

Automated Stop-Arm Cameras Added To School Buses

Press Release by Heather J. Perry, Ph.D. – Superintendent of Schools and Christopher Sanborn – Gorham Police Chief

GORHAM, ME (March 29, 2022) – Earlier this fall, school bus drivers, parents and community members reported an increasing number of cars in Gorham not stopping for the flashing red lights of our school buses. School district administration, representatives from the Gorham Police Department met earlier this fall with our school bus drivers to listen to their stories of violations and to hear them advocate for student safety for all Gorham students.

As a result, the Gorham School Department has worked closely with the Gorham Police Department to implement a new technology that we hope will ensure the continued safety of our children while riding our school buses. We have installed automated stop arm cameras to approximately ½ of our daily bus fleet and will install the other half later this summer.

Beginning immediately, individuals who pass Gorham School buses while red lights are flashing will have their vehicle's license plates recorded on a time and date stamped video recording. The school's Transportation Department will then download this data and share it with The Gorham Police Department who will work to issue a summons to each individual violating this important safety law.

It is important to know that we have not made the decision to move in this direction lightly. Just this school year, we have had more than 50 reports of individual cars not stopping for our school buses with their red flashers engaged. This important law is in place to protect the precious cargo these school buses carry – our children.

We hope that with this new equipment in place and with the continued partnerships between the Gorham School Department and the Gorham Police Department, that these violations will be greatly reduced. Further, we hope that as a result, the likelihood of us having to report a serious accident involving our children will be far less likely to occur.

If anyone would like to learn more about the systems that have been installed on our buses, you can go to the company's website (<https://www.seon.com/school-bus-safety/school-bus-camera-systems/stop-arm-system>).

Ultimately, our goal is to ensure the safety of our students. The intent of this media release is to ensure our community is aware of this new technology and will therefore be more vigilant in following this important safety law. Please STOP FOR SCHOOL BUSES WHEN RED LIGHTS ARE FLASHING. Our children, our families, and our community thank you in advance.

Baxter Memorial Library Activities



GORHAM, ME (April 1, 2022) – Baxter Memorial Library is featuring several fun opportunities in the month of April.

April is National Poetry Month!

Poem in Your Pocket Day is officially April 29, but we'll be celebrating all month with a wide variety of printed poems that you can pick up and take with you. Select a poem (or more than one!) and carry it in your pocket or share it with others.

Week of the Young Child is April 2nd—8th!

The purpose of the Week of the Young Child® is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families, and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs. The library is celebrating this week by inviting you to bring in a favorite piece of your child's art. We will scan it while you wait and turn it into a button that can be picked up the next day.

Scrabble Tournament

Wednesday, April 13th 6pm

Bring your friends and family to the library for an evening of Scrabble! Compete for prizes and bragging rights, or just enjoy this classic board game with other wordies. No competitive Scrabble experience required although a grasp of the ba-

sics will be helpful. We will provide the boards and scoresheets.

This multigenerational program is most suited for teens and older, but anyone excited to play or watch is welcome. Pre-registration is requested!

April Story Adventures

Tuesday, April 5th, 12th, & 26th 10am

Join Ms. Heidi and Mr. Jeff for an outdoor story time that features stories, singing, dancing and playing! We encourage all participants to come prepared for our changeable Maine weather by dressing for outdoor play (i.e., layering, wearing mud boots, and sunglasses). Geared toward ages 2-5.

Wildflower Seed Balls

Tuesday, April 19th 10am—Visit the library to make wildflower seed balls! Take these home to throw-and-grow into plants that help attract pollinators. "Bee" part of the solution to our declining bee population. This is an all ages and multigenerational program.

Rock Day

Wednesday, April 20th 10am—Join us on the lawn as we learn about rocks and minerals! Mr. Sendzik will be here to share interesting information about some of his rock specimens. You will also have

the opportunity to hold some unique and unusual samples. This program is geared toward children 8 to 12yrs old.

The youth services department will also feature a display of rocks and minerals from his collection April 15th—30th.

Be BRAVE

Thursday, April 21st 10am—Join Miss Maine High School, Mikaela Pellerin, and Miss Maine Collegiate America, Teghan Halsey, for a special anti-bullying presentation! This fun outdoor event for all ages will feature a reading of the children's book, Brynn The Brave, and an interactive experience on how to navigate bullying during the elementary years. This opportunity is designed to give children the resources to safely combat different bullying situations. At the end of the event, each child will get a BRAVE pledge to take home, vowing to be kind to others.

Nature Walk

Friday, April 22nd 10am—Join Mr. Jeff for an Earth Day Scavenger Hunt at Shaw Cherry Hill Park, located on Rt. 25 next to the Sebago Brewing Company. We will meet at the parking lot at 10:00am and walk the trail, looking for different trees, animals, plants, and more! Bring your sense of adventure and wonder! This is an all ages program.

West Buxton Public Library Hosts Memoir Writing Workshops

BUXTON, ME (April 1, 2022) – West Buxton Public Library sponsors memoir writing workshops on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. You are invited to join any time, any meeting, no experience necessary. There are no fees thanks to a grant from the Narragansett Number One Foundation, but registration is required.

The workshops are open to adults from Buxton, Hollis, Standish, Limington and surrounding towns. Through a series of prompts and writing tools, you will write or add to your life story.

Join us for the next monthly workshop on April 13, from 6:30-8:30pm via Zoom, hosted by storyteller Lorraine Lindstedt. User friendly Zoom tutorials are available. Try it, it's fun!

FMI and to register email: lindcab-in@gmail.com

Why write memoir?

Life is like the seasons of the year.

Spring, we are born, everything is new. We learn to walk, talk and our new beginnings continue as we mature. Summer, we are in our 20's and 30's. We worry about what other people think as we build

careers, enter serious relationships, and start families. Autumn, in our 40's and 50's we stop worrying about what other people think. We realize nobody cared about the things about which we were worrying. We settle into careers, plan for the future. Winter, 60's, 70's and beyond. Time to reach back, share experiences with loved ones coming behind us and help pull them forward.

I'm writing my memoirs and fact check with a childhood friend. She asked why I would want to dig deep and go through a lot of memories. We talked

about life's pivotal moments and how we have the ability to change the way we allow our minds to think, look at what we learned, focus on the positive outcomes. What an amazing lesson if only we could pass it on to the younger generation.

In a writing workshop, a member said she worried about forgetting details of a loved one, facial features, the timber of his voice, and the essence of the man. Once she wrote it down, she was at peace that the memory, on the page would be there for her to go back to and she could share it with her children.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Dept. of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife Offers Fishing Reminders

MAINE STATE-WIDE (April 1, 2022)

— Get your rod, lures, and flies ready! No matter how much you love fishing through the ice, the anticipation of your first open water cast is always enjoyable.

For many anglers, ice-out is a favorite time to fish for landlocked salmon and lake trout, while others wait for the streams and rivers to warm up before casting a line. The old saying that the trout bite when “the leaves on the alders are as big as a mouse’s ear” is still several weeks away in most parts of the state, but for those who just can’t wait any longer (and we don’t blame you!), we have a few suggested places and tips to try in the April Fishing Report. In some parts of the state there is still opportunity to set a tip up and

enjoy the last days on the hardwater.

If you haven’t already checked out the map-based display of Special Fishing Laws, you are missing out! The Fishing Laws Online Angling Tool (FLOAT) is a great way to see which waters are regulated under Special Fishing Law. Just don’t forget to read the General Laws, too.

Remember that the water is extremely cold this time of year, and water levels are often high and fast - ALWAYS wear a lifejacket. If ice fishing, please use extreme caution on the ice.

