

# The Winooski Newsletter

A newsletter created in partnership by the City of Winooski and the Winooski School District.

MAY 2024



**WINOOSKI SCHOOLS**  
*We are the future.*

## Letter from the Mayor

By Mayor Kristine Lott

Hello, neighbors.

My update this month addresses our community vision. May is typically the time of year that the City Council and City staff begin our annual strategic planning process. This work is guided by our Strategic Vision, Master Plan, and ongoing progress - which you can view at [winooski.vt.gov/vision](http://winooski.vt.gov/vision). In the last few years, we focused on assessing priority initiatives and projects while being thoughtful about our resources. This year, we're taking a different approach.

Following another fiscally challenging budget and ongoing community concerns about affordability, we'll focus on creating a sustainable plan for staffing and our capital plan (city assets, facilities, equipment, etc.). We'll review our current commitments and their financial impacts and decide when it may be reasonable to take on new debt. We'll also review our core services to outline what the City must provide and what kinds of services are "nice to have". We may choose to scale services



back to ensure we can meet our core service needs. For context, since the initiation of the downtown revitalization project in the early 2000s and the adoption of Form-Based Code in 2015, our city has aimed to grow our Grand List (increasing the tax base to relieve extra pressure on property taxes). This strategy generally equates to only about ~1% growth a year, which unfortunately does not keep up with inflation.

Over the past 10 years, Winooski has grown by ~1,000 residents and ~500+ housing units. Over those same 10 years, city staffing has only increased from 49 full-time staff to 53, resulting in a serious capacity issue. And, the City has taken on nearly \$50M of new debt through bond votes in the past 6 years alone. We've also added new programs and policies that increase demands on our staff, like Short Term Rental regulations, All Resident Voting, new policy advisory commissions, new processes to increase community engagement, equity and inclusion initiatives, and more. We have reached a tipping point where we need to determine what is feasible with our current resources before taking on new projects and initiatives.

The City Council and staff will continue to work towards keeping Winooski affordable, vibrant, and community-focused. We encourage you all to come to the City Council meetings and stay engaged while we make these important decisions!

## Main Street Revitalization Project: Construction Underway

Construction started on the Main Street Revitalization Project in late April. This construction season will focus on upgrading water, sewer, and stormwater systems. Work began at the south end of the project area near the intersection of Main Street and Maple Street and continues north. Activities will take place Monday through Friday between 7am and 7pm. There may be night and weekend work when needed.

Construction will require single-lane closures along Main Street. Throughout most of construction, Main Street will be reduced to northbound traffic only. Southbound traffic will be sent to Weaver Street. The detour will stay in place 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There may also be cases of alternating one-way traffic and brief road closures with detours.



Travelers should be alert, use caution, slow down, and pay attention to signage and flaggers. To keep access open for emergency vehicles, on-street parking will not be allowed along Main Street within the active work zone during work hours. On-street parking is also reduced along the entire length of Weaver Street.

Throughout construction, the Project Team will share weekly updates and traffic alerts as needed to keep the public informed about construction activities, traffic impacts, and parking. Visit the project website at [winooski.vt.gov/mainstreet](http://winooski.vt.gov/mainstreet) to view these updates or sign up to receive them by email. Multilingual project updates are also available on the website in 14 languages.

Questions or comments? Contact the project team at 802-595-4399 or [info@winooskimainstreet.com](mailto:info@winooskimainstreet.com).



### From the Superintendent

*By Wilmer Chavarria, Superintendent of Schools*

Have you ever wondered how we decide to call for a school day closure or delay during inclement weather? Here is a summary of the steps:

1. Consult with the National Weather Service in Vermont and monitor the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s briefings throughout the day. All Vermont superintendents receive updates via email.
2. As soon as the possibility of a strong weather event is apparent, so strong that it could lead to closures, the area superintendents begin an email chain and consult with each other individually via phone and text. In some cases, a group call is necessary.
3. Consult with road crews, city officials, and WSD facilities members about facilities readiness for the event.
4. Make a decision the day before if enough information is available. If the outlook is still unclear, begin a cycle of consultation the next day as early as 4 AM.
5. Locally decide whether to close or delay primarily based on Winooski's roads and ease of access from neighboring towns

and the district's facilities readiness, including parking lots. Importantly, ensure that buses can safely run their routes uninterrupted and on time.

6. If no delay or closure is deemed necessary, consult with area superintendents about their situations in their respective districts. If most surrounding districts have closures, it is best to follow suit due to the interconnection between communities to avoid staff shortages for the day and the confusion from town to town.
7. If a delay is necessary whether due to obvious dangers to a regular opening or due to most or all surrounding schools deciding to close, an announcement to families, community, and staff is made via phone and email before 6 AM.
8. Postings are made to our social media and website.
9. A report is made available to the media via the WCAX portal, which sends it to all other media.

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### School Board Update

*By Elom Essiba, Board of School Trustees*

Hello Winooski Families, students, and staff! I would like to express my deepest appreciation to the Winooski community members who voted and elected me, my board colleagues Nicole Mace and Isaiah Donaldson to the school board and supported the budget to pass. As a community member and someone with a different cultural background, I feel that I am representing people from different cultures who may not be as familiar with the American education system but have high hopes for their children. As a mother with students in the Winooski Middle and High schools it is very important for me to know how the school system and its policies work to best help our students' futures. I am proud to be part of a community and a school district that cares about its students and their families.

