



Volume 11, No. 1

July-August 2013

Windham News & Notes

Celebrating Our Graduates: *by Dona Robinson and Carolyn Partridge*



l. to r.: Miles Hammerle, Rheanna Pare, Levi Clay

Photo: Dona Robinson



Jesse Newton

Photo: Dona Robinson

The Windham Elementary School year culminated with the always touching and impressive graduation on June 12th. As is our tradition, music played a big part in the evening, thanks to our Primary room teacher, Sally Newton. Teacher Mickey Parker-Jennings told of the notable achievements of our graduates, Rheanna Pare, Levi Clay, and Miles Hammerle. The three were honored by their fellow students, and each gave a touching speech thanking family, teachers, and friends.

Miles Hammerle has spent 2 years at WES, excels in math and is undecided about what he wants to be when he grows up. Next year Miles will be relocating to Cape Cod.

Rheanna Pare likes math and someday would like to be a design architect. She is looking forward to Leland & Gray, to meeting new people and making new friends (especially girls her age). Rheanna can teach students everywhere good homework habits.

Levi Clay's favorite subject is science and he is also very proficient in math. He wants to join the Navy or Marines and would like to be a Navy Seal, maybe a member of Seal Team Six. He will be attending Mountain School and sees next year as a "big and exciting change."

The graduates say they will miss Mr. PJ, all the Windham teachers and getting to see the little kids every day. Their favorite word is "awesome" and they hope the Windham Elementary School will continue to succeed and thrive.

Congratulations to Windham's Jesse Newton. On Saturday, June 15th Jesse graduated from Leland & Gray and was chosen by his peers to deliver one of the student addresses.

Jesse, born and raised in Windham, attended the Windham Elementary School, of which he has many fond memories: attending school with 36 fellow students; singing led by his aunt, Sally Newton; fourth grade math class with Coleen Brophy; and playing soccer, and being part of the running club. Jesse represented Mr. PJ's first graduating class.

At Leland and Gray, he was valedictorian of his graduating class. He enjoys history, english and math, and is passionate about theater, having played the lead role in the school's production of *Guys and Dolls* and *The Crucible*. His classmates consider him "most academic," "liberal," "musical," and "never on time." Jesse defends himself from the latter charge by explaining that he traveled to L&G from classes at Marlboro College.

Jesse will study liberal arts at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine after a year of working with his dad and traveling internationally. He is keeping his career options open and hopes his "life will take him somewhere in the world like Ireland, Norway, or Tibet." In the future he hopes to settle in Vermont, marry, and maybe build himself a home. We congratulate Jesse and his family and plan to do a future article on his interesting life.

SELECTBOARD NEWS *by Mary Boyer, Margaret Dwyer, and Frank Seawright*

Our Planning Commission is in the process of updating our Town Plan, set to expire in September 2013. The Selectboard and Planning Commission have contracted the Windham Regional Commission (WRC) to provide planning support. As a result of the Town Plan update, parts of the zoning bylaws will be amended, and the WRC will assist with these changes as well. At our June 3rd meeting we received a progress report on the Town Plan rewrite. Having taken into consideration both the deadline and the period required for public comment, the Planning Commission has decided to ask for re-adoption of the existing Town Plan while they continue to develop the new one. The Planning Commission will warn the re-adoption process within a few weeks.

Constable Billie Clay has completed the 2013 dog count. If you still have not registered your dog(s) with the Town of Windham, you may receive a visit from the Sheriff and your dog could be confiscated. Your cooperation with the Windham's Dog Ordinance benefits both you and your dog, so please register all dogs now at the Town Office.

Mary Boyer and Margaret Dwyer attended the Selectmen's Institute, sponsored by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns. We received information on the Open Meeting Law, communications, and financial planning, and were reminded of the importance of backing up files. We also had the opportunity to network with Selectboard members from other towns.

Town Lister Jerry Dyke gave us an update on the estimated timeline and cost of the upcoming property reappraisal. The money for the reappraisal comes from the Reappraisal Fund; this fund has for the last several years received annual contributions from municipal tax revenues, voted on at Town Meeting, and it has also been bolstered by a small annual state grant. The reappraisal is set to begin in the fall and to be completed by 2015, at a cost of approximately \$76,000.

The Selectboard met with John Alexander of the Vermont Agency of Transportation, who helped us finalize our Annual Financial Plan for Town Roads. Our 2013 estimate for roads is \$492,046, equating to the statewide average of \$13,000-\$14,000/mile. We also discussed FEMA reimbursements, standards and codes, road posting, heavy weight permits, the mitigation plan, and recent highway sign regulations.

The Town has had large expenditures associated with the 2012 mud season, bridge repairs from Tropical Storm Irene damage, and state school taxes. As a result we have been forced to search for ways to cut costs and come up with additional funding. We have extended the Town's \$100,000 bank loan until October 20, 2013, as we continue to await reimbursement from FEMA. The Town has the option of borrowing an additional \$250,000 if we need it to cover expenses until we receive tax revenue in October.

