

## New K9 team enhances capabilities of Windham PD

By Ed Pierce

STAFF WRITER

A valuable new officer has joined the Windham Police Department and it's a responsibility he can really sink his teeth into.

K9 Zeus is a 16-month-old Belgian Malinois who is partnered with his handler, Officer Sam Pattee, a four-year veteran of the department. They are currently involved in training for Zeus to become a fully certified patrol dog, meaning he'll be certified in tracking, article searches, apprehension work and narcotics certification.

"I grew an interest in being a K9 handler almost as soon as I got started on the road with Windham PD," Pattee said. "I assisted K9 handlers from Westbrook PD, the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office and Portland PD on tracks in Windham for everything from locating elderly citizens who had wandered away to Domestic Violence suspects who had fled from the scene. I quickly realized that Windham needed to have a K9 asset and wanted to be the one to provide it. I was also excited by the idea

of assisting officers on a variety of calls and improving the department's capabilities."

Pattee said that K9 Zeus came from Boston Police Department's training barracks and was selected by him with the help of K9 trainers from both the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office and Scarbrough PD.

"I was looking for a dual purpose K9, meaning a K9 fully capable of patrol work and narcotics detection," he said. "I viewed multiple possible K9s but when I met Zeus, I quickly knew he was the one. He was full of energy, fearless and I felt a bond with him from the start."

Becoming a K9 handler was almost second nature for Pattee.

"Growing up, my family always had dogs. There's an obvious difference between them and K9 Zeus, those three were pets and farm dogs while K9 Zeus is a working dog, he said. "K9 Zeus is full of more energy than any one person could ever use in a day, but he is also incredibly smart and capable of solving his own prob-

→ see K9 TEAM Page 6



K9 Zeus, a 16-month-old Belgian Malinois, has joined the Windham Police Department and is paired with his handler, Officer Sam Pattee. They are currently training for Zeus to become a fully certified patrol dog with expertise in tracking, article searches, apprehension work and narcotics certification. PHOTO BY MATT PASCARELLA

## Abbreviated ice fishing derby remains fun for anglers

By Ed Pierce

STAFF WRITER

Sebago Lake wasn't completely frozen over but there was a great deal of excitement surrounding this year's 24th Annual Ice Fishing Derby hosted by the Sebago Lake Rotary Club on Saturday, Feb. 15

Recent cold temperatures allowed portions of the lake to ice over for the first time in several years and although Sebago's Big Bay was not considered completely safe, the Lower Bay and Jordan Bay were favorable for fisherman to enjoy a great day on the ice, said Cyndy Bell of the Sebago Lake Rotary Club.

Bell said you could hear excitement in the fishermen's voices as they came to register or to weigh their fish that they were happy to be back out on Sebago Lake this year.

"It appeared that the fish just weren't biting like they had in past years so fewer fish were brought to the weigh stations on Saturday," Bell said. "The event had to cancel Sunday in anticipation of the incoming storm."

The ice fishing contest proved once again to be more than just an excuse to get outside for time spent fishing. Proceeds from the Ice Fishing Derby benefit local charities and nonprofit organizations that the Rotary Club donates to, including "Feed the Need," which assists with funding for 12 food pantries in the Lakes Region of Maine.

Anglers found that searching for



Rob Stoodley of Rochester, New Hampshire won first place in the Togue category of the Sebago Lake Rotary Club's 24th Annual Ice Fishing Derby by landing a 9.29-inch, 32 1/8-pound togue on Saturday, Feb. 15. SUBMITTED PHOTO

suitable ice was fun and the event brought together people from all walks of life, helping forge new friendships among those fishing and left them with great stories to tell about their experiences that probably

will be shared for a lifetime.

Participants also fished in the 20-plus remaining lakes and ponds in the weighing area that had adequate ice to ensure safety and found an abundance of perch and pickerel ready to be caught.

Bell said that as in years past, participating fishermen continued to donate their catches which were delivered to Nova Seafood and will be processed and delivered to assist in feeding the homeless and those facing food insecurity.

Tom Noonan, a Sebago Lake Rotary Club member, is credited with coming up with the concept for the Ice Fishing Derby in 2001 in cooperation with the Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Department.

Since then, the event has grown substantially to become the Sebago Lake Rotary Club's largest annual fundraising initiative and has supported hundreds of charities over the past two decades, with more than \$1 million donated to local causes since its inception.

"Under the leadership of Sebago Lake Rotarian Toby Pennells, the derby gained additional national notoriety as one of only four fishing derbies in the United States to be featured in a television program filmed for the National Geographic Channel that aired in June 2014," Bell said.

Here are the 2025 Cumberland County Ice Fishing Derby winners  
**TOP EVENT WINNERS**

**Perch:** 1. Travis Lawler, 1.53

length, 13 7/8 pounds

2. Jason Vassillion, 1.5 length, 13 1/2 pounds

3. Heidi Lawler, 1.48 length, 13 9/16 pounds

**Pike:** 1. Ben Carlin, 3 pounds

2. Mark Beatty, 1 pound

**Togue:** 1. Rob Stoodley, 9.29 length, 32 1/8 pounds

2. McKae Curran, 8.49 length, 29 1/2 pounds

3. James Guy, 8.22 length, 27 7/8 pounds

**Pickerel:** 1. Brian Keahon, 4.03 length, 26.5 pounds

2. Brian Rocray, 3.82 length, 25 1/8 pounds

3. Charlie McGee, 3.49 length, 24 1/8 pounds

Through the ticket sales of this event, the Sebago Lake Rotary Club raises money for cash prizes and donates to "Feed the Need," which supports food pantries at the Casco Village Church Food Pantry, Casco Alliance Church Food Pantry, Gray Community Food Pantry, Crosswalk Community Outreach, Naples Community Resource Council, First Congregational Church in New Gloucester, Raymond Food Pantry, Sebago Warming Hut, Standish Food Pantry, St. Ann's Episcopal Church Food Pantry and Town of Windham Food Pantry. <

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# INSIGHT

## A life to be remembered

For years when I was downcast and dejected, I knew that a phone call with one of my closest friends would lift my spirits. Todd Clemens had an innate way of knowing exactly what to say to make me feel better or to support my decisions when I even had my doubts about some of them.

I first met Todd the summer before my sophomore year of high school when we each coached Little League teams on the ballfields behind Winslow Elementary School and Carlton Webster Junior High in Henrietta, New York. He had given me some coaching tips to instruct baserunning and congratulated me when my team's pitcher threw a no-hitter leading us to a 1-0 win in the opening playoff game.

In high school that year, I had Todd's father, George, as my Physical Education teacher and Todd was in some of the same classes as me. He always was kind and supportive to everyone he met and was a natural athlete, playing football, basketball and baseball for our school.

After high school, Todd attended West Point Military Academy but transferred to Colgate University where he earned his degree. He married and had children and was thrilled to be working as a broker on Wall Street in New York City.

But his perfect life suddenly fell apart when he came home from work to find an empty house. His wife had left him for his boss and took the kids with her out of state. He began a frantic search to find them and when he did locate them, he discovered that his wife was suing him for divorce and custody of their children. And he learned that his wife had maxed out their credit cards, leaving him deeply in debt.

He quit his Wall Street job and took a job coaching football and baseball and teaching French at Chaminade High School in South Florida, but a prolonged divorce and custody lawsuit left him depressed and a shell of his former self.

For a while, he took a job for several years as a sportswriter at a newspaper in Connecticut but ended up having to commute back and forth from Massachusetts because the Connecticut state taxes were so high, it left him unable to even rent his own apartment.

Eventually he paid off the enormous credit card debt and moved to Arizona, where he worked as a broker and financial services advisor in Phoenix. He told me that he was proud that his son pitched for Boston College in a spring exhibition game against the Boston Red Sox. And in working as a sportswriter, he was following in his mother's footsteps as she was the first female sportswriter in the state of Indiana.

Listening to his story, I tried to cheer him up as much as I could during our lengthy phone conversations, but he ended up encouraging me as I was working for a newspaper in Florida and starting to put my own life back together after my first wife's death at the age of 37. We talked a lot about baseball, and Todd took great delight in sharing how his favorite team, the 1971 Pittsburgh Pirates, had defeated my beloved Baltimore Orioles in the World Series, 4 games to 3, by winning the final game of the 1971 World Series, 2-1, in Baltimore.

As his parents aged and needed help, Todd moved back to Massachusetts from Arizona. His mother died in 2011, and he then stayed with his father to look after him. In 2014, Todd called to tell me he had read an article in the Boston Globe I had written for the newspaper I was working for in New Hampshire. It was picked up and run nationally by the Associated Press and he wanted me to know what a big deal that was.

One summer evening in 2017, Todd decided to jog a couple laps around the high school track in Milford, Mass. after dinner to stay in shape. He passed out on his second lap and when he woke up, he was in a hospital bed, and one of his legs had been amputated just below the knee. He fought valiantly to overcome infection and the lingering trauma of losing a leg and finding a comfortable prosthetic.

When my mother died in August 2018, I was surprised to receive a call from Todd. Despite everything he was going through himself, he took the time to call and let me know how sorry he was and how proud he was of my career. It certainly meant a lot to me. In February 2019, Todd's father died. I called Todd and he thanked me for being supportive. He said he was slowly putting his life back together and was very appreciative of me mailing him some old Pittsburgh Pirates baseball cards.

