

Gorham Times

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What's On Your Ballot? **VOTE**

GORHAM TIMES STAFF

On March 3, voters will head to the polls to weigh in on the Presidential Primary, if registered as a Democrat or Republican, and a State referendum. A previously planned local Town Council election was canceled after the Town Council voted to seat Janet Kuech (see article below).

On the State ballot, Question 1, a people's veto referendum, seeks to reject a law passed by the Maine Legislature that eliminated most exemptions from state child vaccination requirements, including religious exemptions.

A "yes" vote will repeal the law which was designed to eliminate religious and philosophical exemptions from vaccination requirements for K-12 and college students and employees of healthcare facilities, and reinstate the law allowing for religious and philosophical exemptions from vaccination requirements.

A "no" will uphold the law which was designed to eliminate religious and philosophical exemptions from vaccination requirements for students to attend schools and colleges and for employees of healthcare facilities.

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Kuech Takes Her Seat on the Town Council

STACY SALLINEN
Staff Writer

The lawsuit filed against the Town of Gorham by Janet Kuech's attorney, Jon Goodman of Troubh Heisler, is now resolved.

The Town Council voted (6-0) in a special meeting on February 11 to enter into a consent judgement with Kuech. Approved by Maine Superior Court Judge Thomas Warren the following day, the judgement allows Kuech to be seated on the Town Council and she can vote on all issues before the Council with the following exceptions:

- She is presumed to be recused from any vote related to the Gorham education department unless remaining councilors allow her to vote on a particular school-related item. This conflict will be disclosed in accordance with the town council rules.

- Kuech agrees to resign from her position as part-time librarian for the town of Gorham before she is sworn in.

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Gorham Considers Maine-Mall Sized Solar Farm

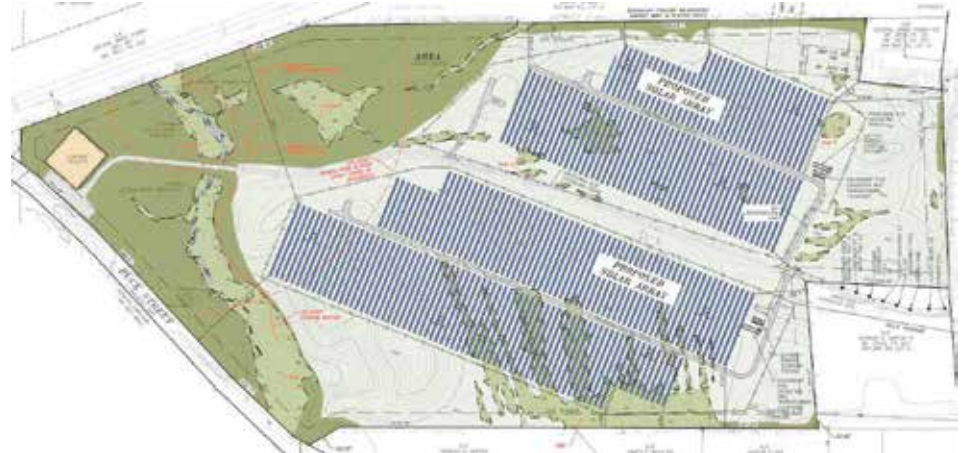
LESLIE DUPUIS
Editor

At the last Planning Board meeting on February 3, Boston-based Nexamp presented a pre-application site plan for the Fort Hill Road Solar Project, the first of its kind in Gorham and also Nexamp's first in Maine due in part to the passage of LD 1711 "An Act To Promote Solar Energy Projects and Distributed Generation Resources in Maine" in June 2019.

The company is seeking approval to construct a 6.5 megawatt, 32 acre PV Solar Ground-Based Array south of 412 Fort Hill Road, with associated equipment, gravel access, perimeter fence and utility poles. The land would be leased from the Norman Martin Trust. Henry Barrett of Nexamp confirmed that his company would be the long-term owner and operator of the solar array, and would work directly with the landowner.

Christopher Ryan, a site engineer from Meridian Associates, said the goal is to minimize earthwork as much as possible. "No lighting, no tree removal, reseed any areas that need it," he said. The area would be fenced in with a low-impact fence solution that blends in well and maintains the agricultural area.

Planning Board member James Anderson compared the scale of the



Graphic courtesy of Nexamp

project to the Maine Mall and asked for a 3D rendering/street view for further discussion at the company's formal submission meeting.

The solar array would consist of single access trackers that would follow the sun. Barrett said, "as the sun moves across the sky, they rotate and follow the sun...as the sun is shining, it's feeding power into the grid, and at the same time, it's charging the battery bank so that when the sun goes down, they can still continue to feed electricity into the grid."

Planning Board member Mike Richman asked for photo samples of a similar solar array and fencing, and felt there should be more discussion on potential noise and glare. He also asked if it was financially feasible to push the placement further away from the abutting neighborhood on Norway Rd.

Michelle Whittemore, who recently bought a home on Norway Road, asked what the power would be used for and how it would benefit residents. She was also concerned about the effect it would have on the value of the homes in her neighborhood.

Moore confirmed that Nexamp plans to work with neighbors to make sure their concerns are addressed but that current studies show wind noise may actually decrease, air temperature should not be affected, and housing values do not depreciate.

As far as the benefits to residents, Keith Hevenor, communication manager for Nexamp, shared that a community solar farm of this size would serve approximately 1,000 homes. Electricity would go to the grid and credits would be assigned to utility bills. Individuals

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Valentine Phantom Strikes Gorham



Photo credit Roger Marchand

The Valentine Phantom seems to have struck Gorham this Valentine's Day. The downtown area windows were brightened by red hearts fluttering in the breeze.

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HONOR ROLLS - PAGE 7**

Policy on News from Augusta: The Gorham Times asked our three state legislators from Senate District 30, House District 26 and House District 27 to provide us with "News from Augusta." We publish their articles on a rotating basis. The submissions are devoted to updates of legislative and administrative news, proposed and passed bills and laws, and developments and events that are of interest and have an impact to Gorham residents. The Gorham Times reserves the right to edit the submissions and it further reserves the right to reject any submission, in its sole discretion.

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The State of the State

REP. ANDREW MCLEAN

Governor Janet Mills gave her State of the State address to the Legislature recently, and it affords a good opportunity to look at what has been accomplished in the last year and perhaps a glimpse of what can be expected in the future.

Overall, the tone was very even-handed, conciliatory and very bipartisan. She stressed that she has worked hard to avoid the sort of partisan bitterness that is so persistent nationally and that things are different here, saying that, "We are not Washington. We are Maine."

She went on to tout what has been accomplished in the last year, and indeed, the accomplishments of the governor and the Legislature have been impressive. To my mind the three biggest accomplishments were finally adopting the voter-approved expansion of Medicaid (MaineCare), finally taking climate change seriously, and providing \$75 million in property tax relief.

In the case of Medicaid expansion, she put it into place as one of her first acts as governor, after implementation had been stalled for months by the previous administration. This move provided health coverage to nearly 75,000 low-income Mainers, improving their health outcomes and allowing them to live healthier lives. It also gave a big boost to health care providers in Maine, particularly our rural hospitals, by cutting down the number of people requiring charity care.

Concerning climate change, the governor dedicated an entire section of her speech to the problems being caused now here in Maine by the changes in our weather and the potential challenges and dangers future changes could bring. She has set up a task force to both look at the ways in which we can limit the changes and to deal with those changes that cannot be limited or prevented. Only by this type of concerted, dedicated planning and the efforts that planning brings about can we deal with the new realities the future will bring.

The thing that will be noticed by the most Mainers is the serious effort to reduce property taxes. The Legislature enacted a package that increased school funding, Municipal Revenue Sharing and the Homestead Exemption. It should have a real impact on property taxes.

There were numerous other accomplishments that she mentioned, including improvements in health care, the economy, the bottom line in the state budget and better, more responsive state services, but to me those three are big ones.

Concerning future plans, while there were no major initiatives brought forward, there were calls for the Legislature to act on two important measures. The first was that she called for us to pass a bond to fund the Land For Maine's Future program. This program protects Maine's wilderness, farms and working waterfronts for future generations. It is now virtually out of money and needs a major

infusion or it will have to put its good works on hold. It narrowly missed passage last year, and she implored us to pass it this year.

The other item she called on us to pass is the Equal Rights Amendment. On preliminary votes, it received the required two-thirds in the Senate but has been held up in the House. I agree with the Governor that this is something we should pass in the Legislature and send to the voters to have the final say.

It was a good speech and reflective of a good year. However, we have much work before us to ensure the following three years will be as good and as productive. The pace of our work will quicken as we close in on the final days of this legislative session in April and I hope you will not hesitate to reach out to me with any concerns about legislation

As always, please feel free to contact me with your questions or if you are having trouble navigating state agencies. Hearing your thoughts on the issues before our state is crucial to the work we do at the State House. It is an honor to continue to serve as your state representative.



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.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor must be fewer than 300 words, signed with a first and last name, typed or e-mailed and include a phone number. The Gorham Times reserves the right not to publish letters that include personal attacks or inflammatory language. Letters are solely the opinion of the writer and not that of the Gorham Times. They are published at the discretion of the Gorham Times and are subject to editing.

Dear Editor,

I remember, four years ago, how horrible it felt, when we community members were so divided, when we questioned the intentions and moral compasses of those who stood in front of or behind us in the grocery store checkout line, when the tensions among us were frighteningly palpable. I found homing in on what our family believes to be ethically important was the only right choice for our personal health and wellbeing at the time.

As we move closer and closer to November, I'd like us all to remember that acrid taste in our mouths, that ulcerative churning that lay within the pits of our stomachs, the way our eyes darted across cars stopped at traffic lights, as 2016 came to a close and 2017 began. Is this the way you want to live? Does this feel in your best interest for body, mind, and soul? I know it doesn't to me.

Within the next nine months or so, I'm making a personal choice to focus more on my family and friends, how I can control my little patch of land, how I can affect change within my own kids, how I can be even more humane to all

those around me in this welcoming community we all choose to call home.

More random acts of kindness. More time for snuggles, tickle fights, board games, and bedtime stories with my family. And if that means unplugging from the news and various social media outlets for a while, so be it.

Toxicity, I do not welcome you. I choose positivity. Life is far too sacred.
Deb Tanguay

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter to advise people against voting in favor of the people's veto to overturn the law to vaccinate all incoming students. The law is not a conspiracy by big pharma to limit our rights. What it does do is protect all of us against unwanted diseases that had nearly been wiped out a generation ago.

