



WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES



Windham Elementary School Celebrates Sally Newton and Six Graduates

by Sara Wunderle

Saturday, June 13, 2020, at 10 AM on a beautiful summer morning, on the playing field of Windham Elementary School (WES) the community celebrated six graduates and a well-loved teacher.

Davin Visconti, Carson Gordon, Marley Felker, Abe Newton, Gracie Packard, and Lucca Pozzi graduated from Windham Elementary School after completing an unprecedented school year, due to the onsite closing of schools in March due to COVID-19.

Thanks to changes in the state's requirements for

graduation ceremonies due to the pandemic, the WES staff were able to make last-minute plans to hold graduation for the six Windham students. Donning masks and keeping socially distanced, both graduates and attendees enjoyed a ceremony that was filled with speeches, music, and lots of gratitude and thanks.

In addition to the amazing WES tradition of Ben Partridge's bagpipes, there was a surprise guest that also joined the procession. Troy Wunderle (Sara's husband) surprised everyone by leading the march on very tall

circus stilts. When leaving the school building, and again near the end of the procession as they entered the aisle to their seats, each graduate was able to walk between Troy's stilt legs

Teaching Principal, Mickey Parker-Jennings, began the ceremony with his welcoming remarks that included acknowledgments to his staff, school board, parents, and community. Special words were saved for retiring teacher Sally Newton and for long term school board member Carolyn Partridge.

The Windham School Board then extended their thanks and appreciation to all involved for making this abnormal school year so successful for the Windham students. Beautiful flowers were gifted to all staff and support staff in thanks.

Special recognition was given to retiring teacher Sally Newton. After 24 years of teaching and mentoring students, and leading such special programs as the Farm Program at Meadows Bee Farm, the Ukelele After-School Program, and the Walking and Running Club, Sally has decided to retire.

Two apple trees were gifted to Sally from the community and the WES School Board. One tree will be planted on the grounds of the school and will be dedicated to Sally via a plaque that was designed by Antje Ruppert. A copy of the plaque was also made, with the help of Amos Newton, and it was presented to Sally for her to keep at her home, along with the other tree, to always remind her of her time at WES. Sally is a one-of-a-kind teacher who will be sorely missed at Windham Elementary. But Sally has promised she will still be around to volunteer and share her special talents with our students in the future.

The graduates shared their memories, thanks, and appreciation through their touching speeches. There was humor, appreciation, and pure joy expressed by

(Graduation - Continued on Page 2)



(Graduation - Continued from Page 1)

all of the graduates. Although excited for their next journey, they know how special their time has been at Windham Elementary, and they will carry what they have learned and experienced here with them in their next journey.

Diplomas were presented to each graduate and instead of hugs, socially-distanced "foot bumps" were exchanged with the teaching principal, Mr. Parker-Jennings, and each of the School Board members. Tassels were moved from right to left, and graduation caps were tossed into the air for celebration.



Lucca Pozzi & Abe Newton

Attendees were then treated to original lyrics of a song titled "The Windham School Song" that was performed by Lucca Pozzi and Abe Newton. Their song was followed by selections chosen by the graduates and led by Sally Newton. For the last song of the morning, alumni were encouraged to join the staff and students in singing *Dona Nobis Pacem*, a Windham tradition.

Congratulations and best wishes to Sally Newton, Davin Visconti, Carson Gordon, Marley Felker, Abe Newton, Gracie Packard, and Lucca Pozzi. Windham Elementary School will always be your home and its doors will always be open to you.

[Many more great photos are at: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19uh5wA_acKTYi6E0G-VsyBJzltbGrb_P]

To Join A Zoom Selectboard Meeting:

Selectboard meeting information is available from the printed agendas that are posted throughout town on Saturdays before meetings, on the town website, or email Maureen for an invite at mbellselectboard@gmail.com.

Selectboard News

First of all, we hope this finds you all healthy. When we last saw each other at Town Meeting, we didn't know what was on the horizon, with respect to COVID-19. We remember Marcia telling us how important it was to wash our hands for 20 seconds minimum, singing through "Happy Birthday" twice. We've been doing that for three months now, with no sign of letting up. We are reminded daily about personal hygiene, social distancing, staying home if you are sick, and covering up your mouth and nose. And you know what, it seems to be working for us here, in our little slice of Vermont.

Even though our lives have pretty much been turned upside down, the business of the Town goes on. Our Town Clerk has kept the office open and has been "getting it done". The Road Crew has been on the job, through a few more snow storms (!) and now other kinds of road maintenance. The Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Listers have all been reporting for duty to make sure the Town stays on course. Let's give them a great, big cheer!

We would be remiss if we didn't mention all of the other essential workers around Town who have kept on moving and working hard so that we can stay healthy and safe – the fire fighters and law enforcement, store clerks, nurses, doctors, sanitation workers, maintenance workers, mechanics, farmers, teachers, plumbers, electricians, USPS, UPS and FedEx guys/gals, other delivery folks – the list goes on and on. Thank you! Thank you so much!

The Selectboard has also been continuing our work too, though meeting on Zoom, rather than in-person. The meetings have been just as full of content, and lively as ever. We've been working on updating our Highway Ordinance, and along with input from Windham residents, we have been drafting and reviewing an Animal Control Ordinance. It will include a section pertaining to any incident where a person is bitten by a domestic pet. The purpose of this ordinance is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public, and also of domestic pets, domestic animals and wolf-hybrids of the Town of Windham. This proposed ordinance is being reviewed by the town attorney. After the Selectboard adopts the ordinance, there is a sixty-day public comment period during which all Windham residents and property owners are urged to review the ordinance, before it is passed. During the public comment period, it will be posted on the Town of Windham website and in the Town Office.

We adopted our Local Emergency Plan (which we hope to never have to use) and secured a donation from Microsoft to make The Meeting House an open Wi-Fi Hotspot. This is in addition to joining a group through the Windham Regional Commission that is working to bring broadband to all of Windham in the near future!

We are here for you. If you need to, please reach out to us. And please, above all else, stay safe and healthy.

