

Gorham Times

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Volume 27 Number 16 | August 19, 2021

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

Changing of the Guard

Gorham Times Staff

The Gorham Times staff extends our gratitude to Stacy Sallinen as she steps down from multiple roles as Business Manager, Advertiser Coordinator, and Social Media Coordinator. Sallinen has been an instrumental part of the Gorham Times family for the past 13 years, serving as a School Committee Reporter, School News Editor, and most recently in the aforementioned roles.



"I am grateful to the volunteers who I have worked with over the years. We are a talented and dedicated group. We come together to put the entire Gorham community first and dismiss our differences of opinion. It's a powerful experience."

STACY SALLINEN

"Early on in 2005, I wrote a story on Joe Thomas (Staff Writer, Kathy Corbett's father), a Gorham resident who was celebrating his 100th birthday. This was my introduction to the Gorham Times and a super fun story to tell," Sallinen said. This is just a glimpse into the close-knit community of Gorham which is exemplified through the volunteers at the Gorham Times.

Following this, when Sallinen was eight months pregnant with her third child, Editor Sue Dunn asked if she had an interest in covering School Committee meetings. Little did she know, this decision would turn into a great community service role. "The wonderful and sometimes bittersweet human interest stories I loved to share will forever resonate with me," said Sallinen.

"I am grateful to the volunteers who I have worked with over the years. We are a talented and dedicated group. We come together to put the entire Gorham community first and dismiss our differences of opinion. It's a powerful experience."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Welcome to Gorham Times New Business Manager, Donna Soper

Gorham Times Staff

Donna Soper was born in Salem, Massachusetts. In 1979 she placed roots down in Florida, where she went to college and earned a degree in Office Technology. She started a family in 1986. In 1996, Donna and her family moved to Gorham, Maine.

After her return, Donna attended the Arthur Gary School of Real Estate and attained her Sales Agent License, then her Broker's License. She enjoyed assisting clients through the process of purchasing and selling homes. This career also allowed her to be flexible while her children were young. Donna and her children, Laura and Sean Wylie, spent many hours adventuring through the state of Maine together.

In 2010, Donna relocated to Massachusetts while working on her nursing degree, until she hurt her back and could not finish. In 2016, she moved back to Maine to be close to her children and her first grandchild, Sylvie. Sylvie now has a brother, Lyle, and both love spend-



Photo credit Laura Rust

Donna Soper with her granddaughter, Sylvie.

ing time with Grandma, doing all kinds of adventures.

Donna lives in Standish with her husband, two dogs and chickens on their remote, wooded property blessed with wild blueberries, strawberries and black raspberries. They

also have many wild animals visit their yard.

Donna loves living close to Sebago Lake and feels it is a true blessing for her peace and quiet. In her free time, she enjoys gardening, cooking, music, and spending time with family, including day trips on the Harley with her husband.

Currently, Donna is the Office Manager at AV Technik, which is an audio/video production company hired for corporate, educational, music and personal functions in Maine and beyond. She also handles the bookkeeping for Standish Hardware, and is excited to add Gorham Times to her resume.

"It's an honor to be part of the Gorham Times. I look forward to working with all businesses (new and established) along with the community and Gorham Times volunteers to bring unbiased, news-worthy information to all."

Feel free to email her at gorham-times@gmail.com with story ideas, advertising or just to say hello.

New Bakery & Cafe Now Open



Photo credit Gorham Village Alliance

Pictured above: Nancy Ames, Sullivan House Bakery owner, at the official ribbon-cutting event, cuts the ribbon with the assistance of employees McKayla Taft and KG Wentworth. Attendees on hand to welcome Gorham Village's newest business included representatives from the Gorham Village Alliance, Gorham Business Exchange, Gorham Economic Development Corporation, Town of Gorham, and the Gorham Town Council. The bakery/cafe is located in the Village Mall, in the former Grit and Grace CrossFit space.

Left to right: Kevin Jensen, Economic Development Director; Nancy Ames, Sullivan House Bakery owner; and Dan Nichols, Gorham Revolving Loan Fund Committee.



Photo credit Brendan Hill

WANTED! BACK TO SCHOOL PHOTOS



Please send us your back to school photos with: first and last name of children in the photo (left to right), age, grade, and photo credit. Submissions requested via editor@gorhamtimes.com or schoolnews@gt@gmail.com by **Wednesday, September 8.**

DISCLAIMER: *We attempt to include all photos that we receive, but if space doesn't allow us to print all the submissions then we will publish them in the order they are received.

**SERGEANT DAVID BRUNI
SWORN IN
PAGE 5**

inside theTimes f i GOCAM YouTube
2 Augusta 4 Living 4 Town/Municipal 6 School
9 Sports 10 Community 11 Blotter 11 Calendar

**MASKS MANDATED FOR
GORHAM SCHOOLS
PAGE 6**

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.

Maine Continues to Lead on Elections

Sen. Stacy Brenner

Since the dust has settled from our legislative session that ended in July, it's been good to reflect on all that we were able to accomplish. Though we began in the midst of a raging pandemic last winter, we did what we needed to get our work done and serve our constituents. From supporting small businesses, to protecting our environment, there was a lot of important legislation passed and signed into law. One of these areas I am particularly proud of is our work to strengthen our democracy and protect voting rights.

Firstly, I supported a bill to ban corporate contributions in state elections. In 2020, we were bombarded by nonstop political ads that were fueled by hundreds of millions of dollars in outside spending. Mainers said loud and clear that they don't want corporations and big money to influence our elections, and that it's the people who should be deciding elections. We listened, and this new law will help us keep big money and outside influences out of our elections.

We also made permanent many of the changes that were implemented because of the pandemic. This past election, Maine voters benefited from several new innovations and reforms, including an online absentee ballot tracking tool and secure ballot drop

boxes. I know many folks who enjoyed being able to track their ballot through the process, from being accepted, to being processed by their local clerk. It also gave folks peace of mind knowing that if there was an issue, they would know about it and get the opportunity to set things right.

The ballot drop boxes also allowed Mainers to securely deliver their ballot right to town hall without needing to rely on the postal service. This too reassured voters who could know their ballot was in the right place by the right time, and allowed more flexibility as to when it could be dropped off. I'm proud to share that a new law we passed will ensure that Maine voters will continue to have access to both of these options, and will also give more guidance to clerks across the state to ensure secure, safe operation. We also passed a new law that will allow Mainers to register to vote online. This is a commonsense change that brings the process up-to-date, and will also free up our clerks and staff for more pressing tasks.