On July 26, 2019, I received word from a classmate that my friend Todd had died at the age of 65. He was someone of high character, intelligent, athletic, kind, warm and personable.

At each class reunion I attend, it pains me to see his photo included on the poster of lost classmates. The world sure lost a good person. < ~ Ed Pierce

*Inspirational Quote of the Week*

**"It's the possibility of having a dream come true that makes life interesting."** – Paulo Coelho

*Today in HISTORY*

**FEBRUARY 21**

**1804** – The first self-propelled locomotive on rail tracks is demonstrated in Wales.

**1842** – John J. Greenough of Washington, D.C. obtains a patent for the sewing machine.

**1858** – The first burglar alarm is installed in Boston, Massachusetts.

**1866** – American Lucy Hobbs Taylor is the first woman to earn a doctorate in the field of dentistry.

**1878** – The first telephone directories are issued in the U.S. when copies are distributed to residents in New Haven, Connecticut.

**1885** – The Washington Monument is dedicated in Washington, D.C.

**1947** – Edwin Land demonstrates the Polaroid Land Camera to the Optical Society of America in NYC. It is the first camera to take, develop and print a picture on photo paper all in about 60 seconds.

**1965** – Malcolm X is assassinated in New York City at the age of 39 by two men identified as Black Muslims.

# ON THE SPOT

## What's the strangest item in your refrigerator right now?

**"A jar of self-roasted whole garlic cloves."** – Lisa Becker

**"Reduced Fat Ultra-Filtered Milk."** – Ed Pierce

**"Marinated goat and sheep's milk cheese."** – Julie Mallett

**"Full beer cans."** – Frank Moulton

**"Kimchi."** – Jon LeRoyer

**"Ketchup packets."** – Valerie Livesay Luce

**"Witch hazel."** – Jennifer Harmon

**"Pickled okra."** – Lorraine Brennan

**"Dog bones."** – Andrew Frank

**"Thawing rat."** – Kate Salvato

**"The 8-plus different assortments of pickles my girlfriend keeps on hand. Everyone is half full, but you can't combine them as they are all different."** – William Reiner

**"A piece of our wedding cake from 25 years ago although I've been divorced for the past 15 years."** – Mia Ransey

**"Asado that I brought back from Paraguay."** – Jerry Greene

**"Spumoni ice cream."** – Dean A. Smalley

**"Tartar sauce that I had shipped here from England because I absolutely love it."** – Sarah Singer-Miller

**"A old pizza box that we use to prop up one of the broken shelves in the refrigerator."** – Isabella Mongon

**"A six-pack of beer from Morocco."** – Anne Glotchshuk

**"A stack of McDonald's barbecue sauce packets."** – Deirdre Schulte

**"A leftover plate of burgers & hot dogs from when I grilled outside last September."** – Mitchell B. Robinson

**"Turkey giblets."** – Rick Seacroft

**"Baby formula."** – David W. Tettley

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# NEWS



## Federal funding to clean up Keddy Mill may be slashed

By Ed Pierce

STAFF WRITER

With drastic budget reductions planned for many federal agencies, the status of available funding to complete the Environmental Protection Agency's cleanup of the contaminated Keddy Mill in South Windham is up in the air.

The Keddy Mill site is located at 7 Depot St. in South Windham and includes a 6.93-acre abandoned mill complex property adjacent to the Presumpscot River. The mill building was constructed in the early 1900s although a sawmill existed there previously.

The sawmill closed in 1822, and the Keddy Mill property was then used as a grist and carding mill. In 1875, the Sebago Wood Board Company acquired the mill site and constructed a pulp mill complex, which included a three-story main mill building, machine room, drying rooms, and a wood preparing house. Between the late 1800s and 1922 additional process buildings/facilities were added, including storehouses, a second railroad siding, the finishing and shipping building, a water tank, machine room, and engine room. The mill was used for pulp and box-board manufacturing through the 1940s.

In 1945, the Keddy Mill shifted from manufacturing paper to steel products such as heavy equipment buckets. Scrap metal was transported

by rail cars to the mill and melted into steel billets, which were then used to manufacture steel parts. By the 1960s and early 1970s, manufacturing included flanges and fire suppression materials. EPA officials say that

it was during this period that significant disposal of hazardous substances, including harmful PCBs, may have occurred at the site. A large oil-based fire in 1969 damaged the mill complex and destroyed several blast furnaces and by 1974, a scrap recycler launched operations in the mill building.

The property was used as a machine shop and for equipment storage until 1997.

Since 2014, the Keddy Mill site has been included on the EPA's National Priority List, also known as the Superfund, recognizing it as contaminated and hazardous to human health.

In 2023, after years of conducting environmental studies, the EPA Superfund adopted a cleanup and remediation plan based upon an EPA Remedial Investigation Report, human health and ecological risk assessments, the Feasibility Study, and comments received on EPA's Proposed Plan during a 30-day public comment period.

"EPA's cleanup plan for the Keddy Mill Superfund Site is a strong effort



to ensure the health and safety of community members, protecting them for generations to come," said EPA New England Regional Administrator David W. Cash at the time. "Cleaning up Superfund sites helps us ensure that no community, no family, and no child has to face exposure to chemicals and other dangerous substances in their day-to-day lives."

Consistent with Superfund agreements signed in 2022, the EPA has been developing plans for the implementation of various investigations which are necessary in advance of the mill's demolition. Data collection was completed in 2024 and the submittal of a PDI Report is anticipated by early April 2025. The results of these investigations will be evaluated and ultimately used to support the design of the demolition and removal activities.

Following approval of the design,

the removal action will be implemented by the PRP and then EPA Superfund monies obtained for the work. That is, if adequate funding is made available.

EPA's cleanup plan will take two to four years to design and execute and will take place after the significant completion of a Removal Action to demolish the mill complex and associated structures.

The cleanup plan includes the following components:

- \* Excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil and debris from the Mill Complex property
- \* Targeted treatment of soil (within the footprint of the excavation) with amendments in support of groundwater cleanup
- \* In place treatment of groundwater contaminants
- \* Excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated sediments from the Presumpscot River
- \* Treatment of water generated from soil and sediment dewatering and removed from excavations based on applicable water discharge standards, as required
- \* Restoration of the portions of the Presumpscot River altered by the re-

→ see **CLEAN UP** Page 16

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# Local author to discuss her popular book at Erik's Church

**By Ed Pierce**  
STAFF WRITER

The enduring popularity of a Raymond author's book remains strong. Cheryl Blanchard will be discussing both her book and additional memories about her childhood at an upcoming event at Erik's Church in Windham.

Blachard is the author of "236 Cumberland Ave. Portland, Maine: Strange Happenings in our Young Lives," and she will be speaking at the meeting of Volunteers of America group at 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27 and everyone is welcome to attend.

The book is a recounting of tales from Blanchard and her siblings' recollections that haven't been spoken of for more than half a century. Published by Newman Springs Publishing, the book remains popular more than

five years after it was first published, and especially among Maine residents.

"It's amazing how my story about my childhood and my gifted talents and all the music has touched so many and how it all saved our young souls through this time in our lives," Blanchard said. "Volunteers of America had so much involvement with this. I've been so honored to have this invitation to meet with their team and to share more memories."

In the book, Blanchard describes how she and her siblings would suddenly catch glimpses of silhouettes and shadowy figures looming on walls in their home without a human nearby casting a silhouette or shadow. She also discusses in detail finding a tunnel underneath the building she lived in, and many frightful memories associated with that.

"There are such a lot of memories for a small child at the age of 6, along with five brothers and five sisters who were also very young," Blanchard said. "All of those memories are still living in the minds of all of us. We haven't talked about them in over 50 years. I would like to thank the Maine historian Herb Adams for asking me about the house up over Botto's Market that I lived in as a child."

Blanchard's family eventually moved away from the building and the trauma and bad memories she and her siblings experienced living there. The entire block has been demolished since the family moved from there in the early 1970s.

Just a few years ago, one of her friends asked Blanchard to share

some of her memories about growing up there and that led to the creation of "236 Cumberland Ave. Portland, Maine: Strange Happenings in our Young Lives."

Once her book was published, Blanchard was then interviewed on the Maine television show "207" and she also received a personal note from renowned Maine resident and noted author Stephen King, who is a master of telling "haunted" stories. In 2019, she was a guest of book groups that met at public libraries in Augusta and in Windham to discuss her book.

Despite being subjected to what she calls "paranormal occurrences" while growing up on Cumberland Avenue in Portland decades ago, Blanchard has gone on to lead a happy, and pro-



→ see AUTHOR Page 10



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# Windham committee aims to improve area water quality

By Kaysa Jalbert  
STAFF WRITER

The Natural Resource Advisory Committee of Windham is working to improve protections on bodies of water that have been identified as polluted in the Windham, Grey and Falmouth areas, with a focus on lakes and streams.

Dennis Brown participates in Falmouth Conservation Committee activities and serves as the chair of the Natural Resources Advisory Committee in Windham.

“Our job is to make sure that the streams and lakes and ponds in Windham are protected from further degradation and in fact improved,” says Brown.

Most of Brown’s work has been on improving the environmental protections on Highland Lake, which he says is considered one of the most protected lakes in the state. Seeing these improvements, the committee was able to get many of the same protections to apply to the other lakes in town.

