

# Gorham Times

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GORHAM, ME  
PERMIT NO. 10

Volume 27 Number 13 | June 24, 2021

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

## Along with Pandemic, Class of 2021 Graduates Close Another Chapter

Grace Flynn, GHS 2021 Graduate

It was early June on the Gorham High School (GHS) football field, and for the first time in over a year, the GHS Class of 2021 were all together for the first day of marching practice, preparation for one of the most significant moments of these students' lives: high school graduation.

The entire class was a bit antsy and eager to speak with friends whom for months, due to Covid-19, they may have only seen over a screen. Yet, they remained in the sweltering heat and practiced. Sit here, stand next to this person—no not them, walk faster, walk slower, etc.

By Sunday, June 13, all 204 graduates were lined up outside the GHS bus loop, peering over the fence to the football field where over 1,000 community members and family were gathered in the stands awaiting the ringing first note of "Pomp and Circumstance." The graduation procession was led by class marshals Tess Libby and Tatiana Jonk.

The Class of 2021 certainly learned perseverance having spent 40 percent of their high school career either quarantined or in a hybrid school-

ing model. The ceremony not only honored GHS students' dedication to their academics but to their own well-being and the health of their community during the unprecedented time.

Class salutatorian, Nathan Eichner, highlighted resilience in his speech. "I want to focus on what each one of us has been gifted during this pandemic: resilience. In some way or another, we all had to accustom ourselves to an advanced level of communication when talking with teachers or even when advocating for ourselves. It is not easy to speak up when you are participating in class on Zoom. Whatever they may have been, we were faced with an array of setbacks that shattered the definitive normal high school experience."

It seems clear that in the past year, many students experienced personal loss, dwindling motivation, health issues of their own, and faced innumerable other barriers. In her address to the class, valedictorian and class president Emily Paruk spoke on this fracture and the healing power of gratitude.

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Photo credits Amanda Landry

## Juneteenth

Kathy Corbett, Staff Writer



Photo credit Kathy Corbett

Juneteenth commemorates the day in 1865 when federal troops informed enslaved people in Texas they were free. The North Gorham Public Library prepared a book exhibit that explains the significance of the date and encourages patrons to learn more about the history of slavery and the ongoing fight for racial justice.

Over the years since 1865, Juneteenth has become an annual celebration recognized in 47 states, including Maine in 2011. This June, the State Legislature made June 19 a paid holiday for state workers beginning in 2022, and on June 17 President Joe Biden signed the bill making Juneteenth a federal holiday.

## Celebrate PRIDE 2021

Cathy Walter, Staff Writer

The Library of Congress defines Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Pride Month as "celebrations each year in the month of June to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan which was a tipping point for the Gay Liberation Movement in the United States."

Since that date, hundreds of cities, towns, and states have continued to support the LGBTQIA+ community and celebrate in a variety of ways including parades, art displays, and festivals.

Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, most local celebrations were canceled last year and many again this year, including the popular PRIDE Parade in Portland.

"We have been monitoring the COVID-19 global pandemic situation closely and in consideration of the still-high case load in Maine, we have made the difficult decision to cancel the in-person pride parade and festival in Portland for 2021", <https://prideportland.org/>.

But PRIDE Portland is using



A five-striped chevron was added to the left side of the rainbow flag in 2018, representing LGBTQ+ people of color and the trans community. In 2021, the Progress Pride Flag received a revision to be more inclusive of intersex people. A purple circle superimposed over a yellow triangle has been added to the chevron as an homage to the 2013 intersex flag, designed by Australian bioethicist and researcher Morgan Carpenter.

Facebook to help people find ways to show their pride at smaller events using their page "Pride Across Maine."

EqualityMaine, the oldest and largest statewide organization dedicated to creating a fair and just society for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Mainers, also has a list



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of activities scheduled for this year available on their website: <https://equalitymaine.org/pride>.

It's not too late to find ways to show support; a pride flag or original poster/piece of art displayed at your home is an excellent option for those still avoiding mingling with strangers.

Maine was the first state to legalize same sex marriage in 2012 and Mainers PRIDE is still strong and growing.

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**GHS GRADUATION  
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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.

# We're Taking Action to Address Child Hunger in Maine

Sen. Stacy Brenner

One of the most pressing issues we're facing today in Maine is food insecurity. Though hunger can seem nonexistent to those who don't face it on a daily basis, it unfortunately is prevalent across Maine today, no matter what part of the state you're in.

The most upsetting instance of this is among our children. Maine currently has the highest rate of child hunger in New England, and one of the highest in the nation. When our kids are hungry, they can't focus in school and don't have the fuel they need to play and grow. This needs to change, and I'm proud to share that we have passed two bills in the Senate that will not only ensure every Maine student can get meals at school, but also that they have access to nutritious, local foods.

One of these bills is LD 1679, "An Act To Address Student Hunger through Expanding Access to Free School Meals," and is sponsored by my colleague, Senate President Troy Jackson. This bill would provide every student in Maine free school meals. It does so by providing the necessary funding to cover the difference between those who currently qualify under the National School Lunch Program, which is administered by the federal government, and all other Maine students. The federal government will continue providing these meals for all students through the 2022 school year, but this bill would make it permanent.

You might be wondering why we want to cover students who don't currently qualify for free or reduced priced meals under the federal guidelines. There are a couple reasons for this.

First, students who receive free meals at school are often subjected to bullying and humiliation from their peers, so much so that it can cause them to skip getting the meal entirely.

Secondly, there may be students who just barely miss the federal cut-off, but who also struggle to receive consistent meals at home. Whatever the situation, making free meals the uniform policy will ensure that our kids aren't going hungry, and that they can learn to their fullest potential.

Another recent bill that we passed in the Senate is sponsored by Senate Majority Leader Eloise Vitelli. The bill, LD 636, "An Act To Encourage the Purchase of Local Foods for Public Schools," will get more local foods to our schools, while at the same time supporting local farmers and producers.

The bill expands on a current law that gets local produce to schools and would allow for dairy and protein products, in addition to produce, to be purchased through the program. The bill also increases the amount of money the state will match for schools purchasing these foods, and allows for food to be purchased from local distributors in addition to directly purchasing from farms.

After all we've been through, we need to do everything we can to support Maine farms. This bill is a win all around and will benefit our farmers, food producers and all Maine students.

Together, these two bills will make a real difference in the lives of Maine students. We have the ability to not only ensure our children can access meals at school, but to make sure

they're getting high quality, local and nutritious food.

I'm pleased to share that these two bills received unanimous, bipartisan support in the Senate in initial votes, and I'm hopeful that we can send them to the desk of Gov. Mills in the near future.

If you have any questions, comments or ideas, you can always reach me by email at [Stacy.Brenner@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Stacy.Brenner@legislature.maine.gov) or by phone at 287-1515.



Sen. Stacy Brenner  
[Stacy.Brenner@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Stacy.Brenner@legislature.maine.gov)  
207-287-1515

## Around Town

Administrative Assistant Kelly Meslin was the recipient of ecomaine's eco-Excellence Award, presented at ecomaine's 2021 Annual Meeting in Portland on Thursday, June 17th, for her administration of exceptionally successful waste-related projects with Gorham Public Works. View ecomaine's video tribute to Meslin's work at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g5vp3hsH5yl>.

Special "End of Watch" commemorative coins in memory of Wayne "Pooch" Drown are being sold to honor his legacy and further his work with kids. The coins can be purchased in the Gorham Recreation and Town Clerk's Offices at the Gorham Municipal Center during normal business hours.

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The Gorham Times is a free volunteer-run community newspaper distributed every other Thursday to more than 100 pick-up sites throughout Gorham.