Last but not least, we voted down bills that would have made it harder for Mainers to vote. Just like in other state legislatures across the country, there were a slew of bills here in Maine that would have added burdensome

requirements to the voting process. Maine is at the top of the list when it comes to well-run, secure elections in this country. There is no reason why we should ever make it more difficult for citizens to cast their vote, and I'm glad my colleagues and I came together to oppose these measures.

As Mainers, we take pride in our efficient elections, independent voters and high participation rate. In the Legislature, we're working to ensure that everyone can vote so we all have a say in our democracy. These changes will help Mainers who may have had trouble balancing work and other commitments make their voices heard, as well as our seniors who want to participate but struggle with mobility. The more people who are able to securely cast their vote, the better off we all are.

As always, you can contact me at Stacy.Brenner@legislature.maine.gov or call my office at 287-1515.



Stacy Brenner is serving her first term in the Maine Senate, representing Senate District 30, which includes Gorham, part of Buxton, and part of Scarborough. She is the co-owner of Broadturn Farm in Scarborough and is also a certified nurse-midwife.

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.



Photo credit Roger Marchand



What did the evil chicken lay?
Deviled eggs.

Why is grass so dangerous?
Because it's full of blades.


I ordered a chicken and an egg from Amazon.
I'll let you know...

That car looks nice but the muffler seems exhausted.

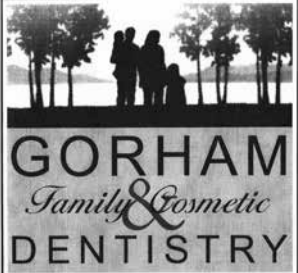
What do you call cheese that isn't yours?
Nacho cheese.




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Sports gtimesports@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 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.

Printing services by Masthead Maine Press, 295 Gannett Drive, South Portland, ME 04106

Advertising

Deadlines

August 25
September 8
September 22

Single Vehicle Crash, Driver Falls Asleep

Sheri Faber, Staff Writer

On August 7, 2021 at approximately 6:45 a.m. there was a car crash in the area of the 400 block of Fort Hill Road. It was a single vehicle crash, with no other vehicles involved. The vehicle rolled over, and the driver exited the vehicle with no injuries.

The vehicle struck and broke a utility pole, causing wires to be down too low for traffic to pass safely. The section from Lower Mighty Street to North Street was closed until noon that day. Mighty Street was the detour route for the time of the road closure while CMP reset the utility pole.

Gorham Man Charged—Connected to January 6 Riot at U.S. Capitol

Sheri Faber, Staff Writer

On August 2, 2021, Nicholas Hendrix, 34, of Gorham was charged in the U.S. District Court of Washington D.C. with four misdemeanors connected to the January 6th domestic terror attack on the U.S. Capitol.

At a video conference, Hendrix pleaded not guilty to charges of unlawfully entering the Capitol, disorderly and disruptive conduct in a restricted government building, violent entry and disorderly conduct in a Capitol building, and illegally parading or demonstrating in a Capitol building.

The FBI filed charges based on closed-circuit TV footage showing Hendrix was inside the Capitol for one minute and twenty-three seconds, wearing a distinctive t-shirt, a hat with an American flag pattern, and ski sunglasses.

Hendrix was released on a \$5,000 unsecured bond and continues to live in Gorham. He is a veteran and has been diagnosed with PTSD. Hendrix is employed as a pipefitter, and has been in recovery and sober for thirty months.

He is the second Maine resident facing federal charges resulting from involvement in the riot.

Changing of the Guard CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Sallinen worked hard to foster a relationship with local businesses and volunteers to maintain the paper's operations and bring the news to Gorham. She also played an important role in leading the team of Gorham Times volunteers during the pandemic and kept things moving forward amid these turbulent times.

Earlier this year, she was hired to work in the Autism program at Great Falls Elementary School.

Her boys are now entering their Senior, Freshman, and 7th grade years. The time has come for Sallinen to shift her focus.

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

Stacy has been dedicated to the Gorham Times, its volunteers, and our community for 14 years. Her passion for the work we do together and making this team a family was a joy to join when I came on board in January. She offered so much support and guidance and will be very missed. You have built a beautiful thing here, Stacy, and I am so glad you're moving forward with other passions and your amazing family.

Christie Paul, Editor

Stacy has been a stalwart for the paper particularly over the last year and a half. I have enjoyed working with her immensely. Her dedication to the paper has been wonderful.

Mike Smith, Gorham Times Board President

Stacy's dedication to the Gorham Times guided us through some of the most difficult times that the paper has faced. I am grateful for her service.

Sara Nelson, Gorham Times Board Secretary

Stacy's commitment and support through many transitions over the past 14 years at the Gorham Times has been invaluable to me and our community paper. It's been a pleasure working beside her and I wish her the best in her future endeavors.

Shirley Douglas, Design/Production

Stacy has worked tirelessly to keep the Gorham Times running smoothly. She is always willing to do whatever is needed. She has carried

us through some rough times as well as helped us celebrate many, many great times. Stacy has a real knack for keeping her finger on the pulse of the town, including the schools, businesses, and many personal, everyday events in people's lives. I wish her well and will miss her drive and dedication.

Chris Crawford, Features and Staff Writer

Stacy has been an incredible asset to the Gorham Times and to me personally, especially in the last year! She has given so much of her time over the last 14 years and she will most certainly be missed! Wishing you all the best Stacy!

Destiny Cook, Sports

I have worked with Stacy in varying roles on the paper for the past 13 years. She is a natural leader and constant professional. Her drive, wisdom, compassion, and genuine love for Gorham and this paper will be missed by all that have had the pleasure of working with her over the years.

Andrea Morrell, School News

"For many years, Stacy was a committed and essential member of the Gorham Times staff and never more so than during the past year. She was determined to get the paper through crisis and change. Her hard work and organizational skills made all the difference."

