



Windham News & Notes

Volume IX, Issue VI

May/June 2012

Emergency Planning Team Organizes *by Imme Murath and Heath Boyer*

The inaugural meeting of the Windham Emergency Management Committee (WEMC) took place on April 1. In attendance were Margaret Dwyer, Jacqueline Pare, John Lingley, Pete McDonald, Marcia Clinton, and co-chairs Imme Maurath and Heath Boyer.

The group identified and discussed responses to three types of emergency most likely to require activation of an emergency team in Windham, as follows:

Extended power outages, defined arbitrarily as more than 48 hours. In addition to the usual weather- driven outages, there exists also the possibility of general system failures similar to the one that blanketed the Northeast- in 2003. There is also growing concern and awareness that the current pattern of solar storms, expected to peak between now and the end of 2013, might disrupt the electrical grid. In all power outages, water supplies are the first concern (except for medical equipment). The Emergency Planning group has updated the Inventory of Emergency Needs and Resources (enclosed with this issue of the News and Notes) to solicit information designed to help the WEMC identify possible sources of water in the event that deep-well pumps are inoperable for an extended period.

Physical isolation due to road washouts or snow and ice combined with downed trees. Windham was relatively fortunate during Tropical Storm Irene in that we did not lose access in and out of town by the washing out of Windham Hill Road or Rt. 121. There were places on both roads that were in danger of wash-out, had the rain continued. Windham could easily have been as isolated as Wardsboro or Grafton. In such a circumstance, emergency communications would be critical. The WEMC plans to assist the Town of Windham in strengthening emergency communications through planning and grant finding.

Outbreak of virulent viral disease. Public health experts advise that this aspect should be a part of all comprehensive emergency plans. In the event of an outbreak, Windham should be prepared to ensure care for those stricken as well as to prevent further disease spread.

Although the survey is voluntary, the group asks that all people who own property in Windham complete the updated Inventory of Emergency Needs and Resources enclosed in this issue of the News and Notes. If you would rather complete the form on line it can be found at <http://windhamvt.info>. The information will be kept and used exclusively by the team responsible for emergency response.

Walter Woodruff to be Honored

The Windham Community Organization will honor Walter Woodruff for his 30 years as a member of the Windham Board of Selectmen with a potluck supper on May 18, at 5:30 at the Congregational Church. Everyone is invited. Please bring a potluck dish. The WCO will provide paper goods and beverages. Please spread the word!

Select Board News *by Mary Boyer, Margaret Dwyer and Frank Seawright*

Town meeting Day was on March 6, 2012 and was a grand success as always, with close to 70 people attending. Several open positions went to a vote by paper ballot, and we want to congratulate all of the elected and appointed officials serving our town. Walter Woodruff was up for re-election this year but decided not to run after 30 years of serving on the Select Board. Instead he nominated Frank Seawright to fill the open position and with no other nominations, Frank was elected as the newest member of the Town of Windham Select Board. We want to thank Walter for his many years of service and will miss his experience, humor and extensive knowledge of the town he has called home since his childhood. We also want to welcome Frank and look forward to working with him.

The Windham Elementary School budget passed after a discussion and vote regarding level funding. State representatives Carolyn Partridge and Matthew Trieber stopped by to answer questions. We passed the Highway Budget and had a spirited discussion and amendment to the article regarding a Town-wide reappraisal. And after the famous Town Meeting Day lunch Town Meeting resumed and adjourned by 2:45 pm.

This issue of the News and Notes comes on the heels of an early and difficult mud season. Unusually warm weather in early March made a mess of many dirt roads throughout the state. Many old-timers said this was one of the worst mud seasons they had seen in years. We thank the road crew for all of the time and effort they put into making Windham's roads passable during this odd event that occurred over a very short time. Much of the money we saved from the mild winter had to go to bringing in many truckloads of stone and gravel. Please remember that roads are posted for very good reason. Keeping traffic to a minimum when the seasons are changing from winter to spring can help preserve them and keep maintenance costs down. Some pre-planning on everyone's part can also make a big difference. Car-pooling using trucks that have wider tires and clearance keeps the traffic down; limiting oil and propane deliveries while the roads are so soft also helps. Undoubtedly the UPS /FedEx drivers would appreciate alternate drop-off locations if your road is especially vulnerable. The road foreman reports that the roads that had received some investment in stone and gravel in previous years (parts of 121, Old Cheney, Wheeler and Abbott Roads) held up very well during this year's event. Hopefully this bodes well for the roads that received attention this time around. We thank everyone for their patience. We are developing a website where road work schedules, board minutes, meeting dates and other Town Office documents can be posted. For now the Select Board can be contacted at the email address selectboard@windhamvt.info.

