

Grad conquers challenges to achieve dream

By Ed Pierce STAFF WRITER

To all that know her, Afomiya Timerga, certainly lives up to the meaning of her first name. In Ethiopian, Afomiya means "pure joy" and among Windham High School's Class of 2025, no one personifies the definition of overcoming personal challenges to achieve joy and happiness more than her.

Afomiya moved to the United States at the age of 5 from her birthplace of Ethiopia, speaking very little English but embracing the endless possibilities of freedom and living in a nation free of war, poverty, disease, and a daily struggle to survive. It wasn't easy at first to fit in, but she did her best to adapt to her new life with her mother in Portland.

"The hardest part was adjusting to a new country," Timerga said. "When you're younger it is easier to pick up on things. I tried to make friends and learn the language."

Having attended elementary school in Portland, another huge transition took place in Timerga's life when her mother, Abebanesh Abdela, purchased a home in Windham and her family, including Afomiya, her brother Musea Timo, and her sister Minaida Timon, relocated here when she was



Afomiya Timerga moved to the U.S. from Ethiopia as a 5-year-old and became a U.S. citizen in 2015. She is among the Class of 2025 graduates at Windham High School and will attend the University of Southern Maine to study marketing and accounting. PHOTO BY ED PIERCE

halfway through seventh grade.

"It was like I was starting over again," she said. "At my school in Portland I knew everyone, but here I didn't know anybody in Windham and felt isolated and alone. But eventually I made friends at Windham Middle School and things gradually improved."

In 2015, she joined her mother in becoming a U.S. citizen during a ceremony in Portland.

"My biggest role model in life is my mom. She's shown me what it truly means to work hard, raising three children on her own as a single mother," Timerga said. "Despite the challenges, she remains strong, determined, and full of faith. She's helped me stay grounded in my relationship with God, especially in a world full of distractions and temptations. Through her example, I've learned the value of a strong work ethic and the importance of never giving up, no matter what life throws at you."

During her time at Windham High School, she tried to avoid the spotlight to some extent but worked to consistently make a positive impact at the school.

"Whether it was through my involvement in the Black Student Union, where I worked to create a more inclusive and supportive environment, or simply by encouraging others and staying true to who I am, I've always aimed to lead by example," Timerga said. "I believe that small actions, showing up, staying kind, and being dependable, can make a big dif-

-> see GRADUATE Page 5

Raymond voters to determine van program's fate

By Dina Mendros **STAFF WRITER**

Raymond voters will decide Tuesday whether to approve funding a transportation system that would provide rides to grocery stores, doctors' appointments and the like. The ride system would provide transportation for seniors, those without licenses and others who find it difficult to get where they need to go.

At the June 10 election, residents will vote on whether to approve \$67,500 in funding - Article 19, Referendum Question Q on the Town Warrant - which would be the town's share for the QuickRide program. The town would partner with the Regional Transportation Program which would

an Uber that comes to your house but through RTP. They have an app or office to call to schedule (a ride). They'll pick you up at your location and then drop you off at either appointments or groceries. So it's kind of like a scheduled transportation service. So, it's a little more customizable than just a regular bus stop."

The Quick Ride program is needed in Raymond, Crocker said.

radar for people," he said. "Obviously, being a rural area, it's kind of tough to get to certain areas for like shopping or anything like that. It's definitely been something that's been heard in our community." Currently, Age Friendly Coordinator Debbie Tarr has been taking seniors to appointments in her own car, Crocker said. If voters do approve funding for the RTP mini-van program it will take the strain off Tarr and offer the ability to accommodate more people. If approved, the QuickRide program would run Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. It would start sometime this summer and continue year-round. Customers



Raymond voters will decide on June 10 whether to "Public transportation fund a minivan for RTP's QuickRide program which has definitely been on the would schedule and provide transportation for local residents anywhere within the town. SUBMITTED PHOTO

adopted the program was because transportation was identified as one of the top needs in a community survey, she said.

Anyone of any age can take advantage of the program, but it's especially important for seniors, Bell-Watkins said.

"As people get older and decide not to drive or people sometimes use it because they're getting their eyes dilated or getting a colonoscopy so it's not just for people who don't drive it's for people who are not driving that day," she said. "That Ouick-Ride program has been very helpful. "It's all been successful." She said she shared Windham's experience with a town staffer in Raymond. "I told her I thought it would be great for Raymond because it has been a great success here," Bell-Watkins said.

provide the service.

Unlike a typical bus service where people wait at established bus stops to catch a bus that drives a specific route, riders using QuickRide would schedule, either via telephone or online, a micro-van that would pick them up at their home and take them where they want to go within the Raymond community.

Raymond Town Manager Joseph Crocker compared the bus to an Uber service that provides door-to-door service.

"The thought is to get people to be transported to groceries or doctors' appointments, things like that, in the area," Crocker said. "Use almost like

would pay about \$3 per ride.

RTP Executive Director Don Libby said if Raymond voters approve funding, RTP and the town would run a 12-month QuickRide pilot program and then reevaluate how the program is working.

The program was started in January 2024 in Windham; it also runs in Gorham and Standish.

"The goal," Libby said, "is to run in every town up and down the 302 corridor to Bridgton."

The QuickRide program is working well in Windham, said Windham's Age Friendly Coordinator Erica Bell-Watkins.

One of the reasons that Windham

Election Day voting in Raymond will take place from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 10 at Jordan-Small Local Middle School gymnasium. <





Sometime in the 1970s, I recall watching a television show on PBS about English language words and how you could tell a verb's age by the way it is conjugated. For example, if the past tense of some verbs in English end in a "t" it is likely an older word than the past tense of one ending in "ed."

The university professor who was giving this presentation said that words such as keep, sweep, leap and send are derivatives of older Celtic words which remain to this day in modern English. The past tense of keep is kept, for sweep it is swept, feel becomes felt and send is sent. By this logic, the professor concluded that other old English verbs include sleep and creep, with the past tense of sleep being slept and creep becoming crept. Weep's past tense is wept, lend becomes lent, spend's past tense is spent, while the past tense of lose is lost and for leave, it's left.

He went on to say that bend is an older English word because it's past tense is bent, while the past tense of mean is meant, deal is dealt, and build is built. Other older English verbs by his definition then would include buy (bought), catch (caught), bring (brought), seek (sought), teach (taught) and think (thought).

Because some newer verbs were introduced later to the English language and were first conjugated with a "t" but can also be conjugated in the past tense with an "ed," the professor suggested these words were newer in origin.



JUNE 6

1816 – 10 inches of snow falls across New England as part of the "year without a summer" which followed the eruption of Mount Tambora in Indonesia.

1882 – Henry W. Seely of New York City obtains a patent for the first electric iron.

1932 – The first federal tax on gasoline goes into effect and is one cent per gallon.

1933 – The world's first drivein movie theater opens in Pennsauken, New Jersey.

1939 – In Williamsport, PA, the first Little League baseball game is played.

1944 – The D-Day invasion of Europe takes place on the beaches of Normandy, France involving more than 400,000 American, British and Canadian troops.

1968 – U.S. Senator Robert F. Kennedy dies in Los Angeles after being shot by assassin Sirhan Sirhan while campaigning for the Democratic presidential nomination.

1971 – "The Ed Sullivan Show" airs on CBS television for the final time. These verbs include burn, dream, kneel, leap, learn, smell, spell, spill and spoil. Using very old English, some authors may say burnt, but nowadays the preferred term in modern English is burned. Same thing holds true for dreamt (dreamed), knelt (kneeled), learnt (learned), smelt (smelled), spelt (spelled), spilt (spilled), and spoilt (spoiled).

Through time, several other older English verbs conjugated in past tense can have two different words meaning the same thing, such as pass, pen, and bereave. The past tense of pass can either be past or passed, while pen's past tense can be pent or penned, and bereave's past tense can be bereft or bereaved.

In his presentation, the professor said some of the older Celtic verbs are thought to have been spoken by the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes, originating from northwest Germany, southern Denmark, and the Netherlands. They brought their Germanic-based dialects to England and these dialects combined with Celtic languages already being used set the cornerstone for the old English language. That became modified with infusions of older Norse as Viking invaders raided parts of early Britain and were further shaped by the Norman conquest of England in 1066 which introduced some French influences into the English dialect.

Old English words thought to have come from Vikings are knife, freckle, berserk, window, sky, husband, aloft, awkward, bag, blunder, and droop.

Some examples of newer English words with French influences, the professor said, contain "ch" and "que" and "ou" such as machine, unique, antique and boutique or youth and soup. Other newer verbs of French influence in English that came after the Norman invasion can be conjugated in the past tense with "ed" instead of "t" and include waste (wasted), and taste (tasted).

The Renaissance during the 16th century was yet another period when new words were added to the English language, the professor said. Some came from Latin origins and were introduced by scholars of that time such as atrocity, debilitate, ferrous, naïve and stipend while others derived from Greek origins including duo, pneumonia, and gravity.

Back in 2009, a study conducted by Reading University in England found that the oldest words in the English language include "I", "we", "who", "two" and "three," all dating back to at least in common use prior to the Norman invasion. The discovery was made by tracking the divergence of ancestral words into different languages including old English using a supercomputer and before the introduction of AI technology.

Many older English words commonly used centuries ago never quite made it into the modern English language and the list is lengthy. Here's a sampling of few old English words no longer used today and their meanings:

"Afeared" or "Afeardt," meaning frightened; "Bodkin," meaning a dagger; "Contumely" meaning insulting behavior.

"Cumberground" meaning a totally useless person or a total waste of space. "Demesne" meaning domain, realm or territory; "Doxy" meaning a mistress; "Elflock" meaning wavy or tangled hair; "Frore" meaning extremely cold; "Jargogle" meaning jumbled; "Lollop" meaning a drunken or foolish person; "Maegth" meaning family; "Recreant" meaning cowardly; "Varlet" meaning a crook or a conman; "Wundorlic" meaning a feeling of wonder mixed with fear or the awe experienced when seeing something both marvelous and unsettling.

Taking a deeper dive into the English language can be both fascinating or frustrating. But it can be interesting to learn the age of some commonly used words today. < ~ *Ed Pierce*



If you could make the ultimate sandwich, what would be on it?

"Roast beef (rare) Swiss cheese, lettuce, mayo, S&P on decent pumpernickel rye." – Bill Reiner

"Ham, green peppers, pepperoni with pizza cheese on top, baked in the oven." – Tommy Matthews

"A perfect BLT crispy bacon, crunchy lettuce, a garden grown tomato and a little mayonnaise on lightly toasted bread." – Linda Miller Ladd

"A sandwich, with fresh basil, tomato and burrata, on a toasted ciabatta roll." – Morgan Peters

"A smoked pastrami Reuben on an onion roll." – Rob Juergens

"Literally just bologna, cheese, mustard and mayo on white bread – my favorite sandwich." – Kristin Murray

"Grilled Polish sausage topped with A1 sauce on a hard roll." – Anne Glotchshuk

"A greasy burger with loads of salt and melted cheddar, iceberg, tomato, light onion, heavy mayo, ketchup, mustard on a toasted brioche bun." – Francesco Paredon

"Canadian Bacon, salami, provolone cheese, capers and mustard on rye bread." – Richard Heaney

"PBJ and Fluff on white bread with the crust cut off." – Benjamin Lee

"Thin-sliced turkey piled high with mayo, shredded lettuce, sliced tomatoes and a pickle on thick wheat bread." – Richard Heaney

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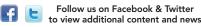
Melissa Carter Sales Manager/Designer Melissa@TheWindhamEagle.com







THIS WEEK'S STAFF WRITERS: Dina Mendros, Kira Pilot, Matt Pascarella, Kendra Raymond, Masha Yurkevich, & Elle Curtis



EDITORIAL POLICY The Windham Eagle newspaper has a mission to be a positive and solutions based newspaper. As a positive and solutions-based newspaper, we are committed to providing our readers with accurate, informative, and constructive news and information that uplifts and inspires. We recognize that certain content may not align with our mission and values, and therefore reserve the right to not publish certain types of content. For complete details about submissions and our letters policy, visit thewindhameagle.com/Information.pdf "Fried chicken strips and ketchup." – Benjamin Lee

"Crunchy lettuce, Russian dressing, and roast beef on Focaccia bread." – Jude Orestes-Sanchez

"Ham, prosciutto, pepperoni, bacon, lettuce, yellow peppers, and tomato topped with Dijon mustard, salt, pepper and relish." – Mitchell B. Robinson

"Turkey and ham on a sub roll." – Tawny Lamabe-Punto



RSU 14 budget and Raymond races on ballot Tuesday

By Ed Pierce

STAFF WRITER

Town clerks in Windham and Raymond will be busy on Tuesday, June 10 counting ballots as residents will have their say about several races and determine the fate of RSU 14's annual budget proposal.

Voters in Raymond will choose between candidates Susan Accardi and Diana Froisland for a three-year term on the RSU 14 Board of Directors.

Accardi is a retired registered nurse and served as a school nurse with RSU 14. She has been a member of the Raymond Budget-Finance Committee for two terms, been a member of various short-term town committees, has served as a town ballot clerk and sits on the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Raymond Village Library. Froisland attended Gordon College and graduated from the University of Southern Maine with a double major in Economics and Business Administration. Along with her husband, she co-owns Northeast Property Management. She's been a volunteer for the Raymond Parks and Recreation Department as a ski instructor, a regular town election worker, and previously served two terms on the RSU 14 Board of Directors from 2012 to 2018.