Maureen, Kord and Peter

Windham Regional Broadband Update

by David Cherry

The Windham Regional Broadband Project is moving forward. The Town of Windham has joined the Deerfield Valley Communications Union District (DVCUD). Another important milestone was reached when the Vermont Public Service Department approved the DVCUD Broadband Feasibility Study. This approval allows the development of a detailed business plan that will go out to bid to several interested fiber optic network construction providers. It is anticipated that the build-out of the network and initiation of service would follow in a three to five year timeframe. Funding will come from federal, state and private sources. Details of the project can be found at: [Windham Regional Broadband Project](http://www.windhamregional.org/broadband) (<http://www.windhamregional.org/broadband>).

More information is also available at the Deer Valley Communication Union website at: <https://dvfiber.org/>.



WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES

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

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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: August 15, 2020



All Dogs Must Be Registered in the Town Office and Current Rabies Vaccination Must Be on File.

This is State Law!

Bring or mail certification of rabies vaccination and proof of neuter/spay, if applicable. After July 1, fees are: neutered or spayed dogs, \$12. Intact males, females, wolf hybrids, \$18. You may mail in your registration fee or drop it by the office.

New Town Office Hours during Covid-19 **FACE MASK MUST BE WORN**

Monday 4- 8 PM
Tuesday 6 AM - 10 AM
Fourth Saturday of the Month
8 AM - Noon
July 25
August 22
CLOSED Wed., Thurs., Fri.
& ALL Federal Holidays

Open by Appointment
for records research
802-874-4211 or 802-875-1550
or email
windham.town@gmail.com

Responding to the 2020 Census - Everyone Counts

by Kathy Jungermann



Here are some current facts regarding the progress of the 2020 Census in Vermont. The Vermont response rate as of mid-June was 51.2%, **nearly 10 points behind the national average**. Hand-delivery of the form was suspended on March 15 due to COVID-19. Windham County, where 40% of households will receive their census paperwork through hand delivery, has a very low response rate of 35.9%. The Census Bureau restarted its

counting efforts in June and has begun door-to-door delivery of the form. You can respond from home and don't need to wait for the form. **The deadline for responding has been extended to August 14**, so anyone can go on the website at www.my2020census.gov to be counted, or if you are unable to respond online, you can take the census over the phone, toll free, at 844-330-2020. It's quick and painless.

Your participation affects school lunches, plans for highways, support for firefighters and families in need, so not responding can have costly consequences for Windham and its surrounding communities. Your responses to the 2020 Census are safe, secure, and protected by federal law. You will be asked a few simple questions, like age, sex, and the number of people who live in your home, including children. The process takes less than 10 minutes. The census will never ask for Social Security numbers, bank or credit card numbers, money or donations, or anything related to political parties.

Windham Volunteer Fire Company

290 White Rd.
Windham, VT 05143
802-875-5332

June 9, 2020

Dear Friends of the Windham Volunteer Fire Company:

This year has brought some very unexpected changes to our daily lives. All of us have felt the impact of COVID-19. Here in Vermont, we are fortunate that the virus has not affected us as gravely as our neighboring states, but we must take precautions nonetheless.

I am sorry to report that the Fire Company has voted to cancel our annual auction, barbecue, and pie auction. This is by far our biggest fund-raising event of the year, but we felt that we must err on the side of caution in deference to people's safety and in the interest of public health.

I want to reassure you that we are still here and responding to emergency calls. This has not changed, and our volunteers are as committed as ever.



Congratulations to Abram Newton, a dedicated student, great musician, wonderful brother and son.

May your next adventure be excellent as well!

We love you,

Ilana, Amos & Lilian

We would appreciate any donations you are able to give to support the Fire Company. We plan on continuing with the 50/50 raffle; we normally sell between 500-700 of these tickets every year. The cost is \$1 per ticket or \$5 for six (6) tickets. You may contact Jan Wyman at 875 3373 to acquire raffle tickets. The raffle will take place on Facebook on August 8, the day we normally would have had the auction.

Thank you for your continued support. I believe that the Fire Company is an integral part of our community, and we wouldn't be able to survive if it weren't for the generosity of our friends and neighbors.

Stay safe.

Cordially,
Mike
McLaine,
President



Fire Company 50/50 Raffle Is On!

by Marcia Clinton

Windham Fire Calls:

February 16 - Timber Ridge Rd. Automatic alarm. 5 responded.

February 21 - Mutual aid to Londonderry Rescue Squad for lift assistance. 4 responded.

April 24 - Mutual aid to Chester, Route 11, Andover for structure fire. 8 responded.

May 4 - Harrington Rd., Meeting House. Automatic alarm. 5 responded.

The members of the Fire Company voted to cancel the annual auction and BBQ for this summer in the interest of public health during this pandemic. A letter from Mike McLaine, the president, was sent out explaining our decision. [Printed above.]

BUT, the 50/50 raffle is still alive! Two books of tickets will be with the letter you receive in the mail, so look for them in the envelope. A book of 6 tickets costs \$5.00, or a single ticket is \$1.00. Last year the payout to the lucky winner was over \$350! The winning ticket will be pulled LIVE on Facebook on Saturday, August 8th. Time to be determined, so stay tuned.

There is no limit to the number of tickets any one person can buy. If you want more books of tickets, you can call either Jan Wyman at 875-3373 or Marcia Clinton at 875-3531, and we will deliver them. Tell your friends, neighbors, relatives - everyone! The Windham Fire Company very much appreciates your continued support.



Congratulations, Carson Gordon, on 6th grade graduation!!!! We are so proud of you!!

Love, Daddy, Stormie, Grandpa, Grandma and Remington

We love you!!!!

A VERY BIG THANK YOU!!!!

The Windham Volunteer Fire Company would like to send out a very special thank you to Marcia Clinton. She took time out of her busy days and made several masks for everyone on the Fire Company so we can respond to calls in a safe way. We want her to know that she is very, very much appreciated for all that she does. Thank you!!!!

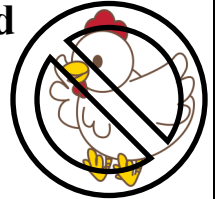
Your friends,
Windham Volunteer Fire Company!!!!

