

# Your Community Paper Gorham Times

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

## A Closer Look at Proficiency Based Learning in Gorham

KATHY CORBETT  
Staff Writer

As full implementation of Proficiency Based Learning (PBL) in Gorham Schools draws near, some parents and other residents have expressed confusion about how it differs from traditional educational practice and grading, and why educators believe it will benefit all students. Superintendent Heather Perry, along with GHS principal Brian Jandreau and GMS principal Bob Riley, provided information in response to some specific questions and addressed some misperceptions about PBL.

### WHAT IS PROFICIENCY BASED LEARNING?

According to a 35-page handbook that fully explains the PBL system in Gorham, "proficiency-based learning refers to systems of instruction, assessment, grading, and academic reporting that are based on students demonstrating that they have learned the knowledge and skills they are expected to learn as they progress through their education." The handbook is available on the District website.

Superintendent Perry explained that for Gorham, "the system of standards and graduation requirements were determined locally by staff working over a period of years using the Maine Learning Results

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

## 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](http://www.facebook.com/gorhamtimes) or email us at [gorhamtimes@gmail.com](mailto:gorhamtimes@gmail.com). As correctly guessed by several readers, the location of the photo in the March 8 issue is the fire hydrant on North Gorham Pond near the power station.

## Sunny Spring Day Ushers in Marketplace



Photo credit Leslie Dupuis

The USM Field House was bustling with activity for the annual Marketplace held this year on March 31. Marketplace showcases quality products and services available in Gorham. Over 50 local businesses were present. Vendors from the Gorham Farmer's Market were also on hand to remind attendees that soon we'll be enjoying the weekly Market brimming with fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, baked goods as well as homemade crafts. Hundreds of visitors to Marketplace were treated to entertainment, demonstrations, live animals, food, and raffle prizes throughout the day.

## Gorham Police Making Headway in Reducing Crime in Our Town

SHERI FABER  
Staff Writer

### Types of Calls 2015-2017

Call Type	2015	2016	2017
Homicide	0	0	0
Forcible Rape	0	1	0
Robbery	1	0	2
Assaults	48	51	40
Burglary	58	44	13
Theft	116	155	92
Vehicle Theft	5	5	4
Domestic Violence	61	43	19
Overdoses	10	8	17

In 2017, Gorham police officers responded to 14,791 calls for service, made 218 arrests, issued 229 criminal/civil summons, and investigated 556 traffic accidents. They arrested 98 impaired drivers, a decrease from 121 in 2016.

The statistics below reflect decreases in all but one major crime category (robbery) and there were only two reported robberies in 2017. Burglaries decreased from 58 in 2015 to 13 in 2017. There were a number of car burglaries in 2015 and 2016 but following the arrests of several people who were believed to be responsible for the majority of those thefts, the number for both home and auto burglaries, decreased to 13 in 2017.

The terms burglary, theft and robbery are sometimes confused. Burglary refers to entering a building or vehicle with the intent to commit a crime; to steal from that property. Theft refers to taking someone's valuables without the use of force and the thief does not need to enter a property to steal the valuables. Robbery refers to using, or threatening to use, force to take someone's valuables.

In 2015, there were 61 domestic violence calls. These dropped to 43 in 2016 and 19 in 2017. Lt. Michael Nault noted that the department has been very proactive in dealing with domestic violence and has worked with Through these Doors, formerly Family Crisis, for the past few years to assist people who have experienced domestic violence. An advocate/liason is assigned in each case and the advocate follows up with court appearances which has been very effective in supporting and following the victims through the process.

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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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**EDITORIAL POLICY**

The Gorham Times takes all reasonable care to prevent errors and disclaims all legal responsibility for any such errors, omissions, or typographical errors. The Gorham Times will print corrections if notified within 48 hours. We reserve the right to refuse publication of unsolicited materials. All submissions are subject to editing. Opinions expressed in the Gorham Times do not necessarily reflect those of the staff or publishers.

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# Veterans' Transportation Needs to be Addressed

REP. ANDREW MCLEAN

While statutory adjournment is quickly approaching, legislative committees continue to hold public hearings and work bills. We continue to do the work we were sent to Augusta to do.

In the Transportation Committee, we recently heard from the Maine Department of Transportation about their finalized report, "Transportation Needs of Maine's Veterans." This report came from a study in the 127th Legislature to determine the transportation needs of Maine's veterans.

A major finding of the report is that only about 56,000 of Maine's 117,000 veterans, roughly 48 percent, are participating in the VA health system. That means over half of Maine's veterans are not receiving the services they have earned and deserve. While some may actively choose not to participate in the system, it is likely that the majority are just unable to make it to Togus, Maine's VA facility, or one of the 11 Outreach Clinics located throughout the state. If we are able to take this report and increase the participation in the VA system by even 10 percent, then that would have a real impact on the health and wellbeing of Maine's veterans.

The report also found that 50-70 veterans each year are unable to reach a state career center due to transportation problems. Maine has 12 career centers located across the state in Springvale,

Portland, Lewiston, Wilton, Brunswick, Rockland, Augusta, Skowhegan, Bangor, Machias, Calais, and Presque Isle. These career centers are part of the Maine Department of Labor and serve as resources for job seekers, including job fairs and training programs. Most of Maine's career centers have veterans' employment representatives on staff to help connect veterans with employment opportunities.

A MAJOR FINDING OF THE REPORT IS THAT ONLY ABOUT 56,000 OF MAINE'S 117,000 VETERANS, ROUGHLY 48 PERCENT, ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE VA HEALTH SYSTEM.

The report recommends establishing a 30 month pilot program in Oxford, Franklin and Androscoggin Counties. These counties were chosen in part for their network of veteran's service organizations as well as an established transportation provider in the region. The pilot program has a primary goal of providing transportation services to veterans, with a secondary goal of data collection in order to address the transportation needs of veterans across Maine.

In addition to medical and career center transportation needs, the pilot program would also include transpor-

tation for job training, court appearances, general transportation for homeless veterans and mental health services.

This bill to establish the pilot program as recommended by the report will be before the Transportation Committee for public hearing and work session shortly. I support this pilot project because it has the potential to help thousands of Maine veterans access critical transportation services, but it could also serve as a model for how to provide public transportation to Mainers generally, particularly low-income Mainers and our seniors who often struggle to find transportation for basic needs. If you are interested in following the process of this bill, I would be happy to keep you up to date on proceedings.

As always, please feel free to contact me with your questions and concerns. Hearing your thoughts on legislation and issues both in our district and across the state is crucial to what we do at the State House.



Rep. Andrew McLean, D-Gorham, is serving his third term in the Maine House. He is House chair of the Transportation Committee and represents parts of both Gorham and Scarborough. (207) 939-8482, (800) 423-2900, [andrew.mclean@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:andrew.mclean@legislature.maine.gov)

## Letter to the Editor

Letters to the Editor must be fewer than 300 words, signed with a first and last name, typed or e-mailed and include a phone number. The Gorham Times reserves the right not to publish letters that include personal attacks or inflammatory language. Letters are solely the opinion of the writer and not that of the Gorham Times. They are published at the discretion of the Gorham Times and are subject to editing.

Dear Editor:

My family and I would like to extend our deepest gratitude to all those in the Gorham Community who have supported us through our recent house fire.

We couldn't be more grateful to Becky Fortier, Stacey Sawyer, Patty LaRosa, and the Great Falls Staff. Their response was immediate! Within hours, they were meeting needs we had yet to even identify.

As word spread, we were overwhelmed by the emotional support and generosity of the entire school community, as well as Gorham residents. Their graciousness poured out

through the YouCaring page, online gift cards, and individual cards and donations. They even rallied together to find us temporary housing. I have never been more honored to be a Gorham teacher!

To the Gorham High School Boys Basketball team and GHOP, we thank you for your generous donation on our behalf. We were incredibly touched by your thoughtfulness.

Finally, we want to express our deepest appreciation to everyone who organized, donated to, and participated in the volleyball tournament and luncheon fundraising event. We'd like to add a special thanks to the Gorham

Teachers' Association for their willingness to match the funds. It was a day of fun competition, great food, and incredible generosity. It was a day my family and I will never forget.

