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June 13, 2025

Preparations for Summerfest ramping up

By Masha Yurkevich STAFF WRITER

The beginning of June means that Windham Summerfest is coming up soon, and once again this year it promises to be a daylong event filled with fun activities and getting to know your community better.

The event is being held on Saturday June 21 at Windham High School. The Summerfest parade line-up starts at 11 a.m. and the parade kicking off at noon. All other activities following the event will start at 1 p.m. at WHS.

The Grand Marshal for the Windham Summerfest Parade will be Charlie Hammond, former Windham Fire Chief. The Modern Woodmen of American Hometown Hero for this year will be the "Walk a Mile in Their Shoes" Foundation created by Bill Diamond of Windham.

"The mission statement we use is 'Bringing Unity to the Community," says Deb Matthews, Chair of the Windham Summerfest. "We all feel that sharing this day with our families, neighbors and fellow community members shows us what an amazing town that Windham is. We want everyone to join us for a free fun filled day and make the best of it."

She suggests visiting and bringing a picnic lunch, some folding chairs



Windham Summerfest is welcoming back the popular band Motor Booty Affair for a performance at this year's festivities on Saturday, June 21. COURTESY PHOTO

and spending the day with the community.

Not only is the Windham Summerfest a fun way to spend the day, but it is also a wonderful way to get some advance Christmas shopping done while supporting your local community vendors.

As participants, many often do not see everything that goes into preparation for the Summerfest and all the challenges that come with it.

"A big challenge and difference that we are faced with is trying to keep it fresh and new," says Matthews. "We want to engage all ages with the offerings, with the music and the activities. We are always on the lookout for a new way to entertain the community members whether it is a new musician or a different activity. We always welcome new committee members with a different perspective. Each year presents us with new challenges, and we face them head on. I think the biggest challenge this year was the rising cost of so many of our offerings. We have so many generous business sponsors and many had to

→ see SUMMERFEST Page 9

RSU 14 budget passes, Raymond elects candidates

By Ed Pierce **STAFF WRITER**

By a margin of just 200 votes, the RSU 14 annual budget was approved by voters in Windham and Raymond during Tuesday's election.

In Windham, voters rejected the proposed \$67.8 million budget, with 651 votes in favor and 676 voting no. But 408 voters in Raymond cast ballots approving the budget and 183 voted no. The combined totals resulted in 1,059 votes to approve the budget with 859 opposed.

The budget represents 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. To offset that, the school district will receive an additional state subsidy to cover almost half of the increase, resulting in an impact to taxpayers of 6.5 percent. Included in the RSU 14 budget are regular operating expense increases and a Pre-K expansion program. Voters in both towns approved a question asking if the current RSU 14 budget voting should be continued for the next three years. In Windham, 962 votes were cast in favor of this with 347 voting no. In Raymond, 347 voted to continue the budget voting process, with 183 voting no. Combined totals were 1,457 votes for, and 530 votes opposed.



Raymond voters have elected Susan Accardi, left, to the RSU 14 Board of Directors, and Christopher Hanson, center, and Kaela Gonzalez to the Raymond Board of Selectmen. Accardi, Hanson and Gonzalez will serve three-year terms. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

the town's Board of Selectmen were votes). All 30 municipal approval ques-

elected for three-year terms. tions asked of Raymond voters were approved, including spending \$67,500 for a partnership with the Regional Transportation Program to establish a QuickRide program. Once created, local riders using QuickRide will be able to schedule transportation to pick them up and take them where they want to go within the Raymond community for a nominal fee. Raymond voters also elected three members to the town's Budget Finance Committee for three-year terms. Karen Lockwood (443 votes), Shawn McKillop (392 votes) and Deanna Lee (375 votes) were elected to serve on the committee. Susan Accardi received 366 votes to Diana Froisland's 272 votes to serve a three-year term on the RSU 14 Board of Directors representing Raymond. 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 shortterm town committees, has served as a town ballot clerk and sits on the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Raymond Village Library.

The Annual Town Meeting for Windham will be conducted at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 14 in the Town Hall Gymnasium on School Road in Windham. During the meeting, voters will be asked to approve the municipal services budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 as approved by the Windham Town Council.

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 capital improvement projects in the town. Should the budget pass, Windham will construct a new North Windham Public Safety Building housing firefighters behind Hannaford on Route 302, design and construct new playing fields at Gambo Fields, PRSRT STD build a new pub-U.S. POSTAGE lic ice rink and PAID playground, TIME4PUBLISHING and continue funding for the www.TheWindhamEagle.cor North Wind-Local ham Moves and **Postal Customer** sewer projects. <

In Raymond, two new members of

Christopher Hanson received 350 votes, and Kaela Gonzalez tallied 328 votes to earn seats on the Select Board. 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 and she formerly worked for the Town of Raymond.

Also receiving votes for the Raymond Select Board were Frederick Miller (239 votes) and Mark Meister (204



Growing up in the 1960s, spending Saturday evenings at home with my parents was tough when I was a teenager, especially when they controlled what our family watched on television.

"The Newlywed Game" was a staple of not only Saturday night viewing in our household but my mother never missed an episode when it aired weekdays. The show was hosted by Bob Eubanks, a popular young disc jockey and promoter of Beatles concerts and later the manager of country performers such as Dolly Parton, Marty Robbins and Merle Haggard.

Each "Newlywed" show followed the same format with four couples married under two years competing in three rounds for a grand prize. The first set of four questions was posed to the husbands or wives with their spouses isolated offstage. They were asked by Eubanks to predict how their spouse would answer the questions.

If their answers matched the ones their spouse gave, they were awarded a series of points, starting with five points for each correct question in Round 1, ten points for Round 2 answers and a 25-point bonus question for the final round. The game show sets were sparsely decorated with a podium on the side of the stage for the host, eight seats for the contestants, sheer curtains at the back of the stage and an electronic scoreboard for each couple in front of their seats.

The concept for "The Newlywed Game" came from the mind of Chuck Barris and was intended as a companion series to "The



JUNE 13 1825 – Walter Hunt of New York obtains a patent for the safety pin and then sells the rights for \$400.

1866 – The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is passed by the U.S. Congress and grants citizenship to and protects the civil liberties of recently freed slaves.

1888 – U.S. Congress creates the U.S. Department of Labor.

1912 – Captain Albert Berry makes the first successful parachute jump from an airplane in Jefferson, MS.

1927 – American aviator Charles Lindbergh is honored with a ticker-tape parade in New York City after becoming the first person to fly across the Atlantic Ocean from North America to Europe.

1966 – The landmark "Miranda v. Arizona" decision is issued by the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that criminal suspects must be informed of their constitutional rights before being questioned by police.

1983 – The unmanned U.S. space probe Pioneer 10 becomes the first spacecraft to leave the solar system. Dating Game," also created by Barris. The banter between Eubanks, who was just 28 when "The Newlywed Game" launched in 1966, and the couples, was supposed to prompt embarrassing answers. The formula worked among viewers as "The Newlywed Game" program was ranked as one of the top three daytime game shows for five consecutive seasons between 1968 and 1973. It also scored big with primetime television ratings, ranking among the top three primetime game shows for five consecutive years between 1966 and 1971.

Barris chose to end the nighttime version of "The Newlywed Game" in 1974 but continued to promote the show in television syndication with editions airing on TV screens across America from 1977 to 1980, 1985 to 1988, and again from 1997 to 1999. Cable television's Game Show Network started showing reruns of "The Newlywed Game" in 2009 with Eubanks hosting special original episodes in both 2009 and 2010, making him the only television personality to host a game show in six consecutive decades – 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, 1990s, 2000s and 2010s.

But for me, the version I recall the most was the one airing in the 1960s. Some of the crazy beehive hairstyles, outlandish clothing and just plain corny answers among the participants were sheer torture for my teenage angst having to sit and watch the show with my mother and father every Saturday evening.

Questions asked of the couples competing for the Grand Prize were not only silly but embarrassing.

Samples of typical questions included:

- ** What would you say is your husband's weirdest quirk?
- ** What is your wife's worst habit?
- ** What is your husband's pet name for you?
- ** What is something that your wife is most likely to end up in jail for?

** What is the first movie that you saw together?

** Would your spouse rather spend an evening at home or a night out with you?

- ** What are you most likely to argue about?
- ** If your spouse could only eat one food for the rest of their life, what would it be?
- ** What is your spouse's most prized possession?
- ** Who has more exes, you or your spouse?
- ** Who is a better driver, your spouse or you?

Petty arguments would often arise when contestants would differ on answers and spouses thought the other should have answered correctly but missed. Correct answers usually were rewarded with a smooch by the couples. The host was prone to provoking ridiculous arguments by pressing couples who differed on their answers on the game show.

Eubanks himself became known to many viewers for his catch-phrase questions regarding "Makin Whoopee," on "The Newlywed Game." Every other show seemed to include a question about it, and I found it highly disturbing that my parents would always laugh loudly or shrug it off when one of those questions was asked of the contestant couples. I suppose they came from a generation where innuendo and witty banter about the subject was humorous, but as a teenager, I found it all to be silly and preposterous.

At the end of each episode, following the reveal of the Bonus Question, the winner was the couple with the most points. The winner received a special Grand Prize selected "just for them." Typical Grand Prizes were "all new living room furniture from Broyhill" or "a full-size camping tent and matching his and her motorcycles" or even "a shiny chrome and Formica dinette set and a new Hotpoint electric dishwasher."

To this day, I wonder how many contestants divorced after the show aired. <

~ Ed Pierce



What are you most grateful for right now?

"The opportunity to give back to our community on a daily basis." – Tommy Matthews

"My husband of almost 50 years." – Julie Mallett

"My daughter." – Kristin Murray

•

"My grandchildren!" – Jackie Peters Babineau

"My grandfather Bill who taught me how to surf!"

– Deirdre Schulte

"My wonderful neighbors." – Anne Glotchshuk

"The fact that I'm taking a break from college this summer." – Mia Potenzio-Ransey

"Tickets to see Shania Twain concert in Bangor next month." – Louise Snider

"My faith and my family." – Isabella Mongon

"Grandson is on the Dean's List at UMaine Orono. At least somebody in this family has brains." – Lois Fuller

"Our camp near Stacyville." – Lollie Gomez Nunez

"Anytime I get to go boating on Sebago Lake."

– Dean Smalley

"Fishing." – Mitchell Robinson

"My husband gave me Patriots season tickets for my birthday." – Chris Macklin

"My niece Connie who just was hired for a nursing job at Maine Medical Center." – Jerry Greene

"Lainey Wilson's music." – Audrey Marmol

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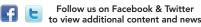
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THIS WEEK'S STAFF WRITERS: Dina Mendros, Kira Pilot, Matt Pascarella, Kendra Raymond, Masha Yurkevich, & Elle Curtis



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

"Overcoming cancer treatment and being with my family this summer." – Jude Orestes-Sanchez

"All four of my sons getting good grades in school this year." – Sarah Singer-Miller

"I have so much to be grateful for but the health of myself and my family tops the list. Also, being able to buy food, have a roof over my head, and pay my bills." – Melissa Carter



Lack of federal funding threatens Meals on Wheels

By Ed Pierce

If adopted, the federal government's drastic proposal to slash social programs could radically affect some of the most vulnerable residents of Windham and Raymond.

Currently under consideration in the U.S. Senate, the so-called "Big Beautiful Bill" would eliminate federal spending for successful programs in Maine such as Meals on Wheels, the Through These Doors Domestic Violence Resource Center, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Portland's Critical Home Repair Program, and the elimination of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program affecting public improvement projects.

Ashley Perrone, Community Impact Director for the Southern Maine Agency of Aging which administers Meals on Wheels for Cumberland and York counties, said the program is a lifeline for elderly and homebound residents.

