

Volume 14, No. 3



November - December 2016



# Windham News & Notes



## Happy Thanksgiving



FALL HAS COME AND GONE

AND WHAT A BEAUTIFUL FALL IT WAS!

NOW IT'S TIME FOR SNOWFLAKES,

HOLIDAYS, FAMILY AND...



### The HARVEST SUPPER and SQUARE DANCE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12 at 5 PM

Mark your calendar now for the annual Harvest Supper and Square Dance at the Meeting House on Saturday, November 12 at 5 PM. The traditional dinner is hosted and prepared by the Windham Community Organization (WCO). This dinner is the Fall fundraiser of WCO. Proceeds are used to provide fuel and other assistance to residents in need, during our long winter. We will be serving ham, butternut squash, baked beans, scalloped potatoes (plus a gluten-free version), salad, sweet breads and assorted homemade pies; all for the low price of \$10 for adults, \$5 for children, or \$25 per family. Donations are appreciated for the musicians. After dessert, Sally Newton will be calling the moves for the incredibly lively square dance. She will be accompanied by talented local musicians, most of them related to Sally! She is really good with explaining the moves, so don't be bashful in joining in the fun! And who knows, maybe we will have the treat of having some of our young ukulele players start off the fun. Come on out for the last big fling before winter!

### *"CAPTURING the BEAUTY of WINDHAM"*

At the Harvest Supper, you may also vote on your favorite three photos submitted for the Library Photo Contest, *"Capturing the Beauty of Windham"*. Submitted photographs should be 8"X 10" for display and judging, and must be taken in Windham. Photos may not have any people in them, but animals are welcome! No more than three entries per person. Photos will be displayed at the Harvest Supper for you to vote on, and prizes are awarded for the top three vote winners. Twelve photos will be selected for the Library's 2017 Desk Calendar. Calendars will be available after Thanksgiving for Holiday gift giving to family and friends. All photo entries must be accompanied by an entry form provided in your last issue of *News & Notes*, and are also available in the Library or Town Office. Entries may be dropped off at the library on Wednesdays from 3-5 PM or at the Town Office. Deadline for submission is 5 PM Wednesday, November 2. All calendar proceeds will benefit of our Windham Library!

## Select Board Provides Winter Roads Policy 2016-2017

*by the Selectboard and Road Crew*

Another winter is soon to be upon us. In our attempt to be safe with regards to snow removal and icy roads, the select board and road crew have set forth the following winter roads policy:

Plow routes are set up to open the school routes and major traffic routes first. Operations usually begin at 4:00 AM, in order to have the bus route and major roads cleared by 7:00 AM. After 16 hours on the job, the road crew is required to stop operations and get a minimum of six hours of rest. In extreme weather, a third, part-time employee is available to accommodate this requirement. In most cases, there will be no road maintenance between 10:00 PM and 4:00 AM.

Salt will be applied to paved roads, with sand added as necessary. Salt is not effective when road temperatures are below 20 degrees. Sand will be applied to the gravel roads.

For your part, we ask the following: All turn-around areas should be kept clear of vehicles. Park your vehicles in your driveways, back from where snow will be thrown, so they don't get damaged or buried.

When removing snow from your property, please



make sure it does not get pushed or thrown into the plowed road. The resulting piles on our roads are dangerous to passing traffic and can lead to accidents.

The crew will make every reasonable effort to plow close to mailboxes, but not so close as to take them down – sometimes a balancing act. The more thoughtfully your mailbox is located and maintained, the less likely it will be damaged by the weight of the snow or the plow wing itself. The town is not responsible for mailbox damage.

When the plows are on the road, please be patient. Don't pass plows unless absolutely necessary. Remember, the plow drivers are up high above the road, and their primary attention is on the road and the plow, not passing vehicles.

We anticipate a safe winter for everyone and thank you for your thoughtfulness.

## Maureen Represents Windham at VLCT Town Hall

*by Maureen Bell*

If you haven't figured it out yet, I'm sort of geek! I love to go to meetings, seminars, workshops and classes. It's how I became a Master Gardener, learned to knit, do landscape design, play Mah Jongg and make delicious bagels! Since I was elected to the Selectboard, I've had the opportunity to continue in that vein. I've been to class to actually learn how to be a good Selectboard member, attended a Planning and Zoning forum, elections training, and recently a Municipal Budgeting Workshop.

In early October, I was Windham's representative at the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT),<sup>2</sup> Town Hall, or annual business meeting, in Essex Junction, <http://vlct.org>. There we discussed, and then voted on, VLCT's 2017 Municipal Policy. We were given a meeting guide handbook which contains the specific wording and policies that the VLCT wishes to pursue in the next legislative session

in Montpelier. We took the issues one by one, either voting on them as they stood, or debating and perhaps amending them. The amended version is what the VLCT will act on during the legislative session next year.

The main policies, which are multi-faceted, are: Finance, Administration and Intergovernmental Relations; Transportation; Public Safety; Quality of Life and Environment; and Water Resources. There was much discussion on each of these issues. The day was very exciting and extremely informative. Please know that the VLCT takes its job very seriously, and tries to do the right thing for all Vermonters.