Brown started working with the town of Gray two years ago to get them to instill similar protection to the ones in Windham. They had a meeting on the morning of Feb. 10 to discuss these protections and how they will focus these protections on lakes and streams.

Windham has five streams that are impaired and most of the lakes and ponds are on the Department of Environmental Protection list of most at risk of new development.

Brown says the committee’s solution is to keep its focus on increasing water protections, with some additional emphasis on the Pleasant River watershed and on Blackbrook Preserve.

While the lakes are monitored by local lake associations, it’s hard to get people invested in the streams.

“It’s hard to get the same enthusiasm as you get for a lake,” said Brown.

Recent focus of the NRAC has been on the Pleasant River, where there is already an established watershed program. However, watershed programs come in 10-year spans and it’s reaching the end of its term.

Recognizing that a large part of the river is located in Gray, Brown says the committee is working with the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust to focus water testing that’s done on many of the streams in the Windham, Portland, Westbrook area on the Pleasant River. It originates in the town of Gray and follows U.S. Route 202 as it flows through the town of Windham to discharge into the Presumpscot River upstream in South Windham.

It was discovered that the land trust has water testing sites for the Pleasant River, but they are all located in Windham. Brown was able to identify a spot on the Windham and Falmouth town line to find out if the water enters Windham in bad shape, or if Windham is causing the pollution. What

was found is that the water coming in from Gray was already impaired. Brown is now working with the town of Gray to upgrade their water protection ordinances in the town.

“Sustainability encompasses environmental, economic, and social concerns, which are not mutually exclusive,” says Mary Wicklund, Environmental and Sustainability Coordinator in Windham. “No matter which perspective you choose, sustainability initiatives for the town are driven by the desire to create a more resilient future for our community.”

Wicklund started as the Environmental and Sustainability Coordinator for the Town of Windham in mid-September. The position of Environmental and Sustainability Coordinator is a specialized professional and technical position with responsibility for developing comprehensive policy and a strategic plan that encompasses current and long-term environmental initiatives towards a more environmentally

sustainable future – including planning, managing, and coordinating the activities and implementation of the Stormwater Management Program.

This position has three priorities:

- MS4/Stormwater – Implement Windham’s MS4 General Permit with including annual inspections of stormwater infrastructure, conducting illicit discharge detection and elimination follow-up, providing technical training to municipal staff and board/committee members, and developing outreach for the community on issues relating to stormwater. Windham is a member of the Interlocal Stormwater Working Group (ISWG), a coalition of 14 municipalities and two nested communities in the greater Portland and Saco areas, who work together to address stormwater pollutants.

- Watershed Management – Re-  
→ see WATER Page 7

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**K9 TEAM** *Cont. from page 1*

lems without needing much of anything from me. K9 Zeus loves tracking and can go all day, being just as excited about it when he's finished, as he was when he started."

According to Pattee, K9 training is not an easy task.

"It takes a lot of time, dedication and patience. It takes a level of commitment that you can't truly understand until you've done it yourself. I train with the group called Law Enforcement Dogs of Maine (LEDME) and it requires at least 480 hours of training with a certified trainer before a K9 team can be certified in patrol work," he said. "In training we work on tracking, article searching, which is locating items that someone may have dropped or thrown, and suspect

apprehension. We also conduct scenario-based training which puts both the K9 and the handler through real world situations and helps us be better prepared to make the right decisions on real deployments. The group has a great team of trainers with years of combined K9 experience to learn from and I appreciate everything they've taught me."

The Windham Police Department last had a K9 team about four years ago, but since then has had assistance from other agencies when a K9 is needed or would be helpful.

"Time can play a big factor during certain calls and an available team may be too far away to be effective," Pattee said. "With Windham gaining a K9 team again, we can improve are response times to situations as having the resource a K9 brings. For exam-

ple, if an elderly citizen with dementia has wondered away from home and gotten lost in the woods, Windham now has a K9 nearby to pick up that person's trail and locate them much quicker than waiting for a team from an outside agency."

Pattee spent his early childhood in Westbrook and then moved to Windham, where he graduated from Windham High School. While still in high school, he joined the U.S. Army Reserves and he continues to serve in the reserves, where he's been enlisted for 11 years with one mobilization overseas.

He says his girlfriend has been a huge supporter of his efforts to become a K9 handler, which is not easy.

"Being a K9 handler is what you make of it," Pattee said. "It takes a lot of dedication, and you have to love what you're doing to make the most of it. You have to be ready to continuously learn and improve your skills as

well as being able to understand what your K9 partner is trying to tell you."

The greatest misconception the public may have about K-9 police dogs is that although patrol certified K9 teams have the ability to apprehend a suspect with force, that is not the primary goal of a K9.

"K9s are a locating tool. This could be locating a suspect who has fled a scene or vehicle, to find a missing person, or helping officers identify where a suspect is hiding inside a building which improves safety for all involved," Pattee said. "K9 Zeus is a very happy dog and full of excitement every day. He's not just a tool but also my partner. We are both very excited for the opportunity to serve the Windham community and its citizens. When you see us around town, K9 Zeus may be barking but know he is there ready to help serve and protect the same as every officer from the Windham Police Department is." <

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**WATER** *Cont. from page 5*

sponsibility for coordinating watershed monitoring and protection efforts across the municipality. The town is partnering with Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District to identify, prioritize, and strategize ways to effectively protect and improve threatened or impaired waters. Efforts include working with the CCSWCD during efforts to implement and update the Pleasant River Watershed Management Plan and supporting the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust on volunteer water quality monitoring. With support from the Natural Area Resources Committee, the town offers Watershed Protection Grants

to support watershed protection/improvement efforts.

- Sustainability - Coordinate Town strategic plan and policies that encompass current and long-term initiatives toward a more environmentally and economically sustainable future.

According to Wicklund, Windham has more than 30 significant waterbodies that provide immeasurable benefits including high property values, tourism funding, and recreation opportunities such as boating, kayaking, swimming, fishing, and ice skating.

“Sustainability can be viewed from many angles,” Wicklund said. It may be protecting our numerous waterbodies for both environmental protection and economic growth or it may be re-

ducing the municipality’s energy use. It may be looking at the comprehensive plan, and land use planning.”

Past actions taken by the Natural Resources Advisory Committee include coordinating a town-wide LED streetlight conversion, installing a 504-kilowatt solar array on the town’s former landfill, and updating the town’s Energy Plan.

The Natural Resources Advisory Committee was first established in Windham in 1997, with the purpose of serving as an advisory body to the Windham Town Council on issues related to the protection and enhancement of the community’s natural resource base. It was amended in 2011 and again in 2017 but had had gone

dormant for some time until it was re-introduced in 2018.

The Natural Resources Advisory Committee is responsible for identifying problems, recommending solutions and proposing policy goals for consideration by the Town Council which will preserve, protect, and enhance the community’s natural resources. In addition, they update councilors about the status of the community’s natural resources, assist with the investigation of current and/or potential threats to the natural resources and help educate the public on short-term and long-term threats to the community’s natural resources.

The committee meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Windham Town Hall. <

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*Outside of work, I have a deep love for the ocean, astrology, tarot, and all things witchy. When I’m not exploring the stars, you’ll likely find me reading or listening to True Crime podcasts. I’m so excited to be part of this incredible community!*

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# LETTER to the editor

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**  
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 or mail to: 585 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, 04062

**Editor,**

I recently watched the Jan. 14 Raymond Select Board meeting online and was struck by the ongoing disconnect of some of the board members from the residents of Raymond. Also apparent was the dismissive attitude toward a board member who was asking for consistency in procedures and transparency in the board's actions, and those residents who engaged in public comment.

Most notable of all was the board's

vote to approve the building committee handpicked by the Public Works Director, some not being residents of Raymond, and instructions to proceed with a needs assessment and engineering specification report for a new Public Works Garage. According to the Director of Public Works taxpayers paid \$70,000 last year for this report and can expect another \$50,000 to \$70,000 to be paid out this year for a new report. He also stated that the \$6 million amount asked for

in last year's bond measure for a new PW garage will likely increase to \$7 or \$8 million dollars this year.

As of yet there has not been substantive justification for an entirely new Public Works Garage. The director has stated he would like to have a wash bay and a large door mechanics bay in addition to the existing number of PW bays. The voters soundly defeated last year's \$6 million dollar bond measure for a brand-new PW garage by a margin of 525 to 221. If the Select Board truly represented the residents of Raymond, they would not present this measure again at a higher cost. It would make more sense to direct the Town Manager to go to the Public Works Director and ask for a pared down request.

To date, the Select Board, Town Manager and the Public Works Director have not even entertained the suggestion to look into the feasibility of adding two bays in a stand-alone facility which not only meets the director's needs but would be a much smaller bond measure that the voters

may be able to get behind.

It is imperative that residents stay informed and raise their voices. There are two planned public workshops coming up that will address this year's proposed town budget that will be voted on in June. This would be a good time to ask questions so you can understand what is on the ballot. This will allow you to make an informed decision on how you will vote on any ballot question. If you can, attend the Select Board and Committee meetings and engage in public comments and questions. Watch Committee and Select Board meetings online at your leisure and see your governing members at work. Call or email our Town Manager and Select Board and Committee members with your questions or comments.

