

Gorham Times

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

And The Winner Is...



Photo courtesy of Heather Moody

Mister Bagel owner Heather Moody, pictured with employee Julie Sabasteanski (right), has been named GBE's Business Person of the Year. GBE members, friends, family, and loyal customers of Mister Bagel are invited to come and celebrate on Thursday, May 19 from 5 – 7 p.m. at the Gorham House. For more information, please visit <http://gorhambusiness.org/event-2187017>.

Main Street Construction Update

BAILEY O'BRIEN
Staff Writer

The upcoming Main Street construction project will begin by late July at the earliest and will stretch into 2017, confirmed the Maine Department of Transportation. "The road was originally built with concrete, and after about 100 years, it has become a maintenance issue," said Bob Betz of the MDOT. The MDOT plans to rubblize the existing concrete, a process by which the concrete is broken into pieces and then overlaid with asphalt, in order to recycle as much material as possible. Additionally, the Portland Water District will be replacing the water lines, which are also approximately 100 years old.

Night construction has not yet been confirmed but is still being discussed as a means to minimize traffic disruption. "This will be inconvenient for a summer, but ultimately it will be vital to the structural integrity of the road," said Town Manager David Cole.

The construction will stretch for 1.25 miles from Main Street near Johnson Road through State Street, just before Cressey Road. The cost of the project has been updated to an estimated \$2.6 million.

Fire Destroys Car Wash at TNT Quickstop

SHERI FABER
Staff Writer

On Friday, May 6, rush hour traffic on the heavily traveled Rt. 25 corridor was rerouted between Bartlett Road, the entrance road into the Industrial Park, and Mosher Road/Rt. 237, by Beal's Ice Cream, due to a three alarm fire at the TNT Quickstop on Lower Main Street. The property housed a car wash, a convenience store and a gas station. Gorham Fire Chief Robert Lefebvre could see the flames as far away as Eastern Cemetery as he was driving to the fire. Five fire departments responded to the fire and it was extinguished by 6 p.m.

According to Chief Lefebvre, a woman who was washing her car in the unit at the far end of the car wash saw smoke on the dashboard of her car, and in moments, the car was on fire. The car was turned off, but because current cars are mostly made of plastic with miles of wire under the dashboard, once a fire starts, the plastic turns back into its natural state which is oil. The driver called the fire in and Lefebvre was on the scene before the first engines arrived. As the car wash roof was constructed of wooden trusses, the fire quickly spread and the roof caved in within 10 minutes.



Photo courtesy of wgmt

Once the fire started, the gas pumps were shut off by employees. The underground gas tanks are a distance from the store and once turned off, very little gas remains in the pumps.

The fire spread from the car wash to the ceiling space of the convenience store which sustained considerable smoke and water damage. Part of the roof of the store also collapsed. The State Agricultural Department determined that everything in the store had to be discarded due to potential contamination.



Photo credit Leslie Dupuis

The store will need a new roof but Lefebvre hopes the walls will be sound. He anticipates that much of the equipment in the store may be salvageable.

The building is insured and the owner has plans to rebuild.

Coleman Dowdle Receives National Merit Scholarship

MALLORY CAMPBELL
GHS Student Intern

Gorham High School senior Coleman Dowdle, son of Robert and Shannon Dowdle, has become a National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship winner.

In September, Dowdle was the only candidate from Gorham in the running with 37 other schools/home schools across Maine. While he learned about his placement as a National Merit Finalist in late February, Dowdle wasn't officially able to make the announcement that he was a winner until May 1.

"It is certainly an honor to have become a finalist, especially considering the extra effort I had to put forth in order to transition from a semifinalist to a finalist," said Dowdle.

There were approximately 16,000 semifinalists nationally competing for 7,600 merit schol-



Photo credit Shannon Dowdle

arships that are worth nearly \$33 million. Of the 16,000, approximately 15,000 became finalists and were notified in February 2016 of that achievement.

Merit scholars are selected on the basis of their

skills, accomplishments, and the potential for success in rigorous college studies. "I would like to thank Pythagoras for coming up with his ever so helpful theorem," said Dowdle.

National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) was established in 1955. The mission of National Merit Scholarship Corporation is to recognize and honor the academically talented students of the United States.

For the finalists, there are three different scholarships that are offered: National Merit \$2,500 Scholarships; corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards; and college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards.

Dowdle plans to attend Brown University in the fall and major in physics.

Gorham Sightings



Photo credits 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 cupola pictured in the May 5, 2016 edition is on the corner of Preble and Elm streets.

**GORHAM GYMNASTS AWE
AT MAINE STATE
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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Policy on News from Augusta: 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 and have an impact to 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.

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Voters Will Have Final Say on R&D, Transportation Bonds

REP. ANDREW MCLEAN

Creating opportunity for Maine people to succeed should always be our top priority at the State House. That means growing good jobs with strong wages so Mainers can make ends meet and, with hard work, get ahead.

To move our state toward a more prosperous future, I joined colleagues on both sides of the aisle this session in support of two bond measures that will make targeted investments in some of the most important areas of the Maine economy. Voters will have the final say on these measures at the ballot box.

As House chair of the Legislature's Transportation Committee, I often talk about the crucial role our infrastructure plays in Maine's economy. Chronic underfunding of our transportation system has left our roads crumbling and our economy lagging. In fact, the Maine Development Foundation recently flagged the state of our roads and bridges as an area in need of significant investment if we want our state to prosper.

That's why lawmakers voted overwhelmingly to send a \$100 million transportation infrastructure bond measure to voters this November. In the long run, we need to find a sustainable solution to the ongoing transportation funding shortfalls. That means addressing a trend of declining fuel tax revenues that continue to worsen because the gas tax isn't currently indexed to fuel efficiency standards.

I am hopeful that we'll be able to address this in a bipartisan way next session, because it's clear we can't rely on Washington to fix the problem for us. But our roads and bridges can't wait until that long-term solution is in place. In the near term, this bond will provide much-needed investment in a transportation system that works for Maine people and businesses. It will also leverage nearly \$1.4 million in federal and other matching funds.

The Legislature gave its approval to a second bond measure that would make targeted investments in Maine's growing innovation economy. It will go to voters for final approval on next year's June ballot.

This bond measure will spur economic growth by playing to our state's strengths with \$50 million of investment in research and development. Of that total, \$45 million will go toward the sectors targeted for investment by the Maine Technology Institute, which include biotechnology, composites, forest products and agriculture, information technology and precision manufacturing. The proposal includes an additional \$5 million for the Maine Venture Fund, a professionally managed venture capital fund that invests exclusively in promising Maine companies.

These sectors, including several of Maine's crucial heritage industries, are creating the high-tech, good-paying jobs of the future. By making thoughtful and effective investments in support of industries that are poised for growth,

we can attract and keep young people to our aging state and promote a more vibrant future. This bond measure would also leverage a one-to-one match in additional funds, doubling the impact of the investment. That's good news for Maine workers and businesses competing in a global, 21st century economy.

As always, please feel free to contact me at andrew.mclean@legislature.maine.gov or call me at 939-8482 with your questions or concerns about state government.



(207) 939-8482,
 (800) 423-2900,
repandrew.mclean@legislature.maine.gov

Around Town

Town Manager David Cole recently awarded a 15-year service pin to Public Works Mechanic Tim Richardson.

Gorham Hair & Co. is now open at 13 New Portland Rd. next to Mr. Bagel.

Goodfellas Barbershop is now open at 2B Main St. behind the Gorham Growl.

The town of Gorham was recognized as the 7th most affordable community by SmartAsset, a personal finance technology company. SmartAsset's study compared housing costs relative to income data in cities across the country.

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,

I enjoyed reading the article about the immigrant family from Democratic Republic of Congo who are living in North Gorham. I loved all the details of how their neighbors are helping them adjust to having a new home. It was very well written with numerous interesting points. Thank you for the interesting stories that the Gorham Times brings to this community. Your hard work is much appreciated!

Carol Curran

Dear Gorham Times,

The Gorham Times could be a great place to start a local movement. The idea struck me after a person stopped to thank me for what I was doing. This was not the first time for this thumbs up acknowledgement of my activity by any stretch. A couple of years ago I decided to thank a neighbor by also doing what she has done for years. I pick up trash in all its forms on the side of the road as I walk.

