



WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES



SO MUCH FOR NO TORNADOES IN VERMONT!



“So much for no tornadoes in Vermont!” Rudy Chieka said as he watched a bucket truck and an excavator remove a tree from the roof of his house at 632 Glebe Mountain Road in Timber Ridge on Friday, August 23. Neighbors Tom and Ellen Grondine, Jeff and France Chase, Emily Forbes and Kyle Goyette also suffered major damage to their land, homes, barns and vehicles on Glebe Mountain Road. Up and down Glebe Mountain and Harrington

roads, downed trees lined the roadway, cut up and piled to open the roads to traffic and clean-up machinery. Palmer Goodrich of P&L Trucking maintains the roads in Timber Ridge on behalf of the Neighborhood Association.



*Photos, clockwise from top left: Chieka home; Jeff Chase and Rudy Chieka; Mialkowski home
Below: Tom Grondine observes his destroyed barn roof*

According to Alexis Mialkowski, on Harrington Road, interviewed by WCAX, “My husband was trying to close windows and they just started exploding. ... [Erik] jumped on our son, Tucker, and I ran to the kitchen, and all hell broke loose. All the trees started coming down. It lasted maybe 35-40 seconds, and we came out to this.”

The Mialkowski’s property, which is on the corner of Windham Hill Road and Harrington Road, was also badly

damaged, as the winds came down over the top of Glebe Mountain and through Timber Ridge to Windham Hill Road. Glass in several of their windows was blown out and parts of the roof and the garage were damaged. They lost numerous trees. Everything was calm around 5 PM on Wednesday, August 21, they said, when suddenly the rain and winds came barreling through. Other Windham residents had power outages but reported no strong winds.

Meteorologist Ray O’Keefe, of the National Weather Service (NWS) out of Albany, arrived in Windham on Friday, August 23 to survey the damage, and he and his team confirmed it was a high-end EF-1 tornado that hit Windham at 5:05 PM, Wednesday, August 21, 2019.

The NWS team found a path of continuous damage, 3/4 of a mile long and 350 yards wide. This consisted of violently snapped or uprooted trees, plus shingle and siding damage. Shingles and outdoor furniture were tossed hundreds of yards. The maximum wind speed was estimated between 105-110 mph. Tornadoes are very rare in Vermont. Vermont’s last confirmed tornado was May 29, 2012 in Orleans County.

The NWS in Albany also confirmed two other EF-1 tornadoes that same day; one at 2:24 PM in Johnstown, NY, and another to the east at 3:35 PM in Saratoga Springs, NY. No one was injured in any of the tornadoes.

In the event of a tornado, it is vital to quickly seek shelter in an interior room on the lowest level of a sturdy building. For more information go to:

<https://www.weather.gov/safety/tornado-during> .

If you find yourself in need following this storm, or at any time, please reach out to Windham Community Organization for assistance. Contact Pat Cherry at 874-7094.



From the Selectboard

by Maureen, Kord and Hal

Well, the big news around town is the paving of a large part of Windham Hill Road! Is it ever smooth?! Springfield/Sunapee Paving did that, but it never could have happened without the hard, hard work of our incomparable Road Crew! Richard, Kurt and many times Ralph, were working very hard, and long hours to install new culverts and fix other problems before the paving work could be done.

We thank all of you for your patience, since it might have taken you a few extra minutes to get through town when we had to re-direct traffic due to road closures. In the end, it seems like it was well worth it.

Now, for goodness sakes, please watch your speed. For now, the speed on the newly paved section remains 40 mph,

EXCEPT IN THE SCHOOL ZONE WHERE IT DROPS TO 25 MPH, 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK (and 30 MPH THROUGH SOUTH WINDHAM)!

We have been getting numerous complaints about all kinds of loose and bordering-on-nuisance animals around Town. Please remember that as part of our Vicious Dog Ordinance, your dogs are required to be licensed (which can be out-of-state) and under control (a leash, strict voice command, in a vehicle, etc.) at all times. As far as other domestic animals are concerned, it is not our intent or desire to over-regulate the Town, but when your neighbors' safety, as well as quality of life, are compromised, we may be forced to do so. Please, let's all try to be good neighbors and monitor your animals' whereabouts and activities.

Since the committee studying The Meeting House issue recommended the Town take full ownership of the property, we will continue our discussions. If you are interested in becoming part of The Meeting House team going forward, send us a note. You can bring it to the Town Office or send an email to: mbellselectboard@gmail.com.

Interested in the subject of Aging and Social Isolation? The VT Association of Area Agencies on Aging is having a conference in Killington on September 27 to address this issue. If you'd like to go, and report back to the Selectboard, let us know.

As always, we are here for you. Please let us know if there is anything that you feel needs to be addressed.

Photos to right: Your tax dollars at work!



Selectboard Meeting Time Changes to 5:30 PM

Beginning September 16

The Selectboard has voted to change the start time of their meetings to 5:30 PM beginning Monday, September 16

Property Tax Increase by the Numbers

by News & Notes Staff

You must be asking, "Why is my property tax bill so much more than it was in 2018?"

It is based on the budget we approved at Town Meeting on March 5, 2019. Here it is by the numbers:

	2019	2018	Increase
*Municipal General Fund	\$180,556	\$184,994	-2.4%
*Winter/Summer Roads	\$497,084	\$398,338	24.8%
*Repaving	\$90,000	\$60,000	50%
*Bridges/Large Structures	\$15,000	\$15,000	0%
*Road Machinery Fund	\$60,000	\$0	100%
Compensation for Directors	\$2,250	\$2,250	0%
School Budget	\$450,039	\$387,103	16.3%
Overall Total Budget	\$1,294,929	\$1,047,685	23.6%

With an overall budget increase of 23.6% from 2018 to 2019, your property tax bill shows an increase for 2019.

* Municipal Budget Items



WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES

A publication of the Windham Community Organization, published six times a year. Please send donations to the address on the back.

N&N Team

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Philip McDuffie Nancy Tips

Many thanks to all who contribute. Send articles of around 300 words to the address on the last page or email to: windhamnews@hotmail.com.

