

Gorham Times

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
GORHAM, ME
PERMIT NO. 10

Volume 29 Number 9 | April 27, 2023

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

School Committee Approves \$52,294,845 Budget

Kathy Corbett, Staff Writer

The Gorham School Committee voted 7-0 on April 12 to approve a \$52,294,845 budget for the 2023-24 school year. This represents a 12.64% increase over the current year's budget. The increase of just under \$6 million is more \$2 million less than Superintendent Heather Perry's original proposal and represents mainly unavoidable operating expenses and deferred maintenance.

As explained by Superintendent Perry, anticipated costs to maintain current services account for \$2,100,000 of the increase. The pre-Kindergarten program, which will receive a state subsidy, is budgeted at \$1,614,406. There is \$1,025,000 allocated to capital improvement projects (CIP). Energy costs are anticipated to increase by \$330,000, special education by \$330,000, technology needs by \$260,000, textbooks by \$114,000, and \$120,000 for the central office which includes implementing new software. Added together, these add up to \$5,893,406, which equals roughly the amount the F24 budget exceeds the current F23 budget.

The School Committee submitted its proposed budget to the Town Council and participated in a joint workshop on April 25 which was recorded and can be

accessed from the Town website. The Town Council will vote on the budget on May 16. At the June 13 election, voters in the town of Gorham will be asked to approve the final budget figure as determined by the Town Council.

Following the April 12 vote, members of the School Committee shared their views on their budget and on the process. Stewart McCallister said that this budget takes care of students' educational, social, and emotional needs in a way that is sustainable. James Brockman said, "There are no unreasonable requests. The process involved a lot of cutting including \$1.3 million in capital improvements, a crossing guard, and \$5,000 from the athletic program. CIP projects are not going away and will be more expensive in the future."

Jennifer Whitehead agreed that \$2 million cut from CIP is shortsighted and that further cuts would directly affect students. Nicole Hudson said that the increased costs were in order to give students what they need now.

Anne Schools felt that the budget meetings and the process was efficient. "We did not meet our target, however, we prioritized people and posi-

tions and some capital improvement needs that had been put off too long."

In commenting on the next steps in the process, Sarah Perkins said that it involves solutions that recognize that the School Committee looks at the needs of students and the Town Council is concerned with the needs of town taxpayers.

Chairman Darryl Wright said that "We pay taxes as well, so we are raising our own taxes. These decisions are not made within a bubble." He emphasized that we want to prepare students to be successful in life and since the pandemic, student needs have increased.

"These are needs; there have been no 'wants' for years. I am impressed with what the professionals can do with what we provide them," he said, "and I wish we could address more needs. We spend less per student than the Cumberland County average and below the state average. We do more with less and there comes a point where you can't do this anymore."

Wright urged people to reach out and let the Town Council know their response to the budget before the May 16 vote. "We want to hear from the community. Be respectful, but share your opinions."

USM Presents Gorham Appreciation Day

Albert Bean, Jr. Dir. of Athletics, USM

USM is sponsoring Gorham Appreciation Day on May 2. The event will be held at the Ed Flaherty Field House on the Gorham Campus to celebrate the successful collaboration between the University of Southern Maine and the Town of Gorham. This will be an opportunity for USM leadership and alumni to interact with business and community leaders from the Town of Gorham.

The USM Huskies baseball team will be hosting their Little East Conference rival, Plymouth State University with the first pitch scheduled for 4:35 p.m.

From 4:30 to 6 p.m., there will be a barbecue and reception for the University, the Town of Gorham officials, as well as business and community leaders. It will be held in the grassy area behind the third base grandstand. At 5:30 p.m. USM President Jackie Edmonson and Gorham Town Council Chair Lee Pratt will speak.

Join us in celebration of the work of the Town and USM are doing together, as well as make new connections and enjoy the baseball game. RSVP by April 28 by calling Albert Bean at 207-780-5588 or by email at albean@maine-edu. Admission and barbecue are free for this event.

Rams 2023 Spring Sports Season is Underway

Katie Brown, Sports Editor

GIRLS LACROSSE: COACH MEGHAN CUSHING

New head coach Meghan Cushing is eager to lead the Rams in her first season. Her twin sister Morgan is the J.V. coach and the two couldn't be more positive about their season outlook. The twins both played at Gorham (GHS '14), it is a true full circle moment for them.

Coach's comment: "After a strong 2022 season, we are looking to come out even stronger this year and are very excited to see what we can do this season."

The team is led by captains, seniors Miranda Chasse, Ellie Keil, Rylee Tenuta and junior Ellie Gay. Key returners are Miranda Chasse, Ellie Gay, Kaitlyn Nichols, and Brooke Farquhar.

Coach remarked, "Miranda and Kaitlyn are key returning attackers. Both scored many goals last season and were key to the success on attack. Ellie Gay is a key returning midfielder, "She can truly do it all". She is a strong defender, a key member in our transition and ride, and a strong attacker. Brooke is one of our top defenders. She had many caused turnovers last year and will be set to guard some of the strongest players in the league."

Coach added, "We look to improve upon the success from previous years,

but look to have one of the best records the program has seen. We are hoping to connect with the youth programs and get the town talking about lacrosse."

Tough opponents and pivotal games expected are Kennebunk and Falmouth.

BOYS LACROSSE: COACH CLAYTON JONES

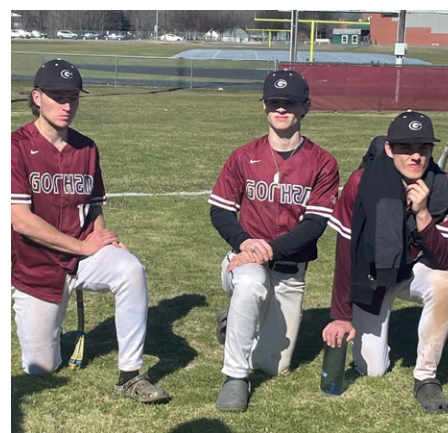
After a strong run into the playoffs last year, where they lost a one-goal game to Scarborough, Gorham looks to field an intriguing mix of senior leadership and fresh faces looking to make an impact.

In speaking about key returning players, Coach shared, "The 2023 Rams will be led by a strong defensive unit, all returning from last year. Seniors Bode Coleman (capt.) Anthony Arsenault, and Hayden Battaglia are joined by Juniors Jesse James and Aaydyn Garrett on what could be the best overall unit in years. Senior Ian Connors, coming off a stellar season last year with a 70% save percentage, will anchor the unit in Goal. Senior captain Justin Chasse could be a dominant force at midfield both facing off and moving to the offensive side of the ball this year. Captain Jacob Lehmann and senior Joe Cowan should provide plenty of offensive punch while several newcomers will give the

Rams the ability to run between the lines. The attack is also anchored by seniors, Ryker Spear and Brady Alexander, and Junior Haden Pelletier will look to follow up on a strong sophomore campaign."

Coach Jones added, "A very competitive 14-game schedule will challenge the Rams, but they'll be well-prepared for the postseason. The challenge for the senior leadership this year will be the rapid integration of newcomers with experienced talent to form a cohesive unit.

If the group comes together, this team could surprise some, making a deep run into the playoffs, remarks Jones.



Baseball pre-season

Photo credit: Coach Dan Morini

BASEBALL: COACH CHUCK NADEAU

Coach Chuck Nadeau (14th season). The 2022 Rams ranked #5 lost to Marshwood to advance to the Class A Quarterfinals.

Coach Nadeau shared, "The coaching staff is excited to see the 2023 version of Gorham Ram Baseball compete against a league that is as strong as we can remember. There are no easy games on the schedule. Every team we face will have at least one top tier pitcher and most have pitching staffs that run 2-3 deep in aces."

Coach added, "We have a nice mix of returning players and new players. Two-time all-conference selection Quinn Dillon leads the way for us this year. Quinn, a senior, has been one of the more consistent hitters in the SMAA over the past two seasons. Selected as a team captain this year, Quinn will continue to anchor our infield from the second base position. Seniors Cody Sellick and Brady Wintle along with Junior CJ Whitehead will also serve as team captains for the 2023 Rams; and each will be relied upon to deliver consistently good at-bats from the middle of our batting order. Sellick will handle leftfield and be counted on to be a run producer. Wintle is a talented

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

GORHAM'S MULTILINGUAL
LEARNERS: PAGE 6

inside the Times



GOCAM

YouTube

2 Augusta 4 Living 5 Town/Municipal 6 School
7 Sports 9 Community 10 Calendar 11 Blotter

APRIL 12 SCHOOL COM-
MITTEE RECAP: PAGE 8

NEWS FROM AUGUSTA

Policy on News from Augusta: The Gorham Times asked our three state legislators from Senate District 30, House District 109 and House District 110 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.