As a Policy Governance board, we monitor outcomes through policy. And the most important policy we have is our District's Ends Statement: All students will graduate from the Winooski School District (WSD) college and career ready at a cost supported by majority of the Winooski community. WSD students will lead healthy, productive, successful lives and engage with their local and global community.

Now that the budget process is complete and it has passed, I look forward to working with my board colleagues and the administration to gather information about how we are achieving this Ends Statement over the coming year. I am looking forward to learning more about the centralized data system our Director of Curriculum is working on, which should help the Board use data when determining how well we are meeting our goals.

This work is what excites me most about being on the school board because our students' future matters. I highly encourage

all members of the community, whether you have children in the school or not, to participate and attend board meetings.

All members of our community are invited to attend school board meetings in person or online. **We meet the second Wednesday of the month at 6pm, and the agenda is posted several days in advance of the meeting on the WSD website.** I look forward to continuing to collaborate with my fellow board members, the administration, and members of the community to ensure the investments we make in our students' futures produce excellent results.

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### Sharing Our Experiences

*By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications*

On April 11 and 12, Winooski Middle High School hosted nearly 100 representatives from ten New England communities, who came to learn from Winooski's decade-long implementation of Vermont's Act 77, aimed at enhancing public school services for students.

During the visit, students from both middle and high school acted as tour guides, leading visitors through the school and sharing their experiences. Visitors had the opportunity to learn more about various school facilities such as the health office, the necessity store, and the Multilingual Center- Cultural Liaisons. Additionally, they visited classrooms to observe firsthand the innovative learning practices in action.

Organized by Next Generation Learning Challenges (NGLC) and funded by the Barr Foundation, the 2024 Innovative Schools Learning Excursion highlighted Winooski's efforts to offer a more personalized and meaningful learning experience for high school students.

## Preschool News

By Maybeline Lopez, Director of Early Learning

With Winooski voters passing the school budget, we are excited to have additional preschool opportunities and a school day (8:15 am to 3 pm) option for the 2024–2025 school year.

The Winooski Early Learning Department believes investing in early childhood education can positively shape a child's future success. Our philosophy is to provide developmentally appropriate activities that allow children to experience social, emotional, physical, and intellectual growth. If your child is 3 or 4 years old or will be 3-years-old by September 1st, 2024, please complete the PowerSchool registration process if interested in a spot and provide us with your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, choice and we will try our best to provide families with an option that works best.

The Winooski Early Childhood Program (WECP) is located at the JFK Elementary School. The program is closed on Friday and provides bussing Monday-Thursday for Options 1-2.

- Option 1: from 8:15am to 1pm 2 or 4 days a week
- Option 2: from 8:15am to 3pm. 2 or 4 days a week
- Option 3: from 8:30am to 2:30pm. Monday – Friday is the Head Start, Winooski Early Learning Center located at 87 Elm St. in Winooski. No bus

If you have any questions please reach out to Nicole Chalke at [nchalke@wsdvt.org](mailto:nchalke@wsdvt.org) (802) 383-6061

## 2nd Grade News

By Angela Moulton, JFK Elementary School, 2nd grade teacher

The energy was high in second grade on April 5th. Kids filled the pod with cereal boxes and scissors in hand. They were about to make pinhole viewers to view the upcoming



eclipse. Second graders had already made flip books, learned about indirect viewing, and watched a video and puppet show. They were ready to create! High school students from Friends Central School came armed with directions and tape. They did a fantastic job getting 60 students to correctly cut, fold, tape, and add foil! After making the viewers, students returned to their classrooms and immediately wanted to try them out. Elizabeth Nuchols from Echo was also there to assist the students. She troubleshooted holes that didn't provide enough light, boxes not taped correctly, and other details. It was a super busy and fun day for all students. This event gave the students the knowledge and tools to safely see a once-in-a-lifetime event. Thank you to ECHO and Deb Skapik for creating this opportunity for all JFK students and staff.



## Winooski School Antiracism Steering Committee Update

By Christie Beveridge, Program and Communications Director, UP for Learning

On March 18th and April 1st, youth and adults from the Winooski school community gathered for the 11th and 12th meetings of the 2023-2024 Antiracism Steering Committee (ARSC).

During the March meeting, the committee met virtually with two members of the Vermont Truth and Reconciliation Commission (VTRC). Mia Schultz and Melody Mackin discussed the work of the commission and answered questions from the team. They also had some questions for the ARSC! It was an inspiring and informative conversation, and the team looks forward to partnering with Mia and Melody, and applying what they learn to the school's own truth and reconciliation commission. During the meeting on April 1st, representatives from the City Office shared information about the Winooski Equity Action Committee, which will be continuing the work of addressing inequities in the larger community. They invited all members of the ARSC to join the committee, and discussed the celebratory event they are hosting in June. Alison Novak, education reporter for Seven Days, also attended the meeting, interviewing members of the team about their school. She is co-writing an article for an upcoming issue about housing in the city, and wants to include the youth perspective. Jolivette Anderson-Douoning, Scholar-in-Residence at St. Michael's College and DEI consultant for the district, spoke with the team about designing civil rights workshops, one of the six WSA demands.

