

# The Winooski Newsletter

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

AUGUST 2024



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

## Letter from the Mayor

By Mayor Kristine Lott | [klott@winooskivt.gov](mailto:klott@winooskivt.gov) / 802 766 1988



Hello, Neighbors.

In June, the City Council and staff Leadership Team held our annual Strategies and Priorities discussion to align our priorities with our shared community vision ([winooskivt.gov/vision](http://winooskivt.gov/vision)) within the constraints of budget and staffing resources. Following 2 years with higher-than-average increases, concerns about affordability and gentrification, we took a step back to look at data on demographics, affordability, municipal debt, and future needs to answer two key

questions: 1) Is the municipal property tax contributing to unaffordability to a problematic extent? 2) Do we need to change our plans for debt?

So what did we learn?

Looking at municipal tax history in the context of affordability, the city tax rate has increased 22% in the past decade, while inflation increased 28%, and school taxes increased 78%. Relative to comparable Vermont towns, the amount of city taxes raised per person rate is average, and residents are effectively paying less now for city services than in 2014. We looked at debt as a contributor to recent city tax increases: since 2018, voters approved 7 bonds totaling ~\$43 Million of debt. In years prior, we had very little debt as a result of not keeping up with infrastructure and maintenance needs. The good news is, we don't anticipate this trend continuing where most of the established needs, for example, are smaller street projects (as opposed to a very big project like Main Street Revitalization). City staff are also at capacity with the big projects underway, leaving no room to tackle another.

We also looked at housing availability and affordability. Our housing stock has grown by over 33% since 2000, but not at the expense of green space like other towns. We've added 980 rental units and 32 owner-occupied units. So, while the balance of owner occupancy versus renter occupancy has shifted, we have not lost ownership; we have gained rentals. Looking ahead, we have downtown development underway that will add 90 more units of 'workforce affordable' housing and 5 other significant housing developments for our gateway districts in the pipeline.

Looking at demographic data in the context of gentrification, income is rising in Winooski, but at a similar rate to other Vermont towns. Racial diversity is increasing in Winooski, and at a faster rate than in other towns. We're also experiencing a statewide decline in our residents younger than 18, which is not great for our school.

City leaders agreed that affordability is still a concern: we're all feeling the pressure of rising costs with many factors outside of local control (healthcare, childcare, food, transportation, lack of housing supply in the larger region, etc.). Many of these issues require state and federal intervention. We believe our approach to the city tax rate has been measured, and we are committed to continuing this approach. We will also stay the course with current plans for debt and City programs. This is also a reminder that we can't tackle all our needs right away. We need to make strategic decisions about budgets, programs, and capital projects that serve our residents affordably and within staff capacity.

I'm proud of the work we continue to do as a community and we'll continue to use community priorities, the Master Plan, community listening sessions, direct engagement with residents, commission recommendations, and staff input to guide decision-making for next year's budget.

To view the 2024-2024 Strategies and Priorities data we used to have our annual discussion, please visit [winooskivt.gov/council](http://winooskivt.gov/council).

## Now Available: Short-Term Rental License Application

By Jazmine Hurley, Housing Initiative Director

On February 20, 2024, the Winooski City Council approved changes to Chapter 17 (Public Building Registry) of the City's Municipal Code to include new language that addresses short-term rentals in Winooski. These changes went into effect on July 1, 2024.

Short-term rental property owners must now submit a license application for each unit of short-term rental. More information about this process, the short-term rental license application, and FAQs can be found on our website at [winooskivt.gov/str](http://winooskivt.gov/str).

Call or email 802 655 6410 / [jhurley@winooskivt.gov](mailto:jhurley@winooskivt.gov) with any questions.





### From the Superintendent

*By Wilmer Chavarria, Superintendent of Schools*

Dear Winooski Community,

It is incredible to know that the summer has practically come and gone for us at the schools and that all our wonderful students will be back in our classrooms before we know it. Much work has gone into getting our facilities and plans ready for the upcoming school year, and I could not be prouder of where we are heading as a Winooski School District.

