



WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES

Windham Town Meeting 2025 Results

By Ellen McDuffie

As your former Town Clerk, I first want to thank everyone involved with our 2025 Town Meeting: the registered voters who attended and cast their votes, all who helped with the elections, both Australian ballot and floor voting, and everyone who helped in the kitchen and brought food for our infamous Potluck luncheon.

The Windham Town Meeting was held in-person on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, in the upstairs of the Meeting House. Of our 331 registered unchallenged voters, 79 (23.9%) voted on the articles by floor vote at the meeting and 119 (36%) voted for town officers by Australian ballot. This was the first year that Windham used Australian balloting for electing town officials. Our 2025 results indicate increased participation with the use of Australian balloting.

The meeting was opened by local musicians Pete and Diane Newton, Colin Blazej and Alan Partridge playing "This Land is Your Land", and the entire community sang along.

Below are the Articles that were considered; all article wording is abbreviated. Votes were cast by voice or show of hands for all Town articles and all School District articles and positions, except School District Director, for which a paper ballot was requested by the electorate. Results of the votes are in **bold**.

Annual Town Meeting

Article 1 – To elect a Town Moderator for the ensuing year. A motion was passed to skip this article because it is being voted by Australian ballot. Mike McLaine's 2024 election is in effect until a moderator is elected by Australian ballot.

Article 2 – To accept the Town Report prepared by the Auditors? **PASSED**

Article 3 – To authorize the Town Treasurer to collect current taxes? **PASSED**

Article 4 – To set the due date for property taxes as October 31, 2025? **PASSED**

Article 5 – Voters advise the Selectboard to offer a standard, individual health insurance plan for the Town Clerk position? **PASSED**

Article 6 – Voters advise the Selectboard to offer a standard, individual health insurance plan for the Town Treasurer position? **PASSED**

Break for School District Annual Meeting

Annual Windham School District Meeting

Article 1 – To elect a Moderator for a term of one year. **Mike McLaine was elected.**

Article 2 – To ratify the District's practice of designating the Windham Town Treasurer as Treasurer of the District for the same 3-year term? **PASSED**

Article 3 – To elect all other officers required by law to be

elected at the Windham School:

* **School District Director, 3-year term** (ending 2028).

Abby Pelton and Crystal Corriveau were nominated. A request for a paper ballot vote was requested by more than seven voters. Abby Pelton received 43 votes and Crystal Corriveau received 33 votes with 2 spoiled ballots. **Abby Pelton was elected.**

* **School District Director, 1-year term** (ending 2026). Kate Quarella and Howie Ires were nominated. Howie Ires withdrew his name. **Kate Quarella was elected.**

* **WRED School District Director, 3-year term** (ending 2028) Crystal Corriveau was nominated. **Crystal Corriveau was elected.**

Crystal Corriveau asked that the voters next address Article 9 (**passed**).

Article 9 – Shall the voters of the Windham School District authorize the sale of the School Building to the Town of Windham for \$1 (one dollar) on the condition that the School Building be used for community and/or educational purposes for at least five years? Discussion led to two amendments: Al McLaine's to add "as is" (**failed**); Bill Casey's to end wording after "one dollar" (**failed**). **PASSED** as written.

Article 4 – To compensate the School Directors \$1250 each as included in the proposed School Budget for 2025-2026? Bill Casey moved that we reduce this to \$750 now that the school is closed (**amendment failed**). **PASSED** as written.

Article 5 – Shall the voters of the School District approve the School Board to expend \$506,398 for the ensuing fiscal year. This budget will result in per pupil education spending of \$14,117.28, 4.46% higher than per pupil education spending for the current year. **PASSED**

Article 6 – Authorization for the creation of an Operational Reserve Fund? **PASSED**

Article 7 – Authorization to move the operational surplus from FY 2025 to the Operational Reserve Fund? **PASSED**

Article 8 – Authorization to move the Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$105,805.53 to the Operational Reserve Fund? Daniel Roth moved to amend the motion to put \$85,805.53 into the Operational Reserve Fund and \$20,000 in the General Fund. **PASSED as amended.**

Article 10 – To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting. Antje Rupert asked about the overpayment Dan Roth mentioned during discussion. He said the overpayment of \$54,000 occurred because the state charged us the wrong tax rate.

The School District Meeting was adjourned. Voters took a break for Potluck lunch. Representative Ton Charlton introduced himself and spoke briefly about issues the legislature is working on. After a short break, Town Meeting was resumed.

Annual Town Meeting Continued
(this article is continued on page 10)

Selectboard Report: A Season of Progress and Possibility in Windham

As we move into a new season, the Windham Selectboard would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to every resident, volunteer, and committee member who contributes to the vitality of our town. Your ongoing commitment and hard work are what keep Windham resilient, vibrant, and moving forward together.

We continue our policy of holding Selectboard meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month at 5:30 PM at the Meeting House, with Zoom access available. We hope to see more neighbors join us—participation is the cornerstone of our town's prosperity and a powerful way to help shape Windham's future.

We're excited to announce that Windham has received a grant to help address streambank erosion on West Windham Road. This project will work to restore a section of the brook that has split off from its natural channel and is affecting the road. This work will restore the quality of the water in the brook and help protect the road. We are also exploring further options to support the design phase to reduce town costs. Additionally, the 121-culvert replacement project is moving forward. This culvert will be east of the Four Corners intersection on the gravel section that goes to Grafton. Stay tuned for details on the road closure. Thanks, Imme for all of your hard work on these projects!

Thanks to the tireless efforts of our auditors, we have approved Mudgett, Jennett & Krogh-Wisner to conduct a full financial review of the town's books. This professional audit—our first in several years—will provide valuable insight and help us continue working toward a clear, balanced budget for the next fiscal year.

Several capital improvement projects are also underway. The Meeting House improvements are moving forward using grant funding from MERP and the Bruhn Foundation. With a recent assessment costing only \$4,000 (under the \$12,000 budget), we now have additional funds to support other needs. Pete Newton has proposed serving as project manager to coordinate

energy efficiency, historic preservation, and funding priorities.

We're also continuing to explore the potential of Windham's buildings and public spaces. **Phase 1 environmental studies** on both the **Trout Meadows property (the former talc mine)** and the **schoolhouse** are progressing, with generous support from **Cathy Fales and the Windham Regional Commission (WRC)**. Imerys has offered to donate Trout Meadows to the town, along with **\$350,000 to support the site**, pending further infrastructure inspections. While we've tentatively signed an agreement, we are carefully evaluating the property to ensure it will be a long-term asset—not a burden—for the town.

Looking forward, the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) is convening a diverse 15-member committee of Windham residents to begin a town-wide visioning process. As you may know, at town meeting the electorate voted to sell the schoolhouse to the town and appropriated funds to maintain it. This initiative will inform the future use of the schoolhouse and guide broader planning. Much work has already been done prior to this needs study and will inform the work that this group will do. Thanks to all who have participated to date and to those who continue this process. We are also considering the concept of new committees focused on capital planning, programming, and facilities operations and maintenance to ensure we're making the most of our town's assets.

There's never been a better time to get involved. Whether you join a committee, attend a meeting, lend a hand on a project, or simply share your ideas—**your voice matters**. Windham's future is bright, and it depends on all of us. By working together, volunteering, and stepping into leadership when called, we ensure our town stays strong, connected, and prepared for what's ahead. **Join us—together, we are building something truly special.**

Respectfully,
Kord, George, Michael and Mac

Ticks: It's the Season!

By Pat McLaine

Ticks are the second most common cause of vector-borne diseases after mosquitos. There are more than a half million tick illnesses each year in the US; 80% of these are Lyme disease. In the US, seventeen human diseases are known to be caused by nine kinds of ticks. Ticks are moving to new areas as the climate changes and more tick-borne disease is likely.

