THE WINDHAM EAGLE

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EPA warns of eating fish caught near Windham's Keddy Mill Superfund Site

By Ed Pierce
STAFF WRITER

Because of the presence of hazardous chemicals called PCBs in sediments resulting in impacts to fish tissue, the Environmental Protection Agency is advising the public not to eat fish from the "Target Reach" of the Presumpscot River between Little Falls and Mallison Falls near the Keddy Mill Superfund Site in South Windham until a comprehensive remedial action there has been completed.

According to an update from the EPA, pending completion of the remedial action, reduction of risks posed by contaminated fish consumption will be achieved using Institutional Controls such as fishing restrictions, fish consumption advisories and engineering controls such as signage to prevent contaminated fish consumption.

"Following the collection and analysis of supplemental fish tissue samples in July 2025, EPA worked with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP) and Maine Center for Disease Control & Prevention (Maine CDC) to determine an appropriate fish advisory," the bulletin reads. In August 2026, a "Do Not Eat" guideline was posted on the Maine Department of Health & Human Services website for the segment of the Presumpscot River between the Little Falls Dam and the Mallison Falls Dam. EPA will continue to work with various stakeholders to update and enhance engineering controls at the Superfund site adjacent to the Presumpscot River.



The Environmental Protection Agency is advising residents not to eat fish caught in the Presumpscot River near the Keddy Mill Superfund Site in South Windham because of the presence of hazardous chemicals called PCBs there. PHOTO BY ED PIERCE

Polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs, are a group of man-made organic chemicals consisting of carbon, hydrogen and chlorine atoms. PCBs do not readily break down once in the environment and can remain for long periods cycling between air, water and soil. The types of PCBs likely to be bioaccumulated in fish and bound to sediments are the most carcinogenic and studies have shown direct links to cancer.

Manufacturing of PCBs and importation was banned in the U.S. in 1979 based on mounting evidence that they were toxic to human health and the envi-

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WHS senior reflects on yearlong exchange in Japan

By Lorraine Glowczak
STAFF WRITER

Some people spend years searching for their passion but for one Windham High School (WHS) senior, the thought of experiencing a way of life in another country began at a very early age.

Drawn to Japanese culture, Kate Lopes had a dream that went beyond learning about a different country. She wanted to experience its culture firsthand and did so last year by participating in an exchange program that took her through a full year of high school in Kamakura, a town that is about an hour directly south of Tokyo.

"It all began in seventh grade," Lopes said. "I had always wanted something different and felt a strong connection to Japanese culture. I knew I wanted to be an exchange student, so I started taking steps around 11 years old to learn more about it. The biggest decision was how long I wanted to stay. I considered a summer program, a semester and a full academic year, but decided that a year felt right. I really wanted to experience daily life in Japan, and I felt that anything shorter would only scratch the surface. I wouldn't get to experience everything I truly wanted to if I didn't participate in a full year."

The preparation to reach this goal included studying the language. When Lopes was a freshman, she decided to participate in WHS's Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) program where she could learn the language.



Windham High School senior Kate Lopes, left, shares an opportunity of a lifetime by spending a full year in a Japanese Exchange Program. Lopes is shown with her host Japanese family. SUBMITTED PHOTO

"We don't have a Japanese studies program at WHS, so I asked one of our World Language Department Chairs, Ms. [Tianna] Burton about how I could go about learning the language." Lopes said. "She suggested reaching out to our ELO coordinator, Ms. [Lorraine] Glowczak and it was there I was introduced to the The Language Exchange program based out of Portland."

Through the ELO and The Language Exchange programs, Lopes got to learn the basics of the Japanese language from a teacher who was born in Japan but now lives in Maine.

"Having this background knowledge was very helpful and prepared me for my experience, but I discovered that speaking it in everyday situations was difficult," Lopes said. "By having this immersive experience, I was eventually able to talk with others in the context of daily life."

Lopes learned about the cultural differences, and experienced surprising discoveries while living everyday life in Japan.

"The walkability really stood out to me," she said. "The infrastructure is built around the city, making it easy to get from place to place. The train stations even have shopping malls, and there's food available within walking distance. Everyone uses bikes, including electric bikes to get up the hills, and you can get almost anywhere by foot."

Attending a private school rather than a public school, Lopes said that her educational experience may be different from the American perspective of Japanese education.

"People often think teachers in Japan are really strict, but they also know how to make learning fun," she said. "The classes were lecture-based, but the teachers had fun personalities, and we were allowed to joke around and chat during instruction. The atmosphere was more relaxed and casual than I expected."

Lopes said the classes were big, with about 30 to 40 students packed into a room.

"The school day started at 8:25 a.m., with classes running until 3:30 p.m.," she said.

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INSIGHT

Smooth criminal steals the show (Shamone)

Halloween has always been a favorite for me as an adult because I could act silly while wearing creative costumes. Over the years, I've been an angry nun, an old woman on a walker, Kosmo Kramer, a pirate, a pregnant bride, Flava Flav, and even O.J. Simpson. But the costume that brought the house down, without question, was Michael Jackson.

It was 2004 and the daily newspaper that I worked for in Florida would offer a Halloween costume contest for employees on Halloween each year. Staff members would take time to put on a costume and march in a parade around the newspaper building including visiting the newsroom, advertising, circulation, the pressroom and the publisher's office. At the end of the parade, everyone would gather outside the cafeteria, and prizes would be awarded for the best costume by the Human Resources staff.

That year, I chose to create a costume of Michael Jackson, who spent most of that year appearing in court in California, charged with criminal behavior toward children. Televised coverage of his bizarre courthouse arrivals wearing pajamas or dancing on top of the limousine he rode in for pre-trial activities were borderline comedic in my opinion, so I thought that he would be a great celebrity to lampoon in the newspaper costume contest.

I leaned heavily on my soon-to-be wife Nancy for advice on how to put together the costume. She suggested that we start creating the costume by visiting a nearby thrift shop, and it yielded my first part of the MJ wardrobe, the black fedora hat for $4.

On our next trip to a local flea market, I purchased a pair of used black sunglasses for 50 cents. At a neighborhood garage sale, I found a pair of men's black pants with my correct waist size, but the length came to about my ankles about two inches above my shoes for just $1.

With two weeks left before Halloween, I revisited the original thrift store and was able to buy a cheap pair of black loafers in my size for $2.

My mother contributed to my costume by giving me a leftover painter's mask from when she had the family room repainted by a contractor at her house earlier that fall following some hurricane damage at her home.

Nancy's sister lived on the other side of the state from us and was attending chef school at the time. I had an idea that if she could get me a white chef coat, perhaps Nancy could die it deep red for me in the washing machine for the MJ costume. The weekend before Halloween, Nancy's sister Diane visited us, and brought with her a white chef coat for me.

Two wash cycles using red RIT dye for the chef coat were a disaster though. The red dye somehow became diluted and left the chef coat a shade of pink. We tried washing it again with a different brand of red dye but matter how many times we attempted it, the chef coat remained pink, and I had to accept that my MJ costume would include a pink coat. I also abandoned the idea of adding a white sequined glove because stores in Florida seemed to be out of those items for that Halloween season.

About 10 minutes before the costume contest, I reached under my desk in the newsroom and retrieved the brown paper grocery bag I had stored my costume in. I walked to the men's restroom in the newspaper lobby and changed into the MJ costume.

The receptionist in the lobby started laughing when I emerged as Michael Jackson and so did other newspaper employees when we lined up near the lobby for the costume parade. I was near the end of the parade line and walking past the offices of the newspaper's top editors when I noticed that they found my costume to be humorous. Even the ultra-serious managing editor gave me a thumbs up, one of the few times I ever saw him smile in all the years I worked for the paper.

As the parade moved along, just to liven things up, I attempted to moonwalk and I would occasionally belt out a few "hee-hees" for those watching.

Reaching the judging area, parade participants walked up and down before the judges, and I had a hard time keeping a straight face when I had to reveal my identity by taking off the sunglasses, mask and hat.

When the judging had been completed, I won "Best Costume" and received a restaurant gift certificate for my efforts. I changed back into my street clothes and endured a lot of good-natured Michael Jackson jokes from some of my co-workers for the rest of that afternoon.

Other newspapers that I have worked for during my career have had Halloween costume contests, but none have ever come close to the enthusiasm generated by that event. Each year dozens of employees would plan, create and participate in the contest and they'd have a blast doing it.

A decade ago, I dressed like the character Offred from The Handmaid's Tale television show in another newspaper contest.

Nothing comes close to the MJ costume though. < *~ Ed Pierce*



OCTOBER 23

1850 – The first National Women's Rights Convention opens in Worcester, MA.

1915 – Some 25,000 to 33,000 women march in NYC to advocate for the right to vote.

1929 – Lack of deposit insurance creates widespread failures leading to the Stock Market Crash on Wall Street the following day.

1941 – Walt Disney's animated film Dumbo premieres in theaters across America.

1946 – In NYC, the United Nations General Assembly meets for the first time.

1958 – Scientists at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California discover the element Nobelium.

1962 – The first issue of the comic book The Amazing Spider-Man created by Stan Lee is released by Marvel Comics.

2001 – Apple introduces the first iPod, which ushers in a new era of portable digital media.

ON THE SPOT

Of all your favorite kitchen gadgets or tools, which one gets used the most?

"My coffee brewer for sure." – Bill Keller

"Small rechargeable fan; aimed correctly it can speed a frozen turkey breast thawing, a pan sauce reducing, a layer cake cooling." – Francesco Paredon

"My CUTCO sharp knives and peeler for cukes." – Miki Mayberry

"Steamer pot for vegetables." – William D. Reiner

"My cast iron pan. Over 50 years old." – Julie Mallett

"The air fryer and waffle maker make my life much easier." – Rick Seacroft

"Blender for smoothies." – Sarah Singer-Miller

"My compact supersonic mini chopper." – David W. Tettley

"Having suffered many years from arthritis, I am very appreciative every day for my electric can opener." – Anne Glotschuck

"It's a toss-up between the meat thermometer my daughter gave me last Christmas or my new wire whisk for making scrambled eggs." – Dean A. Smalley

"Coffee and expresso maker." – Chris Macklin

"Electric tea kettle." – Mia Potenzio-Ransey

"I love my food scale because it helps me count calories. I also enjoy having my own baking gloves and French press coffee maker." – Jude Orestes-Sanchez

"Taco holders." – Mitchell B. Robinson

"A tough one but I'd say cheese grater or our griddle." – Deirdre Schulte

"I couldn't survive without my professional chef's knife, cutting board and bread machine." – Oscar F. Kellner

"Salt and pepper grinders." – Richard Heaney

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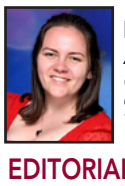
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Eagle NEWS

Survivor becomes advocate for domestic violence

By Erin Rose
STAFF WRITER

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and Windham resident Brittany *(for confidentiality purposes the newspaper is not using her last name)* is using her own experiences as a domestic violence survivor to help others escape their own situation and to advocate for better resources for survivors.

"The outpouring of support I've gotten from stating my truth was empowering," said Brittany, 31, who has found safe shelter with her two children, but is still working to find more formal housing.

"My family has been great support, but not everyone has that," she said, noting her gratitude that her father was able to help her financially, allowing her to remove herself from the area once she had left the person she says abused her.

Domestic violence has been increasing in Maine over the past several years. According to Maine's 15th Biennial Report of the Domestic Abuse Homicide Review Panel, released in 2025, more than half of the state's 18 homicides between January and November 2025 were tied to domestic abuse. In 2023, just a quarter of the homicides across the state were tied to domestic violence, while in 2024, that percentage climbed to nearly half of the 34 homicides that year. According to publicly reported statistics, the Windham Police Department has responded to six incidents of assault, including domestic violence, in the past three months.

The main resource center for victims of domestic violence or abuse in the Windham area is Through These Doors, an organization that provides advocacy, residential services, a 24-hour hotline, and support groups.

"Through These Doors is where my advocates are," Brittany said. "They helped me file the PFA (Protection from Abuse order) and are another voice to call police officers to help support victims as they work their way through the complicated legal process."

The center also operates a 16-bed shelter in Portland (the location is kept private to prevent abusers from finding those who are seeking safety) that provides housing, basic necessities such as food and clothing, safety planning, and referrals to other resources. When full, survivors are pointed to other shelters in the community, including locations in Portland and Bridgton.

Originally named the Family Crisis Shelter, the shelter opened in 1977 to serve victims and survivors of domestic abuse, dating violence, and stalking in Cumberland County. The group's 24-hour helpline, 1-800-537-6066, provides resources and guidance to survivors or other members of the community who are seeking support or to find ways to support a friend, family member or co-worker who may be experiencing domestic violence.

The organization also offers support groups to help people who have or are experiencing abuse which provides a safe place to talk about their situation, connect with other survivors, and to get encouragement.

