

Gorham Times

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Why Do We Vote on the School Budget in June?

Kelli Deveaux, Staff Writer

Each June, Gorham residents are urged to go to the polls and to vote on the annual school budget. But why? And why the school budget, but not the municipal budget? Because it's the law.

The annual vote on school budgets happens in every Maine community in the months of May and June. A required school budget validation process, or a vote by citizens on the budget, became a Maine law in 2007, and allows districts to vote either in a town meeting or through the use of polling stations. In 2011 the law changed to allow residents to decide every three years if they wish to continue to use an annual validation process as a community, or to do away with it.

Gorham's budget validation vote each June is governed by the Town Charter, and state laws in both Title 30-A that pertain to municipalities and counties, and Title 20-A, which contains laws related to education in our state. In addition, the Secretary of State has oversight over state elections that may, but don't always, occur on the second

Tuesday in June. The state holds June elections for congressional primaries every other year, as well as if there are referenda such as a bond or people's initiative that must be voted on before the annual November elections. Municipalities therefore often schedule local elections on the same day, saving taxpayers time and the costs of running multiple days of voting.

The timeline for budget votes is determined in large part by fiscal years, which for local and state budgets begins July 1, as did the federal government until 1974. Local budget decisions are significantly informed by financial allocations and expectations from the state and federal levels, adding to the complexity of the process and timeline. By charter, Gorham's School Committee must submit to the Town Council a proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year 70 or more days before it starts, therefore setting April 17 as the annual deadline. Each community in Maine has a process and an obligation as outlined in Title 30-A for public

hearings and public notice of the budget and the validation vote. Once received, the Town Council must provide notice, vote to approve that the budget be sent onto voters, and then to set a date for

the community to vote within 30 days.

Gorham's referendum vote on the school budget will be held June 10 this year. Absentee ballots can be requested from the Town Clerk's Office.

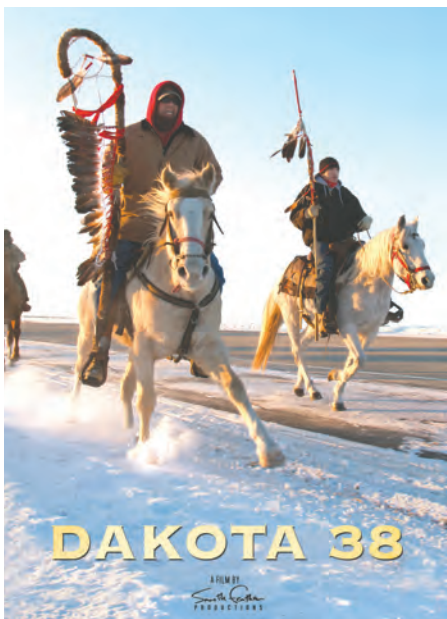


Photo Credit: Roger Marchand

The Town of Gorham Ballot box is located outside of the municipal building. Absentee ballots can be requested from the Town Clerk's office.

“Dakota 38” Documentary to Have Free Screening at Gorham High School

John Ersek, Staff Writer



Maine documentary filmmaker Silas Hagerty and his Smooth Feather productions will be showing his 2012 award-winning documentary “Dakota 38” at Gorham High School

Auditorium on Friday, May 16 at 7 p.m.

The film focuses on the story of Jim Miller, a Dakota spiritual leader, whose visions led him and a group of fellow tribal members to embark on a 330-mile wintertime horseback ride to honor the 38 Dakota and Lakota men who were executed by federal troops in Mankato, Minnesota in December, 1862, the largest mass execution in U.S. history. The event remains a major source of trauma for Dakota and Lakota people even today.

Miller is a Vietnam veteran who has experienced many traumatic experiences during his life, including incarceration and substance abuse. His vision of a ceremonial, memorial journey led him to search for several years until he found a filmmaker who could work respectfully with the indigenous riders.

Eventually, Miller connected with

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Municipal Budget Presented

Kelli Deveaux, Staff Writer

On a recent snowy Saturday morning, the Town Council gathered for four hours in a publicly held meeting to review the 2025-2026 municipal budget submitted by Gorham Town Manager Ephram Paraschek and the leaders of each of the town's ten municipal departments. They went methodically through the 96-page budget, discussing each cost center and the requests and needs of each department.

The proposed FY2026 town budget is \$23,480,933. While this is an increase of 4.7% from the FY 2025 budget, it does not mean property taxes for the municipal budget are increasing by that percentage. Because Gorham is incorporating additional Tax Increment Financing (TIF) revenue to offset operation costs, and has added an additional \$15,000,000 in assessed value to its tax base, Paraschek anticipates no increase or a reduction of several cents of the mil rate for the municipal budget. A “mil rate” is the amount of tax payable per dollar of the assessed value of a property. One mil is equal to \$1 in property tax levied per \$1,000 of a property's assessed value.

The collaboration between the municipal and school leadership was highlighted repeatedly during the bud-

get workshop, including efforts to share capital projects like a temporary rehab of the tennis courts. Additionally, the costs for the school resource officers were returned to the town budget from that of the school, noted as beneficial to the department by Chief Sanborn. Given the reduced use of space in the municipal center by the school department and the sharing of costs, the town reduced the rent charged for district offices that are located in the building from \$90,000 annually to \$20,000.

Of note was also the addition of four firefighter / EMT / paramedic positions, which would give the Gorham Fire Department 20 career firefighters, still much lower than municipalities of similar population and call volume. These positions are being funded through the use of TIF funds.

Chief Sanborn and Paraschek noted that they anticipate being fully staffed for the first in a long time in May and explained that the department was moving from a half-time animal control officer to a full time one, after the retirement of the officer who held the part-time position. Chief Sanborn reminded the public that animal con-

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Policy on News from Augusta: The Gorham Times asked our three state legislators from Senate District 30, House District 108 and House District 109 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 on Gorham residents. The Gorham Times reserves the right to edit the submissions and it further reserves the right to reject any submission, at its sole discretion.

Supporting Veterans and Growing Maine’s Workforce

Rep. Parnell Terry

As the son and grandson of U.S. military veterans, I know that the transition to civilian life is not always easy. This session, I’ve introduced legislation that would help with that transition. LD 620, which was recently advanced by the Maine House of Representatives and also unanimously supported by the Legislature’s Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee, would provide funding for organizations that recruit retiring military members and their families to Maine, offering support as they transition to civilian life. This measure builds on the success of an existing pilot project created by the Legislature in 2022 within Maine’s Department of Economic and Community Development. Knowing my dad, grandpa and many other hardworking veterans, I believe that the skills taught in the armed services, as well as the work ethic embodied by our military members, are synonymous with Maine values. Recruiting and providing support to retiring servicemembers, and their spouses and families, is not just a good cultural fit, but will also strengthen our economy. While our state is grappling with an aging workforce, these dedicated individuals can be connected with Maine employers that are struggling to hire and retain employees – making the measure a win-win for veterans and businesses. I am so proud to advocate for this work. I know that Maine will continue to ben-

efit from supporting an official recruiting framework that many other states already have, and I am also grateful for my colleagues and the stakeholders who have been doing this work for years. In 2024, following the creation of the pilot program, the primary organization recruiting active-duty military members, veterans and military spouses had supported more than 825 new Mainers in putting down roots. Results from the pilot project showed that 94 percent of the candidates who completed the program found work within 60 days of arriving in Maine. Eighty percent of enrollees were married with children, and 85 percent purchased a home within 12 months. Sixty-five percent of those participants were not originally from Maine and neither was their spouse. Every year, approximately 200,000 men and women leave U.S. military service and return to life as civilians. Twelve to 18 months before they leave, these service members are often actively looking for where to begin the next chapter of their lives. Having a permanently funded program is key to ensuring Maine is promoted as a welcoming place for transitioning military members and their families. As the Legislature considers this measure and continues to work to find creative ways to bolster our workforce, I’d also like to highlight some existing resources

we have in Maine for veterans and others to help them find employment in our state. Boots2roots is one such organization for active duty servicemembers and veterans that partner with local employers like Bath Iron Works, Bangor Savings Bank, Martin’s Point Health Care and many more. The Maine Department of Labor is also a hub of resources, providing information on available apprenticeship programs, veterans services and general job-seeker resources, including hiring events. I will be sure to keep you updated on the progress of LD 620 as it moves through the legislative process, and I look forward to hearing your feedback. As always, please feel free to contact me at Parnell.Terry@legislature.maine.gov with your questions and concerns. I can best represent our community by hearing your thoughts on legislation and issues both in our district and across the state.



Rep. Terry is serving his first term in the Maine House and represents part of Gorham. Terry is a member of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee and the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor must be fewer than 300 words, signed with a first and last name, typed or e-mailed and include a phone number (not for publication) and hometown. 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. Anonymous letters are published at the sole discretion of the Editor.

To the Editor,

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the more than 60 volunteers who took part in the 5th Annual Gorham Cleans Up event on April 27. Despite the less-than-ideal weather, this hard-working group collected an impressive 1,320 pounds of trash in just under two hours, targeting the Village, GHS/Robie Park/Municipal Center, South Street (including the Park ‘n Ride) and New Portland Road. That’s more than half a ton of litter that will no longer threaten our storm drains, waterways, and local environment—an accomplishment we can all be proud of. Gorham Cleans Up participants also brought donations for the Gorham Food Pantry, supporting that organization’s mission to serve hungry families and provide hope to those in need. This event wouldn’t have been possible without the support and partnership of so many. Special thanks go to the Gorham Public Works Department, Town of Gorham, Gorham Recreation Department, Gorham Police VIPs, Gorham SnoGoers, and Casco Federal Credit Union. Their coor-

dination and contributions helped ensure the event ran smoothly from start to finish. Community spirit like this is what makes Gorham such a special place to call home. We look forward to seeing everyone again next year! Sincerely, Bill Moreno, Gorham Conservation Commission and Kathy Garrard, Gorham Village Alliance

CORRECTION:

In the April 24, 2025 issue of the Gorham Times we reported in error that the inter-library loan program at Baxter Memorial Library was on hold, but it’s not on hold. The inter-library loan program remains active, but the state library is temporarily closed to the public until April 28, while the remaining staff assesses how to realign the library’s programs with the reduced funding and staffing levels. Access to the databases has not changed, for now.