Think of all the positive benefits. Great exercise. The gift of a clean environment for all those who walk or run on our roads. It is so much nicer when you are not looking at ditches filled with whatever you can imagine, or don't want to. Take a teen, or child, with you and they will begin to understand what it means to throw that can or cup out the window.

Imagine our town if people just cleaned the road in front of their house. If you are lucky enough for that to not be a problem, maybe you have noticed a trashy section along South St., or maybe a corner that could use some kindness. My granddaughter actually loves to pick up trash. It helps her feel very positive about her town and herself.

So the next time you go for a walk, take a plastic bag or two. Every person helps and think of all those squats you'll be doing.

Thank you.
 Elaine Lawson

SHOP & BUY LOCAL

THE TRANSFER STATION WILL BE ACCEPTING BRUSH MAY 21, 2016 FROM 8:00AM UNTIL NOON FOR GORHAM RESIDENTS ONLY AND WE WILL NOT ACCEPT STUMPS

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Publication June 2

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For the Love of Books



Photo credit Allie Hardy

The Rhythm and Movement Book Club recently celebrated their 17th anniversary. Beginning in 1999, the first book they read and discussed was "The Stone Diaries" by Carol Shields. Their most recent book was "The Space Between Us" by Thrity Umrigar. Meetings are typically held in members' homes in Gorham but more memorable ones have been held on a boat in the middle of Sebago Lake and at camps on Peak's Island and Sebago Lake. Seated (left to right) are Kim Ballantyne, Cherry Finck, Nancy Scott, Kathy Ward, and Carol Hardy. Standing (left to right) are Pat Osman, Jane Hahn, Anita Pettit, Nancy Taylor, Gloria Tewhey, Jeannie Flaherty, Jane Sexton, Eileen Ela, and Jan Willis.

North Gorham Writing Group



Photo credit Kathy Corbett

The North Gorham Writing Group held its 18th annual reading program on April 26. Members read selections of their prose and poetry. Participants (pictured left to right) were Skip Brushaber, Delina Eisenhower, Chris Small, Linda Strout, John Labrecque, and Mary Snell. Warren Gilman is seated in front. For many years, the residents met at their library to study and read poetry. In 1998, several of them formed a bi-monthly writing group to focus on their own poems, essays, and stories. There are currently about ten participants, including original members Gilman and Labrecque.

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Shawn Moody Recognized as Outstanding Business Leader



Photo credit Dave Dostie

Shawn Moody, founder of Moody's Collision Center, was joined by GMS student Emily Duncan (left) and Junior Achievement President Michelle Anderson (right) at his induction into the Junior Achievement of Maine Business Hall of Fame on May 9. Moody was honored as one of the state's most distinguished businessmen and women for his outstanding contributions to free enterprise and the promise of a better, stronger society. He joins an esteemed group of 78 men and women who have been inducted into the JA Maine Business Hall of Fame.



Photo credit Roger Marchand

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

The grand opening of the Gorham Growl took place on April 30. Town Councilor Bruce Roullard (far left) assisted owners Ed and Ellen Gowen with the ribbon cutting. They were joined (front left to right) by Grace Perreault with Max, Paige Perreault with Ruby, and Judy Hawkes. Councilor Roullard said that he was "happy to see an older building in the center of Town be put to such good use." Ed Gowen added that he was "glad to be able to be a part of Gorham's growth."

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A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Gorham Middle School Garden

School Street Pub & Grill



Photo credit Leslie Dupuis

Owner Albert Asali (left), chef Shawn Litourneau (center) and general manager Brian Hurtubise (right) prepare for the lunchtime crowd at the newly opened School Street Pub & Grill.

BAILEY O'BRIEN
Staff Writer

Albert Asali and fiancée Susan Moody wear many hats: parents to a blended family of five children, coaches in Gorham and Bonny Eagle, and now, with the opening of School Street Pub & Grill, successful restaurateurs. The new sports bar and family restaurant has been busy since its opening on March 25, serving over 3,000 customers in its first week alone. With large television screens mounted to the walls and a collection of local sports memorabilia soon to be displayed in between, it is an ideal spot to grab a few drinks and watch

the game. However, its pub-fare-with-a-twist dishes are sure to catch the attention of foodies, while its family atmosphere and accommodating menu make it a great place to bring the kids. It seems that, like its owners, this restaurant also wears many hats.

To start, the gleaming bar, made of finished wood with a rustic touch, seats 17 at its stools and includes four high-top tables. Behind the bar are 16 taps for draft beer, five of which are rotating taps of local craft beer. "Right now, we are in talks with a few local breweries to get some of their beers on tap. If it works out,

ARTICLE CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

Plant What? Plant Something!

JEFF O'DONAL

In a highly contentious election year, there is one campaign that can be embraced by everyone. Its slogan is "Plant Something!" and it shouts out an encouraging message highlighting the many benefits of planting.

So what happens when you plant something? There are more benefits besides the horticultural beauty and agricultural bounty that plants reward us with. You might be surprised by all the other good things to be gained by planting something. Here are a few.

Planting can improve your health, both physical and mental. From digging to planting, watering and harvesting, gardening gets our heart pumping and brings us closer to nature, where we can, at least temporarily, escape the frenetic pace of modern life. The results of our efforts lead to a sense of contentment and pleasure.

Planting can also help improve the environment. Besides reducing pollution runoff and controlling erosion, plants remove carbon dioxide from the air and their roots can absorb harmful particulates from the soil.

Planting can boost the value of your property, especially when using local professional landscape designers and installers. In fact, research shows that a home with a well-landscaped yard sells more quickly than a comparable, but improperly landscaped property by several weeks, and sells for a significantly higher price.

Planting provides attractive habitat for wildlife, birds, and beneficial insects, and is invaluable to bees and other natural pollinators. You may have heard the adage, "No Pollinators, No Food". Without enough plantings, pollinators will continue to struggle and put our food chain in jeopardy.

The grassroots movement to plant something is being organized by the Maine Landscape and Nursery Association (MELNA), a non-profit, professional trade association with members in all aspects of the horticultural industry.

They encourage you to get out there, get your hands dirty, and plant something. It will improve your health, improve our environment, and may even increase the value of your home.

Come on. It's simpler than you think. Visit your local garden center and pick out some seeds, or berries, herbs, some trees or shrubs, climbing vines, vegetable seedlings, perennials or annuals, or some ground covers. There are so many great plants to choose from that thrive in Maine that you may have a hard time stopping.

Happy Gardening!



Jeff O'Donal is a Maine Certified Nursery Professional and owner of O'Donal's Nursery in Gorham with over 40 years of experience in the plant industry.

MUNICIPAL

Grand Jury Indictments

The Grand Jury returned the following indictments in May:

- Harrison Banks, 26, of Gorham, was indicted on charges of burglary, theft by unauthorized taking, and unauthorized use of property on charges brought by Gorham PD.
- Theresa Parker, 30, of Auburn, was indicted on charges of eluding an officer and failing to stop for an officer on charges brought by Gorham PD.
- Jacob Sawtell, 23, of Gorham, was indicted on charges of receiving stolen property (firearm) on charges brought by Gorham PD.

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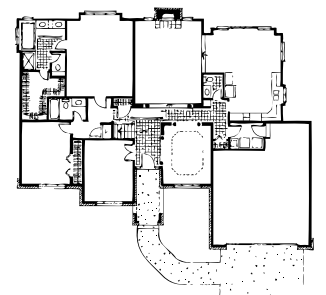


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CHIEF JONES REPORTS

• Police are awaiting a report from the Medical Examiner about the cause of death for a 24-year-old woman on May 4 at her residence on Primrose Lane. The woman was not breathing when she was found early that morning. Police do not suspect foul play. If the Medical Examiner determines that she died of a drug overdose, a follow-up investigation will be done. It can take up to six weeks to obtain a toxicology report from the Medical Examiner's Office.

• Sgt. Daniel Young has been appointed to the Cumberland County Emergency Services Unit team. It is beneficial for a town to have someone on this team in the event of something occurring in Gorham as that officer would already be familiar with the town. The grant provided \$5500 to outfit an officer for this team.

• Officer Steven Hinckley was appointed to a crisis negotiating team and will receive free training.

• Gorham's police dog is still being trained and should be ready to go in early fall. A police vehicle has been retrofitted to be used for the dog and his handler.