Another organization that provides support to survivors, is Finding Our Voices, a nonprofit donor-funded organization founded in 2021 that works to complement existing resources for women survivors of intimate partner abuse in the state. Their programs include an online support group, in-person retreats, donated dental care, and financial assistance through their "Get Out Stay Out" program. The group provides funding to help low-income women afford to escape through paying for expenses, including shelter, car rentals, legal support, and cell phones. Caseworkers refer survivors to the program to receive assistance.

"Finding Our Voices provided me

→ see **VIOLENCE** Page 8



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KEDDY Cont. from page 1

ronment.

A note posted on the EPA's New England website in February 2026 says that following regulatory review and revisions, the Pre-design Investigation Report for the Keddy Mill site was conditionally approved by EPA in August 2025. The results of that report will support development of the design to demolish and remove the mill complex.

Design planning including the work schedule, Project Management Plan development and design of the mill building demolition is underway and is expected to be completed by the end of this year. The EPA estimates that Removal Action implementation consisting of mill building demolition will commence following EPA approval of the design submittals and procurement of a construction contractor by late 2026 or early 2027.

Located at 7 Depot St. in South Windham, the Keddy Mill complex includes a 6.93-acre abandoned mill complex property adjacent to the Presumpscot River. The mill building was constructed in the early 1900s although a sawmill existed there previously.

The sawmill closed in 1822, and the Keddy Mill property was then used as a grist and carding mill. In 1875, the Sebago Wood Board Company acquired the mill site and constructed a pulp mill complex, which included a three-story main mill building, machine room, drying rooms, and a wood preparing house. Between the late 1800s and 1922 additional process buildings/facilities were added, including storehouses, a second railroad siding, the finishing and shipping building, a water tank, machine room, and engine room. The mill was used for pulp and box-board manufacturing through the 1940s.

In 1945, the Keddy Mill shifted from manufacturing paper to steel products such as heavy equipment buckets. Scrap metal was transported by rail cars to the mill and melted into steel billets, which were then used to manufacture steel parts.

By the 1960s and early 1970s, manufacturing included flanges and fire suppression materials. EPA officials say that it was during this period that significant disposal of hazardous substances, including harmful PCBs, may have occurred at the site. A large oil-based fire in 1969 damaged the mill complex and destroyed several blast furnaces and by 1974, a scrap recycler launched operations in the mill building. The property was used as a machine shop and for equipment storage until 1997.

In 2014, the Keddy Mill site was placed on the EPA's National Priority List, also known as the Superfund, recognizing it as contaminated and hazardous to human health. In 2023, after years of conducting environmental studies, the EPA Superfund adopted a cleanup and remediation plan based upon an EPA Remedial Investigation Report, human health and ecological risk assessments, the Feasibility Study, and comments received on EPA's Proposed Plan during a 30-day public comment period.

According to the EPA, the Keddy Mill Superfund Site will be cleaned up in multiple phases. The first phase includes demolition and removal of the building, with the potential exception of the westernmost wall, under a Non-Time-Critical Removal Action. Following this work, soil, sediment, and groundwater will be cleaned up under a remedial action. The primary building contaminants which have been determined to exceed acceptable human health standards include PCBs and asbestos.

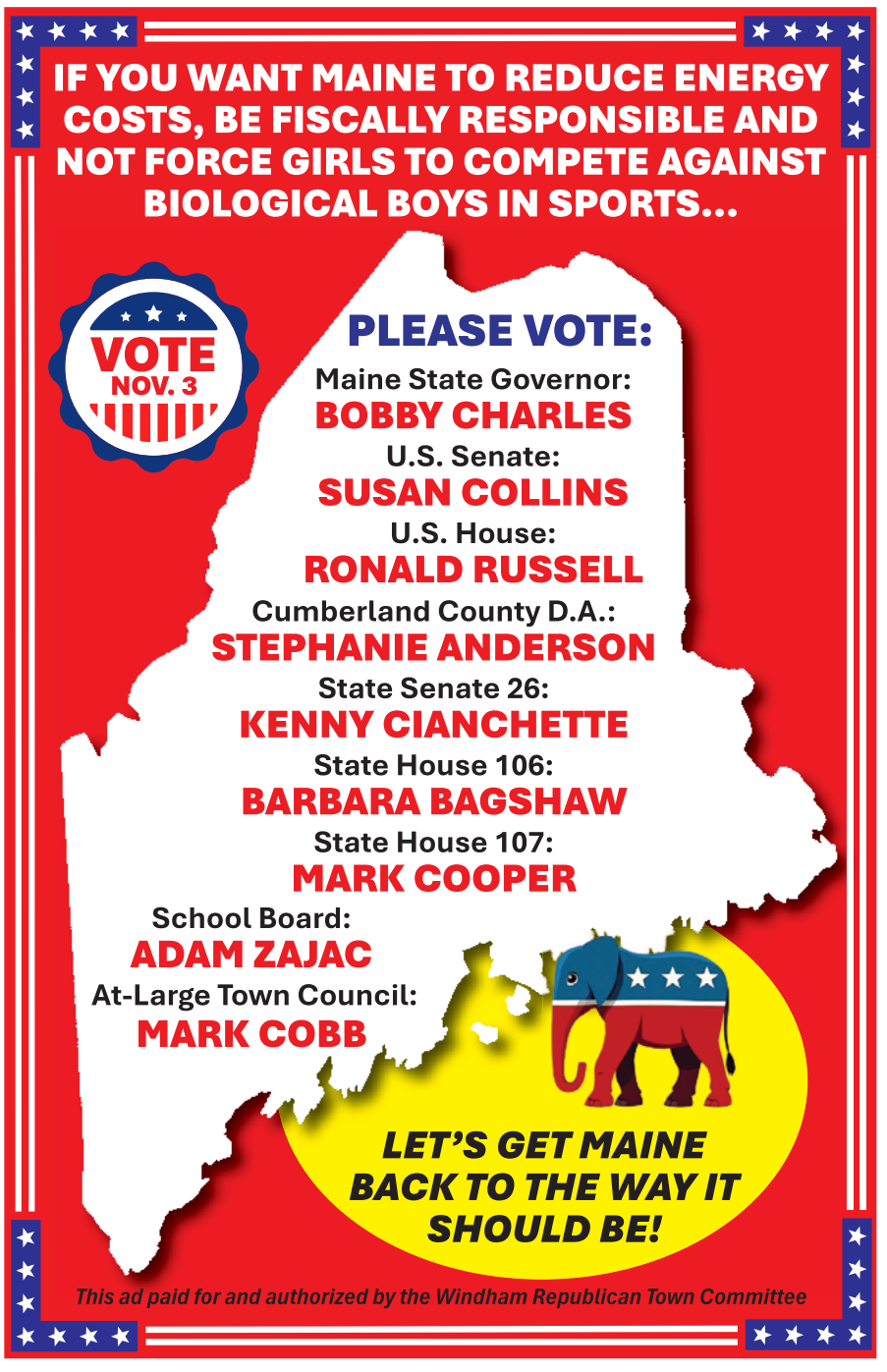
The complex clean-up will take an additional two to four years following the demolition of the Keddy Mill building, EPA officials say. The Superfund Site cleanup involves excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil and debris from the mill property; targeted treatment of soil in support of groundwater cleanup; treatment of groundwater contaminants and contaminated sediments from the Presumpscot River; and restoration of the portions of the Presumpscot River altered by remedial clean-up actions. Once that has been completed, the EPA will mandate land use restrictions to prevent exposure to site-related contaminants in groundwater and fish tissue until clean-up levels are met, and monitoring of groundwater and fish tissue to evaluate the achievement of cleanup levels, followed by Five-Year Reviews to assess the protectiveness of the remedy.

EPA's Superfund is the federal program that investigates and cleans up the most complex, uncontrolled, or abandoned hazardous waste sites in the country to protect human health and the environment.

In December 2025, the Town of Windham and Maine Department of Environmental Protection signed a Declaration of Environmental Covenant, restricting activities associated with the potential for exposure to contaminated groundwater and associated vapors at the 7 Depot St. parcel. Specifically, the Environmental Covenant restricts the installation of wells and use of groundwater, disturbance of existing monitoring wells, discharge or injection of liquids to the subsurface, construction of structures without appropriate sub-slab vapor barriers and ventilation systems, and excavation without approval from the regulatory agencies. The Environmental Covenant runs with the town-owned 7 Depot St. property is for perpetuity unless the appropriate entities agree to amend or terminate the agreement.

Banning consumption of fish caught from the Presumpscot River near the Keddy Mill will play an important role in site remedies because they reduce exposure to contamination by limiting land or resource use, the EPA says. The ban is intended to limit the public's exposure to contaminated groundwater and associated vapor that pose threats to future residents and construction workers until groundwater cleanup levels are achieved and fish tissue within the segment of the Presumpscot River between Little Falls (upstream) and Mallison Falls risk-based standards are achieved.

The total cost of the EPA Superfund cleanup for the Keddy Mill site is expected to be about $17 million. <





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EXCHANGE Cont. from page 1

"We had 10-minute passing periods and 45-minute classes. Extracurricular activities were just as important as academics, with clubs often meeting from 4 to 6 p.m. I had school five days a week, although I knew some students who attended six days. Dinner was usually around 7 p.m."

The biggest takeaway from her experience was how important community and family is to the majority of Japanese people.

"The biggest part of my experience was definitely the sense of belonging and community," Lopes said. "I felt incredibly lucky to be welcomed into the community in the first place, because I knew that being accepted in Japan as a foreigner can be difficult. I never took that welcome for granted and I was always grateful for how kind and accepting people were toward me."

Lopes said that one of her favorite experiences was celebrating New Year's with her host family.

"New Year's Day is a very family-oriented holiday, and it was fun to experience a tradition that is so deeply rooted in Japanese culture," she said. "Being able to take part in that tradition made me feel even more grateful for my host family and for the opportunity to experience their culture firsthand."

Lopes hopes to build a future in Japan through her interest in ceramics. After graduating from WHS in the spring, she plans to attend Southern Maine Community College (SMCC) for two years before pursuing further studies in Kyoto, or seeking an apprenticeship at a ceramics studio in Japan. Ultimately, Lopes hopes to turn her passion into a career working alongside Japanese ceramic artists. <

Great Northern Docks and Maine Cabin Masters annual Food Drive a big success



Great Northern Docks and the Maine Cabin Masters Food Drive reality television show collected more than 3,100 pounds of food and raised nearly $3,000 on Oct. 15 in Naples to benefit CrossWalk Community Outreach and Good Shepherd Food Bank. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Loads of smiles, sunshine, and sustenance made for a memorable day at the 7th Annual Great Northern Docks and Maine Cabin Masters Food Drive, held Thursday, Oct. 15.

Through the event the organizations were able to collect more than 3,100 pounds of donated goods and nearly $3,000 in monetary contributions to benefit CrossWalk Community Outreach and Good Shepherd Food Bank.

In total, more than 100 vehicles made their way through the drive-through donation event, dropping off contributions before stopping to meet Ashley, Ryan, Jedi, Chase, and Dixie of the Maine Cabin Masters reality television show.

The Great Northern Docks staff and facilities committed to the task of managing the flow of traffic while volunteers from the CrossWalk Community Outreach collected and sorted the donations.

Lakes Region residents along with visitors from other states, such as Ohio, Oklahoma, and Texas, lined up to give and greet, eager to meet the Maine Cabin Masters.

"The overwhelming joyful energy during the event can't be described; it must be experienced." said Sam Merriam, the owner of Great Northern Docks.

Now in its seventh year, the annual food drive continues to bring people together in support of neighbors facing food insecurity.

Merriam said Great Northern Docks looks forward to carrying on the tradition next October and welcoming the community back for another year of giving. <





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Legislative candidates seek opportunity to serve

By Ed Pierce
STAFF WRITER

Legislative races in Windham and Raymond feature a rematch from 2024 for State Senate District 26 and three incumbent Republicans seeking to retain seats in the Maine House of Representatives and turning back Democrat challengers.

Two of the Maine House positions in District 106 and District 107 represent parts of Windham, while the third position, District 86, represents Raymond, Casco, Frye Island and part of Poland.

Incumbent Republican State Representative Barbara Bagshaw and incumbent Democrat State Senator Tim Nangle are each running for a third term with both having first been elected to their positions in 2022.

CANDIDATE PROFILES

MAINE HOUSE DISTRICT 106

★ BRADLEY YOUNGS



Party: Democrat

Occupation: former golf professional, restaurant manager, stay-at-home father

Previous Elected Experience: none

Why did you choose to run for this specific position and what do you hope to accomplish if you are elected?

"Windham is my home and it is where my wife and I are raising our family. It is important to me that we have representation focused on what we want the future of Windham and our state to look like. I believe I have a better ability to work with my peers in order to make meaningful changes and I am motivated by helping the people in my town rather than having a spotlight on me. My goal in Augusta is to be a person who is trusted by people, regardless of party, as someone they can work with to solve a problem."

What specific legislation do you intend to propose and how it will benefit the residents of your district if enacted?

