

JSMS performance of 'Beauty and the Beast' dazzles after spring Nor'Easter

By Briana Bizier

STAFF WRITER

On Saturday, April 6, as Windham and Raymond recovered from the powerful Nor'easter that left much of the town without power, the show went on for Jordan-Small Middle School's drama program.

Despite missing both their final dress rehearsal on Thursday and opening night on Friday, every single member of the cast and crew arrived Saturday afternoon for their performance of the musical *Beauty and the Beast*.

"When I joined the drama program in 2022," Tyler Costigan, Director and Production Designer, told the audience for Saturday's second performance, "I had a cast of 20. This year, I have a cast of 50. That's a lot of students."

Along with Victoria Stubbs as the Vocal Coach and Patricia Valley as the Choreographer, Costigan has been working with these 50 students since January. Yet on Saturday, after months of practice, an abbreviated tech week, last-minute microphone changes, emergency costume repairs, and a backstage conga line warm-up, Costigan, Stubbs, and Valley took



Student cast members of 'Beauty and the Beast' perform at Jordan-Small Middle School on Saturday, April 10 and staged the production despite a snowstorm that blanketed the area wiping out final rehearsals. PHOTO BY JULIA HEBERT

their seats in the audience as C.J. Payne, the Technical Director, turned on the lights and microphones.

The performance was now in the hands of the young actors and the student tech crew, led by Ari Green, Olivia Beal, and Jordyn Morris. The show opened with an enchantress, played by Maria Rosetti, casting a horrible spell on a cruel prince and everyone who lived in his castle. As the curtains closed on the cursed prince, Belle, played with fantastic

confidence by Araia Peterson, walked down the middle of the gymnasium theatre silhouetted by the spotlight.

While the stage filled with villagers going about their daily business, Belle sang longingly about her desire to escape her small town while her suitor Gaston declared his intent to marry Belle, the only woman "as beautiful as me."

Gaston was played to great comedic effect by Lucy Payne and trailed by a trio of adoring fans played by

Emma Horowitz, Zoe Woodbury, and Layla Martin. Belle and Gaston were joined by a crowd of singing villagers, played by Sage Bizier, Michelle Buzzell, Brecken Cressey, Zoe Decker, Bella and Julia Doyon, Mikel Gilbert, Clare Goan, Ella Jacobson, Arianna Libby, Anica Messer, Miles Moreau, Mia Quinn, Leah Ronfeldt, and Alita Sargent.

Belle's father Maurice, played by a very sympathetic Eli Delude, prom-
→ see MUSICAL Page 4

Windham student competes in Maine State Math Meet

By Ed Pierce

STAFF WRITERS

A student from Windham attending the Maine School of Science and Mathematics (MSSM) helped his team earn first place at the 45th Annual Maine State Math Meet at the Augusta Civic Center on April 2.

Ari Anghel, 16, a sophomore from Windham was part of the MSSM Ivory team, which is Maine's only magnet high school and one of the few public boarding schools in the country. The MSSM team traveled to Augusta for The Maine State Math Meet drawing the top math students from around Maine to competitively demonstrate their understanding of challenging math concepts.

After obtaining the highest total score in the state during the five regular math meets, MSSM's Ivory team entered the state meet with high expectations. The MSSM Ivory math team was made up of 10 students from the school including Anghel, who placed fifth overall in the competition for high school sophomores.

Vanda Madore, one of the MSSM Ivory math team coaches, said that the students should be proud of their accomplishments at the Maine State Math Meet.

"In addition to strong individual performances, I'm most proud of the team effort demonstrated in the two team rounds where MSSM pulled

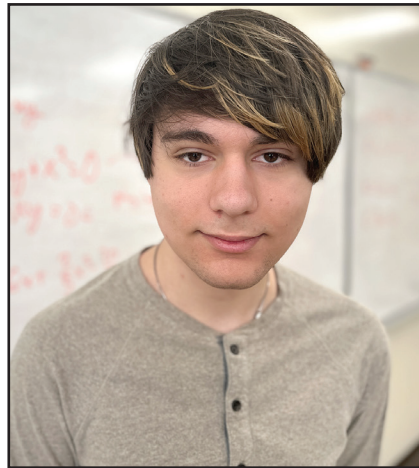
ahead," Madore said. "We won the highest honors that we could, which were First place in Regional, First place in Division A, and First place at State. You can't do better than that. There are many very good individual awards that students got because of their scores. Just as a coach, I find that winning as a team is wonderful."

His award from the state math meet was in addition to his reciting Pi to 919 digits on Pi Day at his school on March 14. School officials say that Anghel exemplifies the caliber of students drawn to MSSM, where academic excellence and a passion for mathematics converge.

"Last year, as a freshman, Ari stunned onlookers by reciting Pi to 500 digits. This year, the sights were set even higher to nearly double their previous record, captivating the audience with mathematical virtuosity," said Ryan McDonald, Director of Admissions and Summer Programs for the Maine School of Science and Mathematics. "Ari's ambition is attending the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), propelled by their passion for mathematics nurtured at MSSM."

Anghel said he remains committed to shattering the school record for reciting Pi digits.

"It's just a matter of keep going at it, if that makes sense," he said. "So long as you keep going, eventually you'll



Windham's Ari Anghel, 16, a sophomore at the Maine School of Science and Mathematics in Limestone, finished fifth among sophomores competing in the Maine State Math Meet in Augusta on April 2. SUBMITTED PHOTO

make more and more progress until you get further and further. I'm glad I got that far. It would have been nice to go a bit further to get the record, but 919 is definitely a good record to go to."

He said he practiced for several hours and that his goal was to reach 1,300 Pi digits.

"I practiced that much, but I messed up part of the way there," Anghel said. "My goal for next year is to get over 1,300 digits and set the new school record."

The current record is 1,248 digits. MSSM provides a rigorous STEM-

based curriculum in a residential setting where learning is celebrated by the student and adult community. Students interact with teachers in and out of the classroom and have unique opportunities to explore courses and topics they wouldn't otherwise have access to. MSSM's highly motivated students begin their academic journeys in schools throughout the state, a partnership that MSSM values and appreciates, and come to MSSM to build upon that strong foundation to excel and thrive in an environment where they can find their place and go beyond.

The Maine Assoc. of Math Leagues (MAML) is the organization that sponsors the numerous math competitions in Maine. MAML promotes innovative solutions to difficult problems through analytical thinking and team-based math competitions. Participating schools can send up to 10 "mathletes" and one alternate who work through difficulties both individually and collaboratively. The solutions are revealed after each round and students may appeal if they believe they have a valid solution. The topics range from Algebra 1 to Pre-Calculus and require students to have both academic skills as well as the ability to work as a team. <

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INSIGHT

Unforgettable friends and memories

Growing up in the 1960s, I learned the invaluable lessons of friendship and the benefits of positive role models from an older couple that we would go to visit every Friday evening.

Marge and Bob Bartlett were close to our family and after supper at the start of each weekend, my father would drive us to their home, and we'd spend several hours with them. My mother first met Marge when she became a babysitter for their oldest son Jimmy and through the years their friendship grew. My sister was the same age as Marge and Bob's youngest son, Kenny, and visits to their home became sort of a ritual for us on Friday nights.

Bob Bartlett worked as a glassblower for Eastman Kodak Company and had a garage he converted into a workshop behind their home. Sometimes during the summer months, he would take my brother and me out there as he made glass paperweights or Christmas tree ornaments. Once, he helped me make a glass bird with a long neck that would dip its head as the temperature changed. He had a silly sense of humor and was able to pull off the best impression of Yogi Bear I have ever heard. To this day I can still hear him imitating Sergeant Schultz from television's "Hogan's Heroes" or comedian Bill Dana's classic line "My name is Jose Jimenez."

Marge was a devoted mother to her two boys and inspired them both to attend college and to follow their dreams. Both sons were successful as Jimmy became a broadcaster working in radio in Boston for a station owned by sportscaster Curt Gowdy and then a television anchor for WMUR-TV in Manchester, New Hampshire. Kenny obtained a real estate license and eventually owned his own company in Texas before retiring.

A visit to the Bartlett home was always the highlight of my week. Each of them would ask me questions about what I was learning about in school, how my favorite sports teams were doing, what I was reading, or what I wanted to be when I grew up. Bob would always seem to have a roll of Lifesavers candy in his pocket, or he'd pass me a piece of Bit O' Honey as we watched television in their living room.

Upon arriving each time at their home, Marge would bring our family into her kitchen and offer us a piece of cake she had just baked which was sitting on the counter. My favorite was her frosted orange cake and what I wouldn't give today for a slice of it again.

After we finished eating the cake, Marge would point to the refrigerator freezer and ask if we wanted a Borden's ice cream cup. They were small servings of vanilla ice cream with either chocolate sauce or strawberry jam on the bottom. They even came with their own wooden disposable serving spoons.

Year after year, my brother and I would sit in front of the Bartletts' RCA console television set watching episodes of Rawhide at 7:30 p.m. followed by Route 66. When both of those programs were canceled, we would watch "The Wild Wild West" at 7:30 and "Hogan's Heroes" at 8:30 p.m.

As my brother and I sat and watched television, we were always joined by Marge and Bob's overweight beagle named Thumper. He waddled from side to side when he walked and had a distinctive yelp when somebody knocked on the door.

My mother and father would sit in the kitchen with the Bartletts during our visits and drink coffee and talk or have some of the cake that Marge would have on hand every week. They were usually joined by Marge's widowed mother, Sue Coleman, who lived in an addition that Bob had built off the back of their home.

It was always fun, always positive, and always an enjoyable experience to visit with such uplifting people who genuinely cared about us.

While I was serving in the Air Force in Arizona in 1982, my mother called to let me know that Bob Bartlett had suffered a massive heart attack and had died at the age of 55. Not long thereafter, Jimmy Bartlett also died of heart disease at an early age.

In 2001, I was going to fly from Florida to Rochester, New York to attend my 30th high school reunion. Kenny Bartlett called and asked if I would stop and visit his mother Marge and encourage her to move into assisted living. She was in her 90s and was hard of hearing. He was worried because during a fire at a home behind her, she slept through it and didn't hear the fire trucks.

I did visit her, and she declined to enter assisted living. She said she had lived in her home for 65 years and wasn't going anywhere. She also offered me an ice cream cup from her freezer. Three years later, Marge flew to Texas for the wedding of her granddaughter and passed away in her sleep there.

We become the people we are because of significant influences in our lives, and I was blessed to have such wonderful friends while growing up.

< - Ed Pierce

CORRECTION
 Former Windham Planning Director Amanda Lessard is joining Royal River Conservation Trust as Conservation Director, not Executive Director as published 4/5/24

Today in HISTORY

APRIL 12

1932 – The film "Grand Hotel" starring Greta Garbo and John Barrymore premieres in NYC.

1945 – U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt dies in office at the age of 63 and Vice President Harry Truman is sworn in as 33rd President.

1955 – A polio vaccine tested by Jonas Salk is given full approval by the US Food and Drug Administration.

1961 – Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin becomes the first human in space while traveling aboard the Soviet spacecraft Vostok I.

1978 – Kenny Rogers and Crystal Gayle are the big winners during the televised 13th Academy of Country Music Awards in Nashville.

1991 – The Pentagon issues a press release saying 31 major military bases will be closed across America.

1999 – U.S. President Bill Clinton is cited for contempt of court for giving "intentionally false statements" in a sexual harassment civil lawsuit.

ON THE SPOT

What's something that you own that you should really throw away?

"All the old clothes in my closet that I keep telling myself I'll fit into again someday." – Steve Hatt

"My Chucks (tennis shoes), but I just can't." – Julie Mallett

"A Hawaiian shirt from 1976 that doesn't fit anymore but has silly sentimental feelings." – Tommy Matthews

"Federal and state tax returns that are 4 to 40 years old." – William D. Reiner

"A bunch of dusty old 45rpm records that my brother gave me before he left for Vietnam." – Ted Okapi

"I could lose a pair of skinny jeans that I bought at the mall in 1991 and never care if they are gone from my closet." – Sue Tudor

"We have an old freezer that died 20 years ago that we now use to stack tools on in the garage. That could definitely go away forever." – Mitchell Robinson

"Stacks of old magazines my wife subscribes to." – Dean A. Smalley

"A lamp in the basement that stopped working in the 1990s." – David D. McCoombs

"Empty prescription bottles in my medicine cabinet and a broken ironing board." – Anne Glotchshuk

"Some worn-out sneakers I just can't seem to part with." – Benjamin Lee

"I'd like to ditch several old TV sets no longer working that are stacked on the front porch." – Jerry Greene

"Some old sweaters I had stored in the attic that moths had eaten holes in them." – Louise V. Snider

"A club device to lock my steering wheel. My father got it for me in 1995 when I was going to college in South Portland, and he was afraid someone might try to steal my car. I really should throw it away now." – Isabella Mongon

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Raymond budget heads to voters at Town Meeting

By Ed Pierce

STAFF WRITER

The Raymond Select Board has forwarded a series of warrant articles regarding the 2024-2025 budget for including on the ballot at the Annual Town Meeting on June 11, but the \$7,371,051 municipal budget proposal itself is not without controversy.

