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A FREE, Non-profit, Biweekly
Community Newspaper since 1995



HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED

GHS Senior Named National Merit Scholar



Photo credit Mary Schultz

National Merit Scholar Thomas Matthews

SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE 7

June 13 Election Overview

KATHY CORBETT
Staff Writer

Voters living in Gorham's three wards will go to the polls on June 13 to vote on the 2017-2018 School Budget validation, a local referendum question, and a State bond issue.

In addition to the referendum on the school budget, the local ballot will include a referendum question that authorizes the Town to issue bonds not to exceed \$500,000, for Gorham's share of a State project to make improvements to South Street (Rt. 114). The Town Council voted unanimously to recommend a "yes" vote. Voters will also elect a Portland Water District Trustee.

The one question on the State ballot asks voters to approve a 50 million bond issue for investment in research, development and commercialization to be used for infrastructure, equipment, and technology upgrades.

Absentee ballots are now available at the Municipal Center, but local ballots may not be returned until June 7, following the June 6 Town Council vote on the school budget. Beginning June 7, voters may also cast ballots in the Town Clerk's office during regular office hours.

Polls will be open from 7 am to 8 pm on June 13. Residents of Ward 1-1 vote at the Middle School, Ward 1-2 residents at the Little Falls Activity Center, and those in Ward 2 at the Municipal Center.

Smiths Moving Forward with Plans to Revitalize Gorham Village

SHERI FABER
Staff Writer

Jon and Cindy Smith believe that in order for Gorham Village to thrive, there is a need for businesses to be able to survive in the Village, and that the best way to do that is to have businesses on the first floor of a building with residential tenants upstairs. Currently, their biggest planned project is Station Square, a commercial and residential property on Railroad Ave.

They expect to have six commercial businesses at that site along with 33 apartments. The businesses will include a bowling alley and restaurant on the first floor along with two small retail sites. There are also plans for two offices on the second level and a wine bar on the fourth and fifth stories. They maintain a waiting list of about 30 people who are interested in the apartments. Only one of the people on the list has a school age child and that child already attends school in Gorham.

Smith expects construction to start this month and be finished by late summer of 2018. The previous tenant, who rented a portion of the property where the building was recently torn down (see above photo), is removing antique wood as well as cleaning up the site so construction can begin.

The Smiths also purchased the property at 8 College Ave. which was largely destroyed by fire this past winter. This property connects to 19 State St., the former home of the Centre of



Photo credit Roger Marchand

Workers recently disassembled the current structure on Railroad Ave in preparation for Jon and Cindy Smith's Station Square project. Construction is due to begin this month.

Movement, which the Smiths also own (along with the Gorham Arts Alliance building which abuts 8 College Ave). The property at 19 State St. is in poor condition, and ultimately, will probably need to be torn down according to Jon Smith. By purchasing the College Ave. property, they would have a larger parcel in order to rebuild on the State St. site. Smith has not yet made a decision on what he will do with these two properties.

The Smiths have also leased the building at 109 Main St. which was formerly occupied by Subway. They plan to have either residential or commercial tenants on the second floor, which is currently vacant office space, as well as a commercial tenant on the first floor. If there are more than two tenants, the building will

have to be updated with sprinklers.

Among the numerous projects the Smiths have developed in recent years in Gorham are the revitalization of the closed White Rock School into Perennial Place, with twelve apartments for citizens 55+ which has been fully rented, the demolition of the long defunct Mobil Station in front of Hannaford (cause for more complaints to the Town than any other property), and the construction of a replacement building housing four businesses: Aroma Joe's, Subway, US Cellular and Nail Xperts. They also built the additional Avesta Housing for senior citizens on Rt. 114 and their crews have begun construction of the new Sebago Brewery building which will house the Brewery's corporate offices, tap house, tasting room, brewery and more.

Shots Fired on Narragansett Street



Photo courtesy of Cumberland County Sheriff's Dept.

SHERI FABER
Staff Writer

Saco Police contacted Gorham Police on May 24 to advise that they were looking for Aaron Bouchard,

25, of Saco, for attempted murder, reckless conduct with a dangerous weapon, criminal threatening and terrorizing following a domestic violence incident in Saco. Saco Police believed that Bouchard might be suicidal, and also that he might have a firearm. Bouchard grew up in Gorham and graduated from Gorham High School in 2010.

Gorham Police located his vehicle at the entry to a recently cleared lot on Narragansett Street (Rt. 202), roughly across the street from LKQ Auto Parts. Officers texted Bouchard but he refused to come out of the woods. Officers set up a perimeter and Bouchard came out onto the open lot, firing several shots

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**NEW ASSISTANT
PRINCIPAL HIRED AT GHS**
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Policy on News from Augusta: The Gorham Times asked our three state legislators from Senate District 30, House District 26 and House District 27 to provide us with "News from Augusta." We publish their articles on a rotating basis. The submissions are devoted to updates of legislative and administrative news, proposed and passed bills and laws, and developments and events that are of interest and have an impact to Gorham residents. The Gorham Times reserves the right to edit the submissions and it further reserves the right to reject any submission, in its sole discretion.

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Legislature Passes Two Important Bills

SEN. AMY VOLK

The Legislature is currently hard at work with nearly all 2,000 bills reported out of committee or carried over until next session; but there's still a lot to accomplish before we adjourn next month. The Appropriations Committee is still negotiating a budget that won't bankrupt our state and we have a number of important measures in front of us. However, I am happy to be able to report on two matters that will have a positive impact on the residents of Senate District 30.

Recently the Legislature overturned the veto on LD 905, a bill to authorize the construction of a Maine Turnpike connector to Gorham to help alleviate congestion in the Gorham/Scarborough/Westbrook area. I'm very glad we were able to get this done, as I believe this initiative will vastly improve the lives and livelihoods of many of my constituents.

Daily traffic congestion and associated environmental threats to the villages of South Gorham, North Scarborough and nearby regions are significant and have been growing worse for a long time. Gorham is a lovely and friendly town with an amazing school district, a vibrant business community and a ton of heart. It is currently the fastest growing municipality in Maine. In short, Gorham is a highly desirable place to live.

However, anyone who lives in the area knows that choosing to live, work or even participate in activities in Gorham, especially during commuter hours, frequently comes with a price: long periods of time caught in bumper to bumper traffic. It is the sort of traffic one expects to find in Boston or on the way to Cape Cod in the summer, but not in Maine. Failure to plan adequately around or for this congestion can cost one dearly as minutes tick by, making what is normally a 15 minute drive between Sam's Club in Scarborough and downtown Gorham as long as 45 minutes. Residents and businesses have long been begging for relief, and I am glad to be able to report that help is one step closer.

Also of importance is the passage of LD 306, a bill to finally bring Maine into compliance with the REAL ID Act of 2005. This new law will avoid further penalties from the federal government for our continued noncompliance.

For the last 12 years the federal government has granted the state of Maine waivers. However, with only a few holdout states remaining, Maine became an outlier and was the only state in New England to continue resisting compliance with the federal law. In fact, until this year, we had a 2007 law on the books prohibiting compliance.

All that changed in January with the announcement that Maine licenses would no longer be accepted for

admittance onto federal installations. Furthermore, as of January 2018, Maine driver's licenses would no longer have been accepted for the purpose of boarding commercial flights, severely restricting Maine citizens' ability to travel freely around this country.

Lawmakers worked hard this session to find a compromise that wouldn't put Mainers at a disadvantage while still allowing some privacy protections. Under the new law, the Secretary of State will begin to administer changes to our driver's licenses to become compliant, with a provision to allow Mainers the option of opting out of the new REAL ID compliant licenses. Should anyone choose to opt out, they will be required to provide a passport to access federal installations or fly on commercial flights.

I am glad we were able to come together to pass both of these measures, as they will benefit our region and the state as a whole. If you have any questions or comments on legislation as the session progresses, please don't hesitate to contact me.



(207) 287-1505,
(800) 423-6900,
amy.volk@legislature.
maine.gov

GHS GRAD NEWS

If you, or your son or daughter is a GHS graduate, we would like to share your achievements in the Gorham Times Of Interest section or in a Where Are They Now feature. Submissions should include the year of GHS graduation and should be no longer than 75 words. Contact Chris Crawford at ckck5@maine.rr.com, Kathy Corbett at kcorbett@aol.com or Cindy O'Shea at coshea2@maine.rr.com.

Around Town

A bill introduced by Rep. Andrew McLean to authorize a connector road from Rt. 114 to the Maine Turnpike was vetoed by Governor LePage, but the legislature voted to overturn the veto on May 18. The Maine Turnpike Authority will now begin the process of studying traffic numbers and patterns to determine whether it is a viable project.

ISpoon closed on Memorial Day citing recent increases in fixed and variable costs to run the business.

Several businesses have expressed interest in the property on South St. formerly occupied by the Gorham Grind. Jeff Reali, the property owner, is currently going through the vetting process for a business known as Stripper Lady which buys and refinishes antiques offsite to then sell at this location along with the sales of consignment items.

The Town Council has narrowed the field of candidates for the Town Manager position to two finalists: Ephrem Paraschak, current Town Manager of Naples, Maine and Michael Murray, current Assistant to the City Manager of Portland. The public is invited to an informal gathering to meet both candidates on June 8 from 6:30-7:30 pm at the Gorham Town Hall.

