



WHS Spirit Tree

WHS Decorates Tree for Methuen Tree Festival

By Kayla Stevens
JagRoar Staff

METHUEN - For the first time ever, Windham High School was represented at the Methuen Tree Festival from Nov 19 to Dec 3. Senior class president Nicholas Panzini decorated it to represent the school spirit of WHS.

According to the Methuen Festival of Trees website, this year was the 28th anniversary of the Annual Festival of Trees. Over 200 decorated trees and wreaths were displayed, one of which was a WHS themed tree named Windham Wonderland.

"The Windham Wonderland tree represents Windham High School school spirit as well as all the students in the school" said Panzini, who takes pride in bringing students at WHS together.

Many people from all over New England traveled to view the trees at the festival. One student from Windham High School has been attending the Methuen Tree Festival with her family since she was 4 years old and shared her experience this year.

"I thought the Windham High School tree was very well decorated, and it was super cool that my own school was represented at the festival," said Cassie Faria, a senior at WHS.

Festival attendees had to purchase tickets online. However, there was also an alternative option to take a virtual tour of the trees.

"People were able to purchase raffle tickets to potentially win one of the trees, and all the money raised went to the Massachusetts and New Hampshire Preservation Projects" said Panzini.

The Massachusetts and New Hampshire Preservation projects work to preserve the heritage of towns by upkeeping local monuments and buildings around Merrimack Valley.

This year, more than 30,000 people attended the festival, and over \$2,000,000 was raised. "I look forward to going to the tree festival with my family every year and I definitely encourage people to look into visiting the festival in the future!" said Faria.



WHS Tree displayed at the Methuen Tree Festival

Photo by Taylor Tredwell

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Jag Opinion

Unified vs. Google

By Harper Bull
JagRoar Staff

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, students and staff have relied heavily on the internet to continue to learn and teach. We utilize tools like Zoom and Unified Classroom to stay connected and organized. This usage has also presented us with issues we're very familiar with: Unified Classroom's reputation for having unstable servers is one of the most persistent. How do the pros and cons of this platform compare with those of Google Classroom, a similar website and competitor for UC?

Google Classroom, a platform many people have past experience with, seems to be more favorable. According to a review left on [trustradius.com](https://www.trustradius.com), Unified Classroom is "more difficult to train staff to use," and Google's platform is much more user friendly.

John Raulli, a senior at WHS, said, "I can check my grades through it [Unified], but I dislike everything else....Especially

when the servers go down."

This seems to be a common complaint with UC users. From WHS teachers such as Mrs. Bourque, who "wish[es] it was a little more reliable," to reviews online. One such review, made on [elearningindustry.com](https://www.elearningindustry.com), says that, "between server errors and a hard to navigate dashboard, Unified has its share of setbacks."

So what about Google? Students are already familiar with most of Google's products, like Docs, Slides, and Sheets. Google Classroom is as efficient and easy to use as most other Google applications.

Mrs. Cuneo, a WHS teacher, says, "I like the Google Classroom interface a lot more. It's easier to find things, easier to post assignments, and it's just generally more user friendly." Although Windham High School is used to the layout of Unified Classroom, every person interviewed agrees that if necessary, nobody at WHS would have any trouble switching to Google Classroom.

The Need for Unions

By Drew Anderson
JagRoar Staff

On October 14, 2021, 10,000 John Deere employees who were members of the United Auto Workers union (UAW) went on strike. Representatives of UAW reached a tentative deal for a new six-year contract after a drawn out negotiation with Deere and Co.

The deal was seen as laughably inad-

equately and unfair to the workers of the union, 90% of whom voted resoundingly to reject the deal. With Deere and Co. unwilling to meet the demands of the union, the workers took action, linking arms in what would go on to be a month-long strike.

Corporations dissuade workers from joining unions by telling them that it's unnecessary or a waste of money. Anti-union messaging casts unions as an outside force coming into a workplace where they aren't welcome, stealing the employees' money, and enriching the union presidents. This perception is one that is carefully cultivated and maintained by corporations and the politicians they own.

Delta Airlines gave its employees pamphlets encouraging them to "put your money towards a new video game system" with the \$700 dollars they could save by not paying union dues. According to an investigation by the National Labor Relations Board, Amazon forced its employees to attend meetings detailing many reasons for avoiding unions, and filmed propaganda videos with testimonials from fellow employees encouraging them to not betray their "family" by joining a union. They even hired retired FBI agents to spy on workers suspected of attempting to organize.

Inherent to the structure of employment in the United States is a contradiction:

Business owners want laborers to work as many hours as possible for as little pay, and laborers want to work as few hours as possible for as much pay as they can get.

If these two parties had equivalent bargaining power, they would presumably reach mutually beneficial deals. However, that is not the case. The owners have much greater leverage than individual workers, and they can wield that leverage to write contracts that benefit cooperations at the expense of workers. This is the natural conclusion of unregulated labor markets, and it is how business was conducted in this country for centuries.

The protections workers have today were not handed over willingly by the owning class. Rather, organized labor forced them to do so. It was unions that abolished child labor. It was unions that won the 8-hour work day. It was unions that created the weekend. And it was unions which were the driving force reducing income inequality in the wake of the gilded age.

Prior to the rise of organized labor in the United States, the top 10% of wealthiest Americans were taking home almost 50% of all the wealth in the country. As union membership rose and reached its peak, that number was reduced all the way down to 30%. Unions were instrumental in winning higher wages for the working

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College: To Go or Not to Go?

By Robert Mondello
JagRoar Staff

College has a wide scope of opportunities for many different people; however, the road after high school is not always a clear, straight path. High school students find themselves at a crossroads, having difficulty deciding what to do next in life. One complicating factor is the fact that college is very expensive, and not everyone has equal opportunity to attend college as a result.

"College gets you places and prepares you for your career," said Lucas Mayo, a senior at WHS.