During a meeting of the Raymond Budget Finance Committee on April 2, members unanimously rejected recommending a warrant article for an \$8.1 million bond to construct a new Public Works facility. However, when the Select Board met on April 8, it voted to include the Public Works construction bond for voter approval.

Select Board Chair Joe Bruno said he believed Budget Finance Committee members were misinformed about the Public Works proposal and did not follow parliamentary procedure in voting the way they did.

“All our town committees follow Roberts Rules of Parliamentary Procedure,” he said. “The vote they took was illegal. This is a well thought out plan for a new Public Works Building that has been in the works for years.”

Bruno said the new Public Works facility is badly needed and will be of great benefit to the town if the warrant article is approved.

Denis Morse, a Budget Finance

member, said that committee members are not opposed to building a new Public Works facility per se, but wanted an opportunity to review schematics, blueprints, cost estimates and other pertinent documents before recommending the warrant article for a public vote.

“That never happened,” Morse said. “There needs to be a neutral needs assessment to see what our needs actually are,” he said.

According to Morse, after a first vote on the Public Works construction warrant article was held, a question arose if it was taken properly and committee members asked Town Manager Susan Look for guidance about how to take a proper vote. Once given, committee members voted again and once more unanimously rejected recommending the warrant article.

That vote was illegal, Bruno said.

“They needed to rescind that vote and not approve it,” he said. “I really do think the people of Raymond should know the town has an excellent AAA bond rating and we are retiring \$285,000 debt payment. In funding this, we will still stay financially strong.”

Morse pointed out that during the Budget Finance Committee meeting Bruno was in attendance and could

have advised them that their vote was improper.

In formulating her proposal, Look said it is her first try at putting together an extensive town budget.

“This being my first go-round with the full Town of Raymond budget, I wanted to see the whole budget, the way it has been put together, and then meet with each department head to get a better understanding of each piece before I attempted to summarize,” she said. “On the revenue side we have an estimated \$9,000,000 in new valuation.”

Look said Auto Excise Tax, CEO/Planning Fees, Public Safety/Rescue and Investment Income are projected to increase by a total of \$213,000.

“Our valuation certified ratio is currently at 62 percent, so the Homestead Exemption is expected to be reduced by \$34,726,” Look said. “The revaluation process will begin this fall and should be completed for the 2025 Commitment. This is reflected in the Assessing request to have more hours for the administrative assis-

tant. Codes will be adding the Street and Sub-Division Ordinances to the General Code software this year. This software allows homeowners, builders, appraisers, other municipalities, etc. to search through the ordinances, will standardize the formatting, and will give us a list of inconsistencies or discrepancies that we need to address.”

Look said the town has already added the Land Use and Shoreland Zoning Ordinances and in future years they will continue until all similar ordinances have been added including the new Building Code, Flood Plain, and the Business License Ordinances.

“I have met with the Town Managers of Casco and Naples several times recently and we are working to rewrite the memorandum of understanding and the job description for the regional Animal Control Officer,” she said. “We are also talking with the Town Manager of Harrison and are considering hiring a part-time ACO

→ see RAYMOND Page 19

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MUSICAL *Cont. from page 1*

ised Belle she will soon be able to see all the places she reads about in books. However, in a turn of events narrated by Paige Leveille, Marley Hebert, Rian Borella, and Izzy Gonzalez, Maurice was attacked by a pack of somersaulting wolves and driven to the enchanted castle where the Beast, played by Rex Freyre with an impressive mask and a perfect blend of tenderness and ferocity, locks him in the dungeon.

When Gaston's friend and sidekick Lefou, played by Addy Madsen, arrives in town wearing Maurice's scarf, Belle realizes something has gone wrong and sets off to find her father. After bargaining her own freedom to set her father free, she sings of finding home, a performance that made both this audience member and the friend sitting beside me reach for our tissues.

Castle residents Mrs. Potts the teapot, played by Cadence O'Bri-

on, Mme. de la Grande Bouche the wardrobe, played by Liza Powers, and Babette the feather duster, played by Acadia Vingers-Sirois, tried to comfort Belle with their hopes that she might someday think of the castle as home. Meanwhile, Payne's Gaston, dejected over Belle's rejections, was consoled by Lefou and the villagers with a hilarious song and dance that left the audience cheering long after the curtains closed.

Back at the castle, the candleholder Lumiere, played with a terrific French accent by Allie LeBoudais, tried to convince the clock Cogsworth, played with a perfect air of stiff formality by Alyssa Dismore, that their guest Belle deserved a special meal. Happily for everyone, this conversation resulted in the spectacular "Be Our Guest" performance. As Lumiere narrated, forks, knives, spoons and plates, played by Bella Anderson, Camryn Golebiewski, Riley Huff, Lauren Inman, and Julianna Vassoler, as well



From left, Liza Powers, Ari Green, and Sage Bizier celebrate a successful performance of 'Beauty and the Beast' backstage at JSMS on April 10. PHOTO BY BRIANA BIZIER

as several actors who had hasty backstage costume changes, danced and sang to end Act One. When the lights came up for intermission, another audience member leaned over and said, "Wow, that was really good!"

As the student tech crew moved set pieces behind the curtain and organized an entire cafeteria table's worth of props backstage, the actors changed costumes and prepared for Act Two. When the curtains rose again, the enchanted residents of the castle expressed their hopes to be "Human Again" in song as Belle and the Beast formed a tentative friendship, and finally, shared a dance as Mrs. Potts sang the classic "Beauty and the Beast." Again, some members of the audience reached for their tissues.

Back in the village, Gaston continued his attempts to marry Belle, this time by arranging with M. D'Arque,

played to great sinister effect by Leo Roma, to take Maurice to the insane asylum. When Belle resists, Gaston decides the villagers must attack the castle and kill the Beast. The actors leapt from the stage and carried their torches through the audience as they cried, "Kill the Beast!"

After an impressively well-choreographed fight between the villagers and the enchanted castle servants, the wicked Gaston attacked the Beast. Fortunately, Belle was close behind. With the injured Beast at her feet, Belle sang about how she had finally found her home with the Beast, and this audience member cried for the third time.

In the end, Belle declared her love for the Beast, and the castle's curse was lifted. Chip the teacup, played by Alice Thibodeau, got a round of laughs when she asked if she would still need to sleep in the cupboard now that she's human again, and then the entire cast gathered for a final song. Both shows ended with standing ovations, cheers, and a lot of congratulatory hugs in the middle school hallway.

Despite the massive Nor'easter, 12 inches of fresh April snow, widespread power losses, and two days of school closures, Jordan-Small Middle School's performance of "Beauty and the Beast" proved once again that true love always saves the day, and that perhaps we are all capable of a little more magic than we think. <

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Windham Council approves substance prevention grants; learns state lowers speed limit on Swett Road

By Ed Pierce
STAFF WRITER

Members of the Windham Town Council have unanimously approved substance prevention grants for two programs that are intended to keep students off drugs.

Councils authorized spending \$1,800 for Mobile Escape Rooms for students attending Summerfest this year and \$2,640.47 for the Windham Middle School Guitar Club.

Town council Chair Mark Morrison said he serves on the Substance Prevention Grant Committee and both applications were enthusiastically approved by committee members before forwarding them to the council for a vote.

Back in July 2021, members of the Windham Town Council committed to using cannabis licensing fees imposed by the town for retail and medical marijuana facilities for drug education and drug prevention programs. The fund grows with each license renewal fee paid to the town and members of the Substance Prevention Grant Committee process grant applications and make recommendations to the council for disbursement for worthwhile programs.

The Mobile Escape Rooms project for Summerfest is a project between Be The Influence coalition and Windham Police Department's Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program.

Morrison said the WMS Guitar

Club project is deserving of help and the grant will help students to obtain guitars and receive lessons in how to play them.

During the council meeting, Windham Town Manager also briefed councilors about the status and funding for the town's sewer installation project.

Tibbetts said originally, Windham was able to obtain \$2 million in funding from the federal government

for the creation of a new wastewater treatment plant and that the town is now seeking additional funding to help connect it to Windham High School and close the treatment plant there, which is one of only two school districts located east of the Mississippi River with its own wastewater treatment system.

He says Windham will be seeking even more than the original funding for that initiative.

"We're looking to get them hooked up and closing the school wastewater plant which empties into the Pleasant River," Tibbetts said.

The public will also be able to learn more about another significant upcoming town project in June, Tibbetts told councilors.

"On June 4 at Windham Town Hall, the public will be able to participate in a Windham Mobility

→ see **COUNCIL** Page 6

IN MEMORY OF STEPHEN MCKENNEY



who was suddenly and tragically taken from us on April 12, 2014

Not a day goes by that you are not in our thoughts and prayers.

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Dolby, Blais & Segee Funeral Chapel CLARENCE JACOB WISECUP, JR. FEBRUARY 13, 1936 – APRIL 9, 2024



Born to Clarence and Lilly (Vogt) Wisecup in the same small Iowa farmhouse his mother was born 30 years earlier, he attended a one-room schoolhouse – literally walking uphill both ways in the snow – until they moved to Longmont, Colorado in 1946, where he graduated from High School in 1954.

He first attended Whitworth College in Spokane, Washington and was a member of the college chorus which travelled throughout the country and then toured Europe with the All-American Chorus in 1956. Instead of being drafted, he enlisted in the Army in 1958 and was first stationed in Washington with a Nike Missile unit and then Colorado Springs with the Army Air Defense Command Choral Group, which performed on notable TV shows like Art

Linkletter, The Bell Telephone Hour, Arthur Godfrey Show, and ended his service in 1962 with a concert at Carnegie Hall in NYC.

He went on to graduate from the University of Colorado with a bachelor's degree in history and later returned to finish a master's in public administration. He joined J. C. Penney Co. and moved to New Mexico where his first daughter, Kerri Michelle Wisecup, was born. In 1965 he joined the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as a Public Health Advisor and served for 33 years. During this time, he served in Kansas City and Denver with the Syphilis Eradication Program during the peak of the "hippy movement", then switched to the Immunization Program in New York to help respond to the swine flu pandemic. From there he was sent to Arkansas, Rhode Island, Wisconsin, and Indiana to administer their state immunization programs. His final posting was to Maine as an advisor on immunization activities and liaison with the CDC.

He married Elizabeth Faye Timmons of Windham, Maine on June 19, 1971, in Longmont, Colorado. He met "Liz" in the VD Clinic in Denver...an answer to how they met that always caused a moment of silence and some giggles... where he was an investigator and Liz a nurse. They had two children, Kathleen Elizabeth and Michael David.

After retirement in 1998, he became active with different local organizations. He and a relative traveled New England in search of "old" tractors to repair... which were new when he grew up. He joined the Maine Antique Tractor Club, first as the newsletter editor and then as president, during which time he helped grow the club to over 600 members. He was an active member of the Portland Community Chorus and sang for 20 years with the Magic of Christmas Chorus at Merrill Auditorium. In 2010, he was instrumental in helping start a senior center in the Windham/Gorham area which continues to serve over 90 seniors in the Lakes Region. He served on the Board of Directors and wrote the newsletter every month for many years. One of his most pleasant activities was driving families attending Camp Sunshine where he got to meet people from all over the world.

Clarence is preceded in death by his parents, sister Joyce, brothers Russell, Harold, and Dennis, and daughter Kerri Michelle. He is survived by his wife, Liz, daughter, Kathleen (Carlos) DaSilva, son, Michael (Emily) Wisecup, grandchildren Jacob (Hannah) Wisecup, Chloe Allen, Justin Distel, Chelsea (David) Hornbaker, Sarah Distel, great grandchildren Maddox and Shiloh Hornbaker, Ainsley and Emma Distel, and Oliver Jacob Wisecup (who is due in July 2024).

He wished that any gifts in his memory be made to Camp Sunshine at Sebago Lake, 35 Acadia Rd, Casco, ME 04015 or the Windham Veteran's Center, 35 Veteran Memorial Drive, Windham, ME 04062.

Services will be held on April 20, 2024 at Dolby, Blais & Segee Windham Chapel, 434 River Rd, Windham, ME 04062.

Visiting hours from 12-2pm and service at 2pm.

New Windham Sign Survey

The Town of Windham's ad-hoc committee on Entrance & Wayfinding signage is seeking input on a number of broad items in developing new Town signage...