Enjoy the summer!



???Ham Radio Operator???

The Windham Emergency Response Team is wondering whether there is anyone in Windham who has a HAM radio license or who may be willing to reactivate an old license or start from scratch to get one. Anyone interested can contact Imme Maurath at 802-875-1709 or the Emergency team at:

windhamem@gmail.com

Curiouser and Curiouser by Lydia Pope France

Well, I guess we shouldn't have been surprised. After a winter that was so mild what could we expect? I guess an even milder spring. Which is pretty much what we've had. Just this week the National Weather Service released data on the sheer number of records that were broken during the month of March. Nationally, over 15,000 record highs fell by the wayside. March's average temperature for the lower 48 states was 8.6 degrees higher than the twentieth century average, and half a degree higher than the previous all time high set over 100 years ago (Source: NOAA).

All this talk about warm weather led me to notice something on my electric bill that I'd never paid attention to before. The lower right-hand corner of the CVPS bill shows the average temperature for the billing month -- this year versus last. The numbers for this year are *dramatically* higher than last year, and that was probably a pretty typical year.

| Average Temperature (Source: CVPS) | January | February | March |
|------------------------------------|---------|----------|-------|
| 2012 | 27 | 25 | 31 |
| 2011 | 21 | 14 | 22 |

While we didn't have much snow throughout the winter, we had a pretty good hit on "leap day" -- 10.5 inches followed by 5 more inches over the next few days. The first week of March was fairly normal in terms of temperature. But the following week we began to see a change, temps in the 50s, 60s ... staying well above freezing at night. That was kind of an unexpected break, but the following week was just off the charts -- 70s and 80s each day, with overnight lows *higher* than average daily highs for this time of the year!

So much for the possibility of an easy mud season, given that we had so little precipitation. The sudden warm up meant a total and dramatic thaw that turned roads to mud that was relentless. We are, happily, back to normal now ...

Our above average temperatures and below average snow really hit home when we got our *one and only* bill for plowing this year, a mere five plows. In other winters that would not have been out of the question in one week!

Someone asked me the other day what our final snow count was for the season. Amazingly, we had a total of just 58 inches, certainly the lowest in 11 years we've been here. Last year we had 125 inches, and the all-time high that I remember was 180 back in the early 00s somewhere.

I happened to run in to a friend yesterday whose husband is a sugar maker. For years they've tapped trees lower down Windham Hill. Last year was a banner year for them and all syrup makers. They did 1200 gallons. This year they only managed 600 gallons, despite the number of taps. The warm weather set the trees budding and ended the season prematurely.

But after that false start in March, spring is on the way! I've seen bright yellow coltsfoot in the ditches for over two weeks and the forsythia looks like it needs about one warm day before bursting into a wall of color. Our daffodils are up, and just starting to flower. We still have a lot to look forward to in terms of the changing seasons. Soon we're sure to hear the peepers peeping. And "our hummingbirds" have started their grueling flight back from Mexico by now.

I guess at this point we *could* consider putting snow shovels away. But it is only April (our last inch of snow came on the 23rd in 2011), so I'm thinking maybe we'll just leave them at the ready if only to not jinx ourselves with a major spring storm!

**WINDHAM****NEWS & NOTES**

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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. Email to:

windhamnews@hotmail.com

Next deadline

June 15, 2012

Alan Partridge keeps steady tempo *by Mary McCoy*

Farmer, trash collector, musician, painter, family man, and neighbor – Alan Partridge says, “I’m never caught up” despite continually doing several tasks at once. He laughingly says, “Chores without end. Amen!” But Alan lives day-to-day, sleeping well at night, and starting fresh each day.

