

Gorham Times

Your Community Paper

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

Gorham Historical Society Plans for the Future



Photo credit Roger Marchand

The Gorham Historical Society elected new board members at its recent meeting. Pictured from left to right: Bruce Rouillard, treasurer; Brenda Caldwell, executive secretary; Ron Shepard, past president; David McCullough, vice-president for special projects; Susie Phillips, president; Amy Valentine, secretary; and Amanda Pearson, vice-president.

ROGER MARCHAND
Guest Writer

On September 26, 34 people attended a meeting to discuss the possible re-organization of the Gorham Historical Society. Susie Phillips presented ideas for the organization to become more active and involved in the community as a means of increasing membership.

Amy Valentine, president and program coordinator of the Gorham Arts Alliance, detailed some ways the Arts Alliance has worked with students on art projects involving the history of Gorham. She said that the Arts Alliance would, "love to take the Historical Society under their arm and help sustain the organization."

While members weighed in on the pros and cons of remaining independent versus joining forces with the Gorham Arts Alliance, ultimately a motion passed to have the Historical Society continue to operate on its own, albeit with a new board.

The membership nominated and voted on a slate of officers for the coming year. A vice-president for programming will be chosen at a later date. Ron Shepard will continue on the board in his role as past president.

Marsha Weeks-Traill reviewed the finances. While there are presently several bank accounts that she felt should be consolidated, overall, the

ARTICLE CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Body of Endangered Whale Hauled to Gorham

KATHY CORBETT
Staff Writer

AND
LESLIE DUPUIS
Editor

The body of a right whale found off the coast of Boothbay Harbor was transported to a Gorham farm on Plummer Road for further evaluation on September 25. Benson Farm, also known as Kay-Ben Farm and owned by Becky and Ed Benson, is licensed to accept marine mammals for necropsies and composting.

According to their website, "the use of fish in composting dates back to Native American crop growing practices. Today, we bring in waste primarily from crab, sea urchin, and Maine's famous lobster. The shells of crustaceans are high in a powerful protein called chitin, which has antimicrobial properties that have recently been identified as an organic source of reducing pests and disease in crops."

The farm takes in "an unbelievable amount of lobster residuals to compost," said Becky Benson. Ed Benson added, "Composting a whale is the same process that we use for everything else, only bigger." The remains of the whale will eventually be sold in Benson Farm's Surf and Turf soil amendment.

The female whale, estimated to be 45 tons, was found with fishing gear ropes wrapped around her head, mouth, flippers and tail. It was originally spotted by



Photo credit Ted Chapin



Photo credit Heather Dupuis

Nearly 20 scientists and researchers traveled to Maine to examine a 45-ton whale carcass at Benson Farm in Gorham.

a sightseeing boat. The Maine Marine Patrol towed the animal from Boothbay Harbor to Cape Small, near Phippsburg. From there, a Coast Guard boat towed the whale by its tail to Portland Harbor,

where the carcass was off-loaded Saturday evening onto a tractor-trailer truck and hauled to Gorham.

Benson stated that the whale was "bigger than anything I had seen as it came in on a 45 foot trailer with its tail hanging off the back."

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration spokesperson Jennifer Goebel said, "Northern right whales are the rarest and most endangered type of great whales, and are both a federally protected and endangered species." She estimated there are 500 right whales still living in the North Atlantic, and one of the greatest threats to the population is fishing gear entanglement.

Once the whale arrived at Benson Farm, a team of scientists and research-

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Gorham Roundabout Continues to Cause Issues

LESLIE DUPUIS
Editor

The rotary that connects routes 112 and 114 was the scene of another truck rollover on September 22. Both routes were temporarily shut down and traffic was rerouted. The roads opened early the next day before the morning commute.

A fuel truck driven by 26-year-old Kip Patten of Fabian Oil Inc. overturned while going around the rotary at 7:30 that evening. The truck's tank was punctured during the incident, causing 1,000 gallons of fuel to leak onto the road and surrounding area.

The remaining fuel in the truck, approximately 4,000 gallons, was transferred to another truck.

Gorham Fire Chief Robert Lefebvre believes that improved signage, such as the blinking speed limit sign before the New Portland Road roundabout, might make a difference. At that location, a flashing light is activated as a vehicle approaches reminding drivers to slow down. "The biggest issue is with trucks going too fast," said Lefebvre.

He also believes drivers would benefit from signs that note the rollover danger for large trucks as this is the fifth such accident at the 112/114



Photo courtesy of Gorham Police Dept.

location. The most serious accident happened in June 2014 when a truck carrying 5,000 gallons of gas and 4,500 of diesel fuel tipped over, spill-

ARTICLE CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

LIFELONG GORHAM
RESIDENT TURNS 100

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Policy on News from Augusta: The Gorham Times asked our three state legislators from Senate District 30, House District 26 and House District 27 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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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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Lawmakers Took Bipartisan Steps, but We Can Do More

REP. ANDREW MCLEAN

Serving in the Maine House has reinforced for me that most Mainers want basically the same things for their families and communities: good jobs that pay decent wages, the opportunity to give our kids the best possible chance at success and the prospect of a brighter future.

That's true for most lawmakers, too. We may disagree on the best path to prosperity, but most of my colleagues in Augusta want what's best for our state. Despite divided government and heated rhetoric from a small number of extreme hyperpartisans in Augusta, we have been able to come together to make bipartisan progress on the issues that matter to our constituents.

This year, we came together to pass a number of measures to boost our economy. We passed tax relief measures that help Maine families, students and small businesses. These included an enhanced child care tax credit, higher education deductions, the ability for homeowners to add mortgage insurance costs to their mortgage interest deductions and enhanced Property Tax Fairness Credit which provides property tax relief to homeowners. Teachers and small businesses will also get a break.

We improved public education policies and are helping more Mainers afford to go to college. Lawmakers

increased funding for the State of Maine Grant Program, which provides need-based aid to Maine undergraduate students. We also expanded the Opportunity Maine income tax credit to help graduates pay off their student loan debt, secured additional funding for public education to keep property taxes down and provided tuition waivers for Maine National Guard members to attend the state's public colleges and universities.

We also developed two bond proposals to move our economy forward. The first, which will go before voters on the November ballot, will provide much-needed investment to modernize our transportation system. In June, voters will have the final say on the second bond proposal that would provide targeted investments in our growing innovation economy.

While these were important steps, we also missed opportunities to boost the economy. Despite passing bipartisan legislation that would have created hundreds of new jobs, reduced electricity costs for all and increased clean, solar energy production, we fell short of overriding the governor's veto in the House of Representatives. It was a serious blow to the growing clean-energy economy, and I hope we are more successful during the upcoming Legislature.

As Mainers know, we have more work to do to ensure a brighter future

for our state. Our state is aging and our young people are forced to look for opportunity elsewhere. We need to act to help families and small businesses find opportunities to thrive right here in Maine.

We can do so by making smart, targeted investments in transportation, broadband and energy. We can capitalize on our competitive advantages, including in our heritage industries like agriculture and fisheries, while training our workforce with the skills they'll need to make a good living in the 21st century economy.

I believe we can accomplish great things by coming together to do the best work we can for the people of our districts and our state. I'm committed to working with my colleagues, regardless of their party, to make sure no great idea is overlooked and the people we serve can succeed.

As always, if you have questions or concerns about state government or if I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me.



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repandrew.mclean@legislature.maine.gov

Around Town

South Street (Route 114) will be closed to thru traffic in the area of the Bernard P. Rines Bypass Rotary during the week of October 3 to allow crews to do further clean up after the accident that occurred on Sept. 22. The Bypass will not be closed during this clean up, and Southbound traffic will be detoured onto Day Road.

The Public Works Department will be accepting brush at 80 Huston Road between 8 a.m. - noon on Saturday, October 8, and Saturday, October 22. Brush disposal is offered for Gorham residents only. No stumps will be accepted.

Absentee ballots applications are now being accepted. Please contact the Town Clerk's office at 222-1670 if you would like an absentee ballot mailed to you. There will be two weeks of absentee voting at the Town Office from October 24 through November 3.

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 don't generally get involved with political campaigns. However, I have really admired the way Senator Amy Volk represents Gorham as our State Senator.

