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CELEBRATING 17 YEARS—A FREE, VOLUNTEER-RUN, BIWEEKLY COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



Photo credit: Martha T. Harris

Sam Fisher, Carter Bowers, Joe Lambert and Caleb Dolloff in Gorham High School's production of "South Pacific." Full story, page 7.

Indoor Air Quality in Homes Burning Wood

Compiled by Krista Nadeau

Last spring, USM faculty and students began groundbreaking research about the potential dangers of indoor air quality created from wood and pellet stoves in Maine homes. The team's research and findings are some of the first in this area of study.

The University of Southern Maine/Maine Center for Toxicology and Environmental Health Maine Economic Fund Area Development Award is the grant through which this research was funded. The team consists of Daniel Martinez, research scientist for Environmental Science; Joseph Staples, assistant professor of Environmental Science; and four undergraduate students, Kaitlyn Bennett, Joy Grannis, Jamie Grindle, and Hannah Chute.

Preliminary results show traces of at least 10 heavy metals were found in wood and pellet ash, including copper, arsenic, and lead. The research indicated that the exposure is due primarily to cleaning the stove, which stirs up the ash and is then inhaled into the body.

The team presented their findings at the Maine Indoor Air Quality Conference this past August. In addition to that the team has also been participating in outreach that initiatives to inform people about the need for safe practices when using and cleaning a woodstove. The students also presented the findings at USM's Thinking Matters symposium last April and also at USM's State House for Undergraduate Research Day last May.

"If you're lucky enough to be Irish, then you're lucky enough."

inside the Times

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Town Repairs Needed

Sheri Faber

At a recent Town Council workshop, Norman Justice, facilities director for the Gorham Schools; Bob Burns, Public Works director and Cindy Hazelton, director of the Gorham Recreation Department presented information to the Council about a variety of spending needs. Justice advised the Council that both White Rock and Little Falls Schools needed new roofs along with work on their electrical and mechanical systems. The roofs would cost about \$220,000. Both old schools have asbestos in them, which would increase the cost of demolition. Currently White Rock School, which will be turned over to the town on June 30, is being used for storage. Little Falls is presently being used by the Recreation Department for a variety of programs including being used as senior center. One of the potential uses for Little Falls was con-

verting it into a fire station. Several years ago, the cost of converting Little Falls into a fire station was estimated at \$7.3 million.

Hazelton told the council members that the town needs another baseball diamond at an approximate cost of \$175,000-200,000 for a natural grass field. She also recommended moving a road to the perimeter of the Little Falls recreation area that would allow for more recreational space. Cost for the road was estimated at \$250,000.

Burns brought up the need to repair local roads, as well as two bridges, one on Wescott Road and one on Longfellow Road. The town had included \$350,000 for road repair for this fiscal year but it is not enough to do all the repairs that need to be done. Burns advised that the town is falling behind in its road maintenance schedule.

Fire Engines Removed From Service

Krista Nadeau

The Town of Gorham recently removed fire engines five and six from service due to their inability to pass inspection. Engine five is 29 years old and engine six is 25; considering the age of these vehicles it will need to be determined if the town should buy new or used engines, repair or refurbish them. The town will evaluate all options to get the best value for the money.

The fire department is actively seeking solutions to repair, refurbish, or replace these engines. Phillips Auto Body compiled an estimate for repairing the engines - engine five was estimated at \$32,793 and engine six was at \$13,793. Phillips Auto indicated these figures were just estimates; there could

be hidden problems with the engines. Northeast Emergency Apparatus (NEA), a business that primarily repairs fire engines, evaluated both engines to determine the cost of refurbishing them. The initial estimate was around \$70,000 to 80,000.

The fire department has been looking at sites that sell used fire engines less than 10 years old. Vehicles of this age typically range in price from \$250,000-350,000. It is important to note that quality used fire engines tend to get purchased quickly and, because of this, inventory can change often. Vendors have also been contacted to see if any demonstrator vehicles are available for purchase. In 2004, the towns of Gorham and Windham purchased a demonstrator

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Wash That Man Right Outta My Hair



Photo credit: Martha T. Harris

Students from Gorham High School's South Pacific cast rehearses "I'm Going to Wash That Man Right Out of My Hair" in preparation for opening night on March 30 at 7:30 p.m. GHS will present the musical "South Pacific," directed by Bruce Avery, along with Music Director Matt Murray and Choreographer Deb Lombard. Full story on page 7.

Maine's Elver Fishery

Rep. Jane S. Knapp

The State of Maine is well known for its top-notch seafood industry. With the abundance of marine resources, however, comes great responsibility. Conservation plays a key role in maintaining the good health of our marine species and the sustainability of our fishing industries.

The Marine Resources Committee recently reviewed L.D. 1765, "An Act To Sustain the Elver Fishery." Elvers are baby eels. This bill lifts the moratorium on the issuance of new elver fishing licenses and increases the total number of licenses available to 600. Currently, only 400 licenses are handed out to eel fishermen. Among other things, the bill also proposes to increase the cost of licenses from \$105 to \$200 for Maine residents and from \$442 to \$800 for nonresidents. The bill proposes that funds raised by higher license fees be directed to the Marine Patrol.

During our Committee's public hearing and work session on this bill, I was pleased to learn information about the American eel. American eels are born in the Sargasso Sea and mature in fresh water. The Sargasso Sea is a large area of the western North Atlantic located east of the Bahamas and south of Bermuda. The newborn larvae rise to the surface, and soon begin to drift on the Gulf Stream toward North America.

The elver fishery harvests small eels returning to rivers from their ocean birth areas. This fishery utilizes fine mesh fyke nets (a funnel shaped net) or dip nets to collect elvers as they ascend to fresh water. L.D. 1765 also proposes to increase the number of allowable fyke nets for Maine residents from two to three.

According to Maine's Department of Marine Resources, the elver fishery is relatively recent, having begun in the early 1970's and lasting until 1978 and then recommencing in the early 1990's. The

market demand for elvers has increased dramatically in the last few years. In addition, due to recent intense market demand, elvers have now become the most valuable marine resource in terms of price per pound, which has historically varied from \$25 to \$350. Last year, however, the average price per pound was \$900! I was recently informed by a citizen who brought in an article from the Shanghai Daily that the price per baby eel was \$6.

Increased product demand is often accompanied by the natural response to catch more of that product. In cases such as this, however, we must take care to avoid overfishing. In my mind, I think of all the fishermen who could use the work and that would benefit from this legislation. On the other hand, will increasing the number of licenses and number of nets have a negative impact on the species? These are the types of questions that our Committee had to ask and debate amongst ourselves while considering this proposed legislation.

This bill is an example of how creating legislation often involves a balance of multiple interests. At the time of writing this column, our Committee is still working on the wording for this bill. Ultimately, I will weigh all of the opinions expressed before casting my vote.

Some of the information used in the article was found at: www.maine.gov/dmr/rm/eel.html.



Rep. Jane Knapp
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Thank You, Bill



After writing for the Gorham Times for almost ten years, Bill Ambrose recently stepped away from his integral role with the paper. Bill was instrumental in writing articles for the municipal section – specializing in Gorham's roadways. Behind the scenes, Bill consistently attended production meetings and proofread the paper for errors.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication, Bill. We appreciate your efforts to bring the news to all of Gorham. You are in our thoughts.

In recognition of Bill and his wife Gail, and to honor the other Gorham Times family members who have been touched by cancer, the Gorham Times team will participate in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. This event will take place on April 27 at the USM Field House beginning a 6 p.m. This 24-hour event will raise money for cancer research. If you would like to donate to "Bill's Team / Gorham Times," please see our fundraising page at <http://main.acsevents.org/goto/GorhamTimes> or call 839-8390 for more information.

around town

American Legion Post 60 in Gorham closed due to declining membership. The Smith-Wagner Post had not met for the past six months and had only 29 members.

The deadline for submitting an application for one or more of the following town board or committee vacancies will be 6:30 p.m. Thurs., March 22: Board of Assessment Review (1), Board of Health (1), Board of Trustees – Baxter Memorial Library (3), Fair Hearing Board (3), Gorham Economic Development Corporation (3), Park & Conservation Commission (2), Planning Board (2), Recycling Committee (2), Zoning Board of Appeals (3). For more information, call 222-1670.

MDOT will hold a public hearing on March 21 at 6 p.m. in the Burleigh Loveitt Auditorium to discuss rehabilitation of Curtis Bridge on Rt. 22, which crosses the east branch of the Stroudwater River.

Fire Engine FROM PAGE 1

fire engine (Tower Three) from a vendor called E-ONE. The fire department has also contacted other communities to see if they are in the market to purchase a fire engine. In the past Gorham has joined other communities in a joint bid and purchase effort, which provided a savings. The cost to replace each fire engine is estimated at \$380,000 to \$430,000.

Town Manager David Cole has indicated that since removing fire engine six, the town has been using a loaned engine from Standish to support emergency efforts in the White Rock area. However, should Standish have any issues with their engines, the one loaned to Gorham would have to be returned, leaving the White Rock area without equipment to respond to a call.

