windham Congregational Church (UCC):** Sundays, Worship Services at 9:30 a.m. Everyone invited.
- Valley Bible Church:** Sundays, Worship Services at 11:00 a.m. Tuesdays, Bible Study and Prayer at 7:00 p.m.

Save the Dates!

- Wednesday, September 5, 7:00 p.m.,** One-man Show at the Meeting House
- Monday, September 10, at 7:00 p.m.,** Meeting on School Issues at the Windham Elementary School
- Thursday, September 20, 5:30-8:30 p.m.,** CPR/AED Training at the Windham Elementary School
- Wednesday, October 31,** Property Taxes Due