

Gorham Times

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Bullet Found at GMS Raises Concern Over Student Safety

COMPILED BY ANDREA MORRELL
School News Editor

In a letter addressed to parents/guardians on December 19, 2018, Superintendent Heather Perry addressed parent concerns over the recent discovery of a live bullet found in a 7th grade classroom at Gorham Middle School (GMS) the previous week.

"Please know the Gorham Schools share these concerns and passionately place the safety of our children at the forefront of all decisions every day," said Perry.

The letter served two purposes. First, to provide some background information to parents across the district regarding the bullet so they could have conversations with students about why it is not appropriate to bring something like that into schools.

Second, to provide an overview and general reminder to concerned parents about what the Gorham Schools do to make sure children are as safe as they can be while at school.

Perry indicated that she believed a thorough and detailed investigation took place at GMS to attempt to determine how a bullet wound up on the floor. The school administration spent many hours in collaboration with the school resource officer and Gorham PD to attempt to determine who might have brought the bullet to school.

They were not able to make this determination at the time the letter was written. The investigation was still ongoing. They were able to confirm that the bullet was in pristine condition, and therefore had not previously been loaded into a gun, which helped to alleviate some concerns.

As an overview of what Gorham does to ensure student safety within the schools, Perry listed all the standard measures in place at the schools to keep students safe. Each school has a fully developed emergency plan, which is revisited at least annually with the School Committee and local first responders. Perry believes each school also has well thought out plans for dealing with a myriad of safety concerns that once were never thought of in schools.

"Today, we think about them, we plan for them, and we train staff

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

New Year Gorham Does it Better

Photo credit Georgia Humphrey/GOCAM

VIRGINIA WILDER CROSS
Contributing Writer

This year's celebration will be really tough to top. Beginning at 2 p.m. with ice skating at USM and ending with fireworks at 9 p.m., the fun never stopped and the people kept coming. In fact, for the first time in 11 years, all 600 wristbands were sold, resulting in having to use stickers for additional admission tickets.

The Shoestring Theater turned Gorham's Council Chambers into a place for imaginations to be all things Peter Pan while down the hall, Don Roy's Acadian musicians were playing some fun, toe-tapping music. In Shaw Gym, the stands were filled with families ready to see unusual animals, up close and personal, while others laughed with our favorite ventriloquist and his friends. Oh yes, the balloon magic and the face painting – performing artists extraordinaire!

The evening wrapped up at the High School with some returning favorites along with new performers who didn't disappoint. Dancers, robots, singers, comedians, good food, musicians, and one truly amazing King Pong. And, not to omit...the fabulous fireworks with just a touch of soft falling snow...WOW.

No better way to say Happy New Year to Gorham!



Suspect Arrested in Armed Robbery at Freihofer's Bakery Outlet Store

SHERI FABER
Staff Writer

On December 13, at about 1:50 p.m., a male entered the Freihofer's bakery outlet store on Lower Main Street, went to the cash register, displayed a handgun to the clerk and demanded the money in the register. The clerk gave him an undisclosed amount of cash and the man fled on foot.

Following an investigation by the Gorham Police Department, working with other area law enforcement, the man was identified as Errol Gethers, 56. Police considered him armed and dangerous and asked anyone with any information to contact the Gorham Police Department.

Gorham Police Department obtained an arrest warrant for Gethers on a robbery charge on

December 17 and he was arrested on December 31 in Biddeford by US Marshals and the Maine Violent Offender Task Force.

Gethers is being held at Cumberland County Jail on charges of armed robbery and violating conditions of release. Det. Sgt. Dan Young of the Gorham Police Department noted "it was a job well done by patrol units and the detectives involved."



Photo courtesy of GPD

inside theTimes

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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.

BRINGING THE NEWS TO ALL OF GORHAM
PO Box 401
Gorham, Maine 04038
Phone and Fax: (207) 839-8390
gorhamtimes@gmail.com
www.gorhamtimes.com

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Design/Production: Shirley Douglas
Staff Writers: Diane Abramson, Jacob Adams, Kathy Corbett, Sheri Faber, Edmund Ricker
Features: Chris Crawford
Photographers: Amanda Landry, Roger Marchand
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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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The 129th Legislature Has Begun

REP. ANDREW MCLEAN

With the start of the new year comes the beginning of the next legislative session in Augusta. My colleagues and I were sworn into office by Chief Justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court Leigh Saufley on Dec. 5, and Governor Janet T. Mills was sworn into office Jan. 2 in a joint convention of the Legislature at the Augusta Civic Center.

I have been re-appointed by the Speaker to a third term as House Chair of the Transportation Committee. Our transportation network of roads, bridges, airports, rail lines, seaports and bike and pedestrian facilities is critical to the success of our economy. The Transportation Committee also oversees policy concerning the Department of Transportation, the Maine Turnpike Authority and the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. I am thankful for the opportunity to continue working on policy that is vital to our state.

Representatives and senators across the state will introduce legislation for consideration during this session, which is set to end in mid-June. We will also begin the process of crafting and passing a balanced,

bipartisan two-year budget to fund state government operations.

After many years of good public policy being stymied by political intransigence, this new legislature, and the new governor, will work in tandem on the many important issues facing our state. I intend to closely follow legislative efforts to address the opioid crisis facing the state. In 2017, a task force was created to bring lawmakers, law enforcement, health professionals and others together to bring recommendations to the Legislature. While some of those recommendations have become law, there is still work to be done.

Other issues the legislature will get right to work on are refinements to our K-12 education system, investments in higher education, as well as finally implementing healthcare expansion, which voters approved two years ago, and will provide access to care for thousands of low-income Mainers.

Lastly, sustainable energy will also be a top priority. For too many years, projects that create jobs and clean our air and water have been needlessly driven away. That changes this year when we begin to address the changing needs of our energy system

and our environment. This list is not exhaustive, and only includes but a few of the many important issues we will face in the coming months.

If you have interest in testifying on specific bills, you may do so in person or by submitting written testimony. If you have any questions on how to do this, please feel welcome to reach out to me. It is important to the work we do in Augusta to hear from members of our community as we consider the impact of new or changing policies.

As the new legislative session begins, hearing your thoughts is crucial to what we do at the State House. As always, please feel free to contact me with your questions and concerns. I also send out periodic e-mail updates throughout the session. If you would like to receive these updates, please send me an email to let me know.



Rep. Andrew McLean, D-Gorham, is serving his fourth term in the Maine House. He is House Chair of the Transportation Committee and represents parts of both Gorham and Scarborough. (207) 939-8482, (800) 423-2900, andrew.mclean@legislature.maine.gov

Bullet Found at GMS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and students in how to address them through things like evacuation drills (10 required annually by state statute), lock down drills (two required annually by state statute), and other trainings such as table top discussions and live scenario trainings," said Perry.

"Is there always more that we can do to prepare? Yes, and please know we continually strive to learn and grow in our safety practices for this very reason. This issue involving a bullet will be one we learn from and grow with so that future responses are always improving."

Additionally, Perry stated that Gorham is moving towards updating its lock down plans in collaboration with local police to a new model known as ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate). Building principals,

assistant principals, and program directors participated in a full, half-day scenario training recently on this model.

"Our leaders learned how to better communicate with one another under pressure, how to barricade doors, how to distract an active shooter, and how to "swarm" them in order to disarm and remove the danger," said Perry.

Perry plans to send out additional information to parents later this spring on ALICE informed practices and Gorham's implementation of those practices. She encourages any parents with questions about Gorham's emergency procedures, or more specifically about the bullet that was found at GMS, to please reach out to her at heather.perry@gorhamschools.org or 222-1012.

Around Town

The Town Council Appointments Committee is seeking citizen volunteers to fill vacancies on all Town Boards and Committees for 2019. If you are interested in applying to serve or would like more information, please contact the Town Clerk's office at 222-1670 or via email at lnordfors@gorham.me.us.

A winter parking ban is currently in effect on any public road or public easement roadway through May 1, midnight to 6:00 a.m., or during any parking ban declared by the Public Works Department. Vehicles parked illegally or abandoned on roads are subject to towing at the owner's expense as well as ticketing by the police. Residents are asked to remove cars from streets as soon as a snow alert is issued.

