

Gorham Times

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

Mark Curtis: Business Person of the Year 2021

Gorham Business Exchange



Photo courtesy of The Gorham Business Exchange



Photo credit Curtis Family

Picture on the left: Mark Curtis with Tim and John Shaw at Gorham Sand and Gravel. Picture on the right: Mark Curtis, Becky, Thomas, Timmy and Tucker.

The Gorham Business Exchange (GBE) announced Mark Curtis at Gorham Sand and Gravel (GSG) as Business Person of the Year 2021.

Curtis was born and raised in Gorham and is the General Manager at Gorham Sand and Gravel. He and his wife, Becky, are raising their 3 boys here in Gorham.

GSG is a successful business that embraces the Gorham community. They have donated material and labor to several community projects and are very generous in support of local organizations.

Curtis has worn many hats at GSG since starting back in the summer of 1994. He has become the right hand man for owners Tom and Jim Shaw. In his position, Curtis has overseen the growth of GSG into one of Maine's most successful construction companies. He has a great understanding of corporate citizenship and oversees a lot of charity and sponsorship decisions. Through Curtis, GSG has assisted the Gorham Conservation Commission with several trails and the Lavoie Bike Track.

"Mark was born and raised in Gorham and is always eager to ensure Gorham is an attractive and inviting place to do

business for years to come," says Devin Butts, Curtis's coworker at GSG.

Curtis has served many years on the Zoning Board of Appeals in Gorham

and recently became a member of the Gorham Economic Development Corporation. He is President of the Reed Allen Community Foundation, a local charitable organization that raises money and collects donations to help community members in times of need.

Founder of the Reed Allen Community Foundation Angelo Sotiropoulos says, "I told Mark 7 years ago he was the one to lead and share my vision for the Foundation. He has many gifts, charisma is one of them."

For those who have worked with Curtis on various projects, they agree that he also has a knack for finding simple solutions to complex issues. Over the last year, Curtis has reached out to business members in the community to brainstorm ideas to help local high school students learn real world principles.

"Simply put, Mark is passionate about our community and makes Gorham a better place," says Ethan Johnson, President of the GBE.

"Simply put, Mark is passionate about our community and makes Gorham a better place"

Ethan Johnson
President of the GBE

What's On Your Ballot? State-wide Referendum Questions

Kathy Corbett, Staff Writer

There are three state-wide referendum questions on the November 2 ballot.

QUESTION 1

Question 1 reads: "Do you want to ban the construction of high-impact electric transmission lines in the Upper Kennebec Region and to require the Legislature to approve all other such projects anywhere in Maine, both retroactively to 2020, and to require the Legislature, retroactively to 2014, to approve by a two-thirds vote such projects using public land?"

Although the question does not mention the CMP Corridor, a YES vote would stop the New England Clean Energy Connect (NECEC) currently approved and under construction in the upper Kennebec Region and require a 2/3 vote for approval of high-impact transmission line construction on public land anywhere in Maine since 2014.

A NO vote would let construction continue on the project's 53 miles of new transmission lines and not mandate this legislative approval.

Major funding for campaigns urging voters to vote NO has come from corporations that are involved with the project. Clean Energy Matters, a political action committee (PAC) that includes Hydro-Quebec and CMP, has spent approximately \$40 million.

Mainers for Local Power, is funded by Maine natural gas plants and their parent companies in Florida and Texas. This PAC has raised about \$9.5 million to convince voters to vote YES.

The complexity of the issue, a barrage of TV ads, and wording of the question — scored at the post-high school level for readability by the Flech-Kindale formula — have contributed to the public's confusion about this citizens' initiated referendum.

The Citizen's Guide to the Referendum Election, published by the Maine Secretary of State's office, available on-line, includes public comments both in support and opposed to Question 1.

Those in support of the measure, and a YES vote, believe the CMP Corridor will damage the environment of heavily-wooded western Maine and greatly enrich the project's two foreign companies with little financial benefit for Maine, since most of the power would go "from Canada to Massachusetts". They also would like elected lawmakers and Mainers to have more voice in these decisions and therefore support the legislative 2/3 vote requirement.

Many of those who oppose Question 1 believe the CMP Corridor provides clean energy and is a step toward reducing dependence on fossil fuel. They are also concerned that the requirement for legislative approval

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Gorham Parks & Recreation Hosts Scarecrow Festival



Photo courtesy of Gorham Parks & Recreation

Gorham Parks & Recreation is hosting a Scarecrow Festival on October 23rd at the Gazebo next to the Baxter Library. Registration is free. Pick up a scarecrow frame from the Recreation Department during regular business hours. Scarecrows must be submitted by October 17. For more information contact Zachary Lambert at z Lambert@gorham.me.us

Send us your
Halloween Photos!
Parties, costumes, decorations.
We want to feature your festive
frightening fun.



Photo courtesy Cathy Walter

TOWN COUNCIL AND SCHOOL
COMMITTEE CANDIDATES
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GMS STUDENTS EXPLORE
LOCAL VOCATIONAL CENTER
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NEWS FROM AUGUSTA

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.

Fixing Our Broken System

Rep. Kyle Bailey

Our government isn't working like it should. Consensus solutions to major issues remain unadapted and unimplemented because our political system has broken down and does not generate the outcomes that Americans need, want or deserve. While this is especially true in Washington, we see warning signs that this cancer plaguing our democratic republic is malignant and has spread even to the State House in Augusta.

We need to pop the hood and tune up our American democracy.

It's not big corporations or wealthy individuals who are hurt by today's political polarization and gridlock, it's everyday Americans who need government to work and solve problems that impact our daily lives — from the student loan crisis to the skyrocketing cost of health care.

My friend and colleague Katherine Gehl, a retired CEO turned political reformer, cast our modern problem in a different light when she said, "Our political system isn't broken, it's doing exactly what it is supposed to do."