In addition to the vehicle from Standish, the town obtained a 25-year-old fire engine from Portland, which is currently located at the Public Works Garage and is being made ready for use. It is expected to be available for use in several weeks.

The town is looking at all viable options to determine the best solution. It may take a little while to conclude the best course of action to take. The Gorham Times will update this story as more information is available.

Gorham Times

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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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WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Ryan Tewhey

Althea Masterson

A whole community takes pride in one of its own succeeding. In Gorham and at the University of Maine, everyone is taking delight in Forbes magazine's recent naming of Ryan Tewhey (GHS '01) in its annual "Thirty Under 30" listing.

Forbes describes this list as "tomorrow's brightest talent." It includes 12 categories, including finance, technology, energy, media, and science – which is where Ryan, who just earned his doctorate in Biology, was included. The Forbes article credits Ryan's work "using DNA sequencing to figure out what makes the MRSA super-germ so very deadly and hard to kill." MRSA is a drug-resistant strain of *Staphylococcus aureus* and a common cause of staph infections.

Ryan graduated from the University of Maine in 2005 with a dual major in both molecular and cellular biology and biochemistry. He speaks glowingly of his time in Orono – saying, "I couldn't have asked for a better school."

After graduation, he worked for two years at the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, where his interest in pursuing a career in science solidified. His next step was graduate school at the University of California, San Diego, where his first year focused on classes and rotating through different laboratories to gain exposure and help him determine his area of focus. He chose the Scripps Translational Science Institute in La Jolla, where his focus has been community-acquired MRSA, as distinguished from hospital-acquired MRSA. The community variety, Ryan explains, "is passed around by perfectly healthy people in places like a gym or locker room."

Ryan plans to gain additional training and has tentatively accepted a post-doctoral position at Harvard, which he would begin this summer. He has started to alter his focus a bit, saying, "A lot of my work has been very specific in understanding how bacteria is evolving. It's fascinating but doesn't necessarily translate directly to improved prevention or treatment of an infection. I'm currently working on improv-



Photo courtesy of Ryan Tewhey

ing methods to quickly determine the cause of an infection and what drugs would be most effective, so actionable information can be passed along sooner than is currently feasible."

Ryan attributes Chuck Peter's AP biology course at Gorham High School, which introduced him to molecular biology and genetics, as leading him to major in biology at UMaine. "I had a lot of great teachers at GHS," he notes, "Mrs. Davis, Mr. Farrington, and Mr. Pierce to name a few. But if I had to name my most influential teacher in Gorham, I'd go back to my fifth and sixth grade teacher: Stephanie McLaughlin was just amazing."

Ryan says he has enjoyed California and being able to go to the beach or play golf without really worrying about the weather. But he is a Mainer at heart. "I miss being closer to my family and old friends," he says. "I also just miss being in Maine and its forests and beautiful coast. It's kind of a running joke among my friends here about how fondly I talk about my home state. I have a lot of Maine facts I like to distribute!" And it's not just Maine's landscape that Ryan misses; "I also I miss the chicken souvlaki's from GHOP," he adds. "I tend to eat a lot of those when I come back to visit."

Ryan is the son of Anne Tewhey and Steve Tewhey. As impressed as we all are with his achievements, he – in equal measure – is humble. Speaking of the Forbes listing in the UMaine alumni profile, Ryan said, "It's a nice honor and a really impressive list of people to be included with."

A Closer Look at Buy-the-Pound Shopping

Sherrie Benner

In February, Goodwill Industries of Northern New England opened a warehouse and outlet store at 34 Hutcherson Drive, located in the Gorham Industrial Park. The outlet store offers deeply discounted merchandise on a buy-the-pound basis and provides a new model for merchandising. With a steady stream of visitors since its opening, the mix of patrons has ranged from the traditional thrift store customers, crafters buying supplies (textiles) in bulk, and "re-sell" shop owners looking for cheaply priced inventory. The outlet is arranged simply with merchandise on tables or shelving, encouraging customers to browse store selections. Michelle Smith, communications manager, notes that the store has the "feel of a clothing swap, and makes for a fun atmosphere, especially for families." The outlet store offers goods (items that have not sold at the retail store) at a significant savings before they are introduced to Goodwill's recycling efforts.

While Goodwill has buy-the-pound

outlets located in other parts of the county, this is a new concept for Maine. Smith admits that this particular shopping experience is not for everyone. Those customers who expect clothing to be organized by size and style, may be uncomfortable at sorting through the large bins. However, she is quick to add that treasures are to be found for the effort. In responding to customer feedback, Goodwill is working on improving its sorting process at the outlet store to include separate bins for children's, women's and men's clothing. Clothing and shoes have been the two most popular items sold with prices ranging from \$0.79 to \$1.49 per pound depending on the volume being purchased.

Store hours are Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Returns, refunds, or exchanges are not available at the Outlet Store nor does Goodwill honor their discounts and coupons at this location.

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Clean-O-Rama Visited by Town and GEDC

Sherrie Benner

As part of the town's ongoing mission to stay connected with area businesses, the Gorham Economic Development Corporation (GEDC) recently conducted a business tour at Clean-O-Rama, located in the Industrial Park. Members of the GEDC, town department heads, and representatives of the town council viewed the business warehouse and distribution center with its state-of-the-art training facility.

GEDC director Tom Ellsworth noted, "Attracting new business to town grabs most of the headlines, but assisting companies already doing business here - like Clean-O-Rama - helping them to expand and to retain their business, is equally important to a balanced economic development strategy." Clean-O-Rama is Northern New England's fastest growing full-line janitorial supply distributor.



Photo credit Sherrie Benner

Pictured, back row, L-R: Phil Gagnon, councilor; Tom Poirier, town planner; David Galbraith, zoning administrator; David Cole, town manager; John Pressey, councilor; Tom Ellsworth, GEDC; Matt Robinson, councilor; Lance Keef, sales specialist. Seated, L-R: Matt Mattingly, councilor; Kathryn Risotti, director of training; Richard Carter, GEDC; Phil and Greg Sferes, owners.

Planning Board Review

Sheri Faber

In February, the Planning Board:

1. Approved a motion to permit the Gorham Village Green Condo Association, a 10-unit 55-plus-condominium association off Libby Ave., to remove the 55-plus restriction and to become a cluster subdivision.
2. Approved a contract zone for Carol Wood of 34 County Road. The Board had previously approved contract zones for Albert, Bearce, Bruni and Burke also owners of property on County Road.
3. Discussed plan of Nathaniel Hurteau of 439 Libby Ave. for approval of a 700-foot right of way to serve two to six lots. A portable classroom purchased from the town was moved to this site in January and is being retrofitted as a home.

At their March meeting the Planning Board reviewed the following items:

1. Key Bank's plan to add a vacuum automatic teller system to their existing night deposit lane at their Main Street location. The plan was approved.
2. Grondin Properties, LLC requested approval of a plan to develop Lot 3 of the Olde Canal Business Park with a 45, 280 sq. ft. building which will have 8,000 sq. ft. of office space as well as 37,000 sq. ft. of industrial space and 70 parking spaces. The plan was approved.
3. Gorham House Partnership proposed building and parking expansions that included renovating the skilled nursing wing, with a 2,400 sq. ft. one story addition, expanding the parking lot by 20 spaces, adding sidewalks and relocating the memorial garden and the gazebo. This item was postponed.
4. The Board discussed a plan by Grondin Aggregates, LLC for final approval of the Columbia Way 11 lot clustered subdivision on 27 acres off Middle Jam Road, formerly the site of the Middle Jam Pit.
5. David and Jennifer McCullough sought approval for Flaggy Meadow Road subdivision, with five lots, on 2.3 acres off Flaggy Meadow Road. A site walk was to be scheduled.

Gorham Man Arrested for OUI

David Spiller, 36, of Gorham turned himself into the police on an outstanding warrant. He was charged with aggravated assault, reckless conduct with a dangerous weapon, aggravated OUI and criminal speed. The charges are the result of a motor vehicle crash that occurred on July 26, 2011 at 11:18 p.m. Spiller failed to negotiate a curve, left the roadway and struck a CMP pole. The three men in the vehicle were transported to the hospital to be treated for their injuries. A passenger suffered significant injuries and was hospitalized for an extended period.

Autism/Special Needs Outreach at Police Department

An outreach program is scheduled for April 3 at the Gorham Police Department. Parents can come with their children and register them with the police department. This information will be used to assist the police should there be medical emergencies or the case of a lost child. Special Olympics will also be present to answer any questions or to register children who want to participate in activities. As it becomes available, more in-depth information will be in the next edition of the Gorham Times.

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Embrace and Identify Your Goals and Barriers

Stacey Coleman

It is easy to get caught up in the demands of life. You may have children, a high stress job, be financially stretched, or all of the above. To cope with stress, people tend to take refuge in routines (and recliners) that are comfortable, familiar and usually unhealthy.

Do you ever feel that you are only marking time, instead of living life? If you have put personal goals and dreams on hold waiting for the right time to chase them down, the truth is, there will never be a perfect time. You need to learn to pursue your goals in the present. "Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us." -Marianne Williamson

The reality is that many people are afraid to reach for their goal. Perhaps they worry that they will fail or they are scared of the work it will take to achieve their goal. They may be afraid of the pain they might have to face and the obstacles they will have to overcome. They may worry that after reaching their goal, they will fall back into the same patterns. These fears and more can hold people back from reaching their goals.