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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.

Printing services by Masthead Maine Press, 295 Gannett Drive, South Portland, ME 04106



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## GORHAM TIMES STAFF TAKES SUMMER BREAK

To honor the hard work of our staff and volunteers, we will enjoy a short break after this issue. Our following issue will be dated July 22.

## GORHAM COMMUNITY CRAFT FAIR - JUNE 26

Old Robie Gym Lawn 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



# Gorham Times Announces the Scholarship Recipients

Gorham Times Staff



GRACE FLYNN

Seniors Grace Flynn and Mary Gawlick were awarded the Gorham Times Scholarships this year. Both volunteered their time as student writers for the Gorham Times.

Flynn interned for the paper for three years and has been a huge asset to the staff. She was a great liaison between the schools and the paper, always a dependable, hard-working member of our team. Even when a story was requested at the last minute she would produce an excellent article.

"In February, it was important to highlight activities to educate folks about Black History. I realized last minute that nothing came in for the upcoming paper about this. When I reached out to our writers, Grace responded so quickly and wrote a wonderful piece about a speaker series at the high school," said Christie Paul, Gorham Times Editor.

This was the first year Gawlick interned for the paper. "She was very willing to cover any topic asked of her this year," said School News editor, Andrea Morrell. "Her articles were informative and well-written, and she always met her deadline."

She enjoyed writing about school and learning more about the Gorham community.

Gorham Times Staff would like to extend a huge thank you to these interns and wish them well in the next steps of their journeys.



MARY GAWLICK

# GoCAM Takes Home 1st Place Award

Georgia Humphrey

GoCAM received a 2021 Hometown Media Award from the Alliance for Community Media (ACM) Foundation in the category of Public Health Programming. Founded in 1979, the Alliance for Community Media is a national, non-profit membership organization committed to ensuring access to electronic media for all people. The Alliance for Community Media carries forth its mission by educating, advocating and acting as a resource for the more than 3,000 Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) cable channels nationwide.

The awards program was established to honor and promote community media, community radio, and local cable programs distributed on PEG access cable television channels. Each year, nearly one thousand entries are submitted. These entries are evaluated by a panel of judges on several factors, resulting in over 100 award winners. Awards are presented to the most creative programs that address community needs, develop diverse community involvement, challenge conventional commercial television formats, and move viewers to experience television in a different way.

"We are so delighted to win this award. It's difficult for a small station like ours to compete with large organizations from around the country. We are thrilled that the quality



Courtesy of GoCAM

of our video was recognized," said Georgia Humphrey, Community Media Systems Manager.

This video was a collaboration with the Gorham School Department. Entitled "CoVID Precautions – Back to School Village Elementary", it is an informational program for students and parents about what to expect as children headed back to school in the fall of 2020 during the Covid pandemic.

GoCAM entered this video for consideration as it reflected the efforts of the school to communicate with the public and to lessen the concern some students might be feeling as they returned to their studies.

Special recognition goes to the student actors that participated in the production. GoCAM would like to also recognize Narragansett Elementary School for their wonderful production. They were entered in a different category.

Videos can be viewed at the following links:

Village School <https://vimeo.com/451633440>

Narragansett School <https://vimeo.com/451624547>

Julie Chandler

Mike Griffin

Peter Mason

Benjamin Taylor

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**GORHAM \$220,000** - Rare opportunity to own 26 acres just 2 miles from downtown Gorham. This is a wooded parcel, with slopes and a stream crosses the parcel. An approved private way from the town will be required before a building permit could be issued.

**NEW**

**SCARBORO \$580,000** - Gorgeous waterfront Scarborough location nestled on the banks of the Nonesuch River. Perfect year-round residence or an ideal weekend retreat, tucked away in a lovely, quiet neighborhood. Public water and underground power are on Freedom Drive.

**NEW**

**GORHAM \$515,000** - The sunlit floor plan offers over 2600 square feet of living space for your family to spread out in. Features 9-foot 1st floor ceilings, hardwood floors, sizeable kitchen open to a breakfast nook furnished with a cozy pellet stove for those cold winter mornings.

**SOLD**

**15 Ridgefield Dr, Gorham \$385,000** - Sunlit 3 BR, 3 bath Windsor style condo at Pheasant Knoll! This private end unit offers 1st floor living at its best! Gorgeous open concept living with hardwood floors, white kitchen, gas fireplace and 1st floor master suite with full bath & double closets.

**NEW**

**GORHAM \$469,500** - This remarkable townhouse style duplex constructed in 2017 features 2BR units w/1.5 baths. Ideal setup w/separate electric, individual wall hung propane heating systems w/on demand hot water, 1 car drive under garages offer additional storage, in unit laundry hookup, rear decks & plenty of onsite parking.

**SOLD**

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# Women Can Overcome Obstacles to Financial Security

Ed Doyle

While women have made great strides in social, economic, cultural and political realms, they still tend to encounter more obstacles than men in the pursuit of financial security. Let's consider a few of them.

To begin with, women are still more likely to leave the workforce, at least temporarily, to raise children, resulting in lower contributions to employer-sponsored retirement plans such as 401(k). Women are also often the ones who become full-time caregivers of aging parents or other relatives.

Caregiving duties can exact a big financial toll. The lost wages, pensions (including 401(k)s and similar plans) and Social Security benefits that a woman loses to become a full-time caregiver amount to more than \$300,000 over her lifetime, according to the National Academy of Sciences.

Women also may be more susceptible to financial downturns. Consider the

COVID-19 pandemic: Just a few months ago, in December, women lost 156,000 jobs, while men gained 16,000, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which also reported that women accounted for 54% of the jobs lost from the pandemic in 2020.

Many women are aware of their circumstances and outlook. Just 41% of women are confident about retirement, compared with 56% of men, according to a survey by Edward Jones and Age Wave. Here are a few steps women can take to help improve their financial outlook.

Take full advantage of retirement plans. If you are still working and your employer offers a 401(k) or similar retirement plan, take full advantage of it. Put in as much as you can afford each year and increase your contributions when your salary goes up. Also, within your plan, you'll want to choose the mix of investments that can help provide the most growth potential, given your individual risk tolerance. Also, even if you contribute to a 401(k) or similar plan, you may also be eligible to fund an IRA, which gives you even more investment choices.

Evaluate your Social Security options. You can typically start taking Social Security benefits when you're 62, but your monthly checks will be much larger if you wait until your "full" retirement age, which will likely be between 66 and 67. Also consider whether you'd be better off by taking spousal benefits, if you're married, and your spouse earned more money than you. You're generally even eligible for spousal benefits if you are divorced, as long as you were married at least 10 years and you haven't remarried.

Look for unexpected income opportunities. Even after you've formally retired, you may still find ways to receive some earned income. Perhaps you can work part time or do some consulting. And if you're a caregiver, you might be able to receive some compensation for your work. Many local governments pay non-spouse caregivers who act as personal attendants, although the rules vary greatly by state and county.

These certainly aren't the only ways you can improve your financial status, but they may prove useful to you. In any case, be aware of the challenges facing you and do whatever you can to brighten your future.

*This article is published with permission of Edward Jones.*



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

# Planning Board Results 6/7/21

Avesta's Condominium amendments to Hillside at Village Square were recommended to the Town Council for approval.

An amendment to the Land Use and Development Code regarding permitting of certain driveways was recommended to the Town Council for approval.

Gorham Savings Bank's proposed amendment to their contract zone to allow day care centers was recommended to the Town Council for approval.

Earle Enterprises, LLC request for preliminary and final site plan approval for 8 College Avenue was granted a waiver for stormwater runoff to South St. only.

