

# WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES

Volume V ... Issue 3 November/December 2007

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ONE AND ALL!

### News from the Energy Coordinator By Pete McDonald

Back in July of this year I was appointed Windham's Energy Coordinator. I would like to thank the Select Board for this opportunity to serve the town. It quickly became obvious to me that energy production and consumption is a vast and complicated field that requires a thorough study of the various options and their implications.

One of the first things that was scheduled was a meeting with CVPS representative, David Dunn on the issue of farm generated biogas or Cow Power. Windham has the opportunity to become one of only a handful of towns to be part of this program as an effort to support locally-generated electricity.

Since the arrival of cooler nighttime temperatures, many of us have fired up our woodstoves or fireplaces. The next issue of WN&N will have information on the EPA's Woodstove Change Out program that will offer a yet-to-be-determined amount of money to customers who surrender their replacement stoves and yes, you do need to part with the old one. This is to encourage people to replace old stoves with new, cleaner burning woodstoves or pellet stoves that meet the EPA guidelines for smoke and particulate matter.

I will be hosting the 1<sup>st</sup> of a series of Town Energy Forums focusing on the renewable alternative energy options that are being utilized by Windham residents such as home scale wind and solar power. Anyone currently using said technologies can expect a phone call and a request to participate.

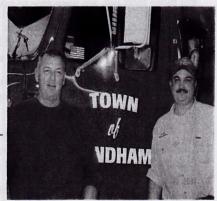
I am indebted to Windham Regional Commission's Heath Boyer for sharing with me his vast collection of all things energy related and I will continue to lean on him for assistance in my duties. Thank you, Heath. Anyone who wants to share experiences, wisdom or guidance or who has anything to contribute to the town concerning current or future energy issues is encouraged to contact me at **PBMcDonald@earthlink.net** or at 874-4015.

### Town Hires New Road Crew by Mary Boyer

Please welcome Bill Roberts to town. Bill has been recently hired to replace Bill Bigwood as the man who will be out on the roads keeping them safe, smooth and snow free. Bill comes to us after 16 years at Stratton where he worked his way up from golf course maintenance to heavy equipment operator. He has plenty of experience maintaining and running equipment similar to Windham's.

Bill lives in Townshend and enjoys spending time with his wife Meredith and 4 year old daughter, Emily. They love getting away to a friend's cabin on Lake Seymour.

Bill calls himself a "fair weather hunter" and is proud of the muzzle loader he bought himself last year. He is also crew chief for a pro stock race car that races up at Monadnock Speedway.



When you see Bill out there on the road say "hello" and introduce yourself. In no time at all he'll get to know all of us.

### Carolyn Partridge fulfills promise to serve

by Mary McCoy



In 1988, many Windham residents were stricken with the flu, including Carolyn Partridge's son Mathias. At least that is what Carolyn thought was wrong with him until she took him to the Mt. Valley Clinic. Although her son had not complained of stomach pain, Dr. Fox recognized his illness and was alarmed, telling Carolyn to take her son immediately to the Brattleboro Hospital. Mathias, also know as Matt, had a ruptured appendix.

Carolyn drove home quickly with Matt to pick up her six-week-old son, Ben, then raced to the hospital. Matt was there for three weeks, his life hanging in the balance for the first few days. It was mud season, far worse than we have now, with mud 18 inches deep, so Carolyn had to park at Windham Hill and Burbee Pond Roads, nearly a mile from her home. She managed to get to the hospital daily, loaded with supplies in a pack on her back and Ben in a carrier on her chest.

"People in Windham were wonderful," she remembers. "They gave me rides and brought us meals. It was astonishing." Her voice wobbles and she explains, "I still get emotional when I think about the kindness and generosity."

The experience was a life-changing one for Carolyn. "I made a deal with God that if Matt survived I would give back to the community by serving them." Matt did survive, and Carolyn kept her promise and began her career as a public servant. She served first as a town auditor, then as a school board member, and then as a member of the select board.