Raymond voters will elect two new

members of the Board of Selectmen for the three-year terms. Candidates include Mark Meister, Christopher Hanson, Kaela Gonzalez and Frederick Miller.

Meister is a consulting executive at IBM Consulting and graduated with a degree in Business Administration from The Ohio State University. He has also served on nonprofit and community boards. Hanson is the code enforcement officer for Raymond and graduated from the University of Maine Orono. He also serves as a member of Raymond's Budget-Finance Committee.

Gonzalez is a program coordinator with the city of Portland and has a degree in Health Science. She has served on various town committees including the town's most recent Comprehensive Plan Committee. Miller is the owner of Miller Flooring LLC and went to trade school after high school. He serves on the town's Zoning Board of Appeals.

Also on the ballot in Raymond is a referendum question asking voters to approve \$67,500 in funding for a partnership with the Regional Transportation Program to establish a QuickRide program in the town.

Both in Raymond and Windham, is the RSU 14 annual budget for 2025-2026 of \$67,861,394. The budget rep-

resents a 12.75 percent increase over last year's \$60,185,403 budget, with a 6.4 percent increase stemming from the construction of the new Windham Raymond Middle School. Also driving up costs are increases in RSU's regular operating expenses and a Pre-K expansion program.

Windham voters will gather at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 14 at the Annual Town Meeting to approve the municipal services budget for fiscal year 2025-2026.

The Windham budget proposal of \$50,402,149 is a 6.39 percent increase from last year's \$46,991,715 budget and includes funding for several significant capital improvement projects.

If the budget passes, Windham will construct a new North Windham Public Safety Building housing firefighters behind Hannaford Supermarket on Route 302, design and construct new playing fields at Gambo Fields, build a new public ice rink and playground in North Windham, and continue funding for the North Windham Moves and sewer projects.

For Raymond residents, in-person voting will be from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 10 in the Jordan-Small Middle School gymnasium at 423 Webbs Mill Road in Raymond.

In Windham, RSU 14 budget voting will run from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 10 at Windham High School. The Annual Town Meeting to vote on the municipal budget starts at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 14 at Windham Town Hall on School Road in Windham. <





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Beloved music teacher preparing for retirement

By Ashlynn Cuthbert

At the conclusion of this school year, one of Windham's most beloved and dedicated music teachers, Charles Oehrtmann (Mr. O to his students), is retiring after 45 years of teaching music.

As he enters a new chapter in his life, he would like to offer a few last words of wisdom to his students. He encourages them to "find the silver lining in even the darkest cloud. Laugh a lot and be friends to many people. Reach out to others if they need help, even if you don't get any thanks – it makes a difference."

Even though this part of Mr. Oerhtmann's life is coming to a close, it all began when a young Mr. O fell in love with music, listening to primarily classical records with a smattering of Frank Sinatra, Harry Belafonte, and Lena Horne. This adoration of music expanded to the love of creating it when he joined a school band as a trombone player.

While it was difficult at first, Mr. O credited his parents with supporting him through times when he lacked



motivation. From this foundation at home, Mr. O became the diligent and persistent person he is today. This support system at home was very much needed because Mr. O's high school didn't have an orchestra, only a small band and chorus.

This saddened and inspired him to major in music at Glassboro State College (now Rowan University), in hopes of building great music programs as an educator. When he graduated, Mr. O began teaching music in New Jersey. He said that he tried to create a "top-

said that he tried to create a "topnotch" music program but soon realized that this dream was not serving his students as well as it should have.

After a switch to teaching general music, Mr. O learned a lesson that he would take forward with him for



Manchester School music teacher Charles Oehrtmann is retiring after decades of inspiring Windham students to love all kinds of music. He has spent 45 years teaching music in his career. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Old Orchard Beach, and at Deering High School before he settled in Windham. In Windham, Mr. O served as an orchestra teacher at WHS, a choir teacher at Windham Middle School, and a general music teacher for grades K to 5.

Throughout his time in Windham, Mr. O has held a passion for teaching his students the beauty of string instruments as well as for the co-workers at his side. He said that one of the things he will miss the most when he retires is his fellow music educators, his second family, as they "share ideas, share some laughs, share some tears, and rely on each other when the going gets tough."

Mr. O's involvement with the local music community doesn't stop with teaching. He has performed with the Plainfield, New Jersey Symphony, the Bangor Symphony, The Bates College Orchestra, the Maine Music Society, the North Shore Philharmonic in Danvers, Mass, the Maine State Ballet, the Midcoast Symphony Orchestra in Topsham and the Southern Maine Symphony at USM in Gorham.

In these ensembles, he has sung and played cello and double bass. Mr. O has also been on the administration side of different musical organizations. He has "served on the Executive Board of the Maine Music Educators' Association as manager of the All-State orchestra for six consecutive years and he was manager for the District 2 Elementary Orchestra sponsored by Maine Music Educators Association, the state affiliate of the National Association for Music Education."

After his retirement from teaching at Manchester School, Mr. O intends on continuing with his participation in local orchestras as a double bassist. If you would like to see him perform, he will be with the Midcoast Symphony, the Bates College Orchestra, and the Southern Maine Symphony. He also intends to fill his time by gardening, traveling across the U.S. and doing whatever strikes his fancy. <

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He described this

lesson as being able

to "have high expec-

tations, but those expectations have to be

tempered with a kind

New Jersey as a band

and orchestra teacher, his loving wife Deir-

dre Clark, who sadly

passed away in 2024,

urged Mr. O to move

rived in Maine, Mr. O

taught in Waterville,

When he first ar-

to Maine, so he did.

In 1997, after seven years of teaching in

heart."

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The Windham Eagle

GRADUATE Cont. from page 1 ference."

To do that, Timerga said one of her biggest challenges that she had to overcome was learning how to believe in herself.

"Throughout high school, I have felt self-doubt, stress, and the responsibilities that I had to keep up with," she said. "I also learned how to manage my time and balance everything out. There were many nights where I felt exhausted and was not sure that I could make it, but I did. Something a lot of my classmates may not know about me is that I'm not as quiet as I seem. While I may come off as reserved at first, I'm actually very hard-working, passionate, and determined behind the scenes. Once I'm comfortable, I open up more and people are often surprised by how driven and focused I am on my goals."

Timerga credits two teachers at WHS in helping her.

"I want to thank my BSU advisor, Tianna Burton, and my tennis coach and French teacher, Katy Dresnok," she said. "Mrs. Burton has been more than just a teacher, ever since I met her, she has been a guiding light. She

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for Military & First Responders pushes me to do better, not just academically, but as a person. When I created the Black Student Union, I created and built a safe space for me to find my voice and connect with others who share a similar experience. My tennis coach also played a huge part in my growth, and reaching graduation because on and off the court, she has taught me to stay disciplined and work hard for what I want. Whenever I was in trouble, I could always count on her for advice."

Of all the classes she took at Windham High, several are more memorable for Timerga than the rest.

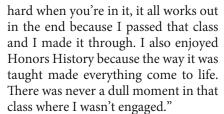
"The two that stand out to me the most were Honors Chemistry and Honors US History," she said. "Honors Chemistry was the first class that taught me to study independently and how to manage my time. I focused on staying disciplined and pushing through difficult topics, and in that process, I became a better student. The hardest class I took at WHS was Honors Chemistry. It really pushed me to my capacity because the materials required a lot. Looking back, I appreciate that class because it is another testimony that even though it might be

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She says that her favorite teacher at Windham High School is Tianna Burton because she has been there for her and has guided her to do better in every situation, making her comfortable and giving her a place of belonging.

As a student, Timerga considers her greatest strength to be the ability to get it done no matter what.

"I don't easily give up on materials and I seek out help when needed," she said. "I'm able to stay focused and when it gets hard, I'm not afraid to ask for help. I have learned throughout the years that I can't do everything on my own. If I need help, then I should speak up for myself and ask for help when needed. One fact that I learned while at WHS is that not everybody is going to agree with you. It's how you take the disagreement that really matters. I've learned that staying respectful, open-minded, and true to yourself is more important than always being right. This lesson has helped me grow – not just as a student, but as a person – and it's something I'll carry with me throughout life."

After graduation, her immediate plan is to go to college. She's been accepted to attend the University of Southern Maine where she will be majoring in accounting and marketing.

"After completing my education, I hope to enter the business world, possibly starting my own company or working in accounting or marketing," Timerga said. "I am also interested in real estate. Whatever I choose to do, I know that I will succeed because I have faith and I'm guided and protected always. My number one goal is to be happy." <

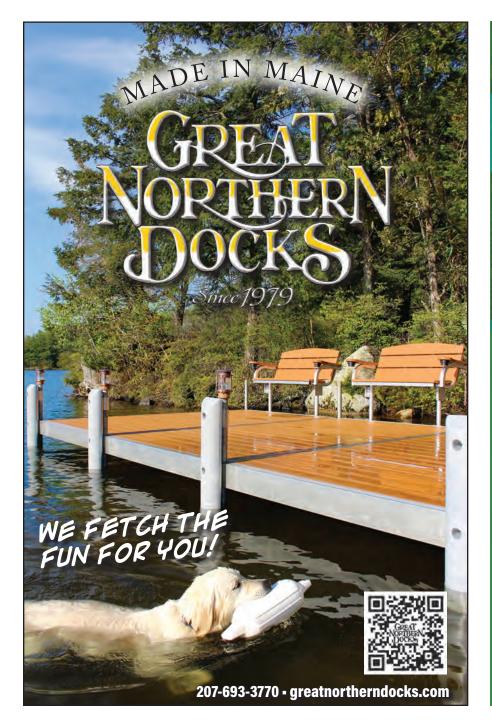
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June 6, 2025

Red City Ale House featured on America's Best Restaurants

America's Best Restaurants, a national media and marketing company focusing on bringing attention to local, independently owned restaurants, will bring its ABR Roadshow to Red City Ale House on June 13. Popular dishes will be highlighted, along with an extensive on-camera interview with owner Ben Smith about the restaurant's special place in the community. The episode will air extensively on social media channels soon.

Housed in the renovated former South Windham firehouse, Red City Ale House, a project of the South Windham Village-Little Falls Gorham Village revitalization, has been open since 2023. It offers a pub-style menu and a full bar, with happy hour options, specialty cocktails and space for private events. The spacious, modern dining area is illuminated by sunlight entering the former firetruck bay glass doors; they also have outdoor patios in the front and the back, the latter overlooking the Presumpscot River.

The menu features a wide array of appetizers, salads and soups, artisanal pizza, wings and tenders, pasta, entrees, and burgers and sandwiches; everything from a poke bowl to grilled ribeye steak is available. Popular menu items that may be featured on the episode include the Bang Bang Shrimp appetizer; the Ladder 1 pizza, topped with grilled buffalo chicken, pickled onion, bleu cheese crumbles and a ranch drizzle; and the Red City Rodeo Burger, topped with bacon jam, onion rings, aged cheddar, and their award-winning barbecue sauce.

"I like to call the menu upscale pub food, with a good variety of delicious dishes," Smith told Mainebiz not long after opening. "I love simple, good food and wanted a mixture of traditional favorites done our way and some more signature dishes."

America's Best Restaurants will



Red City Ale House will be filmed for an upcoming episode of America's Best Restaurants on June 13. SUBMITTED PHOTO

be filming on location from 9 a.m. to noon Friday, June 13. The restaurant's finished episode premiere date will be announced on its Facebook page and will be featured on America's Best Restaurants' website.

Restaurants featured on the ABR Roadshow are selected based on their customer reviews, menu items, social media presence, and level of involvement with their community. They are found through customer nominations, internal vetting or by a restaurant applying to be featured at www. americasbestrestaurants.com.

About Red City Ale House: Open daily, Red City Ale House is located at 8 Main St. in South Windham. For further details, call 207-370-6440 or visit www.redcityalehouse.com.

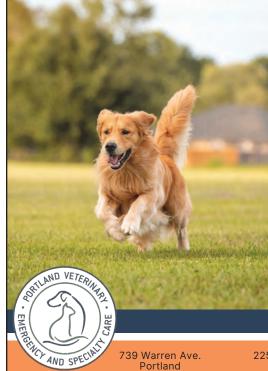
About ABR: Headquartered in Florence, Kentucky, America's Best Restaurants is a national media and restaurant marketing company that travels the country telling the stories and highlighting the unique food of locally owned independent restaurants as part of their ABR Roadshow. To learn more visit: AmericasBestRestaurants.com. <



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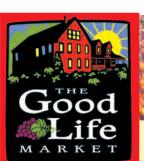
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The Windham Eagle

Governor's Awards pay tribute to RTT volunteers

Riding To The Top (RTT) in Windham is proud to announce that three youth volunteers and seven adult volunteers were recently honored at the Governor's Awards for Service and Volunteerism for the hours they contributed to RTT in 2024.

The awards ceremony was launched in 1987 as a way to recognize the dedication and impact volunteers have on the state of Maine.

