

# Gorham Times

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TOWN OF  
**Gorham, Maine**  
—FOUNDED 1736—

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

## School Threats Investigated

BY SHERI FABER  
*Gorham Times Staff Writer*

"We err on the side of caution," said Gorham Police Chief Ronald Shepard in reference to the response to threats of a potential shooting at Gorham High School (GHS) on December 21. "Every effort was being taken to ensure a safe environment for students and staff," Shepard continued. The threat came a week after 28 people were killed in a school shooting in Newtown, CT. December 21 was the end of the Mayan calendar which supposedly meant their would be a major calamity or even "doomsday."

The Gorham investigation came

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

## The Village Lit with Snowflakes

BY SHERI FABER  
*Gorham Times Staff Writer*



Photo credit Georgia Banks

The new holiday light display in Gorham village.

The holiday lights attached to utility poles in the village were authorized as part of the budget approved by the Town Council during budget talks last year. The Council approved an expenditure of \$20,000 for the project and Councilor Gagnon sponsored an item to authorize the purchase of as many lights as possible with that money. In the past, it had been a comparatively simple process to obtain the agreement of Central Maine Power and Fairpoint Communications who own the poles but this time the agreement was considerably more complicated and the Town had to negotiate with those companies to find a resolution that would work for everybody. Once that was accomplished, the lights were installed.

## Gorham Welcomes 2013 in Style!

BY VIRGINIA WILDER CROSS  
*New Year Gorham Chairperson*

Several hundred people attended one or more of the several performances offered on New Year's Eve in Gorham, and from all reports, this year's event lived up to all expectations.

The winning snow sculpture was an amazing likeness of the newly renovated Gorham House of Pizza. The Coleman family took home a \$100 gift certificate for their efforts. The second place \$50 certificate was awarded to the Marsh family for Sam's sculpture of a large duck looking over a New Year egg. The third place \$25 certificate went to the Miner family for a very pretty pink heart symbolizing love.

With the several inches of fresh snow dropped by Mother Nature, the Public Works Department was able to create clumps of snow for sculpting in Robie Park. "This was our first attempt at a snow sculpting contest and we were pleased at the attempts to make art out of clumps of snow," said Cindy Hazelton, Director of the Gorham Rec. Dept. "We hope we can continue this event for future New Year Gorham celebrations."

The van transport and the horse-drawn wagons were a popular means of transportation - most people parked their cars at the high school complex and used the event's transport to get to the various venues in other locations in the village.



Photo credit courtesy of New Year Gorham

The Coleman Family's Gorham House of Pizza won first prize in the snow sculpture competition.

According to Vicky Lloyd, owner of Centre of Movement, "We had a perfectly lovely evening at the Centre during New Year Gorham." At the Centre, folks enjoyed a variety show, an energetic drum circle, dancing, and more.

Each of the performances was treated to an enthusiastic and appreciative audience. From the first strand of spaghetti to the last boom of the fireworks, the evening was filled with surprises, good music and fun. Kids had their faces painted,

enjoyed lots of treats at the Municipal Center, touched unusual animals, and were amazed by some magical puppets. Others enjoyed music, science, puppetry, and the hilarious antics of Randy Judkins before the spectacular grand finale at 10 p.m.

The committee will meet before the end of January to begin planning for New Year Gorham 2013. If anyone is interested in joining the committee, please contact Virginia Wilder Cross at 222-2248 or info@newyeargorham.org.

## Town Council Proposes Latest Plan for Public Safety

BY SHERI FABER  
*Gorham Times Staff Writer*

While there is general agreement that both Little Falls School and the current Public Safety Building on Main Street need work, the Council has had a difficult time making a decision regarding the best plan for the two properties. An initial plan called for a major upgrade of the Public Safety Building at a cost of about \$4,000,000 and also called for spending \$500,000 to upgrade Little Falls School. Voters approved the Little Falls upgrade last November. The referendum on the Public Safety was scheduled to be on the ballot this coming June but that plan has been dropped. Currently the Council is looking at spending \$6.3 million to renovate and expand Little Falls School for use as the public safe-

ty headquarters. Both the Police Chief Ronald Shepard and the Fire Chief Robert Lefebvre believe that the Police and Fire Departments should remain in one building as it better enables the departments to work together and both departments are supportive of this plan.

The Council voted 4-2 (Gagnon, Phillips, with Robinson absent), to ask voters to approve a referendum in June for \$6.3 million to upgrade and expand Little Falls School and make it the new public safety building. The Council formed a building committee that considered seven options for the two properties. After reviewing the options, the Council agreed with the option recommended by the Building Committee and decided to recommend the \$6.3 million plan as the one that would best meet the needs of Public

Safety and of the town as a whole. There will be a public hearing on May 7, prior to the referendum vote on June 11.

The current plan calls for two fire engines to remain at the current Public Safety building for emergencies in that part of town. The current Public Safety building would be used to house recreation programs and the senior center, both of which are currently located at Little Falls. The Council saw a number of potential advantages in moving public safety to Little Falls. There is much less traffic in that area which would make it easier for emergency response vehicles to get on the road. There is also more room at this property for expansion if needed at a later date. Renovating the current public safety may cause disruptions to fire and police during construction.

**SWEETS AND TREATS  
FOR GORHAM**

More on PAGE 3

**inside the Times**

**14** Blotter

**15** Calendar

**15** Classified

**14** Community

**4** Living

**5** Municipal

**3** Profile

**6** School

**8** Sports





The *Gorham Times* asked our three state legislators from Senate District Six, House District 129 and House District 130 to provide us with “News from Augusta.” We publish their articles on a rotating basis. The submissions are devoted to updates of legislative and administrative news, proposed and passed bills and laws, and developments and events that are of interest to and have an impact on Gorham residents. The *Gorham Times* reserves the right to edit the submissions and it further reserves the right to reject any submission, in its sole discretion.

# Thank You Senator Bartlett!

By REP. LINDA SANBORN  
*State Legislature*

On Dec. 5, 2012, the 126th Maine State Legislature was “sworn in” by Gov. Paul LePage. I look forward to much good work being done for the people of Maine this legislative session, in part due to the addition of Senator Jim Boyle and Rep. Andrew Mclean, both of whom I welcome! At the same time, the Honorable Phil Bartlett, a good friend and colleague, has termed out of the Senate after eight years of service, and will be sorely missed in Augusta. I wanted to take time to formally thank him for his years of service and his excellent accomplishments.

During his tenure, Phil helped our small businesses by expanding Pine-Tree Zones, which provide significant incentives for businesses to bring good paying jobs to Maine. He’s helped protect our families by banning dangerous chemicals from our children’s toys and securing money to ensure that our communities have access to clean and healthy drinking water.

Phil has helped our young people by expanding access to post-secondary education through the Opportunity Maine Program, which helps Maine students pay for college. The Educational

Opportunity Tax Credit reimburses Maine workers for student loan payments for those who earn an associates or bachelor’s degree in a Maine school and continue to live and work here after graduation. Businesses that pay employees’ student loans as an employee benefit are able to claim the tax credit, providing a strong incentive to expand or locate businesses here in Maine.

I hope to build on this program by making it available to Maine students who start their college studies out of state, but make the wise decision to transfer back into Maine higher education after a short time, to finish their degrees here, where they stay to live and work.

But the main focus of Sen. Bartlett’s work over the last eight years has been creating jobs and protecting our environment through clean energy. While co-chairing the Utilities and Energy Committee, Phil was instrumental in passing the Maine legislation to create the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, which sells carbon credits and uses the money it raises to help small businesses and homeowners increase their energy efficiency, saving them money and reducing pollution. Phil has been an outspoken champion

of wind power, promoting both a clean energy source and a new job creating industry for Maine. And Phil has worked hard to help Mainers improve their home energy efficiency and save money through the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program, which helps provide low-interest loans for homeowners.

Over the past eight years the Honorable Phil Bartlett has done a wonderful job representing Gorham, Scarborough and part of Westbrook in Augusta. While I know that Senator Jim Boyle will continue Phil’s legacy of leadership and hard work, I will miss having Phil in Augusta for the 126th Legislature. Thank you Phil for all you have done. Somehow, I know that you will be back serving the state in some fine way in the future – it is part of who you are!