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

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Upcoming Advertising Deadlines

May 14
May 28
June 11
June 25

You're in the Know.

Gorham Times

Baxter Memorial Library Book Sale and Model Train Display

Roger Marchand, Staff Writer and Photographer



Photo Credit: Roger Marchand

The Maine 3Railers (M3R) hosted a large model train layout as part of the Baxter Memorial Library Book Sale in the Shaw Gym. Trains ran during the book sale from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Friday May 2 and 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on May 3. The Maine 3Railers O-Gauge Model Railroad Club was formed in November of 1998, at what was once the Maine-Ly Trains Shop in South China. They have about 120 members, mostly in Maine and New Hampshire.

Membership is open to adults, teens, and entire families. Their goal is one of spreading the word about the model railroading hobby through seminars, live exhibits and events, social media, our website and the Internet at large. The Maine 3Railers primary activity is setting up and operating layouts at locations in Maine throughout the year ranging from train shows to other public venues such as libraries, senior living centers, veterans homes, and fairs.



Photo Credit: Hannah Gravelle

Left: USM student Hailey Gagnon recently portrayed Dorothy in the USM Theater Department's fall production of "The Wizard of Oz Radio Play." In this October 2024 photo, Ms. Gagnon's voice is recorded for the play, in the Bill Dufres Memorial Voiceover Studio on the Gorham campus. The studio was officially dedicated in a well attended event that took place on Friday May 2nd. Photo by Hannah Gravelle. Right: Bill Dufres in his studio with students.



Photo Credit: Fred Greenhalgh

Dakota 38 Screening CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Hagerty who accompanied the riders throughout the journey, while making it clear that he wanted to offer the entire production to the native riders as a gift. Miller saw that Hagerty understood that the entire journey was meant to be a spiritual healing experience, for the individual riders as well as the Dakota tribal community. The ride took place in November and December of 2009, beginning in

Lower Brule, SD, and ending at the execution site in Mankato. Many people (tribal and non-tribal) offered the riders and their horses shelter and assistance along the way. The riders endured bitterly cold temperatures and blizzard conditions to complete the ride on time. The film was released in 2012 and has been successfully shown in a healing context throughout Indian Country many times since then.

The Gorham Times acknowledges the lands and waters of the Dawnland, where we live and do our work, as the unceded homelands of ancestral peoples indigenous to these places. We honor them. We acknowledge the difficult truths of settler colonialism as well as the healing work that remains for us to do.

Food Insecurity: Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Chris Crawford, Features Editor



Photo Credit: Rich Obrey

(From left) Pantry Co-Director Bill Couch, Board of Directors Vice President Donna Perrault, volunteers John Zaner, Sue Goodson and Kathy Siemon, Inventory Coordinator Kris Clough, Co-Director Wendy Couch, and Board of Directors member Brandy Waters.

America is a wealthy country, especially in terms of our capacity to grow and produce food. It would be nice to think that in the Land of Plenty, no one goes hungry, but the opposite is true. Food insecurity is a fact of life for far too many Mainers. Survey estimates from Feeding America, a nationwide network of 200 food banks, show that 180,000 Mainers currently face hunger, including 45,000 children.

A crisis is brewing. Funding cuts occurring at the federal level are creating a perfect storm of hunger for families in our community of Gorham and beyond. A report by WGME-TV said that the government has cut more than \$1 billion from two national programs that feed children, seniors and families in need.

The USDA used to deliver half a million pounds of food each month to Maine. Beginning in early April, that number will be cut in half. The convergence of funding cuts to the Government Surplus program, the loss of federal dollars for regional food hubs such as Good Shepherd Food Bank, and the loss of funds for school lunch programs will mean more people will not have enough to eat, many of them children and the elderly.

The impact of government cuts will also be felt by farmers, large and small in Maine, for a number of reasons. School breakfast and lunch programs will no longer be able to buy fresh food from local farms at subsidized prices. Nor will recipients of the SNAP program - low income families and seniors on fixed incomes - be allowed to use their vouchers to purchase healthy fresh food directly from local farmers.

Deep cuts at the Department of Health and Human Services are expected to have a big impact on the Meals on Wheels program for homebound seniors, disabled vets, Southern Maine Agency on Aging, and others, as well. No one answered repeated calls to this agency to determine how many folks in Gorham are supported by this program.

Prior to COVID, the Gorham Food Pantry, which only serves Gorham residents, was averaging 18 families each week, according to Food Pantry Co-Director Bill Couch. Those numbers are now up to 40 families per week, representing over 115 people. An economic downturn and higher costs due to tariffs could strain family budgets.

More Maine families and seniors may face tough choices between paying bills, buying prescription medicines, or food.

In Maine, three organizations, in addition to the Government Surplus program, have an important role in making sure Mainers have enough to eat: Feeding America, a nationwide effort to provide resources for states; Good Shepherd Food Bank, a clearinghouse for food pantries in Maine; Wayside Food Programs which focuses on Cumberland County. Wayside and Good Shepherd provide free or low-cost food directly to the Gorham Food Pantry on a weekly basis. These entities recently met to plan how to meet future challenges with dwindling resources and funding.

The Gorham community can help. If you are able, please consider a one-time or recurring cash donation. Monetary donations purchase items needed at discounted prices at Good Shepherd Food Bank, Dollar Tree, Sam's Club or any place the pantry directors can find a deal. Donations can also be made using the pantry's Amazon Wish List.

Many local organizations such as all the Gorham schools, local churches, businesses/banks and the Post Office, play a big role by sponsoring food drives. Hannaford contributes in numerous ways through direct donation of food and also by selling meal cards at their store. Local gardeners contribute fresh produce in season.

For 25 years, the Gorham Food pantry has worked to help our neighbors. You can become a volunteer to make sure that help is there when needed. It takes a Village to help keep hunger away.



Photo Credit: Rich Obrey

(From left) Gorham Food Pantry Co-Directors Bill and Wendy Couch, Inventory Coordinator Kris Clough, volunteers and Board of Directors members Donna Perrault and Brandy Waters, and volunteers Sue Goodson, Kathy Siemon and John Zaner.

For Success in the Garden, It All Starts with the Soil

O'Donal's Staff



Photo Credit: O'Donal's Nursery
A soil jar test shows the sand and silt layer. It can take several days for the clay to fully settle.

Many home gardeners pour their hearts, time, and money into creating vibrant gardens, only to be met with disappointment. They might blame their "black thumb" or assume they are simply not cut out for gardening. However, many gardeners may overlook the importance of what is below the surface: the soil.

Soil isn't just dirt; it is a complex mixture of organic matter and mineral particles of varying sizes. The soil's texture is determined by particle size, which significantly impacts drainage, aeration, and nutrient retention – all vital for healthy plant growth. The three primary soil textures are sandy, clayey and loamy.

Sandy soil, characterized by its large particles, feels gritty to the touch. While it allows for excellent oxygen flow to the roots, water and nutrients drain through it rapidly, often leaving plants thirsty and undernourished. Conversely, clay soil is composed of very fine particles that pack tightly together. This dense structure is great at retaining water and nutrients but can become waterlogged, suffocating roots due to lack of oxygen. The ideal soil for most plants is loam, a balanced mix of sand, silt (medium-sized particles), and clay. Loamy soil offers the best of both worlds: good drainage and aeration alongside sufficient water and nutrient retention.

A simple at-home "jar test" can provide valuable insights on what kind of soil you may have. To do this fill a clear jar 1/3 of the way with the soil after removing any large debris. Then completely fill

the jar with water, shake vigorously and let it sit undisturbed for 48 hours. Over time, the different particle sizes will settle out into distinct layers: sand at the bottom, silt in the middle, and clay at the top. The relative thickness of these layers will give you a good indication of your soil's texture. Once you've identified your soil's composition, you can choose plants that will thrive in that soil type.

You can also amend your soil to improve its quality. Compost is the most versatile soil amendment.

For heavy clay soil adding compost helps to create air pockets, improving drainage and making the soil less compacted. Gypsum and pulverized limestone will help break up clay.

For sandy soil the organic matter in compost acts like a sponge, helping the soil retain moisture and nutrients.

Loamy soil is already well-balanced. Simply adding compost at planting time will provide the necessary nutrients for healthy growth.

The final step is testing your soil's pH and nutrient levels. At-home soil test kits are available at most garden centers. Maine's Cooperative Extension also provides a thorough soil analysis for \$20 per sample. FMI, Maine's Cooperative Extension soil testing service call 207-781-6099 or go to <https://extension.umaine.edu/cumberland/horticulture/soil-test/>.

Knowing your soil's pH (acidity or alkalinity) and nutrient levels (nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium) will help you make decisions on what amendments and fertilizers you need to have your garden thrive.



O'Donals, a local, independent, employee-owned nursery and gift shop (since 2023) strives to provide our customers with excellent service, knowledge and experience and an exciting selection of quality, hardy, and healthy plants. We will make it easy for you, so that you will have the time to relax and enjoy the beauty of your gardening experience.