I could go on and on, describing the multitude of ways we have been blessed by the Gorham community. There are too many people to name individually, and many anonymous donors we will never be able to identify. Please know that your kindness has not gone unnoticed. You have made a difference in our lives, and we are forever grateful!

Sincerely,  
Jackie, Dave, and Luke Taylor

## Around Town

The Bier Cellar, a prominent Portland beer shop, is opening a second location in Gorham at 593 Main St. in the next few months. The shop will offer a mix of local craft beer and European favorites.

On March 30, a sink hole on Rt. 25 (Ossipee Trail) between Alexander Drive and Spiller Road led police to shut down that section of the road, making Rt. 25 one lane. Temporary traffic lights were put up while the Maine DOT repaired the road.

**NEXT GORHAM TIMES DEADLINE:**  
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# 9Round Lives Up to Expectations in Gorham



Photo credit Roger Marchand

Owner Ted Rioux helps Anna Sedenka while she works on the light bag.

**KRISTA NADEAU**  
Contributing Writer

9Round is a global fitness brand with more than 700 locations in 18 countries. Maine's very first 9Round is now open right here in Gorham at 18 Elm Street. Ted, Melissa and Terra Rioux are the proud owners of this family owned and operated business. Doors opened on March 9 and Ted Rioux said they are very pleased with the response in these first few weeks. He added that the community support has been wonderful and they are "thrilled to be part of the Gorham business community."

Ted was introduced to 9Round through his previous position in the medical device industry, which he held for twenty years.

While he has degrees in Biology, English, and Business, he really enjoys the business aspect. Melissa is a Registered Nurse at Maine Medical Center. She has been involved in the fitness industry her entire life; as an athlete, a competitor, and a trainer. In addition to a Nursing degree, she also has a degree in Health and Fitness and is a certified Fitness Nutrition Specialist. Together, with his business and leadership sense and her health and fitness background, they looked at the information presented to them about 9Round and decided to bring a "world class fitness option" to Gorham.

This is not your typical gym. 9Round is a fast, full body, 30 minute circuit workout. Rioux said the 9Round program works for men and women across all age groups. On the first visit, which is always free, the trainer explains fully how the program works. Three minutes are spent at each station with thirty seconds of body weight exercises in between. There are no set class times and a trainer is included to provide personal attention. Workouts incorporate aerobic (car-

dio), anaerobic and full-body resistance training.

9Round uses a heart rate monitoring system called PULSE. Members wear a monitor during the workout and can view their heart rate throughout the session by way of television screens hanging in the club. Each member picks a fighter name, which is both motivating and personal, making it easy to identify feedback throughout the workout.

9Round trainers work to help members maintain the right intensity level throughout the workout to ensure optimal results. The PULSE

system provides information to the individual that includes heart rate, calories burned, and PULSE points, which are based on time spent in the various heart

rate zones (yellow is best).

There are eight trained and certified 9Round trainers. All have a passion for helping people reach goals for better health. "I couldn't be happier with this team," said Ted.

Nutrition guidance is also offered to those training at 9Round. The nutrition program is scientifically proven to help reach fitness goals. Melissa is the Lead Nutrition Coach at 9Round and offers sessions for members to help get them started with the 9Round Nutrition Program. There are custom meal plans and guidance on portion size and caloric intake needs. In addition to nutrition guidance, 9Round also offers a line of nutrition supplements.

Ted added that the mission of 9Round is to provide those training at the facility with "a fast and effective workout in a safe and sanitary environment, all while having some fun." Stop in and try it out. You'll see that 9Round lives up to expectations.

For more information, call 9Round at 207-839-2860, find them online at [9round.com/GorhamMEElmSt](http://9round.com/GorhamMEElmSt), or stop in at 18 Elm Street (next to Carter's Auto).

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL  
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[9ROUND.COM/GORHAMMEELMST](http://9ROUND.COM/GORHAMMEELMST),  
OR STOP IN AT 18 ELM STREET

# Remember When: Fishing In the Fifties



Photo credit Susan Murray

**WILMA GOULD JOHNSON**  
Contributing Writer

If you were a child in Gorham during the 1950's, perhaps you enjoyed the Kiwanis Kids Annual Fishing Derby. For a few years, this annual event, held at Alden's Pond, was sponsored by the Kiwanis Club under the direction of Dean Evans. The Derby was open to all children, both boys and girls, up through Jr. High age.

The pond, located behind the Gorham campus of USM, was stocked each year by the State of Maine with 6-14 inch trout. Prizes, donated by generous local sponsors, included things such as fishing poles, camping gear and even sleeping bags. One of my friends received a telescoping metal rod and reel for winning the biggest trout that year. He says he still uses that same fishing rod today. Another girl won a tackle box for being the first girl to catch a fish.

The banks of the pond were lined up with kids of all ages. There were several categories available for winning prizes: the most fish, the biggest fish, the first fish, the one with the most spots and so on. If you caught a fish, you would run like the wind to the judges' table and hope for a winning prize.

A member of the Alden family recalls that she and her father and sister would go to the pond the

evening before to pick out their spot to fish. Her sister won a fishing reel once, but she doubts she ever caught even one fish from the pond. Another friend recalled that he not only came away with fish, but also with very wet feet. And then, there is the story about "hooking" a friend with a fish hook and having to walk to Dr. Gates office to have the hook removed.

It has also been suggested that a Model T Ford may be resting at the bottom of the pond. Story goes that it went through the ice one winter in the 1930's. Fact or fiction, no one will ever know but it makes for an interesting story. To quote a good friend of mine "thinking back, it was one of the happiest times of my pre teen years."

Even today, the pond is stocked with brook trout. Kids up to age 16 can "Catch and Release" at Alden's pond. Fishing Season began April 1. Happy fishing!

Any one with a question or more information may contact [iamwilma@comcast.net](mailto:iamwilma@comcast.net).

**Also stocked in the Gorham area are:**  
Presumpscott River  
Little River  
Otter Pond #2 and #4

## Ossipee Trail Motor Sales



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# Getting Ready to Dig In

LINDA TREWORY FAATZ

January is long gone. Winter has lost its grip and Spring might be just around the corner. The rooted cuttings from summer favorites sit in the sunny window waiting to be planted. Until it is time to get into my garden, my exercise will be to keep the walks shoveled as long as we get snow and snowshoeing through the garden to enjoy the winter beauty.

During the winter, my mind is always full of gardening thoughts. This year these thoughts are spurred by the pictorial documentation of the family garden that I am in the process of organizing. Many changes have taken place since 1941, the year my folks bought the homestead. Over the last 75 years the landscape has been transformed into acres of garden rooms.

In any size garden there is room for new designs and new ideas. Plants that may not have been appealing last year could be the focal point of a special spot this year. It is ok to tear out the plants that are no longer doing your garden justice. Part of the passion and excitement of gardening is knowing that there are always new projects.

I am generally a perennial gardener. However there are some tried and true annuals that I will always use in planters to highlight special spots in the garden. Zinnias, started from seed, will fill two raised beds for cut flowers and for butterflies. The annual, Lobularia, Snow Princess, hangs over the edge of window boxes in billows of white all summer long. Plectranthus Coloides with its white and green leaves grows vigorously in pots or in the border. Cuttings are easily taken of this plant and pinching makes it bushy. Zonal geraniums always give a splash of color in the sun.

Many enjoyable hours are spent sharing thoughts and new discoveries with passionate gardening friends who come to visit. There will always be plants I have never thought about and techniques I haven't tried. A new discovery for me is the Dowdswell delphinium series from New Zealand. I will try starting seeds this spring.

Plants that are 50 years old still grow in profusion in the garden. Each year I give myself permission to move established plants to a 'better' location. Shade, soil and size all dictate changes. No matter what size your garden, a little area can always be re-designed with new favorite plants.

