

Gorham Times

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—FOUNDED 1736—

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CELEBRATING 18 YEARS—A FREE, VOLUNTEER-RUN, BIWEEKLY COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Revenue Sharing Passes Legislature

By SHERI FABER
Staff Writer

As towns around Maine prepare their annual budgets, they should be able to plan on receiving revenue sharing funds from the state to support their budgets. The legislature has voted to take \$40 million from the “rainy day” fund in order to provide these funds to Maine communities. This year’s revenue sharing for Maine communities will be \$40 million, down \$5 million from last year. For Gorham, this represents a decrease of about \$37,000.

As the State of Maine has decreased the amount of money returned to communities through revenue sharing, towns have had to increase property taxes in order to maintain the same level of services. In the past, Governor LePage has vetoed the bill that provided revenue sharing funds to local communities. Some legislators, who had initially voted for the bill, changed their positions and voted to uphold LePage’s veto. If the Governor again vetoes the legislation, it will be up to the members of the legislature to decide whether or not to sustain his veto.

In a statement to the Gorham Times, Town Manager David Cole

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Remembering Our Friend and Photographer

MAY 5, 1944 - FEBRUARY 26, 2013



File photo

A year after her untimely death, we pause to remember our friend and photographer, Martha T. Harris.

Swiatek Wins Shot Put Class A State Championship

GHS senior Sophia Swiatek won the Indoor Track & Field Class A State Championship February 17th at USM. Shown to the right, while competing in the event, Swiatek won with a distance of 34-04.75—more than two feet longer than the 32-1.50 that earned her a sixth-place finish in the SMAA Championships a week earlier. Swiatek exemplifies multi-talented high school athletes having placed first in the pole vault in the SMAA Championship while also competing this year for the GHS swim team.



Photo credit Denise Michaud



Photo credit Jason Tanguay

Swiatek proudly displays her gold medal on the award podium after winning the shot put event.

Superintendent Presents Budget Proposal and a Message

By ROBIN SOMES
Staff Writer

For the last item of the School Committee meeting, Superintendent Ted Sharp presented the proposed school budget, one that reflects a 4.2% increase of \$1,383,566 over last year’s budget, and equates to a 7.47% increase in Gorham’s mil rate from \$11.22 to \$12.06, or an additional 84 cents per \$1,000 of property tax valuation. According to the accompanying cover letter, there are new initiatives totaling \$746,556, most significantly, All Day Kindergarten at a projected cost of \$552,056. All Day K has been very important for many Gorham families who have been appealing to the School Committee for its implementation the past several years. The inclusion in the budget implies that All Day K could be implemented as early as next year, provided the budget gets approval by the School Committee, Town Council and ultimately Gorham citizens through referendum.

In addition, there are four other new initiatives comprised of a part-time Spanish teacher (\$32,000), implementation of a STEM program (teacher, \$70,000, associated resources, \$17,500), restoration of the 6-12 Numeracy Specialist position (\$70,000), and a Data Management System for new State mandated Teacher and Principal Evaluation programs (\$5,000).

But prior to presenting the budget proposal, Sharp said he wanted “to frame the context within which the proposed FY15 budget has been developed.”

Reading from a prepared statement, Sharp described the state of the educational infrastructure throughout the country in relation to funding, which, as is the case in Maine, is dependent on property taxes, “a formula fraught with inadequacy and inequity.” He stated, “Schools...were never designed to assume the challenges and responsibilities that contemporary society expects of them,” noting that the framework of public education has changed little in 200 years.

Sharp cited recent challenges that include responsibilities such as retirement costs formerly assumed by the state, failed funding promises such as the \$14 million from the Oxford Casino that was assured for education which has not happened, and increasing obligations to address social problems. “All of these reflect an appalling lack of understanding of what responsibilities schools can reasonably assume and do well,” he stated.

The presence of an Office of Development, as is fundamental at independent schools and private and public colleges and universities, provides a viable resource for raising funds. Sharp pointed out that statutes

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Comprehensive Plan in Process to be Updated

By NOAH MINER
Staff Writer

The Town of Gorham is in the process of updating the Comprehensive Plan, which was originally developed in 1993. A draft plan was presented to the council at the February 4th regular council meeting by Mark Eyerman, a town consultant from Planning Decisions, and was followed by a public hearing. The plan has three major parts: a community vision, future land use plan, and implementation strategy. Although updates are to be made every ten years, the plan has not been revised since the initial date. Once the town approves the draft plan it must be approved by the state. According to Eyerman, the purpose of the plan is to provide a 10 to 20 year vision for the development of the town.

Eyerman stated the importance for the town of having a land use code that is consistent with the comprehensive plan. If the land use code is not compatible with the comprehensive plan the town could face legal challenges.

The draft plan presented by Eyerman consisted of two main polices: refinements of the existing plan, and new concepts that town officials thought were emerging issues. Refinements included creating more incentive to use

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GMS to Present “The
Emperor’s New Clothes:
The Musical”
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Empowering Consumer Choice Essential for Stronger Health Care System

BY REP. LINDA SANBORN

Competition is what keeps capitalism in check. It's what spurs innovation and ensures that companies serve the best interest of the consumer. Yet competition is greatly lacking in the health care industry. As a result, many consumers find themselves without the necessary information to make an educated decision when it comes to purchasing care.

Without this information, consumers may be unsure what the complete range of options are for them or even why the care they do end up purchasing costs so much.

It was in light of concerns like this that the legislature established the Commission to Study Transparency, Costs and Accountability of Health Care System Financing tasked to better understand the costs of health care and provide recommendations for how to make those costs, as well as quality of care, more transparent to consumers.

The commission focused its discussions on information relating to "shop-pable" procedures, or non-emergent care, where consumers have time to

research and compare price and quality data in a manner that will inform their decision-making process.

In December, the Commission released its report, which listed interesting findings from the research it conducted.

The Commission found that while Maine has been a national leader in working toward more transparent health care costs, having created the first all payor claims database in the country, the state still lags behind in key areas. Mainers still lack access to quality information and pricing, both critical components to empowering consumers to make sound decisions.

The report follows this up with a list of recommendations on how to equip consumers with the needed information to understand their health care costs.

These recommendations range from requiring health providers to publically list their costs to things as basic as finding ways to make sure all Mainers have access to the Internet so they can find the information they need quickly and easily.

The solution will need to take a comprehensive approach, combining

efforts to spread public awareness and education on how health care costs can impact all consumers in addition to making sure the data is more accessible.

Fixing our broken health care system requires tackling all the issues inherent in it, both big and small. While making sure health care prices are available and explained may not be the issue that catches the spotlight, it is nonetheless a critical component to fixing the overall problem of a health care system that doesn't always work for the best interest of the consumer.

We can bring costs under control and make a positive impact on the health of Maine residents by working to increase consumer engagement in health care decisions.



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

Letters to the Editor

Letters must be less than 300 words, signed with a first and last name, typed or e-mailed and include a phone number. Letters are solely the opinion of the writer and not that of the Gorham Times. They are published at the discretion of the Gorham Times and are subject to editing.

Dear *Gorham Times*:

The Comprehensive Plan is one of the most important documents a town develops to outline the priorities of the community as it looks to its future over the next 10-20 years. It provides direction for the Town Council in regard to spending priorities, programs, design and land use. It is by Maine state law, the basis for the Town's zoning ordinance.

The Town of Gorham, however, has no meaningful way for citizens to participate in the development of the Comprehensive Plan beyond five minutes to comment at a public hearing. There is no clear strategy as to how many public hearings will be held nor any solid plan in regard to timeline, deadline, or process.

It is widely accepted that public hearings are at best an antiquated form of public participation and at worst, according to a recent Knight Foundation study, "more likely to reduce a person's sense of efficacy and attachment to community than to increase it." (<http://www.governing.com/gov-institute/funkhouser/col-failure-promise-public-participation-government.html>)

The City of South Portland's Comprehensive Plan development process stands in stark contrast. In South Portland, a citizen's committee was formed to elicit community participation in the development of the Comprehensive Plan. This committee worked in partnership with the Planning Department and Town Council. The City took two years to develop their comprehensive plan and incorporated meaningful oppor-

tunities for stakeholder participation through small group exercises at several public forums.

Gorham is a strong community with immense potential to outshine its neighbors. But too many decisions have been made without meaningful public engagement. The result has been an erosion of public trust, feelings of a lack of transparency, and frustration at town decisions which do not reflect the values of a large segment of Gorham's population. It's time for the Town of Gorham to offer a more effective and inclusive democracy.

Sincerely, Marla J. Stelk

Dear *Gorham Times*:

After reading an article about general assistance funds that helps low

income residents heat their homes, I wanted to comment on this important issue—especially this season with some of the coldest weather we have had in a few years. Making information available and raising awareness for assistance options to a lot of people who do not know where to turn for help is an invaluable service.

I live in Gorham and the town does have a general assistance fund, but it has already been depleted for this year. Therefore, if businesses or individuals would be inspired to donate, please do so as every little bit helps your community. The heating season is only half over and many people are feeling stressed this year.

You may call the Town Clerk or

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around town

Gorham was the largest of the six towns featured in the March 2013 issue of *Downeast Magazine*. The town's assets include the University of Southern Maine, good public schools and proximity to Portland. The article also described the level of community involvement in a wide variety of organizations (including the Gorham Times) as being something that makes Gorham special.

The Odd Fellows Building is under contract for sale. A closing in April is anticipated. Look to another issue of the Gorham Times for more information.

Neu Du, the hair salon located in the Masonic Building on State Street, is moving into the former Debbie Harmon photography studio in the same building, but facing School Street.