There are hundreds of excuses: I don't have a goal; I know what I want, but it's not as important as... (fill in the blank with a name, job, \$\$\$, time commitment, etc.); It's not my fault, I was born this way, and I can't change; I would attempt to reach my goal if... (fill in the blank with an excuse); or I don't like change.

Did you know that your success is equal to what you believe you can achieve? The excuses listed above are examples of traps people set for themselves, usually because they are afraid of the discomfort it would actually take to reach these goals. If you are stuck in one of these excuse traps you

need to escape or you will never reach your goal.

If you clearly identify your goals, as well as admit to the excuses that have held you back, you can set yourself free from the traps and step towards your goal. It is time to get serious about what you want. You are focused and you are ready to improve your life forever. Now, write your goal. Create your own mission statement by filing in the blanks below:

I _____, promise myself that I will achieve my goal of _____. I will not let fear or hesitation hold me back. I will identify my barriers and conquer them one by one. I will not use excuses or let unexpected circumstances lead me off course. I am committed to achieving my goal because I know I will be stronger, healthier and happier. My success will inspire others to do the same. I promise to commit and focus on my goals and accept full responsibility for my actions. Signature _____ Date: _____

Share this with someone close to you who you trust wants you to reach your goal. Read it aloud to them and ask them to help keep you accountable for reaching this goal. Place this mission statement in a place where you can see it everyday as a constant reminder of why you are on your mission. It is time get to work.



Stacey Coleman is a NASM certified personal trainer and owner of My-Fit-24. She has a B.S. in Health and Fitness and 10 years of professional field experience.

Lakes Region Senior Center

Chris Crawford

A great idea is catching on because a lot is going on at the six month old Lakes Region Senior Center (LRSC). After finding a temporary home at the Little Falls School last September, the center has grown to over 100 members. There is something for everyone in the wide variety of programs and activities offered there. Ninety percent of its members are equally split between Gorham and Windham, but members also come from Buxton, Gray and as far away as Casco. The center is open to members on a drop in basis Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nonmembers interested in seeing what's going on may visit the center during these hours.

The center's relaxed and friendly atmosphere fills a need as a place for seniors to socialize, play cards and other games, exercise, learn a new skill or share one by teaching others. Want to learn how to play pickleball? This is the place to be. (See story on page 13) Frequent special events such as holiday parties and potluck lunches are popular and well attended. Avis Fleck, the activities coordinator, provides learning opportunities for seniors by arranging for speakers on a variety of topics from health care to gardening to how to avoid frauds and scams.

"The fact that our membership has grown to over 100 in just four months shows that there is a real need for this in our area," said Glenn Lynds, founder and LRSC President. "We're building

a growing community of seniors who have nowhere else to go." After working tirelessly for more than a year to get the Center up and running, Lynds is very committed and quick to point out that in a state that has the oldest population in the U.S., there are a lot of programs for children, but very little in this area on a daily basis for seniors.

The fledgling center now faces a new challenge. The future of the Little Falls building is uncertain. The senior center, which shares the building with the Gorham Recreation Before and After School program, may have to find a new home as early as June 2012. The town of Gorham is exploring options for the building through a feasibility study by PDT Architects. Recommendations may include making it a new police or fire station to alleviate crowding at the current Public Safety Building. Voter approval would be required for a project of this scope.

"It is a pressing priority for us to find a permanent home, if we can not stay at Little Falls," said Lynds. LRSC is actively searching for a permanent facility in a central location for its members that will hold at least 50 people for meetings and special events, has a restroom, parking, handicapped accessibility and heat. A kitchen facility would be a plus. Lynds points out that they really need a place to call home that does not require set up and tear down to make way for other uses.

In the meantime, the leadership of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



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GHS Proudly Presents “South Pacific”

Michael Lortie, School Counselor

This spring, Gorham High School will produce the musical “South Pacific,” directed by Bruce Avery, along with Music Director Matt Murray and Choreographer Deb Lombard.

“South Pacific” is set in the 1940’s and tells the story of a group of American sailors stationed on a South Pacific island during World War II. A pair of unlikely lovers — Nellie Forbush, a young, southern Navy nurse and Emile de Becque, a French planter — settled on the island. There are also many other memorable characters living on the island, each with a story to tell. The much loved musical features classic music from Rodgers and Hammerstein, including “Bali Ha’i,” “I’m Going To Wash That Man Right Out of My Hair,” “Younger Than Springtime,” “I’m In Love

With A Wonderful Guy,” and “Some Enchanted Evening.”

Forty-three students from GHS will appear on stage and fifteen students will work behind the scenes to help with lights, sets and props. In addition, two younger students from Gorham have a role in the musical.

Lombard and Murray both feel that this group of performers is a very dedicated and hard working group. “They have sung and danced their hearts out and have really surpassed our expectations,” said Murray. “We are very proud of the work that they are doing.”

Performances are in the McCormack Performing Arts Center at Gorham High School. Dates, times, and other information is listed below.

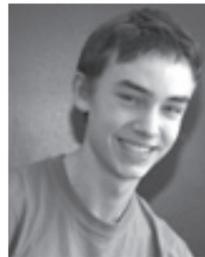
South Pacific Leading Rolls



Clara Stickney as Nellie Forbush



Quincy Owens as Emile de Becque



Matt Southard as Lieutenant Cable



Lia Van De Krol as Liat



Carter Bowers as Luther Billis



Stefanie Farrington as Bloody Mary



Lincoln Gray as Captain Bracket

Proposed School Budget Increases Expenses by \$1.2 Million

Stacy Sallinen

Superintendent Ted Sharp presented the 2012-13 preliminary school budget to the School Committee in a workshop in late February. Under the plan, overall spending would go up 3.86 percent, or \$1.2 million, from \$31.1 million to \$32.4 million.

Gorham’s share of general purpose aid, or subsidy from the state, is expected to be \$17.6 million. School officials are still waiting for final confirmation on state subsidy, so any change in aid would require an adjustment to the proposed budget.

As proposed, the budget would increase the mil rate, adding \$0.35 per \$1,000 of valuation assuming that the property tax-base increases by \$6 million.

The budget would eliminate one full-time teaching position, saving the district \$68,000. Other reductions include a decrease in discretionary accounts, portable lease accounts as a result of discontinuing leases at the elementary schools, and new contracts for electricity supply and phone service.

New additions to next year’s budget include an increase to the PATHS and WRVC budget; stipends for the lacrosse program at GMS and GHS; additional hours for the English language learner teacher; funds to establish an operating budget for the alternative education program at GMS; RAM Central, a literacy and math support program at GHS; and a transitional guidance counselor to work with students transitioning to GMS and GHS. Several technology items are also included, such as interactive boards, or Mimios, at Village and

Narragansett, as well as the purchase of MLTI laptops and additional RAM for laptops.

Among some of the more significant changes, a \$200,000 increase, up 133 percent to \$350,000, to the district’s capital improvement line. The district recognizes it needs to address deferred maintenance in school facilities. While there are several capital improvement projects that need attention, the highest priority projects – replacing the boiler and HVAC system at Narragansett to improve ventilation – will hopefully receive funding, said Facilities Director Norm Justice. Both systems are beyond their useful life.

In addition, due to the loss of grant funding through Medicaid and ME Jobs, the cost of six full-time essential positions, \$382,058, was added to the operating budget.

Sharp reminded the committee that even with current economic conditions, the school district has not cut programs or changed student-to-teacher ratios, and has introduced new programs. “We’re not shrinking. We’re just more focused on where we spend our energy,” said Sharp.

The School Committee reviewed the budget in detail at its March 10 workshop. If approved at its regular meeting in April, the Town Council will review the budget in a workshop tentatively scheduled in May before it hears public comment and takes a vote on June 5. Once approved, the budget will go to public referendum on June 12.

South Pacific PERFORMANCES

Friday, March 30 at 7:30 p.m.
Friday, April 6 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 31 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 7 at 7:30 p.m.

Matinee performances:

Sunday, April 1 at 2:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 7 at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$9 for adults and \$6 for students and seniors, and may be reserved by calling 839-5754.

school notes

Screening appointments for incoming kindergarten students will be held on April 2, 3, and 4 at Shaw Gym at the Gorham Recreation Department. Immunization records, proof of residency and original birth record are required at screening. To schedule a screening appointment, please contact Amy Pednault at 222-1050 regardless of which school your child will attend.

Great Falls Family Fun Fair will be held on Friday, March 16 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Great Falls. Activities include games, magic show, bounce house, scooter board course, arts and crafts, bingo, family Zumba, Dance Dance Revolution and a special visit from Crusher. Admission is free. Donations to the Gorham Clothes Closet and Food Pantry are greatly appreciated.

For more information of the following Gorham Adult Education courses, please visit www.gorham.maineadulted.org or call 222-1095.

