

Gorham Times

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Reassembling Historic Mosher Barn



Photo credit: Roger Marchand

On April 18, workers began reassembling the historic Mosher barn at Shaw's Cherry Hill Farm on Lower Main Street. The skeleton of the 200 year-old building was dismantled and the components restored by Maine Mountain Post and Beam in Fryeburg. When completed, the barn probably will be used for offices and storage.

School Committee Approves \$48 Million Budget

Kathy Corbett, Staff Writer

The Gorham School Committee approved a \$48,105,345 budget for FY23 on April 13. This represents an 8.46% increase over the previous year and is \$3.8 million over the \$44.3 million FY22 budget.

As proposed, it would increase in the mil rate \$1.19, from \$12.63 to \$13.82 per \$1000 valuation. The taxes for a \$300,000 house would increase \$357.

Superintendent Heather Perry's initial budget would have raised taxes 21.7% over the current FY22 budget. This budget was a starting point for discussion between the administration and the School Committee (SC).

The District Leadership Team (DLT) prepared the budget to include expenditures for educational services that professionals believe would best serve Gorham students, keeping in mind the need to defend these requests.

The SC spent two months working to reach a balance between what the DLT proposed and what the members believe the Town Council would approve and taxpayers would support.

As part of the process, the SC went over every expenditure in the proposed budget, and the DLT submitted a priority list of possible reductions that they believed would have the least effect on quality education.

But some costs could not be reduced.

Wages and benefits account for 76% of the budget and include \$1.3 million for contractual increases for current staff. Insurance premiums are to increase 8%.

Gorham spends less per pupil than any of thirteen districts in Cumberland County and the SC approached the budget with that efficiency in mind.

Perry proposed using federal monies to fund two teachers and some capital improvements, although these were COVID relief funds that will not be available next year.

Not purchasing 2nd grade iPads was among the reductions. They postponed buying new accounting software for a savings of \$130,000.

A Human Relations Director and Transportation Director, new positions, were rejected. Two new World Language teachers requested by Gorham Middle School (GMS) were not funded. They also cut back on some capital improvements.

The SC considered eliminating a teacher from both GHS and GMS, but this would have increased class sizes and at GHS would have made it impossible to offer some courses.

They were reluctant to eliminate one of the district's three School Resource Officers (SROs). After Chief Chris

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Solar Power is Surging

Chris Crawford, Staff Writer



Photo credit: Nexamp

The solar panels at Gorham's site will look like these panels which were installed at the Nexamp project in Milo, Maine.

Gorham is getting greener ... and we're not talking about the usual Spring greening of its beautiful farm fields or neighbors' front yards. Five solar projects have received final approval by the Planning Board in the last year, with another still in the planning stages.

Carol Eyerman, Town Planner said, "All these projects are intended to provide clean energy to the New England grid. This is a big deal for the town."

"All these projects are intended to provide clean energy to the New England grid. This is a big deal for the town."

Carol Eyerman
Town Planner

It is also a boon for some large landowners, such as farmers, as a way to diversify.

Eyerman added, "I am pleased that so many of the clean energy industry businesses have chosen Gorham to place their facilities, both solar and battery storage. I am proud that we are at the forefront of this change." (See sidebar for a list of other solar projects).

One project well under way is a 6.53 megawatt DC solar array being installed by Massachusetts-based Nexamp on land leased from Norman Martin, located near the CMP Sub Station at the intersection of Rt. 114 and Huston Road.

According to Nexamp Project Manager, Dustin McEwen, the Gorham array has 13,608 solar modules which

Additional Solar Projects

Gorham Solar 1, LLC - Brackett Road Solar for PV Solar Ground - Based Array with associated equipment, gravel access and perimeter fence, located on 18.4 acres at 135 Brackett Road. Approved 01/04/2021.

Gorham ME 1, LLC - Nonesuch/Burnham Road Solar - located at 17 Nonesuch Road of a ground-mounted solar energy generation facility on 35 acres. January 2021 Approved 04/12/2021.

RE Gorham Solar, LLC/ Revision Energy - 96 Huston Road - Not Yet Approved, Last Meeting 02/14/2022.

Gorham Savings Bank - Wentworth Drive Solar - Gorham Savings Bank - a request for approval for a ground mounted photovoltaic project located at 10 Wentworth Drive. Approved 01/04/2021.

Hep Energy USA, LLC - Wescott Road Solar - of a ground-mounted photovoltaic installation on 20 acres of leased land of a 68 acres parcel located at Wescott Road. Approved with findings of Fact And Conditions of Approval Nov 2021.

will tilt from east to west, tracking the sun during the day and producing enough energy to completely power roughly 1000 homes every year. But in this particular case, the Gorham solar project will not be serving residential customers.

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SPORTS SPRING
SEASON PREVIEW
PAGE 9

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

What Mainers Will Get from Tri-Partisan Supplemental Budget

Rep. Mo Terry

Last week, Gov. Janet Mills signed an historic, tri-partisan supplemental budget into law that will do an incredible amount of good for our state.

With a vote of 119 to 16 in the House and 32 to 2 in the Senate, this budget represents the very thing that sets Maine apart from the rest of the nation – the ability for Democrats, Republicans and Independents to find common ground and compromise for the benefit of all Mainers.

From supporting our aging neighbors to addressing PFAS contamination on farms, investing in our state's economy through workforce training, providing critical tax relief and more – this budget covers a lot.

For Maine farmers who have been struggling to navigate the evolving PFAS crisis, the budget dedicates \$60 million to establish a trust fund to address PFAS contamination and support farmers with remediation efforts.

For those seeking higher education, the budget allocates money for several initiatives to make postsecondary school affordable and accessible for more Mainers.

Through this budget we were able to fund two years of free community college for all students who graduate high school between 2020 to 2023 and enroll in a full-time Maine community college program.

We allocated funding to prevent a tuition hike across the University of Maine System and we successfully overhauled and simplified the Opportunity Maine Tax Credit such that it will provide \$2,500 of student debt relief per year over 10 years, regardless of degree type or where someone went to school.

Before this overhaul, approximately 14,000 people were taking advantage of the credit, but many more are technically eligible to do so.

We also demonstrated our commitment to the next generation by allocating funds to set our youngest Mainers up for success. We fully funded universal free school meals in public schools across the state. We leveraged more than \$9 million in federal dollars to expand the Children's Health Insurance Program, which will provide comprehensive coverage to more than 40,000 Maine kids. We also allocated over \$12 million to increase pay for child care workers and early childhood educators to strengthen Maine's child care system.

The budget provides \$25 million to support Maine hospitals and another \$25 million for long-term care facilities to help address one-time pandemic-related costs. We also allocated \$30 million to expand MaineCare rates on an ongoing basis.

As chair of the Legislature's Taxation Committee, I am particularly excited about our efforts to leverage tax policy to provide direct relief to Mainers in a variety of contexts.

More than 858,000 Mainers will receive \$850 direct relief checks as early as June 1. Only full-time Maine residents are eligible to receive a check. To find out if you qualify, visit <https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/relief-checks>.

The relief checks will not be subject to income tax. To receive your check, you must file a state income tax before October 31, 2022. If you receive social security, don't regularly file or have questions about how to

file, call 211 or reach out to CA\$H Maine for assistance.

Additionally, the budget exempts more Maine retirement pension from income tax, improving the deductions for residents from \$10,000 to \$25,000 in tax year 2022, to \$30,000 in tax year 2023 and to \$35,000 in tax years 2024 and beyond. This will be a huge relief for many public employees, including teachers.

We also made permanent an increase to the Property Tax Fairness Credit, which will help over 100,000 Mainers reduce their property tax burden.

And a personal favorite of mine, we permanently expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit, which is the number one tax tool we have to lift families up from the wage gap. With these modifications, more Mainers than ever before will be able to receive financial relief.

This is what it looks like when legislators from across Maine – Democrats, Republicans and Independents – work together for the people of their state. It has been an honor to be a part of this process, and I look forward to continuing this good work moving forward.



