

## WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES

Volume VII - Issue 5

March/April 2010

## Getting Ready for the March 2 TOWN MEETING

by Edith Serke

You should have received your copy of the 2009 Town Report by now. It is full of useful information. You will note that the format is somewhat different from previous years and is more readable. You are urged to read it carefully so that you may be prepared to comment on its content at the Town Meeting. Here are some of the highlights:

A new budget item: \$5000 toward a future professional audit, recommended in the past.

To increase the term of office of the Town Constable from one to two years.

To approve the Windham School budget of \$325,044, which is a decrease of \$69,872, or 17.7%, due to decreased enrollment.

The summer road budget is up \$17,500, as is the winter road budget.

The voters will be asked to authorize the Selectmen to release \$1,210 from the Broadband account to the general fund, since the funds are no longer needed.

The voters will also be asked to authorize the Selectmen to release \$13,365.93 from the Generator Account to the General Fund, since the project has been completed.

The General Fund is to be increased by \$30,596.

All social service organizations have been lumped together in one Article, which will save a lot of time at the Town Meeting. There is one new organization in the group, Green Up Vermont, which has requested \$50, and Another new organization, the Neighborhood Connection in Londonderry is requesting \$500.

Windham is also requested to support the Leland and Gray Educational Foundation in the amount of \$1,000.

.All elected officers whose term ends in 2010, will come up for a vote. They were listed in the last issue of Windham News and Notes. Among them are: Mary Boyer, Selectman; Carol Merritt, Town Clerk and Treasurer; Michael Simonds, Lister; Regina Noel, Auditor; Constable Billie Jean Van Alstyne; Tax Collector, Ernest Friedli; Grand Juror and Town Agent, James A. Scott; Alan Partridge, Windham Center Cemetery Commission; Jeff Riley, West Windham Cemetery Commission; Cathy Clay Prouty, North Windham Cemetery Commission; Carol Merritt, Library Trustee; and Alison Trowbridge, Windham School Director.

All those up for reelection or those seeking an elected position have been asked to submit a brief explanation of why they wish to be elected. Their responses can be found elsewhere in this issue.

Don't forget to bring your copy of the 2009 Town Report to the Town Meeting on Tuesday, March 2, at 10:00 o'clock at the Meeting House. Also, please bring a potluck dish and \$1 to defray the cost of paper goods, coffee, etc.

### Carol C. Merritt for Town Clerk and Town Treasurer

I wish to continue to be your Town Clerk and Town Treasurer because I love Windham and all the people who reside here! I have held these positions since 1980 and know what the duties and expectations are. As many of you know, who have visited me in the office to conduct research, the records are kept safe and are well documented. I find that I am adaptable to change and there have been many over the years.

I started the card index system in 1980 which has since been updated with a computerized card index program for the land records. Believe it or not the volume of records has increased tremendously since I have served as Town Clerk and Town Treasurer. In the first 185 years of the Town of Windham 20 land record books were filled. In the past 30 years we have filled 27 more. Other changes include moving from two filing cabinets and a large safe in a small building to a new office building with a walk in vault and numerous filing cabinets. As you can see this job has its challenges, but with the assistance of some wonderful people the office has run smoothly.

As treasurer I am grateful the town has purchased tax administration and QuickBooks programs which have eliminated all the handwriting which was previously required to complete the tasks.

I respect and enjoy working with the other town officials and would appreciate the opportunity to continue to serve the community in a capacity that experience has given me the expertise to do. I am in good health and look forward to continuing to serve the people of Windham.

## Donna L. Koutrakos for Town Clerk and Town Treasurer

I strongly believe it is time for a change in our Town Office. My twenty plus years of computer experience will greatly reduce the existing requirements for three assistants thereby saving Windham taxpayers thousands of dollars in these rough economic times. With money as tight as it is, we cannot as a town continue to afford unnecessary expenditures such as these. I also have the flexibility and time to expand the current office hours to accommodate residents' busy schedules and further reduce the requirements for additional help. And I bring extensive experience running offices and managing books, payroll and accounting throughout my professional career to these positions. My current job is very detail-oriented and involves a significant amount of computer work. It demands that I organize and manage projects across departments and I believe that these skills will be highly utilized in the roles of Town Clerk and Town Treasurer.