RTT's youth volunteers honored at this year's ceremony, Orley Garett, Hannah Mitschele, and Archer Akers, each contributed more than 50 hours to the farm in 2024. Adult RTT volunteers Trina Bellavance, Janis Childs, Stacie Hamilton-Waldron, Ginna Jones, Susan Layton, Jennifer Robinson, and Clayton Peters were honored for volunteering over 500 hours each over the course of the year.

"Simply put, RTT wouldn't ex-



From left, Riding To The Top youth volunteer Orley Garett joins Executive Director Sarah Bronson and volunteer Jen Robinson during the Governor's Awards for Service and Volunteerism ceremony. SUBMITTED PHOTO

ist without the countless hours that volunteers contribute each year. It's wonderful to have youth volunteering here at the farm and being mentored by so many caring adults who give so generously of their time. Volun-

teering at Riding To The Top, not only benefits our clients and the organization, but our volunteers benefit as well, saying time and time again, how much they get out of their volunteer time here," said Sarah Bronson, RTT Executive Director. "I've always loved the quote: 'You make a living by what you get; you make a life by what you give.' We were grateteers from RTT recognized by the Governor's Awards for Service and Volunteerism, and it was impressive to see all of the volunteers from all over Maine honored at this year's ceremony."

Volunteers are the heart of RTT. They contribute over 11,000 hours each year to improve the lives of our clients and horses. While volunteers serve in many capacities, the majority assist in lessons. They can also help with barn chores, facility and trail maintenance, administrative tasks, events and special projects.

RTT welcomes new volunteers. To learn more visit www.ridingtothetop. org/volunteer. <



Explore more (spend less)





PETER RODNEY WATERHOUSE 1964-2025



Peter Rodney Waterhouse, a cherished resident of Pope Road, died peacefully at home on April 23, 2025. Peter lived a life filled with love for nature, family, and friends.

Born in Westbrook on Feb. 16, 1964, he was the son of Rodney and Janet (Hansen) Waterhouse. He was educated in The Windham school system, graduating from Windham High School.

Peter was a single father who loved his daughter unconditionally. Peter worked as a limousine driver for Vacationland Tours and Shuttle for the entire time of its operation. Peter then work for B.J.'s Tire Service

until he retired. Peter is survived by his daughter, Cassandra Waterhouse; his mother, Janet Waterhouse; his father, Rodney Waterhouse; his sister, Wendy Miller; and nephews and niece, Darrell Waterhouse, Roddrick Miller, and Patience Miller. He was predeceased by his maternal grandfather, Elmer Hansen; his paternal grandmother, Florence Waterhouse. A man of many passions, Peter found immense joy in being outdoors. His love for camping and canoeing was well known among his friends and family who often joined him on adventures under the sky. Peter's garden was his sanctuary. He spent countless hours nurturing his garden, a testament to his patience and care. Peter was an avid collector of comic books, figurines, rare cordials, smiley faces, etc. He also love howling and going to the Drive-In. He was extremely fond of, and talented at cooking, making his recipes and sharing them with friends and family.

He enjoyed many hours with friends and family at his firepit.

A celebration of life, a firepit part, will be held at his property on Mimi Lane in Windham on June 21, from 5 to 10 p.m. (rain date: June 28). All friends are welcome to come. For more info. contact Cassie at 207-310-3176. The family will post updates to his Facebook page.

Camper and RV Loans







A patriotic gift



The Windham Eagle newspaper donated \$1,300 of advertising sales from the Memorial Day edition on May 23 to VFW Post 10643 in Windham. The VFW post will use the donation to help veterans in need in the community, for scholarships for area students and to assist local veteran's programs. From left are Melissa Carter, The Windham Eagle's Advertising Director, VFW Post 10643 Commander Willie Goodman, and Ed Pierce, Managing Editor of The Windham Eagle. The newspaper is grateful to the businesses and sponsors who participated in this effort and for their continued support of deserving community organizations like VFW. Post 10643. PHOTO BY KELLY MANK

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Editor,

I attended the Windham/Raymond (RSU 14) School Budget Meeting on May 14th, expecting that I would be able to understand the school budget process and that I would have a say in the outcome. Instead, the Budget Committee presented the attendees with numbers without any breakdown or comparisons between last year's expenditures, and those in the new budget.

When asked for this information, we were told this was not possible since all these details were only discussed and decided on during the previous school budget meetings given from February through April 2025!

I have lived in Windham for the past 40 years. I have been surprised by the enormous tax increases in our Windham taxes just in the past several years. I think that most Windham taxpayers (especially retirees on fixed incomes) don't fully understand the overall Windham budget, of which, two-thirds is for just the school budget. Retirees should know that the proposed school budget (RSU 14) is a 12.5 percent increase over last year, regardless of state subsidies.

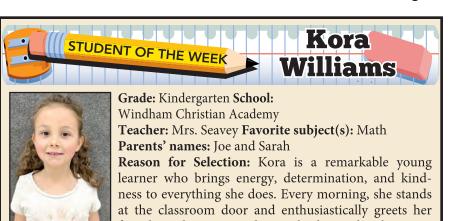
I urge RSU 14 (Windham/Raymond) taxpayers to vote on the School Referen-→ see LETTERS Page 10

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friends as they arrive. She is a leader in the classroom - always eager to lend a hand and tackle new challenges. Her diligence and hard-working spirit inspire her peers, making her a shining example of perseverance and positivity.

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LETTERS Cont. from page 9

dum on Tuesday, June 10. If you like, absentee ballots are available at the town office until June 5, 2025.

For Windham taxpayers, the annual Town Meeting will be from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, June 14. This is when the final Town Budget will be voted on.

If you feel your Windham taxes are exploding too fast and that your concerns are not being addressed, you can vote no on this budget! This would force further discussion that may possibly lead to concessions and then possibly reductions in your next Windham tax bills.

Thank you.

~ Colin Robinson, Windham Editor,

Excited to vote for Susan Accardi to represent Raymond on the RSU 14 School Board. I'm filled with both nos-

talgia and hope for the future. I'm lucky to call Susan my aunt and to cherish memories ribboned with her presence, which ensured children had fun, explored, grew strong, and stayed safe.

Now, as the parent of two small kids myself, it's clear Susan's devotion to children's learning, her dedication to their health as a nurse, and her many years of collaboration and fiscal decision-making on town committees will add up to seeing each student as a whole child and RSU 14 as a whole community.

Susan's daughter and son-in-law are teachers. Her grandchild and greatniece are district students. A respected, multifaceted town steward who can be trusted to listen deeply and consider all perspectives, you'll recognize Susan as your child's former school nurse, as a ballot clerk supporting local democracy, and as a past Budget-Finance Committee member.

As you consider voting for Susan on June 10, please also consider the children, families, and educators who will benefit from her commitment to their well-being and achievement.

~ Gracie Leavitt, Raymond Editor,

My husband and I bought a house on a lake over 40 years ago. We raised two children there settled nearby. We love our home. We've had years of sunsets, boating, swimming, and fishing. Now our grandchildren are enjoying fun on the lake. But we are retired now. My husband is on social security, and I have a teacher's pension, fixed incomes.

No one feels sorry for people who have lakefront property. I get that. But here's the thing. We are not wealthy, just ordinary middle-class people who bought lake property years ago. Now we are facing the tax collector with fingers reaching deep into our pockets. Our taxes alone are over \$1,400 per month eating up a huge chunk of his Social Security.

Recently, I met with Joshua Houde, Windham's tax assessor. I learned that the increases in our values are due to the town's attempt to bring property values in line with market values. People started paying huge amounts for lakefront property; in our case, out-ofstate buyers to the left and right of us. As market values go up, so do property values and therefore taxes. I get this.

But property values are only part of the picture. Then there's the town's budget which keeps going up, so we are doubly hit. The town can't control market value, but they sure can control see LETTERS Page 11





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The Windham Eagle

LETTERS Cont. from page 10

the budget. I would like to see the town, especially in this economic climate, be more fiscally responsible by working harder to limit spending. With this year's school budget (an increase of 12 percent) making up two-thirds of the overall town budget, we can see the writing on the wall.

We will soon join the ever-growing group of Mainers who are forced to sell their homes because of taxes.

~ Nancy Shaw, Windham **Editor**,

On June 10, Raymond residents will have the opportunity to elect a new member to the RSU 14 School Board. I would like to recommend Sue Accardi for this position.

The primary responsibility of a school board member is to provide direction for the local schools that reflect the needs and goals of residents, educators and students.

Sue is more than qualified to fill this position. As a school nurse, Sue honed her skills of listening to students, staff and the community. As a two-term member of the Budget and Finance committee, she was able to manage the politics related to this position as well as being fiscally responsible to the residents of Raymond.

In her current position on the board of the Friends of the Raymond Village Library, she has shown her desire to be involved in helping to support our town library. Sue is passionate about our town and is more than qualified to represent the town of Raymond on the RSU 14 School Board.

I have known Sue for over 40 years. In that time, I have known her to be an intelligent, thoughtful, and caring member of our community.

~ Deb Hutchinson, 40-year resident of Raymond/Retired Assistant Principal at Raymond Elementary School/ President of the Friends of the Raymond Village Library

Editor,

We endorse Diana Froisland for School Committee in the Windham Raymond School District. We have been associated with Diana and her family for 16 years as neighbors, friends and as business associates.

Diana served on the school board for two terms (from 2012 to 2018) while her daughters were students. She has experience serving on the Finance Committee, and was involved in contract negotiations, and district cost sharing. She also served on the Policy Committee, was a liaison for Real School, involved in Pre-K studies, and served as Board Co-Chair during the last two years of her term.

She is a graduate of USM with a double major in Economics and in Business Administration. She has been actively involved in the PTO and was a Girl Scout leader and volunteered in classrooms while her children were students. She has not only lots of experience inside the schools but also the ability to help make our schools efficient and effective at educating our children with the critical essentials to change the educational outcomes from the downward direction they have taken post-covid. In our opinion she is a very experienced and dedicated professional with a desire to make Raymond and Windham a sought-after school district that will prepare our children with a solid education for productive lives and to

become our future leaders.

Please vote on June 10 and re-elect Diana Froisland for School Committee, a conservative, knowledgeable and experienced leader.

~ Dennis & Sheila Frappier, Raymond **Editor,**

A person's word is the one true measure of a person's character. Last fall, I hoped to serve this great, welcoming community in the Maine State Senate. My purpose for running was the litany of problems facing our State. However, the one issue that was apolitical, and spirited by Windham's own Honorable Bill Diamond, is that of protecting the lives of children from domestic violence.

Senator Tim Nangle and I both pledged to Mr. Diamond that we would, in fact, sponsor the legislation to move the office, tasked with overseeing these cases, into a spotlight position so we could finally course-correct this terrible issue. Due to this, understandably, Mr. Diamond found it in the best interest of the children to remain on the sideline for this past election, believing that both of us would further this important mission.

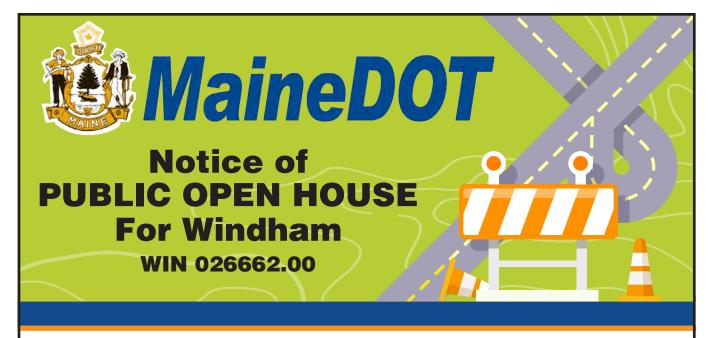
Senator Nangle, almost immediately after the election, recanted his promise to Mr. Diamond. He no longer could "sponsor" the bill that Mr. Diamond has worked tirelessly his entire life for. This was not some backroom deal that financially benefitted a politician, this was political investment to save children's lives. I have nothing but the deepest respect for Mr. Diamond, and his many years of commitment to this community at large, with a special emphasis on this cause.

We cannot wait for another election

to remedy this problem, so please write to our Senator Tim Nangle that it is time to do the right thing and advance this legislation. His party controls all of Augusta, including the recklessness we see today, and so he should be able to utilize his position to influence the change that the Honorable Bill Diamond has fought tirelessly for. Senator Nangle, it is not too late to do the right thing.

~ Kenneth Cianchette, Windham





To Discuss Highway Construction:

to share the current design plans for the project. Project elements: Project limits for Route 302 portion will begin at River Road and Extend northerly to White's Bridge Road, which will include upgrades to signalized intersections, addition of raised islands, roadway pavement, etc. There will also be East Connector Road (The New Veteran's Memorial Drive), which will extend to Route 115 off Franklin Drive, the Middle Connector Road, which will extend off the intersection of Route 302 at Franklin Drive to Landing Road, the West side connector road, which will extend Manchester Drive to White's Bridge Road. Sidewalks and Multiuse paths are also planned within the project area.

MaineDOT invites and encourages you to attend this public open house meeting to provide information about the proposed project.