I am definitely supporting Amy for another term in the Senate. In her six years working in Augusta, she has accomplished great things. The amazing feat of passing legislation to protect sex trafficking, bringing justice to sexual predators and attackers. Her support of charter schools and being part of bringing them to Maine has changed education in our state. It is not for everyone but it does give students who are not fitting in well with the public school experience another choice.

One of Amy's greatest accomplishments is her family and the support of her extended family. Amy and Derek, her husband of almost 30 years, are actively involved parents to their four children ranging from 25 to 12. They somehow manage to attend every activ-

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Phyllis Tapley Harmon Celebrates 100 Years in Gorham

KIM MEGGISON
Guest Writer

Imagine riding to school in a horse-drawn wagon. Or picture the intersection of Routes 114 and 22 as a dirt road with snow so densely packed by the snow roller that cars could not make it through. Phyllis Tapley Harmon has vivid memories of her childhood in Gorham and a unique perspective on 100 years of change.

Born at home on October 10, 1916, Phyllis has lived her entire life in Gorham. Her parents, Susan Harriett (Townsend) and Frank Tapley, raised their family on County Road in South Gorham. Phyllis, her siblings, cousins, and friends walked to Elmwood School, which is now the Lions Club building on South Street. When her older siblings went on to high school in Gorham Village, Phyllis's cousin, Don Sanborn, continued to walk her to school. "In a snow-storm, I held right onto him to get me back home again," said Phyllis.

"They all catered to me," said Phyllis of her five older siblings as well as cousins. She recalls being held and read to by her eldest sister, Doris, who taught school in Cornish and Colbrook, NH. She enjoyed going with brother, Howard, to deliver loads of hay to Portland by horse and wagon. Her brother Howard's wife, Lena, bought the entire collection of Uncle Wiggly books for young Phyllis, one book at a time over the course of several years. Phyllis treasured those books and read them to her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. "They should be valuable [now], but they're so read-up, they're not!"

"My folks wouldn't let me ride [our] horse. She was afraid of cars. Cars were new back then." Her sister, Beulah, had been leading young Phyllis on the family horse when it got spooked, and Phyllis fell off and was knocked out. Eventually her brother, Russell, helped her learn to ride, and Phyllis developed a lifelong love of horseback riding. "I just love horses and dogs." Phyllis paused. "And all animals."

Phyllis traveled by horse and wagon to schools in Gorham Village. She and friends "took turns [providing the horse and wagon] until Gladys Prince and Don Sanborn got their licenses. Then they took us in a car." Phyllis attended 8th grade at the Millett School, which is now senior housing. She graduated from Gorham High School in 1934. At that time, the high school was located on the now-vacant lot next to Robie Gym, in a building that became the fire barn when the new Shaw School was built. After high school, Phyllis worked for Mrs. Catherine Robie Kimball on South Street, helping with the house and children.

In 1940, she married Ralph Harmon, and they lived in West Gorham where Ralph worked on a farm. In 1943, they moved to Mitchell Hill Road in South



Photo credit Kim Meggison

Phyllis Tapley Harmon, a lifelong resident of Gorham, will celebrate her centennial birthday on October 10.

Gorham, living next door to Phyllis's sister, Catherine (Tapley) Hillock. There they raised two children, Karen (Harmon) Dyer (GHS Class of 1961) and David Harmon (GHS Class of 1966). Phyllis continues to live independently in this same home.

In the 1950s, Phyllis and Ralph purchased a camp on Harmon's Beach at Sebago Lake. Phyllis continues to enjoy summer days watching family and friends play in the water.

When asked how life was different in Gorham during her childhood and young adulthood, Phyllis responded, "You knew your neighbors. We did things together." She recalls family picnics at Pine Point and Whist parties (card games). Many of the local families were active in the North Scarborough Grange as well as the South Gorham Baptist Church. "You never locked the doors. You didn't worry about anything."

Commenting on significant changes in the community, Phyllis spoke about the increase of traffic. "My mother said, 'Portland will be right out here in due time.' She was right." Phyllis mentioned how commercial development has changed the face of her childhood County Road. "Where VIP is now, Burt Libby used to have his blacksmith shop."

But some things have stayed the same. Gorham's tradition of parades has been long-standing. "We used to go to the parades with our horses to watch. Sometimes we rode horses in the parades." Neighbors supporting neighbors continues to be an important aspect of our town. Phyllis described how, long ago, different farmers would hitch their horses to the snow roller. She would be "tickled when the roller went by." She now enjoys the camaraderie of senior citizens during the weekly Wednesday luncheon at St. Anne's Church. While there she might exchange one of the three paperback books she's read that week.

"I've always lived here. I'm happy right here in Gorham. I don't care to live anywhere else. I just love Gorham."

BUSINESS PROFILE

Gorham Septic Has New Owner



Photo credit Chris Crawford

Jeremy Hamblen, left, is the new owner of Gorham Septic Service which he bought from Don Keene, right, and merged with his company, Hamblen Septic Service.

CHRIS CRAWFORD
Staff Writer

Gorham Septic Service, formerly owned and operated by Don Keene, and Hamblen Septic, owned and operated by Jeremy Hamblen, have merged under the name of Gorham Septic Services and are now owned by Hamblen.

Hamblen has owned and operated Hamblen Septic since 2004. Growing up in Gorham, he learned how to operate and maintain heavy equipment and also how to run a business by working with his dad, Keith, in his excavating business.

Don Keene wanted to retire after 26 years of helping Gorham area residents take care of their septic systems. Keene was a friend of

Hamblen's father, Keith, and knew that Hamblen would be the perfect person to buy his business.

Keene admits that he may continue to work a little here and there and to serve as a resource for Hamblen when needed. Both men enjoy working outdoors and like the flexibility of being their own boss. Keene would like to thank his many customers over the years who have kindly shared perennials from their gardens with him and his wife.

Hamblen wants his current customers and Keene's old customers to know that he will carry on the tradition of honest, punctual and knowledgeable service.

You can reach Jeremy Hamblen for all of your septic needs at 839-6741.

Calling All GHS Graduates

If you, or your son or daughter is a GHS graduate, we would like to showcase your achievements in the Gorham Times Of Interest section or in a Where Are They Now feature.

Contact Chris Crawford at ckck5@maine.rr.com, Kathy Corbett at ktcorbett@aol.com or Cindy O'Shea coshea2@maine.rr.com.

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Take a Hike!

CHRIS CRAWFORD
Staff Writer

Now that fall is here, why not take a heart-heathy hike in the newly groomed Tannery Brook Preserve (TBP). Located in the heart of Gorham, TBP offers great hiking, abundant wildlife and beautiful foliage for the whole family to enjoy. Get up, get out, get hiking, but don't forget the bug spray, sturdy shoes and water. Remember - Leave No Trace and always let someone know where you will be hiking.

The TBP is maintained by the Gorham Conservation Commission (GCC) and contains a number of loops with varying degrees of difficulty and ample parking at the rear of Gorham Savings Bank, off Rt. 202. A new kiosk marks the trailhead. The GCC also develops and maintains the Claire Drew Trail, behind Narragansett School and the High School to Weeks Road Trail. Maps for all the GCC trails can be found at their website is <http://www.gorhamconservation.org/>. These year round trails are bike- and dog-friendly. Bring your camera and share your best photos by posting them to the GCC's Facebook page (www.Facebook.com/GorhamConservationCommission) where they will be entered in a random drawing to receive a GCC t-shirt.

The Trunk Line (.48 mi) begins at the trail head, taking hikers to the dam at Tannery Brook where a pair of blue heron like to fish at the edge of the marsh. Enjoy a snack or lunch at the nearby picnic table before branching out on the remainder of the trails. The trail is mostly flat, with a mix of grass and woods, and is especially beautiful to walk in the fall.

On the Red Pine Loop (.41 mi), hikers can exit at Pheasant Knoll or to loop back to the Trunk Line. A new footbridge near the entrance

leads hikers past old apple trees along the edge of the preserve. The terrain is mostly smooth. Around mile .15, a spur on the left leads down to the marsh at another spot where the herons like to hunt. At mile .23, a left leads to an exit at Pheasant Knoll, or you can continue on through a beautifully wooded section. Tornado damaged areas of Red Pine Loop are under attack by Bittersweet, a tenacious invasive climbing vine. Please refrain from cutting and dragging bittersweet back to your car as this will distribute the seeds throughout the trail system. A new trail under development runs from Pheasant Knoll to the end of the Trunk Line along the edge of the property line.