Belly Dance for All Levels, 6 classes, Wednesdays, 3/21-5/2 (no class 4/18), Village School, 6-7 p.m., \$39

Cyberbullying/Social Media Parent Workshop, Thursday, 3/22, 6-8:30 p.m., GMS, \$15
Have Your Cake and Eat it, Too! – Healthy Desserts, Thursday, 3/22, 6-8 p.m., GMS, \$25
Drawing to Learn for All Levels, 6 classes – Tuesdays, 3/27-5/8 (no class 4/17), 6:30-9 p.m., GMS, \$99

Early College Programs for GHS Students

Compiled by Stacy Sallinen

Qualified students at Gorham High School can choose from several early college programs to enrich their high school experience or to get an early start on their college education.

One program, Early College for ME, was recently honored by the New

England Board of Higher Education with its State Merit Award, which recognizes the innovative work of organizations, institutions or individuals in each state.

The Maine Community College

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Spread the Word to Ban the Word

Lisa Bird, director of Public and Media Relations, Special Olympics Maine

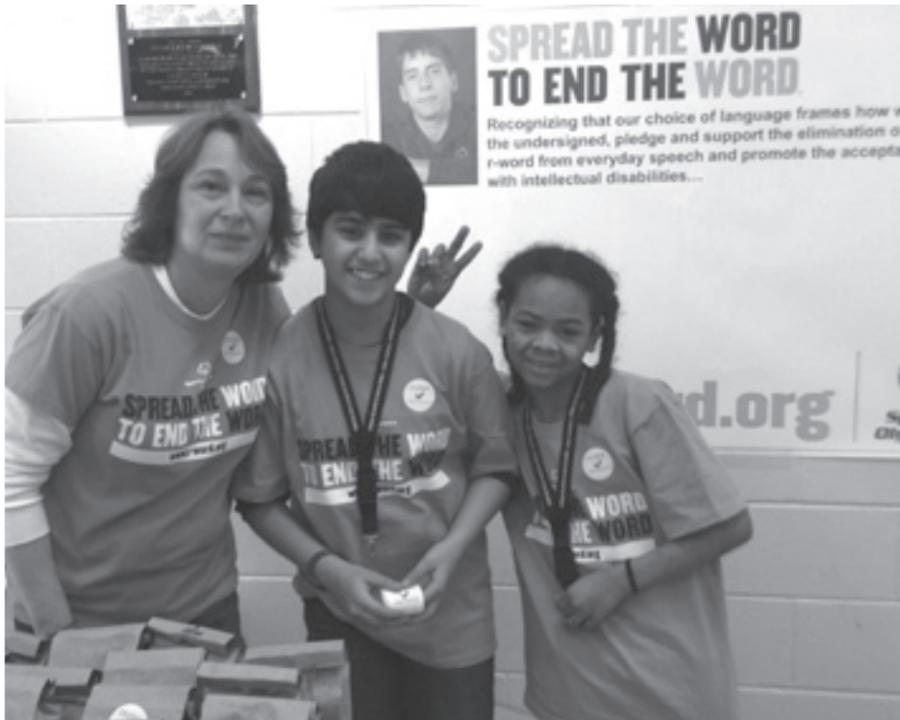


Photo credit Cody Hammer

LuAnne Amell, Asma Sayed and Maleek Dias sold popcorn to raise awareness for the “Spread the Word to Ban the Word” campaign. With help from the GMS Civil Rights Team, efforts to get the message out were very successful.

“**S**pread the Word to End the Word” is a national campaign to try to get people to stop using the word “retard” in a demeaning way. It has become a widely used term to describe things, situations or people as dumb, embarrassing, stupid, and foolish. Society has taken a word that was originally simply a medical diagnosis and turned it into a word that hurts. Through this campaign we want people to realize that words can be mean even if we don’t intend them to be. Nice people use the word, mean people, adults, kids, celebrities, etc.

We are asking people to act now and pledge their support to eliminate the demeaning use of the “R” word. Gorham schools have participated in this event for the past three years. On March 7, students wore T-shirts, badges, and bracelets to show their support. They made posters, signed pledge

banners, and even took the pledge online at www.r-word.org. Some of the Gorham schools are even having poster contests. Although this campaign is taking place nationwide and across the state, it is exciting that so many schools in one town are participating.

How “retardation” went from a clinical description to a word of derision: When they were originally introduced, the terms “mental retardation” or “mentally retarded” were medical terms with a specifically clinical connotation. However, the pejorative forms, “retard” and “retarded” have been used widely in today’s society to degrade and insult people with intellectual disabilities. Additionally, when people without disabilities use “retard” and “retarded” as synonyms for “dumb” or “stupid,” it only reinforces painful stereotypes of people with intellectual disabilities being less valued members of humanity.

And the Award Goes To...

Sherrie Benner

The Maine produced web series “Ragged Isle” was the big winner at the Indie Soap Awards in New York City, taking home three national awards: Best Cinematography, Best Director and Best Drama Miniseries. “Ragged Isle” was nominated in seven categories. The national recognition is a deserving acknowledgement for Gorham residents Barry and Karen Dodd of the Entertainment Experiment, which produced the web series purely as a labor of love. “We are so proud

to bring home these three awards to Maine,” says Dodd. “Gorham has been so welcoming to our production and we hope that this in some way helps direct some national attention to all the creative filmmakers in Maine.”

The Indie Soap Awards (ISAs) is a division of We Love Soaps. The awards honor the best in independent scripted, serialized programming for the web. The awards ceremony took place Feb

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

GMS Talent Show Rocks the House

Donna Pastore, GMS Teacher



Photo credit Aidan Whitis

Rob Pellerin, Aidan Whitis, Matt Rex, Tristan Brunet and Zac Meyers – otherwise known as the Pedro Boys – performed during the talent show at Gorham Middle School.

Gorham Middle School’s Student Council recently hosted its Eighth Annual Talent Show. Students sang, danced and drummed their way into the hearts of all.

Acts included the Pedro Boys, a rap performance by Ahmed Beshir, many talented soloists and dancers, violin, guitar and sax performances, as well as three steel drum groups conducted by Tracy Wheeler, the music and chorus teacher at GMS. Teachers also showed off their talent by participating in the Pandemonium Steel Drum group and the Cups and Drums performance,

which were choreographed by teacher Adam Parvanta.

The night show drew one of the largest crowds ever. Parents were treated to over twenty amazing acts, as well as a bake sale to help raise funds to purchase books for Read Across America Day in March. Student Council representatives will visit students in kindergarten through grade two at Village School to read and deliver the books to classroom teachers. If you missed the show many of the acts can be seen in the Gorham’s Got Talent Competition on Saturday, March 17.

High School Students Participate in Music Festival



Photo credit Matthew Murray

In January thirty-eight students from the Gorham High School Music Department participated in the Maine Music Educator’s Association District I Music Festival. Students were selected through audition to take part in Honors Concert Band, Jazz Band, Orchestra, Mixed Choir, or Treble Choir. The annual MMEA District I Music Festival is made up of nineteen high schools in Southern Maine. Students who participated are (front row) Theresa Bombaro, Justin Reyes, Joe Lambert, Clara Stickney, Lucia Alexandrin, Jeanette Villanueva, Chloe Gray, Lia Van de Krol, Stefanie Farrington; (row 2) Kayla Billings, Nicole Sutherland, Bethany Marshburn-Ersek, Katie Selens, Emily Stickney, Emma Christakis, Maddie Gotschich; (row 3) Olivia Marshburn-Ersek, Shea Ahern, Kristen Nelson, Mel Porterfield, Katie Stickney; (row 4) AJ Lockman, Ben Foster, Mike Sullivan, Allie Sturgis, Abbey Dean, Lincoln Gray, Grace Burns; (row 5) Jacob Clowes, Matt Southard, Christian Auspland, Ryan Hohman, Eric DeLuca, Adam Bourgault, Ellyn Touchette, Molly Stewart, and Hannah Pratt.

Marissa Roberts Earns Spot on Maine Ski Team Competing Against Other States

Jeff Pike

Marissa Roberts continues to steadily take her skiing accomplishments to new levels. The GHS junior recently won the SMAA conference championships in the giant slalom and slalom after finishing first and third respectively in the same events during the Class A State Championships.

She now has her sights on competing against top high school skiers in the northeastern United States after qualifying for the Maine state high school team that competed in the Eastern High School Championships, March 10-11 at Attitash Mountain in New Hampshire. She was seeded fourth on the 12-skier team after competing against the top high school skiers of Maine at Black Mountain.

Roberts has improved consistently as she has finished among the top ten slalom and giant slalom skiers in Maine during her freshmen, sophomore and junior years. She began skiing as a four-year-old and then started racing competitively at age 10. Despite doing well at first, she gave up skiing in seventh grade.

"I took a year off after my results

were not as good, but that's when I realized how much I love skiing," Roberts said. "I came back in eighth grade, and as a ninth grader I started finishing high again."

Roberts credits a lot of her success to the Gould Academy weekend program at Sunday River. Just before competing in the Maine Class A State Championships this season, her chances of success were nearly derailed by a bad hip injury. She took a bad fall during a slalom race where her skis came off and her hip landed right on the bindings. She was hurt badly enough that she required a trip to the hospital in an ambulance, but thankfully the x-ray was negative.

"The bruise was deep and definitely limited my abilities at the states," Roberts said. "But it felt a lot better by the SMAA meet."