Rep. Linda Sanborn  
(207) 939-2879  
(800) 423-2900  
replinda.sanborn@legislature.maine.gov

## AROUND TOWN

**Caring Touch Dog Grooming recently relocated** after 14 years in South Portland to 30 Harding Road, Gorham. For more information, contact Michele Purdy at 839-4490 and see ad on page 6.

**Maine Technology Institute awarded Pika Energy of Gorham**, a \$218,834 development loan to accelerate commercialization of a wind energy system for the residential market. The company raised matching funds in order to qualify for the money.

**Gorham received a planning grant** to develop a portion of the railroad track between New Portland Road and Hutcherson Drive into a trail. The engineering firm BH2M is developing the preliminary trail design.

**The town was awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence** in Financial Reporting for the eighth year in a row.

## GorhamTimes

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Feb. 6	Feb. 14
Feb. 20	Feb. 28

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Ad deadline is the Wednesday of the week prior to issue date. Go to www.gorhamtimes.com and click on the advertising link for schedule.

### 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. 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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# Sweets and Treats for Gorham...Oh My!

By JACKIE FRANCIS  
*Gorham Times Staff Writer*

Having recently opened its doors for business in early December, “The Sweet Shoppe,” Gorham’s very own candy and bakeshop located across the street from GHOP on Rte. 25, is producing the most irresistible of aromas from the pastries freshly baked each day, that just an innocent whiff while walking by an open door will lure you in for certain.

Locally owned and operated by Gorham resident Renee Bahmani, The Sweet Shoppe, has been a dream of Bahmani’s for years, having learned her craft from both her French Acadian grandmother and mother. Each morning Bahmani whips up a batch of her infamous chocolate and vanilla cupcakes with peanut butter frosting, a childhood favorite of hers. Raspberry tarts, cinnamon rolls, key lime pie, red velvet cake, muffins and bagels fill the bakery showcase. Fresh from the oven are the essential chocolate brownies, poppy seed and banana breads and some mornings, a little something extra special, like an apple “galette,” a term used in French cuisine to designate a flat, round pastry. A nice selection of gluten-free baked goods will be offered daily, says Bahmani, recognizing the growing number of people with wheat allergies.

The 700 square feet of freshly painted turquoise walls with stenciled phrases to live by – “Have your Cake and Eat it Too,” “Life is Short–Eat Dessert First,” – are lined with bins of self-serve penny candies sold by the pound, conjuring up memories of childhood days eating Pixie Stix filled with candied powder and tiny Candy Buttons adhered to strips of paper and



Photo credit Martha T. Harris

Standing in her colorful and newly opened Sweet Shoppe, Renee Bahmani displays her treats.

bitten off one by one. Sweet liquid fills the miniature wax candy bottles that are chewed on like gum after drinking the colorful juice, and for the more sophisticated palate, chocolate candies are sold by the pound, along with a generous selection of Haven’s Candies.

Bahmani and her husband have owned the “Calabash Café” in South Portland for 22 years serving lunch specials that include soups as well as desserts. “But I’ve always wanted to own my own space,” says Bahmani, “a place where I could just bake.” The “For Lease” sign in the window at the former flower shop beckoned her to stop by one day and take a look inside. “It was a perfect location and I decided to go for it.”

The Sweet Shoppe will offer a venue for cupcake decorating parties as well as personalized gift bags for all occasions – birthdays, weddings, showers and more.

Equal Exchange fair trade coffee along with specialty beverages such as lattes and cappuccinos can be enjoyed at your leisure while sitting on padded hassock seats surrounding glass tables. There’s something for everybody at The Sweet Shoppe – even popcorn!

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# USM Athletics To Host Town of Gorham Night

ADAPTED FROM USM PRESS RELEASE

In celebration of the longstanding partnership between the University of Southern Maine, the Gorham Recreation Department and the Town of Gorham, the University of Southern Maine and the Huskies’ Athletic Department will host “Gorham Night” on January 22. Gorham Night is the first in a series of events to celebrate the connections between the University of Southern Maine and the Town of Gorham.

The University of Southern Maine Huskies men’s and women’s basketball teams will host Little East Conference opponent Plymouth State University. As part of the Gorham Night celebration, the women’s game, which begins at 5:30 p.m., will feature a halftime performance by the third and fourth grade girls’ Gorham Recreation Department’s basketball program. The men’s game, which follows at 7:30 p.m., will include a halftime showcase for the third and fourth grade boys in the Gorham Recreation program.

USM student-athletes, as a part of the Huskies’ Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, annually invites members of the Gorham community to its Community Halloween Party and is currently involved in conducting recess and pen pal programs with Gorham primary schools.

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# Rome Wasn't Built in a Day

BY DR. ROB LAVOIE

How many times have you said to yourself, "My new year's resolution is..." Every January, my patients share their resolutions for the New Year and their reasons for them. "I need to lose 20 pounds." "I'm going to quit smoking." "I got a gym membership and I'm going to go three times a week."

Without fail each year, some folks do not last a week, most fade by the time taxes are due, and very few are able to make permanent changes. Why is this? Are some simply born without the willpower gene? I highly doubt it.

Humans are creatures of habit. We have a basic desire for routine and structure that makes it hard for us to introduce something different or to change the way we live. This is especially true with regard to our physical bodies.

Let me share two classic examples of this... Jim is a 45-year-old businessman who has put on a few extra pounds through the years. His annual checkup shows that his cholesterol and blood pressure are "borderline." This year, Jim vows to get back in shape. He wants to return to his college weight when he was an avid soccer player. He joins the gym and starts off with a bang. Two

weeks into his new routine, he is feeling stronger and losing weight. Week three, Jim decides to increase his workout intensity and ends up throwing out his back. Now Jim has four weeks of recovery time, which is just enough for him to gain the weight

**Allow yourself time for adequate sleep. Incorporate plenty of vegetables and fruits into your diet. Take the stairs or go for a walk – 30 minutes of vigorous activity a day will greatly improve your overall health.**

back and lose motivation. "Nah, next year will be my year," he says.

Val is a 55-year-old obese woman who is very happy with her career and life. She became a grandmother and watches her grandson on her days off. She fatigues easily chasing the toddler around and decides it is time to lose weight. She begins her diet on the first of the year. "From this moment on, I will eat yogurt for breakfast, salad for lunch, and chicken and rice for dinner," she promises herself. Val has trouble right from the beginning. She is getting headaches from the lack of sugar,

her stomach keeps grumbling, and she cannot sleep at night. Before long, Val is craving the foods she used to eat. Working and caring for her grandson consume her schedule. She finds herself cheating with a meal here and there. Two months down the road she throws in the towel, saying "I don't have the time or the energy for this right now."

Val and Jim made excellent attempts at their resolutions. Should they try again, it would be easier for them if they take into account the lessons learned from their failed attempt. The biggest pitfall with resolutions is the expectation. Jim wanted that athletic body back. His mind said yes but his body said not so fast. Val just wanted to keep up with her grandson, but her love for food overcame her.

On January 1st each year, millions begin the journey to become healthier. Some make it a week, a few last a month, and very few develop and maintain new lifelong healthy habits. This year, resolve to abide by a few fundamentals:

Allow yourself time for adequate sleep. Incorporate plenty of vegetables and fruits into your diet. Take the stairs or go for a walk – 30 minutes of vigorous activity a day will greatly improve your overall health.

And remember... Rome wasn't built in a day.



Robert Lavoie, D.C. is the owner of Chiropractic & Massage Clinic of Gorham.

# Spelling Bee Brings in Big Money

BY MEGAN BENNETT  
GHS Intern

The "Spel Chekers" also known as Donna LaNigra, Scott Caulfield, and Amanda Vickerson, shouted in triumph at their victory as Spelling Bee Champions. Along with the 80 people that attended this event, there were at least 10 teams participating in the Bee. Janet Wyper, a board member of the Gorham Educational Foundation, said, "It was a total blast. With local comedian Brian Brinegar as our Spell Master for the evening, we were laughing so hard sometimes, we could hardly get the letters out to spell (or misspell) the words. Not to mention the hijinks of the team members many with costumes including: Thor, the spelling god; the Yakkers (kayakers, paddles and pfd's included); and the Gorham Rec Dept wearing ref uniforms and led by the hilarious Cindy Hazleton. The support from local businesses was fantastic, including Gorham Savings Bank and Wright Express as lead sponsors."