A mechanical engineer is currently reviewing the heating needs at the former Little Falls School and, in the spring, will also evaluate the roof. Also under consideration is having natural gas extended to the structure. Sebago Tech will be evaluating rebuilding the playing fields at the site.

Gorham Times

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gorhamtimes@gmail.com
www.gorhamtimes.com

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Gorham Times

UPCOMING DEADLINES:

Ad Deadline	Publication
Mar 5	Mar 13
Mar 19	Mar 27
April 2	April 10
April 16	April 24
April 30	May 8
May 14	May 22

StoneCraft: Artistry in Cement

BY CHRIS CRAWFORD
Staff Writer

At a local business, working with cement has been raised to a fine art. For over 14 years, StoneCraft owner, Scott Chasse, has been using cement, stone, sand, and, more recently, glass to make a variety of countertops, sinks, vanities, showers and tubs, flooring, fireplace surrounds and hearths, as well as outdoor kitchens and furniture. In fact, if you can think it, Chasse can probably make it. But that does not begin to convey the beauty and functionality of what Chasse creates. StoneCraft products are finely crafted using environmentally sustainable materials from local sources. StoneCraft's motto, "We Always Break the Mold," means that every piece they make is truly one of a kind.

Each piece is designed and meticulously custom made by Chasse, and his employee, Tim Mains. "We work hard to make a product that fits the tastes and esthetics of each client, as well as ensuring that it fulfills its functional use," said Chasse. Cement can be poured into hand-made molds to leave a finely detailed imprint on the finished product, or flat items such as shells, stones, coins or glass can be imbedded for a different look. A variety of finishes and colors are available, as well, which can give the cement a rich, burnished look. If you think a cement countertop is cold, Chasse has a solution for that: heating elements keep the counters at a cozy temperature. Some countertops feature built-in cutting boards and draining areas. In some, fiber optic lights shine like stars embedded in the cement.

Chasse's work is well known in Maine, throughout New England, and as far away as Lake George, NY. It has received critical acclaim and has been featured in magazines such

as Better Homes & Gardens, Maine Homes+Design, Down East, and was even on the cover of Portland Magazine.

If you have frequented some of Portland's favorite eating establishments, you have probably seen his work. The amazing circular bar that is the centerpiece of Grace Restaurant was made by StoneCraft. You will also find their bars and bathrooms at places like Nosh, Outlier's Eatery, and the Old Port Tavern. Here in Gorham, the sales counter and ice cream bar at iSpoon Frozen Yogurt is a StoneCraft product.

The lavatory countertops and back-splashes at the Children's Museum in Portland are also the handiwork of StoneCraft. The dual level adult and child-sized sinks are connected by a gently curving backsplash and a countertop which has playful bubbles imprinted in on its surface. These are also "green" projects because they incorporate recycled glass that was donated by EcoMaine. Chasse also donated a portion of the cost of the sinks and countertops to the museum. Additionally, his generous spirit is on display in the form of a bench that he donated to the Great Falls Elementary School garden.

The Children's Museum project is an example of a beautiful new product StoneCraft is using called Maine EcoStone which uses waste glass from EcoMaine recyclers. This is a big win-win, because it gives EcoMaine a much needed outlet for over 1200 tons of discarded glass it processes annually. Chasse likes working with recycled glass because it is strong and it reduces the need for other raw materials. Glass also adds an unusual texture and sparkle to the cement and can be made to match any color. StoneCraft's cement-and-glass countertops cost about \$100 per square foot installed, similar to

high-end granite countertops, according to the company. The next time you put out glass jars for recycling, they just might end up in a durable and beautiful cement creation by StoneCraft.

Chasse, who was born in Dayton, got his start in the concrete business while working at Saco Brick. After several years spent learning the technical side, his boss asked Chasse if he would like to explore using cement to make countertops and sinks, something that was just beginning to be done. Chasse has had no formal art or design training but he truly has an artist's eye for combining pleasing propor-

tions, textures and shape. He lives with his family in Gorham.

Chasse's employee, Tim Mains, who started working for Chasse five years ago, right after graduating from Gorham High School. Mains came to apply for a job with Sterling Insect and Lawn Control on lower Main Street. StoneCraft is located at the back of that building. Sterling wasn't hiring, but Chasse was. "I love what I do. Everyday is unique and creative," said Mains.

To learn more, visit <http://www.stonecraftonline.com> or call Scott Chasse at 591-7711.



Photo credits by Chris Crawford

Scott Chasse, right, owner of StoneCraft, and Tim Mains, left, stand with a custom-made concrete kitchen countertop.

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The Unexpected Advantage of an Aging Brain

BY BILL JENKS

When older people can no longer remember names at social gatherings, they and their younger associates often see it as evidence of declining brainpower. But a growing number of studies suggest that this assumption could be way off the mark.

Instead, research finds the aging brain is simply taking in more data and trying to merge it with a much broader and deeper repository of information, often to its advantage.

While it is true that advanced age is the single greatest risk factor for developing Alzheimer's and related dementias, dementia is not inevitable, nor is it a part of normal aging. Rather, for most aging adults, much of what occurs is a gradually widening focus of attention that makes it more difficult to lift out and remember just one fact, like a name or a telephone number. And although that can be frustrating, it can also be useful.

According to Shelley H. Carson, a psychology researcher at Harvard, distractibility may not, in fact, be a bad thing. "It may increase the amount of information available to the conscious mind," said Carson. For example, in a study where subjects were asked to read passages that were interrupted with random words or phrases, adults 60 and older worked much more slowly than college students. Although the students plowed through the texts at a consistent speed regardless of what the out-of-place words meant, older people slowed down, especially when the words were in some way related to the topic at hand. This seemed to indicate they were not just glossing over the extra information, but were taking it in and processing it. When both groups were later asked questions for which the out-of-place words might furnish answers, the older adults scored much better than the students.

"For the young people, it was as if the distracting words didn't exist," said an author of the study, Lynn Hasher, a professor of psychology at the University of Toronto and a senior scientist at the Rotman Research Institute. "The older adults, because they retained that extra data, were the better problem solvers. They could transfer the information they soaked up from one situation to another," she said.

This can yield big advantages in the real world, where it is not always clear what information is important, or may become important. A seemingly irrelevant point or suggestion in a memo can take on new meaning if the original context changes. Or extra details that attract your attention, like others' yawning and fidgeting, may help you assess a speaker's true impact.

"A broader attention span may enable older adults to know and understand more about a situation and the indirect message of what's going on than their younger peers," Dr. Hasher said. This characteristic may in fact be why we think of older people as wiser.

Jacqui Smith, a professor of psychology and research professor at the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan believes that wisdom results when the mind is able to assimilate disparate data and integrate it meaningfully. Smith said, "If older people are taking in more information from a situation, and they are then able to combine it with their comparatively greater store of general knowledge, that amounts to what we call wisdom."



Bill Jenks owns Home Instead Senior Care here in Gorham, and serves as Vice President of the Board of Directors of the Maine Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.



Chief Shepard Reports

On February 13th at about 11 a.m. during a snowstorm, Justin Ouellette, 19, of Biddeford lost control of the 1999 Dodge Caravan he was driving southbound on the Bernard Rines Bypass. He crossed the centerline and went into the northbound lane where he hit head on a 2001 Toyota Camry drive by David Russell, 59, of Standish. Ouellette was ejected from the passenger side of his vehicle, as he was not wearing a seatbelt. Ouellette was transported to Maine Medical Center as was Russell. Both suffered serious injuries in the accident.

Three juveniles have been arrested for breaking into the Old Robie School on Rt. 202 and stealing cash. The theft took place on February 18th and they were arrested the next day.



Photo courtesy of the Gorham Police Department

Both drivers were seriously injured in this snowy crash.

Comprehensive Plan CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the high-density residential development district currently in place. New concepts included changing the zoning requirements for small apartments, implementing the Little Falls Revitalization Plan, providing direction for development near the South Street rotary, creating higher density development along South Street, creating an institutional zone to encompass property owned by USM, creating the option for industrial and/or agricultural uses at the Mosher corner area, creating a South Street historic district, and creating growth areas with higher density development.

Ten citizens spoke at the public hearing in response to the draft plan. Marla Stelk was concerned about the lack of public participation in the process stating, "The town should develop an opportunity for the citizens of Gorham to meaningfully engage through interactive dialog any significant decision that will impact the long term future of Gorham." Several others spoke in opposition to the designated growth area proposed in East Gorham bordered by New Portland Road, Brackett Road, and the Westbrook line. Citizens were concerned about the rural character of the area being lost to housing developments. Margret Oliver presented a petition of 90 signatures opposing the growth area. Jeff O'Donal questioned the feasibility of creating a village environment in South Gorham with the heavy traffic and lack of pub-

lic utilities in the area. Steven Bibula of Plowshares Community Farm stressed the lack of focus on agriculture in the current draft stating "We would be irresponsible if we do not identify soils most suitable to farm unless there is a compelling reason to take the land out of agricultural use. Once these soils are developed they are gone forever." For more information on the public hearing, see the Town Council Report on page 5.

Town Zoning Administrator David Gallbraith stated, "This draft plan is only a starting point." The next step is for the council to give the planning department feedback and then solicit public input on any changes. Chairman Phinney encouraged public input adding, "I foresee at least two more public hearings, maybe more. We want to give everyone the opportunity to speak.

To view the map denoting the general growth areas and the rural areas, visit www.gorhamtimes.com/comprehensiveplanmap.html. Look to future issues of the Gorham Times for updates on this topic.