Wednesday, June 18th, 2025 4:00-7:00PM

at the Windham Town Hall in the Haskell Gymnasium 8 School Road, Windham, Maine 04062

Questions, comments, or inquiries can be directed to the Project Manager below. Ernie Martin, Senior Project Manager Maine Department of Transportation, 24 Child Street, 16 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0016 Telephone: 207-592-0567 Email: ernest.martin@maine.gov

THE ROOKIE MAMA THE ADVENTURES OF MOTHERHOOD

LEVEL UP AND MAKE YOUR BED: HÜGELKULTUR DRIVES OUR FRUGAL CULTURE

By Michelle Cote special to the windham eagle



I've said it before and I'll say it again, gardening is a solid metaphor for raising kiddos. You plan, you plot, and once your sweet sturdy seedlings

- Michelle Cote, Columnist are firmly planted, ready to take on this world, you can only hope the fruits of your labor thrive on up despite unpredictable elements and cautions thrown to wind

that comes their way. And – it's a dirty business.

My husband and I have exponentially upped our vegetable gardening game since becoming parents a teenaged handful of years ago, and though we do this in part for the unbridled joy and satisfaction it brings, and sunshine felt, growing our own greens is also an absolute necessity in order to feed our large by today's standards family.

We've built a series of raised beds in recent years to be kind to our future backs. And though we function as a DIY compost family operation, the truth is we don't produce quite enough to fill enormous beds when they are newly built from scratch.

Enter the centuries-old Hugelkultur – pronounced 'hoo-gul-culture' – which leads our frugal culture. If you have access to logs, branches, other organic materials and kiddos with helping hands, this German gardening technique – literally translating to 'mound bed' – is a fun workout for the entire family.

Move over, Peleton.

Hugelkultur is a foundation of large logs or other woody debris layered up compost, leaves, grass clippings and organic matter, then topped with garden soil. As these materials decompose, water is retained, weeds suppressed, nutrients released, and the stage is set for a well-drained growing extravaganza.

And because these logs and branches are literally found items around the property, that's where the frugal part comes in.

Debris – It's free!

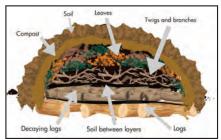
Yet having so much of it for this purpose helps us feel rich.

A few weeks ago, our older children dragged over some cut logs we'd recently chopped, and we stacked and organized them in the bottoms of our two newest beds.

My husband chopped larger logs in half to fit.

Like building a fire, that same excitement, that anticipation filled us. We'd recently pruned our orchard trees and other plants and saved the trimmings just for this purpose. Even our littlest was in on the action and tossed those branches and boughs into helpful heaps.

Before we knew it, we beheld a



beautiful lasagna rich with organic materials – just no ricotta cheese.

We've since topped each bed with gorgeous compost in the top third and planted our seeds and seedlings.

The invaluable strength of simple logs and branches – Did I mention it's free?

This past Sunday morning we toted our boys to a salvage store and our 4-year-old asked for a metal rake and shovel set just his size so he could help in the garden.

Help he did, as he assisted in transplanting strawberries, kale, potatoes, melon, asparagus, beans, cukes, and more yummy favorites.

We can only hope to feast on what grows of it in the future and preserve

for winter.

We made our beds, so to speak, and so now we lie.

And I'd be lying if I said getting my littlest involved was a straightforward, easy breeze.

Eventually he scampered off to play with toy tractors.

But I must remind myself to grow patient while growing greens, that these are teachable moments and life skills for next-generation gardeners while their attention is rapt.

Laying solid foundations and weaving in frugal living skills – We can do this.

And so we wait.

For harvest, for fruits of labor built on that free debris.

And in the meantime, I've now worked up an appetite for lasagna.

With all the ricotta cheese.

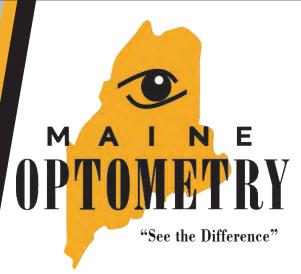
Columnist Michelle Cote lives in southern Maine with her husband and four sons, and enjoys camping, distance running, biking, gardening, road trips to new regions, arts and crafts, soccer, and singing to musical showtunes. <



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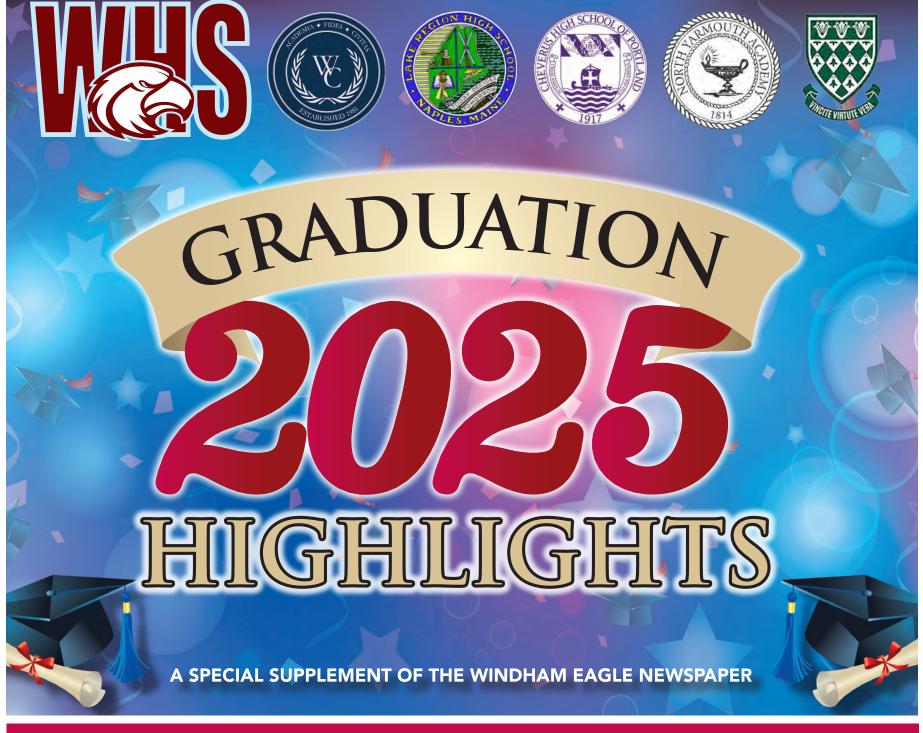
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WINDHAM HIGH SCHOOL 2025 GRADUATION CEREMONY Sunday, June 8th at 1:30 p.m. @ Cross Insurance Arena

GUEST SPEAKER FOR THE GRADUATION WILL BE WHS MATH TEACHER KAREN PETCHER RSU 14 Superintendent of Schools Christopher Howell and WHS Principal Ryan Caron will be presenting diplomas to all graduating students.















Lukas Hammond



Brianne Johnsen

Molli Plati



Addison Profenno

Hannah Lee

Nathan Strout



Ahlam Nure



Best of luck to all our graduates! From the staff of RSU 14

2025 GRADUATION CEREMONIES RUNDOWN

graduates in 2014.

This year's graduation ceremony for Windham High school will be conducted at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, June 8 at the Cross Insurance

Arena in Portland. The guest speaker

at the event is Karen Petcher, who teaches classes in Functions, Statistics, and Trigonometry, Honors Pre-Calculus, and Algebra at WHS and also serves as the Class of 2025 advisor.

She School in Maine and Petcher. COURTESY PHOTO went on to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from the

University of Southern Maine. Petcher is the mother of two children, Alexandria and Zachary, and has spent her entire adult life teaching. She has tutored, taught elementary school, middle school, adult education, a few classes at the University of Southern Maine and Saint Joseph's College of Maine, and at Windham High School.

She's been a math teacher at WHS for the last 20 years and has served as an advisor for Leo Club. She has been the class advisor for four years, including for two different graduating classes and Petcher previously delivered the annual address to WHS

The guest speaker at the diplomas from othgraduated Windham High School cere- er schools have been from Livermore High mony is math teacher, Karen conducted or will be

Lake Region High School's graduation ceremony was conducted Sunday, June 1 at Lake Region High School in Naples.

North Yarmouth Academy's graduation ceremony was conducted Sunday, June 1 in Yarmouth.

The graduation ceremony for Cheverus High School was held Monday, June 2 at Merrill Auditorium in Portland.

Windham Christian Academy's 2025 graduation ceremony will be conducted on Thursday, June 5 at Windham Christian Academy in Windham.

Waynflete School's graduation ceremony will be on Friday, June 13 at Merrill Auditorium in Portland. <

The topic of her speech to 2025 WHS graduates is "try new things, work hard, and be kind."

There are 26 students among the Top 10 percent academically among 238 graduates at Windham High for 2025.

Graduation ceremonies in which students from Windham Raymond will receive

held as follows:



THIS IS YOUR LIFE By Joanna Fuchs

Be aware of your blessings, Graduate. Your degree proves you are smart and diligent, but you've hardly begun to tap all your potential.

The adventure called LIFE begins now. Get out of bed, get dressed, and get going. Have a plan, but be ready and willing to adapt. Persistence in a winning, although changing, direction will bring success.

Always show kindness and compassion; that person who needs it could be you. Finally, be happy in this moment; this moment is your life.

HATS OFF TO YOU, CLASS OF 2025! WE KNOW A THING OR TWO ABOUT CLIMBING LADDERS, AND TODAY IT'S YOUR TURN AT THE TOP! As you take the next steps, remember that success is a lot like roofing... hard work, resilience, and the courage to reach new heights will take you far. Super



HONORING HINKATULA TOP THE WHS

CLASS OF 2025

ETHAN CHEN

will attend Northeastern University to major in electrical engineering. During

high school, he's been a part of Track & Field, Key Club, Spanish Honor Society, National Honor Society, and Social Justice League. I'd like to thank Ms. Rickert, Coach Pock, Mr. Rathbun, and Dr. Nick for making my life a bit easier and more enjoyable. The names mentioned are the most significant, but I would like to extend my gratitude to every teacher that I've ever had. I am delighted to reveal that I've never had a single negative experience with any of my teachers,



and it is no doubt a testament to the exceptional faculty at WHS. I also thank my friends and family for their continued support throughout the years.

GREAT JOB TO THE WHS 2025 TOP 10!





BELLA BRAGDON – will attend Emmanuel

College in Boston, Massachusetts to major in nursing with a minor in Spanish. Throughout my high school career, I

have been a four-year member and assistant conductor of the Windham Chamber Singers and secretary of the Social Justice League during my senior year. I have also been a part of the Spanish Honor Society as president and National Honor Society as treasurer my senior year. Some of my favorite memories from my time at Windham High School include the Spanish immersion trip to Costa Rica and the Chamber Singers Tour to Vermont. I would like to thank all of my teachers from the past 13 years for their guidance in my education that has truly shaped my understanding and love for learning. To my



family, both by blood and by choice, thank you for your constant love and support. Whether we're connected by genetics or through the bonds of friendship, your presence in my life has been a source of encouragement. And to my mom, who is not only my mother but my best friend and biggest role model, your strength and intellect inspire me every day. Thank you for always being there for me and shaping me into the person I am today.

"Decisions are made by those who show up. Don't ever forget that you're a citizen of this world, and there are things you can do to lift the human spirit, things that are easy, things that are free, things that you can do every day: civility, respect, kindness, character." – Aaron Sorkin





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WE'RE WISHING THE GRADUATES A FUN-FILLED GRADUATION AND SUMMER. WE ARE PROUD OF YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

There's so much to look forward to, so please remember to make safe decisions and celebrate responsibly as you mark this milestone achievement.

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HONORING THE WHS CLASS OF 2025



CARTER ENGELMAN

Northeastern University next year. I think my best memories from my time at WHS were when they had enough turkey feast paninis for double lunches before Thanksgiving. I plan to pursue a Chemical Engineering degree while being on the university track team. While in high school, I was a threesport athlete with soccer, track and field, and downhill skiing. I was also an NHS secretary my senior year. The people I want to thank the most for my success in school are my parents. They've supported me every step of the way and I couldn't have done it without them.



will attend



EMILY TALBOT – will be going to the University of New England to study medical biology on a pre-dental track and play soccer. Throughout high school, I have been a part of the girls'

soccer team and Spanish Honor Society. I would like to thank any teachers, coaches, teammates, friends, family, and my parents for supporting me along the way.



"Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have you, you will never, ever have enough." — Oprah





(5) FRANCESCA LOMONTE –

will be studying Mechanical and Computer Systems Engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute next year. Throughout high school, I

have participated in Robotics, Theatre, Quiz Team, Be The Influence, Science Club, Latin Honor Society, National Honor Society, Coaching Gymnastics, and the Junior Classical League. My fondest memories of WHS are competing at an international robotics competition this past September, and exploring Naples, Italy with the Latin Club. I would like to thank all of the teachers, coaches, and staff members who have supported me, especially the WHS lunch staff who make sure

TOP



everyone in the school has a delicious lunch to eat every day. Go Eagles!

"Dream big and dare to fail." – Norman Vaughan

Congrats, Class of 2025! **GRADUATION CAKE SPECIALS** Hailey's Kitchen Cafe Call or come in! 207.880.9506 771 Roosevelt Trail, Windham (Windham Shopping Plaza) Like us on Facebook for Summertime Flash Specials!