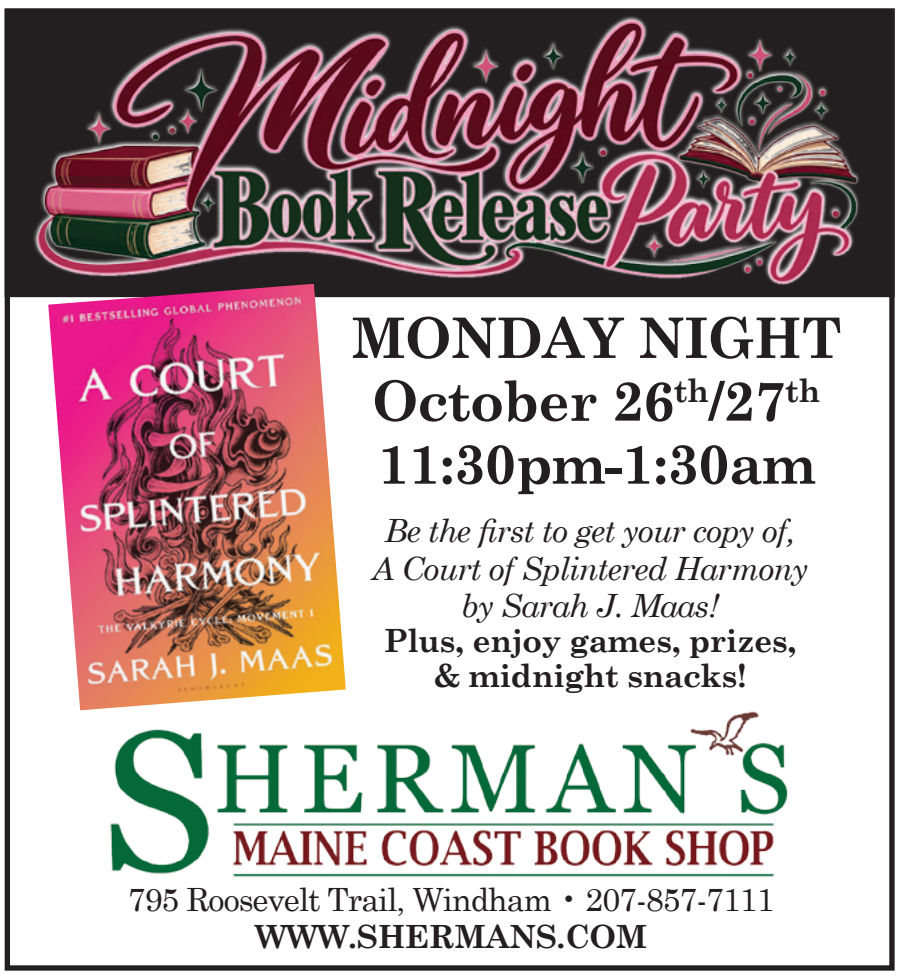
"As we are intentionally being thrust into the hands of artificial intelligence, I believe that we have to take a proactive approach to make sure our rights aren't compromised. I plan on working on legislation that would prevent grocery stores and other retailers from instituting a dynamic pricing model. We are already seeing this happen in online shopping where people in different zip codes are shown different prices for the same items, and stores across the country already have patents to install these systems. It's crucial to get ahead of these systems to protect our consumer rights."

What do you think is the most important issue in this race and how do you intend to address it?

"The most immediate needs we will be facing in this legislative session is how we ensure people are able to heat their homes and feed their families due to Federal cuts and war driven fuel prices. I believe we will have to increase funding for LIHEAP and supplement SNAP to keep people warm and fed through winter. Long term I believe residents in Windham want assurances that we have appropriate investments in infrastructure to coincide with growth. Right now, the state has growth minimums for municipalities. In order to better develop our infrastructure to support growth, I believe the state should allow towns who have consistently been far above that minimum two-year period to refocus on infrastructure needs."

What solid steps do you believe can be implemented to alleviate the property tax burden for residents of your district and help them to keep more of

→ see **CANDIDATES** Page 9



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- ★ Lower the cost of living by exploring energy options to reduce electricity prices, improving healthcare policies, & installing protection programs for seniors, families, Veterans & workers.
- ★ Cut or freeze property taxes for seniors & increase the homestead exemption to bring financial relief for all Mainers homeowners.
- ★ Balance the budget by cutting wasteful spending & exposing fraud.
- ★ Reform DHHS to save children of child abuse.
- ★ Protect individual & constitutional rights, including ensuring that girls are not forced to unfairly compete against biological men.
- ★ Prioritize economic growth & improve infrastructure to create lasting opportunities for future generations.

With an economics degree from the University of Maine, along with his success in project management and building a business from the ground up, Kenny has proven his ability to perform and has the knowledge to fix our economy to help grow wages and save our small businesses. Beyond his success in the private sector, he prides himself on helping raise over $500,000 for local organizations through fundraisers at his restaurant.

Please Vote Kenny For Senny on November 3!

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Paid for & Authorized by Kenny For Senate, Karyn Diamond Treasurer

VIOLENCE *Cont. from page 3*

with $1,500 worth of anything we needed. I did an Amazon wish list and got my kids a couple of dressers, some clothes, some of their sensory support needs," Brittany said. "They helped with some gas and grocery gift cards. They have a good support group, and this organization is very loud, which is great. We need advocates that don't take 'no' for an answer, because these are people's lives at stake. If they were more aggressive on policy, then maybe it would stop a lot of abusers getting to their victims, so they don't keep violating" the protections that exist currently.

One change that Brittany thinks would help the legal system connect more effectively with victims is through ongoing training that involves survivors to help better understand how abuse can look different from what's shown in courses.

"I strongly believe that law enforcement, judges, and others working within the judicial system should receive ongoing comprehensive domestic violence training," she said, adding that survivors' involvement is integral for that training. "Learning from advocacy organizations and textbooks is important but hearing directly from those who have lived through coercive control, abuse, and the legal system provides a perspective that cannot be taught from a textbook. Survivors can help professionals better understand the realities of abuse, why victims respond the way they do, and how the system can unintentionally revictimize those it is supposed to protect."



Brittany also says that ensuring that victims have support to protect their animals when fleeing an abusive situation is essential.

"I was able to put a PFA on my chickens and my dogs," she said, explaining that she has two German Shepherd dogs who are currently housed with family. "Some people stay because they don't want to leave or rehome their animals. I was that person, but I got to a point where we had to go."

As Brittany has grown more confident in telling parts of her story to others, she has found that her story has helped others realize their own situations are unsafe. That realization has helped inspire her to start helping grow a community of support.

"I recently shared a video on Facebook, but it was the first time I have stated my truth," she said. "The video talks about sharing a story with another survivor, but at the end, it says, 'now what if I told you this was my story.' That changed the perspective for a lot of people. So far, I have helped five other women in similar situations connect with resources, advocates, given them advice as to what I would do differently. After that video, I had 28 people, men and women, telling me their stories that they haven't told a single soul before.

"Being on the outside, I feel like my voice is coming back and I'm feeling like I own my body again, which is huge," Brittany said. "But victims shouldn't have to be this loud to be heard. At the end of the day, your safety and your children's safety is the most important thing."

More information about Through These Doors can be found on its website, throughthesedoors.org. Details on Finding Our Voices is at findingourvoices.net. Resources related to RedRover for survivors and pets can be found at redrover.org.

For those outside of Cumberland County, the website for the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence, www.mcedv.org can be used to find resources in other areas of the state. <



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CANDIDATES Cont. from page 7

their hard-earned money?

"There are two needs that I see when we discuss property taxes. The first need is to update the state's homestead exemption to better reflect home values in 2027. I believe we would have to gradually increase this exemption and increase the state share of the exemption, so towns aren't left in an even deeper hole. The second need is to give municipalities alternative methods to collect revenues outside of blanket property taxes. As I have discussed with many homeowners, we need to have an alternative property tax for homes that are owned by those who reside outside of Maine. Many other states have similar programs, and that this revenue stream does not impact our full-time residents."

Please list your budget priorities if you are elected and how will that impact the residents of your district?

"My primary budget concern is that we reduce the financial burden placed on our residents. It is time we reevaluate our income tax formula that was last updated in 2015. We also need to ensure we prioritize the basic items like our roads and infrastructure. There are consistently budget gaps in these areas, and our aging infrastructure is a growing concern amongst all Mainers."

Cite an example of when you successfully worked with people who disagreed with you and how do you plan to build bridges with members of the opposing party?

"I work with people all the time with whom I disagree. Oftentimes we have disagreements on the solutions to a problem, but the problem itself is a common thread. I have been successful in working through disagreements by listening to others and talking through many possible solutions."

★ BARBARA BAGSHAW



Party: Republican

Occupation: Current State Representative District 106

Previous elected experience/terms in office: Current State Representative District 106 serving on Education and Cultural Affairs committee.

Why did you choose to run for this specific position and what do you hope to accomplish if you are elected?

"This will be my third term. When I was first approached to run, I took time to think about it. I was sitting at home yelling at the television about the things happening in government. I decided I could either keep yelling at the television or run and be part of the change I wanted to see. I will continue supporting bills that lower taxes, reduce regulation, and lower energy costs. I will also submit a number of bills that constituents have asked me to introduce on their behalf."

If an incumbent, please tell us about a specific bill that you personally proposed while in office that was passed and signed into law by the governor and how it benefits the residents of your district?

"It has been a pleasure serving my district as State Representative for the past four years. I have had several bills receive unanimous bipartisan reports. One of these was submitted on behalf of a constituent to provide free cancer screening for firefighters. I have also sponsored and co-sponsored numerous bipartisan bills. I recently completed going door-to-door to every house in the district for a third time, because it is very important for me to hear directly from the people I serve. I will submit legislation to place a cap on property taxes. My focus will be helping people afford to stay in their homes. I am proud of my record supporting lower taxes, less regulation, and lower energy costs."

What do you think is the most important issue in this race and how do you intend to address it?

"Affordability. I will continue to support lower taxes, less regulation, and lower energy costs. There is a big difference between lip service and action. You cannot claim to support lower property taxes while backing measures that raise them. You cannot claim to support lower energy costs while voting to increase them. People are tired of being lied to and manipulated. We have a spending problem in Augusta. We need to remember that we serve the people in our districts and work for them. Over the past eight years of single-party rule, property taxes have skyrocketed, more than 30 new taxes have been imposed, and numerous business-killing regulations have taken effect. This is not "Maine the way life should be."

What solid steps do you believe can be implemented to alleviate the property tax burden for residents of your district and help them to keep more of their hard-earned money?

"I intend to submit LD 1, a bill that will place a cap on property taxes. After speaking with numerous constituents, I know many feel as though they are being grabbed by the ankles,

see CANDIDATES Page 10

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CANDIDATES Cont. from page 9

shaken upside down, and having their hard-earned money confiscated. We need to listen and apply common sense. As the Declaration of Independence states, government derives its power from the consent of the governed. I have not heard many people consent to having more and more of their money taken by government to spend as it sees fit. Government is the vehicle; the people are the drivers. It is imperative that we listen to the people we work for, and help them afford to stay in their homes."

Please list your budget priorities if you are elected and how will that impact the residents of your district?

"I will continue to support legislation that controls out-of-control spending and taxes, reduces over-regulation that harms businesses, and lowers energy costs. As a member of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee, I will also continue to advocate for academic excellence and parental rights."

Cite an example of when you successfully worked with people who disagreed with you and how do you plan to build bridges with members of the opposing party?

"I grew up in a family with two "Kennedy Democrat" parents. I visit every household in my district and enjoy talking with everyone. I believe what unites us is greater than what divides us. When we have a genuine conversation, common ground almost always emerges. I have sponsored and co-sponsored a number of bills with colleagues from the other side of the aisle. I am currently planning on submitting a constituent bill – requested by someone from the other side of the aisle – for senior tax stabilization. When someone calls my office, I do not check their party affiliation. I help them because that is the job the people of Windham hired me to do."

MAINE HOUSE DISTRICT 107

★ MARK COOPER



Party: Republican

Occupation: Business owner farmer, Building Contractor

Previous Elected Experience: Representative District 107 for one term

Why did you choose to run for this specific position and what do you hope to accomplish if you are elected?

"I had been approached by several legislators that knew me and asked me to run and represent Windham for several years. Serving in the Maine Legislature was something I had considered going back to my early 20s. Family and life kept me too busy then to make the commitment to represent Windham at the time. I believe that my broad experience over the past 40 years along with my common-sense approach is needed in Augusta."

If an incumbent, please tell us about a specific bill that you personally proposed while in office that was passed and signed into law by the governor and how it benefits the residents of your district?