Two years ago, a group of parents in Brooklyn, refusing to inoculate their children against measles, caused the entire community to be infected. As a community, we cannot afford this. On March 3 please vote no on the people's veto.

Tom DiPasqua

Dear Editor,

The Maine Education Association's (MEA) recent assault on Gorham's Town Council while representing Ms. Kuech in her lawsuit against the Town is disgraceful. The MEA's lawyer Mr. Jonathan Goodman stated "instead of respecting the town voters and the rule of law, these town councilors have doubled down in their lawlessness". Likewise, MEA President Grace Leavitt said, "We cannot sit idly by and watch someone try and steal an election away from an educator . . ." While, I don't always agree with the Council's decisions, I respect them and believe they are looking out for the Town's best interests. Our Councilors are conscientious managers of the taxpayers' money and the Town's charter, and they did so here.

This case was brought by a TOWN EMPLOYEE who was informed at the outset that there was a town charter that prohibited her from being seated if she continued to work as a town employee. This had been the rule for over 50 years, and the Council voted not to seat her in accordance with

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Around Town

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection awarded \$95,000 in grant funds to Gorham for a stream crossing and culvert upgrade on Plummer Road.

The Town Council Appointments Committee is still seeking citizen volunteers to fill two positions on the Board of Appeals, and one position on the Revolving Loan Fund Committee. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled. FMI, contact the Town Clerk at 222-1671 or Inordfors@gorham.me.us.

Azul Tequila Offers Traditional Favorites



Photo credit Cathy Walter

CATHY WALTER
Staff Writer

After a long search for just the right place, Ilse Fernandez and Juan Sanchez, a young couple with two children, opened Azul Tequila at 29 School Street February 2. They were looking to establish a family restaurant in a small town and remembered how they fell in love with the Gorham community while they were house hunting. When they learned that the Blue Pig Diner was moving out and the space was available, they jumped on it.

This cozy restaurant that seats about 35 uses old family recipes made with fresh homemade ingredients to present delicious traditional Mexican favorites complete with a salsa bar so you can spice it up to suit your taste. There is also a small cocktail bar with specialty drinks that are created with freshly squeezed fruit juices. The menu will never grow stale because the family continues to visit Mexico where they discover new recipes to bring back to Gorham.

You may be familiar with the family's cuisine. In 2013 they opened El Rodeo on Western Avenue in South Portland, and shortly thereafter started selling a small selection of their menu on a food truck of the same name. But Sanchez still wasn't satisfied.

"My husband has always wanted to have a restaurant where, much like Chipotle, the customer gets to choose each ingredient going into their entree," Fernandez explained.

So if you are looking to explore the tastes from south of the border, come enjoy the unique experience of creating your meal by choosing from a wide variety of ingredients and perhaps top it off with one of their special house margaritas. Or call them for take-out at 222-2008.

The Azul Tequila website is currently under construction but you can find information on facebook @AzulTequilaME which they monitor themselves and will respond to promptly. The restaurant is open Sunday through Thursday from 11 a.m.-9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

Letter to the Editor CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

the charter's provisions and past precedent. This is not LAWLESSNESS, and our Council didn't "STEAL" anything. One wonders if this name calling is the sentiment of all the members of the MEA, even those that teach in our very own town.

While I would have fought this case to the bitter end, I accept that the Council decided to seat her in order to end the litigation and get on with the Town's business, particularly where the MEA decided to pay for her lawsuit. I encourage you to read the lawsuit and

MEA comments which you can find at <https://maineea.org/news/lawsuit-filed-against-town-of-gorham-on-behalf-of-ed-tech-elected-into-office>.

Ms. Kuech was seated with legal restrictions that she cannot vote on issues involving the School Department. But what happens when another town employee runs for office. Are you willing to have town employees on the Council voting for their best interest? Anyone can say they are unbiased and objective, until they aren't.

Linda Pearson

The Gorham Times would like to periodically share the stories of those who have "Come From Away" and settled in Gorham. What brought them to this town? What differences did they encounter when moving from another place? What have they come to love and appreciate about Gorham? If you, or someone you know, has a special story to share, please email gorhamtimes@gmail.com.

Come From Away

MARTY MILLER
Contributing Writer

My husband and I moved to Maine from Indiana twenty-six years ago. He was already working at his job when I set off with the realtor to house-hunt. The only request my husband offered was NOT to choose a place west of Portland. We had been living west of Indianapolis for several years, and he wanted to make sure he didn't once again find himself driving to and from work with the sun in his eyes.

Our realtor respected that request, and the hunt focused on Portland, South Portland and Scarborough. By the end of the first day, her sense of what I wanted had reached a point where she felt comfortable saying, "I know just the house you would love, but we aren't supposed to search there. It's in Gorham."

Being less concerned about my husband's daily comfort than perhaps I should have been, I threw caution to the wind and replied, "Oh, show me. What can it hurt?"

As we turned off the highway, I noted the property was perhaps a mile from the Village — the perfect balance of privacy and being part of a small town. Country was all around us on this dead end road with its five acre lots. Driving past the neighboring properties, I barely heard my mind whispering my husband's request.

Pulling up to the mailbox, I seemed to be back at the entrance to the Hoosier National Forest. Due to the pine trees clustered along the narrow driveway, the house couldn't be seen from the road. With my senses adequately teased, we pulled up to a cozy-looking, red and weathered New England cape. I wondered if someone had purposely built a replica of Santa's North Pole home.

Truth be told, the ambience alone had me hooked even before entering the enchanting house. Actually, it was a bit of a challenge getting inside the house. There was no front step — just a concrete block placed strategically below the bottom of the front door. Obviously, the current owner wasn't expecting a lot of visitors, perhaps not really wanting a buyer.

Danville, Indiana was not home to a lot of cape-style houses so walking through the structure was a new experience. Coming from a 80's style extended ranch, I found the rooms small but adequate and the center staircase charming. The beams and soaring ceiling in the living room seemed slightly modern, yet perfectly matched the rest of the inviting house. Even before heading upstairs, I was ready to sign the paperwork. The clincher was the enormous sunporch taking up the entire backside of the house. Of course, at this point,

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Weight Gain For The Skinny Athlete

STAN SKOLFIELD, ATC, CSCS

It is so important for young athletes to eat plenty of calories; not only are they playing sports, they are also growing and developing, all of which require a high amount of energy. For some young athletes, even gaining a few pounds can be difficult and frustrating, but can also make a world of difference in their performance. I was once one of those athletes and in this article, I want to share my top strategies to assist your son or daughter in gaining weight.

Strategy 1. They should try to eat 1,000 calories before 9 a.m. An early start is key to making a lot of other good things happen. A large breakfast often regulates bedtime. Eating a high-quality breakfast before 9 a.m. means getting enough sleep to feel hungry. A large breakfast takes commitment and the 1,000 calorie guideline forces the athlete to count calories. If you have no idea what you are putting into your body in both quantity and quality then your sports performance and health improvements will lag. Many undernourished athletes struggle to have enough energy after school, practice, homework, gym, etc. Instead of crushing energy drinks, high-quality nutrients with enough volume allows them to feel full of energy. Finally, athletes will also tend to discover that hot dogs, cereal, grilled cheese, and goldfish crackers are not the foundation for high performance long-term.

Strategy 2. Eat every 3-4 hours and that begins with breakfast. Breakfast does not have any special properties that somehow elevates it from the other meals of the day, however by prioritizing breakfast you expand the eating window. This is one of the most effective ways to squeeze in a large number of calories throughout the day. Eating from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. gives them 14 hours to eat, process, digest and allow hunger to do its thing. Skipping breakfast and not eating until noon cuts down their feeding window from 14 to 9 hours, giving less time between meals for their body to process each prior meal and requiring even larger portions per meal.

Strategy 3. Do not worry about eating clean. I can hear the gasps from parents now. Athletes trying to gain weight are not going to get there by trying to eat the same foods as an older adult who is trying to maintain or lose weight. Pasta, rice, bagels, bread, and peanut butter are a young athlete's friend. This is not a

license to eat candy bars and Mountain Dew. Instead give them the higher calorie foods that older adults need to stay away from.

Strategy 4. Calorie density is crucial. Calorie density refers to the proportion of calories in a given food relative to its volume. Foods that are higher in fat tend to be more calorically dense, as fat contains nine calories per gram, compared to carbs and protein which only contains four calories per gram. Some very basic ways to use calorie density to your advantage as a skinny guy or gal:

Switch out skim and fat-free milk for whole milk (or even chocolate milk).

Consume higher fat cuts of meat more often (steak, pork, chicken thighs, salmon) as opposed to leaner cuts of meat (chicken breast, tuna, tilapia, etc.)

Eat fruits and veggies but keep portions small if they're struggling to get in their calories.

Switch out basic staples for higher-calorie versions of the same thing. For example, opting for 120 calorie bread over 50 calorie bread means the difference between a 450-calorie and a 300-calorie peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

Strategy 5. Eat snacks. One of the easiest ways to spread calories throughout the day is with snacks. Snacks can make the difference in an athlete gaining weight or not. Granola bars, cheese sticks, and trail mix are all good choices here.

Nothing stands out more to a coach than a bigger and stronger athlete. If your son or daughter wants to play at the next level, I can tell you that with nutrition, it becomes clear very quickly which guys and gals are committed and which are not because it is so easily quantifiable. That is, it doesn't require talent to stick to this plan, and anyone who is sufficiently motivated can get excellent results. I promise you that the 20 lb heavier version of themselves will outperform the 5-foot 9-inch 135-pound underweight version every day of the week.



Stan Skolfield is the owner of Skolfield Sports Performance, a goal based, results driven sports performance training company. He has been training, developing, and rehabilitating athletes from seven years up to the pros for over two decades.

It's About Time

CHRIS CRAWFORD
Staff Writer

Time seems to move faster the older we get. Since time is relative, it seems to fly or drag depending on what we are doing. We never seem to have enough of it, especially in this fast paced world. When a Leap Year rolls around, the gift of an extra day compensates for the fact that it actually takes the Earth longer than 365 days to make one full trip around the sun, so we periodically have to catch up.

While the science is straightforward, you have to wonder who was the idiot who decided to tack the extra day on to February? I actually think subtracting a few days from January, February and March and adding them on to the warm weather months would be great for Maine's economy. But since nobody asked me, Happy Leap Year everyone. Be sure to make fabulous use of your extra day.

Since time is of the essence, do you know about Leap Seconds? Since 1972, scientists have periodically been sneaking additional seconds into our days. This is truly something to celebrate because time is money after all.