Gregory McCormack's request for Maplewood Drive subdivision and Deerfield Drive private way to subdivide six lots from three existing lots on five acres off 71 Maplewood Drive was approved with conditions of approval.

Shirley Newton, LLC, request for approval of Shirley Lane subdivision with 12 residential lots and an extension of Shirley Lane on 38 acres at the end of Shirley was discussed.

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**Gorham Times**

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## Arrests

Straw Road man, 54, was arrested for domestic violence assault.

Westbrook man, 40, was arrested for unlawful possession of scheduled drugs and violating conditions of release.

Waterboro man, 37, was arrested for unlawful possession of fentanyl powder (priors), OUI-drugs or combo (no test).

Biddeford man, 35, was arrested for OUI (alcohol).

## Town Notes

Wescott Bridge, that carries Wescott Road over the the North Branch of the Little River in the municipality of Gorham, is to be posted 22 tons in order to protect the safety of the traveling public. The bridge will be reevaluated and may be further restricted or closed as a result. The bridge has been posted at this time.

Applications are now available for the Town of Gorham Senior Property Tax Assistance Program. To obtain an application, please visit the Town Clerk's Office at the Gorham Municipal Center (75 South Street). Completed applications can be submitted to the Town Clerk's Office now through the deadline of August 1, 2021. If you have questions and/or need assistance completing your application, email [seniorrebate@gorham.me.us](mailto:seniorrebate@gorham.me.us), or call 222-1671.

Official School Budget Election Result - June 8, 2021: 439 Yes, 215 No



Photo credits Susan Watson

A family that had prepared and was giving away free popcorn at the Memorial Day parade.

# Healthy Eating, Active Living - H.E.A.L. with Baxter Memorial Library Summer Reading & Discovery Program 2021

Baxter Memorial Library is thrilled to offer a plethora of activities on the lawn as part of our summer reading program! All of the events embrace this year's theme of Healthy Eating, Active Living. We have something for everyone and are looking forward to having fun on the lawn with you!

First, don't forget to visit the library to pick up a reading sheet so you can earn prizes throughout the summer. We have reading programs for all ages, kids and adults! We're back to our regular hours, including Saturdays, so stop by any time. Curbside options remain available for anyone interested.

On Monday mornings, our youngest patrons will enjoy Baby & Me and Toddler Time on the library lawn. Ms Dani will present stories, music, and movement to introduce and enhance early literacy skills and foster a love of reading. We've really missed our littlest learners!

It wouldn't be summer reading without creative, fun events from Ms. Heidi. Would you like to make your own hula hoop? Or play a giant board game called Veggie Land, where we'll be using our bodies as the game pieces? Guaranteed fun or your money back at these free events!

Ms. Deb loves fitness and will be leading kids through an obstacle course on the lawn. She also has a wonderful catalog of online STEAM programs like Bird Beak Buffet and Nature Mandalas on our Facebook page. Don't miss out on these fun virtual activities!

Want to go on a walk with Mr. Jeff? We will be offering a series of nature walks with Mr. Jeff that will have you playing nature bingo, participating in a scavenger hunt, and constructing fairy houses. Meet

him on some of his favorite trails around town! He also has a collection of virtual ukulele lessons on our Facebook page. Don't have a uke? No problem! Visit the library to check one out and use it for your lesson.

For adults, the Summer Reading Program is super simple this year - fill out a raffle ticket for every book you read, and we will draw winners weekly from all the entries! We also have a series of outdoor fitness classes lined up, as well as a local author visit - keep an eye on our website for more details!

Pay close attention to programming details! Since all events are planned to be held outdoors, we may have to cancel or postpone some due to inclement weather but many events have built-in rain dates. During outdoor programming, masks will only be required when physical distancing is not possible.

We'll have many more programs for all ages such as Art in the Park, a visit from Chewonki, and Summer Smoothies. Let's have fun together! Visit [baxterlibrary.org](http://baxterlibrary.org) or call us at 222-1190 to receive up-to-date details on all our programs.

## Gardens Are No Laughing Matter



What kind of flowers do you give to King Tut?  
*Chrysanthemummies*

What do you call it when worms take over the world?  
*Global Worming*

Mosquito: An insect that makes you like flies better.

What's a gardener's favorite Beatles song? *Lettuce Be.*

What is the gardener's favorite novel?  
*War and Peas*

What do you call a cheerleading herb?  
*An encourage mint.*

### Restaurant Hours

Sun-Thurs:  
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## GRADUATION

### Along with Pandemic, Class of 2021 Graduates Close Another Chapter

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“We entered high school wide-eyed and hopeful, anxious to have the next pages unfurl before us,” said Paruk. “And now we exit with pages filled behind us to look back on, filled with unique characters that made different impacts on our lives, and filled with lessons learned and wisdom gained. If there is one thing I know for sure all of us are walking out of here with is, well one, a diploma, but just as important, resiliency, and for that we can all feel a tremendous amount of gratitude. Because after everything, you are still standing, ready to walk into the next pages with your callused feet and tackle whatever else the world throws at you.”

*The Class of 2021 certainly learned perseverance having spent 40 percent of their high school career either quarantined or in a hybrid schooling model.*

The Class of 2021 also welcomed Maine Senator and two-term governor, Angus King, who was making his first public appearance since the beginning of the pandemic. The Senator addressed the class as he laid out “Ten things I wish somebody had told me when I was 18.”

This advice included remarks such as: take that risk, “see that you regret the things you did and not the things you didn’t do,” and “always carry a \$20 hidden somewhere on your person.” King also discussed happiness expressing that “There is no geographic or material cure. If you are not happy in Gorham, ME, do not kid yourself: ‘Oh, I’ll be happy when I’m in Boston, or New York, or San Francisco.’ No, you carry your happiness around between your ears.”

The Class of 2021 exited the GHS football field on the evening of June 13 carrying these words of advice and a year’s worth of grit, ready to approach the inevitable obstacles and joys that awaited them in the next phase of their lives.

#### 2021 Graduate



**Congratulations Tess ‘Beast’!**  
Your dedication and hard work has paid off. Now onto the next adventure! Mom and Pops are so proud of you our little miracle baby! Always remember that your future is yours to decide and let no one or thing stand in your way! Your great Grandpa Parker always put it best though: Perseverance and determination. He would have been so proud of you. Sieg Zeon, young lady!  
~Mom and Pops

