Volume 18, No. 4



## January - February 2021



# WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES

# **COVID-19 Pandemic Brings Change to Windham Town Meeting 2021**

Town Meeting 2021 will be March 2, 2021. However, due to the pandemic, the state legislature has passed Act 162 which allows a legislative body of a town, including those who normally vote from the floor, to vote to use Australian ballot for Town Meeting 2021. Windham does not have any facility that would provide the space needed during the current pandemic to hold an in-person Town Meeting in 2021. Act 162 applies to any Town Meeting, regular or special, in 2021. Act 162 does not specifically address "absentee" ballots. Windham will NOT automatically send you a ballot in the mail. You must request a ballot from the Town Clerk.

The following summary of Act 162 was posted on the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) website, and was reviewed by our Selectboard.

- Towns cannot hold Town Meeting, including floor voting, remotely.
- Informational hearings can be held remotely since informational hearings are meetings of the Selectboard.
- Selectboards must vote to adopt Australian ballot in 2021, at a duly warned meeting. (This vote occurred in Windham at the November 16, 2020 Selectboard meeting.)
- Act 162 temporarily allows towns to hold any meeting in 2021 using Australian ballot.
- The Selectboard must vote to adopt Australian ballot prior to posting the warning for Town Meeting. (This was done November 16, 2020.)
- Australian ballot differs from floor voting and paper ballot voting in that it requires a uniformly preprinted ballot, similar to that used during the November general election.
- An informational hearing must be held on any public or budget question being voted within 10 days prior to March 2, and access to the informational hearing must be provided to the public. (In Windham, this will be a Zoom meeting on February 20, 2021.)
- The informational hearing must be warned at least 10 days in advance of the hearing date.
- The informational hearing can be held remotely via Zoom, GoToMeeting, Skype, by phone, etc. and there is no need to designate a physical location for the hearing.
- Access information must be included in the warning for the informational hearing.
- A candidate for local election does not need to petition to have his/her name included on the ballot.

However, Act 162 does not waive the consent form requirement, and candidates must complete the Consent of Candidate for Local Election form and submit it to the Town Clerk by the 6th Monday prior to Town Meeting. [This deadline was January 25, so if you did not sign this form, your name will not appear on the ballot, but you can still receive write-in votes.]

Printed ballots will be available upon request for early/absentee voting starting on February 10, 2021. There will not be a traditional Town Meeting on March 2, but The Meeting House will serve as the polling place for voting from 10 AM to 7 PM on March 2, if you haven't already submitted your early ballot by that date. If you choose to vote in person, only one voter will be allowed into The Meeting House at a time. Face masks will e required and social distancing rules will be enforced.

An online Selectboard Informational meeting will be held on Saturday, February 20, 2021, and will take the place of our "floor" meeting. So mark your calendar now. We will be able to discuss the issues and articles on the ballot, but will not be able to make any amendments to the articles.

The Town Meeting Warning will be posted by January 31, and it will also be printed in your Town Report that will be mailed to all registered voters before the end of February. The Warning will include access information for the Zoom informational meeting.

The Windham School Board will hold its own annual informational meetings on Zoom. One will be held on February 1, right after the 4 PM School Board Meeting, which you may want to attend and ask questions if you plan on voting early. The second one will be held on March 1 on Zoom from 4:30 - 5:30 PM.

There has been one petition submitted by voters which will be on the ballot, and that is whether Windham should increase the Selectboard from three to five members. Except for Town officers, questions on the ballot will require a "Yes" or "No" vote.

Voters may request by phone, email or letter to the Town Office that an early/absentee ballot be mailed to you. Ballots will be available beginning on February 10. Please note that you must request an early/absentee ballot. It will NOT be automatically mailed to you.

If you are not registered to vote in Windham, please go online at: <a href="https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters">https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters</a> to register. There is no deadline to register in Vermont. You may register to vote up to and including the day of the election.

#### From the Selectboard

It's mid-January 2021. There is so much happening in this world that is newsworthy, but let's focus on Windham, Vermont!

Winter is back, and with that, all the reminders to stay safe. The Road Crew will be out doing its thing whenever necessary. Please be aware of their presence and give the plows all the room that they need. Remember, it is not easy for them to see you on the roads. Look for a reminder of our Winter Roads Policy elsewhere in this issue. (See page 4.)

The big news, as we approach Town Meeting Day, is that it will be more different than it ever has been here in Windham. A full accounting of procedures will be given to you in the Town Report, but know that we were granted by the State the ability to temporarily adopt Australian balloting (pre-printed ballots) for 2021, and we have elected to do so. Candidates wishing to run for any office must let the Town Clerk know by January 25 in the form of signing a consent form, in order to have your name on the ballot. Printed ballots will be available upon request for early/absentee voting starting on February 10. There will not be a traditional Town Meeting on March 2, but the Meeting House will be open as a polling place, if you haven't already submitted your early ballot by that date.

An online Selectboard informational meeting on February 20 will take the place of our "floor" meeting. We will be able to discuss the issues and

articles on the ballot, but will not be able to make any amendments to the articles.

Details on how to access the meeting will be forthcoming. By January 31, Warnings will be posted around Town on the usual bulletin boards: at the Town Office, Meeting House and Fire Company. The Warning will also be printed in the Town Report that is mailed to all registered voters toward the end of February.

In other news, we had a visit from Southeastern VT Senior Solutions which offers assistance through many different programs including medication management, Vet to Vet and other home/companion visits, counseling for depression, Meals on Wheels and other social services. They can be reached at 802-885-2669. We haven't sent a representative to their Advisory Council in some time and feel it could benefit the Town to do so. If you are interested, please let us know. In addition, they are welcoming volunteers; if this is something that interests you, please give them a call directly.

Given the rising number of complaints, we are in discussions with the Windham County Sheriff's Department to see if sharing an Animal Control Officer with other nearby towns would be beneficial to us.

With light at the end of the tunnel, we hope that you will continue to be healthy and safe. We look forward to a time when we can all gather again safely. Until then . . .

Maureen, Kord and Peter



All Dogs Must Be Registered in the Town Office by April 1 and Current Rabies Vaccination Must Be on File.

# This is State Law!

All dogs and wolf hybrids, 6 months or older, must be licensed at the Town Office. Bring certification of rabies vaccination and proof of neuter/spay, if applicable.

Fees are:

Neutered or spayed dogs, \$10, after April 1, \$12. (Must have proof of spay or neuter from your veterinarian.) Intact males, females, and all wolf hybrids, \$14, after

April 1, \$18.

