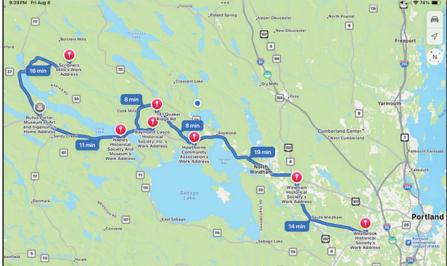
Volume 13, Issue 35

The Windham Eagle.com

August 29, 2025

# **Communities collaborate to host first Roosevelt Trail Maine History Tour**





Left, participants in the first Roosevelt Trail Maine History Tour next month will be able to explore the exquisite staircase and murals at the Rufus Porter Museum. PHOTO BY DANIEL DINSMORE Right, a map shows the route of the first Roosevelt Trail Maine History Tour to be conducted on Saturday, Sept. 6 stretching from Westbrook to Harrison. COURTESY OF BILL BRENNAN

### By Kendra Raymond

STAFF WRITER

They say there's strength in numbers. If that's true, an upcoming history "crawl" through the Lakes Region should be an impactful event. The Roosevelt Trail Maine History Tour will feature eight important historical sites which will be open to the public with free admission at all locations.

The self-guided auto or bike tour will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 6, and features open houses and some guided tours. The route travels all the way from Westbrook to Harrison along the historic Roosevelt Trail. Brochures are available throughout the area and include a list of participating historical sites and museums, a trail map, and museum profiles/ missions.

"Enjoy a leisurely day of rural history along the Roosevelt Trail, route 302. Visit one, some or all of the historic museums and sites," information in one brochure says.

Margaret Myatt is the publicity coordinator for Nathaniel Hawthorne's Boyhood Home and the Hawthorne Community Association in Raymond. She says that she is looking forward to the tour and hopes to spread the word to the community.

"It should be a fun event if we can get people out there. I hope it is a well-received event," she said. "It is sort of an open-house road show of history sites, informal, but easy. I think Windham Recreation caught wind of it and may do a van or bus."

Myatt also said that they plan to distribute brochures at adult recreation and assisted living facilities in the area. She said that the tour is perfect for all age groups from youngsters and teens to families and seniors.

Roosevelt Trail itself was named see TOUR Page 4

# Classes back in session for local students

### By Ed Pierce

**STAFF WRITER** 

And just like that, summer vacation is officially over for students in Windham and Raymond as classes are back in session.

All RSU 14 schools, teachers, staff members and administrators have been carefully preparing for the new 2025-2026 school year and remind the community that with children out and about on their way to classes, motorists need to be careful and pay attention in school zones and around school buses transporting students to and from school.

After registering children for another year of school, purchasing new clothing and footwear, gathering school supplies, planning lunches for school, coordinating after-school care and arranging for student transportation, parents can finally sit back and rejoice that the start of the school year has arrived.

RSU 14's school schedule started on Wednesday, Aug. 27 for Grades 1 through 9, and Thursday, Aug. 28 for students in Grades 10 through 12. Half of the RSU 14's Pre-K and kindergarten classes start on Tuesday, Sept. 2 with the other half starting on Wednesday, Sept. 3.

Christopher Howell has led RSU 14 as Superintendent of Schools since 2019. Christine Frost-Bertinet is the



RSU 14's school schedule started on Wednesday, Aug. 27 for Grades 1 through 9, and Thursday, Aug. 28 for students in Grades 10 through 12. Half of the RSU 14's Pre-K and kindergarten classes start on Tuesday, Sept. 2 with the other half starting on Wednesday, Sept. 3. PHOTO BY ED PIERCE

RSU 14 assistant superintendent and Christine Hesler is RSU 14's Director of Curriculum.

In Windham, students in kindergarten through Grade 3 attend Windham Primary School. Grade 4 and Grade 5 Windham students attend Manchester School, while students in Grades 6 to Grade 8 attend Windham Middle School. High school students in Grades 9 to Grade 12 in both Raymond and Windham attend Windham High School.

Dr. Kyle Rhoads leads Windham Primary School as its principal and has served in that role there for 18 years. Danielle Donnini is entering her 29th year of working at Manchester School and she has led the school as its principal since 2015.

Windham Middle School Principal Greg Applestein is entering his third year of leading WMS. He formerly spent three years as the principal at Bonny Eagle High School.

Ryan Caron is entering his eighth year as the principal at Windham High School and formerly served as the principal at South Portland High

This year in Raymond, elementary and middle school students will attend either Raymond Elementary School or Jordan-Small Middle School. Raymond students in Grade 1 to Grade 4 attend Raymond Elementary, while students in Grade 5 through Grade 8 attend Jordan-Small Middle School.

Beth Peavey is entering her sixth year as the principal at Raymond Elementary School and was the school's assistant principal for three years prior to becoming its principal. Raymond Elementary, which houses students from Pre-K through fourth grade, has 258 students registered for the fall. Forty-four students are registered in the three classes

of Pre-K at RES.

Jordan-Small Middle School will be led once again by Michelle Brann, who is entering her fourth year as the JSMS principal. Brann formerly served as the assistant principal at Lake Region Middle School. Some 180 Raymond students are registered

for Grade 5 through Grade 8 at JSMS this

fall. For parents, RSU 14 uses Parent Square see SCHOOL Page 24



# A story of persistence

In the days before digital, newspaper articles were written on a typewriter and much harder to produce.

Computers simplified that process but not the interactions between reporters and the subjects of articles. For me, I take hand-written notes and use them to create the stories I write.

Back in January 1980, I was new to my duty assignment with the 2044th Communications Group at The Pentagon in Washington, D.C., where I was serving as a Public Affairs representative in the Air Force. That meant I was reporting on the activities and airmen who were also assigned to the unit.

I would compose articles and then drop them off in person or mail them to weekly military newspapers that my commanding officer thought would be interested in publishing.

My duties had me cover everything from special events being hosted by the 2044th Communication Group to welcoming new personnel. If I wasn't out of the office interviewing someone, or typing stories up at my desk, I could be found taking photographs at The Pentagon or discussing potential articles with the editors of several nearby military papers on

In just my second week of duty at The Pentagon, a Senior Master Sergeant who supervised the 2044th radio section

stopped by my office and asked if I would write an article about a young airman who had passed a proficiency test for radio repair with a perfect score. I agreed and called to arrange a time to do that.

Three days later, I met the young airman at his office workstation and started asking him questions about the test.

His name was Airman First Class Billy Catalina, and he grew up as an only child of a family in Queens, New York. He told me that he used to watch airplanes taking off and landing at LaGuardia Airport as a boy and wanted to become a pilot someday.

Billy's father had died when he was 8 and his mother struggled to put food on the table for her son. As Billy got older, he paid less attention to school and spent more time with neighborhood friends. He got a part-time job in the evenings at a warehouse and dropped out of school with failing grades when he was a sophomore in high school.

His mother pleaded with Billy to return to school and to please her, he signed up to attend night adult education classes at a nearby high school for several years trying to earn his diploma. When his boss at work changed his hours, Billy had to give up night classes but he then spent almost a year on Saturday mornings studying and he eventually took the high school equivalency test and earned his GED diploma.

That was his ticket to enlisting in the U.S. Air Force where Billy trained as radio repairman and assigned to the 2044th Communications Group. The test he took was to advance from an apprentice-level to a proficient-level in his job and consisted of tough technical questions.

He said he was a bit apprehensive and not very confident prior to taking the test since he was such a poor student in school. But he dedicated himself to reviewing the radio repair manual in advance of the test and was the first person in the examination room to finish the test.

Several weeks later, Billy received notification in the mail that not only had he passed the proficiency test, but that he had achieved a 100 percent perfect score.

I wrote a small 400-word article about Billly's accomplishment, and it appeared several weeks later in the Air Force Communications Command's newspaper. Billy stopped by my office a few days later to pick up a few copies of the newspaper and to thank me in person for taking the time to interview him.

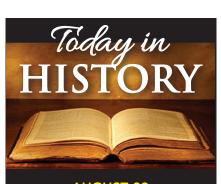
Less than a year later, I was reassigned to Luke Air Force Base in Arizona for duty as editor of the base newspaper. By the time I had completed four years of duty there, I had written hundreds of stories and was preparing to return to civilian life and restart my career as a newspaper reporter.

At Christmastime in 1990, I was shopping at the Winrock Mall in Albuquerque, New Mexico when someone tapped me on the shoulder. It was a man pushing a baby stroller and holding the hand of another small child under the age of 5. He asked me if my name was Ed and if I remembered him.

To be honest, his face looked familiar, but I didn't recall his name. He said he was Billy Catalina and reached into his wallet and retrieved a faded yellow article that I had written years before about him.

