Volume 13, Issue 26

INSIDE!

TheWindhamEagle.com

June 27, 2025

WHS girls' lacrosse and softball win back-to-back state championship titles

By Matt Pascarella STAFF WRITER

Windham High's varsity girls' lacrosse and softball both made program history on Saturday, June 21. Second-ranked girls' lacrosse won the program's first-ever Class A State Championship after it defeated top-ranked Kennebunk 12-9 at Fitzpatrick Stadium in Portland. Second-ranked WHS softball won its second-ever Class A State Championship in three years when it shut out seventh-ranked Edward Little 7-0 at Saint Joseph's College.

Both Windham teams had amazing seasons with lacrosse winning 17 games consecutively with only one loss during the entire season and softball finished their season 18-2.

"I couldn't have asked for anything more," said Windham senior Grace Joly. "I'm so in shock I don't even have words. This team means everything to me. I'm so excited; what a great way to go out with a bang, it's so exciting. We definitely just had to ... take it game by game. We had a really big winning streak and coming into this game knowing that we're a great team, we can hang with them, we just have to believe. That was our biggest thing toward the end of the year. Believe in each other, believe in the coaches, believe in our fans."

In the very first game of the season, Windham girls' lacrosse lost to Kennebunk. From that game until the State Championship Game, they beat every team they went up against.

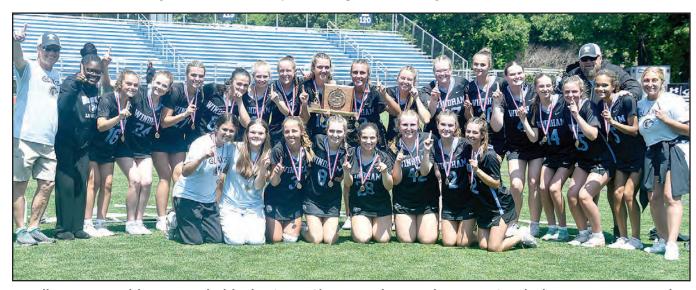
WHS girls' lacrosse members include seniors Sophie Allen, Grace Joly, Lauren Jordan; juniors Abby Trainor, Neve Ledbetter, Demetria Nicholas, Elizabeth Baker, Mady Donnelly, Brianna Duarte, Alyssa Cooper, Olivia McPherson; sophomores Morgan McLain, Grayson Cornish, Gracie McPherson, Charlie Scanlon, Libby Hartwell, Avery Adams, manager Allegresse Kawaya; freshmen Brooklyn Roy, Anna Bowie, Morgan Clark, Maria Rose, Madison Buzulchuck and Lauren Valle.

"I think we just kept getting better - 17 in a row is pretty wild," said Windham varsity girls' lacrosse coach Matt Perkins. "The way the girls treat each other is second to none. I've been fortunate to be around some really good teams, and this is probably the finest team I've seen that puts each other first. Even though we have some dynamic players, no one is selfish; they are all about what's best for the team. I think the mindset was we're better than them. They beat us in the first game, (but now) we're better."

Windham junior Abby Trainor said it feels amazing to win a state ti-> see **CHAMPIONS** Page 31



Windham High School's softball team gathers after defeating Edward Little and winning their second Golden Glove in three years at Saint Joseph's College on Saturday, June 21. PHOTO BY MATT PASCARELLA



Windham junior Abby Trainor holds the State Championship trophy as WHS girls' lacrosse team joins her after beating top-ranked Kennebunk at Fitzpatrick Stadium in Portland on Saturday, June 21 to win the Class A State Championship. PHOTO BY MATT PASCARELLA

MDOT project draws mixed reactions

By Ed Pierce

During an open house meeting at Windham Town Hall on June 18, Windham residents and business owners were able to review plans for a \$31.25 million road project that aims to alleviate traffic congestion along the Route 302 corridor in town.

Maine Department of Transportation Senior Project Manager Ernie Martin briefed those attending the meeting about the timeline and plan specifics for the project, which involves reconstructing about 1.6 miles of Route 302 from River Road to Whites Bridge Road, creating three connector roads to Route 302, limiting left turns through creation of a center median on Route 302, the installation of smart traffic signals in the area, and making corridor and intersection improvements.

Martin said this open house was a courtesy to update Windham residents

as to where the projects currently stand. He said the intent is to reduce congestion and improve safety for motorists, citing a high rate of accidents on Route 302. In addition, the project will make improvements to Routes 35 and 115 and will construct about 11,700 feet of new multi-use pathway.

"Some other key project features include repaying existing roads and adding new roads, adding and upgrading sidewalks on Route 302, installing new curbs in some areas and roadway alignments to be modified," Martin said.

According to a MDOT factsheet distributed during the open house meeting, most of the \$31.25 million project's cost will be paid for through a U.S. Department of Transportation Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity or RAISE grant. Along with a \$25 million federal grant, the state of Maine and the town of Windham will each pay half of the

remaining \$6.25 million.

MDOT first partnered with Windham in 2019 to study Route 302 improvement and held a preliminary public hearing about the proposed project in June 2024. A final preliminary design report is scheduled to be completed in August and then a final public hearing will be held about it in February 2026 with plans and a cost estimate for the project to be completed

Construction is set to begin in October 2027, and the estimated completion date is June 2030, Martin said.

"Route 302 was never designed to serve as both a local street dotted with businesses and a through-→ see MDOT

Local Page 6



Seven things I'll never do again

Don't bother to ask me because the answer will always be no.

Here's a list of seven things that I have done in my life previously that I simply will say I will never, ever do again and a brief explanation as to why not.

#1. Remove the gas pedal from an automobile. On a Saturday morning when I was about 8, my father asked me if I wanted to ride along with him when he went shopping at a nearby five-and-dime store. When he went into the store, I stayed behind in the car. Crawling along on the floorboard, I went to get up and grabbed the gas medal by mistake. It broke off, and as much as I tried, I couldn't reattach it. I propped it up as if nothing had happened but when my father returned and tried to start the car, he noticed what had happened. He told me that if I ever did that again, he wouldn't ask me to ride with him anymore.

#2. Handle a snake. When I was a member of the U.S. Air Force, I went to a party at a friend's house, and he showed me several of his pet snakes. He insisted that I hold one of them and to not show fear in front of the other party guests, I held it briefly and the entire time that it was happening my knees were shaking, and I was trembling deep down inside with fright. I swore thereafter to never do that again and I've kept that vow for more than four decades now and counting.

reeled up before I could drive away.

#3. Arrive at a fire scene before the fire department while covering it for the newspaper. Once while working in the newsroom for a daily newspaper in New Hampshire, I listened to a radio call for firefighters to respond to a house fire. I knew exactly where the fire was and drove there quickly, arriving at least a minute before the fire trucks got there. A fire truck parked behind me and a firefighter laid two 6-inch fire hoses up the middle of the street, making it impossible for me to leave once the fire department had extinguished the fire. I had to wait for 45 minutes afterward until the fire hoses had been drained and

#4. Eat lima beans, parsnips, artichokes or Brussels sprouts. When I was growing up, my mother was a stay-at-home mom and instituted a "Vegetable of the Day" program for our household. She said she did it to introduce us to the taste of as many different types of vegetables as possible. Through that experience, I came to loathe lima beans, parsnips, artichokes and Brussels sprouts and made myself a promise that I would try to avoid eating them in the future. I can honestly say I have never willingly ordered any of those vegetables throughout my adult life.

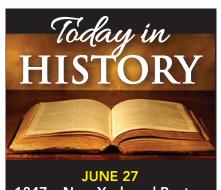
#5. Wear waist Size 32 or 34 pants. For at least 10 years when I was in my 30s, I only purchased trousers which were waist size 32. At age 41, that increased to waist size 34. But by the time I turned 45, my waist expanded again to a size 36 and I've pretty much stayed there ever since. It's reassuring to know that I cannot fit into Size 32 or Size 34 pants, so I don't even try to.

#6. Report at the scene of a fire without checking with firefighters. When I was a newspaper reporter in the 1980s, my editor sent me to cover a massive mobile home blaze. I got there and ran up the driveway while starting to take photos. Suddenly I heard a fireman behind me shouting for me to stop and not take another step. I looked down at my feet and noticed a live electric wire wriggling around and snapping just inches from my shoes. They never taught us this in journalism classes in college, but I have made it a point since then that if I am out covering a fire somewhere, I always ask firefighters where they advise is a place that I can stand and observe things safely.

#7. Pick up a stack of lumber without checking what's underneath it first. Living on a farm in New Mexico in the 1970s, I was gathering small pieces of wood to use as kindling for the fireplace. We had a pile of old lumber behind a barn on the property, and I thought I'd grab a few pieces from there for kindling. I didn't realize it but underneath the first few pieces there, hornets had

decided to make a nest for the winter, and I ended up getting stung 44 times on my arms, on the top of my head and all over my back. Forced to drive myself to the urgent care clinic, I watched the physician carefully remove as many of the stingers as he could find over the course of the next hour. After that painful incident, I vowed that I would never reach blindly into a pile of wood without examining the wood pile first and I've zealously kept that promise.

~ Ed Pierce



1847 – New York and Boston are linked by telegraph wires.

1871 – The yen becomes the new form of currency in Japan.

1893 – The New York stock market crashes and by the end of the year more than 600 banks and 74 railroads go out of business.

1929 – Scientists at Bell Laboratories in New York reveal a system for transmitting TV pictures.

1931 – Igor Sikorsky files for a patent for his invention called the helicopter.

1955 – The state of Illinois enacts the first automobile seat belt legislation.

1959 – The play "West Side Story," with music by Leonard Bernstein, closes after 734 performances on Broadway.

1967 – The world's first-ever ATM is installed at Barclay Bank in London, England.

1984 – The Federal
Communications Commission
moves to deregulate U.S.
commercial television by
lifting most programming
requirements and ending some
restrictions on advertising.

Inspirational Quote of the Week

"Every minute of every hour of every day you are making the world, just as you are making yourself, and you might as well do it with generosity and kindness and style." - Rebecca Solnit



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ON THE

Of all the ice cream flavors available, which one is your all-time favorite?

"Butter Pecan."

– William D. Reiner

"Chocolate walnut." – Deb Poirier Hall Mcphail

"Toss-up between cookies n' cream and strawberry cheesecake." – Melissa Carter

"Beals Banana Cream Pie."

– Kara Driscoll Watson

"Dark Chocolate Raspberry Truffle from the Outpost Scoop Shoppe!" – Micheline Decrow

"Coffee." - Valerie Livesay Luce

"Peanut Butter Oreo."

– Ernesta Stevens Kennedy

"Maple walnut."Stacy Theriault Davis

"Anything with graham cracker crust." – Kristen Lauderdale

"Salted caramel." – Cheryl Page

"Cherry vanilla." - Caryn Bicknell

"Chocolate chip."
- Ruthie Jackson

"Beals, had a campfire ice cream a couple years back. It was delicious!" – Morgan Peters

"Mint chocolate chip.
Mmmmm." – Julie Mallett

"B&R Dairy in Gray has the Best Ice-cream! Their Midnight Train is so good!!" – Bridgette Nadeau

> "Whoopie pie ice cream!" – Jeri Brem

"Ben & Jerry's Dastardly Mash."

– Jennifer Harmon

"Mint chocolate chip."

– Kristin Murray

"Gifford's Toasted Coconut."
– Mally Kostyk Metz

"Round Top's Peppermint

Stick!" – Jennie Moronie Butler

"Caramel Caribou." Amanda Fogg

"Black Raspberry or Butter Pecan." – David Warchol

"Grapenut!" – Jackie Babineau

The Windham Eagle Page 3



Raymond committee discusses ideas for repurposing JSMS

By Dina Mendros

STAFF WRITER

With a new middle school in the works for RSU 14, which includes the towns of Raymond and Windham, a committee has been meeting to determine how to best repurpose the Jordan-Small Middle School in Raymond.

The Jordan-Small Middle School Visioning Committee, created by the town Select Board, has been meeting for the past two months, and held its last meeting June 16. The committee is recommending that a variety of city services ranging from the library to town offices be relocated to the building after the school closes.

