

Gorham Times

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Council Changes Funding Stream for Public Access Cable TV

Susan Olson

For the first time in over 30 years, the Town Council voted, as part of the budget deliberations for this year's budget, to change the way the Gorham Community Access Television (GOCAT) is funded. In previous years, GOCAT was funded directly by depositing 100% of the money collected by the Town from Time Warner franchise fees into a separate reserve account. The funds were used to pay the operating expenses of GOCAT and for any cable television capital equipment needs.

Over the years, the GOCAT reserve account grew to over \$400,000. Gorham residents, who are cable subscribers, pay a fee to Time Warner equal to 5% of their cable charges. In 2001 the Council raised this franchise fee from 3% to 5%. According to Georgia Humphrey, GOCAT Station Manager, this increase along with increasing services purchased by Gorham residents from Time Warner have enabled the

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Residents, Officials and Fraternity Members Meet

Sheri Faber

On Dec. 10, Preble Street residents, Gorham and USM Police Officers, USM staff and past and present members of Delta Chi, Phi Kappa Sigma and Sigma Nu met at Robie Gym to discuss the issues raised by people living on Preble Street and surrounding areas of the fraternity houses.

Joe Austin, Dean of Student Life at USM, moderated and acknowledged that USM has no real control over the actions of the fraternities which are all off campus. There was general agreement that when USM enforced rules

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"When You're Playing Poker, Its OK to Bluff"

—the late Gordon Crowley



Photo Credit Martha T. Harris

GHS Teacher and Survivor champion addresses the GHS student body upon his return to the school from the final live show where he was voted the winner of Survivor Gabon.

GHS Teacher Bob Crowley: Survivor Champion

Jeff Pike

Gorham High School teacher and South Portland resident Bob Crowley wasn't always a big fan of the CBS show Survivor, but once he found out in Feb. 2008 that he might be participating, he quickly learned all he could about the show.

"I had watched the first season and then again when Julie Berry (a former GHS student) participated," Crowley said. "But after I applied in February, I started physical training and watching many of the other seasons to get a feel for how things worked."

Crowley had decided to apply at the suggestion of one of his son's friends, who worked for the show and felt Crowley would be a good fit. He was called out to California in April for a series of interviews and tests, scheduled to last a full week. "They sent me home two days early after I did not meet the criteria of

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Happy New Year Gorham!

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Gorham Resident Ray Letarte, World War II Photographer

Ray Letarte, shown at 20 years of age with the camera he used to document many of the historical events of World War II.

Story on Page xx Video at www.gorhamtimes.com





NEWS FROM AUGUSTA

A Freshman in the House

Jane Knapp

December in Augusta was an experience of learning and instilling the history of the Legislature. As a freshman, it was awe inspiring. One veteran legislator said that everyday when he saw the Capitol he was excited. The veterans were helpful and encouraging to the freshmen.

The Swearing-In Ceremony on December 3 was dignified; a prayer and National Anthem started the ceremony with reverence and patriotism. There was the historical ceremony of sending a delegation to bring the governor to the House chamber which did instill the weight of the responsibility of representing the citizens.

There were the usual mundane tasks a person has when he/she starts a new job. There were forms to complete, policy sheets to read on different topics and a tour of the State House complex so you could find the office where you had to turn in those forms. The veteran legislators did tease the freshmen and questioned if we had found the restrooms yet! That was the extent of the dignified hazing.

Since the Swearing-In Ceremony, one question citizens have asked is whether I receive the car license plate as a perk? Each legislator pays \$14 for the plates. During one orientation session the freshmen were given helpful suggestions. One hint was: do not speed past citizens if your vehicle has legislative plates on it. The license plates were another form to complete plus writing a check

The sessions were informative, explaining topics such as the process

for filing a bill. The fact that a bill filing to law is a costly process was emphasized. I hope that fellow legislators will curb their enthusiasm for filing bills.

Dec. 4 consisted of an all day Energy Forum at which former Governor Angus King spoke. He noted his observations in other countries: the use of hydroelectric power in Norway and wind power in Denmark. His enthusiasm for wind power overflowed. The situation with the current wind power projects was reviewed and the paths of the transmission lines were explained.

The first full week of December brought more meetings in Cumberland Co. with a morning workshop on discussing legislative requests for the County and a few non-profits had breakfast meetings to express their need for funding.

As I look ahead to January, I want to be optimistic that good changes will result from the financial issues at hand. As a personal note, with major issues facing the Gorham School Committee and the Gorham Town Council, I hope both will come together as a team to work for the good of Gorham citizens. I also am hopeful that the Legislature will work as a non-partisan, united team for the citizens of Maine.

Sen. Phil Bartlett, (207) 839-7827
phil@philbartlett.com

Rep. Jane Knapp, (207) 839-3880,
RepJane.Knapp@legislature.maine.gov

Rep. Linda Sanborn, (207) 839-4664,
RepLinda.Sanborn@legislature.maine.gov

Happy New Year Gorham!

Virginia Wilder Cross



Even though the temperatures hovered around zero and the wind gusts blew down the 20-foot high staging and spoiled the fireworks finale, the wonderfully warm spirit and camaraderie of a community coming together definitely won the battle of wills.

Beginning at about 11:30 PM, more than 200 excited people gathered to watch the "Gorham-Crystal-Lite" ball drop, and at 11:59 PM they joined Miss Maine Teen USA, Jordan Shiers, as she led the countdown to 2009. Voices raised to sing "Auld Lang Syne," people hugged their families and friends, and they cheered with their neighbors as they greeted 2009.

Thank you to all the people who made this possible: generous sponsors, the New Year Gorham Committee; Gorham Rec. Department; Gorham Fire Department; Police Department, Public Works Department; Hannaford Gorham; Canfield Communications; Custom Coach; our 12 venues, 75 volunteers, 100 performers, and the more than 1,000 people who proudly wore their New Year Gorham buttons!

Put December 31, 2009 New Year Gorham on your calendar!

quick clicks



Photo credit Martha T. Harris

HOT OFF THE PRESS

Pictured picking up the first *Gorham Times* is Sue Parsons. She has lived in Gorham all of her life and reads the *Times* to keep up with the local politics, so she always checks the Municipal section first. She also loves to read the Blotter!

Town Clock to Be Rededicated

Mark Faunce

The public is invited to the rededication of the E. Howard Tower Clock at First Parish Congregational Church at 1 p.m., January 10. The clock will be rededicated to the citizens of Gorham in thanks to all who gave so generously of their time and money to complete this project, especially the Bernard Rines and John Phinney families.

Given to the people of Gorham in 1868 by Toppa Robie, prominent citizen and the father of Maine's 33rd governor Fredrick Robie, this clock is one of the earliest built by the E. Howard Clock Company of Boston, Massachusetts, bearing a serial number of 44. Once delivered to Gorham, it was decided that the clock needed to be placed in a most prominent location so it could be easily observed by all. The townspeople raised the funds to add a level to the steeple at First Parish Church, making it the highest point in town at the time, and housed the clock there.

Weight driven, pendulum regulated timepieces are the best application for tower clocks, but today's pollution and particulates in the air infiltrate steeples and towers and cause the deterioration of clock gears and bushings, and eventually, even the best built timepieces need repair. Such was the case for Gorham's town clock back in 2005. Subsequently, the Town Council voted to have the clock removed from the upper level of the steeple at First Parish, restored, and returned to a lower, more environmentally friendly location within the church. Members of First Parish voted to foot the bill to refurbish the old organ chamber on the balcony level of the sanctuary and install a platform and viewing window so that the newly restored clock could be enjoyed for its artistic value as well as its historic value.

Gorham Times

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Tuesday 10-12 or call for an appointment.
If coming to office, please call ahead 839-8390.