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GORHAM TIMES DEADLINES

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June 7	June 15
June 21	June 29
BREAK	NO PAPER
July 19	July 27

Sandra Miner, Photographer of the Year

CHRIS CRAWFORD
Staff Writer

Sandra (Hansen) Miner (GHS '84) is making a life-long dream come true. She has just retired from the corporate world where she has worked for many years in the technology and accounting fields, and will be launching a new career in photography. Photography is something she has loved her whole life, an avocation that was, by necessity, kept on the back-burner. She never thought that it might actually become a profitable second career.

Miner's fledgling career recently took a giant leap forward when she entered the 68th Annual Maine Photographic Association's (MPPA) competition and earned, as a first time entrant, the coveted Photographer of the Year award. One of her photos, "Majestic" won a perfect score of 100, a rarity in a competition among professional photographers. The award winning image "Majestic" was taken during a recent trip to Iceland. Sandra recalled, "It was extremely cold and windy, the sun was low and the clouds were just perfect. I noticed a mountain in the distance that had the most beautiful light just glowing from the top. When I took the image, I knew I had a great capture." Miner also won the First Time Entrant Award, Court of Honor Award in the Naturalist Category, and the Best of Show Award. She was overwhelmed and very honored to receive such recognition among a group of professional photographers.

A selection of Sandra's images also competed at the 2017 Northeast District Photographic Competition held at the end of April. Three of her four images merited with "Majestic" scoring a 92 in the Superior category. These three merited images also earned a "Seal of Approval" and will be entered in the 2017 International Photographic Competition (IPC) to be held this summer.

The natural world features prominently in Miner's photography. She loves the challenge of photographing birds and other wildlife and will often go off on small trips looking for them. Scenic landscapes are another speciality. She has been the unofficial photographer at various sporting events throughout her children's ath-



Photo credit Jeff Morris

Sandra Miner was the winner of Photographer of the Year as well as four other awards, at the 68th Annual Maine Photographic Association's competition. Her photo, "Majestic," of a mountain near Thingvellir, Iceland, scored a perfect score of 100.

letic careers and other parents have relied on her to capture that special moment. She has also photographed corporate events, head shots and portraiture such as senior photos.

In addition to being a member of MPPA, Sandra is also a member of the Professional Photographers Association and the Professional Photographers of New England. She is working towards her Master of Photography degree and becoming a Certified Professional Photographer through the Professional Photographer's Association.

Like many 18-year-olds, Miner was uncertain about a career path after graduating from Gorham High School. She attended Andover College (she went because her friend was going there) and discovered an aptitude for accounting. She continued her education at USM, earning a BS degree in accounting in 1991, and became a CPA in 1992.

Miner worked in the auditing/accounting field for five years at KPMG Peat Marwick (which later became Baker Newman and Noyes). She was then hired at IDEXX where she began in the Finance department, but eventually moved to Technology, where she was trained and worked in application support and management. Fifteen years later, she began working within Technology TD Bank and was recently promoted to the



North American Senior Development Manager. "I used to manage a small team of Support Specialists for US and Canadian Global Security and Investigations," she said. She took pride in holding her team to the highest standards and worked hard to do the best job every day.

Now that Miner is retired, she plans to provide consulting services within IT on a part-time basis to help pay the bills while she builds her photography business. She is looking forward to being in charge of her own destiny. "I think that comes from my Maine roots, and especially from my father, Hans. He's a self-made man who believes that by working hard, you will eventually reap the rewards of your hard work," she said.

Miner and her husband Kevin built their log home in North Baldwin almost 30 years ago where they have raised their daughter, Jordan (18) and son, Dylan (15). "We have two dogs and cats who keep the house full of fur, but we wouldn't have it any other way," she said. They are an outdoor family who enjoys boating and fishing on small ponds or off shore for ground fish and shark in the warm months and snowmobiling and ice fishing in the winter.

Miner grew up in South Gorham, on Mitchell Hill Road. She is the daughter of Hans and Elizabeth Hansen. Sister Susan (Hansen) Smith (GHS '83) and husband Pat own Hansen Well Drilling in Gorham. Sandra's work can be seen at www.sandraminerphotography.com and also on the Gorham Times website.



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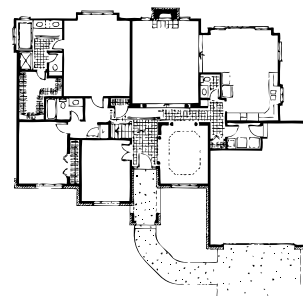
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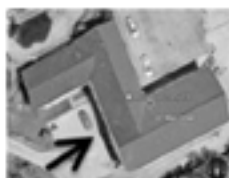
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Shots Fired CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in the direction of the officers who were approximately 150 feet away. Chief Dan Jones returned fire and Bouchard went back into the woods. No one was hit by any of the shots fired. Bouchard was apprehended by Gorham Police and the Cumberland County Emergency Services Unit and taken into custody.

On May 26, Bouchard was charged with reckless conduct with a dangerous weapon, criminal threatening with a dangerous weapon and terrorizing, all Class C felonies punishable by up to five years in prison. His bail was set at \$50,000. The District Attorney chose not to charge Bouchard with attempted murder which carries a prison term of up to 30 years. Bouchard's attorney told the court that he had mental health problems but had not been able to access treatment and had been suicidal on the day he shot at police.

The shooting incident is being investigated by the Attorney General's office as is routine in cases where deadly force is used by a police officer.

Gorham Sightings



Photo credit Roger Marchand

Do you know where in Gorham this photo was taken? Join our visual trivia discussion by entering your best guess on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/gorhamtimes or email us at gorhamtimes@gmail.com. The photo in the May 18, 2017 edition is the bird house in front of the entrance to My Fit 24 gym.

FINANCIAL FOCUS

What Does Conservative Investing Mean to Older Investors?

ED DOYLE

If you are a certain age, you might hear something like this: "Now that you're older, you need to invest more conservatively." But what exactly does this mean?

For starters, it is useful to realize that your investment preferences and needs will indeed change over time. In early and mid career, you can afford to invest somewhat aggressively in stocks and stock-based investments because you have time to overcome the inevitable short-term market drops. At this stage of your life, your primary concern is growth – you want your portfolio to grow enough to provide the resources you will need to meet your long-term goals, including a comfortable retirement.

As you get nearer to retirement, your investment focus likely will have shifted from accumulation to preservation. This certainly makes some sense. Even though you may spend two, or even three, decades in retirement, you actually have many shorter time frames for withdrawing money – that is, selling investments – from your retirement accounts, such as your 401(k) and IRA. In fact, you may be taking withdrawals every month –

and you do not want to be forced to sell investments when their price is down. Consequently, you will want a portfolio that is less susceptible to market downturns. This means that you may need to reduce the percentage of stocks in your investment mix and increase your holdings in investments that have less growth potential but offer greater stability of principal, such as bonds.

If you follow this formula, you will have become a more conservative investor. But this evolution – from aggressive to conservative – is not that simple. If you will be retired for two or three decades, you will have to deal with inflation. And even at a relatively mild 3 percent annual inflation rate, your purchasing power will decline by about half in just 25 years. This is a real threat to retirees, who, unlike active employees, can not count on increases in earned income to overcome increasing costs of living.

Given this reality, you will have to find your sources of rising income in your investment portfolio. One possibility: Dividend-paying stocks, some of which have increased their dividends for many years in a row. Still, like all stocks, these dividend

payers can lose value from year to year, and they can also reduce, or even eliminate, dividends at any time. In other words, they are not risk-free – which brings us back to the question of how "conservative" of an investor you can really afford to be when you're retired.

In the final analysis, there is no simple answer. On one hand, you probably should not be as aggressive an investor as you were when you were much younger and still working. On the other hand, if you were to primarily own certificates of deposit and U.S. Treasury securities, you might face the prospect of outliving your money. Ultimately, you'll need to maintain a balanced portfolio that helps you control risk today while providing you with growth opportunities for tomorrow.



Ed Doyle operates the Gorham branch office of Edward Jones. He is experienced in all aspects of financial planning, retirement income planning, tax-advantaged education savings plans. This article is printed with permission from local Edward Jones.

Tots to Teens Closing

KRISTA NADEAU
Staff Writer

Nearly 25 years ago, Amy Gorsky used to frequent a consignment shop on Main Street in Westbrook to buy reasonably priced clothes for her young son Demetri. That store was small, approximately 600 square feet. One day while there, the owner told her she was going out of business. After a discussion with her husband Paul, Amy Gorsky purchased that store. And so began Gorsky's adventure in 1993. She stayed at the location for over a decade, expanding her store to 1,200 square feet.

Gorsky purchased her current building located at 474 Main Street in Gorham about thirteen years ago. Eventually the store would grow to 3,200 square feet offering something for everyone at a reasonable price. Customers have made a point to thank Gorsky for the store and have appreciated how neat, clean and organized it



Photo credit Roger Marchand

is, making it easy to shop. Gorsky also purchases clothes and toys for resale. She will continue to do that for the next three months. A list of items she is accepting can be found on her Tots to Teens Facebook page.

