

Gorham Times

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Greater Gorham Farmers Market Returning May 1

By Stowe Watters

Winter is over and the bees are buzzing, cows are mooing, flowers are popping, and the time is upon us, great town of Gorham, for the Greater Gorham Farmers Market. Come celebrate the ninth year of the Greater Gorham Farmers Market on opening day, May 1, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We have a bunch of new vendors including a beekeeper, a quilter, some crafty sewists, and a vendor selling mealworms for all you backyard chicken folks! We also have fan favorite, Gorham's own Findview Farm returning this year so come get your meats, vegetables, seedlings, baked goods, granola, hand knit clothing and yarn, masks, and tons more. We are still behind the library every Saturday in the Municipal Parking Lot, all summer long, and are following all of the state and federal COVID-19 protocols, including hand sanitizer at every vendor, face masks, and socially distanced shopping. See you out there!



School Committee Approves FY22 Budget

By Kathy Corbett, Staff Writer

On April 14 the Gorham School Committee voted 7-0 to approve a \$44,568,143 budget for FY22. This is an overall increase of \$1,853,688 or 4.34% over the FY 21 budget. The Town Council will vote on the proposed budget on May 11. The public referendum vote will be held June 8. If approved, this budget represents an increase in the mil rate of 58 cents over FY21. A taxpayer with a home assessed at \$300,000 would pay \$177 more in property taxes.

Prior to voting, School Committee (SC) members thanked Superintendent Heather Perry, the District Leadership Team (DLT), and district faculty and staff for their time and effort in preparing their FY22 budget request. Contractual obligations and increases in insurance rates projected for the coming year accounted for a \$1.3 increase over FY21. Other factors were additional costs associated with greater

need for Special Education programming, capital improvements, and an increase in money for the School Nutritional Program because of lost revenue due to COVID-19. This initial budget proposed by the DLT projected an increase of 8.53% over the FY21 budget.

The approved budget with a 4.34% increase over FY21 was achieved in part by hard decisions that eliminated some existing expenditures and new initiatives prioritized by the DLT. Many new initiatives, Perry said, "were due to focus on academic and social and emotional support for students due to COVID-19."

Among reductions the SC made to the proposed budget were funds for a human resource director, some requested ed tech positions, funding for additional transportation dispatcher and administrative assistant support, an additional part-time speech therapist, an addi-

tional guidance counselor position, and a request for new staff laptops.

In anticipation of necessary instructional support in the fall when schools return to full in-person learning, three teaching positions will be funded by allocations from the Federal CARES Act. Other new positions include an English Language Learning (ELL) teacher and Special Education teacher.

All School Committee members supported the budget. Stewart McCallister said although it was not what everyone wanted, but he believed it was a balance between what students need and what taxpayers can support. James Brockman, who is serving his first year on the SC, said that after an intense month of compromise he felt "every page has been picked over and any further cuts would be harmful to students."

A budget booklet prepared for the Town Council will be on the Gorham School Department website and available for the public.

Gorham Cleans Up, Big Success



Photo credit Tina Ruel

Deb Tanguay and her daughter, Clara, dragged this newsworthy item out of the woods.

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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.

Legislating Beyond the Pandemic

By Rep. Mo Terry

We have been making a collective effort to keep our communities safe for the past 13 months. For many of us, this has meant having to navigate an altered workplace, take on new child care responsibilities and delay plan after plan. But now, the work we've had to do to get through this pandemic is beginning to pay off.

Maine is currently leading the nation in COVID-19 vaccination rates. A few weeks ago, we reached the milestone of having administered over one million COVID-19 vaccine doses, and more than 450,000 Mainers have received their final dose. I am endlessly grateful to the health care and frontline workers who are dedicated to pulling us out of this public health crisis.

Just as all of you have adapted your lives to overcome this challenge, so too has the Legislature. In order to keep our communities safe, we have been holding committee meetings over Zoom and floor votes at the Augusta Civic Center. By making some of these changes, we have been able to continue conducting our work. Last month, we met in Augusta to pass the Back-to-Basics Budget, funding current and essential services like education, property tax relief and support for rural hospitals and nursing homes.

Since then, we have been busy in legislative committees working to pass important new measures that were not included in the Back-to-Basics Budget.

Our Education and Cultural Affairs Committee has worked on bills to bolster Maine's rural economies, improve prekindergarten education and promote equity in our public education system. On health care issues, the bills coming through committee include measures to increase access to mental health care, dental care and other vital medical services. We have also been intently focused on climate change and crafting legislation that supports the Climate Council's Maine Won't Wait four-year climate action plan.

After working with the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations last summer, committees have utilized the framework established to evaluate legislation through a racial equity lens. This means that in each committee, legislators are analyzing and discussing new bills with an eye towards social justice and equity. Some really meaningful and challenging conversations have come to light as a result of this work. I can say for certain that the way we approach policy decisions, as a body, has shifted as a result of the leadership of Assistant Majority Leader Rachel Talbot Ross and others spearheading these efforts. In total, all of the legislative committees have voted or acted on hundreds of bills that saw further action on the floor when the full Legislature met again at the Augusta

Civic Center. Many of these are now awaiting the Governor's signature.

Among the bills I introduced this session are measures to help fund hunger relief efforts and provide funding to support veterans transitioning into civilian life in Maine. I have also introduced a bill to extend the statute of limitations for filing a complaint under the Maine Human Rights Act for certain offenses related to sexual abuse. Many of the bills I've introduced come directly from having conversations with constituents. While I have certainly spent much of my adult life helping to feed people, I'm no expert in veterans affairs or Maine's criminal code. That's why hearing from you about the issues you face or opportunities you see to improve life here in Maine is so important.