Most importantly, use your votes once again in the upcoming elections to promote consistency and transparency in our town's governance and proper use of taxpayers' money for the betterment of the entire community.

~ Jo-Ann Mitchell, Raymond

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### ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

This is a responsible position which shall report directly to the Golf Course Superintendent. The position entails routine maintenance tasks associated with the proper care and maintenance of the golf course utilizing basic landscaping skills and typical lawn care maintenance equipment.

The successful candidate must work well in a team environment, have good communication skills, be able to handle stressful situations and carry out the responsibilities professionally.

**This is a seasonal full time employment position operating between mid-April and Mid-November which requires employees to access the Frye Island Ferry to get to and from work at no costs to employees. Competitive hourly rate of \$20/hr. with benefits.**

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

High School diploma with 3 years' experience in turf management or landscaping and a valid driver's license.

Interested applicants must complete an application for employment which can be found at: [www.fryeislandtown.org](http://www.fryeislandtown.org).

Applications must be submitted by  
March 5, 2025 by 4:00 PM.

*The Town of Frye island is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages women and minorities to apply.*



## NOW HIRING TRUCK DRIVER/ LABORER

The Town of Windham is seeking an individual to join our team at Public Works as a CDL or non CDL Truck Driver/Laborer. The Public Works Department is responsible for maintaining the Town of Windham's infrastructure. As a Truck Driver/Laborer, you will have the opportunity to perform tasks such as street sweeping, ditching, drainage and culvert work, small paving projects and since we are in Maine, plowing snow. This is a unionized department with opportunities to grow within it.

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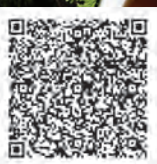


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**AUTHOR** *Cont. from page 4*

ductive and normal life otherwise.

Married, and a mother and a grandmother, Blanchard is now retired from a career in the nursing field. Many in the community know her from her time serving as a substitute teacher in Windham schools or for creating the first cheerleading squad for Windham Youth Football.

Published by Newman Springs Publishing, Blanchard's lively tales in the book are peppered with vivid descriptions of the historic district of her childhood and photos. Blanchard recalls everything from the smell of her mother's home cooking on the wood stove, to the numerous accounts of unexplained supernatural phenomena that the children experienced in their apartment over Botto's Market.

The stories contained in "236 Cumberland Ave. Portland, Maine: Strange Happenings in our Young Lives" serve

as a primary document that offers a glimpse into life in a bygone era. Blanchard remains humble and appreciative that people find the book interesting and has a simple message to readers.

"Just remember how truly blessed we truly are, and I hope you hold your loved ones, always reach out and feed the hungry and clothe the less fortunate," Blanchard said.

Blanchard's book "236 Cumberland Ave. Portland, Maine: Strange Happenings in our Young Lives" is available for purchase at select bookstores in Maine, or online at the Apple iBooks Store, Amazon, or Barnes and Noble. Copies may also be purchased by contacting Blanchard at cheryl-blanchard43@gmail.com.

She says she's been slowly working on writing an extension to "236 Cumberland Ave. Portland, Maine: Strange Happenings in our Young Lives" and perhaps another book. <

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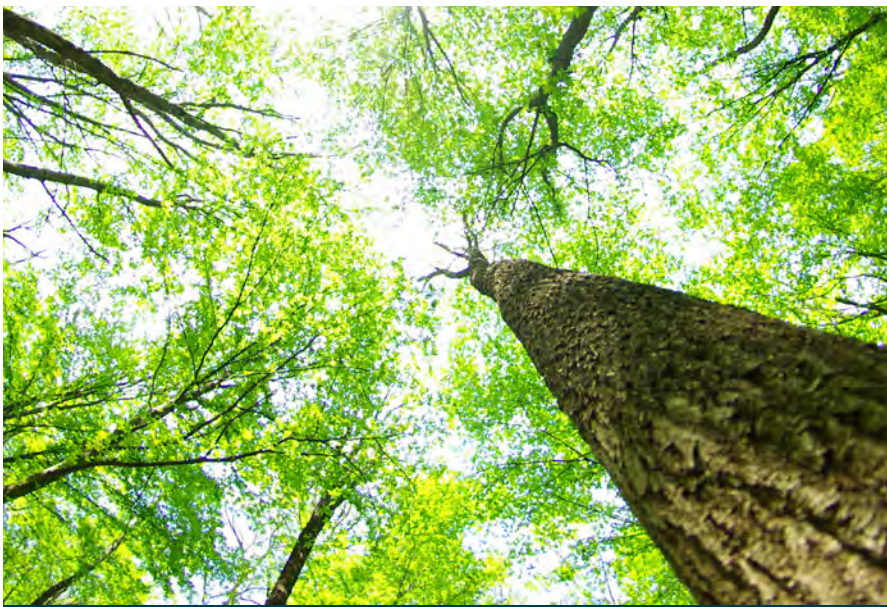
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# Pre-K Lottery Registration

2025-2026

# Kindergarten Registration



### Pre-K Program Eligibility Criteria

- Students must be 4 years old by October 15 and are not of kindergarten age
- Submission of a completed *Pre-K Lottery Application Form* (see [rsu14.org](http://rsu14.org) for link)
- Lottery Application Form must be completed and submitted online by **April 1, 2025**
- In-person screening times for the week of June 16, 2025 will be scheduled with individual families in advance

**A** February 1, 2025  
Pre-K Lottery Opens

**B** April 1, 2025: Pre-K Lottery Application Due

**C** April 11, 2025: Pre-K Admittance Notification

**D** Pre-K Screening by Appointment in June

### Kindergarten Program Eligibility Criteria

- Students must be 5 years old by October 15
- Submission of a completed *Kindergarten Online Registration* (see [rsu14.org](http://rsu14.org) for link) by **May 1, 2025**
- In-person screening times in May will be scheduled with individual families in advance

**A** February 1, 2025:  
Kindergarten Registration Opens

**B** May 1, 2025:  
Kindergarten Registration Due

**C** Kindergarten Screening by Appointment in May

Questions? Call 207-892-1800 or email: [cbertinet@rsu14.org](mailto:cbertinet@rsu14.org)  
Program forms & info available at: [rsu14.org](http://rsu14.org)

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**SAMSUNG**





# Raymond Property Revaluation

**This project includes the inspection and market valuation of all property within the town as of April 1, 2026.**

KRT Appraisal has been contracted by the Town of Raymond to complete a full town-wide revaluation. This project is required to more fairly distribute Raymond's property tax obligations and because the town's current assessment methodology is 20 years old and falling out of compliance with state standards.

**UPDATE:**  
The Assessing Office is currently, **NOT** scheduling appointments for site visits. In these early phases, KRT will be going door to door with street lists. If the property owner is unavailable a note will be left with instructions on the next follow-up attempts.

FMI on the revaluation project or questions contact the Town Assessor at (207) 655-4742 or visit: KRT Appraisal [www.krtappraisal.com/dist/raymond.html](http://www.krtappraisal.com/dist/raymond.html) and [www.raymondmaine.org/town-office/assessing](http://www.raymondmaine.org/town-office/assessing)



KRT Appraisal



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**YOUTH PROGRAM DETAILS:** 1st - 8th Grade (Broken into different time slots)  
Where: Jordan Small Middle School • When: Tuesdays & Every Other Thursday, April 8th - May 15th (No program during school vacation week)  
Format: Skill development, drills, and every other Thursday is all gameplay!  
Tuesday Schedule: 1st & 2nd Grade: 5:00 - 5:45PM  
3rd & 4th Grade: 5:45 - 6:30PM • 5th - 8th Grade: 6:30 - 7:30PM

**ADULT PROGRAM DETAILS:** For ages 20+  
Where: Jordan Small Middle School • When: Tuesdays from 7:30 - 9:00PM  
April 8 - May 15 (Following the school schedule)

Whether you're a soccer player looking to sharpen your skills or just want to try something new, this program is for you. **SIGN UP TODAY!**



## Accepting applications for a F/T Paramedic/FF

In anticipation of an upcoming retirement, the Town of Raymond is taking applications for a full-time Paramedic/FF in our Public Safety Department. **This union position is scheduled on 24 hour rotating shift.** The qualified applicant must be experienced with an excellent work history, self-motivated & hold a clean valid Maine Driver's license. Current Maine paramedic license & firefighting certifications are required. All candidates must successfully pass a fitness assessment & a complete background check, including criminal and driving records. The Town of Raymond offers a competitive salary and a comprehensive employee benefit package with health, dental and life insurance and Maine PERS retirement as well as vacation, sick and holiday pay.

Advanced EMT's are encouraged to apply.

For application and job descriptions go to [www.raymondmaine.org](http://www.raymondmaine.org)

SEND RESUME, APPLICATION, AND COVER LETTER TO:

Attn: Cathy Gosselin - Human Resource Officer  
401 Webbs Mills Road, Raymond, Maine 04071  
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or electronically to: [cathy.gosselin@raymondmaine.org](mailto:cathy.gosselin@raymondmaine.org)

The Town of Raymond is an EOE.