The truth is that big corporations, wealthy individuals and special interests — the few — have slowly and methodically rewritten the rules governing our democracy to benefit themselves at the expense of middle and working class Americans — the many.

They've done this with our elections laws, health care laws, tax and regulatory laws, banking and bankruptcy laws, and so on. If we want different outputs, we need to change the inputs.

Think of government as a machine —

a system of gears designed to produce a certain product — a functioning politics and government. But like any machine, over time our political system has been realigned and reprogrammed to produce different outputs.

Clean Elections is an important part of the solution to counter this misalignment of political machinery because it allows more everyday people without connections and money — especially women and people of color — to run for office, compete and win.

Ranked Choice Voting is an important solution to today's political crisis because it gives more choice to voters and allows independent and third party candidates to compete without the spoiler label, thus serving a necessary role in our republic to introduce new ideas and hold the major parties accountable for positive adaptation that ultimately serves the Maine people.

Voter apathy and suppression are tools of the few to disempower everyday people and to convince us to turn the keys to the kingdom over to the "deserving," the "haves" who "know best" at the expense of us, the many, the "have nots."

In every way that wealth and power seek to silence the masses, we must fight back. That includes preventing wealthy foreign governments from influencing our elections and wealthy billionaires from spending unlimited, unchecked amounts of money in our democratic processes to bend its machinery to their will.

Protect Maine Elections is leading this fight, and I encourage you to not

only sign this petition at the polls on Election Day to place this question on the November 2022 ballot but ask you to please collect signatures. This is a fight that needs engagement from good people of all walks of life and of all political stripes.

Fixing our broken political system and reforming it to work for the people does not begin or end with the latest reform. There are no once and done fixes and no silver bullets.

America is an experiment. Experiments require constant attention and adaptation to, in the case of our republic, defeat the privileged and power hungry both at home and abroad who would remake America to benefit the wants of the few over the needs of the many. America is a dream worth saving and strengthening, and securing as the last great hope of this earth — the signal to the rest of the world that of, by and for the people shall never perish.



Rep. Kyle Bailey, D-Gorham, is serving his first term in the Maine House of Representatives. You can reach him by emailing kyle.bailey@legislature.maine.gov or calling (207) 939-8600.

Town Notes

Fall Brush Drop Off: Public Works will be open October 16 and October 23 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon to accept brush from Gorham residents. Please no stumps or commercial drop off. Leaves and grass clippings will be accepted in their designated area throughout the season. Please do not leave your bags behind.

Youth Deer Day is October 23. Remember to wear blaze orange if you are near a wooded area.

GCC Retraction

In the September 30, 2021 edition of The Gorham Times, it was incorrectly stated in the Around Town section that the Gorham Country Club had sold a parcel of land to the Maine Turnpike Authority. The Gorham Times extends an apology to the Gorham Country Club for this mistake.

The Gorham Country Club has not sold a parcel of land to the Maine Turnpike Authority or any other entity.

Clarification

In the Meet Your Neighbor story in the last issue, Bill Jenks's father was a hero and the main caregiver for his wife who suffered from Alzheimer's. Watching his father's struggle was instrumental in Bill deciding to start a home care franchise and also to become involved with Alzheimer's of Maine.

We want YOU!

The Gorham Times is seeking writers to cover town news, human interest stories and business profiles. This is a great opportunity to meet interesting people and learn about community organizations.

Have an interest in Gorham and how the paper operates? We'd love to have you join us for production meetings held every other Monday at 4 pm at Gorham Rec.

Contact us for more information.



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Gorham Times

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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.

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Advertising

Deadlines

October 20

November 3

November 17

There is Hope: Author, Survivor and Advocate

Chris Crawford, Staff Writer

A personal message from Diann:

"My story is meant to illustrate to friends and family of someone who has experienced domestic abuse or sexual assault that we need allies who will not judge us and will advocate for us. You are in a position to help your loved one understand their options, which can include filing a police report, seeking an order of protection, developing a safety plan, sharing crisis hotlines and shelter phone numbers. Your job as an ally is to empower a victim to make their own decisions. As they do, they will be on the journey from victim to survivor. And if you've been a victim or survivor of abuse, I stand with you. No one deserves to be treated the way you have been treated. It may seem impossible to believe, but there is a way forward. There is hope for those who've experienced abuse."

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Domestic violence programs across Maine will host a variety of events exploring what safety really means for people experiencing domestic abuse and violence. Seeking help now is vitally important as victims are more isolated from supportive family and friends during the COVID pandemic.

- 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men has experienced physical violence by an intimate partner
- Domestic abuse and violence affects people and families of all races, ages, genders and income levels
- Nearly half of all homicides are related to domestic abuse

Where You Can Find Help:

National Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-799-7233 (SAFE)
domesticshelters.org

RAINN – National Sexual Assault Hotline
1-800-656-4673 (HOPE)

Love Is Respect – National Dating Abuse Hotline
1-866-331-9474

In Maine:

Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence (MCEDV) 1-866-834-4357 (HELP) for Deaf or Hard of Hearing 1-800-437-1220

Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault
<https://www.mecasa.org>

Diann Furbush Diaz (GHS 1983) has recently published two books. The first is her memoir about childhood sexual assault and domestic abuse called, *A Purpose Greater Than Sorrow*, which was written over a span of 14 years, as she bravely worked through her painful trauma. Amazon calls it a "riveting and thought-provoking memoir of her personal journey through the multiple challenges of abuse." The book also provides support and valuable resources to help others who are dealing with these issues.

The second book, called *Domestic Violence Victims-Why do they Stay?*, was co-written with Diann Diaz's husband of 24 years, Joe Diaz, a retired police officer in Ft. Lauderdale who has worked with victims of domestic abuse and rape for over 30 years. "We have included a list of 'dos and don'ts' to use as a guide should you find yourself in the position of helping someone whom you suspect is being abused," said Diann Diaz. Both books are available on Amazon.