As always, if you have any ideas, questions or concerns, please reach out to me. I am best able to serve our district by hearing directly from you.



Rep. Maureen "Mo" Terry, D-Gorham, is serving her third term in the Maine House of Representatives. She serves as House Chair of the Taxation Committee. She is a chef and small business owner with more than 25 years of experience in the food service industry. Contact her at maureen.terry@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,

As our Town grows, we must take a closer look at the public safety measures Gorham provides to the community, including pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers. We are concerned about the safety of Gorham residents, who deserve safe roadway crossings to navigate to the center of town, to playgrounds and recreational fields, and to visit friends. We watch the roads get busier over time,

causing even more stress on residents trying to get from Point A to Point B.

It's time to take action by making our Town safer! One solution is to add crosswalks and flashing lights in areas with a high volume of pedestrian and automobile traffic. One such area is the recreation space off of Chick Drive (playing fields/court, playground, cross country skiing, sledding, a trail system, etc.), which is a well-loved and highly utilized area,

not to mention home to Narragansett Elementary. However, this can be a difficult area to reach for anyone who lives on the west side of Gray Road or the south side of Main Street, due to the lack of crosswalks and/or other traffic calming measures. While a sidewalk is present on the west side of Gray Road, there are no crosswalks on Gray Road between Main Street

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BRINGING THE NEWS TO ALL OF GORHAM
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Browntail Moths Expanding Range Near Gorham

By John Ersek, Staff Writer

This spring, the Maine Forest Service is informing residents of interior Cumberland and York Counties that Maine's Browntail Moth infestation area may be about to expand into this region, including Gorham. For decades, the moths were concentrated along the immediate coast, but they have recently expanded up several river valleys, including the Kennebec River valley as far as Waterville. Last summer, the moths were seen in increasing numbers in Portland and Falmouth, and some were seen in Standish and Westbrook. The entire area had a mostly dry spring and summer in 2020, followed by a milder than average winter, and this favors increased numbers of the moths.

Browntail Moth caterpillars overwinter in filmy medium-sized white oval webs, known as winter webs. These are often located at the tips of upper branches in the trees that the moths infest, such as apple, crabapple, cherry, birch, and oak. Less typically, winter webs can be found under decks, in stored boats, under house and shed eaves, and other places. The moths begin emerging from the webs and feeding, as soon as new leaves begin growing on the trees in early May.

A common lookalike moth is the one which produces the familiar "tents" of tent caterpillars. Tent caterpillar webs are larger, and located



Photo courtesy of John Ersek

Close up of overwintering webs of Browntail Moth in ornamental crabapple.

further toward the central part of branches, or where branches come together. Also, tent caterpillars have two blue dots on their backs, while mature Browntail Moth caterpillars have orangish-brown hairs, and have white lines and two orange dots on their back.

Browntail Moths can kill host trees by repeatedly eating most of their leaves, but they are primarily considered a public health threat to humans. This is because so many people are allergic to the web and cocoon materials, and to the caterpillars. (All these can remain toxic for years.) Allergic reactions in people can include rashes, welts, and respiratory symptoms. The Forest

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REMEMBER WHEN

Gorham Landslide

By Wilma Gould Johnson, Contributing Writer



Photo credit Stephen Berry

Pictured above: The back deck of the home on Longfellow Road tilted dangerously over the large gully created by the landslide.

Photo inset: A utility van is almost swallowed up by the landslide.



Photo courtesy of Paula Boivin Prak & Audrey Sawyer

It is most likely that we have all, at least once, had our feet slide out from under us. It is safe to assume that here in Maine, not many have experienced their home sliding beneath them. Such an event took place in September of 1983. The location of that disaster was at 53 Longfellow Road, off Brackett Road, at the home of Paul Boivin and Audrey Sawyer and their three children: Paula, age two; a younger brother, Shawn, age one; and an older brother, Christopher, age eight.

It was mid-afternoon on what seemed to be an ordinary day. Suddenly, young Paula began to cry as she was napping in her bedroom. Sawyer ran to check her but could not pry open the bedroom door. Things had fallen off the walls and a beam had come up through the floor blocking entrance to the child's bedroom. As only a mother could do, she somehow broke through the door and rescued her child.

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Browntail Moths CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Service reports that the adult moths themselves are not toxic.

Great care should be used when attempting to remove or dispose of the caterpillars and cocoons, including using gloves and respirator masks, as well as removing outer clothing when entering the home. If burning the webs and cocoons, make sure to

use a closed container, so that these toxic materials are not dispersed into the air. The Forest Service has an FAQ webpage with a great deal of information on Browntail Moths, including tips for the safe removal: https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest_health/invasive_threats/browntail_moth_info.htm#faqs

Letters to the Editor CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

and Chick Drive, with the exception of the crosswalk at Main Street. Similarly, Main Street has only three crosswalks between Libby and the New Portland Road/Main Street stoplight. These crosswalks are certainly not serving the multitude of residents in neighborhoods along Main Street and Gray Road, and with an elementary school at their front doors, it's a shame our children don't have a safe path to and from school each day.

A solution is possible. Painted crosswalks and flashing crosswalk signs will contribute to keep our neighborhoods safe for pedestrians and motorists alike.

