

Friendly Village of Gorham

Community News

April 2026

April dates to remember

- 1 National Walking Day
- 2 National DIY Day
- 4 School Librarian Day
- 5 Easter
- 10 National Siblings Day
- 11 National Pet Day
- 14 National Gardening Day
- 15 National ASL Day
- 20 Patriot's Day
- 22 Earth Day
- 24 Arbor Day
- 29 World Wish Day



Happy Birthday
to all residents
who are celebrating an
April birthday ~
We hope you have
a great one!



Spring is in the air!

A reminder that all vehicles
must yield to pedestrian
traffic.

The posted speed limit
throughout the community
is 15 mph; speeds above the
posted limit are a serious
violation of Community
Guidelines

The weather is beginning to warm up...

- Lock your car doors and don't leave any valuables in vehicles.
- Be sure to lock your windows and doors at night. Always lock doors and windows whenever you are not going to be home.
- If you will be away for a few days, let a trustworthy neighbor know and ask them to check on your home every once in a while. It's a good idea to notify the F.V. office, too.

Open your windows and let some fresh air in!

Please be mindful and considerate to your neighbors when having your windows open, because sound travels.

If you feel you must have your T.V. or stereo up loud in order to hear it and enjoy it, please consider using headphones. All residents of the Friendly Village Community have the "Right to Quiet Enjoyment" as per the Friendly Village Community Guidelines.



MANAGER'S CORNER

Let's hope winter is over, but you can never be sure until the end of April!

We will be stepping up on violations in the next weeks to come, especially after the snow is gone.

Branches can be put at curb side for pick up, Please watch the weight on leaf / pine needle bags (no snow in them!).

Street sweeper will be contacted for hopefully an early May date. Weather permitting

Also remember the speed limit is 15 MPH! Residents will be walking dogs with their small children and kids will be riding bikes!

JOHN L. RICHARD



WATER UPDATE

After the repair of two water leaks our usage has dropped in half, and it looks like the air is also gone.

- Surveys will be taken on the possibility of large water pockets for well drilling in mid April.
- Test drilling contract has also been signed.
- Quotes are being received for treatment (removal) of PFAS

SPRINGTIME ANNOUNCEMENT

As springtime approaches, we like to notify residents that they may start seeing Friendly Village staff walking around on their lots, behind their homes etc. doing our annual lot inspections. We are looking for excess items piled up behind sheds, auto parts/tires laying around, trash/recycling bags piled up, general debris that does not belong on lots that need to be cleaned up.

Notifications will start going out once those inspections are done to remind residents of what we want taken care of with their lot, home, shed or deck area. We usually give residents a month to get your lots picked up and cleared of debris in our springtime inspections. This is the time of year to also take a look at your siding and see if it needs to be power washed or you can scrub it yourself to get the unsightly dirt and algae off the home. You need to do this annually to keep your home looking good.

We will start sending out notices of homes that require power washing to remove built up mildew and dirt on the exterior of home.



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Community Guidelines SPOTLIGHT

2. HOME AND LOT CARE/AESTHETIC STANDARDS

a) A homeowner is responsible for the items within the confines of his/her lot which come under their controlling influence including, but not limited to the following: lawns, flowers, shrubs, fences, driveways, sheds, decks, steps and oil and propane gas storage tanks. The maintenance of the foregoing items in an attractive manner shall be imperative to compliance with Community Guidelines. Fireplace logs and wood and/or other material must be stored in an approved shed. Community owner, for a fee and following a ten (10) day written notice to homeowner, may undertake said maintenance.