Tim Sullivan, the GHS head ski coach, added, "At the states in the giant slalom, she was second by .04 seconds after the first run and turned in the fastest second run of the day to take the win by just about a second. She really attacked the second run and was more aggressive than any other

Gorham skier Marissa Roberts competes during a recent competition at Black Mountain in Rumford.



Photo credit Emma Christakis

skier on her way to the win. She also had a very strong regular season, winning four of the seven races. And for her to come back and attack the hill at the states after her injury was quite remarkable."

In addition to skiing for GHS, Roberts races for the Maine U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association (USSA) team. From March 4-6 she competed against skiers from all over New England at Okemo in Vermont and finished ninth in the slalom as well as 17th in the giant slalom. She also com-

peted in the Super G event for the first time ever, but did not finish high.

Roberts hopes to ski in college but is not sure at which level yet. How well she performs in USAA events may determine what offers she receives. "I am hopeful of skiing at least at the Division III level since my progression has been steady over the past three years," Roberts said. "I will try to build on what I have done in previous years and continue to practice hard."

in the Zone

Boys' Hockey: After defeating 5-1 Bonny Eagle in the preliminary round of the playoffs, the Rams lost to top seed and eventual Western Maine Class A champion Thornton Academy, 8-1, on February 28. Gorham kept it close for the first two periods before Thornton scored six goals in the final period.

Boys' Skiing: Nathan Roberts finished fifth in the SMAA giant slalom at Shawnee Peak with a time of 1:00.7.

Boys' Basketball: Kyle Nealey, Carter Bowers, and Nick Kilborn participated in the SMMA Senior Conference All-Star Game March 7 at SMCC with Bowers turning in a game-high 34 points. During the regular season, Bowers led the Rams in scoring (13.5 per game) while Nealey led in rebounding (4.5). Alex Owens was the team leader in assists (1.8) and steals (2.3).

Girls' Basketball: Kiersten Turner participat-

ed in the SMAA Senior All-Star Game March 7 and scored two points to help her team to an 80-62 win.

Hot Shot Winners: Several Gorham basketball players competed in the regional Maine Recreation and Park Association Hot Shot Competition co-sponsored by the Maine Red Claws basketball team. Lucia Reidy (girls 9-10), Chris Tucker (boys 11-12), and Cam Holmes (boys 13-14) all won their divisions and participated in the state finals March 11 at the Portland Expo. Other top finishers from Gorham included second-place McKenzie Holmes (girls 11-12) and third-place Kyle King (boys 11-12).

Bowler Helps Team to Third in State Finals: Gorham's Tyler Divinsky helped the Southern Maine Blizzard high school bowling team based in Portland finish third in the state competition behind Messalonskee and Lewiston.

GHS Winter Sports Awards

SMAA All Conference All-Stars

Boys' Basketball: Carter Bowers

Girls' Basketball: Kristen Ross

Boys' Hockey: Spence Cowand, Chris Hardy, Ryan Koenig, Justin Broy, Shawn Sullivan

Girls' Hockey: Rachel Litif

Boys' Indoor Track: Austin Bell, Brandon Cushman, Jon Gray, Jesse Orach, Travis Grant, Alex Johnson, Nate Bucknell, Troy Lambert, Joe Deroy

Girls' Indoor Track: Sarah Perkins, Sophia Swiatek, Hannah Southard.

Cheerleading: Naomi Seavey, Savoy Boyd, Erika Dvilinski, Abigayle Brown, Kara Stahl, Amanda Foster

Boys' Skiing: Nathan Roberts

Girls' Skiing: Marissa Roberts

SMAA Senior All-Academic

Girls' Indoor Track: Leanna Dalfonso, Katie Flanders

Boys' Indoor Track: Ryan Baillargeon, Brandon Cushman, Joeseoph DeRoy, Cortlandt Dunn, Jesse Orach, Matt Southard.

Girls' Basketball: Courtney Burns, Kiersten Turner, Audrey Adkison

Boys' Basketball: Nathan Moody

Boys' Hockey: Brad Turnbaugh, Nathan Goodrich, Eliot Gagne

Girls' Swimming: Sabrina Rowell

Girls' Skiing: Danielle Rivard

Ram Awards

Boys' Indoor Track: Fiercest Competitor-Nate Bucknell; Outstanding Newcomer-Brandon Cushman; Most Valuable Athlete-Jesse Orach.

Girls' Indoor Track: Most Improved-Patty Smith; Coaches Award-Leanna Dalfonso; Outstanding Performer-Sarah Perkins.

Boys' Hockey: Coaches Award-Brad Turnbaugh; Coaches Award-Eliot Gagne; Most Improved Player-Blake Babineau.

Boys' Basketball: Hardest Worker-Kyle Nealey; Defensive Player of the Year-Nathan Moody; Coaches Award-Sam Fisher.

Boys' Swimming: Coaches Award-Max Storer; Coaches Award-Caleb Goodall; Most Improved Swimmer-Timmer Sposato.

Girls' Swimming: Coaches Award-Gabby Bagala; Coaches Award-Lindsey Thomsen; Most Improved Swimmer-Krist Boylen.

Girls' Skiing: Outstanding Skier-Marissa Roberts; Coaches Award-Danielle Rivard.

Cheerleading: Senior Leadership Award-Rachel Webster, Annie Brewer, Abigayle Brown and Emily Thompson.

Girls' Hockey: Most Valuable Player-Rachel Litif; Most Dedicated Player-Samantha Grant; Most Improved Player-Madeleine Hamblen.

Girls' Basketball: To be announced at a later date.

Individual State Award Accolades

Senior Sarah Perkins was named SMAA senior division female track Athlete of the Year for winning three state championships: 55 meter hurdles, 200 meters and 400 meters. Junior skier Marissa Roberts was the Class A State Champion in the giant slalom.

Tournament Champs

During February vacation, the Gorham Middle School eighth-grade basketball team won the 24-team Mid-Winter Brunswick Classic – the first tournament title for Gorham since 1996. In the finals against Auburn, Gorham won 73-57 led by tenacious defense from Stephen Burns, Cody Elliott, Cam Smith, Trenton Bassingthwaite, Jesse Southard and Jackson Taylor. Sam Kilborn received the MVP award for the tournament. Also playing for the team and also pictured above while holding the trophy are Ben Paulin, Gerek Brown, Nathaniel Nadeau, Billy Ruby and Chris Beland. Dave Kilborn and Jeff Taylor coached the team.



Photo Credit Heather Kilborn

Gorham H.S. Athletes in New England Competitions

Compiled by Jeff Pike

In girls' swimming at Bates College on March 3, Lindsey Thomsen earned two top-five finishes including third in the 100 backstroke (1:01.49) and fourth in the 50 freestyle (26.06). She joined Meagan Thomsen, Ashley Clark and Sabrina Rowell in finishing seventh in the 200 freestyle relay with a time of 1:52.19. The same quartet placed ninth in the 200 medley relay while setting a new school record—2:06.24. Meagan Thomsen also competed in the 100 backstroke, finishing ninth in with a time of 1:12.3.

In boys' indoor track in Boston on March 2, Jesse Orach finished tenth in the 1 mile and was tops among Maine runners with a season-best time of 4:31.75. The 4x800 meter relay team of Brandon Cushman, Joe DeRoy, Jon Gray and Nate Gervais also turned a season-best time (8:23.69) while finishing 16th and second among Maine teams. Nate Bucknell finished 25th in the 600 meters in 1:29.35 while Julian Nijkamp competed in the 55 meter hurdles but hit a hurdle hard and could not finish.

For the girls' track team, three-event Class A State champion Sarah Perkins twisted her ankle in the 300 meters and could not finish. The injury also prevented her from participating in the 55 meter hurdles.

In wrestling, Ian Whittis, a junior at Cheverus High School, competed in the 120-pound division March 2 in Rhode Island, and he won one of two matches before having to withdraw due to an illness.



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Jr. Grizzly Football
4 th , 5 th and 6 th Graders
Grizzly Cub Football
2 nd & 3 rd Graders

- Bring your sneakers! Have fun with your teammates and coaches!
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- Parents – meet the coaches and board for a brief Q&A session

\$120 for 4th thru 8th graders (save \$25 this day only)
\$75 for 2nd & 3rd graders (Save \$25 this day only)

Scholarship applications are available

Registration: Please feel free to *register and pay online* or find our forms at: www.gorhamfootballboosters.com, or on the day of registration at **YOURSPACE**. **Cash or checks only on day of event.**

Directions to YOURSPACE: Route 25 West from Gorham Center, Left on 202 West, 1.5 miles on the right.