"The JSMS Visioning Committee is recommending to the Select Board and the future Building Development Committee to use the school building to house the Parks and Recreation Department, the Library, Town Hall Offices and Community Services," Committee Chair Peter Lockwood said in an email. "Our focus is to create a Community Center that supports all ages and residents of Raymond."

The new Windham Raymond Middle School will be situated in Windham and is scheduled to open in the fall of 2027. At that time Jordan-Small Middle School will close, as will Windham Middle School and JSMS will be ready for repurposing. The groundbreaking for the new school took place last September.

The committee's recommendations align closely with an exit poll of voters on Election Day in June 2024. At that time the Raymond Comprehensive Plan Committee asked voters their thoughts about how best to repurpose JSMS. The results were – from highest to lowest – a community



A Raymond committee to formulate ideas for how to best repurpose Jordan-Small Middle School when it becomes vacant will present its recommendations to the Raymond Select Board. PHOTO BY ED PIERCE

center, recreation, library, town office, and childcare, according to the April 15 committee meeting minutes.

When the idea to form the committee came up before the Raymond Select Board on Dec. 10, Board Chair Rolf Olsen said, "The committee's task would be to do conceptual ideas on what could be done using the school. I don't envision looking at cost or feasibility. That would be a second committee. This is the pie in the sky people that are going to say here's things that could be done."

He recommended putting a wide group of stakeholders on the committee. Committee members that were appointed March 11 included a librarian, an assistant scout master, a member of the Comprehensive Planning Committee, a retired educator and others.

Olsen said in December that the visioning committee would look at "what are practical, what are not practical and what are the costs going to be because at some point we're going to come down to the fact that we're going to have to spend some bucks up there. And we need to have a plan first

that says this is what we want to do."

During their work, committee members looked at the school and a number of other town facilities to see how they were being used and what was needed. They looked at the town office, the library, the Public Safety building and two locations leased for programs and offices.

They also visited facilities at nearby towns that took over former schools for town use.

"We started our process by first

understanding the mission of this committee as communicated by the Select Board," Lockwood said. "We reviewed the Raymond Comprehensive Plan which is in the final stages of being approved by the town. We had total freedom to dream and think about any and all options. We were not restricted by cost. Cost concerns will be part of the next phase or the next committee. First. we decided to tour all the current Town of Raymond facilities, JSMS, Town Hall, Library, Raymond Village Community Church (RVCC), and three Public Safety Buildings. Next, we contacted three adjacent towns that have gone through the same process or are currently working on a similar project, Gorham, Westbrook, and Windham."

Public input will be sought during the process to determine the best use of the school. "In our report we have recommended an extensive survey of the town should be one of the first actions of the next committee," he said.

The next step for the current committee is to report its recommendations to the Select Board. <



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Raymond's Community Garden a valuable resource

By Dina Mendros

STAFF WRITER

Since about 2011, Raymond residents who don't have the right environment to have a garden at their own home have found a plot at the Raymond Community Garden located at 3 Meadow Road, across from the Raymond Village Library.

The all-organic garden has 24 plots and is usually full or mostly full. Although earlier this month, garden coordinator Leigh Walker said there were still a couple of plots open. Those who sign up usually do so because their own yards don't have op-

timal sunlight, proper soil conditions or other issues that make setting up a home garden problematic.

Plots are 8 by 15 feet "and most people do double plots," Walker said. "Regardless of how many plots people want we provide them with a 2-foot row to grow food for the food pantry. Everybody who's at the garden participates in providing food for the Raymond Food Pantry."

There is also a children's garden where young ones are welcome to play in the dirt and develop their green thumb.

Funding for the garden comes

from two sources, Walker said. The Cumberland County Extension Seed Grant provides a few hundred dollars in garden needs each year. And gardeners pay \$15 pay per plot per year, the same price that they've been paying since the beginning. However, she said, "if someone has a challenge with that donation, they should still come talk to us. We will always try to find a space for someone to garden if they want to and we have space."

While many of those who make use of the community garden have been doing so since the beginning or very near so, Walker said, each year there are a few newbies.

"I have long-term gardeners who have been with us for a long time, and we always pick up two of three new gardeners a year because some people get involved and then they realize that it's a little bit more work than they thought," she said.

"We love to have new gardeners." Walker said, adding that she does her best to find everyone a plot for all those who are interested. "Even if we're full I can usually find places for people," Walker said.

For those new to gardening, she said, "we can help in all ways, from choosing what to grow and what they can do to minimize the work that

The Raymond Community Garden is in full swing this year with participants planting both vegetables and flowers for themselves and well as fresh produce for the local food pantry. SUBMITTED PHOTO

needs to happen in a garden. I will say, people who want a garden will have much more success if they are willing to be engaged in their garden throughout the summer and fall. Gardening is not a plant it and forget it activity. But we are here to help along the way. With the Master Gardeners (there are three who participate at the community garden) and the strong sense of community that we have with our wonderful gardeners, all gardeners have as much sup-

→ see **GARDEN** Page 11



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The Windham Eagle Page 5

Hometown Hero Award at Windham Summerfest honors work of Diamond's Walk a Mile Foundation

By Ed Pierce

During Saturday's Windham Summerfest Parade and festivities, Bill Diamond and the Walk a Mile in Their Shoes Foundation were honored as this year's recipient of the Modern Woodmen of America Hometown Hero Award, presented annually to recognize individuals and organizations who have gone above and beyond in service to their community.

Diamond, a former Maine state legislator from Windham, founded the Walk a Mile in Their Shoes Foundation in January 2023 to help prevent child homicides and the abuse of children who are under the supervision or direct care of the State of Maine or who are or have been associated with the state's Child Protective System.

From 1989 to 1997, Diamond served as Maine's Secretary of State and during his tenure he was credited with improving efficiencies within the Department of State. Before he was the Maine Secretary of State, Diamond served three terms in the Maine House of Representatives and later was elected as a State Senator representing Windham. He has extensive experience as a small-business owner in Windham for more than four decades, and as a teacher, principal, and Superintendent of Schools in the Windham and Raymond school systems, where he worked for 20 years.

In creating the foundation, Diamond says that children associated with state care have been dying at record levels and something needed to be done to prevent that.

"How many more children must die before we make meaningful changes," he said. "The problems are not partisan based. They are the concern of all of us. This is the most important thing I've ever been able to do, nothing comes close."

To learn more about the issue, Diamond said he's attended many child-homicide trials and sentencings over the past years and each time he does, he's made aware of the gruesome and sad details of an abused child dying needlessly.

"Each time the fact is reinforced that we have the capabilities to fix our broken child protection system, all we need is the will to do it," he said.

The Walk a Mile in Their Shoes Foundation is duly filed with the Maine Secretary of State and supported and guided by an advisory board consisting of experts in the field of child protection and child welfare. One of the purposes of the Walk a Mile in Their Shoes foundation is to bring people from a variety of interests and backgrounds together to develop meaningful strategies for posi-





Bill Diamond and the Walk a Mile in Their Shoes Foundation, founded in 2023, were honored as this year's Modern Woodmen of America Hometown Hero during the Windham Summerfest on Saturday, June 21. FILE PHOTO

tive changes to protect our children

who are the innocent victims of a broken system.
"Since the foun-

dation was founded, we've mobilized families, foster parents, legislators, law enforcement officers, health care and child-

care providers, educators and others in advocating for change in Maine's child welfare system," Diamond said. "We've brought people together on social media and at rallies at the State House and beyond and used our platform to inform the public of the ongoing dangers Maine children face."

After months of interviews with stakeholders of all kinds from around the state, the foundation released a report in December 2023 detailing how Maine's child welfare system leaves children, caseworkers, foster families and others without the support they

need to be safe and successful.

"We identified many of the same issues that the Maine Child Welfare Ombudsman Program, an independent watchdog, has identified in its annual report for the past several years," Diamond said. "The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services came to similar conclusions in November 2024, when it issued a report finding that Maine did not comply with screening, assessment and investigation requirements for responding to reports of child abuse and neglect. Maine's DHHS has also seen fit to spend nearly \$1.6 million in recent years to contract outside entities to examine the child welfare system, just to be told the same things: the system has serious flaws that are leaving children vulnerable to abuse, neglect, and in the worst cases, death."

He said the intent of the Walk a Mile in Their Shoes Foundation is to

see HERO Page 7



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NON-PROFIT FOOD:
Windham Drifters

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION:

International Order of the Rainbow Girls **BUSINESS:**

Cumberland County Federal Credit Union CRAFT VENDOR: Booth 23

PARADE WINNERS:

BEST DEPICTION OF THEME

"Summerfest – Live in 2025": Walk a Mile in Their Shoes BEST DEPICTION OF

"Bringing unity to the Community": Windham High School Cheerleaders

MOST CREATIVE:

The Refuge Church

MOST ENTERTAINING:WHS Varsity Girls Lacrosse State Champions

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route for travelers heading to Sebago Lake and other western destinations," Martin said. "Routes 35 and 115 are facing similar challenges. Traffic has increased in recent years while transportation efficiency and safety have suffered. The construction of the numerous safety elements on this project is expected to reduce vehicle crashes by 21 percent. The numerous required and desired safety improvements to be implemented throughout the project area will aid in reducing crashes and injuries in a commercial area that has grown rapidly around outdated safety features, or no safety features at all."

Route 302 improvements called for in the plans consist of building 1.7 miles of new sidewalks where sidewalks are not present today; rebuilding existing sidewalks that are not American Disability Act (ADA) compliant; installing raised median islands from Boody's Corner at the Route 35 and Route 115 intersection northerly to the Franklin Drive Intersection; installing raised median islands from Boody's Corner southerly about 625 feet as well as modifying traffic signals and vehicular movements.

About .33 miles of Route 35 from the intersection of Manchester Drive to the Intersection of Route 302 at Boody's Corner will be rehabilitated and the pavement surface will be milled off and repaved. For Route 115 about .46 miles from the new intersection at the East Side Connector Road to the intersection of Route 302 at Boody's Corner will be rehabilitated and the pavement surface will be milled off and repaved.

An east connector road will be built

at the Eastern terminal of Franklin Drive and extending southerly about .67 miles to Route 115. This includes intersection connections with Veterans Memorial Drive and Sandbar Road. The connector road intersection of Route 115 will be signalized with appropriate turning lanes. On Franklin Drive about .30 miles will be rehabilitated, and the pavement surface will be milled off and repaved.

A west connector road of 1.01 miles will be built at the northerly terminal of Manchester Drive and extending northerly some .55 miles to Whites Bridge Road. This work includes creating intersection connections with Landing Road, Amato Drive and Trails End Road. The new connection with Whites Bridge Road will not have a signal but will have appropriate turn lanes.

The existing intersection of Manchester Drive and Route 35 will receive improvements, including a new traffic signal. This existing segment of Manchester Drive will be rehabilitated, and the pavement surface will be milled off and repaved. A middle connector road of .14 miles will be built beginning at the Franklin Drive and Route 302 intersection and extending southwesterly to Landing Road some 755 feet.

Not everyone attending the open house supported every aspect of the project.

Bob Hynick, the Operating Partner for KFC/Taco Bell at 755 Roosevelt Trail in Windham says he's hoping MDOT's plans can be altered or modified and that MDOT and the Town of Windham will listen to the concerns of local business owners that a center median and bypass roads will be detrimental to their operations by



Windham residents and business owners reviewed MDOT plans for connector roads and a center median for Route 302 in Windham during an open house presentation at Windham Town Hall on Thursday, June 19. To see the plan, scan the code to the right. COURTESY IMAGE

reducing customer access and limiting left-hand turns into and out of their establishments.

"As an Operating Partner for the KFC/Taco Bell in Windham, I appreciate the investments being made in Windham's infrastructure but have serious concerns about the proposed installation of a center median divider on Roosevelt Trail that will reduce vehicle access to our restaurant and several neighboring businesses," Hynick said.

The KFC/Taco Bell location has been part of the community for decades and employs 20 people, he said.

"Eliminating left turns into and out of the property could significantly restrict customers' access to us and impact our ability to operate," Hynick said. "We hope to be part of this community for decades more and ask that Windham reconsider this portion of the project to see the impact planned bypasses will have on traffic flow and explore alternative solutions that won't harm local businesses like ours."