Perrone said that Meals on Wheels has been operating in Maine since 1965 and currently provides 1,000 meals to aging and elderly Mainers every day at an annual cost of \$2 million. SMAA has administered the program since 1973 and uses volunteers to deliver meals.

"We speak about how beneficial Meals on Wheels is from a nutritional basis, but social isolation is just as deadly as smoking a half pack of cigarettes a day," Perrone said. "Besides food, Meals on Wheels is a social connection for adults and caregivers here in Maine."

Established under the auspices of the Older Mainers Act by the Maine Legislature, the intent of Meals on Wheels has always been key to combating senior adult food insecurity and social isolation since its launch six decades ago.

During the past year, SMAA's Meals on Wheels program delivered 114,663 meals to 888 clients at their homes in FY 2024, plus an additional 6,114 meals to 936 clients at congregate meal sites.

Along with funding from the federal government, Perrone said about 50 percent of Meals on Wheel funding comes from the state of Maine. SMAA is one of six agencies overseeing community Meals on Wheels programs in the state.



Federal funding for the Meals on Wheels Program nationwide could be eliminated if Congress passes the 'Big Beautiful Bill.' The program is a lifeline for many aging, elderly and homebound residents of Windham and Raymond. FILE PHOTO

> The Through These Doors (TTD) Domestic Violence Resource Center in Maine offers free and confidential advocacy and support services to about 3,000 domestic violence victims in Maine each year through phone calls, face-to-face meetings, or through court proceedings. Each year, the center answers 8,000-plus

helpline calls, meets with people faceto-face more than 5,000-plus times, supports more than 1,000 individuals through court proceedings, and shelters nearly 135 people every day, including more than 45 children.

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Portland's Critical Home Repair Program works with homeowners to make needed health and safety repairs to their homes at an affordable cost such as roof replacement, accessibility modifications, structural repairs and repairs to unsafe mechanical systems. The organization has completed about 11 projects this fiscal year and expects to finish another 32 projects in the next 12 to 18 months.

Meals on Wheels, Through These Doors Domestic Violence Resource Center, and Habitat for Humanity of Greater Portland's Critical Home Repair Program are recipients of funding from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

In the last two decades alone, CDBG funds in Maine have created or retained nearly 5,800 jobs for Mainers, assisted more than 10,000 low-income households in the state, helped more than 71,000 Mainers through public improvement projects, and assisted about 1.5 million → see **MEALS** Page 8



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- ★ Autumn Edwards Windham Republic Town Committee Scholarship
- ★ Carter Engelman Peter Connolly Scholarship Town of Raymond Scholarship Windham Raymond Athletic Boosters Scholarship
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- **Monica Farley** Westbrook Gorham Rotary Scholarship WRVC Respect Award
- ★ Ethan Fletcher American Legion Leadership Award/ Commander Don Rogers scholarship
- ★ Reese Foster Alternative Programming for Excellence
- **Braycen Freese** Varsity Eagle Award The Pat Moody Foundation Scholarship

- ★ Joshua Plummer Mike Kane NATEF Scholarship
- * Addison Profenno American Legion Leadership Award/Commander Don Rogers scholarship · Johnna Bell Memorial Scholarship Kelli Hutchison Memorial Scholarship • Toby Pennels Scholarship WHS Yearbook Scholarship
- **Maia Ransom –** MELMAC Scholarship
- ★ Ella Roberts Windham Alumni Association Scholarship
- ★ Byron Rubito O William Robertson Scholarship Fund Rick Duncanson EMS/Fire Service Scholarship
- Colby Schmid Spirit of Athletics Award
- ★ Tiffanie Scott ProStart Scholarship- Culinary Institute of America Westbrook Gorham Rotary Scholarship
- ★ Olivia Shaw Lake Pines Association Scholarship
- ★ Sierra Sparrow The David P. Freese Environmental Science Scholarship WHS Yearbook Scholarship

- Stuart Gabaree Sabre Yachts Leadership Scholarship
- ★ Braylee Gilbert EMBARK
- ★ Giada Girard Horatio Alger Maine Scholarship
- ★ Gabriel Glass Jeff Moore Memorial Scholarship
- ★ Lukas Hammond Rick Duncanson EMS/Fire Service Scholarship Robert J. Donnelly, Sr. & Shane D. Leadership Award WHS Student Council Scholarship • The Pat Moody Foundation Scholarship ★ Fiona Harmon – Mitchell Scholarship • Peter Connolly Scholarship
- Police Athletic League Scholarship Windham Maine PTA Scholarship Worthington Scholarship Foundation • WRVC Outstanding Student Scholarship Saco Biddeford Savings Institute Scholarship/Toolship **Kyla Harvie** – Varsity Eagle Award
- * Wesley Theriault Reny's Scholarship
 - ★ Afomiya Timerga Reny's Scholarship Worthington Scholarship Foundation Dana H. Smith Scholarship • Westbrook Garden Rotary Toolship
- ★ Ava Wardwall Lake Pines Association Scholarship
- ★ Lucas Wood Maine Blue Collar Scholarship
- ★ Ellen Woodside Bill & Jane Diamond Scholarship Walk a Mile in Their Shoes Peter R. Marsh Foundation's Silent Servant scholarship
- ★ Riley Yates Cumberland County Federal Credit Union Scholarship Good Citizenship Award • WHS Staff Scholarship • Windham Lions Club
 - * Andrew Young Iron Eagle Recipients O William Robertson Scholarship Fund
 - ★ Madison Young Town Fair Tire Toolship
 - ★ Edyth Zang Student of the Program- WRVC Cosmetology

RSU 14 congratulates you all for a job well done!

Former Windham state rep leaves public service legacy

Windham

By Ed Pierce

STAFF WRITER

Former State Rep. David Tobin of Windham will be remembered for his unwavering support for the community and years of dedication to delivering the mail here.

Tobin, 93, died May 22 in the home he had built for his wife and family in South Windham.

He worked for the U.S. Postal Service for 39 years and through his work on the 14mile route he made many lasting connections in the community leading to representing Windham on the town council and as a Former state representative.

years as a town coun- Tobin also served as a member sponsor student danccilor from 1997 to of the Windham Town Council es along with being a 2007 and then filled and was a longtime mail carrier leader in Windham the position brief- in Windham for the U.S. Postal Boy Scout Troop 802. ly in 2009 replacing Service. COURTESY PHOTO

a councilor that had resigned. From 1998 to 2004, he served as a Republican State Representative in the119th, 120th, and 121st Maine Legislatures representing Windham.

A graduate of Gorham High School, Tobin served in the U.S. Air Force as an Air Traffic Controller during the Korean War and was stationed in England. After his discharge from the military, he returned to Maine and attended Maine Vocational Technical Institute and worked as a service manager for both Pontiac and Ford automobile dealerships, then was a manager at Northeast Cold Storage before joining the U.S. Postal Service.

While living in Windham, Tobin joined American Legion Field-Allen Post 148 and was elected as Post Commander. He also logged time as a member of many Windham town committees, including three Comprehensive Planning Committees, the Public Safety Building Committee, and the Windham Ordinance Review Committee.

His dedication to public service was

Maine Legislature. He was instrumental in creating bills aimed at assisting veterans and leading efforts to pass significant environmental legislation protecting the natural resources of Maine for generations to come. His bill, LD 1813, created a system

felt statewide when he served in the

to provide incentives for auto scrappers to get rid of older polluting automobiles statewide and was signed into law by then Gov. Angus King.

A strong supporter of public education, Tobin supported programs and initiatives that helped provide State Maine students with Representative David Tobin access to laptop com-Tobin spent 10 has died at the age of 93. puters, and he helped He was nominated

> twice for the Jefferson Award for Public Service and served on the Board of Directors for New Marblehead Manor and was involved in other public efforts affecting residents of the town of Windham.

In 2022, Tobin was honored as the Windham Summerfest Parade's Grand Marshal. He was a captivating storyteller and historian of Windham, Little Falls, and the Presumpscot River watershed.

Surviving him are his wife of 68 years, Joan (Hawkes) Tobin, their three children, Colleen Tobin (Leo), Bridget Gallagher (David), and James Tobin (Xavier), eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

To honor the memory of David Tobin, his family is asking that donations may be made to Windham Neighbors Helping Neighbors, P.O. Box 1956, Windham, ME 04062, or to the Windham Veteran's Center, 35 Veteran's Memorial Drive, Windham, ME 04062.

A private graveside burial service for Tobin will be held sometime this summer. <





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We were so impressed, we decided to put in a Heat Pump hot water heater. Again, no money upfront. The savings after the finance payment and the power bill amounted to about \$97/mo (\$1164/yr). That was A TOTAL SAVINGS OF ABOUT \$2500 A YEAR FOR THE HEAT PUMPS TO HEAT AND COOL AS WELL AS THE HOT WATER HEATER. It was like getting paid \$2500 a year to install these. (P.S. - I verified the figures from the *Efficiency Maine website)*

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— June 13, 2025

Raymond Select Board chair shifts focus to State House

By Dina Mendros STAFF WRITER

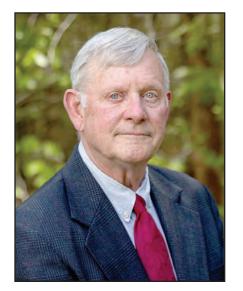
As a young man, Rolf Olsen, now 69, moved to Maine to attend college, but he never left. After attending the University of Maine, Orono, Olsen took a job in the Lakes Region and fell in love with the area. Originally from New York state, Olsen made Raymond his home 46 years ago and for 38 of those years he has provided service to the town which welcomed him and where he raised his family.

After serving nine years on the Board of Selectmen, three years as chair, and 29 years on the Budget-Finance Committee, 15 as chair, Olsen said he is winding down his political career with the town. He did not seek election earlier this week as his term on the Select Board comes to an end. However, Olsen will continue serving his first term in the State House of Representatives. He says he plans to run for reelection next year.

Olsen, who was married for 40 years, became a widower in November; he is the father of two sons. He is a licensed insurance agent specializing in health for individuals and small groups and seniors. In addition to the Select Board and Budget-Finance Committee, Olsen has served on numerous other town committees including Raymond Middle School Study Committee, RSU Withdrawal Committee, Economic Development Task Force, Compensation Committee, Road Improvement Committee, Recycle Committee, COLAB (Fiber optic), RSU 14 Middle School Building Committee, and the Boy Scouts Pack 800 Committee – as the chair for eight years. He was also the Raymond



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Rolf Olsen served nine years on the Raymond Board of Selectmen, including three years as chair, and 29 years on the town's Budget-Finance Committee, with 15 as committee chair. He did not seek reelection to the Select Board but will continue serving in the Maine House of Representatives and plans to run for reelection. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Village Community Church moderator for 12 years, and a church elder for two years.

Olsen, a Republican, said he is not seeking reelection to the Board of Selectmen because he wants to devote more time to his work in the Legislature.

"The time at the Legislature turned out to be more than I had anticipated," Olsen said. "To give the best representation to the people that elected me to both positions I needed to make a decision on one or the other. In the 38 years combined between the Select Board and the Budget-Finance Committee, I had only missed three meetings, unfortunately two of those were since I started in the Legislature. I feel I can help the people of Raymond in my position in the Legislature so want to be able to devote the time to do this properly."

Over the years, Olsen said he's seen a number of changes in town, especially in town government.

"When I started off, we were just a Select Board run town and there was only three Select Board members. Then we moved to a town manager type system and increased the Select Board from three to five members."

In addition to the style of the town government changing, he said the budget has grown substantially.

"The very first budget I did with the town was about \$1.5 million. That was the municipal plus the county," he said. "We are now about \$9 million between municipal and county. That was a big change."

The other big changes have been on the public safety side, Olsen said.

