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Courtesy of Erin Flett

New Vestibule at GHS Addresses Security Concerns

GRACE FLYNN
GHS Student Intern

Gorham High School (GHS) recently built a security vestibule in the student lobby near the auditorium and sports fields. This was built to enable monitoring of exits and entrances into the building and operate as a check-in point for visitors.

In mid-January, GHS main office secretary Laura Ryan moved into the finished vestibule. Her role will be to check in with visitors via intercom and camera before they enter the building.

The vestibule does not have a window into the entryway as the construction would have caused damage to the art installation of that wall.

In October, Michel Chouinard permanently joined the main office staff. For the past few years, Chouinard had been a substitute for the secretaries at the school. She assumed Ryan's position in the office following the construction of the security vestibule.

"Laura basically oversees the secu-

rity at the student lobby door and this office oversees the security on this side of the building," said Chouinard. "Then we know exactly who's in the building and why, and, we have visitor logs on both sides whereas we didn't used to have that."

The main office has also welcomed Barbara Quinn-Gagnon, who will be assuming principal secretary Debbie Stirling's position in the office after her retirement in mid-February.

"Communication is constantly back and forth, just making sure they're staffed and letting people in," said Quinn-Gagnon of the main office's interactions with the security vestibule. "It's very interactive."

The main office was built on the opposite side of the building from the student lobby. This separation has posed a general safety concern.

"Many times what will happen is that visitors will come to the school, they'll check in at the student

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Photo credit Andrea Morrell

Gorham High School secretary Laura Ryan in the new security vestibule, located in the student lobby.

Photo credit Grace Flynn

Remembering Former GHS Teacher Jim Pearson

ANDREA MORRELL
School News Editor

James "Jim" Lewis Pearson, age 82, died on December 15, 2019 and those who remember him are still mourning the loss of someone who Gorham High School (GHS) Spanish teacher Deborah Roy said "was a wonderful teacher."

"He liked people and, consequently, people liked him," said retired GHS teacher Jean Davis.

Pearson graduated in 1954 from Bessey High School in Scarborough with his future wife and high school sweetheart, Nancy Simpson. After working several craftsman-type jobs, and joining the Navy Reserves, he recognized his passion for teaching and enrolled at Gorham State Teachers College (GSTC), now known as University of Southern Maine (Gorham), to study teaching, industrial arts and drafting.

While in college, he served as a "special officer" for the Scarborough Police Department in the summer months to help pay for it.

Pearson began teaching at GHS in 1962 and retired in 1987 after 25 memorable years and many roles. He first taught in a facility that has since been removed, which was located beside the former Shaw Junior High School (now home of the municipal center and Shaw Gym).



Photo courtesy of Jean Davis

Pearson shown in 1972.

He taught traditional woods, metals, residential construction, and drafting. Pearson was also instrumental in the preparation of many future teachers for the then GSTC. He supervised many student teachers and was always available to assist when asked, doing a lot to promote the profession.

In addition, Pearson often stayed after school to teach female students who expressed an interest in industrial arts (I.A.), despite the school not offering I.A. classes for females at the time.

Another retired GHS teacher, Roger Lord, started teaching with Pearson around 1973. During that period, Pearson and the third I.A. teacher, Bob Stevens, had just moved into a new

facility at GHS. Pearson switched roles and taught graphic arts and drafting, while Lord took over teaching manufacturing and construction classes.

"Jim was one-of-a-kind and was always ready to help his students. He had an uncanny ability to patiently explain difficult concepts and make them understandable for his students," said Lord.

"Pearson expected students to do their best, and held them accountable," said Roy. "He did so in a way that made students feel confident. They knew that they were important to someone."

Roy remembers the I.A. department being its own little community all its own at the time.

"While there visiting, one could: have work done on a car; do some work with wood products; have printing done; raise or purchase seedlings for gardens; and have a pleasant lunch, sing a song, and laugh until it hurt," said Roy.

Lord remembers Pearson as someone who "loved a good joke, and, when needed, he had the best poker face until he couldn't hold it any longer and then he would start to lose it and break out in great laughter."

"Jim loved to kid with everyone,"

said Davis. "He treated all of us (teachers, students, other staff members) with warmth and kindness, and there was always a twinkle in his eye. It would have been unusual for Jim to pass you in the hallway without first stopping to acknowledge you and say something witty."

"Jim was encouraging, kind, and had a fantastic, dry sense of humor. Many of his jokes would be called 'Dad jokes' these days, I suspect," said Roy.

A former student, Viola Pope Marcussen, who now lives in Denmark (Europe), after hearing of Pearson's death, looked up his message to her in her yearbook.

"It was typical Jim," said Davis, "'Viola, don't drool. It's unbecoming of a lady.'" Viola got a chuckle when she went back to her yearbook and found this comment. She asked me to pass this message on to his family, and I did. I hope it gave them a light moment.

Pearson was always ready to lend a hand, help you figure out a problem, and stand up for what was right. And, surprising to many, said Lord, Jim loved

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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.

Looking Ahead

REP. MAUREEN "MO" TERRY

The second session of the 129th Legislature is now underway. This session is scheduled to adjourn in late April, but by no means is the work load light. During that period, we will consider more than 650 bills, from smaller quick fixes and complex legislation we are still working on from 2019 to measures in response to new issues that have arisen over the last few months. We have a lot to get through and I am looking forward to jumping in head first.

Last year, our Legislature passed bills to expand health care coverage, rein in the skyrocketing prices of prescription drugs, address climate change, lift up working Maine families, support our schools, improve broadband access and provide meaningful property tax relief. We will push even harder on those topics and more in the coming months.

When it comes to health care, we are focused on making sure comprehensive care is not limited by age, gender, pre-existing conditions or income. There are bills up for discussion that would address surprise billing, cap out-of-pocket costs for medications like insulin, and improve dental health coverage. Every Mainer deserves access to quality, affordable health care, and we are fighting for just that.

With an extensive roadmap provided by Gov. Mills' newly released 10-year strategic economic develop-

ment plan, our Legislature will also be hard at work implementing policies that grow jobs and support local industries. Mainers are willing to work, and we deserve secure, good-paying jobs that support our families, strengthen our communities, and grow our economy.

Many items on our session to-do list will come from the hard work our many task forces and commissions took up during the off-season. We'll consider recommendations from the Maine Climate Council to help us address the climate crisis and assist Maine communities adapting to the changes we've already seen. We'll consider more sustainable ways to fund transportation projects. We'll look at how we can support the long-term care workforce in Maine, improve criminal justice systems, mend the Land Claims Settlement Act to increase tribal sovereignty, and much more.

Personally, this session I have taken on new duties serving on the Committee on State and Local Government in addition to my role as a member of the Taxation Committee. I have thoroughly enjoyed gaining a deeper insight into what our town needs and what laws at the state level are most relevant to keeping our community running smoothly.

I am particularly interested in hearing from you this session. With a full workload ahead of us it is para-

mount that your voice is present as we close out the 129th Legislature. One issue that has recently garnered attention in the State and Local Government Committee is the draft report from the independent Compensation Commission. The report recommends pay increases for the state's executive, legislative and judicial branches. The authors of the report cite an effort to bring Maine's legislators, governor, judges and justices closer to the middle of the pack when comparing public officials' pay across the country. I would love to hear from my neighbors and community members when it comes to this issue. Ensuring that we make it accessible for more than just those who can financially afford it to serve our state and represent our community is extremely important to me.

Don't hesitate to reach out to me with comments or questions about this topic or anything else of concern. We have a lot of work to do this session, and I am so excited to get to work.