Kathy Corbett, Staff Writer

Around Town

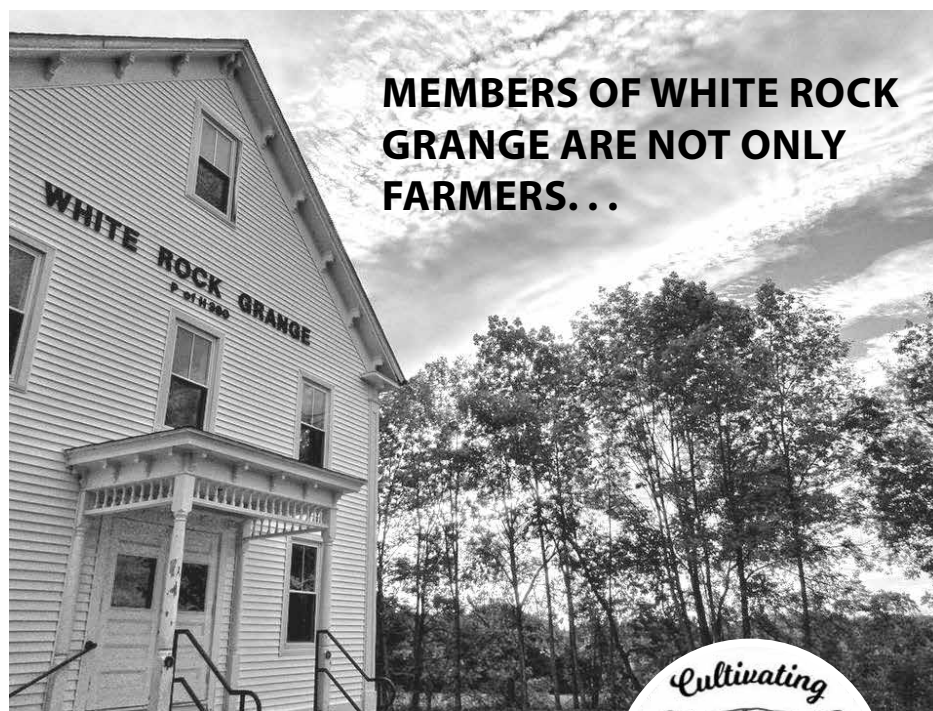
Due to reports of high and substantial levels of community transmission of COVID-19 within Cumberland County, all individuals entering Gorham municipal buildings are asked to wear a face covering. Masks are available to visitors upon request.

As all Gorham grades return to school the week of August 30th, residents are reminded to be aware and stop for school buses. Please remember cars must stop a safe distance away and not start again until a school bus's red lights stop flashing, the stop sign has been folded back, and the bus begins to move.

The Maine Turnpike Authority has been buying land for a turnpike spur from Rt. 114 to the Maine Mall and has recently purchased land from Susan Duchaine near the roundabout on Rt. 114.

FACTS money has been provided to replace the water mains on College Ave. next year and to repave the street to allow more parking.

Gorham now has 8 electric cars for Town use, all purchased with grant money for the Town. Four are owned and four are leased, and they are very popular with Town employees.



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<p>DONATIONS NEEDED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> crayons colored pencils markers notebooks pens pencils 	<p>SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVEAWAY EVENT:</p> <p>Saturday, August 21st 10am-1pm @ Spire 29 29 School St. Gorham</p> <p><small>Questions? - office@forthillchurch.com</small></p>
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Drop off @ Great Falls Construction
20 Mechanic St. Gorham

How to Maintain a Healthy Lymphatic System

Dr. Taryn Everett

Do you ever wake up feeling tired, groggy, and out of sorts? Do your limbs ever feel puffy or swollen? With the recent pandemic surging again, people all across the nation are feeling more fatigued than ever. The potential culprit might just be your lymphatic system.

The lymphatic system is probably the least known and understood body system. It has several functions that are vital to our health and well-being. It works closely with our vascular system (veins and arteries) and helps to rid our body of "junk" and waste products that our body can't use. It is often known as the body's "garbage disposal".

The lymphatic system is responsible for protecting your body from illness-causing invaders, maintaining bodily fluid levels, the absorption of fat from our digestive tract, and the removal of waste products and toxins from our skin.

There are a number of ways you can support your lymphatic system. Keeping it healthy on a day-to-day basis helps to prevent conditions such as lymphedema and generalized illnesses.

Exercise is a powerful weapon to stimulate the lymphatic system in order to fight against chronic disease. Before starting a new exercise program, you should always get clearance from your doctor. Start slowly, and gradually increase your exercise over time for the best results. A mix of cardio/conditioning and regular strength training is best.

Hydration is essential. Drinking plenty of water (usually about 8 glasses a day for most individuals) helps to support our lymphatic system by hydrating our skin and

tissues, as well as flushing away any harmful bacteria or toxins in our body.

Sleep is restorative. Most adults require 7-8 hours of sleep a night for general health.

Eating a well-balanced, nutritious diet can help support many functions of health. Specifically for lymphatic health, avoiding high salt foods can help prevent swelling in the skin and tissues.

Manual lymph drainage is a "massage-like" technique that is used to drain the skin of toxins. It is easy to perform on yourself and can help "decongest" any areas that may be experiencing or are at risk for swelling. This can be performed by a certified therapist, who can also teach you how to perform a version of this on yourself. Contact your doctor to find out where the closest resources are.

Lower your risk for infection by performing regular hand washing and wearing gloves while gardening or doing housework. Avoid sunburns by using sunblock or SPF, and use skin cream to avoid dry, chapped skin. Also protect yourself from insect bites.

It is vitally important to maintain a healthy, well-balanced lymphatic system. Especially in our current world where germs and viruses are prevalent, we should all take steps to improve our body's systems for optimal functioning and overall wellness.



Taryn Everett is the owner of Anchored PT and Wellness and a Doctor of Physical Therapy for over 10 years. She is also a Crossfit coach, Certified Nutrition Coach, and Lymphedema Specialist.

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Re-evaluation Has Begun, Will Continue in Fall 2021

Sheri Faber, Staff Writer

The Town of Gorham would normally plan to do an appraisal of property values every 10 years. There was a partial re-evaluation done five or six years ago but because of the enormous growth in new housing, a decision has been made by the Town Council to conduct a full re-evaluation.

Town Manager Ephrem Paraschak estimates that between 70-100 new homes are being built in Gorham annually. "The ultimate goal is not to make more money but that the assessments are fair and accurate across the board."

Vision Appraisal has been hired to do the assessment and will notify property owners by sending a mailer to indicate when inspectors will be in their area. The assessment is a two part process with assessors looking at the outside of a structure and requesting permission to go inside. Residents who do not want to permit assessors into their homes may take interior photos of their homes and send them to Vision Appraisal.

Questions about the process can be addressed to Christina Robinson, the Town's Assessor.

Arrests JUNE

Male, 29, of Scarborough was arrested for violating conditions of release.

Male, 22, of Limington was arrested for OUI (alcohol).

Male 19, of Gorham was arrested for burglary and theft by unauthorized taking.

Female, 39, of Angeltun Lane was arrested for violating conditions of release and domestic violence criminal threatening.