Thank you, Sally Newton, for all you have given our children over the past 24 years!

Throughout this issue you will find twelve poems written by Sally's students in April, while learning from home, after school was closed due to Governor Scott's orders to close schools in mid-March to help contain the spread of COVID-19. Please look for poems by Tucker, David Baxter, Sheperd Finch, James Carson, Ivy Packard, Jenna Devine, Lydia Dutton, Nevaeh Calebrese, Olive Finch, Lilian Newton and Julia Devine.

Annual Chicken BBQ Canceled

by Imme Maurath



It is with great sadness that I tell you that the Windham Community Organization's (WCO) Annual Chicken BBQ has been canceled this year due to Covid-19, as with many other events around the world. This is the biggest fundraiser for the WCO (besides the subscription donations that we receive for the *Windham News & Notes*). In these times, it just means we won't have the funds we normally have to put back into the community. It's also a community get-together that will really be missed now as we all long to get back together. So everyone stay well, wear your masks to protect others, and continue to socially distance.



Davin,

Boy, does time fly! It feels like only yesterday you were starting kindergarten but here we are, sending you off to 7th grade! You are full of brilliance and we can't wait to see where you channel that energy. This next chapter in your life will open so many doors to new experiences and interests. Ones that you may carry with you for a lifetime! We wish you the best in your academic career at Leland and Gray and we look forward to watching you flourish! Send it!

Yoga for Our Community

Anyone can come to a class regardless of payment. Pay what you can, if you can. There is a breath and meditation class every Tuesday & Friday on Zoom, 8 - 8:40 AM. Also there is Gentle Hatha Yoga every Thursday 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM. If you would like the Mindfulness/Yoga schedule, go to <https://www.buddhafullyyoga.com/> or email Liza Eaton at eaton.liza@gmail.com. The Zoom link info is on the website. It's always the same Zoom link.

A Tale of Two Houses

by Michael Simonds

Since buying property on Old Cheney Road, I have built two houses that provide insight into the qualities of energy-efficient homes. For me, it has been a learning experience with satisfying results.



My first home at 1113 Old Cheney, built in 1996, started out as a single-family home, focusing on comfort and the views outside. It has many large windows – the ones from the south and west provide “solar gain” by bringing the warmth of the sun into the house, while the ones to the north and east lose more heat than they gain. Many of the windows are double-glazed, keeping the cold out in winter. The walls are seven-inches thick and insulated with fiberglass batts providing an R-value of 19, which was considered the best practice at the time.

Over the years, the house grew into a three-family apartment house, and I tried different heating methods, including radiant floor heat, hot-water baseboards, and Rinnai room heaters. All are powered by propane. The water heater is a traditional one, also powered by propane. Most of the light bulbs were fluorescent bulbs and are now LEDs. A few years ago, an energy audit was done, and a few minor steps were suggested, like providing a better seal on an outside door.

When my wife, Mary McCoy, and I built a second home more recently, we decided to make it as energy efficient as possible, and with our concerns about climate change, we chose to use very little fossil fuel. Our first step was to install solar panels to produce the power for building our house, and then living in it. The power generated goes into the grid in Green Mountain Power’s net metering program – they pay us for what we generate, and we buy power back from them for less than what we’re paid.

Throughout the house’s construction, we received advice about conservation from Efficiency Vermont. As recommended, the house is small and compact, less than a quarter of the size of our first house. All windows are double-glazed. The ones to the north and east are small, and the windows to the south and west are larger. Most windows are to the west, providing solar gain and great views of the Turkey Mountain Ridge. The walls are 11½-inches thick with rigid foam insulation that has an R-value of 30, and the attic floor has 18 inches of blown-in cellulose with an R-value of 40.

Instead of having eight-foot-deep frost walls and a 12-to-18-inch poured slab which require an enormous amount of concrete (not a green material), we have no frost walls and a reinforced slab that is 18-inches thick on the perimeter and only six-inches thick in the center. We have three inches of rigid foam insulation under the slab and three feet beyond the perimeter. This creates a dome effect underneath the house that captures geothermal heat from the earth. The unheated basement

stays at nearly 60 degrees all winter.

The construction of the house is so tight that a ventilation system is required to prevent indoor air pollution. We have two six-inch tubes on opposite sides of each of our two heated floors. Every 70 seconds, one tube brings in air while the other exhausts air. Then they reverse. In the winter they capture 93% of the heat going out and use it to heat up the air coming in.

We equipped this house differently than the other. It is heated with a cold climate heat pump, and we have a heat pump water heater. All the lighting in the house is LED, and all the appliances are Energy Star. We also have Tesla batteries through Green Mountain Power’s program, which provide backup power for us when the grid is down. They also allow GMP to draw green energy from our house when they need additional power, for which we’re paid. The house is entirely all-electric, except for a small amount of propane used for our cook-top.

We are happy to use almost no fossil fuel and to realize that going this route hasn’t been costly for us. Although both houses are considered energy efficient, the newer house is more so. Based on our energy bills in 2018 and 2019, the larger house costs \$1.73 per square foot to operate, and the smaller one costs \$1.10 per square foot, which includes the earnings from our solar panels and our Tesla batteries.

Anyone with a concern about climate change and their pocket book might consider some of the steps we’ve taken, even if you have no plans to build a new house. Buying heaters, appliances, and fixtures that are energy efficient, generating your own solar energy, and taking advantage of Green Mountain Power’s net metering and Tesla battery programs are steps to consider.

If you have questions about my experience, feel free to call me at 874-4790. In addition, Windham’s Energy Committee will host an Energy Fair here when it is safe for us to all gather. Many of you attended a fair here when the house was under construction, and we hope you will return to see the nearly finished product.

Scooby

My big dog named Scooby,

White with black spots,

In the pantry,

Getting into the garbage.

