



Windham News & Notes

Volume VIII, Issue VI

May/June 2011

The 2011 Town Meeting Was Short but Productive *by Edith Serke*

The Brattleboro Reformer headline was "Windham meets in record time". In fact, the 2011 Town Meeting was adjourned by noon. Most likely, because of the new format of the Town Report, there were very few questions about the financial reports, and there were no contested town officers.

Michael McLaine was again elected to be moderator. The report of the Auditors was accepted, followed by the election of officers to the various Town positions:

Margaret Dwyer was reelected to the Board of Selectmen for a three year term.

John Lingley was reelected for three years as a Lister.

Imme Maurath was reelected as an Auditor for three years.

Ernest Friedli was reelected as Tax Collector for one year.

James A. Scott was reelected as Grand Juror for another year.

Michael Pelton was elected as Town Agent for one year, replacing James Scott.

Christopher Fitch was reelected to a five year term on the Windham Center Cemetery Commission.

Peter Van Alstyne was elected to a five year term on the North Windham Cemetery Commission, replacing Marcia Clinton.

John Hoover was elected to a five year term as a Library Trustee, replacing Maureen Fitch.

Diane Newton was elected to a three year term as Windham's representative to Leland and Grey Union High School, replacing Howard Ires who has moved out of town. Carolyn Partridge will serve another three year term on the Windham School Board of Directors.

As usual, a scrumptious pot luck lunch was enjoyed by the participants of the Town Meeting. Usually, our two representatives to Montpelier, Carolyn Partridge and Michael Obuchowski's successor, Matthew Trieber, would update the voters of Windham on what is happening in Montpelier. But because it was such a short meeting, they arrived after most of us left the Meeting House. (We did save them some lunch!)



DON'T FORGET— Regardless of the weather, Green-Up Day will be on May 7th in Windham. Everyone from the very young to the mature is invited to meet at the Windham Town Office at 9 a.m. to pick up collection bags and decide on assignments around the town. The bags also will be at the Town Office the week before for those who wish to do some trash picking early, at their convenience.

At noon there will be a Worker Appreciation Lunch at the Windham Meeting House for all, compliments of the Windham Community Organization. Hot dogs, chips, soda and cookies will be served. After the lunch the "Bragging Rights" prizes will be awarded. Some of the categories are for: the weirdest item, number of bags collected, longest distance covered, etc. We who live here think Windham is a special place,

so Green-Up Day is a chance to show our pride in our town and to all pitch in and clean up the roadsides.

Select Board News

We thank everyone who participated in Town Meeting in March. The meeting was well attended and was run efficiently by our moderator Michael McLaine. In addition, reduction in the number of Articles allowed us to finish business by late morning and turn our attention to the delicious lunch, which seems to get better every year.

As we get back to regular business, the roads are demanding our attention. Mud season is bringing its annual spring challenge and after the ice storm last month there is extensive clean up needed of downed trees and broken branches.

We recently met with John Alexander and Joe Russo of V-Trans to review our annual Roads Budget. The State will continue its allocation of approximately \$70,000 for 2011. Two years ago we made use of a rotating Bituminous Grant to resurface sections of Windham Hill Road, and White Road. That grant will not be available to us again for another five years. It is unrealistic to think we can wait that long to attend to some of the more serious deterioration on our blacktopped roads. We are developing a remediation plan that we can afford and that will make the best use of some of our current reserve account.

Our 17 year old loader/backhoe gets a great deal of heavy use and is in need of replacement. We are currently negotiating with Milton CAT of Richmond, VT to take advantage of a State sponsored equipment purchase plan that will enable us to make the purchase while taking advantage of several cost breaks designated to assist municipalities.

The state will paint the safety lines on our roads only every other year. We will be painted during the even years. Since we are in the second year of the current painting job we remind you to drive with extra caution and full attention.

Remember your dogs need to be licensed and owners must abide by the town Ordinance regarding Dogs.