Perhaps he learned his ability to wear many hats as a boy. His father joined the Navy to see the world, bringing his family with him to Rhode Island, California, the Philippines, Iceland, and Taiwan. Each place was a new experience. When Alan was 16, his family went on a year-long “camping trip” through the Middle East and Africa. His parents wanted their children to know and enjoy life’s diversity.



In 1954 when Alan was still a tyke, his parents visited Vermont and felt at home here, impressed by the friendly, open-mindedness of the residents. The Partridges invested all their money in land in southern Vermont. Over the years, pieces of the land were sold to put the four Partridge children through college.

The family came here whenever they could. They bought a house on Old Cheney Road, built around 1900, which became their home. Windham was a different place then. Alan recalls, “People here lived like they had in the ‘40s. Everyone had a garden. There were several farms, and people helped each other out at haying time, even kids. There were a lot of barefoot boys in town. The South Windham School had a three-seater outhouse. It was new! When mud season hit, we expected to get stuck. We didn’t have electricity at our house until 1962. Sometimes we ran out of water.” All this, the Partridge family embraced, and in 1969, they settled here full-time. The house remains Alan’s home to this day.

In 1976, Alan graduated from the University of Vermont with a liberal arts education and a degree in Economics. He spent four years in Alaska and California, working first as a logger, before trying his hand at other ventures. He learned what he wanted to do with his life – work the land. So he returned to Vermont where family land awaited him.

He met Carolyn here, whom he married in 1985. She had sheep, so he became a sheep farmer. A few years later, he also developed a successful business painting condos. It was financially lucrative, but it was not what he wanted to do, and he disliked working for others who cared only about their profits. After 15 years, he ended that endeavor, although he still does local painting now and then.

His trash collecting started by helping out one household. Then it grew to a one-day-a-week job. “Saturdays were my day with Ben,” he says referring to his and Carolyn’s son, now age 24. “I’d put him in the truck in his car seat, and he was happy. He kept me going, and the business grew. Now I’m a garbage man about 20 hours a week.” He laughs, “The business has survived, which is good news, but I can’t say I’m prospering from it!”

One side benefit of his job was swapping a customer two years of trash pick up for three Highland cows. Thus began his herd of these handsome, long-haired, long-horned reds, adding to his and Carolyn’s flock of sheep, set of pigs, and numerous laying chickens. Alan bought a Highland bull, but is planning to return to artificial insemination, as the bull can’t be trusted. “He could take me out,” Alan says. All animals are slaughtered humanely right on the farm. Having purchased a quarter of a steer, I can testify to its delicious taste and total lack of the dreaded “pink slime.”

Somehow amid all this work, Alan finds time to make music. He started taking piano lessons around age 6, and at 8 picked up his older brother’s guitar, which soon became his preferred instrument. Wherever they lived, he took lessons. Without electricity in their Windham home, making music was a main entertainment. His mother taught him songs like “Golden Slippers” and “Red River Valley,” and he’s been a fan of old-time music since then.

Continued on next page

Everywhere he went, he made music, playing in a folk group and in a rock and roll band in Taiwan. He performed at military and Chinese clubs and appeared on Chinese TV. "I got a lot of band time as a teenager," Alan says. In Alaska, he met fiddlers who liked his style and encouraged him, and in Vermont, he found an abundance of fiddlers and other musicians. "This is a great place to play music," he says, conjecturing that the tradition of "home picking" has produced many fine players.

"I'm a backup musician," he clarifies. "I don't play lead." He lays the platform others play upon by keeping the time and tempo. "The world is full of guitar players," he adds. "I'm one of them, a basic player. Simple and plain."

I've heard Alan's home picking many times and know he is an accomplished player, and in spite of being "basic," he's the one in charge. He knows every tune anyone wants to play or hear, and he quickly helps others who want to learn the song and play along. His love for music flows from him to players and listeners. Besides playing guitar, he also plays mandolin, keyboards, and bagpipes. He learned the pipes by going to Ben's bagpipe lessons with him. Alan continually learns new styles of music and new songs. He plays every day, even if he only has five minutes.

