



Windham News & Notes

Volume IX, Issue I I

Sept/Oct 2011

Windham Fares Better Than Most Of the State During Irene

The Select Board is very grateful that Irene did not hit Windham as hard as the towns around us. Although almost all of our roads sustained some damage from washouts, the road crew was able to make every road at least passable to emergency vehicles by Wednesday.

Sunday, as Irene unleashed her fury, Rodney let the Board know that our culverts were being overwhelmed and we would have considerable road damage in a variety of locations. He asked to call a contractor so that Windham would be on the top of their list. We thought it a good idea. Consequently, the Guerney Brothers were here first thing on Monday morning to start with Harrington Road, which was totally destroyed in front of the Meeting House. They spent the week here with large equipment getting us back to the point where Rodney and Bill could handle what remains to be replaced or repaired. See pictures on Pages 7 and 11.

The current rain is causing new road closings as our bridge abutments are being eroded.

Besides unexpected expenses, we are left with new awareness of the importance to a town of having an adequate and active Emergency Plan. Now that most of the town has high speed internet access, we can for the first time make full use of a directory of e-mail addresses to advise residents of developments such as road conditions, the availability of assistance and the status of the emergency shelter. If anyone is interested in working on a committee to help with this vital issue, please call one of us or Carol at the office. In the meantime please use the following e-mail address to provide us with your e-mail. The Town of Windham and the Windham News and Notes will use it only for official business. townofwindhamvermont.org

As the paper work is being compiled for FEMA assistance we it is helpful to have documentation of road damage around town. In particular, if anyone has pictures of Popple Dungeon, Wheeler, Toad and White Road washouts please make copies available to us.

Thanks to our road crew, Rodney and Bill, who have responded to this emergency so promptly and so well.

We look forward to the time when Irene is just a memory.

The Select Board

Reminder: Real Estate Taxes due October 31, 2011

Help Still Needed

Donations:

Food for People and Pets to Londonderry Congregational Church, Main St., Londonderry

Clothing to Neighborhood Connection in Mountain Market Place 9:30 to 2:30

Household Items, Toiletries, Clothing to Stratton Sports, Main St., Stratton Resorts, 9-5

Cash Donations (write "Irene" on check)

1) Neighborhood Connections:

PO Box 207, Mountain Marketplace, Londonderry, 05148: neighborhoodconnectionsvt.org

2) Stratton Foundation, PO Box 523, Stratton Mountain, VT 05155, 802-297-2096

Needed:

Neighborhood Connections, 824-4343. Call and leave message to be put on list for any of the following: (or email Nicole at Nicole@neighborhoodconnectionsvt.org.)

Volunteers to make sandwiches each day for Emergency Personnel and clean-up crews.

Volunteers to distribute clothing in storefront at Mountain Marketplace. Any hours between 9:30 and 2:30. They would like to open the store one or two evenings but need volunteers for evening hours.

Homeowners to provide housing: two weeks to two months of temporary housing for flood victims and emergency workers from out of town.

RESOURCES

Neighborhood Connections, 824-4343 will provide:

Have volunteers standing by waiting to help in any way that they can! Please call if you or someone you know is in need.

Shelters are available. Please call for the nearest one with available space.

Emergency Flood Assistance Program for Businesses (and home businesses): This program, administered by VEDA, is up and running. It will provide \$10 million of very low interest, no first year payment loans to business which suffered losses due to flooding. Interested businesses should go to VEDA's website (<http://www.veda.org/>) for more information.

Storm Recovery Resources: Vermont Emergency Management Website: This site includes the latest updates and helpful information: <http://vem.vermont.gov>.

Returning to Your Home: For information on cleaning up your home after flooding, visit: <http://vem.vermont.gov/home/return> .

YouTube videos of the storm: www.youtube.com/Irene/(town you wish to see)

The State Health Department has issued warnings that if your private drinking water well was covered with flood water or located near a flooded area assume that it is contaminated. Take all precautions and get it tested. Tests are available from Marcia Clinton, Town Health Officer, 875-3531.

Anyone with property damage needs to register with **FEMA.gov** for possible financial assistance.