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COUNCIL *Cont. from page 5*

Moves discussion with Maine Department of Transportation engineers about the creation of rear access roads," Tibbetts said.

According to Tibbetts, residents attending that informal gathering from 4 to 6 p.m. will be able to review drafts and blueprints of design plans and speak with MDOT staff and engineers about the project, which is intended to relieve congestion along the Route 302 corridor in Windham.

In addition to that gathering, Tibbetts said a televised meeting and discussion will be aired from 6 to 8 p.m. including a question-and-answer session for the public regarding the characteristics of traffic movement here in North Windham.

Councilors also received notification that the speed limit for Swett Road extending north 1.61 miles from Chute Road to U.S. Route 202/Route 4 has

been lowered from 35 mph to 30 mph following an official request for a review of the speed limit there by Windham Police Chief Kevin Schofield.

In a letter to the town, Caty DeSouza, MDOT Southern Regional Assistant Traffic engineer, reminded councilors that the roadway is considered a "town way" and it is the responsibility of Windham to install and maintain all roadway signage reflecting the new speed limit of 30 mph in that area.

During the meeting, the council also held public hearings seeking public comments about proposed amendments to the 2016 Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map, to comply with the requirements of State Law LD 2003, to reduce the Growth Areas and expand the Rural Areas and the Route 302 Transitional Areas, proposed amendments to the Land Use Ordinance related to affordable hous-

ing developments and an amendment to the Official Land Use Map to align zoning district boundaries with the Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map growth area boundaries. Public hearings were also conducted

for a proposed Moratorium Ordinance for Non-Residential Uses in the Shoreland Zoning Districts, and proposed amendments to the Town of Windham Land Use Ordinance regarding mural signage. <

Second annual Touch A Truck event coming to Windham

Cumberland County's 911 Regional Communications Center is preparing to host the second Annual Touch A Truck on Saturday, April 20 at the county's 911 Regional Communications Center located at 22 High St., in Windham.

The free event will be held rain or shine, and this is the second time that the popular Touch A Truck event for children will be hosted by Cumberland County 911 Communications. Touch a Truck Activities will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and everyone is welcome to attend and participate.

This interactive family friendly event will include:

- Fire Trucks
- K-9 Demonstrations
- "Sparky" the Dog
- Smokey Bear
- A Bounce House
- Food trucks
- Safety tips
- Vendors
- 9-1-1 Dispatch tours



The Cumberland County Regional Communications Center is a public safety emergency communications center. It provides emergency and non-emergency dispatching service for many public safety agencies within Cumberland County and serves as the Public Safety Answering Point for 19 of the 28 communities within the county.

As the Public Safety Answering Point for those communities, the 911 Regional Communications Center receives all 9-1-1 emergency phone calls for those areas within Cumberland County. <

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Two years ago, the British Parliament released Lord Pride's 1658 Will on the Web. In it, he left 4,000 British Pounds Sterling to his fifth-born son Joseph Pride who settled Prides Corner as a fugitive two years later in 1661.

In 1968, two hunters from Windham found 300 Coins in a half-melted lump in Suckfish Brook at Highland Lake.

The entire town discussed it for weeks (Windham was a different place in the 1960s) and decided almost unanimously that they should say nothing, because some government stooge would relieve them of their goods, just melt it down and cash it in. They apparently did. But now, we know the rest of the story,... that the coins are a lead to the location of the other 3,700 Coins. One such coin sold recently for \$80,000.00. The Coins are also a witness to the true history of one of the most important events in the history of the Western World.

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Lifetime learning empowering for Windham/Raymond Adult Education Enrichment Program coordinator

By Ed Pierce
STAFF WRITER

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

No two days are ever the same for RSU 14's Enrichment Program/Marketing Coordinator Susan Garvin Colley and that's exactly what she likes the most about her work.

Colley has been with RSU 14 since September 2022 and is responsible for coordinating all aspects of the Windham/Raymond Adult Education (WRAE) Enrichment Program including creating classes, hiring contracted instructors, scheduling dates, times, and locations of classes offered. She also edits course descriptions for clear content and inclusion in WRAE's twice-annual printed publications and creates print catalogs and digital media for promotion to the public.

It's no small task as WRAE currently offers about 600 individual sessions of classes each year.

"I also am responsible for marketing aspects of Windham Raymond Adult Education as a whole, to include our academic learning including HiSET, high school completion, and English Language Learning, and career and college planning programming, as well as our active enrichment program," Colley said.

According to Colley, she loves embracing the creativity of her work.

"I get to work with amazing, cre-

ative teachers, a highly devoted and inspired staff at WRAE, and I get to interact with folks in these two communities and beyond about the many ways we can bring enrichment opportunities to their lives," she said. "It is especially rewarding when a community member brings the challenge of an idea for a class to us. Finding ways to make that class happen is a joy."

She's found that the greatest challenge in her duties is finding available space to offer classes.

"The WRAE building has two decent-sized classrooms that are almost always occupied with classes morning, afternoon, and evening. Because of our small night-time staff, we try to keep as many of our evening classes right on campus so that we can support our teachers and students. The lack of gym space on campus is by far the greatest challenge. We have so many folks who want to offer and/or attend recreational, exercise and other classes that require a larger, gym-type space and we have been unable to regularly schedule the gyms on campus. We're very grateful to Windham Parks & Recreation for the gym time they allow us at the Town Hall for our ongoing Line Dance classes and to the North Windham Union



Susan Garvin Colley has worked as the RSU 14's Enrichment Program/Marketing Coordinator since September 2022.
SUBMITTED PHOTO

Church, UCC for working with us to provide classes in both Yoga and Cardio Exercise."

One of the biggest misconceptions people may have about her work with WRAE is the type and amount of programming that they offer, Colley said.

"We've almost doubled our offerings in the past couple of years and have added many high-quality certificate programs in a variety of high demand business topics," she said. "The other big misconception about WRAE is that WRAE classes are only available to residents of Windham and Raymond. Nothing could be further from the truth. Any adult from anywhere can register and enjoy classes at WRAE. The more, the merrier."

Born in Sanford and living most of her life in Springvale, Colley attended Bay Path College in Springfield, Massachusetts, studying Business with a focus on tourism and travel planning. After earning her degree, she returned to Southern Maine.

"After a few experiments with customer service and financial jobs, I stumbled across adult education and began my joyful participation as an enrichment instructor for MSAD #57 at

Massabesic Adult and Community Education in Waterboro," Colley said. "I took on a more permanent role as their evening receptionist, became involved in the creation of the enrichment calendar, and learned how to create and publish the catalogs, and the rest is history."

When the Enrichment Coordinator position opened at RSU 14, Colley she was drawn to apply because she had been very fortunate to work with WRAE's Director Tom Nash twice before in her career.

"We both 'got our start' in adult education at MSAD #57, and years later worked together at Sanford Community Adult Education," she said. "I know and appreciate Tom's commitment to adult education, his creativity, and his support of his staff, and I was very excited at the prospect of partnering with him again with enrichment programming. We've always been a good team."

Of everything she's learned since joining RSU 14, Colley said she finds the support of the RSU 14 Administration to be incredibly positive and supportive in providing Lifelong Learning programming including academic instruction, career training, self-help topics, recreational activities, and general fun to residents.

"This is a very diverse and committed community, hard-working and supportive of each other," Colley said. "We have great resources and opportunities and it's empowering to be part of it." <

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It's time to think spring with plants

By Kendra Raymond

STAFF WRITER

With the possibility that spring has sprung, it is time to turn our focus outside and think about early season garden preparations, bedding plants, and what might be new for 2024 in the gardening world. Despite the recent late-season nor'easter, the flora and fauna know that April has arrived. That means the return of robins, spring peepers chirping, sprouting flower bulbs, and flowering trees.

I am reminded of Charles Dickens quote in "Great Expectations": "It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade."

Maine winters are long, but when spring arrives, it is well-worth the wait. We are usually eager to jump into spring feet first and enjoy the wonders of springtime in the northeast.

Early season garden preparation

The warmer temperatures and longer days entice us to get outside and perhaps get our hands dirty in the

garden. There are some basic maintenance steps that should be addressed to ensure good garden health through the future growing season.

If temperatures are above 20 degrees, it is safe to remove dead plant material, unless you are interested in preserving a habitat for pollinators. In this case, it is a delicate balance. While some beneficial insects can live in the dead plant material, fungi and bacteria can also lurk there. Consider leaving a few hollow stems for insects and removing the remaining decomposing plant matter, just to be safe. Simply place it in a separate area of the yard and you will likely see a clientele of bird couples choosing nesting materials from your debris.

This is also a great time to prune fruit trees or shrubs. The University of Maine Cooperative Extension publishes the Maine Home Garden News, a monthly newsletter containing pertinent seasonal information written by educators, Extension specialists, and Master Gardeners.



A friendly garden gnome overlooks some daffodils emerging through a late season patch of snow at a Raymond home. PHOTO BY KENDRA RAYMOND

The April 2024 Maine Home Garden news says that it is time to maintain tools, eradicate brown tail moths, and possibly transplant shrubs. Once perennials begin to emerge in early May, those too can be divided and transplanted.

Start seedlings indoors

For ambitious home gardeners, it can be rewarding to start seedlings indoors. The Extension bulletin, "Starting Seeds at Home #2751" suggests that peppers, eggplant, tomato, broccoli, cabbage, impatiens, larkspur, and marigolds can be started at this time.

Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners also suggests starting beets, carrots, cilantro, dill, lettuce, peas, turnip, spinach, and onions indoors.

As a horticulturist, I would suggest a lot of planning and preparation before embarking on a seed starting project. This includes ample space, seed starting medium and containers, and growing lights. This hobby may not be economically feasible for everyone. However, for those interested in a rewarding challenge, indoor seed starting may be a great fit.

→ see GARDENS Page 10



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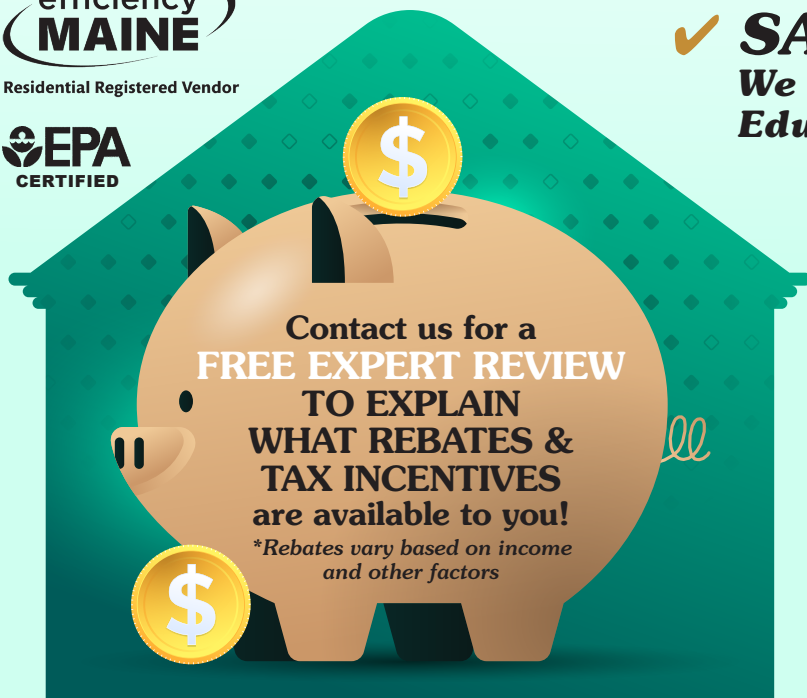
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GARDENS *Cont. from page 9*

Early color can spruce things up

While we wait for the first bit of color in the garden, it can be exciting to incorporate some cold hardy pansies in the early spring garden. Pansies can be sown directly into the ground or placed in plant pots on a step or deck. The ideal temperature for pansies is roughly 40-60 degrees Fahrenheit, but they can survive in temps in the 20s and will live all summer.

Kale plants are also cold weather tolerant and can add some texture to the landscape.

2024 Gardening trends

Looking toward the summer growing season, it is interesting to recognize that just like fashion and food, there are trends in gardening. What's all the rage this year? As always, container gardening is timeless. Containers are

portable and work well for gardeners with limited space or seniors who find bending and digging difficult.

Gardening for wildlife is gaining popularity. Think of providing resources for butterflies, birds, bees, or small mammals. This can be a great learning experience for kids and requires little effort.

Here's my favorite gardening trend for 2024: edimentals – ornamental plants that are edible. With the farm to table movement in full swing, why not join the craze and try it for yourself? This technique blurs the line between the flower garden and the vegetable garden, creating a pretty-yet-functional planting space.