Bushwhack Loop (.27 mi) is the shortest but offers the most challenging terrain. Entering the top right part of the loop (near the end of Red Pine Loop), there are a couple of trees that have been struck by lightning. This grassy loop quickly heads into the woods where, if you are quiet, you may spot a pileated woodpecker. He and his mate call noisily to each other, and their tell-tale tap-tap-tap makes it easy to zero in on them if you stay quiet. Hikers then head down a steep decline to a low area along the edge of Tannery Brook, then join a snowmobile trail before a fairly steep climb to rejoin the Trunk Line.

The new Spruce Loop (.35 mi), created last fall, heads off to the right at the trailhead. It begins as a grassy path and heads into the trees and along another offshoot of the brook; if you look carefully, you may find a geocache along the trail. It eventually joins the Trunk Line near the marsh; you can cross the Trunk Line and continue for a bit on the yet-unnamed path, taking the opportunity to view the marsh from the opposite side of the Red Pine Loop, before turning back to the Trunk Line.

Lettuce Be Healthy

BARBARA T. SCHNEIDER

There is no such thing as too much pizza. Try this trio of yummy recipes for an evening of interesting pizza/flatbread choices. The first is an appetizer; light and healthy. The second is a main course, packed with protein and greens for all kinds of energy. And last but not least is a des-

sert offering using thin apple slices launching us into fall. All these offerings can be tweaked with your very own favorite choices or with things in your refrigerator at the time you decide to jump in. Get creative and enjoy!

Questions about the recipes can be e-mailed to Barbara Schneider at bts@maine.rr.com

Avocado Mash Appie

1-2 avocados, mashed
Drops to taste of Siracha
6 Scallions, finely diced
1-2 tomatoes, chopped, salt & peppered
Finely shredded Mexican style cheese (you decide amount)
Thin crust flatbread/pizza shell/tortilla lightly toasted in oven or cast iron pan

Spread mashed avocado on pizza shell. Mix scallions and tomatoes, spread on top. Sprinkle cheese with cheese and place under broiler for a couple of minutes.

Chicken & Kale Flats

2 cups kale, finely julienned
2 cups Rotisserie chicken, skin removed, rough chopped
1 container of PICO De GALLO (pre-made)
4-6 oz shelled edamame, rough chopped
Your favorite shredded cheese (optional)
Thin crust pizza shell/flatbread/tortilla

Bake pizza shell according to package directions, but not quite to full time. Spread kale on crust. Mix chicken, Pico de Gallo and edamame and top onto kale. Spread cheese if desired. Put back into oven to bake (@350) for about 8 minutes, or until desired doneness. Let cool about 5 minutes, cut into servings.

Apple Flats

3-4 apples, shaved into paper thin slices (your choice, Granny, Fuji, Mac)
Cinnamon Sugar Shake (4-6 T sugar, 2-4 T cinnamon)
6 T melted butter or margarine
¼ cup finely diced nuts (hazelnut, almond, walnut)- optional
Packaged pie crust, pre-baked until almost golden brown

Out of oven, spread apple slices on pie crust, while still warm. Drizzle with butter and spread Cinnamon Sugar Shake on top, followed by nuts if desired. Place back in oven to finish baking for 8-10 minutes. Take right to table and slice and enjoy.

Fall Gardening Tip from Linda Treworgy Faatz

Fall is a great time to have your soil tested if you are puzzled about poor growth. The University of Maine Cooperative Extension will send you a soil test kit. For a small fee, they will tell you the nutritional breakdown of the soil and what you need to do to renew the soil health.

Gorham Sightings

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 September 22, 2016 edition is the light above the door with truth written over it at the old Odd Fellows Hall, which is now the Gorham Art Alliance location.



Photo credit Roger Marchand



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Letters to the Editor CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

ity that their children partake in. The grandparents are usually not too far behind. It's amazing to see the support of her family and how much time they spend together, which is so rare in our society these days. They do all of this while also giving a tremendous amount of time to their community. I get exhausted just watching all their activities on Facebook.

What has blown me away is how Amy wears so many hats and can do so many things well. It will be interesting to watch what else she has in store to make our state an even better place. I encourage you to vote for my friend Amy Volk in November.

Sincerely,
Kim Samuelson

Dear Gorham Times,

I believe I can speak for many people in this district when I say that we need to elect someone with real life experience, innovative thinking, and bipartisan solutions in November. That is why I am supporting Jean-Marie Caterina for the Maine State Senate.

I have known Jean-Marie for many years and believe that she is the most qualified candidate for the position. Jean-Marie's public service background is impressive. From working as a social worker with struggling adolescents in our community, to volunteering with Project Grace and Buy Local Scarborough, to serving on the Scarborough Town Council and Conversation Commission, Jean-Marie has proven her dedication to community again and again.

As a realtor and small business owner, Jean-Marie understands the struggles so many of us are facing to make ends meet. Using her experiences and personal knowledge, she is the candidate ready to fight for meaningful change in Augusta! I urge you all to support Jean-Marie Caterina for the Maine State Senate on November 8th.

Sincerely,
Marjorie DeSanctis

Dear Gorham Times,

I live in Gorham and just moved to Maine relatively recently. I spent my childhood summers in Shapleigh and have always dreamed of calling Maine home someday. I am an avid outdoorsman and part of our decision to move here was influenced by what Maine outdoors has to offer.

When looking at my options for State Senator I was very pleased to see that Senator Amy Volk was not only endorsed by the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine but she received an A rating. In

order to preserve one of Maine's biggest assets, it is critical that we have support from our legislators.

I had the pleasure of meeting Amy and her husband Derek and shared a lot of stories about our love of the Maine Outdoors. Senator Volk comes from a long line of sportsmen. Her grandfather and her father spent countless hours in Maine's northern woods hunting and fishing. Amy and her husband Derek own a small camp in the little northern Maine town of Lee. Her family spends much of their summer at the lake where they enjoy fishing, boating and riding ATVs. Derek is an avid bird hunter and runs an annual bird hunting trip for his employees and customers.

The Volk family does not just talk about Maine's outdoor traditions, they live them. Senator Volk knows Maine and Senator Volk knows how important it is to protect the rights of the people who enjoy all that Maine has to offer. I know that many friends share the same thoughts on the importance of preserving our rights so that our future generations will be able to enjoy the same outdoor experiences we were able to. For these reasons, I enthusiastically support the re-election of Amy Volk for Senate in November and hope you do too.

Sincerely,
Joe Curesky

Dear Gorham Times,

I am writing to explain why I am supporting Andrew McLean for re-election to the Maine House of Representatives.

Over the last four years, Andrew has consistently represented our community not only by his work on the important issues in our community, but also by the way he helps Gorham residents navigate state government. Whether it has been helping a resident find access to treatment services for addiction, helping a constituent access spousal survivor benefits or working with the DOT to fix a road, Andrew has stood up for the people of Gorham!

It is important to note that Andrew always works in a bipartisan way to get things done, which is what we should expect from our representatives. And equally important, he is always available to talk on the phone, always returns constituent emails, and always follows up to make sure concerns are resolved.

Finally, Andrew has been and will continue to be an excellent representative. For these reasons, I urge you to vote to re-elect Andrew McLean to the Maine House of Representatives.

Sincerely,
Virginia Wilder Cross

Body of Endangered Whale Hauled to Gorham CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ers from around the country spent the day performing a necropsy at the farm. The scientists told the Bensons that the whale had a fractured skull, perhaps from hitting rocks. While tissue and organ samples were collected for further study, the remains of the whale were composted. The bones were

buried separately so scientists can gather them once clean and rebuild the skeleton.

Nearly a dozen agencies are investigating the cause of death at both the local and federal levels, including the NOAA fisheries, the Riverhead Foundation and Marine Mammals of Maine.

Gorham Roundabout CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ing its contents onto the ground and into nearby wetlands.

According to Lefebvre, another problem seems to be the design of the roundabout which allows two lanes of traffic to go through at the same time. This potentially forces a large truck's rear wheels onto the raised island and causes the truck to pitch at an angle, thereby increasing the possibility of rollovers.