Lyn Mallet, a sophomore at WHS stated, "I don't think it should be required." Price and the potential for massive student loan debt are major barriers to entry for aspiring students, so more affordable options are worth considering.

But what are the benefits of going to a university compared to an alternative such as a trade school or a community college?

"We've got a lot of different kinds of people who wanna do all different kinds of things," said Mr. Blair, an Assistant Principal at WHS. He brought up the most common reason for considering an alternative to a University, stating, "College is very expensive so it's just a good idea... to look at some alternatives."

Blair also spoke in defense of universities and colleges, stating that, "If you know you are interested in a career that requires a college degree, go to college." The fact of the matter is a high end university is simply too costly for a large number of people.

However, it's not always a bad idea to pursue a good college, as there are many very good programs that these places offer students who have the means to access them. With this being said it's important to note that college is not the end all be all.

If someone has an interest in a career that doesn't require a four year bachelors, there are a multitude of options and it's important to keep an open mind and a clear vision for the future that follows one's high school career.

The True Meaning of Christmas

By John Raulli
JagRoar Staff

WINDHAM - It is that time of year again. The snow is falling, the gingerbread is baking, and everyone is praying Amazon can get their gifts to them on time. It's Christmas, so what is the true meaning of Christmas?

People generally agree, Family, Religion, and Presents are all part of Christmas but what is the true meaning? A mix of all three is the true meaning of Christmas, but most importantly, Love.

When its Christmas time, it is time to see family. According to Jasmine Tarrance, a senior at WHS, "The True meaning of Christmas is just getting together for the

holidays and hanging out with people you like." When asked why Tarrance said, "Because I believe it is more about giving rather than receiving." Which explains why people give presents. Presents show how much you care for someone showing love as the meaning of Christmas.

Jack Caldwell, a junior at Windham High School, said "It's the only time I get a bunch of presents for fun even more than my birthday."

Even though he views presents as the point of Christmas he still does acknowledge that family plays a big role. "Family is important because we are all together for a long time to enjoy the holidays," Caldwell said.

Finally, many people celebrate the

religious meaning of Christmas. Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus, and that is a very important occasion to Christians.

According to an article by Jay Parini, "To many, Christmas is about the birth of God in a human form who showed us how to live a life as God intended."

Nick Parker, WHS senior said, "Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ." Christians love Jesus and honor him for the sacrifices he made for our sins. When gathering for Christmas, presents are used to show our love towards one another.

So this holiday season remember to show love to the ones you care most about and have a Merry Christmas.

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class. As union membership declined due to the rollback of key labor protections, various corruption scandals, media pressure, and government-sanctioned anti-union violence, income inequality skyrocketed once again. Today, income inequality is back to levels not seen since the Gilded Age. The lesson is clear: unions are a force for good, equality, and freedom for the working people of this country.

The workers of John Deere were not striking for superfluous reasons. They were not merely upset that their raises were slightly too low, or their Christmas bonus was a little smaller than last year. Rather, they were protesting unfair treatment by their employers on a grotesque scale. In 2020, Deere and Co. made \$2 billion in profits and nearly tripled their earnings to an estimated \$5.7 billion this year. This staggering growth was won by the tireless labor of Deere's workers through the dangerous conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a reward for their hard work, Deere's new contract featured increased healthcare costs, slashed overtime pay, and a pathetic \$2 per hour raise over the course of 3 years. This insulting contract was made only more reprehensible by the fact that Deere's CEO was given a raise of 160% in just one year.

In response to this exploitative treatment by John Deere, the workers of UAW began a strike. The Deere corporation responded as expected, threatening to cut off all 10,000 workers from their healthcare plan (including those who needed it to afford life saving medicine), hiring scabs, and getting an injunction from a local judge banning the use of chairs on picket lines.

Despite this abuse, the workers persevered, braving persecution from both their employers and local government. The workers won. On December 17th, after a month of tireless effort, UAW members voted in support of a new contract which features an immediate 10% raise, an additional 10% raise over the next 4 years, built in cost of living adjustments, a larger pension, and a signing bonus for new workers. A resounding victory for the workers of America, the John Deere strike represents the strength of organized labor. Unions work. The owning class has always oppressed, exploited, and silenced workers. But when the working class unites in solidarity, they can fight for a better future for themselves and their fellow workers. In the immortal words of labor organizers throughout history, "United we bargain, divided we beg!"

Have something to say?

Email JagRoarNews@windhamsd.org

Jag Activities



(L-R) Nick Panzini, Anushka Acharya, Katie Leuteritz, Teagan Oakes, Claudia Hall, Natasha Sharma, and Kenisha Patel

Photo by Maura Sampson

Kindness Changes Everything at Windham High School

By Jackson Milano
JagRoar Staff

WINDHAM—The Windham High School Kindness Club was established this year in the second week of October.

It was sparked by an idea from student Teagan Oakes, a sophomore at Windham High School. When asked what her inspiration for the club was, she said, “It is a club to make the students’ environment a better place. I wanted to start a club to make more people want to be in school and enjoy the environment while they were here.”

Mrs. Sampson, Kindness club advisor also said, “The club was developed to help boost school spirit and improve school culture.”

The goal of the Kindness Club is to promote kindness and compassion in our school community “Being kind makes people want to be around you more and contribute,” according to Our Father’s House Soup Kitchen who claims kindness is their top priority. The mission of the club is to bring students together to help create an environment where everyone feels welcome and included. “I think everyone here has been self centered over the last two years and we need a little reminder of how to be good to one another,” said Mrs. Sampson.

Anyone is welcome to join the club and can reach out directly to either Teagan Oakes or Mrs. Sampson. Teagan let us know the club’s meetings are every other Monday located in the media room in the

library after school.