Here is a link to the April 2024 Home Gardening News: <https://extension.umaine.edu/gardening/2024/04/01/maine-home-gardening-news-april-2024> <

A Matter of Faith



State Senator Tim Nangle of Windham, left, recently welcomed the Rev. Lisle Blind of St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Windham to the State House in Augusta. Rev. Blind provided the opening invocation on the floor of the Senate Chamber. 'It was an honor to have a Windham resident come up to Augusta and give such an inspirational message to guide our work for the day,' Nangle said. 'In these times of decision-making and deliberation, the reverend's invocation served as an excellent reminder of our collective responsibility to lead with integrity.' On legislative session days, faith leaders deliver a brief inspirational message to guide lawmakers through their deliberations for the day. Out of respect for the diversity in the Senate Chamber, opening invocations are non-secular and non-political in nature. If you are interested in giving an invocation, please reach out to Alex Ferguson at Alex.Ferguson@legislature.maine.gov or call 207-287-1540. SUBMITTED PHOTO

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Pride's Corner could soon be site of treasure hunt

By Ed Pierce

STAFF WRITER

It's a complicated tale not many people know about, but it might result in the discovery of a long-lost treasure beyond anyone's wildest imagination and resolve one of the greatest mysteries in British history. And it could be found right here in Windham.

Sometime in the mid-1960s, reportedly two hunters from Windham found a 50-pound lump of half-melted silver coins from the British Civil War era in Suckfish Brook near Highland Lake. Now six decades later, Dan Pride of Windham is searching for answers about that discovery and the remainder of a little-known treasure that changed the course of the British monarchy.

Here's how it all started.

On Dec. 6, 1648, at the conclusion of the English Civil War, Colonel Thomas Pride and a contingent of soldiers stood outside the entrance to St. Stephen's Chapel in the House of Commons of England and as the Commons convened that morning, they arrested 45 members and excluded a further 186 Royalists. It became known as "Pride's Purge" and eventually led to the trial of English King Charles I for high treason. Found

guilty by an English court, King Charles was executed in public at Whitehall before thousands including English statesman Oliver Cromwell.

The identity of the executioner, hidden in a hood, wig, and fake beard, is officially unknown but a local family legend has now been confirmed by a riddle left by Oliver Cromwell before his death, six Massachusetts baptismal records from 1686, a direct statement by King Charles II which reveals the crown's reasons for hiding the executioner's identity for three centuries, and new revealing datasets from Ancestry.com show that Joseph Pride, the founder of Prides Corner, Maine, was the executioner of King Charles I.

A decade after the purge in 1658, General Thomas Pride, the Knighted Grandee of Oliver Cromwell's victorious New Model Army, and member of the English House of Lords, died. Two years later, after the English Restoration of King Charles' son, King Charles II in 1660, the body of Thomas Pride was ordered dug up and posthumously executed, suspended on the gallows at Tyburn along with those of Oliver Cromwell, Henry Ireton and John Bradshaw, although it is said that the sentence was never carried out because his corpse was too far decayed.

The Royalists then attempted to hang his son, Joseph Pride, who barely escaped.

"According to Pride family legend, the escape from the king's men had a dramatic and ironic twist," said Dan Pride, a descendant of Joseph Pride. "With Red Coats hot on his heels, Joseph ran down a hill, out a dock, and dove into the sea and swam to a longboat that had already departed the dock. Purely by luck, it was the last longboat to a ship which was setting sail to the New World, and he got away."

Upon the death of his father, Joseph

Pride had inherited 4,000 silver coins from his father and is thought to have brought them with him to America.

Joseph Pride thereafter hid in Prides Corner in Maine for 26 years as the King of England and the entire British Empire sought him to kill him. He then emerged to baptize the six children he and his wife, Jane Pride, successfully raised on the shores of Highland Lake in the wilderness of Maine. They traveled with six small children on empty winter roads, avoiding the Red Coats, to the First Church in Beverly Mass. on Dec 12, 1686, one year

→ see HISTORY Page 21

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JOHN DEERE



Spring Car Care Guide

TAKE YOUR RIDE TO THE NEXT LEVEL WITH ACCESSORIES

Accessorizing vehicles, especially work trucks, can significantly enhance their functionality, productivity, and overall appeal. Whether you use your truck for hauling heavy loads, transporting equipment, or navigating rugged terrain, there are numerous accessories available to suit your specific needs and requirements. From practical add-ons to aesthetic enhancements, here's a comprehensive look at accessories for vehicles and work trucks.

1. Utility Racks and Toolboxes: For contractors, builders, and tradespeople, utility racks and toolboxes are essential accessories. Roof racks provide extra storage space for ladders, lumber, and other oversized items, while bed-mounted toolboxes keep tools and equipment organized and secure. These accessories maximize the truck's cargo capacity and ensure that everything you need is easily accessible.

2. Trailer Hitches and Towing Accessories: If you frequently tow trailers, boats, or other heavy loads, investing in a high-quality trailer hitch is a must. Additionally, accessories such as trailer brake controllers, tow mirrors, and weight distribution systems

can improve safety and stability while towing, allowing you to transport your cargo with confidence.

3. Bed Liners and Bed Covers: Protecting the truck bed from scratches, dents, and weather damage is essential for preserving its resale value and prolonging its lifespan. Bed liners, whether spray-on or drop-in, provide a durable barrier against impact and abrasion, while bed covers offer security and weather protection for valuable cargo.

4. Off-Road Accessories: For drivers who venture off the beaten path, off-road accessories are indispensable. Upgraded suspension systems, skid plates, and rock sliders help protect the vehicle's undercarriage from damage during off-road excursions, while oversized tires and lift kits improve ground clearance and traction in challenging terrain.

5. Lighting Upgrades: Enhanced visibility is crucial, especially when working late nights or in low-light conditions. Installing auxiliary lighting such as LED light bars, fog lights, or spotlights can illuminate the surrounding area, making it easier to navigate dark roads, job sites, or off-road trails.

6. Power Inverters and Auxilia-

ry Power Sources: Having access to power on the go is essential for powering tools, equipment, and electronic devices. Power inverters and auxiliary power outlets allow you to run power tools, charge batteries, and operate appliances directly from your vehicle, eliminating the need for separate generators or external power sources.

9. Weather Protection Accessories: From scorching sun to torrential rain, weather can take a toll on both your vehicle and its occupants. Weatherproofing accessories such as window visors, rain guards, and mud flaps help deflect wind, rain, and debris, keeping the interior clean and comfortable regardless of the weather conditions outside.

For those that are looking to accessorize their car or SUV there are also numerous options. From practical upgrades to aesthetic enhancements, here's a quick look at popular accessories for cars.

1. Vehicle Performance: For those looking to improve their vehicle's performance, there are plenty of accessories available to help you achieve your goals. Upgrading your car's suspension, exhaust system, or air intake can enhance its handling, power, and fuel efficiency. Performance chips

or tuners can also optimize your engine's performance, giving you an extra boost of power when you need it most.

2. Exterior Appearance: This can be done through the addition of aftermarket wheels, custom paint jobs, or body kits that give your car or truck a unique and eye-catching look. Other exterior accessories, such as roof racks, spoilers, or grille guards, not only enhance aesthetics but also add functionality by providing extra storage space or protection.

3. Interior Accessories: From custom seat covers and floor mats to high-tech gadgets like touchscreen displays and GPS navigation systems, there are numerous options to upgrade your car's interior. Accessories like phone mounts, USB chargers, and Bluetooth adapters also help you stay connected and entertained while on the road.

Ultimately, accessorizing your car or truck is all about personalizing it to fit your lifestyle and preferences. Whether you're looking to make a bold statement with custom modifications or simply improve its functionality and safety, there are endless possibilities when it comes to accessorizing your vehicle. <

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Spring Car Care Guide

FOUR SIGNS IT'S TIME TO REPLACE YOUR TIRES

Your vehicle's tires are the only point of contact between your car and the road, making them critical for safety, performance, and fuel efficiency. Over time, tires wear down due to factors such as road conditions, driving habits, and weather exposure. Knowing when it's time to replace your tires is essential for maintaining optimal driving conditions and preventing accidents. Here are some signs that indicate it may be time to invest in a new set of tires:

1. Tread Depth: One of the most common indicators that your tires need replacing is insufficient tread depth. Tread depth is crucial for maintaining traction and grip on wet, slippery roads. The legal minimum tread depth varies by region, but a general rule of thumb is to replace tires when the tread depth reaches 2/32 of an inch (1.6 millimeters). You can use a tread depth gauge or the penny test to check tread depth – if you can see all of Lincoln's head when inserting a penny into the tread, it's time for new tires.

2. Uneven Wear: Uneven wear patterns on your tires can indicate alignment issues, suspension problems, or improper tire inflation. Inspect your tires regularly for signs of uneven wear, such as excessive wear

on one side, cupping, or scalloping. Addressing these issues promptly can extend the life of your tires and prevent further damage to your vehicle.

3. Cracks, Bulges, or Blisters: Inspect the sidewalls of your tires for any visible damage, such as cracks, bulges, or blisters. These can be signs of internal tire damage or weakening of the tire structure, increasing the risk of a blowout or sudden tire failure. If you notice any abnormalities, have your tires inspected by a professional mechanic to determine if replacement is necessary.

4. Age: Even if your tires have plenty of tread left, they may still need replacing due to age-related deterioration. Tires degrade over time, regardless of mileage, due to factors such as exposure to sunlight, heat, and ozone. Most tire manufacturers recommend replacing tires every 6 to 10 years, even if they appear to be in good condition. Check the sidewall of your tires for the manufacturing date (usu-



ally indicated by a four-digit code), and consider replacing them if they are approaching or exceeding the recommended age limit.

5. Vibration or Vibrations: Experiencing excessive vibration or shaking while driving can be a sign of tire imbalance, misalignment, or internal tire damage. If you notice vibrations in the steering wheel, seat, or floorboard, have your tires inspected by a qualified technician. Balancing or rotating your tires may solve the issue, but if the vibrations persist, it may be time to replace your tires.

6. Decreased Fuel Efficiency: Worn or underinflated tires can increase rolling resistance, causing your vehicle's fuel efficiency to decrease. If you notice a sudden drop in fuel economy or have to fill up your gas tank more frequently than usual, it could be a sign that your tires are due for replacement. Investing in a new set of tires can not only improve fuel efficiency but also save you money in the long run.

7. Handling and Performance Issues: Worn or damaged tires can negatively affect your vehicle's handling, braking, and overall performance. If you notice that your car is taking longer to stop, has reduced traction or stability, or feels less responsive to steering inputs, it may be time to replace your tires. Driving on worn or compromised tires compromises your safety and increases the risk of accidents, so it's essential to address these issues promptly.

Regular inspections, maintenance, and prompt replacement of worn or damaged tires are essential for ensuring your safety on the road and maintaining optimal driving conditions. If you notice any of these signs, don't hesitate to consult with a qualified tire professional to assess your tires' condition and recommend the best course of action. Investing in a new set of tires is a small price to pay for peace of mind and enhanced safety on the road.

Springtime often brings seasonal tire promotions and discounts, making it a cost-effective time to invest in new tires. Taking advantage of these promotions can help you save money while ensuring that your vehicle is equipped with high-quality tires. <

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WHY REGULAR VEHICLE WASHES ARE IMPORTANT

Taking care of a vehicle involves more than just maintaining the equipment under the hood. There are a number of steps involved in keeping a car or truck in top form, and that includes regular car washes.

Car washes keep a vehicle shiny and clean, which can help it look good while sitting in the driveway or cruising the highway. However, regular car washes are more than cosmetic.

- **Protection from the sun:** A car that is routinely and properly washed and waxed is less vulnerable to damage from the sun's ultraviolet rays.

- **Extend the life of paint:** Dirt and debris can build up on the paint surface and eventually lead to scratches and other damage. Bird droppings and sap can be corrosive. Washing will help remove grime and protect the paint in the process.

- **Preserve the vehicle's value:** Drivers who plan to sell or trade in their vehicles in the future should realize that a well-maintained car can bring in as much as 20 percent more for above-average condition, according to Kelley Blue Book. Maintaining a clean and shiny vehicle can protect its long-term value.

- **Remove salt:** Drivers who live near the ocean or in areas where roads

are salted in the winter to melt snow may have cars with high salt corrosion rates. Unless it's washed off frequently, salt can take its toll, leading to damage. Oxidation can adversely affect iron-based metals. That can put vehicles in jeopardy for rust and take significant time off their life expectancy.

- **Improve fuel efficiency:** Drivers have felt pain in their wallets at the fuel pump in recent years. Dirty cars may be less aerodynamic and less fuel-efficient as a result. Keeping a car clean may improve its fuel efficiency.