The meeting guide is 50 pages – too large to print here. If anyone would like to see it, please let me know; I'm happy to share it with you. Following is a link to the guide, but it has not yet been updated to reflect what we voted on: <http://vlct.org/assets/Advocacy/Legislative Platform/2017-draft-municipal-policy-09-08-16.pdf>.

## Town Garage Committee Members Needed

The Selectboard is looking to form a committee of volunteers to work with the highway department to investigate potential town garage facility and/or location improvement opportunities. Anyone who is interested and willing please contact Kord Scott at [kordscott@vermontel.net](mailto:kordscott@vermontel.net).



### From Jo-Jo's Desk

Well, Windhamers, as I sit here at my kitchen table looking out at the beautiful golden leaves of another most delightful foliage season, I feel it's time to reiterate that the clock is ticking fast and will soon be running out. Are you registered to vote yet? This is such an important election this year, both nationally and locally.

You must be domiciled here in Windham to be registered to vote in Windham. You cannot be a registered voter in Windham and live in another town in Vermont. This is taken very seriously and is known as Voter Fraud. It comes with a ten thousand dollar fine. Don't lose your right to vote! Make sure you are registered to vote in the town you actually live in.

The registration deadline is Wednesday, November 2nd at 5pm! If you need me any time before then for afterhours service, please do not hesitate to call me at home to make arrangements to register to vote, or to request your absentee ballot. My home number is 875-5656. Please, no calls after 10 PM.

You can still register and/or request your absentee ballot online at [www.sec.state.vt.us/elections](http://www.sec.state.vt.us/elections). If you want your absentee ballot sent to you, and you are already registered, just go to "My Voter Page". In order to use the system, your date of birth, last four digits of your social security number, as well as your driver's license or personal identification number MUST be in your registration. If you can't access the page and you are a registered voter, please call



**VOTE NOW  
AT TOWN  
OFFICE  
MON-WED  
12-4 PM**

me. I can put the missing information into the database for you, but ONLY if you are already a registered voter. And I cannot register you in the office without the necessary paperwork filled out and signed.

Very important, when voting: **Don't forget to turn your ballot over and continue voting for the all-important Stiles Brook Wind Turbine question.**

Normally your Justice of the Peace (JPs) candidates would be on the ballot; however, due to a ballot glitch, you will have to write your choices in. You can choose up to five candidates. There is a separate ballot for the JPs. Regardless, if you choose to vote for JPs or not, this ballot must be returned. Some of you who requested absentee ballots had your JP ballot sent separately in the mail. Please mail them back in the envelopes provided as soon as possible. (Statements of those running for JP are on the following page.)

The office will be CLOSED the week after Thanksgiving, Monday, November 28, and Tuesday, November 29, reopening on Wednesday, November 30 from 12-4 PM.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all! Jo-Jo



**DEADLINE TO REGISTER  
TO VOTE IS WEDNESDAY,  
NOVEMBER 2 AT 5 PM**



### 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 Mia Clark  
Leila Erhardt

Kathy Jungermann Imme Maurath  
Ellen McDuffie Nancy Tips

Many thanks to all who contribute. Send articles of around 300 words to the address on the last page or email to: [windhamnews@hotmail.com](mailto:windhamnews@hotmail.com).

**Next deadline: December 15, 2016**

## Statements from Justice of the Peace Candidates

### *Vote for Five; All are Write-In Candidates*

You may Write-In the name of any registered voter in Windham when voting for Justice of the Peace. Elected by the town, JPs are county officers and serve for two years. The five main responsibilities are elections, tax abatements and appeals, marriages and civil unions, oaths and notary public, and serving as a magistrate when asked. More can be found at [www.sec.state.vt.us/elections](http://www.sec.state.vt.us/elections). The following individuals have indicated that they are running for Justice of the Peace.

*from Carol Bellucci* Why am I running for JP? I believe in being of service to my local community. Vermont, with its citizen lead government, really practices "by the people, for the people" on a grassroots level. I want to be a small part of that process. Plus, I get to see my neighbors.

*from Marcia Clinton* I am Marcia Clinton, and will run again for the position of Justice of the Peace. Besides performing marriages, a JP is an election official, a member of the Board of Civil Authority which keeps the voting check list updated, and can make decisions in tax grievances.

*from Carolyn Partridge* I am running for Justice of the Peace because I enjoy serving my community in this direct way. I have been serving as a JP for many years, have learned what the responsibilities are, and am willing to continue to put that experience to work for Windham. I also get great joy doing an occasional wedding!

I think most people in town know me, but in case not, I am a farmer and state legislator living on Old Cheney Road. I am married to Alan Partridge and we have three children, Mathias and Tyler Hotaling and Ben Partridge, who lives in town with his partner, Kayla Norton. We also have three grandchildren, Ada, Maddie, and Silas Hotaling. I serve on the Windham Elementary School Board, am a Deacon at the Windham Congregational Church, and have been a member of the Windham Community Organization for many years. I also serve as a Windham Regional Commissioner and am on the Neighborhood Connections Board of Directors.