For centuries, the daily rotation of the Earth on its axis has been basis for measuring the length of our 24-hour day. But this system is imprecise because it actually takes just a smidge longer than 24 hours for the Earth to make the full spin. With the invention of the atomic clock after WWII, measuring time became extremely accurate. An atomic clock loses only one second of time over a span of 1.4 million years. Telling time by atomic clock became the international standard in 1961.

Time out, here's the problem: A day measured by atomic clocks is exactly 86,400,000 seconds, but the Earth's rotation is not that precise. It actually takes the planet 86,400,002 seconds to complete one daily rotation.

To complicate matters, NASA says that Earth's days are actually getting longer with each passing year. Earth is spinning more slowly on its axis due to the gravitational pull between the Earth, Sun and the Moon. Our days have actually lengthened by an average of two milliseconds since 1820, proving that the Rolling Stones really did get it right...time is on our side, yes it is.

It also seems that our planet has a mind of its own. In addition to slowing down, the speed of the Earth's rotation also fluctuates. Ocean tides, natural disasters like earthquakes and volcanoes, even climate change and El Nino warming can cause an irregular slow down of earth's rotation, adding as much as one millisecond to the length of any given day.

But wait a second, what's the big deal? Well, over the course of one year, that daily two-millisecond discrepancy adds up to nearly a one second difference. While that seems like a negligible amount of time, over the span of decades there would be a one minute discrepancy and over thousands of years, the clocks would be off by an hour.

Extra time is good news for most of us, but air traffic controllers and scientists feel differently because since 1972, the International Earth Rotation and Reference Systems Service (IERRSS) has periodically slipped in 25 extra Leap Seconds, on either June 30 or December 31, to compensate for the mismatch between the timekeeping of atomic clocks and the Earth's actual daily rotation.

Got a minute? Here's how they do it. A Leap Second is added, by creating a 61 second minute. The last Leap Second was added at midnight on December 31, 2016. I'd like to know if time actually stood still.

Leap Seconds are controversial and unpredictable. Scientists have spent inordinate amounts of time arguing the pros and cons of this catch up scheme. In 2015, they met to discuss using a different method to balance the clock but voted to defer the decision to 2023. Were they just killing time or did they feel there was no need to make a timely decision?

Lastly, any shortcomings in the scientific details in this article are mine alone because I probably didn't take my time. It may be questionable if writing this essay was a good or bad use of my time, but to my way of thinking, it was probably a pretty good way to spend a few hours on a dreary February morning. Besides, being retired means I have more time than most folks. Wait...I know that's not really true...we all have exactly the same amount of time in any given day, but how we choose to use it makes all the difference.

SINCE TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE, DO YOU KNOW ABOUT LEAP SECONDS? SINCE 1972, SCIENTISTS HAVE PERIODICALLY BEEN SNEAKING ADDITIONAL SECONDS INTO OUR DAYS.

You're in the Know. Gorham Times

The Gorham School Department plans to destroy special education records of former students who were born between January 1, 1993 and December 31, 1993.

Parents, guardians and/or former students may obtain their records on or before June 5, 2020. Proper identification will be required in order to obtain records.

For more information, please feel free to contact the Gorham Special Services office at 222-1022.



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Kuech Takes Her Seat on the Town Council CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

- The Town of Gorham will not hold its special election to fill a town council vacancy scheduled for March 3, 2020.

- Provisions of the judgment may be enforced by and through contempt procedures pursuant to the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure.

- This judgement is the final resolution covering all claims asserted or unasserted related to the November 5, 2019 election.

Kuech, an educational technician at Narragansett Elementary School and part-time librarian at Baxter Memorial Library, was elected in November but later disqualified based on language used in the Town Charter preventing a town employee from holding office. In December, Kuech and her attorney followed through with their promise to file suit,

Details of the agreement were ironed out during a mediation held February 7 and remain confidential, according to Durwood Parkinson, attorney for the Town of Gorham.

Despite the unanimous vote to seat Kuech, some councilors were not pleased.

“My biggest disappointment is that we are at this point, and we shouldn’t be,” said Town Councilor Virginia Cross. “I’m disappointed that Ms. Kuech decided to take it this far.”

“I want to reassure the public that although it may not seem like we’ve done our due diligence, we’ve looked at this, we’ve talked about it, we made a tough decision, and I hope if people have questions or concerns that they would ask us about it,” said Suzie Phillips, Town Council Chairperson. “People need to understand we were put in this difficult decision.”

As for the four candidates who filed paperwork to run in the special election – Paul Smith, Rick David, Tyler

Gowen and Shonn Moulton – their bid to fill the seat has come to an end since the local ballot has been canceled.

“I can understand why the council decided to seat Janet. If the town had lost, it would have set additional court case precedent. With the additional precedence being set, it may have been harder to change the charter regarding school and town employees not being able to serve on the council,” said Moulton.

In an email to the Gorham Times, Kuech wrote, “Although I was but one face in a small audience, I represent over 800 voters in Gorham that made the time to vote for me back in November. It is for them that I did not give up fighting for what I knew was right and legal. The terms of the consent judgment could and should have been agreed to in the fall. It is important for representatives of the people, like legislative and policy-making bodies, to listen to all of their constituents and not just the ones they are comfortable with because their views are similar.”

She continued, “Sometimes voters have to do more than just cast a ballot. Sometimes calls and e-mails are needed to be sure what you vote on is actually acted upon. I have been supported personally behind the scenes by many people and am grateful for that.”

Kuech said that she is looking forward to working with the Town Council and will continue to attend school committee meetings. “I’m prepared to serve,” said Kuech. “I am glad that this phase of my journey is now over and I can look forward to learning more and working hard collaboratively to continue leading Gorham into the complex future ahead of us.”

Kuech will be sworn in at the regular Town Council meeting on March 10.

Town Council Meeting

FEBRUARY 4, 2020

JACOB ADAMS
Staff Writer

Susan Duchaine, of Design Dwellings, expressed her concerns about the ongoing commercial re-zoning issues between her and the Town. She is concerned that another person has now been affected on Brackett Road.

Councilor Hartwell reminded citizens of the legal requirements of the consistency in zoning and the Comprehensive Plan and explained that zoning has to be in harmony with the Comprehensive Plan. He disclosed that last week he attended a meeting with Town Manager Paraschak, Tom Poirier, Councilor Pratt and a person from the private sector and they discussed how to better streamline the planning process and get projects through more easily and more efficiently.

Councilor Pratt reported that residents could file flight path and noise complaints online at <https://portlandjetport.org/noise-complaint-form>.

Councilor Shepard reminded citizens that the Ordinance Committee meets every third Tuesday of the month.

Councilor Wilder-Cross urged citizens to go see the High School Musical “Big Fish.” She noted that the play is spectacular in every way from the acting, special effects, amazing costumes and a wonderful “pit band.”

Councilor Hager reported that the Finance Committee met on January 27

and expenditures are slightly behind and revenue is slightly ahead for the fiscal year. He also reported that the committee discussed the Portland Water District sewer rates and how they have not been revised since 2006, which is behind other communities around us. It is recommended that the rates need to be up around \$3.00 so he recommends doing that over a period of three years.

Chairperson Phillips reported that the Founders Festival Committee will meet on February 13 at 6 p.m. at the library and invited people to share any ideas they had. Phillips has been contacted by numerous people about the alarming rate of dog waste reported on trails and sidewalks around town. She asked people to be more mindful and take care of their dog waste.

Town Manager Ephram Paraschak thanked the Council for a productive Goal Setting Workshop last month and announced that there are a lot of issues they want to tackle. He explained that because of the unusually warm winter, the roads are taking punishment and road postings may be posted early. He mentioned that the Public Works Department is doing their best to keep up with the numerous potholes and maintain the roads around Town. He also reported that the department heads are working on the budget process and that the Council should get the budget

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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.

Real Estate Transfers November 2019

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	PRICE
40 BRACKETT ROAD	PALLOTTA, RYAN & CHELSEY	HOPKINS, JULIE	\$295,000
95 FINN PARKER ROAD	LLOYD, CHRISTOPHER & STEPHANIE	PATTEN, SHAUN	\$383,000
108 STATE STREET	MCCARVER, COLLIN	REDDING, SABRINA & SOUZA, GREGORY	\$124,500
16 DAISY LANE	LAROSE, JEREMY	2RS HOLDINGS, LLC	\$90,000
DEERING ROAD	MITCHELL, LONNIE & JANICE	BURT, RICHARD & SARAH	\$21,000
36 CLEARVIEW DRIVE	RAIA-CORTEZ, LINDA	RUDA, GREGORY & TAMMY	\$439,000
80 DOW ROAD	STOCKWELL, IRA III & LINDSEY	LEO, HOLLY	\$635,000
36 NARRAGANSETT STREET	REID, DAVID & MEGAN	JOHNSON, DOREEN	\$221,500
12 RUST ROAD	ANGELO, ERIC & TAYLOR	ECKSTEIN, & BURGESS, ERICA	\$285,000
11 SHYANNES WAY	ROBBINS, KATHRYN	SMITH, PAUL	\$65,000
137 NARRAGANSETT STREET	SEEKAMP, THERESA	GARRETT, BRITTANY	\$229,000
4 FALL LANE	COSTA, MORGAN	ARNOTT, ALAN & KHAMWANDEE	\$252,500
41 HANNAH DRIVE	GARLAND, EABHA	BALBERCHAK, DAVID & DEBRA	\$250,100
122 DAY ROAD	O’HARA, OLIVIA & ROBERT	WELCH, JILL	\$320,000
10 PARKER HILL ROAD	FLETCHER, TERRA & LEGNARD, DANIEL	ROBINSON, AMANDA	\$179,000
239 NEW PORTLAND ROAD	ARNOTT, ALAN & KHAMWANDEE, SARA	LABONTE, JARED	\$355,000
26 DANIEL STREET	JORDAN, TYLER	ABDULLAH, HAYDAR	\$232,325
42 PATRICK DRIVE	HARDING, RYAN & RICHARD	POTTLE, CLAYTON & CYNTHIA	\$255,500
397 OSSIPPEE TRAIL	CCM REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS, INC	NICELY, BRENDA	\$620,000
44 ANNIE’S WAY	BEAULIEU, JOSHUA & ADRIENNE	MCINNIS, MARTIN	\$389,900
128 QUINCY DRIVE	BARTELS, TERESA	MACVANE, PATRICK & CAITLIN	\$310,000
21 CLAY ROAD	MCINTYRE, KRISTEN & TURIN, KYLE	HUGHES, JAMES	\$215,000
44 COLLEGE AVENUE	MACDONALD, CHRIS & POWERS, EMILY	SAMM CO. HOLDINGS, LLC	\$330,000
19 DAVIS ANNEX	SKRZYPEK, NICOLE & ANDREW	TAFT, JEDIDIAH & JULIE	\$369,900
6 KINNEY ROAD	MULLIN, NANCY & PETER	WALKER, ELIZABETH & JOSPEH	\$390,000
17 TINK DRIVE	DULAC, DANIELLE & COLLINS, CONNOR	PINNACLE PROPERTY SERVICES, LLC	\$270,000
22 MEADOWBROOK DR UNIT 6	SCHLOTTMAN, JAMES & HEATHER	HEATH, LINDA	\$332,500
227 HUSTON ROAD	HEATH, DEANNA	MARY L. BROWN LIVING TRUST	\$250,000
11 WATER STREET	MARTIN, RACHEL	BROWN, KATHERINE & JAMES	\$230,000
295 LIBBY AVENUE	MURETTA, JULIA & KELLER, CYNTHIA	CONNOR, SHIRLEY	\$228,000
96 NEW PORTLAND ROAD	FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION	FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION	\$195,110
210 BRACKETT ROAD	FIN, LLC	DUNTON, MARJOREI	\$90,000
85 CUMBERLAND LANE	WILLIS, PAUL	BARTLES, TERESA	\$245,000

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Planning Board Results

FEBRUARY 3, 2020

A proposed amendment to the Land Use and Development Code to allow for Self-Storage Facilities in the Roadside Commercial Zone was moved to a full board workshop.