Gray-New Gloucester-Raymond  
**SPRING 2025**

## Little League Registration is Open!

- T-BALL (\$80) CO-ED FOR PLAYERS AGES 4-6.**  
Games & practices lasting about 1 hour running from approx. April 29 - June 10.
- COACH PITCH A (\$80) CO-ED FOR PLAYERS AGES 5-6**  
Games and practices lasting about 1 hour running from approx. April 29 - June 10.
- PLAYER PITCH AA (\$140)**
- SOFTBALL AND BASEBALL DIVISIONS FOR PLAYERS AGES 7-8.** Games and practices lasting about 1.5-2 hours running from approx. April 24 - June 14.
- MINORS AAA (\$140)**
- SOFTBALL AND BASEBALL DIVISIONS FOR PLAYERS AGES 9-10.** Games & practices lasting about 1.5-2 hours running from approx. April 24 - June 14.
- MAJORS (\$140)**
- SOFTBALL AND BASEBALL DIVISIONS FOR PLAYERS AGES 11-12.** Games & practices lasting about 1.5-2.5 hours running from approx. April 24 - June 14.
- JUNIORS & SENIORS (\$150)**
- SOFTBALL AND BASEBALL DIVISIONS FOR PLAYERS 13-16.** Games & practices usually start in June after the school season ends.

\*Our league offers Scholarship Assistance for players in need.  
Visit [www.gngrll.org](http://www.gngrll.org) for more information, to register or to become a sponsor!

## JSMS Visioning Committee Members Wanted

- This is a short-term committee (should be complete in several months) with the task of coming up with conceptual ideas on how the Jordan Small Middle School building could be used when it is given back to the Town of Raymond (scheduled for June of 2027).
- Information gathered by the Comprehensive Plan Committee will be considered.
- Looking at uses over the next 10 to 15 years.
- This committee will not be considering the feasibility or cost. These tasks will be for a subsequent committee which will be made up of people with expertise such as engineers, builders, technology, finance, etc.
- Will report recommendations to the Select Board.



# ROADRUNNER

## - FEBRUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

### We've MOVED to Raymond Village Community Church at 27 Main Street!

that we are hosting more programs and events at RVCC. to host programs, run events, and have offices – all in one place.

**SPRING KARATE PROGRAM** for grades K-4 with Sensei Lisa Magiera. "Karate makes children stronger, safer, and smarter together!"  
**Wednesdays 12:30PM-1:30PM starting March 19th at RES**  
**COST: \$125, optional add on uniform for \$35**  
 Children will be dismissed directly from school to the instructor. Parents or guardians will need to pick up at school. If school is closed/canceled, karate will be cancelled. Make up days can be done at BKD's studio.

**MAINE MARINERS HOCKEY NIGHT**  
**March 8th at 6PM at CROSS INSURANCE ARENA**  
 Experience the thrill of live hockey for Raymond Parks and Recreation Night as the Maine Mariners face off against the Reading Royals!  
**TICKET PRICE - \$20**  
 Not only will you enjoy an action-packed game, but you'll also be contributing to a great cause! A portion of each ticket sale will be donated to support the Town of Raymond Parks and Recreation Department.  
**PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS HERE:**  
<https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Townraymond2>  
 Get your tickets today and be part of the action while giving back to your community. Thank you for your support and we can't wait to see you there!

**TO REGISTER FOR ANY PROGRAMS/EVENTS OR TO SEE A LIST OF ALL OPEN REGISTRATIONS, PLEASE VISIT: RAYMOND.RECDESK.COM**



## NEWS & EVENTS

3 MEADOW ROAD, RAYMOND  
 Questions regarding library events please call 207-655-4283  
[raymondvillagelibrary.org](http://raymondvillagelibrary.org)  
 Follow us on Facebook

### The Library is Open to the Public

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays from 9:00am-6:00pm  
 Fridays & Saturdays from 9:00am-2:00pm

### Live Music: Phil 'n' the Blanks

**Saturday, March 1st at Noon – All Ages Welcome!**

A local band harmonizing on (mostly) covers ranging from Johnny Cash and Tom Petty to Sublime and Lorde.

### The Challenges of Wilderness Living

**Tuesday, March 4th at 5pm**

Join us for PowerPoint presentation & meet Maine author & humorist Tim Caverly & his wife Susan. Discover the 13 books that recount their living along our Nation's premier Wind and Scenic River. Tim will have his book "Conversations" available for purchase and signing.

### Historical Fiction Book Club!

**Thursday, March 13th at 1pm – with Susan Scott**

Join Susan for Book Club this month reading a historical fiction book, Horse by Geraldine Brooks. "Horse isn't just an animal story—it's a moving narrative about race and art." —TIME

### Weekly Programming:

**Bridge Club – Tuesdays 9am-noon**

**Evening Book Group – Last Tuesday of the month**

**Preschool Storytime – Wednesdays at 10:30am**

**Baby Storytime – Thursdays at 10:30am**

### Anytime Drop-in Table Activities:

A variety of art, crafts, Legos, & block stations are available in the children's room throughout the week.

TOWN OF RAYMOND

# Scholarship OPPORTUNITIES

**ARE YOU A HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR PLANNING ON ATTENDING COLLEGE IN THE FALL?**  
 The Town of Raymond has several scholarship opportunities for college bound students who are residents of the town!  
*For more information, please visit:*  
[www.raymondmaine.org/town-office/town-clerk/town-scholarships](http://www.raymondmaine.org/town-office/town-clerk/town-scholarships)

**Applications due no later than April 30, 2025**

## Run for Office in Raymond!

Nomination papers will be available at the Town Office during regular business hours beginning Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>

*To appear on the June 10, 2025 Election ballot, candidates must collect 25+ signatures from registered Raymond voters.*

**POSITIONS TO BE FILLED, ALL THREE-YEAR TERMS:**

- (2) Select Board members
- (3) Budget-Finance Committee members
- (1) RSU #14 Board of Directors member

*For more information on the Nomination Process please visit:*  
[www.raymondmaine.org/content/nomination-papers-municipal-election](http://www.raymondmaine.org/content/nomination-papers-municipal-election)

**COMPLETED PAPERS ARE DUE TO THE CLERK ON FRIDAY, APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup> BY 4PM.**

## Winter Sand & Salt Shed Open

The Sand and Salt Shed is for Raymond residents & is located on Plains Rd (FL 89). Gates are open from 7am-3pm, Monday-Friday. Please respect the limit of two 5-gallons buckets at a time.

All other areas & equipment remain off limits to the public.  
 NOTE: The shed is closed during snowstorms for safety and to allow the plow truck traffic to move freely.

Friends of the  
Raymond Village Library

### Be Your Library's Best Friend!

*Now that our library is part of the Town of Raymond, the Friends created a fundraising organization to help support activities & special events that are beyond the scope of our library's regular operating budget.*

*Our Friends group was officially incorporated as a non-profit 501(c)(3) in January of 2023. Since that time, we have funded a preschool STEM workshop through Mad Science that was held at the library, new shelves that can be rolled into different configurations when the library hosts events and talks by visiting authors.*

**WE HOPE TO DO EVEN MORE IN 2025! CAN WE COUNT ON YOUR SUPPORT?**

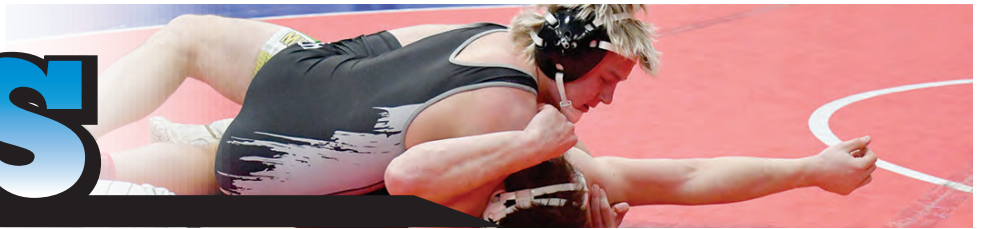
MEMBERSHIP IN THE FRIENDS OF THE RAYMOND VILLAGE LIBRARY BEGINS WITH A FIVE-DOLLAR DONATION AND IS OPEN TO ANYONE WITH A CURRENT LIBRARY CARD.  
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**We welcome your support via PayPal through the link below, or with a check**  
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# Eagle SPORTS



## Wolfpack wrestling team turns in solid showing at States

By Matt Pascarella

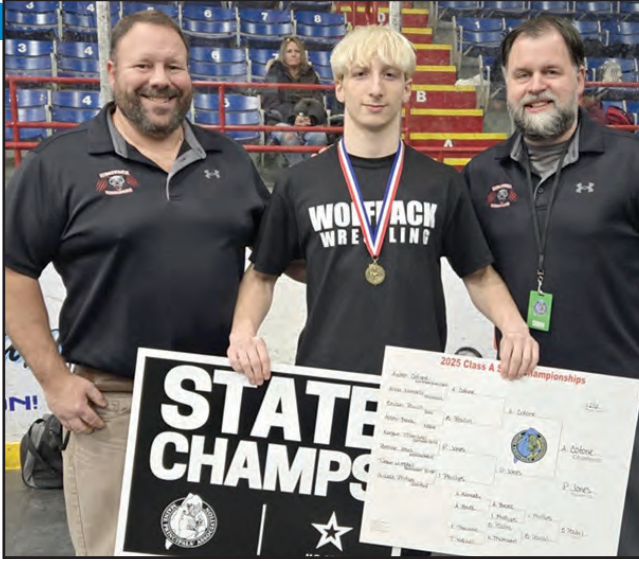
STAFF WRITER

The Windham/Gray-New Gloucester/Westbrook varsity Wolfpack wrestling team had a total of six prep wrestlers and four alternates qualify for the State Championships, which was held at the Lewiston Colisee on Saturday, Feb. 15. Windham seniors CK Kennedy, Ayden Cofone, freshman Tristen Merchant, Gray-New Gloucester senior Spencer Fields and Westbrook sophomores Jajjad Jumaah and Cole Tanner all qualified to compete in the event.

