

Gorham Times

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A Free, Not-for-Profit Newspaper Serving Gorham Since 1995

Changing of the Guard

GORHAM TIMES STAFF



Courtesy of the Dupuis Family

Leslie Dupuis steps down as Editor.

Editor, Distribution, and most recently as Editor.

Dupuis worked hard to foster a relationship with Gorham High School to recruit new high school interns and the 25th anniversary edition of the Gorham Times. She also played an important role in leading our team of volunteers during the early days of the pandemic when news was limited

"I enjoyed my years with the Gorham Times and was really grateful to be part of the team that consistently produces a quality paper for our little community," she said.

Thank you, Leslie, for your years of service to the Gorham Times.

When I was considering the Sports Editor position, Leslie gave me the confidence I needed to dive right in. She was an incredible mentor to me as I discovered my writing abilities; allowing me to text her at all times of day for advice, listening to my out of the ordinary ideas and letting me run with them. I appreciate the patience she has shown me. I will miss collaborating with you Leslie, but I wish you all the best!

Destiny Cook, Sports Editor

Leslie was a joy to work with. She was always willing help with a story by suggesting sources, always checking back with me when making edits, and even tolerating some last minute changes. I know the paper is in good hands, but I will miss her collegial leadership.

Kathy Corbett, Staff Writer

It was a real pleasure working with Leslie. She was always pleasant, very professional and she held the Gorham Times to a high standard. I really appreciated her patience, her collaborative outlook and her willingness to listen.

Chris Crawford, Features Coordinator

Leslie has been my partner at the Gorham Times for several years. She brought a strong voice of reason and the ability to listen, while continuing to bring the news to Gorham. I will miss our many conversations of all things Gorham.

Stacy Sallinen, Business Manager and Advertising Coordinator

The Gorham Times staff extends our gratitude to Leslie Dupuis as she steps down from her role as Editor. Dupuis has been an instrumental part of the Gorham Times family for the past 12 years, volunteering as a School News

Fireworks Burst Forth Hope for a New Year

Photo credit Amanda Landry



Welcome Maeve Terry



Maeve Terry has joined the Gorham Times as assistant editor. Maeve grew up in Gorham and graduated from Gorham High School in 2016. Maeve received her Bachelor's degree in journalism from American University in 2020. She currently works in communications for the University of New England and is excited to help report the local news.

New Year, New Editor

Dear Readers,

As the new editor of the Gorham Times, I would like to introduce myself. You may recognize me from my run for a seat on our Town Council in November



Photo credit Mint and Thistle Photography

2020. Through the preparation for that campaign, I learned so much about our community. Though my bid was unsuccessful, I am grateful for the opportunities it has brought about to serve this community another way.

Nearly 3 years ago I moved to Gorham, but had been working toward my degree at the University of Southern Maine before the move. My husband, child, and I moved to be closer to USM and my husband's new job. I have met wonderful people and made delightful friends, and I am so thankful my child is doing the same in the Gorham schools. Being a member of the community means so much to me, and I have looked for more and more ways to serve. As the editor of the Gorham Times, I have taken on a vital role for the people of Gorham, and I take that very seriously.

The wonderful volunteers at this publication are truly the heart, soul, and backbone of this operation. They have welcomed me with open arms and smiling faces (via Zoom) and I am so thankful and encouraged. It is a delight to be part of a team of such passionate individuals.

Lastly, a few fun facts about me. I have been a freelance editor of books and essays since I finished my undergraduate degree. My undergraduate degree is in Classical Performance - Voice. I am passionate about the environment and am on the never ending journey of working toward a zero waste lifestyle. I enjoy quilting, knitting, and trying to keep plants alive both in and out of doors.

Now that you have heard from me, I want to hear from you. If you have suggestions, comments, interest in joining the Gorham Times, or a story idea, please contact me at editor@gorhamtimes.com. The Gorham Times is always looking for more talent. Please join me in continuing the goal of this wonderful newspaper: "to bring the news to all of Gorham."

Sincerely,
Christie Paul

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GORHAM MUSICIANS RING IN
THE NEW YEAR
ARTICLE ON PAGE 9

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

Preparing for the New Legislative Session

SEN. STACY BRENNER

On Dec. 2, I was honored to be sworn into the 130th Maine Legislature for my first term representing Gorham, most of Scarborough, Bar Mills and part of Buxton in the state senate. Alongside my fellow legislators, I swore an oath of service to Maine and my community.

I'd like to introduce myself briefly to those of you whom I haven't yet met. I'm an organic farmer, small-business owner and nurse-midwife. My family and I live in Scarborough where we own and operate Broadturn Farm, producing cut flowers and vegetables, host weddings and run a summer day camp focused on connecting youth with sustainable agriculture. We've grown our farm into a thriving business, employing 30 people at the height of the season. As a registered nurse, this past spring when the COVID-19 pandemic hit, I returned to my first career at a local hospital in order to help address the state's nursing shortage.

I ran for office because I know that we need a senator with strong ties to our community and deep relationships with their neighbors. While our new legislative session will begin in January, I've already gotten to work meeting with and listening to people here at home. So many of us are work-

ing harder than ever to come up with creative solutions just to get by, and I know that the challenges before us are daunting. I've talked to parents, students and teachers who are learning to cope with online and hybrid learning. I've met with other business owners and workers who are struggling to find creative ways to connect with their consumers and make ends meet. I see you, and I understand your struggle. These problems are at the forefront of my mind as we begin this legislative session.