A request for approval of Presumpscot Ridge Road subdivision, a four-lot subdivision at 207 North Gorham Road, and upgrade to the existing private way by Chris Duchaine was approved

with findings of fact and conditions of approval.

Nexamp made a request for approval to construct a PV Solar Ground-Based Array south of 412 Fort Hill Road, with associated equipment, gravel access, perimeter fence and utility poles. The applicant is represented by Christopher Ryan with Meridian Associates, Inc. This item was discussed.

Town Council Meeting CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

and supporting documents by the end of the month. There will be a budget workshop on April 4. He reported that the Little Falls lights on the bridge are installed and looking good.

School Committee (SC) Chairman Stewart McCallister reported that the initial ED 279's have come out and the good news is that the State has been able to reduce the minimum mil rate from \$8.28 to \$8.18. This, combined with the increasing enrollment numbers, has resulted in an overall gain of just over \$900,000 in state subsidy for Gorham over FY20. The Budget process is moving along at a pretty quick pace. He also reported that the work on the Narragansett Modular expansion is moving along well. The big hurdle they are working on right now is problem solving what to do with the kitchen cafeteria space. He encouraged residents to go to the Town website and subscribe to receive the SC agendas.

The Town Council forwarded amendments to the contract zone of Hans Hansen to the Planning Board for public hearing and recommendation. (4 yeas, 2 nays: Pratt, Phillips)

A refund of impact fees in the amount of \$1,715 was issued to John and Kimber Cross.

During the second public hearing of the evening Noah Miner of Green Street thanked the Council for considering the changes in the Ordinance and also thanked Tom Poirier and the Ordinance Committee for all the hard work put into the changes.

Phil Gagnon of Gordon Farms Road voiced his concern about the definition of a historical house and declared that just because a building is old doesn't mean it is historical.

The Town Council amended the Historic Preservation Ordinance to include the following Historic Landmarks & Sites: Old Yard Cemetery – Historic Site - South Street in

Gorham Village Center, Town Clock – Historic Landmark in the First Parish Congregational Church, Civil War Monument – Historic Landmark, Founders Monument – Historic Landmark.

The Town Clerk was authorized to issue the warrant for the March 3, 2020 State Presidential Primary Election and Special Municipal Election. Polls will be open from 7 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

The following persons were appointed as wardens and ward clerks for the designated voting districts: District 1-1 – Susan Emerson, Warden and Laurel Smith, Ward Clerk; District 1-2 – Katherine Corbett, Warden and Marie Plummer, Ward Clerk; District 2 – Martha Towle, Warden and Nancy Kenty, Ward Clerk; Central – Paula Nystrom, Warden and Nanette Belanger, Ward Clerk.

The Registrar of Voters will be in session during the following days and hours: February 25 & 26 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., February 27 from 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m., February 28 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. and March 2 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Town Clerk is also authorized to process on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, at 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

The Ordinance Committee was instructed to review and propose amendments to Chapter 2, Section 2-4 of the Land Use and Development Code, Clustered Residential Development, and bring back recommendations for updates to the Town Council.

The Ordinance Committee was also instructed to work with staff to review and propose amendments to the Streets and Sidewalks Ordinance to allow for more on street parking in Gorham Village for Town Council review.

The Town Manager was authorized to enter into an agreement for services related to the design, permitting, review and development of the new Industrial/Business park located off of Main Street.

The creation of an Industrial/Business Park Steering Committee was authorized. The committee will work with the Town's consultant and staff to develop the initial plans for the new park. The Committee will consist of two town councilors, Owens McCullough, a member appointed by the Gorham Economic Development Corporation, a citizen from Shamrock Drive, and a member of the business community.


The full amendments and meeting minutes can be found on the town's website at www.gorham-me.org.

VIPS Program Recognized as Invaluable Asset to Gorham



Photo courtesy of GPD

Don Sedenka, president of the Gorham Police Department (GPD) program Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS), and Elizabeth "Buffy" Houpp, vice-president of VIPS, were honored with the Outstanding Contribution to Law Enforcement Award by the Maine Chiefs of Police Association for their dedicated service and leadership of the Gorham VIPS program since its inception in 2018. The program was described as an initiative that augments the services that the GPD provides to the community, and is an invaluable asset and resource to the police department and the community as a whole. Fifteen volunteers conduct citizen patrols, property checks, radar survey details and provide traffic control during emergencies and special events. The Gorham VIPS program provided over 2,095 hours of service to the town in 2019.



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- Support your Presidential Nominee and your local Democratic Party Leaders

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GORHAM MAINE DEMS

Mary Holland-Bucklew
gorhamdems@gmail.com
caucus@mainedems.org or call 207-387-7500 for more information or any needed special accommodations

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facebook.com/mainedems/videos/1728624627277481/

LETTER FROM THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE OF GORHAM

Due to a Court Judgement signed February 12, 2020 by Maine Superior Court Judge Thomas D. Warren, the March 3, 2020 Special Local Election has been cancelled.

The State Presidential Primary and Referendum Election are not affected and will proceed as planned on Tuesday, March 3, 2020.

Signed this 13th day of February, 2020.
Laurie K. Nordfors
Gorham Town Clerk

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Gorham High School Second Quarter Honor Rolls 2019-20

<p>Grade 9 – High Honors Christian Butler Miranda Chasse Bode Coleman Faith Connolly Rachel Cummings Annie Cunningham Zoe Diffin Jonah Doucette Madeline Downey Noah Flynn Jude Huckaby Grace Johnson Erin Lawrence Kevin Luo Trevin Macomber Sofia Mankin Kaci Mollison Madyson Quimby Sarah Rathbun Abigail Rosingana Rylee Tenuta Madison Toronto Kieran Wilkins Hailee Willey Peter Wu</p>	<p>Jasper Crane Patrick Cyr Angela Dellasala Quinn Dillon Maeve Donnelly Owen Dugas Abby Fiore Sadie Fiore Ty Gammon Brooke Gordon Corinna Hahn Kyra Hamblen Owen Harmon Graham Henderson Aryahna Hulit Josephine James Eden Johnson Elizabeth Keil Quinn Lachance Alexis Landry Nolan Landry Samuel Larkin Jacob Lehmann Aedan MacDougall Kate Martin Cole Nadeau Lucas Ouillette Mikaela Pellerin Tyler Reynolds Keira Rosario David Russo Emma Sands Kate Sands Christopher Sargent Cody Sellick Eli Sjostedt Alexandra Sutton Kaylah Swan Elizabeth Willette</p>	<p>Wyatt Woodsum Delaney Wright</p> <p>Grade 10 – High Honors Erin Abrams Drew Baber Erin Castonguay Sydney Connolly Calvin Cummings Sadie Cyr Michelle Darling Katherine Dupuis Madeline Fadrignon Elizabeth Frey Charles Gay Stephanie Labrie Elisabeth Loranger Daniel McKeage Andrea Mitchell Emma Mullin Anya Nagle Ellie Perry Clara Shvets Alexandra Waterman Megan Wentworth Violet Wilson-Wood</p>	<p>Sean Boylen Connor Callahan Alyvia Caruso Lucas Castles Morgan Chapman Nathan Chase Ainsley Christianson Kayleigh Cloutier Hunter Connors Nathan Corey Parker Curry Kaitlyn Cushing Aiden Dever Tessa Dol Quinn Doyle Abigail Emerson Asa Farley Andrew Farr Samuel Farr Benjamin Fecteau Jillian Feyler Annie Frey Nikolas Gagne Maya Garand Kylie Green Bryce Gunn Sydney Haskell Madisson Hatch Ethan Ho Kiara Hodge Abigail Houp Kyle Landry Alexandra Light Ian Luciano Bryce Lumbert Grant Mahaney Annika Mankin Anya Mazaris-Atkinson Benjamin McInnis</p>	<p>Aidan Meredith Ambrosia Moore Dylan Morrell Isabella Morrell Jillian Morrill Anna Nelson Hunter Pellerin Grace Perreault Madison Philbrick Albert Plummer Anna Provost Abraham Rabbani Phoebe Richards Brandon Sadowski Thomas Sallinen Thaddeus Shain Benjamin Shields Kyle Skolfield Jackson Smith Emma Stevens John Sutton Jacob Tatom Morgan Walton Elijah Wyatt Megan Young</p>	<p>Sophia Kaufman Angelina Khomenok Shannon Lawrence Zakaria Lembarra Kylie Mathieson Emily Paruk Molly Rathbun Cassidy Rioux Megan Roberts Erin Sands Madigan Thibodeau Alison Walker Marissa Wilson</p> <p>Grade 11 – Honors Dawson Allen Aidan Bell Madeline Berry Tatyanna Biamby Logan Butler River Cummings Sierra Cummings Kelly Curran Ava Dolley Katherine Downey Jillian Dugas Emily Duncan Olivia Duong Julia Edwards Aidan Enck Paige Fogg Nolan Gava Mary Gawlick Stacey Hakizimana Devyn Harrington Catherine Higgins Henry Jensen Isabelle Kovacs Katherine Kutzer</p>	<p>Joshua Labrie Sophie Lachance Sadie LaPierre Joshua Lehmann Mikayla Leskowsky Christopher Lewis Nevin Libby Tess Libby Griffin Loranger Olivia Michaud Kaylyn Migliorini Kayleigh Mitchell Kathryn Morin Molly Murray Adele Nadeau Grant Nadeau Liam Nickerson Bradley Parker Alice Peterson Caitlin Randall Braedyn Richardson Morgan Roast Devin Robichaud Eva Rodrigue Delaney Seed Gage Sjostedt Kiara Veilla Bailey Wentworth Cailyn Wheeler</p> <p>Grade 12 – Honors Anthony Booth Madison Firmin Paige Hume Peyton Morton Camden Sawyer Madisen Sweatt Katrina Tugman</p>	<p>Samuel Waggoner Jade Wu</p> <p>Grade 12 – Honors Ethan Allen Grace Andrews Daniel Bachner Mariam Beshir Patrick Bishop Elizabeth Blanchard Jordan Bretton Westley Brinegar Jessica Burgess Haley Burns Evan Chambers Brandon Chhoeung Colby Christakis Julie Cooper Kasey Cummings Quinn Davis Garrett Devoe Faith Dillon Connor Donnelly Lydia Drew Ryan Gaudreau Lauren Green Kyle Hamblen Cassidy Hamilton Maeve Higgins Erin Hume Makenzie Huntington Sebastien Irish Elyssa Johnson Cortnie Jones Sarah Juskiwicz Brady King Lucas LaMontagne Brittney Landry</p>	<p>Haley Lowell Nolan McCullough Ethan Mercier Abigail Miller MacAllister Moss Cameron Myles Anna Nault Jillian Nichols Lindsey Nygren Abigail O'Brien Aidan Owens Samuel Paulin Cole Perreault Marín Perry Ava Pitman Lauren Preis Ryan Reno Andrew Rent Seth Richardson Gianna Romatis Chloe Russell Romain Salvi Kendall Smith Ursula Steiner Veronica Steiner Julia Sturgis Anthony Theriault Andrew Tinkham Kiana Tracey Lydia Valentine Anthony Valley Isabella VanZandt Kaitlyn Verrill Quinn Young Jacob Zelmanow</p>
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Gorham Middle School Second Quarter Honor Rolls 2019-20