In 1998, when a position opened for state legislator, she added that role to her service, motivated by her belief that all Vermonters should have quality affordable health care. She had had no insurance when Matt was ill, so she was acutely aware of the challenges posed by that situation. Now as the Majority Leader of the State House, she says, "I'm still driven by the need for affordable health care for all."

Yet Carolyn sees herself first and foremost as a farmer, having raised sheep and goats for 35 years. She shears their coats and cleans and sells the fiber. Agriculture is very important to her, and she serves on the House Agriculture Committee.

Over the years, victories in other areas stand out in her mind. "I'm very proud of the work we did on civil unions. We stepped forward for civil rights, which hadn't been done in any other state. It took a lot of courage for some legislators to vote for it. I was barely re-elected."

Another victory happened here in Windham "In 2000, there was an effort to close our elementary school. I was very opposed to this, as our school provides a high quality of education, and it is a vital community center for our town. Closing the school wouldn't have significantly affected our taxes, but it would mean our kids would be bused to other schools. Once we got those facts out, we were able to save our school."

Carolyn also gives back to the world community by being environmentally conscious of her "carbon footprint," using as little gas and plastic as possible and recycling all she can. She drives alone no more than necessary, uses canvas shopping bags, grows her own vegetables, and raises her own meat.

In addition to her farming and governmental work, Carolyn is aa freelance seamstress. She is also a justice of the peace, a member of the Windham Congregational Church, a member of the Windham Community Organization, and she still serves on our school board.

Her busy life doesn't leave much time for pleasure, although she enjoys working in her garden, and she loves to spin and knit. "I'd like to have more opportunity for an actual vacation, but there's no time or money for that." Then she adds quickly, "I'm not complaining. I live in a place where there's beauty all around, and I've got a good life here."

Is there anything she would change about our town? "I'd like high speed internet access for everyone here. But that's it. Windham is a wonderful community just as it is."

Is there anything the town's people would be surprised to know about her? "I don't think so. What you see is what you get with me." (Continued on Page 10)

# CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING AND CAROL SINGING

This year the carol sing and tree lighting ceremony will be on Friday, November 23. The carol singing begins at 4:30 led by an enthusiastic Christine Dyke who gets us all to perform much more confidently than we ordinarily would. Cookies and hot chocolate will follow the singing. Please feel free to bring left over desserts from your Thanksgiving to share. We will then go out into the dark of night and herald in the Christmas season with the lighting of our big tree. Come join us, it is a fun time for the children and all the young at heart.

## Annual Harvest Supper and Calendar Photo Contest

By Imme Maurath

November 3<sup>rd</sup> is the date the Windham Community Organization has selected for this year's harvest feast. Dinner bell will toll at 5:30, and we do ring it. Dinner will include ham, scalloped potatoes (I hope there will be some left over, they're sooo good), squash, baked beans, salad, rolls, sweet breads and pies for dessert. After dinner we will have the Turkey Mountain Window Smashers call the dance. All this fun for \$10/adult, \$5/children 12 and under, or \$25/family.

Bev Carmichael, one of our librarians, is repeating her photo contest for the library calendar. 8X10 photos of Windham will be displayed and voted on during dinner. Submit your possible winner at the library on or before Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>. Calendars will be available after Dec.1<sup>st</sup> at the library or by calling Bev at 875-4874. If you plan on buying a few, you can also order in advance (by calling Bev) because last year they ran out quickly.

### TAXES ARE DUE NOW!

As the days grow short, and the days bright with a crisp autumn feeling, we must, alas, remind everyone that it is also time for property taxes to be paid. This year tax payments must be at the town office by October 31. Windham has a single payment schedule.

Unpaid taxes will accrue interest of 1% per month thereafter. Unpaid taxes as of January 1, 2008 will also have a 3% penalty applied on the unpaid principal and an additional 5% applied on July 1, 2008.

Tax Bills were sent during August. Only the lower portion of the bill should be returned with payment. The upper portion is your receipt to be kept for income tax reporting.



# WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES

Is a publication of the Windham Community Organization

Published six times a year, the basic membership \$10. Send to address below

THE WN&N TEAM

Mary Boyer Carolyn Chase

Jean Coburn

Dawn Bower

Bev Carmichael

Imme Maurath

Gina Noel

**Edith Serke** 

Margaret Woodruff

Acknowledgements

Thanks to all who provided articles. Their names are noted with their submissions

We welcome submissions.