He told me that his mother had died of cancer not long after it had been published. In cleaning out her house, Billy found a clipped copy of the article in her bedside nightstand, and another one tacked up on her refrigerator. He hugged me and thanked me for making his mother so proud of him.

I try to keep that in mind with each article I write and hope they impact lives ositively like the one about Billy Catalina did. < ~ Ed Pierce



1833 – The "Factory Act" is passed in England to establish child labor laws.

1869 – The Mount Washington Cog Railway opens in New Hampshire, making it the world's first mountainclimbing rack railway.

1886 – Chinese Ambassador Li Hung-chang's chef invents the dish he calls chop suey in New York City.

1892 – Pop Shriver of the Chicago Cubs catches a ball dropped from the top of the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C.

1949 – A nuclear device is used for the first time to treat cancer patients at the University of Illinois.

1962 – The lower level of the George Washington Bridge opens connecting New Jersey and New York City.

1965 – The spacecraft Gemini 5, carrying U.S. astronauts Gordon Cooper and Pete Conrad, splashes down in the Atlantic Ocean after eight days in space.

If you could bring back any fashion trend, what would it be?

"Baggy (comfortable) dress suits for men (though I'm pretty much in pajamas 24/7 nowadays)."

– Francesco Paredon

"Banana clips, oversized jean jackets and slouchy socks."

- Jennifer Harmon

"Nice looking clothes that make you look good, not the stuff they have today."

- Cheryl L. Page

"Forever 21 and DEB style **clothing!"** – Jeni Brem

'Classic button fly denim jeans with a tailored white shirt."

- Pam Wilson

"Tops that have parts cut out." Alice Kelly

> "Big hair of the 80's." - William D. Reiner

"The elegance of the '40s and '50s. Tailored dresses, hats, gloves." – Julie Mallett

"Saddle shoes." – Lynne Latham

"Down filled big puffy vests." – Brian Butler

"All the grooviness of the '70s! Those awesome psychedelic patterns and big floral prints. I'm a '90s baby and it's my favorite era of clothing."

Nicole Robinson

"Capes and Cloaks." Steven Haycock

"MC Hammer Parachute Pants." – David D. McCoombs

"Miniskirts and platform shoes." - Lois Fuller

> "Caftan dresses." – Shelley O'Rourke

"High top sneakers and acidwashed jeans. I sure do miss that." - Dean A. Smalley

"Bucket hats, like the ones worn by LL Cool J in the 1990s." – Mitchell B. Robinson

"Suspenders." – Oscar Kellner

"High-waisted jeans and denim jackets." – Chris Macklin

"Jelly sandals and butterfly clips."- Mia Potenzio-Ransey

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The Windham Eagle Page 3



# Speaker to focus on athletes' mental health at WHS

By Dina Mendros

Being a high school athlete is not all glory and popularity. The anxiety of performing up to their own and other's expectations, along with the pressures of school, can be overwhelming to many. Next week, someone who has dealt with similar pressures and more will give a talk to Windham High School students to help them cope with their mental health, which for athletes can be just as important as physical health.

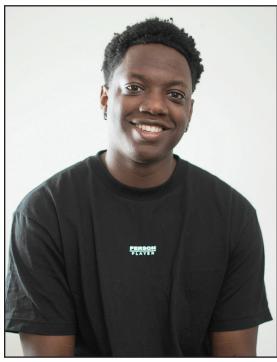
Kaleb Joseph, who at one time was an elite basketball player and one of the top10 point guard recruits in the country, knows first-hand how the pressure of the game as well as growing up with other stressors can undermine a person's confidence and life. The Windham Raymond Athletic Boosters will sponsor a visit from Joseph to talk to Windham High School students and their parents on Tuesday, Sept. 2.

Joseph grew up in a dysfunctional family, one of 11 children, using basketball as an escape. Defying the odds, he received his first Division 1 scholarship offer as an eighth grader and later committed to playing basketball at Syracuse University, his dream school.

"When I played good, I felt like the man," Joseph said in a video taken when he spoke last year at the University of New England in Biddeford. "I wanted everybody to know that I did this. That I'm the guy. The one with 11 siblings. The one who was going to take care of his family. The one who's going to get a million dollars and take care of his mom. I wanted everybody to know that I'm the guy who did that."

"As a preseason National Freshman of the Year candidate, Joseph faced overwhelming pressure and expectations," according to the Self Help Tour website of which the Self Help Tour was founded by Joseph to help him spread his message. "Basketball became a source of anxiety," and the pressure became "paralyzing."

"When I played bad like, I felt shame," Joseph said. "I felt embarrassment. I didn't like myself at all.



Former college basketball star Kaleb Johnson will speak at Windham High School on Sept. 2 about athletes' mental health during a presentation sponsored by the Windham Raymond Boosters Club. SUBMITTED PHOTO

> You can't stop thinking about the mistakes, you can't stop thinking about the turnovers, you can't stop

thinking about what everybody else is thinking about you."

And there were times he did play bad. At one point he was on the top 10 list of Sports Illustrated most disappointing players.

"When the article came out it crushed me," Joseph said. He couldn't face it, he said, and it got to the point that he wanted to kill himself, "all because I wouldn't talk about it."

"And now I have no choice but to face my fears every single day and have conversations like this with you because I know for a fact you guys know exactly what I'm talking about," he said.

Fortunately, some former professional basketball players who had faced their own demons helped him.

Now, Joseph travels the country sharing his story and guiding others. As a mental performance coach, he helps other athletes. "Through emotional intelligence workshops, team consulting, and one-on-one coaching, (Joseph) helps individuals, communities, and organizations lean into vulnerability, build self-awareness, and cultivate an identity strong enough to carry them through all of

→ see **SPEAKER** Page 6

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TOUR Cont. from page 1

for U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt, who advocated for creating cross-country routes thoroughfares for Americans who were purchasing a newly invented form oof transportation called the automobile. In 1921, the Maine portion of the highway stretching from Portland to Fryeburg was renamed Roosevelt Highway in his memory.

"All people interested or passionate about the history of Maine's communities are invited to explore a portion of Maine's western corridor during the first annual Roosevelt Trail Maine History Tour," according to a recent press release outlining the new tour and festivities. "This event highlights the rich heritage of a portion of Route 302 - also known as the Roosevelt Trail - stretching from Westbrook to Harrison with local historical societies, museums, and landmark sites along the trail. Visitors may choose to stop at any or all participating sites in any order."

Participating sites include:

★ Westbrook Maine Historical Society, 426 Bridge St., Westbrook

★ Windham Historical Society, 234 Windham Center Road, Windham

- ★ Nathaniel Hawthorne's Boyhood Home, 40 Hawthorne Road, Raymond
- ★ Quaker Ridge Meeting House, 141 Quaker Ridge Road, Casco
- ★ Raymond Casco Historical Society, 1 Shadow Lane, Casco
- ★ Naples Historical Society & Museum, 19 Village Green, Naples
- ★ Rufus Porter Museum of Art & Ingenuity, 121 Main St., Bridgton
- ★ Scribner's Mill & Homestead, 244 Scribner's Mill Road, Harrison

Bill Brennan is treasurer of Raymond Casco Historical Society. He said that the tour is the result of several months of collaboration.

"In March, Raymond Cascoo Historical Society met with Hawthorne House representatives to discuss our common interests. During that brain-storming session, it was decided we could bring other groups into discussing a date for a collective history tour. With Margaret Myatt of Hawthorne and myself, we identified groups that might join us,"

The concept of the tour is a collec-

tive effort by our eight groups to recognize our impact on preserving our rich history, he said.

"I'll note that Bridgton Historical Society was involved initially, but with the closure of their museum building, they need time to reboot to their new space in the church building," Brennan said.

He said that the goal of the new tour is to bring local communities together and increase appreciation of the past.

"We hope to achieve recognition of our collective histories. We hope visitors will come away with a greater appreciation of their town's history as well as other surrounding towns," he said.

Brennan realized that the project was gaining momentum as additional groups joined the cause.

"In the past two months the planning and implementation of this event has proven our groups have worked well with each other to a common goal," he said. "Different people brought in their expertise to benefit the event. We had a working, but rough draft of the brochure. In one night on a Zoom call after 7 drafts of the brochure, we banged out a final, proving that collaboration works," he said.

Roy Clark is President of Scribner's Mill Preservation, Inc.

"We are pleased to be a part of this first history tour," he said. "Scribner's Mill in Harrison, is the only family-owned sash sawmill in the United States that remains on its original site, which includes the original buildings, equipment, and an undisturbed rural setting on the Crooked River."

Tour volunteers will be available to answer questions at each site. Light re-

freshments will be provided at many of the locations. Groups are welcomed. Plenty of parking is available at each stop. Donations are appreciated.

A tour map and brochure can be downloaded at: https://tinyurl.com/yep-pjd5s or scan left.