The money raised that night was close to \$9,000. This money will be used to fund grants for the teachers for their "Big Ideas" for curriculum enhancing and student leadership projects.



Photo credit Martha T. Harris

# Back Pain

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# Writing Contest Winners

BY PAMELA TURNER

Director, Baxter Memorial Library

The Friends of Baxter Memorial Library Writing Contests have been part of the library's landscape for quite a number of years. Emma Deans won or placed in the contest several times while in high school. After an absence to attend college and such, she came back to the contest and won first prize in the Adult Flash Fiction Category. Congratulations to Emma. Her winning entry is below.

Additional winning entries will be published in future issues of the Gorham Times.

For more information on library programs and services please visit the website at [www.baxterlibrary.org](http://www.baxterlibrary.org) or call the library at 222-1190.

## Fiat Lux

By Emma Deans

"I've always wanted to get into a fight," she said, motioning with her fists in the air. "Just a small one—a few punches, a puffy lip, a bloody nose—that kind of thing."

Zoe was young. She had light brown hair and green eyes and loved the smell of pinesap.

"Well, I've always wanted to ride the trains around Europe. So I'll cut you a deal, kid. We'll meet up in England. We'll just hop on any old train we see. We'll take it as far as it goes. Then, we'll take it back. I'll teach you how to fight and we'll go into an Irish bar and find a lass for you to take on."

Jason was young. He had dark brown hair, brown eyes, and loved the smell of burning wood.

They were just kids in their twenties. Just two strangers who met by happenstance in the forest—Jason a trail worker, Zoe a hiker with a pack of friends.

"Well, all right, but you'll get my back and everything, right? I mean, I don't just want you to dump me off in this Irish bar and hit the road," said Zoe.

"Nah, nah. Of course I'll be there to smooth things out. After you throw a few punches, I'll get everyone in the bar

laughing and drinking. I've got a way with winning people over," said Jason.

Rationale dictated that their paths wouldn't actually cross again. They would never meet in England, never ride trains around Europe, never fight in an Irish bar. But how alluring it was to dwell inside that feeling of hopeful romanticism. Their tongues crafted sentences comprised of future tenses—verbs set far enough ahead

on an imaginary timeline so that the very idea of these supposed realities hushed the unlikeliness of them. The dreamers draped suppositions across their hearts as warm quilts of stories stitched together by fireside glances and coy gestures in a most wild place.

Zoe gathered Jason's memories within the images of logging boots, red suspenders, and his oval belt buckle, its initial a cursive J. His scent was spearmint tobacco chew and honey lip balm. He tilted his head back when he laughed, mouth opening to the sky. His eyes darted from left to right when he joked or lied.

How perfect these details aligned themselves in front of Zoe, teasing her with their fleeting presence. Tomorrow they'd part ways.

Zoe remembered being a young Catholic girl on the day of her First Communion—how Father Simmons had patted her head and told her, "Fiat lux, little child. Let there be light in your life and you shall never walk alone."

Here's a portrait of Zoe, 15 years later, watching embers from a fire lift into the air, watching flames flicker upon another's face, watching as the yellow drifts onto the palms of her own hands.

Here's a portrait of a common girl looking for a story to believe.



Pam Turner holds an MLS from Simmons College and is active in statewide library activities including the Maine Library Association and the Minerva Library Consortium. She may be reached at the library at 839-5031 or [pturner@msln.net](mailto:pturner@msln.net).

# Make a Difference For Maine Public Libraries

BY PAMELA TURNER

Director, Baxter Public Library

For the first time the 2012, Maine State Income Tax form CP (Voluntary Contributions) includes a check-off for the Maine Public Library Fund. By law, all contributions to this fund must be used to help Maine public libraries. This fund, administered by the Maine State Library, has the potential to help public libraries like the Baxter Memorial Library with new eBook content, interlibrary loan support including delivery service, continuing education, and many other services.

To give you an example of the importance of this effort, the Baxter Memorial

Library processes approximately 25,000 interlibrary loan transactions each year. The delivery service involves libraries from all around the state and is administered by the Maine State Library.

Without the delivery service, interlibrary loan as we know it today would not be possible. The Maine State Tax Form Check off for the Maine Public Library Fund would help fund such vital services as the interlibrary loan delivery service.

Interested taxpayers can check off number eight (Maine Public Library Fund) on Maine Schedule CP to make a donation.

For more information, please contact Library Director Pamela Turner at 222-1190 or [pturner@msln.net](mailto:pturner@msln.net).



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School Threats

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

about after a vice-principal in York County sent an email to other school administrators saying he heard from students there might be a school shooting and asking if others heard about it. During the course of these conversations, Gorham was mentioned as a possible target. GHS students reported a text message threatening violence against GHS on December 21. Students in surrounding communities heard about the alleged text message and the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office joined the Westbrook, Windham and Gorham Police Departments in the investigation. The Maine Information and Analysis Center, which has the capacity to do Internet research, examined Facebook and Twitter posts reporting that they had "chased baseless rumors throughout the past 24 hours and found no credible threat." The Maine Department of Public Safety also investigated and found "no credible threat against any Maine school". Gorham assigned three officers to GHS and two to GMS for December 20 and 21. Other officers were pulled from their usual patrol duties to be at the other schools throughout those two days. Six officers conducted interviews and found some students who had some knowledge of a text message

threatening violence, but none had any firsthand knowledge. On December 20, the Maine Department of Public Safety issued a statement saying, "While law enforcement has found no credible threat, all agencies involved, including local school districts working with state and local law enforcement and the Maine Department of Education, remain vigilant and committed to the task of school emergency preparedness and take seriously all possible threats." In a letter dated December 19 that was posted on the Gorham School Department website, Superintendent Ted Sharp wrote, "While threats like this are, unfortunately, not uncommon in our society, please know that we take each one most seriously and that each school has a constantly updated emergency [crisis plan], a plan that has been developed through a combined effort of law enforcement and safety officials and school administrators and staff. All staff members are familiar with these plans and understand their respective responsibilities should they need to be implemented. While no plan is fail-safe, I can assure you that this group leaves nothing to chance when developing and updating these plans."

GHS Music Department Hosts Mattress Sale

**WHAT:** Mattress Sale  
**WHO:** GHS Music Dept. Fundraiser  
**WHEN:** Sunday, February 3 - 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
**WHERE:** GHS Cafeteria

The Gorham High School Music Department is hosting a mattress sale on Sunday, February 3. The sale is at the GHS Cafeteria from 10 a.m.

to 4 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the department, which includes band and chorus, on their annual trip to Washington, D.C. in April. Along with Consumer Digest Best Buy Mattresses and a team of experts, over 20 mattress sets can be purchased 30 to 60 percent lower than retail price. Prices start at \$199; delivery is available.



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DECEMBER 12, 2012

School Committee Report

ROBIN SOMES  
Gorham Times Staff Writer

In his monthly report to the Committee, Superintendent Ted Sharp highlighted what was proving to be an interminable issue, the school budget.

According to Sharp, there will be a \$35,000,000 curtailment as mandated by Governor Paul LePage as part of the cost reduction efforts to balance the state budget for the current fiscal year. Citing 2009 as an example when then-governor Baldacci ordered a curtailment of \$27,000,000, Sharp noted that the Gorham school district's share at that time was \$324,552, which indicated that this year's figure could be significantly larger. In addition, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), another source of funding, were themselves experiencing some \$100 million in arrears. As Sharp explained, the DHHS and DOE were usually two departments that had money, and contributed the largest amounts to the school districts. He noted that the \$100 million shortfall, part of the state budget, was a concern that it may affect schools throughout the state. Toward this end, Finance Officer Hollis Cobb and Sharp issued a "temporary" freeze on discretionary spending.

From the current budget, Sharp touched on the FY14 budget, now in a preliminary stage. Information from Jim Rier, director of School Finance and Operations, indicated that a reduction in General Purpose Aid to all public schools in the state would be significant, though specific amounts were unknown. Sharp explained that Medicaid had been a source of funding over the years and had supported every district

throughout the state, though at a precipitously declining rate. "We're not projecting more than a five figure contribution from that as we go into FY14" stated Sharp who noted that prior contributions have been in the high six figures.