In 2022, Vermont was found to have the second highest rate of Lyme disease in the US and Lyme disease rates are very high in Windham County. Black legged ticks make up about 94% of ticks in Vermont and more than half of adult blacklegged ticks are infected with *Borrelia burgdorferi*, the bacterium that causes Lyme disease.

Ticks are out and about when the weather warms up and decline in the fall when temperatures decline. Humans and animals are at highest risk for blacklegged tick bites in the late spring (May and June) when the larvae become nymphs and need food, and in the fall (October and November) when nymphs become adults and are looking for a new host. They are active any time of day, especially during warmer months.

Ticks are sensitive to heat and carbon dioxide. They respond to movement and vibrations. They can detect odors and chemicals emitted by people. They may be more attracted to type A blood!

Do you know what to do to keep yourself healthy? **See Page 5** for suggestions to prevent tick-borne illness!

Clerk's Corner

Appreciation

I'd like to extend my gratitude to our former Town Clerk, Ellen McDuffie, who dedicated so much to the office during her many years of service. Ellen, alongside Joyce Cumming who served as Assistant Town Clerk, brought great teamwork and commitment to the town, which have made it possible for me to hit the ground running. Thank you, Ellen and Joyce!



Who, When, and How?

The Town Office is here for you. Whether you have a question, need a form, or just want to pop by for a chat, we're here to help. Bea is available during office hours and is often joined by our wonderful Assistant Town Clerk, Tye Guertin. For those who haven't met Tye in person, you might recognize him from the meticulous work he and his grandfather have done restoring the stone wall along the Windham Center Cemetery. Tye brings a wealth of knowledge, curiosity, and kindness to our team.

For those not able to visit during our weekday office hours, we are available by appointment every Saturday and Sunday. You can text Bea directly at **508-596-9919**, or call the office during open hours to arrange a time.

We're also excited to make communication even easier! If you'd like to stay up to date with town news, events, and important notices, please consider signing up for **email updates**. It's a quick and simple process—just head to this link (also available on the town website): <https://forms.gle/wsYCJEeVCEMQihCA7>

Woof-Woof

Hey, dog owners! 🐾 Just a reminder that all dogs in Windham must be licensed with the town. The **due date** for dog licenses was **April 1, 2025**. If you haven't registered your furry friend yet, don't worry—there's still time, but please note that there is now a **late fee**.

Here's the breakdown:

Spayed/Neutered dogs: \$13

In-tact dogs: \$19

Registering dogs requires proof of a rabies vaccine, which helps keep our town safe.

WRED Results Are In!

The election for the **West River Modified Union Education District** was held on **March 26, 2025**. All ballot measures were passed! A total of **242 voters** cast their ballots, with **28 of those from Windham**. For the full election results, please visit the **Town of Windham website**. We appreciate everyone who participated, continuing to shape the future of our community's education!

Have a Thought?

I'm always open to hearing from you. If you have ideas or suggestions for how we can improve our processes or communication, please don't hesitate to reach out. Your feedback is invaluable as we work together to make Windham an even better place to live.

Happy Spring, Bea Eliastam



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
Pat Cherry Chris Dunkel
Leila Erhardt Louise Johnson
Kathy Jungermann
Ellen McDuffie Philip McDuffie
Pat McLaine Susan Persa
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: June 15, 2025

Town Office Hours

Monday closed

Tuesday 9AM - 3 PM

Wednesday 9AM - 3 PM

Thursday 9AM - 3 PM

Friday closed

Sat/Sun By Appointment

To arrange an appointment:

**Call the Town Office 802-874-4211
or text Bea at 508-596-9919**

windham.town@gmail.com.

Join A Selectboard Meeting:

The Selectboard usually meets on the first and third Mondays of the month, at the Meeting House and on Zoom. Meeting information including agenda is posted on the town website townofwindhamvt.org and also at the Town Office, Meeting House, and Fire House on Saturdays before meetings. You are welcome to join a meeting at the Meeting House or on-line via zoom.

Listers' Report

By Bill Casey, Antje Ruppert and Howie Ires

Windham's Lister team has a quorum again! Yay! With Howie Ires on board, we have completed the work needed to finish up the Lister year 2024. Recently, we drove around town with our assessor from NEMRC, Jacob Stoddard, to inspect the progress of all remaining permits and to update value changes in our software. We travelled on roads and saw properties we had never encountered before, and managed to get everything done in half the time anticipated.

Bill Casey and Antje Ruppert attended a two-day in-person seminar in Fairlee, Vermont on April 16-17, 2025. Thanks to our new District Advisor, we were alerted to an accommodations grant which covered an overnight in Fairlee instead of having to drive back and forth these two days. Howie Ires manned the fort at the Town Office, familiarizing himself with a training webinar on open meeting law.

If and when questions arise with any property matters, please reach out to your local Lister team. We are at the Town Office on Wednesdays from 9-12, but can also be reached privately, either by phone or email.

Appointed Town Officers

Individuals appointed as town officials by the Selectboard are:

Town Attorney – Bob Fisher
Town Engineer – Everett Hammond
Road Commissioner – Kord Scott
Selectboard Clerk – Mary McCoy (Mac)

Zoning Administrator – Will Goodwin
Grant Administrator – Imme Maurath
Grant Strategist/Writer– Cathy Fales
Webmasters – Bea and Jordan Eliastam
Planning Commission/ZBA – Tom Johnson
Energy Committee – Dawn Bower and Michael Simonds
Energy Coordinator – Bill Dunkel
Representatives to Windham Regional Commission – Bill Dunkel and Cathy Fales
Emergency Management Coordinator – Imme Maurath
Citizens Advisory Committee – Hunt Fales and Antje Ruppert
Building Safety Officer – George Dutton
Conservation Commission – Dawn Bower and Ellen McDuffie
Meeting House Committee – Dawn Bower and Eileen Widger
DVFiber Representatives – David Cherry and Chris Cummings
E-911 Coordinator – Bill Casey
Emergency Communications Among Citizens – Tan Bronson, and Jim McCandless
Green Up Day Coordinators – Ellen McDuffie and Kathy Jungermann
Social Services Committee – Marcia Clinton, Pat McLaine, Barbara Jean Quinn, Carlton Raymond, and Tom Widger
Tree Warden – Walter Woodruff
Selectboard Liaisons to Committees/Commissions:
Planning Commission/ZBA – Kord Scott
Energy Committee – George Dutton
Citizens Advisory Committee – Michael Pelton
Conservation Commission – George Dutton
Meeting House Committee – Kord Scott

2025 Brings Big Changes to the Windham Town Office

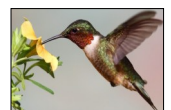
By Kathy Jungermann

Personnel changes in the Windham Town Office include Ellen McDuffie and Kathy Scott leaving their positions as Town Clerk and Town Treasurer. Ellen first served as an Assistant Town Clerk alongside Bonnie Chamberlain in 2015, and then went on to support Jo-Jo Chlebogiannis and Michael McLaine as an assistant. Ellen was then elected in 2022 and served 3 years in the Town Clerk position. Ellen's secret power was making everyone who visited the Windham Town Office feel welcome! Joyce Cumming is also stepping away from her position as Ellen's Assistant Clerk. Kathy Scott was first appointed as Assistant Treasurer by Peter Chamberlain in 2013. She served in this position until

she was elected Town Treasurer/Windham School Treasurer in 2019 and 2022. Kathy has dedicated over 10 years to managing the town's financial well-being; thank you for sharing your knowledge and experience. Gail Wyman, Kathy's Assistant Treasurer, has also stepped down.

The town of Windham thanks all of you for your years of dedicated service to our town. We'll miss you all!

Congratulations to Bea Eliastam on her election to the position of Town Clerk. Thank you for stepping up and for your willingness to serve the community! Tye Guertin has been appointed as both an Assistant Town Clerk and Assistant Town Treasurer. Best of luck in your new roles!