For more details about the tour, call 917-841-7226. <









AND TOUR MAP

# Dolby, Blais & Segee Funeral Chapel **Scott Anthony Martin, 56**



Scott Anthony Martin, 56, of Naples Maine, passed away unexpectedly on August 7, 2025. Scott was born January 16, 1969, in Burlington, VT. He began his lifelong dedication to service with the Williamstown VT Fire Department while in HS. In 1988, Scott graduated from Williamstown HS and then met the love of his life, Wendy, and they married on October 22, 1994. His proudest accomplishment was becoming a father to their three sons.

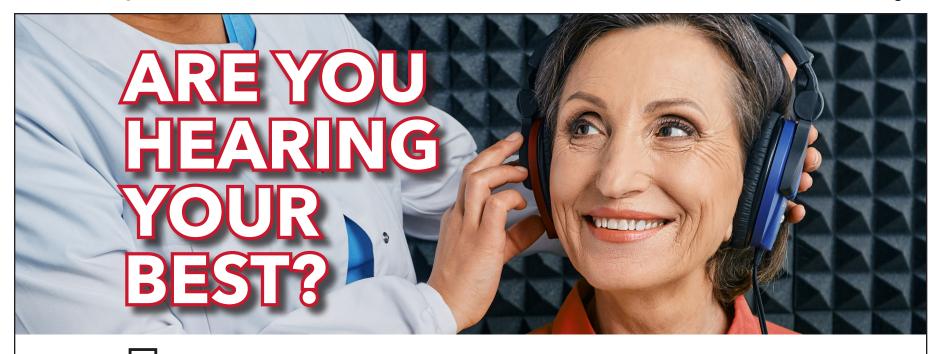
Scott was a skilled carpenter working for many years in the trade and spending the last three

years at Windham Millworks. Previously he served nearly a decade as Head Ranger for Pine Tree Council BSA, where his leadership shaped major projects and inspired countless Scouts and staff. He also served as a Pack Leader and Scout Master In Windham ME and was a mentor to many. His volunteer work reached far beyond scouting, always quick to lend a hand, a tool, or a listening ear.

He is survived by his wife Wendy Wright Martin; sons Eri, Samuel, and Jonah Martin all of Naples ME; mother Beverly Ouimet of Barre VT; brother Mark Ouimet and his wife Valerie of Washington VT; and father in law Morris Wright of Windham ME

Scott's warmth, humor, and generous spirit touched countless lives and will be deeply missed.

The Windham Eagle — Page 5



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**SPEAKER** Cont. from page 3 life's adversities."

"My goal when working with teams is to help every athlete understand that the real challenge is 'you vs. you," Joseph said. "By gaining control over their own reactions and emotions, they not only elevate their individual performance but also contribute to a stronger, more cohesive team culture. It's about creating a safe space where difficult conversations lead to real trust, accountability, and ultimately collective success.

"My intention with these sessions is to create a space where athletes can truly understand their emotions and how their minds work, and then apply

that understanding to their everyday lives. It's about making real, lasting change, not just theory," he said.

Kristin Drottar, the president of the Windham Raymond Boosters and a teacher, said she's hopeful athletes and their parents will find Joseph's talk helpful. Her son plays football, basketball and lacrosse.

She said the athletic director attended a talk Joseph gave in Kittery a couple of years ago and was impressed with what he heard.

"(Joseph) just talked about that you're a person before you're a player," Drottar said. "And the pressures that you might feel and how to deal with those, and how to kind of help yourself not just with being a strong player but also having a strong mental mindset around sports."

Even before learning about Joseph, she said, the boosters board mem-

bers were talking about how "we often see the kids come off of the court and they put their heads down if they make a bad play or they get upset if they miss a shot." The boosters, who are mainly parents of student athletes, see how much pressure their kids put on them-

selves, she said, "and (we) really wanted to focus on supporting the athletes emotionally and their mental well-being as well as what we've been doing, which is supporting them physically with what they need to compete in

said "so we support all athletic pro-

their sports." The Windham Raymond Athletic Boosters are unified boosters, Drottar grams at the high school" through fundraising like holding a craft fair every November and running concessions at various sporting events. The

boosters support the athletic

teams in ways such as purchasing extra golf bags if needed, contributing to new score boards, providing monetary gifts to teams to purchase items

they need or

want, providing scholarships, as well as sponsoring talks like the one Joseph will give next

The Windham Raymond Athletic Boosters are always seeking donations and volunteers to join their efforts and invite you to check out complete details on their website at: windhamathleticboosters.com or you can send an email to: athleticboosters@rsu14.org

To keep up with events sign up for their newsletter online and follow them on Facebook. <







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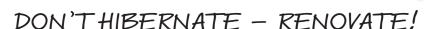
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# Dance group raises \$5,316 for Ronald McDonald House

By Ed Pierce

& more

Rock n' roll music's abiding popularity is the driving force for the Oldies Dance Group, whose ongoing mission is to support the Ronald Mc-

Donald House of Portland. The organization's 25th dance on April 19 in Biddeford sold 301 tickets in just seven days and earned \$5,316, pushing the total amount that the Oldies Dance Group has raised in 17 years for the Ronald McDonald House to \$129,814. The Ronald McDonald House provides comfort for the families of pediatric patients in Maine and supports programs that directly improve the health and well-being of children and enables family centered care to ensure that family members

are fully supported and actively involved in their child's care.

"This is really an achievement of everyone who has attended the dances staged by the Oldies Dance Group through the years and to all the individuals and businesses who remain steadfast in their commitment to assisting the sick children and their families of the Ronald McDonald House of Portland," said Bruce Martin, Oldies Dance Group organizer. "We are grateful to have this support and deeply humbled that through the years, the Oldies Dance Group has shattered the \$129,000 donation threshold."

Martin said the dances are held twice a year in the spring and in the fall and are more than just typical fundraisers.

"For those who grew up with great rock n' roll tunes as the soundtrack of their lives, these dances are such a wonderful social event," Martin said. "The music is familiar to everyone, and it energizes people to get up on the dance floor while others just enjoy visiting and socializing with their friends during the evening."

He said demand for dance tickets is overwhelming and in between the dances in the spring and fall he receives hundreds of phone calls from throughout Maine and nearby states from individuals seeking to purchase tickets.

"I think it's because rock n' roll music truly connects people of all ages and walks of life," Martin said. "The dances are fun and filled with songs that really get people out of their seats and up onto the dance floor."

Businesses and individuals making donations for the April dance include Bill Dodge; Napa Sanel; Advance Auto; Tractor Supply; Community Pharmacy; Salon Color & Cut; Dickerson's Candy; All About Time; Gorham Sand & Gravel; Copy It; and the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Also making donations to the April dance were Georges Sandwiches; Bob's & Mikes Mini Mart; Arctic Glacier Ice; Cadorette/HVAC; M/M Beeman; Janet Sparkowich; Chris and Shonna Eisenhower; and Ed's Grove.

The next Rock n' Roll Oldies Benefit Dance will be the 26th dance hosted by the Oldies Dance Group and will be held from 7 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Oct. 18 at the Eagle's Hall, 57 Birch St., Biddeford. Tickets are just \$15 and sell out quickly as seating is limited.

"I always say to everyone that if you're thinking about attending the next dance, I encourage you to call soon because these tickets sell out in just a few days," Martin said. "When the tickets are sold out, they're gone, and we have a waiting list should something suddenly become available. This is one of the most popular events in Southern Maine and it's truly telling just how popular these dances are and how much people love rock n' roll music."

For further details, to purchase tickets for the upcoming Rock n' Roll Oldies Benefit Dance, or to volunteer to help, call 207-284-4692. <





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The Windham Eagle Page

# Windham Cub Scout open house, registration night nears

► By Josh Smeltzer SPECIAL TO THE WINDHAM EAGLE

At 6:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 8, Windham Cub Scouts Pack 805 will have its annual Open House/Registration Night in the Manchester School cafeteria in Windham.

This will be an opportunity for boys and girls to sign up for Cub Scouts and for parents to ask questions. During this gathering, many of the older scouts will present fun and interesting activities to keep the scouts entertained while the Pack 805 leaders talk with the parents of both returning and interested children.

The Cub Scout experience in Windham is about children and families having fun times together and guiding boys and girls, kindergarten to Grade 5, to become leaders and outstanding members of the community when they grow up.

According to incoming Cubmaster Mike Chickering, scouting teaches children positive character traits such as being courteous, helpful, and loyal, while fostering new friendships, learning about the outdoors, and serving the community.

This summer, Cub Scouts marched in the Annual Windham Memorial Day parade, held a food drive to help Windham Food Pantry, hiked up Rattlesnake Mountain in Raymond, and went on a night hike up Bradbury Mountain to see a meteor shower. In activities planned for this fall and winter, Pack 805 Cub Scouts will have a camp out, go ice fishing, conduct food, clothing and toy drives, present the colors at a Maine Mariners ice hockey game, put on its annual Pinewood Derby, and much more.