Early spring fishing tips

“Fish slowly! The very cold water makes fish sluggish and trolling too fast with either live bait or lures is a sure way to miss hook-ups. Take your time and your patience may be

rewarded.” - From Fisheries Resource Biologist Nick Kalejs

“For anglers looking to fly fish in the month of April we suggest using a “dropper” fly or a tandem streamer rig. Whether you are trolling, nymphing, swinging or casting streamers, adding a dropper fly allows you to cover multiple depths, presentations, colors, and sizes all at once. Experiment using streamers, wet flies, and nymphs until you find a tandem rig that works, just make sure the smaller of the flies is the second one tied on.” - Fisheries Resource Technician Jake Scoville and Fisheries Resource Biologist Colin Shankland

“If you’re fishing in a river or stream let the current do most of the work. Let your bait or lure drift a bit. Fish are still a bit

lethargic due to the cold temps so a fast presentation could lead to striking out for the day.” - From Fisheries Resource Supervisor Jason Seiders

Reminder: Ice fishing season dates

Remember that most of Maine’s lakes and ponds open to ice fishing, remain open through the month of April.

South Zone: Under General Law in the South Zone, lakes and ponds are open to ice fishing and open water fishing year-round (unless otherwise stated in the special fishing laws section).

North Zone: In the North Zone, lakes and ponds with special season code “A” are open to ice fishing and open water fishing year-round; lakes and ponds with season code “B” are open to

ice fishing through April 30. Search Maine’s special fishing laws (Search “A (Open)” or “B (Open)” in the regulation column in the regulation column to find which waters are open to ice fishing) or use the map-based Fishing Laws Online Angling Tool (FLOAT). After April 1, once the ice disappears, you can open water fish on most lakes and ponds in the North Zone.

Ice fishing shacks: A person who owns any shack or temporary structure used for ice fishing must remove the shack or structure (1) In any area of the State in which there is a closed ice fishing season, by ice out or 3 days after the close of the ice fishing season, whichever is earlier; and (2) In any area of the State in which there is no close of the ice fishing season, by ice out or March

31st, whichever is earlier.

Enjoy your time on the water, and remember:

Leave no trace – Carry out all that you carry in.

Park in public or designated areas - Don’t block paths or other roads. Be mindful of muddy and soft roads.

Respect private property – Utilize public access sites or areas where you have permission to park or access.

Be prepared – Check the weather, bring what you need for the day, and let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return.

Take care of your catch – If you are practicing catch and release, do so quickly and responsibly. If you harvest your catch, please bring it home with you.

Healthy Living for ME Announces April Workshop Schedule

MAINE STATE-WIDE (March 29, 2022)

— Adult Mainers of all ages are invited to register for Healthy Living for ME’s free and low-cost workshops that begin in April. Four workshops are scheduled to launch in April: HealthMatters, Better Health Now with Pain, the National Diabetes Prevention Program, and Better Health Now with Diabetes.

“We’re pleased to be able to bring a variety of workshops to Mainers in April. Every step someone makes towards improving their health and better managing health conditions is worthwhile, and our workshops can help people make the lifestyle changes needed to see those improvements,” said Libby Matthews, Registered Dietician of Healthy Living for ME.

“If you have questions, or would like to learn about other workshops that may be available in the future, please get in touch with us.”

The schedule and details for Healthy Living for ME’s April workshops are as follows:

H e a l t h M a t t e r s (in-person) - This workshop will be held in-person at the Muskie Community Center in Waterville on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays beginning April 4, 2022. It is designed to help people with intellectual and developmental disabilities live a healthy lifestyle. Through exercise, nutrition and health education activities, this workshop helps participants become stronger and healthier, improve self-advocacy skills and confidence, and connect with peers as they

gain the knowledge, motivation and skills needed to create healthy habits that last a lifetime. This workshop is provided in partnership with Bridges Home Services.

Better Health Now with Pain (by phone) - This workshop is designed for those who experience long-term pain and/or their caregivers. It is scheduled to begin on April 5, 2022. Participants in this workshop receive a toolkit in the mail and work with a leader either by themselves or in small groups. Topics covered include pacing and planning, medication management, and the Moving Easy Program. This workshop is provided in partnership with Maine-Prevention & Healthy Living Center.

National Diabetes

Prevention Program (online) - This workshop is conducted virtually and will begin on April 23rd. This is not a diet or exercise class, but a program led by a certified lifestyle coach that provides free health coaching to reduce a person’s risk of developing Type 2 diabetes. Participants will learn to apply practical strategies to stay motivated, manage stress, prepare food, and avoid negative thoughts. Participants attend 16 weekly sessions followed by every other week sessions for the remainder of the year-long program. Additionally, our Registered Dietician will be available to support participants of the program. This workshop is provided in partnership with Spectrum Generations.

Better Health Now with Diabetes (by phone) -

This workshop is designed for those who have or are at risk of diabetes and/or their caregivers. It is scheduled to begin on April 27, 2022. Participants in this workshop receive a toolkit in the mail and work with a leader either by themselves or in small groups. Topics covered include techniques to deal with the symptoms of diabetes, fatigue, pain, hyper/hypoglycemia, stress, depression, anger, fear and frustration; appropriate exercise for maintaining and improving strength and endurance; healthy eating, appropriate use of medication; and working with healthcare providers. This workshop is provided in partnership with SeniorsPlus.

For virtual workshops, participants who do not have the necessary technology may be eli-

gible to borrow an iPad from Healthy Living for ME in order to participate.

Registration is required for these workshops. Please contact Healthy Living for ME at 1-800-620-6036 or info@healthylivingforme.org for more information and to register. You can also register via our website, www.healthylivingforme.org.

Healthy Living for ME also welcomes referrals from healthcare providers. Our evidence-based programming can help patients manage and prevent conditions before they become more serious or result in emergency situations.

To learn more about these and other workshops offered by Healthy Living for ME, visit www.healthylivingforme.org.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Superintendent's Update: April 1 Blog Post - NO FOOLIN'!



By Gorham Schools Superintendent Heather Perry

GORHAM, ME (April 1, 2022) -- Well Happy April Fool's Day to each of you. May the pranks you provide to others be in good nature and may the pranks you receive place a genuine smile on your face. After all that is the point of April Fool's Day right? More on that later actually! For now, let's start as I usually do with some pictures from the past few weeks as a snapshot of what's happening in our schools!

Lots to talk about on this blog...so let's get right to it!

UPDATE ON SCHOOL 2022-23 SCHOOL CALENDAR CONVERSATIONS

Before I jump into the details on where we are, allow me to thank everyone who has helped contribute to this important conversation. We've had a lot of great correspondences with parents and community members regarding our initial proposed 2022-23 School Calendar and some great public feedback at our school committee meetings this past month. These conversations have really helped contribute to our decision making processes. The level of civil discourse has been high and the focus on meeting the overall needs of our

children has been constant, which speaks so highly of our great community!

Based on feedback, and an extensive review of data, the School Committee has determined that it might consider adding 1-2 additional early release days to the 2022-23 School Calendar but that it is NOT interested in moving to an every Wednesday early release schedule for the coming year. The final decision has not yet been made on the proposed calendar, but these latest discussions have made it clear that moving to an every week Early Release Day model is not the direction the school committee would like to take to address the increased need for professional development time for teachers and staff. The final vote on the 2022-23 School Calendar will be taken on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at their regular school committee meeting, which will be televised on GoCAT TV starting at 7:00 p.m.. If you have questions, please feel free to reach out!

UPDATE ON PROPOSED FY 23 SCHOOL BUDGET WORK

The School Committee is closing in on a final vote to approve of a proposed FY 23 Gorham School Department Budget. That vote will also occur on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at their regular

School Committee meeting. Once approved, the proposed budget is then sent on to the Town Council for further discussion and a vote on June 7, 2022. From there, the proposed budget would then go to a referendum vote in the community on June 14, 2022.