Gorsky said that customers are at the heart of Tots to Teens, adding that some customers who used to come in as children have grown up and now come in with their children. "The multi-generational aspect of this business is wonderful," she said. At its peak, Tots

ARTICLE CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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Planning Board Results

A recommendation was made to not approve a change to the Land Use and Development code to allow small scale retail businesses with a gross floor area of 4,000 sq. ft. or less.

An amendment to add a new zoning district by rezoning Olde Canal Industrial Park for Industrial District to Olde Canal Industrial District was referred to the Board's ordinance subcommittee.

Doug Carter, doing business as Carter's Development LLC, request for approval to construct a two story 2800 sq. ft. building with two commercial areas on the first floor and two residential areas on the second floor on property located at 18 Elm St. was moved to the consent agenda.

Richard Hillock's request for after the fact approval for an existing

campground at Wassamki Springs located at 56 Saco St. was discussed.

Flagship Landscaping's request for approval of a third amendment to 298 New Portland Road to relocate a landscaping business was discussed and moved to consent agenda.

The following items were postponed to May 15 due to the 10 o'clock rule:

Steve Rich's request for a private way to serve two residences on a single lot at 57 Hurricane Road.

Diversified Properties request for third amendment to Gordon Farms subdivision Phase II to modify alignment of 50 foot right of way.

Melissa Ritz and Meghan Carasco's proposal for a day care on lot 1 of South Gorham Crossing.

Town Manager Recommends Regional Assessing

SHERI FABER
Staff Writer

Gorham's Assessor, Mike D'Arcangelo, is retiring in June. The position was advertised but the Town received only four applications and only one of those had experience in a larger community. As a result, Town Manager David Cole has recommended to the Town Council that the Regional Assessing program is the best choice for Gorham as it will reduce future cost increases.

Several years ago, Falmouth, Yarmouth, Casco, and Cumberland formed a Regional Assessing program. Cumberland dropped out after the first year as the program was considered to be poorly run. However, with the hiring of a new assessor, all three towns remaining in the regional program are pleased with how it is now working.

Current costs for Gorham's Assessing Department are \$186,943 which include the Assessor, Assistant Assessor and other costs. The Assistant Assessor position will be retained whether Gorham joins Regional Assessing or remains a part of Town government. The proposal from Cumberland County Regional Assessing is for \$138,500, a savings of \$48,443 for the next fiscal year.

Towns do periodic re-evaluations approximately every six or seven years when the the assessment ratio falls below 70%. Regional Assessing recently completed a re-evaluation for Yarmouth that went well. They contracted with KRT Assessing and paid \$80,000 which included hiring a temporary person to support the re-evaluation. Gorham has approximately twice as many parcels as Yarmouth and thus the cost of the re-evaluation would be closer to \$160,000.

For the most recent re-evaluation done in 2015-16, the Town hired outside staff at a cost of \$47,738. The county may also need to hire outside staff for the next re-evaluation. Because of the lack of assessors, the cost to hire a person with the requisite experience will undoubtedly increase. Consolidating services means upgrading technology for a larger operation (county program) but it is less costly than each town having to make these upgrades separately.

Gorham is larger than the other three communities and is now providing almost instant access for local property owners and their questions. This proposal calls for a regional person to be at the Municipal Center two half days a week. The part-time administrative assistant will remain on staff.

Bridge Closure to Re-Route Traffic

Construction starts on the Deguio Mill Bridge on Gray Rd. (Route 202) in June and continues through November. During the project, the bridge will be closed to traffic and residents will need to find alternate routes if they are headed toward Little Falls. This will be especially

important for families who have children in Gorham Recreation Junior Camp or Xtreme Teen Camp during the summer. Coming from the center of town, plan to take Rt 114 to Huston Road, or take Route 237 and plan to budget extra time in case of traffic delays.

Grand Jury

The Grand Jury returned the following indictments in April:

Gorham man, 50, was indicted for domestic violence assault on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Gorham man, 23, was indicted for two counts of theft by unauthorized taking on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Gorham woman, 28, was indicted for reckless conduct with a dangerous weapon and unlawful possession of scheduled drugs on charges brought by Scarborough PD.

The Grand Jury returned the following indictments in May:

Portland man, 33, was indicted for unlawful sexual contact on charges brought by the Gorham PD.

Gorham man, 57, was indicted for failure to report and violating conditions of release on charges brought by Cumberland County Sheriff's Office.

Portland man, 53, was indicted for OUI and operating after habitual offender revocation on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Gorham woman, 32 was indicted for unlawful possession of scheduled drugs, unlawful trafficking in scheduled drugs, possession of a firearm by prohibited person and criminal forfeiture.

Tots to Teens Closing CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

to Teens employed eight people. There are now four, including Gorsky herself, who works 25-30 hours weekly.

At the end of 2017, Tots to Teens will be closing its doors. Gorsky's husband, Paul, has accepted a new position in New York. While there are many fond memories in Gorham for the Gorsky family, they are excited for the coming changes. Paul and Amy Gorsky's daughter, Natalya, was recently married and she and her husband Andrei, as well as many other extended family members live in New

York. Their son, Demetri, who resides in Gorham, is also excited about the move. When asked about her feelings on the transitions coming, Gorsky replied, "It's all good!"

The business may be taken over and remain a consignment store under new management. Gorsky said she would be happy to train any new incoming owner, however, there have already been inquiries about the building with other businesses in mind. Amy Gorsky can be reached at 615-2615 for more information.



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Gorham School's Proposed FY 18 Budget ANNUAL SCHOOL BUDGET REFERENDUM MARK YOUR CALENDAR — DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

Check out detailed FY 18 Budget information by going to:
www.gorhamschools.org

Dear Gorham Community Members,

The proposed FY 18 Budget totals \$37,921,593 (Before Council Vote) and represents a 4.49% increase over the final approved FY 17 budget of \$36,291,178.00. This budget requires an 8.5% increase in the local appropriation. Assuming General Purpose Aid is finalized at the proposed level, and the actual FY 17 property tax increases \$10 million in FY 18, the impact of this budget on the mil rate is an increase of 7.72%, or \$0.85. The overall increase compared to the FY 17 Budget is \$1,630,414.00.

Over the course of the budget development process, the District Leadership Team and School Committee deflected almost \$1 million dollars in additional costs. The School Committee also worked to reduce actual programs by \$166,907.00. Additions to the budget were made in the amount of \$1,645,240.00. **There are FOUR key cost drivers to the proposed budget:**

Required staffing costs - \$750,000.00 just to maintain "status quo", \$120,000.00 due to increases in teacher retirement costs at the state level, and \$73,000.00 in increased health insurance costs.

Capital Improvement Budget - State of Maine suggests setting aside 2% of the estimated replacement value of all buildings annually for CIPS. Current buildings are valued at \$90,700,000.00. 2% would be \$1.8 million. We DO NOT do this, but we are trying to get closer. This year's request would bring us from \$608,000.00 in FY 17 to a proposed \$930,000.00 in FY 18, an increase of \$325,000.00

K-5 Planning Time - In order to provide our K-5 teachers with adequate and necessary planning time, we had to add 1 guidance counselor and 1 Ed. Tech. to deliver programming at these levels, plus bring 3 positions that were at .6FTE to full time. Total cost of \$217,000.00.

Increasing Enrollment - We have increased 84 students across K-12 since Oct. 1, 2016. We are projected to increase 400+ students over the next ten years. Right now, these increases are being felt primarily at the K-5 level and in order to maintain our class size guidelines, we have add to add 4 teachers and 2 Ed. Techs to the budget. Total cost of \$420,000.00

During the past year, the School Department has continued to review all programs, personnel, facilities, and attendant infrastructure to assess their utility and their value in the advancement of a high quality, comprehensive educational program for all our students. With a dramatically shifting landscape at the state level, with our continued increasing enrollments, and with out need to maintain our aging facilities, the Gorham School Committee voted unanimously to bring forward the proposed FY 18 budget to the Town Council. We believe it represents the funds necessary to continue to support the high quality educational services we strive to provide for our community's most precious resource - its children.

We look forward to the Town Budget Public Hearing Scheduled for June 6, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. and then to the Budget Validation Referendum on June 13, 2017. In the interim, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. My office phone number is 222-1012 and my email address is heather.perry@gorhamschools.org.

Thank you,
Heather J. Perry

Superintendent of Schools

So What Do We Get for an Investment with Our Support of the Gorham Public Schools?

- Gorham High School has been named one of the top ten high schools in the state of Maine by US News and World Report.
- 45+ clubs and activities for high school students, strong co and extra-curricular student performances . . . Odyssey of the Mind, robotics, musicals, band/chorus, girls and boys soccer champions and girls b-ball state gold ball just to name a few!
- 96% of seniors went on to post secondary last year.
- 33 more colleges added to our "Future Story" wall this past summer.
- Strong Interventions/supports at all levels K-12.
- Strong community connections - business round-table, senior internships, junior job shadows, career days, STEAM nights, collaborations with Gorham House, USM, and others, participation in United Way Day of Service, We Love Gorham Day, and much more!

We have excellent, caring students in Gorham who LIVE our Code of Conduct and understand the importance of respect, honesty, courage, compassion and responsibility! That's no accident! That's a successful whole-community endeavor!

Thank you for your continued support of our schools!