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Advertising and Copy Deadlines
Ad deadline for January 23 issue is January 14.
Ad deadline for February 6 issue is January 28.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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January 20th – 24th

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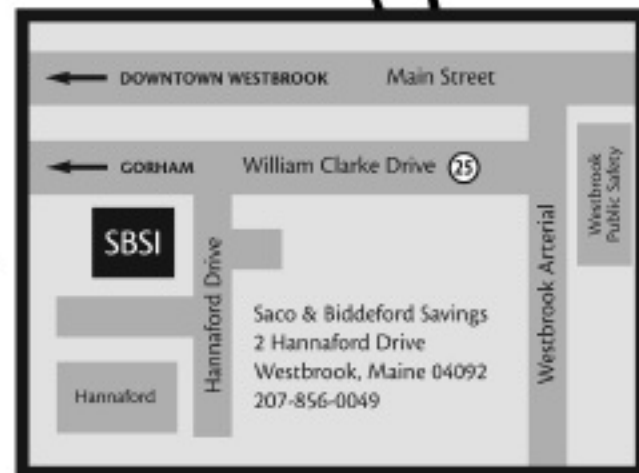
at our new home at **2 Hannaford Drive** the
week of January 20–24 for a celebration full of
great prizes and lots of fun for everyone.

Meet the staff at our new Westbrook location



(L to r): Allison Steele, Patrick Beggs, Sabrina Pitts, Julie Villemare, Diandra Baker, Stephanie Bailey, Elizabeth Doyle, Michael Jean, Andrea Todd (Paquin & Carroll)

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CHIEF LEBEVRE REPORTS

Adopting a Fire Hydrant

The Gorham Fire Department is requesting that Gorham citizens "adopt" a fire hydrant on or near their property. Adoption would require clearing the snow around the hydrant within eight hours of the end of a storm. Clearing includes shoveling a three- to four-foot path from the side of the road to the hydrant and then a four-foot wide area around the hydrant.

The Department has over 300 hydrants that must be shoveled after every storm which requires a large expenditure of funds for payroll and fuel cost. It takes a minimum of 14 hours to clear all 300 hydrants. With citizen participation, a considerable amount of money

could be saved over the course of the winter.

The Department extends many thanks to the numerous citizens already participating in this program. It not only helps reduce costs, but greatly improves safety by ensuring a hydrant is readily available for use in an emergency.

Those agreeing to adopt a hydrant are asked to call the Fire Chief's Office at 839-6762 and leave your name and the location of the hydrant you are adopting.



Public Works Prepared for Winter

Bill Ambrose

At year's end, Gorham's Department of Public Works is prepared to take on whatever Mother Nature throws our way. Nine "winter weather events" have already dropped upwards of 33 inches of snow.

Bob Burns, Gorham's Public Works Director, is guardedly optimistic about our prospects for a milder season, saying, "We hope that it's not as severe a winter as last year's." The winter of 2007-2008 experienced 26 storms that required plowing and salting, up from the usual 13-14 events expected in a normal season.

The town has purchased 1300 tons of road salt, as well as various de-icing chemical mixtures to treat the road surfaces. The salt costs \$89,600, or \$68.90 per ton. In comparison, five years ago, the price of salt was approximately \$30 per ton.

Diesel fuel prices are about 50-cents a gallon lower than last year, and the town does not pay Federal or State taxes on its purchases.

In order to battle the elements, the DPW has amassed a sizeable array of snow-removal equipment. The heavyweights are the 8 six-wheel dump trucks, which clear the major roadways with front and side plows. These behemoths carry great quantities of sand and salt, and have a useful life of approximately 15 years. Additional equipment includes three tandem axle dump trucks, one 1-ton dump truck, and two sidewalk-clearing machines. In more temperate weather, all of this machinery can be seen assisting the DPW workers in their road maintenance responsibilities.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

State Budget Cuts Will Affect Gorham

Stacy Sallinen

During the School Committee's December meeting, Suzanne Ennis of Gorham informed the committee she had a petition requiring American flags be placed in all classrooms and all schools in Gorham to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. She also noted an attorney would be writing a letter to the town attorney.

Superintendent Ted Sharp noted there was concern over a particular bus run operating over capacity. He informed the committee that the run was in compliance. He also noted he received a letter from a parent about being grateful for Gorham Adult Education helping a child secure their GED.

James Hager spoke in response to the "erroneous" segment which aired on WGME 13 about the middle school's geothermal energy system. He provided copies of resumes to the committee of the individuals who designed the system. He wanted to ensure the community that they are "saving energy over the long-term and not taking advantage of taxpayers." Dennis Libby spoke of the possibility of having a workshop to work out some of the issues.

Brad Smith, Narragansett Principal, and Margaret Evans, White Rock Principal, presented a program review on Partnerships to Benefit Children, in which they discussed ways to encourage parental involvement in schools.

Sharp reported the State Department of Education's budget for FY09 will be cut by approximately \$28 million, resulting in a loss of \$324,552 for Gorham. He publicly thanked school administrators for reducing budgets, but warned of the possibility of additional cuts in February and would work hard to avoid a reduction in force. The Committee made a motion to approve the cuts with the understanding that should circumstances warrant, administration would work to re-appropriate funds if necessary. The motion passed.

Roger Marchand provided an update on the School Committee P.I.E. meeting. He also presented the first reading of the Philosophy of Athletics, which sets expectations for athletics in the school district.

The School Committee formally approved Sharp as Superintendent for another year before adjourning.

@ YOUR LIBRARY Saving Money

Mary Collins



The Baxter Memorial Library has initiated a year-long series on Saving @ Your Library. The Jan. '09 theme is "saving money". Future themes will be "saving energy", "saving the environment", "saving time", "saving your sanity" and the like.

There are many ways that the library can save you money. The library subscribes to over 80 magazines and newspapers; more may be accessed through Marvel! Maine's Virtual Library. In addition to Baxter's collections, you can order almost any book, DVD or audio book via interlibrary loan for free.

The library has nine public computers and 24/7 WiFi access. The only cost is for printouts. This service is being used widely by people who have lost their jobs and need assistance with job hunting.

"Downloadable Audio Books" is a new cost saving service coming soon (check with the library for the actual start date). This service will provide online access to downloadable audio books, eBooks and other popular digital media through a provider called OverDrive. Patrons will be able to checkout downloadable digital content via the Internet utilizing state-of-the-art digital copyright protection technologies for free, 24/7, from a statewide collection of over 100,000 audio books. Audio books can be downloaded in full or in segments, burned to a CD (where permitted by publisher) and/or transferred to audio devices such as MP3 Players, Ipods or

Zune players (where permitted). The fee for joining this service was paid by the Friends of Baxter Memorial Library, the group whose mission is to help the library serve you.

The Baxter Memorial Library website (www.baxterlibrary.org) has a calculator that allows a patron to determine the actual value of their library services. A recent article in the Bangor Daily News (12/29/08) cited several examples of savings. In one month, if a cardholder takes out four books, 10 children's books, five movies and uses the library computers for six hours, they have received \$434 worth of free services! If a cardholder reads a newspaper at the library every day during that same month to look for a job, the value jumps to more than \$500.

Library Director Pam Turner plugged in the circulation figures for Baxter Memorial Library and reports that "for the \$442,645 in funding the town provided to support the library in the year ending June 30, 2008, the library delivered a return of over \$2.8 million in services."

It's quite easy to conclude that your library is a great investment that can save you money every day.

Please join the Friends of Baxter Memorial Library and help us support the library. For more information, go to the library Web site www.baxterlibrary.org/friends or call the library at 839-5031.



**STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION**

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROJECT
IN GORHAM
REGARDING
Installation of a Flashing Beacon at the
intersection of
Route #25 and Dingle Springs Road**

The Maine Department of Transportation is seeking public input regarding the proposed project to install a flashing beacon in Gorham. Construction is anticipated to begin in the Spring or Summer of 2009 and will be completed in 2009. A Plan of the proposed work is available for inspection at the Gorham town office.

Any inquiries regarding this project may be directed to Jim Mansir, Project Manager, Maine Department of Transportation, Traffic Engineering Division, Child Street, 16 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0016. Telephone (207) 624-3620. TTY telephone (207) 287-3392

Project Identification Numbers: PIN 15671.00, STP-1567 (100)X

Gorham Resident Ray Letarte, World War II Photographer

Dede Perkins



Original 1945 photo: Ray Letarte, scrapbook photo: Martha T. Harris

Photo credit Martha T. Harris

Ray Letarte recounts events of World War II as he thumbs through the album of photos he was commissioned to take for the U.S. Navy during World War II. Pictured above: A photo of the Japanese surrender during World War II is one of many historical events captured by Letarte.