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.

Letter to the Editor

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

Dear Gorham Times and Citizens of Gorham,

The process taken whereas the town leaders appropriated Robie Park from the citizens of Gorham and appear to be gifting significant portions to the school dept has been less than transparent. The process may also have been contrary to the steps that the town itself states need to be taken when changing the "land use" for a piece of land. As far as I can see, there were no public notices in the Gorham Times, nor were abutters notified.

According to Wilma Gould Johnson's article in the March 18, 2018 Gorham Times (pg. 3), the park was established from a \$500 gift from Martha Robie Estate, and the space was to be used for recreational activities. It appears that it was to be administered by the Gorham Village Corporation.

I find it interesting that the momentum to change the status of the park was being done while the School Dept. was putting together an expansion plan for the High School. How convenient.

There are several questions that I believe need to be answered. Such as:

Given that Robie Park was gifted to the citizens of Gorham and now a parking lot appears to be being built upon a 1/2 to 3/4 acre or so of land in the middle of Gorham village, is there a plan to pay reparations to the citizens for that land? I am guessing that a large parcel of land in the village is worth quite a bit. Is this accounted for in the upcoming school budget that the citizens get some money for the gift that was taken away?

Have traffic studies been completed to ensure that the 60+ cars

in the new lot (not to mention the additional 40+ spots that have "sprouted" from a previous home location on Morrill Ave.) can move safely out of the area?

Have environmental impact studies been completed to ensure the additional runoff from any newly paved area is adequate?

Perhaps if the process had been a little, ok maybe a lot, more transparent, we might know the answers.

In closing, it would be great to have the citizens of the town weigh in on the future of the park. If, as a community, we choose to build it into a parking lot, then so be it. At least all the citizens were involved.

Please express your opinion to our current group of councilors on May 3 at their regular meeting or email them.

Sincerely,
Mike Chabot

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

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UPCOMING ADVERTISING DEADLINES

May 4
May 18
June 1
June 15
Summer Break

Cherry Hill Farmers Market

Matt Gwyer, Contributor

Members of the Scarborough and Gorham Farmers markets have formed a new coalition to bring residents of the greater Portland area a summer market with unique offerings in a convenient location in Gorham.

Adjacent to the Sebago Brewing Company headquarters is the 2-acre plot that will host the first Annual Cherry Hill Farmers Market, named after the land preserve that abuts the marketplace. All are invited to attend and peruse a wide assortment of farm-fresh produce along with other Maine-made goods.

Beginning May 4, the Cherry Hill Farmers market will be open every Wednesday 2 p.m. - 6 p.m. until October.

As a generous offer to bolster some of this summer's community activities near Gorham village center, John Shaw has allowed the Cherry Hill market to use his land for the market grounds. This event would not be possible without his diligent work throughout the process.

Everyone will have the chance to meet the unique vendors and take advantage of fresh produce, meats, pastries and breads, fresh ground coffee, tea, homemade goods, honey, flowers for the table, handcrafted jewelry and unique gifts from talented people.

Signs along Route 25 in Gorham will direct you to the market, and there will be a large horseshoe of vendors set up in an easy-to-navigate path. The parking is free, easy to access, and plentiful.

As you stroll through the market grounds you may see some familiar vendors as well as some new ones. There will be something for everyone. We currently have a nice selection of vendors and we still have room for more.

If you are interested in applying as a seasonal or full-time vendor, please reach out to Jean Cayer at cherryhillsfarmersmarket@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page at Cherry Hill Farmers Market.

Staying In Your Home: Make a Plan Now to Manage Missed Mortgage Payments

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

For roughly 1 million financially stressed households who are still in a COVID-19 forbearance, it's critical to make a plan to exit forbearance.

Housing relief is essential for struggling homeowners in today's economy. Roughly 7.7 million distressed households received a forbearance during the COVID-19 pandemic, enabling them to pause or reduce mortgage payments to stay in their homes. The majority have already resumed their regular mortgage

payments, and the nation has averted a repeat of the housing crisis it endured during the Great Recession.

It's now time for the roughly 1 million households still in forbearance to contact their mortgage servicers and work out plans to resume mortgage payments.

"Millions of homeowners have been negatively impacted by the pandemic, but there are steps you can take to seek assistance," said CFPB Director Rohit Chopra. "If you are having a hard time making mortgage payments or facing foreclosure, you may have relief options

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

School Committee Approves \$48 Million Budget CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Sanborn spoke about their positive effect on students, the SC decided to continue funding three with the hope of adding another next year.

The budget as amended passed (5-2, Wright, Gagnon) at the April School Committee meeting. Members spoke about reasons they would or would not vote for it.

Committee Chair Anne Schools said she did not see how they could cut more.

Stewart McCallister commented on the "difficulty of finding ways to bring down the budget without impacting students," but added that there needs to be a way to slow down growth.

Nicole Hudson felt that essential personnel were added because the district can't do less than fully fund programs that are meeting real needs.

James Brockman probably spoke for everyone when he said, "This was a significant increase that no one takes lightly."

Sara Perkins believed they did their best considering COVID, inflation, and

supply problems. She suggested, however, that there is a need for more discussion about a better plan for the budget process.

Wright, a long-time SC member, voted against a budget for the first time, largely because he objected to the process. "Early on we should start with a percentage increase and give the DLT an opportunity to meet that number." He added that the professionals and the School Committee should come together to explore new options for more efficient ways to deliver quality education.

Phil Gagnon, who also did not vote for the budget, said he believed salary increases "were leading into an unsustainable situation," and that the district was experiencing growth without providing space to accommodate it.

The School Committee will meet with the Town Council at a public workshop on May 10. After the Town Council votes to approve the dollar amount of the budget on June 7, it will go to the voters for referendum on June 14.

CryptoVerse by A. Logophile

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SOLUTION ON PAGE 15



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FOCUSING ON GREATER PORTLAND TO THE LAKES REGION AND ALL POINTS IN BETWEEN



This month we celebrated Earth Day. Since 1970, April 22 has been designated as Earth Day - a day spent demonstrating support for protecting our shared environment. Let's continue to do our part to protect our planet. Below is a list that shows us how long some items can take to decompose. Please keep this in mind when you are throwing things out and consider recycling if you haven't already started.

- PAPER TOWEL - 2-4 WEEKS
- BANANA PEEL - 3-4 WEEKS
- PAPER BAG - 1 MONTH
- NEWSPAPER - 1.5 MONTHS
- APPLE CORE - 2 MONTHS
- CARDBOARD - 2 MONTHS
- COTTON GLOVE - 3 MONTHS
- ORANGE PEELS - 6 MONTHS
- PLYWOOD - 1-3 YEARS
- WOOL SOCK - 1-5 YEARS
- WAXED MILK CARTONS - 5 YEARS
- CIGARETTE BUTTS - 10-12 YEARS
- LEATHER SHOES - 25-40 YEARS
- TINNED STEEL CAN - 50 YEARS
- FOAMED PLASTIC CUPS - 50 YEARS
- RUBBER-BOOT SOLE - 50-80 YEARS
- PLASTIC CONTAINERS - 50-80 YEARS
- ALUMINUM CAN - 200-500 YEARS
- PLASTIC BOTTLES - 450 YEARS
- DISPOSABLE DIAPERS - 550 YEARS
- MONOFILAMENT FISHING LINE - 600 YEARS
- PLASTIC BAGS - 200-1000 YEARS

YOUR MENTAL HEALTH MINUTE

Trauma Education from Schitt's Creek

Jamie Racine

Schitt's Creek TV series chronicles the fictional "riches to rags" life of the Rose family. It hits deep — it is funny, heartwarming and relatable. The well-developed characters and their community in the quirky, little town of Schitt's Creek quickly grow on you.

In Season 5, Episode 2, the main character, David, gets robbed at his store by a masked man in a hooded sweatshirt with what appears to be a gun hidden in the sweatshirt. Though it is intended to be funny, the episode depicts the trauma experience and the aftermath quite well.