Yet there is no question what activity is most important to Alan. He says, "I've staked my entire life on the farm. It's everything to me. Music is fun. My garbage customers are interesting. But the farm is my labor of love. Take our meadow – it was a forest till I cleared it. I'm in deep."

Recently, however, he had a revelation. "I used to think it was enough to live on the land. I had food, water, wood, and knew I could survive. But that's not enough. I want it all – my DVDs, my high speed computer, my modern medicine. I have a cell phone! I want it! We have isolation here in Windham, but we can have everything else too."

One more thing we have here in Windham is a good neighbor, named Alan Partridge. When my husband, Michael Simonds, was building our house on Old Cheney Road, the two men met. Alan greeted Michael warmly, invited him into his home, showed him where the phone was, told him to come in and use it any time, and rejected the offer for reimbursement.

Alan Partridge is generous, upbeat, adventurous, funny, eager to learn, and very hard working. Yet he is happy to be in the background, keeping a steady tempo, letting others take the lead. Rest assured, I'm not just saying this because in March he kindly pulled my car out of the mud on Burbee Pond Road.

Windham Town Library *by Bev Carmichael*

New this month at the library:

We now have 2 Windham Town Library passes good for admission for a family of four at Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home. These passes are good through December 2012, and entitle you to not only admission at Hildene but also free admission to many Resorts and Touring Centers throughout the state. Also included, The American Horticultural Society offers free admission and/or discounts at participating Arboreta, Gardens and Conservatories throughout the country. All of these benefits are available using your Hildene Membership Card. Stop by the library any Wednesday afternoon to sign out your pass and see a partial list of sites available.

Also at Hildene both the Pullman car and the Rowland Agricultural Center are now open. Passes include admission to the house and grounds, the farm, the Pullman car, Sunbeam, and our hiking, ski and snowshoe trails. For all upcoming programs and exhibits, please visit their website at www.Hildene.org.

We continue to offer free day passes to Vermont State Parks and Historical Sites including the Calvin Coolidge memorial and historic site in Plymouth, VT.

NEWS FROM THE VERMONT PHOENIX by Mary Aller

The Vermont Phoenix was a weekly newspaper published in Brattleboro from 1834 until its last issue, December 30, 1955. Every week each town in the area had a column in the paper with news of town events, including who was visiting whom and whose garden was producing what flowers and vegetables, sent in to the paper by the towns' correspondents. Miss Edna Winship, who was also Windham's representative in Montpelier, was Windham's town correspondent for a number of years. Following are excerpts from some of her columns from 1951.

March 2, 1951

Consider Means of Reducing Debt

The finance committee appointed at the special town meeting Sept. 9 met Sunday afternoon to study the town auditors' report and discuss plans for trying to get the town "out of the red". ... The town has run behind about \$10,000 in the past four years. During 1950 the town ran behind \$3,000.

March 23, 1951

Snow Is Deep; Sap Is Running

Snow is deeper than at any time this winter. Snow fell almost every day last week, although a warm Monday a week ago started frost out of the ground. It was "sugar snow" which fell Wednesday, and sap has started running.

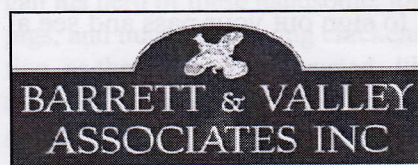
Harry Chapman drew off two gallons of syrup Saturday with Bobby Greeley as his assistant. Mrs. Robert Stowell also is sugaring, and Mrs. Duane Clarke has tapped the trees in front of her house. In the south end of town Ed LeMay has tapped his maples with the help of Prof. C.S. Farnham of New Haven, Conn., who came here for that purpose.

June 22, 1951

Three rabbits have been observed playing on a knoll in Lee Giles' pasture. A great blue heron visited there, first lighting on top of a spruce tree then on a white birch before settling down on the beaver pond. Mrs. Giles found her first wild strawberries June 10, and Mrs. Frances Oikle the next day.

Note to all Windham-resident Dog Owners

You can license your dog at the Town Office during business hours (Tu, Th, Fri., 10am to 3pm) You will need a copy of the rabies certificate and neuter/spay notice for each dog, 6 months or older. After April 1st the cost is \$10.00 for each neutered and spayed dog, and \$16.00 wolf-hybrids and intact males and females. In the interest of the Windham community, town authorities will be strictly enforcing the dog-licensing requirement.