Sharp commented on the cumulative effect of five years of the recession and weak economy critically compromised both public and private sectors. "It's really compromised our human resources and capital resources." He noted that while

there had not been anyone who lost their job, "it's getting increasingly more difficult ... and this particular year, I'm most concerned because there's nothing much left in the cupboard that's been able to help us." He said the challenge this year will be to preserve existing programs

and staff, maintain investment in facilities and the infrastructure that support the programs. "We've got to think very deliberately and invest and apply our human resources and financial resources wisely and judiciously. We do that every year, but we've got a much larger burr under our saddle as we go into FY14. I don't mean to focus on the glass half empty as most people know I'm a 'glass half full' guy but I also believe we all need to be realistic about the challenges before us."

In other business, the School Committee voted 6-0 to establish a Building Committee to lead the renovation and expansion of GHS and to authorize Committee Chair Kyle Currier and Superintendent Sharp to recommend its members. Members will comprise one or more School Committee members, at least one Town Council member, GHS staff, Finance Officer Hollis Cobb, Facilities Director Norm Justice, GHS Principal Chris Record and Athletic Director Tim Spears. Members of the community are also to be included.

*We've got to think very deliberately and invest and apply our human resources and financial resources wisely and judiciously.*

*Ted Sharp  
Superintendent*



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# We All Have a Dream

Martin Luther King shared his dreams for our country in his famous and passionate speech nearly fifty years ago. Are those dreams still important to us all? Do we have new dreams to share? What are the dreams of newcomers to the United States? How should a community listen to the ideas and goals of its diverse people? It's time to think about answers to these questions as we prepare to observe Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. All are welcome to join Peggy Marchand and Danielle Grady for a brief candlelit observance to honor Dr. King, on January 21, 4:30 p.m. at the gazebo at Baxter Memorial Library. Please bring a non-perishable food item or donation for Gorham's Ecumenical Food Pantry.

BY STACY SALLINEN  
*Gorham Times Staff Writer*

In less than a week, people from across the nation will honor the life, achievements, and legacy of one of the most influential people in the civil rights movements. Monday, January 21 marks Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, a federal holiday that is also known as a day of service intended to empower individuals, strengthen communities, bridge barriers, create solutions to social problems and move us closer to Dr. King's vision of a beloved community.

It was on August 28, 1963 when Dr. King eloquently delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech where he called for an end to racism. Almost fifty years have passed since he shared his dream. Today the United States has become a sanctuary for people around the world who are facing oppression.

Many of these people have taken a leap of faith to pursue their own dreams, and now call Gorham, or the surrounding towns, their home. Three students from Gorham Adult Education's English language learner program recently learned about Dr. King and how his work allows them certain freedom and rights. Students shared some of the personal details of their journey to freedom, along with their hopes and dreams.

The day I met with the students, their teacher, Kate Rotroff, lead an activity to identify the freedoms the students hoped to find when they came to the U.S. By the time they finished, the white board was covered with words that echoed the U.S. Constitution and the freedoms

Martin Luther King fought and died for. Below are three personal histories for these Gorham Adult Education English Language learners.

**Bella Smith** became pregnant as a teenager before marriage. In certain tribes in Ethiopia, a child born out of wedlock is considered to be "impure." To rid the family of evil and bad luck, babies are often separated from the family and village by being left alone in the jungle or by drowning in a river. To prevent this from happening, Smith left her home for the entire duration of her pregnancy. When she returned home, her family raised the baby, a girl named Isreal, as Smith's sister, not as her daughter. Smith later married Berekat Abebe and gave birth to a second child, a son named Solomon.

In the mid-1980's, Smith escaped the turmoil, famine and fighting in Ethiopia, her homeland of 20 years. Unfortunately, as a result of Abebe's involvement with civil rights and political affiliation, he was killed.

Faced with a difficult decision for any parent, Smith decided to flee and left her two young children in Ethiopia for her mother to raise. She found refuge in Somalia, but life there wasn't much better. Smith explained that white people and Christians were often killed, and soon realized her rights and freedoms were even more restricted. When the civil war in Somalia broke out, Smith once again fled, spending three days walking by foot during the day and hiding in the jungle at night. She was in constant danger. Finally reaching the United Nations, she soon found refuge in the U.S.

Smith eventually traveled back to Ethiopia to bring her children to the U.S. Her daughter, Isreal, 30, lives in Massachusetts and her son, Solomon, 28, lives in Las Vegas.

Smith, now 47, has been living in Gorham for approximately twenty-two years. She works for Gorham Recreation Department's Before and After the Bell program. Smith eventually remarried but then divorced, and has two other children, Michael, 13, and Katelyn, 12, who both attend Gorham schools.

Learning the English language is a challenge to Smith. She earned her high school diploma, but dreams of furthering her education to become a Certified Nurse Assistant, travelling and improving her English. Smith loves sports and working out in gyms.

**Martine Dusabe**, a 24-year-old refugee from Burundi, left her homeland in search of a life without fear, suffering or violence. Like young women in the U.S., she also wanted to be free to make her own choices and to speak out against injustice. In her country doing so can mean jail time or death.

Dusabe is now proudly sporting red-highlighted braids – a process that took about ten hours to complete. In Burundi, the braids would have been allowed, but the red highlights would have been forbidden in her country in central Africa. Also forbidden is wearing short skirts; those found in violation would be jailed. The traditional wardrobe consists of wraparounds, or pagnes. Dusabe



Photo credit: Stacy Sallinen

**Bella** (left, back row) and **Martha Jefferson** (right, back row) and **Martine Dusabe** (front row) overcame multiple hardships on their journey to experience freedom, and are now pursuing their own dreams with help from Gorham Adult Education.

explained that wearing anything different is considered to be impolite.

Traveling to the U.S. on a student visa, Dusabe sought help from friends who previously lived in the Congo but now call Maine home. Dusabe holds the equivalent of a high school diploma from Burundi, and is in her second year of attending ELL classes through Gorham Adult Education. She hopes to attend college, possibly for accounting, in the fall.

Dusabe's pursuit of her dreams is not without hardship or challenges. She left behind her mother, father and five siblings in Burundi who are still living in a country with a long history of political and social unrest.

Dusabe is awaiting approval of her application for U.S. citizenship. She is unable to work in the U.S. and must rely on friends and her church for support. Still, Dusabe loves "feeling free" to make her own choices despite these hardships.

Desabe lived in Portland for a short time, but found city life to be too much. She now resides in Gorham and enjoys cooking and watching TV.

**Martha Jefferson** changed her given name from Golaleh Rashidi, which means "beautiful tulip," so people could pronounce and spell her name. Raised in Kurdistan, Iran, she attended school for only eight years before her parents pulled her out to help care for her siblings once her older sister married and moved out of the family home. Jefferson, who was 12 years old at the time, recalled crying and beg-

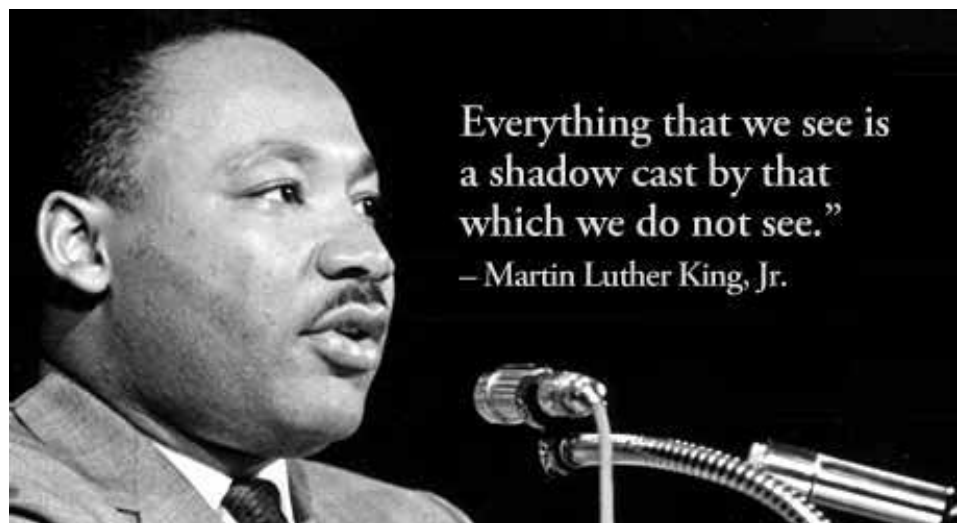
ging her parents to allow her to continue with school.