"When I started the Fire Department was all volunteer," he said. "Now you've got a number of full-time positions plus some volunteers, but the number of volunteers has gone down dramatically. Some of that is just because of the demographic changes but an awful lot is based on state and fedsee **OLSEN** Page 10





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Hawthorne House ready for 63rd Strawberry Festival

By Kendra Raymond

STAFF WRITER

Can anyone say "chocolate dipped strawberries from Migis Lodge?" These little gems and some other delicious treats can be in your future for folks taking part in the iconic Hawthorne House Strawberry Festival this year.

The Strawberry Festival will be held from 6 to 7:45 p.m. Saturday, June 28. Walk-ins are welcome, but reservations are encouraged for planning purposes.

Going strong for over six decades, the festival seems to improve yearly, gaining in attendance and popularity. The annual event serves as a fundraiser for the Hawthorne House in Raymond. Participants can expect an evening of fresh strawberry desserts and treats, camaraderie, and a chance to learn something new about the local author and legend Nathaniel Hawthorne.

Hawthorne House Community Association member Abel Bates recalls the longstanding history of the Strawberry Festival.

"I moved here in 1972 and am pretty sure it was an ongoing annual event in 1973. No idea how long before that," he said.

Margaret Myatt is also involved with the Hawthorne House and Strawberry Festival especially in developing and maintaining the website.

She has gathered the following historical facts:

** In 1956 the Hawthorne Community Association reorganizes after



The Strawberry Festival will be held from 6 to 7:45 p.m. Saturday, June 28 at the Hawthorne House, located at 40 Hawthorne Road in Raymond. COURTESY PHOTO

years of inactivity.

** The first Strawberry Festival at the Hawthorne House in Raymond was held in the early 1960s, shortly after the Hawthorne Community Association reorganized and began hosting regular events.

** A 2005 Portland Press Herald article notes that, according to association president Frank Chambers, the Festival has "been held since the early 1960s."

** The Association's own chronology marks the "start of the 'modern era" between 1956 to 1961, with a period of rapid growth from 1962 to 1969 due to new activities -such as the Strawberry Festival - being introduced.

** So, the very first Strawberry Festival likely took place in 1962, in the wake of that reorganization, and it continued as an annual spring/earlysummer celebration from that point forward. Nathaniel Hawthorne's boyhood home, built in 1812, had come under the Association's care in 1922 but remained largely dormant until the 1950s revival – leading to community staples like the Strawberry Festival."

Camp Wawenock alumni Ann Ewig believes that the Strawberry Festival dates further back and aimed to include deeper community ties.

"Even prior to the Straw-

berry Festival being held at the Hawthorne House, Camp Wawenock under Sid and Lillian Usher also celebrated this event at their location (before) the 1960s," she said.

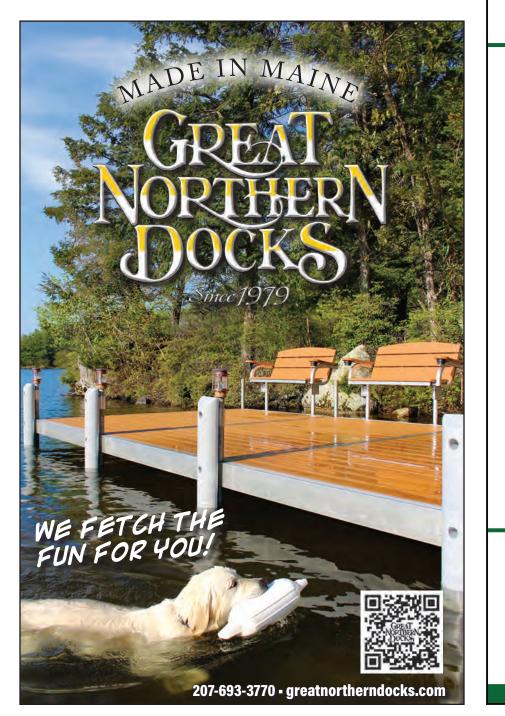
The jury is still out on the actual history of the Strawberry Festival, but nevertheless, a full house is expected for the famous Raymond Cape event.

The Hawthorne House summer newsletter announced, "We know that the strawberries and cream will be as delicious and fresh as ever. And don't forget the luscious chocolate-dipped strawberries from Migis Lodge."

Adding some exciting news about a special addition this year, the newsletter continued, "A special Strawberry Festival treat! We have a special guest

→ see **FESTIVAL** Page 16











in all shapes and sizes







→ MEALS Cont. from page 3

people across the state through public services.

In Windham, the Windham Town Council used CDBG funds to revitalize South Windham by installing new sidewalks on Gray Road and the expansion of a public parking lot for residents doing recreational activities and visiting local businesses in the area.

The federal government's "Big Beautiful Bill" mandates the complete elimination of FY2026 funding for CDBG programs and suggests these programs should instead be funded by state and local governments.

Vicki Watson, executive director of the National Community Development Association, said without CD-BG-funded programs, local communities will be overwhelmed and will

find it difficult to fund such critical services.

"Thriving local economies and strong communities lay the foundation for a brighter, more prosperous future for everyone. For more than five decades, CDBG funding has been a lifeline for U.S. communities as it has created jobs, improved public infrastructure, and expanded affordable housing," Watson said. "Asking cities, counties, and municipalities to shoulder the burden of funding these important programs, projects, and initiatives would ignore the scale of the need and the federal government's responsibility to invest in equitable growth. Eliminating CDBG from the fiscal year 2026 budget could devastate local economies, including Maine's and would also erase hardwon progress, especially in the nation's rural and underserved areas." <

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Senator Nangle introduces legislation to support towns in protecting Maine's waters

State Senator Tim Nangle, D-Windham, introduced a bill to help Maine municipalities enforce shoreland zoning laws by providing legal support when pursuing serious violations.

Nangle's LD 1904, "An Act to Establish the Municipal Shoreline Protection Legal Fund," received a public hearing on May 12 and a work session on May 15 before the Environment and Natural Resources Committee. The committee has unanimously voted to carry the bill over to the next legislative session for further work and consideration.

"When a town like Raymond has to spend over half a million dollars just to make sure someone follows the law and protects a public water source, something is broken," Nangle said. "Last year, we passed my bill that gives towns the authority to act - now we need to make sure they can afford to. LD 1904 is about standing up for Maine's lakes, standing with our towns and ensuring that no one is above the law just because they can afford to fight it."

LD 1904 would create a revolving legal fund to help towns cover legal costs when pursuing egregious shoreland zoning violations. If the town prevails in court, it would repay the fund using the court-awarded legal fees. The fund would be non-lapsing and maintained with a minimum balance of \$100,000 to ensure longterm support.

The bill was introduced in response to a high-profile case in the town of Raymond, where a property owner replaced 400 feet of shoreline vegetation along Sebago Lake - one of the cleanest sources of drinking water in the country. The town spent more than half a million dollars over three years trying to enforce local shoreland zoning provisions. Although the case was ultimately settled in 2024 with restoration beginning later that summer, the experience revealed the financial barriers many towns face when holding violators accountable.

The LD 1904 bill builds on the success of LD 2101 from the 131st Legislature, also sponsored by Nangle, which was signed into law in 2024 and gave municipalities new tools to enforce shoreland zoning violations. LD 1904 ensures those tools can be used effectively, regardless of a town's budget.

The bill is slotted to face further committee work and consideration in the Second Session of the 132nd Legislature in early 2026.

Nangle is serving his second term in the Maine Senate, representing Casco, Frye Island, Raymond, Windham and part of Westbrook. He serves as Senate Chair of the Transportation Committee and sits on the *Health and Human Services Committee.* <

FATHER'S DAY GIFTS FOR





The Windham Eagle

SUMMERFEST Cont. from page 1

cut back. We appreciate every single one of our sponsors and their continued support. We also have to thank the Town of Windham and Windham Parks and Recreation; without their financial support and day to day help, we would not be able to do this."

For Matthews, one of her favorite parts about the Summerfest is the music.

"As always, I am excited about the music. The bands this year truly offer a variety of sounds for many generations. Motor Booty Affair always has us on our feet, dancing the night away and waiting for the fireworks. Them Talking Monkeys start the day at 1

p.m. with a mix of 70s and 80s rock that will have you jumping out of your seat. The Vista Cruisers will make the 3 p.m. start time fun for the 'oldies' lovers in the crowd," says Matthews. "We will have a 'block' party before the parade at the corner of Windham Center Road and Route 202 with Tyler Dhone performing from 10:30 a.m. until the parade kicks off at noon. This is our latest change to try to bring people out and enjoy this special day."

While the event will go on rain or shine, Matthews and everybody involved in the event are hoping for sunny skies.

"We have had many years of Summerfest being cold or rainy, this year we are all praying for sunshine," says Matthews. Michael O'Neal with Keeping Kids Safe will also be present at Summerfest. O'Neal is a former part time Deputy Sheriff for Cumberland County for over 17 years and is the founder of Keeping Kids Safe (KKS), a non-profit which started in 2008. Keeping Kids Safe offers personal safety training and teaches the Grip, Dip, and Spin technique that could help save children from predators. He also teaches various

other child-friendly programs and educational programs like anti-bullying, internet safety, and date escape.

Apart from selling hamburgers at Summerfest, O'Neal spreads awareness about internet safety and about what Keeping Kids Safe does.

"We teach our kids the Stop, Drop, and Roll method in fire but we never taught our kids what to do if a stranger grabs them," says O'Neal. "Social media is a great tool, but also a very dangerous one."

2025 Summerfest promises to be a day full of fun and the community is strongly encouraged to attend the event and enjoy live music, local food, and end the day with fireworks.

"We want the community to know that the event is free to all," says Matthews. "If you choose to purchase food from the nonprofit food vendors or from one of our many talented crafter/vendors, that would be amazing but not required. We just want everyone to know we do it for the whole community and hope that they have one of the best days." <





School: Raymond Elementary School Grade: Third Grade Teacher: Mr. Millett

Parents' names: Hillary and Jonathan Cirrinone **Favorite subject (or activity):** Recess (Basketball) **Reason for selection:** Bowen emulates what is expected through his leadership with his academic effort, social positivity, and overall willingness to help his community and peers. While Bowen is a peer model that many others look up to, his drive and motivation comes from

his love of basketball and his favorite team – the Boston Celtics. Bowen himself is the Jayson Tatum of Third Grade students. He is young, he takes on a humble leadership role, and accepts responsibility for himself, while also helping to solve problems for others. Bowen also provides a level of kindness that is fully genuine to his teachers, his friends and peers, and sets an example for his fellow students that are both younger and older than him. Bowen, you are an inspiration for all, and the future holds great things for you and everyone that crosses your path.



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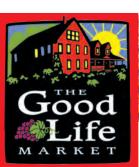


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OLSEN Cont. from page 6

Page 10

eral mandates on what the firefighters have to do. So it makes it harder to have a volunteer fire department."

The number of volunteers to provide service in a variety of areas of town life has been decreasing, he said, because like Maine in general, Raymond has an aging population.

One area that Olsen said he's proud of the work he and the rest of the Select Board have done is keeping the budget, and property taxes, as low as they can despite the growth in the budget. A testament to the fiscal responsibility of the Select Board, he said, is that Raymond is one of the few towns in

Maine with a Triple A bond rating. "We worked hard over the years to maintain a reasonable budget so that we were not kicking people out

of their houses, which is the last thing you wanted to do," he said. Road improvement is another area Olsen said he feels he's had a helping hand in.

"We went through a period where there was very low maintenance being done on it for a number of different reasons. Roads tended to be the scapegoat if they had to cut money," Olsen said. "So, when I was on the Road Improvement Committee, we came out with a plan to bring those back up to snuff and to maintain those going forward."

Olsen said that the town began handling services like plowing inhouse rather than subcontracting that work, and that has saved the town money in the long run.

"The other big improvement is on the rec side," he said. Parks and Recreation used to be a volunteer department, but since hiring a director, new programs have been added, and other positive changes have taken place."

