

Your Community Paper Gorham Times

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A FREE, Non-profit, Biweekly Community Newspaper since 1995

Office Manager Arrested for Embezzlement

SHERI FABER
Staff Writer

Kristifer Hutchins, 33, of Standish, the former office manager at Southern Maine Firewood in Gorham, has been charged with embezzling approximately \$150,000



Photo courtesy of GPD

from the company over the course of three years. He has been indicted on six counts of misuse of entrusted property and theft. He turned himself in to Gorham Police on September 1.

Jake Dyer, owner of Southern Maine Firewood, has been in business for 28 years and employs three people. When he needed a new business manager, another employee recommended Hutchins. Dyer said it can be "a struggle" to find help. After being hired, Hutchins urged Dyer to go paperless and he took care of the financial end of the business through the office computer system. Dyer described Hutchins as great with customers, as well as being very glib.

Dyer began having suspicions and began trying to confirm his belief that Hutchins was embezzling from him. Ultimately, he contacted the Gorham Police Department and Sgt. Dan Young investigated. This is the largest embezzlement case ever reported in Gorham.

Dyer still struggles with the fact that Hutchins looked him in the eye and lied to him "day in and day out" and says it has made him "lose his faith in people."

Hutchins ordered numerous personal items on Amazon including a \$1,000 laptop and a workout bench. Hutchins used Dyer's credit cards, debit card and PayPal account but the information only came through on the computer so Dyer did not see the specific charges. Hutchins opened a debit account in his wife's name and the couple took a trip to the Dominican Republic. He also spent

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

USM Honors Maine's Fallen Heroes

ROGER MARCHAND
Contributing Writer

On September 11, members of the University of Southern Maine community marched nearly ten miles from the Portland campus to the Gorham campus as part of the The Summit Project Ruck. Project Ruck is USM's way of participating in The Summit Project's living memorial founded by Marine major Dave Cote. Each participant honored a single fallen hero by carrying a stone that was carefully selected by a surviving family member, and shared the veteran's story at certain stops along the route.

Omar Andrews, president of Huskie Vets, said that, "USM serves the most veterans of any school in Maine and is the heart of the Southern Maine community." He stated that there are approximately 500 veterans using the GI Bill at USM and about 30 of them are actively involved in the organization's activities.

Camden Ege, USM's Veterans' Services Coordinator and an Air Force veteran, worked to bring The Summit Project to campus. "One in ten Mainers is a veteran, the third highest per capita in the nation. This year



marks the 16th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on September 11th, an event that impacted all of our service members. For many of the veterans hiking, these attacks led to our decision to serve. This hike is a way of honoring sacrifice and uniting the community," he said.

Participants in USM's Project Ruck are shown near the end of the march at the USM Gorham campus on September 11. After each march, the rocks are carefully collected and stored in cloth bags to be used during another march.



Photo credit Roger Marchand

USM's Veterans Services is an on-campus resource for veterans, service members, and their families that assists in the transition from combat to the classroom.

Gorham Trails and Presumpscot Regional Regional Land Trust Merge

GORHAM TIMES STAFF

Members of the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust (PRLT) voted to incorporate Gorham Trails at their annual meeting on September 17 at Randall Orchards. The affirmative vote marked formal completion of more than a year of discussions between the two organizations. Thanks to a grant from Maine Coast Heritage Trust, and also to extensive pro bono legal help from Pierce Atwood, PRLT and Gorham Trails have determined that this would be a mutually beneficial fit for both organizations.

Gorham Trails, an all-volunteer town land trust, and PRLT, a regional land trust, share many of the same goals. Members of both organizations felt that because their coverage area overlaps, they will be stronger together and be able to further their common goals. Following a trend seen in other parts of the state, this type of merger can help land trusts cut costs and also help them to become

more competitive for funding grants. Rachele Curran Apse, Executive Director of Presumpscot Regional Land Trust, said, "As one organization, we will be able to continue the current work of both organizations more effectively and efficiently."

Jeff Merrill, a long time Board Member of Gorham Trails said, "Too often people consider outdoor recreation as something to be enjoyed sporadically...the vision of Gorham Trails was to ensure these activities remain available in our own backyard, to be incorporated into our daily routines. All of us at Gorham Trails are so glad that PRLT shares this vision. They are the ideal steward for Gorham Trails conserved lands and trails going forward."

Mike Parker, current board member of PRLT and past board member of Gorham Trails in the 1990s agreed saying, "I am proud of Presumpscot Regional Land Trust's commitment to conservation throughout the region."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

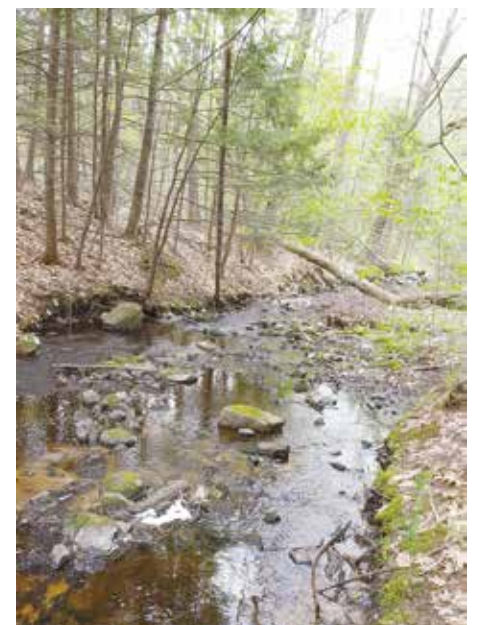


Photo courtesy of PRLT

A wooded stream runs through a section of the Cross Town Trail. This idyllic spot in the heart of Gorham is now part of the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust, to be protected and preserved for generations to come.

GHS HOMECOMING
THIS WEEKEND
ARTICLE ON PAGE 6

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HAPPY HEALTHY GORHAM
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
SEE PAGE 8 & 9

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.

Eyes on the Road

REP. MAUREEN TERRY

As the days shorten, the air gets crisper, and the Maine woods prepares for its spectacular fall foliage show, it's important to remember some key autumn road safety rules. Of course, we all need to follow Maine's traffic laws year-round, but every season brings a different set of challenges on Maine's roads.

Kids are back to school and that means more buses, pedestrians and bike traffic for drivers to be aware of. The National Safety Council's website identifies risks and recommends some tips for safely sharing the road with students and others making their way to school and back.

Tragically, most school bus involved deaths are children from four to seven years old, according to the NSC. These accidents often occur when a driver attempts to pass a school bus that is picking up children or dropping them off. Never pass a bus from behind or as oncoming traffic if their lights are flashing and the side stop sign is extended. Make sure you leave at least 10 feet between your vehicle and the front of the bus when stopping. You should stay alert around young children around the

road, who can be unpredictable and sometimes ignore hazards.

Another school-related hazard to watch for is children on bikes. Maine law requires bicyclists abide by traffic laws while on the road, but children are inconsistent in their knowledge and observance of those laws. That means we, as drivers, must be sure to use extra caution while children ride their bikes to school and back home. Make sure to leave three feet between your vehicle and a bicycle while passing. When making a turn, allow bicyclists to cross the intersection first. This is especially important when making right turns, since bicycles are difficult to see when they approach from behind.

Of course, as we get farther into the fall season, another road hazard will present itself: leaf peepers. The fall foliage tourism season is serious business in Maine. Last fall, 10.3 million people visited Maine and spent \$1.67 billion here. That's great news for Maine businesses, and we all hope that those numbers continue to go up. Our fall visitors are welcome guests and we need to be cautious on the road for everyone's safety. Especially in the fall, make sure you leave plenty of room between your vehicle and those who may be here for the dazzling foliage.

Leaf peepers will often pull over to take in a special view, so be prepared to stop and avoid an accident.

Fall is also the last chance to finish road construction projects before the hard frost puts projects on hold until spring. We're in the final stretch of waiting to pass through one-lane construction zones for the year. That's plenty of time and opportunity to reflect on the importance of maintaining and improving our transportation network. We'll have an opportunity to approve \$105 million in bond funding that will go toward next year's road construction season on Election Day, November 7. I hope that by approving this funding, we can start to reduce the roughly \$525 each of us pays in extra vehicle repairs from driving on Maine roads every year.

If you are interested in looking at upcoming projects, you can find the complete three-year Maine DOT Work Plan online at www.maine.gov/mdot.



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(800) 423-2900,
maureen.terry@legislature.maine.gov

Around Town

Nomination papers for Town Council and School Committee are due to the Town Clerk by 1:00 pm on September 22.