NEXT GORHAM TIMES DEADLINE: JAN. 17



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Touring the Town Tanneries

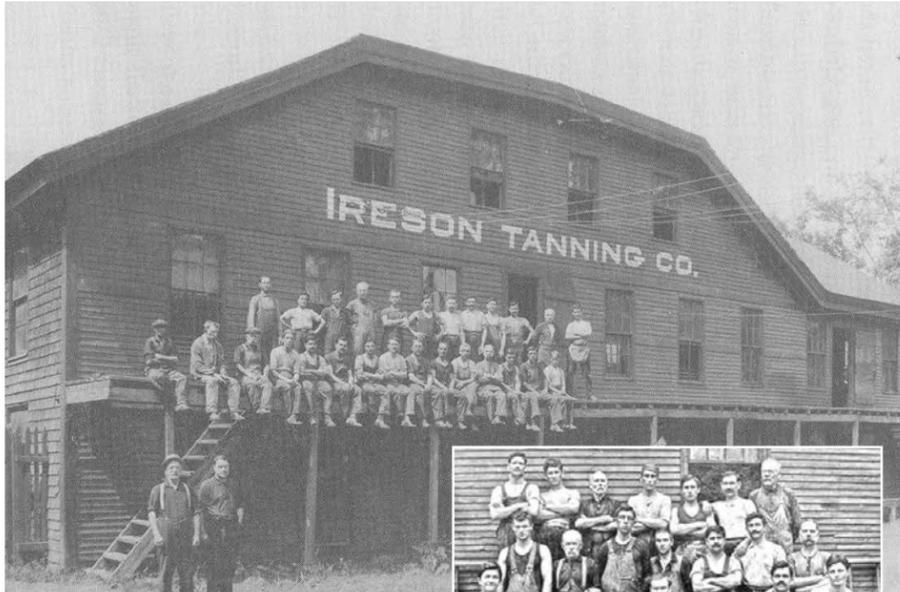


Photo credit Rodney Quinn

WILMA GOULD JOHNSON

Let's imagine it is the year 1926. The noontime tannery whistle blows, alerting the Ireson Tannery workers that lunch time has begun. Several of the hardworking tanners step outside carrying their dinner pails to enjoy some fresh air. The tannery whistle, which blew three or four times daily, was also used as a fire alarm or to report a no school day.

The tannery sat close to Main Street, where the Sunoco Station and the IGA grocery store were once located, near the plaza where Goodwill and Burger King now stand. It was referred to as the Old Gorham Tannery, but the actual name was the Ireson Tanning Company. Previously it had been the Hinckley Tannery, and before that it was owned by Moses Clark and his son John. It was coal powered and relied on the railroad to bring in hides to be tanned and to ship out finished leather sold to companies including Bass Shoe Company.

Tanneries were an important part of the manufacturing history of towns in Maine. Between approximately 1792 to 1932, Gorham was home to at least six working tan yards. According to McClellan's History of Gorham, "For some years after the settlement of the town it was the custom for almost every house-holder each fall to kill a 'beef creature,' and to have the skin tanned to make shoes for the family."

The first tanners were believed



Photo credit Dianna Randall & Karen Watson

to be William and John Cotton who worked on a 30-acre lot on the west side of Fort Hill. Gorham tax records also list tanners by the names of Oliver Hunt (1794) and Joseph Cressey (1805) and Moses Clark, who along with his son, John, ran the tannery on Main Street from 1792 to 1824.

In 1794, Capt. Oliver Hunt purchased a 30-acre lot on South Street. His tan yard and buildings were at the western end of where the railroad bridge was once located (right before the library). When the railroad was built, all traces of this yard disappeared. According to McClellan's History of Gorham, Capt. Hunt had an upright wheel, standing on its edge which revolved on an axle to slowly grind the bark used in the tanning process. It was drawn around by an old horse.

In 1828, James Irish built the largest tannery in town, which later became a corn packing factory, on Mechanic Street. The Mechanic Street building was destroyed by fire in 1871. Other tanneries were located on School Street next to the First Parish Church and next door to where the Ayer family now lives.

In 1832, Stephen Hinckley purchased the Main Street tannery

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Nelson Preserve Is Now Open

CHRIS CRAWFORD
Staff Writer

While the weather did not cooperate for the formal dedication of Presumpscot Regional Land Trust's newest acquisition, the Nelson Preserve, the Land Trust wants people to know that the Preserve is open and ready for public use.

The 1.5 mile trail looping around the 35 acre preserve passes through forest, wetlands, and thick-et habitat and is marked with pink flagging and Land Trust logo directional signs. Hiking, biking snowshoeing, and x-country skiing are encouraged. This is a great place to find edible berries in the summer and is perfect for snowshoeing in the winter. Hunting is prohibited. Please remember to carry in carry out to leave no trace.

The trailhead and parking for three vehicles is located just west of 187 Flaggy Meadow Road in Gorham and is marked by a kiosk.

As with all the 1600 plus acres under the Land Trust's care, there is a great deal of work involved not only in getting a new Preserve ready for the public to enjoy but also in providing ongoing maintenance and up keep. The Land Trust would like to especially thank the following:

• The Jane Nelson Estate for donating the land of the preserve to the Land Trust

• Neighbors Tom and Jane Johnson for supporting the project, aiding in trail design and building, and for being the volunteer Stewards of the new preserve

• The Town of Gorham for providing financial support for the trails and stewardship of the Preserve

• PRLT Summer Intern Melody Larson for taking the lead on design and construction of the trail

• Boy Scout Troop 83 of Westbrook who organized two work days

• Eagle Scout Ethan Boardman who built the kiosk

• The many Land Trust individual stewardship volunteers who helped build the trail

The Land Trust is a non-profit whose mission is to conserve, steward, and provide access to local lands and clean water for current and future generations to enjoy.

Visit www.prlt.org to learn more or to become a member.

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. 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 kcorbett@aol.com or Cindy O'Shea at coshea2@maine.rr.com.



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Who Is Your Neighbor?



Photo courtesy of James Rathburn

Baxter Memorial Library Youth Services department is showcasing a special visiting collection called, "I'm Your Neighbor" through January 24, as shown by a recent visitor named Madeline. This is a traveling display which promotes the use of children's literature featuring "new arrival" cultures and groups to engage the entire community in a discussion of commonalities and differences. This project encourages communities to welcome immigrants, refugees, and 1st-3rd generation Americans as neighbors through the sharing of children's literature. Visit the library to enjoy these immigration themed books and their embedded discussion questions.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life after losing a loved one. Our group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the difficult days ahead.

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January 15 - April 9
Galilee Baptist Church
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GRIEF SHARE

SENIOR CARE

What To Do When an Older Adult is Suddenly Hospitalized

BILL JENKS

Any number of health issues, pneumonia, the flu, a urinary tract infection, even a fall, can precipitate an unplanned hospitalization, especially for an aging adult. Whatever the cause, there are countless questions and many important decisions to be made.

No matter how prepared one may be, it can be difficult to process emotions, absorb information, and make rational choices when an emergency strikes. The following suggestions can help to navigate the more immediate decisions during an older relative's hospital stay and prepare for the longer-term solutions that must be in place before and after discharge.

Establish open communication with the hospital staff. Things may be hectic, especially immediately before and after admission. As soon as possible, get the name and contact information of your relative's primary hospital doctor (the hospitalist) and the names of any specialists on the care team. The hospitalist oversees the coordination of your loved one's care and the staff members providing it. Ask the case manager, charge nurse, or nurse manager for your hospitalist's information. It may be difficult to get a meeting with the hospitalist, but it is important.

Write down any questions you have before the meeting. After the meeting, it is usually more effective to communicate with the nurses for status updates and answers to questions. Advocating for your loved one is essential. Interact regularly with the care team and attend care meetings

if possible. If there is a medical term or concept you do not understand or an issue that has not been addressed, push for clarification or better follow-through.

Determine how your loved one will pay for care. Find out whether the senior has Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance, or a combination thereof. The hospital social worker is your greatest asset and can also identify what other programs might help offset the costs of care both during and after the hospital stay.

It is critical to know whether the senior has been "admitted for observation," or has been fully admitted for care. If it is an admission for observation, the hospital and post-discharge expenses likely WILL NOT be paid by Medicare. This is a little-understood distinction, but it can have a huge impact. Advocate strongly for full admission.

Learn about post-hospitalization care, medication and equipment needs. Following hospitalization, a patient will need their health status carefully monitored to prevent further issues or a readmission. New medications may be prescribed and require monitoring. Physical therapy, occupational therapy and/or speech language pathology may be necessary. Specialized medical equipment might be needed. It is important to continue communicating with your loved one's medical team regarding status updates and long-term predictions.

Decide where the senior should live after they recover. Often, the hospital care team will recommend discharge to a rehabilitation facility. This is usually a short-term arrangement, but in some instances a permanent care and housing decision must be made. Although most people would prefer to stay in their own home, it is important to realize that, even with home care, returning home may not be the best decision. Facilities like assisted living communities and nursing homes have changed considerably in recent decades.