We hope you are enjoying the warmer weather and are able to get some time outside between the raindrops!

The Windham Board of Listers will hold two Informational Meetings on the Town-wide Reappraisal of Property Values

Wednesday, July 17, 2013

6:30 to 8:30 PM

or

Saturday, July 20, 2013

9:00 - 11:00 AM

at Windham Elementary School



This impacts all Windham property owners. The upcoming appraisal will be market-based and is required because Windham's previous cost-based approach has resulted in too many assessed property values being high or low.

FROM THE WCO by *Dona Robinson, President, Windham Community Organization*

At our May 29th meeting, WCO elected new officers for 2013-2014: President, Dona Robinson; VP, Ellen McDuffie; Secretary, Dawn Bower; and Treasurer, Cindy Kehoe. A big welcome to Ellen and thank you for joining us. We look forward to working to bring the community together with new programs and help for those of us in need. If you know, see, or hear that anyone in our community could use a little extra help in tough times, contact Dona Robinson at 874-7242. All calls are treated confidentially.

We are in full swing getting ready for our famous Chicken BBQ and Raffle (see below). And stay tuned for our upcoming speaker programs. Please join us for our regular monthly meetings at the Meeting House at 7:00 p.m. on the last Wednesday of each month: June 26, July 31. No meeting August 28.

**WCO BIG EVENT, JULY, 20, 2013** by *Imme Maurath, Chair BBQ/ Raffle*

Please join us for the traditional **WCO Chicken BBQ** at the Meeting House. This all-day cooking event culminates in dinner at 5 p.m.

And don't miss the **Fourth Annual Craft Raffle**. All items made by Windham talent. If you're crafty, please support our fundraiser by donating an item.

So far we have:

Mary Boyer: Table Runner; Bev Carmichael: Baked Basket/Goodies;
Carolyn Partridge: Knit Scarf; Heath Boyer: Turned Bowl;
Cindy Kehoe: Considering; Imme Maurath: Felted Mittens;
Gina Noel: Table Runner; Phil McDuffie: Handcrafted Candles

Thanks in advance to the volunteers and donors who make this event a success!

GREEN-UP DAY A SUCCESS by *Marcia Clinton*

During the first week of May, neon green bags began appearing by Windham's roads, as volunteers combed roadways and woods for trash. Thirty-three volunteers put in numerous hours picking up trash of all kinds and filled 78 bags for the road crew to haul to the dump. To thank these volunteers, on Saturday, May 4 there was a hot dog and baked bean lunch, prepared by Gina Noel and Lydia Pope France and held at the Meeting House. It was a chance to compare trash stories and meet new neighbors.

After lunch the "Bragging Rights" awards were presented: *Highest Number of Bags Filled*, Ken Grimm; *Longest Distance Covered*, Tom and Eileen Widger; *Weirdest Object Found*, Heath Boyer; *Most Unique Object Found*, Nate and Kylie Kehoe; *Most Disgusting Object Found*, John Clark; and the *I Spy Award* went to Steve and Imme Maurath, who found a woodcock.

To everyone who participated in this year's Green-Up Day, I wish to extend a huge "thank you." Windham is brighter and cleaner because of your efforts. It is not

much fun picking up other people's inconsiderate trash, but without these reliable volunteers who come out every year, the roadways of Windham would be an eyesore for all of us. THANKS! You guys are the best!



Nate and Kylie Kehoe found the most unique object along Abbott Road

Photo: Cindy Kehoe

**WINDHAM
NEWS & NOTES**

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

N&N Team

Dawn Bower Mary Boyer
Bev Carmichael Leila Erhardt
Imme Maurath Dona Robinson
Nancy Tips

Thanks to all who contribute.
Send articles of around 300
words to the address on the last
page or email to:

windhamnews@hotmail.com

Next deadline: August 20, 2013

PROFILE by Mary McCoy

Windham's Beginnings Reflect Revolutionary Times

I'm not much of a history buff, but my interest in Windham's past has been sparked by being around Jonathan and Elizabeth Stevens while they do genealogical research in our Town Office. Their contagious love of the past has carried me back nearly 250 years.

It is 1765, and monarchs like Louis XV in France, Catherine the Great in Russia, and George III in England rule their countries, their colonies, and the world. King George has enacted the Stamp Act and the Quartering Act, requiring American colonists to pay taxes and to house British soldiers. Rebellion brews among those eager for self-rule, while others, like Col. James Rogers, remain loyal to the King.

Different areas of what will become Vermont are claimed by the territories of New York and New Hampshire, and Rogers petitions New York to be the proprietor of 26,000 acres described as beginning at the southwest corner of Chester. Under the New England proprietary system, proprietors are given land, usually around 25,000 acres, to control, develop, and distribute.