New Assistant Principal Named at GHS

GORHAM SCHOOL DEPARTMENT



Photo courtesy of Ryan Watts

The Gorham School Department is pleased to announce the hiring of Ryan Watts as the new assistant principal at Gorham High School. Watts had been the interim assistant principal at GHS this year. Prior to this year, Watts was a School Counselor at GHS for 10 years, four of which he served as his colleagues' Team Leader.

Over the course of Watts' career in Gorham, he spearheaded several efforts to improve the educational experience for students and increase communication between GHS and the families it serves.

Watts holds a Bachelor of the Arts in Psychology from the University of Maine and a Master of Education in Counselor Education from the University of Maine.

We believe that he will be an incredible addition to the GHS Leadership Team, and we are pleased and thankful that he has accepted this new position and will continue to assist Principal Brian Jandreau in leading the great work being done at GHS for years to come.

School Note

The Town Council recessed into a budget workshop with the School Board at a special meeting on May 16. Residents will have a final opportunity to comment at a public hearing on June 6 before town councilors vote on the proposed \$37.9 million school budget, which represents a 4.49% increase over last year's budget. The school budget is set for a validation referendum on June 13.

GHS Sophomores Visit Nearby Colleges

ERIN WENTWORTH
GHS Student Intern

On April 10 and 11, the Gorham High School sophomore class took field trips to two local colleges: the University of New England (UNE) and Southern Maine Community College (SMCC).

The trip was funded by a grant from the MELMAC Education Foundation, which helps introduce high school students to college access programs. The goals were to help sophomores strive to become more engaged in their schoolwork at GHS and to help them make a connection between their work in high school and their future work in college and beyond.

The Foundation has found through research that visiting college campuses is the most influential action that can be taken to increase college and technical school enrollment. GHS' post-secondary enrollment is around 80-85 percent for students going on to a two or four year program, but seeing that number grow is a future goal.

The class was split into four groups, with two groups going on the trip each day, starting at one

college and then switching mid-day. Students received tours of each school, and were able to see different parts of the campus, such as lecture rooms, dorms, libraries, and labs. They were also able to eat lunch at the second college they visited, and learn about health and nutrition aid at each college.

"Each trip really helped educate me about what each college was really good at," said Olivia Paruk, the current sophomore class president. "I learned that there are definitely options for students in the near future."

Another goal of the trip was to show students that there are ways to receive a degree without going to the most expensive college, and to encourage students to begin considering the many different options that are available to them when it comes to furthering their education.

"I found this trip very valuable," continued Paruk. "It was great to see a private and public college side by side. It helped break some of my stigma around community colleges and private institutions. I think it is important for me, and many other students, to realize that college is only a stepping stone."

GHS Senior Named National Merit Scholar

AVERY ARENA
GHS Student Intern

Gorham High School senior Thomas Matthews, the son of Mary Schultz and Peter Matthews, was recently announced as a National Merit Scholar.

Finalists were originally chosen to partake in the selection process based on PSAT scores from their junior year, and then had to complete a rigorous application process if they chose to do so. The entire process took nearly 18 months to complete. The application required documentation of activities, transcripts, other test scores, and an essay to provide a holistic overview of the students competing for the awards.

Matthews has been active in the school community, spending his extracurricular time participating in math team, varsity tennis, Model UN, and tutoring younger students in Latin. Throughout high school he has pursued an advanced course

of study in math, taking upper level calculus courses at USM for the past two years. Next year, he will attend Lafayette University where he plans to continue his study of mathematics. He hopes to attend graduate school after college.

Matthews was excited to be honored as a Merit Scholar. "I was very grateful, of course, but I was also incredibly surprised," said Matthews. "From the odds alone I never thought I would be selected. Once the surprise wore off, it was an interesting reflection on high school. I've always done things because I wished to do them, and because I've honestly thought they were fun. It was interesting to use this as an outside perspective on how much I've learned and how much has happened in high school."

For his hard work and academic achievement, Matthews will receive a \$2,500 scholarship. He is one of only 2,500 scholars nationwide and only 13 in Maine.

GHS Band Performs Original Piece by Graduating Senior



Photo credit Lisa Casher

Gorham High School senior Samuel Martel (right) wrote an original band piece that was performed at a recent concert by the GHS band.

AVERY ARENA
GHS Student Intern

The Gorham High School band recently performed an original piece never before played in concert. The composer was Samuel Martel, a graduating senior at GHS who has played trumpet for many years and has been musically active in the community throughout high school. Martel began writing this piece over two years ago, and has worked closely with fellow band members and teacher Tim Ebersold to develop the music for the various instruments and parts.

The piece is called "Hero's Journey," and was inspired by the soundtracks to superhero movies. Martel is looking to write more in the future, especially after the positive reception to "Hero's Journey."

"One of the most rewarding things to me about writing music is seeing the creativity pay off," said Martel. "Taking musical ideas, mixing them together, twisting them around, seeing what instruments sound best with what parts; though hard work, it's immensely fun. And it's extremely fulfilling to present it, and have people tell me they loved it and that it affected them. I find that so gratifying and humbling, to know I'm not just creating for myself."

Martel plans on studying film production at Ithaca College next year, and would like to work on movie production in the future with the possibility of incorporating his composition experience into film scores.

A video of the "Hero's Journey" is available on the Gorham Times website and Facebook page.

Congratulate Your Senior in the June 15 Graduation Issue. Deadline to purchase space is June 7. Call or email the Gorham Times at 839-8390 or gorhamtimes@gmail.com.

GHS Academic Awards Night - May 23, 2017 - Grades 9-11

SPECIAL AWARDS

Benjamin Nelson, Rensselaer Medal Award
 Alexander Ousback, RIT Computing Medal
 Kaitlyn Jodoin, RIT Computing Medal
 Stefan Street, RIT Creativity & Innovation Award
 Claire Valentine, RIT Creativity & Innovation Award
 Camryn Morton, Williams College Book Award
 Hannah Libby, Smith College Book Award
 Aaron Farr, Yale Book Award
 Garrett Higgins, Harvard College Book Award
 Sierra Lumbert, Phi Beta Kappa Assn of Maine
 Claudia Daigle, Society of Women Engineers
 Abigail vanLuling, Wellesley Book Award

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

Asma Sayed, Academic Excellence
 Chase Messer, Academic Excellence
 Ryan Gaudreau, Academic Excellence
 Benjamin Demers, Academic Excellence

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Del Tarre Trias Albert ("Beto") (Spain)
 Al-Hadlaq Khaled (Saudi Arabia)

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Nolan Brown, 2016-17
 Benjamin Demers, 2016-17
 Ashleigh Hotham, 2016-17
 Colby Lewry, 2016-17
 Lydia McCrillis, 2015-17
 Ethan Mercier, 2016-17
 Thomas Nelson, 2015-17
 Zachary Pierce, 2016-17

Leah Scontras, 2016-17
 Katrina Tugman, 2016-17
 Simeon Willey, 2014-17

PHYS ED

Lindsey Nygren, Excellence in Physical Education 1
 Peter Richards, Excellence in Physical Education 1
 Joshua Hayward, Excellence in Physical Education 2

HEALTH

Evelyn Kitchen, Excellence in Health
 Courtney Brent, Excellence in Health
 Nora Susi, Excellence in Sports Medicine

ENGLISH (ELL)

Fernando Melo, Outstanding ELL Student

ENGLISH (Book Award Presented)

Isaac Carroll, 9 w/FF Lab
 Abigail Miller, 9 w/HC
 Kaitlyn Crockett, BRIDGES
 Benjamin Demers, Freshmen Focus
 Kyren Bettencourt, 10A
 Logan Swift, American Studies
 Jonathan Grant, Sophomore Strategies
 Emelia Nejezchleba, Creative Writing
 Kaytlin Baker, 11
 Vanessa Therrien, Bridge Yr Eng 11
 Lydia Roberge, 11A
 Aaron Farr, 11AP
 Jonathan Scribner, 11AP

SOCIAL STUDIES (Book Award Presented)

Madisen Sweatt, WH 1
 Conor Battaglia, WH 2

Lydia McCrillis, American Studies
 Emelia Nejezchleba, AP Modern European
 Virginia Hugo-Vidal, AP US History

MUSIC

Vy Duong, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2017
 Mason Hawkes, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2017
 Phoebe Johnston, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2017
 Samantha Langevin, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2017
 Jackson Robbins, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2017
 Madeline Rossignol, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2017
 Abigail vanLuling, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2017
 Anika Malia, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2017
 Haley Thompson, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2017

SCIENCE

Aaron Jones, Excellence in Earth Space Science
 Peyton Morton, Excellence in Earth Space Science
 Haley Burns, Excellence in Earth Space Science
 Henri Kuntz, Excellence in Earth Space Science
 Madison Firmin, Excellence in Earth Space Science
 Ethan Mercier, Excellence in Earth Space Science
 Brandon Cummings, Excellence in Biology
 Brenden Waterman, Excellence in Biology
 Erin Wentworth, Excellence in Advanced Biology
 Olivia Paruk, Excellence in Advanced Biology
 Vanessa Therrien, Excellence in Bridge Year College Chemistry
 Emelia Nejezchleba, Excellence in Chemistry
 Brooke Greatorex, Excellence in Chemistry
 Kaitlyn Jodoin, Excellence in Advanced Chemistry