Make sure that all important crucial legal documents are in place. Medical and financial powers of attorney,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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Bill Jenks owns Home Instead Senior Care which provides non-medical home care throughout Cumberland County. He also serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Alzheimer's Association, Maine Chapter.

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Continuing to Remember, Honor and Teach



Photo courtesy of GPD

Officer Wayne Drown of the Gorham Police Department paused for a moment after laying a wreath at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall during the Wreaths Across America trek in December. As fellow officer Sgt. Ted Hatch shared, "The Gold Star families and our veterans shared some of the most compelling stories of their loss and how this trek is a chance for them to bond and heal." On National Wreaths Across America Day, the organization's mission to Remember, Honor and Teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 1,400 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad.

New Lights Will Ease Traffic Flow

EDMUND RICKER
Staff Writer

The Town of Gorham is currently working with the Maine Department of Transportation to improve the traffic signals at the intersection of Main Street, Elm Street and Mechanic Street. These lights currently use older technology of loops beneath the pavement that sense traffic above.

The improvements will include new lights that utilize infrared technology to sense traffic. The lights will also communicate with each other helping to increase the efficiency with which traffic moves through the downtown area. Other improvements include replacing some of the existing poles and/or arms that the lights hang on as some of this hardware has reached or

exceeded its life expectancy.

The project was set to go out to bid on January 7 but the completion date is unavailable at this time. The expected cost is also unknown as the scope of the work was significantly changed from the original proposal. This information will be available once bids have been received from contractors.

The intersection of New Portland Road and Main Street will also be receiving upgrades although this is a separate project. The focus of that work will be pedestrian crossings in the vicinity of Cumberland Farms. While the Town is hoping to have this work performed in conjunction with the Main Street project, it is unclear if that will be possible at this time.

Arrests ~ August 2018

Patrick Drive male, 29, was arrested for violating conditions of release.

Patrick Drive female, 27, was arrested for failure to register a vehicle.

Bridgton male, 42, was arrested for theft by deception, aggravated forgery, violating conditions of release and home repair fraud.

Cornish male, 35, was arrested for operating with suspended license, reckless conduct and failure to stop for an officer.

Buxton male, 32, was arrested for OUI (one prior).

Old Orchard Beach male, 36, was arrested for OUI.

Rust Road male, 35, was arrested for domestic violence assault and criminal mischief.

Westbrook female, 32, was arrested for OUI.

Mosher Road male, 33, was arrested for domestic violence criminal

terrorizing, domestic violence assault (prior) and aggravated assault.

Fort Hill Road male, 47, was arrested for OUI and criminal mischief.

Westbrook male, 27, was arrested for violating conditions of release, and unlawful possession of scheduled drugs.

Gray Road female, 32, was arrested for OUI.

Weeks Road male, 24, was arrested for OUI, operating after habitual offender license revocation and violating conditions of release.

Bridgton male, 29, was arrested for unlawful possession of scheduled drugs (two counts) and unlawful possession of heroin.

Foxborough, Mass. male, 33, was arrested for failure to provide his correct name.

Wilson Road male, 71, was arrested for domestic violence assault and domestic violence terrorizing.

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 November 29 issue is a bench next to Baxter Memorial Library in memory of Gorham student Tim Stickney. As one former teacher shared with the Gorham Times, he is "missed tremendously."



Photo credit Roger Marchand

Senior Care CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

HIPAA authorization, estate planning documents (such as a will), and advance directives are central pieces of the legal puzzle for seniors and their caregivers. Regardless of whether these preparations are already in place, it is crucial to work with a reputable elder law attorney after hospitalization to ensure all bases are covered now and for the future.

Educate yourself on the senior's medical condition. It can be difficult to learn much about your loved one's condition while they are still in the hospital and you are trying to iron out billing and post-discharge care. You will get information from the hospital care team to help you make next decisions, but your work is not over once your loved one has been discharged. Learn all you can about their medical condition(s) and the medications they are taking. This

is especially important in cases of chronic and/or progressive illnesses, like COPD, heart failure, or dementia. A solid understanding of their health is invaluable and makes you a strong and effective advocate.

Get support for yourself. Whether your older relative returns home with assistance, or moves into assisted living or a nursing home, find support to help you navigate this new stage in both your lives. The Southern Maine Agency on Aging can help you find available resources.

Take advantage of caregiver support groups for answers and emotional support from fellow caregivers who have been in your shoes. Taking occasional breaks and letting someone else pick up the slack is important. Maintaining your health and happiness directly affects your care recipient's quality of life and longevity, too.

GORHAM'S TREE FESTIVAL 2018



I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THE BUSINESSES IN GORHAM THAT PARTICIPATED IN SPREADING THE SPIRIT OF THE SEASON BY TAKING THE TIME IN PUTTING UP BEAUTIFUL TREES ALONG MAIN STREET AND BEYOND. THANK YOU TO THE COMMUNITY FOR YOUR VOTES AND ALL THE KIND COMMENTS.

THE TOP THREE WITH THE MOST VOTES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- 1ST PLACE - ATLANTIC DANCE ARTS
- 2ND PLACE - GORHAM HOUSE
- 3RD PLACE - IN HOME SERVICES

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!
WE LOOK FORWARD TO 2019 TREE FESTIVAL!

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For the Love of the Sport

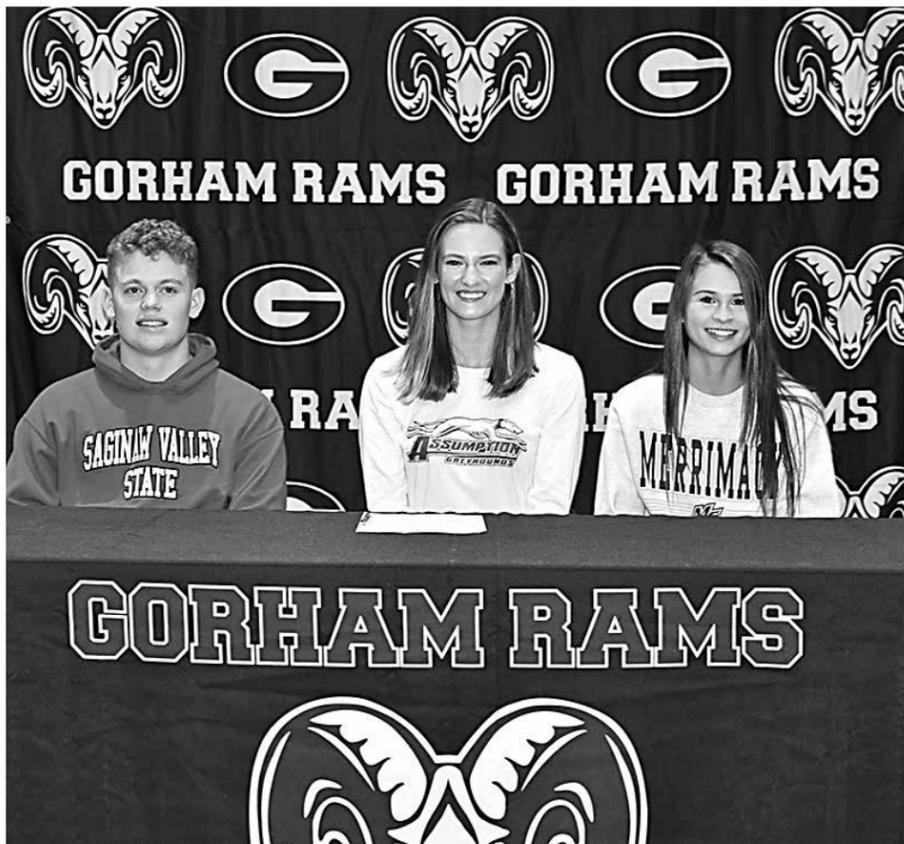


Photo credit Amanda Landry Photography

Three Gorham athletes recently signed their letters of intent for their respective schools. (Shown from left to right) Aaron Goschke, son of Matt and Jennifer Goschke will be playing baseball at Saginaw Valley State University; Evelyn Kitchen, daughter of Steve and Melanie Kitchen, will be running track for Assumption College; and Hallie Shiers, daughter of Darren and Lisa Shiers, will be playing soccer at Merrimack College.

In the Zone

In addition to the SMAA awards given at the end of the fall season (see Gorham Times issue dated November 15, 2018), the Maine Sunday Telegram chose All Star Teams which included the following Gorham athletes/coach.