Earth Day is April 22, 2026, what can you do to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle? Here is a list of several earth friendly alternatives for everyday household products and their uses:

- Baking Soda ~ cleans, deodorizes, softens water, scours.
- Soap ~ unscented soap in liquid form, flakes, powders or bars is biodegradable and will clean just about anything. Avoid using soaps which contain petroleum distillates.
- Lemon ~ one of the strongest food-acids, effective against most household bacteria.
- Borax ~ (sodium borate) cleans, deodorizes, disinfects, softens water, cleans wallpaper, painted walls and floors.
- White Vinegar ~ cuts grease, removes mildew, odors, some stains and wax build-up.
- Washing Soda ~ or SAL Soda is sodium carbonate decahydrate, a mineral. Washing soda cuts grease, removes stains, softens water, cleans wall, tiles, sinks and tubs. Use care, as washing soda can irritate mucous membranes. Do not use on aluminum.
- Isopropyl Alcohol ~ is an excellent disinfectant. (It has been suggested to replace this with ethanol or 100 proof alcohol in solution with water. There is some indication that isopropyl alcohol buildup contributes to illness in the body. See <http://drclark.ch/g>)
- Cornstarch ~ can be used to clean windows, polish furniture, shampoo carpets and rugs.
- Citrus Solvent ~ cleans paint brushes, oil and grease, some stains. (Citrus solvent may cause skin, lung or eye irritations for people with multiple chemical sensitivities.)

Sicilian Chicken Soup

Author: Katya

Prep Time: 10 mins

Cook Time: 45 mins

Total Time: 55 minutes

Yield: 8 servings



Ingredients

4 bone-in-skin-on chicken thighs, 2 pounds
1 medium onion, chopped, about 1 cup
3 celery ribs, chopped, about 2 cups
3 medium carrots, chopped, about 1 ½ cups
1 large yellow bell pepper, chopped
2 medium russet potatoes (1 pound), peeled and cut into ¾-inch cubes
4 cloves garlic, chopped
1 (14.5 oz) can no-salt diced tomatoes
2 dry bay leaves
1 Tbsp. kosher salt
1 (32. oz) carton low-sodium chicken stock
4 cups water (or chicken stock)
½ cup dry ditalini pasta
½ cup fresh chopped Italian parsley
Fresh black pepper, to taste

Instructions

In a large soup pot, at least 6-quart, combine chicken, onions, celery, carrots, bell pepper, potatoes, garlic, tomatoes, bay leaves, and salt.

Add chicken stock and water. Season to taste with black pepper. Cover and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low and simmer, partially covered, for 30 minutes or until chicken is tender and easily falling off the bones. Remove chicken from the pot with a pair of tongs.

Add pasta to the soup and continue cooking for 13-15 minutes, partially covered, until pasta is tender. Don't forget to stir the soup couple times so the pasta does not stick. Meanwhile shred the chicken with two forks, discarding the skin and bones. Return shredded chicken to the pot. At this point, the soup will almost be done. Taste the veggies, especially the potatoes for doneness.

Discard the bay leaves. Stir in parsley and serve.

Arbor Day, April 24th, came about as an idea from a Nebraskan journalist and politician, Julius Sterling Morton, who strived to improve agricultural techniques. He served under President Grover as the Secretary of Agriculture. The first Arbor Day was on April 10, 1872. In 1970, President Nixon proclaimed the last Friday of April as National Arbor Day. Arbor Day is now celebrated in other countries including Australia, although many go by different names such as: 'Greening Week' in Japan, 'The New Year's Days of Trees' in Israel, 'The Tree-loving Week' in Korea, 'The Reforestation Week' in Yugoslavia, 'The Students' Afforestation Day' in Iceland and 'The National Festival of Tree Planting' in India (<http://arbor-day.net/index.htm>).

Freshen things up with a thorough Spring cleaning...

Save time and money while being kind to the environment by making your own cleaners at home with ingredients you most likely already have in your cupboard.

Make sure to keep all home-made formulas well-labeled, and out of the reach of children.

Mold and Mildew: Use white vinegar or lemon juice full strength. Apply with a sponge or scrubby.

Tub and Tile Cleaner: For simple cleaning, rub in baking soda with a damp sponge and rinse with fresh water. For tougher jobs, wipe surfaces with vinegar first and follow with baking soda as a scouring powder. (Vinegar can break down tile grout, so use sparingly.)

Window Cleaner: Mix 2 teaspoons of white vinegar with 1 liter (qt) warm water. Use crumpled newspaper or cotton cloth to clean. Only use the black and white newspapers, not the colored ones. Don't clean windows if the sun is on them, because if they are warm, streaks will show on drying. Be sure to follow the recipe, because using too strong a solution of vinegar will etch the glass and eventually cloud it.