Update from The Meeting House Committee

The **Library** opens its doors at 3:00 PM every Wednesday. **Book club discussions** take place on the 1st Wednesdays of the month at 3:30 PM. The **Living Strong** exercise group meets twice-weekly on Mondays and Thursdays at 10:00M. **Game Day** continues to meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 12:30 PM. One can join in a **Selectboard Meeting** here at their regularly scheduled meetings on the 1st and 3rd Mondays each month. The meetings begin at 5:30 PM. Wow – we sure do use this ol' building!

As always, we welcome you to join us in these activities and to give us your suggestions for others.

We'd like to request your volunteer help with a couple of things. You know the old wooden chairs that have been a fixture in the building for so long? Many of

them are in disrepair, to the point that they are unusable. The cane seats on some are broken. The bracing is cracked on some. Is there anyone with some **woodworking skills** willing to take a look at them and see if they can be repaired?

Or, do you just **love to clean** and don't have enough of your own to do? We know you're out there and we would love your help tidying up the building before and after events.

Give Maureen Bell a call at 802.875.1024 if either or both of these things are up your alley.

Lastly, we are happy to announce that we will hold another **Tag Sale** at the Meeting House. It will be Saturday, May 24 from 9 AM to 2 PM. We still have a few tables available. If you have stuff you want to get rid of, please call Imme Maurath for more details at 802-875-8755.

The Windham Community Organization Needs Your Support

The Windham Community Organization (WCO) is a non-profit corporation that has been serving the residents of Windham for over 40 years. Established in 1983 and incorporated in 2006, our mission and guiding principles are to assist Windham residents in times of need, to provide the community with information and education about resources, town activities and government, and to conduct community events that promote connections and a spirit of community among Windham residents.

The Good Neighbors Committee of the WCO responds confidentially to residents in need of assistance, for example with travel to medical appointments or for direct payments for fuel, gas and electricity. The WCO sponsors a Dump Permit and Punch card program free for residents in need. WCO members also prepare and deliver meals to neighbors needing support due to illness or injury.

The bi-monthly, 16-page publication *Windham News and Notes* helps to provide the community with information and education about resources and town activities. WCO also maintains an email listserv to keep the residents of Windham informed about town activities and events of general interest.

WCO sponsored four community events in 2024-25

at the Windham Meeting House: in July, an ice cream social with a Windham history slide show provided by the newly formed Windham Historical Society; in late October, our Harvest Supper with photography contest and square dancing; in February, a Meet the Candidates forum prior to election of Town officers; and in April a Spring Egg Hunt for young families. WCO also provided lunch for the Window Dressers during their week-long build, and baked and prepared holiday cookie plates for town residents and employees. WCO also provided funds to support local social service providers including The Vermont Food Bank, The Townshend Community Food Shelf, The Neighbor's Pantry, and Neighborhood Connections.

Our *News & Notes* subscription drive is our primary fundraiser, resulting in an operating budget of approximately \$5000.00. This covers requests made to the Good Neighbors Committee, expenses for community events, publishing and distributing *News and Notes*, and support for local social service organizations. Please give as generously as you are able to the 2025 subscription drive (see insert for more information).

If you'd like to participate in the WCO, we'd love to have you join us! Please reach out to Ellen McDuffie at eflockwood@aol.com for meeting dates and times.

Ticks: Keep Yourself Healthy Prevention is Key!

When outside:

- * Use insect repellants with DEET, picaridin or repellent registered by the USEPA
- * Treat clothing with products that contain 0.5% permethrin
- * Wear light colored clothing
- * Tuck pant legs into socks, tuck shirts into pants

* Stay away from tall grass & leaf litter where ticks are found

When you come inside:

- * Remove clothing right away
- * Check clothing for ticks and dispose of them if found
- * Wash & dry clothes you wore outside at high temperatures
- * Shower within 2 hours of coming indoors
- * Check your whole body for ticks (a mirror may help)
- * If found, remove ticks with tweezers and dispose of them

2025 Graduates

By Crystal Corriveau

This year Windham has five students graduating. Rihanna Dryden and Jack Spengler will graduate from Leland and Gray High School. David Baxter, Jaxson Corriveau and Tucker Mialkowski will graduate from fifth grade at Townsend Elementary School. The students all completed a questionnaire about themselves, their experiences in school and their plans for the future.

The Windham community is welcome to help celebrate these graduates. High School graduation for Leland and Gray will be held on June 14, 2025 starting at 10 AM on the athletic field. Information about graduation for Townshend Elementary is not yet available. For more information, please contact the schools directly. And, congratulations to all of Windham's graduates!

High School Graduates



Rihanna Dryden Rihanna's most memorable moment in High School was winning the soccer state championship in 2022. The traditional All School assemblies and pep rallies with fun games and activities hold special significance for her. The most meaningful friendships she has created are with her sports teams. Rihanna played three sports: soccer, basketball and softball and also has friends outside of sports. "I am proud of the

fact that I successfully got accepted in the Keene Beauty Academy for Cosmetology, and the fact that I didn't let anything stop me from getting all my work done or getting good grades," she said. Advice she would give her younger self: "What other people think doesn't matter. Don't give up!" In her next chapter, Rihanna is looking forward to joining the Keene Beauty Academy for Cosmetology, where she will be for the next 12 months, experiencing life as an 18-year old. "I am excited to experience cosmetology and learn all of the new skills and techniques and I can't wait to start doing people's hair and treatments." In five years time, she would like to own her own business. One piece of life advice she wishes someone had given her sooner is to step out of her comfort zone and don't be part of drama. She loves riding her four-wheeler and getting all muddy and hanging out with her friends. She'd like to learn how to cook green bean casserole or Crystal's Pasta Salad. Her dream vacation would be in the blue waters of Bora Bora. After graduation, Rihanna plans to stay in Vermont...in the lovely town of Windham!

To Reach the Road Crew

Call the Town Garage at 802-874-7025 or Richard Pare at 802-379-5647 (cell) or 802-874-4971 (home). Or call or e-mail Kord Scott, George Dutton or Michael Pelton to let them know of any unsafe road conditions. Thanks for notifying the Road Crew.

Jack Spengler Jack's most memorable moment from high school was being acknowledged for his resilience on senior night during soccer season. The school ritual that holds special significance for him is acknowledging a student who died a few years ago by yelling his last name before every game. His friendship with Cody Hecock is the most meaningful to him. Jack is most proud of playing sports. A piece of advice he would give his younger self at the beginning of high school would be to play more sports. In the next chapter of his life, he is looking forward to and is very excited to learn carpentry. In the next 12 months, he plans to work for Wadsworth. In five years, he sees himself as a professional carpenter. Jack's dream for vacation is to travel to Samoa. He would like to learn how to cook homemade mac and cheese. Since Jack was a little kid, he has always loved sports. After graduation, Jack plans to stay in Vermont.



Elementary School Graduates



David Baxter David's favorite ice cream is Reese's. He likes Batman and the TV show Demon Slayer. His choice for a meal for the rest of his life would be cheeseburgers. His favorite pet would be a pitbull. If he could be any animal, it would be a crocodile.

From elementary school, he is grateful for milkshakes on Monday. This year, David learned what a friend really is and who his friends are. He learned that he really likes working to earn money. He wished he had known how to read better at the beginning of fifth grade but is really proud of his improvement in reading during elementary school. This summer, David is looking forward to going to Conservation Camp. His choice for a personal superpower would be super speed. In Middle School, David is most excited about harder math. He hopes to improve in reading and to learn to speak Japanese. David hopes to travel to Japan sometime. His dream job is a scientist who studies animals.

ENJOY A SAFE GREEN UP DAY!