Smashed Broccoli

- 1 broccoli, broken into florets, cooked in salted water
- 1/2 cup grated parmesan cheese
- Olive oil
- Salt/ pepper
- Paprika

Cook broccoli so that it is not too mushy but can be easily mashed on a baking sheet. Place florets on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper and mash with a glass. Coat with a mixture of olive oil, salt and paprika. Sprinkle grated parmesan over the top and bake in the oven at 350 degrees until the broccoli is nice and crispy around the edges 7 - 10 minutes. Be watchful.

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

How Your Car is Like Your Body

Linda Whitten and Doug Carter

As you age, your body takes longer to "wake up" in the morning. You might notice your body sending messages to your brain just the same as the electronic control modules do for your vehicle. Jumping out of bed in the morning may look and feel different and may require a little more stretching and observation on your part. What is your body telling you?

Now that spring is here, you will probably schedule regular maintenance for your vehicle – changing the oil, removing snow tires, replacing windshield wipers, and overall detailing. Similarly, scheduling an eye exam, dentist appointment, an annual physical examination and blood tests will help to ensure your body is operating properly.

Turning your radio down and listening to your vehicle and then sharing the observations with your mechanic about your vehicle helps with the testing and diagnosis. Listening to your body and letting your doctor know how you are feeling and what has changed since your last visit will ensure your doctor's visit is worthwhile.

Waiting until the warning lights come on is not the best approach to maintaining your vehicle. Routine checkups are vital to keep your vehicle running at its optimum performance. The same goes for your body. Balanced nutrition, regular exercise and proactive healthcare can keep your body performing at its best.

You invest in your vehicle and take pride in it. Your vehicle gives you the

freedom to visit family, to travel and explore beautiful places and it takes you to work. Remember to make the same investment for your body. Preventative care of your body not only can save you discomfort but also prevent problems down the road. Overlooking your body's warning signs is just like ignoring your vehicle's warning signs and may leave you stranded on the side of the road.



Doug Carter is the owner of Carter's Auto Service, Inc. He's been in the auto service business since graduating from Gorham High School in 1981.

Linda Whitten, a long time resident of Gorham, recently retired from a professional career in Human Resources. She volunteers as a



Program Community Educator for the Alzheimer's Association, is a member of the Rehabilitation and Survivorship Task force for the Maine Cancer Foundation and serves on the Board of Trustees for Greater Portland Landmarks.

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SOLUTION ON PAGE 15

GRAND OPENING

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Thousands of Pieces and Tons of Smiles at SunRise Corner

Abigail Chamberlin, GHS Intern

Anne Farrar is excited to re-open her store, SunRise Corner, at its new location in Gorham. It's located on 16 Mechanic Street, a spot which she describes as "ideal for business" due to its accessibility in the middle of town. The amount of young people in Gorham who love candy, both in the schools and at USM, will help get her business off the ground, but she notes that SunRise Corner has a sweet treat for everyone.

Moving to Gorham from a three-store complex in Standish, established in 1997 with her late husband, SunRise Corner is downsizing—but there is nothing small about its number or variety of products.

Farrar estimates that there are around 200-250 jars of candy in the shop, putting the number of individual candies in the thousands. "It's a lot of what the old timers would call penny candy," describes Farrar, although it

isn't literally selling for a cent apiece.

Besides candy, SunRise corner also brings eccentric flavors of soda and pop to Gorham, including banana, chocolate, and peanut-butter-and-jelly. Several kinds of fudge are also available, which are consistent best-sellers, and many extravagant flavors of gum.

Beyond food, you'll also find small bags, antique pieces, and decorative pieces crafted in Pennsylvania from gourds. Farrar is proud to say that most of her products are American-made.

Moving from one location to another has been a long process, and Farrar admits that "there's a lot that goes into it," but she is excited to open around Memorial Day weekend. With an old-timey, charming feel, SunRise Corner is the new spot in Gorham for candy and sweet treats, bringing "Thousands of pieces and tons of smiles" to the community.



Photo Credit: Abigail Chamberlin

SunRise Corner, 16 Mechanic Street, Gorham.



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Town Council and School Committee Meets

Kelli Deveaux, Staff Writer

On Tuesday, April 29, Gorham's Town Council and School Committee met for a joint workshop to review the proposed 2025-2026 school budget. The proposed budget of \$57,544,067 is a 6.5% increase. With an anticipated mil impact of .30, the estimated impact on a home valued at \$400,000.00 would be \$120.00 annually. Nearly identical to the school committee's meeting April 9, Superintendent Perry reviewed cost drivers, revenue sources, and the rationale behind many of the decisions, noting again that this was the lowest increase request in over 10 years. School committee members reiterated the lengthy process, urging voters to watch the many workshops held during which difficult decisions were made, and affirming that this was a needs-not-wants-based budget. Councilors then had an opportunity to ask questions. Some wanted to know about the positions that were cut from the budget and requests that were cut, while others asked about specific lines of the budget such as tuition and increased special-education costs, and about the revenue increases gained through intentional focus. Questions about busing and pre-k were raised, and a rumor that the school depart-

ment is busing small children who are not preschool students was quickly debunked as false. Strategies and plans for maximizing the impact of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds on the school budget were also discussed. A major theme was acknowledging the improved collaboration and appreciation for the working relationship between the two boards. The work of the joint Fiscal Sustainability Committee was credited for increased understanding and creative problem-solving, while one counselor voiced a hope for additional collaboration, especially on capital improvement planning such as the high school parking lot and roadways. The school committee also noted they are working to increase communication and engagement with Gorham residents, and asked for ongoing feedback from the town council on ways to improve or questions that exist. Given the productivity of the 1.5-hour workshop, the Town Council determined that the additional workshop scheduled for May 6 is unneeded. The Town Council will next hold a public hearing and vote on both the municipal and school budgets on Tuesday, May 13 at 6:30 in Town Council Chambers.



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DATES OF SUPPERS FOR SEASON:
MAY 17TH, 2025
JUNE 21ST, 2025
JULY 19TH, 2025
AUGUST 16TH, 2025
SEPTEMBER 20Th, 2025
OCTOBER 18TH, 2025
TIME:
FIRST SEATING: 4:30 PM
SECOND SEATING: 5:15 PM
THIRD SEATING 6:00 PM
TAKE OUT IS AVAILABLE
PRICE: \$12 FOR ADULTS/\$8 CHILDREN
Meal consists of: kidney beans, yellow eye beans, red hot dogs, potato salad, coleslaw, homemade brown bread, rolls, coffee/punch and homemade dessert.
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June 10, 2025 School Budget Validation Election

Gorham Times Staff

A School Budget Validation Election will take place on Tuesday, June 10, 2025. Absentee Ballot requests are now available. You can request a ballot by calling the Town Clerk's office at (207) 222-1670. Ballots will be mailed out the second week in May and


may be returned after May 13, 2025. Voters can vote absentee in person at the Town Clerk's office after May 13, 2025. Last day to request or vote an absentee ballot is June 5, 2025 at 5 p.m. Ballots need to be returned by June 10, 2025 at 8 p.m.

Municipal Budget CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1


trol is for domestic animal issues, not wildlife, which is addressed by the Maine Game Warden Service. They additionally explained that while their intention has been to use the Opioid Settlement funds to hire a community liaison, the hiring process took some time. That said, they have shared a community liaison officer with Windham and are in the process of finalizing the hire of one specifically for Gorham. Paraschek requested a payroll specialist for the town, noting that this was seen as a priority budget item as the need is evident and impacts all departments. The "hot topic" of the four-hour meeting was trash and recycling. Paraschek along with Public Works Director Terry Deering explained the rationale behind their request to eliminate the Silver Bullet Recycling Containers at Public Works. They estimate an annual cost savings of \$50,000. Much discussion about the misuse and contamination of the containers with bulky waste items that cannot be recycled is costly, and is a "resource and morale drain," according to Deering. Councilors weighed in on how to help Gorham residents get rid of bulky items, how to encourage composting, and how to advertise

the availability of waste processing sites in both Portland and Westbrook that will take trash, recycling, bulky items, construction materials, electronics and even brush or leaves. In preparation for the switch in 2027 to mechanical curbside pickup, \$768,000 is allocated in the FY2026 Capital (TIF) and Capital Part II budgets for the purchase of approximately 7,000 curbside collection totes. This price includes delivery to residents by the vendor prior to the service going online. Bag tags will no longer be necessary but will also be a revenue loss for the town. There will be a concerted education effort by public works on the proper use of the large totes in advance of the commencement of the mechanical arm pickup program. During the meeting, council members repeatedly mentioned the high quality of the information provided in this year's budget proposal, including statistics and comparative data. The discussion was equally informative, and the April 12 meeting can be viewed on GOCat. The Town Council will next make any amendments and vote to approve the municipal budget at a public hearing on May 13, at 6:30 p.m. in council chambers.