I would greatly appreciate your vote and thank you in advance for your support! If you have any questions, please call me at 874-4182.

*from Michael Simonds* It has been my honor to be a Justice of the Peace. I would like to continue serving as a JP with its various responsibilities, including serving on the Board of Civil Authority and Board of Tax Abatement. Please write me in on your ballot.

[Editor's Note: **John Hoover** is also currently serving as a Windham JP, and is willing to serve for another term, but was out of town when contacted for submitting a statement for this publication.]

## A New Addition

Jonathan and Stormie Gordon are proud to announce their new baby boy, Remington Jonathan Gordon. He was born on June 12<sup>th</sup> at Springfield Hospital. Remington lives with his parents and older brother Carson on Hitchcock Hill Road. He has loving grandparents, Ralph and Janice Wyman of Windham, and Steve and Esta Morse of Springfield. Remington is always smiling and full of energy.



*Remington at 4 Months*

*What a Cutie! He's quite a charmer!*

## Budgeting for 2016 has begun!

*by Mary Boyer and Peter Chamberlain*

In the years since Peter Chamberlain has served as our Treasurer, there have been many improvements to our budgeting process. Rather than late night, weekly meetings in December and January, Peter, and the assistant treasurer, Kathy Scott, have begun to stretch out the process, having it begin in October. All departments must submit their draft budgets by early fall. The submissions have been reformatted so the structure is consistent with what you will see in your Annual Report. These budgets are then presented to the Selectboard, a few at a time, during regularly scheduled meetings, resulting in more thoughtful, thorough discussions.

This breathing room also allows the Board to get a deeper understanding of the budget, and provides time for clarification from department heads, when needed. You are urged to attend these meetings.

Peter and the Selectboard have been committed to presenting a budget to voters that is an accurate projection, and which can be understood and discussed freely. There are very few places in the country where everyone gets to participate in the budgeting process.

We appreciate how seriously Peter, Kathy and the Selectboard take this responsibility.

## WCSU Act 46 Study Committee

by Carolyn Partridge

The Act 46 Study Committee met on September 21 and October 5. A good part of those meetings was spent hearing reports from several of the Windham Central Supervisory Union (WCSU) school principals. In September we heard from Jamaica Elementary principal, Laura Hazard, and our own Mickey Parker-Jennings. On October 5, the new Leland and Gray principal, Bob Thibault, presented, as well as Scotty Tabachnick from Newbrook Elementary School. The general sense was that this was time very well spent. There were many comments from study committee members about how they had no idea what programs were included in schools other than their own.

We also spent time talking about how we would keep our communities informed regarding the work of the study committee. It was agreed that we would hire Anita Rafael to create a website that people could look at to learn about our progress. We will also do our best to write articles for Windham News and Notes as we attempt to meet our goal to bring this to a vote (or not) on Town Meeting Day.

We have yet to have conversations about the nitty gritty of what the new school governance model would entail. What we expect is that the basic elements will be similar to the Regional Education District (RED) framework that was developed during the RED talks a couple of years ago. This is borne out by the fact that we will be looking at the Articles of Agreement that were decided on at that time. The proposal created an eleven-member board with Windham having one member on that board. Local school boards and meetings would be eliminated and replaced by this larger board.

Our most important goal, and that specified by Act 46, is to improve educational opportunity for all students, so any proposal should be measured by that standard. We want to ensure that Windham students will receive the same high level of educational opportunity that they receive now. We also appreciate the parental and community participation that occurs presently, and are

### ACT 46 Leland & Gray Towns Study Committee Updates

New website to stay informed about the work to date, to ask questions, and to sign up for email announcements.

[wcsu-lgtowns.blogspot.com](http://wcsu-lgtowns.blogspot.com)



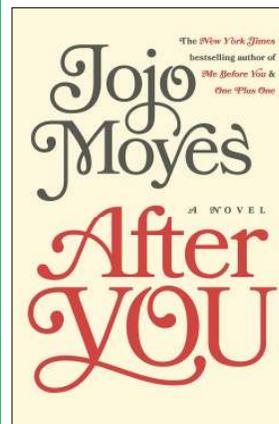
concerned that if school board meetings are held in Townshend, participation might disappear for any number of reasons. We want Windham voters to be able to understand what would be included in future budgets, which would be built for the four elementary schools and the high school combined. It is important that there is transparency, and that the voters know what they are paying for. We also want safeguards so that this larger board, with little representation from Windham, can't shortchange our school or try to close it without a vote from our townspeople. One benefit could be that students from other towns could attend Windham School.

At the time of this writing, our next meetings are scheduled for October 19, November 2 and 16, and December 7 at 7 PM at Leland and Gray Union High School. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend. Information, including minutes of the meetings, can be found at [www.windhamcentralboard.org/school-boards/wcsu-board/wcsu-act-46](http://www.windhamcentralboard.org/school-boards/wcsu-board/wcsu-act-46). An additional link for information is: [www.wcsu-lgtowns.blogspot.com](http://www.wcsu-lgtowns.blogspot.com).

If anyone has questions, feel free to call Carolyn Partridge at 874-4182.