"I submitted three bills that passed committee, passed the House and Senate and were signed by Governor Mills into law. LD1702 is the bill most likely to impact Windham residents. LD 1702 "An Act to Amend Election Polling Place Restrictions." This bill placed more restrictions on polling place activities by candidates within 250 feet of polls. Bans any collection of signatures for Clean Elections or influencing voters whether the candidate's name is on the ballot or not including write-in candidates. The bill cleans up some gray areas not previously covered. This bill had the following Co-Sponsors Senator Hickman from Kennebec, Rep. Bagshaw Windham, Rep. Cray Palmyra, Rep. Hall Wilton, Rep Hepler Woolwich, Rep. Jackson Oxford, Rep. Parry Arundel, Rep. Perkins Dover Foxcroft, Sen. Timberlake Androscoggin. Senator Hickman and Representative Hepler both are Democrats that signed on. This bill passed unanimously in the House and Senate."

What do think is the most important issue in this race and how do you intend to address it?

"Currently the cost of living and taxation are two issues voters have been bringing up repeatedly. Some

see CANDIDATES Page 11

Windham Community Center Referendum...

DID YOU KNOW?

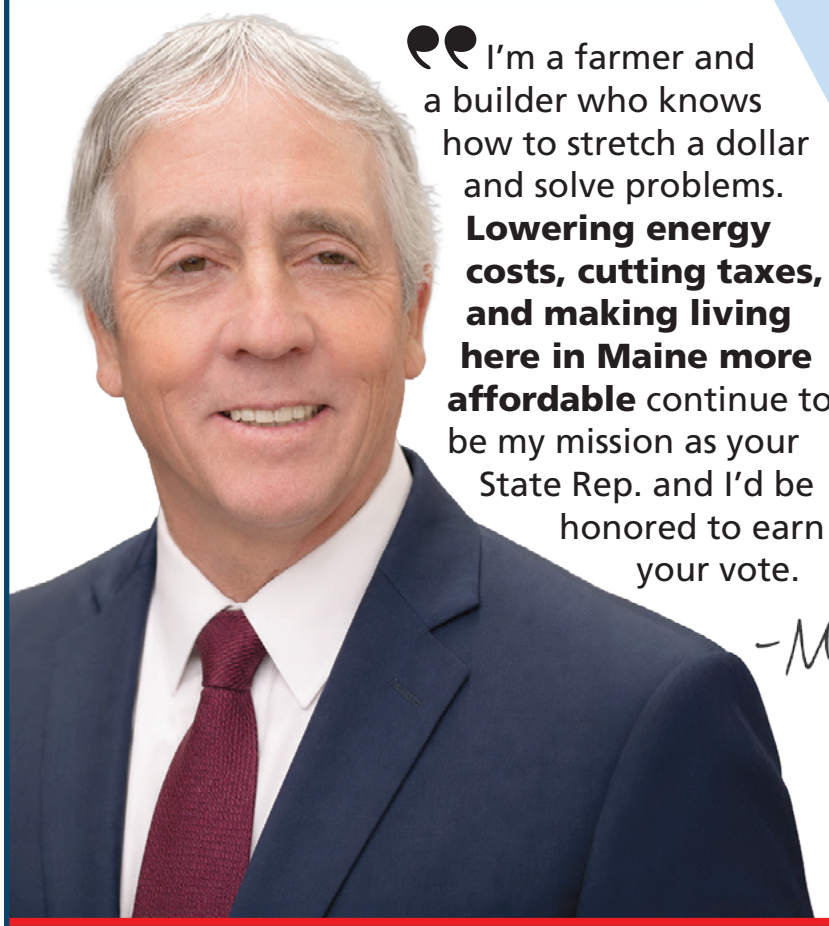
The Windham Social Services building was constructed in 1901 as a school, has a square footage of 1471, had been used as the Windham Police Station until 1989, requires $1,400,000 for a complete renovation including structural support, HVAC, ADA access, public water service, and interior updates, and the proposed larger, more accessible, and modern facility will be a much more welcoming space for our residents to use and our volunteers and staff members in which to work?

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MARK COOPER

House District #107

READY TO TACKLE OUR TOUGHEST CHALLENGES



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-Mark

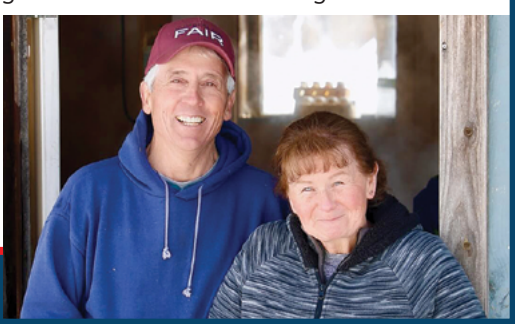
- ✔ **LOWER THE COST OF LIVING** – Support policies that reduce energy costs, cut taxes & make more housing affordable.
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About Mark Cooper

- State Rep., serving on the Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry Comm.
- Owner/President, LC Cooper Co. Inc. Building Contractors; 3rd generation family business
- Farm Owner Operator with wife, Gaylene, Cooper's Maple Products, Greenhouse, and Royal Heritage Farm (American Aberdeen Cattle)
- Cumberland Farmers Club, Fair Director, and Livestock Supt., 8 years
- Maine Maple Producers Association, Director, 15 years
- Former Cumberland County 4-H Club Leader, 23 years
- Graduate of Windham High (1981) and University of NH (1983)
- Father of sons, Craig & Eric; grandfather of Brian & Reagan

Representative Mark Cooper

Paid for and authorized by the candidate



Contact Mark at (207) 232-5842 or email: gmcooper81@aol.com

CANDIDATES Cont. from page 10

issues are controlled at a national level while local and statewide issues are something the legislature can work on. Local property taxes are a major issue, so are state taxation increases and Maine's $13 billion budget concerns. Maine legislation has pushed electricity rates to nearly the most expensive in nation over the past several years."

What solid steps do you believe can be implemented to alleviate the property tax burden for residents of your district and help them to keep more of their hard-earned money?

"The property tax burden has exploded for homeowners. Many seniors are concerned they may not be able to afford to keep their homes, and younger people fear they cannot afford to buy and own a home with the extreme rise in property taxes. Local municipal control of the budget is a key portion of slowing the rise in property taxes. From Augusta there are two key components including unfunded mandates passed that municipalities must implement and pay for. The other would be to increase the Homestead Property Tax Exemption. I support increasing the Homestead Property Tax Exemption for seniors and veterans as well as low-income families. There is increasing support to bring back legislation that would limit the percentage increase in budget that a municipality can make per year."

Please list your budget priorities if you are elected and how will that impact the residents of your district?

"First and foremost is to bring the state budget back under control. In the last eight years our state budget has nearly doubled from $7 billion to $13 billion. Currently Governor Mills just announced a $1.2 billion shortfall. This is totally unacceptable. Over the past eight years Maine has endured a spending problem not a revenue shortage. Over those same years fraud and waste have reached levels well over $100 million per year. Taxpayer money that was stolen."

Cite an example of when you successfully worked with people who disagreed with you and how do you plan to build bridges with members of the opposing party?

"I have worked with legislators from both parties as well as independents on many bills and issues in the legislature. This has been especially visible on the Agriculture Conservation and Forestry committee I serve on. Frequently, along with the entire committee, I have worked to solve issues on bills that we may have disagreed on but were able to find common ground to agree on a solution. I have had bill co-sponsors from all parties and have also co-sponsored bills with members of all parties. Working together and finding common ground is critical to keep the Maine Legislature working for the people of Maine."

★ JOSEPH CAMPBELL



Party: Democrat

Occupation: Substitute Teacher

Previous Elected Experience: none

Why did you choose to run for this specific position and what do you hope to accomplish if you are elected?

"As a young Mainer, I want to fight to make sure the legislature is looking ahead, so our state can prosper not just today, but decades from now when the next generations reckon with our choices. I'm running for the House because I want working families in Windham and across Maine to be heard in Augusta, especially those who are starting out. I want to help build a Maine where young people can choose to stay in the state that is their home, without giving up afford-

see CANDIDATES Page 12

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Troy Jackson
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CANDIDATES Cont. from page 11

ability or opportunity. I will feel accomplished if, by the end of my term, I have helped move the needle to bring down the average age of a first-time home buyer, if Mainers are able to spend a lower fraction of their income on just keeping a roof over their head, and if we've done it without sacrificing our schools, infrastructure, or quality of life."

What specific legislation do you intend to propose? How will it benefit the residents of your district if enacted?

"For a start, I would like to increase the state's share of school funding. Maine has committed to funding 55 percent of the costs of school districts' Essential Programs and Services, with the actual state share varying based on each district's needs and ability to pay. Increasing the state's share of school funding will put the brakes on property-tax increases while ensuring that our schools, students, and educators have the resources they need."

What is the most important issue in this race and how do you intend to address it?

"Housing costs have become simply unsustainable. Mainers at every stage of life, from young adults trying to buy a first home to seniors trying to retire in the homes they've loved for decades are being priced out across the board. As demand for affordable housing isn't being met, prices continue to rise in a vicious cycle. I would support reforms that make smaller, more modest homes easier to build, such as flexible lot-size and permitting rules and infrastructure support for towns, while keeping communities involved in local decisions. Bringing back the starter home gives young families a path to ownership and gives renters more options, and more supply can ease pressure on housing costs and property tax bills over time."

What solid steps do you believe can be implemented to alleviate the property tax burden for residents of your district and help them to keep more of their hard-earned money?

"Property taxes in general are a blunt tool. They can be regressive and blind to whether or not residents can actually afford them, especially seniors and other folks on fixed incomes. The Property Tax Fairness Credit and the Homestead Exemption help where they can, and could be strengthened, but we need structural changes to actually address the problem. The more that we can shift toward state dollars, which are raised in a more progressive way, the less folks will feel punished by the real-estate value of their town, which they don't control. The best ways I see to tackle property taxes are threefold: First, shifting school funding more toward the state, second, addressing the overall cost of housing, and third, potentially bolstering Maine's Municipal Revenue sharing, which currently provides 5 percent of state sales and income taxes to the towns for the purposes of stabilizing towns' property taxes."

Please list your budget priorities if you are elected and how will that impact residents of your district?

"My priorities are keeping our schools well-funded, making housing affordable, and easing the burden on property taxpayers. These aren't separate problems. When the state falls short on schools, the gap lands on local property taxes, and when housing costs climb, families and seniors feel it twice, once in rent or mortgage payments and again at tax time. Prioritizing state support for education ensures Windham's schools have the resources they need, without every shortfall falling on local taxpayers. Second, I would support investments that help get more affordable homes built, including infrastructure support for towns and supporting the programs that keep vulnerable Mainers in their homes. Paying for this matters, as much as the priorities themselves. The state should lean on progressive revenue sources which reflect people's ability to pay, rather than leaning on property taxes, which are blind to whether residents can afford them."

Cite an example of when you successfully worked with people who disagreed with you and how do you plan to build bridges with members of the opposing party?

"As an educator, I'm used to things not going to plan. I work with students and teachers to make sure the essentials still happen when a day gets shaken up. That means balancing keeping students productive with being sensitive to the stresses they carry, and it only works with understanding and communication. Teenagers, as I'm sure many people in Windham already know, won't do much without both. In the legislature, I know I can't expect everyone to fall in line. The way to make progress across the aisle is to remember that every representative shares my basic goal: making life better for the people of their district. I'd start by listening to what members need for their communities, and look for common ground, like finding solutions to housing costs and property tax relief."

MAINE HOUSE DISTRICT 86

★ **ABIGAIL GEER**



Party: Democrat

Occupation: Community Organizer

Previous Elected Experience: Raymond Budget Finance Committee, 2021 to 2023

Why did you choose to run for this specific position and what do you hope to accomplish if you are elected?

"I'm running because I love help-

see CANDIDATES Page 13

Windham Community Center Referendum...

DID YOU KNOW?

The Windham Public Library was constructed in 1971, and a 1992 addition brought it to its current square footage of 10,600, serving a resident population of 13,020, the expansion proposed in the square footage to 18,200 square feet will allow for the added space needed for more books, seating and reading areas, and programing space for a resident population soon surpassing 20,000?

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Endorses these excellent candidates who support the needs of all Mainers, the Rule of Law, and Economic Stability.



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Nathan Burnett
Maine Senate, District 22
Baldwin, Naples, Sebago, Standish, Hiram, Porter, Acton, Cornish, Limerick, Limington, Newfield, Parsonsfield, Shapleigh



Tim Nangle
Maine Senate, District 26
Casco, Frye Island, Raymond, Windham, Westbrook



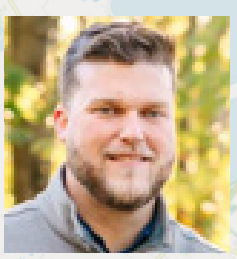
Paul Welch
Maine House, District 85
Standish



Abigail Geer
Maine House, District 86
Raymond



Sam Pfeifle, Ind.
Maine House, District 104
Gray, New Gloucester



Bradley Youngs
Maine House, District 106
Windham (East)



Joseph Campbell
Maine House, District 107
Windham

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CANDIDATES Cont. from page 12

ing people. I love listening to what matters to someone and what's on their mind and then thinking through ways to help. I see that as the heart of this job. I also have a young daughter. When I picture what Maine will be like when she's my age, I want it to be easier for her to raise a family than it is for me to raise her today. That means I need to work on creating good jobs, affordable healthcare, and strong schools. If I'm elected, I want to be a representative people can call. I'll listen, follow through, and solve problems for constituents. In Augusta, I'll work toward a Maine where every child, and every Mainer, has a real chance to succeed."