Maine Metal Building, Inc. has leased property at 625 Main St. for the sales, service and installation of pre-engineered buildings such as the Sebago Brewing one being built across the street.

Salon La Luna is closing its Mechanic St. location and moving to the Maine Mall area.

Saco Bay Physical Therapy is moving into the former Subway building.

Portland Water District is putting in a new pump station on Ward's Hill Road.

In-Home Senior Services, 20 Mechanic St, has expanded to offer in-home skilled nursing services. The company is owned by Kathleen Candage of Limerick and Theresa Norton of Gorham. It was previously located on lower Main Street, and after a brief move to Westbrook, reopened at its current location in April 2017.

The new owners of the former McLellan House on South St. are working to reinforce the foundation on the back part of the building which has deteriorated over the years.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor must be fewer than 300 words, signed with a first and last name, typed or e-mailed and include a phone number. The Gorham Times reserves the right not to publish letters that include personal attacks or inflammatory language. 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 Editor,

As Americans, we take great pride in our democratic institutions but Senator Amy Volk seems to believe that she knows better than the "will of the people." This is most apparent in her recent vote to reject the people's choice for ranked choice voting supported by 55% of her constituents. What gives her the right to overturn a clear mandate from the people? How long will the people in Gorham and Scarborough stand by while she makes decisions that go against their wishes?

Volk claims to be helpless because the Maine constitution does not allow RCV but this is true only for Maine elections, not primary and federal elections. Where is her leadership to initiate a constitutional amendment that could bring ranked choice voting for all elections? After all, it's been done over 170 times in Maine's history when changes were needed. Complaining the RCV is "too complicated," Volk demonstrates her disregard for the capacity of voters to learn quickly and adapt to a new process.

Rather than voting in the best interests of the people she represents, Volk seems more intent on promoting her own ideology and supporting the party line in

Augusta. She was elected to represent the will of the people and I hope she will do this more faithfully than she has demonstrated thus far.

Bruce Webb

Dear Editor,

Maureen Terry, our representative, writes that "...those who have made an investment in solar power have had to shoulder the entire cost of making the switch except for a small benefit of net metering." Thus she implies that other people should help shoulder the costs of solar power.

There are huge up front costs for solar power with awful ROI's of 20-30 years. Net metering is a small and logical palliative in her opinion. Fine.

So who should shoulder the other costs? For me, if anyone wants to invest in solar power, go for it but do not expect me to shoulder your purchase. Do not spend my money to support another's investment.

Brian C. Jones

**NEXT GORHAM TIMES
AD DEADLINE: 9/27
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BRINGING THE NEWS TO ALL OF GORHAM
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School News SchoolnewsGT@gmail.com

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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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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Jessica Ernest: Shining Bright on Broadway

CHRIS CRAWFORD
Staff Writer

Anyone who questions the importance of Arts programs in Gorham schools, need look no further than Jessica Ernest (GHS '07) who is playing the role of Go-to-Hell Kitty in the Broadway production of "Chicago." She joins many other students from Gorham schools who have pursued careers in the Arts. To the list, which includes the Esty twins, Sara and Leigh-Ann, dancers with the Miami City Ballet who are now performing in "An American in Paris," and Andrew Vojtal, a member of the traveling cast of "Hamilton," we can add Ernest who is making a name for herself on the Great White Way.

The best part of her current role as Go-to Hell Kitty, a socialite who murders her cheating boyfriend and lands in Cook County Jail, is being able to perform eight shows a week on Broadway. She has been in the show for five months which is more than 160 shows. Ernest said, "Doing the same thing night after night could get boring, but every audience brings something different to the performance and that helps us, as performers, keep it new and exciting." Ernest added that this show is fun for her because there are two other Mainers involved in the production.

Ernest has accrued an impressive list of credits. Immediately following graduation in 2011 from Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA with a BFA in Theater Arts/Musical Theater, she was cast as a singer with Celebrity Cruise Lines. "I cruised around the world for almost a year, exploring and gaining cultural experiences I never could imagine living in Gorham," she said.

She has danced in Donn Arden's Jubilee, the longest-running showgirl show on the Las Vegas Strip. She has also performed in regional theaters all over the country, starring in musicals such as "The Drowsy Chaperone," "Young Frankenstein," "Big Fish," "La Cage aux Folles" and "Catch Me If You Can." After returning to New York, Ernest was cast as Ulla, the blonde bombshell in the touring company of Mel Brooks' musical, "The Producers." She was extra excited when she got to perform in this role to an audience full of friends and family at the Collins Center in Orono.

This Broadway role is a dream come true. Ernest said, "I couldn't imagine doing anything else for the rest of my



Photo courtesy of J. Ernest

Jessica Ernest with her mom and dad, Jennifer and David Ernest, outside the Ambassador Theater in New York City.

life." But the life of a performer has its challenges, too. "There are mental obstacles, such as learning how to deal with rejection when you don't land a role," she said. There can also be periods of unemployment and uncertainty, filled with temporary jobs, while waiting for a new opportunity to perform on stage. Ernest is grateful that her parents have been wonderfully supportive, cheering her on during the good times and cheering her up with inspirational, supportive words from Mom and bear hugs and silly jokes from Dad during the not-so-good times.

For Ernest, the adage that success in the arts isn't about what you know, it's who you know, is definitely true. "Making connections through classes, while working on a show, striking up conversation with a stranger at auditions, or meeting friends of friends, networking is key." She added, "The people you surround yourself with on a day to day basis play a huge part. They support you when you are down and are the first to celebrate with you when things go right."

Ernest does not think she could imagine a better childhood than growing up in Gorham, where Music and Drama were such a big part of her early years. In true performer fashion, she would like to thank:

Janelle Gray, my elementary school music and voice teacher, who encouraged me to audition for my first community theater experience as Pepper in "Annie" at the Lyric Music Theater and also for making it possible for aspiring actresses like me to perform in Kids on Broadway.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

AT YOUR LIBRARY

Local Girl Scout Creates Seed Lending Library

JULIA HOISINGTON
Public Services Librarian

Director James Rathbun and the Baxter Memorial Library are proud to collaborate with local Girl Scout MacKenna Homa as part of a Silver Award project in the creation of a Seed Lending Library. Located inside the library in an old card catalog and available at any time during regular library hours, patrons will be able to "borrow" seeds donated from local farms, let some plants go to seed, then "return" some of the next generation seeds for others to borrow.

When "borrowing" from the Seed Lending Library, any small monetary donation will be appreciated. All donations made will go to the farmers that bring in the seeds, aid in purchasing plastic bags and labels, and help in processing more seeds for the library. Local farms currently participating in the Seed Lending Library are Old Wells Farm, Pearson's Town Farm, Findview Farm, Glad Harvest Farm, and Dow Farm.

If you are a member of the Gorham community and would like to donate additional seeds, these are a few things that should be included on the label, if available: the name of the plant, planting directions, seed size, if certified organic and by whom (Ex. certified organic by MOFGA), germ, germ test date, and what company the seeds are from. If planting instructions are available, write them down on a piece of paper, or cut it from the original seed package, and include inside the seed bag. When portioning the seeds, use your judgment on how many should go in each bag.



Photo courtesy of Julia Hoisington

James Rathbun and MacKenna Homa stand in front of the Seed Lending Library at Baxter Memorial Library.

The Seed Lending Library is organized by "flowers," "greens," and "vegetables" and there are currently tabs marking seed varieties inside each drawer of our seed catalog. When bringing in seeds to the library, please file them in the correct drawer behind the tab for that particular plant, or make a new tab with the supplies provided. We ask that you do not donate seeds that are over two years old as they will be less viable.

When planting seeds, there are a couple things to consider. Some seeds may not flourish as much due to a low germination percentage or are close to expiration. Also, keep in mind the growing season. Some of the seeds may need to be planted at a later date, so save them for next spring. Happy growing!



Photo credit Roger Marchand

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 7 edition is the sign that the homeowner at 151 South St. puts out every year as school opens reminding drivers that the speed limit is 25 MPH.



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We want YOU!

The *Gorham Times* is seeking writers to cover town news, human interest stories and business profiles. This is a great opportunity to meet interesting people and learn about community organizations.

Have an interest in Gorham and how the paper operates? We'd love to have you join us at our next production meeting on October 2nd at 7pm in the Fishbowl Room at the Gorham Rec. Write based on your time and interest.

Come check us out and get the inside scoop first!

Gorham Embezzlement Case CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

at least \$500 buying items for a local band that he was a member of.

Hutchins has two previous felony convictions. In 2003, he was charged with aggravated criminal mischief (over \$2000) and pled guilty to criminal mischief. In 2005, he was charged with aggravated trafficking in drugs and firearms. He was convicted of possession with intent to distribute and possession of a firearm.

