

WMS welcomes School Resource Officer

By Masha Yurkevich

STAFF WRITER

Schools are one of the safest places our children can be, and there is a lot of work that goes into making sure that is true. One very significant part of keeping our school safe is the role of a School Resource Officer, now handled by Windham Police Officer Devyn Rogers at Windham Middle School.

Prior to becoming a School Resource Office (SRO) for the Windham Middle School this fall, Rogers worked briefly at the Cumberland Country Jail and was hired by the Windham Police Department in August 2016. He was assigned to patrol duty until August of this year when he became the SRO at Windham Middle School. Rogers is also a firearms instructor and field training officer for the department.

Becoming an SRO was no easy task, and Rogers attended the Maine Criminal Justice Academy Basic School Resource Officer course, as well as receiving on the job training from other school resource officers in the Windham Police Department.

"I wanted to become a school resource officer to help provide a safe school environment, interact with a different part of the community, and work with students to provide a

potentially different perspective on law enforcement," says Rogers.

As a school resource officer, Rogers will serve as a valuable resource for students, parents, teachers, staff and administration. His mission is to gain the students' trust and respect and become a positive role model in their lives. His work is more than breaking up fights and ensuring the physical safety of the staff and students. It also involves being a teacher, counselor, and law enforcement officer, and much of his duties result in conversations that help students navigate tough situations.

He's in charge of the physical security of the entire WMS facility and the students within, emergency operations planning for the school district, safety training for the district, education on various topics for students, and the day-to-day operations of the middle



Officer Devyn Rogers, an eight-year veteran of the Windham Police Department, is the new School Resource Officer at Windham Middle School. His job is to ensure the safety of students and staff at WMS and to be a positive role model for students. PHOTO BY ED PIERCE

school community.

According to Rogers, as a school resource officer, each day is different.

"Most days I start with monitoring parent drop off, and then during class periods I will walk the building or school grounds and assist the administration with any tasks or concerns, as well as monitor the cameras," says Rogers. "I try to spend time in all the lunch periods to talk with the students, as that seems to be their favorite time to ask me questions. During the afternoon periods, I will typically do any work, reports, or emails, and often have meetings."

The high school SRO and Officer Rogers then go out at dismissal to ensure the safety of the students during bus pickup.

"Much like an officer patrolling the streets, I often interact with people when they are having what may be the worst day of their life," says
→ see OFFICER Page 28

Local elections drawing interest in Windham, Raymond

By Ed Pierce

STAFF WRITER

If you haven't noticed it by now, local candidates and campaigns are coming down the home stretch as voters across Windham and Raymond will head to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 5.

Ballots will be cast to fill seats in local and state races including State Senate in Windham and Raymond, State Representative in two different Windham districts and one in Raymond. Voters also will cast ballots for two Windham Town Council seats and for RSU Board of Directors positions.

In Windham, there are three individuals running for two Windham Town Council seats. Incumbent William D. Reiner is unopposed in seeking a three-year term representing the town's West District. Competing for an At-Large council seat for a three-year term are incumbent David Nadeau and former town council chair Clayton Haskell.

Three candidates are vying for two seats in Windham on the RSU 14 Board of Directors for three-year terms. The top two candidates in this race receiving votes will earn seats on the board. Candidates include Frances Etheridge, Virginia Woodman, and Jessica Bridges.

As a reminder, all seats on the RSU 14 Board of Directors and the Windham Town Council are non-partisan.

For Maine State Senate District 26 representing Windham, part of Ray-



A proliferation of candidate signs dot the landscape at School Road and Gray Road in Windham. Absentee ballots are now available at the town clerk offices in Windham and Raymond for the upcoming election on Nov. 5. PHOTO BY ED PIERCE

mond, Casco, Frye Island, and part of Westbrook, incumbent Tim Nangle of Windham, a Democrat, will be opposed by Republican challenger Kenneth J. Cianchette of Windham.

Two candidates are seeking the Maine House of Representatives District 106 seat representing part of Windham. Incumbent Barbara Bagshaw of Windham, a Republican, is running for re-election and is opposed by Democrat challenger Doris Poland of Windham.

Three candidates are running for the Maine House of Representatives District 107 seat representing part of Windham. Incumbent Democrat Jane Pringle of Windham is opposed by Republican challenger Mark Cooper of Windham and Independent challenger and former State Representa-

tive Patrick Corey of Windham.

Several candidates are on the ballot in Raymond vying for the Maine House of Representatives District 86 seat, representing part of Raymond, part of Poland, Casco and Frye Island. Longtime incumbent Jessica Fay, a Democrat, is term limited and Republican Rolf A. Olsen is challenged by Democrat Craig Messigner for the position.

Voters will also determine the outcome for five statewide referendum questions in the election.

For Windham residents, there will be a Candidate Forum from 4 to 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 20 at the Windham Town Hall gymnasium, 8 School Road in Windham.

This forum will be a moderated event with a 30 minute "meet and

greet" session prior to the event.

Windham candidates for State Senate, State Representative, Town Council and RSU 14 Board of Directors have been invited to participate.

Residents seeking to vote absentee may do so at their respective town clerk's office as soon as absentee ballots are available. By law, absentee ballots must be made available at least 30 days before the election at the municipal clerk's office. Voters do not need to complete an absentee application if they vote in person at the clerk's office. The deadline for absentee voting in the presence of the clerk, unless special circumstances exist, is the Thursday before the election, which in this case is Thursday, Oct. 31.

If requesting an absentee ballot, to be counted, ballots must be received by the municipal clerk by 8 p.m. on Election Day. Those seeking to mail an absentee ballot must request a ballot no later than 15 days prior to Election Day and they must be returned no later than seven days prior to Election Day.

In-person voting will be conducted from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5 at Windham High for Windham residents and from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5 at Jordan-Small Middle School for Raymond. <

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INSIGHT

Class is in session

Teachers are the heart and soul of the American educational system, but it took me marrying one to fully appreciate all they do for us. Here are a few examples of things that I have observed in the 20 years I have been married to a grade-school teacher:

At the elementary school she taught at in Florida when we first met, she had 22 students in her class. The school had a copy machine exclusively for teachers but to hold down expenses, it would limit teachers to 10 copies made per day. If my wife had to give a test that day, she'd have to plan for it three days ahead based upon her daily copy limitation.

The same thing applied for student handouts or anything else needing to be copied, therefore, to create more flexibility, some teachers would have to negotiate with other teachers who were not making copies that school day. More often it resulted in teachers purchasing a copier for their homes and meant the teacher paid the additional expense of buying copier ink, paper and the copier itself.

Weekends were supposed to be days off for teachers, but a good portion of that is spent grading a mountain of papers or preparing lesson plans for the coming week. Contrary to what I thought previously, most teachers don't just stand before their students and wing it, they have a plan for everything they want to instruct and developing those plans takes hours of work.

Record-keeping for teachers is also time-consuming. It used to be grades were entered into a teacher's notebook, but these days grades are kept digitally and navigating that process is not always easy. One year, while adjusting to a new record-keeping software system, all the additional comments my wife entered for student report cards were published twice for some inexplicable reason. The double comments were flagged by the school principal and all her report cards had to be redone at the last minute before being sent home with the students.

One year my wife was assigned to a classroom without a bathroom. Her students had to leave the classroom and walk several doors down to use the restroom. On the first day students had returned to school after two weeks off for the Christmas holidays, a student asked if he could use the restroom, and my wife allowed him to. She asked him to return to the classroom as soon as he was done. It happened to be the lunch period for some other classes at the school and after a few minutes had elapsed, the principal showed up at the classroom door with the student who had left for the restroom.

It seems the student had entered an unlocked classroom of students who were gone for lunch, and he was caught going through the purse of the teacher in that classroom. When asked, he said he was told his teacher wanted to wish the teacher whose purse he was rifling through a "Happy New Year." That student wasn't allowed to leave for the restroom unaccompanied again that school year, giving plenty of work to an ed tech assigned to my wife's classroom.

No matter how hard she tried to help him, that student's grades never improved and by the end of the school year, he failed to meet the minimum standards to advance to the next grade. My wife recommended to his mother that having him repeat that grade might give him a better grasp of reading and math. However, the student's mother chose not to hold him back and instead pulled him out of public school and entered him in the next grade at a nearby charter school.

One story that left me scratching my head was about a reading coach at the school. This woman had been a classroom teacher at one time but over the years had been promoted to a position overseeing reading activities and lessons at the school. To help her, the school district gave her volumes of books and instructional materials to share with the teachers to help them boost student reading.


But the reading coach refused to share any of the books with the teachers. She insisted the best way to instruct reading was to read to students attending the school. To get her to visit their classrooms, teachers had to make an appointment and when she was available, she would come in and read to students.

During another school year, my wife was assigned a student who was represented by an attorney. That same class had a defiant student who refused to do his assignment. When my wife asked him to try, he said, "No." When asked again, he said, "What am I speaking Spanish? I said no."

My wife's teaching career included many moments of triumph and success for her students and recently a student she taught in the 1990s reached out to thank her for inspiring her. That student is now a psychologist in Ohio. Many of my wife's past students are now parents of their own with kids in school themselves.

Teaching is a noble profession that shapes the future, and in my opinion is greatly unappreciated. < ~ Ed Pierce

Today in HISTORY



OCTOBER 11

1811 – The first steam-powered ferry is put into service connecting New York City and Hoboken, New Jersey.

1869 – Thomas A. Edison applies for a patent on his first invention, an electric machine used for counting votes.

1890 – The Daughters of the American Revolution organization is founded.

1929 – JC Penney opens a store in Milford, Delaware, making it a nationwide company with stores in all 48 of the states at the time.

1939 – U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt receives a letter from Albert Einstein urging him to develop the U.S. atomic program rapidly.

1968 – NASA's space mission Apollo 7 with astronauts Wally Schirra, Don Fulton Eisele and R. Walter Cunningham on board becomes the first to provide live television broadcasts from orbit.

1975 – Popular television show "Saturday Night Live" is broadcast for the first time with comedian George Carlin as its first guest host.

Inspirational Quote of the Week

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

– Mahatma Gandhi

ON THE SPOT

What's the most embarrassing thing that ever happened to you while you were out on a date?

"My date lost his keys, and I had to call my mom on a pay phone to come pick us up and take him home."
– Emily Anne Morey

"Her mother showed up before hand to 'assess' me. We wound up dating lol."
– Darrell Janoushek

"Ran out of gas on the way to the drive-in movies."
– Mitchell B. Robinson

"My jeans ripped up the back at the movies and I felt uncomfortable about it all evening and couldn't be myself." – Deirdre Schulte

"Lost my wallet when I was 21 on the train going to Boston and without my ID, I couldn't have a drink at the pub we went to." – Lois Fuller

"Got sick in the car and I threw up all over my coat. It really smelled bad too."
– Lollie Gomez Nunez

"My date called and told me she was running late and to go ahead and eat without her. I ordered a large bowl of black bean soup, and it didn't agree with me. By the time she arrived, I was back and forth at least six times between our table and the bathroom. Didn't make a very good first impression." – Ed Pierce

"I liked a guy from work, and he asked me out to go see a play in Falmouth. In the middle of the production, he leaned over and told me he was married." – Sarah Singer-Miller

"I mixed up the Christmas presents I was wrapping and gave my date the gag gift that I had meant to give to my sister's friend. So embarrassing!" – Dean Smalley

"My date's clothes had recently been washed with a strongly scented laundry detergent and I kept sneezing all night." – Chris Macklin

"On first date she closed the truck door on her finger. Easy fix but I guess the pain caused her not to realize how to overcome her situation. So I leaned over and opened the door for her."
– William D. Reiner



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Staff Writers: Jolene Bailey, Lorraine Glowczak, Matt Pascarella, Kendra Raymond, Masha Yurkevich, Abby Wilson, and Kaysa Jalbert



Kelly Mank
Publisher
Kelly@TheWindhamEagle.com



Becky Knox
Administrative
Office@TheWindhamEagle.com
Office hours: Wednesdays 8-2
Thursday 9am-Noon



Melissa Carter
Sales Manager/Designer
Melissa@TheWindhamEagle.com



Ed Pierce
Managing Editor
Editor@TheWindhamEagle.com



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First 'Rocktoberfest' event ready to launch in Naples

By Kaysa Jalbert
STAFF WRITER

The newly formed events committee in Naples is gearing up for presenting the first Annual RocktoberFest and NightMarket that will feature over 100 booths of local vendors, live music, and open local venues serving food and hosting activities such as axe throwing, stein holding, and a kids' midway.

This new event will take place from 3 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12 on the Naples Causeway for a peak foliage sunset and night out with water views in the heart of Naples Village.

"RocktoberFest and NightMarket is not blues fest or brew fest. It will be a different type of experience," said Chelsea McKamy, Events Committee Chairperson. "With family friendly hours and an evening portion, in the fall on the causeway with lake views and golden hour, it sets itself apart with all the festiveness and excitement when ushering in a new season and the upcoming holidays."

The live music entertainment will feature Maine musicians, as well as the thoughtfully themed Bavarian band which will tour each establishment given each space the chance to have that Oktoberfest vibe. Additionally, there will be a set from a 25-member ukulele band and all local talent.

