

Gorham Times

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Students Take On Real World Problems at Model UN

Kelli Deveau, Staff Writer



Photo Credit: Courtesy of University of Southern Maine

Student Delegates Cast Their Votes During Maine Model United Nations.

On May 14 to May 16 this year, the University of Southern Maine Gorham Campus was transformed into a simulation of the world's premier organization for global partnership. Gorham High School students joined those from more than 25 other schools across Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont as delegates to the Maine Model United Nations Conference (MeMUNC).

Similar to the actual United Nations, students represent different countries and their interests while working

through real-world dilemmas in a series of committee meetings and work sessions that were staged across the USM campus. Students learn about global issues and engage in debates to identify solutions that a majority of delegates can agree on during the General Assembly.

Some of the topics debated at the USM conference this year included labor rights in the time of energy transition, protecting maritime archaeol-

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New Public Lands in Downtown Gorham

Chris Crawford, Features Editor



Photo Credit: Ross Donihue /Presumpscot Regional Land Trust

Beautiful forests and wetlands in the Gorham Community Forest will become part of the crosstown trail system, expanding a continuous greenspace for recreation in downtown Gorham.

Presumpscot Regional Land Trust is excited to announce the creation of the Gorham Community Forest, a 50-plus acre parcel of land which will be preserved as a new natural sanctuary in the center

of Gorham. With plans to open in 2026, the Community Forest will include over a mile of scenic trails with boardwalks over

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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.

Gazebo Summer Concert Series Begins

Cathy Walter, Staff Writer



Photo Credit: Cathy Walter

Gorham Rec. Department's Summer Concert Series is a popular outdoor activity for music lovers.

It's that time of year again, so mark every summer Tuesday evening from 6-7:30 off on your calendars now and swing by the Town Gazebo beside Baxter Library on South Street to enjoy a peaceful evening under the setting sun listening to a wide range of music with your family, friends, and neighbors.

The Gorham Recreation Department sponsors the Gorham Gazebo Concert Series, which originally was held on Main Street by the old Municipal building before the gazebo was relocated to its current location. Gorham Rec. has been providing a venue for local talent for

over 25 years, and attendance of families of all sizes and shapes continues to grow.

"Our music over the course of the summer varies quite a bit!" shared Cindy Hazelton, Gorham Parks and Recreation Director. "It is so fun to see a large crowd grab their lawn chairs, blankets, a picnic dinner and come to the shows. Kids love to dance and twirl to the



Photo Credit: Cathy Walter

Bring your own lawn chairs and your dinner, and enjoy the music with family, friends, and neighbors. See the schedule on Page 10

music and the atmosphere is very inviting!"

All concerts are free and open to the public, so don't miss a performance in this summer's lineup shown below. In case of rain, the venue is moved inside to Shaw Gym. See the schedule on Page 10 and at the Gorham Rec. website, <https://gorhamme.myrec.com/> or call (207) 222-1630.



Photo Credit: Cathy Walter

Summer Thursdays

Gorham Times Staff



Summer Thursdays are back. Join friends, neighbors, and mobile eateries every Thursday from 4 - 8 p.m.

From June 26 through August 28, a collection of food trucks gather at the Little Falls Recreation Area (664 Gray Road, Gorham) to serve the public with a delightful assortment of summertime favorite foods. Each week features a rotating lineup of food trucks, so there's always something new to try.

Visit <https://gorhammaine.org> or call (207) 222-1620 to check out each week's lineup of vendors.



Photo Credit: Gorham Times Staff

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**GHS SENIOR AND ACADEMIC
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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.

Justice Is A Right, Here’s How We Protect it

Rep. Ellie Sato

Every Mainer has a constitutional right to due process — which includes timely legal representation — just as we have a right to freedom of speech and the right to equal protection under the law. However, access to justice across the state has been diminished, as many defendants in criminal proceedings haven’t been able to access legal representation and have experienced long court delays. As a member of the Legislature’s Judiciary Committee, I see it as our responsibility to develop policy that ensures justice and due process are accessible to everyone in Maine.

Many low-income people in Maine who are facing criminal charges can’t afford counsel, something that should never depend on a person’s wealth. This situation has culminated in the Robbins v. State of Maine case regarding this constitutional violation of Mainers’ rights. The U.S. Constitution, via the Sixth Amendment, guarantees the accused in all criminal prosecutions the right to a speedy trial and an effective attorney. On March 7, the Maine Supreme Judicial Court handed down a decision in the Robbins case that ordered the state to form a plan to meet this constitutional obligation.

In response to the Robbins case ruling, the Judiciary Committee worked together to develop bipartisan legislation to address this legal crisis. That legislation was LD 1101, An Act to Address the Limited Availability of Counsel in Courts to Represent Indigent Parties in Matters Affecting Their Fundamental Rights. This bill will better ensure that all Mainers’ have their Sixth Amendment right to an attorney fulfilled.

As amended, LD 1101 creates five new public defender positions to help represent criminal defendants who do not yet have attorneys. It also creates two paralegal positions and one legal administrator position

to support the new public defenders in their handling of these cases. Due to the emergency nature of the crisis, the bill also allows for the courts to appoint private attorneys to indigent defendants who currently have charges pending, but cannot afford a lawyer. These provisions will expire on February 1, 2026, and are intended to help the public defense system quickly work through the immediate need for representation. Through much work, negotiations, and debate, the Legislature passed this bill and it is now law.

Addressing the Robbins case has been one of our highest priorities, and the core issue at hand is the widespread backlog of cases, both criminal and civil, in the courts. In order for us to prevent crises like the one that brought about the Robbins case, we must address the backlog. This means that we must not only ensure counsel for low-income defendants in criminal cases who have yet to have their day in court, but we must also provide better access to counsel for those seeking help in civil matters.

Those working in civil legal-aid services are on the frontlines of helping some of the most vulnerable people in Maine. This includes individuals who are facing eviction or foreclosure, experiencing exploitation or physical violence, and those seeking safety from intimate partner violence or elder abuse. Winning or losing one of these cases can often mean the difference between life and death. Having a lawyer drastically improves the odds. But what happens when someone can’t afford a lawyer? This is where civil legal-aid plays a large role in helping those who need a lifeline remain on their feet.

However, there aren’t enough lawyers working in civil legal aid here in Maine to ensure that everyone who needs counsel has access to a lawyer. The National Center for Access to

Justice estimates that each state should have 10 civil legal- aid lawyers for every 10,000 people living below 200% of the federal poverty line. Right now, Maine is only at three civil legal-aid lawyers for every 10,000 people. We have a lot of work to do in order to reach that goal. That’s why, in the Judiciary Committee, we have also been working on finding ways to increase access to civil legal aid across the state, particularly through LD 1022, An Act to Protect and Increase Access to Justice in Civil Legal Matters for Persons with Low Incomes. Passing this bill would ensure that we are dedicating adequate resources to help the most vulnerable members of our community by increasing their access to justice.

I’m proud of the work that our committee has done so far on these critical issues, but these bills are only incremental steps to work toward a permanent resolution to the crisis our justice system is facing. There is much more that needs to be done, and I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues on the Judiciary Committee to ensure that every Mainer has access to justice.

I encourage you to reach out to me any time with concerns about issues you care about, questions on policy or legislation, ideas on ways to better our community, or even just to introduce yourself. Please don’t hesitate to email me at ellie.sato@legislature.maine.gov, or call the House Democratic Office at (207) 287-1430.



Rep. Ellie Sato, D-Gorham, is serving her first term in the Maine House of Representatives and is a member of the Legislature’s Judiciary 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,

As your elected Gorham School Committee, we write to urge voters to support the proposed FY26 School Budget by voting Yes on or before June 10.

This year’s budget process, which began back in October 2024, has been called our most collaborative budget season yet. We want to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our School District Leadership Team, Town Staff, the Gorham Town Council, and the Gorham Fiscal Sustainability Committee for their support and contributions that informed our final version of this school budget.

We understand the economic challenges facing our community. Throughout this process, the School Committee worked hard to balance the needs of our students and the impact to taxpayers. In doing so, we made difficult decisions just to maintain the status quo—including the elimination of teaching positions, reductions in central office and contracted services, and reductions through collaboration with the town.

Despite these reductions, the proposed budget reflects our top priorities:

- Recruit and retain a high-quality educator workforce
- Ensure safe, well-maintained school

facilities

- Sustain a reliable transportation staff

With this proposed budget, Gorham remains one of the most cost-efficient school systems in Cumberland County— ranking 12th of 13 in both per-pupil spending and system administration costs. At the same time, outcomes are strong: Gorham ranks 5th in graduation rates (96.5%), 94% of seniors graduate with an approved plan, and parent satisfaction exceeds 90% at all levels. We are proud of our students’ accomplishments.

This budget reflects real community collaboration and represents the lowest requested school-related mil rate increase in over a decade. We’re proud of the result and hope you will join us in moving Gorham forward by voting Yes on or before June 10.

The Gorham School Committee: Sarah Perkins, Chair, Nicole Yeo-Fisher, Vice Chair, Mia DeSanctis, Michelle Littlefield, Jaci Reynolds, Eric Thistle, Jennifer Whitehead

To the Editor,

In the May 22 issue of the Gorham Times, Marilyn Amoroso asked Gorham residents to turn away from support for safe and legal abortions, gender-affirming care, and a free press accessible to all Americans. Gorham is

a beautiful town because it embraces people from all walks of life. We celebrate queer community members at Gorham Pride. We celebrate people who have moved to Gorham from around the world with events like the recent Flavors of Our Community event at Gorham High School. I am proud to be living and volunteering in Gorham, and so happy to have a family in a community of welcoming, love, and respect.

Kassidy Helfant, Gorham

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TOWN OF GORHAM SCHOOL BUDGET REFERENDUM ELECTION

Pursuant to MRSA, Title 21A, Sec 101, you are hereby notified that the Registrar for the Town of Gorham, Maine will hold the following office hours for the purpose of registering voters and making corrections to the voter list:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, June 3 through June 5, 2025,
7 a.m. - 5 p.m., and
Monday, June 9, 2025,
7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Laurie Nordfors
Town Clerk

Gorham Times

BRINGING THE NEWS TO ALL OF GORHAM
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The Gorham Times is a free volunteer-run community newspaper distributed every other Thursday to more than 100 pick-up sites throughout Gorham.

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Sports: sports@gorhamtimes.com
Of Interest/Calendar: loriaam@gmail.com
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Ad deadline is the Wednesday of the week prior to issue date. Go to gorhamtimes.com and click on the advertising link for schedule.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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Upcoming Advertising Deadlines
June 11
June 19
Summer Break
July 17

DEP Goes to Gorham

JoAnn Leib, Staff Writer



Photo Credit: Carol Molchior

Ward Hill’s “vegetated underdrain soil filter” or stormwater pond, holding all of the stormwater from both the Snowbird and Ward Hill developments.