On Oct. 7, 1942, twenty-year old Westbrook resident, Ray Letarte, left his job at the Portland shipyard and enlisted in the U.S. Naval Service. By the time Letarte returned home on Dec. 8, 1945, he had earned seven battle stars as a naval photographer and had taken part in a number of important battles in the Pacific theatre of World War II.

Within months of enlisting, Letarte was stationed in the Philippines as ship photographer aboard the USS Salt Lake City. One of Letarte's jobs was to take aerial reconnaissance photographs prior to an invasion and also photograph the actual invasions. He flew in an OS2U, a two-man, open-air cockpit plane. He had one camera, a 4x5 speed graphic.

In March 1943, Letarte was outfitted with heavy clothing, boots, and a helmet. His ship was heading for Dutch Harbor in Alaska to confront the Japanese. This engagement, the Battle of the Komandorski Islands, was one of the longest surface encounters in American Naval History. The battle lasted 3 hours and 30 minutes and earned Letarte the first of the seven battle stars on his Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon. At Komandorski, the Japanese outnumbered Americans by two to one; despite the fact that the USS Salt Lake City had been hit and was "dead in the water," the Japanese feared American bombers were approaching and turned back.

"My job was to photograph the battle," Letarte said. He was one of the few men onboard who wasn't assigned to a battle station. "I went wherever I could get the best shot."

On the morning of Nov. 20, 1943, Letarte was ordered to photograph the invasion of Betio Island in the Tarawa Atoll from the air. On the day of the inva-

sion, officers miscalculated water depth, and Marines hit a reef approximately 500 yards off shore. "The men were in little boats and couldn't get off the reef," Letarte said. "It was a slaughter." Letarte quietly hesitated for a moment. "Back then, you never dwelled on it. None of us had ever done this before. There were many mistakes."

During late Feb. and March of 1945, Letarte flew reconnaissance, photographing the invasion and subsequent capture of Iwo Jima. In September 1945, Letarte photographed the official surrender of Japan at the Ominato Naval Base.

When he wasn't flying reconnaissance or photographing invasions, Letarte printed his photographs on the ship. He had a darkroom, enlarger, and a printer. Though he turned over his photographs to ship officers, he sometimes made copies for himself. After the war, Letarte pasted the photographs into an album and wrote captions so he'd remember each situation. Among others, Letarte still has photographs of the invasion of Iwo Jima and the surrender of Japan. He kept all the negatives for a long time, but eventually, in a cleaning spree, threw them away.

At one point, Letarte spent fourteen months without setting foot on land. The only Mainer stationed onboard the USS Salt Lake City; Letarte remembers many of the 1000 men from the ship with whom he served for over three years. He can still picture them, as well as the battle stations and his plane.

Letarte was honorably discharged from the U.S. Naval Service on December 8, 1945 with an impressive collection of commendations. He had received the World War II Victory medal, the American Theatre medal, the Philippine Liberation

▶ ADVANCING THE STORY

To see a video of Letarte talking about his experience as naval photographer in World War II, visit www.gorhamtimes.com and click on the **ADVANCING THE STORY** link.



Video courtesy of GOCAT.

medal with one star, the Asiatic-Pacific medal with one silver and four bronze stars, as well as the Good Conduct medal.

After he returned to the United States, Letarte opened a photography studio in Alameda, California. After three months, however, Letarte headed home to Westbrook where he visited schools and talked about his wartime experiences. When he stopped speaking in the schools, Letarte "left the war behind."

Letarte opened a gas station across from Westbrook High School and became a ski instructor at Pleasant Mountain. When he realized he could make living selling ski equipment, Letarte opened Letarte's Ski Shop, which he operated for eighteen years. Letarte's Ski Shop closed when he lost his lease due to Westbrook's urban renewal in the 1960's.

Though for many years Letarte chose not to speak of the war, he now welcomes the opportunity. His album holds priceless photographs and offers a first-hand look at the U.S. Naval Service in the Central Pacific during the Second World War.

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GHS Advisory Program

Charlie Tryder, GHS Assistant Principal

This year, GHS instituted an advisory program during homeroom period with the goal of connecting every student to at least one adult in the building. Although students naturally get to know adults in school without an advisory program, the possibility that a student might pass through GHS without directly working with an adult did exist.

In the current advisory structure, advisors remain with students for four years. This continuous connection provides opportunities for advisors and advisees to get to know each other well. Ideally, this close relationship will allow advisors to provide support in tough times, a motivational chat when effort is lacking, and an occasional firm hand if required.

Along with providing a relationship with an adult in the school, this program also provides opportunities for academic guidance, career exploration and college searches. Students have met during homeroom, or advisory, to organize for everything from student

government elections to fundraising. At one point, students raised over \$1,000 for the giving tree, a program that provides presents for families in financial need. Homerooms also gathered non-perishable food items for the Knights of Columbus food drive. In yet another interesting and enjoyable occasion, teachers and administrators read poetry aloud in a "Poetry Out Loud" contest to help students feel more comfortable in their upcoming student event.

At this time there is no specific curriculum driving the advisory program. Faculty members chose to develop their own ideas for homeroom period during the planning stages last year. One of the questions that GHS will address in the upcoming months is whether or not to build a school-wide curriculum, to adopt an already structured program, or to continue as individuals to develop activities specific for each homeroom. Advisory at GHS is a work in progress.

GMS Geography Competition

Jeffrey Carpenter

On Jan. 8 at 7 pm, twelve middle school finalists will compete for the National Geographic Geography Bee Gorham District champion title. The district winner will receive a medal, an atlas and a \$100 savings bond donated by Sagittarius Studio in Gorham. The winner will also have the opportunity to compete at the state level in April.

This year's finalists are: Shawn Stoothoff, Katie Stickney, Connor Regan, Chandler Regan, Justin Reyes, Zach Schmidt, Mackenzie Coyne, John Ennis, Mitch Rossignol, Madeline Gotschlich, Michael Chan, and Jamie Lynn.

Please join us at the GMS auditorium for this exciting competition that is free and open to the public.

GMS Holiday Party and Food Drive

Tommy Dahlborg, GMS Student

After visiting the Animal Shelter and the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital to drop off collected items, the Student Council wrapped up an amazing year with a holiday party. During the party, student council representatives gave out 60 "Random Acts of Kindness" awards to GMS staff members. The "Random Acts of Kindness" were given to teachers (and other staff members) with a note and a holiday nutcracker. The notes talked about what we, as kids, noticed about the kind things that these great teachers do. The teachers loved all the thoughts that they got and will continue to pass on more acts of kindness.

Student Council representatives who attended the celebration also sent letters to Santa via Macy's Department Store to benefit the "Make a Wish" foundation. Macy's

donated \$1 to the Foundation for each letter written.

Recently GMS collected non-perishable food items for the annual food drive. The response was spectacular! GMS provided 3,073 non-perishable food items which went to the Gorham Food Pantry, as well as five families from GMS. We thank all the participants for the food donated in this economy. We also give a special thanks to Hannaford of Gorham, who provided turkeys for the families from GMS. The three classrooms who contributed the most non-perishable food items were thanked by the Student Council by getting a free bowling trip. Those winning classrooms were: Mr. Morton, Mrs. Whitaker, and Mr. Chidsey. Thank you all for the lovely donations. We hope to be even more successful in the years to come.



Members of the GMS Student Council recently visited the Animal Refuge League in Westbrook and the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital to drop off donations.

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VILLAGE BOARDS PICKUP

The engraved boards previously displayed at the Village Playground have been dismantled and will be available for pickup during school hours throughout the month of January. If you sponsored a board and would like to keep it, please come to the Village School office and ask for assistance.

living

COMPILED BY CHRIS CRAWFORD

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Make Your New Year's Financial Resolutions

Ed Doyle

If you're like many people, you've made some New Year's resolutions. Perhaps you've vowed to go to the gym more often, or learn a new language or reconnect with long-lost friends. All these are worthy goals, of course, but at the same time, you don't want to neglect one of the most important areas of your life — your finances. So this year, why not make some financial resolutions?

