

Williams of Gorham turns 100



Virginia Thompson Williams

A huge celebration was held at the Cressey Road Methodist Church catered by At Your Table to celebrate the Valentine's Day 100th birthday of Virginia Thompson Williams of Gorham Maine. Relatives flew in to be with her on this exceptional occasion from California, Florida, Oklahoma, Virginia, Nevada and Alaska to name a few.

Around 150 attended the party. Many accolades were given by, her granddaughter, Terri Dawson, of Gorham, Mo Terry, our State Representative, and Rick Hawkes from our church. Terri also presented a wonderful slide show of Virginia's life.

Virginia was born in Cornish, Maine, in 1920, the year that Women won the right to vote! She has led an amazing life. Virginia put herself through high school renting a room and working to support herself since her family of 13 plus parents couldn't afford to help her. She is the sole surviving member of her immediate family. Virginia was married See 100, page 8

Hawkes teaches drawing techniques at Gorham Library



Professional illustrator Kevin Hawkes visited Baxter Memorial Library to teach

tweens/teens a technique to bring drawings into fully rendered form using a simple ball point pen." The kids learned how to apply a light repetitive touch to bring forth detail in their own creations. Hawkes also shared some of his work in progress to help illustrate certain concepts such as eye form, hand details, and motion. He encouraged these future artists by sharing tips that will help them reach their potential.

Guest Column: Gorham Superintendent's monthly update

By Heather Perry

The following is to provide K-5 families an update on the school's Attendance zone shifts, and where the planning associated with this change is, in preparation for the opening of the 2020-21 school year.

Before I get to the "meat" of this update, however, I wanted to share a few "Thank You's" to folks that have helped me remain focused on the right things as an educational leader recently. The pace of this work is pretty fast, and the pressures are often pretty strong since in this job we don't work with building "widgets" but with building young adults and preparing them for their successful futures. No small feat indeed, but one of which I am proud to say, we here in Gorham do a very good job.

This success does not come without a cost and often the cost is emotional stress, burnout, and all the negatives associated with performing such an emotionally charged job day in and day out.



For me, the only way I remain focused on the "right things" (supporting our students and staff) is by getting out into classrooms, interacting with students and staff and seeing for myself what their needs are.

Recently, I had the awesome experience of shadowing Elijah from GHS. Elijah is a student

at GHS who also attends the Plumbing and Heating Program at Portland Arts and Technology High School (PATHS). When I shadowed Elijah, he was learning about how to solder pipes in order to install heat into a modular home they were building that will eventually be sold to an actual See Super, page 9

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Governor's Address: Join me in protecting our children

One summer, a five-year-old boy woke up slowly with a headache and surrounded by white coats and scared faces. As Dr. Tony Owens describes it, "I was only 5 and don't remember anyone telling me I had polio, and not sure at that age it would have meant much to me anyway. As a parent and grandparent now myself, I can only imagine the terror that must have stricken my mom and dad."

Tony Owens spent weeks in a children's hospital and fortunately, he made a full recovery. By the next summer, a polio vaccine was developed that would eliminate the deadly disease worldwide, or nearly eliminate it.

Vaccines save lives, but only if people get vaccinated. Vaccines are one of the best tools we have to safeguard our children, pro-

tect our own health and the health of everyone around us, but a referendum on Maine's ballot March 3rd would restore, what I consider, dangerous vaccine exemptions against the advice of every major medical provider in Maine.

I know you heard about this recently from me, but I wanted to talk to you about it again because I think it is so important.

Our state has had a vaccination opt-out rate that is about three times higher than the national average for kids starting kindergarten. Our state ranks seventh in the country for the rate of non-medical opt-outs among school age children. This is dangerous to kids who have immunity problems and health issues who can't be vaccinated but who become ill because of someone else who is not vaccinated.

Last year alone, schools in Lincoln, York,



Governor Janet Mills

and Cumberland counties experienced dangerous whooping cough outbreaks.

As Governor, I am charged with protecting the health and safety of all Maine people, and amidst these outbreaks it has become painfully clear that Maine laws have not adequately protected the health of Maine people.

During that last legislative session, I signed a bill to remove the non-medical exemptions from our vaccination laws so as to better protect the health and welfare of all Maine people, especially young children – something that four

other states, Mississippi, New York, West Virginia and California – have all done recently.

The new law leaves medical exemptions up to medical professionals while ensuring that medically vulnerable children can attend school safely. All Maine children, regardless of insurance status, can receive vaccines at no cost through the Maine Immunization Program (ImmunizeME.org). Those are the facts.

Some people opposed to this new law though have succeeded in putting a referendum question on the ballot in the hopes of overturning the law.

I think that their campaign is masquerading itself as opposition to "Big Pharma," but, really, pharmaceutical companies hardly benefit at all from producing these vaccines, as the newspapers recently reported. And in trying to target so-called Big Pharma,

whom nobody likes, this campaign is purposefully trying to conflate vaccinations I think with other issues like the opioid epidemic when these issues are very different.

Don't buy it.

As parents I think we have the right to choose whether or not to vaccinate our children, but none of us has the right to put the health of somebody else's child at risk, especially those kids who are medically vulnerable and just want to go to school safely.

Yes on 1 puts the health of all of our children at risk. You don't have to take my word for it though.

Nearly sixty major health care providers across Maine, including the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital, have encouraged us to vote No on 1 because they know the measure is dangerous.

Children are especially vulnerable to

deadly diseases like measles, mumps, polio, chickenpox, whooping cough—all these diseases are preventable by the immunity created in schools and public spaces when all people are vaccinated.

As the American Academy of Pediatrics says, ensuring that everyone who can get vaccinated does get vaccinated is important because it protects the most vulnerable members of our communities – infants, pregnant women and other people whose immune systems cannot combat certain harmful or deadly infections or who just aren't eligible to receive certain vaccines medically.

Let's listen to the doctors. Let's not go back to a time when polio was so commonplace. Join me in protecting our children. I urge you to vote no on 1 on March 3.

Sen. Ned Claxton greets New Gloucester Library 4-H Club



Sen. Ned Claxton (far right) with children from New Gloucester Library's 4-H club in the Senate Chamber

Last Wednesday, Sen. Ned Claxton, D-Auburn, welcomed the New Gloucester Library's 4-H Club to the State House. The group toured the State House before meeting Sen. Claxton in the Senate Chamber, where he discussed the legislative process.

Journalism scholarships available for Maine students

The Guy P. Gannett Journalism Scholarship Fund and the Agnes Freyer Gibbs Scholarship Fund seek applications from Maine students.

The Gannett Scholarship provides renewable support for students majoring in journalism or a field reasonably related, including print, broadcast, or electronic media. The fund helps pay tuition to attend an undergraduate, graduate, trade, or technical school.

The Gibbs Scholarship provides renewable support to graduating high school seniors planning to major in journal-

ism or a reasonably related field.

The two funds share an online application, the deadline for which is April 1, 2020. To apply online, go to www.mainecef.org.

Applicants must be graduates of Maine high schools or have been home-schooled in Maine. Students will be chosen based on demonstrated interest in journalism through their choice of coursework and extracurricular activities, as well as financial need and academic achievement.

The Maine Community Foundation has worked with donors and

educators since 1983 to provide Maine students access to educational opportunities. The community foundation manages more than 600 scholarship funds.

Headquartered in Ellsworth, with additional personnel in Portland, Dover-Foxcroft, and Mars Hill, the Maine Community Foundation works with donors and other partners to provide strong investments, personalized service, local expertise, and strategic giving to improve the quality of life for all Maine people. To learn more about the foundation visit www.mainecef.org.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Men's College Basketball: USM v. Colby College

Matt Hanna converted a back-door layup on a feed from Will King and King hit one-of-two free throws with 1.7 seconds on the clock to lift the No. 12 Colby College Mules over the University of Southern Maine Huskies in a non-conference men's basketball game Monday night at Hill Gymnasium.

With the win, the nationally-ranked Mules earn their third straight win to move to 22-2. The Huskies see their two-game win streak snapped and stand at 11-13 overall.

Noah Tyson led four Mules in double-figures with a game-high 25 points and completing the double-double with a game-high 10 rebounds. Hanna had 24 points, four rebounds and four assists, while Alex Dorion added 13 points. Wallace Tucker tossed in 12 points off of the bench on 5-of-11 shooting, and Ty Williams had a game-high seven assists.

Southern Maine also had four players in double-figures led by 28 points, eight rebounds, four steals and three assists from senior Jaire Roberts (Warrenton, Va.). Junior Derek Haney (Auburn, Calif) had 18 points, shooting 7-for-13 from the field, including 4-for-8 from three. Freshman Cameron Wood notched a career-high with 17 points (7-for-9 field goals), adding eight rebounds, while sophomore Jacobe

Thomas (Houston, Texas) had 14 points, seven rebounds and four assists.