This year the event is free to the

public. There will be a Town of Naples events committee and sponsor booth in the center of it all at Rick's Casino building, where there will be items for purchase and a donation box. Parking is also free and in multiple locations from the multiple causeway options to the high school, legion and beyond.

The Songo River shuttle bus will be making all the stops to get everyone back and forth from their cars to the causeway establishments and beyond.

Dana Barrows from Freedom Café will be hosting the stein holding competition, Kirsten Hewes of Sun Sports retail store will host axe throwing and food, and Songo River Queen is hosting live music, food offering and a docked bar on the Songo River Queen Princess. Other nearby venues that will be open include the Beacon Bar & Bistro, Brother Flecker's, Causeway Amphitheater, Rick's Café and Captain Jacks that will each be offering food and hosting live music.

"We feel that the area has so much to offer not only to newcomers to town but also our supportive and amazing locals who live in Naples year-round," says Hewes. "It will be great to extend our season into the fall as the area is so beautiful with the foliage and the lakes."

Open local venues, that typically begin closing by Oct. 12, have extended their season for this event. Other

food establishments from farther away will be setting up booths and feature menus.

"We are extremely thankful for their willingness to take a risk and for their support," says McKamy.

The event is presented by the just-formed Town of Naples Event Committee, a group that was created only a few weeks before the town's July 4th celebration this summer.

"Residents and business owners alike wanted to create events that were outside the traditional '100 Days of Summer,'" said Naples Town Manager Jason E. Rogers. "The Select Board formed an Events Committee over the summer to address this want and this is their first major event."

McKamy said event organizers are very thankful to the select board and town manager and Colin Bracket for taking the steps to have this committee formed, which was put together through community nominations and volunteer applications.

"Their support has been key to this whole process," she said. "Really every department of the town has been so supportive and that phrase, 'it takes a village' couldn't be more true especially in Naples Village."

The events committee has no fund-

ing and is relying on sponsorship which is still working with door-to-door pitching and persuasion for partnership. Additionally, there will be a town of Naples booth where the committee will sell some artisan goods, event T-shirts, and hold 50-50 raffles. There will also be a donation box with signage. The committee is paying for extra sheriff and fire department coverage to ensure public safety.

"We really wanted to come out swinging with something that would cultivate community and cater to local businesses," said McKamy. "The event is peak, foliage, stunning, golden hours halfway through the event, and the temperatures are in a very comfortable festive fall feel, so you can almost envision wanting to be out there having hot cider and being with others to usher in this phenomenal season."

This event is sponsored by Freedom Café, Maine Micro Artisans, Norway Savings Bank and the Town of Naples. FMI visit townofnaples.org.

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- ✓ I support a woman's right to choose as a matter of law.
- ✓ Education must be focused on preparing our youth for life, and we must support great educators to do so.
- ✓ We must make childcare affordable and available.
- ✓ It is our civic responsibility to ensure that our seniors and veterans can maintain an enjoyable quality of life as they have given us incredible gifts

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2024 Windham Town Council Candidate Profiles / Q&A

West District THREE-YEAR TERM



BILL REINER
Age / Occupation: 60, Registered Nurse
Previous Elected Experience/Terms in Office: Windham Town Council Nov 2021 to Present; Appointments Committee 2021 to Present; Finance Committee 2023 and 2024; Windham Community

Center Committee
If an incumbent, please cite something that you worked on for the Windham Town Council that was passed, and you are proud of. Also tell our readers how it specifically benefits the residents of your district? If not currently serving in office, please cite something that you intend to propose and how it will benefit the residents of your district if passed by the council?
 “As Councilors we serve all of Windham, not only those within our districts, and the West District had a

relatively quiet three years. Early in my term the Windham Center region was proposed to have density limits reduced. The changes I proposed kept density at an acceptable level. In the North District, I discovered that its commercial zones had no height restrictions in place, essentially the sky was the limit. Through the work with other councilors, the commercial zones now have height protections in place. I supported the citizens’ right to have a ‘Recall Process’ in place. And lately, with the events taking place at Dundee Dam, I have been working with the organization, ‘Friends of the Presumpscot,’ to present their ongoing efforts to protect this water way.”

What do believe is the most pressing issue in this race and how do you intend to handle it?

“Although I am running unopposed, I do not take my position lightly. Growth and the population shift from larger cities and states into our region are placing higher demands on our services and infrastructure. Over the past three years, the council has increased the staffing of the Public Safety Services and support teams. Currently, the Windham Growth Ordinance is being reviewed for changes and to represent the housing developments that are currently being built. No longer will one permit allow thirty residential units. Support for our senior citizens has continued to be

a concern of myself and the council, and each year, Senior assistance has been reviewed and enhanced. Our budget needs to be developed keeping in mind the impacts to everyone who works and lives here.”

What solid steps do you believe can be implemented to alleviate the property tax burden for residents of your district and help them to keep more of their hard-earned money?

“Maine has one of the highest tax burdens in the country. Only 32 percent of your current tax bill is directly affected by your council, with a rough breakdown of RSU accounting for 64 percent and Cumberland County accounting for 4 percent. I have served on the Finance Committee for the past two years and if re-elected, plan to serve again. Windham is in great financial health, having both a great bond rating and very low bond debt. While we have addressed the growing needs of our town, we have also spent wisely. While that is all great, your tax bill is most directly affected by budgets. Inflation has hit us all, including our town, and the municipal increase was 4.4 percent compared to a Maine Inflation rate of 3.4 percent (9/23-9/24). Going forward the Finance Committee will need to keep in mind on how it impacts all of us, especially those on fixed incomes.”

Why did you choose to run for this
 → see CANDIDATES Page 5

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State Representative

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→ **CANDIDATES** *Cont. from page 4*

specific position and what do you hope to accomplish if you are elected?

“Growth, finances, and quality of life are the three major issues I will continue to work on, and I hope to continue the work I have been doing over the last three years. I will support work on a financially responsible community center, which is currently missing in a town of our size. We need to continue to assist those on fixed incomes and our lifelong residents who have now retired in the town they grew up in. While growth has been directed to the four major growth areas, some of those areas are reaching a point of saturation. The council has made great efforts to protect our Farm Zones, and we must maintain our awareness of how growth affects all residents, including those in areas where growth is being directed.”

What are your budget priorities and how will it impact the residents of your district?

As stated above, budgets have the highest effect on individual taxes. Revaluations and reassessments are what levels the playing field for all. The Finance Committee will continue to evaluate the needs of the community with regard to budget increases. Our town departments need to support their individual budget requests annually. It is these annual reviews that get us the best value for our taxes. I hear the concerns and comments about individual increases, and I also feel the pain. The past few years of increased inflation and costs have impacted both the town’s and residents’ budgets. Rest assured that government waste is something that I will not tol-

erate, especially when my decisions towards our municipal budget affect our community at an individual level. It is a responsibility I, as a Councilor, accept and work my hardest at.”

What do you like the most about the district that you reside in?

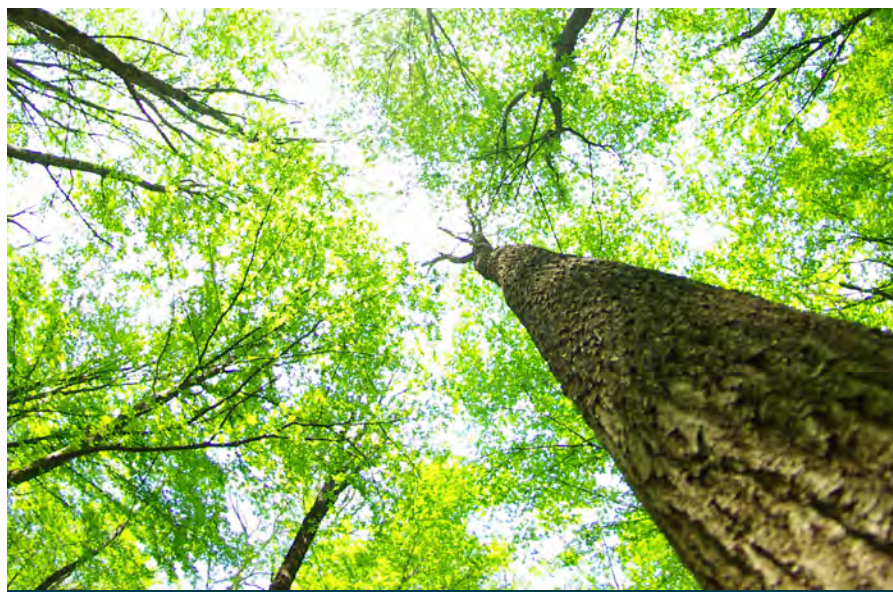
“Each district in Windham is unique and has its own personality and attractions. I moved to Windham in 2016, choosing the location well before I had any aspirations to serve on the council. What attracted me to this area of town was its rural character while still remaining close to services. Having an initial education at UMO in ‘Forestry and Wildlife’ I appreciate the fact that I am nestled between two great waterways, the Pleasant and Presumpscot Rivers. Flyfishing, kayaking and swimming are only a mile away. The quietness and space between neighbors are highly regarded when raising my two teenagers, without many of the fears and issues of urban living. But these attractions can easily be lost if we don’t protect what gives Windham its charm.”

West District
THREE-YEAR TERM



DAVID NADEAU
Age/Occupation: 75, retired electronic engineer
Previous Elected Experience/Terms in Office: 11 years total as a Windham Town Councilor, 10 years as a member of the Windham Planning Board.

If an incumbent, please cite something that you worked on for the
→ see **CANDIDATES** Page 6



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During my eight years serving Windham’s people as State Representative, I was one of Maine’s most independent legislators.

As many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle hardened along partisan lines, my appetite to find answers that work for everyone and reject party dogma grew. Once my service ended, I unenrolled and became independent.

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→ **CANDIDATES** Cont. from page 5

Windham Town Council that was passed, and you are proud of. Also tell our readers how it specifically benefits the residents of your district? If not currently serving in office, please cite something that you intend to propose and how it will benefit the residents of your district if passed by the council?

“Some of the things accomplished since the last few years I’ve been on the council: Elderly tax assistance was initiated at \$500 now \$700. Then there is Sewer \$38.7 million at 2 percent paid by grants and TIF and not the public. Four new fields put on the disposal fields at the Manchester School, paid by impact fees. Connector road paid by federal grant of 70 percent, 15 percent DEP, 15 percent town, our portion for Smart Signal lights already in budget and sidewalks paid with matching funds. Growth cap in place – rural hasn’t met their quota in last two years. Purchased over 700 acres of conservation land paid by impact fees and grants. Sidewalks in South Windham paid by matching funds. Working on building a full-time fire department. Public parking in South Windham. Finally new buildings,

South Windham fire station, central police/fire, public works and improvements to town hall. Financial-Started layering bonds for the future. Increased our bond rating to AA+. Implemented impact fees. Lowest mil rate around with our valuation over 90 percent. Windham is finally investing in their future with limited impact on the tax base, most of it paid for with matching funds, TIF, impact fees and grants. This helps the residents of the town get these projects done with funding from outside sources. What should be realized is the town only gets \$.35 of every tax dollar which would have these projects really increase the mil rate. This has been a great change, the old guard would look at the school first then keep the town flat because the of school increases, even though they are two different entities.”

What do you believe is the most pressing issue in this race and how do you intend to handle it?

“One of the most pressing issues in this race is some residents’ mindset, they want to go backwards not forward. Growth can only be stopped to a certain extent, which we have done with the growth cap. The state mandates that you change your ordinance

to allow growth. We have done this in accordance with the comprehensive plan creating three growth areas, South Windham, North Windham and Windham Center. People complain that growth is happening too fast, but our growth cap shows other wise and has put growth in the growth area not the rural area. Growth has been investigated which brought about the connector road taking 37 percent of the traffic from the Route 302, 35/115 intersection (a high crash site). There are several other housing issues of all types. Then there is the high cost of living, 42 percent of Windham residence live paycheck to paycheck. The ‘Alice Program’ reported this when I brought them in to speak to the council. We have to keep moving forward and plan for the future, you can’t go back.”

What solid steps do you believe can be implemented to alleviate the property tax burden for residents of your district and help them to keep more of their hard-earned money?

“This is a loaded question. The only way this can be done is by cutting services that are on the town side, on the school side, you would have to cut courses or sports. As a councilor you only have control of 35 percent of the budget, the school has 60 percent and the county 5 percent. So that leaves the question, what services do you want the town to do away with, most are asking for more services. This question should be asked of our senators and representatives. They have cut two legs of the three-legged stool that leaves it to the towns. They have passed many unfunded mandates putting the tax burden on the towns.”

Why did you choose to run for this specific position and what do you hope to accomplish if you are elected?

“I chose to run because I love this town and want to keep it moving forward. For a town to move forward you must look out beyond today and into


the future. I personally want to have a financial plan in place to move us forward with minimal impact to the taxpayer, this can be done by layering bonds. This will give future councilors the ability to get things done. I would really like to have people look beyond today and see 10 to 15 years down the road. Change and growth will come, and you have to plan for it. We have a population of almost 20,000 we will soon be a city not a town, lets plan that transition.”