Needless to say, Diann Diaz did not have an idyllic childhood growing up in Gorham. Like an untold number of young children, she was the victim of rape by someone she knew. Statistically, victims of sexual assault know their attacker in approximately 8 out of 10 cases.

When a child is the victim, the rates are even higher — 90 percent of young victims know their attacker. This type of assault and betrayal magnifies the psychological damage that occurs. Young victims struggle with physical and mental health issues, such as low-self esteem, depression, anxiety, even post traumatic stress disorder, all of which can prime them to become a partner in an abusive relationship later in life.

This is the pattern that Diann Diaz followed. Lack of support and understanding from her family following the sexual assault left her feeling isolated, worthless, and primed to spiral into a life of domestic violence in two abusive relationships as an adult. After years of struggle and deep depression, her wake-up call came when her son was almost killed by one of her partners.



Photo credit Joe Diaz

Author Diann Diaz has written two books with resources to help survivors of domestic abuse and physical abuse.

While physical violence can certainly be part of an abusive relationship, much of what actually goes on also involves psychological warfare such as controlling, demeaning, and shaming behavior.

Diann Diaz said, "I'm telling my story so others will be able to learn from it. It is my mission to help victims of rape or domestic abuse to find their voice and speak out, and stop the cycle of abuse."

This has become her life's work. In addition to her books, Diaz has

worked tirelessly as an advocate for victims at women's shelters in Florida and as a public speaker at churches, schools, universities and other community groups about her personal experiences. She was Speaker of the Year in 2003, for Women in Distress of Broward County.

When her husband, Joe Diaz, retired from the Ft. Lauderdale Police department in 2004, they moved to Virginia where Diann Diaz volunteered at another women's crisis center and continued to speak publicly about her childhood sexual assault and domestic violence.

For 16 years, she has been on the national speakers' bureau for RAINN (Rape, Abuse, Incest, National Network). She was the Violence Prevention Educator serving middle and high school students, teaching young people how to prevent violence in relationships, helping them build healthy relationships, and informing them where to turn for help. She has also served as an emergency advocate for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence in hospitals and police stations.

Diann and Joe Diaz live in the Blue Ridge mountains of Virginia with their two dogs. She has one son and three grandchildren. She can be reached at diann Diaz@gmail.com or visit her website at www.diann Diaz.com.



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Helping Paws Animal Rescue
www.helpingpawsme.org

Focusing on Greater Portland to the Lakes Region and all points in between

Candidates for Election - Town Council

Name: Virginia Wilder Cross

Address: 11 Bramblewood Lane, Gorham

Education: B.S Psychology

Personal Information: Married;

Gorham resident for 30+ years; Member First Parish Church UCC; Proud grandmother of five amazing grandsons; my garden is my happy place.

Employment: Retired; Before retirement: Technical Writing Instructor at USM and owner of Gorham business, Working Words & Graphics.

Political and community experience: Town Councillor, seeking second term; Gorham Comprehensive Plan Update Committee member, 2016 and 2021; New Year Gorham Planning Committee since its first year, First publisher of Gorham Times; Gorham Business Exchange, charter member, past president and past executive director; Gorham Market Place, past coordinator and planning committee; Gorham Business Directory publisher; actively involved with the Gorham Village Alliance

Why are you running for office and how will your experience benefit the Town Council?



Name: Philip T. Gagnon Jr.

Address: 91 Gordon Farms Rd

Education: Master's in Business

Degree in Economics Degree in Business Administration

Personal Info: Married with three school aged children.

Employment: Senior Credit Officer - Vice President, Recipient of National Industry Award for Innovation in Banking from NACHA.

Political and community experience: Currently; School Committee Member, Member of Gorham Revolving Loan Fund – Vice Chair, Formerly; Town Council Chair, Vice Chair, and various committees, Gorham Economic Development Corp. Community; Gorham Celebration Committee of Incorporation 2011 (Gorham Founders Festival - Founder), Board of Directors Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Why are you running for office and how will your experience benefit the Town Council?

The need for leadership and thoughtful direction for our Capital needs, at the Town and School levels, will require someone with my experience and desire for accountability. I championed the



Name: Lee Pratt

Address: 16 Elliott Road

Education: Cheverus High School 2000 Husson University 2004

BS Business Administration with a concentration in finance

Personal Info: I'm a lifelong resident of Gorham. My wife Nicole and I are raising two children, Colby and Maci, who are students in the Gorham School system.

Employment: CFO ODAT Machine Inc. in the Gorham Industrial Park

Political and community experience: I am the current Chair of the Town Council. While on the council I've served on the finance committee, jetport noise abatement committee, Chair of Capital Improvements committee, Chair of the Industrial Park steering committee, and as acting liaison to the Gorham Economic development committee. I also have recently been appointed to represent Gorham on the Cumberland County Finance Committee. I served four years on the Town Planning board. While on the planning board I served on the ordinance committee. I enjoy coaching youth sports in my free time.



Name: Paul Smith

Address: 46 Phinney St

Education: Graduated from Gorham High School and SMVTI

Personal Information: Married to Paulette Smith for 25

years. We have 5 children together, 9 grandchildren and 1 great grandson.

Employment: State of Maine, Gorham School Dept, Town of Gorham, Currently self employed contractor

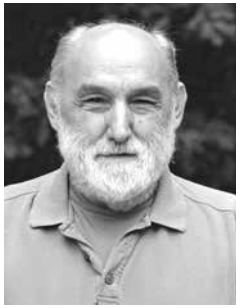
Political experience: I served a 3 year term on the Gorham Town Council.

Why are you running for office and how will your experience benefit the Town Council?