By David Baxter





Katsiroubas Produce Boxes

by Imme Maurath

When the coronavirus shut everything down in mid-March, Jo-Jo and Jim Chlebogiannis

wanted to do something to help the community, so they put together very awesome produce boxes for \$25 through Jim's company Katsiroubas Brothers. The first week, along with helpers Steve and Imme Maurath, and Kate Wright, Jo-Jo and Jim handed out almost 100 boxes of fresh produce. The contents went viral on social media, and through the help of Chris Meyer from Chester Helping Hands, the group is now putting out over 600 boxes a week. Pick-up was moved to Chester Elementary School, due to the volume.

About three weeks ago, they collected donations to provide produce boxes to over 100 First Responders in multiple communities, including the town of Windham. **AMAZING!**

The past three weeks have also brought in some other vendors selling flowers, goat cheese, quail and quail eggs, annuals, fresh squeezed lemonade, and this past week, scrumptious pie. To sign up for produce or any of the other products, go to Facebook and search for Chester Helping Hands. At the top of each post is a plus sign. Click on that and scroll down to join the group. Once they accept you as a friend, they will send you notices to place an order for the week. Please read the explicit instructions on how to pay (like exact amount of cash, in separate envelopes for each item, and also for donations). There is also a weekly contest for the art work on these envelopes. Check out Facebook for the theme of the week. Prizes are gift cards to local establishments.

Thank you all for the incredible energy you bring forth.



A Letter from the Lowell Lake Concerned Citizens Committee

March 3, 2020

Lowell Lake Concerned Citizens (LLCC) has been informed by Michael Snyder, Commissioner of Vermont Forests, Parks and Recreation (FP&R), that his department will not develop overnight lodging at Lowell Lake State Park at this time, stating in an email to the group that "I have made a point of becoming well aware of your concerns and they certainly played a role in reaching my considered opinion and decision."

Mr. Snyder went on to state that his department will instead focus on implementing day-use infrastructure improvements.

LLCC looks forward to continuing its dialogue



Gracie Mae,

We are so very proud of you and cannot wait to see where this life takes you. Congratulations, Graduate! We love you so much!

Love, Mom, Chris, Grandma, Alex, Lillie, Ivy and Charlotte

Happy to Announce that the West River Community Market is now open for everyone to peruse and purchase local produce, meat and products. Every week we have added new products to the store, and we will continue to do so throughout the summer. If you want to support small, local producers living in the West River Valley, this is the place to do it. Also, if you want access to this kind of good food and locally made products, but you are having trouble affording it, then **THIS IS THE PLACE TO DO IT.** Each week we receive hundreds of dollars of donations through our WRC Pay-It-Forward Program. These donations are meant to be used. We also accept SNAP/EBT benefits.

with FP&R in support of a sustainable Lowell Lake management policy. We greatly appreciate the responsiveness of Commissioner Snyder to the overwhelming interest of residents throughout southern Vermont in preserving the unique character of Lowell Lake, as a recreational gem, and the rich and diverse plant and animal life the lake supports.

We are grateful to the residents of Windham and Windsor counties and the Conservation Commissions in the towns of Londonderry, Windham, and Weston for actively engaging in this successful effort to protect Lowell Lake.

Sincerely, Steve Coombs, Diane Holme, Irwin Kuperberg, Bob Maisey, and Robert Nied

Lowell Lake Concerned Citizens Steering Committee

Neighborhood Connections Announces New Executive Director

from The Chester Telegraph, June 1, 2020

The Board of Directors of Neighborhood Connections is pleased to announce that Nicole Wengerd, Ph.D., has been appointed as the organization's new executive director, effective May 11, 2020. Nicole was an original staff member when Gloria Dawson and Delores Barbeau opened Neighborhood Connections 11 years ago. She left the organization after two years as a social worker to pursue a Ph.D. in Environmental Studies. She also holds a master's degree in Sociology, with a focus on applied community and economic development. For the last seven years she has taught at Keene State University. A New Jersey native, Nicole lives in Landgrove with her husband Josh and two daughters, Wren and Charley.



From left, Josh, Wren, Charley and Nicole Wengerd.

In other staff news, Loretta Murphy has stepped into the role of full-time Social Worker, MC Schwartz has returned part-time as Program Coordinator and Lucy Bolognese has joined the team as the part-time Social Media Consultant.



Lucca Pozzi
"One happy and proud WES graduate.
Congratulations, Lucca!"

Chocolate Fest Becomes a Raffle in 2020 Due to COVID-19

by Carolyn Partridge

In the past, many Windham residents have enjoyed attending the Chocolate, Cheese, and Chili (CCC) Fest, either as guests or as bakers. The CCC Fest is one of the major fundraisers for Neighborhood Connections, a not-for-profit organization in Londonderry that provides many helpful services for people in surrounding towns, including Windham.

This year, due to COVID-19, we will have to do things a little differently. Because we can't have large gatherings, we will be doing a raffle with wonderful gift baskets for the prize winners. The baskets will be filled with yummy products that come from many of the wonderful "food angels" who have supported us in the past. To make it all doubly better, because we know that many of them have been suffering as a result of lost business due to the pandemic, Neighborhood Connections will be purchasing their products rather than asking for donations.

Raffle tickets will be sold in a new way. You should receive a form in the mail that you can fill out specifying the number of tickets you want. If you don't receive the form, you may also contact Pat Cherry or Carolyn Partridge, and they can help you obtain tickets. Tickets will also be available online at: neighborhoodconnectionsvt.org or ncvtfrontdesk@gmail.com, or by phone at 824-4343. The cost per ticket is \$25 (about the cost of a Chocolate, Cheese, and Chili Fest ticket) or 5 for \$100. We hope that you will be generous in your participation, as the services of Neighborhood Connections are in more demand than ever.

The Puddle

A huge brown puddle,

In my yard,

I jump in it.

SPLASH!

By Tucker





Marley Ray, we are so happy for you, 6th grade was a great year. You are a responsible student, a thoughtful and generous friend and a dream child. Keep doing you (and please keep baking, mmm those chocolate chip cookies in the oven smell delicious) and rock on girl!!

We love you! Momma, Dad, Wendell and Augustus

Woodpecker

A big black and white woodpecker,

In the woods,

Pecking on a tree,

Looking for food.

By Nevaeh Calebrese and Jenna Divine



Snake



A long, green snake,
In the grass,
Hissing at people.