Windham Pack 805 meets once a week by age group (called "Dens") and then on the last Monday of each month as a group (called "Pack"). The activities at these meetings center around earning adventure belt loops and badges that are specific to each school grade level. Each Cub Scout loop and badge represent progression towards a new rank each year.

Assistant Cubmaster Kayla Desmond said that Cub Scouts dues are highly affordable and go toward scouting activities, awards, national and local Cub Scout registrations, and insurance. Windham Pack 805 also conducts a variety of fundraising activities to offset these costs throughout the year.

Windham parents should consider having their child join Cub Scout Pack 805 because it helps them to work on self-growth, and to not be afraid to try new things, Desmond said.

"We want our scouts to learn what it means to be part of something important, what it means to help their community, make new friends, build relationships, and to have fun," she said.

"The scout motto is 'Do Your Best' and that's what the kids learn." said former Cubmaster Casey Melanson. "Cub Scouts can do anything they put their minds to. We have gone winter camping, hiking, ice fishing, and built lean-tos in the woods," Melanson said. "We also have our annual Pinewood Derby where kids design and build their own cars and then compete against one another. As a pack we have



Members of Windham Cub Scout Pack 805 gather during the group's Spring Advancement Ceremony at Dundee Park in Windham. Cub Scout Pack 805 will hold its annual Open House and Registration Night at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 8 at the Manchester School cafeteria. It is an opportunity for boys and girls to sign up for Cub Scouts and for parents to ask questions. COURTESY PHOTO

nights, and EVO Rock Gym overnights."

For Windham Cub Scout Pack 805's registration night on Sept. 8, registration will be staffed by Cub Scout Pack 805 leaders who will be available to answer

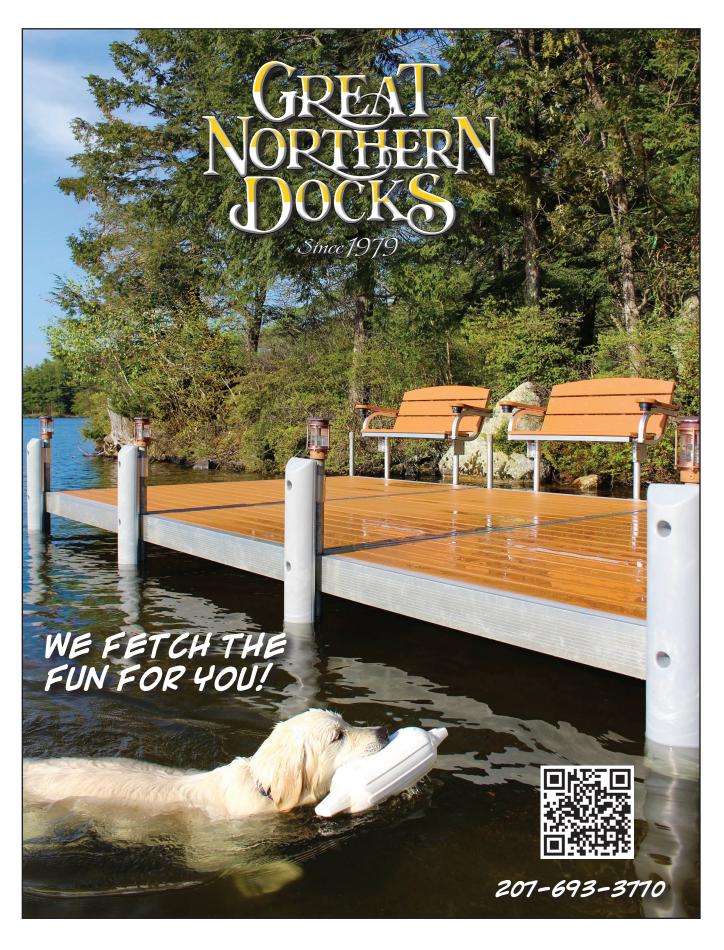
any specific questions that

parents may have about Cub

had beach outings, cookouts, movie

New potential scouts who are interested in joining are encouraged to attend the registration with a parent, said Cub Scout Pack Committee Chair members.

If someone is interested in joining but is unable to make the registration event, they can reach out to Cub Scout Pack 805 leaders through their Facebook page 'Pack 805 Windham Maine or send an email to: scoutpack805me@gmail.com for more information and schedule of meetings. <





# Patrol officer relies on public cooperation and trust to keep community safe

### By Ed Pierce

You may never need the help of Officer Mackenzie Conti, but if you do, she'll be there and that basic premise to serve and protect is what makes Conti and other members of the Windham Police Department unsung heroes in the community.

Conti is a Windham Police patrol officer, and she also serves as an evidence technician for the department.

"My specific duties as a patrol officer at the Windham Police Department are observing traffic, furthering investigations, and documentation through report writing," Conti said. "Patrol officers also typically respond to calls for service whether it be an emergency or answering questions from the community pertaining to laws or situations they're experiencing."

She joined the Windham Police in January 2023 and is entering her third year of service to Windham residents.

"As I furthered my career in law enforcement, I found an interest in becoming an evidence technician with the department," Conti said. "That typically involves responding to calls for service and being equipped for collecting, documenting, and preserving evidence."

According to Conti, one of the things she enjoys about the law enforcement profession is that no shift is the same as the last one and she's able to accumulate more experience and

understanding when it comes to assisting the public.

"I always aim to be the officer at a call for service that reflects the response I would want, if it were involving someone important to me," she said. "You also get to learn something new every day, and I enjoy the ability to further my education and training through opportudepartment presents."

of citizens in the com-

"Not only do we respond to calls that require us to enforce the law, sometimes we are required to take on roles of social work and crisis intervention," Conti said. "It can be a tough balance when you arrive on scene for service, to provide stability or assistance, and the individuals involved may find your response alone to be an escalation."

Originally from California, Conti spent most of her early life on the west

"Following graduation, I moved



nities that the police Mackenzie Conti joined the such a strong sense Windham Police Department of unity in this town, The greatest chal- in January 2023 and is now in Conti said. lenge of her job is her third year of service to the adapting her response community as a patrol officer pression I received to the changing needs and an evidence technician. from this communi-SUBMITTED PHOTO

ty, as well as from the staff and fellow officers at the Windham Police Department, was exactly what I was looking for and I was eager

to Maine and began

working as a correc-

tions officer at the

Maine Correctional

Center in Wind-

ham," she said. "I

spent a little over 3

1/2 years in this field,

before I began my

journey into becom-

ing a police officer."

She was interest-

ed in beginning her

career as a police

officer in Windham

because there was

"The overall im-

to be a part of the team," she said. Her most memorable moment so far while working as a Windham police officer began when she received a call during her shift about a phone scam.

"There was an elderly individual who was about to lose a large sum of money," Conti said. "Through an expedited investigation, I was able to intercept the money before it disappeared and return it to the owner. That citizen came into the police sta-

tion that week to thank me for my actions, and it has left a lasting impact on me ever since."

Conti thinks the greatest misconception people may have is that law enforcement and the community are on opposite sides.

"Effective policing works in unison with our community," she said. "Officers often rely on cooperation and trust with residents to keep our neighborhoods safe. Patrol officers spend a lot of time generating documentation and reports. For every incident, officers complete detailed reports that are essential for transparency, accountability, and the justice process. I appreciate this aspect of the job, as it is extremely important and pertains to longer investigations."

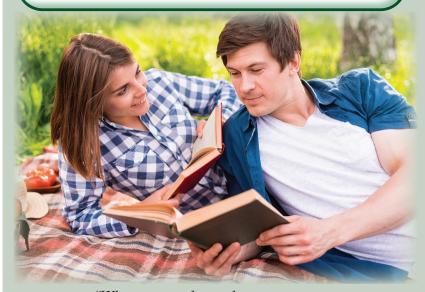
She's proud that her family stands behind her in her career in law enforcement and their encouragement and confidence in her work has allowed her to remain focused and motivated to take on greater challenges.

"I've learned that having resilience as a police officer is not something that you build all on your own," Conti said. "It is about having the strength to show up with dedication as we continue moving forward as a team. Being a part of a police department is not an individual task, and to ensure overall effectiveness, it involves extensive trust, support, and teamwork. I'm very grateful for the fellow officers I get to work beside daily. <

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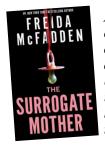
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# MSSPA to host annual 'Focus on the Farm' celebration

The Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals (MSSPA) is once again rolling out the welcome mat for its signature fundraising event, Focus on the Farm. The evening gathering, which highlights the organization's life-saving work with horses, will be held at the River Road farm on Sunday, September 14 and promises a mix of art, food, and community spirit.