I am running for office to work tirelessly for the residents and to uncover waste and inefficiency. My experience will benefit the Town Council, because I have lived in Gorham all my life. I care deeply about the town and the townspeople. I will work to reduce taxes so the older residents can afford to stay in Gorham. I will continue to find ways to manage growth in order to balance the impact of growth with the need for housing so that our kids and future generations can return to Gorham if they so choose.

What do you see as the major issue for our community and how might it be addressed?

Increased residential growth has been and continues to be an issue for Gorham. I think that we need to come together, council, town staff and taxpayers to work on this issue.



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SEARCHING FOR MR. MOON
Written by Richard Topol & Willy Holtzman

One man explores the meaning of fatherhood and how being a working artist fits into it

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TOWN OF GORHAM ANNUAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION
November 2, 2021

Pursuant to MRSA, Title 21A, Sec 101, you are hereby notified that the Registrar for the Town of Gorham, Maine will hold the following office hours for the purpose of registering voters and making corrections to the voter list:

Tuesday and Wednesday, October 26th and 27th, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Thursday, October 28th, 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., Friday, October 29th, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., and Monday, November 1st 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Laurie Nordfors, Town Clerk

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School Committee Candidate Profiles

Name: Anne E. Schools

Address: PO Box 292 Gorham, ME 04038 (street is 50 Hillview Rd)

Education: I have a B.A. in history from the University of Southern Florida

and a J.D. from the University of Maine School of Law

Personal Information: I have been a resident of Gorham since 2012 where I live with my husband (who has been a fire fighter in the town for several decades), two daughters (3rd and 7th grades), and our two Goldendoodles, Stout and Zoe. We enjoy all that Gorham has to offer and consider ourselves lucky to be members of such a great community.

Employment: I have been licensed to practice law in Maine since 2010 and was in private practice until 2017 when I began working for the State of Maine. Until December of this year, I adjudicated administrative hearings, such as OUI alcohol and drug hearings, commercial fishing violations, adverse fatal hearings, and even served as an arbitrator for the Attorney General Office's Lemon Law program. Since December, I have been the Assistant Director of Legal Affairs, Adjudications & Hearings at the Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles in Augusta.

Political and community experience: I have been an active member of the Gorham School Committee for the past three years and currently serve as Vice Chair. I also serve as the Chair of the Personnel and Policy Sub Committees. Additionally, for a short time prior to accepting a job with the state, I was a business owner in Gorham. Prior to joining the School Committee, I was a parent volunteer for the Gorham School District.

Why are you running for office and how will your experience benefit the School Committee?

I am running for office because I have worked hard these past three years while on the School Committee and feel that there is more left for me to accomplish. During my time on the committee, we have faced an



Name: Liesl Turner

Address: 65 Wilson Road

Education: Endicott College, B.S. Communications, 1999, Magna Cum Laude

Personal Info: I moved to Gorham in 2016 with my husband and children. We have two boys enrolled in Gorham schools who are also very active in Gorham sports. I enjoy gardening, reading, and spending time with our large family.

Employment: Senior Consultant, Munich Re

Political and community experience: This is my first time running for elected office. Over the years, I've volunteered with numerous organizations including schools, work, church, food banks and many other non-profits. I do follow politics and understand the dynamics they press upon the decisions we need to make as a community, but I believe strongly that our schools should be as politically neutral as possible and focused solely on preparing students for academic and career success.

Why are you running for office and how will your experience benefit the School Committee?

I'm a compassionate mom and common sense taxpayer who wants the best for every member of the Gorham community today and for generations to come. A thriving school system is at the heart of every great community, and while Gorham schools have amazing teachers and a strong reputation, we are facing mounting challenges that need long-term solutions. In my profession, I research and analyze data to make the best possible decisions for long-term business success and sustainability. This requires the ability to listen, educate one's self and peers, build relationships and compromise. I would apply these same principles as a member of the Gorham School Committee. While I'm certain I'll lose a good deal of sleep if elected, I would appreciate the opportunity to serve our town and help keep it a happy and prosperous place to live and raise a family.



Name: Darryl Wright

Address: 12 Mosher Road

Education: Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration

Personal Information: I've lived in Gorham for over 15 years and have two daughters, one is currently a Junior at Gorham High School and one is a recent graduate of Gorham High School.

Employment: Vice President/Senior Regional Market Manager at People's United Bank. I have been with People's United Bank for over 16 years and have been in the Banking and Finance Industry for over 25 years.

Political and community experience:

Current member of the Gorham School Committee for 10 years, 5 years as Chair. I am the current Chair of the School Committee's Finance/Facilities Committee. I am the President of the Board for the Gorham Arts Alliance (Community Arts Center).

I have previously served the Gorham School District through my membership on: Policy Committee, Personnel Committee, All Day Kindergarten Committee, Teacher Evaluation Committee, High School Building Committee and the Negotiations Team for all three District Union Contracts.

Previous Community service based roles: Three term President of the Westbrook/Gorham Community Chamber of Commerce, Portland Regional Chamber of Commerce Board Member, Westbrook Housing Development Corporation Board Member, Member of the Mobilize Maine Workforce Development Group, President of the Schoolhouse Arts Center Board of Directors, Vice Chair of the 275th Gorham Founders Festival, Chair of the Westbrook



Clerk's Corner

Laurie Nordfors

Happy Fall everyone! I hope everyone is staying safe and enjoying the beautiful colors of the season.

The Town Clerk's Office has been busy fulfilling absentee ballot requests. You may request an absentee ballot by calling the Town Clerk's Office or visiting the State Election website. If you have already requested a ballot, we expect to get the ballots in this week and will be sending them out soon after.

Absentee voting will be held in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Center starting October 25 through October 28 during regular business hours.