In 1770, New York charts this area, naming it the Town of Kent, just days before British troops open fire on colonists in the Boston Massacre. Rogers is soon Kent's sole proprietor. The mountain ridge in the middle of Kent is a glebe, an area of land assigned to a parson of the Church of England that he farms or rents to others to cover living expenses. This ridge becomes known as Glebe Mountain.

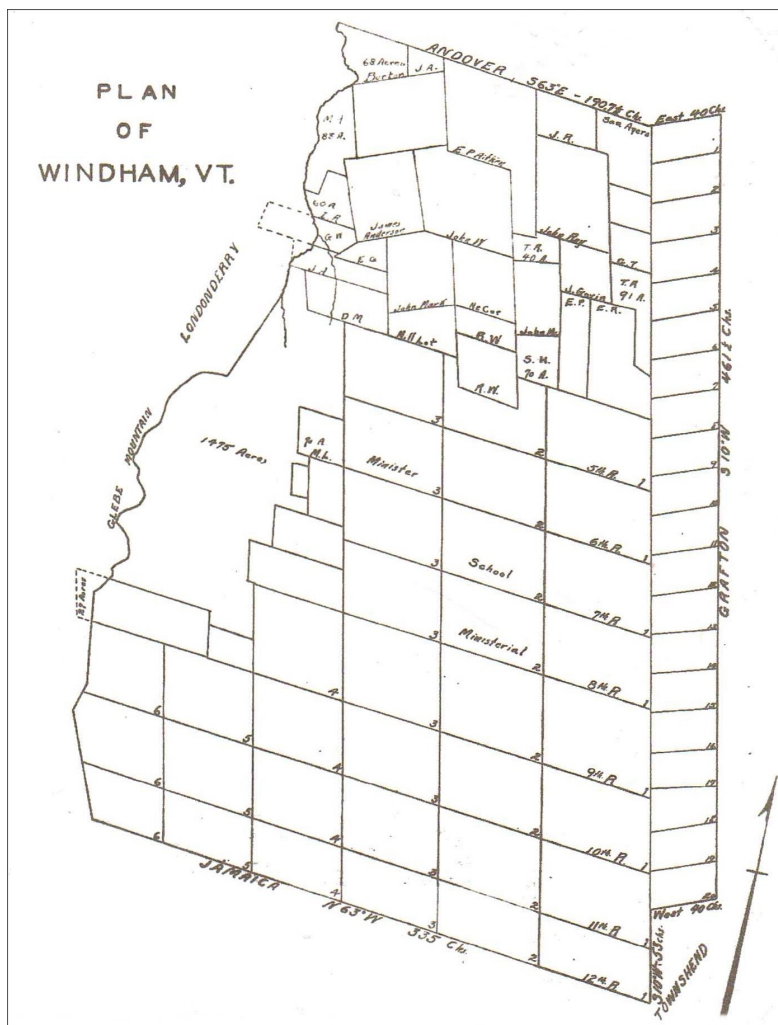
When the Revolutionary War ensues, Rogers skedaddles to Canada to join the King's troops. While no fighting takes place on his lands, battles occur elsewhere in what will become Vermont, with the last conflict being the Battle of Bennington in 1777. That same year, Rogers' land is seized during the confiscation of loyalist estates, and efforts succeed by folks in the Green Mountains for independence from New York and New Hampshire. The Republic of Vermont is born.

In 1780, the inhabitants of Kent successfully petition to re-charter with the name of Londonderry, and a Committee of Trust is appointed to sell the land with the funds going to the treasury of Vermont. One of the three committee members is Edward Aiken.

Among the earliest settlers of what will become Windham, Aiken is a Scotch-Irish farmer, as are many other settlers in the area. He claims a nice section of flat land that will later become a potato farm and still later a golf course called Tater Hill. The Aiken name will be found on gravestones in

what will become the North Windham Cemetery. Generations later, Aiken's relatives will include Elizabeth and Jonathan Stevens. The genealogists will also learn they are direct descendants of James Rogers' sister Amy.

By the time the war is over in 1783, Londonderry grows in size, before being split in two, with the eastern half becoming Windham. Details about this and Windham's changing boundary and property lines will be the focus of my article in the next issue.



WINDHAM BY THE NUMBERS**Communities and Wind Turbines** *by Frank Seawright*

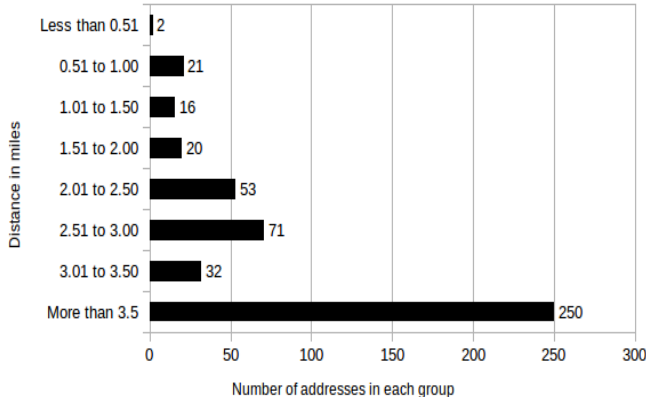
A number of folks in Windham are interested in making sense of information about industrial wind installations and their effects on communities. One important feature to look at is the layout of communities in relation to wind-turbine siting. I thought it might be useful to compare the layout of Sheffield, Vermont, where a 16-turbine installation has been operating since 2011, and Windham, which has been targeted for a turbine installation. Although there aren't any turbines in Windham, it's easy to see where they would have to go by using readily available mapping software and existing wind-resource information. *(If you would like to see the methodology I used to compare the two towns, please go to the community website WindhamVT.info. Under "Resources" click "Data and Maps;" then click "Comparisons.")*