Send articles of around 300 words to the address below. We prefer emailed submissions.

Next deadline

December 7, 2007

Windham News & Notes 5976 Windham Hill Rd.

Windham, VT 05359

802-875-4874

windhamnews@hotmail.com

# WINDHAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH NEWS by Nancy Dyke

#### **OLD HOME SUNDAY**

Old Home Sunday is always a special day in the life of Windham Congregational Church. This year's celebration on August 19, featured people in the recent history of the church and community who supported it in outstanding ways. Remembrances about them were shared. Dan Farina, an instructor at the Brattleboro Music Center favored the group with several trumpet numbers. Margaret Woodruff, a former pastor shared the poem, It is reprinted here;

#### NO VERMONTERS IN HEAVEN.

I dreamed that I went to the City of Gold to Heaven, resplendent and fair. And after I entered that beautiful fold, By one in authority I was told That not a Vermonter was there!

"Impossible, sir, for from my home town Many sought this delectable place, And a conqueror's palm and a clean linen gown Received thru a merited grace."

The Angel replied: "All Vermonters come here When first they depart from the earth But after a day, or a month, or a year, They restless and lonesome and homesick appear, And sigh for the land of their birth.

"They tell of the many and beautiful hills, Where forests majestic appear, They tell of its rivers, its lakes, streams and rills Where nature, the purest of water distills, And they soon get dissatisfied here.

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"We give them the best the Kingdom provides;
They have everything here that they want,
But not a Vermonter in heaven abides;
A very brief period he resides,
Then hikes his way back to Vermont."
Anonymous
From the Grafton Historical Society



WINDHAM UNION
ASSOCIATION
The Windham Union
Association brings together United Church of
Christ Churches in our
region for an annual
meeting. It includes
workshops, information,
worship and a lunch.
This year our church
will host the event on
November 11 from 1:00
to 4:00 PM.

#### **NEW OFFICE HOURS**

Nancy Dyke, pastor of Windham Congregational Church is establishing office hours on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 AM at the Meeting House to accommodate anyone in the community or church who would like to have a conversation. Drop in for a cup of coffee or tea and a chat.

### PAPERCUTTERS' LUNCH

The crafters who have been learning paper cutting would like to decorate the Meeting House Christmas Tree with paper cut ornaments. Several people in town have already attended Marcia Clinton's classes on how to make these beautiful decorations. We are looking for donations of your paper cuttings to help fill the tree. Another class and light lunch will be held on November 14 at Mary Boyer's house. Anyone interested please call 875-5242 to make a reservation.

# NEWS FROM THE VALLEY BIBLE CHURCH By Mark Griffin

Sunday Services

9:45 am - Sunday School

11:00 am - Morning Worship Service

6:00 pm - Evening Bible Study

Thursday

7:00 pm - Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Sat October 27 - 10:00 am - Ladies Brunch Sun Nov 11 - 6:00 pm - Hymn Sing ture.

On Sunday morning following the picnic, Pastor Griffin's message reminded us of the lessons God has for us today as we look back to the founding of the Baptist Church in Windham in 1807. As the text from Psalm 89 says, "I will sing of the mercies of the LORD for ever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations". Sunday night we were able to learn new songs from the 1843 hymnals found in the rafters of the church, helping us to connect with generations past.

It was encouraging to see the interest in the history of this town, and while we are not going to do this once a month as was suggested by an attendee, another picnic may be in order for 2008.

#### Bicentennial Picnic

After some much needed rain in the morning, the afternoon skies over South Windham cleared and the sun smiled upon the 200th anniversary celebration at the old brick meetinghouse. As befitting an old fashioned church picnic, those in attendance enjoyed a dinner of roast pork and turkey, baked beans, corn on the cob, biscuits, cornbread, homemade applesauce and of course, plenty of apple pie and homemade ice cream for dessert. The children participated in sack races, three-legged races, and other games from years gone by.