WORLD LANGUAGES

Peyton Morton, Excellence in Latin 1
 Simon Roussel, Excellence in Latin 2
 Abigail vanLuling, Excellence in Latin 3
 Laura Bolduc, Excellence in French 1
 Abigail Leonard, Excellence in French 2
 Sierra Lumbert, Excellence in French 3
 Emily Crepeau, Excellence in Spanish 1
 Gabriella Gagne, Excellence in Spanish 2
 Hannah Libby, Excellence in Spanish 3
 Olivia Paruk, Excellence in Mandarin 2
 Meadow Fortier, Excellence in Mandarin 3

MATH

Lindsey Nygren, Excellence in Algebra 1
 Haley Burns, Excellence in Algebra 1 Advanced
 Samantha Robichaud, Excellence in Geometry
 Aaron Jones, Excellence in Geometry Advanced
 Sarah Shields, Excellence in Algebra 2
 Jessica Bennett, Excellence in Algebra 2
 Kyren Bettencourt, Excellence in Algebra 2 Advanced
 Hannah Libby, Excellence in Pre-Calculus
 Aaron Farr, Excellence in Pre-Calculus Advanced

TECHNOLOGY

James Plante, Excellence in Programming and Control
 Nora Susi, Excellence in Back to Basics
 Sierra Lumbert, Excellence in Web Page Design
 Samantha Rockwell, Excellence in TV Production

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Narragansett and Village Schools Enjoy Family STEAM Night

KIM MEGGISON

Fifth Grade Teacher at Village

Last month, hundreds of community members enjoyed an evening at Village School filled with activities in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics (STEAM).

Curious young learners explored topics such as computer coding, residential construction, bottle music, origami, art in nature and the solar system, robotics, and the latest science project fad of slime-making. The event provided a career-fair type awareness of job possibilities in a variety of fields.

This combined-school effort was made possible thanks to numerous parent and community volunteers, students, and staff members. Gorham High School and Falmouth High School's combined FIRST Robotics Team 172, The Northern Force, drew an excited crowd that could catch a beach ball launched by their award-winning robot.

The Gorham Middle School Robotics team also posed a challenge for young engineers. Sappi senior research scientist Rachel Kaul and her husband taught children how to make bouncy balls, USM STEM volunteer Mitchell Mason posed engineering situations with "Motion Commotion," USM professor Bob Kuech offered exploration with frogs and tadpoles, scientist Stefania Strzalkowska and her GHS daughter Olivia Paruk encouraged



Photo credit Kim Meggison

The FIRST Robotics Team 172, The Northern Force, captivated students with its award-winning robot at Narragansett and Village's STEAM night.

children to think about the connection between birds' beaks, feet, and food sources with "Best Beaks, Best Eats," and Gorham Sand and Gravel's Mark Curtis and Curt Peffer helped future designers explore residential construction technology and heavy equipment.

Fifth grade students recognized the need for certain activities. Caroline Morrell and Kaitlyn Nichols did all of the planning and preparation for a slime-making station. Elsie Bradshaw's station "Art in Nature" encouraged artists to sketch animal mounts in a "Science Observation

Notebook," designed by volunteer Lisa Williams.

Staff members and some of their family members offered a variety of learning opportunities. Narragansett teacher Jacqueline Durant-Harthorne and her twin daughters offered "Estimation Destination," Jen Stowbridge and her father, Marc, provided a look into "Messier Objects" in the solar system and an astronomical art project, Village teacher Kim Meggison's mother, Adma Willis, and niece, Hailey Coffin, invited families to create designs with origami, Courtney Smith challenged mathematicians to "Flex Your Math Muscle," and Casie Grady prompted engineers to design marble mazes.

Teachers Kim Wright and Laurie Kenny photographed families in action. Village librarian Winston Barton packed the Computer Lab with families writing code, and music teacher Jen Precopio encouraged children to experiment with how levels of water can create different sounds in "Bottle Music."

Volunteers put in numerous hours to help this event run smoothly. Many thanks go to both schools' parent groups and to GHS Key Club students for lending much-needed hands in the preparation and implementation of STEAM events. If you are interested in hosting an activity for STEAM 2018, email kim.meggison@gorhamschools.org.

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- Enhance appearance of all Nappi products by pulling merchandise forward on shelves, facing labels to front, and repacking product in correct carriers as needed.
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- Work safely, efficiently, and collaboratively with your team

Qualifications include: excellent attention to detail; a safety conscious 'heads-up' attitude at all times; ability to work effectively in a team based environment; ability to repetitively lift up to 55 lbs.; and ability to work reliably from written and verbal directions/instructions; and all General Qualifications/Requirements listed below. Previous warehouse and powered industrial equipment experience is a plus!

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SCHOOL

It's a Rap: GMS Social Studies Class Turns to Hip Hop for History

GORHAM TIMES STAFF

Students on the seventh grade Little River Team at Gorham Middle School recently needed to “rise up!” for an exciting, but challenging unit; studying the American Revolution largely through the hit Broadway musical, “Hamilton: An American Musical.”

For their culminating assessment, students chose, researched, and wrote about an important event or person from the period. The assignment was given as a challenge. Students were told that due to the overwhelming success of “Hamilton,” creator Lin Manuel Miranda needed another song for his show and that the best song in the class may be featured in the musical in an upcoming production. The assignment was a huge success.

“The songs were phenomenal,” said University of Southern Maine ETEP teaching intern Pamela Marshall, who taught the “Hamilton” unit. “It took everyone out of their comfort zones and the best part was that they surprised themselves.”

Student Ben McInnis’ rap was a conversation between Nathan Hale and General Washington, “Ok, Nathan here is your mission.” “Yes sir.” “I want you to spy on the British, Hale.” “Like collect all their mail?” “No, no see what they plan to do to my troops and live to tell the tale.”

Students were also challenged to lay down beats to accompany their raps. Some chose to lay their lyrics onto pre-existing rap songs and others used software on their laptops to make their own beats.

Emily Wilcox wrote about the famous American general turned traitor,

Benedict Arnold. “Benedict Arnold was born in 1741. In Norwich, Connecticut growing up wasn’t that fun. He had eleven siblings but most of them died. But he didn’t let that ruin his pride. He then made a plan in 1780. To switch to the British side, he was real shady. He became known as a world famous traitor. There will never be a greater famous traitor.”

Perhaps the biggest crowd pleaser, and the rap that won the challenge, was a collaboration by Tessa Dol and Joleen Gima about Aaron Burr. “The Battle of Monmouth, Burr suffered heat stroke. He was so disappointed his heart nearly broke. Burr decided times were getting rough. In 1779 he resigned, he’d had enough! 1784 Burr got into politics. He wanted to help resolve some conflicts.”

“The winning group excelled because of Joleen’s careful research and Tessa’s whimsical rhymes,” said Marshall who added, “This was truly one that blew me away. The length was beyond expectation and each stanza was filled with accurate historical content and clever rhymes. They did a great job telling Aaron Burr’s story in this way.”

Marshall finished the “Hamilton” unit in April at the end of her internship, but students have continued to listen to and learn from the “Hamilton” soundtrack. Marshall’s mentor teacher, Sarah Rubin, noted its staying power. “Although we’ve moved on into later studies of the American Revolution and the founding of our nation, students still reference songs from Hamilton and point out historical figures that they were first exposed to through the musical. It has been an exceptional teaching tool and experience.”



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GHS Students Receive Writing Awards



Photo credit Joyce Ellsmore

Gorham High School seniors Cassie Marceau (left) and Kara Ellsmore (right) join GHS English teacher Lucinda Stein at a ceremony for the Scholastic Art & Writing Award of 2017.

ANDREA MORRELL
School News Editor

Cassie Marceau, Kara Ellsmore, Audrey Perreault, Nicole DiBiase, and Annie Acker-Wolfhagen, all seniors at Gorham High School (GHS), along with sophomores Autumn Heil and Callie Russell, were recently recognized for their creative achievements in their writing projects submitted to Southern Maine Writing Project and the Betterment Fund and Alliance for the Young Artist and Writers.

They were presented with the Scholastic Art & Writing Award of 2017 at the University of Southern Maine in March. Lucinda Stein, an English teacher at GHS who was an advocate on the students' behalf, attended the awards ceremony with Marceau and Ellsmore.

"I always try to show the students that writing is relevant in our lives, which is why I encourage students to enter various writing contests during the year," said Stein. "I present students with multiple contest opportunities and, ultimately, they choose their contests."

Stein works with the students through the writing process as needed. She feels the Scholastic contest is probably the most prestigious contest that some students choose to enter as the highest national winners are awarded significant scholarships. "I

am incredibly proud of all of my writers," added Stein.

The five seniors in Stein's class who were recognized for their poetry submissions and received an honorable mention, except Ellsmore who received a Silver Award, are: Marceau for her title "Papa," Ellsmore for "Thirteen," Perreault for "Now You See Me," DiBiase for "Rickety Existence," and Acker-Wolfhagen for "A Small Minded World."

Heil and Russell, who are not in Stein's class, submitted their work individually and received honorable recognition at USM. All seven were given pins and certificates at the state level.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards is the nation's longest-running and most prestigious recognition program for creative teens in grades 7-12. Last year, students submitted nearly 320,000 works of visual art and writing to the Scholastic Awards. More than 85,000 works were recognized at the regional level and celebrated in local exhibitions and ceremonies. The top art and writing at the regional level were moved onto the national stage, where 2,500 works earned National Medals. National Medalists and their educators were celebrated at the National Ceremony at Carnegie Hall in New York City.