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HONORING THE WHS CLASS OF 2025



JOSEPH DONNELLY

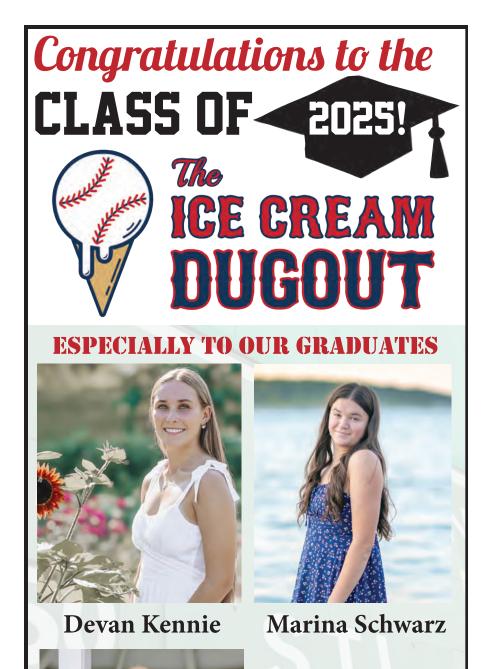
University of Maine in the fall, double majoring in Finance and another major like accounting, business management In high school. I played Varsity Colf and

or marketing. In high school, I played Varsity Golf and Lacrosse, I was also the president of the Finance and Investment Club, Key Club Webmaster, Class Representative, member of National Honor Society, and member of Student Council. I would like to thank the teachers who believed in me and helped me learn. Also, special thanks to the teachers and administrators who laughed at my jokes instead of getting agitated. Specifically, I



will attend the

would like to thank Pete Small, Dr. Bizer, and Chris Dibernardo. Lastly, I would like to thank my parents for giving me the support and motivation to accomplish my goals in and out of school.



LEVI HAYMAN – Next year, I will attend the University of Maine, Orono, and major in Marketing and Management with a

in Marketing and Management with a minor in Finance. I played soccer and lacrosse all four years of high school. I

was also a member of the National Honor Society and the Spanish Honor Society. Throughout all these years, I would like to thank every single teacher I have had. As well as coaches who have helped me not just with athletics, but with school as well. Most of all, I would like to thank my mom and dad, and brother, Caleb.





BRAYCEN FREESE – plans to attend the University of Maine at Orono to study mechanical engineering. Over my four years, I was a threeyear varsity basketball player, a captain



my senior year, and two-time state champion. I was also a member of the Spanish Honor Society and the Finance Club. I would like to thank the teachers, my friends, and the community for helping me grow during my time in high school.

"You cannot dream of becoming something you do not know about. You have to learn to dream big. Education exposes you to what the world has to offer, to the possibilities open to you." – Sonia Sotomayor



Congrats Grads!



and dedication has paid off! All your dreams can come true, if you have the courage to pursue them.

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Tayla Pelletier

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HONORING THE WHS CLASS OF 2025



DAKOTA SMALL - will attend Emmanuel

College to study Political Science in the honors program on a Pre-Law track. In my time at WHS, I have participated in both varsity field hockey, and softball.

I have also been a part of the Class Council, National Honor Society, and Latin Honor Society. Some of my favorite memories from the last four years have been on the field with my friends, numerous classes, and traveling to Italy to explore Latin culture. I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to all of my teachers, especially; HP, Petch, and Mr. Dyke, along with Coach Di-



donato for their endless commitment and dedication in my high school career. Finally, I would like to thank my Mom, Josh, and Joey for their unwavering support and love, pushing me to be the best version of myself in high school, and beyond.

GREAT JOB TO THE WHS 2025 TOP 10!







Graduation marks not just the completion of one chapter, but the beginning of another. As you step into the next phase of



LUKE CUNNIFFE - will be attending Bates

College to major in quantitative economics next year. Throughout my time in high school, I participated in Varsity soccer, as well as the Spanish Honor So-

ciety. My best memories from high school come from the times in and out of school that I got to spend with my friends. Also, I would like to thank the teachers and coaches who helped guide me through high school. I would also like to recognize my parents for their unwavering belief and encouragement in every path I choose to pursue.

TOP



Congratulations Class of 2025! We're sending a big round of 'appaws'! Your hard work, heart, and dedication have brought you to this amazing milestone. Wishing you tail-wagging success and a future full of purpose! From your friends at: <u>Jordan Bay</u> New Patients Always Welcome Here! ANIMAI 1242 Roosevelt Trail, Raymond 655-3900 • JordanBayVet.com HOSP Follow us on Facebook Dr. Eric Riddell & Dr. Sarah Doucette



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your life, may you continue to honor your mind, nurture your body, and listen deeply to your inner wisdom.



Happy Graduation and Congratulations to the Class of 2025!



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REMAINING

ALPHABETICAL

ALEXANDER BECKER – will be attending the University of Maine's Orono campus to study Mechanical Engineering next year. I have participated in the indoor track team and participated in a few internships, the most notable being my summer 2024 NASA Merit program. Some of my favorite memories have been with the friends I made on the track team, and the skills I learned in my extracurricular activities. I would like to thank Mr.Rathbun, Mrs.Petcher, Mrs. Hazard, Mr. Becker, and my parents for their understanding and contributions to my success. Their dedication to supporting me in high school and beyond has set me up for a fruitful future.

HANNAH BOWKER -plan on double majoring in education and French studies at the University of Maine at Orono. I have been in class council, the WHS Drama/Tech club, and the French Honor society. I was class president my freshman and sophomore year, and from my junior year to now, the class historian. This year, I was a backstage manager for Shrek the Musical. I would



Nell Done, Graduates!

invest in what matters, and always remember: the best places in life are the



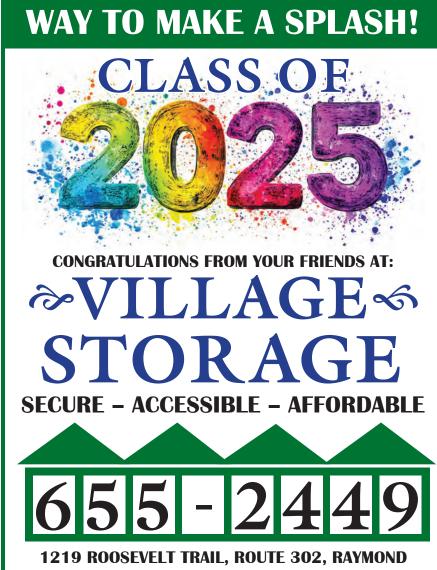
like to thank my parents for always having my back and being my best friends. I want to thank Ms. Petcher for convincing me to put myself out there and Madame Dresnok for helping me find something I love and for four years of fun.

NOAH CAMPBELL – will be attending the University of New England studying in their Pharm.D program with the goal of becoming a pharmacist. During my time in high school, I served as Class President, managed the field hockey team, and was an active member of both the French Honors Society and Student Council. One of my favorite memories was traveling to Europe with my classmates during the spring of my junior year. I would like to extend my thanks to Ms. Rickert and Ms. Ruffner for their constant support, and to Ms. Guzman for all the gum and chocolate. I am especially grateful to my family and friends for their guidance and encouragement throughout my high school years.

JORDYN DAVIS-BELANGER – will attend Husson University to study Pre-Law, with a goal of pursuing a career in Legal Studies. Throughout high school, I have actively aspired to take advantage of leadership opportunities, serving as the President of the National Honor Society, the Agulittos Coordinator for the Spanish Honor Society, and participating in YoungLife for all four years. I would like to thank, specifically, Ms. Hazard, as well as all of my teachers who have supported me along the way. I am also deeply thankful for my parents for their constant encouragement. As I look ahead to the future, I am excited for the opportunities that lie ahead, while also remaining incredibly grateful for all the memories I have gained at Windham.

ABIGAIL DUMONT – will be attending the University of Maine at Farmington, where she plans to major in Environmental and Climate Studies. Throughout high school, I've been involved in Varsity Cross Country and Track & Field, and I've proudly served as an active member of the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Outing Club, Civil Rights Team, and the Can We? Project. My time at Windham High School has given me countless opportunities to step out of my comfort zone, take risks, and grow both academically and personally. I'm incredibly grateful to my coaches, my teachers, and most importantly, my mom and dad for their constant support and encouragement over the past four years.

ETHAN FLETCHER - will attend Northeastern University at the Boston Campus to study Mechanical Engineering this fall. Throughout high school, I participated in both indoor and outdoor track, serving as a varsity captain my senior year. I have also been a member of the National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society for the majority of my time in high school. I would like



Page 9G

REMAINING

ALPHABETICAL

to thank my teachers and coaches for their support over the course of all my schooling. I would also like to shine some light on my wonderful parents and the never-ending support they have given me for anything I wanted to do. Their efforts have shaped me into the person I am today and will continue to impact me through college and the rest of my life.

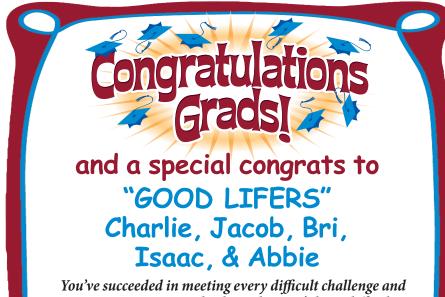
TOP

LUKAS HAMMOND – will be attending the University of Southern Maine. I plan on majoring in Mechanical Engineering. In high school, I have been a 3-sport athlete all four years, participating in Soccer, Basketball, Swim, Baseball, and Lacrosse. I have also participated in the National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society since my sophomore year. I have many different memories over my last four years, some in the classroom and some on the fields. One of my favorite memories would be participating in the Maine Class A soccer all-star game with two other Windham teammates. I have so much appreciation for our community, I would not be the human I am today without Windham. Thank you especially to my mom and dad for supporting me every day.

BRIANNE JOHNSEN – will attend Endicott College in the Fall to study Nursing. Throughout high school, I have participated in Student Council and Latin Honor Society (LHS). I have worked at The Good Life Market for the past three years. I am the Secretary for LHS and was lucky enough to travel to Italy with the other Officers and many members of LHS over Spring Break. As I realized I wanted to study nursing, a huge opportunity came to me. I was able to volunteer at Maine Medical Center in their Operating Room and the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit. This allowed me to attain more knowledge around the career I want to pursue, which is something I am very grateful for. I would like to thank my parents for all the time and support they have provided me throughout high school. I would also like to thank my teachers for always lending a helping hand.

GRACE JOLY – will be going to Colby-Sawyer College in the fall to pursue nursing and play on the women's lacrosse team. Throughout high school, I have been on the Field Hockey and Lacrosse teams. As well as participated in National Honor Society, and Spanish Honor Society. I would like to thank my parents for their endless support, my teachers for pushing me each day in class, and my coaches for teaching me the most valuable lessons. Lastly, thank you to the admin and office staff who welcomed me each day with a smile. I would not be where I am today without these people. Thank you for the best four years at Windham High School.

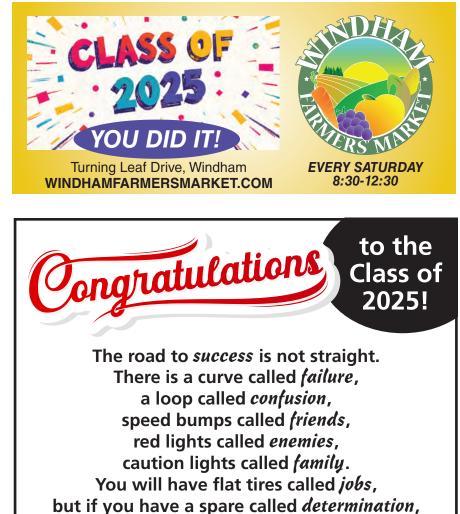
HANNAH LEE – will be attending the University of Vermont in the fall, majoring in political science and hopefully following a pre-law track. Through-



out high school I have participated in Varsity soccer and indoor/outdoor track. I have also been a part of the National Honors Society and Spanish Honors Society since the beginning of my junior year. One of my favorite memories of my high school years was going on the Europe trip in April of 2024. It was truly a life-changing experience that the school provided for us. I'd like to thank my teachers for their help and dedication to helping me succeed and most importantly, thank you Mom and Dad for helping me get through not just high school, but the past 12 years. I could not have made it here without your endless support.

AHLAM NURE – will attend the University of Southern Maine this fall to major in Biochemistry and minor in Neuroscience. While in high school, I have been a part of the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, and the President of Science Club. As well as volunteering at hospitals and being a part of Inside Medicine Programs. One of my fondest memories from WHS was when I taught Ms. Peters Arabic in the morning so we could speak it together whenever we saw each other. I would like to give my sincere gratitude to all of my teachers and mentors for all the time and encouragement they have given me to excel in my studies.

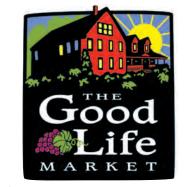
TAYLA PELLETIER – will be going to the University of New Hampshire to study exercise science and be a part of the track and field team next year.



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Have a happy graduation

overcoming every setback. We know it's been difficult and we're so very proud of your hard work and dedication. WE WISH YOU THE BEST!



