

Gorham Times

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SINCE 1995—A FREE, VOLUNTEER-RUN, BIWEEKLY COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Founder's Festival to Continue with Changes

BY NOAH MINER
Staff Writer

The Gorham Founder's Festival will continue for 2015, with a few changes.

At the January 6 Town Council meeting, Founder's Festival Committee Chair and Westbrook/Gorham Chamber of Commerce member Tabitha Swanson announced that the Festival will be held October 16 and 17. Traditionally this event has been held in the summer, which tended to compete with other events and activities. Organizers moved the date to the fall with the intent of drawing more attendance.

This announcement is consistent with emails from committee member Darryl Wright to Town Manager David Cole earlier this fall stating, "After thoughtful deliberations, it was decided that we will not move forward with the event in the current format." Wright continued, "We very much appreciated the support and look forward to continuing our partnership with the town."

Swanson commented, "The focus will be on the historical aspects of Gorham, with integration of the schools." The plan is to create student involvement through photo or essay contests and a children's obstacle course. The venue for the event will not be the Chick property, next to Narragansett School, and will not include amusement rides. In-town venues have yet to be determined and will have indoor and outdoor options dependent upon weather. There will be an effort to bring back the parade, and the organizers are planning a gala event for the opening reception with the founding families.

The Founder's Festival Committee welcomes volunteers to participate in this event or offer any suggestions for what historical aspects of the community can be integrated into this event. If interested, contact Tabitha Swanson at tabitha@your-mainecpa.com.

Gorham Sightings



Photo credit Roger Marchand

Do you know where in Gorham this photo was taken? Join our visual trivia discussion by entering your best guess on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/gorhamtimes or email us at gorhamtimes@gmail.com. The December 18, 2014 edition featured Hannaford Field at the Gorham campus of the University of Southern Maine.

Community Center Expected to Open in February

BY PAUL BADEAU

Things have been quiet at the former Little Falls School on Acorn Street since renovation work ended in mid-December. But recreation programs, meetings, and daycare activities will soon return to a brighter, warmer, and safer facility.

The Little Falls Community Center has undergone a number of structural improvements, including a new roof, additional insulation, new double-glazed windows, a new sprinkler system, and the installation of two high-efficiency natural gas-fired condensing boilers. Great Falls Construction and Viridis Engineering completed the work.

According to Gorham Recreation Department Director Cindy Hazelton, the facility is currently being spruced up with fresh paint, waxed floors, and carpet cleaning. The community will see—and thanks to the new heating system, feel—the difference at an open house slated for some time in February.

The new gas boilers will operate at better than 90 percent efficiency, compared with the previous oil-fired boiler that operated at 82 or 83 percent efficiency. That's a significant improvement, says Todd Chase, president of Gorham-based Viridis Engineering, which was a consultant to Great Falls Construction.

"The difference in efficiency as a result of installing the heating system, insulation, and other building envelope improvements will make a dramatic



Photo credit Todd Chase

The former Little Falls School, now Little Falls Community Center, has had a makeover on the exterior as well as in the interior.

impact," explains Chase. "Based on our experience, we expect at least 25% cost savings and probably more. It's also a matter of comfort. The cold pockets that once sent shivers down your spine are gone. You can really feel the difference."

Despite this winter's relatively low price for heating oil, the price of oil is expected to rise, and natural gas is likely to be lower compared with oil, which will allow the town to experience even greater savings, according to Gorham Town Manager David Cole. "When people are occupying one room for a meeting or activity, we can now heat that specific area (more efficiently)," he explains.



Photo credit Todd Chase

This new heating system is expected to outperform the previous oil-fired boiler.

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New Year Gorham Celebrated With Music, Comedy, Magic and More...

BY GORHAM TIMES STAFF

Beginning mid-afternoon with family ice skating at the USM Ice Arena and ending with a fabulous fireworks display at 10 p.m., Gorham was the place to be to welcome 2015.

"At noon we were out of lanyards," commented New Year Gorham (NYG) coordinator Mike Gradone of the Gorham Rec. Dept., "and we had to resort to recycling last year's buttons. When they ran out, we began printing admission tickets!"

"It's impossible to tell exactly how many people took advantage of the various performances because some folks came for the entire evening of fun and others stopped in to see one or two performances. We know we sold more than 500 admission lanyards or recycled buttons and tickets, which is more than ever before." Gradone went on to say, "The weather was perfect for being outdoors, which could have been the reason for the greater attendance. But, I think it



Photo courtesy of New Year Gorham

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

THE NEW FACE OF
GORHAM BUSINESS EXCHANGE

ARTICLE & PIC ON PAGE 14

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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.

Work of the 127th Legislature Begins

BY REP. ANDREW MCLEAN

The 127th Maine Legislature began its work last week with the inauguration of Governor Paul LePage. Thousands packed the Augusta Civic Center to witness the inauguration and take part in the festivities in Augusta.

I am excited to announce I have been appointed by the Speaker of the House to serve as the Chair of the Transportation Committee. We have an opportunity to help grow Maine's economy through strategic investments in our transportation infrastructure and I am eager to work with colleagues on both sides of the aisle to move Maine forward.

In Maine, all bills to be considered in a calendar year must be introduced to the Revisor's Office, which helps to draft legislation, by a pre-determined deadline. This year, that deadline was January 2. I will be the primary sponsor of eleven bills this year. Many, but not all, of them are related to transportation.

I have introduced a bill that would lower property taxes for Maine resi-

dents. It is based on the reform proposed by Eliot Cutler during his unsuccessful bid for the Blaine House last year. Our overreliance on the property tax to fund basic services is forcing many seniors out of their homes and burdening middle class families. Mine is not the only tax proposal this session, but reducing the property tax burden must be a priority of the 127th Maine Legislature.

Another of my bills would lead to the formation of a commission to study how to reform the way we fund our transportation system in Maine. As I have mentioned in past columns, the gas tax is still a functional method of collecting revenue to pay for roads and bridges. However, every year we collect fewer dollars due to increasing fuel efficiency. We need to bring people together to develop the best solutions to finance critically important infrastructure improvements that will support business development and make Maine more competitive in the global economy.

Another bill would improve Maine's public transportation system by creating a system requiring regular planning as well as a Public Transit Advisory Group made up of stakeholders who would advise the Department of Transportation on how best to meet the needs of transit users.

I look forward to talking about the details of these bills and others in future columns. All of this and much more will come before the 127th Legislature. As issues come up, I hope you will be in touch with your thoughts, questions and concerns. I can be reached by email at andrew.mclean@legislature.maine.gov or on my cell phone at 939-8482. Happy New Year!



(207) 939-8482
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repandrew.mclean@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* Editor:

This year, Home Instead Senior Care's Be A Santa To A Senior program provided close to 1,000 gifts to 269 seniors in Gorham and surrounding communities. Home Instead did not accomplish this alone. Catherine Studley, our Community Services Director, was our chief Santa who oversaw the entire project. I can't thank her enough. But I also want to publicly thank all those who helped in many different ways.

It's impossible to name everyone who volunteered, but some of the key people and businesses that played a big part in the program's success include: Nicole Nappi of Westbrook Housing, Buffy Houpp of the Gorham/Westbrook TRIAD, Girl Scout leaders Lori Perez-Morse, Pam Irish, Melissa Spicer, and Laura Rancourt and all their enthusiastic charges, my staff at Home Instead Senior Care, Paul and Brianna Kennedy of the Blue Pig Diner, Brian Johnson of Sebago Brewing Company, Aimee Smith of Blue Seal Feeds in South Windham, Walgreen's stores in Scarborough and Windham, the Festival of Trees at Westbrook Warren Congregational Church, and the staff at Intermed in South Portland.

We received financial support from Walmart, Bill Dodge Autopark, and Target; wrapping supplies from the Paper Store and Marden's; and pizzas for our wrapping party from Angelo Sotiropoulos of the Gorham House of Pizza. Kim Block at WGME, and Meghan Torjussen at WMTW helped get the word out.

Lots of folks, young and old, helped with wrapping and delivering the gifts. Finally, the biggest thanks of all: to everyone who took an ornament from one of the trees and bought what a senior asked for. Your generosity was amazing.

The thought and care you put into the gift shopping was unmistakable, and the seniors who received your gifts felt it strongly.

Here are excerpts from a couple of thank-you notes: "Thank you all so very much for all the lovely gifts. You made my whole Holiday Season. Without your gifts, I would have been alone." (Cathy). "I thank everyone who had a hand in this. It makes old people feel wanted and remembered." (Phyllis).

Thank you, Gorham!
Bill Jenks, Owner
Home Instead Senior Care

Dear *Gorham Times* Editor:

In this day and age of epidemics, one fiscal crisis after another, and natural disasters, it is an honor to be able to share with the readers of the *Gorham Times* a heartwarming thank you made possible by the local business Home Instead and the numerous individuals and businesses who made the outreach of Santa to a Senior such a successful one this year.