Family Fun and Wellness Fair



Photo credit Great Falls Parent Connection FB Page

Last month, students, parents, and teachers at Great Falls Elementary School took part in a Family Fun and Wellness Fair that included yoga, a bouncy slide, stair climbing, and jukado, as well as wellness stations. Many children and their families attended the event, with visitors of all ages taking part in the stations. The night is put on to educate students about being healthy and well while having fun. Great Falls principal Becky Fortier poses with the "Let's Go!" mascot at the event.

Unity and Diversity Day



Photo credit Abbie vanLuling

Students and teachers recently took part in the annual Unity and Diversity Day at Gorham High School. There were yoga demonstrations and discussions on transgender rights. Individual students came forth to present about issues of unity and diversity, from Virginia Hugo-Vidal, a junior, speaking about Islamophobia and welcoming questions from students about the religion of Islam, to Kara Ellsmore and Elsa Alexandrin, both seniors, speaking about the Girl Up Club. The day also consisted of presentations about body image, Women in STEM, TED talks, personalities with the Myer-Briggs test, refugee simulation, and more. Students were able to attend seminars of their choice relating to unity and diversity in the world today. Pictured are students taking part in yoga in the GHS library.



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Gorham Youth Lacrosse Opens Season

HAL D'AMICO
Sports Editor

The Gorham Youth Lacrosse Association (GYLA) opened its competitive season the weekend of April 29. While the developmental league held several indoor clinic opportunities throughout the winter, mother nature's impact on the fields delayed the start of the regular practice season. Coaches, families, fans, and especially the players, including novices and the nearly-aged-out of the program, were excited to finally get their sticks scooping up balls in true grass. GYLA is open to all kids from kindergarten through 6th grade, and for the second year has a program for 7/8 grade girls, as a supplemental opportunity for GMS players.

Youth lacrosse continues to expand geographically across the United States. GYLA and other volunteer driven, developmental, generally town-centered programs partner with the Maine Chapter of US Lacrosse, and US Lacrosse, the primary governing organization, to provide crossed-town-lines and wider regional competition. Several expansive tournaments are held in Southern Maine, and GYLA teams from 3rd grade upward participate in weekend events with dozens of teams such as the Cumberland Jamboree being held on June 10 at Twin Brook Recreation Area.



Photo credit Kristen Lehmann

Team Gaudreau, one of three squads in the Gorham Youth Lacrosse Association's Boys 5/6 grade division, prepped in the season opener against Saco on April 30.



Photo credit Hal D'Amico

The multi-purpose fields at GMS were abuzz with skill building on May 9 as the girls in the 3/4 grade division raced for the scoop.

Looking for the Ultimate Sport?



Photo credit Angela Gospodarek



Photo credit Colleen Dever

Ultimate frisbee players (top photo, left to right) Nick Phinney, Eli Sjostedt, Graham Henderson, Hayden Anderson, and Josh Knight from the 5/6 team. Graham Henderson (bottom right) shows off his skills during a recent game against Scarborough.

HAL D'AMICO
Sports Editor

Flying discs, or "Frisbees," the patented plastic, molded product rolled out by the Wham-O toy company in 1957, have recently become common sight on the Gorham Middle School fields. Ultimate Frisbee, or "Ultimate," is an unconventional team sport with bare-bone rules and an unavoidably great workout, especially when chasing discs that can display aeronautic rebellion as they catch updrafts and tease players with unanticipated height and distance.

Ultimate's advent is arguably credited to high school students in 1968 Maryland. According to USA Ultimate, the sport is "Combining the non-stop movement and athletic endurance of

ARTICLE CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

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Do you know a Gorham athlete or group you think fits this broad category? Contact Hal D'Amico, Sports Editor at gtsportseditor@gmail.com.

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In the Zone

Maine Principal Association Heal Point Standings and Season Update as of May 25: The Rams Varsity Baseball team was 13-2 heading into their final two games of the regular season scheduled against Windham (6-8) and Portland (10-2). The Rams held third place in Class A South.

The Boys Varsity Lacrosse Team (9-2) rolled over Windham on May 24, racking up 16 assists in the 19-2 "W." The Portland Press Herald quoted Windham coach Pete Small, who said, "Coach Soule does very well teaching his kids to read the first (defensive) slide, (then) the second slide. They know when it's coming and they know

how to find that open guy." With one regular season game against Thornton Academy remaining, the Rams sat in 4th place in Class A South.

Lady Rams Varsity Lacrosse stood at 6-4 with two games remaining (Cheverus and Massabesic). The squad topped neighborhood rival Bonny Eagle 10-6 on May 11. Heading into two tough games, the solid and improving team was in the middle of the division.

Look for post-season track and tennis updates, as well as playoff news, in the next issue.

Looking for the Ultimate Sport? CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

soccer with the aerial passing skills of football, a game of ultimate is played by two teams with a flying disc on a field with end zones....The object of the game is to score by catching a pass in the opponent's end zone. A player must stop running while in possession of the disc, but may pivot and pass to any of the other receivers on the field."

Gorham residents Angela Gospodarek and Jim Anderson decided to bring the idea of a program to Gorham Recreation Department's Ben Marshall, Director of Programs. He was enthusiastic about the grass-roots initiative, and the department provided field space, the desired 175 gram discs, line painting, and other support.

Gospodarek, who has played on and off since college, said, " 'Spirit of the Game' is one of the most important factors in playing ultimate. There are no referees, and players make their own calls." USA Ultimate describes it this way: Although Ultimate resembles many traditional sports in its athletic requirements, it is unlike most sports due to its focus on self-officiating, even at the highest levels of competition.

Gospodarek added, "I also think it is fun for kids of this age to play on a competitive co-ed team. So often we are separating our kids by gender and this is an experience they don't get other places. I think this also makes them more respectful of how kids of a different gender play and the skills they may have."

There are currently 32 students from grades 5-8 involved in the program. They practice twice a week, which may include a game with another town, and participate in a few weekend tournaments. The kids usually split into 5/6 ("Littles") and 7/8 ("Bigs"), and typically play to 13 or 15 scores in the end zone, versus a clock duration. This Gorham group has had great success, and will close out the season on June 10 at the State Middle School Tournament.

Additionally, there is a very recent Gorham Recreation Department Wednesday evening drop-in program at GMS for adults, and a regular non-affiliated pick-up game on Sundays from noon to 2:00 p.m., which is open to people of all levels and ages. For more information, contact Gorham Rec, or check out the pick-up opportunities.

Gorham's Good-as-Gold Sightings

The Gorham Times is seeking readers' stories exemplifying unusual displays of sportsmanship — occurrences where kindness, connection, and community spirit meet the fire of competition.

Please submit your stories for consideration to
Hal D'Amico: gtsportseditor@gmail.com

Happy Healthy Gorham Kick-Off a Success



Photo credit Roger Marchand

Speakers at the Happy Healthy Gorham kick-off meeting on May 17 included (left to right) Scott Lovaas, Glenn Cummings, Diane Atwood, Stacey Coleman, Jesse Coleman, Heather Perry, and Steve Smith.

GORHAM TIMES STAFF

It was standing room only at Baxter Memorial Library on May 17 for the kick-off of the new town-wide initiative to make Gorham, "Maine's Happiest and Healthiest Town!"

Steve Smith, a longtime Gorham resident, member of First Parish Congregational Church, and sponsor of the initiative through his company NovaPartners, served as emcee of the event. Scott Lovaas, co-director of the

initiative and interim lead minister at First Parish, explained this new and exciting initiative as an innovative way to support and lift up Gorham and its residents. After meeting with community members over several months, "it became clear that Happy Healthy Gorham was an initiative that the whole town could come together around," said Lovaas.

Co-Director, Kim Arena, added,

ARTICLE CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



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Gorham Business Exchange Hosts Roundtable Discussion

KATHY CORBETT
Staff Writer

Nearly one hundred people from the Gorham Business Exchange and the community gathered at Spire 29 on May 22 to honor Cindy Smith, GBE Business Person of the Year, and to participate in a roundtable that focused on projects that will impact the future of Gorham.

The four local presenters discussed how their projects could contribute to maintaining a sense of community in a town that anticipates continued growth. Businessman Shawn Moody noted that unlike many nearby communities, Gorham still has a village center, made possible in part by alleviating, if not eliminating traffic problems. He wants the town to revitalize its agricultural base while at the same time continuing to develop mixed-use commercial areas like the one he is constructing at the old race-

track site on Narragansett Street.

Scott Lovaas, interim lead minister of First Parish Church, described the Healthy, Happy Gorham initiative that will offer the community the opportunity to become involved in activities that promote good health

and “back to basic living.” In coming months, the project will sponsor programs that embody its values: moving naturally, eating well, kindness, and gratitude.

Andrew McLean, State

Representative from Gorham, sponsored the legislation that authorizes the construction of a turnpike connector that will link Gorham to the Scarborough interchange. “With the exception of Bar Harbor in July, Gorham has the worst traffic problem in the state,” he said. The daily congestion on Rt. 114 not only affects commuters but impacts local businesses. Expected to be completed

THE FOUR LOCAL PRESENTERS DISCUSSED HOW THEIR PROJECTS COULD CONTRIBUTE TO MAINTAINING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY IN A TOWN THAT ANTICIPATES CONTINUED GROWTH.