Last week Windham High School’s vice principal, Mr. Blair, was asked to draw one raffle ticket to select the winner of a ten dollar Dunkin Donuts gift card. Teachers around campus submit the raffle tickets when they see a random act of kindness displayed by a student. The gift card is meant as a way for WHS staff to show their gratitude towards the actions of their students, however the true reward in the eyes of most students is the kindness itself. “Kindness is about the good way you can make others feel,” Psychology Today. The members of the club are committed to making our school, community, ourselves and our world a better place, one act of kindness at a time.

French Honor Society Haiti Fundraiser

By Ty Orlando and Liane Ye

WINDHAM - The French Honor Society is an organization of avid, achieving students who enjoy learning French and working together to help educate the community about French culture.

As part of our mission, we are devoted to helping those within and outside of our community. In November, the French Honors Society created a fundraiser targeted towards helping those who have felt the devastating effects of the earthquake in Haiti. On August 14, 2021, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck the Tiburon Peninsula in southwest Haiti, leaving an estimated 650,000 people in need of assis-

tance. More than 2,200 people have died, and 12,200 people were injured according to reliefweb.int. Many Haitians have lost their family members, homes, and overall livelihood. Haiti is experiencing the evergrowing effects of poverty, hunger, and health decline during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

As the French Honors Society, we believed it was our responsibility to give back to those who helped create the beautiful French culture and aid the cause. We set up a stand to sell hot chocolate during our school's annual Trebuchet Day and raised a total of \$189. These donations were sent to the Hope for Haiti Foundation. This foundation aims to make a

difference by improving the quality of life for Haitians, primarily children, by fixing poverty, improving healthcare, creating new infrastructures, and most importantly allowing for more access to education.

The money raised by the French Honors Society was donated to the Back to School subset of Hope for Haiti. This campaign provides 7,000 children who have been affected by the earthquake with backpacks filled with school supplies. As a small group, we are proud of helping our community join together to help the cause. We hope that our small donation made a difference in a child's life and we hope to continue to help as much as we can.

Literary Magazine Open for Submissions

By Olivia Chik
JagRoar Staff

WINDHAM - Calling all artists and writers! The Windham High School literary magazine is looking for submissions for its January issue. There will be two issues this year, one in January and another one in the spring.

Mrs. Bourque and Dr. Ward, the club advisors, are two English teachers who have spearheaded the magazine together for two years. Dr. Ward took over the magazine in 2016 after the former editor left WHS. Last year, the club did not release any issues since the pandemic prevented a lot of students from submitting

their work.

The club accepts and publishes all student projects—poetry, short stories, short essays, photographs, photographs of artwork, and original recipes. Students can submit their compositions anonymously or with their preferred name and year of graduation. If you have any questions or are submitting your work, please email Mrs. Bourque (abourque@windhamsd.org) and Dr. Ward (allynaward@windhamsd.org)!

Homecoming in November

By Joey Hero
JagRoar Staff

Did you attend homecoming? It was held at Windham High School on November 10th, the Wednesday before Veteran's Day.

WHS student Cole Gilbert says, "The music did not have me turned up most of the time". Dev Patel agreed, adding, "It could have been better if the person listened to the crowd's requests."

Other than students' music opinions they had a good time. The dance was held in the WHS gymnasium for the first time due to intense number of attendees this year. Cole says this was the best location, "because everyone could get jiggy without getting bumped into each other."

Students shared their favorite memories such as Dev's "When Mason Rice crowd surfed and fell" and Cole Gilbert's "When Knife Talk came on and we was spitting it up with our homies, we was absolutely

livin'".

According to Dev, "Jackson Milano carried the dance single handedly". The senior could always be seen in the middle of the dance circle, not worried at all what anyone thought of him.



Mason Rice crowd surfs
Photo by Mia Carter



Cole Gilbert at Homecoming
Photo by Lana Carboni

WHS hosts a Christmas Carol Production

By Harper Bull
JagRoar Staff

WINDHAM - 'Tis the season for a holiday show at Windham High School! On the 3rd and 4th of December, 2021, the WHS Theatre company performed their take on the classic A Christmas Carol musical. With Avery Byron taking center stage as Ebenezer Scrooge, the audience of the 7th graders from WMS, and an incredibly talented student body, the show was a huge success.

There was much behind the scenes work on the part of the Tech Crew as well. Bobby Mondelo, an integral part of production, expressed his enthusiasm for the show. "I loved watching the difference between rehearsals and the finished performance," he said. "It was just a really

cool thing to be a part of." Mondelo, along with stage manager Izzy Daniels, made sure everything ran smoothly. "She kept everybody on task", cast member Alaina Lord remarked about Daniels. "Even though she's an underclassman, she did an incredible job with directing tech and keeping us together."

Among other talented actors and actresses were Finn Roach as Fred Scrooge, Tessa Soboleski as the Ghost of Christmas Present, and Shauna Curran as the Ghost of Christmas Past. The cast and crew worked tirelessly for the better part of two months, with hours spent on designing sets, props, and costumes. "I think working the fog machines was my favorite part," said Sarah Penttinen, a member of stage crew. She added, "That, and getting to make so many new friends. Especially

as a senior, it was really cool to have this be our winter show. I think it went really well."

All involved are to thank for the success of the final performance and have helped to bring some holiday cheer to Windham's theatre district. Seniors participating in the show were even handed flowers at the end of the performance. A lot of love was poured into the process, and the cast and crew are incredibly proud to see that it paid off.

"It was a really cool thing to be a part of."

Senior Powder Puff Winners

By John Raulli
JagRoar Staff

WINDHAM - On Tuesday November 16, 2021 Windham High School held the annual Powderpuff game. It was a hard fought game that was ultimately won by the senior class.

Powderpuff is an annual tradition where female students from each grade level compete in flag football. The first round of Powderpuff was played between the Freshman and Sophomore class followed by the Junior and Senior class, then the final round of powder puff was played between the Senior and Freshman class. According to a digital flyer the game started at 3pm where cookies and other snacks/refreshments were sold.