Here are a few to consider:

- **Stay calm.** As you're well aware, 2008 was not exactly a stellar year for the stock market. What will 2009 bring? No one can say for sure, but it seems likely that we are in for some volatility in the months ahead as we slog our way through the recession. As an investor, your best move is to stay calm and remain focused on your long-term goals. Review your financial strategy to make sure it's still appropriate for your risk tolerance, family situation and time horizon.
- **Increase your 401(k) contributions.** Even though you might not have enjoyed looking at your 401(k) statements during 2008, it's still a good idea to boost your contributions for 2009. Why? For one thing, you typically invest pre-tax dollars in your 401(k), so the more you put in, the lower your annual taxable income. And your earnings grow on a tax-deferred basis, which means your money can grow faster than it would if placed in an account on which you paid taxes every year. Furthermore, you can adjust your investment mix to reflect changes in your risk tolerance and your proximity to retirement.
- **Build an emergency fund.** It's a good idea to build an emergency fund containing six to 12 months' worth of living expenses, held in a liquid account. If you face an unexpected expense — such as a major medical bill or a costly car repair — you don't want to be forced into cashing out any stocks, especially if their price happens to be down.
- **Diversify, diversify, diversify.** In 2008, we witnessed something that's unusual, though not unheard of: a bad year for stocks and bonds. In the past, it has more often been the case that when stocks are up, bonds are down, and vice versa. That's why diversification makes so much sense: By spreading your dollars among an array of stocks, bonds, government securities, certificates of deposit and other investments, you can help reduce the impact of a downturn that primarily affects just one type of asset. Of course, diversification, by itself, cannot guarantee a profit or protect against a loss, but if you aren't diversified at all, you are inviting significant risk into

your investment portfolio.

- **Stick with quality.** During turbulent times, quality investments are your best bet for "weathering the storm." If you're buying stocks, look for those companies that have long track records of profitability, strong management teams, competitive products and solid business plans. If you're considering bonds, find the ones that have received the highest ratings from the independent rating agencies.

Finally, be patient, disciplined and forward-looking. The investment world has taken some knocks lately, but good investment opportunities are still out there.



Ed Doyle is a financial advisor with Edward Jones and operates the Gorham branch office. Printed with permission of Edward Jones Inc.

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sports

COMPILED BY JEFF PIKE

in the Zone

More Fall Post-Season Honors for GHS Athletes – Senior **SARA BURNHEIMER** (Volleyball), junior midfielder **HANNAH PRINCE** (Field Hockey), senior forward **RACHELE BURNS** (Girls Soccer) and junior midfielder **KRISTI ZARRILLI** (Girls Soccer) were all named to the Maine Sunday Telegram All-State teams in their respective sports. Prince was also named to the Northeast Region team (consisting of players from Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire) by the National Field Hockey Coaches Association.

A First for Cheverus—Gorham's **BETHANY SCHLEH**, a senior at Cheverus High School, was named to the Southern Maine Athletic Association all-conference field hockey team. She is Cheverus' first-ever selection to the team.



Photo Credit courtesy of Cheverus High School

College

Basketball Star—University of Maine at Farmington junior center **JOSH TANGUAY** (GHS '06) was recognized as the North Atlantic Conference Men's Co-Basketball Player of the Week Dec. 15. Tanguay scored a career-high 28 points and matched a career best with 13 rebounds in a win over Thomas College. He also scored 20 points and grabbed 11 boards in a loss to the University of New England.



Photo credit: Courtesy of the University of Maine at Farmington

GHS Notes – GHS senior **CAITLYN CALDWELL** scored four goals and earned two assists to lead the Girls Hockey team to an 8-2 win over Deering Dec. 20...the Boys Hockey team won a big game Jan. 2 to improve to 6-0 – a 3-2 overtime thriller against South Portland, which was 6-0 heading into the game. Senior **DAVID GUSHEE** scored two goals, including the game winner, and assisted on the other goal. Gushee also scored four goals when Gorham defeated Marshwood, 11-3 Dec. 22...Senior **BEN MOODY** was selected as the captain of the Boys Basketball team.

sportsEtcetera

2nd Annual Knights of Columbus Free Throw Shooting Contest – Saturday, Jan. 10, 1 p.m. at GHS. Open to all boys and girls ages 10-14. No entrance fee. FMI – Michael Cassidy, 839-3720.

GHS Winter Sports Preview Part II

Jeff Pike

The GHS Cheerleading Team as well as the Boys and Girls Indoor Track Teams are just now getting their seasons under way. All three teams feature head coaches with a lot of experience. Following are previews of each team. The previews of Boys and Girls Basketball as well as Boys and Girls Hockey appeared in December 12 issue of the Gorham Times while the Boys and Girls Ski Team previews will appear in the January 23 issue.

Boys Indoor Track

Head Coach: John Wilkinson, entering his 24th year as head coach.

Last Year's Results: Finished the regular season with a 5-3 record and won the SMAA conference championship for the second year in a row. The team then finished fourth in the Class A State Meet.

Returning Athletes From Last Season:

Seniors Brett Walker (Jumps), Brandon Patten (Sprints), Chris Esposito (Sprints and Jumps) and Mike Greatorex, (Sprints); Juniors Cam Stevens (Sprints), Jake Willis (Sprints) and Evan Lambert (Pole Vault).

Team Captains: Not selected yet at press time.

Coach's Comments: "We graduated some outstanding seniors who were great contributors to our program," said head coach Wilkinson. "But we are also returning many fine athletes who were major contributors last season, so we expect to be very competitive again. A strong mid-

dle school track and cross country program should also continue to provide some solid underclassmen."

Girls Indoor Track

Head Coach: John Caterina, entering his ninth year as head coach.

Last Year's Results: Finished the regular season with an 8-3 record and then finished fourth in the SMAA conference meet and third in the Class A State Meet.

Returning Athletes From Last Season:

Seniors Molly Folan (sprints) and Sarah McCullough (mid-distance); Juniors Lauren Chouinard (sprints), Solange Carpenter (mid-distance), Sara Martin (mid-distance), Hannah Prince (sprints), Kelsey Rex (distance), Emily Southard (jumps) and Rachel Wilkinson (distance and the defending State Champion in the Two Mile).

New Athletes Expected To Have An Impact:

Seniors Siobhan Bolinger (shot put) and Sara Burnheimer (high jump). Junior Hannah Shorty (sprints); Freshmen Katie Flanders, Samantha Grant. Allie Lurvey and Deirann Stillson.

Team Captains: Senior Molly Folan and junior Rachel Wilkinson.

Coach's Comments: "We will be very strong in the distance and mid-distance events with Wilkinson, McCullough, Rex and Carpenter," said head coach Caterina. "Southard is a talented jumper, and the addition of Bolinger will bolster the shot put while Burnheimer and Shorty will add

strength to the jumps and sprints. We graduated some top scorers from last year's team but should remain competitive. We may struggle in the regular season against larger teams, but we should be strong in the league championship and state meets."

Cheerleading

Head Coach: Kate Robichaud, entering her fifth year as head coach after taking a year off.

Last Year's Results: Just missed qualifying for State Championships

Returning Cheerleaders From Last Season:

Seniors Chandra Wilson, Tiah Vaughn, Sarah Graff and Thea Bass; Juniors Carissa Dvilinsky, Shanice Mitchell and Jordan Shiers; and Sophomores Liz Rockett and Molly Aube.

New Cheerleaders Expected To Have An Impact:

Junior Viv Adams; Sophomore Ciresse Phinney; and freshmen Alyssa Cormack, Rachael Webster, Emily Thompson, Emalee Este, Annie Brewer, Abbie Brown and Nicole Jean.

Team Captains: Not selected yet at press time.

Coach's Comments: "Overall the team has strong cheerleading techniques," said head coach Robichaud. "We should do well with our dance and cheer portions of the routine. We also have a lot of newcomers, so we lack in experience, but they are working hard and are improving daily. Our overall goal is to place in the top six in the Western Maine Championship and make it to the State Championship. As long as the girls continue to work hard, we should be able to accomplish this goal."