By Olive Finch

On Sunday, May 31, ANUFFers Got Busy

by Rick Veitch

While the rest of the world was convulsed in protests and riots, here on Windham Hill, we had "A Neighborhood United For Fuelwood" (ANUFF) coming together at Cindy and Rick's place. It was beautiful weather and a great turnout with all the stalwarts, some new faces (Hello, John and Eric) and a big boost from the superhuman crew at Meadows Bee.

In two hours, a staggering amount of wood was split and stacked by ANUFFers, all according to Vermont's social distancing guidelines. Then the group broke for lunch, dining on Cindy's bean salad and muffins.

Thanks to all who participated. We'll be planning the next ANUFF event soon, so if you'd like to join in the fun, watch your email for details.

Also, ANUFF has received a bunch of donations of logs. If you have firewood logs you'd like to donate to the community, let us know. Contact Rick at 802-874-4684 or email anuffwood@gmail.com.

Windham Meeting House is Now a Wi-Fi Hotspot!

from Maureen Bell



Thanks to a generous donation from Microsoft, the Windham Meeting House is now a Wi-Fi hotspot! At no cost to the Town, the outdoor range extender has been installed and tested. You can access it from your vehicle for such things as telehealth appointments, remote learning, downloading movies and general internet connectivity.

The network name is **Windham Hotspot** and it is open. **No password is necessary.**

A Deer

A deer with big antlers,
In the woods,
Eating grass and moss.

By James Carson



Results of School Budget Vote, June 10

On Wednesday, June 10, the voters of Windham voted in favor of the Windham Elementary School revised budget for FY2020-21 by a margin of 79 - 13. All ballot articles for the West River Modified Union Education District passed, except for the elementary school budget, which was revised, and a new vote was held by the member towns (Windham is not in this district for grades K-6) on June 30. Mike Foley was elected to the WRMUED board as the member-at-large.

August 11 Primary

On Tuesday, August 11 we will hold the primary election for Vermont state officials. Those ballots are available now in the Town Office for early and absentee voting. You may call the Town Office at 874-4211, email windham.town@gmail.com or mail in a request for a ballot. Be sure to follow the instructions carefully.

The Farmers to Families Food Box Program

The Vermont National Guard, in partnership with the Abbey Group, the Vermont Food Bank, and multiple state departments, have been distributing food across Vermont since April. The program has been providing food, including fresh produce, milk, cheese, and chicken, to those in need.

Details on how to sign up to receive food boxes can be found on the Vermont Department of Emergency Management's website. Registration information can also be found at <https://humanresources.vermont.gov/food-help>. Those who cannot register online can do so by calling 2-1-1. This program has been extended thru August.

Vermont Farmers Markets Return

by Kathy Jungermann

The following farmers markets are open for the summer. Markets in Vermont are looking a bit different this year, here's what to expect. To ensure a safe market for vendors and customers, you are asked to adhere to the following guidelines: stay at home if you feel sick, please have your mask on, use the available hand sanitizer, follow all signs, and maintain a safe distance of at least 6 feet from your fellow shoppers and market vendors. Food purchased must be pre-packaged and consumed off-site. For those who don't wish to attend an in-person market, curbside pick-up is available where noted.

Brattleboro: In-person Saturday at 10AM for high-risk customers and 11AM for others. Open until 2PM at 570 Western Ave (Rt. 9) near the covered bridge. Curbside pickup market 10AM-12PM in the Guilford Street lot. Preorder for curbside pick-up at www.brattleboroareafarmersmarket.com. No pets. 802-254-8885.

Dorset: Open year-round Sunday 10AM-2PM at J.K. Adams 1430 Rt. 30. Beginning May 10 through October 12, outside on the green at H.N. Williams store, 2732 Rt. 30. Preorder at www.dorsetfarmersmarket.com. No pets. 802-353-9656.

Ludlow: Friday 4PM-7PM beginning June 26 on the front lawn of Okemo Mountain School at 53 Main Street. No pets. 802-230-7706.

Manchester: Thursday 3PM-6PM at Adams Park, Rt. 7A in Manchester Center. To preorder visit www.manchesterfarmers.org. 802-447-1472.

Townshend: Friday 4:30PM-5:30PM for high risk shoppers ONLY. Open shopping from 5:30PM-6:30PM at West Townshend Country Store at the junction of Rt. 30 and Windham Hill Road. Preorders for a Saturday pick-up are available through www.west-river-community-market.myshopify.com. 802-874-4800.

Londonderry: Saturday 9AM-1PM. West River Farmers Market located at the junction of Routes 11 and 100. No pets. 802-297-7775.

Additional information available at www.nofavt.org or 802-434-4122.



The Horse

The beautiful, brown horse,
In the meadow,
Eating and galloping.

By Ivy Packard

Snowman

A big, white snowman,
Out in my yard,
Watching the snow fall.
My dog knocked him down!



By Shepherd Finch

A Huge Thank You!

A huge thank you goes out to the road crew and residents who helped to cut and pull wild chervil from our roadsides. Kurt Bostrom is working now to cut the wild parsnip (yellow blooms). Hopefully, we will see less and less each year if we can get it cut before it seeds.

A Final Farewell



Edith Serke, 90, formerly of Windham, died of natural causes on May 20, 2020 in Newtown, Connecticut. Edith was born in Preshov, Slovak Republic, on December 6, 1930. In 1946, Edith emigrated to Bridgeport, Connecticut with her parents Wilibald and Helen Patzelt, brothers George and Otto, and

sister Hildegard. She and her husband, Stephen, lived in Monroe, Connecticut, for more than 40 years and retired to their home in Windham in 2000. While in Windham, Edith served her community as Town Auditor, and as the Representative to the Windham Regional Commission. She served as a board member and president of the Council on Aging of Southeastern Vermont, and also on the State Department of Aging and Disabilities Advisory Board, and Edith was a board member and secretary of Valley Cares, Inc. She was a resident at Valley Cares in Townshend from 2014 until 2017. She was predeceased by her husband of 52 years, in 2005, and her youngest son, Thomas Serke, in 2017. She is survived by her daughter Annette Starkey, her son Robert Serke and his wife Karen, daughter Susan Serke, and son Kenneth Serke and his wife Nancy Cardinale. She is also survived by nine grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, her sister Hildegard Balog, and brother Otto Patzelt. Edith will be laid to rest beside her husband and son in Windham, Vermont with a private family ceremony. A memorial in her honor will be held at a later date in Connecticut.