What are your budget priorities and how will it impact the residents of your district?

“As I have already stated, the layering of bonds. At present we have a little over 1 percent of our allowed value. The state allows you to bond up to 15 percent of your assessed value. When you layer bonds that bond payment is built into your budget up on maturity that amount can be used for another town need. This type of financing once developed leaves the budget stable only dealing with cost increases. The town requires between \$500,000 to \$700,000 every year to open the door do to mandated expenses. This figure can usually be covered by growth. This is a hard process to explain so please contact me if you would like.”

What do you like the most about the district that you reside in?

“Windham has four districts and three at large councilors. Anyone can vote for any councilor not only your district or at large, I’m at large which puts this question right in my court, because “I LOVE THIS TOWN.” Everyone says this and then you wonder why others want to come. I got involved because I saw the place I love being extremely stagnant and overrun by growth due to an inability to change, so I got involved to help the town look into the future yet keep the character that we love. It is extremely had to put your point out to the voter in a few questions. The answers lie in the whole picture not a signal question. Please contact me for a picture of the whole and what you control and what is beyond you.”




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 - Voted to expand property tax credits and deferrals to allow seniors can remain in their homes
 - Focuses on creating good-paying jobs throughout our communities and across the state

LOCAL UNDERSTANDING:
As a 25-year resident of Windham and a former Town Council member, Tim knows what our communities need.

PROVEN EXPERIENCE:
Having spent 2 years in the State Senate and 6 years on the Windham Town Council, Tim has a demonstrated track record of fighting for our people & towns.

PUBLIC SERVICE:
Tim served as a paramedic almost 30 years, spending his career helping those in need.

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CLAYTON HASKELL
Age/Occupation: 71, Farm Owner
Previous Elected Experience/ Terms in Office: Windham Town Council 2017-2020; Town Council Chair 2018-2019; Member of the Community Development Block Grant Agriculture Incubator Study Advisory Committee, Served 10 years on Windham Planning Board, 1990-1991 Windham Planning Board Chair, Participated in Windham Comprehensive Planning Committee.

If an incumbent, please cite something that you worked on for the Windham Town Council that was passed, and you are proud of. Also tell our readers how it specifically benefits the residents of your district? If not currently serving in office, please cite something that you intend to propose and how it will benefit the residents of your district if passed by the council?

“Though I am not running as an incumbent, when I served as Windham Town Council Chair from 2018 to 2019, I was proud that we lowered the mill rate to relieve the property

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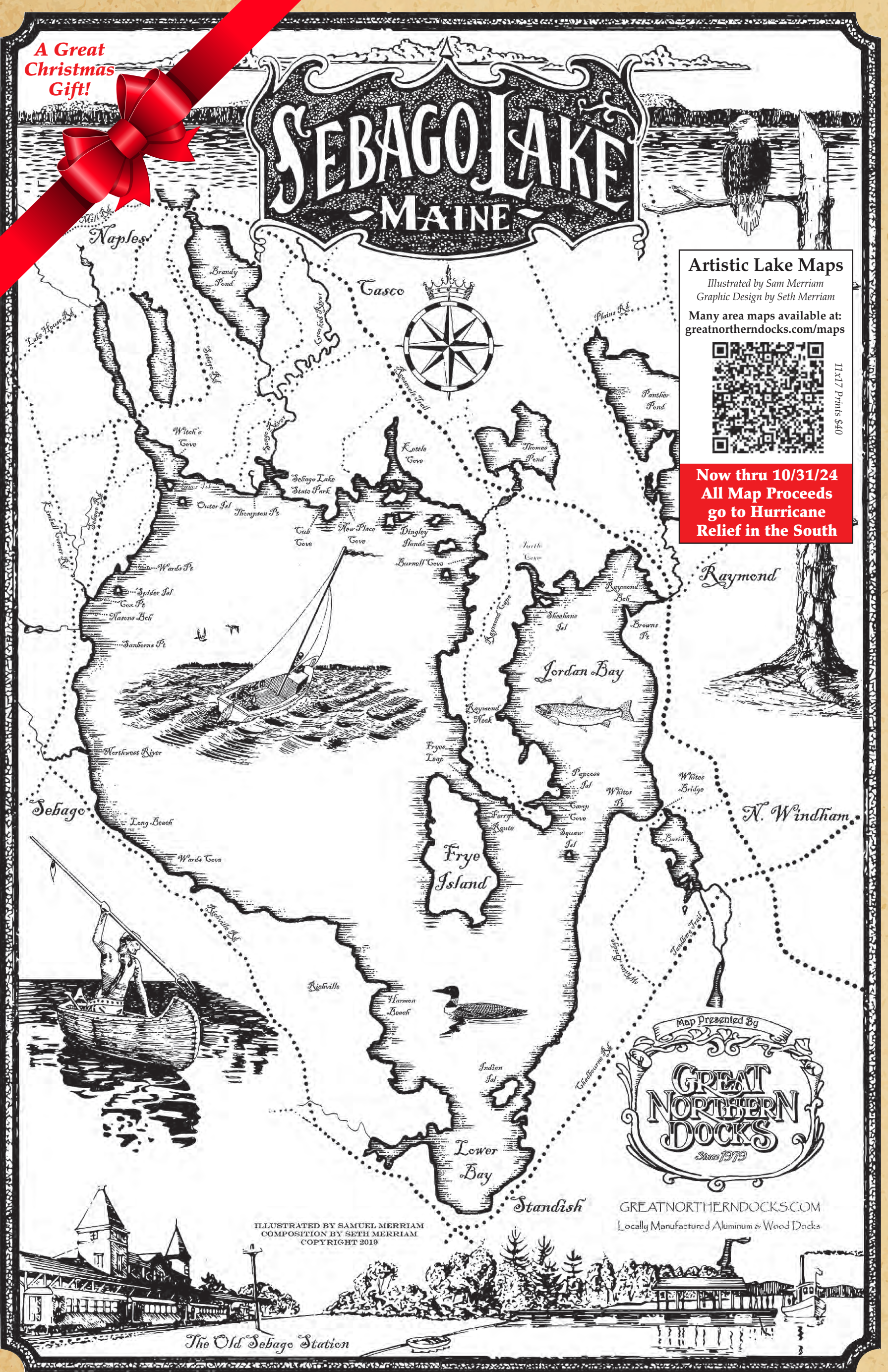
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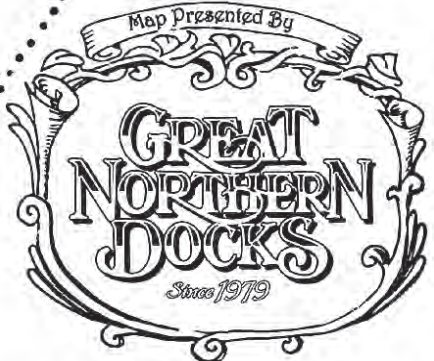


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CANDIDATES *Cont. from page 6*

tax burden on Windham residents. If re-elected, I intend to work closely and cooperatively with all councilors to find ways to drastically slow tax increases or to reduce taxes. Growth is inevitable, but we owe it to our taxpayers to approach spending mindfully and in their best interest. Windham Town Council needs a Councilor who will be receptive and think critically on every proposal to ensure the decisions made are best for the taxpayers of Windham.”

What do you believe is the most pressing issue in this race and how do you intend to handle it?

“Our town is facing an imminent need for housing that is affordable, and despite steady tax increases, rapid growth is outpacing our infrastructure. Our current council’s development plan included apartment com-

plexes being approved and built in rapid succession in the Business District, ahead of any sewer addition. The resulting traffic congestion is not being regulated to safely handle the increased burden, which causes driver uncertainty and accidents. Windham also serves as an artery between Portland and all surrounding towns, and we must better prioritize reducing traffic impact both locally and regionally in future planning. This development also has environmental impact on nearby lakes, rivers and streams already at risk. The council should examine Planning Board approvals with the possibility of revisiting them to limit and better manage the growth in a way that compliments Windham and best serves the interests of the taxpayers funding it.”

What solid steps do you believe can be implemented to alleviate the property tax burden for residents of your

district and help them to keep more of their hard-earned money?

“Solid steps that council can implement to minimize the property tax burden for residents in Windham include: 1. Lower the mill rate; 2. Limit the number of apartment complexes and increase single home developments that bring property tax revenue commensurate to the residents’ impact on infrastructure; 3. Increase incentives to commercial businesses for them to locate to Windham; 4. Place major projects out to bid and hold contractors accountable to keep to the awarded cost; 5. Consider the School Board proposal for tax increase before increasing the municipal budget; 6. Eliminate unnecessary spending in the town budget.”

Why did you choose to run for this specific position and what do you hope to accomplish if you are elected?

“As a lifelong resident of Windham, and a former Councilor, I understand the impact Council’s actions have on our community, and I am qualified and ready to serve in the open seat of Town Council At-Large to represent Windham’s overall interests. As an elected representative, the more voices that are heard and perspectives shared, the better our Council can serve Windham residents. I recognize the challenge posed by rapid housing growth and the need for a stronger industrial and business

base to support our tax system. Our greatest opportunity lies in preserving Windham’s rural character and open spaces, ensuring that as we grow, we maintain the natural beauty and resources that make our town unique. On Town Council, I hope to bring common sense and logical solutions to the committees, fostering sustainable development while protecting our town’s heritage.”

What are your budget priorities and how will it impact the residents of your district?

“I will advocate for Council to examine the proposed town budget by line item to ensure spending is necessary, that we eliminate redundancy and waste, and that the budget serves the best interest of taxpayers in this trying economy. During this time of rapid growth and related tax increases, Council should be transparent, accountable, and fiscally responsible so taxpayers can be assured that they have the lowest tax bill possible. While Windham residents struggle to meet rising costs and many risk being taxed out of their homes, Council should only approve a lean budget that meets the needs of Windham’s residents and that we can afford. The budget should consider sustainable long-term goals, but also spending should be based on necessity.”

What do you like the most about the district that you reside in?

“All districts of Windham, as unique as they are, together make Windham one of the most interesting towns in Maine. We should manage imminent urban sprawl from our neighboring cities with purpose, committing to balancing industry and business with rural conservation to preserve the history and landscape which makes Windham special.” <

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- ★ **Support Small Business** – and policies that grow our economy to provide long-term good paying jobs
- ★ **Help Our Children Thrive** – by restoring academic excellence, getting politics out of the classroom, and respecting parents.

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WHS Cooking Club promotes student culinary skills

Windham High School offers a plethora of clubs and extracurricular activities to promote engagement, responsibility, and involved citizenship in young students. But a new club this fall is about to foster a sense of community as students bond over preparing and sharing food together.

For the first time, WHS is offering a cooking club which meets once a month after school from 2:15 to 4 p.m. Club activities are designed to teach students a life skill that is essential to staying healthy and participants will gather and prepare a series of dishes while also learning about the science of food growing and meal preparation.

“Feeding yourself is one of the most fundamental skills of becoming an independent adult,” said Christine Fredette, WHS Cooking club advisor. “Health and wellness classes can only do so much, and some students do not choose to do culinary in a vocational program. But we believe learning to feed yourself and those around you with love is an essential skill.”

During a student's sophomore year, they have the option to sign up for vocational courses and one of those courses offered is culinary arts. In that class, students learn about

food preparation, service, and presentation of meals, quantity food production, baking, table service, catering for community organizations, and cake decoration. Within that program, WHS students gain the ability to not only earn high school credits but also earn college credits. However, spots in the class are limited and fill up quickly.

This new WHS Cooking Club gives all students an opportunity to develop a basic understanding of how to cook healthy meals.

“I’m most excited about working together to instill a love of cooking and creating in the kitchen,” Fredette said. “Seeing what the students bring to this club will really make it.”

She said that as families everyday are actively getting busier, students are surrounded by fast-food options, quick and microwavable processed meals which promote nutrient-deficient foods. During health classes at WHS, nutrition is discussed, but students do not have the opportunity to put their knowledge of healthy eating into action during class time.

The club is open to any WHS student who wants to join, and any student interested in cooking. They’ll learn how to cut vegetables properly or why olive oil is preferred over

vegetable oil when cooking in a pan because it has a lower smoking point temperature. Participants will learn about using a stove, how to bake in the oven and how to cook and prepare food safely.

Fredette said that the club’s first meeting on Oct. 1 established Standard Operating Procedures for students to follow in the kitchen and then they broke off into groups to find something to make for their first time together. WHS Cooking Club participants will also create a personal coat of arms to find out what they are looking for in this club experience.

Behind the scenes, Fredette says that she has put a lot of planning and preparation into the new club and ex-

pects it to be wildly popular among WHS students. The club’s purpose will focus on giving students simple instruction regarding how to prepare nutritious and tasty food.

Based on the number of student participants attending the first club meeting, Fredette said that next year the club may offer student positions such as president, vice president, and secretary for this activity.

“I’m hoping students will seek an understanding that cooking should not be seen as a chore and can be something fun,” said Fredette.