# THE GHS CLASS OF 2021 SENIORS



Photo credit Amanda Landry

Luke Adams	Abigail Decrow	Brayden Harjula	Christopher Lewis	Skylar Prince
Reighley Adams	Gabriel Densmore	Ryan Harjula	Victoria Lewis	Samuel Pritchard
Oluwasheyi Ajayi	Hayden Desmond	Devyn Harrington	Nevin Libby	Caitlin Randall
Dawson Allen	Isiah Dias	Hannah Heady	Tess Libby	Molly Rathbun
Joshua Allen	Ava Dolley	Reed Henderson	Ayden Lindsay	Braedyn Richardson
Jason Aube	Warren Donnelly	Catherine Higgins	Griffin Loranger	Cassidy Rioux
Timothy Baker	Robert Dowdle	MacKenna Homa	Lily Lovley	Zachariah Rivera
Griffin Banks	Katherine Downey	Kyle Hulit	Natetra Ly	Morgan Roast
Robert Beane	Kirsten Drew	Dakota Hunnewell	Andrew MacFeat	Jordan Roberge
Aidan Bell	Anthony Dugan	Sia Hyson	Joshua Martin	Megan Roberts
Gianna Bent	Jillian Dugas	Leah James	Kylie Mathieson	Devin Robichaud
Madeline Berry	Andrew Duncan	Henry Jensen	Alysha McKay	Eva Rodrigue
Jeremy Bessette	Emily Duncan	Richard Jiang	Joshua McLaughlin	Anthony Romero
Tatyanna Biamby	Olivia Duong	Benjamin Johnson	Bode Meader	Treyton Rosario
Jesiah Bickford	Zen Duplisea	Riley A. Johnson	Olivia Michaud	Thomas Ruby
Ophelia Bissonnette	Julia Edwards	Riley E. Johnson	Kaylyn Migliorini	Kelly Klaus Sahabo
Corey Blake	Nathan Eichner	Tatiana Jonk	Oliver Milliken	Erin Sands
Jordan Blakeslee	Jada Emery	Sophia Kaufman	Gwendolyn Miramontes	Sophia Sawyer
Jaela Boucher	Aidan Enck	Jamie Kelley	Nevaeh Moore	Tyler Seavey
Grace Bradshaw	Samuel Estey	Angelina Khomenok	Kathryn Morin	Delaney Seed
Andrew Brent	Alexandra Ferrigan	Yelyzaveta (Liza) Klishch	Claire Munkacsi	Gage Sjostedt
David Brinkerhoff	Grace Flynn	Evan Koenig	Jaden Munroe	Garrett Smith
Madison Brown	Paige Fogg	Isabelle Kovacs	Molly Murray	Soraya Syafarudin
Elijah Bullard	Gracie Forgues	Katherine Kutzer	Ryan Murray	Michaela Taiani
Logan Butler	Lauren Fotter	Gabrielle LaBarge	Adele Nadeau	Andrea Thibeault
Sophia Buzzell	Campbell Fowler	Joshua Labrie	Grant Nadeau	Madigan Thibodeau
Kiely Callahan	Sydney Fox	Sophie Lachance	Emmeline Nelson	Ryan Topham
Beck Carrier	Victoria Frager	William Lamont III	Liam Nickerson	Madisun Tryon
Austin Christy	Sophie Gagne	Donovan Landry	Matt Norris	Benjamin Tukey
Veronica Corbeau-Hasenflu	Dominic Garcia	Sadie LaPierre	Ian Obrey	Kiara Velilla
Lily Courtney	Lydia Gaudreau	Mason Laskey	Jarrett Ocegquera	Alison Walker
Ryan Coyne	Nolan Gava	Kylea Laughlin	Emily Paruk	Brydon Walker
Hale Crosby	Mary Gawlick	Shannon Lawrence	Skyla Perkins	Luke Walker
Samantha Cummings	Ryan Gendron	Alexander Leary	Alice Peterson	Bailey Wentworth
Sierra Cummings	Evan Giroux	Colby Leavitt	Tatum Philbrook	Cailyn Wheeler
John Cunningham	Brandon Gordon	Haley Leavitt	Brooke Phillips	Jordan Williams
Aidyn Curlee	Andrew Goschke	Maya Lee	Matthew Phinney	Nicholas Williams
Kelly Curran	Stephen Graham	Joshua Lehmann	Charles Pierce	Marissa Wilson
Michael Darasz	Gavyn Hahn	Zakaria Lembarra	Alexander Pierson	Amelia Yahwak
Brandon Davis	Stacey Hakizimana	Mikayla Leskowsky	Emma Poitras	Wesley Young
Garrett Davis	Gregory Hannaford	John Lesser	Dan Popov	Thomas Zeleke

*Congratulations GHS Seniors! You did it!*

# Gorham Celebrates 2021 Graduates in Style

Photo credits Amanda Landry



*Thank You*

The Gorham High School Class of 2021 and the Project Graduation Committee would like to recognize and thank those who have supported, provided donations and generously offered financial support. We are so grateful.

A group of dedicated parent volunteers began planning early on despite the uncertainty and our local businesses rose to the occasion by consistently providing support. With the support of the GHS Administration, our Police Department and parent volunteers, Project Graduation was on and fun was had by all.

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# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2021!

## Valedictorian, Summa Cum Laude



**Emily M. Paruk**

Daughter of: James Paruk and Stefania Strzalkowska

## Salutatorian, Summa Cum Laude



**Nathan T. Eichner**

Son of: Susan Eichner

## Magna Cum Laude



**Grace M. Bradshaw**  
Daughter of: John and Valerie Bradshaw



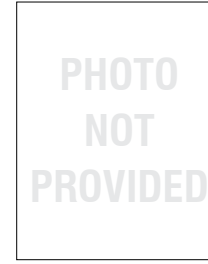
**Sierra M. Cummings**  
Daughter of: Sheryll Cummings