ARTICLE CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

Happy Healthy Gorham CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

“We kept coming back to these healthy, positive values. Every time we talked with residents about these topics for the whole town, there were big smiles, enthusiasm and excitement. It’s so exciting to rally around a positive, healthy initiative that benefits absolutely everyone.”

Lovaas explained that the inspiration for the four, one-week themed program draws upon work from Dan Buettner’s global work on longevity and health, “The Blue Zones,” Michael Pollan’s work on refocusing on the basics of eating real food, Jeff Speck’s work on walkable cities and Robert Emmons (a former USM graduate) on gratitude. The themes will actively promote, educate, and elevate healthy living in Gorham and will be multi-generational, multi-sensory, and available community wide.

Moving Naturally – September 2017: Exploring Gorham’s trails and neighborhoods for walking, biking, hiking. Scavenger hunts, outdoor exercise classes and education and for the whole town.

Kindling Kindness – November 2017: Creating a town kindness tree, kindness notes left on cars around town, community outreach projects, etc.

Growing Gratitude – February 2017: Could Gorham break a record for the longest Gratitude list? Science is showing gratitude is good for everyone’s health.

Eating Well – April 2018: Local farmers and CSA’s, cooking classes, eating healthier, etc.

Glenn Cummings, President of the University of Southern Maine, spoke in support of the initiative. He said, “USM is highly committed to this project,” and talked about achieving abundance by giving ourselves to the positives in life. He then outlined some of the ways that USM can work with the community in not only this project but also in other learning areas.

Heather Perry, Gorham Superintendent of Schools, spoke about the goals of the project fitting in with the school district’s Code of Conduct, while Diane Atwood, author of a health blog called “Catching Health,” shared her ideas for living a healthy life and working with others through sharing our strengths and abilities with them. Stacy and Jesse Coleman, owners of My-fit-24, also spoke.

Books, gifts and prizes were given out throughout the event and guests were given flowers and a thank you card on their way out, inspiring everyone to take a few minutes to send a note of gratitude to someone who had improved their day.

To learn more about this initiative, please visit happyhealthygorham.org or email Kim Arena at health@first-parishgorham.org

A Well-Earned Celebration



Photo credit Roger Marchand

Gorham Adult Education (GAE) held its annual International Potluck Dinner on Wednesday, May 3, at the Gorham Middle School. Each year GAE’s English Language Learners, their families, volunteer tutors and staff came together to share a meal. Each family brought a dish representing their country. There was wonderful conversation and students and staff honored the volunteers with a small gift and lots of cheers. GAE’s ELL Volunteer Program was started in 2010. Two volunteers, Shirley Connor and Diane Rogers, were honored for being with GAE since the beginning of the program. Pictured from left to right are Abeer Basheer, Giselle Hernandez, Wilbert Hernandez Huchin, Sulafa Fadl, Maria Klishch, Peishan Myers, Liliane Pwaurika Alete, Cui Chau, Beletu Smith, and Evelin Guerreo Jimenez.

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GRADUATIONS

Lucia Alexandrin graduated from Macalester College (St. Paul, MN) with a liberal arts degree in Anthropology.

Arthur Lockman graduated with high distinction from Worcester Polytechnic Institute (Worcester, MA) with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Robotics Engineering.

Michael Lubelczyk graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Hamilton College (Clinton, NY).

Trebtor Richardson Lawton graduated from Connecticut College (New London, CT) with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Biological Sciences.

Marissa Roberts (GHS '13) graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Maine, Orono with a degree in management and marketing.

Martin Soper (GHS '12) graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration from Husson University (Bangor, ME). He accepted a job right after graduation with West Marine in Watersonville, CA, as a Merchandise Product Coordinator.

Bridget Stillson received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from Marist College (Poughkeepsie, NY).

DEAN'S LIST

Thomas Leach, Champlain College, Burlington, VT

Arthur Lockman, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA

Joseph Martin, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA

Matthew McCarty (GHS '16), Maine Maritime Academy, Castine, ME

Joseph Moutinho, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA

OF INTEREST

The Gorham Fire Department will hold an All-You-Can-Eat Benefit Pancake Breakfast on June 4 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Fire Department, 270 Main St. All proceeds will go to Sandra Berry, the Department's administrative assistant who is currently battling cancer. \$8 adults; \$5 kids ages 5-12, Free for children under 5 years old.

White Rock Grange #380, 33 Wilson Road, is sponsoring a spring fling dance on June 3 from 7 to 10 p.m. with live music by the Fullertons. Suggested donation of \$10 for singles or \$15 per couple.

The Baxter Museum, boyhood home of James Phinney Baxter, is open for visitors on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or by appointment during June, July and August. The museum has artifacts from Gorham residents and pieces from the Baxter family. Admission is free but donations are welcome. For more information, please contact 839-3878.

White Rock Community Clubhouse, 34 Wilson Rd., will hold a Bean Supper from 4:30 to 6 p.m. on June 3. Homemade kidney and pea beans, hot dogs, cole slaw, potato salad, macaroni and cheese, homemade biscuits, as well as homemade pies for dessert. Adults: \$8/Children under 12: \$4. FMI, whiterockcommunityclub@gmail.com.

The Augusta Symphony Orchestra recently performed Mikhail Glinka's Ruslan and Lyudmila Overture, J. S. Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 1, and Felix Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 5, known as his Reformation Symphony. The Gorham concert was hosted and sponsored by Redeemer Lutheran Church as part of their yearlong celebration of the Reformation's 500th anniversary for the benefit and appreciation of this community. Pictured is conductor Paul Ross leading the Augusta Symphony at Gorham High School's McCormack Performing Arts Center.



Gorham residents Jessica Heath, a five-year brain cancer survivor, her husband Eric, and their children Blake and Aiden recently walked in 20th anniversary Race for Hope 5k event in Washington, DC. The affair coincided with the National Brain Tumor Society's "Head to the Hill", an event to advocate for issues that affect the brain tumor community. FMI on the National Brain Tumor Society, visit <http://braintumor.org>



Gorham High School Class of 1977 will hold their 40th class reunion on Saturday, August 26 at 4 p.m. at Ocean Gardens Restaurant, 390 Main St. \$40 pp. FMI, Holly Merriman Pride, hpride58@yahoo.com or Kim Bickford Goodrich, Kimberlygoodrich@gmail.com.

Annual Plant & Book Sale at North Gorham Public Library, 2 Standish Neck Road, will be held June 3 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Donations of perennials, seedlings or books can be dropped off at the library. FMI, libng@north-gorham.lib.me.us or 892-2575.

Dance Studio of Maine Dancers Abigail Fortier and Mikki Leskowsky were recently awarded with the "Heart of Gold" Award at a local Dance Competition by idance4acure.org, an organization that raises funds for childhood cancer research. Only one award was presented in each age category at the highest level of solo competition. The award was given to dancers who showed the most heart, soul and passion in their performance. Both Mikki and Abigail are now eligible to win a special prize this August in Los Angeles, CA.



Students doing tai chi in a class taught by Jean MacDonald, a volunteer for Southern Maine Agency on Aging. The class, held at Baxter Memorial Library, is adapted for students with arthritis and for seniors.



The Don Roy Trio will play at the Saco River Theatre, 29 Salmon Falls Rd., Buxton, on June 10 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Gorham resident and Maine champion fiddler Don Roy, with Cindy Roy (piano and step dancing) and Jay Young (bass) exemplify the driving beat of traditional music. \$20 adults, \$18 students and seniors. FMI, 929-6472 or www.sacorivertheatre.org.



Baxter Memorial Library will hold a garden dedication ceremony on June 6 at 5:45 p.m. The garden will be dedicated to longtime director Pamela Turner who passed away in 2016. Light refreshments will be served.

Gorham's Maine Beta Chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa, an international organization for teachers and retired teachers, recently met for their annual spring banquet. Pictured in the front row (left to right) are Madeleine Bates, Shirley Swain, Janice Weed, Pat Weeks, and Reggie Minott. In the back row are Judy Wing, Jackie Leeper, Anne Sullivan, Jean Davis, Teresa Prince, Sue Morneault, Teresa Keahon, Caroline McCormack, Christine Sawyer, Jane Sexton, Ellen Durgin, Lynn Silcox.



The Barbara Bush Children's Hospital (BBCH) at Maine Medical Center recently announced that Maine Dunkin' Donuts Business Owners made a five-year commitment to raise \$250,000 to support Pediatric Emergency Medicine at BBCH.

The funds, raised through Dunkin' Donuts' annual Iced Coffee Day promotion, will directly benefit the more than 15,000 families who visit the Pediatric Emergency Unit each year. One of those families was the King family of Gorham. Five-year-old Andrew King fell off the monkey bars last year and was sent to the Pediatric Emergency Unit at BBCH, a decision that saved his life. In addition to head trauma, Andrew had a kidney laceration, which resulted in internal bleeding and the need for several surgeries. Pictured are Andrew with his parents Tracy and Joe King, as well as Cuppy the Dunkin' Donuts of Maine mascot.