This year I will continue to include plants to attract butterflies and bees. On my list are Asclepia tuberosa. Called Butterfly weed, it is a perennial with vibrant orange flowers. Other perennials include Black-eyed Susans, purple liatris, Cone flower and Asters. There will be plenty of globe thistle in the background to attract the bees, too. White Shasta daisies are also a magnet for insects. Black swallowtails love to lay their eggs on the row of parsley, but I plant enough for all of us. Whether you start seeds, buy established plants or divide your existing plants, you are encouraging more pollination, which benefits us all. When you come to my garden this summer you will see many more choices of well-established plants that will enhance the well being of the garden.

"When the snow is still blowing against the window-pane...and the wild winds are howling without, what pleasure it is to plan for the summer that is to be." Celia Thaxter

It will not be long before the grass is green and then I am sure we will all be ready to "dig in."



Linda Trewory Faatz, a passionate gardener, lives in her family home at Friend's Corner and cares for the extensive Trewory gardens. She loves to share her home and gardens through craft sales, classes and garden events.

# Ransomware Attacks

ETHAN JOHNSON

Although all types of cyber attacks are dangerous, ransomware is quickly becoming the most popular way for hackers to exploit businesses. In mid-2017, the WannaCry ransomware attack affected over 250,000 devices in at least 150 countries and caused massive financial damage. Ransomware attacks caused \$5 billion in damage in 2017 compared to only \$325 million in 2015, according to global cyber research company Cybersecurity Ventures.

During a ransomware attack, hackers covertly gain access to an organization's computer systems through phishing scams, denial-of-service attacks or unsecured devices. The organization is "locked out" of its own systems until a financial ransom is paid, usually with anonymous, digital bitcoin currency.

The best way to prepare your business for ransomware is to take steps to strengthen your cyber security and establish a response plan to resolve an attack as quickly as possible. Here are some of the best ways to respond to ransomware quickly and limit data loss:

Determine how long your business can afford to lose access to its computer systems. The time that you can spend addressing ransomware will vary based on your business's size, industry and reliance on customer data. Determining this time frame before an attack occurs can help you plan the rest of your response process.

Update your business's software reg-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

## Help Wanted Executive Director New Year Gorham



Are you energetic and would like to plan an exciting community event?

New Year Gorham is seeking a qualified person to serve as its Executive Director.

In its 11th year, NYG is a well-established community event supported by the Town of Gorham, area businesses, individuals, and admission fees.

Candidate must be organized, detail-oriented, able to work independently and collaboratively with a volunteer committee.

### Required:

- Event planning experience
- Leadership experience
- Completed 2 years college

### Desired Experience:

- Public Relations
- Fund Raising
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Annual stipend commensurate with experience.

To apply, mail:  
Cover Letter and Résumé to:

Virginia Wilder Cross  
New Year Gorham  
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# Budget Discussions Continue

SHERI FABER  
Staff Writer

The Town Council got its first look at the Town Budget on March 30 and will begin discussion about it at a workshop on April 5. "Every town department is asking for more help as the town grows," said Town Manager Ephrem Paraschak, but, "my immediate priority is to keep taxes down while providing reasonable municipal services."

As property values increase, state education funding can decrease and Gorham expects to lose \$1.2 million dollars in state education funding next year. The Town's property value is approximately \$1,623,000,000 and the Town has been adding over \$20 million in new property value every year for the last several years. Even though the Town is growing, the added property value will not equal the amount cut by the state in education funding.

This year Paraschak expects to potentially see a small increase on the Town side but expects a substantial increase on the school side with an increasing number of students in town and the cuts in state aid. Along with numerous new homes being built annually, and

steady growth, older people may move to smaller homes thereby selling their homes to families with school aged children, further increasing the demand on the school department.

Due to increased enrollment, Gorham High School, and at a minimum one elementary school, will need portables. In addition, an evaluation of the needs of Gorham High School in the coming years shows that extensive work is needed there. Those costs will be paid for by Gorham residents as the State of Maine only subsidizes a limited number of schools, and all of those on the subsidy list are in much worse condition than Gorham High School.

The increasing enrollment issues are not just issues in Gorham. Other area towns are facing similar problems with Falmouth looking at a 5.7% school tax increase, Cape Elizabeth a 3.5% increase, and Yarmouth a 4% increase.

Going forward, Gorham may consider an impact fee for new housing and is looking to expand the business district, particularly in South Gorham, as potential ways of moderating future tax increases.

Voters will go to the polls in early June to approve the school budget.

# Clerk's Corner

LAURIE NORDFORS  
Town Clerk

Happy Spring Everyone! The weather is getting better and the snow is melting.

Motorcycle registrations were due March 31. You can re-register your motorcycle online or in the Clerk's Office. You will need your old registration, current insurance card and mileage.

The second half of the 2018 Property tax bill is due on May 15. A copy of your property tax bill is available on our website, [www.gorham-me.org](http://www.gorham-me.org).

The Animal Control Officer is out issuing summons for unregistered dogs. If your dog is not licensed for 2018, you may receive a summons. To avoid this, you can register your dog at the Town Clerk's Office.

Election Day is June 12 for the State Primary & Referendum Election as well as the Gorham School Budget Validation Referendum Election. Absentee ballot applications are now available at the Town Clerk's office and are also available through the Town's website (go to the Town Clerk's Department and click the link Election and Voting Information, then Absentee Voting).

All State ballots and the Gorham Special Referendum ballot will be mailed to voters when they are available at the beginning of May. Due to State law, the School Budget Validation Referendum ballot can not be returned prior to June 5. School Budget Validation Referendum ballots returned prior to June 5 will not be counted.

Information regarding the State Election can be found online at [www.maine.gov/sos](http://www.maine.gov/sos) (click the link at the left for elections & voting). Remember, if you are not enrolled in a party, you will not receive a State Primary ballot, only a State Referendum ballot.

If you want to change your Party Affiliation, you must do so by Friday, May 25, in order to vote in that new party at the June 12 Primary Election. If you are not enrolled, you can enroll in a party at any time, including Election Day, by completing and filling out a new voter registration card in the Town Clerk's office or at the polls on Election Day.



Laurie Nordfors, Town Clerk, can be contacted at the Town Clerk's Office or by calling 222-1670.

# Snap Chat Threat Investigated

GORHAM TIMES STAFF

Gorham Police were contacted by the FBI on March 25 about a vague threat of a mass shooting that had been posted on Snap Chat. Police visited a local residence but determined that no one there was involved in the threat. However, a Gorham High School student who was at the residence posted online that there had been a threat made toward Gorham High School.

This posting frightened a number of people who read it, and officers had to reassure them because

of the reactions to the posting. The original threat was not sent from a Gorham residence, therefore the information about the threat was forwarded to the appropriate agency.

The original threat was "thoroughly investigated" according to the Gorham Police Department and was not believed to be a credible threat. Gorham High School Principal Brian Jandreau told Gorham Police that he had "complete confidence in their handling of the case" and that there was "no threat to GHS."

# January Arrests

Maple Drive woman, 45, was held for another agency.

Buck St. man, 58, as arrested for violating conditions of release.

Winslow Road man, 34, was arrested for theft by unauthorized taking, obstructing report of a crime, domes-

tic violence assault and domestic violence terrorizing.

State St. man, 29, was arrested for theft by unauthorized taking and criminal trespass.

Standish man, 26, was arrested for OUI, failure to stop for an officer, and failure to make an accident report.



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## Ransomware Attacks

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

ularly. Although no app or operating system is completely safe from hackers, software developers frequently release security updates that remove ransomware exploits. You should also encourage your employees to update their personal devices, especially if they're allowed to use them on your company Wi-Fi network.

Create regular backups of your most important data. Many ransomware attacks only target online systems, so keeping an offline backup of your business's most important data can help mitigate the impact of an attack.

Train your employees on cyber security best practices. Ransomware attacks often begin with an easily avoidable event, such as an employee clicking on a seemingly innocent link from an unknown sender. You can help train your workforce by developing an Employee Cyber Training Manual.

Cyber attacks can have significant impact on your customers, your employees and your bottom line. For more information about cyber liability and risk management strategies contact your local independent agent.