• Sgt. Ben Moreland has been assigned to be the Project Director for a \$16,543 grant from the Bureau of Highway Safety for an Evidence Based Impaired Driver program. This will include field sobriety tests and the use of breathalyzers. Drivers who show a very low alcohol intake on the breathalyzer may be impaired by drugs. With probable cause (either an accident or the consent of the driver) an officer can draw blood to be tested for drugs.

• Sgt. Mike Nault will be the Project Director for a \$5,785 grant for Young Driver Safety. This grant focuses on education and enforcement with a driving simulator and a traffic safety educator doing programs at Gorham High School with a focus on the use of seat belts (with a seat belt convincer), as well as distracted or impaired driving.

• Gorham received a Click it or Ticket grant for \$4,346 for car seat and seat belt enforcement.



Photo credit
Portland Press Herald

MAY 2, 2016

Planning Board Results

The following items were discussed and voted on at the May 2nd meeting:

• Referred a plan to rezone the right side of Shaw's Mill Road from suburban residential manufacturing housing to roadside commercial to the boards Ordinance Committee.

• Held a public hearing on a preliminary subdivision review for Glenwater Village subdivision with 20 single family lots and 10 apartments

off Glenwood Avenue and Water St. Project was discussed and postponed pending responses to remaining issues and finalizing revisions to the plans.

• John Woods' request for approval to construct an additional 36,500 sq. ft. of gravel surface and two concrete block retaining walls at 21 Cyr Drive in the Industrial zoning district was discussed and moved to a future consent agenda.

Comprehensive Plan is Updated

BAILEY O'BRIEN
Staff Writer

The Town of Gorham Planning Department has made revisions to an updated draft of the comprehensive plan, a document that outlines the goals of the town for the next 10 to 15 years. The Town last updated its comprehensive plan in 1993.

Most notably, the updated draft includes plans to construct a new roadway to improve travel between the Bernard Rines Village Bypass on Route 114 and both the Maine Turnpike and Interstate 295. If implemented, this road would help decrease traffic congestion at the intersection of Route 114 and County Road.

"One of the key components that needs to be integrated in the comprehensive plan is the town's continuing

efforts to reflect the need for a transportation system from the interstate area to the Gorham bypass. Since the 1993 plan was developed, the bypass was constructed, and the Town has continued to work with MDOT and the Turnpike Authority to continue the development of this very important sustainable transportation corridor. The Town Council has identified this as the highest priority for the community," said Town Manager David Cole.

A public hearing was held on May 10. The Town Council has scheduled a workshop for May 31 to review the draft of the comprehensive plan. The plan can be found in its entirety online at www.gorham-me.org. Click "Town Departments" on the left sidebar, select "Planning Department," and find a link to the plan under "Items of Interest."

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Town Purchases Two Propane-Fueled Buses

KATHY CORBETT
Staff Writer

When students climbed aboard two new Gorham school buses on May 9, they might have noticed “Fueled by Propane” on decals next to the doors.

For Norm Justice, the department’s facilities and transportation director, those little green decals represented the successful culmination of years of study and preparation. Gorham’s two new Blue Bird buses, equipped with ROUSH Clean Tech propane autogas fuel systems, had been road tested and the new fueling station licensed. “Gorham’s going green,” Justice exclaimed as he explained the benefits of propane autogas for students, drivers, maintenance workers, taxpayers, and the environment.

Justice had researched the pros and cons of moving from diesel-powered buses to alternative fuels when he made his recommendation to the School Committee for the purchase of two new propane-fueled buses last year. It was not until December that funds became available from a one-time Maine State Retirement System reimbursement and the committee voted to approve the purchase.

Buses fueled by propane autogas are more economical to run than those powered by diesel gas. With federal rebates, Justice anticipates a fuel savings of about \$2,000 per bus per year. Combined with savings in maintenance costs, the projected savings per bus will be close to \$3,650 per year. Unlike diesel

buses, propane ones do not need to be started before drivers arrive. These savings are reflected in the 2016-17 budget.

Justice explained the safety benefits of autogas. The buses’ fuel tanks are twenty times more puncture resistant than those on diesel vehicles, and the flash point for propane is much higher. Because propane is 270 times more compact as a liquid than as a gas, it is safe and economical to store and transport. Buses are fueled at a new station near the bus lot on Huston Road that was constructed by Amerigas with the assistance of Gorham Public Works.

Propane buses are quieter inside. With less vehicle noise, drivers can hear students. In cold weather the heater comes on quickly contributing to a more pleasant ride for all. Cars behind an idling school bus will no longer contend with black

With federal rebates, Justice anticipates a fuel savings of about \$2,000 per bus per year.



Photo credit Kathy Corbett

Norm Justice introduces one of Gorham’s new propane-fueled buses.

smoke, one of many environmental benefits of propane.

Perhaps the greatest benefit to Gorham residents of moving to propane fuel is its effect on the environment. Studies show that propane autogas results in an estimated 80% reduction in smog producing emissions compared to vehicles using diesel fuel. These buses will put 20% less nitrogen oxide, 60% less carbon monoxide, and up to 18% fewer greenhouse

gas emissions into to the air. Ninety percent of propane is produced domestically.

When asked if there was any downside to propane, Justice said after his extensive research he was not aware of any. Eventually they will need to enlarge the dispensing station as more propane buses are added to the fleet. Currently there are few public fueling stations in Maine, but most trips for student activities will not require refueling.

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The Grandparents' Club

JAN WILLIS

Warning! This column is going to be personal. I have just joined the best club in the world. One does not apply to get in this club, it just happens to you. It is called The Grandparents' Club. I joined on March 8, 2016 when my daughter Jennifer gave birth to a 7 pound, 3 ounce baby boy named William David. Amazingly, Leslie Stahl, award-winning correspondent for CBS recently published a book titled "Becoming Grandma." She begins the book by writing, "Becoming a grandmother turns the page. Line by line you are rewritten. You are tilted off your old center, spun onto new turf. There's a faint scent of déjà vu from when you raised your own children, but this place feels freer. Here you rediscover fun and laughing, and reach a depth of pure loving you have never felt before." She also states, "One thing I found out early is that most grans are besotted. Just when you think your days of falling madly in love are long past, you look down at that baby and find yourself in a rapture, going limp. Having grandchildren is why they say old people are happier than young people." I can attest to that feeling of pure love. When I am with Will, I want to just hold him and gaze at him if he is sleeping. If he is awake, I read to him or sing (poorly).

Stahl is the grandmother of two young girls. In typical reporter fashion, she interviewed dozens of women and looked into "the biochemistry of grandmothers, the history, and the economics." Her book brings the reader up to date with the latest in baby equipment and practices. At times she experienced frustration that her daughter made choices different from her own, but she acknowledged that her best option was to keep her opinions to herself. Stahl ends the book by saying, "Grandchildren are the dessert course of life, or, as Steve Leber,

who founded Grandparents.com told me, 'God gave us grandchildren to make up for aging.' "

My other choice this month is also non-fiction. It is "Lit Up: One Reporter. Three Schools. Twenty-four Books That Can Change Lives" by David Denby. As a former English teacher of ten years and avid reader, I adored this book. In the introduction he states, "Well, maybe not on the way home from the hospital. Maybe when the baby is six weeks old, or when she begins smiling. That might be a good time to pull her into your lap, or prop her up between you and your spouse or partner. Turning through pages, you read aloud a picture book. She won't remember the words or pictures, but an impression of being held and read to will remain – a familiarity with the experience, an emotional reminder of pleasure, especially when it's repeated hundreds of times."

Denby says that "Reading fiction carries you further into imagination and invention than you would be capable of on your own, takes you into other people's lives, and often, by reflection, deeper into your own." "People read for all sorts of reasons, and at all levels of difficulty and art. (Only prigs read demanding books all the time.) A minority, perhaps, read not only to enjoy themselves but to understand the world, and, ultimately, to know how to live and die in it. That kind of reading is a special good."

Denby visited three high schools over a period of time to learn if teachers could still engage young people in serious reading. From "The Scarlet Letter" to the modern day "A Long Way Gone," Denby discusses the books being taught in the classrooms and the strategies being employed by good teachers. Anyone involved in secondary education as well as parents should read this book.