You may mail in your registration fee or drop it by the office. If you send in your payment by mail or by using the secure drop box, your registration, tag and original vaccination certificate will be mailed to you.

# Windham Library Calendars

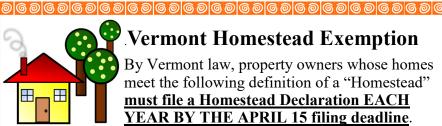


The 2021 Windham Town Library Calendars are available NOW! This is the

only fundraiser that our library has each year. All pictures featured in the calendar have been taken in Windham by community members.

To get your desk calendar (\$10 each, 8 1/2" W X 4"H), please contact Library Trustee, Cindy Kehoe, at 874-7028, or by email at: <a href="mailto:rkehoe@together.net">rkehoe@together.net</a>.

To reach the Road Crew, call the Town Garage at 874-7025, or Richard Paré at 802-379-5647 (cell) or 874-4971 (home). You may also call or email Kord, Maureen or Peter to let us know if there's a tree down or any other unsafe road situation.



# **Vermont Homestead Exemption**

By Vermont law, property owners whose homes meet the following definition of a "Homestead" must file a Homestead Declaration EACH YEAR BY THE APRIL 15 filing deadline.

A "Homestead" is defined as the principal dwelling and parcel of land surrounding that dwelling, owned and occupied by the resident, as the individual's recognized place of residence. If you are a resident, it is important that you file form HS-122 so that you are correctly assessed the homestead tax rate on your property. Depending on your income level, the homestead exemption may reduce your education property taxes. All property in Vermont is subject to education property tax to fund the state's schools. For this purpose, property is categorized as either homestead or non-homestead.

All property is considered non-homestead unless it is declared as a homestead. As a property owner, it is your responsibility to claim the property as a homestead if you are a resident of Vermont and own and occupy the property as your place of residence, as of April 1. A property is considered a non-homestead if it is leased for more than 182 days in the year, used exclusively for commercial or rental purposes, OR is a second home, camp, vacation home or summer cottage.

The HS-122 form must be filed with your Vermont Income Tax forms by April 15. If you are not filing Vermont Income Tax forms, or are filing late, you still MUST FILE the HS-122 form by the April 15 deadline. If you have an accountant who files your tax return, be sure they file the HS-122 form with your Vermont tax return. Remember, your education property taxes are calculated based on your property status as homestead or non-homestead. If you file this late, you may be assessed penalties of 3%-8%. Please file by the deadline, so your original Tax Bill will reflect the proper amount that you owe, and therefore, a revised bill does not have to be issued and penalties assessed.



WHAT IS THIS MARKER. on Route 121 near #1603? Please contact: windhamnews@hotmail.com.

# **2021 Annual LTS Permits** On Sale



Londonderry Transfer **Station Annual Permits** for 2021 are now on sale at the Town Office during office hours.

One permit per family is required to use the Transfer Station for garbage and trash disposal and recycling. The annual permit is \$10 per year and must be paid in cash or by check.

In addition to the annual permit, a punch card must also be purchased for garbage and trash disposal, \$10 for five punches and \$20 for ten punches.



#### 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.

#### N&N Team

Maureen Bell Dawn Bower Mary Boyer Pat Cherry Chris Dunkel Leila Erhardt Louise Johnson Kathy Jungermann Imme Maurath Ellen McDuffie Philip McDuffie Pat McLaine Barbara Jean Quinn Carolyn Rubin 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: February 15, 2021

#### **Town Office Hours** FACE MASK MUST BE WORN

**Monday Noon-8 PM** Tuesday 6 AM - 10 AM Wednesďay 10AM - 2 PM Fourth Saturday of the Month February 27 March 27 8 AM - Noon CLOSED Wed., Thurs., Fri. & ALL Federal Holidays Closed President's Day, Feb. 15 **Open by Appointment** for records research 802-874-4211 or 802-875-1550 or email windham.town@gmail.com.

#### To Join A Zoom Selectboard

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

# Winter Roads Policy for Town of Windham



Plow routes are set up to open the school routes and major traffic routes first. Operations usually begin at 4:00 AM to have the bus route and major roads cleared by 7:00 AM. After 16 hours on the job, the Road Crew is required to stop operation and get a minimum of 6 hours of rest. In extreme weather, a third part-time employee is available to accommodate this requirement. In most cases, there will be no maintenance between 10:00 PM and 4:00 AM.

Salt will be applied to paved roads, with sand added as necessary. (Salt is not effective when road temperatures are below 20 degrees F.) Sand will be applied to the gravel roads.

From the public, we ask the following: All turn-around areas should be kept clear of vehicles. Park your vehicles in your driveways, back from where snow will be thrown, so they don't get damaged or buried.

When removing snow from your property, please make sure it does not get pushed or thrown into the plowed road. The resulting piles on our roads are dangerous to passing traffic and can lead to accidents.

The Crew will make every reasonable effort to plow close to mailboxes, but not so close as to take them down - sometimes this is a balancing act. The more thoughtfully your mailbox is located and maintained, the less likely it will be damaged by the weight of the snow or the plow wing itself. The town cannot be responsible for mailbox damage.

When the plows are on the road, please be patient. Don't pass unless necessary.

Remember, the drivers are up high above the road and their primary attention is on the road and the plow, not passing vehicles. We anticipate a safe winter for everyone and thank you for your thoughtfulness.

# Track the Status of Your Absentee Ballot by Kathy Jungermann

Are you wondering if your early/absentee ballot has been received by the Town Clerk? You can check on its status online. The My Voter Page at <a href="https://mvp.vermont.gov">https://mvp.vermont.gov</a> is your primary online resource for all election information unique to you. You can login to the page using your personal information. It's easy to use, you only have to type in your birthday, and Drivers license number or last 4 digits of your Social Security number. Once there, you may update your registration information, request and track the status of an absentee ballot, locate your polling place, view a sample ballot and listing of candidates for upcoming elections, and more. To track the status of your ballot, use the online ballot tracking service on this site.

# Windham Community Organization Is Here for You!

Please know that the primary mission of the Windham Community Organization (WCO) is to assist Windham residents in time of need and vulnerability by providing financial and other assistance. If you find yourself needing assistance, we are here to help with rent, utilities, heating, repairs, minor chores, etc. If your needs are ongoing or beyond our scope, we can direct you to other social service organizations and provide information on obtaining food security. We have procedures in place to provide for your privacy. Please contact Pat Cherry at 874-7094, Kathy Jungermann at 874-4606 or Imme Maurath at 875-8755.