David immediately knows what is going on, but his response is one of sarcasm and a bit of wit. When another character, Stevie, walks in from the back of the store, she immediately recognizes it is a robbery and tries to escape but is thwarted by the robber.

What follows is a series of comedic behaviors which include offering the robber bottles of wine and different cheeses to complement the wine. They fill the masked criminal's bag, and he takes off. The pair are confused and cannot remember what exactly happened.

When David and Stevie are questioned by David's business partner, Patrick, as well as the local police, the pair scramble to recall the chronology of events. They struggle to remember details of what happened and to make sense of the choices they made. The "helpers" find their report of events lacks credibility.

Entertainment value aside, through the clinical lens there is a clear trauma experience followed by a clear trauma response followed by intervention from those who are not trauma-informed in any way.

During a traumatic event, the brain enters into overdrive, a primal response known as "fight or flight."

Housed in your brain stem, it is the first part of the brain to develop in utero. This area of your brain is in charge of everything automatic: the ability to breathe, to eat, and to recognize discomfort. In newborns this enables them to "fight," aka cry to get their needs met.

This part of the brain is not designed for logical reasoning. Its main purpose is to ensure survival. It cannot tell the difference between real or perceived danger. All it knows is that it is responding to a massive surge of adrenaline.

As the baby's needs are consistently met, they begin the next level of brain development — which is in the limbic system. This allows the baby to intentionally seek help because they understand that if they cry for help their caregiver will come and tend to them.

The part of the brain that provides our ability to give language to our experiences is called the frontal lobe. It is responsible for our day to day living, language, and storytelling.

But during a traumatic event, the limbic system takes over to ensure

survival. Because this part of the brain cannot create logic and reason, during trauma a person can only take in sensory information — sight, sound, smell, touch, and hearing — making it difficult for a trauma survivor to accurately recall the event.

Their story may make no sense, seem to lack credibility or to not "add up." During the event, making sense of what is happening is not the body's priority.

Understanding the way trauma works in the brain is a critical step in helping trauma survivors heal.

Clinicians who treat trauma should be well informed in different trauma-based approaches, including EMDR and Internal Family Systems (IFS). These techniques can help the survivor rewire the brain so that the traumatic experience can be reprocessed and understood from the frontal, thinking and logic lobe.

The more we know, the better we can serve those who have been traumatized.



Jamie Racine, LCSW, is a clinical social worker living in Gorham and is on a mission to destigmatize mental health.



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GORHAM - LTC PATRICK HENRY BURKE, US ARMY, RET

LTC Patrick Henry Burke, US Army, Ret., 73, died on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at home with his family by his side.

He was born on January 2, 1949, in New York City, NY, the son of the late John Nugent Burke, M.D. and Mery Burke. He attended schools in Belgium and New Jersey and graduated from Villanova University in 1970. In 1971, he married Karen Courtney in Medford Lakes, NJ. He earned his MBA from the University of Southern Maine in 1979.

He enlisted in the Army National Guard in 1970, graduating from OCS shortly after. While serving in the National Guard, Pat's civilian career was focused in a variety of financial capacities. He entered active duty with the Army in 1987, and he retired in 2004 after 34 years, 4 months, and 4 days! While on active duty, he served in many different roles, including an assignment at the White House in the Office of National Drug Control Policy, and in investigations for the Inspector General.

Karen and Pat were high school sweethearts dating for seven years before getting married on June 26, 1971. They were fortunate enough to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary last June. Being together for 58 years, they created an intuitive and supportive bond that often did not require words to be spoken.

Pop, as Michael called him, was the proudest parent there ever was. During Michael's early years, he instilled his love for sports into his son. While stationed at the Pentagon, he would routinely drive home to attend as many games as possible. He could be found seated at midcourt or midfield as high as possible to silently stress about Mike's and the teams' performance. Mike was keenly aware that Pop loved him, and it was apparent to all those who saw them interact.

Victoria, his granddaughter, was the love of his life. "Appy" loved being her family daycare and shuttling her about to her many activities. As his granddaughter grew up, he made sure he was a part of every aspect of her life. Although she has grown, she will always be his "Tiny."

In his free time you could have found him reading his many newspapers, or watching college basketball, especially the Villanova Wildcats. He was also a football fanatic! He loved his Philadelphia Eagles: "Fly Eagles Fly!" He "enjoyed" traveling—well, he loved arriving on vacation anyway! He and his family loved the many cruises they embarked on as well as the frequent visits to St. Thomas, U.S Virgin Islands.

He is survived by his wife, Karen Burke of Gorham; son, Michael of Old Orchard Beach, and granddaughter Victoria. He is also survived by his siblings, Frances (Joseph) Bassett of Leominster, MA; Jay (Karen) Burke of Gray; Mary Ellen (Terry) White of Westbrook; as well as many nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank Northern Light Hospice for their kind and compassionate care of Pat. Bethany, Judy, Mary, and Nicole are definitely angels on earth.

Visiting hours will be held on Saturday, April 23, 2022, from 10AM-12PM at the Conroy-Tully Walker South Portland Chapel, 1024 Broadway, South Portland. A funeral service will follow in the chapel at noon. To view Pat's memorial page, or to share an online condolence, please visit www.ConroyTullyWalker.com Memorial contributions may be made in Pat's memory to The Travis Mills Foundation, which provides rest and relaxation for recalibrated veterans. Michael will run Travis' 5K on the Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend in his father's memory, and donations may be made through his fundraising page at <https://runsignup.com/michaelburkesfundraisingpage>



TOWN/MUNICIPAL
Planning Board
Results
April 11, 2022

Ricky Jones, 36 Middle Jam Road request for approval of a five lot custom residential subdivision at 36 Middle Jam Road was discussed and postponed.

—WRITING CORNER—
The Spring
Azure

David Thompson

Small, simple and blue,
 Such lovely splendour; it's true.
 To be a pretty of the season,
 And finery, to reason.

It will feed on the christ-tree—
 Which is certainly fine with me.
 Tiny of stature—
 Let it be so faithful in rapture,

Signs of Spring



Photo credit: Marty Speidel

Some finches enjoying a meal in a Gorham backyard.

Rocks - Mini Worlds

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

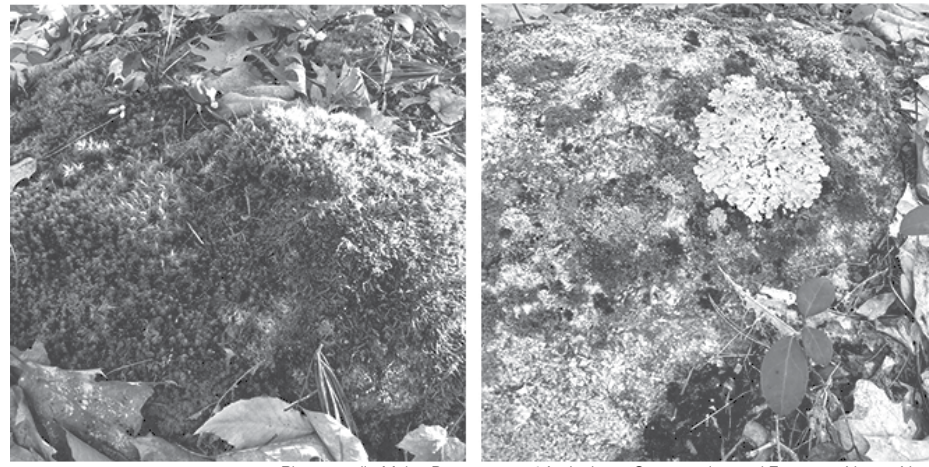


Photo credit: Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry - Nature Note

Rock on left is so covered in life it almost looks like a moss mound. Rock on right is home to a large foliose lichen, mosses and other life.

Trailing arbutus, in bloom now in southern Maine, is often found growing on or near moss-covered rocks in the forest. It is one of many plants and animals that are part of the mini world of rocks.