Leah Sturm

Dear Editor,

The current school year brought new neighborhoods of kids to Narragansett Elementary School with the ability to commute to and from school. Everyone can agree that the safety of our children is of utmost importance. As parents of a student who attends Narragansett, we are writing in support of a lighted crosswalk across Grey Road at Bouchard

Drive. This will allow children and their families to safely cross a busy roadway while informing drivers to slow down. On the other end of Bouchard Drive the addition of lights and signs on Chick Drive, in connection to an existing crosswalk, will allow safe crossing into the fields getting everyone one step closer to safely getting to school. Sidewalks on Chick Drive, understandably a larger expense, would only add to the ability of our children to commute safely to and from school. With the pandemic and the increased burden on our schools transportation system, providing a safe route for our children only makes sense as we know that with the current growth of our town, the schools will be redistricted again adding more kids to Narragansett. With these access point upgrades, kids from Gorham Village could safely walk or ride to school. Increasing the walkability of Gorham Village not only increases safety for our school children, but benefits anyone who uses the Claire Drew trail system and the recreational fields at Narragansett.

Ernie Wells & Merrilee Warholak

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TOWN/MUNICIPAL

Chief Sanborn Reports

On April 14, a three-year-old boy died at the scene when he was accidentally run over by a vehicle driven by a 13-year-old girl on Tamarack Circle in Friendly Village in Gorham.

The girl, who had spent the afternoon with the boy's family, was alone in the car and did not have permission to drive it. She took control of the vehicle after the mother made a brief stop at home to drop off her eight-year-old son's jiu-jitsu equipment, leaving the car running while she went into the house. The girl let the three-year-old

out of the car seat, got into the driver's seat and put the car into reverse, rolling backward.

Officer Todd Meslin wrote in his report of the incident that "while backing, the driver of the SUV collided with a pedestrian who was playing in the roadway."

Neighbors told police that the child had crawled under the car and the parents were screaming at the girl to stop.

Gorham Police are evaluating what charges might be brought against the 13-year-old girl.

Remember When-Gorham Landslide CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

At the very same time, young Shawn was sitting in his walker on the back deck. As the house was shifting upward, the deck was shifting in the opposite direction. Luckily, one of the workers from Hillocks Well Drilling saw what was about to happen and quickly jumped off his machine in time to rescue little Shawn before he slid under the house. Fortunately, the oldest child, Christopher, was at school at the time of the incident.

Several vehicles were damaged along with the home and the garage. Boivin's dump truck, Sawyer's Dodge Dart, a painter's van, and one of Hillock's well drilling rigs were all damaged as a result of the landslide. Surprisingly, both the house and the garage were salvaged and eventually moved to an area closer to the road.

Several acres of land had been shifted toward the Stroudwater River and the Indian Camp Brook as a result of the landslide. The river did rise and probably took on a new route. Miraculously, there were no serious injuries and no loss of life.

Several volunteers from both the Westbrook and Gorham fire departments assisted. Captain Clyde R.

Chapman, working the Westbrook Fire Ladder #1 recalled, "We were the first crew to arrive that day. We parked fire and rescue at the end of the long driveway and walked in carrying ropes, ladders and other equipment." Much to their amazement, they discovered a landslide of over five acres in size, which Chapman described as "surreal."

Interestingly, there was a visiting firefighter, Emma Wilton, from New Zealand riding along with the Westbrook Fire Crew on that day. Chapman recalled, "Her eyes were as big as saucers when she saw that house down in the hole with a baby's playpen lying on its side."

As always, when disaster strikes in Gorham, many businesses and private citizens helped financially as well as physically. As the cleanup got underway, Russ Kimball arrived daily and helped to keep the working crews well fed. Another local man came each and every day just to help where he could until the job was completed.

Wilma Gould Johnson was born and raised in Gorham and graduated from GHS in 1962. She enjoys sharing Gorham history with others. For questions or more information, contact her at iamwilma@comcast.net.



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Watch Your Back

By Ryan Martin

Spring is in the air! We've seen the snowbanks melt away quickly this year. With that, it's likely you've thought about or have already started your outdoor spring cleanup. As a physical therapist I've seen people come into the clinic, typically with back pain, following their spring cleanup. Let's review some tips that can be helpful in keeping your body feeling good while getting things done around the yard.

The first thing to remember, especially if you haven't been as active during the winter months, is to plan out what needs to be done. Many times, in the clinic I will hear a story of someone that decided to rake their yard and three hours later (or more) they were finally done. That's asking for trouble! We would never think to run a marathon without training first. We need to plan a reasonable amount of time to spend on a project and decide what you can live with not finishing today.

Once you have your plan, it's time to warm up the body. Take a few minutes to get in a nice brisk walk to get your heart rate up. This allows the blood to flow through your body, get oxygen to the muscles, and it gives the muscles a little warmup before you get started.

If you plan on doing any lifting or carrying, as we do with bags of mulch or potting soil, you want to think about getting your hip muscles ready. We don't want to lift something from the ground with a rounded back. Squats or mini squats are a great way to get the hip muscles ready. Stand in front of a chair and bend at your hips as if you were sitting back in the seat and slowly lower until you feel your backside hit the seat and stand back up. Make sure your knees aren't going in front of your toes. Repeat this 10 times and you'll have a good warmup for these muscles.

Raking can be another cause of back pain. What typically gets us into trouble with raking is that we reach the rake too far away from our bodies. This causes us to lean forward and bend at the back for prolonged periods of

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Gorham Cleans Up, a Big Success



Photo credit Tina Ruel

Members of the Gorham Boys Lacrosse Team focused on picking trash up along South St. Front row: Carol Eyerman, Sean Verrill, Cole Smith, Dayton Crockett, Jayden Racine, Brady Alexander, Anthony Arsenault, Jeremy Lestage. Back Row: Coach John Greenier, Noah Badeau, Haden Pelletier, Josh Labrie, Trevor Bennett, Hunter Pelletier, Keagan Lindsay, Justin Chasse, Andrew Gaudreau, Jacob Tatom, Coach Brian Trapani, Teacher Ryan Chicoine



Photo credit Tina Ruel

Alysia and Chris Dargie leading by example for their daughters to participate in making Gorham cleaner and more beautiful. Pictured are Claire, Alysia, Chris and Leah.