Olsen said he chose to help his constituents by focusing on state rather than local politics because he thinks that's the area in which he can do the best. Again, he is mostly focused on fiscal responsibility as the best way to help residents.

"The biggest issue we have at the state right now is the budget," he said. "The budget is out-of-whack so we know it has to be looked at seriously to bring that back in line with what the people can afford." He said a more reasonable budget, including less wasteful spending in state government will filter back to the towns in the mil rate.

While Olsen is focused politically on fiscal responsibility and other practical matters, he says that's not all that's important in creating a healthy community. For Raymond, one thing that is very important is the "small town feel."

"It doesn't look like it on paper," Olsen said, "but it still is a small-town feel. There is still an awful lot of pride in the town as far as what it is, who they are and what they can do. It's getting harder and harder because of schedules and things like that to have people do a lot of volunteering that was done in the past but when you get people together, you'll get things done. That really needs to stay a focus because people still want that smalltown feel. Even though we have that large growth in the summer of people, year-round residents still want that small-town feel." <



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Windham Middle School band, orchestra dazzle judges with performances at Trills & Thrills Music Festival



Windham Middle School's Band and Orchestra members gather after earning Superior ratings from Trills & Thrills Music Festival judges in Nashua, New Hampshire on June 5. SUBMITTED PHOTO

By Ed Pierce

STAFF WRITER Two Windham Middle School musical ensembles for band and orchestra have a lot to be thankful for as each earned a superior rating from judges during the Trills & Thrills Music Festival on June 5 in Nashua, New Hampshire.

A superior rating is the highest honor and one reserved for music making at its finest that festival judges can award. It is based not just upon student musicians performing the right notes and rhythms or playing a difficult piece of music, instead it is reserved exclusively for the most outstanding performance by a band or orchestra.

Morgan Riley, WMS Orchestra and Band Teacher, said that musical ensembles at the festival are rated on Tone Quality, Intonation, Interpretation, Technique, and Balance.

"Both the WMS Seventh and Eighth Grade Orchestra and Band earned the highest rating of Superior, Riley said. "Students were able to listen to other ensembles who attend the festival from Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and beyond."

During the festival two judges, who are typically college music professors, listen to two pieces of music from each ensemble. The judges then provide written and audio-recorded feedback.

According to Riley, WMS students took way several things from this trip such as constructive criticism to help them improve, received positive feedback about their strengths, and a sense of accomplishment when they received their rating from the judges. The feedback from judges included techniques for improvement as ensembles and listening to other musicians.

"We have participated in festivals similar to this annually as a school for many, many years," said Morgan Riley, WMS band and orchestra teacher. "The oldest plaque we have is from the 1990s."

Riley said students started rehearsing festival pieces in January.

"We have been working on the basics, notes, rhythms and articulations, and are now getting to the details of dynamics and the other parts," she said. "These students are incredibly hard-working and show perseverance in every class."

According to Riley, the festival creates an environment where students feel comfortable and free to express themselves. Participating in festivals like this one can help make performers work harder when engaging and pushing to create the best of their performances, she said.

In all about 50 WMS students, including all the orchestra and band members, were able to participate in the festival trip.

Riley has taught in Windham and Raymond schools for 18 years. She



has been an instructor for band, orchestra, chorus, and guitar to students at Jordan-Small Middle School, at Windham Middle School, and for Manchester School in her career with RSU 14.

"We would like to thank our supporters who purchased items at last fall's Mattress Fundraiser. Without those funds, we couldn't have attended the festival," Riley said. <



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June 13, 2025



Retirement bittersweet for Windham Middle School's longtime secretary

By Ed Pierce

After more than two decades of service to RSU 14, Debbie Hall will walk out of the doors of Windham Middle School on the final day of school this week and stroll into retirement.

Hall, who grew up in Gray and graduated from Gray New Gloucester High School, has worked at the Front Desk and been the Attendance Secretary at WMS since 1999 and is the most prominent staff member for anyone visiting the school.

"I do all attendance details, manage all the doors of both the main building and Field Allen schools," Hall said. "I sign in and out all visitors, help students, staff and administrators with any needs they might have. I answer the phones, manage the surveillance cameras and help parents and venders who come to the middle school with questions or concerns they have. You have to be a good multi-tasker, because at any time phones can be ringing, doorbells buzzing, and students are at the window waiting to be signed in. You have to be able to do it all at once and keep a smile on your face while doing it."

Before landing the job, Hall was a substitute teacher in Windham and worked quite a lot at WMS. The principal at the time, Hal Shortsleeve, told her they were creating a new receptionist position in the middle school office, and he thought Hall would be a good fit.

"He asked me if I would be interested in applying," she said. "The rest is history."

According to Hall, meeting the students every year, watching them grow over the three years they are there and then seeing them come back for Senior Walk through the school the week before they graduate is very moving.

"It is so amazing and emotional," Hall said.

The most difficult aspect of her work is not getting emotionally attached to students who are struggling.

"It's very hard to not get involved or keep from voicing my opinions," she said. "Society has changed so much in 26 years and a lot of it has not been for the good. Schools are not just a place to learn and grow anymore. Sometimes school is the only safe place a student has. Responsibility is a thing of the past, bullying is rampant, cell phones and social media have really had a negative effect on our younger generation. Teachers and administrators' hands are tied in so many situations. It's been hard to watch."

Before working for RSU 14, Hall went to Southern Maine Community College for Food Service and Nutrition.

"I was a cook at Ledgewood Manor until I had my third child. Then I opened my own in-home daycare," she



Debbie Hall has worked at Windham Middle School since 1999 at the front desk and as the Attendance Secretary. She has been the leading force behind the annual Christmas Angels program at the school and plans to continue to being involved with that after her retirement. PHOTO BY ED PIERCE

said. "Some of the children that were at my daycare have students in the middle school now. I have also owned my own business 'Cakes by Debbie' and I have made many cakes for staff and students over the years. Every year a new student comes in and says 'Ms. Hall, my mom and dad said you made their wedding cake.' It is a great ice breaker for new kids."

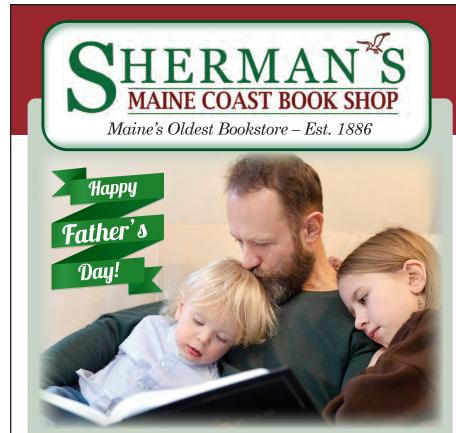
Many people have gotten to know Hall through her Christmas Angels program at the school which collects gifts for students and families who are in need over the holidays. She plans to continue with that initiative, retired or not.

"Our community is so amazingly generous. The Christmas Angels program I started up here at WMS has been so rewarding," Hall said. "Last Christmas, we helped 42 Windham kids have a great Christmas. We help parents who need a helping hand with birthday gifts, gas cards and even have helped with heat and car repairs in the past. If you are interested in joining the program, let me know at deb1130@msn.com."

In retirement, Hall plans to travel, spend time with her family, garden and relax.

"I want to thank all the parents and students over the years who have touched my heart and made me feel like I have made a difference in their lives," she said. "Being stopped outside of school and having someone tell me I have been an influence upon them is so amazing. I had a mom thank me last week for being her lifeline to WMS for the past 12 years while her four children went through the school. That made me day, and it is why I have dedicated my heart and soul to this job over the last 26 years. The thought of leaving is very bittersweet for me, I am the only person to hold this position at WMS, and I wish the next person good luck. <

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Windham Christian Academy student earns Good Citizen Award from American Legion Post 148

By Ed Pierce

STAFF WRITER

Never let is be said that Nathan Getchell doesn't feel love, devotion, and a sense of pride in the United States. His enthusiasm had led him to receive a Good Citizenship Award from American Legion Field-Allen Post 148.

Getchell,17, is a junior at Windham Christian Academy, and one of his teachers at the school, Lucy Kindred, says that his favorite school subject is government.

The Legion's Good Citizenship Award is presented to students who are about to attend the American Legion's Dirigo State program. Dirigo State is a coed program where high school juniors get to participate for several days in a mock government exercise.

The program was originally only for boys and was launched in 1935 but has since become for both boys and girls. Dirigo State students learn leadership skills, teamwork, and how government works in America. Student participants propose legislation at the local and state levels to address problems and issues in Maine, lobby other "representatives" to get their bills passed, and along the way are able meet many different elected officials.

American Legion Post 148 Americanism Officer John Facella said this is the first year in recent memory that



Nathan Getchell, a junior at Windham Christian Academy, is pre-sented with the American Legion's Good Citizenship Award by Ameri-can Legion Post 148 Americanism Officer John Facella as his parents look on. SUBMITTED PHOTO

in aviation and is a member of the Civil Air Patrol. Getchell also participates in a ministry in Buxton called "Propelling the Gospel" that supports teenagers working on planes and helping area churches with specific needs.

Following graduation from high school next year, he plans to attend flight school and become a pilot eventually working for the military or a commercial airline.

Getchell's parents attended the ceremony where he received the Good Citizenship Award. His father is a retired U.S. Army First Sergeant. <

gion Post 148 Americanism Officer John Facella a SUBMITTED PHOTO a student from the Windham Chris-

tian Academy will be attending Dirigo State.

At Windham Christian Academy, Getchell plays varsity basketball and is involved with the Model United Nations Club. He has a keen interest





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Track team unstoppable in State Championship meet

By Matt Pascarella **STAFF WRITER**

Windham's entire outdoor track and field season was working up to this point all spring as its boys' and girls' squads competed against teams from all over the state in the Class A State Championship meet at Lewiston on Tuesday, June 10.

Windham boys finished fourth with a score of 49 and Windham girls finished 10th with a score of 37.75.

BOYS: In the pole vault, Windham senior Carter Engelman became a state champion with a height of 15feet, a new personal record and a new school record.

"For the last two years at a state meet Carter has not met his expectations in a heartbreaking way as being able to come and perform," said Windham pole vault coach Jeff Neal. "So, to see him do this, 100 percent huge personal record; it's all the hard work. I couldn't be prouder of him, a class act."

Engelman had been tied with an injured Scarborough pole vaulter. They were given the option to break the tie or be co-champions.

Coach Neal said Engelman was steadily improving and probably could have beat him. Engelman said he would not beat an injured guy, showing in addition to skill, class and sportsmanship.

"It feels good; I feel like I've earned it, I've had a lot of help," Engelman. "Track is one of those things where everything builds on each other. I just wanted to perform to the best of my ability and not have regrets about how I performed."

Engelman was also the 110-hurdles state champion with a time of 14.72 seconds. Right behind him was Wind-





finished fourth in the discus with a massive throw of 107-11.

"As a coach, watching Marina throw in her second full year with so much development was just amazing to see. As a dad, it was very emotional," said Windham throwing coach William Schwarz.

According to Marina Schwarz it felt really good for her to have such a great throw in the shotput; she went from placing 10th to placing second.

Senior Tayla Pelleti-

er kept moving forward after a fall in the 100-hurdles. She finished second in the 300-hurdles with a 46.33 time and first in the triple jump with a distance of 37-9.25.

"It's definitely not how I wanted it to go," said Pelletier. "My goal for today was to give it what I've got and do everything I can to get the best marks at the end of the day. After the fall ... was hard. You have to brush it off and focus on the next thing ... getting to change my mindset and getting back into what I know I can do, was my win for the day."

Junior Addison Shanholtz placed second in the pole vault with a height of 9-0.

Senior Olivia Smith ran 52.58 in the 300-hurdle, a personal record.