I took a look at the location of all buildings in both towns. Then I looked at actual turbine sites in Sheffield and probable turbine sites in Windham. Then I compared the two communities. (See graphs below.) Here are a couple of additional nuggets from the wealth of interesting comparative data, more of which will be in future articles and on the community website:

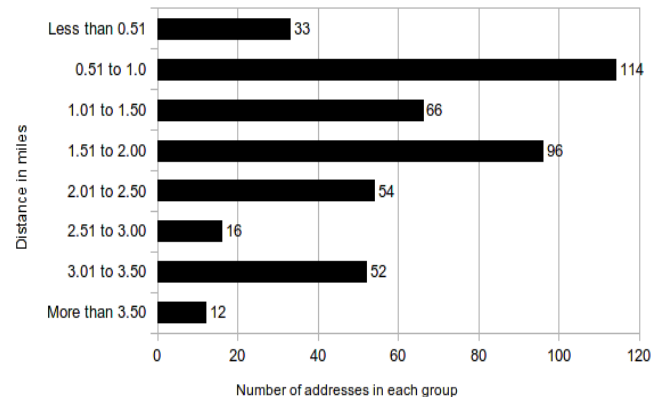
- In Sheffield, 12.7% of addresses are within a 2-mile radius of the nearest wind turbine. In Windham, 69.8% are within a 2-mile radius of probable wind turbine sites.
- The town of Sheffield is separated from the wind turbines by Interstate 91. Obviously, there is no similar noise source in Windham.
- There are 23 Sheffield addresses that are within one mile of a wind turbine. Twenty of these are closer to Interstate 91 than they are to a wind turbine.

Comparisons are at the heart of our Town's upcoming re-appraisal process. Lots of folks may be wondering about how industrial wind turbines affect property values. A comparison of Windham and Sheffield suggests that a number of factors must be considered when comparing supposedly "similar" properties. For me, one outstanding factor is already-existing ambient noise in a town that is under consideration for industrial wind.

One thing I learned from looking at these data: while it might appear that visiting Sheffield would help us imagine what it's like to live with wind turbines, it's important to keep in mind that there are several crucial differences between the two towns.



All 465 Sheffield addresses, grouped according to distance from nearest wind turbine



All 443 Windham addresses, grouped according to distance from probable wind turbine sites

VISIT SHEFFIELD

Visit Sheffield wind installation. Leave Windham 9a.m., return 5p.m. There are 3 possible dates: July 13, September 7, September 14. **Please indicate your preferred date by contacting Jeremy Turner jgturner@tds.net or call 603-526-8686 by July 1.** Transportation, lunch, and site tour will be provided by Meadowsend Timberlands Limited.



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WINDHAM TOWN NOTES

EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE *by Heath Boyer and Imme Maurath*

Thank you to everyone who took the time to fill out our Emergency Survey Questionnaire. We were happy to see that most people have taken steps to stock up on emergency supplies. Some people responded that this is something they need to do. We don't plan a yearly survey, so please continue to send in your completed forms to the News and Notes address. The Committee usually meets 2nd Monday of the month. Check with the Town Clerk to see if a meeting is scheduled, or call Imme Maurath (875-1709) or Heath Boyer (875-5242).

WIND UPDATE *by News and Notes Staff*

The Town of Windham Selectboard, following the example of several other small Vermont towns, established a fund to help defray costs of legal representation and expert advice, as the Town defends its Town Plan. In a recent resolution the Selectboard created the Windham Woodland Defense Fund, through which residents and property owners opposed to industrial development in our woodlands can make tax-deductible contributions. Examples of expenses which might be incurred in the next few years include fees for attorneys and consultants with expertise in land-use issues, noise and light pollution, surface and ground water management, and wildlife protection. In the near future, all Town residents and property owners will be receiving a letter with more information about the fund. Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to the Windham Woodlands Defense Fund, 5976 Windham Hill Road, Windham VT 05359.

