

# Gorham Times

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A Free, Not-for-Profit Newspaper Serving Gorham Since 1995

TAKING A SUMMER BREAK: TO HONOR THE HARD WORK OF OUR STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS, THE GORHAM TIMES WILL ENJOY A SHORT BREAK AFTER THIS ISSUE. THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE DATED JULY 23.

## State Primary & Referendum Election



Tuesday, July 14, 2020

COURTESY OF TOWN OF GORHAM

The State Primary and Special Referendum Election that was previously scheduled for Tuesday, June 9, has been rescheduled to Tuesday, July 14. The election has been called for the purpose of electing candidates for United States Senator, Representative to Congress (both districts), all 35 State Senate districts, all 151 State Representative districts, and the following county offices, which vary depending on the county: Judge of Probate, Register of Probate, County Treasurer, Register of Deeds, Sheriff, District Attorney and County Commissioner.

There are two bond questions: the first asks voters to weigh in on high-speed internet infrastructure in unserved and underserved areas, and the second relates to transportation infrastructure projects.

Residents will also be voting on the proposed FY21 school budget which has an anticipated 0.00% increase on the mil rate for the coming year.

In order to follow CDC guidelines for social distancing, the Ward 1-2 voting location has been changed from Little Falls Activity Center to Great Falls Elementary School. The Ward 2 voting location has been changed from Shaw Gym to Gorham High School. Ward 1-1, Gorham Middle School, has not changed. If you are not aware of your voting location, please call the Clerk's office at 222-1670.

Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap and the Town of Gorham highly recommend voting by absentee ballot to limit the risk of COVID-19 exposure. Residents can obtain an absentee ballot by calling the office or going online to the State website at <https://www.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/index.pl>.

Once completed, ballots can be returned to the Town Clerk's Office directly or mailed in. All ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on election night.

## Fire Chief Announces Retirement After 36 Years in Gorham



Photo credit Roger Marchand

KATHY CORBETT  
Staff Writer

"I have mixed feelings about retiring," admitted Gorham Fire Chief Robert Lefebvre. "But Pooch's passing got me thinking about what I wanted to do. I have been Gorham's Chief for 36 years. I am 68 and the body catches up with the years," he mused while glancing at the pictures on the wall above his desk. A photo of Lefebvre as a toddler in a toy fire-truck and one as a teenager with the Westbrook Fire Department are evidence of the life-long commitment this son of a firefighter gave to his career and the two communities he served.



Photo credit Leslie Dupuis



Based on childhood photos, it is clear the path Chief Lefebvre would take. Fire apparatus from York and Cumberland Counties, Cumberland County sheriff vehicles, as well as vehicles from Gorham PD, Gorham Public Works and Gorham Recreation lined Main Street in a heartwarming surprise parade on June 19 to honor him. Lefebvre is shown with his wife Kandy.

Six months after graduating from Westbrook High School, Lefebvre was a full-time firefighter. Byron Rogers, retired Westbrook Fire Chief who has known Lefebvre since those early days, was quick to say, "he is one helluva good guy who does the fire service a great honor." After 16 years with the Westbrook department, Lefebvre left to become Chief of the Gorham Fire Department.

In 1984, Gorham had fewer than 11,000 residents and a fire department with neighborhood stations that operated with little coordination, Lefebvre said. "The biggest challenge was making the department one department," he remembered. There was resistance to consolidation and some volunteers left, but "there were new standards from the State, including training."

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## Gorham Businesses Cleared for Reopening

LESLIE DUPUIS  
Editor

Gov. Janet Mills announced that restaurants in Cumberland County could resume indoor dining as of June 17 as the numbers of new COVID-19 cases and hospitalization rates have stabilized.

Gyms, nail salons and tattoo parlors could also reopen while bars, breweries, and tasting rooms in those three counties could reopen for outdoor service on that day.

Mills confirmed that all businesses must observe added health and safety protocols, including social distancing, use of masks, and other measures to prevent transmission of the virus.

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Photo courtesy of Leslie Dupuis

Junction Bowl plans to retain an outdoor patio area this summer.

FLOWFOLD AND ERIN FLETT  
CONTINUE TO THRIVE  
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GORHAM SCHOOLS CELEBRATE  
STUDENTS WITH FAREWELL  
PARADES - PG. 9



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.

# COVID-19 Update as Maine Reopens

REP. ANDREW MCLEAN

We are now four months into responding to the COVID-19 crisis here in Maine. We are getting used to some of our new norms, like face masks and waiting in line to enter a store, and adapting as prevention efforts and reopening plans continue to change as our case numbers and solutions change across the state. But we are also about to welcome summer, a season that is truly special here in our neck of the woods. This summer will certainly be different, but it will still come, and there will still be a lot for us to experience.

Here in Maine we are taking good care to protect public health. Our COVID-19 case numbers are some of the lowest in the country, and that is in large part thanks to your efforts to follow social distance guidelines, to wear a mask when you are out, and to practice good handwashing. But we also want to ensure the health of our economy, and that requires protecting our tourism industry. The Governor recently announced changes to the rules around visitors to Maine that will help drive some additional visitors to the small businesses in our tourist towns.

Beginning June 12, residents of New Hampshire and Vermont, where COVID-19 rates are similar to those in Maine, were exempt from Maine's travel restrictions. Beginning June 26, a negative COVID-19 test will allow visitors to forgo the 14-day quarantine, and there will be increased

symptom checks at places travelers tend to go. This will allow for safety to remain the priority, but for more business to be done.

Governor Mills also announced that, beginning June 17, restaurants in Cumberland, York and Androscoggin Counties were welcome to open for indoor dining. This means that restaurants across the state will now be allowed to open after following public health protocols. I know I'm looking forward to visiting Sebago, MK Kitchen, Junction Bowl, Grand Central Wine Bar and the others when they reopen, and I encourage you to check in with your favorite restaurants to see when they plan to open their doors for dine-in service.

Thanks to a partnership with Maine-based IDEXX Laboratories, Inc., the state was able to triple its testing capabilities in May and will be quadrupling its capacity in July. The breakthrough means that anyone in Maine suspected of having COVID-19 can now receive a test, and starting soon there will be testing locations set up all over the state and more ability for visitors to be tested so they can forgo the 14-day quarantine. This type of public-private collaboration is welcome news for all of us and is crucial to reopening our economy safely, it has already allowed us to make adjustments to our reopening plan and to get more energy into our economy.

Maine businesses understand that the health of our economy depends on the health of our people. From

Islesboro to Farmington, and from Biddeford to Brewer, we're hearing about Maine stores that have shifted their manufacturing capabilities to fight COVID-19. Distilleries in Portland are now creating hand sanitizer, while Skowhegan's Maine Stitching Specialties is making face masks and hospital curtains. Even large-scale companies, like L.L. Bean and New Balance, are chipping in to help this effort. Just like Mainers always do, these businesses saw a problem and found a solution. Now it's up to us to support these local entrepreneurs and thank them for helping to keep us safe. If you're interested in finding a locally made face covering, or learning more about how businesses in our area are responding, check out the Maine Manufacturing Extension Partnership's COVID-19 website.

There's no denying we're living through an incredibly hard time that is having different and difficult impacts on everyone. If there's anything I can do to help you, whether related to the pandemic or not, please do not hesitate to reach out.



Rep. Andrew McLean, D-Gorham, is serving his fourth 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

## Letters 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 name is Elijah Wyatt and I am a Gorham High School student. Although I can't vote in this upcoming election, who we elect to office now and the decisions that they make will impact my generation. On November 3rd, voters in House District 27 will elect a new State Representative. I'm supporting Kyle Bailey because he is a thoughtful and effective leader who will be a strong voice for our community in Augusta. Kyle will bring experience and bipartisanship to Maine's State House, and with it positive change for our community and for Maine.

Kyle has a proven track record of serving and helping our community, and working with people from across the aisle to get things done. Kyle served on our school committee for three years where he helped to expand kindergarten to an all-day program and brought back student representation on the school committee. He worked to end discrimination against LGBT Mainers in the military and in marriage laws. He has also helped the state of Maine say no to the influence of special interests and the ability of the powerful and well-connected to bend public policy to their will. In 2016 and

2018 he led the grassroots campaigns that won and defended Maine's landmark ranked-choice voting law that will allow me to vote my hopes and not my fears in future elections. Kyle has devoted his life to the service of others, proven that he can bring positive change to people's lives, and I know that he will serve us well in the State House.

On November 3rd, please vote for Kyle Bailey for State Representative so that he can work hard for our community during these challenging times. You can learn more about Kyle by visiting BaileyForMaine.com or Facebook.com/BaileyForMaine.