*Ethan Johnson of Chalmers Insurance has over 13 years of experience in the industry. A USM graduate, he is passionate about helping people and giving back to Gorham, where he lives with his family.*

## SCHOOL

# School Committee Faces Tough Decisions on Budget

KATHY CORBETT  
Staff Writer

Faced with increasing numbers of students and decreasing state funding, the Gorham School Committee is wrestling with hard decisions as it prepares to vote on the district's budget for 2018-19. At weekly workshops, committee members and school personnel spend hours determining which expenditures are necessary to maintain Gorham's educational standards, which can be delayed, and which are "wants" that they believe the district can not now afford. The committee will vote on the FY19 budget at its regular meeting on April 11.

Like many Cumberland County school districts, Gorham will receive less money from the state next year. The \$1,210,731 reduction is due largely to increased property values and changes in the required local share contribution. At the same time, 96 more K-5 students are projected to be enrolled next year which will require additional personnel and space.

Instructed to do so by the School Committee, the Administration made cuts to its original FY19 budget request that would have called for a 7.56% increase over the FY18 budget. While \$933,000 was removed, an increase of \$943,000 in new initiatives remained for items such as additional teachers due

to increased enrollment, a need for more special education personnel, textbook and computer replacements, and facilities improvements.

Although Chairman Darryl Wright has said that "everything is on the table" during the discussion, he was referring to those expenditures over which the committee could deliberate. Much of the budget is determined before discussion begins.

Negotiated contractual obligations for salaries and benefits represent 76% of the FY19 budget; increases of 2-2.5% added \$920,000. Health insurance costs increased 9%. Transportation, fuel, and facilities maintenance are relatively fixed expenses. Because the budget requests under discussion directly affect students in the classroom, their resources, and their teachers, these decisions are particularly difficult.

Of 13 Cumberland County school districts, Gorham ranks 10th in per pupil expenditure. Finding a balance between fiscal restraint and providing the resources to continue offering the quality of education for which the district is known is a daunting task for School Committee members who volunteer their time and experience, and ultimately, for the Town Council that will receive the school budget for approval in May, and for Gorham voters in June.

## GHS Senior Competes in State Poetry Competition



Photo courtesy of the Maine Arts Commission

Senior Abbie vanLuling placed in the top five at the state level of the Poetry Out Loud competition.

KERRY HERLIHY  
GHS English Teacher

For the eleventh year, Gorham High School (GHS) participated in Poetry Out Loud, a national recitation competition funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and supported by the Maine Arts Commission.

This competition encourages high school students to explore poetry

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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**A Closer Look at Proficiency Based Learning in Gorham** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and Common Core standards as the basis.”

**WHY ISN'T A 3 ON THE PBL SCALE JUST THE SAME AS A B?**

The PBL system uses a 1-4 grading scale instead of the traditional 100 scale and letter grades. Confusion exists about how these two systems relate to each other. For PBL grading, teachers use “performance indicators” for evaluating student progress. The scale is: 1) beginning to understand; 2) developing knowledge and understanding; 3) proficiency; and 4) distinguished or exceeding proficiency.

Therefore, a 3 is not a B, but it indicates that a student has demonstrated that he or she understands the material and can communicate that understanding as described in the performance indicator for that assignment. The criteria for a 3 or “proficiency” in a math concept might be “I can use variables to represent numbers and write expressions.”

**WHY CAN'T A STUDENT SCORE A 4 ON EVERY TEST?**

Teachers make “formative assessments” when they want to find out how well students are learning a concept so that they can provide feedback. This could be a quiz, an in-class essay, or a homework assignment. In the previous example the teacher may not have structured the assignment to find out if a student could also demonstrate that she can write expressions “when solving real world problems,” the level on knowledge that would be required for a 4. This is why a 3 is the highest value for this formative assessment. If formative assessments are figured into a summative grade they have little weight.

“Summative assessments,” for which students receive a grade, always give students the opportunity to demonstrate that they are not only proficient but that have exceeded the standard for proficiency, that is, earned a 4.

**WHY CAN STUDENTS TAKE TESTS MORE THAN ONCE?**

There is also misunderstanding about retaking tests. Because the

goal is to make sure students learn the materials, they are given multiple opportunities to demonstrate proficiency in a subject, just as it is possible to take the SAT test or a driver’s license test more than once. Just because a student may be tested again does not mean it will be by utilizing the same assessment or even done within the same timeframe.

**HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT ALL TEACHERS ARE GRADING THE SAME WAY?**

This system reduces subjectivity in assessing student work. It gives students, parents, and teachers a clear way of knowing how a student is progressing toward proficiency or exceeding it based on the performance indicators. This depends on all teachers adhering to the agreed upon criteria, realizing that teachers have different teaching styles.

Although PBL may express it differently, it is built on best practices of the teaching profession, practices that Gorham expects of all its teachers. However, this system does make the process more transparent and the feedback more specific.

**WILL A 1-4 SCALE MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR STUDENTS IN APPLYING FOR COLLEGE?**

Perry has found that people who express skepticism of PBL, often are not skeptical about the learning system, but do have concerns about the reporting system that uses a different grading scale. She stated that the 1-4 scale would not make it more difficult for students to get into college, since most colleges use a 4.0 GPA scale.

A survey of 74 New England colleges, which included Bates, Bowdoin, and Tufts, found that they had no problem with the 1-4 scale when considering admission. When it moves to the 1-4 scale, GHS will continue to calculate a 4-point GPA to calculate high honors, class ranks, etc.

**IF MAINE DOES NOT REQUIRE STUDENTS TO MEET PROFICIENCY IN ALL EIGHT AREAS, WILL GORHAM ABANDON PBL?**

Proficiency Based Learning will continue to be the educational sys-

tem for Gorham schools, regardless of state action. Currently under Maine law students must meet proficiency in eight areas to receive a high school diploma. There is now a bill before the legislature to “decouple” proficiency from the diploma at the state level.

Perry said that students would still be required to meet proficiency, but local school systems would be permitted to define what that means in terms of their diploma. For example, districts may not be equipped to offer all courses necessary for proficiency in a subject such as world languages. Accommodations in proficiency requirements will be needed for some special education students.

**IF PBL IS STRUCTURED FOR ALL STUDENTS TO BECOME PROFICIENT, WILL THIS DISADVANTAGE HIGH ACHIEVING STUDENTS?**

Proficiency Based Learning is designed to challenge students to do their best work, reach their highest potential, and be ready to succeed in the workplace and in higher education. The system provides opportunities for students to exceed proficiency (4), in all content areas. Gorham also offers many additional opportunities for students through AP courses, extra-curricular activities such as Robotics and Odyssey of the Mind, and even college courses through an arrangement with USM.

**WHY DO GORHAM EDUCATORS BELIEVE THIS IS THE BEST SYSTEM FOR STUDENTS?**

“Within a PBL system, the expectation is that ALL students are expected to learn,” Perry said, “and this system is consistent with our Core Beliefs and with our Vision.” Bob Riley, GMS principal, stressed that PBL “helps students build creative thinking skills and understand their role in learning.” GHS principal Brian Jandreau emphasized that this system not only “requires best teaching practices, but makes feedback between students, teachers, and parents more specific and transparent.”

**WHEN WILL PBL GRADING SCALE BE IN PLACE THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT?**

Perry emphasized that this is a gradual process that will be fully implemented over time. Right now elementary grades use the 1-4 scale, but it is still “blended” with the traditional 100 point letter scale in some grades at GMS and in all grades at GHS.

As the transition continues there needs to be more communication between teachers, students, and parents “as to what these scales mean, and often more importantly, what they do not mean,” she said.

Visit the Gorham Times website for a link to view Superintendent Perry’s more detailed responses to these and other questions about PBL.

**School Notes**

The cast and crew of Gorham High School’s one act play, “Small Actors,” performed at the State Drama Festival during the weekend of March 23-25. Senior Sawyer Hanscome and freshman Emily Paruk were named to the “All Festival Cast,” which recognizes excellence in acting. The cast of the play-within-a-play, “Romeo and Juliet,” received a judges’ commendation for their “Hilarious Elizabethan Sequence.”