"Tayla Pelletier learned the hardest lesson is sport. Her response was her lesson and opportunity at the state championships - pretty amazing response because it was a devastating situation," said Windham track and field coach Jeff Riddle. What went really well was that we showed up, we were prepared for the situation. Marina ... epic mental game growth, and a massive shotput personal record; very consistent and impressive results at discus. The 4x800 relay team was able to get on the podium (10:40.96-minute time). Our 4x100 team was incredible with their handoffs they worked for two weeks on that and today was super smooth and super great." <

(Clockwise from top left) Windham senior Carter Engelman clears the crossbar in pole vault at 15-00 feet to become a state champion during the Class A Track and Field State Championships at Lewiston on Tuesday, June 10. Senior Rory Good leaps over a hurdle. Senior Tayla Pelletier gains on an opponent in the 300-hurdles. Junior Myla Vercoe barrels down the track at full speed. PHOTOS BY MATT PASCARELLA

ham senior Rory Good with a 14.85 time, a personal record.

WINDHA

Good finished second in the 300-hurdles with a 39.98 time.

Reagan Newell Age: 13 Team: WMS outdoor track Coach: Jason Lanoie Parents' names: Dana and Susan Newell Reason for selection: Reagan Newell is a seventh grade indoor and outdoor track athlete. She is one of those athletes that coaches love because she is not only a thrower but also a runner. Reagan is always positive

In the 200-dash senior Karl Longstreth finished fifth with a time of 22.53.

Windham's 4x100 relay team placed fourth with a 43.98 time.

"I think we've been really excited," said Windham boys' coach Paula Pock. "We've been working hard up until this point and to see them pull it all together – Carter and Rory in the 110, Rory had a huge personal record, he took almost two seconds off from what he did last year. I think it's been a strong day."

GIRLS: Windham senior Marina Schwarz finished second in the shotput with a distance of 35-6.5. She also

and is willing to do the hard workouts if it's going to make her a better athlete. Reagan is always pushing herself to be the best she can be. She would do a 200-meter run one week and want to push herself to a longer distance the next meet. She has grown into a leader and will be someone the other teammates will look up to next year.



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WHS SCOREBOARD

★ Girls' Lacrosse: The second-ranked Windham High School girls' lacrosse team faced 15th-ranked Oxford Hills in the preliminary Class A playoff round at Windham High on Tuesday, June 10. Windham knocked out the Vikings 20-5, as Windham juniors Abby Trainor, Neve Ledbetter, sophomore Morgan Mc-Lain and senior Grace Joly all scored multiple goals. Windham juniors Elizabeth Baker, Mady Donnelly and sophomore Grace McPherson all scored one goal. Windham will play 10th-place Massabesic or seventh-place Yarmouth in the quarterfinals at 4:30 p.m. Friday, June 13 at Windham High School.

WHS girls' lacrosse star reaches major goal milestone

By Matt Pascarella STAFF WRITER

Windham junior Abby Trainor made Windham High School varsity girls' lacrosse history when she became the first player ever to score 200 career goals at Windham High on Tuesday, June 3 in a game against Gorham. She was only two goals away from this monumental achievement and reached her 200th goal in the first quarter. The Lady Eagles won this game 16-6; Trainor scored six goals and along with several other teammates helped earn Windham its 12th consecutive win.

"I think the stats just come as the season goes on," said Trainor. "The more we progress it's just so easy for the ball to get in my stick because there are so many teammates and almost all of our goals are assisted, and that's why the 200th goal stat was reached so much earlier than most other teams. It felt amazing especially on an eight-meter penalty shot; there's the intensity ... and once I heard the ping (of the ball hitting the goalpost and going in) all of my teammates jumped up and I kind of got excited; inside I know that my team supports me and the fans and everyone from Windham - everyone supports each other. That's why it felt so good because everyone was around me."

According to Trainor, to reach this point in her athletic career took a lot of hard work, on and off the field in the summer and fall. It also helps that the team is closeknit and spends time together outside of the season, which only makes them stronger and builds up their chemistry – which is why they



(L to R) Windham junior Abby Trainor heads toward the goal in a late-season game against Gorham at Windham High School on Tuesday, June 3. Trainor made WHS girls' lacrosse history by becoming the first athlete ever to score 200 career goals. Abby Trainor, center between both signs, celebrates with her team after she scores her 200th career goal. PHOTOS BY MATT PASCARELLA

have been so successful this season.

Trainor scored her 199th goal in less than the first minute of play. Shortly before the end of the first quarter, Trainor scored goal 200 on a penalty shot.

"(Abby hitting this milestone as a junior) is incredible," said Windham varsity girls' lacrosse coach Matt Perkins. "Our program has been around 15 years, give-or-take, we've never had anyone over 150 goals and she's a junior, so that's pretty incredible. She works so hard on the ride, she causes turnovers. If you watch our ride, she and Morgan and the rest of them, they work their tails off and Abby's steering that like 'push, push, push, get the ball back, get the ball back.' She's so good in there which raises us at that level. The other thing about her game is she and Neve and Grace have elevated everyone around them. We have kids who weren't varsity players last year who are scoring, and they're scoring from all different areas and different players and it's just unselfish play – if it's there I'll score, if I can pass, I'll pass. That unselfish attitude has been so huge for this team."

Roughly a year ago, Trainor achieved her 100th career goal. After this, Trainor did not set out to achieve another 100 goals. She credited her teammates for making it so easy for her to score. "Abby is such a fun player to work with, I've played with her since middle school," said Windham senior and teammate Grace Joly. "I've learned so much from her, everybody looks up to her on the team and she contributes so much on the field. She's always setting everyone else up and also taking the best drives for herself. She's so talented and I can't wait to see where she goes ... I'm so sad I'm going to miss her next year when I'm not here. It's just an incredible accomplishment."

Trainor's goals for the future are to help Windham win a state champion-ship.

"That would be better than any personal accolade ever," said Trainor. <

Windham Middle School baseball savors amazing season

By Matt Pascarella

Windham Middle School's baseball team had an incredible season, in which they only lost one game. Windham played their final game of the season at Gorham on Thursday, June 5. Windham held a lead for the first half of the game, but Gorham pulled ahead in the end and Windham narrowly lost 8-6 to the Rams. More importantly, this is a great group of young men who skillfully played the game and had a very strong season.

"It's a team effort, and we would not have been 6-1-1 without the contributions from everyone," said WMS baseball coach Charlie Reiniger. "We're aggressive on the bases, everybody can hit, but everybody contributed. Our pitching was really good ... our baserunning was huge – I mean everything was absolutely outstanding; these guys were dominant all year. These guys worked so hard at practice every day, this was unbelievable; I'm so happy I took this job, a great decision for me to come to Windham for sure. I loved coaching these guys this year." Reiniger, a 2024 Cheverus High School graduate, was new to Windham baseball this season. He said to the parents of the players that he may have learned more from his players than they learned from him. He said that he learned it takes a community, a family, to build success. He wants to thank his assistant coaches Bryan Harvie and Ralph Gallagher for their



(L to R) Windham eighth grader Joey Small taking a lead off second base during a middle school baseball

game at Gorham High School on Thursday, June 5. Eighth grader Riley Gallagher, center, makes a catch in left field. Eighth grader Sullivan Nappi makes a catch at third base in mid-air. PHOTOS BY MATT PASCARELLA

hard work this season. He'd also like to thank the parents; whether the game was home or away the Windham section was always filled with supporters, cheering on their team.

Windham started their season with an 8-4 win against Scarborough, tied Southern Maine Catholic 6-6, got by Bonny Eagle 12-9 – in which all 12 runs were scored in the first inning. Windham creamed Lincoln 20-4 and Moore 14-2. They sent Lewiston packing 9-3 and knocked down South Portland, 10-4. Collectively, the team had 70 hits and scored 85 runs.

"I think we played as a team, we

never got down on each other," said Windham eighth grader Brady Legere. "During the season, we hit the ball well, I think that was a big factor we were always putting up runs early in the game. In the future (we can remember) that we lost one game in our whole entire eighth grade season and going up to high school, that's a big thing to have."

Windham eighth grader Riley Gallagher said they stayed together, even if they were down. They played good defense too, if they needed stops; they hit the ball, got runs as they needed them. Gallagher said they will be able to keep this team together as they go into high school and it feels good knowing that they'll have a majority of this team for four more years.

As Reiniger looks ahead to next season, he has a great group of seventh graders who are talented and will spend their time growing and getting better at the game during the off season. He will miss his eighth graders but wishes them nothing but success in the future. Reiniger said that Windham varsity baseball coach Chris Doughty has a solid group of players who can contribute greatly next year. <

FESTIVAL Cont. from page 7

speaker, Kris Hansen, the author of "My Dear Sister: Nathaniel Hawthorne and His Sisters." Hansen will present her reflections on Nathaniel's life from Salem to Raymond, and his compassionate relationship with his two sisters which evolved upon his marriage to Sophia. Kris will read excerpts from the family letters and share images of Hawthorne's story on our big screen. It will be an insightful, literary multimedia presentation. Signed copies of this delightful biography will be available for purchase."

The Hawthorne House is wrapping up a significant fundraiser aimed at renovating the dated and inefficient kitchen in the building.

Tom Ewig, President of the Hawthorne Community Association, said he is pleased with the results of the Buy a Brick campaign, which allowed patrons to purchase a ceremonial dedicated brick proved successful, collecting over \$10,000 for the organization.

"We started a brick campaign to pay for the (kitchen renovations) at \$300 each," he said. "We were able to sell 37 bricks, which largely funded the entire project. The bricks are at the HH but we need some time to create a patio around the stone commemorating Nathaniel Hawthorne. We plan to have a celebratory barbecue July 19 to celebrate the final phase of the improvements."

A memorial stone has been placed in front of the HH honoring Hawthorne's contributions to the community and the literary world. It reads, "Time flies over us, but leaves its shadow behind." The patio will encircle the stone and serve as a focal point at the HH welcoming guests in, as well as a resting spot or area for photos.

Ewig explained the renovation process.

"We gutted the old kitchen and started from scratch. Basically, we knew what we needed and worked with Lowe's to assemble all the parts from the stove, fridge, and microwave, to cabinets and sinks. Then, to a large extent Lou Chanese and Abel Bates did all the prep work and final assembly of the cabinets. They installed the appliances and painted where needed," he said. "With the kitchen renovations winding up, Ewig says that the improvements are significant and will serve the facility for years to come."

The Hawthorne House is governed by a Board of Trustees who nominate officers at each annual meeting including Sylvia Sullivan, Rebecca Tracy, Treasurer, Jessica Bates, Tom Ewig, President, Ed Kranich, David Carew, Mary Ann Moeri, Vice President and Secretary, Abel Bates, Dave Moeri, Paul Tracy, Steven Kelsey Hazen, Dan Grotto, Thomas McCosker, Katrina Martin, and Shirin Shahinfar.

Ewig is committed to growing the

Hawthorne Community Association and dedicates countless hours to the organization.

We have many public and private events planned at the HH," he said. "Since this is not a destination museum. We want to make it relevant to the Raymond community as an open space for all types of events from birthday parties, showers, reunions, and weddings."

To make reservations for the Strawberry Festival, send an email to hawthorne@maine.rr.com or call 207-329-0537.

To keep updated on the Hawthorne Community Association events, visit www.hawthorneassoc.com <

Evergreen Credit Union announces new directors

Evergreen Credit Union has added five members of the Southern Maine community to its Board of Directors. The new directors include:

• Glen Holmes - Director of Business and Community Development, City of Auburn

• Nick McCrillis - Attorney with CaseiroBurke

 Andrew Bourgoin – Founder and Principal at Bourgoin Insights Group

Florence Williams - Director of Strategy and Product Development at UNUM

• Skyler Redford - Head of Transformation at UNUM

Evergreen's Board represents the members' interests and prioritizes the credit union's financial well-being, transparency, and long-term sustainability. The Directors set strategic goals, oversee financial and risk management, and ensure compliance with local, state, and federal regulations. "I'm thrilled to welcome these five new Directors, who bring a diverse array of expertise and perspectives to the Board," said Rachel Green, Evergreen's Board Chair. "Most importantly, they are all committed to ensuring that Evergreen Credit Union continues to thrive and serve the needs of its members."