Last month the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) dispatched three of its officials to Carol Molchior’s home in the Lawn Avenue neighborhood of Gorham. The visit began publicly months ago with Ms. Molchior’s Letter to the Editor, published in the Sept. 26, 2024 issue of the Gorham Times.

The DEP representatives, Robert Wood, director of Bureau of Land Resources; Kerem Gungor, senior environmental engineer; and Holliday Keen, DEP project manager, were in Gorham to evaluate the twice-flooded Molchior home and property, and the three also met with a group of other frustrated Lawn Avenue homeowners who had experienced sudden, disastrous and prolonged flooding

as well. Adjacent to the Molchior property were condominiums that had been built on excavated higher ground, above the Lawn Avenue neighborhood, where a spillway may have been incorrectly placed, and trees removed and not strategically replaced.

The DEP officials took their time on Lawn Avenue, declining direct commentary for the most part. Keen, however, observed during the site walk that, “One thing is clear; the spillway’s in the wrong place.” She referenced a spillway channel dug in 2020, which showed on-site plans provided by the Town after Molchior’s FOIA request.

Meanwhile anchor/reporter Sam DeCoste and his film crew from

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Letters to the Editor

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To the Editor,

I am writing in support of the proposed Gorham budgets and to urge our community to vote Yes on the school budget referendum on June 10. Last year’s budget passed by just two votes — your vote matters!

Over the past year, I had the privilege of participating on the Joint Fiscal Sustainability Committee. The most valuable lesson I took away from this experience was how much common ground we can find when we sit down at the table together, open to these sometimes difficult conversations. As a committee member, I saw firsthand how hard our community is working to balance taxpayer costs with the needs of our students. Our schools have heard our fiscal concerns, and this year’s budget represents that difficult balance.

The proposed taxpayer increase this year is only 3.15%, the lowest in over ten years and in line with the one-year consumer price index increase for the Northeast. Our schools continue to be among the lowest cost per pupil in Cumberland County. Despite our low costs, we have the 5th highest graduation rate in Cumberland County and students in Gorham are scoring above the state average in ELA, Math, and Science. Our schools use tax dollars efficiently: less than 8% of our budget goes to administration, and 72.4% goes directly to classrooms — the 3rd highest in Cumberland County.

Research shows that a community’s strength and school’s performance go hand in hand. Let’s support our schools, teachers, children, and our community with a Yes vote on June 10th!

Christy Damon, Gorham

To the Editor,

I urge citizens to vote ‘yes’ and support our school budget on the June 10th ballot.

This year’s budget proposes the smallest year-over-year increase to our mil-rate in a decade. Town and school staff and committees worked diligently to answer the cries of residents clamoring for tax relief, while still meeting the needs of our students and the unfunded mandates of state and federal law — but we must recognize that our budget challenges cannot be solved by cutting costs alone.

In recent decades, the median value of a Gorham home has increased at a rate far higher than our school budget increases. Despite sharp increases in recent memory, the school budget has generally tracked relatively close to the consumer price index over time. Labor costs are the driver of our budget; if costs of living increase, then so will our town and school budgets. Some vocal residents have argued that new development in and around our village risks raising taxes further — but the actual data demonstrates that the opposite is true: the more we restrict development around our village, the more we drive up our own housing costs. The more we force new housing further out of town, the higher our costs for transportation, electricity, internet, etc. Gorham has been ignoring these financial realities for decades, and the rising costs are now reaching a fever pitch here in our community.

We must recognize that the policies of recent decades have delivered us these current challenges, and we must adapt our approach if we want to build a more sustainable budget moving forward. As a parent, I stand up to invest in our community and fund responsible education that provides the foundation for our future. I urge my fellow citizens to join me in supporting our school budget.

Lou Simms, Gorham Town Councilor

Looking For a Third Space, or a Local Market?

Abigail Chamberlin, GHS Intern



Photo Credit: Abigail Chamberlin

Places To Relax and Spend Time in Third Space Market and Variety of Products Available at Third Space Market

Third Space Market opened this past April at 18 Elm Street Unit 2 in Gorham, and provides a comfortable space for everyone. With cozy couches, chairs, and desks, the market truly acts as a third space for Gorham, equipped with drinks, snacks, and games. Michelle and Tristan Littlefield, the owners of Third Space Market, are long-time residents of Gorham and saw a lack of places for people to socialize and relax.

“COVID-19 made sure that everybody just stopped talking to each other,” said Tristan, “And Gorham needs places that people can just go, hang out, and meet up...That’s where you get to meet your neighbors, and where you can just chat about what’s happening in town. In our little community.” Tristan noted that Third Space Market is a good example of a place where anyone can come sit down, study, play games, meet people, or pass time. In addition to its purpose as a third space for Gorham, the market also sells a variety of products, food, and crafts.

Third Space was intentionally laid out so that you can see across the store, rather than in rows “Where you can’t see anyone. Everything here is centered around making it feel like one space,” described Tristan.

Third Space Market holds everything from custom t-shirts and mugs, to toys and postcards, to sandwiches and drinks, to local crafts and products. It intentionally carries many products that can’t be found in typical stores, and does its best to support Maine-based creators and crafters. The market offers pieces by Chris Newcomb, a local artist, and jewelry made in Windham by Maire Trombley, for example.

Alden Rofe, additionally, is an avid fisherman, only 13 years old, whose products are being sold at Third Space Market. He creates flies for fishing, and many have noted Alden’s impressive and meticulous craftsmanship. The flies look like realistic bugs, and are created tightly and carefully.

Their quality is noticeable, even to those who aren’t as knowledgeable about fishing, and one would absolutely be unsure that the creator was 13 upon studying them. “It’s cool to meet these people who...whenever they’ve got free time, go home and work on their passions and hobbies,” said Tristan.

As well as selling primarily local and Maine-made products, several of Third Space Market’s commodities give back to the community monetarily. A collection of “Modern t-shirt designs representing real Gorham history” make up the Fictitious Gorham line, of which depictions of the Gambo Falls Powder Mill and the Little River Sawmill are only two examples. The t-shirts were designed by Michelle Littlefield, and a portion of all Fictitious Gorham sales are donated to the Gorham Historical Society, while other items in Third Space Market give a portion of their sales to the Backpack Program and other local nonprofits.

“We get to choose what we promote now that we own a business,” Tristan explained. “This gives us a much stronger voice.” Similar to helping nonprofit organizations through donations, the Littlefields are able to promote things they believe in through their products. Offering locally-made items promotes Maine’s small businesses, selling outdoor toys and games promotes spending time outside, and providing a safe, comfortable environment promotes connection in Gorham.

According to the Littlefields, Third Space Market is “Primarily meant to support the local community and the people hanging out here,” and to offer a third space for Gorham to enjoy. It is closed on Mondays, open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday and Tuesday through Thursday, and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Whether you’re looking for a third space, or a local market, Third Space Market is the place to go.



Photo Credit: Abigail Chamberlin

Shown left: Alden Rofe’s Homemade Flies For Sale at Third Space Market. Shown right: Fictitious Gorham T-Shirts For Sale at Third Space Market

Your Body and the Importance of Brain Health

Linda Whitten, Contributing Writer

Your brain is the control center of your entire body. It manages everything, including your thoughts and movements. The brain and the heart are connected, and what is good for the heart is also good for the brain. Your heart-brain connection is important because the brain is nourished by your body's network of blood vessels. Keeping your heart in good working order helps keep your brain fueled to do its job.

Many diseases can affect the brain. For example, Alzheimer's disease progressively destroys brain cells as it moves throughout the brain. More functions are affected as the disease progresses. While the greatest known risk factor for Alzheimer's disease is increasing age, the disease is not a normal part of the aging process.

As we get older, it's common to experience some age-related changes to memory or thinking abilities. Forgetting where you left something, but being able to retrace your steps to find it is normal. However, not being able to retrace your steps or not knowing the purpose of the misplaced item is not normal and could be a sign of dementia or Alzheimer's. While there are currently no proven methods to prevent cognitive decline or dementia, research has shown that you can take action to reduce your risk of developing it and help maintain or potentially improve your overall health.

Many factors can impact your health, including genes, family history, environment and lifestyle. As you age, it's common to experience similar changes – like getting gray hair, developing wrinkles or needing reading glasses. As individuals, we experience aging in many different ways, due in part to our genes.

A healthy lifestyle is supported by healthy habits. Quality sleep is essential for overall health and well-being. Adults should aim for no less than six hours of sleep each night. Inadequate sleep due to conditions like insomnia or sleep apnea can cause problems with memory and thinking. Sleep apnea is a condition in

which breathing stops and restarts many times while you are sleeping. Not only does sleep allow you to rest and recharge, it also affects your ability to maintain healthy blood pressure and control diabetes.

Another important factor is your mental health. You may have a lot on your plate – maybe you care for others, are juggling a heavy workload or dealing with life's unexpected surprises. Pay attention to your stress level and any symptoms of anxiety, depression or other mental health concerns. These affect the health of your brain.

Lastly, keep moving. There is quite a lot of research on how physical activity affects your brain and helps keep you healthy. Many studies have found that consistent physical activity is associated with lower risk of cognitive decline. Some researchers say that if people had to choose one thing to do to improve their brain functioning, it should be physical activity.

Make time for self-care – you are not being selfish. Talk with your doctor about how you are feeling, both physically and mentally. For more information about Alzheimer's disease and all other dementia, contact the Alzheimer's Association. A free 24/7 Helpline is available, providing access to many resources. Call 800-272-3900 or visit ALZ.org to explore educational programs.



Linda Whitten, a long-time resident of Gorham, recently retired from a 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.

Maine Residents are Invited to a
Free Alzheimer's Educational Conference
Sponsored by the Alzheimer's Foundation of America
Wednesday, June 11 - from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
at the Portland Regency Hotel & Spa (20 Milk Street)

The free conference is open to everyone. Participants can learn from experts in the field of Alzheimer's disease, brain health, caregiving, and aging. Free, confidential memory screenings will be conducted throughout the day. Advance registration is highly recommended by visiting <https://alzfdn.org/tour/>

The Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide support, services and education to individuals, families and caregivers affected by Alzheimer's disease and related dementias nationwide and to fund research for better treatment and a cure. Its services include a National Toll-Free Helpline (866) 232-8484 staffed by licensed social workers; caregiver support groups; educational programs and publications for caregivers; dementia-care training for healthcare professionals; the National Memory Screening Program; and more.

For more information about AFA, call (866) 232-8484, visit <https://alzfdn.org/> or connect with us on Facebook, X (Twitter), Instagram, or LinkedIn. AFA holds Charity Navigator's top 4-star rating.