This mini world includes what may use the ground beneath the rock as a shelter ... the rock being the roof of the home. And, just like you would not want the roof ripped off of your home, be careful not to disturb those that live under rocks. Only peek under rocks that you can easily and very gently roll on their side to take a careful look under, and then roll it back very gently in place.

Be sure to leave most rocks undisturbed. Creatures may depart, and plants may have to reset their roots no matter how gentle you are.

Many forms of lichen grow on rocks as well as tree bark. Lichen is actually an algae and a fungi living



Photo credit: Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry - Nature Note

Trailing arbutus

in a mutually beneficial relationship, called a symbiotic relationship - the algae makes the food while the fungi provides the shelter. Look for these and the two other forms of lichen, crustose and fruticose, on rocks.

Activities for
Children and the
Young at Heart

1. Go on a get-to-know-a-rock hike. Sit by it quietly and observe all that happens on or near your selected rock. Draw, photograph or jot down what you observe. Ask yourself - who depends on this rock for survival? Make a list. Watch your selected rock through the seasons. Does its role change with each season?

2. Learn about larger rock outcrop - the Open Headlands of Maine - and the unique community of life they support through this Maine Natural Areas Program about the Open Headland Community.

3. Show your appreciation of rocks by writing a poem. The Children's Poetry Archive can help you get started. You'll find poems to read, to listen to, and advice about how to get started writing a poem.

Happy
Arbor Day
April 29, 2022

Trees absorb odors and pollutant gases such as nitrogen oxides, ammonia, sulfur dioxide and ozone and filter particulates out of the air.

Trees are the reason why all human beings can stay alive in the first place. Trees soak up carbon dioxide from the air and emit oxygen, which we breathe to stay alive.

They calm the winds, cool the land, and mark the seasons.

They shelter countless species, anchor the soil, and slow the movement of water.

They provide fuel, medicines, food, shelter and building materials for humans and animals.

They help balance Earth's carbon budget.

Trees increase property value.



What kind of tree can you fit in your hand? *A Palm tree*

What do elephants and trees have in common? *They both have big trunks!*

Why don't trees like any riddles? *Probably because they get easily stumped.*

How do trees access the internet? *Well, they log on.*

Did you hear about the almond tree diet? *Yes, but it just sounded like nuts to me.*

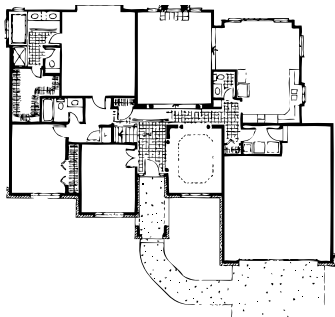


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School Committee Report, April 13, 2022

Kathy Corbett, Staff Writer

At the regular April 13 meeting, Superintendent Heather Perry said that in anticipation of the requirement for school districts to provide educational services for 3 and 4 year olds, the district has applied to operate a pilot program for ten pre-K students in cooperation with the Gorham Arts Alliance to begin in fall 2022.

She announced that Narragansett Elementary School Principal Cynthia Remick has submitted a letter of resignation.

A draft of the ten year capital project planning document will be shared with the Joint Facilities Committee at their April 15 meeting. This is a committee composed of members from the School Committee (SC) and the Town Council.

Jan Belanger of the ASPIRE program and four Gorham Middle School (GMS) students gave a presentation on the GMS Tech Start Program. This is a semester-long experience in partnership with Westbrook Regional Vocational Center (WRVC) where 8th grade students spend a class period at WRVC four days a week exploring 16 different vocational classes that they could take as high school juniors and seniors. About 50 students have participated in the program. The students reported that not only did the experience introduce them to possible career options, but also helped them discover what they did not want to do.

Perry gave an update on COVID for four weeks in March that showed only a little uptick, primarily in K-5 schools. The schools are no longer doing contact tracing, but parents are still expected to do morning health screenings.

The Policy Committee is working on reviewing policies and on an update of the district's Code of Conduct. The Personnel Committee is conducting interviews for a Technology Director. The Anti-Racism & Equity ad hoc committee met with the GHS Civil Rights Team and viewed the students' video about biased language.

The SC voted (5-2) to adopt the proposed 2022-2023 School Calendar that includes eight early release days. Those opposed wanted two more days for professional development, but proponents reported that "teachers want to be in front of students."

Revisions of two policies, one on compulsory attendance and the other on truancy, were made primarily to make them in compliance with Legislative changes and were approved (7-0).

The School Committee voted (5-2, Wright, Gagon) to adopt a proposed FY23 budget of \$48,015,345. Each SC member spoke about why they did or did not support the budget. Information about those comments and the budget process is in an article on Page 1.

School Note

The Gorham High School (GHS) Interact Club will be holding a satellite RELAY FOR LIFE event on Sunday, May 1 at the GHS track, under the umbrella of the Relay for Life of Greater Portland. The club currently has approximately 155 members involved, and they are hoping to have 100% participation throughout the day. They will be walking/running the school track from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The donations help raise money and awareness for the American Cancer Society.

Gorham Teams Participate in Odyssey of the Mind

Diane Knott

Creative thinking and innovation were showcased once again when 38 teams from across Maine gathered at Noble High School on March 26 for the first Odyssey of the Mind State Tournament since March of 2019.

Three teams from Gorham Schools were excited to attend and present their solutions to a panel of judges and live audience.

A Gorham Middle School (GMS) team brought home the first place trophy in their division for the Classics Problem. Their musical performance told the story of Mansa Musa, King

of Mali, a lesser-known historical figure from the 1300's who shared his wealth, built universities and brought prosperity to his kingdom. Team members included Nara Holland, Abigail McCrillis, Isable Hamann, Isla Rutherford and coach Diane Knott.

Another GMS team tackled the Tech Problem and earned second place in their division. The team, including Nikoli Wilkins, Oliver Emerson, Abe Palme, Samuel Joy, Brayden Logan, Riley McCallister and coach Elizabeth Wilkins, engineered a creative device

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

GHS Chess Club

Rachael Grady, Chess Club Advisor

There is a brand new opportunity at Gorham High School (GHS) this spring: CHESS CLUB.

With funding provided by the Gorham Educational Foundation (GEF), the fledgling group purchased 20 tournament chess sets.

While some members are newly learning the game, others are already skilled players who are sharing their strategies.



Photo credit: Rachael Grady

Back L to R Vicki Sands, Addison Canty; Front L to R Kate Sands, Makenna Delaney



Photo credit: Rachael Grady

Bode Coleman, considering checkmate moves!



Photo credit: Rachael Grady

Excited members of the Gorham Chess Club.

Gorham Times

SEEKS NEW EDITOR

The Gorham Times, celebrating 25 years of community journalism, seeks a new Editor to lead our volunteer staff in "bringing the news to all of Gorham." This is a great opportunity whether you're a seasoned journalist or you're looking to gain valuable experience in the competitive world of journalism.

The Gorham Times provides quality news coverage and feature stories about Gorham's government, schools, organizations, businesses, and residents.

Along with directing our team of committed volunteers, the Editor writes and proofreads articles, serves as the main liaison to the board of directors, and keeps his or her thumb on the pulse of Gorham affairs.

The right candidate understands and values the goal of creating a forum for fair-minded discussion by airing different viewpoints and maintaining a neutral editorial stance. To learn more and express interest, email Tom Biegel at tombiegel86@gmail.com.

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Odyssey of the Mind CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

designed to remove an environmental threat and restore an ecosystem.

The Gorham High School (GHS) team chose the Classics Problem, earning second place in their division. This team introduced the audience to Kate Warne's lesser-known historic past as the first female private investigator in the US. She is also known for helping foil an assassination plot against Abraham Lincoln. The team included Emma Mullin, Elsie Bradshaw, Libbie Merrill, Clara Shvets and was coached by Rebecca Ambrose.

Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational organization that provides an opportunity for students to work on a team, apply their talents and think creatively to solve problems. Students are required to keep their expenses within a budget and to do all work without outside assistance. By participating in the program, students develop real life-skills such as leadership, collaboration, communication and both critical and creative thinking.