What specific legislation that you intend to propose and how it will benefit the residents of your district if enacted?

"I'm a challenger, and I've already heard a long list of concerns from neighbors on this campaign. Before I propose new laws, I want to work through those issues one by one. Many of the problems people are facing could be solved by their representatives connecting them with the right agency or by fixing how an existing law gets applied. Good legislation starts with listening. Where I expect to propose legislation is property tax and income tax fairness."

What do think is the most important issue in this race and how do you intend to address it?

"The most important issue is whether people can afford to stay in Maine. I hear it at almost every door. We're all reeling from tax bills climbing, especially seniors and those on fixed income and young families have to stretch every paycheck and cross their fingers. Part of the problem is that our tax system ignores how different a dollar feels at different income levels. Maine's income tax treats $64,450 a year the same way it treats $999,999 a year. A dollar means something very different to those two households! I'll work for a tax system that asks the most from those most able to pay, and less from working families and retirees. I'll measure every bill I vote on with one question: does this make it easier or harder for ordinary Mainers to stay in their homes and communities?"

What solid steps do you believe can be implemented to alleviate the property tax burden for residents of your district and help them to keep more of their hard-earned money?

"I'll push for relief that recognizes long-time primary residences and protects people on fixed incomes. Second, the state needs to keep its promises to towns. When Augusta underfunds schools and municipal revenue sharing, the cost lands on local property tax bills. Third, many residents never hear about the relief programs that already exist. As your representative, I'll make sure people know about these programs and help them apply."

Please list your budget priorities if you are elected and how will that impact the residents of your district?

1. Property tax relief for seniors and people on fixed incomes. No one should lose a family home because of a tax bill. 2. Education. Strong state

see CANDIDATES Page 14

PROVEN
PROBLEM SOLVER



"We must stop tax increases and start reining in wasteful spending. You deserve better from Augusta and with your vote, I'll demand just that."
– ROLF OLSEN

Rolf Olsen
State Representative

Early Vote: Oct. 5-29 | Election Day: Nov. 3

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CANDIDATES Cont. from page 13

funding for our schools gives every child a good start and keeps the cost of education from falling on local property taxes. 3. Healthcare. Families in our district need care they can afford and reach. Together, these priorities mean lower pressure on household budgets, better schools for our kids, and a district where people of every age can afford to stay and thrive.

Cite an example of when you successfully worked with people who disagreed with you and how do you plan to build bridges with members of the opposing party?

"When I worked at Park School, I could see teachers struggling with the work of determining which classrooms kids should be in for the next school year. So I built consensus around building a tool to support that work. I started by listening and learning what they needed. I identified the outcomes each stakeholder group wanted. I identified the priorities and values each group shared, and I developed a process to get there. People came in with different needs, and different ideas about how it should work. Focusing on the shared goal is what got us to a solution that transformed teachers' work. I'll bring that same approach to Augusta. Most Mainers want to be able to take care of their families, afford a home they can keep comfortably warm in the winter, and do work they find meaningful and rewarding. That's what we need to be collaborating toward."

★ **ROLF OLSEN**



Party: Republican

Occupation: Maine legislator and licensed Insurance Agent

Previous Elected Experience/Terms in Office: One term as State Legislator; 29 years on the Town of Raymond Budget/Finance committee including 15 years as chair; 9 years on Town of Raymond Select Board with 3 years as chair.

Why did you choose to run for this specific position and what do you hope to accomplish if you are elected?

"I ran for the State House because I understand the impact of state-level policies on local budgets. I spent years serving my community on the Select Board and the Budget Committee, and I understand the impact that rising property taxes have on residents in my towns. We need to hold Augusta accountable, and that means advocating for policies that will reduce the cost-of-living for working families. Whether it's the skyrocketing cost of housing, rising electricity and heating costs, or simply buying groceries – Maine families need relief."

If an incumbent, please tell us about a specific bill that you personally proposed while in office that was passed and signed into law by the governor and how it benefits the residents of your district?

"I was co-sponsor on over 30 bills and worked o rewriting 20 bills in committee. Topics included helping protection for Seniors from Bitcoin fraud, and other protection for seniors from fraud in mortgage look alike schemes. Also, items in healthcare, to help eliminate some of the certificate of need burdens on groups wishing to expand services. Items for the new legislature will be areas including expanding the homestead exemption, reducing tax burden and reducing fraud so the people who should benefit from programs actually receive the benefit."

What do think is the most important issue in this race and how do you intend to address it?

"First and foremost is a responsible budget that focuses on prioritizing the most pressing needs of the state, without increasing the tax burden on Maine families. Secondly, we need to address the high electricity costs that are facing Maine families, as well as rising property taxes. We do this by holding the departments accountable for their programs and revisiting subsidies to any of the energy producers. Property tax issues begin with no unfunded mandates and looking at any new programs to make sure they benefit the state as a whole, and not an isolated instance which are much better handled at the local level."

What solid steps do you believe can be implemented to alleviate the property tax burden for residents of your district and help them to keep more of their hard-earned money?

see CANDIDATES Page 15

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TOWN OF WINDHAM, MAINE

PLANNING BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Monday, October 26 • 6:00PM

Town Hall, Council Chambers, 8 School Road

- #26-10 Highland Cliff Estates Subdivision
  Tax Map: 3, Lot: 49A – Highland Cliff Road
  Major subdivision plan review.
- #25-27 Eventide Subdivision
  Tax Map: 1; Lots: 8, 8-1, 8-2 – River Road
  Major subdivision plan review.

FMI go to windhamweb.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx or contact (207) 894-5960 ex. 2. Written comment may be submitted to the Board at PlanningBoard@windhammaine.us.
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CANDIDATES Cont. from page 14

"The first step is a responsible budget. We also need to look at promises that were made and never kept as in the sales tax rate, which was supposed to have been a temporary increase but has turned into a legacy. The state needs to fully fund its mandates on local municipalities. We need to increase the homestead exemption, and we need to let decisions that should be local remain local, so the towns have better control over cost and property tax rates. We also need to rein in the exorbitant increases in licensing fees."

Please list your budget priorities if you are elected and how will that impact the residents of your district?

"First and foremost, we must ensure we do not do anything to increase the tax burden on Maine families and small businesses. Secondly, we need to ensure we are fully funding important safety net services for our elderly, disabled, children, and veterans. Third, we need to ensure we are funding a robust mental health system and making sustainable infrastructure investments to improve our roads and bridges."

Cite an example of when you successfully worked with people who disagreed with you and how do you plan to build bridges with members of the opposing party?

"This is a daily occurrence at the State House and is the importance of the work in committee. In many cases we will start out with vastly different ideas on what legislation should be, but by talking with each other we find some common ground and work to get things modified that will be agreeable to both. The key is to keep communication lines open and recognize that we will always have differing opinions, but in more cases than not, we agree on more items than we disagree on. In a number of cases this term, by adjusting a timeline or dollar figure or agreeing to delay legislation to do additional study we were able to come to consensus and move things forward. There are many cases where the final legislation that came out of committee was nothing like the original language, but the modifications benefited the people of the state."

MAINE SENATE DISTRICT 26

★ KENNY CIANCHETTE



Party: Republican

Occupation: Owner/Operator Erik's Church Bar and Grill

Previous Elected Experience: none

Why did you choose to run for this specific position and what do you hope to accomplish if you are elected?

"I made the decision in January 2026. In June 2025, Bill Diamond called me after I wrote a letter to the editor in this newspaper and thanked me for my honesty and encouraged me to run again. Losing Bill unexpectedly last year meant that the most prominent, courageous voice for the children in this state was no longer with us. I wanted his Senate colleagues to continue the fight, but knowing their terms were ending due to limits, I went to see if his passing had encouraged the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee to finally do the right thing. LD 555 was

see CANDIDATES Page 16

Windham Community Center Referendum...

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[1]APY = Annual Percentage Yield as of 2/6/2026. Each cycle an electronic statement is received. A qualification cycle closes on the 25th of each month and begins on the 26th of the previous month. Transaction requirements apply. Each cycle, 6% APY will be paid on balances of up to $10,000 with Evergreen debit and/or SunSelect credit card use of $1,500 or more. 3% APY will be paid on balances of up to $10,000 with Evergreen debit and/or SunSelect credit card use between $750 and $1,499.99, and 0.05% APY will be paid on all amounts above $10,000. Transactions must be credit (Non-PIN) based to apply towards balance total. If requirements are not met in a cycle, balances will earn 0.05% APY. The interest (dividend) rate is subject to change without notice. Membership eligibility requirements apply. Account holder must live, work, worship, or attend school in Androscoggin, Cumberland, Lincoln, Oxford, Sagadahoc, or York counties, or have an immediate relative who meets our field of membership requirements. Federally insured by NCUA.

CANDIDATES Cont. from page 15

the capstone project he was working on at the time of his passing, and when I went to the public hearing for it at the HHS committee, I found, not only that the committee had stonewalled the legislation, but that the sole person missing from the hearing on the committee was Senator Tim Nangle. It was that day, sitting alongside Jane Diamond, that I had determined it was my duty to step into the political arena again, and to be the best fighter I can be for those innocent children. That is why I wear black, to remind myself, every day, that the biggest priority is to stop the loss of innocent life."

What specific legislation do you intend to propose and how it will benefit the residents of your district if enacted?

"I would propose items to reduce tax burdens for Mainers. Increase homestead exemption to $500,000, paid for by spending cuts at the state level and increased projected sales tax revenue without changing rate. Eliminate tax on tips, overtime, and income for active-duty members of our military and veterans. If you were willing to sacrifice your life for our freedom, you deserve to have the ability to keep the wages you earn. Eventually, I would like to see all income taxes removed as a way to incentivize productivity and make life more affordable in this state. Reinstitute a freeze on property tax hikes on seniors if the homestead exemption bill does not pass. Open up sources of low-cost available electricity by removing policies designed to reward big energy companies. Green technology is not the problem, it is corporate welfare for the industry that is making Maine's utilities rates so expensive."

What do think is the most important issue in this race and how do you intend to address it?

"The most important issue is the unrelenting, and increasing, cost of living in Maine. Housing, healthcare, taxes, insurance, and many other aspects of everyday life have increased beyond sustainability. We must return to an appropriate budget at the state and local levels, work with industries to reduce input costs or policies that are artificially inflating our goods and services and encourage economic growth to begin to get ahead. As far as retirees are concerned, we need to take immediate action to stop their increasing costs, and preferably reverse them, as their incomes will not increase even during a period of economic growth. The senior property tax freeze that was eliminated with help from the vote by my opponent, needs to be restored."

What solid steps do you believe can be implemented to alleviate the property tax burden for residents of your district and help them to keep more of their hard-earned money?

"Very simple, homestead exemption. By law, we cannot tax properties differently based on their personal use, but we can provide relief to those who actually reside here, and pay income taxes here. The homestead exemption increase will keep most of the funding at the municipal level, give significant and immediate relief to taxpayers, and begin to change our tax structure to have out-of-staters, who use our services but don't pay income taxes, to carry more of the burden, and encourage economic growth and workforce development by making more affordable mortgages, regardless of interest rates. At my proposed level, it would mean up to $9,800 in tax relief to a single property owner in Raymond. Relief targeted at Maine resident taxpayers."

Please list your budget priorities if you are elected and how will that impact the residents of your district?

"Maine's budget has exploded beyond our ability to service it. The weight of taxes, in the forms of income, property, gas, sales, streaming, and more, have destroyed the quality of life both in terms of cost of living, as well as the future outlook. Our focus needs to be how much and how quickly we can fix our tax structure, while creating accountability in our obligations such as welfare, infrastructure, and education, and not create burdensome new programs. We have wasted too much money on 'investments' that have benefitted other states, out of the pocket of the average working Mainer."

Cite an example of when you successfully worked with people who disagreed with you and how do you plan to build bridges with members of the opposing party?

"Prior to Windham, I served on the Portland Downtown improvement district board. As a board member we created a committee to address panhandling and homelessness challenges the downtown district was facing. I successfully opened up the dialogue and committee to include everyone

see CANDIDATES Page 18

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TOWN OF WINDHAM
VOTERS
EXTENDED HOURS FOR ABSENTEE VOTING

The Windham Town Clerk's Office
WILL BE OPEN LATE
Thursday, October 29th until 7:00PM

YOU MAY:

- ★ Vote by absentee
- ★ Register to vote (please bring I.D. and proof of residency)
- ★ Change your name or address

ALL ABSENTEE BALLOTS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE BY 8:00 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY NOVEMBER 3RD OR BEFORE, TO BE COUNTED.
Please do not bring them to the High School.
There is a secure Absentee Ballot Drop Box located at the Town Hall's front entrance for your convenience.