This has been one of the most difficult budget development years in my 15 year tenure as a Superintendent of Schools in Maine's public schools and certainly the most difficult budget development season in my 7 years here in Gorham. Why so difficult folks might ask? Valid question for sure... and one with a multitude of answers.

First and foremost, although we are now beginning to feel like we are on the path from "Pandemic" to "Endemic" there is still a great deal of uncertainty in the economic climate as a result of the 2 year Pandemic. Staffing shortages, broken supply chains, increasing costs of EVERYTHING, all take their toll on a school department's budget. Couple that with trying to address the increasing needs of our students, especially in the areas of Social and Emotional Learning and Mental Health supports, while grappling with meeting continued academic learning gaps and you have a recipe for significantly increasing costs across almost all programs.

The School Committee has had to work very hard over the course of the past 4 budget meetings to make some really difficult decisions regarding priorities and balancing costs with needs. There is one more budget meeting left to take place on April 12 at 7:00 p.m. before the School Committee will be asked to approve of a proposed FY 23 budget on April 13th. If you want to follow the previous budget meetings themselves, you can view their recordings by accessing this blog online.

Additionally, I have

included links (posted on this blog online) to the original proposed budget presented to the School Committee in February and our budget priorities list.

Finally, I thought it would be beneficial to include a list of Proposed FY 23 "additions" and "reductions" to programming and positions as of our last budget meeting (March 22, 2022) below. Please note that items on the reductions list are clearly noted as either being reduced from FY 22 (existing programming) or reduced from the initially proposed FY 23 budget. Please see this blog posted online for the links.

The bottom line is that the original proposed FY 23 budget projected an overall increase of 12.95% or \$5,730,852.00 in expenditures. The School Committee has since worked to reduce that to an overall increase of 8.08% or \$3,576,452.00, a reduction of \$2,154,000.00. The current proposed budget (which is still very much subject to change before their final vote on April 13) stands at that 8.08% increase in expenditures, which would have an estimated mil impact of (+)\$1.09 (an 8.60% increase over last year's mil impact).

Like I said, still a lot of potential for movement here as we come into the home stretch and I will certainly provide an update to everyone after the School Committee vote on the 13th - but I thought it would be helpful for folks to have this information so that if you are interested in watching the final budget meeting (4/12/22 at 7:00 p.m.) or the final budget vote (4/13/22 at 7:00 p.m.) you can. You can also reach out with any questions at any time via email at heather.perry@gorhamschools.org.

**THANK YOU!
LEAD TESTING UPDATE**

If folks remember, the Gorham Schools complet-

ed its first round of water testing for lead earlier this winter and reported those results to the public by school. There were several tests across four of our five schools (not including Great Falls) that required follow up testing. We just received the results of that follow up testing on Wednesday and I wanted to share that with you here and in a separate email message you will see later today.

First it is important to note that you can see ALL TESTING RESULTS, old and updated for each school by seeing this blog online. Below is an overview of the updated testing results per school:

GHS - Re-tested 7 areas. 4 faucets and 3 water fountains. 6 of these areas came back clean which is "good" and one area by the trainers area still did not pass. We will simply discontinue use of this faucet fixture as it is rarely used.

GMS - Re-tested 2 areas. 1 faucet in kitchen and 1 outdoor near the concession area. The concession area faucet passed but the kitchen one still tested high. We are going to replace the fixture in this area and then re-test.

Village - Re-tested kitchen faucet and it passed.

Narragansett - Tested 2 new areas and re-tested 3 areas. The two new areas were missed in the first round. Those were from the nurses clinic and from a classroom faucet. Both of these tests came back clean and we are good. The other 3 were re-tests 2 from the kitchen area and 1 fountain in the new modular area. All three of these areas still tested high. We believe this is likely due to our having re-used kitchen equipment from the old kitchen in

the new kitchen. The water fountain, we believe is "bleeding over" from the kitchen issues as they are connected. We have temporarily discontinued use of these water supplies for right now and are bringing in bottled water to be used in the cafeteria. We will replace fixtures ASAP and then re-test. In the meantime, once again, we are bringing in water supplies until we can take care of the identified issue.

Bottom line, please rest assured we take the testing of our water supplies very seriously and continue to monitor these issues closely. Right now, the only issue left unresolved is the Narragansett kitchen area water supply, which we believe can be fixed by replacement of older fixtures and continued flushing of the water lines. We will retest immediately once this work has been completed and in the meantime will continue to bring in bottled water for utilization until required tests have been passed.

If anyone has any questions, please reach out to Facilities Director, Norm Justice at norm.justice@gorhamschools.org. Thank you!

LAST DAY OF 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR & SOME END OF YEAR EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS

I hope I am not jinxing anything by sending this out early in April as Maine has been known to have snow storms as late as May...but I'll take the chance and hopefully won't blow it!

At this time, unless we use any additional snow days, the last student day for school this school year will be Monday, June 13, 2022. This will be a half *See Superintendent, page 16*

Gorham WEEKLY

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Maine's Community Colleges Adopt Debt Forgiveness Program

AUGUSTA, ME (March 30, 2022) – Maine's community colleges are launching a new debt forgiveness program that eliminates up to \$2,000 in student debt for all former students.

The Maine Community College System (MCCS) Board of Trustees voted unanimously to approve the change at their meeting Wednesday at the Augusta Civic Center.

"It's time to come back and finish what you started," said Janet Sortor, chief academic officer and vice president of MCCS. "These students have already proven they can succeed academically. They just need a little help getting over the finish line."

The new program

takes effect immediately. "We want our students to succeed, and this is a great way to welcome them back and help them complete their degree or certificate without being burdened by student debt," MCCS President David Daigler said. "We do everything possible to make Maine's community college affordable. We have the lowest tuition in New England. We distribute more than \$50 million a year in grants and scholarships. We provide emergency funds to students when needed. This debt forgiveness program is one more chance to show our students we believe in them and support them."

Former MCCS students can take advantage

of the "Return, Resume, Reward" small debt forgiveness program if they owe no more than \$2,000, it has been at least two years since they attended a Maine community college, they enroll in at least six credits, and they maintain good academic standing.

A student's past debt is set aside during the program, and half of the past debt (up to \$1,000) is forgiven after the first semester. The second half is forgiven after the second semester.

Several of the system's seven colleges have had an unofficial debt forgiveness program in place, allowing a student to re-enroll or access college services despite a small debt. This formalizes the process

for all the colleges.

Tuition at Maine's community colleges is \$96 per credit, and the average cost of tuition and fees for a year of full-time study is \$3,700.

Since the pandemic began, the colleges have distributed \$24.5 million in federal pandemic relief funds directly to students for emergency aid, and the colleges have used almost \$1 million in institutional pandemic relief funds to clear debts incurred by students during the pandemic. In addition, The Foundation for Maine's Community Colleges distributed \$1 million in scholarships last fall.

Also Wednesday, the trustees were briefed on the details of \$8.5 million

in recent federal appropriations for Maine's community colleges:

\$4,000,000 for Eastern Maine Community College's Katahdin Region Economic, Community, and Family Development project, expanding child care for EMCC students.

\$1,000,000 for Northern Maine Community College's Mechanized Logging Operations Training Program.

\$988,000 for Northern Maine Community College's Expansion of Safety Training for Wind Turbine Technicians.

\$1,000,000 for Southern Maine Community College's Accelerated and Expanded Manufacturing Training.

\$977,000 for the

Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center's Building the Next Generation of Maine's Seafood Workforce at Washington County Community College and Southern Maine Community College.

\$567,000 for Northern Maine Community College's electrical construction and maintenance program.

"We will use these funds to add new tools for teaching logging, wind power and aquaculture, debut a new mobile lab to take our welding program on the road to where it's needed most, and increase access to child care in the Katahdin region," Daigler said. "This is an incredible investment that will pay off for decades."