Grill Safely

GORHAM TIMES STAFF

Now that it has finally started to warm up, many of us are already enjoying our outdoor barbecues. Gas grills, portable fire pits, and patio heaters make outdoor spaces comfortable places to gather, but it is important that they are used properly. According to the U.S. Fire Administration, about 5,700 grill fires take place on residential property every year, causing an annual average of \$37 million in damages, injuries and even deaths. The major-

According to the U.S. Fire Administration, about 5,700 grill fires take place on residential property every year, causing an annual average of \$37 million in damages, injuries and even deaths.

ity of grill fires are caused by malfunctioning gas grills. Before bringing out portable appliances and firing up the propane or charcoal grill, the following tips can help homeowners get the most from their outdoor appliances safely.

Follow the Manufacturer's Instructions. Whether it is assembly, use, maintenance, cleaning, or storage, make your grill manufacturer's instructions your go-to resource for safe grilling.

Position the Grill in a Safe Location. Keep your grill outdoors and at least five feet from the house on a level surface that is clear of outdoor furniture, overhead trees, or other potential fire hazards. Never move a grill that is hot.

Check for Leaks. Use a soapy water solution to check connections for

leaks in the hoses and connections. Expanding bubbles indicate a leak. Follow this procedure at the start of each season and every time you replace a cylinder.

Use Proper Lighting and Relighting Procedures. Follow the manufacturer's lighting instructions. With all grill models, keep the lid open and don't lean over the grill when lighting it. If your flame goes out, turn off the gas and refer to your owner's manual. At a minimum, with all grill models, keep the lid open and wait at least 15 minutes

before relighting. Turn the gas valve off when done grilling.

For Charcoal Grills, use only lighter fluid designed for grilling. Never use gasoline or other flammable liquids, and never add more lighter fluid once the fire has started. Thoroughly douse coals with water before throwing them away. Have a working fire extinguisher handy.

Be Present. Stay close and never leave your grill unattended.

Keep Kids Safe. The grilling area should also be designated as a "No Play Zone," keeping kids and pets away from the equipment. To help kids learn about gas grill safety, the Propane Education & Research Council has launched the fun interactive website www.propanekids.com

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School Notes

Village School is conducting a shoe drive now through the end of school. Students are trying to collect 2,500 pairs of gently worn shoes to be donated to Shoes with Heart. The shoes will be refurbished and distributed to third world countries where shoes are a desperate need. The school plans to purchase new shelves for the library as well as make a donation to the Gorham Food Pantry with the money they will receive for their donation. Please help students reach

their goal by dropping off any gently worn men's, women's, and children's shoes in the entrance of Village School.

Gorham Adult Education will present their seventh annual student art show and reception on May 20 from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Baxter Library. The students, taught by local artist, Maddie Lou Chaplin, will be presenting their current work at Baxter Memorial Library. Artwork will be displayed through June 9.

GHS Junior Reaches New Heights

MALLORY CAMPBELL
GHS Student Intern

Gorham High School junior Trystan Bates added something to his resume recently that many of his high school peers know very little about... his aviation license.

Aviation was something that interested Bates at a young age. In 2010, he began his pursuit of a piloting license when he enrolled in ACE Camp, which is a unique educational, hands-on, nationwide program sponsored by the Federal Aviation Administration.

"Luckily enough, one of the camp counselors was a flight instructor and I asked her if it was possible to start taking lessons at such a young age (I was 12 at the time). She said, 'Of course. As long as you can touch the pedals, you can fly.'"



Photo credit Pete Chaisson

GHS junior Trystan Bates earned his aviation license at age 17.

Bates spent six years learning piloting before his licensure. He began as a 12-year-old but spaced his training over a long period of time because he would not be able to fly solo until he reached the age of 16, and couldn't apply for a license until

ARTICLE CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

MAY 11, 2016

School Committee Meeting

KATHY CORBETT
Staff Writer

Students, teachers, and parents filled the room at the May 11th meeting of the school committee. They came to protest the decision not to grant a 2016/17 contract to a probationary teacher at Narragansett Elementary School.

Before recognizing the speakers, Chairman Darryl Wright reminded them that there is a policy against publicly using a teacher's name in a personnel matter. He also stated that the decision to retain teachers is made by principals and the superintendent, not the committee.

Brian Penley, a member of the probationary teacher's 4/5 team, was joined by colleagues and parents in praising the teacher's work in the classroom and school community, and in contending that proper procedures had not been followed in denying her the contract.

Coach Laughn Berthiaume introduced members of the girls' basketball team, winners of the first State AA championship. Co-captain Emily Bragg thanked Gorham fans for their support.

Superintendent Heather Perry announced that seventh and eighth graders will receive new Apple laptops

next year under the Maine Department of Education refresh program, but that the school department will not be permitted to purchase the old laptops. She reminded everyone that the committee will meet with the Town Council for a joint budget workshop on May 17 and that there will be a public meeting of the Town Council on June 7, where the budget is expected to be approved. The budget referendum will go before the voters on June 14.

Amanda Cooper, co-chair of the evaluation steering committee, presented a summary of Gorham's professional evaluation system to be submitted to the State Department of Education. It will conform to the new guidelines for the state statute.

Superintendent Perry gave an update on progress made on the 2015-16 work plan for Proficiency Based Learning. This included implementation of Jump Rope to track student progress in ELA and Math in K-5 grades, developing K-12 graduation standards, and working on performance standards in additional grades and subject areas.

Work is being done toward supporting students to proficiency at the Gorham Middle School and in developing a plan that provides opportunities

ARTICLE CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

GHS Robotics Team Finishes its Successful Season at Worlds Championship

SAM MATEY
GHS member of
FIRST Robotics Team 172

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, with the robots needing to open gates, cross rough terrain, throw balls into 8-foot tall goals, and function for at least part of the game in autonomous mode, without a human driver.

In the 2016 FIRST competition season, Northern Force, Gorham and Falmouth's joint FIRST Robotics team attended two regular season competitions held at Worcester, MA, and Lewiston, ME, performing well enough to reach the New England District Championship at the XL Center in Hartford, CT.

Team 172 came in 22nd out of 200 teams. This placement would have put Northern Force out of contention at that point, but during the championship awards ceremony they won the Engineering Inspiration Award, which is given to the team that has done the most to advance knowledge of and respect for science and

engineering in their community. This award automatically qualified Northern Force to attend the FIRST World Championship in St. Louis, MO.

In the respites from gameplay, the Northern Force drive crew was constantly laboring to make their robot more effective in every stage of the game. One problem was that their robot (officially Falmouth-Gorham Robot #14, or Falgor XIV, but unanimously referred to as "the robot") could not accurately score goals in autonomous mode. The team changed the robot's code and tested its accuracy after every alteration, enduring the robot's deafening snowblower-like engine noise.

"There are a lot of things you can't control in a competition like this," said Amelia Ring, a Northern Force drive team member. "And there have been a few technical issues, but we're going to have fun, and bring our play, and we've been doing that. I'm content with this-honestly, I just love to be in FIRST right now."

At the FIRST World Championship, Northern Force was placed in the Hopper Division, named after U.S. Navy Rear Admiral and computing pioneer Grace Hopper. In the division qualification matches they placed 30th and reached the division elimination matches for the second year in a row, an extremely respectable showing.

Overall, this was a spectacular season for Team 172; highlighting their spirit, grit, and tenacity. Being a member of a FIRST team is about more than robots: the organization fosters communication and team working skills that are invaluable in every arena of life.

GMS Hosts GOOGLE Expedition Pioneer Program

TERRI DAWSON
Gorham Schools
Technology Integrator



Gorham Middle School students in all grades recently had the opportunity to participate in the Google Expeditions (currently in Beta) program. Students experienced 3D virtual field trips that immersed them in environments, and brought abstract concepts to life, while giving students a deeper understanding of the world beyond the classroom.

Although nothing replaces taking a bus for a field trip, Google Expeditions provides an opportunity for supplemental learning. The integration of virtual real-



Photo courtesy of Google/Code created by Terri Dawson

GMS students were able to test the new Google Cardboard viewers (pictured) currently in the Beta phase of the Google Expeditions program. Using a QR reader on your phone, tablet or laptop, scan the QR code to view a one minute video of the day.