For more details about the new WHS Cooking Club you can email the advisors at mdubois@rsu14.org and cfredette@rsu14.org. <



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Former Town Councilor



Virginia "Ginny" Woodman
School Board, BSN, RN-C
Wife/Mother/Grandmother/
Great Grandmother
Retired Registered Nurse



Mark Cooper
ME House 107
Small Business Owner
Farmer



Kenneth "Kenny" Cianchette
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ME House 106
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Current Representative



Jerry Lynn Dewitt
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Demitroula "Demi" Kouzounas
U.S. Senate
Veteran
Small Business Owner



Ronald "Ron" Russell
U.S. House
30 Year Army Veteran
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State Senate 26 - Kenny Cianchette
State House 106 - Barbara Bagshaw
State House 107 - Mark Cooper
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(At-Large) Town Council - Clayton Haskell
(West) Town Council - William Reiner

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Pumpkin season brightens landscape across the region

By Kendra Raymond

STAFF WRITER

Once the leaves begin to change, pumpkins seem to appear on doorsteps, porches, as table center pieces, and as spooky jack-o-lanterns. The fall harvest is an iconic season filled with coziness and color, and pumpkins can be the most eye-catching part of any fall décor.

Cathryn Anderson is the Education Department director at Pineland Farms in New Gloucester. She says that it's a good year for pumpkins and that demand can vary a lot. The pick-your-own patch yields about 600

pumpkins a year and is popular with the residents.

"We see lots of groups and people coming in as a family. Fall is a busy time and there are a lot of activities related to the season," she said.

Because pumpkins are so plentiful in the fall, often many go to waste or are discarded after Halloween. Aside from the typical uses of pumpkins, there are many varied uses of the crop, which is technically a fruit, and is not a vegetable. Cucumbers, gourds, melons, and squash are also part of this family.

For those of you interested in find-

ing creative uses of your fall pumpkins, fortunately there are many options.

Cooking: The University of Maine Cooperative Extension Bulletin 4176 says, "The deep yellow to deep orange colors of pumpkin and winter squash show that they contain carotene, which your body turns into the antioxidant vitamin A." Pumpkins are also rich in vitamin A, and minerals such as iron, magnesium, potassium, and are good source of fiber. Just make sure you use pie pumpkins or sugar pumpkins.

Based on all these health benefits, cooking with pumpkins sounds like a pretty good idea. Bread, pie and pumpkin chip cookies are always considered a classic standby. How about something a little less traditional?

Anderson reminds everyone that pumpkins are loaded with fiber and a healthy component of many recipes.

"A lot of our staff eat pumpkins in pies, puddings, or breads," she said.

Food.com website suggests "Dinner in a Pumpkin," a creation that includes cooked ground beef, mushrooms, and a variety of spices, all baked inside a pumpkin. Pumpkin soup can be a delicious addition to a fall meal. Even simply roasting pump-



Raymond resident Kris Raymond and her dog Songo look for the perfect pumpkin at a local patch. PHOTO BY KENDRA RAYMOND



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 636 Shaker Rd, New Gloucester (next to Sabbathday Lake Shaker Village)

kin sections with a little olive oil, brown sugar, rosemary, and walnuts can make a fall-inspired side dish.

Pumpkin puree can be easily prepared by roasting pumpkin pieces and pureeing it in a food processor. The puree can be used in recipes or frozen.

Pumpkin seeds are easily roasted and can provide a healthy snack for you or your pet.

Pets: Pumpkin is a popular and wholesome component of many pet foods. It supports good gut health and keeps your pets regular.

→ see PUMPKINS Page 13

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October serves as American Legion New Member Month

Attention all veterans, if you served at least one day of active service and hold an Honorable Discharge you are eligible to be a member of the largest, the most influential veterans' organizations in the country, the American Legion.

October is the local American Legion's New Membership Month drive. As in previous years, the Field-Allen Post 148 in Windham is providing free one-year membership to any eligible area veteran who signs up as a member of Post 148.

Why join the American Legion?

Since its inception in France after World War I in 1919, the American Legion has been the largest veterans service and advocate organization in the country for veterans. It ensured that World War I veterans received their pensions. It wrote the GI Bill of Rights in 1944 and has been at the vanguard of all significant veteran's legislation since then including the more recent Blue Water Navy Bill and Burn Pits legislation (PACT ACT) encouraging all vets from recent conflicts to get screened for exposure to toxins and is providing needed service and support to member and veterans who have exposures to a wide range of toxins.

Today more than ever, the American Legion is working for and with veterans to reduce the mental health issues associated with veteran suicide.

The BE THE ONE Program is now one of the most proactive suicide prevention services in the nation with its 988 +1 call program. It is the veterans voice in Congress.

Need help with your VA Benefits or just need questions answered? The Field-Allen Post 148 in Windham provides for a weekly VA Resource Officer to answer questions and discuss benefits, and a monthly Veterans Service Officer to assist with claims. These resources are available at the Veterans Coffee held from 9 to 11 a.m. each Wednesday at the Windham Veterans Center in Windham. Stop by for coffee on Wednesday and meet fellow veterans and get responses to your concerns.

Each year, the American Legion Field-Allen Post in Windham offers a one-year free membership to the

American Legion for new members who join in the month of October. Eligibility is based on the Legion Act of 2019. Any Veteran who served at least one day of active duty and has an honorable discharge is illegible to be a Legion member.

At the local level, the Field-Allen Post is active in the veteran and youth communities as well. The post provides many opportunities to give back. It sponsors monthly Red Cross blood drives as well as monthly dinners. The post hosts the town's Memorial Day events (parade, ceremony and open house); Veterans Resources Fairs; fishing events; as well as providing honors

and services for departed veterans.

If this last item is an area of interest, the Post 148 Honor Guard has recently lost several members due to health issues and retirement. If you really want to make a difference, join the Field-Allen Post and then become an Honor Guard member. It is a truly rewarding experience and the satisfaction of a job well done is thanks enough. There is support for the purchase of the Honor Guard Uniform and training is conducted bi-monthly.

For additional details, contact the Field-Allen Post 148 Adjutant David Tanguay at 207-892-1306 or by email at dtanguay46@aol.com <

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Social Studies teacher changes lives through work at Windham Middle school

By Ed Pierce

STAFF WRITER

Editor's note: This is another in an ongoing series of Windham and Raymond two employee profiles.

It's said a good education can change anyone, but a great teacher can change everything. Put RSU 14's Doug Elder in that latter category.

Elder, the Social Studies Teacher for Team 207 at Windham Middle School, has devoted his life to teaching his students content and concepts related to culture, history, economics, geography, and government and is an exceptional role model and mentor for students entering the formative years of life.

He also heads up the annual "Taking Back Maine's Future" spring event, an innovative program for seventh graders striving to overcome Maine's Opioid crisis. The intent of the program is to empower students to combat Maine's opioid crisis from every possible angle.

Students use current data analysis and research to examine the impacts of Maine's opioid crisis and make predictions about what the state might look like in the future from two differing perspectives, one where real solutions to the state's crippling opioid epidemic are found and end the crisis before it gets worse, or another with a future in which the current trends of opioid addiction and over-

dose continue to grow.

According to Elder, the best aspect of teaching at the middle school level is that he has an opportunity to connect with kids and their families in the community.

"I like being part of their lives in a crucially important stage in personal development," he said.

Originally from Windham, Elder attended Windham Middle School himself and went on to graduate from Windham High School in 1996. He then earned a Bachelor of Science degree in education with a focus in American Studies from the University of Maine Farmington.

"Both of my parents spent most of their teaching careers in Windham, so I guess they feel that the apple has not landed far from the tree," Elder said. "I think that they are glad that I get to teach a good deal of local history, which is truly fascinating and action-packed stuff when you really dig into it."

He's taught at WMS since 2016 and prior to that, Elder was a Fifth and Sixth Grade teacher at Jordan-Small Middle School in Raymond and he also taught Fifth Grade at Songo Locks School in Naples.

According to Elder, the most challenging part of his job is paperwork, and all the associated record-keeping tasks involved in working for a school.

"The clerical aspects of the job have



Doug Elder, a Social Studies teacher at Windham Middle School, has taught at the school since 2016 and also heads up the annual "Taking Back Maine's Future" spring event at WMS, an innovative program for seventh graders working to overcome Maine's Opioid Crisis. SUBMITTED PHOTO

never been my strong suit," he said. "The biggest misconception people may have about my work is that we must be crazy and willing to hang out with middle schoolers all day long. Maybe that's only partially a misconception?"

Landing a teaching job at Windham Middle School fulfilled a long-standing dream for Elder.

"Teaching at WMS had been my hope for a long time," he said. "It's

been the place I wanted to land in teaching forever. My alma mater."

Having worked at WMS for eight years, Elder says he can't pinpoint one moment that stands out the most for him, rather he values humorous times with his students.

"I don't have a great memory, but pretty much every day I can find a reason to laugh with my students would be memorable," he said. "As any adult can recall, middle school is a very strange time in life, full of crazy experiences. It's fun to be there to help kids navigate all that weirdness. At least most of the time it is."

For Elder, one thing that the public may not know about his job is that it's more than academics.

"As important as academics are, it is really just a vehicle by which good teachers connect with kids, support their growth in building good habits, character traits, and crucial people skills which will hopefully serve them well in all aspects of their future, whatever they choose to do in the world," he said.

And above everything else, Elder says he has learned one significant thing from his time as a teacher at Windham Middle School.

"There's a statement 'nobody cares how much you know until they know how much you care' and I have learned how much truth there is in that," he said. <

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PUMPKINS *Cont. from page 10*

can be used to make homemade dog treats, or the puree can simply be added to your pet's meal – but make sure to check with your veterinarian before making any dietary changes.

According to Anderson, discarded or pumpkin "seconds" can make great livestock feed.

"We work with other farms to share off-grade products to feed to critters," she said. "Pumpkins can help feed animals after the season."

Creative uses: The Texas A&M University Today publication "Creative Uses for your Pumpkin Beyond Halloween" lends a multitude of suggestions for anyone looking to think

outside of the box. Specialists at the university recommend composting used jack-o-lanterns to provide nutrients for future crops. Other uses include leaving them out for wildlife – remember the beloved children's book "Mousekin's Golden House" by Edna Miller? They suggest that a hollowed pumpkin can be used as a planter for a plant or dried flowers.

Speaking of animals, how about finding a local farm that has chickens? Evidently, they enjoy eating the pumpkin meat out of the shell, which could provide a green option for the disposal of your pumpkin.

The Lakes Region offers plenty of resources to obtain a fall pumpkin (and much more seasonal fall harvest

items).

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension offers a quick video entitled, "How to Harvest and Store Pumpkins" offers some tips. If harvesting your own, make sure to cleanly cut the stem from the plant with a sharp knife. Pumpkins can be stored

in a cool, safe place until ready for use. Green pumpkins can be picked and will ripen off the vine. Pumpkins can last quite a while if harvested correctly.

To learn more about pumpkins from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension visit <https://extension.umaine.edu/publications/4176e> <

STUDENT OF THE WEEK **Avalyn Tweedie**



Grade: Fifth Grade **School:** Manchester School
Teacher: Julie Young
Favorite subject(s) in school: Reading but math and writing are a close second.
Parents' names: Katie Tweedie and Eric Tweedie
Reason for selection: Avalyn is an outstanding student. She works hard every day. She takes her learning seriously and puts in the effort to do her very best on every assignment. When Avalyn was asked what her favorite subject was, she simply couldn't decide because she loves to learn it all! Avalyn is a thoughtful student and a standout friend to all of her classmates. When Avalyn is not in school, she enjoys Girl Scouts, reading, crocheting, and watching Disney movies. Avalyn has an older brother named Aidan and a dog named Buddy. Her favorite movies are Beauty and the Beast and Moana. Her favorite books are The Last of the Really Great Wangdoodles, Wild Robot and Alone. Mrs. Berry had a big impact on Avalyn's learning, encouraging her love for reading.

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Please help us maintain the accuracy of the results by filling out the survey only once

windham, maine

DEADLINE TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST



New survey shows Mainers don't see aging as barrier

► **By Jane Magesson**
SPECIAL TO THE WINDHAM EAGLE

Despite believing older adults are devalued in society, Maine adults of all ages don't see aging as a barrier, according to new AARP research examining how aging is viewed in the state.

Engagement seems to factor into the optimism of survey respondents. When asked about their views on aging, half of respondents among all three age groups — 18 to 54, 55 to 65, and 65-plus — said that as they age, they are becoming more involved in helping others and find that their life offers more possibilities.

Mainers generally subscribe to the adage, "With age comes wisdom." Nearly nine in ten Mainers believe

wisdom does indeed come with age, and an overwhelming majority see value in passing it on, with 93 percent placing importance on sharing one's unique experiences with younger people.

Some 70 percent agree that the likelihood of older adults wanting to learn new things increases with age. Cultivating social connections and personal friendships continues with advancing age. The 65-plus age group was most likely to agree that friends are becoming a bigger part of their lives as they grow older.

Beyond the positive feedback, most Mainers think that older adults become less visible (64%) and are treated with less respect (54%). Main-

ers aged 55-plus believe younger people have more advantages in society, 70 percent note that we live in a youth-oriented society and 69 percent say employers prefer younger workers over older workers.