Active citizenship is an important part of democracy and I have been involved in local government for over thirty years. In the past, I served for seven years as the Windham school board member to LGUHS, during that time I was also involved at the state level and became President of the Vermont School Boards Association. Presently, I am your Conservation Commissioner and a Justice of the Peace. Due to potential conflict of duties with my candidacy for Town Clerk and Town Treasurer, I am not seeking to renew my position as your Town Moderator.

Regardless of the results of this election, I wish to personally thank Carol Merritt for her service to the town. Her dedication and commitment over the years have set an example for us all.

### Mary Boyer for Select Board

It has been a privilege to serve as a Selectman for the last three years. Both the pace and the number of issues that the Board has confronted have increased over that time.

The Board has been faced with changes required by the state and others that have become apparent as the town evolves. We are utilizing more grant monies as they become available for roads, and bridge and culvert improvements. We have also been successful in obtaining special funds for emergency planning and for energy efficiency in our town buildings to name a few.

Revisions to Windham's Annual Report and the reduction of the number of Articles for voter consideration have been completed. Our accounting processes are being refined to facilitate budget planning and make the budget more understandable and transparent for all of us.

My greatest pleasure has been to work with Walter Woodruff and Margaret Dwyer. Together we have formed a productive and energetic team. We are committed to serving you responsibly, transparently and efficiently.

I would greatly appreciate your vote at Town Meeting to serve for another term.



## Leland & Gray School Budget Approved

By Edith Serke

The \$6,331,876 budget of Leland & Gray Union Middle and High School for the 2010-2011 year was approved by Australian ballot by the member towns on February 3. The 2010-2011 budget was down by \$32,390, about half a percent from last year. A drop of twenty students is expected in the coming year.

Windham voters approved the budget by a 34-3 vote, the highest of the five member towns. Townshend residents rejected the budget by a 58-36 vote. Windham has 23 students at Leland & Gray of a total of 396. Windham's representative on the L&G Board of Directors is Howard Ires.



# WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES

Is a publication of the Windham Community Organization

Published six times a year Send donations to address below

THE WN&N TEAM

Dawn Bower

Mary Boyer

Jean Coburn

Bev Carmichael

Leila Erhardt

Imme Maurath

Mary McCoy

Gina Noel

Edith Serke

Margaret Woodruff

Acknowledgements

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

Send articles of around 300 words to the address below. We prefer emailed submissions to windhamnews@hotmail.com

#### Next deadline

April 16, 2010 Windham News & Notes 5976 Windham Hill Rd. Windham, VT 05359

windhamnews@hotmail.com

Page 4 Mar/Apr 2010 Windham News & Notes

### **Ernie Friedli for Tax Collector**

Running for office—why? As a resident for 27 years and a flat lander for some 18 years, it has been a privilege to serve the town. Contributing to the computerizing of the Grand List and the Appraisal Programs in the Lister's office, and the addition of the computerized accounting system for the office of the Treasurer, has been a worthwhile endeavor during these years. At this time, I am again looking forward to continue providing services to the Town Office as Tax Collector.

#### Michael Simonds for Lister

I have been honored to serve the past four years as a lister for Windham and would like the opportunity to continue for another three-year term. My qualifications include a good understanding of the Vermont laws for listing and knowledge of the computer software required for recording property information. Answering the questions and concerns of property owners in a careful and efficient manner is also a key part of the experience I bring to this job, as is organizing the office work conducted with my fellow listers, Jerry Dyke and John Lingley. Together we have made great strides in bringing Windham's operations up to the current standards required by the state. I believe strongly that everyone's property in Windham should be assessed fairly, accurately and equitably, and I'd appreciate your vote to continue my efforts in this regard. Thank you for your consideration.