**Ava Dolley**  
Daughter of: Kurt Fekete and Shelley Dolley



**Emily M. Duncan**  
Daughter of: John and Karen Duncan



**Andrew M. Duncan**  
Son of: John and Karen Duncan



**Julia R. Edwards**  
Daughter of: Robert and Celeste Edwards



**Paige M. Fogg**  
Daughter of: Jonathan Fogg and Karen Buzzell



**Gracie Forgues**  
Daughter of: Thomas and Mary-Jane Forgues



**Campbell P. Fowler**  
Son of: James and Shannon Fowler



**Sydney A. Fox**  
Daughter of: Elwood and Karen Fox



**Mary H. Gawlick**  
Daughter of: Gregory Gawlick and Kristin Nadler



**Reed A. Henderson**  
Son of: Nathan Henderson and Angela Gospodarek



**MacKenna B. Homa**  
Daughter of: Dave Homa and Cariye Homan



**Riley E. Johnson**  
Daughter of: Rob and Christine Johnson



**Sophia D. Kaufman**  
Daughter of: Sara Kaufman



**Katherine G. Kutzer**  
Daughter of: Robert and Kristen Kutzer



**Shannon Lawrence**  
Daughter of: Keith and Rachel Lawrence



**Kylie Mathieson**  
Daughter of: James and Mary Mathieson



**Olivia L. Michaud**  
Daughter of: Pierre and Michele Michaud



**Molly L. Murray**  
Daughter of: Richard and Julie Murray



**Adele M. Nadeau**  
Daughter of: Charles Nadeau and Victoria Reynolds



**Alice M. Peterson**  
Daughter of: James and Christina Peterson



**Molly Rathbun**  
Daughter of: Wayne and Mindy Rathbun



**Cassidy D. Rioux**  
Daughter of: Richard and Dawn Rioux



**Erin E. Sands**  
Daughter of: Kenny and Meghan Sands



**Delaney R. Seed**  
Daughter of: Michael and Jen Seed



**Ryan J. Topham**  
Son of: Trevis Topham and Alishia Littlefield



**Alison P. Walker**  
Daughter of: Todd and Renee Walker



**Bailey A. Wentworth**  
Daughter of: Daryl and Kristin Wentworth



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## Cum Laude



**Luke Adams**  
Son of: John and Helene Adams



**Madeline R. Berry**  
Daughter of: Benjamin Berry and Jennifer Felt



**Beck B. Carrier**  
Son of: Grant and Lauren Carrier



**Aidyn M. Curlee**  
Son of: Aaron and Jennifer Curlee



**Robert S. Dowdle III**  
Son of: Robert and Shannon Dowdle



**Katherine R. Downey**  
Daughter of: Heath and Sara Downey



**Aidan G. Enck**  
Son of: Bill and Kim Enck



**Grace C. Flynn**  
Daughter of: Patrick and Rachel Flynn



**Sophie Gagne**  
Daughter of: Kevin and Jessica Gagne



**Lydia J. Gaudreau**  
Daughter of: Shawn Gaudreau and Angela Lake and Lesley Gaudreau



**Stacey M. Hakizimana**  
Daughter of: Emmanuel Hakizimana and Pascal Ntimpirangeza



**Devyn L. Harrington**  
Daughter of: Thomas and Bethany Harrington



**Catherine A. Higgins**  
Daughter of: Ian and Coletta Higgins



**Riley A. Johnson**  
Son of: Adam and Isabelle Johnson



**Gabrielle L. LaBarge**  
James Duval and Rosalee Avellino-Duval



**Joshua M. Labrie**  
Son of: Dan and Heidi Labrie and Michelle and Jon Greenier



**Sophie Lachance**  
Daughter of: Marc and Martha Lachance



**Sadie R. LaPierre**  
Daughter of: Matt and Anne LaPierre



**Maya M. Lee**  
Daughter of: Jason and Amy Lee



**Zakaria Lembarra**  
Son of: Abderrahim and Cindy Lembarra



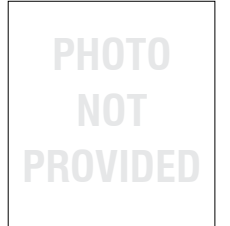
**Tess G. Libby**  
Daughter of: Jason and Renee Libby



**Griffin R. Loranger**  
Son of: Justin and Lynn Loranger



**Natetra V. Ly**  
Daughter of: Qui Ly and Bunra Sun



**Oliver B. Milliken**  
Son of: Harry and Kirsten Milliken



**Kathryn B. Morin**  
Daughter of: Daniel and Jessika Morin



**Grant L. Nadeau**  
Son of: Charles Nadeau and Victoria Reynolds



**Liam D. Nickerson**  
Daughter of: Drue and Pollyanna Nickerson



**Skylar L. Prince**  
Daughter of: Heather Simpson



**Caitlin R. Randall**  
Daughter of: Matthew and Ann Randall



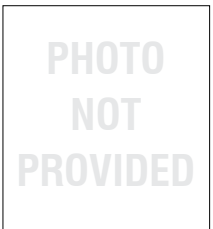
**Braedyn Richardson**  
Son of: Tom Richardson and Heather Young and Doug Hall



**Morgan Roast**  
Daughter of: Jason and Leonelda Roast



**Devin A. Robichaud**  
Son of: Michael and Andrea Robichaud



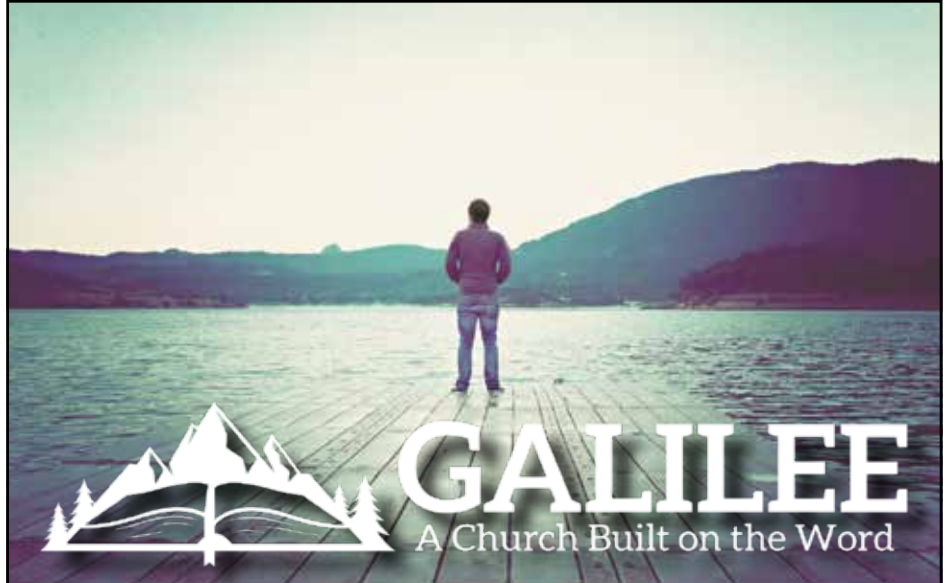
**Eva S. Rodrigue**  
Daughter of: Donald and Sarah Rodrigue



**Marissa I. Wilson**  
Daughter of: Greg and Lauri Wilson



**Wesley Young**  
Son of: Sean and Kristin Young



## We're Here for You

We all know that the last year and a half has taken a toll on the hearts and souls of many. There has been sickness, loss, grief, fear, confusion and anxiety. With so much going on some may wonder where to turn for help. We at Galilee church want you to know that we are here for you. We encourage you to come and join us Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Here you will find a welcoming family, here you can share all your hurts, your joys, and your questions, here you will find healing and most importantly here you will find hope.

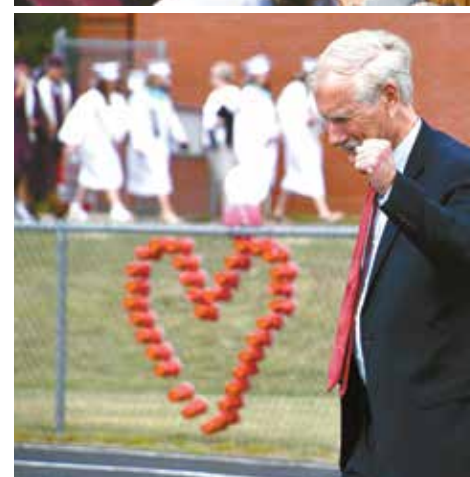
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### 2021 Graduate



*Gracie- Without hustle, your talent will only get you so far. Keep working hard where others aren't willing, and you will win. We are so proud of you! Congratulations! Love Mom & Dad*

### 2021 Graduate



*Mason - Follow your dreams, stay true to who you are, enjoy the journey & continue to do amazing things! I am so very proud of you! Love you, Mom*

### 2021 Graduate



*"If you are happy and you know it, clap your hands." You have come a long way from "Circus Circus" Brookie! We love you! Grammie and Papa*

### 2021 Graduate



*Congratulations Andrew! Follow your heart and dreams, Be happy and enjoy all that you do. Be kind & grateful in every opportunity in life. Proud of you and we love you always. Love, Mum, Dad, Thomas & Courtney*

### 2021 Graduate



*Congratulations Josh!! Your hard work and dedication has been evident in everything you have tackled these last four years. We are so proud of you, and for all that lies ahead. Love you more, Mom, Dad, and Jake*

### 2021 Graduate



*Congratulations Madigan! We are so proud of you and can't wait to see what the future holds for you! Love, Mom and Dad*

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# Gorham Senior Athletic Awards 2021