The Select Board set tax rates for 2011. The new rates are as follows:

- Municipal tax rate: 0.5833 (down 6.9% from last year's rate of 0.6266)
- School Non-residential tax rate: 1.6057 (up 6.7% from last year's rate of 1.5032)
+Municipal rate 0.5833 = 2.1890
- School Residential tax rate: 1.5852 (up 10.9% from last year's rate of 1.4291) Municipal Rate 0.5833 = 2.1685

As you can see, even though we were able to decrease our municipal rate by careful budgeting, our taxes still increased because of Vermont's statewide school funding policies.

Windham News and Notes Position Available

Editor/Manager Job Description—Volunteer, Good Experience, Community Service

Oversight and management of newsletter production, team assignments, publishing contacts and general communications with subscribers and advertisers.

Specific tasks may be shared with other team members including but not limited to:

Weekly - review and respond to all emails.

Monthly – report out to the Windham Community Organization.

Every other month:

Organize initial planning meeting to arrange for articles and discuss submissions with the editorial team – 2 to 3 weeks in advance of deadline.

- Send out reminder notices to all usual article contributors.
- Send assignment and article list to team members and article authors. Follow up and coordinate where needed.
- Format each issue for articles and advertising placement.
- Meet with team members to discuss placement of articles.
- Correct articles as edited. Finalize newsletter format.

Send to printer with due date, copy number and instruction. Coordinate with label/ mailing team.

Annually – Prepare subscription forms and alert printer of increased volume. Coordinate with label/ mailing team.

Review software packages and backup files.

Perform other duties as required.

Current format requires knowledge of Microsoft Publisher.

Please send inquires to windhamnews@hotmail.com.



**WINDHAM
NEWS & NOTES**

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THE WN&N TEAM

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Acknowledgements

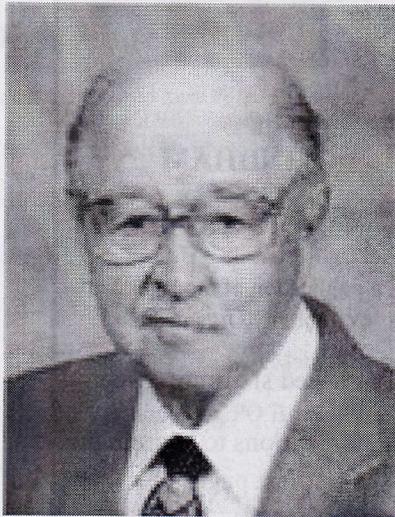
Thanks to all who provided articles. Their names are noted with their submissions

Send articles of around 300 words to the address on last page. We prefer emailed submissions to windham-news@hotmail.com

Next deadline

October 14, 2011

Windham Loses Two Rare and Irreplaceable Residents *by Mary McCoy*



John Lingley, Sr., 1919 - 2011

John Lingley, Sr. was not one to talk about himself or to want recognition. "Deeds speak louder than words," he often told his son, John Lingley, Jr. The elder Lingley might have refused to be interviewed for a profile in the *News & Notes*, and I did not know him. But others who did were eager to recall a remarkable man.

They remember that Mr. Lingley, a former lister (as his son is now), was responsible for getting our town's first property maps (historically called tax maps). He saw the wisdom of having accurately drawn maps of the whole town that showed the individual property boundaries and corresponding property numbers. So he approached a young company, telling them that in exchange for a low bid, he would recommend the company to other towns. After much hard work, Windham got its maps at a price the town could afford, and the map company grew and thrived.

Mr. Lingley and his wife of 63 years, Inga, were also responsible for planting the Christmas tree in front of the Meeting House, and for years, he turned on the lights each evening that shone from the tree through the holiday season.

Born outside Boston in 1919, he joined the Air Force prior to World War II. After the war, he was stationed in Germany, where he met Inga. During his 27 years as a military officer, the family lived in Massachusetts, South Carolina, Japan, California, and back in Germany. He was always a transportation officer, and when he retired from the Air Force in 1968, he stayed in the field, working seven more years as a VP for Global Van Lines.

Mr. Lingley had skied all over Europe, was an avid golfer, and loved to work the land. In 1975, he and Inga looked for a place to retire where he could continue these passions. They chose Windham. "He won the game," John, Jr. says of his father. He spent 36 years "on his own terms, doing what he wanted, when and where he wanted. And he did it well."