There will be a council workshop on the draft plan on March 11th at 6 p.m. at the Municipal Center. To view the plan, access it via the town website. For up-to-date information about events and meeting, visit <http://www.gorham-me.org>. To receive news and announcements or minutes and agendas, scroll down to Stay in Touch, and click "Subscribe to Town News."

Letter to the Editor CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

the 211 information line for additional information. To donate in Gorham: Town of Gorham, 75 South Street, Gorham, ME 04038.

Thank you for your help. PS, Maybe this would be a good fundraising project for youth groups in late summer for next season.

M J LeCours

Dear *Gorham Times*:

I just wanted to thank you [Jeff Pike] and the *Gorham Times* for recognizing the all the high

school swimmers including my son Timmer, for their recent accomplishments at the Southwestern South Championships. We had 2 nights of exciting swimming, and the kids worked very hard. These kids don't get a whole lot of recognition, and the Press Herald completely passed our meet over as if it never even happened, so thank you for giving them some attention.

Thanks again for your support,
Tim Sposato

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Dates: Mondays • March 24, 31, April 7, 14 • Time: 3:15-4:45p.m.
Grades: 3-5 • Instructor: Ann Thompson • Location: Village Elementary

Art through a Lens

Dates: Mondays • March 24, 31, April 7, 14 • Time: 3:15-4:45p.m.
Grades: 3-5 • Instructor: Angela DiPillo • Location: Narragansett Elementary

Create and Play Puppet Theater Arts

Dates: Tuesdays • March 25, April 1, 8 & 15 • Time: 3:15-4:45p.m.
Grades: 3-5 • Instructor: Keith Ancil • Location: Village Elementary

FEBRUARY 4, 2014

Town Council Report

BY ROBIN SOMES

Maintaining Gorham's ruralness and promoting its agriculture were points stressed by Gorham residents at this month's Town Council meeting. Over fifty community members were in attendance in anticipation of the first Public Hearing on a proposal to update Gorham's Comprehensive Plan. Planning Decisions' Mark Eyerman described the format of the document and noted that it "reflects the staff view." The Plan was originally adopted in 1993 and revised once in 1994. He explained that this initial version needs to be reviewed and revised by the Council and discussed with the public with further revisions to reflect the direction intended for Gorham. Council Chair Michael Phinney clarified that the initial version represented the first step and had not been discussed by the Council.

During the Public Hearing on this matter, numerous members of the community addressed the Council, including Marla Stelk, who spoke first to relay two concerns: to encourage the Council to "explore really meaningful ways of public engagement" and to ensure the appropriate follow-through in order to realize a successful implementation, warning that "We want to make sure that it doesn't sit on a shelf and collect dust like the last one."

Margaret Oliver next addressed the Council speaking, she said, on behalf of the property owners and residents in the area of Gorham bounded by Brackett Road, New Portland Road and the city of Westbrook. Noting that this area is currently zoned as rural, she presented the Council with a petition of 90 residents within this area. "We want to stay rural," Oliver asserted. The draft of the Plan proposes that this region be identified as a suburban residential "Growth Area."

Another resident within this area, Damon Houk, reiterated Oliver's sentiment, explaining that he moved to this site just several weeks earlier because of its rural nature. He read "Woods in Winter," by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, whose family owned a farm around Longfellow Road in the center of this area. Woody Hynes, Bill Murphy and

Lorraine Scott, also residents in this area, each spoke, citing their apprehension over changes to rural zoning as proposed in the draft.

Referencing a copy of the Comprehensive Plan Updates draft, Jeff O'Donal of O'Donal's Nursery noted differences with the 1994 version, pointing out the lack of focus on soils and natural resources.

Steven Bibula, who, with his wife, own Plowshares Community Farm in White Rock, which is a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) membership endeavor that provides pick-your-own fruits and vegetables as well as meats and other products. Bibula relayed his experience in buying the 40 acres of farmland three years ago and some of the challenges he and his wife have faced in getting his business established, mainly due to existing ordinances and their stringent and limiting regulations related to agricultural commerce, farm stands and even signage. "Gorham, we found out after we began farming, has a reputation in the Department of Agriculture as being the worst town in the state for farming because of its codes," he asserted. Bibula asked the Council to have Gorham's soils examined, identify those that constitute farming soils, "and wisely handle them so we don't lose them and later find out that all our good farmland has houses sitting on it, because it will not be recovered at that point." Bibula stressed revisions to the Comprehensive Plan that would promote and facilitate agricultural endeavors.

With a unanimous vote, the Council scheduled a Workshop for March 11th at 6 p.m. for discussion of the Comprehensive Plan.

In other action, the Council voted: 7-0 to approve the renewal of Liquor Licenses to Lucky Thai Restaurant and PineCrest Bed & Breakfast.

7-0 to approve a Massage Therapist License to Natalie Poulin.

7-0 to authorize a plaque to commemorate Gorham's 250th anniversary of incorporation as a town, and to appropriate \$3,000 from the contingency account for the project.

The Comprehensive Plan documents and complete meeting minutes are available at: www.gorham-me.org.

Clerk's Corner

BY JENNIFER ELLIOTT
Town Clerk

The Clerk's office was busy in December and January registering snowmobiles and dogs. The dog late fee went into effect February 1st. Per state law, the late fee is \$25 per dog.

As a reminder, if you have an establishment that offers massage, or you are a massage therapist practicing in Gorham, you must apply for the appropriate license through the Clerk's Office.

If you are considering opening a business of any kind in Gorham, check with The Clerk's Office and the Code Office to make sure you are protecting

yourself and other citizens by getting the correct permits and/or licenses per the code and/or ordinances. Visit www.gorham-me.org for more information about the Town Ordinances and the Land Use and Development Code.

We look forward to seeing you, but if you cannot make it to the office, there are many things available online. Please refer to our website for links.



Town Clerk Jennifer Elliott can be reached by e-mail at jelliott@gorham.me.us or by phone at 222-1674.

Adopt-a-Hydrant, Help Save a Life



Photo credit Sherrie Benner

As part of a program called "Adopt-a-Hydrant," consider taking part by helping to clear hydrants of snow on all four sides. Doing so makes hydrants easier to locate and operate in an emergency, takes the load off the Gorham Fire Department, and could save a life by saving valuable time. A rule of thumb is to clear three feet on three sides, and straight to the road in the front. Pictured are fire fighter/EMT Luke Joslin (left) and paramedic Matt Hoyt (right) clearing snow from one of hundreds of hydrants in Gorham.

Revenue Sharing CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said: "Developing a reasonable budget for the town is never an easy task, but the loss of revenue sharing money last year was particularly difficult for all municipalities and contributed to a significant increase in property taxes in Gorham. A similar loss

this year would have had significant consequences on taxes and services. I want to thank Senator Boyle and Representatives Sanborn and McLean and the other members of the Maine Legislature who supported the effort to maintain this funding."

Planning Board Results

JANUARY 6, 2014

BY KAREN DiDONATO

In January's Planning Board meeting, two items were approved:

Item 1: Maine Automation, located at 61 County Road, requested approval of a building renovation with associated parking and landscaping. Approved, 5-0 (George Fox and Corey Theriault absent).

Item 2: Gregory McCormack of Strawberry Lane requested approval to change lot lines for lots 1, 2, and 3 of the Strawberry Fields Subdivision plan, which was approved in 1995. Approved, 5-0 (Fox and Theriault absent).

In May, **Mainely Plumbing & Heating** celebrated 28 years in business. We want to thank all our customers and friends who support us and local businesses in Gorham through the years.

Did you know... we can help you with the smallest of plumbing and heating projects, as well as complete design build Plumbing, Heating & HVAC systems, including **Mini-Split** Heat pumps by Fujitsu & Mitsubishi. **Natural gas** & Propane conversion specialist. We also have Financing available on all **Baxi** Boilers installations.

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—Matt Mattingly, PineCrest Bed & Breakfast

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Gorham High School Second Quarter Honor Roll 2013-14

Grade 9 - High Honors

Anne Acker-Wolfhagen
Mary Adams
Elsa Alexandrin
Avery Arena
Kathryn Bertin
Delaney Burns
Kathryn Christianson
Kara Ellsmore
Emily Esposito
Ryan Firmin
Abigail Flint
Emily Hayward
Sophia Hendrix
Whitney King
Carli Labrecque
Allison LaFerriere
Justin Laughlin
Hannah LeBlanc
Elizabeth Lemieux
Kaylea Lundin
Samuel Martel
Thomas Matthews
Taylor Nygren
Ethan Orach
Athena Pappalardo
Olivia Puopolo
Samuel Roussel
Julia Roy
Emma Smith
Karen Stemm
Evelyn Turnbaugh
Blake Wallace
Heather Woodbury
Emily Yager

Grade 9 - Honors

Jordan Allen
Katherine Andrews
Kelly Aube
Sally Aube
Georgia Baber
Trystan Bates
Jake Bear

Katherine Bennett
Lucas Bryant
Lindsey Caron
Jamie Carter
Nariah Cavarretta
Nikoles Charron
Tony Cooper
Cameron Coro
Rianna Crowell
Kristen Curley
Jordan Currier
Haylee Dahlborg
Brandon Desjardin
Hannah Distasio
Kara Doane
Alyssa Dolley
Logan Drouin
Drew Eid
Travis Emerson
Erin Esty
Jackson Fotter
Megan Fraley
Sean Glasgow
Ryan Hamblen
Cameron Holmes
Brandon Howard
Sarah Jackson
Madeline Joyal-Myers
Anne Kelly
Diana Kolb
Jason Komulainen
Jack Lamont
Narissa Libby
Theodore Lockman
Sarah Lorello
Keegan Luce
Thomas Macomber
Fiona Nee
Emily O'Donnell
Padraic Owens
Marina Pappalardo
Kyle Peoples
Audrey Perreault
Kirsten Perry