Dyer has hired a lawyer and plans to put a lien on property owned by Hutchins with the hope of recovering some of his losses. Hutchins is expected to be indicted by the Grand Jury in October on five Class B felonies with a possible sentence of up to 10 years on each charge and one count of a Class C felony with a possible sentence of up to five years. Prior to these charges, Hutchins was not known to local law enforcement.

Gorham Trails and PRLT Merge CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Presumpscot Regional Land Trust is committed to continuing the mission-based work of Gorham Trails. After the consolidation, PRLT will have 33 conserved lands equaling about 1,600 acres—including 13 public access preserves with miles of trails and water access in the towns of Gorham, Gray, Sebago, Standish, Westbrook, and Windham. PRLT will also continue to coordinate the 28-mile Sebago to the Sea Trail project and to monitor water quality at 30 sites along the Presumpscot River and its tributaries.

The most well-used Gorham Trails land is the western half of the Cross Town Trail, called the Frazier Preserve, in honor of Robert Frazier, Gorham Trails founder. The conserved land starts adjacent to the Access Road to Gorham High School and connects to the town owned land adjacent to Gorham Middle School. In addition to that trail, PRLT will own six acres of conserved land adjacent to the high school, with opportunities to collaborate with the school to create an outdoor learning space that will enhance place-based learning.

Land Trusts have been conserving land for a generation and have been

very successful in protecting wildlife habitat and providing access for public recreation. In Maine, land trusts now hold more than twice as much land in conservation as all the state parks and public lands combined, which is vital as Maine has one of the smallest percentages of public lands in the nation.

Warren Whitney, Program Director for the Maine Land Trust Network, a program of Maine Coast Heritage Trust said, "Gorham Trails provided some important trail resources for the community...Presumpscot Regional Land Trust has stepped up to take responsibility for these community assets. That's not only a great thing for Gorham, but for Maine, as PRLT its doing its part to strengthen the statewide fabric of conservation lands which are so important to Maine's future."

To learn more about Presumpscot Regional Land Trust go to www.prlt.org where you can also view their new, interactive Preserves and Trail Maps which include printable maps as well as a guide to some great fishing spots on the Presumpscot River that are stocked by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in the spring.

PT REPORTS

Shopping For Your Health Care

MIKE SMITH

A discussion of healthcare in this country is bound to bring varied points of view and an animated conversation. I know because it happens almost daily in our physical therapy clinic, and patients often ask my opinion. The topic comes up not so much because of the political nature of the topic (although politics often enter the conversation), but because the matters of co-pays, co-insurance and deductibles often mystify patients. This topic is confusing, even for providers.

Consumers are not only paying for their monthly health insurance premiums through their work or through "Advantage" plans as Medicare supplements, but they also have out-of-pocket expenses when they have to seek treatment of any kind. The days of \$5 and \$10 co-pays when I started practicing 25 years ago are long gone.

Why is healthcare so expensive? The short answer is that it is a money making business, plain and simple. Insurance companies are publicly traded, so they are beholden to their investors. Non-profits, like hospitals, need revenue to pay their employees, update their infrastructure and, since the mid-1990s, expand and grow by buying other healthcare agencies. Beyond that, there are several health care entities in Maine that are for profit as well. It's all about business.

Some small gains have been made lately which help consumers lower their out-of-pocket costs. Three years ago, a group of private practitioners formed Northeast Private

Practice Network (NEPPN). It presently includes 25 physical therapy practices from Bangor to Southern and Western Maine, although any private healthcare provider can join. It was formed to give providers some say on how healthcare is delivered in Maine, at least in terms of cost to the consumer.

Historically, small private health care providers received lower reimbursements from payers (insurance companies) than larger hospital-based and for-profit providers. Even Medicare was doing this until 2010 when the financial crisis forced the government to look at how to save money for this large entitlement program. If the same care is being provided privately as institutionally, shouldn't everyone get paid the same?

Unfortunately, commercial payers still pay small private practices 20 to 30 percent less than larger institutions. However, because of the work of NEPPN group and lobbyist Gwen Simons, legislation was enacted this spring to take effect in 2019 that may level the playing field.

Consumers, with some exceptions, will be able to go out of their network of healthcare coverage and not be penalized (out-of-network deductibles are often twice as much as in network). This can make a very big difference, as many of us have large deductibles. Under the new program, a patient can get more visits at a lower cost.

Consumers should also know that through the Maine Health Data Organization, a website has been set up called CompareMaine.com. This website allows consumers to look up the cost of medical procedures to determine which provider may be able to give them a better deal. I used it to shop for an MRI on my knee as I had a high deductible on that particular procedure. It helped to know who was charging more or less, so I could make a good financial decision.

In Maine, you have a choice on where to seek medical treatment, and in our pay-for-service health care system it pays to know where your money will go the furthest. Most of the time you will get more for your dollar in a small private practice. As the saying goes, it pays to shop around, even for medical care.



Mike Smith is a physical therapist and athletic trainer and owner of Village Physical Therapy on Main Street in Gorham.

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Town Council

JACOB ADAMS
Staff Writer

Special Meeting ~ August 22

The Town Council accepted an easement on Tanglewood Drive for a turn around on Phinney Street with the temporary authorization to plow and sand Paul Smiths' private driveway, approved on March 7, 2017, withdrawn. (4 yeas, 2 nays: Phinney, Hartwell 1 abstention: Smith)

The Planning Board was authorized to review the Town's Land Use and Development Code and asked to provide recommendations for amendment to make the code consistent with the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

The Town Council re-appropriated the following funds that have been left over from reserve accounts:

Appropriate from:

1. Account: 503-51-50716-01
3/4 Ton Pick-Up \$1,024.65
 2. Account: 503-51-50716-02
Trackless Tractor \$20,719
 3. Account: 503-51-50716-03
Dump Truck/Sander \$41,003.93
 4. Account: 503-51-50716-04
Dump Truck/Plow \$29,500
 5. Account: 503-51-50716-06
3/4 Ton Pick-Up \$ 2,301.64
 6. Account: 503-51-50716-07
Loader/Backhoe \$46,500.00
 7. Account: 501-51-50716-04
Dump Truck/Sander \$15,997.89
 8. Account: 501-51-50716-05
Tandem Axle DT \$ 3,581.53
- Total= \$160,628.64

Appropriate to:

1. Project to replace Corrugated Metal Pipe on Dingley Spring Road: \$95,000
 2. Project to replace Arch Pipe Culvert on Buck Street: \$65,628.64
- Total= \$160,628.64

Regular Meeting ~ September 5

Michael Shaughnessy from Westbrook represented the Friends of Presumpscot River by asking elected officials in Windham, Westbrook, and Gorham to designate the Presumpscot Historic and Natural River Corridor as a Historic & National River Corridor.

Roger Wheeler, the Director of the Friends of Sebago Lake (FOSL) made a brief presentation regarding the Saccarappa Agreement and the impact it will have on the sea run fisheries on the Presumpscot River and Sebago Lake.

Aaron Frederick from Gorham, a Board Member of a non-profit program with Environmental Education for Youth, supports this joint agreement between Towns and would like the Town of Gorham to adopt this resolution as well.

David Alexander from Gorham commented that the Presumpscot River is a great resource to be preserved.

The Town Council approved a Victulars License for Pine Crest Bed & Breakfast. (4 yeas, 3 nays: Stelk, Smith, Benner)

A new Olde Canal Industrial District was adopted in order to provide areas within the Town of

Gorham for manufacturing, processing, research, warehousing, heavy equipment sales, and large scale office buildings. The full zoning regulation can be found at www.gorham-me.org.

A renewal liquor license for M and G X-Mac II, LLC, doing business as Ocean Garden Restaurant and Tavern, 390 Main Street was approved.

The Town Council appropriated \$150,000 from the Land Acquisition Reserve Fund as a loan to the School Department. This will be paid back from project funds if voters chose to approve a project to expand Gorham High School.

The Town Council accepted the report of the Main Street Utility Study.

Art Handman was appointed to the Steering Committee to assist and advise METRO Bus as they develop their new bus route to Gorham.

The Town Council referred a proposal to amend the Narragansett Development District to the Planning Board for their public hearing and recommendations.

Polls will be open on November 7 for the Annual Municipal Election and the State Referendum Election between the hours of 7:00 am and 8:00 pm. Absentee ballots will be processed on Monday, November 6, at 10:00 am and on Tuesday, November 7, at 9:00 am, 3:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

The Registrar of Voters will be in session on the following dates and times to register voters, correct the voter list and accept Absentee Ballots: October 31 from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm,

November 1 from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm, November 2 from 8:00 am - 7:00 pm, November 3 from 8:00 am - 1:00 pm, November 6 from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm, and November 7 from 7:00 am - 8:00 pm.