## Antje Ruppert for School Board

My name is Antje Ruppert and I live with my family on Old Cheney Rd in Windham. When asked if I was interested in running for the office of school director this year I felt honored because I believe the school to be a valuable asset to this community which I would like to foster, protect and serve to the best of my ability. Having had one son graduate from Windham Elementary School, I've come to appreciate and value the nurturing atmosphere and quality education provided by the well-trained and caring faculty. With one prospective student in our family I have vested interest in the continuance of the school's operation. These difficult economic times make it especially hard to maintain a small school but we have to remember that our children are our future and that they deserve to be educated in their own town.

As a long-time resident here in Windham, I would very much like to offer my service to the children of our town and the community as a whole and hope for your support.

## **David Crittenden for Town Meeting Moderator**

David Crittenden said that he is willing to be a candidate for moderator of this year's town meeting, if the need arises. He thinks he can be impartial and can facilitate the will of the voters, although he has very little experience with parliamentary procedure.

## Some Changes to the Town Report by Imme Maurath

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued Statement 54 requiring towns to change the way they report funds. The intent is to bring greater clarity and consistency. The state wants these implemented for 2010, but the Windham's auditors decided there is no time like the present. So, if you go to page 27 and 28 of the 2009 Town Report, you will see a new balance sheet with the definitions of each fund type. We, the auditors, found it very refreshing. We hope you do too.

You will also notice the Selectboard's Budget is lower because the health insurance premium was moved to the winter and summer roads funds, thus increasing those numbers. The overall numbers haven't changed much, just the way they will be voted on. That doesn't mean that we can't have discussions about individual funds that are grouped within that warning. Each warning can be amended.

#### As It Once Was

by Ernie Friedli



"GENTLEMEN! START YOUR ENGINES!", came the voice of Billy Koutrakos over the loud speaker system. So started the Annual Drag Racing on Burbee Pond, 1980 thru 1986.

The phone rang at my home in Connecticut. The caller was George Havel, owner of property in West Windham. George was a stout believer that Vermont was to be preserved in the traditions of the past. For a time he worked at the ski shop on the corner of RTs 30 and 100, he was to be found in the cross country department. No ski tows and snowmobiles for him.

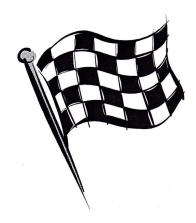
"I just heard that there is going to be drag races on the ice on Burbee Pond". Well, you can fill in the rest. The races were the idea of Paul Anderson to raise funds for the Volunteer Fire Co. George expressed the concern that the after effects of the races would be, besides noise and oil and gas fumes, the left over debris of beer cans, etc. I directed him back to Paul, a resident of the town, to remove this flat-lander (me) from the conversation. The races were on.

Two broad lanes were plowed so as to leave a high snow bank on both sides of the two lanes. A starting gate and loud speaker system were set up. A rented hot dog stand serving hot drinks, hamburgers, hotdogs, etc., was set up to raise funds. A fire truck and the police were in attendance and cars were parked on the ice. The day sparkled with sunshine and hundreds of people and children showed up.

On Saturday, the race categories included two wheel drive trucks, four wheel drive trucks, studded tires and what ever. On Sunday, the snowmobiles were out in force. Machines of that day were rather timid compared to today. But I remember one fellow showing up with a stripped down machine sans wind shield, hood and with a modified engine. He left everyone in the dust, oops, I mean snow.

At the end of the day, when all had returned to the quiet of a winter's late afternoon, the only vestige of the day's throngs was the two lanes of snow on the ice and nary a slip of paper or debris. Just a pleasant memory.





## Paul & Gail live in harmony with the land

by Mary McCoy



The home of Paul and Gail Wyman sits on Popple Dungeon Road in the far northeastern corner of Windham, a town they consider the best in Vermont, based on their visits all over the state. Their roots here are deep, as are their reasons for loving this place.