It has been a long winter, and most of us are very relieved to see warmer temperatures and melting snow mounds. Enjoy the longer days and stow away that winter gear. It is time for garden hoes, rakes and oil in the lawn mowers. If you are burning brush don't forget to call Rick Weitzel at 874-4104 for a burn permit.

Your Select Board: Mary Boyer, Walt Woodruff and Margaret Dwyer

New Zoning Regs bring changes for Windham *by Michael Simonds, Zoning Officer*

Windham's new Zoning Regulations, passed on December 10, 2010, contain updated and simplified language, and they provide some important changes to the previous regulations.

Inundation Hazard Area Regulations were added to identify and regulate buildings in areas subject to possible flooding. Despite living at a high elevation, some Windham residents have experienced costly floods in the past decades. The addition of these regulations also makes us eligible to buy flood insurance.

As before, the regulations require home owners to get permits for structural alterations in size, height, or use of homes, as well as for construction (creation or enlargement) of steps, decks, porches, pools, fences, or sheds. Permits are now required for home renovations whether or not they change the footprint (basic size and shape) of the house. Fees for permits are used to support the Planning Board, the Zoning Board of Adjustment, and the Zoning Officer. If you are unclear whether or not you need a zoning permit, contact the Zoning Officer. (Currently that is me, Michael Simonds. My home phone is 874-4790, or you can contact me at the Town Office on Wednesday mornings at 874-4211.)

Set-back requirements from the road have been simplified. Set-back has previously been measured from the road right of way. However, it typically was unclear where the right of way was. Set-back will now be measured from the middle of the road. This will give property owners more accurate information when they plan construction.

The Zoning Officer in Windham has traditionally been a member of the Planning Board. In a small town, this made good sense for coordinating the writing and administering the Zoning Regulations. However, it can lead to a conflict of interest when parties seek a variance from the Zoning Board of Adjustment, comprised in part of the Planning Board. As the current Zoning Officer, I resigned from the Planning Board to resolve this potential conflict.

It has been my pleasure to serve on the Planning Board for the past 15 years with a variety of conscientious and committed citizens of Windham who always have striven to reach consensus and who, when they did disagree, disagreed without being disagreeable.

Select board Appoints Officials to Conduct Town Business

by Edith Serke

Meeting on March 14, two weeks after the annual Town Meeting, the Board of Selectmen appointed the following persons:

Michael Bober to the Town Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Adjustments for a four-year term to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Michael Simonds. They also reappointed Dawn Bower to another four year term.

Heath Boyer and Carolyn Partridge were reappointed for another year to the Windham Regional Commission.

Steven Amsden, Walter Woodruff, Richard Pare, and Lawrence Worden were reappointed as Fence Viewers for one year.

Vincent Di Bernardo, DVM, will serve another year as Pound Keeper.

Billie Jean VanAlstyne was reappointed as Dog Counter for one year.

To serve a one year term as Surveyors of Wood, Lumber, and Shingles, will be Lawrence Worden and Robert Bingham.

Ernest Friedli will be Weigher of Coal for one more year.

Walter Woodruff will be Tree Warden for one more year.

Virginia Crittenden will be Town Service officer for another one year term.

Regina Noel will continue to represent the Town of Windham on the Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont for one year.

Two new members of the Citizens Advisory Committee/Housing rehabilitation Development Grant Program will be Jerry Dyke and Rudolph "Buddy" Behrendt.

Virginia Crittenden and Diane Newton were reappointed for four years to the Conservation Commission.

Peter McDonald will be the town's Energy Coordinator for another year.

The State of Vermont Department of Health reappointed Marcia Clinton as Town Health Officer for three years.

Mary Boyer was reelected as chairman of the Board of Selectmen for one year.

WCO BBQ AND CRAFT RAFFLE

Pit Master Walter has picked the date for this years chicken BBQ hosted by the WCO. We hope July 16th works for Windham and its neighbors. We still have room for more crafters to donate to our raffle. Please contact Imme @ 875-1709.