Kent Piazzola
Emma Pierce
Maeve Pitman
Lauren Poirier
Kenneth Richard
Tyler Richman
Caroline Smith
Molly Sposato
Samuella Spurr
Raymond St. Cyr
Cameron Stevens
Dorothy Stickney
Alexandra Stresser
Connor Sweatt
Erica Thibeault
Hallie Thomas
Lily Towle
Jenna Marie Webster
Dylan Weeks
Marc Yankowsky

Grade 10 - High Honors

Benjamin Bradshaw
Rebecca Cupps
Coleman Dowdle
Nikolas Lieberum
Jordanne Mercier
Nathaniel Nadeau
Calvin Riiska
Anna Smith
Sydney Stultz
Molly vanLuling

Grade 10 - Honors

Diana Albanese
Nadia Barry
Matthew Beahm
Christopher Beland
Ross Bellino
Thomas Bernier
Tyler Bernier
Kayleigh Bettencourt
Emily Bragg
Kevin Brewer

Kyle Briggs
Tristan Brunet
Mallory Campbell
Robert Campbell
Alexander Candemlo
Chelsea Caron
Sydney Caron
Amber Cavarretta
Nicole Couillard
Jennifer Darasz
Renee Deering
Bregan DeLeon
Madeleine DeWitt
Heidi Donovan
Caitlyn Duffy
Cody Elliott
Eleanor Feinberg
Dominick Fillmore
Sarah Flanders
Emerson Fox
Joseph Gallant
Isabella Griffin
Maeghan Higgins
Cady Houghton
Collin Jones
Sarah Jordan
Mia Kaufman
Samuel Kilborn
Brandon Kuusela
Cassidy Landry
Baily Lemery
Matthew McCarty
Joseph McGrail
Molly Merrifield
Hannah Meserve
Zachary Meyers
Chatham Mills
Joseph Moutinho
Jason Nagy
Emma Niles
Robert Pellerin
Taylor Perkins
Sara Perry
Dylan Rogers

Dayna Shaw
Angela Sills
Lyndsey Sobieralski
Jesse Southard
Ciara Stillson
Colby Sturgis
Maeve Terry
Amber Thompson
Cameron Tracy
Michael Walls
Nicole Walls
Lindsey Wilcox

Grade 11 - High Honors

Douglas Beahm
John Ennis
Emily Lewis

Grade 11 - Honors

Ashley Aceto
Hyunmin Bae
Megan Baker
Anna Barr
Madison Bennett
Megan Bennett
Jessalyn Bergeron
Krista Boylen
Darcie Brown
Sarah Buotte
Brooke Caron
Emma Christakis
Mackenzie Collins
Sage Collins
Mariah Cranston
Kaitlyn Curley
Christian Daigle
Megan Demers
Erika Dvilinsky
Reagan Emerson
Gregory Farrington
Isabelle Grant
Abigail Hamilton
Nathan Harvey
Caitlyn Hawxwell

Matthew Hooker
Katherine Hopkins
Cole Houghton
Andrew Johnson
Evan Johnson
Aliza Jordan
Elizabeth Kane
Jamison Lane
Kayli-Susan Leavitt
Sean Luce
Brendan Mercier
Alexis Miller
Zachary Mills
Blanca Monsen
Sarah Norton
Olivia Owens
Thomas Pequinot
Emily Peterson
Julie Pike
Kiana Plumer
Mitchell Rossignol
Eden Runyon-Baruch
Isaac Salpietra
Margaret Shields
Abigail Sladen
Julia Smith
Kayleigh Smith
Timothy Sposato
Renae Staples
Andrea Stemm
Thomas Susi
Nicholas Thibeault
Benjamin Thompson
Meagan Thomsen
Jordan Ward
Allyson Webber
Michaela Williams
Ashley Woodbury
Andrew York

Grade 12 - High Honors

William Beland
Emily Berrill

Thomas Bradshaw
Nicole Brunet
Kyley Butler
Griffin Courtney
April Cummings
Thomas Dahlborg
Emily DeLuca
Tyler Eldridge
Narissa Kourinos
Hannah Leclair
Kevin Lombard
Joseph Martin
Jason Meuse
Kelsey Mitchell
Heather Nystrom
Francesco Pappalardo
Delaney Patten-Harris
Haley Perkins
Rozada Spiers
Katie Tucker
Jacqueline Turner
Laura Turner
Melissa Walls

Grade 12 - Honors

Rebecca Amell
Hallye Anderson
Gabrielle Bagala
Carly Bell
Melissa Blake
Justin Broy
Tucker Buteau
Zoe Campbell
Tyler Carroll
Lauren Carter
Michael Chin
Jeremy Collett
Patrick Crocker
Meghan Cushing
Morgan Cushing
Kelsey Cushman
Sophia Dobben
Julia Donley

Adwin Dougingu
Bailey Drouin
Molly Dufour
Megan Dunlap
Aaron Erickson
Charlotte Feinberg
Heather Fields
Olivia Garland
Caleb Goodall
Nicholas Greatorex
Sadie Guimond
Madeleine Hamblen
Kacey Hamlin
Ashley Keating
Karen Knight
Joseph Lambert
Abigail LaPorte
Paige Lara
Jesse Leavitt
Matthew Leclair
Paige Lemieux
Hannah Linscott
Rebecca Lord
Jenessa Meserve
Timothy Meuse
Megan Miller
Corey Nadeau
Carmen Ndayisaba
Shannon Nee
Sara Nelson
Eric Parlin
Gage Pratt
Sydney Prindle
Jessica Rexrode
Samantha Robinson
Matthew Roy
Rona Sayed
Joshua Slater
Victoria Small
Hannah Southard
Lauren Stiles
Lydia Story
Collin Young

Gorham Middle School Second Quarter Honor Roll 2013-14

Grade 6 - High Honors

Carson Battaglia
Celia Begonia
Elizabeth Blanchard
Laura Bolduc
Anthony Booth
Westley Brinegar
Evan Chambers
Jack Collins
Julie Cooper
Charlotte Dean
Lydia Drew
Tyler Farris
Madison Firmin
Joseph Hansen
Maeve Higgins
Katarina Jenkins
Elyssa Johnson
Aaron Jones
Brady King
Lucas LaMontagne
Alexander Lemieux
Jonathan Lewis
Haley Lowell
Nolan McCullough
Stefanie Meacham
Ethan Mercier
Peyton Morton
Anna Nault
Jillian Nichols
Abigail O'Brien
Samuel Orlando
Ava Pitman
Lauren Preis
Andrew Rent
Seth Richardson
Kailyn Robie
Camden Sawyer
Veronica Steiner
Julia Sturgis
Madisen Sweatt
Katrina Tugman
Lydia Valentine
Jack VanZandt
Samuel Waggoner
Quinn Young

Grade 6 - Honors

Grace Andrews
Daniel Bachner

Colby Bedell
Mariam Beshir
Patrick Bishop
Jordan Bretton
Rebecca Brunner
Jessica Burgess
Haley Burns
Emma Callahan
Haley Caron
Margaret Caruso
Lane Chariton
Vicky Chen
Samuel Coro
Kasey Cummings
Benjamin Demers
Garrett Devoe
Lauren DiDonato
Faith Dillon
Hannah Dimick
William DiPietrantonio
Mackenzie Dix
Meredith Donisi
Connor Donnelly
Ryan Doughty
Jeremy Duncan
Molly Eaton
Raechel Edwards
Sawyer Gagnon
Ryan Gaudreau
Lauren Green
Hayden Gunn
Kyle Hamblen
Jacqueline Hamilton
Cassidy Hamilton
Ashleigh Hotham
Ryan Howlett
Charles Hubbard
Erin Hume
Paige Hume
Nolan Irish
Noah Jalbert
Sarah Juskiwicz
Iris Kitchen
Kseniya Klyuchka
Cassandra Kovacs
Henri Kuntz
Joshua LaFerriere
Brittney Landry
Eric Lee
Emma Linkiewicz

Aaron Mains
Anika Malia
Travis Matheson
Michael Maxfield
Abigail Miller
Jakob Mohr
Cameron Myles
Abigail Nelson
Lindsay Nygren
Timothy O'Brien
Aidan Owens
Samuel Paulin
Cole Perreault
Meghan Reidy
Ryan Reno
Peter Richards
Margaret Rimkunasi
Jackson Robbins
Tyler Rollins
Gianna Romatis
Chloe Russell
Zachary Shaw
Grace Shimansky
Benjamin Smith
Ursula Steiner
Robert Stewart
Javin Stickney
Nickolas Strout
Luke Tarbox
Andrew Tinkham
Kiana Tracey
Sarah Tuttle
Gavin Valente
Isabella VanZandt
Kacie Walton
Alana Weed
Bodhi Wilkins
Monica Willey
Jacob Zelmanow

Grade 7 - High Honors

Maggie Aube
Fatima Batool
Kyren Bettencourt
Caroline Dowdle
Mercy Dunn
Jacob Dupuis
Abigail Enck
Michael Evans
Trevor Gava

Avery Germond
Caroline Gross
Maryam Hameed
Mackenzie Holmes
Kasey Jiang
Evelin Kasjanov
Spencer Keating
Evelyn Kitchen
Kate Larkin
Ella LeBlanc
Kathryn Lundin
Cooper Lyons
Matilda McColl
Libby Mitchell
Hailey Morrill
Margaret Munkacsi
Benjamin Nault
Thomas Nelson
Katherine O'Donnell
Olivia Paruk
Vipul Periwal
Samuel Pocock
Anna Rathbun
Alice Riiska
Colette Romatis
Simon Roussel
Callie Russell
Leah Scontras
Sara Slager
Caelyn Smith
Sarah Stevens
Sarah Walker
Bruce Wyatt