ELECTION DAY ACCESSIBLE ROUTE:
Anyone with mobility issues, please use our accessible parking lot located across from the tennis courts on Educational Way. This is the second parking lot on the right and enter Door #17. Please look for the Handicap Accessible Signs and our staff on site to help you if needed.

**Note: All other voters should enter the first parking lot off Educational Way and enter through Door #12.*

Absentee Ballot Processing is scheduled to be held on 10/27, 28, and 29, beginning at 8:30 a.m. and stop at 4:00p.m. in conference room 1 at Town Hall. Processing will continue on Election Day at the polls.

For more info. call Anthony Blasi, Town Clerk, at 892-1900. Thank you.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK — Charlie Delcourt



Grade: 5 **School:** Manchester School
Teachers: Jennifer Breton and Paulina Bourque
Favorite subject(s) in school: Reading
Parents' names: Felicia and Ben Delcourt
Reason for selection: Charlie has been chosen as Student of the Week for a variety of reasons. Charlie comes to class with great enthusiasm and humor. She is a conscientious student who loves knowledge, and her enthusiasm for learning is a breath of fresh air! Charlie is inclusive and collaborative and is always willing to help anyone who needs direction or assistance. She is a student leader and treats her peers and teachers with kindness and respect, along with some pizzazz sprinkled in. She laughs easily, setting a relaxed and positive tone when she interacts with us. She is self-reflective and takes direction with a thoughtful mind and open heart. Charlie adds joy and her love of learning to each class and her wit is evident when she shares in our class discussions. Charlie brings light and spirit to our class every day. She's a breath of fresh air! We appreciate the joy and thoughtfulness she always brings to class every day.

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CANDIDATES Cont. from page 16

from businesses, residents, property owners, and homeless advocates to be on a singular committee together. During those months, we investigated the root causes of the issue, discussed and debated the many complexities, and we were able to draft a singular document, of which all of these stakeholders co-signed, to present to the Portland City Council. Unfortunately, our recommendations were never adopted despite the fact that it had support from both the business and social advocacy communities. I recognized, through that experience, that the only way to affect positive change for our communities is to be in political office. As far as how I intend to work with members of the opposing party that is pretty easy. I already have positive relationships with legislators on the opposing side of the aisle, despite not holding public office myself. I will utilize that foundation to find common ground on issues. I will not compromise my principles, but I believe that decent people on both sides of the aisle are looking for a leader. My loyalty is only to Maine and our district, and it is never to a political party or leader. I have demonstrated that because that is who I am. Maine has been best served with an independent-minded senator from Windham, and I will restore that vital asset our state desperately needs."



★ TIM NANGLE



Party: Democrat
Occupation: IT Help Desk lead
Previous Elected Experience: Two terms Windham Town Council, and two terms Maine State Senate District 26

Why did you choose to run for this specific position and what do you hope to accomplish if you are elected?

"I am honored to serve in the Maine Senate. I have written and sponsored legislation to protect our lakes and rivers, expand affordable housing, keep veterans housed, strengthen consumer protections, and support victims of trafficking. As Chair of the Transportation Committee, I've advanced modern infrastructure across Maine. I'm deeply appreciative of the trust placed in me, and with my experience, I feel more prepared than ever to keep our state the best place to live."

If an incumbent, please tell us about a specific bill that you personally proposed while in office that was passed and signed into law by the governor and how it benefits the residents of your district?

"This session I proposed and worked to pass numerous bills. I'm most proud of my proposal to give mobile home community residents 'the right of first refusal.' This legislation allows residents to obtain control of their own destiny. This legislation has been used by at least two mobile home communities in the state. I also proposed and worked to pass legislation that helps veterans at risk of homelessness by helping a veteran pay rent, contribute to security deposits etc. Veterans deserve our respect and should never be homeless. Victims of human trafficking also received support to allow them to continue to heal from the horrors of their lives. Protecting Maine consumers from greedy corporations is always a priority for me. I've introduced legislation that requires disclosure of the full cost of tickets, hotels and short-term rentals before checkout. I sponsored legislation that when purchasing cars online, the online dealer must meet the same requirements as brick-and-mortar dealerships in Maine and make subscription cancellations easier for every Maine resident."

What do think is the most important issue in this race and how do you intend to address it?

"Right now, my most immediate concern is for residents and how are they going to stay warm this winter. I am glad to learn that the federal government has released $38 million in low-income heat electricity programs. An additional $4 million has been released by Maine Housing is available as well. I urge everyone to dial 222 to get help with heat and electricity costs. The legislature needs to work on making sure that everyone can find and afford housing. In the previous session we've enacted the eviction prevention program. This program helps low-income renters pay their rent. We know that it's less expensive to help keep people housed, versus trying to find them housing after they've been evicted. I will continue to support budgets that maintain funding and support for healthcare, education, veterans and keep our environment clean."

What solid steps do you believe can be implemented to alleviate the property tax burden for residents of your district and help them to keep more of their hard-earned money?

"We also need to continue to investigate ways to help local taxpayers with meaningful property tax relief. In my opinion the state needs to reimburse cities and towns the full 100 percent of the Homestead Exemption. Currently the towns have to increase taxes to cover the unreimbursed portion of the exemption. There are a number of programs where we could try to increase funding that would share more state revenue with towns."

Please list your budget priorities if you are elected and how will that impact the residents of your district?

"Education, Healthcare especially for children and whereas I'm the transportation committee chair, transportation issues and the budget."

Cite an example of when you successfully worked with people who disagreed with you and how do you plan to build bridges with members of the opposing party?

"I've worked with many members of the other party to successfully negotiate two unanimous highway fund budgets. It's important to build relationships with every member of the transportation committee. Coming to agreement about our common priorities and then working together to try settle those differences ensures strong bi-partisan votes in both the Maine Senate and the Maine House of Representatives. I'll continue to work with my colleagues regardless of their party to make sure Maine's transportation network stays on the move." <

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LETTERS to the editor

SUBMIT LETTERS BY TUESDAY AT NOON TO:
editor@thewindhameagle.com
or mail to: 585 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, 04062

TO VIEW THE WINDHAM EAGLE NEWSPAPERS'S EDITORIAL POLICY REGARDING LETTERS TO THE EDITOR GO TO:
WWW.THEWINDHAMEAGLE.COM/INFORMATION.PDF

Editor,

As a former conservative school board member, I strongly support Representative Barbara Bagshaw. Her background as a teacher and service on the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee give her the practical insight our schools need. She consistently prioritizes academic excellence, parental rights, and fiscal responsibility over ideological agendas.

Bagshaw has worked to protect local control and ensure taxpayer dollars serve students rather than bureaucracy. In a time when education faces real challenges, her steady, common-sense leadership is exactly what Maine families deserve. I urge voters to re-elect Representative Bagshaw.

~ Caitlynn Downs, Former School Board Member, Windham

Editor,

My husband and I take voting seriously and research candidates carefully. Lack of information often makes this difficult, but not with State Representative Barbara Bagshaw.

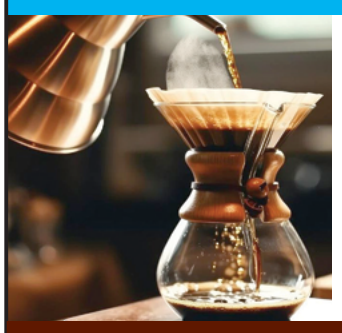
She consistently visits constituents, clearly shares her honest convictions, and stands firm for those she represents.

In a sea of attack ads, Barbara stands apart. As an educator, she helps us understand legislation affecting our community. We strongly support her on education issues, especially school choice and parents' rights to secure the best for their children without harmful agendas.

She upholds constitutional rights without drama, champions fiscal responsibility with taxpayers' money,

see **LETTERS** Page 20

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Windham Community Center Referendum...

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The current Windham Town Hall was originally built as a school in 1910 and expanded in 1957, has a square footage of 19,300, the interior was most recently completely renovated in 2007, and for continued use foundation replacement, structural support repairs, asbestos remediation, HVAC, electrical, and elevator system replacements will be needed at an estimated cost of $14,200,000?

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LETTERS to the editor

LETTERS Cont. from page 19

and backs practical measures like voter ID for accountability. Barbara is no status-quo politician; she brings common sense and cuts through nonsense in state government.

She has our vote. I urge you to re-elect Barbara Bagshaw.

~ Loretta Boutot, Windham

Editor,

I'm thrilled to support Abigail Geer to represent District 86 in the Maine House of Representatives.

I've known Abigail since middle school, and since then I've come to understand her devotion to well-being at every life stage.

She's dedicated to protecting the future for all children, so they can enjoy the nature, freedoms, and resilient communities we treasure. She's also passionate about ensuring that aging residents receive the care and attention they deserve.

I've been especially moved by her commitments to childcare, education, health care, and emergency services. I relied on skilled first responders one snowy winter night and believe in Abigail's mission to invest in EMS and fire personnel.

As a parent of young children and neighbor to my aging parents, I'm voting for someone who will fight to ensure no one is ever left behind in those life-and-death moments. Please join me in voting for Abigail Geer.

~ Gracie Leavitt, Raymond

Editor,

For more than 30 years, I have known Mark Cooper as my neighbor. He has consistently demonstrated honesty, hard work, and trustworthiness—qualities I believe are essential in a representative.

Mark is a thoughtful, fair-minded person who listens, treats others with kindness, and brings people together. As a lifelong Mainer, he understands the importance of hard work, family businesses, and community involvement.

Mark owns and leads a third-generation family construction business and, with his wife, Gaylene, operates Cooper's Maple Products, Cooper's Greenhouse, and Royal Heritage Farm. His community service includes 15 years as a director of the Maine Maple Producers Association and 23 years as a Cumberland County 4-H Club leader.

Having known Mark firsthand for decades, I believe he would serve the people of Windham and Maine with honesty, sound judgment, and a commitment to working with others. Please join me in voting for Mark Cooper for House Seat 107.

~ Ann Marie Grenier and Randy Grenier, Windham

Editor,

I've known Kenny Cianchette for many years through business and volunteer efforts in Windham. Kenny has been responsible for raising hundreds of thousands of dollars for non-profits. One of the recipients of Kenny's generosity was Walk A Mile in Their Shoes, founded by my dear friend, the late Bill Diamond. His organization was dedicated to protecting vulnerable children in state care.

Child welfare was Bill's calling and with the blessing of the Diamond family, Kenny has taken up Bill's mantle to champion the safety of children entrusted to State care.

Having proudly served as your State Senator and Representative, I can tell you that Kenny has the intelligence, fortitude and ability to work with others that this job requires. Let's send someone to Augusta who genuinely cares about the welfare of children and the welfare of this State. Kenny Cianchette has my vote and my support.

~ Gary Plummer, Windham

Editor,

I am writing this endorsement to re-elect Mark Cooper for House District 107.

Mark is a lifelong resident of Windham. His background is that of a self-employed contractor and farmer and has raised his family here. Mark understands the challenges Mainers are faced with, rising cost of power, fuel, food and property taxes, and he will be ready to tackle these tough challenges.

Windham needs a person like Mark to navigate the systems in Augusta and to represent us in the legislature in District 107.

Vote Nov. 3 for Mark Cooper District 107

~ Becky Hagar, Windham





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Town of Windham
Fall 2026



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Southern Maine Agency on Aging changes name to AgeMaine

By Ed Pierce
STAFF WRITER

Since 1973, one of the most well-known nonprofit organizations serving older adults and caregivers in Cumberland and York counties has been the Southern Maine Agency on Aging. But the organization's leadership has determined that a new name, AgeMaine, better reflects who they are today and the future that they're helping build for Maine.

From delivering meals to helping a neighbor find housing, the work of AgeMaine brings together practical support and opportunities to stay connected with care for the people and places that make Maine home. It provides Adult Day Care Programs; Meals and Nutrition overseeing the Meals on Wheels Program, Community Resources; Medicare Counseling, Caregiver Support, and Social Connection for older adults and volunteers to engage in friendly conversations, giving both people time to share, listen, and get to know each other and so much more.

Founded in 1973 under the federal Older Americans Act, AgeMaine is a nonprofit organization that plans and provides services for adults age 60 and older. It prioritizes people with the greatest economic and social needs, including people with limited incomes, minorities, and other people of color, and people living in rural communities.

Alongside its direct services, AgeMaine brings its neighbors' experiences into statewide conversations about aging.

"Working with staff, volunteers, community partners, and supporters, we advocate for policies and resources that help people find support, stay connected, and have choices about how they age," a note on the AgeMaine website says. "Maine has the highest percentage of older adults in the nation."

The announcement of the name change was made on Oct. 5, as guests gathered in Portland. Organization President and CEO Megan Walton revealed the new name and identity to the community.

The unveiling connected the history of Southern Maine Agency on Aging with its hopes for Maine's future.