Photo credit: M. McCrillis

GMS 1st place, Classics Team: Isable Hamann, Abigail McCrillis, Nara Holland, Isla Rutherford



Photo credit: R. Ambrose

GHS 2nd place, Classics Team: Emma Mullin, Libbie Merrill, Elsie Bradshaw, and Clara Shvets



Photo credit: D. Palme

GMS 2nd place, Tech Team: Samuel Joy, Brayden Logan, Nikoli Wilkins, Oliver Emerson, Riley McCallister, Abe Palme

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GHS and GMS Chorus Concert

A Spring Concert of the GHS and GMS singing groups was held at the McCormack Performing Arts Center at Gorham High School on Wednesday, April 13. The High School choruses and Chamber Singers are taught by Matthew Murray, and the Middle School choruses are taught by Tracy Williamson. The Gorham schools have many talented musical students.

Photo credit: Amanda Landry



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2022 Spring Season Preview

Katie Brown, Sports Editor

Photo credit: Amanda Landry



Local High School spring sports officially began on April 19. Here is a comprehensive breakdown of the Gorham Varsity teams and athletes for the spring season of 2022.

BOYS' LACROSSE

Gorham will look to rebound after a playoff exit last year to eventual State Champion Cape Elizabeth.

Coach Jones explains, "The Rams boast a strong defense led by last year's starting Goalie Ian Connors and Juniors Bode Coleman and Hayden Battaglia. Senior Ian Moss provides leadership to a group that will be hard to beat this year."

Captains of the team, Brady Sawyer and Connor Callahan will lead the charge at midfield where Junior Jacob Lehmann will unquestionably have an impact with the captains.

"The attack has big shoes to fill with the departure of All-State Captain Ben Tukey, but Captain Hunter Pelletier (46 gp, 19 assists, 39 Gb/g) has risen to the challenge. He will bring together a talented group including senior Jacob Graham" Jones adds.

Coach Jones shares, "The Rams have a tough schedule this year, but the renewal of old rivalries, that were temporarily shelved due to COVID, should provide the motivation needed for a deep run into the playoffs."

With challenging games throughout, Cape Elizabeth and Falmouth should provide early tests, while a mid-season matchup with Scarborough

and the finale vs. Windham will have the Rams battle-tested for the playoffs.

GIRLS' LACROSSE

Gorham Coach Meredith Bickford shares, "Gorham Girls Lacrosse is looking forward to a great season ahead."

The team has eight returning Seniors, (Morgan Chapman, Mary DeWitt, Allie Light, Allie Myles, Jill Morrell, Anna Provost, and Emma Stevens) including Mary DeWitt who experienced a season-ending injury last spring, and newcomer, Courtney Rent.

Bickford adds, "Our returning sophomore and junior class are going to make Gorham a team to beat this year."

Team numbers are great throughout the program and coach Bickford is enthusiastic about where the program is headed overall. This year's Captains, Kate Dupuis and DeWitt will lead the team, and welcome new JV Coach Sarah Dolley to the program.

BOYS' BASEBALL

The GHS Boys' baseball program returns 8 of the starting 9 including all pitchers.

The pitchers are led by seniors, Kyle Skolfield 2nd Team All SMAA 1.15 ERA, 24.1 IP, 36 K, 8 BB, .148 Opp BA (USM next year), and Colin McDonald, 1st Team All SMAA 1.835 ERA, 34.1 IP, 45 K, 16 BB, .195 Opp BA (Bridgton next year, UMaine '23).

The Returning position players include senior Caleb Hendrix OF, 1st All SMAA .375 Avg (Framingham State next year), senior Colin McDonald 1B, .436 Avg, and junior Quinn Dillon 2B, 1st Team All SMAA .400 Avg.

Team Captains are seniors Kyle Skolfield, Landon Bickford, Dan McKeage, and Caleb Hendrix who will look to lead in close games.

Coach Nadeau said, "Gorham prospects will be dependent on the health of our pitching."

Kyle Skolfield is returning from torn ACL and MCL during Gorham's first football game this past fall. Colin McDonald is recovering well from off-season elbow discomfort. Pitching depth will come from senior Landon Bickford and the development of freshman Wyatt Nadeau. Ben Shields is a crafty specialty reliever who will present difficult matchups for the league's stronger left handed hitters.

Cody Sellick, Caleb Hendrix, Kyle Skolfield, Landon Bickford and Brady Wintle provide excellent depth with

speed and offensive skills in the outfield.

The infield will be led by captain Dan McKeage and returning 1st Team All-Conference 2B Quinn Dillon who will be guiding a talented group of freshmen in Mason Finck (3B), Josh Polchies (SS), and Wyatt Nadeau (1B).

Coach Nadeau adds, "Cole (CJ) Whitehead is ready to have a breakout sophomore year handling most of the catching duties for a talented pitching staff. Quentin Riiska and Sean Boylen are excellent offensive players who can each play several positions."

The SMAA league will be strongly led by South Portland, Thornton Academy, Falmouth, and Sanford among the teams expected to be top tier in the league.

With healthy pitching and experience, Gorham should be competitive on any given night. With new lights installed, GHS will be bringing night baseball back to Gorham this spring

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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Photo credit: Chris Crawford

Nexamp sign marks the entrance to the solar farm being built at Rt. 114 and Huston Road.

Keith Hevenor, Nexamp Communication Director, explained that Maine has established two types of Net Energy Billing (NEB) programs available to solar developers. As part of Maine's NEB Tariff Rate Program, which provides dollar credits on participating customers' electricity bills, the Gorham solar project is available only to non-residential customers. He said, "The primary subscriber for the Gorham project is a large regional healthcare network."

Green energy is good for us all, no matter who is participating, and in this case, it might just also help keep down the costs of medical care.

According to McEwen, the target completion date is the end of this year, when it will be tested/commissioned

and ready to be turned on and connected to the grid. That connection is dependent on the utility, which in this case is CMP. Once the project is up and running, Nexamp's Asset Management team of electricians take over and will service and maintain the farm.

While the size of the Gorham Project cannot be expanded, McEwen said that a future option might be to add a battery storage system which would provide a more reliable supply of energy, even in poor weather. Battery storage is a big piece of effective solar power and Nexamp is actively involved in research, development and installation of battery storage systems.

"Action is needed now to address the climate challenge we face, and community solar is making it easier for more people to make a difference."

For most people, Nexamp is probably best known for its mail fliers, encouraging participation in solar projects within the second type of Maine NEB Kilowatt-Hour program. This type is available to residential, commercial, and industrial customers and provides kWh credits on participating customers' electricity bills by allotting a share of a solar farm to customers, who for a variety of reasons, are unable to install solar panels of their own. There is no cost to become a member of this type of community solar farm. Customers do not have to install, build or hook

up anything. People can support green energy and also get a reduced rate on a portion of their CMP bill, at a time when CMP's rates have increased substantially.

Hevenor said, "Action is needed now to address the climate challenge we face, and community solar is making it easier for more people to make a difference."

The downside is that the demand to join a community solar project is great. It may take up to two years from the time of sign-up until a solar project is built and a customer is actually assigned and can begin receiving the discount.

Nexamp was founded in 2007 by two U.S. Army veterans and now employs more than 350 people serving nearly 50,000 customers across the region. Nexamp is accredited by the Better Business Bureau and is making big investments in Maine with approximately two dozen solar projects in development or under construction across the State today.

In addition to the Gorham project, there is a similar farm already online in Milo and another "community" farm being built in Auburn.

Other plans include projects with the Town and School district of Wells, and one at Saddleback Mt. in conjunction with Arctaris, an investment company which provides capital to businesses in underserved regions.

In total, Nexamp has approximately 1 GW of assets in operation or under construction and more than 3 GW of assets in development across the country.

Gorham Times Paint Night



Photo courtesy of Gorham Times

Gorham Times staff get together for a team-building paint night.