Male, 43, of Van Vliet Drive was held for probation.

Male, 29, of Westbrook was arrested for OUI (alcohol).

Planning Board Results 8/2/21

Chase Custom Homes and Finance's request for approval to amend an existing Bramblewood Estates Subdivision and site plan to allow eight single family units to replace four previously approved duplex buildings located at Baxter Lane was approved.

A review of a proposed additional

Industrial Park West Campus landscaping features was discussed.

Subdivision approval was postponed.

Hep Energy USA, LLC's request for approval of a ground mounted photovoltaic installation on 20 acres of leased land of a 68 acre parcel located at Wescott Road was discussed.

Town Council Report 8/3/21

Jacob Adams

Tina R. of Joseph Drive, shared her concern with the amount of litter around Gorham. She is hoping that the Town will continue to sponsor clean up days and that more people will participate.

Phil G. of Gordon Farms Road and Chairman Pratt thanked everyone who attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for Sullivan House Bakery.

Councilor Hager stated that he had met with RKO Auditing and discussed establishing a formal debt ratio for the Town of Gorham.

Councilor Phillips revealed that the Gorham Business Exchange will host a Job Fair sometime in September.

Town Manager Paraschak reminded residents of the current re-value process by Vision Appraisal. Residents will receive notice in the mail when Vision Appraisal will be visiting their neighborhood.

Town Council issued a Medical Use Marijuana License to Andrew Rosenfeld, Second Nature LLC, located at 44 Sanford Drive. The property is owned by James & Paula Fox. (7 years)

A Special Amusement License was issued to Benjamin Smith, DBA Junction Bowl, located at 7 Railroad Avenue. (7 years)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



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Sergeant David Bruni Sworn In



Courtesy of Gorham Police Department

SERGEANT DAVID BRUNI

David Bruni was promoted to Sergeant on August 5th. He brings 35 years of law enforcement experience to this leadership position.

Bruni began his career with the Kennebunkport Police Department in 1986 and graduated from the Maine Criminal Justice Academy.

Bruni joined the Gorham Police



Courtesy of Gorham Police Department

Gorham Police Department Command Staff

Department in 2000 with 14 years of law enforcement experience. He was promoted to Detective in 2005 and was assigned to the DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) as a Task Force officer from 2007 to 2011 and to the Maine DEA from 2016 to 2020.

He is assigned to the midnight patrol shift as of August 13, 2021

Presumpscot Regional Land Trust

Full funding has been reached in order to forever conserve the 308 acre Lowell Preserve in Windham and to make improvements to its trails. This is possible thanks to donations from 125 individuals and families and also support from Gorham Savings Bank, Casco Bay Estuary Partnership, Town of Windham, Greater Portland NEMBA, Runaways Run Club, and Davis Conservation foundation.



Photo credit Ted Andersen

Stream through Lowell.

The conservation easement will be signed this summer by the Land Trust and the Town of Windham with trail improvements beginning this fall.

Project updates can be found at www.prlt.org/lowellproject

Town Council Report CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Town Council issued a Special Amusement License to Benjamin Smith, DBA Side Car located at 7 Railroad Avenue. (7 years)

The Gorham Firearms Ordinance and map was amended and the full list of changes can be found online. (7 years)

Town Council authorized the construction of a skate park on the Chick Property. Council also authorized the release of up to \$125,000 in Recreation Impact Fees to be used as matching funds for any private donations, in kind donations or other funds received by the Town of Gorham. (7 years)

A trail easement was approved that will extend access to the Cross Town Trail. (7 years)

Town Council adopted recommended changes to municipal fees and the full list of changed fees can be found online. (7 years)

The Town Council tabled authorizing a referendum question for November 2, 2021 to borrow and expend up to \$6,171,072 for a Narragansett School Maintenance Garage, Transportation Site Paving, GHS Paving, three projects at Village Elementary and additional fund to complete the GMS HVAC project. Town Council has scheduled a Public Hearing for September 7, 2021. (7 years)

Town Council appointed Councilor Kuech to the Little Rams Early Childhood Project. (7 years)

The resignation of Joshua Haiss from the Gorham Conservation Commission was accepted and the

Council thanked him for his years of service. (7 years)

Town Council appointed Jeremy Lestage to the Gorham Conservation Commission. (7 years)

Amendments to the Land Use & Development Code that would allow for agricultural event centers and agricultural tourism were forwarded to the planning board. (7 years)

An amendment to the Land Use & Development Code that would require phase build outs of subdivisions was forwarded to the planning board. (7 years)

Madison Way was accepted as a public way. (6 years, 1 nay: Hartwell)

Town Council accepted a trail easement from Hani, LLC. for the purposes of extending access to the Tow Path trail. (7 years)

Town Council also accepted a trail easement from Cottage Advisors ME, LLC. The easement will interconnect the trail network located in Gorham Village to the trail system located to the northeast of Gorham Village, and provide residents in the Pheasant Knoll condominium development with easy access to the trail system. (7 years)

Town Council voted against forwarding amendments to the Ordinance Committee that would authorize medical marijuana retail sales as an allowed use in Gorham. (2 years, 5 nays: Shepard, Wilder Cross, Hager, Hartwell, Pratt)

The full amendments, municipal fees and meeting minutes can be found online at www.gorham-me.org/town-council

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A "Pre-COVID Normal"

Heather J. Perry, PhD, Superintendent of Schools

We are excited to continue our journey towards a more "Pre-COVID normal" in our schools even as COVID-19 (and the Delta variant) is sending clear messages that it isn't finished with us yet. The fact that we will be able to open our schools to all of our students for five full days of instruction per week is something I know we have all been looking forward to for far too long.

School will begin for all Grade 6 and 9 students on Monday, August 30. School will begin for students in grades 1-5, 7-8 and 10-12 on August 31.

Kindergarten screening will take place for all Kindergarten students Monday, August 30-Wednesday September 1. The first day of school for incoming Kindergarten students will be Thursday, September 2.

You can find the most up to date 2021-22 School Calendar by going to the district website (www.gorhamschools.org). Please note that our 2021-22 School calendar includes five snow days. The plan at this point will be to use the five snow days as needed for traditional snow days, and then we would look to utilize remote learning snow days so that we do not have to extend the ending of the school year. This will only be done if we have already utilized all five snow

days that are built into the current calendar.

For the last year, the federal government has stepped in to provide free breakfast and lunch for all students, and it plans to continue that program through 2021-22. The effort has allowed all students, regardless of their family's socioeconomic status, to receive a free breakfast and lunch, while at school across all grades. It is good news that we will be able to keep this program for the coming year.