Alyson Fearon (left) and Leigh Maniscalco (right), both from the GHS Class of 2008, participated in their first Division I collegiate track meet Dec. 6 at the Northeastern University Invitational Track Meet in Boston. In high school, Fearon and Maniscalco ran together for eight seasons of indoor and outdoor track. They also ran together on the Gorham Middle School teams. Maniscalco pole-vaults for Boston College while Fearon currently runs in the 55m and 200m sprints for the University of New Hampshire.

This Weekend's GHS Varsity Sports Line-Up

Friday, January 9

Cheerleading – Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Cheer Classic at Lewiston High school.

5pm – Boys Ski Team vs. Windham, Marshwood, Kennebunk and Cheverus at Shawnee Peak.

5pm – Girls Ski Team vs. Windham, Marshwood, Kennebunk and Cheverus, locale TBD.

7pm – Boys Basketball vs. Kennebunk at GHS.

7pm – Girls Basketball at Bonny Eagle

Saturday, January 10

12:15pm – Girls Indoor Track vs. Cheverus, Noble and Catherine McAuley at Portland Expo.

1:45pm – Boys Indoor Track vs. Noble and Cheverus at Portland Expo.

8:30pm – Girls Hockey vs. Cape Elizabeth at USM

For up-to-date schedules of all GHS sports, visit www.digitalsports.com



Photo credit: John Bollinger

As part of the holiday basketball tournament hosted by Gorham High School January 29-30, the current GHS girls basketball team played against the alumni players in an exhibition, with the alumni winning a spirited game. Pictured lying down is Rachele Burns (Class of 2009). First row (l to r): Jess Holmes (2009), Deanna Emery (2000), Noel Beagle (2000), Michele Higgins (Plant) (1997), Jen Willis, (2004), Eileen Jenkins (2004), Alyssa Clark (2011), Mia Rapolla (2011) and Kristi Zarrilli (2010); Second row: Sam Peters (2011), Kelsey Wilson (2007), Kayleigh Ballantyne (2010), Kristi Brown (2010), Kristen Turner (2012) and Natalie Egbert (2011); Back row: Jill Russell (2010), Ashley Michaud (2007), Liz LaMontagne (2010), Sarah Perkins (2012), Nicole Robitaille (2007), Elizabeth Beagle (2004), Emily Beagle (2004), Elizabeth Smith (Kafkas) (2000) and Marissa Morton (1997).

SURVIVOR FROM PAGE 1

one of the tests, so I thought it was over," Crowley stated. "But they called me back in May to tell me they wanted to reconsider and flew me back out for two more days of tests. I was then picked as one of the participants."

As Crowley prepared for the trip to Africa, he received some advice from his late father, Gordon Crowley. "He told me that when you're playing poker, it's OK to bluff," Bob said. "That was his way of telling me when it comes to games, you don't have to worry about always telling the truth, and that played a major role in how I handled things like the fake immunity idol."

Sadly, Gordon's health worsened as the summer went along. He passed away in early September after Bob returned from the competition but before the first show aired. "I had the chance to tell him about the experience, and I'm glad I used his advice in helping me win," Bob said.

As for the idea of creating the fake immunity idol, Crowley said he got the idea from two previous shows where contestants did something similar, but he tried to create an idol that looked more authentic. He wasn't certain what he would do with the false idol, but he started flashing it around, and then contestant Randy Bailey approached him asking for the idol. "Randy thought he was in danger," Crowley said. "I thought I might be in danger and by giving him the false idol, he started stirring things up at the council - so it worked out well for me when the other contestants decided to vote him off."

During the competition, Crowley said that contestants had to rough it just as much as it appeared on camera, and there were no special amenities to make the experience easier to endure. "Unless an emergency occurred, we were on our

own for any medical issues," Crowley said. "I scraped the skin off my knuckles during one event and was afraid an infection might set in. But I kept the wound as clean as I could and managed OK."

After the final show was recorded in early August and the competition was narrowed down to three people, Crowley felt it would be between him and Susie Smith, but he had to keep quiet and wait for announcement of the winner, which took place on live television on Dec. 14. As the program aired from September through November, Crowley said the atmosphere at the school and in his classroom was electric. "As soon as I walked in from the parking lot, students would comment on whether they felt things were going well or if they were worried I might be eliminated," Crowley said.

But Crowley knew the consequences if he leaked the story. "The penalty was \$5 million plus your winnings. In my case, that would have been more than \$6 million." (Crowley received \$1 million as the winner and another \$100,000 for being the fans' favorite).

Once Crowley was announced as the winner, he went through another rigorous survival test, conducting 150 interviews over a 48 hour period, including television appearances on Live With Regis & Kelly and The Early Show on CBS. He began feeling sick during this time but had to hold phone interviews throughout the day Monday and again from his home on Tuesday.

Looking back on the experience, Crowley said, "I hope that others will be inspired to enter similar competitions. Even though the odds may be against you, you never know when your number will be called, and if it is, it's the chance of a lifetime."

A YourSpace Winner!



Glen Deering accepts the keys from Jeff Wescott while Dave Maroon, YourSpace board member, joins the excitement.

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Glen Deering, a Gorham resident and Deputy Fire Chief of the Scarborough Fire Department was the lucky winner of the Polaris Snowmobile raffle. Held on Christmas Eve at Wescott and Sons, it benefitted YourSpace, a non-profit, community based recreation center located on Rt. 202 in Gorham. Congratulate Glen when you see him! Please be sure to stop by and let Wescott and Sons, a local family run business on Route 25 in Gorham, know how much you appreciate their support of YourSpace. While you are there, check out all of their winter recreational toys and Kubota tractors.

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PUBLIC ACCESS TV FROM PAGE 1

GOCAT reserve account to grow by over 500% since '94. In comparison, in '94, \$30,964 was collected from Gorham cable subscribers and in '07 Time Warner collected \$188,047 from subscribers. Each year the account isn't completely used, the money sits and accrues which accounts for how \$400,000 had accumulated in the account.

According to Town Manager David Cole, over 5,500 Gorham residents have cable service. GOCAT provides public access programming on Channel 2 (for schools and other community programs) and on Channel 3 (for government programming such as Town Council, and School and Planning Committee meetings).

Humphrey notes that Channel 2 provides training and equipment to residents wishing to create their own media presentations. The GOCAT Studio houses a production suite and multiple computer workstations that provide a range of technology related software. GOCAT staff frequently works with citizens, Gorham Town and School Departments, the Gorham Business & Civic Exchange, University of Southern Maine, non-profits and civic organizations to produce local programming. Productions feature guest lecturers, special events, local talk, school arts and sports, and informational shows. Gorham Access is the steward of the community video archives and receives frequent requests for media duplication and edits of footage. Staff maintains the community "bulletin board" providing announcements of station programming, local events and services.

Last April, during the 08-09 Town

Breakdown of GOCAT Programming

	Channel 2 Gorham Community Access http://www.gocat.org/	Channel 3 Gorham Government/Education http://www.gorham-me.org/ Public Documents/GorhamME_ggetvmain/ggetv
Staff/Citizen Produced Shows	Average 4-8 hrs/day 1450-2300 average hrs/year	
Alternative Programming	Average 4-8 hrs/day 1450-2300 average hrs/year	
Live Broadcast of all Town and School Committee Monthly Meetings		Average 6 hrs/week 300 average hrs/year
Re-broadcast Town meetings		Average 12 hrs/week 625 average hours/year
	Broadcasting 5 am until midnight Bulletin Board runs between program gaps	Broadcasting 8 am to 9 pm Bulletin Board runs between program gaps

Council budget discussions, the Council voted to change how GOCAT reserves were allocated and to treat these reserves like any other funding stream the Town has. According to Cole, "in the past the Council funded the annual GOCAT expenses out of the franchise fee funds that had been collected." This year, GOCAT's budget is \$102,805 which covers GOCAT expenses for salaries (one full time Station Manager, a half time Media Specialist and some on call staff), as well as benefits, dues and other materials needed to run the department. Recognizing that the franchise fee is well in excess of the cost of running GOCAT, the total amount was transferred to the Town's general revenue fund in April '08.