WINDHAM

NEWS & NOTES

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Send donations to address below

THE WN&N TEAM

Dawn Bower

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Mary McCoy

Gina Noel

Edith Serke

Acknowledgements

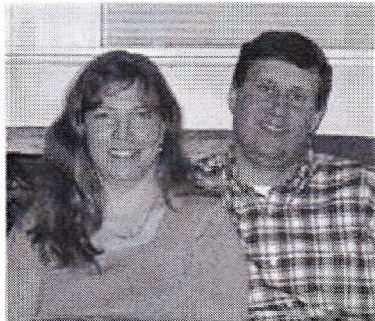
Thanks to all who provided articles. Their names are noted with their submissions

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

Next deadline

June 17, 2011

Griffins give new life to Windham's Baptist history *by Mary McCoy*



Mark Griffin is an honest man who readily admits that he prefers warmer, flatter land. Having grown up on a dairy farm in New Jersey not far from Philadelphia, he misses the big skies there, the longer growing season, and the nearby urban options. He says he's thinking of getting a license plate that says, "FLATLANDER," but he's kidding about that. Mark has a great sense of humor, which sometimes gets him into trouble when people don't know him or think men of the cloth are always serious. He likes to laugh at himself most of all. Throughout my interview with him and his wife Kathy, I couldn't stop smiling. Kathy is quieter. While Mark speaks at a fast clip, Kathy speaks slowly and softly. She's a native Vermonter who is delighted to be living near her home town of Vernon, where her parents still reside. She also loves her South

Windham neighbors, the view of Perry's Field from her home, and the historic old cemetery down the road.

Kathy and Mark met while students at Bob Jones University, a Christian college with a "no touch" policy. The two were assigned to sit beside each other in chapel. Although attracted, they managed, in Mark's words, "to touch without touching," and they are glad they focused on friendship before becoming otherwise involved. Mark earned both a BA and a Masters in Bible Studies, while Kathy received a BA in Camp Ministry and a Masters of Education in History. Mark shares her love for history and wants to write a book about the history of religion in Vermont.

In its early years, Vermont was an enclave for Baptists. In 1807, the Baptists in Windham founded a church, meeting in people's homes until 1825 when they built the church building and parsonage in South Windham on Windham Hill Road. Over the years, the congregation grew and diminished, just as Windham did. For years the church building sat empty. The parsonage was sold, and in the mid 1900s, as the home of postal and town clerk Harry Hill, the former parsonage served as both Windham's post office and town office. In 1985, the Valley Bible Church members converted the former South Windham School, across the road from the church building, into a new parsonage to house visiting preachers, and by the mid 1990s, the Valley Bible Church began using the church building routinely again. Recently, members of the South Windham Baptist Church and Valley Bible Church united under the latter name.

Mark and Kathy were asked in 1996, to come to Windham to serve the Valley Bible Church, but Mark was assistant pastor of his home church in New Jersey and needed to stay there. When the request was later repeated, Mark says he knew it was what the Lord wanted him to do. When the Griffins moved here in February 2000, the congregation had 17 attendees and both the church building and the parsonage were in need of repair. Eleven years later, both buildings are in good shape, and some 50-70 people from Windham and surrounding towns attend the church.

Mark isn't involved in procuring the church's operating funds and knows only that "the Lord provides." Donations are not requested during services, and no fund-raisers are held. There is simply a collection box in the back of the sanctuary. Mark does know how the renovations were financed. In the 1960s, the church trustees made investments, and over the years, they never touched the principal. Their frugality paid off to the tune of \$350,000, and the current trustees used what was needed for the renovations.

The building had no indoor bathroom and no running water. The paint was peeling off some of the walls. The only insulation was copies of the *Brattleboro Reformer* from the 1890s. "We could have bulldozed the building and started over," Mark says, "but we wanted to preserve its history." Kathy's father, who specializes in restoring old buildings, provided his expertise. The many tradesmen in the congregation completed 90 percent of the work. Despite an initial divergence of opinions, Mark says, "The Lord brought us together in a spirit of unity."