Kyron Hobdy and Cyndi Ambriz of Windham live off White's Bridge Road and say improvements there will be helpful.

"I like it," Hobdy said. "During the summer it will mean easier access for us."

Ambriz said when the project is finished it will take some adjusting to get used to it.

"Around Walmart you'd have to go down and around and that will take some getting used to," she said. "In the long run it's going to be better. <



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Suggestions for environmentally friendly gardens

➤ By Austin Coco

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE

As the weather warms up, many Mainers are excited to get back into their gardens, whether those are filled with flowers, fruits, or vegetables. With the change in seasons, below are some considerations for making a healthy and environmentally friendly garden.

- 1. Be aware of invasive species: Invasive species can quickly spread across your garden and often outcompete other plants. If left unchecked, invasive plant species can take over a garden and spread into the lawn and local ecosystem. To help identify and combat invasive species, the Maine Department of Agriculture and Forestry has created a list of invasive plant species in Maine with species-specific information and best removal practices. Consulting this list and field guides can help with identifying and combatting invasive species.
- 2. Incorporate native plant species: Maine has numerous beautiful, native flowering plants that can be beautiful additions to gardens. Furthermore, these native species are often an integral part of the local ecosystem, encouraging the growth of native animals. Roosevelt Trail Garden Center, for example, identifies garden plants that are native to Maine and sells them along with more traditional flowers.
- **3. Fertilize Only as Needed:** Plants need nutrients in the soil for optimal growth, but excess fertilizer often ends up in local rivers and lakes via runoff from excess rains. Losing excess nutrients to rainwater wastes fertilizer and increases the cost of gardens, leaves fewer nutrients available for plants,

HERO Cont. from page 5

work with the Department of Health and Human Services and the Office of Child and Family Services in a joint effort to improve the state's child safety policies and practices and make a difference.

Having the foundation honored as a Modern Woodmen of America Hometown Hero for this year's Windham Summerfest came as a surprise to Diamond.

"I was not expecting any recognition although I will say we have so many dedicated volunteers who constantly give their time and energy to help vulnerable children who are living in unsafe and often times life-threatening circumstances," he said. "These volunteers deserve this honorable recognition which has a history of outstanding recipients over the past years. All we hope for as a nonprofit organization is the reward that we save the lives of infants and young children by using whatever influence we can muster to rescue these children from ongoing abuse and too often eventual murders. To be recognized as a Hometown Hero is a privilege and heartwarming, however maybe the most important result of this award will be to help us build awareness of who we are and our mission which is to help vulnerable children who most people never see or even know exist."

To learn more about the Walk a Mile in Their Shoes Foundation, visit https://walkamilemaine.org <

and can cause an algae bloom in local lakes due to the excess nutrients. Before applying fertilizers to your garden, performing a soil test can help identify which specific nutrients are missing. Fertilizer treatments can then be targeted to address any local deficiencies, saving money and helping the environment. Soil samples can be sent to testing labs like the one run by the University of Maine, and these labs can identify what nutrients are necessary for optimal plant growth. Once your garden soil has been tested, looking into fertilizers that target your soil needs and local environment will optimize plant growth while minimizing runoff. For those living by a water body you should take extra precautions to minimize runoff, lake-safe fertilizers may be worth looking into. After finding an appropriate fertilizer for your needs, applying your fertilizer at the right time is crucial

for best results: applying fertilizer in the spring and fall, rather than throughout the season, is typically recommended.

4. Encourage local pollinators: Local pollinators, such as bees and butterflies, are typically attracted to flower nectar as a food source. As they feed on the nectar that flowers produce, pollinators will accumulate pollen. As these pollinators go from flower to flower, they will deposit pollen on subsequent flowers, encouraging seed growth. For fruit and vegetable gardens, pollinators encourage the growth of many fruits and vegetables; furthermore, some pollinators can help reduce "pest" species, making them a boon for flower gardens as well. Local pollinators can be encouraged by planting a variety of native flowers, as well as by creating and maintaining shelters for pollinators to live and breed. The habitat required depends on the species of interest, but generally, leaving leaf litter, sticks, and other dead plant matter over the winter can give insect pollinators places to hibernate throughout the winter and early spring.

5. Nontoxic alternatives to pesticides: Pests can come in numerous different forms: some pests eat flower buds before they bloom, some dig holes through gardens, some ruin crops by eating the edible parts, and some can irritate us and our pets. While pests can wreak havoc on gardens, using toxic pesticides runs the risk of poisoning local wildlife and pets if not used carefully. Using nontoxic alternatives (such as nontoxic repellants, encouraging native predators for smaller pests, and physical barriers such as fencing) as substitutes for toxic pesticides wherever possible can encourage healthy gardens without jeopardizing pets or the local ecosystem. <

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Former Sheriff working on app to locate missing children

By Masha Yurkevich

STAFF WRITER

According to FBI.gov, there were 476,373 missing children (under 18 years of age) in 2012 in the U.S and Michael O'Neal with Keeping Kids Safe (KKS) is on a mission to lower that number.

"We are a non-profit 501(c)3 agency," says O'Neal. "Our mission is to bring together resources for parents, schools and child caregivers to help keep our children safe. In addition to providing valuable information, Keeping Kids Safe also offers educational, safety presentations including Internet Safety, Sexting, Cyber Anti-Bullying Awareness education, Child Sex Trafficking Awareness education, Personal Safety Training, and more."

O'Neal has been in law enforcement for over 17 years and has served in the U.S. Army as a Military Police Officer, as well as having been a Patrol Deputy Sheriff. He also has a degree in criminology. O'Neal was also a Deputy Sheriff in Cumberland County for 14 years.

O'Neal is currently working on a new phone app that gives parents and law enforcement a quick way to make a missing person poster and spread that information instantly.



Michael O'Neal of the Keeping Kids Safe Maine organization is currently working on a new phone app that gives parents and law enforcement a quick way to make a missing person poster and spread that information instantly. SUBMITTED PHOTO

"The main function of the app is to have information of your missing child, teen, elderly, or loved one readily available on your phone," says O'Neal.

While there are similar phone apps out there, O'Neal says that he is adding a few different features to make his app more family friendly and useful.

"When someone goes missing, you will put in all the information into the app and press send, the app will create a missing person poster, which is what the other side will receive from that person; the poster can also be shared to Facebook to widen the audience who sees the poster. Not just law enforcement can create a missing poster, but anybody with the app as well," says O'Neal. "When you download the app, there will also be sections for training for internet safety, short educational videos, and other sources so that the app can be a one stop shop for parents to receive education, training, and keep track of their child anywhere in the world."

There are some criteria that a child needs to meet before an Amber Alert goes out, which can sometimes take a while. This app will send out a missing person alert much faster, which is a great alternative.

The app will also have a feature just for law enforcement where all missing person posters can be found with a case

Currently, when a child or teen goes missing, an officer shows up, takes the report, and creates what is called a File 6, also known as a missing person report. Unfortunately a File 6 does not always include much detail about the missing person, such as how long they have been missing, a photo, or other personal information, O'Neal said. With the new app, dispatch will have another alternative. The way the algorithm of the app works is with a 100mile radius; every hour that child is

→ see KIDS SAFE Page 14



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The Windham Eagle

Maine Senate advances Nangle's subscription legislation

AUGUSTA – The Maine Senate has unanimously voted to advance legislation from State Senator Tim Nangle, D-Windham, that would make it easier for Mainers to cancel subscription services and gym memberships they no longer want.

Nangle's LD 1642, "An Act to Protect Maine Consumers by Simplifying Subscription and Health Club Membership Cancellations," ensures that if a consumer can sign up for a subscription or gym membership online, they must also be allowed to cancel it online. The bill targets a growing problem in consumer protection: businesses that make enrollment easy,

stuck in subscriptions they no longer want — usually not because they forgot, but because companies purposefully make it hard to cancel," Nangle said. "This bill is about basic fairness.

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It should be just as easy to get out of a subscription as it was to get into it. And that includes for-profit gyms that rely on obstacles to keep charging people who aren't even using the service."

The bill strengthens Maine's consumer protection law by requiring:

- Clear disclosure of subscription or membership terms before enrollment
- Affirmative consent before charging for automatic renewals
- Online cancellation using the same method as sign-up
- Advance notice before long-term renewals.

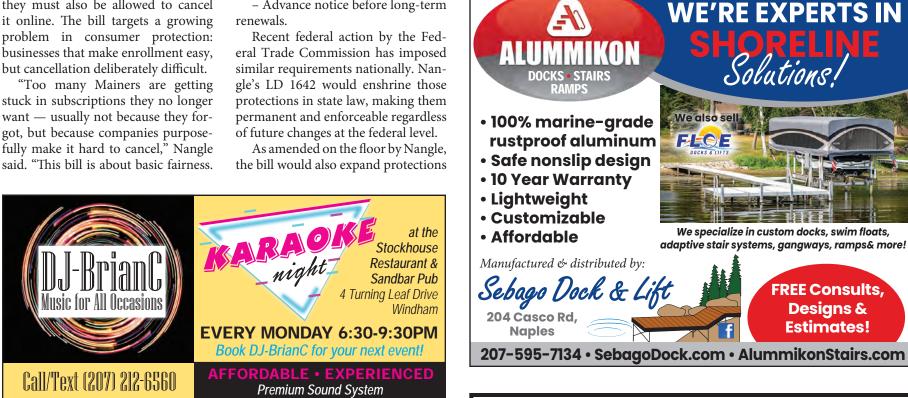
Music Library Updated Weekly LED Dance Floor Lighting

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to cover health club memberships particularly those offered by for-profit gyms which are among the most difficult subscriptions for consumers to cancel. Some gyms allow consumers to sign up in minutes online or through a convenient app but then require them to go to a physical gym location in person to cancel. LD 1642 would end this practice by requiring that if someone can sign up online, they must be able to cancel online too.

The LD 1642 legislation now faces additional votes in the House and Senate.

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. <







Amateur radio club to participate in National American Radio Relay League Field Day Event at Windham High

The Wireless Society of Southern Maine (WSSM) will join thousands of amateur radio operators across the United States and Canada for the annual American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Field Day, taking place the weekend of June 28 and June 29.

This year's event will be held at Windham High School, with activities taking place on the athletic field adjacent to Windham Primary School. On-air operations begin at 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 28, and continue for 24 hours until 2 p.m. on Sunday.

ARRL Field Day is the largest and most popular event for amateur radio operators (also known as "hams"), bringing together hobbyists and professionals alike for a weekend of emergency preparedness, technical demonstration, and public outreach. Now in its 15th year of participation, WSSM has established itself as a leading club in the region, having placed first in Maine across all categories in 10 of the last 11 years, and earning top 20 rankings globally on multiple occasions.

"Field Day is more than just a con-

test," said Peter Fulton, Treasurer of WSSM. "It's an opportunity to test our ability to operate under less-thanideal conditions and to showcase the importance of amateur radio in both community events and emergency situations."

Combining elements of a campout, emergency drill, and public demonstration, Field Day underscores the critical role amateur radio can play when modern communications systems fail. WSSM members will set up and operate temporary stations using off-grid power, demonstrating the resilience and versatility of amateur radio technology.

The Wireless Society of Southern Maine plays an active role in emergency communications locally, partnering with organizations such as the National Weather Service's SKYWARN program and the Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency to relay vital information during severe weather and other emergencies.

Visitors are welcome to stop by throughout the weekend to observe

operations, meet licensed radio operators, and even get on the air themselves under the supervision of club members. Signs will be posted throughout the Windham High School campus to help direct attendees to the event site.

ARRL Field Day is a radio communications event that brings together amateur radio operators (also called "hams") within your community. The theme for 2025 Field Day is "Radio Connects" – highlighting the many ways that wireless technology connects people across distances near and far.

On the fourth weekend in June each year, more than 31,000 hams get together with their radio clubs, schools, or friends to operate from remote locations. For many radio clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights on their annual calendar. A typical Field Day site will show many aspects of amateur radio and its many roles.