# Masks Available from Wantastiquet Rotary



Wantastiquet Rotary of Londonderry will have face masks to distribute, FREE after January 13th. They are coming from Rotary District 7870. Any group that would like some should contact Tom Widger at 802-875-4604 or by email at <a href="twidger@sbcglobal.net">twidger@sbcglobal.net</a>.



## Officers to be Elected at Town Meeting by Kathy Jungermann

<b>Position Available</b>	<b>Term Length</b>	<b>Current Holder of Position</b>
Town Moderator	1 year term	Michael McLaine
Select Board	3 year term	Peter Chamberlain (not seeking re-election)
Lister	3 year term	Russell Cumming
Auditor	3 year term	Kathaleen Jungermann
Delinquent Tax Collector	1 year term	Paul Wyman
Library Trustee	5 year term	John Hoover
Windham Center	5 year term	Mark Emmons
Cemetery Commission		
Windham Center	1 year term	Due to resignation of Heath Boyer
Cemetery Commission		
West Windham	5 year term	Michael Pelton
Cemetery Commission		
North Windham	5 year term	Jonathan Gordon
Cemetery Commission		
Leland & Gray Union High	4 year term	Howard Iris
School Representative		
Windham School Director	3 year term	Elizabeth McDonald
Windham School Director	1 year term	Carolyn Partridge (to complete term vacated by Antje Rupert)

Petition forms are not required to have your name on the ballot this year due to Covid-19. A Consent of Candidate Form must be signed before January 25, 2021 at 5:00 PM to have your name placed on the ballot. This form is available at the Town Office. If your name is not on the ballot, you may receive write-in votes. At present, the Town Office is open on Monday from 12-8 PM, Tuesday from 6-10 AM, and Wednesday 10 AM-2 PM. Please contact the Town Clerk at (802) 874-4211or at <a href="windham.town@gmail.com">windham.town@gmail.com</a> with any specific questions you may have about the process.

There are also appointed positions to be filled by the Selectboard on March 15, the first Selectboard meeting after Town Meeting. Please contact the Selectboard if you would like to serve in one of these positions. Both elected and appointed positions will be listed in the Town Report. Duties and responsibilities of all town officers are described in the Vermont State Statutes and are summarized by the Secretary of State at: <a href="https://www.sec.state.vt.us/elections/candidates/local-office-descriptions.aspx">https://www.sec.state.vt.us/elections/candidates/local-office-descriptions.aspx</a> or on the Vermont League of Cities and Towns website: <a href="https://www.vlct.org">www.vlct.org</a>. There are many state required duties for each position, and no position should be entered without a full understanding of the responsibilities.

# Welcome to the New Windham, VT Land Records Portal by Mike McLaine

On this site you can search the town Land Records data from the past 10 years.

Some records include scanned documents that may be purchased for print /



download from the Town Clerk. The fee to print / download documents is \$2.50 per page. If you have further questions, you can reach the Windham Town Clerks Office at 5976 Windham Hill Road, Windham, Vermont 05359 or by phone at (802) 874-4211. Prices for records research and copies may differ in person, and are usually less.

Windham Land Records are available using the link: <a href="https://windham.lr-1.com/">https://windham.lr-1.com/</a> or through the Town of Windham website: <a href="https://www.townofwindhamvt.com">www.townofwindhamvt.com</a>.

# **Windham Fire Company News**

by Marcia Clinton

Fire Calls: November 11 - Windham Hill Road; brush fire, was out upon arrival. 2 responded.

**December 10** - Windham Springs Road; roll-over accident, car slid off road and

down an embankment. 4 responded.



If you haven't had your chimney inspected and cleaned, don't wait another minute and set up an appointment with a certified chimney sweep. Keep in mind safety precautions when using your fireplace or wood stove. Burn only seasoned wood, keep flammable materials away from the flames, watch that small children and pets do not play near the fireplace or stove.

With winter weather here now, be aware of icy conditions and drive safely.

## THANK YOU, NORMAN!!!

Thank you, Norm, for 30 years of dedicated service to the Windham Community. You have not just been our mail carrier, but a true community member.

Norm was born and raised and still lives in Wardsboro. His 82 mile route has taken him to many Windham mail boxes and up many driveways to deliver packages to our doors, always with a smile and kind greeting.

The famous postal quote "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds" does not come close to describing Norm's dedication to each of those on his route.

On Saturday, January 23, Norm received an award from his Masonic Lodge in Jamaica for saving Mr. Richard Jackson's life by noticing that something was amiss when Mr. Jackson did not get his mail for two days!. Thank you, Norm, for being you!

# Who Is the Remarkable Richard Jackson? by Carolyn Partridge

It's hard to say exactly when we got to know Dick Jackson, but I suppose our entrée into Dick's life was my mother-in-law, Cora Cheney Partridge, who was friends with Dick's wife, Joanna, also known as Jo. Cora was an ordained Episcopal priest and when Jo became ill with cancer, Cora provided not only friendship but support, until her death in 1984. Needless to say, we feel fortunate to count Dick as a friend. He has been an inspiration and delight to know, always offering and giving help.

But what is Dick's story? Since we mostly see Dick in his hayfield across the road from his house and don't have a lot of time to talk, I needed help filling in the early parts of his life. To learn more, but not exhaust Dick, I reached out to his daughter, Debbie, and son, Mike.

Dick was born in 1923 in Walpole, Massachusetts, where he grew up and attended school. He went on to get his undergraduate degree at the University of Massachusetts. Like many other young people in the 1940s, Dick enlisted in the Army, rose to the rank of Sergeant, and was involved in the Battle of the Bulge in World War II.

When Dick returned from the war in Europe, he continued his education at the University of Massachusetts and, using the GI Bill, ultimately achieved a master's degree in Public Health and a PhD in Food Technology in 1957.