Paul moved here at age 12 with part of his large family from Connecticut. He helped with the family's subsistence farm, which was located where Tater Hill is now, and began his explorations of Windham. Gail was born and raised in Chester, where she spent much of her youth enthralled with books, a lifelong passion of hers. Each of them married young and divorced. In 1978, they were introduced by mutual friends and were married in 1983 in the Windham Congregational Church.

Paul is not one who can sit still for long, so he prefers physical labor. He has worked for Tater Hill, Timber Ridge, Robert Shannon, and been self-employed, managing throughout his life to find work right here in Windham. When they met, Gail worked as an administrative assistant for the talc company in Chester, serving there for 28 years through the company's various buy-outs and name changes. The couple's shared focus and joy has been the home they've created together.

When they first married, they lived in Chester, then here on White Road. Gail purchased their 10 acres on Popple Dungeon, and in 1990 when the children from their previous marriages were out of school, they started construction of their new home, clearing the site and using the lumber to build their house. Everything else was from recycled materials or was bought at smart bargain prices. They saved to bring electricity in, and they lived in the house as they built it. This was an adventure they enjoyed, for it was much like the resourceful way homes were originally built in Windham.

The Wyman's property has been a home site since the late 1700s. Paul, who loves local history, has looked at the records, and he has searched their property, finding remnants of an old home site. Gail carried the stones from it, and Paul used them for their new foundation. But the Wymans haven't dismissed modern advancements, building a well sealed house with windows for solar heating. Theirs is a beautiful location, although admittedly not the best for a home or garden. Below mountain tops, on a level area with streams and a pond, and with much open space and constant wind, they live in a cold spot. Last summer, the temperature there dropped into the 30s at night. This might help explain why the site has had many owners and has also been abandoned. Besides its beauty, its best feature is that the wind keeps pesky insects away.

When Paul first moved to Windham in 1962, the eastern edge of town was very different. It was, in Paul's words "a dream world." This was before the ski areas, the tourist attractions, and the influx of new homes. Paul recalls only one other residence on the eastern side of town. He could walk all day without seeing anyone, except perhaps one of the French Canadians in the pulp cutting camps who logged the many spruces that were still here then. He rarely saw a car on the road, which typically had grass growing in the center due to lack of use. Large maples lined Hitchcock Hill Road. Says Paul, "It was a nice place then and now. But I'm old fashioned, so I am sentimental about how things were."

(Continued page 7)

#### (Wymans - continued from Page 6)

Life was much different as well. Electricity was sporadic, and water had to be carried. Homes were poorly insulated, and farm lands were depleted. Only in the summer was the mail delivered, and Paul remembers walking everywhere. The bikes kids had then wore out quickly here. Sometimes he would hitch a ride with a neighbor, especially to get to the summer square dances in West Windham at the Newton's, which Paul says was about the only fun activity here at the time.

Pleasant memories have only increased over the years. Gail explains that having lived so long in one area, their memories are all connected to the land. One summer, she went to Burbee Pond almost every night to watch the wildlife there. More often, she and Paul have relished the animals on their own land. They have observed many wild creatures large and small, including a merganser that fell down their chimney and was covered with soot. They bathed it numerous times, dried and released it, and watched it over the summer as it remained near their home. They have also raised many domestic animals, everything from a 300-pound pig to sheep, goats, geese and chickens, all free range. Despite being in a cold spot, they have produced good yields from their vegetable garden, fruit tree orchard, and berry bushes. Two years ago, they grew a 78-pound Blue Hubbard squash without chemical help. Gail says that even major national news is remembered in terms of where she was on the land when she heard it and what the weather was then. In many ways, their memories of nature define who they are.

Yet some know Gail primarily as Windham Elementary's administrative assistant. She's been at the school since 2004, initially as an aide. This happened after the talc company where she worked was sold to a foreign owner. Through a government program that helped those who lost their jobs in this way, Gail was able to go to the Community College of Vermont (CCV), knowing she wanted to work in a school or library. Gail loves watching our kids grow up. "It's like magic to see their progress, how quickly they learn to read, how they change so between kindergarten and sixth grade." Gail also feels our children are better educated now, learning in more ways, including those related to nature. For example, they observe and study how a butterfly begins in a cocoon on a milkweed pod and turns into a beautiful monarch.