The Town Council appointed the following Wardens and Ward Clerks for Election. The Town Clerk is authorized to make changes to these appointments as needed: Ward 1-1 Warden: Susan Emerson, Ward Clerk: Laurel Smith; Ward 1-2 Warden: Kathy Corbett Ward Clerk: Connie Loughran; Ward 2 Warden: Marty Towle Ward, Clerk: Nancy Kenty, and Central Warden: Paula Nystrom, Ward Clerk: Teresa Sanborn.

Molly Butler Bailey was appointed to fill an unexpired term on the Planning Board. Bailey's term will expire in 2019.

The Town Council went into executive session to discuss an application for abatement of taxes based on poverty and to discuss contract negotiations with the Fire Department.

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

SCHOOL IS OPEN. DRIVE SAFELY.

Gorham Police Dept. Offers Support for PTSD

COMPILED BY
GORHAM TIMES STAFF

Deputy Chief Chris Sanborn of the Gorham Police Department and Sgt. John Lizanecz of York Police Department will be jointly heading up the Southern Maine Post Traumatic Stress Management Team which has been created to assist police officers and emergency personnel in coping with the effects of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), or daily stressors they can encounter, through one on one support or groups to help personnel cope. The team can also assist

employees in referrals to licensed clinicians or pastoral services.

Those working in emergency services should have access to service at no cost to the employee. Guidelines are in place to allow a confidential, consistent and standardized approach to handle requests for assistance for those who have encountered stressful events either personally or professionally.

The PTSM Team will be available 24/7 at no cost to anyone affiliated with a law enforcement agency in Maine. Anyone with questions or in need of help should contact Deputy Chief Sanborn at 839-5581. Calls will remain confidential.

Jessica Ernest CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Gordon Strout, the director of musicals at GHS, who taught me that theatrical success takes hard work and digging deep to forge a connection with your character.

Darrell Morrow for choosing me for Chamber Singers as a freshman. He encouraged my musicality and is a friend and supporter of my career.

Eileen Avery who directed the GHS fall play my senior year. It was the first time I had the stage all to myself for a monologue, no music or background dancers...just me and the words.

Mike Noble for allowing me to sing on one of his CDs.

Vicky Lloyd, my dance instruc-

tor at the Centre of Movement, who encouraged me to break out of ballet and expand my dance interests into tap and jazz.

Deb Kerwin, my first ballet teacher.

Paul Stickney, who was in my first production of "Chicago" in Saco and continues to be a supporter by helping with voice lessons.

Ernest lives in Upper Manhattan with two roommates, one of whom is from Maine. In what little spare time she has, she loves to go to the beach, hike and of course, see shows on Broadway. She is the daughter of David and Jennifer (also a GHS grad). Her brother is Andrew (GHS '11).

GHS GRAD NEWS: If you, or your son or daughter is a GHS graduate, we would like to share your achievements in the Gorham Times Of Interest section or in a Where Are They Now feature. Of Interest submissions should include the year of GHS graduation and should be no longer than 75 words. Contact Chris Crawford at ckck5@maine.rr.com, Kathy Corbett at ktcorbett@aol.com or Cindy O'Shea at coshea2@maine.rr.com.

TOWN OF GORHAM BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF MEETING SEPTEMBER 21, 2017

The Gorham Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, September 21, 2017 at 6:30 pm in the Burleigh H. Loveitt Council Chambers at the Gorham Municipal Center, 75 South Street, Gorham to consider the following:

Acceptance of the August 17, 2017 meeting minutes as printed and distributed.

Appeal #17-10 Variance From Zoning Space Standards. Mr. Fred Panico, Trustee and Petitioner is seeking a 200' (two hundred foot) road frontage variance for the property located at 85 Eagle Cove Road (Map 73 Lot 6). The subject property is located in the Rural (R) zoning district with an overlay of Shoreland Zoning (SZ) and Resource Protection Zone (RP). The lot is also located in the Flood Zone.



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Homecoming Makes a Strong Comeback

LYDIA VALENTINE
GHS Student Intern

Fall is a time that brings many things: the start of school, the beginning of sports seasons, and the change of weather. This year, it's also the start of an old tradition.

For various reasons, over the past few years Gorham High School (GHS) has not had a real homecoming.

There has been lack of spirit, time crunches, and, of course, who can forget the infamous homecoming dance almost four years ago.

However, 2017 is the year the high school will be making its homecoming comeback. This week is Spirit Week at GHS and each day will feature a different theme like Mainer Monday, dress for success, and class colors.

On Friday, September 22, the homecoming football game will take

place against Kennebunk on the GHS home field at 7 p.m. The night promises to be exciting and memorable with an athlete and club walk during half-time, fireworks, and the school band to cap off the evening.

The homecoming dance will be held the following day, September 23, from 7 p.m. through 10 p.m. at GHS. The dance will be fall-themed, to match the spirit of homecoming, and tickets cost \$10.

This year will prove to be a much more action-packed time than any other homecoming event in the recent past. The football team has been putting in some hard work and getting results, other fall teams are playing well, and there has been a huge increase in both school and town spirit.

The hope is that everyone will join GHS on September 22 for an unforgettable football game and the start of many successful homecomings to come.

Staff Milestones

The Gorham School District honored two teachers at the end of the last year for teaching in Gorham Schools for 25 years. **Gregg Sands** currently teaches fifth grade at Great Falls. **Michael Lawrenson** teaches foreign language at the high school.

Have a new grad? Gorham Times subscriptions make a great gift!



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Gorham Schools Launch Backpack Program

ANDREA MORRELL
School News Editor

There are students in our community who are hungry. Gorham Middle School alternative education teacher Heather Whitaker and social worker Thom Courtney, along with Village social worker Jen Baker, are working hard to make sure those students are less hungry on the weekend.

This fall, Gorham launched a Backpack Program. Students who experience food insecurity and/or chronic hunger will receive food to bring home over the weekend, when the National Free and Reduced Lunch Program is not available.

Food is packed in plastic bags (donated by Gorham Hannaford) by parent volunteers at the middle school and then sent out to all schools. Teachers will help students discreetly pack their bags during appropriate times before the weekend.

Each week, through this program, students will receive a source of grain, fruit, vegetable, and protein in their Backpack through a variety of staple meal items, breakfast foods, and healthy snacks. Each bag is limited to roughly 5 lbs. so that all students can fit the food in their personal backpack regardless of age.

Students receive items for personal consumption (breakfast cereal, juice, shelf-stable milk, fruit cups, apple-sauce, instant mac-n-cheese, soup, Chef Boyardee, and canned vegetables) and one family item (pasta and sauce or items to make pizza or waffle mix and canned blueberries).

School staff report that many students come to school hungry and show symptoms of hunger throughout the school day. Good nutrition is essential for good health and success at school. Children who experience food insecurity often have trouble concentrating, overall lower academic performance, difficulty interacting with peers and teachers, lower graduation rates, and difficulty managing their behavior.

"We anticipate, over time, an enrollment of 100-150 total students," said Whitaker. "This number is based on research from Good Shepard Food Bank."

Whitaker, Courtney, and Baker can't help these students alone. They need community members to volunteer and/or help fund the program as it costs roughly \$225 per year, per student, to receive food through the program. Food will be sent home every Friday and over long weekends and holidays.

Any student, K-12, who is experiencing food insecurity and/or chronic hunger may participate in the program. Students are nominated by a staff member in the school, parents, and/or students may self-refer.

Participants do not pay. It is not a school funded program. It is fully funded through donations made by the community. With the expected enrollment, as the program builds, the financial campaign needs to raise around \$25,000 every year. This program is replicated in Scarborough and Windham, and is able to be fully funded by community members.

Gorham's Backpack program has \$2,000 to start with. The program has received initial funding from the Gorham Educational Foundation (GEF), The Offices at 510 Main/The Old Richardson Place, Great Falls Construction, TradeMasters, Inc., and Teacher's Pet Daycare and Preschool. Additional fundraising efforts have begun and a School Street Community Night is planned for Wednesday, October 18.

The first backpack will be sent home on Thursday, October 5, before the Columbus Day holiday, and will be sent home every week until the end of the school year. Current funding will cover October and November.

Donation checks can be made out to: Gorham School Department with Backpack Program written in the memo line. A receipt will be mailed for tax purposes. Please send to: Hollis Cobb, Finance Officer, Gorham School Department, 75 South Street, Gorham, Maine 04038.