The work, however, was not without its obstacles. State regulations concerning potable and waste water prohibited plumbing, due to the church's location near a stream, a pond, and a road. The congregation prayed for a change in the determination, and Mark went to the state's environment office to appeal for help. After a two-hour meeting, he left with a plan to accomplish the church's goals, hand-drawn by the department head. **(Continued next page)**

Griffins (Continued)

Repairs were also needed at the parsonage. There was no insulation there either, reminding Mark and Kathy of how people managed in the past to live without what we now consider essentials. When they removed wall paneling from the back room, they found residue from blackboards with chalk-drawn geometric shapes. Other walls bore graffiti from long ago. Most recently, the church renovated the kitchen, telling Kathy she deserved a new dishwasher and kitchen for all she gives to the church.

Kathy's primary concern is the church's home-school co-op. Currently, it serves 17 church children from nursery age to age 14, including Mark and Kathy's sons, Jon and Ben. In addition to individualized studies with their parent-teachers, the older children have classes together, and the younger ones come together for lessons once a week. Kathy puts her formal education to use, including her training in counseling. In the summer, she heads the Vacation Bible School, using her degree in camp ministry.

Mark's many duties include teaching lessons in the home-school co-op. He also takes co-op students and church members to visit assisted-living residents in Vernon. He makes home visits to church members, and he provides Bible lessons and visits for elderly residents of Valley Cares. Thursday is usually his day to prepare his sermon, and that night he conducts a prayer meeting. Church functions often take place on Saturday, and on Sunday from 9:00 to 2:00, there is a schedule of Sunday school, church service, shared lunch, and Bible study. Monday and Tuesday are his weekend, when he finds time to rest, read, and study.

From spring until fall, Mark and Kathy are also busy with their mums. Not long after moving here, Mark began eyeing the unused field next to the parsonage. He rented the plot from the Corriveau's, and he chose mums to plant and sell for extra income. Kathy joined him in the effort, both of them squeezing time to tend the crop. The first year, 2001, they grew 100 plants and sold out in a week. Each year they have increased production. This year, they plan to grow 3,000 mums and 1,000 other flowers. About a quarter of their sales are to landscapers, but most sales are to individuals who drive by, see the display, choose the plants they want, and put their payment in the tin box left outside. "We don't even have to be here to make the sales," Mark says, "but I like it when I'm here and get to talk with people." He smiles, "Then I'm not a pastor. I'm the guy in the field."

Jon and Ben also help tend the plants. "I worked the farm with my father," Mark says, "and I want that for my kids." It's a way he can get to know his children better, so he can help them use their strengths wisely. Mark says that home-schooling also gives him and Kathy opportunities to influence the boys.

"Parents give their children much out of love that the children don't realize until they grow up," Mark says. "It's the same with the Lord. We often don't see what he lovingly gives us until years later." He and Kathy both see how experiences in their lives have taught them what they needed to know later.

Although Mark misses New Jersey, he says, "I love Windham, because this is where the Lord wants me to be." Perhaps it is selfish to say, but I hope that whatever they are learning here won't result in their going elsewhere too soon. With their kind and generous hearts, their many skills, and their hard work, they give our town a great deal.

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WINDHAM SUMMER DAY CAMP 2011

Cindy Kehoe will be back again this summer to lead a fun time of activities, crafts, games, projects, hikes and swimming! Boys and girls, ages 4 through those who are graduating from 6th grade are invited to attend.

Two weeks have been reserved for you: July 18 - 22 and July 25 - 29. Each day, Monday through Thursday, the hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and 9:00 through 12:00 on Fridays at the Windham Meeting House.

The registration fees per week are as follows:

\$20 for the first child in a family

\$10 for the second child in the same family

\$ 5 for the third child in the same family.

Registration forms will be available on the first day of Summer Camp.

Fees are payable on Monday of each week by all families unless arrangements are made IN ADVANCE because of financial hardship. A limited number of scholarships are available through the Windham Community Organization for those experiencing financial difficulties. The following people can be contacted in advance to make those arrangements:

Nancy Dyke 874-4428

Claire Trask 824-6304

See you in July!