For the past two years, Paul has served as the custodian of the Windham School, which he once attended. He reports that our kids are neat, making his job easier. When he first moved to Windham, Paul went to a one-room school on Corn Hill Road. When it burned down, he went to school in the South Windham Church vestry, and the younger children attended where the Griffins live now. Then the new school was built next to the current town office. Originally it was just the two classrooms. There were many more students then, and the school went to eighth grade. (Continued on Page 11)





Page 8 Mar/Apr 2010 Windham News & Notes

#### Winter, So Far ... by Lydia Pope France

We tend to think of winter in this part of the world as lasting for six months, more or less. Generally, we see the first flakes sometime in October, and have measurable snow before the month is out. By November, the stairs up to our kitchen door usually have enough ice on them to force us to come in through the basement for the duration. White Christmases are common, and whether March comes in like a lamb or a lion, we know the month can be beastly throughout. We measure snow not so much in inches as in feet. But this year has been different, hasn't it?

We've had calls and messages from friends and family in England who, in a freakishly cold winter have been buried by storm after storm. England is notoriously poor at dealing with snow removal, even in the tough and sometimes brutal North, where my in-laws live. Stuck in the house, unable to make it up their steep driveway, they ponder, how do you guys do it, year after year? But of course, we are better prepared.

Then there are my friends in DC, a Southern city in so many ways, but this year, they are well ahead of us in terms of total snowfall. The federal government has all but come to a halt as snow day after snow day curtails "business as usual". Neighboring Baltimore has had more than six feet of snow, a record winter for that non Snow Belt city.

Here in Windham, where we revel in the seasons, it has been rather benign, although I must add *so far*, as we all know that March can be our snowiest month. While we have had snow flurries and squalls so many days this winter, it just hasn't amounted to much, again, *so far*!

Let's see just what we've had, so far:

Our first flurries came on Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>, but it wasn't until Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> that we had measurable snow. In 2008, that came a tad earlier on Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>.

To date, we've had 43 inches of snow at our house, in 11 separate days of snowfall. By this time last year, we'd had 99.75 inches on 22 separate snow days ... interestingly, about twice as much snow in twice as many storms.

And yet it seems to be snowing all the time this year, even if it hasn't added up to much – we've had an additional 24 days of flurries, dustings and snow squalls.

News reports today (Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>) noted that there was snow on the ground in all but one US state – Florida – but that most Southern of states also had some before the day was out. Even the hills of Hawaii had some of the white stuff. Not so Vancouver, host of the 2010 Winter Olympics, which was green in a way that they didn't really want as the games began.

But, as much as this has been an easy winter -so far – we do still have March to deal with, a month known for massive snowfalls in the past, as temps warm up and storms are fed with more moisture. Earlier in this decade, we had over 7 feet of heavy, wet snow in just one week of March. But last year, we had nothing more than flurries, with more than a few days hitting 60 degrees or more.

#### **Snowmobile Trails**

#### by Imme Maurath

Snowmobilers have had to be a bit creative around here due to the closing of the power lines. To go north to get to the B&B for gas, one has to go over Magic or know some back routes, which are learned mostly by word of mouth. Our thanks to John and Rudy who groom these feeder trails. They do it for the love of the sport. Since these feeder trails are generally narrower, extra caution needs to be taken, especially since more people are using them.

Ken Grimm, a Windham resident and membership chair of the Chester Club, tells me that they are hoping that VELCO (the company putting in the new power lines) will be finishing off the road that they've put in with a smaller rock gravel on top of what is there now. The way it stands we would need lots of snow to make the power lines rideable again.

Thanks go to all landowners that lend out their land to snowmobilers. If you've never been on one, you are missing out on that train ride through the woods.

## Mission Projects Promoted at UCC Annual Meeting by David Crittenden

High on the agenda of January's annual meeting was a resolution that the church's mission projects remain strong:

Local: being sure that Windham's church members and non-members are cared for and secure.