Mrs. Pingree, the overseer of Powderpuff said "Teams are made of 20 players with five alternatives made of females from each class respectively. The coaches are members of the football team from each class respectfully. Anyone can cheer them on."

"I think any student council event is meant for school spirit. As it was a competition between classes, students coming to watch and support their classes shows the school spirit created by the powderpuff game. These coaches chose the time for practice for the Powderpuff players and make the play calls during the game."

A few days before the Powderpuff

game, Kayla Stevens, was interviewed about how she thinks the game was going to go. "I've been playing since Freshman year," Stevens said, "I am so excited. I look forward to winning and hot chocolate." Players going into this game had high hopes of winning the Powderpuff game for their class.

Joey Hero, a senior football player and one of the Powderpuff coaches said "We won there is nothing we could have improved on and I couldn't be happier." Coach Hero was ecstatic about the Senior class win. "Everyone did great, everyone exceeded their own expectations," Coach Hero added.

The senior class won without any game plan or practice prior to the game. "No gameplan, we didn't want them to overthink or stress about it on top of everything else they have to stress about in their everyday life," Coach Hero said. "This year we ain't worrying too much—it's the same girls as last year, plus we are Seniors." Coach Hero added.

The seniors did end up winning the entire series first beating the Juniors then beating the freshman. "We gave up 1 touchdown each game. I don't know



Sophomores Sammy George, Mia, and Emma Logue return opening kickoff

Photos by John Raulli

the score but it was a lot to a little," said Coach Hero. For students who want to play or coach next year you can check an email sent out by Mrs. Pingree each year that allows you to sign up for Powderpuff. According to said email the spots are first come first serve this applies to the coaching staff as well.

"I had a great time blowing out the Juniors and taking an easy win against the freshmen," said Reagan Murray, a senior Powderpuff player.

Jag News

Fuel Good

By Aaron Osiek
JagRoar Staff

WINDHAM - Have you heard of the new Fuel Good in Windham? They opened up just a few weeks ago, and their main purpose is to serve healthy drinks like smoothies, teas and much more. They also have a gym located inside of the store that is starting to host classes. Ultimately, Fuel Good is trying to help their customers live a healthy and happy lifestyle.

You can't go wrong with Fuel Good—there are so many menu items it is insane. Matt O'Connor, a student at Windham High who loves the new Fuel Good, says his favorite drink is the "rocket pop mega tea". There are also many other drinks. Reagan Jones, a senior at Windham High School, says his favorite is the "coffee oreo smoothie".

There is a gym located inside the Fuel Good. According to their Instagram, Fuel Good just started to offer gym sessions. Since it is their first gym class, they are offering a free shake or tee.

Since Fuel Good just opened, many people are wondering about the store hours, so they know when to go. In their Instagram bio, it states that from Monday to Friday they are open from 7 am until 4 pm, while on the weekends they are open from 9 am to 3 pm.

There have been no bad reviews about Fuel Good; they are all amazing. Matt O'Connor says he has been to Fuel Good about

"five or six times."

Overall, what Fuel Good is trying to accomplish is to provide a healthier food option and fitness opportunity, which is really good for Windham.



Photo courtesy of fuelgood_windham instagram



A light filled tunnels at the NH Motor Speedway

Photo by Reagan Murry

By Reagan Murray
JagRoar Staff

LOUDON - Christmas is right around the corner and the perfect way to bring some Christmas cheer is the Gift of Lights; an annual festival run by Eastern Propane &

Race Track Lights

Oil. The festival is located at the speedway in Loudon, NH. The 2.5-mile drive-thru on the track features 3.5 million lights.

It has been open since Thanksgiving day and will continue to stay open until Christmas. The gift of lights features images of toys, animals, and numerous movie scenes all lit up with abundances of lights. This event is a great way to get in the Christmas spirit and it's very affordable. Tickets are \$35 per

car load and \$60 per limo/bus which can be purchased online. Sophia, a Windham 8th grader, said "I loved it." "I went to see the lights because it is a tradition with my family. It was so cool to drive through and see everything light up."

Many individuals gather at this location each year to see the Christmas lights. Saturday the 11th Rocky Heres, a former high school student, also went to see the Gift of Lights.

"I drove up around 6pm and there was no traffic which was great. It was very easy to find. I thought it was unique to see since I have never been before. I would definitely recommend this to everyone, especially younger kids but it brings joy to the holidays and allows you to experience the Christmas season on a whole new level."

This event is seasonal which makes it more desirable to see each and every year. It is well organized and conducted. If you are looking for some Christmas cheer and to put smiles on faces the gift of lights is the place to be. Have a happy holiday from the motor speedway and the gift of lights to all.

Astro-Disaster

By **Joey Hero**
JagRoar Staff

HOUSTON - On Friday November 5th, Travis Scott held the first day of his Astroworld Festival in his hometown of Houston. The event attracted 50,000 of Scott's biggest fans but ended in a night of chaos which left attendees with traumatic memories.

At least eleven people have been killed and hundreds injured after a large crowd surged toward the front of the stage, leaving people being trampled to death, passing out and unable to breathe. Meanwhile, the crowd chanted "stop the show" and Travis continued as he performed songs while there were visible ambulances in the crowd.

Fans captured all that happened on vid-

eo and shared it to social media. Multiple shots of EMTs performing CPR on teenagers as they pass out in the crowd were all over social media. "Another #disturbing video- Travis Scott continues to sing as he watched a unconscious fan at #ASTRO-FEST #AstroWorld2021 #Festival- At least 11 killed and 300+ injured." — Chaudhary Parvez (@ChaudharyParvez), says on twitter.