Over the past year, 25 photographers from across Maine and beyond have visited the Windham farm, turning their lenses toward the horses who call the sanctuary home. Their images capture the essence of the MSSPA's mission—rescuing, rehabilitating, and caring for horses that

have suffered from neglect or abuse. More than 80 of these photographs will be showcased during the event and offered for purchase through a silent auction.

"This is one of our favorite times of year," said an MSSPA representative. "It's a chance to share

the beauty of the farm, the incredible work being done here, and the stories of the horses themselves. Every bid, every ticket, directly supports the animals."

The event begins at 4 p.m., with on-site parking available for guests. Upon arrival, attendees will check

> in, receive a bidding number, and have the opportunity to explore the farm. Visitors can stroll through the scenic 124-acre property, meet members of the

The public will be able to participate in a silent auction of photographs of horses cared for by the Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals during an annual fundraising event called 'Focus on the Farm' on Sunday, Sept. 14.



TO BUY TICKETS SCAN HERE

herd—currently numbering about 40 horses—and enjoy the sense of community that has become a hallmark of this annual celebration.

Food and drink will add to the festive atmosphere. Blue Elephant Catering will provide an array of dishes, while

The Roaming Speakeasy, a mobile bar cleverly housed in a converted horse trailer, will be serving beverages throughout the evening. Once guests have mingled and explored the grounds, the gathering will move to the farm's indoor arena. The arena, with its soft footing, will serve as the central hub for the silent auction and other activities. Organizers encourage creative attire under the theme "barn chore formal," reminding attendees to wear sturdy footwear suitable for walking around the farm. "Save your stilettos for another event," the Society jokes in its invitation.

Tickets for Focus on the Farm are \$50 per person. Purchase at www.ms-spa.org/focus-on-the-farm. <





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# Lake Region Community Chorus searches for new singers

If you love to sing and want to make beautiful music with fellow choral music lovers, please join the Lake Region Community Chorus for its 2025 Winter Session.

This exciting singing group is made up of about 60 members from 12 surrounding towns in the Lake Region. The first rehearsal for the chorus will be on Monday, Sept. 8, in the Twitchell Chapel at the Bridgton Academy in North Bridgton. There are no auditions but some experience in choral singing and reading music would be helpful.

The Lake Region Community Chorus will be conducted by Jan Jukkola and Susan Stockwell and accompanied by Patrick Speckamp. This fall it welcomes Sopranos, Altos, Tenors, and Bass singers from throughout the Sebago Lakes Region of Maine. Programs are made up of a variety of pieces from many musical genres and styles.

"There is something for everyone and we want to make sure our singers and audiences have a very enjoyable time at rehearsals and performances," said Jukkola.

Chorus rehearsals are scheduled from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Monday evenings. Registration begins at 6 p.m. on Sept. 8, and there is a \$30 registration fee to help cover the cost of the music. Registration for new members will also be conducted on Monday, Sept. 15.

Lake Region Community Chorus concerts will be performed at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, and at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7.

The chorus is a vibrant and dynamic non-profit organization providing choral programs for the Lakes Region of Maine community. Its history is short because it's a relatively new organization. The chorus had its first meeting in February 2013 to discuss the possibility of forming a choral group in the Lakes Region.

It was amazing how quickly everything seemed to come together, and with Laurie Turley as its original conductor, chorus members performed their first concert in June 2013. Since then, the original group of 36 singers has grown with each season.

The LRCC is a community of voices joined together in song and its purpose is to provide an opportunity for individuals with an interest in singing to share their love of choral music through regularly scheduled rehearsals that will culminate in community and outreach performances. It also strives to enhance each member's ability to sing by teaching vocal exercises and techniques and to enrich their choral ex-

perience by providing a wide variety of musical selections that will increase their knowledge and appreciation of choral literature.

Each year the Lake Region Community Chorus performs two concerts with one in early December and features seasonal holiday music, while the other is a springtime concert generally falling in mid-May.

With the generous support of Bridgton Academy, the concerts are performed by the chorus in the Twitchell Chapel on the Bridgton Academy campus in North Bridgton.

All the chorus members would like to thank the Bridgton Academy for their help and support and providing them with rehearsal space and a concert venue. They would also like to thank their enthusiastic audiences and local sponsors for making this such a worthwhile experience.

Each Lake Region Community Chorus concert is free but donations to help cover the expense of music and operating costs will be gratefully accepted.

If interested, come and join the Lake Region Community Chorus, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. as they lift their voices in song. This year's Winter Concert is sure to be remembered long after the final chords sound.

To participate, contact Jukkola for more details by email at musicsix@ cox.net or call 207-647-2584 or visit the Lake Region Community Chorus website at lakeregioncommunitychorus.org <



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# A donation for children



Members of VFW Post 10643 in Windham gather to present a check for \$1,000 to Manchester School for the purpose of upgrading and replacing sports equipment for the students. Past Post 10643 Commander Willie Goodman presented the check on behalf of the VFW to Windham Veterans Center Building Manager David Langway, who works in the RSU 14 school system. From left are VFW Post 10643 members Jerry Black, Chip Amergian, Willie Goodman, David Langway, Craig Pride, David Rendall and Carl Coleman. SUBMITTED PHOTO





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# **Discovering good fortune(s)**

# By Andy Young STAFF COLUMNIST

Recently while in the midst of yet another abortive attempt to de-clutterize my living space, I picked up a piggy bank I found hidden under some old shirts in the back of a seldom-opened drawer. However, when I shook it, I didn't hear coins jingling, but rather paper rustling. I briefly found myself hoping I had stumbled onto a cache of \$20 bills I had squirreled away and forgotten about some years before, but it turned out what was producing the noise was something even more valuable: a veritable

gold mine of good fortune!

Or, more accurately, good fortunes. Seventy-nine of them, in fact. Years (or perhaps decades) ago I began saving the messages from inside the cookies my dinner companions and I polished off after finishing our Chinese takeout.

Sadly though, not every fortune comes to fruition. For example, one that said, "August will bring you financial success," has yet to do me much good, although to be fair, it didn't specify in which year I'd be moving up a tax bracket or two. Oth-

→ see **FORTUNE** Page 21





American Legion Field-Allen Post 148 hosted a Spaghetti Dinner open to the public on Saturday, Aug. 16 at the Windham Veterans Center to help raise money for the Everlasting Gratitude Wreath Program sponsored by the Legion. Every Christmas season, the Windham Everlasting Gratitude Wreath Program provides more than a thousand wreaths adorned with red, white, and blue ribbons for placement on veteran's graves in town. Proceeds from the dinner were donated to support this noteworthy program. SUBMITTED PHOTO

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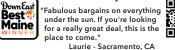






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and recent projects. This not only helps you write a stronger application but also prepares you to answer interview questions confidently.

3. Showcase Achievements, Not Just Duties - Instead of listing what you were responsible for, focus on results. Use numbers or examples (e.g.,

"Increased sales by 20%" or "Led a team of 5 to complete projects ahead of schedule").

4. Highlight your soft skills -Employers value qualities like communication, teamwork, adaptability, and problem-solving just as much as technical skills, so be sure to showcase them with real examples. Only include personal interests if they add value.



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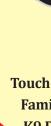


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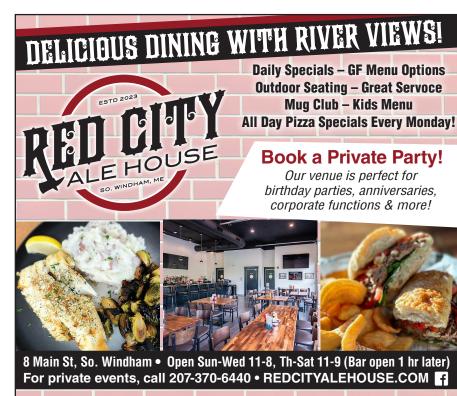
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The Windham Eagle Page 19

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**2007 Glastron GXL205 Bowrider – \$19,900** *VolvoPenta 5.0L I/O engine, Trailer, Covers* 

2007 Stingray 195LX Bowrider – \$14,990 Merc 4.3L V6 I/O engine, Trailer, Covers

2006 Crest 25 LSTX Pontoon - \$14,900

2017 Suzuki 140HP 4-Stroke, O/B engine, Trailer, Bimini

2003 Chaparral 210SS Bowrider – \$14,900 5.0L Merc I/O, Nice Canvas, Super Clean

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# Submissions open for statewide housing design contest

The Maine Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA Maine) has announced the launch of its 207 Home: Design Competition, aimed at identifying innovative and sustainable housing solutions to address community needs across Maine.

The competition is open to Maine

design firms, professionals, residents and students enrolled in Maine high schools or colleges to submit visionary housing designs through Nov. 14, 2025.