**Regional**: volunteering at the Rutland Dismas house, a transition residence for recently-released prisoners.

**International**: supporting the efforts of an Iraqi immigrant, Insaf Safou, in her projects in Syria and Iraq.

Nancy Dyke continues to provide strong leadership as pastor. Among those recently elected to assist her are Dawn Bower, Ginny Crittenden, Ernie Friedli, Leila Erhardt, Jerry Dyke, Carolyn Partridge, Dave Crittenden, and Bob Trask. A vertical platform lift between the two levels of the meetinghouse is completed and operational, thanks to the persistence and leadership of Bill Koutrakos.

The Valley Bible Church invites you to check out their updated website at <a href="https://www.valleybibleVT.com">www.valleybibleVT.com</a> for more information and a calendar of upcoming events.



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

MOUNTAIN MARKETPLACE

Jct. Route 100 and Route 11 in Londonderry

## Country Living

Power Equipment Sales and Service

Trimmer - Chainsaw - Mower - Tractor - Snowmobiles

Authorized Dealer for Poulan - Jansered - Oregon - Maruyama

Roy "Coby" Coburn

424 Abbott Rd., Windham, VT - 802-874-4298

#### Local volunteers launch town website Heath Boyer

A volunteer group is in the late stages of developing a website for the Town of Windham. Frank Seawright provided the technical and design work for a site after reading about the meeting last spring led by Pete McDonald on what we can do to strengthen our utilization of resources within the community. The editorial team of the *Windham News and Notes* has been enthusiastic about the website and active in its development. The *WN&N* will begin to offer links in some articles pointing to more information, pictures or related articles in other places. A limited archive of the publication itself will also be available. Some parts of Windham are still without access to high-speed internet connection, and we have designed the site with slower speeds in mind. However, since Windham is so beautiful and rich in history, it's difficult to avoid including digital photographs, and the best solution is to continue pressing for high speed service for everyone. For now, if it proves to be too slow, we may be able to create a parallel site with minimal graphics.

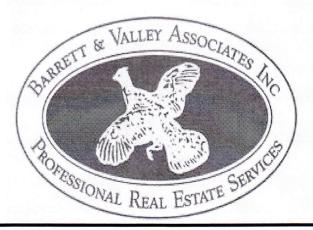
The cost of the site will be borne for the first two years by some of the dedicated website team members, so the town is not required to use tax dollars to pay for space on hosting computers.

There are three major goals for the website. The first is to make information regarding town calendars and events easier to give and get. The calendar of meetings for the Select Board, Planning Commission, School Board and other similar groups will be posted. Eventually the minutes of the meetings will be posted as well. The school calendars for both Windham Elementary and Leland and Gray will enable residents to stay abreast of special events and programs as well as school news. The churches will be able to post their calendars on the site or offer a link to their own sites. The regular calendar of events at the Meeting House will also be posted.

The second goal is to enable the Town Office to offer some services to residents to make the handling of town business easier. Forms for various permits, applications and licenses which currently can be obtained only by mail or a visit to the office will be available for download. The paperwork will still have to be submitted via snail mail for now; but at least part of the process will be easier, especially for non-resident property owners. The town annual report and town meeting articles and proceedings will be posted as well.

The third goal is to increase our ability to discover and share among our property owners and residents the rich resources available within Windham and abutting towns. The Windham Resources Directory has been fully cross-referenced and will be expanded under the stewardship of Mary McCoy.

(Continued Page 11)



Business Opportunity! A spacious ranch with a new kitchen, large living room with fireplace, 3 bdrms and 2 baths. A 2 stall horse barn is currently used for retail, a 2 car garage, an in-ground pool and a beautifully designed patio are fine features! Apple trees grace the grounds and a stream on the rear border.