Next deadline: October 17, 2019

Town Office Hours

Monday NOON - 8 PM
Tuesday 6 AM - 10 AM
Wednesday 10 AM - 2 PM

Fourth Saturday of the Month
8 AM - NOON
September 28
October 26

802-874-4211
windham.town@gmail.com

Property Tax Information - Taxes Due Thursday, October 31

from Kathy Scott, Windham Town Treasurer

Property tax bills have been mailed out. Please contact the Town Office at 874-4211 if you have not received your bill. Taxes are due on Thursday, October 31, 2019. Payment will be considered delinquent as of November 1. Interest will be assessed at 1% per month on the first of every month, beginning on November 1, with a 3% penalty added on January 1, 2020. A postmark of October 31 will be accepted as on-time payment. **The Town Office will be open on October 31 from 9 AM - 5 PM for tax payments only.** If you have any questions about your Homestead Declaration and State Exemption or Current Use, please contact the State of Vermont at 802-828-2505 or 866-828-2865. If you have questions about the assessed value of your property or believe there may be an error on your bill, please contact the Windham Listers on Wednesdays from 9 AM-Noon at the Town Office.



Save the Date! November 9, Harvest Supper with Square Dance and Photo Contest

by Imme Maurath and News & Notes Staff

This year's **WCO HARVEST SUPPER AND SQUARE DANCE** will be held on **Saturday, November 9 at 5:00 PM at the Meeting House**. The traditional dinner will consist of ham, butter-nut squash, baked beans, scalloped potatoes (and a gluten-free version), sweet breads, rolls and assorted homemade pies. Square dance, called by Sally Newton, will follow dinner.



All are invited to submit photos for the popular Windham Photo Contest. Photos (8X10) will be displayed on the walls of the Meeting House for Harvest Supper patrons to vote for their favorites. The twelve winning photos will appear in the 2020 Windham Library Calendar, which is a fundraiser for the library. Calendars will be on sale by the end of November at the Library and Town Office for \$10 each. See the attached insert (or page 17 of the PDF online version) for entering your photographs, limit of three per person. The deadline for entry is Friday, November 1. For more information on the Photo Contest, please contact Cindy Kehoe at: rkehoe@together.net.



It will be a night to send you home smiling, for sure!

Ice Cream Social 2.0

by Kathy Jungermann & News & Notes Staff

New this year, the Windham Community Organization continued a Windham tradition by hosting an Ice Cream Social fundraiser, this year to support and provide maintenance for the Meeting House. A large crowd came to celebrate the final summer weekend before Labor Day with an ice cream sundae, banana split or other frozen creation. So many flavors, so many toppings!

Thank you to all those who helped with the event and the supporters who came for something sweet and left with a much lighter wallet. Thank you for your generosity!. An additional special collection was taken to support the folks who were impacted by the EF-1 tornado, which hit on Wednesday, August 21st. We hope to have another fundraising event very soon for those impacted by the tornado.

In the future, watch for the ice cream cone hanging from the Meeting House sign and stop in to enjoy some time spent with your neighbors, and create your own frozen treat.

Hope to see you there to support this worthy cause.



Photos: Top right, Ellen McDuffie being mentored by experienced Ice Cream Social organizer, Dawn Bower. Above: and to the left: The tables were full as Wilcox ice cream and toppings were enjoyed by an overflow crowd. A third table eventually had to be setup.



Are You Registered to Vote?

by News & Notes Staff

Are you a new resident of Windham? Have you voted in an election in Windham in the past four years? Did you just become eligible to vote? Are you currently registered to vote in Windham? If you are unsure about your voter registration status, please call the Windham Town Clerk at 874-4211 to verify your status.

Windham Elementary School Celebrates First Day

from the School Board

We were very pleased, the first day of school, to have a lovely group of excited, young, smiling faces at the community potluck breakfast celebration.

While three of our sixth graders chose to attend Leland and Gray (tuition-free), we have two students from Jamaica and one student from Townshend attending Windham Elementary for whom we waived tuition. So it was sort of an even swap with the West River Modified Union School District.

We will continue to have conversations about the future of our school and invite everyone to our monthly meetings, typically the first Monday of the month at 4 PM, unless otherwise warned.

Public Bond Vote on September 10

A Public Bond Vote will be held in the towns of Windham, Townshend, Newfane, Jamaica and Brookline on Tuesday, September 10.

This election is to readopt, ratify and confirm the vote held on March 27, 2019, which was not properly warned for a bond issuance. In March, the member towns voted to "authorize the replacement and upgrade of the wood heat boiler system at Leland & Gray Middle/High School, in an amount not to exceed \$450,000 to be financed over a period not to exceed five years." We must have a new vote on this issue that has been properly warned according to Vermont law for a bond issuance.

The exact words of the warning for the Tuesday, September 10 vote are:

WARNING: "Shall the action taken at the Annual Meeting of the West River Modified Union Education District held on March 27, 2019, in spite of the fact that the Warning for that meeting did not mention that financing of the wood-fired boiler would be through a bond issuance, was not published in the Brattleboro Reformer for three consecutive weeks on the same day of the week and not posted in five places in each town, and any act or action of the municipal officers or agents pursuant thereto, be readopted, ratified and confirmed?"

NOTE: The vote in Windham will be held at the Meeting House from 10 AM - 7 PM on Tuesday, September 10.



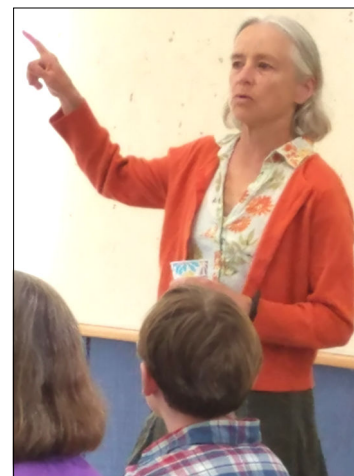
*Photos:
First Day of
School
Community
Potluck
Breakfast*



FIRST DAY of SCHOOL

On Wednesday, August 28th the students of Windham Elementary returned from summer vacation to a wonderful pot-luck breakfast in the all-purpose room. This annual event is a way to bring together community members, parents, students, and staff to talk about summer escapades and to get excited about the upcoming school year, while enjoying various breakfast treats donated by the aforementioned groups. This year there are many reasons to be even more excited than normal.

The first big accomplishment this summer was the hiring of Sarah Wunderle to follow Gail Wyman as the administrative assistant and classroom aide. Sarah is a lifelong resident of Vermont, lives in Rockingham, and is excited to be joining our school. She comes to us from many years of working with Circus Smirkus and is just getting settled in after their final show on August 19th. Please take a moment to say hello and introduce yourself when you see her at the school.