All-Purpose Cleaner: Mix 1/2 cup vinegar and 1/4 cup baking soda (or 2 teaspoons borax) into 1/2 gallon (2 liters) water. Store and keep. Use for removal of water deposit stains on shower stall panels, bathroom chrome fixtures, windows, bathroom mirrors, etc.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ROPFO



PGYUP



CRAGIL



BEMUNR



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Answer here:



THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

POLICE - FIRE- RESCUE,
Emergency dial: 9-1-1

Non-emergency dial: 839-5581

**For Friendly Village
Maintenance Emergencies
(Water-Sewer-Power)
Call:
207-295-5286**

For Use In An Emergency Only
Weekends & After Office Hours

Friendly Village of Gorham

5 Ash Drive, Gorham, ME 04038
Phone: 839-5577 Fax: 839-3233

friendlyvillage@mainemobilehomes.com

www.mainemobilehomes.com

facebook.com/friendlyvillage.ofgorham

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9-4

Notary services are available in
the Friendly Village Office.



DIRIGO HANDYMAN **SERVICES**

Tim Hopkins
207-423-5224

Dirigohandyman@gmail.com

Anyone who would like to advertise
services please call the office to advertise
here on the newsletter.
207-839-5577



For Kids

Kid's Movie Matinees

April 1st, 10:30a – 12:30p
Libby Memorial Library
27 Staples St., Old Orchard Beach
"The Lion King" (1994)

Rhythm & Rhyme Story Time

April 2nd, 10a – 11a
Scarborough Public Library
48 Gorham Road, Scarborough
Birth – age 3

Free Car Seat Check

April 9th, 3p – 6p
S. Portland Fire Department
Western Ave. Station
34 James Baka Drive, S. Portland

Easter Fun

Easter Egg Gathering 2026

April 4th, 9a-1p
Smiling Hill Farm
781 County Rd, Westbrook

Spring Eggsstravaganza!

April 4th, 9a – 11a
George E. Jack School
15 Northeast Road, Standish

Free Easter Egg Hunt

April 4th, 10a
Ball Field at the Intersection
of Rt 112 & Rt 202, Buxton

Scarborough Library Knitting Group

Every Saturday, 10a – 12p
Scarborough Public Library
48 Gorham Road, Scarborough

Music Jam

April 1st, 6p – 8p
Ferry Beach Conference Center
5 Boardwalk Drive, Saco

Movie Matinees

April 2nd, 12p – 3pm
Libby Memorial Library
27 Staples St., Old Orchard Beach
"The Godfather" (1972)

2nd Annual SMCC Craft Fair

April 4th, 10a – 3p
Southern Maine Community College
HUB Gymnasium
2 Fort Road, South Portland

Plant Swap

April 4th, 10:30a – 12:30p
Walker Memorial Library
800 Main St, Westbrook

Community Homemade Bean Supper

April 4th, 4p – 5:30p
White Rock Community Clubhouse
34 Wilson Road, Gorham

Craft Supply Swap

April 11th, 10a – 2p
Freeport Community Library
10 Library Drive, Freeport

Bean Supper

April 11th, 4p – 6p
Scarborough Free Baptist Church
55 Mussey Road, Portland

Paint Your Own Pottery

April 18th, 10a – 12 p
Tannery Brook Pottery Studio
10 Wentworth Drive, Gorham
Tickets: \$45

City of Westbrook Earth Day Fair

April 18th, 11a – 2:30p
Riverbank Park
679 Main St, Westbrook

Spay/Neuter Clinic

April 27th, 8a – 6p
MEow Lounge
630 Main Street, Westbrook
\$140/spay, \$115/neuter
Registration is required: www.rozziemay.org

Classic Jumble Answers

PROOF – GUPPY – GARLIC – NUMBER

Surprise puzzle answer:

As the U.S. Midwest was being settled in the early
1800s, farms began – CROPPING UP

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