

2023 Memorial Day Ceremony Outline
May 29th at 10:00am at Memorial Park on Main Street
Ceremony participants arrive by 9:45am

Ceremony Outline of Events

1. Brief welcome to the community- *Sally Needell, Durham Town Council Chair*
2. Singing of the National Anthem- *Claire Xiao- 8th grade student at OR Middle School*
3. Invocation: Prayer of Remembrance- *Chip Noon, Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship*
4. Senior Military Officer Remarks- *CAPT Lee Alexander, US Navy (retired)- Briefly explains the history, purpose, and significance of Memorial Day.*
5. Gettysburg Address- *James Oshima, Oyster River Middle School and member of Scout Troop 154.*
6. OR Middle School Band Performances- *America the Beautiful and Chester*
7. American Anthem (“I Gave My Best to You”)- *Performed by Madeline and Joe Blandini*
8. Laying the wreath at the monument at Memorial Park- *CAPT Lee Alexander & Durham PD Color Guard.*
 - Rifle Volley after wreath is placed - *18th Dover*
 - Taps played and flag is lowered while Taps is played- *OR Students (Taps), Scout Troop 154 (flag) (Taps played by Will Blandini & Asa Goldsmith)*
9. Musical Tribute & Poem – *CAPT Lee Alexander*
 - “Hymn to the Fallen” (music composed by John Williams)
 - “Bivouac of the Dead” (poem at the entrance of Arlington National Ceremony)
*The muffled drum’s sad roll has beat
The soldier’s last tattoo;
No more on life’s parade shall meet
That brave and fallen few.
On fame’s eternal camping-ground
Their silent tents are spread,
And Glory guards, with solemn round,
The bivouac of the dead.*

9. Closing remarks- Sally Needell
 - Reminding folks to visit the Memorial Union Building at UNH to visit the official New Hampshire War Memorial for soldiers killed in action since WW1.

10. OR Middle School Band- plays upbeat music to close out the event.