Gorham High School’s Key Club is sponsoring a Parent’s Night Out on April 7 at GHS from 5 to 9 p.m. for kids ages 4-10. Kids must be potty trained. Tickets are \$20 per child. All proceeds will be donated to Camp Sunshine. Buy tickets at <https://ghskeyclub-parentsnightout.bpt.me>. FMI, call 222-1100 or [trisha.cherry@gorhamschools.org](mailto:trisha.cherry@gorhamschools.org).

**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. Of Interest submissions should include the year of GHS graduation and should be no longer than 75 words. Contact Chris Crawford at [ckck5@maine.rr.com](mailto:ckck5@maine.rr.com), Kathy Corbett at [kcorbett@aol.com](mailto:kcorbett@aol.com) or Cindy O’Shea at [coshea2@maine.rr.com](mailto:coshea2@maine.rr.com).


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# Walkout to Stand Up



Photo credit Grace Flynn

On March 15, students from Gorham High School participated in a walkout from 12:00 p.m. to 12:17 p.m. in honor of the 17 lives lost in the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. Originally, students planned to participate in the National School Walkout scheduled across the country for March 14 at 10 a.m., but many schools in Maine had to reschedule after being closed for the day due to a nor'easter that hit the area.

## Youth Art Recognized



Photo credit Amy Cousins

Gorham Middle School students Ava Bryant, seventh grade, and Elijah Wyatt, eighth grade, were selected to participate in displaying their work for Youth Art Month at the Portland Museum of Art. Both students did an exceptional job interpreting different assignments (Bryant, mixed media mask, and Wyatt, mixed media 2D work) and took the creative thinking process to the next level of learning. Their work was on display throughout the month of March.

## Adapt & Survive



Photo credit Donna Landry

Last month, the first graders at Village Elementary School had a special guest speaker during a first grade assembly. Josh Sparks, of Spark's Ark, showed a variety of animals and talked about how they adapted and survived in their environment. Students and staff had a wonderful time and enjoyed seeing all of the animals. A grant from the Gorham Educational Foundation made the visit possible. Village School is thankful for the support.

# Street Named Mr. GHS in Annual Pageant



Photo credit Amanda Landry Photography

The Mr. GHS participants, all seniors, from left to right (front row): Babou Gatete, Ben Nelson, Stefan Street (winner), Andrew Harjula (first runner up), and Garrett Higgins (second runner up). Back row (l to r): Max Harvey, Nathaniel Hotham, Aaron Farr, and Clayton Bassingthwaite. Pictured also is Street singing while strumming his ukulele during the talent portion of the evening.



ABBIE VANLULING  
GHS Student Intern

On the evening of March 16, the Gorham High School (GHS) auditorium was packed full of students and parents, all there for what could be coined as the must-see event of the second semester.

The annual Mr. GHS pageant was held again this year as a fundraiser for the Class of 2018, and the contestants didn't disappoint. Each senior had to take part in multiple portions of the competition, including casual wear, random questions, talent, and formal wear.

The questions, prepared ahead of time by hosts Jessica Dusseault, Emma Cousins, and Kate Gilbert, were unknown to the contestants and had to be answered on the spot. Andrew Harjula, who ended up placing second overall in the competition, was asked what he would put on the ideal ice cream sundae.

He replied "hot sauce." When the crowd began to laugh, he fixed his response. "Hot chocolate sauce," he emphasized. The other questions ranged from, "What is your opinion

on climate change?" (asked of Garrett Higgins, who placed third overall), "What would you title a book about you?" and, finally, asked of Stefan Street, who placed first and was crowned Mr. GHS, "If tomorrow's newspaper headline was about you, what would it say?"

Street, clad in his casual wear wetsuit and holding a surfboard, replied, "Boy attacked by shark fights back, and wins."

After each contestant answered their questions, the boys moved on to the talent portion, with numerous highlights. Nate Hotham performed a free-style dance, Aaron Farr and Ben Nelson donned roller-blades, and Babou Gatete played the drum expertly while Max Harvey shockingly smashed apples off of his forehead to Babou's beat.

Harjula and Clayton Bassingthwaite donned tutus to perform a "beach ball ballet," Higgins wooed the audience with his saxophone playing, and Street sang along while strumming the ukulele.

After the talent portion, the boys were each escorted in by an important female in their life, including mothers,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

*Best Wishes to  
David Willis and Katie Johnson  
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# Southern Maine Class B Hockey Awards Ceremony



Photo courtesy of Sue Roop

Members of the Gorham High School hockey team received awards at a ceremony on March 18. Pictured (l to r) Sophomore Cole Perrault (Rookie of the Month for February, Class B South - All Rookie Team), Senior Garrett Babineau (GHS Award Outstanding Play, Class B South Goaltender of the Month for January, Class B South Third Team, Class B South Senior All Star), Senior Jack Richards (GHS Most Improved Player, Class B South Defenseman of the Month for February, Class B South First Team, Class B South Defenseman of the Year, Class B South Senior All Star) and Senior Lucas Roop (GHS Hobey Baker Character Award, Class B South Third Team, Class B South All Academic Team, Class B South Evan Spear Memorial Award Nominee, Class B South Senior All Star). Junior Tanner Garand also received the GHS Seventh Player Award and Senior Ben Eichner was named a Class B South Senior All Star.



Photo courtesy of Kristen Curley

## GHS Grad Kristen Curley Shines for USM

DESTINY COOK  
Sports Editor

Kristen Curley (GHS '17) continues to receive awards well into the USM Huskies off season. Most recently, she was named New England Women's Basketball Coaches' Association (NEWBA) Rookie of the Year and named to the NEWBA all-rookie team. She

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

# Holmes Commits to the Hoosiers

DESTINY COOK  
Sports Editor

While Gorham may be a small town, it seems Mackenzie Holmes, junior and leader on the Gorham Rams Girls Basketball team, is no "small town girl." She recently signed her commitment letter to become a member of the Indiana Hoosiers in the fall of 2019. The college competes in the Big Ten Conference in NCAA Division I. Holmes visited the campus back in October and said, "I got a feeling there that I didn't get at any other school. It felt like a place I could call home."

At the end of the recruitment process, Holmes had about five schools to choose from. Her coach, Laughn Berthiaume, said she put a lot of time and effort into making her college choice.

"They (Indiana coaches) were at a number of our games this season and made numerous other contacts." He said, "Mackenzie is a unique player in today's game, basketball has evolved and more players are facing the basket offensively."

Coach Berthiaume said college coaches really like that Holmes is a true "back to the basket" player



Photo credit Denise Holmes

who can score with either hand, and has shown the ability to score over players who have more size than her. The Indiana coaches were also impressed with her work ethic and ability to run the floor.

Years ago it wasn't uncommon to see a young Holmes practicing in her driveway for hours. At times by herself practicing different shots, or with her brother Cameron, honing her offensive as well as her defensive skills. Her work ethic is like no other and it shows on the court; Holmes finished the 2017/2018 season with 464 points, 292 rebounds, 111 blocked shots, and 62 steals.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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# Gorham Rec Basketball Champions



Photo courtesy of Gorham Rec

Gorham Rec crowned its fifth/sixth grade girls and boys champions on March 14. On the girls side, Navy Blue beat Red, 17-14. Pictured above (l to r) in the front row: Natalie Miner, Lindy Moreland, Sophia Andrade, Vicki Sands, and Lucy Nappi. Middle row: Chloe Blanchard, Katrice Morgan, Brianna Beaulieu, Abby Fecteau, and Elizabeth Douglass. Back row: Coaches John Douglass and Craig Larochele. Missing: Coach Bill Gendron and players Julia Wareham and Meghan Gendron. The boys Black team beat Orange, 33-27, to take the championship. Pictured (l to r) in front row: Logan Vail, Robby Toronto, Gage Beaulieu, and Leo Kiyantsa. Middle row: Griffin Johnson, Dalton Ocegüera, Jackson Morrell, Coach Dan McEachin, Sam Minchev, Cruise Labrie, and Bert Fogg.