I will be chairing the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources (ENR), which addresses a wide range of issues including air and water quality, natural resource protection, oversight of the Department of Environmental Protection, and more. Maine is a special place because of its natural resources, whether you're a farmer, work in the woods or on the water, or just love taking in the sights and sounds of our state's beauty. I look forward to finding new ways to preserve our state's best features for generations to come. I also will serve on the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee, which is responsible for overseeing insurance plans and regulations, as well as laws surrounding banking and financial institutions.

Committee work and public hearings will look different this year due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In order to keep legislators, staff and the public safe, we voted to change the rules regarding public hearings before committees. Now, for the first time ever, you will be able to provide testimony via phone or videoconference, as well as by submitting written testimony online. I am excited about this change and what it means for your access to the legislature. Just think about how many more working families will be able to participate in our legislative process now that they don't need to take off work, find childcare, or pay for gas and drive hours away.

This year hasn't been easy for anyone, but every challenge before us offers an opportunity to find helpful solutions. If you have any questions, concerns or ideas, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at stacy.brenner@legislature.maine.gov or call my office at 207-287-1515.



stacy.brenner@legislature.maine.gov
207-287-1515

Bailey, Terry Named to Key Policy Committees

KATE WALSH

AUGUSTA – Gorham state representatives have been named to the Legislature's policy committees for the upcoming session. Rep. Kyle Bailey, D-Gorham, will serve on the Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business Committee. Rep. Mo Terry, D-Gorham, will serve

as the House chair of the Taxation Committee. "It is an honor to have been selected to serve as the House chair of the Taxation Committee. I look forward to working with my committee colleagues to craft tax policy that is fair and equitable," said Rep. Terry. "The challenges before us are great, but I am dedicated to alleviating undue tax burden on Mainers without cutting funding for services that have proven to be even more essential in light of the pandemic."

The Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business Committee tackles legislation related to economic development, student debt relief, consumer protection, research and development and occu-

pational licensing. As Maine navigates COVID-19, and the state's economic recovery, this committee will play a pivotal role. The Taxation Committee oversees policy relating to tax policy, the Bureau of Revenue Services, property taxes, tax exemptions and credits, property valuation and assessment and municipal revenue sharing.

Bailey is serving his first term in the Maine House and represents part of Gorham and part of Scarborough. Terry is serving her third term in the Maine House and represents part of Gorham.

A complete list of legislative committees and their newly appointed members can be found at <http://legislature.maine.gov/house/house/Committees>.



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Sports gtimessports@gmail.com
Features ckck5@icloud.com
Of Interest gorhamtimes@gmail.com
Calendar item gorhamtimes@gmail.com
Advertising gorhamtimesadvertising@gmail.com or 839-8390
School News SchoolnewsGT@gmail.com

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Advertising and Copy Deadlines

Ad deadline is the Wednesday of the week prior to issue date. Go to www.gorhamtimes.com and click on the advertising link for schedule.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Gorham Times takes all reasonable care to prevent errors and disclaims all legal responsibility for any such errors, omissions, or typographical errors. The Gorham Times will print corrections if notified within 48 hours. We reserve the right to refuse publication of unsolicited materials. All submissions are subject to editing. Opinions expressed in the Gorham Times do not necessarily reflect those of the staff or publishers.

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Upcoming Deadlines

January 13
January 27
February 10
February 24



THANK YOU!

In appreciation of every business calling Gorham home and all of you who have supported them this year.

The past year was unlike any other we've seen with neighbors and local businesses severely impacted by the pandemic.

In the face of this adversity, businesses and Gorham residents rose to the challenge and found ways to support each other.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Gorham Economic Development Corporation

Bringing business to one of the fastest growing communities in Southern Maine.



Contact:

Kevin Jensen

Economic Development Director

Phone: (207) 222-1628

Email: kjensen@gorham.me.us

Gorham's Rooftop Navigational Marker

GREGORY CUFFEY

On occasion I have flown over Maine in a low-tech 1955 Cessna airplane. On a trip to see a museum artifact stored at Dexter's airport, I quickly realized how hard it is to find an "airport in a Pine Tree State haystack!" Flying north from Portland, a pilot tries to keep the White Mountain Range to the left while looking for familiar lakes and especially paper company smoke stacks as landmarks.

Back in the day, long before GPS, Omega and LORAN, pilots listened to Radio Range A & N sounds emanating from towers directing them to go straight, left or right. Many planes did not have radio navigation for direction and risked running out of gas and crash landing.

By the 1920's roof labeling came into vogue. USM's Corthell Hall (then called Gorham Normal School) is one

such building. Pilots' routes could be based on known distances from town to town in order to figure fuel consumption accordingly. This proved to be a great help for aviation safety.

Rooftop markers were painted on barns, water towers, skyscrapers, train stations, hangars etc. The goal was to have the yellow painted markers spaced 15 miles apart. Some had just the town name, N for north, plus arrows and mileage to larger towns around. Gorham's marker had all of the above. Much of the marker painting labor was done by the WPA, CAP, Boy Scouts, and Ninety-Nines Organization of women pilots.

