School Department Plans for Fall Opening

**KATHY CORBETT**
**Staff Writer**

At three Zoom forums for parents of Gorham students, Superintendent Heather Perry outlined plans under development for opening schools at the end of August. Although the Maine CDC metric and the Maine Department of Education (MDOE) has designated all of Maine a Green zone that permits schools to fully open, “the Green designation for our county isn’t really Green,” Perry said, adding, “Schools can open in Green only if they can meet all MDOE guidelines with all students on campus.” The decision on how to open Gorham schools will be made by the School Committee (SC) at a special meeting on August 6. Gorham school administrators have scheduled another series of forums for August 10, 11, and 12 to give additional details of the approved plan and to answer questions.

During the July forums, Perry explained guidelines from the Maine CDC and the MDOE requirements, as well as the guiding principles the district will follow in implementing the Gorham plan. Recordings of the forums for high school students and those in K-5 are available on the Gorham School Department website.

- **Parents who responded NO break out their child(ren) to school?**
  - 1163 responded Yes (85%)
  - 176 responded Maybe
  - 15 students were grades 9-12
  - 13 students were grades 6-8
  - 21 students were grades K-2
  - 15 students were grades 3-5
- **Parents who responded NO break out their child(ren) to school?**
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In order to have students and staff in school after being sick. There are also hygiene rules must be enforced; additional safety protection must be available when needed, and there needs to be a process for people returning to school after being sick. There are also requirements for how many people can be together in a space at one time. These restrictions would apply in the hybrid plan but only half the students will be in school at one time. Half of the students will be in school on Mondays and Wednesdays, and the other half will attend on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Fridays will be designated as flexible days for individual on-line student assistance and planning. Parents can elect to have their children receive only virtual learning from home.

**School Sightings**

**SHERI FABER**
**Staff Writer**

Kevin Jensen, Gorham’s Economic Development Director, is committed to attracting new retail business and letting businesses know that the Town will support them in partnership with the Gorham Business Exchange and the Gorham Village Association which are “dedicated to people having great shopping experiences in the village and the joy of supporting small businesses.”

Jensen noted the Town’s Department of Community Development has been taking steps to promote a “business friendly” environment through open and improved communication and outreach. In addition, the Town’s revolving loan fund program for small businesses, which provides loans up to $150,000 per business at competitive rates, is particularly concerned about providing funding assistance to the business community during the pandemic.

Jensen cited a number of new and expanded businesses in the Village area as evidence of businesses finding the right location to fit their needs and be successful. Upcycle Maine Home Furnishings moved from its original space in the Village Mall to a new location on South St. next to Amato’s. K.H. Designs, previously an online business offering custom handmade and refinished furniture, recently moved to the space formerly rented by Upcycle Maine Home Furnishing. Both of the specialty alcoholic beverage stores, Hops and Vines and Bier Cellar, are doing well as craft beers are quite popular in Maine.

Gorham will be featured in a full page ad as part of Maine Biz’s upcoming comprehensive plan amendment survey.
Creating Momentum

Rep. Mo Tirana

I have lived in Gorham for 20 years and feel honored to be a part of this engaged and supportive community. In recent months we have seen a surge in the national conversation around systemic racism and police brutality. Maddons across the state have joined the discussion with enthusiasm and compassion. Here in Gorham, I have been struck by the community’s willingness to be introspective and to look closely at the systems on the local level that perpetuate inequality and injustice. As a mother, I take great pride in seeing students and young folks organize, facilitate dialogue and advocate for a better tomorrow.

One of the projects I’ve been working on is tackling the issue of high school graduation rates. In order to better understand the barriers to graduation, we have to ask ourselves what is going on behind the scenes. This effort is to highlight bills that promote racial equity and those that are geared toward breaking down inequalities based on race. This has been a very fast-paced endeavor undertaken to support the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations. The purpose of this effort is to highlight bills that will improve racial equity in Maine. Some of this work helps inform our votes on bills we haven’t yet finished this session, but it also establishes a system for evaluating bills based on their racial impact that may be utilized by future Legislatures.

With this work happening in Augusta, there has also been important activism occurring on the local level. One effort I have been particularly impressed with is the Gorham Black Lives Matter (BLM) initiative, which has organized several peaceful protest actions. These protests have been predominately led by high school students, initially in response to the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota. While the showing of support throughout town has been inspiring, I recognize continued protests can pose challenges for any community. However, I wholeheartedly believe that the momentum being created by the peaceful protests is essential for establishing lasting change. The tests serve as a constant reminder that our work is just getting started. They encourage us to keep the conversation alive and motivate us all to follow the lead of our children by being active participants in dismantling systems of oppression that exist all around us.