In 1998, she and her husband, now known as Marty Jefferson, fled their home in Kurdistan, Iran where the social, political and cultural rights of the Kurds have been repressed for many years. Mr. Jefferson was ordered to be killed because of his work in fighting for civil rights of the Kurdish people. "All we wanted was to live a free life," said Ms. Jefferson.

The Jefferson's took refuge in Kurdistan, Iraq until 2000, and once again found themselves in danger. They fled quickly, leaving behind most of their beloved possessions with the exception of some photographs. Despite today's modern transportation, the Jefferson's were not safe to escape by car, train or plane. For two weeks, they traveled by foot through treacherous terrain and received help from other Kurdish villages. They ended up in Turkey, where Ms. Jefferson recalled sleeping on a cardboard box and boiling "ick" to eat.

The Jefferson's arrived in Maine in 2003 with help from the United Nations and friends who lived in Maine. They tried their hand at owning a small grocery store in Portland, but later sold it so Ms. Jefferson could stay home with her first child. The Jefferson's have two children, Martin, 11, and Martina, 4. Ms. Jefferson finds joy in singing.

Ms. Jefferson is determined to get the education she missed. She is now on a path at Gorham Adult Education to complete her GED by next December. Her career goal is to enter the field of pediatric medicine.



Everything that we see is  
a shadow cast by that  
which we do not see."

– Martin Luther King, Jr.



# GHS Winter Sports Team Highlights

COMPILED BY JEFF PIKE  
Gorham Times Sports Writer

**Boys' Track:** At the USM Relays on December 29, **Travis Grant** won the pentathlon (55 hurdles, high jump, shot put, long jump and 1000 meter) scoring 2,888 points while the sprint medley relay Team of **Mitch Rossignol, Doug Beahm, Austin Bell** and **Jon Gray** won with a time of 3:55.05. In the pole vault, **Alex Johnson, Dylan Truong** and **Tommy Pequinot** won with a combined height of 29 feet. At press time, three members of the team had qualified for the State Championship track meet: Grant in the long jump, triple jump and 55 hurdles; **Connor Dunn** in the triple jump; and **Alex Johnson** in the pole vault. Dunn had turned in the best triple jump of the season thus far within the SMAA conference (40' 4.5"). Rossignol, Beahm, Bell and Gray had also turned in the best SMAA 1600 meter relay time of the season—3:53.08.

**Girls' Track:** **Sophia Swiatek** had turned in the top performance in the SMAA in the pole vault thus far this season with a height of 9'00" on December 15.

**Boys' Basketball:** At press time the Rams were 4-6 and ranked 11th in Western Maine Class A. The team

is battling for one of the final playoff spots as 11 teams will qualify for the post-season tournament.

**Girls' Basketball:** After three straight wins, the Rams were 6-4 at press time and ranked eighth in Western Maine Class A. After missing the first three games of the season with an arm injury, senior **Kristen Ross** scored 22 and 24 points in her first two games back. Ross leads the team in scoring (15.7 points per game) followed by **Lexi Merrifield** (10.9 points per game). Merrifield also leads the team in rebounding with 8.3 per game while Ross averages 6.6 per game.

**Girls Hockey:** The team's record stood at 5-6 at press time, and the Rams were ranked sixth in Western Maine with a shot at making the play-offs (the top five teams qualify). The win versus St. Dominic on January 4 was a big one as the team came from three goals down to win, 7-4, led by senior captain defenseman **Rachel Litif**, who had five goals and two assists. Litif was leading the team in scoring with 20 goals and nine assists and has surpassed the 100-point total in career scoring. Junior Captain **Maddy Hamblen** has been consistent in the net and has improved into one of the better goaltenders in the

state. In a 6-4 victory vs. Cheverus December 29, she had 37 saves on 41 shots. **Charlotte Smith**, a sophomore captain and junior **Shayla Wing** were second and third respectively in scoring while on defense, sophomores **Allison Rullo** and **Victoria Richards** have played aggressively.

**Boys' Hockey:** At press time the Rams were 4-5-1 and ranked eighth in Western Maine Class A where the top nine teams will qualify for the post-season tournament. Goalie **Justin Broy** (4.08 goals against average) has been a bright spot, facing many shots early on. **Spence Cowand** leads the team offensively (ten goals/seven assists) and scored the overtime game-winner in a 5-4 victory over Marshwood January 12. **Chris Hardy** (six goals), **Blake Babineau, Jared Wood**, and **Tucker Buteau** have also turned in big contributions up front. **Dylan Turner** has been solid on defense, and since coming back from a pre-season injury, **Matt Hooker** has helped shore up the defense.

**Girls' Swimming:** The team's record at press time was 5-3 in dual-team meets. **Ashley Clark, Meagan Thomsen** and **Lindsey Thomsen** have all qualified for the State Championship in individual events, with Lindsey

Thomsen turning in the fourth best time thus far in the season in the 50-meter freestyle for Class A—25.86

**Boys' Swimming:** At press time the team had compiled a record of 2-5 in dual-team meets. **Tim Smith, Caleb Goodall** and **Timmer Sposato** have all qualified for the State Championship in individual meets. Smith had turned in the fourth best time thus far in the season in the 50-meter freestyle for Class A with a time of 22.83.

**Girls' Skiing:** The team has competed in two meets with senior **Marissa Roberts** finishing as the top over-all skier both times. She won the multi-team giant slalom January 4 at Shawnee Peak with a time of 1:05.14 and the multi-team slalom January 12 with a time of 1:38.41. Gorham Middle School teacher **Heather Whitaker** has taken over as the team's head coach.

**Boys' Skiing:** At press time the team had competed in two events. During the multi-team giant slalom on January 4 at Shawnee Peak, **Nate Roberts** finished first among Gorham skiers and fifth overall with a time of 1:07.90. He finished second overall in the multi-team slalom on January 12 with a time of 1:44.42. As with the girls' team, Gorham Middle School teacher **Heather Whitaker** is now the team's head coach.

## National Soccer Stage



**Kate Hopkins** (left), a sophomore at GHS, participated in the United Soccer League Super Y North American championships in December in Florida as a member of the Seacoast United Maine Soccer Club U15 girls' team. The team finished the tournament with a record of 4-1-1 and earned a spot in the finals before losing to a team from Atlanta. Hopkins is shown above defending the ball in the final game vs. a player from the Atlanta team.

## in the Zone

**Maine Hall of Fame Inductee:** The Maine Sports Hall of Fame announced that USM women's basketball coach Gary Fifield will be inducted May 5 during a ceremony at the August Civic Center. Fifield came to USM in 1987, and during his 22 seasons coaching the Huskies had guided USM to a combined 562-97 record going into the start of this season. In 2005, he won the Russell Athletic/WBCA Division III National Coach of the Year, and during his coaching tenure, USM has won 17 Little East Conference tournament championships.

**Team Synchronized Figure Skating Champion:** Gorham's Susan Greenwood helped the Nor'Easters adult synchronized figure skating team win its division at the Cape Cod Synchro Classic in December during a competition held in Massachusetts. The event featured 108 teams competing in 15 divisions.