Lashed by Kiah Mae





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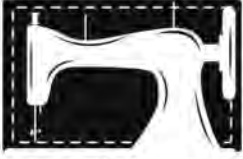
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Guest Author Inspires GMS Students

Suzanne Dix

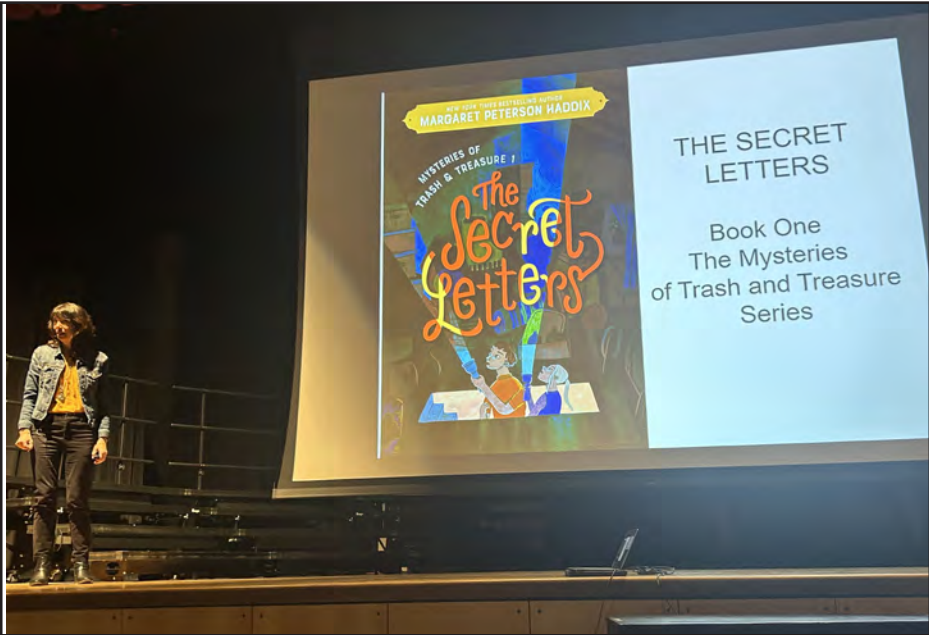


Photo Credit: Suzanne Dix, GMS Librarian

Margaret Peterson Haddix presents to the students at Gorham Middle School

Margaret Peterson Haddix visited Gorham Middle School on Friday, April 16th in the midst of Spirit Week before April vacation. In the audience were students dressed as Harry Potter, Little Red Riding Hood and many characters from the Percy Jackson series. Ms. Haddix stole the show with her stories of how she developed her ideas for her fifty-plus novels, including three of the novels the GMS Book Club had recently read and discussed. Ms. Haddix

was gracious and funny and answered countless questions about what a career as an author is like. She even shared that on this trip to Maine, she had the best lobster of her life at Luke's Lobster. Ms. Haddix stayed after her presentations to have lunch with the Book Club and several teachers. Students truly appreciated that Ms. Haddix traveled from Ohio to be here in Gorham and her novels, already popular, will no doubt fly off the shelves of the Gorham Middle School Library.



Upcoming Meetings

- Thursday, May 8, Ordinance Committee Meeting, 6 p.m.
- Monday, May 12, Fiscal Sustainability Committee Meeting, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 13, Special Town Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, May 15
 - Capital Improvements / Economic Development Committee, 11 a.m.
 - Board of Appeals Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, May 19, Planning Board Full Board Workshop, 6 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 20, Conservation Commission Meeting, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 21, Gorham Economic Development Corporation Meeting, 8 a.m.

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A QR code with the text 'SCAN ME' below it.A photograph of a modern living room with a large sofa, a coffee table, and a fireplace. The room has large windows and a bright, airy feel.

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THE COTTAGES AT PHEASANT KNOLL

School Backpack Program of Gorham

Gorham Times Staff



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Please support Gorham School's Backpack Program

- 16 oz Pasta
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- Chef Boyardee
- Canned Vegetables

- Shake & Pour Pancake Mix
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- Granola Bars
- Fruit Cups
- Apple Sauce
- Popcorn
- Raman

Items can be shipped to or dropped off at:

Gorham Middle School
106 Weeks Road, Gorham, ME 04038
c/o Heather Whitaker & The Backpack Program

MONETARY DONATIONS

DONATION CHECKS can be made out to:
Gorham School Department
Add: "The Backpack Program of Gorham" on the memo line

Please mail checks to:
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Gorham School Department
75 South Street
Gorham, Maine 04038

\$10 provides 1 weekend bag

\$150 sponsors a student for the 2024-2025 school year

www.GrowGiveGorham.org

The Gorham School Backpack Program is designed to address the issue of childhood hunger. The services include weekend food bags for Gorham students to bring home each Friday, daily snack bags distributed daily at school, a food closet at the high school and a summer box program which supplies a box full of food for the students to use over the summer. To fund the program, they need to raise between \$20,000 and \$25,000 each year entirely

by community volunteers and local businesses. The Backpack Program of Gorham receives no formal funding and relies solely on donations. Currently in its eighth year, the program has seen an increase in the number of students they're serving this year. Over 100 students receive a food bag every weekend and over 130 students access daily snacks at school. Heather Whitaker, GMS Teacher who created and coordinates the program said, "With rising grocery prices and a decrease in financial donations, we're always looking for support—whether that's through individual or organized food donations from our list, or contributions from community members and businesses. I have not seen any effects due to federal program changes—our numbers started out greater right from the beginning of the school year." Mrs. Whitaker continues, "In addition to food and financial support, we are in critical need of volunteer drivers who can lift 30+ pounds (with pick-up trucks or SUVs) to help on packing days, which occur every other Tuesday. These volunteers help transport bins of food to our local schools. Right now, we do not have enough drivers and are struggling to make timely deliveries."

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 5-10

Gorham Times Staff

Village School Elementary students responded to the prompt: I like my teacher because....

Here are the responses:

She is really funny
She's amazing
EVERYTHING! She is kind and smart.
She gives awesome hugs.
She always helps me with my math.
She's funny
She's really nice
She's kind and I think I've learned a lot this year so she must be a really good teacher
She helps me when I need it
She's really nice and does fun stuff with us.
She reads with me
She makes everything fun and she is super nice
When I need help she'll help
She's nice and because she helps me with writing
She helps us
She is so kind
She's grateful
She's friendly
She would help us if we're hurt

She's kind, pretty and fun
We get to have snack and lunch
She is kind and likes to do fun stuff with us
She's really pretty and because we get to go outside
She's kind and because she is fun and she has this star thing where when you get 20 stars for being a role model you get to pick something and always pick lunch with the teacher
She's fun and she always gives us fun activities to do
Because her is the kindest teacher ever and her is so nice and fun
She teaches us great things!
She is so loving and gives us really good teaching
She's loving



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Gorham Rams Spring Sports Season Openers

Katie Brown, Sports Editor



Bottom of the 5th inning v. Sanford

Photo Credit: Katie Brown

School vacation week kicked off a slew of games, matches, and home openers. The teams all did well for varsity last season, and with new talent in the incoming freshman; it is already shaping up to be an exciting one. Both track & field teams had their first home meet April 18. They hosted South Portland, Westbrook and Sanford. It was a beautiful, sunny day to kick off the week in sports. Gorham placed second behind South Portland (both teams). Antoine Dube had a first place finish in the 300 meter hurdles. Shane Morrison and Jack Cyr had a 1st and 2nd place finish in the 200 meter dash. Owen Cummings took first in the 3200 meter race. Griffin Gammon continues to dominate in the high jump (6-8 jump) and long jump (19-11). Girls Track & Field results: Freshman

Tessa White 100 meter hurdles - first place. Senior Ashley Connolly first place in the 100 & 200 meter dash. Abigail Vail with a 2nd place finish in the 200. Lindy Moreland with a first place finish in the high jump and long jump. Jessie Moreland first place pole vault. Several freshmen finished well including White, Drew McMannus, Abigail McCrillis, Whitney Varney plus So. Erica Donnolly (long jump) and Jr. Zoe Dellinger (800 meter run). BLAX in action: The Boys Lacrosse team improves to 2-0 with a 18-10 win over Cheverus. Rams top goal scorers: Stephen Connolly (6), Chasse (4), Dudley (3), Graham (3), Arsenault (2). GLAX in action: The Girls Lacrosse team opened their season hosting Cape Elizabeth on April 19. Logan Doughty scored a tie-



Lacrosse in action on May 1

Photo Credit: Katie Brown



Photo Credit: Katie Brown

Wyatt Nadeau, on the mound for the Rams, pitched a one-hitter with 13 strikeouts v. Falmouth

breaking goal late in the third quarter, and the Rams pulled away from the Capers with a 14-9 win. Haylie Nicely and Londyn Wright led with three goals apiece. Doughty and Kennady Peary each added two goals. Natalie Miner, Kat LaPierre and Piper Forgues also scored. Goalie Madison Tibals made eight saves. Softball picks up its third win to start the season off 3-0 with the first two games on the road at So. Po. and Deering. Monday April 28 (high of 75 and sunny) kicked off their home opener for the team. Offensively, Abigail Buckelew hit a two-run single during a four-run second inning to help propel the Rams over Massabesic (1-1). Sawyer VonderHaar and Lucy Dubail each had three hits and a double in the Rams' nine-hit offense. Boys Tennis continues to dominate this season. In a recent singles match; Johnson, Luo and Hansen all had wins. In the doubles matches; Spera/Owens and Andreasen/Landry had 6-0 and 6-2 wins respectively. In Girls Tennis action the following athletes all had wins in a recent match at Westbrook; singles winners: Sophomore Jasmine Radjabova, Seniors Julia Reed and Sarah Rosingana. In the Doubles matches, Payton Thibodeau/ Hadley Foster and Lucy Orlando/Sophie McLissac pairs all won their matches 6-1, 6-0 respectively. For the Rams baseball season opener there was plenty of action on and off the field. Senior standout and Vanderbilt commit, Wyatt Nadeau, struck out 13, walked three and hit a batter while throwing 94

pitches over 5 ¾ innings. He allowed two unearned runs in the sixth inning when Gorham made three errors. In the bottom of the fifth inning, the Spartans broke up a bases loaded scoring opportunity, making a double play off Rams Mason Finck's shot up the middle. Nadeau had Gorham's only run in the game despite a last inning attempt, things looked promising on a Skolfield single and a Cooper Whitehead hard hit up the middle. Despite Nadeau's pitching debut back to play for his hometown (he spent a year in Connecticut), Sanford pulled off a 2-1 win. Nadeau drew a nice crowd for a midday weekday game and there were plenty of MLB scouts in attendance. Athletic Director Tim Spear has had to implement a scout-friendly platform behind home plate due to interest in Nadeau. The pitching rotation is deep with several returning starters (Karlonas, Skolfield, Brenner) and transfer Wyatt Washburn, from Windham; making it a difficult rotation but also a good problem to have, especially for playoffs. After break, the Rams went on the road and took care of Noble 7-0. Casey Skolfield went 2-4 and scored three runs, while Whitehead, Finck and Washburn all had 2 hits apiece. Brenner picked up the win. The team came back home to take on a good Falmouth team. The Rams took care of business with a shutout win of 3-0. The level of play is plenty high this season in the SMAA; and everyone is enjoying the nice sunny weather. Best of luck to all of the programs the rest of the way.