### What to Read?

from the Windham Library



New books at the library this month include: "The Perfect Horse", the daring U.S. mission to rescue the priceless stallions kidnapped by the Nazis, written by Elizabeth Letts; "Our Souls at Night" by Kent Haruf; and "After You" by JoJo Moyes (this is our book club selection for November's discussion).

Our library in Windham continues to be open every Wednesday from 3-5 PM. We have most of the New York Times best sellers on our shelves. Please drop by on Wednesday and let us recommend a good book for your reading pleasure.



## What's the weather going to be?

*from Frank Seawright and News & Notes Staff*

That's a very important thing for any New England road crew to know. Some folks rely on the *Farmers' Almanac*. The 2017 *Farmers' Almanac* forewarns that exceptionally cold, if not downright frigid, weather will predominate over large areas of the country, including New England, this winter.

That's pretty easy to understand. Short and to the point, right? So, how does that compare to the guys with super computers and PhD's at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)? Their prediction for the Northeast is that temperatures over this winter will have an equal chance of being above, below, or near average. NOAA is also predicting an equal chance of above, below, or near average precipitation for this area. This seems to say that with all the models available to NOAA, they don't know what to predict for New England.

Let's just hope for lots of snow on the ski trails and not too much on the roads!



## Grace Cottage Offers Healthy Aging Conference

*by C. J. King*

Take charge of your health, your security, and perhaps even your longevity at the Healthy Aging Conference, presented by the staff at Grace Cottage Family Health and other wellness professionals.

The conference will be held November 15-16 at the Grafton Inn. Tuesday's events will be held all day, 7:30 AM to 5 PM. Events end by noon on Wednesday. Registration forms are available at Grace Cottage or online at <http://gracecottage.org/events>.



### During...and After!

Windham Congregational Church and Meeting House has recently undergone painting and restoration of its belfry and steeple. If you would like to help by making a tax deductible donation, please make payments to "The Society of Friends of the Windham Meeting House", and mail or deliver it to the Windham Town Office, 5976 Windham Hill Road., Windham, VT 05350. We thank you for your continued support of our restoration efforts of this historic town building.



## Flu Season Is Upon Us

*by Marcia Clinton*

Influenza, commonly called the flu, is caused by viruses that infect the nose, throat and lungs. The flu usually spreads through the air from person to person when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks. Annual vaccination is recommended for everyone older than 6 months. It takes about two weeks after getting the flu shot for it to become effective. Flu shots are widely available from your health care provider, neighborhood flu shot clinics, pharmacies, supermarkets or discount stores.

Besides getting vaccinated, one can prevent the spread of the flu by washing your hands often and well; covering your cough (practice coughing into your elbow); keeping yourself healthy with rest, exercise and healthy foods; drinking plenty of fluids;



and avoiding close contact with sick individuals.

Flu symptoms can often be confused with the common cold, but the flu usually comes on more suddenly and is more severe. Symptoms may include fever (usually high), headache, tiredness and weakness (can be extreme), dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body or muscle aches, nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea. A person who is sick with the flu is contagious. Adults can be contagious from one day before having symptoms to seven days after symptoms are gone. Children can be contagious for longer than seven days after symptoms disappear.

If you start to get flu symptoms, stay home from work or school to protect others. Get plenty of rest and drink plenty of liquids. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue every time you cough or sneeze. Wash your hands frequently. Call your health care provider right away if flu symptoms are severe.

## Windham Fire Company News

by Marcia Clinton

### Fire Calls:

- Aug. 25 - Hamilton Falls - assisted with rescue and helicopter landing. 9 responded.
- Sept. 15 - Glebe Mt. Rd. - smoke alarm activated, burnt food, fire truck turned back
- Sept. 28 - Glebe Mt. Rd. - smoke alarm activated, burnt food. 4 responded.
- Oct. 9 - Rte. 121 - search for a lost 93 year old man with assistance from Londonderry Rescue team. 15 responded.
- Oct. 17 - Meeting House - smoke alarm activated. No smoke detected. 7 responded.



The new fire hydrant in South Windham has been activated. Homeowners near the new hydrant may want to contact their insurance companies for a possible decrease in their insurance payment.

New members, Michael Maly, Jeff Weitzel, Hunter Bowen, and Travis Richman, are enrolled in the Fire Fighter 1 course held two evenings a week in Chester for the next 6 months. The course requires 187 hours of attendance and the Fire Company appreciates the commitment these members are making.

Fire fighters responded to an early fire alarm at the elementary school on Wednesday, October 12th. It was Fire Prevention Week and the fire fighters showed up and explained all equipment they use on both of the fire trucks. The kids were duly impressed and asked well thought out questions. They all had a chance to hold on to the fire hose and shoot water onto the soccer field. A film about fire safety was shown to the kids, and as they went back to class, they were given a gift bag with pencils, erasers, and stickers with fire safety tips, a hydrant-shaped drinking cup, sunglasses and a window sticker to indicate the child's bedroom from outside their home.