ARTICLE CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

Gorham Garden Club Supports GMS Garden



Photo credit Heather Whitaker

The Gorham Garden Club is hosting a Plants, Planters & More fundraiser on June 3 from 5 – 7 p.m. and on Saturday, June 4 from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. (FMI see ad on page 3) and will be donating a portion of the proceeds to the Gorham Middle School garden. Eleven years ago, the GMS garden was started to serve students with a hands-on, interdisciplinary, service-based learning project. Through indoor and outdoor activities that are tied to the state standards, students learn about sustainability, social issues and citizenship. Whether it is taking soil samples and amending it with manure, composting, or troubleshooting pests organically, students are at the heart of the entire gardening process. They plan, implement, and care for vegetables, herbs, flowers, and berries to donate to the Gorham Ecumenical Food Pantry. Last year alone, 877 pounds of fresh, local produce was donated to the pantry. Pictured with last year's midsummer harvest are (left to right) Avery Arena, Mercy Dunn, River Dunn, Jared Foss, Mia Gallant, Tyler Williams, and Will Rossignol.

GMS Students Earn Spot in National History Competition

AVERY ARENA
GHS Student Intern

On April 9, Gorham Middle School students Trevor Bennet and Aiden Dever placed second at the annual Maine National History Day competition held at the University of Orono under the advisory of GMS ed tech Jeffrey Carpenter.

Each year, students in grades 6 through 12 gather to present and compete with their projects on a variety of historical topics all relating to a common theme. This year's theme was "Exploration, Encounter, and Exchange," and students chose to create performances, papers, exhibits, documentaries, or websites.

Students work for several months to complete each project that includes in-depth research using primary and secondary sources, critical analysis, and synthesis.

At the competition, students met with a team of judges for the interview portion which is taken into account, along with their physical presentation, when scoring. Bennet and Dever competed in the junior group documentary cat-



Photo credit Jeffrey Carpenter

Aiden Dever (pictured left), Trevor Bennet and Tess Libby competed in the Maine National History Day competition last month.

egory with their presentation entitled "Tripartite Pact." Tess Libby also competed in the junior paper category with her presentation "Alice Paul."

"Tripartite Pact" has qualified for the national competition, which is held at the University of Maryland in June and includes the top students from all over the country.

Great Falls Hosts Wellness Night



Photo credit Becky Fortier

Gorham firefighter Dale Leighton, pictured with first-grader Gretchen Paul and her younger brother, Jude, participated in Great Falls School's Wellness Night last month.

FRANK DEFRANCESCO
Great Falls PE Teacher

On April 8, Great Falls School held its fifth annual Family Fun and Wellness Fair. One of the highlights of the event was an obstacle course in the gym that included a giant inflatable slide and rope swing. There were also opportunities for students and parents to participate in a Jukado class, dance to Dance Dance Revolution and Go Noodle songs and join in a yoga class.

Wellness information was available and handed out to families in the cafeteria by Presumpscott Regional Land Trust, Leading Edge

Chiropractic, Portland Water District, Hannaford (Guiding Stars Program & Healthy Snacks), American Heart Association and school nurse Teresa Merrill (CPR training), Back-In-Motion, Meg Oliver (librarian); Betsy Beaven (speech therapist) and Jaimie Tardif (Great Falls social worker). Gorham Fire Department firefighter Dale Leighton passed out fire safety information and plastic fire helmets to families from a fire truck parked in front of the school.

Staff estimates that 500-600 students and parents attended the event. All in attendance seemed to have a Great (Falls) time.

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GMS Halls Were Alive with Art

TRACY WILLIAMSON
GMS Music Teacher, Choral &
Steel Band Director

Last month, Gorham Middle School hosted its third Visual and Performing Arts Day. Instead of going to regular classes, students selected from over 20 workshops in music, art, dance and theater to attend over the course of the day.

The entire school was immersed in the arts. The morning was divided into four 45-minute time slots. Every student saw a performance by the Maine Marimba Ensemble and a performance by either the Portland Ballet or the University of Maine a cappella singers, The Renaissance, all of which were sponsored by a grant from the Gorham Education Foundation.

Then each student chose two smaller hands-on workshops to attend in any of the areas of the Visual and Performing Arts. In the smaller workshops students could learn a new instrument, a dance style, theater techniques, or make a piece of art.

Many artists from around the state generously volunteered their time to come in and work with students. Beth Lambert, the Visual and Performing Arts specialist at the Maine Department of Education, joined GMS students to teach a theater improvisation session. Ashley Earl, from The Dance Studio of Maine, ran a hip hop dance workshop, along with the help of some of the GMS eighth graders. Michael Shaughnessy, Portland artist, helped students design and build an art installation in the lobby upstairs. Duncan

Hardy and Chris Beaven brought the Waynflete Middle School steel band, along with all of their instruments, and taught a learn-to-play steel pan session. Cathy Geren, Erin Flett, Gemma Astor, DaraLyn McColl and Peter Rimkunas also ran workshops in the Visual Arts. Many thanks to all the artists who came in to work with the GMS students.

In addition, a lot of the talented GMS and Gorham High School staff, who have a passion for the arts, taught workshops as well. Jason Lambert, seventh-grade teacher, ran a guitar and songwriting workshop; Meghan Rounds, sixth-grade ELA teacher, hosted a theater choreography session; and Ryan Watts, GHS guidance counselor, taught students to work clay into tiles. Other thanks go to teachers Susie Hanley, Megan Holden, Terri Dawson, Amanda Cooper, Sarah Collins, Tana Krohn and Matt Murray who all ran workshops.

The grant from the Gorham Education Foundation also funded a session by Portland drummer, Annegret Baier, who brought in many African drums and taught the students how to play. The Gorham Arts Alliance sponsored a learn-to-juggle session as part of the theater offerings as well.

This was a wonderful day for all of the GMS staff and students. Everyone got to try something they might not get a chance to experience. Hopefully students were inspired to pursue their new visual and performing arts skills further after this opportunity to work with such a wonderful offering of artists, musicians and dancers.



Photo credit Tracy Williamson

GMS students were recently exposed to many local artists who volunteered to teach students new art they may not have tried before during the Visual and Performing Arts Day.



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Gorham Gymnasts Awe at Maine State Championships

MARTIN GAGNON
Sports Editor

They have spent hours practicing with little fanfare. Encouraged by coaches, parents, teammates and fueled by their own passion, they know they will have their moment if they perform well. Sydney Connolly and Olivia Mann, two young local Gorham gymnasts, recently embraced their chance to shine at the Maine USA Gymnastics State Championships with world-class performances.

Connolly, a sixth grader at GMS, talked about her competition in the Maine State Championships where she qualified to compete as part of the Super Seven State Team representing Maine at the Region VI Championships in Massachusetts. Performing in the vault, uneven bars, floor, and balance beam, Connolly said that traditionally the hardest of her events is the balance beam. "If you think about it, it is a little nerve-racking to get on a 4-inch wide and 4-foot high block of wood and flip around."

Unlike some sports, gymnastics is year-round involving a large time commitment from her and also her family. Practicing five days a week for four hours each day during the competitive season (fall through early spring), Connolly said she works to perfect her routines. In the off season the focus shifts to learning new skills.

Gymnastics has been a part of Connolly's life for many years. "I started gymnastics when I was three years old at Maine Academy of Gymnastics in Westbrook. In 2nd grade I was invited to a team as a competitive Level 4 gymnast. From that point there was no stopping me."

She added that although her family has relocated three times in the past five years, gymnastics has been a constant. Connolly tried other sports but it is gymnastics which has stuck with her. "At gymnastics it's like a whole different world. There are so many things to learn and ways to challenge yourself. It is a mental and physical sport."

To remain so devoutly committed to a sport often required more than the quest for recognition. She explained

that although there are things she misses because she is at the gym, what keeps her going is her passion for the sport and her equally passionate teammates. "Many people think of gymnastics as an individual sport, but my team keeps me going and I love to see them achieve their goals, too," she explained.

Moving further South, Olivia Mann, an 11-year-old homeschooled student from Gorham, is hard at work at Dudziak's Gymnastics in Biddeford. For Mann, the practice paid off at the Maine State Championships where she was named State Champion for her age division at her current level. Like Connolly, Mann competed in the vault, uneven bars, balance beam, and floor exercises.