It is an annual demonstration and invites the general public and organizations to see how amateur radio can serve in an emergency. Ham radio operators are well-known for their communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations. Despite

the development of very complex, modern communications systems – or maybe because they are so complex – ham radio has been called into action, again and again, to provide communications in crises when it really matters.

Amateur radio also inspires the next generation of technical leaders by providing a hands-on sandbox where students gain experience in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). For those with a competitive spirit, Field Day stations compete to make radio contacts with as many other stations as possible while learning to operate radio equipment in challenging situations and less-than-optimal conditions.

These same skills are used by hams who volunteer to help with large, preplanned, non-emergency events such as marathons and bike-a-thons; fundraisers such as walk-a-thons; celebrations such as parades, and exhibits at fairs, malls, and museums.

For more details about the Wireless Society of Southern Maine and how to get involved in amateur radio, visit www.mainehamradio.com or the club's official website at www.ws1sm.com. <







RSU#14 WINDHAM RAYMOND SCHOOL DISTRICT CHILDFIND NOTICE

If you are aware of any child from **Windham or Raymond** between the ages of 0 and 5 who has special need(s) which may require special education and supportive services, please refer them to:

> Child Development Services, 1011 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine 04103 (207) 781-8881

If you are aware of any child from **Windham** or **Raymond** between the school ages of 5 and 22 who has special need(s) which may require special education and supportive services, please refer them to:

Lisa Garneau, Director of Student Services RSU#14 School District, 228 Windham Center Road, Windham, Maine 04062 (207) 892-1800

A child's special need(s) may be in any of the following areas: vision, hearing, speech and language, social-emotional development, behavior, orthopedic, health, learning or any combination of the above.

The Windham Eagle Page 11

Maine's Top Legionnaire



American Legion Field-Allen Post 148 Honor Guard member Larry DeHof of Windham was presented with the Department of Maine Legionnaire of the Year Award by Department of Maine Commander Tricia Thurston, right, on Saturday, June 7 in Brewer as his wife, Jeanne Christie, watches. DeHof served in the U.S. Army from 1968 to 1971 and later worked for the University of Maryland Police. He moved to Windham in 2001 and joined the American Legion in 2014. He helped establish the post's Honor Guard, Youth Air Rifle Program, Everlasting Gratitude Wreath program and is a strong supporter of Post 148 programs. SUBMITTED PHOTO



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GARDENS Cont. from page 4

port as they would like. All they have to do is ask."

The community garden, which was formerly under the umbrella of the Raymond Village Library, was taken over by the town two years ago and it is located partially on town land and partially on private land.

Both vegetables and flowers are planted at the garden. "Some examples are tomatoes, lettuce, kale, eggplant, cabbage, green beans, zucchini, cucumbers, and many more," Walker said. "Some who have been gardening with us for years grow perennial plants like asparagus and put in garlic in the fall for harvest the next summer. We have a ton of sunflowers and people often put in marigolds and other insect-repelling flowers."

Gardeners use organic practices. "Everybody has to be committed to that," Walker said.

Having an organic garden comes down to using products that provide beneficial nutrients to plants and animals that do not harm them or the soil they grow in, Walker said. "Examples are using manure and compost to give your plant nutrients and not using chemical fertilizers and pesticides. At our garden, we make sure that only organic seeds and plants are used. No chemical fertilizers, pesticides or weed killers are used."

The garden is open from dawn to dark. "Most of our gardeners have a tendency to come in the morning or evenings when it is cooler, but they can come any time," Walker said.

If someone is interested in participating in the community garden contact Leigh Walker by email at Lwalker4@maine.rr.com or by phone at 207-310-0741. <





SALUTE TO SERVICE PROFILES OF THOSE WHO SERVE OUR COMMUNITIES

Jordan-Small Middle School principal strives to foster a positive learning environment

By Ed Pierce

STAFF WRITER

To serve as the school principal at Jordan-Small Middle School, Michelle Brann displays a keen sense of self-awareness, effectively communicates with school staff, students and parents, is influential among those she leads and has shown a willingness to learn from new experiences. These qualities have helped Brann connect with others, inspire action, and adapt to change.

Brann just completed her third year at Jordan-Small and it's a role she doesn't take lightly.

"The best thing about what I do in my job is interacting and building connections with students," Brann said. "I am not an administrator that sits in their office. I love walking through the building getting fist pumps and checking in with students. Jordan-Small is a small school. I know almost every student's name and something about them. I love having fun with them."

Her duties are extensive.

"I help to create a positive and rigorous learning environment for students and to create a culture of support and achievement among students and staff," she said. "I am helping to lead the coming together of Jordan-Small Middle School, Windham Middle School and Manchester School as we open the Windham-Raymond Middle School in the fall of 2027. This includes

aligning the curriculum of all three schools and working with the staff of all three buildings. so that we're ready on all levels when the doors open. I create positive connections with the community, especially with parents."

According to Brann, the most challenging aspect of her work is maintaining a proper work/life balance.

"I love what I do and always want to work to make whatever it is I am work-

ing on better," she said. "There is always something more to do. Sometimes it's hard to put work aside to make time for my family and myself. A big misconception people may have is that educators have all kinds of free time. They don't. They are working harder than they ever have."

She grew up in Falmouth and attended Falmouth schools through her freshman year of high school when she transferred to Hebron Academy. After high school, she started at Wheaton College but eventually transferred to the University of Southern Maine,



Michelle Brann has just finished her third year as the principal of JSMS in Raymond and is helping to lead the transition for RSU 14 students to the new Windham Raymond Middle School opening in September 2027. COURTESY PHOTO

ies. I was there for two years. I then went to Wells High School where I taught Social Studies for 13 years. From there I went to Lake Region Middle School where I was the assistant principal for five years. I am now completing my third year at Jordan-Small. I think I am heading into my 24th year in education."

earning a Bachelor

of Arts degree in

History, and then a

masters' degree in

American and New

the ETEP (Extended

Teacher Education

Program) program

to get my teaching

credentials, and most

recently, I received

my CAS (Certificate

of Advanced Studies)

in Educational Lead-

ership," Brann said.

"My first teach-

ing job was at Lake

Region High School

teaching Social Stud-

"From there I did

England Studies.

Something that the public may not know is that she is never "not working" at her job.

"As an administrator, even when I am not working, there is always something to think about or the potential for something involving a student or

staff member may come up," Brann said.

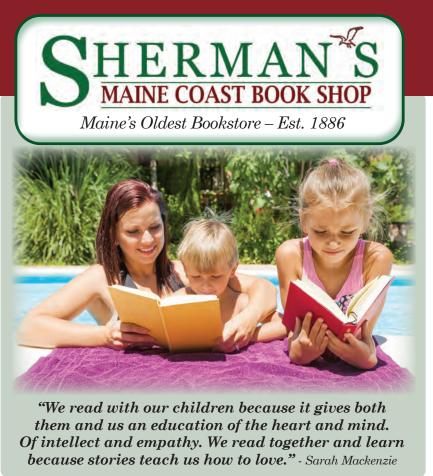
Her most memorable moment while working for Jordan-Small so far has been the Pasta Fundraising Dinner for eighth-grade end-of-year activities that the school held this spring.

"It was a great community event in which a number of local businesses donated food items for the dinner or items for the raffle," Brann said. "District level as well as building-level food service staff volunteered their time to help make the dinner, and parents coordinated decorations, a raffle, needed items, and so much more. The best parts were the level of student participation preparing and serving the meal, and the number of community members that attended. It was a great community night and raised quite a bit of money for the eighth graders to have great end-of-year activities."

She says the most important thing she's learned while working at Jordan-Small is how amazing and dedicated the staff is on all levels.

"The level of instructional leadership from the upper administration is impressive," Brann said. "I value the support I have received from fellow administrators, and finally the desire to support and push students to be successful by teachers and support staff is incredible. I completely appreciate where I am and plan to be a part of RSU 14 for a long time." <

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The Windham Eagle Page 13

Sunset concert series returning to Hacker's Hill Preserve

Loon Echo Land Trust (LELT) is once again hosting its annual sunset concert series again this summer.

The sunset summer featuring concerts, local musicians, will take place outdoors at LELT's Hacker's Hill Preserve in Casco.

• Bold Riley -6 to 8 p.m.

Wednesday, July 9 for full vocal harmonies

and uplifting originals. Fiddle, guitar, banjo, accordion, bass, and percussion provide a wide range for listeners. Members take turns singing lead vocals, and a strong sense of community drives the energy of their music.

• Just Be-Cause

6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday July 16

Just Be-Cause hails from the Lakes Region of Maine and will perform a wonderful array of originals and covers accompanied by guitar, mandolin, and percussion.

• North River Music

6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 27

North River Music has an Americana sound with strong harmonies and expressive musicianship. Playing Americana rock/bluegrass, a North River set is fun to listen to with something familiar played for everyone. From Crosby Stills and Nash, The Eagles and Dylan to traditional American standards, you'll like what you hear.

The LELT Sunset concerts are family friendly and carpooling to Hacker's Hill Preserve is encouraged. Participants should bring chairs, blankets, warm layers of clothing and a picnic. A suggested donation of \$10 per adult - or an amount that is meaningful to you - can be made via cash, check or



The band Bold Riley will perform in concert at Hacker's Hill in Casco from 6 to 8 p.m. Bold Riley is a folk Wednesday, July 9. The concert is part of quintet hailing from a summer concert series at Hacker's Hill western Maine, known sponsored by the Loon Echo Land Trust. SUBMITTED PHOTO

> Venmo at the event. Please do not let the suggested donation prevent you from attending, all are welcome. All proceeds support LELT's conservation work in the Lake Region and the stewardship of Hacker's Hill.

> Hacker's Hill is located on Quaker Ridge Road in Casco and provides great views of Pleasant Mountain, Sebago Lake and the Presidential Mountain range. The property features open fields with a mowed walking path. There is also a restroom available.

> The gate to the top of the Hacker's Hill Preserve is open to vehicles Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturday and Sundays from sunrise to sunset. Entry is free, but donations are graciously accepted to support the care of the property. More information can be found at lelt.org/hackers-hill-preserve.

> Loon Echo Land Trust (LELT), founded in 1987, is a nonprofit organization that protects land, ensures public access to the outdoors, and builds and maintains recreational trails in Raymond, Casco, Naples, Harrison, Sebago, Bridgton, and Denmark. For more information on LELT properties, upcoming events, or how to get involved, visit LELT.org or their Facebook page. <





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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)*

I am recommending to everyone I know to contact DIRFY Generators and Heat Pumps so that they can increase their spending money. This company is awesome. No wonder they are number one in New England!" ~ R&L W.



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KIDS SAFE Cont. from page 8

missing, the algorithm will go out another 100 miles, because it is possible to travel 100 miles in one hour, widening the radius every hour.

The app will not only have info about the missing person, but also, once more information is obtained about who the missing child is with, the app will also include details and information about the predator, including any photos.

"Recognition, especially facial recognition, is very important in law enforcement," says O'Neal. O'Neal is working on the app with Mark McDonald, a former Thompson police officer who now has an IT company that he is working with as well as owner of Ligh Sheild Services LLC, and also Steve Thibeault, a Sagadahoc Deputy Sherriff.

"The three of us are discussing back and forth on what law enforcement really needs to make this very effective," says O'Neal. "We are currently in the process of getting the ins and outs of the app created, and we are almost at the prototype, testing the app and also talking with law enforcement to see what we can do to make it easier for them."

Being non-profit, finances are one of the biggest challenges that O'Neal and KKS have come across, but he hopes that the app will fund itself by having a small maintenance fee for law enforcement. Donations are always welcome and can be sent to Keeping Kids Safe at 66 Deering Run Portland, ME, 04103.

Apart from missing children and teens, the app will also be for missing elderly who may wander off, as well as for missing pets.

"It is up to us," says O'Neal, "to keep our family safe." <

College Roundup

- ★ Emma Sundquist of Windham has been named to the Miami University of Ohio's President's List for exceptional academic performance for the Spring 2025 semester.
- ★ Ryan Silva of Windham and Kiana Webster of Raymond have been named to the Dean's List for academic excellence at Eastern Connecticut State University for the Spring 2025 semester.
- ★ Brooke Keenan of Windham has been named to the Dean's List for outstanding academic performance at the University of Alabama for the Spring 2025 semester.
 - ★ Sophie Koutalakis of Windham

has been named to the President's List for exceptional academic performance during the Spring 2025 semester at Shenandoah University.