Another 57 percent agree that older workers are excluded from employment or promotion opportunities. Sixty-six percent believe age discrimination exists in the workplace, and most point out that age bias begins in your 50s and 60s.

Further, Mainers believe the fear of getting old is very real for Americans. Of those surveyed, 75 percent agree that Americans are afraid of getting old and 72 percent believe advertising and media negatively impact how Americans view aging. Ninety-one percent think older adults are more likely to become targets of fraud or scams and 72 percent agree that older adults have trouble keeping up with technology. In terms of the financial implications of growing old, 57 percent believe older adults rely on Social Security and Medicare to cover their needs and 49 percent agree that older adults have difficulty living in their own home.

While half of those surveyed were optimistic about aging, there also exists a real fear in growing old. Education is needed to dispel the myths



about aging, as well as to put an end to workforce age bias and stereotyping. Although we may live in a youth-oriented society, steps need to be taken to increase the value placed on older adults.

"AARP Maine is dedicated to improving the lives of Mainers aged 50 and older, as well as their families," said Noël Bonnam, AARP Maine State Director. "Through state-specific surveys such as this, we gain valuable insights into the needs and desires of older adults in Maine. Our research bolsters our efforts to advocate for fair utility rates, fight elder fraud, seek support for Maine's 166,000 family caregivers and provide resources on health and retirement security." AARP Maine also offers a variety of wellness classes, social programs, educational opportunities, and initiatives to advance age-friendly community enhancements.

Methodology

The online and phone survey of Maine residents aged 18 and older was conducted from Oct. 3 to Nov. 2, 2023. Data was weighted by age, gender, and education to reflect Maine's 18 and older population.

To learn more about AARP and its work in Maine, visit www.aarp.org/me and follow them on Facebook, X and Instagram @aarpmaine. <

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Eagle HISTORY



Before the memory fades: Dundee drawdown – disappointing for some, an experience with history for others

► **By Walter Lunt**
SPECIAL TO THE WINDHAM EAGLE



“It’s like a landscape from another world,” exclaimed an early June visitor to the near empty impoundment that was, only days earlier, Dundee Pond. In May, a sluice gate at the Dundee dam stuck in the open position and drained the 200-acre artificial impoundment leaving only a section of the ancient Presumpscot River and the eerie magnificence of a barren terrain.

The list of disappointed entities climbed. Thousands of Dundee Park patrons would miss out on swimming and swimming lessons. Windham Parks and Recreation mourned the loss of revenue gained from its various Dundee programs. Fishing and boating were curtailed. Shorefront camps along the pond would lose access to the water. The conservation group Friends of the Presumpscot became concerned about the ecological impact.

Less disappointed were the naturalists, archaeologists, treasure hunt-



The flat, barren landscape left by the summer drawdown at Dundee Pond is shown in Windham. Disappointing for swimmers, but a boon for the citizen historian. PHOTO BY JASON WILLIAMS

ers, curiosity seekers, metal detectorists and history buffs.

Visitors witnessed the geography and culture of an earlier time, most notably the re-emergence of the Presumpscot River, free-flowing again after nearly 125 years and acres of stumps – old forest land that preceded the flooding of land that made way for construction of Dundee dam

in the early 1900s. Nearby was the site of the 1800s Shaw family farm: the home, the barn, and orchards, all showing ample evidence of being burned in preparation of advancing water. Shaw Road, an ancient beat-

en-down remnant of the horse-and-wagon days, runs parallel with the canal and disappears into a wooded area.

Some parts of the landscape were less obvious to interpret. Craters, approximately 4 feet in diameter and several feet deep, dotted an area near the canal. Leith Smith, archaeologist from the Maine State Historical Commission, theorized they were “prospecting pits,” dug in search of clay deposits for making bricks.

Arguably, the most unique and historic feature of the newly unveiled landscape was the mile-long section of the Cumberland & Oxford Canal, the watery hand dug thoroughfare of the 19th century that transported goods between Long Lake and Portland, and the eroded remains of at least three locks used to raise and lower the barge-like freight boats along the channel’s 20-mile route 150 years ago. The Whitney Locks, located

→ see HISTORY Page 17



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Adelaide “Addie” Bernadette Gillis Hall

OCTOBER 2, 1930 – OCTOBER 3, 2024



CASCO- Adelaide “Addie” Bernadette Gillis Hall, passed away peacefully at her home in Casco the day after her 94th birthday on Thursday, Oct. 3, 2024, with her family by her side.

Addie was born on Oct. 2, 1930, in Island Pond, VT, a daughter of John A. and Bernadette V. (Bisonnette) Gillis.

She drove a school bus for the town of Windham for many years and was lovingly referred to as “Ma” by many of the kids.

Addie so loved family and all the things that she shared with them including cooking, reunions at

the farmhouse in Windham and Casco, fishing at camp, going out to lunch and yard sales. Her great-grandson, Jeremy said, “she was the glue that held the family together.”

She had a wonderful sense of humor, and her laugh was infectious that will be missed by all who she got to laugh with her. She was dearly loved, and we are so thankful for that love, laughter and fun memories that will continue to live on in our hearts.

Addie is survived by her sister Marie Howell; children, Gary Hall, Vickie Clarke and her husband, David, Susan Hall-Dupuis and her husband Raymond, and James Hall; granddaughters, Jennifer Hall-Lewis and her husband Gary, Jessica Bowden, Heather Novokouski and her husband Jeff, Amanda Bowden, and Crystal Kyles and her fiancé, Brian Swain; great-grandchildren, Jeremy and Alexis Novakouski, Oakley and Oliver Lewis, Matthew Osgood, Benjamin Kyles and Brooklyn Swain; many beloved nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents, her husband, Robert Hall, brothers Alexander, Benjamin, Alfred “Uncle Bobby” Gillis and her sisters, Alice Martineau, Simone Paradis, Jane Asselin (Kit), and great-grandson Nathan Kyles.

Visiting hours will be held from 4-6PM, Friday, October 11th at the Hall Funeral Home 165 Quaker Ridge Road in Casco. A funeral service will be held at the funeral home at 10AM, Saturday, October 12th.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to a cause near and dear to Addie’s heart: Walk a Mile in Their Shoes, 10 Crown Point Windham, ME 04062.

Condolences and tributes may be shared at www.hallfuneralhome.net.



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Shirley “Bunny” D. Gillespie Banks, 82



Windham, ME – Shirley “Bunny” D. Gillespie Banks (nee Swett), 82 of Windham, passed away peacefully at her home, Monday September 30, 2024, surrounded by her loved ones.

Born on June 7, 1942, in Rantoul, Illinois, Shirley was the daughter of Augustus and Mary (Astbury) Swett. Known for her dry sense of humor, Shirley had a special gift for saying the unexpected. She enjoyed playing bridge and creating handmade cards with her friends. A devoted animal lover, she cherished the companionship of her dog, Trixie, and her cat, Honey.

Members of her family include her son James Gillespie and his wife Jennifer of Raymond; her grandchildren Madeline and Brodrick; her two best friends Sheryl Stanley of Wyoming and Joann Gabrus of Colorado.

Her family would like to express their deepest gratitude to Lori Luoma of Windham, who was like a daughter to Shirley, and to all of her friends who supported her, helped with appointments, and brought joy and laughter to her life.

Services will be private and held at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Animal Welfare Society in Kennebunk, ME or another charity of your choice.

To express condolences or to participate in Shirley’s online tribute, please visit www.dolbyblaissegee.com



Members of the Sebago Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce gather to celebrate the Grand Opening of Aroma Joe's at Saint Joseph's College in Standish with a ribbon cutting on Thursday, Oct. 3. The event was the first official ribbon-cutting ceremony for new SLRCC President/CEO Amber Rankine. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Nangle earns perfect score from unions for pro-worker voting record

State Senator Tim Nangle, D-Windham, earned a perfect score from the Maine AFL-CIO for his votes to support working Maine families.

Nangle is one of 22 State Senators in Maine to earn a 90 or perfect score from the AFL-CIO.

"I am proud to stand with Maine workers and fight for fair wages, safe working conditions, and the rights they deserve," said Nangle. "Whether it's ensuring that injured workers are paid what they're owed or supporting policies that uplift working families, I will always work to protect and expand Maine's workforce."

In his first term in the Senate, Nangle sponsored a bill that directs the Workers' Compensation Board to undertake a comprehensive analysis of benefits to determine how much workers' compensation benefits need to increase to keep pace with increasing costs. This will ensure that injured Maine workers are fairly compensated, and able to recover and return to the workforce.

Maine AFL-CIO, a statewide feder-

ation of more than 200 labor unions, based their scorecard on legislators' votes on 11 bills, including the bipartisan supplemental budget and:

** LD 1983: "An Act to Establish the Maine Buy American and Build Maine Act," sponsored by Senate President Troy Jackson, D-Allagash

** LD 1639: "An Act to Address Unsafe Staffing of Nurses and Improve Patient Care," sponsored by State Senator Stacy Brenner, D-Scarborough

** LD 1756, "An Act to Enhance the Predictability of Mandated Overtime for Pulp or Paper Manufacturing Facility Employees," sponsored by Senate President Troy Jackson, D-Allagash

** LD 373, "An Act to Improve Labor Conditions for Maine Workers," sponsored by State Senator Mike Tipping, D-Orono

The Maine AFL-CIO represents more than 40,000 Maine workers and retirees delivering public services or working at paper mills, shipyards, hospitals, construction sites, nonprofits, utilities, and in many other industries. <



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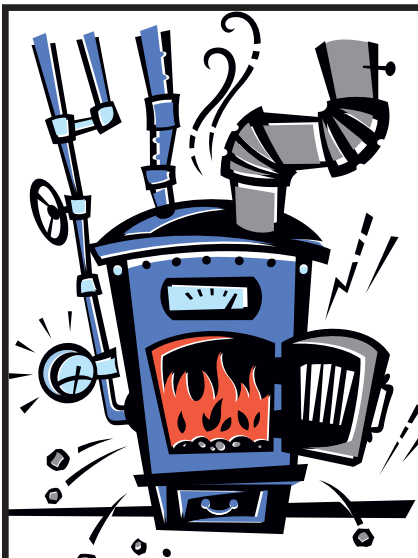
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HISTORY *Cont. from page 15*

directly across the pond from Dundee Park, is a double system consisting of two concave ditches with vertical tree trunks positioned against the banks to avoid cave-ins (as noted by the archaeologist Smith, "... the quality of construction was not amazing.")

Here, the canal followed the course of the Presumpscot on the Gorham side of the river – a 5-foot deep ditch stretching from the river to the canal which circumvented the two Whitney locks. Its purpose was to replenish water into the canal.

Visitors were able to walk on the hard-pack surface of the tow path where once young men led horses pulling canal boats loaded with cord wood, lumber, molasses, and countless other goods up and down the channel. Several visitors were observed standing within the confines of the canal and its locks trying to imagine a time long ago when men and boats traversed this course, carrying on the commerce of the 19th century.

Hiking the tow path from the crippled dam to a point opposite Dundee Park, one tramples dead freshwater mussels. In the lazy flow of the Presumpscot, fish could occasionally be



Some of the objects found during the Dundee drawdown this summer included an old Coca Cola glass bottle and a mysterious coin. COURTESY PHOTO

observed breaking the surface sending forth concentric circles; a lone heron standing motionless nearby waiting, hoping for a meal near the water's edge. Off the trail on both sides of the river was a meadow of barren flat land, caked with slimy, cracked sediment accumulated from over a century of river flow becoming arrested by the dam. Sounds in this remote area were confined to Canada geese and crows; an occasional eagle surveyed the landscape overhead. Essentially,

the drawdown created nearly 200 acres of sterile, empty land divided by a thin ribbon of water.

Exploring the expansive tract of "blank-gray," earth, as he called it, was citizen historian and metal detectorist Al Farris.

"It's a fascinating walk back in time and more than I expected," he said.

Farris spent days documenting the locations of stone walls, farmhouses, clay pits, old roads, and spots where he found cultural treasures. Operating a drone, he took still pictures and shot video. He compared his discoveries with old maps. In addition to coins, a musket ball, a

Civil War era bullet, and bits of hardware, one of his more interesting treasures was a button bearing the image of an Asian warrior riding on top of a carp (a fish). Researching this curious find, Farris learned the image probably depicted a Japanese man named Kintaro, a legendary figure of the 1800s based on a real Samurai warrior. The discovery leads to more questions regarding who would have lost these buttons and what was their purpose in being there.

During this activity, Farris said he spoke with a group of visitors who said they were making plans to produce a documentary.

Farris plans to someday display many of his cultural discoveries at the Windham Historical Society's Village Green.

Today, as we read this, Dundee has returned almost to full pond, too late for summer recreationists, but leaving behind a season of fascination and discovery. <

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BRIEFS

Turkey Dinner

The Highland Lake Grange is offering a drive-through, roasted turkey dinner from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12. There will be roasted turkey, vegetables, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, bread, cranberry sauce and cake. The cost is \$10 per person. Please have exact price for meal(s) you want. No substitutions, no pre-orders, you drive up, pay and receive your meal. The grange is located on the corner of Route 302 and Hardy Road in Westbrook. FMI, call Joann at 207-233-7119.