Practicing year-round, Mann trains about 18 hours a week. Practice includes not just gymnastics but also formal ballet training once a week. This year Mann competed in 10 meets in Maine, RI, CT, MA and traveled to Chicago to compete in the world's largest women's gymnastics competition.

Mann's mother Kimberly remembers her daughter "going around tumbling and doing cartwheels everywhere she went. She was constantly jumping and dancing around the house. She took ballet lessons from the age of three until last year, when her gymnastics schedule made it difficult to fit in much else." It was in the spring of 2013 while taking part in a tumbling class at Dudziak's that the gymnastics coaches approached Mann's parents about having her join the team program. Since then, she has quickly risen through the ranks.

Asked what she gets out of the sport, Mann said that she loves the strength and fitness aspects. She added that she also loves the deep friendships with teammates and the support and encouragement of a team sport. Gymnasts compete both as individuals and as a team.

I asked the rising star what advice she would give to any other young athlete who is thinking of trying gymnastics. She said that she would encourage other kids to try gymnastics because "it is such a great way to be strong and fit and learn to challenge yourself to accomplish things you never thought you could do."



Photo credit Kimberly Mann

Olivia Mann competed at the 2016 Maine USA Gymnastics State Championships in April and was named State Champion for her age division, Level 5. This is her 2nd consecutive year as State Champion.



Photo credit Theresa Connolly

Sydney Connolly qualified at the Maine State Championships to compete as part of the Super Seven State Team representing Maine at the USA Gymnastics Region VI Championships in Massachusetts.

In the Zone

Maine Mayhem shuts out New York: The Maine Mayhem, Maine's only all-female full contact football team, made the New York Knockout look like a bunch of lightweights. Dominating the game, the Mayhem smashed their way to a 40-0 smack down victory over their New York rival. Five players from the team, along with the head coach, are Gorham residents. Another player is a former Gorham High School graduate. A roster of the team can be found at <https://mainemayhemfootball.com/2016-roster/>.



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SPORTS

Student Athletes Make Final Picks

Gorham High School senior athletes have been busy making college commitments.



Photo credits Amanda Landry

On April 15, Emelia Viernes, pictured with her parents Jennifer and Allan Viernes, signed a letter of intent to play field hockey at Division II Belmont Abbey College in North Carolina.



On April 28, Jesse Southard, joined by his mom Christine Southard and coach Jason Tanguay, signed a letter of intent to run cross country at Division I Seton Hall University in New Jersey.



Trenton Bassingwaithe, shown with his parents Tracey and Craig Bassingwaithe, signed a letter of intent to play soccer at Division II Assumption College in Massachusetts.

Boys' Lacrosse Team Honors Veterans



Photo credit Kelley Burghardt

The Gorham High Boys' Lacrosse Team honored four military veterans at the home opening game on April 22nd. The ceremony kicked off the team's year-long "Salute to Service" campaign which hopes to spread appreciation for those who serve or have served. At each of the six home games, the team will recognize service veterans and active members by announcing their name and service information prior to the playing of the national anthem.

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Gorham Turns Out for Start of Youth Baseball and Softball Season



Photo credit Amanda Landry

Members of the Gorham youth baseball and softball teams were all on hand for the opening ceremonies.

AL GARCIA
GYBSA Board Member

The 2016 Gorham youth baseball and softball season kicked off on April 30 with the GYBSA annual opening ceremonies and parade of teams. Three hundred family and friends joined nearly 200 ball players at historic Robie Park before a full slate of games on a beautiful early spring day. Music, food, an ice cream truck, raffles and a festive atmosphere highlighted the mid-day event at the ball field.

"Planning for today and the season is a year-round event and the community of Gorham, including our newly formed GYBSA booster club, has worked hard preparing for the season and we are ready to go," said GYBSA President Cressey Mollison.

The Gorham Cal Ripken baseball and Babe Ruth programs are for kids age 9 to 12. The Gorham leagues have 12 baseball teams and 8 softball teams this season. The season runs through the middle of June followed by playoffs and then regional and district all-star competitions.

The GYBSA, in its second year as a stand-alone organization, plans on investing in the program and ball fields the kids play on. New dugouts at Little Falls are in the works as well as major updates at the Conrad Knight Memorial Field at the former White Rock School. GYBSA won a field improvement contest last season from the Portland Sea Dogs and U.S. Cellular. Those were the first steps to making major improvements in that field which hadn't been

used in several years. "We hope to continue to work on that field and return it to its former glory," Mollison added.

Kenneth Tuttle, a former GYBSA and Gorham High School baseball and golf standout, was the keynote speaker this year. Tuttle, a 2015 GHS graduate, was stricken with cancer last summer, just weeks before he was to leave for college. Tuttle reminded parents how important it is to cherish every moment with your kids, not to take anything for granted because it could all change in a minute. Tuttle also spoke to the kids. "You are playing with friends that you will have for a lifetime. Some of my best times were right here on this field. Someday down the road when you are adults, you will remember these times with your friends. Make the most out of it."

"Gorham is a great community and I enjoy watching my sons, and all the kids, learn and improve. It's always fun and festive and a great way to start our season," Gorham parent Lisa Sjostedt said.

One of the highlights of the annual event was the presentation of the U9 Cal Ripken state championship trophy and state championship banner presented to Head Coach Travis Whitehead and his team. "We have some great coaches and some great young ball players in this town," Whitehead said. Whitehead has coached the past two U9 state championship teams. The 2015 state championship team made it to the regional semifinals last year in Connecticut.



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Race Walking: An Unknown Sport with a Fascinating History

MARTIN GAGNON
Sports Editor

When the Gorham Times asked the GHS track coach to comment on his team for the upcoming season, several of his athletes were listed as race walkers. I thought what in the blazes is a race walker and what is a walker doing on the track team? It seems race walking is far more technical and steeped in history than most of us know. What is race walking? In short, it's a race done at a hurried pace slower than a run but faster than a walk and differs from running because of two limitations. Competitors must maintain contact with the ground at all times and the leading leg must be straightened as the foot makes contact with the ground. It must remain straightened until the leg passes under the body. Judges evaluate the technique of race walkers and report fouls which may lead to disqualification. All judging is done by the eye of the judge and no outside technology is used in making judging decisions.

Race walking traces its roots back to the 19th century. Working class British and American folk loved it because it was ripe for betting. In 1876, the New York Times reported on an epic Brooklyn pedestrianism battle between two guys who walked 1,000 miles in 1,000 hours.

In 1880, England's Amateur Athletics Association took the sport back from the gamblers and developed official rules. Race walkers organized the first English amateur walking championship in 1866, which was won by John Chambers, and judged by the "fair heel and toe" rule. Race walking saw its Olympic debut in 1904 as part of the decathlon. However, it wasn't until 1992 that females were given their own race walking Olympic event.

In Maine, Thomas Eastler was a major force in the development of race walking. Eastler, trained in race walking at Columbia University and current CEO of the North American Race Walk Institute, proposed to the Maine Principals Association that the 1600 meter race walk event be introduced into the Spring outdoor high school track and field season. After several years, the MPA did indeed add the boys and girls 1600 meter race walk to the outdoor high school track and field season. To date from 1993 until 2015, 72 Maine high school race walkers have won 212 all-American track and field awards. One graduated Maine High School race walker has broken two national records and raced in two Olympics. Clearly, race walking is a sport of champions.

Local Hooks Big One



Photo credit Sawyer Gagnon

Ben Smith, of Gorham, proudly holds up his mammoth early spring season catch. Like most fishermen, Smith would not disclose where he snagged the large catch so the secret remains known only to his friend the photographer.

Robie Field Treated To A Makeover

MARTIN GAGNON
Sports Editor

It seems that sometimes an athletic field even gets a Kim Kardashian-like makeover. Since 2015, Robie Field has undergone a series of rather extensive improvements. With baseball and softball athletes getting geared up for the season, the work at the field is coming to a close.

In the fall of 2015, the infield surface was improved, bases were realigned, the center field fence was extended toward the scoreboard, and the dugouts were cleaned and painted. Work continued in the winter of 2016, when the third base side of the Robie Field woods were cleaned up and debris was removed. Not done yet, the batting cage tunnel posts were constructed by the Gorham Public Works and the batting cage net was installed in the spring of 2016.