Elementary Schools will begin at 8:50 a.m. and end at 3:10 p.m. GMS will begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at 2:20 p.m. GHS will begin at 7:50 a.m. and end at 2:10 p.m. On early release days (marked on the calendar) students will be dismissed from GHS at 11:00 a.m., from GMS at 11:10 a.m. and from the three elementary schools at 12:00 p.m.

K-5 schools will be sending out specific parent drop off and pick up information that might impact these times, as procedures to accommodate COVID-19 and student safety guidelines will still be in place.

Specific Transportation routes and estimated times for a.m. and p.m. bus schedules will be posted on the district website no later than August 23, 2021.

We are going to find a way to safely do the things we know are most important for our children.



Numbers of students on the bus at any given time will not be regulated (other than to the overall bus capacity rules that have always existed). In other words, we will be moving back to full seating on our buses across grades K-12.

Please know that students will be expected to sanitize their hands as they enter the bus and will be required to wear a face covering/mask while riding the bus. Four windows will remain open on each bus to increase air circulation. Please plan accordingly.

The School Committee has the final authority and approved the Pandemic Operations plan on August 11. [See School Committee Report.]

By encouraging those that can get vaccinated to get vaccinated and by following CDC guidelines, I believe we will be able to keep our schools open for instruction five days per week even during times when transmission rates within our community may increase. Our schools have demonstrated how safe they are for our children, and I believe this coming year will be no different.

By opening in and operating in the green model, we can make sure our students have engaging, fun, and meaningful learning experiences across all our schools.

We are going to find a way to safely do the things we know are most important for our children. We are going to learn and play together. We are going to laugh and possibly even cry a bit together. We are going to listen to and support one another - we are going to be what Gorham is - STRONG!

I may be a bit biased, but in my humble opinion, we have the BEST students around, we have the BEST staff around, we have the BEST parent/guardians around, and we have the BEST community in the state!

I know I speak for everyone when I say we can't wait to hear that "buzz" across our schools that can only be heard when our students are safely with us, learning, playing and growing together! See you all soon!

The following list is a high level "executive summary":

The Gorham Schools will be following the most recent federal CDC guidelines for the safe reopening of schools (Updated 7/9/21).

All staff and students riding school buses/vans must wear face coverings/masks while riding.

All staff and students riding school buses/vans must sanitize their hands prior to boarding.

All students and staff across grades K-12 will be required to wear a face covering/mask while indoors.

Physical distancing requirements have been lifted (under the green model - distancing requirements would kick in again under the yellow model), although we will still encourage distancing when practicable.

We will encourage students across grades K-12 to maintain a minimum of 3ft of physical distance when eating. Air Purifying units will be added to each school's cafeteria spaces to add additional layers of protection for students while eating.

We will continue to strongly encourage utilization of outdoor classroom spaces.

Parents/guardians will be asked to use a daily health screening tool as a guide to make decisions about sending their child to school or not each day and will only need to communicate with the school if there is a positive indication of symptoms based upon utilization of the screening tool.

If staff or students are sick, we ask that you remain home.

Contact tracing for possible exposure to COVID-19 will continue. Vaccinated individuals will not need to quarantine due to a possible exposure/close contact, however they will be encouraged to test 3-5 days after exposure.

Unvaccinated individuals who have been deemed a close contact will still be required to quarantine for 10 days.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT - 8/11/21

Masks Mandated for Schools

Kathy Corbett, Staff Writer

The Gorham School Committee (SC) voted (6-1, Gagnon) to require all students and staff (K-12) to wear masks when school opens this month.

Superintendent Heather Perry presented a Pandemic Operations Plan, "a plan with the goal to make them safe in school and keep them there," with five days of school for all students. It was developed by the District Leadership Team with input from a local Medical Advisory Committee that includes three doctors and all five school nurses.

The plan follows guidelines from the national and Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Maine Department of Education. There will be ongoing review of the plan with the expectation it will continue through December.

Like last year, masks will not be necessary outside, and teachers will be encouraged to hold as many outdoor classes as possible.

Changes from last school year include less cleaning of hard surfaces, but a continued emphasis on hand washing. Schools will focus less on social distancing, although distancing in cafeterias will still be expected. Air purifiers have been installed in all cafeteria areas.

Fully vaccinated students and staff will not be required to quarantine if they are determined to have come in close contact with someone who tests positive. Parents will be called about vaccine status only if there is a close contact. The district does not have a record of who is or is not vaccinated.

Prior to the SC discussion, several parents and two elementary school students spoke against a mask mandate, believing masking should be an individual choice. They cited low positivity rates for Cumberland County and spoke about negative effects of mask-wearing on children.

One parent spoke in favor of a mandate because "we know these protections work."

SC members have received many emails, mostly respectful, on both sides of the masking issue. A survey of parents and staff also showed a nearly even split, although three-fourths high school students favored individual choice.

During the discussion, SC members considered all aspects of the plan. There were questions about having different requirements for K-8 students and those at Gorham High

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

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Photo credit Sheri Faber

More than 50 neighbors ranging in age from 5 weeks to age 81 enjoyed a gathering arranged by Jeanne and Jon Zarilli for residents of Tannery Brook, Freedom Drive, Queen St. and Libby Ave. This annual event is a great opportunity for neighbors to meet and greet while enjoying food donations from the participants. The Zarillis have been sponsoring this event since 2017 and have been exceptionally lucky to never have been rained out!



Photo credit Cathy Walter

Gorham Recreations weekly Gazebo Concert finale, featuring The Don Campbell Trio August 10, 2021 was a well-attended night of music under the setting sun that wrapped up yet another season.



Photo credit Wilma Gould Johnson

Gorham High School's class of 1961 held their 60th class reunion Saturday, July 31 in the Treworgy Gardens. A catered luncheon was enjoyed. Seated L to R: Dennis O'Brien, Susan Weston Sommers, Linda Newcomb Chambers, Elizabeth Hillock Hansen, Carlos Wood, Russell Nealey. Standing L to R: Glenn Belyea, Ralph Newell, Dennis Farmer, Ralph Perry, Linda Morton Hoppe, Gene Doiron, Jo Anne Carter Blinik, Linda Treworgy Faatz, Russell "Bud" Dorr, Carolyn MacKenzie Bowers, Sandra Willis Severance, Nancy Irving Lowell, Peter Christensen, Charlene Morse Barini, Dave Sargent, Richard Thuotte, Kent Washburn, Donna Pelkey Conners, Bill Wing, Glenn Rankin. Absent from photo but also attending: Peter Mills, Ron Nickerson.