Congratulations to Windham's Talented Musician, Alex Beshay!



Alex Beshay graduated from Green Mountain Union High School on June 19th. After being accepted into both Berklee School of Music in Boston and the University of Vermont (UVM), Alex decided to accept UVM's offer. He will be attending in the fall, completely free of charge, with the help of several generous scholarships and grants. Alex plans to study music which will help him pursue a career as a Jazz musician. Lisa Beshay, his mother, said, "He is a wonderful young man, and we couldn't be prouder!"

Windham would like to honor Alex and his accomplishments by including him in this graduation issue of *News & Notes*. We are happy to be able to give Alex this recognition. He is such a talented young man. We know his family is immensely proud of him, as is all of Windham! All the best to Alex at UVM, and as a professional musician!

Alex is pictured here with his sisters, (from left) Gracie, Ivy and Lillie on graduation day.

Crocus

A little white crocus,
In Albert's yard,
Waiting for the sun and rain.

By Jenna Divine



Londonderry Tri-Mountain Lions Plant Flower Baskets for Smith Haven

by Randee Keith

On Wednesday, June 24th, Lions Joan Dayton, Gail Wyman and Randee Keith planted colorful hanging flower baskets to hang on the lamp posts at Smith Haven. Smith Haven is a low income apartment complex for the elderly located off Route 100 in South Londonderry. This is the local Lions Club's second year of adding a little beauty to the Smith Haven grounds.

A special thank you to Center Merrill and Joan Dayton for providing the flowers and the potting soil for this project.

In these uncertain times of COVID-19, Tri-Mountain Lions will not be able to hold our Annual Duck Race on July 4, but we will be back next year if all goes well. This year, look instead for the Tri-Mountain Lions lawn float on Middletown Road on July 4th.

Tri-Mountain Lions have donated to the Neighbors Pantry to aid in the backpack program at Flood Brook School for the coming school year.

Tri-Mountain Lions welcomes new members. If you are interested call Randee Keith at 802-824-6750 or email keithrandee@gmail.com

Without being able to hold any fundraisers during COVID-19, we would gladly accept any donations at PO Box 401, Londonderry, 05148.



Photo from left: In case you can't recognize them with their face coverings, Randee Keith, Gail Wyman and Joan Dayton with flower baskets at Smith Haven



Snow

Soft, fluffy,
Falling, blowing, melting,
Cold, fun, wonderful, yummy,
Flakes!

By Lilian Newton



It's Never Too Late To Be What You Could Have Been.

George Eliot

The Road To Success Is Always Under Construction.

Lily Tomlin

Green Up Day in Windham

As Green Up Day in Vermont celebrated its 50th anniversary on Saturday, May 30, 2020, many Windhamites hit the roadsides to search for trash and treasures which had accumulated over the winter. This is usually done on the first Saturday in May, but was postponed this year due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Dave Osborne reported that the Osbornes and Muldowneys collected five bags total, on Route 121 between Kord Scott's house and Lawrence Four Corners. It was mostly cans - beer, soda, energy drinks - paper cups, miscellaneous car parts, and more old wiring from the power/phone lines that came down in the December storm a year ago with the weeklong outage. Nothing exotic this year!

Craig Bailes collected almost a full bag on both sides of Windham Hill Road from the Town Office north to Cross Road, "Mostly beer cans, some candy wrappers, cigarette butts and I'm guessing discarded road reflectors after the double line was painted" on the new pavement, Craig said.

Three full bags of beer bottles were collected by Debbie Greene on Route 121 near the river crossing.

Feedback was limited this year, but many reported that it was much harder to find the trash at the end of May due to the vegetation growth. I guess it will still be there waiting to be discovered on Green Up Day 2021!

Garter Snakes

Three garter snakes,
In the garden,
Slithering around.



By Lydia

Windham Meeting House Committee

by Louise Johnson

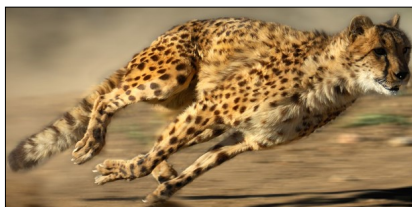
On March 5, 2020, the Windham Meeting House was officially deeded over solely to the Town of Windham.

There isn't much to report at this time as the Meeting House events planned for this past spring had to be canceled due to the pandemic. At the next meeting, the Committee plans to discuss when and how we can safely reschedule these events – the Pancake Breakfast, Tag Sale, and Game Night. We will keep you posted. Be safe, everyone.

Cheetahs

Three fast cheetahs,
In the grass,
Hunting for deer.

By Lydia Dutton



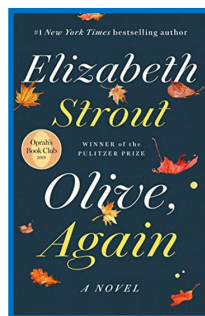
MOUNTAIN MARKETPLACE

Junction Route 11 & 100 Londonderry

Windham Library Book Club

Books are available in the library

Wednesday, August 5, 2020 - 3:30 PM



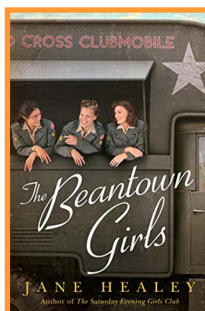
Olive Again

by Elizabeth Strout

Prickly, wry, resistant to change, yet ruthlessly honest and deeply empathetic, Olive Kitteridge is “a compelling life force” (*San Francisco Chronicle*). The iconic Olive struggles to understand not only herself and her own life but the lives of those around her in the town of Crosby, Maine.