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Girls entering grades 9-12

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Undefeated Season



Photo courtesy of Life Touch

The GMS seventh-grade girls' basketball team finished the season undefeated with a 12-0 record on the strength of dynamic defense and spreading the floor on offense. Playing for the team and pictured above, front row from left to right: Kaylea Lundin, Marina Pappalardo, Athena Pappalardo, Carli Labreque and Erica Thibeault. Back Row: Noelle Dibise, Haylee Dahlborg, Erin Esty, Heather Woodbury, Olivia Wilson, Emily Esposito, Kristen Curley, Blake Wallace and head coach Lisa Curley

Free Throw State Champions



Photo courtesy of the Desjardin family

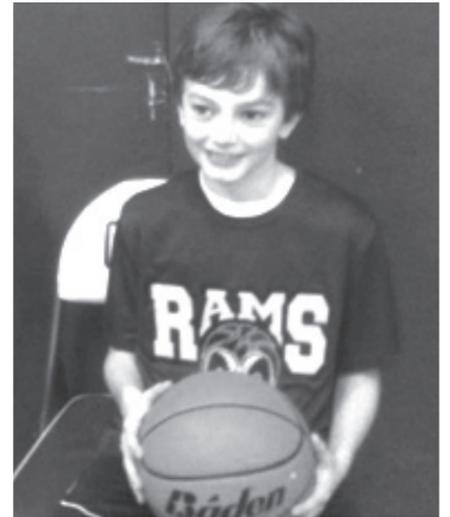


Photo credit Laughn Berthiaume

Brandon Desjardin (left) and Nicholas Strout won the boys' 13 and boys' 10 division respectively of the Knights of Columbus State Free Throw Championships March 10 at Orono. Strout sank 21 of 25 shots while Desjardin sank 17 of 25.

And the Award Goes To... FROM PAGE 7

21 at the New World Stages in New York City. The ISAs are considered to be the equivalent of the Emmy Awards in television or the Oscars for movies in the rapidly emerging world of Internet web series. Ragged Isle was shot entirely in Maine in more than 20 picturesque locations including several in Gorham. Using Maine musicians and film crew, "Ragged Isle" features a cast of more than 40 local actors including

Gorham resident Denis Fontaine and Derek Kimball (GHS '99).

"Ragged Isle" is an ambitious online series. It is a dramatic story set on a remote Maine island shrouded in mystery and draws inspiration from such cult classics as "The X-Files," "Twin Peaks" and the gothic soap opera "Dark Shadows." Seasons two and three are set to premiere in May on the online television network known as SFN at

sfntv.com. The Indie Soap Awards will be broadcast on March 18 at 9 p.m. at www.sfntv.com/3rd-annual-indie-soap-awards-broadcast. The Dodds, under the name of The Entertainment Experiment, are also nominated for best filmmaker in the Portland Phoenix best of poll.

For more information, email info@raggedisle.com or visit www.raggedisle.com or www.sfntv.com.

GHS Freeze Frame

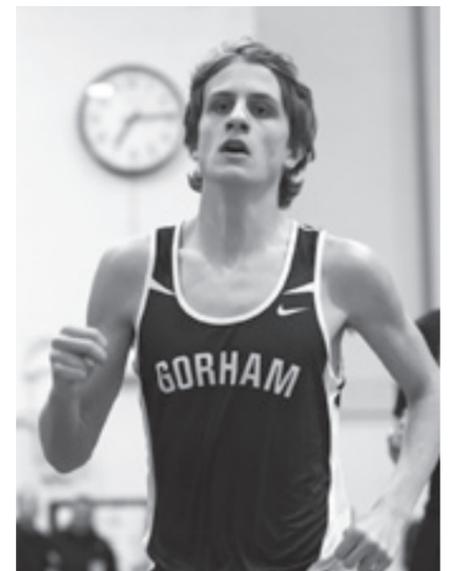


Photo credits Rich Obrey

GHS junior Jon Gray competes in the 800 meter run during a boys' indoor track meet earlier this season.



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HOLLIS RANCH \$269,900 This home has it all! Hdwd flrs, custom kitchen, porches galore, 2 BRs, 2.5 BAs...all on 2 acres.



S. PORTLAND CONDO-Excellent location on dead end street. 2 BRs, back patio, spacious kit/dining area. \$94,900



HOLLIS LOT \$46,000-5 lots to choose from at Birch Ridge Subdivision. Neighborhood setting on paved public st w/cul-de-sac.



STANDISH \$139,900-Affordable 2 BR w/expandable bsmt. Walking distance to schools! Updated kitchen, sun deck, 3 acre lot.



UNDER CONTRACT

GORHAM CONDO \$269,500 Pheasant Knoll end unit w/full bsmt & gar. Sunny 4 season room, FP, private patio, front porch.



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UNDER CONTRACT

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community



Photo credit caiazzo family

Andrew Scott Caiazzo was born to Kelly (GHS '01) and Greg Caiazzo (GHS '99) of Wellesley, MA on February 13, 2012. He weighed 8 lbs 11oz and was 21 inches long. Grandparents: William and Barbara Caiazzo and Duane and Pamela Damon, all of Gorham. Great-grandparents: Marilyn Towle of Standish, George and Ruth Ayers of Gorham, and Edgar and Beverly Damon of Norway, ME.



The parents of **Jennifer Bauer-Conley** (GHS '99) are delighted to announce her engagement to **Ryan Thomas Walker** of Perry, Georgia. The couple is planning an October 2012 wedding in Atlanta, Georgia, and will continue to reside in Houston, Texas.



Gloria Blanchard of Auburn and Roy Blanchard of Gorham are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter **Jessica Blanchard** (GHS '03) to **Joshua Sweetser**, son of Denise & Bob Feeney of Portland and Fred and Suzanne of South

Portland. The couple met in their second grade class at Narragansett School. An October 6, 2012 wedding is planned.

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DEAN'S LIST

Emma Alden, Boston University

Matthew Fenton, President's List honors, Bentley University

Caroline Fogarty, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Lucinda Pike (GHS '08), Boston University

Of Interest

Patrick MacVane (GHS '09), who is currently pursuing his pesticide license with the state of Maine, successfully completed certification for attending winter school for Turf Superintendent/Managers at UMASS-Amherst.

Lulama Moyo of Gorham was named the Distinguished Young Woman of Maine and awarded \$1,400 in cash scholarships during a statewide scholarship program for high school girls. Participants were evaluated in the categories of scholastics, interview, fitness, self-expression and talent. Moyo is the daughter of Otrude Moyo and Roland Hawkes and is a senior at Catherine McAuley High School.

Katie Zarrilli (GHS '08) has been named to Alpha Mu Gamma, a national foreign language honor society at Gordon College. Zarrilli, who is completing a double major in broadcast journalism and Spanish, is the daughter of John and Jeanne Zarrilli.

The following Gorham student art projects will be featured in the Youth Art Month Exhibition at the Portland Museum of Art through April 1: **Samantha Cupps** and **Tyler Eldridge** of GHS; **Tess Buzzell** and **Mallory Campbell** of GMS; **Sara Slager** of Great Falls School; **Michael Darasz** and **Alexa Corey** of Narragansett School; and **Emma Shields** of Village School.

The West Gorham Union Church will hold a public supper on Saturday, March 31 from 5-6 p.m. \$7/\$3. FMI, 839-4208.

The First Parish Congregational Church in Gorham will hold a Chicken Pie Supper on Saturday, Mar. 17 from 5-6:30 p.m. \$9/\$5. All are welcome!

Gorham High School presents "South Pacific" March 30-Apr. 7 at the GHS Performing Art Center. \$9/\$6. FMI, 839-5754.

Gorham High School juniors are required to take the SAT on Saturday, May 5. Students are automatically registered through the high school and do not need to pay to take the test. FMI, call Guidance at 222-1102.

The GHS Guidance Dept. will host the annual College Information Night on Thursday, Mar. 22 at 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the GHS library. A panel of college admissions representatives from Bates College, University of Southern Maine, Southern Maine Community College, and St. Joseph's College of Maine will be present to answer questions. Juniors and their parents are strongly encouraged to attend. FMI, 222-1097.

Gorham's Got Talent Competition will be held on Saturday, Mar. 17 at 10 a.m. in

the GMS gymnasium to determine the top 15 competitors for the 7 p.m. show. This competition will feature dancers, vocalists, musicians, and will feature special guest stars and judges. 10 a.m. show \$3; 7 p.m. show \$5. FMI, 749-2837.

4 Seasons Preschool and Childcare will hold a bottle drive and walk for the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation. Donations of cans and bottles can be dropped off at 10 Hickory Lane, Gorham through April. FMI, preschool4seasons@yahoo.com

The Dream Factory is sponsoring a Happily Ever After Breakfast on Saturday, Mar. 31 from 8-10:30 a.m. at the Cressey Road United Methodist Church in Gorham. \$5/\$3/\$15 for family. Come dressed as your favorite prince or princess.

Calling all vendors! Register for Gorham Business Exchange's 15th Annual Marketplace to be held on Saturday, Mar. 31 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at USM's Costello Field House. FMI, 892-5515 or www.gorhambusiness.org.

The North Gorham Writers' Group will present an evening of original poetry and prose during their annual reading at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Mar. 27. Reading will be former and current Gorham residents Warren Gilman, Frances Mains, Delina Eisenhower, Terri Cole, John Labrecque, Mary Snell, Linda Strout and Lorraine St. Onge. Cairn Community Room, United Church of Christ, intersection of Standish Neck and North Gorham Roads. Refreshments will be served. FMI, Mary Snell, 892-9831.