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

Emerald Ash Borers in Gorham

Gorham Times Staff

Gorham is located squarely in the quarantine area of Southern Maine that is experiencing an influx of emerald ash borers (EAB) which are devastating Maine ash trees. First seen in Maine in 2018, this destructive insect invader from Asia is quickly spreading into Maine and across the U.S. where it has killed hundreds of millions of ash trees.

All native ash species found in Maine forests are at risk: white, green, and brown, as well as non-natives such as European ash, planted in yards, along city and town streets and in parks. Mountain ash (*Sorbus spp.*) is not susceptible.

Visible signs of EAB are difficult to spot because the adult beetle is tiny and hard to detect. It also spends most of its life cycle as a larva under the bark of ash trees. When populations in a tree build up, prevalent signs of woodpecker feeding will be noticeable in a pattern called blanding.

Even our cold Maine winters will not kill the borer larvae which are also protected from extreme cold from cold polar vortexes.

Early detection and timely treatment with an insecticide can help save street and yard ash trees. State officials and land managers are experimenting with biological parasites which can attack the larvae and eggs.

Experts are recommending that NO new ash trees be planted to replace diseased or dead ones.

Once established, EAB's will never go away, but contagion can be slowed by careful handling of firewood, which is the main way the contagion is spread.

Slow the spread and be part of the solution. Only use local firewood or travel with certified heat-treated wood. Seasoned and kiln-dried wood does not count as certified heat-treated. Dispose of any ash tree debris on site.

Model UN CONTINUED FROM PAGE1

ogy and marine animals, communications resilience, sustainable tourism, and responding to extreme heat. There was also a Historical Committee, which required students to simulate events from a historical period (1993). Students on the Historical Committee debated the 1993 Budapest Memorandum and securing peace in the Balkans.

During the closing ceremony held on Friday, Maine Senate President Mattie Daughtry was the featured speaker.

The conference is organized by Professor Rebecca Gibbons and Professor Timothy Ruback of the USM Political Science Department. USM students help to run the conference and chair the committees.

GHS teacher and Model United Nations advisor Amy Smith noted the benefits of such an experience. "Model UN helps students develop skills in many areas including leadership, problem solving, public speaking, diplomacy, research, writing, and critical thinking," said Smith. "It requires students to apply knowledge to real-world situations and makes learning both meaningful and relevant."

Model United Nations is currently a club activity at GHS, drawing 10-20 students from grades 9 thru 12 annually. Smith shared that many of the students involved are interested in careers in political science, international relations, public policy, history, economics, and international business. Next year it will also be offered as a semester course for juniors and seniors through the social studies department at GHS.

Gorham Times

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CLUE: B = R

SOLUTION ON PAGE 15

Business Profile Q&A - Olde School Fiber & Craft

Patrick and Cindy O'Shea, Staff Writers

Nichole Heady recently opened Olde School, a curated fiber and supply shop at 18 South Street. Below is an interview with her.

Tell us about yourself and how you chose to locate in Gorham.

I'm proudly the fifth generation of my family to reside in Gorham, so this town holds deep-seated memories and significance on a personal level. For years I had dreamed of owning a small shop in an historic building, so it was serendipitous when the space at 18 South Street became available for lease at a time that was ideal for a big career move (as our youngest is graduating from Gorham High School this year). After signing the lease in mid-February, we were able to fully renovate the historic space and stock the shelves with a beautifully curated selection of products...all in a mere three months. We're incredibly proud of what we've created and how we've honored the space.

We don't take it lightly that our shop space is an integral part of Gorham history. Built in 1900, it has seen many businesses come and go, most notably Turner's Five & Dime. Open for nearly 30 years, some may remember it provided locals with just enough variety to avoid a trip into the "big city". We like to consider ourselves stewards of this beautiful building and hope to provide a little of everything for fiber craft needs so today's Gorham community can shop local too.

Tell us what you would like people to know about your store.

Olde School is a curated fiber craft supply shop, classroom and community, where we encourage a slower lifestyle that embraces time for making. Our goal is to encourage & teach new crafters of all ages, and provide inspiration & unique supply options for those with more experience. We currently have materials and tools for knitting, crochet, embroidery, quilting and weaving (with rug hooking coming later this fall). Everything within the

store is designed to feel like home, and it is our sincere hope that the welcoming environment will encourage people to stay awhile, shop leisurely and relax.

Anything else you would like to add.

At a young age I learned how to knit, crochet, quilt and sew from my mother, grandmothers, Girl Scouts and 4H. I have vivid memories of completing my first pair of knitted mittens in 5th grade and winning a blue ribbon after entering them in the state fair. It was, and still is, incredibly gratifying to take raw materials and create something beautiful that can be enjoyed for years to come. The joy that can be found in creating things by hand is something we want everyone to experience. It can truly add so much significance and meaning to daily life and our relationships with others (within our family circles, friend networks and even community). We've already seen that magic sparking something extra special in Gorham.

A customer falling in love with the perfect shade of green yarn, inspiring them to pick up knitting again after 25-years to make themselves a sweater.

A guest for an upcoming wedding carefully selecting embroidery floss for monogrammed linen napkins they're making for the happy couple.

A volunteer discovering a new craft, and in turn, using the new skills to weave potholders as donations to Maine Needs for welcome-home kits.

A group of young girls joyfully shopping for supplies using crumpled dollar bills from their allowance, because all of them crochet on the playground together during recess.

We welcome everyone in the community to shop, visit, ask questions, take a class, join our open stitch nights or even use our community table to meet up with friends to work on their latest projects. We're excited to be here and help serve as a foundation for a fiber craft community to thrive in Gorham.

DEP Goes to Gorham CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

SGBTV-13 filmed a video planned for a 5 p.m. news segment. A TV-13 team member commented that it was unusual for as many as three DEP experts to attend such a meeting and to be greeted by an assemblage of concerned supporters. He found that the Lawn Avenue folks are typical Gorham neighbors and good friends, residents brought together by a man-made financial and personal calamity that has affected them all in one way or another since the flooding occurred on Jan. 10 and March 10, 2024.

One couple in the group, Andrea and George Gilman, listed the steps they were forced to take to remediate the damage to their home, caused, they believe, by failures of design, development, maintenance and inspection of the condos behind them.

"We had water flowing in for the better part of five months," George Gilman said. "We had to have the entire finished basement stripped to the concrete, mold remediated...installing a French drain system. The water flowed for so long that the basement started to crumble." They did not have flood insurance; their bills, they report, came to a mid-five-figure mark. Flood insurance was not considered environmentally appropriate by any of the owners in the area, nor was it required by their insurance carriers. In an important footnote going forward, Molchior said MainePublic's Carol Bousquet cites an April 2024 state law requiring property owners to disclose flood risk to potential buyers.

According to the Gorham Tax Assessor's office, this kind of environmental disturbance is occurring in other parts of Gorham, and likely elsewhere in the county and state.

"But what," Molchior and her neighbors questioned, "does one individual do to make things better?" The choice she made was to form a group and to speak out.

When flooded by pollution from the abutting development's stormwater runoff, Molchior and these citizens first looked for help from Town and State officials. So far, Molchior believes Town officials have avoided responsibility for upholding their stormwater laws. One town officer went so far as to email her and state incorrectly, Molchior believes, that "the nearby developments are small enough that they are not required to file annual maintenance reports to the Town."

Thus, her outreach to the DEP. In a letter to Director Wood that cc'd Melanie Loyzim, DEP Commissioner Stacy Brenner (D-Cumberland), state senator, and other state influencers, Molchior requested help with what she referred to as, "...our top-line asks: for the (Ward Hill/Snowbird) HOA to follow their own stormwater bylaws and permit conditions, for the Town to uphold its own stormwater ordinance and permit conditions, and for the DEP to uphold its own stormwater statutes and MS4 permit conditions." And then there's the developer's significant responsibility.

Molchior looks forward to a positive resolution, and a step came from the DEP on May 20 when a Notice of Violation was issued to the Ward Hill Association for failure to submit a five-year recertification report to DEP. A second DEP demand was placed on the project permittee, Susan Duchaine, LLC. Duchaine will be required to rectify the placement of an emergency spillway, and the DEP will follow up.

Aspire Gorham Celebration

Lori Arsenault, Managing Editor



Photo Credit: George Vercelli
Aspire Gorham staff and community partners gathered for celebration and awards.

On Monday, May 19, community partners met at MK Kitchen for an Aspire Gorham Celebration. Superintendent Heather Perry and Eliza Kenigsberg were co-coordinators for the event. At the event, Superintendent Perry shared the vision of Aspire Gorham. She explained, "Aspire Gorham is a community-wide initiative that encourages students in every grade and every Gorham school to consider their futures."

"Our goal," said Perry, "is to create connections between our schools and community to provide career exposure, exploration, and experience. If we do this well, students are better prepared for life after high school and better set up to lead meaningful lives with productive careers".

One school at a time, Kenigsberg and Perry, along with several other speakers, gave an overview of each school's activities and presented awards

to staff and community partners.

For the elementary schools, it was the Exposure Awards, Kimberly Kelly-Brewster receiving the Staff Award for exposing kids to life and career opportunities, and Orchard Ridge Farm received the Community Partner Award.

For Gorham Middle School, Exploration Awards were given for career exposure and exploration opportunities given to the students. Sue Dix received the Staff Award, and Jenny Rutherford, parent volunteer and graphic designer, received the Community Partner Award.

At the high school, Experience Awards combined career exposure, exploration, and experience. Awards given were the Staff Award to Donna Walsh and the Community Partner Award to Jen Whitehead.

Recognition was given to the founding team of Aspire Champions: Julie Murray and Kristal Goff at Great Falls, Theresa Connolly at Narragansett, Lexie Caddell at Village, Emma Ambrose at GMS and Catherine Paul at GHS. A School Leadership Award was given to Brian Jandreau and a Community Leadership Award to David Willis.

Perry and Kenigsberg closed the evening recognizing MK Kitchen and JMG for helping to fund the initiative. The room was filled with mingling and discussion, and it was clear that all present are pleased with the the Aspire Gorham program and its accomplishments.

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Planning Board, May 5, 2025

JoAnn Leib, Staff Writer

The May 5 Planning Board meeting started promptly with a reading and approval of the April 7, 2025 minutes and a recognition of former board member David Burrows' conscientious public service to the Town of Gorham.

All Board members were present including James Hager, Chair; William Benson, Vice Chair; Barbara Nichols, Secretary; David Walsh, Russell Frank, and newest member, Stephen Crisstafulli. A brief Administrative Review report concerning the Cherry Hill Farm Market was read.

Item 1 involved discussion of revisions to Back Lot Ordinance and a proposed revision to the Land Use Development Code provisions. This action would allow for development of a "back lot" to clarify provisions for setbacks and street access. Clearer language changes and an added photo were suggested, as was a minimum width private way and translation from terms, "Flagpole" (part of a Flag Lot) to layman's terms. Members suggested and agreed that these issues be moved to a public hearing.