Please contact a program coordinator if interested in volunteering, making a donation, or for more information. Baker is the elementary school coordinator: jennifer.baker@gorhamschools.org, 222-1300 and Whitaker is the GMS and GHS coordinator: heather.whitaker@gorhamschools.org.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2017

School Committee Meeting

ABBIE VANLULING
GHS Student Intern

At the last meeting of the School Committee, Superintendent Heather Perry announced that Gorham received \$560,000 more than anticipated for education in state subsidy, and she hopes for budget increases in the future as well. She is taking more steps on an approved referendum for major capital renovation on Gorham High School (GHS), having been approved for \$150,000 in seed money.

Perry mentioned that Gorham was working with Westbrook, Scarborough, and South Portland on a regional job fair for substitute teachers, and is hoping to increase the number of attendees as well as hired substitutes.

In reference to Proficiency Based Learning (PBL), Perry stated that parents of students in K-6 will be seeing new report cards through Jump Rope. Parents will soon be told

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Island Hopping for Swim-Run USA

HAL D'AMICO
Sports Editor

On Sunday, August 13, four Gorham residents were among 74 teams to finish the arduous short course of the second annual SwimRun USA in Casco Bay. The Casco Bay short and long course events are the only "Otillo" (Swedish for "island to island") races in the United States.

The official sport is about a decade old, with two-person teams swimming between islands and running island terrain. Rules require teammates to be within 10 meters of each other at all times, and the Casco Bay event requires teammates to be tethered during the swim portions. Athletes are allowed to use hand paddles, pull buoys, wetsuits and fins, and are required to have select safety gear. All athletes must finish the race with the gear in which they started.

The short course consisted of 2.25 miles of swimming and 6.5



Photo credit Tina Ruel

Gorham resident Chris Dodd and his teammate, Jessica Gagne, finished the last swim leg between House and Peaks Island during the 2nd Annual SwimRun course.

miles of running over four islands. The long course was comprised of five miles of open water swimming and 15 miles of running over 10 islands.

This event supports the Travis Mills Foundation for combat veterans and their families. The non-

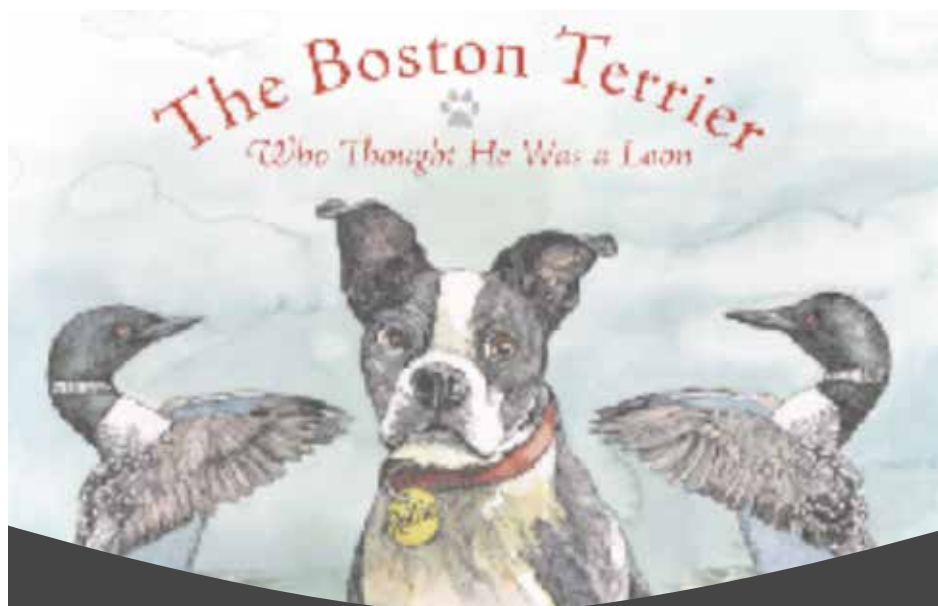
CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

Sports Etc.

The Portland Press Herald recently published a list of the 100 Maine High School Class of '17 student-athletes in college programs that offer athletic-based financial assistance. Only 2 percent of U.S. high school athletes graduate to this category. Rams fans can boast four athletes making the elite list: **Logan Drouin**, Baseball (of 16), Franklin Pierce; **Jackson Fotter**, Soccer (of

three), UMass-Amherst; **Emily Esposito**, Basketball (of four), Villanova; **Diana Kolb**, Volleyball (of 4), Stonehill.

The USM Huskies fall sports rosters include two Gorham student-athletes: **Ben Foster**, GHS '15, cross country and **Emily Bragg**, GHS '16, women's soccer.



Children's Author Read/Signing at
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Mom & Son Surf Summer

HAL D'AMICO
Sports Editor

A native Californian, Giuia Grady is no stranger to the sea. A lot of guys in her high school surfed. Grady attended the beach-side University of California, Santa Barbara, where, she says, "You smell it (the ocean), see it, hear it." While no one in her coastal family expressed interest in ocean recreation sports, Grady was curious but didn't formally meet the sea until college, when she took advantage of the opportunity to get research certified in scuba diving, a great fit for a biology major.

Her one college attempt to get up on a board "flopped," she said. Her husband, Ken, generally considers the ocean a "place that gives us stuff to eat," and as they relocated a few times and had kids, surfing would take a long summer break as Grady "waited for one kid to be interested in the ocean." The Grady's daughter, Ella, a high school sophomore, has interests not tied to the sand, so it was up to their son, Sam, a fifth grader at Great Falls Elementary School.

In the summer of 2016, Sam expressed the desire to try surfing so mother and son went to Surf Camp Maine in Scarborough Beach State Park. The school offers camps for all ages as well as indi-



Photo credit Julia Krusen

vidual instruction. Sam was standing on his board in the first twenty minutes, but Giuia struggled, reminiscent of her earlier attempt. With Sam seeming stoked to make surfing a component of his life, and the beach so close to home, Giuia was determined to learn. She approached the off-season methodically, and in March began working with coach Joe Young at Gorham's My-Fit-24, with a program designed specifically toward her surfing goal.

Summer of 2017 was time for mother and son to both seek the perfect wave. Sam attended day

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Are **YOU** ready to **PARTY**?
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Friday, September 29th
5:30-7:00 pm
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Happy Healthy Gorham

It's coming. ARE YOU IN?

The town of Gorham and its businesses will be promoting free activities next week that encourage you to “move naturally,” as we become Maine’s happiest, healthiest town.

ALL EVENTS: FREE!

Sunday, Sept. 24

Trail Walk
Putting the Garden to Bed
Family Bike Ride

Gorham High School baseball field
Treworgy Gardens
Narragansett School, off Chick Dr.

11:30 am - 1 pm
1 pm - 3 pm
2:00 pm

Monday, Sept. 25

Yoga Mix
Banned Books Scavenger Hunt
Self-Guided Historical Walk
Walking Tour of USM Campus
Pickleball Demo
Feel Your Best! *Simple Steps to relieve pain naturally* (Limit: 20)
Yoga Mix

Holistic Pathways
Baxter Library
Baxter Library
First Parish Church Parking Lot
North Gorham UCC
Back In Motion Physical Therapy
Holistic Pathways

9:00 am
9 - 4 pm
9 - 4 pm
12:00 pm
2:00 pm
5:30 - 6:30 pm
6:30 pm

Tuesday, Sept. 26

Banned Books Scavenger Hunt
Self-Guided Historical Walk
Wiggle, Waggle, POP
Zumba
Loosen Up
T'ai Chi
Gorham History Scavenger Hunt
Yoga
On-Line Yoga
Walking Tour of USM Campus
Lessons for Living Longer: *Diane Atwood Interviews*
Yoga Mix

Baxter Library
Baxter Library
Baxter Library
USM Russell Hall Dance Studio
12 Elm Street- 2nd Floor
Gorham House
First Parish Church Parking Lot
Costella Gym-Second Floor; Multi-Purpose Rm
Holistic Pathways
First Parish Church Parking Lot
Baxter Library
Holistic Pathways

9 am to 7 pm
9 am to 7 pm
9:30 am
10:00 am
10:00 am
10:30 am
11:00 am
12:00 pm
12:00 pm
6:00 pm
6:00 pm
6:15 pm

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Gorham School District
Gorham Times
Great Falls Construction

Jan Willis Memorial Fund
Home Instead Senior Care
North Gorham United
Church of Christ
Nova Partners
Town of Gorham
University of Southern Maine