In the front of the sanctuary, Sunday School lesson posters from the 1880s hung on the walls, and the tables displayed a collection of items reminding us of the people who worshipped the Lord here over the last two centuries. The slideshow of old photos from the village was especially popular, as modern technology allowed us to zoom in on details that are sometimes lost in a small pic-





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#### FROM A SENIOR'S WINDOW By Margaret Woodruff

We all know that Mother Nature is amazing. However, when you have reached 83, you can do more sitting and observing than when you are younger and have a million chores that all seem to have needed to be done yesterday. The hummingbirds announce their arrival with a vigorous flying back and forth, swooping down practically in your face. One couple seems to have taken over the territory here and made a nest in a dense short evergreen. How do I know for sure? I don't, but day after day the male hummer sat on the top dead branch of my tree by the front steps with his eyes focused on the dense bush. After a while they were both flying around the flowers and the feeder. And then -- these little birds- about half or less of the size of the parents were visiting the feeder and flowers. What a glorious occasion!

My next observation was regarding bumble bees. I had noticed them in other years. Does anyone know where they make their nest? I have not been able to figure this out, maybe in the ground as some bees do? I have been especially interested and watchful of bees this year as there is such a shortage of honey bees. All of a sudden the flowers were alive with these little bumble bees that were about ¼ of an inch long. They were certainly very busy little bees. We maintain a bird feeder most of the time, all season long. It is located high off the ground where wild animals are not tempted. More birds than I imagined raised their young here and introduced them to the feeder: Evening and rose breasted Grosbeaks, along with Gold and other finches, small wood peckers and many more. One day we observed the most bedraggled blue-jays that you could imagine. I thought they must have been fighting. That day I listened to the TV show "Across the Fence" on WCAX out of Burlington and they showed and talked about the molting Blue Jays. Without the feeder I would have missed so much.

It is nice to find that even now, while I may not go as far afield as I once did, I can find such pleasure and still learn new things just by watching what is right here in front of my own eyes! So long for now.

## Elementary Students Report on Starbase Project

By Catherine Pentoney & Rebecca Clay

Starbase was a fun experience for all the upper grades. We did so many fun activities such as, on the first Monday we took a test to see how much we knew about the things they were going to teach us over the next five weeks. The second Monday we started processing our rockets. It was a lot of fun and all the kids enjoyed shooting them off the fourth week. The third week we did flying simulators on the computers. Flying simulators are when we learned how to take off of the runway and keep up in the air for a couple of minutes. It was really fun!!! Then, after the flight, we had to practice landing. A lot of people ended up doing nosedives!! The fourth week of Starbase we shot off our rockets and we also made hot air balloons and set them off too. That was our favorite part of the whole thing so far.

Thank you so much to all the people that helped supervise the kids and a special thanks to the Starbase intstructors for taking time to come to our school and teach us all about the unique learning experience that you provided for us. Thanks.



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# WCO IS YOUR GOOD NEIGHBOR

#### By Edith Serke

Windham Community Organization, inc. (WCO), is a private, non-profit corporation, formally organized about two years ago. It is a successor to the long-time community organization. The members of the "club" met in a private home each month, sponsored community dinners and BBQ's, and helped out Windham residents in times of need.

As new people moved into Windham, Helen George's living room became overcrowded, and the members started to discuss an expansion of the organization. The idea of a newsletter began to take shape. Opening the meetings to a broader membership, including men, was discussed, and finally, it was decided to incorporate as a non-profit group with a clearly stated mission and goals. The original goals of the organization were retained, and new goals were added. The monthly meetings were moved to the Windham Meeting House at the church on top of the hill. Windham's male residents started to attend the meetings, there is now a formal agenda, sometimes with scheduled speakers, and attendance has been growing.

The stated purpose of the WCO is to:

- Assist Windham residents in times of distress, by providing financial and other assistance.
- 2. To provide the community with information and education about resources, town activities, and government that foster active in-

volvement in the affairs of the community.