## Planning and Zoning News

by Bob Bingham

Members of the Windham Planning Commission have been working on revisions to the current Windham zoning regulations for many months. A grant through the Windham Regional Commission was obtained to aid in this process. Chris Cummings has been appointed to act as the liaison between the Planning Commission, the Select Board, and attorney, Gerald Tarrant, who will provide legal advice to accomplish the required revisions. We should have one more work session with Senior Planner, John Bennett, from Windham Regional Commission, who has been advising us in this process of revision. We hope to provide the attorney with a complete revised first draft of the zoning regulations in the near future.

Scheduled Planning Commission meetings usually occur on the second Wednesday of each month at the Windham Town Office from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

## Grace Cottage Updates Emergency Room

by Mia Clark and News & Notes staff

Due to an increase in the number of patients being seen in the Emergency Department at Grace Cottage Family Health and Hospital, a new emergency patient room has been added, increasing their number of beds to four. New equipment was also needed for this recent upgrade to the ER Department. Ernie Friedli, of Windham, assisted in providing financial support towards the purchase of a new ultrasound machine, which uses high frequency sound waves to create an image of internal parts of the body, including organs, tendons, muscles, joints and blood vessels. The new ultrasound imager will be dedicated to emergency room use only.

Thanks to a generous grant from the Fanny Holt Ames and Edna Louise Holt Fund, a state-of-the-art digital electrocardiogram, which shows the electrical activity of the heart, has also been purchased for the Emergency Department. Dr. Kimona Alin, Grace Cottage Emergency Department Director, stated her pride in the high quality of care provided by the ER staff, and her appreciation for the new ER room with upgraded equipment, which will help serve and benefit the increase in number of patients cared for.

We are thankful for Ernie's continued support towards the health and wellness needs of our community.

*Pictured from left to right: Alice and Richard Thall of Newfane, Howard Graff of Townshend, Ernie Friedli of Windham and Dr. Kimona Alin with the new ultrasound machine in Grace Cottage Emergency Room..*



## ANNUAL CAROL SING AND TREE LIGHTING

Friday, November 25

4:00 P.M. at the Windham Meeting House

Bring the family and sing your favorite holiday songs, including “The 12 Days of Christmas” and many more, led by the Christine and Nancy Dyke team. It’s a great way to digest all that rich Thanksgiving food and get ready for Christmas. The singing will start at 4:00 PM. Refreshments of cider, hot chocolate and cookies will be served. We will finish outside with the lighting of the tree and singing “We Wish You a Merry Christmas”. See you there!



## CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Sunday, December 18 at 6:00 p.m.

Our annual celebration of the Christmas season will be held upstairs at the Windham Congregational Church, with special music by Dan DeWalt and his jazz quartet. All are invited to this program of the Christmas story and carols, ending with a singing of “Silent Night, Holy Night” by candle light. An offering will be taken up, to be given to local food banks. Refreshments will be served following the program.



### Windham Energy Committee *by Bill Dunkel*

The Energy Committee is pleased to announce that new LED lighting has been installed throughout the elementary school. We are thankful to Bob Kehoe, of *Sparky Electric*, for working several consecutive Sundays to complete the work. We also wish to thank Marcia Clinton and the Citizens’ Advisory Committee, and Carolyn Partridge, for supporting this project. The quality of lighting in the school is vastly improved and we also can look forward to greatly reduced electricity bills.

The Energy Committee also has been looking into ways to save money and energy at the town garage. An energy audit completed last January revealed that the building is extremely energy inefficient, making the facility unduly costly for taxpayers and uncomfortable for the road crew. Several weeks ago two representatives from Integrated Solar Applications in Brattleboro conducted a site visit and subsequently presented the outline of a proposal for

installing solar panels on part of the salt shed roof. The panels could power a cold climate heat pump to heat the garage, and a new adjacent work space for Josh and John. A representative from Vermont Foam conducted a second site visit on October 20 and will provide an estimate of how much it will cost to better insulate the garage. The Energy Committee is also exploring the possibility of applying for funds from the Windham County Renewable Energy Project to help finance the installation of the solar panels. WCREP funds, which are part of the settlement the state negotiated when Vermont Yankee closed, will be awarded by the Windham Regional Commission next April. Once the Energy Committee has compiled all of the data from both site visits and the details of the WCREP application process, it will present its recommendation to the Selectboard. The Selectboard ultimately will determine whether to move forward with any improvements to the town garage, perhaps subject to a public discussion at Town Meeting in March 2017.

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## Emergency Planning Committee

by Imme Maurath and Kathy Jungermann

How our families and our community will fare in an emergency will depend on planning, and being prepared for emergencies. To that end, the next issue of *Windham News & Notes* will include an update of the Emergency Information Survey. The results will be compiled to form a cross-referenced directory of special needs and assets in the community. This information will improve the ability of emergency volunteers to assist when they are needed. When you receive the survey, you can help strengthen Windham's preparedness by completing and returning it, either as a first-time respondent, or to update information you have previously provided. Your information is held in confidence and used only to plan and deliver emergency assistance.

Here in Vermont snowfall, ice storms, and flooding are the cause of our two most likely emergencies: extended power outages and physical isolation due to road impassibility. During such weather events, it is important to be able to identify those in need, and those that can help. Thank you in advance for participating in the survey and helping Windham to be prepared and proactive.