As a not-for-profit financial cooperative, a volunteer-based Board of Directors is vital to ensure Evergreen remains member-focused, financially sound, and ethically governed, said Jason Lindstrom, Evergreen's President/CEO.

"It is great to add 5 accomplished professionals to our Board of Directors," Lindstrom said. "I truly feel that they will contribute to the ongoing success of the credit union and look forward to working with all of them."

Evergreen Credit Union is Maine's 5th largest credit union with over \$590 million in assets as of May 2025. To learn more about Evergreen Credit Union, visit www.egcu.org. <



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PUBLIC NOTICE 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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The Windham Eagle

Project aims to restore chestnut trees to Maine forests

The American chestnut tree once dominated portions of the eastern forests of the United States, particularly in Appalachia, where one out of every four trees was an American chestnut.

Known as The Redwood of the East, the American chestnut was the biggest tree in the forest, and it was prized for its beautiful, rot-resistant wood for furniture and building, and its abundant fall crop of delicious, nutritious nuts fueled ecosystems and economies alike.

The American chestnut began its descent from prominence to obscurity after a fungus arrived in the U.S. aboard a ship, living in the wood of an Asian chestnut tree. Between 1880 and 1950, that fungus spread from tree to tree throughout the range of the American chestnut from Maine to Georgia and westward towards the Mississippi. Over 4 billion American chestnut trees died.

Set at the northernmost end of the American chestnut's range, Maine had fewer chestnut trees, with bigger gaps between them. The sparser spacing allowed more wild American chestnut trees to escape blight than any other state. Maine's circumstances left us a legacy of wild, Maine-adapted chestnut genes to collect and propagate for future breeding.

The American Chestnut Founda-



Volunteers from the Lake Region Chestnut Restoration Team will join LELT and ME-TACF for a hands-on chestnut planting opportunity at Mayberry Hill Preserve in Casco on Saturday June 21. Volunteers are welcome to sign up. SUBMITTED PHOTO

tion's (TACF) mission is to return this iconic tree to its native range and in 2024, the Maine Chapter of TACF (ME-TACF) launched its Chestnuts Across Maine (CAM) project to prepare Maine's communities to return this ecologically and culturally important native tree to Maine's forests and public spaces.

Last summer, Loon Echo Land Trust (LELT) partnered with ME-TACF to plant ten American chestnut seedlings in Peabody-Fitch Woods in Bridgton and Mayberry Hill Preserve in Casco. This year, the two groups are looking for volunteers to form a local Chestnut Restoration Team (CRT).

The most important role of the CRT will be to learn how to grow Ameri-

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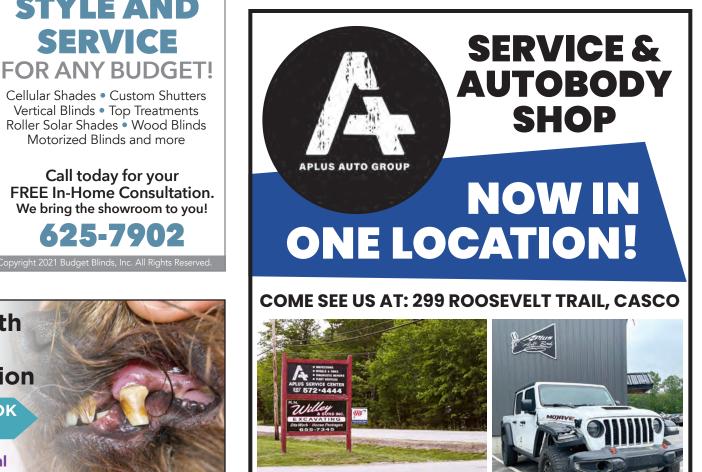
Call today for your

can chestnut trees and grow support

for restoring the iconic trees to Maine forests. Whether you plant or water thirsty seedlings, monitor the health of the trees, introduce folks to them, visit classrooms, or just share the story of this iconic tree with your neighbors, volunteers will lead the way to restoring chestnuts to our lives.

If you're interested in learning more about joining the Lake Region Chestnut Restoration Team, join LELT and ME-TACF for a hands-on planting opportunity from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday, June 21 at Mayberry Hill Preserve in Casco. Interested volunteers should sign up at LELT.org/CAM or by emailing maggie@lelt.org. <





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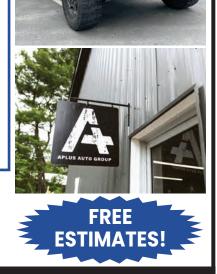
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new ideas in a sup-

portive and inclusive

community. Serving an

ever-changing group of

makers and thinkers, it

is dedicated to working

and learning alongside

one another, while ex-

ploring the intersec-

design in broad and

Haystack

Foundation.

The

College roundup -

★ Greta Paulding of Windham has been named to the Dean's List with High Distinction for the Spring 2025 semester at Grove City College.

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★ Elizabeth Savard of Windham has graduated Magna Cum Laude from Rhodes College with a Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry and molecular biology.

★ Lily Beaton of Raymond has graduated Cum Laude from the University of Massachusetts Boston with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.

★ Amanda Foss of Raymond, Kelly Gleysteen of Frye Island, Brooke Gerry and Riley Parker, both of Windham, have been named to its Spring 2025 Dean's List at the University of Rhode Island.

★ Nicole Levine of Raymond has earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Creative Enterprises from Emerson College.

★ Savannah Desantis, Brady Harvie, and Mikayla Linscott, all of Windham, have been named to the President's List for exceptional academic performance during the Spring 2025 semester at Plymouth State University.

★ Reese Merritt of Raymond has been named to the Dean's List for academic excellence for the 2025 spring semester at Springfield College.

★ Sam Kidder and Madeleine Landry, both of Windham, have graduated from Stonehill College with bachelor's degrees.

★ Nicole Snow of Windham has earned a Bachelor of Science degree

Magna Cum Laude in Marine Science from Maine Maritime Academy.

★ Kyle Anderson of Raymond, Karleigh Hammar, Mackenzie Patterson, and Jade Stevens, all of Windham, have been named to the President's List for the Spring 2025 semester at Southern New Hampshire University.

★ Kaitlyn Anderson, Rianna Barhardt, and Sophia Nappi, all of Windham, and Elie Danika of Raymond have been named to the President's List for top academic performance during the Spring 2025 semester at Central Maine Community College.

★ Dominic Jordan of Windham has been recognized for High Honors for outstanding academic performance during the Spring 2025 semester at Central Maine Community College.

★ Ethan Taggart of Raymond and Ashley Littlefield and Ampara Martinez, both of Windham, have been recognized for Honors for distinguished academic performance during the Spring 2025 semester at Central Maine Community College.

★ John Ulmer of Windham has been named to the Dean's List for academic excellence during the Spring 2025 semester at Keene State College.

★ Hannah Peterson of Windham has been named to the Dean's List for academic excellence during the Spring 2025 semester at Husson University.

★ Brooke Keenan of Windham has earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication & Information Sciences from the University of Alabama. <

Notice of Public Sale

Mon., June 30, 2025 @ 9am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to **THEO SHAUGHNESSY ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE** 627 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, ME

Notice of Public Sale

Mon., June 30, 2025 @ 9am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to WALTER DAVIS **ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE** 627 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, ME

Notice of Public Sale

Mon., June 30, 2025 @ 9am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to **TYLER HARMON ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE** 627 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, ME

Notice of Public Sale Mon., June 30, 2025 @ 9am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to **JOHN MCGEE ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE** 627 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, ME

TOWN OF WINDHAM

Notice of

TOWN MEETING

Windham student attends **2025 Student Craft Institute**

Since 1983, the Student Craft Institute has brought high school juniors and seniors across the state of Maine to the Haystack campus in Deer Isle for an immersive three-day program. Students live on campus, share meals in the dining hall, and focus on one discipline for the duration of the weekend. In addition working artists.

This year, a total of 74 students from 64 schools across Maine participated in the Student Craft Institute from Friday, May 16 to Sunday, May 18 and one of those students was Moriah Doody of Windham.

The event provided a truly unique and memorable experience for students. Instructors included Sharon Chandler Correnty (Fiber), Funlola Coker (Metals), Aspen Golann (Wood), Angela Humes (Ceramics), Meghan Martin (Blacksmithing), Rangeley Morton (Fab Lab), and Pilar Nadal and Rachel Kobasa (Graphics).

Haystack's Student Craft Institute was supported in part by Haystack's Program Endowment with additional operational support from the



to long days in the stu- Maine student Moriah dio, faculty lectures are Doody of Windham joins presented each eve- in creating felted tapesning, providing insight tries at a Fiber workshop into the professional during the 2025 Student and creative lives of Craft Institute in Deer Isle tions of craft, art, and on May 18. SUBMITTED PHOTO

expansive ways. Founded in 1950 as a research and studio program in the arts, Haystack is an international craft school located on the Atlantic Ocean in Deer Isle, Maine, offering one and two-week studio workshops to participants of all skill levels as well as the two-week Open Studio Residency program, tours, auctions, artist presentations, and shorter workshops for Maine residents and high school students. The award-winning campus was designed by noted American architect Edward Larrabee Barnes and opened in 1961 when the school relocated to Deer Isle from its original location in Montville, Maine.

To learn more about the school, visit haystack-mtn.org. <

Notice of Public Sale Mon., June 30, 2025 @ 9am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to LUCINDA CANGELLO **ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE** 627 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, ME

Notice of Public Sale Mon., June 30, 2025 @ 9am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to **STUART HUNTLEY ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE** 627 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, ME

Notice of Public Sale

Notice of Public Sale Mon., June 30, 2025 @ 9am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to **DOMINIC BARBOSA ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE** 627 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, ME

Notice of Public Sale Tues., July 1, 2025 @ 9am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to **DEION PAIGE ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE - NAPLES** 374 Roosevelt Trail, Naples, ME

Notice of Public Sale

Sat., June 14, 2025 10:00 a.m.

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. Please enter through the old entrance to check-in.

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

Thank you, Linda Morrell - Town Clerk/CCM

Mon., June 30, 2025 @ 9am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to **KIMBERLY DAVIDSON ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE** 627 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, ME

Tues., July 1, 2025 @ 9am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to **HEATH TITCOMB ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE - NAPLES** 374 Roosevelt Trail, Naples, ME

Notice of Public Sale Mon., June 30, 2025 @ 9am <mark>of the household items & contents</mark> of a storage unit belonging to **TAYSHA GILLIS ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE** 627 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, ME **Notice of Public Sale** Tues., July 1, 2025 @ 9am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to **ERNEST PHILLIPS ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE - NAPLES** 374 Roosevelt Trail, Naples, ME

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 welcome to attend. Do you have a U.S. flag ready to be retired? Bring it to WVC anytime 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.

Blood Drive

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. Blood reserves are lower during the summer months, so consider giving the gift of life. FMI, call 207-892-1306.