Another exciting development this summer is the addition of a two-month pilot After-School Program here at Windham School. For the months of September and October students will be able to remain here at school until 5:30 PM for a cost of ten dollars per day. During that time, students will be given a snack, be able to work on homework, have time to play some games, spend time outside, read, relax, or do a specific activity set up by the adult in charge. There is talk of also incorporating some time at Meadows Bee Farm as well for some special programs and experiences during After-School. At the school board meeting in October, the success and viability of the program will be discussed to determine if we can continue past the two-month pilot.

One more development this summer was the possibility of partnering with the Stratton Foundation to provide free lunch for all students. There is still more work to be done on this, but the hope is by October we will have applied for a grant and begin to set up five days a week of free lunch for all students. This lunch initiative goes in conjunction with our breakfast program started last year that is supported by donations from community members, families, and staff. The West Townshend Store may also continue to provide lunches twice a week as they have previously.

Sincerely,

MPJ [Mickey Parker-Jennings]

Low Interest Loans are Available

The town of Windham has had a Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program, managed by the Citizens Advisory Committee, for over 30 years. The program is designed to assist residential property owners, primarily low to very low income homeowners, on making home improvements for safe and sanitary housing. Over the years the committee has been able to provide low interest loans to residents of Windham for home improvements including roof repairs, septic systems, insulation, structural integrity, and window replacement, to name a few.

One element of the program the committee felt was missing was the ability to assist homeowners with do-it-yourself projects. We have recently included this provision so we can work with homeowners who have the ability to make their own home repairs. If you have any interest in learning more about the program, please feel free to contact Marcia Clinton, Committee Chair at 875-3531.

Thank You From Hal & Missy

A heartfelt 'thank you' to the many Windham residents who've sent notes, homemade beer (!!), etc., and to all those who helped with the truck caravans.

Thanks, Hal and Missy Wilkins

From the Planning Commission

by Bill Dunkel

The Planning Commission has been very busy updating the town's Zoning Regulations and its Enhanced Energy Plan. The Town Plan mandates the protection of Windham's "prominent ridgelines" above 2000 feet in elevation, which are to be left in their natural condition. This is easier said than done, given the difficulty of legally defining a ridgeline, let alone a prominent one. Two prominent environmental attorneys advised us that our current zoning regulations would be interpreted in such a manner that all land in Windham above 2000 feet would be considered a ridgeline and thus off limits to development of any kind. Such an interpretation, of course, would unduly restrict many property owners in town.

In order to protect the highest, most ecologically sensitive and aesthetically pleasing lands in town, while also respecting the property rights of landowners, the Planning Commission created a new High Elevation Resource Protection Overlay, which includes all land above 2000 feet in Windham's four Forest Districts. The sole permitted use in the overlay district is commercial forestry (including maple sugaring) in compliance with state regulations. The only conditional uses are pasturing livestock on existing open land, forestry for research/educational purposes and private camps. Permitted and conditional uses on land below 2000 feet in Forest Districts are considerably less restrictive and are similar to those allowed under our current regulations. A map of the High Elevation Resource Protection Area has been created and is included in the revised regulations. The problematic term "ridgelines" has been eliminated throughout the zoning regulations and "land above 2000 feet in elevation in Forest Districts" has been substituted for it.

In addition, the Planning Commission recommended that the boundary of the Timber Ridge Recreational/Commercial District be changed to include the ski trails, which are in the Forest District under current zoning regulations. Incorporating the trails into the Commercial/Recreational district allows possible solar or small wind projects there without having to create special zoning exceptions for residences in the entire Timber Ridge area. It also acknowledges the current recreational use of the trails and allows for their future commercial use, subject to relevant zoning regulations, if the landowner so desires.

Several other, relatively minor adjustments to the current regulations were proposed by the Planning Commission. No significant changes were proposed in zoning regulations affecting Rural Residential areas, where most people in Windham live. A summary of all the proposed changes, and the full text of the Zoning Regulations are available on the town website:

www.townofwindhamvt.com and at the Town Office. The Select Board sent a letter to all landowners who might be affected by these proposed zoning changes in advance of the public hearing which was held on August 19th at the Town Office. At the hearing, the changes noted above were explained in detail, several questions were answered, and a map of the zoning districts was displayed. The Select Board approved all the proposed changes to Windham's Zoning Regulations at its regularly scheduled meeting on September 2nd. The new regulations go into effect as of September 23, 2019.

The Planning Commission also proposed three minor changes to the town's Enhanced Energy Plan, which amounted to removing references to ridgelines and referring instead to land above 2000 feet in Forest Districts. The Enhanced Energy Plan, which is designed to update the energy section of the Town Plan and bring Windham into compliance with Act 174, was approved by the Select Board on June 12, after two public hearings. The three recent proposed changes are essentially semantic in nature, and the Select Board also adopted them at its September 2 meeting. A full text of the Enhanced Energy Plan is available on the town's website and at the Town Office. The Enhanced Energy Plan will be submitted to the Windham Regional Commission (WRC) soon. If it is approved by the WRC, the town will qualify for "substantial deference" at any future Public Utilities Commission hearings regarding commercial energy development in Windham.

Now that the Zoning Regulations and Enhanced Energy Plans have been approved, the Planning Commission is turning its attention to updating the Town Plan, which is valid until January 5, 2020. If you have any questions about the Zoning Regulations, the Enhanced Energy Plan, or the updating of the Town Plan, feel free to contact Bill Dunkel at bdunkel1455@gmail.com or any other member of the Planning Commission.

Windham Democrats to Caucus

On Wednesday, September 11 at 5:30 PM at the Town Office, the Democrats in the Town of Windham will hold their Biennial Reorganization meeting. This reorganization meeting is held every two years to elect officers and form a committee for the upcoming elections in the following year. Anyone who is a registered voter in the Town of Windham, who does not participate in the caucus of another political party, is welcome to attend. Please contact Carol Bellucci for more information, 874-4413.



[News & Notes has not received information on caucuses in Windham by any other parties at this time.]

Can't Wait for Next Year!

by Marcia Clinton

Fire Calls:

July 1 - Cross Road, possible illegal burn. 4 responded.

July 15 - Route 11, possible illegal burn. 2 responded.

July 31 - Hitchcock Hill Road, automatic alarm.
4 responded.

August 7 - Route 121, tree down blocking road.
5 responded.

August 14 - Mutual aid to South Londonderry, Melendy Hill Road, structure fire. 4 responded.