Thanks to a generous AARP Community Challenge Grant, this design contest is intended to spark innovation

to improve Maine communities for people of all ages. Participants are encouraged to submit creative proposals for built environments that address the diverse housing needs of underserved communities, considering factors such as age, ability, income, and other significant community housing challenges.

The competition aligns with recent legislative advances in Maine – notably LD 2003, which promotes Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), and LD 1829, which allows greater flexibility for constructing one- to three-family homes on residential lots. The contest aims to showcase innovative solutions that help communities visualize practical, affordable, and inclusive housing

options that support aging in place.

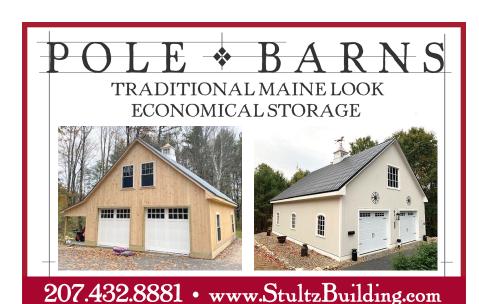
Submissions may include new work or previously designed or built projects. This year's competition will also feature online educational sessions on accessibility, aging in place, and an innovative housing community currently under construction in Maine.

Entries will be evaluated by a panel of expert judges across four award categories: Professional, Public, Student – University, and Student – High School. Cash prizes will be awarded to winners in each category.

For the full schedule and complete contest details, submission guidelines, and additional info, visit www.aiamaine.org/aarp-contest. <



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FORTUNE Cont. from page 14

er date-specific messages included, "An exciting opportunity will knock on your door this Friday," "An act of kindness on a Saturday will have a ripple effect," and "Your career will take a positive turn in April."

If you eat enough fortune cookies, it's inevitable you'll start getting some repeat messages. For example, I have two separate fortunes that declare, "A secret admirer will soon send you a sign of affection." I'm not sure which one to believe: the one printed in red ink or the one in blue, so I logically kept both of them. I also have two fortunes that say, "August will bring you unexpected surprises." But that one doesn't really excite me, because really, aren't all surprises unexpected?

I'm convinced some people who write those fortunes are moonlighting from their regular job of author-



ing the daily horoscope that runs in newspapers. I swear I've read "The time is right to make new friends, "This is the month that ingenuity stands high on the list," and "Your hard work will lead to greater happiness" before; the only question is which of the 12 signs of the zodiac these generic lines were written about.

Evidently some amateur philosophers are employed as fortune providers. Anyone who can write, "There is no cosmetic for beauty like happiness," "It is easier to fight for principles than it is to live up to them," or "Those who love rumors hate a peaceful life," clearly possesses insightfulness that many of the rest of us do not.

It's also likely that some folks who currently churn

out fortunes for a living aspire to be comedy writers. That would explain, "Don't worry about the world coming to an end; it's already tomorrow in Australia," "A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory," and "Oops......Wrong cookie."

Some fortunes just defy explanation, like, "You are the mast of every

situation." The author of that one is probably still learning English. The same goes for whoever wrote "Une personne que vous connaissez attend votre louange." Fortunately. that one had a translation on the back ("Someone you know is waiting for your praise").

I'm not sure if keeping those fortunes guarantee that they'll come true, but throwing them out would almost certainly negate whatever magic they might possess. Those tiny pieces of paper aren't taking up much space, and who knows, maybe one of these days a secret admirer will send me a sign of affection, in either red or blue ink

That would be most delightful.

Not to mention, an unexpected surprise. <





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# Varsity football showcases skills in preseason scrimmage

### By Matt Pascarella

STAFF WRITER

Windham varsity football took the field against Kennebunk at Kennebunk High School on Saturday, Aug. 23 in preparation for the upcoming regular season.

This was a controlled scrimmage, which is more of a practice session, than a game. Players and coaches improve skills and techniques through various plays, while evaluating performances as the Eagles worked in a competitive environment to be the strongest they can when it comes time for the start of the regular season. While no formal score was kept, Windham crossed into the end zone a significant amount more than the Rams did.

"I think (these scrimmages) help us a lot," said Windham sophomore and quarterback Patrick Davenport. "Being able to see defenses and just getting live reps is definitely great. I got a lot better at reading defense today. I'm making reads off, handing the ball off from my running back. Defense (needs work), getting hats to ball, breaking down trying to make tackles better - we had too many missed tackles today, myself included and we got to fix that."

WHS varsity head football coach Matt Perkins said the team had good speed but needed to continue to work on tackling and getting off the ball up front. While he was pleased with the team's offense speed, he said they need to do a better job sustaining their blocks. Perkins said Windham made a lot of good plays.

Last year, Windham lost 10 se-





(L to R) Windham senior Ethan Nguyen makes a tackle during a varsity football preseason controlled scrimmage against Kennebunk at Kennebunk High School on Saturday, Aug. 23. Sophomore Jordan Pastore makes his way around opponents. PHOTOS BY MATT PASCARELLA

niors, but few were starters, and a lot of last year's team have returned this year, so they're having no problem reallocating senior-led positions.

"We all surprised ourselves," said Windham junior Parker Sperry. "Coming into this season, no one really knew how we were going to be, but I think after this scrimmage we've definitely shown massive improvements and I'm very excited about the season. What went well was our team comradery has gotten so much better compared to last year. I think we're all just working so hard as a team in practice; the whole offensive line and everyone on the offense and defense is just giving everything they have in every play."

Junior Colin McKenna said these scrimmages are a good opportunity to put what they work on in practice into play. He felt like everybody put in a lot of effort and every play meant a lot to everybody – they didn't take any plays off.

Davenport, Sperry and McKenna each agreed it's going to be a good

season; and Windham can go out there and beat anyone they want.

"Got to finish tackles and got to finish blocks," said Perkins. "We got to continue to break down, but I thought our pass game was pretty good, quarterbacks did pretty well, receivers did a good job on the routes finishing. I saw a lot of productive things for sure."

the kickoff at 6 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 29 against Sanford. The Eagles will face Portland in the regular season home opener on Sept. 12, with kickoff at 7 p.m. <

play an exhibition game at home with



Windham

will Junior Parker Sperry moves the ball forward.

### **Charlotte Brown**

Age: 10 Team: Windham Youth Soccer Association

Parents' names: Kristy and Ryan Brown

**Reason for selection:** Charlotte's always giving 100 percent and has a great attitude on and off the field. Charlotte is not selfish with the ball. She's very gener-

al outcome during a game. She leads by example and always goes out of her way to motivate players. One of the most telling signs of her passion is the first question she asks when coming off the field: "When can I go back in?" Her eagerness to contribute and her impressive game instincts make her a standout player. Charlotte's soccer IQ and natural feel for the game are remarkable, and her presence elevates the entire team.



Fifth Grade travel team

Coach: Geoff Sparrow

ous with plays and always looking to do what is best

for the team. Charlotte cares more about team outcome as opposed to person-

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# Parks and Rec candlepin bowling group fun for all ages

By Matt Pascarella

Windham Parks and Recreation began a candlepin bowling group earlier this year that is open to everyone and meets once a month. This group is a great way to meet new people. It's not competitive and the participants are very encouraging of one another. The group had their monthly outing at Westport Bowling Lanes in Westbrook on Tuesday, Aug. 26.

"I like it, it's good exercise," said Windham resident Jean Lake. "It's fun, we all enjoy each other's company. Being out with people and getting exercise. Windham Parks and Recreation have a lot to offer – it's just a matter of choosing what you want to do."

The candlepin bowling group began in May of this year and is without a doubt a success. Windham Parks and Recreation's Adult Recreation Coordinator Maria Goodstein said she was trying to think of different activities that the program could do that incorporated exercise with socialization. The program already has a fitness class, so this was a natural progression.

"Everybody can enjoy it; I think it's fantastic," said Goodstein. "I'd like to grow the group a little bit more ... (Windham Parks and Recreation) have something for everybody, it doesn't matter your ability, we're just here to have fun; I don't want people to stay away because they are intimated, or they feel they're not as good as everybody else."

Candlepin varies from 10-pin bowling in that you throw three smaller bowling balls instead of two large bowling balls. Candlepin pins are narrower than the 10-pin ones.

"I used to bowl a lot when I was a kid ... used to bowl 10-pin too," said Windham resident Rick Varney. "I've been retired for eight years, being around people, getting to know different people around town ... I like to be as active as I can be. We're a very friendly bunch, we're only here





Windham residents Cindy Moxcey, left, and Jean Lake give the ball some speed and centers it during a Windham Parks and Recreation candlepin bowling outing at Westport Bowling Lanes in Westbrook on Tuesday, Aug. 26. PHOTOS BY MATT PASCARELLA

to have a good time, nobody takes it real seriously. Try any of the activities (Windham Parks and Recreation offer), you might find out you like it; I'd encourage anybody to try it – we're just here to have fun, that's all."