### Upcoming GHS Varsity Sports Events

**Friday, January 18**

- 4:30 p.m. Boys' Swimming vs. Kennebunk @ Daven Pool, Westbrook
- 4:30 p.m. Girls' Swimming Multi-Team Meet @ TBD
- 5:00 p.m. Boys' Skiing Multi-Team Meet @ Shawnee Peak
- 5:00 p.m. Girls' Skiing Multi-Team Meet @ Shawnee Peak
- 7:00 p.m. Girls' Basketball @ South Portland
- 7:00 p.m. Boys' Basketball vs. South Portland @ GHS

**Saturday, January 19**

- 12:00 p.m. Girls' Hockey vs. York @ Rochester, NH
- 4:00 p.m. Girls' Track Multi-Team Meet @ USM Field House
- 4:00 p.m. Boys' Track Multi-Team Meet @ USM Field House
- 8:15 p.m. Boys' Hockey vs. Portland @ USM-Gorham Ice Rink

All games subject to change. For up-to-date schedules of all GHS sports teams, visit [www.digitalsports.com](http://www.digitalsports.com)



# It's Official: Lacrosse Now a School-Sanctioned Sport

By DEDE PERKINS

Lacrosse is rooted in Native American tradition and is the oldest sport in the United States. In the last decade, lacrosse has exploded in popularity both in Gorham and across the country.

For the past 10 seasons, Gorham Lacrosse, which is run by volunteers, has organized practice and competitive play for boys and girls in grades 3-12. The program has been popular, and the number of players has steadily increased over the years. In 2012, over 200 students played lacrosse in Gorham.

In 2013, because of the sport's growth and popularity, lacrosse will be sanctioned and funded at the

middle school and high school levels. Students in grades 7-12 will no longer have to pay to play lacrosse. GMS and GHS athletic departments will distribute information about the spring season, and both new and experienced players may participate.

Gorham Lacrosse will still organize the youth lacrosse program for students in grades three through six. Online registration will be open from January 15 - March 1. To introduce new players to the sport and to welcome experienced lacrosse players looking to work on skills before the spring season begins, Gorham Lacrosse will run a youth clinic on January 27th from 4-5 p.m. at Your Space. To register, visit [www.gorhamlacrosse.org](http://www.gorhamlacrosse.org) or call Mary Brunet at 232-4223.

## Free Throw Champions



The Gorham Knights of Columbus hosted its annual free-throw competition January 12 and crowned five champions in their respective gender-age divisions. Pictured above from left to right are Nick Stout, Boys-age 11; Michelle Rowe, Girls-11; Jacob Sladen, Boys-12; Jason Komulainen, Boys-13; and Cameron Holmer-Boys 14. Each winner will compete in the District Competition on a date to be announced.

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# Announcing New Distribution Coordinator



Photo credit Martha T. Harris


The Gorham Times announces **Russ Frank** as their new Distribution Coordinator. Russ has been involved with delivery of the paper for five years, when he first started picking up the paper from Biddeford every other Thursday morning. He will now be overseeing all distribution and mailing responsibilities of the paper. Until recently Russ delivered the paper every other week with his supervisor, Lobo, a 100-pound boxer. Lobo always rode shotgun while overseeing quality control. Lobo will be greatly missed.

## Business Exchange Celebrates Holidays

By DEDE PERKINS

The Gorham Business Exchange held its annual holiday reception at the Odd Fellows Hall on December 6. The party was hosted by Bruce Roullard, Duane Dreger, Lisa Allen, and Mandy Bacon who offered up a festive atmosphere,

complete with beautifully decorated rooms, a jazz trio, delicious food and drink. The USM Alumni Association donated a Nook HD Color, which was raffled off. All proceeds from the event were donated to the Town of Gorham Heating Assistance Fund.



### YOUTH LACROSSE

#### Boys & Girls, Grades 3-6

#### SPRING 2013 REGISTRATION

*Cost to play: \$75 | Uniform cost: \$35*

ONLINE REGISTRATION	IN-PERSON REGISTRATION NIGHT
January 15 - March 1, 2013 <a href="http://www.gorhamlacrosse.org">www.gorhamlacrosse.org</a>	February 26, 2013 6-8 PM Gorham Middle School Cafeteria Sample uniforms will be available to try on. New & clearance GLAX merchandise will be on sale.

### YOUTH LACROSSE CLINIC

#### Boys & Girls, Grades 3-6

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**January 27, 2013 4-5 PM YourSpace Cost: \$10**

**Register:** [www.gorhamlacrosse.org](http://www.gorhamlacrosse.org) (pay at clinic)  
**Questions:** [mfkbrunet@gmail.com](mailto:mfkbrunet@gmail.com) or 232-4223

# Back in Motion Expanded and Relocated

By JENNY BARDSLEY  
*Back in Motion*

Back in Motion Physical Therapy recently expanded and moved their clinic. They moved out of the first floor and expanded to the entire second floor of the 94 Main Street Medical Building, which has an elevator. Back in Motion has been a Gorham business for over 18 years and is owned by Michel and Mary Brunet, long-time Gorham

residents, who are both licensed physical therapists. Back in Motion Physical Therapy is an established provider of physical therapy in Maine and has three locations. The clinic provides patients with hands-on treatment, one-on-one care, the latest treatment modalities, and personalized attention. For more information, visit [www.mainephysicaltherapy.com](http://www.mainephysicaltherapy.com) or call 839-5860.

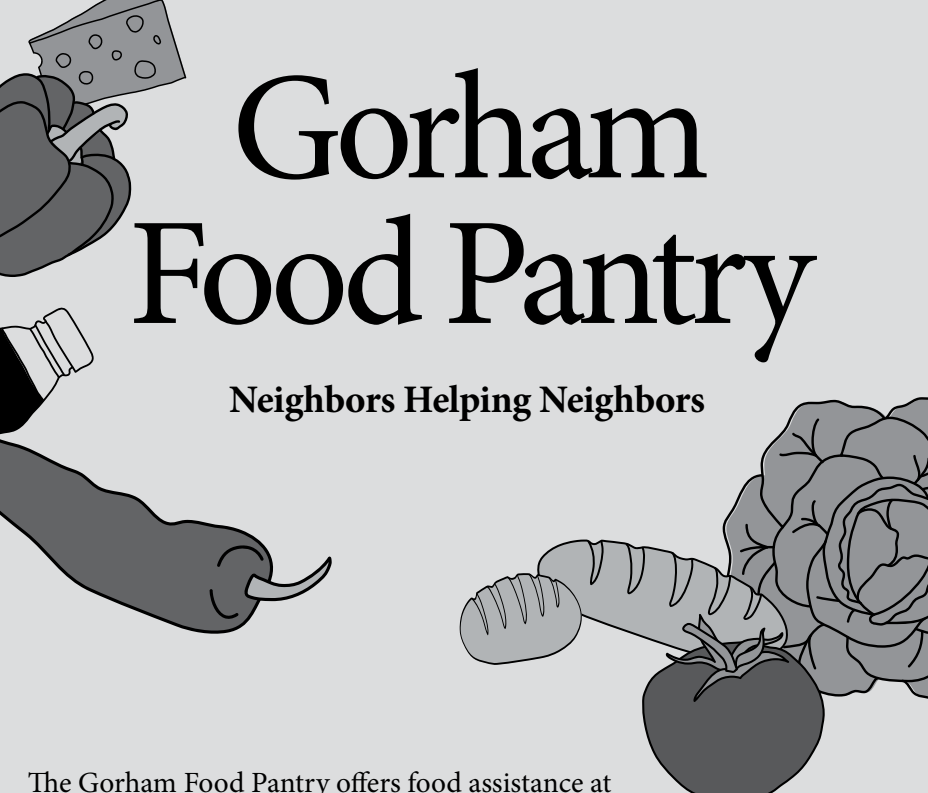
## Rep. Sanborn “Legislator of the Year” by Maine AAP

The Maine Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (Maine AAP) named Representative Linda Sanborn “Legislator of the Year” for 2012. This annual award recognizes her work as an ongoing advocate for children’s health and a determined force in the Maine State House.

Each year, the Maine AAP recognizes a public figure who has been a strong advocate for children and families in Maine. The award was presented in Portland before an audience of approximately 80 pediatricians attending the Chapter’s annual fall educational conference.

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For more information call 222-4351. [www.gorhamfoodpantry.org](http://www.gorhamfoodpantry.org)

The Gorham Ecumenical Food Pantry is supported by the local community of churches including St. Anne’s Catholic Church, Cressy United Methodist Church, First Parish Congregational Church, LIFE Church, Little Falls Baptist Church, Redeemer Lutheran Church, South Gorham Baptist Church, UCC at North Gorham and West Gorham Union Church.