August 15 - Cross Road, possible illegal burn. 3 responded.

August 21 - 2 calls - #1, mutual aid to Londonderry, traffic control on Route 11 due to downed trees.
#2, Windham Hill Road, EF-1 tornado with downed trees.



It was a crazy weather day of sun, clouds, wind and rain showers; but the faithful supporters of the Windham Fire Company flocked in for the Annual Auction and BBQ on Saturday, August 10, 2019. For both the Auction and Flea Market, there were many treasures to be discovered and lots of bargains for the bidders and buyers. The 50/50 raffle ticket winner was drawn at noon, and the lucky winner received \$342.50!

Later in the evening people came, and kept coming, for the BBQ. 185 dinners were served, an all-time high. Some had to wait for the chicken to be cooked, but there was plenty of food for all.

There was standing room only for the next event - THE PIE AUCTION. John Hall, the auctioneer had 42 assorted pies and cakes donated to auction off, so he got right to work on that. Lots of friendly rivalry was exhibited in the bidding, with the highest price going for one pie at \$405. Another record set for the day!

One of the newer members of the Fire Company, recently retired from New York City, was blown away by the atmosphere of excitement, all the volunteer help and the genuine neighborliness of all who attended.

The members of the Fire Company wish to thank everyone who participated to make this one-day of fund raising so successful. Whether you donated items for the auction, bought a raffle ticket, helped with sorting and setting up, were a runner or bidder, prepared the food, baked a dessert, cooked at the concession stand, ate at the BBQ or helped with clean up - there is no way we could have done this without you. Thanks so very much to all.

Our newest member also said that he can't wait for next year!



**Windham Fire Company
Halloween Party
Friday, October 25, 5:45 PM
6 PM Costume Parade!**

Windham Fire Company Halloween Party, October 25, 6 PM

Friday, October 25, 2019, will be the date of the Windham Fire Company annual Halloween party for all the kids (and adults who wish to come in costume) in town. The costume parade begins at 6 PM sharp at the Firehouse on White Road in the north end of town. Prizes will be awarded for costumes in six categories, so don't be late! There will be hayrides, contests to guess the number of candies in a jar, no-hands eating of a donut hanging from a string, and the favorite, musical chairs. Lots of prizes for winners all evening. Bring your appetite for hot dogs, chips and various Halloween treats. Parents are encouraged to join the fun and bring some treats, either nutritious, such as finger food vegetables and fruits, or sweets, to share. At the end of the evening each child will receive a bag of treats to take home and memories of another fun Halloween party provided by the members of the Windham Volunteer Fire Company.



Celebrating 100 years of Donald C. Warner

by Donna Koutrakos

Former Windham resident, Donald C. Warner, passed away December 27, 2018. He was my Dad and we buried his ashes in the North Windham Cemetery in August. It was a quiet, beautiful, sunny morning with just family, as he had requested.

In 2008, I wrote an article about Tater Hill for this paper (Volume 6, No.2) explaining how we moved to Windham in 1966, where my Dad planned, designed, and built Tater Hill Country Club. He lived in Windham for 25 years, running Tater Hill for many of those and being very active in town government. In 2000, he was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for his many years of service to the town. Here, he became a PGA Pro. He ran x-country ski trails in the winter, as well as snowmobile rentals, for several years. His dream was to have a public golf club, with a swimming pool and tennis courts, that whole families could enjoy. Dad also built the airport across the road from the golf course, where he doubled as a flight instructor. He and his wife Lucille had five children and 49 years together. In 1990, Lucille J. Warner passed away and was buried in the North Windham Cemetery. A couple years later, Dad sold their home on Edson Drive and moved to Florida.

In Florida, he met his longtime companion, Mary Lou Griffiths, whom he shared the next 26 years of his life with. At the age of 95, he hit his fifth hole-in-one during a Men's Day Scramble at Churchill Greens at The Villages in Florida. He golfed, played tennis, and was active in many "Senior Games", winning many gold medals at The Villages.

Donald buried two of his three sons, Donald J. Warner and Ray H. Warner. He is survived by his son David A. Warner, daughters Judy A. Warner of Denver, CO and Donna L. Koutrakos of Charlottesville, VA. He had eight grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren when he peacefully passed away with Mary Lou at his side, after three days in the hospital.

In loving memory, for an amazing 100 years of living life to the fullest.



Donald C. Warner on his 100th Birthday!

WCO Chicken Barbecue 2019 by Kathy Jungermann



very popular craft raffle combined to put us over the top! We are very grateful to the community, and all of our essential volunteers, that helped support this event.

A line had formed long before the bells, tolling from the Meeting House, signaled the start of the dinner. We were delighted to have music provided by Alan Partridge, and Pete and Diane Newton, to liven up the evening. In addition to the tasty chicken, diners feasted on green salad, baked beans, potato salad and sweet breads, and enjoyed strawberry shortcake with fresh whipped cream for dessert.

At the top of our thank you list is Walter Woodruff and his BBQ Crew, as the chicken was superb! Imme Maurath, chairperson for this fundraiser, kept a watchful eye on every detail of the event. Essential to our success, were the many talented Windham artists and crafters who donated items to the raffle. We thank them for the time and effort they put into each piece. Finally, thank you to our WCO members and community volunteers, who contributed food and flowers, and managed the very busy kitchen.

Thank you all and we hope to see you next year!

Thanks to all who came from near and far. The Windham Community Organization (WCO) sponsored Chicken Barbecue was an unqualified success. Record attendance, a lovely summer day, and a



Photo, above: Mary Boyer and Dawn Bower ring the bell at 5 PM sharp!

Above left: Diners enjoy a lovely summer day under the big tent.

Night Light

by Claudio Veliz

Light is basic to our existence. When we consider lighting our way at night, we tend to think that more is better. The reality turns out to be more subtle.



There are no scientific studies that show increased light will improve safety from burglary and other crimes. In fact, about 70% of domestic burglaries nationwide occur in the daytime. If burglars prefer low-light conditions, then why would they do their dastardly deeds in...daylight? Further, anecdotal evidence suggests, in fact, that night burglars prefer well-lit properties for the obvious reason that it makes it easier for them to do what they do.

Glare can impede drive-by authorities from guarding for activity on a property, make driving less safe and increase pedestrian vulnerability to crime, all by inducing night blindness - the temporary constriction of one's pupils in response to bright lighting. This can be helped by using lower wattage bulbs and well designed, reflective shielding that constricts light to being emitted ten degrees below the horizontal, or lower, known as "full cutoff" lighting.