Craft Fair

The Windham Lions Club Craft Fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19 at the North Windham Union Church, 723 Roosevelt Trail, Windham. FMI, send an email to thepunkymoose@aol.com

Baked Bean Supper

The American Legion is hosting a Baked Bean Supper from 5 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19 at the Windham Veterans Center, 35 Veterans Memorial Drive in Windham. The menu includes a variety of beans, chili and macaroni and cheese dishes, American chop suey, potato salad, red hot dogs, brown bread and different desserts. The cost is \$10 for adults and kids under 12 eat for free. FMI, call 207-892-4692.

Watercolor workshop

Kathleen Gerdes' watercolor workshop, suitable for any skill level, is coming to Nathaniel Hawthorne's Boyhood Home at 40 Hawthorne Road in Raymond from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12. The cost is \$45

per student, which includes the use of the instructor's supplies and materials. Everyone wishing to participate is asked to please register in advance by emailing workshop instructor Kathleen Gerdes at gerkat214@gmail.com.

Thrift Shop

The North Windham Union Church UCC thrift shop located at 723 Roosevelt Trail will be open regularly from 10 a.m. to noon during October. It will also be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19. Lots of bargains including clothes for all ages and great baby clothes too, along with shoes, games, puzzles, books, household items, glassware, cards, decorations, craft items, and jewelry will be available.

Veterans support

The American Legion Post 148 in Windham hosts a Veterans Service Officer Support (VSO) session from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month at the Windham Veterans Center. James Fisher from the Lewiston VA Office conducts office hours during this time to provide sup-

port and answer questions relating to your VA Benefits. For an appointment, call 207-753-9106 or send an email to Lewiston.mainebv@smaine.org

Chess Club

Chess enthusiasts meet from 10 a.m. to noon every Saturday at the Windham Public Library, 217 Windham Center Road. All ages and abilities welcome. FMI, call 207-892-1908.

Bridge Club

The Raymond Bridge Club meets every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Raymond Village Library, 3 Meadow Road in Raymond for games of bridge. Want to learn how to play? One of our members would be happy to teach you. The club is open to all. FMI, call 207-655-4283.

Suicide Support Group

The Alternatives to Suicide Support Group meets at 2 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at the Lake Region Recovery Center, 2 Elm St., Bridgton. FMI, call 207-803-8707.

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Riding To The Top to celebrate 'Team RTT' at Triple B event

The Riding To The Top Therapeutic Riding Center is will hosting the 16th Annual Triple B ~ Boots, Band and BBQ event from 5:30 to 11 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19 at 14 Lilac Drive in Windham.

RTT Development Director Kelly Johnson said that this year's event will celebrate "Team RTT," and all the different ways that this manifests at the farm, from riding teams to volunteers to staff to client families to paddock mates.

At the event RTT pays tribute to the people, horses, businesses and organizations that have helped sustain Riding To The Top since its beginning in 1993, Johnson said.

Organizers for the Oct. 19 event have a goal of raising \$200,000 to support Financial Aid for RTT's clients and Horse Care.

The evening will feature Schilly's mouthwatering barbecue, a Mission Based Auction, dancing to the live music of local favorite "Under The Covers," a fantastic raffle, photo booth, boot contests and door prizes. Michelle Taylor of 99.9 THE WOLF will return to emcee and auctioneer Elizabeth Ross Holmstrom will call the unique mission-based auction.

This annual "Party with a Purpose" plays a vital role in RTT's ability to provide equine-assisted services for local



Riding To The Top Therapeutic Riding Center clients and their volunteer riding teams work with members of the RTT herd, a horse called Dream, left, and Paxton, right. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

children and adults with disabilities.

Sarah Bronson, RTT's Executive Director, shared that "this event has become a community favorite. While raising critical funds to support RTT's programs and most notably our Rider and Horse Funds, it's also an incredibly fun evening for our guests, including some time meeting our horses, enjoying delicious food, music and dancing!"

This year's Triple B is supported by

many local business partners led by our Grand Champion Sponsor, Portland Volvo, and Reserve Champion Sponsor, Norway Savings Bank.

If you're interested in more information or reserving your tickets today, please visit: <https://www.riding-tothetop.org/tripleb>

Riding To The Top Therapeutic Riding Center (RTT) was founded in 1993. Its mission is enhancing health and wellness through equine-assisted services. Located in Windham, RTT is the state's only PATH International-accredited center (Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International) solely dedicated to Equine Assisted Services. More than 250 participants are impacted annually, assisted by certified instructors, a herd of 17 horses and close to 100 volunteers, all specially trained to assist with therapeutic riding, carriage driving and hippotherapy.

Riding To The Top is a community-based nonprofit, receives no federal or state funding and provides scholarships to over 60 percent of its clients.

For more info visit www.ridingtothetop.org or call 207-892-2813. <

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Town of Windham



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ABSENTEE BALLOTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE for the

November 5, 2024 Election

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- 1.) Coming into the Clerk's office during business hours*
- 2.) Calling 892-1900 to have a ballot mailed to you,
- 3.) Have a family member sign out your ballots
- 4.) Request online at: windhammaine.us

> go to > How Do I - Request/Absentee Ballot

IF YOU NEED TO REGISTER TO VOTE:
the Registrar of Voters is available at Town Hall during regular business hours*, & at the polls on Election Day from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Please bring your I.D. and proof of residency. If your address or name has changed, you must update it before voting.

OUR LATE NIGHT WILL BE WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30TH UNTIL 7:00 P.M.

The last day to absentee vote will be Thursday, October 31st at 4:00 P.M.

All ballots must be returned to the Clerk's Office no later than 8:00 p.m. on November 5th in order to be counted.

For your convenience you may deposit your absentee ballot envelopes in the Secure Ballot Drop Box at the Town Hall's front entrance or bring them inside or mail them with return postage of .97¢

Election Day voting will take place at Windham High School, 406 Gray Road in the Main Gym. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

*CLERK'S HOURS: Monday/Wednesday 7a.m. - 5p.m., Tuesday 7a.m. - 6p.m. & Thursday 7a.m. - 4p.m. Closed Fridays

For more information please call the Town Clerk's Office at 892-1900. Thank you, Linda Morrell - Town Clerk



LETTERS to the editor

Submit letters by Tuesday at Noon to:
editor@thewindhameagle.com
or mail to: 585 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, 04062

Editor,

I just received my ballot for the upcoming election coincidentally with the Oct. 4 issue of The Windham Eagle. I took the time to read the responses of all the candidates. I thank all for taking on the immense task of running for office and The Windham Eagle for sharing the profile of each.

I'd like to share that I support the candidacies of both Jessica Bridges and Frances Etheridge for the school board. I know these candidates and about their involvement in our schools and community. As a Girl Scout leader, Jessica is also a teacher who provides essential education about service to the young ladies she

mentors. Franny is a parent involved in our schools firsthand and will bring her experiences to the board to maintain and help improve our already great school district.

I also applaud these candidates because they are the only candidates who do not align with a political party and will serve all our schools without a political agenda.

~ Bill Keller, Windham

Editor,

Please join me in strong support of Craig Messinger to be our next state representative for Raymond, Casco, Poland and Frye Island. It has been my great privilege to represent the people of these towns in District

86 for the last 8 years. Since Maine's term-limit laws prohibit me from running for a fifth consecutive term, I want to share why Mr. Messinger is the best choice to represent us.

Craig has spent his professional career serving and caring for others in life and death situations. Situations that call for calm and decisive leadership. This is the type of skill that will earn him the respect of his House colleagues, making him an effective advocate for all of us. He and I have discussed the policies he would like to address, and it was heartening for me to hear that he is invested in continuing the work to address the needs of older Mainers so we can all age with dignity in the community. Craig has committed to protecting our environment, especially the lakes and ponds that make our region so special. He will keep working to keep our towns safe, just as he has done for almost 40 years. But most importantly, he will

listen with an open mind.

Leaving the Legislature and this work that I have loved is bittersweet. Knowing that we have a great candidate in Craig Messinger makes it a little easier.

~ State Rep. Jess Fay, Raymond

Editor,

Key to my support for Representative Barbara Bagshaw is that she is a champion of our constitution. Sure, she is loyal to Windham and the state, she listens, she is frugal, she cares about opportunities for our youth and our elders, she supports small business.

But in an environment where our God-given rights are under attack, upholding our constitution takes priority in my mind. Take free speech, for example. With The World Economic Forum and the United Nations focus on "disinformation" and "misinformation," the push is for
→ see LETTERS Page 21

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- Dispose of leaves and brush in designated areas ONLY (Please follow signs).
- Leaves must be removed from bags, please REMOVE them from the bags and TAKE THE BAGS WITH YOU.
- Leaf and brush disposal area is for Windham residents ONLY
- Brush must be less than 12" in diameter

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LETTERS *Cont. from page 20*

mentorship. We have a history of informed debate, opposing views being expressed. Censorship is the tool of a totalitarian government.

Barbara is a strong advocate for our liberty here in Augusta. She stands in opposition to big government. It's "We the People" with her. If you cherish our rights enshrined in the Constitution, vote for Barbara Bagshaw. I will.

~ Karen Schanz, Windham

Editor,

Windham citizens are blessed to have Barbara Bagshaw as our State Representative. She has boundless energy, strong integrity, in-depth knowledge of legislative issues and great compassion for her constituents and their needs.

I have Barbara's permission to share the following story. I once accompanied Barbara while she campaigned door to door. Barbara met an elderly woman whose electricity had been disconnected due to nonpayment. On a fixed income, she had to choose between paying her property taxes and paying her power bill. She was in danger of losing her home and chose to pay the property taxes. Without power she had no water (well pump), appliances (refrigeration) or heat/air conditioning. She also had no telephone. Barbara was instrumental in mediating a solution which al-

lowed the woman to have her power restored. Barbara cares.

I am casting my vote for Barbara Bagshaw and hope you will, too.

~ Ginny Woodman, Windham

Editor,

After a very successful first term in the Maine House of Representatives, Jane Pringle is seeking a second consecutive term as representative for House legislative District 107.

Throughout her House tenure, Representative Pringle has always proven that she is ready to listen to her constituents and is eager to help them resolve their problems. Beyond this individual advocacy, Representative Pringle has also worked effectively and civilly with her colleagues to serve her constituents in Windham and improve the lives of all Mainers.

Her core concerns include protecting our environment for future generations, supporting our teachers and all students, and ensuring that everyone has access to health care. She is acutely aware of how vital these issues are in people's lives on a day-to-day, personal level. Equally as important, though, she knows of their significance to the creation of a vibrant economy and a strong, healthy society that provides everyone with the opportunity to thrive.

We are so lucky to have her working on our behalf. I will enthusiastically be casting my vote to reelect Representative Jane Pringle, and I

hope you will, too.

~ Steve Quinlan, Windham

Editor,

I would like to personally tell you about Virginia Woodman. Ginny has been a close neighbor for nearly 40 years. Ginny and I are retired registered nurses. We also have children similar in age who graduated from Windham High School.

I admire Ginny's love, concern, and wellbeing for family and community. Ginny was my daughter's Girl Scout leader. She worked with the troop to earn various badges and supervised and led their camping and outside activities. The girls were taught the importance of love, compassion, and support for nature, people, and our country.

Ginny worked at the Maine Medical Center and possessed the qualities of compassion and dedication to her patients. Her work incorporated knowledge of the sciences, arts, and leadership qualities. Quick and effective decision making was also a

requirement as well as the ability to constructively work with all ages and disciplines.

I have always known Ginny to possess a gentle, quiet nature and respectfulness to others. I believe Ginny owns rich attributes which qualify her as a valuable candidate and member to serve on Windham's School Board.

Please vote for my friend and colleague, Virginia Woodman, on or before Nov. 5.

~ Jeanne Fiske, Windham

Editor,

I worked with Jane Pringle for over a decade in the medical field. She is a tireless worker and great advocate for those in need. Jane is an eloquent communicator and a great listener. She understands complex problems and works well with a team to provide solutions.

I fully endorse Jane in her re-election to the Legislature.

~ Diane Bryant, Windham

→ see LETTERS Page 24



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Varsity football earns first season win during homecoming

By Matt Pascarella

STAFF WRITER

It was Windham's Homecoming varsity football game, and the team fought for 48 minutes to beat Bangor posting a 34-18 victory over the Rams on Saturday, Oct. 5.

Bangor tried to gain some traction late in the game, but Windham sophomore Tegan Perkins intercepted a pass to end the game as time disappeared from the scoreboard.

"I knew they were going to pass, and we all sunk into coverage, I didn't really think - he threw it to me, I caught it and started ... running," said Tegan Perkins. "Great energy we came in all fired up this morning, nobody thought we were going to lose, we all stuck through."

WHS defense shut down the Rams, with multiple tackles. It was second and 10 and Windham stopped Bangor on the line of scrimmage. A fumble on Bangor's snap and Windham gained possession. After one quarter the game was scoreless.