FROM THE NEWS AND NOTES TEAM

Our last issue of the News and Notes included our annual subscription renewal request and survey. We sent out 539 issues and had nearly a 20% response rate, which is about what we usually get. We also had interesting responses to our survey: 8 of you would like to see more obits; 8 would like more poems, 19 more recipes, 20

more gardening, 9 more books, 16 more about the seasons. A whopping 36 are interested in animal sightings, with 6 who'd like more about pets. Nineteen would like to hear more about our school and more historical stories. We'd like more subscriptions! The News and Notes has no paid staff and all the money not spent on printing and postage is donated to the Windham Community Organization, which is there to help our neighbors. Please consider a donation to keep the paper and the WCO strong.

TOWN HEALTH OFFICER: TICK AND MOSQUITO-BORNE ILLNESS ALERT *by Marcia Clinton*

Inevitably, ticks and mosquitos will be pestering us this summer. Ticks can carry the bacterium that causes Lyme disease; mosquitoes in VT may be infected with West Nile virus or Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus. **Preventing bites from these critters is among the best ways to prevent illness.**

To prevent mosquito bites, limit time spent outdoors at dawn and dusk; wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants; use insect repellents with DEET, Picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus. Cover baby carriages or outdoor play spaces with mosquito netting. Fix holes in screens and make sure they are tightly attached to doors and windows. Remove standing water: dispose of, or regularly empty water-holding containers (including trash cans); drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers that are left outdoors so water can drain out. Clean gutters of debris that prevents drainage. Upend wading pools and wheelbarrows when not in use. Change water in birdbaths every 3 or 4 days. Keep swimming pools clean and properly chlorinated and remove standing water from pool covers. Use landscaping to keep standing water from collecting on your property.

An informative booklet called "Be Tick Smart", as well as tick identifier cards published by the Vermont Department of Health are available in the Town Office and the library.

HOW CAN WE HELP?

Do you need a ride to the doctor's or dentist's office or a trip to the grocery store? Are you a caregiver who could use a short break? Do you need someone to stay with your loved one while you run errands? If your answer is "yes" to any of these questions, people from Windham Congregational Church are willing to help. Please call 874-4428.

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.



WINDHAM SUMMER DAY CAMP *by Cindy Kehoe*

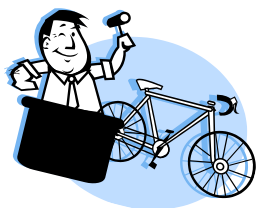
The Windham Meeting House will be the site of all kinds of summer fun again this year. I will be back to lead the group in many fun and exciting activities.

The dates are July 15–19 and July 22–26. Children three years (who are eager to leave Mom) and older are invited to join us. The hours are Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Fridays 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The registration fees per week are as follows: \$20 for the first child in a family; \$10 for the second child in the same family; \$5 for the third child in the same family. Fees are payable on Monday of each week. Scholarships are available through Windham Community Organiza-

tion for those experiencing financial difficulty. All children in the area are invited to attend.

Some of the favorite activities are tie-dying t-shirts, building, painting and filling flower boxes, making bead and macramé bracelets and necklaces, drying flowers for note cards, gluing and painting popsicle stick creations, scrap wood creations, puppets making, face painting, playing with bubbles, nature walks and scavenger hunts, and kickball and whiffle ball outside. We have someone coming to do some weaving with the children. We go swimming on Fridays. The children make their own nutritious snacks and lunch each day.

If you have any ideas or special projects you might like to share with us, please let me know. Does anyone have any small wood scraps? The children love to glue and paint their own projects. Any questions? Call me at 874-7028. See you in July!



SATURDAY, AUGUST 10: IT'S FIRECO AUCTION AND BBQ TIME!

9 a.m. Breakfast, Flea Market, Auction Preview: Have breakfast and preview auction items; tour the Flea Market, 4 tables of treasures.

10 a.m. Auction, Lunch, and Raffle: Auction under a tent with seating. Antiques, new merchandise and gift certificates. Hot dogs, hamburgers, peppers & onions, and soda will go on sale. Drawing for a 50/50 raffle during the auction. (Raffle tickets available at the auction, from any Fire Co. member, or at the B&B store on Rt.11.) You don't have to be present to win, just lucky.

5 p.m. Chicken BBQ: \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids under 12 years. Scrumptious all-you-can-eat BBQ chicken, potato salad, green salad, baked beans, corn on the cob, rolls and drinks. Take out is available.

7 p.m. The Pie Auction: The great cooks of Windham bake pies or cakes (bring 'em to the firehouse after 4 p.m.) Always an hilarious event, the pie auction is a winner!

To Donate Items: Call Mike McLaine, 875-1550, to arrange to leave things at the storage container beside the firehouse, or to get Fire Co. volunteers to assist with a pick-up. Household items, furniture, firewood, cars, etc. are welcome. PLEASE, no mattresses, clothing, books, exercise machines, TV's, skis, computers, or non-working items. **To Help Out:** This is an annual fund raiser that requires lots of volunteer help. If you can contribute to making this day a success, contact Jan Wyman at 875-3373.