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A Sense of Community Goes a Long Way Back *by Susan LeMay Persa*

The South Windham Baptist Church **Ladies Aid Society** was started at the parsonage on September 28, 1928, with eight members. Miss Effie Fisher, Mrs. W.A. Farr, Miss Bernice Smith and Mrs. A.O. Chase were the first officers.

After reading four notebooks of records, it is clear that their purpose was to raise money to help purchase things for the church and parsonage and to help those in need in the community. They started with a quarter yearly dues. They met each month and sometimes bimonthly to quilt, make aprons, potholders, fancywork and home made candy which they sold at the frequent church suppers held in the vestry. Their meetings were held in the homes where they usually had a delicious potluck meal or a bag lunch with the hostess providing dessert and cocoa. A psalm from the Bible was always read and the meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer. Money was given to missions and a bandage quota fill for the White Cross Society. There were notes written on specific prayers for peace during World War II.



Some of the homes were as follows: Mrs. Fred Smith and Miss Bernice Smith lived where the Wardens do now. Mrs. Mable Perry's is now the home of Jimmy and Crystal Corriveau, Mrs. Herbert Hall lived in the Reed place, Mrs. WA Farr lived in the former Chapin, Bush and now Bober home, Mrs. A.O. Chase probably lived on the Chase farm, Miss Effie Fisher lived on the farm across from Margaret Woodruff, Mrs. D.L. Scott lived in a home that was removed between the Robinson's and the Reeds and Mrs. Harry Hall who lived in the former parsonage and which is now owned by the Robinson's.



The notes spoke of the various quilts made – the postcard, airplane, star, butterfly, pansy and T-quilt patterns. Most of the quilts were made in blocks, and then were tied on frames. They were sold at the suppers or made to order. One was sold for \$15 to Mrs. Farr. On May 20, 1931, a T-quilt was given to the Dunbar family of W. Townshend who lost their home to fire. The quilt pictured was given to my parents Ed and Mary LeMay as a welcome gift around 1952. The members of the society signed each block.

As I look back, it seems like almost every home was represented in the Society and that the meetings and dinners were important social events. The weekly library hours from 3-5 at the Windham Church, The Windham community

Organization, and the Windham News and Notes serve today to bind our community together. I want to give special thanks to Bev Carmichael and Mary Boyer for their help and encouragement in preparation of this article.

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Windham Elementary Students Score Well on NECAP *by John Doty, principal*

In the fall of 2011 students throughout Vermont in grades 3 – 11 participated in the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) to determine their proficiency in reading and mathematics. The results were returned to the school in early February. Over the past few years Windham Elementary students have shown steady improvement in their collective scores, which are ultimately used to determine Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) under the federal No Child Left Behind Act. This year's results were the best to date. Eighty-nine percent (89%) of the students scored at the proficient (22%) or proficient with distinction (67%) level in reading.

Eighty-nine percent (89%) of the students scored at the proficient (78%) or proficient with distinction (11%) level in mathematics. Statewide the reading results were: proficient with distinction, 22%; proficient, 51%; partially proficient, 17%; and substantially below proficient, 10%. The math results were: proficient with distinction, 22%; proficient, 43%; partially proficient, 17%; and substantially below proficient, 17%.

While the results for Windham were overwhelmingly positive and among the best in our supervisory union and the State, as well as the best we have performed so far, there is still room for improvement. Our very small number of students allows the teaching faculty and staff to closely examine areas of student performance needing more attention on an individual as well as whole class basis and target those areas for further instruction. Student growth over time is the most important factor to consider. Our evidence shows that students who are with us for most of their elementary school "careers" do make steady improvement in their performance, and to a high level. Because our teachers instruct their students for three years or more, they know their instruction needs very well and address those needs.

As we enter a new era of assessment with the phasing out of the NECAP by 2014, and the advent of the Common Core assessments, rest assured that Windham Elementary School will continue to instruct your students with the aim of reaching high levels of proficiency with the individual attention each student deserves.