Cofone won his third state title in four years after he defeated Massabesic in the finals in 43 seconds, with a score of 15-0. The Wolfpack placed 14th overall.

“It always feels good, especially at a state tournament, to do what you want to do,” said Cofone. “I knew I had it locked up, I put him on his back again and I thought to myself, ‘that’s it, I just got my third.’ The ultimate goal is always a New England Championship title, but three state titles are cool. (A New England title) is what I’m striving for and what I’m going to keep working towards. I know what I’m capable of and I’m the best on the mat when I step on the mat. I go in with that mindset ... I thought I did good at top-game, always turning, always looking for another tilt, always getting more points because you rack up the points, you win easy.”

In the quarterfinals, Ayden defeated Kennebunk 8-0. He defeated Cony



Wolfpack assistant coach Nick Buckley, left, Windham senior Ayden Cofone and Wolfpack head coach John Nicholas are shown after Cofone won his third state title during his high school wrestling career at the Maine Principals Association State Championship at the Colisee in Lewiston on Saturday, Feb. 15. PHOTO BY JACQUIE COFONE

3-0 in the semifinals to advance to the finals.

Wolfpack wrestling coach John Nicholas said Ayden has accomplished so many great things in his career and will go down as the best Windham wrestler of all time. He is really impressed by Cofone’s toughness. Cofone has set the bar high for future wrestlers.

Merchant, Jumaah, Kennedy, Tanner and Fields all fought hard, but lost in the quarterfinals and consolation rounds. Fields finished in sixth place.

“I like being here because ... it’s something to give my passion to and something to put my hard work into,” said Fields, who qualified for the state championship for his first time. “I

put all my passion in tonight. Mentally matches can be difficult as well as physically. I’d say that’s definitely the hardest part about this sport is that mental fortitude and that strive to keep pushing, through that match. I think the team has done really well; everyone has put out 110 percent. Even for these new guys they look great on the mat. Out of the six guys the came to states, we all tried our hardest. For the team (there has been) a lot of improvement technique-wise, physically, mentally – this sport just boosts your endurance overall. I’ve grown overall as a person and as well as just in the sport ... (wrestling) really makes me focus harder on

every aspect of my life.”

Nicholas said we were very pleased with Cofone’s performance, and the rest of the team wrestled well and gained a lot of valuable experience.

“This was the most wrestlers we have qualified for the state tournament,” said Nicholas. “We knew we had a strong team this year, but we were plagued by sickness and injuries the entire season. The main goal was to get healthy and to improve our conditioning. We were able to do both of those things heading into the postseason. We are a pretty young team, so it was important for a lot of the kids to experience competition at the state level. Also, wrestling in bigger venues with big crowds should help us in the future. Many of the wrestlers are coming back next year and we are very proud of how our seniors conducted themselves.” <



Windham senior Ayden Cofone flips his Massabesic challenger in the finals match. PHOTOS BY MATT PASCARELLA



Windham senior CK Kennedy keeps his Biddeford opponent immobile while avoiding a takedown.

### ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



#### Creighty Dickson

Age: 17 Team: WHS varsity basketball

Coach: Chad Pulkkinen

Parents’ names: Katie and Craig Dickson

Reason for selection: Creighty has been a four-year starter for Windham High School’s varsity boys’ basketball and has been having another impactful year. He has had three straight games of over 20 points

and continues to rebound the basketball as well as anyone in the league. His effort and passion for the game helps to drive the team forward. He is not only a great basketball player but sets an example off the court with his academic excellence and community involvement. Creighty helps propel the team forward with his ability to rebound the ball, using his ball handling guard skills to attack and create space and he plays with ultimate effort and passion. His experience as a player and his attitude is always about the team first. He will do all he can to help the team win and wants what’s best for the team.

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# Track and field teams go full strength in Class A Finals

By Matt Pascarella

STAFF WRITER

As the winter indoor track season draws to a close, a select team from the Windham High boys' and girls' teams headed to the University of Southern Maine in Gorham on Monday, Feb. 17 to compete against schools from all over the state.

Out of 23 teams, Windham's girls finished sixth overall with a score of 33; while the boys finished eighth with a score of 26.

**GIRLS** - Senior Tayla Pelletier became a state champ and set a new school record of 8.46 seconds in the 55-meter hurdles. She also placed first in the triple jump with a distance of 36-8.5 feet; she finished third in the long jump with a 17-5.25 distance.

The girls 4x800-meter relay wasn't slotted to make the podium (top eight), but the team of senior Abigail Dumont, juniors Emma Fox, Demetria Nicholas and Sydney Broadbent earned a seventh-place finish with a time of 10:56.78 minutes.

They've been working since July; even working hard in the cold. It was rewarding to place seventh and a bonding experience. The three juniors gave it their all for Dumont.

Windham girls' indoor track and field coach Jeff Riddle said these girls perfectly fit the mission statement of this team. They exemplify who the Windham team wants to be.

"I just wanted to give it my all, that's usually how I go into meets," said Dumont. "I knew I'd been preparing all week; I'm going to be bold; I'm going to be brave; I'm going to have grit ... it definitely helps to have my girls with me, they pushed me through it. I've worked hard and I'm just super proud of all of us."

In the triple jump, senior Ava Gerity placed seventh with a distance of 33-5. In the long jump she had a distance of 15-6.

Senior Marina Schwarz threw 30-11 in the shot put and finished in seventh place.

Junior Nealie Morey finished seventh in the high jump with a 4-10



(L to R) Windham senior Tayla Pelletier became a state champion in the 55-meter hurdles setting a new school record during the Indoor Track and Field Class A State Championship on Monday, Feb. 17 at the University of Southern Maine in Gorham. Senior Carter Engelman clears the pole vault bar. PHOTOS BY MATT PASCARELLA

height. "These state qualifiers had to sustain focus, put in real time, and work really hard for each and every inch gained, or time drop earned all season," said Riddle. "We make the impossible, possible. We ... are very impressed with our athletes' attitudes and capacities to work to overcome the constant hurdles in our way. Senior captains had to lead us to outwit the short cold days of winter, train in hallways, constantly lift each other up, all as they pursued their goals as well. How these senior captains and seniors powered through it all stood out to us."

**BOYS** - Carter Engelman tied his personal best height in the pole vault and came in second with a vault of 14-6. He came in third in the 55-hurdles with a time of 8.04. In the long jump he finished eighth with a distance of 20-9.75.

"It's always good to be here, the competitions always great," said Engelman. "I was mainly just competing against myself. I think I've learned a lot about myself today, (even if) the times and heights haven't been there. It's definitely a good

learning experience."

In the 55-dash, senior Karl Longstreth beat his own school record with a time of 6.56.

"I thought all of our hurdlers did an awesome job," said Windham boys' indoor track and field coach Paula Pock. Carter and Rory (Good) both did excellent in the 55-hurdles; Carter just started long jumping this season and he ended up placing in that which was a bonus event; then he came back and got second, tying the school record in the pole vault. He is now in the top 10 for (indoor) pole vaulters in the state of Maine. Another surprise was Mason Arbour in the high jump, he ended up placing sixth place and he's coming off a really bad flu ... that's definitely a highlight."

In the 55-hurdles, Good came in fourth with a time of 8.06.

In the high jump, jump Arbour finished sixth with a height of 5-10.

Junior Connor Witham finished the 200-dash with a time of 24.90. <

## WHS SCOREBOARD

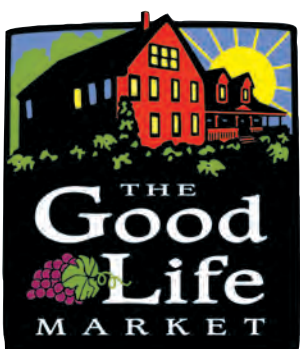
★ **Boys' basketball** - The WHS boys basketball team took on Bangor at home on Wednesday, Feb. 12 in the quarterfinal round of the playoffs. They were way up early on and soon clinched the win 76-40. Windham senior Creighty Dickson scored 23 points. Senior Conor Janvrin scored 14 points and junior Tyrie James had 13 points; junior AJ Moody scored 11. Second-place Windham played third-place Portland at the Cross Insurance Arena on Thursday, Feb. 20 in the semifinal. **PLAYOFF COVERAGE WILL BE IN NEXT WEEK'S EDITION.**

★ **Girls' basketball** - Fifth-placed Windham headed to fourth-placed Bangor on Friday, Feb. 14 to take on the Rams in the quarterfinal playoff game. After a hard-fought game, Windham left it all on the court but lost to the Rams 37-36. Senior Stella Jarvis tied the game when she made the first of two free throws with less than a minute remaining. A turnover gave Bangor the chance to win as the clock ran out. Junior Marley Jarvis scored 12 points and Stella Jarvis scored 11 points for WHS.