Grade 7 - Honors

Isis Adams
Lauren Barden
Sarah Baxter
Tyler Bergeron
Aaliyah Biamby
Peter Boswell
Courtney Brent
Zackory Brown-Davis
William Burns
Mackenzie Buteau
Alexa Corey
Isabel Courtney
Gabriel Cousins
Gavin Cupps
Ryan DeSanctis

Brittany Desjardin
Julia Downey
Molly Duff
Riley Ferrigan
Emma Fergues
Gabriella Gagne
Jayden Gaudreau
Nora Gibbs
Jensyn Giroux
Aaron Goschke
Zachary Green
Tyler Haines
Brinn Hall
Joshua Hayward
Autumn Heil
Emaly Howard
Riley Jerome
Helen Keeney
Elisabeth King
Libby Knudsen
Isabelle Kolb
Greta Lee
Abigail Leonard
Thomas Light
Griffin Lord
Dominic Lorello
Isaac Martel
Lydia McCrillis
Haley McCullough
Rosalie McDaniel
Trent McLellan
Drew Meader
Harris Milliken
Kevin Mollison
Evan Morrell
Gretchen Muehle
Kathryn Nason
Chaac Olin
Nicco Pappalardo
Grace Perron
Monroe Reeder
Jacob Roberts
Samantha Robichaud
Samantha Rockwell
Andrew Sharp
Emma Shields
Hallie Shiers
James Shimansky
Riley Sills
Jacob Sladen

Dawson Smith
Daniel Spiller
Mariah Stout
Ethan Stump
Logan Swift
McKayla Taft
Grace Terry
Brenden Waterman
Erin Wentworth
Ethan White
Bryce Womack
Brooke Woodbury
Melanie Wright
William Zidle

Grade 8 - High Honors

Caitlyn Beaulieu
Emily Chapin
Llayna Charest
Courtney Cushing
Claudia Daigle
Bennett Donohue
Benjamin Eichner
Aaron Farr
Meadow Fortier
Alexis Fotter
Olivia Garand
Kate Gilbert
Brooke Greatorex
Sawyer Hanscome
Andrew Harjula
Saoirse Herlihy
Garrett Higgins
Madison Hincer
Kaitlyn Jodoin
Tanja Kasjanov
Kyle King
Grace Libby
Hannah Libby
Sierra Lumbert
Zachery McGouldrick
Jacob Miller
Camryn Morton
Alexander Ousback
Andy Pham
Hunter Poitras
Michelle Rowe
Asma Sayed
Sarah Shields
Anna Slager

Josephine Smith
Noah St. Peter-Halstead
Abigail vanLuling

Grade 8 - Honors

Asal Bahmani
Wilder Baldwin
Clayton Bassingthwaite
Tarquin Bates
Conor Battaglia
Hannah Beliveau
Benjamin Bellantoni
Jessica Bennett
Vanessa Berrill
Hayley Bickford
Lindsey Boylen
Nolan Brown
Caitlin Callahan
Megan Caruso
Jason Catoggio
Anthony Chase
Marisa Collins
Meaghan Couillard
Emma Cousins
Brianna Crockett
Shawn Crosby
Michaela Desrosier
Maleek Dias
David Drew
Jessica Dusseault
Holden Edwards
Emily Emmons
Lyndsey Estes
Gabriella Fisher
Jared Foss
Mia Gallant
Emily Goriss
Jacob Guerrette
Ahmed Hameed
Maxwell Harvey
Rachel Hooker
Baylee Howlett
Christian Hubbard
Olivia Ionta
Ryan Kaczmarek
Haley Keefe
Stephen Klatt
Eduard Klyuchka
Noah Lambert
Shelby Leach

Zebulun Leavitt
Kyle Mason
Devin McCaffrey
Grace McGouldrick
Jonathan Meyers
Madison Mitchell
Carlos Monsen
Emily Murray
Lauren Nagy
Emelia Nejezchleba
Benjamin Nelson
Harrison Nijkamp
Jack Niles
Ryan Norris
Tommi O'Neil
Amelia Pappalardo
Alexa Perkins
Sean Pocock
Megan Polchies
Emily Prindle
Jack Richards
Lydia Roberge
Lucas Roop
Bridget Rossignol
Madeline Rossignol
Joshua Rowe
Clara Santos
Isabella Sawyer
Jonathan Scribner
Tyler Seger
Alexis Shaw
Alexis Shepard
Justin Shiplett-Kilburn
Anna Smith
Owen Smith III
Isabella Solari
Kayla Stickney
Stefan Street
Nora Susi
Keltan Tanguay
Christopher Tucker
Claire Valentine
Breana Verrill
Marie Walton
Rylie Wareham
Simeon Willey
Jillian Worster

Gorham School Committee

BY ROBIN SOMES

Superintendent Ted Sharp began his monthly report with the announcement that Maine's Education Committee supported a bill earlier in the day with an 11-2 vote (Representatives Michael McClellan of Raymond, Matthew Pouliot of Augusta) that would enforce a moratorium on establishing virtual charter schools in Maine. Sharp cited ongoing efforts to create two virtual charter schools, but stated there is much more sentiment toward the creation of a "state-run virtual academy." The bill goes to the State Legislature next and, if enacted, would hinder the two virtual charter schools from opening this year. Meanwhile, planning is underway to provide online learning resources by this fall for Maine students. Sharp noted that a virtual high school has existed in Gorham for over eight years that enables students to take courses not offered at the high school. This is in partnership with the Sebago Alliance which provides a better rate than would be available through a private company, as is done with other high schools.

Sharp referred to the State's biennial budget of last June that had passed with a Legislative override of Governor LePage's veto, and enabled some \$18.5 million to be divvied up amongst Maine's public school districts—\$361,313 of which was granted to Gorham. Because this amount was already accounted for in the school

budget, the funds were "literally banked;" however, Sharp related that LePage had been suggesting that any money not spent should be returned to the State. The majority of Legislature is opposed to this and would "probably override anything the Governor may decide to do," noted Sharp.

Committee member Kyle Bailey reported on his recent inquiry to Superintendent Sharp that concerned student representation on the School Committee. Bailey explained that his motivation came about after attending a Student Council meeting at Gorham High School. Subsequent conversations with student leaders concerned the interest of students taking a more active part in the academic decision making process as well as the role students play in determining their future. Further discussion by the School Committee on this will occur at February's Workshop where it will be on the agenda.

Policy Sub-Committee member Kathy Garrard reported on the prior evening's meeting where efforts began to review the entire policy book, section by section, policy by policy, to determine any applicable changes as well as to determine if any no longer relevant policies should be eliminated.

Garrard also pointed out that discussion began this month on the existing Alcohol and Other Drug Use by Students policy, particularly as it pertains to student athletes. This effort is in response to the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Superintendent Presents Budget CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and charters mandate that funds raised by public schools must be approved by local municipalities; but these funds would displace tax funds, not supplement them.

"Our public schools must focus on ways to fund educational programs that society has determined are critical to the common good, trying to meet emergent needs, many of them without precedent for schools and yet, in the old conventional ways." He added, "Public education is at a tipping point." Sharp handed out the budget documents and

said, "We've got to get serious about what schools can do, how well they can do it, what changes need to be made in schooling and what changes need to be made in funding public education in this country." He continued, "We've been in this cycle where we look at a budget, we put our blinders on, we send those budgets through, and we just keep the cycle going, without taking a deep breath." He then directed the Council members to open the budget proposal to page one of 104 to review the cover letter and budget summary.

FINAL APPROVED		PROPOSED	FY 2015 vs FY 2014	
EXPENDITURES	FY 2014	FY 2015	%	\$\$\$
Operating Budget	\$28,652,624	\$30,120,472	5.12%	\$1,467,848
All Day Kindergarten	\$0	\$552,056	n.m.	\$552,056
Adult Education	\$251,799	\$260,417	3.42%	\$8,618
District Capital Improvements	\$440,000	\$440,000	0.00%	\$0
Debt Service	\$3,573,705	\$2,928,749	-18.05%	(\$644,956)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$32,918,128	\$34,301,694	4.20%	\$1,383,566
Local Tax Effect				
Local appropriation need	\$14,990,123	\$16,182,989	7.96%	\$1,192,866
Effect on existing tax base				
Mil rates	11.22	12.06	7.47%	0.84

The Council will discuss the budget proposal at a workshop on March 1.