Elijah Wyatt

Dear Editor,

I would like to take the opportunity to give my sincerest compliments and gratitude to the Gorham High School students and Gorham Police Department who worked collaboratively to organize and carry out a Black Lives Matter march on June 4. It is clear that both groups understand the importance of promoting positive change in society through the type of organized and peaceful action that is granted to us under the 1st Amendment. We

should all strive to stand up to racial injustice in this country. When we can do so in collaboration with upstanding law enforcement who are committed to serve and protect with compassion and humanity then we will be much closer to actually living in communities that truly embrace and exemplify "liberty and justice for all."

Amanda Cooper, Gorham Teachers Association President

Dear Editor,

Yesterday, an article in the Press Herald reported that 800 people had signed a petition to have police officers removed from the Portland schools. Was I, perhaps in error, under the impression that the object of having a police resource officer in a school was to help bring the two groups closer so perhaps a better relationship and understanding might be accomplished?

I firmly believe that this is one of the problems existing in our state, and the federal legislatures. I thought people need to work together rather than separately such as the seating in our legislature seems to endorse. Is

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BRINGING THE NEWS TO ALL OF GORHAM  
PO Box 401  
Gorham, Maine 04038  
Phone and Fax: (207) 839-8390  
gorhamtimes@gmail.com  
www.gorhamtimes.com

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**Editor:** Leslie Dupuis  
**Business Manager:** Stacy Sallinen  
**Advertiser Coordinator:** Stacy Sallinen  
**Design/Production:** Shirley Douglas  
**Staff Writers:** Diane Abramson, Jacob Adams, Kathy Corbett, John Ersek, Sheri Faber, Edmund Ricker, Cathy Walter  
**Features:** Chris Crawford  
**Photographers:** Amanda Landry, Roger Marchand  
**Public Service:** Lori Arsenault  
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### Advertising and Copy Deadlines

Ad deadline is the Wednesday of the week prior to issue date. Go to [www.gorhamtimes.com](http://www.gorhamtimes.com) and click on the advertising link for schedule.

### 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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## AROUND TOWN

GoCAM has produced a video explaining Absentee Voting Ballot requests. To view, please visit <https://vimeo.com/430386303>.

New picnic tables are now available at Robie Park and Phinney Park for the community to use. Consider ordering take-out to support Gorham restaurants and dine al fresco this summer.

# Gorham Times Welcomes New Board Members

LESLIE DUPUIS  
Editor

The Gorham Times recently welcomed three new members to its board of directors.

Sheri Faber is a founding member of the Gorham Times and has served in many capacities but is probably best known for "The Blotter."



FABER

A former social worker and former partner at the Bookworm, she is a native of NYC but has lived in Gorham since 1980, and raised her family here. As a lifelong newspaper reader, she is delighted to still be a part of "bringing the news to all of Gorham."

Elizabeth Kenigsberg is the Career Coordinator for Aspire Gorham, a partnership between Gorham Public Schools,



KENIGSBERG

JMG, and the MELMAC Education Foundation. Aspire Gorham works to encourage students of all ages to think about and plan for their futures. In this role, Kenigsberg collects information about student career-interests, plans and facilitates a speaker series, sets up workplace learning experiences like internships, job shadows, informational interviews, and field trips.

Kate Thomas has lived in Gorham for 13 years. She has two boys: Wyatt, age 15, who attends North Yarmouth Academy, and Gavin, age 12, who attends Gorham Middle School. She is a former teach-



THOMAS

er who is taking a break from her profession while enjoying time with her kids and elderly parents.

The Gorham Times also said goodbye to board members Bruce Hepler, Carol Jones, and Shannon Dowdle.

Hepler was on the board for six years, serving as president for two years before acting as General Manager for the last three years. While he is stepping down from the board, Hepler will continue to advise as general counsel.



HEPLER

Carol Jones served as the treasurer/finance committee since 2014. She is a CPA and provides tax and accounting services to businesses, non-profits and individuals in Gorham. She and her husband Trevor have lived in Gorham since 1994 and raised their two sons, both GHS graduates, in this community. She has given many hours of service to the Scouting and XC Track & Field programs.



JONES

Shannon Dowdle has been on the board of directors for seven years, serving as secretary for the past four. She has lived in Gorham for most of her life, graduating from Gorham High School in 1986. She is an audiologist who owns Village Hearing Care in Gorham. Dowdle and her husband, Bob, have three high-school and college-age children.



DOWDLE

The Gorham Times thanks you all for your contributions to the board!

# Daily Bread



Photo credit Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Young's sons Fletcher and Jasper enjoy baking and eating bread made with homemade yeast. Young's research involves using yeasts to make many environmentally friendly products.



CHRIS CRAWFORD

Trying to make bread, but have run out of yeast? Gorham native, Eric Mosher Young has got you covered. He wanted to help other bread makers who were finding the grocery shelves empty of more than just TP during the pandemic.

Yeast, an essential ingredient, was not to be found as many people began baking their own bread during quarantine. So Dr. Young, a Chemical and Biological Engineer, assistant professor and researcher at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), made an instructional video with his young sons, Fletcher and Jasper, showing how to make homemade yeast and bread. Their step by step tutorial can be found at <https://www.wpi.edu/news/chemical-engineer-bakers-can-make-own-yeast-home> and also on the Gorham Times Facebook page.

Young explained that homemade yeast can be made with just two simple ingredients: flour and water (and some time and attention). The process is easy - it relies on capturing natural yeast which can be found everywhere. Young said, "By leaving water and flour out to ferment, you're catching colonies of wild yeast. You might also capture 'good bacteria,' or lactobacilli. This all becomes a bubbly chemical that is perfect for making bread like sourdough."

When the yeast is ready, small bubbles will rise to the top and it will smell good, and yeasty, like bread. If it smells funny or sour in not a good way, throw it away and start over. Young notes that

while it takes more time to create a natural yeast for baking bread, the finished product will also be more flavorful. Along with directions for making natural yeast, his video includes many helpful bread making tips. He encourages people to try making yeast as a fun, family science project with a delicious final product. Be adventurous. Try substituting other liquids, such as a craft beer, instead of water.

For Young, making natural yeast is much more than a culinary achievement. It is closely tied to his professional work. At WPI, he leads a research group in synthetic biology that focuses on genetically engineering yeast to make useful products like biofuels, chemicals and medicines. He also teaches chemical reactor design and biochemical engineering in the Department of Chemical Engineering. He said, "My branch of research is about finding more uses for yeast, sort of using yeast as a "cell factory" to create all kinds of useful, sustainable, environmentally friendly chemicals, such as corn ethanol that is added to gasoline. It is found in many delicious and useful products such as bread, beer, wine, and spirits, too."

Young has a B.S. from Orono in Chemical and Biological Engineering, and a Ph.D. from the University of Texas. Dr. Young has been published in engineering journals and has won a number of honors and awards in his field of Chemical Engineering. But when he is home making yeast, bread, or other baked goods with his kids, he is just "Dad."

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## Letters to the Editor CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

each "side" fearful that if the members of their parties get together, someone will lose control?

It seems difficult for them to agree, even if they might, because of pressures from the party to stick to the lines. It is difficult to believe that any two people can be completely in dis-

agreement and that there is only black and white, no grey in between.

To keep this simple at the moment: a long time ago, my father taught me that in order to accomplish anything together, those involved have to get together in order to know each other.

John Labrecque Jr.

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# Designing a Post-Coronavirus Office

ETHAN JOHNSON

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has changed many aspects of the current workplace, and soon, employers should begin planning for what their post-coronavirus office will look like. Previously, social distancing and COVID-19-related best practices hadn't been a topic on the mind of most employers or employees. By updating office layouts, encouraging new behaviors, and expanding remote work options, employers can help prevent the spread of future diseases, and protect the health and safety of employees.

**Physical Changes to Workplaces:** As employers prepare for employees who will be returning to the office, organizations can consider the following best practices for their office space: 1) Increasing each employee's personal space and ensuring desks are six feet or more apart; 2) Creating walls and barriers between cubicles; 3) Creating a walk-traffic flow that discourages congestion; 4) Updating air-filtration systems; 5) Installing automatic doors; 6) Installing no-touch soap dispensers and sinks in bathrooms; and, 7) Making hand sanitizer and cleaning products readily available.

While updating practices to best prevent the spread of illnesses will also require changes in behavior, employers can take a step in the right

direction by ensuring their physical office space is aligned with encouraged behaviors of employees.

**Behavioral Changes:** While every business is different, there are practices many organizations can implement and behaviors they can encourage. Common post-coronavirus adjustments may include: 1) Creating expectations for hand washing. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one of the best actions to prevent the spread of coronaviruses is washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; 2) Banning or discouraging shaking of hands; 3) Increasing cleaning schedules; and, 4) Adjusting meeting practices to have limited participants or incorporate zoom video conferencing technology.