Rep. Maureen "Mo" Terry is serving her second term in the Maine House of Representatives. She is a chef and small business owner with more than 25 years of experience in the food service industry. She serves on the Taxation Committee. (207) 712-9735, (800) 423-2900, maureen.terry@legislature.maine.gov.

Letter 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,

I am writing to address the town council and Ms Kuech regarding the claim she is unlawfully being denied a seat on the town council because there is a conflict of interest.

First I ask Ms Kuech to withdraw her claim. I am sure most residents would agree, there is little to be gained by asking the courts to redefine conflict of interest. This is a silly quest that will abuse taxpayer money. If you really want to be on the council, quit working for the school department. Pretty simple.

For the council, please do not accede to this quest. Our town council made a logical decision. Live with it.

Brian C. Jones

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Around Town

Following an investigation, Gorham Police have identified a suspect in a series of car burglaries that occurred in October and November in the area between Gateway Commons and Wagner Farms. The suspect is currently incarcerated on other charges, and police expect to charge him with the Gorham car burglaries in the coming weeks.

Solar farm projects are planned for the Martin-Place Farm property on Fort Hill Rd, Wentworth Drive behind the Gorham Savings Bank headquarters, and on County Road north of Route 114.

Azul Tequila, 29 School Street, is now open.

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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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UPCOMING GORHAM TIMES DEADLINES:

FEB. 12

FEB. 26

MAR. 11

MAR. 25

APR. 8

Wine Bar Brings Jazz and Sophistication To Gorham



Photo courtesy of Karen Nason

JOHN ERSEK
Staff Writer

The new Grand Central Wine Bar, located on the fourth and fifth floors of the Station Square Development, represents the culmination of owner Karen Nason's efforts to bring a sophisticated New York-style jazz bar and cocktail lounge atmosphere to the greater Portland area. This successful effort represents Nason coming full circle, returning to the town where she grew up and to the area where she first began to explore her musical and culinary interests.

After growing up in Gorham and attending Gorham schools (GHS '82), she lived in Portland for several years. During this time Nason became well known in southern Maine's music scene, as she sang in a number of productions with the Portland Players, sat in with local bands at venues like Squire Morgan's, and also had her own band for a while.

Surprisingly, after relocating to New York City in 1986, Nason's first business venture was a plant shop in New York's Chelsea neighborhood, where she featured large and exotic plants for sale and rental. Soon she was having success, selling oversize palm trees and other exotics, sometimes to celebrities like David Bowie, as well as renting oversize trees to the Metropolitan Opera, to be used as scenery in its productions.

Nason quickly built on the plant store's success by opening a jazz club in part of the space, which she named "The Green Room." As she was becoming known in New York's jazz scene for her renditions of jazz ballads and show tunes, Nason was invited to perform at Elaine's, a legendary jazz supper club on the Upper East Side. She quickly became friends with the club's legendary proprietor, Elaine Kaufman, and they remained friends until Kaufman's passing in 2010.

Throughout most of the 1990's and 2000's, Nason operated several businesses in the New York City area, including a pizzeria and a coffee-house in Hoboken, NJ.

Over the past several years Nason began to think more and more about returning to Maine, partially due to family responsibilities in regard to caring for an aging parent. As she became more serious about moving to Maine, she looked at several spaces, with the intention of opening a music-themed restaurant. Once she saw the Station Square location, she knew it was the right place, with two floors of space, an upper level deck, and tremendous views.

Since opening in mid-November, Nason said, "business has been fantastic, since the moment it opened." She believes that live music has been the restaurant's key to success so far,

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In recognition of Valentine's Day, residents from the Inn at Village Square and Gorham House were asked to share a few of their favorite memories.

"I remember giving my husband a card one year, it read: All I want for Valentine's Day is to bear those three words...Let's eat out!" ~ Mary Lou Richardson, 84 years old, married for 58 years

"My mother's birthday was on Valentine's Day so I never forgot her birthday or Valentine's Day." ~ Earle Meserve, 89 years old

"Love to me is going through all the good times and the bad times together and staying married through it all." ~ Emma Estes, 99 years old, married for 52 years

"I'm an old bachelor I was in love all the time and I'm not done yet!" ~ James McCue, 102 years old

"I remember my first Valentine's Day card my husband gave me in 1947. It was full of gusby stuff, which was before we had kids, and I still have it in my photo album." ~ Clarisse Davis, 94 years old

"The best Valentine's Day gift I received every year was breakfast in bed." ~ Mary Hamblen, 98 years old, married 28 years

"I remember a Valentine's Day when I visited my husband at work and he kept asking me to go home. I was insulted but after I arrived home I had a dozen roses delivered to my house."

~ Carol Conger, 84 years old, married 22 years

New Vestibule at GHS Addresses Security Concerns CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

entrance, they would be let in, and then they would walk the length of the building and have access to the entire space without anyone there to make sure they're getting to where they need to get to," said Principal Brian Jandreau.

The vestibule was built to mitigate issues like these. Previously, the main office would use security cameras and a speaker to let visitors or students into the student lobby. While this is still possible, the security vestibule allows Ryan to monitor those entering the school more closely and speak to them immediately upon entering.

Additionally, prior to the installation of the vestibule, GHS was grappling with students inside the building opening the doors without permission from the office.

"That's still a big problem, especially when there are big crowds," said Ryan. "I have to say to them 'I need to know who you are, please tell me your names.' Then, while I'm doing that, kids are opening the doors and I'm saying, 'You might not know all these people. I have to make sure they go to school here.' It's a learning curve, but we're trying to figure it out."

The end goal is to have all visitors and students check in at the vestibule. However, since this is a transition from business as usual, check ins are still accepted at either entrance.

This is a fresh change for GHS, and Ryan agreed, "I really like it. It's something different after 18 years for me. It's kind of refreshing."

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.

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Remembering Former GHS Teacher Jim Pearson CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Photo courtesy of Roger Lord

The teacher quartet “The Boys and Roy,” featuring (left to right) Jim Pearson, Bob Stevens, Deb Roy, and Roger Lord, during a talent show performance at Gorham High School in the mid- to late-1970s.

to sing.

“As luck would have it, a young Spanish teacher, Deb Roy, came on the scene (in 1975) and a quartet made up of Jim, Deb, Bob and myself spent many enjoyable hours playing and singing,” said Lord. “When a school-wide talent show appeared on the horizon we became a rag tag group called Three Boys and Roy.”

Roy remembers having lunch every day with “the boys.” Lunch was 45 minutes then so they would eat then hang around or play the guitar and sing.

“We were amateurs at best,” remembers Roy, “singing folk songs that Roger knew how to play. We did sing in public together a few times. I remember a talent show or two, a concert that we organized when one of the faculty lost her house to fire, and Gorham’s Bicentennial.”

“Jim had a beautiful, resonant singing voice. His favorite song was ‘A Daisy a Day,’ by Jud Strunk and Mike Curb, and it was Jim’s solo. He always said that he sang it for his ‘lovely’ wife. He would slow down, and tear up at the last line of the chorus: ‘I’ll love you until the rivers run still, and the four winds we know blow away.’ How he loved to sing that song,” said Roy.

“As a young teacher, I was in awe of ‘JP,’ said Roy. “He was dedicated to his wife, his family, his farm, and the students at Gorham High School.”

Pearson would travel to work from Pine Point to Gorham each day and pass “The Halfway House,” an old farm-

stead on Beech Ridge Road, which in its earlier days was a stage coach stop that was “halfway” between Saco, Westbrook and Gorham.

When the farm became available, Pearson and his wife decided to purchase it.