Recently, while on Chester's Planning Commission, I helped introduce full cutoff lighting in our Unified Development Bylaws, for commercial signage lighting. By using lower wattage fixtures and directing light in thoughtful ways, one can save a great deal on their annual energy costs. We recommend to our clients, using motion sensors and applying strategic timing strategies for their outdoor property lighting. This startles and deters potential burglars while saving a great deal on energy bills.

Vermont also has a wonderful asset to protect, the night sky. The more informed and responsible landowners and municipalities are with their lighting, the more attractive our region will be to an already well-established region for astronomy and star gazing.

Claudio is local - he lives in Chester and is the President of the Southern Vermont Astronomy Group, which meets at 7 PM on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Whiting Library in Chester. For more information, email him at cvarc@earthlink.net.

Annabel Carson Represents Vermont 4-H

Annabel Carson was chosen to represent Vermont 4-H at the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, MA on September 16 and 17, 2019. She will be performing on her violin with other 4-H members, individuals and groups from throughout the state.



Stringed Concert at Valley Bible Church

by Susan Persa

On July 26, Valley Bible Church was serenaded by the melodic melodies of over a dozen classical music students. Julian Grey, their teacher from Rockingham, directed. The two hour recital was the culmination of intense practice for many hours over the past two weeks. Two children from Windham, Annabel Carson on violin and Ben Griffin on guitar, joined the other students from Andover, Brookline, Chester, Springfield and Townshend performing classical pieces.

While the violins, viola and cello played, Mrs. Grey gave a thrilling performance of *Ave Maria* by Giulio Caccini. The classical pieces were interspersed with *Eleanor Rigby* by John Lennon and Paul McCartney and a lively rendition of *The Entertainer* by Scott Joplin. Anna (2nd violin) joined the Senior Stringed Quartet for a stirring presentation of *Tears in Heaven* by Eric Clapton. Anna's partners and Mrs. Grey complimented her, saying Anna "held them together." The final piece by J.S. Bach was performed by all the students.

We were all thrilled to hear the beautiful "sounds of music" in our hilltop country church!



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Joe Breznick Cabinetmaker

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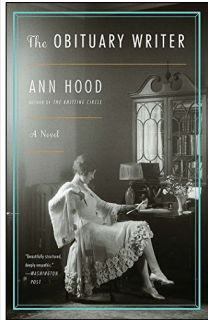


FRESH FOOD MARKET
Fresh Produce, Deli, Bakery, Meat
Beer, Wine, Natural and Gourmet Foods

MOUNTAIN MARKETPLACE
Jct. Route 100 and Route 11 in Londonderry

Windham Library Book Club**Wednesday, October 2, 2019 - 3:30 PM***The Obituary Writer*

by Ann Hood

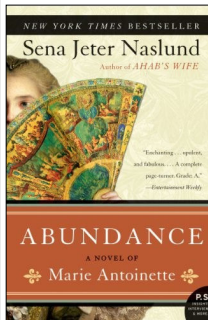


On the day John F. Kennedy is inaugurated, Claire, an uncompromising young wife and mother obsessed with the glamour of Jackie O, struggles over the decision of whether to stay in a loveless marriage or follow the man she loves and whose baby she may be carrying.

Decades earlier, in 1919, Vivien Lowe, an obituary writer, is searching for her lover who disappeared in the Great San Francisco Earthquake of 1906. By telling the stories of the dead, Vivien not only helps others cope with their grief but also begins to understand the devastation of her own terrible loss. The surprising connection between Claire and Vivien will change the life of one of them in unexpected and extraordinary ways. Part literary mystery, and part love story, *The Obituary Writer* examines expectations of marriage and love, the roles of wives and mothers, and the emotions of grief, regret, and hope.

Wednesday, November 6, 2019 - 3:30 PM*Abundance, A Novel of Marie Antoinette*

by Sena Jeter Naslund



Marie Antoinette was a child of fourteen when her mother, the Empress of Austria, arranged for her to leave her family and her country to become the wife of the fifteen-year-old Dauphin, the future King of France. Coming of age in the most public of arenas—eager to be a good wife and strong queen—she warmly embraces her adopted nation and its citizens. She shows her new husband nothing but love and encouragement, though he repeatedly fails to consummate their marriage, and in so doing is unable to give what she and the people of France desire most, a child and an heir to the throne. Deeply disappointed and isolated in her own intimate circle, and apart from the social life of the court, she allows herself to remain ignorant of the country's growing economic and political crises, even as poor harvests, bitter winters, war debts, and poverty precipitate rebellion and revenge. The young queen, once beloved by the common folk, becomes a target of scorn, cruelty, and hatred as she, the court's nobles, and the rest of the royal family are caught up in the nightmarish violence of a murderous time called "the Terror."

With penetrating insight and with wondrous narrative skill, Sena Jeter Naslund offers an intimate, fresh, heartbreaking, and dramatic reimagining of this truly compelling woman that goes far beyond popular myth—and she makes a bygone time of tumultuous change as real to us as the one we are living in now.



Right: Pottery by C. Rubin;
Carolyn Rubin in her studio

Once a Potter, Always a Potter

by Carolyn Rubin

Jeff and I are so pleased to have found the Town of Windham, for so many reasons. All the people we have met in the community in the last two years have been so open and warm and helpful. But, who knew, that Windham is also a community of folks interested in promoting each other's talents, creativity, crafts, hobbies and passions. That is what I discovered.

In 1970, (ugh! 50 years ago), I graduated Goddard College in Plainfield, VT with a degree in Ceramics. I spent the last 2 1/2 years of college hanging out in a beautiful barn which was the Goddard Pottery Studio. My idealistic goal was to be a professional potter and earn my living in Ceramics. I actually had the opportunity to apprentice for Jean-Paul Patnode, who had a pottery shop in a red barn at the foot of the Mountain Road in Stowe, for four months after graduation.

For the next five years, I lived in northern Vermont building a post and beam house from scratch, and trying to live off the land (no kidding)!!! My ceramics career and my time in Vermont had come to a timely end with moving to Boston, obtaining a Master's of Education, and becoming a Social Worker. Making pots became history, and after meeting Jeff, creating a home and family became a priority.