But let's not get ahead of ourselves. While still an undergraduate, Dick met Jo who was a student at nearby Mount Holyoke College, and they were married in 1948, living in student housing in Amherst. When asked if it was love at first sight, Debbie recalled her mother saying that they were the two quietest people in their group of friends, and were attracted to each other. Mike was born the following year in 1949, the year they both

## Norman Bills, You Are Our Hero

by Kathy Jungermann

As many of you are aware, in early November of last year, Dick Jackson, who is 98 years old, slipped and fell down the embankment behind his home on Windham Hill Road. Norman Bills, Dick's mailman for thirty years, noticed that Dick had not gotten the mail out of the mailbox for two days. Worried, Norman called out for him, but got no response. Norman then stopped and spoke with a neighbor who contacted the State Police to conduct a welfare check on the residence. The police located Dick that afternoon, and he was transported to the hospital with hyperthermia and exposure. Dick was very lucky that the overnight temperatures that week were relatively mild, in the upper 40's. He is well on the road to recovery, and we are very thankful to Norman for his quick action, and for going above and beyond his duties as mail carrier.

graduated from college, and Debbie came along a year later. Debbie has memories of there being lots of young children to play with in Amherst.

After graduating, Dick was employed by the city of Lexington, Massachusetts, where he worked in Public Health from 1949 until 1954. He was then hired by the Campbell's Soup Company, and the family lived in Haddonfield, New Jersey. In 1966, the research and product development division was transferred to Maryland, and the family moved to Pokomoke City until 1971, at which point they moved back to Haddonfield until 1978, when Dick retired at the age of 55.

Dick's father's first cousins, Isabelle and Sam Jackson, bought the house on Windham Hill Road in 1954, and by 1978 were ready to sell. The timing was perfect for Dick and Jo to buy the place, where they lived happily until Jo passed away in 1984.

In 1987, Dick married Jan Sleeper, of Townshend, and they lived happily until her death in 1994. In 1998, he had a loving companionship with Polly Wright that lasted until her death in 2016.

Dick has always made it a point to be helpful to others and to be involved in church activities. Even in his early nineties, he was visiting and helping others by giving them car rides and taking them food. He served on the Valley Health Council in Townshend in an effort to make life better for others.

In past years, whenever Alan and I hayed at Dick's field, he would come out despite the heat with a straw hat on his head and an old wooden hay rake, to start tidying up the ends of the windrows, which was greatly appreciated. He amazed both of us with his stamina, thoughtfulness, and kindness.

We all remember Dick getting his exercise by walking up and down Windham Hill Road, regardless of the weather. The fact that Dick survived his ordeal [See box above] outdoors for two and a half days is a miracle, and we are all grateful. He is a true inspiration to Alan and me, and I'm sure to many others.

# AREA CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF

662

# Tribute to Norman Bills for 30 years of Service



# CONGRATULATIONS, NORMAN !!!

Thanks for 30 years of great support, deliveries, and friendship!



Wishing you all the very best for your retirement. Enjoy, Relax, Stay a little busy, and STAY SAFE! YOU'RE THE BEST, NORM!









Above; Norm holding original woodburning art work, gifted by Steve Maurath, of Norm's "Monster Jeep".

THANK YOU

NORMAN!

#### Windham School Board News

by Carolyn Partridge

The Windham School Board spent time in November and December working on the FY2022 budget. We are proud to report that the Board passed its FY2022 budget unanimously. Carolyn moved that we approve a budget of \$387,892.00, Russ seconded, and we all voted in favor. This is a \$20,695.00 decrease in the budget from last year due to decreases in our WCSU assessments. The good news is that this brings us significantly under the Excess Spending Threshold by more than \$1,800. In fact, our Equalized Per Pupil Spending will be dropping from \$18,187.40 to \$16,959.00.

Had our Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) not dropped from 102.23% to 97.83%, our tax rate would have seen a drop to \$1.70 per hundred from \$1.76 this year. The good news is that even with the 4.4% drop in the CLA, our tax rate is projected to only go up only a penny or two to \$1.78 per hundred.

What is also good news is that last year the Vermont General Assembly passed legislation that maintains our Average Daily Membership count at what it was last year. This is extremely helpful to maintain our tax rate with only a very small increase. It is anticipated that we will see a significant number of additional students attending next fall, but this is part of the challenge confronting any school board. We have to make judgments based on data that may change.

This year (and potentially next), it has been a great benefit to our Windham families to have our children attending school here in town. Had they not, children would have been studying virtually from home a good deal of the time.

As you know, we will be conducting our Town Meeting vote by Australian ballot, and while the polls will be open on March 2, 2021, early ballots will be available much earlier than that (February 10). To meet statutory requirements, we must have an informational meeting no more than ten days before March 2 but that does not give people the opportunity to learn about the budget and ask questions before they cast their vote, if they choose to vote early.

We have decided to have two informational meetings. One, as we typically would, after our February 1<sup>st</sup> School Board Meeting, which will include our WCSU Superintendent, Bill Anton, and CEO, Laurie Garland. The School Board meeting will be on Zoom at 4 PM, with the informational meeting starting as soon as that meeting is adjourned. I will send out the Zoom link with the agenda a week in advance. This is your best opportunity to get questions answered before early ballots are available. We will also have the statutorily required informational meeting on March 1 with Bill Anton and Laurie Garland available between 4:30 and 5:30 PM.

If you have any questions, please contact Beth McDonald at 874-4015, Carolyn Partridge at 874-4182, or Russ Cumming at 874-7011.

# **News from the State Legislature**

by Carolyn Partridge

The 2021 Legislative Session started off like no other I have experienced. There was something nice about being able to get dressed in my business clothes in Windham shortly before the gavel fell at 10 AM on January 6<sup>th</sup> rather than driving two hours to Montpelier. I, however, missed that feeling of awe I get every year as I enter the east side doors of the State House on the first day of the Session. It is a feeling of humility and pride, as well as gratitude for the trust my constituents place in me. The Vermont State House is a beautiful building and it is an honor to work there; however, our presence there will be delayed until things are safe again.

The first week of the Session was dedicated to setting things up so we can all get to work. To that end, the new Speaker of the House, Jill Krowinski, assigned committees in the afternoon of our first day. I was honored, once again, to Chair the House Agriculture and Forestry Committee.

I am looking forward to continuing the work we have been focusing on for the last several years to investigate and encourage practices that contribute to climate change mitigation. Such practices include strategies to improve soil health, such as cover cropping, minimizing soil disturbance, maintaining continual live roots in the ground, plant diversity, and livestock integration. Increasing organic matter in the top six inches of topsoil by 1% allows soil to retain an additional 20,000+ gallons of water, which not only reduces damaging runoff during extreme precipitation events, but also promotes drought resistance by releasing moisture more slowly. As a result of this, water quality is improved, and carbon sequestration occurs. It should also be noted that our forests, which cover more than 70% of the state, offset 46% of Vermont's emissions.