Pine Tree Society Offers Free Conference for Parents of Children with Disabilities

ROME, ME (March 28, 2022) – On Saturday, May 21 parents and guardians of children with disabilities will be welcomed to Pine Tree Camp for a free, day-long conference featuring leading experts in childhood development and disabilities.

For many, the Pine Tree Society Children's Conference will be the first opportunity they've had to connect with other parents and providers.

"The last two years have been hard for everyone, and if you're a parent of a child with a disability,

it's been even harder," said Noel Sullivan, president and CEO of Pine Tree Society. "Many of the supports parents relied on disappeared overnight and opportunities to network and connect with other parents became non-existent, leading to a sense of

isolation and loss of community."

Attendees will have the opportunity to network with presenters and other parents and will leave with a wealth of resources and actionable strategies and tips to immediately put into practice at home and school.

The final lineup of speakers and workshops are in the process of being confirmed.

Presenters will be leading experts in the fields of:

- Childhood disabilities and child development
- Children's behav-

ioral and mental health and language

- Communication
- Case management
- Occupational therapy

- Outdoor recreation
- Learning through play

Topics will include:

- Navigating periods of transition
- Building social skills and social lives
- Self-advocacy and supportive decision-making

- Supporting children's mental health through the pandemic

What: Pine Tree So-

ciety's Children's Conference

Where: Pine Tree Camp; 114 Pine Tree Camp Rd.; Rome, Maine

When: Saturday, May 21; 9:00AM – 4:00PM

Register: Space is limited and registration is required for this free, day-long conference. Register at this link: <https://pinetreesociety.wufoo.com/forms/z107qtv11cl1ual/>

For more information visit: <https://www.pinetreesociety.org/children-and-families/childrens-conference-2022/> or call 207-386-6956.

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Skiers travel through the scenic Tote Road Trail at Rangeley Lakes Trails



A pair of classic skiers enter boulder-strewn Bridge Trail at Rangeley Lakes Trails

By Ron Chase

Finding quality Nordic skiing opportunities in the Maine foothills and along the coastal plain this winter has been a challenge. A succession of mixed precipitation storms resulted in minimal snow pack and often icy surfaces.

Based on my experience, Rangeley Lakes Trails Center located on the north slope of the Saddleback Mountain Range usually has colder weather and receives more reliable snowfall. That has been generally true again this winter. However, they also had some rain and warm temperatures. I'd been watching their trail reports for an opportunity for a final ski before winter ended.

In mid-March, the Rangeley area received several inches of new snow. Emails were quickly exchanged between my wife, Nancy, and me and our retired friends, Diane and John Stokinger. Within a couple of hours, we'd cleared our calendars and made motel reservations for two days of skiing

and snowshoeing on the Rangeley Lakes Trails; proof that elderly folks can respond with alacrity when sufficiently motivated.

Rangeley Lakes Trails Center is operated by Rangeley Lakes Cross Country Ski Club, a non-profit organization. There are over 55 kilometers of trails available for Nordic skiing, snowshoeing, and fat tire biking. According to their website, they average 200 inches of snowfall annually!

Not surprisingly, it was snowing when we arrived at the Rangeley Trails distinctive yurt and parking area on Saddleback Mountain Road in Rangeley. The heated yurt is a focal point for activity where passes are purchased and hot soup and snacks served.

The expansive trail system provides a multitude of skiing choices. The trail map suggested several loop options that varied from under five kilometers to almost fifteen. The four of us decided to ski the straightforward Tote Road Trail to a major junction that connects

with more difficult distant routes before selecting our ultimate itinerary.

Although trails had been groomed, a layer of fresh snow covered surfaces. Classic tracks were packed by previous skiers, so we enjoyed an efficient kick and glide traveling in a conifer forest decorated with a colorful accumulation of clinging snow to the intended junction where there was a kiosk with a large map. After carefully studying the options, my companions chose a middle distance loop that included scenic View Trail. I decided on perimeter trails that ended with my favorite, Larry Hall Trail.

After an easy ski northwesterly on Lower Pipeline Trail, I ascended steadily northeast on Hoffman's Run to Lower Pump House Road on the northernmost extreme of the trail network. I continued on rolling terrain to prominent Junction Rock where Bridge Trail and Upper Pump House Road also converge.

A pair of passing skiers departed south next to

a succession of substantial boulders on Bridge Trail as I began climbing gradually on Upper Pump House. The trail steepened when entering an open area in an extensive stand of hardwoods with filtered views of Saddleback Mountain on my left and Saddleback Lake in the west. The sweeping vistas continued when I joined Nat's Alley on the lower shoulder of Saddleback.

Following a gradual descent on Nat's Alley, I crossed Upper Pipeline Trail and joined Larry Hall Trail. Tumbling down narrow twisting Larry Hall to the yurt was a thoroughly exhilarating endeavor. My companions had yet to return, so I embarked west on two-mile Geneva Loop. The entertaining course was a series of long descents and easy climbs

again ending at the yurt. This time, all of the seniors not acting their ages were present and accounted for. Everyone reported a most excellent day on the trails.

Light snow had fallen in the night so there was a coating of new powder on the trails to start day two. My fellow retirees elected to explore snowshoe paths instead of skiing.

Intent on skiing, I completed Geneva Loop and proceeded east on Tote Road. Recently groomed surfaces dictated the remainder of my course selection. At Tote Road junction, I turned right and scaled Upper Pipeline for about a mile to Nat's Alley. From that point, I reversed the prior day's route to the yurt arriving simultaneously with the snowshoers.

Rangeley Lakes Trails Center was a great

place to end our winter skiing and snowshoeing. If fates allow, we'll return next year.

A Rangeley Trails ski trip while searching for an elusive bobcat is the theme of a chapter in my latest book, *Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine* in Maine.

Ron Chase resides in Topsham. His latest book, *"Maine Al Fresco: The Fifty Finest Outdoor Adventures in Maine"* is now available at <https://www.northcountrypress.com/maine-al-fresco.html>. His previous books are *"The Great Mars Hill Bank Robbery"* and *"Mountains for Mortals - New England."* Visit his website at <https://www.ronchaseoutdoors.com> or he can be reached at ronchaseoutdoors@comcast.net

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Presumpscot Regional Land Trust Hosts Story Walk



GORHAM, ME (April 1, 2022) -- Join the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust for a New Story Walk Family Event at Hawkes Preserve Saturday, April 9th at 10am in Gorham and close to South Windham. Come for a guided walk on the historic towpath along the Presumpscot River where the Story Walk pages will be posted, and then continue on the 1-mile loop to go through a Nature Scavenger Hunt and build fairy and gnome homes in a forested village. This event is free and registration is required due to limited space - go to: <https://www.prlt.org/events>



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OSJL to Provide Supplies to Ukraine



An OSJL tractor trailer.

North Kingstown, RI - (March 30, 2022) – Ocean State Job Lot (OSJL) is pleased to announce that its “Relief for Ukraine” program has resulted in the donation to date of six tractor trailer loads of health and hygiene products, nutritious food, and warm clothing, as well as frontline medical supplies to Ukrainian refugee efforts. The desperately needed medical supplies were supplied in partnership with Partners for World Health, based in Portland, ME.

The “Relief for Ukraine” program, which began on March 1, is host-

ed at each of the closeout discount retailer’s 147 stores across the Northeast and asks customers to make monetary donations to support the Ukrainian refugee families that have been forced to leave their homes during the Russian invasion.

Additional supplies were distributed through OSJL’s partnership with Saint Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Boston, MA, and additional funding was provided to the Ocean State Job Lot Charitable Foundation by the New England Patriots and the Kraft Family Foundation.