<p>Grade 6 – High Honors Kaleigh Bauer Andrew Collins Grace Cunningham Isabella Davis Logan Dougherty Aaron Dumais Laurel Emerson Derek Luo Tessa McNally Stella Moores Eleanor Morgan Aleksander Nauman Amanda Nicholson Terra Rioux Elizabeth Springer Taylor Tenuta Haley Vickery Sawyer VonderHaar</p>	<p>Benjamin Brown Abigail Buckelew Addison Campbell Desirae Chiasson Jocelyn Clark Logan Dougherty Aaron Dumais Laurel Emerson Derek Luo Tessa McNally Stella Moores Eleanor Morgan Aleksander Nauman Amanda Nicholson Terra Rioux Elizabeth Springer Taylor Tenuta Haley Vickery Sawyer VonderHaar</p>	<p>Reece Leclerc Lorisse Matta Maya Moores Liam O'Hora Tyler Olson Jacqueline Parenteau Kassidy Quimby Gracen Roberts-Locke Shawn Rumery Addyson Simcock Ruby Soule Rebekah St John Graham Staples Kimberly Stoddard Thomas Sylvia Lukas Taaffe Gavin Thomas Levi Wagner Sasha Weston Atticus Whitten Natalie Wilkins Stella Wu Mendel Zhang Preston Zwart</p>	<p>Ashley Connolly Gwyneth Dubail Lucia Dubail Emily Fadrignon Bailey Hatch Kayla McLean Ryan Morrill Julia Reed Sarah Rosingana Layla Gillihan Sean Glass Ave Googins Finn Henderson Kailynn Herrick Sophie Hutton Violet James John Adams Harrison Baber Whitney Ball Emily Beal Jakob Buckley Laura Burt Abigail Chamberlin Christopher Chesebro Katelyn Cyr Cecelia Dellosso Anastasia Dolley</p>	<p>Patrick Downey Joshua Faatz Mason Finck Hadley Foster Lauren Fredette Griffin Gammon Cameron Gasbarrone Meghan Gendron Layla Gillihan Sean Glass Ave Googins Finn Henderson Kailynn Herrick Sophie Hutton Violet James Sophie Kaczmarek Jack Karlonas Brooke Kazimer Kathryn LaPierre Lucas LeGage Jeffrey Legere II Adams Lembarra Chafek Matta Jack Mazaris-Atkinson Samuel Merrow Natalie Miner</p>	<p>Amanda Morin Wyatt Nadeau Timothy Nagle Caira Nobert Amelia Olaru Hailey Olsen Rachel Perkins Payson Plummer Kyle Poillucci Hailey Rickett Celia Roy Evelyn Rush Victoria Sands Brooklyn Sandstrom Juliet Sargent Ella Senatore Casey Skolfield Aidan Smith Alison Smith Owen Spera Denali Tetrault Payton Thibodeau Madison Tibbals Eliot Verry-Gardella Elijah Whitehead Madisson Willey</p>	<p>Logan Wilson Alauna Worden</p> <p>Grade 8 – High Honors Amber Bretton Luke Burns Andria Cloutier Thomas Curtis Ella Downing Taylor Farr Summer Gammon Addison Harjula Noah Kennedy Ashton Leclerc Aislyn McLean Amy Morin Alicia Poschke Makayla Quintal Emma Smith Julia Wareham Anna Yahwak</p> <p>Grade 8 – Honors Cole Allen Lillian Andreasen William Armstrong</p>	<p>Brady Arsenault Dylan Bauer Nathan Bergquist-Guimond Hannan Bickford Chloe Blanchard Claire Boudreau Elsie Bradshaw Macey Brenner Addison Canty Ethan Castonguay Dakoda Coyne Kalin Curtis Aidan D'Ambrosio Grace Desmond Sophia DiPhippito Isaac Dobson Giselle Doucette Brooke Farquhar Sophia Fates Abigail Fecteau Lydia Fluet Elizabeth Gay Natalie Haskell Emerson Homa Meghan Irish Anthony Jordan</p>	<p>Caden Lavoie Aidan Lee Ezekiel Lockman Corey Lorfano Channitra Ly Gabriel Michaud Caroline Morrell Jackson Morrell Kaitlyn Nichols Lillianna Noel Riley Ottoson Paige Perreault Zoie Rand Lily Rubin Logan Sargent Brayzel Smith Caden Smith Tristan Smith Jonathan Stein Madison Stewart Courtney Taft Brooklyn Tarbox Camren Trott Colby Wheaton Makenna Wheeler</p>
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North Yarmouth Academy First Semester Honor Rolls 2019-20 Gorham Students

- Grade 5 – High Honors**
Eliana Miers
- Grade 6 - Highest Honors**
Jackson Bartick
- Grade 8 - Highest Honors**
Tyler Bartick
Madison Miers
- Grade 9 - High Honors**
Wyatt Thomas
- Grade 12 - Honors**
Stefan Kulhanek
- Grade 12 - Highest Honors**
Eleanor Grady



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School Notes

Gorham's Incoming Kindergarten Parent Information Meeting (2020/21) for all three Elementary Schools (Great Falls, Narragansett, and Village) will be 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 in April. Please visit www.gorhamschools.org and click on the neighborhood school and pre-register using the Kindergarten registration link. Please feel free to contact any of the Elementary Schools with any questions.

Check out Superintendent Heather Perry's most recent blog post for February highlighting the K-5 attendance zone planned transition activities and associated staffing changes. Visit: <https://gorhamsuperintendent.blogspot.com>.

School Committee Meeting

FEBRUARY 12, 2020

TOM CORBETT
Contributing Writer

At the February 12 School Committee meeting, Assistant Superintendent Christopher Record reported on the district's combined effort with other Town departments and community groups to develop a detailed action plan to address addiction and opioid misuse. This plan, funded by the State to serve as a pilot project for all communities, "can't just sit on the shelf," said Record. "It requires town leadership" to keep it moving forward in Gorham.

For the district's part, Record noted, among other things, their request for a health counselor in next year's budget for the Gorham Middle School, where there is a serious gap in this support during a vulnerable time in a young person's life. He also implored the Committee to stay involved with the implementation of this action plan with meetings that are about more "than just the budget." Chair Stewart McCallister voiced his support.

On the topic of budgets, Superintendent Heather Perry sounded a somewhat optimistic note on a \$900,000 increase in state aid for Gorham based on the Governor's Proposed Supplemental Budget. She stressed, however, that this increase must still be approved by the legis-

lature and noted that the increase won't even cover known staff salary and insurance cost increases for the upcoming school year. That said, it's potentially "good news for Gorham."

The Committee voted unanimously to send the Town Council a memo recommending doubling the threshold needed for capital improvement projects to go to referendum. The current \$250,000 threshold hasn't accounted for inflationary costs since it was originally set more than 28 years ago. As a result, annual reinvestments in capital renovations or renewals are requiring a referendum, which causes delays and adds significant legal and administrative fees.

Committee member Darryl Wright noted that intent of this language in the charter is still critically important to assure transparency and taxpayer involvement regarding new capital improvements, but simply needs to be adjusted for inflation. A project costing \$250,000 28 years ago, he pointed out, would cost \$445,554.17 today, which is why they are recommending a doubling of the threshold to \$500,000.

In other actions, the Committee approved the 2020/21 school calendar with school starting for all students on September 1 and ending on June 17. Daily start and stop times will remain the same as this year.

GHS to Perform "Macbeth"

GORHAM TIMES STAFF

For this year's Maine Drama Festival, Gorham High School's (GHS) Theater program is producing one of the greatest plays in the English language: William Shakespeare's "Tragedy of Macbeth," adapted as a short play by GHS English teacher and director Josie Tierney-Fife.

"Macbeth" is set in Scotland, in the midst of warfare and supernatural prophecies. The Scottish noble and war hero, Macbeth, played by junior Mason Hawkes, struggles with ambition and a lust for power that threatens to destroy the lives of everyone around him.

The play stands today as a dramatization of the rise of a dictator - a dark piece of the human story that seems to repeat itself across centuries and continents.

Powerful performances are offered by junior Emily Paruk, playing Lady Macbeth, and a talented cast of 17; including freshman Emelia Bailey and sophomores Kaylin Brown and Annikka Moccicola as the witches.

To prepare for the battle and murder scenes in the play, the cast trained with fight choreographers Michael Liebhauser, of Providence, R.I., and Jake Cote, of Portland.