Wednesday, Sept. 27

Yoga and Weights	Holistic Pathways	9:00 am
Banned Books Scavenger Hunt	Baxter Library	9 am - 7 pm
Self-Guided Historical Walk	Baxter Library	9 am - 7 pm
Pain Free Yard Work	Baxter Library	10:00 am
Creative Movement for 3-4 yr olds	Dance Studio of Maine	3:15 pm
Hawks Loop Trail Walk	Great Falls Elementary School	4:15 pm
Jazz Dance - Level I, 5-7 yr olds	Dance Studio of Maine	5:00 pm
South Woods Neighborhood Walk	Gorham Middle School	6 - 7 pm
Yoga	Martin's Point Community Room	6 - 7 pm
Hip Hop - Level 2, 8-10 yr olds	Dance Studio of Maine	6:00 pm
Village Bike Ride* (Limit: 20)	Baxter Library	6:00 pm
Movement: The Best Medicine	Baxter Library	6:00 pm
Intermediate Combo Mix Dance 9-16 yr olds*	Dance Studio of Maine	7:00 pm
Yoga Mix	Holistic Pathways	7:00 pm

Thursday, Sept. 28

Yoga Mix	Holistic Pathways	7:00 am
Banned Books Scavenger Hunt	Baxter Library	9 am to 7 pm
Self-Guided Historical Walk	Baxter Library	9 am to 7 pm
Creative Movement for 2-3 yr olds	Dance Studio of Maine	9:15 am
Garden Walk	Treworky Gardens	10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Blue Zones: Secrets from the World's Longest Lived	Gorham House	2:00 pm
Musical Theatre Dance Level I, 5-7 yr olds	Dance Studio of Maine	4:00 pm
Restorative Yoga	Holistic Pathways	6:15 pm
Adult Jazz and Musical Theatre	Dance Studio of Maine	7:00 pm
Live On-Line Yoga	Holistic Pathways	7:30 pm

Friday, Sept. 29

Live On-Line Yoga	Holistic Pathways	6:30 am
Banned Books Scavenger Hunt	Baxter Library	9 am - 4 pm
Self-Guided Historical Walk	Baxter Library	9 am - 4 pm
Beginner Teen Hip Hop ages 11-up	Dance Studio of Maine	4:00 pm
Boys Only Hip Hop for 5-8 yr olds	Dance Studio of Maine	4:00 pm
Boys Only Hip Hop for 9-13 yr olds	Dance Studio of Maine	5:00 pm
Spinning/Indoor Cycling	Little Falls Activity Center	5:30 pm - 6:15 pm
Intro to Pickleball	Shaw Gym	6 :00 pm - 7 :00 pm
Community Yoga* (Limit: 20)	Gorham Yoga Company	7:00 pm

Saturday, Sept. 30

Road Bike Ride	Gorham High School	8:00 am
Banned Books Scavenger Hunt	Baxter Library	9 am - 1 pm
Self-Guided Historical Walk	Baxter Library	9 am - 1 pm
Hip Hop Dance Level 1 for 5-7 yr olds	Dance Studio of Maine	9:00 pm
Community Cross-Fit	Grit and Grace Cross Fit	9:00 am
History Walk*	Gambo Preserve	10:00 am
Community Boot Camp	My-FIT-24	10:00 am
Tap Dance Level 1 for 5-7 yr olds	Dance Studio of Maine	9:00 am
Moving Naturally Outdoors Yoga Mix	Robie Park - Behind Gorham Rec	9:30 am
Qigong & T'ai Chi Easy	Robie Park	10:30 am
Pilates Core	Robie Park	11:30 am
Intro to Canoeing and Kayaking* Call 222-1630	Shaw Park, 55 Partridge Ln.	12:00 pm - 1:30 pm
Gorham History Scavenger Hunt	First Parish Church Parking Lot	1:00 pm

FOR EVENT DETAILS, CONTACT INFO & MORE INFORMATION, VISIT

HAPPYHEALTHYGORHAM.ORG



Please read more information on events with () at HappyHealthyGorham.org.

A Full Team Effort



Photo credit Julie Murray

Members of the Gorham High School field hockey team showed their support at the Stephen Ward 911 Memorial 5K on September 10 by completing the road race as a team. This was the first time a team participated all together. Ward was a graduate of Gorham High School who worked as a CPA for Cantor Fitzgerald on the 101st floor of the North tower of the World Trade Center. This race raises funds for the Stephen G. Ward Memorial Scholarship which contributes each year to the post secondary education of a student at Gorham High School. For complete race results, visit http://coolrunning.com/results/17/me/Sep10_911Mem_set1.shtml.

Mom and Son Surfing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

camp at Surf Camp Maine while Giuia enrolled in the adult camp, which has several 4-evening sessions for ages 21 and over. She was among the dozen students struggling the first hour on the water. Then, she experienced what she described as that, "golden moment of catching the wave, which is TOTALLY addicting." She and Sam continue to load up the boards and are glad to put in the effort to carry boards much longer than their bodies from the parking lot to the sand.

As far as equipment, loaners and rentals would be typical for a beginner. Longer boards provide a novice more stability, while shorter boards allow for more radical cutting. Wetsuits come in various temperature ratings, and one can surf around here into November with the appropriate suit, gloves and boots.

Most experienced surfers and instructors reiterate that surfing requires patience: a lot of waiting for a wave to ride, and if a beach is surfer popular (Scarborough Beach is relatively quiet), waiting and following the etiquette of the 'lineup' of surfers. They will also concur that it is a sport inherently attuned to, and concerned about, the natural environment. A great cardiovascular and muscle workout. Time on the beach with some simpatico friends. The Perfect Wave. This might be for you.

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Gorham Hosts Cross Country Invitational



Photo credit Deb Tanguay

GHS girls' cross country won the overall team title at the Southern Maine XC Invitational which was held for the first time in Gorham.

SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE 12

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SOLD



6 Fairmont Avenue \$22,500 - 2 unit with separate utilities. Convenient Auburn intown location w/off street parking. Sold as a short sale in 'as is' condition.



GORHAM \$349,999 - New construction! 3BR, 2.5ba w/ 2car garage. Offers granite kitchen, HW & tile flrs, farmer's porch, rear deck & daylight bsmt.



SACO \$354,900 - Look no further! 28x30 colonial w/3BR, 2.5ba, granite kitchen, tile & HW flrs, rear deck & sunny open concept! 1.83acre corner lot.

SOLD



32 Autumn Crossing \$229,900 2BR, 2ba Cape on 1.13 ac in Gray. Desirable open concept w/ cathedral ceilings, lots of natural light, HW flrs, solid surface counters & more.

NEW LISTING



GORHAM \$319,900 - Wonderful end unit offers 3 BR's, 3 ba, sunroom, skylights, full bsmt, 1 car garage, natural gas, mini splits(for heat/ac), front porch, patio and more. Walk to village or USM.



OLD ORCHARD BEACH \$299,000 Two 2-BR, 1ba units w/ separate: paved driveways, entrances, heating, electrical & W/D hookups. Spacious yard w/ fence & 2car garage.

NEW LISTING



GORHAM \$92,000 - A small 7 lot neighborhood just minutes from Gorham Village. Survey, soils, driveway apron & tree clearing are all done for you.

SOLD



16 PATIO PARK \$24,900 - 1981 mobile w/ newly remodeled kitchen, bath, new carpet, large master BR, covered porch front & back, central air, paved drive & storage shed.

SOLD



4 PATIO PARK \$22,500 - 1968 Parkwood mobile home. Newer furnace & appliances, kitchen/dining area, BR w/ built-ins, laundry & 3 season porch.

UNDER CONTRACT



SCARBOROUGH \$209,000 - Short sale being sold in 'as is' condition. Property has been winterized, so condition of systems is unknown. Water in basement.

NEW LISTING



GORHAM \$345,000 - Remarkable 3BR, 3ba condo w/ 1st floor living. Upgraded throughout! This end unit has much to offer w/ a front porch, 4 season room, private rear patio, central air & garage.

UNDER CONTRACT



SANFORD \$15,000 - Short sale being sold in 'as is' condition. Property has been vacant for years & is unsafe to enter. Property has been winterized & condition of systems is unknown.

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Colonial with 4 BR, 3.5
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rm over garage & much
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HAL D'AMICO
Sports Editor

On Saturday, September 9, the inaugural Southern Maine XC Classic was held on the course behind Narragansett Elementary School, bringing together runners, a cadre of local volunteers, and spectators from the region. Gorham High School Head Coach Jason Tanguay served as site director after being approached about hosting a meet by 2016 Regional's Meet Director, Mike Griffin. Griffin assisted as the meet director for the Gorham event.