How it happened:

In a high-scoring first half, Colby led at the break 57-49. The Mules shot 58.8 percent (20-for-34) from the field in the opening 20 minutes, including a red-hot 55.6 percent (10-for-18) from three. Hanna had 16 of his 24 in the first, while Tyson had 15 on a perfect 5-for-5 effort.

Wood had a strong first half for the Huskies, scoring 15 points on 6-of-7 from the floor, adding six boards. Thomas and Roberts each had 10.

USM stayed close with the Mules in the opening half, and trailed by five, 44-39, with 3:55 to play following a three from Haney. Colby countered, however, with an 8-2 run to jump its lead to 11, 52-41 led by four points from Tyson. USM returned to a seven point hole, 54-47, on four points from Thomas and two from Wood before Hanna drained a three with 19 seconds to play for a 57-47 lead. The Huskies' Thomas connected on a layup in the for the 57-49 halftime score.

USM opened the second half on a 12-1 run to lead 61-58 with 15:40 to play. Four different players scored in the run for the Huskies led by five points from Haney. The Mules were ice cold during that stretch going 0-for-8 with a turnover, and one-

of-two free throws in their first 10 possessions of the second half.

Down by three, Colby's Dorion drained a three to stop the Mules scoring drought with 15:13 to play and the game settled into a back-and-forth affair.

Hanna put the Mules up by five, 75-70, with 8:49 to play with a three, but USM quickly countered with an 8-0 run to snag a 78-75 lead with 7:43 on the clock. Haney connected on back-to-back threes for the Huskies in the run, which was started by a driving layup from Roberts.

Colby used a run of its own, 7-2, to regain the lead, 82-80 (5:17) and was up 88-84 on three consecutive free throws from Tyson with 3:10 to play before USM's Roberts scored five straight on a three and a floating layup for an 89-88 Husky lead with 1:29 on the clock.

With just under 90 seconds to play, both teams exchanged points, and Roberts gave USM a 91-90 lead, scoring his seventh consecutive points for the Huskies, with 33 seconds left.

Down a point, Hanna cut back-door on the right side of the court and took a feed from King for the go-ahead bucket, and a 92-91 lead. USM had the ball with 27 seconds to play, and had a good look at the basket but the shot rimmed out and King snagged the

See **Basketball**, page 6

Smith of USM Gorham named New England's Wrestler of the week

Senior captain Josh Smith (York, Maine) of the University of Southern Maine Huskies' wrestling team has been named the New England Wrestling Association (NEWA) Wrestler of the Week.

Ranked sixth in New England entering the week, Smith put together a pair of impressive wins to improve his individual season record to 32-5. In the Huskies 21-18 dual meet win over New England College,

Smith earned an impressive 7-4 win by decision over the fourth-ranked wrestler in the region, Malik Settles—a two-time national qualifier and regional champion. Later in the week in a 37-9 win at Norwich University, Smith worked his way to an 11-5 win over the fifth-ranked wrestler Daniel Curran.

Smith, an Environmental Science major, is a three-time William B. Wise Scholar Athlete, and a former NEWA

All-Academic selection. He is one of the Huskies' team captains for the 2019-2020 season.

Members of the Huskies squad will compete at the upcoming NEWA Futures Tournament hosted by Western New England University on Saturday (11:00 a.m.). The following week, Southern Maine will begin its post-season competition at the NCAA Northeast Regional hosted by Rhode Island College.

Stone Soup Fun in Gorham

On February 12, Gail Platts, from the Gorham Recreation Department, hosted a Stone Soup luncheon for us. Fifteen hearty souls ate soup, salad and dessert. The soup was made from donations of dif-

ferent vegetables. Gail cooked chicken broth, cubes of chicken and garlic beforehand and then added each of the veggies and cooked it on an electric hotplate. It was tasty and everyone loved it. The salad

and dessert were just the right amount to make a community luncheon. Gail read one of the stories about the origin of stone soup and other folks did a reenactment. A fun time was had by all!

March Madness at Lakes Region Senior Center.

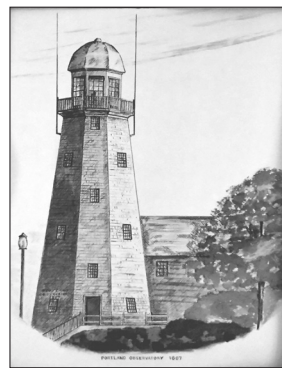
Monday, March 9, at 11:30 a.m., join us for a wonderful and tasty Boiled Dinner which will be catered by Sharon owner of At Your Table from Gorham. There will be potatoes, carrots, cabbage

and corned beef from Pat's Meat Market in Portland, and beets and turnip along with soda bread and ice cream with yummy cookies for dessert. In order to join us, you must sign up and give your money to

Blanche, Gerry or Jan Foster by March 1. The sign up will be on the bulletin board soon. The charge for members will be \$8 and for non-members, \$10. Come support your Center by trying this new caterer.

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What's Going On

Bicycle Coalition of Maine reveals BikeMaine 2020 Route

The Bicycle Coalition of Maine celebrated the route reveal for BikeMaine 2020 during their eighth annual Kick-off Party at the University of Maine's Wells Conference Center in Orono.

The event was free, open to the public, and featured presentations by Matthew Polstein, the owner and operator of the New England Outdoor Center in Millinocket, and Kala Rush, the education coordinator for Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters. More than 70 attendees recently gathered at 7 p.m. for the announcement of the host communities for BikeMaine 2020: Katahdin Frontier.

The host communities are as follows: Night 1: Old Town;

Night 2: Lincoln; Night 3: Patten; Night 4 and 5: Millinocket, including a rest day; Night 6 and 7: Dover-Foxcroft, including a loop ride through Monson.

The fully supported week-long bike tour will begin Saturday, September 12 and end Saturday, September 19 in Old Town.

"We are both lucky and grateful to be working with these wonderful communities in the Katahdin Region," says Ride Director Will Elting. "It is the last large region of the state that the ride has yet to cover, and I can't wait for riders to experience its wild and iconic landscapes, quiet back roads, and welcoming people."

Since BikeMaine began in 2013, it has

brought riders through seven different and diverse regions of Maine. During that time, BikeMaine's annual economic impact has grown from \$235,000 to \$906,000 and has had a positive impact on communities from Caribou to Kennebunk.

The Bicycle Coalition of Maine is the statewide voice of cyclists and pedestrians. Since 1992, the Bicycle Coalition of Maine has led the effort to make Maine better for bicycling and walking by protecting the rights and safety of cyclists and pedestrians through education, advocacy, legislation, and encouragement. We support biking and walking for health, transportation, and recreation. For more information: bike-maine.org.

\$178,000 in grants to support conservation efforts in Maine



Maine Conservation Corps trail crew members at work on Frenchman Bay Conservancy's Little Tunk Pond Preserve. Photo courtesy FBC

The Maine Community Foundation's Fund for Maine Land Conservation has awarded just over \$178,105 in grants to 23 organizations to support conservation projects across Maine. Grantees include: Frenchman Bay Conservancy, to use a new tool to engage Ellsworth residents in discussions and intentional planning around growth, business, land use, housing and conservation; Southern Maine Conservation Collaborative, to support a planning year for Relearning Place Intensive Program, a semester-length program for emerging environmental leaders grounded in conservation and place; Town of Grand Isle, to conduct planning for a

community nature conservation and outdoor recreation initiative for greater accessibility and to secure funding for implementation and sustainability.

The Fund for Maine Land Conservation seeks to support projects that encourage preservation of Maine's land. The grant program has four objectives: help preserve traditional uses of land and working landscapes; provide for continued public access and recreational use; protect sensitive ecological areas; and promote greater appreciation of the environment.

Changes are being made to the conservation grant program at MaineCF. The new criteria and guidelines will be released, along with

the new application, by July 1, and the next deadline will be September 15, 2020. For a complete list of 2019 grants, visit www.maineecf.org. Questions should be directed to Senior Program Officer Maggie Drummond-Bahl at mbahl@mainecf.org or (207) 412-0839.

Headquartered in Ellsworth, with additional personnel in Portland, Dover-Foxcroft, and Mars Hill, the Maine Community Foundation works with donors and other partners to provide strong investments, personalized service, local expertise, and strategic giving to improve the quality of life for all Maine people. To learn more about the foundation, visit www.maineecf.org.

MDIFW, USDA Wildlife Services, City of Bath working together

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is working with the US Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services and the City of Bath on an integrative

approach to address important human health and safety concerns surrounding rabies. A focused, localized trapping effort by USDA Wildlife Services is proposed as

a management strategy to reduce wild animal population densities in the area. Details of the plan are being finalized, and there will be a public informational meeting to discuss the plan once it is complete.