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Broccoli Medley

2 bags of broccoli florets, cut into bite size pieces
 2 packages of button mushrooms, sliced
 1 large can of garbanzos beans, drained
 1 cup of sliced onions

1 can of diced seasoned tomatoes (garlic, oregano)
 2 T olive oil
 Salt and pepper to taste
 1 cup shaved parmesan

Saute all ingredients except for diced tomatoes and parmesan cheese until soft. Add diced tomatoes, stir gently until warm. Pour into large serving bowl, add shaved parmesan on top and serve.

Questions about the recipe can be e-mailed to Barbara Schneider at btsme21@gmail.com.

Staying In Your Home CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

depending on the type of mortgage you have. There is still time to act if help is needed, but you must act soon.”

To help, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) issued the following tips:

Homeowners who entered into mortgage forbearance because of financial hardship related to COVID-19 may have options for repaying their missed payments. A payment deferral or partial claim allows you to wait to make up unpaid balances until the end of your loan or when you sell or refinance your home. A loan modification allows you to change loan terms that might lower your monthly payments or extend the length of your loan. A lump sum repayment means you pay the total amount of skipped payments to your mortgage servicer. Repayment plans add the amount you missed to your regular mortgage payments. Not all options are available to everyone, and will vary based on your loan, servicer, and financial situation.

Generally, you won't have to repay

missed mortgage payments in a lump sum. In most cases, if your mortgage is federally backed, which includes Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, FHA, VA or USDA loans, your mortgage servicer cannot require you to pay back your missed payments as a lump sum repayment. Many other mortgages do not require a lump sum repayment. If you only hear about a lump sum repayment, ask about other options.

Make a plan today. For help talking with your mortgage servicer, understanding your options, or if you are worried about your options, contact a HUD-approved counseling agency in your area.

If you've had trouble making mortgage payments because of a COVID-19 related hardship, the CFPB has information to help. Whether you're entering forbearance, need more time, or are ready to exit, we have information on what to do next. Go to <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/coronavirus/mortgage-and-housing-assistance/> to learn more.

Continued COVID-19 Awareness Encouraged

Heather Perry, Superintendent

It has now been over a month since we were able to move forward in making masking optional for students and staff. I continue to hear many express appreciation and a sense of relief that masking is no longer a requirement. Masking has indeed become a personal choice, and one that is well respected across all of our schools.

I would, however, be remiss if I didn't take a moment to remind folks that just because we have moved to making masking optional does not mean that COVID has disappeared.

The COVID-19 virus is still very much “present” in our lives. That statement is not intended to frighten anyone, but to simply remind folks to continue to be vigilant and use common sense approaches to making sure we are doing what we can to continue to minimize its impact upon our lives.

First, remember that daily screening checks are still very important. If you have symptoms - and we all know what they are by now - stay home and consider getting tested. Reach out to our school nurses with questions, and keep an eye on our COVID 19 daily data reporting.

If you see cases start to go up, keep a closer eye on those symptoms, be more “suspicious” and if you want, consider adjusting behaviors. Just because you chose to remove the

mask in March, does not mean you can't choose to put it back on during a particularly high point of active cases.

Finally, if your child tests positive, please report that to the school so we are aware and continue to monitor for potential spread. We no longer do specific contact tracing, however, if we become aware of three confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in a single classroom within a five school day period, we will send letters home to families.

The Maine Department of Education and Maine CDC has also recently announced that schools can order two testing kits for each student and staff member. We have placed our order and expect to get these tests kits later this spring. We are unsure when exactly they will arrive, but when they do, we'll determine if we give them out then or perhaps wait and utilize them for the safe reopening of schools this fall. We will see what the timing looks like on that and go from there.

In addition, let's keep washing those hands and continue monitoring for symptoms. If we all remain vigilant we can ensure that even though COVID-19 may still be with us, that it doesn't become the “life of the party” again. That is a “party” I'd like not to visit again for sure, and I'm sure you all would agree.



Julie Chandler



Mike Griffin



Peter Mason



Benjamin Taylor



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BUXTON \$540,000 – Great location for commuting & dead end street for privacy on this 2.78 ac lot. 3BRs, 3baths, large deck, wood & tile floors, great room over 2-car gar. Too many extras to list...



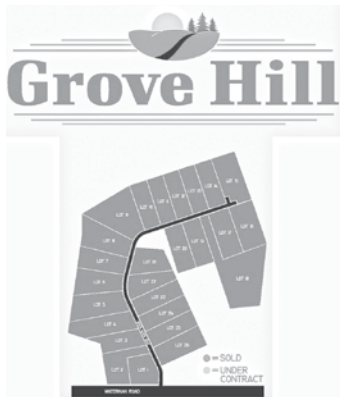
GORHAM \$144,900 – Very desirable 55+ adult community in Patio Park. Excellent location to all points. This 1999 Redman doublewide features spacious kitchen/dining area, large living room, master BR w/ bath, 2 additional BRs & 2nd bath.



HOLLIS \$339,900 – 3BR Cape w/ covered porch overlooking the Saco River. New heating system, drainage system & concrete floor in the bsmt, bathroom fixtures, flooring & freshly painted interior. Let the sounds of the river put you to sleep this summer.



124 Plymouth St, \$435,000 – This attractive 3BR, 2 bath ranch in Portland offers a desirable open floor plan. Features plenty of natural light & hardwood floors flow from the living room into the bedrooms.



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GORHAM \$49,900 – Desirable/affordable living is here at this 2 bedroom, 1 bath Skyline home. Being sold “as is”. Appliance kitchen, replacement windows, newer furnace & oil tank. Needs some TLC. Solid older home w/storage shed. This is a 55+ park.



GORHAM, \$210,000 – Plenty of parking & ground level entrance for handicap accessibility. This office space offers a reception area, 4 offices, 2 bathrooms & spacious conference room with kitchen area.



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2022 Spring Season Preview

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

with night games scheduled for May 12, 16, 23, 26, and 27. All night games will begin at 7 p.m.

GIRLS' SOFTBALL

The team ended 12-6 overall last year, losing in the second round of the playoffs to #1 seed Marshwood in a very close game 5 - 4.

Coach McGouldrick shares, "I expect us to be a couple of games better this year and be right in the mix in Class A South."

Windham, Biddeford, and Scarborough will be very tough. The coach predicts his team to be one of the top 4 teams in the SMAA and should challenge every team on any given day.

Coach McGouldrick adds, "We were a very young team last year starting six freshmen and sophomores in most games. We return nine Varsity players from last year's roster. There are some outstanding young players in the league, but you can't match our roster 1 - 9. Some of our role players would be Varsity starters at other schools. We have three outstanding pitchers (senior Riley Grant and sophomores Amber Bretton and Kyleigh Mack) who I have complete confidence in throwing against anyone."

Coach continues, "Our batting order is very deep, but it starts with sophomore Amber Bretton who batted .569 with 29 hits, 34 RBI including multi-home run games. I expect a huge, break-out year from senior Anya Nagle both at the plate and playing first base for us."

"Sophomore Sophia Diphillipo will be the field general behind the plate and will bat in the 4-hole. Senior Ambrosia Moore has worked incredibly hard in the offseason, and you can see her efforts paying off in the pre-season. Makayla Quintal is an incredibly smooth middle infielder who is one of the most fundamentally sound middle infielders I have coached," he adds.

The rest of the roster is versatile, and it allows Coach McGouldrick to mix and match in any given game and get positive results.

McGouldrick emphasizes, "More important than the talent this group has, is the incredible chemistry and work ethic. The group is a joy to coach. No team will work harder and have more fun at the same time. Regardless of our win/loss record at the end of the year, it is going to be a great year."

GIRLS' TENNIS

Girls' Tennis Coach Nicole Bergeron shared, "We went from a five-player team last year to eighteen players this year."

Most of the new players on the tennis team are underclassmen who are new to the sport of tennis. They bring experience, coordination, and drive from playing other sports into the mix.