Another area of interest is the creation of a regional food supply chain system. As we have become aware, due to the pandemic, there are improvements that could be made to our food system resiliency that will be helpful as we face a future with ongoing climate change and the pandemic.

The first week of the Session, we passed H.48, also known as the "Town Meeting" bill, which authorizes municipalities to move the date of their 2021 annual Town Meeting, and/or to mail Australian ballots for use for that Town Meeting. It specifies that for towns with charters, the terms of elected board members will continue until a successor is chosen. It also permits the Secretary of State to issue supplemental elections procedures to protect the health and safety of voters, elections workers, and candidates. It should be noted that H.48 does not mandate anything, rather it (permissive. The ultimate goal is to promote the safety of our citizens and town officials while continuing the work of our local governments.

(Continued on Page 9)

# What's Happening at Windham Elementary

by Sara Wunderle

Happy New Year from the Windham Elementary students and staff! We are happy to report that we safely continue to have four days of in-person learning for our students. Our students are thriving and we are so grateful for community organizations and individuals that are allowing our students to have opportunities for special activities even during the COVID pandemic.

In November, our K-6 students entered Vermont Student Assistance Corporation's "802 Future YOU" contest. Each student drew a picture of a job that they would like to explore when they get older. Our students were curious about being a game/web designer, a YouTuber, an artist, a fireman and a farmer. Each week, two random winners were selected to receive \$50 in take-out from their favorite local restaurant, and nine random winners would win \$200 to start a 529 Vermont College Savings Plan, sponsored by VSAC. Windham Elementary had two students randomly selected! Congratulations to Bryson Combs who won a \$50 take-out gift certificate, and Ivy Packard who won one of the nine \$200 529 College Savings Plans!

The K-1st graders learned about Veteran's Day and what amazing things the men, women and even dogs of the armed forces do, and have done, to protect our country and us on a daily basis. They made thankyou drawings that we sent off to a local Veterans home in recognition of the veterans' service to our country.

Outdoor learning program continues with Craig Bailes and Sally Newton. In the last few months, and with parental help from Michael Calabrese and Erik Mialkowski, the outdoor structure took shape before



(From the State Legislature Continued from Page8)

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, ideas, or concerns that you might have. My email is cpartridge@leg.state.vt.us and my phone is 874-4182. Together, we govern!

Photo above: Carolyn Partridge taking her oath of office online as her new term as Representative begins. the winter snow arrived.

We are excited to announce that our Windham students have begun to work with the Meadows Bee Farm "Young **Farmers** Program" for



this school year. Due to COVID-19, we are still not able to participate at the farm directly, but they have come up with a Sewing Badge that the students will work on during the winter/spring months. Each student has three projects they will complete to earn their badge. Right before the Holiday break, students completed their first project of a dream pillow. Now entering its sixth year, we are so grateful to Meadows Bee Farm for finding a

way to continue our partnership during the pandemic.

Right before holiday break, the students were able to have two days filled with holiday crafts and outdoor fun. Special thanks go out to some special Windham community members who made these two days happen: Craig Bailes and Sally Newton for prepping the back fields for an afternoon of crosscountry skiing, and Cindy



Kehoe for dropping off her box of holiday crafts so the students could enjoy a morning of holiday crafting. The students had so much fun!

What is on the horizon for Windham students in January and February? Outdoor learning with Sally Newton and Craig Bailes will continue with activities enjoying the snow, like cross-country skiing, tubing and tracking winter animal prints around the school grounds. Students will also begin their second Meadows Bee Farm sewing project. The artist in residence, actor Susan Heafner, will remotely introduce her eight-week theater program to our students that will begin in the spring. A Vermont Arts Council grant was awarded to fund this residency.



We look forward to updating you all in the spring on our next adventures here at Windham Elementary!

# **Food Insecurity in Vermont – Local Resources**

by Pat McLaine

The need for food in Vermont is great and growing. According to the Vermont Digger, one in four Vermonters is now food insecure due to the pandemic and to job loss compared to one in every ten Vermonters before Covid-19. Vermont heads the list of states where food insecurity has increased the most since the pandemic began, along with West Virginia and North Dakota. Since May, about half of Vermont residents have experienced job loss, furloughs or reductions in hours according to the Gund Institute at the University of Vermont. Local resources are available, but the safety net for our area is a patchwork of services, each with specific catchment areas. These are some of resources available here.

The food pantry for Windham residents is the Neighbor's Pantry, housed in a building adjacent to the Second Congregational Church in Londonderry. Before the pandemic, food had been available once a month, face-to-face and on-site. Neighbor's Pantry now distributes food to households twice a month, on the first and third Fridays from 1-4 PM on a drive-through basis. Four bags of food are provided including shelf-stable items, produce, frozen and perishable items, and other items as available. Neighbor's Pantry serves anyone who is a resident of Vermont during ten months of the year. During November and December, it serves only residents of Londonderry, South Londonderry and the border towns including Windham. Food is also delivered monthly to individuals and households in need who are residents of Smith Haven, and is also available to families in need with children at Flood Brook Elementary, weekly through a 'backpack' program. Margaret Barton, Executive Director, and Laurie Krooss, minister from Second Congregational Church, indicate the need for food now is much higher than before the pandemic. A year ago, January 2020, Neighbor's Pantry was serving 58 households and 102 individuals per month compared to 139 households and 233 people in December, an increase of about 140%. In the same time frame, the needs at Smith Haven increased about 30%, and at Flood Brook by more than 300%. The biggest demand last year was in May before other state food resources were available. The community has been tremendously supportive and three other churches in the area are actively involved in supporting Neighbor's Pantry: First Baptist Church in South Londonderry, Old Parish Church in Weston and the Peru Congregational Church. Items the Pantry could use are canned soup and boxes of granola bars. They may be dropped off in the Neighbors Pantry Box at the Londonderry Village Market or left in the side entrance of the Second Congregational Church. For more

information, call 824-6453.

For residents of Windham, the Good Neighbor's Committee of the Windham Community Organization is another resource. Pat Cherry, Committee chair, indicates that the Committee can respond to urgent requests for basic needs including food, gas, appliance



or car repair. The Committee has made and delivered meals on a short-term basis to people who are post-op or in crisis or who have an urgent need. Confidentiality is a priority. Residents can contact Pat Cherry at 874-7094 for more information.