OSJL tractor trailers are transporting supplies to Port Handy, NJ, where they are airlifted to Poland and subsequently distributed throughout Ukraine by the company’s European partners, including Razom, International Charitable Foundation, among others.

“OSJL is a nimble organization, and we pride ourselves on our ability to provide relief where it’s needed, when it’s needed, and to those who need it most - even in conflict

zones,” said David Sarlitto, Executive Director, Ocean State Job Lot Charitable Foundation. “It was important that we leveraged our connections and resources to immediately support Ukrainian refugees. Thanks to the generosity of our incredible customers, our business partners here in the U.S., as well as our distribution partners in Ukraine, we’ve been able to get these supplies to those suffering overseas in a timely and efficient manner.”



Representatives from Partners for World Health pose in front of an OSJL tractor trailer full of supplies for Ukraine.



An OSJL distribution center associate moving a pallet of supplies for Ukraine.

Scholarships Available to Women Pursuing Science, Engineering Degrees

ELLSWORTH & PORTLAND (March 28, 2022)—Applications are currently being accepted at the Maine Community Foundation (MaineCF) for the Lydia R. Laurendeau Scholarship Fund.

Established in 2013, the Laurendeau Fund provides renewable scholarship support to young women who are graduating seniors from high schools in Maine pursuing post-secondary education in science or engineering at a four-year university. There is a preference for applicants demonstrating an interest and/or actively

participating in their Franco-American heritage.

The deadline for applications is June 1. Applications are available at www.mainecef.org.

MaineCF has worked with donors and educators since 1983 to provide Maine students access to educational opportunities. The community foundation manages more than 650 scholarship funds.

The Maine Community Foundation has offices in Ellsworth and Portland with staff and volunteers throughout the state. It 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 community foundation, visit www.mainecef.org.

Send all items for What’s Going On to the Editor. Deadline is Friday by five.

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MUSIC DIRECTOR:
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DISASTER! Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

2022 Street Sweeping Schedule

GORHAM, ME (April 1, 2022) -- It's that time of year! Public Works has started with rough street sweeping and will start with scheduled street sweeping as weather permits. Please see below for full route information. Updates to the schedule will be made public as soon as the dates are determined or if changes need to be made. If you have any questions, please contact Public Works at 892-9062.

Route 1 *STARTING 4/4/22

College Ave.
Valley View Dr.
Settlers Way
Pioneer Cir.
Phinney St.
Meadow Crossing Ln.
Cressey Rd. (Rt. 25 - Lovers Ln.)
Lovers Ln.
Green Trees Dr.
School St.
Fort Hill Rd. (Valley View Dr. - School St.)
Longview Dr.
Martin Dr.
Church St.
Cross St.
Glenwood Ave.
Water St.
Academy St.
Gordon Farm Rd.
Mechanic St.

Railroad Ave.
Elm St.
Lincoln St.
Preble St.
Robie St.
Highland Ave.
Merciers Way
Falcon Crest Dr.
Peregrine Dr.
Dana St.
Donna St.
Elizabeth St.
Johnson Rd.
Hillview Rd.
Western Ave.
Park Ave.
Main St. (Rt. 114 To Public Safety)
Bouchard Dr.
Wentworth Dr.
State St. (Rt. 114 to Round a bout)
Tink Dr.
Stephanie Dr.
Lovers Ln.
Spring Brook Ln.
Madison Way
Grove St.
Dogwood Ln.

Route 2 *STARTING 4/4/22

Barstow Rd.
Dunlap Rd.
Plummer Rd.
Woodland Rd.
High Meadow Dr.
Wescott Rd.
White Rock Dr.
White Rock Cir.
George St.
Terry St.

Great Falls Rd.
Goodall Rd.
Wilson Rd. (West of Rt. 237)
Bear Run
Partridge Ln.
Winslow Rd.
Stevens Dr.
Gambo Rd.
Dyer Rd.
Timothy Dr.
Route 3
Runnings Springs Rd.
Oakwood Dr.
Weeks Rd.
Canterbury Pines Dr.
Sunrise Ln.
Village Woods Dr.
Shady Run Ln.
Winterberry Dr.
Solomon Dr.
Darin Dr.
Quincy Dr.
Polliwog Ln.
Kaitlin Dr.
Starlit Way
Bradford Dr.
Craig Dr.
Matthew Dr.
Middle School Dr.
William Henry Dr.
Adeline Dr.
Lucina Terr.
Teran St.
Samantha Dr.
Kiara Ln
Bramblewood
Spruce Ln.
Maplewood Dr.
Ridgeway Ave.

South St. (Rt.25 to Weeks Rd.)

Route 4

South St. (Weeks Rd. - Rt. 22)
County Rd.
Burnham Rd.
Mitchell Hill Rd.
Tapley Dr.
Harriet Cir.
Nonesuch Rd.
Hodgdon Rd.
Julia Dr.
Deering Rd.
Keene Dr.
South Branch Terr.
Bridle Path Ln.
Saddle Ln.
Halter Ln.
Kinney Rd.
Sandy Terr.
Harriman Dr.
Distant Pines Dr.
Edgefield Dr.
Brookdale Dr.
Mountview Dr.
Gerrys Way.
Washburn Dr.
Straw Rd.
Waterhouse Rd.
Mary Ann Dr.
Crestwood Dr.

Route 5

Brackett Rd.
Elkins Rd.
Veranda Dr.
Lowell Rd.
Longfellow Rd.
Barnfield Ln.
McQuillians Hill
Day Rd.
Louise St.
Shirley Ln.
Newton Dr.
McLellan Rd.
Mahlon Ave.
Beatrice St.
New Portland Rd.
Herrick Rd.
Black Brook Dr.
White Birch Ln.
Libby Ave. (Rt. 25 - New Portland Rd.)
Willowdale Dr.
Wingergreen Dr.
Shepards Way
Marathon Ave.
Old Oak Ln.
Pine Cone Ln.
Town Common
Snowberry Dr.
Woodspell Rd.

Route 6

Main St. (Public Safety to Westbrook Line)
Gray Rd. (Acorn St. to Main St.)
Bartlett Rd.
Hutcherson Dr.
Laurence Dr.

Industrial Parkway
Walnut Crest Rd.
Sanford Dr.
Gateway Commons Dr.

Shamrock Dr.
Timber Ridge Rd.
Clearview Dr.
Portal Way
Joseph Dr.
Libby Ave. (Rt. 25 to Rt. 202)

Cumberland Way
Hidden Pines Dr.
Wagner Farm Rd.
Primrose Ln.
Lawn Ave.
Sunset Ln.
Garden Ave.
Public Safety
Chick Dr.
Old Dynamite Way
Hidden Brook Dr.
Carnation Dr.
Geranium Dr.
Fairview Ln.

Route 7

Gray Rd. (Acorn St. to Windham Town Line)
Rt 237 (Canal St. - Roundabout)
Newell St.
Huston Rd.
Sleepy Hollow Dr.
Ichabod Ln.
Ichabod Ln. Ext.
Horseman Dr.
Harding Bridge Rd.
Hannah Dr.
Canal St.
Union St.
Acorn St.
Pleasant St.
Tow Path Rd.
Gale St.
Mallison St.
Aspen Dr.
Little River Dr.
Longmeadow Dr.
Parker Hill Rd.
Queen St.
Libby Ave. (North of Rt. 202)

Route 8

Dingley Springs Rd. (Rt. 25 - Rt. 114)
Shaws Mill Rd.
Spiller Rd.
Truman Dr.
Buck St.
North St.
Marion St.
Jane St.
Gloria St.
Sanborn St.
Kathryn St.

Quail Ridge Rd.
Cold Springs Ln.
Christopher Rd.
Jennifer Way.
Paige Dr.
Shelby Dr.
Boulder Dr.
Maple Ridge Rd.
Ritz Farm Rd.
Hayfield Dr.
Mighty St.
Murray Dr.