In January 1942, following the December bombing of Pearl Harbor, the Civil Aeronautics Administration ordered all roof-top signs obliterated within 150 miles of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. The feeling was that the markers might help unfriendly forces find their way around America.



Photo credit Roger Marchand

Gorham Sightings

Do you know where in Gorham this photo was taken? Join our visual trivia discussion by entering your best guess on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/gorhamtimes or email us at gorhamtimes@gmail.com. The photo in the October 29 issue was a sunflower tower located in the community gardens in Robie Park.

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Jennifer Danley, DPT

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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

CBD AMERICAN SHAMAN

ANGELINA KHOMENOK

CBD American Shaman, located at 18 Elm Street, is a store from a nationwide CBD American Shaman franchise. It is owned and operated by Wayne Werts, a retired firefighter paramedic who got involved with CBD American Shaman because his mother had medical problems with her neck and arm. Werts started to look for a natural and organic remedy that would help his mother manage the pain she felt. Soon he came across a CBD American Shaman location and decided to visit. He was impressed by "the whole process of the high-quality products that they had and how it was tested, and how it was third-party tested and how the lab results were available so that you could look right at them". After a period of using CBD products, Werts' mother started to feel much better.

Watching his mother's health improve, Werts got interested in CBD American Shaman as a business. Since there was no such store in Maine, Werts and his family thought it could be a good opportunity. They did a lot of research on the company, trying to learn as much as possible about it. Werts was told that in order for him to open a store, he had to go to the company headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri to complete all the franchisee training as well as meet the company chemists, the CEO, and other members of the board. Although it took Werts a lot of time and effort, he became a certified specialist, and has quite a few certifications displayed on the walls of his store to confirm his credentials. CBD American Shaman itself is certified by

the US Hemp Authority, a certification few companies in the industry have.

Werts says that he feels very strongly about more people learning the facts about CBD and its various healing properties. Indeed, what is CBD? CBD, or Cannabidiol, is a component of hemp oil which is legal in all 50 states. CBD has a healing effect: it supports natural sleep, helps joint discomfort, and brings relief for anxiety and depression. Although CBD is quickly absorbed by the body and its effects are long-lasting, its consumers cannot get "high" using it because it contains a different part of the cannabis plant than marijuana. The CBD American Shaman's nanotechnology puts cannabinoids in their most bio-active state and breaks them down to smaller particle size, making it easier and faster for the body's cells to absorb them.

At CBD American Shaman, you will find a great variety of products with CBD components: water solubles, under-eye serums, massage lotions, capsules, CBD Omega-3 supplements, and even pet products. All products are of the highest quality and come recommended by the many regular customers of CBD American Shaman. If you are not sure which product could be of help specifically for you, you will be able to get an in-depth consultation from the friendly staff: the store owner and his wife.

For additional information about CBD American Shaman you may go to their website at <https://cbdamericanshaman.com>, follow them on Facebook @ [CBDAmericanShamanMaine](https://www.facebook.com/CBDAmericanShamanMaine), or call the store directly at 207-222-0067. The store hours are Tuesday-Friday, 10am-6pm, and Saturdays, 10am-4pm.



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Clerk's Corner

Laurie Nordfors

I hope you all had a joyous holiday. I want to take this time to wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year. I know we have all had one crazy and stressful 2020 and I am hoping the New Year will bring better times. I would also like to thank the many families and businesses that sponsored a "family" for Christmas and donated to Gorham's Fuel Fund. With many of us affected by Covid and the economic stress it brings, these donations were much needed and welcomed.

The Town Clerk's Office is open by appointment only. You can make an appointment by going to our website, www.gorham-me.org and clicking on the "make an appointment" link, or by calling 222-1670 and a Clerk will get back to you to make an appointment.

The Town Council Appointments Committee is seeking citizen volunteers to fill existing and upcoming vacancies on all Town boards and committees. If you are interested in applying to serve on one of the Town's boards or committees, or for more information, please call the Town Clerk's office or go to the town website at www.gorham-me.org.

The Town will transition to Town trash tags on January 1st and the old Town trash bags will no longer be available for purchase. You can purchase Town trash tags at Hannaford, Ace Hardware, or the Town Clerk's Office.

Dog registrations are due by December 31, 2020. You can register your dog online or make an appointment with the Clerk's office.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call the office at 222-1670.

Man Identified by Gorham Police After Car Chase

Sheri Faber
Staff Writer

On December 20, a thirty-year-old female reported that her ex-boyfriend had threatened violence toward her and her parents. He had also threatened to commit suicide. Officer responded to her residence on Mighty Street and the officer saw a black GMC Yukon stopped in the roadway in front of the home of the victim's parents. The suspect appeared to be engaged in an "animated verbal argument" with three people standing next to the SUV.

As the officer arrived, he activated his emergency lights. However, the suspect drove around the cruiser and sped off on Mighty Street heading towards Rt. 114.

Witnesses identified him and told the officer that the suspect had a firearm. Gorham Police Officers pursued the vehicle from Mighty Street onto Route 114 and westbound into Standish. The Cumberland County Sheriff's Officer

assisted in the pursuit and attempted to deploy a spike mat but the suspect vehicle avoided it and continued west. The pursuit continued westbound on Route 114 toward Sebago for several miles until the SUV left the roadway at a high rate of speed; it came to rest in the trees and vegetation.