VeggieVanGo provides fresh fruits and vegetables on the second Wednesday of the month, from 12-1 PM in the parking lot of Leland and Gray Middle High School in Townshend. The project is hosted by Grace Cottage Family Health and Hospital for the Vermont Food Bank to help people obtain fresh fruits and vegetables to sustain a healthy lifestyle. Other foods are included, based on supplies received from the Vermont Food Bank. All are welcome on a first come, first serve basis, and no proof of eligibility is required. The VeggieVanGo program in Townshend has seen a very steady increase over the past year and is now serving between 250 and 300 families on a monthly basis. Other VeggieVanGo sites are in Springfield and Brattleboro. For more information, contact Grace Cottage Foundation at 365-9109.

Nicole Wengerd, Executive Director of **Neighborhood Connections**, a 501c3 non-profit serving Windham and ten other local communities, noted that early on in the pandemic their agency saw a huge influx in the number of unemployed. People who had never applied for unemployment before in their lives were out of work. Neighborhood Connections worked actively with these residents, providing assistance and support as needed, adding a full time social worker to help meet the needs. "Our community has been incredibly generous. The only need we are not meeting is housing. Housing is a fullon crisis now. Affordable housing is our greatest need - there isn't anywhere for people to go." The state of Vermont has housed the homeless population in hotels with the goal to have everyone permanently housed by the end of 2020. But it will take a larger effort to solve this crisis here and across Vermont. Wengerd noted that about two dozen people are in emergency housing now in our area and Neighborhood Connections is offering case management and supportive services as they can. Their expertise is connecting families and individuals with resources and providing preventive health and social service programs to support independence. For more (Continued on Page 9) (Food Insecurity in Vermont, continued from page 8) information, call 824-4343.

The Chester Andover Family Center, a 501c3 non-profit, serves residents of Chester and Andover. Nena Nanfeldt, Board member, indicates the need for food is higher now than it had been before the pandemic. The Food Shelf at the Family Center serves 100+ households a month, with 3-4 new households being added per month. Hours are Thursday 1-5 PM and Friday 10AM -2 PM. Many people are precariously housed, often staying with families or friends. Many are elderly and cannot safely or easily go shopping. "There are many who need help who have never needed help before,' Nanfeldt stated. The Food Shelf relies on the Vermont Food Bank and also purchases food from local suppliers, but does not have consistent resources for household cleaning items, personal hygiene supplies or food for pets. Nanfeldt noted that the Food Shelf has always stocked cleaning and hygiene supplies but not everyone has needed them. Since the pandemic, many food shelf recipients now rely on the Food Shelf providing these items. Household items needed include laundry and dish detergent. Personal hygiene items include shampoo, toothpaste, liquid hand soap, bath soap or shower gel, and deodorant. The Family Center also runs a Thrift Shop, open on Friday, 10 AM-3 PM and Saturday 10 AM-4 PM, and a Financial Assistance Program serving residents of Chester and Andover. If you know of someone living in Chester or Andover who needs help with food, rent, heating fuel, or other basic expenses, the Chester Andover Family Center can help. Call the Center at 875-3236.and leave a message. All calls are returned, and a volunteer will find a way to help. For more information, go to the Family Center website at www.chester-andoverfamilycenter.org.

Townshend Community Food Shelf serves families and individuals from Townshend, Athens, Brookline, Grafton, Jamaica, Newfane, Wardsboro and Winhall. Located at the White Church on the Common, 46 Common Road in Townsend, every Monday night, 6-7:30 PM, Townshend Community Food Shelf provides supplemental food assistance to persons in need. For more information, call 365-4348 or email <a href="mailto:kathysquires@gmail.com">kathysquires@gmail.com</a>.

What can *you* do? Donations of needed items, financial and volunteer support are always welcome. Nicole Wengerd recommends we all keep a pulse on essential workers who are on the front line and on organizations that support people in need. The need for food, housing and additional services is likely to be with us through the end of 2021 and beyond.

[Source: One in four Vermonters will face food insecurity as the pandemic grinds on, by Amanda Gokee, November 8, 2020, <a href="https://vtdigger.org/2020/11/08/one-in-four-vermonters-will-face-food-insecurity-as-the-pandemic-grinds-on/">https://vtdigger.org/2020/11/08/one-in-four-vermonters-will-face-food-insecurity-as-the-pandemic-grinds-on/</a>.]

## **WCO Continues a Tradition**

by Carolyn Rubin

'Twas the week before Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanza too!

And all through the Town, the baking of cookies was the buzz abound.

Making Cookie/Fruit Platters as a way to say "Thanks"

For those hard working folks who make Windham the best around!

A 30 year tradition had to continue, in spite of COVID, this was a must.

The WCO Ladies would not retreat, so the wearing of masks we had to trust.

On a cold, snowy day, containers of cookies and fruit were ready to plate.

The Ladies worked quickly, 19 platters in all.

Divided and wrapped both large and small

For Road Crew, Teachers, Postman and Town Hall.

And other folks deserving of cookies all!!!

This was my first time helping the crew.

Imme, Cindy and Ellen too,

Deserve lots of credit for caring so much.

The tradition continues, the values we hold dear So please stay well and pray for A HEALTHY NEW YEAR!!!



## **How's Your Internet?** by David Cherry

As we take stock of the profound challenges we faced in 2020, and continue to face in the new year, one thing that stands out is the universal need for equitable, sustainable broadband. Though we are not out of the woods yet with COVID-19, we do understand more about the practical necessity for reliable Internet access – for education, for healthcare, and for work. Windham has taken a good and necessary step towards accomplishing this by joining the Deerfield Valley Communications Union District (DVCUD), also known as DVFiber, the growing communications district in southern Vermont. DVFiber's values are equity, performance, affordability, reliability, and privacy.

Since November, DVFiber has launched a new website (<u>DVFiber.net</u>), published its first quarterly newsletter, and set up a Facebook profile. To stay connected with developments and news, we encourage you to go to the website and sign up for the newsletter. If you use Facebook, we invite you to "Like" us and follow us there (search for DVFiber).

#### The District is Expanding

In the past three months, five towns have joined DVCUD, expanding the collaboration from 15 to 20 towns with the addition of Weston, Dummerston, Putney, Westminster, and Newfane. This continued growth increases both the ultimate scope of the project and the number of people working to achieve its goals. In less than a year, the district has grown from its original five member towns to 20 towns in Windham, Bennington, and Windsor counties. You can see the full list of towns and their representatives and alternates on the website.

#### What's DVCUD? - And what's DVFiber?

Though sometimes used interchangeably (and, yes, sometimes in a confusing way), distinctions do exist between the two names.