Matt Robinson, Chairman of the Council and the Council representative on the Gorham Cable Television Committee, agrees with other Town Councilors that the cable franchise fee should be treated like all other Town funding. Noting that the Fire Department collects significant

amounts of money for rescue services which are included in the general revenue budget, Robinson stated. "I am sure the Fire Chief would like all of these funds to be used just for the Fire Department but these fees are used as general revenue to help fund all Town services. The cable franchise fees should be treated in the same way." He also commented that the new Municipal Center cable and digital equipment was paid for out of building funds, not the franchise fees, thus increasing the ability of GOCAT to serve the public while not utilizing the reserve account. Cole and several others interviewed for this story stated that there is no federal or state regulation that prohibits the Town from putting the franchise fees collected from cable subscribers into the Town's general revenue fund. "We can use these fees any way we want," said Cole.

Richard Portwine, Chair of the Gorham Cable Television Committee and a member of the Committee since the early 70's, is concerned that the Council is now funding public television directly out of the Town budget rather than from the reserve account. "Now we (the Cable Committee) have to ask for the funding. The money in the reserve account was paid for by cable users in Gorham for public access television, now GOCAT will be treated like every other Town Department and may lose funding."

While Robinson agrees that GOCAT will be treated like any other Town department, he disagrees that this is an indication the Council is not committed to public access television. Cole argues

that the Council clearly supports public access, but also remarked that in these economic times "GOCAT can't have guaranteed funding any more than any other Town department can."

Robinson states the Council held a full workshop this fall with the Cable Access Television Committee to review their concerns, discuss some immediate funding expenditures and review a five-year plan. "This is not an opportunity most Town departments have, to meet with the full Council." After this workshop, the Council agreed to refer the five-year plan, with potential impact on policy and procedures, to the Council's Ordinance Committee. This Committee will meet in January and will come back with a recommendation to the Council sometime this spring, according to Robinson.

Humphrey is worried that public education and government programming (PEG) may be impacted by the structural change the Council has implemented. "We are now dependent on Town government to fund GOCAT, whereas before there were dedicated funds." While acknowledging that the Town did fund her budget request for this year, Humphrey is concerned that the public's business remains secure and that public knowledge of what is happening in the Town be protected. A dedicated fee, even if only a certain percent of the franchise fees collected, is what she is hoping for.

The Ordinance Committee will take up this discussion in Jan. 13, 8 a.m. at the Town Municipal Center. The meeting is open to the public



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The Gorham Business & Civic Exchange will host a "How to Promote Your Business at Marketplace 2009!" breakfast workshop on Feb. 11. Learn how to promote your business before and during the event, set up your booth, put together a demonstration and attract valuable business to your business.

FMI and a registration form, call Dede Perkins, Executive Director, GBCE, 892-5515 or visit www.gorhambusiness.org.

Air Force Airman NIKOLAS DEVLIN (Cheverus High School '05), has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Devlin, who will begin his first base assignment in Ramstein, Germany in January, is the son of Carolyn Curtis and Paul Devlin of Gorham.

Lawrence Academy junior ELIZABETH PLOWMAN

earned academic high honors for the fall trimester. Plowman is the daughter of Bonny and Stephen Plowman of Gorham.



Congratulations to the GHS Chamber Singers who auditioned and were accepted to participate in the Maine Allstate competition to be held on May 21-23, 2009 at Windham High School this year. They are: LINCOLN GRAY, MATT KING, NICK REYNOLDS, IAN HAWKES, ANDREW ERNEST, LIZ ROCKETT, MOLLY LORTIE, JEN KENNEDY, ADAM MOSEY, MITCHELL PERRIN, JONAS RIMKUNAS and CHRISY ALBANESE.

Elizabeth Damon (GHS, 2005) has graduated from the UMaine Honors College with high honors, receiving a BA in psychology with a minor in dance. She is the daughter of Duane and Pam Damon and the granddaughter of George and Ruth Ayers, all of School Street.

The Baxter Memorial Library invites all Home-Schooled families to the first Baxter Library/Home School Connection meeting on Jan. 21 at 10 a.m. Short-term and long-term plans for the group will be discussed. Children are welcome to attend. FMI, 839-5031.

Baxter Memorial Library will be host to JODI LEMEIX of WealthWorks University, an internationally recognized financial literacy program, Jan. 28 from 6 - 8 p.m. This is the first in a year-long series of events centered on Saving @ Your Library. The program provides attendees with simple tools to create a solid financial future. Content includes planning and budgeting, assets and liabilities, taxes, achieving financial freedom, global citizenship, finan-



The public is invited to celebrate the 40-year career of artist, collector and USM Professor of Art JURIS UBANS (shown at right, his work above), who is retiring in August of 2009. An exhibition, "Ubart: A Juris Ubans Retrospective,"

is open to the public from Jan. 20 to Feb.15. Gallery hours are 11-4 p.m., Tues.-Fri., and 1-5 p.m. Sat. and Sun. A reception will be held from 1-3 p.m., Feb.1, at the USM Gallery on the Gorham campus (snow date Feb. 8). Ubans will give gallery talks at 3 p.m., Jan. 29 and Feb. 8. All events are free and open to the public. FMI, www.usm.maine.edu/gallery



White Rock Grange #380 of Gorham, Maine celebrated their annual Christmas Party on Friday, Dec. 5, 2008. During this event a Special Recognition Certificate was presented to MYRNA ORACH for her 65 years of Grange service and membership by Bill Rust, Grange Overseer.

cial ethics and the three pillars of wealth. Space is limited, contact the library at 839-5031 to reserve your seat.

The Gorham Ecumenical Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 8 at the Little Falls Baptist Church in Gorham to plan programs for the month of January. This will include a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service on Jan.18 and a Community Dinner on Jan. 26. All interested are welcome.

The Gorham Woman's Club will meet on Jan. 8 at the First Parish Congregational

Church in Gorham. Light refreshments will be served at 12:30 p.m. followed by a 1 p.m. program. George Watson from the Gorham Historical Society will give a short talk. Anyone wishing to attend this or any meeting of the Gorham Woman's Club can contact President, Marie Woodbrey at 839-4213.

The Trustees of the Baxter Memorial Library announce the Cents for Our Second Century Community Coin Drive to benefit the Library's Centennial Endowment Fund. The goal is to collect 100,000 pennies, 100,000 nickels, 100,000 dimes and 100,000 quarters by June 2010. If this goal is met, the coin drive will raise \$41,000 for the Centennial Endowment Fund. The interest from the fund is used to buy books and other items for the library's collections. Free coin boxes are available at the library for this coin drive. For more information, please contact the library at 839-5031.

The Gorham Women's Alliance (a subset of the Gorham Business and Civic Exchange) will hold a planning meeting on Jan. 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the Sebago Brewing Co. to discuss the next event scheduled for Feb. 28. FMI, call Linda at 749-7319.

EUGENE AND SALLY HEATH of Lincoln Street, Gorham, were recently treated to a 50th wedding anniversary party on Nov. 1, 2008. Married on November 1, 1958 at Windham Hill Congregational Church, the surprised couple was driven to a Portland restaurant by limousine where they were met by their families. Attending were

daughter Heidi Meyers and her husband Chris and granddaughter Lindsey Meyers, of Quincy, Massachusetts; their son Chris Heath and his wife Linda and granddaughter Deanna of Scarborough, and their son Erik Heath, his wife Kim and granddaughter Alyssa of Standish. The special anniversary cake was topped with the original bride and groom cake topper from their wedding cake of 50 years ago. A bouquet of flowers to match the original wedding bouquet decorated the table. They were presented with a scrapbook of 50 years of family photographs. Unable to attend were two grandchildren, Jason Heath, son of Erik and Kim Heath and Matthew Meyers, son of Heidi and Chris Meyers.

The Gorham Business & Civic Exchange will hold a meeting on Jan. 13 from 11:30 am - 1:00 p.m. at the Gorham Savings Bank Conference Room, 10 Wentworth Drive, Gorham. Dr. Rob Lavoie of Lavoie Chiropractic will be guest speaker. \$15 members, \$25 guests. Visit www.gorhambusiness.org to register or pay at the door. Consider joining GBCE for a reduced annual rate of \$60!