Rabies is a naturally occurring disease that affects mammals, including people, primarily through a bite. Rabies is fatal if left untreated, but vaccines are extremely effective when medical treatment is sought soon after being exposed to an infected animal. Certain species of wildlife are more susceptible to rabies and have high tolerance for living in close proximity to people, such as raccoons, skunks and foxes. Bats are also considered high risk for rabies because they are sometimes found in

See *Wildlife*, page 7

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Girl Scout Troop 30 visits the State House



Girl Scouts and troop leaders from Troop 30 visited the State House on Thursday. The troop includes members from Mechanic Falls, Minot and Poland. They were welcomed to the State House by Minority Leader Kathleen Dillingham, R-Oxford, Rep. Bettyann Sheats, D-Auburn, and Rep. Jess Fay, D-Raymond.

Maine Ranks 8th in annual school breakfast participation

During the 2018–2019 school year, 37,173 students with low income in Maine started the day right with a nutritious school breakfast through the School Breakfast Program according to a report released by the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC). Nationally, 12.4 million students with low income participated in school breakfast in the 2018-2019 school year.

FRAC’s School Breakfast Scorecard ranks states on the rate of participation of children with low income in the School Breakfast Program. In the 2018-2019 school year, Maine’s school breakfast program reached 64 low-income children for every 100 who participated in school lunch. While there are still more students who can benefit from starting the school day with a nutritious breakfast, Maine is moving closer to FRAC’s goal of serving school breakfast to 70 children with low income for every 100 who receive school lunch.

“Since 2016 Preble Street Maine Hunger Initiative has worked with communities, schools, and families to increase the number of students participating in the school breakfast program,” said Meredith Cook, Maine Hunger Initiative Social Change Advocate. “We have witnessed the positive impact of school breakfast on student’s health and academic performance.

Just as students are provided with books, computers, and desks to be set up for success, we must ensure every student has the fuel they need to learn and thrive.”

Research shows that students who eat breakfast at school are more alert and better able to concentrate, leading to improved attendance records, a boost in academic achievement, and higher graduation rates. For the one in five Maine children who live in a food insecure home, school breakfast is an essential part of the day.

“When breakfast is offered during the school day, all students have an opportunity to eat together, so no student is singled out,” said Senator Marianne Moore. “I have seen firsthand the success of breakfast after the bell programs, and what it can do for so many students across our state. That’s why I introduced ‘Breakfast After the Bell’ legislation last year.”

In 2019, thanks in large part to advocacy efforts led by Preble Street, Full Plates Full Potential, and the Ending Child Hunger Coalition, Maine passed Breakfast After the Bell legislation, sponsored by Senator Moore, Senator Shenna Bellows, and Senator Cathy Breen. This program allows schools across the state to provide breakfast in the classroom before the school day begins, after first period, or through a “grab and go” option

and will increase school breakfast participation among students with low income.

“Over the last four years Full Plates Full Potential has worked with schools and granted \$142,000 dollars to support their breakfast programs flipping to a breakfast after the bell meal program,” said Justin Alford co-director of Full Plates Full Potential. “This new law will jumpstart our coalitions work to help thousands and thousands of more children get access and eat breakfast daily.” In addition to the many benefits school breakfast provides students, Maine schools are reimbursed by the federal government for each breakfast they serve to students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

Based on a variety of metrics, the School Breakfast Scorecard report measures the reach of the School Breakfast Program in the 2018–2019 school year—nationally and in each state—and examines the impact of select trends and policies on program participation. On an average school day, nearly 12.4 million children with low-income participated in the School Breakfast Program in school year 2018–2019. More than 3.6 million more children with low-income received school breakfast on an average day in the 2018–2019 school year than in the 2008–2009 school year.

Girl Scouts of Maine hosts new member sign-up events

Girl Scouts of Maine (GSME) announces that it will host New Member Sign-Up events for potential members and volunteers at locations throughout the state every month. Below is a list of events in your area.

These events will bring together girls from kindergarten through third grade and their caregivers and allow them to discover why Girl Scouting is important to the development of girls, how it relates to the success of young women today, and the important role that adults play.

“Girl Scouts helps girls develop their full potential,” says Joanne

Crepeau, CEO of Girl Scouts of Maine. “When a girl becomes a Girl Scout, she grows into a young woman who is self-confident, strong and compassionate. She learns how to build and maintain healthy relationships. She becomes more aware of the world around her and uses her skills and talents to make her world a better place.”

These New Member Sign-Up events are just some of the many events that GSME will be holding this year. Here is a list of events in your area:

March 2, Marcia Buker School, 6 p.m., 28 High Street, Richmond.
March 3, Pittston-Randolph Consolidated

School, 6 p.m., 1023 Pittston School Street, Pittston. March 4, Woolwich Central School, 6 p.m., 137 Nequasset Road, Woolwich.

For more information about Girl Scouts or to see a full list of New Member Sign-Up events, visit girlscoutsofmaine.org or call 888-922-4763.

Girl Scouts of Maine builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. GSME provides services and support to nearly 13,000 girl and adult members statewide and operates service centers and shops in South Portland and Bangor.

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Gorham's Library events

The Baxter Memorial Library has lots going on for you and your family!

Thursday, February 27:

Toddler Discovery Time: 9:30 to 10 a.m. For 18 months through 3 years old. All of our Discovery Times are designed to introduce children to books and libraries in a positive and enjoyable way. We use stories, music, and movement to present and enhance early literacy skills and foster a love of reading. Every week we offer 3 different age-specific programs and one all-ages music program. *Discovery Times are not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Sewing Club: 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Learn to sew. A variety of textile techniques and projects will be explored. Children aged 7 & up are welcome to attend. Children under 8 years old must have a parent or other caregiver, over age 14, in attendance to help with the program as needed. This activity has open registration; come when you can and leave when you must.

Tuesday, March 3:

Preschool Discovery Time: 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. For ages 3 to 5. All of our Discovery Times are designed to introduce children to books and libraries in a positive and enjoyable way. We use stories, music, and movement to present and enhance early literacy skills and foster a love of reading. Every week we offer 3 different age-specific programs and one all-ages music program. *Discovery Times are not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Baxter Digs Reading: 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library is pleased to have our friend Baxter available again! Baxter is a Standard Poodle Therapy Dog who loves to be read to! He will be visiting the library the first and third Tuesday of the month. Call (222-1190) or visit the library to sign up for your 15 minute slot to read to Baxter.

Wednesday, March 4:

Baby Discovery: 9:30 to 9:50 a.m. For Infants through 18 months. All of our Discovery Times are designed to introduce children to books and libraries in a positive

and enjoyable way. We use stories, music, and movement to present and enhance early literacy skills and foster a love of reading. Every week we offer 3 different age-specific programs and one all-ages music program. *Discovery Times are not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Music Fun with Mr. Jeff: 6 to 6:30 p.m. For infants to 5 years old. Explore a fun way to develop early literacy skills in young children with music, dancing, and stories. Geared toward ages from birth to 5 but open to all. *Music Fun with Mr. Jeff is not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Thursday, March 5:

Toddler Discovery Time: 9:30 to 10 a.m. For 18 months through 3 years old. All of our Discovery Times are designed to introduce children to books and libraries in a positive and enjoyable way. We use stories, music, and movement to present and enhance early literacy skills and foster a love of

See Events, page 11

Women's Basketball in Gorham

Alexis Quenneville, Brooke Raiche and Elise Magro combined to score 52 points to lead the Castleton University Spartans to a 75-65 win over the University of Southern Maine Huskies in a Little East Conference women's basketball game Saturday afternoon at Hill Gymnasium.

With the win, Castleton improves to 14-9 overall and 9-5 in the Little East Conference. Southern Maine dips to 10-14 overall and 5-10 in the LEC.

Castleton shot 47.1 percent (24-for-51) from the field for the game and sank 23-of-29 free throws to earn the win. The Spartans were 15-for-20 from the line in the fourth quarter.

Southern Maine sophomore Victoria Harris (Altus, Okla./Lewiston) had 23 points, eight rebounds and five steals to lead the Huskies. Junior Abi Ramirez (Portland, Maine) added 15 points, four rebounds and two assists. Senior Jackie Luckhardt (Londonderry, N.H.) had nine points, four rebounds, two assists and two steals. The Huskies finished the game shooting 37.5 percent (21-for-56) from the field and 79.2 percent from the

free throw line (19-for-24). Harris was 11-for-14 from the free throw line and 6-for-9 from the floor. Ramirez was 5-for-11 from the field and 4-for-6 from the line.