While I see the value in these protests, I know that change happens at multiple levels and that this problem is big and deeply rooted. It needs to be tackled from all angles. I believe successful civic engagement can take many forms and I commend the Gorham BLM group for utilizing its right to peaceful protest while also working with law enforcement and local officials to engage in a meaningful dialogue. As a result of these conversations, a resolution has been drafted and is expected to be taken up by the Town Council on August 4. Should the resolution be adopted, it will express the town’s commitment to ending systemic racism, the oppression/misrepresentation of minority groups, and continuing to assure that law enforcement honors equal justice. This is an important step in acknowledging our role in promoting equality and justice for each of our citizens. As your representative, I will continue to listen to the many different voices at the table in this discussion. I think now more than ever it is essential that we support, not alienate, each other as we all strive to recognize where we have fallen short and commit to doing better. That includes in our criminal justice system, our schools, our economy, and our health care system.

We have a long way to go, but I have real progress to be made when we work together. I look forward to doing the hard work and having the difficult conversations so that our community can continue to be the welcoming and supportive place I know it to be. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.
Pride Preserve Is Forever Protected for Generations

A family-friendly 1/4 mile loop trail with great wildlife watching opportunities encircles one of two ponds in Pride Preserve.

CHRIS CRAWFORD
Staff Writer

After a successful public campaign during the pandemic, the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust has conserved Pride Preserve for generations to come. Two adjacent parcels, totaling 188 acres in the Pride’s Corner area of Westbrook, make it the largest conserved forest land in the greater Portland area. An added benefit is that it directly connects to 60 acres of conserved land in Falmouth.

Plans for the parcel, which will officially open in the fall, include a trailhead off Duck Pond Road leading to a family friendly, 1/4 mile trail around one of two ponds on the Preserve. There are plans for a pollinator garden and bat houses in this area. Pride Preserve will also offer miles of trails for walking, mountain biking, snowshoeing and skiing, in addition to a multi-use snowmobile trail. The parcel includes Minnow Brook, a tributary of the Presumpscot River, and several other unnamed streams.

In addition to abundant wildlife, Pride Preserve is historically and geologically significant. It was part of the traditional lands of the Wabanaki People for over 10,000 years. When the Pride family settled in Westbrook nearly 300 years ago, they lent their name to the area known as Pride’s Corner. The Preserve includes 15 historic gravestones of the Knight Family dating back to 1825. Interestingly, according to the Land Trust website, so much sand has been naturally deposited by streams flowing into Sand Pit Pond that some of the sand was removed and used for the construction of Interstate 95. There are also unusual granite outcroppings left by glaciers. A virtual tour of the Pride Preserve is available at https://www.prlt.org.

Who Are the Friends of Baxter Memorial Library?

DIANE CASSELL AND SUSAN SEDENKA
Friends of Baxter Memorial Library Board of Directors

These are the two most frequently asked questions that we get whenever we mention the Friends of BML. We never tire of answering because there is so much good news to share.

The Friends is an all-volunteer non-profit organization established more than twenty years ago to provide time and financial help to the library. Its stated purpose is “to promote the services of the Baxter Memorial Library and to support the Library through fundraising and special events.”

In the past two years, The Friends have purchased digital picture frames, a Blu-ray/DVD resurfacing machine, sewing machines (for Youth Services), and bookshelves to help with the ongoing reorganization of the Library’s collections. In addition, we were one of the sponsors for the First Annual Print Run that celebrated the summer reading program, and we helped fund a Teen Youth Services Summer Intern. We also helped with the annual Harry Potter event by providing volunteers and funds for supplies and refreshments.

The Friends group has also sponsored many authors and other speakers over the years including Julia Spencer-Fleming, Bruce Robert Coffin, Monica Wood, Steven Rowley, Dave Patterson, and Karen Richards Toothaker who delighted the children by teaching them how to make no-sew rag dolls. Our guest speakers have covered topics as diverse as CBD for athletes, making smoothies, and genealogy.

You might have heard about our Spring Into Summer event which is a thank you to the community for helping our library continue to flourish. It also serves as the kick-off for the Summer Reading Programs. Children have the opportunity to touch a truck or police cruiser, enjoy a hot dog, popcorn, or snow cone; and delight in entertainment that matches the theme of the day. What really makes this event special is the additional help provided by town officials. (Unfortunately due to the pandemic, the event was not held this year.)