Boys' Soccer:

Junior **Andrew Rent** was chosen as Maine Sunday Telegram Player of the Year.

Volleyball:

Senior **Maiya Carlson**, outside hitter, amassed 82 kills and 77 digs as she led her team to an undefeated regular season and its first appearance in the Class A state championship match.

Senior **Evelyn Kitchen**, middle hitter, recorded 64 kills for the Rams, even though some opponents double-teamed her.

Coach of the Year Emma Tirrell: In just her second year as head coach – on a team she

started coaching for a college credit – Tirrell led the Rams to an undefeated regular season and their first appearance in the Class A state championship match. Gorham lost only eight sets all season.

Cross Country:

Junior **Iris Kitchen** was seventh in Class A (19:16.36), fourth in the South regional and 44th at the New England meet (sixth among Maine runners).

Junior **Kate Tugman** finished second at the Class A state meet (18:49.24), South regional and Southern Maine Classic, where she ran a season-best time of 18:17.99.

On December 22, GHS freshman Andrew Farr broke the 55m dash SMAA Junior Division record with a time of 6.67, beating the record by .02 seconds. Farr also beat the school record for the Junior 200m dash with a time of 23.94. The previous record was 24.1 set by Joe Wise in 2005.

If you have a sports event you would like to share, email gtimeessports@gmail.com



Redeemer Lutheran Church (LCMS)

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www.redeemermaine.org
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Rev. Timothy E Sandeno, Pastor

Bible Study Sundays at 9:00 am
Worship Sundays at 10:15 am

Whom do we thank for the good that we have? O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. For His mercy endures forever! (Psalm 107:1)



Racing With The Angels



Photos courtesy of Joey Pastore

Joey Pastore and his wife, Briana Pastore, are pictured with their children Jace (left) and Sloan.

DESTINY COOK
Sports Editor

Little boys have big imaginations; whether they become Superman, Batman or Buzz Lightyear, they can be anything they want when they are little. For Joey Pastore, it was a race car driver.

Joey's mother, Donna, shared that it was his dad, Joe Sr., who got the family involved in racing. "When Joey was about three we found out about a go kart track in Shelton, CT. He got hooked and started racing Sundays there for about two years, his nickname was 'Joe Shuffle' because he had a way of shuffling his way through the pack."

As time went on, Joe Sr. also got his wife and daughter into racing so it became a family affair. They eventually moved to Maine and Joe approached Beech Ridge Speedway with an idea for a go karting organization. Donna said, "Joe and I both raced the first couple years to help with kart counts and then once Joey was old enough to race, Joe stopped so he could focus on Joey and me. He also had to run the now popular, fast growing organization."

Joe Sr. continued to follow his dream but it was through his son Joey. "My dad bought me a go kart to race at Beech Ridge Motor Speedway on Friday nights. At the time he and my mom owned and operated Southern Maine Karting," he said.

Joey raced for seven years, and during that time he won numerous championships and awards. When he was old enough, he entered the Limited Sportsman at Beech Ridge on Saturday nights. He shared, "In



Joey pictured with his biggest supporter, his dad, Joe Sr.

my first year racing in that series, I won the last race of the season and earned the Rookie of the Year title as well. My dad was my biggest supporter. He made sure I had the best equipment and helped me to truly develop what he called my 'natural abilities.'

As Joey moved up in divisions, his dad's support was unwavering. In 2003 he entered the Pro Stocks to race in a faster division, but his parents signed him up for the Nascar Technical Institute in Mooresville, North Carolina so his season ended early. "The program was a two year program but I fast tracked it and was finished in 18 months. Over that time my dad sold his prized Corvette to have a new pro stock built for me," he said.

Then, as they say, times got tough. His parents were building a new house with a race shop, but their other house wasn't selling. "Kids now wanted to drive cars not go karts so Southern Maine Karting closed its doors in 2003," he said.

Joey raced in the Pass Tour and traveled all over New England. He picked up many wins and the Pass Sportsman Championship. However,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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Racing with the Angels CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

his dad was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's and it progressed quickly. Joey said, "He needed a lot of care and racing just wasn't my priority anymore. I also had just started a family and needed time to focus on that as well."

When Joe Sr. passed away in November of 2017, Joey decided he wanted to race one more season for his dad. "I knew he would have wanted me to keep living my passion. With the help of Bob Craft as a sponsor and Andrew Morais as my crew chief, we were able to keep our small team going," Pastore said.

The 2018 season started with a win but included some struggles before Joey captured the Sports Series Championship at Beech Ridge. He said, "I knew throughout the whole season my dad was watching over me. I often wanted to give up and quit but I could hear his voice (and my mom's) telling me to never give up and to continue to make him proud."

Not only did Joey win the championship, he was picked as Overall Driver of the Year. He was particularly proud of this award as it is determined by the track officials based on driving skills, statistics and sportsmanship.

Of course his mother Donna was in the stands cheering him on. "Seeing Joey continue to follow his dreams this year and race in his father's memory was very emotional, but so fulfilling for us all. He achieved what his father had always wanted for him since he started racing: a feeling of accomplishment, pride in his successes, and a Beech Ridge Championship," she said.

Joey is considering returning for the 2019 season, however, with a young family to think of and the time it takes to be involved in the Saturday night program, it will be a carefully thought out decision. "This year I raced with the angels and I know my dad was right there beside me just like he always was."

Had Your Flu Shot?

COURTESY OF THE AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION

It's not too late. It may be the most important gift you give your family this holiday season. There were 85 flu related deaths in Maine in 2017. The influenza vaccine is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones and to reduce the spread of the flu, which

peaks around January or February.

The CDC recommends that everyone six months and older get an annual influenza vaccination. Vaccination against the flu is especially important for pregnant women, people age 50 and older and those with chronic health conditions including asthma and COPD, as they are at a higher risk of developing influenza-related complication.

Touring the Town Tanneries CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

from the Clarks and ran it until a fire in 1869 destroyed a good portion of the business. The only remaining part of the tannery was a building that housed the office and the carriage house. Now a dwelling, it is the first house on the right on Water Street as you approach from Main Street. This fire was considered to be one of the largest fires in the town's history. The Hinckleys rebuilt the tannery and in the 1920's it became known as the Ireson Tanning Company.

In 1926, Electra Brown, known as Lecky by her friends, arrived via electric car to become the secretary for John Meehan, who was then the supervisor of the Ireson Tanning Co. In her memoirs, Brown made mention of the fine group of men that she had the pleasure of working with. You may recognize some of the names of local men working in this tannery such as Michael Flaherty, Charles Manchester, Ralph and Leslie Smith, Earl Watson, Henry Kneeland, Ernest Knapton, Richard Lowell, George Mitsmenn, Roy Carr, Maurice and Willis Cousins, Harry Getchell, John Lovendale

and William and Lee Randall to mention a few.

Leather tanning required a steady supply of water and the Ireson Tannery had a unique way of obtaining that water. Interestingly, and unknown to many town folks, a group of young boys found a manhole that showed there was an underground duct of cut rock laid from the railroad brook (which passes behind what is now Sebago Brew Pub) to the Ireson Tannery so the water could flow by gravity to the tanner vats. The manhole cover was located on the corner of the tannery property and was opened on occasion. Lecky Brown, out of curiosity, had the opportunity to view the opening and to see the stream of water running through.

The Ireson Tannery closed in 1932 due to the prohibitive costs of receiving and shipping products. In 1937, the buildings were demolished and the lot sat empty for a few years until the Sunoco Station was built on that site.

Anyone with a question or more information may contact Wilma Gould Johnson at iamwilma@comcast.net.

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2018 National Honor Society Inductees



Photo credit: Gianna Romatis

On November 7, 32 new members were inducted into the Gorham High School chapter of the National Honor Society under advisor Sally Gherardi. Inductees were selected based on their embodiment of the four pillars of NHS: scholarship, service, leadership, and character. Congratulations to all the 2018 inductees: Carson Battaglia, Laura Bolduc, Haley Burns, Brandon Cummings, Ryan DeSanctis, Faith Dillon, Riley Farrigan, Maddie Firmin, Avery Germond, Maeve Higgins, Erin Hume, Paige Hume, Elyssa Johnson, Aaron Jones, Iris Kitchen, Henry Kuntz, Lucas Montagne, MacAllister Moss, Nolan McCullough, Ethan Mercier, Abigail Miller, Peyton Morton, Abigail O'Brien, Ava Pitman, Samuel Pocock, Ryan Reno, Samantha Rockwell, Callie Russell, Veronica Steiner, Madisen Sweatt, Lydia Valentine, and Samuel Waggoner.