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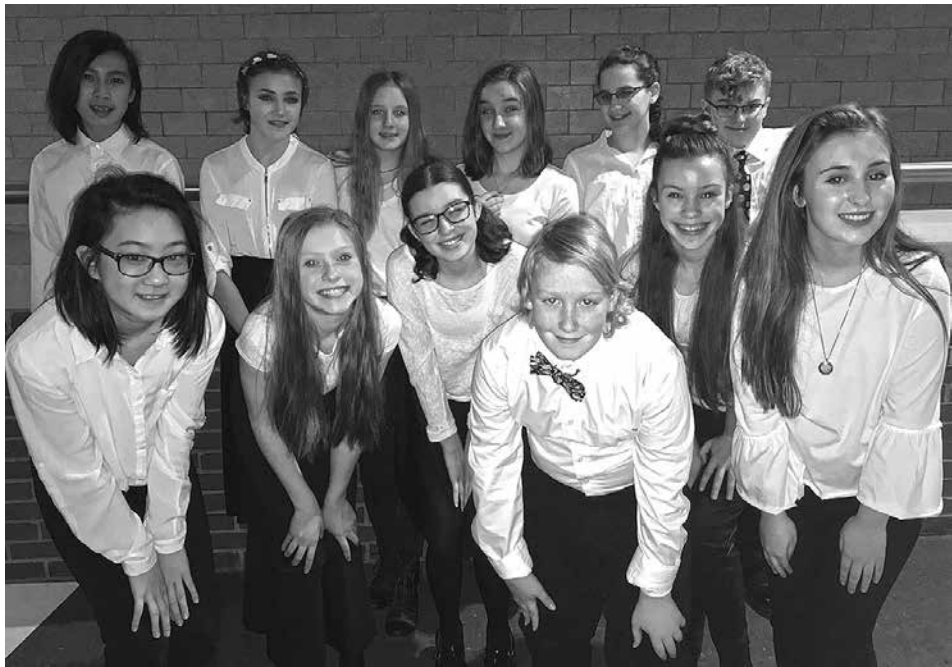
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## GMS Chorus Students Hit the Stage



The 2018 7th and 8th Grade Honors Chorus members (back row l to r): Ethan Ho, Makenna Roberts, Ava Nickerson, Kaylin Brown, Sarah Rathbun, and MJ Harmon; (front row l to r): Junbei Chen, Madison Woodcock, Annikka Mocchiola, Bruce Hodgkin, Madeline Downey, and Emelia Bailey.



The 2018 6th Grade Honors Chorus members: Brady Mercier, Kaylee Gonneville, Kira Keniston, Lily Rubin, Amy Morin, and Patrick Delaney.



Photo credits Tracy Williamson

The 2018 All-State Chorus members (l to r): Eden Johnson, Avery Andrews, Tayler Price, Tessa Dol, Riley Griffin, Aiden Warren-VanHorn, MJ Harmon, Ryan Jodoin, Ethan Ho, Hailee Willey, Emily Wilcox, and Anya Mazaris-Atkinson.

TRACY WILLIAMSON  
GMS Music/Chorus Teacher

The Gorham Middle School (GMS) Chorus students were busy last month with three amazing opportunities and wonderful performances. They started the month with the District 1 Southern Maine Middle School Honors Chorus Festival. Twelve seventh and eighth grade students auditioned for and were accepted to the festival that took place on March 2 and 3.

One hundred and twenty students from all over Southern Maine came together at South Portland High School to work with guest conductor Camille Saucier. They presented a concert on Saturday afternoon. Three GMS students were featured soloists during the concert: Emelia Bailey, Madeline Downey and Ethan Ho.

The following weekend was the District 1 6th Grade Honors Festival. Six GMS students were nominated to the 60-member Honors Chorus, along with

## GHS Students Sing with UMaine



Photo credit Matt Murray

The UMaine School of Performing Art's University Singers recently sang at Gorham High School as part of a tour of schools in New England.

LYDIA VALENTINE  
GHS Student Intern

Gorham High School (GHS) was recently graced with a visit by the UMaine School of Performing Art's University Singers. The audition group, directed by Francis John Vogt, is comprised of both music majors and students studying other subjects that also attend the school.

Every spring, the group goes on a tour of schools in New England, making stops in Gorham and Waterville in Maine, and Burlington, Vermont. Every four years, the group tours in Europe.

Mathew Murray, a UMaine alumni and the music director at GHS, encouraged his students to come and see the show, and even have the chance to sing with them. The group sang five pieces, all with wondrous harmony and technique in both English and Latin.

After a short intermission, both the women's a cappella group,

Renaissance, and the men's a cappella group, the Maine Steiners, performed their own selections. Renaissance singers wore matching purple scarves and incorporated many different voices into their songs. The Maine Steiners got the crowd going with some oldies but goodies and a strong lead vocalist.

Following those acts were some more recent and goofy songs by the whole group including "I'm a Train" and "Put on your Sunday Clothes" from Hello Dolly. The night was rounded off by alumni and GHS students joining together with the choir to sing (and dance) "Jabberwocky" and the Maine Stein Song, a UMaine tradition.

The night of music was certainly inspirational and gave students a look at what their future could hold.

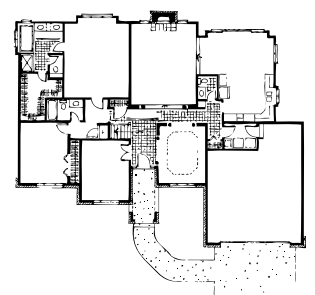
students from Bonny Eagle, Westbrook, South Portland, and Cape Elizabeth.

They came together on March 8 at Bonny Eagle Middle School to rehearse with guest conductor Nathaniel Menifield and presented a concert that afternoon. Gorham High School student Erin Wentworth accompanied the chorus on flute.

Finally, on March 17, 12 GMS seventh and eighth graders participated in the American Choral Directors Association Maine Middle School All-State Choir under the direction of guest conductor Dr. Patrick Freer from Georgia State University. The students rehearsed all day in USM's Corthell Hall and presented a concert that afternoon at First Parish Church in Gorham.

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## Holmes Commits to the Hoosiers CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

"Indiana isn't just getting a skilled player, they will be getting an exceptional leader and teammate," said Coach Berthiaume.

This is an incredible opportunity, yet Holmes remains humble. For her, what is most important is her family as well as her teammates and their accomplishments together. Her mother, Denise Holmes, recalled her most memorable moment with Mackenzie.

"In the state finals game this year, how she carried herself after the loss. Embracing her teammates,

it could have gone many different ways. She gets it. It's all about the team."

Denise said they will be planning a trip to visit Indiana and the team this fall. When Mackenzie finally heads to Indiana, she won't be going alone. Cameron, who is currently attending Bryant University, plans to transfer to Indiana so he can support his little sister. He hopes to be a part of the practice team (consisting of all men) who compete against the women's team so he can once again support

Mackenzie and be there to help improve her play.

Mackenzie said she plans to continue to expand her game and get stronger and better for that level of play. "I am nervous because I know it's not going to be easy going to school so far away, however, I am excited for the adjustment and what the future holds."

Her small town of Gorham will be watching.

## GHS Grad Kristen Curley Shines for USM CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

has also been named D3hoops.com Northeast Region Rookie of the Year, Maine Women's Basketball Coaches' Association (MWBCA) Rookie of the Year and Little East Conference Rookie of the Year, adding to the many accolades she earned throughout the season.

Curley played on some incredible teams in her four years at Gorham High School. She was a part of two AA State Championship titles in a row (2015/2016 and 2016/2017). She considered herself a role player and was an exceptional shooter in the three point range. However, having been surrounded by some amazing talent throughout her high school career, Curley said she didn't have much confidence in herself.

"As grateful as I am for how my

high school career went, and as much as I loved playing with that team, I was excited to start with a clean slate. I was always eager to play a different role on a new team."