Responding officers set up a perimeter around the vehicle and attempted to communicate with the suspect in an effort to safely resolve this incident. Other resources were deployed to the incident including Standish Fire Department and EMS, State Police and tactical elements from both CCSO and the Gorham Police Department. At approximately 5:45pm the suspect was located inside the vehicle. He was deceased.

This incident is still under investigation. The suspect was identified as Joseph Cleaves, 32 of Windham. The Medical Examiner's Office will be conducting an autopsy in order to determine the suspect's cause of death.

Grand Jury Indictment

DECEMBER 2020

Casey Bernardini, 31, of Lewiston was indicted for burglary of a dwelling (2 counts), theft by unauthorized taking (2 counts), and violating conditions of release (2 counts) on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Matthew Davis, 33, of Standish was indicted for possession of methamphetamine, operating after suspension and violating conditions of release on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Derek Graves, 30, of Brunswick was indicted for theft by deception/home repair fraud on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Nikki Green, 45, of Portland was indicted for unlawful possession of scheduled drugs (fentanyl), unlawful possession of scheduled drugs, operating beyond license restriction and violating conditions of release (2 counts) on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Tyler O'Donnell, 31, of Windham was indicted for theft by unauthorized taking (priors) on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Robert Pierce, 54, of Portland was indicted for aggravated criminal mischief, domestic violence criminal threatening with a dangerous weapon, reckless conduct, domestic violence assault, and domestic violence terrorizing with a dangerous weapon on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Theodore Schmitt, 43, of Standish was indicted for aggravated criminal mischief, domestic violence stalking, theft by unauthorized taking, with a firearm, on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Austin Swanson-Monge, 23, of Gorham was indicted for burglary and theft by unauthorized taking on charges brought by Cumberland County Sheriff's Office

Rhiannon Tracy, 18, was indicted for unlawful trafficking in scheduled drugs and criminal forfeiture on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Marquis Valmons, 28, of Gorham was indicted for criminal threatening with a dangerous weapon and criminal mischief on charges brought by Portland PD.

Arrests SEPTEMBER 2020

Westbrook man, 36, was arrested for violating conditions of release and unlawful possession of scheduled drugs.

Windham man, 53, was arrested for reckless conduct, aggravated criminal mischief, domestic violence assault and criminal threatening with a dangerous weapon.

Cressey Road man, 39, was arrested for domestic violence assault.

Parker Hill Road man, 53, was arrested for theft by unauthorized taking and violating conditions of release.

Portland man, 44, was arrested for two counts of violating conditions of release, operating without a license, unlawful possession of scheduled drugs and unlawful possession of fentanyl powder.

Narragansett Street man, 54, was arrested for violating conditions of release and failure to appear.

Hollis woman, 53, was arrested for disorderly conduct and loud noise. She was arrested again later the same evening.

Planning Board Results 12/7/20

Proposed amendments to the Land Use and Development Code to add new private way standards that would allow up to 25 lots or residential units was recommended to the Town Council for approval.

Walter Stinson's proposed self-storage facility at 551 Main Street, which would include new construction of nine buildings with a total area of 64,575 sq. ft., was moved to a future consent agenda.

Michael Wagner of Ossipee Trail Garden Center's request for after the fact approval for a site plan expansion was approved.

Grondin Aggregates, LLC request for approval to include the addition of a winter salt storage shed as well as stump and brush processing was discussed and postponed.

Brian Plowman's request for approval to construct Black Gum Tree, a 10 lot subdivision was discussed.



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Around Town

Stanley Black & Decker Inc. manufacturing plant at 27 Bartlett Road in Gorham Industrial Park will be permanently closing in March 2021, due to operations transferring to a plant in Jackson, Tennessee. Abigail Dreher, director of public affairs, said the closure is "part of an ongoing effort to streamline operations," but did not provide details. The Gorham plant produces tap-and-die sets, which cut threading for screws, nuts and bolts, and employs 96 people. Kevin Jensen, Gorham's Economic Development Director will make it a priority to help the 96 displaced workers find new jobs. According to Jensen, many of the other companies in the Park are looking to hire new workers. Many of the employees have been there since the plant opened in the Industrial Park, off Libby Avenue, more than 20 years ago. Jensen believes that "there remains strong demand for industrial space in the region" and that "the site will generate much interest when ... it becomes available."

Town Council was scheduled to go into Executive Session on January 5 to discuss sale of property in the new Gorham Business Campus.

Gorham Tree Festival Participants



Photo credit Roger Marchand

This compilation of delightful decorations brought much needed cheer to the 2020 holiday season. Winners have yet to be announced. When they are, the Gorham Times Facebook Page will be updated.

Gorham Fire Department Receives Moderna Vaccine



On December 31, 2020, Firefighter/EMT Paramedic Lillian McMullin administered the first shot of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine to Firefighter/EMT William Eldridge.

The Gorham Fire Department is one of three departments in Cumberland County that is rolling out vaccines to first responders as it becomes available, starting with Emergency Medical First Responders.