If you have children currently enrolled in our schools, please remember that our school day will start at 8:15am. Buses will continue to follow roughly the same routes, albeit 15 minutes later than the current schedule. Our doors will continue to open at the usual times, and meals will function as usual. Please help us in this transition by planning ahead and helping your child arrive at class on time. Please also visit our website for the most up-to-date school calendar, which includes a start date of the school year that is earlier than usual (Monday, August 26), along with a few other changes throughout the year. Rest assured that you will receive communication on our part before important

dates, but it helps us if you have your information updated within our system.

Along those lines, it is important that you use the summertime to come in and update your Annual Student Forms. This ensures that records are up to date in our system and that we can best respond to student needs and those of your family. Our Registrar and team will gladly walk you through the process if you are unsure. All you need to do is come into our facilities and say you are here to update your Student Forms. You can be instructed on how to do it online, or you may be supported on the spot and fill them out in our office. We have added a new registration station by the main lobby with a computer ready for you to use if you choose to do it this way.

As always, thank you for your continued support of our schools and for trusting us to educate and care for our Winooski children and youth.

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### School Board Update

*By Nicole Mace, Board of School Trustees*

On July 1, the Winooski School District received the education tax rate for the FY25 budget from the Vermont Department of Taxes. The final rate is \$1.26, which is 16 cents lower than what the Board of Trustees projected when presenting the budget to voters in March. The reason the rate is lower is due to actions taken by the Legislature to use one time money to buy down property tax rates in FY25, and because Winooski's CLA is 108, which is higher than projected.

In a typical year, we would have received the tax rate much earlier, but as we indicated throughout the budget process, this was no typical year. One reason is the implementation of Act 127, which made adjustments to the way students are "weighted" in the education funding formula in order to achieve a more equitable distribution of tax capacity, (a mandate in Vermont's Constitution), based on student need. Winooski was a strong supporter of adjusting the weights, as we serve the highest proportion of multilingual students in the state, and are the poorest district.

The additional tax capacity provided to Winooski through the adjusted student weights made it possible to retain positions hired with COVID funds, including multilingual liaisons, teachers, social workers, and literacy interventionists, and to expand existing PreK programs to offer more opportunities for early education in the District. We were able to include these investments and see a 15% drop in our equalized tax rate between FY24 and FY25 (\$1.49 to \$1.26). As a reminder, the equalized tax rate is the rate before the CLA gets applied; the CLA is the factor that is supposed to account for changes in property values.

Despite a substantial reduction in our tax rate, the average

taxpayer paying based on property value likely saw an increase in their bill due to the significant increases in property values resulting from this year's reappraisal process. While the Board was clear that property values would increase since it had been over a decade since the last reappraisal process, the magnitude of the increase was difficult to predict. As it turns out, the average Winooski home value increased from \$225,000 to \$414,000. For this "average" Winooski homeowner, this translates to a 7% increase in your education property tax amount, which is less than the 13% average increase statewide, but an increase all the same.

Increases in property taxes statewide were a source of concern, frustration, and focus on the part of the Legislature and the Governor this year. Some folks urged an immediate change to the funding formula in order to restrict education spending; others supported studying the root causes of education spending and identifying policies that address those root causes. In the end, the Legislature established a Commission on the Future of Public Education to do just that.

I have been appointed by the Vermont School Boards Association to serve on this Commission, where my priority will be policy recommendations that adhere to Vermont's unique Constitutional mandate to ensure equitable access to educational resources and a strong public education system. The Commission has a very broad charge and a mandate to engage the public in the process. I welcome your questions, concerns, and input as the work gets underway and am committed to keeping the community informed of opportunities to engage in the conversation.

## New School Start Time at 8:15am

Starting this fall, we will be adjusting the start of our school day to 8:15am.

This decision has been made to provide students with a better educational experience. There have been significant changes to the curriculum in all three schools; teachers need more time for student support meetings, professional development, and lesson planning. This revised morning schedule allows teachers to better adapt to student needs as they evolve.