Saco Grange #153, 168 North Street/Route 112, Saco will be holding a public Bean Supper on Jan. 17 from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. Menu includes: Home made kidney and pea beans, franks, American Chop Suey, cole slaw, hot biscuits, home-made brown bread; pie and cake, and sometimes ice cream for desert, there will be hot and cold beverages. Sugar free pie also available. There will be Prizes awarded at random. Adults: \$7.00, kids 5-12 \$3.50, under 5 free. FMI 499-7376.

regarding alcohol consumption on campus the students went off campus, primarily to the fraternity houses, to drink. The problems are more severe in the spring and fall and especially on Thursday nights. Few classes are held at USM on Fridays so students party on Thursdays which is particularly troublesome to area residents who have to work on Friday. Austin acknowledged that the "fraternities need to be better neighbors."

Steven Nelson, USM Community Standards Representative noted that USM has a three strike policy for alcohol related incidents on campus. Last year there were 2100 cases of alleged student misconduct involving 1500 USM students who live both on and off both campus.

Peter Wentworth, a 30-year Preble Street resident, noted that many years ago, the fraternity members were very respectful to neighbors and neighborhoods. Residents now deal with beer cans and prophylactics in their yards, a lot of bad language, public urination and fighting. The situation is "getting unbearable" said Wentworth. He noted that he has never called the police, but someone else always does.

Ardith Keef, also of Preble Street, has called the police many times. She can no longer have a fence on her property as it always gets torn down and vehicles parked at her house have been damaged on multiple occasions. Her family members have broken up serious fights and dealt with intoxicated students screaming obscenities for up to an hour at a time. Sometimes as many as 20 students are involved.

Rhonda Laughlin, owner of Whispy Ends on Elm Street, reported students have repeatedly knocked down her stone wall, torn flowers out of window boxes, stolen things off the porch and, several years ago, stole the family's pet rabbit, leaving a bottle of tequila in its place.

Tim Allard, resident, commented that even when there aren't parties, fraternity members are playing loud music until early morning hours. Allard cited statistics about the number of calls received by the police from area residents regarding issues with the fraternities. In 2004, 21 calls to the police; in 2005, 35 calls; in 2006, 50 calls; in 2007, 74 and as of the first 10 months of 2008, there had been 66 calls. Allard noted the parties have gotten much larger over the years, leading to even more problems.

Bruce Roullard, of College Avenue, suggested that the fraternities be responsible for their members, as well as their guests, especially when returning to campus. He reported that Maine Maritime Academy, in Castine, sets standards for their students' behavior when they are off campus and the school is notified if there are problems. He felt that USM needs to set expectations for the students and that there should be "sober representatives patrolling the streets and getting students back to campus quietly."

Kathy Kigin, of Preble Street, inquired as to what steps were being taken to limit underage drinking and to cut off someone who was drunk. Kigin added that noise was an issue even when there was not a party.

John Taylor, an alumnus of Delta Chi and President of their housing corpo-

ration, stated that "life is about perspective, which changes as you get older," noting that it has been eight years since the last community meeting. Taylor felt that it was time to start turning things around but change will not happen overnight. The President of the Inter-fraternal Council stated that the Council will work to stop, or at least reduce, parties on Thursdays and will have members who are committed to staying sober and staying on the property during parties to reduce and ultimately stop the problems described by neighbors.

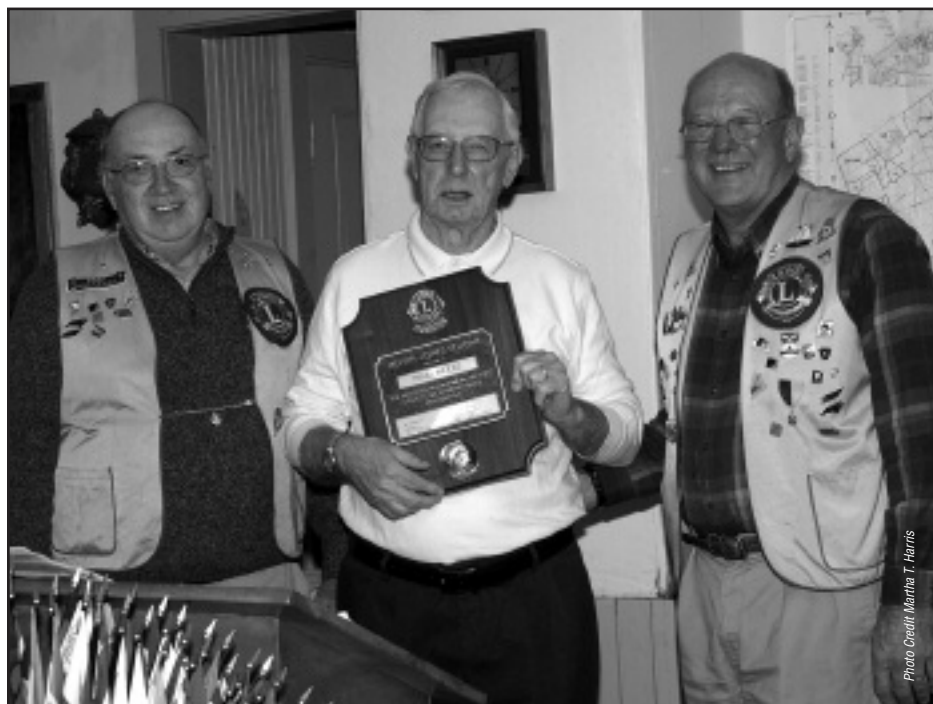
Several fraternity members noted they do have parties, but often people just show up at the frat house as if it were a club. Scott Nevers, President of Phi Kappa Sigma, explained that they have parties only once or twice a month and that he is outside every weekend night telling people to be quiet. They notify the police when they are having a party and have everyone leave by 12:30 a.m. Nevers, who is from Gorham, expressed considerable frustration over these issues, feeling that it was mainly students from campus, not fraternity members, causing the problems.

Several fraternity members, past and present, spoke and pledged to work to improve the situation. It was clear that one core issue was the constant turnover in the fraternities; if the situation improves one year, the next group of students coming in may not be as responsive to their neighbors concerns.

Gorham Police Chief Ron Shepard reported that in the past when there were group meetings and ongoing communication, the number of complaints went down. He believes the groups need to meet at least annually "to keep the lines of communication open."

On Dec. 13, there was a brawl involving more than 40 people at the Sigma Nu house. Two knives and one set of brass knuckles were confiscated and three people were arrested. Those arrested were not members of the Sigma Nu Fraternity.

Lions Club Awards



On Nov. 11, the Gorham Lions Club held a combination Ladies' Night, Awards Night and a Thank You dinner for the volunteers who helped on many projects. Guest speaker was Martha T. Harris of the *Gorham Times*. Two long time members, Bruce Hill and Paul Weeks received major Lions awards for their service. Bruce, a 33-year member, received the "Lion of the Year" award which is "given in honor of outstanding service, loyalty and devotion to Lionism." Paul Weeks was presented with the Melvin Jones Fellows award for dedicated humanitarian services from Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF). This is the highest form of recognition conferred by the foundation. LCIF promotes assistance to the needy around the world and is supported by contributions from local clubs and sponsors.

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The *Gorham Times* team is looking for a delivery person to pick up the paper in Biddeford every other Thursday, and bring back to Gorham. Must have a vehicle that can fit 84 bundles of papers. There is a small stipend to cover expenses, payable after each delivery. If you know of anyone, or would like more information, please call 839-8390 or e-mail gtimes@maine.rr.com

the blotter

Day Road caller reported that there was a bird tied to a tree that had been there for two days. The previous day, there was a dog jumping at it.

Files Road caller requested to speak with an officer regarding a horse they drive by every day.

Straw Road caller reported a red or green truck driving back and forth by a field and attempting to hunt from the truck.

Ossipee Trail caller requested an officer escort them to their vehicle as they were closing their business and an unknown person had been hanging around outside when they are closing.

Morrill Avenue caller reported that their house was paint balled sometime during the night.