#### (Wymans - continued from Page 7)

Since he was a boy and started exploring Windham, Paul has found many old house sites, cellars and wells, including a 32-foot well on his own property, and he has thought a lot about the people who settled here over the years. "Windham has always attracted hardy people who chose to come to our hill town rather than live in a valley town where things are easier. Settlers here wanted to be separate, not mainstream. They were a different breed, and the same is still true. This is not a convenient town. We have our own world here and our own ways." He says that even after more people moved here bringing many more homes and much more traffic, it has not been a bad thing, because it has meant jobs. The area is less depressed, and the new people have maintained the traditional values.

Key to this is the town's unchanged sense of community, the awareness that we all must pull together. Gail gives the examples of the \$400 recently raised from the town's people at the school's pasta dinner and the skating rink recently created behind the school. Richard Pare plowed an area, Asa Goodband laid down plastic, and the Fire Company flooded it. Paul says the school and church have always been the centers of community activity, as is town meeting where everyone pitches in to share a wonderful meal. The population is small enough still that people know each other or at least each other's names. He says people are here because they want to be here, which helps connect us. "We share a sense of history and a feeling of independence," Paul says. "We're unspoiled here." Just like the land.

When the Wymans settled on their property, they found rhubarb plants and lilac bushes that had clearly been there for a long time. They have nurtured these back to good health. Paul says, "We're just living off the land. We want what was here when we came to be here when we leave." On the back of their cars are bumper stickers that say, "If you're good to the land, the land will be good to you." Based on this adage, one can confidently conclude that the land must be very, very good to Paul and Gail.

## (Website - continued from Page 10)

In addition to the listing of goods and services available from local entrepreneurs, musicians, artists and crafts-people, the website team hopes to develop an area where residents can offer such things as equipment or particular skills and even surplus items to others in town on a "helping hand" basis. One of the great things about living in a small town is the pervasive spirit of willingness to help one another when a need is known or a capability available. The website team hopes to help us all make better use of our local resources.

The website is now open on a limited basis and can be visited at *townofwindhamvermont.org*. The name of the site is TOW Lines. (Town Of Windham. . . get it?) The *News and Notes* will continue to be the flagship publication of Windham, but we hope that photos and additional information amplifying *WN&N* articles will be features of TOW Lines. Although TOW Lines is not intended as a "blogging" site, we do invite articles, especially those with photographs or ones enriched by use of hyperlinks to other information sources. Email <a href="mailto:townofwindhamvermont.org">townofwindhamvermont.org</a> if you wish to submit an article; we'll arrange for you to submit it directly, or if you are not comfortable doing that just email it to Tow Lines.

No log-in or password will be required except for submitting an article and posting something in the Resourced Directory. Over time it will become clearer how much activity the site generates and what changes are needed in the interactive parts of the system.

At town meeting, there will be a brief introduction of the site and its capabilities followed by an opportunity for a few questions and answers, as well as your suggestions for site content and presentation. If you'd like, you can also volunteer at that time to join the Tow Lines team.



Windham News & Notes 5976 Windham Hill Road Windham VT 05359

Windham News & Notes welcomes submissions ... Send articles up to 300 words to the Editor at the above address or preferably by email to windhamnews@ hotmail.com Non-Profit Organization U. S. Postage PAID Jamaica, VT 05343 Permit #1

Windham Town Office

# 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; 11:00 AM Worship, followed by pot luck lunch at 12:15 and 1:00 PM Afternoon Bible Study; Thursday - 7:00 PM Prayer Meeting and Bible Study.

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.

Wednesdays, 9:00 to 12:00 - Town Listers' office hours at the Town Office

Mondays, Mar. 1 and 15 and Apr. 5 and 19 - Select Board meets at 6:30 PM at the Town Office. Public Invited.

Thursdays, Mar. 11 and Apr. 8 - Planning Board meets at 7:00 PM at the Town Office. Public Invited

Wednesday, Mar. 31 and Apr. 28 - Windham Community Organization Meeting at 7:00 PM at the Meeting House Tuesday, Thursday and Friday - Town Office Hours - 10:00 to 3:00 PM

Tuesday, Mar. 2 - Annual Town Meeting at Town Meeting House at 10:00 AM.

Pot luck at noon—\$1.00 donation for paper goods.