The Truth and Reconciliation team met to debrief the conversation with members from the VTRC, as well as continue designing their community event in May. They extend the following invitation to current and former Winooski School students and their families!

**We invite you to join us for an evening of conversation** around the efforts of the Truth and Reconciliation action team, which is working to address past and current harms. The event will include a light dinner, followed by facilitated conversations around race and racism in our schools. It will be from **5-7pm on Monday, May 6th** at the O'Brien Center, located at 32 Malletts Bay Avenue in Winooski.



## Community Iftar

By Caitlin MacLeod-Bluver, Winooski High School Teacher

With more than 250 gathered in our school cafeteria, Sherihan Abdulaziz and Abdi Osman welcome our guests to our fourth district-wide Community Iftar. “Thank you for being here. We are excited to share with all of you about what Ramadan means to us. It is a special month and we appreciate you being here,” Sherihan said.

This is Winooski’s fourth Community Iftar. Iftar is the meal Muslims break their fast with at sunset during the month of Ramadan. In 2021, Winooski held its first Community Iftar via zoom. 2024 marks the third in-person community event where members of all faiths are invited to learn about Ramadan and celebrate our community’s diversity.

Students, families, and community members gathered in our well-decorated new cafeteria. More than twelve students spoke about what Ramadan means to them and the significance of this community event. “Gratitude is the word of the night. If you remember anything, I want you to remember gratitude,” said Sauro Ali, a twelfth grader. Nearly all guests agreed, and expressed gratitude for this event.

“It is so great to have this space, to honor our students and families, and to give people a chance to learn about our religion,” said Abdi Osman.

Imam Malacalim Abdirazaq Farah of Winooski also spoke at the event, before Abdi and Sherihan welcomed all Muslim guests to break their fast and invited them to prayer in two designated



classrooms. After prayer, all guests enjoyed the iftar, the meal to break the fast.

“The food was so good! Like, truly, amazing!” said eleventh grader Winner Mampuya. The food was both donated and brought by our students’ families, as well as purchased from local area restaurants thanks to generous donations from the Winooski Parent-Teacher Organization and some school funding.

## Unheard Stories Project Performance!

By Sarah Lowry, Winooski Middle/High School Teacher

### Join us for our 2nd year of storytelling and speaking out!

The Unheard Stories Project is a youth-led, out-of-school program that brings together New American teens in Winooski to share stories of identity, background, & experience. Students have space to gather, grapple & relate to each other alongside mentors to support their growth and visions of change.

We ask:

- What does it mean to be from an immigrant family in this state?
- What is misunderstood by the larger Vermont community?
- What are stories that need to be heard? How will we share them?

This performance is the culmination of a year of weekly meetings, game playing, skit creation, writing, story-telling, and affinity-based connection. This performance is composed of the aspects of culture, experiences, and wisdom that this multi-age and multicultural group chose to share with the Winooski community.

Building on last year’s project led by Abdul Lailati and Khadija Hassan with 12 members of their community of youth that have

moved here from the African continent, this year’s group is led by six student leads, joined by 20 middle school and high school students who have moved here from a variety of countries and who come with a diverse set of experiences.

### PERFORMANCE DETAILS:

- May 31, 2024, 5:30 pm
- Winooski Performing Arts Center
- Free Event. All are welcome. No tickets needed

**Students leads:** Binti Aweis, Nadine Ikizakubuntu, Bhumika Magar, Passy Matendo, Apolina Mbeleci, Umesh Pradhan.

**Students Performing:** Neema Isidore, Noblette Irakoze, Hawa Mayange, Fatuma Mayange, Saruro Ali, Pascaline Furaha, Alice Buhendwa, Samuel Matendo, Nick Ferdinand, Nixandy Ferdinand, Sherihan Abdulaziz, Esther Niyagushima, Winner Mampuya, Moo July Htoo, Susanna Wilondja, Jesse Moukoueke, Bora Kashindi, Neuvaine Mampuya, Stella Irakunda.

Contact [unhearstoriesprojectvt@gmail.com](mailto:unhearstoriesprojectvt@gmail.com) with any questions or comments!



## Winooski Elementary School Breakfast May 2024

Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 <b>Bagel w/ Cream Cheese</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	2 <b>Iced Breakfast Bun</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	3 <b>Chocolate Chip Muffin</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit
6 <b>Blueberry Bread Slice</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	7 <b>Cinnamon Granola Breakfast Round</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	8 <b>Bagel w/ Cream Cheese</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	9 <b>Iced Breakfast Bun</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	10 <b>Chocolate Chip Muffin</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety
13 <b>Blueberry Bread Slice</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	14 <b>Cinnamon Granola Breakfast Round</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	15 <b>Bagel w/ Cream Cheese</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	16 <b>Iced Breakfast Bun</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	17 <b>Chocolate Chip Muffin</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety
20 <b>Blueberry Bread Slice</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	21 <b>Cinnamon Granola Breakfast Round</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	22 <b>Bagel w/ Cream Cheese</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	23 <b>Iced Breakfast Bun</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	24 <b>Chocolate Chip Muffin</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety
27	28 <b>Cinnamon Granola Breakfast Round</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	29 <b>Bagel w/ Cream Cheese</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	30 <b>Iced Breakfast Bun</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety	31 <b>Chocolate Chip Muffin</b> Asst. WG Cereal w/Animal Crackers Assorted Fresh, Dried or Canned Fruit Milk Variety

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



### Meals Are Free To All Students

Adult Breakfast \$2.90  
Adult Lunch \$4.75  
Milk \$0.50

Please Click Links Below for Nutrition Information on Daily Options:

Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit, Skim White Milk, 1% White Milk, & Fat Free Chocolate Milk Offered With All Meals.