3. To conduct community events that promote connections among Windham residents and a spirit of community.

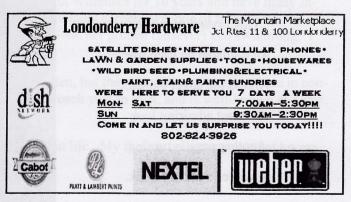
The second goal is achieved through the bimonthly publication of the *Windham News and Notes*. Now in its fifth year of publication, it has tried to keep our residents informed about happenings in town. It has been very well received, and both full time and part time residents look forward to it.

WCO continues to sponsor community gettogethers, which are also our fundraisers (see notice of our Harvest Dinner). These events are put on by volunteers, and more volunteers are needed. We especially encourage younger folks to get involved. The proceeds are used to assist residents who are in need. During the past year, we have assisted a couple of individuals in need, helped sponsor an elementary school student's educational trip to Hawaii, supported local food banks, and helped our school children acquire uniforms for their soccer team.

WCO also sponsors a monthly "Senior brown bag discussion group", which provides an opportunity to persons of any age to get together and discuss issues, such as transportation, emergency preparedness, visiting nurses, or simply exchange travel or other experiences.

For more information about WCO, or to seek assistance of any kind, contact the officers: Mary Boyer, President, Gina Noel, Vice President, Dawn Bower, Secretary, Edith Serke, Treasurer, or Peter or Bonnie Chamberlain, Good Neighbor chairmen.





## PICTURE BOOK

Carolyn Chase

a picture book delightUnfolding, as the darkness
Gives way to morning light.
Night time is the coverA full moon sets the pace
As all the hills and meadows,
Are trimmed with magic lace.
In the woods, a palace
The frozen waters made,
With music playing softly
Nature's icicle, glissade.
Some unseen fairy princes

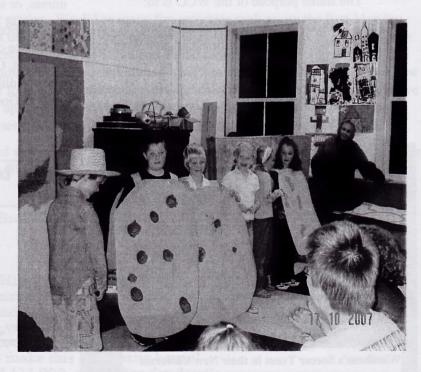
Waves her graceful wand,
Sending brown leaves dancing,
like elves across the pond.
Spun sugar-like confections
As far as one can seeTiny crystal droplets,
All a-glisten on each tree
And as the cover closed,
One last admiring look
Another page is turning
In winter's picture book.

#### Students Write about Potato Farming By Catherine Pentoney & Rebecca Clay

Potato farming with Milford Chase and Susan Persa was a great time for all of the kids to learn about planting and harvesting potatoes. We harvested about 430 pounds of potatoes! There were many different jobs for us to fulfill such as weighing potatoes and sort them in groups of small potatoes and large potatoes. Also we had to hoe them out of the ground and sort out the green potatoes.

We've decided to do a lot of things with them. Each family is taking home ten pounds of potatoes, we're going to drop off some at a food shelter, we're going to give Milford and Susan some and we're going to have a pot luck supper at the school with different varieties of potato foods. We're having a lunch for the students at the school and we're going to sell some and use the money to do another project like the potato planning and such.

Big thanks to Milford and Susan for lending our school some property to plant there and taking the time to help us and just thanks for everything, especially for the learning experience of planting and harvesting potatoes!! Also, thanks to the parents that participated in the potato project. It was loads of fun!!



## "YES, I DID IT!" by Dawn Bower



One picture is worth a thousand words.....

Local resident Ann (Fagerberg) Garrett is a native of Sweden. Ann was born and raised in Nykoping - a small town south of Stockholm during the 1950's which she describes as a wonderful place and time to grow up.

She came to the United States in 1968. On July 9, 2007 she became an American citizen, at the court house in Rutland, Vt. This has been a long time dream for her. She was one of 31 participants to take the oath that day. But of all participating I don't think anyone was as excited, enthusiastic and filled with pride. Many of Ann's friends, (who I should say filled the entire seating in the room as well as standing) took pleasure in being

present at the ceremony. I think all natural born citizens should at some time in their life sit in on one of these ceremonies, just to be reminded of how much our American citizenship means. I for one thought it most interesting and educational.