The Friends do all of this and more with the funds provided by membership dues and our two annual book sales. We have a very strong core group of members, but could use more.

Perhaps you’d like to help us staff an author event or give an hour of your time to a Book Sale? Maybe you’d prefer to support your library financially with an annual membership fee to the Friends!

If you want more information about the Friends of Baxter Memorial Library, please contact library director James Rathbun or check us out on the Baxter Memorial Library website. We hope you will consider joining us in supporting our public library.
The pandemic has sent most of us into stay at home mode with schedules and expectations thrown into disarray as we each find a new normal. Even the weather here in Gorham has been unusual with a frost on June first and a true heatwave, the first in nine years, this July. But an unexpected outcome from this paradigm shift is a huge increase in home gardening. Everything from flower pots on the front stoop, to vegetable plots in the side yard, to full fledged food forests right in the front yard. Look around, people are gardening like never before.

Gorham residents have replaced so many patches of lawn with inventive structures, unique garden layouts, and beautiful flower varieties. So show us your garden!

The Gorham Times would like to display your gardening talents, big and small, in one of our future issues. We invite you to submit your favorite photo to gorhamtimes@gmail.com for the chance to win a gift card to one of our local advertisers.

The Pride Preserve became a reality thanks to the generosity and foresight of Florence Pride Hawkes and her family who want the land to remain undeveloped and enjoyed by generations to come. Her son Dennis said, “My mom’s wish for the future is that those who embark on a journey in Pride Preserve may observe the trees, flowers, and animal signs and listen to the sounds of nature as she has enjoyed doing over the last century.”

Other supportive community groups are the Cornell Warren Community Association, City of Westbrook Recreation and Conservation Commission, in addition to the 111 individuals living throughout the region who gave generously to make this half million-dollar conservation and trails project possible. Rachelle Curran Apse, Executive Director of the Land Trust noted “Conserving new land and creating new forested walking trails is only possible due to the hundreds of families who are members, and to the dozens of businesses who are supporters of the Land Trust in Gorham and throughout the region.”

This summer Land Trust staff, interns and volunteers will be building the trailhead and trails, and beginning wildlife enhancement projects at Pride Preserve. If you would like to help volunteer please visit the ‘get involved’ page at www.ptl.org. The trails will be complete and open to the public this fall.

The Presumpscot Regional Land Trust is a community-based nonprofit primarily serving Gorham, Gray, Standish, Westbrook, and Windham. It holds 1,840 acres of conserved lands with 14 free public access preserves that include trails and water access. The Land Trust is the water steward of the Presumpscot River watershed and coordinates the Sebago to the Sea Trail, a 28-mile trail from Standish to Portland.

**Show Us Your Garden!**

**Pride Preserve Is Forever Protected for Generations**

Continued from Page 3

**Gorham Promotes Business Support**

Continued from Page 1

**CAR CARE**

**The Facts About Your Anti-Lock Brake System (ABS)**

**DOUG CARTER**

There is a common misconception that Anti-Lock Brakes help you stop faster. That is not always the case on loose gravel or snowy surfaces. Anti-Lock Brakes, in fact, are designed to help you maintain control of your vehicle in an emergency braking situation. Imagine you are driving on a snowy road. You need to slam on your brakes and your rear wheels lock up. Chances are good that the rear end of your vehicle will try to pass the front end and you can easily lose control. What would happen in the same circumstance if your front wheels locked up? Well you certainly would not be able to steer properly, and your front end would go to wherever gravity leads it.

The Anti-Lock Brake System (ABS) modulates your brakes on and off as many as 15 times a second. This keeps your wheels from locking up while providing the greatest amount of braking possible. You are better able to steer your vehicle and maintain control. It’s very important to remember the three S’s of Anti-Lock Brakes: Stomp – Stay – Steer. Stomp on the brake, Stay on the brake, and Steer normally.

Modern ABSs utilize a computer to receive information from sensors and control the anti-lock brakes. There are wheel speed sensors at each wheel reporting back to the computer which can then decide when to activate the anti-lock brakes on the wheel or wheels in need. So, what affects how well the ABS works? The brakes need to be in good shape. If your brakes are worn or not working properly, the ABS will not be able to do its job as effectively. A brake inspection will let you know if your brake shoes/pads are in good condition, if there are any mechanical brake problems and if your brake fluid and power brake system need service. Proper brake fluid maintenance helps keep the brake control module in good working order.