Wilson Road caller reported a young dog had been hanging out in their garage.

Buck Street caller reported a PlayStation3 had been stolen about a month ago. Caller now believed they knew where it was and requested to speak to an officer regarding getting it back.

Caller from Queen Street reported finding a safe in their field.

Main Street caller reported a female with a child struck their vehicle with a shopping cart. Caller was concerned the female had been drinking.

Brackett Road caller wanted to speak with an officer regarding missing Christmas decorations. Mr. Clause is now missing. He was about 5 feet tall and weighed approximately 10 lbs.

Winslow Road caller requested to speak with an officer regarding unknown persons in a white vehicle who pulled into their driveway and parked.

Oakwood Drive caller reported four juveniles possibly trying to break into a house.

Caller reported a suspicious vehicle was seen leaving Public Works.

Caller reported an abandoned vehicle on the side of the road. Subject was making a telephone call.

Chestnut Circle caller reported that their teenager had stolen money from them and they wanted an officer to speak to the teen.

Sanborn Street caller reported that they came home to find their house had been broken into.

Wood splitter was reported stolen from a side yard on Spiller Road.

Caller reported a truck pulled in the yard and rang the door bell a few times until someone answered the door. They were looking for someone who does not live at the address.

Buxton man was arrested for operating a vehicle without a license and possession of fireworks.

Hollis man was arrested for operating after suspension, violating conditions of release and on an open warrant.

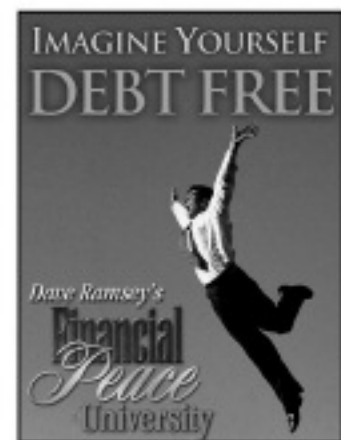
Man from Hollis was arrested for violating conditions of release, possession of marijuana and sale and use of drug paraphernalia.

Mosher Road man was arrested for violating conditions of release and operating after suspension.

Ichabod Lane caller wanted like to speak to an officer regarding some suspicions they had.

Brackett Road caller stated that there was an older vehicle parked across the street from their house in a newly paved pullout.

► For more Blotter entries, visit www.gorhamtimes.com and click on the **OTHER** link.



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on the calendar WHAT'S HAPPENING

TUESDAY, JAN. 13

- Pre-School Yoga Story Time, Baxter Library with Stacey from Gorham Fitness Studio. Ages 3-5 years. 9:30 a.m. FMI, 839-5031
- GBCE luncheon meeting, 11:30-1 p.m. at the Gorham Saving's Bank Conference Room, 10 Wentworth Dr. \$15/\$25. FMI, www.gorhambusiness.org

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14

- School Committee Meeting, 7 p.m. Municipal Center, 75 South St.

THURSDAY, JAN. 15

- Baby & Me lap time fun, ages birth-18 mos. 9:30 a.m. Baxter Library. FMI, 839-5031.
- Toddler Time activities, ages 18-36 mos. 10 a.m. Baxter Library. FMI, 839-5031.
- Sewing Club at the Baxter Memorial Library, ages grades K - Adult. 2-4:30 p.m. FMI, 839-5031.
- Kiwanis Club Lunch Meeting, Pinecrest Bed & Breakfast, Noon - 1 p.m. FMI, 839-8944.

MONDAY, JAN. 19

- Martin Luther King Day. No School.

TUESDAY, JAN. 20

- Pre-School Story Time, ages 3-5 years. 9:30 a.m. Baxter Library. FMI, 839-5031.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21

- Home School Connections, 10 a.m. Baxter Library. FMI, 839-5031.

THURSDAY, JAN. 22

- Baby & Me lap time fun, ages birth-18 mos. 9:30 a.m. Baxter Library. FMI, 839-5031.
- Toddler Time activities, ages 18-36 mos. 10 a.m. Baxter Library. FMI, 839-5031.
- Sewing Club at the Baxter Memorial Library, ages grades K - Adult. 2-4:30 p.m. FMI, 839-5031.

The Gorham Ecumenical Food Pantry is open every Thurs. at St. Anne's Church from 9-11 a.m. and the second Wednesday of each month from 5:30-7 p.m. Open to anyone in need of food from Gorham.

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- Vacuum stairs
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- Empty trash



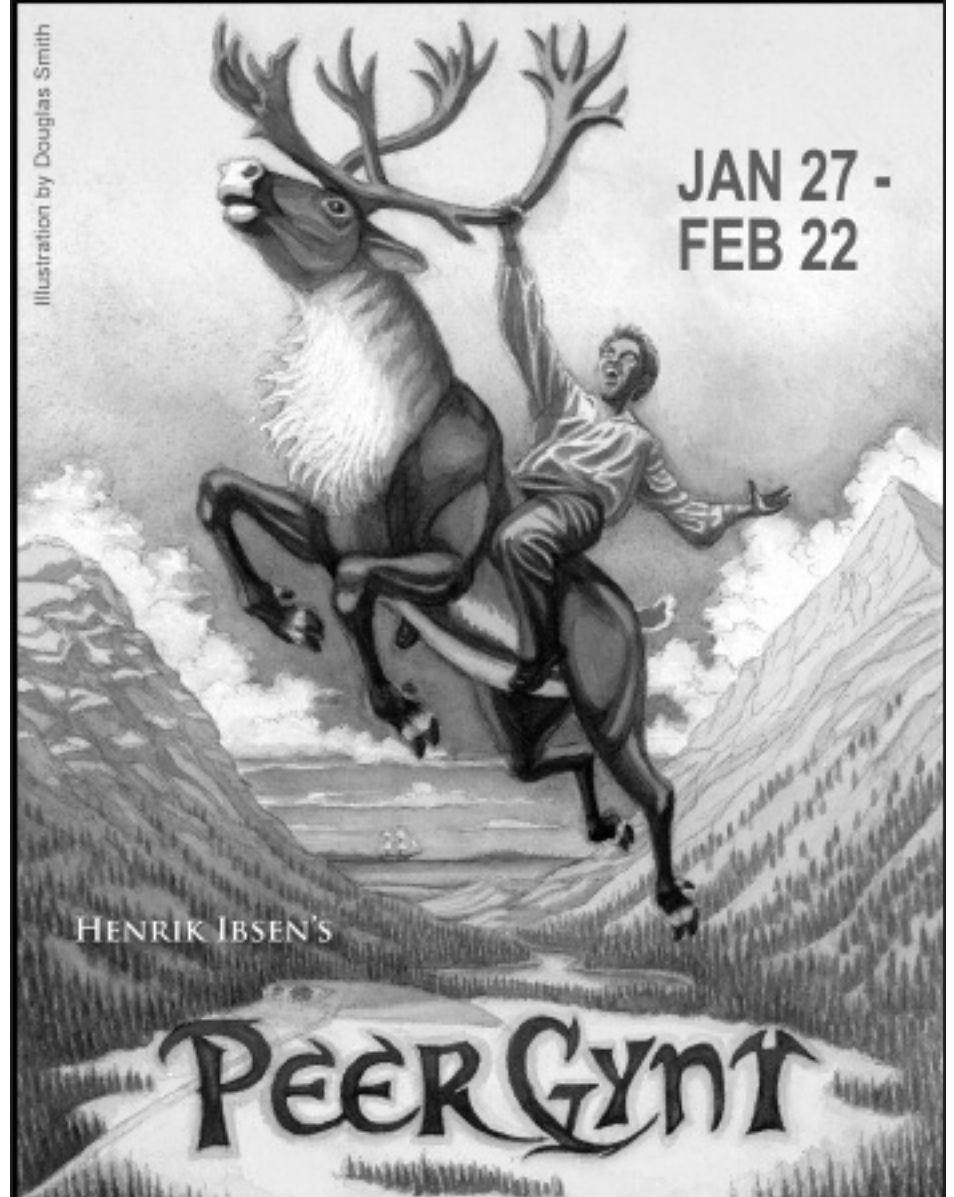
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