DECEMBER 12, 2018

School Committee Meeting

KATHY CORBETT
Staff Writer

At the last regular School Committee (SC) meeting, Superintendent Heather Perry announced that the Maine Department of Education had posted the MEA test results on its website. Chris Record, assistant superintendent, will provide more details on Gorham results and how they compare to the previous two years' worth of data at the next SC meeting.

Record commended Patti Joyce, GMS social studies teacher, and Adam Parvanta, GHS technology integrator, for the videos they made this summer for professional development.

Citing an example of student interest in the environment, Stewart McCallister read a letter from a 5th grader who asked the SC to support his concern about plastic straws that endanger seals and add to trash in the ocean. Kate Livingston encouraged people to check social media sites for each school to learn more about student activities and interests.

The Policy Committee is reviewing the Transportation Policy. Darryl Wright, SC Chair, asked parents and the public to email school principals with their concerns, issues and suggestions for solutions.

Bill Benson reported on vocational education programs. PATHS is looking for an instructor for its cyber security program and people interested in the position should contact the superintendent's office.

The GHS Building Committee is planning for a facility that will accom-

modate 1100 students. The committee hopes to have preliminary plans and cost estimates by February. These will be presented to the SC, Town Council, and the public for input in the spring. The Athletic Capital Campaign Steering Committee is preparing a "soft launch" with a case statement and "ways to give."

The Proficiency-Based Steering Committee is reviewing the 6-12 health standards and seeking feedback from students.

Kim Fadrigon, K-8 instructional coach, presented a review of the K-12 Reading Curriculum that has performance indicators for each grade. She emphasized that one goal of the K-5 core curriculum is to provide enough support for students at risk before they enter middle school.

The K-5 curriculum focuses on "being a writer" and learning to read beginning in Kindergarten. In grades 3-5 students learn how to be a reader, make meaning, and respond as a reader. This is a high quality curriculum, Fadrigon said, "that fosters a love for reading and writing."

One teacher in each building who has piloted the program works with other teachers to implement it. Janet Kuech, an ed tech, said this new curriculum is very useful in working with special needs students.

The School Committee voted (7-0) to delete the policy on home use of laptops because its provisions are covered in other policies, and to approve changes to the School Website Policy. The SC also voted unanimously on the annual election of the superintendent as required by state statute.



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Update on GHS Building Project Work

HEATHER PERRY

Superintendent of Gorham Schools

The Gorham High School (GHS) Capital Project continues to move forward and is beginning to pick up significant momentum. A broad-based community stakeholder Building Committee has been launched and the group has been working diligently to first identify the needs that must be addressed in this project and then work with architects (Harriman Associates) to design a building that meets those needs.

The initial estimate for the design will be ready in late January or early February and then we will work to launch public forums and various feedback loops at that time that will extend throughout the course of the winter and spring of 2019.

We know that we need to find a way to offset local taxpayer costs for this project so we have been building the foundations for a capital campaign for the athletic portions of this work. We are poised to do a "soft launch" of the capital campaign focused on information sharing in January and February with a goal of trying to raise approximately 20% of the athletic fields cost through community-wide fundraising efforts.

Here are some quick points to help residents understand the need for this project and why we are working so diligently to bring this project to a voter referendum in November of 2019.

- * GHS was last renovated in 1992. At the time, the school was built to house 750 students. There are currently 868 students in the building now.

- * Enrollment projections indicate that we will continue to grow in student population with our high school popu-



Sketch courtesy of Heather Perry

The initial draft design incorporates all of the programmatic, athletic, and community needs associated with this project at this time. The existing GHS building is shown in cream while the orange is additional classroom space.

lution scheduled to reach approximately 944 students by the year 2027-28.

- * Currently, our main entrance for students is located on the opposite side of the school from our administrative offices creating a significant safety concern that must be more thoroughly dealt with by changing the physical plan for the long-term.

- * Current classroom sizes in our building range between 500-717 square feet, while today's standards require classrooms of approximately 800 square feet.

- * The current cafeteria is far undersized for our students. During the three lunch periods, students are forced to sit on benches in the hallway/lobby area, and unfortunately, often on the floor.

- * Mechanical systems at GHS are nearing the end of their useful life and many are inefficient compared to today's standards. It currently costs \$1.17/square foot to operate GHS while Great Falls Elementary School operates at \$.91/square foot and that building is

air-conditioned.

- * GHS currently operates 2.5 competition athletic fields compared to other comparable high schools in the state that operate between 6-8 grass fields (or utilize synthetic surfaces for fewer fields).

- * We have a total of 280 parking spaces for staff and students onsite. Schools of our size are now built to offer between 400-500 parking spaces.

- * The community is not able to use our facilities in the way that we would like. We want to open up our facilities more to community use.

The initial draft design incorporates

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

Correction: Gorham High School First Quarter Additional Honor Rolls 2018-19

Due to a software glitch, some honor roll students were mistakenly omitted from the initial posting in the December 13, 2018 issue. The students listed below should have been included.

Grade 9 - Honors
Kayleigh Cloutier
Gannon Kuntz

Grade 12 - High Honors
Makayla Taft

Grade 11 - Honors
Lane Chariton
Abigail Dolloff
Sebastien Irish
Haley Lowell

Grade 12 - Honors
Lexa Bibeau
Julia Downey
Rose O'Brien
Adam Ouellette

School Note

Superintendent Heather Perry is launching a winter series of "Dunk and Discuss" meetings at Aroma Joe's. This is an opportunity for any parent who wishes to stop by for a cup of coffee and discuss any school-related topics and get direct and immediate answers to questions. Topics may vary from the Gorham High School Building and Athletic Capital Campaign work to grading and reporting practices to Transportation Policy to budget and anything in between. There are four dates over the course of the next few months: Wednesday, Jan. 30, at 7 a.m.; Wednesday, Feb. 6, at 7 a.m.; Tuesday, Feb. 26, at 7 a.m.; and Monday, March 11, at 7 a.m.



Photo credit Dennis Plante

GMS Student Winner of NATS Competition

Emelia Bailey, age 13, won first place in Division 1 at the Maine National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) annual Musical Theater singing competition held on Nov. 17 at Bates College. Bailey sang two selections from the musicals "Into the Woods" and "The Enchantress." An eighth-grader at Gorham Middle School, Bailey also participated in the NATS Classical Singing Competition last spring where she placed first in her division as well. The goal of NATS is to encourage the highest standards of the vocal art and of ethical principles in the teaching of singing; and to promote vocal education and research at all levels, both for the enrichment of the general public and for the professional advancement of the talented. The Maine chapter of NATS hosts two annual singing competitions at Bates College each year, one in musical theatre and the other in classical singing.



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Gorham Times Flourishing with New and Returning Student Interns

COMPILED BY ANDREA MORRELL
School News Editor

A huge part of the success of the Gorham Times over the past 20 plus years is its focus on the community and students. Without our current and past student interns, we would not be able to deliver all the news, especially school related articles, to Gorham as fully as we have been able to. We can not thank our interns enough for their hard work and dedication to the paper. If you see any of these students around town, please thank them.



Photo credit Cathie Fallona

MARY DEWITT

Mary DeWitt is a freshman at GHS. This is her first year as an intern for the Gorham Times. She attended the Writing the Big City class at the School of the New York Times this past summer. DeWitt plays soccer and lacrosse. She wanted to be an intern because she really enjoys writing and has an interest in being a journalist in the future.



Photo credit Sydney Haskell

BROOKE GUIMOND

Brooke Guimond is a freshman at GHS and this is her first year as an intern. She plays ice hockey and participates in the yearbook club.

Guimond wanted to intern for the Gorham Times because she is very interested in pursuing a career in journalism and wanted to get some local experience.



Photo credit Rachel Flynn

GRACE FLYNN

Grace Flynn is a sophomore at GHS and this is her first year as an intern. She is a member of GHS's student council, a coach for the Girls on the Run program at Village, a volunteer with the Maine Youth Court, and a member of the Maine Youth Court Advisory Council. Flynn is also competing at the Poetry Out Loud competition at GHS this year and is an ambassador for the School of the New York Times. She's been interested in writing and storytelling for as long as she can remember and wanted to be an intern for the Gorham Times because recording the experiences of real people is one of the most valuable forms of storytelling. Flynn was introduced to journalism through the Writing the Big City class at the School of the New York Times this past summer. Her experiences there sparked her interest in journalism and she saw interning at the Gorham Times as a fantastic opportunity to follow that interest.

year. She is also a member of student council, yearbook, and The Spill, the GHS literary magazine. Additionally, she writes for Maine Public and a photo of hers was recently published in the New York Times for a photo-journalism contest. At first, Valentine wanted to intern for the Gorham Times because it seemed like a fun way to get her Silver Award for Girl Scouts. As the years went on, she realized that she enjoyed journalism and decided to pursue it as a career. She believes that the Gorham Times is the perfect way to grow her experience.