After 45 years of not even considering pottery as a hobby, my grown sons bought me a gift certificate to a local pottery collaborative in Brookline, MA. To make a long story short, not only did I reconnect to the craft after so many years, but I'm also back in Vermont throwing pots in a very funky old wood shed. I have two pottery wheels, but no kiln, so I bring my green ware pots back down to my studio in Brookline to be glazed and fired. My return to working in clay, with the Vermont countryside in my view, has inspired me to collect Vermont lace and incorporate the multiple textures and patterns into my pieces.

It has taken 50 years to come full circle from those days at Goddard, but man, it sure does feel like a dream come true to be a potter in the hills of Vermont again!! Please come by and say hello if you see our car in the driveway at 7071 Windham Hill Road.



Chocolate, Cheese, and Chili Fest Moves to New Location

by Kathy Jungermann

On August 5th, Neighborhood Connections of Londonderry held its annual fundraiser at a new location, The Motel in the Meadow, on Route 11 in Chester. Previously held at the Landgrove Inn, the new location attracted over 400 diners who sampled treats from over 20 businesses and local civic groups. Also new this year, was a tattoo station, face painting, and other activities for the children attending.

The Windham Community Organization, supported by Claudia Holmes of Claudia's Cupcakes and More, and Brenda Coolbeth of Windham Sweets, was happy to participate in this fundraiser for

Neighborhood Connections. Our local bakers supplied cupcakes, cookies, brownies, and cakes, as well as a large selection of gluten-free treats. This event was a great success, and will enable Neighborhood Connections to continue their work to connect local residents in need with appropriate services.

Our thanks to everyone who contributed to this effort, including Sally Hoover, Pat Cherry, Carolyn Partridge, Ellen McDuffie, and Kathy Jungermann.

If you missed the Fest, and would like to try one of the popular creations, try these Nutella Chocolate Spiral cookies.



Chocolate Spirals

Ingredients:

Nonstick cooking spray or oil
Flour for dusting
8.6 oz. puff pastry, 1 sheet, thawed
1/4 cup chocolate hazelnut spread (Nutella)
1 egg, beaten



Preparation:

- 1) Preheat oven to 400°F. Grease a baking sheeting with nonstick spray or oil.
- 2) Roll out puff pastry on a lightly floured surface to a 12" X 14" rectangle.
- 3) Use a spatula to evenly spread the chocolate hazelnut spread over half of the pastry. Fold the other half of the pastry over the top of the chocolate spread.
- 4) Slice lengthwise into twelve 1/2 inch wide strips.
- 5) Hold the top of a strip with one hand and use your other hand to twist. Once the twist goes all the way up the strip, roll it into a tight spiral and transfer to the baking sheet. Repeat with the rest of the strips.
- 6) Brush tops with egg wash.
- 7) Bake at 400°F for 12 minutes, or until golden brown.
- 8) Enjoy! Makes 12.

Neighborhood Connections to Show Documentary, Friday, September 20

Friday, September 20 at 7 PM, Neighborhood Connections will present the National Geographic documentary film "PARIS TO PITTSBURGH".

Join Doreen Fabiano and Carlene Lindgren, two climate conscious members of our community, for this documentary which "brings to life the impassioned efforts of individuals who are battling the most severe threats of climate change, in their own backyards." The film captures what's at stake for communities around the country and the inspiring ways Americans are responding.



Peru Fair, September 28

Start the Fall off at a good old-fashioned fair. The Peru Fair is Saturday, September 28 from 9 AM-4 PM. Parade starts at 9:45 AM. Enjoy a fabulous pig roast, music, crafts, cloggers, magicians, clowns, pony rides and more!

Photo below: WCO table at Chocolate Fest



Life Cycle of the Monarch Butterfly

*Photos courtesy of Cathy Stover & John Boynton,
all photos taken in their yard on Wheeler Road
Composed by Ellen McDuffie*

Monarch butterflies go through four stages during one life cycle.; the egg, the larvae (caterpillar), the pupa (chrysalis), and the adult butterfly. If that weren't enough, they actually produce four generations each year.

In February and March, the monarch butterflies come out of hibernation, from their chrysalis in Mexico and California searching for a mate. They then migrate north and east in the U.S. in order to find a place to lay their eggs on milkweed species only. This begins the first generation of the year, for the monarch butterfly.

In March and April, the eggs are laid on milkweed plants only in the plains and northeast. They hatch into baby caterpillars, called larvae, in about four days. Then the baby caterpillars don't do much more than eat lots of milkweed while they grow. After about two weeks, the caterpillars are fully-grown, and will find a safe place to attach, away from the feeding area, so they can start the process of metamorphosis. They use silks they spin to

attach to a protected surface and begin to curl, transforming into a chrysalis, or pupa. Although, from the outside, the ten days of the chrysalis phase seems to be a time when nothing is happening, it is really a time of rapid change. Within the chrysalis, the old body parts of the caterpillar are undergoing a remarkable transformation called metamorphosis, to become the beautiful butterfly that will emerge.

As it emerges from the pupa, it slowly unfolds and opens its wings to fly, then feeding on nectar from flowers and enjoying the short life it has left, which is only about two to six weeks. It mates and lays its eggs. This first generation monarch butterfly will then die after laying eggs for generation number two.

The second generation of monarchs are born in May and June, and then the third generation will be born in July and August. These butterflies will go through exactly the same four-stage life cycle as the first generation did, dying two to six weeks after becoming a butterfly.

The fourth generation is a little bit different than the first three. The fourth generation is born in September and October, and goes through exactly the same life cycles as the first, second and third generations except for one difference. The fourth generation of monarchs does not die after two to six weeks. Instead, this generation migrates to warmer climates in Mexico and California, and will live for six to eight months, until it

is time to start the whole process over again the next February or March.

[Plant milkweed on your property, and you can watch this wonder of nature first-hand in your own yard.

Just ask Arline Hay and Tom Price who also have the same amazing feat of nature happening in their own garden.]



From Green Up Vermont Blog **Don't Leave Cigarette butts are litter!**

According to the Ocean Conservancy, cigarette butt litter accounts for one in every five items collected during

clean ups, making it the most prevalent form of litter on earth. There are over 176,000,000 pounds of discarded cigarette butts in the United States each year.

Is cigarette waste toxic?

Yes. Cigarettes contain more than 7,000 chemicals, such as arsenic and formaldehyde. Littered cigarette butts leach toxic chemicals into the environment and can contaminate water. The toxic exposure can poison fish, as well as animals who eat cigarette butts.