# Back in Motion Physical Therapy is Pleased to Announce Gorham Expansion!



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**SOLD**



**WESTBROOK \$79,900** - Great location in Cumberland Mills. 4,096 SF property has many possibilities, former Grange Hall.

**GORHAM \$329,000** - Brand new 3 BR, 2.5 BA Colonial w/3 car garage in Gordon Farms. Spacious floor plan, rear deck, public water.



**Buxton \$183,900** - Well kept 3 BR, 2 BA home w/ replacement windows, new deck & porch, fresh paint & new carpet.



**GORHAM \$199,500** - Attractive 5 BR farmhouse on 3 acs. Updated systems, replacement windows, hdwd flrs. Excellent condition



**NEW LISTING**

**STANDISH \$94,900** - Custom designed 3 BR, 2 BA doublewide in new section of Pine Tree Estates. Wraparound deck & private yard.



**GORHAM \$335,000** - 4 BR, 2.5 BA 2,343 SF home w/farmers porch, deck & patio w/hot tub. Nicely landscaped, private backyard.



**SOLD**

**GORHAM \$279,000** - Just completed! Sunlit 3 BR, 3 BA open concept w/2 car gar, bonus room & daylight bsmt on 1.38 acs.



**BUXTON \$223,000** - Unique 3 BR Ranch w/4 acs & 3 car garage. Offers views of Saco River. A choice of 2 sunrooms!



**WINDHAM \$29,900** - 2+ BR, 1.5 BA mobile in private setting. Well maintained, laundry area, nice deck, storage shed.



**UNDER CONTRACT**

**GORHAM \$213,900** - Modern & updated 3+ BR on 1 acre. FR w/gas stove, master BR w/huge walk in closet. Quiet level backyard.



**UNDER CONTRACT**

**LIMINGTON \$139,900** - 4 BR, 2 BA Cape w/finished room in bsmt, large private lot & oversized 1 car garage. Priced to sell!!



**DURHAM \$105,000** - 2 BR, 1 BA condo w/low condo fee. 20 mins to Ptld, 10 mins to Freeport. Private patio & storage shed.



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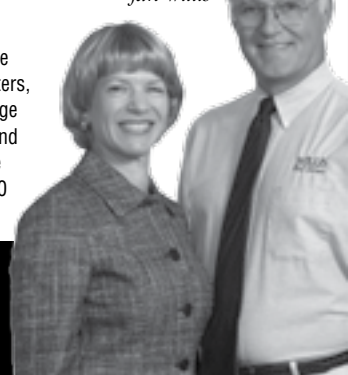
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BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Rhiannon Elise Curran-Sanderson** was born on Dec. 17, 2012 to Martha Curran and Derek Sanderson of Westbrook weighing 7 lbs and measuring 20” long. Grandparents: Ken and Traci Sanderson of Gorham; Joyce Curran of Cabayu, Panama. Great Grandparents: **James and Nancy Sanderson** of Gorham; **Rita Willis** of Gorham.

DEAN’S LIST

**Abbie Adkison** was named to the 2012 fall Dean’s List at Harding University in Searcy, AR.

**Amy Linscott** was named to the Dean’s List at the University of New Haven for the fall 2012 semester.

**Sarah Vail** was named to the 2012 fall Dean’s List at Providence College in Rhode Island.

**Steven Albanese** was named to the Fall 2012 Dean’s List at the University of Delaware.

OF INTEREST

Families from the Dance Studio of Maine and local Gorham residents donated over 100 toys to benefit the Maine Marine’s Toys For Tots Program. **Alex Ferrigan, Mikki Leskowsky, Joey Leskowsky** and **Riley Ferrigan**, all of Gorham, participated in dropping off the toys.



Six year-old **Jack Luciano**, a model for a small Portland based modeling agency, had his debut modeling for a Nautica holiday catalogue. Luciano is in first grade at Great Falls School.

**“Carbs for a Cause,” a spaghetti fundraiser dinner for Linda Dinsmore will be held on Saturday, Jan. 26 from 5-8 p.m.** at the Gorham High School cafeteria with silent auc-tion/raffle/music. \$10pp. FMI, 939-3225 or 615-3048.

**The First Parish Congregational Church in Gorham will hold a Chicken Pie Supper on Saturday, Jan. 26 from 5-6 pm.** Homemade chicken pot pie, veggies, potatoes, dessert pies & beverages. \$10/\$5 under 12. FMI, 839-6353.

**The Gorham Cancer Prayer and Support Group meets the first Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Cressey Road United Methodist Church.** The next group meets on Feb. 5. All are welcome. FMI, 321-1390 or 839-3111. See advertisement on right.

**The Gorham Business Exchange – will hold a meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 29 from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the USM Alumni Reception Center, Gorham campus. USM President, Theo Kalikow, will be guest speaker.** No charge but advanced registration requested. Email dede@gorhambusiness.org or 207-892-5515.

**The Gorham Ecumenical Council is serving a FREE Community Dinner on Monday, Jan. 28, 5:30 p.m.** at the First Parish Congregational Church, 1 Church Street, Gorham. The menu features roasted turkey with all the fixings and homemade desserts. All are welcome to share the food and fellowship.

USM NOTES

**Spotlight Concert Series presents “Hear My Song: The Best of Broadway and Beyond!”** with guest vocalist Marie Pressman and pianist Ed Reichert on Friday, Jan. 25 at 8 p.m. at Corthell Concert Hall, USM Gorham campus. (snow date Saturday, Jan. 26) \$15/\$10/\$5. FMI, 780-5555.

**The University of Southern Maine was ranked the “Number One Safest in Maine” among Maine’s top ten colleges by stateuniversity.com,** a website that uses ACT/SAT scores, student retention, faculty salary, and student/faculty ratio as criteria.

ONGOING EVENTS IN GORHAM

**The Southern Maine Agency on Aging will hold office hours every Thursday from 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.** at St. Anne’s Catholic Church in Gorham to help seniors with questions regarding medicare benefits, prescription drug programs, property tax and rent rebates and more. FMI, call SMAA at 396-6500.

**The Lakes Region Senior Center, 40 Acorn Center, Little Falls School, Gorham, is a drop-in center open Monday to Thursday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.** for coffee/tea and independent activities such as pickleball, poker, bingo or cribbage. Join in on exercise, watch a movie or learn to knit. On Wednesday, Jan. 23 at 11:30 a.m., In Home Senior Services of Gorham will present services they have available for seniors. Bring a bag lunch - beverage and dessert will be provided. FMI, 274-3537 or email bbrocket350@aol.com

CLOSE TO HOME

**Saint Joseph’s College will offer a Lifeguard Training Review Course on Sunday, Jan. 20, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and Monday, Jan. 21, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** Both classes must be attended, and participants must hold a current American Red Cross Lifeguard Training/First Aid/CPR/AED course certificate. \$160. FMI, 893-6615 or e-mail rdaigle@sjcme.edu.



**The Gorham Cancer Prayer & Support Group**

*A cancer diagnosis can be a frightening thing.*


*You don’t have to go it alone.*

The group meets the first Tuesday of every month at 6:00 PM  
~ Open group all welcome ~

Cressey Road, Gorham  
United Methodist Church

**Call 321-1390 or 839-3111 for more information.**

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JAN. 17

- Westbrook-Warren Congregational Church Community Dinner, 810 Main St, Westbrook, 12 p.m. \$5. Shepherd’s Pie. FMI, 854-9157.

SATURDAY, JAN. 19

- Lego Club, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., bring your own Legos or use ours, Baxter Library.

MONDAY, JAN. 21

- No School for grades K-12. Martin Luther King Day.

TUESDAY, JAN. 22

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

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23

- Prayer Shawl Knitting Group, 1-2:30 p.m., St. Anne’s Catholic Church. All are welcome. FMI, 839-4857.
- Senior Community Meal, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., St. Anne’s Catholic Church, \$3.50. Everyone welcome. FMI, 839-4857.
- Toddlers in the Library, for children under 3 yrs., 10-10:30 a.m., No. Gorham Public Library, 2 Standish Neck Rd. FMI, 892-2575.