## SMITH AWARD (SCHOLAR ATHLETE)

MacKenna Homa  
Nathan Eichner

Evan Koenig  
Luke Adams  
Shey Ajayi

## OUTSTANDING ATHLETE AWARD

Molly Murray  
Grant Nadeau

**GIRLS TENNIS**  
Most Valuable Player  
Abigail Emerson

## DISTINGUISHED ATHLETE AWARD

Olivia Michaud  
Beck Carrier

**Rookie of the Year**  
Ainsley Christianson

## GORHAM SPRING RAM AWARDS

### BASEBALL

Senior Leadership Award  
Bode Meader  
Ian Obrey  
Nick Williams

### VOLLEYBALL (SPRING SEASON)

Most Valuable Player  
Megan Young

**Battering Ram Award**  
Ellie Perry

**Leadership Award**  
Shannon Lawrence

### SOFTBALL

Teammate Award  
Tatyanna Biamby  
Ambrosia Moore

**BOYS TRACK**  
Outstanding Performer  
Andrew Farr  
Ryan Gendron

### Coach's Award

Molly Murray

**Coach's Award**  
Josh Lehmann

### BOYS LACROSSE

Spirit of the Game  
Ben Tukey

**GIRLS TRACK**  
Outstanding Performer  
Alyvia Caruso  
Sydney Connolly

### Integrity Award

Josh Labrie

**Coach's Award**  
Olivia Michaud

### Coach's Award

Beck Carrier

### GIRLS LACROSSE

Coach's Award  
Kate Dupuis

### SPRING 2021 SMAA ALL CONFERENCE ALL-STARS

**GIRLS TENNIS**  
Abigail Emerson 1st Team

### Defensive Player of the Year

Katie Kutzer

### Rookie of the Year

Ellie Gay

### BOYS TENNIS

Doubles Award  
Griffin Loranger

### BASEBALL

Quinn Dillon 1st Team (2nd Base)  
Caleb Hendrix 1st Team (Outfield)  
Colin McDonald 1st Team (Pitcher) 2nd Team (1st Base)  
Kyle Skofield 2nd Team (Pitcher)  
Cody Sellick Honorable Mention

### SOFTBALL

Amber Bretton 1st Team (Outfield)  
Tatyanna Biamby 1st Team Outfield  
Molly Murray Honorable Mention  
Morgan Roast Honorable Mention

### BOYS LACROSSE

Ben Tukey All-Conference  
Hunter Pelletier All-Conference  
Ayden Lindsay All-Conference  
Liam Moss All-Conference  
Beck Carrier All-Conference  
Ian Connors Honorable Mention  
Brady Sawyer Honorable Mention

### GIRLS LACROSSE

Katie Kutzer All-Conference  
Kate Dupuis All-Conference  
Allie Myles Honorable Mention  
Gracie Forgues Honorable Mention

### BOYS TRACK

Ryan Gendron High Jump, State Champion  
Andrew Farr 200 M State Champion 100 M, 400 M  
Lucien Beardsley 1600 M Racewalk, State Champion  
Evan Russo Pole Vault

### GIRLS TRACK

Caroline Bishop 1600 Racewalk  
Emma Green High Jump, State Champion, 4X100 Relay, State Champion  
Sydney Connolly 4X100 M Relay State Champion 100M, 200M  
Maddie Michaud 4X100 M Relay State Champion  
Naveah Moore 4X100 M Relay State Champion  
Alyvia Caruso 100 Hurdles, State Champion 300 Hurdles, Long Jump  
Elisabeth Loranger 400 M  
Olivia Michaud Javelin  
Molly Rathbun Pole Vault  
MacKenna Homa Pole Vault

### 2021 SPRING ACADEMIC ALL-STARS SENIORS ONLY

### SOFTBALL

Molly Murray, Morgan Roast, Paige Fogg

### BOYS LACROSSE

Beck Carrier, Joshua Labrie

### GIRLS LACROSSE

Alice Peterson, Gracie Forgues, Katherine Kutzer

### BOYS TRACK

Robert Dowdle, Reed Henderson

### GIRLS TRACK

MacKenna Homa, Sydney Fox, Riley Johnson, Gabrielle LaBarge, Tess Libby, Olivia Michaud, Brooke Phillips, Molly Rathbun, Delaney Seed, Bailey Wentworth

### BOYS TENNIS

Luke Adams, Griffin Loranger

## BOOK REVIEWS

This is How it Always Is, by Laurie Frankel

Dell Gray



Rosie and Penn have four sons, and a few years later they have Claude. As soon as Claude is old enough to speak, he announces he wants to wear dresses and wants to know when he'll be a girl.

Rosie and Penn parent Claude the way they parent their older kids—accepting her for who she is and supporting her as she grows up.

Their home may be a home of acceptance and unconditional love, but outside lies a cruel, judgmental world.

What will Claude do? How will Rosie and Penn react to the pressures of society while protecting their child's inherent knowledge of who she is? How will Claude react to pressure from so many fronts?

I can't say much more about this book without giving things away that I strongly encourage you to read first-hand. What I CAN say is that Laurie Frankel has written a beautiful, enlightening book about a couple, a family, and a child who just wants to be themselves.

Featuring a story-within-the-story of a fairy tale that Penn creates as a bedtime story for his kids—a story he adds to as the kids get older—This is How it Always Is one of the most thought-provoking, heartbreaking, and heartwarming books I have ever read.

*Dell Gray is a book reviewer for several publishers on Instagram. Her handle is @abookorafewand-javatoo*

The Gorham Outdoors Club is sponsoring a Cornhole tournament fundraiser on Saturday, June 26, 2021 at Robie Park. The event is scheduled from 2:00-7:00. For more information email [gorham-outdoors@gmail.com](mailto:gorham-outdoors@gmail.com) or visit their Facebook page @GorhamOutdoors. Registration for the event is <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cornhole-tournament-tickets-158725083999>

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Mike Smith, MSPT, ATC

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Jennifer Danley, DPT

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# School Committee Meeting

6/9/21

Kathy Corbett, Staff Writer

At their June 9 regular meeting, the School Committee (SC) thanked Zak Lembarra for his service as student representative, presented outgoing Assistant Superintendent Chris Record with a parting gift, and approved the appointment of Jodi Mezzanotte as principal of Village Elementary School.

Superintendent Heather Perry announced that physical distancing will not be required in schools in the fall. She said that the Maine Department of Education is waiting for federal government approval before releasing ESSER111 funding applications, and that the district is ready to apply. She reported that the curriculum audit work was completed across all content areas and grade levels, with a report to be released in October.

Perry expressed concern over filling ed tech and bus driver positions. She announced that Gorham voters passed the FY21 budget referendum the day before the meeting.

School Committee members joined her in thanking voters for their support and also expressed concern over personnel shortages. The district is advertising an eight-hour day for bus drivers and offering an earn-to-learn program as well as signing bonuses.

Record presented a Federal Title Grant review and plan for the 2021-22 school year. In preparation, he had met with the review team of administrators, laboratory and classroom teachers, and parents.

Title I covers K-5 literacy and math skills; Title II funds professional development and improving teaching and learning. The goals of Title IV relate to social and emotional needs, remediation, absenteeism, and helping the lowest 25% of learners.

Record will be submitting data collected regarding progress made on issues addressed by Title IV that will be included in the superintendent's state of the schools report.

Goals for 2021-22 include improving math skills and literacy in the lowest 25%, improving instructional practice, and helping meet students' social/emotional needs. Record included advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as continuing to implement the Anti-racism and Equity Policy.

The SC voted (7-0) to approve the Dropout Prevention Policy as well as authorizing transfer of budgeted funds of not more than 5% between cost centers.

They voted (6-1, Gagnan) to bring forward a proposed bond referendum to fund seven capital improvement projects not to exceed \$6.1 million. The referendum does not include any funds for Gorham Middle School expansion, but does revise costs for other projects due to estimate increases.

In personnel matters, the SC voted (7-0) to approve the appointment of Jodi Mezzanotte to be principal of Village Elementary School. She taught 5th grade and was assistant principal at Village prior to becoming an assistant superintendent in another district. They also voted to appoint Erica Woods as a K-5 ELL teacher, Penelope Coward as Village behavior program teacher, Sophia Hendrix for a one-year 2nd grade teacher position at Great Falls, and Jeff Burnap as 9-12 remote learning teacher. They approved Schedule B coaching personnel for fall sports.

Superintendent Perry reviewed the summary data for COVID quarantines and students sent home with possible symptoms, saying that the 298 number for K-5 numbers for students and staff were lower in the later part of May than earlier. There were 24 students and no staff recorded for grades 6-12. She noted the impact of vaccinations on numbers for staff. The district will offer vaccination clinics for grades 6-12 in the fall for eligible students.