The continuing services budget delivers for Mainers

Rep. Mo Terry, House Majority Leader

Towns and cities across our state deserve stability, predictability and good governance. The continuing services state budget that Maine Democrats passed last month provides just that. It contains no new initiatives but ensures that, come the end of the current biennial budget period on June 30, there will be money available to keep essential services like public schools, Emergency Medical Services and long-term care facilities running smoothly. In particular, this budget delivers on our promises to our municipalities that rely on state funding for their own financial planning purposes by continuing the state's homestead property tax reimbursement to towns, meeting the state's 5% revenue sharing obligation and funding 55% of public K-12 education costs. Fulfilling our commitments and continuing to fund the essential programs that Mainers depend on was a top priority for us this session. In this budget, we allocated \$212 million to fund the Homestead Property Tax Reimbursement Program, ensuring that cities and towns can continue to offer that property tax relief to qualifying residents. If the state were to stop providing this reimbursement, municipalities that are now only responsible for covering less than one-third of the programs costs would have to foot the entire bill, an expense that would force many to raise their mill rates, and subsequent-

ly, property taxes for all homeowners. Through this budget, we also kept our promise to share 5% of state revenue with municipalities. In 2022, we met our revenue sharing obligation for the first time in 15 years. Towns and cities depend on these funds to help finance municipal services, so that they don't have to scrimp and save or rely completely on property taxes for those services. Fulfilling this commitment was yet another way we relieved pressure on property taxpayers. The continuing services budget also included an investment of \$101 million to maintain the state's commitment to fund public K-12 schools at 55%. It is our duty to create an education system that provides all students with access to quality education, no matter where they live. Funding schools at the mandated 55% helps achieve this and also reduces property taxes for homeowners. Right now, many Maine towns are working on their annual budgets, and they deserve to know what funding they're going to get from the state to inform their planning. Additionally, older Mainers and individuals living on fixed incomes should not have to fear that their property taxes will suddenly increase. When the state government shut down in 2017, cities and towns across Maine were left in limbo, unable to plan for the future or provide the services that keep our com-

munities running. By passing a continuing services budget, we ensured that Mainers are not held hostage by a politically motivated government shutdown again. The continuing services budget was part one of a two-part biennial budget process. Part two, which the Legislature will deliberate and vote on in the coming months, will provide Democrats, Republicans and Independents an opportunity to come together and discuss new initiatives. Every day, we come to Augusta to try and do right by our neighbors, we think about what we owe our communities and we try our best to deliver that to the people of Maine. What we owe our communities, above all else, is the certainty that the state will meet its obligations. I am proud of the work we accomplished for our neighbors and our communities by passing part one of the biennial budget.



Rep. Maureen "Mo" Terry, D-Gorham, is serving her fourth term in the Maine House of Representatives. She is the House Majority Leader, where she serves as head of the Democratic caucus. Outside of her legislative work, Rep. Terry is a chef and small business owner. Contact her at maureen.terry@legislature.maine.gov.

Letter to the Editor

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.

To the editor:

I'm very concerned about bill LD 1619 which is being introduced in Maine and would allow for abortion up until birth, regardless of if the mother's health is in danger or not. We already have that law in the books and this bill removes the provision that the mother's health must be in danger. I want you all to think about what abortion up until birth means. We are no longer talking about rape or incest because you would have known you were violated 8 months before and had time to abort. We are no longer talking about a clump of cells. We are talking about a baby that could

be viable outside the mother's womb! Most of you have children, think about the first time you held your baby. This bill is enabling someone, to legally end that baby's life 10 minutes before the moment you hold them in your arms. That would entail great violence, no longer just a D&C, the abortionist would have to kill the baby because at that stage, they are viable outside the womb. For all of you reading this, when people of the future are horrified at the ghouliness of our culture if this passes, understand people will want to know where you stood on this. At that time you can say "I supported this bill"

which is your right. You can say "I turned a blind eye to this bill", just like the Germans in WWII, but you can not say, "I didn't know".

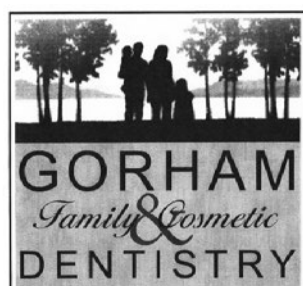
- Tonya Kassa

Letters to the editor must be fewer than 300 words, signed with a first and last name, typed or e-mailed, include a phone number, and home town. Send letters to the editor to editor@gorhamtimes.com

CORRECTION: In the April 13 issue of the Gorham Times, in the article about the Gorham students performing at Merrill Auditorium with the Youth Ensembles, we neglected to include percussionist Ryan Cooper. Ryan is the only Gorham student who plays in both the Portland Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Portland Youth Ensembles. Our apologies to Ryan for missing him.



You're in the Know. Gorham Times



Christopher Pidhajecky DDS
347 Main Street
Gorham, ME 04038
207.839.3006

www.gorhamdentistry.com

NEW PATIENTS
ALWAYS
WELCOMED



Gorham Times

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

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

News: editor@gorhamtimes.com

Features: ckck5@icloud.com

Advertising: gorhamtimes@gmail.com
or 839-8390

School: schoolnews.gorhamtimes@gmail.com

Sports: sports@gorhamtimes.com

Of Interest/Calendar: loriaam@gmail.com

Other: gorhamtimes@gmail.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS

\$25/year in Gorham; \$30/year Non-Gorham
Subscriptions and renewals are available online on our website.

Editor: Lori Arsenault

Business Manager: Donna Soper

Advertising Coordinator: Donna Soper

Design/Production: Molly Lortie, Megan Dunlap

Staff Writers: Jacob Adams, Donna Aikins, Kerry Constantino, Kathy Corbett, John Ersek, Sheri Faber, Andrew Martin, Krista Nadeau, Patrick and Cindy O'Shea, Cori Shaw

GHS Student Interns: Lucia Holloway, Grace Johnson, Aislyn McLean

USM Student Intern: Maggie Norris

Features: Chris Crawford

Photographers: Kerry Constantino, Roger Marchand

Public Service Coordinator: Maggie Norris

Sports: Katie Brown

School News: Michael Lortie

Social Media Coordinator: Donna Soper

Digital Content Manager: Bailey O'Brien

Webmaster: Judi Jones

Distribution Coordinator: Russ Frank

Distribution: Jim Boyko, Janice Boyko, Chris Crawford, Dan Fenton, Russ Frank, Chris Kimball, Kris Miller, Chuck Miller, Dick Peterson, John Richard, Richard Ruth, and Nancy Thompson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Thomas Biegel (President), Sara Nelson (Vice President), Kate Thomas (Secretary and Treasurer), Aaron Chadbourne, Katherine Corbett, Sheri Faber, Rachel Flynn, Eliza Kenigsberg, Kate Thomas, KG Wentworth

GENERAL COUNSEL:

Bruce Hepler

FOUNDER:

Maynard Charron

ADVERTISING AND COPY DEADLINES

Ad deadline is the Wednesday of the week prior to issue date. Go to 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

UPCOMING ADVERTISING DEADLINES

May 3

May 17

May 31

June 14

A Spring Semester Thanks to Intern Maggie Norris

Gorham Times Staff



Photo credit: Courtesy of Maggie Norris

Maggie Norris, USM student and spring intern with the Gorham Times

The Gorham Times thanks Maggie Norris for the great job she did for us as our intern from the University of Southern Maine. Maggie covered the Town Council and Of Interest/Calendar as well as doing other articles as needed for the paper. Working with her was a pleasure, and we wish her all the best in the future.

When we asked Maggie how she got the idea to ask for this internship she answered,

"When I first approached the head of the English department about writing for a newspaper, they suggested the Bangor Daily News, The Bangor Times or The Portland Press Herald."

"They also mentioned that a local news channel might be good for me. Being from


Massachusetts, none of these really struck a chord with me. The Gorham Times, however, did! Someone mentioned The Gorham Times to me in passing, and I immediately thought of inquiring about an internship."

"When I moved to Maine in 2017, I lived on the Gorham campus for one semester. I remember driving down College Ave and feeling it was so different. Growing up in the suburbs on the North Shore, we did not have any beautiful winding roads. Everything there felt much more fast-paced. To be honest with you, I put Starbucks into my GPS the first week of school, and when it said 30 minutes away I felt like I had culture shock! Gorham was the opposite of the town I grew up in and I soon fell in love with it. No traffic, the beaches, the lakes, the nearby mountains, and the quaint city of Portland really stole my heart! I lived in Portland for 4 years before meeting my boyfriend, getting a dog, and moving to Yarmouth."

"I'm happy with my decision to intern for you, mostly because of my positive experience but also because Gorham has such a special place in my heart. I hope that comes through in my writing, too. Gorham has such a lovely close-knit community."

Maggie is not sure where she will end up after graduation, but hopes to go into technical writing, copywriting, or editing. She is minoring in public and professional writing. Thank you Maggie for your contributions to the Gorham Times.

Do you know any students interested in becoming a Gorham Times intern? Email editor@gorhamtimes.com for more information



HolistiC Pathways, LLC 29 School St
Gorham

**YOGA IN-STUDIO
YOGA ONLINE
YOGA LIVE**

Making yoga convenient

See our website for the upcoming class schedule
www.holisticpathways.com

Free online drop-in visit in April!



LIVE AUCTIONS
May 2 & May 16
11:00 a.m.



RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES
GORHAM, LEWISTON & RAYMOND, ME

Looking for your next development opportunity? Look no further than one of these three subdivisions located in Gorham, Lewiston, and Raymond, Maine.

Don't miss your chance to bid on these properties at auction and make your mark on these thriving Maine communities. Act fast and secure your next project today!

Bramblewood - Gorham, ME (May 2 | 11am): 8 Freestanding Condo Units (to be built)
Rolling Brook - Raymond, ME (May 16 | 11am): 11 Single Family Home Parcels
Sanctuary - Lewiston, ME (Date Coming Soon): 44 Single Family Home Parcels

Tranzon Auction Properties
Sales subject to Terms & Conditions. *Brokers welcome.*

FOR MORE DETAILS, VISIT OUR SITE AND SEARCH PROPERTY NUMBER: AP23010

207-751-1430
TRANZON.COM

Goodwill's Maine stores now run on local solar

Gorham Times Staff

Goodwill recently moved 12 of its stores and offices to solar power, with plans to move two more to solar power this year. The nonprofit is participating in two community solar farms, agreeing to buy solar energy for the next 10 years. This will account for 62 percent of the nonprofit's energy use in Maine.