- ★ Greta Paulding of Windham has been named to the Dean's List with High Distinction for academic excellence during the Spring 2025 semester at Grove City College.
- ★ Riley Shaw of Windham has been named to the Dean's List for outstanding academic performance at Endicott College for the Spring 2025 semester.
- ★ Nicholas Doughty of Raymond has been named to the Dean's List for academic excellence at Vermont State

University during the Spring 2025 semester and he also graduated in May earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Atmospheric Sciences.

- ★ Ashley Clark and Robert Ledbetter of Windham, and Sarah Madore of Raymond, have been named to the Dean's List for exceptional academic performance during the Spring 2025 semester at the University of New England.
- ★ Jonathan Grant of Raymond and Nikolaus Phillips of Windham have been named to the Dean's List for academic excellence during the spring 2025 semester at the University of Maryland's Global Campus. <

BRIEFS

Bean Supper

The Windham Veterans Association will host a traditional Bean Supper starting at 5 p.m. Saturday June 28 at the Windham Veterans Center, 35 Veterans Memorial Drive in Windham. The meal will include a variety of beans, side dishes, and desserts. The cost is \$10 at the door, kids under 12 eat for free. There will also be a 50/50 raffle. FMI, call 207-892-1306.

Summer Festival

The Fourth Annual St. Anthony of Padua Parish Summer Festival at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 9109 Roosevelt Trail in Windham will be held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 28. The festival includes a yard sale, sales of plants, books and jewelry, Italian food, quesadillas, a Knight

of Columbus Grill for breakfast and lunch, and homemade baked goods. There also will be music, games for children and adults, and raffles. This year's featured event will be the "Golden Ticket" raffle. The winning ticket gets two passes for all upcoming dinners at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, St. Hyacinth's in Westbrook, and St. Anne's in Gorham for a year starting in September 2025. FMI, call 207-632-9009.

Girl Scout Reunion

Girl Scout Troop 704 will be holding a reunion in the afternoon of Sunday, July 27 in Raymond. Any Girl Scouts who were a member of Troop 704 from 1992 to 2004 are encouraged to participate. FMI, call 207-671-7064 and leave a message.

Youth Football

The deadline to register to play Windham Youth Football is Aug. 1. The league offers teams in flag football and tackle football for students in Kindergarten through Grade 8. FMI, visit windhamyouthfootball.sportngin.com

Flea Market

The Casco Village Church, United Church of Christ will host its annual "Open Air Fair/Flea Market from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 12 at 941 Meadow Road in Casco. Tables are \$25 and are 8 feet with space to walk around them. Call 207-627-4282 to reserve your spot or email Sue Ackroyd at suea21@ msn.com. This year's event will feature vendors, a flea market, food booths, coffee and donuts, an auction board, a raffle calendar, and a flower sale. <





Goodbye to Field-Allen Junior High School

By Max Millard
SPECIAL TO THE WINDHAM EAGLE

On Friday June 14, 1963, my two years at Field-Allen Junior High ended with a softball game. It was the last day of school, and my fellow eighth graders and I were all invited to play. It was a friendly, non-competitive game involving both boys and girls, as we contemplated our imminent liberty from the books and our anticipation about the shining new high school which was being erected nearby on Route 202. The town had finally outgrown the old high school, and our class of 1967 would be the first group of freshmen to occupy the new structure.

We would miss some of our teachers, such as Mr. Fickett, a brainy and charismatic educator who taught history and geography. He later became a college professor. One trick he shared was the acronyms PIP and MAC, to remember the key words for the Spanish conquests of Mexico and Peru. PIP stood for Pizarro, Incas and Peru, while MAC referred to Montezuma, Aztecs and Cortés.

Our science teacher, Mr. Bryer, would always spend a few minutes of class time arguing auto mechanics with our classmate Walter Hebold, whom

he called the "walking encyclopedia." They both had an intimate knowledge of the subject and tried to outdo each other using terms that left the rest of us dazzled. Walter was voted "Most Likely to Succeed" in the yearbook and fulfilled that promise. He went on to have a brilliant career as an inventor and the founder of Enercon Technologies in Gray, where he still works.

The principal, Mr. Jacques, was a stern disciplinarian who kept the school on track through his mere presence. We all dreaded being sent to "the bench," meaning the wooden bench outside his office where we had to wait until he came out. Mr. Jacques had the misfortune of being born with a split lip, and when he got agitated, a glob of spittle would start jiggling from his upper to his lower lip. When he spoke rapidly, anyone standing close to him was in danger of being sprayed. If you got hit, you didn't dare wipe it off for fear of insulting him.

But those were innocent times, and no one got anything worse than a tongue lashing, or a detention. The most common offenses were gum chewing, talking in class, and running in the hallway. Some kids liked to play "gotcha last!" They would punch an-

other student in the arm at the end of recess, trying to get in the last blow before the door closed. To maintain order, Mr. Jacques made everyone walk on the right side of the hallway, like cars in traffic. There would always be two lines, walking in opposite directions, separated to avoid collisions.

In one classroom assignment, everyone had to write a terse verse. Mr. Herrman gave us a famous example titled "On the Origin of Fleas." The entire poem went: "Adam had 'em." Steve Turkington was asked to stand up and read his creation, which he titled "The Principal Doing the Twist." The class was reduced to near-hysterical laughter when Steve intoned, "Jacques shakes."

An exciting innovation arrived when the school started buying individually wrapped sanitary straws for lunchtime. One could tap the straw on the table to break the wrapper, then blow through it, creating a missile. One student was hit in the eye by a flying wrapper and started bawling, He rubbed his eye so much that it turned red. The school nurse was called in, and though she determined that no permanent damage had been done, the offender was slapped with a three-day detention, which meant hanging around school for two extra hours each day.

Although most of the teachers were dedicated and fair-minded, they would occasionally misuse their authority, such as when a student asked permission to use the bathroom. That was too sensitive a word, so everyone would say, "Can I go to the basement?" – a curious phrase, since the bathrooms were located on the same floor as the classrooms.

When a student made the request in the middle of class, the girls would flush scarlet and the boys would snicker. Sometimes the teacher would look up at the clock, ponder for a moment, and finally answer "no." That led to much distress and embarrassment, but was a practical lesson in how to plan ahead.

The teachers' salaries were listed in the town's annual report. and all came to \$3,000 to \$5,000 a year. To survive,

→ see **HISTORY** Page 18





LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF RAYMOND, MAINE

PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC MEETING

Broadcast Studio - 423 Webbs Mills Road and Via ZOOM

Wednesday, July 9, 2025 • 7:00 PM

You are hereby notified that the Raymond Planning Board will hold a meeting at the Raymond Broadcast Studio and via Zoom on **Wednesday, July 9, 2025, at 7:00 pm** on the following matters:

1. REVIEW OF LATEST DRAFT OF STR ORDINANCE 2. SKETCH PLAN REVIEW:

APPLICANT: 1250 302 LLC by Craig Sweet P.E.,

Terradyn Consultants LLC

LOCATION: Map: 055 Lot: 5 Zone C & LRR2

1250 Roosevelt Trail

DESCRIPTION: Sketch Plan Review for Proposed 12,000 s.f. total Commercial/Industrial Building consisting of 40'x75' mixed use building w/apartments above and three (3) storage unit structures in rear of property.

WORKSHOP – INITIAL REVIEW OF FIRST DRAFT OF MARIJUANA REGULATION ORDINANCE

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

JOIN ZOOM MEETING

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82405510003?pwd= rhUJ43byIuEqeiItAz6fSv5nAYa04t.1 Meeting ID: 824 0551 0003 Passcode: 4GnpdY

ONE TAP MOBILE

Meeting ID: 824 0551 0003

Passcode: 857065

 $Find your local \ number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdpKlDjqv1$

Two bills could determine Maine Harvest Bucks Program's future

As the Maine Harvest Bucks program celebrates its 10th anniversary this summer, the Maine Federation of Farmers' Markets is calling attention to two critical pieces of legislation that will determine whether this successful local food nutrition incentive program can continue serving thousands of Maine families and supporting local farmers.

Since launching in May 2016, Maine Harvest Bucks has generated \$3.75 million in direct sales at farmers' markets and farm stands across the state. The program, which operates at 50 farmers' markets and more than 20 farm stands, effectively doubles the value of SNAP benefits (formerly food stamps) when families spend them on fresh, local produce. In 2024 alone, nearly \$700,000 in SNAP and Maine Harvest Bucks sales were recorded at participating locations – more than triple the \$200,000 recorded in 2018.

"Over the past decade, Maine Harvest Bucks has proven that when we make healthy, local food more accessible, entire communities benefit," said Jimmy DeBiasi, Executive Director of the Maine Federation of Farmers' Markets. "We've seen families discover new foods, farmers expand their

customer base, and rural economies strengthen. But without legislative action this session, this vital program faces an uncertain future."

The program's impact extends far beyond sales figures. More than 15,000 Mainers using SNAP have

accessed fresh produce through Maine Harvest Bucks, with participants reporting improved food security, reduced reliance on food pantries, and increased knowledge about preparing healthy meals. The program currently operates in all 16 Maine counties, serving over 400 farmers and producers.

Two bills currently before the Maine Legislature will determine the program's sustainability:

LD 210 would establish permanent, baseline budget funding of \$600,000 annually for Maine's nutrition incentive programs, providing the stability needed for long-term planning and growth.

LD 468 would add an additional \$600,000 annually to meet growing program demand, recognizing that current funding levels cannot keep pace with community need and farmer



participation.

"Maine Harvest Bucks represents the best of what government programs can achieve – boosting rural economies, supporting small farm livelihoods, and ensuring that all Mainers have access to fresh, nutritious food," said Senator Henry Ingwersen, the lead sponsor of LD 468. "These bills aren't just about funding a program; they're about investing in the health of our communities and the viability of Maine's agricultural economy."

The economic impact extends beyond individual transactions. Research shows that every dollar spent through SNAP generates \$1.70 in economic activity, while every dollar invested in program administration yields \$4-5 in local food access for SNAP participants. State funding for the program has already leveraged more than \$750,000 in matching federal dollars.

The Maine Federation of Farmers' Markets has built strong partnerships with organizations including Good

\$5.00 for Tattered United States Flag when purchasing new U.S. Flag 3'x5' or larger. MAINE FLAG & BANNER

824 Roosevelt Tr., Windham, 893-0339

Shepherd Food Bank, Cultivating Community, and the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association to advocate for continued program funding and expand the reach of local food nutrition incentives. In 2023, these collaborative efforts

secured \$1.2 million in the Governor's Budget for the current biennium.

"As we celebrate this milestone anniversary, we're also looking toward the future," added DeBiasi. "With permanent funding, Maine Harvest Bucks can continue growing, reaching new communities, and ensuring that fresh, local food remains accessible to all Mainers, regardless of income."

The Maine Legislature is expected to consider both bills in the coming weeks. Supporters are encouraged to contact their representatives to express support for LD 210 and LD 468.

About Maine Harvest Bucks: Launched in May 2016, Maine Harvest Bucks is administered by the Maine Federation of Farmers Markets and supports farmers markets in accepting SNAP-EBT while providing bonus dollars that double the purchasing power of SNAP benefits when spent on fresh, local produce. The program operates at 70+ locations across all 16 Maine counties.

About Maine Federation of Farmers' Markets: The Maine Federation of Farmers: Markets is a grassroots farmer-founded organization dedicated to cultivating a vibrant and sustainable farmers market community as a vital part of Maine's local food network. Learn more at mainefarmersmarkets.org. <

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The Windham Eagle — Page 17

Deertrees Theatre announces 89th summer entertainment season

The Historic Deertrees Theatre located at 156 Deertrees Road in Harrison has announced its 89th summer season of events and entertainment.

Serving as Greater Maine's summer entertainment source since 1936, Deertrees' diverse entertainment opportunities offer theatrical productions, comedies, exhibits, family shows, and concerts annually.