This does not mean that he was a selfish man by any means, for he was always helping others. When John was young, his father was there for him, attending his athletic events and spending Sundays with the family. In later years, he worked at the Stratton Mountain as an instructor/supervisor for the Little Cub and Big Cub Ski Schools. It wasn't that he felt a strong connection with children, John says. "He just liked to stay busy and to help however he could."

John also recalls that his father was "tough as nails, physically and personally." No matter what challenges faced him, he never complained. Nor did he ever say anything negative about others. John says, "He taught me, 'Never talk bad about others or good about yourself.'" Boasting was not acceptable.

Ned Caron, who served with Mr. Lingley as a lister, describes him as a "nice guy" whom he always enjoyed. Ned recalls teaching Mr. Lingley to drive a snowmobile, so they could do property assessments despite deep snows. They also helped each other with their own renovation projects. "He had an anvil," Ned says, "and I had a forge."

(Continued next page)

Irreplaceable Residents (Continued from previous page)

Town Clerk Carol Merritt remembers him as a "gentleman," a term I repeatedly heard used to describe him. He was also uncommonly generous. He and Inga spent many winters in Florida, and he sent oranges from there to Carol and the road crew.

For the last four years of his life, Mr. Lingley served as a marshal starter at Tater Hill, where he played golf for many years. John Pawlak, Tater Hill's golf pro, describes how he loved to watch Mr. Lingley at work, making sure someone was always on the first tee as scheduled. "He had the touch, treating people as was appropriate for them. He'd accommodate, be stern, or coddle, whatever was needed to get people moving and maintain a steady pace. Less than one percent of the U.S. can do that." John has interviewed several others to be the new marshal starter, finding no one who can replace Mr. Lingley.

Although he refused to talk about himself, John Lingley, Sr. was no mystery. Defined by his actions, as he intended, he was a good family man, a good friend, and a good member of our community. He was always a gentleman, the likes of which are rarely seen these days.



Beverly Scott, Ph.D., 1930 - 2011

I was fortunate to have known Beverly Scott. Like many in Windham, I loved her enthusiastic, friendly and gracious manner. She always brightened my day. Yet little did I or others know of her many accomplishments. She had an M.S. in Nursing from Yale and a Doctorate of Education from NYU, with a long and distinguished career that ended at Rutgers as a professor emeritus.

Kimberly Scott describes her mother's work as one of an educational leader. She was not only a professor, she worked with nursing schools, professional and community organizations, and governmental agencies to initiate programs for health care, urban development, and literacy. She traveled to 54 countries to promote global development, often in the area of health planning. Along the way, she earned the affectionate title of "Dr.

Beverly" from those she served. I like this name, which acknowledges both her accomplishments and her friendly manner.

A deeply religious Christian, Dr. Beverly was also committed to mission work, here and abroad. Not only did she serve as the supportive wife to her minister husband, Dr. James Scott, she was a religious leader in her own right, serving in many positions, including president of the North American Baptist Women's Union. (Continued on Page 8)

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Ernie and Sheila Friedli to be honored by the WCO *by Edith Serke*

The Friedlis, Ernie and Sheila, will be recognized as Windham's Citizens of the Year by the Windham Community Organization on Wednesday, September 28, at 6:30 with a potluck supper at the Windham Meeting House on Windham Hill Road. Ernie and Sheila have both spent many dedicated years in service to the Town of Windham in many capacities: as a lister, auditor, assistant treasurer and friendly neighbors, just to mention a few. This event is open to the community as well as their many friends and family. So please come and express your thanks to our distinguished honorees.

WCO Annual Harvest Supper - November 5 *by Imme Maurath*

The annual Harvest Supper date has been set for Nov. 5. Dinner includes ham, squash, scalloped potatoes, baked beans, rolls and home made pies for dessert. We will work on details for a square dance which is always a big hit.

WCO Chicken Dinner and Craft Raffle Enjoyed by Everyone

One couldn't have asked for better weather the day of the annual chicken BBQ. The well attended event raised lots of money that the WCO uses to give to people in need. The raffle donations made by folks of this town even exceeded last year's (if that is at all possible). Thanks to all the volunteers that helped



Windham Volunteer Firehouse Annual Auction and BBQ A Great Success!

Everyone enjoyed the day and lots of money changed hands including the winning bid for the generous donation of a Sport Utility Vehicle. Thanks to all who donated and bid on treasures.