The "Deerfield Valley Communications Union District (DVCUD)" is the legal name of a municipal entity enabled by state statute to set the stage (literally, to oversee every single aspect, top to bottom, start to finish) for the provision of a reliable, affordable broadband connection to all houses and businesses that want it in all member towns in the district. Certain legal requirements and provisions accompany this oversight and development responsibility (for example, Vermont's Open Meeting Law). You could say that DVCUD is similar to a waste management municipality or water district.

"DVFiber" is the name of the outward-facing brand, the name of the business that DVCUD is developing to secure and provide Internet access for its member towns. Once broadband service becomes available, customers will interact with DVFiber for that service. DVCUD exists to make sure that DVFiber acts in

accordance with state statute and the organization's mission and guiding principles.

#### What's the latest news?

Three items rise to the top:

- 1. DVFiber contracted a study of telephone poles in three towns. Because fiber is placed on existing telephone poles (requiring relationship building with utilities and related companies), an initial step is an actual physical check-up of every telephone pole in each member town. In accordance with the business plan (http://windhamregional.org/ images/docs/community-dev/Broadband-Business-Plan-Windham-Region.pdf) developed for the Windham Regional Commission (WRC), DVFiber sent a survey team to Halifax, Stamford, and Whitingham. Once completed in all 20 towns – and note that grant proposals to fund these pole studies have already been submitted – the data will inform upcoming specifications for a highlevel design to connect all member towns.
- 2. To support its strategic planning and marketing, DVFiber contracted for "premises density mapping" for all E-911 addresses in the district. Maps were completed in December, and complementary data were collected in he recent three-town pole studies. These data formulas are readily expandable to the entire district. Information from both of these studies will inform construction cost estimates.
- 3. DVCUD met with the Windham County legislative delegation in mid-December and presented key advocacy issues: (a) prioritize Vermont communications union districts (CUDs) in policy and funding; (b) strengthen paths to state loan programs; (c) increase the role of collaboration between CUDs and public utilities; and (d) strengthen leadership and planning capacities for CUDs. DVFiber looks forward to a strong working relationship with our delegation and has strong support of state representative Carolyn Partridge.

#### <u>Intrigued?</u> – Want to get involved?

There is an enormous amount of work required to secure broadband for and win customers to DVFiber. You can learn more by visiting our website at: DVFiber.net.

Please feel free to contact David Cherry, our Windham town representative DVCUD board member, at <a href="mailto:DACVT1953@icloud.com">DACVT1953@icloud.com</a> . if you have specific skills or interests (networking, business development, finance, marketing, etc.) and would like to get involved. The district is powered solely by volunteers at this point, and you do not have to serve on the governing board to help out. We welcome your participation!

## Things You Can Do to Protect the Night Sky

From International Dark-Sky Association

Light pollution affects everybody! The good news is that light pollution, unlike many other forms of pollution, is reversible and each one of us can make a difference. Here are a few easy, practical solutions to combat light pollution locally, nationally and internationally.

Check the outdoor lighting around your home. Is it really needed? If not, turn it off! If so, make sure that it's fully shielded. That means that it's directing light down on the ground where it's needed and not up in the sky where it's not. Unshielded lighting wastes energy, money and creates unnecessary greenhouse gas emissions. Consider replacing your lighting if it is not shielded.

Talk to your neighbors. Often folks with bad outdoor lighting just don't know that it's a problem. Many of us have experienced this scenario: a neighbor installs a new light on their property. It's an unshielded fixture that casts a bright light that spills onto your property and perhaps even inside your home. This is known as light trespass and it can cause a lot of agony and frustration. Remember that everyone wants the same thing: a chance to relax in his or her own environment. Work together to create an atmosphere that benefits the community. For ideas on how to talk to your neighbors, go to: https://www.darksky.org/our-work/lighting/lightingfor-citizens/my-neighbors-lighting/.

Light pollution affects every citizen. Concern about light pollution is rising. A growing number of scientists, homeowners, environmental groups and civic leaders are taking action to restore the natural night. Each of us can implement practical solutions to combat light pollution.

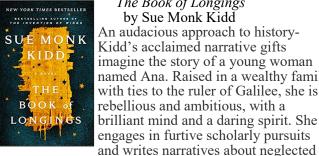




**MOUNTAIN MARKETPLACE** 

**Junction Route 11 & 100 Londonderry** 

## Windham Library Book Club Wednesday, March 3, 2021 - 3:30 PM



The Book of Longings by Sue Monk Kidd An audacious approach to history-Kidd's acclaimed narrative gifts imagine the story of a young woman named Ana. Raised in a wealthy family with ties to the ruler of Galilee, she is rebellious and ambitious, with a brilliant mind and a daring spirit. She engages in furtive scholarly pursuits

and silenced women. Ana is expected to marry an older widower, a prospect that horrifies her. An encounter with eighteen-year-old Jesus changes everything. Grounded in meticulous research and written with a reverential approach to Jesus's life that focuses on his humanity, this is an inspiring, unforgettable account of one woman's bold struggle to realize the passion and potential inside her, while living in a time, place and culture devised to silence her

#### Wednesday, April 7, 2021 - 3:30 PM



The Splendid and the Vile by Erik Larson

On Winston Churchill's first day as prime minister, Adolf Hitler invaded Holland and Belgium. Poland and Czechoslovakia had already fallen, and the Dunkirk evacuation was just two weeks away. For the next twelve months, Hitler would wage a relentless bombing campaign, killing 45,000 Britons. It was up to Churchill to hold

his country together and persuade President Franklin Roosevelt that Britain was a worthy ally—and willing to fight to the end. Larson shows how Churchill taught the British people "the art of being fearless." It is a story of political brinkmanship, but it's also an intimate domestic drama, set against the backdrop of Churchill's prime-ministerial country home, Chequers; his wartime retreat, Ditchley, and 10 Downing Street in London. Drawing on diaries, original archival documents, and once-secret intelligence reports—some released only recently—Larson provides a new lens on London's darkest year through the day-to-day experiences of Churchill and his family:

Contact Maureen Bell at 875-1024, for more information and/or the Zoom link.





# **Grace Cottage Food** Service Manager **Receives National** Award

by C. J. King

Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital Food Service Manager Denise Choleva was named the Certified Dietary Manager of

the Month for November 2020 by the national Association of Nutrition & Foodservice Professionals (ANFP). Choleva has worked in food service at Grace Cottage for 22 years and has managed the department since 2002. Choleva started her training for this career as a child, helping her grandmother with her catering business. She attended high school at Franklin County Technical School in Turners Falls, MA, studying culinary arts and working in restaurants and a grocery deli.