★ **Swimming** - Windham's swimming team headed to Husson College in Bangor on Monday, Feb. 17 where the girls competed and on Tuesday, Feb. 18 where the boys competed in the state competition. The boys' finished eighth overall with a score of 144 and the girls' team finished 12th with a score of 70.

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**CLEAN UP** *Cont. from page 3*

medial cleanup action

\* Land use restrictions to prevent exposure to site-related contaminants in groundwater and fish tissue until cleanup levels are met

\* Inspections and operation and maintenance

\* Monitoring of groundwater and fish tissue to evaluate the achievement of cleanup levels

\* Five-Year Reviews to assess the protectiveness of the remedy.

EPA estimates that the total cost of

this portion of the Keddy Mill cleanup project, including construction, operation and maintenance, and long-term monitoring, will be about \$17 million. The Superfund is the federal program that investigates and cleans up the most complex, uncontrolled, or abandoned hazardous waste sites in the country to protect people's health and the environment.

But finding necessary funding for the cleanup may prove to be a significant challenge. At least \$19 billion in Environmental Protection Agency funding to thousands of state and local governments and nonprofits remained on hold through last Friday and permanent budget reductions to environmental remediation programs may mean that the Keddy Mill Superfund cleanup work could be indefinitely on hold. <

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**STUDENT OF THE WEEK** **Liam Bicknell Rivera**

**Grade:** 2 **School:** Windham Primary School  
**Teacher:** Mrs. King  
**Favorite subject(s) in school:** Writing because he can teach people about things and about his life.  
**Parents' names:** Chelsea and Roger  
**Reason for selection:** Liam is smart, creative, funny, and loves to learn. He is such a pleasure to work with. He has a growth mindset, is always up for a challenge, and is a positive role model to all. Liam is the first student to step up and help peers academically and socially. He is the light in his classroom. His smile brightens everyone's day around him, and he comes to school ready to learn every day. He loves informational writing and science. He thrives from teaching peers and being a classroom helper. Liam is a great, well-rounded learner who will shine wherever he goes. His favorite hobby is going on hikes and he wants to be a park ranger when he grows up.

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**TOWN OF WINDHAM, MAINE  
PLANNING BOARD  
NOTICE OF SITE WALK**

**Saturday, March 1, 2025  
9:00AM**

Meet at the lot - Adjacent to 469 River Road

- 25-01 Dolley Farm Subdivision (formerly 25 River Road LLC Subdivision) Tax Map: 5, Lot: 25 - River Road. Subdivision plan review for a 44-unit residential condominium development.

*Public comment during the site walk is not permitted, unless requested by the Planning Board.*  
FMI go to <https://windhamweb.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx> or contact (207) 894-5960 ex. 2.  
Please notify us if you need accessibility accommodations.

**TOWN OF WINDHAM, MAINE  
PLANNING BOARD  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

**Monday, Feb. 24, 2025 • 6:30PM**  
Town Hall, Council Chambers, 8 School Road

- 24-26 Monique Drive Subdivision  
Tax Map: 11: Lots: 49D, 49D-3, 49D-5 -Lisa & Jules Drives. After-the-fact subdivision plan review.
- 25-04 Highland Cliff Conservation Subdivision  
Tax Map: 7; Lot: 44 - Highland Cliff Road Plan review for a ten (10) lot conservation subdivision.

FMI go to [windhamweb.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx](https://windhamweb.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx) or contact (207) 894-5960 ex. 2. Written comment may be submitted to the Board at [PlanningBoard@windhammaine.us](mailto:PlanningBoard@windhammaine.us).  
Please notify us if you need accessibility accommodations.

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# Eagle REAL ESTATE & Home

## Love thy neighbor

► **By Nicole Foster**  
SPECIAL TO THE WINDHAM EAGLE



— Nicole Foster,  
Broker/REALTOR®

Traditionally most of the single-family homes in our area do not belong to a Homeowner's Association (HOA) but that is all changing with each passing year as a growing segment is held in this type of ownership. The rules, regulations and restrictions can help to ensure that all the homes and their yards are kept at a similar level of maintenance and spells things out, so that everyone is on the same page with what the collective expectations will be.

The governance and procedures provide a pathway for a "feedback loop" to exist between residents who may need an occasional reminder for compliance. When you purchase a property that does not belong to an association, there are much fewer guide-

lines in place for homeowners, and the communication between neighbors and abutters must be handled directly (there is no landlord or association president to complain to, you have to do it yourself).

Being proactive about researching and assessing a neighborhood or an area before purchasing a home can prevent future disappointments and help you make an informed decision. Buyers sometimes are not willing to limit their home search to only a handful of neighborhoods that best suit them and instead leave their geographic parameters broader just to get into a house, but location is key, as many repeat buyers can tell you from experience. Understanding the culture and atmosphere of an area can help determine if it aligns with your lifestyle. Some parts of the community are known for their social and interactive residents, while other areas may prioritize privacy and quiet.

Choosing a location that matches

your preferences will contribute to a positive living experience but may require a bit more patience. When buying a home, the surrounding neighborhood and your future neighbors play a crucial role in determining your overall satisfaction. A great location can enhance your living experience, while a problematic one may lead to stress and challenges. Knowing the dynamics of a neighborhood or area is just as important as evaluating the features of a property.

Whether you're looking forward to getting involved with your new neighborhood and are eager to meet everyone or you have zero intentions of ever interacting with the one neighbor a mile away, it's important to be a good neighbor. Little acts like mak-

ing eye contact, waving or smiling are worth the effort it takes usually. It can be challenging to be self-aware and may feel easier to complain, so be sure to ask yourself: "Are you a good neighbor to have?"

Hands down, by far the number one complaint by neighbors is regarding noise, whether it's barking dogs, out of control parties, loud music, screaming kids or fireworks, nobody wants to listen to it from where they sit. Especially late at night when they are trying to sleep. It is a good measure to let neighbors know when you are planning to hold an event which may be deemed noisy and extend an invite or at least exchange contact information. They may reach out to

→ see REAL ESTATE Page 20



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# PUZZLES & GAMES

## GET COOKING WORD SEARCH

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

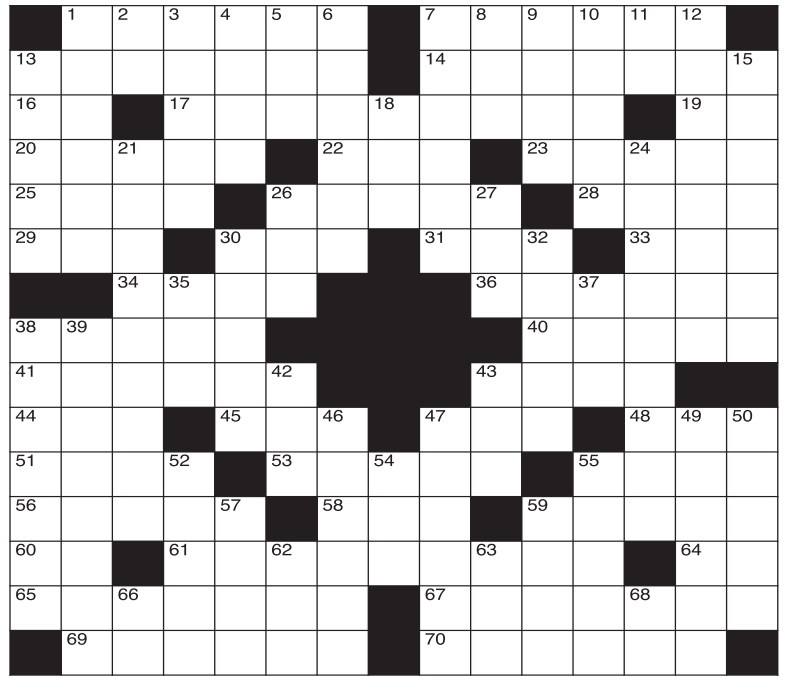
- |        |            |          |          |
|--------|------------|----------|----------|
| BAKE   | BRAISE     | COOKWARE | FRYING   |
| BASTE  | BRINING    | CREAM    | GRILL    |
| BEAT   | BROIL      | DEGLAZE  | JULIENNE |
| BLANCH | BROWN      | DICE     | POACH    |
| BLEND  | CARAMELIZE | DREDGE   | ROAST    |
| BOIL   | CHOP       | FOLD     | SIFT     |

## CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to yoga.  
 Each number corresponds to a letter.  
 (Hint: 3 = T)

- A. 12 3 26 9 3 7 13**  
 Clue: Elongate the body
- B. 21 20 12 9**  
 Clue: Stand in position
- C. 12 3 11 4 19 20**  
 Clue: Artistic or athletic space
- D. 19 25 12 3 26 11 7 3**  
 Clue: Teach

Answers: A. stretch B. pose C. studio D. instruct



### CLUES ACROSS

- Island nation
- Platforms
- Project plan
- French fishing port
- South Dakota
- Oakland's baseball team
- Military policeman
- Ornamental stone
- Garland
- Process that produces ammonia
- Mousses
- Music notation "dal \_\_\_"
- Fail to win
- Peyton's little brother
- Not near
- Some cars still need it
- Lizard genus
- An idiot (Brit.)
- Postponed
- African country
- Gazes unpleasantly
- In a way, traveled
- Ukraine's capital
- Appropriate
- Dash
- Twitch
- Swiss river
- Data file with computer animations
- City in S. Korea
- Particular region
- They have eyes and noses
- Tear
- Large Madagascar lemur
- Not out
- Ornamental saddle covering
- A driver's license is one
- Latin term for charity
- Rechristens
- Objects from an earlier time
- Hindu male religious teachers