- **Maintain the interior:** Car washes are not only about the exterior. Keeping a clean and tidy interior can help improve the air quality inside of the vehicle and prolong the life of upholstery, mats and interior components.

Other tips to protect your vehicle's paint job include:

- **Wax the exterior of the vehicle.** Waxing is a significant and simple way to protect vehicle paint. Certain paste waxes contain mild abrasives that help remove fine scratches from painted surfaces. Wax also can protect paint jobs from fading related to exposure to ultraviolet rays. That's especially noteworthy for drivers who do not routinely park their cars in a garage.



- **Professional buffing.** Over time, a car's paint can develop swirl marks, fine scratches, and other imperfections due to regular washing, environmental factors, and general wear and tear. Buffing involves gently abrading the surface of the paint with polishing compounds to remove these imperfections, leaving behind a smooth and glossy finish. Professional detailers have the training, expertise, and experience to properly assess the condition of your car's paint and determine the appropriate buffing techniques and products needed to achieve the best results.

- **Use a car cover.** Car covers may or may not be practical for cars drivers use every day, but they are an effective way to protect a paint job from the elements. Drivers who have a spare car

they rarely drive or even those who do not drive their primary vehicle a lot each day can purchase a universal-fit car cover or a premium cover designed specifically for their vehicles. Car covers protect paint jobs from ultraviolet rays and the elements and may reduce the need for more frequent trips to the car wash.

- **Park in the shade, but choose spots wisely.** Parking in the shade may protect vehicles from the ultraviolet rays of the sun, but it's important that drivers pick the right shady spot to park their cars and trucks. If you plan to park in the shade to protect the paint job, ideally choose a spot that is not directly beneath the tree.

A well-maintained vehicle can improve the appearance and life expectancy, which is something drivers should keep in mind as they hope to get the most out of their automotive investment.

Car washes should be a routine part of vehicle maintenance. Professional car washes tend to be more eco-friendly than washing a car at home and having a professional detail for the interior and exterior is sure to provide the most superior clean while also ensuring no damage is done to the vehicle materials. <




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Spring Car Care Guide

ROUTINE OIL CHANGES VITAL TO VEHICLE LONGEVITY

Regular oil changes are a fundamental aspect of vehicle maintenance, often touted as one of the simplest yet most crucial tasks for preserving engine health and maximizing performance. While it may seem like a minor chore, routine oil changes play a vital role in ensuring the longevity, efficiency, and reliability of your vehicle. Here's why staying on top of your oil change schedule is essential:

1. Lubrication: Oil serves as the lifeblood of your engine, lubricating its moving parts to minimize friction and reduce wear and tear. Over time, heat and pressure break down the molecular structure of the oil, causing it to lose its lubricating properties. Fresh, clean oil ensures that your engine's components remain adequately lubricated, reducing friction and preventing premature wear and damage.

2. Engine cooling: In addition to lubrication, oil also helps dissipate heat generated by the engine's internal combustion process. As the oil circulates through the engine, it absorbs heat from the combustion chambers and carries it away, helping to regulate engine temperature and prevent overheating. Overused or contaminated oil can become less effective at heat dissipation, leading to increased



engine temperatures and potentially causing overheating or engine failure.

3. Contaminant removal: Over time, dirt, debris, and combustion by-products accumulate in the oil, forming sludge and deposits that can clog engine passages and restrict oil flow. Regular oil changes remove these contaminants, flushing out old, dirty oil and replacing it with fresh, clean oil. This helps maintain proper oil circulation and prevents buildup that can impair engine performance and efficiency.

4. Engine protection: Clean oil acts as a protective barrier between the engine's metal surfaces, preventing metal-to-metal contact and reducing the risk of corrosion and damage. Regular oil changes help maintain this protective barrier, extending the life

of your engine and reducing the likelihood of costly repairs or component failures.

5. Improved fuel efficiency: Proper engine lubrication and cooling provided by fresh oil contribute to smoother engine operation and improved fuel efficiency. When your engine is running efficiently, it requires less fuel to produce the same amount of power, resulting in better gas mileage and lower fuel costs over time. Neglecting oil changes can lead to decreased fuel efficiency as the engine works harder to overcome increased friction and heat.

6. Warranty compliance: Many vehicle warranties require regular oil changes as part of the recommended maintenance schedule. Failure to adhere to these requirements could void your warranty coverage, leaving you responsible for any repair costs resulting from engine damage or failure. By keeping up with routine oil changes, you not only protect your engine but also ensure compliance with warranty terms and conditions.

7. Peace of mind: Perhaps most importantly, regular oil changes provide peace of mind, knowing that your vehicle's engine is well-maintained and operating at its best. By investing in preventative maintenance and staying

ahead of potential problems, you can avoid unexpected breakdowns, prolong the life of your vehicle, and enjoy worry-free driving for years to come.

8. Check oil levels between oil changes: Monitoring the oil level regularly, even for newer vehicles, allows you to ensure that your engine is adequately lubricated and protected against wear and damage. A low oil level can indicate leaks, burning oil, or excessive consumption, all of which can lead to engine problems if left unaddressed. By checking the oil level between oil changes, you can catch potential issues early and take corrective action before they escalate, ultimately extending the life of your engine and preventing costly repairs.

Routine oil changes are a simple yet essential aspect of vehicle maintenance that should not be overlooked. This is also a good time to have your tires rotated to ensure longevity and even tire wear. Having a professional mechanic perform these simple tasks is also a great chance for them to give your vehicle a lookover for other potential safety hazards or equipment failures. Make oil changes a priority in your maintenance routine, and reap the benefits of a worry-free driving experience. <



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THE ADVANTAGES OF MODERN VEHICLE FEATURES

Modern vehicles come equipped with a plethora of advanced features designed to enhance safety, comfort, and convenience for drivers and passengers alike. From cutting-edge technology to innovative design elements, these features offer numerous advantages that make driving a more enjoyable and secure experience.

One of the most significant advantages of modern vehicle features is improved safety. Technologies such as adaptive cruise control, lane departure warning systems, and automatic emergency braking help prevent accidents by alerting drivers to potential hazards and even taking corrective action when necessary. These features can significantly reduce the risk of collisions and make driving safer for everyone on the road.

In addition to safety enhancements,

modern vehicle features also prioritize comfort and convenience. Features like keyless entry, push-button start, and automatic climate control make getting in and out of the car and adjusting settings a breeze. Advanced infotainment systems with touchscreen displays, smartphone integration, and voice commands keep drivers connected and entertained while on the road.

Another advantage of modern vehicle features is improved fuel efficiency. Many newer vehicles come equipped with technologies such as hybrid powertrains, start-stop systems, and aerodynamic designs that help conserve fuel and reduce emissions. These features not only save drivers money at the pump but also contribute to a cleaner environment by reducing carbon emissions.

Furthermore, modern vehicles are designed with driver assistance systems that make driving easier and more enjoyable. Features like parking assist, blind-spot monitoring, and rear-view cameras help drivers navigate tight spaces and avoid potential obstacles with confidence. These technologies take the stress out of driving and give drivers added peace of mind on the road.

Overall, the advantages of modern vehicle features are vast and varied,

offering benefits in terms of safety, comfort, convenience, fuel efficiency, and more. As automotive technology continues to advance, drivers can expect even more innovative features that further enhance the driving experience and make the roadways safer for everyone. Whether it's preventing accidents, improving fuel economy, or simply making life behind the wheel more enjoyable, modern vehicle features are undoubtedly changing the way we drive for the better. <

DID YOU KNOW?

Shoppers in the market for new vehicles may experience some sticker shock when heading to a nearby dealership to price out the inventory. According to findings from Kelley Blue Book released in September 2023, the average cost of a new car was well over \$48,000, which is up almost \$6,000 from two years ago and about \$10,000 from September 2020. Various factors have driven this increase. In addition to inflation, continued disruptions to buying habits, manufacturing processes and personal finances related to the global pandemic have taken their toll. In addition, many automakers have reduced or discontinued production on lower-priced sedans and compact cars as many consumers increasingly gravitate toward more costly SUVs. Comparatively speaking, the average price for preowned vehicles at the same time was around \$33,500, according to the research site iSeeCars.com.

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THE IMPORTANCE OF ADDRESSING RUST AT THE FIRST SIGN

Addressing rust at the first sign of its appearance is crucial for maintaining the integrity and aesthetics of your vehicle. Rust, a form of corrosion that occurs when iron or steel is exposed to moisture and oxygen, can quickly spread and cause extensive damage if left untreated.

Here's why it's important to take prompt action when you notice signs of rust on your vehicle:

- **Prevents further damage:** Rust starts small, often as a tiny spot or bubble on the surface of the paint. However, if left unchecked, it can spread rapidly, eating away at the metal and compromising the structural integrity of the vehicle. By addressing rust at the first sign, you can prevent it from spreading and causing more extensive damage to your car's body panels, frame, or undercarriage.
- **Preserves aesthetics:** Rust is not only a structural issue but also an aesthetic one. It detracts from the appearance of your vehicle, leaving unsightly blemishes and imperfections on the paint surface.

Rust spots can quickly escalate from minor discolorations to large, unsightly patches that detract from the overall appeal of your car. By addressing rust early on, you can preserve the appearance of your vehicle and maintain its value over time.

- **Saves money:** Ignoring rust can lead to costly repairs down the line. Once rust has spread and caused extensive damage, fixing it becomes more challenging and expensive. In severe cases, rust damage may even be irreparable, requiring costly replacement of affected components. By addressing rust at the first sign, you can save yourself time, money, and headaches in the long run by avoiding more extensive repairs or premature vehicle replacement.
- **Protects resale value:** Rust can significantly reduce the resale value

of your vehicle. Potential buyers are likely to be deterred by the presence of rust, as it suggests neglect and poor maintenance. By addressing rust promptly and keeping your vehicle in good condition, you can maximize its resale value and attract more potential buyers when it comes time to sell or trade in.

- **Ensures safety:** In addition to structural and aesthetic concerns, rust can also compromise the safety of your vehicle. Rust weakens metal components, making them more susceptible to failure or collapse. This

can pose serious safety hazards for you and your passengers, especially in the event of a collision or other impact. Addressing rust promptly helps ensure that your vehicle remains safe and reliable on the road.

In conclusion, addressing rust at the first sign is essential for preserving the integrity, appearance, and value of your vehicle. By taking prompt action to address rust spots and prevent further corrosion, you can protect your investment, save money on repairs, and ensure the safety and longevity of your vehicle for years to come. <

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HOW TO READ A VEHICLE HISTORY REPORT

The value of a new vehicle depreciates considerably the moment it is driven off a dealership lot. Bankrate reports that a car loses between 9 and 11 percent of its value the moment it leaves the dealership, and over the first five years a vehicle loses roughly 40 percent of its value.

The fact that vehicles are expensive and lose value so quickly compels some consumers to consider pre-owned cars and trucks as more affordable and financially savvy options. However, preowned vehicles come with their own risks, such as the potential for hidden problems. A vehicle history report is something every prospective preowned vehicle buyer should ask to see before buying a car or truck. Sometimes these reports are a free service offered by a seller, particularly an established dealership. But buyers may have to pay to get a

vehicle history report, which typically cost between \$25 and \$40.

Kelley Blue Book says a vehicle history report is a collection of records that provide information on a used vehicle that are pulled from thousands of sources. A report may be referred to as a "Carfax," which is the name of a firm that offers these types of reports. However, Car & Driver indicates that Carfax® only provides information that was reported, so their reports may not paint the full picture. A typical vehicle history report will indicate, among other things, how many people owned the car; whether or not the vehicle has been in a collision; the mileage on the vehicle; if the car is current on inspections; and if the vehicle is branded a lemon.

Consumers should know what to look for when reading a report. While some of the data will be obvious, there



sure the vehicle identification number (VIN) for the vehicle matches what is on the vehicle history report.

- **Location of sales:** The locations where the vehicle was used and stored also is important. For example, some may be hesitant if a vehicle was kept by the coast due to moisture and salty conditions that could cause premature wear and tear on components.

- **Fleet vehicle:** Carfax says that the history report will indicate if the vehicle spent time in a fleet. This includes rental vehicles, government vehicles, company vehicles, and dealer vehicles. A fleet vehicle may have had many different drivers over a short period of time.

It is highly recommended to pay close attention to the most recent parts of a vehicle's history report. If there have been multiple changes in ownership or increased service records for certain parts, that may indicate there is something seriously wrong with the car.

Vehicle history reports are another tool buyers can use when vetting pre-owned cars or trucks. <

are some less apparent points to consider as well.