Photo credit Roger Marchand



Photo credit Roger Marchand



Photo credit Tina Ruel

Tristan Smith and Cameron Whittemore cleaned up cigarette butts (with humor) on South Street.



Photo credit Tina Ruel

Carol Eyerman and Jeremy Lestage of Gorham Cleans Up gives the thumbs up to all the volunteers who came out on Saturday morning, despite the windy and rainy conditions, to collect accumulated trash on trails and roadsides. Many thanks to Gorham Public Works for hauling it away.



Photo credit Roger Marchand

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Staff Photographer Wins First Place

By Gorham Times Staff



Roger Marchand's photography titled *Brushes*.

Photo credit Roger Marchand

Gorham Times staff photographer Roger Marchand was awarded first prize in the color photography category at the 2021 Maine Photography Show for his photograph titled *Brushes*. Over 600 photographs were entered into the judged competition by over 200 Maine photographers. Judge Bruce Brown evaluated and selected 110 images for the exhibition at the

Boothbay Regional Arts Foundation photography show which will be on display from April 10 until May 7, 2021.

Judge Bruce Brown stated that *Brushes* may well be the most dynamic, energetic and colorful photograph in this year's exhibition. It is interesting to note that the photographer has turned to the medium of painting to create this

year's prize winning color photograph. The brushes standing erect around an orange square seem to serve as pilings for a potential building below while multiple geometric forms and a variety of colors appear to fly, sail or float at various heights across the busy surface. The result is a cacophony of various shapes, sizes and colors that wrestle with one another endlessly. Bravo!

Watch Your Back CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

time. It makes our muscles continuously contract and increases pressure on our discs, which often times will lead to soreness later. To avoid this try making shorter strokes with the rake and walk your body along the path you intend to rake. This will keep you from bending too far forward and will help to reduce the strain on your back.

Once you have completed what you set out to do, it's a good idea to follow that up with another short walk. This can help to loosen up the muscles that may have been stressed during your activity. It is common to go inside and immediately sit down, but it's important to limit the amount of sitting that is done because it actually increases pressure on our discs and could cause discomfort. How many times have you finished yard work, you go sit down for an hour or so and find it difficult or painful to get out of the chair? It's better to limit your sitting time and mix in some standing activities. If you are experiencing some low back discomfort, you may want to consider lying down on your back with your knees bent or on your side for a few minutes to allow for your pain to subside.

It's great to get outside again! Remember to break up your task into smaller ones, warm your body up before you start, and try to limit the amount of sitting you do after. Following these tips will help you feel better after your spring cleanup project.

Ryan Martin, Clinic Director at Back In Motion Physical Therapy. He is a graduate of Springfield College in Springfield, MA. He serves as President of Sacopee Valley Cal Ripken Baseball.

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COMMUNITY



The Cadette Girl Scouts from Troop 945 did a cleanup of Robie Park, and kids from Clay Road did a neighborhood cleanup too!

DEAN'S LIST

Ryan Doughty, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona, Florida

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Jonathan Scribner recently completed an intensive research project at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Massachusetts. As a requirement for the 2022 major in Civil Engineering, Jonathan was a member of a student team that completed the project titled "A Roadmap to Scaling the Algae Industry with Australia Project Center," a professional-level project designed to apply science and technology to address an important societal need or issue.

OF INTEREST

Calling all Gorham churches, community organizations, clubs, neighborhood groups, businesses, school groups, sports clubs and groups, and anyone else wishing to be part of the Memorial Day Parade! Together our community will shine with patriotic themed parade units and make this our collective "Thank You" to our local veterans! We need you to join us to make this parade a truly "community parade." Get all the details at gorhamrec.com/info/activities/ or call 222-1630.

The Gorham Lions' next meeting is Tuesday, May 11 at the Old Elmwood Schoolhouse. Regular meetings are the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. New members are always welcome. FMI 929-9182.

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Gorham Memorial Post 10879 will meet on Tuesday, May 11 at 5:30 p.m. in the Fire Department Training Room, 270 Main St. If you are interested in attending the meeting or for more information about the VFW, please contact the Post at vfwpost10879@gmail.com.

For over 25 years, the Gorham Food Pantry has served the needs of the hungry in Gorham, Maine. Our Pantry was founded and is sustained by the efforts of many local churches, schools, businesses, generous donors and hundreds of active volunteers. Hours are 10 a.m to noon on Thursdays. Learn more at gorhamfoodpantry.org/.

The UMaine Cooperative Extension has been putting university research to work in Maine for over 100 years, with federal support through the USDA, state support through the University of Maine, and local support through Maine county governments. Educational efforts focus on the Maine Food System, and Positive Youth Development through 4-H programs with a focus on STEM disciplines. Are you getting ready to plant your garden? Do you need some advice, or will you be willing to learn about and avoid plants that are invasive to Maine? Learn about the Extension's services, programs and resources available to Gorham residents at extension.umaine.edu/about/.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

SOFT WASH HOUSE WASHING

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School Note: Assistant Superintendent of Gorham Schools, Dr. Christopher Record, recently announced that he has accepted the job of Superintendent of Cape Elizabeth Schools starting the 2021-22 school year.

SCHOOL

School Committee Report 4/14/21

By Kathy Corbett, Staff Writer

At the April 14 regular School Committee (SC) meeting, Superintendent Heather Perry reviewed plans for the four day in-person schooling for grades K-8, which will start on April 29. She also announced that spectators will be permitted at outside athletic events this spring.

Perry expressed her opposition to LD552, a bill before the Maine Legislature, that she believes would cause an unnecessary financial and staffing burden on the district. The requirement for additional parental involvement in Individual Education Programming (IEP) would have a major financial impact and could adversely affect the existing process by which special education staff develop IEPs for students in cooperation with parents.