What is in a typical cigarette filter?

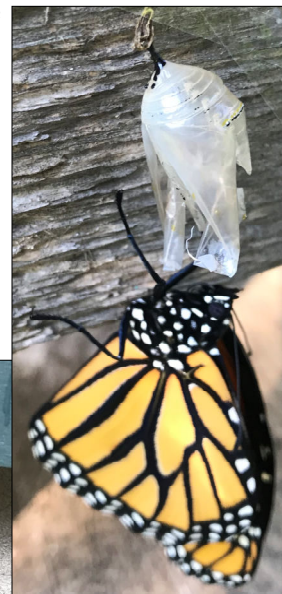
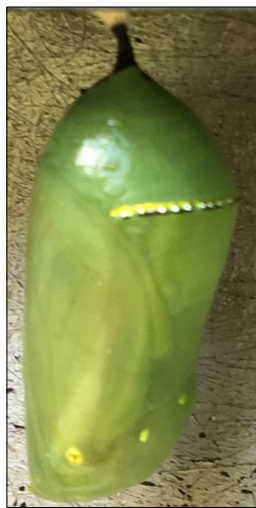
98 percent of cigarette filters are made of plastic fibers that are tightly packed together, which leads to an estimated 1.69 billion pounds of cigarette butts winding up as toxic trash each year.

Are cigarettes biodegradable?

No. The plastic fibers in cigarettes are non-biodegradable, meaning they won't organically break down from living organisms.

How long does it take for cigarettes to decompose? Although cigarettes don't break down naturally, they can gradually decompose depending on environmental conditions, like the rain and sun. Estimates on the time it takes vary, but a recent study found that a cigarette butt was only about 38 percent decomposed after two years.

**Don't Leave
YOUR
Butts
Behind!**



Grace Cottage Receives Five 'Readers' Choice Awards'

from Jacki Brown and the Cottage Door

On July 27th, The Brattleboro Reformer published the winners of their 14th annual "Best of Windham County, Readers' Choice Awards" contest. Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital received top honors in five categories: Best Hospital, Best Emergency Care, Best Physical Therapy (third year), Best Pediatrician (Dr. Elizabeth Linder), and Best Place to Work (third year in a row). "We are all very proud to be viewed so favorably, not just in the West River Valley, but throughout Windham County and beyond," said Grace Cottage CEO Doug DiVello.

Four highly-qualified and experienced medical providers have recently joined Grace Cottage's Emergency Department: Darrin Michalak, Gregory Raines, Josh Rosenblum, and Rachel Spengler.



[Windham's] Rachel Spengler joined Grace Cottage in May. She graduated from the University of Vermont, and then completed the Physician Assistant (PA) program at Albany-Hudson Valley in 1990. Rachel has worked as an Emergency Medicine PA for 29 years. She started in the ER at Albany Memorial Hospital, and

spent the last 21 years working in the ERs of Springfield Hospital and Mount Ascutney Hospital. She also worked at Mountain Sports Medicine at Mount Snow for nearly 20 years, gaining a fondness for sports medicine, wilderness medicine, orthopedics, and trauma treatment. She is a co-owner and practicing clinician with Emergency Services of New England, Inc. Rachel lives in Windham, VT with her 13-year-old son; she enjoys skiing, snowboarding, sailing, and scuba diving.

Dr. George Terwilliger has recently joined Grace Cottage as Chief Medical Officer (CMO), upon the July 30 retirement of former CMO Dr. Christopher Schmidt. A lifelong Vermonter, Terwilliger is a graduate of the University of Vermont, College of Medicine.

Grace Cottage Welcomes New Patient Resource Advocate

by Jacki Brown

Jocelyne Smith, CAC, has joined Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital as a full-time Patient Resource Advocate. Jocelyne is available to help patients estimate upcoming medical expenses at Grace Cottage, and help eligible patients apply for free or reduced-fee care. As a Certified Application Counselor (CAC), Jocelyne assists community members in obtaining or maintaining health insurance through Vermont Health Connect and discovering what Medicare D Plan might be best for them. She can also offer assistance in finding government programs for help with food, heating, fuel, and housing expenses. Appointments with Jocelyne are confidential and free to all residents within the Grace Cottage service area. To speak with Jocelyne or make an appointment, email jsmith@gracecottage.org or call 365-3770.

Her hours are Monday - Friday, 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.



Help for Family Dental Care

According to a recent community health needs assessment conducted by

Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, there are about 5,000 adults in Windham County who don't have a regular dental care provider. To address this need, the hospital has collaborated with the United Way of Windham County to open the Windham County Dental Center.

The Center, located at 375 Canal Street in Brattleboro (across Belmont Avenue from the hospital) opened its doors on May 21st. The Center will accept patients with no insurance, commercial insurance, or Medicaid. Services offered include extractions, fillings, cleanings, and emergency care.

If you are interested, to see if you qualify for an appointment, call 802-490-2923. To learn more, find the Windham Dental Center on Facebook or visit the United Way website at www.unitedwaywindham.org.



185 Grafton Road
(Route 35)
Townshend, VT
www.gracecottage.org
802-365-7357



HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION**Saturday, October 5, 2019, 9 AM - 1PM**Flood Brook School, Route 11, Londonderry
Contact Esther Fishman, 824-3306 for more info.**Vermont Waste Management**

In 2012, the Vermont Legislature unanimously passed the Universal Recycling Law (Act 148), which effectively bans disposal of three major types of waste materials commonly found in Vermonters' trash bins, over the course of six years. In 2015, recyclables were banned from the landfills. In 2016, yard debris and clean wood were banned, and **July 1, 2020 all food scraps will be banned from Vermont's landfills.** If it was once part of something alive, like a plant or animal, it does not belong in the landfill. Food scraps will need to be managed separately from trash. Visit the Department of Environmental Conservation's website to learn more: <http://dec.vermont.gov/waste-management/solid/universal-recycling>

**Townshend Farmers Market**

Located on the lawn of the historic West Townshend Country Store, the Townshend Farmers Market will run every Friday through October 11 from 4:30-7 PM. From 5-7:30 PM, the Café will be serving their famous wood-fired pizza, with a selection of local, seasonal toppings. Music will be provided by various local groups. And don't forget, the Thrift Shop upstairs is open until 7 PM on Fridays. The market is sponsored by the West River Community Project, a non-profit dedicated to promoting agricultural, economic and social activities of the West River Valley

STRONG LIVING, Monday & Thursday, 10 AM at the Meeting House

Strong Living is a group exercise program developed through research by Tufts University to assist older adults with health and wellness. Classes are designed for active and sedentary adults, and focus on light weight training, stretching, and balance exercises to improve fitness, mobility, and strength.