“As a rookie teacher I was eager to learn all that Jim had to offer. So, as he was refurbishing his barn, he offered me the opportunity to help him out and said he would only charge me \$5 an hour,” said Lord. “Of course, he was just kidding but I do have imbedded memories of hanging on to his belt as he would reach out and crawl much further than he should, just to get that one last nail in the metal roof.”

In 1969, after two years of hard work, the Pearsons, and their daughter, Mary, then four years old, made Beech Ridge Farm their home. Their son Robert was born in 1974.

Pearson first raised a few beef critters, spent summer haying, and eventually opened a feed store with his wife. He even experimented with a cross country skiing adventure for a short time.

As Pearson approached his retirement from teaching, the idea of raising Christmas trees took hold, which he and his wife did up until his death.

“The Christmas tree business was right up his ally because he loved people and once you had a conversation with Jim you knew you had just met a special man,” said Lord.

“There will never be another like him,” said Roy.

Wine Bar Brings Jazz & Sophistication To Gorham CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

especially on Friday and Saturday evenings. Many of the patrons are there specifically to hear Nason and other performers play the baby grand piano and sing songs from the Great American Songbook (familiar songs sung by Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Ella Fitzgerald, Judy Garland and many others).

Nason has been seeing this kind of music attract people of all ages, including those from Gorham, and some from much further away. In fact, this latter group includes a number of couples who have recently moved to the Portland area from New York City, who state that the wine bar reminds them of a favorite hangout in Manhattan. Other patrons have been enjoying family gatherings such as engagement and birthday parties. In addition, local businesses have

increasingly been scheduling corporate functions in the space.

The menu features an eclectic assortment of locally focused small plates to share. Vegetarian options are available. On the entertainment side, the addition of musical cabaret shows and comedy shows is a possibility.

As spring and summer approach, patrons can look forward to longer days and warmer temps which will allow them to experience the panoramic views while dining on the fifth floor deck.

The wine bar is located at 7 Railroad Avenue and is open every day except Tuesday from 4-10 p.m. For more information, visit www.grandcentralwinebar.com, the Grand Central Wine Bar Facebook page, or call 222-2946.

Little Known Facts About Yoga

AMANDA CURTIS KEZAL

Beside keeping fit and flexible, there are many other surprising benefits to practicing yoga.

Yoga helps regulate your adrenal glands. These little glands reside in your back atop the kidneys. The adrenal glands secrete cortisol when a crisis arises, which temporarily boosts the immune system. If your cortisol levels stay high after the crisis, it can compromise your system.

Excessive cortisol has been linked with insomnia, depression, osteoporosis, high blood pressure, and insulin resistance. To recover

from stress and exhaustion, turn to yoga to help dial down the adrenals. Practice simple poses such as Legs Up the Wall and supported Bridge.

Lower blood sugar levels and the "bad" LDL cholesterol by practicing yoga. Yoga has been shown to lower blood sugar levels by lowering cortisol and adrenal levels. Weight loss is an added benefit to getting blood sugar levels down, plus decreasing heart attack and kidney failure. Yoga may also help you make better choices in what you are eating, how and when. Yogis are typically more mindful in how food and the environment affects them, resulting in less emotional eating.

Yoga supports your immune system by providing support to all the other systems of the body. Feeling a little ill? Try quieting poses to renew and relax. You may also find stronger poses, such as Downward Facing Dog or Standing Squat to get the lymphatic fluid moving and help flush the sickness out. There are many sequences to practice that can help you feel healthy again.

Yoga makes you happy. A consis-

tent yoga practice can help banish feelings of sadness and depression by improving serotonin levels. Breath of Joy circulates the blood, lymph, and gives you a bit of exciting cardio. The breathing sequence draws in joy and love and is full of "letting go" of the things we do not need to hold onto any longer. A yoga practice is complete with meditation, which is also shown to increase levels of happiness.

Did you know yoga benefits all your relationships by helping to find compassion, kindness, patience, love, forgiveness, and balance amongst your family, friends and coworkers. Exploring the

emotional, mental, and spiritual side allows for adjustments in what you find most important and stable.

Ready to release tension? Become more aware of yourself through yoga. Notice unconscious habits that lead to tension, muscle fatigue and soreness, which can increase stress and dampen your mood. It may reside in your eyes, neck, muscles of your face, fists, feet, or any other body part. When you become aware, simply relax the body part. Over time a new healthy habit is formed.

The benefits of yoga are endless and much more than flexibility, strength, etc. Search an ailment and yoga is usually prompted as a healthy and helpful practice to include.



Amanda Curtis Kezal, owner of Holistic Pathways, has been bringing yoga to Gorham for over 20 years with her yoga fusion style. She continues innovative approaches to sharing the many benefits of yoga with others.

THE BENEFITS OF YOGA ARE ENDLESS AND MUCH MORE THAN FLEXIBILITY, STRENGTH, ETC.

The Old Yard



Photo credit Chris Crawford

WILMA GOULD JOHNSON
Contributing Writer

In the center of Gorham Village is a very old cemetery landmark, once called the Old Yard. Today, the cemetery is referred to as the historic South Street Cemetery which dates back to 1770. It is believed to be the first cemetery in Gorham.

In more recent times, you may recall walking home from school and stopping by the wall just to sit and enjoy visiting with your friends. In your younger years, you most likely "walked" that wall and a few may have actually attempted the "leap" across the entrance gate. Years later, you may have held the hand of a young child as they successfully balanced on the uneven stones along the top of the stone wall.

Sitting or walking on the wall was such a common practice that Edna Dickey speaks of it in her book "50 Years of Gorham: 1936 to 1986". Photo documentation exists (not to mention any names) showing that a few GHS alumni, while in their mid to late 60's, went back to revisit the

wall and yes, two of them actually made that famous leap across the entrance gate.

If you are a history buff, the Old Yard is the place to visit. It originally had a picket fence, not a stone wall. The land for this unique cemetery was donated to the town by Jacob Hamlin who owned a 30 acre home lot. He donated approximately a half acre to be used as a burial ground.

A lot of Gorham history can be found within the stone wall of this cemetery. Most of Gorham's early settlers, and many distinguished people, are buried there. There are still a number of original tombstones with interesting designs and epitaphs. A recent Remember When article mentioned that the clown, Sylvester Reynolds, is buried there. Capt. John Phinney, Gorham's original founder and his wife, Martha, along with Hugh McLellan and his wife, the second settlers, were also laid to rest there.

Stephen and Patience Longfellow, paternal grandparents of the poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow are