Voter registration is conducted at the Town Clerk's Office during regular business hours. Please be sure to have photo identification and proof of your residence address when registering to vote. You can register to vote up to and including Election Day in person. If you register by mail, your voter registration card must be received in the Town Clerk's Office by October 12, 2021 to be eligible to Vote in the November Election.

Dog registration for 2022 will begin on October 15, 2021. You may register your dog online, or visit the Town Clerk's office. Please make sure you bring your dog's current rabies information.

Snowmobile registrations are now available for 2022 as well as hunting licenses.

FY22 real estate tax bills went out this month. Look for yours in the mail. The current mil rate is \$19.40. Due to a glitch in our Tax Bill Software, some bills were printed with the homestead exemption on the "other" line instead of the exemption line.

Please do not hesitate to call the Town Clerk's Office at 222-1670 with any questions.

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Real Estate Transfers April 2021

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	PRICE
16 BALSAM LANE	BUCKMAN, NEIL & AGUILAR, JESSICA	CRUZ, ROBERT & MEGHAN	\$350,000
69 DINGLEY SPRING ROAD	CASHOUT, LLC	ESTATE OF MARION ASHEY	\$195,000
10 DANIEL STREET	R4 IRVING, LLC	WORSTER, MICHAEL & FURBISH, LAURA	\$286,500
117 MCLELLAN ROAD	MILES, STEVEN	WOLFE, DANNY	\$497,500
171 SOUTH STREET	BLAIR, CHRISTOPHER & KIMBERLEY	LOSU, LLC	\$330,000
14 ALBERT MARQUIS DRIVE	SAM STRUMPH BUILDERS, LLC	RALPH VANCE LAND DEVEOLPMENT	\$85,000
20 STRAW ROAD	PRIOR, BEATRICE & NESSEN, ZORIAH	BUSLER, ANDREW & DANIELLE	\$424,900
55 SPILLER ROAD	HALL, CASEY & LAURA	SLATTERY, ANN	\$335,000
621 MAIN STREET	SEAVEY HOLDINGS, LLC	WILEY, LLC	\$464,000
214 FLAGGY MEADOW ROAD	MACDONALD, ANDREW & HEATHER	FANNIE MAE	\$205,000
15 LINCOLN STREET	O'HARE, THOMAS	HUTSON, DEBORAH	\$335,000
118 SEBAGO LAKE ROAD	JPRGENSEN, TREVOR	ADDITION, RYAN	\$349,000
18 SAMANTHA DRIVE	VOSMUS, RHONDA	VERONEAU, RAYMOND, JR.	\$400,000
OLDE CANAL WAY LOT 9	URBAN ENTERPRISES, LLC	GRONDIN PROPERTIES, LLC	\$230,000
21 ELLIOTT ROAD	CONVERSE, BENJAMIN & JENNIER	HAHN, JASON	\$380,000
23 GERRY'S WAY	JAMISON, THOMAS & KAYTE	BOIS, DANIEL & COLLEEN	\$456,000
21 SAMANTHA DRIVE	AVERY, MICHAEL	JAMESON, MARGARET	\$400,000
519 FORT HILL ROAD	PHINNEY LUMBER PARKING, LLC	DOUGLAS BROOK, LLC	\$2,300,000
44 DOLLOFF ROAD	NOYCE, HEIDI & GARY	DOLLOFF, DONALD & DOLLOFF TRUST	\$1,500
57 LITTLE RIVER DRIVE	CHALIFOUR, BRENNIA & ALVAH, JR.	LAKATOS-PORTER, DANIELLE & PORTER	\$515,000
3 ASPEN LANE	UMWAMAHORO, MARIE & KABANDA	COLDWELL, JACOB & KRISTIN	\$475,000
852 GRAY ROAD	STOKES, HAYDEN & MATTHEW	PHILBRICK, JOHN & KATHLEEN	\$327,000
70 HARDING BRIDGE ROAD	SAM STRUMPH BUILDERS, LLC	PELLERIN, JAMES & LAURA	\$100,000
42 BURNHAM ROAD	MCKEON, PATRICK & KYLA	BANVILLE, JOSEPH JR.	\$455,000
61 MURRAY DRIVE	DERICE, MATTHEW	LASHAY, AUDREY	\$505,000
12 NOBLE'S WAY	JOHNSON, EVAN & THERIAULT, ALYSSA	TERRIAULT, MARK & ANGELA	\$140,000
89 ALEXANDER DRIVE	CHAUDRON, LINDA & BURROS, DAVID	CHAMBERS, CARL & MARY LOU	\$550,000
48 NORTH STREET	SMITH, CHRISTOPHER	SMITH, BARBARA	\$182,000
1 QUAIL RIDGE DRIVE	KALOGERIS, CHRISTOPHER & REBECCA	SPEED, DAVID & KARA	\$575,000
RIDGEFIELD DRIVE	COTTAGE ADVISORS ME LLC	KASPRZAK HOMES, LLC	\$1,800,000
63 GARDEN AVENUE	MOODY, BRANDON & PEASLEY, ANNA	ANDERSON, DEBORAH	\$382,000
41 MOSHER ROAD	CASHOUT, LLC	FOGG, EMBER	\$60,000

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Town Council Report 10/5/21

Jacob Adams, Town Council Reporter

Joseph Cerny and Ralph Graffam of Wescott Road voiced their frustration with having to vote at Ward 2, since the State redistricted the Town a few years ago, instead of Ward 1-2 which is closer to their residence.

Harold Parks, of George Street asked the Council if the Town had considered having Public Works remove fall leaves from the George Street cul-de-sac and also if the Town would consider designating the cul-de-sac a park.

Councilor Hager announced that the Finance Committee met September 27 and discussed the Fiscal year 2021 ending. He reported the numbers were good and will receive the audit report after the first of the year.

Councilor Kuech toured the new fitness facility at the Middle School and was excited to learn that the teachers were trained to use the equipment. She also attended the 4th Annual Too Small to Fail Laundry Cares Foundation and came away with many new ideas to share with the recently launched Little Rams Early Childhood Project.