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WINDHAM READS: CRIME FICTION



PAUL ROBINSON: I have recently been reading a lot by Michael Connelly, an accomplished writer who, for me, turns mysteries into "riveting thrillers." I am often consumed by his work; most authors do not affect me that way. Michael is an ex major-crime reporter for the L.A. Times. This experience gives him unique insight into behind-the-scenes police work - the criminal mind - crime investigation. The Windham Library has a number of his books and Michael is well regarded by the librarians. Some of my personal favorites include: *Lincoln Lawyer*, *The Poet*, *Concrete Blond*, *Last Coyote*, and *Echo Park*.

NANCY TIPS: Denise Mina is the author of gripping mysteries, including trilogies and stand-alone books. She writes well, is clearly a compassionate lady, and invariably provides complex and satisfying fates for her difficult characters, often involving perfectly imagined murder. I am intrigued by her depiction of the bonds among tough, sometimes violent, folks in her native Glasgow. Her protagonists include the striving journalist Paddy Mehan

(*Field of Blood*, *The Dead Hour*, and *Slip of the Knife*), and the surly, pregnant (in Book 2) detective, Alex Morrow (*Still Midnight*, *The End of the Wasp Season*, and *Gods and Beasts*). Atmospheric, frightening, and humane, her books are a treasure for the mystery fan.

HEATH BOYER: Elmore Leonard's writing sets the Gold Standard for noir fiction. He treats words like fine-cut jewels, never wasting a single one on unnecessary ornamentation. He is disciplined in following his own rules (Kill All Modifiers!). His ear for dialogue is so true that opening one of his stories is like moving into a new neighborhood for a few hours. Like a great actor who can deliver a whole speech with an eyebrow lift, Leonard can package a character in less material than it would take to stop the bleeding from a razor nick. I've rediscovered him, only to realize how large his oeuvre is and how deep and rich. Every one is different, and every one is captivating. If you want to learn how to write well, read Leonard and take notes. You'll be at the knee of the master.

GINA NOEL: I've been a voracious mystery reader since Nancy Drew so I was thrilled to discover Archer Mayor when I moved to Vermont. He is the author of 2 dozen Joe Gunther detective books and lives in Newfane. The series is a fun collection of really good regional crime thrillers. As such, you go with Joe and his small band of colleagues through the underbelly of towns like Brattleboro. You'll smugly recognize neighborhoods of duplicitous public figures and murderers' lairs as you travel throughout the State. One novel even featured a site based on the Windham Hill Inn. So delicious! I started with his first novel and went right through them all. It's a happy day for me when Mayor announces that his latest mystery is available.

Send your quickie reviews of authors and books, any genre, to: windhamnews@hotmail.com.

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WINDHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS*by Carolyn Partridge*

In May, the school's three graduating six-graders, Rheanna Pare, Levi Clay, and Miles Hammerle travelled to New York City with Mr. PJ and Sharon Jonynas for their class trip. They used train, subway, and their own feet to visit Battery Park for a look at the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, the World Trade Center, Chinatown for food, and Times Square (which has cleaned up a lot since I attended NYU!)

The year brought many opportunities for all of our Windham students, whose test scores are excellent: they participated in the Digital Wish program, which teaches good online citizenship; Secondary room students wrote original "play-lets" and performed them at the Weston Playhouse; Sally's students were delighted by hatching chicks and ducks; and as part of the "positive rewards for positive behavior" program the students went fishing at Tim Waker's Timber Ridge home. Tim graciously stocked the pond with fish and the children had a ball.

Many thanks to our teachers, assistants, and all the volunteers who make WES such a thriving, vital place. We wish you all a safe summer and encourage parents to read and practice math facts with the kids, so they're ready to go back to school in the fall!

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Neighborhood Chefs**Confetti Potato Salad from Bev Carmichael**

- 1½ lbs. round red potatoes, cut into 1" cubes
- 1 c. fresh green beans, cut into 2" long pieces
- 2 c. broccoli and/ or cauliflower florets
- ½ c. coarsely shredded carrot
- ½ c. reduced-calorie ranch dressing
- ¼ tsp pepper

Place cubed potatoes in a large saucepan, and add enough lightly salted water to cover. Cover; simmer until just tender. Drain & cool. (Or pressurecook on trivet, 2/3 cup water, 4 minutes at 15 lb pressure, natural release.)

In a small saucepan bring a small amount of lightly salted water to boiling. Add green beans and return to boiling. Cover and cook about 3 minutes. Drain, rinse with cold water.

In a very large bowl combine cooked potatoes, green beans, broccoli and/or cauliflower, and carrot. Add salad dressing and pepper, and toss to coat. Cover and chill. Makes 8 1-cup servings. Note: You may substitute any summer garden vegetable in this salad.

Exotic Spice Mixes from Nancy Tips**Jamaican Jerk**

Into an empty glass spice jar, place the following ingredients and shake well:

- 2 Tbls ground allspice
 - 1 Tbls dried thyme leaves
 - 1 Tbls sugar
 - 1 tsp ground coriander
 - 2 tsp ground black pepper
 - ½ tsp ground cinnamon
 - 2 tsp garlic powder
 - 1 tsp ground dry ginger
 - whiff of cloves
 - 1 tsp salt
 - 1-2 tsp hot pepper powder (cayenne, paprika, or chipotle)
- Leave this out if you don't want the heat.