# Mezzanotte New Village School Principal

Kathy Corbett, Staff Writer

Jodi Mezzanotte, who spent more than ten years as a 5th grade teacher and assistant principal at Village Elementary School, is returning to the district to be the school's new principal, replacing Brian Porter, who was recently appointed assistant superintendent of Gorham Schools.

Mezzanotte earned both a B.A. and M.Ed from the University of Southern Maine. After leaving Gorham in 2016, she was assistant superintendent for Westbrook Schools for four years before serving in the same position for the South Portland School District.

"I am beyond excited to be back serving the Gorham community in the capacity of Village School principal," Mezzanotte said. "Gorham is a special place for me as I not only raised my family in Gorham, but started my career here. I look forward to working with the Village School team to continue their good work of creating a safe, comfortable and inclusive environment where all can learn and grow."

Outgoing principal Porter said he was "thrilled and excited" over Mezzanotte's return. "Jodi was pivotal in helping to establish a strong, positive culture at Village School as we became a new K-5 elementary school in 2011," he said.

In announcing Mezzanotte's appointment, Superintendent Heather Perry said she "brings a deep understanding of the needs of learners and is dedi-



Courtesy Gorham School Department

cated to creating a learning environment where all can thrive." She cited Mezzanotte's community contributions and her participation in local service organizations.

Mezzanotte serves on two non-profit boards: Rising Sun Programs and The Dream Factory. Both are focused on supporting, educating, and mentoring students.

"She believes in shared leadership and builds strong relationships with students, staff, and the community," said Perry, who also praised Mezzanotte for her work ethic, passion, tireless commitment to excellence, and sense of humor.

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## COMMUNITY

### GRADUATIONS

**Ryan Firmin**, B.S. Architecture, cum laude, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Boston, Massachusetts  
**Abigail Flint**, B.A. Liberal Studies/Education, magna cum laude, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts  
**Bennett Gasowski**, B.S. Finance, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts  
**Michael Moore**, B.S. in Cybersecurity & Networking, Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island  
**Emily O'Donnell**, B.F.A. Interior Design, magna cum laude, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts  
**Tyler Richman**, B.A. in Environmental Science, Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island  
**Erica Thibeault**, B.S. in Psychology, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts

### PRESIDENT'S LIST

**Nolan Floyd Brown**, Husson University, Bangor, Maine  
**Karen G. Stemm**, Husson University, Bangor, Maine  
**Melanie G. Wright**, Husson University, Bangor, Maine

### DEAN'S LIST

**Lily Barden**, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island  
**Sarah Baxter**, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts  
**Kyren Bettencourt**, Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts  
**Margaret Caruso**, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts  
**Courtney Cushing**, Curry College, Milton, Massachusetts  
**Ryan Desantcis**, Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island  
**Abigail Flint**, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts  
**Autumn Heil**, Plymouth State University, Plymouth, New Hampshire  
**Saoirse Herlihy**, Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts  
**Garrett Higgins**, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont  
**Kate Gilbert**, Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island  
**Haley Keeffe**, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island  
**Evelyn Kitchen**, Assumption University, Worcester, Massachusetts  
**Iris Kitchen**, Assumption University, Worcester, Massachusetts  
**Kate Larkin**, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts  
**Narissa Libby**, Lasell University, Newton, Massachusetts  
**Haley Lowell**, Lasell University, Newton, Massachusetts  
**MacAllister Moss**, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island  
**Maggie Munkacs**, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island  
**Lindsey Nygren**, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts  
**Emily O'Donnell**, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts  
**Kyle Ouillette**, Springfield College, Springfield, Massachusetts  
**Meghan Perrin**, Springfield College, Springfield, Massachusetts  
**Quinn Riley Young**, Husson University, Bangor, Maine  
**Bridget Rossignol**, Springfield College, Springfield, Massachusetts  
**Callie Russell**, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island  
**Keltan Tanguay**, SUNY Morrisville, Morrisville, New York  
**Erica Thibeault**, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts  
**Lydia Valentine**, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island  
**Cameron Wright**, Springfield College, Springfield, Massachusetts

### ACADEMIC HONORS

**Shawn Philip Crosby**, Honors List, Husson University, Bangor, Maine  
**Sigma Theta Tau**, International Nursing Honor Society, Curry College, Milton, Massachusetts

### OF INTEREST

**The Presumpscott Regional Land Trust will be creating a Story Walk at Hawkes Preserve** in collaboration with the United Way. To introduce this family resource, they are holding a self-guided family-friendly field event from Saturday, June 26 at 8 a.m. to Sunday, July 4 at 7 p.m. Walk the historic towpath along the Presumpscott River where the Story Walk pages will be posted, and then continue on the Great Falls Loop to go through a Nature Scavenger Hunt and build fairy houses and gnome homes in a forested village. The total loop is about 1 mile. Send photos from your adventure for sharing on social media. The trail is generally flat and easy and can typically be hiked by children aged 3+, and by younger children if they can be carried for short stretches. Registrants will receive in advance of the event information about the new Story Walk, a map of the new loop hiking trail with scavenger hunt and trailhead locations, and ideas for fairy and gnome homes made from nature materials. While this is a family event, people of all ages are welcome to register. [prft.org/events](http://prft.org/events).

**Veterans of Foreign Wars, Gorham Memorial Post 10879** will meet on Tuesday, July 13 at 5:30 pm in the Fire Department Training Room, 270 Main St. If you are interested in attending the meeting or in more information about the VFW, please contact the Post at [vfwpost10879@gmail.com](mailto:vfwpost10879@gmail.com).

**Also from the Presumpscott Regional Land Trust, Exploring for Mushrooms at the Mill Brook Preserve on Saturday, July 24 from 1 – 3 p.m.** come learn about the wide diversity of mushrooms in the Presumpscot region, the ecological role that fungi play, and how to identify some common Maine mushrooms on this two-hour walk led by Maine Master Naturalist Alan Seamans. The program is free, but registration is required at [prft.org](http://prft.org).

**For over 25 years, the Gorham Food Pantry has served the needs of the hungry in Gorham.** The Pantry was founded and is sustained by the efforts of many local churches, schools, businesses, generous donors and hundreds of active volunteers. Thanks to all who help to support the Pantry. Located at 299-B Main Street next to St. Anne's Church, the Pantry's hours are Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**Thanks to the volunteers, the Gorham Medical Closet has reopened** at the Municipal Center, 75 South Street. The Closet is free and available to Gorham residents in need of

wheelchairs, shower seats, commodes, walkers, canes, crutches and more. Hours are by appointment only with one of the volunteers. If you don't reach a volunteer, leave a message and they will return your call. FMI, call Gerry Day at 839-3859.

**Gorham Girl Scout Troop 68** planned and built three wooden benches in collaboration with Gorham Conservation Commission for the Weeks Road trails behind Gorham Middle School. The scouts chose this for their Bronze Award project because they wanted to add some resting places to outdoor spaces for the community to enjoy. The Bronze Award is the highest award that can be earned by Girl Scouts in elementary school!



Photo courtesy of Gorham Girl Scout Troop 68

**Visit the University of Maine Cooperative Extension online** at <https://extension.umaine.edu/> for information and events about food and health, garden and yard, home, family, youth and 4-H, natural resources, and insect pests, plant diseases and pesticide safety. A wealth of summer information for all of Maine.

### LIBRARY NOTES

**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 contact less parking lot pickup is also available. Visit on the web at [north-gorham.lib.me.us](http://north-gorham.lib.me.us).