**Expanding Telecommuting Options:** According to a survey of U.S. employers by the Computing Technology Industry Association conducted in 2019, more than two-thirds of respondents across a range of different industries and professions reported increased productivity when workers telecommuted. While the feasibility of remote work varies depending on an employee's job responsibilities, expanding remote work options offers other benefits as well. These additional benefits can include: 1) Increased flexibility; 2) Increased retention; 3) Reduced greenhouse emissions; 4) The ability

to tap into a broader talent pool; and, 5) Fewer opportunities for diseases such as coronaviruses to spread.

Notably, by expanding remote opportunities post-coronavirus, employers can reduce the amount of human interaction that takes place at a physical location. Also, by allowing remote work, employees who are sick are less likely to physically attend the office. Best practices for expanding remote work include creating outlined companywide remote work approval requests up to the subjective opinion of a manager. As employers consider how they can best create remote work policies, many considerations factor into the equation.

As laws and guidelines related to COVID-19 change, employers should consult with legal counsel when updating or changing policies. As you navigate through reopening your office locations, contact your insurance company for additional COVID-19 resources.



Ethan Johnson of Chalmers Insurance has over 18 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.

## Gorham Businesses Cleared for Reopening

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

MK Kitchen resumed indoor dining on June 18. In addition to following the guidelines, Lisa Kaldrovich said that party size would be kept to six. She also confirmed that takeout service would still be available on a pre-order basis. Reservations are recommended due to the limited seating capacity.

Junction Bowl has reconfigured its indoor space to accommodate dining and bowling. The business plans to retain an outdoor patio and will add live music on Friday and Saturday nights as well as Sunday afternoons, weather permitting. Dining is on a first-come basis but reservations are required for bowling.

Stacey and Jesse Coleman, owners of My-Fit 24, thanked customers for their patience and support. They reopened on June 17 with proper safety precautions and reminded their patrons that reservations would be required.

As many businesses are slowly reopening in different capacities, it is recommended that you call ahead for the latest details.

Visit [gorhamstrong.org](http://gorhamstrong.org) to continue to help support Gorham businesses.

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## Daily Bread CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Family is very important to Young. While he did not grow up in Gorham, he has strong ties here on both sides of the family and he spends his summers and holidays in the area. "Gorham is a really beautiful place," said Young, "I hope it never loses its New England farmland charm as it grows and changes."

His mother is Margaret "Peggy" Mosher, GHS Class of 1980. He said, "The Mosher family has been in Gorham since 1736 - almost 300 years - and operating the historic Longview Farm on Mosher Corner for about as long as Maine has been a state, since 1828." His father is Richard "Dick" Young, GHS Class of 1976. He said, "The Young family has been in Gorham for 250 years. My brothers still operate Flaggy Meadow Farm on Flaggy

Meadow Road, which has been in the family 100 years."

Young spoke about the importance of the many family traditions that have arisen over the years. He said, "I grew up going to two giant Thanksgiving dinners - one with the Young family at the Odd Fellow's Meeting Hall in Gorham Center (we now meet at the Buxton Center Baptist Church), and one at Longview Farm with the Mosher family. Typically I'd see around 100 family members in one Thanksgiving weekend." To these old traditions, Young now can add the new ones of making bread and instructional videos with his sons.

Young is married to Danielle Tardiff of Brewer, Maine, where they both grew up. Their sons are Fletcher, 7, and Jasper, 2. Eric Young can be reached at his email address: [emyoung@wpi.edu](mailto:emyoung@wpi.edu).

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**Fire Chief Announces Retirement** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Former Police Chief, and current Town Councilor, Ron Shepard, said, "Bob was so dedicated to the citizens of Gorham. He built the department up to high standards. He was always looking for the innovative way to do things like the student living program (where student firefighters live at the stations) and sharing stations with other towns. I enjoyed working with him all those years. He would come into my office, or I would come into his. We didn't always agree, but we had good conversations and worked a lot of things out."

The Fire and Rescue Department now has a staff of 14 firefighters and EMT personnel as well as a call department of 110. Three of the six fire stations are shared with adjacent towns, a cost savings, and something very few departments in New England do.

The biggest changes Lefebvre has seen in more than 50 years as a firefighter have been in equipment, supplies, and training. There were no trained EMTs when he started. "Now we have gone from just a first-aid course to the extensive training paramedics have today. We have more protective clothing and breathing equipment," he said. "We had no idea about hazardous materials. When there was a gas spill, they just flushed it down the drain."

When asked about his most important accomplishments as Gorham's Fire Chief, Lefebvre replied, "the sprinkler ordinance." He expected "flack," and he got it. There had been an ordinance since 1989, but the current one is more inclusive.

"Over the next ten years it will have significant impact," he said, "by reducing injuries and property loss, and lower insurance costs."

He is also proud of improvements in training which "is as good or better than anyplace." He is appreciative of the Town Council and Town Manager for supporting "things like training classes in the budget."

Lefebvre wants especially to be remembered for developing good training. "When I became a firefighter it was mostly on the job training," he said. "Now it takes 300 hours of training to be a firefighter."

He hopes the people who worked for him "think of him as having their backs and for having worked for the betterment of those people and of Gorham." What he will miss most after retirement is the people he worked with.

Former Town Manager David Cole said, "Bob was one of the most dedicated professionals that I worked with in my career. He cared deeply about this community and the employees in the Fire and Rescue Department. As the Town rapidly grew over the past 30+ years he was instrumental in ensuring that the Fire and Rescue Department stayed up to date and helped increase the level of professionalism throughout the Department. Bob also implemented a number of new programs that saved the Town a lot of money over the years and were later copied by other communities. I wish Bob the very best with his retirement."

Lefebvre's retirement plans include playing lots of golf, spending more time in his woodworking shop, and with his wife Kandy, who is a recently retired nurse.

"Being Fire Chief is a 24/7 job that you never get away from," Lefebvre said. "But I never thought of it as a job. I never got out of bed in the morning not wanting to go to work."

**Clerk's Corner**

Laurie Nordfors  
*Town Clerk*

We have all been through a crazy few months. The Town Clerk's office is open by appointment only temporarily while we get caught up with the many transactions that have been put off since we have been closed.

You can call the Clerk's office at 222-1670 or go online to [www.gorham-me.org](http://www.gorham-me.org) to make an appointment. We ask that you wear a mask and practice

social distancing when coming into the office as we are trying very hard to follow CDC guidelines.

The Senior Property Tax Refund application is available at the Clerk's Office. You can also download a copy on our website. Applications are due by August 1, 2020.

As we slowly get back to normal, I want to thank you all for your support and patience. I hope you and your family stay healthy and safe and have a wonderful summer.

**Special Town Council Meeting**

**JUNE 16, 2020**

Jacob Adams  
*Staff Writer*

Councilor Kuech resigned from her position with the School Department effective June 16. She will now be able to participate in future school votes where other conflicts of interest do not arise.

The following school budget items were adopted and approved for fiscal year 2020-2021:

- Regular Instruction \$18,924,148
- Special Education \$6,847,635
- Career and Technical Education \$0
- Other Instruction \$966,522
- Student and Staff Support \$3,343,231
- System Administration \$1,315,364
- School Administration \$2,248,730
- Transportation and Buses \$1,957,275
- Facilities Maintenance \$4,231,329
- Debt Service and Other Commitments \$2,564,045
- All Other Expenditures \$0

\$42,398,279 of the school budget will be appropriated to fund public education from kindergarten to grade 12.

\$13,882,278 will be raised as the municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education.

\$593,959 will be raised and appropriated for the annual payments on debt service.

The School Committee is authorized to expend \$42,398,279 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021 from the municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education.

The Town will appropriate \$316,176 for adult education and raise \$131,692 as the local share with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of the adult education program.

\$7,322,826 will be raised and appropriated in additional local funds,

to fund the budget recommended by the School Committee. The approved budget exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services (EPS) allocation model by \$7,322,826. The State's EPS funding model only includes those costs considered essential by the new State EPS model.

The Town Council voted to adopt the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Budget with the following departmental totals:

- General Government \$1,861,245
- Public Safety \$4,634,164
- Public Works/Solid Waste/Engineering & Insp Services \$2,986,867
- Health & Welfare and Social Service Agencies \$54,600
- Recreation/Community Center/Cable \$591,878
- Libraries and Museum \$502,397
- Development \$155,749
- Debt & Interest \$2,113,588
- Capital Items \$35,000
- Insurance and Employee Benefits \$2,911,852
- Other Town Services and Unclassified \$335,732
- Subtotal \$ 16,183,072
- Cumberland County Property Tax \$1,329,231
- Total \$17,512,303
- Non-Property Tax Revenues \$7,808,127

The Education budget as approved by the Gorham Town Council and subsequently approved by the voters of the Town of Gorham will be incorporated into a final Municipal budget. The Town Council will vote to adopt the Capital Budget Part II in the amount of \$2,256,931 to be funded from the town's undesignated fund balance.