The theatre's staff, creative artists and board of directors are devoted to cultivating and championing artists and audiences of all ages - local and beyond. The leadership maintains a commitment to preserving Deertrees' heritage as a warm gathering place, and its status as a National and Maine Historic Landmark property.

"This year, we'll continue to bolster our connection with performance and fine artists, creators, and teachers in our regional community," said Deertrees' Executive and Artistic Director Gail Phaneuf. "We look forward to continuing our historic theatre tours this season and having extended daytime hours for our Salt Lick Café and gallery. Our welcoming staff, volunteers, and board members eagerly await our treasured summer audiences."

Some selected summer highlights

for 2025 include performances of Shrek the Musical on June 28 and June 29. Directed by Zack Balkcom, and choreography by Kristen MacBride with music direction by Mary Bastoni, Shrek the Musical is a hilarious, heartwarming fairy tale where the unexpected shines. Curses are broken, monsters become heroes, donkeys and dragons fall in love, and princesses prove beauty comes in all forms. It brings a beloved story to life, proving happy endings come in all shapes and sizes.

Deertrees will host a performance on July 12 by Nashville Review - with Jonathan Sarty and the New Country Gentlemen. An homage to American Country Music, the music which came from Nashville and the southern US between the 1930's and the 1970s, featuring the songs of legends Hank Williams, Johnny Cash, George Jones, Willie Nelson, Marty Robbins, Elvis Presley, Merle Haggard, Waylon Jennings, Kris Kristofferson, and more, along with anecdotal stories and interesting historical accounts of the lives of these great icons and the origins of their music and songs.

On July 17, Deetrees will offer its fabulous kids show featuring Susie Pepper and Ali Butler Sing Movie Magic. Susie Pepper and her amazing twin sister Ali Butler bring their voices and unmatchable energy to this concert perfect for families and kids from 2 to 80 years old. They will have everyone singing and dancing to catchy tunes from the movies you love. The kids have a chance to dress up as their favorite movie character and sing along on the Deertrees Stage.

Then on July 18, Susie Pepper and Ali Butler will perform Dynamic DU-ETS, a one-of-a-kind concert featuring soaring duets that showcase their amazing harmonies.

Performances of You're a Good Man Charlie Brown will grace the Deertrees' stage on July 25, July 26, July 27, Aug. 1, Aug. 2 and Aug. 3. This laugh-filled musical comedy brings Charles Schulz's beloved Peanuts gang to vibrant life. Told through a series of playful vignettes, the story takes us through a year in the life of the Peanuts crew, from Valentine's Day mishaps to Beethoven Day triumphs, blending wild optimism with heartfelt moments.

The hilarious production of Four OLD Broads – A Comedy will be on the

Deertrees' stage on Aug. 8, Aug. 9, Aug. 15, Aug. 16 and Aug. 17. Critics say if The Golden Girls was rebooted today, it would look much like Four Old Broads. Directed by Jerry Bisantz, and featuring Gail Phaneuf, Barb Stauble, Adrienne Cote and Sandra Fickett, Four OLD Broads – A Comedy is a mystery unfolding at an assisted living facility.

There will also be one-of-a-kind musical experiences including "Big Yellow Taxi – Joni Mitchell Tribute" on Aug. 22, "Yesterday Once More ~ Music of The Carpenters" on Aug. 24 and a comedy show starring Karen Morgan on Aug. 30.

And starting in July, Deertrees Theatre will host the Sebago Long Lake Music Festival on Tuesday evenings from July 15 through Aug. 12. This is the festival's 52nd annual season featuring indoor classical music concerts and stunning chamber music performed under the summer stars.

To purchase tickets or a season subscription, or for more info, visit deer-trees-theatre.org, email gail@deertrees. org, or follow Deertrees Theatre on Facebook and Instagram. <





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HISTORY Cont. from page 15

they had to take summer jobs, and we would see them cashiering in stores, manning the toll booth at Sebago Lake State Park, or selling encyclopedias door to door.

Probably the most successful teacher was Mr. Norwood, a jokester whose running gag was: "You have a good point. But luckily your hair covers it." In the summer he opened a thriving business in North Windham, Arctic Penguin Ice. He later sold it and retired to Florida, where he lives today.

I left Windham for New York City in 1976 to pursue a career that was out of reach for me in Maine. But on my trips back to Windham, I often talk with old classmates about the exceptional teachers at Field-Allen and the lasting lessons they taught us.

Max Millard is a retired journalist and teacher in San Francisco, California. Email: sunreport@aol.com <

Exploring uncharted gourmet waters

By Andy Young
COLUMNIST/THE WINDHAM EAGLE

It's ironic I've ended up living near what's considered one of America's premier "foodie" cities, because as a kid I spent less time at restaurants than Abraham Lincoln passed surfing the web.

Our family never went out for dinner, aside from stopping at a Howard Johnson's when we traveled to Montreal the year after the World's Fair there. The closest we came to dining out was when our mother would, on rare occasions, pick up a bucket of chicken from the Drumstick Bar-B-Q on her way home from work.

The first time I remember eating in an actual dining establishment was during my senior year of high school. When the place where I worked closed for the summer, Barney, our boss, decided to reward his half-dozen highschool-aged employees with a trip to a local restaurant. Since the community where we lived was completely devoid of eateries, our dining out experience would take place in an adjacent town.

Due to my inexperience in the sort of surroundings I'd be visiting, or perhaps because I was something of a picky eater, my mom gave me a prenight-out talk about proper restaurant etiquette. She encouraged me to have an open mind, and to try a little bit of everything. She also stressed the importance of saying "Please" and "Thank you" to the people who'd be serving us, and to Barney for his kindness.

Our destination, it turned out, was the Golden House, which on the outside looked something like a pagoda. Never mind Asian food; the closest thing I'd experienced to any ethnic cuisine was my mom's meat-and-vegetable sauce poured over La Rosa spaghetti. Barney announced he'd do all the ordering and began by requesting a Pu Pu platter. For obvious reasons I didn't want any part of anything with "Poo-Poo" in it, but remembering my

along with the remains of one the kid next to me had foolishly placed on a napkin that was within my reach. When the main dishes (several of which were aflame) arrived, I heeded my mother's counsel, trying a little bit of everything. For openers I sampled the pork fried rice and vegetable lo mein. Then I took some moo goo gai pan. After my third helping of pepper steak, I loosened my belt a notch, then removed it entirely a few moments later, after dispatching yet another steamed dumpling. I'm not sure my mom would have approved of having her son take his belt off in public and stick it in his pocket, but by the time I did so, I was confident that my pants were in no danger of falling

mother's pre-dinner instructions, I

gritted my teeth and accepted the first

item sent my way, something called

an "egg roll." I had always hated eggs,

but there was no dog under the table

to surreptitiously pass it to, so, water

glass at the ready to provide a chaser, I

braved a tentative nibble from the sus-

picious-looking golden-brown object.

bite. Then I devoured the whole thing,

It wasn't too bad, so I took another

When it was all over, I couldn't believe I had let 18 whole years go by without knowing of the existence of Chinese cuisine.

down. Besides, I needed to breathe. The

meal concluded with a fortune cookie, although I'm still waiting for the good

financial news that the paper inside it promised was right around the corner.

I'd love to go back to the Golden House sometime, assuming it's still in existence. Now if only I can find a boss willing to pick up the tab for me and five age-alike friends! <





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Printed applications may also be found at Windham Town Hall & the Windham Public Library



Applications are due NO LATER than August 1, 2025





The Windham Eagle Page 19

Maine's market update: What buyers and sellers need to know

By The Libby Starnes Team SPECIAL TO THE WINDHAM EAGLE



The real estate market in Maine continues to move at a steady pace as we approach the Pamela Starnes/Tiffany Libby, approach the The Libby Starnes Team heart of sum-

mer. With increasing buyer interest, a steady flow of new listings, and evolving mortgage rates, understanding the current trends can give both buyers and sellers a competitive edge.

A Shift Toward Balance

After a few years of extreme seller dominance, the Maine real estate market is gradually shifting toward a more balanced dynamic. While inventory remains lower than historical average, more homes are coming onto the market compared to last summer. This is giving buyers slightly more breathing room, while still allowing sellers to see strong returns - especially when homes are priced and presented well.

Continued Demand in Desirable Areas

Southern Maine, particularly Cumberland and York counties, continues to see high demand. Towns like Windham, Gorham, and Standish remain hotspots for buyers seeking the ideal blend of convenience and lifestyle. Proximity to Portland, access to lakes and outdoor recreation, and strong school systems make these areas especially attractive to both fami-

Grondin.

lies and retirees.

Waterfront and seasonal properties in the Lakes Region are also commanding significant attention. Properties on Sebago Lake, Little Sebago, and surrounding waterways are seeing robust showing activity, especially if they're move-in ready or recently updated.

What's Driving Buyer Behavior?

While interest rates remain higher than they were during the peak pandemic years, many buyers have adjusted their expectations. The ongoing low inventory of rental properties, combined with Maine's lifestyle appeal, is motivating people to buy despite higher borrowing costs.

We're also seeing a continued influx of out-of-state buyers who are relocating for a change of pace, the rise of remote work, or simply the chance to own a slice of Maine. These buyers are often well-qualified and prepared to move quickly when the right home hits the market.

Tips for Today's Sellers

If you're thinking of selling, timing is everything. Homes that are priced strategically and marketed effectively are still moving quickly—especially if they're in move-in condition. Professional staging, photography, and a strong digital presence across platforms like Instagram, Facebook, and Zillow can make a dramatic difference in buyer engagement.

Another important factor? Transparency. Buyers are savvy and are more likely to compete for homes

AGGREGATE MATERIAL SALES

with pre-listing inspections, detailed disclosures, and updated systems. It's no longer just about location—it's about value and peace of mind.

Advice for Active Buyers

For buyers, this market still requires speed and preparation. Having a trusted local agent, pre-approval in hand, and a clear understanding of your must-haves will put you in the best position to compete. While we are seeing some price adjustments and more days on the market in certain segments, multiple offer situations are still common – especially for well-priced homes under \$500,000.

Being open to slightly expanding your search area or considering homes that may need light cosmetic updates can also help you get into the right home at the right price.

Looking Ahead

The remainder of the summer is expected to remain active. If the interest rates dip even slightly, buyer activity could spike once again. At the same time, homeowners who've been on the fence about listing are beginning to enter the market—especially if they're ready to upsize, downsize, or relocate.

At The Libby Starnes Team, we're not just watching the market - we're in it every day. Whether you're buying your first home, selling your tenth, or simply exploring your options, we're here to provide expert advice, personalized service, and real results. For updates, listings, or to schedule a consultation, visit www.libbystarnesteamhomes.com or follow The Libby Starnes Team on social media. <



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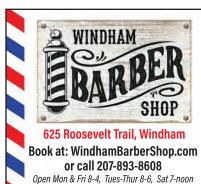




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The Windham Eagle — Page 21







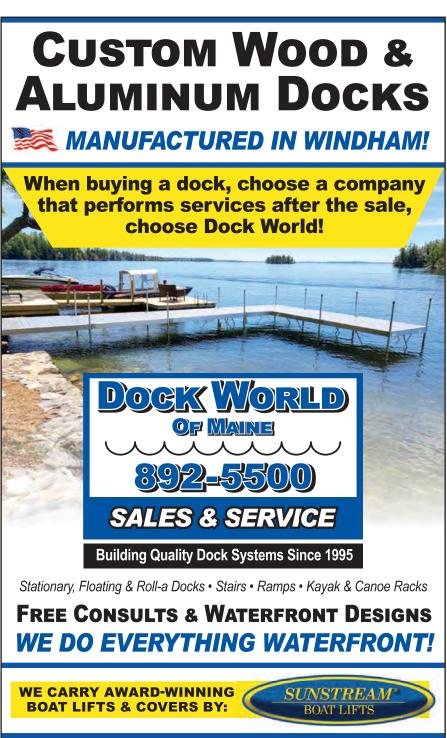
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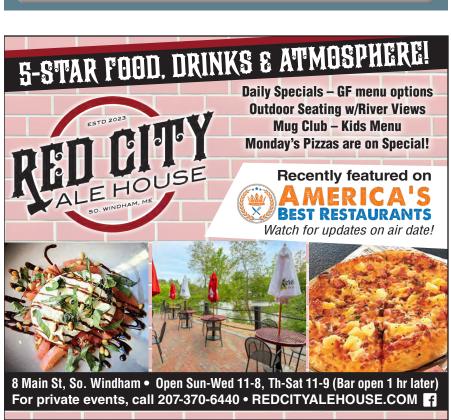
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WHS girls' lacrosse captures first-ever Class A state title

By Matt Pascarella

STAFF WRITER

WHS varsity girls' lacrosse team had already shattered records when it won its first-ever Regional Championship by defeating Falmouth on June 18. But it was far from finished and faced the team that had given Windham its only loss of the season, top-ranked Kennebunk, on Saturday, June 21 at Fitzpatrick Stadium in Portland with the Class A State Championship on the line. Windham emerged as State Champions with a 12-9 win and secured the first-ever state championship for the program.