Notes from the Windham School Board *by Carolyn Partridge, Chair*

The Windham School Board thanks voters for approving the FY2013 budget, which included a 3.6% increase. The increase reflects our decision to offer a raise to our staff after two years with no salary increases. Although we are not bound by the Windham County Supervisory Union master agreement, we try to remain competitive in order to maintain the current high quality of our staff. The budget increase also covers the cost of bringing fiber optic cable up Windham Hill to Windham Elementary. The School Board sees state-of-the-art communications as especially important for our rural school and community, enabling broader horizons for all.

The Windham School Board deeply appreciates the support of the community: not only your approval of the budget but also your volunteer time and your attendance at our fundraisers, performances, sporting events, and graduation ceremonies. Your participation makes for a stronger community and school and enriches our students' lives.

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.

WINDHAM SUMMER DAY CAMP 2012

WINDHAM MEETING HOUSE



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 16 - 20 and July 23 - 27. 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.

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

Grace Cottage Events Offer a Range of Fun and Fitness Activities

As you put together your family's calendar of summer events, please consider adding the following activities, organized by Grace Cottage Hospital. Fun, fitness and fund-raising are the focus of these upcoming events. For more information, visit www.gracecottage.org/events or call 365-9109.

May 14, "Spring Into Health" 5K. 8:30 AM start at the Townshend Common, rain or shine. Open to people of all ages and abilities, whether they run, jog, walk, stroll or roll. All participants will be timed. \$15 for adults; \$10 age 13 and under; T-shirt for first 150 registrants.

June 10, "Tee Up for Health" Golf Benefit for Grace Cottage Hospital. Noon start at Tater Hill Golf Club, Windham. A great round of golf in a spectacular setting. \$125/golfer; dinner included. Prizes. Online silent auction April 1 to June 10 includes an African photo safari, an Oriental rug, a long weekend getaway on the Gulf Coast, a day's sail for four on the Mystic Whaler, and much more.

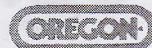


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WCO Elects New Officers *by Edith Serke*

The Windham Community Organization (WCO) held its annual meeting on March 28, and elected new officers for the coming year. They are: President, Dona Robinson, Vice President, Nancy Dyke, Secretary, Dawn Bower, and Treasurer, Cindy Kehoe. The group also decided to conduct a community-wide tag sale, under the direction of Beverly Carmichael, to be held on Saturday, May 23, at the Townshend green, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. WCO will rent the tables, at \$25 each. All Windham residents are invited to participate in this event. There will also be a bake sale to benefit the WCO. For further information, please contact Beverly Carmichael.

WINDHAM FIRE COMPANY ACTIVITY *by Marcia Clinton*

The Windham Fire Company responded to two calls in the past few weeks. On March 29th a car on Burbee Pond Road caught fire and was engulfed in flames when the fire truck arrived. With efficient action the fire was soon under control. The driver escaped without injury but the car was a total loss. On April 12th, a backyard trash fire quickly ignited dry grass in the nearby field. Fortunately the fire was contained before it could spread to the surrounding woods.

As this issue of the News and Notes goes to press, Vermont is on high alert for brush and forest fires due to the lack of rain and dry debris in the fields and woods. During a high-alert period, burning trash, including paper, plastic, boards, sheet rock, etc., is illegal. Only brush burning is allowed, and requires a fire permit obtained from the Fire Company. Call R. Weitzel at 874-4104 or R. Wyman 875-3373 for permits.

The Fire Company is sponsoring a CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) course free to all Windham residents (\$25 for non-residents) on May 23rd at the Windham school from 6 to 9 p.m. Please RSVP to Meredith Tips-McLaine at 875-1550 or email at meredithtipsmclaine@yahoo.com. This is a great opportunity to refresh your skills, learn to use an AED (automatic external defibrillator), and learn the most recent changes in CPR.

Petition Gets Attention *by Mary Boyer*

Like many of you who use Windham Hill Road daily to get to work or kids to school Dan Reilly was very frustrated this winter by the condition of the lower part of Windham Hill Road. He passed around a petition at Town Meeting which almost everyone present signed. The Select Board sent it with a cover letter to Townshend asking that they consider the importance of this section of road to Windham residents.