The Town Manager was authorized to enter into waste and recycling hauling agreement(s) for a period of up to five years.

The full minutes can be read at <https://www.gorham-me.org>.

**Accident at Shaw Park**

GORHAM TIMES STAFF

On the morning of May 28, Gorham Police responded to an aggravated criminal mischief incident that occurred at the intersection of Partridge Lane and Sebago Lake Road at the entrance to Shaw Park. A full sized blue or gray colored pick up truck damaged the large granite Shaw Park sign and fled the area.

Gorham Police were able to locate the vehicle and operator. Natasha Stout



Photo courtesy of GPD

of Westbrook was charged with leaving the scene of a property damage accident.

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Samantha Provencal 207-313-6039

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Facebook.com/LibbyStarnesTeam

383 US Rte 1, Suite 2D,  
Scarborough, ME 04074



# Fire Destroys Gorham Home



Photo credit Leslie Dupuis

GORHAM TIMES STAFF

A fire on May 31 destroyed a house at 203 Mighty Street belonging to the Stephens family. While first reported as an outside fire in the bushes, upon the arrival of the first firefighter (who lived nearby), the fire had spread to the front of the building and had extended into the attic/roof area. When the first engine arrived five minutes later, the roof had already collapsed, and the house was totally involved. Units from Windham, Standish, Buxton, and Hollis assisted.

According to Gorham Fire Chief Lefebvre, contributing factors to the rapid spread of the fire were extreme dry weather, vinyl siding, high winds and light weight construction (truss roof) in the attic. The cause of the fire was a discarded cigarette in the bushes at the front of the house. The home was a total loss.

Lefebvre said, "This fire is an example of how fast a fire can spread and totally involve a structure. The total time from first report to collapse of the roof was eight to ten minutes."

# Gorham Company Awarded State Contract

JOHN ERSEK  
Staff Writer

Flowfold, Inc. was recently granted a significant contract by the Maine CDC to manufacture 500,000 plastic face shields. These will be used at hospitals, doctors' offices, by first responders, and at various businesses and facilities throughout Maine and New England during the coming months.

Flowfold, which previously focused on consumer items such as specialized wallets for travelers, began switching over to making protective gear in late March [see Gorham Times issue dated 4/30/20]. To assist with regional efforts

to deal with COVID-19, the company has been selling face shields to well-known organizations throughout the region, such as Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston. Recently, it began offering face shields directly to consumers.

All of Flowfold's PPEs are manufactured in Maine. Some are made at Flowfold's Gorham location; others by Flowfold's partners, LL Bean and Alfred Upholstery. By mid-June, the expected production level will be 100,000 face shields per week. Flowfold expects to make and sell approximately 1.5 million masks by the end of July and plans to double its workforce to 20 employees by the end of June.

# Flett Takes Top Prize

GORHAM TIMES STAFF

Erin Flett was recently named the winner in the fifth season of Greenlight Maine. Flett, a Gorham resident and textile designer who operates out of her studio on Main Street, was among 25 Maine companies to pitch their businesses in an effort to win a \$100,000 grand prize.

Flett said, "Greenlight Maine has changed our world by believing in our handmade, Maine made textiles." She went on to thank all of the sponsors, partners, supporting businesses, and all

those "who have supported us for the last 10 years! We are here because of your love and support."

Flett plans to use the prize money to invest in key equipment, product development, and the "hiring of more Maine people and businesses that will allow us to become a global lifestyle brand."

Greenlight Maine is a television and internet series that is designed to highlight and encourage the growth of small businesses in Maine. Over the past five seasons an estimated twenty-five million dollars have been invested in companies that have appeared on the show.



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### Station Square located at 7 Railroad Avenue, Gorham



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#### Commercial

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Jennifer Field, DPT

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# Gorham School District Faculty and Staff Affirm that Black Lives Matter

We, the undersigned faculty and staff of the Gorham School Department, endorse the recent statement of the Maine Department of Education supporting the ideals of the Black Lives Matter movement. The Maine DOE statement is excerpted here:

*“The murder of George Floyd is only the most recent example in a long and tragic pattern. There are glaring injustices faced by members of our communities, rooted in a long history of systemic racism and violence... We believe in the basic human dignities that should be afforded to all people in our country. We stand with and for our many colleagues, students, and their families who identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) around the state, and will do all that we can to fight racism and inequities, and to ensure they are safe and welcomed in the State of Maine. We affirm with you that Black Lives Matter.*

*We want to share with all families in our state, particularly families of color, that we acknowledge your pain. We are grieving with you. We are working, individually and collectively, to dismantle the influence of white privilege in our schools, our organization, our communities, and our state. We will continue to learn and to analyze these issues through both an individual and systemic lens and work to break down barriers for every student in Maine. This will be a continuous commitment, and we are dedicated to persisting with this work within our own organizational culture.*

*We also recognize that our children are trying to make sense of what they are hearing and seeing. They are looking to the adults to determine meaning and to guarantee safety. It can be difficult for us to provide them answers that are developmentally appropriate, comforting, and honest. Through empathy and understanding, and with commitment and hard work, we hope that one day we can assure all children, no matter their skin color, that they are safe, they are valued, and their lives matter.”*

**As Gorham School Department teachers and staff, we commit to combating racism in our school district and our classrooms. We pledge:**

- **To hold ourselves, our friends, our colleagues, and our administration accountable in creating a more antiracist culture.**
- **To critically examine our curriculum with an antiracist lens, and to make revisions where they are needed.**
- **To empower students to speak out when they see or hear injustice in any form.**

Nan Acker-Wolfhagen	Jaimie Frailey	Lori Littlefield	Deborah Roy
Susan Adolf	Angela Gospodarek	Colin Loveless	Rob Roy
Heather Alden	Casie Grady	Mary Jo Lyons	Sarah Rubin
Jessica Allen	Dervin Grady	Nadia Lyons	Emily Ryan
Rebecca Ambrose	Rachael Grady	Llia Mackenzie	Laura Ryan
Betsy Anastasoff	Abbey Greslick	Rebecca Manson	Gregg Sands
LuAnne Amell	Abby Griffith	Carlie J Marsters	Stacey Sawyer
Jennifer Baker	Cynthia Grover	Jessica Mason	Anna Sedenka
Alissa Balano	Susan Grygiel	Raymond Mathieu	Jane Seidenberg
Linda Barber	Anton Gulovsen	Michael McCarthy	Jessica Shaw
Kimberly Barbour	Andrew Hager	Samantha McCloghry	Connie Shiers
Abigail Bartlett	Sharon Hamann	Laura McGillvray	Laurie Sibley
Rachel Bell	Deidre Hamblen	Abigail McGuire	Sara Sinnett
Eunice G. Bentley	Kathy Hamblen	Kristi McLean	Rosemarie Skilling
Ellen Berry	Sara Hampton	Jennifer McPherson	Amy Smith
Laughn Berthiaume	Amber Hatch	James McQuinn	Courtney Smith
Suzanne Berthiaume	Rebecca Hayward	Kimberley Meggison	Brigid Smith-Franey
Tyler Berthiaume	Sarah Heald	Teresa Merrill	Liz Snyder
Kate Bishop	Lauren Hebert	Janet Miliano	Jessica Soule
Luci Bowers	Collin Henry	Christopher Mitchell	Amy Spagnoli
Amy Brassard	Liz Henry	Sam Morrison	Allison Stanley
Melissa Bryant	Kerry Herlihy	Samantha Morton	Lucinda Stein
Terry Bryson	Susan Hodgson	Susan Moses	Brent Stevens
Jeff Burnap	Gregg Hoerr	Nichole Mucci	Emily Stevens
Tracy Burns	Elizabeth (Lisa) Howe	Melissa Mullin	Kate Stevens
Lois Bywaters	Amy Hughes	Julie Murray	Amy Stewart
John Caterina	Jennifer Hughes	Matthew Murray	Christina P. Stone
Carrie Chasse	Heather Hurd	Roland Myers	Carrie Sturgis
Trisha Cherry	Andrea Hyland	Neile Nelson	Paula Suttle
Laurie Chiasson	Brian Jandreau	Stephanie Nichols	Abe Tabachnick
Ryan Chicoine	Alicia Jeffords	Maura O'Connor	Jason Tanguay
Christina Cifelli	Clayton Jones	Stephanie O'Donnell	Jaime Tardif
Sarah Collins	Faith Joyal	Meghan O'Neil	Stacey Taylor
Cecely Conrad	Bei Ju	Beth Orlando	Rebecca Thibeault
Amanda Cooper	Christine Karcanes	Aaron Ouellet	Dave Thompson
Thom Courtney	Sara Kaufman	Nancy Owens	Josie Tierney-Fife
Peggy Dean	Delainey Kein	Stephen J. Palmer	Peter Tierney-Fife
Frank DeFrancesco	Beth Kellogg	Darren Panagakos	Colleen Tims
Kathy Delahunt	Kimberly Kelly-Brewster	Rolande Paolino	Sarah Titus
Melissa Denick	Eliza S. Kenigsberg	Dave Patterson	Linda Townsend
Brianna Didonato-Duran	Laurie Kenny	Catherine Paul	Jackie Toy
Janelle Doak	Brian King	Alison Penley	Gail Trefethern-Kelley
Sarah Dolley	Timothy King	Rhonda Perkins	Heather vanLuling
Quinton Donahue	Jennifer Klein	Heather Perry	Kimberly Walker
Miles Douglass	Diane Knott	Diana Phillips	Donna Walsh
Richard Dowe	Peter Krahe	Brandon Pierson	Lynne Walsh
Peter Downing	Janet Howe Kuech	Brooke Proulx	Ryan C. Watts
Sarah Drury	Martha Lachance	Mindy Rathbun	Rachael Webster
Tim Ebersold	Jason Lambert	Chris Record	Janis M. Weed
Shari Edgecomb	Theresa LaMontagne	Cynthia Remick	Robert Weed
Claudine Emerson	Aaron Landry	Sally Reynolds	James Welsch
Catherine Hyde Emery	Patricia LaRosa	Tami Reynolds	Hannah West
Erin Eppler	Joyce LaRou RN	Heather Richards	Renee Whipkey
David Farrington	Adam LaViolet	Karen Richards	Heather Whitaker
Katie Flanders	Martha LaViolet	Kaitlin Richwalder	Marie Whitncy
Becky Fortier	Michael Lawrenson	Kate Riker	David Willis
Michael Fortier	Jessica Leconte	Allie Rimkunas	Michael Wojtal
Cheryl Fotter	Katy Leeper	Peter Rimkunas	Judy Wuorio
Kimberly Fotter	Vanessa Levesque	Sandra Rockett	Amy Wyatt
Betsy Fox		Jessica Romanoff Burton	Jeanne Zarrilli
		Meghan Rounds	Kristi Zarrilli