Weapon construction for the show is by Gorham resident Chris Hourcle. Set direction is by Peter Tierney-Fife and costumes are by Diane Beliveau.

Tradition holds that Shakespeare's portrayal of the supernatural in "Macbeth" brought a curse down on the theater world that stands to this day. Because of this, many theater artists




Gorham High School's Theater program will perform William Shakespeare's "Tragedy of Macbeth" for this year's One Act Play.

refuse to say the name of the play inside a theater, unless talking about the character directly.


Come see why "The Scottish Play" continues to hold such an important spot in the heart of the theater tradition, and support the cast and crew before they head to the All-Class A regional Maine Drama Festival in Windham on March 6 and 7.

Performances will be at GHS on Friday, February 28 and Saturday, February 29, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, March 1, at 2 p.m. Tickets sold at the door are \$5 for K-12 students and \$10 for adults.



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GHS Chamber Singers Practice with Accomplished Composer

LYDIA VALENTINE
GHS Student Intern

The January 26 snow storm did not stop the Gorham High School (GHS) chamber singers from visiting with Jacob Narverud, an American composer, arranger, and conductor who has been commissioned to write new works for many choral ensembles and organizations.

GHS teacher Matthew Murray, who directs the group, noticed that Narverud was conducting at this year's District 1 Music Festival at York High School and hired him to work with the audition choir on one of his original pieces, "The Song We Sing."

"The Song We Sing" is about coming together through music. Narverud led the group through brainstorming ideas before he started, saying that there were no wrong answers and music is to be interpreted.

"I think it's a song about choir,

community, togetherness, and about the fact that when you come into a space like this choir, where if you allow yourself, the rest of the world cannot exist. There is meditation in choir," Narverud replied when a student asked him what he thought about his piece.

There was certainly a sense of community in the room as he worked through the song. He instructed singers to open their soft palates, a musical term for raising the back of the mouth to create a brighter sound.

He was filled with positive enforcement, "Say a quick little prayer and drop your shoulders," he encouraged.

The choir sang through the song multiple times, paying close attention to his directions, and, by the end, the song had transformed into better-than-concert ready.

The night ended with a short question and answer session. It was truly an illuminating and educational night.

Music Programs Take Traditional Fundraising "To the Mats"

GORHAM TIMES STAFF

Gorham High (GHS) and Middle School (GMS) music programs will be hosting a one-day mattress fundraiser on Sunday, March 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For one day only, GHS will be a mattress showroom.

There will be 25 different mattresses on display, priced below retail, in all sizes and styles for customers to try. Adjustable power bases, pre-

mium pillows, bed frames, and mattress protectors will also be available as well.

Brands like Simmons Beautyrest come with full factory warranties, are made to order, and will be available 2-3 weeks after the fundraiser. Delivery is available.

Best of all, Gorham music benefits from every purchase. For more information about the sale, visit: bit.ly/beds4gorham20.

Annual Read Aloud Tradition Continues at Great Falls

ANNA SEDENKA
Great Falls Fourth-Grade Teacher

For the fifth year in a row, all Great Falls Elementary School students recently shared in a common read aloud known as One School, One Book. The program involves an entire school community, from kindergarten all the way up through the entire school staff, all for the love of reading.

Great Falls' previous books have been "The One and Only Ivan," by Katherine Applegate; "Because of Winn-Dixie," by Kate DiCamillo; "Mr. Popper's Penguins," by Richard and Florence Atwater; and last year's "Kenny and the Dragon," by Tony DiTerlizzi.

This year, staff decided to switch it up a bit and tried One School, One Author and read books by DiCamillo. Grades K-2 read "Tales from Deckawoo Drive" and grades 3-5 read "The Tale of Despereaux."

The author and book titles were a secret from students until the annual kick-off assembly. After the winter break, each student received his or her own copy of their grade-level book and their class read the book together, according to a shared schedule.



Photo credit Stacey Sawyer

Kindergarten teacher Amy Brassard read Kate DiCamillo's book "Tales from Deckawoo Drive" to students as part of Great Falls Elementary School's One School, One Book program.

Weekly trivia questions and prizes helped to keep students excited, and Gorham's superintendent, Heather Perry, and assistant superintendent, Dr. Chris Record, visited Great Falls to read parts of the story aloud to several classes.

One School, One Author will cul-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



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Annual Read Aloud Tradition

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

minate this year in a Family Fun Night on Friday, February 28, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Excitement continues to build more each year as One School, One Book becomes part of Great Falls' school traditions and something to look forward to each winter.

This project would not be possible without the help of community sponsors. Great Falls Elementary School would like to thank Gorham Savings Bank, Casco Federal Credit Union, Norway Savings Bank, the Gorham Rotary, Gorham House of Pizza, Moody's Collision Center, cPort Credit Union, the Gorham Business Exchange, and a huge thank you to the biggest donor, the Gorham Lions Club.

Jokes to Share

Q: What do farmers give their wives on Valentine's Day? **A:** Hogs and kisses.

Q: How do skunks celebrate Valentine's Day? **A:** They get very scent-imental.

Q: What gifts do squirrels exchange on Valentine's Day? **A:** Forget-me-nuts.

Q: What do you call a reindeer with no eyes? **A:** I have no eye deer.

Q: What do you get from sitting on the ice too long? **A:** Polaroids!

Q: What kind of math do Snowy Owls like? **A:** Owlgebra.

TRIVIA

Snow Fooling! Average snowflakes range in size from a little smaller than a penny to the width of a human hair. But they can also grow much larger. Scientists believe that unusually large snowflakes, two to six inches wide and perhaps wider, fall regularly around the globe. These large snowflakes, called rime snow flakes, occur when supercooled water droplets collect and freeze onto nearby snow crystals. Witnesses of a snowstorm in Fort Keogh, Montana in 1887 claimed that milk-pan sized crystals fell from the sky. If true, that would make them the largest snowflakes ever spotted, at around 15 inches wide.

SPORTS

USM Hosts Annual Gorham Night



Photo credit USM Athletics

DESTINY COOK
Sports Editor

The University of Southern Maine (USM) invited members of the community to its annual Gorham Night event on January 29. Al Bean, Director of Athletics at USM, shared that many business leaders, educational leaders and government leaders from the Town as well as USM president Glenn Cummings and members of his administration are in support of the collaboration between the Town and the university, and he hopes to continue to improve upon its success with their help.

Prior to the women's basketball game against the University of Massachusetts Boston, there was a short program featuring comments from USM and Gorham leadership, as well as Michelle Rowe (GHS '18), a current USM student and member of the team. Eighth and ninth graders from Gorham Middle School and Gorham High School performed the National Anthem.

The big excitement of the evening came during the halftime of

the women's game when third and fourth grade girls and boys from the Gorham Rec Department basketball program, donning their brightly colored team shirts, played exhibition games in front of the home crowd. The kids could be heard cheering loudly for the USM players as they waited in the tunnel to run out; then they sat patiently on the sidelines to have their color called out so they could rush the floor and show off the skills they have learned this season.

Cindy Hazelton, Gorham Rec Director, said, "I think that the opportunity to bring the Town and USM together on occasion is so very beneficial to both groups." She added, "Any time we can bring both together only increases the opportunities for our citizens and students/faculty/staff to interact in positive ways."

Bean said he hopes to continue to work together and to discuss ways the Town and university can continue to enhance each other's mission and goals. Following the event, he shared that several people approached him

and indicated they would like to help grow the event next year. One of the ideas to increase participation is coordinating a GHS varsity hockey game during the event.

While there was a good showing for the night, parking is undeniably an issue for the university. Bean felt that perhaps some who RSVP'd to the event, arrived and couldn't park so they simply went home. Should they combine USM Gorham Night with a varsity hockey game in the future, parking issues would need to be remedied.

In the end, a good time was had by all, including third grader Keagen Beaulieu from the Royal Blue team. His mother Jess, a teacher at Village School, said he really enjoyed being there but liked being on the court the most.



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Hockey Forges Long-Time Friendships Across Towns



Sawyer Wirsing, Kurtis Morin, Ethan Jasa and Peter Richards, shown left to right, have been playing hockey together since they were youngsters coached by Sawyer's dad, Eric Wirsing (inset).



Photo credit Jasa Family

DESTINY COOK
Sports Editor

Children begin playing sports at very young ages and in many cases, local sports programs involve participants from multiple towns. Hockey is one of them. Senior hockey players Peter Richards (Gorham), Kurtis Morin (Biddeford/Old Orchard/Masabesic), Sawyer Wirsing (Thornton) and Ethan Jasa (Scarborough), all of whom are captains of their respective teams, have built upon their friendships since they started playing together as youngsters. All four boys went through the Southern Maine Youth Hockey program (formerly known as Southern Maine Youth Hockey/Breakers), and in their travel years, they played together on the same team.

Wirsing said that he, Jasa, and Morin have been playing together since their first year of squirts. All four of the boys, including Richards, played together in pee-wee hockey up through U16.

"Playing with the same guys for such a long time forms such a bond both on and off the ice," said Wirsing. And playing with his best friends pushed

each of them to improve their play, which he felt was a huge part of their development.

When you are on a travel team, many memories are made. Morin said he remembers lots of knee hockey in hotel hallways after tournaments (and maybe being a bit too loud!). "We always have just kept in touch, we would go to each other's birthday parties, skating, texting, and our parents all became good friends," he shared.

Richards' favorite memory was when they won the semifinals game to go to the state championship their first year. "We scored the game winning goal in overtime and upset the higher seed," he said. Being on the same team brought them close as friends and Richards said, "They are the few people I talk to outside of Gorham."

Like Morin, Jasa remembers the away tournaments, staying in hotels with his friends and running through the halls. "I still laugh at the thought of some of those memories," he said. He was also lucky enough to play in a few championship games with the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Ice Fishing: Local Grad Shares His "Thrill of the Catch"

DESTINY COOK
Sports Editor

In Maine, we are lucky enough to be able to enjoy outdoor activities year round, despite the frigid temps. One popular pastime is ice fishing on the many ponds, lakes and streams that stretch across our great state. Whether you have a camp or an ice shack, a day on the lake can be fun if you are prepared. Zach McGouldrick (GHS '18) is an avid outdoorsman and at his young age, is very knowledgeable when it comes to the sport of ice fishing.

McGouldrick has been ice fishing for as long as he can remember. His family has a camp in the Belgrade Lakes region where they are able to enjoy both summer and winter activities. One of his favorite parts of winter is ice fishing with his father, Phil, as well as his extended family and friends that accompany him on his excursions.