Community Garden

The Windham Community Garden provides affordable garden beds for growing healthy food and flowers for community members. Garden beds are available for rent for this growing season. FMI, visit www. windhamcommunitygarden.org

Suicide Support

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

MUSIC – MAIN STAGE

1-3pm: Them Talking Monkeys 4-6pm: The Vista Cruisers 7-9pm: Motor Booty Affair

HALL IMPLEMENT/ **GEORGE HALL MEMORIAL STAGE**

1:15-2:30pm: Spark You 2:45-3pm: Tap Dancing Demo 3:30-4:30pm: Line Dance 207 5-5:30pm: Andrew Silver

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! 10:30AM TO 9:30PM **AT WINDHAM HIGH SCHOOL!**

SUMMERFEST 2025

Parade ~ Live Music ~ Scavenger Hunt Food, Craft & Business Booths **Family Games & FREE Inflatables & MUCH MORE!**

ADD'L EVENTS

10:30-12 Tyler Dhone Singer on the Corsetti's Stage

Parade Begins at Noon (Starts on Windham Center Road, ending at WHS)

11am-2pm: Roaming Magician, Phil Smith

- **2pm: 3V3 Basketball Tourney**
 - 2-6pm: Party Palooga!

3-5pm: Bingo 12-5pm Golf Ball Drop Purchase balls at: www.sebagolakeschamber.com

9:30pm: GOD BLESS THE USA & FIREWORKS!





How many Months in a month?

By Andy Young STAFF COLUMNIST

June is an utterly unique month. None of the other eleven months begins on the same day of the week as June does.

Ever.

Not only that, March and June always end on the same day of the week, even in a leap year.

A surprising number of June's 30 days have been designated as special ones, including Father's Day, June-teenth, Flag Day, and, in just about every high school in the state, Graduation Day. But that's just scratching the surface.

June is also National Rose Month, National Safety Month, National Adopt a cat Month, National Country Cooking Month, National Zoo and Aquarium Month, National Dairy Month, and National Fruit and Vegetables Month. In addition, June is Caribbean-American Heritage Month, Men's Health Month, African-American Music Appreciation Month, Aphasia Awareness Month, and Rebuild Your Life Month.

Far be it from me to criticize the folks running the DMD (Department of Month Designation), but how can anyone possibly cram so many Months into just one month, let alone one with only 30 days in it? I'd happi-



ly commemorate each Month within the month of June, but I'm not sure I'd have the time or the wherewithal. Ever.

Some of June's Months won't be a problem. I already eat plenty of fruits and vegetables, and between that and refraining from tobacco use, skateboarding, helmetless motorcycle riding and social media, I'm doing my part to observe Men's Health Month. The milk I pour on my

cereal each morning covers National Dairy Month, and I'd like to think buckling up before I start my car qualifies me as an active observer of National Safety Month.

I'm perfectly willing to visit a zoo and/or an aquarium, and since I'm a big fan of diversity and learning, I'm all for taking part in any or all activities celebrating Pride, National Caribbean American History, and African-American Music Appreciation, even though strictly speaking I don't fit into any of the specific demographic groups those particular Months are designed to celebrate. Apparently I could also use a refresher course on Aphasia Awareness, because until I looked it up I thought Aphasia was the hair loss condition that afflicts Jada Pinkett Smith, and moved her husband, Will Smith, to angrily stalk out of the audience at the Oscars and slap Chris Rock, the ceremony's host, after Mr. Rock's unscripted wisecrack that alluded to Ms. Pinkett Smith's shaved head a few years back. Oops. That's alopecia, not aphasia. My bad.

I'd happily celebrate as many of June's Months as possible, but I'm drawing the line at adopting a cat. The money I'd spend on cat food, kitty litter, and veterinarian fees would make it fiscally unfeasible for me to buy anyone a dozen roses. Or any roses, for that matter.

Ever.

As difficult as it would be to properly observe each of June's Months, commemorating each of its special "Days" would be even harder. National Iced Tea Day, World Bicycle Day, National Bubbly Day, World Oceans Day, National Donut Day, World Environment Day, International Day of Family Remittances, World Milk Day, and Fresh Veggies Day are just some of this month's designated "Days."

June 1 alone is National Nail Polish Day, National Game Show Day, National Olive Day, National Hazelnut Cake Day, National Go Barefoot Day, National Pen Pal Day, National Heimlich Maneuver Day, and National Say Something Nice Day. Here's what I'll say that's nice: I'm glad no one is required to wear Nail Polish on National Nail Polish Day. And I sincerely hope that no one reading this needs to give (or receive) the Heimlich Maneuver this month. Or ever. <

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Editor,

I wanted to add my voice to Rosie Hartzler's in her recent letter to The Windham Eagle. Ms. Hartzler raises significant issues that could possibly affect the services of the Windham Public Library. As a new resident (about a year) of Windham, I have come to rely on the library as a source of education and entertainment.

I have been a user of libraries all my life, from a Carnegie Library in my hometown, to the grand public libraries of Boston and New York, and various community libraries in Florida. I must say that the Windham Public Library is one of my favorites. I feel at home there. The staff is caring and knowledgeable, the selection of books and movies exemplary, and the array of community services outstanding for a small library.

Recent funding cuts and actions against libraries threaten to undermine, perhaps even gut, these vital keys to education and understanding. I would urge all Windham residents to visit the library, use its services, and to advocate for its continued healthy existence.

> ~ Michael Meeske, Windham

Editor,

On June 14, we pause to recognize Flag Day, a moment to honor the symbol of our nation's strength and unity. For veterans, this day carries profound significance, representing the sacrifices made in service to the country and the enduring principles of freedom, justice, and democracy.

The American flag is more than fabric stitched together – it embodies the struggles, victories, and dedication of those who have defended it. It stands tall because generations of service members have upheld its meaning through courage and commitment.

For those who have worn the uniform, seeing the flag waving proudly reminds us of the brothers and sisters who stood beside us in times of challenge. It is a reminder of resilience, of duty, and of the promise that our country continues to uphold.

As we celebrate Flag Day, let us reflect on its importance, not just as a national emblem but as a testament to those who have fought to protect it. We encourage everyone to display the flag with pride and take a moment to thank a veteran for their service. Together, we honor their dedication and ensure that the spirit of our nation endures for future generations.

Additionally, it is vital to properly retire a flag that has become unserviceable, ensuring that it is treated with the dignity and respect it deserves. To honor this tradition, American Legion Post 148 invites all who wish to attend a formal flag retirement ceremony at 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 14 at the Windham Veterans Center, located at 35 Veterans Memorial Drive in Windham. This ceremony provides an opportunity to pay tribute to our nation's symbol while reflecting on the values it represents.

> ~ Tom Theriault, Windham, American Legion Post 148 Commander

Deadline to submit letters for that week's edition is Tuesday at Noon. Email to: editor@thewindhameagle.com or mail to: 585 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, 04062

Editor,

Suicide has changed the life of each person who reads this op ed. Whether someone has lost a loved one to suicide or has experienced a loss that is a bit more distant, we know the heartbreak that occurs. I certainly do. We know we can do more in Maine to prevent suicide. In fact, the rate of suicide in Maine is much higher than the national average. In 2023 alone, 274 Mainers died by suicide – that's 274 too many.

But there is hope.

In 2022, the Maine Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Behavioral Health launched 988, a phone or text hotline that is available 24 hours per day, seven days per week for every Mainer. When a person contacts 988, they reach a trained, nonjudgmental professional who is there to listen. During each call, their privacy and anonymity are protected and respected.

Laws should be a reflection of our values yet 988 does not exist in Maine statute. Fortunately, Senator Tim Nangle of Windham has introduced LD 1216, an effort to codify 988, ensuring this lifesaving resource will be available well into the future. Senator Nangle's leadership on this issue provides a foundation for personal safety for all of us – not just some of us.

988 is there for you. 988 is there for the people you love. 988 has - and will continue to save lives. Please learn more about this resource and share 988 with people you know. If you are inclined, ask your legislator to support LD 1216.

Thank you, Senator Nangle, for your leadership on 988 and the positive, life-saving ripple effect that will occur when 988 is protected in statute for generations to come.

Richard Cantz, Volunteer, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Windham







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Well-deserved recognition



Windham American Legion Post 148 Member Willie Goodman of Windham receives the 'Humanitarian of the Year' award for his support of homeless veterans from American Legion Department of Maine Commander Tricia Thurston on Saturday, June 7 in Brewer. Goodman has served for the past 11 years as VFW Post 10643's Commander. Willie Goodman served in the U.S. Navy from 1963 to 1993 and retired

as an E-9, Command Master Chief. He served on eight different ships during his Navy career including on three aircraft carriers and was stationed in Norfolk, Virginia; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Stockton and Oakland, California; Brunswick, Maine and spent two tours of duty overseas including three years in Spain and three years in the Philippines. He also volunteers at the Portland VA Clinic. SUBMITTED PHOTO





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A solemn visit



On Wednesday, May 28, Sen. Tim Nangle, D-Windham, welcomed the Rev. Lisle Blind of St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Windham to the Maine State House. Rev. Blind provided the opening invocation on the floor of the Senate Chamber. 'It was a privilege to welcome Rev. Blind to the Senate,' said Nangle. 'Her prayer called on us to lead with love, to listen with empathy, and to seek peace in ourselves and

in our service to others. It was a meaningful reminder of the values we strive to reflect in our work here.' On session days, faith leaders deliver a brief inspirational message to guide lawmakers through their deliberations for the day. Out of respect for the diversity in the Senate Chamber, opening invocations are non-political in nature. Nangle is serving his second term in the Maine Senate, representing Casco, Frye Island, Raymond, Windham and part of Westbrook. He serves as Senate Chair of the Transportation Committee and sits on the Health and Human Services Committee. SUBMITTED PHOTO





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Landmark nominations sought for Maine Atlas Project

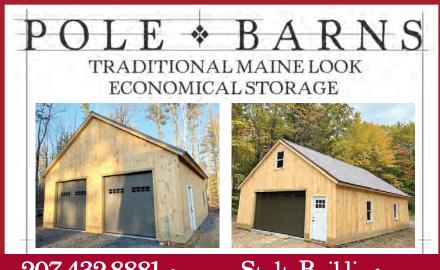
AUGUSTA – The Maine Semiquincentennial Commission, chaired by Secretary of State Shenna Bellows, is launching the Maine Atlas Project this week, with funding and support from the Maine Office of Tourism.

The Maine Atlas Project will identify and promote 250 places, people, events, and objects that represent Maine's unique cultural, natural, and historical assets. These will include historic sites, scenic landscapes, parks, agricultural areas, festivals and fairs, iconic buildings and businesses, notable people and makers, and significant cultural centers.

The project aims to leverage the national attention surrounding the 250th anniversary of the nation's founding while empowering visitors and residents to more deeply appreciate Maine's unique contributions to the founding and development of the country.

The campaign will include video content, photography, storytelling, and social media content to highlight the special people, objects, places, and events selected. The Maine Semiquincentennial Commission is seeking nominations from the public to help compile this comprehensive look at Maine's past 250 years.

"The 250th anniversary of the United States is an important milestone that provides a unique opportunity for Maine to share its stories with people from Maine and from away," said Bellows, who serves as the Chair of the Maine Semiquincentennial Commission. "With our scenic coastlines, historic landmarks, vibrant communities, state and national parks, and wilderness areas,



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Others agree.

"The most exciting part of this project is collaborating with local communities, businesses, state agencies, and heritage organizations to help promote and enhance existing programming," said Sarah Hansen, Director of the Maine Semiquincentennial Commission. "Our hope is to enhance awareness and inspire curiosity about the cultural and natural heritage sites highlighted while creating something that will live long past the Semiquincentennial commemoration."

Anyone can submit nominations through Wednesday, July 9, 2025. To learn more about the Maine Atlas Project or to submit a nomination, visit: www.maine.gov/sos/america250me/atlas <

Secretary of State warns of widespread Bureau of Motor Vehicles texting scam

Maine Secretary of State Shenna Bellows is warning the public of a widespread text scam being received by Mainers across the state.

The text says, "Maine Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Final Notice" and threatens the recipient with several consequences, including vehicle registration suspension and possible prosecution. A link is provided in the text and leads to a fake website where the recipient is asked to click a link to pay money due or fines. Neither the text nor the website is associated with the Secretary of State's Office or the Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV).