Many began to slander Travis, but some questioned if it was his fault at all. WHS Student and Travis Scott fan stated, "I feel really bad about all of the victims who were injured and killed. I believe everyone is at fault as the concert never stopped and the crowd never lost the energy [after people are being hurt]. Brody Waldron, who also attends WHS and listens to the rapper says it was not fully

Travis' fault. "I feel like he could have done more to prevent people from dying. Like better security."



Photo by @shockadelicaust on Twitter.

Get Your Chick-Fil-A in Salem, NH

By **Aaron Osiek**
JagRoar Staff

Have you heard there is a new Chick-Fil-A coming to Salem?

Matt O'Connor, a student at Windham High School, said that the franchise is coming to Salem in "the middle of December," Matt said. There is a location in Methuen, but it is a hike to get there from Windham.

Once the news broke in Windham that there was a Chick-Fil-A being built in

Salem, many people were filled with joy. Brayden Lord, a junior at Windham High School, said he is "looking forward to not having to drive all the way to Methuen."

Despite the announcement, the original opening date might have to be pushed back, according to Chick-Fil-A's Instagram, because they can not find enough employees for this new location, which could be some sad news to some people.

There is an issue that people have been discussing recently with the new Chick-Fil-A—parking. If the Chick-Fil-A in Sa-

lem receives the same or more amount of business as the Methuen location, parking will be a huge issue. Most of the parking is already taken up by Chipotle customers next door, so it will be interesting to see how the parking situation will play out.

Overall, bringing a Chick-Fil-A to Salem is a really good idea. It will further develop Tuscan Village, and it will also bring a lot of happiness to many people because of the easier, more convenient access to a Chick-Fil-A.

Pledging Allegiance to Our Solidiers

By **Jackson Milano**
JagRoar Staff

WINDHAM - This past Thursday, people from across the United States celebrated the men and women who served in the United States military.

Every year on November 11th we celebrate our troops and those who have served in the military. According to the United States Department of Defense, "a lot of people think it's 'Veteran's Day' or 'Veterans' Day,' but they're wrong. The holiday is not a day that 'belongs' to one veteran or multiple veterans, which is what an apostrophe implies. It's a day for honoring all veterans — so no apostrophe needed."

Those people include Joe Nadeau, a Senior student at Suffolk University, whose Grandfather is a Vietnam War veteran. "He was a medic," Nadeau said.

When asked about how the military changed his grandfather he said, "He's one of the wisest brains I've ever met and it made him a lot better at dealing with difficult situations throughout his life."

The American Veterans Aid explained the reason Veterans Day lies on November 11 is because on November 11, 1918, a temporary ceasefire was declared between the Allied nations and Germany during WWI. Even though the treaty that ended WWI was officially signed on June 28, 1919, November 11th remained as the date that publicly marked the end of the Great

War.

Veterans Day is also a day where many young men and women, who want to someday serve in the military, look up to and admire all the veterans.

Nick Parker, a senior at Windham High School, seeks to follow his father's legacy by pursuing the military.

"I want to join the navy . . . the same branch as my dad fought in," said Parker, "Both my grandparents and my father served in the military."

Happy Veterans Day to all our veterans. Thank you for your sacrifice, your bravery, and the example you set for us all. We owe you a debt of gratitude, but more than that, we owe you our freedom.

Jag Features

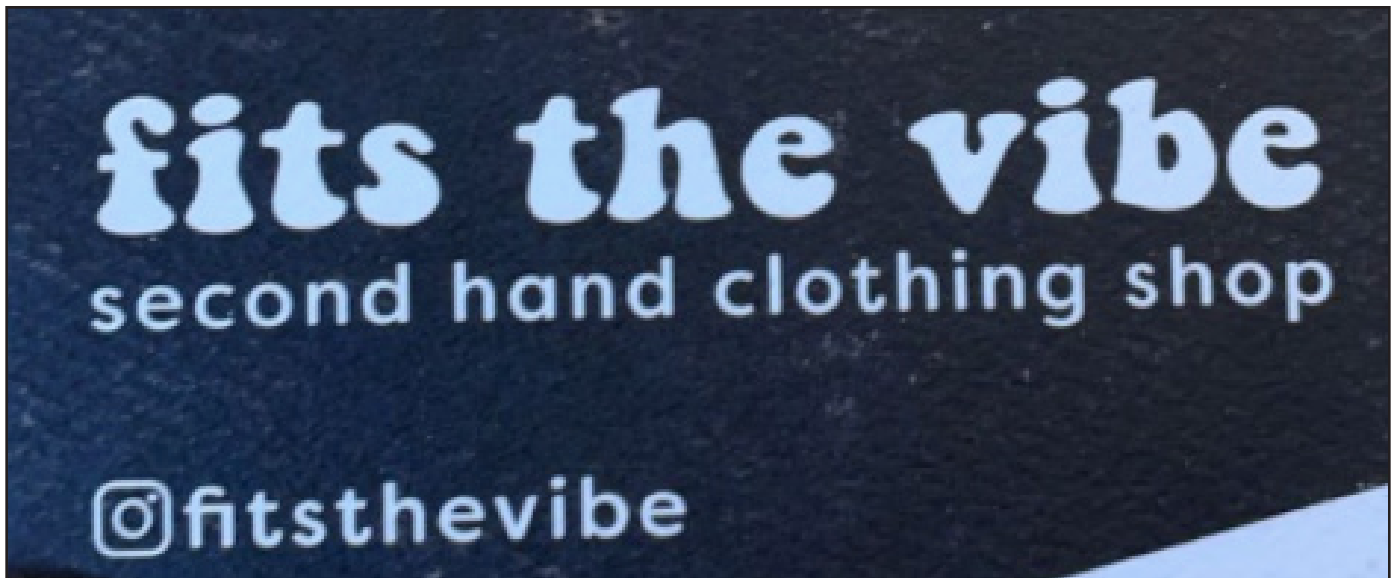


Photo by Kayla Stevens

Be Smart & Think Second Hand

By Kayla Stevens
JagRoar Staff

SALEM - While other thrift stores are piling used clothing together in messy and unorganized racks, a thrift store in Salem, NH, Fits The Vibe, has taken a new approach which has totally changed the thrifting game. Recently, Fits The Vibe moved location from Windham, NH to 287 Lawrence Rd Salem, NH. Fits the Vibe has been keeping up with all the latest trends and constantly cycles through the clothing that's available for purchase. The new location of Fits The Vibe has many racks of upcycled clothing as well as secondhand clothing. In addition, the store has multiple selfie rooms to take pictures with your friends. All the selfie rooms have a theme to them, such as a 'fairy room' and 'street/city room'.