- **Title:** Make sure the vehicle never had a salvage title or other title problems. A salvage title, for example, is a vehicle that has been declared a total loss from collision, flood, theft, fire, or vandalism. Additional issues may arise when the seller's name is not on the title. A rebuilt title means the vehicle was once salvaged but then refurbished.

- **Ownership:** The vehicle history report will indicate how many owners have had the vehicle. A car that has changed hands many times may not be the best investment.

- **VIN:** It's important to make

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→ **RAYMOND** *Cont. from page 3*

so we will have seven-day coverage while allowing regular days off for the employees. As an update, Public Safety has had word that their new rescue/pumper truck approved at the 2022 Town Meeting should be ready in 2025.”

She said that Fire Chief Bruce Tupper has been talking with Sebago Fiber about using the broadband initiative to increase radio coverage.

“There are still areas of Raymond that have no coverage,” Look said. “Their budget request includes money to cover overtime due to medical leaves, vacation, etc. coverage and the unpredictability of emergency calls. As you know there has been a committee looking at bringing broadband access to Raymond.”

Look also said she’s been in discussions with the town attorney about the possibility of using TIF monies for some of the cost and hope to have more information about what that entails soon.

“For Debt Services, there have not yet been any expenses paid from the bond that was approved at last year’s Town Meeting,” Look said. “The work done thus far at Tassel Top on the Snack Shack replacement has been covered by ARPA monies, once these have been expended the project will rely on the bond. The improvements

to Shari Gagnon Park are scheduled to begin in the Fall of 2024. The tipping fees and contract prices have increased this year by a total of \$42,605.”

Public Works also had to go back out to bid for a mowing contract as the previous company decided to stop doing mowing altogether, Look said.

“All indications thus far are that the mowing will be significantly more than in past years. Parks & Rec is looking to delete the half position that was in budget last year and add a full-time position of Assistant Parks & Rec Director who will work with the Director, in particular running the Summer Camp program,” she said. “The year-round variety of programs has been gaining in popularity each year, especially in the summer season.”

The Raymond Village Library only requested a 1.86 percent increase.

They have been awarded grants, the Friends of RVL have been very generous with their efforts, and they could not continue without the support of their many volunteers.

“The end result is we are proposing an overall increase of 10.69 percent or \$714,536 and \$276,000 of which is the bond payment approved at last year’s Town Meeting,” Look said. “The rest of the budget increased by 6.56 percent.”

The Raymond budget warrant articles do not include Cumberland County or RSU 14 warrant articles. <

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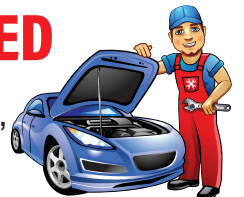
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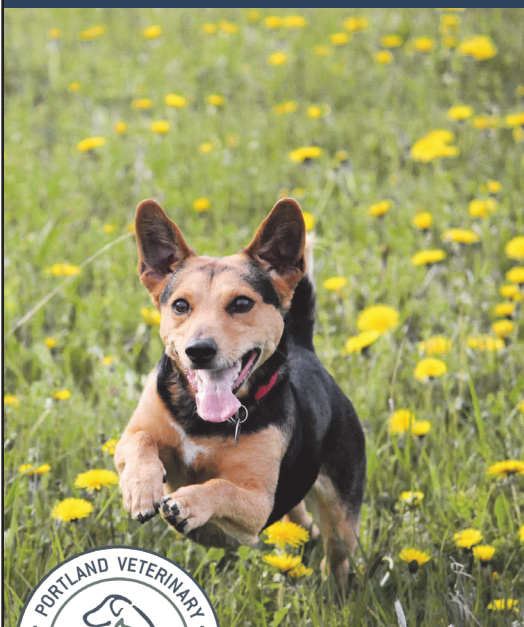


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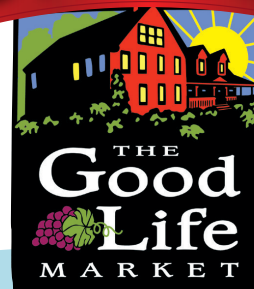
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Thurs. 4/18 ~ 9am-2pm
Fri. 4/19 ~ 4pm-7pm

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BRIEFS

Turkey Dinner

The Highland Lake Grange is sponsoring a roasted turkey dinner from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 13. There will be roasted turkey, vegetables, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, bread, cranberry sauce, and cake. The cost is \$10 each. Have the exact cash. No pre-orders available, you drive up, pay and receive your meal. The grange is located on the corner of Route 302 and Hardy Road, Westbrook. FMI, call 207-233-7119.

Windham Cancer Support Group

Windham's Cancer Support Group will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, April 15 at the Windham Public Library. All meetings are confidential, and anyone affected by cancer is encouraged to attend. FMI, send an email to plrfrenchie51@aol.com

Teen Hangout

Teens grades 6-12 are invited to

hangout with your friends after school on Monday afternoons at 2 p.m. at the Windham Public Library. Come to the library meeting room for Nintendo Switch games, board and card games, and other activities. No registration required—just drop by.

Chess Club

Join Roger Bannon and other chess enthusiasts for Chess Club on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Windham Public Library Study Rooms upstairs. All ages and abilities are welcome, Roger will teach new players!

Thrift Shop

The North Windham Union Church United Church of Christ Thrift Shop at 723 Roosevelt Trail in Windham across from the fire station is open from 10 a.m. to noon Wednesdays and Thursdays. Come shop and find bargains on clothing, coats, sheets, fleece fabric, household items, books, puzzles, and more.

Clothing sale

The Casco Village Church United Church of Christ, at 941 Meadow Road, will host its "Clothes Closet Clearance Sale" from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 20. All winter items must go to make room for spring. Fill a brown grocery bag for \$5. (Limit of six bags.) FMI, call 207-627-4282.

Suicide Support

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.

Windham Pantry

The Windham Food Pantry and General Assistance at 377 Gray Road in Windham is open by appointment only Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. To make an appointment for the Food Pantry call 207-892-1931 or for an appointment for General Assistance call 207-892-1906.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

TOWN OF RAYMOND, MAINE

PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC MEETING

Broadcast Studio - 423 Webbs Mills Road
and Via ZOOM

Wednesday, April 17, 2024 • 7:00 PM

You are hereby notified that the Raymond Planning Board will hold a Meeting at the Raymond Broadcast Studio and via Zoom on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at 7:00 pm on the following matters:

SITE PLAN REVIEW REVISED PLAN

APPLICANT: Allen Solar, LLC

LOCATION: Map: 004 Lot: 68 & 68A Zone RR & LRR1
Roosevelt Trail

DESCRIPTION: Site Plan - 996 kWac Ground Mounted
Solar Power Generation Facility

**This matter will ONLY be addressed if the Board has received a Scope of Work for the Peer Review discussed March 20, 2024. THERE WILL BE NO PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION.*

PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN REVIEW

APPLICANT: Scott Simons, Simons Architects

LOCATION: Map: 009 Lot: 19 Zone LRR1
85 Plains Road – Camp Timanous

DESCRIPTION: Site Plan – Youth Camp Barn &
Kitchen Renovations

PRELIMINARY PLAN REVIEW

APPLICANT: Nicolas Cummings by Dustin Roma

LOCATION: Map: 004 Lot: 15B Zone LRR2
Mila's Woods Road

DESCRIPTION: Road Construction Permit

PRELIMINARY PLAN REVIEW

APPLICANT: Keystone Investment Group LLC by Dustin Roma

LOCATION: Map: 007 Lot: 32 Zone VR
Alfred Mann Drive

DESCRIPTION: Road Construction Permit

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 your computer or router/firewall does not block YouTube content.

Copy of the submitted applications are available for review on the town website (www.raymondmaine.org/content/planningboard-agenda) after March 27, 2024, or at the Town Office (401 Webbs Mills Road) by appointment during regular business hours.

JOIN ZOOM MEETING

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85149916539?pwd=M1dZUURFTFhXVEZCSU5wQTdlc1lUUT09>

Meeting ID: 851 4991 6539

Passcode: 0S4dxu

ONE TAP MOBILE

Meeting ID: 851 4991 6539

Passcode: 466711

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85149916539?pwd=M1dZUURFTFhXVEZCSU5wQTdlc1lUUT09>

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

TOWN OF RAYMOND, MAINE

NOTICE OF STAFF REVIEW

You are hereby notified that the Raymond Code Enforcement Officer and Town Planner are conducting a Site Plan Staff Review on the following matter:

APPLICANT: Kevin Gagnon

LOCATION: Malibu Drive MAP 10, LOT 8-C; ZONE RR

DESCRIPTION: Create a backlot driveway extension of Malibu Dr.

Copy of the submitted application is available for review at the Town Office (401 Webbs Mills Road) by appointment during regular business hours. Please call 207-655-4742 x134 to schedule an appointment. Documents are also on the Town's website.

You have until May 3rd, 2024 to respond with any objections or concerns about this project.

You may email your comments to the Raymond Planning and Zoning Administrative Assistant at sandy.fredricks@raymondmaine.org.

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HISTORY *Cont. from page 11*

after his pursuer, King Charles II, had died, and the fury of the man-hunt for him had lessened.

His son, also known as Joseph Pride, registered a parcel of land in Falmouth/Westbrook area now known as Prides Corner and 65 years later in 1726, land registrations began in Maine.

The remains of his cabin, depicted on an early painted plate, circa 1725, are located at Mast and Pride Farm Road, and neighbor to the Puringtons. The area was plowed several years ago but was carefully examined beforehand. The painted plate was handed down through the generations, along with the story, and is missing today, Dan Pride says. The site of the farm depicted on the plate is against a gentle hill in a field, possibly covered with trees now.

According to Dan Pride, Joseph Pride would have been unable to spend the coins for himself, at any point during his lifetime. Circulating distinctive and uncommon New Model Army minted silver would have led the British Red Coats to his door in short order in the small and confined colonial economy. The coins were a mortal threat to him, not a source of wealth. It wouldn't matter if he spent them or someone else did, he would be dead either way, and it's probably why he apparently never even told his kids about the coins.

Dan Pride suspects that to possibly conceal the silver coins, Joseph Pride

partially melted 300 of them into the 50-pound silver lump found by the hunters near Highland Lake in the 1960s. He believes the other 3,700 coins were buried on or near his property and they remain there to this day. Recently one coin from the same period was auctioned for \$80,000. That would make the missing coins worth \$234 million in today's currency.



Shown is an example of an English Civil War Coin. COURTESY PHOTO

Joseph Pride's refuge in the Mast Road area was no accident and it was not random, Dan Pride says. His father, Lord Thomas Pride, had become fabulously wealthy as a supplier of lumber and building materials used to build the British Fleet and the supplies used to sustain it throughout the 1650s. With an abundant supply of lumber, the Mast Road area served as a plentiful resource to build British sailing vessels. Whomever cut it, Highland Lake Masting created safe, extremely remote, and cleared land of the finest farming quality, functional transport both out for lumber and masts and in for supplies, not to mention for hiding 4,000 silver coins by burying them there.

The story of the coins was passed down through generations of Prides and now Dan Pride is about to embark upon a search to try and find the missing silver coins in conjunction with current property owners in the area. If he succeeds, the identity of the executioner of King Charles I will be confirmed, and the legend of the missing treasure will become a reality. <

Collins secures nearly \$3.7 million for Maine Veterans' Homes

U.S. Senator Susan Collins, Vice Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, has announced that she has secured \$3.68 million in Congressionally Directed Spending for Maine Veterans' Homes in the Fiscal Year 2024 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations bill. Congress has passed the bill, and President Joe Biden has signed it into law.

"Maine Veterans' Homes has long provided those who served with access to high-quality rehabilitative and therapy services, as well as long-term, short-term, and dementia nursing care," said Senator Collins.

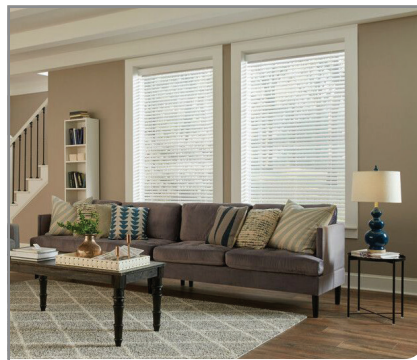
Maine Veterans' Homes officials are grateful for the support and leadership shown by Collins.

Maine Veterans' Home Chief Exec-

utive Officer Sharon Fusco said, "this funding will provide critical facility upgrades and equipment that will ensure the continued health and safety of our residents. This funding ensures our tradition of providing quality care to those who sacrificed for our freedom continues for years to come."

This funding is part of the 231 targeted investments Senator Collins secured through the FY2024 appropriations process, driving more than \$577 million to the state for projects throughout each of Maine's 16 counties.