Item 2 focused on discussion of construction of a private way extension, (previously labeled Ava Way,) now referred to as Lily Lane. Kyle Exchange requested approval to construct this 500-foot private way to serve up to three single-family house lots and to enable road frontage. (M48 Lot 22-2B. Zoned Urban Residential Expansion UREXP.) This is family land with a 70-year history that includes a snowmobile trail and a Portland Water Department water main beneath the surface of the property. Discussion raised concerns about possible inadvertent damage to the water main and specified that the

property not be defined as a subdivision. The applicant is represented by Andrew S. Morrell, P.E., with BH2M. There was a final approval by all board members.

Item 3 called for discussion and a sketch plan review and consolidation into one parcel of an Art Building on the University of Southern Maine campus, in which a special exception is made involving the University Institutional Area designation. (The exact address will be forthcoming.) This proposal focuses on the construction of a three-level 34,650 square foot building and associated infrastructure at the corner of School Street and Campus Avenue on M40 Lot 16 and M101, L6, 7, & 8. Zoned Urban Residential (UR.) The Art building encompasses the study of ceramics, photography and other arts, and houses a kiln and welding shed, other art space, classrooms and offices. Discussion included plans for a safe pedestrian crosswalk, inspection of storm-water management and foundation drains, an already existing sewer system, truck-offloading areas for supply delivery, and current site renovation. Sidewalk installation on School Street was discussed. The Gorham Fire Department has approved truck access. The applicant is represented by Julie Curran who could not be present, and John Smith, who attended this meeting representing Great Falls Construction.

Discussion yielded cancellation of a May 19, 2025 Planning Board Meeting, with the next meeting scheduled for June 2, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. Adjournment was announced at 8:10 p.m.

For public viewing of the full Planning Board Meetings, access GGETV - Channel 1302.

Sen. Brenner Celebrates Community Action Grants Awarded to Gorham and Scarborough

Senator Stacy Brenner

AUGUSTA — Sen. Stacy Brenner, D-Scarborough, is pleased to announce that the towns of Gorham and Scarborough in Senate District 30 are recipients of a Community Action Grant award from the Community Resilience Partnership. The partnership is administered by the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future to help Maine communities reduce emissions and prepare for the effects of extreme weather events brought on by climate change. The funds awarded support storm recovery and resilience projects that protect Maine's cities and towns, protect people, businesses and infrastructure.

The recipients and amounts are:
Gorham: \$56,077 - Funding for the Municipal Building Lighting Retrofit project
Scarborough: \$80,000 - Funding for the Sustainable Scarborough Climate Action Plan

"Community engagement is crucial if we are to weather future storms," said Sen. Stacy Brenner. "These grants are vital resources that allow our towns to take meaningful steps toward reducing

emissions and preparing for the extreme weather events we know are coming. This funding will help ensure our communities are better equipped to build resilience and protect our shared future."

Funding for the grants came from several sources, including measures passed by the Maine Legislature with Sen. Brenner's support:

- The Supplemental Budget that was passed by the Legislature in 2024 to increase community resilience and preparedness in the wake of the December 2023 and January 2024 storms;
- Funds from the biennial budget authorized by the Legislature in 2023; and
- A federal grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The grants in District 30 are part of a historic \$8 million in funding for Community Resilience Partnership grants announced by Governor Janet Mills on May 1, 2025. This round of funding will support projects in 166 communities across Maine. For a full list of grant awardees, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/2dhw597u>

Fiscal Sustainability Committee Sparks Progress

Kelli Deveau, Staff Writer

On May 12, Gorham's Fiscal Sustainability Committee held its 11th and final meeting, during which the volunteer group made final edits and decisions related to their final report and recommendations.

The committee was created as a joint endeavor by the Gorham School Committee and Town Council to advise both bodies on how to maintain sustainable taxes while continuing to manage growth. To that end, the committee, composed of elected and appointed officials, as well as citizens representing myriad sectors of the community, have spent months reviewing data and information to inform their findings and recommendations.

The result will be a roughly 8-page report, with significant appendices, and an executive summary of next steps and hard deliverables for the Town Council, School Committee, and the municipal staff.

While the report is not yet final, the draft is available on the committee's website, and can be found under "Information Shared with the Committee" tab, and the final meeting and review of the draft can be viewed at <https://gocat.org>.

Priority recommendations include:

1. Establishing a set of Fiscal Indicators to both inform the public and educate leaders.
2. Creating a joint Town/School Strategic Financial Plan based on trends and forecasts to guide Town and School funding decisions.
3. Developing a Communications Plan to better inform the public about financial impacts.
4. Forming an Implementation

Committee to drive top priorities, oversee progress and maintain accountability.

The Implementation Committee, which will similarly be comprised of elected officials and community members, will be charged with oversight and implementation of the Fiscal Sustainability Committee's 18 goals, identified within 6 categories, which include: Long Term Forecasting and Planning; Community Understanding; Land Use and Economic Development Policy; Fiscal Prudence; Optimize Revenue; School / Town Coordination.

While the report is still in draft form, steps toward these goals are already underway. Members of both the Town Council and the School Committee during their respective budget approval meetings mentioned the meaningful work of this committee, and credited it for the collaborative school budget process and successful cost savings and cost sharing that was included in the budget, unanimously approved without changes by both elected bodies, a first in over a decade.

In addition, at the request of the Town Council, Greater Portland Committee of Governments (GPCOG) rolled out the beta testing of a data dashboard that will help to inform decision makers and the general public. The School Committee also moved forward with parts of this plan, despite its draft form, and adopted a goal and subsequent plan for improving communications between their elected body and the citizens of Gorham.

Once finalized, the report will be presented to both the Town Council and School Committee during public meetings.



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Gorham Schools Celebrate Field Days

Ms. Julia Smith, Intern Teacher



Field Days have been an elementary end-of-year tradition for many years and this year was no exception. Second graders started the festivities with lots of fun and many smiles. Thank you to the K-5 PE teachers (Mr. D, Mr. Fortier and Mr. Loveless) and all of the parent volunteers for making this and every year memorable. Pictured: Ms Mroczkowski's class

School Committee Special Meeting May 28

Michael Lortie, School News Editor

On Wednesday, May 28, the Gorham School Committee held a special meeting for the purpose of hiring personnel and reviewing policies. Five members were present: Chairperson Sarah Perkins, Nicole Yeo-Fisher, Michelle Littlefield, Mia DeSanctis and Jennifer Whitehead. The following list of candidates for teaching positions was approved (5-0): Faith Dillon, GHS Science
Jasmin Eddy, Village School Music
Christine Karcanes, Narragansett Kindergarten
Noreen Corcoran, Narragansett Grade 1
Paige Marshall, Narragansett Sp. Ed. Resource Room
Marc Boissonnault, GMS Sp. Ed. Resource Room

Nicole Hudson, Social Worker (.5 Sp. Ed./5 Reg. Ed.)
The Committee also voted to approve Mitzi Smith as transportation director. (5-0). In their constant review of policies, the graduation Requirement Plan (IKF) was approved for a first reading. There are some changes that have been adjusted for the next four years, mostly regarding health and technology credits. School committee members will be able to provide input and questions over the next few weeks until it is reviewed for a second reading. The School Committee then went into Executive Session for discussion before coming out to adjourn for the evening.

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Narragansett Fourth Grader Places Second In Contest

Erin Eppler, Narragansett School Principal



Fourth Grader Thomas won second place in the Osher Map Making Contest with his "Lemur Island" entry. Thomas' map was one of many judged by an independent panel of educators, artists and cartographers. The twelve finalists selected were entered into a community online voting round to select the winners. The photo on the right shows Thomas's award-winning map.

Village School Welcomes Chewonki

Stacey Sawyer, School Counselor



On May 19, the Chewonki Foundation spent a morning with second graders at Village School. The Chewonki Traveling Natural History Program, located in Wiscasset, brings programs to schools and libraries across Maine. The students were very excited. They learned about tides and tidal pools, animal adaptations and basic needs. The best part was the hands-on learning fun that was enjoyed by all.

Open House, June 8, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Summer Camps!!

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Bee Club to Plant Pollinator Flowers at Robie Park

Abigail Chamberlin, GHS Student Intern

Because of a collaboration between the Bee Club at Gorham High School, Westbrook-Gorham Rotary, and Gorham Recreation Department, Robie Park is now home to pollinator flowers that support the habitats and lives of local bees. Kathi Perkins, the Youth Services Chair of the Westbrook-Gorham Rotary, was awarded a district grant to plant the pollinator flowers. Due to a previous connection with a former foreign exchange student at GHS who had been a member of the Bee Club, she was able to reach out to its student leadership and Catherine Paul, a teacher at GHS who directs the club.

“It was a good chance for our club’s leaders to be able to utilize their skills,” said Paul. They planted a variety of pollinator flowers, including lavender, chives, marigolds, and nasturtiums. 10 half-barrels were planted, as well as three planters at the high school entrances, and a celebration of this project and the collaboration with local businesses was held

on World Bee Day, which was May 20. Headed by its art directors, Rebecca Neumann and Lena Cooley, Bee Club designed plaques that accompany the pollinator flowers. Neumann and Cooley were excited to apply their talents to this project, and Cooley stated that “It’s fulfilling to see the plaques there and be able to know, ‘I made that.’” These plaques reflect the students’ hard work to make lasting contributions to the community, and their pride at partnering with Gorham Rec and the Westbrook-Gorham Rotary.

“Rotary is like our club, but for adults. We both value service; we have that in common,” said Alina Senasy, another member of the club. Their mission lies in improving the environment and the Gorham community, and they hope that by planting the pollinator flowers, along with the plaques that accompany them, they will not only spread awareness and raise visibility for the GHS Bee Club, but provide healthy plants to support our local pollinators.

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2023 Best Places to Work in ME

Seniors Have One Foot In High School, and One Foot Out

Abigail Chamberlin, GHS Student Intern



Photo Credits: Abigail Chamberlin, GHS Student Intern
Senior Natalie Miner feeding a lamb at her Senior Experience

For the final two weeks of their high school careers, Gorham High School seniors are encouraged to complete a Senior Experience. Through Aspire Gorham, created in 2018, students are offered opportunities to explore life beyond high school. Whether this is through career fairs, Career X presentations, Extended Learning Opportunities, job shadows, or internships, the goal is that “Through participating staff and community members, students have all of these career exposure and exploration experiences from elementary school to middle school,” said Eliza Kenigsburg, the

director of Senior Experiences at the high school. “By the time students are graduating from high school, they have one foot in school and one foot outside of school exploring their career or college aspirations.”

For their Senior Experiences, which must fulfill 36 hours, students can choose to complete an internship, work on a personal project, or explore an interest. For example, Kayla McLean, a senior at Gorham High School, participated in an animal science internship at the Tibbetts Family Farm. “It was a really fun experience. I took an environmental science class at school this year, so doing my internship on a farm was a good way to apply what I learned in the classroom,” she said.