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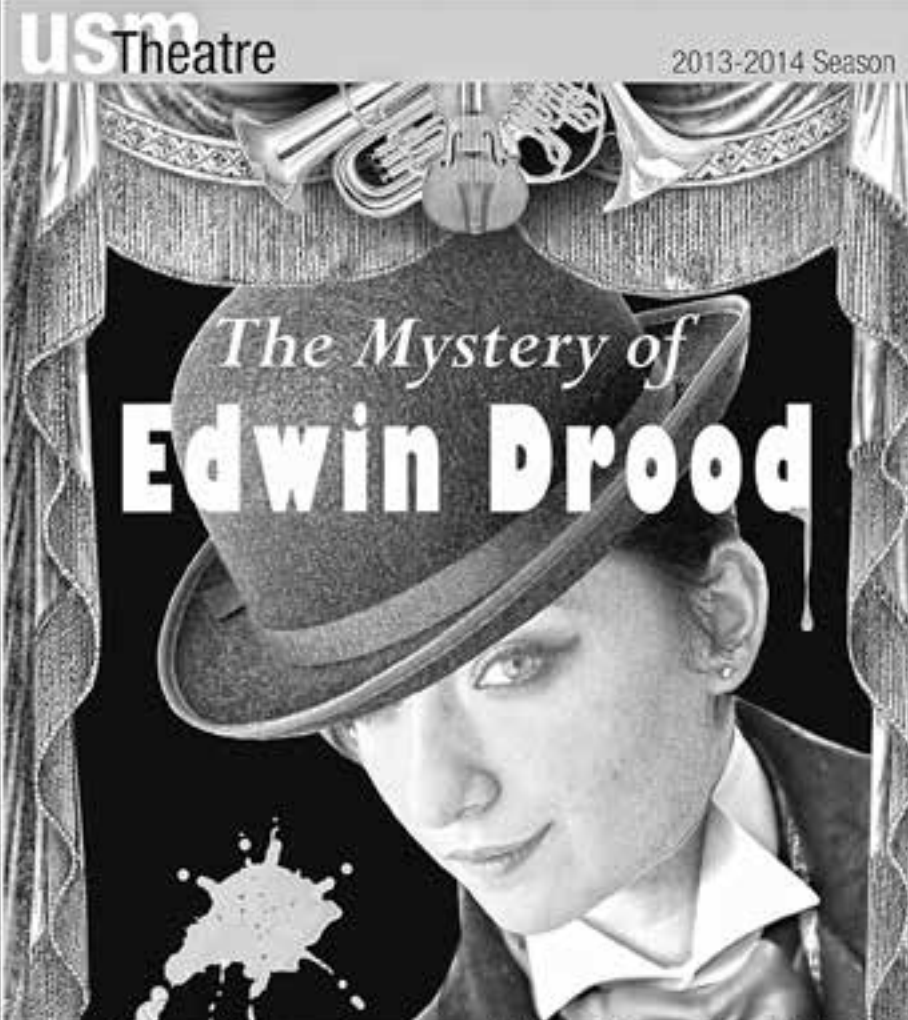
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USM Theatre 2013-2014 Season



The Mystery of Edwin Drood


A musical murder mystery where the audience plays detective!

A musical by Rupert Holmes | Directed by Wil Kilroy
Musical Direction by Edward Reichert | Choreography by Vanessa Beyland

March 14-23
Friday, March 14 & March 21 at 7:30 p.m. | Saturday, March 15 & March 22 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, March 16 & March 23 at 5 p.m. | Tuesday, March 18 at 10 a.m. (H.S. matinee)
Wednesday, March 19 at 5 p.m. (all seats \$10) | Thursday, March 20 at 7:30 p.m.

Russell Hall, USM Gorham campus

Tickets: \$21/\$15 seniors, USM alumni & employees/\$10 students
usm.maine.edu/theatre (207) 780-5151, TTY 780-5646



GMS to Present “The Emperor’s New Clothes: The Musical”

BY NATHAN BACHNER
GMS Student

Forty students at Gorham Middle School have been working hard to sew together a production of “The Emperor’s New Clothes: The Musical.” This musical comedy, written by Karen Boettcher-Tate with music and lyrics by Bill Francoeur, is an adaptation of the familiar short story by Hans Christian Andersen, and is sure to leave you in stitches.

“We have a lot of great talent this year,” said director Tana Krohn, who is excited to see what the final product will look like. Krohn looks forward to presenting it to the community.

In the show, the kingdom of Glump has been falling apart ever since the pampered emperor became wrapped up in his tasteless wardrobe. Enter two con artists who quickly devise an ingenious plan for fleecing the emperor in a magical cloth that they insist only the most competent people can see. Naturally, everyone pretends to “see”



Artwork created by Hannah Beliveau and Jesse Bennett, GMS Students

Gorham Middle School Presents “The Emperor’s New Clothes: The Musical.”

the cloth for fear of being declared unfit for office, while the emperor proceeds to commission the men to make him a new birthday suit. Hilarity ensues.

Find out how the story ends on Friday, March 14 or Saturday, March 15 at 7 p.m. in the GMS Auditorium. Reserve tickets by calling 222-1220. Tickets will also be for sale at the door for \$5.

School Committee Report CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

recent reversal of the suspensions of over twenty Westbrook High School student athletes. The suspensions stemmed from a party last October where alcohol was present, and their reversals stemmed from ambiguity of the high school’s Extra Curricular Code of Conduct-Drug and Alcohol Use by Students policy. Garrard stated that the discussion is anticipated to finish at the Policy Committee’s March meeting, which Gorham High School Athletic Director Tim Spear will attend to provide input.

In other action, the School Committee voted 7-0 to approve the Varsity Football Head Coach position to Andrew Hager, who “lives and breathes Gorham football,” according to Committee Chair Dennis Libby.

Superintendent Sharp presented the Committee with a proposed budget for FY2015, where it will be reviewed. If approved, it will be presented to the Town Council for their review and, if approved, will be decided by voters through referendum.

You may not find Dottie on national TV, but you will find her right here on Main Street.

Dottie Chalmers Cutter,
Personal Lines Sales Manager & Agency Manager,
Gorham & Bridgton

Dottie literally grew up in the insurance business, starting at her family’s agency during summer breaks from college. Today, she’s Personal Lines Manager for the entire Chalmers Insurance Group. Her decade of experience means she’s probably dealt with any coverage need your family may have, no matter how complex.

So when you need to talk insurance, there’s no substitute for the real thing. The trusted local Chalmers agents will be glad to see you.



Call the local heroes
at 800-360-3000 or visit
ChalmersInsuranceGroup.com

Like us on

Welcome to Kindergarten!

Gorham’s three elementary schools, Great Falls, Narragansett and Village, will be holding the following events for incoming kindergarten students. To find out which neighborhood school your child will attend, please visit www.gorhamschools.org/transportation or call the Transportation Office at 893-2547.

Parent Information Night: Thursday, March 6, 6-6:30 p.m. at your neighbor-

hood school. Registration and screening appointments can be scheduled from 6:30-7 p.m. Storm date: Tues., March 18.

Kindergarten screening is by appointment at your neighborhood school. Screening will take place on the following dates:

March 31-April 4 at Village, 222-1300
April 8-9 at Narragansett, 222-1250
April 15-18 at Great Falls, 222-1050

school notes

Great Falls Art of Reading Family Fun Night
Friday, March 7, 6-7:30 p.m. at Great Falls School

Join the Great Falls School staff and parent volunteers for an evening of fun and creativity! All are welcome to attend the many art stations mimicked after favorite children book illustrators. You and your family can create a rainbow fish, wire sculpture, watercolor art piece, paper quilt and much more! There will also be face painting and readers’ theatre! Admission is free. A used children’s book donation to the Walkerwood Elementary School in Jamaica would be greatly appreciated. This family event is made possible by our many volunteers and the Gorham Educational Foundation. Hope to see you there!

Drugs 101: What Parents Need to Know -PARENTS ONLY-
Wednesday, March 19, Gorham Middle School

6-6:30 p.m. Mock bedroom preview

6:30-8 p.m. Presentation by Claudine Emerson, LCSW, LADC, CCS

Drugs 101: What Parents Need to Know educates parents about signs, symptoms and current trends of alcohol, tobacco, inhalants, marijuana and other drugs adolescents may use. A highlight of this program is a mock teenager’s bedroom set up for parents to observe and attempt to identify the obvious and not-so-obvious drug related paraphernalia. Throughout the presentation, more than 50 drug and alcohol indicators will be unveiled to show how some adolescents hide drug and alcohol use from their parents.

For more information or questions, please contact Claudine Emerson at 222-1193 or claudinee@gorhamschools.org. Approved and supported by the Gorham School Administration.

The GHS Music Department will hold its second annual Mattress Sale Fundraiser on Sunday, March 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the GHS cafeteria. There will be over 20 brand new mattress sets on display to try, along with a team of experts to answer questions. Mattresses starting at \$199, 30-60% below retail.

GMS Spelling Bee 2014 Champions



Photo credit Terri Dawson

Sam Waggoner and Abbie VanLuling were the winners of Gorham Middle School’s Spelling Bee held in January. On February 4, both students represented Gorham at the Cumberland County Spelling Bee held at Falmouth Middle School. Over thirty-three contestants participated in the county bee that featured challenging spelling and vocabulary rounds. Sam, a sixth grade student and son of Deann and David Waggoner, was out at the end of round four after facing some formidable words. Abbie, an eighth grade student and daughter of Heather and Robert VanLuling, came in seventh and was out in the fifth round of a new feature of vocabulary questions. Only three students finished this round.

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GHS Class A State Track & Field Championship Point Earners

Five GHS athletes earned points in the Class A State Track & Field Championships February 17th at USM. The girls' team finished 11th with 20 points with Thornton Academy coming

in first with 53 points. The boys' team finished tied for 10th with 10 points as Scarborough won with 91.33 points. Below are the Gorham athletes who earned points:

1st Place: Sophia Swiatek, girls' shot put, 34-04.75.

2nd Place: Kristin Benson, girls' 200 meters, 27.23.

3rd Place: Travis Grant, boys' 55-meter hurdles, 8.13.

4th Place: Jon Gray, boys' 800 meters, 2:03.55.

6th Place: Jackie Turner, girls' 800 meters, 2:28.38.

in the Zone

Among the Top Wrestlers in the State:

Abe Eaton, a home school student from Gorham who participates on the Westbrook wrestling team, finished fourth in the 170-pound division of the Maine New England Qualifier tournament February 20th at Nokomis High School in Newport. Eaton just missed qualifying for the New England Championships for which the top three wrestlers in each weight class qualify. He also finished fourth in the Class A State Championships February 15th at Noble High School in North Berwick.