"After more than 50 years as Southern Maine Agency on Aging, we're building on relationships with generations of older adults, caregivers, volunteers, and community partners," a note on the AgeMaine website said. "Those relationships will continue to guide us as AgeMaine."

Under its new name, Walton has outlined how AgeMaine's values will be put into practice going forward:

Community-Centered – AgeMaine will work with community partners, use resources responsibly, and remain transparent.

Innovation – AgeMaine listens, learns, and adapts as people's needs and communities change.

Belonging – AgeMaine welcomes different experiences, challenges ageism, and makes room for other voices.

Client-Centered – AgeMaine works alongside the people it serves, supporting their choices and communities.

Impact-Driven – AgeMaine strives for excellence and measures the difference its work makes.

Team-Oriented – AgeMaine staff help one another, communicate openly, and make time for fun in a safe, respectful workplace.

Future priorities – According to Walton, looking ahead to the future, AgeMaine's priorities will include:

- Expanding community hubs.
- Strengthening social care coordination.
- Developing new approaches with and for volunteers.
- Advancing their work with diverse communities.

Age Maine will continue to be the focal point in Cumberland and York counties for valuable resources, services and information to empower older adults, adults with disabilities, and their caregivers to live to their fullest potential, she said.

To learn more about AgeMaine and services that it offers to the community, visit agemaine.org <

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Eagle SPORTS



Windham varsity girls' soccer falls to Cheverus

By Matt Pascarella
STAFF WRITER

The Windham High School varsity girls' soccer team played their final home game of the season against Cheverus on Thursday, Oct. 15 and Windham came out a little slow in the first half but kept the game scoreless at intermission. While the Eagles picked up the intensity in the second half, the Stags scored late and held onto the lead to defeat Windham, 1-0.

It was also Senior Night and seniors Elizabeth Hartwell, Denali Momot, Isabella Vassoler, Maya Dries, Mackenzie Delewski and Grayson Cornish were each presented with a small gift to thank them and their families for their time and efforts to Windham Athletics.

"They came out hard, fast, but we've got to play with a little more urgency earlier in the game," said Windham varsity girls' soccer coach Deb LeBel. "If they played with their sense of urgency at the end, it could've been a different (outcome). We need to be a little more precise with our passing, not just clear it and get it out. Positives from the game were that the team never gave up; they had a ton of energy at the end with a lot of different players contributing in different areas."

Early in the game, Windham moved the ball well and took several shots on goal.

Both teams' defense held their opponent back and Windham goalie Hartwell had many nice saves, five overall for the game. At the half, the game was tied, 0-0.

"We came into this game knowing we have to win to keep our rank going into playoffs to stay in the second seed," said Momot. "We need to keep our composure the whole time. We did well after Cheverus scored, but we need to play like that the whole game. I think we expected to win ... we were just holding back a little bit more for some reason. We started connecting very well; we started hard in the first half, and we started the same way in the second half, but as the game went on we kind of dialed down, which was a mistake – we shouldn't do that ever. Keeping that intensity needs work, keeping our composure overall ... we need to read the defense a little bit better."



(L to R) Windham junior Morgan Clark gains possession of the ball during a girls' varsity soccer game against Cheverus at Windham High School on Thursday, Oct. 15. Senior Isabella Vassoler concentrates as she looks to get by a defender. Junior Emily Wardwell prepares to take a shot at the goal. PHOTOS BY MATT PASCARELLA

In the second half, Windham remained aggressive and really went at Cheverus's goalie hard, not giving her rest for most of the half. There were many shots at goal, but nothing found the back of the net.

Windham defense kept Cheverus at zero for over half of the second half. Then with roughly 13 minutes remaining, the Stags scored. As the clock ticked down, Windham worked extremely hard to tie the game, but despite their effort, fell short.

LeBel said they need to fine-tune staggering themselves in the midfield and when they need to go back and help defensively; also, they need to head more balls in the air, take possession and go. She said sometimes a loss going into playoffs is not a bad thing – it keeps them hungry. LeBel said she thinks they are in good shape, they have a lot of kids who have grown and continue to grow.

"Having energy from the start of the game and building off it as the game goes on and winning 50-50 balls (could have turned this game around)," said Windham junior Emily Wardwell. "Knowing we have to treat every team as a top team and there is no guaranteed win against any team. Not giving up was a positive when we were down a goal, late in the game. Finishing balls in the box and switching the fields when stuck on one side needs work." <

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Grayson Cornish

Age: 17
Team: Windham High varsity girls' soccer
Coach: Deb LeBel
Parents' names: Erin and Brian Cornish
Reason for selection: Grayson has been a senior leader for the WHS girls' soccer team and has really stepped up this year. She had more of a supporting role last year and this year she has really wowed coaches on defense. She worked hard over the summer to earn her starting spot. She's been very, very, consistent. Grayson is kind of a quiet leader, but just consistent from every game. She rarely makes a mistake, she communicates well with her backs that work with her. Her confidence has skyrocketed from last year to this year. Her endurance has really picked up and her touch on the ball as well as her soccer IQ; she knows exactly where she's going out of the back before it comes to her – that has progressed over her four years.

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7th-and 8th-grade youth football prepares for playoffs

By Matt Pascarella
STAFF WRITER



Windham Youth Football's seventh and eighth grade team gathers during a team dinner at Windham Middle School on Tuesday, Oct. 20. After a loss to Saco on Saturday, Oct. 17, the team's regular season record is a strong 7-1 as it now looks to prepare for the playoffs. PHOTO BY MATT PASCARELLA

Windham Youth Football's seventh and eighth grade team fell to Saco 26-0 in the final game of the regular season but does remain optimistic about making a strong postseason playoff run.

Playing in Saco on Saturday, Oct. 17, Windham's defense held the Trojans back for the entire first half, but Saco ran up the scoreboard in the second half to win. Windham finished their regular season with a very impressive 7-1 record.

Eighth grader Lucien Kri said that while Windham had a really good run defense at the start, and they could have could have believed in themselves more to have a better outcome in the second half. Kri said they need to work on doing well the entire game, not just one half.

"This is a special group of kids," said Windham Youth Football seventh and eighth grade coach Bryan Freese. "We have size, speed, and athleticism. I have coached these kids for years in football and other sports as well, and one thing that stands out, to me, is their strong work ethic. Each week we add a little more to our playbook, and the football IQ that the boys have makes it easy for us to change and add formations and plays either in practice or on the fly during games. We've been working countless hours since the beginning of August to reach our one goal, a league championship."

As Windham prepared for this game, it knew Saco was going to be big and physical up front. The Eagles felt that if they could match their physicality on the line, control the line of scrimmage and time of possession, they would have a good chance of being successful.

After a 0-0 tie at the end of the first half, Windham made some adjustments offensively but mostly how to block the different looks Saco's defensive front was showing them.

"I think the defensive side of the ball did great we had some big tackles from (Windham's) Troy Prum and Avery Russell," said Windham eighth grader and quarterback Kody Freese. "We just had a few mistakes in the passing game. I also think that we were getting good yardage up the middle with Cam Young, and Connor Wade in the first half."

In the second half, Windham stayed in the game, but Saco found the end zone several times.

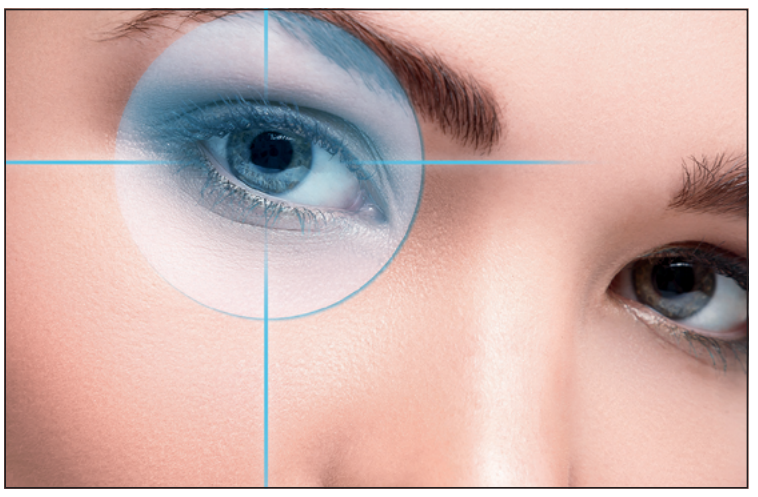
"As a team we have dealt with a fair amount of adversity this year," said Bryan Freese. "Injuries, some disciplinary stuff, and low numbers have taught us firsthand that the 'next man up' mentality is something that needs to be taught, understood, and executed in order to sustain success throughout the long season."

With playoffs on the horizon, Windham will continue to do the things that have gotten them this far; being physical, knowing responsibilities and limiting mental errors will dictate their success.

"We're ... a really strong team," said eighth grader Russell. "We've worked hard to get here and have been through good times and tough times together. We always help each other get better and support one another. The best part is that we're really close almost like family. I'm proud of how our season is going, and I'm proud to be on this team."

Windham will play its first-round playoff game against Bonny Eagle on Sunday, Oct. 25. Kickoff is at 2:30 p.m. at Windham Field 9. <

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BRIEFS

Spooktacular Supper

Casco Village Church United Church of Christ, 941 Meadow Road in Casco, will host a "Spooktacular Saturday Night Supper" from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24. This month's supper will feature Halloweenies, chili, salads, casseroles, bread, beverages and homemade pies and desserts. The cost is $12 for adults and $5 for children ages 8 and under. FMI, call 207-627-4282.

Book Club

The Raymond Village Library Book Club will meet from 5 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28 at the library, located at 3 Meadow Road in Raymond. This month's book to be discussed in J. Courney Sullivan's "The Cliffs." FMI, call 207-655-4283.

Cancer Support

The Windham Cancer Support Group will hold its monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 27 at the Windham Public Library, 217 Windham Center Road in Windham. All those affected by cancer are welcome. FMI, email to coppjanet@yahoo.com

Free movie

The movie "Bell, Book and Candle" will be shown from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 29 at the Windham Public Library, 217 Windham Center Road in Windham. A beautiful witch (Kim Novak) casts a spell on a book publisher (James Stewart) to make him fall in love with her, but he is most unhappy when he finds out what happened. Admission is free and closed captions are displayed when possible. For details call 207-892-1908, ext. 7. Transportation may be available from Age Friendly Windham by calling 207-892-4649.

Food Drive

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Windham parishioners generously support neighbors facing food insecurity. Shaw's and Hannaford bags are now available at the church with lists of items attached for those in need. Because the Casco Village, Casco Alliance, and Raymond food pantries distribute food a week before Thanksgiving, please return filled bags by Saturday, Nov. 7, or Sunday, Nov. 8. Leave donations under the turkey-decorated tables at the church or at the back entrance. FMI, call 207-892-8288.

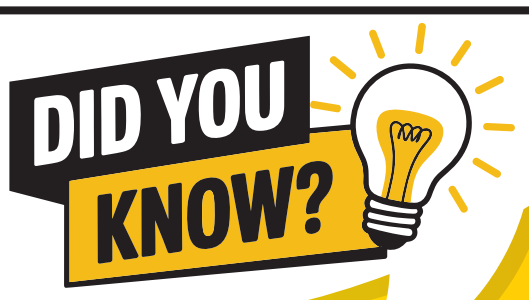
Chess Club

Chess enthusiasts meet from 10 a.m. to noon every Saturday at the Windham Public Library, 217 Windham Center Road. All ages and abilities are welcome. FMI, call 207-892-1908.

Raymond Food Pantry

The Raymond Food Pantry is open from 4 to 6 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month at the Lake Region Baptist Church, 1273 Roosevelt Trail in Raymond. Donations for the food pantry may be dropped off at the Lake Region Baptist Church. FMI, call Gary Bibeau at 207-655-6594.

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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

TOWN OF RAYMOND, MAINE

PLANNING BOARD

Wednesday, November 4, 2026 • 7:00 PM

Broadcast Studio - 423 Webbs Mills Road, and Via ZOOM

You are hereby notified that the Raymond Planning Board will hold a meeting at the Raymond Broadcast Studio and via Zoom on **Wednesday, November 4th, 2026 at 7:00 pm** on the following matters:

PRELIMINARY PLAN REVIEW MINOR AMENDMENT TO APPROVED SUBDIVISION

APPLICANT: Silas Canavan, Canavan Civil Consultants on behalf of Frick Joint Trust

LOCATION: Map: 008 Lot: 48E Zone VR Westview Drive

DESCRIPTION: Application for an amendment to an approved subdivision to allow creation of a backlot driveway.

SKETCH PLAN REVIEW

APPLICANT: James Seymour, Sebago Technics on behalf of FT Holding LLC

LOCATION: Map: 016 Lot: 56 Zone R and a Portion in RP Zone Dyer Road

DESCRIPTION: Application for sketch plan review of 14-lot conventional subdivision and 14-lot cluster subdivision.