Photo credit Nicole Richman, Sol-to-Soul Photography

ERIN WENTWORTH

Erin Wentworth is a senior at GHS and this is her third year as an intern for the Gorham Times. She is also the treasurer of GHS's Student Council and is a member of the National Honor Society. Wentworth plays the flute, piccolo, and saxophone at school, and the flute in the Portland Youth Wind Ensemble and the Portland Youth Symphony Orchestra. She wanted to intern for the Gorham Times so that she could keep the community up-to-date with what's going on at GHS and to have a chance to write for some purpose other than school.



Photo courtesy of Lydia Valentine

LYDIA VALENTINE

Lydia Valentine is a junior at GHS. She wrote her first piece for the Gorham Times in fifth grade and has been an intern for the paper ever since. Other than writing for the Gorham Times, Valentine likes spending her time running with the cross country and track teams. She was a captain this past season and is looking forward to the rest of this

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Electronic Cigarettes: What's the Bottom Line?

ANDREA MORRELL
School News Editor

Do you know that electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) are now the most commonly used tobacco product among U.S. youth? In 2016, more than two million U.S. middle and high school students used e-cigarettes over a 30-day period.

E-cigarettes (or "e-cigs," "e-hookahs," "mods," "vape pens," "vapes," "tank systems," "electronic nicotine delivery systems") are battery-powered devices that can deliver nicotine and flavorings to the user in the form of an aerosol. Some are made to look like regular cigarettes, cigars, or pipes. Some resemble pens, USB sticks, and other everyday items. They can also deliver marijuana and other drugs.

In the U.S., youth are more likely than adults to use e-cigarettes, and among users aged 18-24, 40 percent have never been cigarette smokers

compared to 11.4 percent of adults who had never been regular cigarette smokers. From 2011-2015, the number of youths juuling (an increasingly popular e-cigarette device that is shaped like a USB flash drive) increased 1,000 percent.

Claudine Emerson, Gorham High School's social worker, said during a recent parent and educator presentation on vaping and juuling that "juuling set out to help a public health problem but in a lot of ways it's created a new one. People who may never have smoked are trying it."

And with over 7,000 different flavor pods and hundreds of wraps or "skins" that look like zip drives or USB plugs it's no wonder teens are attracted to them. Juuls were created initially to benefit adult smokers who wanted a substitute for regular cigarettes and other smoked tobacco products. They are not safe for youth, young adults, pregnant women, or adults who do not currently use tobacco products.

What many youths do not know is that 99 percent of devices tested

have had nicotine in it, even the ones marketed to contain zero percent. One Juul pod (a nicotine liquid refill) is equivalent to 200 puffs, which is more than one pack of cigarettes.

The biggest health risk in teens is that the adolescent brain is not fully developed until age 25. Young people who use e-cigarettes may be more likely to go on to use regular cigarettes. There has also been reports of knock off devices exploding and causing fires and inflicting injury, and even death in one known case.

E-cigarette aerosol generally contains fewer toxic chemicals than the deadly mix of 7,000 chemicals in smoke from regular cigarettes.

However, e-cigarette aerosol is not harmless. It can contain harmful and potentially harmful substances, including nicotine, heavy metals like lead, volatile organic compounds, and cancer-causing agents.

Four out of five kids start with "just the flavoring" but those

have risk. The metals in a vaping coil break down and the child is inhaling metals known to cause cancer. And because students think it's "just flavoring" they are smoking more frequently because they don't understand the risks; they are inhaling a lot more and the vapor is at such an extreme heat it is causing a condition known as "popcorn lung" (i.e. small burn marks on the lungs).

In 2017, the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey data showed that out of those students who reported vaping in the past 30 days, 57 percent also used cigarettes and 49 percent used marijuana.

Emerson stated that five years ago educators felt that they had really kicked smoking in teenagers as they understood the risks and weren't starting to smoke. "However, now we feel that we have come full circle and need to start educating teenagers again," she shared.

Even though Maine laws changed in July and the law now states that a person has to be 21 to purchase and possess these items, Emerson feels



the law hasn't really deterred anyone from buying them. Tobacco companies are advertising these products on Instagram, Snapchat, and YouTube.

At GHS, administration has started a new discipline program if a student is caught with an e-cigarette at school. Initially, students were sent home but they found that to be ineffective. Now if caught, students will serve a Friday detention until 5:30 p.m. and have to take a 1:1 one-hour session with Emerson on a vaping curriculum.

At GMS, students have a one day out-of-school suspension and have

to meet with social worker Brooke Proulx upon their return to school. The second offense is a one to eight day out-of-school suspension.

Emerson suggested using "The 3 T's" when parents are talking to their kids about vaping/juuling: tone, timing, and tact. It's not what you say, it's how you say it (be aware of your tone of voice, facial expressions, and overall body language). Have a conversation in the car, while watching TV, or when something comes up in the news. Take a curiosity mindset instead of making assumptions or judgments; listen and try to avoid interrupting.

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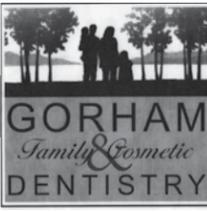
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75 Pearl Street, Portland, Maine 04101
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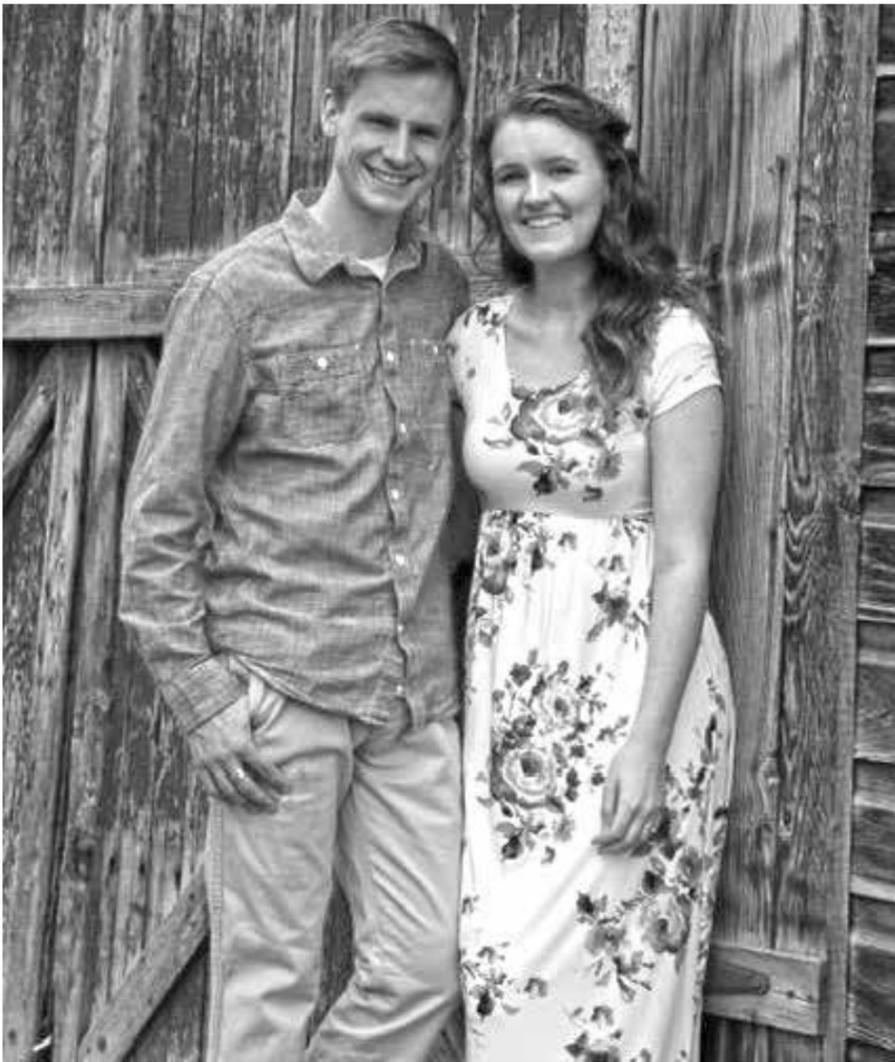
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ENGAGEMENTS & WEDDINGS



Kelsey Mitchell and Thomas Bradshaw (both GHS '14) were engaged this past summer. Kelsey is the daughter of Mike and Jennifer Mitchell and Thomas is the son of John and Valerie Bradshaw. They were married in December in the Boston temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Both are attending Utah State University.