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Winter Kids

JULIE MULKERN

Executive Director of Winter Kids

Winter may be our longest season, but humans are not meant to hibernate. According to the Outdoor Industry Association, only 13% of children ages 6 to 12 participate in outdoor winter recreation. In addition, parents of children 8 to 12 years old report that their children spend three times as many hours with computers and televisions each week as they do playing outside. These num-

bers steadily increase with the onset of winter, our most sedentary season. This knowledge, paired with outside being the safest place to be in the pandemic, means it is more important than ever to make a conscious effort to be active outdoors.

Recall your own winter experiences as a child. You more than likely spent hours outside playing in the snow, not wanting to go in to warm up or eat your next meal. Feed that nostalgia with your own children. It is also likely you did not have the

top-notch winter gear at your disposal that we have now. There is no bad weather, only bad clothing. With the appropriate clothing and a can-do attitude, winter can be fun and full of exploration for the whole family.

Maine is well known for its rich winter heritage, which is a huge benefit to those interested in trying a new winter sport. Our state boasts over 50 winter outdoor recreation centers that offer downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, tubing, ice skating, fat tire

biking and more. You can also check out your local community calendars for winter festivals, guided hikes and winter vacation camps.

If you are snowed in or just want to stay close to home, make your own sledding hill in the backyard, build a snowman with natural items or paint a snow mural with spray bottles, water and food coloring. It is fun to take a hike near your home and break out the binoculars. Look for animal tracks, measure the snow-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Outdoor Group Forming in Gorham

DESTINY COOK

Sports Editor

As the pandemic continues to take hold on our state, more and more we are looking for opportunities to follow guidelines but remain active at the same time. Jason Tanguay, GHS teacher and coach, found himself considering how to keep his distance runners active this winter without access to the facilities to train properly. Through his deliberation and thought process, the idea for the Gorham Outdoors Club was born. Tanguay's idea is to organize for the community, a variety of outdoor activities like trail walks, snowshoeing, and bike riding, along with many other events to encourage individuals and families to get outside.

The first thing he did was assemble a very large group of volunteers. The group has met through Zoom to create the mission statement for the group, discuss ideas, form a board (Tanguay is the newly elected President) and grow the already sizable group of volunteers. Along with the individual volunteers, the Gorham Recreation Department, Gorham School Department, Gorham Conservation Commission, USM Outdoor Adventure as well as many Gorham citizens and businesses are involved in getting the group up and running.

JMG (Jobs for Maine Grads), a student group from Gorham High School, is significantly involved in the Gorham Outdoors Program. Tanguay said "JMG programs are hosted within Maine's public schools, and classes and year-round activities are led by JMG Specialists who serve as mentors and educators. Specialists are able to develop student-centered, personalized education plans,

delivered through a competency-based curriculum focusing on academic knowledge, career development skills, leadership, and teamwork."

JMG students have been organized into the following committees (with adult mentors) where they will learn many life skills: Logo and Slogan; Financial and Operational Logistics; Marketing and Social Media; Maintenance and Storage; Sales and Presentations; and Event Planning. (For more information on JMG visit www.jmg.org). There will also be a JMG representative on the Gorham Outdoors Club Board.

As you can imagine, it takes donations of time and money to get a group like this going. The newly elected board is working diligently to organize activities as quickly as they can, and with the resources they have available to them. The club will need many volunteers to help put on the various activities for community members. They will also be looking for equipment donations in the future as well as sponsorships and help with fundraisers. If you have an area of expertise, outdoor equipment taking up space in your garage or would like more information on how to become involved in the Gorham Outdoors Club, you can email gorhamoutdoors@gorhamschools.org.

While we feel stuck inside during the pandemic, especially in the winter, this group has come together to organize activities to get the Gorham community moving. "I think it is important to emphasize the importance of getting outside all year round. Time outside has substantial benefits for physical, mental and emotional health and provides significant opportunities for a variety of learning," Tanguay stated.



Photo credit Center for Community GIS

Upcoming Events for the Gorham Outdoors Club:

Saturday, January 9th at 10:00 am

Trail walk or bike ride at Claire Drew Trails (behind Narragansett Elementary School)

Saturday, January 16th at 5:30 pm

Double-feature drive-in movie at GHS parking lot (Coordinated with USM Outdoor Adventure)

1st Movie is family friendly, 2nd movie is for teenagers and older). Movies will be announced

Saturday, January 30th at 5:30 pm

Full moon walk or bike ride at Clair Drew Trails, star gazing during the walk and hot chocolate available at the end of the ride



Photo credit Stacey K

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fall, build snow forts or create a winter treasure hunt. There is a wealth of information online to help you take advantage of free and low-cost opportunities for your children to play and learn outside in the winter.

Frankly, kids love to be outdoors. They are active and curious by nature. It is our job (one of many) as parents to nurture their love for exploration in the outdoors. Outdoor play and learning helps children connect with the natural environment while increasing well-being, and academic and social development. All these

benefits are motivation enough to increase your family's winter outdoor activity level. So, put on your warmest weatherproof gear and get outside with your family.