Paid for by GSD Faculty and Staff



# Reduce, Reuse, Recycle



Photo credit Tracy Burns

Aylah Boucher, a third grader at Narragansett Elementary School, recently won the Casella Calendar Contest. Her drawing was chosen out of 500 entries from across Maine. The drawings were about the 3 R's (reduce, reuse, recycle). Her drawing will be in the 2021 Casella Calendar.

# Gorham 2020 Cheverus Graduates

Photos courtesy of Cheverus High School

The following Gorham residents graduated from Cheverus High School on June 15 with a traditional ceremony at the Saco Drive-In.

**Haley Caron**, daughter of Daniel and Victoria Caron, graduated magna cum laude and will attend Loyola University in New Orleans to major in music industry studies. A four-year varsity letter member of the varsity swimming and diving team, she was honored as the Rookie of the Year and earned the Captain's Award.



**Timothy O'Brien**, son of Timothy and Stacy O'Brien, earned the distinction of Eagle Scout, and was honored as the varsity football Most Valuable Player in 2019. O'Brien is enrolled at Dean College where he will play football and major in criminal justice.



**Erin Schnupp**, daughter of Joachim and Kristine Schnupp, was a state champion and competed in the National Junior Olympic Championships in the air rifle and smallbore competitions. Schnupp is enrolling at University of Akron where she will be a member of the rifle team and major in criminal justice and psychology.



**Grace Shimansky**, daughter of James and Kelley Shimansky, graduated cum laude and will attend Loyola University in New Orleans to major in environmental science and Spanish. She earned a bronze medal in diving at the 2020 Class A State Championships and Diving and was recognized with the Coach's Award. Shimansky was honored with the Maine Principals' Association Principal's Award for academic excellence and good citizenship.



# NYA 2020 Graduates

Courtesy of North Yarmouth Academy

These Gorham residents graduated from North Yarmouth Academy on the front lawn of their main campus building on June 7.

**Ella Grady**, daughter of Ken and Giuia Grady, will study computer science and political science at Clark University.



**Stefan Kulhanek**, son of Stefan and Lenka Kulhanek, of Austria, (host parents are Ken and Giuia Grady) will play hockey with the Worcester Railers Junior Hockey Team.



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# Gorham Schools Celebrate Students with Farewell Parades

Photo credit Amanda Landry Photography



MORE PHOTOS ON BACK PAGE

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# Here's Where Recent GHS 2020 Grads Are Headed

Ethan Allen, Southern Maine Community College  
 Grace Andrews, University of New England  
 Kaleb Apt, Employment  
 Daniel Bachner, University of Maine, Orono  
 Joshua Ball, Husson University  
 Estelle Ballard, Endicott College  
 Nicholas Batchelder, University of Southern Maine  
 Carson Battaglia, Saint Joseph's College  
 Zachary Beaumont, University of Maine, Presque Isle  
 Adrienne Bertinet, University of Southern Maine  
 Mariam Beshir, Southern Maine Community College  
 Jonah Bird, Central Maine Community College  
 Patrick Bishop, University of Maine, Orono  
 Elizabeth Blanchard, University of Maine, Orono  
 Laura Bolduc, St. Lawrence University  
 Jocelyn Bolt, Colby-Sawyer College Booth  
 Anthony Booth, University of Maine, Farmington  
 Coltin Brantley, Marine Corps  
 Jordan Bretton, Gordon College  
 Westley Brinegar, University of Maine, Orono  
 Rebecca Brunner, Central Maine Community College  
 Ethan Bump, University of Southern Maine  
 Jessica Burgess, Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising  
 Alexander Burghardt, Rivier University  
 Lucia Burke, Southern Maine Community College  
 Haley Burns, University of Maine, Orono  
 Neila Cairnduff, University of Maine, Farmington  
 Emma Callahan, Emmanuel College  
 Isaac Carroll, Southern Maine Community College  
 Margaret Caruso, Endicott College  
 Talia Catoggio, Employment  
 Evan Chambers, US Air Force  
 Lane Charlton, Savannah College of Art and Design  
 Brandon Chhoeung, University of Southern Maine  
 Colby Christakis, University of Maine, Orono  
 Jack Collins, Apprenticeship/On-the-Job Training  
 Rachel Collomy, Houghton College

Julie Cooper, University of Maine, Farmington  
 Kathleen Corbett, University of Maine, Farmington  
 Samuel Cousins, Gap Year  
 Emily Crepeau, Franklin Pierce University  
 Kaitlyn Crockett, Unknown  
 Kasey Cummings, University of Maine, Orono  
 Nichole Dascanio, Plymouth State University  
 Quinn Davis, Apprenticeship/On-the-Job Training  
 Benjamin Demers, Employment  
 Garrett Devoe, University of Maine, Orono  
 Lauren DiDonato, Merrimack College  
 Faith Dillon, Adelphi University  
 Hannah Dimick, East Carolina University  
 William DiPietrantonio, Saint Joseph's College  
 Mackenzie Dix, Saint Joseph's College  
 Jax Dol, Washington County Community College  
 Abigail Dolloff, Unknown  
 Meredith Donisi, Employment  
 Connor Donnelly, Emmanuel College  
 Mia Donnelly, Plymouth State University  
 William Donnelly, Eastern Connecticut State University  
 Ryan Doughty, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
 Lydia Drew, University of Southern Maine  
 Molly Eaton, Emmanuel College  
 Raechel Edwards, Bridgewater State University  
 Brian Edwards, Unknown  
 Isabelle Emerson, Penn State University  
 Ryan Farr, Saint Joseph's College  
 Tyler Farris, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa  
 Madison Firmin, University of New Hampshire  
 Josias Gahima, Unknown  
 Ryan Gaudreau, Bridgewater State University  
 Kevin Goodnow, University of Maine, Orono  
 Madison Gould, Spa Tech  
 Meghan Gray, Saint Joseph's College  
 Derek Grayson, Employment  
 Lauren Green, University of New England