[Milk](#) [Condiments](#)

[Fresh, Dried Or Canned Fruit](#)

Pay for meals on-line. Click on Link Below:



Please advise us if special meal accommodations are required for allergens or other special dietary needs.

Click Image Below for employment opportunities



## Winooski Elementary School K-8 Lunch May 2024

Menus are subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 <b>Homemade Cheese Pizza</b> Caesar Salad Seasoned Green Beans Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	2 <b>Chicken Alfredo w/Pasta</b> Steamed Broccoli Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	3 <b>Grilled Cheese Sandwich</b> Oven Baked Potato Puffs Chicken Noodle Soup Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety
6 <b>Chicken Patty Sandwich w/Lettuce &amp; Tomato</b> Oven Baked Potato Puffs Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	7 <b>General Tso Chicken</b> Steamed Broccoli Rice Pilaf <b>Homemade Cheese Pizza</b> Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	8 <b>Homemade Cheese Pizza</b> Caesar Salad Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	9 <b>Homemade Shepherd's Pie</b> Homemade Dinner Roll Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	10 <b>French Toast Sticks</b> Sweet & White Homefries Real Maple Syrup Twin Turkey Sausage Patties Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety
13 <b>Oven Baked Chicken Nuggets</b> Roasted Potato Wedges Homemade Dinner Roll Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	14 <b>Taco Bar w/ The Works &amp; Ground Turkey</b> Black Bean & Corn Salad <b>Homemade Cheese Pizza</b> Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	15 <b>Homemade Cheese Pizza</b> Roasted Broccoli Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	16 <b>Homemade Baked Ziti</b> Garlic Butter Roasted Carrots Homemade Garlic Breadsticks Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar	17 <b>Hot Turkey &amp; Cheese Pinwheels</b> Steamed Green Peas Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety
20 <b>Dress Your Own Burger on a Bun</b> Oven Baked Crinkle Cut French Fries Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	21 <b>Buffalo Chicken Dip w/ Tortilla Chips</b> Spanish Rice <b>Homemade Cheese Pizza</b> Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	22 <b>Homemade Cheese Pizza</b> Tossed Garden Salad Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	23 <b>Cheesy Ravioli Bake</b> Steamed Broccoli Garlic Breadstick Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	24 <b>Hearty Chicken &amp; Biscuits</b> Chef's Mashed Potato Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety
27	28 <b>Chicken &amp; Cheddar Quesadilla w/ Salsa</b> Rice Pilaf <b>Homemade Cheese Pizza</b> Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	29 <b>Homemade Cheese Pizza</b> Caesar Salad Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	30 <b>Oven Baked BBQ Chicken</b> Oven Baked Crinkle Cut French Fries Dinner Roll Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety	31 <b>Layered Chicken Bowl</b> Homemade Dinner Roll Fresh Fruit & Veggie Bar Milk Variety

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### Meals Are Free To All Students

Adult Breakfast \$2.90  
Adult Lunch \$4.75  
Milk \$0.50

Please Click Links Below for Nutrition Information on Daily Options:

Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/Granola, Deli Turkey & Cheese Sandwich, Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich w/Cheese Stick

Fresh, Dried, or Canned Fruit, Skim White Milk, 1% White Milk, & Fat Free Chocolate Milk Offered With All

[Deli Options K 8](#)

[Express Options](#)

[Grab & Chef Salad or Yogurt Parfait w/Oat](#)

[Milk](#) [Condiments](#)

[Fresh, Dried Or Canned Fruit](#)

Pay for meals on-line. Click Image Below:



Harvest of the Month:

Eggs

Click on the image above for more info on the Harvest of the Month!

Please advise us if special meal accommodations are required for allergens or other special dietary needs.



## Green Up Day

Join your neighbors for Green Up Day in Winooski on **Saturday, May 4!** Pitch in and enjoy this annual statewide tradition by cleaning up public spaces in the community.

- Grab your 'Green Up' bags on May 4. 8:30am–2pm at the Winooski Senior Center (123 Barlow Street).
- Staff and volunteers will be available for assistance and questions.
- Green Up bags will also be available on May 3 at Winooski City Hall (27 West Allen Street) and the Winooski Memorial Library (32 Malletts Bay Ave).
- Once you've got your bag, feel free to 'Green Up' a location of your preference in Winooski.
- Looking to dispose your filled bags? A dumpster will be provided in the Senior Center parking lot - you may also leave your sealed bags safely out of the way of vehicles and pedestrians near the location you picked up.

For full details, please visit [winooski.vt.gov/greenupday!](http://winooski.vt.gov/greenupday!)