John Rogers, of Portland's Fleet Feet Sports, spearheaded a sponsorship effort for a regional meet. Tanguay, along with Griffin and Rogers, has worked for nearly a year organizing this event, which required "mass gathering" permits in anticipation of over 1,000 people in attendance.

Quick facts: Six high school races, 22 girls' teams (293 runners), 23 boys' teams (414 runners), and over 100 volunteers, including six Volunteers in Police Services (VIPS). While this was primarily a high school event,

approximately six kids, thirty middle-schoolers, and twenty adults were offered the opportunity to participate in their respective kids', middle school, and adult races, surrounded by all the energy of a high school invitational.

Tanguay anticipates this early season event to continue contingent upon sponsorship, which is currently funded for another two years. He said, "This established a good foundation and, hopefully, it grows."

While there were 700-plus runners present, volunteers were hustling, but not harried, suggesting good planning and implementation. Tanguay was quick to solicit coaches' feedback via an email survey for future planning purposes.

As far as the Rams boys' and girls' performances, in which the girls won the overall team title, Tanguay commented, "I am excited about both the boys' and girls' start of the season. The name of the game between now and October is doing our best and staying healthy." In a sport where training and racing are necessarily overtly designed to build and peak for late-season racing, the coach added, "We still have work to do."

COMMUNITY

GRAD NEWS

Kaitlin Flanders (GHS '12) is a sixth grade math teacher in Brooklyn, NY and resides in Manhattan.

OF INTEREST

Window Dressers, a Maine-based non-profit organization that builds custom-fitted window inserts to block drafts, is still accepting orders through Friday, September 29, in preparation of a community build in November at Moody's Collision Center. For more information, or to volunteer, call 596-3073, visit windowdressers.org, or email BuxtonGorhamWindowDressers@gmail.com for more information.

White Rock Community Clubhouse, 34 Wilson Rd., will hold a Bean Supper on October 7 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Homemade kidney and pea beans, hot dogs, coleslaw, potato salad, macaroni and cheese, homemade biscuits, as well as homemade pies for dessert. Adults: \$8/Children under 12: \$4. FMI, whiterockcommunityclub@gmail.com.

First Parish Church, 1 Church Street, will hold a Chicken Pie Supper on October 7 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. \$10 adults / \$5 children under 12. FMI, 839-6751.

A Rosary Rally event will be held with Bishop Deeley and Father Lou Phillips on the lawn of St. Anne Parish on October 14 at 12 p.m. FMI, 615-0575.

Local gardeners are encouraged to share their summer harvest with neighbors in need by dropping off fresh produce on Wednesday evenings from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Pantry. Fresh produce drop off hours are every Wednesday evening from 6 to 7 p.m. beginning July 5 through late-September. For regular updates of items most needed, visit www.facebook.com/Gorham-Food-Pantry-Friends.

On November 13, Deering Masonic Lodge AF&AM (102 Bishop Street, Portland; deeringlodge.com) will host the debut of the one act Masonic themed play, "In The Interests Of The Brethren," written and directed by Aaron Joy of Portland, with a six man cast drawn from across the area's nine lodges. One such lodge is Gorham's Masonic Lodge, Harmony Lodge #38 located at 33 Cressey Rd. Pre-show dinner at 6:30 p.m.; show at 7:30 p.m. Open to the public, donations encouraged. RSVP or FMI, (646) 597-1583.

The Gorham Ecumenical Council at Saint Anne's Catholic Church, 299 Main Street, will serve a Free Community Dinner on September 25 at 5:30 p.m. The menu will feature a roast turkey dinner with all the trimmings. Enjoy the free food and fellowship. Donations accepted. All are welcome.

After earning money at their lemonade stand, Jack and Lucy Williams decided to help the victims of Hurricane Harvey. Pictured shopping for supplies are Maddy Hayden, 5; Lucy Williams, 5; Jack Williams, 7; Harper Nash, 4; Kate Hayden, 3; and Reagan Nash, 6, in the front.

Can you sing, dance, act, or play a musical instrument? Do you like to perform and share your talents with others? Contact Vicky Lloyd for more information or to audition for a part in a community service performance troupe called Show Biz Kids. FMI, 209-0758 or vickylloyd@gmail.com.

Bill Jenks, Gorham native and president of the Maine Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, recently met with Senator Collins, the chairman of the Senate Aging Committee and the founder and co-chair of the Senate Alzheimer's Task Force.

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 839-3630, 839-2484 or 839-3859.

Join a confidential family support group through NAMI Maine for family members, friends and individuals affected by mental illness challenges. The group meets every second and fourth Monday of the month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Massabesic Lions Club, 813 Main St., Waterboro. FMI, Call or text Dan, 298-0664.



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School Committee Meeting CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

about the change in report cards and how to prepare for conferences through "How-To" videos arriving online. For parents of 7-12 graders, there will be fewer changes.

September is attendance awareness month, and the Count Me In project is working towards battling chronic absentees.

Currently the number of K-12 students stands at 2,756 students. Most increases have been at the elementary

levels, which was as expected. Total enrollment is up 105 students from three years ago with the biggest growth being in grades K-3. Narragansett has 38 students more than last year and 30 of those are in second grade alone. The high school has 850 students and no additional classroom space according to Principal Jandreau.

The maintenance crews were thanked for getting the schools up and running for the new year. Norm

Justice, facilities and transportations director, gave a summer maintenance report which included installing new playground equipment as part of We Love Gorham Day; installing sinks at Village cafeteria; converting a storage closet into a classroom at GHS; and repairing athletic field lights.

All five principals reported that the opening of each school was successful and filled with energy, excitement and a lot of new staff.

Perry referenced PBL again and teachers' overachieving goals regarding it. PBL is focused on assessment practices, proving professional development to teachers. The graduation policy is a large focus of the Committees moving forward. Another big goal is engaging people with PBL and making sure it aligns with mission and vision.

Perry addressed the stature requirement for Title 1 and Title 2, which offers the opportunity for public acknowledgment regarding the use of national funding. Title 1 focuses on the lowest 25 percent of performing students in ELA and math, making sure that the number of students in that area that are proficient increases. Title 2 is about professional development, focusing on PBL work.

Darryl Wright took action on 2017-2018 superintendent goals. All have been discussed and approved. The budget development timeline was approved.

Perry mentioned a nationwide resolution in the support of public education. She asked the Committee to approve the new resolution, which includes support of public charter schools, created in response to the Every Student Succeeds Act. The purpose is to fund and support all public schools. A motion was made to approve the movement and the motion was passed.

Kyle Currier was nominated and approved as the MSBA delegate for the upcoming fall conference. Sarah Titus was approved for the position of Middle School Boys Cross Country coach.