Middle East Baharat

Into an empty glass spice jar, place the following ingredients and shake well:

- 2 Tbls paprika
- 1 Tbls salt
- 1 Tbls ground coriander
- 1 Tbls ground nutmeg
- 1 Tbls ground cumin
- 2 tsp ground black pepper
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp ground cloves
- 1 tsp ground cardamom
- 1 tsp garlic powder

Use these mixtures as dry rubs for meat or as seasonings for just about any other food. The mixtures taste exotic, but all the spices are available at Clark's in Londonderry.

WINDHAM HAS TALENT *by Imme Maurath*

Dan Field has been working with stone for over 25 years. He creates everything from patios to BBQs, from walkways to stone veneers. You might even know someone in Windham who has had stone work done by Dan.

Dan, what got you interested in working with stone?

I always had a interest in stone and liked working with it but after college I just kind of accidentally found my niche by doing projects and before I knew it I had a career and something that I totally love to do.

Where do you come up with your designs? Or is a lot of that experience?

Most of my design work is hands-on with each client, as I try to get them involved in the process so we create something together that we're both proud of.

Do you work alone, or do you have a crew?

I work alone most of the time but occasionally bring in another mason if I'm real busy. I'm very hands on and would never have someone else do my work.

I'm sure some of that rock is pretty heavy. Do you use machinery?

Most of the time I do my installs with my tractor/loader/backhoe. For larger projects I bring in an excavator.

Do you like to work with a particular type of stone? Like flat ones?

My personal favorite stone to work with is rustic field-stone, as I think it best suits the aesthetics in Vermont. Also, I love the challenge of getting it precise in applications, as it is less forgiving than quarry stone.

Are you sure it's not because your last name is Field?

Hah hah hah!

To see more of Dan's stone work visit him online @drcstonedesign.com



Dan and what might be one of the longest freestanding walls in VT

Photo: Imme Maurath

LEGISLATIVE NEWS *by Carolyn Partridge*

The VT Statehouse

The 2013 legislative session ended on Tuesday, May 14 at 10:25 p.m., culminating a full session of work with many accomplishments. The foremost among these was passage of a balanced budget without raising General Fund taxes. The shortfall we anticipated was offset by a welcome revenue picture that was far above forecast, leaving a \$10 million gap that we made up for with administrative efficiencies, increased revenue collection, and other reductions.

In order to match federal transportation funds, we had to raise the gas tax. Our transportation infrastructure is in dire need of maintenance and repair, which if not done will require replacement at a much higher cost. Anecdotal, the tax hike has not seemed to make a difference at the gas pump. In a recent trip to Walpole NH, I noticed that the price of gas was the same as that in Bellows Falls.

The session went smoothly under the steady, thoughtful leadership of Speaker Shap Smith. We did our work in a timely manner and achieved major pieces of legislation in a well-considered, careful way. I am thankful that the Vermont Legislature functions so well, with people working "across the aisle" for the good of Vermont's citizens.

I am sometimes asked what it's like to serve in the General Assembly. First, it's a true honor and privilege. It means that I am away from home during the legislative session from Monday through Friday nights, so I am grateful to my supportive husband, Alan, for holding down the fort in Windham. I rent a room from a Montpelier resident with whom I have a lot in common, in that she is also a spinner, knitter, and seamstress. I always look forward to the legislative session, but am glad when it's done so I can get home, shear sheep/goats, and get the garden in. Even when we are not in session I'm on duty, so don't hesitate to call (874-4182) or email (hoparwel@sover.net) if you have questions, thoughts, or concerns.

BULLETIN BOARD

Zumba Gold Class

Coming to Windham Elementary School in mid-July! Fun and invigorating community-oriented dance-fitness program, providing modified, low-impact moves and easy-to-follow pacing for a healthy, active lifestyle! Latin infused music and dance routines by ZIN certified instructors. Class day and time to be scheduled by popular demand, so input on consensus would be appreciated.

Please contact Pauline O'Brien at 802-376-5397 or paulinebob@hotmail.com

CHOCOLATE FEST for Neighborhood Connections
Aug 5, 5-8 p.m. (Rain or Shine) Landgrove Inn.
live music, cash bar, 50/50 raffle, silent auction
 Tickets, \$15/Adults prior to the event (\$20 at the door) \$10/Children 6-12, under 6 free. Tickets avail.
 July 1: Londonderry, at Green Mt Pharmacy and Neighborhood Connections; Weston, at Village Green Gallery; Landgrove, at Landgrove Inn.

Neighborhood Connections connects people in need with appropriate services, offers financial counseling and health education, and works with partners including WCO, to meet needs of struggling families with young children, and of people who are elderly, infirm, or homeless.