## City Clerk's Office Reminders

Open 8am–4pm, Monday–Friday  
[winooski.vt.gov/clerk](http://winooski.vt.gov/clerk) | 802-655-6410

**Dog Licenses:** Per state statute, all dogs owned in the City of Winooski must be Registered with the City Clerk on or before April 1. Now that it is May, the costs are as follows:

New dog licenses (for those who have just moved to Winooski): \$14 (altered) | \$18 (unaltered)

New licenses for existing dogs after April 1: \$16 (altered) | \$20 (unaltered)

**Elections:** To register for the upcoming Primary and General elections, please register at [olvr.vermont.gov](http://olvr.vermont.gov). To request an absentee ballot, please visit [mvp.vermont.gov](http://mvp.vermont.gov) or contact us at the Clerk's Office or visit [winooski.vt.gov/vote](http://winooski.vt.gov/vote) to learn more.

**Property Tax & Utility Payments:** Property tax and utility payments are due on May 15, 2024! Stop by the Clerk's Office to make your payment or visit [winooski.vt.gov/pay](http://winooski.vt.gov/pay). Payments are due on or before May 15, we do not accept postmarks.

## Reappraisal 2024

The assessed values effective for 2024 will be mailed to all property owners in early June. Please be aware that even if your home is exactly the same as it was in 2007 (the year of the last city-wide reappraisal), your appraised value will be greater, due to market conditions now compared to 2007, and inflation. However, in that case, your municipal tax bill would not increase at the same rate as your appraised value. That is because the municipal tax rate adjusts to what is needed the City budget, not based on assessed property values.

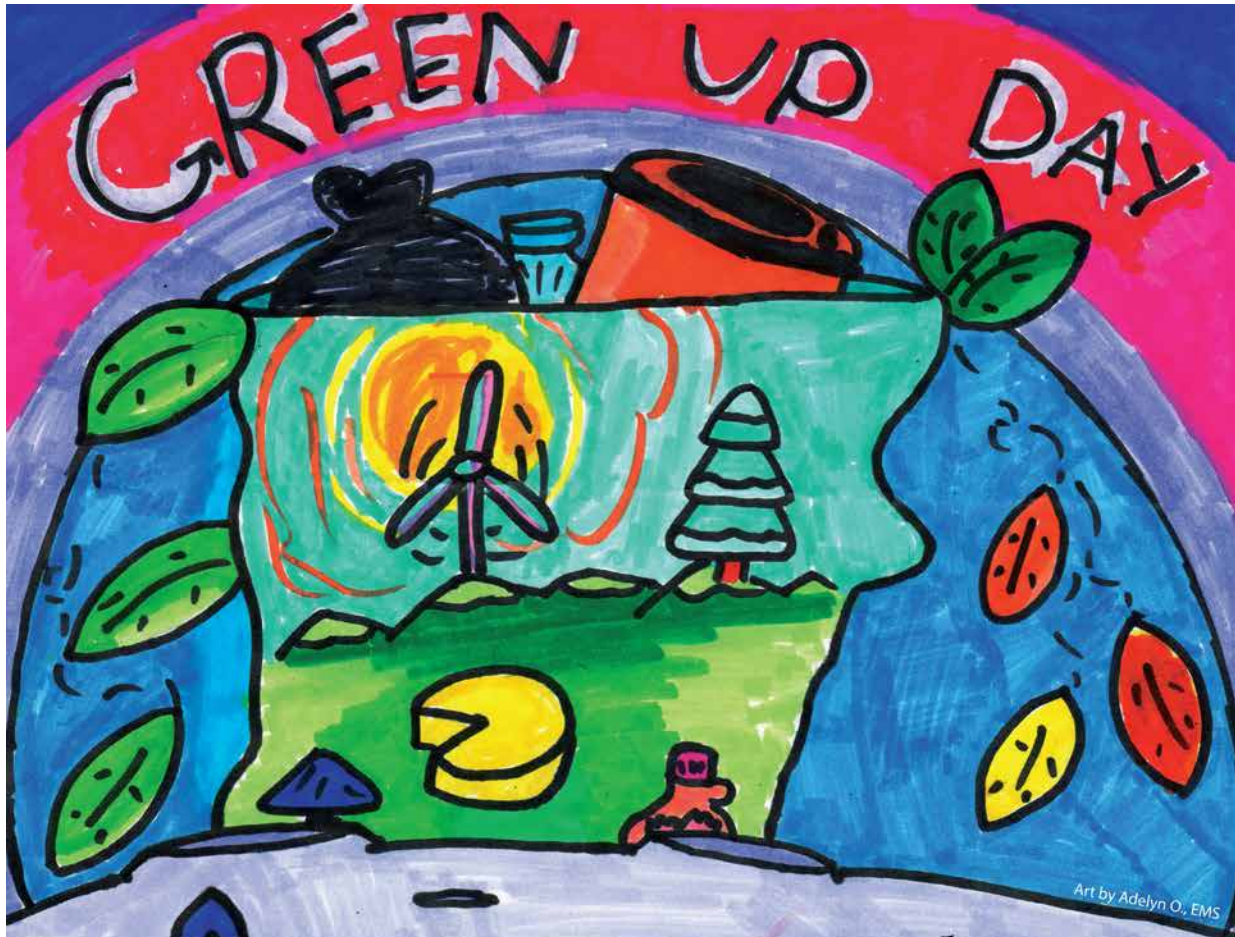
If you have questions about this process, please call or email the City Clerk's Office at 802-655-6410 | [clerk@winooski.vt.gov](mailto:clerk@winooski.vt.gov) (M–F, 8am–4pm).