"Sustainability is at the center of our work. Goodwill stores keep more than 45 million pounds of stuff out of Maine's landfills each year. We want to do right by the Earth, and this was a no-brainer opportunity," said Steve Dixon, Senior Director of Purchasing and Facilities. "We also expect to save about \$50,000 in the first year by buying this local, renewable energy."

For its first year using solar, the nonprofit purchased 2.8 megawatts of energy — about 62 percent of its use in Maine. Goodwill bought the solar energy from local farms in Fryberg and Trenton at a discount.

"We spend in total over \$1 million in electricity expenses each year with the old rates — the new rates are going through the roof. The higher the rates go, the more solar helps offset costs," Dixon said.

The thrifty nonprofit's energy use happens to align with solar seasons in Maine. Stores and offices' energy use spikes in the summer because of air conditioning.

Goodwill signed two community solar farm agreements, one for its southern Maine stores, and the other for its Bangor and Ellsworth stores. The 12 southern Maine stores and offices now use solar power, and the Bangor and Ellsworth

stores will come online later this year. The nonprofit hopes to find similar opportunities in New Hampshire and Vermont.

Goodwill Northern New England continues to invest in its sustainability and environmental responsibility goals in its retail operations. In January 2017, the Northern New England based nonprofit voluntarily banned single use plastic bags from its stores. In February 2021, it upgraded its fleet of tractor trailers to improve its transportation fuel efficiency and reduce its carbon footprint. In the spring to 2022 Goodwill invested \$1.5 million in more durable and sustainable materials to store and transport donations.

Goodwill Northern New England is a nonprofit social enterprise in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. Last year Goodwill NNE kept 49.5 million pounds of stuff out of the region's landfills — if you put all of those items in tractor trailers and lined them up, the line would be about 20 miles long. Our revenues fund our mission to invest in people who need support to achieve their work and life goals. Goodwill NNE's programs include workforce training programs, 18 group homes that support adults with disabilities, active community supports for adults with disabilities, AmeriCorps programs, business-cleaning services, and Goodwill NNE operates two brain injury clinics to help people get back to their lives after a brain injury. Of course, our stores also embody our mission to support the Earth through re-use, while offering good jobs and free supports to all sorts of people. For more information visit GoodwillNNE.org.



You're Invited!

Mother's Day Artisan & Vendor Fair

Saturday, May 13th, 9am-2pm
Cressey Road Methodist Church, Gorham

FINANCIAL FOCUS: Can You Benefit From a 529 Plan?

Pete Watt, Contributing Writer

Another school year is coming to a close. If you have young children, they are now a year closer to heading off to college or some other type of post-secondary education or training. If you haven't already done so, you may want to start preparing for these considerable costs.

During the 2022-23 school year, the average estimated annual cost (tuition, fees, room and board, books, supplies, transportation and other personal expenses) was nearly \$28,000 for public four-year in state schools and more than \$57,000 for private nonprofit four-year schools, according to the College Board.

Of course, some students don't pay the full bill for college. Any grants and scholarships they receive can bring down the "sticker price." Still, there's often a sizable amount that students and their families must come up with. Various strategies can help fill this gap. One you may want to

explore is a 529 education savings plan.

A 529 plan offers several key benefits. First of all, your earnings can grow tax-deferred and your withdrawals are federally tax-free when used for qualified education expenses, such as tuition, fees, books, etc. You may be eligible to invest in a 529 plan in most states, but depending on where you live, you may be able to deduct your contributions from your state income tax or possibly receive a state tax credit for investing in your home state's 529 plan. Tax issues for 529 plans can be complex. Please consult your tax advisor about your situation.

And 529 plans aren't just for college. You may be able to use one to pay K-12 expenses, up to \$10,000 per student per year. (However, not all states comply with this 529 expansion for K-12, so you might not be able to claim deductions and your withdrawals could be subject to state tax penalties.)

A 529 plan can also be used to pay for most

expenses connected to apprenticeship programs registered with the U.S. Department of Labor. These programs are often available at community colleges and combine classroom education with on-the-job training.

Furthermore, you can now withdraw funds from a 529 plan to repay qualified federal private and student loans, up to \$10,000 for each 529 plan beneficiary and another \$10,000 for each of the beneficiary's siblings.

But what if you've named a child as a 529 plan beneficiary and that child doesn't want to pursue any type of advanced education? If this happens, you, as the account owner, are free to name another family member as a beneficiary.

Beginning in 2024, you may have even more flexibility if a child foregoes college or other post-secondary education. Due to the passing of the Secure Act 2.0 in December 2022, unused 529 plan funds of up to \$35,000 may be eligible to roll

over to a Roth IRA of the designated beneficiary. One of the qualifications for this rollover is to have had your 529 plan for at least 15 years. To determine if you qualify, you will want to consult your tax advisor.

A 529 plan has a lot to offer — and it might be something to consider for your family's future. Withdrawals used for expenses other than qualified education expenses may be subject to federal and state taxes, plus a 10% penalty. Make sure to discuss the potential financial aid impacts with a financial aid professional.

Pete Watt has been with Edward Jones since 2015. He loves working closely with clients to pinpoint what is important to you and your family and to develop successful, personalized strategies to achieve your financial goals despite life's ups and downs. This article is published with permission from Edward Jones.

Happy Arbor Day... Amazing Trees

Chris Crawford, Staff Writer

Scientists estimate that there are about 3.04 trillion trees in the world, which means there are about 422 trees for every person. Maine is the most heavily forested state with about 88% of its lands covered in forests.

Trees are essential for fighting the effects of a warming climate. Our lungs and our trees are also matched perfectly to help each other live. Trees suck Carbon Dioxide (CO2) out of the air, which is what we breathe out... and then the trees breathe out Oxygen, which is what we breathe in.

The oldest living tree in the world is a bristlecone pine that is 5,062 years old. It was alive before the pyramids were built in ancient Egypt. That bristlecone pine resides in the White Mountains of California, along with the second oldest tree, another bristlecone pine that's 4,845 years old.

Scientists have proven that trees can communicate with each other. Acacia trees on the African savannah, warn each other of danger with a unique defense system. When animals like antelopes start to gobble its leaves, the tree increases tannin production to levels that are toxic to animals. But that's just the beginning. The tree then emits a cloud of ethylene gas that travels through the air, reaching other trees so they too can begin producing more tannins to ward off other hungry animals.

Bamboo grows super-fast, which makes it a much more sustainable option than other types of wood. In fact, bamboo can grow 3 feet in one day... that's about the same

height as an average five-year-old.

Some sequoias are as tall as a 26-story building and are very tough too. These gigantic trees can live up to 3,000 years. Their branches can be up to 8 feet in diameter and their bark can be three feet thick. They are so long lived because they can resist fungal rot, wood-boring beetles, and their thick bark is perfect for warding off fire. They are also home to many living things.

Amazing mangrove trees grow both along ocean shores and along rivers, in brackish water, a mix of fresh and salt water. These trees are very important protection for very delicate ecosystems where fresh water meets the sea.

Happy Arbor Day...Plant a tree.



Arbor Jokes

What did the beaver say to the tree?

It's been nice gnawing you!

How does a coniferous tree get ready for a date?

They spruce themselves up.

What did the Jedi say to the sacred tree?

May the forest be with you.

CryptoVerse by A. Logophile

SLH WHYOX TSHXI JSSAR, JY MBQY XS DMOLTX,

OHY XJBFY XIY RBPY SD OMM CYHNSTX.

O JSHQBTW DSHYRX XIOX RYKLYRXYHR FOHEST,

XIYV'HY OT YOHXI AOV / OHESH AOV EOHWOBT.

CLUE: I = H

SOLUTION ON PAGE 11

Sen. Brenner introduces legislation to expand health care coverage for PFAS blood testing

Maine State Government

On Tuesday, March 28, Sen. Stacy Brenner, D-Scarborough, introduced a bill to require private health insurance companies to cover the cost of blood serum testing for PFAS. LD 132, "An Act to Require Health Insurance Carriers to Provide Coverage for Blood Testing for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances," was the subject of a public hearing before the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services.

"PFAS contamination has deeply and adversely affected rural life for many in Maine. I have also seen and heard from fellow Maine friends about the devastation that they have experienced as a result of PFAS. This legislation will be instrumental in ensuring that affected communities have access to blood serum testing for PFAS," Sen. Brenner said. "Early detection of PFAS-linked diseases means the difference between life and death for many people. Given the stakes of this issue, everyone deserves the opportunity to know whether or not their health is at risk."

LD 132 would help ensure that blood serum testing for PFAS is accessible to all Mainers. Blood serum tests cost upward of \$600 out-of-pocket. Many members of PFAS-affected communities are not able to pay for a test that could potentially save

their lives. LD 132 would require all health plans offered in Maine that are renewed by or beginning on Jan. 1, 2024, to cover blood serum testing for PFAS.

PFAS, also called "forever chemicals," have been connected to numerous health risks like, kidney cancer, elevated cholesterol, and reduced infant birth weight. Currently, there is no known way to remove PFAS from a person's body. The body also cannot break down PFAS on its own, meaning that these forever chemicals can remain in someone's body for decades. Blood serum testing ensures that Mainers can know their level of PFAS exposure and the related health risks.