Learn about Modern Day Slavery on Sunday, Mar. 18 at 10:30 a.m. at South Gorham Baptist Church on County Rd. Guests include Kati King of Gorham Young Life and Doug Elder of The Wrecking. All are welcome.

"Into the Woods Junior," a student produced play, will be performed by middle school students at the Gorham Middle School on Thursday, Mar. 22 and Saturday, Mar. 24 at 7:00 p.m. Free admission.

Medicare and You 2012 Educational Seminar presented by Home Instead. Caroline Irwin will discuss the latest in Medicare news for 2012. Baxter Memorial Library, Thursday, Mar. 29, 5-6 p.m. RSVP to myager@homeinsteadmaine.com or 839-0441 to reserve your seat.

USM NOTES

The [Un]Spoken Maine Project, a collection of student-written performances pieces about sexual health, communication, and safety, will premiere on Mar. 19 at 7:30 p.m. in Russell Hall, Gorham campus. A second performance is scheduled for Mar. 21 at 12 p.m. in Ludke Auditorium at the University of New England, Portland campus.

The USM Department of Theatre presents "The Drowsy Chaperone" Mar. 15-18 at Russell Hall Auditorium, Gorham campus. \$21/\$15/\$10. FMI, 780-5151 or visit www.usm.maine.edu/theatre.

USM Artist-in-Residence Jesseca Ferguson will give a free talk about her

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



Photo credit caiazzo family

Dancers Kate Gilbert, Olivia Garrand, Grace Perron, Maggy Aube and Katie Proia from the Dance Studio of Maine, recently performed at the West Coast Dance Explosion Competition and Convention in Boston. Garrand and Maddie Poulin of Gorham were both awarded Performance Scholarship Awards.

Pickleball Is a Dilly of a Game

Chris Crawford



Photo credit Martha T. Harris

Seniors enjoy some exercise playing Pickleball at the Lakes Region Senior Center.

Seniors at the Lakes Region Senior Center at Little Falls School are joining a growing throng of enthusiastic people of all ages who love playing pickleball. The game is cross between ping-pong and tennis played on a badminton court with the net lowered to 34 inches at the center. Handball sized wood or composite paddles are used to hit a perforated plastic ball, similar to a wiffle ball. The game is easy for beginners to learn, but can develop into a fast-paced game. There are competitive leagues across the U.S. and around the world for experienced players.

The rules are similar to tennis, except that players must serve underhand and the serve and the return must bounce once in the court before being returned. After that, any ball may be hit on the fly. There is also a No-Volley zone, seven feet wide on either side of the net. The serve must clear this space. After that, the ball may land in the zone, but players cannot step in. Game is 11 points, and must be won by a two-point margin. Pickleball can be played indoors or out.

According to the USA Pickleball Association, the sport began in Seattle, Washington in 1965 when former U.S. Rep. Joel Pritchard, R-Wash, was looking for a fun activity for his family on a slow Saturday afternoon. Lore has it that he went out to the garage, rummaged around, found a couple of badminton racquets, sawed off the handles, and put up the badminton net. As for the name of the game, well apparently the family dog "Pickles" liked to run off with the loose balls.

There is some bad news in this otherwise feel-good story. The Lakes Region Senior Center has been borrowing a pickleball set from the Windham Recreation Department for a limited time and time is running out. The center is trying to find a way to fundraise in order to buy a pickleball set of their own so that this popular and healthy game can continue to be played and enjoyed.

For a more complete listing of rules visit the USA Pickleball Association www.usapa.org or the international Federation of Pickleball at <http://ipickleball.org>.

Lá Fhéile Pádraig

Chris Crawford

"Happy St. Patrick's Day" in Irish

According to the National Geographic Society, Irish-Americans basically invented St. Patrick's Day in America. Until the 1970s, St. Patrick's Day in Ireland was a minor religious holiday. A priest would acknowledge the feast day, and families would celebrate with a big meal, but that was about it. The first St. Patrick's Day parade was held in Boston in 1737.

The real St. Patrick wasn't even Irish. He was actually born in Britain around A.D. 390 to an aristocratic Christian family with a townhouse, a country villa, and plenty of slaves. What's more, as a young boy, Patrick professed no interest in Christianity. At 16, Patrick's world changed dramatically when he was kidnapped and sent overseas. His conversion came about while tending sheep as a slave in the chilly, mountainous countryside of Ireland. After seven years, he escaped on a pirate ship back to England and his family. A voice told

him to go back to Ireland, which he did, after becoming ordained as a priest. He spent the rest of his life trying to convert the Irish to Christianity, by all accounts a difficult task. He suffered many hardships. He died on March 17, 461 and was largely forgotten.

St. Patrick is credited with banishing snakes from Ireland. While it is true that no snakes exist on the island today, in fact there never were any. Ireland is an island surrounded by icy ocean too cold to allow snakes to migrate there. The snake was a metaphor for St. Patrick symbolically driving evil out of Ireland.

According to legend, St. Patrick used the Shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity. *Trifolium dubium*, the wild three-leaf clover is considered to be the official shamrock. It is an annual plant that germinates in the spring and is apparently becoming scarce due to several harsh winters in Ireland.

Community

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

pinhole photographs and collaged photo objects on Friday, Mar. 16 at 1 p.m. in Burnham Lounge, Robie Andrews Hall, Gorham campus. FMI, 780.5008.

The Maine Saxophone Project, with USM School of Music's Bill Street, will perform on Sunday, Mar. 18 at 5 p.m. in Corthell

Concert Hall, USM Gorham. Free. FMI, 780-5555.

The USM School of Music's Wind Ensemble will perform on Sunday, Mar. 18 at 2 p.m. in Corthell Concert Hall, USM Gorham. \$6/\$3. FMI, 780-5555.

Early College for GHS Students

FROM PAGE 6

System's Early College for ME program is a comprehensive program designed to create a stronger bridge from high school to Maine community colleges for students who have the potential to succeed in college but have no plans to enroll. Early College for ME provides students with a \$2,000 scholarship for a two-year program at any of the seven community colleges in Maine, or a \$1,000 scholarship for a one-year program. The program also covers tuition, fees and books if a student chooses to complete up to two college-level courses during the senior year of high school. The program is offered at 74 schools across Maine and serves over 1,700 students a year, including several students at Gorham High School.

Students who participate in Early College for ME are selected by the school and must submit an application. To be considered for the program, students must be a junior, a responsible member of the school community, a Maine resident for at least one year, able to attend college full-time for consecutive semesters, and capable of succeeding in college but have no definite plans. Schools may also consider if the student has a financial need or if the student would be the first family member to attend college.

Chris Ike, the regional director for Early College for ME at Southern Maine Community College (SMCC) begins working with GHS students who participate in the program during the second semester of the junior year. In addition to assessing college readiness skills, Ike provides resources to boost grades, math and literacy skills, and continues

to provide support to the student while in college.

Through St. Joseph's College in Standish, seniors and second semester juniors following a college-preparatory program can take up to four college courses over three semesters through the Early Scholars Program. To participate, students must have a B+ cumulative average and recommendation from a guidance counselor. Students receive a discounted price of \$100 per course, but are responsible for the cost of textbooks and lab fees.

The Academ-e program through the University of Maine at Orono offers online courses in mathematics, arts, humanities and social sciences. Students can apply credit hours to a UMaine degree program or to other colleges and universities, and still earn credit towards high school.

The Early Study-Aspirations program through the University of Southern Maine is available to juniors and seniors. Students must have an overall B average, be enrolled in a Maine public high school, be at least sixteen years of age at the start of the semester and have a recommendation from a guidance counselor. Students can take any course with approval from the university and school guidance counselor as long as space is available and prerequisites have been satisfied.

In an effort to further promote higher education, sophomores and juniors at GHS had the opportunity to tour the campuses of SMCC, the University of New England and the University of New Hampshire for the past two years.

the LRSC is not sitting idly by. They are busy writing by-laws and will apply for nonprofit status so that they will be eligible to apply for grants. They are also planning fundraisers and looking for business sponsors in the various communities. LRSC has a wish list of items needed at the center including a computer, a Wii game system, and pickleball equipment.

If you are interested in becoming a

sponsor, would like to become a member (membership is \$10 per year), have items to donate, or are aware of a possible facility, please call Glenn Lynds at 893-9088 or e-mail him at gilynds@roadrunner.com with contact information and location of the facility. Please feel free to drop by the Lakes Region Senior Center. There is a lot going on.



Fast Food

Hurricane Road caller reported a suspicious vehicle in the area. Subject was eating their dinner.

Caller reported that an elderly female with a walker at the Cumberland Farms appeared to be lost.

Main Street caller reported that while they were in the store, someone broke into their car and stole money.

Maple Drive caller reported that their neighbor knocked on their door and stated that their car had been stolen.

Sebago Lake Road caller requested to speak with an officer regarding an ongoing harassment case.

Finn Parker Road caller requested to speak with an officer regarding the theft of copper plates, wire and ground wires.

Caller reported seeing a red strobe light flashing in the window of the food pantry.

Gray Road caller reported a theft from their residence by known persons.

Brandon's Way caller reported receiving multiple harassing phone calls.

Elkins Road caller reported that they had lost their wedding band.

Main Street caller reported suspicious activity. Subject was an employee.