Route 9

Finn Parker Rd.
Wood Rd.
Clay Rd.
Dwaynes Way
Sally Dr.
Jordan Dr.
Emma Ln.
Alexander Dr.
Files Rd.
Ledge Hill Rd .
Elliot Rd.
Line Rd.
Daniel St.
Jonathan St.
Dingley Spring Rd. (Rt. 25 - Line Rd.)

Route 10

Patrick Estates
Balsam Ln.
Rust Rd.
Farrington Rd.
Dow Rd.
Benjamin Way
Burton Dr.
Flaggy Meadow Rd.
Cressey Rd. (Rt. 202 - Rt. 25)

Route 11

Heather Way
Osbourne Rd.
Richard Rd.
Davis Annex
Field Crest Dr.
Roberts Circle
Narragansett St.
Briarwood Ln.
Harding Rd.
Alden Ln.
Lombard St.
Ball park Rd.
Pine St.
Green St.
Morrill Ave.
Douglass Cir.
Access Rd.
Sylvan Dr.
School Dr.
Twilight Ln.
Municipal Center/Walks
Baxter Library/Walks

Route 11

Rt. 237 (Huston Rd. - Standish Town Line)
North Gorham Rd.
Underhill Dr.
Beverly Ln.
Wilson Rd.
Hurricane Rd.
Nason Rd.
Standish Neck Rd.
Rainbow Ln.
Middle Jam Rd.
Hickory Ln.
Crockett Rd.
Brookwood Dr.
Kemp Rd.
Whipple Rd.

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Send all items for What's Going On to the Editor. Deadline is Friday by five.



SCAN TO SIGN UP TODAY!

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YOU'RE INVITED!

**April 14
6-7:30pm**

In honor of Earth Day, the GHS Bee Club is hosting a viewing of the documentary...

The Vanishing of the Bees
narrated by Elliot Page
at GHS in the MPAC

Donations to the Bee Club are appreciated
Proceeds will also help support our GHS Hives.
this is a **FREE EVENT**

We will have *baked goods* and *club merchandise* for sale.
Please come to learn more about how we can protect the amazing honeybee!

Derik Littlefield Promoted To Lead Driver/Operator

GORHAM, ME (March 28, 2022) -- Congratulations to Public Works very own Derik "DJ" Littlefield on his pro-

motion to Lead Driver/Operator. DJ has been with the Town for 16 years and is an integral part of this team!

If you see this Lead Guy out and about today, wish him a huge CONGRATULATIONS on his well-deserved promotion!

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Congressionally Directed Spending for Town of Gorham

GORHAM, ME (March 18, 2022) -- In case you didn't see it, the Town of Gorham was awarded \$1 million in Congressionally Directed Spending in the omnibus spending package passed by Congress last week.

Senator King selected the project as one of his requests to the Senate Committee on Appropriations Fiscal Year 2022 Appropri-

ations bill. It was one of 92 Maine projects totaling over \$136 million. The funding will support road construction for the Gorham Industrial Park West Campus expansion project.

Here's the press release from Senator King's office: <https://www.king.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/king-announces-over-136-million-in-direct-con->

gressional-funding-for-92-maine-projects

Update on the GIP West Campus Project

- The Town is in the process of submitting to the Maine DEP for subdivision approval on the southern parcel, which would connect through Cyr Drive.

- SLR International Corporation serves as the engineering consultant on the project responsible for

site design, permitting and road construction.

- The northern and southern parcels are divided by the crosstown trail, which will remain a part of the overall development plan.

- A total of five buildable lots are planned for the southern parcel, ranging in size from 3.4 acres to 15.5 acres.

- The northern par-

cel, encompassing approximately 94 acres, is not included in the subdivision application.

- The Town is working with Mike Anderson of Malone Commercial Brokers on the sale of individual lots.

- The Town is expected to finalize listing prices for all available lots next month, following review and approval by Gorham

Town Council.

We feel honored to have Senator King select the Gorham project for CDS funding. This serves as recognition of the need to create additional commercial industrial space in the Greater Portland area. It creates opportunity and it creates good jobs in Maine. We are grateful for the support from Senator King and his staff.

Gorham Business Exchange to Hold Cornhole Invitational



GORHAM, ME (April 1, 2022) -- The Gorham Business Exchange will be holding our Southern Maine Cornhole Invitational outdoors on

May 14, 2022 at Sebago Brewing's Tasting Room (616 Main St) with the first bags flying at 1pm. Cash prizes awarded for the winning teams but

more importantly it's a really fun day and will help support a local non-profit. For more information please visit: www.gorhambiz.org/

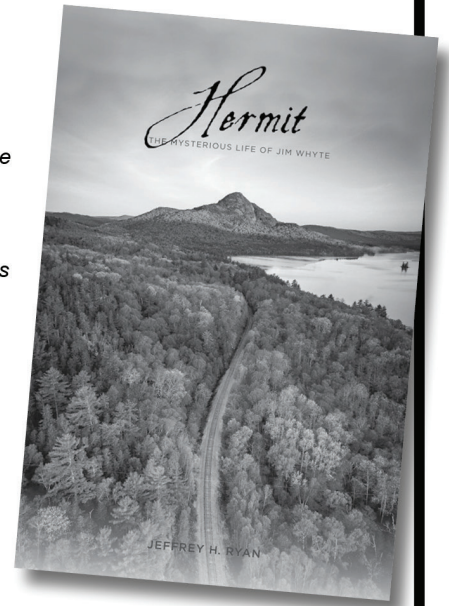
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— Bill Bushnell, *Bushnell on Books*

"I can tell you it will not take you many days to read, because you won't be able to put it down. I wasn't surprised when Hermit was named a top pick for 2019 on a December Maine Calling show on Maine Public Radio."
— George Smith, *Bangor Daily News*

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GORHAM LITTLE LEAGUE

Field Funding Campaign



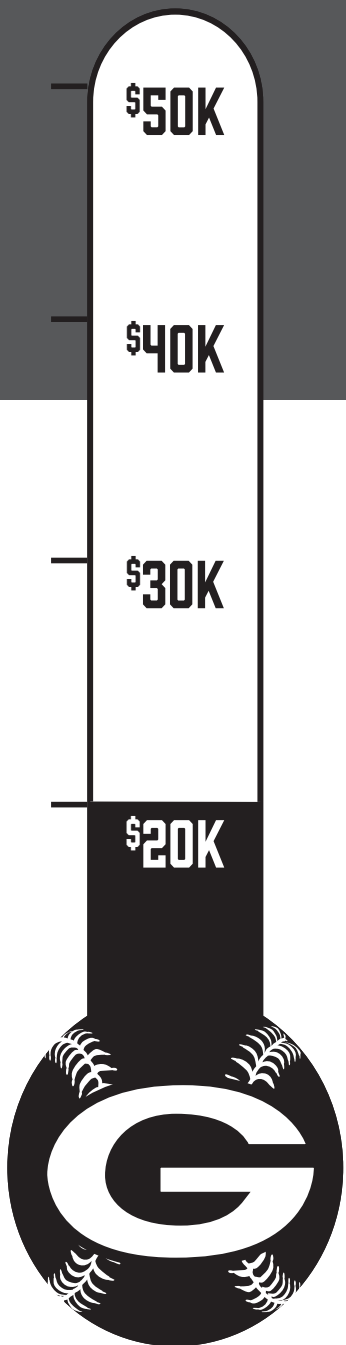
The Gorham Youth Baseball & Softball Association is making a large capital investment to provide updates and add fields to accommodate practice and game schedules:

- Develop 2 fields at White Rock
- Purchase seasonal fence for Shaw Park
- Repair dugouts and fencing, build storage centers
- Add infield mix and relevel current fields
- Acquire tarps and field maintenance equipment
- Add scoreboards