Later in the day there was a large party in honor of Ann, which took place at the Landgrove Inn, which was hosted by the owners, Tom and Maureen Checchia. It was a wonderful festive event and everyone present enjoyed seeing Ann so proud and happy. It's hard to put into words just how proud she is to be a citizen of the United States of America. One of the privileges that she is most anxious to take advantage of is to vote. Unfortunately there is nothing scheduled for the country, state or town this year, but when there is, Ann says her goal is to be the first one in line at the polls.

Ann met her husband-to-be Nicholas in 1967 while she was hitchhiking on her way from school in Southern Sweden, to go home to visit her Mother. And she came to the U.S in 1968 to visit Nicholas and some of her family. As she says, I am still here. They married in 1969.

Before coming to Windham they spent a lot of time traveling as the nature of his business (ocean going shipping) took them around most of the world. Ann says they covered most of the world except for Australia and South America. The place she loved the most was London which became their well loved second home. She is very grateful for all the adventure that took place in her life.

During their travels, they moved many times throughout the U.S. before settling in Vermont. When visiting this great state of Vermont, she knew this was the place to be. She claims she has never been happier and her roots are so deep it would be impossible to pull her out. They have lived here in Windham for 16 years and have many incredible friends. She has a job she loves and many hobbies. At the moment carpentry is one of them at the top of the list. Others are knitting, felting gardening, reading, walks (with Noah her golden retriever) and swimming. I am sure there are more but those are a few.

Ann's brother, her nephew and niece and her family still live in Sweden, but they remain very close and are in constant contact. Her brother Carl comes to Windham a couple of times each year to visit, and is well-known at Tater Hill Golf Course.

As a friend of Ann's I think she has an incredible upbeat attitude about life. My feeling is that anyone that knows her would agree with me.

CONGRATULATIONS - ANN

### Carolyn Partridge

(Continued from Page 2)

But the residents of Windham might be surprised about a few facts of her life. She was born and raised in New Jersey and graduated from New York University with a degree in oceanography. With no jobs available for women in the field at that time, she worked at a variety of other jobs. In addition to those already mentioned, she's been a copy editor, head of a backpacking program, staff person of a halfway house, cook, waitress, and school bus driver. She has three sons – Ben Partridge with her husband of 22 years, Alan Partridge, and Mathias and Tyler Hotaling from a former marriage.

Although Carolyn is a truly kind-hearted and multi-talented person who easily spins wool or puts up vegetables while conducting legislative matters via her telephone headset, she seems unimpressed with herself. She says her life demonstrates that "anyone can serve their community. We all have something to offer our neighbors and our world." In her view, "I'm just trying to live by the Golden Rule, treating others as I want to be treated."

Not many people are willing to give up their pleasures and their hope of a vacation in order to juggle numerous activities for the benefit of others. But if everyone were just a bit more like Carolyn Partridge and like the folks who helped her when Matt was ill, surely the world would be a much better place.

#### Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue 2008 Calendars For Sale!



#### By Margaret Dwyer

Miss Twiggy Wickette, a YGRR rescue dog from Windham, VT wants to let everyone know that the Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue 2008 calendars are now available. Always a favorite at Christmas time, the 12" x 12" 2008 calendar has large, beautiful color photos of rescued Golden Retrievers along with their heartwarming stories. The calendar includes seasonal health and safety tips for dogs, information about YGRR, membership applications and valuable coupons good towards other items from their Golden Goodies catalog. Calendars are available on line at

www.ygrr.org or by calling them at 978-568-9009 and cost \$13.00 plus tax. The Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue, headquartered in Hudson, Massachusetts was established in 1985 as a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to providing veterinary care, comprehensive evaluation and adoptive homes to Golden Retrievers like Twiggy throughout the six New England states. Since its founding, over 4,000 Goldens have found new homes and families to love them. The organization relies on dues, donations and fund-raising activities for its income. YGRR has a 501 (c)(3) classification with the Internal Revenue Service and donations are tax deductible.