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TOP

REMAINING

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Throughout high school, I have participated in varsity soccer, indoor track, and outdoor track. I have also been a part of the National Honor Society, French Honor Society, the Civil Rights team, the outing club, and yearbook. Some of my favorite memories from Windham High School consist of the Europe trip I took with others from language honors societies, and a great amount of track and field experiences and achievements. I would like to thank my teachers and coaches for all the time and support they have given me over the past four years, and most of all, thank you to my family and friends for everything; I wouldn't be where I am today without you.

MOLLY PLATI – will be attending Stonehill College to study Communications and Media studies and minor in Performing Arts. While in high school I have been a four-year member and President of the Windham Chamber Singers and Vice President of the class of 2025. I have also been heavily involved in Drama Club, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society and Student Council. Some of my favorite memories from the past four years include the fall musicals, volunteering at the Windham Middle School Drama Club, and traveling to Canada with the Chamber Singers. I am very grateful for all the support I have received at WHS, without these amazing teachers I would not be the person I am today!

Congrats on making it to the finish line, grads!!

You've tuned up your mind, fueled your ambition, and now you're ready to hit the road toward your dreams.

> BEST OF LUCK IN YOUR FUTURE!

Keep chasing those green lights!!

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ADDISON PROFENNO – will attend Emmanuel College in Boston, Massachusetts to study nursing. Throughout high school I played on the varsity golf team, was Vice President of National Honor Society, and a member of Spanish Honor Society, Social Justice League, and Civil Rights. My favorite experience from WHS was being able to go on an immersion trip to Costa Rica. I am lucky to have grown up in Windham and got to experience all of the opportunities that have been offered to me. I appreciate all of the teachers I have had for their unwavering support! And thank you to my mom for always believing in me!

NATHAN STROUT – will be going to the University of Southern Maine in the fall for a major in finance, or at least the financial field. For me, high school is one of the most unique times, from starting out as a 14-year-old kid to becoming a first-time adult experiencing life. There will truly never be another experience like it. A few memories I will take with me will be participating in both the 2022 and 2023 Memorial Day Parades, being able to watch the pep rallies firsthand and some of the amazing teachers here that I was able to connect with. I would like to thank my parents for their everlasting support and Mr. Poulin for being part of his first APUSH class and making it such a memorable experience.

AVA WARDWELL – will attend the University of Rhode Island next year to study nursing and participate in their honors program. Throughout high school, I played soccer and ran outdoor track. I also participated in the Spanish Honor Society and the Student Council. I would like to thank my parents for always supporting me and pushing me to be my best. Their support in athletics and academics has made me who I am today and will continue to push me throughout my college experience. **★**



Do more than believe: practice. Do more than be fair: be kind. Do more than forgive: forget. Do more than dream: work.

We proudly recognize our 'School Leadership Award & Commander Don Rogers Scholarship' recipients: Addison Profenno & Ethan Fletcher





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- **★** Edgar Barros
- **★** Edna Barros
- ★ Morgan Beck
- ★ Alexander Becker
- ★ Taylor Bernier
- **★** Vanessa Berry
- ★ Abigail Biron
- ★ Joseph Blige
- ★ Amelie Blondel
- ★ NJ Boatman
- ★ Brooklyn Boucher
- ★ Hannah Bowker
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- ★ Dalton Burrell

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- ★ Reese Campbell
- ★ Talia Campobasso
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- ★ Dominic Cataldi
- ★ Kendra Chalmers
- ★ Claire Chartier
- \star Justin Chavez
- **★** Ethan Chen
- ★ Piper Chicoine
- ★ Isaiah Clark
- **★** Ayden Cofone
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- ★ Katelyn Cotter
- ★ Nevaeh Crockett
- ★ Garrett Crossman
- ★ Luke Cunniffe
- ★ Phineas Cunningham
- **★** Ellie Curtis
- ★ Nolan Cyr
- ★ David Daignault
- ★ Cameron Davis
- ★ Ellieana Davis
- ★ Jordyn Davis-Belanger

★ Annabelle Demar

- ★ Faith DiBiase
- ***** Creighty Dickson
- **★** Ayden Doherty
- ★ Joseph Donnelly
- **★** Zoe Dries
- ★ Nevaeh Economou

★ Abigail Dumont

★ Erik DuPont

★ Draven Dyer

- ★ Autumn Edwards
- ★ Chloe Edwards

Congrats Class of 2025! YOU DID IT!!!

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- Joanne Raptis

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- ★ Jonathan Eide
- ★ Carter Engelman
- ★ Gemma Evans
- ★ Monica Farley
- ★ Morgan Farley
- ★ Kathryn Favreau
- ★ Dylan Fillinger
- ★ Ellie Fitzsimmons

- ★ Caleb Fleck
- **★** Dominic Flemming
- ★ Ethan Fletcher
- ★ Ashlyn Flynn
- ★ Samuel Foley
- ★ Isabelle Fortin
- ★ Reese Foster
- ★ Braycen Freese
- ★ Stuart Gabaree

- ★ Jacob Gagne
- ★ Juliana Gagne
- ★ Connor Gallant
- ★ Kayla Gendrolis
- ★ Maxfield Genthner
- ★ Ava Gerrity
- ★ Braylee Gilbert
- ★ Giada Girard
- ★ Gabriel Glass
- ★ Rory Good

- ★ Amelia Greslick
- ★ Jack Hall
- ★ Miranda Hall
- ★ Lukas Hammond
- ★ Nolan Hanson
- ★ Fiona Harmon
- ★ Kyla Harvie
 - \star Levi Hayman
 - ★ Cole Heanssler
 - ★ Aiden Heath

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Wishing You a Safe, Happy Graduation Class of 2025!



Congrats Class of 2025!

We know from experience that success doesn't come easy. It takes hard work, the right tools, and the drive to get the job done. You've proven you've got what it takes.

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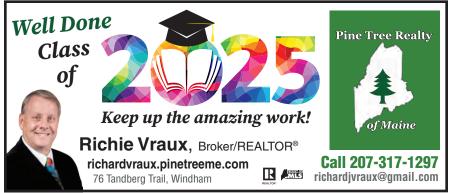


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Graduation marks both an end and a beginning – a time to honor the past and embrace the future. It reminds us that every chapter in life has its own beauty, significance, and legacy.

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We are so excited for you & this next chapter in your life! You have what it takes to conquer all you set your mind to and your kind heart & spirit will take you places others won't.

We will always be right behind you or beside you - supporting you, loving you & cheering you on!



We Love You!

Love Always & Forever - Mom, Dad & Bria





A SPECIAL KUDOS TO PRESTON STRETCH Our hearts are full seeing all you

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We are so proud of you. Your hard work, determination, and heart have brought you to this moment, and we know you're ready to shine at USM-on the field, on the track and in life. Remember we are behind you always, cheering you on, believing in you, and loving you with all our hearts. Ava you are everything we hoped for and more!



We love you, Mum, Dad, Renner, Squiggy & Luna

"Here's to strong women: may we know them, may we be them, may we raise them.

Great Work Grads!

We salute your dedication & hard work! We wish you all the best!!

Congrats to our alumni:

NJ Boatman • Riley Cirone Annabelle Demar • Ethan Fletcher Rory Good • Levi Hayman • Lauren Jordan G Morales • Zsa Zsa Dolley • Julia Demar Colby Schmid • Ellen Woodside Riley Yates • Brian Gilheany • Ella Lewis Jace Meader • Luke Armstrong



not be more proud of the incredible young man you have become!



Jacob Anderson • Harrison Behnke

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Page 15G





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GRADUATION 2025





in the blink of an eye, here we are at your high school graduation. Watching you work hard and grow has been one of my life's greatest joys. Through every lesson, challenge, and triumph, you've shown strength, kindness, and a spirit I admire deeply.

> As you step into this new journey, know that I'll always be cheering you on, just like I did on that very first day.

I am forever proud of you and will always be your biggest fan. Love, Dad

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Congratulations, Monica!

Keep making us proud. We know you're just getting started and we're excited to see you hit the ground running! IT'S YOUR TURN TO COOK UP

AN AMAZING FUTURE! Love you, Dad & Mom

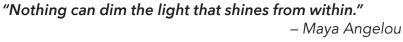
Congratulations, Morgan!

This is only the beginning! WE'RE EXCITED TO SEE WHAT'S NEXT. May your future be as bring as your smile!



We're proud of the difference you will make. The world needs teachers like you!

Love, Dad & Mom



CONGRATULATIONS, LEVI!

We are so proud of all your accomplishments. You continue to inspire us every day, and we look forward to your future success. We love you. Mim & Gramp

Life's a lot like fly fishing ... it takes skill, patience, and knowing when to take the cast. As you head into this next season of

life, may you always wade in with confidence, cast your hopes wide, and never miss an opportunity that takes flight.

WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU, LAUREN JORDAN!

Watching you graduate fills our hearts with pride beyond words. You've worked so hard, stayed true to yourself, and grown into someone strong, kind, and full of promise. This isn't just the end of a chapter-it's the beginning of your own incredible story. Wherever lite takes you, trust your heart, stay curious, keep learning and never doubt your strength.





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goodbye to WHS and hello to CIA in New York. You are now ready to seize the new and exciting new opportunities ahead of you!

> We all love you. DAD +MOM

TAKE SOME TIME TO CELEBRATE YOUR SUCCESS! YOU HAVE EARNED THIS MOMENT.

The Windham Eagle





Congratulations LUCAS!



We celebrate not just your graduation but the incredible person you've become. You are smart, funny and wise beyond your years, an old soul with a kind heart and a fire that drives you forward.

Watching you grow has been one of the greatest joys of our lives. you've met challenges with courage and chased your goals with determination and brought laughter and light into every room you've

> entered. We are beyond proud of you not just for what you've

accomplished but for who you are.

As you step onto this next chapter, never stop laughing. Your sense of humor is a gift to the world. Keep smiling, it's a reflection of your strength and your joy. And no matter what life throws at you, never give up. You have everything it takes to go far.

Congratulations bud the future is wide open and it's all yours.

Congratulations to All the 2025 Graduates!

With all our love. Mom and Dad



SOPHIA ALLEN



We are beyond proud of you and all that you've accomplished at Windham High School.
Your passion, dedication, and heart have carried you far, and this is only the beginning!
Off to the University of New Hampshire to study Sports Medicine and compete in Track & Field...
WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU SHINE!

With all our love ~ Mom, Dad, Grammy, Grandpa, Nana & Papa

NOAH CAMPBELL KATELYN COTTER LUKE CUNIFFE LUCAS HAMMOND ADDISON HENDRICKS STELLA JARVAIS MADISON LADD FRANCESCA LOMONTE SAM ROGERS



and to all the 2025 graduates!



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Natasha Dalton ~ Megan Deshaies Tanner Edson ~ Caroline Ingalls Samantha Madore ~ Abigail Williams *Let your light shine!* - Matthew 5:16

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a strong drive to learn and succeed. Your future is bright! We have given you strong roots. Now we are giving you wings to fly to start your next chapter. You are so loved.

You have a good heart and

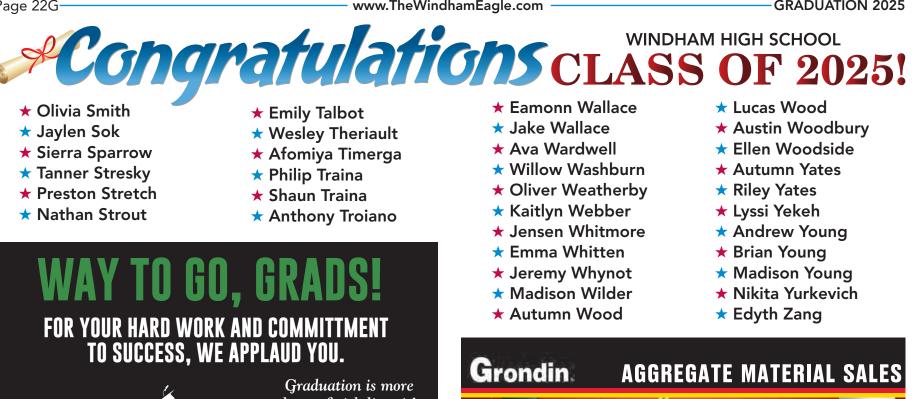
VVVVV LYTTMAB Love, Mom & Dad



Cheverus High

2025

Class of





than a finish line, it's a launching point. What comes next is all about what you aspire to build. Keep your eyes on your goals, and your heart in the work for continued success!

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Best wishes to all of the dedicated students who are celebrating their graduation from high school!

As you turn the page to the next chapter, the future is yours to write. Fill it with new experiences,

good people, hard work, and rewarding choices that help make our world a better place.

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By Andy Young

I wasn't asked to speak at my school's graduation ceremony this weekend, but If I had been, here's what the attendees would have heard. Congratulations, Class of 2025.

You've made it!

I commend you honor students for your lofty GPAs, but for all of you: your grades no longer matter, and neither does what team(s) you played for, who you took to the prom, or, for that matter, if you even attended the prom!

College, a good job, or military service are all worthwhile next steps. But for each one of you, the greatest part of leaving high school is getting the chance to reinvent yourself.

An opportunity like this doesn't come along very often, so don't waste it, because before you know it, you'll be surrounded by people who'll see you primarily in your role as a plumber, hairdresser, doctor, coach, teacher, and/or parent. And when that happens, you'll find yourself conforming to certain behaviors because, well, that's what people expect of plumbers, hairdressers, doctors, coaches, teachers, parents, and/or other community members they think they know.