Julia Reed, who plans to study construction and architecture in college next year, completed an internship at Langford & Low. Reed said, “My internship was great because it exposed me to a variety of careers within the construction field that I could potentially pursue in the future.” These are just a few examples of Senior Experiences, and others included occupational therapy internships, photography projects, real estate internships, and art studies.

This year, students completed their experiences between May 19 and May 29, and were asked to log each day and write a short reflection at the end. “We’ll know we’ve done our job well if seniors have the clarity and confidence to pick a great Senior Experience...It allows students to acclimate to what comes next,” stated Kenigsburg. What comes next is graduation on June 8, where these seniors will step their second foot away from Gorham High School.



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Elinor Louise Moody Meserve (1946 - 2025)

Elinor Louise Moody Meserve, age 79, passed away on May 10, 2025 after a long illness. She was born in Portland, Maine on March 14, 1946 to Bertha Edwards Moody and Chester Ellsworth Moody of Parsonsfield, Maine.


Elinor graduated from Porter High School in 1965. She kept in touch with some of her high school friends and attended a few class reunions. After high school, she was employed by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Maine for 27 years in different positions, the last one being the supervisor of Nongroup Billing. She also worked at LL Bean for 20 years in the Northport call center before retiring in 2013.

She was raised by a Christian mother and as a young woman she went forward at a Billy Graham crusade and publicly acknowledged Jesus Christ to be her Lord and Savior. In the early 1990s she attended Woodfords Congregational Church, was baptized, and became a deacon.

She is predeceased by her sister Alice Carter Taylor. She is survived by her daughter Rosanne Peeling, grandson Nicholas Peeling, sister Joyce Collomy and several nieces and nephews. Her interests revolved around her family and friends. She loved getting together with them during birthdays and holidays.

She had a special friendship of over 50 years with Maureen Bernard who she met while working at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Maine. Special thanks go to Addy and Cheryl for their compassionate care to Elinor during her final months.

A funeral service will be held June 28 at 2 p.m. at Scarborough Baptist Church 55 Mussey Road, Scarborough. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Northern Light Home Care and Hospice. Donations can be made by credit card gifts via their safe and secure website or to donate via check, please mail them to: PO Box 931, Bangor, ME 04402.



Memorial Day Parade

Gorham Times Staff



A rare sunny day in May brought out a large number of people for the annual Memorial Day parade. A large group of color bearers was followed by the combined Middle and High School bands. Baseball and softball teams, along with dancers from a few Gorham dance studios brought a good deal of enthusiasm. Church and civic floats along with sports mascots, and even Smokey the Bear added to the festivities.



Photo Credit: Roger Marchand

Forrest's Family Farm

Krista Nadeau, Staff Writer



Photo Credit: Courtesy of Katie Brooks
Find fresh, locally grown produce, eggs, flowers, baked goods, and craft items at Forrest's Family Farm.

Forrest's Family Farm, located at 72 Shaws Mill Road, is just one of several little farm stands that have popped up around Gorham. Katie (Bertin) Brooks, a 2016 graduate of GHS and her husband, Billy opened theirs recently.

The couple met while working at the Maine Correctional Center, married, and recently welcomed their first child. Katie knew she wanted to be a stay-at-home mom and decided to use her baking, crafting, and produce growing skills as a means of doing just that. The farm is named after The Brooks' son, Forrest. Forrest's Family Farm is off to a great start! The presentation, the variety of items and the love and purpose behind it is heartwarming.

Whether you need fresh, locally grown produce, eggs, flowers, baked goods, craft items, look no further than Forrest's



Family Farm... you can even buy fairy house kits. Saturday mornings, Katie makes pre-ordered breakfast sandwiches made with her homemade bagels and fresh eggs, of course! There is also a baked goods portfolio where specialty desserts can be ordered (Katie has been baking for a very long time. Some might remember when she ran Katie's Cupcakes in Gorham when she was just a teenager). To place an order, call or text (207) 310-4457. Hours are sunrise to sunset. There is also a good old-fashioned honor box. Find them on Facebook and Instagram under Forrest's Family Farm.

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Public Lands in Downtown Gorham CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

habitat-rich wetlands with scenic views of Indian Camp Brook. This new parcel will play a key role in expanding recreational space in downtown Gorham by connecting with the existing Crosstown Trail. A dedicated entrance from Village Elementary School will also allow daily access for students to a planned outdoor classroom space for hands-on science projects.

Several invested groups, working together, have built this vision for expanding both housing opportunities and recreational opportunities for the future of Gorham's Downtown center. The Robie family, original owners of the land for over 150 years and KD Developers who bought the land and will be building a mixed residential development within a designated "growth area" in keeping with the town's 2016 comprehensive plan, have donated the parcel of land to the Land Trust.

"We are incredibly grateful to these donors for recognizing the potential of this land and choosing to conserve it," said Will Sedlack, executive director of Presumpscot Regional Land Trust. "Their vision and generosity will create a living legacy for Gorham." The Land Trust is already at work designing a trail system, outdoor classroom, and accessibility upgrades. They will also make sure this essential green space is well taken care of for future generations to enjoy.

Another active contributor, Maine Community Bank, has donated \$20,000 toward the cost of this project. Becky Winslow, Senior Vice President, Director of Community Relations & Foundation at the bank, said, "The Gorham Community Forest will be a true asset for local families, students, and future generations, and we're proud to be part of making that vision a reality."

Work is already underway on trail design and educational features, with

the goal of making the first phase of The Gorham Community Forest open to the public soon. This addition to the existing downtown greenway underscores Gorham's reputation as a community that values outdoor access, sustainability, and the need for affordable housing.

Help from the public is being sought to further the work. The Land Trust must raise the final \$75,000 needed to complete trail construction, build the outdoor classroom, and ensure long-term stewardship costs for the property.

Community members can help make this lasting legacy a reality by making a tax-deductible donation at <https://www.prlt.org/donate>.

Monday, June 9, Open House Event

Hosted by Open Space and Trails Master Plan and Steering Committee, 6 - 8 p.m.

Thursday, June 12, Ordinance Committee Meeting, 6 p.m.

Monday, June 16, Planning Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, June 17, Conservation Commission Meeting, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, June 18,

Gorham Economic Development Corporation (GEDC) Meeting, 8 a.m.; Capital Improvement (CIP)/Economic Development (ED) Committee Meeting, 11 a.m.

Thursday, June 19, Capital Improvement (CIP)/Economic Development (ED) Committee Meeting, 11 a.m.

Tennis Duo Thibodeau and Foster Dominate for the Rams

Katie Brown, Sports Editor



Photo Credit: Tim Spear

Thibodeau/Hadley game set match head to the final 4

The Gorham Girl's Tennis duo of Payton Thibodeau and Hadley Foster proved to be a tough team to beat at the Maine Principals' Association state doubles tennis championships. Twenty different duos vied for the girls and boys state doubles titles respectively; with

five teams coming from the Southern Maine Activities Association (SMAA). The Rams duo dominated in the Round of 16 at Edward Little High School defeating Hannah Zeimet and Ava Libby of Waterville. The pair then played in a hard-fought match and

defeated Lila McNaughton and Barbara Day of Yarmouth to advance to the Final four. In Saturday's (May 17) semi-final at Colby College (moved from Bates due to weather conditions), Thibodeau and Foster won their first set 1-6 against eventual state champs (Rana Abess and Olive Van Hoewyk of Camden Hills). Thibodeau and Foster did not make it easy for the pair who had to figure out a way to beat Gorham's aggressive style of play. The Gorham team ended their season with an overall record of 10-2. The team will lose five seniors with many who really shined throughout the season (including top ace Sarah Rosingana) all playing

together since their freshman year. On the boys side in Tennis; powerhouse team Owen Spera and Jacob Svets all advanced in the doubles tournament to compete in the state quarterfinals held at Edward Little High School as well. In others spring sports news; (Baseball, Softball and Lacrosse) will all end their regular season games during the week of June 2 and will prepare for their playoff run. Track & Field competed in the SMAA championship meet on May 30, with States taking place on June 7. Best of luck to the rest of the Rams teams and congratulations to the Tennis teams for an outstanding season.



Photo Credit: Tim Spear

Five senior Tennis players pose for their last match of the regular season (from L-R): Julia Reed, Payton Thibodeau, Sarah Rosingana, Hadley Foster and Lucy Orlando



GORHAM SUMMER CONCERTS

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES IN THE GAZEBO!

SUMMER SCHEDULE

June 24 - Hot Damn Duo
July 1 - Andi Fawcett Duo
July 8 - Grassholes Duo
July 15 - The Tangle!
July 22 - Don Campbell Trio
July 29 - JC & The Aces
August 5 - Jay Bragg

TUESDAYS
6:00PM-7:30PM
Rain location: Shaw Gym

BRING A PICNIC, A CHAIR, A BLANKET & ENJOY THE SHOW!





The Gorham Business Directory is here!

Shop and Buy Local at over 350+ Gorham Businesses

Go to www.gorhammaine.org OR use the QR code to get started!





The Town of Buxton is soliciting bids for one 2005 GMC C8500 Plow Truck. The mileage is 102,345. Truck not running and is located at the Buxton Public Works Garage and will be sold as is where is. For more information, contact Kevin Kimball, Public Works Director at (207) 929-4400. Bids due at 185 Portland Road, Buxton, ME 04093 by June 11th, marked "Bid for 2005 GMC".



The Town of Buxton is soliciting bids for one 1991 GMC 3500 Utility Truck. The mileage is 48,487. Truck not running and is located at the Buxton Public Works Garage and will be sold as is where is. For more information, contact Kevin Kimball, Public Works Director at (207) 929-4400. Bids due at 185 Portland Road, Buxton, ME 04093 by June 11th, marked "Bid for 1991 GMC".