In her position at Grace Cottage, she promotes camaraderie among her staff with the slogan that "teamwork makes the dream work." She calls herself a "working manager" and regularly works in the kitchen alongside her staff. Grace Cottage Hospital receives many thank you notes from former inpatients who comment on how much they appreciated the delicious food created by Choleva's department. "I have the best team a girl could ask for," she says.

Choleva says that her training to become a Certified Dietary Manager and a Certified Food Protection Professional has been invaluable to her work at Grace Cottage.

Denise values innovation. The COVID-19 pandemic has pushed the Grace Cottage food service department to innovate by shifting from a serveyourself salad bar to grab-and-go items. These and the hot food choices accommodate a range of dietary preferences and needs, from vegetarian and glutenfree to traditional meals with health-conscious adaptations. Composting and recycling are also an important part of the department's processes.

In her menu planning, Choleva also emphasizes fresh and local foods. "We have lots of local farmers and we purchase as much local and sustainable foods as possible," she said, adding that "I am lucky in southern Vermont to have Food Connects, who works are January 13, February 10, and March 10.

with local farmers to distribute their items. Last year, 38% of our food expenses supported local producers." Grace Cottage has signed the U.S.-Canadian Healthy Food in Healthcare pledge.

Choleva has been a member of ANFP since 2001. She has served as Secretary/Treasurer and President for the Vermont ANFP and was recently chosen as a Subject Matter Expert for the national ANFP credentialing exam task force. She is also involved with the Vermont Healthy Food in Healthcare Workgroup.

# **Grace Cottage's Cabin Fever Auction: February 14 - 24**

Too much time stuck at home? Ready to dream for the future?

Grace Cottage's Annual Cabin Fever Auction, online February 14-24, offers a chance to bid on a



Caribbean trip (A seven-night stay at Galley Bay Resort & Spa in Antigua), an African safari, plus outings to local restaurants, inns, and fun outdoor venues. Also included are locally made crafts and foods (cheeses, jams, preserves, baked goods, goatmilk caramels, and more), plus an array of gift certificates for hair salons, auto services, groceries, coffee, and more. Or choose to be famous: bid to have a character named after you in Archer Mayer's next book. There's something for every taste and budget, including treasures you can't buy anywhere else, ranging in value from \$20 to Priceless!

Generous local businesses and individuals have donated this awesome array of items. All proceeds benefit the Grace Cottage Patient Care Fund. To learn more, see items, and bid, visit:

www.32auctions.com/gracecottage2021.

# Townshend VeggieVanGo **Switches Days in 2021**

The "VeggieVanGo" free food event, hosted by Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital and organized by



the Vermont Foodbank, will now take place on the second Wednesday of the month, at the same time, Noon to 1 PM, and the same location, the lower parking lot of Leland & Gray Middle High School. VeggieVanGo dates for the first three months of 2021



We Go Beyond Patient Care

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

## News from Esther Fishman Londonderry Transfer Station

The Thrifty Attic is currently closed. They will regroup in March to decide what to do going forward. Textiles, like clothing, shoes and fabric, are collected in two bins at the transfer station. Everything must be in plastic bags. We cannot accept blankets or pillows. Items can also be donated at Manchester Health Services (362-2126) or Chester-Andover Family Center (875-3236).

The "Take-It-or-Leave-It" shed remains closed for now. There is a new reuse shop in the London-derry Plaza, and a new clutter removal, light hauling and odd jobs service called "Take It Away Sam", email: <a href="mailto:ramblingsam@gmail.com">ramblingsam@gmail.com</a> or call (802) 380-9760).

Here is a link to the states guidelines for Solid Waste during COVID: <a href="http://www.londonderryvt.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/2020.4-Public\_COVID-Solid-Waste-Guidance.pdf">http://www.londonderryvt.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/2020.4-Public\_COVID-Solid-Waste-Guidance.pdf</a>.

Here is a link to the A-Z list that covers most anything you'd like to dispose of, including where to do that, and the cost: <a href="http://www.londonderryvt.org/">http://www.londonderryvt.org/</a>

#### wp-content/uploads/2020/10/A-Z-final-2020-list.pdf.

Annual Stickers and Punch Cards can be purchased in cash in Windham at your Town Office or by credit card or e-check at: https://pay.xpresspay.com/org/D6F2CEAF94204A6.

These will be mailed to the address you provide. If you have special instructions. please email: treasurer@londonderryvt.org.

And a reminder that the following items are banned from the landfill (trash) and must be recycled. Please clean items prior to recycling:

- Aluminum and steel cans
- Aluminum foil and aluminum pie pans
- Glass bottles and jars
- Plastics #1 and #2 (PET and HDPE)
- Corrugated cardboard
- White and mixed paper
- Newspapers, magazines, catalogs, paper mail and envelopes
- All box board, i.e. cereal boxes and cardboard
- Leaf and yard debris and clean wood
- Food scraps, coffee grounds, egg shells and other organic material

#### 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: Beth McDonald, chair, phone: 874-4015; email: 219woodburn@gmail.com

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: 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

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 Feb., May, Aug. & Nov. at 6:30 PM. Contact Marcia Clinton at 875–3531,

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

Windham Community Organization: Last Wednesday of most

Last Wednesday of most months at the Meeting House or on Zoom. Contact Ellen McDuffie at 874-8183.

SAVE THESE DATES!

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, 8 AMNoon

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. Contact Alison Trowbridge at 874-7050 for information. Select Board:

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

Library:

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, Contact Beth McDonald 874-4015 or Russ Cumming 874-7011 for information.

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Volunteer Fire Company: First Thursday of the month at 6 PM. Contact Jan Wyman at 875-3373 for information.

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

West River Education District: Third Mondays at 7 PM at Leland & Gray. Call Leland & Gray 365-7355 for info.

#### ALL DOGS MUST BE REGISTERED at the Town Office

January 1 - Annual Permit for 2021 needed to use Transfer Station February 1 - School Board Info Meeting after 4 PM Board Meeting

February 10 - Early/Absentee Voting Begins
February 20 - Selectboard Info Meeting TBA
March 1 - School Board Info Meeting 4:30 PM

March 2 - Town Meeting Day - Polls Open 10 AM - 7 PM at Meeting House



# **More Pictures from Windham Elementary**

