Collect Data and Report To Your Town Coordinator

• How many bags? • How many tires? • How many volunteers with you? • How many miles cleaned?
This data is crucial in helping Green Up Vermont get grants and other funding to keep Green Up programs going.

2025 Graduates (continued from page 6)

Elementary School Graduates, continued



Jaxson Corriveau Jaxson's favorite ice cream is Fireworks. He likes Aquaman and the TV show Baki Hanma. His choice for a meal for the rest of his life would be spaghetti with butter and parmesan cheese. His favorite pet would be an octopus. If he could be any animal, it would be a dolphin.

From elementary school, he is grateful for Sheila Overman. This year, Jaxson learned that his friends are always there for him. About himself, he learned that sometimes he is not nice. He wishes he had known fractions at the beginning of fifth grade. He is very proud of participating in the Shrek play. This summer, Jaxson is looking forward to going to Mount Hood in Oregon with the Boy Scouts. His choice for a personal superpower would be teleportation. In Middle School, Jaxson is most excited about disc golf. He wants to learn algebra next year and would like to improve on his skiing. If he could travel anywhere, it would be to Tokyo. He's not sure yet about his dream job...but there's plenty of time to dream!



Tucker Mialkowski Tucker's favorite ice cream flavor is vanilla. He likes Spider Man and the TV show the Simpsons. His choice for a meal for the rest of his life would be pizza. His favorite pet would be a dog. If he could be any animal, it would be a giraffe.

From elementary school, he is grateful for lunch. This year, Tucker learned that his friends like math. About himself, he learned that he likes music. He wishes he had known all the answers on tests at the beginning of fifth grade. Tucker is very proud of finishing elementary school. This summer, Tucker is looking forward to vacation. His choice for a personal superpower would be the ability to stop time. In Middle School, Tucker is most excited about after-school activities. He says there is nothing specific he wants to learn next year. He would like not to be so tired in Middle School. If he could travel anywhere, it would be to Italy. His dream job would be marketing.

Green Up Day is Saturday, May 3!

By Ellen McDuffie and Kathy Jungermann

Green Up bags can be picked up outside the front door of the Windham Town Office. We ask that volunteers please sign up for the roads they are planning to Green Up so that we don't have people duplicating efforts on one road and leaving out another. A clip board will be available alongside the bags to record the roads you'll be cleaning up. Leave your bags and trash items by the side of the road by late Sunday for pickup by the road crew.

You can make a difference!

First Annual Windham Egg Hunt: A Fun (Albeit Icy) Success!

By Kate Fellows

In preparation for our community egg hunt, the Windham Community Organization (WCO) filled more than 400 plastic eggs with wrapped candy and small toys and hid them in the upstairs of the Meeting House. WCO decorated the downstairs of the Meeting House with an Egg Tree, baskets and bunnies to welcome our children and their families. On Sunday, March 30th, despite an ice storm and no power, five Windham families met up at the Meeting House for the egg hunt extravaganza. The first crew of nine jolly Windham kiddos enjoyed finding, opening and sharing their treats. On Thursday, April 3, a second crew of ten egg hunters joined us to finish collecting all the eggs that had been hidden. Each child got 15-20 eggs and decorated their own bag to carry their goodies home. Healthy treats were available for all.

It was not lost on us that Windham experienced a second round of ice on Thursday following the ice storm on Sunday. But what can we say: Springtime in Vermont! I deeply appreciate the community interest and support in making childhood memories happen, and hope we will make this an annual event. I also want to report that the compassionate children of Windham shared their goodies, traded prizes and even checked in with the younger children at several points to make sure everyone had enough. It felt like a testament to our community and I was very proud of them all. Wishing everyone a joyful Spring season and here's to another year of blooming!

Vermont Open Studio Weekend 2025

By Kathy Jungermann

The Annual Vermont Spring Open Studio Weekend is held the Saturday and Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend, May 24 & 25, from 10-5 each day. This statewide celebration of the visual arts and creative process offers a unique opportunity for visitors to meet a variety of artists and craftspeople in their studios, some of whom are only open to the public during this event.

The self-guided Open Studio Tour features the work of glassblowers, jewelers, printmakers, potters, furniture makers, weavers, ironworkers, painters, sculptors, quilt makers, and wood carvers.

The Vermont Studio Tour booklet contains maps and directions. The maps, along with the yellow signs placed along the roads, guide visitors to the studio locations. Pick up a tour guide from the Vermont Welcome Centers, follow on the Vermont Crafts Council Facebook page, or download a pdf from the Vermont Crafts Council website at www.vermontcrafts.com.

In our area, the following studios are participating: Clayshare in South Londonderry, Clare Adams Art in Grafton, Doris Ingram Watercolors in Weston, Spare Thread Studio and Matthew Tell Pottery in Dummerston, Jim Jackson, Kim Eng Yeo and Robert Du Grenier in Townshend, and Epoch Vermont Artisans in Manchester.

Legislative Update from Senator Wendy Harrison

I have two new committees this Biennium-- I am Chair of the Institutions and IT Committee and Clerk of the Transportation Committee.

S.69 (the “Kids Code”) is a bill to protect children from both physical and psychological harm knowingly caused by social media companies. It requires large internet companies to stop using techniques on kids that have been designed to addict them to their phones (infinite scroll, push notifications, etc.), to set default settings at the most protective levels, and to never sell or share kids’ personal information. The bill passed 25-5 in the Senate and is now in the House. We were not able to get a similar bill across the finish line last session, but hopefully will make it this year.

S.71 is a data privacy bill that would require Vermonters to be told how their data is used, permission for their data to be sold, and provide other protections. It’s important to adopt legislation to protect our information, especially when the Federal Government has been unable to do so.

The Capital Bill will allocate \$100 million in capital projects over the next two years. They include water and wastewater systems, state buildings, county fairs, corrections facilities, state parks and recreation sites, historic grants and many other places and projects.

With traditional funding sources such as gas tax diminishing and potential federal cuts to Medicaid, the Transportation and Health and Welfare Committees are working together to make sure we will have a robust and functional system to transport people to medical appointments. While this was not on our original plan for this year, it’s critical to make sure that Vermonters are able to access medical care.

The Senate just received the House’s proposal for education reform and the Senate Education Committee has a very different proposal. We have just a few weeks left in this session. I am concerned that we are moving too quickly to massively change a complicated system that impacts children, families, educators and communities. As Windham knows very well, schools are important to Vermonters. Property tax increases this year will be significantly less than they were last year, for multiple reasons. Our schools are a precious resource and I will treat them as such.

Thanks for your support and please keep the emails coming. While I can’t always reply to each one, I do read them all and it’s very helpful to know your concerns and opinions.

Wendy Harrison
Senator, Windham District
WHarrison@leg.state.vt.us



Legislative Update from Senator Nader Hashim

With mounting internal challenges in Vermont and the constant incitement of chaos from our federal government, it has been a challenging few months to navigate the policy making process. Despite the chaos, I do my best to maintain a level and strategic perspective on how to do this job. The question I keep in the back of my mind is, “What can I do with the tools I have that most benefits Vermonters?” Whether it involves education, immigration, courts, or any of the other nearly endless issues we hear about, I always try to stay focused on my guiding principles.

Many, many things happen in the legislature during the session. This is a small snapshot of a few things I’ve been involved in, along with some of my general thoughts. If you have an issue or question that is important to you, but you do not see it mentioned, please let me know what you’re thinking and I’d be happy to get more information to you.

Judiciary. Being a new chair has gone relatively smoothly. I have positive relationships with all my committee members, and we’ve gotten quite a bit of work done. We may disagree on various issues, but we find ways to work through it.

Immigration: We passed S.44, which remains in the House. This bill ends the ability for state or local agencies to enter into agreements with the federal government during a national state of emergency without first receiving approval from state government. Another bill, S.95 will increase protections for children whose parents are subject to adverse immigration proceedings.