Councilor Wilder Cross attended the Jensen Baird Municipal Client Seminar that went over the new Legislative Laws that will go into effect this month. She also attended the recent Board of Health Meeting and reported that residents can send any health questions or concerns through the website. She also attended the Gorham Village Alliance meeting and revealed that they are working hard

to make the Village the best it can be with future events, including a public art exhibit and holiday lights.

Councilor Phillips thanked the many volunteers who came out to "Clean-up Gorham." She also stated that the Joint Town Council Capital Improvements Committee & School Facilities Committee meeting will be held October 12. They will be discussing updates to the facilities, studies, and how to move forward.

Councilor Shepard reported that the next Ordinance Committee meeting will be October 19.

Councilor Hartwell announced that Moody's will hold their 44th Anniversary Celebration October 16 at the racetrack, and will feature food trucks, events, a bonfire and fireworks. You can get more information on the Gorham Rec Department's Facebook page.

Chairman Pratt attended the Cumberland County Finance Committee meeting September 29, where they selected the current Chair of the Board and discussed the proposed 2022 County Budget.

Town Manager Paraschak reminded homeowners the Town-wide Revaluation process is still taking place. He said that homeowners would receive notice before any visit. He reported that the town had a problem with software that prints the tax bills, and many bills were sent out with the exemptions listed on the "other" line, which makes it appear

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



Gorham Youth Travel Basketball Association (GYTBA), is pleased to open pre-registration for the 2021-2022 season for the boys and girls 5th & 6th grade travel teams. Please pre-register online before assessments at: <https://go.teamsnap.com/forms/288256>

Player assessments will occur at the SHAW GYM as follows:

TUESDAY	OCTOBER 26	7:30-8:10 pm	5TH GRADE BOYS
		8:15-9:00 pm	6TH GRADE BOYS
WEDNESDAY	OCTOBER 27	7:30-8:10 pm	5TH GRADE GIRLS
		8:15-9:00 pm	6TH GRADE GIRLS
THURSDAY	OCTOBER 28	7:30-8:10 pm	5TH GRADE BOYS
		8:15-9:00 pm	6TH GRADE BOYS
FRIDAY	OCTOBER 29	7:30-8:10 pm	5TH GRADE GIRLS
		8:15-9:00 pm	6TH GRADE GIRLS

Masks will be required. Please arrive 15 minutes early.

Players should plan on attending both sessions. A minimum of one session is required to be considered for a travel team.

REGISTRATION CLOSES ON OCTOBER 22

For more information contact Jay Foster at jefoster72@yahoo.com.

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Bitcoin: Investing or Speculating?

Jessica Szafranski

Many people have decided that bitcoin is the next big thing – and they are backing up their enthusiasm with dollars. Should you, too, consider putting money into bitcoin or other cryptocurrencies?

First of all, keep in mind an essential piece of financial advice: Don't invest in something you don't understand. And bitcoin is not easily understandable.

There's no physical bitcoin, nor is it backed by a bank or government. It's a digital currency, used for transactions on a decentralized network of computers. The market's demand for bitcoin largely determines its price, though other factors are also involved.

This price can vary widely. Since bitcoin was introduced in 2009, it has gone through periods of enormous gains and precipitous declines. Its short history has reminded market watchers of the bursting of the "dot.com" bubble in 2000 and the housing market bubble in 2007. These results have raised the following question about purchasing bitcoin: Is it investing or speculating?

There's a big difference between the two. Speculators engage in risky transactions with the hope of profiting from short-term price fluctuations in various financial vehicles. Investors, on the other hand, stick with these practices:

They follow a long-term strategy. Real investors follow a long-term strategy based on their goals, risk tolerance and time horizon. Generally speaking, long-term investors don't do a lot of buying and selling, saving on fees and potential taxes. But this "buy and hold" approach doesn't mean investors put their portfolios on autopilot. Instead, they review their portfolios at least once a year to make sure their investment mix is still appropriate for their needs.

They focus on quality. Long-term investors stay away from the flashier – and riskier – financial instruments, seeking quality instead. When considering stocks, for example, they look for companies with solid fundamentals, including strong management teams, competitive products and services, and

business plans that bode well for the future. When they buy bonds, they seek those with high credit ratings issued by the independent rating agencies. Focusing on quality doesn't yield quick results, but it can instill confidence in one's investment choices.

They diversify their holdings. If a downturn in the financial markets affects one type of asset particularly hard, and your portfolio contains a high concentration of that asset, your financial strategy could be jeopardized. Long-term investors reduce this risk by

owning a variety of investments. While diversification can't guarantee profits or protect against all losses, it can help reduce the impact of market volatility on your portfolio.

And here's one

more difference between investors and speculators: track record.

Investors put their money into companies that provide tangible goods and services, and these companies have historically grown with the overall economy. Stocks and bonds are established investment vehicles with well-defined and regulated markets. Consequently, investors can assume a certain degree of predictability, though, of course, stock prices will always fluctuate in the short term and there are no guarantees against loss of principal.

Cryptocurrencies, on the other hand, are relatively new, largely unpredictable and will likely face increased regulation in the future, with the ultimate risk being an outright ban by some governments.

You work hard for your money – so think carefully about how you can best put it to use to help you reach your lifetime goals.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.



Jessica Szafranski is a Gorham-based Financial Advisor specializing in retirement planning, investing and saving for education.

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The Land We Walk On: Indigenous Peoples' Day

Courtney P. Yount, *USM Intern*

On Indigenous Peoples' Day, it is not only important to honor the indigenous people of our community and beyond, but to also honor the land taken from these people that we continue to walk on, live on, and build on.