State Representative Andrew McLean met with Chief Lefebvre after the accident to discuss the ongoing issues with the roundabout,

and consequently requested a meeting with the DOT's Commissioner and Chief Engineer to discuss safety improvements. "Nothing is more important than ensuring our transportation system is safe, especially when we're talking about trucks carrying thousands of gallons of flammable liquid," said McLean. A meeting has been scheduled for October 17 at 9 a.m. at the Fire Station.

Police do not yet know how fast Patten was traveling when his truck overturned. The accident remains under investigation.

Gorham Historical Society CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

accounting of the finances was solid and accurate.

The membership agreed that the board would meet quarterly and other community programs would be held during the year. The hope is to find a permanent location and times for meetings in order to help the membership become more

involved. A plan to increase membership will also be studied.

Brenda Caldwell asked for volunteers to help her with the organization of the archives. She said that the Historical Society building on School St. would be open for all volunteers from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on Thursdays.



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Town Council Candidate Profiles

Full Name: James J Hager Jr

Address: 13 Newton Drive

Education: Don Bosco Tech High School Boston, '74 Drafting major. Engineering courses

Northeastern University Boston, Business courses Wake Technical College Raleigh.

Personal: Married to Michelle, sons Andrew (GHS '06, Wagner College, BA '10, USM Muskie School, MPPM '16) and Dan (GHS '07, Springfield College, BS '11)

Employment: Project Manager, Valmet Inc Biddeford

Political and community experience: Former Gorham School Committee (2000-2012), served as Chairman 4 years, served on Finance Subcommittee (2000-2012), Chairman of Gorham Middle School Building Committee, Chairman of Great Falls Elementary School Building Committee, Voc Ed Liason to WRVC and Paths. Former Rec Dept coach for youth basketball. Present board member of Gorham Football Boosters, Inc.

What do you see as your major challenge and what do you bring to the table?

A major challenge that the town is going to be faced with is inevitable growth as land transitions from farmland to new single homes and subdivisions. It will be a burden on all town services, public spaces, and its infrastructure. As a former School Committee member, I understand how important it is to maintain the public's trust and I hope my efforts on the Council can balance the needs of the town and taxpayers alike.



Photo courtesy of Jim Hager

Full Name: Ben E Hartwell

Address: 443 Sebago Lake Road

Education: Gorham HS 1998, AAS Animal Science, SUNY Cobleskill 2000, BS Animal Science, Cornell University 2002, JD Candidate, Maine Law 2019

Personal: Lived the majority of my life in Gorham and proud cat parent of two great boys.

Employment: Full time student, owner of Sebago Lake Ranch (grass-fed beef) and Ben Fencin' (agricultural fencing). Former lab technician, snow maker, chair lift operator, crop scout and infantryman in the US Army/Army National Guard.

Political and community experience: Incumbent Gorham Town Councillor. Former President, Cumberland County Farm Bureau; State Director, Maine Farm Bureau; VP, Maine Grass Farmers Network; board member, Cumberland Co. Cooperative Extension Executive Board. Actively involved with Stroudwater Christian Church.

What do you see as your major challenge and what do you bring to the table?

I believe that the biggest challenge the Town of Gorham faces is the increasing cost of services due to the way our town has grown. I believe that we are deferring maintenance to buildings and roads to keep the tax rates down; the way we have grown is creating a future tax burden that we can't ignore. There is a balance between property rights and recognizing how certain types of development affect the future budgets of our



Photo courtesy of Maine School of Law

Full Name: Paul Smith

Address: 68 Phinney Street

Education: Gorham High School, SMVTI
Personal: Married to Paulette. Two grown children and 14 grandchildren. I have lived in Gorham all of my life.

Employment: I worked for the State of Maine for three years, the Gorham School Department for one and half years, and the Gorham Public Works Dept. for nine years. For the past thirty years, I have been a self-employed general contractor.

What do you see as your major challenge and what do you bring to the table?

My goal in serving on the Town Council is to help in the decision making for the future of the town of Gorham.



Photo credit Leslie Dupuis

School Committee Candidate Profile

Full Name: Kyle P Currier

Address: 6 Aspen Lane

Education: B.S. Economics, Russell Sage College, MBA Southern New Hampshire University. State of Maine - Certified Public Accountant

Personal: Married with two amazing daughters

Employment: Owner, Kyle P Currier CPA PA

Political and community experience: I have been a Gorham school volunteer since 2000. My experience with the Gorham schools and extracurricular activities inspired me to run for the Gorham School Committee which resulted in my service of 2 terms. I am also active in the Gorham Business Exchange and the treasurer of the Gorham Ice Hockey Association.

What do you see as your major challenge and what do you bring to the table?

I see three major challenges for the Gorham schools over the next decade. The first is an increase in enrollment resulting from the development of residential property in Gorham. The growth of the town is and will continue to put an increased burden on the financial resources of the school department. Fluctuation in funding from federal and state agencies has always been a challenge. I believe that will continue to be difficult and will be greatly affected by the results of the November elections. Lastly, the challenge of a continued commitment of resources for technology to better prepare our students to be successful in a global



Photo courtesy of Kyle Currier

MEET THE CANDIDATE EVENTS

GOCAT's "Meet the Candidates" series will be held at the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building at 75 South Street starting at 7 p.m. on each of the following dates:

- Thursday, Oct. 6: State Representatives for districts 26 & 27
- Tuesday, Oct. 11: Gorham Town Council
- Tuesday, Oct. 18: State Senate District 30

This event follows a Question and Answer format. There will be a moderator to present questions that the candidates have received prior to the event. The public is invited, but no questions will be taken during the evening.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

New Building Receives Efficiency Award

Peter Eglinton, left, Deputy Director of Efficiency Maine, presented Gorham Police Chief Daniel Jones with a plaque recognizing the new police headquarters building design with Efficiency Maine's Highest Energy Efficiency Rating Award. The Town also received a reimbursement from the Efficiency Maine Program totaling \$16,350.

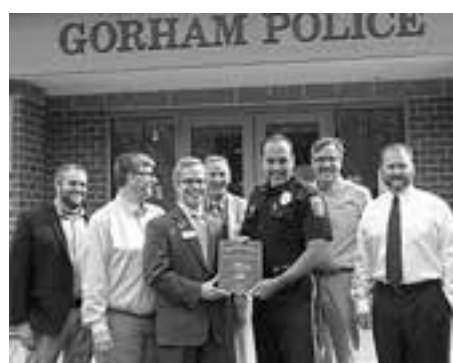


Photo credit Roger Marchand

Prepare Your Heating Systems Early

COURTESY OF GORHAM FIRE DEPT.

With forecasters predicting a cold winter, the Gorham Fire Department suggests preparing your heating systems now. Residents are encouraged to follow these maintenance and safety tips to prevent incidents this season:

Oil and gas fired appliances should be inspected and serviced by a certified technician at least annually. Air intakes and exhaust vents need to be checked for blockage and leaks that could contribute to carbon monoxide building up in the building.

Wood burning chimneys should be checked for blockage and defects in the liner and cleaned at least annually to ensure there is no build-up of creosote

that will lead to a chimney fire.

Wood burning appliances should be checked for blockage and defects. Ensure you have a metal container and proper tools to remove the ash build-up. Ash should be deposited outdoors and away from buildings.

Besides sprinkler systems, the next best way of surviving a fire in the home is working smoke detectors. Working carbon monoxide detectors will be your best defense against the colorless and odorless gas.

By inspecting heating systems now, there is still time to make repairs before the warm weather leaves us. Also, check out the National Fire Protection Association's fire safety tips and recommendations at NFPA.org.