Residents may also find these resources helpful via the Vermont Department of Taxes:

**Renter Credit** (money returned to you after you file your taxes) is available to eligible Vermonters if:

- You rented in Vermont for at least six months
- You were not claimed as a dependent
- You meet the income eligibility limits based on your family size
- For details, please visit [tax.vermont.gov/individuals/renter-credit](http://tax.vermont.gov/individuals/renter-credit).

Property owner's homes that meet the State's definition of a "homestead" are required by law to file a **Homestead Declaration** every year by the April deadline. If eligible, it is important that you file so your homestead tax rate is correctly assessed. For full details, visit [tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/homestead-declaration](http://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/homestead-declaration).



**Saturday May 4, 2024**

Join our Guinness Record attempt  
**VT Top to Bottom**



[greenupvermont.org](http://greenupvermont.org)  
#GWR24 #togetherwecan #greenuptv



## COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



### Winooski Recreation and Parks

802-777-1621 | [recreation@winooskivt.gov](mailto:recreation@winooskivt.gov)  
[winooskivt.gov/recprograms](http://winooskivt.gov/recprograms)

#### YOUTH

##### VT Patriots Spring Soccer

- U6/U8/U10/U12 | April 29–June 15

##### Tennis in the Parks

- Grades 1–5 | Tuesdays, May 7–June 11

##### Swim Team

- Ages 5–18 | M W F, June 10–August 5

##### Swim Lessons

- All ages | All summer long, June 17 – August 24

##### Junior Lifeguarding

- Ages 11–15 | Saturdays, June 22 – July 20

##### Skateboarding with Burton Chill

- Ages 10–1–17 | Wednesdays, July 10 – August 7

#### ADULTS

##### Yoga Vinyasa Flow

- A18+ | Mondays & Wednesdays, January 8–May 29

##### Winooski Bike Gang

- 18+ | Wednesdays, April 17–September 25

##### Winooski Running Club

- 18+ | Wednesdays, May 1–September 4

##### Tennis in the Parks

- 18+ | Wednesdays, May 8–June 12



### Winooski Memorial Library

32 Malletts Bay Ave | 802-655-6424 | [library@winooskivt.gov](mailto:library@winooskivt.gov)  
[winooskivt.gov/library](http://winooskivt.gov/library)

Tuesday & Wednesday: 10am–6pm

Thursday & Friday: 10am–5pm

Saturday: 10am–2pm

#### DROP-IN PROGRAMS:

##### YOUTH

- **Library Playgroup** | Birth & up | Tuesdays | 10:30am
- **Pokémon Club** | Ages 8+ | Wednesdays | 3:30pm
- **Weekly Storytime** | Birth & up | Thursdays | 10:30am
- **Cardboard Kids** | Ages 8+ | Thursdays | 3:30pm
- **STEAM Ahead** | Ages 5+ | Saturdays | 10am
- **Dad Guild Playgroup** | Families/Youth | Sat, May 18 | 12:30pm

##### ADULTS

- **English Conversation Group** | Ages 18+ | Tue & Thu | 11am
- **Winooski Reads Book Club** | Ages 18+ | Tue., May 28 | 6pm

#### Winooski Library Committee: Seeking Youth Member!

Do you or someone you know live or go to school in Winooski and are entering or currently in grades 8 - 12? The Winooski Library is accepting applications for our Youth Member Position to serve alongside current members of the Winooski Library Committee! Applicants should have an interest in learning more about the library and a desire to bring a youth perspective to our library services for the community.

#### Audiobooks, eBooks, & more

Did you know that library cardholders have access to free audiobooks, ebooks, film streaming, language learning, educational/professional development courses, and more? Visit our website at [winooskivt.gov/library](http://winooskivt.gov/library) or stop by info.

#### Library of Things

Borrow snowshoes, museum passes, headlamps, birding backpacks, a telescope, walking poles, snow shovels, and other items to enjoy!



## COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



### Winooski Senior Center

123 Barlow Street | 802-655-6425

seniorcenter@winooski.vt.gov

[winooski.vt.gov/seniorcenter](http://winooski.vt.gov/seniorcenter)

Tuesday & Wednesday: 9am–12pm

Thursday: 9am–2pm

#### TUESDAYS

##### New American Lunch & Learn

- 10am–1pm | 60+ | \$5 suggested donation

#### WEDNESDAYS

##### Grab-n-Go

- 10am–12pm | 60+ | \$5 suggested donation
- Nutritious takeout meals from AgeWell
- Call to RSVP by 12pm the previous Thursday

##### Breakfast Café

- 9am–11am | Priced by Donation | Drop-in

Enjoy freshly made breakfast sandwiches, fruit, treats, and drinks

##### Quilting Workshops

- 10am – 12pm Free | Call to Register
- May 22 - July 24 with the Mill Museum

#### THURSDAYS

##### Sit Down Community Meals

- 12pm | 60+ | \$5 suggested donation | Call to RSVP by 12pm the previous Monday
- Healthy sit-down lunches from AgeWell

#### SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

- **Story Quilt Project Coffee Chat** | Free | Wednesday May 1 at 10am. Meet the instructor, Lisa Therrien and learn about this free exciting quilting workshop project starting May 22 with the Winooski Heritage Mill Museum
- **Bone Builders Exercise** | Free | Monday & Wednesday | 2–3pm
- **Meals on Wheels** - Please call AgeWell at 802-863-0360 to find out the eligibility requirements. Volunteers are always needed.