### CLUES DOWN

- Used as a weapon
- Yukon Territory
- Makes a map of
- An established ceremony prescribed by a religion
- Unnilhexium
- Merchant
- Playing the field
- Folk singer DiFranco
- Something to scratch
- Mexican agave
- Equal to one quintillion bytes
- Session
- North American people
- Ranches
- Electroencephalograph
- A type of compound
- Avenue
- High schoolers' test
- A type of meal
- Gradually disappeared
- Ancient Frankish law code
- Popular pickup truck
- Buzzing insect
- Deal illegally
- Lying in the same plane
- Obstruct
- Related
- Challenge aggressively
- Nocturnal hoofed animals
- Bird's nests
- Forays
- \_\_\_ B. de Mille, filmmaker
- Title of respect
- One-time name of Vietnam
- Self-immolation by fire ritual
- Private school in New York
- Political action committee
- A way to fashion
- Email reply
- "The Great Lake State"

## SUDOKU

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

**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

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

### LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

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







PLEASE NOTE: THE BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT IS A PAID ADVERTISEMENT. TO HAVE YOUR BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTED CALL MELISSA: 207-894-3500

# BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Caring for lawns, gardens and trees is almost second nature for Cel Chinchilla, a second generation-arborist and landscaper who owns and operates 207 Landscaping & Tree Service, based in Gorham and serving all the Lakes Region of Maine.

207 Landscaping & Tree Service provides prompt, responsive, professional and affordable landscaping and tree care. The reputable and trustworthy company offers a wide range of locally sourced materials to meet your landscaping, gardening, tree removal, and heating needs.

“We stand behind our business and operate it with integrity, respect, and ensure that safety and quality will always be met,” Chinchilla said. “We can advise on tree health and maintenance, tree removal and perform stump grinding.”

In the landscaping and tree removal business for more than 10 ten years, 207 Landscaping & Tree Service is proud of its reputation for professionalism and excellence.

“Our business is dedicated to the safety of our workers and our timely production of work, always giving personal attention and quality service to our customers,” Chinchilla said. “We pride ourselves on our creativity and our attention to detail. Our long-standing commitment to customer service and our family-oriented values help provide a level of superior dedication to the customers.”



## 207 Landscaping & Tree Service

In the spring, summer and fall, 207 Landscaping & Tree Service can take exceptional care of your yard so that you don't have to worry about yard work. Services offered by the company include seasonal cleanups; mulch bed installation; brush and wood removal; curbside brush removal; lawn installations; hedge trimming; tree and shrub planting and removal; installations of vegetable and flower beds; pruning; sod installations; brush hogging; and commercial mowing.

Products offered by 207 Landscaping & Tree Service can assist in meeting every landscaping, gardening, and heating need, with firewood and mulch deliveries available.

“Our green firewood and seasoned firewood are sustainably harvested, ensuring a reliable and eco-friendly source of heat for your home,” Chinchilla said. “For landscaping projects, we provide raw woodchips, perfect for mulching and soil protection, as well as 3/4 crushed stone for durable and aesthetically pleasing driveways, paths, or foundations. Gardeners will appreciate our nutrient-rich loam and veg-

gie soil, ideal for growing healthy vegetables and vibrant plants. By choosing our materials, you are supporting local resources and ensuring top-quality products for your outdoor project.”

They can help with light excavation and construction services which are designed to enhance and maintain your property with precision and care. Some of the many services available are walkways; decks; crushed stone and concrete pad installations; and septic tank cover digging.

A variety of snow removal services for commercial, residential, condo and industrial properties are offered by 207 Landscaping & Tree Service that include plowing, shoveling, sanding and snow displacement off site and from parking lots.

Chinchilla is a member of the International Society of Arboriculture, a Certified Maine Arborist, a Master of Pesticides; has a First-class landscaping license and is a First-class Utility Arborist.

Because of its dedication to customers, 207 Landscaping & Tree Service has earned the second-highest Google

rating in Maine for the services it provides, and reviews are outstanding.

“I have had 207 Landscaping help me with yard work (cutting my lawn, removing leaves, tree removal, stump grinding) for a number of years and I could not be happier with their work. Cel, the owner, is honest, a straight talker and most important, a thoughtful and caring man.” ~ Len G.

“Everything from the initial meeting with Cel (owner) at the beginning for an estimate, right up until the end of the job was smooth sailing. I highly recommend the 207 Landscaping Team for any of their services. The pricing is competitive, and you will not be disappointed with their service!” ~ Amy V.

“The team that arrived was incredibly efficient and so good at what they do. It was amazing to watch their teamwork. They took my beloved pine tree down, cleaned up, and even cut me a special keep-sake chunk of it (after I asked for it) for me to keep. Highly recommend them.” ~ Erica S.

“I have hired them a few times for storm related tree work, and regular yard clean up. Always punctual, they don't leave until you are happy with the work. Licensed and insured, so no worries about doing tree work. Highly recommend.” ~ Joseph O.

207 Landscaping & Tree Service is located at 166 Narragansett St. in Gorham. Visit them online at 207landscaping.com or call 207-222-2932. Find them on Facebook. <

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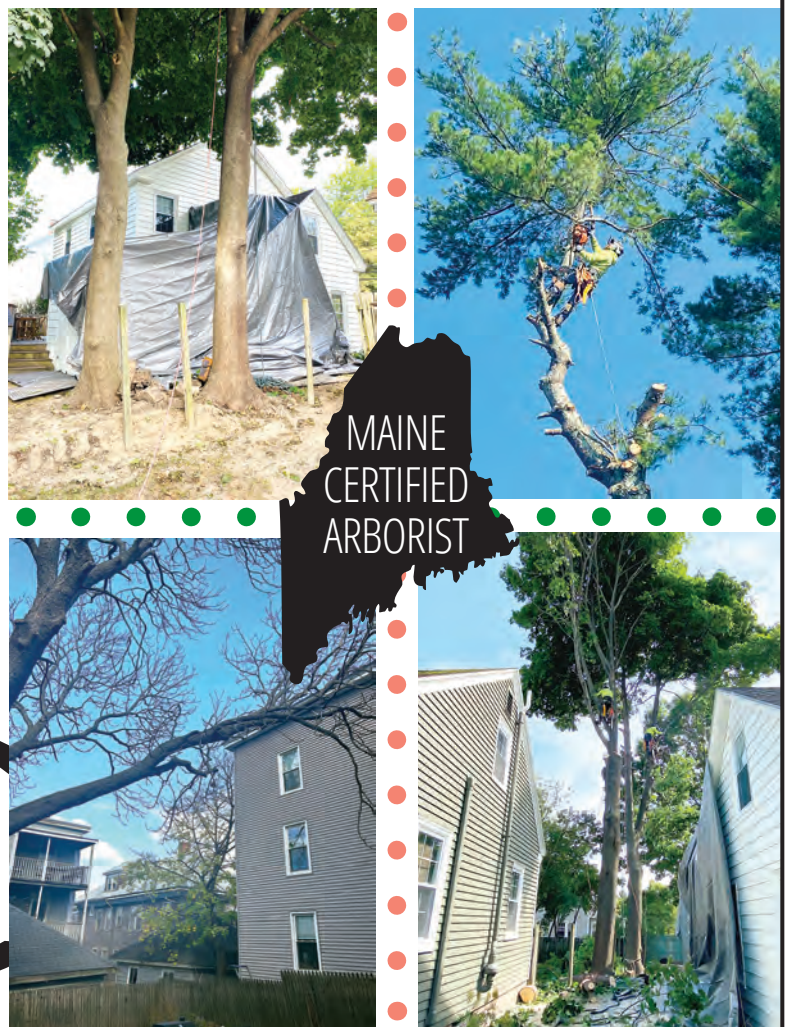
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→ REAL ESTATE Cont. from page 17

you prior to calling the authorities to complain but often people do not feel comfortable or want to take on the risk of confrontation.

Another common complaint is about neighbors who routinely do not clean up after pet waste when walking their dogs. If you speak to your neighbors about your concerns remember that their pets are beloved family members of theirs.

Boundary disagreements are also

a common source of contention between abutters. If you see that your neighbor is planning to place or construct something like a fence or a shed in an area that you understand to be on your property it is best to approach them to further discuss this as soon as possible. You may very easily be able to clear up any confusion or come to an agreement that everyone feels good about or, at least know what to expect as next steps or when one of you plans to sell.

Using a little extra empathy and

compassion when considering how and when to best approach your neighbor about concerns or issues can truly go a long way for both of you. Keeping the lines of communication open should be the goal, so leaving a kind note is a great place to begin. If you are hoping that your neighbor will make large changes to their space to help support a higher property value for yourself, consider if it is realistic they have the necessary resources. You may also consider offering to help support them in some way or contrib-

ute to their efforts as an incentive for them to cooperate as an investment you make.

Many people have never met or spoke to their neighbors but each day is another opportunity to make a connection with them and the best way to prevent problems.

This article was brought to you by Nicole Foster, a Broker at Locations Real Estate and a Windham parent who loves people and real estate. Follow facebook.com/sellingmaine or @207nicolefoster. <

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