There can also be problems with the various sensors and wiring that send the messages to and from the computer. And of course, tires need to be in good condition to have enough traction to stop, start, and steer. Worn tires are a big problem for ABS and Stability Control Systems. The ABS is the foundation of the Stability Control Systems, providing the information needed for stability control as well as to strategically brake when needed. The stability control system can activate the ABS without any driver inputs and it can also take control of the throttle. The Stability System uses a yaw rate sensor that can detect the sideways movement of the vehicle. If the steering wheel isn’t turning, the control unit senses that the vehicle is sliding.

When you start your vehicle, the ABS and traction lights will briefly illuminate on the dashboard. If the system detects a problem, the light will stay on. That is your cue to take your vehicle in for an inspection to determine the problem.

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Town Council Addresses Racism CONTINUES FROM PAGE 1

form of hatred or bigotry in the community against any person or group” and committing to addressing “any members of its organizations or departments who are affiliated with any hate groups to the extent legally possible.” It supports opportunities for the voices and stories from all members of the community to be heard.

In conclusion, the resolution pledges the Town Council “to stand against racism and other forms of discrimination while doing everything in its power to make certain the Town of Gorham is welcoming to people of color and other minority groups.”

Editor’s Note: The Gorham Times will report on the action taken on this resolution during the Town Council meeting and responses from community members in our next issue dated August 20.

Summer Concerts Provide Outdoor Entertainment

Concertgoers were treated to the music of Delta Knights on July 28. Residents have one more opportunity to get out for some socially distanced entertainment on August 11 when the Joan Kennedy Duo will be performing at the Robie Softball Field (28 Ball Park Rd) from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Parking is available at Gorham High School or Gorham Municipal Center.

Bring a picnic, a blanket or chair, and enjoy the show. FMI, concerts may be moved inside to 6:00-7:30 p.m. Parking is available at Gorham High School or Gorham Municipal Center.

Community Input Needed:
Comprehensive Plan Amendment Survey

The Comprehensive Plan Amendment Committee is seeking input from the Gorham community. Since the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan, the Town has worked on a series of ordinance updates and the Plan designated portions of South Gorham as mixed-use growth areas, meaning they are envisioned to develop with a mix of residential and commercial uses.

Through the implementation process, it became apparent that the vision, as described in the Plan, differs from the vision of the Ordinance Committee and some members of the public.

The Comprehensive Plan Amendment Committee has been tasked with revisiting the South Gorham, mixed-use growth areas to determine if the Comprehensive Plan should be amended to reflect a different vision. The Committee is seeking community members to contribute to this work through the following survey link: https://forms. gcleb6sMjAJXf3RaJ9uT7

Please only complete one survey. The Town will be accepting surveys until September 4, FMI, visit https://www.gorham-me.org.

Openings for Town Council and School Committee

The Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, for the purpose of electing two (2) persons for Town Council to serve a 3-year term and three (3) persons for School Committee to serve a 3-year term.

Nomination papers are now available from the Town Clerk’s Office. Completed nomination papers must be submitted to the Town Clerk’s Office no later than 1 p.m. on Friday, September 4, 2020.

Any registered voter of the Town of Gorham, who is interested in running for any of these positions, must submit nomination papers with no less than 35 and more than 50 signatures of persons who are registered voters of the Town of Gorham.

Please contact the Town Clerk’s Office at 222-1670 with any questions.
Fire Department Mourns Longtime Employee

Sandra Berry, who worked as an administrative assistant at the Gorham Fire Department for the past 18 years, passed away on July 13 after a three and a half year battle with cancer. Berry was committed to her job and worked part-time at home until three weeks before she died.

“She was a great employee and it’s a huge loss to the Fire Department,” said Deputy Chief Kenny Fickett.

“The job was very important to her,” said co-worker Lori Speed. “She had a great work ethic,” added Speed.

Berry is survived by her daughter Sarah and Sarah’s husband Scott and their new baby Klaus who was born shortly before Sandra’s death.

Keep ME Healthy Grant Awarded to Gorham

Shaw Park information about available loans, and website development.

The new signage at Shaw Park will increase reminders about the need for social distancing. There will also be Shaw Park “Ambassadors” to hand out masks and help maintain social distancing. Some of the funding will also go to the Recreation Department to hire cleaning companies that can work nights at the Recreation Department’s day camps.