Gorham House Windsor II Nursing Home and Cottage were recipients of the generous donations of bathrobes, blankets, hand creams and scented soaps. Santa for Seniors made 269 seniors in this area feel extra special. Beyond that, these gifts made our employees feel delighted to share in the true meaning of Christmas on a holiday where they were with their Gorham House family, but not their own family.

To each volunteer, business and individual who donated time and resources to this project, the Gorham House community extends

a special thank you of appreciation. Judy Getchell, a Med Tech who works on Windsor II, said that the donations "brought a childhood delight to the entire neighborhood!" Sarah Adams, The Gorham House

Dear *Gorham Times* Editor:

I remember a time when you drove through Gorham readily watching your speed limit—especially on Rt. 114. If you were not paying attention there would be a nicely pressed uniformed officer ready to remind you why you didn't speed in this town.

Nowadays I see folks speeding in town, speeding on rural roads sometimes 20-30 mph higher than the posted speed limit. On our road, you can watch those folks plugged into their phone, not paying attention to anything but themselves.

And there are no nicely pressed uniforms to remind them anymore....

Jason Vaughn

around town

Victoria's, the spa behind Tinsel Bright at 2 Main Street, has closed permanently.

Mega Industries LLC, a Gorham based provider of microwave waveguide and coax components and systems to the scientific, military and commercial markets worldwide, announces the acquisition of New Hampshire based Micro Communications, Inc. (MCI). Based out of Merrimack, NH, MCI engineers and manufactures microwave and radio frequency components focused on the broadcast and scientific markets.

BRINGING THE NEWS TO ALL OF GORHAM
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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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UPCOMING DEADLINES:

Ad Deadline	Publication
Jan 21	Jan 29
Feb 4	Feb 12
Feb 18	Feb 26
March 4	March 12
March 18	March 26

Getting to Know Georgia Humphrey at GOCAT



Photo credit Roger Marchand

BY ROGER MARCHAND
Staff Writer

In November of 1999, Georgia Humphrey was interviewed and hired as the Station Manager, now designated as the Community Access TV Manager, for Gorham Cable Access Community Television (GOCAT). It was a good time and a new opportunity for her, in that she had just moved into a new home and had also recently completed her associate's degree in the area of Audio-Visual Technology at Southern Maine Vocational Technical College (SMVTC), now Southern Maine Community College. She previously earned her Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from the University of Southern Maine. After graduating, she taught music for a few years before deciding she needed a new challenge and started taking courses at SMVTC.

Humphrey said she saw a good deal of overlap in the arts, and that music, in her mind, easily transferred to the visual arts. It was then an easy transition for her to find a connection into the area of visual broadcasting. She has also been able to use these skills in dealing with the incidental things that can happen when doing live television and dealing with the challenges they can present.

When she began work at GOCAT, every camera needed a person behind it and nothing was automated. There was very little equipment and what the station had was large and cumbersome. Things have changed a good deal since then. No longer is every camera attached

to a cable running across the floor to a central point. At this time, most areas of the Municipal Center, including the gym, are wired and capable of transmitting live video to the station studio and then over the air. There is also the capability of televising live meetings and games not held in the auditorium.

Over the fifteen years Humphrey has served as the station manager, she has seen a gradual transition in how the people use community television. There are currently some people who still enjoy watching live meetings on their televisions, but there is also the potential to watch live-streamed meetings on their computers. Viewers can also go to the Town website, gorham-me.org, and watch archived televised meetings of local boards and committees at a time that is convenient for them. Humphrey said a concern with all the changes is that since everything is digital, and wires no longer need to go to the cameras and other equipment, the origins of any problems are harder to diagnose and fix.

Even after fifteen years, Humphrey said she "is still excited about coming to work every day." She said no two days are alike and she continues to enjoy the challenges of the new technology. She also values working with the people involved in the many aspects of community broadcasting.

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Changes to North Gorham Library as Corbett Retires

BY PAMELA TURNER

Attached to the North Gorham Fire Barn, the North Gorham Public Library is an integral part of the North Gorham Community. Kathy Corbett, the librarian of the North Gorham Public Library recently retired. During her four-year tenure at the North Gorham Public Library, Corbett found satisfaction in the excitement and commitment surrounding this small library. She particularly enjoyed growing the library's author series and advancing its technology infrastructure. The library also recently underwent a small renovation to make the space more welcoming and functional.

Holding a masters degree in history, Corbett spent much of her career as the Museum Historian at the Missouri Historical Society in St. Louis. After retiring from that position, she moved to Gorham to be closer to family. Her son Thomas is also a librarian, serving as Systems Librarian at the Scarborough Public Library. After retiring from the library, Corbett will travel to California for a vacation and then will return to Gorham where she intends to stay active in the community as a volunteer.

The North Gorham Public Library is often mistakenly thought of as a branch of the Baxter Memorial Library. It is an entity unto itself and Corbett is rightfully proud of the welcoming feel

of the North Gorham Public Library. The library receives some money from the Town of Gorham (\$11,000 this year) and has some trust funds for operating expenses.



Photo credit Amanda Landry

Corbett was also successful in getting a small donation from the Town of Standish as the library has quite a few Standish users due the library's close proximity to Standish.

Corbett is leaving the North Gorham Public Library in good hands. Jennifer Plummer will be the part-time librarian and Abby McGuire will be doing all the children's programming and pre-school book selection. The library's excellent volunteers will be on duty Monday and Thursday afternoons.

The North Gorham Library is open Monday and Thursday from 3 to 5:30 p.m., Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The library has Wi-Fi service and computers for patron use. Programs for adults and children are offered throughout the year. More information may be found on the North Gorham Public Library's website at www.northgorham.lib.me.us.

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Financial Dashboard

BY RANDY DYER

Do you ever get the sense that you just can't get ahead financially? Does it seem like your finances are out of balance, or that you are stuck in a financial rut? You are not alone. It is estimated that 75% of people nationally live paycheck to paycheck. Do you know the warning signs of financial trouble?

A car dashboard has signals to warn us about low fuel, check engine, tire pressure, seat belt, door ajar, low brake fluid, etc. Similar to an automobile, there are warning signals when it comes to managing money. These signals include: overdraft charges, late payment fees, credit card debt, pay day loans, payroll advances, 401K hardship withdrawals or loans, dwindling savings, loans from family or friends, etc. If some of these sound familiar, it is time to make some changes in how you are managing your money.

Some of these warning signals may be a sign of inattention or temporary poor money management practices such as overdraft charge and late fees. However, if there are repeated incidences of these, it may be a sign of a deeper problem that needs attention.

The other financial warning signals mentioned above tend to be signs of a far greater problem. These indicate a more extensive money management problem and are often a sign of living beyond ones means. Immediate action is needed.

You can begin by building an individual financial dashboard. This includes daily expense tracking, creating a monthly budget and a statement of net worth. In

combination, these documents will perform as a financial dashboard.

Daily expense tracking shows where every dollar is being spent. This will help determine whether expenses are staying within budget. If the daily expenses do not align with the budget, one will need to correct daily spending habits with a focus of cutting out discretionary spending on non-essential items.

A monthly budget helps identify essential monthly expenses as well as other areas of focus one chooses as part of their overall financial goals. In combination, the daily expense tracking and the monthly budget will aid in keeping finances on course in pursuit of short and long term financial goals.

The net worth statement is a snapshot in time of the difference between assets and liabilities and it will help identify long-term financial trends. It is recommended to update one's net worth once a year. A net worth statement will help determine if one is building wealth or incurring debt. If liabilities or debt are increasing or outpacing asset growth over time, this may indicate a significant financial warning. Pay close attention to changes in net worth over time. The goal is to build assets and/or pay down liabilities.

Just like the warning signals on the dashboard of a car alert people to areas that impact vehicle performance, a financial dashboard alerts people to areas that impact financial performance.

Randy Dyer is founder and finance coach of Financial Fitne\$\$\$. He has a B.S. in Accounting with 30 Years of Banking, Accounting, Tax and Risk Management experience.

Changes to Town-Owned Property

21 Main St. Sold to Amato's; Preble St. Property on Market

BY SHERI FABER
Staff Writer

The town owns many properties throughout Gorham. Three properties in particular will either be sold or retained for the time being.

The owner of Amato's plans to purchase the building at 21 Main Street for \$155,000 and tear it down to provide expanded parking for the business. There will be a 90-day waiting period before the house is demolished so that someone could potentially buy the house and move it to another site. There will also be a traffic study to ensure Amato's plan to have a right turn only exit onto Main Street will be a safe means of exit from the property. The town purchased the property in 2012 for \$169,900.

The house at 10 Preble Street, which the town purchased in 2012 for \$239,900, will be sold. The town will keep the back lot that adjoins the Robie Gym lot. The building can be used for one or two businesses and one or two rental units. Or it could be used just for rental units as it was previously. When the town purchased the property, it was a legal two-family home, but three families were living there. The property is now hooked up to natural gas.

The Town Council accepted a bid for the town-owned 2.9-acre property on Deering Road that had been seized for non-payment of taxes. A previous offer, as mentioned in the Town Council Report on page 5, was made for the property but the Town Council rejected it as being too low. The recently accepted bid from Mike Fowler was for \$15,688.

Real Estate Transfers March 2014

Location	Buyer	Seller	Price
90 Plummer Road	Braley, Holly	Hurtubise, Leo	\$290,000
15 Alden Lane	Design Build Associates of Maine	Bauder, Carson	\$261,500
21 Rangeley Way	Silvera, Kyle	Cross, Daniel & Julie	\$268,300
97 Burnham Road	Baillargeon, Andre	Baillargeon, Rachel & Kolodziej, Robert	\$295,000
51 Wagner Farm Road	Record, Leslie	Davenport, Mark & Stairs-Davenport, Andrea	\$259,900
60 Newell Street	Strumph, Thomas	Soule, Travis & Belanger, Kristin	\$255,000
10 Wagner Farm Road	Wilson, Paul	Allen, Daniel & Senna	\$237,000
54 Winslow Road	McLaughlin, Daniel	Bell, Caleb	\$240,000
19 Mitchell Hill Road	Baratta, Ryan	Pellegore, David & Jennifer	\$247,500
14 Shirley Lane	US Bank National Association	Tarr, Jason & Chelsea	\$138,900
15 Mountview Drive	Graham, Judith	Langdon, Maxwell	\$405,000
21 Bramblewood Lane	Bramblewood LLC	Johnson, Albina	\$288,900
20 Sanborn Street	Makehouse LLC	Rocheleau, Keith & Katelyn	\$217,000
8 Hidden Brook Drive	The Crossing at Tannery Brook LLC	Walvick, Jeffrey & Claire	\$364,900

April 2014

Location	Buyer	Seller	Price
18 Sebago Lake Rd.	Bartlett, Sara	Verrill, Nathaniel S	\$149,900
21 Daisy Ln.	Robie Builders, LLC	Cassie Construction Inc.	\$55,000
255 Dingley Springs Rd.	Taylor, Robert K. Jr.	Chaisson, John R.	\$189,700
191 Harding Bridge Rd.	Plourde, Mark L	Grondin, Kenneth J. Jr.	\$330,000
310 North Gorham Rd.	Puriton, Kyle	Sibley, Donald & Anna	\$319,000
3 Veranda Dr.	Wiley, Martha	Ward, Christopher G	\$228,500
34 School St.	JCS I, LLC	Honor Holdings, LLC	\$225,000
177 State St.	Veazie, Katie L	Loveitt, Burleigh & Deborah	\$206,000
11 Lacey's Way	Moler, Daniel	Risbara Bros Construction Co.	\$265,000
138 Hurricane Rd.	Frank W. Sawyer & Sons Inc.	Finocchietti, Kelly & Farmer, Karen	\$50,000
147 South St.	Cannizzo, Jennine	Lurvey, David & Lisa	\$150,000
4 Bonnie Hill Rd.	Hussey, Wesley	Hanscom, Brian & Kathleen	\$294,000
359 Mosher Rd.	SB Aggregates, LLC	Richardson, Norman K	\$228,000
143 North Gorham Rd.	Dotson, Michael	JPL Property Services, LLC	\$182,000
200 Burnham Rd.	Farris, Brenda J	Brown, Susan & Constance	\$250,000
52 Gateway Commons Dr.	Longstaff, Brian E	Warner, Walter & Kathleen	\$293,500

May 2014

Location	Buyer	Seller	Price
169 Plummer Rd.	Hall, Jonathan D	Palomaki, Glenn & Bunk, Catherine	\$258,000
11 Primrose Ln.	Hawkes, Courtney M	Sangillo, Lisa M	\$170,000
38 Wood Rd.	Justice, Norman	Fogg, William	\$105,000
59 Hay Field Dr.	Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp	Mason, Philip & Ann	\$253,289
17 Richard Rd.	Lever, Michael T	Parker, Michael & Barbara	\$384,000
16 Lacey's Way	Sam Strumph Builders LLC	Strumph, Thomas	\$90,000
106 Wood Rd.	Gould, Michael	Garnik, Victor & Olga	\$65,000
32 Mitchell Hill Rd.	Harris, Norman	Staples, Michelle R	\$159,600
3 Quail Ridge Dr.	Federal National Mortgage Association	Burek, Kenneth J & Shelley M	\$351,106
332 Libby Ave.	Lewis, Kasimir S	Marsh, John L & Fleury, Nicole E	\$215,000
32 Day Rd.	Lozano, Blanca L	Verrill, James T	\$189,000
37 Black Brook Rd.	Carlson, Aaron J	Dever, Clare A	\$380,000
193 Main St.	Bertin, Susan L	MECAP LLC	\$183,100
29 Patrick Dr.	Gill, Timothy F	Meador, Daren & Jennifer	\$280,000
47 Wagner Farm Rd.	Gribbing, Timothy M	Earnes, Keith	\$295,000
32 Shamrock Dr.	Desmond, Kelly M	Hoyos, German	\$337,500
11 Hidden Brook Dr.	Fenton, Daniel	Drummond & Drummond LLP	\$309,900
18 Highmeadow Dr.	Fiorito, David M	Sweatt, Mark A & Crockett, Kimberly W	\$244,000
60 Wilson Rd.	Thibault, Mathew J	Stebbins, Georgianna	\$235,000
27 Narrangasett St.	Turnbull, Alyssa	Piaskowski, Raymond & Mary Jo	\$141,000
2 Stevens Dr.	US Bank National Association	Hebert, Paul G	\$142,500
15 Lacey's Way	Alden, Daniel	Gravier Homes LLC	\$250,000
41 Flagg Meadow Rd.	Gagne, Sarah	Hurd, Herbert G & Pamela J	\$320,000



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JANUARY 6, 2015

Town Council Report

By JACOB ADAMS
Staff Writer

The following items were discussed or voted on in the last Town Council meeting:

- A bid of \$15,688 was not accepted (0-7) for a 2.9-acre parcel off of Deering Road, which was acquired through a foreclosure tax lien.
- Spire 29 was granted a Special Amusement Permit (7-0).
- Runway and airstrip zoning regulations have been sent to the zoning committee. (5-2; Benner, Robinson). Potential amendments, among others, include: Surface of airstrip will be grass only and have no exposed gravel or paving. Planes utilizing the runway must operate between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. Airstrips, control towers cannot be lit except for low intensity landscape lighting utilized to identify the perimeter of the airstrip. These may only be activated for take off and approach. Touch and go landings are prohibited. Commercial use is also prohibited. Only one runway is allowed per property.
- New language was added to an order affecting the zoning regulations that define dog kennels in the rural district. These changes will help ensure that kennels are operated safely and will be maintained in a clean and sanitary manner. Kennels must also be on lots that are no smaller than three acres. The number of dogs being kenneled cannot exceed ten (at any given time.) Outside containment areas must be enclosed with fencing at least eight feet tall. This order has been sent back to the Ordinance Committee. (4-3; Hartwell, Phinney, Shepard)

- Town council approved a proposal (7-0) for a contract zone at 99 School Street for Avesta Housing to develop 24 affordable rental-housing units for the elderly and disabled.

- Patios are no longer included in the town's list of structures as they are generally attractive and do not cause problems that many other structures cause. (7-0)

- Village center district parking will be designed to reinforce "village character" and will be looked at on a case-by-case basis. (7-0)

- Allied-Cook Construction and Port City Architecture will develop the Public Safety Project. (7-0)

- Dominic Reali Realty (DBA Amatos) will purchase the property at 21 Main Street in order to create a right hand turn onto Main Street from the parking lot. The Council decided Amatos must first show they can develop a safe plan for the turn. Should they decide to demolish the 21 Main Street building, they must wait 90 days to allow time for someone to relocate the building for free. The party relocating the building would incur the costs associated with the move. (5-2; Benner, Roullard)

- When asked to amend the Order to remove the ability for Dominic Reali Realty to tear down or move the building, it was turned down. (3-4; Phinney, Robinson, Moulton, Hartwell)

- Town council accepted a donation of \$5,000 to Baxter Memorial Library from the Smith Family Charitable Trust. (7-0)

Complete minutes are available on the town's website at www.gorham-me.org.

DECEMBER 2014

Planning Board Results

By SHERI FABER
Staff Writer

- The plans of R.P. Weeman, LLC for expansion of an existing building at 22 Jenna Drive in the New Portland Parkway Subdivision were approved. Weeman also plans to expand a gravel area and outdoor storage areas to 17,910 square feet.

- An amendment to the Land Use and Development Code to change the definition of structures in reference to patios was sent to the Town Council.

- Another amendment to the Land Use and Development Code to allow keeping of domestic farm animals and livestock, for the sale of products and to allow pasture fencing within setbacks was referred to the Town Council with a recommendation for adoption.

- The Planning Board recommended that the Town Council allow cre-

ative parking solutions in the Village Center District.

- Postponed pending Town Council action were Avesta Housing Development Corporation's plans for 24 elderly housing apartments at 99 School Street, to be known as Ridgewood II. The Planning Board recommended the approval to allow them to "condominiumize" and construct a three-story building with 24 elderly housing apartments.

- Jarod Robie requested re-approval of the original Simona Shores condo project with a reduction in street length. A location shift for all units and a low-pressure sewer system for the lower eight units. A decision on this project, which is located at 697 Gray Road, was postponed.

- Preliminary approval was granted to Normand Berube Builders, Inc. for a 10-lot subdivision with a 1,500-foot roadway on 21.83 acres at 101 Longfellow Road.

Settlement Reached on Phinney Street Extension

By SHERI FABER
Staff Writer

After a lengthy legal process, Phinney Street Extension has finally reached a settlement. Located at the end of Phinney Street, the Phinney Street Extension passes by two private properties owned by Paul Smith, his brother Patrick Smith and his wife Susan.

In March 2002, the Gorham Town Council voted to take Phinney Street Extension by eminent domain and designate it as a public road.

In 2012, when the Carusos sought to gain access to a large parcel of land formerly owned by the late Norman Martin to develop the property, the Smiths objected to the proposed development plans. It was determined that the papers relating to the original 2002 taking of Phinney Street Extension had not been filed with the Registry of Deeds, so they filed them in the Registry then. The Smiths then filed a lawsuit against the Town of Gorham seeking to vacate the eminent domain action by the town. The Smiths later filed a second lawsuit alleging that a signature on some of the papers had been forged.

In June of 2014, the two cases went before a mediator, former Judge Robert Crowley, and a settlement was reached through mediation.

The settlement made Phinney Street Extension a non-town road.

The plaintiffs, Paul Smith and Patrick and Susan Smith, sought damages from the town saying the handwriting expert they hired questioned the authenticity of the signature of former Town Clerk Brenda Caldwell on the eminent domain paperwork. The Gorham Police Department conducted an investigation and subsequently provided the information to the District Attorney who decided not to issue a complaint.

Attorney Bernard Broder, who lives on Phinney Street, also noted the town should have issued checks (for \$25) in payment for taking the property, but the checks were never issued. In addition, some of the names on the signature page of the document contained names of people who were not on the Town Council at the time.

After the mediated settlement was reached in June 2014, the parties to the settlement disagreed over the details and the matter went back to arbitration before Judge Crowley, who settled the matter on December 22.

The Town Council gave final approval to the settlement at their January 6, 2015 meeting and Phinney Street Extension is no longer considered a town-owned road.

Upgrades to Hawkes Property Completed by SAPPI, PRLT



Photo credit Chris Crawford

By TANIA NEUSCHAFER
Presumpscot Regional Land Trust

The Hawkes Preserve, a 41-acre recreational property belonging to Presumpscot Regional Land Trust (PRLT), has undergone a transformation in the past few months. A trailhead has been completed which provides parking for four vehicles, a new platform and stairway allow for easy launching and retrieving of car-top boats on the Presumpscot River, and new signage clearly depicts the PRLT trail system. S.D. Warren, aka SAPPI Fine Paper, completed the new infrastructure just before the most recent snowfall as part of a program to improve recreational access at Little Falls Dam. The trailhead, located just beyond the end of Tow Path Road in the Little Falls area of Gorham, provides access

to nearly 2000 feet of prime footage on the Presumpscot river that include the remains of the historic Cumberland & Oxford Canal.

This is the fourth major improvement along the river for SAPPI, notes Brad Goulet, the company hydro engineer and PRLT board member. Pedestrian access to the river has also been provided by SAPPI below both Dundee and Gambo dams, and a new canoe put-in has been built below Mallison Falls Dam. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife now stocks the Gambo and Dundee sites with trout, just as it has done with salmon and trout for years below Eel Weir Dam in Windham. SAPPI, PRLT and DIF&W encourage public access to all of these sites.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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Gathering to Observe MLK, Jr. Day

On Monday, January 19 at 5 p.m. there will be a candlelight observance in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day at the gazebo in front of the Municipal Center at 75 South St. This will be the fifth year this event has taken place, and the first year it will be sponsored by Gorham High School's Civil Rights Team. The purpose of this observance is to create a "circle of light" to

remember Dr. King's explanation that "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that..." and to reflect on the meaning Martin Luther King, Jr. Day has for each individual as well as to consider what the day means to our larger community. Those attending are asked to bring donations of non-perishable food items for the Gorham Food Pantry.

Thank you, Robin Somes

Thank you, staff writer Robin Somes, for your four-and-a-half years of service with the *Gorham Times*. Your School Committee and Town Council Reports were informative and on time, even when you may have been out of town. We will leave the door open for you.



Photo courtesy of Robin Somes

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SPORTS

GHS Winter Sports Captain's and Coach's Comments – Part II

By **JEFF PIKE**
Sports Editor

Girls' Indoor Track: **Megan Baker, Kristin Benson** and **Abby Perkins**—all seniors—will captain this year's team. At press time, the team's record was 6-3. "The girls' team has proven itself to be one of the top teams in the SMAA," says head coach John Caterina. "With a mix of very talented veterans and some outstanding newcomers (a total of 37 girls are on the team), we should be one of the top teams in both the conference championship and the State Class A Championship." Several team members had already qualified for the state meet at press time: Benson in the 55, 200 and 400 meters; **Sarah Buotte** in the high jump; **Meadow Fortier** in the 800 meters; **Blanca Mosen** in the shot put; Perkins in the pole vault and 200 meters; **Bridget Rossignol** in the 400 meters; **Maddie Rossignol** in the pole vault; **Anna Slager** in the 800 meters, 1 mile and 2 mile; and **Kayleigh Smith** in the 55 and 200 meters. Smith, Perkins, Bridget Rossignol and Slager also teamed-up to win the 1600-meter Sprint Medley at the USM Relays on December 27th.

Boys' and Girls' Skiing: Senior **Emma Christakis** is the girls' team captain while senior **Nate Roberts** will serve as the captain of the boys' team. Both teams were scheduled to compete in their first meet of the season on January 9th. Both captains are focusing on building the team, which features a lot more skiers than last year—with everyone performing at different levels. Christakis and Roberts feel it's been a big plus that first-year head coach Sean Munkacsi had the teams go through on-mountain practices. "I have been very impressed with the students' energy and level of commitment as well as the support we have received from the GHS Athletic

Department," says Munkacsi. "We had several outstanding dry-land trainings with Train Maine in Westbrook before we were able to begin training on snow. I am confident that all of those factors will help us have a successful season. Our goals as a team are for everyone to improve, to continue their passion for skiing, and to have fun."

Boys' Indoor Track and Field: Senior **Ben Foster** along with juniors **Branden Kuusela, Connor Goodall, Tyler Bernier** and **Calvin Riiska** will lead the team as this year's captains. At press time, the team's record stood at 5-4. "We have a lot of new faces, and any of these student-athletes are not only new to our program, but also new to the sport," says head coach Jason Tanguay. "It has been exciting to see their progress. Our captains and other veterans have done a great job guiding our team thus far, and I look for our young squad to finish the regular season above 500 while trying to qualify as many individuals as possible for the state meets." Members of the team qualifying for the state meet thus far at press time included Foster in the 1 mile and 2 mile; **Jesse Southard** in the 1 mile and 2 mile; **Ethan Orach** in the 800 meters and high jump; Kuusela in the hurdles, 200 and 400 meters; **Tommy Pequinot** in the pole vault; and **Luke Gowen** in the 200 meters. In the team's three meets thus far, Foster earned Athlete of the Meet in the Senior Division once while Orach and Gowen both earned the distinction once in the Junior Division. Gorham also dominated the Racewalk event at the USM Relays on December 27th, led by **Drew York** (1st), **Spencer Linscott** (3rd) and **Sean Pratt** (4th).

The boys' and girls' basketball, hockey and swim team were covered in the December 18, 2014 issue of the Gorham Times.

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The Passing of a GHS Legend



Photo credit "Staff photographer Elwell" of the Portland Press-Herald

Terry Hadlock, one of the greatest baseball players in GHS history (GHS '66) as well as an outstanding basketball player, passed away on December 7th, 2014 at the age of 67. Hadlock, shown above on the right with fellow GHS baseball teammate Dave Sprague, was drafted by the Milwaukee Braves (now the Atlanta Braves) baseball organization where he played briefly for one of the Braves' minor league teams. Hadlock was also inducted into the Maine Baseball Hall of Fame in 1992, following in the footsteps of uncle, Edson, who was inducted in 1976 and for whom Hadlock Field in Portland is named.

In the Zone

Wrestling: Abraham Eaton, a senior home-school student from Gorham who participates on the Westbrook wrestling team, won the 170-pound division of the Nokomis Invitational on January 3. Eaton won the final with a pin.

Girls' Basketball: Sophomore Emily Esposito scored 43 points in back-to-back wins to lead GHS to 66-47 and 49-42 wins over Cheverus (January 5) and Westbrook (January 9) respectively. At press time, the Rams winning streak stood at seven games with an overall record of 9-1 and a third-place ranking in Western Maine Class A.

Boys' Hockey: Travis Mansir scored four goals January 9 to lead the GHS to its seven-

consecutive win—10-1 over a combined Massabesic/Bonny Eagle/Old Orchard Beach team. At press time, the Rams were 7-1 and ranked second in Western Maine Class B.

Boys' Basketball: At press time, the GHS boys' basketball team had won four in a row to improve its record to 7-3 and a fourth-place ranking in Western Maine Class A.

Boys' Skiing: Nate Roberts placed third in the first giant slalom meet of the season January 9 at Shawnee Peak during a five-team meet. As a team, Gorham finished second to Marshwood.

Stock Car Champion



Courtesy photo

Joe Pastore Jr. (GHS '03) captured the Pro All Stars Series Sportsman Division Championship this past racing season at events that took place at tracks throughout Maine and New Hampshire. Pastore placed first four times during the season and finished in the top five of every race.

sports Etc.

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest: January 24, 1:00 p.m. at GHS. Registration begins at 12:45 for boys and girls ages 9-14 (must provide proof of age at sign up). Winners in best of 15 free-throw contest will advance to district competition. FMI call Mike at 839-3963.

Hawkes Property Updates

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

With work crews and materials provided by IDEXX, PRLT improved the Hawkes trail system last fall, connecting the tow path with the Great Falls Elementary School, where another trail head begins at the bottom of the hill by the school's outdoor classroom. All visitors who arrive during school hours must check-in at the front desk. Two loops totaling about 1.5 miles are now well cleared and signed, according to Don Wescott, Stewardship Coordinator for the land trust. Almost as soon as the new SAPPI trail head was in place, he noted skaters using the pond nearby and snowmobilers have taken to the tow path following the January snow.

PRLT board president Mike Parker is delighted with the level of cooperation between SAPPI and the land trust. The Hawkes Preserve is just the most recent example of how the community and PRLT have combined to improve public access to special places in the Presumpscot watershed. Westbrook, too, recently donated fifty acres of prime

recreational property to PRLT along Mill Brook. Trailheads and a significant network of trails will become accessible to the public along this surprisingly wild waterway within the city boundaries.

"These are exciting times for the land trust and the public it serves," says Andy Colvin, board member and Chairman of Marketing and Development. "We doubled our conserved acreage last year with the completion of the Randall Orchards project. We expect to acquire significant acreage along Mill Brook in the coming months. And we are working successfully to grow our membership and raise the funds necessary to care for our present and projected acquisitions. We are well along in our annual campaign toward a goal this year of \$50,000."

A description of the Hawkes Preserve and directions to the Middle School trailhead can be found at the PRLT web page. (prlt.org) Membership and contact information are also there for would-be members and those with inquiries.

Upcoming GHS Varsity Sports Events

Thursday, January 15

7:00 p.m. Boys' Swimming vs. Yarmouth @ Casco Bay YMCA
7:00 p.m. Girls' Swimming vs. Yarmouth @ Casco Bay YMCA

Friday, January 16

5:00 p.m. Girls' Skiing Multi-Team Meet @ Shawnee Peak
5:00 p.m. Boys' Skiing Multi-Team Meet @ Shawnee Peak
6:30 p.m. Girls' Basketball vs. Noble @ GHS
6:30 p.m. Boys' Basketball @ Noble

Saturday, January 17

8:30 a.m. Boys' Track Multi-Team Meet @ USM
8:30 a.m. Girls' Track Multi-Team Meet @ USM
4:10 p.m. Boys' Hockey vs. York @ USM
7:50 p.m. Girls' Hockey vs. Falmouth @ Falmouth Family Ice Arena

All games subject to change. For up-to-date schedules of all GHS sports teams, visit www.digitalsports.com

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DECEMBER 10, 2014

School Committee Meeting

BY ROBIN SOMES
Staff Writer

To elaborate on her report to the School Committee on K-12 Graduation Standards, Cathy Stankard, assistant superintendent for Instructional Support Services & Special Programs, said a draft of the standards has been finalized. This represents a new approach regarding standards and expectations for Gorham students and will be the benchmark for high school graduation. A set of Guiding Principles prescribe that each student “will graduate as: A clear and effective communicator; A self-directed and lifelong learner; A creative and practical problem solver; A responsible and involved citizen; and An integrative and informed thinker.” Along with these principles are standards aligned for eight content areas, and they present a set of learning expectations from kindergarten through 12th grade. The eight content areas are comprised of English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Technology, Social Studies, World Languages, Visual and Performing Arts, Health and Physical Education, and Career and Education Development.

Standards have been determined for each of these areas and organized to appropriately reflect the breakdown of grade levels and specific courses. Stankard noted this will ensure consistency not only throughout Gorham schools, but throughout the state, whose Common Core requirements have also been incorporated.

“Every teacher at every grade level at every course is going to be working at getting students to achieve the same goals ... [and] will be aligning their curriculum to these standards,” Stankard said.

Students will be “held accountable demonstrating proficiency in these standards.” Stankard explained that students will be measured against these standards using “performance indicators” that represent the predetermined developmental level for a skill or knowledge within a given content area. They will know if they are not meeting standards and, if they are not, teachers will help. Stankard noted, “If we see that they’re not [meeting the standards], then it gives us an opportunity to intervene so that we’re not in a situation of trying to get students to graduation in the last two months of their senior year, which is never a good place to be.”

The class of 2021 will be first to be required to demonstrate mastery of the expectations set by these new standards in order to graduate.

In policy related business, there was a first reading of the Fire Drills, Bomb Threat and Buildings and Grounds Maintenance policies that have been recently updated. In addition, the School Committee voted:

- 6-0 to approve changes to the Evaluation of Superintendent policy.
- 6-0 to approve elimination of the Line and Staff Relations policy due to redundancy and lack of need.
- 5-1 (Chair Dennis Libby) to approve changes to the Annual Budget policy.

Madison Essay Award Winners Announced at GMS School Assembly



Photo courtesy of the American Journal by Robert Lowell

Pictured (from left) are middle school principal Robert Riley, Samuel Orlando (winner), Lydia Drew (runner up), school committee member John Doyle, and Haley Caron (runner up).

BY JIM MEANS
Gorham Republican
Committee Chairman

The second annual Madison essay contest winners were announced at an all school assembly on December 19 at Gorham Middle School (GMS).

Samuel Orlando was the first place winner and recipient of \$250; runners up Haley Caron and Lydia Drew each won \$100. All are seventh graders at GMS.

The Madison Prize for Written Excellence is sponsored and paid for by the Gorham Republican Committee and

was open to all Gorham students in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades.

John Doyle, secretary of the Gorham Republican Committee, who presented the awards, said the essay award is named for James Madison, the fourth president of the United States, who is known as the “Father of the Constitution.”

The essays were judged by a panel of four and scored on the basis of demonstrating knowledge, clarity of ideas, and persuasiveness. The question students answered this year was “What does ‘with

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

School Note

As part of the superintendent search process, the Gorham School Committee announced Heather Perry as its sole finalist. Perry is currently the Superintendent of Schools in RSU #3. The search pro-

cess will continue with further reference checks, site visits, and a public forum which will be held on January 21 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Gorham Middle School Auditorium. All are invited to attend.

School Spirit gets Ugly



Photos courtesy of Joanne Gauley

Great Falls’ Staff Ugly Sweater Day was held on December 18. This collage of ugly sweaters worn truly captures Great Falls’ school spirit.

Technology Guru Named Finalist for Maine Technology Leader of the Year

BY DENNIS CROWE
Gorham School Department
Director of Technology

This fall, ACTEM (the Association of Computer Technology Educators of Maine) honored Gorham Middle School (GMS) technology integrator Terri Dawson as a finalist for Maine Technology Leader of the Year.

This award comes only a year after Narragansett second grade teacher Jacqueline Durant-Harthorne was a finalist for Maine Technology Teacher of the Year. Dawson was nominated for the prestigious award by Angela Gospodarek, a seventh grade teacher at GMS.

Dawson joined the Gorham School Department in 2006, when she was hired as the technology integrator for the entire district.

In 2009, she was assigned to work at GMS as the technology integrator and is best known as the go-to person for all technology needs and regularly meets with teachers in her office, known as the DEC (Digital Education Center). Dawson also regularly team teaches with instructors in their classroom.

In addition to supporting teachers, Dawson supports all middle school students. She routinely answers questions, helps with classroom projects, and teaches the students how to be good digital citizens.

She also is the founding advisor for the iTeam, a group for students interested in technology who give back to the school by assisting GMS staff. Additionally,



Photo credit Haven Oliver

GMS technology integrator Terri Dawson (right) was nominated by seventh grade teacher Angela Gospodarek (left) and named as a finalist for Maine Technology Leader of the Year for 2014.

Dawson organizes “Tech Dances” throughout the year where students dance and participate in electronic adventures with each other.

Dawson is acutely aware that technology is constantly evolving and works tirelessly to remain a couple steps ahead of the students. She is always willing to try new things and stick with them until she finds the correct approach for all parties.

In addition to helping students and staff at GMS, Dawson is passionate about making sure that all students and teachers in southern Maine are skillful users of technology. She achieves this by co-directing the Sebago Alliance Tech Camp, which is for both students and staff and is a collaborative of five schools; Gorham,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

Great Falls School Helps Fight Hunger in Gorham with Empty Bowls



Photo credit Tiffany Cupps

A sample of the staff and parent bowls that were auctioned to raise funds for future family events and assemblies at Great Falls Elementary School.

BY BECKY FORTIER
Assistant Principal
Great Falls Elementary School

Every year Great Falls Elementary School participates in the Empty Bowl Project, an international grassroots effort to fight hunger.

The basic premise is simple: students create handcrafted bowls. They are asked to keep a bowl as a reminder of all the empty bowls in the world. The money raised during this project is donated to an organization working to end hunger and food insecurity.

Great Falls art teacher Allie Rimkunas taught students about the Empty Bowl Project, while connecting to the district's Code of Conduct values. During art class, students created and glazed a clay bowl to symbolize the fight for hunger. Families were then asked to support the act of kindness by making a donation in any amount to purchase their child's bowl. All proceeds were donated to the Gorham Food Pantry, \$1,500 in total.

Families picked up their child's bowl at the Great Falls Family Movie Night, which was held on December 12. This year the movie, selected by fifth grade students, was "Mr. Peabody & Sherman." It was a tremendous turnout where families enjoyed a movie, snacked on popcorn, and picked up their child's bowl. The movie admission was a non-perishable food item that was also donated to the Gorham Food Pantry.

Additionally, during the event, there was a staff and parent empty bowl silent auction. Rimkunas offered times when staff and parents could create their own empty bowls prior to the event and they were auctioned to raise funds for future family events and assemblies held at Great Falls.

The Great Falls School community extends a huge thank you to the many staff members, parent volunteers, and donations made to make the Great Falls Family Movie Night and Empty Bowl Project a great success.

PIE Presentation at Narragansett

Narragansett School families enjoyed a special presentation this fall sponsored by Partners in Education (P.I.E.). Scott Jameson presented "Contact: The Magic of Communication," a curriculum-based program that explores the vital role communication plays in a student's ability to express themselves, work with others, and explore the world around them. Jameson used juggling, mime, magic, music, movement, and audience involvement. He is pictured using an ancient Australian wind instrument called the didgeridoo.



Photo credit Narragansett Staff

GHS Graduate Guess Who?

1) This 1988 GHS graduate is a visual effects supervisor for several noted movies, including Avatar, Fantastic Four, Night At the Museum, X-Men, The Hobbit, King Kong and Lord of the Rings. He attended community college and later studied architecture at Washington State University. He has been nominated for two academy awards. He works and resides in Wellington, New Zealand.

2) This 1999 GHS grad received a bachelor's degree from Bates College in 2003, where she was a four-year two-sport athlete in basketball and softball. As a Bobcat, she finished her basketball career with 1,143 points, the fifth highest point total in program history at the time. Her success on the hardwood earned her All-NESCAC First Team, All-Maine Women's Basketball Coaches Association First Team and All New England honors from d3hoops.com. She was a 2009 inductee into the GHS Sports Hall of Fame. She continued her education with a Master of Science in Organizational Leadership from Southern New Hampshire University in 2010. Upon leaving Bates, she coached at Lasell College where she took her team to their first playoffs. She is currently the women's basketball head coach at Division III Roanoke.

3) This 2001 graduate received his Associate Degree in Paramedicine from Southern Maine Community College. He began a bachelor's degree at Saint Joseph's College but left when hired in Standish in 2004 as a full time lieutenant. During his 10 years there, he worked his way up to chief, a position he held from September 2008 to January 2, 2015. He has just been hired as Chief of Fire and Rescue in Windham.

4) This 2000 graduate has been hired by Good Films as head of production. According to Variety Magazine, she will oversee adaptations of James Patterson's and Liza Marklund's "The Postcard Killers," Peter Godwin's "When a Crocodile Eats the Sun," Tena Stivicic's "Invisible," Robert Mazur's "The Infiltrator," Siri Hustvedt's "What I Loved" and Randall Sullivan's "Labyrinth." She is a graduate of Emerson College and works and lives in England.

Answers can be found on page 15. If you, or your son or daughter is a GHS graduate, we would like to showcase your career achievements in GHS Graduate Guess Who?, which will appear in periodically in the Gorham Times. Contact Cindy O'Shea at coshea2@yahoo.com

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Community Center CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Built in 1955 to house the Little Falls School, the center is in a prominent location on Acorn Street off Rte. 202, within a baseball's throw of popular recreation fields and neighboring residential areas. The town council had considered housing the Public Safety Building there, but voters rejected the idea twice, before ultimately deciding to keep the facility as a community center, with a bond approved for \$500,000.

"We view that facility as having valuable meeting space, and it allowed us to save a building that was in structurally very good shape, but needed facility work," added Cole. "That should answer the call for meeting space over the next 20 years. It's always nice to get a new project behind you, but the real rewarding part is getting to see how the community is able to use it."

Madison Essay Award Winners CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

liberty and justice' mean to you?" This year, 67 entries were received, up from 17 during the first year of the contest.

The Committee was proud of how many Gorham students participated in this year's contest. The Committee believes an important part of a per-

son's education is their ability to effectively express their thoughts about a patriotic theme outside of the regimen of regular classwork.

The Committee is already looking forward to even higher participation in the fall.

New Year Gorham CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

had more to do with this year's premium entertainment."

Many families took advantage of a spaghetti supper prepared by the First Parish Church Youth Group before heading out for the wide variety of performances ranging from face painting, balloon magic, Mad Science, encounters with animals of all kinds, seasonal music, Acadian fiddling, choirs and choruses.

The final two performances at the Gorham Performing Arts Center were filled nearly to capacity.

Running with Scissors (a four-person improv group) had the audience in stitches for nearly an hour. They had the help of several kids from the audience, who quickly caught on to the clever way these people made humor out of just about anything. Who would have thought a high-class French model, with a digestion problem, could be at a fancy party along with a constipated parrot? Well, maybe you had to be there, but it was very funny!

Peter Mezoian provided a fast-moving banjo interlude while the stage was set for the final act of technical gymnastics.

From the moment Audio Body stepped on the stage, the hall was

filled with a blaze of lights, sound, movement and high energy that kept the audience clapping, screaming, laughing, and completely awed for more than an hour before the fireworks lit up the sky at 10.

"We are especially appreciative of all the businesses and individuals that sponsored New Year Gorham. It is because of these generous donations, we can put together a first class evening of entertainment at a price every family can afford," said Virginia Wilder Cross who has chaired NYG since 2008.

"While the entertainment is important, equally important are the volunteers who give so much of their time to make sure the celebration goes without a hitch," said Andrew McLean who organized the volunteer effort along with Pastor Tom Hasbrouck of the Galilee Baptist Church.

The only disappointment was the fact that Mother Nature didn't provide snow for sculpting or sledding, but she did provide a clear sky and acceptable temperature for standing outdoors for the fireworks display.

"If you missed NYG this year, put it on your things to do next New Year's Eve," advised Mike Gradone, "and we will order twice as many lanyards!"



Photos courtesy of New Year Gorham



Keith Nicely
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www.keithnicely.com

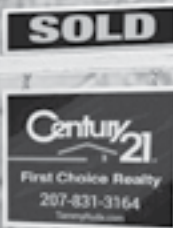
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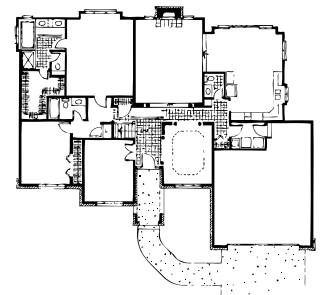
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COMMUNITY

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lennon Soule Kirby, weighing in at 7 lbs 7 oz., was born on January 1, 2015 at Mercy Hospital to parents Kyle Kirby (GHS '00) and Elizabeth Smith Kirby. Grandparents are Chris Crawford and Nick Kirby of Gorham, Nancy and Dix Druse of Boothbay Harbor and Rob Smith and Chessell McGee of Falmouth.



DEAN'S LIST

James Chesebrough, Bob Jones University, accounting major
Lincoln Gray (GHS '12), Tufts University
Paige Lara (GHS '14), Clarkson University, chemistry major
Joshua Wright, Bob Jones University (President's List), accounting major

OF INTEREST

Cressey Road United Methodist Church in Gorham welcomes **Rev. Michele Ewers**. Rev. Ewers was born in RI, but spent much of her early career living in CT working as a special needs teacher, nursery school teacher and as a parish assistant. Rev. Ewers completed her Master of Divinity at Andover Newton Theological School and spent the past nine years as pastor of Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church in Whitinsville, MA. Rev. Ewers and her husband Charlie, a retired English teacher recently hired as an assistant cross-country coach at USM, have two adult sons and three grandchildren.



The **Gorham Fire Department** chose the **Gorham Food Pantry** as their charity to collect for and donate to at holiday time this year. Jennifer Banks of the Gorham Food Pantry Board of Directors accepted the generous check from Captain Terry Deering of the Gorham Fire department.



Photo credit Daren Meader

The **First Parish Congregational Church** in Gorham will hold a **Chicken Pie Supper** on **Saturday, Jan. 24 from 5 to 6:30 p.m.** \$10/\$5 under 12. FMI, 839-6353.

Gorham Savings Bank presents LaunchPad, a competition to help fund the growth of Maine business. Maine business owners, creators, inventors, and entrepreneurs can compete for \$30,000 by submitting a viable business proposal between January 15 and March 1. An independent panel of judges will select a group of semifinalists who will pitch their idea at the live LaunchPad Competition on June 18, 2015 where \$30,000 will be awarded to the winner. FMI, Launchpad@gorhamsavingsbank.com

Friends and family of long time **Gorham House resident Audrey Wardwell** gathered to celebrate her 100th birthday in December. The activities department cooked her favorite meal, a turkey dinner, and Hannaford in Gorham donated a beautiful marble cake to help with the celebration. Pictured are Audrey and her son John.



Photo credit Faith Plummer

Gorham Girl Scouts Troop #2009, 1309, 1937 and 2070 participated in "Be A Santa To A Senior" project with **HomeInstead Senior Care** this holiday season. The troops made over 200 ornaments and cards and went caroling at two of the care centers as gifts were delivered to the Seniors.

Junior Girl Scouts from Gorham Troop #1309 made cards for breast cancer patients and sent them to the "Girl Love Mail" program, which distributes cards at various hospitals across the

US. Scout leader, **Pam Irish**, who fought her own battle with breast cancer this year, enjoyed the many cards the girls sent to her as she underwent cancer treatments. (L-R): **Kiely Burns, Izzy Densmore, Pam Irish, Danielle Irish** (in back), **Lilith Price, Emily Feagans, Grace Pierce**.



The **Dance Studio of Maine** hosted a Master Workshop in December with choreographer Ellenore Scott, a "So You Think You Can Dance" alumna. (L-R): **Jon Rua** of Broadway Dance Center in NYC, **DSOM Dancer Bella Moulton**, and Ellenore Scott.



Gorham's Got Talent auditions will take place on **Friday, Jan. 23 from 2:30 to 6 p.m.** at Gorham Middle School. The Fifth Annual Gorham's Got Talent will be held on Friday, Jan. 30 at 6:30 p.m.

The **Gorham Garden Club** will meet on **Tuesday, Jan. 27 at 7 p.m.** at First Parish Church, School St. Bill Kenny, plant professional at Allen, Sterling & Lothrop will speak on houseplants. The public is invited.

ON-GOING EVENTS

A **Support Group for Living and Eating Healthy** will take place **every Wednesday evening from 6-7 p.m.** at **Martin's Point Healthcare**, 510 Main St., Gorham. Free and open to the public every week. This not-for-profit group is not affiliated with Martin's Point. FMI, call Pauline 839-2092.

The **Gorham Food Pantry**, located at 299-B Main St. (parking lot of St. Anne's Catholic Church), is open every Thursday morning from 9 to 11 a.m. and the second and fourth Wednesday of every month from 6 to 7 p.m. Free for Gorham residents in need. FMI, 222-4351 or visit www.gorham-foodpantry.org.

The **Lakes Region Senior Center**, White Rock Grange at 33 Wilson Road (off Rt. 237), is a great place for daily socializing, independent activities and good conversation with Mahjong lessons on Monday; poker, crafting and card games on Tuesday; Chair Yoga with a Nutrition and Weight Support Group on Wednesday; and Bingo on Thursday. FMI, call Cheryl 892-9879 or Blanche 892-5604.

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.

CLOSE TO HOME

Saint Joseph's College will offer a **two-day lifeguard re-certification training course** on **Jan. 18 & 19 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.** at the Harold Alford Center pool. \$160. FMI, www.sjcme.edu/alfond/redcross/lifeguard-review-course.

The **Portland Water District** invites **preschoolers** to join them for **environmentally-themed stories, games, and crafts** at the **Sebago Lake Ecology Center in Standish** on **Friday, Jan. 23 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.** The theme will be "Winter Water." Snacks will be provided. Free, but donations accepted to support local loon preservation. FMI, 774-5961 x 3319 or sebagolake@pwd.org

The **Schoolhouse Arts Center** announces **auditions** for "The Beverly Hillbillies" at Schoolhouse Arts Center on **Saturday, Jan. 31 from 2 to 5 p.m.** and **Monday, Feb. 2 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.** Be prepared to do cold readings from the script. There are roles for teenage girls and adult males and females of various ages. The show runs April 10-26. FMI, mhjort52@gmail.com.

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Man stopped on bypass for speeding was also charged with OUI.

Officer responded to report of a disturbance on Gray Road. Officer did not hear any yelling. Lights were on both upstairs and downstairs but no one answered the door.

Officer helped to free a car stuck on ice in Fort Hill Park.

Fort Hill Road caller reported phone harassment. He googled the phone number and

found it was a scam and no longer felt threatened.

Officer assisted a woman locked out of her house on Highland Avenue by climbing in a window and unlocking her door.

Samuel's Way man was arrested for violating a protective order and violating conditions of release.

Portland man was arrested for OUI (priors).

Technology Guru Named Finalist CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Bonny Eagle, Windham, Scarborough and Westbrook.

Dawson is not limited to wires and screens, however, as an active outdoors-woman. Last fall, she piloted a project with the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens and was the co-awardee of the Lunder New Naturalist Grant. This grant encour-

ages schools across the state to work together on projects that combine local ecology in science classes with social studies topics.

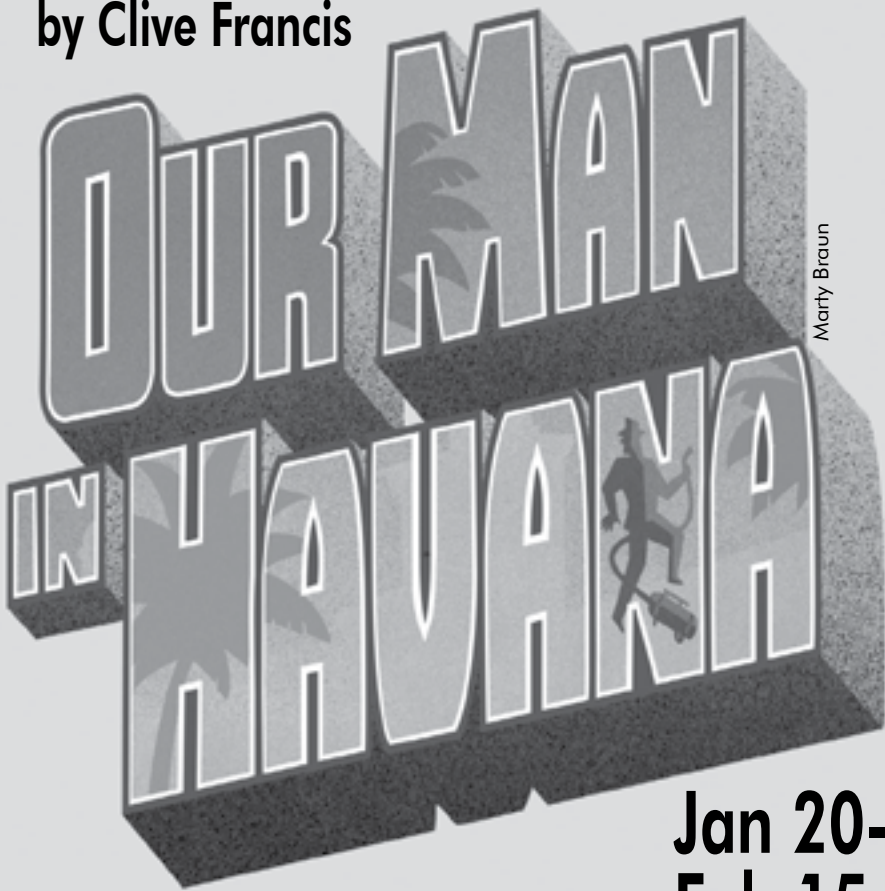
It is safe to say that Dawson's enthusiasm is contagious and many credit her enthusiasm for their passion for technology.

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GORHAM BUSINESS EXCHANGE SPOTLIGHT

The New Face of Gorham Business Exchange



Photo credit Lori St. Onge

Back Row: Steve Menhennitt; Megan LaBrie, executive director; David Willis, vice president; Sarah Adams; George Sotiropoulis. **Front Row:** Keith Nicely, president; Marti Allen, treasurer; Leigh Paige Smith; Judi Jones; and Shirley Douglas, secretary.

BY SARAH ADAMS

With the new year upon us, the Gorham Business Exchange is pleased to announce some dynamic additions to their leadership team. The goal of the GBE is to promote our community and those who reside here through business education and networking opportunities, uniting the businesses of Gorham to help the community.

We are pleased to introduce our new Executive Director to the Gorham Community, Megan LaBrie who has just been hired by Gorham Business Exchange. Along with her husband, Andre, they have lived in Gorham since 2008, and are parents to twins, Ella and Cruise. They can be found on the sidelines of the soccer field, basketball courts, and dances too. Megan has been a stay-at-home mother for the past few years, and is excited to strengthen the business community presence in her adopted hometown. Megan is looking forward to meeting with Gorham businesses and learning how the GBE can be a greater asset.

Judi Jones is joining the GBE board, after having been an active member of the Gorham Marketplace committee for several years. A resident of Gorham since 2009, Judi is the principal of InfoHarbor LLC, a website development and online

marketing company was founded in 1998. Judi was instrumental in working with GBE board member, Shirley Douglas from Douglas Design, implementing the new website for the Exchange (www.gorhambusiness.org). GBE President Keith Nicely, from Maine Real Estate, shared that "Judi brings a real hands on approach to problem-solving that will be a huge asset to our organization".

Gorham native George Sotiropoulos, along with his father, manage Gorham House of Pizza and derives great pleasure from being active in his family business. After graduating from the University of Massachusetts, George received a law degree from New England Law in Boston. He worked at Pine Tree Legal Assistance in Portland before opening his own private practice. "George brings a passion for making Gorham a better place to do business, which will serve our organization well as we move forward," expounded fellow GBE member, David Willis of Willis Real Estate.

Gorham House will be hosting the next Business After Hours on Thursday, February 5 at 5 p.m. This will be an opportunity for everyone to join us in welcoming Megan, Judi and George in their new roles. We will have calendars for upcoming programs on hand; this GBE event is free and open to members and local businesses.



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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JAN. 15

- Baby and Me with books and movement, 9:30 a.m., birth-18 mos., Baxter Memorial Library.
- Toddler Time, 10 a.m., ages 18-36 mos., Baxter Memorial Library.

FRIDAY, JAN. 16

- Gorham/Westbrook TRIAD meeting, 9 a.m., 22 Foster Street, Westbrook.
- Peg's Itsy Bitsy Store, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., The Gorham House. FMI, 839-5757.

SATURDAY, JAN. 17

- Sew pillowcases for a good cause with Cricket Comforts, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Multipurpose Room at Rec. Dept. FMI, cricketcomforts@yahoo.com or facebook.com/cricketcomforts.

MONDAY, JAN. 19

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

TUESDAY, JAN. 20

- Preschool Story Time--Snowman theme, 9:30 a.m., ages 3-5 yrs. Baxter Memorial Library.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21

- Town of Gorham Senior Lunch Program, St. Anne's Church, Gorham. 12-1:30 p.m. \$4pp. FMI, 839-4857.

THURSDAY, JAN. 22

- Baby and Me with books and movement, 9:30 a.m., birth-18 mos., Baxter Memorial Library.
- Toddler Time, 10 a.m., ages 18-36 mos., Baxter Memorial Library.

SATURDAY, JAN. 24

- Chicken Pie Supper, First Parish Congregational Church, Gorham, 5-6:30 p.m. \$10/\$5 under 12. FMI, 839-6353.

MONDAY, JAN. 26

- Gorham Republican Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. All registered Republicans are welcome. FMI, call 415-2673.

TUESDAY, JAN. 27

- Preschool Story Time, 9:30 a.m., ages 3-5 yrs. Baxter Memorial Library.
- MemoryWorks Memory Café, 1 p.m., Gorham House Sunroom. Share your memory concerns with others. FMI, 797-7891.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28

- Town of Gorham Senior Lunch Program, St. Anne's Church, Gorham. 12-1:30 p.m. \$4pp. FMI, 839-4857.

THURSDAY, JAN. 29

- Baby and Me with books and movement, 9:30 a.m., birth-18 mos., Baxter Memorial Library.
- Toddler Time, 10 a.m., ages 18-36 mos., Baxter Memorial Library.

THURSDAY, FEB. 5

- Start the New Year off right! Come join the Gorham Business Exchange and network with other Gorham businesses. Renew some friendships and make some new connections. Hosted by Gorham House from 5 -7:30 p.m., 50 New Portland Road, Gorham.

THURSDAY, FEB. 12

- SAVE THE DATE. The Gorham Business Exchange will be having a Breakfast Learning Meeting, "Creating a Profitable Future" presented by Stephen Menhennitt of Menhennitt Performance Alliance. Thursday, February 12 from 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. at Gorham Savings Bank Operation Center, 10 Wentworth Drive. Members \$15.00 and Non-Members \$20.00 - Register online at: www.gorhambusiness.org.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

- SAVE THE DATE. The Gorham Business Exchange will be having a Breakfast Learning Meeting, "Widening the 'Net' - The InterNet that is" presented by Judi Jones principal of InfoHarbor LLC. Thursday, March 5 from 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. at Gorham Savings Bank Operation Center, 10 Wentworth Drive. Members \$15.00 and Non-Members \$20.00 - Register online at: www.gorhambusiness.org.

Baxter Memorial Library, 71 South St.
 First Parish Church, 1 Church St.
 Gorham House, 50 New Portland Rd.
 St. Anne's Church, 299 Main St.

GHS Guess Who Answers

- 1) Eric Saindon has done visual effects for the Hobbit and Lord of the Ring. He has been part of more than 10 movies that have won Oscar Awards.
- 2) Carly Flaherty is a basketball coach at Roanoke.
- 3) Brent Libby is Windham's new Chief of Fire and Rescue.
- 4) Kate Fasulo works in the film industry, currently as head of production for Good Films.



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AN EVENING WITH CHRISTOPHER DURANG

One Act Comedies | Directed by William Steele



For Whom the
 Southern Belle Tolls



Sister Mary Ignatius
 Explains It All For You



Theatre 2014-2015 Season February 6-14, 2015

All performances are at 7:30 p.m.
 Friday, Feb. 6 | Saturday, Feb. 7
 Sunday, Feb. 8 | Tuesday, Feb. 10
 Wednesday, Feb. 11 | Thursday, Feb. 12
 Friday, Feb. 13 | Saturday, Feb. 14



The Studio Theater at Portland Stage 25A Forest Ave., Portland

Box Office
 (207) 780-5151, TTY 780-5646
 or visit usm.maine.edu/theatre

\$15 general public; \$8 students
 \$11 seniors, USM employees and alumni



NEW LOCATION SPECIAL

In celebration of **Omni Technical Consulting** moving to **Gorham Village**, we are offering a limited time special on our secure data backup solution. **Sign up before January 31, 2015 and get 2 MONTHS FREE...we will even waive the setup fee.**

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Omni Technical Consulting is a consulting firm with a history of more than 15 years in the technology field. We have extensive and proven experience solving business and technical problems. We are committed to understanding the needs of our clients and providing value-added solutions. We are vendor agnostic – meaning we find the best solution or marriage of solutions for our clients' requirements – regardless of industry hype. We pride ourselves on being a consultative partner in the achievement of your business goals with a thorough and deliberate approach.

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OPEN HOUSE

Perennial Place at White Rock

Friday January 16 - 3:00pm to 7:00pm

Perennial Place at White Rock is almost complete. Come tour the facility before move in day.

Call 207-839-2744 to reserve your space. Applications and information packets are available.

Space is limited. Call to reserve your space today!

Located at 10 North Gorham Road, Gorham.

- 55+ community
- One and Two Bedroom units are still available
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Sunday, January 25th 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

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