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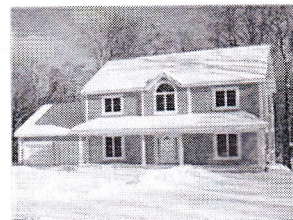
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Puppy Love *by Imme Maurath*

Nancy Dyke is a frequent visitor of Diana Bauts (left picture with me) at the Pine Heights Nursing home in Brattleboro. About 9 weeks ago my dachshund, Heidi, had 5 healthy puppies. As you might know Diana has always been an avid animal lover and when Nancy told her that someone in town had had puppies, she just lit up. So Nancy wondered if we could surprise her with a visit. Well! We actually toured all 3 floors and had some special requests for a visit. On the way home Nancy and I decided we were as happy for going as they were for us coming.



Windham Firehouse BBQ and Auction coming up!

Start saving your items to be donated for the auction and gearing up your appetites for the BBQ. We'll have more information to follow but the volunteers at the Firehouse have selected Saturday, August 13, 2011 for this popular and successful event. Don't miss out, it's held rain or shine.

Please note if you have moved or will be moving: Windham News and Notes will not be forwarded because of our Non-Profit Organization Postage status. This certainly helps us to maintain lower costs but does require you to notify us when you have changed your address. Our contact information is on the back page.

This is also our issue that goes to all Windham property owners. It is a great time to make sure that you will continue to receive the Windham News and Notes by sending in your subscription form for the upcoming year - starting in July, 2011. Subscriptions should be received by mid-June to continue with your July/August issue.

As always, we appreciate your comments, support and contributions as we publish this year's issues. We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.



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NEXTEL



Vermont's motto continues to inspire *by Mary McCoy*



My husband, Michael Simonds, and I represented the Town of Windham at Local Government Day in the Legislature, held in Montpelier. This educational and networking event mixed Vermont history with current legislative activity.

We toured our state capital building, the oldest one in the nation still in use, which features many of its original furnishings. Beautifully displayed on a wall in both the Senate and House chambers is Vermont's state seal. Of particular interest for me was Vermont's motto, "Freedom and Unity," which appears on the seal. First adopted in 1788 when we were still a republic, it remains true to Vermont's culture 223 years later.

Our motto demonstrates the importance of balancing two seemingly opposite ideals, the independence of the individual and the health of the community. Vermont writer Dorothy Canfield (1879-1958) put it this way, "The Vermont idea grapples energetically with the basic problem of human conduct – how to reconcile the needs of the group, of which every man or woman is a member, with the craving for individual freedom to be what he really is." More recently, I read somewhere that Vermonters have a combined libertarian and socialist outlook. I prefer to say simply that Vermonters live and let live. We do our own thing and let our neighbors do theirs.

Evidence of this was on display in Montpelier. Michael and I attended a roundtable discussion on Vermont's intention to be the first state with a single-payer health care system. This would allow every individual to receive the coverage he or she needs while creating one system for all that dramatically cuts administrative costs. Many details have yet to be determined for this balancing act, but most likely funds would come from employer and employee payroll payments like those for Social Security and Medicare. If any state can pull this off, Vermont has the culture and tradition to do so.

We also attended a session of the Agriculture Committee, chaired by our neighbor, Carolyn Partridge. We heard the testimony of a cattle farmer about the challenges and opportunities he faces. While he wants the freedom to conduct his business as he sees fit, he sought state oversight and assistance to expand the number of humane slaughter facilities. He also suggested that Vermont meat farmers could increase their sales with state help to promote Vermont meat, indicating that Vermont meat could be as prized as Vermont maple syrup. The Agriculture Committee is considering action that would help individual farmers by supporting Vermont agriculture as a whole.

Governor Shumlin spoke to all who attended the day's activities, saying his focus is to create more jobs in Vermont by attracting new business here. This would be accomplished by three changes – a single payer health care system in which employers do not have the burden of providing insurance; high speed internet access for all, including individuals who run businesses in remote locations; and ongoing support for education, including training in technology for the future. He called upon us all to work together in order for each of us to succeed as an individual. Governor Shumlin sees Vermont as "the envy of the rest of the country."