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34 BARNFIELD LANE	KIRBY, JOSEPH & CHRITINE	ERNST, THOMAS	\$374,000
5 MIDNIGHT LANE	ANNIS, SHILO & MCINNES, GWEN	KINNEY, TROY & LAURA	\$475,000
784 GRAY ROAD	7TJR, LLC	HOLLIS ACQUISITIONS, LLC	\$144,963
51 NARRAGANSETT STREET	HIHNSONM SHAUN & ABDREA	PHAIR, NANCY	\$216,000
43 BRACKETT ROAD	HASTINGS, LYNDASAY	ESTATE OF DAVID NELSON	\$75,000
23 VISTA DRIVE	CLO, LLC	SUSAN DUCHAINE, LLC	\$329,000
22 TWILIGHT LANE	EDWARDS, JAMES & JANINE	SAWYER, MICHAEL	\$490,000
LAND ON SOPHIE LANE	WOODFORDS FAMILY SERVICES	B ECKWITH, PETER & DEBRA	\$5,000
58 WATERHOUSE ROAD	WW WOOD PROPERTIES, LLC	BANK OF AMERICA	\$90,000
75 ICHABOD LANE	GRINDLE, TAMMY & BUDDINGTON, MARK	SAM STRUMPH BUILDERS, LLC	\$399,000
31 SOLOMON DRIVE	DAWE, ETHAN & KIMBERLY	JOHNSON, BECKY	\$428,000
12 JOE JONES WAY	O'DONAL, ANGELICA & JAKEOB	STRUMPH, THOMAS	\$375,900
83 ICHABOD LANE	SAM STRUMPH BUILDERS, LLC	GILBERT HOMES, INC.	\$99,900
27 MAHLON AVENUE	VENDUE, LLC	BANK OF AMERICA, NA	\$227,000
29 LAURA LANE	SMITH, SARA	DRUMMOND, ERIC & DOUGLAS	\$365,000
433 OSSISPEE TRAIL	STORE MASTER FUNDING XI, LLC	STONE ROAD ENERGY, LLC	\$735,484
352 SEBAGO LAKE ROAD	506 MAIN STREET REALTY, LLC	ESTATE OF ROBERT ROWE	\$95,000
19 MITCHELL HILL ROAD	RODRIQUE, DONALD & SARAH	PELLIGORE, DAVID & JENNIFER	\$292,500
20 LONE BELLOW LANE	EARLE ENTERPRISES, LLC	SHALNER, NIKOLAY	\$150,000
279 NARRAGANSETT STREET	MACDONALD, ADAM & JENNA	JEWETT, NICHOLAS & MARGARET	\$350,000
105 MIGHTY STREET	FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOC.	FEDERAL NATIONAL MORT. ASSOC.	\$225,000
1 SUNSET LANE	JEWETT, NICHOLAS & MARGARET	GREENLEAF, RICHARD & JANICE	\$314,900
59 BRACKETT ROAD	PELLEGORE, DAVID	KALLIS, MICHAEL & MARCY	\$465,000
19 COTTAGE COURT	GRAHAM, CATHERINE	BRAMBLEWOOD, LLC	\$343,625
21 WATER STREET	MILLER, PETER & DANI	PECORARO, ANGELA	\$274,900

Clerk's Corner

Laurie Nordfors
Town Clerk



Tuesday, March 3, will be Maine's first Presidential Primary election to determine which two candidates will be on the ballot in November. Maine currently has three qualified parties that may participate in primary elections: Democratic, Green Independent, and Republican. (NOTE: although some unenrolled voters choose to designate themselves as "Independent," there is no "Independent party" in Maine.)

The Democratic party and the Republican party filed a certificate with the State and will participate in the Presidential Primary election, but also will hold caucuses for conducting other party-building activities. The Green Independent Party chose not to participate in the Presidential Primary election but will hold party caucuses for voting for the

Presidential candidate and conducting other party-building activities.

Along with the Presidential Primary ballot, there will be a State referendum ballot and a local ballot to elect one person to the Town Council. If you wish to vote in the Presidential Primary, you must be enrolled in either the Republican or the Democratic party. If you are unenrolled, you will not get a Presidential Primary ballot, only a State referendum ballot and a local ballot.

If you wish to enroll in a party, or change from one party to another, you must do so by February 14 in order to be eligible to vote in the Primary. Absentee Ballots are available online or at the Town Clerks Office. For more information, visit www.gorham-me.org or call 222-1670.

Care for Gorham Seniors

Community Cares is a free service offered by the Gorham Fire & Rescue Department (GFD) to local senior citizens who live alone and do not have family in the immediate area. The program is simple: seniors sign up through the Fire Department office and are put on a call list. Each day the senior is asked to call the Community Cares number between the hours of 8:30-10 a.m. to check in. If GFD staff does not hear from a senior by 10 a.m., then they will try and contact the person by telephone. If unsuccessful, a police officer will be dispatched to the residence to check on the senior's well being. For more information, call 222-1660.

Sprinkler Malfunction at Station Square

Sheri Faber
Staff Writer

During the night of January 18, a sprinkler head in a dormer area on the fourth floor of Station Square froze. The low temperature that night was three degrees. Three units in Station Square had water damage and were temporarily evacuated while the Gorham Fire Department helped

to clean up. Two of those units have since been re-occupied and the third should be ready shortly.

Fire Chief Robert Lefebvre noted that "everything looked fine" when the project was inspected but that owner Jon Smith of Great Falls Construction and the Town of Gorham are looking into the issue to determine how to address the problem and prevent a recurrence.

Town Hires New Economic Development Director

Kevin Jensen has been hired as Gorham's Economic Development Director, a role that is responsible for directing and managing a comprehensive program of economic and community development designed to attract, preserve, and promote desirable economic growth in the Town of Gorham.

Jensen brings his experience in workforce development, fundraising and non-profit organizational leadership working with businesses, foundations and community leaders to the job. He earned a Masters degree in Public Administration from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University with the goal of pursuing a career in public service.

Previously, Jensen worked in New York City for a non-profit on the issue of workforce development to match

businesses and job seekers. He also worked for NYU Hospital in the office of development working on health issues in underserved populations.

He relocated to Maine with his wife and daughter to be closer to family, and for the quality of life Maine has to offer.

Jensen looks forward to meeting with colleagues, GEDC members, community leaders and stakeholders. He shared, "My goal is to become a trusted advocate for the business community, and I will work hard to make available my time and resources to support Gorham's businesses."



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Grand Jury Indictments

OCTOBER 2019

De'Von Heard, 27, of Gorham was indicted for aggravated assault and reckless conduct with a dangerous weapon on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Nicholas Laudermilk, 38, of Westbrook was indicted for theft by unauthorized taking and violating conditions of release on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Dillan Libby, 29, of Gorham was indicted for unlawful operation of a methamphetamine lab and conspiracy to commit on charges brought by the MDEA.

Dale Mougalian, 46, of Gorham was indicted for aggravated operation after habitual offender license revocation, criminal OUI (two priors), criminal mischief, and leaving the scene of an accident. Arresting officer/department not provided.

NOVEMBER 2019

Mark Champagne, 59, of Gorham was indicted for unlawful possession of scheduled drugs (cocaine) and violating conditions of release on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Kyra Ellis, 27, of Gorham was indicted for endangering the welfare of a child, assault on a child younger than six, domestic violence assault, and assault on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Ashley Gagnon, 26, of North Waterboro was indicted for theft by unauthorized taking and misuse of

identification on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Imdad Hossain, 24, of Gorham was indicted for aggravated assault, domestic violence assault, domestic violence criminal threatening, and gross sexual assault on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Kenneth Morang, 61, of Standish was indicted for manslaughter on charges brought by Gorham PD.

DECEMBER 2019

Nicole Bouchard, 29, of Gorham, was charged with three counts of unlawful possession of scheduled drugs, operating after suspension, and violating conditions of release on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Sulo Burbank, 23, of Sebago, was charged with reckless conduct with a dangerous weapon and criminal OUI (one prior) on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Benjamin Esty, 42, of Gorham, was charged with reckless conduct with a dangerous weapon and criminal OUI/drugs on charges brought by Westbrook PD.

David McGovern, 30, of Gorham, was charged with theft by unauthorized taking and violating conditions of release on charges brought by Brunswick PD.

Chelsea Ann Pottle, 29, of Gorham, was indicted for theft of more than \$1000 and theft by unauthorized taking on charges brought by Brunswick PD.

SCHOOL

School Notes

The Gorham School Department will offer a showing of LIKE, a documentary that explores the impact of social media on our lives and the effects of technology on the brain, at Gorham High School on Monday, Feb. 10 from 6-8 p.m.