Requiring more team meetings with parental involvement could result in an unfunded mandate of more than three million dollars for additional staff and for hearings if parents did not agree with changes in an IEP. Later in the meeting, the SC voted 7-0 to approve Perry sending a letter to the local Legislative Delegation urging them to vote against LD552.

Heather Flanders and Cecely Conrad, specialists in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), gave a program overview of their work with English Language Learners (ELL) in the Gorham Schools. Conrad teaches 50 students in the three elementary schools where 20 different languages are spoken in their homes. Thirty students in grades

6-12 are ELL taught by Flanders. The program has grown from a total of 24 students in 2010-11 to the 80 currently served.

Flanders and Conrad conduct home language surveys and develop individualized student plans with teacher and parent input. After extensive testing, students exit the program but are monitored for several years, especially for writing skills. Both teachers expressed how much they enjoyed working with parents and learning about their different cultures.

SC members voted (7-0) to adopt policies on School Properties Disposition and Immunization, stipends for spring coaching personnel, and the FY22 Budget. School Committee members each spoke on the reasons they were supporting the budget. They felt that compromises were necessary to prepare for a return to a five-day schedule in the fall.

As requested by the SC, Perry identified a one-time purchase that could be made with Federal CARES funds that must be spent this year. Using \$318,000 of these monies to purchase a new math curriculum that would have been paid over two years took \$160,000 out of the FY22 budget.

At the end of the meeting there was discussion about how the SC could be more transparent about COVID-19 cases and quarantines without compromising privacy concerns. They decided to discuss this further at the April 24 workshop.

ERIC S. THISTLE, Esq.



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GHS Spring Sports Preview

By Aislyn McLean, GHS Student Intern

Hundreds of student athletes missed out last year when the spring sports season was officially cancelled. With increased regulations however, the Maine Principals Association (MPA) has confirmed that there will be a relatively "normal" season for teams around the state in 2021. Fortunately, this includes Gorham High School. Towards the end of March, GHS's tennis, track, baseball, softball, and lacrosse teams hit the ground running. With social distancing, masks, and extra sanitization in place, practices have been held and competitions have begun. This past week, each coach was invited to answer a couple of questions surrounding themselves and their respective teams. Their answers follow:

GIRLS LACROSSE - COACH MEREDITH BICKFORD

1. How long have you been coaching? I have been coaching for 25 years. I started my coaching career as the Assistant Field Hockey Coach at USM and the JV Softball Coach at Gorham High School. When I left Gorham, I became the Assistant Softball Coach at USM. During my tenure at USM, I was also the Head Girls Lacrosse Coach and spent one season as the Cheer Coach. I have coached youth lacrosse, baseball, softball, and middle school lacrosse and have now been the Assistant Field Hockey Coach at GHS for five years alongside Becky Manson-Rioux. I am honored that GHS has also appointed me to the Varsity Girls Lacrosse position for the 2021 season.

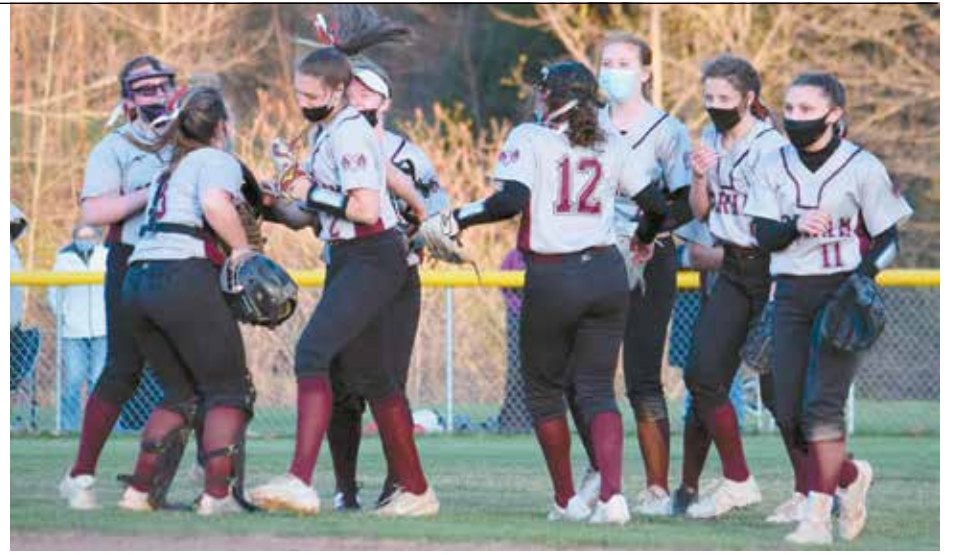
2. Are there any key returning players/seniors/captains? Katie Kutzer (Senior Captain), Mary Dewitt (Junior Midfielder), Kate Dupuis (Junior Captain), Brooke Guimond (Junior Goalie).

3. Are there any new players who may make contributions? Our Junior class is very talented and brings a lot of leadership and dedication to the program. Allie Light, Allie Myles, Jill Morrell, Mary Dewitt, Brooke Guimond, Kate Dupuis, Morgan Chapman, Emma Stevens and Anna Provost. They are teaching the underclass players so much and really setting the tone for a great season.

4. What are your hopes for the season? It is so great to be playing. I want the girls to have fun, be competitive, and know they gave it their all everyday at practice and everyday they play in a game. I want the girls to be proud of themselves and feel pride when they walk on and off the field.

5. Are there any challenging opponents that you know of? Falmouth, Massabesic, Scarborough... These teams will always give us a good game.