Valley View Drive caller reported an accident involving a motor vehicle and trees.

Laurel Pines Drive caller requested to speak with an officer regarding having farm animals in a subdivision.

Harriman Way caller reported that their child was home alone and someone was knocking on their door.

Burnham Road caller reported that there was a loose horse running in the road.

Dow Road man was arrested for OUI.

Dingley Spring Road man was arrested for domestic violence assault and obstructing report of a crime.

Elm Street man was arrested for OUI (1 prior), unlawful possession of scheduled drug and criminal speeding (30+ mph over limit).

New Hampshire man was arrested for OUI and failing to notify police of a motor vehicle accident.

Joanne Howard Lavigne
5/2/55 - 2/25/12

Joanne was born in Portland, ME and spent her younger years in Gorham moving to Saco as she was beginning high school. She graduated from Thornton Academy in 1973. She and her husband Al traveled cross country and completed their college education at Chapman College in Orange, CA in 1979.

Summers and high school years were spent at Bay View Beach in Saco – playing, growing up and working. She proudly began her cooking career at Bay View Lodge. Later she and Al owned the Corner Cafe in Springvale. Her most recent employment was at Barkley's Restaurant in Kennebunkport.

Joanne was a great hostess and loved entertaining – her birthday parties really showed her flair for party planning. She loved being outdoors for any reason and enjoyed being active in sports in high school and through her adult life. She had a great sense of humor and enjoyed gardening, cross-stitch, doing puzzles and playing cards.

She and Al Lavigne were married in 1979 and they made their home in Waterboro, ME. Joanne was a devoted mother to Jenny and adored her grandchildren Devon and Izzy.

Joanne was predeceased by her parents, S. Dwight and Phyllis Howard and her brothers Bruce and Billy Howard. She is survived by Albert Lavigne -her husband of 32 years; her daughter Jennifer Lavigne Dube and husband Matt; grandchildren Devon and Izzy Dube. Also by sisters Karen (Kaya) Emmons and husband Doug of Biddeford; Barbara Gould and husband Bob of Gorham. She will be sadly missed by her extended family of in-laws, nieces and nephews as well as many close friends.

A celebration of her life will be held at her home at 22 Mill Pond Drive in Waterboro on May 5th at 3:00PM. If desired, donations may be made to a charity of your choice.

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calendar

THURSDAY, MAR. 15

- Activities of your choice, 9 a.m. Lakes Region Senior Center.
- Pot Luck Lunch and St. Patrick's Day entertainment, Noon, \$2 donation. Lakes Region Senior Center. Open to public. FMI, 892-6326.
- Gorham Food Pantry, 9-11 a.m., located in St. Anne's Catholic Church parking lot.
- Story Hour for 3-5 yr olds, 10-11 a.m., No. Gorham Public Library. Stories, songs & crafts. FMI, 892-2575.

FRIDAY, MAR. 16

- Baked Haddock Dinner, Parish Hall at St. Anne's Church, Gorham, 5-6:30 p.m. \$8/\$4. Sponsored by Knights of Columbus. Cheese pizza may be substituted. FMI, 839-4857.

SATURDAY, MAR. 17

- First Parish Congregational Church, Chicken Pie Supper, 5-6:30 p.m. \$9/\$5. All are welcome.

SUNDAY, MAR. 18

- Learn about modern day slavery at South Gorham Baptist Church, County Rd, 10:30 a.m. All are welcome.

MONDAY, MAR. 19

- Coffee Cafe, 9 a.m., Conversation & refreshments—\$1.50. Lakes Region Senior Center. FMI, 892-6326.
- Cribbage—all levels, 9:30 a.m., Lakes Region Senior Center. FMI, 892-6326.
- Gorham Food Pantry, 6-7 p.m., located in St. Anne's Catholic Church parking lot.
- Gorham Community Chorus Rehearsal, 7 p.m., Village School. FMI, 839-3517.

TUESDAY, MAR. 20

- Exercise Video, 9:30 a.m., Lakes Region Senior Center. FMI, 892-6326.
- Card games & board games, 10 a.m., Lakes Region Senior Center. FMI, 892-6326.
- Knitting with Florence, 10 a.m. Lakes Region Senior Center. FMI, 892-6326.
- Crime Scene Investigation with Detective Sergeant Thompson, 6 p.m., geared for a younger audience, Baxter Library.

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 21

- Learn and play poker with Ray, 10 a.m., Lakes Region Senior Center. FMI, 892-6326.
- Bunko Dice game with Marge, 1 p.m. Lakes Region Senior Center. FMI, 892-6326.
- Scrapbooking with Avis, 1 p.m., Lakes Region Senior Center. FMI, 892-6326.
- Senior Community Meal, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., St. Anne's Catholic Church, \$3.50. FMI, 839-4857.
- Prayer Shawl Knitting Group, 1-2:30 p.m., St. Anne's Catholic Church. All are welcome. FMI, 839-4857.

- Toddlers in the Library, 10-10:30 a.m., No. Gorham Public Library. FMI, 892-2575.
- Gorham Economic Development Corp Meeting, 8 a.m., Gorham Municipal Center, 75 South St.
- MDOT Public Hearing—Curtis Bridge Rehab, 6 p.m., Gorham Municipal Center, 75 South St.

THURSDAY, MAR. 22

- Bingo, 10 a.m., Lakes Region Senior Center. Open to public.
- Gorham Food Pantry, 9-11 a.m., located in St. Anne's Catholic Church parking lot.
- Story Hour for 3-5 yr olds, 10-11 a.m., No. Gorham Public Library. Stories, songs & crafts. FMI, 892-2575.
- GHS Guidance Dept. College Information Night, 6:30-8:00 p.m., GHS library.

FRIDAY, MAR. 23

- Baked Haddock Dinner, Parish Hall at St. Anne's Church, Gorham, 5-6:30 p.m. \$8/\$4. Sponsored by Knights of Columbus. Cheese pizza may be substituted. FMI, 839-4857.

MONDAY, MAR. 26

- Coffee Cafe, 9 a.m., Lakes Region Senior Center, \$1.50. FMI, 892-6326.
- Cribbage, 9:30 a.m., Lakes Region Senior Center. All levels welcome. FMI, 892-6326.
- Gorham Community Chorus Rehearsal, 7 p.m., Village School. FMI, 839-3517.

TUESDAY, MAR. 27

- Exercise Video, 9:30 a.m., Lakes Region Senior Center. FMI, 892-6326.
- Card games & board games, 10 a.m., Lakes Region Senior Center. FMI, 892-6326.
- Knitting with Florence, 10 a.m. Lakes Region Senior Center. FMI, 892-6326.

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 28

- Learn and play poker with Ray, 10 a.m., Lakes Region Senior Center. FMI, 892-6326.
- Dominoes, 1 p.m., Lakes Region Senior Center. FMI, 892-6326.
- Senior Community Meal, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., St. Anne's Catholic Church, \$3.50. FMI, 839-4857.
- Prayer Shawl Knitting Group, 1-2:30 p.m., St. Anne's Catholic Church. All are welcome. FMI, 839-4857.
- Toddlers in the Library, 10-10:30 a.m., No. Gorham Public Library. FMI, 892-2575.

THURSDAY, MAR. 29

- Bingo, 10 a.m., Lakes Region Senior Center. Open to public.
- Gorham Food Pantry, 9-11 a.m., located in St. Anne's Catholic Church parking lot.
- Early Release, grades K-12.

Baxter Memorial Library, 71 South St.
Cressey Road United Methodist Church, 81 Cressey Rd.
Food Pantry, St. Anne's Church Parking Lot, 299 Main St.
Gorham Clothes Closet, Little Falls Activity Center, 40 Acorn St. (off Rt. 202)
Gorham Middle School, 106 Weeks Rd.
Gorham Municipal Center, 75 South St.
GPAC, Gorham Performing Art Center, Gorham High School, 41 Morrill Ave.
Lake Region Senior Center, 40 Acorn St. (off Rt. 202)
No. Gorham Public Library, 2 Standish Neck Rd.
St. Anne's Catholic Church, 299 Main St.
Village School, 12 Robie St.

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The Gorham Ecumenical Food Pantry is open every Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m., the second Wednesday of the month from 6 to 7 p.m., and the third Monday of the month from 6 to 7 p.m. Open to anyone in need of food. The Pantry is located at 299 B Main Street in the Saint Anne's Church parking lot (across from Narragansett Elementary School).



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- Watch Moody's deploy an airbag
- Eat! Eat! Eat!
- Win money!
- Get a massage!
- Pet a dog
- Open a bank account
- Get investment advice
- Watch local dancers perform
- Get fitness advice
- Bounce! Bounce! Bounce!
- Collect freebies
- Win vendor prizes
- Play The Price is Right!
- Buy Girl Scout cookies
- Catch up with friends!
- Play laser tag

**JOIN US FOR
A DAY OF FUN!**



**JOIN US AT
GORHAM
MARKETPLACE!**

**SATURDAY
March 31, 2012
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
USM Costello
Field House**



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**PIRATES VS. SOUND TIGERS
SATURDAY 3/17, 7:00PM**
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See the Pirates in one of a kind
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