Gorham's Incoming Kindergarten Parent Information Meeting (2020/21) will be held at all three elementary schools (Great Falls,

Narragansett, and Village) on Tuesday, March 3, at 5:30 p.m. At this informational meeting, parents will also pick up enrollment packets and sign their child up for the Kindergarten screenings that are being held in April. Please visit www.gorhamschools.org, click on the neighborhood school, and pre-register using the Kindergarten registration link. Please feel free to contact any of the elementary schools with questions.

Changes to GMS Class Trips for Grades 7 and 8

ANDREA MORRELL
School News Editor

Gorham Middle School (GMS) will be revising its annual eighth-grade class trip after this year, and will add a seventh-grade trip as well.

With this being GMS teacher Melanie Doran's last year running the Washington, D.C. eighth-grade trip, after 14 years, GMS decided to switch companies and now offer a seventh- and eighth-grade trip.

Beginning this year, GMS will offer a seventh-grade Washington, D.C. trip, which will take place

June 28-July 2. Mike Coffin (GMS SRO) and Kristen Fitz-Frank (GMS Administrative Assistant) will be running the seventh-grade trip this year and will run both trips going forward.

Starting next year, eighth-grade students will be offered a different trip during April vacation that includes going to New York City, Hershey Park, and the Jersey Shore.

Please contact Fitz-Frank at kristen.fitz@gorhamschools.org, Coffin at michael.coffin@gorhamschools.org, or Doran at melanie.doran@gorhamschools.org with any questions about either trip this year.

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Random Acts of Kindness



Photo credit Heather Hurd

Three of Heather Hurd's third-grade students (Grace O'Hara, Hannah Symanski, and Camryn Allen) went above and beyond with random acts of kindness as they dedicated their free snack times for weeks in order to create individual awards for each of their classmates. The three girls discussed what made each of their classmates special before writing and drawing them each a unique certificate. They stayed organized in order to make sure each of their classmates had a certificate. They then decided on how to present them to their classmates and used their recess time to practice their presentation. The girls then presented the certificates in front of the class, making sure all of their classmates were recognized. In turn, their classmates attentively listened to their presentation and thanked their classmates for their hard work.

Author Grant



Photo courtesy of Stacey Sawyer

Great Falls Elementary School fourth grade teacher and literacy advocate, Anna Sedenka, received a \$1,000 grant from Berlin City's Drive for Education. Monies from this grant will go toward Great Fall's visiting author-illustrator visit with Chris Van Dusen this spring. Pictured (left to right) are: Anna Sedenka, Grant Emerson, Nora Schucker, Chloe Smith, Natalie Lyford, and Stacey Sawyer.

GHS Helping Those Who Need to "Dress for Success"

EMILY CREPEAU
GHS Student Intern

Last year, Gorham High School's (GHS) Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG) started the student led Dress for Success program. The JMG program helps students get prepared for life after high school or college.

"In JMG, we teach soft skills, like showing up on-time, working hard, when its o.k. to call out of work, etc., and part of that is dressing for success," said Ryan Chicoine, JMG advisor.

Dress for Success was created to help students dress up for job interviews, class presentations, or any other formal event. Currently, the program is organized and managed by senior Isaac Carroll.

"It was started because some kids may not have the money to afford dress clothes. Dress clothes can get expensive. In addition, we realized that sometimes kids just don't have the knowledge until they are in that situation," said Chicoine.

Everything is free and accessible to all GHS students. The clothing items can either be borrowed or kept, no questions asked.

At first, Dress for Success consisted only of clothing that was purchased from Goodwill, but as word spread, the program grew. Now, donations by students, teachers, and the community have enabled students to access button-up shirts, suits, ties, blouses, skirts, etc.

Additionally, JMG has started to collect prom dresses, tuxedos, suits, and ties for prom season. The Dress for Success program would like to help out anyone who wants to go as it can get very expensive.

It is very easy to donate. Clothing can be dropped off in the main office or directly in the JMG room at GHS. Current needs include clothing for interviews such as khakis, dress pants, ties, etc. Anything that is still in good shape or very lightly worn is appreciated.

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“Big Fish” Ends With Love

LYDIA VALENTINE
GHS Student Intern

Gorham High School’s (GHS) production of “Big Fish,” opened this past weekend, ending January with a wholesome tale about life and death.

The story centers on Edward Bloom, played by senior Westley Brinegar, and his son William, played by senior Connor Donnelly, and William’s quest to decipher what was real and what was not about his father’s life.

Edward has lived his whole life telling outlandish stories of giants, mermaids and canons, and it is now up to William to find the truth when his father falls ill.

The show also features junior Emily Paruk as Sandra Bloom, who said she could not choose just one favorite aspect of the production.

“I really like the diversity of the show. We have tap dancing and a western showdown, giants and mermaids, and then a whole underlying family relationship story between a father and a son,” said Paruk. “It’s the retelling of a beautiful life and the connecting of family members. It is a really powerful story.”

The show also includes junior Sierra Cummings as William’s wife Josephine; senior Kendall Smith as the Witch; senior AJ Booth as Karl the Giant; and junior Mason Hawkes as Amos Calloway.

Senior Abby Miller said, “It’s a really good show to end senior year with. This is really a wholesome production and everyone in it has been really nice. I always looked back on “Once on this Island” and wished we had another show like that, and this one really brings it home.”

The GHS theater department will be saying goodbye to many seniors at the end of this year, which certainly helped bring out the emotions in this production. Donnelly, when asked about it, replied, “Don’t talk to me about it.”

If there is anything to say about this musical, it is that it ends with love. It is one for the seniors, one to make you laugh, one to make you cry, and one to make you want to join in on the dancing.

“I hope people enjoy themselves, and they can take a step back and appreciate the little parts of life,” said Brinegar.

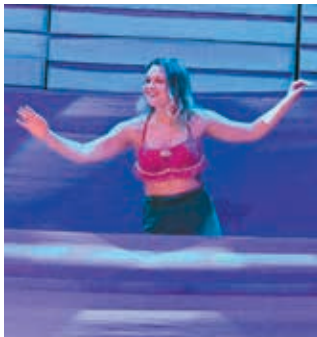
Josh Hurd directs “Big Fish,” Mathew Murray directs music, and Mariel Roy designed the choreography.

The production continues for one more weekend with shows this Friday, Feb. 7, and Saturday, Feb. 8, at 7:30 p.m. and a final show on Feb. 9 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors 65 and over. Tickets will be available at the door but may also be reserved by calling 839-5754.



Amanda Landry Photography

Gorham High School held its opening weekend of “Big Fish” on January 31-February 2. Don’t miss the last weekend of performances this Friday, Saturday and Sunday.



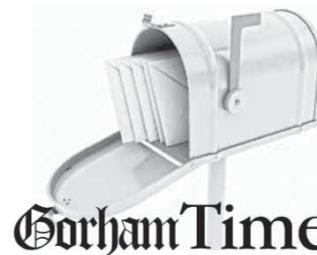
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both buried mid-cemetery. At the right rear of the yard is where Dr. Nathaniel Bowman was buried. Bowman died from injuries he sustained while working on the First Parish Church. He had noted that no one in his family had lived beyond the age of 30 and he died on his 30th birthday. Uncle Billy (William McLellan), along with other members of the McLellan family, are also buried here. The grave of a freed slave, Neptune Stephenson, who was buried in 1824 at the age of 44, is located here.

As you enter the cemetery, in view are seven stones identical in pattern with a skull carved at the top of each stone. These were in memory of the Longfellow family and are thought to be the "seven sleepers" referred to in one of Henry Longfellow's poems.

In 1775, eleven stones were placed in memory of soldiers who had lost their lives in the Revolutionary War.