Bergeron adds, "Those who have had experience on the team as a

group of five are adjusting well to a new dynamic that a larger team inevitably brings. I'm very encouraged by everyone's play."

This year's captains are seniors Abby Emerson, Ainsley Christianson, and Clara Schvets.

Coach Bergeron shares, "Emerson returns from a personal undefeated season. Her biggest challenge is going to be Olivia Cutone from Kennebunk." Emerson will go far in the state singles tournament without question, probably making it to the quarterfinals or semifinals depending on where she is placed on the seed chart.

Christianson returns with 9 wins, and Schvets is returning with a strong performance despite missing a season.

BOYS' TENNIS

The Boys' Tennis Team ended last season with a close loss to Cheverus in the first round of the playoffs.

Coach Aaron Landry shares, "All three of our singles players are returning. As it is early in the year the ladder has not been finalized but senior co-captain Will Boylen, junior Kevin Luo, and junior Patrick Cyr will compete."

At doubles, senior co-captain Alden Dimick, and seniors Asa Farley and Kyle Landry look to start the season strong.

Looking to break into the lineup and play a role are freshmen Owen Spera, Jacob Shvets, Aidan Devers, and Patrick Downey.

GIRLS' OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

Coach John Caterina, coming off a highly successful winter season and last year's spring State Class A runner-up, shares in detail what to expect of the T&F team this spring.

The Gorham Girls' Outdoor Track & Field Team returns a strong group of senior athletes from last spring's state Class A runner-up and expects to be in contention for top Class A team and individual honors again this season.

Caterina shares, "The team is led by a group of five very talented senior captains: Alyvia Caruso, Sydney Connolly, Emma Green, Elisabeth Loranger, and Maddie Michaud."

Caruso is the defending state champion in the 100 hurdles and scored in the LJ and 300 hurdles last year.

Connolly scored in both the 100 and 200 and anchored the state champion 4 X 100 relay.

Green is defending state champion in the HJ and ran the third leg in the 4 X 100 relay.

Loranger finished 3rd last spring in the 400 and ran key legs in the 4 X 800 and 4 X 400 relays.

Michaud ran in both the champion 4 X 100 relay and the 4th place 4 X 400 relay last spring and will be one of the top sprinters in the SMAA.

Other key members of this spring's team include juniors Rachel Cummings (distance), Grace Johnson (distance), Mayla Wilson (HJ/PV), and Sadie Fiore (HJ/PV); sophomores Rita

Cummings (distance), Ella Downing (distance), Meryk Lewellen (TJ), and Aislyn McLean (distance).

"The addition of freshmen Ashley Connolly (sprints) and Lindy Moreland, as well as several other newcomers, will all play a key role in Gorham's success this upcoming season," Caterina adds.

BOYS' OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

Last Year's Results: 5th at Class A State Championship

Coach Jason Tanguay gives a synopsis of the spring outlook. The Gorham Boys' Outdoor Track & Field team has a strong group of seniors, including captains Calvin Cummings, Andrew Farr, Evan Russo, Tommy Sallinen, and Asa Wareham.

Cummings is an All-New England Cross Country runner who also scored in both the one and two-mile at the indoor state championship.

Farr is the state champion in the 200 and state record holder in the 400 this past winter and was named Indoor Track and Field Athlete of the Year.

Russo is one of the top returning pole vaulters.

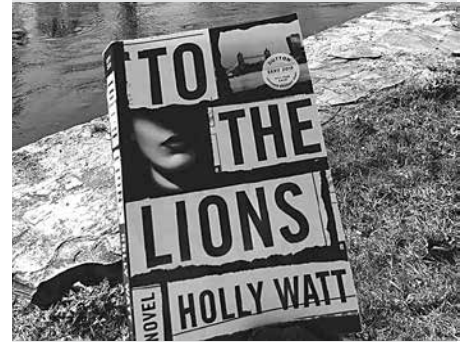
Sallinen is a top runner in relays.

Wareham is a top returner in the javelin.

Coach Tanguay shares, "The key contributors to the spring team include juniors Lucien Beardsley (race-walk), Braeden Johnson (throws); sophomores Nolan Feyler (hurdles and jumps), Aidan Lee (hurdles and jumps), Dylan Phillips (javelin). There are many other newcomers to the team that will be contributors to our success as a team."

BOOK REVIEW

To the Lions by Holly Watt



Casey Benedict and Miranda Darcey are investigative reporters for The Post in London.

When Casey overhears a conversation about a dangerous game being played by the wealthiest men in the world, she tracks down the source ... only to find out he's committed suicide.

Casey knows it wasn't suicide, knows what she heard, and knows it involves one of the largest corporations in the world. Researching every piece of info Casey heard that night leads her, Miranda, and their friend Ed, a combat vet, to Libya.

Casey and Ed pose as a wealthy couple in search of a thrill, meet the masterminds behind the game, get into their good graces, and are allowed to participate.

When Casey and Ed uncover the full truth of what's going on, will they be able to handle the mental toll it's taking on them? Can they reach Miranda, get outta Libya, and get back to London to expose what's going on, or will THEY be exposed first?

Holly Watt has written a chilling, mind-numbing story of a group of amoral, über-rich people, their idea of fun, and the journalist who will do what she must to stop them. To the Lions is a gut-wrenching story of what could easily be happening in today's world.

Dell Gray is a book reviewer for several publishers on Instagram. Her handle is @abookorafewandjvatoo

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GHS GRAD NEWS: If you, your son, or daughter are GHS graduates, we would like to share your achievements in the Gorham Times Of Interest section or in a Where Are They Now feature. Submissions should include the year of GHS graduation and should be no longer than 75 words. Contact Chris Crawford at ckck5@icloud.com.

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OF INTEREST

There are many ways to give to the Gorham Food Pantry. Learn more at sites.google.com/view/gorhamfoodpantry. Pantry hours are Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon.

The Mission of Hope Clothes Closet at Cressey Road Church will be open from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 7.

Gorham Lions meet at the Old Elmwood School on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The next meetings are Tuesday, May 10 and 24 at 6:30 p.m. New members are always welcome. FMI 929-9182.

Gorham, Windham, Westbrook TRIAD'S next meeting will be Friday, May 13 at 9 a.m. at the Gorham Police Dept. All are welcome. The guest speaker will be Lynda Adams, a Certified Integrative Nutrition Health Coach who helps people become aware and make changes in all areas of their lives (physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually) to improve their overall health for long term, lasting positive results.

Bring your kids and their bikes to the Bicycle Rodeo on Saturday, May 14 at 10 a.m. Designed to teach and encourage kids from age 3 – 10 to ride bikes safely, the rodeo will include a helmet check, a bike mechanical check, and the chance to ride in a closed traffic skills course that teaches the rules of the road. Located in the Middle School Parking Lot at 106 Weeks Road. Co-organized by Gorham Rec, the Bicycle Coalition of Maine, and the Maine DOT.

The Gorham Business Exchange (GBE) will be holding their Cornhole Invitational outdoors on Saturday, May 14 at Sebago Brewing's Tasting Room (616 Main St.) Cash prizes will be awarded for the winning teams. Early bird registration is open online for \$50 for a team of 2, \$60 after May 7. Registration at the event begins at 11 a.m., and the first heat begins at 1 p.m. FMI about the Exchange or the Tournament, visit gorhambiz.org, or call 892-5515.

Spring Birding Migration Event will be held on Saturday, May 21 at 8:00 a.m. and again on Friday, May 27 at 10 a.m. at the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust's new Steep Falls Village Preserve in Standish. Join local birding experts Marion Sprague and Angie Marcotte to look and listen for returning migrants and the hardy birds that spend the whole year in Maine. This event will involve less than a half mile of walking on flat and easy trails, so it is ideal for all ages and physical abilities and is for anyone interested in learning about birds, from beginners through experts. This event is free, but space is limited. To register go to Events at www.prlt.org.