THURSDAY, JAN. 24

- Baby and Me, baby story time for ages birth to 18 mos., Baxter Library, 9:30 a.m. FMI, 839-5031.
- Toddler Time, story time for ages 18-36 mos., Baxter Library, 10 a.m. FMI, 839-5031.
- Gorham Food Pantry, 9-11 a.m., located in St. Anne’s Catholic Church parking lot.
- Baxter Library Sewing Club, ages 7 and older, 2:30-4:30 p.m.
- Westbrook-Warren Congregational Church Community Dinner, 810 Main St, Westbrook, 12 p.m. \$5. Smothered Beef. FMI, 854-9157.

MONDAY, JAN. 28

- Evening Story Time – “Winter Animals,” 6 p.m., Baxter Library.

TUESDAY, JAN. 29

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

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30

- Prayer Shawl Knitting Group, 1-2:30 p.m., St. Anne’s Catholic Church. All are welcome. FMI, 839-4857.
- Senior Community Meal, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., St. Anne’s Catholic Church, \$3.50. Everyone welcome. FMI, 839-4857.
- Toddlers in the Library, for children under 3 yrs., 10-10:30 a.m., No. Gorham Public Library, 2 Standish Neck Rd. FMI, 892-2575.

THURSDAY, JAN. 31

- Early Release for grades K-12.
- Baby and Me, baby story time for ages birth to 18 mos., Baxter Library, 9:30 a.m. FMI, 839-5031.
- Toddler Time, story time for ages 18-36 mos., Baxter Library, 10 a.m. FMI, 839-5031.
- Gorham Food Pantry, 9-11 a.m., located in St. Anne’s Catholic Church parking lot.
- Baxter Library Sewing Club, ages 7 and older, 2:30-4:30 p.m.
- Westbrook-Warren Congregational Church Community Dinner, 810 Main St, Westbrook, 12 p.m. \$5. Baked Chicken. FMI, 854-9157.

Activities listed above are located at:  
Westbrook-Warren Congregational Church, 810 Main St, Westbrook  
Baxter Memorial Library, 71 South St.  
St. Anne’s Catholic Church, 299 Main St.  
No. Gorham Public Library, 2 Standish Neck Rd.  
Gorham Food Pantry, located in parking lot of St. Anne’s Catholic Church, 299 Main St.



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**blotter**

# That’ll Show ‘Em

Shelby Drive caller threatened to cut down poles if CMP did not restore his power.

**Caller reported** the theft of a genera-tor. Caller had seen an ad on Craigslist matching the description of the stolen generator.

**Mercier Way caller** advised male subject was out of control.

**South Gorham Crossing caller** reported a male subject came in and started swear-ing at staff.

**Winding Brook Way caller** reported two cars pulled up out front of her house and shut their lights off. The people were out of the vehicle and walking around. Caller was very upset.

**Tink Drive caller** reported a female at their residence was causing a disturbance.

**Caller reported** a large dead animal in the center of road on Ossipee Trail.

**Robie Street caller** wanted a phone call in reference to unknown person who was allowing their dogs to defecate on the sidewalk near the school.

**Phinney Street caller** reported an auc-tioneer was harassing him via email.

**Mosher Road man**, who rides a bicycle to work daily, reported a dog running loose in the area. The dog made him fall off his bicycle the other day and is very aggres-sive. Caller wanted the Animal Control Officer to call the dog’s owner.

**Caller was told** to go to the police station to get the process started to get a protec-tion order and to have a male subject removed from their residence. Wanted to meet with officer at the station.

**Narragansett Street caller** wanted to know why political parties were coming to her door and already knew her political position and name.

**School Street caller** reported her daugh-ter lost her cell phone at a hockey game on the USM campus. Someone found it but was refusing to return it. Caller wanted to know what they could do to get it back.

**Quincy Drive caller** wanted to see an officer about an ongoing issue where his vehicle had been egged on several occa-sions and his wallet had been stolen out of his unlocked vehicle a few weeks ago.

**Cab driver reported** that he had had two subjects run on him when he dropped them off.


**Jackie’s Way man was arrested** for aggravated assault.

**Richard Road woman** was arrested for OUI.

**Herrick Road caller** reported a female sub-ject was out of control and had assaulted him and another female in the house.

**Bartlett Road caller** reported their neighbor drove over his lawn during the night and left tire tracks all over it.

**Finn Parker Road caller** reported three males with guns were heading into the woods with dogs. Caller doesn’t think they are allowed to be hunting with a dog. Caller would like the hunters checked on.



It’s tax time! Help the Library by checking #8 Maine Public Library Fund on Schedule CP to make a voluntary contribution.

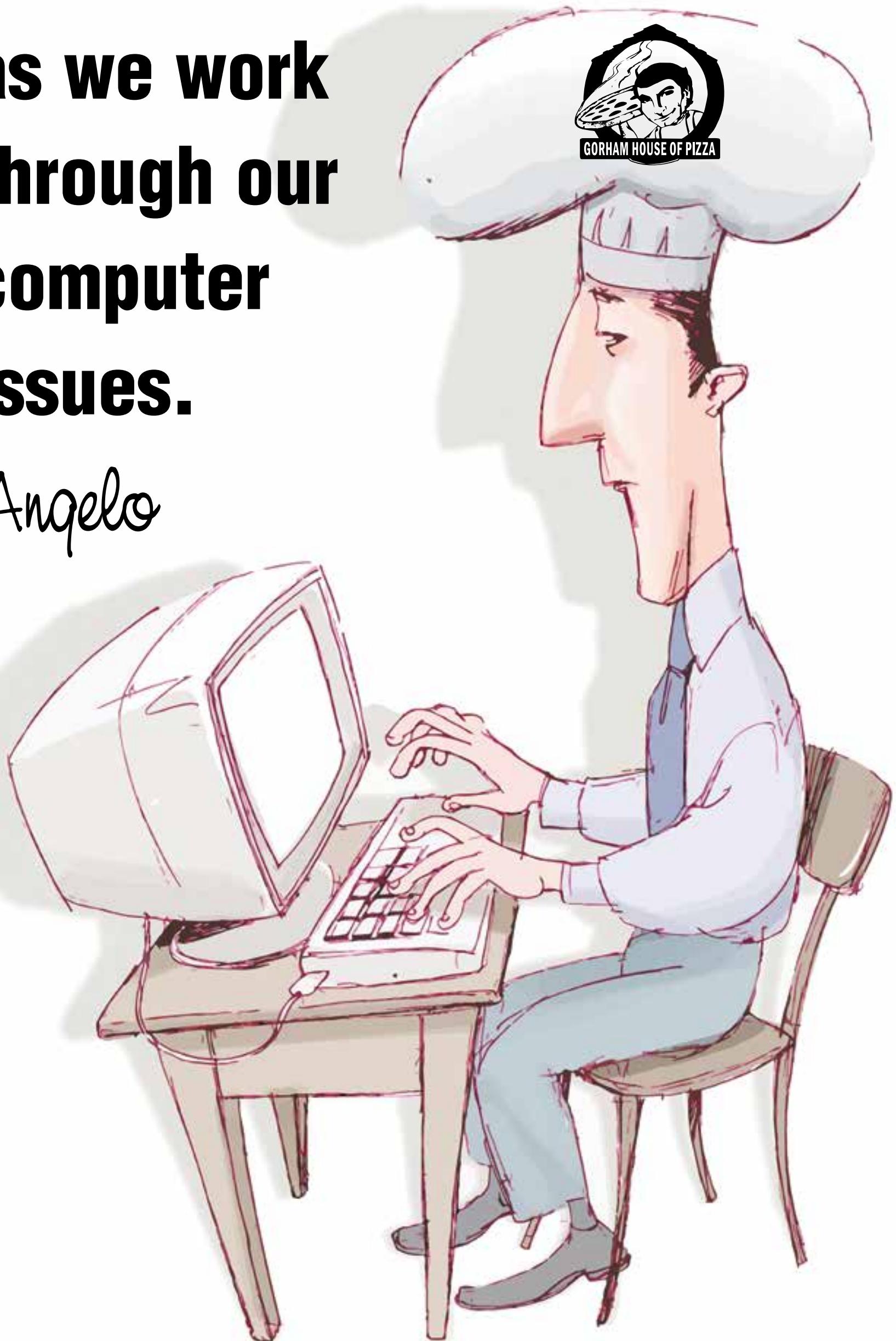
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