Curley saw the opportunity in front of her, and prior to her freshman year, she hit the gym and worked to improve her game as much as possible. "In turn, my confidence was definitely higher going into pre-season basketball."

The confidence certainly showed on the court as she played in all 27 games for the Huskies, averaging 16 points and 4.9 rebounds per game. She was sixth in the Little East in scoring and the top scoring freshman averaging 50.5% (168-333) from the field and 39.7% (48-121) from three-point range.

Curley plans to use the off season to get even stronger as well as working on all aspects of her game to prepare for next season. She is looking forward to becoming more of a leader as she gets older and gains more experience. "I would not really call myself a natural born leader but I am excited to get to work at that and get out of my comfort zone."

She has some pretty big goals for the next few years, one of which is to win more games. However, her big goal is to be LEC Champions. "I want to be the best player I can be and make my teammates better in the process so we can go further than we did this past season and continue to improve."

Having proven herself to be a strong player and emerging leader on the court, there is no doubt we will be hearing much more from Curley and her Huskies team, not only next season but in the seasons to come.

## Poetry Competition

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

through memorization and performance. Students are judged in the areas of physical presence, voice and articulation, dramatic appropriateness, accuracy, and overall performance.

This year, 25 students participated in the school-wide competition at GHS. Senior Abigail vanLuling won the event and senior Isabella Solari was the runner-up.

Over 9,500 students from 39 high schools participated in this program across the state. From those students, a winner from each participating school competed in one of the two regional finals. In the southern region, a total of 20 schools competed at Westbrook High School on February 28.

From this competitive pool, vanLuling placed as one of the top five finalists who went on to compete in the state final. She recited her poems at Waterville Opera House on March 20 and was selected as one of the top five performers overall.

The winner, Allan Monga from Deering High School, will go to Washington, D.C. to compete in the national finals this month. In the last ten years, GHS has had a state finalist in this competition five times. In 2014, GHS student Charlotte Feinberg was the Maine state champion.

van Luling encourages students to give the competition a try. "It is scary the first time, but after that, it is wonderful to be able to get up on stage and share your work," said vanLuling. "There are some beautiful poems to be recited, and once you find one you truly love, reciting becomes so much easier."

## Mr. GHS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

grandmothers, and younger sisters, while in their formal wear. Then, they all lined up on the stage for the crowning of Mr. GHS, which was determined based on scoring by the panel of judges.

The panel included Gorham Middle School teacher Melanie Doran, Superintendent Heather Perry, Officer Wayne "Pooch" Drown, Vice Principal Ryan Watts, and GHS teacher Deborah Roy.

Street said afterwards that Mr. GHS was "a phenomenal experience. Mr. GHS will most likely be the highlight of my senior year. It was super fun working with all the other contestants, everyone was extremely positive and optimistic about the show."

"A huge thank you to Kerry Herlihy, Adam Parvanta, Ray Mathieu, Jim Svendsen, the judges, and most importantly the community," said Street.

Overall, the evening was a success raising over \$1,700 for project graduation.

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# GEF Trivia Bee Raises Money for Schools

The Gorham Educational Foundation (GEF) held its Team Trivia Night on March 3 at Spire 29 raising \$3,835. GEF seeks to provide funding for programs and projects which go above and beyond the basic curriculum and which are not reasonably expected to be funded within the scope of the school budget. Local donors and sponsors included Aroma Joe's, Mister Bagel, Gorham Sand & Gravel, MK Kitchen, Grit & Grace Crossfit, Moody's Collision Center, Nappi Distributors, Clarke MacDonald Horseshoeing, and Kyle P Currier, CPA. Members of the Heartwood neighborhood team, "Dilly Dilly," earned the top spot and \$500 in award money which was donated to the Gorham Backpack Program. Pictured (l to r) is Emcee Brian Brinegar, Dino DeSanctis, Curt Nichols, Rich Murray, Matt Nelson and Charlie Springer.



Photo credit Leslie Dupuis

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**SOLD**

**264 Narragansett \$245,000** - This Gorham cape needs to be completely renovated inside but terrific potential. Per public records there is enough land & frontage for an add'l lot.

**OLD ORCHARD BEACH \$299,000** - Two 2-BR, 1ba units w/ separate: paved driveways, entrances, heating, electrical & W/D hookups. Spacious yard w/ fence & 2car garage.

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**14 Andrea St \$80,800** - Quiet street in Lisbon. Short sale sold "as is". Wood stove hearth in the basement, wood floors & lots of potential.

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**12 Hio Ridge Rd \$130,000** - Short sale! Seller avoided foreclosure & saved their credit. This 3BR, 2ba Ranch on an acre lot in Bridgton is getting a new owner...everyone wins!

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## COMMUNITY

### DEANS LIST

**Collin Jones**, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY

### GRADUATIONS

**Mary Holland**, BS Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI

### OF INTEREST

**The West Gorham Union Church will be having a public supper on Saturday, April 7, at 5 p.m.**, ticket sales start at 4 p.m. Come enjoy three kinds of beans, chicken pie, clam casserole, chop suey, mac and cheese, BBQ hot dogs, jello salads, cole slaw, delicious homemade pies, coffee and punch. \$8 adults, \$3 children under 12. 190 Ossipee Trail, Gorham. FMI 839-5946.

**White Rock Community Clubhouse, 34 Wilson Rd., will hold a Bean Supper on Saturday, April 7, from 4:30-6 p.m.** Homemade kidney and pea beans, hot dogs, cole slaw, potato salad, mac and cheese, homemade biscuits, as well as homemade pies for dessert. \$8 adults, \$4 children under 12. FMI whiterockcommunityclub@gmail.com.

**Gorham High School Project Graduation presents "An Evening with Bob Marley" on Sunday, April 8, at Gorham Middle School.** Event begins at 5:30 p.m. with a silent auction and appetizers. Show is at 7 p.m. \$25/ticket. FMI Heidi.mcgouldrick@gorhamschools.org

**The Gorham Lions will meet on Tuesday, April 10, at 6:30 p.m.** at the Public Works cafeteria off Huston Road. New Members always welcome. FMI 929-9182.

**Baxter Memorial Library will host an author event with Kate Flora on Wednesday, April 11, at 7 p.m.** Flora is the author of 14 mystery and true crime books including "Finding Amy," a 2007 Edgar nominee co-written with a Portland, Maine deputy police chief. FMI 222-1190.

**Gorham Woman's Club will hold its annual Gorham High School Art Show on Thursday, April 12, at First Parish Congregational Church from 2:30-3:30 p.m.** All students, parents and community are welcome. Refreshments will be served. FMI pjiffany44@gmail.com

**In honor of National Library Week, North Gorham Public Library will be hosting its Annual Library Open House on Saturday, April 14, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.** Stop by and enjoy a slice of homemade pie. FMI 892-2575.

**The North Gorham Chess Club will meet Saturday, April 14, at 10:15-11:30 a.m.** at the North Gorham Public Library. FMI John Morgan at jclmorgan26@gmail.com or 766-8554.

**Gambo History Walk on Sunday, April 15, at 1 pm at Gambo Preserve in Gorham.** Join the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust and Gorham Adult Education as former land trust

board member, Don Wescott, talks about the history of the Cumberland and Oxford Canal and Towpath, the Gunpowder Mill, and the Gambo Dam. This is an easy one mile walk over mostly flat terrain with lots of stops to learn about the history of the region. The event is free, but space is limited. RSVP is required at [www.prlt.org](http://www.prlt.org).

**Please join North Gorham Public Library in welcoming author Anne Weber on Thursday, April 19, at 7 p.m.** Weber is the author of "Constabulary Tales," a collection of short stories that describes the hilarious escapades of a woman (Weber) who becomes a reluctant constable on a small island in Maine. FMI 892-2575.

**The Lecky Brown Center for Seniors, located on the 3rd floor at First Parish Church in Gorham, will be hosting a free roundtable discussion, "End of Life Issues: The Importance of Sharing Your Thoughts and Wishes, part 2/3" led by Bill Jenks, president of Home Instead Senior Care, on Thursday, April 19, from noon to 1:30 p.m.** Bring your lunch and join us. FMI 839-6751.