Whether he is out at his camp in Belgrade or on a local lake or pond, he is usually targeting a certain species. And depending on where he is, McGouldrick has different methods for finding his perfect fishing spots.

In speaking about his time at camp, McGouldrick said, "When we're there we're almost always targeting pike, which tend to be in shallower water during the winter, so we can actually set traps and sit right on the point of our campground. We will walk out if we ever have a flag - a flag meaning when a fish hooks on it triggers a flag to shoot into the air indicating a fish."

He shared that Northern Pike are a large and extremely invasive species and



Photo credit McGouldrick Family

Zach McGouldrick shows off a large pike he caught in the Belgrade Lakes region.

while they are extremely fun to fish for during the winter, they can be a detriment to other fish populations like bass and trout. Due to their shallow tendencies in the winter and their potential to grow to over 50 pounds, though the "official" state record is about 32 pounds, McGouldrick said it makes them an exciting fish to target. On top of that, he added, "Due to their invasive tendencies, the state asks anglers to remove any pike that are caught, whether you have intentions to eat them or not."

One of the best parts of fishing in the winter is the experience of being out on the ice with family and friends who also enjoy the thrill of the catch.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

In the Zone

Michelle Rowe (GHS '18) of the USM women's basketball team has been named the Little East Conference Player of the Week for the week ending January 19. It is the first weekly conference award of her career for the 5-7 guard. Rowe had an outstanding week for the Huskies establishing career-highs in points and rebounds, averaging 21.0 points and 10.0 rebounds per game over two games while shooting a remarkable 66.6 percent (18-for-27) from the field and 90.0 percent (4-for-5) from three-point range. In a 69-52 win on the road at Plymouth State, Rowe earned the first double-double of her career with 21 points, 11 rebounds, 9-of-13 field goal attempts (69.2 percent) and a trio of three-pointers. In a recent hard-fought loss to Eastern Connecticut, Rowe matched her career-high in points with 21 and a team-high nine rebounds.

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Ice Fishing: Local Grad Shares His “Thrill of the Catch” CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

“Northern Pike fishing is inherently slow. You’re not looking for a ton of action/fish, you’re looking for that one giant fish. There can be a lot of time between the action, so I find that having people around that you enjoy is very important,” he said. “Also the excitement and anticipation of waiting for that fish to hook up. There’s always that idea in the back of your mind that a fish could be right under your feet and you wouldn’t know it, until you look over and see that flag up in the air.”

When fishing locally, McGouldrick doesn’t have the shelter of his camp or a shack. As we know, the weather in Maine can be fickle and McGouldrick said in some respects, warmer temps make the fishing better, especially under these circumstances. “It’s hard to enjoy a windy day on the ice, no matter how the fishing is. It’s much easier to rationalize walking around on a frozen lake if the sun is shining,” he shared.

As water temps decrease, McGouldrick said fish actually start to slow down their metabolism, in turn, they don’t need to eat as often and aren’t as aggressive. This is true for fish like bass as they are a warmer water species, but even pike will slow down if weather is extremely cold for longer periods of time. During these trips, McGouldrick looks for smaller fish

such as perch, trout, bass; he will drill holes all over a pond and explores; going from hole to hole and jigging, rather than setting traps. Jigging involves tying a small lure/bait onto a jig rod (a miniature fishing rod around 24-36” long) and waiting for a fish to see your bait.

If you’re going to be out on the ice, you want to make sure that you are properly dressed and have the right equipment. McGouldrick said it doesn’t cost a fortune to purchase equipment. “Many of the traps my father and I still use are at least 10 years old, and still function as they should,” he said. While there are higher-end augers (the tool to cut through ice), cheaper augers are also available.

Examples of proper clothing are thin long-sleeve first layers, insulated snow pants/wool pants, face shields, as well as hand and toe warmers can keep you warm. When it comes to fishing on ice, you also want to be balanced and nimble enough to chase a flag down. For someone who is new to the sport, cleats/crampons or ice picks can provide extra balance and comfort while walking on the ice.

McGouldrick emphasized the importance of ice safety. Mainers fall through the ice every year, whether it’s going onto unsafe ice or not paying attention

to signs noting open water. Cold water can be deadly and there isn’t much time to react. In his experience, it’s important for anglers and anyone on frozen bodies of water to use care when getting on the ice. Once on the ice, McGouldrick suggests drill testing holes on the way to your spot if you have reservations regarding ice safety. He also said to keep snowmobiles, four-wheelers and vehicles off unsafe ice as it’s better to be safe than sorry.

“Ice fishing is a great time and experience for people of all ages and I would encourage people to give it a try,” McGouldrick said.

There are many rules and regulations when it comes to ice fishing in Maine, ranging from getting a license, to the number of traps allowed, legal catch, and when and where you can fish. For more information, visit the Maine Department of Inland and Fisheries website <https://www.maine.gov/ifw/fishing-boating/fishing/laws-rules/index.html>.

If you have news or a sport event you would like to share, email gorhamtimes@gmail.com

Come From Away CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

my husband’s request was merely an annoying gnat swirling round my head. Realistically, my living in this house might be turning into no more than a pipe dream.

With the property located in the country rather than the Village, I knew I’d have to persuade my husband to overlook the geographical location and assure him we would be fine living with a well and a septic system. At that point, I hadn’t figured in the ticks and poison ivy. Whatever, I intended to give it the old college try.

Over a quarter of a century later, we still live in the same house, only now it’s gray not red. The concrete block was quickly replaced with brick steps, and now there are granite slabs. In the late nineties, the combined efforts of a ferocious ice storm and a sudden microburst took out several hundred of our beautiful trees. Still, I’m as much in love with this country home as I was that first day. My husband has grown to love it too.

The phrase I used frequently that week in the spring of ’93 to win my husband over was one that (so far) has proven true. “Please, let’s buy this house, and we’ll never have to move again.” Although my husband finds driving toward the sun, both morning and night, quite irritating, he truly, truly hates the moving process. Game, set, match.

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Hockey Forges Long-Time Friendships CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

other boys. "The emotions and commitment we all gave to those efforts certainly helped to bring us together not only as teammates, but also as friends," Jasa said.

When it comes to rivalry, the boys seem to take it in stride. Though it's most definitely on their minds when they are playing against each other, Morin said, "There is friendly rivalry between all of us when we play." He shared at the end of the day, they always make time for each other when the games are done. Wirsing said, "It is most fun when you get to play against your long time teammates. You can appreciate their hard work, and not only are you playing to win, you're playing for bragging rights."

When Richards plays against the other boys' teams, he said he "gets butterflies" because he is excited to play them, but his first thought is how can he stop them. Jasa said when he gets the chance to play Biddeford, Thornton, or Gorham, there is an extra bit of excitement going into those games. "You always try to give your best in every game, but when you find yourself in a puck battle with someone you've known for ten years, you somehow find a way to give a little bit extra in those moments," he said, adding, "Winning or losing versus my teammates is always followed by a bit of harmless taunting and jeering, but it only adds to the rivalry in my opinion."

Jasa's mother, Jenny, said win or lose, they meet up after the game to congratulate each other, and more

often than not, they are still chatting as the Zamboni is clearing the ice.

The boys owe a lot of their success to Coach Eric Wirsing, Sawyer's dad and co-owner of Atlantic Coast Hockey. He coached all four of the boys for many years, and said they are a very special group because of who they are as individuals.

"They are kids with great character whose love for the game created this fantastic friendship between the four of them. To watch them grow and become the friends they are, regardless of competing with or against each other, is just a great feeling," Wirsing said.

Wirsing has a specific memory of the boys having lunch before the Bantam State Championship game when they were freshman. "They just enjoyed the moment, laughing and creating memories that have lasted all four years and I know will, well beyond their playing days," he said. "They always put the team first over their individual success and they pushed each other to be better because that is what they wanted. I think that each of them being captain speaks volumes about their character more than their abilities. Each of them are talented hockey players and are deserving of the "C" because of their hard work, dedication and who they are as individuals."

As the boys get ready for life after high school, whether it's college or junior hockey, one thing seems to remain constant. The hockey friendships that started when they were young will carry on no matter where they end up.

What's On Your Ballot? CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Absentee ballots can be requested until 7 p.m. on Thursday, February 27. After that date, all votes must be cast at the polls. Absentee ballots must be returned by 8 p.m. on Election Day.

The last day to change from party to party to be able to vote in the March primary was February 14. You must be a registered Democrat or Republican to get a primary ballot.

If you are unenrolled, you will not get a primary ballot. However, if you are unenrolled, you can enroll in a party up to and including Election Day and vote in that party on Election Day. You must stay in that party for three months before changing again.

If you are new to Gorham, you can register up until Election Day at the Town Clerk's office and on Election Day at the polls. When registering to vote at the polls, you must have a photo ID proving identity and something with your Gorham address on it proving residency.

Residents living in Ward 1-1 vote at the Gorham Middle School; Ward 1-2 residents vote at Little Falls Activity Center; and Ward 2 residents vote at the Municipal Center. Ward boundaries can be found on the Town of Gorham website. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. For any voting or ballot questions, contact the Town Clerk's office at 222-1670.

Gorham Considers Maine-Mail Sized Solar Farm CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

can sign up to be a recipient of those credits on a first come, first served basis.

Planning Board Chairman George Fox said the approval of this project would involve a multi-step process with additional public hearings, and abutters would have an opportunity to participate in a site walk.

"My guess is the overall response to this is that we're very happy to have a renewable energy generating facility in town. At the same time for abutters around this property and for those driving by it, we want to make sure quality of life issues are considered as well," said Fox.


Planning Board member Scott Firmin read from the Comprehensive Plan: "Gorham supports sustainability of the environment and natural


resources while being open to considering new technologies or new ideas to enhance the community's sustainability and improve the living environment."


Gorham Community Development Director Tom Poirier said that the Board can not consider impacts on value to abutting properties. Essentially, if it meets the performance standards for setbacks, buffering, noise, etc., the Board can only weigh in on that.


Nexamp is ready to break ground as early as this fall, however, the project may not start until Spring 2021 based on permitting and other factors. Once approved, Moore expects the project to take 4-6 months to build.

For more information on community solar arrays, visit <https://www.nexamp.com/community-solar>.