How it happened: Castleton used a 7-2 run in the final three minutes of the first quarter to take a 15-10 lead over USM headed into the second quarter. Magro scored four of the Spartans' seven points, while Julie Lee capped the run with a three-pointer. Harris had six of the Huskies 10 points in the frame; Castleton's Raiche and Magro combined to score 13 of their team's 21 second quarter points as CU won the quarter 21-14 for a 36-24 lead at the break. Harris again had six points to lead USM, which shot 80 percent (4-for-5) from the field in the quarter but turned the ball over nine times; Ramirez scored nine of her 15 in the third quarter for the Huskies as Southern Maine trailed Castleton 53-43 headed into the fourth; USM surged in the fourth, cutting its deficit to four points, 53-49, in the opening minutes of the fourth. One of two free throws from Harris, a transition three from Luckhardt after a

steal and an assist from Samantha Averill and a steal and a layup again from Luckhardt gave USM a 6-0 run;

After the fourth quarter's opening surge, the game went back-and-fourth. Down 59-51 with 6:05 to play, Luckhardt hit two free throws and rookie Megan King (Derry, N.H./Pinkerton Academy) made a three to pull the Huskies to within two possessions, 61-56, with 4:22 to play. It was as close as USM would get the rest of the way, however, as Castleton closed the game at the free throw line making 11-of-14.

Up next: Southern Maine remains in Little East Conference action and travels to UMass Dartmouth on Saturday (1 p.m.).

Basketball

Continued from page 3

defensive board with 1.7 left. Fouled and sent to the line, King hit the first and intentionally missed the second for the 93-91 final.

Up next: Southern Maine remains in Little East Conference action and travels to UMass Dartmouth on Saturday (3:00 p.m.).

Open House - Sat., Feb 29



11:00 am to 1:00 pm

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Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet at UMF

Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet comes to life on the University of Maine at Farmington stage as Theatre UMF's major theatre production for spring 2020. Performances will be held on campus in the UMF Alumni Theater at 7:30 p.m., Thursday through Saturday, March 5, 6 and 7, and at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 8.

Directed by award-winning playwright Jayne Decker, the classical Shakespearean tragedy will be performed in its original text, while set in a present-day environment, highlighting the timeless story of two star-crossed lovers in the midst of conflict without cause. "One of Shakespeare's more well-known plays, the themes will speak to a modern audience," said Decker.

The production is a huge commitment on everyone's part with an impressive cast of 24, including students, faculty, staff and community members, according to Decker.

"In addition to their regular academics and work commitments, student actors from across campus are coming to five or six rehearsals a week along with music and choreography practice. The actors have

embraced a performance discipline that is as challenging as it is rewarding," she said.

Senior Hailey Craig dedicated herself to an independent study in mask design to provide the performance with an array of skillfully created classical masks.

Contemporary costumes coordinated by senior student Samantha Wood and student cast members, and urban set design by Stan Spilecki, resident scenic and lighting designer, bring a modern visual context to Shakespeare's classical play.

An original musical score based on Elizabethan rhythmic ideas using modern instruments was created by UMF faculty member and composer Matthew Houston. UMF students Joshua Grant and Jeremy Tingdahl, Mt. Blue High School student Avery Jessen, and Houston help complete the on-stage ensemble as street musicians who play acoustic guitar, drums, ukulele, mandolin, and even the set itself during the performance.

"Composing for a theatre performance was a first for me," said Houston. "I would bring my completed score to rehearsal and then adapt and compose on the spot to put the music in sync

with the performance. It was a wonderful experience."

Decker has directed numerous productions at UMF Alumni Theater. Her production, "Coyote on a Fence," was awarded a Moss Hart Memorial Award by the New England Theatre Conference—New England's oldest and largest regional theatre association.

She has also presented workshop productions of her original plays "Good Medicine," "Stars Falling," winner of the 2002 Maine Playwriting Award; "Jelly Moonshine," and "Songbird," a touring play about the Iraq War. "Cracked Shells," an original play by Decker about domestic violence, was commissioned by Franklin County Network's Peace in Our Families and was featured again at the 2009 Maine Women's Studies Conference.

Admission for the performance is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and students 18 and under, and \$5 for UMF students with I.D. Tickets are available at the time of the performance and can be reserved by calling the Theatre UMF box office at (207) 778-7465.

This Theatre UMF production is sponsored by the UMF Division of the Arts.

Arts & Entertainment

Steve Grover tribute jazz concert by OURBIGBAND



OURBIGBAND, a 17-piece jazz ensemble made up of musicians from Portsmouth, NH, and Portland, ME, celebrate the music of the late Maine jazz great Steve Grover. The concert takes place on Sunday, March 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the SPACE Gallery and is co-presented by the Portland Conservatory of Music's Dimension in Jazz.

Grover was a beloved figure who influenced generations of musicians. He was a professor at UMaine Augusta, co-lead the Maine Jazz Camp, and taught widely, mentoring musicians through his bands. He recorded more than a dozen records with jazz heavyweight, like Lenney Breau, Chris Speed, George Garzone and more. His best-known record, the 1994 setting of Wallace Stevens, The Blackbird Suite, won the Thelonious Monk Insti-

tute composition award, the most prestigious international award in jazz. At the March 1 concert, OURBIGBAND will perform new arrangements of Grover's work, originally written

Tickets can be purchased online at Eventbrite, or at the door: \$15 advance, \$20 day of show, \$10 for SPACE members and students. Call for more information or



for smaller jazz groups. Based in Portsmouth, NH, OURBIGBAND strives to keep alive the tradition of the big band jazz orchestra, while also championing the music of today.

Sam Renshaw, VP A&R, Parma Recordings, said, "OURBIGBAND grabbed my attention from the first time I saw them - they're equal parts adventurous, creative, and crisp, and above all they operate with the utmost musicality and feeling. Like all great jazz artists, they have both a reverence for the past and an eagerness to experiment and subvert traditional forms. It's no small feat to organize, rehearse, and direct a big band ensemble, especially in this day and age, and it's rare to see one that is as fun and engaging as this one. Do not miss this group if you have a chance to see them!"

to reserve: (207) 828-1310. SPACE Gallery is located at 536 Congress Street, Portland.

The Portland Conservatory of Music is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit community music school that provides access to quality music education for community members of all ages, abilities, and financial levels. The most comprehensive community music school in Southern Maine, we feature private lessons for more than 30 different instruments with an outstanding faculty of over 50 instructors, a wide array of group classes, and over 50 public concerts annually. Our academic programs include Early Childhood Music, Boy Singers of Maine, Girl Singers of Maine, Karger College Prep Program, and Jazz Studies Program. For more information, visit portlandconservatoryofmusic.org.

Wildlife

Continued from page 4

homes, and although a small percent carry rabies, their bite marks are small and easily overlooked. Trends in the number of rabies-positive animals has been similar over the last 10 years in Maine. The risk of encountering an animal with rabies is still very low.

However, some areas of mid-coast Maine have been hit particularly hard by rabies in recent years. In 2019, the City of Bath, with a population of over 8,000 people, received 72 suspicious animal calls, 26 sick animals were dispatched by officers or citizens, and 16 animals tested positive for rabies. Of the 18 fox attacks on people or pets, 11 attacks

resulted in a person being bitten or scratched. The unusual number of aggressive fox attacks on people and domestic pets has raised human health and safety concerns and prompted the proposed focused trapping effort. Sick animals and attacks continue to be reported in 2020 in Bath and the nearby communities of West Bath and Phippsburg.

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Continued from page 1

to Lawrence Thompson of Cornish and Perry Williams of Turin, New York. She was widowed twice and has two children, Gerry Day of Gorham and Larry Thompson and his wife, Claire, of Gorham. She has 7 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren, (all grand and great grand attended her party). After working for 19 years as a Cornish Telephone Operator, when her daughter, Gerry, and her husband, Tom, along with son, Larry, went to University of Southern Maine (USM), she joined them. She graduated from USM in three years and taught in SAD #6 for 14 years. After her first husband passed away, she went on a cruise with her daughter where she met her second husband, Perry. They skied the Matterhorn (she learned to ski at 66) and went on safari in Africa. They also sailed down the Nile and visited the famous tombs of Egypt. Each year, they also spent time in Cayman Islands and Aruba. Their summer home was in the Adirondacks where they swam every morning at 7 in the cold waters of that region, no matter what the weather!

Virginia attributes her longevity to healthy living, to self-imposed routines and to staying active. She keeps busy,

bowling, bingo, luncheons, driving her own car, shopping, housework and traveling. She does not linger in bed or sit around, rather she is active all of the time. She is a member of the Gorham Health Council, Lakes Region Senior Center and the Cressey Road Methodist Church. At 100, Virginia Williams simply enjoys life!