### Starting this fall, here is what will change:

- **Morning transportation:** School buses arrive 15 minutes later. We will send updated bus schedules in August.
- **School start time:** The school day now begins at 8:15am.

### Starting this fall, here is what will remain the same:

- **Morning building access:** Students may still access the building at 7:30am.
- **Morning supervision:** Morning supervision still begins at 7:30am.
- **End time:** School days still end at 3:00pm.
- **Afternoon transportation:** school buses still take your children home at the same time.

## Winooski School District Child Find Notice

By Katherine Blair, Director of Support Services

The Winooski School District is required by federal law to locate, identify and evaluate all children with disabilities. The process of locating, identifying, and evaluating children with disabilities is known as Child Find. The Winooski School District conducts a Kindergarten Screening every spring, but parents may call to make an appointment to discuss their concerns at any time. As the school district of residence, we have the responsibility to identify and provide services to any child with special needs who may require special education and related services in order to access and benefit from public education.

If you have, or know of any resident, who has a child with a disability under the age of 21, including children enrolled in a private school located in Winooski by parent choice or are being home-schooled, we would like to hear from you. Sometimes parents/guardians are unaware that special education services are available to their children.

Please contact the Director of Support Services, Katherine Blair at (802)383-6085 or [kblair@wsdvt.org](mailto:kblair@wsdvt.org)

## 21C Burlington/Winooski Middle School Summer Program

By Suzanne Skaflestad, 21C Director

Twenty-five middle school students from Winooski participate in an all day five week summer program at Edmunds Middle School. The Winooski School District's 21C program has been collaborating with the Burlington School District and the Sara Holbrook Community Center for over ten years to provide summer programming, two meals (breakfast and lunch) and transportation at no charge.



There were academic and enrichment offerings for students to select based upon their academic needs and enrichment interest. The academic classes offered were Math Foundations, Geometry and the English Enrichment Program. The enrichment class themes included Arts & Crafts, STEAM, Sports and Games.

Students took responsibility for showing up consistently and practicing HEART during this off campus summer experience.





## Making a Difference with the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps

*By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications*

Shout out to the incredible Winooski High School students spending their summer working as Farm and Food Crew members with the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps.

These dedicated students are putting in hard but rewarding work, growing and harvesting fresh, local food. Their efforts support The Health Care Share (HCS), which connects more than 400 Vermont families with nutritious food through their health care provider.

Thank you for making a difference in our community and showing us the power of hard work and giving back. Keep up the amazing work!

## Exciting Week at Public Safety Camp

*By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications*

Students from the middle and high school participated in an exciting Public Safety Camp led by Officer Jason. Throughout the week, they engaged in team-building activities and sports physical fitness.

Each day explored different careers in public safety:

- **Monday:** Orientation, expectations, team building, physical fitness, and sports.
- **Tuesday:** Burlington Fire Dept. and U.S. Coast Guard.
- **Wednesday:** Vermont State Police bomb squad and VT Army National Guard, Military Police, and Honor Guard.
- **Thursday:** Burlington International Airport / Vermont Air National Guard Fire Department.
- **Friday:** Hiked the Sterling Pond Trail in Smugglers Notch.

*A big thank you to Officer Jason for your support and guidance!*

We would like to thank Trevor Daniels, WSD MS program assistant, and Amira Mohamed Oussaid, a recent WSD graduate who worked at the camp.

Our dedicated volunteers for the week were Corporal Brianne Williamson from the South Burlington Police Department, SSgt Sam Sotiropoulos from the Vermont Army National Guard, and Kayden Burke from the Vermont Army National Guard.

Ms. Suzanne, the 21C After School Director, expressed her gratitude: "A big THANK YOU for all your support last week with the Public Safety Camp. It has become such a special part of our summer offerings. I appreciate the time and commitment you put into the success of this program. Thank you again for a fun week of learning and memories for our students."





## Young Performers Shine in Musical Production of *Where the Wild Things Are*

By Miriam Greenfield, Director of Communications

What an impressive feat! In just one week, in collaboration with The Very Merry Theatre and Winooski Recreation and Parks, students from the Winooski School District put together an incredible performance of *Where the Wild Things Are*, the musical.