### NEWS FROM VALLEY BIBLE CHURCH

**Thanksgiving Eve Pie & Praise Fellowship,  
Wednesday, November 23 at 7 PM**

**Christmas Eve Service & Sunday School  
Christmas Program, Saturday, December  
24** (In the evening, but exact time not yet set)

**Christmas Morning Service, Sunday,  
December 25 at 10:30 AM**

No Sunday school or afternoon service today. Check our facebook page or website: [valleybiblevt.com](http://valleybiblevt.com) for more information.



### LONDONDERRY TREE LIGHTING



**Friday, December 9 at 5:30 PM  
At Mountain Marketplace**

Carols and fun at the tree lighting in Londonderry at Mountain Marketplace. Santa may even make an appearance, if you're very good! Reception after, at Neighborhood Connections, with cookies, cocoa and cider. Neighborhood Connections will be collecting items that can not be purchased with food stamps, for neighbors who could use a little extra help, especially during the holidays. Call Neighborhood Connections at 824-4343 for more information.

### Gilfeather Turnip and Applesauce Bake (serves 6 -7) from Mary McCoy

*Ingredients:* 1 large or 2 medium, peeled Gilfeather turnips, cut into 1" squares (about 4 cups); 1 cup apple sauce with cinnamon, nutmeg & honey\*; 2 tbsp butter; 1 tsp salt; 1/8 tsp pepper; 1 egg, beaten; 1 cup crushed Rice Chex or Corn Chex (or 1 1/2 cups soft bread crumbs); olive oil to drizzle over crushed cereal. [\*These add to the flavor. If you have plain applesauce, add a little of the spices to suit your taste. Do not omit spices, as they help give the dish its great taste.]

*Directions:* Boil turnips until soft, drain and mash. Add remaining ingredients and mix. Put in 1 1/2 - 2 quart, slightly greased casserole dish. Top with crushed cereal, drizzled with olive oil. Bake in 350° oven for 1/2 to 3/4 hour.

This is excellent warmed up, so if possible, make it the day before or early in the morning. Ideal with Thanksgiving or Christmas turkey.

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## What's Happening at Windham School? LOTS!

From our school garden, we have carrots, beets, potatoes and kale that still need to be harvested, cooked and included in our hot lunches. The garlic has already been picked and was part of the fresh tomato soup we had one week. On Tuesdays, hot lunch day, our cooks are going to start baking extra large batches of kale chips for the kids to munch on for the rest of the week. This has turned out to be a big hit.

We are very lucky to have one of our town library trustees working here at the school. Last year Mrs. Kehoe took on the extensive job of organizing our books by level. With guide reading, a child is usually placed in a group with other children who read at roughly the same level of ability. This relieves the struggling reader, and moves the child that finds it too easy, into the proper group. We have guided reading four times per week, with kids reading in their appropriate group level.

The primary class would welcome anyone who wants to come and be a mystery reader in our class. This is fun. The person remains a mystery until they show up with their choice of book. We certainly have some interesting reading that could be done, including topics about apple season, pumpkins, Halloween, winter and nature. One of the requirements at schools now is that the children be exposed to lots of non-fiction, but we love good stories too. If you have a favorite book, give us a call at 874-4159 and make a date to come and read.

For the second year, the upper grades class had the pleasure of working with Julian Leon from the Vermont Energy Education Program (VEEP). He is a former classroom teacher who comes to work with the students about concepts related to electricity and magnetism. They did a number of hands on activities using magnets, a balloon for static electricity, creating an electro-magnet with a battery, nail, and wires, and other cool activities to show how these two ideas are interrelated. The class will also be obtaining a kit from VEEP to further their understanding of these topics. Our students participate in VEEP, which is intended as a start for students becoming interested in designing solar power, wind power, or what engineers consider when developing renewable energy



*Group photo of students with Mr. PJ and Sally Newton on hike at Townshend Dam ledges*

and electricity. Like Starbase, which the upper class attends every two years, this involves thinking about science and the future, and providing students with real-world applications of math and science. Both programs utilize instruction modules that integrate Vermont state math and science objectives.

The Primary class goes to Meadows Bee Farm every Tuesday morning to help with the chores, and learn about the plants and animals there. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to learn the responsibility of caring for living things, and gain an understanding of where their food comes from. They do extra research at school, and earn badges for their knowledge of and experience with the plants and animals. They most recently earned their sheep badge.

The whole school has done two great hikes already this fall, Bald Mountain and the Townshend Dam ledges. As the younger children are studying trees and forest, we spent a lot of time looking at trees. At the high point above the ledges, we discovered an ancient red oak with a circumference of 13 feet.