At least 25 schools and daycare facilities in Maine use water supplies that are above Maine's PFAS drinking water standard of 20 parts per trillion. The 6,650 students enrolled in these schools may have been exposed to these dangerous levels of PFAS. An additional 43 schools have been exposed to PFAS levels higher than the EPA's draft drinking water standards, which are lower than the state's regulation. The 9,550 students enrolled in these 43 schools have potentially been exposed to these high levels of forever chemicals. LD 132 faces further action in committee. For additional information, please contact Lisa Haberzettl [BRENNER] 207-251-3548



Gorham Scarborough Biddeford
Portland Sanford Lewiston
So. Portland Windham Augusta
www.moodycollision.com
 "Like us" on 

LETTUCE BE HEALTHY

Lazy Lemon Mousse Cups

Ingredients:

- Large container of Cool Whip
- 1 small jar of Lemon Curd
- 2 T powdered sugar
- Shortbread cookies (enough for 2 cups crushed)
- ¼ cup slivered almonds

In a large bowl, gently mix Cool Whip, lemon curd and powdered sugar. Evenly divide the crushed shortbread cookies into 4 large low wine goblets. Gently spoon mixture into goblets. Sprinkle slivered almonds on top. Refrigerate til ready to serve.

Questions about the recipes can be e-mailed to Barbara Schneider at bsme21@gmail.com

Whipped Feta with Spicy Chickpeas

This combo is amazing on top of crispy crunchy toast, as a snack, or served with appetizers. Serves 4

Ingredients:

- 1 can chickpeas drained and dried
- 2 tbsp olive oil, plus extra for drizzling
- 2 tsp smoked paprika
- 2 tsp garlic powder
- 2 tsp dried oregano
- 1 tsp chili flakes
- 1 cup feta crumbles
- ½ cup yogurt
- 1 clove garlic minced
- Zest of ½ a lemon
- Salt

Pre-heat the oven to 325. Place chickpeas into bowl, add the olive oil, smoked paprika, garlic powder, dried oregano, chilli flakes and pinch of salt. Mix well and tip into a roasting tray. Roast for 20-25 minutes or until crispy but still soft inside. Meanwhile, mix the feta together with the yogurt, garlic and lemon zest in a food processor until super smooth. Check the seasoning and add salt to taste.

Spread feta mix onto plate and top with the chickpeas. Add the lemon zest, drizzle a little olive oil and serve immediately.

Volunteer Distribution Person

The *Gorham Times* is seeking a distribution person to take over our "Western Route" - 120 papers to 12 businesses, along Ossipee Trail (Route 25).

This is a great opportunity to meet interesting people and learn about community organizations.

Have an interest in Gorham and how the paper operates?

We'd love to have you join us for production meetings held every other Monday at 4 p.m. at Gorham Rec.

Contact gorhamtimes@gmail.com for more information.

Become a
*Friend of the
Gorham Times*

GORHAM'S
COMMUNITY
NEWSPAPER
SINCE 1995

Donate
Online

www.gorhamtimes.com

TOWN/MUNICIPAL

Grand Jury Indictments March, 2023

Gorham Police Department

Tyler Mailman, 27, of Gorham, was indicted on two counts of unauthorized taking on charges brought by South Portland Police Department.

Andrew Parker, 44, of Windham, was indicted on theft by unlawful taking and violating conditions of release on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Daniel Barbour, 26, of Gorham,

was indicted for aggravated domestic violence assault and domestic violence assault on charges brought by Scarborough Police Department.

Andrew Nielsen, 40, of Gorham, was indicted for aggravated domestic violence assault and domestic violence assault on charges brought by Scarborough Police Department.

Water Quality Volunteers Needed

Chris Crawford, Staff Writer

The Presumpscot Regional Land Trust is looking for several more Water Quality monitoring volunteers to help collect water samples every other Saturday from tributaries of the Presumpscot River, typically from 7 - 9 a.m., from mid-May through mid-September. You do not need to be available for all 10 volunteer dates. Each volunteer should plan to make at least half of the 10 sample

days, and the other days will be covered by alternates and/or the land trust staff.

The dates are: May 13, May 27, June 10, June 24, July 8, July 22, Aug. 5, Aug. 19, Sept. 2, and Sept. 16

If you're interested, you can sign up by visiting www.prlt.org and click on Get Involved. Please contact toby@prlt.org if you have questions about dates and availability.



Grandma's Attic Treasures Open House and Mother's Day Sale

featuring

vintage & antique linens ** 19th century prints and paper ** Victorian era antiques, collectibles, gifts and accessories

One Weekend Only

Saturday, May 6th

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday, May 7th

12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Grandma's Attic Treasures Studio is located at the sign of The Colonel's Lady, 82 South Street (Route 114) Gorham, ME. 04038

// LIVE AND CODE IN MAINE

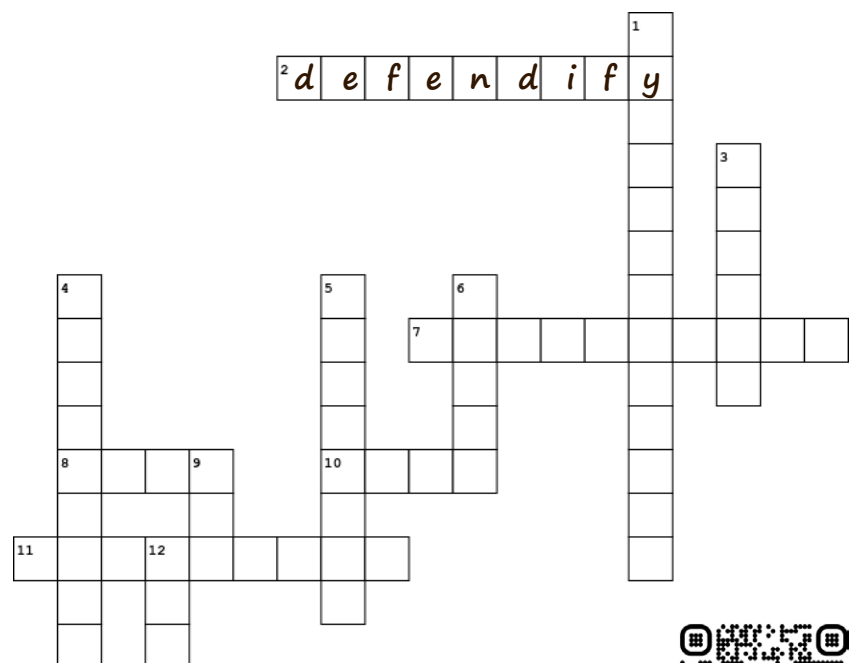
DEFENDIFY

Across

- Award-winning cybersecurity startup headquartered in Portland, ME and currently hiring software engineers
- Vanilla flavored programming language of choice
- AKA Software as a Service
- Modern runtime environment, rhymes with "code"
- Of type, relational or document

Down

- Exciting tech and security sector, directly impacts all businesses
- Today's flexible workforce; preferred by many
- _____ developer, front to back
- Software _____, solver of problems
- A great place to live and work
- AKA Small and Midsized Businesses
- AKA Application Programming Interface



// ANSWER KEY & TO APPLY

We Are Lucky to Have Multilingual Learners in Gorham

Gorham Times Staff

In her April 14 Superintendent’s Blog, Heather Perry shared information on the multilingual families in the Gorham schools. There have been multilingual families in Gorham for a long time, of course, we have had multilingual students (ML) in Gorham for a long time, but like all schools in our area, we are seeing an increase in this population of learners in our schools.

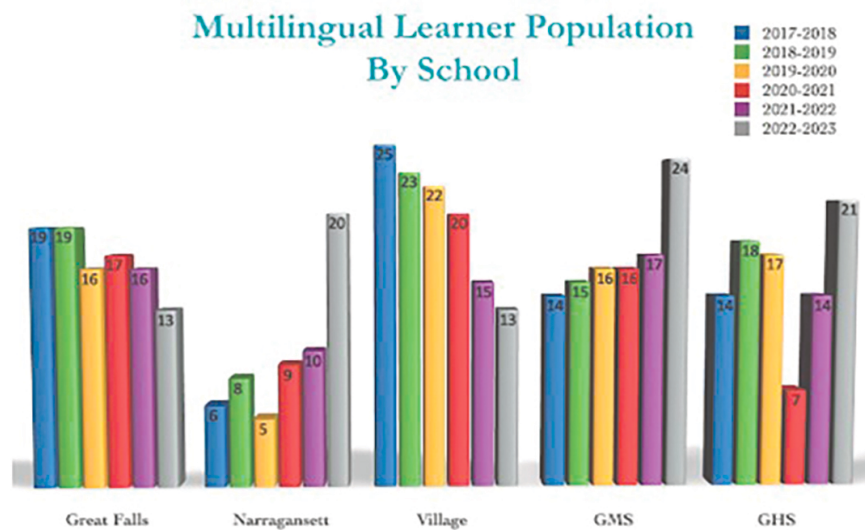
Did you know that we have 24 different languages spoken by Gorham Ram families across our schools? Check out the list below...

“These languages ebb and flow. Currently Portuguese seems to be the newest language popping up in the greatest numbers across our schools. If you happen to know Portuguese and are looking to volunteer in schools let us know,” reported Superintendent Perry.