Kate Fasulo (GHS '00) married **Edward Simmons** on July 7, 2018, in Devon, England. Kate and Ed reside in London. Kate is the daughter of Kim Meggison of Gorham and Dan Fasulo of Portland.

OF INTEREST

Shawn Crosby (GHS '18) was awarded the **Dean's Leadership Scholarship at Husson University for the 2018-19 academic year.** Crosby is currently enrolled in the BS Communications Technology program with a concentration in Audio Engineering.

Karis Pillsbury of Gorham recently performed in **"Blessed Son of God,"** the 2018 Christmas Festival presented by the Wheaton College Conservatory of Music.

The Presumpscot Regional Land Trust invites the public to a Full Moon Snowshoe at Randall Orchard on Saturday, January 19, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Hot cider from apples grown and pressed on-site will be served after the one mile snowshoe led by Maine Master Naturalists Jeanne Christie and Joan Lundin. The event is free but you must pre-register at <https://www.prlt.org/event-signup-full-moon-snowshoe>.

The Gorham Lions will meet on Tuesday, January 22, at 6:30 p.m., Old Elmwood School House on South Street (Rte. 114). New members always welcome. FMI, 929-9182.



Representatives of Gorham and Windham joined the Portland Water District (PWD) for an open house and ribbon cutting celebrating the opening of the new Wards Hill Water Pump Station in Gorham. The increased capacity improves reliability and adds a much needed boost of supply for fire protection and economic development and allows the outdated Gorham Station to be decommissioned. Shown (left to right) are Town Council member Suzie Phillips, Fire Chief Robert Lefebvre; Joel Anderson of PWD, Louise Douglas of PWD, Town Councilor Lee Pratt, Guy Cote of PWD, and Windham Fire Chief Brent Libby.

Gorham Savings Bank has named current president, Steve deCastro, as its new CEO. deCastro takes over for Chris Emmons, who is retiring after 15 years of service with GSB.

Dr. Robert Lavoie of Chiropractic Clinic of Gorham has obtained the postgraduate designation of Certified Chiropractic Sports Physician by the American Chiropractic Board of Sports Physicians. The certification requires a doctor to attend a minimum of 100 hours of a 120-hour postgraduate program specific to physical fitness and the evaluation and treatment of injuries encountered in sports, and successfully pass a comprehensive written examination.

The Gorham Lions held its annual holiday dinner on December 11 at Ocean Gardens Restaurant. Twenty Lions and their spouses enjoyed the evening and saluted local resident and business owner, Carl Phillips, of Phillips Towing and Repair, who volunteers his time and vehicle to assist the Gorham Lions as they raise 100 Stars and Stripes US flags on the busy downtown streets in Gorham in May and lower them in October. Pictured are Phillips (left) with Gorham Lions Treasurer, Jim Burnham (right).

SENIOR PROGRAMS

Senior Meal Site will be held on Wednesdays at 12 p.m., St. Anne's Church, 299 Main St. Cost is \$4. Volunteers are needed to assist in meal prep and clean up. FMI call 839-4857 or 222-1630.

Seniors: Do you know how to protect yourself against an attack by an assailant? Come to Lakes Region Senior Center Pot Luck Luncheon to hear our speaker on Monday,



CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

January 14. Lunch begins promptly at 11:30 a.m. followed by our Keynote Speaker, Coreen, a policewoman from the Portland Police Department RAD Program (Resisting Aggression Defensively) at 12:15 p.m. If you plan to attend the luncheon, please bring a dish to share or pay \$5. Little Falls Activity Center, 40 Acorn St. FMI 839-3859

Lakes Region Senior Center, located at the Little Falls Activity Center, 40 Acorn St. 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 last Wednesday of the month. FMI, David 892-9604; Thursday Table games at 10 a.m. and Friday Art Workshop at 9 a.m. FMI 892-0299

Lecky Brown Center: Mondays: 9:30 a.m. Knitting Group, Wednesdays: 10 a.m. the Originals (Please go to firstparishgorham.org/originals for the weekly schedule of speakers), Fridays: 10 a.m. ARTrageous Seniors - needle felting animals in January. Lecky Brown Center is located on the 3rd floor of First Parish Church. FMI: 835-9379 or leckybrowncenter@gmail.com

The Gorham Medical Closet located at the Municipal Center, 75 South St., is free and available to Gorham residents in need of wheelchairs, shower seats, commodes, walkers, canes, crutches and more. FMI 207-839-3859, 839-2484, 839-6682, 329-4976, 839-3494, 839-3228, 839-6450. Hours are by appointment only with one of the volunteers. If you don't reach a volunteer, leave a message and they will return your call.

ON-GOING EVENTS

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

CLOSE TO HOME

A spaghetti supper, sponsored by Boy Scout Troop 87, will be held on Saturday, January 12, from 5-6:30, St. Anthony's Parish Hall in Westbrook. Menu includes spaghetti, ziti, meat balls both beef and turkey, salad, bread, beverages and simply the best dessert buffet ever. Adults \$8, children under 10/\$8.

A local support group for Crohn's Disease and Colitis will meet at Roots Café in Westbrook the first Saturday of each month 10 a.m. The Ostomy support group will meet on the second Saturday of each month at 10 a.m at Roots Café. Groups are free and open to the public. The group will meet in the conference room which can be accessed by a separate entrance from the café in the book area. FMI kaymayparsons@yahoo.com

all of the programmatic, athletic, and community needs associated with this project at this time. This IS NOT A FINAL DESIGN, but will be the design that gets us to our first initial project estimate.

At this point, we are designing the building to house 1,100 students. We are doing this because we know that this project will be a 20-30-year commitment and we do not want to have to come back to taxpayers in 10 years with another capital project for GHS. This enrollment target may change as we continue to move through the work.

We are looking at a new classroom wing on the right side of the existing building which will be a two-story structure adding approximately 14 new classrooms and two science labs to GHS. We are proposing to move our tennis courts to Robie Park, which we hope will expand community access and use of these great recreational facilities while still leaving the playground, community gardens, and softball field in place.

We are expanding our existing cafeteria to hold the appropriate number of students and factoring in the need for an additional gymnasium. We are also looking to add a large cardio and fitness room to this area, which can be used by our students during the day and be open to the community for use outside of the regular student day.

Additional items include 200 more parking spaces, the movement of the administrative offices to the main entrance side of the building, with appropriate security measures in place to ensure increased student safety, and the movement of our main competition

field to allow for the building changes necessary to accommodate the design.

We are also seeking the addition of synthetic turf to the main competition field so that we can provide an adequate space for our students to participate in PE classes during the school day, an adequate space for practices and competitions to be held by our students, and a venue that can be more readily used by our community when not in use by the school.

This renovation will also ensure our existing classroom sizes meet square footage standards for the present day, and our mechanical systems will be upgraded to be more energy efficient and reliable for the next 30 years.

The School Committee will host a joint meeting with the Gorham Town Council on January 15 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the project. The meeting is open to the public and will be televised via GoCat.

We anticipate the first of several community forums will take place in early February and will launch another survey to allow folks to share their thoughts and ideas about the project. The timeline for final decision making will be a vote for support of the final design by the Building Committee in July. The School Committee will vote to approve a final project design in August and the Town Council will need to vote to approve of a referendum to appear on the November ballot by September.

If you have questions, concerns, or comments, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at heather.perry@gorhamschools.org.



Chris Burton



Julie Chandler



Paul Farley



Becky Gallant



Mike Griffin



Jane Mason



Jeff Mason



Peter Mason

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SOLD

264 Narragansett \$239,900 - Attractive Gorham cape style home w/ oversized 2car garage! Currently 2BR & 1ba but the unfinished 2nd flr is perfect for expansion.



UNDER CONTRACT

GORHAM \$184,900 - Ideal Gorham location on the Westbrook side of Gorham just 15 min to Portland. This 2 bed, 1 bath w/ 1 car garage is ready for your updates.



SOLD

7 Pine St \$259,500 - Located in the heart of Gorham Village! This 3BR, 2 bath bungalow w/ 2 car garage offers over 1800sqft of living space. Gorgeous in town lot w/ public water & sewer.