SCHOOL

Young Star of Maine Winner

Bay Chamber Concerts recently announced its 2020 Young Stars of Maine Prizewinners. This rigorous annual competition awards cash prizes of $1,000 in seven categories for vocalists and instrumentalists. Due to current safety guidelines, this year’s auditions were evaluated by video submission only. Bay Chamber released the video recordings, featuring each winning performance, on its YouTube Channel. Anya Mazaris-Atkinson, an incoming junior at Gorham High School (GHS) was the winner of the Elsie Bixler Junior Prize. This is her eighth year playing flute and she holds a passion for all types of music. She has placed in top chairs in several ensembles including: the MMEA District 1 Concert Band in both 2019 and 2020; John Philip Sousa National Honors Band - New England 2019; Portland Youth Wind Ensemble; and the Portland Youth Symphony Orchestra. Mazaris-Atkinson also placed as principal flutist in the Southern Maine Music Academy Concert Band in the summer of 2019, and more recently in the MMEA Allstate Orchestra 2020. This year, she was a finalist in the Bangor Symphony Orchestra High School Concerto Competition and is the winner of the Portland Youth Ensemble Scholarship. Additionally, she plays alto saxophone in the GHS Jazz Band, sings in Chamber Singers, and plays steel drums.

GHS GRAD NEWS: If you, or your son or daughter is a GHS graduate, we would like to share your achievements in the Gorham Times Of Interest section or in a Where Are They Now feature. Submissions should include the year of GHS graduation and should be no longer than 75 words. Contact Chris Crawford at ckck5@maine.rr.com, Kathy Corbett at ktcorbett@aol.com or Cindy O’Shea at coshe2@maine.rr.com.

CONGRATULATIONS GORHAM TIMES
ON 25 YEARS SERVING THE GORHAM COMMUNITY!
SENDING A WHOLE LOT OF HAPPY FROM NAPPI!

Everyone at Nappi Distributors wants to congratulate the publisher, editors, and all the hard working people at the Gorham Times on their 25th Anniversary.

Now more than ever, having such a strong community resource is greatly appreciated by us all!
School Department Plans for Fall Reopening

Parents who responded MAYBE break out as follows:
68 students were grades K-2
73 students were grades 3-5
54 students were grades 6-8
66 students were grades 9-12
24 students were undesignated

Of those parents who responded YES to sending students to school in the hybrid model:
757 said they could transport their child(ren)
348 said that they may be able to transport their child(ren)
278 said that they could not transport their child(ren)

Of those who said NO they could not transport their children, responses broke out by grade level as follows:
108 students were grades K-2
113 students were grades 3-5
104 students were grades 6-8
103 students were grades 9-12
11 students were undesignated

Of those parents who responded YES to sending students to school in the hybrid model:
433 said they would participate in the school lunch programs
340 said they maybe willing to participate
278 said they would not participate

Of those that said NO they would not participate in the school lunch programs, responses broke out by grade level as follows:
166 students were grades K-2
172 students were grades 3-5
155 students were grades 6-8
164 students were grades 9-12
24 students were undesignated

If schools open under a hybrid model, will you be able to find child care for your child(ren)?
830 responded Yes
312 responded Maybe
163 responded No

Of those that responded NO, responses broke out by grade level as follows:
63 students were grades K-2
76 students were grades 3-5
69 students were grades 6-8
12 students were undesignated

Would you be interested in child care options offered by Gorham Recreation?
226 responded Yes
300 responded Maybe
766 responded No

Parent Survey

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Indoor Air Quality & Ventilation at Gorham Schools

NORM JUSTICE
Facilities Director

Naturally parents, staff, and students have questions about our physical plant systems and operations and in particular questions about COVID and the importance of fresh air ventilation systems.

Creating and maintaining healthy indoor air quality in our schools is not something new. Our HVAC (Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning) systems are designed to meet the highest ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers) standards. These standards recognize the importance of fresh air ventilation in our schools.

Our systems are maintained and monitored constantly. We have a sophisticated Energy Management System that allows us to monitor and control our HVAC systems 24/7. This system not only allows us to monitor space temperatures, but the amount of fresh air being introduced to spaces. We receive an alarm when key systems fail and respond immediately.

Lastly, our HVAC systems are serviced twice annually. Once prior to school opening and mid-winter to keep the systems operating properly. We follow the EPA Guidelines and Best Practices for Indoor Air Quality within Schools and at the upcoming forums and participate in the Maine Indoor Air Quality Council programs.

Gorham School Department

NORTH JUStIcE
Facilities Director

The Gorham School Department has the following full time positions available for the 2020-2021 school year. These positions are for a half year only, to assist schools during the current COVID situation.