Do not simply endure winter. Embrace all the season has to offer. Make memories and encourage healthy habits. You will not regret it. For more information on how you can be a "winter kid," including a pay-what-you-can WinterKids App membership for this year only, please visit WinterKids.org. Julie Mulkern is the Executive Director of WinterKids

SCHOOL

School Committee Report

DECEMBER 9, 2020

KATHY CORBETT
Staff Writer

The highlights of the December 9 regular School Committee (SC) meeting were Zoom delivered reports from Gorham High School theater students and student athletes. They described how the fall play cast and crew, and the fall sports teams coped with Covid-19 restrictions.

Sierra Cummings spoke for students who participated in the radio style production of "It's a Wonderful Life." She said, "The arts can survive everything." Andrew Goschke and Mason Hawkes agreed that adapting to the Zoom format made the experience even more meaningful.

Ted Spear, Director of Athletics, said that 60 students were attending the SC meeting remotely and that this fall there were 300 student athletes, just short of last year's participants.

Molly Murray, speaking for the field hockey team, thanked the coaches and said the highlight of their 6-4 season was beating Windham in the final game. Beck Carrier also said that the football team's best game was against Windham and that the team benefited from coming together to adapt to the modified rules. Speaking for the girls cross country team, Emily Paruk said that the team was made stronger by the challenges this fall. Running

together "made life more normal. It gave us a purpose to leave home and build friendships."

Josh Lehmann reported that the boys cross country team was undefeated, but really missed not having spectators. Aidan Enok said that the golf team was sorry that the three day state competition was shortened this year to one day. The volleyball team, Shannon Lawrence reported, did not have a competitive season but gained new players. "The team is a family," she said.

The girls soccer team felt beating Bonny Eagle and Scarborough "made it more than just a sport for us," Lauren Fotter said.

The boys soccer team was undefeated this fall. Matthew Phinney in summing up the season said, "The year was fun and I am thankful we had a season."

School Committee members thanked the students for representing Gorham so well. Chairman Darryl Wright commended them on their presentations and for learning how to do things differently.

Superintendent Heather Perry announced that state revenue is \$147 million short this fall, but this will not affect the school department's FY21 budget, although it may for FY22. She reported that except for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Gorham Sports Update

AISLYN McLEAN
GHS Student Intern

On December 18th, 2020, Cumberland county was designated "yellow" by the Maine Department of Education's classification system. This color-coded arrangement was implemented back in July to give schools guidance to safely teach students. When a county goes "yellow", school sports essentially go "red", meaning no in-person practices can be held.

The most recent color evaluation occurred on December 31, 2020. Unsurprisingly, Cumberland county was classified as "yellow" again. Androsoggin, York, and Oxford counties also remained "yellow". This leaves few options for coaches and athletes. According to the "Letter To GHS Families" from athletic administrator Tim Spear, until Cumberland County goes "green" again, all extra-curriculars are suspended. Virtual practices are expected. The next evaluation will be on January 15, 2021.

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




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Gorham Musicians Ring in the New Year

GRACE FLYNN
GHS Student Intern

Rhythm & Heart, a concert premiering this month, is a virtual benefit showcasing musical performances by Gorham High School (GHS) students and alumni. The concert will premiere on YouTube and on Rhythm & Heart's website, www.rhythm-and-heartme.com, on January 22 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. It will be available for viewing only on YouTube after that date.

Rhythm & Heart was founded out of a desire to bring the community together through local music and giving, and to provide local musicians at the high school and college levels with an opportunity to return to the stage (albeit virtual). The Rhythm & Heart team is comprised of six GHS seniors: Grace Flynn (founder and director), Devyn Harrington (promotion and social media), Riley E. Johnson (social media and graphic design), Griffin Loranger (technology and production), Molly Rathbun (artist and beneficiary coordinator), and Delaney Seed (social media and graphic design). These seniors believe that there is a clear need for the assistance provided by charities such as food, furniture, and fuel within communities everywhere, including Gorham. Which is why throughout the concert, viewers will be encouraged, if able, to donate to one or more of three local charitable causes: the Gorham Food Pantry, Furniture Friends, and the Gorham Fuel Fund via the YouTube video and on the webpage.

The Gorham Fuel Fund provides necessary funds and supplies to Gorham community members in need of heating assistance. The Town Clerk's office stated in a letter to Gorham Community members that the Fund "is supported by donations from Gorham citizens and local businesses and 100% of the funds received will go directly to people [they] assist with heating fuel." The letter continued to highlight why the Fuel Fund is necessary, "Every winter, low-income and needy families struggle to heat their homes ... We can focus our resources towards those



people who have fallen through the cracks by not qualifying for general assistance or are in a bureaucratic process waiting for assistance from other entities."

Furniture Friends is a Westbrook-based non-profit that provides mattresses and furniture to those in need throughout Greater Portland. The organization has partnered with over a hundred social service providers, hospitals, municipalities, faith-based organizations, and schools to identify "people in need who lack the financial resources to purchase furniture on their own," according to their website. In 2019, Furniture Friends served over 550 people in need by providing quality furniture and mattresses.

The Gorham Food Pantry has been providing food assistance to any Gorham community member in need since 1997. It currently provides food assistance to over a hundred local families each month from its location on Main Street in Gorham.