Bravo to all the talented performers for bringing the magic of Maurice Sendak's story to life on stage! A heartfelt thank you to the dedicated directors and counselors whose hard work and guidance made this production possible.



## 2024 Summer Meals For Winooski Students Runs Through August 16th

By Sarah Haven, Director of Finance & Operations

The Winooski School District is participating in the Summer Food Service Program.

As always, students participating in summer programming offered through the Winooski School District or the City of Winooski will have access to breakfast, lunch, or both depending on the hours of the program.

Students who are not registered in programming are also eligible for meals. Students may come to the Myers Memorial Pool for lunch. Meals at the pool will be available at 12:30pm Monday-Friday. **This meal service will run through August 16th.**

**Every child in Winooski, aged 0-18, is eligible for summer meals.** Summer meals will be provided to all children without charge and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027), found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992.

Submit your completed form or letter to the USDA by:

- (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Ave SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
- (2) Fax: (202) 690-7442 or
- (3) Email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)



## From Your Local Representative

By Representative Daisy Berbeco

Dear neighbors,

This month I want to highlight a few of the most important bills enacted this past session, and how they will impact us. I enjoyed hearing from so many Winooski residents this past year about the issues that matter most—the following list reflects many of them. Thank you for your input and advocacy. The Yield Bill: H.887 (Act 183) was a balanced bill that fully funded the school budgets that voters have already approved all across the state. Act 183 invests tens of millions of dollars to immediately lower property tax rates and also will provide additional help for people who receive a property tax credit based on income. Importantly, it establishes a commission on the future of public education to reimagine how Vermont can fully support our students and schools at a rate that taxpayers can afford. Land Use Modernization: Since 1970, our statewide land use law, Act 250, has preserved Vermont’s rural character, supporting compact development in downtowns and village centers while protecting forests and open lands. With limited housing supply and increasing threats from climate change, H.687 (enacted as Act 181) was a critical land use modernization bill and update to Act 250 that set out strategies to make it easier to build in the right places and better protect natural resources. Act 181 incorporates broad areas of agreement between environmentalists, developers, regional planners, and others on changes to Act 250, including a switch to a new location-based permitting process and improved board governance. Updating the Renewable Energy Standard: H.289 (Act 179) reflected a remarkable collaboration among electric utilities, environmental groups and legislators to bring more renewable energy into our grid faster. The updated Renewable Energy Standard raises electric utility requirements for renewable energy to 100% by 2030 for most utilities with a longer timeframe (2035) for smaller utilities. Act 179 doubles the amount of new renewable energy built in the state, creating good-paying clean energy jobs and better protection from rising fossil energy prices. To ensure equal access to the benefits of renewable energy, it also includes a study on current and needed programs for affordable housing developments and customers with lower incomes. Overdose Prevention Pilot Program: H.72 (Act 178) established an overdose prevention center (OPC) pilot

program in Vermont to address the growing opioid crisis. As opioid-related fatalities continue to rise alarmingly, the creation of these centers becomes imperative. Modeled after successful initiatives elsewhere and funded with the Opioid Abatement Settlement Fund, the OPC adopts a harm-reduction approach, aiming to prevent overdose deaths and mitigate public drug-related risks. The primary functions of the OPC pilot include the provision of harm reduction supplies, emergency medical care, facilitation of access to addiction treatment and vital services, and dissemination of overdose prevention education. Expanding Access to Restorative Justice: Restorative justice is a proven tool to address crime, repair harm, and rebuild trust in communities. H.645 (now Act 180) was specifically developed to provide a framework to expand access to restorative justice across the state. It clearly defines different types of restorative programming such as community-based referrals, pre-charge, post-charge, and post-adjudication. With this clarity in place, Vermont can better analyze data collection and identify program needs.

For more, please catch up with me at [daisyforwinooski.com](http://daisyforwinooski.com).



## City Clerk’s Office Reminders

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

Please note, Winooski City Hall will be closed on Friday, August 16, 2024 for Bennington Battle Day. .