Sooner or later, you'll acquire a perceived outer persona which, like it or not, will be yours for a long time to come. Many of you have already been pigeonholed into certain identities. Look around you. Admit it: you yourself see many of your peers primarily in their current guise(s): class clown, athlete, burnout, bookworm, artist, snitch, chic dresser, gearhead, suckup, actor, slacker, trusted confidant, or rebel.

Just like many of them (often inaccurately) see you.

Trust me: you don't want to be uni-



Congratulations Class of 2025!

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." Eleanor Roosevelt versally perceived in any one particular context no matter how attractive it seems today. And now is one of the

CONGRATS

GRADS!!

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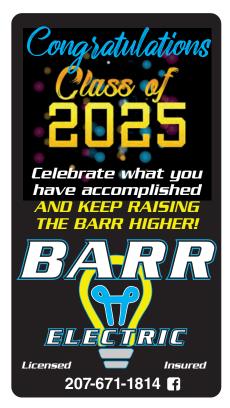
We

see

you've

done it!

few specific junctures in life when you can conveniently initiate meaningful personal alteration. <





WE'RE PROUD TO CELEBRATE YOUR HARD WORK AND ACCOMPLISHMENT!

Just like a well-tended garden, your dedication, patience, and perseverance have brought something beautiful to life.

As you step into the next chapter, may your roots remain strong, your dreams grow tall, and your future blossom with endless possibilities.

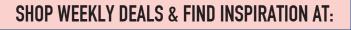






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CONGRATS Class of

As you reflect back upon your years of school and savor in the great feeling of success that comes with graduation season, you'll consider the direction you choose.

2025

Your future opportunities are endless. Give yourself grace during this transitional period, but always remember what you have learned and allow yourself to be self-confident and brave.

> Take time to assess where you need to and never fear those mountains in the distance.

This path is your character defining moment – your turn to choose and define what success looks like!

You have made our community proud!

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Plant Sale

The Raymond Village Library at 3 Meadow Road is hosting a Plant Sale from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, June 7.

Cancer Support

The Windham Cancer Support Group will be holding a Caregivers meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday June 9 at the Windham Public Library. All caregivers welcome. FMI, send an email to coppjaneet@yahoo.com

Flag Day Ceremony

The annual American Legion Field-Allen Post 148 Flag Day Ceremony will be held at the Windham

Veterans Center (WVC) at 7 p.m. Saturday, June 14. This is an open ceremony with local scout groups and the public is welcome. Do you have a U.S. flag ready to be retired? Bring it to the WVC and place it in the Flag Box next to the shed at the WVC or bring it to the ceremony. FMI, call 207-892-1306.

Community Garden

Garden beds in the Windham Community Garden are still available for rent for the upcoming growing season. To apply or for more complete details, visit www.windhamcommunitygarden.org

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The monthly Red Cross Blood Drive will be conducted from noon to 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 18 at the Windham Veterans Center, 35 Veterans Memorial Drive. Donors are requested to make appointments by going to their RED CROSS App (WindhamME for location) or call 1-800-RED-CROSS. FMI, call 207-892-1306. <



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Windham graduate establishes Strong Girls United Golf Tournament fundraiser set for Saturday, Aug. 23

By Matt Pascarella

Windham graduate Tara Flanders benefited greatly from athletics growing up and because of this she began working with the nonprofit "Strong Girls United" whose mission is "to empower girls through sports, mentorship and mental health programming." Flanders, who began volunteering for the program in summer 2024, is helping to organize the first ever SGU Golf Tournament fundraiser at Point Sebago in Casco on Saturday, Aug. 23.

"I got involved with Strong Girls United, whose average range of girls in the program are typically kindergarten through eighth grade, through my passion for youth sports and women empowerment," said Flanders. "I was drawn to SGU's mission of combining athletics, mentorship, and mental skills development for girls. I ... soon took on a larger role within the organization full time. I focus on building awareness, partnerships, and funding opportunities that support the growth of our programs. I work to ensure SGU can continue offering high-quality, accessible programming to more girls - especially in our local communities like Windham."

One of the ways Flanders has helped to spread the mission of SGU is through an after-school program she recently launched for second and third graders at Windham Primary School. The six-week program aims to engage girls in a mix of movement activities, like yoga, relay races and games paired



Windham graduate Tara Flanders high-fives participants of the Strong Girls United Program after she completed an obstacle course the girls set up for her in York on May 20. Flanders has recently organized the first SGU Golf Tournament fundraiser which takes place at Point Sebago in Casco on Saturday, Aug. 23. SUBMITTED PHOTO

with group discussions focused on confidence-building, friendship, and positive self-talk. Each session ends with a reflection prompt, helping the girls build strong mental habits along with physical ones.

SGU centers around three fundamental pillars, physical activity and sports, mental health and well-being activities, and mentorship of strong female role models. They partner with communities, volunteers, universities, and athletes from around the country to run teams, events, conferences and other programming all rooted in their motto: "Strong bodies. Kind hearts. Unstoppable minds."

"I've seen how tournaments bring together people of all ages and backgrounds, whether they're athletes, families, coaches, or local business leaders," said Flanders. "These events build community, spark conversations, and create shared memories. They also offer a chance to rally around a cause. With the SGU Golf Tournament, it's more than just a day on the course, it's an opportunity to support girls' confidence, connection, and growth through sport."

Flanders wanted to start the tournament to create a fun, inclusive and impactful way to raise money and awareness for SGU. She had also worked at Point Sebago since she was 16 and knows this tournament will be a great way to spread SGU's mission while having fun. Point Sebago is a beautiful course with strong ties to the community and golf offers a relaxed social setting; the two felt like the perfect fit to bring community together in support of empowering girls in Maine.

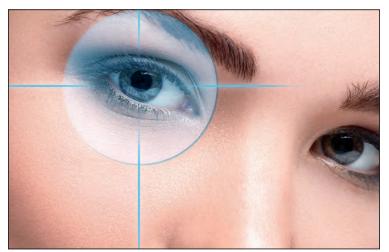
Community members who participate will enjoy a day of golf while supporting local programming that builds confidence, leadership and mental resilience in young girls. Every registration helps SGU expand their reach, especially in areas like Windham.

The best way to register is online through their website: www.sgunitedfoundation.org/golf

SGU is also looking for sponsors, raffle donations, and volunteers. If any local businesses or individuals are interested, please visit the website. You can also contact Flanders with questions at: Tara@sgunitedfoundation.org. <



What's going on in there?



well, he works his absolute tail off. Levi has maximized what he can do on and off the field. He is the pulse of what we do and how we act and how we should act. He's someone who will approach teammates and talk to them; he'll lift them up but also say "that's not how we do it." He's earned respect because he's not dictatorial in his approach. He's kind; he's a teammate. He wants to get the best out of everybody, so he's working to get the best out of himself as well and it's a very cool thing to see.

ing to acknowledge what's going well, what's not going



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Unified bocce ends season showing improvement

By Matt Pascarella STAFF WRITER

During the final game of the season, Windham's unified bocce team showed they have kept improving game-after-game. Windham tied Gray-New Gloucester (GNG) 3-3 on Tuesday, June 3 after falling to GNG 2-0 less than a month ago.

Since it was the last game of the season, Windham players were geared more toward having fun and celebrating a successful season. It was also Senior Night; TJ McAllister, Colby Schmid along with unified partner Talia Campobasso and each of their parents were presented with a gift and thanked for their time and dedication to Windham Athletics. Jacob Smith was not present for the game but coaches say he deserves recognition for his time with the team.

"It's really important to me to be involved in the unified programs because I see how much it means to them," said Campobasso, who has been a partner for unified bocce and basketball; her job is to assist the players in learning the game and guide them if they need

> Confidential Records

help. "With other people helping out it makes their day and their year. I've definitely seen a lot of improvement in how they work together. I saw how well we worked with the other team; we played GNG a few weeks ago, but the chemistry and sportsmanship today was a lot better."

of games, 5-4 and 9-1. Windham answered GNG when they won the next sets, 5-2 and 5-4. In the final set, Windham won a game, 5-3, and GNGwon the other, 8-1, resulting in the tie.

Windham junior Zach O'Brion thought the team played very well. They had more wins than last time and played a lot better as a team. It was fun for him to play one last game with the seniors. O'Brion said he likes learning



This match consist- Windham senior TJ McAllister, third from left, ed of three 15-min- gets good distance as he throws one of his bocce ute games played on balls as his teammates watch in the last Unified two separate courts. bocce game of the season at WHS against Gray GNGwon the first set **New-Gloucester on June 3.** PHOTO BY MATT PASCARELLA the game and having fun with his team.

"I think it's been really exciting (to be part of the season)," said Windham's new Unified bocce coach Kendall Dolan. "Getting involved in the unified sports was always something I really wanted to do, but unified sports happened the year after I graduated high school, so I wanted to find a way to get involved and luckily ... I was able to step in with Connor as the co-head coach, and it was just really nice to be able to do that. Even against GNG I think they shut us out in all games the last time we played them, but we won a handful of matches today and we've just really learned more about the rules of the game and creating the amount of force on your throws. I'm really proud of them; they did a great job today."

Dolan said sportsmanship will stand out when she reflects about this season. There were a lot of teams that Windham mixed and mingled players and partners in and out and she believes that it is a really important piece of social interaction involving different kids from different places; this was her favorite thing about the season. Windham was really standing behind the seniors and making it a special day for their senior game; they are going to miss Colby, Talia, Jacob and TJ.

Congratulations are in order for Colby Schmid, TJ McAllister, junior Mary Jean O'Brion, freshman Tristan Stanley, junior Jack Shirley, freshman Maddi Small and Jacob Smith on another great season of fun and good sportsmanship. <</pre>



RSU#14 Windham Raymond School District 228 Windham Center Rd, Windham

Destruction of Special Education & Section 504 STUDENT RECORDS

Notice to all former students, (or custodial parents of former students), born between January 1, 1997 and December 31, 1997, who attended Windham/Raymond Public Schools and received Special Education or 504 services:



RSU#14 - Windham Raymond School District - may have in its possession educational records for the students noted above. These educational records will be destroyed after October 15, 2025. If you would like to have these records rather than having them destroyed, please contact Kathy Morrell, Administration Assistant to the Director of Student Services at kmorrell@rsu14.org, prior to October 15, 2025. Proper identification will be required in order to obtain the records.

The RSU#14 Windham Raymond School District shall maintain permanently a record of a student's name, address, phone number, grades, attendance record, classes attended. grade level completed, and year completed.



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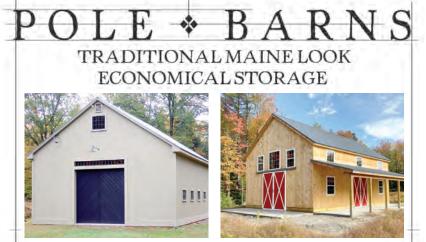
June 6, 2025



• #25-01 Dolley Farm Subdivision Tax Map: 5; Lot: 25 - River Road Major subdivision and site plan review for a 42-unit duplex building condominium development.

family condominium development.

- 19-16 The Cove at Highland Lake Map 7; Lot 66 - First Light Drive Second amended major subdivision and site plan review to add a condition of approval requiring all project improvements to be complete before issuance of building permits for units 21-60.
- 25-12 Webb Road Retirement Community Tax Map: 6; Lot: 33 – Webb Road & Read Road



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Voters of the Town of Windham, qualified by the law to vote in Town affairs, are hereby notified to meet at the Windham Town Hall Gym, 8 School Road on Saturday, June 14, 2025, at 10:00 in the forenoon to elect a Moderator and to act on Articles 2-30 to approve the 2025-2026 Municipal Budget. The doors will open at 9:30 for checking in, the meeting will begin promptly at 10:00. <u>Please enter through the old entrance to check-in.</u>

Associated documents can be found at: www.windhammaine.us under the Government tab.

Thank you, Linda Morrell - Town Clerk/CCM

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF RAYMOND, MAINE

PLANNING BOARD **PUBLIC MEETING Broadcast Studio - 423 Webbs Mills Road** and Via ZOOM

Wednesday, June 11, 2025 • 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, June 11, 2025, at 7:00 pm on the following matters:

PRELIMINARY SUBDIVISION PLAN REVIEW

APPLICANT: Brandon Chase - Pine Ridge Estates LOCATION: Map: 004 Lot: 29 Zone LRR11 Raymond Cape Road

DESCRIPTION: Proposed 11-lot cluster subdivision

The Planning Board will be reviewing and discussing proposed Ordinances to regulate Marijuana for **Registered Caregivers and Short-Term Rentals.**

Major subdivision and site plan review for a 53-unit residential retirement community condominium development.

- 24-28 Franklin Drive Subdivision Tax Map: 18; Lot: 26-2-A – Franklin Drive Amended minor subdivision plan review approved roadway design.
- 25-13 Franklin Drive Multifamily & Solar Development Tax Map: 18; Lots: 26-2-A02 and 26-2-A03 Major subdivision and site plan review for 306 apartments in two buildings, and a large-scale ground-mounted solar energy system to power the residential development.

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

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.