6. Do you think missing out on last year's spring season will affect this season? Missing last year has definitely affected the number of girls that have decided not to return to lacrosse this year. Some have decided to work while others are focusing on other sports. I lost girls from each class this year that I had anticipated having on the roster. However, the girls that we have are



hard working, enthusiastic, dedicated, and truly are representing Gorham with great pride.

7. Do you think team bonding will be affected with COVID? We are managing to abide by the COVID rules while still having team bonding.

8. What will competitions look like for your team? GHS Girls Lacrosse never gives up! We are solid and ready to play to the last whistle. Look out.

BOYS LACROSSE - COACH CLAYTON JONES

1. How long have you been coaching? I am starting my 4th year coaching the GHS Boys lacrosse team.

2. Are there any key returning players/seniors/captains? Our captains are seniors Ben Tukey and Josh Labrie. A strong contingent has moved up at each position to take charge. Veterans Liam Moss and Josh Labrie anchor a solid defense, with Ian Connors in the cage. The other end of the field boasts an attack unit including veteran scoring leaders Ben Tukey and Ayden

Lindsay. Between the lines, the Rams feature a youthful and very athletic midfield led by Juniors Connor Callahan and Brady Sawyer, and sophomore Jacob Lehmann.

3. What are your hopes for the season? Coming off a strong showing in 2019, the Gorham Boys Lacrosse team looks to continue to improve in 2021. Every day we try to put our best effort out there and get better. Good things are bound to happen.

4. Are there any challenging opponents that you know of? A completely different schedule this year has cancelled all the traditional rivalries, but offers opportunities to measure up against new opponents. Crossover games with Brunswick and Greely should be good tests.

5. Do you think missing out on last year's spring season will affect this season? Covid definitely took away some of the momentum of our program. In addition, a few guys have stepped

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

GFWC GORHAM WOMAN'S CLUB Art Show



The yearly Art Show sponsored by Gorham Woman's Club will be shown in Baxter Memorial Library over the next two weeks. This Art Show became especially important this year as it help create continuity for our very own Gorham High School students in this time of constraints due to the Pandemic. These students are given this Art Show to showcase their incredible talents which are fostered by Sarah Dolley and Chris Crosby Art teachers at Gorham High School. Many winners in our Art Show have gone on to win at Art Shows for Woman's Clubs statewide. This year's winners include:

Allison Bishop	1st prize
Alyvia Caruso	2nd prize
Hannah Heady	3rd prize
Michelle Darling	4th prize

First Night Kits

We continue to accept donations to construct First Night Kits which are provided to our first responders when it is necessary for individuals to leave their homes for a safer place. To help, you can drop off donations at Baxter Memorial Library. Financial assistance to purchase items is also welcomed.

For more information:
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away from the game for work and other reasons. Many of the younger players who have moved up have changed so much in two years, and have really come into their own.

6. Do you think team bonding will be affected with COVID? The athletes we have are really committed. Each year's team is a unique group that finds its identity over the course of the season. I expect that will be true for this group as well, and I am very optimistic based on what I have seen so far. We have already lost our second week of practice to covid restrictions, but we will "adapt and overcome." The guys have done a great job of sticking together and working hard.

7. What will competitions look like for your team? With the strong leadership of captains Tukey and Labrie bringing along the younger players, this group could go far into the post-season tournament this year.

GIRLS TRACK - COACH JOHN CATERINA

1. How long have you been coaching? I have been head coach for 27 years.

2. Are there any key returning players/seniors/captains? Our key returners include senior co-Captain MacKenna Holmes (PV and distance), and junior co-Captain Sydney Connolly (sprints). Other key returners include juniors Emma Green (HJ), Alyvia Caruso (LJ and 300h), Elizabeth Loranger (mid-distance) and Caroline Bishop (1600 RW).

3. Are there any new players who may make contributions? We have several new additions to the team representing all four classes.

4. What are your hopes for the season? We hope to have a very successful and, more importantly, complete season. We should be among the top teams in the SMAA and Class A.

5. Are there any challenging

opponents that you know of? While we won't compete against all of them directly, top opponents will include Scarborough, Thornton Academy, Cheverus and Bonny Eagle.

6. Do you think missing out on last year's spring season will affect this season? It will take some time for our kids to regain their competitive "fire" and to gain some confidence. I expect them to be near the top of their game by mid-season.

7. Do you think team bonding will be affected with COVID? We will certainly miss the team dinners, bus trips and other team activities.

8. What will competitions look like for your team? We have 5 coed duel meets and a state championship.

BOYS TRACK - COACH JASON TANGUAY

1. How long have you been coaching? 13 years at GHS.

2. Are there any key returning athletes? Calvin Cummings, junior, distance; Andrew Farr, junior, sprints; Ryan Gendron, senior, jumps and hurdles; Reed Henderson, senior, distance; Josh Lehmann, senior, distance; Evan Russo, junior, pole vault.

3. Are there any new athletes who may make contributions? Jacob Lehmann, sophomore, jumps; Nolan Feyler, freshman, hurdles.

4. What are your hopes for the season? We will have a dual meet schedule for our regular season. I am hopeful our team can cover all the events so we can be competitive in team scoring. This will require some new athletes on our team to step up and contribute. Our boys team returns with some big meet scorers so hopefully we can be a better team come the state championship.

5. Are there any challenging opponents that you know of? Our last regular season home meet against

Scarborough will be a good test for us before the state championship.

6. Do you think missing out on last year's spring season will affect this season? Our sport is focused on individual improvement each season so missing last spring has set all our athletes back in this regard. We do not dwell on this though, and focus on what we can control; our attitude and our effort in our opportunities this season.