Bryce Gurney, Unknown  
 Sebastian Haines, Employment  
 Kyle Hamblen, University of Maine, Orono  
 Cassidy Hamilton, University of Southern Maine  
 Jacqueline Hamilton, University of Maine, Farmington  
 Joseph Hansen, Plymouth State University  
 Noah Hatch, Employment  
 Owen Heady, Washington County Community College  
 Sophie Hemingway, Employment  
 Maeve Higgins, Quinnipiac University  
 Ashleigh Hotham, University of Southern Maine  
 John Howard, Employment  
 Nicholas Hoyt, Apprenticeship/On-the-Job Training  
 Charles Hubbard, University of Maine, Orono  
 Erin Hume, Smith College  
 Paige Hume, Smith College  
 Makenzie Huntington, York County Community College  
 Hamna Iqbal, Southern Maine Community College  
 Nolan Irish, Maine Maritime Academy  
 Sebastien Irish, Washington County Community College  
 Noah Jalbert, University of Maine, Orono  
 Katarina Jenkins, University of Maine, Farmington  
 Elyssa Johnson, University of Vermont  
 Cortnie Jones, Endicott College  
 Ivan Jonk, Air National Guard  
 Sarah Juskievicz, Regis College  
 Tyler King, Southern Maine Community College  
 Brady King, Maine Maritime Academy  
 Iris Kitchen, Assumption University  
 Cassandra Kovacs, University of Maine, Orono  
 Henri Kuntz, University of Southern Maine  
 Lucas LaMontagne, University of Michigan  
 Brittney Landry, Johnson and Wales  
 Elena LaNigra, University of Southern Maine  
 Zoe Larson, Apprenticeship/On-the-Job Training  
 Emma Linkiewicz, Gap Year  
 Prodigie Lohomboli, Southern Maine Community College  
 Haley Lowell, Lasell University  
 Elyse MacDougall, Military  
 Aaron Mains, Kennebec Valley Community College

Anika Malia, Roger Williams University  
 Travis Matheson, Saint Joseph's College  
 Justin McEachin, Central Maine Community College  
 Ethan Mercier, University of Vermont  
 Adam Michaud, Central Maine Community College  
 Abigail Miller, University of Maine, Orono  
 Caralin Mills, University of Southern Maine  
 Sophia Minchev, Southern Maine Community College  
 Fidencio Miramontes, University of Southern Maine  
 Jakob Mohr, Apprenticeship/On-the-Job Training  
 Peyton Morton, Boston College  
 MacAllister Moss, University of Rhode Island  
 Cameron Myles, Husson University  
 Anna Nault, Curry College  
 Jillian Nichols, Merrimack College  
 Lindsey Nygren, Endicott College  
 Abigail O'Brien, Saint Joseph's College  
 Samuel Orlando, University of Maine, Orono  
 Kyle Ouillette, Springfield College  
 Aidan Owens, University of Maine, Orono  
 Emma Owens, University of New England  
 Samuel Paulin, Southern Maine Community College  
 Devon Paulin, Apprenticeship/On-the-Job Training  
 Cole Perreault, Rivier University  
 Meg Perry, University of Southern Maine  
 Marin Perry, Bishop's University  
 Zachary Pierce, Army National Guard  
 Ava Pitman, University of Maine, Orono  
 Jacob Polchies, University of Southern Maine  
 Lauren Preis, University of Southern Maine  
 Meghan Reidy, Colby-Sawyer College  
 Ryan Reno, Colby College  
 Andrew Rent, Boston University  
 Peter Richards, University of North Dakota  
 Seth Richardson, University of Maine, Orono  
 Margaret Rimkunas, Thomas College  
 Carly Rioux, University of Maine, Orono  
 Jackson Robbins, University of Maine, Orono  
 Isaac Rollins, Southern Maine Community College  
 Tyler Rollins, Four-Year College  
 Gianna Romatis, Norwich University  
 Chloe Russell, Saint Joseph's College  
 Colby Russell, University of Southern Maine  
 Angela Sauvageau, Southern Maine Community College  
 Camden Sawyer, University of Maine, Orono  
 Benjamin Smith, Unknown  
 Kendall Smith, University of Maine, Orono  
 Myka-Allyse Snyder, Saint Joseph's College  
 Quinn Sommers, University of Southern Maine  
 Elizabeth St. Ours, Employment  
 Ursula Steiner, Clark University  
 Veronica Steiner, St. Michael's College  
 Javin Stickney, Regis College

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



**AT MY TABLE IS CLOSED UNTIL THE  
 STAY-AT-HOME POLICY IS LIFTED.  
 THANK YOU.**

## Spectrum is still Hiring!

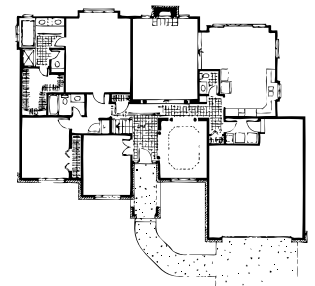
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# Gorham School's Proposed FY 21 Budget ANNUAL SCHOOL BUDGET REFERENDUM MARK YOUR CALENDAR — DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

Check out detailed FY 21 Budget information by going to:  
[www.gorhamschools.org](http://www.gorhamschools.org)

Dear Community Members,

The Gorham School Committee has worked diligently to put together a proposed FY 21 school budget that would see NO INCREASE IN THE MIL RATE. Through the course of the budget development process, we reduced just over ½ a million in expenditures from FY 20 and another \$1.8 million in initially proposed items for FY 21 in order to create the final FY 21 Proposed Gorham School Department Budget. All of this in an environment of continued increasing student populations and the unknowns associated with COVID-19.

The current proposed budget reflects an overall expenditure increase of 4.15% (\$1,703,921.81) and would have a 0.00% (\$0.00) impact on the anticipated FY 21 mil rate.

There are four key cost drivers to the proposed FY 21 budget:

**Required Staffing Costs** – Just under \$1 million dollars is required just to maintain current staffing and programming levels due to increases in teacher retirement costs, contractual salary increases and health insurance costs.

**Increasing student populations** – we have increased by 174 students at the K-5 level alone since 2015 and are due to increase by an additional 151 students at the K-5 level between this current year and 2024-25, just five short years from now. Our overall K-12 populations have gone from 2674 in 2015-16 to our current student population K-12 of 2799 (an increase of 125 students K-12) and is also projected to continue to grow to a total of 3023 by 2024-25 (an additional increase of 224 students) in just five short years from now. Even with this growth, however, our per pupil costs are THE LOWEST in Cumberland Count (\$14,651.85). To address increasing enrollments this year we have shifted attendance zones sending almost 100 more students to Narragansett Elem. In doing so we had to add a guidance position, a learning lab position, and an Assistant Principal in the proposed budget.

**Increased Need for Support Services** – As our student population continues to increase, so too do the needs to support our students. Social and Emotional and mental health needs are on the rise for our students and our special education population continues to grow. To address these needs, we added a health teacher at GMS, a half time adaptive PE teacher for K-12, a speech therapist for K-5, a part time OT and a part time School Psychologist.

**Technology Needs** – this past spring has pointed out to everyone just how important it is to have a strong technology program in our schools. This includes the purchase of up to date devices for students but also the need to maintain our support infrastructure for these devices. In the proposed FY 21 budget, there are funds to purchase 1:1 I-pads for GHS students and incoming Kindergarten students. There are also funds to support maintenance needs, and other technology support items in the proposed budget. When all is said and done (and in partial thanks to the Maine Department of Education for supplying us with over 800 chrome books this past spring) we will be able to maintain 1:1 devices for our students into the coming year. This is good considering we are not sure if we are going to have to start the school year while still in our distance learning environment due to COVID-19.

One piece of good news this year is that we are actually receiving approximately \$900,000.00 in additional subsidy from the state due to a decreasing min. mil expectation and our increasing enrollments.

With the dramatically shifting landscape at the state level, with our continued increasing enrollments due to growth at the local level, and with the looming unknowns related to COVID-19, the Gorham School Committee believes this proposed budget 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.

The Town Council voted to approve of our proposed FY 21 budget on June 16. Voters will be asked to validate this budget on July 14 via referendum.

Thank you,

Heather J. Perry,  
Superintendent of Schools

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

- 87% of GHS seniors are going on to a 4 year, 2 year or military/apprenticeship program. Of the remaining 13%, 7% are directly entering the workforce or taking a planned “gap” year.
- Our graduation rate is among the highest in the state at 95%. The state's average is 86%.
- 220 total colleges and universities are part of our student's “Future Story Wall” at GHS.
- Almost 60% of GHS students participate in athletics. We also offer 45 clubs at GHS so all told, almost 80% of GHS students participate in after school activities with too many accolades to list!
- Our teachers and staff ROCK! Maine Teacher of the Year, Assistant Superintendent of the Year, Special Education Director of the Year, Art Teacher of the Year, Elementary Art Teacher of the Year, and Milken Award winner!
- Almost 1,000 Adult Volunteers working in our schools for over 20,000 hours this year!
- Strong community connections – business roundtable, Aspire Gorham Steering Committee, senior internships, Co-op programs, Jobs For Maine's Graduates, career days, STEAM nights, collaborations with Gorham House, USM, and others, participation in United Way Day of Service and so 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!**





# School Committee Meeting JUNE 10, 2020

KATHY CORBETT  
Staff Writer

The School Committee (SC) held its regular June 10 meeting via Zoom. During the time for public comment, James Lockman asked for clarity about an apology made by Superintendent Heather Perry in reference to a blog post that had been revised. He wanted to know where he could read the original. Perry promised to send it to him.