Photo Credit: Roger Marchand

The first Jane's Walk, of which hopefully, will be an annual event was held on May 3. Approximately 70 community members attended the walk which focused on the architecture of the houses in the Village. The walk was a joint effort involving Greater Portland Landmarks, Maine Preservation, the Gorham Historical Society, Gorham Village Alliance, and Gorham High School social studies department. The walk ended with lemonade and cookies donated by Pine Crest B&B. The organizations are planning to do future Jane's Walks in other Gorham areas on the first Saturday in May each year.



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Gorham Farmers Market Kicks off 2025 Season

Gorham Times Staff



Photo Credit: Roger Marchand

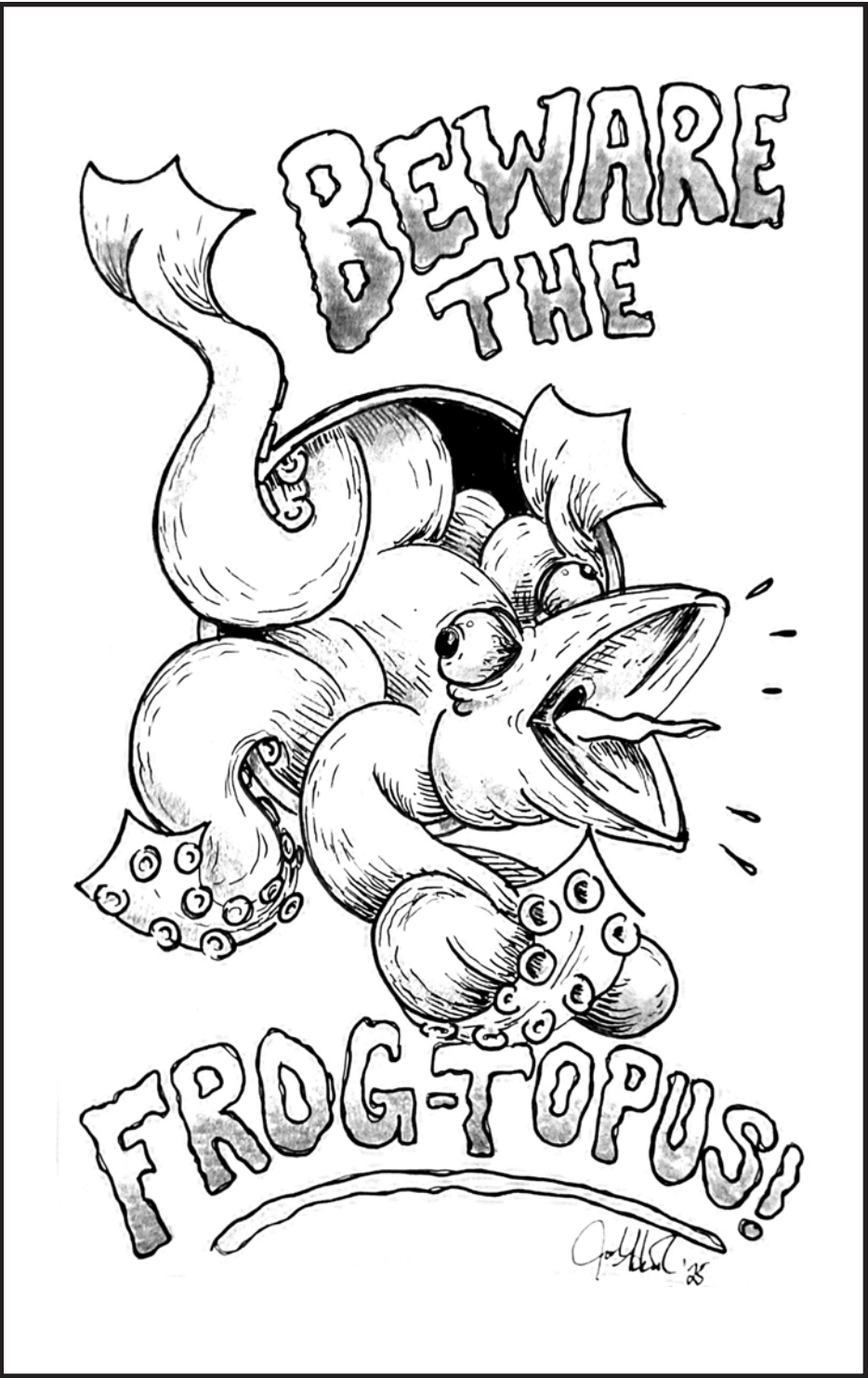
On May 3, the Greater Gorham Farmers Market opened for the 2025 season. There are more vendors this year than any of the past markets. At this point there will be at least 20 vendors each week. Besides vegetables and produce there will be seedlings, meat, eggs, flowers, bread and sweets, etc. for sale. The Farmers Market operates every Saturday from 8:30 to 12:30 until October in the parking lot behind the library.

University of Southern Maine's 145th Commencement

Gorham Times Staff

The University of Southern Maine will celebrate its 144th Commencement on Saturday, May 10 with about 1,100 graduates scheduled to participate. The event, scheduled for 9 a.m. at the Cross Insurance Arena in Portland, will feature remarks by University President Jacqueline Edmondson and addresses from student speaker Maddie Weston and Distinguished Alumnus Rear Admiral William E. Leigher '80, USN Ret. "The university informed my understanding of the world," said Leigher, who grew up in Appleton, Maine. While studying at the University, he worked as a planning intern for the City of Portland. Following his graduation in 1980, he began an extraordinary 33-year Naval career that took him to the heart

of America's cyber defense. Like so many people, he credits his student experience with laying the foundation for a lifetime of learning. "Between student government and my fraternity, I learned an awful lot about leadership at USM," he said. The ceremony will include the premiere of the University's new alma mater. The song's lyrics were composed by Heidi M. Parker, an associate professor of Sport Management, and the music was composed by Daniel Sonenberg, a professor of Music. The ceremony will not include the 16 individuals graduating with doctoral degrees. Instead, they will be recognized with a hooding ceremony at 4 p.m. on May 9 at the Abromson Community Education Center on the Portland campus.





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Third Quarter Gorham Middle School Honor Roll

6th Grade High Honors

Abel Chase
Noah Haskell
Benjamin Ho
Olivia Hunter
Caroline King
Grace McHenry
Harper Nash
Corlyn Ogden
Sylvia Ouellet
Amelia Palme
Reid Peck
Charlotte Rochette
Nolan Schmoyer
Julia Shaffer
Christopher Shaw
Ella Stuart

6th Grade Honors

Sophie Allen
Elliot Arturo
Aidan Berthiaume
Samuel Blake
Christian Blanchard
Elliot Boeker
Carson Brown
Tamsen Burton
Greta Caiola
Anna Calderbank
Brady Carlson
Lucas Carlson
Lillian Cary
Paige Charland
Madelyn Cohen
Margot Coolong
Nathan Corkum
Kellan Cote
Aubrey Cotta
Mia Crockett
Alexander Croteau
Natalia Cuesta
Jack Cuneo
Savannah Curran
Addison Davis
Kylie Delaney
Payton DiCenso
Flynn Doyle
Gabriel Doyle
Owen Dube
Lillian Eastman
Laura Eaton
Natalie Emerson
Nora Emlet
Ame'llie Esmiller
Mia Fisher
Penelope Fournier

Elizabeth Golden
Scout Gulliver
Jack Halligan
Takoma Hansen
Hadley Harriman
Kenzie Hart
Connor Hatch
Maxwell Hicks
Taylor Hinkley
Johann Hirwa
Amelia Holston
Abigail Hooper
Kayden Irish
Gavin Johnson
Emily Karlonas
Caroline Keith
Benjamin Knight
Ella Knight
Jasmine Koo-Kepka
Myles Lachance
Mason LaPlaca
Autumn Laughlin
Bentley Levasseur
Andrew Lyford
Adeline Mango
Zoe Marsh
Chloe Matta
Braeden McAdams
Saben McCormick
Evelyn McDonough
Chace McIntyre
Lowell Messer
Makaria Miller
Aryana Mills
Tadhg Moriarty
Graycen Morin
Evelyn Morris
Venna Nelson
William Norton
Gabriel Nuguid
Solomon Olney
Julia Palmer
Trevor Pasquerillo
Avery Passmore
Jude Paul
Reid Peary
Lilah Peck
Gavin Pfendt
Jordy Pigeon
Evelyn Plowman
Andrew Poitras
Orion Provencal
Harper Prunier
Holden Russell
Heidi Sager
Sophia Santiago

Hailey Schadow
Evelyn Scherb
Taylor Schools
Grace Schucker
Troy Schuehle
Henry Simoneau
Carlson
Emily Spagnoli
Jack P. Sprague
Delaney Stacy
Robert Vanmeter
Elise Varney
Lucinda Vo
Peyton Warner
Wesley Waters
Sophie Watson
Austin Webb
Everett Wells
Ada White
Jalen Whitehouse
Jacques Wichmann
Hannah Wilson
Sawyer Woodbury
Emily Woods
Luke Woods
Claire Wu
Batul Zamat
Meyer Zaninelli
Jackson Zinchuk