Photo credit Rosanne Peeling

A collection of cosmos adorns the area in front of a barn.



Photo credit Wilma Gould Johnson

Members of Gorham High School class of 1961 State champion Cross Country team L to R: Co-Captains Glenn Belyea and Ralph Newell, team mates Glenn Rankin, Russell Nealey

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Summer Festivals - Weird and Weirder

Chris Crawford, Staff Writer

We humans are a very creative species. We're also very social. Put those characteristics together, throw in a little nice summer weather, and we are sure to come up with some pretty bizarre ways to celebrate.

While trolling for information (i.e. wasting time) during our long rainy spell, I came across a list of some of the craziest, most outrageous festivals held in all 50 states. Yes, it seems that East or West, North or South, Red or Blue, no state is immune from creating festivals that celebrate the ridiculous.

Since many of these festivals have already occurred, you might want to mark your calendar for next year. If you happen to travel to Texas next July, be sure to check out The Great Mosquito Festival. They like to grow things big in Texas, but I bet our Maine mosquitoes would measure up just fine.

Other July events include the Roswell UFO Festival, in New Mexico don't forget to pack your tin foil hat. If you're heading south, you might want to attend the underwater Music Festival in the Florida Keys. Unless they are flooded due to sea level rise, sea-themed music like Yellow Submarine and whale songs are piped underwater for the enjoyment of an audience of aquatic-costumed music aficionados (aka nut jobs).

On your way to Florida, you can

follow the macabre Doll's Head Trail, just outside Atlanta, which is made up of discarded doll parts. Why? Your guess is as good as mine.

The Midwest, known for its nonsense people, is also home to some crazy festivals. In Kansas, for some strange reason, they celebrate with a medieval jousting festival, and in Iowa, for over 100 years, they have crafted a 600-pound sculpture of a cow made entirely out of butter. Don't go on a really hot day.

In Oklahoma, they are fond of team noodling. Ok, get your mind out of the gutter. This is not an activity for the

amorous or for the faint of heart. At the Okie Noodling Festival, competitors vie to catch the largest catfish, using only their bare hands. The record noodled catfish weighed over 87 pounds.

In rough and tumble Virginia City, Montana, they like to dress in their finest period attire and waltz the evening away. May I have this dance?

Nebraska hosts the Chicken Show featuring chicken dance-offs, lots of chicken costumes, and a lot of fried chicken, leaving one to wonder what comes first, the chicken or the costume?

If you are looking for serious craziness, head to the week-long Nevada Burning Man festival in the Black Rock Desert. Since this is a commu-



Photo credit Peter Jesche - stock.adobe.com

nity newspaper, the shenanigans will not be described more than to say it is not kid-friendly.

It seems that Ohioans are in love with duct tape which is celebrated at the Avon Heritage Duck Tape Festival, including a duck tape fashion show, floats and works of art all created with duck tape artistry. Boy, howdy, that sounds like fun.

Maine is also prone to some craziness now and then. Since so much of our year is NOT summer, we have our assorted Polar Bear swims in the dead of winter, the epitome of idiocy with a little death-wish thrown in for good measure, but always for a good cause. Also in the death-wish category is the

annual Kenduskeag 10 mile canoe race, including frigid white-water, where the motto is "If you can't be fast, be funny." There are floating lobster trap foot races in Rockland and of course the infamous Damariscotta Pumpkinfest & Regatta, where boats, grown in backyard gardens in the form of thousand-pound pumpkins, are carved, decorated and paddled by costumed captains. Craziness and some fun, ayuh.

If you or your family have any unique celebrations, please feel free to share them. Send a photo and a short caption to ckck5@icloud.com and we will share them in an upcoming issue or on the GT Facebook Page.

If you or your family have any unique celebrations, please feel free to share them. Send a photo and a short caption to ckck5@icloud.com.



Julie Chandler



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NEW

GORHAM \$565,000 - A true 4 BR colonial conveniently located on the Westbrook side of Gorham Village. This 1.38acre lot is tucked away at the end of a private road. Features 2022sqft with an open concept 1st floor plan.



UNDER CONTRACT

BUXTON \$515,000 - Remarkable property offering a private 8.31-acre setting. Gorgeous custom built home offering a sunlit open concept w/3-4 BRs & 2.5 baths on various levels. You'll love the dramatic cathedral ceilings.



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GORHAM \$439,900 - Gorham Village 2-Unit. Walking distance to the University & downtown. This 2-unit investment property offers a spacious 1/2 acre lot with ample parking & backyard.



UNDER CONTRACT

GORHAM \$110,000 - Well kept 14x70 mobile. Spacious applianced kitchen, dining area, large living room, master BR w/ bath, additional BR & full bath, laundry area & more. Excellent 55+ community with clubhouse.



SCARBOROUGH \$215,000 - Located on a 0.50-acre lot in North Scarborough. A solid home with needed updating throughout. This compact floor plan offers an eat-in kitchen, living room, full bathroom & an enclosed rear entryway.



SOLD

GORHAM \$364,500 - This Cambridge style condo is nestled on the edge of downtown in desirable Pleasant Knoll! Enjoy sidewalks to Gorham Village! Easy worry-free living w/public water/sewer.



UNDER CONTRACT

GORHAM \$395,000 - Located in the heart of Gorham Village!! Enjoy sidewalks right from your doorstep to schools, USM, restaurants and the Husky Bus line. This home offers over 2500sqft of finished living space.



UNDER CONTRACT

GORHAM \$389,900 - Well kept 2-unit close to town w/sidewalks. Separate electric & water/sewer. Easily maintained investment. Home inspection has been done.

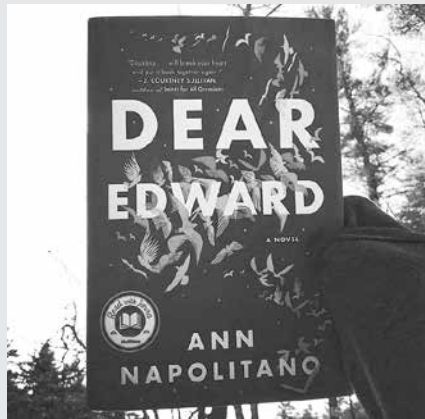


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BOOK REVIEWS

Dell Gray

Dear Edward by Ann Napolitano



Twelve-year-old Edward and his family are moving to LA. Their flight from New York crashes, 191 people die...and Edward is the only survivor. No spoilers here - this all happens right off, friends.