CLINIC SUPPORT - These employees will assist school nurses with the necessary additional COVID procedures of tracking student illnesses, monitoring quarantine stations and filing of paperwork.

DUTY MONITORS - These employees will assist schools with the necessary additional COVID procedures of monitoring students during student arrival/pick up in the cafeterias and on playgrounds.

FULL-TIME SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS - These employees will primarily substitute classroom teachers due to the COVID situation, but could assist with other additional duties as necessary.

If interested: please submit cover letter, resume, 3 written letters of reference, transcripts and appropriate certification by going to http://gorhamschools.org/, click on Human Resources, Employment Opportunities, follow the application link.

Applications close when suitable candidates have been selected. Only complete applications will be considered. EOE.

Gorham School Department

The Gorham School Department has the following positions available:

LITERACY SUPPORT TEACHER K-5
RESOURCE ROOM K-5
RESOURCE ROOM 6-8
EDUCATIONAL TECHNICIAN III (VARIOUS PROGRAMS AND GRADE LEVELS)
EDUCATIONAL TECHNICIAN III (LIBRARY/TECHNOLOGY K-5)
.50 ADAPTIVE PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER
.50 LPN

If interested: please submit cover letter, resume, 3 written letters of reference, transcripts and appropriate certification by going to http://gorhamschools.org/, click on Human Resources, Employment Opportunities, follow the application link.
Applications close when suitable candidates have been selected. Only complete applications will be considered. EOE.

VILLAGE BUILDERS
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Drew’s essay won first-place for depicting how the decisions drivers make can impact their life as well as their family and friends. She was honored among the Top 20 winners statewide during a zoom ceremony on June 25, which replaced the traditional awards ceremony at the Law Office due to coronavirus.

Six other Gorham graduates finished in the Top 20: Haley Burns, Harlan Ivan, Sam Orlando, Devon Paulin, Will Donnelly, and Lauren Press.

In addition to celebrating the contest’s winners, the law firm donated $50 per honorable mention winner to a library or food bank in each gradu-ate’s hometown. A total of $5,050 was donated to 20 nonprofit organizations throughout Maine.

The contest is open to graduating high school seniors in Maine who may enter a creative project of their choice. First-place winners receive a new iPad, and every student who enters receives prizes from the firm.

Since 2005, over 1,000 graduating seniors have entered the contest from 125 Maine high schools. In the past 16 years, the Law Offices of Joe Bornstein has given away over $150,000 in prizes through the Arrive Alive Creative Contest of dangerous driving. The firm’s dedication to help educate teenagers on the risks of driving has given away over $150,000 in prizes to high school seniors in Maine who participate in some type of sport. Thomas is an incoming freshman at GHS, Timmy is going into eighth grade, and Tucker is heading into fifth grade.

Thomas missed his eighth grade baseball season due to Covid-19. “I was really disappointed, but I have been training hard for all of my sports (football, baseball, and basketball),” he said. Looking ahead to fall, he is hoping for some kind of football season as it will be his freshman year and it’s his favorite sport. Mostly he misses being around his friends and just wants to be out competing again.

Other than training and pick-up games with small groups of friends, Thomas started a journalism/play-by-play podcast with a few buddies called “The Pre-Game Pod” on YouTube.

“I watch all Pro-Sports. NFL, NBA, and MLB mostly. I am very excited for the NBA to start back up,” he shared. Outside activities for Thomas include fishing, skateboarding, basketball, and playing catch or tossing a football around. “COVID-19 has affected me in many ways but I try to keep a positive attitude and keep moving forward,” he added. While his brother Timmy plays football for the Gorham Grizzlies, he also wrestles and has taken an interest in Ultimate Frisbee. He missed out on his second season of Ultimate due to the cancellation of spring sports. According to his mom he was looking forward to learning more about it and developing his skills. Timmy’s favorite outdoor activities during the sum-
What Kids Are Doing Without Organized Sports

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

mer are biking Gorham’s extensive trail network and riding his dirt bike. He also enjoys spending time at Sebago Lake, Ocean Park Beach, and recently went whitewater rafting on the Kennebec River in The Forks.

Sports aren’t the only thing keeping Tommy occupied during the pandemic. He has also been volunteering at the GMS garden and became a bit of a local celebrity after being interviewed by Newscenter for his involvement printing 3D ear protectors for front-line workers.

“ Feeling a positive spin on the situation: his involvement in sports. Tommy, the oldest player. He was very disappointed to miss out on his spring baseball season.”