University of Southern Maine (USM) opened the May 2021 commencement ceremony with a Land Acknowledgement. Executive Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Jeannine Diddle Uzzi, said in her opening statement, "... we pause to acknowledge the land and water that the University of Southern Maine's campuses occupy, as well as the ancestral and contemporary peoples indigenous to these places in the Dawnland ... We also acknowledge the uncomfortable truths of settler colonialism ... Harm from the physical and cultural genocide of Native people here and throughout the land we now call Maine continues and is felt by members of the Wabanaki confederacy who live here today, including our own Wabanaki students, staff, and faculty".

During the opening breakfast for the start of the 2021 – 2022 academic year this past August, President Glenn Cummings repeated some of the points from above, also stating, "... we have been blessed to have a land recognition committee in the last year take a look at what it would mean to acknowledge that this land is not ours ... it gives us a chance for us to see what it is that we have to look at in ourselves".

As a community of predominantly white people, it can be easy to overlook parts of history that we may feel have

nothing to do with us. The truth is, all of this history has to do with us and our past actions.

We cannot take back or reverse the forced control of the land of indigenous people, but it is never too late to acknowledge that history, become educated of that history, and start acting on that history in order to create a community of better understanding, acceptance, and unity.

These Land Acknowledgements are a big first step toward honoring the indigenous land, but as Uzzi and Cummings stated earlier this year, "We all have work to do."

Whether you are traveling or having a "stay-cation" during our long holiday weekend, let's not forget the history and uncomfortable truths of the land we are standing on, walking on, and driving on. Let's not forget the people who are the true owners of this land.

Start having those uncomfortable conversations so that we may truly understand our indigenous community. Let's keep working towards a better, more unified community and stop ignoring what has needed to be acknowledged for hundreds of years.

Let's all take a moment out of our day to honor the Abenaki, Wabanaki, Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, Penobscot, and Passamaquoddy peoples of our beloved Maine community.

An apology can never, and will never, be enough to right the wrongs of our history, but it can be a good conversation starter with our new friends, old friends, classmates, co-workers, and neighbors.

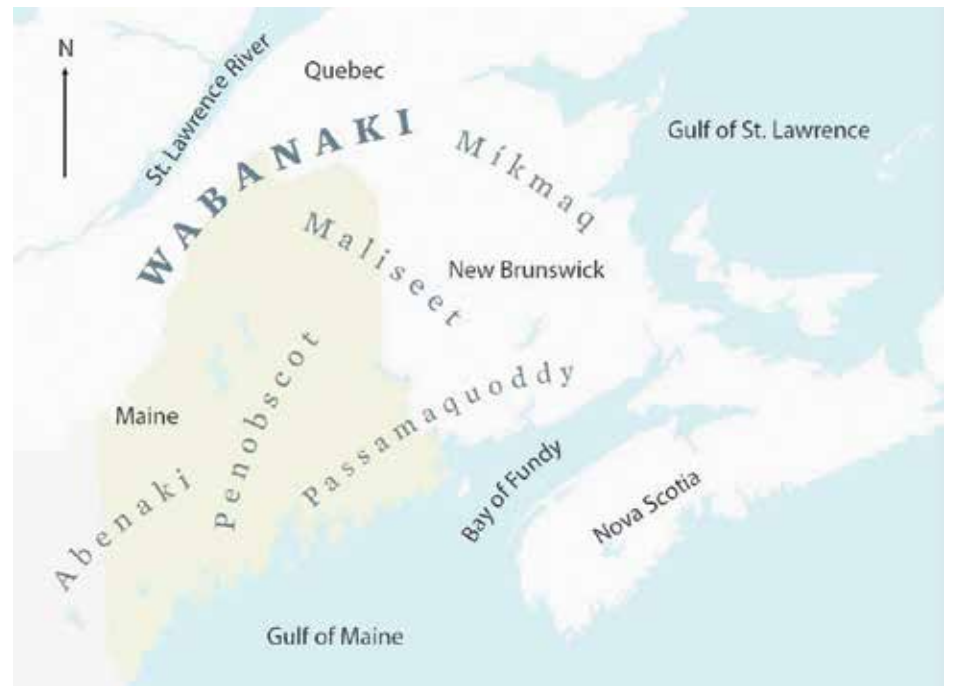


Photo courtesy of USM

Wabanaki Map indicating the indigenous nations of what we call Maine.



Photo credit Courtney P. Yount

University of Southern Maine's Portland Campus.



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GMS Students Explore Local Vocational Center

Jen Belanger, *Aspire Gorham*



Photo credit Jen Belanger

GMS students explore the commercial driver's license program and get hands-on experience in a medical program offered at WRVC.

This year at Gorham Middle School (GMS), 8th graders have an opportunity to explore the programs offered at Westbrook Regional Vocational Center (WRVC).

As the result of a grant, WRVC has created the "Tech Start" program for middle schoolers. In small cohorts, students spend four days learning about one of the 20+ programs that WRVC offers for high school juniors and seniors. After spending four days exploring the program, students spend one day at GMS reflecting on their experiences and doing extension and complementary activities. Then, students rotate to the next program.

So far, GMS students have explored Computer Repair, Cosmetology, Early Childhood, Electrician, and Social Service programs, learning

from the qualified and talented educators at WRVC. They are eager to also try subjects like Culinary Arts, Firefighting, and Automotive Repair. Students are having a blast exploring various career pathways that will be open to them in the near future.

"This is one of the best things I've ever done in school," says Danny, 8th-grade student.

"This week in Computer Repair, I learned about IP addresses. Also, we learned about how to repair minor problems on computers," says Gavin, 8th-grade student.

"I was thinking about becoming a hairdresser before I started this class and then I learned so much more about hairstyling. I can't wait to explore this subject more," says Haley, 8th-grade student.