**The Statewide Primary Election** is on **August 13, 2024**.

To register to vote, please visit [olvr.vermont.gov](http://olvr.vermont.gov). If you would like to request an absentee ballot, please visit [mvp.vermont.gov](http://mvp.vermont.gov) or contact us at the Clerk’s Office at 802 655 6410. Learn more at [winooskivt.gov/vote](http://winooskivt.gov/vote).

**Citywide Reappraisal:** All appeals received by July 12, 2024 at 4pm will have a meeting with the Board of Civil Authority on September 11, 2024 starting at 5pm. Appointments will be scheduled for 15 minutes for a property owner to appeal the grievance denial. For details, please visit [winooskivt.gov/reappraisal](http://winooskivt.gov/reappraisal).

**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 August, the costs are as follows:

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

## CITY UPDATES

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

**Taxes/Utilities:** The tax & utility bills were mailed on July 12th and the bills are due on August 15th. Please note postmarks are not considered as timely payment. This is the only tax bill you will receive. To learn more about payment options, please visit [winooskivt.gov/pay](http://winooskivt.gov/pay).

## City Staff Announcements



### Welcoming Ravi Venkataraman

The City of Winooski is proud to announce the hiring of Ravi Venkataraman, our new Director of City Planning! Ravi has extensive experience in land use planning having previously served as a Transportation Planner for the City of Burlington, the Town Planner for the Town of Richmond, and the Development

Review Board Coordinator and Assistant Zoning Officer for the Town of Shelburne. He currently teaches urban planning classes at the University of Vermont and Virginia Tech. He holds a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning from Virginia Tech and is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in Planning, Governance and Globalization. Please join us in welcoming Ravi to Winooski!



### Thanking Eric Vorwald

We owe many thanks to Eric Vorwald, former Director of City Planning, for his six years of dedicated service to Winooski. During his time with the City, Eric served as a valued member of the Leadership Team, used his expertise to continuously improve the City's planning and zoning functions, acted as Staff Liaison to the

Planning Commission and Development Review Board, managed many improvements to our local ordinances, and supported community initiatives such as the Winooski Walk/Bike Plan. From all of us at City Hall, we wish Eric the best of luck on his next adventures!



### Position Highlight: Housing Initiative Director

As you may know, the City of Winooski hired **Jazmine Hurley** as Winooski's first Housing Initiative Director in April of 2023. This position was created to give the city a staff person dedicated to community's housing goal: To ensure a mix of quality housing that maintains

and enhances Winooski's unique sense of place and supports the needs of the entire community (as stated in the Winooski's Master Plan.) This position does this work in consultation with the many stakeholders and experts in Winooski, in Vermont, and beyond. This position does not do what's often called

"case management." That is, the person does not work directly with individuals with housing challenges. Instead, they focus on projects, policies, and other initiatives to address housing needs at the system level, in partnership with the City's Housing Commission.

Jazmine holds a Master's Degree in macro-level social work from Boston College and brings professional experiences as a former housing navigator, project coordinator, and researcher. With her mix of research, policy, and direct service background around the country and in Burlington, as well as her appreciation for Winooski and public service, Jazmine has been instrumental in advancing the City's efforts on housing.

To learn more about housing initiatives in Winooski, such as the new Short-Term Rental regulations, improvements to the Winooski Housing Trust fund, and more, visit [winooskivt.gov/housing](http://winooskivt.gov/housing).



## Main Street Revitalization Project

Construction is ongoing on Main Street from the railroad bridge near Maple Street north to the Winooski/Colchester town line. Crews continue to install new water and sewer systems, and Vermont Gas Systems is installing new gas lines. Typical work hours are Monday through Friday from 7am to 7pm. Vermont Gas Systems is working on Saturdays between 7am and 4pm.

During construction, there will be short temporary impacts to driveways and utilities. Construction workers will knock on doors and hang flyers to let people know in advance. The flyers have QR codes that link to videos in 14 languages.