I have been working closely with senate leadership, and my seatmate Sen. Harrison, to end an agreement between the Department of Corrections and ICE. Our executive branch currently allows federal authorities to use our state facilities for federal immigration purposes. Federal authorities are using Vermont as one of their pit stops for detainees from other nearby federal districts so that detainees are unable to coordinate with their counsel and promptly file a petition for a writ of habeas corpus. Unless a detainee is having their case heard in Vermont, we must stop providing support to the federal government through the use of Vermont state facilities, employees, and resources.

Public safety: After a substantial deliberation and changes, my committee passed out several components of the governor’s public safety omnibus bill. Their top priority was to change the sealing/expungement laws so there is more government transparency and the ability for government officials to review otherwise sealed information for more serious offenses. The changes also expand the types of offenses eligible for sealing so that more individuals may be able to re-enter the workforce.

Our budget request to the appropriations committee involved additional resources for prosecutors and defenders so that they can (continued at top of page 9)

Nader Hashim, continued from bottom of page 8
continue their essential work in addressing the backlog. All the positions for judges in the state have been filled, although that only lasted briefly because Judge Hoar recently retired. Our judicial nominating board will meet in May to begin the process of filling that position.

Education. The House has sent over its 160 page education transformation bill (H.454) and we have begun our walk-through, learning the nuances of what the House has proposed. Our work on this will be intentionally slow, deliberate, and well-researched.

The content we see in H.454 is almost guaranteed to change in the Senate. The foundation formula component will be in Senate Finance's jurisdiction, and Senate Education will be working on governance. I have not heard much compelling testimony that eliminating school boards/creating bigger districts ultimately yields greater savings (in fact, I've heard and read the opposite). As with all things, I will be open to all testimony and input from constituents in order to decide what changes to propose and how to ultimately vote.

One of the Senate Education Committee's initial proposals will be to make a sub-committee comprised solely of legislators to draw out the maps for future districts/unions. I think this is a bad idea, and I will advocate for a different approach that involves professional map makers, education professionals, and others with knowledge relevant to this process.

I am developing a list of individuals who are interested in testifying and I am specifically making student voices a priority. If you know of any young folks who are interested in speaking to our committee, please let me know. I also have a list of teachers and other educational staff who are standing by and ready to provide thoughts to our committee. However, when that happens is ultimately up to the chair.

My guiding light in this education conversation will be to prioritize outcomes and well-being for our students. That is the entire purpose of an education system and will be critical in ensuring Vermont has a successful future.

Nader Hashim
Senator, Windham District
naderhashim.vt@gmail.com

Mountain Towns' Veterans Honored

On March 25, 2025, Neighborhood Connections honored twenty-one veterans who had served in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces during the period November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975. This ceremony was among the last in the country to mark the 50th anniversary of the Viet Nam war that ended in 1975. Two Windham veterans, Marcia Clinton (US Navy Nurse Corps) and Bill Casey (US Army) were honored for their service. The room was packed to standing room only, with more than 75 people attending. Staff of the Department of Veterans Affairs made individual presentations and gave veterans commemorative pins and presidential proclamations honoring their service. The American Legion Band from Brattleboro provided musical accompaniment. The Londonderry Village Market provided lunch.

Legislative Update from Thomas Charlton

Hello to all my neighbors! I want to extend a thank you to each of the communities that included me in their Town Meetings. Most of the world does not believe citizens can govern themselves. I take great delight at the fact that Vermont towns still defy them all and make it happen anyways.

Housing: When not on the floor, I have been assigned to the House Committee on General and Housing. Along with other responsibilities, we have been charged with addressing the current housing crisis statewide. Our committee bill, H479, is now with the Senate, and we are beginning to review legislation proposed by the Senate in S127 with an eye to adapting the best of both.

The reality of a lack of affordable housing is familiar to most Vermonters. We are in a perfect storm of high demand, rising construction costs, expensive and lengthy permitting and compliance issues, high interest rates and the vast movement of long-term rental properties to the short-term rental market. Relieving this will require creative financing options such as making tax increment financing available to specific projects rather than only to geographic districts, the use of revolving funds for infrastructure projects, and a clearer, shorter and stricter process for permitting appeals.

Education: As of Friday the House education bill, H454, was passed and sent over to the Senate. While there is broad support for the bill, there remain concerns on both sides of the aisle regarding the details. Among these are that the timeline is too slow (final implementation in 2030) that it is still too costly, and that there is not enough built-in transparency. The question most clearly bipartisan is over the potential closure of rural schools, and this will be watched very closely.

This all being said, the Committee on Education did a lot of work on the bill. There is substantive agreement on the broader goals, and a great deal of effort was made to ensure the bill would move to the Senate rather than dying on the floor. Work will continue to bring out legislation with wider support by the end of the session.

We will not know for sure how changes in Washington will affect Vermont's budget, which is heavily supported with Federal funds. Right now the state is addressing this in the courts and is following due process without exception. It is not impossible that we will be back in a special session in the fall when the Federal budget has been settled.

I look forward to speaking with you soon!

Thomas Charlton
State Representative, Windsor-Windham District
Athens, Chester, Grafton, Windham
tcharlton@leg.state.vt.us



Windham Town Meeting 2025 Results

(continued from page 1)

Article 7 - To authorize \$390,823 for the General Fund of which \$294,823 shall be raised by taxes and \$96,000 shall be applied from other FY2025 budget revenues? Michael Pelton moved to amend the amount to \$422,823 to add \$32,000 for health insurance as voted in Articles 5 and 6. Article was amended and \$422,823 was **PASSED as amended**.

Article 8 – To authorize Roads Budget expenditures of \$584,821 of which \$494,821 shall be raised by taxes and \$90,000 shall be applied from other budget revenues? **PASSED**

Article 9 - To appropriate \$165,000 for the New Road Machinery Fund of which \$65,000 shall be raised by taxes and \$90,000 will be applied from budget surplus? **PASSED**

Article 10 – To appropriate \$50,000 for Repaving and \$10,000 for Bridges and Large Structures? **PASSED**

Article 11 – To appropriate \$17,500 for the Town Garage Maintenance & Improvement (M&I) Fund? **PASSED**

Article 12 – To appropriate \$10,000 for the Town Office M&I Fund? **PASSED**

Article 13 - To appropriate \$10,000 for the Meeting House M&I Fund? **PASSED**

Article 14 – To appropriate \$3,000 for a future Townwide Reappraisal of Properties? **PASSED**

Article 15 – To appropriate \$32,000 for one year's operational and other associated costs of the Windham Schoolhouse? **PASSED**

Article 16 – To appropriate \$8,133 for nonprofit organizations, as recommended by the Windham Social Services Committee? Kathy Scott moved to raise this by \$100 for each of the organizations, adding \$1,600, bringing the total to \$9,733. **PASSED as amended**.

Article 17 – To appropriate \$1347 for the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation for their assistance to the Town of Windham? **PASSED**

Article 18 – To appropriate \$500 for the Windham Historical Society? **PASSED**

Article 19 – To appropriate \$10,000 for a professional audit of Windham financial accounts? **PASSED**

Article 20 – To close the Dog Fund and transfer the balance of \$4,887.20 to the FY2025 General Fund? Michael Pelton said that after the Warning for Town Meeting was prepared, the auditors found that there was actually \$5268.20 in the Dog Fund. **The motion was amended to \$5,268.20. PASSED as amended.**

Article 21 – To create an Emergency Communications Fund for a radio system for use in emergency situations? **PASSED**

Article 22 – To appropriate \$2,000 for the Emergency Communications Fund? **PASSED**

Article 23 – To advise the Selectboard to develop and publicize a plan and methods for inventorying all public and private culverts in the Town of Windham, VT and to maintain a publicly available and searchable database updated whenever a culvert is repaired or replaced to be compatible with that assembled by the Windham Regional Commission and to contain data specific to Town needs.