Thomsen (GHS '13) earned Relay Team of the Week honors on February 10th from the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference. The relay team earned the award for finishing first in the Wheaton Invitational with a time of 1:40.06.

The Gorham Boosters meet the second Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the GHS Library. The next meeting takes place March 10th. Anyone wishing to help can contact Lenny Holmes at gorhamboosters@gmail.com.

College Swimmer of the Week: Wheaton's 200-freestyle women's swimming relay team, which includes freshman Lindsey

GHS Class A State Swimming Championship Point Earners

Both GHS swim teams finished eighth with 117 points in the Class A State Championships that took place February 15th (girls) and February 17th (boys) at the

University of Maine at Orono. Cheverus H.S. finished first in both the girls' (294 points) and boys' (368 point) events. Following are the Gorham swimmers who earned points:

2nd Place: Tim Smith-boys' 50 freestyle, 22.58.

4th Place: Timmer Sposato-boys' 200 freestyle, 1:52.52; Smith-boys' 100-yard freestyle, 50.45.

5th Place: Molly Sposato-girls' 100 breaststroke, 1:16.94.

6th Place: Ashley Clark, Alicia Robinson, M. Sposato, Meagan Thomsen-girls' 400 freestyle relay, 4:09.43.

7th Place: Thomsen, M. Sposato, Clark, Robinson-girls' 200 medley relay, 2:06.33; T. Sposato-boys' 100 backstroke, 58.99; T. Sposato, Smith, Gunder Sandeno, Caleb Goodall-boys' 200 medley relay, 1:52.86.

8th Place: Clark-girls' 500 freestyle, 5:56.57; Thomsen-girls' 50 freestyle, 26.94; Delaney Burns, Hannah LeBlanc, Clark, Thomsen-girls' 200 freestyle relay, 1:55.20; Riley Jenson, Sandeno, Goodall, Smith-boys' 200 freestyle relay, 1:38.01.

11th Place: T. Sposato, Ben Clark, Jenson, Sandeno-boys' 400 freestyle relay, 3:52.34.

14th Place: Blanca Monsen-girls' 500 freestyle, 6:19.88.

15th Place: Robinson-100 girls' freestyle, 1:02.15; Robison-50 freestyle, 28.48.

16th Place: M. Sposato-200 girls' freestyle, 2:22.27; LeBlanc-50 Freestyle, 28.78.

sports Etc.

Gorham Grad Selected to Basketball

Coaching Program: University of Maine fifth-year senior Rachele Burns (GHS '09) has been selected to participate in the Women's Basketball Coaches Association's (WBCA) "So You Want to Be a Coach" program. Burns will

participate in a three-day workshop April 4-6 in conjunction with the WBCA National Convention in Nashville. She was selected based on her academics, contributions to women's basketball on and off the court, professional resume, and a written recommendation from her head coach.



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GHS Winter Sports Post-Season Report

COMPILED BY JEFF PIKE
Sports Editor

Boys' Hockey: The Rams closed the season on an eight-game winning streak while out-scoring opponents 39-8. With a final record of 15-3, Gorham also captured the top ranking in Western Maine Class B and a bye that earns them a spot in the Western Maine semifinals. **Jordan Ward, Jake Bear and Tucker Buteau** all scored goals in a big 3-2 win over second-ranked Camden Hills on February 8th while goalkeeper **Justin Brody** earned shut-outs in the team's final two games vs. Gardiner and Yarmouth.

Girls' Basketball: The fifth-seeded Rams opened their Western Maine Class A post season on February 12th with 50-41 overtime win against Falmouth led by 21 points from **Emily Esposito**. Gorham then moved on to the Portland Expo February 17th to take on fourth-seeded Portland. Esposito once again

led the way with 17 points supported by nine points from **Ashley Woodbury** and seven from **Jessica Rexrode**, but it was not enough as Portland prevailed, 47-42.

Boys' Basketball: Despite 23 points from **Sam Kilborn**, the ninth-seeded Rams lost to eight-seed Noble (66-63) in the preliminary round of the Western Class A playoffs on February 11th. **Cory Nadeau** and **Billy Ruby** also reach double figures in the game with 10 points each. Gorham fell behind by 12 points after three quarters but fought hard in the fourth quarter to make it a close game.

Skiing: Both the boys' and girls' teams were schedule to compete in the SMAA Championships on February 24th after the Gorham Times went to press. The Class A State Championships take place February 27th and March 1st. Look for coverage in the next issue of the paper.

Free Throw District Champions



Photo credit Anthony Alliero

Several youth basketball players from Gorham won their respective gender-age division of the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship in Naples on February 8th. The winners all advance to the State Championship March 8th in Old Town. Pictured above, from left to right: **Kurt Berger**, Bridgton Knights of Columbus Youth Director; **Robbie Crockett** (13-year-old boys' winner); **Nate Burchill** (12-boys); **Derrick Burnham** (14-boys); **Meaghan Champagne** (10-girls); **Mikayla Baiguy** (12-girls); **Michelle Rowe** (13-girls); **Dylan Morrell** (10-boys); **Ian Luciano** (9-boys); **Bode Meader** (11-boys); and **Mike Chabot**, Gorham Knights of Columbus Youth Director.



Motor Booty Affair and Silent Auction Event to benefit GHS class of 2014 - Project Graduation

Sat. March 1, 2014
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COMMUNITY

GRADUATIONS

Zach Chamberlin of Gorham graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and Criminology from Arizona State University's December commencement ceremony.

Sarah Stoudt received a Bachelor of Science in Nutritional Sciences from the University of Arizona this past December. The commencement ceremony was attended by her parents, William and Brenda Gray Stoudt of Gorham, and her sister Jennifer Stoudt (GHS '08) of Charlotte, NC. Stoudt is also the granddaughter of the late longtime Gorham Town Councilor, Sherman "Red" Gray and his late wife Jean Gray.



ENGAGEMENTS

Diane and Barry Atwood of Gorham are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter **Stephanie Atwood (GHS '02)** to **Keegan Albaugh**, son of Cathy and Dennis Albaugh of Meredith, NH. Atwood is coordinator of youth development programs at UVM Extension, and Albaugh is a teacher with Centerpoint School, an alternative high school in South Burlington, VT. A September wedding is planned.



PRESIDENT'S LIST

Cortlandt Dunn (GHS '12), Rollins College

DEAN'S LIST

The following students were named to the **Dean's List at the University of Maine Orono**: Abegayle Brown, Rachele Burns, Ashley Crane, Joseph DeRoy, William Eldridge, Molly Folan, Leaha Keene, Matthew McCullough, Bailey O'Brien, Jesse Orach, Nicholas Owens, Eric Plourde, Benjamin Pomeroy, Michael SeeHusen, Kathryn Smith, Lindsey Smith, Matthew Southard, Amy Sutherland, Rachael Webster, Casey Weed, Lisa Wong.

Emma Alden (GHS '11), Venice, Italy through Boston University, Fine Arts
Molly Aube (GHS '11), UNE, Nursing
Isak Bouffard (GHS '09), New England School of Communications, Video Production
Travis Bucknell (GHS '13), New England School of Communications, Audio Engineering
Kevin Demers (GHS '12), Northern Maine Community College
Sarah Doughty (GHS '11), St. Michael's College, English
Stefanie Farrington (GHS '12), Clark University
Forest Gagne (GHS '10), Maine College of Art, Woodworking
Eliot Gagne (GHS '12), UMO, Biology/Chemistry
John Hammond, Clark University
Sara Harvey (GHS '11), St. Lawrence University, Government/Sociology
Aryn Martin (GHS '12), College of William & Mary
Stephanie Morin (GHS '10), Huntington University, Psychology
Lulama Moyo (Catherine McAuley High School '12), Clark University
Liana Richardson (GHS '13), Philadelphia University, Fashion Design
Kaitlyn SeeHusen (GHS '13), University of Rhode Island, Ocean Engineering

OF INTEREST

The **Gorham Cancer Prayer and Support Group** will meet on Tuesday, Mar. 4 at 6 p.m. at the Cressey Road United Methodist Church. All are welcome to attend. FMI, 321-1390 or 839-3111.

Gorham Savings Bank is pleased to announce the promotion of **Eric Andrews** to chief banking officer; **Cheryl Brandt** to executive vice president, retail banking; **Julie Case** to vice president, senior risk and compliance officer; and **Jeremy Clough** to vice president, information security officer.

In keeping with the Local and Legendary: Maine in the Civil War, the Gorham Arts Alliance will sponsor a book discussion on "The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P.

Figg" on Thursday, Feb. 27, 7 p.m. at the North Gorham Library and Wednesday, Mar. 12, 1:30 p.m. at the Baxter Memorial Library. FMI, 318-0584.

First Parish Church in Gorham will hold a **Chicken Pie Supper** on Saturday, Mar. 1 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. \$10/\$5 children under 12. FMI, 839- 6353.

Dean Richardson of Gorham will hold a "CD Release Event" on Friday, Mar. 7, 7 p.m. at the First Parish Church in Gorham to benefit the Gorham Food Pantry. The event celebrates the release of his debut solo EP, "Far From Finished" that was recorded in Nashville. Suggested donation \$10. FMI, 939-0952.

Relay for Life will be held at USM's Costello Field House on Friday, Apr. 11 starting at 6 p.m. and ending on Sunday, Apr. 12 at 6 a.m. To register visit relayforlife.org/usmme or FMI call (800) 227-2345.