7. Do you think team bonding will be affected with COVID? We will not be able to have team dinners which are typically great opportunities to socialize for our team. Our team also is not allowed to hang around after practice this year. Both of these changes have impacted our team socially.

8. What will competitions look like for your team? As I said above, we will have a dual meet regular season schedule and only one post season meet; the state championship. Athletes will have to meet a qualifying standard to participate in the state championship.

SOFTBALL - PHIL MCGOULDRIK

1. How long have you been coaching? This is my second season as the Varsity softball coach, obviously last year doesn't really count as we got shut down before we even got started. I have been coaching softball overall for 12 years now, from U10 GYBSA softball to College Showcase level during the summer with Maine Thunder, as well as a season as a volunteer assistant at USM a few years ago.

2. Are there any key returning players/seniors/captains? It's really hard to say who our impact players will be having only limited experience with the roster thus far. I do know that I will rely heavily for leadership from Seniors Tatyana Biamby, Molly Murray, and Morgan Roast. I will say that we have a very well rounded group of versatile

athletes that can play multiple positions well. We are very deep with talented pitchers and we have speed and power up and down the line up. We also have a great mix of youth and experience that will help us be successful now and in the coming years.

3. Are there any new players who may make contributions? We have 3 very talented Freshman in Amber Bretton, Andria Cloutier, and Sophia Diphilpo who should all get quality playing time early. I also expect Sophomore Kaci Mollison to make a big splash early.

4. What are your hopes for the season? My only real hope is to have a full and safe season. Every day on the field is a gift for sure. From a purely competitive standpoint, I would like to win a few more games than the kids did in 2019 and get the team back in the playoffs.

5. Are there any challenging opponents that you know of? I think there will be a lot of parity in the league this year. It should be very competitive. Scarborough will be Scarborough, always a tough game. South Portland, TA, and Massabesic are all very well coached and talented as well.


6. Do you think missing out on last year's spring season will affect this season? I think the girls are more likely to appreciate every opportunity they get this year after losing all of last year. All of the teams are in the same boat though in trying to rebuild and establish themselves.

7. Do you think team bonding will be affected with COVID? It's going to be tough doing some team activities that we would normally do, but the chemistry on this team is great. We'll find other ways to grow as a team.

**both tennis teams as well as the baseball team were not available at the time of publication*

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Holmes and her Hoosiers Made it to the Elite 8

By Destiny Cook, Sports Editor

Back in 2019, Mackenzie Holmes (GHS '19) was just a small town Gorham girl playing the game of basketball, a game to which she dedicated herself at a very young age. This season, she was a leader on the court for the Indiana Hoosiers, and what a season it was.

Holmes is known for her commitment to the sport of basketball. Many of us have been witnesses to the countless hours she put in over the years; be it at her home net playing one-on-one with her brother Cam, on the court at GHS, or in Amateur Athletic Union (AAU). Girls varsity basketball coach, Laughn Bethiune said of Holmes "Her work ethic and desire to improve is simply amazing. From the day she entered high school until the day she left, she was 100 percent committed to being the best player and teammate she could be. Her love for her teammates and the love of the sport made her growth so much fun to watch."

When she chose the Indiana Hoosiers, Holmes had a goal in mind, but the end of her freshman year was when COVID-19 hit and sports (and the world) as we knew it were put on hold along with that goal. Holmes said, "It has always been a dream of mine to play in the NCAA Tournament, so when it got taken away from us last year, it was really hard. The good part of it was that it gave me and my team the mindset to take nothing for granted and seize every opportunity that we had in front of us."

Heading into her sophomore season, college sports were still deal-



Mackenzie in action during NCAA Tournament



Photo credit Indiana Hoosiers Facebook

ing with COVID-19, putting many protocols in place giving the student athletes their best shot at a season. Holmes and her teammates made the best of their opportunities. With limited to no fans in the stadium, a shorter season and cancelled games, Holmes said she felt this season, more than any other, gave her team more opportunities to spend time with one another. She believed her team benefited from that extra time saying, "it translated with our chemistry on the court which was special to be a part of."

Making it to the NCAA tournament was a reality for the sophomore and she could not have been more excited. "The fact that I was able to live out that dream this year meant a lot to me and I don't think the feeling can be described." When it comes to the jitters, Holmes said she always gets nerves leading up to a game, however, once the ball is tipped she says it all goes away. The NCAA Tournament brought different types of nerves for Holmes, because losing in the tourna-

ment meant she was going home. She said that made her play with a different level of assertiveness and intensity.

Holmes made a sizable impact in the tournament averaging 15.8 points and 6.5 rebounds; she had 14 points, 7 rebounds and 5 blocks against VCU; and she scored 13 points and 7 boards against Belmont. Then came North Carolina State and that's when things got really exciting.

The number 4 seeded Hoosiers team were to take on number 1 seeded North Carolina State for a shot at the Elite Eight and with her family in the stands and the town of Gorham and most of the state of Maine watching, she didn't disappoint. It was an incredible game that would come down to the final seconds with Holmes scoring 16 points against top-seeded North Carolina State, helping lead the team to a nail biter win of 73-70. She said "Winning the game against North Carolina State was the most incredible feeling I've had after a game. Just knowing what our program has


worked and battled through this past season made me so proud and happy to get to that moment." We all saw the video of Coach Moren being doused with water; Mackenzie said that was a memorable moment for her.


Holmes went on to lead the team in the Elite Eight with 20 points and eight rebounds against a tough Arizona Wildcats team in a 53-66 loss (Arizona would go on to win the tournament). Holmes said of the loss: "I think that this was a great learning experience for all of us, especially the ones who have never played on a stage like that before. Personally, I feel like I have matured a lot because of this and it just fuels our team to want to come back better next season."