Windham Library News

The Library is open every Wed. from 3-5 pm . Please stop by. For September, the Book Club will be reading *Room* by Emma Donoghue. Discussion will follow on October 5 at 3:30.



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Irene Hits Harrington Road

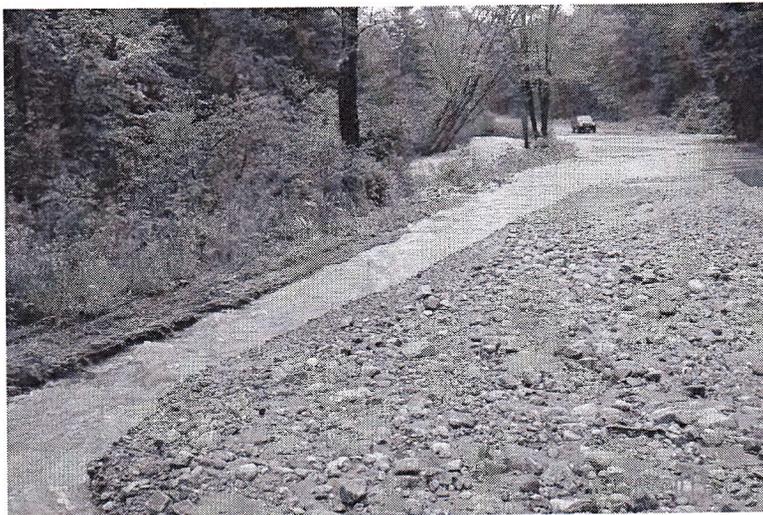


Sunday



Monday

Clockwise from the right: Cobb Brook Bridge, Old Cheney Road Bridge and Hitchcock Hill Road



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Irreplaceable residents (continued from Page 5)

Rose Boynton, Dr. Beverly's friend of nearly 50 years since both of their families bought property in Windham, recalls a time when Dr. Beverly organized tutorials in housing projects through her church in New Jersey. Rose says, "She was told not to use the church's name if she wanted people to participate, but she said, 'I will use the name.' Beverly was very strong willed," and no doubt, the program was a success. Rose, a retired nurse practitioner, and Dr. Beverly shared a passion for health care, especially for women and children. "I admired her tremendously," Rose says. "She was very unassuming and rarely talked about her accomplishments. She just did what she saw needed to be done."

Susanna Grannis recruited Dr. Beverly and "Scott", the name Dr. Beverly always used for her husband, to serve on the board of CHABHA, an organization that assists African children affected by AIDS. Susanna says Dr. Beverly didn't talk much at meetings, but when she did, she clarified and connected opposing views and gently influenced the discussion. Susanna and her husband Joe sometimes socialized with the Scotts. "They were quite a couple, like newly weds," Susanna says of the Scotts who were married 53 years. "You never saw them disagree."

I asked Kimberly to describe her mother. "Vivacious, intelligent, dynamic, loving, fun, spiritual, humble," she said. She talked about the lessons her mother had taught her, one being the importance of collaboration. "She also showed me how to provide constructive criticism by being clear and encouraging. What I'll miss most are the lessons she gave in being a good mother." Despite her many activities, Dr. Beverly always spent quality time with her husband and two daughters, Kimberly and Lindal. Kimberly says her mother had "fantastic commitment to her family."

The Scotts came often to their second home on Windham Hill Road before moving here permanently in 2003. Kimberly says her mother felt a sense of community here. She enjoyed participating in the exercise class and church activities, and she appreciated her neighbors. "She saw Windham as a place of peace and joy and enrichment," Kimberly says. Dr. Beverly enjoyed cooking, baking, and canning, and she took great pleasure in renovating and decorating their home. She loved to entertain guests and go to the homes of others.

Yet it was a risk to buy a home in Windham in the early 1960s, as there were no other African-Americans here at that time. Kimberly says. "My mother took risks throughout her life and was never deterred." As a young woman, she had studied at Bucknell University, where she earned her B.S. in biology, one of the first African-Americans to attend there and live in the dormitory. "Her whole life," Kimberly says, "was one of great courage and great humility."

Like Mr. Lingley, Dr. Beverly valued hard work and commitment, strength in the face of adversity, kindness and humility. Both had abundant energy and a deep desire to help others. Yet they were also both unique individuals with their own styles of gusto and grace. Our little town was fortunate that they settled here. Now we have only memories of them to guide and comfort us, as folks like these are rare indeed. They will be greatly missed.