These headstones give documentation that many of the early settlers of Gorham lived a good long life. Captain John Phinney and his wife, Martha, both died at age 87. Their three sons lived to the ages of 85, 83 and 94 and their daughter was 89 when she died.

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

SPORTS

GHS Winter Sports Update

DESTINY COOK
Sports Editor

The Gorham Rams athletic teams are heading into the second half of their seasons hoping to secure home playoff games.

Boys' Hockey: The boys recently lost a tough game to Yarmouth, but Coach Jon Portwine said the team has played well in the first half of the season. The regular season record is currently 6-3-1. Over Christmas break, the Rams went 2-1 against teams from Connecticut in the holiday tournament hosted by Gorham hosts at USM.

"We are getting contributions offensively from our veteran players like Jonah Bird, Cole Perreault, Peter Richards, Nolan Gava and Aidan Enck," Portwine said. "We have also had good play defensively from Aiden Owens, Cam Sawyer, and freshman goalie Jasper Crane."

Girls' Hockey: The Gorham girls hockey team (combined with Bonny Eagle, Massabesic, and Westbrook) are 2-15 on the season. Senior Night was held recently during the last home game against Yarmouth.

Boys' Basketball: With five games left in the regular season, the Gorham Rams had a record of 8-5. The boys started the season off with a record of 1-5 after a very tough schedule. The Rams dug in and have gone on to win seven straight including two tough road wins at Portland and Scarborough.

"The win streak also includes an impressive one point victory against a very tough Thornton Academy team. The schedule is tough the rest of the way with games against Bonney Eagle and probably the best team in the state, South Portland," Coach Mark Karter said.

Karter is hopeful the boys can continue to play well and receive a home playoff game to start the tournament.

Girls' Basketball: The Lady Rams basketball team is currently 7-6 and in fifth place at mid-season. The girls have won four of their last five games, including wins over Scarborough and Noble, who are both ahead of the Rams in the standings. "We are hoping to win a few more games down the stretch and earn a quarterfinal game at GHS," Coach Laughn Berthiaume shared.

The Rams have their last home game on Thursday, February 6, against Massabesic in a boys/girls double header. Berthiaume said the Gorham girls are looking to avenge a one-point loss from earlier in the season on a buzzer beater.

Boys' Track: The boys' team is currently at 13 wins and five losses. Coach Jason Tanguay said the following athletes have qualified for the conference championship: Landon Bickford, Calvin Cummings, Andrew Farr, Ryan Farr, Ryan Gendron, Reed Henderson, Braeden Johnson, Jacob Lehmann, Josh Lehmann, Keagan Lindsay, Kyle Ouillette, Tyler Rollins and Will Stein.

Ryan Gendron has broken the school record in the high jump. The previous jump was 6 feet 3 inches and was held by Josh Maxwell. Gendron jumped 6 feet 3.5 inches.

The Rams had its last regular season meet on February 1, and the conference championship is scheduled for February 8.

Girls' Track: The Gorham girls indoor track team has had a very successful season so far. Highlights of the first half of the season include several new school records:

Alyvia Caruso - Jr 55 Hurdles; Emma Green - Jr High Jump; Stef Meacham - 1500 Racewalk; Kate Tugman - 600, 1000 and 1 mile; 1600 Relay team consisting of Alyvia Caruso, Sydney Fox, Elisabeth Loranger and Kate Tugman; and the Sprint Medley Relay team consisting of Sydney Connolly, Nevaeh Moore, Alyvia Caruso and Kate Tugman.

Coach John Caterina said, "Another highlight of the first half of the season was 15 girls competing in the Dartmouth Relays. They finished in fourth place out of over 50 schools from throughout New England and Quebec with Kate Tugman winning the 1000 at that meet."

Ski Team: "As always, Shawnee Peak and their Race Department continue to provide excellent conditions," said Coach Sean Munkacsi.

"On the girls side Estelle Ballard and Claire Munkacsi have been trading top GHS finishes while always finishing in the top 10 overall. Newcomer Jillian Dugas has proven that she can compete on the toughest courses and still do well," he shared.

Munkacsi said the boys' team has been shaken up with the addition of three freshmen who have scored points for Gorham in all of the races, including Owen Ballard, Sam Munkacsi and Trent Stevens. Senior captain Jacob Polchies has also consistently scored points and continues to be a strong leader under the most challenging circumstances. "Ryan Castonguay, Nolan McCullough and Ryker Spear have been battling to improve each race and are on the cusp of big breakthroughs," he said.

SMAAs will be held on February 7 and the State competition is the following week. The team thanks bus drivers Tom, Denny and Don. "And welcome back Kenny [Fickett], the heart and soul of the team. Getting you back is like getting the star quarterback back just in time for playoffs," Munkacsi shared.

Wrestling: Henri Kuntz (GHS '20) took his 100th career win at Biddeford

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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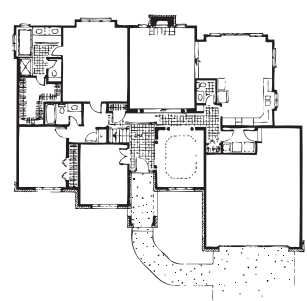
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GMS Hoops Champs



Photo credit Phillip James

The Gorham Middle School eighth grade boys' basketball team participated in the 2019 Scarborough Holiday Hoops tournament with 11 other teams in December and left as the tournament champions. Team members include: Front row (left to right): Jack Luciano, Thomas Curtis, Gabe Michaud, and CJ Whitehead. Back Row: Ashton LeClerc, Caden Smith, Haden Pelletier, Izak Young, Jesse James, Taylor Farr and Coach Eric Lelansky. Missing: Aidan Lee.

In the Zone

GHS senior **Brady King** was selected by the Maine Soccer Coaches as one of 10 All-New England players in the state. King was honored at the All-State banquet held in December. He was also selected to the Maine Sunday Telegram All-State team which was announced last month.

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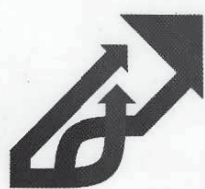
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GHS Winter Sports Update
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

High school on January 25. Kuntz came in third in States last year and is hoping for the first place finish in his last season at GHS.

Swimming: The girls' team has been plagued with injury and illness so far this season, but the team is hopeful that they'll get back to full strength and back in the pool heading into the championship. Coach Adam Cyr said the team just competed in its toughest meet of the season against the Southwestern champs from Kennebunk.

"We held our own missing so many talented swimmers and lost in a squeaker," he said. The team's championship hopes remain the same, defending their second place Southwestern Championship finish last season and dethroning Kennebunk. The team also hopes to finish better than its fifth place at the state championship a season ago.

On the boys' side, unfortunately illness has plagued the team as well. "We are doing very well for a small team. We started the season 2-0 against a couple of good competitors," Cyr said. The boys held its own against a Kennebunk squad that outnumbered them 3 to 1. Despite a loss, the boys put up a strong 60 points.

"We finish the season against defending state champion Cheverus before going into championship season with the goal of improving on our finishes at both Southwestern championship and State Championship meets."

Editor's Note: Cheering information was not provided to the paper.

Gorham Skiers Leave Roots to Pursue their Passion on the Slopes



Photo courtesy of Morgan Edenbach



Photo courtesy of Jodi Polchies



Photo courtesy of Jennifer Landry

Morgan Edenbach, Josh Polchies and Lexi Ordway are shown (left to right) during recent competitions.

DESTINY COOK
Sports Editor

Winters in Maine can be daunting. We miss the warmth of the sun, the green grass, and the long summer days. However, there is something to be said for those who enjoy Maine's winter activities...and those who actually leave the lives they know to pursue their interests. Josh Polchies, Lexi Ordway, and Morgan Edenbach made the decision to leave the comfort of Gorham and their family and friends, to pursue both their education and their love of skiing and snowboarding at different schools both in Maine and Vermont.