Sorry to be so wordy, but there is so much to tell and not enough space. Thank you from Mr. PJ, Sally, Mrs. Kehoe and Gail



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### Winter Farmers Market Roundup

As many of you are aware, our local farmers markets have already closed, and West River Farmers Market in Londonderry and the Bellows Falls market will remain

closed for the winter. Here are some options for farmers markets that will be moving indoors for the winter:

**Brattleboro:** Located at the Robert H. Gibson River Garden, 157 Main St., open every Saturday, November through March from 10 AM-2 PM, December extended holiday shopping hours 10 AM-3 PM. 802-869-2141

**Dorset:** Located at J.K. Adams Kitchen Store, 1430 Vt. Route 30 every Sunday from 10 AM-2 PM. 802-353-9656

To verify or get directions and further information, go online to [www.nofavt.org](http://www.nofavt.org) or [www.vtfarmersmarket.org](http://www.vtfarmersmarket.org)  
Support our local farmers! Shop local!



Don't Forget to **FALL BACK**  
One Hour  
Sunday, November 6 at 2 AM

### Mah Jongg in Londonderry

Thursdays from 1:30-3:30 PM at The Second Congregational Church. If you're interested, call Maureen at 875-1024 or simply show up.

### Londonderry Lion's Club



Bring your old prescription eye glasses to the Windham Town Office for donation.

### Londonderry Transfer Station Closed every Wednesday, PLUS



Thanksgiving Day,  
Christmas Day  
And New Year's Day



### Town Contacts

- Town Clerk: Jo-Jo Chlebogiannis, phone: 874-4211; email: [windham.town@gmail.com](mailto:windham.town@gmail.com)
- Town Treasurer: Peter Chamberlain, phone: 874-4211; email: [windham.towntreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:windham.towntreasurer@gmail.com)
- Town Road Crew: Josh Dryden and Jon Gordon, phone: 874-7025 at the Town Garage
- Town Listers: Michael Simonds, chair, phone: 874-4790; email: [michael@windhamcountryhouse.com](mailto:michael@windhamcountryhouse.com)
- Select Board: Frank Seawright, chair, phone: 875-1555; email: [fseawright@vermontel.net](mailto:fseawright@vermontel.net)
- School Board: Beth McDonald, phone: 874-4015; email: [219woodburn@gmail.com](mailto:219woodburn@gmail.com)
- Windham Community Organization: Ellen McDuffie, phone: 874-8183; email: [eflockwood@aol.com](mailto:eflockwood@aol.com)
- Windham Volunteer Fire and Rescue: Rick Weitzel, phone: 874-4104; Ralph Wyman, phone: 875-3373
- Health Officer: Marcia Clinton; phone: 875-3531; email: [mclinton@vermontel.net](mailto:mclinton@vermontel.net)



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**Happy  
Holidays!**

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5976 Windham Hill Road  
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Windham News & Notes welcomes  
submissions. Send articles of about  
300 words to the above address or  
by email to:  
[windhamnews@hotmail.com](mailto:windhamnews@hotmail.com) .

*Please keep us informed of any  
name or address changes.*

**REGULARLY  
SCHEDULED  
MEETINGS**



**Town Clerk:**  
Monday: Noon - 4:00 PM  
Tuesday: Noon - 4:00 PM  
Wednesday: Noon - 4:00 PM  
Closed - Nov 28 & 29,  
Thursdays, Fridays, and  
Holidays Call 874-4211.

**Select Board:**  
1st & 3rd Mondays,  
Nov 7 & 21; Dec 5 & 19  
at 6:30 PM at the Town  
Office; Open meetings.  
Agenda posted.

**School Board:**  
1st Mondays,  
Nov 7 & Dec 5 at 4 PM at  
the Elementary School.  
Call Antje Rupert at  
874-4759 to confirm.

**Planning and Zoning:**  
Second Wednesday of the  
month at 6 PM at the Town  
Office; Nov 9 & Dec 14.  
Call Bob Bingham at  
874-4049 to confirm.

**Library:**  
Every Wednesday, 3-5 PM  
at the Meeting House.  
Book Group: 1st Wednesday  
Nov 9 & Dec 7 at 3 PM at  
the Meeting House.

**Volunteer Fire Company:**  
First Wednesday of the  
month (through March) at  
6 PM at the Firehouse;  
Nov 2, Dec 7, Jan 4 .  
Heavy refreshments  
served.

**Windham Community  
Organization:**  
No Nov Meeting.  
Cookie Plates & Yankee Swap  
Dec 14, 6:30 PM at the  
Meeting House. Call Ellen  
McDuffie at 874-8183.

**Windham Congregational  
Church (UCC):**  
Sundays: Worship Services  
at 9:30 AM at the Meeting  
House. Call Dave Crittenden  
at 874-4049 for more info.

**Valley Bible Church:**  
Sundays: Sunday School,  
9:55 AM; Morning Worship,  
11 AM; Potluck, 12:10 PM;  
Sun. Afternoon Service,  
1:10 PM; Tuesdays: Bible  
Study/ Prayer, 7 PM.