Rick Hawkes (l) and Patrick Burke (r).



Taylor, who is a junior at USM, with her great grandmother.



Virginia with her birthday cake.



Kiara, one of great grandchildren. She is getting her master's at University of Vermont in May.



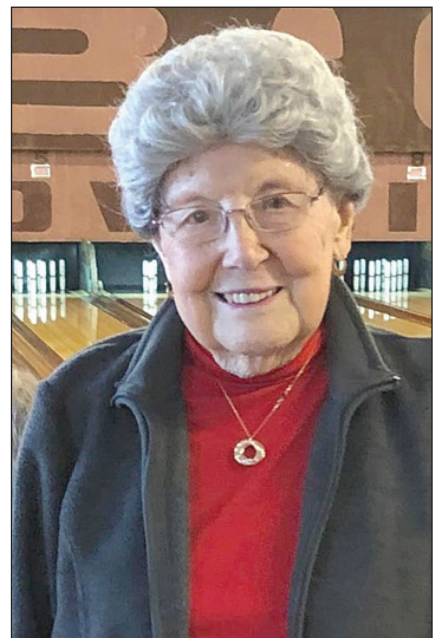
Daughter-in-law with her grandchildren (Virginia's great grandchildren).



The cake.



Virginia's two great granddaughters.



Virginia at Big 20 Bowling in Scarborough

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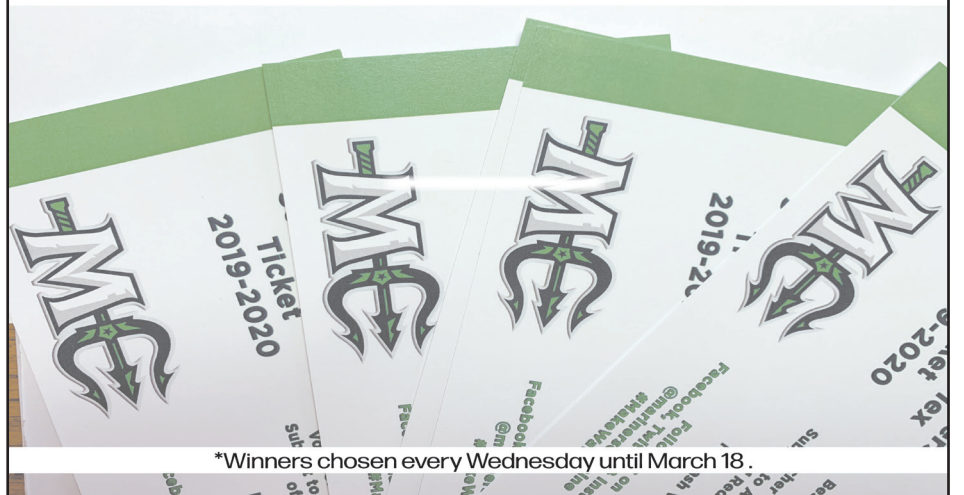
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Super

Continued from page 1

home buyer in the area. The instructor was incredible, and the students were awesome! It is such a great program with incredible learning experiences that we are able to offer our students who participate in Career and Technical Learning at either PATHS or Westbrook Regional Vocational Center (WRVC). Thank you, Elijah and team, for an awesome day of learning!

I have also recently had the opportunity to participate in reading aloud to students as part of Great Fall's "One school one author" program and more recently as part of World Read Aloud Day and the "Read To ME" challenge. Please know the crown was a gift from students and when I was done reading, I challenged all my building principals and AP's to read aloud to classrooms as well. If you are a twitter follower, you can check #ReadtoME to see how this program is spreading across the state! I'd encourage you to read to a child, post a picture and/or video with that hashtag and challenge your own friends/family to do the same!

Thank you to the classroom teachers who invited me into their classrooms to read. I will often tell students when I come in to read that reading to them is like "recess"—it is fun for me to get out and see them and to laugh and learn with them. Although this is absolutely true, the reality goes deeper than that. It is only through experiences like these that I can remain grounded as a leader. These experiences help me to get through the more stressful parts of my job and to focus on what really counts—supporting our students and our staff!

Now on to the "meat" of the update!

K-5 Attendance Zone Planning: I recently explained that during the month of February, I would be prepared to share what we anticipate being the staffing shifts for 2020-21 associated with the K-5 attendance zone change. As promised, those changes are outlined below.

Before I share the staffing shifts, however, I just have a quick clarifying statement. These staffing lists are our best attempt to make assignments for the 2020-

21 School year based on what we currently know. These are not yet final, nor can they be until we complete the FY 21 budget process. Therefore, please understand that these assignments are still subject to change as we move through the FY 21 budget development process.

Those names that are highlighted in yellow are teachers who will be changing assignments in the 2020-21 School year. If they are coming from another school that is noted in the parenthesis and if they are moving grade levels, but within the same school, that is also noted. These will be the grade level teams at each school for 2020-21 barring adjustments that may need to be made as part of the FY 21 budget development process.

Now that we know grade-level assignments, we are prepared to work through student assignments to specific classrooms in a similar manner to how it has always been done at the K-5 levels. The only difference will be that we will be cognizant to place students who may be moving from one school to a new school in groups of peers who are experiencing the same shifts and with the teachers who are most skilled at working with these types of transitions. Parents, if you have any questions or concerns, I would urge you to reach out to your school's principal.

I also recently promised an update to K-5 parents on the various transition activities that are being planned for the spring to assist students, families, and staff in making this transition as positive an experience as possible. Please know that the list is not "all-inclusive." It is constantly being discussed and revised as we work through the spring. I hope it provides at least a starting point for conversation and an understanding of the types of things we are trying to do to assist families in this transition process. Also, please note that some of these activities are "typical" activities that each school plans annually. Principals are noting these activities both for new families that might want to join in on these activities, but also to know that for those families who may be having to move that they are still welcome to attend and in fact, en-

couraged to do so as a way to help children "let go" of one school and embrace a new one.

Once again, please reach out to building Principals if you have any questions regarding any of the activities and know that it is not an all-inclusive list. We will continue to update the list and get information out to parents via Thursday folders regarding these opportunities and others that may be added throughout the course of the spring. The list can be found at <https://gorham-superintendent.blogspot.com>.

FY 21 Budget Development Information and Timeline: It is definitely that time of year again as we work with staff, administrators, the School Committee, Town Council and the Gorham community as a whole to develop our school budget for FY 21 (2020-21 school year). This process begins each year in November as we ask teachers and other staff to think about what they need to operate their programs for the following year. Building principals and program directors then work diligently over the course of November and December to put together their proposals. Then in January, each principal and program director meet individually with myself, assistant superintendent Record and business manager Hollis Cobb, to review each request line by line. Once that process is completed, we then put together an initial proposed budget and then work together as a district leadership team to clarify priorities, make adjustments and create what is called the Superintendent's Initial Proposed budget that is presented to the School Committee in February.

That is where we are in the process right now. The Superintendent's proposed budget was presented to the School Committee on February 12 for review. The School Committee will meet for a full day budget workshop on February 29, and then for one or two more meetings (as needed) to make adjustments to the initial proposal so that by the end of this work, they approve of a proposed budget in April 2020. This budget then becomes the School Committee's proposed budget and is then sent on to the Town Council. The School Committee then meets jointly with

the Town Council to review the proposed budget in May 2020 and then the Town Council votes on a final budget in June. The final budget approved by the Town Council is then sent on to the voters of Gorham via a validation referendum also held in June. Although the Town Council can't make line item changes to the budget, they can increase or reduce the proposed budget. Whatever final budget they approve must be "validated" by voters via referendum or the whole process repeats itself until a budget can be passed by the School Committee, the Town Council and validated via referendum.

Please visit my blog for information on these meetings and reach out to me with any questions, big or small! There is nothing worse than misinformation so please don't be shy in asking questions if you have them. You may not always agree with my answers, but I promise to always respond to your questions honestly!

School Committee Public Information: Recently, I've had several questions from folks about how best to follow some of the big-ticket conversations that the school committee has been undertaking in order to ensure we continue to offer the best possible educational programs for our children. I thought it might be a good idea to run through the best places to find information related to the work of the school committee in one location. So here goes.

First, for those of you that would like to have regular meeting agendas sent to you via email, you can sign up on the Town's web-



site for that. Just go to <https://www.gorham-me.org> and go to the bottom of the page and click on «Subscribe.» When you get to that page, fill in your email address and then under "Meeting agenda" select "School Committee" and you will be good to go to have agendas sent directly to you.

Of course, seeing the agenda is just part of the equation. Seeing agenda packet materials will give you more detailed information if you want to dig more deeply into a topic the school committee is considering. In order to see the specific agenda packets provided to the school committee for all regular meetings, visit <https://www.gorham-schools.org>, where you can view all regular and special agendas, all regular and special meeting notes, and where there is a specific link to click into the board packets themselves.