Whether, with a teenager coming to terms with the loss of her father, a young woman about to give birth during a hilariously inopportune moment, a nurse who confesses a secret high school crush, or a lawyer who struggles with an inheritance she does not want to accept, the unforgettable Olive will continue to startle us, move us, and inspire us

Wednesday, September 2, 2020 - 3:30 PM



The Beantown Girls

by Jane Healey

1944: Fiona Denning has her entire future planned out. She'll work in city hall, marry her fiancé when he returns from the war, and settle down in the Boston suburbs. But when her fiancé is reported missing after being shot down in Germany, Fiona's long-held plans are shattered. Determined to learn her fiancé's fate, Fiona leaves Boston to volunteer overseas as a Red Cross Clubmobile girl, recruiting her two best friends to come along. Chosen for their inner strength and outer charm, the trio isn't prepared for the daunting challenges of war. But through it all come new friendships and romances, unforeseen dangers, and unexpected dreams. As the three friends begin to understand the real reasons they all came to the front, their courage and camaraderie will see them through some of the best and worst times of their lives.

A Crystal

A shiny, colorful crystal

Growing slowly,
In the forest.

By Julia Devine



Grace Cottage News

by C.J. King

Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital serves approximately 7,500 patients annually, mainly from towns throughout Windham County. Among its services, it offers primary care, physical and occupational rehabilitation, and 24/7/365 emergency medical services. For more information, call 802-365-9109.

Free Food: VeggieVanGo in Townshend: July 23 and August 27

Grace Cottage Hospital hosts the monthly Vermont Foodbank's "VeggieVanGo" free food distribution program. These days, the distribution is occurring **in front of Leland & Gray High School, from Noon to 1 PM** on the designated day. Know that lines can be long. To verify the date, time, and location, check the Grace Cottage website www.gracecottage.org or call 802-365-9109.

Grace Cottage Hospital Fair Day is Going Virtual!

Out of an abundance of caution, Governor Phil Scott has announced that all fairs and festivals must be canceled in Vermont this summer, but don't despair! Grace Cottage's 70th Annual Hospital Fair Day will still occur this year – just in a different format.

The traditional auction, t-shirt sales, and other activities will go online, and we look forward to your participation! Check the Grace Cottage website www.gracecottage.org, as updates will be posted as plans evolve.

For now, we invite you to celebrate this 70th anniversary by taking a trip down memory lane. Send us photos or videos from any of the previous 69 Fair Days (with captions if possible) by the first week of August. We will compile these into a digital album for all to see. You can send your photos and videos to info@gracecottage.org. We also welcome your questions and reminiscences!

Hospital Fair Day is very important to this small, independent hospital. Your participation in Fair Day

helps us raise \$50,000 or more annually. The funds are particularly important this year, as we hope to replace our existing hospital beds with technologically advanced beds for increased comfort and safety for our patients, and safety for our nursing staff. For more information, call 802-365-9109.

Price Chopper's Golub Foundation Grant Awarded to Grace Cottage

Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital has received a grant from the Price Chopper's Golub Foundation in response to an appeal for COVID-related assistance.

Like most other hospitals in the nation, Grace Cottage has maintained a constant state of vigilance, prepared to respond to community needs, while experiencing a significant drop in operating income during the pandemic, as people have followed Vermont Governor Phil Scott's stay-at-home instructions and have canceled or postponed healthcare services. In order to bridge this huge gap, Grace Cottage has appealed to individuals and charitable organizations for funds to keep operations going. The Price Chopper's Golub Foundation made a generous grant in response to this appeal.

The Golub Corporation, Price Chopper, and Market 32 are committed to social responsibility. Their sponsorship and giving programs help to improve the quality of life in communities they serve. The charitable branch of the Golub Corporation, Price Chopper's Golub Foundation, was established in 1981 and provides financial support to eligible non-profit 501(c)(3) tax exempt organizations. Contributions are made in the areas of health and human services, arts, culture, education, and youth activities in areas where Price Chopper/Market 32 operates.

Do You Love Writing and Doing Research?

Are you willing to help the Town save money on municipal projects – from road building/maintenance to office archives and many things in between? The Selectboard is looking to form a grant-writing committee and would like you to be a part of it. If you have some time to spare and this interests you, please contact a Selectboard member or Maureen at mbellselectboard@gmail.com for more details.



We Go Beyond Patient Care



185 Grafton Road
(Route 35)
Townshend, VT

www.gracecottage.org
802-365-7357

News from Londonderry Transfer Station

from Esther Fishman

The Londonderry Transfer Station has reopened for service on Sundays from Noon - 4 PM. Please welcome Seth McLaughlin, the new Sunday attendant. Textiles are once again being accepted; clothes, shoes and fabrics - no pillows. Redeemable bottles and cans can be left once again at the shed to the left of the trash dump. However, please note that the Take-It-Or-Leave-It stall will remain closed for now. Please wear a mask and keep a minimum distance of 6 feet between you and others.

In preparation for the July 1st food scrap ban, we now have a limited number of backyard compost bins for sale. Visit <http://www.londonderryvt.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Compost-container-price-list-2020-Includes-tax.pdf> for pricing and order information, or call the Londonderry Town Office at 824-3356.

Beginning July 1, food scraps can no longer go into the trash. This law applies to residents as well as businesses. You may bring all your food scraps, coffee grinds, shells, meat, bones, cooking oil, etc. to the Transfer Station for disposal in our compost area. If you choose to compost at home and do not put meat or bones in your home compost, you are urged to put these in the compost area; however, it is legal to put them in the trash.