Main Street is a single lane for northbound traffic only 24/7. Southbound traffic is being redirected to Weaver Street. As needed, side streets will be closed at their intersections with Main Street. On-street parking is not allowed on the west side of Main Street and within active work zones. Parking is reduced on Weaver Street. **Travelers should slow down and follow signs and flaggers in the project area.**

For weekly project updates about construction activities and impacts to traffic and parking, visit the website at [winooskivt.gov/mainstreet](http://winooskivt.gov/mainstreet) or sign up for email updates. The project website has information in 14 languages.

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

## COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



### Winooski Recreation and Parks

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

The Myers Memorial Pool is open - visit [winooski.vt.gov/pool](http://winooski.vt.gov/pool) for passes, programs, hours, and more. Fall programming registration is open. Visit [winooski.vt.gov/recprograms](http://winooski.vt.gov/recprograms) to sign up!

#### YOUTH

##### Swim Lessons

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

##### Junior Lifeguarding

- Ages 11-15 | Saturdays, August 3 – August 31

##### Skateboarding with Burton Chill

- Ages 10-17 | Wednesdays, July 17 – August 14

##### Recreation & Parks Summer Camps

- Art in Our World | August 12 – August 16
- Xtreme Games | August 19 – August 23

##### VT Patriots Fall Soccer

- U6/U8/U10/U12 | August-October

#### ADULTS

##### Adult Swim Lessons

- 14+ | Sundays, July 14 – August 24

##### Winooski Bike Gang

- 18+ | Wednesdays, April 17 – September 25

##### Winooski Running Club

- 18+ | Wednesdays, May 1 – September 4

##### Yoga Vinyasa Flow

- 18+ | Mondays & Wednesdays, June 3 – August 28

##### Aqua Aerobics

- 18+ | Tuesdays & Thursdays, June 18 – August 22

##### Senior Open Swim

- 55+ | Fridays, June 21 – August 23 | 11:30am



### Winooski Memorial Library

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

Tuesday & Wednesday: 10am–6pm

Thursday & Friday: 10am–5pm

Saturday: 10am–2pm

#### Drop-in programs:

##### YOUTH

**Library Playgroup** | Birth & up | Tuesdays | 10:30am | Outside, weather permitting

**Pokémon Club** | Ages 8+ | Wednesdays | 3:30pm

**Weekly Storytime** | Birth & up | Thursdays | 10:30am

**Lego Club** | Ages 4+ | Thursdays | 3:30pm

**STEAM Ahead** | Ages 5+ | Saturdays | 10:00am

**Birding for Kids** | Ages 8+ | Saturday, August 10 | 10am

**Dad Guild Playgroup** | Families / Youth | Sat. August 17 | 12:30pm

##### ADULTS

**English Conversation Group** | Ages 18+ | Tue & Thu | 11am

**Morning Coffee Social** | Ages 18+ | Friday, August 9 | 9am

**Winooski Reads Book Club** | Ages 18+ | Tue., August 26 | 6pm

**Summer Reading Celebration:** Wednesday, August 21 at 4pm  
Celebrate the end of our summer reading challenge with food, games, music, and more! This event is free and open to all. Outside, weather permitting.

#### 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.



## 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

#### 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

#### THURSDAYS

##### Sit Down Community Meals

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

#### THURSDAYS

##### Senior Open Swim at the Myers Pool

- 11:30am - 12:30pm | 55+ | FREE

#### SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

##### Senior Summer BBQ

- Free | Thursday Aug 22 at Noon | RSVP by 8/15

**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

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

#### Remaining Camp Themes and Dates:

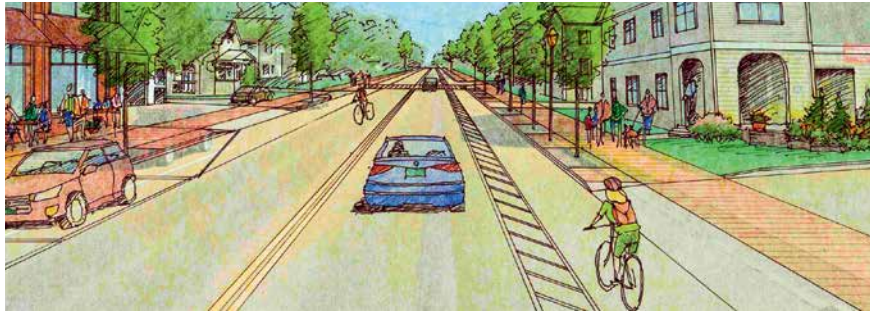
- **Mysterious Ocean:** July 29–August 2
- **Summer Favorites:** August 5–9