**Shutterbugs: See insert for the Annual Library Calendar
Photo Contest.**

Good Luck to Everyone. Give it a try. We all enjoy those wonderful photos.



Windham Congregational Church News:

Yankee Male Chorus *by Louise Johnson*



On Thursday, August 11, The Yankee Male Chorus came to Windham. It is always a pleasure to hear this group in concert and this year was no exception.

The Yankee Male Chorus is a group of volunteer singers from all over the Northeast who meet every other year in August, rehearse one day and give four performances in the area. Thursday's varied program was composed of two classic pieces by Handel, folk songs, spirituals and show tunes. Most of the pieces were familiar old favorites and it was difficult for the audience not to sing along!

A NEW PIANO FOR THE WINDHAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

by Ginny Crittenden

The church has received gifts from Leila Erhardt and in memory of Alice Stowell Bliss, Charlotte Hamm. The church pianists have needed a good piano for the downstairs worship area and have bought a new Yamaha upright. Many thanks to all who gave the church these gifts.

News From the Valley Bible Church:

Vacation Bible School July 11-15, 2011 *by Kathy Griffin*



We had a great week at Vacation Bible School. Our theme this year was "Rev it Up: Full Throttle for God." The children were excited to help paint "our" race car and have it parked outside for all to see. They created many racing themed crafts; played games with tires, water balloons, and race cars (although not all at the same time); enjoyed dozens of cookies; and learned vital biblical truths. The lessons included Jesus choosing his "team" of disciples and how to have "victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." The teens helped with our special guest puppets including the Houston Hornet and his rookie pit crew and Speedy--the fastest turtle in the world. Speed Bump--a race car driver wannabe always added a comical turn to the day. We had a wonderful crew of helpers each day who kept everything running smoothly. It was a memorable week, and we look forward to next year.

NOTE: Valley Bible Church has moved its mid-week Prayer Meeting & Bible Study from Thursday night to Tuesday night.

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.



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Of Course I Can! *By Lydia Pope France*



Tomatoes, that is, and jam, and apple sauce, pickles, sometimes fruit, and things like that. I was a chicken canner for many years. Not poultry. Just timid. Would make jam, but only as much as I could fit in my fridge, as I was worried about whether I was doing things right or not. Then my friend Bev came along and gave me a good shove, and also a lesson in hot water baths and other mysteries of canning.

I still have not ventured beyond high acid foods and jams with lots of sugar (a preservative in its own right) but that is fine. Many other foods would mean using a pressure canner and that is one thing I do not want to tangle with. Plus tomatoes are kind of my thing. So much so that I have done upwards of 125 pounds in some years (there are just the two of us here, mind you ... but canning does become a tad obsessive at times). Not an easy thing in a place where the growing season is short and sometimes inhospitable to sun loving veggies like tomatoes! It's interesting that one definition of can is: "to be able to; have the ability, power, or skill to". Interesting because there *is* a certain sense of empowerment to home canning. You know just what *is* and *isn't* in there. When you open a jar of tomatoes mid winter to throw a few in a soup or make ratatouille or pizza or some other dish, you feel a summer vibe come rushing in. But for me, the best part has to do with a connection to the land, and even more so the people who came before us, all doing the same kind of task, generally on boiling hot days, and under more difficult circumstances. That and the sense of a routine that revolves around the seasons, something you go back to again and again, with a regularity that is pleasantly familiar.