According to Cindy Hazelton, the work was done in collaboration with the Gorham Public Works, Gorham School Maintenance Department, and the Gorham Recreation Department.

In the coming months, the Gorham Recreation Department will be working with the Gorham Lions Club to re-shingle the roofs of the dugouts and storage building at the field. Once completed, Hazelton said there are no further improvements scheduled.



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BY DARIO FO
APR 26 - MAY 22

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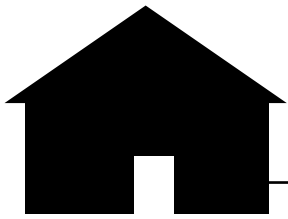
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BUXTON \$242,900 - 4 BR, 1.5 ba w/ in-law apt & 2 car garage. Wood floors, 4 fireplaces, hearth, deck. Newer metal roof & windows, vinyl siding.



WELLS \$184,900 - This home offers 3 BR, 1 ba, sunny kitchen/dining area overlooking the deck. Spacious yard on a dead end lane. Well-kept with updated systems.



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GORHAM \$309,900 - 4BR, 2ba w/2-car & 1792sqft. LR w/FP. 1st flr laundry & BR. Offers HW & tile flooring & great location.



GORHAM \$189,900 - Ideal location on the Westbrook side of Gorham! 1630sqft 3BR, 1.5 ba cape w/ updated kitchen, bathrooms & flooring.



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GORHAM \$35,000 - Wooded 2.9 acre lot. Price reflects the approved private way that needs to be constructed & power that needs to be run to the property.



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GORHAM \$239,900 - Just built! 2BR/1ba home w/lower level for add'l living space. Granite counters HW/tile floors, 1-car & rear deck.



SEBAGO \$46,900 - Partially cleared lot w/300' gravel entrance. Nice 14.5ac spot for home or weekend getaway. Potential of 2 building lots.



SOLD

121 SMUTTY LANE \$100,000 - 3 BR short sale sold as is'. Farmers porch, deck, private backyard & breezeway. Finished space over garage & in basement.



UNDER CONTRACT

WINDHAM \$350,000 - McGoldrick Woods Subdivision! Built in 2002 this 4 BR, 3.5ba colonial w/ an in-law suite in daylight basement. Excellent space & location!



SOLD

2 SALT MARSH CIRCLE \$190,000 3BR/2.5ba short sale sold 'as is'. Olde Millbrook neighborhood on a corner lot. Lots of cosmetic work needed.



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COMMUNITY

DEAN'S LIST

Gabrielle Libby (GHS '14), Colby-Sawyer College, Graphic Design.

GRADUATIONS

James Chesebrough, Bob Jones University, BS in Accounting.

OF INTEREST

Muhammad "Humza" Khan (GHS '15) was nominated as the next Student Body President at the University of Southern Maine. Khan was president of his graduating class at GHS.

GHS graduate and Dance Studio of Maine alumni Andrew Wojtal has recently been cast in the Broadway production of Fiddler On The Roof.

The West Gorham Union Church, 190 Ossipee Trail, Gorham, will hold an Annual Plant & Bake Sale on Saturday, May 21, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. FMI, 839-4208.

The White Rock Grange, located at 33 Wilson Road in Gorham, will host a Yard Sale on Saturday, May 21, from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. Rain or Shine. FMI, 839-3946.

Upcoming Events at the **Presumpscot Regional Land Trust** will include a World Fish Migration Day Hike on Saturday, May 21, at 10 a.m. at the Mill Brook preserve where alewives migrate from the ocean up Mill Brook to Highland Lake; and on Saturday, June 4, at the Little River Preserve in Gorham, the PRLT will offer Trout Waters of the Presumpscot River Region: An Intro to Fly Fishing will begin at 2 p.m. Free, but registration required. FMI, www.prlt.org

Baxter Memorial Library has announced expanded hours beginning June 6. The library's new hours are: Monday: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Tuesday - Thursday: 9 a.m. – 7 p.m., Friday: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Saturday: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The Gorham Sports Center located at 215 Narragansett Street in Gorham, will hold a "Cans for a Cause Fundraiser" on Saturday, June 4, from 12 – 4 p.m. with activities including a DJ, soccer games, Omnikin balls, food and more! Cost: One can or non-perishable food item per person. (Bring as many as you would like) FMI, keagan@gorhamsportscenter.com

The Gorham Garden Club will meet on May 31 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the First Parish Church, Church St., Gorham. Betsy Golan, Herbalist/Lecturer, will present a program on Preserving the Harvest. The public is welcome. FMI, 839-3878.

The Gorham Garden Club will hold a fundraiser on Friday, June 3, from 5 – 7 p.m. and on Saturday, June 4, from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Treworgy Barn & Gardens, 120 Flaggy Meadow Road, Gorham. Indulge in a leisurely, self-guided tour of the five-acre, second-generation gardens and enjoy the many special plants, perennials, planters, baked goods and books for sale. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Gorham Middle School Gardens.

The Lakes Region Senior Center, located at 40 Acorn Street in Gorham, will host an informational program about Maine Powder Mills with guest speaker, David Tanguay, on Monday, May 23, at 10 a.m. All are welcome!

The Gorham Republican Committee will host an event titled, "Islamic State in Context" with USA Retired Colonel, Bill Benson, as guest speaker. This event will take place at the Gorham Municipal Building Auditorium, 75 South Street, on Wednesday, June 1, from 6:30 – 8 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

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 through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Join them daily for coffee, tea and socializing. On-Going daily activities include Monday and Friday morning Pickle Ball at 9:30 a.m. Mahjong on Mondays. 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. 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.



Courtesy of MSSPA

Hannah Douglas, a 6th grade homeschool student from Gorham, was recognized for her 82 hours of service as a Barn Hand at the Maine State Society for Protection of Animals through the Young Maine Volunteer Roll of Honor in April of this year.

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School St. Pub & Grill CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

we would be the first place to carry their beer outside of their tasting room," Asali said. In addition to the wide beer selection, School St. Pub & Grill is a full-service bar and carries premium liquor for mixed drinks and cocktails.

As for the menu, Asala said, "the pub fare is not traditional. The names are familiar, but our twist is that we make about 96 percent of everything from scratch in house." Chef Shawn Litourneau oversees this process, from brining the pickles for their popular House Fried Pickles and making the cheese for their Fried Mozzarella Bites to crafting homemade flour tortilla chips for their School Street Nachos - and that's just the appetizers. "We take a lot of care to make sure the customers are getting the best from us. The food is as fresh and as local as we can get, and the prices are low. Sue and I have a big family, and it's expensive taking everyone out to dinner. We want to provide an affordable place to take your family without sacrificing quality," said Asali.

He and Moody know that their success lies in the details. "Gorham is not an influx town. Business is predicated on repeat customers. So, the small things matter here," Asali said. He, Moody, and general manager Brian Hurtubise, regularly check up on patrons during their meals to ensure customer satisfaction.

The doors may have only been open a month, but they already have big goals for the future. They are building a deck to seat 40 that will be

open by fall, just in time for football season. In a year, they would like to remodel the downstairs to be a game room, possibly with some rooms for special events. "We want to make this a destination," Asali said.

"Everything has gone better than I could have hoped," he said of his restaurant's success. A native of Portland, Asali has family ties to popular Portland restaurants, including Rosie's, Ruski's, and DiMillo's. "The thought's always been there that it would be cool to own a pub - to have a fun place where people could come relax and watch the game," he said. From finding the perfect location to hiring a talented staff, "things have just fallen into place," Asali said.

There is plenty of parking available for customers. Beyond street parking, there is a parking lot behind the restaurant on Cross Street. The Pub also has an agreement with First Parish Congregational Church to park in their lot from 4 p.m. to 12 a.m. on weekdays and from 12 p.m. to 12 a.m. on weekends. For those requiring handicapped parking, the small parking lot next to The Blue Pig Diner is available after 6 p.m. on weekdays and all day on weekends.

The restaurant, located at 29B School Street, is open Monday through Thursday from 3:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Friday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 12 a.m. For more information about the restaurant's menu and upcoming events, visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/schoolstreetpubandgrill/.

GHS Junior Reaches New Heights CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

he was 17. Bates took his piloting test at Sanford Regional Airport and received his license on April 27.