Abby Pelton moved to amend the wording to add “culverts that are in Town right of ways”. **PASSED as amended.**

Article 24 - To transact any other nonbinding business that may legally come before this meeting. Kord Scott thanked those who give so much of their time to the town, especially Michael Pelton for his time on the budget and the Auditors for their time on the Annual Report.

Town Meeting adjourned at 3:29 PM. About 40 people remained at adjournment. For more details go to <https://townofwindhamvt.com/town-government/town-council/select-board-minutes-2025/>

Town Officer Election by Australian Ballot

By Ellen McDuffie

A total of 119 ballots were cast, some were blank and a few included write-ins. Results are as follows:

Moderator - **Michael McLaine – 108**

Town Clerk – **Bea Eliastam - 109**

Town Treasurer – **Courtney Roth – 92**

Selectman – **Michael Pelton – 61**; Tan Bronson – 56

Lister (3-year term) – **Bill Casey – 98**

Lister (1-year term) – **Howie Ires (Write-In)**

Auditor – **Pat McLaine – 101**

Delinquent Tax Collector – **Paul Wyman – 95**

Windham Center Cemetery Comm. - **Alan Partridge – 107**

West Windham Cemetery Comm.– **Abigail Pelton – 91**

North Windham Cemetery Comm. – **Paul Wyman – 107**

Library Trustee – **Alan McLaine - 105**

Congratulations to all new Town Officers!

Windham Fire Company Fire Calls, January-March 2025

By Marcia Clinton

1/2/25	Jamaica Mutual Aid	Carbon dioxide incident	2 respond
1/11/25	Horsenail Hill Rd.	Car accident	7 respond
1/14/25	Windham Hill Rd.	Carbon dioxide detected	5 respond
1/20/25	Windham Hill Rd.	Multiple cars off road	4 respond
1/25	Chester Mutual Aid	Structure fire	4 respond
1/29/25	Route 121	Car roll over	6 respond
2/6/25	Route 121	Car accident	2 respond
2/8/25	Burpee Pond Rd.	Flooding in house	6 respond
2/12/25	Jamaica Mutual Aid	Basement fire	3 respond
2/12/25	Weston Mutual Aid	Propane leak	2 respond
2/28/25	Townshend Mut. Aid	House fire	2 respond
3/17/25	Corn Hill Rd.	Culvert flooded	4 respond
3/30/25	Windham Hill Rd.	Ice storm, assistance to Green Mt. Power Co.	4 respond
3/30/25	Glebe Mt. Rd.	Ice storm, road closure, downed trees and wires	5 respond

Community Lunches

By Becky Phillips

The community lunches occur on the second Tuesday of each month at 12:00 noon at Neighborhood Connections in Londonderry. Upcoming dates are: May 13th, June 10th and July 8th. You are invited to join friends and neighbors to dine in or take meals to go. Please call Neighborhood Connections to register at 802-824-4343.



Buy Local-Eat Fresh Vermont Farmers Markets Summer 2025

By Kathy Jungermann

Brattleboro: Opens for the summer beginning Saturday, May 3 through October 25 every Saturday from 9AM-2PM at 570 Western Ave (Rt. 9) near the covered bridge. No pets. www.brattleboroareafarmersmarket.com. 802-490-4371.

Dorset: Summer market begins Sunday May 11 through October 12 from 10AM-2PM, outside on the green at H.N. Williams store 2732 Rt. 30. No pets. 802-353-9656. marketmanager@dorsetfarmersmarket.com

Ludlow: New Location every Sunday from May 25-October 12 at Depot Street in the Ludlow Village from 9AM-1PM. Info@ludlowmarket.org 208-559-3175.

Manchester: Summer market begins Thursday, May 22 through October 9 from 3PM-6PM at 709 Depot St (across from the RK Miles Lumber Yard). To preorder visit www.manchesterFarmers.org. 802-447-1472. No Pets.

Townshend: Opening on Friday, May 23 and continuing till October 10 from 4:30PM-6:30PM. Located at West Townshend Country Store at the junction of Rt. 30 and Windham Hill Road. 802-874-4800. www.westtownshend.org.

Londonderry: The West River Farmers Market is opening on Saturday May 24 through October 11 from 9AM-1PM and is located at the junction of Routes 11 and 100. No pets. 802-379-2326. www.westriverfarmersmarket.com.

Additional information about Vermont Farmers Markets is available at www.nofavt.org or 802-434-4122.



Jack Wax

By the Windham Historical Society

The former Windham Elementary School was busy on March 22 with about 50 people attending a presentation about how maple syrup was harvested back in the 1950s and 1960s. The presentation featured the Ed LeMay and

Chase families using their oxen teams to bring sap to the sugar house. This had attracted camera clubs to visit from Brattleboro and Massachusetts.

One attendee asked how many gallons of syrup were made in a season. Carla Westine from the Chester Historical Society provided the answer from an article written by Edna Winship in her weekly article for Windham News, published in the Springfield Reporter in May, 1956:

Windham

Edna E. Bishop, Correspondent

Sap started running up here on Saturday, making it one of the longest seasons on record. Because of the altitude here, we were able to keep right at it, long after buds had come out lower down in the valley. Ed LeMay, as usual, has the largest yield, with 333 gallons. Jan Smit has 100, Angelle Stowell has 50 – she came 10 weeks ago from West Rutland “for the duration”. Harry Chapman made 40 gallons, he says he never knew such uniformly superior quality nor so much snow on the woods at the close of a season. Orders for syrup are coming in every mail.

Syrup at the time was \$5.50 per gallon!

The program began with singing and playing the Vermont Maple Sugar ballad by Sally, Antje, Makylee, Charles, Juliette and George. The ballad was written in 1752 by Perrin Fisk with this arrangement done by Margaret MacArthur from Marlboro College. One verse mentioned the “jack wax” sugar. At the end of the presentation, participants had a hand with making and eating their own “jack wax” (syrup-snow taffy), also known as “sugar on snow”. Mighty delicious and a very sweet way to end an informative and entertaining afternoon.

New Pharmacy Partnership

By Pat Cherry

When the pharmacy in Londonderry closed in 2023, Neighborhood Connections set up a relationship with Pharmacy Northshire in Manchester to fill critical prescriptions on a weekly basis for residents. Neighborhood Connections’ transportation program then picked up and delivered the prescriptions right to each individual’s door. In 2024, Neighborhood Connections made 288 deliveries to 56 individuals living in all ten towns in their service area, for a total of 3,650 miles traveled. But on April 2, 2025, Pharmacy Northshire permanently closed their doors, requiring some quick action to line up an alternative partner.

Fortunately, Messenger Valley Pharmacy in Townshend has stepped up to the plate! This local pharmacy has been serving residents, second homeowners, and visitors to the area since July 1, 1996 - almost 29 years. Located at the corner of Route 35 and Peaked Mountain Road in Townshend (opposite Grace Cottage Hospital), the pharmacy currently fills about 5,000 prescriptions per month. Their swift and cooperative response meant that Neighborhood Connections can continue to provide uninterrupted weekly prescription deliveries to those who need them. To register for this service, just call Neighborhood Connections at 802-824-4343.

Community Needs Assessment Underway

By Cathy Edgerly Fales

The town of Windham has invited the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) to facilitate a community-wide process to explore and set priorities for the future of Windham. Through this process, community members will explore priorities, develop action plans, and connect with resource providers to help achieve these priorities.

The VCRD will assemble a steering committee and it will meet in May. In June, the needs assessment process will begin with a community visioning meeting, where all Windham residents will be invited to help brainstorm ideas and to provide input on the needs and opportunities currently present in Windham. Following the community visioning meeting, VCRD will review, organize and compile everyone's input. VCRD will then proceed to facilitate a second community-wide meeting, probably in July, where residents can review and prioritize these ideas and begin to develop a process to implement them. After the second meeting, interested residents will have opportunities to join their neighbors in working toward the community goals set through this process. VCRD will provide the structure and neutral facilitation each step of the way.