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Maiya Carlson, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida
Ryan Firmin, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Boston, Massachusetts
Abigail Flint, Liberal Studies/Education, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts
Joseph Gallant, Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont
Whitney King, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island
Madison Poulin, Marketing Communication, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts
Callie Russell, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island
Jesse Southard, Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey
Cameron Stevens, Bentley University, Waltham, Massachusetts

OF INTEREST



Girl Scouts from Gorham, Westbrook and Scarborough (Nonesuch Service Unit) celebrated World Thinking Day on February 8. They collected art supplies for The Girls Foundation of Tanzania and had a speaker from the Foundation attend. The girls learned about WAGGGS, and did activities that explored this year's theme "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion." They also made cards for "Hearts for Hospice" and 43 scarves which were donated to the Preble Street Resource Center and the Maine Homeless Veterans Alliance.

The Gorham Food Pantry was selected as a beneficiary of the Hannaford Helps Reusable Bag Program for the month of February. The Pantry will receive a \$1 donation each time a \$2.50 reusable Fight Hunger Bag is purchased at the Gorham Hannaford location through February 29.

Gorham Churches United (formerly Gorham Ecumenical Council) will meet at St. Anne's Church, 299 Main Street in Gorham, on Thursday, February 23, at 5:30 p.m.

The Gorham Republican Committee will meet on Monday, February 24, at 6:30 p.m. at the Gorham Municipal Center in Conference Room A. All registered Republicans are invited to attend.

The Gorham Lions will meet Tuesday, February 25, at the Department of Public Works on Huston Road at 6:30 p.m. Regular dinner meetings are the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. New members always welcome. FMI, 929-9182.

The Gorham Garden Club presents "Backyard Gardening on a Show String" by Stowell P. Watters of Old Wells Farms on Tuesday, February 25, at 7 p.m., First Parish Church in Gorham. The program is free and open to the public.

Young Life Sebago's 2nd Annual Contra Dance will be held on Saturday, February 29, from 7-9 p.m. at Cressey Road United Methodist Church at 81 Cressey Road in Gorham. Tickets are \$10 per person. Music by Don and Cindy Roy; Caller, Maggie Robinson. FMI 515-867-6883, sebago.younglife.org.

The Democratic Caucus will be held on Sunday, March 8, at 2 p.m. at Great Falls Elementary School, 73 Justice Way, Gorham. Doors open at 1 p.m. for voter registration. Advanced check in at mainedems.org/Caucus, 207-387-7500. FMI Mary Holland-Buckelew at gorhamdems@gmail.com.

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.

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.

PUBLIC SUPPERS

A Bean Supper will be held at Saturday, March 7, from 4:30-6 p.m. at the White Rock Community Clubhouse, 34 Wilson Road. Homemade kidney and pea beans, hot dogs, cole slaw, potato salad, macaroni and cheese, homemade biscuits, as well as homemade pies for dessert. Adults: \$8, children under 12: \$4, always the first Saturday of the month, October through May.

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

SENIOR NEWS

March Madness at Lakes Region Senior Center features a tasty boiled dinner on Monday, March 9, at 11:30 a.m. The meal will be catered by Gorham's own At Your Table with corned beef from Pat's Meat Market. Potatoes, carrots, cabbage, beets and turnips, soda bread, ice cream and cookies. Sign up at the Senior Center by March 1. \$8 members, \$10 non-members. Entertainment by Peter Allen.

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.

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.; Wednesdays Originals @ 10 a.m. Coffee, Conversation and a speaker every week; Fridays ARTrageous Seniors at 10 a.m.; Hand Chime Ringers at 2 p.m. ONGOING: sign up for the Yellow Dot program. FMI: Lisa Becker at 835-9379 or leckybrowncenter@gmail.com.

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.

USM NEWS

The USM School of Music presents the vocal faculty in a Faculty Concert Series performance at 8 p.m. on Friday, February 21. Tickets are \$15/\$10/\$5, usm.maine.edu/music.



The Department of Theatre and School of Music collaborate on the annual spring musical, "Dear Edwina" by Zina Goldrich and Marcy Heisler, directed by Joyce A. Presutti, with musical direction by Ed Reichert. Opening night is Friday, February 28, at 7 p.m. on the Main Stage at Russell Hall, with nine more performances through March 8. This heartwarming musical for all ages focuses on 13-year-old Edwina Spoonapple as she celebrates the joys of growing up and singing your own song. Tickets are \$10, \$16, \$22, usm.maine.edu/theatre.

The Department of Art's current exhibition on the Gorham campus is a large-scale animated video and sound installation by Ólöf Nordal, Gunnar Karlsson, and Thuridur Jónsdóttir. The exhibit runs through March 12, Art Gallery, Gorham, closing with a live performance featuring School of Music musicians on March 12. Free. FMI, usm.maine.edu/gallery.

Visit the USM public calendar at usm.maine.edu/events/public/2020-02 for more information about happenings on the Gorham campus.

CLOSE TO HOME

Living Waters Church will host a Haddock Supper Buffet on Saturday, March 7, at 5 p.m. Parker Farm Road, Buxton. Suggested donation: \$8 adult, \$4 child, \$20 family.

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IN PLAIN SIGHT?

Libby Ave. woman was concerned as she came home and found a male outside her house she did not recognize. He told her was from the gas company but she did not believe he was legitimate as he was not wearing any type of uniform. Officer located the man leaving the property. He was wearing a reflective vest and a sweatshirt with the company logo and ID on the sleeve. He also had a a company ID with his photo on his shirt and was carrying what appeared to be an expensive piece of equipment which he told officer was used to detect gas leaks. He was checking gas lines on Libby including the lines to individual houses. Man showed officer his license, was very cooperative and appeared to be legitimate.

Truck hit a dog on Sebago Lake Road. Owner took dog to vet. There was no damage to the truck.

Officer assisted chicken across Gray Road.

Suspicious driver on Main St. was a coach picking up a student. His GPS had sent him to the wrong address.

Officer saw a vehicle parked on a sidewalk near Main St. Male was sleeping in the driver's seat. He was in intoxicated. He agreed to leave vehicle there until the morning and walk with his dog to a friend's house nearby.

Numerous car burglaries were reported in Gateway Commons, Wagner Farm, Tink Drive and surrounding areas. All the vehicles were unlocked and there was nothing in them to steal but culprit made a mess of the contents of the vehicles.

Caller from Ossipee Trail and Alexander Drive reported he did not like the position of the flaggers. Officers had already been through the area and did not see any issues.

Officer checked on a white van at Fort Hill Park after hours. A recent domestic violence suspect, who had twice fled from police, drove a similar van. Officer confirmed this van did not belong the suspect and subject was moved along.

Morrill Ave. caller wanted to know if a criminal trespass order from eight years ago was still active. Officer advised such orders expire after one year. Officer reminded him that his current bail conditions restricted him from the Town of Gorham and he was also warned about not trespassing in Friendly Village.

Millett Drive caller was told man could be on property as there was no current paperwork in place. She reported man keeps calling and texting her. She was told to block his number.

Juvenile was stopping vehicles on Main St. and telling drivers to **** off. He almost caused vehicles to hit one another. He laughed and walked off. Officer spoke to juvenile and warned him of obstruction and told him to use a crosswalk and to watch his language out in public. Later that day, the same juvenile walked into a store and told a customer and the clerk to **** off. Officer searched for the youth but was not able to locate him.

Suspicious vehicle parked on Barstow Road was waiting for AAA.

William Henry Drive caller reported a stray cat hanging around her house for the past two days. Cat was friendly and well cared for but her family was very allergic to cats. Officer was able to retrieve cat and took it to ARL as it had no identification on it. Cat owner from Adeline Drive collected the cat and asked to waive the impound fee. Officer agreed and cat went home with owner.

Officer responded to Little River Drive for a reported disturbance. It was an ongoing issue over a water drain which neighbor thought was a shared public drain and the other neighbor thought it was on the property line. Neighbor was warned for trespassing.

Barstow Road caller reported what looked like people outside with flashlights. Officer was not able to locate anyone outside.

Officer was driving westbound on New Portland Road. As he entered the 25 mph zone, he was approached by a vehicle doing 68 mph according to the radar. Officer caught up to vehicle which was doing 100 mph. Suspect finally pulled over past the rotary. Driver was not wearing his seatbelt and given the speed, officer issued a summons for criminal speed, driving to endanger and failure to stop for a police officer.

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

- Baxter Memorial Library
- Book Club, "The Night Olivia Fell" by Christina McDonald. 10 a.m.
- Ball Point Pen Art w/ Kevin Hawkes (ages 11-18) registration required. 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

- Baxter Memorial Library
- Giant Candy Land (all ages), 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Drop in anytime.
- USM School of Music Faculty Concert Series: Vocal Smorgasbord featuring USM faculty vocalists. Corthell Concert Hall, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Gorham Churches United meeting, St. Anne's Church, 5:30 p.m.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Gorham Republican Committee meeting, Gorham Municipal Center Conference Room A, 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

- Baxter Memorial Library
- Preschool Discovery Time (3-5yrs), 9:30-10:15 a.m.
- Gorham Lions meeting, Department of Public Works, 6:30 p.m.
- Gorham Garden Club, "Backyard Gardening on a Shoe String," First Parish Church, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- Baxter Memorial Library
- Baby Discovery Time (Birth-18mos), 9:30-9:50 a.m.
- Music Fun w/ Mr. Jeff (birth to 5), 6-6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

- Baxter Memorial Library
- Toddler Discovery Time (18mos-3yrs), 9:30-10 a.m.
- Sewing Club (children age 7-8 must have a caregiver over age 14 with them.)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28

USM musical theatre opening night "Dear Edwina" at 7 p.m., 9 more performances. Main Stage at Russell Hall.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29

Young Life Sebago's 2nd Annual Contra Dance, Cressy Road United Methodist Church, 7-9 p.m., \$10
 USM musical theatre "Dear Edwina," 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Main Stage at Russell Hall.

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

USM musical theatre "Dear Edwina," 2 p.m., Main Stage at Russell Hall.

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

- Baxter Memorial Library
- Preschool Discovery Time (3-5 yrs), 9:30-10:15 a.m.
- Baxter Digs Reading, sign up for 15 minute slots reading to Baxter, a standard poodle therapy dog, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

- Baxter Memorial Library
- Baby Discovery Time (Birth-18mos), 9:30-9:50 a.m.
- Music Fun w/ Mr. Jeff (birth to 5), 6-6:30 p.m.
- USM musical theatre "Dear Edwina," 5 p.m. Main Stage at Russell Hall.

STAY INFORMED WITH THE GORHAM TIMES!

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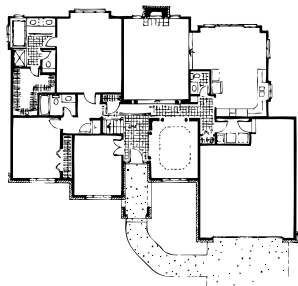
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