"There are three steps to the licensing process. First, I had to take a knowledge test, which had a total of 60 questions and I had to get above a 70% to pass. Happily, I did. Once you pass your knowledge test, it was then time to schedule a practical test with a DPE, a Designated Practical Examiner," said Bates.

He continued, "With him, I had to do an oral test, where he basically asked me questions about flying and I had to answer back to him, and complete a practical test. The practical test was the actual flying part and we went up, did some maneuvers and came back down. Before all of this though, I had to have a total of 40 hours of flight time from my training with my instructor."

Ten of those hours had to be solo time, five of them had to be cross-country time, (flying to a different airport that's at least 50 nautical miles away), five hours solo cross-country time, and 10 hours of night flying time.

Bates' biggest goal is to become a commercial pilot for an airline. His hope is to fly internationally. Specifically, Bates hopes to be an international captain or chief pilot.

"A chief pilot is a pilot who controls the scheduling and basic operations of pilots at major operating airports," said Bates.

Bates' journey wasn't taken alone. "I would like to thank my parents from the moon and back a million times. If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't have even started my training. They helped get me started and they helped keep me going. They were always supportive of my goals and they never believed for one second that I would fail."

Bates added, "I would also like to thank my flight instructor, Pete Chaisson, of Portland Flight Services. We've both been through a lot - a flight school going out of business, starting of new businesses, and whatever else was thrown our way. But he has always managed to stay the cool and down-to-earth instructor I've known since we first met."

School Committee Report CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

for intervention on a daily basis. The department is working on a draft for a re-visioning document that will be used in communicating to the public. Part of a three-year plan, now in draft form, involves developing a process for determining proficiency at performance indicator levels and at the graduation

standards level. It projects greater use of the Jump Rope assessment software.

The committee voted (7-0) to approve the list presented by the superintendent of teachers who will move to the next step in the probationary period. They also voted (7-0) to hire Ellen Connell for high school instructional technology.

Google CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

ity into classrooms is a brilliant way to journey to places such as The American Museum of Natural History, The Great Barrier Reef, The White House, and The Great Wall of China.

GMS students traveled to these exotic locations using a Google Cardboard viewer. There have been more than five million Cardboard viewers shipped since Google announced them in 2014.

Two Google facilitators arrived with everything needed to travel - tablets for teachers, Google Cardboard viewers, and phones for every student. Teachers selected an Expedition and the entire class virtually "leaped" to the loca-

tion as the teacher facilitated the journey and spoke to the content the students were viewing as well as what was already embedded in the Expedition.

The trips were collections of virtual reality panoramas, 360° photo spheres, 3D images and video, some include ambient sounds with annotated details of points of interest, and even questions that make it easy to integrate into the curriculum already used in Gorham schools.

It was a great experience for GMS and hopefully the Expeditions App become available to the public soon.



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ARE THOSE MY GLASSES?!

Narragansett St. caller reported the theft of her eyeglasses. Months earlier a friend had been to her home. During a 15-20 minute period that friend was there, caller felt friend had stolen her prescription eyeglasses. She based this on seeing a photo of the friend on Instagram wearing what she felt were her missing glasses.

Longfellow Road caller wanted his cousin removed from his house. There was no crime. Officer drove woman to her apartment in Westbrook.

Samuel's Way caller was advised again that he needed to call an attorney as his issue was civil.

Driver on Ossipee Trail was arrested for OUI.

Longfellow Road caller wanted to apologize for call to his house the previous week. Officer advised he did the right thing by calling the police. Man went back to his welding and grinding his teeth.

Suspicious persons on Farrington Road were three people shooting a .22. They were doing so safely. Officer advised them to seek permission before shooting in the future.

Driver on Main St. was arrested for OUI after police received a call about someone driving erratically.

Ossipee Trail caller reported a suspicious person and a possibly burglary or unlawful entry. It was snowing but there were no footprints. Caller will try to get a friend to stay over and will call if she sees vehicle again.

Suspicious person parked on Gambo Road with lights off told officer he was picking up a friend but didn't know friend's last name. He left about two minutes later with a passenger.

Officer on his way to Lower Main Street for a disabled vehicle, got a report of two people fighting. One of them was arrested for OUI.

Officer investigated 911 hang-up call. Youth was messing with a cell phone his mother did not know he had. He was warned for misuse of 911 as he had called 911 about 13 times.

South St. woman reported her vehicle missing. Had given a man permission to use it but 48 hours had gone by and they wanted it back. Police could not help as vehicle had not been stolen.

Burnham Road caller reported violation of an order of protection. He said his ex-wife had her sister text him saying she still needed property from the house or she would have the court hold him in contempt. Officer issued a summons for violation of a protection order.

Edgefield Road caller came home at 4:30 p.m. and all the shades were closed on the first floor. He didn't believe they had shut them. Doors and windows were locked and nothing was missing. He wanted to know if police had had any other strange reports like this that day.

Suspicious person on Sebago Lake Road at Kemp Road was doing some sort of GPS Geo tracking next to the graveyard. His vehicle was parked halfway in the opposing travel lane. He moved on.

Driver on Gray Road was charged with OUI.

Following a traffic stop on Main St. and New Portland Road, man was issued a criminal summons for receiving stolen property and displaying a fictitious inspection sticker. He was also issued a summons for no inspection.

Following a traffic accident on Beatrice Drive, man was charged with OUI.

Woman was issued a summons for shoplifting at a Main St. business.

There were many reports of vehicles sliding off the road during winter storms. In one instance, the officer shoveled underneath a vehicle and had driver back slowly down the hill. Plow came and cleared a section and officer drove vehicle over the hill. Woman wanted to be driven home to Lover's Lane and a second officer followed them to the woman's residence and drove the first officer back to his vehicle. Woman was grateful.

Caller gassing up at Main St. Mobil Station found a man's wallet. Man came to Police Department to retrieve it. Nothing was missing.

CLASSIFIEDS

ESTATE SALE

GARAGE & ESTATE SALE. 697 Fort Hill Rd, Gorham. 5/14, 5/15, 5/20, 5/21, and 5/22 from 9am-5pm. Misc. tools, antiques, housewares, furniture, garden items, yard décor, clothes, treasures.

FOR SALE

ALL NATURAL LANDSCAPING BARK MULCH \$26/yard. Pick up only. Phinney Lumber, 519 Fort Hill Road, Gorham, 839-3336.

GREEN, HARDWOOD FIREWOOD delivered to Gorham and surrounding towns. \$220/cord for 2+ cords. Phinney Lumber, 519 Fort Hill Road, Gorham, 839-3336.

VINTAGE FABRIC FOR SALE. 1950's draperies. 1930's bed spreads. Call 892-4455.

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PROJECT FLAGGING, INC. NOW HIRING FLAGGERS! Up to \$14/hour. EEO/AA Employer. Call 207-283-6528 for more information.

MOVING SALE

MOVING SALE. 75 Brookwood Dr, Gorham. Sat, May 21, 8-1 pm. Canoe, freezer, kids items, baby gear, snow blower, mower. Rain or shine.

MUSIC LESSONS

VOICE AND PIANO lessons at my Gorham studio. BA in Music Ed. Call Paul 281-3557. stickneyhollowmusic@gmail.com.

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INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR PAINTING. Specializing in older homes. Low rates, quality work. Free estimates. Call Dave Hall, 929-4469. Recommended by Jan and Paul Willis.

LITERACY TUTORING for K-8. Certified Literacy Specialist with Orton-Gillingham dyslexia training. Meet your spring benchmarks! Call Sarah 207-200-5664 or email sarahrtutor@gmail.com, www.magicmomentstutoring.com

YARD SALE

NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE. Saturday, May 21, 8-1 pm. Quincy Drive, Gorham.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MAY 19

- Baby and Me: for babies 0-18 months and their caregivers. 9:30 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library.
- Toddler Time: children 18-36 months. 10 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library.

MONDAY, MAY 23

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

TUESDAY, MAY 24

- Preschool Story Time: Language enrichment program for children age 3-5 years old. Stories, rhymes, songs, music and creative movement activities, crafts and more. 9:30 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25

- 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, MAY 26

- Baby and Me: for babies 0-18 months and their caregivers. 9:30 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library.
- Toddler Time: children 18-36 months. 10 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library.

MONDAY, MAY 30

- Memorial Day. No School for grades K-12.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

- 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.

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