### Thrive After School

#### 2024 Summer Camp

Sign up at [winooski.vt.gov/thriveprograms](http://winooski.vt.gov/thriveprograms)

Hey there, summer campers — are you ready for the best summer ever? We've got tons of fun activities planned for you. We'll start by exploring nature and learning about the world around us. Then, we'll travel through time and discover different cultures. And after that, we'll become mad scientists and experiment with all sorts of cool things. And let's not forget about the mysterious creatures in the ocean! We'll have a blast together and make memories that will last a lifetime.

- Grades K–5
- Monday–Friday, 8am–5pm at the Winooski School District

#### Camp Themes and Dates:

- **Nature Explorers:** June 24–28
- **Time Travelers:** July 1–3
- **Around the World:** July 8–12
- **Olympic Weeks:** July 15–19
- **Mad Science:** July 22–26
- **Mysterious Ocean:** July 29–August 2
- **Summer Favorites:** August 5–9



Scan the QR code to learn more about and sign up for anything on these pages!  
[winooski.vt.gov/programs](http://winooski.vt.gov/programs)

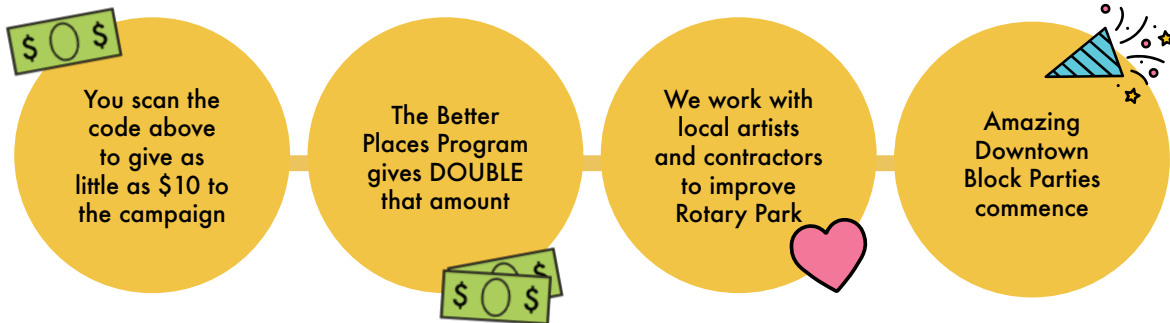
Be a Goal Getter: Downtown Winooski is using crowdfunding and leveraging state and private funding to make Rotary Park a place where people love to gather and connect!



## The Crowdfunding Campaign:



## The Flow of Funds:



**Learn more & have your donation tripled through May 5:**  
Scan the code above or visit [patronicity.com/rotary](https://patronicity.com/rotary)

## Winooski Partnership for Prevention

### March 25 Community

**Dinner:** The WPP ended the community dinner series this year with an amazing meal from

Harmony's Kitchen. We served over 80 meals to community members, and provided helpful resources for tobacco cessation, alcohol and cannabis use problems screening and referrals, and youth vape cessation resources. As usual, we had some great swag to give away, as well, including very handy note pads and water bottles. It's been a great season and we can't wait to start these up in the fall again, funding permitting!



We're planning to be at the **Winooski Farmer's Market** some weekends again this year, as well, so keep an eye out.

### Resources and news

- 802Quits is there for people, including teens, trying to quit vaping, as well as e-cigarettes
- ParentUpVT and A.S.K.
- If you or someone you know wants help to end an addiction to drugs and or alcohol, VTHelpLink can help.

#### Leadership Opportunities

Youth can join ATI on Thursdays after school with Mukhtar Abdullahi to learn more about how to keep themselves and their communities healthy, participate in leadership opportunities, attend conferences off-site with other youth from around the state and region, and make a difference. Contact the Suzanne Skaflestad or Mukhtar Abdullahi directly for more information or to sign up!

## Town Meeting TV

Town Meeting TV is hiring two paid interns to join our production team for the summer! The program will run from Monday, June 24th until Friday, August 16th (8 weeks). \$17 an hour, approximately 8 hours per week. We are looking for folks who have basic or intermediate experience with video recording and editing on Adobe Premiere. Interns will work with the Town Meeting TV Co-Directors to pick stories or events that they would like to cover in our community, practice outreach skills, then shoot and edit video that will be broadcasted on Town Meeting TV's YouTube and cable channels. Interested applicants should send their resume and cover letter (including why they

are interested in this position and any relevant experience) to Jordan at [jmitchell@cctv.org](mailto:jmitchell@cctv.org). Applications close Friday, May 24th at 5pm. For more information, please contact [outreach@cctv.org](mailto:outreach@cctv.org) or call 802-862-3966.