There are currently 91 multilingual students across our five schools. You can see a six-year history by school in the graph below:

The students that are being served have a myriad of language learning

Multilingual Learner Population By School



24 Languages Spoken By Gorham Students and Their Families

- Arabic
- Bulgarian
- Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese)
- French
- German
- Haitian-Creole
- Indonesian
- Khmer
- Kinyamulenge
- Kinyarwanda
- Kirundi
- Lao
- Lingala
- Pashto
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Russian
- Serbo-Croatian
- Spanish
- Swahili
- Ukrainian
- Urdu
- Vietnamese

needs ranging from students and families who are just now entering into learning a new language in English (often on top of the 2-3 languages that are already spoken in the home) to those who are fully capable of communicating in English as well as multiple other languages.

According to the superintendent, “What is most interesting and exciting about our overall numbers of ML students is that it seems that the number of students in our schools in that early “entering” or “beginning” phase of learning have increased the most. These are the students most in need of direct supportive services.”

Superintendent Perry continued, “In the Gorham Schools we are excited by the opportunities this diverse population of students and families can bring to our awesome community and to our schools! THANK YOU to our team of just three multilingual teachers who work with our teachers, administrators, these students, and their families each and every day to make sure these students and their families are an integral and celebrated part of our Gorham Ram community. Our three teachers, Erica Woods, Cecely Conrad, and Heather Alden deserve a huge thank you from our learning community.”

Patrick Nichols to Attend Maine School of Science and Mathematics

Gorham Times Staff



Photo credit: Carlie Marsters, Patrick’s mom

Gorham Middle School student Patrick Nichols has the honor of being accepted to the nationally recognized Maine School of Science and Mathematics in Limestone, Maine, beginning in the fall. Patrick will be a freshman at the school. His parents would like to thank all the educators and support staff who have encouraged him in the community over the years. Gorham is so proud of you, Patrick!

GMS STEAM Ahead Event May 4

Suzanne Dix, GMS Library



Gorham Middle School will STEAM Ahead on May the 4 from 5-7 p.m. Travel through time and space to destinations that offer problem solving, critical thinking, collaboration, and communication skills. Raffle tickets offer chances to win a 3D printer, Apple pencils, an iPad and LEGO® activities. Students, staff, and community members will run fun, interactive stations throughout the middle school campus. All are welcome to join this night of learning and exploring! Food trucks will also be on site. For more information or how to get involved, contact terri.dawson@gorhamschools.org

Gorham Student Brings CivilTea to NYA Middle School

Gorham Times Staff and Michael Krakowka, NYA

CivilTea is a youth-driven program aimed to encourage civil dialogue around challenging topics within school communities. It was first introduced to North Yarmouth Academy (NYA) Upper School students in 2019 with the goal to bring an open mind and civility to discussion on sensitive issues.

NYA student Sam Grady ’26 from Gorham, inspired by his sister Ella ’20 who helped bring CivilTea to NYA, believed the program could benefit Middle School students as well. “I wanted kids to understand the world more at an early age,” said Sam. Administration agreed and constructed the framework for a middle school-appropriate version with Sam, interested classmates, and faculty facilitators. His first advocate for the program was Head of Middle School Marissa Marconish, “We find great value in the CivilTea experience as hearing and appreciating different points of view helps students to further develop empathy and allows our community to form tighter bonds.”

Students divided into combined fifth/sixth and seventh/eighth grade groups

with both a student and faculty facilitator. Facilitators began the sessions by reviewing the goals of CivilTea and guidelines for engaging actively and supportively in civil discourse. They then read from a list of conversation starters and open-ended questions to get the dialogue rolling. Topics have ranged from “Homework” to “Joking vs. Teasing vs. Bullying.”

Each CivilTea conversation asks students to consider the question, “What do I think?” “This age is when students are forming more nuanced opinions about difficult issues,” said CivilTea Facilitator and Middle School Dean of Students, Annie Powell. “We want them to be active members of their communities, and participating in a CivilTea discussion lets students know that their voices and opinions are valued.”

Regardless of the topic, CivilTea prompts students to see and practice the core tenets of civil discussion. In these conversations, students learn the difference between debate and dialogue, and they practice integral skills of active listening, keeping an open mind, and learning from others.

XTREME SCREEN PRINTING EMBROIDERY SPORTING GOODS
 937 Main St. Westbrook
 207-857-9200 www.xtremescreenprint.com

sidecar WINE + WHISKEY + TAPAS CRAFT COCKTAILS + LIVE MUSIC
 GORHAM
WWW.SIDECARWINEWHISKEY.COM

Junction Bowl GORHAM, ME USA
 - 12 BOWLING LANES
 - ALL AGES ARCADE
 - INSIDE DINING ROOM
 - OUTDOOR DINING
 - LIVE MUSIC
 - FULL BAR
 - FULL FOOD MENU
 - TACO TUESDAY
 - MARGARITA FLIGHTS
 - LARGE BEER SELECTION
 - TRIVIA NIGHT
 - LUNCH SPECIALS
 7 RAILROAD AVE, UNIT 102,
 207-223-7600 GORHAM, ME

Spring Sports Preview CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

offensive player who can drive the ball into gaps and use his speed as a consistent extra base threat. Whitehead is a throwback who can play any position on the field and play it well; he brings a versatility and toughness factor that all good teams need.”

Coach Nadeau rounds out the rest of the positions and players to watch: “Senior Noah Flynn steps in as the shortstop this year. His positive energy is contagious and he brings a dynamic athleticism to the middle of our infield. A very talented 9th grader, Miles Brenner will play alongside Flynn at third base. Brenner is an exciting addition to our team and will be a player to watch in Gorham for the next few years. Fellow seniors Malachi Scribner and Jett Wing will lead a pitching staff that is talented but relatively inexperienced coming into the 2023 season. Malachi is a strike throwing lefty who mixes multiple pitches for strikes in any count. Wing is a dependable bulldog righty; a bit of a late bloomer who is capable of getting big outs.

Junior Izak Young is an exciting utility player. Young is one of the more athletic members of our team; he has dynamic speed, can hit for power and has excellent baserunning instincts.”

All-Conference third baseman as a 9th grader in 2022, Mason Finck returns as our catcher to lead a very talented sophomore class. Finck is one of the more talented hitters in the entire league and has an understanding of the game that is well beyond his years. Joining Finck in the sophomore class are LHP and OF Jack Karlonas, RHP and 1B Wyatt Nadeau, as well as RHP and OF Casey Skolfield, according to coach Nadeau.

All-in-all Coach remarked, “How quickly this group acclimates to SMAA competition will be a big factor in positioning Gorham as a contender in 2023. Karlonas, Nadeau and Skolfield are all capable of being top tier pitchers in the SMAA. Nadeau and Karlonas are also expected to contribute offensively as mainstays in the batting order.”



Photo credit: Katie Brown

Girls tennis team

GIRLS TENNIS: COACH NICOLE BERGERON

The 2022 regular season record concluded 7-5 and with playoffs, 8-6.

Coach shared, “players to watch is a tough one, they have all worked hard to improve, and it shows. Even more than what I was expecting and hoping for. I’d say we’re a very solid team to watch this season.”

The seniors are the captains, Sarah Rathbun and Klarha Cajuste.

Sarah is playing 2nd singles, and Klarha is in the first doubles team.

Coach expects their record will most definitely improve. “I have no doubt whatsoever that this group will compete past last year’s goals. Our toughest opponents will be Scarborough and Thornton Academy.”

BOYS OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD: COACH JASON TANGUAY

Last season, the team finished as runner-up in the conference championship and 4th place in the state championship.

Coach Tanguay shared, “We graduated some of the best senior track and field athletes that have come through our program with many of them continuing their careers in college. This season, we are looking to find our identity as nearly half our team are new faces. We do have some outstanding returning athletes who will be called upon to mentor and guide our new competitors so we can be competitive in the league.”

This seasons captains are Lucien Beard-sley, Owen Duplisea, Nolan Feyler, Aidan Lee, and Dylan Phillips. In speaking about key returning athletes, coach shared the athletes and their respective events are: Lucien Beardsley, senior, racewalk; Nathan Bergquist-Guimond, junior, distance; Luke Burns, junior, throws; Nolan Feyler, junior, sprints & hurdles; Griffin Gammon, sophomore, HJ & javelin; Kuba Kaczmarek, sophomore, jumps; Aidan Lee, junior; hurdles & HJ; Nick Munyaneza, sophomore, jumps; Joshua Wright, junior, hurdles.

GIRLS OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD: JOHN CATERINA

Coach Caterina shared, “Gorham graduated many top scorers from last year’s state runner up team but looks to remain very competitive in the SMAA this spring. The team is led by senior tri-captains Rachel Cummings, Sadie Fiore and Mayla Wilson.”

The top returners for Gorham include seniors Rachel Cummings (distance), Sadie Fiore (high jump) and Mayla Wilson (pole vault); juniors Lillian Andreasen (javelin), Rita Cummings (distance), Ella Downing (distance), Addie Harjula (jumps), Ella Labrie (jumps), Meryk Lewellen (jumps) and Aislyn McLean (distance); sophomores Ashley Connolly (sprints), Bailey Hatch (sprints), Lindy Moreland (hurdles) and Abby Rogers (sprints).

Coach remarked, “There are several newcomers who should make an immediate impact this spring. They include Camryn Caruso (sprints), Grayson Cole (mid-distance), Zoe Dellinger (distance) and Summer Gammon (jumps). The team looks to be very competitive in regular season meets against other SMAA teams and should be among the top 5 in the SMAA championship in late May.”