That may be more than cheerleading. A commentary in the *Rutland Herald*, based on recent statistical studies, listed several ways in which Vermonters get their money's worth through our combined payment of state taxes. We are considered the smartest state in the nation with the second highest rate of public school graduation. We have the highest rating in overall child health status, and the second highest quality of life for all ages. We are considered the safest state, with the lowest rating of violent crime. While none of us loves paying taxes, the balancing act our dollars support has produced some amazing results.

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



7393 WINDHAM HILL ROAD FIRE

by Leila Erhardt

A HOME OWNED BY BLAND & TRAVERS WAS COMPLETELY DEMOLISHED BY FIRE AT 4:00 A.M., APRIL 1ST.

THE HOUSE WAS NOT OCCUPIED AT THE TIME. THE FIRE IS CURRENTLY UNDER INVESTIGATION.

Vermont Spring Bird Arrival Schedule

Taken from the Vermont Daily Field Card, published by the Vermont Institute of Natural Science (1994)* **MAY



Week 1 - Lesser Yellowlegs, Common Tern, Black Tern, Whip-poor-will, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Least Flycatcher, Great-crested Flycatcher, Veery, Wood Thrush, Gray Catbird, Yellow-throated Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Nashville Warbler, Northern Parula, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, American Redstart, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, White-crowned Sparrow, Bobolink.

Week 2 - Snowy Egret, Semi-palmated Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Swainson's Thrush, Philadelphia Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue-winged Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Canada Warbler, Indigo Bunting, Grasshopper Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Orchard Oriole.

Week 3 - Least Bittern, Black-bellied Plover, Semi-palmated Plover, Short-billed Dowitcher, Bonaparte's Gull, Black-billed Cuckoo, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Common Nighthawk, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Eastern Wood-Pee-wee, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Alder Flycatcher, Willow Flycatcher, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Cedar Waxwing, Blackpoll Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat.

Week 4 - Ruddy Turnstone, Sedge Wren, Common Yellowthroat.



Warning

Please make sure that your bird feeders are down. The bears are hungry too! They remember feeders and come looking for food there each year. Fines are established for anyone whose feeder causes a bear to be killed because they've become a nuisance or danger. Other than personal enjoyment, there is no reason to hang a feeder. There is enough natural food for our feathered friends in the spring and summer.



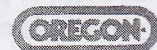
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The 4th Annual Grace Cottage Hospital Community Health Fair will be held on Saturday, May 14, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. inside Leland and Gray High School's gym and on the Townshend Common.

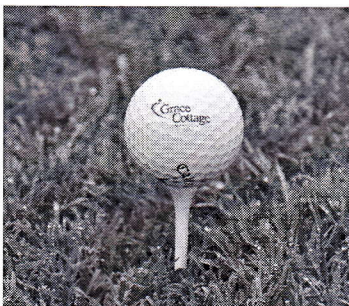
Over 40 health, safety, and social service agencies will be on hand to tell about their services. The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; call 1-800-RED-CROSS for an appointment). The Rutland Regional Medical Center's Marrow Donor Program will sign up potential donors.

Door prizes include a child's car seat, bike helmets, fishing rods, a Brattleboro Co-op gift certificate, a Diane Bell painting, a one-hour massage from Sojourn's Community Health Clinic, a craniosacral therapy session (come find out what it is!) from HeartSong Health in Community, and more!

The NewBrook Fire Department Auxiliary will sell a healthy lunch, and Leland & Gray's Project Graduation will sell refreshing smoothies, so bring your appetite as well.

Do wonders for your health, learn to live more safely, and have lots of fun besides! The event is open to everyone, but please leave pets at home. Come join the fun on May 14. Held rain or shine. For more information, call 365-9109 or visit www.gracecottage.org/events or 802-365-9109.

Grace Cottage Golf Benefit at Tater Hill on June 12



Come enjoy an afternoon of golf on Sunday, June 12, at the beautiful Tater Hill Golf Club in Windham. Now in its second year, the Grace Cottage Hospital "Tee Up for Health" golf benefit has proven to be one of the best new golf tournaments in southern Vermont. All proceeds benefit Grace Cottage Hospital in Townshend.