Gorham High School Senior Scholarship Awards

GHS Principal's Award: Amelia Olaru
The Tyler/Grandmaison MELMAC Scholarship: Brianna Beaulieu
2025 Mitchell Scholar: Mina Sayed, Madison Tibbals
2025 Ram Pride Award: Riley Chubbuck, Nasir Manahe
National DAR Good Citizen Award: Amelia Olaru
National DAR Certificate Award for Excellence in American History: Brianna Beaulieu, Riley Chubbuck
The University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation Scholarship: Jacob Shvets
Jacob P. Dupuis Memorial Scholarship: Kuba Kaczmarek
Ted Carter Inspired Landscapes Scholarship in Memory of Jacob Dupuis and Henry O' Neill: Denali Tetrault
Brady Mercier Memorial Scholarship: Brooklyn Sandstrom
Mental Health Champion Scholarship: Brianna Beaulieu
Brittani Fleury Memorial Art and Design Scholarship: Madisson Willey
Brittani Fleury Memorial Scholarship Award: Madisson Willey
Ann Mason-Osann Memorial Scholarship: Gwyneth Dubail
Wayne "Pooch" Drown Memorial Scholarship: Piper Forgues
Daniel S. Clark Memorial Scholarship: Roxy Rovin, Madisson Willey
Steven Plowman Memorial Scholarship: Katrice Morgan
Stephen Gordon Ward Memorial Scholarship: Riley Dever
Dana Allen Memorial Scholarship: Jack Karlonas
Bill Chadwick Memorial Interact Scholarship: Ashley Connolly
2025 Westbrook-Gorham Rotary Club Most Improved Student Scholarship: Roxy Rovin
Ruth and Maynard Meserve Memorial Scholarship: Brooke Kazimer
Becky Hardy Philbrick Memorial Scholarship: Whitney Ball, Finn Henderson
Madolyn H. Quinlan Memorial Scholarship: Brooke Kazimer
Bertha Bridges Willis and Ralph "Rusty" Willis Scholarship: Mason Finck
Willis Real Estate-Dirigo Award: Julia Reed
Maine Blue Collar Scholarship: Jakob Buckley, Timothy Curtis, Matthew Sallinen

Gorham Lions Club-Ed Johnson Memorial Scholarship: Preston Coffelt, Timothy Curtis, Piper Forgues
Alivia Keniston, Samuel Merrow, Mina Sayed
Martha T. Harris Memorial Scholarship: Whitney Ball, Joshua Faatz
Westbrook-Gorham Community Chamber of Commerce Scholarship: Ashley Connolly, Alison Smith
Gorham House of Pizza Scholarship - In Memory of Al Edwards: Kuba Kaczmarek, Sophie Kaczmarek
Gorham House of Pizza Scholarship - In Memory of John Reed and Dana Allen: Kayla McLean
Gorham Teachers Association Scholarship: Preston Coffelt, Katelyn Cyr, Finn Henderson, Lucia Holloway
Gorham Athletic Boosters Scholarship: Riley Devers, Sophie Kaczmarek, Roxy Rovin
Alison Smith, Vanessa Walker
Henry O'Neill Spirit of the Game Scholarship: Jack Karlonas
Casco Federal Credit Union Scholarship: Payton Thibodeau
Gorham Times Scholarship: Abigail Chamberlin, Lucia Holloway
Gorham Democrats Scholarship: Kathryn LaPierre
Gorham Woman's Club in Memory of Frances Meserve Cotton: Timothy Curtis
Gorham Woman's Club in Memory of Elizabeth Fox: Preston Coffelt
Gorham Woman's Club in Memory of Lena Day: Ava Googins
Gorham Woman's Club in Memory of Nancy Kenty: Sophia Andrade
Gorham Woman's Club in Memory of Edward A. Taber : Laura Burt
Gorham Historical Society Scholarship: Lindy Moreland
Maine Community Bank Scholarship - In Memory of Carroll Wentworth: Lily Tukey
D. Brenda Caldwell/Maine Community Bank Scholarship: Ashley Connolly
John D. Phinney/Maine Community Bank Scholarship: Samuel Merrow
Maine Community Bank - Banking on the Future Scholarship: Natalie Miner
Gorham Public Safety-Guns and Hoses Scholarship: Katelyn Cyr, Payson Plummer
Gorham Public Safety-Dennis Hawkes Memorial Scholarship:

Lindy Moreland
Gorham Public Safety-Ernie Hawkes Memorial Scholarship: Raiyah Babinsky
Gorham Public Safety-Wiley P. Chandler Memorial Scholarship: Samuel Merrow
Gorham Public Safety-John N. Reed Memorial Scholarship: Piper Forgues
Gorham Public Safety-Wayne "Pooch" Drown Memorial Scholarship: Kathryn LaPierre
Worthington Scholarship Foundation: Brent Files, Aidan Madore
The Q Memorial Scholarship: Lily Tukey
Gorham High School Alumni Association Scholarship: Payson Plummer, Brooke Stevens, Madisson Willey
Plummer's Ace Hardware Scholarship: Zachary Chandler
Student Council Scholarship: Brianna Beaulieu, Andre Dube, Ava Googins, William Johnson, Brooke Kazimer, Sarah Rosingana, Mina Sayed, Casey Skolfield
Bennett Award: Katelyn Cyr, Jacob Shvets
Frances H. Boothby Memorial Scholarship: Preston Coffelt, Kaitlyn Cyr
GHS Class of 1974 Scholarship: Cameron Gasbarrone
Lawrence J. McKirryher, Jr. Memorial Scholarship: Ella Senatore
Harry Shevis Memorial Scholarship: Timothy Nagle
Arthur and Jane Fogg Memorial Scholarship: Brooklyn Sandstrom
Thomas Asa Fogg Memorial Scholarship: Cameron Gasbarrone
Village Physical Therapy Allied Health Scholarship: Bailey Hatch
Julie P. Burnheimer Memorial Scholarship: Abigail Chamberlin, Vanessa Walker
Chester William Mills Memorial Scholarship:

Riley Dever, Aidan Madore
Charles C. Shaw Scholarship: Hadley Foster
Ernest E. Cressey Scholarship: Timothy Nagle
Gwendolen Flanagan Scholarship: Sofia Andrade, Gwyneth Dubail
Richard and Judy Curtis Scholarship: Lucia Dubail
Saco and Biddeford Savings Bank Scholarship: Alison Smith
2025 Willett Family Scholarship: Griffin Johnson
White Rock Friendship Club Scholarship: Brooke Stevens
Watson Family Trust Scholarship: Julia Reed
Malcolm Smith Memorial Scholarship: Bailey Hatch
Portland Kiwanis Scholarship Award: Ava Googins, Mina Sayed, Denali Tetrault
Gorham Educational Support Personnel Association Scholarship: Ashley Connolly, Chloe Goodwin, Griffin Johnson
VOCATIONAL AWARDS:
WRVC SCHOLARSHIP and TOOLSHIP AWARDS:
Blood, Sweat, and Gears Metric Moto Show Scholarship: (presented in conjunction with Phoenix Cycle Shop)
Katrice Morgan, Brooke Piawlock
NAPA Tool Award : Olivia Price
Outstanding Student by Sending School: Celia Roy
Steven Plowman Memorial Scholarship/ Toolship: Chloe Goodwin
Student of the Program: Trade: Auto- Ethan Verrill
Town Fair Tire Toolships: Katrice Morgan, Brooke Piawlock
Westbrook Gorham Chamber of Commerce Scholarships/Toolships: Katrice Morgan
Westbrook Gorham Rotary Scholarships/ Toolships: Brooke Piawlock

Local Archaeological Finds

John Ersek, Staff Writer



Photo Credit: Julie Caswell
One of several display cases containing artifacts found in the Dundee Pond riverbed.

A trove of 19th century metal and glass objects found during the recent 2024 emptying of Dundee Pond is now on display at the North Gorham Public Library. The exhibit will continue until the end of June. Amateur metal detectorist Julie Caswell of Raymond has installed about two hundred items which she recovered from the Dundee Pond area, and they will be on display during regular library hours. There will also be a presentation on these items at the library, at 6 p.m. on Wednesday June 25, featuring Caswell and Michael Shaughnessy, the president of the Friends of the Presumpscot River. In a recent interview, Caswell said the

objects she found include coins, metal tokens, a "skeleton" key, metal buttons, toy soldiers made from lead, and bells from Conestoga wagons which were transported on canal barges. Highlights include metal buttons from a Civil War-era officer's overcoat, and a worn coin dated 1796 which appears to be a Spanish "half Reale" from the late 1700's. Ms. Caswell explained that location of the objects appears connected to the nearby Cumberland and Oxford Canal, as well as to a local road which once ran through the site, and to the adjacent Shaw family farm site. All these were inundated following the 1913 to 1914 construction of Dundee Dam. Caswell related that she became fascinated by the hobby of metal-detecting during the pandemic year of 2020. She had recently retired after working at a VA medical facility for many years. During the summer of 2024, she felt drawn to exploring the Dundee Pond vicinity after she heard that the pond was temporarily drained, exposing the original riverbed, the canal path, and the remnants of the Shaw farm. The emptying of the pond was caused

CONTINUED TO PAGE 14

PHYSICAL THERAPY

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Now Stocked with Perennials & Nursery Plants

In Our Nursery You'll Find:

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- Fruit Trees – Peaches, Apples, and beyond
- Ornamental Trees – Perfect for landscaping interest
- Flowering Shrubs – Lilacs, Hydrangeas, Roses
- Ornamental Bushes & Evergreens – Structure & beauty for every yard

In Our Perennial Yard:

- Sun Lovers – Daylilies, Daisies, Salvias, Baptisia & more
- Shade Tolerant Favorites – Hostas, Astilbes, and woodland accents

All grown and selected for Zone 5 performance.

Let our staff help you find the right plant for the right place!

Open 7 Days a Week!
Mon-Sat: 8AM-5PM | Sun: 9AM-3PM
333 Ossipee Trail East, Gorham, ME
Come grow with us!

Gorham High School Academic Awards Night May 21, 2025

Amelia Gephart, Yale Book Award
Eleanor Morgan, Harvard College Book Award
Jacqueline Parenteau, Smith College Book Award
Logan M, Doughty Society of Women Engineers
Sawyer VonderHaar, RIT Computing Award
Derek Luo, RIT Science and Math Award
Tabitha Lavigne, RIT Humanities and Social Sciences Award
Lorisse Matta, RIT Art and Design Award
Haley Vickery, RIT Business and Leadership Award
Stella Moores, RIT Women in STEM Award
Tyler Olson, Rensselaer Medal Award
Jocelyn Clark, Saint Michael's College Book Award for Community Engagement
Claudette Wesse, Saint Michael's College Book Award for Community Engagement
Maya Moores, Lasell University Book Award
Kaleigh Bauer, Suffolk University Book Award
Hope Barney, Endicott College Book Award
Bria Bush, Salem State University Book Award
Elizabeth Springer, WPI Innovation Award

LATIN HONORS
SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Ashley Connolly, Valedictorian
Timothy Nagle, Salutatorian
Ana Alonso Carcedo
Abigail Chamberlin
Gwyneth Dubail
Lucia Dubail
Chafek Matta
Julia Reed

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Sofia Andrade
Whitney Ball
Anaiah Brown
Laura Burt
Katelyn Cyr
Aspenelle De Los Reyes
Anastasia Dolley
Patrick Downey
Taylor Ernest
Emily Fadrigon
Aryana Flett
Piper Forgues
Hadley Foster
Lauren Fredette
Griffin Gammon
Meghan Gendron
Ava Googins
Bailey Hatch
Finn Henderson
Amaury Hirwa
Lucia Holloway
Violet James
William Johnson