Another great way to follow the work of the School Committee is to follow the work done within its various subcommittees. The School Committee has several standing committees and ad hoc committees. You can view agendas and meeting notes by visiting <https://www.gorham-schools.org/> and looking for School Board Subcommittees.

Finally, if you ever

want to reach out to members of the School Committee to ask questions or to share your ideas, go to <https://www.gorhamschools.org> and search for School Committee Members to view their names and contact information. I typically advise folks that wish to communicate directly with school committee members to please email the chair (Stewart McCallister) and then cc the remaining members and myself on your message. That always seems to get the best and most efficient response. Please know that even though you may email all School Committee members, you will only get a response from either the chair or myself. This is simply intended to ensure that a consistent message is being sent to folks with questions and does not mean that every member of the school committee hasn't read your email or correspondence, because trust me, they have.

Well I think that is enough information for this month! Next month I'll spend some time providing more detailed information regarding the proposed FY 21 budget, I will update folks on how we are moving forward with addressing the capital facilities needs of our schools and whatever other timely topics come up between now and then!

Grade Level	Great Falls School	Village School	Narragansett School
K	MaryJo Lyons Rosalie Mosher Heather vanLuling Amy Brassard Brent Stevens	Heidi Topchik Carrie Foley Betsy Fox Danielle Underhill	Jacqueline Durant-Harthorne Karen Lyford Kim Wright
1	Amy Poulin Heather Dupuis Terry Bryson Sara Sinnott	Samantha Morton Diana Phillips Alisha Johnson	Shari Edgcomb Laurie Kenny Jen Klein
2	Carrie Sturgis Fran Alves Katy Leeper Patty LaRosa Jackie Taylor	Erin Hanson Rebecca West Sue Small Lauren Mullen Donna Landry* (from 1st)	Stephanie Nichols Katie Veazie Rachael Webster
3	Delainey Kein Lynne Walsh Kim Kelly-Brewster Vanessa Levesque* (from K)	Peter Downing Heather Hurd Rebecca Thibeault* (from 5th)	Kate Bishop Tracy Burns Katie Flanders (from Village) Stephanie O'Donnell
4	Anna Sedenka Allie Stanley Laurie Tibbitts Darren Choate* (from 3rd) Collin Henry* (from 3rd)	Brian Penley Tami Reynolds Cindy Blake	Casie Grady Sharon Hamann (from GFs) Sarah Heald* (from 4/5th) Marie Whitney (from GFs)
5	Rolande Paolino Melissa Mullin Gregg Sands Jaimie Frailey* (from 4th)	Erin Eppler Alison Penley Kim Meggison Meghan O'Neil* (from 4th)	Susan Adolf* (from 4/5th) Beth Kellogg (from Village) Courtney Smith* (from 4/5th)

Snowboarder, brain injury survivor Kevin Pearce speaking

Snowboarder Kevin Pearce will share his story about sustaining a traumatic brain injury while training for the Olympics at 6 p.m. March 5 at Westbrook Performing Arts Center. The event is hosted by Goodwill NeuroRehabilitation Services and employee benefits provider Unum.

Pearce was at the top of his sport as a world class professional snowboarder in 2009 when he sustained a traumatic brain injury while training for the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics. Pearce transforms his experience of traumatic brain injury into a source of inspiration, education and awareness.

Goodwill NeuroRehabilitation Services and Unum are hosting the event as part of Brain In-

jury Awareness Month, which is every March. Goodwill offers brain injury rehabilitation services in Scarborough and in Lewiston.

"In our NeuroRehab clinics we still hear from our clients that they thought they could just 'brush off' a concussion or other head injury," said Paul Kennedy, executive director of Goodwill NeuroRehab. "That stigma is beginning to change. As concussions are in the news more, people are beginning to take their brain health more seriously. Kevin's story is an inspiration to all of us."

According to the CDC, traumatic brain injury (TBI) is a major cause of death and disability in the US. Injuries are a top cause of short-

and long-term disability, according to Unum, the world's largest provider of disability insurance. Brain injuries can be especially debilitating.

"Kevin's experience as a brain injury survivor aligns with Unum's mission of helping people overcome disability and return to their purpose," said Cary Olson Cartwright, assistant vice president of Corporate Social Responsibility for Unum.

Kevin and his brother Adam created the LoveYourBrain Foundation, a nonprofit that is working to connect, educate and empower people to live a brain-healthy lifestyle.

This is free, but you will need a ticket. Tickets: gwnne.org/35Xp3tz This is an ASL-interpreted event.

Op Ed:

Increasing girls and women participation in sports a movement, not a trend

By: Sheila Brennan Nee

February 5 marked the 34th celebration of National Girls and Women in Sports Day, a day to celebrate and inspire young girls and women to participate in all types of sports. Created by the Women's Sports Foundation, this day honors and highlights the achievements of female athletes, coaches, and leaders who have dedicated countless hours to sports. The day also serves as a reminder that although gender equality in sports has made strides since the establishment of Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, the movement still has work to be done to provide equal opportunities in the sports industry.

Title IX states that "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance." This law has been pivotal in the movement, as it prohibits discrimination of gender in any educational program or activity receiving any type of federal financial aid.

However, according to a report by the Women's Sports Foundation, citing the U.S. Department of Education in 2019, 87 percent of NCAA schools are still offering disproportionately higher rates of athletic opportunities to male athletes as compared to females. Additionally, 83

percent of the coaches at these universities have never received any formal Title IX training. Although these numbers can seem demotivating, the best way to combat these inequalities is for female athletes to speak up and share their stories in a quest to better the futures for girls and women.

Each year, states around the country have been organizing events to bring attention to and honor National Girls and Women in Sports Day. In Maine, higher education institutions such as Bates College, Bowdoin College, Colby College, the University of Maine, and University of Southern Maine are hosting events to give girls the opportunity to try their hand at various sports while also providing some mentoring along the way.

Maine's professional sports teams are also hosting events to celebrate National Girls and Women in Sports Day. The Maine Mariners and Maine Red Claws are showing their support by hosting in-game celebrations during this season, and the Sea Dogs will welcome leaders and announce female personnel and community athletes before the first pitch at the August 21st game at Hadlock Field. By uniting, these organizations are helping bring attention to the movement. Through attention comes action, and action brings change.

On February 18, a committee of dignitaries and centers of influence throughout the state, with co-sponsorship from Maine Senators Erin

Herbig and Cathy Breen, will convene in Augusta to celebrate the passing of a joint resolution that declares February 5 as National Girls and Women in Sports Day across Maine.

Our evolving committee consists of members from Bates College, Bowdoin College, Central Maine Community College, Colby College, Girls on the Run Maine, Girl Scouts of Maine, Maine Sports Commission, Maine APHERD, Maine Red Claws, Maine Senior Games, Maine Mariners, NAC, Portland Sea Dogs, Southern Maine Community College, University of Maine, University of New England, University of Southern Maine and USTA New England. Members will be in attendance to show solidarity, as well as to continue spreading the Women's Sports Foundation's mission to enable girls and women to reach their full potential in sports and life. By highlighting these wins, we are not only celebrating the passing of a joint resolution but cheering the success of a brighter and more equal future for female athletes.

From here, we need female athletes, their friends, families, and supporters, to continue sharing their stories and join the Women Sport's Foundation's movement to attain equality in sports for females. The more advocates we have on our side, the bigger the chance we have of making a difference by uniting our voices to show the value of empowerment through sports.

Send your submissions to our editor by Friday at 5pm.

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Events

Continued from page 6

reading. Every week we offer 3 different age-specific programs and one all-ages music program. *Discovery Times are not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Book club: 10 a.m. Discussion of *What We Talk About When We Talk About Books: The History and Future of Reading* by Leah Price

Sewing Club: 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Learn to sew. A variety of textile techniques and projects will be explored. Children aged 7 & up are welcome to attend. Children under 8 years old must have a parent or other caregiver, over age 14, in attendance to help with the program as needed. This activity has open registration; come when you can and leave when you must.

Tuesday, March 10:
Preschool Discovery Time: 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. For ages 3 to 5. All of our Discovery Times are designed to introduce children to books and libraries in a positive and enjoyable way. We use stories, music, and movement to present and enhance early literacy skills in young children with music, dancing, and stories. Geared toward ages from birth to 5 but open to all. *Music Fun with Mr. Jeff is not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Chess club: 3 to 5 p.m. For ages 11-18. Come to the library for chess club! Boards will be provided along with snacks. Drop in, between 3 and 5 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month, to learn how to play or continue advancing your skills.