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Portland Announces Monument(al) Market, Seeks Vendors

PORTLAND, ME (March 29, 2022) -- Portland Downtown in conjunction with Monument Square property and business owners is proud to announce the Monument(al) Market in the Square, a Thursday spring and summer market launching in Monument Square

on Thursday, May 19th. In a continued effort to program Monument Square and bring vibrancy to one of our city's most compelling plazas, Portland Downtown is teaming up with Monument Square business and property owners to recruit makers, artists, and other vendors to

offer their wares Thursdays throughout the spring and summer. "This Monument(al) Market in the Square will bring vibrancy to one of our premier locations in the city. It will help local entrepreneurs while at the same time being an active space that will entice tourists and

others. We hope folks will also buy lunch or a snack at nearby restaurants and eat outside. We're excited to continue to bring activity to our downtown," said Cary Tyson, executive director of Portland Downtown. "Despite the pandemic Monument Square has continued to reinvent

itself over the last few years: Revitalized historic buildings, new condos, and apartment buildings, and new restaurants and food establishments. The one thing that is still missing, the one thing that everyone has been asking for, is for a return of a market to the Square!" -Bill Stauffer,

owner 22 Monument Square & Vice Chair, Mechanics' Hall Interested vendors can complete an application available at portland-maine.com/Monumental-Market For more information email cary@portland-maine.com

Portland Downtown Launches Clean-Up Initiative

PORTLAND, ME (March 29, 2022) — Portland Downtown's inaugural downtown clean-up initiative Green Gulls will launch on Earth Day (Friday, April 22nd, 2022). It will extend throughout the summer, ending on Friday, Sep. 30th. Named after Portland's seagulls, known for slurping food off of sidewalks and keeping down-

town Portland's streets clean of leftovers, Green Gulls takes that same idea, but makes it green. Participants are encouraged to dedicate 10 minutes — or less! — each morning to tidy their stoops — think of the easy stuff, like sweeping steps, picking up litter, and/or discarding cigarette butts! David Wood Cloth-

iers, a Commercial Street business in downtown Portland, has been doing this for some time. "At David Wood Clothiers, we begin every morning by tidying up the sidewalk and street facing our storefront. That simple, daily routine — taking only 5-10 minutes — expanded over the years, and has created the inspiration for a

local initiative. Partnering with Portland Downtown, we're launching Green Gulls to promote how we can all help in creating a cleaner Portland — block by block by block," said Sara Hutchinson Brown, David Wood Clothiers. This small, daily commitment will help downtown Portland start each day feeling and looking re-

freshed, while also stopping plastic and other trash from blowing into our beloved Casco Bay. Together, Green Gulls will help put our community's best — & webbed — foot forward! "While our downtown public works crew is constantly at work addressing downtown beautification, there's simply not enough person power to get everywhere fast. Like most other businesses, we're dealing with staffing shortages, as well. 10 minutes — or less — can go a long way," said Cary Tyson,

Portland Downtown executive director. Green Gulls participants will be provided materials (brooms, dustpans, gloves) and be regularly rewarded for doing their part to keep Portland clean. Want to join the Green Gulls flock? Interested downtown businesses, property owners, and/or residents can fill out our form here or email Portland Downtown Marketing & Events Coordinator McKenzie Delisle for more information.

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The Auburn Lewiston Airport Board Announces New Airport Manager

AUBURN / LEWISTON, ME (February 22, 2022) -- The Auburn Lewiston Airport has named James H. Scheller, C.M. as the new Airport Manager.



In this role, Mr. Scheller will build upon the existing success of the Auburn Lewiston Airport (LEW) to strengthen operations, develop business opportunities, and ensure excellence in service to pilots, passengers, visitors and tenants.

working with stakeholders and community organizations to increase the utilization of the Auburn Lewiston Airport," said Mr. Scheller. "I am excited to be a vital part of the Auburn Lewiston community in the capacity of its Airport Manager. With the support of the Board and community leaders, together we can continue the development and continued success of the Airport!"

Mr. Scheller began his new position on January 14, 2022. Mr. Scheller brings twelve years of commercial airport business experience, most recently serving as the Landside Operations Supervisor for the Houston Airport System's — Houston Hobby Airport - North America's first and only 5-Star Airport.

Mr. Scheller earned his bachelor's degree in Aviation Management from the Southern Illinois University. He went on to earn master's degrees in Aviation Operations and Business Administration from Everglades University. He is a Certified Member (A.A.E.) of the American Association of Airport Executives.

Prior to his position in Houston, TX he served as Properties/Advertising Administrator for the Sarasota Bradenton International Airport where he assisted the Properties Department in generating streams of revenue, and creating partnerships with the local community.

Mr. Scheller retired from the United States Marine Corps as a Captain. Mr. Scheller's twenty-six years of military service was in the area of aircraft maintenance, as well as aircrew/aircraft life support systems.

"I look forward to

Send all items for What's Going On to the Editor. Deadline is Friday by five.

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Ap. 6, Ap. 13
LEWISTON -- 3:30PM, Lewiston Public Library, MAKE ART WITH ARTVAN ArtVan will be providing an in-person hands-on creative art program in the Children's Department of the Lewiston Public Library for children ages 5-14 (ages 5-8 must be accompanied by an adult) for self-expression, personal growth, and fun. Free. All art supplies will be provided. 513-3133; www.LPLonline.org

Starting Ap. 7 and every 1st and 3rd Thursday through June

LEWISTON -- 1st & 3rd Thursdays from April-June, 4-6pm at the Lewiston Public Library: TEEN TABLETOP RPGS. Calling all adventurers and explorers! LPL Teen will be hosting a series of one-shot tabletop role-playing games, in person in the teen lounge on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month from 4-6pm, from April-June. Supplies will be provided – just bring yourself and your creative mind! Each drop in session will feature a different one-shot tabletop RPG, run by game master Hallie. No previous RPG experience is required. This program is intended for teens ages 13-19. For more information, contact the Adult & Teen Services department at 207-513-3135 or lpref@lewistonmaine.com.

Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

gov, or go to lplonline.org/events/teen-tabletop-rpgs/
Apr. 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17

Community Little Theatre (CLT) presents Disaster!, a new musical comedy with hit songs from the 1970s and plot elements reminiscent of disaster cult films. Performances at 7:30 p.m. on April 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, and 16; and at 2:00 p.m. on April 10 and 17. Call 207-783-0958 or visit BOX OFFICE | laclt-1 for tickets and information. Please visit at <https://www.laclt.com/covid-19-protocols> for information on safety protocols.

Ap. 9
MINOT – 9am – 1pm Craft and Bake Sale for Relief services for the People of Ukraine at Minot United Methodist Church, Corner of Rt 121 and Empire Rd, Minot, Maine. All proceeds go to the United Methodist Committee to provide relief services for the people of Ukraine. Handmade crafts and Homecooked Baked Items.

Ap. 9
GORHAM -- Spring Vendor/Craft Fair, White Rock Grange #380, 33 Wilson Road, Gorham. Saturday, April 9, 2022

9am -2pm
 Over 2 dozen crafters and vendors are coming together offering items for Easter, Mother's Day, Hostess Gift, Just Because Gifts and more. Follow us on Facebook for more details: <https://www.facebook.com/whiterockgrange380/>

Ap. 9
GORHAM -- 9am – 2pm Town Council FY 2022-23 Budget Workshop with Department Managers Council Chambers

Ap. 12
GORHAM -- 7pm Conservation Commission Meeting Conference Room A April 13 7pm School Committee Meeting Council Chambers

Ap. 13
TURNER -- Androscoggin Retired Educators will meet at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at The Highlands in Turner. The cost of the meal is \$18 per person. The Highlands are located on Rt. 117 in Turner. The address is 40 Highland Ave. From Auburn follow Route 4 north to Turner, turn on to Route 117 and just follow the road to the restaurant. The speakers for this meeting will be the Clarks who

own Clarks Greenhouse on Route 4. All retired educators are welcome to attend. You need not have taught in Androscoggin County, or even in the State of Maine. For a list of luncheon entrees and reservation contact Crystal at 786-7084.