Their letter of response indicates that Townshend has appointed two new Highway Commissioners, David Dezen-dorf and Chad Greenwood to assure that their roadways are maintained to the safest and most optimal levels. "Windham Hill Road, as you are aware, presents perpetual challenges, but is currently and will be continually assessed as one of our highest priorities". Thank you, Dan, for your concern and for your persistence to get attention to this important issue.



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NEXTEL



Windham Has Talent *by Jerry Dyke*

I first became interested in saw milling when I had access to oak logs at Manitouqua, a retreat and conference center in Illinois where I worked at the time. I saw a demonstration of a portable chainsaw mill at a wood show in the Chicago area and purchased a used one in October 1999. I added a Stihl chainsaw which I used on the mill.



I knew nothing about milling in the beginning but have had a great time learning on my own. I milled those oak logs and went on to mill western red cedar electric poles that a friend used to make lap dulcimers. I also milled some walnut for him. In return he made a dulcimer for me from those two woods. I have much of the oak lumber that I brought from Illinois stored under a canopy that I built behind my shop. I draw from that stash as needed for current hardwood projects such as trestle tables, scroll saw projects and Christmas gifts. The softwoods and cherry that I mill here in Vermont come off my property and are used mainly for my projects.

Since coming to Vermont I have been involved in two major milling projects. In the first I milled about 2,000 board feet of pine used in the construction of a house. Later I milled 5,000 board feet of pine for a new log home.

It has been great fun and a real education to discover a new hobby that is also useful.

GREEN-UP DAY IN WINDHAM *by Marcia Clinton*

On May 5th everyone, young and older, is invited to participate in cleaning up the roads in Windham. To pick up the bright green bags come to the Town Office at 9 a.m. and select an area in town you wish to walk through. For those who wish to do their clean-up earlier than Saturday, the bags are available at the Town Office. Please fill in the sheet on the clipboard so we will know where you will be working. Filled bags can be left by the side of the road and the town road crew will pick them up later.

Later that Saturday at noon, everyone is invited to a "Workers' Appreciation Lunch" for hot dogs with all the fixings, chips, soda and cookies. As is done each year, "bragging rights" awards will be presented for various categories; i.e. most bags filled, weirdest object found, longest distance covered, etc. Come join us rain or shine, on this one big day of cleaning up Windham, a town we are all proud to live in.



We Go Beyond Patient Care

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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
Please keep us informed of
any address changes

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 ; 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, May 7 and 21 and June 4 and 18 - **Select Board** meets at 6:30 PM at the Town Office. Open Meeting.

Thursday, May 10 - **Planning Board** meets 7 PM at the Town Office. Open Meeting.

Wednesday, May 30, June 27 - **Windham Community Organization** meets at 7:00 PM at the Meeting House.

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday - **Town Office Hours** - 10:00 to 3:00 PM.

SAVE THE DATES

Green-up Day May 5, 9:00 AM at Town Office

Walter Woodruff Recognition Dinner May 18 at 5:30

Fire Company sponsored CPR course on May 23rd at the Windham School from 6 to 9 p.m

Community-wide Tag Sale June 25 10:00 - 2:00 at Townshend Green

WCO Chicken BBQ July 14, 5:30 at the Meeting House

TOWN OF WINDHAM
Inventory of Emergency Needs and Resources

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Windham Address _____

Other Address _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Email _____ ☐ OK to use this email for other Windham town business

- ☐ This is my primary residence
- ☐ This is a "second home" for us
 - ☐ We see this home mostly
 - ☐ As a place for seasonal recreation
 - ☐ As a rental property

1. Do you have any special needs that you would like the Emergency Team to know about?

- ☐ Special needs children
- ☐ Elderly with
 - ☐ Walker ☐ wheelchair ☐ bed-ridden
 - ☐ Limited vision
 - ☐ Oxygen or other special equipment
 - ☐ Critical medications
 - ☐ Any life threatening conditions
 - ☐ Other _____

2. Do you have any equipment or resources you would be willing to use or share in an emergency?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Portable generator | <input type="checkbox"/> Tractor with |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chain saw | <input type="checkbox"/> loader |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobile | <input type="checkbox"/> backhoe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4-wheeler (ATV) | <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hand held radios (walkie-talkies or other) | <input type="checkbox"/> Portable water pump |