Edward, his brother, and his parents aren't the only passengers we meet: There's a crotchety old millionaire, a newly-pregnant woman, a veteran, a woman whose skirt jingles, a high-powered executive. We LEARN about these people. We get to KNOW these people - all while KNOWING what's gonna happen to 'em.

We also watch Edward navigate through life after the accident - life without his family, life in a fish-bowl, life suspended. Will Edward be able to move forward? Will he have the strength and support he needs?

Ann Napolitano has written a beautifully sad, hauntingly hopeful story of a boy who survives a plane crash and, over time, learns to heal the best way he can.

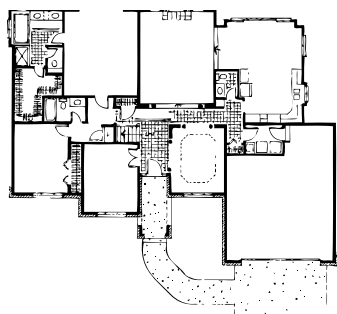
Told alternately between what happened on the plane throughout the flight and in the years following the crash, *Dear Edward* is one of the most gripping, gut-wrenching, and hopeful novels I have ever read.

"The air between us is not empty space." Whew. If you get the chance, please read this book.

Dell Gray is a book reviewer for several publishers on Instagram. Her handle is @abookorafewandjavatoo.

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School Committee Report

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

School, because it was assumed most GHS students and staff are vaccinated.

Sarah Perkins was conflicted about requiring masking at GHS but said since there is no method for vaccination verification, mask-wearing would be a safe choice. Others agreed and felt this could lead to bullying and peer pressure.

Phillip Gagon did not vote for the plan because he believed mask-wearing should be a choice at GHS.

All members except Gagnon supported the plan. They agreed with James Brockman that the experts who had input into the plan had seen all the data and their recommendation should be taken seriously. Brockman said that he assumed staff would be alert to the physiological and psychological effects of masking and help mitigate them.

Stewart McAllister supported the plan because "it can keep kids in school, and the data shows in-person learning is best for children."

Anne Schools said that the four-day schedule worked in the spring because we took precautions and one can foresee the need in the next few months.

Chairman Darryl Wright said there is no state requirement on masking and as things change the SC will be part of the decision process.

In other business, the SC voted (7-1) to fill three teaching positions and to approve stipends for fall sports coaches. They also voted to send a request to the Town Council to approve a referendum in November for the additional \$800,000 needed for the Gorham Middle School HVAC system replacement.

Due to rising costs, the funding voters approved last year is insufficient for the project. The SC approved (5-2, Brockman, Hudson) taking money from the fund balance (approximately \$283,000) and the capital reserves (\$583,500).

Voters would not be asked for additional funds, just to approve spending this available money for the project.



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SPORTS

Al Bean, USM Director of Athletics Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Gorham Times Staff

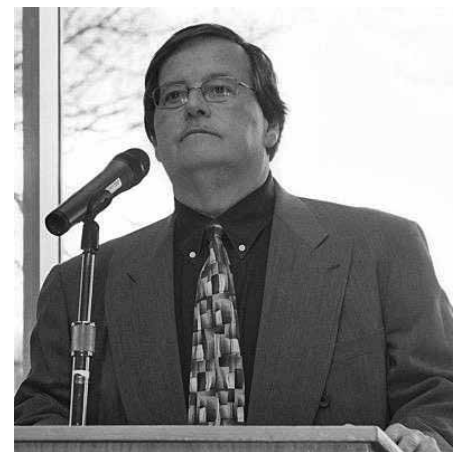
Al Bean is only the third person since 1955 to serve as Director of Athletics at the University of Southern Maine. Bean has been part of the Huskies community for five decades, beginning as a member of the baseball team. Since then, he has fulfilled many roles and been instrumental in USM Athletics.

The National Association of Division III Athletic Administrators (NADIIIAA) announced Thursday, August 12 that Bean is one of two recipients of the 2021 Richard A. Rasmussen Lifetime Achievement Award.

Recipients of this award, named after NADIIIAA's Executive Director, are presented to those who have had a significant impact on Division III sports throughout the course of their career.

"This is an absolutely incredible honor, and I am truly humbled to be receiving an award named for Dick Rasmussen, who has been such a mentor to so many people working in NCAA Division III," commented Bean.

Bean has a long list of awards and accolades, and he is deservedly now adding to it this lifetime achievement award.



Courtesy of University of Southern Maine

Longtime USM Director of Athletics, Al Bean

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COMMUNITY

PROMOTIONS

Nate Marcet of Gorham has been promoted to manager in the tax practice of Baker Newman Noyes. He has previously served as a tax senior and supervising senior. Marcet earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and his master's in business administration at the University of Southern Maine.

OF INTEREST

The UMaine Extension's "Quick Meals Using an Electric Pressure Cooker" is a hands-on virtual workshop on August 19 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Just in time for back to school schedules, this online class will demonstrate how to make meatloaf, mashed potatoes, rice and rice pudding. Participants will receive recipes before the workshop and can cook along in real time. Registration is required to receive the recipes and class link; a \$5 donation is optional. For more information and to register, visit extension.umaine.edu/food-health/food-preservation/hands-on-workshops/, or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Sharon Paradis, 207-834-3905, sharon.paradis@maine.edu.

The Presumpscot Regional Land Trust invites you to "Learn to Paddle on the Presumpscot." Spend a warm summer afternoon in a canoe or kayak learning to paddle and exploring the nature of the Presumpscot River from the water. Boats will be available for rent. The event takes place at Shaw Park in Gorham on Saturday, August 21 from 1-3 p.m., co-hosted by the Town of Gorham Recreation Department. The program is free, but space is limited. Register at prlt.org, click on "events."

The Gorham Recreation Department offers a variety of recreation opportunities for all ages, all seasons. Check the website often to see what programs, events and activities are being offered. If you have questions or need assistance with online registration contact the office at 222-1630. Subscribe for a variety of Gorham Town Alerts by email at Gorham-me.org/subscribe.

Baxter Museum, 71 South Street, Gorham, boyhood home of James Phinney Baxter, is open in July and August on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission is free, but donations are welcome. FMI, contact 839-3878.

For over 25 years, the Gorham Food Pantry has served the needs of the hungry in Gorham. The Pantry was founded and is sustained by the efforts of many local churches, schools, businesses, generous donors and hundreds of active volunteers. Thanks to all who help to support the Pantry. Located at 299-B Main Street next to St. Anne's Church, the Pantry's hours are Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Thanks to the volunteers, the Gorham Medical Closet is operating at the Municipal Center, 75 South Street. The Closet is free and available to Gorham residents in need of wheelchairs, shower seats, commodes, walkers, canes, crutches and more. 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. FMI, call Gerry Day at 839-3859.