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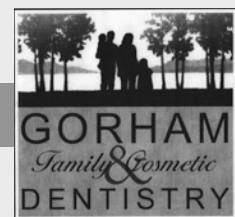
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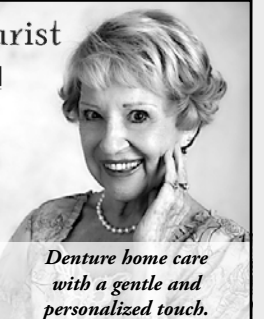
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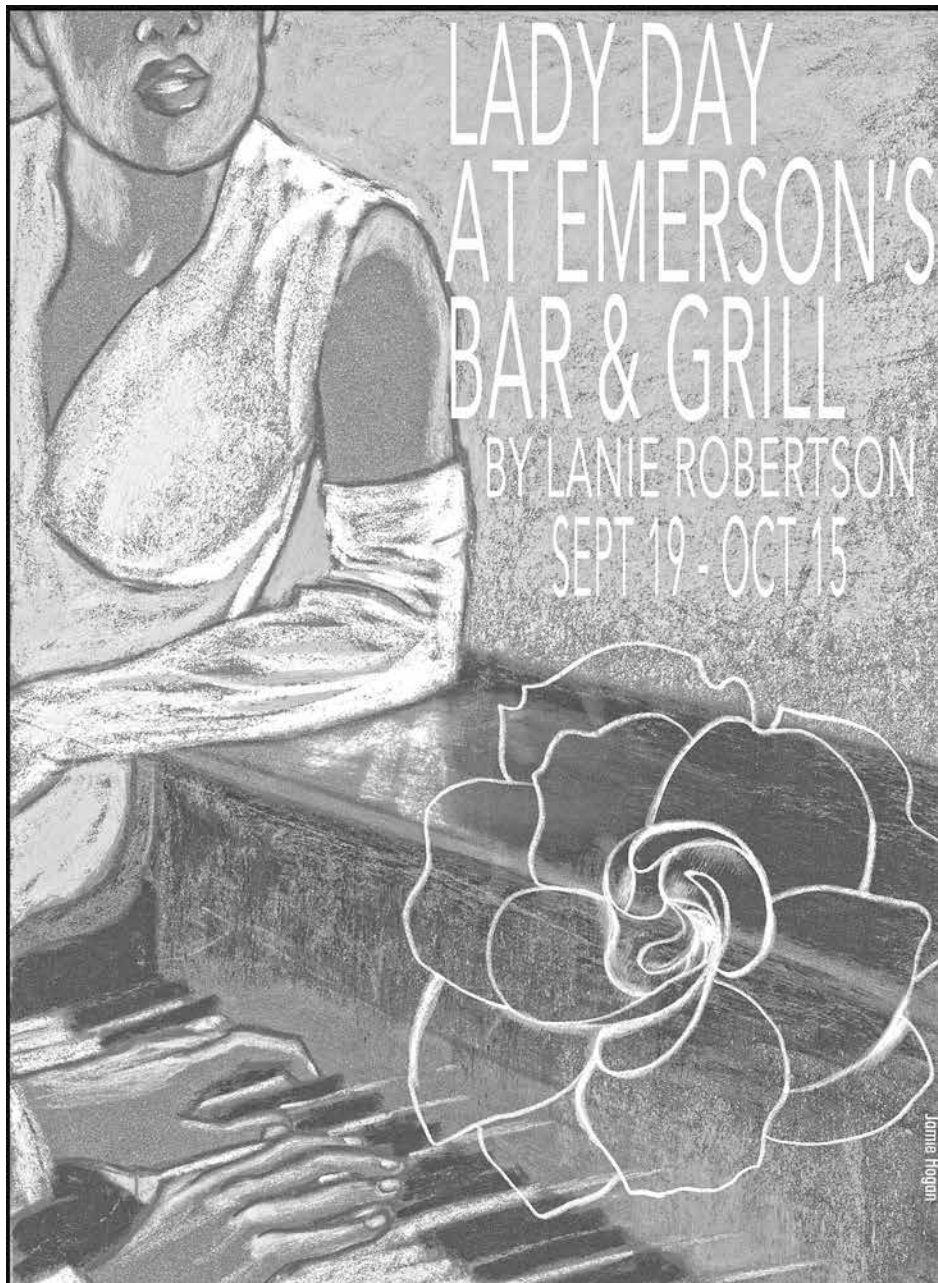
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TOO MUCH FREE RANGING

Acorn St. caller reported chickens were still going on his property. He was referred to the Animal Control Officer.

Skunk was reported seen on Herrick Road. Officer checked area but did not locate the skunk.

Little River Drive caller reported a young skunk hanging around the bird feeder as well as the compost pile. Officer advised caller that non-domestic animals are the responsibility of the warden service unless they are a threat to public safety. Caller was offered a trap and given the phone number for an animal removal company.

Vehicle on Burnham Road was blocking access to a fire hydrant. Note on car said it would be towed the following day. Towing company was contacted and asked to move it that day so it would not be blocking a hydrant.

Caller reported getting unwanted messages via Facebook. He was told to block the person or delete the account.

Officer responded to a call of someone driving erratically on South St. Couple said they were trying to get away from a truck "rolling coal" as they wanted to get away from the smoke. They denied driving erratically and said they were just going home.

Gray Road landlord was upset that his tenant had thrown trash all over the property. Tenant cleaned up the trash and bagged it.

Officer was flagged down on Sebago Lake Road by a woman who was lost. He gave her directions.

Bat was removed from a South St. residence.

Woman was locked out of her vehicle on Ossipee Trail. Her three dogs were inside the car. Officer unlocked the vehicle. She was very thankful.

Verbal argument was reported between stepfather and son on Tannery Brook. No report was made as there was no crime.

Island Hopping for Swim/Run Race

profit organization owns the Maine Chance Lodge and Retreat in the Belgrade Lakes Region, formerly the estate of cosmetics pioneer Elizabeth Arden.

The local competitors' results: Team Darwin's Fittest (Elin Brown of Gorham, Christine Beecher), 41st Overall / 25th Female; Team

Smiles for Miles (Jenny Skolfield of Gorham, Melissa Lizotte), 58th Overall / 31st Female; Team On the Rocks (Chris Dodd of Gorham, Jessica Gagne), 57th Overall / 15th Co-Ed; Team Swim Like Stone (Michael Cushing of Gorham, Barney Boynton), 70th Overall / 14th Male.

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*National Academy of Sciences, "The Health Effects of Cannabis and Cannabinoids: The Current State of Evidence and Recommendations for Research", 2017



keeps young children safe from accidental poisoning (edibles often look like treats).



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For information on how to talk to your children about marijuana, go to WWW.DRUGFREE.ORG/MJTALKKIT

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, SEPT. 21

- Gorham Memorial Post 10879, Veterans of Foreign Wars meets the second Thursday each month in the Gorham Fire Department training room, 270 Main St. at 7 p.m. All interested veterans are welcome.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22

- Fall Begins

SATURDAY, SEPT. 23

- Greater Gorham Farmer's Market, 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m., 71 South Street (Public park adjacent to Baxter Memorial Library).

MONDAY, SEPT. 25

- The Gorham Republican Committee meets every fourth Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. All registered Republicans are welcome. FMI, call 415-2673.
- The Gorham Ecumenical Council at Saint Anne's Catholic Church, 299 Main St., will serve a Free Community Dinner at 5:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 26

- Gorham Lions meeting, Old Elmwood School House on South Street (Rte. 114), 6:30 p.m. New members always welcome. FMI, 929-9182.
- Gorham author Cathryn Falwell presents Wiggle, Waggle, POP! With her book "Pond Babies", 9:30 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library, 71 South St. FMI, 222-1190.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 27

- 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 Time (18-36 months), 10-10:30 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library, 71 South St. FMI, 222-1190.
- Gorham Food Pantry Fresh Produce Drop Off, 6-7 p.m., 299 Main St.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 28

- After School Board Games with Crossroads Games: Games will be provided or bring your favorite. North Gorham Public Library, 2 Standish Neck Road, 3-4:30 p.m. Free. FMI, 892-2575 or libng@north-gorham.lib.me.us.
- Baby & Me (birth-18 months), 9:30-9:50 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library, 71 South St. FMI, 222-1190.
- Toddler Time (18-36 months), 10-10:30 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library, 71 South St. FMI, 222-1190.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 30

- Greater Gorham Farmer's Market, 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m., 71 South Street (Public park adjacent to Baxter Memorial Library).

TUESDAY, OCT. 3

- Preschool Story Time (ages 3-5), 9:30-10:15 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library, 71 South St. FMI, 222-1190.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 4

- 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 Time (18-36 months), 10-10:30 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library, 71 South St. FMI, 222-1190.
- Gorham Food Pantry Fresh Produce Drop Off, 6-7 p.m., 299 Main St.

THURSDAY, OCT. 5

- Baby and Me (birth-18 months), 9:30-9:50 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library, 71 South St. FMI, 222-1190.

FRIDAY, OCT. 6

- No School for Gorham School District
- Sensory Friendly Story Time, 10-11 a.m., Baxter Memorial Library, 71 South St. FMI, 222-1190.

CLASSIFIEDS

FUNDRAISER

OCTOBER 4TH at Buffalo Wild Wings in South Portland, eat wings to support the Travis Mills Foundation's Maine Chance Lodge and Retreat in Belgrade Lakes for wounded veterans and their families. FMI call Laurie 207-233-4416

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Iconic Steeple Gets a Facelift



Photo credit Chris Crawford

Many Gorham residents have paused to watch the progress of the steeple work this summer at First Parish Church on the corner of Church and School streets. Limerick Steeple Jacks, Inc. has been busy scraping, repairing and painting the historic steeple and clock face. There have been previous renovations on the steeple which is estimated to be nearly 150 years old.

The Tradition Continues



Photo credit Roger Marchand

Local firefighters participated in full gear again this year during the The Stephen G. Ward Memorial Scholarship fundraiser 5K Run/Walk on September 10.

Planned Harvesting



Photo credit Roger Marchand

The Robie family held an "Open Woodlot" gathering on September 16 to allow neighbors an opportunity to look around and ask questions about the current clearing at their private woodlot on the corner of Robie St. and Robie Ave. The clearing is the result of a timber harvest and Charles Frederick "Fred" Robie confirmed that "best forest practices are being employed in a sustainable manner to encourage health of the forest and our planet." Both Southern Maine Forestry and Greg Kheil, of John Kheil and Sons, are coordinating the harvest.



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