3. Do you have any special training that might be valuable in an emergency?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CPR | <input type="checkbox"/> PA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First aid | <input type="checkbox"/> Nurse Practitioner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red Cross Disaster Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Worker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EMT | <input type="checkbox"/> Firefighter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RN | <input type="checkbox"/> Other First Responder Training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MD | |

4. Does your primary water supply depend on electricity? ☐ YES ☐ NO

5. Do you also have an accessible open spring? ☐ Yes ☐ NO

OVER PLEASE

Emergency Survey Page 2

If YES, is the water safe to drink? ☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ UNTESTED

If NO do you have the chemicals or emergency filters to treat it? ☐ Yes ☐ NO

Would you be willing to share this source of water in an extreme emergency? ☐ YES ☐ NO

6. Does your principle heating system depend on electricity? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If YES, can at least part of your home be adequately heated by other means during power outages? ☐ YES ☐ NO

7. Can you cook at all without electricity? ☐ YES ☐ NO

8. Do you have any pets or livestock that would need attention in case of an emergency ☐ NO
☐ YES please list _____

9. Are you willing and able to shelter a few people in an emergency? ☐ YES ☐ NO

☐ Overnight ☐ for warming only how many _____ Pets ☐ YES ☐ NO

10. If this is your second home, would this be the place you would plan to come if there were an emergency at or near your primary residence? ☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ MAYBE

11. If YES, have you made any preparations in case you are here, or arrive here, during an extended emergency? ☐ YES ☐ NO

- ☐ Extra drinking water,
- ☐ Shelf stable food,
- ☐ NOAA weather alert radio (battery or rechargeable)
- ☐ Flashlights, batteries,
- ☐ Emergency supplies of critical drugs
- ☐ First Aid Kit
- ☐ Other _____

Resilience is the component in preparedness planning that can very often keep a sudden emergency from becoming an instant disaster. Resilience allows individuals and families to absorb an initial shock and face 24 to 48 hours of disruption, isolation, power loss and even damage to their homes so that Emergency Responders can assess the situation and prioritize the use of available resources. Even in a chaotic situation, this kind of basic preparation at the household level can enable the response to be more orderly and efficient.

Thank you for filling out this form. The information, once assembled, will be important in our efforts to help one another when help is most needed. While the subject is on your mind please take time to visit the excellent emergency preparedness page at Vermont Emergency Management here: http://vem.vermont.gov/community_preparedness and Click on "**Simple Preparation Tips**" and the "**Family Emergency Preparedness Workbook**" to see how you can maximize your personal resiliency and that of the entire community of Windham.

You can contact the Windham Emergency Management Team at: windhamEM@gmail.com



WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES

Support the Windham News & Notes

This issue of the News & Notes ends our ninth year of bi-monthly publication. Although we have an all volunteer staff, we depend on your annual support to cover the cost of production and mailing. Like public radio and public TV, we ask you to contribute whatever you can, with the usual contributions being \$10. Your support will ensure that you and others receive Windham's own news source for another year.

**Please fill out the form below and mail it in the enclosed envelope to:
Windham Community Organization, 5976 Windham Hill Road, Windham, VT 05359.
Include your check or money order made payable to the Windham Community Organization.
*Please note on your check memo line: News & Notes.***

Name:

Mailing address for News & Notes:

(Street) (Town) (Zip)

Email : _____

Please print clearly

We have left room below on this form for comments and suggestions, which are always welcomed.

THANK YOU. YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED
YOUR NEWS & NOTES STAFF.

FREE ADULT DENTAL CARE DAY

SATURDAY MAY 5, 2012

TWO LOCATIONS

Bennington: 2 Harwood Drive (Oral Surgeons, corner of Dewey St)

Manchester: 74 Longview Drive (Behind Orvis Outlet store)

Registration: 7:30 – 2:00 p.m.

After check in and evaluation, you will be directed to a participating dentist for completion of care.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Adults 18 and older without the ability to pay for needed dental care

Pre-Registration: 802-367-1155 (Leave a message and you will be called back)