Real Estate Transfers May 2016

Address	Buyer	Seller	Price
35 BOULDER DRIVE	ARMSTRONG, WILLIAM & PEARL	MCCULLOUGH, HARVEY	\$269,900
3 MEADOW CROSSING DRIVE	BROWN, BRETT & JULIE	LEBEL, LESTER & CYNTHIA	\$305,000
31 DEWAYNS WAY	PEYTON, JONATHAN & CHRISTINA	PEYTON, PATRICK & DEBORAH	\$350,000
16 NORWAY ROAD	STONE FINANCING LLC	TILTON, SCOTT & MELANIE	\$370,000
284 SEBAGO LAKE ROAD	DOUGLAS, DELLON K	LACHANCE, MARC	\$240,000
5 RYANS MEADOW	DAIGLE, ALISON & DESJARLAIS, RUSSELL	KHOURY, MELIK	\$530,000
15 GERANIUM DRIVE	HALL, DEREK & PARADY, CASEA	SUSAN DUCHAINE LLC	\$374,000
137 NARRAGANSETT STREET	PIQ, BRITTANY	THORNTON, TIMOTHY & LADNER	\$193,000
45 FLAGGY MEADOW ROAD	SANTANA, JAMES & GEDARO, CARLA	MCCULLOUGH, JENNIFER	\$266,900
47 LADY SLIPPER WAY	THORNTON, KASIE-JO & TIMOTHY	HOOKER, PHILLIP & LAURIE	\$463,000
20 STRAW ROAD	HESSLER, CARLOS & HEATHER	BISHOP, MARK & CAROL	\$310,000
349 OSSIPPE TRAIL	JORDAN, GARY S	CHANDLER, DARRYL & JULIE	\$235,000
784 GRAY ROAD	HOLLIS ACQUISITIONS LLC	S & K PROPERTIES, LLC	\$137,000
41 MCLELLAN ROAD	DALPHONSE, STACY S	DUFF, DAVID & JOETTE	\$229,000
10 LOUISE STREET	UPTON, BASIL & MELISSA	TRADEMASTERS	\$366,500
226 BURNHAM ROAD	KROL, WALDEMAR	GREEN, RALPH & CECILE	\$115,000
24 LINCOLN STREET	GRANGE, JONATHAN	SORRENTINO, JILL & ROSELLE, ALAINE	\$218,000
250 HUSTON ROAD	LALUMIERE, SCOTT	WOODS, CINDY & GERALD	\$90,000
5 HORSEMAN DRIVE	LANDRY, RYAN & MICHELLE	STANKIEWICZ, GLENN & ANNA	\$325,000
8 BRIDLE PATH WAY	PERKINS, SARAH & CHRISTOPHER	GARDNER, JAMES & PATRICIA	\$367,500
105 NORTH GORHAM ROAD	BEALIEU, KENNETH & SALISBURY, MONIQUE	DOUGHTY, CHARLES & TONYA	\$285,000
753 GRAY ROAD	LOVEITT, KAYLA & DURANT, SAMANTHA	CHRISTIANSON, PAUL & SARKA	\$189,900
46 MURRAY DRIVE	MAGER, MATTHEW & MORGAN	COHEN, BRANDON & MORGAN	\$349,000
124 ICHABOD LANE EXTENSION	STANKIEWICZ, ANNA & GLENN	GILBERT HOMES, INC	\$321,781
210 STATE STREET	GASTON, TIMOTHY M	CHASE CUSTOM HOMES, INC	\$248,500
24 GLORIA STREET	ROMERO, JORGE CARLOS	SMOLINSKI, LYNN	\$300,000
1 KATAHDIN DRIVE	HUNTER, ERICA	BAGLY, ERIN & SCHRAM, JAMES	\$175,000
8 GERANIUM DRIVE	MCNALLY, MICHAEL & ALISON	C.R. PEPPER GEN. CONTRACTING, INC.	\$340,170
17 VALLEY VIEW DRIVE	CASH, CHRISTINA & ANDREW	PETTIT, ROBERT & ANITA	\$335,000
22 NEWTON DRIVE	NAPPI, FRANK M SR	STOTTS, MATTHEW & STEWARD, ELIJAH	\$215,000
80 WESCOTT ROAD	SCHRAM, JAMES & BAYLY, ERIN	SMITH, SANDRA & BENJAMIN	\$250,000
53 VALLEY VIEW DRIVE	STEARNS, KYLE T	ANGELL, RICHARD & DONNA	\$340,000
41 HAY FIELD DRIVE	BIRO, JONATHAN & EMILY	LANGLOIS INVESTMENT HOLDINGS	\$350,000
146 NARRAGANSETT STREET	COWARD, PENELOPE L	WEIMER, MARTHA	\$156,000
6 DANIEL STREET	DIBIASE, DANIELLE MARIE	DAHMS, MICHAEL	\$160,000
14 DUNLAP ROAD	RYAN, MICHAEL & CASIE	MAKELA, DEBRA	\$267,000
40 VALLEY VIEW DRIVE	SPAGNOLI, PETER & AMY	WARD, BRUCE & KATHLEEN	\$367,500



Photo credit?

Gorham Times Goes to Canada

Gorham Town Councilor Sherrie Benner proudly displays her Gorham Times at Saint Anne de Beauport in Quebec City.

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Hartwell Profile CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

town. I have tried to educate myself on these types of issues through conferences, books, articles and being a member of Strong Towns. I don't believe growth needs to be stopped, but we need to be smart about how we grow and strongly encourage development that can pay for itself. Most people don't realize that a parcel of farmland uses less services than the property tax dollars that it generates. When you develop the farmland into residential houses, the property taxes

are typically much more revenue than the farmland, but the cost of community services is much more than the tax revenue generated. I would like to be re-elected to be able to continue working for the citizens of Gorham paying attention to issues like those that I have mentioned. I will continue to make decisions based on what is best for the Town of Gorham while also protecting the rights of the individual.

Currier Profile CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

economy. I have over 20 years of professional experience in finance and accounting. I am a small business owner and have raised a family in the Gorham Schools. I have served on the school committee for

6 years and have taken leadership roles to help move our schools into the future. I am committed to serve and respect the students, parents, staff and community members in Gorham.

OFF THE PAGE

The Underground Railroad

JAN WILLIS
Guest Writer

On August 2, Oprah finally chose a new book for her nationally recognized book club after seventeen months with no new selection. The lucky author is Colson Whitehead and the book is "The Underground Railroad". On the morning the book selection was announced, I saw Whitehead interviewed on the CBS Morning Show. He stated that young people today imagine the T in Boston or other underground trains with which they are familiar when first hearing about the underground railroad.

Whitehead decided to use that device to tell the story of Cora, a third generation slave on a cotton plantation in Georgia. In this book, slaves "excavated a million tons of rock and dirt, toiled in the belly of the earth for the deliverance of slaves like her." Cora's grandmother was captured in Africa and kept in the dungeon of a fort not unlike the one described in "Homegoing" by Yaa Gyasi. Eventually a ship arrived and took her to America.

Cora's mother Mabel was the only slave known to escape the plantation and not be recovered by the dogs or the slave catchers. Cora was left behind at age 10. When another slave named Caesar decides to flee,

he asks Cora to go with him. "Every slave thinks about it. In the morning and in the afternoon and in the night. Dreaming of



it. Every dream a dream of escape even when it didn't look like it." They embark on a journey with real trains. Cora comes above ground at stops in South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Indiana. Each place offers a change from plantation life, but not really the freedom she wants.

"What a world it is, Cora thought, that makes a living prison into your only haven. Was she out of bondage or in its web: how to describe the status of a runaway? Freedom was a thing that shifted as you looked at it. Being free had nothing to do with chains or how much space you had. On the plantation she was not free, but she moved unrestricted on its acres. Here, she was free of her master but slunk around a warren so tiny she couldn't stand."

To describe much more of the plot might ruin the book for the reader. Whitehead has published five books and been a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. He spent sixteen years writing this book, but he wrote other

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

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Proficiency-Based Learning within the Gorham Schools

HEATHER PERRY
Superintendent of Gorham Schools

Recently, the Gorham School Committee approved the 2016-17 Proficiency-Based Learning (PBL) Action Plan that will guide the district's work in creating a PBL system for Gorham students.

The goal is to have a PBL system in place for the graduating class of 2021 (the current eighth grade class) and one of the most essential components of making this new system successful for students is making sure everyone knows what "it" (PBL) is and most importantly why Gorham is moving in this important new direction.

As a means to this end, a PBL Informational Blog Series will be developed to aim at helping parents and community members better understand the new PBL system, where Gorham is, and where Gorham is headed.

Gorham believes that student engagement and student achievement improve when the components of a PBL system are in place across all grades and content areas. Those components are: clear learning standards/outcomes;

aligned instruction and assessments; timely help for students who need it; and grading/reporting that reflects all those things and communicates clearly to all stakeholders where students are in their learning.

Proficiency-Based Learning refers to systems of instruction, assessment, grading, and academic reporting that are based on students demonstrating that they have learned the knowledge and skills they are expected to learn as they progress through their education.