The Bar Mills Community Church in Buxton is hosting a 6K walk for clean water on Sunday, May 22 at 8 a.m., joining thousands in World Vision's annual Global 6K for Water. The local goal is \$1000 to help bring clean water to children in the developing world. FMI global6k.worldvision.org/team/BMCC, Pastor Dave Reiss, 929-3535, pastordave.bmcc@gmail.com.

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Gorham Memorial Post 10879 invites the public to gather on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30 to honor their fallen comrades with a parade and ceremony at Eastern Cemetery. The next meeting is on Tuesday, May 10 at 5:30 p.m. in the Gorham Fire Department Training Room, 270 Main St. For more information, please contact the post at vwfpost10879@gmail.com.

PUBLIC SUPPERS

A Bean Supper for the public will be held indoors at Buxton Centre Baptist Church at 938 Long Plains Road on Saturday, May 14 from 4:30 – 6 p.m., with 2 kinds of beans, hot dogs, chop suey, cole slaw, rolls, and dessert for \$10 per person.

SENIOR NOTES

The Gorham Medical Closet, operating at the Municipal Center, 75 South Street, 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.

The Southern Maine Agency on Aging offers a lineup of virtual exercise classes, caregiver support groups, and more. Learn more at smaaa.org/events.html, call 1-800-427-7411 for more information.

LIBRARY NEWS

Weekly story time has resumed at the North Gorham Public Library with stories, songs and crafts every Wednesday at 10 a.m., open to children and their caregivers. On Wednesday, May 4 the library's board of directors' meeting is open to the public. The library is open on Mondays from 3 – 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays from 10 – 11:30 a.m. and 6 – 8 p.m., Thursdays from 3 – 5:30 p.m., and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Home Delivery and contact less parking lot pickup are also available. Visit north-gorham.lib.me.us, and facebook.com/northgorhampubliclibrary/.

Baxter Memorial Library May events include May Story Adventures for ages 2 – 5 on Tuesdays, May 3 and May 10. Join Ms. Heidi and Mr. Jeff for outdoor stories, singing, dancing, and playing! Dress in layers for our changeable Maine weather. Join the Book Club to discuss "When the Stars Go Dark" by Paula McLain on Thursday, May 5 at 10 a.m. Then on Friday, May 6 and Saturday, May 7, come to the Spring Book Sale put on by the Friends of Baxter Memorial Library at Shaw Gym, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday. This year the sale will be accompanied by a model railroad setup by Maine3Railers! On Tuesday, May 10 at 6:30 p.m. the Library will host an Author Visit, a conversation between two local authors! Jennifer Dupree, whose new book *The Miraculous Flight of Owen Leach* just came out in April, and Elisha Emerson, whose poetry, short stories, and essays may be found in a number of publications, will come and talk about writing! FMI about any of these events, call 222-1190, or visit baxterlibrary.org.

SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS

Monumental Vacation Bible Camp will take place June 20-24 from 8:30-11:30 at Cressey Road Church in Gorham. Open to children ages 4 through finishing 5th grade. Register now and go off-road on a Monumental adventure through the colorful canyons and sunbaked trails of the southwest. Register on-line at www.cresseyrdumc.org. There is no cost. Donations accepted.

UNIVERSITY NOTES

The University of Southern Maine returns to in-person graduation with the 142nd Commencement on Saturday, May 7 at the Cross Insurance Arena in Portland. Speakers will include Dr. Nirav Shah and departing USM President Glenn Cummings. Honorary degrees will be conferred to Dr. Shah, poet Betsy Sholl, and philanthropist Dan Crewe.

The Dr. Alfred & D. Suzi Osher School of Music at the University of Southern Maine is the home of the acclaimed USM Youth Ensembles, three youth orchestras and a wind ensemble, rehearsing weekly during the academic year at Corthell Hall on the Gorham campus. Auditions for membership for the 2022/2023 season will begin on Tuesday, May 24. Reservations are required. Learn more about this and all the Osher School of Music youth programs at usm.maine.edu/music/youth.

Learn about youth summer camps at USM. Visit usm.maine.edu/summercamps.

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Officer responded to a report of a dozen cows on Hurricane Road, traveling towards Wilson Road. Officer did not locate any cows in the road, near the road or in the surrounding fields. There were no cow tracks in the fresh snow.

Officers responded to a vehicle which slid off of South Street near Day Road. Driver was a young man from California and told officers this was his first time driving through snow. Officers arranged for a tow, and the driver was able to drive off once the car was back on the road.

Woman was worried that she might have given personal information to a phone scam the previous night. She was advised to contact her bank immediately and to tell them what had happened and to let police know if there was any fraudulent activity on her account.

Woman at the call box wanted to know what to do with a parking ticket she had received in Gorham. She was advised to come back and speak with the officer who had written the ticket.

Officer spoke with a driver and his passenger after an accident with property damage. Officer advised that since the accident was on private property, he would be at fault.

Main Street caller reported when he went to get out of his car, his key got stuck on something and when he went to yank on it, the key broke away from the fob. Officer advised him to call a friend as this was not a police matter.

Caller was very intoxicated and upset because a neighbor had complained about her music. Officer told her no one had called the police and for her to make sure it was not loud enough to be heard in other apartments. Officer let her vent and by the end of the conversation, she was laughing.

Caller had questions about EZPass. He said

he had received a notice to pay from EZPass and it showed it was for a vehicle that was not his. He was advised to contact EZPass to clear this up.

Caller reported a suspicious vehicle on School Street (possibly a Ford Focus) with an unknown man and woman inside. The vehicle left about a minute before the officer arrived.

White Birch Lane caller reported a drone looking in through her window around 4 a.m. She was concerned about the activity but did not call when it was occurring. She was advised to call back when the drone was there so police could investigate further. Caller just wanted it documented in case something did happen.

Adeline Drive caller was demanding that she was going to get furniture from the house. Officers advised her as to what things were and were not legal.

Officers responded to a disturbance that was determined to be verbal only. Male party agreed to leave for the night and to stay with a friend.

Buck Street caller had questions about going back to his residence after he and his wife had had an issue the previous day. He was advised he could back as long as there was no paperwork saying he could not do so.

Caller was concerned about a suspicious vehicle on Carson Drive. Vehicle belonged to a neighbor.

Mosher Road caller wanted to report that a tote had been taken that had her "when I lose weight clothes" in it. Officer told her this was a civil issue and to bring it up at the court hearing.

Fort Hill Road caller requested that officers come and talk to her ex and tell him he can't move back in. Officers spoke with both parties and the man said "I am outta here" and departed.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

USM Vocal Jazz Ensembles, Corthell Concert Hall, 7:30 p.m., 780-5555

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

North Gorham Public Library Story Time for children and caregivers, 10 a.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 3

Baxter Memorial Library, May Story Adventures (ages 2-5), 10 – 10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

North Gorham Public Library
 Story Time for children and caregivers, 10 a.m.
 Board of Directors Meeting, open to the public, 6 – 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 5

Baxter Memorial Library, Book Club: When the Stars Go Dark, 10 a.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 6

Baxter Memorial Library, Book Sale and Train Show, Shaw Gym, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 7

Mission of Hope Clothes Closet hours, Cressy Road Church, 9 a.m. to noon
 Baxter Memorial Library
 Book Sale and Train Show, Shaw Gym, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 Jennifer Dupree, Author Visit, 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 10

Gorham Lions Meeting, Old Elmwood School, 6:30 p.m.
 Baxter Memorial Library, May Story Adventures (ages 2-5), 10 – 10:30 a.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 13

Gorham, Windham, Westbrook TRIAD meeting, Gorham Police Dept., 9 a.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 14

Bicycle Rodeo, ages 3 - 10, Middle School Parking Lot, 106 Weeks Road, 10 a.m.
 Gorham Business Exchange Cornhole Invitational, Sebago Main Street, 11 a.m.
 Registration, 1 p.m. Tournament

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80 MOSHER ROAD	LOTT, JEREMY & SAWYER, KELLY	ARYAN, MANSOUR	\$302,500
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Available 5-5-22

Sale Starts Sunday May 1st - Saturday May 7th

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