SOFTBALL: COACH PHIL MCGOULDRIK

Key returning players: Kaci Mollison OF (S), Amber Bretton Pitcher (Jr), Sopia Diphilippo Catcher (Jr), Andi Cloutier MIF (Jr), Makayla Quintal MIF (Jr), Kyleah Mack OF, Pitcher (Jr). Impressive stats include: Amber Bretton - Avg .481, OBP .534,

OPS 1.419, 5 HR, Sophia Diphilippo - Avg .345, OBP .383, OPS .929 2 HR, Andi Cloutier - Avg .422, OBP .481 OPS 1.236 2 HR, Kyleah Mack - Avg .370 OBP .408 OPS .843.

Coach McGouldrick remarked, “I really like the look of our team top to bottom. We are very deep and versatile with several players having the ability to play multiple positions with confidence. Our identity will still be a power hitting team with good bats all through the lineup 1-9, but expect to see some speed game and small ball injected into our game. I think we will be right there in every game, it just depends on how we do the little things that determine our success.” Pivotal games for the Rams will continue to be Windham and Biddeford.

Coached added, “there is some real high level talent and coaching in the SMAA this year, particularly Pitching. We already have 3 D1 commits at Pitcher in Bretton, Gerry and Armstrong with Donovan committed to a very good D2 school. To have

one softball player a year or every couple years go D1 out of Southern Maine is great. To have 3 from the same class and at the same position is a true anomaly.”

BOYS TENNIS: COACH AARON LANDRY

Coach Aaron Landry shared, “we look to improve on last season when we lost in the quarterfinals to Thornton Academy.” Key returning players are: Senior Captains Kevin Luo and Patrick Cyr at #1 and #2 Singles. Georg Brummer (Sr) and Derek Luo (Fr) look to contribute to the singles lineup. At doubles, Owen Spera (So)/Jacob Shvets (So) start the year at #1.

Coach added, “some combination of Logan Wilson (So)/Gavin Monkiewicz (Fr), and Patrick Downey (So)/TJ Nagle (So) will likely make up the rest of the ladder.”

Coach remarked, “We have a young team and look to gain experience through the regular season and make a push in the playoffs.”

THE COTTAGES AT PHEASANT KNOLL

OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY APRIL 29, 2023 • 11:00 - 1:00
69 FALCON CREST DRIVE • GORHAM

BE A PART OF A COMMUNITY YOU WANT TO CALL HOME

FROM A BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED KITCHEN TO YOUR CHOICE OF A COZY GREAT ROOM OR FIRST FLOOR MASTER SUITE, WE INVITE YOU TO EXPERIENCE THE WARMTH AND CHARM OF THESE UNIQUE HOMES AT GORHAM'S PREMIER 55+ COMMUNITY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT **THE COTTAGES AT PHEASANT KNOLL**, VISIT **SCOVILLEFOLEYHOMES.COM** OR CONTACT **CARRIE SCOVILLE** AT **(207) 409-9378**

INFO@SCOVILLEFOLEYHOMES.COM • 207.885.0500
 WWW.SIGNATUREHOMESMAINE.COM

ScovilleFoley Signature HOMES Real Estate Group

SOFT WASH HOUSE WASHING

SHOP LOCAL BUY LOCAL

April 12 School Committee Meeting

Kathy Corbett, staff writer

Every seat in the council chamber was filled for the April 12 regular School Committee (SC) meeting in anticipation of two presentations and passage of the proposed F24 School Budget.

The Village Elementary School Civil Rights Team, introduced by Assistant Principal Cheryl Fotter and faculty advisor Lexi Cadell, showed a video describing how they value difference, and the categories of identity they focus on to make all students feel welcome in the school.

The categories are skin color, religion, national origin, disability, gender, and sexual orientation. Some of the twenty-four members of the team, all 4th and 5th graders, spoke about why they joined the team and described their ongoing activities and upcoming events.

Tim Spear, Gorham Schools athletic director, introduced the captains of the winter sports teams. The students spoke briefly about what participating in sports meant to them. They emphasized the bonds created with teammates. Along with learning to manage their time and developing skills, the athletes also enjoyed representing Gorham at competitions.

Chairman Darryl Wright thanked the students, as did the other SC members. He complimented the Civil Rights Team on their impressive, well-planned presentation and for making sure everyone at Village felt welcome. He said the community can be proud of Gorham athletes

for the way they conduct themselves when competing with other schools.

The School Committee voted unanimously to pass the F24 budget. The consensus was that although it was substantially less than the original one proposed by district administrators, unfortunately, it represented an increase of 12.64% over the F23 one. However, further cuts would have seriously affected educational priorities. Each member spoke briefly about why they supported the committee's budget, which will now go to the Town Council for approval.

Superintendent Heather Perry announced that there will be a change in the Title 1 funding formula which may result in a reduction of funds for Gorham. She said that there are three new licensed bus drivers and others in training, so the district will be fully staffed for the coming year. Gorham has been acknowledged as a leader in the state of Maine for extended learning opportunities for career connections through the Aspire program.

Two policies were approved, one about the use of school facilities and grounds, and the other clarifying that a request related to instructional and library materials must come from a parent of a child who is a Gorham resident.

The committee tabled consideration and action on modular leases and expansion until a special meeting later in the month.

Public is invited to meet with School Superintendent

Gorham Times Staff

WHO: All Gorham residents are invited to attend a meeting with Superintendent of Schools, Heather Perry, to learn about the proposed FY 24 school budget and to ask any questions

ty to talk about other topics as well

WHERE: Baxter Memorial Library

WHEN: May 3, 2023

WHAT: The focus will be on the school budget referendum, but there will be the opportunity

WHY: To help inform the public on the upcoming vote on the June 12, 2023 School Budget Validation Referendum

Congratulations to Gorham students who participated in the Portland Youth Ensembles Concert at Merrill Auditorium on Monday, April 24



Photo credit: Lori Arsenaault

Portland Youth Wind Ensemble directed by William Kinne

You're in the Know. **Gorham Times**





Julie Chandler



Mike Griffin



Peter Mason



Benjamin Taylor

(207) 839-3300
PogoRealty.com
39 Main Street
GORHAM

NEW



BUXTON \$430,000 – This brand new 28x40 home features an open floor plan with cathedral ceilings and future room to grow in the daylight basement. Offers one 120sqft of living space all on one floor with the kitchen open to the dining and front living room.

SOLD



SCARBOROUGH \$475,000 - The home was remodeled inside featuring high ceilings, spacious country kitchen open to the dining area, front living room with brick hearth, primary bedroom with double closets, two additional bedrooms & a full bath complete the first floor.

NEW



GORHAM \$479,000 – Solar powered home with 3 bedroom, 2 baths and 1536sf. Enjoy a life with a minimal cost for heat & electricity. Economical at its best! Newer flooring, heat pumps, solar panels & appliances. One floor living with large 16x16 shed w/garage door. Nicely landscaped & well kept.

NEW



GORHAM \$595,000 – This oversized colonial offers a true 4 bedroom floor plan with 2.5 baths, finished daylight basement and 2 car garage on a 1.38 acre lot. The 28x36 open first floor plan features kitchen open to dining and living rooms.

PFAS contamination can be caused by landfills, wastewater, sludge/septage spreading sites throughout Gorham. PFAS or “forever chemicals” are very resistant to breaking down in the environment. Therefore, they have remained in the soil, been taken up into plants, and made their way into animals who eat those plants. In some cases, they have also leached into both surface and groundwater.

For PFAS water testing contact Focused Property Inspections
207-839-6595



STANDISH \$574,900 - This antique cape with attached carriage house offers plenty of charm. Features a country kitchen w/ample space for dining, living room with a cozy gas parlor stove, 1st floor bedroom with double closets. This unique 58 acre setting encompasses a sizeable pond fed by the Sticky River.



UNDER CONTRACT

GORHAM \$129,900 – This 2 bedroom / 1 bath home offers an appliances kitchen w/dining area, spacious living room, laundry area & more. Perfect sunny location in the park, features a large 10x20 deck for warm weather. Newer 12x16 workshop/shed with work bench, insulated & power.



Buy or sell with us and use this truck for FREE

Realtors®
Helping You Buy or Sell
Real Estate!

COMMUNITY

DEAN'S LIST

Jeremy Byrd, Husson University

OF INTEREST

Explore Vernal Pools on Saturday, May 6, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. at Randall Orchards on the Gorham /Standish line. Sponsored by Presumpscot Regional Land Trust, guest presenter Rich Jordan of Flycatcher LLC will share the rich hidden life of vernal pools (temporary woodland water bodies) and the amphibians and animals that occupy these unique bodies of water. Flycatcher is a local environmental consulting group that specializes in wetland and wildlife ecology. The Land Trust partners with Randall Orchards, holding a 500-acre farm and forest conservation easement on the land. The event is free, but pre-registration is required at <https://www.prlt.org>

On Saturday, April 29, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., the White Rock Community Club will host a dozen crafters and vendors for a Spring Craft Fair at 34 Wilson Road, Gorham. Lunch will be served! All proceeds will go to restoring the original White Rock School House. The Club is also looking for community-minded volunteers to help support this historical building. Follow us on Facebook for more details: <https://www.facebook.com/whiterockcommunityclub/>

Cherry Hill Farmer's Market is opening for the season on May 3. Located next to Sebago Brewing Company on Route 25 in Gorham, the hours will be every Wednesday from 2 - 6 p.m. Contact: Jean Cayer, cherryhillfarmersmarket@gmail.com

Country and folk music at Saco River Theatre, 29 Salmon Falls Road, Bar Mills, ME, Sunday, May 7 at 3:00 p.m. Tickets: \$15 General Admission at <https://www.sacorivertheatre.org> or call (207) 929-6473 for reservations.