Ap. 18
GORHAM -- 6pm Planning Board Meeting Council Chambers

Ap. 19
GORHAM -- 8am Ordinance Committee Meeting Conference Room A

Ap. 19
GORHAM -- 6:30pm Town Council Workshop Council Chambers

Ap. 20
GORHAM -- 8am Gorham Economic Development Corporation Meeting Conference Room A

Ap. 21
GORHAM -- 4pm Ecomaine Board of Directors Meeting TBD

Ap. 21
GORHAM -- 6:30pm Tentative Recurring Board of Appeals Meeting Council Chambers

Ap. 21
GORHAM -- 6:30pm Tentative Recurring CIP Meeting TBD May 2 7pm Planning Board Meeting Council Chambers

Ap. 23
GRAY -- Dine-In as well as Take-Out Baked Bean Supper is now being offered by the First Con-

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gregation Church of Gray. Saturday, April 23, 2022, at the Parish House, 5 Brown Street. Gray. Take-Out pickup is between 4:30 - 5:00 P.M., Dine In begins at 5:15 P.M. You must make reservations for both Dine-In or Take-Out.

Contact Carol 650-9093 and let her know your name, phone number, how many meals you would like, choice of pie, and whether you will be eating in or taking out. Cut off for Reservations is Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 2:00 P. M. Meals are single-sized and are \$10.00 each. Please pay at the door. The menu includes: Baked Pea Beans, 2 Red Hot Dogs, Coleslaw, Biscuit, and Apple or Blueberry Pie.

May 3
GORHAM -- 6:30pm Regular Town Council

Meeting Council Chambers

May 10
GORHAM -- 6:30pm Town Council FY 2022-23 Budget Workshop with School Department Council Chambers

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The Grange located in Gorham at 33 Wilson Rd. (off rte 237) is inviting you to join us at any meeting the first Friday of the month at 7 PM.

Folks willing to put their generous hearts and open hands to raise all of their neighbors and community is the goal of the Grange since 1876. The Grange is an inclusive nonprofit organization. Local activities include but not be restricted to crafts, music, suppers, display at the Cumberland fair and quilts for veterans. Our agenda and focus is at the local level determined by the members themselves. The historical Grange Hall is the perfect building and location for doing any craft. Handicapped accessible, heat, hot water, and full kitchen.

Dues are \$26 per year.

Facebook /Gorham White Rock Grange #380 Web/ mainestategrange.org The White Rock is called Subordinate grange. Use right column to locate.

Ph/ 207-839-3946 leave a message.

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LEWISTON SENIOR CITIZENS TRIPS FOR 2022 WASHINGTON, D.C. -

APRIL 7 - 13, 2022 Trip includes 7 days and 6 nights - 10 meals - Two guided tours of Washington, D.C. memorials. Evening guided tour of Memorials and Monuments. Admission to New Bible Museum. Tram ride through Arlington National Cemetery and so much more. Price is \$749.00 per person double occupancy with a \$75.00 due upon signing.

NASHVILLE SHOW TRIP - JUNE 11-19, 2022 Trip includes 9 days and 8 nights - 14 meals - Grand Ole Opry Show - Nashville Nightlife Dinner Theater - Guided tours of Nashville and Belle Meade Historic Site & Winery. Admission to the Grand Ole Opry behind the Scenes Tour. Price is \$1,025. per person double occupancy with a \$75.00 deposit due upon signing.
MACKINAC IS-

LAND - SEPTEMBER 10 - 18, 2022 Trip includes 9 days and 8 nights - 14 meals - Guided tour of Mackinaw City - Visit to Mackinaw City. Visit to Mackinac Island including a guided Carriage Tour. Boat ride through the Soo Locks and free time and sightseeing in Sault Sainte Marie. Admission to Colonial Michillmackinac. Price is \$899.00 per person double occupancy with a \$75.00 deposit due upon signing.

WHITE MOUNTAIN HOTEL AND RESORT - DECEMBER 4 & 5, 2022 - Trip includes 1 night lodging - 3 meals (Grand Sunday Brunch) - 2 different entertainment shows, Austrian Sleigh Ride through Jackson Village, Chocolate Tour, shopping and much more. \$100.00 deposit due upon signing. Total price not available at this time. For questions and detailed information

on these trips, please call: Claire - 207-784-0302 or Cindy - 207-345-9569.

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You are invited to the Great Falls
10 year (belated) birthday celebration!
Wednesday, May 25th
4 - 7 pm on the school campus
THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY IS WELCOME TO JOIN IN THE FUN!

Come for treats! and lots of FUN!!

Fred's Fried Dough
Momma Baldacci's
Kelly's Ice Cream Truck
Cotton Candy

Sparks' Ark 4:30-5:30 pm
Greater Portland School of Jukado 5:30-7:00 pm
Magician Phil Smith 5-6:30 pm
Bounce Obstacle Course 4-7:00 pm
Face Painting

Live Music
4-5:00 pm GHS Steel Drum Band
5-6:00 pm TBD
6-7:00 pm "Stay at Home Dads"

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Superintendent
Continued from page 3

day of School. Please plan accordingly.

I thought while on the topic of the school calendar, I might as well also share some HIGHLIGHTS of end of year activities that folks can look forward to at each school. In this blog post I'll share from GMS & GHS. In the next one I'll share K-5 end of year highlights! Note - this is NOT an exhaustive list and folks should check out individual school events calendars from our website to stay up to date...but a nice list of highlights is below:

GHS End of Year Events Highlights:

- * Junior Prom - May 7

* Step up Day for Non-Seniors - June 6

* Final exams for Non-Seniors - June 7-13

* Senior Walk - June 10

* Graduation - June 12

GMS End of Year Events Highlights:

* May 20- GMS School Dance

* May 20 - 8th Grade and 5th Grade Amazing Race of Gorham

* June 2 - Incoming 6th Grade Parent Night

* June 6 - 6th Grade and 9th Grade Step Up Day

* June 10 - 8th Grade Celebration

Mark your calendars! End of year is coming up waaaay too fast!

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

Did you know that the Week of the Young Child is April 2nd - 8th?

This is a National celebration of early childhood, from birth to age 8, the importance of the early years, and all the adults who care for and educate young children!

See some incredible information and resources on the NAEYC and Maine-AEYC websites.

Go to the bottom of this page on the Maine AEYC website for links to activity ideas for your child care programs, elementary schools classrooms, libraries and community programs, and families with young children. <https://www.maineaeyc.org/events> Maine AEYC created a guidebook for any-

one looking to celebrate this special week. Check it out! <https://www.maineaeyc.org/s/WOYC-Planning-Guide.pdf>

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT VIDEO MADE AT VILLAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Just wanted to share this awesome video made featuring our very own Village Elementary School Students to encourage volunteers to help out with Junior Achievement programming in schools! Check out

those smiling faces and our incredible business partners at work in our schools! Video Link: <https://vimeo.com/691533602/4352d5ee43>

HISTORY OF APRIL FOOLS

I thought I'd end my April Fools blog post with a quick little history lesson! Check out the link below from the History Channel to learn about the history of this very funny day!

[https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/april-](https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/april-fools-day)

fools-day

Once done, check out the link below for some ideas on some fun and SAFE April fools pranks to try either later today or next year!

<https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/holidays/g31094996/best-april-fools-pranks/>

That's it for this blog post! See ya for the next one on April 15 when we start our April break...NO JOKE!

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