Responding to the protests against racism and the need for conversation about race relations, Perry emphasized the importance of student participation in the discussion. Trisha Cherry, advisor to the Gorham High School (GHS) Civil Rights Team, introduced two students, Mariam Beshir and Tatiana Jonk. Both are members of the team who drafted a proclamation for an anti-racist policy. Some examples from their proclamation included a request for a more diverse environment which includes speakers sharing stories, curriculum that educated students about racism from early grades, a more diverse staff, honoring holidays of different religions and cultures, and making school-welcoming programs more diverse.

Beshir said students should have an option to standing for the Pledge of Allegiance. SC members thanked students for their presentation and for what they had accomplished in organizing the protests.

Later in the meeting, the SC unanimously passed the following motion made by Darryl Wright and seconded by

Jennifer Whitehead: "I make a motion to publicly declare the Gorham School Committee condemns the recent anti-black racism that is occurring in our country and that we further direct the Superintendent of Schools to deliver the draft proclamation created by the GHS Civil Rights students to the Gorham School Committee Policy Committee to use as a core document for the development of a new Anti-Racist Policy for the Gorham School Department that will be developed with significant stakeholder feedback and brought back to the Gorham School Committee as a potential policy in the fall of 2020."

Perry reported that the State is working with districts on guidelines for school openings. She is hoping to get some FEMA reimbursement and to know more about state monies for next year. She said that the end of school activities were a "positive ending for the school year."

All SC members congratulated GHS seniors and eighth graders on their graduation and the staff for their work during a difficult year. Chairman Stewart MacCallister gave the committee's thanks to GHS student representative Ava Pitman who graduated this year.

Phil Gagnon objected to the delay in finishing the Narragansett kitchen which is four to six weeks behind schedule. MacCallister noted there had been some Planning Board delays and other issues. Perry said it would be completed by the end of September, maybe sooner. However, if schools are open in September, they may be serving bagged lunches in classrooms.

Perry discussed plans for spending Title I, II and IV federal funds which are designated for supplemental instructional services, professional development for social/emotional needs, and improving academic achievement for students in need of help. She said there will be lots of stakeholder help in putting these initiatives into a working plan.

The Facilities Committee is working with the town on the facilities assessment, prioritizing projects, and projecting for future needs, as well as how to pay for improvements.

The SC approved the revised 20-21 school calendar which added two additional professional development days (August 25 and 28) to two planned before school opens. This will add one more school day in the spring. They voted to update the Controversial Issues Policy (6-1, Gagnon).

They voted to approve the Great Falls LED lighting project which includes a \$173,345 rebate from Efficiency Maine and will cost \$143,490.38 over six years (5-2). There would be a reduction in electricity costs. The effect on the FY21 budget would be \$3,000. Gagnon and Benson opposed funding the project at this time.

Superintendent Perry outlined the framework for reopening the schools in the fall which are in line with core values: public health, mitigating learning gaps, a caring school culture, advancing achievement, and being open and transparent. There has been input from medical advi-


CONTINUED ON PAGE 15


## Here's Where Recent GHS 2020 Grads are Headed


CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10


- Nickolas Strout, University of Maine, Farmington
- Gage Stuart, Southern Maine Community College
- Julia Sturgis, University of Maine, Orono
- Madisen Sweatt, Florida Gulf Coast University
- Anthony Theriault, University of Southern Maine
- Seamus Tims, US Navy
- Andrew Tinkham, University of Southern Maine
- Kiana Tracey, University of Southern Maine
- Katrina Tugman, Florida State University
- Sarah Tuttle, Endicott College
- Lydia Valentine, University of Rhode Island
- Anthony Valley, Employment
- Isabella VanZandt, Thomas College
- Jack VanZandt, Plymouth State University
- Kaitlyn Verrill, University of Southern Maine
- Samuel Waggoner, University of Maine, Orono
- Shawn Walls, Apprenticeship/On-the-Job Training
- Kacie Walton, Temple University/Army ROTC Scholarship
- Isabelle Wareham, Assumption University
- Alana Weed, Saint Joseph's College
- Monica Willey, University of Southern Maine
- Jade Wu, Full Sail University
- Mackenzie Yaskula, University of Maine, Orono
- Quinn Young, Husson University
- Gage Young, Employment
- Paulos Zeleke, Unknown
- Jacob Zelmanow, University of Maine, Orono


**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.





  
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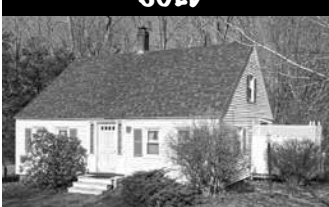


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**SACO \$448,500** - This 4BR, 2.5 ba colonial with 2 car garage is located in Sawyer Woods. Private 1.32 acre lot, hardwood floors, central AC, gas fireplace & spacious master suite.

**SOLD**




**117 School St \$239,000** - Charming cape located in the heart of Gorham with sidewalks to all the village amenities. Move right in to this 3 bedroom, 2 bath with a spacious backyard.

**UNDER CONTRACT**




**HOLLIS \$375,000** - Situated on 4.48ac of beautifully landscaped property is this 4BR, 2ba home w/ a 3 car garage, paved driveway, & barn this property features a rifle range & an archery range.

**REDUCED**




**GORHAM \$64,900** - This 1995 Fleetwood Mobile Home features spacious kitchen/dining area, large LR, spacious MB w/ bath. Newer appliances, skirting, interior painting, storage shed & paved drive.


**SOLD**



**2 Woods Edge \$359,900** - Gorgeous Gorham 2BR, 2 bathroom condo offering 1254sqft of living space all on one level. 1 car garage, full basement & worry free water/sewer.




**NEW LISTING**




**GORHAM \$425,000** - Beautiful 2200sqft 3BR, 2.5 bathroom open concept ranch with 3 car garage on 1.8 acres. Many upgrades including AC & whole house generator.

**UNDER CONTRACT**




**GORHAM \$448,500** - Features over 2400 sqft with 4BR, 2 full & 2 half baths w/ 2 car garage on 5.13 acres. Completely remodeled in 2016 from top to bottom. Inviting inground pool with pool house.

**SOLD**




**757 Methodist Rd \$229,900** - Offers 1300sqft w/ a 2-3 BR floor plan. Master BR w/ bath & laundry. Renovations have been started but need finishing. Convenient 4.21 acre Westbrook lot w/ public water.

**UNDER CONTRACT**



**LIMINGTON \$264,900** - Brand new 28x40 raised ranch with 1 car garage. Offers a sunlit open floor plan with luxury laminate floors, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath and future expansion on the lower level.

**SOLD**



**17 Valley View \$448,500** - This Gorham 4BR, 2.5ba Malcom Pottle reproduction offers 2276sqft of living space w/ 2 car garage & walkout daylight bsmt. Handcrafted cabinetry, pine floors throughout & classic trim details.

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# Local Road Races Go Virtual - What Does That Mean?

DESTINY COOK  
Sports Editor

If you are an avid runner or just a casual jogger, you may be feeling dismayed that many races, including big races like the Beach to Beacon, have cancelled. With the continuing uncertainty surrounding restrictions due to Covid-19, many organizations that sponsor road races around Maine have grappled with how to handle the blow to their industry. Races in Gorham are no different; while a few are waiting for the restrictions to lift, others are moving to the virtual platform.

Tony Myatt, owner of Pine Tree Race Services, explained that a virtual race, put simply, is when a racer registers, runs on their own (or socially distant with a companion), and submits his or her time to the race director once completed. The race director then compiles and posts results.

Myatt is the director of many races including the Gorham 4-Miler and the

Stephen Ward 9/11 Memorial 5K. Both have opted for the virtual format. The Gorham 4-Miler, which was held on June 18, typically attracts between 30 and 50 runners. Myatt said this year only 10 participated.

Looking ahead, the Stephen Ward 9/11 Memorial 5K, which supports a scholarship fund for a Gorham High School student, is going to try something different with both the fundraising and the race in general. Susan Moore and Katie Ward, Ward's sisters, started this race 10 years ago as a celebration of their brother's life. Unfortunately Covid-19 has derailed plans for its tenth anniversary, but that is not stopping the sisters from keeping the tradition going with a virtual race.

Ward said, "First and foremost, our decision is made to mitigate health risks and keep everyone safe. Secondly, we do not want to ask for corporate sponsorships this year as we fully understand that our community's businesses are struggling financially in light of the coronavirus pandemic."