CUM LAUDE
Harrison Baber
Raiyah Babinsky
Brianna Beaulieu
Abigail Capponi
Solange Chitala
Cecelia Dellosso
Finnian Dermody
Riley Dever
Gavin Edwards
Mason Finck
Cameron Gasbarrone

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS
Laurali Vail, Outstanding Student
Royce Guptill, Most Improved
Rena Rockwell, Perseverance
Adia Wezowicz, Distinguished Student
Abigail Baker, Tenacity
Finnian Dermody, Personal Growth and Resilence

FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS
Ana Alonso, Carcedo Presentation of American Flag
Jimena Perez, Massa Presentation of American Flag

PERFECT ATTENDANCE
Lilah Hebert, Perfect Attendance 2024-2025
Maxwell Lodgek, Perfect Attendance 2024-2025

ENGLISH
Isla Rutherford, English 9
Abigail McCrillis, English 9
Laurali Vail, English 9
Hannah Martel, American Studies
Larissa Moore, American Studies
Luna Button, Amer. Lit. Advanced
Abby Chamberlin, Creative Writing
Madison Tibbals, Public Speaking
Keilla Inteyiteka, English 11
Jackie Parenteau, English 11A
Elizabeth Springer, English 11AP
Jimena Perez, Massa English 12

Natalie Smith, English 12A
Ashley Connolly, English 12AP
Eddie Garnett, PLUME
Abigail Chamberlin, 4-Year Award
PHYSICAL EDUCATION
Carter McGonagle, Excellence in Physical Education 1
Abrie French, Excellence in Physical Education 1
Tessa White, Excellence in Physical Education 1
Neve Hanley, Excellence in Physical Education 1
Sheila Casco, Excellence in Physical Education 2
Chloe Cyr, Excellence in Physical Education 2
Logan Spera, Excellence in Physical Education 2
Owen Cummings, Excellence in Physical Education 2

HEALTH
Rehoboth Kina, Excellence in Health
Madison Sampietro, Excellence in Health
Stella Moores, Excellence in Sports Medicine
Tyler Olson, Excellence in Sports Medicine

MATH
Shania Isimbi, Excellence in Algebra 1
Sophie MacIsaac, Excellence in Algebra 1 Advanced
Lauren Roy, Excellence in Geometry
Carter McGonagle, Excellence in Geometry Advanced
Eben Lorfano, Excellence in Algebra Modeling
Jimena Perez, Massa Excellence in Algebra 2
Tabitha Lavigne, Excellence in Algebra 2
Kevin Munyaneza, Excellence in Algebra 2 Advanced
Katelyn Cyr, Excellence in Pre-Calculus
Isaiah Whitehead, Excellence in Advanced Placement Precalculus
Logan E, Wilson Excellence in Financial Algebra
Lily Tukey, Excellence in Calculus
Ashley Connolly, Excellence in Advanced Placement Calculus
Jacob Shvets, Excellence in Statistics
Bailey Hatch, Excellence in Advanced Placement Statistics
Everett Hurder, Excellence in Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles
Ashley Connolly, 4-Year Award in Mathematics

SOCIAL STUDIES
Charlotte Deveaux, WH 1
Julia Giguere, WH 1
Sophia MacIsaac, WH 1
Cecelia Sloat, Amer Studies
Rehoboth Kina, Amer Studies
Lily Beardsley, WH II
Izzy Phinney, WH II
Kathryn LaPierre, Holocaust
Payson Plummer, Holocaust
Laurel Emerson, AP Modern World History
Claudette Wesse, AP Modern World History
Amelia Gephart, AP Psychology
Abdulhalim Hakizimana, AP US History
Ishami Munyaneza, AP US History
Henri Wichmann, AP US History
Jasmine Radjabova, AP US History
Timothy Nagle, Economics
Amanda Morin, 4-yr Award
Amanda Morin, Philosophy for Life
Madison Hatch, Philosophy for Life

MUSIC
Alexandria Gossen, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2025
Dekarai St., Germain-Simms MMEA All-State Music Festival 2025
Eddie Garnett, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2025
Isabelle Smith, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2025
Isabel Phinney, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2025
Isla Rutherford, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2025
Jayden Wing, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2025
Madison Hatch, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2025
Olivia Kennedy, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2025
Ruby Couture, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2025
Sophia Soler, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2025
Gavin Monkiewicz, MMEA All-State Music Festival 2025
Sofia Andrade, ACDA National Honors Choir 2025
Jayden Wing, ACDA National Honors Choir 2025
Alex Tukey, ACDA National Honors Choir 2025

Gwyneth Dubail, John Philip Sousa Award 2025
Samuel Merrow, Louis Armstrong Jazz Award 2025
Sofia Andrade, National School Choral Award 2025
Raiyah Babinsky, National School Choral Award 2025
Payson Plummer, Fred Waring Director's Award for Chorus 2025

TECHNOLOGY
Jamie Morse, Excellence in Graphic Arts
William Sturm, Excellence in Graphic Arts
Nathan Kelly-Shadow, Excellence in Technology
Madison Tibbals, Excellence in Entrepreneurship
Solange Chitala, Excellence in Entrepreneurship
Jacqueline Parenteau, Excellence in Back to Basics
Colton Jenkins, Excellence in Back to Basics
Victoria Sands, Excellence in Pre-Engineering
Grace Mahaney, Excellence in Video Production

SCIENCE
Oliver Emerson, Excellence in Earth Space Science Advanced
Mahasin Ahmed, Excellence in Earth Space Science
Bryn Cunningham, Excellence in Earth Space Science Advanced
Clover Bayly-Schram, Excellence in Earth Space Science
Owen Eling, Excellence in Earth Space Science
Nara Holland, Excellence in Earth Space Science Advanced
Lillian Burgos, Excellence in Biology
Annabelle Vail, Excellence in Biology
Jackson Durgin, Excellence in Biology
Luna Button, Excellence in Advanced Biology
Isaiah Whitehead, Excellence in Advanced Biology
Henri Wichmann, Excellence in Advanced Biology
Sheila Casco, Excellence in Advanced Biology
Ashley Connolly, Excellence in Advanced Placement Biology
Tyler Olsen, Excellence in Marine Science
Hanna Logan, Excellence in Chemistry
Hope Barney, Excellence in Chemistry
Elizabeth Springer, Excellence in Chemistry I Advanced
Derek Luo, Excellence in Chemistry I Advanced
Jimena Perez, Massa Excellence in Physics
Timothy Nagle, Excellence in Dual Enrollment Advanced Physics
Amelia Gephart, Excellence in Dual Enrollment Advanced Physics
Evangeline Mann, Excellence in General Physics
Kasey Downes, Excellence in General Chemistry
Abigail Chamberlin, Excellence in Advanced Placement Environmental Science
Ashley Connolly, Excellence in Anatomy and Physiology I
Amanda Morin, Excellence in Anatomy and Physiology I
Sarah Rosingana, Excellence in Anatomy and Physiology II
Aspenelle De Los Reyes Excellence in Forensic Science I
Eleanor Morgan, Excellence in Forensic Science II
Sarah Wilcox, Excellence in Forensic Science II
Ashley Connolly, 4-Year Outstanding Achievement in Science

MULTILINGUAL LEARNER
Rataj Excellence, in English Language and Academic Achievement

WORLD LANGUAGES
Isabella Cline, Excellence in French 1
Zachary Bourgoin, Excellence in French 2
Jacqueline Parenteau, Excellence in French 3
Victoria Sands, Excellence in French 4
Mahasin Ahmed, Excellence in Spanish 1
Luna Button, Excellence in Spanish 2
Gavin Monkiewicz, Excellence in Spanish 3
Amelia Olaru, Excellence in Spanish 4
Ahmed Abdulzahra, Excellence in Latin 1
Rigel Arlet, Excellence in Latin 2
Derek Luo, Excellence in Latin 3
Claire Rancourt, Excellence in Latin 4
Denali Tetrault, 4 Year French Book Award For Excellence In French

Seal of Biliteracy Medal and Certificate
Solange Chitala, Swahili
Amelia Olaru, Polish
Amelia Olaru, Romanian
Kuba Kaczmarek, Polish
Amaury Hirwa, French

Nasir Manahe, Arabic
Victoria Sands, Latin
Raiyah Babinsky, Latin
Gwyneth Dubail, Latin
Lucia Dubail, Latin
Bailey Hatch, Latin
Claire Rancourt, Latin

National Technical Honor Society
WRVC Cord- Westbrook Regional Vocational Center
Celia Roy, Medical Occupations II
Ethan Verrill, Automotive II

PATHS Cord- Portland Arts and Technology
Finnian Dermody, New Media
Anastasia Dolley, Commercial Art
Luciana Orlando, Music

Spanish Honor Society
Ana Alonso Carcedo
Sofia Andrade
Harrison Baber
Whitney Ball
Abigail Capponi
Zachary Chandler
Ashley Connolly
Aspenelle De Los Reyes
Riley Dever
Anastasia Dolley
Patrick Downey
Andre Dube
Gavin Edwards
Joshua Faatz
Mason Finck
Aryana Flett
Piper Forgues
Lauren Fredette
Sherry Garnett
Ethan Heady
Finn Henderson
Ellery Herrick
Lucia Holloway
Kuba Kaczmarek

French Honor Society
Abigail Chamberlin
Katelyn Cyr
Hadley Foster
Griffin Gammon
Ava Googins
Violet James
Griffin Johnson
William Johnson
Sophie Kaczmarek
Kathryn LaPierre
Chafek Matta
Natalie Miner

Latin Honor Society
Raiyah Babinsky
Gwyneth Dubail
Lucia Dubail

National Honor Society
Sofia Andrade
Whitney Ball
Brianna Beaulieu
Abigail Chamberlin
Riley Chubbock
Ashley Connolly
Katelyn Cyr
Cecelia Dellosso
Anastasia Dolley
Patrick Downey
Gwyneth Dubail
Lucia Dubail
Emily Fadrigon
Mason Finck
Piper Forgues
Hadley Foster
Griffin Gammon
Ava Googins
Bailey Hatch
Finn Henderson
Lucia Holloway
Violet James
William Johnson
Kuba Kaczmarek
Sophie Kaczmarek
Jack Karlonas



COMMUNITY

GRADUATIONS

Beck Carrier, Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Massachusetts
Amelia Kratzer, Bachelor of Arts Cum Laude, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts

DEAN'S LIST

Lauren Bachner, Nazareth University, Rochester, New York
Michael Darasz, Regis College, Weston, Massachusetts
Madeline Downey, Nazareth University, Rochester, New York
Willem Eiten, Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania
Arianna Morse, Lasell University, Newton, Massachusetts

OF INTEREST

Cressey Road Christian Church at 81 Cressey Road will have a Cherished Possessions & Perennials Yard Sale on Saturday, June 7 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The church also 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.