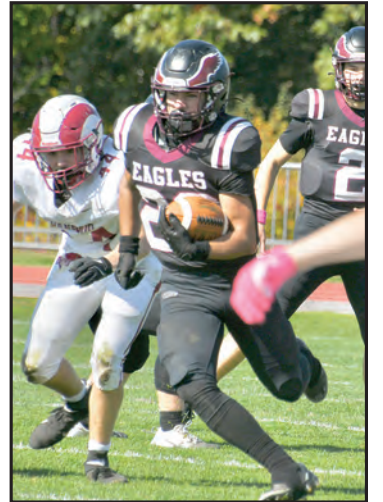
About 10 seconds into the second quarter, Bangor crossed into the end zone. The extra point was blocked.

It was first and 10 Windham on their 28-yard line. The Eagles made it to the 42-yard line for a first down. A few moments later senior Ayden Cofone scored. The extra point was good, and Windham led, 7-6.

Bangor got a first down on Windham's 33-yard line but was stopped on fourth down.

On a second and 12, Windham sophomore Parker Sperry broke away and headed up the field for a 78-yard touchdown. The extra point was no good and at the half, Windham led, 13-6.

"We knew we had to ... do some-



(L to R) Windham junior Mason Arbour fights off a Bangor defender during a prep football game on Saturday, Oct. 5 at Windham High. Sophomore Gage Chicoine tackles an opponent with his teammate, sophomore Lucas Vance, left, there to help make the stop. Sophomore Parker Sperry heads toward the end zone. (Inside sports header) Sophomore Tegan Perkins intercepts a pass late in the game. PHOTOS BY MATT PASCARELLA

thing different and we all worked together as a team," said Sperry. "We came to battle; we all communicated which is really important in football, you need all 11 guys on the same page - that is what I think helped us win. We need to get on a role and start coming to these games with a (winning) mentality because that's what's going to get us to the postseason."

In the second half, it's first and 10 Windham on their 30-yard line. Junior AJ Moody had a 14-yard run for a first down. A completed pass from Windham junior and quarterback Karl Longstreth to sophomore Mason Arbour who connected in the end zone. The extra point was good.

Windham remained hungry and wasn't about to let up. Sperry had a 70-yard interception return, a pick 6; the extra point was good.

Windham freshman Patrick Davenport blocked a Bangor pass near the end zone.

On first down Windham was on the

20-yard line and Longstreth had an 80-yard run and scored. The extra point was good; Windham now led 34-6.

Bangor scored in the fourth quarter; but its two-point conversion was no good.

"We brought more energy as a team," said Cofone. "This week at practice everybody really busted their tails off, a lot more energy in practice. A lot more people giving heart, even in the backup set ... giving it all they have."

There was 2:30 left in the game, and Windham was not about to let up. Windham junior Reese Hutchinson blocked a Bangor pass.

Bangor scored but the two-point conversion was no good. After a personal foul against Windham, Bangor regained possession. With 40 seconds remaining, the Rams made one last push. When Bangor threw a pass, sophomore Tegan Perkins was there, caught and ran toward the end zone as the clock ran out.



Senior Ayden Cofone knocks over his Bangor opponent.

"We've kind of changed some things around a little bit, trying to move guys in positions where they're most comfortable," said Windham varsity football coach Matt Perkins. "We're only playing four seniors; and the seniors we are playing, three of them have never started in varsity football. We're so young, we're just figuring it out as we go. We haven't had a bad practice ... it's huge that they got the payoff today. Our big focus this week was defensively third downs, getting better at it - offensively execute and get first downs. In vital parts of the game, we stopped

them on third down, we stopped them on fourth down. We swarmed to the ball better, we're still working on tackling; we haven't gotten to the place I want to be tackling; we had them in the back field a couple times and didn't execute the tackle. We got to do a better job in space, just continue coverage and handling guys in space." <

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Byron Rubito

Age: 17 **Team:** Windham High varsity football
Coach: Matt Perkins
Parents' names: Eric and Jessica Rubito
Reason for selection: A senior and two-way starter for WHS, on the line, a team-first guy; very selfless, extreme worker, always really positive and just a great young man. The effort and the example he's put forth on how to carry yourself as a person is really impressive, and it's really set the bar high for his team. He continues to work and give everything he has and that is the kind of guy that is fun to coach. Right now, the team is 0-4 and it would be easy to complain and point fingers and he doesn't; he continues to work.

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Varsity field hockey narrowly falls to Thornton Academy

By Matt Pascarella
STAFF WRITER

Windham's varsity field hockey team took the field on Monday, Oct. 7 at Thornton Academy in Saco against Thornton Academy. The Lady Eagles' intensity was there, but Thornton Academy scored early and although Windham battled back, they ultimately lost, 2-0.

"I thought we played pretty good, and we dominated for most of it," said Windham senior Zoe Dries. "The balls were definitely 50-50, I think we just couldn't capitalize on the shots. Our movement in the middle of the field was good - we went to a lot of the balls. I thought we overall played pretty good we just couldn't capitalize on the actual shots or getting the tipoff. I think it was the weather (we struggled with) and ... it's been a while since we practiced together. We had possession for a lot of it and kept our heads up and kept playing hard even though it wasn't going our way. Down the line we need to work on looking up before we pass and making sure we see a teammate before passing."

Windham had a solid start and moved the ball up the field; defense minimized scoring chances for Thornton Academy.

WHS offense had several shots at goal, but nothing got by Thornton Academy's goaltender. The game was scoreless after one quarter.

At the start of the second quarter Dries had a shot at goal almost imme-



(Clockwise from bottom left) Windham senior Zoe Dries keeps possession as she heads toward a Thornton Academy opponent during a varsity field hockey game at on Monday, Oct. 7. Junior Abby Trainor easily navigates past two opponents. Senior Ava Gerrity reaches out to stop the ball. PHOTOS BY MATT PASCARELLA

diately. Windham remained aggressive.

Part way through the second quarter, Thornton Academy scored and with a minute left in the half, scored again, leading, 2-0, at halftime.

"We're in this stretch right now where we have a lot of lulls between games," said Windham varsity coach Cory DiDonato. "A lot of kids are getting over illness and depending on the game, it's been a while since every kid has showed up 100 percent ready mentally. I think (Thornton) and Massabesic always gets in our heads a little bit. I don't know why because we're a very good team. We have amazing leaders on the team, leading by exam-

ple showing what it looks like to work hard, what it looks like to get to the ball first, our passes have come a really long way. We're good at transferring the ball, and our corners have come a really long way; we've got some really skilled players. Pockets are just getting to the ball first, we tend to back off and wait to see if we can stop it, instead of going to break up the play, we're still working on that one."

Windham was just as intense in the second half; they worked to be first to the ball and made strong attempts at penalty corner shots. WHS junior goalie Olivia McPherson had a nice save in the third quarter.

In the fourth quarter, Windham fired multiple shots at goal, while defense mostly kept Thornton Acad-

emy away from Windham's goal. McPherson had more saves. Windham junior Abby Trainor fired an elevated shot that whacked the back of the goal, but because of its height was considered a high ball and the goal was no good - it was an incredible shot though.

"I think we need to improve on our passing," said Trainor.

"Sometimes we do get stuck on one side and that's what we've been working with in practice is to spread out and make longer passes. I think offensively we need to get back more than we should have. We got the quality shots off; it just didn't go our way. Tough setbacks like this will help us excel forward throughout the season. Really well tonight was moving the ball up quick, especially on our free hits ... forwards do a really good job of collecting it and doing their own pulls and stuff to get into the circle to try to get a corner or a shot off, that was one of our best things, especially using the sidelines of those big passes. Now that we use the outside, it's longer distance for us and we hit it in which exceeds our scoring opportunities." <

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Reaching a Milestone

State Rep. Barbara Bagshaw (R-Windham), right, presents a Legislative Sentiment on behalf of the State of Maine to Maurice 'Mel' A. Merrill of Windham for turning 85-years-old on Oct. 8. The public recognition came in the form of a Legislative Sentiment from the 131st Maine Legislature and the People of Maine. It was Sponsored by State Rep. Bagshaw and co-sponsored by State Rep. Jane Pringle and State Senator Tim Nangle, both of Windham. 'When he turned 80, Mel went skydiving for his birthday, hard to top that,' Rep. Bagshaw said. 'I thank Mel for his service in the United States Marine Corps, and on behalf of the State of Maine, we congratulate him on turning 85.'



SUBMITTED PHOTO

LETTERS *Cont. from page 21*

Editor,

I am writing to respond to a letter to you last month from Ann Marie Grenier about my positions on reproductive rights. Mrs. Grenier is a constituent who communicates with me by email, by phone, and in person at the Statehouse to tell me her positions on various pieces of legislation.

I recall one discussion in particular when I shared how I believe I am both pro-life and pro-choice when it comes to reproductive health care. As a physician I worked to help patients have as healthy lives as possible. If they were having any difficulty having children, I referred them to qualified obstetricians or fertility specialists. If they became pregnant, I co-managed their medical problems such as hypertension or arthritis or asthma so that their treatment caused the least harm to their developing baby while keeping them healthy.

If a patient did not intend to become pregnant but did so though a failure of contraception, forced sex (rape, incest or sex trafficking) then I referred them for abortion care or prescribed Plan B to induce abortion before viability.

Physicians, nurse practitioners and midwives have licensing boards which hold them to professional standards of care. When they violate those standards, they can be held accountable.

LD 1619 protects the patient/provider relationship so that the patient can make the best decisions for their circumstance without the government interfering in that care. That is not radical, it is what the majority of us want.

~ Jane Pringle, Windham

Editor,

Finding good candidates before an election can be mind-boggling. But I got lucky! I found Mark Cooper, a man who was born and raised right here in District 107, and still lives here, and actually works for a living as a building contractor and farmer.

He actually does his own haying (with bailer repair and all) and can be found at State Fairs or speaking at specific commodity symposiums out of state or driving to Pennsylvania for supplies.

Mark Cooper has the knowledge and very varied experience, from the nuts and bolts of business creation to the stark realities of marketing, which he will take to Augusta.

From 4-H student, parent and leader, to total involvement (third generation) with regional networking, Mark Cooper will steadfastly represent my financial interests in Augusta. He knows where the money should come from, and where it has to be sustainably spent.

If you like my super "find," then please join me in voting for Mark Cooper, District 107.

~ William A. Hager, Windham <

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

TOWN OF RAYMOND, MAINE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS SITE WALK

Saturday, October 19, 2024 • 9:00 AM

You are hereby notified of the Raymond ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS Site Walk at the following location **Saturday, October 19, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.** regarding the information on the following application:

APPLICANT: Karen and Bill Burke

LOCATION: 36 Murch Landing Road; Map 74/Lot 6
Zone LRR2

DESCRIPTION: Administrative Appeal of Shoreland Zone
Permit #2024146 for New Dock

The site walk will commence at 9:00 a.m. on site

PUBLIC HEARING

**Broadcast Studio - 423 Webbs Mills Road
and Via ZOOM**

Tuesday, October 29, 2024 • 7:00 PM

You are hereby notified that the Raymond Appeals Board will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, October 29, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.** to hear information on the following application:

APPLICANT: Karen and Bill Burke

LOCATION: 36 Murch Landing Road; Map 74/Lot 6
Zone LRR2

DESCRIPTION: Administrative Appeal of Shoreland Zone
Permit #2024146 for New Dock

The meeting can be viewed via internet or on cable TV. The meeting will be streamed in real time from the local Government channel. This live stream is also hosted on YouTube (www.raymondmaine.org/content/live-video-streaming), so make sure that your computer or router/firewall does not block YouTube content.

JOIN ZOOM MEETING

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81392864436?pwd=ObE5pW9wkw2CRNhU1uTa0xmTmgJ6gO.1>

Meeting ID: 813 9286 4436

Passcode: scckE9

ONE TAP MOBILE

Meeting ID: 813 9286 4436

Passcode: 803215

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81392864436>

Copy of the submitted application is available for review on the town website (www.raymondmaine.org/content/zba-agenda) after October 8, 2024 OR at the Town Office (401 Webbs Mills Road) by appointment during regular business hours.

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Why does it seem like everyone is moving to Maine?

► **By Carrie Colby**
SPECIAL TO THE WINDHAM EAGLE



—Carrie Colby
Allied Real Estate

Maine's rising popularity is a fascinating trend influenced by several factors that resonate with a diverse range of people. Here are some key reasons why more folks

are calling this beautiful state home:

1. The weather

Maine's climate presents a unique blend of experiences. While winters can be brutally cold, the summers are a highlight, offering mild temperatures and plenty of outdoor activities without the oppressive heat found elsewhere. Residents can enjoy hiking, biking, and water sports in the warmer months, making the most of the state's stunning natural landscapes.

2. Air quality and climate change

With climate change impacting many regions, Maine has emerged as an appealing refuge. Its relatively stable weather, lower incidence of natural disasters like hurricanes and wildfires, and overall good air quality attract those looking for a safer, more sustainable environment.

3. Quality of life and peace of mind

Safety is a major draw for many. Maine consistently ranks as one of the safest states in the U.S., making it an ideal place for families. The sense of community is strong, and many residents appreciate the slower pace of life. This environment fosters peace of mind, where people feel comfortable letting their kids play outside and engaging with neighbors.