ON-GOING EVENTS

The Gorham Food Pantry, located at 299-B Main St. (parking lot of St. Anne's Catholic Church), is open every Thursday morning from 9 to 11 a.m. and the second and fourth Wednesday of every month from 6 to 7 p.m. Free for Gorham residents in need. FMI, 222-4351 or visit www.gorhamfoodpantry.org.

The Lakes Region Senior Center, located at the Little Falls Activity Center, 40 Acorn Street, is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Join them daily for coffee, tea and socializing. Ongoing daily activities include Mahjong on Mondays - beginners welcome. FMI, Diane 892-9529; Tuesday crafts and card games. FMI, Avis 892-0298; The Memoir Writing Group meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. FMI, David 892-5604; Thursday Table Games at 10 a.m. and Friday Art Workshop at 9 a.m. FMI, 892-0299.

The Gorham Medical Closet located at the Municipal Center, 75 South St., is free and available to Gorham residents in need of portable wheelchairs, hospital beds, shower seats, commodes, walkers, canes and more. FMI, call 839-4579, 839-3630, 839-2484 or 839-3859.

OF INTEREST CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

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Of Interest CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

CLOSE TO HOME

VNA Home Health Hospice and Westbrook-Warren Congregational Church are co-sponsoring a six-week grief support group from May 10 to June 14. Learn about grief, share experiences, and practice healthy coping techniques. The group will meet every Wednesday from 2 to 3:30 p.m. for six weeks. Free, but reserve your spot now by calling Linda Hopkins at 440-8714.

Scarborough Free Baptist Church, 55 Mussey Rd., will hold a homemade bean supper on April 1 from 4 to 6 p.m. Two kinds of beans and hot dogs, chop suey, cole slaw, biscuits, brown bread and dessert. Half of the proceeds will go to the Youth Group trip to Kentucky. FMI, 423-5851.

Join a confidential family support group through NAMI Maine for family members, friends and individuals affected by mental illness challenges. The group meets every second and fourth Monday of the month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Massabesic Lions Club, 813 Main St., Waterboro. FMI, Call or text Dan, 298-0664.

The film "Now is the Time: Healthcare for Everybody" will be shown and discussed at the Rines Auditorium in the Portland Public Library on Monument Square in Portland on June 6 at 5:30 p.m. FMI, www.maineallcare.org.

The play "High School Musical: On Stage!" will be presented by Windham Center Stage Theater, 8 School Rd., in the Windham Town Hall on June 2 at 7 p.m. and June 3 at 2 and 7 p.m. \$15 adults, \$10 students/seniors. To purchase tickets, visit windhamtheater.org, click on "box office." FMI, 893-2098 or windhamcenterstagetheater@gmail.com.

GBE Hosts Roundtable Discussion CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

within four to eight years, the five-mile Gorham Connector should make it unnecessary to widen Routes 22, 25, and 114 to four lanes in the future.

Jon Smith, co-owner of Great Falls Construction, also promoted developing mixed-use projects that enable people to live, work, shop and recreate in Gorham, citing his Station Square project as an example. He is looking for commercial tenants "with a passion for their craft and for Gorham."

Smith addressed the parking situa-

tion in the village which is a challenge but, he believes, should not be a detriment to businesses. People shopping at the Maine Mall often walk farther from their car than they would from a parking place in Gorham, he noted. In response to a question from the audience, Smith said that he did not envision a parking garage in Gorham.

Culminating the evening, Cindy Smith accepted the award for Business Person of the Year from Keith Nicely, GBE president.



Courtesy of the Gorham Police Department

RECALCULATING...

Officer observed vehicle blocking Fort Hill Road. Driver said he was lost and couldn't figure out how to work his GPS. Officer gave directions and car cleared the way.

Running Springs subject came and found TV on. It had not been left on. Officer checked residence and nothing was disturbed. Officer tried remotes to turn off TV but neither worked. He unplugged the TV.

Contact was made with male on South Street to make sure he was okay as he had not returned a phone call. He was fine. He simply missed the call as he was sleeping.

Several males appeared to be preparing to fight on Main St. Officer stopped to check on them and they said they were just fooling around. They agreed to keep things calm for the evening.

Person called inquiring if there were any public places to shoot in Gorham and was told there were not.

A trespass order was issued against a subject due to previous incidents that occurred at that address. There were no issues this time.

Advice was given to subject in regards to keeping people from throwing trash into their dumpster.

Officer answered questions with reference to the neighborhood a caller was looking to move to in the area.

Disabled vehicle near South Street was just a person who had pulled over to fix their radio.

Officer responded to Little River Drive for a dispute over a drain. Once it was looked into, the drain is public and a trench was dug so yard would not flood.

Officer took custody of feral kittens on Gray Road. They were delivered to agency for care. Arrangements also made to try to get custody of and care for the mother.

A suspicious person on Gray Rd was someone waiting for a cab.

Three subjects on Main Street were yelling (having a verbal altercation). They were issued a verbal disorderly conduct warning.

A verbal warning was given for noise on Valley View Drive. Residents said they were having a small gathering and admitted to being too loud.

Officer checked on a truck that was pulled over to the side of the Sebago Lake Road. Operator was looking at directions on how to get back home using back roads because he wanted to enjoy the nice weather more.

Officer checked on a car that had pulled over on Mosher Road. The passenger was not feeling well but did not need rescue. She said she was feeling better getting some fresh air.

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CALENDAR

SATURDAY, JUN. 3

- Greater Gorham Farmer's Market, 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m., 71 South Street (Public park adjacent to Baxter Memorial Library).
- Bean Supper at White Rock Community Clubhouse, 34 Wilson Road, 4:30-6 p.m. Homemade kidney and pea beans, hot dogs, cole slaw, potato salad, macaroni and cheese, homemade biscuits, and homemade pies. \$8/\$4. FMI, whiterockcommunityclub@gmail.com.
- Spring Fling Dance, White Rock Grange #380, 33 Wilson Road, 7 to 10 p.m. Suggested donation of \$10 for singles or \$15 per couple.
- Annual Plant & Book Sale, North Gorham Public Library, 2 Standish Neck Road, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. FMI, libng@north-gorham.lib.me.us or 892-2575.

SUNDAY, JUN. 4

- All-You-Can-Eat Benefit Pancake Breakfast, Gorham Fire Department, 270 Main St., 8 a.m.-12 p.m. All proceeds will go to Sandra Berry, the Department's administrative assistant who is currently battling cancer. \$8 adults; \$5 kids ages 5-12, Free for children under 5 years old.

TUESDAY, JUN. 6

- Gorham House Itsy Bitsy store, 1:30-3:30 p.m., Gorham House lobby, 50 New Portland Rd. FMI, 839-5757.
- The Baxter House Museum is open for visitors from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or by appointment. Free but donations are welcome. FMI, 839-3878.
- The Gorham Cancer Prayer and Support Group meets the first Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Cressey Road United Methodist Church. All are welcome. FMI, 321-1390 or 839-3111.
- Garden Dedication Ceremony, 5:45 p.m., Baxter Memorial Library, 71 South Street. FMI, 222-1190.

WEDNESDAY, JUN. 7

- Story Time, birth-3 years old, 10-10:30 a.m., North Gorham Public Library, 2 Standish Neck Rd. FMI, 892-2575.
- Town of Gorham Senior Lunch Program, St. Anne's Church, Gorham. Opens at 11 a.m. Lunch served promptly at 12 p.m. \$4. FMI, 839-4857.

THURSDAY, JUN. 8

- The Baxter House Museum is open for visitors from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or by appointment. Free but donations are welcome. FMI, 839-3878.
- After School Board Games with Crossroads Games: Games will be provided or bring your favorite. North Gorham Public Library, 2 Standish Neck Road, 3-4:30 p.m. Free. FMI, 892-2575 or libng@north-gorham.lib.me.us.

SATURDAY, JUN. 10

- Greater Gorham Farmer's Market, 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m., 71 South Street (Public park adjacent to Baxter Memorial Library).
- North Gorham Chess Club, North Gorham Public Library, 2 Standish Neck Road, Gorham, 10:15- 11:30 a.m. Drop-in sessions open to players of all ages and skill levels. FMI, libng@north-gorham.lib.me.us or 892-2575.

TUESDAY, JUN. 13

- The Baxter House Museum is open for visitors from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or by appointment. Free but donations are welcome. FMI, 839-3878.
- Gorham Lions meeting, Old Elmwood School House on South Street (Rte. 114), 6:30 p.m. New members always welcome. FMI, 298-9182.

WEDNESDAY, JUN. 14

- Story Time, birth-3 years old, 10-10:30 a.m., North Gorham Public Library, 2 Standish Neck Rd. FMI, 892-2575.
- Town of Gorham Senior Lunch Program, St. Anne's Church, Gorham. Opens at 11 a.m. Lunch served promptly at 12 p.m. \$4. FMI, 839-4857.

THURSDAY, JUN. 15

- The Baxter House Museum is open for visitors from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or by appointment. Free but donations are welcome. FMI, 839-3878.

NEXT GORHAM TIMES AD DEADLINE: JUNE 7TH

Congratulate Your Senior in the Graduation Issue

Include your congratulatory ad in the **June 15 Graduation Issue** of the *Gorham Times*. Ad deadline is June 7.

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