Wednesday, March 11:

Baby Discovery: 9:30 to 9:50 a.m. For Infants through 18 months. All of our Discovery Times are designed to introduce children to books and libraries in a positive and enjoyable way. We use stories, music, and movement to present and enhance early literacy skills and foster a love of reading. Every week we offer 3 different age-specific programs and one all-ages music program. *Discovery Times are not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Music Fun with Mr. Jeff: 6 to 6:30 p.m. For infants to 5 years old. Explore a fun way to develop early literacy skills in young children with music, dancing, and stories. Geared toward ages from birth to 5 but open to all. *Music Fun with Mr. Jeff is not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Thursday, March 12:

Toddler Discovery Time: 9:30 to 10 a.m. For 18 months through 3 years old. All of our Discovery Times are designed to introduce children to books and libraries in a positive and enjoyable way. We use stories, music, and movement to present and enhance early literacy skills and foster a love of reading. Every week we offer 3 different age-specific programs and one all-ages music program. *Discovery Times are not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Sewing Club: 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Learn to

sew. A variety of textile techniques and projects will be explored. Children aged 7 & up are welcome to attend. Children under 8 years old must have a parent or other caregiver, over age 14, in attendance to help with the program as needed. This activity has open registration; come when you can and leave when you must.

Tuesday, March 17:
Preschool Discovery Time: 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. For ages 3 to 5. All of our Discovery Times are designed to introduce children to books and libraries in a positive and enjoyable way. We use stories, music, and movement to present and enhance early literacy skills and foster a love of reading. Every week we offer 3 different age-specific programs and one all-ages music program. *Discovery Times are not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Baxter Digs Reading: 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library is pleased to have our friend Baxter available again! Baxter is a Standard Poodle Therapy Dog who loves to be read to! He will be visiting the library the first and third Tuesday of the month. Call (222-1190) or visit the library to sign up for your 15 minute slot to read to Baxter.

Wednesday, March 18:

Baby Discovery: 9:30 to 9:50 a.m. For Infants through 18 months. All of our Discovery Times are designed to introduce children to books and libraries in a positive and enjoyable way. We use stories, music, and movement to present and enhance early literacy skills and foster a love of reading. Every week we offer 3 different age-spe-

cific programs and one all-ages music program. *Discovery Times are not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Music Fun with Mr. Jeff: 6 to 6:30 p.m. For infants to 5 years old. Explore a fun way to develop early literacy skills in young children with music, dancing, and stories. Geared toward ages from birth to 5 but open to all. *Music Fun with Mr. Jeff is not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Thursday, March 19:

Toddler Discovery Time: 9:30 to 10 a.m. For 18 months through 3 years old. All of our Discovery Times are designed to introduce children to books and libraries in a positive and enjoyable way. We use stories, music, and movement to present and enhance early literacy skills and foster a love of reading. Every week we offer 3 different age-specific programs and one all-ages music program. *Discovery Times are not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Book club: 10 a.m. Discussion of *The Turner House* by Angela Flournoy.

Sewing Club: 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Learn to sew. A variety of textile techniques and projects will be explored. Children aged 7 & up are welcome to attend. Children under 8 years old must have a parent or other caregiver, over age 14, in attendance to help with the program as needed. This activity has open registration; come when you can and leave when you must.

Young Life Sebago dance in Gorham



Young Life Sebago is hosting their 2nd annual Contra Dance on Saturday, February 29. The first year was a great success with many members of the community coming out to enjoy a fun night of laughs and dancing. Both new and experienced dancers attended and had a great time. The music is put on by Don and Cindy Roy and the dances are called by Dela Murphy. Don and Cindy Roy are winners of the National Heritage Fellowship, the highest honor in the country in the folk and traditional arts.

Not only is the event great for a night out, it is also supporting teens in our Gorham community. Young Life Sebago is a team of adult volunteer leaders who

spend time investing in the lives of high school students. Caring adults give up time and effort to provide fun, life-giving ways for teens to spend their time, to be positive role models, and to give a chance to hear the basics about God in a non-threatening environment and in ways that teens can understand.

The event is \$10 at the door and all the proceeds go toward supporting the mission of Young Life Sebago in Gorham.

The Contra Dance is on Saturday, February 29 at 81 Cressey Road in Gorham (in the Cressey United Methodist Church banquet hall) from 7 to 9 p.m. There will be light refreshments as well as a pie auction. No partner necessary, all are welcome!



Recognize this old post-and-beam barn in Gorham?

Do you have details about its origin or history?

Please email us with any information you have.

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Thursday, Feb. 27

Toddler Discovery Time at Baxter Memorial Library, from 9:30 to 10 a.m. For 18 months to three years old. *Discovery Times are not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Sewing Club at Baxter Memorial Library, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Learn to sew! A variety of textile techniques and projects will be explored. Children under 8 years old must have a parent or other caregiver, over age 14, in attendance to help with the program as needed. Come when you can, leave when you must!

Friday, Feb. 28

Improv comedy show at Craft Brew Underground featuring Dawn Hartill, Nate White, Leonard Kimble, Jason Pelletier, and CarlaRose Dubois at 8 p.m. There is no admission or cover charge for the show. For more information, visit Craft Brew Underground on Facebook or by calling (207) 241-8520.

Annual indoor Homestead Goods and Farmer's Market on the first floor of the Auburn Public library, 4:30 to 6 p.m. Free to the public.

Maine Flora: Three views exhibition featuring Kathryn SB Davis, Laura Dunn, and Julia Einstein, opening reception and artist talk at The Harlow, 100 Water Street in Hallowell, from 5 to 7 p.m. For more information please visit harlow-gallery.org or call 207-622-3813.

Saturday, Feb. 29

Young Life Seba-go's 2nd Annual Contra Dance held at Cressey Road United Methodist Church, 81 Cressey Road, Gorham. Tickets are \$10 per person. Music by Don and Cindy Roy. Caller Maggie Robinson. For more information, call 515.867.6883 or visit our website seba-go.younglife.org.

The River Comics and host Leonard Kimble present a night of stand-up comedy at the Hilton Garden Inn Auburn Riverwatch. Doors open at 7 p.m. when a cash bar and snacks will be available. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. To purchase tickets, visit theriver-comics.com.

Sunday, March 1

Cabin Fever Concert series featuring Kevin Libby and Bryce

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

Libby at 98 Mathew's Way, off Rt. 117, Turner Center, downstairs under the Turner Library in the Community Room, from 2 to 4 p.m. Suggested donation \$10. For more information call 207-754-0954

OURBIGBAND performs the music of Maine's jazz great Steve Grover at the SPACE Gallery, 536 Congress Street, Portland, and is co-presented by the Portland Conservatory of Music's Dimension in Jazz, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online at Eventbrite, or at the door: \$15 advance, \$20 day of show, \$10 for SPACE members and students. Call for more information or to reserve: (207) 828-1310.

Monday, March 2

Stanton Bird Club meeting in room 285 at the University of Southern Maine's Lewiston-Auburn College, 55 Westminster Street, Lewiston, at 6:30 p.m. to hear speaker Andrew Mountcastle, PhD, a Zoology professor at Bates College. The topic is In-

sects.

Tuesday, March 3

Preschool Discovery Time at Baxter Memorial Library from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. For ages 3 to 5. *Discovery Times are not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Tuesday, March 3

Baxter Digs Reading at Baxter Memorial Library from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Call (222-1190) or visit the library to sign up for your 15 minute slot to read to Baxter.

Wednesday, March 4

Rotary Youth Fellowship Award recipient Chantel St. Laurent to speak at A-L March meeting at Governors Restaurant, 1185 Lisbon Street, Lewiston at 7 a.m. Cost is \$12.

Baby Discovery at Baxter Memorial library from 9:30 to 9:50 a.m. For infants through 18 months. *Discovery Times are not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they

are closed due to inclement weather.

Wednesday, March 4

Music Fun with Mr. Jeff at Baxter Memorial library from 6 to 6:30 p.m. For infants to 5 years old. Explore a fun way to develop early literacy skills in young children with music, dancing, and stories. *Music Fun with Mr. Jeff is not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Thursday, March 5

Shakespeare's Romeo and Julieta at University of Maine at Farmington, at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and students 18 and under, and \$5 for UMF students with I.D. Tickets are available at the time of the performance and can be reserved by calling the Theatre UMF box office at (207) 778-7465.

Snowboarder Kevin Pearce, bran injury survivor, speaking at Westbrook Performing Arts Center, 6 p.m. This is free, but you will need a ticket. Tickets: gwnne.org/35Xp3tz This is an ASL-interpreted event.