"It's so nice to have our own building now rather than being in a strip mall!" said Ianna True, the owner of Fits The Vibe.

"I love the new location. It's so spacious and the layout of the clothes makes it easy to find the pieces you want" said Sydney Pesaturo, a fashion designer who upcycles for the store, which is using thrifted clothing pieces to transform them into totally new pieces.

According to the Fits The Vibe website, people can bring in their own clothing that they want to get rid of and in return, receive a loyalty card that can be used toward items in the store. In addition, Fits The Vibe features many local designers in order to help small businesses get more exposure. Many of these designers upcycle second hand clothing into brand new pieces or handmade jewelry and accessories.

"I love how Fits The Vibe gives small businesses who may not have that big of a platform an opportunity to get their designs in a store" said Tessa Sobolewski, a Junior at WHS.

Fits The Vibe is doing more than just representing local businesses and keeping up with trends. According to an article written by 2nd Ave Thrift Store, "How Thrifting is Good for the Planet" the fashion industry is producing more clothes than ever before, and every year about 10 million tons of textiles are dumped at landfills. True was inspired to open up the thrift store during quarantine in 2020 in order to help solve this problem.

According to another article written by 2nd Ave Thrift Superstore, fast fashion makes up the majority of the fashion industry in the 21st century, which uses up

a ton of energy and raw materials during clothing manufacturing.

"Fast fashion brands pay workers crazy low wages and overproduce clothing that is bad quality and unnecessary. Whereas clothing that was made back in the day was quality made and made to last, which is the type of clothing that's found at thrift stores" said True.

"Many people view thrifting as bad and dirty but not many people know all the problems the fashion industry really contributes to, so I love how Fits The Vibe presents second hand clothing in a trendy way" said Pesaturo.

"When people buy new clothes and get rid of them after just a couple of wears it's really bad for the environment, whereas buying second hand saves the environment because it ends the cycle and keeps clothing in rotation" said Sobolewski.

"Thrifting is sustainable and much cheaper than shopping at name brand stores in the mall. Not to mention many of the pieces you find at Fits The Vibe are all going to be quality made or even vintage." said Pesaturo.

Fits The Vibe is a great way for local businesses to sell their products as well as a smart option for people to make more sustainable purchases.

Ginger Bread House Competition

WHS Baking Club Hosts Annual Event

By Kayla Stevens

JagRoar Staff

WINDHAM - The WHS baking club held their first activity for the 2021-2022 school year for members to make and assemble gingerbread houses. The gingerbread house competition took place after school on December 14th and 16th.

According to an email sent by one of the Baking Club leaders, Katerina Alexandrou, on the first day, the 14th, members made the gingerbread, and on the second day, the 16th, members assembled and decorated the gingerbread houses. Due to the limited space in the food room,

spots for people were first come first serve. Signups were sent out to members via email on Monday, December 6th and closed on Wednesday, December 8th at midnight.

"Baking club has been around for 6 years now and was started by Taryn Livingstone, so it's super cool that the annual gingerbread house making has been able to be carried on" said Lana Carboni, one of the Baking Club Presidents.

"I love the creative freedom that gingerbread houses allow people to have. It's kind of like a free for all so it's always cool to see what everyone ends up coming up with" said Katerina Alexandrou, the student leader of the Baking Club.

This year, if students had a group in mind that they wanted to work with, they were able to write their friends' names down via signups. When the groups were organized, members who signed up together would end up at the same cooking station.

"Baking club teaches students basic cooking and cleaning skills, and also allows students to socialize with friends and practice creativity" said Carboni. Students who signed up

to participate in the event paid a small fee which was put towards all the ingredients and materials necessary for the gingerbread houses.

"I always look forward to watching people make their gingerbread houses. It's fun to watch people mess up and then fix it" said Alexandrou.

Baking Club members are now looking forward to their annual cookie swap that happens right before winter break. If you or your friends are looking to join Baking Club email kalexandrou22@windhamsd.com.



Log Cabin Gingerbread house created by Katerina Alexandrou, Domenico Picciano, and Lana Carboni

Photos by Kayla Stevens



FBLA's First Fundraiser: A Huge Success

By Olivia Chik

JagRoar Staff

HAVERHILL, MASSACHUSETTS - The members of Windham High School's Future Business Leaders of America club volunteered at the 9th annual Jingle Bell Half Marathon and 5K on December 5, 2021. It took place at Northern Essex Community College in Haverhill, Massachusetts on a frigid morning.

The four members of FBLA, Sophia Hinze, Anabella Gill, Andrew Lucas, and Olivia Chik, were joined by juniors Jack Caldwell and Amber Gauthier and family members from 7 am to 10 am. They poured enough water cups to fill four tables and handed them out to the hundreds of runners that passed by. Mrs. Morse, the club advisor, said, "I was proud to see WHS FBLA members help out and have fun."