In Maine, academic expectations and "proficiency" definitions for public-school courses, learning experiences, content areas, and grade levels are outlined in the Maine Learning Results, which includes the Guiding Principles. Based upon these core documents provided by the State, each local school unit then creates its own system of standards and graduation requirements that are aligned to these core documents.

The general goal of proficiency-based education is to ensure that students acquire the knowledge and skills that are deemed to be essential to success in school,

higher education, careers, and adult life.

Gorham's PBL system is built first and foremost upon the foundations of its mission/vision and core beliefs about learning. Gorham believes that by moving in this direction, it is "preparing" and "inspiring" its students by focusing on teaching them how to be critical thinkers and clear communicators, by making sure that they are meeting students where they are in their own learning, and challenging them to do their very best in meaningful ways.

Gorham also believes the new system of education will extend learning beyond the four walls of the classrooms and into the community and will create a system that allows them to personalize student learning to meet each student's needs; allowing them to follow their passions and dreams now and well into the future.

The next article will focus on answering the question: What does this new system look like in the classroom for students? For the full version of the blog post and links to important information regarding PBL, visit <http://gorhamsuperintendent.blogspot.com>.

Parents, Students, and Administrators Collaborate to Bring Dances Back to GHS


BAILEY O'BRIEN
Staff Writer

Gorham High School is enjoying a fresh start: a new school year is underway, Brian Jandreau's term as interim principal has just begun, and school dances have been reinstated. After collaborative meetings with Jandreau, parents, and student representatives over the summer, GHS will hold its first school dance in two years this semester.

Formerly the topic of much debate and media coverage, dances were temporarily put on hold during part of 2014 and all of the 2015 school year due to students dancing inappropriately. Dr. Record, former principal of GHS, made this decision after receiving feedback from students and chaperones who were uncomfortable with the amount of students "grinding" during dances.

"It's been several years since we've had a dance," said Jandreau. "We are working together to recreate what dances should be at GHS. We're focused on moving forward."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14




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Jim Means is a recognized business and civic leader with deep roots in the community. Through hard work over the last 30 years he has built a legacy of common sense leadership which he will use to serve the citizens of Gorham and Scarborough.



Maine faces some serious challenges and those who serve us in Augusta seem more interested in partisan politics than getting things accomplished. While we have lengthy wait lists for seniors trying to get into nursing homes our legislators squabble over what constitutes welfare fraud and whether to use taxpayer dollars to subsidize solar power. I will bring 30 years of successful management experience along with common sense, real-world solutions to Augusta to represent the people of Gorham and Scarborough.



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- Cheverus Board of Trustees - 1999-2007
 - Chair of Development Committee
 - Vice Chairman
 - Chairman
 - Elected to the Board of Advisors (Life-Long)
- Former Chair of St. Anne's Finance and Administration Commission
- Finance Secretary, Knights of Columbus Gorham
- Former member of the Gorham Economic Development Corporation

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Paid for and Authorized by Means for Maine, Charles H. Crockett, Treasurer

Homecoming: Ram Pride Strong in Gorham



Photo credit Emily O'Donnell



Photo credit Annie Acker-Wolfhagen



Photo credit Annie Acker-Wolfhagen

GHS recently celebrated Homecoming week, which was filled with victories and strong efforts from the Gorham soccer, volleyball, field hockey, cross-country, and golf teams. School spirit was strongly represented through a variety of themes including pajama day, Mainer day, and school colors day. On September 23, the pep rally kicked off the weekend festivities with a student versus teacher volleyball game and a USA-themed football game. The effort from the student council, athletic programs, and fan sections made it clear that school spirit is still running strong with the Gorham Rams.



Photo credit Emily O'Donnell

Staff Milestone



Photo courtesy of Village School

The Gorham School District honored two teachers recently for their 25 years of teaching in Gorham Schools. Village School proudly houses both Mrs. Donna Landry (left), first grade teacher and Mrs. Sue Adams-Thompson (right), second grade teacher.

Back to School Picnic



Photo credit the Durant-Harthorne Family

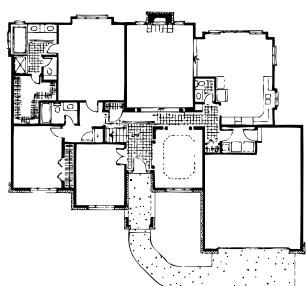
Narragansett School families and staff recently enjoyed a warm, summer night Back to School Picnic out on the front lawn of the school.

School Note Correction

The fourth annual Madison Essay Competition, sponsored by the Gorham Republican Committee, is now open to all Gorham residents in grades 6, 7, and 8. This includes students in home school programs and private schools. This year's question is: Is There a Conflict between Liberty and the Common Good? Submissions must be received by November 4. One entrant will re-

ceive \$250 prize money and two runners-up will each receive \$100. FMI, and to request your essay packet, e-mail: GorhamGOPCommittee@gmail.com. The Gorham Times printed an incorrect email address in the last issue. We regret the error.

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 GORHAM- New Price! Needs TLC. 3 BR, 2 BA Colonial with 2 car garage. Nice large back yard with trees for privacy. Multiple sheds. \$188,000 Call Steve Hamilton 347-1363	 CASCO- LAND! Beautiful 1.83 acre wooded lot to build the home of your dreams! Don't miss out! \$35,000 Call Cynthia Card today to find out more! 939-3795	 PORTLAND- So much potential with this 2 BR, 2 BA Ranch. Finished basement, large backyard and a 2 car garage. \$239,900 Call The Libby Starnes Team 838-8051
 HIRAM- LAND! 24.5 acres of country living at it's best! Building envelope is cleared with well and 2 bedroom septic in place. \$50,000 Call Susan Moore 615-1390	 AUBURN- New Price! Immaculate 3 BR, 2 BA Cape with open Kit/Din/Living, front to back MBR, HW, tile & large deck on 2 lush acres. \$235,000 Call Todd Lyons 233-0900	 SANFORD- SOLD! 2 BR, 1.5 BA Ranch with HW floors, full basement and oversized garage! Let Amy help you find what you are looking for! Call Amy Williams 205-5345

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44 SPAR LANE \$399,900 - Stroud-water Point hip roofed colonial offers 3BR, 2.5ba, finished daylight bsmt & 2-car. Built-ins, HW Flrs & lots of natural light.



LIMINGTON \$37,500 - Conveniently located, wooded lot w/gravel drive. Low taxes on this 5.3 acre building lot.



SOLD

337 Dunnell Rd, Buxton \$259,900- 2274sqft full dormered cape w/ 3BR & 2.5ba. Beautiful & level 1.14 ac lot conveniently located just 3.9 miles to Gorham Village.



NEW LISTING

GORHAM \$124,900 - Great opportunity for 1st time home or rental property. 1 BR/1ba Ranch close to trails & canoeing.



NEW LISTING

SACO \$334,900 - 28x34 colonial w/ 3BR, 2.5ba, granite kitchen, tile & hardwood, rear deck & sunny open concept! 1.96ac corner lot. Excellent neighborhood location.



UNDER CONTRACT

PARSONSFIELD \$199,000 - Custom log home w/ breezeway & 3 car on 5.1 ac. 3-4BR, 2 ba, cathedral ceilings, field-stone chimney & hearth, HW flrs.



WESTBROOK \$199,000 - 2 unit in the heart of downtown, walking distance to all the amenities. 2 car garage. Solid rental history.



NEW LISTING

STANDISH \$179,900 - 1344sqft home w/ a 1 car garage! 3BR, 1ba sunlit open concept w/ a huge bonus room. Fenced yard plus a deeded ROW to Watchic Lake.



GORHAM \$129,900 - 7.5 acre lot in the Narragansett Development District, close to the Gorham Bypass. A wide range of non-residential uses allowed.



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Hal D'Amico Signs On as New Sports Editor

GORHAM TIMES STAFF

The Gorham Times welcomes Hal D'Amico as its new sports editor. D'Amico grew up in East Islip, New York, and has spent most of his adult life in northern New England. He says, "My baseball career ended when I graduated from the Little League of the Islips, but I still enjoy breaking in a new glove every decade." He spent his teens and early 20s as a competitive year-round distance runner and race walker.