In 2021, Congress reinstated Congressionally Directed Spending and following this decision, Senator Collins secured more than \$500 million for hundreds of Maine projects for FY2022 and FY2023. <



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Eagle SPORTS

Windham girls' lacrosse does not let up despite loss

By Matt Pascarella

STAFF WRITER

Windham girls' lacrosse team traveled to Cape Elizabeth on Monday, April 8 to play Cape Elizabeth in a preseason matchup before the regular season kicks off on Friday, April 12 when Windham takes on Kennebunk. While Cape Elizabeth had a strong start, once Windham got going, they put several goals in. However, after a hard-fought game where Windham stayed in it for 48 minutes, Cape Elizabeth won the game, 15-7.

"Our team is really good at staying positive," said Windham sophomore Olivia McPherson, who scored in the fourth quarter. "Even if we're down, we always put in effort, and never give up. We need to work on passing in the eight, because sometimes they get intercepted or ground balls – those are something we struggle with. We did really, really well on our new plays. We're putting new plays in, putting new people in so everybody gets a chance; always got to stay positive and play with a good mindset."

Cape Elizabeth jumped to an early lead in the first quarter, but with 55 seconds left, Windham junior Grace Joly rock-eted the ball past the goalie.

In the second quarter, Windham cranked up the intensity with junior Neve Ledbetter who scored early in the quarter. Windham defense made it a lot harder for Cape Elizabeth to get near the goal and limited their scoring opportunities.

"From this game we learned a lot about the importance of playing together as a team," said Ledbetter. "We didn't have that many days of practice, so we were coming out a little



(L to R) Windham senior Emma Ammons moves around the scoring area before passing the ball during a preseason girls' lacrosse game on Monday, April 8 at Cape Elizabeth. Sophomore Maddy Donnelly (right) goes to stop her opponent. PHOTOS BY MATT PASCARELLA

harsh – it was hard to get back into it. It's good to start climbing the ladder to the actual season. The transition went really, really well; we have a ton of girls hustling on the ride. It's important that everyone is hustling and giving their best effort. The whole team was pushing themselves to be better and that resulted in turnovers. We need more chemistry, but I feel like we are on a good track right now, we just need some more time on the practice field."

Joly scored again. With 46 seconds left in the half, Ledbetter found the back of the net once more. Windham out-scored Cape Elizabeth in the second quarter, though the Capers led, 6-4, at the half.

Windham's intensity and hustle never faded; seconds into the third quarter, they took a shot at goal. A

short time later Windham senior Emma Ammons fired another shot at the goal.

Cape Elizabeth scored several goals during this quarter, but Windham kept their heads up.

In the fourth quarter Joly scored almost immediately. McPherson scored part-way through the quarter as did sophomore Abby Trainor.

"We played 24 girls today," said Windham girls' lacrosse head coach Matt Perkins. "We're still trying to give everybody reps before we tighten the belt to see who's what and make sure everybody has enough

time to prove themselves. Not practicing for four days didn't help, but they're a good team and we'll continue to develop, it's just a process. We had good hustle at times and at times executed the offense well. We got some brand-new people on defense, but it's coming – it's all about not getting beat up or worrying about making a mistake."

Perkins and Windham girls' lacrosse assistant coach Rusty Babb said before the team plays Kennebunk on Friday, throwing and catching will need work as well as knowing and being where you're supposed to be. <



(L to R) Junior Neve Ledbetter charges through several Cape Elizabeth opponents. Sophomore Olivia McPherson heads toward the goal before scoring.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Aiden Benish

Age: 17 Team: WHS varsity boys' lacrosse

Coach: Peter Small

Parents' names: Elizabeth and Rich Benish

Reason for selection: Aiden is one of Windham High's senior lacrosse defensemen and does many things well – he focuses, he asks questions, he's a leader with some of the younger guys. He has given 100 percent every time he's on the field; he's one of those kids whose play is so solid, he can be overlooked because he's so consistently solid. What coaches have seen in the first two weeks from him is solid leadership, solid defensive play and it's been great to see. He has demonstrated "I want to get better at my craft, I have got to learn the skills, I've got to learn the technique," so he has gone out and played a ton, but he's also always helping younger kids out, but not in an arrogant way – very positive and very uplifting when he talks to other people.

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Football remains a focus for WHS graduate Ledbetter

By Matt Pascarella

STAFF WRITER

Before graduating in 2022, Windham High's Robert "Will" Ledbetter was a star prep quarterback who helped his team earn a spot in the Class B State Championship football game in 2021 and excelled in the classroom. Now a sophomore at the University of New England (UNE) in Biddeford, Ledbetter is coming off one of the Nor'easters' most successful seasons in program history as the team finished with a final record of 6-4.

He is majoring in applied exercise science at UNE and would like to use that knowledge for a clinical role within the healthcare and medical device sales industry after college.

Off the field, Ledbetter serves as the Presidential Ambassador on campus as well as a residential advisor for first-year students. He is also a member of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee and has worked for the Conference Services at UNE.

"Will beat out a senior and a junior in his first year here to become the backup quarterback," said UNE offensive coordinator Coach Tim Viall. "He is an elite listener and communicator. He works incredibly hard. He plays and competes with a great balance of emotion and poise. He is driven by personal/team goals while remaining selfless. He sees the field well and plays instinctually. He has a quick release and can make any throw. He approaches every practice, drill and repetition with purpose. Will ... is stronger, faster, and more resilient to injury. All of these pieces have

been applied to his skills on the field and we have seen him steadily improve his game in his time with us. We look forward to continued hard work and development over the next two years."

It was Ledbetter's dad who first sparked his interest in football. His father introduced him to the game in elementary school and since then has been an invaluable teacher.

"Starting young, football did not come naturally, and it was something I could work on to get better and better," said Ledbetter. "Nobody's game is ever perfect, and I loved the fact that I could keep improving my game every season and off-season. The chase to become as good as I possibly could is what kept me going and keeps me playing today. What I enjoy most about football is the puzzle I must solve every play as the quarterback. The defense always gives new looks trying to confuse or trick the offense and it is part of my job to figure it out and get our playmakers the ball."

Ledbetter's goal is to finish his career as a Nor'easter and ensure the growth of the program while making sure he's done his part to improve the



(L to R) Windham High graduate and University of New England sophomore Robert "Will" Ledbetter looks to make a pass at Blue Storm field in Biddeford while playing Castleton State University on Saturday, Sept. 30, 2023. Ledbetter is majoring in applied exercise science at UNE and wants to get into a clinical role in the healthcare and medical device sales industry. Ledbetter plays quarterback for UNE during a college football game in Massachusetts against Curry College on Saturday, Oct. 21, 2023. PHOTOS BY AL PEREZ

program and athletes' experiences as they move through their time at UNE.

Windham's football program prepared him to play collegiately by giving him key tools. They left him with the mindset to control attitude, effort and coachability. Also, his time with the Eagles gave him the ability to play in a spread offense which helped Ledbetter schematically transition from high school to college ball. Those skills and mindsets have allowed him to be successful in college.

"There's a lot of things that makes Will a good teammate," said UNE sophomore Zak Ramos. "He's a guy that you can always rely on to have your back on and off the field; know-

ing Will and what he juggles and the number of responsibilities he has on campus is something that definitely stands out. Will is very vocal too which is always something that as a teammate is appreciated and I think that correlates with his ability to lead on the field too. I know not only me, but a lot of the guys appreciate Will's style of leadership. He's not over the top in terms of harping on guys; he's a guy in the locker room who jokes around ... but when it's time to be serious, he hones it in and makes sure that we're locked in."

Ledbetter's advice to any high school athlete who wants to play a collegiate sport is to be realistic in their goals, and to find schools that match their needs academically, athletically, socially, and financially. He also advises them to learn as much as they can about a program, the coaching staff, and the school. Lastly, and most importantly, he said it is possible, and you can do it.

Aside from Ledbetter's many activities on and off the field, in his free time he likes to snowboard, spend time in Maine and be surrounded by friends and family. <

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Enough already; I confess!

▶ **By Andy Young**
SPECIAL TO THE WINDHAM EAGLE



- Andy Young, Columnist

I owe northern New England an apology.

I'm the one responsible for the recent power outages, the sore snow-shoveling muscles, the non-working phones, the absent internet, the spoiled frozen (and re-frigerated) food, and related misfortune(s).

I realize I'm putting myself at great personal risk by revealing my culpability. But if I take credit for everything I've accomplished so far in my life, like winning the Academy Award, the Nobel Peace Prize, and the Olympic Decathlon gold medal, well, it's only fair

that when I'm at fault for something, I own up to it.

I have a friend in Arizona who cannot understand how anyone can live year-round in frigid Maine, which he and his equally ignorant friends refer to as "East Alaska." But that's okay; I don't understand how anyone can live year-round in a parched, oven-like state which my equally ignorant friends and I refer to as "North Hell."

I gleefully called him a month ago to boast about our incredibly mild, just concluded (or so I thought) Maine winter. Generally, he's the one calling me sometime in early March, right after I've shoveled another foot of snow off the driveway at 4 a.m. so I can get to work on time. And when he does, he really lays it on thick, describing the

difficulty of enduring their frigid, humidity-free 55-degree nights.

But he knows he'd better razz me while he can, because come summer, which arrives around May Day down there, I'll be giving as good as I got. I'll tell him about needing a sweatshirt to stay warm on our chilly, humidity-free 55-degree evenings, and how difficult tolerating daytime temperatures that sometimes rise to a stratospheric 75 degrees can be. I imagine him, sweating like a bear, gritting his teeth during our summer chats the same way I do when he calls in mid-February to inform me that he's outdoors wearing a red tank top for Valentine's Day.

But this year's unusually mild winter gave me the chance to get the jump on our annual climate-related conversations. I called to let him know that all the snow, including what always accumulates at the bottom of the driveway thanks to the town plow and my endless shoveling, was completely gone on March 12! Not only that, the only three times I used the shovels all winter was for pushing broom-style, rather than for any actual lifting and throwing. I also alluded, none-so-subtly, to the coming six-month heatwave looming for him and his fellow knuckleheads in the Valley of the Sun.

Apparently, that's where I went wrong. I'd offended the Karma gods before, but on those occasions the only person whose backside got bitten due to my indiscretion was me.

But evidently, I went too far this time, and we've all seen the results. We've lost power in my neighborhood



on three consecutive weekends, and it's likely the last of the snow piles at the end of the driveway won't disappear before May 1. And just in case I hadn't figured out it was my crowing about our mild winter that was responsible for all the recent weather-related misfortune, I got irrefutable confirmation last Thursday when, during one of its multiple runs up and down our street, the town snowplow knocked over just one mailbox.

Mine.

I can't undo the damage I've done, but I'm determined to signal the karma gods that I'll never displease them again. I'm just trying to figure out how to get their attention. I'd try waving a white flag, but given all the snow still on the ground, I doubt they'd be able to see it. <

Aubrey Eklund

Grade: 5 **School:** Manchester School
Teacher: Mrs. Falasca
Favorite subject(s) in school: Science
Parent's names: Stephanie Eklund and Zac Eklund
Reason for selection: Aubrey takes her learning seriously and works hard to always do her best. Recently, she has put in a huge amount of effort to memorize all 50 states and capitals of the United States. Aubrey is a good friend and is an overall kind and supportive member of our classroom community!

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Eagle REAL ESTATE & Home

The importance of calculating, reviewing and revisiting the replacement cost value of your home

► **By Tricia Zwirner**
SPECIAL TO THE WINDHAM EAGLE



— Tricia Zwirner, State Farm

Oftentimes people will purchase a homeowners insurance policy when they purchase their home; however, many pay little attention to their policies after that. Over time, as they make renovations such as upgrading their kitchen, adding a deck, building a new garage, etc, they fail to review their homeowners coverage with their agent to ensure they are properly covered. This, unfortunately, can lead to a potential gap in coverage.

The replacement cost of your home is a critical factor in determining the adequacy of the coverage provided by your homeowners insurance policy. It represents the amount of money required to rebuild your home from the ground up if it were to be completely destroyed by a covered peril, such as fire, severe weather, or vandalism. In Maine, like in many other states, this cost can fluctuate over time due to various factors, making regular reviews of your insurance coverage essential.

Most Important Factors Influencing the replacement cost of homes in Maine

• **Construction Costs:** Maine's construction industry is influenced by factors such as material prices, labor rates, and regulatory require-

ments. Construction materials like lumber, steel, and roofing materials can experience price fluctuations based on market demand, supply chain disruptions, and global economic conditions.

• **Regional Economic Trends:** Maine's economy, including its real estate market and overall economic health, can impact construction costs. Economic growth, employment rates, and industry trends can influence the availability of skilled labor and the cost of building materials.