According to Erin Whipple, Director of Enrollment at CVA (Carrabasset Valley Academy), of the 90 students

attending CVA, 53 are from Maine. The mission of the school, Whipple shared, is to foster focused individual student-athlete development by providing the optimum balance between outstanding college preparatory academics, responsible community living and world-class athletic training in competitive skiing and snowboarding. The kids ultimately make the decision to leave their hometown to go to a "training" type school, not only because of the education (which can be rigorous), but to foster their passion for the sport of skiing and snowboarding.

Josh Polchies is a seventh grader who, along with his family, made the decision to attend Carrabasset Valley Academy. He started skiing eight years ago at Shawnee Peak and Sugarloaf; he

has since switched to snowboarding. Polchies started snowboarding competitively last year. When he joined the CVA weekend program, he was hooked.

Josh's mom, Jodi Polchies said, "We were looking at options for a school with smaller class sizes and a different learning environment for Josh. Josh has always enjoyed athletics and is a natural competitor, we thought merging the two could be a positive experience."

After completing the application process, which included letters of reference, an interview and essay, it became reality, and Josh and his mom moved to Sugarloaf in November. Josh's father Gabe and his older brother Jacob (GHS '20, and captain of the GHS ski team)

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



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live in Gorham and head to “the loaf” on the weekends where Jacob works as a ski instructor.

Jodi works full-time at the mountain and said they have been home much less than she anticipated. “It was a difficult decision to leave or friends and family but it has been a hugely positive experience for him and makes it worth the sacrifice,” she said.

A typical day at CVA begins around 7:30 a.m. for breakfast, then it’s up to the mountain to train until around 11:30 a.m. “At 11:30 we head back to campus for lunch. I have four, one hour long periods that last until 5:15. I have about an hour of homework a night,” Josh shared. CVA offers a winter term for seventh graders and also has an extended spring term. Next year, Josh plans to attend for the full year.

Jodi said there are a lot of talented snowboarders in New England and the competition is fierce, but Josh is holding his own and finding success. He recently placed third in a Slopestyle competition at Waterville Valley. “His coaches are enthusiastic, and supportive of all the athletes. He has gained a lot of confidence,” she said.

Josh has some times before he has to think about college, however, he has dreams and they include playing baseball and snowboarding at a D1 college. For now, his mom said, “I like to say we came for the education with a side of snowboarding. If his snowboarding becomes more than a hobby we will welcome that but the goal is prepare him for college. While we have loved Gorham and will have four GHS graduates come June, we couldn’t be happier with the academic and athletic experiences he is having at CVA.”

Lexi Ordway learned to ski when she was just two years old. Prior to her family living in Gorham, Ordway lived in Bethel, the backyard of Sunday River. “I learned to ski there along with Shawnee Peak in Bridgton, but Sunday River has always felt like my second home. Living that close to a mountain, I skied a lot when I was young with my family,” she said.

Ordway started skiing competitively when she was about six years old. She’s now 17 and a junior at Gould Academy in Bethel. “Gould has always been a place I have wanted to go. My grandfather and my father both went there and being able to grow up around such a strong skiing loving community in Bethel, I knew for sure I wanted to go as well.”

Starting with the weekend program that Gould offers, as Ordway grew up and “dove” into her skiing around 12, her family looked into the winter term program which meant attending your local public school until November and returning to it in April. The time in between is spent at Gould.

Ordway participated in the winter term at Gould through middle school and as she continued to immerse herself in the sport, she made the decision to attend Gould full-time during high school. She said, “I chose Gould because it offered me the chance to do the thing I love most in the world, while also getting strong academics at the same time.”

Ordway said balancing skiing and school is the most difficult part of going to Gould, however, she believes the school does a great job of understanding the commitment that skiers have for their sport and school. Despite that, she

shared it is still very difficult. “Last year alone I missed almost 60 days of school. Trying to keep up with all the school work is a big challenge.”

A typical day for Lexi is similar to Polchies with an early wake up, training on the slopes and afternoon class time before mandatory study time before lights out at 10 p.m.

Thus far, Ordway is ranked top 20 in the country for birth year, top in the state of Maine for 2015-2016, U16 Nationals 2018 ranked top 10 in East for birth year, and she received the Maine Alpine Scholarship in 2019. As for her future plans, she said, “I want to ski Division 1 NCAA for a school that offers competitive skiing and great academics. My dream is to make the U.S Ski Team. With some hard work, hopefully that will be possible.”

Morgan Edenbach is Lexi Ordway’s neighbor in Gorham. She is a sophomore at Green Mountain Valley School (GMVS) in Waitsfield, Vermont, and she has been skiing since she was two years old as well. Her journey began at Cranmore Mountain in North Conway, NH.

Edenbach started skiing competitively at the age of 11, and at age 13, knew she wanted to go to a school where she could not only get a good education, but a place where she could ski as well. After visiting GMVS, she applied and made the move for eighth grade.

Similar to Ordway, Edenbach said balancing skiing and school is not easy as it is both physically and mentally exhausting. Mornings are spent skiing, and are usually followed by core training and spinning classes. After lunch, students attend a full afternoon of classes until 6 p.m. before dinner, home-

work, and a 9:30 p.m. curfew.

Edenbach’s future after graduation is not set in stone. “I have no idea what the future holds for me. I would love to ski in college either for club or for the school, but I’m just trying to take it one day at a time and work hard in school so I can get into a good college,” she said.

A Future in Field Hockey

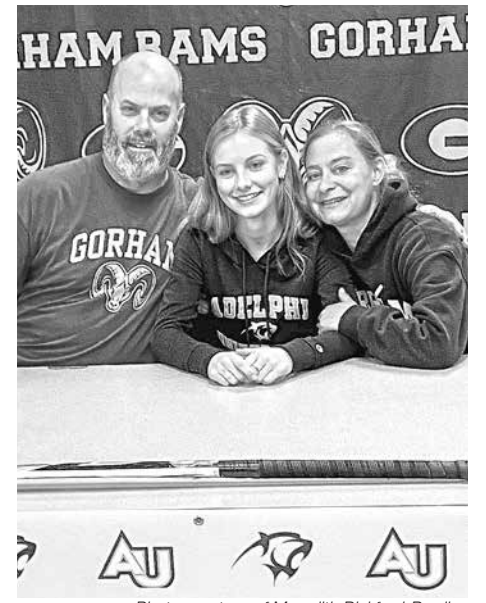


Photo courtesy of Meredith Bickford-Bradley

Faith Dillon, with her father Jim and mother Christina at her side, recently signed her letter of intent to play field hockey at Division II Adelphi University in New York. Dillon received recognition for her play throughout her high school career including her selection to the 2019 Maine Field Hockey Association All-State team.



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Thomas Leach, Champlain College, Burlington, VT

DEAN'S LIST

Hannah Benson, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
Kyren Bettencourt, Northeastern University, Boston, MA
Ryan Firmin, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Boston, MA
Katelyn Gendron, Northeastern University, Boston, MA
Justin Laughlin, Colby College, Waterville, ME
Katherine O'Donnell, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
Maeve Pitman, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
Jonathan Scribner, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA
Erin Wentworth, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH

OF INTEREST

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Gorham Memorial Post 10879 will meet in the Fire Department Training Room at 270 Main Street on February 11 at 5:30 p.m. Any interested veterans may contact the post at vfwpost0879@gmail.com.