D'Amico has a "great appreciation for Gorham's formal and informal opportunities for people of all ages to be active." Personally, he most enjoys running on the trails, tossing around a lacrosse ball or baseball, playing tennis, and cross-country skiing. D'Amico offers, "I'm an especially talented spectator."

Prior to his family's move to Gorham five years ago, he worked in human resources in the Texas Hill Country. With a broad resume, his two favorite jobs have been as an English teacher to adult immigrants and refugees and as a licensed United

Church of Christ pastor.

D'Amico is currently a substitute preacher, writer, husband and dad. Hal is on the board of the Gorham Youth Lacrosse Association, serves in Maine's Cumberland Association of the United Church of Christ, and is active with his family at First Parish Church.

He is married to Misty. Their son, Sam, is a student at Gorham Middle School. D'Amico offers, "We love Gorham and we've met lots of great families." He adds, "I'm grateful to Marty and the staff for helping me with the transition, and to all the Gorham Times' folks for the opportunity to contribute to a fantastic community paper."

D'Amico may be reached with sports news, leads, and ideas at: gtsportseditor@gmail.com.



Photo credit Sam D'Amico

High School Sports Heating Up

MARTIN GAGNON
Sports Editor

Fall winds may have dropped the outside temperatures but on the athletic fields, the action has started to heat up. The Gorham Times took a peek at how the Gorham High School teams have fared so far in 2016.

Girls' Field Hockey

After nine games the Lady Rams posted a record of 5 wins, 2 losses, and 2 ties, which placed them in postseason qualifying position and in the middle of the pack in the Heal Point standings. The Rams opened the season with a 3-3 tie against Thornton Academy followed by a four goal win against Sanford. Against rival Scarborough, the squad lost a tough 1-0 game. The Rams won their next two by a combined score of 11-0 before falling to Marshwood in a shutout defeat. Their last two games out of the first seven resulted in another win and another loss.

Girls' Soccer

Through eight games the Rams have posted a nearly perfect season with a record of seven wins and one tie. The Lady Rams opened the season with two blowout wins during which they outscored their opponents by a score of 19-1. In the third game of the season, the squad battled Scarborough to a scoreless tie before winning their next five games.

Girls' Volleyball

Through seven matches the Lady Rams have hovered around the five hundred mark with a record of four wins and three losses.

Quick off the start, the team opened with two wins as they defeated Windham and Thornton Academy before losing their first match against Falmouth. Over the next four matches the squad would alternate between victory and defeat.

Boys' Soccer

The Rams were fast out of the gate with a record of five wins and no losses before ending in a scoreless tie against Deering. At press time, Gorham boys moved into the #2 spot in Class A South with three more wins, including a pivotal match up with Thornton Academy.

Football

Through the first four games, the Rams had yet to post a win despite improvements to the offense. The Achilles heel for the young squad has been the defensive side of the game where the team has given up 143 points in four games. In comparison, top ranked Biddeford has only allowed 34 points in their opening four games.

Golf

Through nine matches the squad had a record of 7-2. Wins include matches against Bonny Eagle, Windham, and Thornton Academy. The state team championships will be held on October 8 to be followed by the state individual championships on October 15.

Boys' and Girls' Cross Country

The Rams have been working hard in preparation for the State Championship meet which will be held on October 29 in Belfast. The New England meet will be held on November 12.

Gorham Times Says Good-Bye to Gagnon

GORHAM TIMES STAFF

The Gorham Times says good-bye to its current Sports Editor, Martin Gagnon. Gagnon began writing for the newspaper in 2015 and covered a variety of local and high school sports, as well as feature stories on a variety of sports-related topics. We wish Martin good luck as a volunteer firefighter and as he pursues an education for other career interests.



File photo

In the Zone

Gorham Graduate Honored at Collegiate Level: Gorham High School graduate Patty Smith earned North Atlantic Conference Defensive Player of the Week for her stellar play for the University of Maine at Farmington (UMF) field hockey team. Smith started her senior season at UMF with two wins and allowed no goals in over ninety two minutes of game time.

Abigail Rogers medals once again: Nine year old Abigail Rogers, of Gorham, won a gold medal at the 36th Annual Cranberry Figure Skating Open held in South Dennis, Massachusetts. Earlier this year, Rogers placed third at the North Atlantic Figure Skating Club's Snowflake Competition in Falmouth, Maine.



Photo courtesy of Jim and Kelly Rogers



Visit the Stay in Touch section of www.gorham-me.org for program guides for Gorham Government Education TV (Channel 2 on Time Warner Cable) and Public Access (Channel 3 on Time Warner Cable). Live streaming and video on demand is available.

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COMMUNITY

ENROLLMENTS

Isabella Griffin enrolled at Colby-Sawyer College as a member of the Class of 2020. Griffin is pursuing a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration.

ENGAGEMENTS

Forrest Genthner, of Gorham, was engaged to Molly Hook, of Sebago, on August 25th in New Brunswick.



OF INTEREST

GOCAT's "Meet the Candidates" series will be held at the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building at 75 South Street starting at 7 p.m. on the following dates: Thursday, Oct. 6: State Representatives for districts 26 & 27; Tuesday, Oct. 11: Gorham Town Council; and Tuesday, Oct. 18: State Senate District 30.

Medicare Information Sessions: A representative from United Healthcare will educate seniors on the changes in Medicare for the upcoming year and how these changes affect participants. No sales will take place on premises. Bring a list of questions; your Medicare ID card; and other health care coverage documents to compare your choices. This event will be held on two Wednesdays: October 12 and 19 at 6:30 p.m. at Baxter Memorial Library. FMI, 222-1190. Duplicate sessions will be also be held on the same dates at the Windham Public Library from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Skip, Scamper, Scoot! Stories by the Pond: Join Presumpscot Regional Land Trust and Maine children's book author and illustrator Cathryn Falwell for animal stories, games, and a nature walk. This program is designed for families with preschool through elementary school aged children. The event is free, but space is limited, RSVP required at www.prlt.org. Saturday, Oct. 22 at 10 a.m., Hawkes Preserve, Gorham.

Heather Whitaker, Alternative Education teacher at Gorham Middle School and Gorham Food Pantry's newest board of directors' member, recently accepted a \$913 donation from Derek Hebert, branch manager for University Credit Union (UCU) in Portland. Every year UCU raises funds through their Maine Credit Union's Ending Hunger Program, which they donate to a local food pantry. This year the Gorham Food Pantry was the recipient of the donation.



Gorham Woman's Club will hold a potluck luncheon & open house on Oct. 13 from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at Fellowship Hall at First Parish Church. FMI, 239-2766 or gorhamwomensclub.org.

Twenty-four year old stroke survivor Jordan Shiers was recently honored at the Annual Patient Awards Ceremony at New England Rehabilitation Hospital of Portland.

Hannaford Pharmacy will offer a flu clinic at all three Gorham polling locations on Election Day, November 8 from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. Medicare and most insurance accepted. The cash price for the flu vaccination will be \$30. FMI, 839-6551.

Evan Chambers of Boy Scout Troop 817 is looking for bicycle and helmet donations for an Eagle Project. All donated bikes and helmets will be looked over and given to Gorham Food Pantry clients. The pickup dates will be on the weekends of October 15-16 and 22-23. Contact gorhambikedonations@gmail.com with three preferred times on those days.

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

The Lakes Region Senior Center, located at the Little Falls Activity Center, 40 Acorn Street, is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Join them daily for coffee, tea and socializing. Ongoing 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 second and fourth 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.

USM EVENTS

The Department of Theatre will present "Under Milk Wood", a play for voices by Dylan Thomas, directed by Andrew Harris from Sept. 30 to Oct. 9. \$15 general public; \$11 seniors/USM employees/alumni; \$8 students. FMI, 780-5151 or usm.maine.edu/theatre.

The University of Southern Maine is hosting numerous events this fall relating to Maine's growing engagement in the Arctic region. Harnessing Networks to Create Value, Glickman Family Library, Portland Campus (October 17); Leadership, Exploration, and Survival: A Blueprint for Thriving in Our Changing World, Hannaford Hall, Portland Campus (October 26). FMI, (800) 800-4USM.

The USM Art Department will feature the art of George Longfish from October 6 through December 9, including an opening reception on October 6 from 5-7 p.m. and a university class visit on October 27 and November 15 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Art Gallery on the Gorham Campus. FMI, 780-5008.