Ward and Moore are doing something a little different. They are reaching out to each of their corporate donors, who have generously supported the fundraising efforts over their past nine years, to inform them that they will all be "honorary 2020 sponsors." "We will be sending a letter/email out soon to thank them all for

their support and to let them know that we will highlight each of them on our Facebook page in the weeks leading up to the race," Ward shared. Donation forms will still be sent with the letter and while any are appreciated, the sisters understand the situation for small businesses in Gorham.

Ward and Moore are hoping for strong participation this year despite it being a virtual race. They decided registration fees (normally \$25) will be \$20 for racers, who can register through the Stephen Ward Memorial 5K Facebook page.

"As always, 100% of the registration fees will go directly to the Stephen G. Ward Memorial Scholarship Fund, given annually to a deserving Gorham High School graduate," Ward confirmed.

The women are hopeful to make the best of this year's situation: continue to honor their brother Stephen, and raise some money for the scholarship fund. "For now, we look forward to days where we will be able to safely gather, celebrate, dine, be entertained, and support one another in the amazing way the people of this community have done for all the years we have been blessed to be a part of it," Ward expressed.

And they look forward to planning the 2021 event which will be the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attack on America.

The Burn off The Turkey 5K put on by the Gorham Recreation Department is holding off on a decision regarding the race. Recreation Director Cindy Hazelton said, "We have not considered any changes right now as we have no idea what the CDC

will recommend by November," she said. While they know that gathering for the race may look different, there are still hopes that the race will go on in person.

Like many other sports, the running world is no different when looking ahead to the future of races. The health of the participants is of the utmost importance while still, for some, trying to raise money for their causes and also incorporating some fun.

**Myatt offered advice for organizing existing races that are going virtual due to the current restrictions or health concerns:**

If people sign as an "early-bird," give them the option to do it virtual or defer to the next year. Do not assume everyone is ok with changing an actual race to a virtual one, even in mitigating circumstances.

If you have an existing event, virtual is better than canceling. If an event gets cancelled and there's no option to defer entries to the next year or run virtual, unfortunately racers will lose interest even when it isn't in the race director's control.

If you transform to a virtual race, keep all your amenities the same. For example, if you offer a cash prize to overall winners and age group awards, give them out as you would in a normal race. Runners will appreciate that you keep it as close to normal as possible minus doing the course together and an after party.

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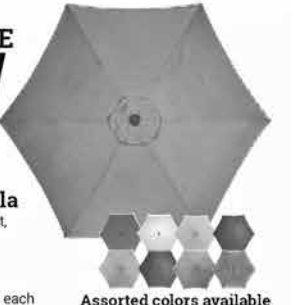


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**Emily Duff**, Rockhurst University, Kansas City, Missouri  
**Sarah Jordan**, Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania  
**Kate Larkin**, Endicott College, Beverly Massachusetts  
**Narissa Libby**, Lasell University, Newton, Massachusetts  
**Emily Murray**, Southern New Hampshire University, Manchester, New Hampshire  
**Emily O'Donnell**, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts  
**Robert Pellerin**, Becker College, Worcester/Leicester, Massachusetts  
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**Sara Slager**, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin  
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**Erica Thibeault**, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts  
**Kenneth Tuttle**, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts  
**Emily Yager**, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts

### OF INTEREST

The Gorham Food Pantry open hours are every Thursday from 10 a.m.-noon with curbside drive through procedures in place. Any Gorham resident can take advantage of the Gorham Food Pantry; clients need only visit during pantry hours with proof of residency (a water bill, electric bill with your name and your Gorham address on it). With weekly changes, it's important to follow Gorham Food Pantry Friends on Facebook for the latest info. Message us anytime via Facebook or email [director@gor-hamfoodpantry.org](mailto:director@gor-hamfoodpantry.org) for particulars. For elderly, immunocompromised, or those who need to explore other arrangements, please reach out to via Facebook messenger for alternatives to shopping at the pantry. Current needs are maple syrup, crackers, kid snacks, napkins, canned pasta, salad dressing, mayo, instant jello, baking goods, cakes, and frosting. Financial donations can be made at [www.gorham-foodpantry.org](http://www.gorham-foodpantry.org).

Gorham Community Access Media (GoCAM) has 216 videos online about local Gorham events. Check them all out at [vimeo.com/user17448009](https://vimeo.com/user17448009).

Visit [gorhamstrong.org](http://gorhamstrong.org) to continue to help support Gorham businesses.

### LIBRARY NEWS



The North Gorham Library Book group held its first "socially distanced" meeting since March 2. Members reported on what they had read while staying at home.

North Gorham Public Library is once again open to the public. Library hours are Mondays from 3-5:30 p.m., Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Home delivery and parking lot pickup is also available.

At the Baxter Memorial Library, all programs are virtual (online). Some of the programs will take place on Facebook, some programs on Zoom, and some on the library website. The Librarian Grab Bag Discovery Time takes place on Facebook on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. You'll never know which Youth Services staff member will be performing. It could be a Musical Mr. Jeff, an Artistic Ms. Dani, a Movement Moment Deb, a Yogi Ms. Heidi, or an Artistic Ms. Becky. Kids can also sign up for the Baxter Memorial Library Summer Reading and Discovery Program in addition to participating in special library offerings such as crafts, cooking, gardening, scavenger hunts, and a new series called Earth Toddlers beginning July 6. All of the details can be found at [baxterlibrary.org](http://baxterlibrary.org).

### USM NOTES

The University of Southern Maine is open virtually, running classes, and preparing students for their courses of study. The Office of Admissions is available to meet with prospective students online. Learn more at [usm.maine.edu/admissions](http://usm.maine.edu/admissions), write to [admitusm@maine.edu](mailto:admitusm@maine.edu), or call 780-5646 FMI.

### School Committee Meeting CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

sors and staff, but there will be more student and parent input before plans are finalized.

The plan has three levels: Level 1 is staying at home with distance learning; Level 2 is a hybrid of some at-home learning and perhaps 50% classroom instruction; and Level 3 is near normal but with the enhanced hygiene proce-

dures continued. A more detailed version of the plans, although still not fully formulated, may be found by going to the Superintendent's Blog and clicking on the presentation that was given to the School Committee. Perry said that fully developed plans will be announced in mid-August, but that everything will still be subject to current conditions.

## CALENDAR

\*\* All events are for Baxter Memorial Library unless otherwise noted. Please visit [baxterlibrary.org](http://baxterlibrary.org) for more details/dates.

### THURSDAY, JUNE 25

9:30 a.m. on Facebook, Librarian Grab Bag Discovery Time (ages 18 mo-5 yrs)

### FRIDAY, JUNE 26

9:30 a.m. on Zoom. Toddler Yoga (walkers to age 3)

### SATURDAY, JUNE 27

Gorham Farmer's Market, Municipal Parking Lot, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

### MONDAY, JUNE 29

10 a.m. on Facebook, Unicorn on a Roll Craft, all ages

### TUESDAY, JUNE 30

9:30 a.m. on Facebook, Librarian Grab Bag Discovery Time. (ages 18 mo-5 yrs)

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

10 a.m. on Facebook, Gardening w/ Ms. Dani, all ages

### THURSDAY, JULY 2

9:30 a.m. on Facebook, Librarian Grab Bag Discovery Time (ages 18 mo-5 yrs)

### FRIDAY, JULY 3

9:30 a.m. on Zoom, Preschool Yoga (ages 3-5 yrs)  
Library Closed for Holiday

### SATURDAY, JULY 4

Gorham Farmer's Market, Municipal Parking Lot, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
Library Closed for Holiday

### MONDAY, JULY 6

10 a.m. on Facebook, Earth Toddlers (ages 18 mos-3 years)

### TUESDAY, JULY 7

9:30 a.m. on Facebook, Librarian Grab Bag Discovery Time (ages 18 mos-5 yrs)

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

10 a.m. on Facebook, Cooking with Ms. Deb, all ages

### THURSDAY, JULY 9

9:30 a.m. on Facebook. Librarian Grab Bag Discovery Time (ages 18 mo-5 yrs)

### Restaurant Hours

Sun-Thurs:  
11 am to 10 pm

Fri & Sat:  
11 am to 11 pm



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## Gorham Schools Celebrate Students CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9



MAINE MADE US PREPARED

# CONTINUING TO MAKE HEALTHCARE SAFELY WORK FOR YOU

As healthcare professionals, we made a promise to put your safety first. As we welcome you to Northern Light Mercy Hospital, you can expect the following points of promise.

- 1** We are reducing the number of people in our reception areas.
- 2** We are disinfecting high-touch surfaces and public spaces more frequently.
- 3** We are requiring masks or face coverings for all visitors, patients, and employees.

Maine made us prepared to keep you safe and healthy. Through these safety protocols, you can get the care you need, now. Learn more about the new steps we are taking to keep you safe at [NorthernLight.org/Mercy](http://NorthernLight.org/Mercy)



**Northern Light**  
Mercy Hospital