4. Remote work opportunities

The pandemic accelerated the trend of remote work, allowing many individuals and families to relocate without the constraints of proximity to their offices. Maine's serene environment and access to nature have proven irresistible for those looking to enhance their work-life balance.

5. Outdoor Recreation

Maine is a haven for outdoor enthusiasts. From hiking the Appalachian Trail to kayaking in its many lakes and rivers, and even skiing in winter, the state offers abundant recreational opportunities that appeal to nature lovers and adventure seekers alike.

6. Community and culture



Maine boasts a rich cultural heritage, with vibrant arts, food, and local traditions. The state's renowned seafood, particularly its lobsters, is a culinary draw, and many towns host festivals that celebrate local culture and community spirit.

7. Affordable living

Compared to many urban centers, Maine offers relatively affordable housing options. This affordability can be especially attractive

to those moving from high-cost areas, allowing for a higher quality of life without breaking the bank. In summary, Maine's combination of stunning landscapes, a strong sense of community, safety, and growing remote work opportunities makes it an appealing choice for many people looking to relocate. Whether seeking a peaceful lifestyle, better air quality, or simply a place to enjoy the outdoors, Maine is increasingly becoming a top destination.

This article was brought to you by Carrie Colby, a Broker with Allied Real Estate, 909 Roosevelt Trail in Windham. She can be reached at 207-232-5497. <



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Eagle PLEASE NOTE: FOOD AND GAMES FEATURE ALTERNATES WITH MOVIE REVIEW

FOOD AND GAMES

THE WINDHAM EAGLE'S

Cooking Corner

By Ed Pierce
STAFF WRITER

Chocolate Fudge Bundt Cake

This cake is simple to prepare but will be a memorable treat that family members and friends ask for time and time again. You'll need to have a Bundt baking pan and a spatula for applying the frosting.

INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups of all-purpose flour
- 1 3/4 cups of softened butter
- 1 1/2 cups of white sugar
- 6 eggs
- 2 cups of chopped walnuts
- 2 containers of chocolate fudge frosting (or make your own *see below)

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Grease a 10-inch Bundt pan and dust the bottom lightly with flour. Measure out three quarters of a cup of the frosting mix for the cake's chocolate glaze and set aside. In a large bowl, cream together the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in the eggs one at a time, then stir in the remaining frosting mix and flour. Stir the nuts generously throughout.

*Homemade Chocolate Frosting

- 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter
- 2/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 3 cups powdered sugar
- 1/3 cup milk (whole or 2%)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Pinch of salt (optional)

In a medium saucepan, melt the butter over medium heat. Once the butter is melted, stir in the cocoa powder until smooth and well combined. Alternately add the powdered sugar and milk, about 1/2 cup of sugar and a splash of milk at a time. Stir well after each addition until smooth. Continue until all the powdered sugar and milk are added. Stir in the vanilla extract and a pinch of salt (optional) for extra flavor. Use a whisk or an electric mixer to beat the frosting for about 1-2 minutes until it becomes light, fluffy, and creamy. *(If the frosting is too thick, add a little more milk, one teaspoon at a time, until you reach your desired consistency. If it's too thin, add a bit more powdered sugar.)*

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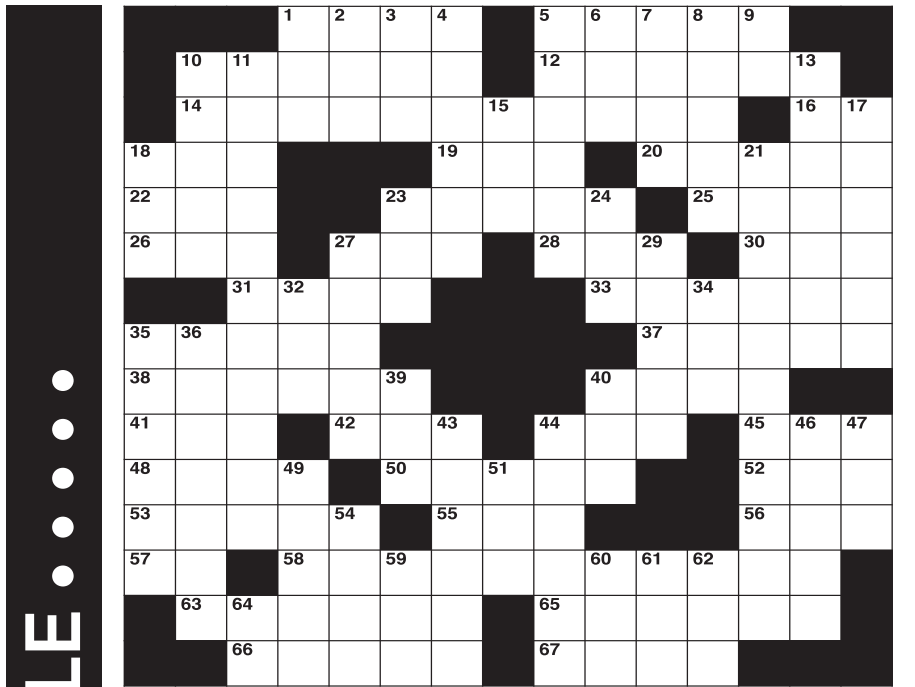


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S	P	E	L	T	M	A	M	B	O	Y			
A	I	R	L	I	N	E	L	U	T	I	O	N	
D	E	M	I	G	O	D	S	O	C	I	E	T	Y
A	R	A	M	A	I	C	S	E	S	S	I	O	N
G	A	D	S	S	U	M	B	R	O	W	N	I	E
S	A	N	D	A	L	S	S	I	E	R	R	A	S
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C	E	R	E	D	A	B	M	A	I	K	E	N	
E	S	E	R	O	E	N	E	E					
S	S	R	A	N	N	O	D	D					



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

1. Gene type
5. Persian male given name
10. Type of protection
12. Cloud
14. One who returns to life
16. Gym class
18. General's assistant (abbr.)
19. Baby's dining accessory
20. Enchantress
22. Prefix denoting "in a"
23. Spiritual leader
25. Cavities
26. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
27. Foot (Latin)
28. Sweet potato
30. Pharaoh of Lower Egypt
31. Land
33. More inquisitive

35. Dog breed: ___ Apso
37. Stood up
38. Direct and uninhibited
40. Authorless
41. Blocking type of drug (abbr.)
42. Retrospective analysis (abbr.)
44. Root mean square (abbr.)
45. Macaws
48. Actress Remini
50. Polynesian wrapped skirt
52. City of Angels hoops team (abbr.)
53. Fitzgerald and Baker are two
55. Bowling alley must-have
56. A way to cool down
57. Ethnic group in Asia
58. A way to alter
63. Set of five
65. Removes from the record
66. Dummies
67. Set period in office

CLUES DOWN

1. DC Comics superhero
2. Brew
3. Play
4. Single-celled animals
5. Rough to the touch
6. Small island (British)
7. Often noted alongside cons
8. Preparation of rootstock
9. Atomic #44
10. Egyptian unit of capacity
11. About secretary
13. Particular groups
15. Poke fun at
17. Make certain that something occurs
18. Financial term
21. Justify
23. Arbiter
24. 007's creato
27. Czech name for Prague
29. Groans

32. American time
34. No seats available
35. ___ Stahl, journalist
36. Cleft lip
39. Talk incessantly
40. Expresses atomic and molecular weights (abbr.)
43. A part of a river where the current is very fast
44. Curdled milk
46. Running competitions
47. A team's best pitcher
49. Carthaginian explorer
51. World-renowned city
54. Most common Japanese surname
59. The bill in a restaurant
60. They ___
61. City of Angels football team (abbr.)
62. Distinctive practice
64. One quintillion bytes

SUDOKU

3			5		2			
		1			4			
		2				6	1	
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								9
	6	5		1		8	3	
	1			4				6
9				3		4		
8			7	5				

HOW TO SOLVE:

Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

7	2	5	1	6	8	4	3	9
3	9	1	7	4	5	2	6	8
6	4	8	2	9	3	7	5	1
1	5	2	3	8	4	6	9	7
4	8	6	9	7	1	3	2	5
9	7	3	6	5	2	8	1	4
2	3	9	8	1	7	5	4	6
5	6	7	4	2	9	1	8	3
8	1	4	5	3	6	9	7	2



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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

With a 97 percent national customer satisfaction rating and 24/7 fast and friendly service, Ashley Bullard's local GEICO office in Portland is a preferred choice of Mainers seeking affordable pricing and a personable local agency handling all types of insurance.

From a location at 91 Auburn St. in Portland, Ashley leads a team of insurance agents who sell and service auto, home, renters, condo, cycle, boat, RV, jewelry, umbrella, snowmobiles, jet ski, and ID Theft policies.

"The best thing about what we do is that customers have a local agent but can have sensible pricing with a national brand," Ashley said. "We are a local agency but the only local GEICO office in Maine."

As a resident of Raymond, Ashley said she understands the insurance needs of those living and working in the Lakes Region.

"We are very competitive for our products," she said. "While we exclusively sell GEICO Auto policies, our property policies are sold through A rated (and higher) partners that allow us the ability to have multiple options to fit the clients need while still being able to 'bundle' these policies to offer a multi-line discount."

In business for six years and with three employees, Ashley's office is licensed in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont and specializes in home and auto insurance with the backing of GEICO, one of the largest insurance providers nationally.



"GEICO was established in 1936. It stands for GEICO Employees Insurance Company," Ashley said. "While we initially targeted government and military personnel, we now provide service for everyone. GEICO insures over 28 million vehicles in all 50 States and D.C. We still offer special pricing for Active Duty/Retired Military and Federal/Local government employees."

She began her career as a Sales and Service Agent for GEICO in 2013 at a local office in Virginia. In January 2018, she was an office manager and helped open another GEICO Local Office in Virginia.

"Later that year, GEICO posted a list of new places they were opening offices and Portland made the list," Ashley said. "I was selected as the candidate for this location not only due to my sales and management experience but my love for Maine. I first fell in love with the state in 2007 and after a few more trips here, I knew I wanted to make it my home. In addition to my experience with GEICO, I previously had been an Office Manager for a

construction company, a manager at Chick-fil-a, and worked at L.L. Bean in Virginia."

In addition to holding a Property & Casualty License, Ashley and her team go through extensive GEICO training that includes ongoing weekly classes and seminars so that they can offer the best products and service to our clients. The agency has a 4.6 Stars rating on Google and 5 Stars on Yelp.

According to Ashley, her agency helps customers understand the value they receive for their coverage and takes the time to explain how the insurance they purchase protects them against financial losses from unexpected events.

And as a local business owner, Ashley said she feels it is important to give back to the community by supporting local charities and getting involved in events, activities and organizations which benefit the community.

"We want everyone to know they can still support the local community using a local agent while getting a competitive rate with a national brand," she said. "My agency sponsors

many local organizations including local children's sports teams, STRIVE, University of Southern Maine Athletic Program, CPL Mark Goyet Memorial Foundation, The Summit Project, MidCoast Humane Society, and Sweetser."

Online reviews for Ashley and her team are exceptional.

"Cannot say enough about having a local insurance office, where you can actually walk into and get answers and help. Yes, you can get the quote, get the policy, pay for the coverage, but you can do it in person! It takes all the frustration and anonymity out of getting online low coverage. The agents are even nice, which is a definite bonus." ~ Ryan A.

"Ashley and her team are beyond amazing. They're dedicated to their customers. When Ashley was working with me, I felt like I was her only customer. The dedication and professionalism are unmatched." ~ Chelsey P.

"Excellent customer service from Ryan and Ashley! Walked out in an hour with new car/homeowners insurance. Ryan has definitely been in the business awhile. He understands your needs and will get you an excellent rate. I saved over \$60 a month on just my car insurance alone. Highly recommend Ryan and will be working with him for many years to come." ~ James B.

For more information about Ashley Bullard - GEICO Insurance Agent, call 207-387-6838 or visit them online at www.geico.com/portland-bullard

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OFFICER Cont. from page 1

Rogers. "Those can be tough situations to navigate."

There are many things that the role of an SRO entails, but Rogers keeps his definition short and sweet.

"As an SRO, I help provide a safe and secure environment for students and staff, assist school staff with resolving conflict and problems, and as a resource for the students if they have issues that they don't want to bring up to other staff," he said.

Married and the father of two children, Rogers grew up in North Yarmouth and graduated from Greeley High School. He attended Norwich University and the University of Southern Maine before entering law enforcement.

As the SRO of the Windham Middle School, Rogers hopes to make a positive impact on the students and the school as a whole.

"I have gotten some invitations from teachers to join them during class and I think that is a great opportunity to provide some insight to students and help them make good decisions," Rogers says.

Though being a middle school resource officer is no easy task, Rogers said he loves what he does.

"Working as an SRO is a bit of a change of pace for me, but I am finding my groove and enjoying it," he says. "I want teachers, students, and parents to know that I am here as a resource more than anything. If you feel like I could be of benefit to a situation or discussion, please let me know." <

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