7th Grade High Honors

Nola Albert
Avery Allen
Jacob Allen
Cirrus Arlet
Daphne Capponi
Devi Clark
Quinn Cuneo
Benjamin Emerson
Hannah Kimball
Palmer Madden
Quinn McAdams
Adeline McCrillis
Reagan Nash
Molly Penley
Mason Plowman
Jayne Rowles
Reid Stevens
Luke Williams
Kayla Wolfe
Riley Young

7th Grade Honors

Grace Allen
Zaynalabidin
Almukhtar

Ethan Barney
Daisy Bean
Cole Bennett
Helen Bernier
August Bischof
Mason Bodkin-
Rubino
Noah Boucher
Auroralyn Bragg-
Malloy
Rhilynn Brant
Michael Brockman
Robert Brockman
Silas Burr
Lawren Burton
Ethan Butler
Andrew Cabral
Priya Cameron
William Carriere
Isabelle Castillo
Max Castonguay
Madelyn Chaisson
Angel Chhoeung
Cameron Connolly
Ryan Craig
Eleanor Damon
Leah Dargie
Isabella Davenport
Aerilyn De Los
Reyes
Matthew DeRice
Kelton Doucette
Ava Duchaine
Connor Duchaine
Moaeen Elnimier
Lyla Exley
Lexi Finck
Ava Fiorito
Minjee Flanders
Lila Fortier
Sophia Gill
Veronica Gomes
Julia Gordon
Eli Gray
Maggie Greenlaw
William Haase
Charlotte Hahn
Bennett Hall
Emilee Hamblen
Philip Hanken
Oliver Harriman
Chloe Hatch
Lana Hatfield
Graham Hebert
Fiona Herrick
Harper Hofmann

Evan Holland
Thomas Holland
Mason Hopkins
Khane Horten
Emma Howe
John Hutchins
Nina Joy
Vega Kaldrovich
Keegan Karcanes
Boden Kennedy
Andrew King
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Bayleigh Lamb
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Kylie LeMay
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Leela Morris
Evelyn Morton
Ava Moulton
Kerrigan Nadeau
Tenley Normand
Piper O'Keefe
Samuel Otis
Charlotte Paradis
Alanna Pellegore
Owen Perkins
Ashlyn Perreault
Avery Peters
Riley Peters
Maci Pratt
Lincoln Prunier
Brianna Quang
Evelyn Quinn
Samuel Rioux
Deklyn Rollins
Jillian Roy
Glicinia Ruben
Dakota Sagastume
Tyler Sampietro
Caroline Sargent

Jenna Schlicher
Christopher Scott
Michelle Shaw
Rosie Simpson
Finleigh Sirois
Gabriel Soler
Paysleigh-Jean
Spiller
Rose Stover
William Sundik
Elliot Talbot
Kellen Taylor
Jattana Thach
Ella Todd
Shylah Tracey
Willow Verry-
Gardella
Brooklyn Walker
Maddilyn Walker
Sawyer Walker
Henry Walsh
Gus Weeks
Caleb West
Nathan Williams
Gracie Woodman

8th Grade High Honors

Eva Alden
Matilda Arturo
Aylah Boucher
Carter Bourgoin
Carson Brown
Ruby Carnahan
Lauren Chadburn
Taylor Chadburn
Lucy Cole
Parker Cyr
Briggs Downing
Kaleb Dyer
Shekinnah Gakunzi
Kaleigh Garand
Abigail Gow
Logan Hall
Alia Herrick
Ashyr Herrick
William Hjort
Nolan Hurder
Natalie Kenny
Damona Kim
Jeremy Levesque
Jessica Loiselle
Annie Lorfano
Sophia Marquis
Samuel Martin
Harper McManus

Madison Milligan
Jayden Olson
Ezekiel Provencal
Chloe Schuehle
Emma Spiller
Samuel Springer
Hannah Symanski
Emma Tremblay
Emily Watson
Jada Yates

8th Grade Honors

Sarina Alden
Joshua Allison
Finnegan Bailey
Aidan Beardsley
Keagen Beaulieu
Jason Bennett
Riley Benoit
Caleb Blood
Emmi Boissonneault
Magnus Brown
Addison Bunch
Logan Burns
Brianna Carlo
Alina Clark
Dexter Copeland
Quaid Cossitt
Chase Cote
Colin Crockett
Abigail Cyr
Jacobby Cyr
Ella Dodd
Addison Dougherty
Quinn Dougherty
Lauren Drenski
Grace Dudley
Jacklyn Dunbar
Kayden Edwards
Josephina Faria
Colby Fernald
Ella Ferrante
Aidan Foley
Layla Forastiere
Andrew Fortier
Emelia Frederick
Benjamin Fredette
Gabriella Friedlund
Violet Gain
Anabelle Gasbarrone
Bradley Genovese
Matthew Golden
Evelia Gonzalez
Owen Gray
Timothy Hodgdon
Lily Hunnewell
Mia Johnson

Tycho Joslin
Jackson Keene
Lillian King
Daniel Koo-Kepka
Shelby LaChance
Faith Lajoie
Breanna Lampen
Kaiden Laughlin
Rebecca Lewis
Alexia Lowell
Brody Marchand
Kaidan Marchand
Tessa McBride
Mason McDonald
Naomi Medd
Max Moreno
Maliyah Morgan
Jaydn Murphy
Abdalla Nasr
Yoan Kent
Ndayishimiye
Grace O'Hora
Samantha Page
Jacob Palmer
Mukele Pedro
Emma Plummer
Mia Rand
Gavin Reed
Mya Rego
Lucien Roy
Leila Schmoyer
Ava Scott
Ellis Scott
Ethan Shaffer
Caroline Shaw
Devan Skinkle
Carter Sprague
Dominic Steller
Alexander Sundik
Aloe Swanson
Charlotte Taylor
Viannah Vercoe
Loretta Vo
Elijah Waterman
Isaiah Waterman
Sophia Webster
Tristan Wells
Zoe Whitehead
Amelia Winkler
Harper Winkley
Kate Woods
Caleb Yaeger
Kayden Yahm
Jacob Young
Ruthie Zaninelli

Third Quarter Gorham High School Honor Roll

9th Grade High Honors

Mahasin Ahmed
Aspen Blair
Bayla Clark
Stephen Connolly
Bryn Cunningham
Isabella Dalphonse
Charlotte Deveaux
Beckham Dezdel
Oliver Emerson
Anna Faatz
Alexander Fernandez
Clara Finoia
Julia Giguere
Nara Holland
Shania Isimbi
Luke Jones
Madison Kindler
Anneka Kuntz
Sophie MacIsaac
Abigail McCrillis
Carter McGonagle
Connor McHenry
Drew McManus
Allison Merrow
Precieuse Ngandu
Abe Palme
Alina Senasy
Jade Tibbetts
Laurali Vail
Dexter Vance
Sawyer Wheaton
Trent Whitaker
Tessa White

9th Grade Honors

Ahmed Abdulzahra
Tia Aceto
Grace Amadon
Clover Bayly-Schram
Hope-Davina
Bisimwa
Mattis Bizimana
Jared Burt
Jensen Burton
Zackary Carlson
Ty Caron
Haley Chandler
Camden Curtis

Tucker Curtis
Oliver Dennis
Luella Dolley
Jesse Doyle
Grant Emerson
Sophia Emerson
Jack Feldhaus
Abrie French
Gianna Gakunzi
Bailey Grimard
Neve Hanley
Annabelle Hatch
Kayleigh Hatfield
Henry Hofmann
Toren Johnson
Caroline Jones
Nathan Kelly-
Schadow
Alexander LaBarge
Piper LaClair
Fiona Lane
Madelyn Leeper
Natalie Lyford
Mackenzie Maheux
Lucy Mason
Jennifer Miner
Lillias Mooers
Yanis Munyaneza
Amanda Neumann
Amanda Olaru
Presley Parenteau
Connor Pellegore
Kasey Plaud
Nolan Plummer
Sophia Proulx
Grayson Randall
Nathan Reckert
Elle Rector
Aliza Rickett
Jackson Rousseau
Christopher Rumery
Isla Rutherford
Aaron Samara
Finnegan Senatore
Sophia Soler
Sophia Soule
Addison-Shane Spiller
Parker Thibault
Whitney Varney

Wyatt Walker
Cooper Warner
Emma Webster
Maggie Weeks
Ryleigh Wing
Dominic Woods

10th Grade High Honors

Rigel Arlet
Ryan Bachner
Zachary Bourgoin
Sara Brawn
Lillian Burgos
Luna Button
Kimarah Cajuste
Sheila Casco
Chloe Cyr
Hazel Dolley
Maia Downing
Antoine Dube
Hunter Finck
Jordyn Fotter
Everett Hurder
Lucas Lane
Brandon Levesque
Hannah Manchester
Elliana Miers
Drew Milligan
Larissa Moore
Elsie Moreno
Ishami Munyaneza
Haylie Nicely
Anna Nichols
Evelyn Prather
Jasmine Radjabova
Rowen Reed
Madison Rogers
Lauren Roy
Isabelle Smith
Lola Vance
Aylla Vaughn
Isaiah Whitehead
Sarah Wilson