### First Movie Night at the Library

The Windham Town Library is hosting a free "Movie Night" on November 9, starting at 7:30 pm at the library. Admission is free. There will be popcorn and lemonade served.

Our first movie will be "Ladies in Lavender," directed by Charles Dance and starring Judi Dench and Maggie Smith. It is the story of two sisters who save a stranger and the stranger who stole their hearts. Delicate and unpretentious, this story of an old lady's infatuation with a young violinist is like a refreshing whiff of air. It feels like a fine piece of vintage literature transferred on screen and complemented with exquisite acting and gorgeous music.

Come catch a glimpse of old rural England, all are welcome. We hope to see you there.

## Select Board busy for Last Two Months

The Select Board has completed its work on a Personnel Policy for Town Employees. We were able to get help from the Municipal Assistance Center of the VT League of Cities and Towns. We now have a substantial document that spells out the relationship of the town to its full time employees.

We appreciate the many responses for the position of Road Crew. In early October we hired Bill Roberts, one of several very qualified applicants to the position. See the article on page 1 to learn more about Bill.

The culverts have been replaced and blacktop laid. Our roads appear to be in good readiness for winter months. Some of this work had to be done while we were shorthanded. We thank Rodney Watkins for the extra effort he put in over the late summer months. The Board sent out Requests for Bid to six electric companies experienced with the installation of power generators. Five respondents are currently examining the Town Office and School property and will submit their bids shortly. This is a major step in our emergency preparedness plan and we hope to get the wiring installed before winter sets in.

In September, the Select Board approved a request made by Ernie Friedli for the Town Office to subscribe to Satellite Internet Service. The town is required to file many documents with the state which are no longer sent in hard copy but must be downloaded on the computer. Town officials have been increasingly frustrated with the slow pace of Verizon's internet service. Ideally, with this new service downloading documents and forms will no longer take eight hours but only eight minutes. We have applied and received a grant to pay the installation fee, but the town will be responsible for a reasonable monthly service charge.

Our Energy Coordinator, Peter McDonald invited David Dunn of CVPS to speak to the Board and address our questions regarding COW Power. David gave us a Power Point presentation that was embellished with pictures of a large VT dairy farm which has been generating enough electricity to the grid to supply 5,000 homes. In addition, "digesting" cow manure removes it from the environment and makes it a recyclable part of Vermont's dairy industry. The machinery used is relatively small with the storage tanks built underground thus fitting into the farm landscape. The Select Board has decided to subscribe to COW Power at the 50% rate of an additional 2 cents per KWH.

The Town Office is gleaming in the light of these magnificent days of fall. We thank Alan Partridge for painting the building. It looks like new. We hope all of you are enjoying these beautiful days of fall. Vermont is showing off her best and we feel lucky to be here.

Happy and safe holidays to you all,

Your Select Board



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# GET INVOLVED IN WINDHAM!

# **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

Every Sunday - Windham Congregational Church (UCC) has worship services at 9:30 AM; everyone invited.

Every Sunday and Thursday - Valley Bible Church has services: Sunday 9:45 AM Sunday School, 11 AM Worship, and 6 PM Bible Study; Thursday 7:00 PM Prayer Meeting.

Every Wednesday - Windham Town Library open at Meeting House from 3:00 to 5:00 PM. Also at that time: reading group on first Wednesday of the month.

Monday, November 5, 19 and December 3, 17 - Select Board 6:30 PM at the Town Office; public invited.

2nd Thursday - Windham Planning Commission meets at 7:00 PM at Town Office; public is invited.

Wednesday, November 14 and December 19 - Brown Bag Chat Group at noon at the Meeting House.

Wednesday, December 12 (Nov—No Meeting) - Windham Community Organization meets at 7:00 PM at the Meeting House

October 31 - TAXES DUE

November 3, 2007—5 PM WCO HARVEST SUPPER and PHOTO CONTEST

November 9, 7:30 PM Movie Night At The Library

November 11 1 to 4 PM UCC Annual Meeting

November 14 Papercutting Class and Luncheon

November 23 Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing