

Gorham Times

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

Sale of ecomaine Land to Shaw Brothers Approved

BAILEY O'BRIEN
Staff Writer

On March 25, ecomaine's board of directors approved the sale of their 258-acre Gorham property on lower Main Street to the Shaw Brothers Family Foundation. The transaction is valued at \$1.75 million and includes an agreement that ecomaine will pay \$100,000 back to the Shaw Brothers Family Foundation over five years to help fund the construction of public roads and recreation trails on the property. Ecomaine has also agreed to provide recycled glass aggregate to use in the construction of these trails and roads.

The recently established non-profit foundation will carry out previously announced plans to grant public access to the Presumpscot River, similar to their work at Shaw Park in North Gorham, by providing a road and place for parking. "That will be our first goal," said Shaw Brothers Family Foundation co-founder, Danny Shaw.

Following the construction of the road, they plan to transform the land

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Passing of the Guard

GORHAM TIMES
STAFF

The Gorham Times staff wishes Karen DiDonato a very fond farewell as she exits the Editor position. Karen has been with the Times for six years, an unusually long (and successful) tenure in this role. Karen always brought a smile and many laughs to each production meeting and made everyone feel quite welcome.

Karen has seen the paper through quite a few big events including the 20th anniversary of the Gorham Times and the Founders Day 275th Commemorative Issue. She went to great lengths gathering a tremendous amount of historical information for each of these special issues.

Karen has worked hard to build a high school intern program and has had more interns involved than any other Editor. When asked about her motiva-



Photo credit Kattia Lomando

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Spring has Sprung...and so has Gorham Business Exchange!

MEGAN BENNETT
USM Student Intern

With the first day of Spring just having passed, it was time for the Annual Gorham Business Exchange to set up Marketplace and welcome Gorham community members for a day of recognition and appreciation of the town's local businesses.

Marketplace has been an annual spring kick-off tradition in Gorham for the past 19 years. On Saturday, March 26th, over 60 businesses showcased their products and services at the USM Costello Field House in Gorham. Back in Motion Physical Therapy, Custom Cut & Nails, Dunbar Water, Edward Jones Investments, Gorham Police Department, Greater School of Jukado, Leading Edge Chiropractic, Maine Street Florist, O'Donal's Nursery, Po-Go Realty, Inc., and Refreshing Paws are just a few of the many businesses that made an appearance.

With free admission, shoppers sampled food from Gorham's local eateries, enjoyed local talent, signed up for vendors' prizes, and even had the chance to win cash prizes. Marketplace also provided entertainment with an appearance and show by the incredible magician, Norman Ng, sponsored by Clark Insurance and Gorham Savings Bank. Sparks' Ark, sponsored by Children's Adventure Daycare and Learning Center, also brought in some of their animals for children to pet and play with. Food vendors Sebago Brewery, Amato's, and Love K cupcakes, gave out samples to any hungry shopper looking for a snack to eat while they wandered from business to business. The Easter Bunny even made an appearance.

As businesses offered their services, GBE asked for visitors

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Photo credit Roger Marchand

Leslie Dupuis Rejoins the Gorham Times

GORHAM TIMES
STAFF

The Gorham Times welcomes back Leslie Dupuis as its new Editor. Leslie coordinated the School News and Distribution from 2008-2010 and has occasionally assisted with the Of Interest and Calendar sections since then. She has a B.A. in Speech Communication from the University of Maine and has worked as a freelance proofreader for the past 15 years. She also works part-time in the office at First Parish Church.

Leslie and her husband, Tom, have lived in Gorham for 20 years and have two children who attend the Gorham schools.

She is looking forward to working with the great volunteers at the Gorham Times to continue the tradition of "bringing the news to all of Gorham." She encourages anyone interested in contributing to the paper to contact her at editorgorhamtimes@gmail.com.



Photo credit Tamara Torres

Carter's Auto Service Receives 2016 eco-Excellence Business Award

COMPILED BY
GORHAM TIMES STAFF

Carter's Auto Service has received a 2016 eco-Excellence Business Award for its sustainable business practices. "We are proud to recognize Carter's Auto Service for its notable commitment to environmental sustainability," ecomaine CEO Kevin Roche said. "This business, led by Doug Carter, has walked the talk of the waste hierarchy every day to leave the smallest carbon footprint in its path."

The opportunity to reduce, reuse and recycle is everywhere and often takes creative thinking on the part of business owners to pinpoint what are often unconventional ways to reduce waste. "Doug Carter has employed a good deal of creative thinking to reduce his carbon footprint and operate in the most sustainable way he knows how," said



Photo courtesy of ecomaine

Doug Carter was presented with a 2016 eco-Excellence Award for his sustainable business practices on March 23 by ecomaine Board Member and Recycling Committee Chair Erik Street, left, and ecomaine Chief Executive Officer Kevin Roche, right.

Jim Gailey, Chairman of the Board for ecomaine, during an awards luncheon at ecomaine's headquarters on March 23.

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Focusing on Top Priorities as End of Session Approaches

REP. ANDREW McLEAN

We are now in the final weeks of this legislative session, and lawmakers have a great deal of work to do before we adjourn.

A large part of that work is identifying funding sources for measures that have already passed in both the House and the Senate. Because the Maine Constitution requires the Legislature to maintain a balanced state budget, lawmakers have to know how each bill will be funded for before it is finally passed and sent to the governor.

During the second session of the Legislature, the process of funding bills is usually closely tied to the supplemental budget process. It is the Legislature's opportunity to make adjustments to the two-year budget in effect at that time to account for changes in revenue or need.

This year is unusual in that the governor has not presented a supplemental budget. Even so, lawmakers on both sides of the aisle have put forward measures on a range of issues that the people of Maine have asked us to address. Those issues include combating the drug crisis, preventing property tax increases and providing effective support for our veterans.

The Appropriations Committee is proposing to fund these priorities in part by directing \$24 million of an anticipated budget surplus toward bills on these and other issues that have already earned bipartisan support in the Legislature. At the same time, our proposal would put \$31 million of the projected surplus into the "rainy day" fund, protecting the state and its taxpayers from future funding challenges.

Bills that address the drug crisis include a measure to increase reimbursement rates for outpatient opioid treatment providers in order to boost access to these crucial services and another to support local substance abuse assistance pilot programs. These local initiatives have widespread support among law enforcement as a way to improve chances of recovery and reduce recidivism.

According to the Attorney General's Office, 272 people died last year due to drug overdose, a 31 percent increase over 2014. This crisis shows no sign of slowing, and its consequences are incredibly tragic. It's urgent that we fund these important efforts to save lives.

We prioritized funding for county jails and education, because without adequate state funding for both, local

communities will be left to make up the difference. Preventing property tax increases, which hurt seniors, working families and our local businesses, has been one of my highest priorities as a legislator.

We also support funding for some very important initiatives for our state's veterans, including a package of bills based on the work of a special commission that was charged with improving the delivery of the services veterans have earned. These measures address homelessness among veterans, connecting veterans with existing resources, transportation and higher education. Another would provide a well-deserved tuition benefit to Mainers who serve our state and country by joining the National Guard.

I will keep you updated as we continue to work on these measures. As always, please feel free to contact me at andrew.mclean@legislature.maine.gov or call me at 207-939-8482 with your questions or concerns about state government.



Rep. Andrew McLean,
(207) 939-8482,
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repandrew.mclean@legislature.maine.gov

Letter 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,

We want to begin by thanking the Gorham Middle School and the town of Gorham for your warm welcome in hosting my presentation. Our book, *Chasing the Rabbit: A Dad's Life Raising a Son on the Spectrum*, was well received by the audience. We enjoyed talking with the enthusiastic crowd in Gorham. We also would like to thank the Gorham Times for covering our story. It has become our mission to share our story with as many people as possible so any press coverage is helpful to that effort. However, we do feel we need to make one clarification to the story. At one point in the coverage of our presentation it says, "the schools needed a diagnosis so the Volks chose Asperger's." That is not what happened. In December of 1999, when our son was 8 years old, after many years of being misdiagnosed, he was given a full and in-depth neuropsychological Evaluation by Dr. Ellen Popenoe, Ph.D. at McGeachey Hall of Maine Medical Center. She was the one who diagnosed Dylan with Asperger's, a high functioning form of autism. The news story implies we simply chose a diagnosis that we thought made sense for our son and the school accepted it. Neither of those were the case. Dylan's diagnosis was thoroughly evaluated by a highly trained professional. Again, thank you, Gorham Times, for covering our visit and allowing us to make this important correction.

Derek and Amy Volk

Dear Gorham Times,

I had a chance to speak on politics this morning with one of my twenty-nine year old Grandsons. He said he was intending to vote for Mr. Trump. This did not surprise me, as I see the throngs seeming to be in support of him despite his sometimes brashness. I feel very much similar to that at times, just to give up in frustration.

Some of the reasons:

Similar to the situation with Gov. LePage getting elected the second time

Around Town

The Town Council authorized the Town Manager, David Cole, to accept a proposal from Standish MODBL Real Estate, LLC to purchase the historic McLellan/Sampson House property at 77 South Street.

Town Manager David Cole recently awarded a 25-year service pin to Recreation Director Cindy Hazelton and a 5-year service pin to Kurt Irish of the Public Works Department.

The following are candidates running for the Maine State Legislature:

State Senate: Jean-Marie Caterina (D)
Amy Volk * (R)

District 26: Matt Mattingly (R)
Maureen "Mo" Terry (D)

District 27: Andrew McLean* (D)
Jim Means (R)

especially – people just plain fed up with the situation in general. Partisan politics well over done. Legislators being elected to lifetime security with no time limits. Government sanctioned college loans at eight or ten percent interest which leaves them years to ever repay. Lifetime elected legislators having health plans and retirement plans far beyond what is accessible to their constituents. Legislators fearing to stand up against policies they do not like. More government employees. The ever present feeling it seems that the poor and middle class are the ones to suffer in the long run. The advertised salaries and benefits of CEO's etc of the large businesses, and supposedly "charitable" organizations merely adds kindling to the fires.

Perhaps they lean this way because they see little relief either now or down the road and see few of even their local elected officials. The last time they saw any of them was just before election time last year.

It seems there must be people in this country that are capable enough, and smart enough to run for election. Perhaps that is the problem; they are smart enough not to run.

John Labrecque

Gorham Times

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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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Building on a Dream

KATHY CORBETT
Staff Writer

A graduate of Gorham High School class of 1998, Derek Racine's passions have taken him all the way from Maine to a natural park site and restaurant in Nicaragua. There he hopes to create an eco-resort, a vacation complex where visitors will have an opportunity to "experience self and global understanding through service."

In town for a short visit with friends and family, Racine talked about how growing up in Gorham where his parents, Deborah and Dennis Racine, helped him to understand the importance of community. His father "coached everything;" his mother taught school in Windham. At GHS he was active in sports, music groups, and the arts, which "gave him an opportunity for self expression." After graduation he attended community college in San Diego and spent some time in Boston and New York before studying cultural anthropology at the University of California-San Diego. The proximity to Mexico and an attraction to Latino culture drew him to Guatemala where he worked at a rural orphanage in a "quest for self-knowledge and service." This experience and other volunteer work inspired him to devote his life to fulfilling a dream. He wants to create a place for people to discover that "as we serve the world together our love of self extends in all directions to combat poverty and protect the environment."

In 2012 he began spending about two months a year in Nicaragua. He depends on friends to provide lodging in San Diego where he works to acquire skills he needs for his project. As a child he helped at a family campground and



Photo courtesy of Derek Racine

since then he has farmed, been a construction worker, taught, and held many jobs in the hospitality industry. Working for Dr. Bronner's Soap Company, a socially responsible business that shares profits with charitable and activist causes, has been an inspiration for his business model.

Currently, he is raising money to purchase land near Leon, Nicaragua where he plans to establish Uno Mundo: A Humanitarian Retreat. The site, "a beautiful jungle setting," includes a number of buildings and a restaurant. His idea is to "provide a natural, creative, and harmonious experience for travelers and participants." Because the Nicaraguan economy is based largely on tourism, he believes the resort will give him a financial basis and provide a stable income he will also use to fund local humanitarian projects.

Eighteen years removed from GHS, Derek Racine, unaffiliated with any political or religious organization, still marches to the beat of his own drum, believing in the power of love to change the world.

Community Mural Unveiled



Photo credit Roger Marchand

The new community mural was installed on the side of Amato's during the week of March 21st.

ELLE SPURR
GHS Student Intern

Natasha Mayers, artist in-residence at the University of Southern Maine, has supervised over 600 murals, the newest of which now resides in the Gorham town center. The 8-foot-by-12-foot painting, which hangs on the side of the Amato's building, was the brainchild of Carolyn Eyer of the USM Art Department and was worked on

by 80-100 students of all ages. "Working with high schoolers and USM students was wonderful. I loved the mix of ages, styles and perspectives," said Mayers. For nearly eight weeks, entire classes at both USM and GHS, as well as individuals such as USM students Angel Simoneau and Peter McFarland, helped to create this amazing piece of art. Mayers wants to thank the faculty and art department

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Gorham Business Exchange - Marketplace CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to pay it forward in the form of donations for the Gorham Food Pantry. "Our partnership at Marketplace has provided the Gorham Food Pantry with great exposure to the business community, local residents, as well as to many of the non-profit groups and clubs in attendance. A food drive on site this year resulted in 175 pounds of non-perishable food as well as monetary donations for Gorham residents in need. Our attendance at Marketplace allows us to meet face-to-face with groups looking for outreach and volunteer opportunities throughout the year. We are grateful for GBE's efforts

to bring the community together in this way each year," remarked Diane O'Neill, President of the Gorham Food Pantry's board of directors.

Overall, the annual exchange was once again a success with nearly 2,000 attendees, all having the opportunity to come together and celebrate the local businesses of Gorham. And if you missed this year's Marketplace, don't worry, there is always next Spring.

The Marketplace winner of a free one-year subscription to the Gorham Times is Robert McCrillis of Buxton. Congratulations!!

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Register online at: www.gorhambusiness.org

Spring Outdoors

JASON BEEVER

Spring is here and it is a great time to get out and enjoy the many outdoor activities Gorham and the surrounding areas offer. This past Maine winter was an odd one weather-wise, with unseasonable warmth cancelling or postponing outdoor events and activities due to lack of snow and ice. Now it is looking like an early spring, although it is not uncommon to get a good snowstorm in April.

April 1st is a milestone of sorts for outdoor activities. It is the traditional opening day of open water fishing, although recently the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife have liberalized the regulations, making it legal to fish in many waters year round. Consult the fishing regulations at their website: <http://www.maine.gov/ifw/>, or pick up the booklet at the town office. Many of the rivers and streams in the Gorham area are stocked with brook trout and brown trout by IF&W. Some of these stocked trout avoid being caught and spend the winter in the cold water, feeding and growing to impressive sizes.

The best bet in early spring is to buy some worms or night crawlers at your local variety store, and fish slow and deep. Small spinners and spoons also catch trout in the early season. Another popular spring fishing technique is trolling in area lakes and ponds. Some of the fastest action of the year can occur

shortly after ice-out. Sebago Lake is perhaps the best known local venue, but there are many other smaller waters that produce. Early season boaters should dress like snowmobilers, and wear a life jacket at all times. The water and air are still plenty cold, and many a capsized boater has succumbed to hypothermia in the spring.

Now is also a great time to hike in the woods. The woods appear drab and brown in early April, but by May, southern Maine is beautifully green. Growing up in rural Gorham in the 70's, I spent a fair amount of time exploring the woods, many acres of which are still undeveloped today. The Presumpscot Regional Land Trust maintains multiple land preserves with trails that offer great hiking for the whole family. Check them out at <http://www.prlt.org/>. If you know an area where deer live during the late fall and early winter, now is a great time to go looking for antlers that were shed by bucks in December and January. I know a few local deer hunters who spend more time "shed hunting" in the spring than they do deer hunting in the fall.

This is also prime time for observing birds. Birding ranks 15th on a list of the most popular outdoor activities, just below bicycling and beach bumming, according to the most recent National Survey on Recreation and the Environment by the USDA's Forest Service. Many species have just arrived

from long migrations and are busy courting mates and building nests. Precious little time exists to raise and nurture their young before migrating south again in the fall.

If you have the motivation to be in the woods before morning light, you are in for an incredible audio treat as every bird in the forest, from the smallest wren to the mighty wild turkey gobbler, erupts in song as the first hint of light fills the forest. The cacophony does not last all that long, so set your alarm early and check it out.

Regardless of what springtime outdoor activity you choose, be sure to take precautions to avoid being bitten by ticks. Thirty years ago we just had "wood ticks" which were largely harmless. Now the smaller and more aggressive "deer tick" is prevalent, and it carries and transmits Lyme Disease, a debilitating sickness that is often hard to diagnose. While not a big fan of insecticides, I have come to rely on bug spray containing 100% DEET to repel ticks. I avoid applying it to my skin, but rather tuck my pants legs into my boots, wear long sleeves with tight-fitting cuffs, and spray the junk on my boots and clothing. Enjoy the outdoors this spring.



Jason Beever grew up in Gorham and spends most of his spare time outdoors.

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 photo in the March 24, 2016 edition was a part of a sculpture on the corner of the Costello Gym.

Passing of the Guard

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tion for this program she said, "The original vision for the Gorham Times was a community newspaper created by Gorham students. I took that idea to heart and embraced our student interns. From middle schoolers to USM students, they were full of energy and ideas, and always willing to take on assignments. It was heartwarming to see young people talk comfortably in a room full of adults, and to watch them grow in their writing and interviewing skills. I thoroughly enjoyed working with the interns." Given the length of her tenure, Karen has worked with many different people at the Times. "We had just lost a short term Editor in 2010 and I was thrilled that Karen was available and very interested in the job," said Maynard Charron, former General Manager. "She jumped right in and we didn't miss a beat. The staff took to her very well. She kept us on a steady path of successfully producing the paper for the last six years. I'm sorry to see her go and I wish her the very best."

Stacy Sallinen, the current GT Business Manager, has worked with Karen throughout her entire time with the paper. "I started as School News Coordinator at the same time she became Editor. We've shared many laughs and some headaches over the years. She'll be missed at the Gorham Times," commented Sallinen.

Sue Dunn, current General Manager, notes that Karen was always interested in the many varied characters that make up the town of Gorham. "Karen would always jump at the chance to include articles on any Gorham resident who had done something notable or unusual, whether young or old. She really liked the quirky stories as well as school related achievements and unusual sports stories."

Karen will be greatly missed as the Editor although she will continue as the social media organizer for the Times.

eco-Excellence Award

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Among the innovations, Doug Carter installed 120 solar panels that generate 80% of the business's total power needs. These panels are very effective and are highly visible, thereby providing increased awareness in the community and with the public about sustainable energy generation. In addition, Carter's operates a waste oil furnace to provide all of their heating needs and recycles their paper and plastic waste. "I hope the state of Maine is progressive in solar energy production," Carter added.



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More Than A Rap Sheet: The Real Stories of Incarcerated Women

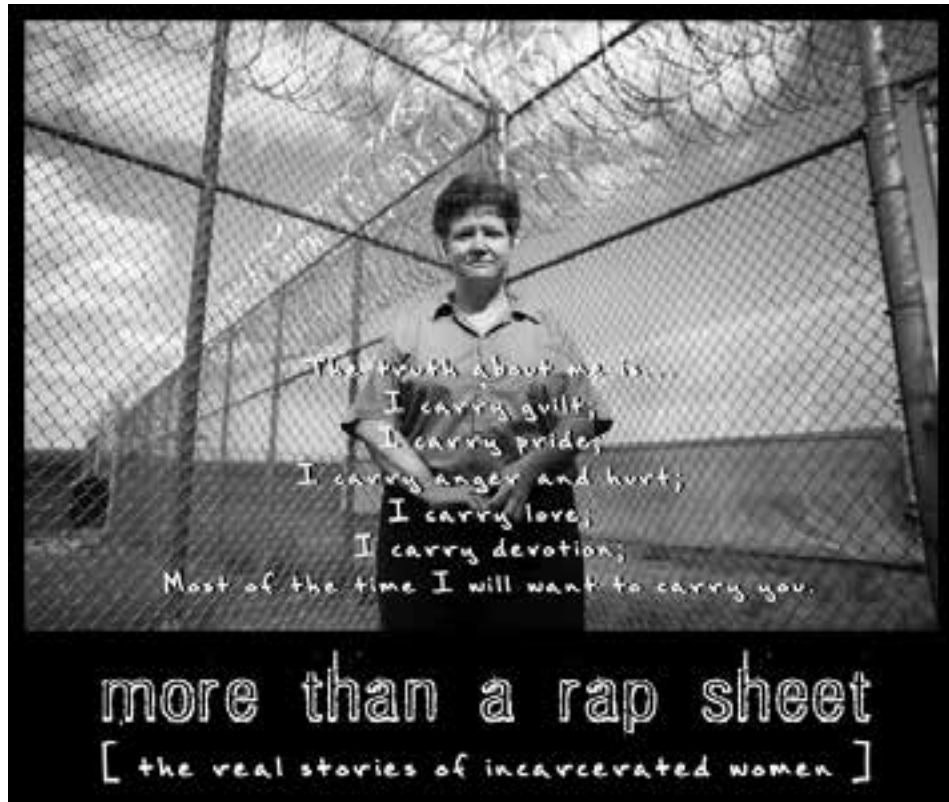


Photo courtesy of Family Crisis Services

JAMES RATHBUN

Director of Baxter Memorial Library

The Baxter Memorial Library is proud to be hosting the “More Than A Rap Sheet: The Real Stories of Incarcerated Women” exhibition during the month of April. This project is a moving exhibit put together by Family Crisis Services that consists of twenty-seven poems and twenty-one portraits of incarcerated women in Maine.

Family Crisis Services (FCS), the domestic violence agency for Cumberland county, has been working with incarcerated women at Cumberland County Jail and Maine Correctional Center since 2000; a community where approximately 95% of the women have experienced domestic violence in their lifetimes. In FCS’s support groups, women were asked to tell their truth and an exhibit was born. The women’s truths are profound, inspiring and raw.

FCS partnered with the SALT Institute’s Christine Heinz, who photographed the women, creating forceful portraits that visually mirror the truth of the women’s words.

The exhibition was kicked off on Tuesday, April 5, with a variety of speakers and light refreshments. The community now has an opportunity to view the exhibit and sign up for a closing event to be held on Thursday, April 28, at 6:30 p.m., which will consist

of a series of book group discussions. At that closing event, attendees will join a group to discuss one of three books; “I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings” by Maya Angelou, “Orange is the New Black: My Year in a Women’s Prison” by Piper Kerman, and “Couldn’t Keep It to Myself: Wally Lamb and the Women of York Correctional Institution (Testimonies from our Imprisoned Sisters)” by Wally Lamb. The library will be purchasing additional copies and is always happy to help patrons utilize inter-library loan.

Composition notebooks, with no metal or staples, will be collected at the Baxter Memorial Library during the exhibit for the women in FCS’s support groups.

For more information on this or other library events, please check out our website at www.baxterlibrary.org, “like” our Facebook page, or contact the library at 222-1190.

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Sale of ecoMaine Land to Shaw Bros. CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

into a working farm, restoring it to its original state. “It used to be all fields when I was growing up,” said co-founder Jon Shaw. They are also planning on constructing public trails for walking, biking, and cross-country skiing, as well as clearing hayfields that will be open to snowmobiling in the winter.

Additionally, a portion of the land will be developed for commercial use. The frontage on Route 25 will be made available for lease, and the money collected from rent, after property taxes are deducted, will go back to the foundation. In keeping with the Shaw brothers’ goal to promote locally made food and products, Sebago Brewing Company has shown a strong interest in moving its brewery from the Gorham Industrial Park to this property. They would also like an outside party to construct a building on the property to serve as a farmers’ market selling Maine goods and foods. So far, there have not been any offers.

As for their plans for the remainder of the land, Jon and Danny Shaw remain undecided but open-minded. “It’s hard to say what we’ll do, but there are so many possibilities,” said Jon. They have discussed constructing a campground, among other ideas, but have not committed to any plans.

The schedule of construction will depend on the availability of the Shaw Brothers Construction crews, as

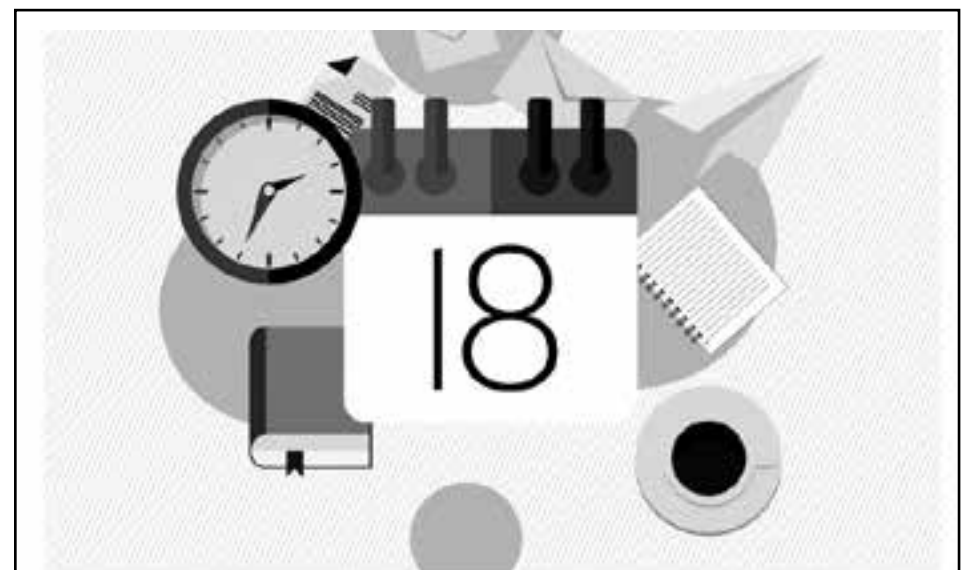
they will work on this project between jobs. Due to the extensive work needed and intermittent schedule, the completion of the trails “could take twenty years,” said Jon. However, “we want to get started some time this summer or fall,” said Danny.

When asked what a project of this scale costs, they both answered, “a substantial amount of money.” Danny added, “It will cost more improving the land than what we paid for it.”

The Shaw Brothers Family Foundation’s plans for the land have been well-received by the community. Ecomaine, who purchased the land in 1989 for \$3.5 million, had planned to develop a large waste-handling facility but never went forward with the project and decided to sell the land instead. “Our board of directors has long been considering the best use of our 258-acre Gorham property,” said ecomaine CEO Kevin Roche.

“We are very much aligned with the vision that Jon and Danny Shaw have for the property, and look forward to supporting the construction of recreation trails and public access to the Presumpscot River.”

Gorham Town Manager David Cole is also excited by these plans. “There are few people who plan projects with this kind of long-term foresight, and Gorham is very lucky to have two people who are so invested in the future of the town.”



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*The federal return due date in Maine and Massachusetts is April 15. However, some deadlines, such as the due date for estimated tax payments, still fall on April 18. See your tax professional for details.² If you discover an H&R Block error on your return that entitles you to a larger refund (or smaller tax liability), we’ll refund the tax prep fee for that return and file an amended return at no additional charge. Refund claims must be made during 2016. ©2016 H&R Tax Group, Inc.

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New Police Station Open for Business

SHERI FABER
Staff Writer

The Gorham Police Department has moved into their new building on Lower Main Street. It sits directly in front of the old building which is being renovated to become the new home of the Fire Department. A study done in 1999 identified four projects needed by the Town: a new Public Works building, expansion of the Baxter Memorial Library, a new Middle School and an expanded Municipal Center with more space for Public Safety. These projects have now all been addressed.

Town Manager David Cole noted that "Gorham has grown rapidly for the past 30 years and we have needed to upgrade our Public Safety facility to respond to that growth. This will be a wonderful asset that will serve the community for many years to come."

In 2013, residents of Gorham turned down a referendum for a new Public Safety Building that would have been built in Little Falls at a cost of \$6.3 million. They approved the current project in 2014. The new public safety building will be two separate but adjacent buildings, one for police and one for fire and rescue. Renovations and upgrades are currently underway in the current Fire Department section as well as in the section formerly used by Gorham Police.

The new Gorham Police Department building provides more functional space for staff. The original Public Safety building had been built as a municipal center and had been used in that capacity for a number of years until a decision was made to move the municipal center to the former Shaw School when the new middle school was built.

The needs of a municipal center and a police station are quite different. Security is a big issue for police as they may have potentially violent offenders in custody and need dedicated interview rooms and evidence lockers as well as the ability to ensure the safety of everyone in the building.

The new station has a secure entryway to ensure the safety of the civilian staff who talk to the public and provide residents with information they might need. Many of these are requests for traffic accident reports or gun permits. Should there be a problem, the staff is now protected. The door to the building is unlocked as is a second door which gives access to the lobby. After hours, a second set of doors is secured and there is a phone which connects to dispatch. The prescription drug drop off box is located in the lobby.

The new facility includes three interview rooms for criminal suspects along with a more informal room for



Photo credits Roger Marchand



juveniles and victims of crimes. Four sergeants, who work on different shifts, will share two offices. There are also major improvements to the way evidence will be handled and maintained.

There is a booking room with an intoxilyzer and a red line (tile) on the floor that is used when intoxicated people are attempting to walk a straight line. Gorham has no holding facility. If someone needs to be held on criminal charges, they are taken to Cumberland County Jail.

Teachers and others who need to be fingerprinted for their jobs now have a small space just beyond the lobby where they can be fingerprinted. This change means that they will not be fingerprinted next to people who have been arrested.

A very large conference room, which can accommodate the whole department, can also be used for training. Police departments that provide a venue for training sessions are usually offered two or three free slots for their officers, a savings of \$300-\$500 per officer.

Town Manager David Cole noted that "Gorham has grown rapidly for the past 30 years and we have needed to upgrade our Public Safety facility to respond to that growth. This will be a wonderful asset that will serve the community for many years to come."

Gorham Town Budget Proposed

BAILEY O'BRIEN
Staff Writer

On April 5, the Town of Gorham announced the proposed budget for the 2016-17 fiscal year. Excluding the school budget, the proposed gross Town budget is \$13,594,705, an increase of 3.3% from the current budget of \$13,156,141. The funds needed from property taxes are \$6,707,940, or an increase of 3.5% from last year. The estimated property tax rate needed to support this budget, based on a local assessed value of \$1,550,655,708, is \$4.33. This is an increase of 12 cents, or 2.9%.

The Town of Gorham is also obligated to collect the Cumberland County property tax through the local tax bill and forward those funds to the County. The total Cumberland County property tax is \$1,044,423, which is a \$46,454, or 4.7%, increase and a 2 cent increase in the property tax rate.

Town Manager David Cole took the time to explain several of the specific increases in the Town budget.

First, the Police Department is creating the new position of Deputy Police Chief. This person will be responsible for "many of the administrative functions currently performed by the Lieutenant. The Lieutenant will perform most of the administrative tasks currently being performed by the Sergeants, which will free them up for more direct police service in the community," said Cole. Additionally, an officer will also be assigned to the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency (MDEA). The officer's salary and benefits will be fully reimbursed and will also result in additional revenue. "After applying the revenue that is being received from the MDEA for our officer, the net additional cost of these changes is approximately \$24,937," said Cole.

Second, the Police Station budget has been increased by \$44,980, "an amount that reflects the need to budget this account for a full year. The prior budget included estimated

funding based on the assumption that the building would be in operation for 6 months," said Cole.

Third, the Public Works Department requires an additional mechanic in order to properly maintain the increased number of vehicles and equipment that serve Gorham.

Fourth, due to the Portland Water District's expected reallocation of Gorham's hydrants, \$11,000 has been added to the public utilities account.

However, Cole did point out decreases in the budget as well, most notably in the town's general assistance. "This account has been reduced by approximately \$33,840, reflecting a continuing downward trend in our actual welfare costs that began several years ago when we contracted with Windham to administer our General Assistance Program," said Cole.

Formulating this budget has not been without its challenges. Since 2006, there have been some issues with the State of Maine's Municipal Revenue Sharing Program, enacted in 1972. The original purpose was to assist towns after the state-mandated programs took a sizeable portion of town-collected property tax money and eliminated a significant amount of property tax revenue from commercial properties. When the State began experiencing financial trouble in 2006, it started using this money "to solve their own problems, regardless of whether it caused problems for towns. Last year, the State took approximately 59% of the funds that should have been available to municipalities," said Cole. He added, "By law, the Town of Gorham should be receiving approximately \$1.76 million in Revenue Sharing funds. If the State honored the law, the property tax rate in Gorham would have been 68 cents lower. Currently, we are budgeting \$750,000 in State Revenue Sharing funds."

There will be a Town budget workshop on April 12 at 6 p.m. A workshop for the school budget, which comprises approximately 70% of the total budget, will be held May 17.

Community Mural CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

ment at USM for all their help and support with this piece.

The mural features a map of Gorham with an inset in the bottom right hand corner featuring North Gorham. It has been sealed with varnish and will stay up for at least five years.

"There are so many amazing things and little bits of history in the mural," says Mayers. Every detail has its own little story from our town's history.

The mural was created with information from the Gorham Historical Society, and its vice-president, Ron Shepard, oversaw the process to ensure its historical accuracy. "I read a 700-page book on the history of the town and everything the Historical Society has put out in the last decade, and I still had a million questions," Mayers remembers.

The mural features bits of history that many Gorham residents may not know. There's a half-inch statue in the town center from 1930, for example, as well as many more interesting snippets from the past. There will be a brochure available in Amato's in the coming weeks that will list many of the important details on the painting, a "fun, educational tool," or eye-spy game, if you will.

Mayers hopes this mural will become an "important symbol of the town and help residents learn more about the town's history." The border of the mural consists of 23 squares with pictures of some of Gorham's most important products in them. The first square, a graduation cap and diploma, is devoted to what many, including Mayers, think is Gorham's most important product, education. This mural may be the first of many.

School Notes

Superintendent Heather Perry's March's blog post is available at gorhamsuperintendent.blogspot.com for those interested in learning more about the planned GMS Proficiency Based Learning 4th quarter pilot, the proposed budget and how to get involved in the process.

On April 11 and 12, sophomore college trips are planned to the University of New England and Southern Maine Community College.

Village Narragansett Elementary Schools will host a STEM night on April 26 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Village to celebrate science, technology, engineering, and math. There will be hands-on activities, interactive presentations, technology-based explorations, and lots of fun.

Gorham Adult Education will be hosting a class on Preventing Elder Abuse and Financial Exploitation. Join instructor Peter Eley of Gorham Savings Bank to discuss why older adults are at risk for financial exploitation, the warning signs to look for, and how to detect and stop fraud. FMI, visit www.gorham.maineadulted.org or call 222-1095.

Gorham School Department Proposed FY 17 Budget Summary

HEATHER PERRY

Superintendent of Gorham Schools

A lot of hard work has gone into the development of a proposed school budget thus far. There have been a lot of hard questions asked, and data shared, all with the ultimate goal of developing a budget that attempts to balance the needs of educating our growing student population, with the needs of the taxpayers who support our school system.

We identified \$487,225.00 in reductions in the FY 17 proposed budget while adding \$991,193.00. With the exception of our Capital Improvement Plan (CIPS) request, many of the increases that were allowed to remain in the budget were offset with decreases.

Many of the overall reductions were made possible by good management techniques that were able to decrease our Worker's Comp and Unemployment rates significantly. Additionally, because of increased focus on improved health and wellness with our staff, our insurance rates were actually able to hold steady with a 0% increase. Both of these major factors are saving our community tremendous amounts of potential employer related costs.

The overall expenditure increases were mostly due to either the Capital Improvement Plan increase to address some much needed capital renovations and maintenance for our buildings or they were due to the need to address our growing student populations. The latter is a good problem to have as next year we will receive additional revenue for these students from the state through the EPS funding formula.

In summary, the proposed FY 17 Budget is \$36,491,178.00, which represents an overall expenditure increase of \$1,416,647.00 or 4.04%.

On the Revenue side (assuming an overall value increase of \$10 million dollars), this proposed budget is

expected to increase the mil rate by an additional 87 cents or 8.37% with a projected actual mil rate of 11.28.

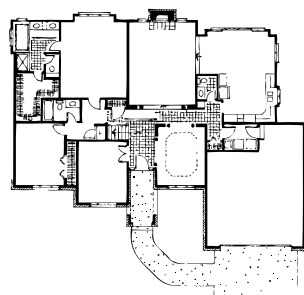
The proposed FY 17 School Budget will be going to the School Committee for approval at their next regular meeting scheduled on April 13. If members of the public wish to voice an opinion of this proposed budget, we encourage your attendance at that meeting or the Town Council Public hearing on June 7. The final vote will be made by the community as a whole during the planned Budget Validation Referendum on June 14.

For more detailed information on the budget, visit <http://gorhamsuperintendent.blogspot.com/>. Please feel free to reach out to me via email at heather.perry@gorhamschools.org or to your individual School Committee members. You can find their contact information by going to our website: www.gorhamschools.org.

We look forward to your future participation in these very important discussions.

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GHS Robotics Team Ranks Top Ten and Wins Award at FIRST Competition

SAM MATEY

GHS student and member of the Northern Force robotics team

FIRST (For Inspiration & Recognition of Science & Technology) is a nonprofit program that aims to get kids interested in STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) by hosting robotics competitions for school teams.

There are FIRST leagues for each age bracket from kindergarten through high school. Each year, FIRST invents a new challenge or game, and each team has six weeks in January and February to build a robot to compete in that year's competitions.

This year's high school bracket competition game, FIRST Stronghold, was medieval-themed and the most complex in the organization's history. In each match, two randomly selected alliances of three robots each attempt to breach the defenses on the opponents' side of the field and weaken the opponent's tower with boulders (dodgeballs).

Each game lasted for two minutes and 30 seconds. In the first 15 seconds, the robots are in autonomous mode, without a human operator, while in the last 20 seconds, robots may attempt to climb the opponent's tower if all three of the alliance's robots are within a certain distance from the tower.

Matches are decided on points, which are scored by breaching defenses, firing dodgeballs in the opponents' tower's upper or lower goals (five points for an upper goal shot, two for a lower goal shot) and scaling the tower. The defenses were loosely based on the Middle Age defensive technology; an incomplete list included: a gate that the robots had to open, a portcullis the robots had to lift, and rough terrain the robots had to drive over.

Northern Force, the robotics team of Gorham and Falmouth high schools (FIRST Team 172), attended the FIRST robotics championship held at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) on March 12-13. Their robot was designated "172" during matches. Matches were held on the WPI basketball court, which had been refitted with defenses, boulders, and towers by FIRST volunteers. (FIRST robotics teams play each other en masse, in multiday competitions in which up to 70 games could be played in a day. This equates to about eight hours of nonplaying time for every 30 minutes of playing time per team.)

Team 172's final ranking for the WPI Championship was 10th out of 40 teams present. They also won the Engineering Inspiration Award (presented after the playoffs) to the team that has done most to further STEM awareness in their com-

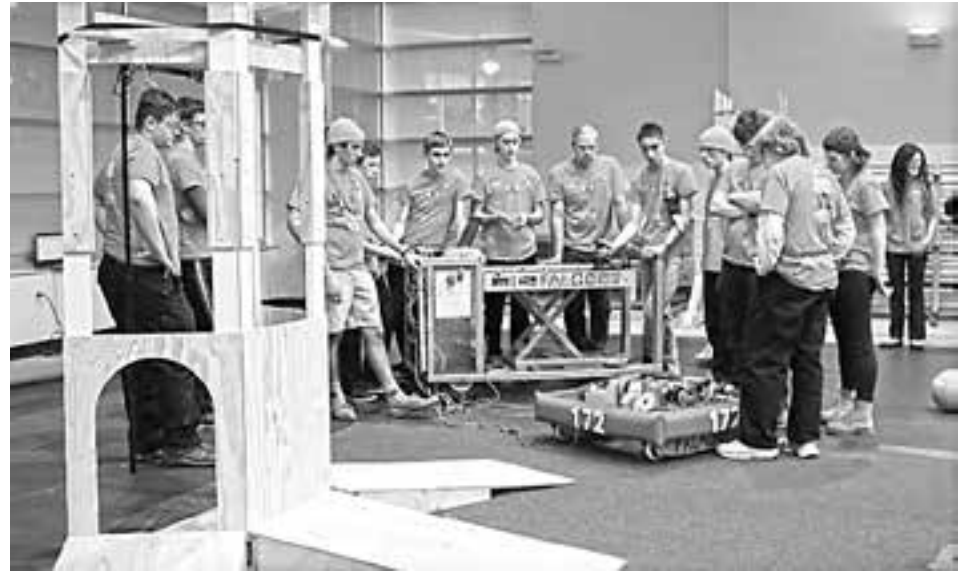


Photo credit Sam Martel

Gorham High School's robotics team with their robot "172." The Northern Force team ranked 10th out of 40 competition teams and won an Engineering Inspiration Award at the recent FIRST Stronghold competition.

munity. FIRST Team 172 will next take the field in Lewiston, where the team will be competing in the Maine Robotics Championship on April 8-9.

"What I find rewarding [about being on the robotics team and helping to build the team's robot] is that it's a team effort that you know you put a piece into and contributed to, and it works. Sure, we had help, but in the end, we're just a bunch of high school kids.

It's pretty amazing," said Sam Martel, GHS junior and three-year veteran of Northern Force.

Martel's statement neatly encapsulates the truly inspiring part of the competition: all of the robots on the field were built by high school kids, working together towards a common goal. No matter who wins or loses, that is the true legacy of participation in a FIRST robotics team.

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Recognizing Youth Art Month

The Portland Museum of Art recently held its annual show featuring artwork by Maine students in grades K-12. Matthew Ladd, a third grader from Narragansett School, was chosen to be featured and attended a reception on March 5. His painting, "Fauve Self-Portrait," utilizes colors that describe his personality and emotion. Ladd is pictured with his artwork (above his teacher) and his art teacher, Elise Bothel.



Photo Credit Danielle Keazer-Perry

GMS Drama Club Produces Spring Musical "Legally Blonde Jr."



Photo credit Rachel Bell

Every year the Gorham Middle School (GMS) Drama Club produces a spring musical. This year it was "Legally Blonde Jr.," the story of Elle Woods and her path through Harvard Law in order to win back a man. Emily Paruk, a seventh-grader at GMS, was cast as Elle and starred along with Sierra Cummings as Warner Huntington, Connor Donnelly as Professor Callahan, Kendall Smith as Vivienne Kensington and Abby Miller as Brooke Wyndam. The full cast was made up of 60 students in all three grades. Practices began after Thanksgiving and the students worked hard right up to the show on the weekend of March 4. The show was action packed and full of excitement. Paruk said, "It was nerve-racking performing on stage but it was easy to channel those feelings into an amazing performance." The cast would like to thank everyone who supported them and made this show happen.

Gold Ball Treatment



Photo courtesy of Maine State House

Members of the Gorham Girls' Class AA Championship team were treated like dignitaries at the State House recently. The first ever Class AA champs, who defeated Edward Little in the state final, visited with the Senate before spending time with Representatives Andrew McLean, Linda Sanborn and Amy Volk.

In the Zone

GHS sophomore Anna Slager (track) and junior Emily Esposito (basketball) were named to the Maine Sunday Telegram All-State teams.

Gorham "Hot Shots": In the state finals of the Maine Recreation and Park Association/Red Claws Hotshot Competition held at the Portland Expo, Quinn Dillon was runner-up in the 9-10 year old boys division and Mason Laskey was the winner in the 11-12 year old boys division. The Hotshot Competition is a basketball skills event for youth ages 9-18. It involves shooting from 5 "hot spots" on the court. Dillon and Laskey began by successfully competing in a local Hotshot event before advancing to the regional competitions. After the completion of the regional events, the winners and runners up of each category then advanced to the State Hotshot Competition at the Portland Expo, home of the Maine Red Claws.

Gorham Cheering Competes in New England Interscholastic Spirit Championship: The Gorham High School Rams finished just outside of the top ten New England Interscholastic Spirit Championship Coed Cheering Division. The squad finished less than one point away from the tenth spot out of sixteen teams.

High School Basketball Recreation League Champs



Photo courtesy of Mike Gradone

The Gorham High School Boys' Basketball Recreation team defeated Bonny Eagle to win the League Championship. The team was sponsored by Refreshing Paws. Pictured in the front row from left to right are: Riley Jerome, Brady Rioux, Zack Brown-Davis, and Travis Emerson. Pictured in the back row from left to right are: Bill Brown (coach), Eric Lane, Nate Dix, Bennett Galowski, Brandon Cummings, Brandon Desjardin, Trystan Bates, and Deb Brown (coach).

Local Student-Athletes Get Glimpse into World of College Sports

MARTIN GAGNON
Sports Editor

A handful of GHS athletes recently had the opportunity to get an inside glimpse at the world of college sports. The Gorham athletes were invited to attend the annual Southwestern Maine Activities Association (SMAA) Student-Athlete Summit held at Biddeford High School. Gorham athletes in attendance were Bridget Rossignol, Maddie Rossignol, Courtney Brent, Brittany Desjardin, Isis Adams, Ben Nelson, Trevor Gray, Lucas Gowen, and Sam Burghart.

The SMAA Student-Athlete Summit was the brainchild of the SMAA Sportsmanship Committee. The SMAA developed the summit as a means of educating student-athlete leaders about key issues of leadership and citizenship in high school and college athletics.

The keynote speaker for this year's summit was Michael Wilson who spoke about having a positive outlook on life and dealing with adversity. Wilson survived a horrible accident in 2009 on the Massachusetts Turnpike that

changed his life forever. As a result of his accident, he lost his left ear, lost significant function of his right hand and has a decreased sense of smell, taste, and hearing. He had over 13 surgeries in two short years, including multiple skin grafts and some very risky and experimental procedures. Wilson has made it through each one with flying colors and credits a lot of his amazing recovery to his positive attitude. He now shares his story around the country hoping to serve as an inspiration.

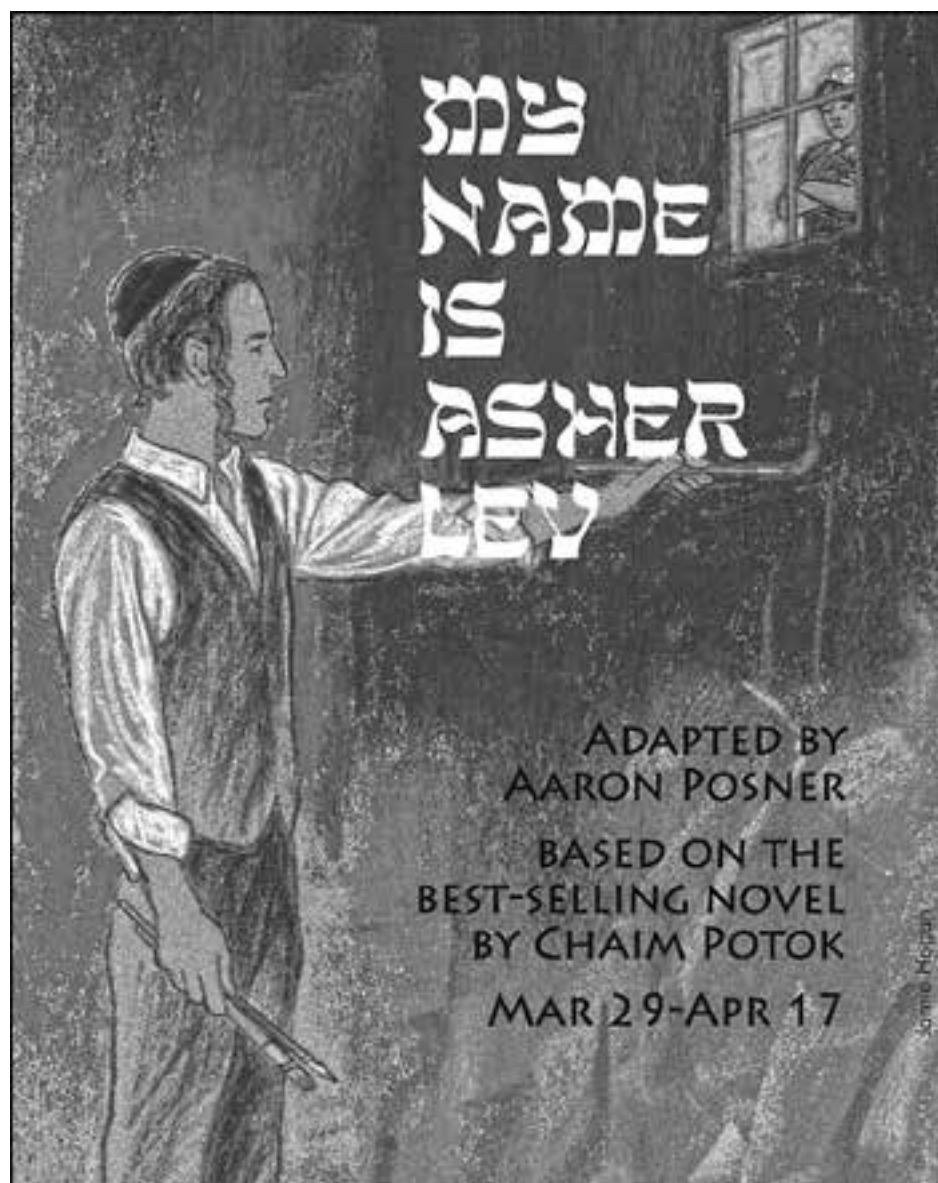
The afternoon sessions at the summit included a question and answer period with local college coaches and a session on the legal aspect of social media in athletics. College coaches on the panel included Heather Davis (UNE Womens' Soccer), Ed Silva (UNE Mens' Basketball), Red Gendron (University of Maine Ice Hockey), and Karl Henrickson (USM Mens' Basketball).

The Gorham athletes came away from the summit with something that young people can never get enough of - good advice from those who have been there.

Share Your Sports News with Us!

Email: mgmartygagnon@gmail.com

Submission Deadline for our next issue is: April 13th



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Exploring a Favorite Author

JAN WILLIS

One of the joys for an avid reader is discovering an author you like and then devouring all the books previously written by this writer. In 2015 I read "Our Souls at Night", the final novel written by Kent Haruf and published posthumously. This is one of the sweetest, tenderest books I have ever read. Haruf tells the story of two elderly people who, lonely in their old age, decide to sleep in the same bed at night though they are not married.. They bring joy to each other as they share intimate details of their lives in the fictional small town of Holt, Colorado. They are able to tell secrets of first marriages and disappointments with children. In short, they are able to cut through the pretenses and get to the truths in their lives. Each is a great comfort for the other. Unfortunately, the town and adult children won't leave them alone.

After finishing this book, I wanted more. I picked up "Plainsong" which was published in 1999 and a National Book Award Finalist. Plainsong is also set in Holt and is the first in a trilogy. The reader is quickly swept into the lives of a lonely high school teacher, his two young boys, a pregnant high school student, and elderly bach-

elor brothers who live and work on the farm where they were born and raised.

Many of these characters appear in the next two Haruf novels, "Eventide" and "Benediction". All of these novels have a theme of the importance of family, not necessarily our biological family, but the family we create from friends and neighbors. Victoria Roubideaux, the pregnant girl, is rejected by her biological mother, taken under the wing of a high school teacher, and placed with the two elderly brothers who initially are more comfortable with cows than a young girl.

Haruf's writing reminds me a bit of Hemingway's writing. The sentences are short. There are no wasted words. The writing is beautiful. The characters are believable. Each character is flawed in some way.

These books are not too long so any one of these would be perfect for the reader who wants to read a good book but does not have much time for reading. For the reader with more time I recommend reading all four in the order in which they were written. Enjoy!



Online Buying and Selling Safety

BAILEY O'BRIEN
Staff Writer

With the prevalence and convenience of websites such as Craigslist and Facebook, it is easier than ever to buy and sell items online. However, there are always dangers associated with meeting strangers from the internet. Gorham Police Chief Dan Jones has shared some personal and financial safety tips when meeting with your buyers and sellers.

DO be wary if it sounds too good to be true - it probably is.

DO bring someone with you or tell someone where you're going before you meet.

DO meet in the Gorham Police Department parking lot when transferring items and payment.

DO accept payment through bank check or cash, although there are dangers to both. Bank checks may be fake, and large amounts of cash may make you susceptible to robbery. If you do accept payment through check or money order, be aware that there is a greater chance it will be fake or will bounce.

DON'T give out personal information.

DON'T accept payment through check or money order if the amount paid is greater than the amount owed. Return it and have the buyer reissue a check for the correct amount.

DON'T give change back on a check or money order.

Maine Maple Sunday



Photo credit James Lockman

The Lockman family of North Gorham welcomed visitors to their sugarhouse on Maine Maple Sunday. Pictured from left to right are Rori, James, Teddy and Zeke Lockman who are joined by their dogs Kepler and Mackie.

Theatre
2015-2016 Season

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

A play by Edward Albee
Directed by William Steele

April 22 - May 1 | Main Stage, Russell Hall, Gorham Campus

<p>Friday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 23 at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 24 at 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 27 at 5 p.m. All seats \$5 Thursday, April 28 at 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 29 at 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Saturday, April 30 at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, May 1 at 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>\$15 general public \$11 seniors/USM employees/alumni \$8 students \$5 matinee (Wednesday, April 27)</p>
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Box Office: (207) 780-5151, TTY 780-5646
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UNDER CONTRACT



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DAYTON \$70,000 - Surveyed, private setting w/492' on road & Whitter Brook run thru. Gorgeous lot - great value!

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GORHAM \$338,500 - Desirable Fort Hill Farms! Handcrafted cabinets, pine floors throughout & classic trim details. 3BR/2.5BA w/2276sqft of living space.



GORHAM \$245,000 - Great duplex for owner occupied. Owner's unit has bsmt access, deck & add'l storage. 2BR/1.5ba units. Private 2.8 acres.

UNDER CONTRACT



BUXTON \$242,900 - 4 BR, 1.5 BA w/inlaw apt & 2 car garage. Wood floors, 4 fireplaces, hearth, deck. Newer metal roof & windows, vinyl siding.



LIMINGTON \$39,500 - Conveniently located, wooded lot w/gravel drive. Low taxes on this 5.3 acre building lot.



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SCARBORO SHORT SALE - 3BR/2.5ba home being sold 'as is'. Olde Millbrook neighborhood on a corner lot. Work needed & condition of systems is unknown.

UNDER CONTRACT



GORHAM \$299,500 - Excellent opportunity to relocate your business/offices! 2647sqft, 1st floor office space plus a residential unit. Excellent visibility & parking.

NEW LISTING



BUXTON \$395,000 - Turnkey bar & function facility w/4960sf. Great visibility on Rt.22, paved parking, deck, stage, seating & bars.



STANDISH SHORT SALE - 3BR/1ba Ranch being sold 'as is'. Large country kitchen, nice yard. Updates needed & condition of systems unknown.

UNDER CONTRACT

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Damian Smith, Florida Institute of Technology.

University of Maine at Farmington: Ashley Brown, Celeste Carpenter, Kaitlin Flanders, Caleb Goodall, Marissa Hutchins, Elizabeth Kane, Jessica Labrecque, Jennifer Pinkelman, Patricia Smith, Andrea Stemm and Emily Thompson.

University of Southern Maine: Matthew Bady, Daniel Bahun, Gwendolyn Beaulieu, Erik Burbank, Victoria Cantin, John Couch, Jordan Cunningham, Nathan Daigle, Devonshire Dennett, Julia Donley, Keegan Fike, Griffin Germond, Megan Gosse, Brittany Grant, Melody Hasbrouck, Patricia Kaczmarek, Krista Keene, Ezra Kruzich, Joshua Little, April McFarland, Meghan Mulhern, Julie Pike, Jared Richardson, Mark Ridgeway, Courtney Roberts, Rona Sayed, Anthony Stepnick, Tyler Verrill and Larson Viljanen.

OF INTEREST



Gorham High School students in Melissa Denick's 11th grade Humanities class recently observed the Legislature in session at the State House and then were given a brief tour by Rep. Andrew Mclean. (L-R) (Front - Back): Austin Denis, Nate Cupka, Abby Kennie, Emily Blake, Sarah Dickey, Rep. Mclean, Jacob Holmes, Paula Suttle and Isaac Priest.

Heidi Farrin of Gorham, right, and Cindy Blanchard spoke at a recent meeting of the Maine Beta chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa, an international altruistic organization of teachers. Ms. Farrin is the founder of Cricket Comforts, a volunteer community service organization that creates colorful pillow cases for Maine children receiving medical care.



An Open Mike Show at the White Rock Grange, 33 Wilson Rd off of Route 237 in Gorham, will be held on Sunday, Apr. 17 at 4 p.m. Acoustic musicians of all levels are invited to participate. Hosted by Mike Stackhouse. Donations are welcome to help the grange. FMI, mstack885@roadrunner.com or Ann Rust 839-3946 (arust@maine.rr.com)

There will be a public showing of the movie "Audacity, Love Can't Stay Silent" on Friday, Apr. 15 at 7 p.m. at the Gorham Middle School Auditorium. Produced by Way of the Master Ministries, this is the 3rd movie in the series being presented by the White Rock Free Baptist Church of Gorham. This hour long movie dramatically addresses the topic of interpersonal relationships from a Biblical perspective. Free to attend, but not suitable for children under 10 years of age. FMI, 893-1919 or visit www.wrfbc.org

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Submission Deadline for our next issue is: April 13th

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The Lakes Region Senior Center, 40 Acorn Street, Gorham will be offer an eight-week program - A Matter of Balance - Friday, Apr. 15 through June 3 from 9 - 11 a.m. Open to everyone, but a reservation is needed. \$20 for all eight sessions. FMI, Blanche Alexander at 892-5604.



The Rotary Club of Westbrook/Gorham welcomed National Director of Crutches4Africa Dave Talbot, who contracted Polio in 1955, but was treated successfully with the polio vaccine until later in life developing Post Polio Syndrome where he had to take up crutches again. Since 2006, Crutches4Africa has shipped over 67,000 units across Africa. (L-R): Rotarians Jeff Malloy (Club Chair), Dave Talbot, Candace Talbot and Dennis Robillard (State Chairperson)

The Lakes Region Senior Center, 40 Acorn Street, Gorham will host an Italian-themed luncheon on Monday, Apr. 11 starting at 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$5 and is open to the public. Gorham Fire Dept. will be guest speakers.

The First Parish Congregational Church in Gorham will hold a Chicken Pie Supper on Saturday, Apr. 9 from 5 - 6:30 p.m. \$10/\$5 children under 12. FMI, 839-6353.

Join the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust for a 1.5 mile guided walk on the Little River Preserve in Gorham on Saturday, Apr. 9. Rob Sanford, USM chair of the Department of Environmental Science and Policy, will lead the walk. This event is free, but space is limited, RSVP required to info@prlt.org.

The Gorham Public Works Department summer seasonal hours will be 6:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. beginning Apr. 4. (Closed Fridays June 13 - Sept. 2). Office hours will remain 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. through June 10. FMI, 892-9062.

Ladies Dance the Night Away for FA will be held at Spire 29 on Friday, April 29th, from 6 - 9 p.m. to benefit the Fanconi Anemia Foundation in support of GMS student Wesley Young who is battling this rare disease. Tickets are on sale at Spire 29 or FMI, check the Gorham Times FB page.

ON-GOING EVENTS

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 -11 a.m. and the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month from 6 - 7 p.m. Free for Gorham residents in need. FMI, 222-4351 or visit www.gorhamfoodpantry.org.

The Lakes Region Senior Center, located at the Little Falls Activity Center, 40 Acorn Street in Gorham is open Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Join them daily for coffee, tea and socializing. On-Going daily activities include Mahjong on Mondays - beginners welcome. FMI, Diane 892-9529; Tuesday crafts and card games. FMI, Avis 892-0298; The Memoir Writing Group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. FMI, David 892-5604; Thursday Table Games at 10 a.m. and Friday Art Workshop at 9 a.m. FMI, 892-0299.

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, 839-2484 or 839-3859.

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Skin & Body of Gorham

BY SARAH ADAMS

Gorham Business Exchange

“Dreams can come true, I’m living mine”. No words have been more enthusiastically spoken than those shared by the 28 year-old proprietor of Skin and Body of Gorham, Natalie Poulin. The wellness spa, located at 88 State Street, is both warm and welcoming for women, men and children alike. Natalie has been practicing in town since September 2011 and has been running this business for over a year and a half. She is both an esthetician and a massage therapist. She offers a diverse variety of services from therapeutic massage to facials, chemical peels and full body waxing. Natalie uses Bioelements in her facial treatments and retails the full line to accommodate whatever skin-care concerns you have.

Poulin, a native of New Hampshire, credits Dr. Rob Lavoie with jumpstarting her career here in Gorham. Natalie believes in listening to clients and educating them on the holistic support that is available for those who are plagued by chronic health or skin issues. With a variety of therapeutic treatments available at Skin & Body of Gorham, they’re set up for target treatments to full sessions, so that they’re most affordable.



Photo credit Sarah Adams

Natalie Poulin of Skin & Body of Gorham

When Poulin isn’t working at her wellness spa, she can be found enjoying the coastline with her boxer dogs and cultivating her culinary skills with her boyfriend. One quality you’ll notice right away when you make an appointment at Skin & Body of Gorham is that there is a real passion for helping people get the health they want and deserve. For more information on services and office hours, please visit www.skinandbodygorham.com.



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the *Courtesy of the Gorham Police Department* blotter

A GOOSE ON THE LOOSE

Ossipee Trail caller reported a large domesticated goose had been on his property for a number of weeks and he has been chasing it away. He will contact police when he catches the goose.

Preble Street woman wanted to report the theft of medication 18 months earlier. She was advised she needed to have reported it at the time the theft took place.

Bowdoin man was told not to drink in a parking lot on Main Street.

Libby Avenue caller reported his ex-girlfriend kept changing his passwords on his Facebook and e-mail accounts.

Woman stopped for speeding on Main St. was advised to get a new license and registration as she now lives on Finn Parker Road, not in Texas.

County Road caller received a call, allegedly from CMP, threatening to shut off her power. She knew it was a fraud and did not give out any information.

Suspicious people on Fort Hill Road were on the road clearing dirt that had been dropped from trucks exiting the sandpit.

Officer offered a ride to a man walking on Main St. in the rain but the man refused the ride.

Suspicious person sleeping in his car on Gray Road was an employee waiting to go to work.

Officer stopped a man making an illegal left turn from Cross St. onto Main St. He was arrested for OUI.

Person missing from School St. was picked up by an officer and taken home.

Primrose Lane caller reported her ex-boyfriend had some of her belongings and only dropped off a few of them. Ex-boyfriend said he would drop off the rest in a week and girlfriend agreed to plan.

Sebago Lake Road caller reported a female with long brown hair knocked on her door and demanded to be let in the house. Woman immediately called 911 and subject left the area in a dark SUV.

Officer stopped vehicle on State St. that had defective brake lights. Man was issued a summons for operating after suspension.

Suspicious persons on bypass had just finished working on the trails.

Paige Drive caller reported receiving unwanted phone calls. Officer told caller how to block these calls.

Officer checked on a vehicle he saw twice in a lot on Fort Hill Road with the trunk open. It was the Pastor’s wife setting up for Sunday service.

“We’re family-owned, the owners are in the store, and we’ve got a great price on a used vehicle that you’re going to love. Really, it’s pretty simple.”

Owners Sonja & Tim Devine



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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, APR. 7

- Baby and Me, ages birth – 18 mos., 9:30 a.m., Baxter Library.
- Toddler Time, ages 18 – 36 mos., 10 a.m., Baxter Library.
- Sewing Group, 7 years and older, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m., Baxter Library.
- BML Board of Trustees Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Baxter Library.

SATURDAY, APR. 9

- Chicken Pie Supper, First Parish Congregational Church, 5 – 6:30 p.m. \$10/\$5 children under 12. FMI, 839-6353.
- PRLT Little River Preserve 1.5 mile guided tour, Free. RSVP required to info@prlt.org.

TUESDAY, APR. 12

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

WEDNESDAY, APR. 13

- Story Time, birth – 3 yrs., 10 – 10:30 a.m., North Gorham Public Library.
- Town of Gorham Senior Lunch Program, St. Anne's Church, Gorham. Opens at 11 a.m. Lunch served promptly at 12 p.m. \$4. FMI, 839-4857.

THURSDAY, APR. 14

- Baby and Me, ages birth – 18 mos., 9:30 a.m., Baxter Library.
- Toddler Time, ages 18 – 36 mos., 10 a.m., Baxter Library.
- Sewing Group, 7 years and older, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m., Baxter Library.

MONDAY, APR. 18

- No School for grades K -12. Spring vacation week.

TUESDAY, APR. 19

- Gorham House Itsy Bitsy store, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m., GH lobby. FMI, 839-5757.
- Art Lesson with Author/Illustrator Kevin Hawkes, 3rd grade and older, 10 a.m. Baxter Library. Books will be available for sale and autographs.

WEDNESDAY, APR. 20

- Story Time, birth – 3 yrs., 10 – 10:30 a.m., North Gorham Public Library.
- Town of Gorham Senior Lunch Program, St. Anne's Church, Gorham. Opens at 11 a.m. Lunch served promptly at 12 p.m. \$4. FMI, 839-4857.
- Cornerstones of Science, 1:30 p.m., Baxter Library. Come learn all about butterflies.

THURSDAY, APR. 21

- Wormmainea, 1 p.m., Baxter Library. Learn how worms can be used to eat garbage.

Baxter Memorial Library, 71 South St.
Cressey Road United Methodist Church, 81 Cressey Rd.
North Gorham Public Library, 2 Standish Neck Rd.
St. Anne's Church, 299 Main St.

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WAREHOUSE SELECTORS

Work an early afternoon into evening shift based on customer needs. The Warehouse Selectors responsibilities include:

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