The concert will include short interviews with individuals involved in each charitable cause. "I want nothing more than to give back to the

community that's helped me grow as an artist all these years," said Sierra Cummings. The show will consist of performances from the following artists: Cummings, Tessa Dol, Logan Files, Mavy Ho, Haze, Isaac Martel, and Leah Scontras. Each performance, except for Haze, has been recorded at GoCAM studios. Georgia Humphrey, the community systems manager at GoCAM, directed the recordings. Haze, a rock group made up of GHS juniors Luc Puglionesi (lead singer), Will Boylen (bass), Mason Landre (electric guitar), and Gavin Lavoie (drums), recorded in its own location to comply with COVID-19 restrictions.

Several GHS staff members have also been instrumental in the development of the concert: Luci Bowers (National Honor Society advisor), Neile Nelson (Interact Club advisor), Adam Parvanta (tech and production), Sandra Rockett (Student Council advisor), and Rob Roy (tech and production). The entire group of community members, organizers, and performers hope that you will join them for an exciting opportunity to give back and rock out to some fantastic music from the comfort of home.

School Committee Report

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

the elementary schools there was not significant reduction in attendance from last year. SC member Phil Gagon asked for attendance records for both virtual and in-person learning. Wright said he would work with Perry on getting these figures. Perry submitted a copy of her goals with action steps in progress. The superintendent's goals are available on the Gorham School Department website.

Speaking for the finance committee, Wright said that bonds for the Phase 3 Narragansett modular project will be issued in the spring. At a later December workshop, the SC received a breakdown of project costs.

Anne Schools presented the Anti-Racism Policy for a final vote. She had received few requests for changes from the first reading. Those made clear that some provisions of the policy were already being implemented. The SC voted unanimously (7-0) to adopt the policy, which is available on the School Department website.

The SC also voted 7-0 to approve extra-curricular activity stipends and to retain the superintendent's contract through the school year. This is only a state-required formality since the contract is negotiated in September.



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Autumn Heil, Plymouth State University, Plymouth, New Hampshire

DEAN'S LIST

Maiya Carlson, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida
Garrett Higgins, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont

OF INTEREST



The Gorham/Windham/Westbrook TRIAD was able to give back this year and donate a total of \$1,200.00 to area nonprofits with the wish, "Happy Holidays from our families to yours!" The Gorham/Windham/Westbrook Triad is made up of local law enforcement, local businesses and senior citizens, with a mission to protect and enhance the lives of seniors. If you are a senior citizen or a business and would like to join TRIAD are invited to call Buffy at 207-229-9050.

Gorham Memorial VFW Post 10879 welcomes any interested veterans to the next monthly meeting at 5:30 pm on Tuesday, January 12 in the Fire Department Training Room, 270 Main St. Gorham. For more information contact vfwpost10879@gmail.com.

Gorham Lions are meeting at a new location, Moody's Collision Center at 200 Narragansett St. (Rte. 202). Regular dinner meetings are the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The next meeting is January 12. New members always welcome. FMI 929-9182.

The St. Anne's Knights of Columbus will hold a Pre-Pay Drive-Through Fish Dinner on Friday, January 15, 2021, from 5 to 6 p.m. at St. Anne's Church in Gorham. Dinner includes baked haddock, mashed potatoes, coleslaw, peas, a roll, and dessert for \$12. FMI visit www.gorhamknights.org or call 207-550-1320. Check web site for snow date cancellation info.

Presumpscot Regional Land Trust is hosting a week-long winter animal tracks family event that will be both online and self-guided in the field. Maine Master Naturalist Marion Sprague will help to identify the tracks. For one week, starting Saturday, January 16th visit our Land Trust preserves. Visit prlt.org for a full list of our Preserves with maps, walk the trails, look for tracks, and then share photos and information about the tracks. This program is free, but registration is required to receive a laminated pocket card of Greater Portland Animals Tracks for the event. Visit prlt.org/event to for more information and to register.

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

The Gorham Food Pantry extends thanks to the Gorham community for their support during the past holiday season. The Pantry was able to provide the much-needed donations to members of the community. "Many thanks to the Churches of our community, Cressey Church, 1st Parish, and St. Anne's for their generous donations of gift cards and food items for our clients. We also want to thank Girl Scout Troop 1059 and the Gorham High School for their very generous donations. A special thank you to Holly and Rick for the Serv-Pro donations this year. They donated more than 2133 pounds to the Gorham Food Pantry. Many, many thanks to all of our donors. We appreciate everyone's help this year."

The Pantry still has needs for baking items, baked beans, flour, sugar, spices, cooking oil, pudding, toothbrushes and toothpaste, ramen noodles, kids snacks and personal hygiene products and diapers size 5-6. The Gorham Food Pantry is open every Thursday from 10-12 noon. Check the website at www.gorhamfoodpantry.org for further updates on the other days they are open. "Thanks again to the Gorham Community for your generous donations during this holiday season."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

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Suspicious person on Gray Road was waiting for someone for whom she had done some work, to drop off the money owed to her.

Vehicle parked in a lot on Main Street was unoccupied and taking up two spaces. It had been there for a week and needed a battery. Employee was surprised it had not been towed. No phone number was available for registered owner.

Caller reported he was hanging onto the back of a pickup traveling over 100 MPH on Main Street towards Westbrook. Truck had no plates and was last seen going north on Mosher Road. Neither Gorham nor Windham Police were able to locate the truck.