The youngest Sallinen, Nick, is heading to sixth grade and plays soccer for GYSA, basketball, and baseball. Nick was unable to finish his last year of Majors before aging out, his indoor soccer season at the Gorham Sports Complex was also cut short, and there is no word on whether he will be able to play GYSA, but he remains optimistic. "Quarantine presented many dis- appointments for my family," Stacy said. From Nick missing his last year of Majors to Matt missing out on an opportunity to umpire for Little League. "A huge part of sports and activities is the socialization for both kids and parents. We have all missed this by not sitting on the sidelines," Sallinen said.

Despite all the cancellations and the unknowns they still face, Stacy said there are some silver linings that have followed Covid-19. “We spend time at the lake during the summer. The boys have had lots of time to fish, swim, perfect their skills, and just be boys,” she said.

Something to take away from both families, and many others in Gorham who have learned to navigate their time without organized sports...while there have been many disappointments due to the pandemic, these young men have adapted. So while the fall season remains up in the air, kids are resilient and will continue to find ways to fill their days with activity.

Hope for Fall Sports

COMPILED BY DESTINY COOK

On July 31, the Maine Department of Education designated all counties in Maine as “green” meaning the risk of COVID-19 is low. The return to sports will likely now be decided by superintendents in each district.

According to the Maine Principals Association, as it stands now, the fall sports season will be modified. The start of fall practices has been pushed from August 17 to September 8, and will last only two weeks instead of three. Countable games will begin no sooner than September 18, and the plan is to have modified playoffs as well.

“To get back to school (is) the number one priority,” said Gorham AD Tim Spear to the Portland Press Herald. “This gives us a date to start looking at schedules, to have a real good plan at each school on how you’re monitoring kids and how you’re going to do your screening. And it gives us time to educate our coaches.”

Sports Etc.

The Gorham Football Boosters board of directors voted to not proceed with a formal playing season involving games and practices for the 2020 youth tackle football season.

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**It's Time for a Laugh...**

What kind of bee can't make up its mind? A maybe bee

What do you call a bee who is having a really bad hair day? A frisbee bee

What is a cat's favorite color? Purrrrrple

What did one fly say to the other? You glow, girl!

What does a mermaid use to call her friends? A shell phone, of course.

What did one firefly say to the other? Purrrrrr?

Why don't oysters like to share their Hopsicles?

What do frogs eat in the summer? jellyfish.

What's the best kind of sandwich for the beach? Peanut butter and jellyfish.

**Inquiring Minds Want to Know...**

What was the best thing before sliced bread? The word “swims” upside-down is still “swims”

What do you call a defective Milk Dud?

Did you know that if you replace “W” with “T” in “What, Where and When,” you get the answer to each of them.

Why is there a ‘D’ in fridge, but not in refrigerator?

If a child refuses to sleep during nap time, are they guilty of resisting a rest?

Why do feet smell and noses run?

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**Pretty Please?**

Caller wanted permission to drive on a suspended license. He was advised not to drive.

Terry St. caller received a call, ostensibly from a police organization asking for money. She agreed to donate if they sent her a pamphlet. They transferred her to another person who asked for credit card information. When she asked a lot of questions, they hung up on her. Officer called the number and it was a generic fundraising service and they hung up on the officer. Subsequent calls to this number received a message that the number was out of service.

Caller was concerned that her son didn’t return home after work. He was located at a friend’s house.

Brookwood Drive caller reported fuel was taken from their tanks and that their vehicles have been gone through. Caller was advised to lock vehicle and officer would request more patrols in the area at night.

Woman came into Police Department to report erratic operation on Rt. 202 the previous day. She was advised to call when it was happening as it would be difficult to determine who was driving at the time of the incident.

Horses were running loose on Gray Road and Little River Drive. Owner was able to collect them.

Mitchell Hill Road caller reported what appeared to be vehicle headlights in the woods behind her house. They were exterior lights on a nearby building.

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COMMUNITY

GRADUATIONS
Jennifer Darasz, U.S. Psychology, Hartwick College, Omeonta, NY
Cassidy Landry, Magna Cum Laude, B.S. Dietetics and Applied Nutrition, Johnson & Wales University, Providence, RI
Charliene Landry, M.S. Exercise and Sports Science, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX
Dustin Willett, B.S. Management, Upper Iowa University, Fayette, IA

TRUSTEE’S LIST
Thomas Leach, Champlain College, Burlington, Vermont

DEAN’S LIST
Stacey Curit, University of Maine at Augusta, Augusta, Maine
Ryan Desancis, Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island
Kate Gilbert, Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island
Nina Greenwood, Wheaton College, Newton, Massachusetts
Grace Perron, Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island

OF INTEREST
The Gorham Lions’ annual Car Show scheduled for August 23 has been canceled, with a plan to resume in the summer of 2021. Learn more about the Gorham Lions at 929-9182.