Toddler Discovery Time at Baxter Memori-

FLAGSHIP CINEMAS

February 28th through March 4th

**DOORS OPEN AT:
11:30 am**

AUBURN
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Impractical Jokers: The Movie (PG-13)	1:00	4:00	6:55	9:15
The Call Of The Wild (PG)	12:10	2:30	4:50	7:15
.....9:35				
Fantasy Island (PG-13)	1:10	4:10	7:20	9:50
Sonic The Hedgehog (PG)	12:00	2:20	4:40	7:00
.....9:20				
Dolittle (PG)	1:20	4:20	7:05	9:30
Birds Of Prey (R)	12:40	3:40	6:40	9:10
Brahms: The Boy II (PG-13)	1:30	4:30	6:45	9:00
The Invisible Man (R)	12:50	3:50	6:50	9:40
.....9:55				
Downhill (R)				
Jumanji: The Next Level (PG-13)	12:30		6:35	
Bad Boys For Life (R)		3:30		9:25

al Library, from 9:30 to 10 a.m. For 18 months to three years old. *Discovery Times are not held during regular Gorham school vacations and holidays or when they are closed due to inclement weather.

Book club at Baxter Memorial Library at 10 a.m. Discussion of What We Talk About When We Talk About Books: The History and Future of Reading by Leah Price

Sewing Club at Baxter Memorial Library, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Learn to sew! A variety of textile techniques and projects will be explored.

Children under 8 years old must have a parent or other caregiver, over age 14, in attendance to help with the program as needed. Come when you can, leave when you must!

Friday, March 6

Block printing workshop at Bates College Benjamin Mays Center, 95 Russell Street, from 3 to 5 p.m., for children 8 years and older (under 12 must be accompanied by adult). Space is limited, registration required. For more information and to register email eboyle2@bates.edu or call 207-786-6417.

Word Search

When March shows up on the calendar many things come to mind: spring, longer days, singing birds, seedlings, and of course Maine Maple Sunday!

A	M	S	S	S	R	H	M	E	E	R	E	H	S
K	P	P	S	C	S	S	A	C	M	S	V	P	P
U	L	I	U	P	U	K	I	P	U	L	R	P	A
U	R	L	S	T	G	T	N	B	T	T	A	Y	N
C	D	E	I	A	A	M	E	S	E	S	Y	P	C
Y	M	E	U	P	R	T	R	O	N	E	B	A	A
M	A	P	L	E	S	U	N	D	A	Y	U	G	K
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A	A	U	Y	A	A	E	Y	G	K	R	K	M	S
E	A	N	P	A	C	U	C	A	S	R	E	D	U
I	U	A	K	E	K	E	O	P	A	E	T	N	A
P	A	A	P	S	Y	R	U	P	P	R	E	S	U
E	E	Y	D	N	A	C	N	O	T	T	O	C	B
P	E	V	A	P	O	R	A	T	O	R	C	N	Y

- SYRUP
- TAP
- MAPLE SUNDAY
- BUCKET
- COTTON CANDY
- MAINE
- EVAPORATOR
- SUGAR SHACK
- SAP
- PANCAKES
- SPILE

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10 meals, NEW BIBLE MUSEUM, WWII Memorial, Korean and Vietnam Memorials, Lincoln Memorial, tram ride through Arlington National Cemetary, evening guided memorial & monument tour, admission to Mount Vernon Estates. A \$75.00 deposit is due when signing up. Price is \$759.00 pp double occupancy.

ITALIAN VISTAS TOUR- MAY 16-28, 2020-Trip includes 13 days and 17 meals.

MACKINAC ISLAND - JUNE 13 - 21, 2020. Trip includes 8 nights lodging and 14 meals, visit to Mackinac Island with a guided Carriage Tour during their Tulip Celebration. Also includes boat ride through Soo Locks, Sault Saint Marie and Makinaw Crossings with a visit to "Michigan's

Little Bavaria". A \$75.00 deposit is due when signing up. Price is \$859.00 pp double occupancy.

VIRGINIA BEACH, COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG & HISTORIC NORFOLK - SEPTEMBER 14 - 19, 2020. Trip includes 5 nights lodging, 8 meals, Colonial Williamsburg, free time on the Virginia Beach Boardwalk, dinner cruise with entertainment on the Spirit of Norfolk, admission to Nauticus and Battleship Wisconsin, Virginia Beach Aquarium and Marine Science Center. A \$75.00 deposit is due when signing up. Price is \$775.00 pp double occupancy. For questions and detailed information on these trips, please call: Claire - 207-784-0302 or Cindy- 207-345-9569.

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Weekly Social Media giveaways!

Gorham Festival Committee announces two day event



275th anniversary celebration parade

The Gorham Founders Festival Committee and the Town of Gorham are excited to announce a free two day event full of town wide activities and celebrations during the weekend of September 12 to 13. We are having a parade with a Maine themed float contest, historical tours, lawn mower races, demolition derby, bonfire, art show, craft fair, musical acts and fireworks. We are

inviting your business or organization to host your own activity/fundraiser to occur during the weekend. We are open to all ideas which can be at your location or at our planned gathering areas. Come join us in celebrating all things that make Gorham amazing from its history to its citizens. We are still working on planning the whole festival. The committee will schedule all events and

advertise.

If you would like to host an event but need ideas, please let us know. If you have any questions or would like to host an event, please contact Suzie Phillips at sphillips@gorham.me.us or call (207) 892 9847.

Please help spread the word! We will be opening our website soon. Like our Gorham Founders Festival Facebook page!



Hamblen Family Float



275th anniversary celebration parade



Photo from 275th anniversary celebration parade of Hamblen Family Float

Courage House: Re-entry program for men in Gorham



Courage House is a men's re-entry program for those recently released from state or federal prison. Courage House is a voluntary program and residents are not required by probation to participate. Men apply and choose to come to the program and go through an interview process to determine how serious they are in making changes in their lives.

We are at full capacity currently with 16 men. All of the them have found employment, mostly with local businesses who have been willing to give them a chance. We currently have a waiting list for men wanting to come to the Gorham program.

Courage House works closely with Probation Officers and treatment providers. We also have Case Managers and Alcohol and Drug Counselors who come into the house to meet with the men living there during non-traditional hours. We recognize that most of the residents don't have cars and work during the day. In order to see a therapist at their office would require them to take an entire day off from work. It is great to have counselors who are willing to meet at 7:30 p.m. on a Thursday or 9 a.m. on a Saturday.

Courage House is the first of its kind in the state of Maine. We are

a non-traditional sober living facility. We offer several different pro-social opportunities for the residents to participate in. We encourage them to find the right type of treatment that best suits their needs. NA, AA, CA, 12 step program, Celebrate Recovery at Life Church are just a few of the options. We also offer pet therapy, meditation night and a speaker series once a week where the residents are required to attend. Speakers are usually men who have been successful in their sobriety and have a frank discussion with the residents. Speakers discuss their stories and talk about what motivated them to make changes in their lives.

The residents not only are required to work, they are required to give back to the community of Gorham who has done so much for Courage House. We are always looking for opportunities to give back. This past summer we helped a local woman who needed big furniture moved to a storage garage. We brought over seven guys and had everything moved in a couple hours. The Gorham food pantry has been great ally and we have helped unload donation trucks early on Sunday mornings. We helped First Parish Church this past fall with cleanup and also helped at their Christmas bazaar.

The people at First Parish have been a big support for the Courage House.

This past fall we had community members carve pumpkins and we displayed over 100 jack-o-lanterns on our front porch and yard. It was great watching parents bring their kids by the house and taking pictures with all the pumpkins. This is one way we are trying to end the stigma of people dealing with substance abuse issues.

Courage House also adopted a local family in need at Christmas time. We collected and accepted donated gifts for the family. Our residents wrapped all the gifts and we were fortunate to drop off an entire truck load of presents just a few days before Christmas. The parents were so appreciative of the gifts and were relieved that their kids had something to open on Christmas day.

We are also starting the Courage House Scholarship for a 2020 Gorham High School (GHS) graduate who is planning on getting into the field of mental health, counseling or substance abuse treatment. We plan on being involved in the GHS scholarship night to present some financial assistance to the lucky graduate. All bottles and cans collected from Courage House residents over the past year along with a bottle drive planned for this spring will benefit the scholarship. If anyone would like to help, please contact Al Garcia, Courage House Director for Clynk bags and stickers.

Courage House is committed to making a difference in our great community and by giving back is one small step in doing that.

CANNABIS AND THE ADOLESCENT BRAIN



Dr. Mark Publicker will be speaking about the effects of marijuana on the adolescent brain. This event is proudly supported by the Gorham Action Team for Youth and the Gorham School District.

Gorham High School
Tuesday, March 17th
6 to 7pm

For more information contact
Claudine Emerson
claudine.emerson@gorhamschools.org