Gorham High School Graduation Ceremony takes place on Sunday, June 8 at 4 p.m. Parking will be extremely limited. Carpooling or using shuttle service from Gorham Middle School is recommended. The ceremony will also be streamed live. A link will be made available in the days just prior to the ceremony. Find more details at <https://ghs.gorhamschools.org/o/ghs/page/the-graduation-ceremony>

The 50th Reunion of teh Gorham High School Class of 1975 will take place on Saturday, August 30 from 4 - 9 p.m. at Red City Ale house, 8 Main Street, Windham. FMI: Contact Donna (207) 831-2203 or Diane (207) 756-3740.

Learn what Gorham is doing to prepare for climate change. Join the Climate Caretakers at First Parish Church for a presentation by Town Planner, Carol Eyerma. Friday, June 13 at 6:30 p.m., 1 Church Street. All are welcome.

Maine Residents Invited to Free Alzheimer's Educational Conference on June 11 from 10 - 11 p.m. at the Portland Regency Hotel & Spa at 20 Milk Street in Portland. The event is sponsored by the Alzheimer's Foundation of America. You can find an announcement at the AARP site: <https://states.aarp.org/maine/afa> or register at <https://alzfdn.org/tour/>

True North Vacation Bible Camp will take place June 23-27 from 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. at Cressey Road Christian Church. Open to children ages four through finishing fifth grade. Register and FMI: <https://cresseyrdcc.org/> or 839-3111.

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. The 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.

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. All are welcome, 3rd floor First Parish Church. FMI: Lisa Becker at leckybrowncenter@gmail.com

PUBLIC SUPPERS

Living Waters Church on Parker Farm Road in Buxton will hold a Chili and Chowder Cook-off on Saturday, June 14 at 5 p.m. Suggested donation, \$8 per person; \$20 for family. Proceeds to benefit Vacation Bible School for July 2025.


LIBRARY NEWS

The North Gorham Public Library now has two book clubs. The Monday Morning Book Club generally meets in the library the fourth Monday of the month from 11 to noon on Mondays. The After Work group is now reading "The Southern Book Clubs Guide to Slaying Vampires" by Grady Hendrix. It will meet in the library Wednesday, June 11, from 5 to 6 p.m. Also, on Thursday, June 12, from 6 to 8 p.m., the library is hosting a Fly Tying Demo. Joe Dacey, a registered Maine fishing Guide, will teach the basics and help participants try to make their own fly. The 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 Library's Adult Art Night is happening on Thursday, June 12 from 6 - 7 p.m. Now, imagine the thrill of stepping inside a life-size, inflatable humpback whale named "Chunk" and embarking on an immersive educational journey like no other. The Friends of BML invite you to "Spring into Summer Reading" with hot dogs, sno cones, live music and more on Wednesday, June 18 from 2 - 6 p.m. For the complete listing of events, visit the website, <https://baxterlibrary.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.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

(207) 839-3300




pogorealty.com



BIDDEFORD \$449,900


Coming soon!

Lots of updates have been done to this 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home, including vinyl siding, porch, deck, heating system, insulation, windows & kitchen. This level lot can be found at the end of a dead end street. A 1/2 acre lot in the R1A zone allows for a 2nd unit. There's a large 2-car garage & shed for extra storage. What a convenient location to ball fields, shopping & more within walking distance, along with easy access to the turnpike & beaches.




BUXTON \$739,000

The original owners have taken impeccable care of this property inside & out. A rare find with a total of 3077sf including 1977sf of one level living, plus 1100sf finished on the lower level inclusive of a newly renovated accessory apartment. Heated finished oversized 2-car garage plus a detached heated finished workshop all on a gorgeous 6.15ac lot tucked away in a neighborhood setting. The grounds are gorgeous with a lush lawn, mature landscaping and raised bed vegetable gardens.




BUXTON \$369,500

Best buy in Buxton! Affordable ranch style home with a 1-car garage tucked away on a dead-end street. Freshly painted with new carpet throughout. Features an open concept, 3-bedrooms, full bathroom with laundry & radiant floor heat. No basement but the garage makes for good storage. Located on a paved public road in a convenient location just 4.5 miles to Gorham Village and easy access to Route 22 & Route 202. Bring your ideas and energy to make this home your own!




GORHAM \$150,000

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. You'll love NO HOA fees, restrictions or bylaws to live by. Convenient North Gorham location just minutes to North Windham and Sebago Lake Station boat ramp.




BUXTON \$299,000


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.



Julie Chandler



Mike Griffin



Peter Mason

13 | Gorham Times | gorhamtimes@gmail.com | June 5, 2025 | Since 1995 — A FREE, Biweekly Community Newspaper

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE

One of the oldest buildings at the University of Southern Maine is getting new attention.

The project to renovate the Academy Building in Gorham was one of seven honorees at the annual award ceremony hosted by Maine Preservation in Gardiner on March 25. USM President Jacqueline Edmondson attended the ceremony to accept the award. She was accompanied by Chief Business Officer Justin Swift, Capital Construction Project Manager David Burrows, and University Historian Libby Bischof.



The Academy Building was built from 1803 to 1806 as a private secondary school for area children. In 1909, it was absorbed into the campus that would eventually become known as the University of Southern Maine. The Department of Art currently uses the building for exhibition and studio space.

Construction workers spent the last two summers making needed repairs. They reshingled the roof and whitewashed the siding. The most intensive work was focused on the northeast façade. Water intrusion required major repairs to the entryway and second-floor balcony.

The Academy Building is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. Its protected status meant that repairs had to adhere as closely as possible to the original design and materials.

The renovations also shed new light on University history. When workers removed the old siding and floorboards, they found dozens of handwritten messages, drawings, and homework assignments, dating back to the 19th century. One of the notable students during that period was Kate Douglas Wiggin, who would later write the novel "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm."

You're in the Know.
Gorham Times

CLASSIFIEDS

GARAGE/YARD SALE: 91 Cumberland Lane, Gorham, Thursday to Sunday, June 5,6, 7 and 8, and Thursday and Friday, June 12 and 13, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Furniture, household items, hand and yard tools, glassware plus more! If you don't see it, ask.

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CALENDAR

- Thursday, June 5**
Baxter Memorial Library
Morning Book Club, "The Lost Bookshop" by Evie Woods, 10:15 a.m.
Library Trustees Meeting, open to the public, all are welcome, 6 - 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, June 7**
Cressey Road Christian Church Cherished Possessions & Perennials Yard Sale, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Sunday, June 8**
Gorham High School Graduation Ceremony, 4 p.m., parking is limited.
- Monday, June 9**
Open Space and Trails Public Open House Event, Municipal Center, 6 - 8 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 10**
Baxter Memorial Library, Author Event with Derek Volk, 6 p.m.
- Thursday, June 12**
Baxter Memorial Library, Adult Art Night, 6 - 7 p.m.
- Friday, June 13**
Climate Caretakers meet at First Parish Church, 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, June 14**
Living Waters Church Chili and Chowder Cook-off, 5 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 18**
Baxter Memorial Library Spring into Summer Reading, 2 - 6 p.m.

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

Archeological Find CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

by a malfunctioning sluice gate, which required the dam owners to completely drain the pond so that the gate could be repaired. After some delays, the gate was fixed by September, and the pond was completely refilled by late last fall. It is expected that Michael Shaughnessy's talk will cover the 1913 construction of the Dundee Dam (as well as the dam's past and current issues) in the context of the 400 year history of the Presumpscot River going back to the early colonial period in the 1600's.



Photo Credit: Julie Caswell

On the left is an 1864 Indian Head Penny, reverse side. On the right is a Civil War token. Its message states "The Federal Union- It Must And Shall Be Preserved."



Photo Credit: Julie Caswell
1867 US Two Cent Coin obverse side.



Photo Credit: Julie Caswell

Skeleton key recovered near the former Shaw family farm

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ADS DUE BY 6/11 GRADUATION ISSUE 6/19

the Courtesy of the Gorham Police Department blotter

Officer found two individuals parked on Access Road by the baseball field. They said they were just hanging out. They were moved along.

Caller reported an open door and canine had escaped the residence. Canine was located and secured, as was the open door.

Officer spoke with an individual and she stated that she was on a straight road where the other individual had to merge into the lane. The other individual stated that she cut him off, and that is when he admitted to following her. She admitted to flipping him off and then giving him a thumbs down. Both were spoken to.

Caller was concerned about having a stock account online and thought it was a scam. Officer referenced the website and account itself, and it seemed not to be a scam. Officer told her to not link any of her personal information or send it out just in case. She understood.

Operator was having difficulties with her car. She had pulled over in the Hannaford's parking lot to arrange for a tow truck. Officer saw no signs of impairment.

Caller called in to report that his lawn mower had been stolen. In summary he had left it on the side of Narragansett Street for the night with a note saying "do not touch" with his number. It rained all night. In the morning he went back and the lawn mower was gone. He was given this lawn mower for free. Officer told individual he would need photos, a statement and proof of ownership. He said he would come to GPD later in the day, which he never did... Given the fact the note could have easily blown or washed away in the storm and

that it was essentially abandoned on the side of the road, it would be extremely difficult to prove a theft occurred, anyway.

Caller came into the GPD and stated that she kept hearing beeping in her residence. She stated that previously Windham Police and Fire had come to her residence and didn't hear the beeping. She was advised to record next time.

Officer located a vehicle in the parking lot of Domino's and spoke with an individual who stated that he doesn't remember driving in and out of the lines. Officer advised him of the rules of the road and he stated he was just getting out of work to pick up pizza.

Officer reported passerby was concerned about an individual and wanted to make sure they were ok. Officer spoke with the individual and they stated that they were just playing Pokemon Go.

The caller said that people were laughing at her. No crime.

Officer responded to a noise complaint on Gray Road. Complainant stated to Dispatch that their upstairs neighbor was stomping and wanted an officer to talk to the neighbors to keep them from stomping. When officers arrived on scene they went to the apartment located above the complainant and spoke to the resident and stated they were there because of a noise complaint. Occupant stated that it was just her children playing and that the complainant downstairs had also been banging on her ceiling. She also stated that her landlord told her that quiet time was after 10 p.m. and it was only 7:30. We confirmed that everyone was all right and left the scene.

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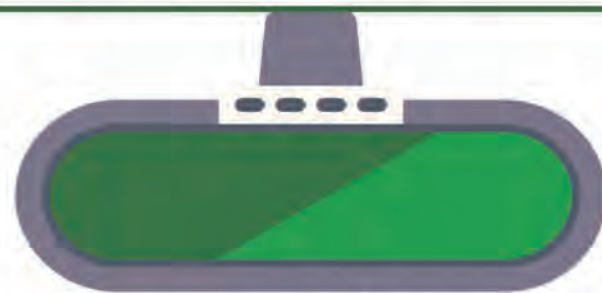
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