The tournament starts with a shotgun start at noon. Players could win prizes for hole-in-one, closest to pin, and more. The player fee is \$125, and this includes a steak dinner (or alternative) to be held in the clubhouse following the tournament.

Before the event, visit the online auction, available through the Grace Cottage Hospital website. The auction is open to all, whether they play in the golf tournament or not. Auction items include a one-week stay at Vieques, a two-night stay in New York City, Boston Red Sox tickets, a day cruise on the Mystic Whaler, a handmade quilt, and the opportunity to be named in one of Archer Mayer's crime novels. Visit the "Auction Action" link at www.gracecottage.org.

For more information about sponsoring this event or playing on a team, call Jim Heal, 365-3624 or visit www.gracecottage.org/events (you can register online).

Tater Hill Golf Club is located at 6802 Popple Dungeon Road in Windham. Visit www.taterhillgolfclub.com for more information about the course.

WCO Annual Report

By Edith Serke

The Windham Community Organization (WCO) held its annual meeting on March 30. As a small not-for-profit organization, we had a busy and productive year. Our main purpose is to "assist Windham area residents in times of need, by providing financial and other assistance", which we did, either by direct assistance to individuals or through other organizations, e.g. food banks, Neighborhood Connections, or Grace Cottage Hospital, in the total amount of \$2,368. Our main source of income is through the Windham News and Notes subscriptions, donations, and advertisements, in the amount of \$2,738, less expenses for printing, postage, and computer supplies. The News and Notes is produced entirely by volunteers, with Gina Noel at the helm. Other WCO sources of income are the annual chicken BBQ (net \$526), the annual Harvest Supper (net \$591), and two raffles, \$353.

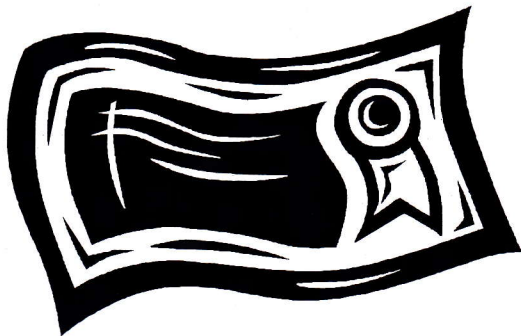
Our second purpose is "to provide the community with information and education about resources and town activities and government that foster active involvement in the affairs of the community." This is accomplished mostly through the Windham News and Notes, now ending its 8th year. As you have noticed, enclosed with this issue is a request for subscription renewals, and, hopefully, your very generous donations. Your comments are always most welcome.

WCO's third purpose is "to conduct community events that promote connections among Windham residents and a spirit of community." This is done through the Annual Chicken BBQ and Harvest Supper, Annual Green Up Day, as well as smaller events.

Membership is open to all adults in Windham; there are no membership dues, only a willingness to participate in the life of the community. We are actively looking to increase membership.

The membership also conducted election of officers at the annual meeting. Edith Serke was re-elected as President, Donna Robinson was elected Vice President. Cindy Kehoe was re-elected as Treasurer, and Dawn Bower was re-elected as Secretary, all for one year.

Ernie and Sheila Friedli to be Recognized



The Windham Community Organization will recognize Ernie and Sheila Friedli as ***Outstanding Citizens of the Year***, for their many years of elected, appointed, and volunteer service to the town and its citizens. A pot luck supper is planned for Wednesday, May 25, at 6:00 p.m. at the Meeting House. Everyone is invited.

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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, May 2 and 16 and June 6, 20 - **Select Board** meets at 6:30 PM at the Town Office. Public Invited.

Thursdays, May 12 - **Planning Board** meets at 7:00 PM at the Town Office. Public Invited

Wednesday, May 25 and June 29 - **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

Save the Date!

Green Up Day—Sat. May 7, 2011

WCO Chicken BBQ & Handmade Craft Raffle—Sat. July 16, 2011

Firehouse Auction and BBQ—Sat. August 13, 2011