The two public meetings offer the opportunity for Windham residents to discuss the town's future with their neighbors, to participate in planning and making future changes in our town, and to enjoy two free dinners. More detailed information will be circulated closer to the events, including an announcement on the town website, town wide mailings, flyers posted around town, and Front Porch Forum posts.

For additional information, please contact Dani Parkins, Technical Assistance Coordinator, VCRD, at dani@vtrural.org or 802-222-0863. We look forward to working with you!

West River Valley Thrives: Official Narcan Distribution Site

By Katelyn Sherman

Thrives is proud to announce that it is an official Narcan distribution site for the West River community. This important initiative marks a significant step toward expanding harm reduction efforts and providing life-saving tools to those at risk of opioid overdose. Harm reduction is an evidence-based approach that consists of equipping community members and those struggling with substance use with life-saving resources and tools. Narcan is one of these important tools.

Narcan is an opioid overdose reversal medication that has been proven to save lives in emergency situations. Thrives can provide training on how to use Narcan effectively, ensuring that community members are well-equipped to respond if needed. By providing resources and raising awareness about harm reduction techniques, Thrives aims to empower individuals and families to make informed decisions about their health and safety. By equipping our community with Narcan, we are not only preventing overdose deaths, but also sending a clear message that recovery is possible, and help is available.

For more information on Narcan, to request Narcan, or to access resources on substance misuse prevention, please

contact West River Valley Thrives at wrvtdirector@gmail.com or visit www.wrvthrives.org. Please allow 24 hours for local Narcan delivery or pickup.

Grant Updates

By Cathy Edgerly Fales

1. The Windham Schoolhouse Results of the Windham Schoolhouse Feasibility Study were shared with the Selectboard as they prepared for the March Town Meeting. A link to the full report including all ideas from Windham residents was posted on the town website. The School Board and the Selectboard are beginning negotiations to sell the property to the town for \$1. The town is doing its due diligence including working with Windham Regional Commission to perform a Phase One Evaluation study of the property to insure there are no contaminants. The Community Needs Assessment process described above will continue the work of determining the best uses for this building.

2. Imerys Talc Mine The town is undergoing a similar environmental assessment/process with the Imerys Talc Mine property located on White Road that has been offered to the town as a donation. The owner is also offering substantial funds that can be used to make up for the loss of taxes if the property is conveyed to the town, and for other property maintenance/development needs. Currently the two parties are in the process of assessing the completed Phase One Evaluation study to determine appropriate next steps.

3. The Meeting House There is considerable turmoil at the federal level. Unfortunately, this turmoil has now extended to the National Park Service (NPS), the federal agency that administers our Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Subgrant for the Meeting House. Long-time staff at NPS have been let go, and the grant programs are under evaluation. As of today, we have no indication that the Bruhn Grant Program will be eliminated or that any grant fund awards will be rescinded. But we are taking care not to obligate any of these \$75,000 funds until we are 100% sure that funding is available. We are working closely with Preservation Trust Vermont to insure we are on track for reimbursement.

Our Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP) funding is secure through the State of Vermont, and we are moving ahead with the grant as outlined. Our first steps are to locate the geothermal wells and begin the process to have them drilled and readied for development. As planned, the MERP construction precedes the Bruhn work and we are hopeful that the federal level issues will be resolved by the time we are ready to begin that specific scope of work later this year and into 2026.

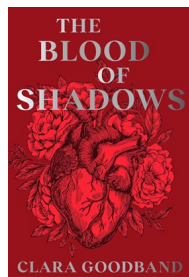
The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money designated for the Meeting House remains available. Neither the ARPA funds nor the funds from the Society of the Friends of the Meeting House, both matching funds for our overall Bruhn grant, are impacted by changes at the federal level. This money is in our possession and will be used during 2025-2026 for painting and improvements to the Meeting House. This work will be dovetailed with our MERP funds.

The remaining funds from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) grant that we received in 2023 will be used to enhance the kitchen at the Meeting House. This was approved by the Selectboard and the Meeting House Committee is moving ahead with recommendations for the best ways to use this money to improve the kitchen facility.

Windham Library

The Windham Library is open every Wednesday from 3-5 PM.. Book Club meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 3:30 PM..

Windham Library Book Club Selection Wednesday, May 7, 2025, 3:30 PM



Join us as we discuss this book with the author herself, local writer, Clara Goodband.

The Terrabrisian Empire has stood as the greatest empire in all the realms for a thousand years, their power made unquestionable by the Bellators (elite assassins who are part shadow) who are both revered and feared even by their own people. But when a disaster strikes at the heart of the empire, the people must put their faith in the deadliest of all the Bellators. Keres has always served her empire, bound to it by birth and loyalty forged by years of training. Yet after an attack she must choose who she loves more, her people who scorn her or her fellow assassins. With her empire on the brink of war, she holds an unsteady grasp on her army, and with the emperor's own house and court rife with lies and deceptions, she must tread carefully if she hopes to save them all.

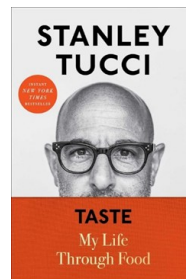
Update from the Windham Town Library *From the Library Trustees*

The Library is open on Wednesdays from 3-5 PM, with the Book Club discussions taking place on the first Wednesdays of the month (at 3:30). Please join us when local author Clara Goodband visits the May 7 Book Club to discuss her book, *The Blood of Shadows*. This fantastical tale of adventure and intrigue takes place in a Medieval world without computers or gamers. You can check out this book from The Windham Town Library. The March-April 2025 issue of *News & Notes* included an article about Clara Goodband (page 12).

We have re-scheduled the discussion of *The Inn at Lake Divine* for December 3.

New from the Library this year is a one-day pass to Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home. The pass is good for 1 adult and up to 2 children, ages 6-16; children under 6 are free. You may borrow the pass for two (2) days at a time. Please stop by the Library to check it out. If you need to make other arrangements, kindly call Al McLaine at 802-875-3312 to arrange.

Windham Library Book Club Selection Wednesday, June 4, 2025, 3:30 PM



Stanley Tucci grew up in an Italian American family that spent every night around the kitchen table. He shared the magic of those meals with us in *The Tucci Cookbook* and *The Tucci Table*, and now he takes us beyond the savory recipes and into the compelling stories behind them.

Taste is a reflection on the intersection of food and life, filled with anecdotes about his growing up in Westchester, New York; preparing for and shooting the foodie films *Big Night* and *Julie & Julia*; falling in love over dinner; and teaming up with his wife to create meals for a multitude of children. Each morsel of this gastronomic journey through good times and bad, five-star meals and burned dishes, is as heartfelt and delicious as the last.

Written with Stanley's signature wry humor, *Taste* is for fans of Bill Buford, Gabrielle Hamilton, and Ruth Reichl—and anyone who knows the power of a home-cooked meal.

Windham Philharmonic May 2025

By Alan McLaine

The Windham Philharmonic presents Sergei Rachmaninoff's Symphony No. 1 in D Minor on Monday, May 5, 2025, at 7:00 PM at The Latchis Theatre, in Brattleboro. This symphony in four movements will be the only work at this performance. Admission is by donation. Baked goods will be available to purchase.

The Windham Philharmonic will also perform at the Red Door Concert on Saturday, May 24, 2025 starting at 7:00 PM at St. Mary's in the Mountains Episcopal Church, 13 N. Main Street, Wilmington, Vermont. The repertoire for this concert will include: Bach Actus Tragicus with flute solo and Haydn Symphony No. 47 "El Palindromo".