The Gorham Lions Club will begin meeting again on Tuesday, September 14 at 6 p.m. at the Lion's Den. New members always welcome. FMI 929-9182.

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Gorham Memorial Post 10879 will meet on Sep 14 at 5:30 pm in the Gorham Fire Department Training Room, 270 Main Street. For information, please contact the post at vfwpost10879@gmail.com.

LIBRARY NOTES

The North Gorham Public Library, serving Gorham and Standish since 1897, is located next to the fire barn at the corner of Standish Neck Road and North Gorham Road. The library serves the surrounding community with a focus on fiction for adults and children, although most any book is available through inter-library loan. The library has WiFi service and computers for patron use. The library is open on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings. Home Delivery and contact less parking lot pickup is also available. Visit on the web at north-gorham.lib.me.us.

The Baxter Memorial Library serves the Gorham community as a welcoming and accessible gathering place for information, lifelong learning, and enjoyment. The library strives to foster the exchange of ideas, values, traditions, and conversations. The Library was built in 1908, the gift of James Phinney Baxter. His intent was that the library and house/museum should stand as a memorial to his father, Dr. Elihu Baxter. Many thanks to the Baxter Memorial Library staff for their dedication and programming, especially Ms. Heidi, Ms. Dani, and Mr. Jeff for sharing their creativity and love of reading with Gorham's youngest readers. Library hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays and Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays. FMI, call 222-1190.

LETTUCE BE HEALTHY

Wild Rice Salad 10-12 servings

3 cups wild rice (make as directed on package-I use the Near East brand)
2 6oz jars marinated artichoke hearts
1 10oz pack of frozen peas
1 green bell pepper, chopped
1 bunch green onions, chopped
1 pint cherry tomatoes, halved
Toasted slivered almonds

Dressing:

1 ½ c vegetable oil
½ c white vinegar
½ c freshly grated Parmesan
1 tablespoon sugar
2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon celery salt
½ teaspoon ground white pepper
½ teaspoon dry mustard
½ teaspoon paprika
1 clove garlic, minced

Combine all dressing ingredients in a jar, shake and refrigerate until ready to use. Place cooked rice in a bowl, drain artichoke hearts, reserving marinade. Chop artichoke hearts and add to rice with peas, green pepper, green onions, tomatoes, reserve marinade and half of dressing. Toss well. Cover and chill. Just before serving, toss again; add some of remaining dressing (to taste) if desired. Sprinkle with toasted almonds.

This recipe is delicious with grilled salmon. Questions about the recipe can be e-mailed to Barbara Schneider at btsme21@gmail.com.

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the *Courtesy of the Gorham Police Department*
blotter

Two people were given summons for operating an unregistered ATV on Line Rd. at high rates of speed. They were also given summons for operating an unregistered ATV and warned for operating on a public way.

Officer advised an intoxicated person at Wassamki Campground that he was no longer welcome there and needed to leave.

Officer checked on two people sitting on the side of Gray Rd. They were walking because their friend had been driving erratically and they no longer wanted to ride with them. Officer gave them a ride to the bus stop so they could get back to Portland.

Officer checked on an unattended truck, running with the door ajar and parked on the woodline on the South side of Gorham Middle School. A contractor was measuring the sidewalks before bidding on an upcoming construction project.

Fort Hill Rd. caller reported someone was threatening him and his family on Facebook. Caller knew there probably wasn't anything the police could do, but he just wanted to report it.

Caller reported a vehicle all over the road. Officer saw a vehicle half in the breakdown lane and pulled the vehicle over. Driver admitted being all over the road due to being on his phone trying to use the talk to text option. He was given a ticket for operating while using an electric handheld device.

Narragansett St. caller's partner told him if he went outside to smoke a cigarette, she was going to lock the door. He went outside, and she locked the door. He did not want to stay outside. He got upset when the officer said he would not take the caller somewhere, and he hung up.

Patrick Dr. caller received a scam call from the IRS and said they would put out a warrant for her arrest. She was advised it was a scam and that the IRS would contact by mail, not a phone call.

Caller had some questions about an abandoned boat, but his inquiry was about a boat in Gorham, New Hampshire.

Brookwood Dr. caller reported receiving a letter that there could have been a fraudulent tax return filed with his information. He was advised to contact banks, credit cards and the credit bureau to let them know his identity had been compromised and to freeze his credit.

Officer responded to Dingley Spring Rd. where kids were tossing riprap rocks from the bridge on Dingley Spring Ext. Kids were advised not to take supporting rocks and throw them in the water.

Lover's Lane caller wanted to report a vehicle parked near his driveway. The registered owner lives up the road and sometimes parks on the road. Vehicle was off to the side of the road. He had called some phone numbers and was not able to get ahold of anyone.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

UMaine Extension, "Quick Meals with Electric Pressure Cooker", online from 6-7:30 p.m. FMI, 207-834-3905, sharon.paradis@maine.edu

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

Presumpscot Regional Land Trust, "Learn to Paddle on the Presumpscot," Shaw Park, 1-3 p.m., register at prft.org, click on events.

CLASSIFIEDS

COMMUNITY

Haddock Supper Buffet - Saturday, August 28, 2021 - 5:00 p.m. at Living Waters Church, Parker Farm Road, Buxton. Suggested donation: \$8 Adult, \$4 Child, \$20 Family. Please note: We will offer the option of takeout containers for those who do not want to come inside for seating. Wearing of face masks for those who are not vaccinated is required. Hand sanitizer is available.

HELP WANTED

KENNEL help wanted. Afternoon and weekend hours available. Apply in person at Refreshing Paws, 132 Brackett Rd, Gorham or visit our Facebook page.

MUSIC

ROCK & ROLL BAND MEMBERS WANTED! I played drums in a band in 60's/70's. I would like to find a guitar, bass and keyboard player to get together 2-4 times/month. I have amps, sound system and microphone. Call Patrick at 303-345-3715.

ROOM FOR RENT

ROOM FOR RENT - Gorham only 2.5 miles from USM. This rental includes a private bedroom and bathroom for \$200 weekly or two private bedrooms with one private bathroom for \$300 weekly. Call 207 839-6912 for more details.

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www.helpingpawsme.org

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Sale Starts Friday Aug. 20th - Saturday Aug. 28th

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