The money raised from the members' volunteering is going towards paying for

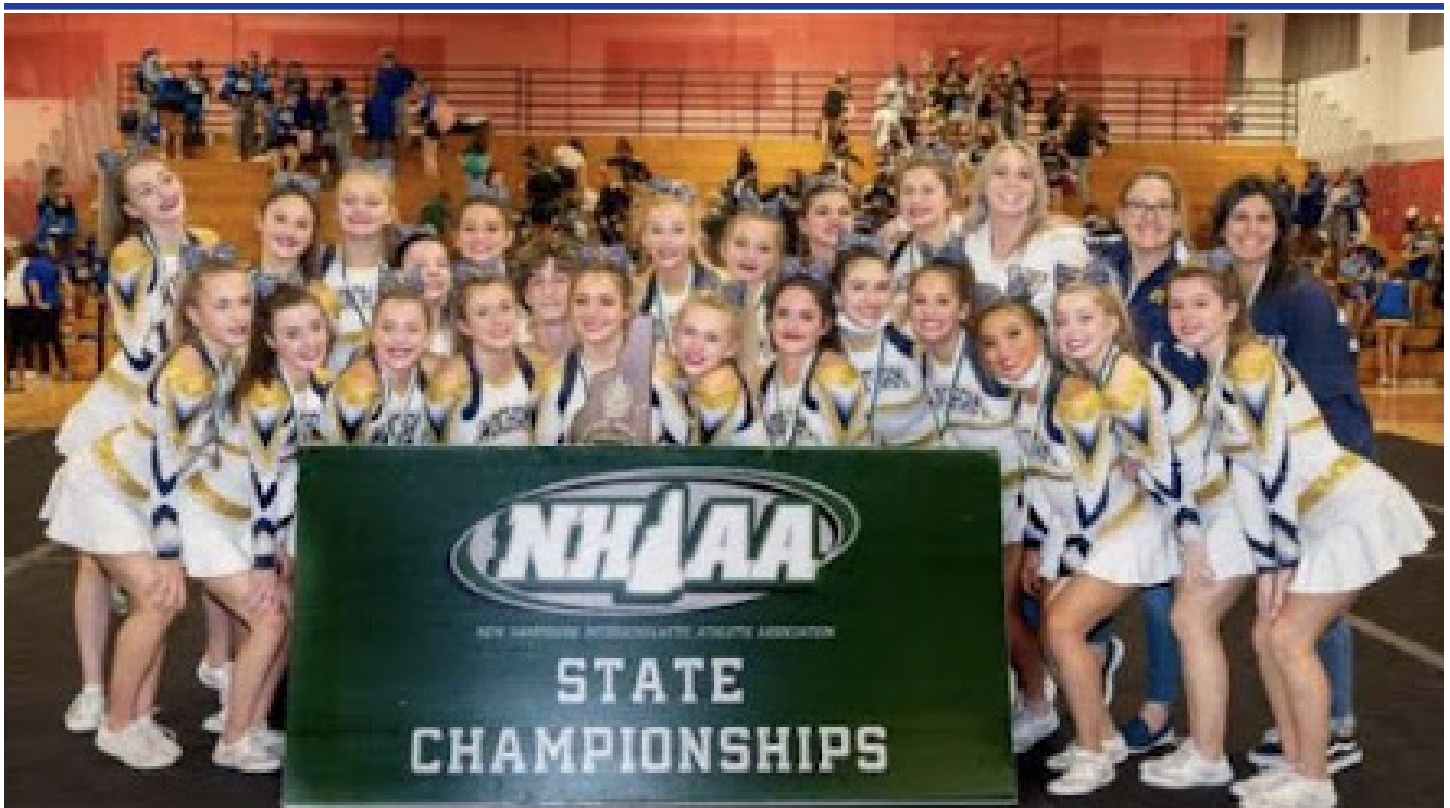
their FBLA state leadership conference, a two-day event where New Hampshire members compete in their chosen event, network, join workshops and listen to guest speakers on March 31st and April 1st, 2022. Events that members prepare for concern topics ranging from financial math to marketing and include business management, event planning, political science, personal finance, journalism, economics, and computer applications and problem-solving, among others.



Mrs. Morse, FBLA members, and friends at the water station

Photos by Hope Chik

Jag Sports



Windham High School Cheer Team 2021 State Championship

Photo by Chuck Swierad

Windham Cheer Team Wins State

By Reagan Murray
JagRoar Staff

The Windham High School cheer team has gone back to back taking home another state championship this fall season.

Windham's varsity team traveled to Pinkerton Academy on Saturday, November 7th, 2021. Pinkerton is where most competitions are held due to their space to host big events such as this one. There were many schools at this competition such as Pinkerton, Pembroke, Pelham and other division II/III teams.

Windham's cheerleader Brooke Turner who is a senior on the team spoke about what she and the team did before performing. "When we were getting ready to perform. We were all so confident in ourselves. We did amazing in warm ups and got mentally ready to give it their all when taking the mat around 10 o'clock."

"We all had a pep talk and did a cheer before we walked onto the mat.

The nerves began to kick in as our fans cheered us onto the mat. Our coach said 'take a deep breath, it's on' and the music began."

The cheerleading team has so much talent from every individual and did what they do best and gave it their all. The overall routine was fast paced and high skilled. During the routine one stunt out of the main part in their routine did not hit which left the team disappointed. They knew they had messed up, but a simple mistake did not stop them from continuing to perform at the best of their ability.

Not long after, all the teams gathered to hear the winners of this competition. Turner said, "They called runner ups, and it wasn't us, we were nervous and all held each other's hands wondering if we had even place.

The spokesperson said "and your D2/D3 state champion is, drum roll please" "WINDHAM". We got up screaming with joy so proud that our hard work paid off."

Another member of the cheer team, a current senior, had a lot to say about her last season and competition with Windham's varsity cheer team.