**Baxter Memorial Library's summer programs are in full swing.** On Thursday, June 24 is Art in the Park is for all ages, 10:30 a.m. to Noon. On Monday, June 28 from 9:30 to 9:50 it's Babies on the Lawn. Bring your baby and a blanket, and Toddlers on the Lawn from 10- 10:30 a.m. on the same day. The calendar is packed with fun activities and the love of reading. Visit the calendar to see the list, and the Library website, [baxterlibrary.org](http://baxterlibrary.org) for all the details.

### PUBLIC SUPPERS

**Living Waters Church on Parker Farm Road in Buxton is holding a Haddock Supper Buffet on Saturday, June 26 at 5 p.m.** Suggested donation: \$8 Adult, \$4 Child, \$20 Family. Takeout option is available. Hand sanitizer available, masks for unvaccinated welcomed.

### CLOSE TO HOME

**Buxton Centre Baptist Church, 938 Long Plains Road, Buxton, is re-opening of their weekly "Souper Seniors Social", beginning Monday, July 5.** Gather for conversation, cribbage, puzzles, and other games, with a free lunch served at 11:30 a.m. Adults of all ages are welcome. Masks are not required, but attendees are asked to be considerate of the health of others. Every Monday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### USM NOTES

**It's not too late to register your children for a music or athletics summer camp.** Visit [usm.maine.edu/music/summer](http://usm.maine.edu/music/summer), and [usm.maine.edu/athletic-camps-clinics](http://usm.maine.edu/athletic-camps-clinics) to learn more about these great camps on the Gorham campus for young musicians and athletes.

**To view USM student artwork completed during the spring 2021 semester**, visit USM Art's Virtual Open Studios at [usm.maine.edu/art/virtual-open-studios-spring-2021](http://usm.maine.edu/art/virtual-open-studios-spring-2021).

**"The USM Update" is a monthly, half-hour program covering all things about the University of Southern Maine** from groundbreaking research to workforce development initiatives and more hosted by University President Glenn Cummings during the academic year, and produced by the USM Office of Public Affairs in partnership with the University's Communication and Media Studies Department and several media partners in Southern, Central and Coastal Maine covering more than 40 communities with a combined population of over 400,000 people. New episodes air on the first Monday of each month at 8:30 p.m. on the Portland-based Portland Media Center (formerly Community Television Network/CTN5) channel 5. Viewers outside the Portland area should check their local listings.

the *Courtesy of the Gorham Police Department*  
**blotter**

**RUDE AWAKENING**

Caller reported an unknown male knocking on the caller's door at 4:30 a.m. Suspect left before officers arrived. Five hours later the caller called back and said it was a friend of hers. She spoke to the man and told him not to do that again.

Flaggy Meadow Rd. caller had found a baby squirrel the previous evening in his driveway. He did not see any nests or other squirrels in the area. They took the squirrel inside, warmed it up and fed it honey water. Windham Animal Control Officer knew someone who would take the squirrel and it was transferred to her.

Day Rd. caller reported receiving anonymous messages telling him to go to a certain location to meet the caller and others about a church gathering. Caller thought it was a scam. Caller was advised to block that caller and to call back to police if anything was suspicious around his house or if he received more messages.

Two males in a car on Sanford Drive who spoke very broken English told the officer that they had been at Goodwill but could not explain why they were back this far. They didn't understand much of what the officer was saying. They had Maine IDs but not driver's licenses. Passenger had an international license. He was told that the license was not valid in the US. They were advised to find a ride and the officer left.

Nicole's Way caller reported receiving calls from various numbers purporting to be from a refinance company saying they needed more information to complete the process. No information was provided to the caller and officer advised her it was a scam. New Portland Rd. caller reported a burglary.

Sally Drive caller reported a male in a vehicle that moved from one side of a neighbor

to the other side. Male advised he was waiting for his electric skateboard to charge and then he was going to ride it.

North Gorham Rd. caller reported that for the past few nights he heard someone knocking on the walls of a building and ringing doorbells. Caller requested property checks.

Caller at South Street Laundromat reported a suspicious person. Based on the description, the officer knew who it was and did not believe the person was trying to scare her as he was just going about his business. Caller had only four minutes left on her laundry and the officer stood by until she left.

Underhill Drive caller was advised to contact MTA and BMV to cancel registration and explain the situation. Officer called the person allegedly operating a motorcycle and denied it and told officer that he could not prove he was the one operating the motorcycle.

Caller driving on Flaggy Meadow Rd. reported a turkey had flown across the road cracking his windshield.

Elizabeth St. caller wanted to report there were some cats from the neighborhood at the end of her driveway.

Caller reported receiving numerous calls from unknown people and wanted them to stop. Caller was referred to the carrier to possibly have the numbers blocked.

**CALENDAR**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 24**

Baxter Memorial Library, Art in the Park for all ages, 10:30 a.m. to Noon

**SATURDAY, JUNE 26**

Presumpscott Regional Land Trust Story Walk at Hawkes Preserve today through July 4. Living Waters Church Haddock Supper Buffet, 5 p.m. Parker Farm Road, Buxton

**MONDAY, JUNE 28**

Baxter Memorial Library  
 Babies on the Lawn, 9:30-9:50 a.m.  
 Toddlers on the Lawn, 10-10:30 a.m.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 29**

Baxter Memorial Library, Summer Smoothies, 10-11 a.m. (rain date June 30)

**FRIDAY, JULY 2**

Baxter Memorial Library, Nature Bingo, 10:30 p.m., Shaw Park with Mr. Jeff.

**MONDAY, JULY 5**

Buxton Center Baptist Church, Souper Seniors Social, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
 The USM Update, 8:30 p.m. on Portland Media Center, CTN5

**THURSDAY, JULY 8**

Baxter Memorial Library, Art in the Park, 10:30 a.m. to Noon, all ages.

**MONDAY, JULY 12**

Baxter Memorial Library  
 Babies on the Lawn, 9:30-9:50 a.m.  
 Toddlers on the Lawn, 10-10:30 a.m.

**TUESDAY, JULY 13**

Baxter Memorial Library, Obstacle Course, 10 a.m., all ages.  
 VFW, Gorham Memorial Post 10879 meeting, 5:30 p.m., Fire Department Training Room

**FRIDAY, JULY 16**

Baxter Memorial Library, Hawkes Preserve Sound Walk, 10:30 a.m. Hawkes Preserve

**MONDAY, JULY 19**

Baxter Memorial Library  
 Babies on the Lawn, 9:30-9:50 a.m.  
 Toddlers on the Lawn, 10-10:30 a.m.

**TUESDAY, JULY 20**

Baxter Memorial Library, Chewonki-Animals on the Lawn, 10-11 a.m.

**SATURDAY, JULY 24**

Presumpscott Regional Land Trust, Exploring for Mushrooms, Mill Brook Preserve, 1-3 p.m.

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**First Parish Church is hiring a Digital Content Administrator**; 5-10 hrs/week; create digital content for all platforms; track and report analytics; must be agile with social media. For more information, please visit Weekly Updates on [www.firstparishgorham.org](http://www.firstparishgorham.org) or email [christine@firstparishgorham.org](mailto:christine@firstparishgorham.org).

**First Parish Church is hiring a Beyond Worship Coordinator**, 20 hrs/month. Develop, coordinate, implement weekly speaker program for adult learning. Develop yearly social issue conference (2022). Some Sunday hours required. Information: visit Weekly Updates on [www.firstparishgorham.org](http://www.firstparishgorham.org) or email [christine@firstparishgorham.org](mailto:christine@firstparishgorham.org).

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