Also starting July 1, state law (Act 69 of 2019) prohibits stores and food service establishments from providing the following single-use products:

- 1) Single-use plastic carryout bags** at the point of sale, (This does not apply to bags used for prescription meds, dry cleaning, produce bags, and other small bags that are not at the point of sale; single-use paper bags can be offered at the point of sale for a minimum customer charge of 10 cents per bag, which stores keep);
- 2) Expanded polystyrene (commonly called Styrofoam) food and beverage containers;**
- 3) Plastic straws and 4) Plastic stirrers.**

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: mclinton@vermontel.net

Planning and Energy Commission: Bill Dunkel, phone: 874-4131; email: bdunkell1455@gmail.com (lower case L, then number 1455)



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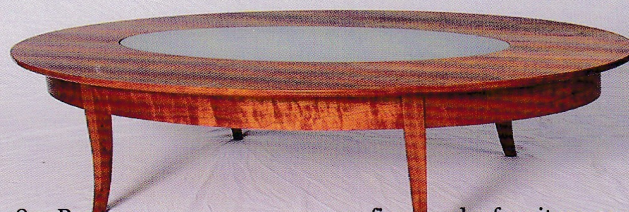
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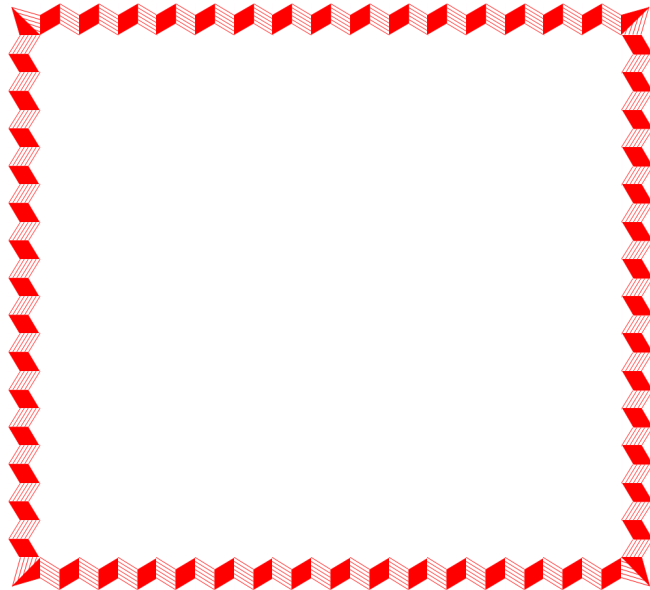
Windham News & Notes
welcomes submissions. Send
articles of about 300 words to
the above address or by email

to:

windhamnews@hotmail.com.

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 CALL CONTACT TO CONFIRM

**Citizens Advisory
Committee**, Second
Tuesday of Aug at 6:30 PM
at Town Office. Contact
Marcia Clinton at 875-3531.

Energy Committee:
3rd Thursday of the month, at
4:30 PM at Town Office,
Contact Bill Dunkel 874-4131.

**Windham Community
Organization:**
Last Wednesday of the month
at the Meeting House. Please
join us! Call Ellen McDuffie at
874-8183.

Town Clerk: 874-4211
Monday: 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Tuesday: 6:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Closed all Wednesdays,
Thursdays, Fridays, and
Federal Holidays. Open every
fourth Saturday, 8 AM- Noon.

Planning and Zoning:
Second Wednesday of the
month at 6:30 PM usually at
the Town Office. Open
meetings. Agenda posted.
Contact Bill Dunkel at
874-4131.

Conservation Committee:
Third Tuesday of the month
usually at 7 PM at the Town
Office, Open meetings. Call
Alison Trowbridge at
874-7050 for information.

Select Board:
1st & 3rd Mondays at
5:30 PM on Zoom. Open
meetings. Agenda posted.
Check website:
townofwindhamvt.com

Library:
Every Wednesday, 3-5 PM
Book Group at 3:30 PM,
1st Wednesdays on Zoom or
at the Meeting House.
Contact Maureen Bell at
875-1024.

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

School Board:
First Mondays of the
month, Call Antje Ruppert
at 874-4759 for
information.

Volunteer Fire Company:
First Thursday of the
month at 6 PM at the
Firehouse. Potluck dinner
served. Call Jan Wyman at
875-3373 for information.

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

**West River Education Dis-
trict:** Third Mondays at 7 PM
at Leland & Gray, Call Leland &
Gray 365-7355 for info.

SAVE THESE DATES!

ALL DOGS MUST BE REGISTERED

July 1 - Food Scrap Ban and Single Use Plastic Ban
August 1 - Grace Cottage Hospital VIRTUAL Fair Day
August 3 ? - Drawing for Chocolate Feast Raffle
August 8 - Fire Company 50/50 Drawing
August 11 - Vermont State Primary
August 14 - Deadline to respond to 2020 Census



Windham News & Notes Annual Subscription Drive



This issue of the *Windham News & Notes* begins our **18th** year of bi-monthly publication. We have an all-volunteer staff, and 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 average contribution being \$15. Your support will ensure that you and others receive Windham's own news source for another year. This year, due to COVID-19, the Windham Community Organization needs your support more than ever, as we have had to cancel our Chicken BBQ fundraiser. Please be as generous as you can. Additional contributions, over and above what are needed to produce and mail the newsletter, will go toward helping neighbors in times of need.

PLEASE PRINT THIS FORM (PAGE 17)

Check the desired boxes below, and return this entire form to:

Windham Community Organization, 5976 Windham Hill Road, Windham, VT 05359.

Please include your check or money order made payable to: **Windham Community Organization**
and note on the memo line: **News & Notes**.

My gift of \$_____ is enclosed.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

- ☐ **Mail** (via postal service) my black and white **printed copy** of the *News and Notes* to the address above.
- ☐ I would prefer to receive the *News & Notes* **online only**, in color and with some additional content.
- ☐ I'd like **both** a **mailed, printed** copy **and** an **online** copy.
- ☐ I **currently rent** my Windham property to: _____. Please send them a copy.
- ☐ I want to receive **emailed notices of events** in Windham and nearby towns from eflockwood@aol.com (Email address required below).
- ☐ I want to receive **emailed notices from the Town Office** regarding town government from windham.town@gmail.com (Email address required below).

My/our email address(es) is/are: _____

(Please leave email address blank if you are currently receiving News and Notes by email and no changes are necessary. However, be sure to check all boxes above, as desired.)

More Pictures of Windham Elementary Sixth Grade Graduation







“A DREAM written down with a date
Becomes a GOAL.

A goal broken down into STEPS
Becomes a PLAN.

A plan backed by ACTION
Makes your DREAMS COME TRUE.”

- Greg Reid