CLOSE TO HOME

Crafters wanted for the Third Annual Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday, Nov. 19 at the South Coast Community Church, Scarborough, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. FMI, 651-8634 or carse-nault3@roadrunner.com.

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Kristin Tugman, mother of a GHS freshman, was eager to help bring back this tradition. "I mentioned it to a few other parents, and they all agreed," said Tugman. "Dances are an integral part of the high school experience." She started a Facebook group with eighty parents who are all invested in working with the students and the administrators to ensure dances are fun but still prohibit inappropriate dancing.

"Our goal was to offer support and be collaborative. We shouldn't make the administrators and teachers take all the responsibility for the students' behavior," said Tugman. "We're all responsible for teaching these kids to be good, respectful citizens," she added.

GHS students have played an integral role in the reinstatement. "Before school started, some of the student leaders and I met with Mr. Jandreau and a few parents about the possibility of bringing the dances back," said freshman student representative Sam Orlando. "We knew that many students from our class and other classes had been looking forward to dances at the high school, so when they were taken away we wanted to see what we could do to get them back."

"Freshmen representatives that came to a meeting made an excellent point," said Tugman. "They argued that they had three years of middle school dances without incident and deserved the chance to prove they could continue to be respectful at high school dances."

Students offered some suggestions to help curb the grinding of the past. "Students proposed we make the next dance semi-formal. A higher degree of formality typically reduces the likelihood of inappropriate dancing. That's what we've seen at prom," said Jandreau.

Though the date has not been officially announced, Jandreau is planning on having a Fall or Winter Ball some time before the holidays. Parents have also offered to chaperone the dance to further minimize any inappropriate behavior.

In a survey taken at the beginning of September, students were asked if they wished to see dances return to their school. "90% said yes. Of those, 87% were willing to attend dances where grinding is forbidden," said Jandreau. "We've had very positive conversations between administration, parents, and students. Everybody's working together."

the *Courtesy of the Gorham Police Department*



BE KIND TO FURRY FRIENDS

Children on Queen St. were told not to tease neighbor's dog when they walked by his house.

Brackett Road caller reported brother yelling when she got home. Nothing physical had happened. She wanted to know what to do if it continued when he got home. She was advised to call police.

Suspicious person on Laurence Drive was taking a break away from his co-workers.

Officer checked on a vehicle parked in a corner near Railroad Ave. and Mechanic St. Owner was sleeping in his vehicle following an argument. He was moved along.

Narragansett St. man was worried his wife would return home and be upset as they were arguing and she left. He said he would call if she returned and things got heated.

Caller had question about firing blanks at Hillside Cemetery during a funeral.

Officer stopped a pedestrian hitchhiking on Main St. and found he needed rescue which came and took him to the hospital.

Suspicious person on Public Works Drive drove up there to shoot turkeys. He left.

Parties on Stephanie Drive agreed not to have any further contact. They were advised to call if there is another incident.

Suspicious person at Main and Libby had been cleaning the floors.

Maple Drive parties were arguing about money. There was door slamming and a lot of yelling but nothing physical. Male left on his own and woman was to contact police if he returned.

Suspicious person on North Gorham Road had pulled over to text.

Apple Lane caller reported her cat missing.

Cumberland Lane caller was upset that one of her neighbors was recording her and her friend in the back yard. She felt she was being harassed.

Officer stopped a truck on South St. with an expired inspection sticker. Driver was issued a summons for possession of useable amount of marijuana and a traffic citation for the overdue inspection.

Caller reported a traffic hazard on Waterhouse Road. A tree had been cut and had fallen across the road. Workers were cleaning up the debris in the road while the officer was there.

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, October 6

- Ultimate Frisbee Pick Up Game, 5:30 p.m. Gorham Middle School fields. No charge. Beginners welcome. FMI, Benjamin Quang, benquang@gmail.com.
- Meet the Candidates: State Representatives for districts 26 and 27. Event starts at 7 p.m., Council Chambers, Municipal Building, 75 South Street.

SATURDAY, October 8

- Greater Gorham Farmer's Market, 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m., 71 South Street (Public park adjacent to Baxter Memorial Library). May through October.
- North Gorham Chess Club, North Gorham Public Library, 2 Standish Neck Road, Gorham, 10:15- 11:30 a.m. Drop-in sessions open to players of all ages and skill levels. FMI, libng@north-gorham.lib.me.us or 892-2575.
- Lego Club. Build with your peers. Legos will be supplied. 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Baxter Memorial Library. FMI, 222-1190.

TUESDAY, October 11

- Gorham Lions meeting, Old School House on South Street (Rte. 114), 6:30 p.m. New members always welcome. FMI, 298-9182.
- Meet the Candidates: Gorham Town Council. Event starts at 7 p.m., Council Chambers, Municipal Building, 75 South Street.
- Preschool Story Time (ages 3-5), 9:30-10:15 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library. FMI, 222-1190.

WEDNESDAY, October 12

- Story Time, birth-3 years old, 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.
- Toddler Story Time (18-36 months), 10-10:30 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library. FMI, 222-1190.
- Medicare Information Session: Learn from United Healthcare representatives about changes to Medicare, 6:30 p.m., Baxter Memorial Library. FMI, 222-1190.

THURSDAY, October 13

- Ultimate Frisbee Pick Up Game, 5:30 p.m. Gorham Middle School fields. No charge. Beginners welcome. FMI, Benjamin Quang, benquang@gmail.com.
- Book Club: Discuss Two if by Sea by Jacquelyn Mitchard. Baxter Memorial Library, 10 a.m. FMI, 222-1190.
- Baby and Me (birth-18 months), 9:30-9:50 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library. FMI, 222-1190.
- Toddler Story Time (18-36 months), 10-10:30 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library. FMI, 222-1190.
- Sewing Group (ages 7 and up), 2:30-4:30 p.m., Baxter Memorial Library. FMI, 222-1190.

SATURDAY, October 15

- Greater Gorham Farmer's Market, 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m., 71 South Street (Public park adjacent to Baxter Memorial Library). May through October.
- Bean-Hole Bean Supper, North Gorham Church, corner of North Gorham and Standish Neck Road, 4:30 to 6 p.m. Three kinds of beans baked underground for 24 hours, as well as homemade salads, brown bread, pies, rolls, hot dogs, and beverages. \$8/\$3.

TUESDAY, October 18

- Meet the Candidates: State Senate District 30. Event starts at 7 p.m., Council Chambers, Municipal Building, 75 South Street.
- Preschool Story Time (ages 3-5), 9:30-10:15 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library. FMI, 222-1190.

WEDNESDAY, October 19

- Story Time, birth-3 years old, 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.
- Adult Zentangle Class with Sarah Copperberg. 6-6:45 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library. Seating is limited to 30 students. Register at 222-1190, baxtermeetings@msln.net or stopping by the circulation desk.
- Toddler Story Time (18-36 months), 10-10:30 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library. FMI, 222-1190.
- School's Out Gaming Club with Crossroads Games, 3-4:30 p.m., Baxter Memorial Library. FMI, 222-1190.
- Medicare Information Session: Learn from United Healthcare representatives about changes to Medicare, 6:30 p.m., Baxter Memorial Library. FMI, 222-1190.

THURSDAY, October 20

- Ultimate Frisbee Pick Up Game, 5:30 p.m. Gorham Middle School fields. No charge. Beginners welcome. FMI, Benjamin Quang, benquang@gmail.com.
- Baby and Me (birth-18 months), 9:30-9:50 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library. FMI, 222-1190.
- Toddler Story Time (18-36 months), 10-10:30 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library. FMI, 222-1190.
- Sewing Group (ages 7 and up), 2:30-4:30 p.m., Baxter Memorial Library. FMI, 222-1190.

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The Underground Railroad CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

books while thinking about this one. The inspiration for Cora came from a book titled "Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl" by Harriet Jacobs. He read her autobiography when he was in college, and she stayed with him in his mind all those years. The real Harriet Jacobs spent almost seven years in the crawl space above her grandmother's shed hiding from a cruel master.

I have been in three homes in the town of Gorham that were part of the underground railroad. Two are on South Street near the library and one is on College Avenue. While reading this book, I thought of those daring people right here in our own town who helped slaves escape the tyranny of cruel plantation owners and wished again that I could learn more about them.

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