The Gorham Lions will meet from January through April at the Department of Public Works on Huston Road. Regular dinner meetings are the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. New members are always welcome. The next meeting is Tuesday, February 11. FMI, 929-9182.

A Family Snowshoe Nature Walk will be held by the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust on the Hawkes Preserve Trail on Saturday, February 15, at 10:30 a.m. at This will be a fun introduction to snowshoeing and a great chance to see the forest and the Presumpscot River in the winter. WinterKids will be lending free snowshoes to anyone who doesn't own a pair. A group for young families and a group for adults are free, but registration is required. Register at prit.org/events.

Gorham/Windham/Westbrook TRIAD will meet on Friday, Feb. 14, at 9 a.m. at the Windham Police Department to learn about medication safety from pharmacist Courtney Houpp.

Young Life Sebago's second Annual Contra Dance will be held on Saturday, February 29, from 7-9 p.m. at Cressey Road United Methodist Church, 81 Cressey Road in Gorham. Tickets are \$10 per person. Music, Don and Cindy Roy; Caller, Dela Murphy. FMI 515-867-6883 or sebago.younglife.org.

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 839-3859; 839-2484; 839-3228; 329-4976; 839-3494; 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.

The Gorham Food Pantry, located at 299-B Main St (parking lot of St. Anne's Catholic Church) is open every Thursday morning from 10 a.m. to 12 p.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.

SENIOR NEWS

Gerry Day and Jan Foster of Lake Region Senior Center presented a \$200 check to Laurie Nordfors, Town Clerk, for Gorham's heating fund. Jan Foster also presented a check to Windham's "Neighbors helping Neighbors." This money will also go into a fund to assist residents with their heating fuel.



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, Sue Chesler-Doherty, 272-3095; 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 9:30 a.m. and Friday Art Workshops at 9 a.m. FMI 892-0299.

Lecky Brown Center for Seniors, located on the 3rd floor at First Parish Church, 1 Church St., is offering weekly events as follows: Mondays Cribbage Club at 10 a.m., Hand Chime Ringers at 2 p.m.; Wednesdays Originals @ 10 a.m. Coffee, Conversation and a speaker every week; Fridays ARTrageous Seniors at 10 a.m. In February the group will be exploring "Found Sculpture" using objects/products that are not normally considered materials from which art is made. ONGOING: sign up for the Yellow Dot program. FMI: Lisa Becker at 835-9379 or leckybrowncenter@gmail.com.

Senior Meal Site is held on Wednesdays at 12 p.m., St. Anne's Church, 299 Main St. Social time begins at 11:30 a.m. Suggested donation is \$4. Meal site is closed if school is closed or delayed due to weather. Volunteers are needed to assist in meal prep and clean up. FMI call 839-4857 or 222-1630.

USM NOTES

The USM Art Gallery in Gorham's current exhibit is a large-scale animated video and sound installation by Ólöf Nordal, Gunnar Karlsson and the composer Þuríður Jónsdóttir. Different art disciplines come together in the installation "Lusus naturae," presenting a dreamlike vision of the deep seas. FMI, visit usm.maine.edu/gallery.

Not far from Gorham, the School of Music partners with the Portland String Quartet Society to present Valentine's Day with Lantz and Kargul: To the Distant Beloved. Violinist Ronald Lantz and USM faculty pianist Laura Kargul perform works by Beethoven, Schumann, Liszt, Debussy and Piazzolla, drawing inspiration not only from Valentine's Day, but also from the 250th anniversary of the birth of Beethoven (1770-1827). The concert will be held on Sunday, February 9, at 2 p.m. Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St., Portland. FMI usm.maine.edu/music.



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DISGRUNTLED

Caller complained about construction site on Ossipee Trail. The previous day caller had complained the light was too long. On this day, caller complained the light was too short. Officer checked area again. There were no problems other than the volume of traffic and the fact that people were just going to have to wait.

Scroggie Way caller reported she was locked out of her house. She was in the house when the officer arrived and said she had broken a window to get in. She told officer that dispatch had been insensitive to her needs. She was advised neither police nor fire department will break into a house unless there is an emergency. She continued to be unreasonable saying she didn't know why she pays taxes. Officer told her to have a better night and left.

Caller reported traffic hazard on Gray Road. It was a broken coffee cup and was not a hazard.

Buck St. caller reported a prowler. Officer located a juvenile walking his dog in the area. He admitted to walking on several side streets off Buck St. Complainant's address is located down a long marked private driveway which could appear to be an actual road in the dark. Male was released. No other persons were located in the area.

Officer checked on a vehicle on Green Acres Drive that had its lights off when officer drove by. Officer advised occupants to move along.

Barstow Road caller reported someone had come onto his property and stolen his dog. Officer called woman who admitted to taking the dog and was willing to go to civil court to keep the dog. Caller was advised this was a civil issue and he would have to go to court to try to get the dog back. Woman was given a civil criminal trespass warning. She was advised not to return to the property or she could be charged with criminal trespass. She was fine with that.

Officer found a male juvenile walking on Dow Road to find a friend. Officer went to pick up the friend as it was 1:30 a.m. and below freezing. He gave juvenile a ride to Finn Parker Road.

Mitchell Hill Road caller reported a donkey on the loose. Owner was on scene and was taking care of it.

Man on Main Street who had dumped trash was made to retrieve it and take it with him. He was also warned to use crosswalks as there had been issues with him walking in the roadway.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6

- Baxter Memorial Library
- Toddler Discovery Time (18mos-3yrs), 9:30-10 a.m.
 - Book Club, 10 a.m.
 - Sewing Club, 2:30-4:30 p.m.
 - Harry Potter Night-Triwizard Tournament, 6-7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

"Big Fish," GHS, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- Baxter Memorial Library Lego Club (All Ages), 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
- "Big Fish," GHS, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

"Big Fish," GHS, 2:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

- Baxter Memorial Library
- Preschool Discovery Time (3-5 yrs)
 - Chess Club, 3-5 p.m.

Gorham Lions meeting, 6:30 p.m., Dept of Public Works, Huston Rd.

Veterans of Foreign Wars meeting, 5:30 p.m., Fire Dept. Training Room

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

- Baxter Memorial Library
- Baby Discovery Time (Birth-18mos), 9:30-9:50 p.m.
 - Friendship Bracelet (10 and up), 1-2 p.m.
 - Music Fun w/ Mr. Jeff (birth to 5), 6-6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

- Baxter Memorial Library
- Toddler Discovery Time (18mos-3yrs), 9:30-10 a.m.
 - Sewing Club, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Presumpscot Regional Land Trust, Family Snowshoe Nature Walk, 10:30 a.m., Hawkes Preserve Trail.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- Baxter Memorial Library
- Unicorn Party (all ages), 10-11 a.m.
 - Baxter Digs Reading, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

- Baxter Memorial Library
- Chewonki Presents Fur, Feathers, and Feet (all ages) free ticket required, 10-11 a.m.

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When the Fish Aren't Biting...



Photo courtesy of Rumery Family

...you catch your own! Chris Rumery, a fourth grader at Great Falls School, created a colorful snow fish masterpiece on a recent winter day.

Volunteer Appreciation



The Gorham Times' volunteers gathered last month to celebrate another year of "bringing the news to all of Gorham."

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Thinking of Selling in 2020? Now is the time to start the process.

Our Professional Team will assist you in:

- Recommending Repairs and Improvements
- Prioritizing According to Return on Investment
- Determining Market Value
- Choosing the Best Time to Go On The Market

*An hour well spent NOW will prepare you
for a smoother, more successful sale later.*

Call/text/email Keith
207.650.2832
TEAM@keithnicely.com



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