## Winooski Food Shelf

24 West Allen Street | [winooskifoodshelf.org](http://winooskifoodshelf.org)

- Wednesday, May 8th: 1pm–3pm
- Saturday, May 11: 9:30am–11am
- Wednesday, May 22nd: 1pm–3pm
- Saturday, May 25th: 9:30am–11am



The Winooski Food Shelf is busy! We now have over 350 Winooski households accessing our services. The line moves right along since we hand out pre boxed veggies on Saturdays and bagged pantry staples and veggies on Wednesdays. We also have eggs and meat. We currently have Halal chicken. We have no diapers.

**Food Shelf policy:** Clients may come one Wednesday and two Saturdays each month. New clients must bring a utility bill or lease. Winooski residents can also access Feeding Chittenden, 228 North Winooski Avenue in Burlington.

**Where to find us:** We are located at 24 West Allen Street inside the green United Methodist Church. Our phone is 802-655-7371.

**Volunteers needed:** Please reach out to us at our e-mail: [winooskifoodshelf@gmail.com](mailto:winooskifoodshelf@gmail.com). We need volunteers to pack produce boxes and pantry staples. We especially need help the third Wednesday of each month (April 17th) at 9am to help bring inside and shelve the food dropped off by the Vermont Foodbank truck.

## Promoting Community Connections



By Paul Detzer, Development and Communications Engagement Manager

Howard Center would like to spread the word about the Small Acts of Community challenge, a powerful initiative aimed at strengthening our local bonds through simple, meaningful actions. This challenge encourages individuals in Winooski and beyond to commit to ten acts of kindness over two weeks, fostering a habit of community care and empathy. The pledge aims to guide our acts of community and outline what we as a community strive to value, practice and do: We value our community spaces and treat them with care. We practice kindness, even when we disagree. We choose love, even when it's not easy. We value connection, withholding judgment and seeking understanding. We encourage everyone to participate



in the Small Acts of Community challenge and explore how we can collectively enhance the well-being and connectedness of our community. Get involved and see the real difference our collective actions can make in improving the neighborhood. Learn more at [actsofcommunity.org](http://actsofcommunity.org).



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*We are the future.*

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**IMPORTANT NUMBERS IN WINOOSKI**

**WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**[www.wsdvt.org](http://www.wsdvt.org)**

**Superintendent of Schools**  
 Wilmer Chavarria, [wchavarria@wsdvt.org](mailto:wchavarria@wsdvt.org)  
 802-383-6000

**John F. Kennedy Elementary School**  
 Principal: Sara Raabe  
 802-655-0411  
[sraabe@wsdvt.org](mailto:sraabe@wsdvt.org)

**Winooski Middle and High School**  
 Co-Principals: Kate Grodin and Jean Berthiaume  
 802-655-3530  
[kgrodin@wsdvt.org](mailto:kgrodin@wsdvt.org)  
[jberthiaume@wsdvt.org](mailto:jberthiaume@wsdvt.org)

**Board of School Trustees**  
 Robert Millar, *President*, 802-238-0089, [rmillar@wsdvt.org](mailto:rmillar@wsdvt.org)  
 Kamal Dahal, *Vice President*, 802-310-2821, [kdahal@wsdvt.org](mailto:kdahal@wsdvt.org)  
 Isaiah Donaldson, *Secretary*, 802-999-8410, [idonaldson@wsdvt.org](mailto:idonaldson@wsdvt.org)  
 Elom Kpessa, 802-324-9431, [eessiba@wsdvt.org](mailto:eessiba@wsdvt.org)  
 Nicole Mace, 802-363-7777, [nimace@wsdvt.org](mailto:nimace@wsdvt.org)

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**CITY OF WINOOSKI**  
**[www.winooski.vt.gov](http://www.winooski.vt.gov), 802-655-6410**

**Mayor**  
 Kristine Lott, 802-766-1988, [klott@winooski.vt.gov](mailto:klott@winooski.vt.gov)

**City Manager**  
 Elaine Wang, 802-655-6410, [ewang@winooski.vt.gov](mailto:ewang@winooski.vt.gov)

**City Councilors**  
 Aurora Hurd, 802-734-7082, [ahurd@winooski.vt.gov](mailto:ahurd@winooski.vt.gov)  
 Charles Judge, 802-655-6410, [cjudge@winooski.vt.gov](mailto:cjudge@winooski.vt.gov)  
 Bryn Oakleaf, 802-448-2966, [boakleaf@winooski.vt.gov](mailto:boakleaf@winooski.vt.gov)  
 Thomas Renner, *Deputy Mayor*, 802-922-3265, [trenner@winooski.vt.gov](mailto:trenner@winooski.vt.gov)

**City Clerk**  
 Jenny Willingham, 802-655-6410, [jwillingham@winooski.vt.gov](mailto:jwillingham@winooski.vt.gov)

**Winooski Police**  
 Emergency: Call 9-1-1  
 Non-emergency: 802-655-0221

**Winooski Fire Department**  
 Emergency: Call 9-1-1  
 Non-emergency: 802-655-6420

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