• **Environmental Considerations:** Maine's unique environmental factors, such as its coastal location, weather patterns, and risk of natural disasters like winter storms and coastal flooding, can affect construction costs. Homes in coastal areas may require additional measures to withstand saltwater corrosion and coastal erosion, adding to replacement costs.

• **Building Codes and Standards:** Compliance with building codes and standards, which can vary by location and evolve over time, can impact construction costs. Upgrades or modifications needed to meet current building codes may increase the replacement cost of your home.

• **Home Improvements and Upgrades:** Any improvements or upgrades made to your home, such as remodeling projects, additions, or energy-efficient upgrades, can affect its replacement cost. These enhancements may increase the overall value of your property and necessitate ad-

justments to your insurance coverage.

Importance of Reviewing Home Replacement Cost for Insurance in Maine

• **Accurate Coverage:** Ensuring that your insurance coverage reflects the current replacement cost of your home is crucial for adequate protection. Underestimating the replacement cost could leave you underinsured in the event of a total loss, while overestimating could result in unnecessarily high premiums.

• **Compliance with Policy Requirements:** Many insurance poli-

cies require homeowners to maintain coverage equal to a certain percentage of their home's replacement cost. Reviewing and updating your coverage helps ensure compliance with policy terms and avoids potential coverage gaps.

• **Protection Against Inflation:** Inflation erodes the purchasing power of money over time. The cost of materials, labor, and services needed for home reconstruction can increase due to inflation. Regularly assessing and adjusting your insurance coverage protects against the effects of

→ see REAL ESTATE Page 28

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Cooking Corner

By Ed Pierce
STAFF WRITER

Ye 'Old Crazy Cake

Here's a simple recipe that came from an old newspaper clipping found in one of my mother's cookbooks after she passed away a few years ago. She had ripped it out of a newspaper sometime in the 1940s and saved it to make for our family as we were growing up. I can only think of her making this once and it was when we had a relative visiting who was teaching at West Point Military Academy.

I recall it was a light and fluffy cake and she would make a special icing to top it off with because she never liked using store-bought frosting.

I suspect that the title "Ye 'Old Crazy Cake" comes from the unconventional mixing and stirring method used in preparation, and not how the cake will turn out.

INGREDIENTS

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 cup of sugar | 1 teaspoon of baking powder |
| 1 egg | ½ teaspoon of baking soda |
| ½ cup of milk | 1 teaspoon of vanilla |
| ½ cup of cocoa | 1 ½ cups of all-purpose flour |
| ½ cup of shortening | ½ cup of boiling water |
| ½ teaspoon of salt | |

INSTRUCTIONS

Place all the ingredients in a large mixing bowl in the exact order listed above but do not mix or stir until the boiling water is added to the mixing bowl.

Beat the mixture for three minutes.

Place mixture in a nine-inch greased cake pan and bake at 325 degrees for 30 minutes or until done.

SERVING

When cake has been removed from the oven and cooled sufficiently, top with frosting of your choice. Cut into squares for a tasty after-dinner dessert or a leisurely Saturday afternoon snack. *Serves 8*

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

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.....CROSSWORD PUZZLE.....

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16				
17				18						19				
20			21					22						
23						24	25						26	27
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31	32					33		34	35	36			37	
38				39	40							41		
42				43						44	45			
46		47	48				49			50				
51				52	53	54				55			56	57
		58								59				
60	61						62	63				64		
65						66						67		
68						69						70		

CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Midway between east and southeast | 38. Anglican cathedral |
| 4. At right angles to a ship's length | 39. Aircraft part |
| 9. William Penn's business partner | 41. Before |
| 14. ___ de plume | 42. Blood group |
| 15. Accomplished soccer coach | 43. Secretary organ |
| 16. Bone cavities | 44 .Fencing swords |
| 17. ___ juris: independent | 46. The small projection of a mammary gland |
| 18. Popular Philly sandwich | 49. Technological advancement |
| 20. Northern Ireland county | 50. Male parent |
| 22. Performing artist | 51. Dissociable |
| 23. S S S | 55. More cold |
| 24. Lacks flavor | 58. Cape Verde Islands capital |
| 28. Commercials | 59. Blood disorder |
| 29. Anno Domini (in the year of Our Lord) | 60. Creative |
| 30. Qatar's capital | 64. Sun up in New York |
| 31. Indigenous peoples of Alberta | 65. Made angry |
| 33. Popular footwear | 66. Relieves |
| 37. Indicates position | 67. Brooklyn hoopster |
| | 68. Seasonsings |
| | 69. Movable barriers |
| | 70. Attempt |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Occur as a result of | 31. Places to enjoy a rest |
| 2. Spiritual essences | 32. Edward __, author and writer |
| 3. Representative | 34. "___ but goodie" |
| 4. Entering | 35. One hundredth of a liter |
| 5. Nobel Prize-winning physicist | 36. Shabbiness |
| 6. Midway between northeast and east | 40. TV personality Roker |
| 7. Consumed | 41. Triangular upper part of a building |
| 8. Tablelands | 45. Speed at which you move |
| 9. Kids' craft accessory | 47. Offend |
| 10. Not known | 48. A reference point to shoot at |
| 11. Sound directed through two or more speakers | 52. Forays |
| 12. A major division of geological time | 53. Biblical city |
| 13. Wild ox | 54. Blatted |
| 19. Shock treatment | 56. Northern sea duck |
| 21. Turner and Lasso are two | 57. Shabby (slang) |
| 24. Genus of flowering plants | 59. Allege |
| 25. Relating to ductless glands | 60. Tax collector |
| 26. Stock certificate | 61. Whereabouts unknown |
| 27. Satisfies | 62. Chinese philosophical principle |
| | 63. Indicates equal |

SUDOKU

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

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

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



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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

The customer always comes first at Cleaning Essentials and it's part of the reason the Raymond-based cleaning company remains successful.

Owned by Regan Burke, Cleaning Essentials offers personable, reliable, and experienced staff, flat-rate fees and customizable cleaning services while using green cleaning products and emphasizing efficiency.

"Helping our customers has always been our mission at Cleaning Essentials," Burke said. "There are no surprises with our customized flat-rate fee based on the scope of work for your particular needs."

She said that Cleaning Essentials has reasonable hourly rates for moves and move-outs or for deep cleans, and the company thoroughly trains its employees to be as efficient and productive as possible on the job creating total customer satisfaction.

Cleaning Essentials provides expertise in specialty surfaces. Regular maintenance includes floor care, dusting, mopping, vacuuming, and making kitchens and bathrooms sparkle. Extra a la carte services include ovens, refrigerators, making beds, and windows. No job is too large or too small for its staff, many of whom have been with the company for years.

"Our team of people are fully trained staff that can efficiently clean a house in a reasonable period of time at a fair and reasonable cost," Burke



said. "We clean homes, businesses, and vacation rentals. We also work closely with homebuilders and real estate professionals to get the job done right."

The Cleaning Essentials company also is socially conscious and participates in a wide array of community service programs, including Cleaning For A Reason for cancer patients, and also offer a FLEX program for teachers, law enforcement, firefighters, and the elderly.

"It's not the 1950's anymore. Cleaning services are more mainstream than ever before, especially after COVID," Burke said. "Regular maintenance cleaning is proven to reduce stress, anxiety, and to improve household relationships and overall health. This is a no judgement zone. This is what we do."

Burke says that she started cleaning in her neighborhood during high school as a way to help pay for her horse. "Thirty years later when he passed, I started making natural products called Noteworthy Naturals," she said. "Simultaneously, I

joined up with another single mom to clean for extra income. The products and the company took off. I've come full circle."

Since launching Cleaning Essentials in 2017, the company now has just under a dozen employees but continues to grow. "We're small but mighty," Burke said. "Consistency and reliability are what we are all about and we are not like the rest."

Customers have certainly noticed and Cleaning Essentials is now an award-winning company, taking home the 2023 Best of the 207 Award and in 2023 it was the gold recipient of the Eagle Choice Award for cleaning services.

Social media and Google reviews are exceptional.

"I have been very happy with the services provided by Cleaning Essentials. The crew that cleans my house are on time, friendly, go about their work efficiently and are the least disruptive of any previous cleaning services I've used. In addition, the admin staff are very responsive and a pleasure to deal with. Thank you, Cleaning

Essentials!" – Connee Bush

"I was impressed by the cleaning results, but also by the efficiency – there was no wasted effort. The company came to us highly recommended by neighbors who would never recommend anyone who wasn't superior. Later, I used this company for interim cleaning of the toilets and kitchen. Once again, the work was done very well." – Peter Greer

"Cleaning essentials did a fantastic job on our family's camp! They cleaned very thoroughly and left the place in pristine condition. Regan and Amanda were also responsive and were very clear on price (which was a great value for how deeply they cleaned). Thank you!" – Anna Hartley

"Love working with Cleaning Essentials. Everyone is friendly, responsive, and efficient. They do a great job cleaning and go out of their way to make us happy. 10/10 would recommend." – Sofia Prado Huggins

"I've used Cleaning Essentials for years. It's the best cleaning service I've ever had. The staff does an excellent job. I never hesitate to recommend them." – Kerrie Mangione

For more information about Cleaning Essentials services or associated costs, call 207-804-8966 or visit their website at www.mycleaningessentials.com. You can also find them on Instagram, YouTube, TikTok and on Facebook at [Facebook.com/CleaningEssentials207](https://www.facebook.com/CleaningEssentials207). <

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"Love working with Cleaning Essentials. Everyone is friendly, responsive, and efficient. They do a great job cleaning and go out of their way to make us happy. 10/10 would recommend." ~ Sofia H.

"Great service, reasonably priced & very dependable. They do an excellent job cleaning and use their own blend of natural cleaning products so my family is not exposed to the heavy chemicals. We have used other services and they don't compare to the quality of the cleaning or the customer service. Highly recommend." ~ Michael T.



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➔ REAL ESTATE *Cont. from page 25*

inflation and ensures adequate financial protection.

• **Risk Management:** Maine is susceptible to various risks, including severe weather events like winter storms, coastal flooding, and wildfires. Understanding the specific risks in your area and adjusting your insurance coverage accordingly is a proactive risk management strategy.

• **Cost-Effective Premiums:** Accurately assessing your home's replacement cost helps ensure that you're paying appropriate insurance premiums. Overestimating the replacement cost may result in higher premiums than necessary, while underestimating could lead to inadequate coverage. Finding the right balance helps maintain cost-effective premiums.

• **Expert Guidance:** Working with an experienced insurance agent familiar with Maine's insurance market and construction industry can provide valuable insights. They can conduct accurate assessments of your

home's replacement cost, recommend appropriate coverage levels, and help you navigate policy options.

In conclusion, reviewing your home's replacement cost for insurance in Maine in 2024 is a fundamental aspect of responsible homeownership. It involves understanding the various factors influencing replacement costs, such as construction costs, economic trends, environmental considerations, and regulatory requirements. Regularly assessing and updating your insurance coverage ensures accurate protection, compliance with policy terms, and proactive risk management against potential perils. Seeking guidance from insurance professionals can further enhance your understanding and help you make informed decisions regarding your homeowners insurance coverage.

This article was brought to you by Tricia Zwirner, a State Farm agent celebrating her 21st year in Windham. She and her team would love to hear from you and can be reached via phone and text at 207-892-2864 or via email at tricia@TRICIAZWIRNER.com. <

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SCAM ALERT
IRS SCAMS

Tax season isn't just about filing returns; it's also prime time for IRS impostor scams. According to the Federal Trade Commission, consumers reported theft of \$5.8 million via these scams in 2023 alone. Here is what you need to know about IRS impostors so you can stay one step ahead of these crooks. IRS impostor scams often begin with a robocall, instructing you to press a number on your keypad to talk with a live agent or call back using the number provided. Victims often trust these contacts because the phone numbers seem legitimate. However scammers can manipulate caller ID to appear as though the call is coming from the IRS. Once they have you on the phone, they may demand payment for back taxes under the threat of arrest. The payment of choice in these scams tend to be via wire transfer, gift cards, or cryptocurrency. If you get this type of request, it is 100% certainly a scam. Sometimes these impostors will claim the IRS owes you an unexpected refund in an attempt to steal sensitive information like your Social Security number or bank account details. Even if a caller has personally identifiable information of yours to "prove" who they are, don't believe it. Disengage, and if you're concerned, contact the entity via a trusted number (a paper statement or by finding a number on that entity's website). **BE A FRAUD FIGHTER!** If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam. Visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork or call 1-877-908-3360.

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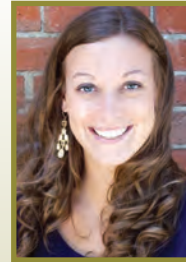
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