Some participants bowl to improve their game, while others bowl for exercise and socialization. Windham resident Cindy Moxcey is trying to get better and learn more about the game.

"I love to bowl; when I was younger, I used to bowl all the time," said Windham resident Claire Cressey. "(This group) makes us laugh and get

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together. It's just for fun, just being good friends. This is the best thing for an older person to do, because it gets you out of the house, make friends and have a lot of good times."

Beverly Miller, a Windham resident, said she joined the group because she needed exercise. For her, what's fun about the group is cheering

everybody on. Miller said she used to bowl candlepin when she was in high school. She encourages anyone to join; it's great exercise and nice to be around people.

While candlepin bowling session I has ended, the group's Session II begins on Sept. 2 and runs through December. FMI call 207-892-1905. <



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# **BRIEFS**

### **BBQ Supper**

The Casco Village Church, United Church of Christ will host a "Summer BBQ Picnic Supper" from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 30 at the church, 941 Meadow Road, Casco. This supper will feature chicken, pork, hamburgers, hotdogs, baked beans, salads, watermelon and homemade desserts. FMI, call 207-627-4282.

### Charity Motorcycle Ride

KSU4KIN (Kickstands Up for Kids in Need) will have its first charity ride hosted by We Clothe Kids, a STEADFAST RC charitable mission starting at noon on Saturday, Aug. 30 and leaving from 375 Riverside St. in

### **Notice of Public Sale**

Wed., Sept. 17, 2025 @ 11am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to CARYN COLLINS

**ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE** 627 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, ME

Portland. This ride is for those who remember what it felt like to head to school without a proper jacket or had to wear the same shirt three days in a row. Every dollar raised goes toward brand-new clothing for Maine children in need. No used hand-medowns. No charity overhead. FMI, visit steadfastrc.com

### **Author Appearance**

Author Eoin Higgins will discuss his book "Owned: How Tech Billionaires on the Right Bought the Loudest Voices on the Left" from 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 3 at the Windham Public Library, 217 Windham Center Road in Windham. Higgins will detail how the new right-wing alternative media ecosystem was developed, who stands to benefit from it, and what comes next. Other topics will include the Trump administration's



policies, resistance efforts from liberal institutions, and tech policy. Participants have the choice of attending for free in-person or by ZOOM. FMI, call Ray at 207-892-1908.

### **Hike for Austin**

Same-day registration to participate in the Hike for Austin will be 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 6 at the Douglas Mountain Trailhead in

Sebago. Proceeds will be donated to the Woodbury Family of Windham, whose son Austin, 18, has been diagnosed with Stage 3 Mature B-cell Lymphoma and is undergoing treatment. Snacks and water will be provided to hikers, and the first 50 hikers/donors will receive a free T-shirt inscribed "Summit for Austin." FMI, or to donate, call 207-615-2433 or send an email to wobrien3006@gmail.com.

# SCHOOL Cont. from page 11

for school-to-home communications including mass notifications and urgent alerts, language translation for multilingual families, and to schedule parent-teacher conferences. The district also uses the Ride 360 app to view a student's transportation assignment or to request changes to a student's scheduled transportation. The Ride 360 app may be downloaded at: MER-SU14.myridek12.tylerapp.com.

Aaron Gant and Sharon Leeman

serve as co-directors of transportation for RSU 14, while Jeanne Reilly is the RSU 14 Director of School Nutrition.

All students attending Windham Christian Academy in kindergarten through Grade 12 will return to classes on Tuesday, Sept. 2. The school offers non-denominational Christian education for students in PreK4 through Grade 12.

Jackie Sands is now in her 13th year of working for Windham Christian Academy and has served as the school's principal since 2018. <

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Wed., Sept. 17, 2025 @ 11am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to WALTER DAVIS

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### **Notice of Public Sale**

Wed., Sept. 17, 2025 @ 11am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to AMBER DEGEN
ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE

ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE 627 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, ME

# LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF RAYMOND, MAINE

# PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC MEETING

Broadcast Studio - 423 Webbs Mills Road and Via ZOOM

### Wednesday, September 10, 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, September 10, 2025, at 7:00 pm** on the following matters:

- **1.** Board discussion with Town Attorney and Review of latest Draft of STR Ordinance
- 2. Review Draft of Marijuana Regulation Ordinance

### APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT TO SITE PLAN REVIEW

**APPLICANT:** Port Harbor Holdings I, LLC

by Rob McSorley, Sebago Technics

LOCATION: Map: 051 Lot: 2 Zone C & LRR1

1326 Roosevelt Trail

**DESCRIPTION:** Amendment to Site Plan Approved

10/09/2024; Finding of Fact Signed 10/23/2024

### APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT TO SITE PLAN REVIEW

**APPLICANT:** Sebago Solar LLC

**LOCATION:** Map: 005 Lot: 27 Zone VR 1

Maisie Drive

**DESCRIPTION:** Amendment to Staff Review Site Plan

Approved 11/04/2021; Revised 07/25/2023 Finding of Fact Signed 08/01/2023

- **5.** Board discussion of rescheduling November 2025 Meeting ad Scheduling January 2026 Meeting
- **6.** Workshop to discuss Banquet Halls

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/82850101237?pwd= DkOID2esJsSmbEbaxrwXStaTZIzdib.1 Meeting ID: 828 5010 1237 Passcode: 3jX9Eb **Notice of Public Sale** 

Wed., Sept. 17, 2025 @ 11am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to JESSICA FANNING

**ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE** 627 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, ME

# **Notice of Public Sale**Wed. Sept. 17, 2025 @ 11am

Wed., Sept. 17, 2025 @ 11am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to DUANE GREENE

ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE 627 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, ME

### **Notice of Public Sale**

Wed., Sept. 17, 2025 @ 11am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to ADAM POWERS

**ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE** 627 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, ME

### **Notice of Public Sale**

Wed., Sept. 17, 2025 @ 11am of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to TAYLOR WESCOTT

**ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE** 627 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, ME

### **Notice of Public Sale**

Wed., Sept. 16, 2025 @ 1:00pm

of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to NICHOLE ALLEN

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724 Narragansett Trail, Buxton, ME

### **Notice of Public Sale**

Wed., Sept. 16, 2025 @ 1:00pm

of the household items & contents of a storage unit belonging to JUSTIN BERRY

ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE - BUXTON -

724 Narragansett Trail, Buxton, ME

### **Notice of Public Sale**

Wed., Sept. 16, 2025 @ 1:00pm

of the household items & contents
of a storage unit belonging to
PHILIP GALARNEAU
ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE

**– BUXTON –** 724 Narragansett Trail, Buxton, ME

### **Notice of Public Sale**

Wed., Sept. 16, 2025

@ 1:00pm
of the household items & contents

of the household items & contents
of a storage unit belonging to

JANET LITTLEFIELD

ROOSEVELT SELESTORAGE

ROOSEVELT SELF STORAGE
- BUXTON -

724 Narragansett Trail, Buxton, ME

The Windham Eagle Page 25

# **Navigating insurance challenges for Short Term Rental** properties in Maine's booming vacation market

By Tricia Zwirner
SPECIAL TO THE WINDHAM EAGLE



Maine has long been a cherished vacation destination, known for its rugged coastline, picturesque lighthouses, charming small

Tricia Zwirner, State Farm towns and abundant natural beauty. In recent years, the surge in popularity of Short-Term Rental (STR) platforms like Airbnb and VRBO has transformed the state's vacation property market. Homeowners across Maine are increasingly capitalizing on this trend by renting out their properties to visitors seeking authentic, local experiences. While this boom presents lucrative opportunities, it also introduces unique insurance challenges that STR owners must navigate carefully to protect their investments and mitigate risks.

The Rise of STRs in Maine: Maine's tourism industry is thriving, with millions of visitors flocking to the state each year. Many travelers prefer the comfort, privacy, and local flavor of STR homes over traditional hotels. This shift has encouraged many Maine homeowners, from coastal cottages to mountain cabins, to enter the STR market. The financial incentives are clear: STRs often generate higher income than long-term leases, or leaving a property vacant.

However, this growing market segment comes with complex insurance needs that differ significantly from those of traditional homeowners or landlords. Understanding these nuances is critical for property owners, insurance agents, and brokers alike.

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Coverage Gaps in Traditional Homeowner Policies: One of the biggest challenges for STR property owners is that most standard homeowner insurance policies do not adequately cover the risks associated with renting out a property on an STR basis. Many policies explicitly exclude coverage for commercial activities, including STRs, or limit coverage if the property is rented for fewer than 30 days.