10th Grade Honors

Astrid Daily Alfaro
Perez
Fatimah Almukhtar
Landan Ancitl

William Andreasen
Preston Brown
Collin Bunch
Gracin Bunch
Kayleigh Carlo
Josh Castonguay
Myles Clark
Harrison Crider
Harvey Crider
Dante Cuesta
Jack Cyr
Bennett Deveaux
Erica Donnelly
Lindsay Farquhar
Baxter Flagg
Tyler Gendron
Annabelle Gilman
Eddie Grimard
Abdulhalim
Hakizimana
Bavin Hakizimana
Evan Hall
Isaac Hunter
Levi Jensen
Anna Johnson
Claire Kennedy
Sean Kenny
Daniel LaBarge
Madelaine Lampron
Sofia Lembarra
Noah Lewellen
Audrey Livingston
Maxwell Lodge
Omar Manahe
Hannah Martel
Kylie Martorano
Emily McLean
Jack Mesires
Logan Mills
Rataj Nasr
Chloe Ndoli
Cael O'Sullivan
Samuel Ottoson
Gretchen Paul
Kennady Peary
Molly Peters
Keaton Pollard
Sydney Quimby
Stephen Richards

Adriana Russo
Nicholas Sallinen
Milo Saucier
Jack Sellick
Max Shvets
Cecelia Sloat
Abigail Stevens
Carter Taiani
Owen Todd
Alexander Tukey
Annabelle Vail
Isaac Vail
Charlotte Wallace
Kaitlyn Wallack
Henri Wichmann
Peyton Wilkins
Londyn Wright

11th Grade High Honors

Ali Abdulzahra
Hope Barney
Kaleigh Bauer
Jocelyn Clark
Grayson Cole
Grace Cunningham
Abigail Dalphonse
Madison Dalton
Ava DeVinney
Mia Dodd
Logan Doughty
Amelia Gephart
Katherine Gephart
Tabitha Lavigne
Hanna Logan
Derek Luo
Stella Moores
Eleonor Morgan
Liam O'Hora
Tyler Olson
Jacqueline Parenteau
Isabel Phinney
Natalie Pouliot
Elizabeth Springer
Haley Vickery
Tobias Wane
Atticus Whitten

11th Grade Honors

Colby Allie

Jackson Altham
Hunter Bacon-
Matheson
Abigail Baker
Jay Banks
Lily Beardsley
Gianna Berthiaume
Miles Brenner
Bria Bush
Aiden Cahill
Addison Campbell
Eli Castles
Cole Chasse
Annabelle Collier
Andrew Collins
Lena Cooley
Aubriana Cossitt
Cameron Cyr
Zoe Dellinger
Bryce Dipietrantonio
Kasey Downes
Quinn Drake
Lauren Dunbar
Isaiah Eling
Laurel Emerson
Ringer Engelter
Emily Fluet
Griffin Gava
Sophie Giberson
Lucas Graham
Madison Hatch
Kristan Hirwa
Benjamin Keil
Tamia Lema-Santellan
Matthew Leo
Lorisse Matta
Isabella McBrady
Tessa McNally
Nyssa Mocchiola
Winni Moreland
Rebecca Neumann
William Provost
Kassidy Quimby
Samuel Ricker
Terra Rioux
Connor Rounds
Shawn Rumery
Addyson Simcock
Ruby Soule

Carson
Southyvongnorath
Rebekah St John
Graham Staples
Thomas Sylvia
Taylor Tenuta
McGavin Turner
Sawyer VonderHaar
Shane Webber
Claudette Wesse
Adia Wezowicz
Natalie Wilkins
Elle Woodman
Preston Zwart

12th Grade High Honors

Brett Barney
Emily Beal
Laura Burt
Abigail Capponi
Abigail Chamberlin
Ashley Connolly
Katelyn Cyr
Gwyneth Dubail
Lucia Dubail
Lauren Fredette
Meghan Gendron
Viktoriai Halushchak
Bailey Hatch
Nicholas Kim
Kathryn LaPierre
Amanda Morin
Timothy Nagle
Amelia Olaru
Jimena Perez Massa
Payson Plummer
Sarah Rosingana
Celia Roy
Victoria Sands
Mina Sayed
Jacob Shvets
Brooke Stevens
Denali Tetrault
Madison Tibbals
Lily Tukey
Vanessa Walker

12th Grade Honors

Sofia Andrade

Harrison Baber
Raiyah Babinsky
Timothy Curtis
Aspenelle De Los
Reyes
Anastasia Dolley
Patrick Downey
Gavin Edwards
Taylor Ernest
Gabrielle Evans
Joshua Faatz
Mason Finck
Aryana Flett
Piper Forgues
Hadley Foster
Finn Henderson
Lucia Holloway
Violet James
William Johnson
Kuba Kaczmarek
Sophie Kaczmarek
Alivia Keniston
Rebekah Libby
Alyssia Manchester
Chafek Matta
Natalie Miner
Kayleigh Mitchell
Lindy Moreland
Wyatt Nadeau
Diego Perez McLeod
Abraham Rabbani
Julia Reed
Kory Rolbiecki
Ella Senatore
Natalie Smith
Julie Stevens
Dylan Taiani
Nailton Thibodeau
Ethan Verrill
Alauna Worden

Congratulations
Students!

AROUND TOWN

Thanks to the Public Works Street Sweepers. They're scheduled to finish up the street sweeping this week.

"Sweet Thai" on Elm Street is now open.

OF INTEREST

Cressey Road Christian Church at 81 Cressey Road has buckets ready for planting in their Free Community Garden. Reserve a set of buckets or just a few. FMI and application, Lorraine Lindstedt, lindcabin@gmail.com, (207) 839-3111.

Calling all Earth lovers and gardeners. Join the Climate Caretakers to view a video and discuss the topics of Invasives and Pesticides. Fellowship Hall, First Parish Church, 1 Church St., on Friday, May 9 at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Gorham Public Works Spring 2025 Brush Drop Off Days, 80 Huston Road, Saturday, May 10, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Residents only, no commercial drop off, no stumps. Leaves and grass clippings are accepted in the designated area throughout the season.

Get ready for Shaw Cherry Hill Farm Parkrun/Walk beginning on Saturday, May 10 at 8:45 a.m. Parkrun is a free community event where you can walk, run, jog, volunteer or spectate. In conjunction with Gorham Rec, Parkrun is part of an international non-profit. Gorham's event will take place every Saturday morning (seasonal in Maine) followed by coffee at a local small business. Positive and welcoming, every run includes a trail angel, so no one finishes last. With a huge international presence in England and Australia, it is just starting to gain traction in the USA.

Cricket Comforts Gathering, to create pillowcases for the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital and PICU, will be Saturday, May 10 at the Gorham Recreation Building's (Shaw Gym) multipurpose room, Ball Park Rd, Gorham from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. FMI: Heidi at cricketcomforts@yahoo.com

Gorham/Windham/Westbrook TRIAD will meet on Wednesday, May 14 at 11 a.m. at the Gorham Police Station. The speaker is Marieta Atienza. Off for the summer, the next meeting will be Sept. 10 at 11 a.m.

First Parish Church will hold their 5th Annual Spring Fair on Friday and Saturday, May 16 and 17, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. with great deals on books, games, puzzles, plants, jewelry and garden crafts. Baked goods on Saturday only.

The Gorham High School History Club will present the award-winning documentary film "Dakota 38" in the GHS auditorium on Friday, May 16 at 7 p.m. This film was directed by Gorham resident, Silas Hagerty. It follows the 2008 journey of a group of Native Americans who rode 330 miles from South Dakota to Minnesota on horseback to honor the 38 Dakota men who were hanged on Dec. 26, 1862, in the

largest mass execution in U.S. history. The film is 1 hour, 18 minutes long. Free and open to the public.

The Maine Agricultural Mediation Program (MAMP) is soliciting original artwork for its 2026 wall calendar and notecards with a submission deadline of May 20. The 2026 materials, which showcase artwork by Maine-based artists, will celebrate the theme of farming and tending to the land and sea throughout the seasons. Visit the program website for more information: <https://extension.umaine.edu/agriculture/agricultural-mediation/>

Presumpscot Regional Land Trust invites community members to respond to an online survey by May 30. The survey can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/j49pths5>. FMI, contact Will Sedlack, executive director at will@prlt.org. Presumpscot Regional Land Trust, P.O. Box 33, Gorham, ME 04038

Gorham Public Works has started with rough street sweeping and will start with scheduled street sweeping as weather and snow melting permit. Please see below for full route information. Updates to the schedule will be made public as soon as the dates are determined. FMI: (207) 222-4950 or dpw@gorham.me.us. The schedule is posted online at: <https://www.gorham-me.org/home/news/2025-street-sweeping-schedule>

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

The Gorham Medical Loan Closet is available to Gorham residents in need of medical equipment temporarily. Wheelchairs, walkers, canes and scooters are just some of the items available. The closet is only open Monday thru Thursday, and only by appointment. Call Gerry Day at (207) 756-2210 or (207) 839-3859

The Mission of Hope Clothes Closet is open the first and third Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to noon at Cressey Road Christian Church on Cressey Road to anyone who needs clothing. The Closet also takes donations of clean clothing, and now has all types and sizes of spring and summer clothing. Share a cup of coffee with the staff while you browse.


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 noon and is free for any Gorham resident in need. FMI, (207) 222-4351, visit www.gorhamfoodpantry.org or contact us at director@gorhamfoodpantry.org

SENIOR NEWS


The Senior Meal Site at St. Anne's Church takes place weekly on Wednesdays at noon, 299 Main Street Social time begins at 11:30 a.m. Suggested donation is \$4. Meal site is closed if school 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.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14


(207) 839-3300




pogorealty.com




GORHAM \$200,000 - This new North Gorham subdivision offers 5-lots to choose from ranging in size from 1.47-acres to 3.20-acres. The lots are all surveyed with soils tests available. Relatively flat and level building envelopes. The 200+ feet of street frontage on each parcel is along paved public roads. You'll love NO HOA fees, restrictions or bylaws to live by. Lot #5 has sufficient density to allow for a 2-unit with 3.2 acres. Just minutes to North Windham shopping.