Second-ranked Windham had a strong start and scored four goals in the first quarter. Windham's defense held off Kennebunk and the Rams had a much harder time scoring than in their previous game against the Eagles.

"The connection we have with each other is unmatched; everyone trusts each other to the full limit," said Windham senior Grace Joly. "We have girls stepping up that at the beginning of this season that couldn't have – they really just jumped a step. Everybody looks for everybody; it's not just two players running the whole field. Everybody is setting everyone up. (Comparing the two games) we were a little nervous, coming into our first game of the season, but we came into this game with a lot more confidence, knowing that we could do it and that set the tone."

Windham won the draw and freshman Brooklyn Roy scored very early in the game. Seconds later Windham sophomore Morgan McLain scored and was assisted by junior Mady Donnelly.







(L to R) Windham junior Abby Trainor approaches the goal during the Class A Girls' Lacrosse State Championship game against Kennebunk at Fitzpatrick Stadium in Portland on Saturday, June 21. Freshman Brooklyn Roy winds up to take a shot and scores early in the game. Senior Grace Joly focuses during a penalty shot. PHOTOS BY MATT PASCARELLA

The Eagles' defense remained strong, and Kennebunk struggled to score, although they did tally one in the first quarter.

Windham remained throughout the entire game. They were first to the ball and passed well throughout. With just 18 seconds left in the first half, senior Grace Joly scored for the second time and WHS led at halftime, 7-4.

Junior Abby Trainor scored twice at the beginning of the second half against Kennebunk, once unassisted and once assisted by Roy.

"I think all parts of our team are really strong," said Trainor. "Our defense is so locked down and we make quick adjustments and offensively, all seven people on the ball can score. They might not score, but they can score and anyone on the bench, too, can score. A lot of our goals are assisted ... it's just very team ball. We're patient and everyone is so skilled ... always being in the lead displaced (Kennebunk's) momentum. We've been phenomenal on the draw all season."

Going into the fourth quarter, Windham led by six.

"We were definitely tired (going into the fourth quarter), said Joly. "When you're 12 minutes, six minutes, four minutes away from winning a state championship that really pushes you to dig inside the deepest part of you that wants to leave everything out on this field – especially since it's your

Kennebunk made a little headway

down the final stretch, but not enough. Windham led by three with 30 seconds remaining in the game. As the clock ticked away, Windham had possession, it became more and more evident that it was about to win its first state title and it did.

"It's unbelievable," said Windham girls' lacrosse coach Matt Perkins. "I'm just so happy for these kids and this program. The kids and coaches that came before us to help build it and start it and all the work that's gone into how we do things, how we work and how we treat each other, just really special to see it happen today. We did a much better job taking care of the ball (compared with when they played Kennebunk earlier in the season.) We took care of the ball well, we ... controlled the tempo, even when it was up three points, we still had control." <



Liam Reinbold

Age: 15 **Team:** WHS boys' varsity lacrosse Coach: Peter Small Parents' names: Lisa and Jeremy

Reason for selection: Liam's ability to take pointers in coaching and just build on that; watching him practice and play and he started the year with junior varsity and just worked his tail off and took coaching points and

could translate it onto the field. Next thing you know, he gets some varsity time and then he's starting on the varsity field and doing well. Especially for a freshman to step into a quarterfinal game and know you've got fast 18-year-old men defenders on you, and he holds his own - to watch him go after ground balls, he did a good job stepping up. What Liam has shown is his ability to climb through the course of the year. His work ethic and commitment to getting better got him noticed by the varsity coaches. Coaches watched him work with his teammates really well and with every single rep he is looking to get better, and it stands out.

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The Windham Eagle — Page 25

Softball team wins second Class A State title in three years

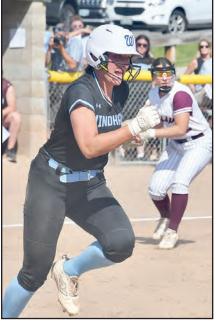
By Matt Pascarella

Windham High's varsity softball team derailed top-ranked Cheverus in the Regional Championship Game and then took on seventh-ranked Edward Little at Saint Joseph's College on Saturday, June 21. Windham got the bats going early and immediately put runs on the scoreboard, ultimately winning 7-0 and capturing its second state championship in three years.

"I think our chemistry as a team (led to the win)," said senior Stella Jarvais. "We all love each other; and I think we were doing it for each other. It's just amazing, having this bond with the kind of people that you love and cherish and getting to practice and seeing everyone's face is the highlight of my day. Being able to get in this game, the final game of the season, that's what we wanted to do because we wanted to spend as much time as we could together. We've prepared and we've worked so hard. Obviously knowing this is our last game, just keep it simple; we know how to play together."

Windham defense sent the first three Edward Little batters back to the dugout in the top of the first inning. But in the bottom of the first inning, Windham scored when junior Addison Caiazzo tripled for Windham and was followed by a single by Jarvais scoring Caiazzo. Junior Oakley McLeod reached first base and when freshman Yani Kostopoulos doubled, McLeod scored.

Windham would eventually put runs on the scoreboard in every inning but the fourth and fifth.





(L to R) Windham senior Stella Jarvais runs to first base after getting a hit in the Class A Softball State Championship game at Saint Joseph's College against Edward Little on Saturday, June 21. Senior Lydia Marden bats. Senior Kennedy Kimball pitches. PHOTO BY MATT PASCARELLA

In the third inning, senior Kennedy Kimball reached first base following an error. McLeod singled and Kostopoulos singled. Sophomore pinch runner Abhilasha Jain scored. Later in the inning, McLeod scored on a passed ball, as did Kostopoulos. Kimball had 11 strikeouts, no walks and no errors in the game and she only allowed three hits. She threw 84 pitches, 63 of which were strikes.

In the sixth inning, Windham senior Chloe Edwards singled and Jarvais grounded out, scoring Edwards.

"Our main goal for today was communication and keep talking to each other ... that was a big key for us", said Caiazzo. "Once you get quiet your

mind starts to wander, so just talking to everyone, talking on every pitch, kept us in the game. It feels amazing; I'm so blessed that we have the seniors we have this year – so thankful, we wouldn't have been able to do it without them."

In the top of the seventh inning, Windham was three outs away from another state title and recorded a strikeout, a fly out before allowing several singles. A final strikeout started the championship celebration for Windham.

"Surreal (to win a second state championship in three years)," said Windham varsity softball coach Darcey Gardiner. "I never thought tak-



ing this job I would have the caliber of athletes that I have. I can't say enough about this team. They show up to work ... to get better and they show up every day to compete. This is where they want to be. They want to be playing the last game every year, and I couldn't be prouder of my team. 17 girls in that dugout today, we don't win it without one through 17 supporting us all."

Gardiner said a lot of practice and preparation led to the victory. Their biggest focus was the change in pitchers it expected to face. The team had been prepared for a while to face Cheverus' Addison DeRoche and now they had to turn the page and face a pitcher who wasn't her. The coach said having pitchers like Lydia Marden, Lacie Higgins, Abhilasha Jain made their offense better by pitching to WHS batters during practice. She said the championship game wasn't just won on Saturday, rather it was won throughout practice all week long. <



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2025 Lacrosse Lady Eagles

Thursday, 04/17/2025L Kennebunk 10, Windham 6
Monday, 04/28/2025 W Windham 23, Oxford Hills 6
Tuesday, 04/29/2025 W Windham 18, Lewiston 2
Friday, 05/02/2025 Windham 22, Deering 0
Thursday, 05/08/2025 W Windham 18, Yarmouth 2
Monday, 05/12/2025 W Windham 20, Biddeford 3
Thursday, 05/15/2025 W Windham 17, Portland 2
Friday, 05/16/2025 Windham 17, Bonny Eagle 1
Monday, 05/19/2025 W Windham 11, Thornton Academy 7
Thursday, 05/22/2025 W Windham 16, Marshwood 6
Tuesday, 05/27/2025 W Windham 20, Sanford 5
Friday, 05/30/2025 Windham 13, Falmouth 6
Tuesday, 06/03/2025 W Windham 16, Gorham 6
Thursday, 06/05/2025 W Windham 18, Cheverus 9
Tuesday, 06/10/2025 W Windham 20, Oxford Hills 5
Friday, 06/13/2025 Windham 16, Yarmouth 10
Wednesday, 06/18/2025. W Windham 16, Falmouth 8
Saturday, 06/21/2025 W Windham 12, Kennebunk 9

2025 WHS G	1112
Lacrosse Ros	ter
NAME	GRADE
Abby Trainor	11
Brooklyn Roy	9
Neve Ledbetter	11
Morgan McLain	10
Demetria Nicholas	11
Elizabeth Baker	11
Mady Donnelly	11
Sophie Allen	12
Anna Bowie	9
Morgan Clark	9
Grace Joly	12
Lauren Jordan	12
Grayson Cornish	10
Brianna Duarte	11
Maria Rose	9
Grace McPherson	10
Madison Buzulchuck	9
Charlie Scanlon	10
Libby Hartwell	10
Alyssa Cooper	11
Lauren Vallen	9
Avery Adam	10
Olivia McPherson	11
Allegresse Kawaya	10

2025 WHS Girls'



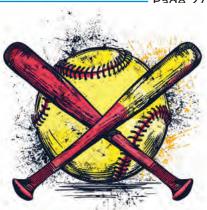




The Windham Eagle Page 27



Monday, April 28 Windham 3, Biddeford 1 Wednesday, April 30...... Windham 9, South Portland 5 Monday, May 12 Cheverus 6, Windham 2 Tuesday, May 13 W Windham 15, Deering/Portland 0, 4 innings Friday, May 16Windham 12, Thornton Academy 1, 5 innings Monday, May 19 Windham 6, Scarborough 0, 6 innings Wednesday, May 21...... Windham 18, Noble 3, 3 innings Saturday, May 24 Windham 18, Massabesic 1, 5 innings Tuesday, May 27 Windham 12, Gorham 2, 5 innings Tuesday, May 27 Windham 15, Falmouth 0, 4 innings Wednesday, May 28...... Windham 25, Marshwood 2, 3 innings Thursday, May 29........... Windham 17, Westbrook 2, 6 innings Tuesday, June 30........... Windham 6, Gorham 0 Thursday, June 5 L Cheverus 2, Windham 1 Thursday, June 12......... Windham 15, South Portland 0, 3 innings Saturday, June 14 Windham 5, Gorham 2 Tuesday, June 17...... Windham 1, Cheverus 0 Saturday, June 21 Windham 7, Edward Little 0



2025 WHS Girls' Softball Roster NAME **GRADE** Stella Jarvis 12 11 Oakley McLeod 12 Kyla Harvie Kaylee Napolitano 10 Jezabelle Pinto 11 10 **Evelyn Anderson** Lydia Marden 12 **Nola Bryant** 11 9 **Evelyn Robinson** Lacie Higgins 11 Addison Caiazzo 11 9 Yani Kostopoulos Kiley Card 10 10 Sarah Smyth Abhilasha Jain

Chloe Edwards

Chloe Delewski

Kennedy Kimball





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10

12

11

12

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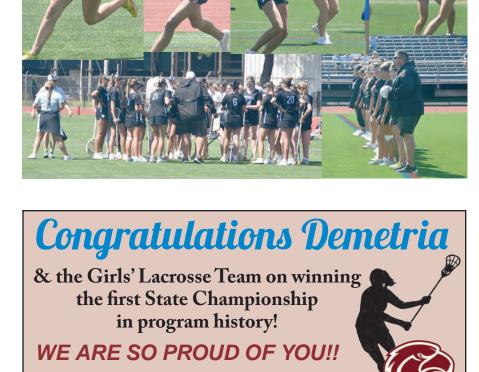
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Coach Quotes

Darcey Gardiner, WHS Softball Coach "As much as you say there's not nerves, there always is. If we keep communicating,

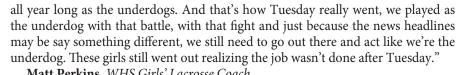
that helps settle our nerves. We say in the dugout 'stay within ourselves.' It goes back to us having composure with baserunners on. We can give a little without breaking and that's exactly what we did today. It's very hard to break this team."