GORHAM \$395,000 - Spacious house w/ a separate office! Perfect opportunity to take your business to the next level. Already have a home? Rent out the residence for income.



SOLD

BUXTON \$84,900 - Two acre building lot located near the Buxton/Gorham line. Level country setting for your new home, great location to commute in all directions.



SOLD

110 Oak Hill Rd \$170,000 - Classic Standish Cape Cod with 3 beds, 2baths, ell and barn all on 4.63 acres. Excellent potential with your ideas and updating.



NEW LISTING

GORHAM \$78,500 - 1.48 acre building lot ready to go with survey and soils test in place. 201 feet of frontage on a paved public road. No building restrictions or covenants in place.



GORHAM \$369,500 - Just completed colonial w/ open floor plan. Gorgeous finishes w/ shiplap accent walls, grey tones throughout, attractive fixtures & hardware. Secluded 1.54ac lot.



UNDER CONTRACT

BUXTON \$149,500 - This 3 bedroom 2bathroom ranch is conveniently located on its own lot. Features cathedral ceilings, master suite w/walk-in closet, rear deck & more.



NEW LISTING

GORHAM \$269,900 - Ideal spot to locate your business! 500sf of office space, 2000sf of warehouse space w/ 12x14 overhead door, 200 amp 3 phase electrical service, 450sf of unfinished storage & easy access to the highway!



UNDER CONTRACT

BUXTON \$229,500 - You'll love all this county setting has to offer conveniently located on 4.70 acres. Spacious home offers 3-4BR & 2 full ba. Excellent storage with an attached 2 bay garage/ shop plus a detached barn.



SOLD

29 Addison Way \$324,900 - 3BR, 2.5ba 1824sqft w/ daylight walkout bsmt & 24x24 finished garage. HW & tile throughout, granite counters, SS appliances, deck & paved driveway in Hollis.

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KNOCK, KNOCK

Tow Path Road man flagged down an officer to report neighborhood kids have been banging on his doors and windows at night, then running off. It happened around 7-8 p.m. and this was not the first time he had reported this. He was told to call as soon as it happens.

Parker Hill Road caller said his soon to be ex-girlfriend would not leave him alone and had shown up at a friend's house and had refused to leave. Girlfriend was sitting in her vehicle. Caller asked officer to tell her to leave and not return. Officer gave her the message and she left.

Woman on Fort Hill Road had driver's side rear window shattered but it was pushed out from the inside and still intact. There was no evidence of any pellet from inside. Woman said she would have the window fixed.

Officer advised Sebago Lake Road caller to contact Spectrum as she had been receiving phone calls with her own phone number showing up on caller ID.

Three officers responded to Gray Road and waited for shooting to stop before making contact with subjects on Jessica Lane. Shooting was being done within legal parameters and there was a safe back drop. Officer suggested they shoot earlier and be more mindful of the noise. Shooters were very cooperative and agreed to officer's suggestion.

Suspicious person on Ossipee Trail was a firefighter preparing to drive home.

Hidden Pines Drive caller reported a Maine Coon Cat/mix had been missing for three days. Caller had been in contact with Maine Lost Cat and Animal Refuge League and had posted photos in the neighborhood. Caller had also place litter boxes around as well as articles of clothing. Caller was advised there had been no reports of cats found matching the description nor were there any reports of deceased cats in the area. Caller was advised to check with neighbors, check garages, sheds, etc. where cat could be trapped.

Officer responded to a domestic disturbance on Ira Drive. Parties were involved in verbal argument about home schooling. Parties agreed to separate for the evening.

Files Road caller wanted to sell ex's trailer but was told to keep it and use it until ex came to get it as ex had bought and paid for it.

Suspicious person driving a truck slowly in the vicinity of Mosher Road and Queen Street was looking for pheasant.

Caller reported ongoing harassment. Officer spoke to the woman making the calls and warned her to stop them or face criminal charges. She agreed she would not contact residence again.

Johnson Road caller reported a suspicious person. It was juveniles playing "Manhunt." They were apologetic about the noise and agreed to quiet down.

Officer responded to Gray Road for a possible domestic call. Car had pulled over to side of road. Female in the vehicle was crying but it did not appear that a crime had been committed.

Caller wanted to know if a Protection from Abuse order had been dropped. He was advised it was still active.

Hope Drive reported a suspicious person. Grandmother told officer it looked as if someone went to the mail box, opened it, looked at something and put it back.

South St. caller reported someone had knocked on his door early that morning. Caller then said he was all set as it was his wife. She had left for work and he did not realize she had returned home for something she had forgotten.

How's your FICO score? RD, VA and FHA loans need a minimum FICO of only 640 to qualify for a mortgage.

Real Estate tip by Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate The Masiello Group



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 22 Skillings Street
 South Portland \$259,900



SOLD
 96 Queen Street
 Gorham \$147,500



UNDER CONTRACT
 22 Valley View Drive
 Gorham \$539,000



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CALENDAR

THURSDAY JANUARY 10

- Baby Discovery Time (birth-18 mos), 9:30-9:50 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Toddler Discovery Time (18-36 mos), 10-10:30 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Book Club Discussion of "The Things We Keep," 10 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Sewing Club (age 7 & up), 2:30-4:30 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library

FRIDAY JANUARY 11

- Slinky the Farret Visit, the ARLGP'S new humane education animal, 10-11 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library

SATURDAY JANUARY 12

- Lego Club, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library

MONDAY JANUARY 14

- Toddler Discovery Time (18-36 mos), 10-10:30 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library

TUESDAY JANUARY 15

- Preschool Discovery Time (3-5 yrs), 9:30-10:15 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Baxter Digs Reading, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library

THURSDAY JANUARY 17

- Baby Discovery Time (birth-18 mos), 9:30-9:50 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Toddler Discovery Time (18-36 mos), 10-10:30 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Sewing Club (age 7 & up), 2:30-4:30 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library

TUESDAY JANUARY 22

- Preschool Discovery Time (3-5 yrs), 9:30-10:15 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Lions Club Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Old Elmwood School House, South Street

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23

- Secret Pizza Party (3-10 yrs) Shhh, don't tell anyone..., 1- 2 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library

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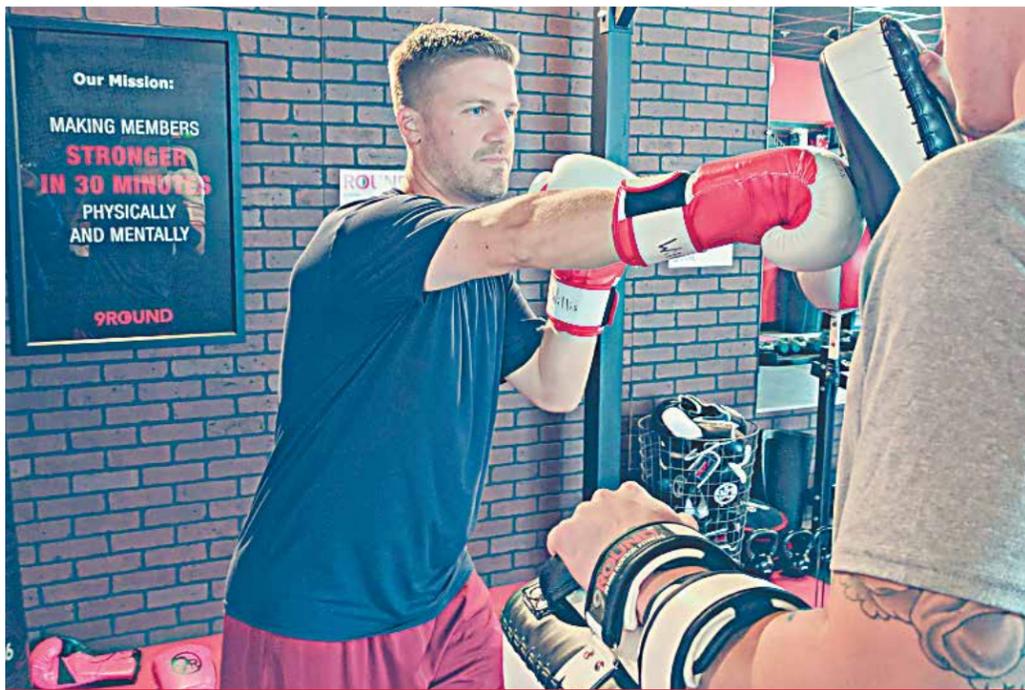
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Winter's Beauty



A spectacular sunrise view at Martin-Place Farm on Fort Hill Road.

Photo credit Ashley Martin



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