Grace Cottage Fun & Fitness Activities

All events benefit Grace Cottage. Information at

www.gracecottage.org/events or call 365-9109.



July 13, Saturday, "Tour de Grace" Family-Friendly Bicycle Ride. Start 8-10 a.m. at Stratton Welcome Center parking lot. Ride 19 miles, mostly downhill, to Grace Cottage Hospital, Townshend. Buses transport riders and bikes back to Stratton. Helmets required; sturdy tires and good brakes strongly recommended. Register online through July 10 (\$25) at www.gracecottage.org/events or on race day (\$30) at the Stratton parking lot.

August 3, Saturday, Grace Cottage Hospital Fair Day. 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the Townshend Common. Free admission; free parking. Auction, bargain booths, bingo, Baby Parade for those born at Grace Cottage, pony rides, face painting, great food, games, dunking booth, Bills Band concert, chicken barbecue dinner, and more. Now accepting donations for bargain booths & auction. Call Stan at 365-4455 to arrange for pick-up.



WEST TOWNSHEND COUNTRY STORE HOME TO TOWNSHEND FARMERS' MARKET

Fridays 4-7 p.m. through mid October, the Townshend Farmers' Market will be at the West Townshend Country Store. Local vegetables and meats, baked goods, prepared foods, plants, herbal preparations, handmade soaps, handblown glass, fabric and wooden items. Debit and EBT cards, Farm to Family Coupons welcome. EBT customers use Harvest Health Coupons for more fresh local food. Open rain or shine. Rain location white church next door. ! And don't forget! Friday is Pizza Party Night at the West Townshend Country Store. Come enjoy wood fired pizza and music from Sally & Michael and friends.

Westminster Cares, Inc. is sponsoring "Speaking of Aging," a speaker series exploring physical and mental health, financial well-being, social connections, and end-of-life issues. Held at the Westminster Institute.

August 6, Dennis McCullough, M.D, geriatrician at Dartmouth Medical School, author of *My Mother, Your Mother* and practitioner of Slow Medicine.
September 17, Willem Lange, author and commentator for Vermont and New Hampshire public radio.

For more information go to www.westminstercares.org or call 802-722-3607.



DONATE TO THE FIRECO AUCTION!

TO LEAVE APPLIANCES FURNITURE, FIREWOOD, CARS, ETC. AT THE FIREHOUSE OR TO ARRANGE FOR PICKUP, CALL MIKE McLAINE AT 802-875-1550.

SUMMER MORNING FITNESS AT THE MEETING HOUSE

Mon., 8:30: Yoga with Bonnie Bokencamp,
 Mon. and Thurs., 10:00: Strong Living (bone building, muscle strengthening, stretching, and balancing.)

All levels welcome in all classes.

More information: Mary Boyer, 875-5242 or Ginny Crittenden, 874-4049.



Windham News & Notes
5976 Windham Hill Road
Windham VT 05359

Windham News & Notes welcomes
submissions. Send articles of up to
300 words to the Editor at the
above address or preferably by
email to [windhamnews@
hotmail.com](mailto:windhamnews@hotmail.com)

*Please keep us informed of any
address changes*

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Regular Meetings and Schedules

Town Clerk: Mondays: 11-6; Tuesdays: 8:45-2:45; Thursdays: 12-3 (closed July 4); Saturdays: July 20 & August 17: 9-noon
Selectboard: Mondays: July 1 and 15, August 5 and 19: 6:30 at the Town Office. Open meeting.
School Board: Mondays: July 1, August 5: 9 a.m. at the Elementary School. Open meeting.
Listers: Wednesdays: July 10, 17, 24, and 31, August 7, 14, 21, and 28; 9- noon at the Town Office.
Planning and Zoning: Thursdays: 6 p.m. Open meeting. Please check dates with Town Clerk.
Library: Wednesdays: 3-5 except July 3. Book Group will meet July 10 and August 6.
Volunteer Fire Company: Thursdays: July 11 and August 1; 6 p.m. at the Firehouse. Heavy refreshments served.
Windham Community Organization: Wednesday: July 31; 7 p.m. at Meeting House. Everyone invited. No meeting Aug. 28 .
Windham Congregational Church (UCC) Sundays: Worship Services at 9:30 a.m. Everyone invited.
Valley Bible Church: Sundays: Worship Services at 11 a.m.. Tuesdays: Bible study and prayer at 7 p.m.
Please note our Vacation Bible School: July 8-12: 9:30- noon. For ages 4 to 12.

Save the Dates!

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 6:30-8:30 P.M. OR SATURDAY, JULY 20, 9-11 A.M.: INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS
ON TOWN-WIDE REAPPRAISAL OF PROPERTY VALUES**

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 5 P.M.: WCO ANNUAL BBQ AND CRAFT RAFFLE, AT THE MEETING HOUSE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10: WINDHAM FIRECO ANNUAL AUCTION AND BBQ, AT THE FIRE HOUSE