"This message is a scam and an attempt to steal credit card numbers and personal information," said Bellows. "Anyone who receives the text should immediately delete it and report it as junk. If you did click the link and entered a credit card number, contact your financial institution immediately. If you were scammed out of any money, contact your local law enforcement."

Scammers seek to obtain personal identifying information and/or financial information from their victims. If you are the victim of a scam, always notify you financial institutions right away. If you fall for a scam, be sure to monitor your accounts for suspicious activity. You can also freeze your credit file to prevent scammers from using stolen personal information to open up fraudulent accounts in your name.

To avoid becoming a victim of a scam, always be suspicious of any unsolicited text, email, or call, no matter who they claim to be or what displays on your caller ID:

• Legitimate government agencies will rarely contact you by text for sensitive matters. The BMV will send such correspondence by mail.

• If you're not sure if a message is true, always verify its legitimacy by contacting the official source directly.

• Never click a link in an unsolicited text or email.

• Never provide identifying and financial info to an unsolicited caller.

• Urgency is a red flag – if they are telling you that you must act quickly or risk a consequence, it's likely a scam.

Learn more about reporting fraud at https://reportfraud.ftc.gov. <





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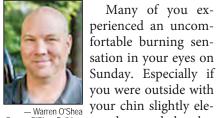
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Seagulls and sandwiches

By Warren O'Shea SPECIAL TO THE WINDHAM EAGLE



Many of you experienced an uncomfortable burning sensation in your eyes on Sunday. Especially if you were outside with

Owner, O'Shea Builders vated toward the sky. It wasn't the smoke from the Canadian wildfires; it wasn't the excessive use of DEET in your black fly deterrent. It was the sun (yes, we still have one under contract). Within hours of the eye burn began what shall for now on be referred to as "The Great Mowing."

Like the start of a marathon signaled by a blank pistol shot in the air, Maine's outdoor season began.

Lounge in the yard, swim in the lake, or have your Bao bun sandwich ripped from your hands by seagulls at the seaside, outdoor season in Maine means different things to different people but here are some stats from Fixr.com's "Outdoor Living Trends 2025".

Fixr.com sent a survey to 52 top experts in the home construction industry, including architects, home builders, home remodelers, and landscaping specialists from across the U.S.

Yours truly was one of the 52 contributors to the survey, and the only contributor from the Pine Tree State. I'm a bit at odds with the expert moniker feeling the only thing I'm expert at is finishing my Bao bun Sammie.

Each of the professionals who responded has a wealth of experience and currently works in the industry. The contributors to this report were selected due to their extensive exper-

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tise, as well as their success in the industry and reputable designs. Their responses are based on their firsthand experience with homeowners, therefore representing a clear picture of current trends in 2025.

• Homeowners are more willing to invest in outdoor spaces in 2025 than in 2024, say 56 percent of experts. More and more homeowners are turning to creating functional outdoor spaces for living and entertaining

• 98 percent of experts agree that an updated outdoor space has a big impact on home value. Real estate experts report that investing in upgrading outdoor features can provide a return on investment (ROI) of 50 percent or more, depending on the project.

• Indoor-outdoor coherent design is the biggest outdoor living trend this year, according to 56 percent of pros. Unified design is dominating outdoor living trends.

· Pocket sliding doors for indoor-outdoor living are the newest emerging trend, say 46 percent. The experts polled agree that pocket sliding doors leading to the outside help create a more coherent indoor-outdoor space.

• Earthy tones take center stage, with 56 percent of respondents naming them the most popular color for outdoor spaces.

• Nearly 40 percent of experts say that outdoor kitchens have been a key part of exterior design for years and aren't going out of style anytime soon. You can keep your space simple by building some permanent shelving and countertops around your grill, or you can go all out and install a full suite of outdoor appliances and

plumbing fixtures to bring the entire kitchen outside, but the pizza oven stands out as the most desired outdoor kitchen feature, with 50 percent of experts selecting it as their top choice.

• What screams luxury and outdoor living like a full-scale living room in your yard? Answer: nothing. Just under 25 percent of professionals agree that full outdoor living rooms are an upcoming trend in 2025. We're talking comfortable sofas, throw pillows, an outdoor TV or projector, and even artwork to bring the design together.

• Composite decking is the top patio flooring pick for 2025, favored by 46 percent of experts.

• Swimming pools lead outdoor entertainment, with 40 percent of experts naming them the most desirable amenity.

• Experts agree that drought-tolerant, water-wise planting leads landscaping trends in 2025, with 62 percent marking it as the top trend.

• A third of exterior design experts can, and they agree that fire pits are sought-after additions to backyard oases. Consider a smaller fire feature, like a portable propane fire table, to bring the luxury without the commitment.

• Water features in landscaping are nothing new, but 17 percent of experts are recognizing a new trend: minimalist fountains and small, natural-looking streams. Your wallet will thank you for not investing in a giant koi pond, and so will the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife because that is super illegal in Maine. You'll still get the tranquility that only trickling water sounds can provide and avoid getting a ride in those cool green state trucks.

This article was brought to you by Warren O'Shea, owner of O'Shea Builders LLC, Maine's most award-winning remodeling contractor. He has 35-plus years of residential remodeling experience. He is a certified home inspector and has been featured on HGTV, Food Network, and Maine Cabin Masters. *He is a recipient of the Portland Police* Department's "Citizen Award," and is *a staunch consumer advocate.* <



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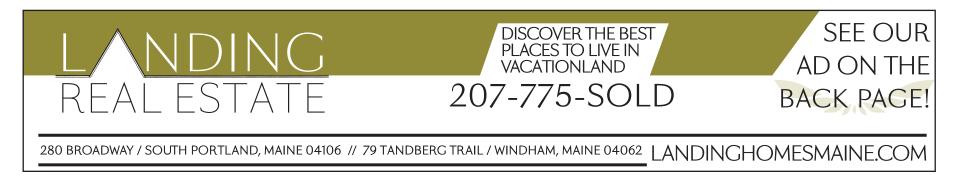


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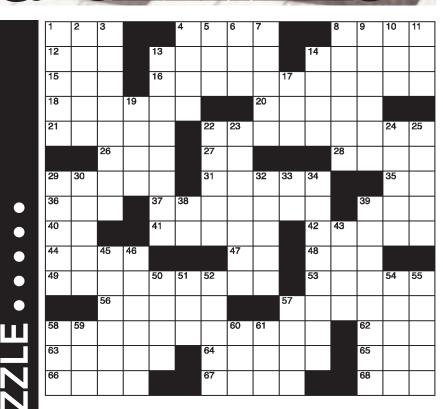






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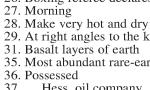
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- 15. Eggs
- 16. S. African Anglican bishop
- 18. Draws taut
- 20. One who tears down
- 21. Killed
- 22. Focus during yoga
- 26. Boxing referee declares
- 29. At right angles to the keel
- 31. Basalt layers of earth
- 35. Most abundant rare-earth
- 36. Possessed
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CLUES DOWN

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- 3. Gave forth
- Frozen drinks 5. Many not ands
- 6. Matchstick game
- 7. Embellish
- 8. Goes into
 - 9. Twin Peaks actress Piper
 - 10. Very fast airplane 11. Cologne
 - 13. Benign glandular tumors
 - 14. Used to cut and shape wood
 - 17. _ King Cole
 - 19. Japanese deer
 - 22. Vitrines
 - 23. Princely area 24. Mother-of-pearl

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- 39. They 40. 17th state
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- 42. Nostrils
- 44. Speech defect
- 47. Atomic #73
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- 57. Dreary
- 58. Cruise/Nicholson movie
- 62. 7th Greek letter
- 63. Tubings
- 64. "Blue Rider" artist August
- 65. Trent Reznor's rock group
- 66. Recess
- 67. Picnic playwright Wm.
- 68. Turner or Danson
- 30. Bay of All Saints state
- 32. Supernatural forces (N.Z.)
- 33. Promotional material
- 34. Rubicund
- 38. 12th Greek letter
- 39. Military weapon
- 43. No. diving sea birds
- 45. Place emphasis on
- 46. P. Reubens' Herman
- 50. Dawdles
- 51. 1st Japanese Prime Minister
- 52. Ruth's Mother-in-law (Bib.)
- 54. "Socrate" composer Erik
- 55. African antelope
- 57. Ice hockey fake
- 58. Expression of triumph
- 59. Dandy
- 60. Actor Aykroyd
- 61. Microgram



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LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

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Highly efficient and offering substantial energy savings, more and more Mainers are turning to heat pumps as a practical heating and cooling solution and Comfort 365 in Windham is a leading provider of heat pumps in the Lakes Region.

Owned and operated by Lex Popov and based in Windham, Comfort 365 offers heat pump installation, service, and cleaning. Popov is a Mitsubishi Diamond Elite Contractor and has invested the time to professionally develop skills at one of Mitsubishi Electric's approved training centers located throughout the United States.

"Only approved contractors that have attended Mitsubishi Electric's training classes and demonstrated advanced product knowledge are awarded the coveted status of Elite Diamond Contractor," he said. "The status is evaluated every year and Elite Diamond Contractors must demonstrate their continued commitment to serving customers in order to renew their status."

Popov says that Mitsubishi Electric provides an industry leading 12-year factory warranty protection to backup their unmatched performance and product quality. And the only way to get a full 12-year warranty is purchasing and installing your Mitsubishi Electric product from a Diamond Contractor.

"I'm an Efficiency Maine Registered vendor," Popov said. "I go through their requirements and of**Comfort 365, LLC** fer rebates for my installations. Heat pumps are great to heat and cool your home and space. Very economical. Rebates are making it even more affordable, and I offer instant rebates in some cases."

Mitsubishi Electric heat pump systems provide modular zone-by-zone comfort using ductless mini-split systems that can handle up to eight zones at a time, he said.

"Heat or cool only the rooms you need, improving efficiency and reducing energy costs," Popov said. "I'm happy to see people start saving money on heating bills and air conditioning in the summer."

He created Comfort 365 five years ago and has been helping customers choose quality products and systems ever since.

"I finished the Southern Maine Community College course for HVAC back in 2009 and worked in different areas after that," Popov said. "I started installing heat pumps for my friends and family. When the job load rose up, I decided to trust God, quit my full-time job and open my own company in 2020 during the pandemic. We're capable of



Lex Popov owns and operates Comfort 365 based out of Windham. He is a Mitsubishi Diamond Elite Contractor, but cleans and repair all models. SUBMITTED PHOTO

servicing all your heating and cooling needs. We are dedicated to providing superior HVAC services and offering fast, affordable, quality HVAC repairs, installations, and maintenance."

He said that the name "COMFORT 365" reflects his inspiration from Psalm 36:5, which speaks to the enduring love and faithfulness of the Lord – a reminder that comfort can be a constant presence in every season and will exist eternally through the love of Jesus Christ."

Comfort 365 is all about achieving customer satisfaction and installing quality equipment at a fair price.

"My customers are always talking about the neatness of the installations and keeping the work area clean," he said. "I try to match my line-hide enclosures with the color of the siding. Some folks are running everything white, because it's easier to just stock up one color, but I don't mind going the extra mile to get the job done neat and right.

Reviews are exceptional.

"Lex was great! He gave a fair complete quote and charged what he quoted. He was professional, friendly and considerate. Would highly recommend him and use him again in a heartbeat." ~ Steve L.

"Lex and his team did an outstanding job explaining the pros and cons of a ductless heat pump for our particular house. He listened to our requirements and developed a plan to solve our specific challenges. The installation was completed quickly and very professionally. Additionally, he helped us navigate the rebate process thru Efficiency Maine." ~ Chad B.

For more details about Comfort 365 and how you can start saving on energy bills, visit comfort365.me or call 207-409-8340. Find them on Facebook and Instagram under comfort365me <







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