Olivia Charest, cheer captain, was thrilled about the outcome her team had. "It was such an amazing feeling to have won first place but even more so because the team did not think we were going to win. So when we heard our team being called for first I was in shock and an extra wave of excitement rushed through me"

Charest explained why this was such an important moment for her and her team, "I love cheer and always have. I am so proud of myself and my team for having come so far this year. We work everyday to compete and perform the best we can and the competition showed that our hard work and skillful routine paid off in the end with a big first place win!"

Gambling on the Rise at WHS

By Joey Hero
JagRoar Staff

Sports gambling is becoming an issue at Windham High School and across the country for teens. The variety of apps and websites make it easier for underage gamblers to place bets.

"I gamble on Fliff, an app with instant withdrawals for ages 18 and up," said an anonymous WHS Student. The thing is, apps like Fliff and many others make it quite easy to bypass the age restriction. The student is a sports fan who bets "Five times [a week], on NBA, NFL and College Basketball," he says.

Another anonymous WHS student says "I started with small amounts and it just kept getting larger. And yes, sometimes I think about stopping to cut losses, but I'd rather get better and keep trying." It is clear that gambling is addictive. "Plenty of regrets," the student says.

Both the students say they have tried to quit, but just fall back to it, stating that they are both losing money faster than gaining it.

Mrs. Allison O'Brien, a WHS Psychology teacher, said, "Addiction can be caused by a variety of things, including many different environmental and biological factors. One factor that is understood to play a role in addiction is the neurotransmitter dopamine. When we do something pleasurable, this neurotransmitter is released and basically tells our brain that we should repeat this pleasurable activity. It is sometimes called the 'reward' neurotransmitter. Many behaviors that can become addictive: consuming drugs or alcohol, gambling, or even phone/social media use, and these can cause an increase in dopamine which

signals the body to keep repeating that behavior."

She also made it evident that her answers were what she can report as a teacher. She is not a psychologist or psychiatrist, and is not qualified to diagnose mental health disorders or to give any type of medical advice. When asked why it was so hard to stop addictive behavior, she answered, "...there are a variety of factors that can lead to addiction, there can be a variety of factors that make it difficult to stop. The brain chemistry can be reinforcing the addiction through the production of dopamine, and there can also be environmental reinforcements, such as acceptance from a peer group. There are just some of the many factors that can reinforce addictions."

According to addictioncenter.com, gambling is "Similar to addictive substances like Meth and Cocaine, gambling addiction is associated with release of dopamine within the brain. Addictive substances affect the brain's reward system and release up to 10 times the normal amount of dopamine. Continuous use then causes the body to develop a tolerance, as natural production of dopamine is inhibited and the body needs more and more of the stimulating substance in order to receive the same rush."

If you are worried about yourself or a friend is becoming addicted, Mrs. O'Brien advises, "If you find that something is causing negative impacts in your life and you try to stop and find it difficult to do so, it may be worth exploring the idea that you are developing an addiction." And to "...speak with someone who is qualified to help, such as a school psychologist or school counselor."

Patriots on a Hot Streak

By Aaron Osiek
JagRoar Staff

FOXBORO -Who knew the Patriots would be standing where they are now? It was a very bumpy road to start the season off for the Patriots, but they kept their eye on the end goal and started to come out on top.

It was week 6 and the Patriots were standing at 2-4 just after a tough road loss to the Dallas Cowboys that ended in OT. The Patriots were trying everything just to get back to .500, but it seemed like nothing was working, until Mac Jones, the Patriots rookie quarterback, started to perform at an elite level.

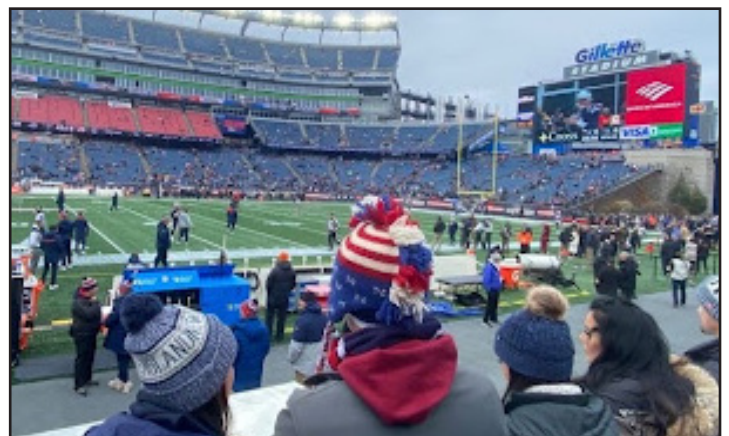
Brayden Lord, a student at Windham High School, believes "Bill Belichick was one of the main reasons for Jones' success." Belichick has a history of turning rookie quarterbacks into superstars for example Tom Brady. And after their road loss to Dallas, the Patriots have been on a 7-0 run, with Jones looking noticeably different from the beginning of the season. Football fans are wondering if Belichick is turning Jones into a super star.

Not only are Mac Jones and the offense carrying the Patriots through this 7-0 run, but their defense has been looking better than ever. Matt O'Connor, a student at Windham High School, thinks the most important player on the defense is Matthew Judon. According to Darren Hartwell of the CBS Sports Boston, "New England has maximized Judon's talents through 13 games, and his success is a big reason why the Patriots have the NFL's best scoring defense."

Coming off of a big win against the Buffalo Bills, there are still many good or bad things that could happen for the Patriots. There

is still a lot of football left to play. But the questions now are surrounding the playoffs. How far will they make it? Who do they play? Will they get a bye in the first round? According to fans such as Joey Hero, these questions are still up in the air: "I think it is way too early to tell. There are still 4 games the Patriots have to play, and depending on those outcomes then we will know the answer."

Patriots fans are hoping for the best and can't wait to see the potential for this team. But for now Patriots fans have to wait just a little longer until it gets closer to the end of the season to see what the future plans are for the Patriots.



November 28, 2021 Patriots v Titans

Photo by Joey Hero