Police received two calls about men yelling at each other on Hemlock Drive. They all claimed they were driving respectfully and not revving their motors. Everyone was advised to stay calm and keep the volume down.

Officers responded to a report of people moving stuff in storage units on Sanford Drive. The people had stopped to visit relatives working there. There were no issues.

Sunset Lane caller reported a vehicle with Texas temporary plates may have been following him while he was running. Call came in 1.5 hours after the caller had seen the vehicle.

Gordon Farms caller reported a person sending threatening texts. Caller wanted extra patrols for the next few days.

Man on Longfellow Road found a hunting blind and wanted to turn it in as it was blowing into the road. Officer retrieved the blind and put it in storage at the Police Department.

Ossipee Trail caller had questions about a vehicle his cousin had purchased and wanted to return. He was advised this was a civil matter but that cousin could call the police if he needed help to keep the peace.

School Street caller reported that a man had asked about a car she was selling. She was advised to have no contact with him and to walk in a different direction if she saw him.

Vehicle on Clara Mae's Way was burgled.

Officers assisted Buxton Police with serving a protection from abuse order to a male with a significant history.

While responding to a report of a possible missing person, an officer observed an elderly female who was identified as the missing person. She was returned home.

Officer responded to a report of a suspicious male subject in the woods behind Village School. Officer found a small homeless camp and two subjects. They were identified and told to move on.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

Baxter Memorial Library, 9:30 a.m. Virtual Discovery Time with Ms. Dani on Facebook. (18 mos - 3 yrs)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

Baxter Memorial Library, 9:30 a.m., Preschool Discovery Time with Ms. Heidi on Facebook (ages 3-5)
 Gorham Lions, 6:30 p.m. regular dinner meeting. Moody's Collision, 200 Narragansett St. (Rte. 202)
 Gorham Memorial VFW Post 10879 monthly meeting, 5:30 p.m., Fire Dept. Training Room, 270 Main Street.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

Baxter Memorial Library
 National Rubber Ducky Day. FMI, baxterlibrary.org, and start now!
 STEAM Frozen Building Blocks, 10 a.m. with Ms. Deb on Facebook. K-5 learners.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

Baxter Memorial Library, 9:30 a.m. Toddler Discovery Time with Ms. Dani on Facebook. (18mos-3 yrs)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

St. Anne's Knights of Columbus Pre-Pay Drive-Through Fish Dinner, 5-6 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

Presumpscot Regional Land Trust "Animal Tracks" family event begins.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19

Baxter Memorial Library, 9:30 a.m. Preschool Discovery time with Ms. Heidi on Facebook (ages 3-5)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20

Baxter Memorial Library, 10 a.m. STEAM Cooking: The Mighty Chickpea, Part 2 with Ms. Deb on Facebook.

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Community CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

SENIOR NEWS

A welcome update from the Lakes Region Senior Center, "Lakes Region Senior Center has been unable to meet due to Covid-19 since last March. We have tried to keep our members involved with outreach like our drive-thru barbecue, telephone calls and our monthly newsletter. This week we received news that we had been awarded from Mechanics Savings Bank, the Windham Branch, \$500 through their Season of Giving Gift Program. We will use this gift to further keep our members involved as we wait patiently to renew our friendships and activities. "

LIBRARY NEWS

Baxter Memorial Library has a special upcoming feature for National Rubber Ducky Day on January 13. Baxter was given a donation of 150 rubber ducky dragons and wants to share them with us! Visit the library any time on or before January 13 to pick one up and photograph it in a creative way with you. Shenanigans are highly encouraged! Unusual settings, costumes, or dioramas are great options for this celebration. Share your photo on Instagram with the hashtag #BMLdragonducks so that the Library can find them all, and so you can see everyone else's duckies. Quack!!! If you love picture books, watch Ms. Heidi on Facebook as she reads a new book each week on Tuesdays for ages 3-5. Ms. Deb does a virtual STEAM activity, this time to feature the often-under-rated chickpea in either a snack or a dessert, and the following week with Frozen Building Blocks. Always something new and exciting to learn! Ms. Dani does a Discovery Time for toddlers, reading a story and presenting an extension activity related to the book. So much fun for ages 18 mos to 3 years. Find all of these fun activities in the Calendar, and more information at baxterlibrary.org.

USM NOTES

The University of Southern Maine Foundation has received a generous gift of \$25,000 from Lewiston-based Androscoggin Bank to help young Mainers with high potential but limited means to pursue their college aspirations. Available only to USM students, the Promise Scholarship Program supports select students who are predominantly the first in their families to pursue a four-year college degree and who cannot afford college without scholarships.

The USM School of Music completed an impressive fall lineup of concerts and recitals in a new way because of the pandemic. Some of those performances can be found at the School's Facebook page for your continued enjoyment, facebook.com/Music. USM. Congratulations to all the musicians, faculty, staff and students for your dedication and hard work.

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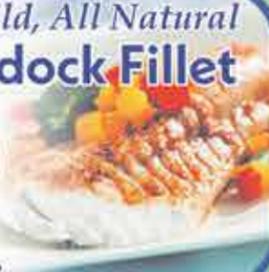
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Sale Starts Sunday Jan 10th - Saturday Jan 16th

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