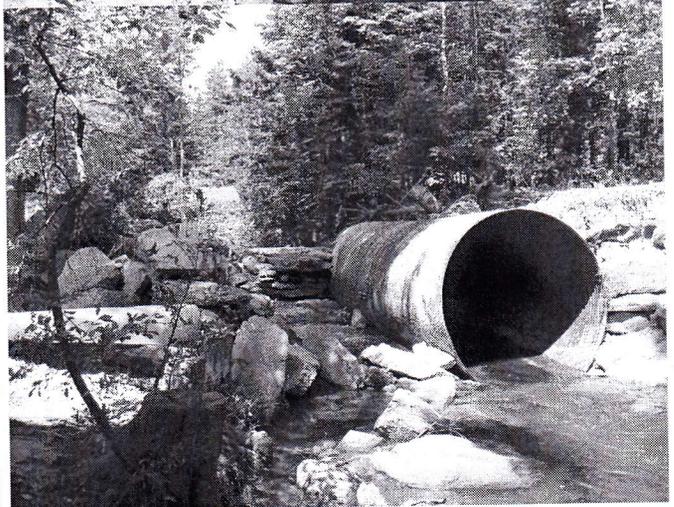
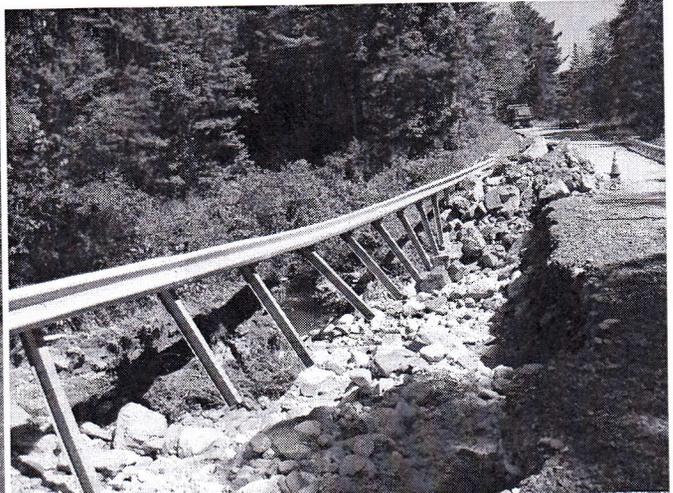
Nowadays we have it easy. Running water for one thing ... canning involves a lot of water -- cleaning jars, hot water processing, cleaning up, etc. We can just light the stove and be on our way. No building a wood fire in a cook stove, or having to deal with whatever is ripe on whatever day. We can plan our canning adventures, with the help of local farmer's markets, CSA plans and farm stands. Pick your day and go find what is ripe. Then spend a day or two in a Zen-like trance as you skin and cut and chop and ready your perfect jars for pride of place in your pantry. Over the years, I have collected a few vintage canning accessories, my water canner for one thing, but also some funnels and scoops and things that show long periods of loving use before I came across them. They are touchstones of a routine that takes up some of my days in late summer, along with my trusty Ball Blue Book of Preserving, a must-have.

I have heard of some who take great joy in a high pile of freshly ironed clothing. I can relate to that feeling with personally canned foods. And I guess others relate, too. Back in the first library photo contest I had what I thought was a spectacular photo of a hummingbird that came along just as I was taking pictures of flowers. He zoomed in so quickly I didn't even know he was in the shot until I downloaded my pix to my computer. But there he was, hovering above the flowers, perfect focus, red throat shining. A completely fortuitous shot, I thought it would be a contender. Before the results were announced, someone came up to me and said "Oh, your photo, everyone was talking about it". I said "The hummingbird?" They looked back at me, confused, and said no, the one with the tomatoes and the jam. I was stunned. I had thrown that in at the last minute, when the library had called asking for more photos as the new contest did not have many entries. I thought it was an okay picture, but chose it mostly because it was colorful. Somehow the jars and their contents touched some much deeper reserve of memory and latent meaning and drew people in a way that just another old hummingbird did not ... **(continued next Page)**

Can! (continued from previous Page)

Canning is now more popular than ever. As people seek to understand where their food comes from, and have a deeper relationship with what they put into their bodies, and “eat their view” – the local-vore mantra -- there is no better way to get up close and personal. And to feel that connection to all who came before us, canning out of necessity and to insure survival for their families. It’s a great way to spend your time, even if for us it is more of a luxury than a necessity. So, back to the beginning, of course I can. And now is the perfect time for it!

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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 - 9:55 AM Sunday School; 11:00 AM Worship, followed by pot luck lunch at 12:30 and 1:10 PM Afternoon Bible Study; Tuesday - 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, Sept. 12 and 19 and Oct. 3 and 17 - **Select Board** meets at 6:30 PM at the Town Office. Open Meeting.

Thursdays, Nov. 10 - **Planning Board** meets at 7:00 PM at the Town Office. Open Meeting.

Wednesday, Oct. 26 - **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!

Taxes Due October 31, 2011

Citizen of the Year Award Potluck Supper, Sept. 28 at 6:30—Meeting House

Harvest Supper, Nov. 5 at 5:00—Meeting House