Windham Library Book Club Selection Wednesday, July 2, 2025 at 3:30 PM Fire Weather

Grace Cottage Offers Additional Strong Bones Classes

By Alysabeth Simon

Beginning May 5, Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital will be offering an additional hour-long Strong Bones class starting at 9 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. This is in addition to the Monday/Wednesday 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. classes and the Tuesday/Thursday 11 a.m. class.

Grace Cottage's Strong Bones Program is a strength and balance exercise program for adults and is appropriate for both sedentary and active individuals. Research has shown that strength and balance training can help adults to live healthier, happier and more independent lives.

All Strong Bones classes are held on the West Crisp Porch next to the hospital cafeteria.

The Strong Bones Program is free but pre-registration is required, and classes are limited to 12 participants. For more information and to pre-register, call 802-365-3649.

Tri-Mountain Lions Annual July Duck Race

Watch for the Londonderry Tri-Mountain Lions Annual Duck Race following the Londonderry 4th of July Parade on July 5th. Volunteers and new members always welcome. Questions? Email Lion Randee Keith at randee.55@comcast.net

Grace Cottage Golf Benefit on June 7

By Alysabeth Simon

Support a great cause and enjoy an afternoon of golf on Saturday, June 7 at the spectacular Haystack Golf Club in Wilmington, VT. Now in its sixteenth year, all net proceeds from Grace Cottage Hospital's Tee It Up for Health Golf Tournament will go toward the construction of Grace Cottage's new primary care clinic building.

The tournament begins with registration from 10:30-11:45 a.m. ahead of a shotgun start at noon. Prizes will be awarded, including longest drive, closest to pin, lowest and highest-scoring teams, and many more. The very popular Air Cannon will return this year, and the all-day silent auction will feature exciting trips, high-end gifts, and more. Player fees are \$175 per person or \$700 per team, and this includes a box lunch, greens fees, golf carts, golf balls, and an awards dinner served in the clubhouse following the tournament.

Registration closes when all team slots are filled. For more information about becoming a sponsor for this event or playing on a team, call Charma Bonanno at (802) 365-9109, e-mail info@gracecottage.org, or visit www.gracecottage.org/events (you can register online).



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Townshend, VT
www.gracecottage.org
802-365-7357

ELECTRONICS COLLECTION EVENT

Saturday, May 17, 2025

9am - 1pm

Flood Brook Union School
Route 11, Londonderry, Vermont

Langrove, Londonderry, Peru, Weston and Windham
FREE to residents & charities

Businesses must call ahead to make arrangements

What to bring: computers, monitors, televisions, copiers,
microwaves, FAX machines, typewriters, VCRs

For information call 824-3306, Email recycle@londonderryvt.org

HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

Saturday June 7, 2025

9am - 1pm

Flood Brook Union School
Route 11, Londonderry, Vermont

Residents & Businesses of the following towns only:

Landgrove, Londonderry, Peru, Weston, Windham
Free to Households, Businesses Must Pre-register
and Pay for Disposal

What to bring: any substance with a label that says
"caustic, toxic, corrosive, poison, combustible, warning,
danger or caution"

TOWN WEBSITE: TOWNOFWINDHAMVT.COM

Select Board: Kord Scott, 802-875-3725; George Dutton, 802-874-4426; Michael Pelton, 802-874-4246

Town Treasurer: phone: 802-874-4211; email: windham.towntreasurer@gmail.com

Town Clerk: Bea Eliastam, phone: 802-874-4211; email: windham.town@gmail.com

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

Listers: Lister and E-911 Coordinator: Bill Casey, 802-874-7012; Lister: Antje Rupert, phone 802-874-4759

School Board: Abigail Pelton, chair, phone: 802-874-4246; email: apelton@windhamcentralboard.org

Windham Meeting House Committee, Maureen Bell, Chair; phone: 802-875-1024; email: maureenbell@gmail.com

Windham Fire Warden: Rick Weitzel, phone: 802-874-4104; Ralph Wyman, phone: 802-875-3373

Health Officer: Pat McLaine, phone: 802-875-3312; email: patmclaine@gmail.com

Planning and Energy Commission: Bill Dunkel, phone: 802-874-4131; email: bdunkel1455@gmail.com

Zoning: Will Goodwin, email: windhamvt.zoning@gmail.com

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Windham News & Notes
5976 Windham Hill Road
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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, Bea Eliastam, with
input: webmaster@townofwindhamvt.com.

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REGULARLY SCHEDULED WINDHAM MEETINGS CALL CONTACT TO CONFIRM

Citizens Advisory Committee, Second Tuesday of
Feb., May, Aug. & Nov. at
5:00 PM. Contact Town
Clerk for more information.

Energy Committee:
3rd Thursday of the month,
at 4:30 PM on Zoom, Contact
Bill Dunkel 802-874-4131.

**Windham Community
Organization:**
Last Friday of most months at
the Meeting House at 1:00 PM.
Contact Ellen McDuffie at
802-874-8183.

Town Clerk: 802-874-4211

Tuesday: 9 AM - 3 PM;
Wednesday: 9 AM - 3 PM
Thursday: 9 AM - 3 PM
Saturday & Sunday by appoint-
ment only—text Bea at 508-
596-9919 to arrange a time.

Planning and Zoning:

Second Monday of the month
at 6:30 PM Zoom. Open meet-
ings. Agenda posted. Contact
Bill Dunkel at 802-874-4131.

Conservation Commission:

Contact Alison Trowbridge
at 802-874-7050.

Windham Historical

Society: First Wednesday of
month at Windham Elementary
School. Contact Susan Persa at
802-380-4511.

Select Board:

1st & 3rd Mondays at
5:30 PM—On Zoom and at the
Meetinghouse. Open meetings.
Agenda posted. Check website:
townofwindhamvt.com

Library:

Wednesdays, 3-5 PM
Book Club 3:30 PM, 1st
Wednesdays at Meeting
House. Contact Maureen
Bell at 802-875-1024.

Valley Bible Church:

Sundays: Sunday School,
10 AM; Morning Worship,
11 AM; Followed by potluck.
Wednesdays, Bible Study/
Prayer, 7 PM. Call
802-302-6047 for more info.

Windham School Board:

Third Tuesday of the
month at 6 PM. Contact
Abigail Pelton 802-874-
4246 for information.

Volunteer Fire Company:

First Thursday of the
month at 6 PM. Contact
Jan Wyman at 802-875-
3373 for information.

Listers: Every Wednesday,
9 AM- Noon at the Town
Office. 802-874-4211

**West River Education Dis-
trict:** Third Mondays at 7 PM
at Leland & Gray. Call Leland &
Gray 802-365-7355 for info.

SAVE THESE DATES!

May 5 Green-Up Day in Vermont - sign up at the Town Office
May 5 Windham Philharmonic Concert 7:00PM Latchis Theater in
Brattleboro
May 7 Game Afternoon 12:30-3:00 PM and Book Club 3:30 PM (*The
Blood of Shadows*) - meet author Clara Goodband - at Meeting House
May 13 Community Meal 12 Noon at Neighborhood Connections
May 17 Electronics Collection 9AM - 1PM at Floodbrook Elementary
May 21 Game Afternoon 12:30-3:00 PM at the Meeting House
May 24 Tag Sale 9AM-2PM at the Meeting House
May 24-25 Vermont Open Studios 10AM-5PM (see page 7)

SAVE THESE DATES!

June 4 Game Afternoon 12:30-3:00 PM and Book Club 3:30 PM (*Taste*)
at the Meeting House
June 7 Hazardous Waste Collection Day 9AM-1PM at Floodbrook
June 10 Community Meal 12 Noon at Neighborhood Connections
June 14 Leland and Gray Graduation 10AM at the Athletic Field,
Townshend
June 18 Game Afternoon 12:30-3:00 PM at the Meeting House