### SENIOR PROGRAMS

**The Gorham Medical Closet** located at the Municipal Center 75 South St is free and available to Gorham residents in need of portable wheelchairs, shower seats, commodes, walkers, canes and more. FMI 839-3859, 329-4976, 632-2178, 839-3630, 839-2484, or 839-3228.

**Town of Gorham Senior Mealsite hosts lunch every Wednesday at St. Anne's Church.** Social time 11:30 a.m., meal is served at 12:00 p.m. Suggested donation \$4. Volunteers are also needed to help in the kitchen. FMI 222-1630.

**Lakes Region Senior Center, on Acorn Street in Gorham announces Art Classes to be held by Gorham Artist, Kristine Biegel.** The first session of two weeks, "Introduction to Drawing" will be held on Friday, April 6 and April 13, from 1 to 3 p.m. The fee for this session is \$15. Three more sessions of art projects will follow and will be announced soon. This is open to Seniors (50 plus). If you are interested and would like to sign up please drop by the Center or call Jeanne Rhein at 572-4042 or (732) 425-0604.

**Lakes Region Senior Center, located at the Little Falls Activity Center, 40 Acorn St. 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 last Wednesday of the month. FMI, David 892-9604; Thursday Table games at 10 a.m. and Friday Art Workshop at 9 a.m. FMI 892-0299.

**The Lecky Brown Center for Seniors, located on the 3rd floor at First Parish Church, 1 Church St., is offering weekly events as follows: Mondays - Hand Chimes Group**

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

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## WINTER WARS

**Tink Drive caller reported being harassed by a neighbor who flipped her the middle finger while she was snow blowing and then dropped his plow blade in the road by her house. Officer spoke with the man who said woman gave him the middle finger first and he wanted nothing to do with her.**

School Street caller reported neighbor was screaming and banging on his door. This was the second call about man being disruptive. He was charged with disorderly conduct and taken to jail.

Shaw's Mill Road caller was told she had been served verbally as she would not come to the door when officers attempted to serve her in person.

Suspicious person on Ward's Hill Road was waiting to take his child to school.

Officer spoke to Evergreen Drive caller and advised officers do not go after cats in trees and that the cat would come down of its own accord. Person later called back and was very upset that neither the Fire nor the Police Department would climb the tree to get his cat. He advised he had a ladder and would try to rescue cat himself.

Johnson Road caller was concerned he might have more issues like last year from census collection people. He was referred to the Attorney General's Office.

Caller had questions about some things being sent over Snapchat. She was told to contact Snapchat.

Suspicious person parked on Lowell Road was texting his girlfriend.

Items reported stolen from a Ward's Hill Road residence were located in the garage where his wife had moved them a few weeks before.

Officer responded to call of threats between mother and son on Mosher Road. Son wanted to leave and was given a ride. He was not threatening.

Gray Road caller reported she had not gotten an oil delivery and wanted officer to call the oil company and find out what was happening. Officer advised her that many people were in the same boat and to use K-1 for now.

Caller reported a suspicious vehicle parked on County Road next to his business without his permission. Officer followed tracks in the snow to a cell tower on Burnham Road and found a technician working on the tower. He had not wanted to wake up owner and had parked there so as not to block the road. He told officer he would be finished and gone by 5:30 a.m.

Pleasant St. woman reported her ex-boyfriend was making comments about her on Facebook. She was advised this complaint was civil in nature as it is not illegal to talk poorly about someone's character.

Officer checked on suspicious person on Acorn St. with lights on and vehicle running. Man, who was well-known to the police, was on his phone and smoking a cigarette. He said he was just texting his girlfriend. He was advised to move on as business was closed. He thanked officer and drove away.

Union St. caller had let her ex-boyfriend borrow one of her cars and he was refusing to return it. Officer contacted boyfriend and suggested he return the vehicle as soon as possible. He returned it that night.

Birch Drive caller reported being harassed via Facebook. Officer suggested he go to court and apply for a protection from harm order. She did not like that response and hung up.

## CLASSIFIEDS

### SERVICES

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## CALENDAR

### THURSDAY APRIL 5

- Baby and Me, 9:30-9:50 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Toddler Time, 10-10:30 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Sewing Club, 2:30-4:30 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library

### FRIDAY APRIL 6

- Sensory Friendly Story Time, 10-11 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library

### SATURDAY APRIL 7

- Bean Supper, 4:30-6 p.m. White Rock Community Clubhouse
- Public Supper, 5 p.m., West Gorham Union Church

### SUNDAY APRIL 8

- An Evening With Bob Marley, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Gorham Middle School

### TUESDAY APRIL 10

- Preschool Story Time, 9:30-10:15 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library

### WEDNESDAY APRIL 11

- Toddler Story Time, 10-11 a.m. North Gorham Public Library
- Toddler Time, 10-10:30 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Adult Fans of Lego Meetup, 5-6 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Baxter Memorial Library Author Event: Kate Flora, 7 p.m.

### THURSDAY APRIL 12

- Baby and Me, 9:30-9:50 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Toddler Time, 10-10:30 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Sewing Club, 2:30-4:30 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Gorham Women's Club/GHS Art Show, 2:30-3:30 p.m., First Parish Congregational Church

### SATURDAY APRIL 14

- Greater Gorham Winter Market, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Gorham Rec Department
- North Gorham Public Library Annual Open House, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

### MONDAY APRIL 16

- Patriots' Day - School Vacation Week
- Baxter Memorial Library Closed

### TUESDAY APRIL 17

- Healthy Citizen Science, 10-11 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Hospice 101, 3 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library

### WEDNESDAY APRIL 18

- Toddler Story Time, 10-11 a.m. North Gorham Public Library
- Owls of Maine Presentation, 10-11 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library

### THURSDAY APRIL 19

- Book Club Discussion, "Uncommon Type: Some Stories" by Tom Hanks, 10 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Day of Mindfulness, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- North Gorham Public Library Author Event: Anne Weber, 7 p.m.

### FRIDAY APRIL 20

- Apples to Apples Afternoon, 1-3 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library

## Community CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

from 2:00-3:00 p.m.; Tuesdays - Originals from 10-11:30 a.m., Coffee/conversation/speaker; Thursdays (2nd & 4th of April) - Church Street Writers Group from 2:00-3:00 p.m.; and Fridays - ARTrageous Seniors Art Class from 10-11:30 a.m. FMI: 839-6751.

### USM NOTES


USM presents "Girl in Six Beats" on Saturday, April 21, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 22, at 2 p.m., Corthell Concert Hall, USM Gorham Campus. \$8 adults, \$5 students, seniors, USM employees and alumni. FMI 780-4200.

### 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 9-11 a.m. and the second and fourth Wednesday of every month from 6-7 p.m. Free for Gorham residents in need. FMI, 222-4351 or visit [www.gorhamfoodpantry.org](http://www.gorhamfoodpantry.org).

**Gorham Cancer Prayer and Support Group** meets the first Tuesday of every month at the Cressey Road United Methodist Church, 81 Cressey Rd. from 6-7:30 p.m. This monthly non-denominational event is a prayer and support group for anyone dealing with cancer including patients and caregivers.

**NEXT GORHAM TIMES DEADLINE: APR. 11**



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# Baxter Library Welcomes Local Authors



Photo courtesy of James Rathbun

Portland author Chris Holm visited Baxter Memorial Library on March 22 to speak about the process of writing and publishing his novels, as well as the development of his stories from an idea to a fully formed series. Holm is the author of the Collector trilogy, which blends crime and fantasy, and the Michael Hendricks thrillers. His first Hendricks novel, "The Killing Kind," was named a New York Times Editors' Choice, a Boston Globe Best Book of 2015, and Strand Magazine's #1 Book of 2015. It won the 2016 Anthony Award for Best Novel, and was also nominated for a Barry, a Lefty, and a Macavity. Another event is planned for April 11 at 7 p.m. when mystery/crime author Kate Flora will visit.



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