– PUBLIC HEARING –

Ordinance Updates to be in compliance with State regulation regarding ADUs

Copy of the submitted applications are available for review on the town website (www.raymondmaine.gov/agendas) after October 20th, 2026 or at the Town Office (401 Webbs Mills Road) by appointment during regular business hours.

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

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THIS MEETING OR GO TO:
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/ga2e20upQS6MWL4sGi6sUw

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TOWN OF RAYMOND, MAINE

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, October 27, 2026 • 7:00 PM

Broadcast Studio - 423 Webbs Mills Road, and Via ZOOM

You are hereby notified that the Raymond Appeals Board will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, October 27th, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.** to hear information on the following application:

APPLICANT: Eric Kollman-Furnish

LOCATION: 90 Tenney Hill Road; Map 18/Lot 15 Zone Rural

DESCRIPTION: Administrative Appeal of Notice of Violation dated August 7th, 2026 in connection with cannabis cultivation on the premises

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THIS MEETING OR GO TO:
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/q6PhLUyRQZmtqF5gVC93nw

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Eagle REAL ESTATE & Home

Winter home tips

Compiled by Jonathan Priest
SPECIAL TO THE WINDHAM EAGLE


— Jonathan Priest

Shorter days and cooler weather make it tempting to curl up under a blanket and hibernate until spring. It's a good plan, but before the snow flies, cross these five home improvement projects off your list.

1. Clean the gutters

The first snowfall of the season is not the time to learn your gutters are filled with debris or too loose to handle the weight of the snow.

Falling leaves can create a build-up, and when it rains or eventually snows and the snow melts, the water will need a clear path to run. Making sure you have clear downspouts has the same reasoning, so that debris does not build up.

Clean your gutters, or better yet hire a pro to tackle the job. While you're at it, look for areas where gutters are loose and may have torn away from the house. Reattach them using gutter spikes, brackets or hangers. Clean, well-secured gutters are essential to protect the foundation of your home and reduce the risk of basement flooding.

2. Check smoke detectors

When you change the clocks to standard time, change the batteries in your smoke detector. Fall is a great time to install new batteries as you are preparing your home for cooler months, Remember, if your alarm chirps – a sign the battery is low – replace it, no matter the time of year. Once you've replaced the batteries, test the smoke detector: It's as simple as pushing the button to make sure the alarm goes off.

Don't ignore hardwired smoke detectors; many have battery backups and those batteries need to be replaced, too. You should also replace any smoke detectors that are over 10 years old. Alarms are constantly checking the air for smoke, and after 10 years, the effectiveness of the alarm may decrease.

3. Hire a chimney sweep

A chimney sweep isn't just a character from Mary Poppins. These fireplace pros remove soot and creosote that build up in the chimney and pose a fire risk. A professional chimney sweep, certified through the Chimney Safety Institute of America (CSIA), will clean the chimney and inspect the entire fuel venting system for warped metal on the damper, cracked or collapsed flue tiles, cracks in the exterior masonry and other signs of fire damage. The National Fire Protection Association recommends an annual chimney inspection. A clean chimney makes it safer to build a cozy fire in the winter; a chimney that has been swept not only helps prevent chimney fires but will also aid your fireplace to operate more efficiently as the smoke and other flue gases can exit the chimney more quickly.

4. Perform furnace maintenance

Call in the pros before turning on the heat. Regular maintenance ensures that your furnace runs at peak efficiency. Without semiannual maintenance (in the spring before running the air conditioner and in the fall before turning on the heat), airborne allergens may get trapped in the filters, resulting in poor indoor air quality.

Have your furnace inspected to make sure it's in good working order and change the filters before starting it up for the first time.

Furnaces that are not cleaned at least once a year can wear out more quickly and can stop working altogether. And soaring energy costs make it more important than ever to ensure the furnace is running efficiently.

5. Winterize water pipes

Data from the Insurance Information Institute shows that almost 30 percent of homeowners insurance claims were related to water damage and freezing. Make sure to drain outdoor water spigots and winterize water pipes to reduce the risk.

You can winterize water pipes by locating your hose bib shut-off valve, which may be in a basement or crawl space, and turning it off at the source. For extra protection, purchase a Styrofoam cover that attaches over the outdoor spigots.

These quick fixes can provide protection against the elements as temperatures drop. You may also want to shut off water to exterior faucets and drain sprinkler systems to prevent freezing pipes and water lines.

This article was brought to you courtesy of Farmers Insurance agent Jonathan Priest, with an office at 57 Tandberg Trail, Suite 7, Windham and StaySafe.org. Call him at 207-893-8184 or send him an email at jpriest1@farmersagent.com <

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PUZZLES & GAMES

BAKE AND CREATE WORD SEARCH

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

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

BAKEHOUSE
BATTER
CRUST
DOUGH
FERMENT
FOLDING
FROSTING
GANACHE
GLAZE
KNEAD
LEAVENING
MOLDING
OVEN
PARCHMENT
PASTRY
PREHEAT
PROOFING
ROLLING PIN
SHORTENING
SIFT
SOURDOUGH
TEMPER
WHISK
YEAST

CRYPTO FUN

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

Solve the code to discover words related to prescriptions.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 21 = A)

A. 19 5 14 15 2 21 1 15 13 6
Clue: Treatment

B. 14 13 2 1 13 7
Clue: Physician

C. 10 3 21 7 19 21 2 22
Clue: Fills prescriptions

D. 7 5 24 15 8 8
Clue: Renew a prescription

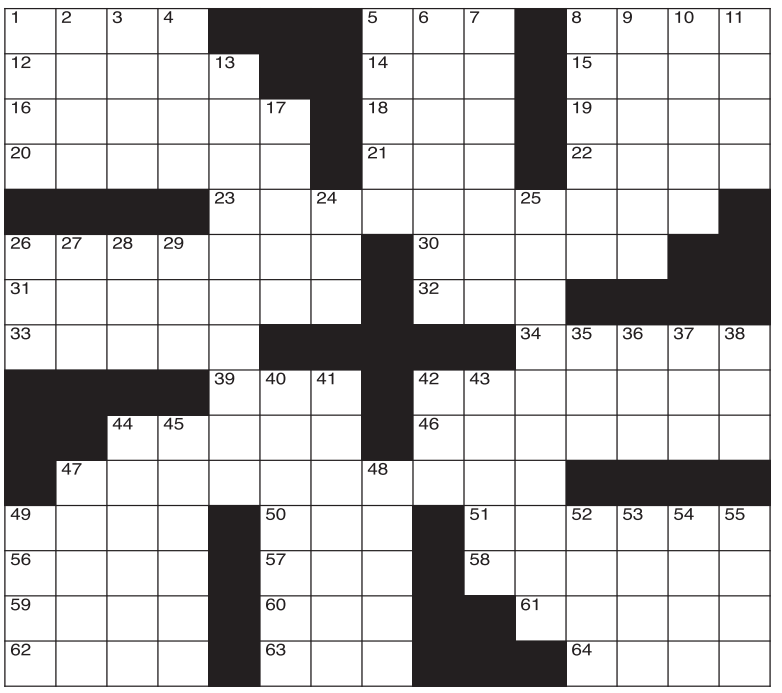
Answers: A. medication B. doctor C. pharmacy D. refill

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

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



CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS

1. A device to disengage without a key
5. Subdivision
8. Network of nerves
12. Lounge chair
14. Ocean
15. C. European river
16. Bowl-shaped cavity
18. __ Caesar, comedian
19. Lyric poems
20. Tia's sister
21. A way to develop
22. Cows collectively
23. Areas close by
26. Slightly disreputable
30. Made a mistake
31. One who cites
32. Food stall: __ pai dong
33. Narrow valley between hills
34. Members of people living mainly in the Congo
39. More (Spanish)
42. Classroom implements
44. Cognizant of
46. One who tells on others
47. Free from slavery
49. Thick piece of something
50. Containing two nitrogen atoms between carbon atoms
51. Removed entirely
56. Late rocker Turner
57. Appreciated
58. Observation expedition
59. Opposite of subtracts
60. Unit of work
61. Wreckage on the sea bed
62. Affirmative! (slang)
63. Witness
64. River in England

CLUES DOWN

1. A dissenting clique
2. Japanese city
3. Spiritual leader
4. Second letter of Greek alphabet
5. Musical term
6. Ruled over
7. Fortified wine
8. First year player
9. Moved in a circular way
10. Adolescents
11. Scottish or Irish Gaelic language
13. Someone who serves in the armed forces
17. Bring up
24. Factual written account (abbr.)
25. Having three sides
26. Annoy
27. Hustle
28. American WW2 leader
29. Stale atmosphere
35. US Treasury
36. Sound unit
37. They __
38. Soviet Socialist Republic
40. Places to play video games
41. Medical event
42. When you hope to arrive
43. Fixed prices
44. Popular Boston song
45. Valley in Indiana and Illinois
47. Omit when speaking
48. German explorer of the Congo Basin
49. Stick around
52. From a distance
53. Heroic tale
54. Amounts of time
55. Eat

SUDOKU

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

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

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

Eagle BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

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Eastern Propane & Oil

Mainers all have a basic need to stay warm during the heating season and here in the Lakes Region, Eastern Propane and Oil is a trusted ally for many residents in keeping the cold away. Over one year ago, Skip and Sue Waltz announced that the Waltz & Sons team is now part of the Eastern Propane & Oil family.

This partnership combined over 120 years of family-run experience. With the Clement, Anderson, and Waltz families working side by side, they continued their shared culture and mission of putting customers first.

From its nearby Buxton location, Eastern Propane and Oil offers convenient 24/7 delivery and service for propane and propane appliances. The company also offers annual cleaning appointments to keep your heating system operating efficiently and running smoothly for your family's peace of mind and can perform an efficiency assessment of your equipment to ensure safety and all equipment is operational.

"For more than 90 years, Eastern Propane has been proud to serve New England communities, building lasting relationships and helping families feel comfortable, safe, and at home. While the company has grown over the decades, its commitment to people, community, and dependable service has remained at the heart of everything it does," said Mike Waltz, local Buxton Operations Manager. "Eastern is a fourth-generation family owned and operated business with a strong foundation in community and community support."

Eastern Propane & Oil began as a small hardware store in Danvers, Massachusetts. The Eastern name was born when the Clement family began offering bottled gas as an alternative energy source for home and outdoor appliances. Today, the company has grown into one of New England's preferred energy providers, with 16 district offices throughout the region, including four offices in Maine. In addition to these local offices, Eastern also has several bulk fuel storage facilities in Maine. This ensures customers can rely on Eastern to stay comfortable year-round.

"Behind that growth is a simple belief: being a good neighbor means being there when it matters most," Waltz said. "With industry-leading delivery technology and reliable service available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, Eastern works hard to give customers peace of mind through every season. As one of the largest family-owned and operated energy providers in New England, we are committed to being reliable, responsive, safe, and convenient to all our customers."

He said that same neighborly spirit extends well beyond home heating, and the Clement & Anderson Families have long believed in supporting the communities where its team members live and work.

"Throughout the year, Eastern Propane & Oil supports local nonprofits, fundraising events, and community initiatives that make a meaningful difference," Waltz said. "As a veteran myself, our Hometown Hero program also provides fuel and service discounts to active-duty military members, veterans, police, fire, and EMT professionals in recognition of the people who dedicate themselves to protecting and serving others."

According to Waltz, Eastern Propane & Oil provides modern conveniences like online account management and services you've come to expect like prebuy protection plans, competitive pricing, service and maintenance plans, and they also work with fuel assistance programs for those in need.

"You will get an Eastern employee every time you call, we do not third party any of our phone services," he said. "You always talk directly to us. We provide personalized customer service during normal business hours and provide 24-hour emergency assistance when needed. The trust and loyalty of our customers, plus the dedicated efforts of our employees, have shaped us into the success that Eastern is today."

Reviews online are outstanding.

"Excellent delivery service! Telephone communication was clear, timely & concise. Boiler service men on-time, neat, clean, patient, knowledgeable and pro-active." ~ Jane Ritzenhaler

"New customer and I highly recommend Very professional, very knowledgeable. Great experience." ~ Janet Bennett St Germain

The most important thing Waltz wants readers to know is that the company is a family dedicated to helping other families.

"Eastern is a home away from home for many of our team members," he said. "By taking care of our family, that directly translates to the level of service provided to our customers. We still focus on the values customers would expect by providing a quality of service, products, convenience and satisfaction that rival and surpass other far larger fuel suppliers. Eastern Propane & Oil is grateful to be part of the communities it serves and looks forward to continuing to support New England families, neighbors, and local organizations for generations to come."

To learn more about Eastern Propane & Oil, visit www.eastern.com or call 207-929-8898. Find them on Facebook and Instagram. <



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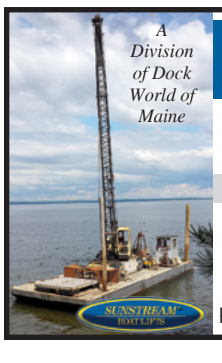
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