The Gorham Lions meet at the Old Elmwood School on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The next meetings are April 25, May 9, and May 23, at 6:30 p.m. New members are always welcome. FMI contact (207) 929-9182.

Wednesday Walk will be held on Wednesday, May 3, 10-11:30 a.m. at Black Brook Preserve, Windham, sponsored jointly by the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust and Windham Parks and Recreation. Black Brook is a scenic tributary of the Presumpscot River which meanders through forest and meadows, rolling hills, mature trees, and brooks along with a variety of wildlife and plant life. Wednesday Walks are held monthly; they last about 1.5 hours and include about two miles of walking. This free program is designed for adults. Space is limited, and registration is required at www.prlt.org Click on Events.

The Gorham Knights of Columbus is hosting its first 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, May 20 at 9 a.m. Registration is \$30, or \$35 on the day of the event. Proceeds help support local organizations including Special Olympics, local food pantries, Boy Scouts of America, Maine Military Museum, and the Epilepsy Foundation. Participants get wicking shirt and refreshments. FMI, visit www.stanthonyssparish.org/knights-of-columbus.

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Gorham Memorial Post 10879 will meet next on Tuesday, May 16 at 5:30 p.m. in the Fire Department Training Room, 270 Main St. For information contact the post at vfwp10879@gmail.com.

Please join the Climate Caretakers for this month's film & speaker. Nate Cronauer of ecomaine will speak about sustainable clothing and textile recycling. The meeting will be in the hall at First Parish Church on Friday, April 29 at 6:30 p.m. All who care about the environment are invited.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

The Gorham Food Pantry, located at 299-B Main Street (parking lot of St. Anne's Catholic Church) is open every Thursday morning from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and is free for any Gorham resident in need. FMI, (207) 222-4351, visit <https://www.gorham-foodpantry.org> or send a message on Facebook at Gorham Food Pantry Friends.

The Gorham Medical Closet located at the Municipal Center at 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 with a volunteer. Call Gerry Day at (207) 756-2210 and she will connect you with a volunteer.

The Mission of Hope Clothes Closet is open the first and third Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at Cressey Road United Methodist Church on Cressey Road to anyone who needs clothing. They have all types and sizes, and many winter coats.

PUBLIC SUPPERS

Enjoy a Haddock Supper Buffet on Saturday, April 29 at 5 p.m. at Living Waters Church, on Parker Farm Road, Buxton. Suggested donation: \$10 adult, \$5 child, \$20 family. The option of takeout containers for those who do not want to come inside for seating will be available. Face masks for those who are not vaccinated is suggested. Hand sanitizer is available for those who wish to use it.

There will be a Baked Bean Supper at Buxton Centre Baptist Church on May 13 from 4:30 - 6 p.m. Supper is \$10 and take out is available. Call (207) 929-3011 for more information.

SENIOR NEWS

The Lecky Brown Senior Center at First Parish Church has reopened after the COVID-19 hiatus. Gather for Cribbage on Mondays at 10 a.m., all levels welcome. Several different versions are being learned and played. NOW, come for a different Board Game every week. Lots of laughing. Join the Originals guest speaker program on Wednesday at 10 a.m. Upcoming: Maine Button Society, History of Malaga Island, Ham radio and more. Stay tuned for upcoming events and activities. Contact Lisa Becker at Leckybrowncenter@gmail.com for more information about this welcoming community.

Senior Meal Site is held on Wednesdays at 12 p.m., St. Anne's Church, 299 Main St. Social time begins at 11:30 a.m. Suggested donation is \$4. Meal site is closed if school

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

MULCH FOR SALE!

BLACK, BROWN, OR RED
\$45/YARD

PLAYGROUND CHIPS (ALL NATURAL)
\$25/YARD

REGROUND PLAYGROUND CHIPS
\$40/YARD

DELIVERY AVAILABLE

RICHARD WING & SON LOGGING
RT. 114, 610 RICHVILLE RD.
STANDISH, MAINE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
207-642-6181 | 207-776-1063 | 207-415-2781

Restaurant Hours

Monday - Closed
Sun-Thurs:
11 am to 9 pm
Fri & Sat:
11 am to 10 pm



GORHAM HOUSE OF PIZZA
839-2504

"Serving Gorham Since 1981."

We serve pizza, pasta, salads, calzones, wraps & more!

ORDER ONLINE AT: www.ghop.me



Follow us on Twitter: [ghopme](https://twitter.com/ghopme)



Like us on Facebook

2 State Street • Gorham, ME 04038

is closed or delayed due to such reasons as weather. For updates on the meal and dates open/closed, visit <https://gorhamrec.com> or call (207) 222-1635

The Gorham/Windham/Westbrook TRIAD will hold their next meeting on Wednesday, May 10, at 11 a.m. at the Gorham Police Dept. The speaker will be from Opportunity Alliance. The topic discussed will be Grandparent Programs needing volunteers. TRIAD is a cooperative partnership between law enforcement agencies, elder service providers, and seniors in our community. The primary mission of TRIAD is to reduce the criminal victimization of older citizens, enhance the delivery of law enforcement services, and improve the quality of life for seniors.

LIBRARY NEWS

At the North Gorham Public Library, weekly story time with songs and crafts is open to children and their caregivers at 10 a.m. every Wednesday. 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. On Wednesday, May 10 at 6:30 p.m., local author Barbara Brewer will be discussing her book "Drink It In: How Sebago Lake Became Portland's Greatest Asset." Home delivery and contact-less pick-up are available. Visit <https://north-gorham.lib.me.us>, and <https://facebook.com/northgorhampubliclibrary/> for more information.

Baxter Memorial Library serves families with the Baby Discovery Time (birth-18 mos.), the Toddler Discovery Time (18mos.-3yrs), and the Family Discovery Time (ages 2-5). Follow the Gorham Times calendar to schedule these events for your family. Baxter Digs Reading is a time spent with Baxter, a Standard Poodle Therapy Dog who loves to be read to. He visits the library on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Visit or call the library to sign up for a 15-minute slot to read to Baxter!

USM NOTES

The Recovery Oriented Campus Center is collaborating with the Art Gallery to host a special Yoga session for Stress Relief Week on April 27 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. The USM community and the larger public is invited to participate in looking at the artwork in the Gallery, facilitated by the movement and energy that accompanies any workout.

The Art Department is hosting Open Studios, April 28 from 4 - 7 p.m. Come view student art projects completed during the spring 2023 semester, talk with students about their work, and enjoy food, fun, and camaraderie. Bring your friends, family, and snacks to share at this community and arts-oriented event. Please note this event has multiple venues, including the Robie Andrews Art Building, the Print Shop, and the Academy building, all on our Gorham campus.

CLASSIFIEDS

SMALL DOG CARE - We offer a safe haven for small dog breeds in our ranch home with a fenced backyard dog safe home with leather furniture. NO crates or gates here. This is just a home away from home. We offer affection, play time and socialization. Fully insured, 16 years of experience. Located in Standish. Pups must be current with vaccinations. Only 4 dogs allowed at a time. Discounts offered for pups staying longer than 10 days. Contact Lorie text or call 207-838-0132 www.petsittinginmaine2.com

The **Summer Youth Music and Theatre Camps** at the University of Southern Maine offers performance opportunities for grades 5 - 12 on the Gorham campus. Theatre Academy, Youth Band Day Camp for first year band musicians, Music Academy (SoMMA) and Choral Music Academy for high school, and Junior Music Academy for middle school. Easy online registration stays open until the camps are filled. FMI: <https://usm.maine.edu/osher-school-music/youth>, loria@maine.edu, 207-780-5142.

Happy Jack® LiquiVict® is recognized safe & effective against hook & round worms in dogs by the USCVM. At Tractor Supply®. (www.happyjackinc.com)

CALENDAR

Thursday, April 27

Toddler Discovery Time (18 months-3 years), 10 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library

Friday, April 28

Vocal Jazz Ensemble, Osher School of Music, Corthell Concert Hall, \$10/\$5, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 29

Spring Craft Fair, White Rock Community Club at 9 a.m.
Casco Bay Wind Symphony presents Masterworks, a spring concert, William Kinne, conductor. McCormack Performing Arts Center at GHS, 2 p.m. <https://cascobaywindsymphony.org>.

Sunday, April 30

USM Baseball vs. MIT at 1 p.m.

Tuesday, May 2

Family Discovery Time (2-5 years) 10 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library

Wednesday, May 3

Baby Discovery Time (birth-18 months), 9:30 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library

Weekly storytime, 10 a.m., North Gorham Public Library

Thursday, May 4

Toddler Discovery Time (18 months-3 years), 10 a.m. at Baxter Memorial Library

Saturday, May 6

Explore Vernal Pools at Randall Orchards, 9 a.m.

Sunday, May 7

Country and Folk Music Festival at Saco River Theatre, 3 p.m.