TOWN CONTACTS**TOWN WEBSITE: TOWNOFWINDHAMVT.COM**

Town Clerk: Michael McLaine, phone: 874-4211; email: windham.town@gmail.com

Town Treasurer: Kathy Scott, phone: 874-4211; email: windham.towntreasurer@gmail.com

Town Road Commissioner: Richard Paré, cell phone: 802-379-5647 or call the Town Garage, 874-7025

Lister and Zoning: Alison Cummings, 874-7223; cobbbrookfarm@gmail.com; Lister: Russ Cumming, 874-7011

E911 Coordinator and Lister: Meredith Tips-McLaine, 875-1550; meredithtipsmclaine@gmail.com

Select Board: Maureen Bell, chair, phone: 875-1024; email: mbellselectboard@gmail.com

School Board: Antje Ruppert, phone: 874-4759; email: antje@sover.net

Windham Community Organization: Ellen McDuffie, phone: 874-8183; email: eflockwood@aol.com

Windham Fire Warden: Rick Weitzel, phone: 874-4104; Ralph Wyman, phone: 875-3373

Health Officer: Marcia Clinton, phone: 875-3531; email: mcClinton@vermontel.net

Planning and Energy Commission: Bill Dunkel, phone: 874-4131; email: bdunkel1455@gmail.com (lower case L, then number 1455)



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Windham News & Notes
5976 Windham Hill Road
Windham, VT 05359

Windham News & Notes
welcomes submissions. Send
articles of about 300 words to
the above address or by email to:
windhamnews@hotmail.com .

*Please keep us informed of any
name or address changes. News
& Notes will not be forwarded*



OFFICIAL TOWN WEBSITE

Be sure to use the Official Windham Town
Website: **TOWNOFWINDHAMVT.COM**
for warnings, meeting schedules and
minutes, events, town information. Please
contact the webmaster, Vance Bell, with
input: webmaster@townofwindhamvt.com.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED WINDHAM MEETINGS

**Citizens Advisory
Committee**, Second
Tuesday of Feb, May, Aug
& Nov; November 12
at 6:30 PM at Town Office.

Energy Committee:
3rd Thursday of the month,
September 19 & October 17 at
4:30 PM at Town Office,

**Windham Community
Organization:**
Last Wednesday of the month,
September 25 & October 30
at 7 PM at the Meeting House.
Call Ellen McDuffie at
874-8183 for more info.

Town Clerk: 874-4211
Monday: Noon - 8:00 PM
Tuesday: 6:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Wednesday: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Closed all Thursdays, Fridays, and
Federal Holidays. Open every
fourth Saturday, September 28
& October 26, 8 AM - Noon.

Planning and Zoning:
Second Wednesday of the
month, September 11 &
October 9 at 6:30 PM at
the Town Office. Open
meetings. Agenda posted.
Call Bill Dunkel at 874-4131.

Conservation Committee:
Third Tuesday of the month
at 7:00 PM, Sept 17 & Oct
15 usually at the Town Of-
fice. Open meetings.
Call Alison Trowbridge at
874-7050 for information.

Select Board:
1st & 3rd Mondays, Sept 16 &
Oct 7 & 21 & Nov 4 at
5:30 PM at the Town Office.
Open meetings. Agenda post-
ed. Check website:
townofwindhamvt.com

Library:
Every Wednesday, 3-5 PM
at the Meeting House,
Book Group at 3:30 PM,
1st Wednesdays, Sept 4,
Oct 2 & Nov 6 at the
Meeting House.

Valley Bible Church:
Sundays: Sunday School,
10 AM; Morning Worship,
11 AM; Potluck following;
Sun. Afternoon Service,
1:15 PM; Wednesdays, Bible
Study/ Prayer, 7 PM.

School Board:
First Mondays, at 4 PM at
the school; September 9 &
October 7. Call Antje
Ruppert at 874-4759 for
information.

Volunteer Fire Company:
First Thursday of the
month, September 5 &
October 2 at 6 PM at the
Firehouse. Heavy refresh-
ments/ potluck dinner
served.

Listers: Every Wednesday,
9 AM- Noon at the Town
Office.

WRMU Union School District:
Third Mondays at 7 PM at
Leland & Gray. Call Leland &
Gray for confirmation.

SAVE THESE DATES!

September 10 - Bond Vote for Leland & Gray boiler, 10 AM-7 PM at Meeting House

September 11 - Democratic Caucus, 5:30 PM at Town Office

October 25 - Halloween Party at the Firehouse, 5:45 PM

October 31 - Property Taxes Due. Town Office open 9 AM - 5 PM for tax payments only

November 1 - Deadline to enter Library Photo Contest

November 9 - Harvest Supper and Square Dance, 5 PM at the Meeting House





**2019 ANNUAL WINDHAM PHOTO CONTEST
“CAPTURING THE BEAUTY OF WINDHAM”**



Limit of 3 photos per person. Originals preferred.

8” X 10” photos are best for display and judging.

Please do not mount or frame your photos.

Only photos taken in Windham, with no people, will be considered for prizes and for the 2020 Windham Town Library Calendar.

Photos can be left at or mailed to the Windham Town Office:

5976 Windham Hill Road

Windham, VT 05359

OR delivered to the Library during library hours, Wednesdays, 3-5 PM.

All photos must be submitted by Friday, November 1.

Photos will be exhibited in the Library at the Harvest Supper on November 9, and will be judged by attendees that evening. Windham calendars will be ready for Christmas gift giving and can be purchased at the Windham Library or the Town Office by Thanksgiving.

NAME _____ **PHONE** _____

ADDRESS _____

TITLE OF PHOTO (required) _____

Please read and sign below:

I understand that contest photos become the property of the Windham Town Library and income derived from the use of the photos will go to the Windham Town Library for the betterment of the library. Any use of a photo will credit the photographer. The photo may be included in the 2020 Windham Town Library Calendar.

I understand that this photo will be exhibited for public viewing in the Windham Town Library. I further understand that only photos of Windham will be considered for prizes and for the Windham Town Library Calendar.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

PLEASE TURN IN PHOTOS BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Print and fill out form to submit with each photo entry.