Mackenzie's mother Denise is incredibly proud of her daughter's accomplishments. "What makes this so special is she has proven if you apply the work anything is possible. She has worked extremely hard over the off season and continued throughout the season to become the best player she can be for her team." she shared. Coach Berthiune, who coached Holmes to three Championship games for GHS said "I am so proud of her and happy for all she has accomplished so far. I am very confident in saying that she isn't satisfied with looking back at what she has done so far and she will continue to work to improve to be even better tomorrow than she is today."


Holmes has racked up many accolades this season including, Associated Press All-American honorable mention team, becoming the first AP All-


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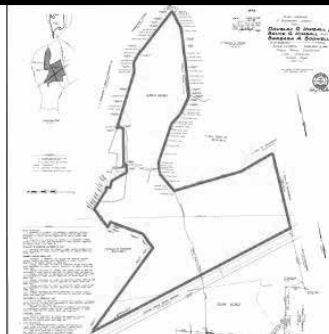
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HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY FROM EVERYONE AT THE GORHAM TIMES!

LIBRARY NEWS

The North Gorham Public Library, serving Gorham and Standish since 1897, is located next to the fire barn at the corner of Standish Neck Road and North Gorham Road. The library serves the surrounding community with a focus on fiction for adults and children, although most any book is available through inter-library loan. The library has WiFi service and computers for patron use. The library is open on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings. Home delivery and contactless parking lot pickup is also available. FMI, www.north-gorham.lib.me.us.

Baxter Memorial Library offers the following upcoming Facebook virtual events: 9:30 a.m. Toddler Discovery Times on Thursdays, April 29 and May 6, 9:30 a.m. and Preschool Discovery Time on Tuesdays, May 4 and 11. The Friends of Baxter Memorial Library's Book Sale will take place in Shaw Gym on Friday, May 7 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, May 8 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. And the Friends' invite all members to their Annual Meeting on May 13 at 6 p.m. on the lawn next to the Library. Social distancing and masks are required. Learn about all the library's offerings and events at baxterlibrary.org.

PUBLIC SUPPERS

Buxton Center Baptist Church at 938 Long Plains Road in Buxton is hosting a Take Out Bean Supper on Saturday, May 8 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Pea and kidney beans, hot dogs, chop suey and cole slaw, apple crisp or brownies, yum! Call 929-3011 to order a meal.

USM NOTES

The USM School of Music winds up the semester with several student recitals, the Vocal Jazz Ensemble on April 30 at 2 p.m., and the Woodwind Ensemble on Friday, May 7 at 8 p.m. under the direction of Neil Boyer. These are virtual events, and are also available by reservation to a limited audience at Corthell Hall. Visit usm.maine.edu/music for more information.

Visit the USM Art Department online for On the Line: Juried Student Exhibition 2021.

This show fosters student preparation for professional art settings and processes, provides feedback from art professionals in the community, and exposes their work to a wide range of viewers. Visit usm.maine.edu/gallery to visit the work of all 49 participants, including the winners, first place: Alyson Peabody, second place: Samantha McKenna, third place: Aiko Acevedo, and Honorable Mention: Anna Labbe.

The University of Southern Maine's African American Collection has unveiled the first of six new digital exhibitions, highlighting 200 years of families in Maine. The first exhibit, "We Exist: Evidence of Maine's Black Families from 1800 to the 20th Century," specifically highlights images from the Gerald E. Talbot Collection, as well as others from the African American Collection, part of the Jean Byers Sampson Center for Diversity in Maine, Special Collections, University of Southern Maine. "We Exist" is the first in a series of six digital exhibitions on Black inhabitants in the state of Maine that seeks to tell their stories through a variety of institutions. Find the exhibit at digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/we-exist-exhibit/

Holmes and her Hoosiers Made it to Elite 8 CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

American selection in IU women's basketball history; ninth in AP Poll (school record); All Big Ten First Team; All Big Ten Defensive Team; Big Ten Player of the Week; ranked seventh NCAA D1 FG% (60.3%); and ranked eleventh in NCAA D1 blocks per game.

Mackenzie certainly doesn't forget her roots. She said the support from Maine all the way to Bloomington was incredible and she felt the excitement as she headed into the biggest games of her life. "Having everyone behind us and supporting us as we went into

that game meant so much. I am incredibly thankful for all the support back home. It is surreal to me that everyone from Maine has my back the way they do and I am so appreciative." If her fans know one thing, it's that Mackenzie will be putting in the work during the off-season to help lead her team to another NCAA tournament, and Gorham will be watching.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

Baxter Memorial Library, Toddler Discovery Time with Ms. Dani on Facebook (18mos-3yrs), 9:30 a.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

USM School of Music, Vocal Jazz Ensemble virtual concert, 2 p.m., usm.maine.edu/music/events.

TUESDAY, MAY 4

Baxter Memorial Library, Preschool Discovery Time with Ms. Heidi on Facebook (ages 3-5), 9:30 a.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 6

Baxter Memorial Library, Toddler Discovery Time with Ms. Dani on Facebook (18mos-3yrs), 9:30 a.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 7

Friends of Baxter Memorial Library Book Sale, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. in Shaw Gym. USM School of Music, Woodwind Ensemble virtual concert, 8 p.m., usm.maine.edu/music/events.

SATURDAY, MAY 8

Friends of Baxter Memorial Library Book Sale continues, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Shaw Gym.

TUESDAY, MAY 11

Baxter Memorial Library, Preschool Discovery Time with Ms. Heidi on Facebook (3-5yrs), 9:30 a.m.
Gorham Lions regular meeting, Old Elmwood Schoolhouse, 6:30 p.m.
VFW Gorham Memorial Post 10879 meets at 5:30 p.m., Fire Department Training Room, 270 Main Street.

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