This means that if a renter causes property damage, or if a guest is injured on the premises, the homeowner's insurance may deny claims related to the rental activity. The financial consequences can be severe, including outof-pocket repair costs, liability claims, or even legal expenses.

**Increased Liability Exposure: STRs** inherently carry higher liability risks compared to owner-occupied homes. The frequent turnover of guests increases the likelihood of accidents, property damage, or negligent behavior. Common risks include slip-and-fall injuries, fire hazards from unfamiliar appliances, pet-related incidents, and damage caused by parties or over-occupancy.

Additionally, STR owners may face liability claims if guests injure themselves or others, or if their personal belongings are stolen or damaged during a stay. Without proper insurance coverage tailored to STRs, owners could be financially vulnerable.

### **Specialized Insurance Solutions**

Recognizing the unique risks of STRs, many insurers have developed specialized insurance products designed specifically for this market. These policies typically offer broader coverage than standard homeowner's insurance, including:

• Protection for property damage caused by guests

- Liability coverage for guest injuries and property damage to third parties
- Coverage for lost rental income due to covered damages or cancellations
- Optional coverage for contents and personal belongings used in the rental

Some insurers also provide STR endorsements that can be added to existing homeowners policies, bridging the coverage gap without requiring a separate policy.

For Maine property owners, working with an insurance agent knowledgeable about STR insurance is essential. Agents can help assess risks, recommend appropriate coverage limits and find policies that comply with lender requirements.

Risk Management and Best Practices: It's recommended Maine STR owners adopt proactive risk management strategies to reduce the likelihood of claims:

- Screen Guests Carefully: Use platform tools and personal vetting to select responsible renters.
- Maintain the Property: Regular inspections and upkeep of safety features like smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, and secure railings reduce accident risks.
  - Clear House Rules: Establish and

communicate rules about noise, occupancy, pets and use of amenities to prevent damage and nuisance complaints.

- Emergency Preparedness: Provide guests with clear instructions for emergencies and contact information.
- Documentation: Keep detailed records of property condition before and after rentals and document any incidents promptly.

Maine's booming STR market offers exciting opportunities for property owners to generate income and share the state's charm with visitors. However, it also introduces complex insurance challenges that require careful attention. Traditional homeowner's insurance often falls short in covering the unique risks of STRs, leaving owners exposed to potentially significant financial losses.

By understanding these risks, seeking specialized insurance products and implementing sound risk management practices, Maine STR owners can safeguard their investments and enjoy the benefits of this dynamic market. Insurance professionals play a vital role in guiding clients through these complexities, helping to create a more resilient and prosperous STR industry across the Pine Tree State.

This article was brought to you by Tricia Zwirner, a State Farm agent celebrating her 22nd year in Windham. <



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

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# PLEASE NOTE: FOOD AND GAMES FEATURE ALTERNATES WITH MOVIE REVIEW

### HE WINDHAM EAGLE'S

# ooking

By Angela Paris

SPECIAL TO THE WINDHAM EAGLE • JUGGLINGACTMAMA.COM

### **Chicken Bacon Pasta**

This creamy Chicken Bacon Pasta is a quick and comforting weeknight dinner loaded with tender chicken, crispy bacon, and a rich Parmesan garlic sauce. Pair this dish with a crisp green salad or roasted veggies to cut through the richness, and you've got a full, satisfying meal that comes together fast. Serves 8

### **INGREDIENTS**

16 oz penne pasta or other short pasta kosher salt & black pepper to taste 12 strips bacon, chopped 2 tablespoons olive oil 4 cups boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cubed

4 cloves fresh garlic, minced 1 cup chicken broth

2 cups heavy cream

1 cup fresh Parmesan cheese

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil and cook the pasta according to instructions on the package until al dente. Drain and set aside.

While the pasta is cooking, heat a large skillet over medium heat and cook the chopped bacon until crispy. Remove the cooked bacon to a paper towel lined plate. Reserve 2 tablespoons of bacon fat in the pan. To the bacon fat, add the olive oil and the cubed chicken. Season with salt and pepper and cook until browned, about 6-8 minutes. Remove the chicken from the pan and set aside. Add the fresh garlic to the same pan. Cook 1 minute until the garlic starts to

become golden in color and fragrant. Deglaze the pan with chicken stock, using a wooden spoon to get all the browned bits off the bottom of the pan - these are tiny flavor bombs! Once the liquid is simmering, add the heavy cream.

Cook for 3-4 minutes until the sauce thickens a little bit. Return the chicken to the pan and add the pasta. Toss with the sauce, then add the cheese and bacon pieces. Taste for seasoning, and additional salt or pepper if desired.

TIP: Fresh Parmesan makes all the difference! It melts beautifully into the sauce, delivering richer flavor and smoother texture compared to pre-grated varieties

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### **LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS**

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# 18 24 44 48 50 56 61 62 66

### **CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Martial arts in China
- 6. The butt of jokes
- 12. Nevertheless
- 16. Sportscaster Michaels
- 17. A firm believer 18. Atomic #18
- 19. One's bestie
- 20. Of I
- 21. Hamburger accessory 22. Thus
- 23. Partner to Pa
- 24. Scottish tax
- 26. Cuts away
- 28. Require 30. Government lawyer
- 31. Own (Scottish)
- 32. Body cavity
- 34. Brew
- 35. Young woman (French)
- 37. Platforms
- 39. Pair of points in mathematics

### **CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Ate quickly
- 2. Peyton Manning's alma mater
- 3. Moves through water
- 4. Run away from
- 5. Utah resident
- 6. Natural objects
- 7. Children's game
- 8. Obligation to prove
- 9. Ancient Greek building for performances
- 10. Soldier
- 11. Decorated
- 12. Catches
- 13. Russell , author
- 14. Speak indistinctly
- 15. Students get them
- 25. Japanese warrior 26. Dessert
- 27. Doleful
- 29. Most cushy
- 31. Moon crater

45. Neither 47. The center of a city

43. Make perfect

40. Attack suddenly

41. Aviators

- 48. Sacrifice hit in baseball
- 50. Singer Redding

44. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)

- 52. Dragged forcibly
- 54. Puncture with a knife
- 56. Belonging to me
- 57. Expresses surprise
- 59. Haul
- 60. The Golden State
- 61. Biblical Sumerian city
- 62. Integrated circuit
- 63. Opposed to certain principles
- 66. Sodium 67. Qualities
- 70. Walk
- 71. It awaits us all

### 33. Small evergreen Arabian tree

- 36. Something fugitives are "on"
- 38. 007's creator
- 39. Paintings on hinged panels 41. Type of bomb
- 42. Japanese classical theater
- 43. U.S. gov't department
- 46. Flightless bird
- 47. One who cuts wood or stone
- 49. Buttock and thigh together
- 51. A way to gather
- 53. Body part
- 54. Argentinian city
- 55. Undergarments
- 58. Jai \_\_\_, sport
- 60. Container for shipping
- 64. Type of screen
- 65. Get free of 68. Indicates position
- 69. Business department

### **HOW TO SOLVE:**

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

### LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

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

For the past 40 years, Wheels & Deals Auto Repair Sales and Service of Windham has been a trustworthy resource for reliable auto sales and repairs in the Lakes Region of Maine and that tradition of exceptional customer service continues to this very day.

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body work for minor accidents, **Justin, Tom, and Anthony.** SUBMITTED PHOTO scratches, dents, or rust repair. They can also assist with fender repairs, tailgate repairs, precise paint matching and headlight replacement. Wheels & Deals handles scheduling and ordering parts to complete autobody repairs, ensuring that your vehicle is inspection-ready and back on the road quickly in a cost-effective way.

If all of that isn't enough, Wheels & Deals also offers light marine maintenance, handling such tasks as changing your boat's engine oil, lubricating fittings, checking the battery and fuel



tempt," Anthony Villacci said. Wheels & Deals Auto Repair has been a Along with sales and service, family-owned and operated shop for over Wheels & Deals also offers auto 40 years by the Villacci family. From left,

> stabilizer, and inspecting the prop shaft by removing the propeller. It can help to avoid breakdowns when launching a boat after a long winter with general maintenance to ensure it's ready for the water.

> "Our commitment is to offer diverse options and exceptional service to meet your needs," Anthony Villacci said.

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"Trust our experience and personalized approach to find the perfect vehicle for you," Anthony Villacci said.

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To learn more about Wheels & Deals Auto Repair Sales and Service, visit them online at wheelsanddealsautoinc.com or call 207-892-0800. Find them on Facebook under Wheels & Deals Auto Repair Sales & Service. <

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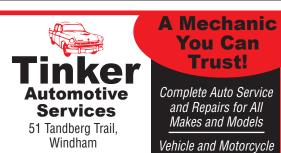
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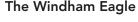
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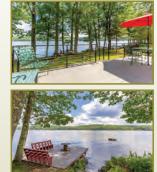


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