JOIN ZOOM MEETING

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81960824766?pwd=ke5iHBooPcUltabaElA XaUEhuA16Jo.1 Meeting ID: 819 6082 4766 Passcode: 2nf7nm **ONE TAP MOBILE** Meeting ID: 819 6082 4766 Passcode: 054658 Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kj95P5k3e



Understanding home insurance and the importance of regular reviews

By Tricia Zwirner SPECIAL TO THE WINDHAM EAGLE



Owning a home in the Sebago Lakes Region of Maine is a unique privilege, offering stunning natural beauty and abundant recreational activities.

this picturesque area, we invest considerable time, effort, and resources into maintaining and enhancing our properties. One of the most critical aspects of homeownership is ensuring that our home insurance adequately covers the replacement cost of our homes, especially in light of current building materials and labor market trends. This article will explore whether you should increase your home insurance and the implications of raising or lowering your deductibles.

The Importance of Updating Home Insurance

Home insurance is designed to protect your property against various risks, including damage from natural disasters, theft, and liability claims. In our region, homeowners face unique challenges such as winter storms, tree damage from high winds, and potential damage from ice and snow accumulation. Having adequate insurance coverage is critical to ensuring your home is protected from these risks.

For example, many homeowners in

the Sebago Lakes Region invest in improvements such as new roofs, upgraded kitchens, and additional living spaces. These renovations can significantly impact the replacement cost of your home. If you were to face a loss, being underinsured could lead to substantial financial burdens when it comes to rebuilding or repairing your home. Therefore, it is advisable to regularly update your home insurance coverage to reflect the current costs associated with rebuilding your property.

When reassessing your home insurance, it's crucial to evaluate the specific types of coverage you need. Here are two critical components to consider:

• Dwelling Coverage: This component covers the cost of repairs or rebuilding your home in the event of a covered loss. As you undertake renovations or improvements-such as adding a new deck or upgrading your kitchen-it's essential to ensure that your dwelling coverage is sufficient to cover the full cost of rebuilding, including current material and labor costs. With prices for materials like lumber, shingles and insulation fluctuating, understanding these trends will help you maintain appropriate coverage. This assessment should be part of your regular review of your insurance policy, particularly if you've made significant upgrades to your home or if building materials have become more expensive.

• Personal Property Coverage: This protects your belongings, such as fur-

niture, electronics, and outdoor gear. Given the recreational lifestyle in the Sebago Lakes Region, many homeowners own valuable equipment for boating, fishing, and skiing. Assessing whether your personal property coverage limit is adequate is crucial, as is ensuring that recreational items like boats, ATVs, snowmobiles, and golf carts are properly insured. Many companies exclude these items from your home policy, so it's important to confirm that your toys are covered.

The Role of Deductibles

When adjusting your home insurance, another critical aspect to consider is your deductible-the amount you are responsible for paying out-ofpocket before your insurance coverage kicks in. If you decide to increase your coverage to reflect the current replacement costs, you might contemplate raising your deductible to lower your premium. While this can be a financially sound strategy, it comes with risks, particularly in our area where winter storms can lead to costly repairs.

A higher deductible means more out-of-pocket expenses in the event of a claim. After severe weather events, such as heavy snowfall or spring thaw leading to flooding, the cost of repairs can quickly accumulate. If you have a higher deductible, you may find it challenging to cover that amount before your insurance provides assistance. Conversely, lowering your deductible can provide peace of mind and reduce immediate costs in the event of a claim, but this will likely result in higher premiums.

In conclusion, as you reassess your home insurance coverage and deductible choices, it is essential to focus on the replacement cost of your home and the current trends in building materials and labor, as well as your financial position. Increasing your insurance to match the necessary coverage is crucial for protecting your investment against the unique risks that homeowners face in this beautiful area while also ensuring it fits your budget. Regularly reviewing your policy not only safeguards your financial future but also provides peace of mind.

This article was brought to you by Tricia Zwirner, a State Farm agent celebrating her 22nd year in Windham. Reach her office via phone/text at 207-892-2864 or email: tricia@TRICIAZWIRNER.com. <

Notice of Public Sale of the household items and contents of storage unit belonging to EDWARD JOHNSON will be held on Monday, June 9, 2025 @ 11:00 a.m. at Village Storage 1217 Roosevelt Trail, Raymond, ME



Tricia Zwirner Insurance Agency Inc. Tricia Zwirner, Agent www.triciazwirner.com Bus: 207-892-2864

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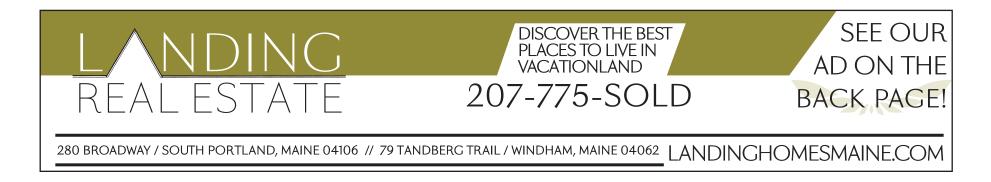
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Creamy Tomato Sausage Pasta

Creamy Tomato Sausage Pasta is one of my favorite weeknight meals because it's fast, and it tastes amazing. With simple pantry ingredients and savory sausage, this pasta dish is as easy to make as it is flavorful. Serves 6

INGREDIENTS

16 ounces penne pasta 1 pound ground sausage 1 cup diced onions 2 teaspoons minced fresh garlic 28 ounce can tomato puree 1/3 cup heavy cream 1/3 cup sour cream

3 tablespoons parmesan cheese 1 cup frozen spinach (or about 8 oz fresh) 1/2 cup shredded white cheddar 2 teaspoons dried basil 2 teaspoons garlic powder 1/2 teaspoon salt 1 teaspoon black pepper

INSTRUCTIONS

In a large stock pot over high heat, bring 4 quarts of lightly salted water to a boil. Cook pasta according to the instructions on the package. Drain and set aside. Add the sausage to a large skillet over medium-high heat and break it up with a wooden spoon. Cook until it starts to brown and is no longer pink. Reduce the heat to medium and push the cooked sausage to the outsides of the pan. Add the onion. Cook for 2-3 minutes, then add the fresh garlic and cook 1-2 minutes more. Into the skillet, add the tomato puree, heavy cream, sour cream, dried basil, garlic powder, salt, and black pepper. Mix frequently while the sauce comes to a simmer. Add in the cheese and spinach. Stir to combine. Add the pasta to the sauce and toss to combine. Taste and add additional seasonings as needed.

Notes: For a slightly lighter dish, substitute half and half and use low-fat sour cream. If desired, you can also add sliced mushrooms, chopped bell peppers, artichokes, or other veggies to the tomato sauce.

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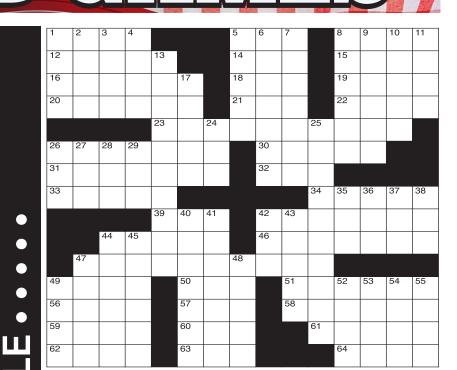
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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. 50 percent
- 5. Records electric currents
- 12. More frostv
- 14. Disfigure

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- 15. Sky color 16. A thoroughfare in a town or
- city
- 18. Actress de Armas
- 19. Spend time in a relaxed way
- 20. California peak
- 21. Lodging option
- 22. Small amount of a thing 23. Expresses sorrow
- 26. Keeps an ear warm
- 30. Babies (Spanish)
- 31. A conceited and
- self-centered person
- 32. No seats available

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Snakes do it
- 2. Hormone
- 3. The standard monetary
- unit of Turkey 4. Fixed charges
- 5. Electronic communication
- 6. Artilleries
- 7. "Strangers on a Train" actor Farley
- 8. Burning
- 9. Makes ecstatically happy
- 10. Greek liqueurs
- 11. Tropical Old World tree
- 13. Someone who takes vengeance 48. A way to lessen 17. Style of cuisine
- 24. Select
- 25. Immunized against disease 26. Old world, new
- 27. Honorable title (Turkish)

- 33. Pouches 34. Hip joints
- 8. Charlize Theron flick " Flux" 39. A place to bathe
 - 42. Evading
 - 44. Minute, one-celled unit
 - 46. Losing one's hair
 - 47. A country in W Africa
 - 49. One point north of northeast 50. Pointed end of a pen
 - 51. Extreme
 - 56. Norse personification of old age
 - 57. Doctors' group
 - 58. Member of U.S. Navy
 - 59. Mens' fashion accessories
 - 60. A way to allow
 - 61. Gloomy
 - 62. Grads wear one
 - 63. Between south and southeast
 - 64. Jaguarundi cat
 - 28. Court case: ____v. Wade
 - 29. Supervises interstate commerce
 - 35. Not divisible by two
 - 36. Twelve
 - 37. Commentator Coulter
 - 38. Encourage
 - 40. Plumbing fixtures 41. Early
 - 42. One point north of due east
 - 43. King of Thebes
 - 44. Short-tailed martens
 - 45. Impose a penalty on
 - 47. Consort of Poseidon

 - 49. Brooklyn hoops team
 - 52. Female of a horse
 - 53. Do as one is told
 - 54. A way to prepare meat
 - 55. Unit of measurement



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HOW TO SOLVE:

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LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

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Make sure to circle Friday, June 20th on your calendar! That morning at 10 a.m. there will be a celebration of the ribbon cutting for Causeway Commons, an exciting new business in Naples. The ribbon-cutting will kick off a three-day grand opening celebration you won't want to miss!

Located at 978 Roosevelt Trail in Naples, Causeway Commons is a onestop shop for grab-and-go food, beverages, candy, snacks, gifts, home décor, jewelry, Maine merchandise, art, pottery, souvenirs and much more. The shop will be open year-round and feature a curated blend of Maine crafters, artists and makers.

Owned and created by Sunny Lovejoy Quintal, she says that Causeway Commons will be a unique destination for shopping and gathering with friends in the Lakes Region.

"We are a 'vendor mall' mixed with a blend of curated souvenirs, gifts, home decor, jewelry, and more by Maine crafters, makers, authors, bakers, and artists," Quintal said. "We will also have grab-and-go food focusing on sandwiches and salads in the summer and heat-and-eat comfort foods which can be purchased by our locals on their commute home from work for dinner with their families."

Quintal said that Causeway Commons will have seating set up for people in nice weather to enjoy their grab-and-go food there on site if they



would like along with a space for relaxation year-round inside.

"We are going to have Cornhole boards, a cozy fire pit, and Adirondack chairs set up where people can gather, relax and enjoy their food – or simply unwind while others in their group explore all of the great offerings inside," she said. "This summer we will be hosting a couple of pop-up markets for farmers and makers, and we hope to make arrangements to host a farmers' market in "The Clearing," the backyard of Causeway Commons, regularly next summer."

Along with that, Quintal said Causeway Commons will be employing four to five people and will also have a "classroom" available for people to rent out for hosting classes such as wreath making, floral arranging, and paint-and-sips.

"I'll also be renting the attached single-family home for the 2026 season as a short-term rental called Lakeside Retreat," Quintal said. "It's a 3-bedroom, 2.5 bath house that is across the street from the public beach. It will sleep six to eight adults with plenty of room for kids as well."

According to Quintal, what will distinguish Causeway Commons from other local businesses will be an emphasis on Maine-made products as well as the fact that the intent is to stay open year-round to be a place not only for tourists, but also for residents of the Lakes Region. The shop will feature over 30 Maine based vendors and counting and the store has been recognized as a "Maine Made Certified Retailer," a designation which is recognized worldwide for quality and integrity.

Quintal grew up in Windham and says that she has always loved the Naples Causeway. She graduated from Windham High School and Saint Joseph's College of Maine where she met her late husband, Dave ("Q") when he was a baseball player there. Dave unfortunately passed away in September 2020 from a massive heart attack. Losing Dave was obviously

life-changing for Sunny. With the support of their community, she continued to raise their daughter, Makayla, in Gorham. Makayla graduated from Gorham High School in 2024 and recently completed her freshman year at Saint Joseph's College, proudly following in her father's footsteps - both academically and as a member of the Monks' softball team.

"I was in the commercial insurance industry for 16-plus years and mortgages for five years prior to that," Quintal said. "Now is my time to pursue my creative side and fulfill my entrepreneurial spirit."

She said excitement for the opening of Causeway Commons is evident by the rising number of vendors joining to connect, collaborate and grow while offering the finest handmade, creative and unique products. Some of those vendors include Purple Mango Jewelry; SnowFire Hollow Orchard; artist Margaret Ford; handmade home décor by AS&G Studios; Woodworks by Wendy; Campfire Club; and By-B arts and crafts, among many others.

Summer house hours will be from 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. daily and after Labor Day they will be open 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. daily.

For more details about Causeway Commons, visit www.causewavcommons.com and follow them on Facebook for updates. <



dates, pop-up events, & updates



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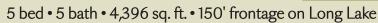






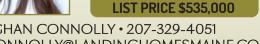
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