Pick up a printed brochure mapping out Gorham Edible Main St and Food Forest planters that are at participating businesses, Baxter Library, and the Municipal Center. The food in the Little Falls and Phinney Park gardens and planter boxes are there for community use. Interested in volunteering? Contact Cumberland County SWCD 892-4700 or Gorham Recreation 222-1630.

Find out more about the Town of Gorham’s food forest garden at Phinney Park on August 10 at 6 p.m. and Little Falls on August 11 at 6 p.m. Hosted by CSWSC. Please RSVP via email at heinlein@cumberlandswcd.org or via phone at 892-4700.

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Gorham Memorial Post 10879, will meet on August 11 at 5:30 p.m. Any interested veterans may contact the post at vfwpost10879@gmail.com for location and membership information.

The Gorham Food Pantry is open every Thursday from 10 a.m.-noon with curbside drive through procedures in place. Any Gorham resident can take advantage of the Gorham Food Pantry; clients need only visit during pantry hours with proof of residency (a water bill, electric bill with your name and your Gorham address on it). Please follow Gorham Food Pantry Friends on Facebook for the latest info. For elderly, immunocompromised, or those who need to explore other arrangements, please reach out to via Facebook messenger for alternatives to shopping at the pantry. Financial donations can be made at www.gorham-foodpantry.org.

LIBRARY NEWS
Baxter Memorial Library’s Facebook activities continue to entertain with Librarian Grab Bag Discovery Times every Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 – 9:50 a.m. You never know which Youth Services staff member will be performing, maybe Musical Mr. Jeff, or Artistic Ms. Dani, a Movement Moment Deb, a Yogi Ms Heid, or an Artistic Ms. Becky. Tune in on Facebook and catch them all. (ages 18ms-5yrs).

Anyone who has walked on the Gorham Trails knows that there is much to see. Even more when you take along Mr. Jeff’s fun-filled scavenger hunt. Print it out at home or have it downloaded onto an adult’s device. The link will be posted at the Library website by 10 a.m. on Friday August 7. You can hear Mr. Jeff’s virtual concert on Friday, August 14 at 10:30 a.m. when he plays original music as he tickles the ivories and plucks the strings.

Wildlife Specialist Mckenzie Whelan will present “How to Train Your Cat” on Facebook on August 12 at 10 a.m. Mckenzie has trained her cat Sally to sit, shake, and high five and will show us how to train our cats tricks like these. Mckenzie has worked with animals of all types at the Boston Museum of Science, the Boston Aquarium, and the Franklin Park Zoo.

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CALENDAR

** All events are for Baxter Memorial Library unless otherwise noted. Please visit BaxterLibrary.org for more details.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6
Librarian Grab-Bag-Discovery Time, 9:30-9:50 a.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7
Gorham Trails Scavenger Hunt, Link posted by 10 a.m.

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

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11
Librarian Grab-Bag-Discovery Time, 9:30-9:50 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12
How to Train Your Cat with Wildlife Specialist Mckenzie Whelan. 10 a.m. on Facebook

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13
Librarian Grab-Bag-Discovery Time, 9:30-9:50 a.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14
Virtual Concert with Mr. Jeff. 10:30 a.m. on Facebook

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15
Gorham Farmer’s Market, Municipal Parking Lot, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18
Librarian Grab-Bag-Discovery Time, 9:30-9:50 a.m.

Come Join Us - LIVE MUSIC!

PAUL BURGOS will be on our new patio performing
LIVE MUSIC on Saturday, August 8th 3-6pm
He lives right here in Gorham, come support local talent!

Offering TRIPLEX LOBSTER DINNER for $24, includes drawn butter and coleslaw

STEAMERS $14

NEW APPETIZERS! Fresh SCALLOPS baked in our own lobster sauce $13

Fried whole belly CLAMS, SCALLOPS, SHRIMP, and fresh HADDOCK

LOBSTER MAC AND CHEESE
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Members of LifeChurch’s LC Students group recently donated a total of 250 pounds to help their neighbors while another young community member, Dante, donated 111 pounds of food gathered in lieu of gifts during his drive-by birthday parade. Cressey Road United Methodist Church also made a 74 pound donation to the Pantry in July.

Is your well water clean?

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