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)

**WE ARE  
OPEN**

## **Businesses are Open During Construction!**



**Main Street Revitalization**  
[winooski.vt.gov/mainstreet](http://winooski.vt.gov/mainstreet)



### CCTV Center for Media & Democracy

TOWN MEETING TV • CCTV PRODUCTIONS • VERMONT LANGUAGE JUSTICE PROJECT

## Town Meeting TV

Vermont's Primary Election is on **Tuesday, August 13th**. Before you cast your vote, watch Town Meeting TV's election forums to hear from contested candidates. Winooski's two State Representative seats and three Senate seats representing the city are up for election. You can view these forums, as well as other statewide forums, on-demand at [YouTube.com/TownMeetingTV](https://www.youtube.com/TownMeetingTV). Don't miss our Primary recap show on August 14th. For additional information, visit [cctv.org/primary](https://www.cctv.org/primary).

Looking ahead, Vermont's General Election is just around the corner on **November 5th!** Town Meeting TV will host General Election forums in September and October. Stay tuned for details.

## Winooski Food Shelf

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

- Saturday, August 10 9:30 – 11am
- Wednesday, August 14 1 – 3pm
- Saturday, August 24 9:30 – 11am
- Wednesday, August 28 1 – 3pm

**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 at 9am to help bring inside and shelve the food dropped off by the Vermont Foodbank truck.

## Howard Center's ASSIST program is now Adult Crisis Stabilization

By Paul Detzer, Development and Communications Engagement Manager

Visitors to Howard Center's Adult Crisis Stabilization program find themselves in a calming, softly lit space decorated in earth tones and furnished with comfortable lounge chairs and a collection of house plants. A television streaming video of tropical fish hangs on a wall above a shelf of jigsaw puzzles and in each of the program's six private bedrooms a welcome basket awaits the next resident.

The program provides this welcoming atmosphere along with 24-hour staffing for Chittenden County adults experiencing a psychiatric crisis. Clients usually stay for 5-7 days of therapeutic



group sessions, medication administration, assistance with changes in medication, psychiatric and nursing support, and individualized assistance with life stressors. Each day includes home-cooked meals, access to an outdoor pavilion and gardens, a structured daily schedule, and staff support.



Clients include those who would otherwise need hospitalization or who are transitioning from an in-patient hospital stay. Most return safely to their homes and families after their stays while others are assisted to find longer term care. Staff work with clients to develop individualized treatment plans, access Howard Center services, and connect with other community organizations and services. Referrals to Adult Crisis Stabilization may be made through crisis services, hospitals, and Howard Center Community Support Program care managers.



## Positive Instead of Punitive Policies: Why?

By Kate Nugent, Executive Director

ChangeLab Solutions provides resources to governments and nonprofits using their legal expertise and experience to support better health outcomes for the public. In the resource linked below, several tools are described, as well as a toolkit for assessing and changing policies. Positive disciplinary procedures also do not mean there should be no consequences; instead, it means a stronger and more effective way to bring out the desired behavior so that the behavior change lasts longer and youth are more likely to incorporate the behavior into their daily life. To learn more, visit [changelabsolutions.org](https://www.changelabsolutions.org).

When it's time to quit or assess your use, Vermont has several free resources to help you.

- 802Quits (also helps with vape quitting)
- VTHelpLink (for alcohol, Cannabis, and other substances)
- 9-8-8 (Suicide and crisis helpline) or Text 741741
- Text or call 833-888-2557 for peer support
- Vermont 2-1-1 for assistance and or referral with any need



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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)  
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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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