**Listers:**  
Every Wednesday  
9 AM- Noon at the Town  
Office. Closed Nov 23.



**SAVE THESE DATES!**



**November 2 - Library Photo Contest Deadline; Last day to register to Vote**  
**November 8 - Election Day, Town Office, 10 AM- 7 PM**  
**November 12- Harvest Supper & Square Dance, Meeting House, 5 PM**  
**November 25- Windham Tree Lighting & Carol Sing, Meeting House, 4 PM**  
**December 9 - Londonderry Tree Lighting, Mountain Marketplace, 5:30 PM**  
**December 14- WCO Cookie Plates & Yankee Swap, Meeting House, 6:30 PM**



**TRIBUTE TO GEORGE**

*We had to put our beloved standard poodle George to sleep on Sunday, October 9th, 2016.  
from Jo-Jo Chlebogiannis*

*Request the full story from Jo-Jo, our Town Clerk,  
or from [windhamnews@hotmail.com](mailto:windhamnews@hotmail.com).*

*Great photos of steeple painting, actually the stripping and pressure washing, taken by Peter Chamberlain*





**Remington Jonathan Gordon**  
**June 12, 2016**

*Remington as a New Arrival*

If you would like to see your  
child / children  
or  
grandchild / grandchildren  
in *News & Notes*,  
please send their picture to:  
[windhamnews@hotmail.com](mailto:windhamnews@hotmail.com).



*Remington at 4 Months*

## Want to Play Mah Jongg?

*from Maureen Bell*

Know how to play Mah Jongg? Want to learn? A few of us who learned this summer would like to continue playing, but we've lost most of our players (the ones who taught us), because they're snowbirds. Most didn't even stay through foliage season!

Mah Jongg is a little complicated, but a very fun, almost addictive, game played with tiles. A few of us learned to play in June and feel very confident about the game. We can teach you. I even have a book I can loan you. We currently meet at The Second Congregational Church on Main Street in Londonderry on Thursdays from 1:30-3:30 PM, but that might change in the winter.

If you're interested, call me at 875-1024 or simply show up.



## Londonderry Lion's Club

*from Randee Keith*

Londonderry Tri-Mountain Lions Club member Rebecca Skandera is asking her nephew Dylan to look into the camera for his vision scan. This scan was performed during our community eye screening for children, as part of Lions Kidsight USA.

The Londonderry Lions Club performed vision scans on all Flood Brook students on October 25th. Thank you to Springfield Lion Bill Thompson for guiding us through the process. We are currently contacting other schools in our Tri-Mountain area to schedule screenings at more schools.

Need more information, or want to volunteer? Contact Randee Keith at 802-824-6750 or [randee.55@comcast.net](mailto:randee.55@comcast.net).

*More Photos of Windham Elementary Field Trip to Townshend Dam Ledge*



*Trees of Interest  
On Windham School Hike  
October 2016*





*How Many of Our Students Do You Know?*



## News Release from Brattleboro Winter Farmers' Market

The Winter Farmers' Market returns to the River Garden for its eleventh season. This starts the second decade of one of the longest running diverse indoor farmers' market in southern Vermont. As the famous outdoor summer farmer's market in West Brattleboro closed on October 29th, fans can simply follow many of their favorite vendors indoors the next on Saturday, November 5th.

Visitors to the Winter Farmers' Market in downtown Brattleboro will find plenty of farms represented and more local produce than ever before. Each week the beautiful River Garden is transformed into a warm welcoming indoor marketplace. You'll find close to 30 vendors including many favorites from past seasons and a few new faces too.

According to the Farmers Market Coalition, a nonprofit dedicated to strengthening farmers markets across the country, the impact of direct farmer-to-consumer transactions at a market is greater than it might appear on the surface. Markets serve as community anchors, positively influencing community health and wealth, resulting in more viable regional economies, increased access to fresh, nutritious food, and stronger social networks that help keep

communities healthy. In the fall 2015 issue of Vermont's Local Banquet, Erin Buckwalter of NOFA-VT summed it up well, "if each person not currently shopping at farmers' markets decided to shop at a market one day a month, that would make a huge difference to our local economy and for farmers' livelihoods."

So, along with fresh produce, syrup, local meats, eggs cheese and other farm products, you'll find yummy treats, great lunches, delicious pies, pickles and preserves, beautiful handmade gifts and live local music. There is something for everyone at the market.

The Winter Farmers' Market welcomes debit, credit and EBT (3SquaresVT) cards. EBT customers can turn \$10 into \$20 each week with Crop Cash Coupons for fresh produce and fruits thanks to NOFA-VT, Wholesome Wave and a FINI Grant through the USDA.

The Winter Farmers' Market is sponsored by Post Oil Solutions, a local nonprofit actively working to promote sustainable communities. Open every Saturday November 5, 2016 through March 25, 2017 and is located at the Robert H. Gibson River Garden, 157 Main St., Brattleboro, VT. Market hours are generally 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, with an extended hour to 3:00 PM for holiday shopping on December 3, 10 & 17. The Winter Market will also be open from 10-2 on December 24 & 31, 2016. Contact us at [farmers-market@postoilsolutions.org](mailto:farmers-market@postoilsolutions.org) or call 802-869-2141. Watch calendar listings for weekly musical talent and special market happenings. Come and dazzle your senses and join us as we launch the second decade of the Winter Farmers' Market.

Sherry Maher  
Manager

[Brattleboro Winter Farmers' Market](http://Brattleboro Winter Farmers' Market)

802-869-2141