Tuesday, May 9

Gorham Lions meet at 6:30 p.m., Old Elmwood School

Wednesday, May 10

Author Barara Brewer visits at 6:30 p.m., North Gorham Public Library

Have news or upcoming events that might be of interest to the whole Gorham community? Send short news and information to loriaam@gmail.com for publishing in a future issue

Advertise your home business or yard sale with a classified ad.
Only \$9 per ad!
FOR MORE INFO:
EMAIL gorhamtimes@gmail.com OR CALL (207) 839-8390

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

SHAW EARTHWORKS!
Now Hiring Laborers with CDL
Screened Loam & Reclaim
Delivered or Loaded
839-7955
www.shawearthworks.com

Village Hearing Care
Audiology Services and Hearing Aids
Shannon Phinney Dowdle, Audiologist
347 Main St., Suite 1A • Gorham, Maine 04038
839-8400 • www.villagehearing.com

Andrew M. Talbot, DMD Melissa M. Curran, DDS
MAPLEWOOD DENTAL ARTS
providing a lifetime of healthy smiles
www.dentistgorhamme.com
(207) 839-6266
405 Main Street Gorham ME 04038

Casco Federal Credit Union
Small Credit Union. Big Heart.
Find out why banking local is banking better.
www.cascofcu.com
375 Main Street, Gorham Rewards Checking Accounts
393 Ossipee Trail, Gorham Visa Rewards Credit Cards
207.839.5588 Low Rate Loans

Sturgis Plumbing & Heating, LLC
Gorham, Maine
207-615-1600
JEFF STURGIS - YOUR FRIENDLY PLUMBING & HEATING SPECIALIST
Master Plumber, Master Oil Heat & Solid Fuel Tech, Gas/Propane Tech
Fully licensed and insured. Quality service at reasonable prices.

GOCAM
Gorham's Community Television - Ch. 3
www.gocat.org

the Courtesy of the Gorham Police Department
blotter

Strawberry Lane caller complained about a vehicle left in the driveway of Strawberry Lane. The operator had shown up the previous night and said something happened to his rotor and asked to leave the vehicle in the driveway until he was able to come and get it. Caller was concerned that the vehicle was stolen. Officers ran the license and VIN#. Vehicle was not stolen. Man was going to wait another day or two to see if someone came to get it. He was told to call if he wanted it removed.

Officer noticed a vehicle on the side of the Bernard Rines Highway with the right blinker on. Officer drove by about 15 minutes later and the vehicle was still there. Officer stopped to check. Woman was talking on her phone.

Complainant wanted to know what he had to do to have someone, who has been in his house for four months, removed. He was told to start the eviction process. He was also renting and told to contact his landlord.

Railroad Avenue caller reported harassing calls. Officer listened to the calls. Officer called the person making the calls and asked that they stop harassing the Railroad Avenue caller. Man said he understood and would stop.

Samantha Drive caller reported a phone call asking him for his Medicare information. Samantha Drive man did not have Medicare and did not provide any information.

School Street caller wanted to get a protection order against someone who has been sending her harassing emails. She was given the name of someone to contact who might be able to help address the problem.

Officer responded to Quincy Drive ahead of the Fire Department and assisted a 91-year-old female from the garage into a warm car.

Equestrian Lane caller wanted to report someone had used his ID to rent a car. He was told to contact the Police Department in Portland where this crime had occurred.

Caller reported what she thought was an intoxicated female with two children in the vehicle. The car was parked in the driveway when the officer arrived.

A man stopped for having trash blowing out of his vehicle had both his license and registration suspended. The Bureau of Motor Vehicles fixed both while the man was stopped.

Suspicious circumstances on Longfellow Road were fighter jets making maneuvers over Gorham.

Bus driver asked the officer to check on a vehicle at the trailhead parking lot near Gray Road. Officer talked to the operator who said they were okay and didn't have any place else to go.

Caller reported a suspicious man walking down Burnham Road near the school bus stop. The Officer made contact with the man who said he was out for a walk.

Officer went to Simona Shores Drive for a bail check. Residence was empty and it did not appear that anyone was still living there.

Officer checked on a vehicle pulled over on South Street. Passenger was sick. There was no need for rescue.

Harding Bridge Road man reported he found his mail down the street on the side of the road. It had been removed from his mailbox but did not contain financial or personal information. He was advised to check his credit report for any unauthorized activity and to contact police if he sees anyone in the area at night who does not belong in the neighborhood.

Officer located a vehicle reported to be all over the road. The officer got behind the vehicle and determined it was not maintaining its lane. A traffic stop was conducted on the bypass and officer saw no signs of impairment nor any smell of intoxicants. Driver told the officer she was putting on lipstick.

Ossipee Trail caller reported that around 9:45 in the evening, someone threw an ice cream cone at his vehicle. The ice cream covered his windshield and made it impossible for him to see. This forced him to stop quickly and nearly crash. He did not crash and there were only a few scratches on his hood. He did not want to file a report but wanted police to know about the incident in case it became a pattern.

A report was received of a visibly intoxicated male, accompanied by a female, walking on Longfellow Road. Officer spoke with the caller who attested to the man having thrown a bottle at their vehicle when they passed by. Officer searched the area multiple times but did not locate anyone.

Huston Road caller received an automated call saying that she needed to pay fines or she would be arrested. Officer advised her it was a scam. She did not send any money.

Officer responded to a call about three kids throwing snowballs at vehicles driving on Gray Road. Officer located the kids and gave them a warning.

Officer responded to an "attempt to locate" call from Windham about someone coming into town. Officer located the vehicle at a parking lot and determined that the driver was not under the influence of any alcohol or drugs.

Officer spoke to both parties, after the fact, about a road rage incident. They both had very different stories. Officer issued warnings to both.

Officer reported a motorcycle passed him doing 120 mph in a 50 mph zone. Road conditions were slick with freezing rain. Area was checked. Vehicle was not located.

Man came into the Police Department to complain that the other driver was fighting his insurance company.

Caller requested a welfare check.

An officer had just passed the man who was out for his regular walk and there was no need to make contact.

Caller reported that a vehicle which had been all over the road had pulled into Beal's. Officer was unable to locate the vehicle.

CryptoVerse Solution by A. Logophile

OUR GREAT NORTH WOODS, WE LIKE TO PLANT, ARE TWICE THE SIZE OF ALL VERMONT. A WORKING FOREST THAT SEQUESTERS CARBON, THERE AN EARTH DAY / ARBOR DAY BARGAIN.

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR
 1ST ANNUAL GOLF SCRAMBLE**
 to benefit Gorham High School's
 Golf and Ice Hockey Programs!

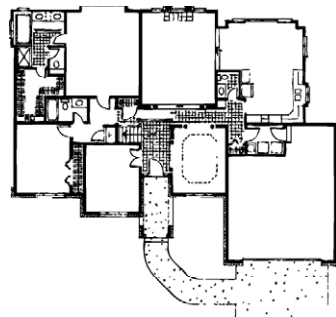


MONDAY, JUNE 26TH AT 8:30AM
 Toddy Brook Golf Course, North Yarmouth

**TO REGISTER AND FOR
 GREAT SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!**
 Visit: GorhamScramble.com

VILLAGE BUILDERS

Full Service General Contractor
 Repairs • Renovations • Additions



Daniel W. Grant, P.E.
 Owner

21 New Portland Rd.
 Gorham, ME 04038
PH 207-839-6072
sales@villagebuildersmaine.com



207.650.2832
 Team@KeithNicely.com
 RealEstateDoneNicely.com

MARKET BASKET

"MORE FOR YOUR DOLLAR"

HAPPY **Cinco de Mayo**

Let's Taco 'bout these
Burritoful Deals

At The

WESTBROOK STORE

90 Rock Row • Take I-95 Exit 48

Store Hours:

Mon-Sat 7AM - 9 PM • Sun 7AM - 8 PM



Your Market Basket Favorites!

Petite New York Sirloin Steak

4.99 lb. **Save \$3.00lb.**
 U.S.D.A. CHOICE
 Fresh Cut Daily

Boneless & Skinless Chicken Thighs

3.99 lb. **Save \$1.00lb.**
 ANTIBIOTIC-FREE

Fresh Pork St. Louis Ribs

2.99 lb. **Save \$1.00lb.**
 Cryovac
 The Other White Meat

THIN BY TRIM Premium Chicken Breast
 All Varieties **DELI**

4.99 lb. **Save \$2.00lb.**
 Sliced Fresh At The Deli

LAND O LAKES American Cheese
DELI

4.99 lb. **Save 80¢lb.**
 • White
 • Orange
 • 2%
 • Lower Sodium

Ocean Fresh Wild, All Natural Cod Fillets

10.99 lb. **Save \$2.00lb.**

Seedless Cucumbers

99¢ ea. **Save 50¢**

Red Ripe Strawberries 1-LB. PKG.

2.99 **Save \$1.00**

Zucchini Squash
 Great On The Grill!

99¢ lb. **Save 30¢lb.**

Rice A Roni
 Pasta Roni 4.8-6 oz.

99¢ 4.9-7.2 oz. **Save 51¢**

New England Coffee 9-12 oz.

4.99 13 Varieties **Save \$1.50**

Dave's Organic Breads Wide Pan 18-27 oz.

4.99 **Save \$2.00**
 USDA ORGANIC
 21 WHOLE GRAINS AND SEEDS

Tostitos Scoops! PARTY SIZE 14.5 oz.

2\$7 for **Save \$4.98**

Almond Breeze Almond Milk Creamer 32 oz. 8 Varieties

2\$6 64 oz. **Save Up To \$1.78**

Jessica's Cinnamon Raisin Bread Local Company

4.89 24 oz. **Save \$1.00**
 NON GMO

Featuring Sales Sunday Apr 30th - Saturday May 6th

Quantity rights reserved. Not responsible for typographic or illustration errors. Bottle deposit & tax where applicable (2023').