BUXTON \$329,500 – Affordable antique Buxton Cape located in the heart of West Buxton Village. It was just upgraded with new siding, windows, new interior paint and a brand-new bathroom. It's ready for you to move right in! You'll love the character and charm this home offers inside and out. The kitchen is open to a sunlit dining area overlooking the private brick patio. Front living room with built-ins, wood floors and a parlor stove. Offers views of the Saco River located just across the street.




GORHAM \$620,000 - This gorgeous condo is located in desirable Stonefield Condos at Pheasant Knoll. You'll love this end unit with an airy open concept nicely upgraded from top to bottom with a 2-car garage, four-season room and full basement for storage. The spacious kitchen with expanded island is open to the dining area and living room with gas fireplace, all flooded with natural light. The first-floor primary bedroom with walk-in closet and its own private bath.




GORHAM \$679,000 - This stunning ranch offers the convenience of easy one-floor living! This well cared for home is immaculate inside and out. Step through the front door and you'll love this floor plan. The front entry leads you to the sunlit living room with cathedral ceilings, hardwood floors & parlor stove which is open to both the tiled kitchen and the formal dining room. The mature landscaping is gorgeous including perennial gardens, flowering trees, hardscape walks and fruit trees.




GORHAM \$385,000 - Affordable ranch style home with 2-car garage conveniently located just 2.7 miles from Gorham Village. Eat-in kitchen open to a family room with built-ins overlooking the backyard, sunlit living room w/ hardwood floors & wood burning fireplace, 2 bedrooms and a full bath complete the first floor. On the lower level there is a finished bonus room & a 2nd full bathroom along with unfinished storage space. Relax on the front porch or the back 3 season room.



Julie Chandler



Mike Griffin



Peter Mason

13 | Gorham Times | gorhamtimes@gmail.com | May 8, 2025 | Since 1995 — A FREE, Biweekly Community Newspaper

The Lecky Brown Senior Center meets for games and cribbage on Mondays from 10 a.m. - noon. Wednesday's Guest Speaker program, the Originals, begins with coffee at 10 a.m. then speaker/presentation to begin at 10:30 a.m. Upcoming speakers include Osher Map Library, author Elizabeth De Wolf, Carol Bailey String Band, and USM Professor Libby Bischoff. All are welcome, 3rd floor First Parish Church. FMI: Lisa Becker at leckybrowncenter@gmail.com

PUBLIC SUPPERS

Buxton Centre Baptist Church on Long Plains Road is holding a Bean Supper on Saturday, May 10, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. \$10 per person. Take out orders available if you call ahead and leave a message with your name and phone number, call (207) 929-3011.

Cressey Road Christian Church will have a bean supper on Saturday, May 10 at 5 p.m. Two kinds of beans will be served along with hot dogs, cole slaw and macaroni and cheese, rolls and assorted desserts. All are welcome. \$10 adults, \$5 ages 7 – 17, under 7 is free.

Summit Community Church at 26 Cressey Road will hold their next Potluck with a Purpose on Friday, May 30 at 6:30 p.m. The potluck will focus on the multi-faceted collaborative international organization called “Our Rescue.” Save the date.

LIBRARY NEWS

The North Gorham Public Library is open Monday and Wednesday, 3 – 6 p.m., Tuesday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 3 – 6 p.m., Thursday and Friday closed, Saturday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., Sunday closed. Story Hour is every Wednesday 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Baxter Memorial will have an author talk with Matt Cost, author of his latest mystery thriller, “Mainely Mayhem.” The Morning Book Club meets on Thursdays at 10:15 a.m., and the Evening Book Club meets on last Tuesdays at 6 p.m. The Library has an extensive listing of events at their website, <https://baxter-library.org/>. Library hours are Monday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (207) 222-1190.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Gorham Food Pantry is seeking volunteer delivery-van drivers to assist with food pick up and deliveries on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Drivers rotate from week to week. Must have a clean driving record and be able to lift up to 50 pounds. An on-line application is available. Please email the Pantry Director at director@gorhamfoodpantry.org.

HELP WANTED: On Point Self Storage on Main Street in Gorham has a part-time position with flexible hours. To apply, contact Elizabeth Atkinson, (207) 600-7190, liz@onpointselfstorage.com.

Pampered care for petite paws for small dogs in our home. Just like your home you can travel rest assured that your pup will have lots of love, socialization and be safe. At our cozy haven your pup becomes a cherished member of our pack without the use of gates or crates. With a spacious fenced in backyard and dog proof interior we ensure a safe and comfortable environment. 19 years and insured. Dog walks weather permitting and if pup enjoys. We also offer day care on Tuesday and Wednesday. Many dogs need socialization time - call or text Lorie (207) 838-0132. <http://www.smalldogscare.com/>

Painting Special - Get your home ready for Spring by using our "Fall Painting Special." We will paint any 3 rooms for you (up to 12'X15'), walls and ceilings included. Price includes minor prep work on walls prior to painting. Labor and materials are included for only \$995.00. All you do is pick your colors. We have endless references and are a fully insured Family-Owned Business since 1970. Webber Painting, Standish (207) 671-3556.

CALENDAR

- Thursday, May 8**
Baxter Memorial Library
Toddler Storytime, 10 a.m.
Friends of Baxter Memorial Library, Annual Meeting, 6:15 p.m., All are welcome.
- Friday, May 9**
Baxter Memorial Library Play to Learn Workshop, 10 - 11:30 a.m.
Climate Caretakers video and discussion, "Invasives and Pesticides," 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, May 10**
Gorham Public Works Spring Brush Drop Off Day, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Cherry Hill Farm Parkrun/Walk, 8:45 a.m.
Cricket Comforts Gathering, Gorham Rec, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Buxton Centre Baptist Church Bean Supper, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.
Cressey Road Christian Church Bean Supper, 5 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 13**
Baxter memorial Library Preschool Storytime, 10 a.m.
- Wednesday, May 14**
Baxter Memorial Library Baby Storytime, 9:30 a.m.
Gorham/Windham/Westbrook TRIAD guest speaker Marieta Atienza, Gorham Police Station, 11 a.m.
- Thursday, May 15**
Baxter Memorial Library
Toddler Storytime, 10 a.m.
Book Club, "How to Read a Book" by Monica Wood, 10:15 a.m.
- Friday, May 16**
Baxter Memorial Library Play to Learn Workshop, 10 - 11:30 a.m.
First Parish Church 5th Annual Spring Fair, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
GHS History Club, "Dakota 38" in GHS Auditorium, 7 p.m.
- Saturday, May 17**
Baxter Memorial Library Pokémon Club, 10 a.m.- 12 p.m.
First Parish Church 5th Annual Spring Fair, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 20**
Baxter Memorial Library, Frankie Turns One!, 10 - 11 a.m.
- Wednesday, May 21**
Baxter Memorial Library Author Talk, Matt Cost, author of "The Not So Merry Adventures of Max Creed, 6 p.m.
Gorham High School, Academic Awards Night, 6 - 8 p.m.
- Friday, May 30**
Summit Community Church "Potluck with a Purpose," 6:30 p.m.

Send calendar items, public service announcements and events to
Lori Arsenaault, public service coordinator: loriaam@gmail.com



**GORHAM PUBLIC WORKS
WILL BE ACCEPTING BRUSH**

**SATURDAY, MAY 10TH
8 A.M. TO 3 P.M.**

**GORHAM
RESIDENTS
ONLY**

NO STUMPS ACCEPTED

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Courtesy of the Gorham Police Department

the blotter

Caller reported an intoxicated man who attempted to get into their business but then left. Officer located him at Cumberland Farms and ID'd him verbally. He refused a ride to Westbrook from Gorham PD, so he was told where the bus stop is.

An intoxicated man walked down Ossipee Trail. Officer gave him a ride to Rusty Lantern in Portland.

Caller thought she heard someone trying to get into the residence. Officer checked and everything was normal. No footprints around the residence in the snow.

Potential verbal argument at the Libby Avenue bus station. Caller said she could hear people yelling, but they had gotten onto the bus to Portland.

Two Rottweilers had run off from their property and have been added to our list.

Negative contact for a vehicle getting close to caller's bumper.

Caller was concerned about a female dog running around the South Street rotary. Caller brought it back to the owner and they, "didn't seem to care" about the dog. She just wanted to let us know.

Caller wanted to report a vehicle that had been flashing it lights behind him, then passed him on the right side. Caller admitted he was driving slow and that the other person was driving too fast.

Officer received a report of a Yukon truck that had gone off the road in the area of Carriage Hill Road and Waterhouse Road. Officer checked the area and did not find any Yukons, but did find a couple of woodsmen.

Vehicle moved upon contact with owner.

Caller was concerned about a scam because they gave their address to someone on Give It Away Gorham. Officer advised their address was public information and not to send money for free stuff if the poster asked for money when advertising something as "free."

Negative contact for a vehicle who was getting close to caller's bumper.

Owner and dog reunited.

Both parties were warned for harassing each other, and both were made aware that if this continues both will be served harassment paperwork. They both understand.

Subject taking a nap. No crime. He moved on.

Funeral for K9 Preacher.

Delayed motor vehicle crash in a driveway.

Officer responded to Buxton for what was reported as a fight in the middle of the road, and someone might be down.

Caller reported being followed by another car and said they yelled at him.

CryptoVerse Solution by A. Logophile

RESISTANCE RISES, BREED WITH PATHOS.
SCRAMBLED SIGNATURES HAVE LED TO CHAOS,
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