"I really challenged my batters to see how much of a disciplined batter they can be. Can they stay back on their legs long enough, can they let that ball travel deeper in the zone, or are we going to be swinging out of our shoes trying to hit homeruns and swinging way early? I was really proud to see the adjustments they made."

"I think for us, and this is what I said to the girls before the game, 'we were the underdogs all year long.' No one thought we were going to get Cheverus, we played



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Matt Perkins, WHS Girls' Lacrosse Coach

"We have some tough gritty kids. You just got to weather the storm and play good sound team defense and team offense. Take care of the ball and we're going to be fine. Composure was great; there were some things that didn't go our way, and the kids handled themselves very well. The pass-catching and decision-making needs work, but we're making steps, and we talk about each day, each game, each practice taking a step up the ladder; I feel like we're doing that."

"It's unbelievable. I'm just so happy for these kids and this program. The kids and coaches that came before us to help build it and start it and all the work that's gone into how we do things, how we work and how we treat each other, just really special to see it happen today. We did a much better job taking care of the ball (compared with when they played Kennebunk earlier in the season.) We took care of the ball well, we ... controlled the tempo, even when it was up three points, we still had control."



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The Windham Eagle Page 31

CHAMPIONS Cont. from page 1

tle with this team. In her opinion, it's the most tightknit team they've had in the history of Windham lacrosse, when you see they're breaking scoring records and multiple teammates are scoring multiple goals, Windham is unstoppable. Trainor said in that first game with Kennebunk, they took a step back and assessed what went wrong. They came into the State Championship Game prepared; they knew what Kennebunk would do from watching film and when they did it, Windham was ready.

"It's pretty crazy (to have won another state championship)," said

Windham senior Stella Jarvais. "You never really know, how you're going to end up throughout the season until playoffs. This team is so special because we just do it for each other, we're not selfish in any way. That's what makes it so fun to play on this team."

Last year, Windham softball lost to Cheverus in the Regional Championship after being undefeated in the regular season. They did not want to feel what that felt like again this year. Preparations to overcome Cheverus in the playoffs began 52 weeks prior to when Cheverus beat them in the Regional Championship, 1-0.

"I think for us, and this is what I said to the girls before the game, 'we were the underdogs all year long," said Gardiner. "No one thought we were going to get Cheverus, we played all year long as the underdogs. And that's how Tuesday really went, we played as the underdog with that battle, with that fight and just because the news headlines may be say something different, we still need to go out there and act like we're the underdog. These girls still went out realizing the job wasn't done after Tuesday."

WHS softball team members include seniors Stella Jarvais, Kyla Harvie, Lydia Marden, Chloe Edwards, Kennedy Kimball; juniors Oakley McLeod, Jezabelle Pinto, Nola Bryant, Lacie Higgins, Addison Caiazzo, Chloe Delewski; sophomores Kaylee Napolitano, Evelyn Anderson, Kiley Card, Sarah Smyth, Abhilasha Jain and freshmen Evelyn Robinson and Yani Kostopoulos.

"I'm so glad we were able to do this, after playing Cheverus last year," said Caiazzo. "We knew that this is where we wanted to end; we wanted it to end (at the State Championship). We all grew up together, playing Little League. So being a closeknit team and pretty much a family, it was just amazing." <









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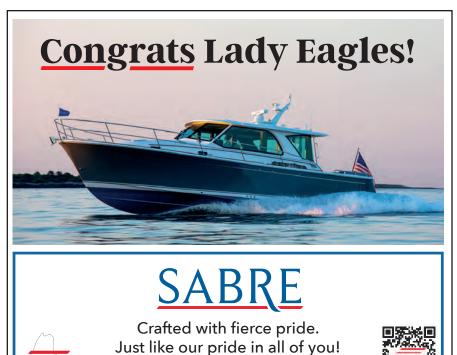


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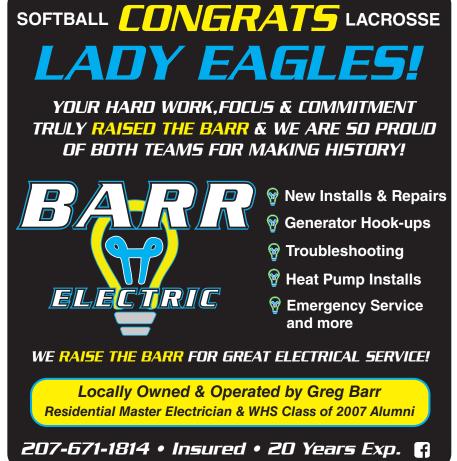
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Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

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Solve the code to discover words related to state fairs. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 18 = E)

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Clue: Amusement thrills

В. 13 13 16 **26**

Clue: Traveling amusement

1 19 14

Clue: Farm animals

Clue: Tart beverage

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

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14 16 19 20 25 28 29 33 38 41 44 45 48 51 56 60 65 70 **CLUES ACROSS** 1. Spiritual leaders 40. One of the founders of

- 7. Salt
- 13. Fortified wine
- 14. Edible mollusk
- 16. They precede C 17. A way to compare
- 19. State lawyer
- 20. "Game of Thrones" actor Ciaran
- 22. Eighth month (abbr.)
- 23. Very willing
- 25. ex machina
- 26. Satisfies
- 28. Mountain in New Zealand 29. A doctrine
- 30. Popular Dodge truck model 31. Dekagram
- 33. Naturally occurring solid
- 34. Company officer
- 36. Villains
- 38. Cricket frogs
- 55. Sound 56. Yankee great Judge

modern psychology

44. You can get stuck in one

47. Passive optical network

48. French ballet dynasty

43. A female domestic

45 Partner to feather

41. Endured

- 58. Dickens character
- 59. Late beloved TNT sportscaster

51. Employee stock ownership plan

60. South Dakota

53. Bottom layer

- 61. Exposing human vice or folly to ridicule
- 64. Gold
- 65. Longtime Braves hurler Julio
- 67. Humor
- 69. Shawl
- 70. Hospital unit

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Animal disease
- 2. Commercial
- 3. Necklace materials
- 4. Containers
- 5. Investment account 6. Colorado Heisman Trophy winner
- 7. Dipped down
- 8. Head injury category (abbr.)
- 9. Lay about

Answers: A. rides

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carnival

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nonade

- 10. Intestinal
- 11. Not yes
- 12. Caused to be loved
- 13. Muslim spiritual leader
- 15. Showing sincere conviction
- 18. Not in
- 21. Number above the line in a fraction 59. Silk garment
- 24. Lawn pest
- 26 Pouch
- 27. Ancient language in India (abbr.)
- 30. Start over

- 32. Wild white flower
- 35. Fourteen
- 37. Visual way to interact with computer (abbr.)
- 38. Side by side and facing the same way
- 39. Religious conflicts
- 42. Touch lightly
- 43. "Boardwalk Empire" actress Gretcher
- 46. Violent seizure of property
- 47. One who supports the pope
- 49. Malaise
- 50. Body fluid
- 52. Inauthentic person 54. Title of respect
- 55. Chilean city
- 57. Japanese city
- 62. Draw from
- 63. Automobile
- 66. The man
- 68. Top government lawyer

Each row must contain the

8 3 6 7 8 9 4 жовор 7 2 6 6 4 2 9 dono 6 5 4 3 8 2 7 9 6 \$000 9 Second 8 6 3 5

HOW TO SOLVE:

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

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

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

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Steamboat Landing Miniature Golf in Naples remains a cherished place where memories are made and friends and families can still enjoy quality time together outdoors in nature.

Owned by Bill and Julie Onorato and located at 15 Steamboat Landing Road in Naples, just one-quarter of a mile from the Naples Causeway on Route 114, Steamboat Landing Miniature Golf is now in its 46th season and is a relaxing activity that both children and adults will find challenging. Featuring 19 holes and shaded by a sprawling canopy of oak and pine trees, the Steamboat Landing course is Maine-themed and filled with colorful buoys, lighthouses, bears and loop de loops.

The miniature golf course was designed to reflect the history of the Naples area and showcases many scenic landmarks from around Maine.

"Our course is very challenging yet offers a fun experience for even our youngest visitors," Julie Onorato said. "Families will find our course a good spot for a family competition, or simply a leisurely stroll around the course as our trees provide relief from the summer's heat. We have people who tell us they came here when they were kids, and now they're bringing their kids and grandkids here too. The location in the woods is so beautiful, especially if you enjoy simplicity and nature."



She said miniature golf holes at Steamboat Landing include a classic New England-covered bridge, Songo Locks, lobster traps, the Songo River Queen riverboat, a historic western fort, a scenic lighthouse and typical of the many that line Maine's rocky coast, a windmill, and a Maine Black Bear, who sports a trout catch between his teeth.

As the course winds through the wooded gardens, visitors will find something to catch their eye at every turn. Its charming and lush flower gardens in a quiet and serene setting include the babbling sound of running water as it flows through Steamboat Landing's Grist Mill.

Free of insects and bugs, the minigolf course includes a large lot for free parking and tables to sit down and relax after your game. They also offer Maine-favorite Giffords Ice Cream and ice cream sundaes. Restrooms are available.

Open seasonally from May through mid-September, Steamboat Landing

Miniature Golf is a great place for families and larger camps and for reunions and groups of co-workers.

Prices are highly affordable, with kids ages 4 to 12 at \$8.50, anyone over 13 at \$9.75 and seniors 65-plus and military just \$8.50. Children under 3 can play for free.

"The course is interesting for adults but is fun for all ages and it takes about 45 minutes to an hour to play," Julie Onorato said. "We are a 19-hole course, and the 19th hole gives people a chance to win a free game."

There's also a popular "Weekly Score to Beat" feature at Steamboat Landing with top scoring players each week earning a free game or a free T-shirt.

As the owners, Julie and Bill Onorato are committed to exceptional customer service excellence and dedicated to providing a genuine and fun mini-golfing experience for all ages.

Reviews posted online show that generations of residents and visitors to the Lakes Region have come to appreciate outings to Steamboat Landing Miniature Golf through the years.

"We stumbled upon Steamboat Landing while looking for kid friendly activities. What a gem! Wonderfully shaded for a hot day and so many creative designs. Fun for parents and 5-year-old." ~ Ellie R.

"A trip to Maine is never complete without a visit to Steamboat Landing for a round of miniature golf. My family's been coming here since I was a little kid and I'm now in my late 30s." ~ Colleen L.

"A thoughtfully designed, affordable, shaded, and well-maintained course. Beautiful landscaping with 'Maine' course features like the Turnpike booths and a ski jump. We'll be back!" ~ Maggie S.

"Fantastic little course that had a great atmosphere and very charming with a lot of replicas of local landmarks. The hosts (Bill and Julie) were friendly and welcoming. We are going back whenever we visit the area. Highly recommend." ~ Jan S.

Steamboat Landing Miniature Golf is open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Last admission for mini golf is 9:45 p.m. You can also stop by to enjoy a Gifford's ice cream anytime without playing mini golf.

For more details, call 207-303-7023 or visit www.steamboatlandingminigolf.com Find them on Facebook, Instagram and Yelp under Steamboat Landing Miniature Golf. <





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