Baked haddock dinner, Fridays from Feb. 28 to Apr. 11 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Knights of Columbus, St. Anne's Church, 299 Main St. \$9 adults; \$5 children

ON-GOING EVENTS

FREE tax preparation (for all ages) provided by the IRS and the AARP. Certified tax aides will be at the Gorham Recreation Center, 75 South St., every Tuesday through April 10 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For appointment call 776-6316.

The **Lakes Region Senior Drop-In Center** temporarily located at Sunset Ridge Golf Links, 771 Cumberland St, Westbrook, offers a variety of daily activities and drop-in classes for seniors on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9 a.m. Stop in for morning coffee or play pickleball, poker, bingo, miniature golf, shuffleboard or cribbage. Join in on exercise, watch a movie or learn to knit. FMI, 892-5604 or email bwa31@maine.rr.com.

The **Southern Maine Agency on Aging** will hold office hours every Thursday from 9 a.m. to 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 **Gorham Medical Closet** located at the Municipal Center, 75 South St., is free and available to Gorham residents in need of portable wheelchairs, hospital beds, shower seats, commodes, walkers, canes and more. FMI, call 839-4579, 839-3630 or 839-3936.

USM NOTES

USM School of Music Musical Theatre Film Series continues with "Porgy and Bess," shown on Sunday, Mar. 2 at 2 p.m. and "Oklahoma" on Sunday, Mar. 9 at 2 p.m. Both movies will be shown at 10 Bailey Hall, USM Gorham campus. Free and open to the public.

A lecture with **USM Art Alumnus Shawn O'Connor (USM '05)** will be held at noon on Wednesday, Mar. 5 (Snow date: Noon, Friday, March 7) at Burnham Lounge, Robie Andrews Hall, Gorham campus. A ceramic artist known for his specialty in wood firing, O'Connor is a resident artist and adjunct faculty member in the Ceramics Department of the University of North Dakota.

USM School of Music presents Lantz and Kargul in Concert: "To Clara, with Love," Saturday, Mar. 1 at 8 p.m. at Corthell Concert Hall, USM Gorham campus. \$15/\$10/\$5. FMI, 780-5555 or usm.maine.edu/music

CLOSE TO HOME

Dorcas Society of Hollis and Buxton will hold a **Mardi Gras Dinner Dance** on Saturday, Mar. 1 at the Bar Mills Parish House on Rt. #4 in Buxton. Lasagna dinner will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. with line dancing at 7 p.m. (lessons available). Door prizes. \$10. Proceeds to benefit the Dorcas Society scholarship and donations to the local charities. FMI, 929-4382.

Southern Maine Agency on Aging will host a **Community Café luncheon** of a traditional boiled dinner with entertainment on Tuesday, Mar. 4 at the Westbrook Community Center located at 426 Bridge Street. RSVP to Kate at 956-1348.

SEND YOUR COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS TO GORHAMTIMES@GMAIL.COM

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Gorham Heating Assistance Fund

BY JENNIFER ELLIOT
Town Clerk

Every winter, low-income and needy families struggle to heat their homes. With cuts to federal and state funds, families in need are receiving less or not qualifying for help at all.

Taking this into consideration, the town responded by creating the "Gorham Heating Assistance Fund," which is supported by donations from Gorham citizens and local businesses. One hundred percent of the funds received go directly to assist residents with the cost of heating fuel.

At this time, there is less than \$100 in the fund. Please contribute to this fund to support our efforts to keep Gorham residents warm and safe this winter. By donating, you are truly making a difference in the life of a family in your community.

Donations can be made at the Gorham Town Clerk's Office or mailed to: Gorham Fuel Fund, Gorham Town Office, Suite 1, 75 South Street, Gorham, ME 04038. Please make checks payable to Town of Gorham Fuel Fund.

For more information, contact the Town Clerk's Office at 222-1670 or email jelliott@gorham.me.us.

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Leggo My Eggo!

Preble Street caller had burnt his Eggos and set off the fire alarm.

Officer responded to a report disturbance on Gray Road. The couple was having what they both stated was a stupid argument about where they were going to walk. They both agreed to head back to the male subject's residence.

A passenger in a vehicle at South Gorham Crossing had become sick due to excessive alcohol intake.

Daniel Street caller reported her boyfriend was throwing things at her head. She further reported that he was not being aggressive and was "scared" of the police.

Officer went to Main Street in Windham for a report of a disturbance. Girl was being assaulted in a back lot. Several people scattered when officer arrived and he found girl under a stairway who had bruises on her face. Windham officers arrived and took over.

Officer assisted Cumberland County Sheriff's Officer while he searched for drugs in a vehicle he had stopped.

County Road caller wanted police to be aware he was getting his dog from a neighbor's yard at 4 a.m. He realized he might look suspicious but said while he could see

the dog, it was not responding to his voice commands.

An officer and vice principal met with a student who had a marijuana pipe.

A verbal warning for disorderly conduct was given to man on Narragansett Street who had threatened to shoot his neighbor.

The driver of a pickup who went into a ditch on Fort Hill Road was charged with OUI.

An officer and principal spoke with two students who were in possession of marijuana at Gorham Middle School.

Washburn Drive caller reported receiving a phone message from a male with a foreign, Middle Eastern accent saying he was from a Law office and that her case file would be forwarded to the Gorham Police Department. Police were unaware of any files on caller or of a law office with that name.

Suspicious vehicle on Mallison Road had pulled over so that three year old could urinate.

Maple Ridge Road caller wanted owner of loose dogs to contain them as they were getting into her trash.

Responded to Gorham High School in reference to a student using a black marker and drawing a picture on a seat of a bus of a male sexual organ.

Pastore's Way caller had questions related to a possible theft from her luggage at the Portland International airport. Advised she would need to contact Portland Police Dept.

State Street caller reported a juvenile out of control.

Nason Road caller stated a man with a foreign accent sent him a Western Union form on his computer and advised him he needed to fill it out and send money in order to get his computer unlocked.

Officer responded to a report of a vehicle off the road and advised driver there was a warrant for his arrest and that his license was suspended for not appearing in court. He was taken to jail.

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, FEB. 27

- Auditions for 4th Annual Gorham's Got Talent, 2:30-6:30 p.m., GMS. FMI, 749-2837.
- Baby and Me Storytime for ages 0-18 mos., 9:30 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library.
- Toddler Time for ages 18-36 mos., 10 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library.
- Sewing Group, 2:30 p.m., Baxter Memorial Library.
- Gorham Food Pantry Open, 9-11 a.m., 299-B Main St.

FRIDAY, FEB. 28

- Lenten Baked Haddock Dinner, St. Anne's Parish Hall, 299 Main St., 5-6:30 p.m. \$9/\$5.
- Toddler Time, ages 18-36 mos, 10 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library.

SATURDAY, MAR. 1

- Dance & Silent Auction with Motor Booty Affair, 7:30 p.m., Gold Room, Portland. \$15 tickets purchased at Bookworm. FMI, 839-4383.
- Lantz and Kargul in Concert: "To Clara, with Love," 8 p.m., Corthell Concert Hall, USM Gorham campus. \$15/\$10/\$5. FMI, 780-5555.

SUNDAY, MAR. 2

- Cressey Road United Methodist Church Praise and Bagels Service. 9-10 a.m. FMI, 839-3111.

TUESDAY, MAR. 4

- Pre-School Story Time for ages 3-5, 9:30 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library.
- Gorham Cancer Prayer and Support Group, 6 p.m., Cressey Road United Methodist Church. All are welcome. FMI, 321-1390 or 839-3111.

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 5

- Senior Lunch at St. Anne's Church, 12 p.m. \$3.50. Sponsored by the Town of Gorham.
- Lecture with USM Ceramic Artist Shawn O'Connor, 12 p.m., Burnham Lounge, Robie Andrews Hall, Gorham campus.

THURSDAY, MAR. 6

- Gorham Food Pantry Open, 9-11 a.m., 299-B Main St.
- Gorham Arts Alliance meeting, Windham Public Library, 4 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

FRIDAY, MAR. 7

- 4th Annual Gorham's Got Talent Show, 7 p.m., GMS. FMI, 749-2837 or jeffreyc@gorhamschools.org.
- Lenten Baked Haddock Dinner, St. Anne's Parish Hall, 299 Main St., 5-6:30 p.m. \$9/\$5.
- CD Release Event for Dean Richardson, 7 p.m., First Parish Church to benefit the Gorham Food Pantry. \$10. FMI, 939-0952.

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 12

- Senior Lunch at St. Anne's Church, 12 p.m. \$3.50. Sponsored by the Town of Gorham.
- Gorham Food Pantry Open, 6-7 p.m., 299-B Main St.
- Early Release for grades K-12.

Baxter Memorial Library, 71 South St.
Cressey Road United Methodist Church, 81 Cressey Rd.
First Parish Church, 1 Church St.
Gorham Food Pantry, 299-B Main St., St. Anne's Church parking lot
Gorham Middle School (GMS), 106 Weeks Rd.
St. Anne's Catholic Church, Parish Hall, 299 Main St.
Windham Public Library, 217 Windham Center Rd., Windham

Delivery Person Needed

The *Gorham Times* is seeking a delivery person for the Route 25 area. Deliver 300 newspapers every other Wednesday afternoon (or Thursday mornings) to 12 locations. The route runs west on Rt. 25 starting at Edgewood Animal Hospital, ending at Hannaford in the Colonial Park Plaza in Standish. From start to finish, the route takes less than one hour. Join a great team of people who bring the news to all of Gorham! For more information, email gorhamtimes@gmail.com.

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