New Fitness Center at Gorham Middle School



Photo credit Kathy Corbett

A class of eighth-grade students work out in the new Gorham Middle School (GMS) fitness center. One of three centers in Maine funded by a grant from the National Foundation for Governors' Fitness Councils, it will be used by gym classes, athletes, and available to any GMS student during open hours.

School Notes

At the final home football game on Friday, October 22, the Interact Club will host a donation drive to benefit Maine Needs. Maine Needs strives to help individuals and families in Maine meet their basic, material needs by providing donated clothing, hygiene products, household items, and other necessities. They focus on those starting life over from scratch: domestic abuse survivors, asylum seekers and those facing financial hardships. For more information check out their website at: www.maineneeds.org.

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— L. M. Montgomery,
Anne of Green Gables

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Another Comeback in a Big Way

Katie Brown, Sports Editor

Julian Nijkamp was a two-time track and field state champion in the hurdles for GHS, class of 2013. He started training and running competitively in 6th grade. He credits his middle school coaches for instilling a strong work ethic early on.

During his junior year of high school, coming home from a track meet, Nijkamp noticed his ankles appeared very swollen. He knew immediately that something was wrong. In the following days, he would be diagnosed with MPGN, a rare kidney disease. Fast forward eight years from high school, and Nijkamp lives to tell another comeback.

The past 25 months have been mentally tough, to say the least for this former athlete. "It wasn't the physical pain for me, it was just mentally tough."

Nijkamp was trained by his team of doctors to do his own dialysis at home five days a week. "Life or death, either you do it or you die."

When COVID-19 hit, his chances of finding a kidney donor did not look promising, and he was told it would be at least 4 more years of dialysis and waiting. This is when his mother's best friend from high school stepped up big.



Photo credit The Nijkamp Family

Julian Nijkamp, GHS Class of 2013, posing after a win for Gorham at a track meet.

This past July, Nijkamp received a living kidney donor. "She did a 'cross swap' because her kidney was too small for my body. I am very grateful."

Today, ten weeks post-transplant surgery, he certainly has a positive perspective on life. "The healthiest people sometimes get hit with the worst-case scenarios, I was healthy as a horse. When someone gets bad news, it puts you in your own mortality quickly. I was lucky to have a huge support system and the mindset to do whatever it takes to get healthy again. A lot of people don't realize their strength. I didn't think I could do certain things but I fought through and here I am."

Nijkamp has a few goals coming up. He has worked for UPS since

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Joe Pastore Jr. Says Goodbye to Beech Ridge Motor Speedway

Katie Brown, Sports Editor



Joe Pastore Jr. and his family.

Photo credit Pastore family

Joe Pastore Jr., a long-time, successful race car driver from Gorham says goodbye to his home track Beech Ridge Motor Speedway. The closing of the track was announced by the owner of Beech Ridge, during a post-race awards ceremony in September.

Pastore had multiple wins this season. In addition to winning the last two races of the year, he won 3 other races in two divisions.

"In the past 4 years, he has won 18 races at the home track, which

is quite an achievement," explains one of his biggest fans, his mother, Donna. "The loss of Beech Ridge is a huge loss to him, his family, and his team. It truly is like losing a home. He developed his skills there and achieved much success over the years."

He will continue his racing career at Oxford Plains Speedway, Wiscasset Speedway, and White Mountain Motorsports Track. Good luck to Pastore and his racing team next season.



Mr. Peabody's Apple Crisp Fall Craft Fair

OCTOBER 17TH 10-2

1070 Longplains Road
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Local Artisans.

Apple Crisp, Hot Cider, Cinnamon Buns, and lunch options.



Join us October 17th Patriots/Dallas

Game begins at 4:25 p.m.

We will stay open until the end of the game.

Paul Burgos will be performing live in the tavern from 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Free hotdogs, popcorn, and giveaways during the game.

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In the Zone

Assumption University of Worcester, Massachusetts has announced that Iris Kitchen has been named to the Women's Cross Country Team.

Lucas Roop has been named to the Men's Golf Team at Assumption University of Worcester, Massachusetts.

Lasell University Women's Soccer credits Gorham's Narissa Libby, graduate student, for an assist that helped her team make it to 3-0 Lasers.

Sports Etc.

Boys' Volleyball with Maine Juniors tryouts are open to boys of all ages November 3 and 4. Registration is now open.

Another Comeback in a Big Way

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

he was 21 years old. He loves his job and his teammates at UPS and is excited to get back to it. He will be focused on his cardio health too. He is going to start at the track. The GHS track is a healing place and a big motivator for Nijkamp.

He reflects on his days of intense training workouts with his coaches, oftentimes in the mornings before school at USM. "The state wins are some of the best days and memories that keep me motivated post-surgery. When I made the comeback after my junior year, I still to this day revert back to that inner strength. You learn to adapt and try to get through it the best you can. In the end, it only makes you stronger."



Photo credit Cathy Walter

Gorham Times Staff Writer, Cathy Walter, grows and dries gourds, then makes bird houses. Canned goods and other goodies from her gardens.

Town Fuel Assistance Fund

Sheri Faber, Staff Writer

For many years, the Town of Gorham has maintained a fuel fund to provide assistance to people who are struggling with winter heating costs. Fuel assistance is based on the resident's income.

If an applicant is not approved for fuel assistance under the Town's general assistance program, the person can contact Rene Daniels at 892-1906 for help. If Daniels feels the person is in need, he can allocate money from the fuel fund or from the general assistance line in the Town budget.

Donations make up the bulk of the funds available through the Gorham Fuel Fund, with most of the money coming from individual donors.

Cressey Road Methodist Church's Project Warmth has partnered with several businesses in the community that have agreed to make donations in support of providing fuel or furnace repairs to people who may have run out of fuel and need help to relight their furnaces.

Families are eligible to apply for this assistance once a year. For assistance, contact the church at 839-3111 and provide details about what help is requested.



44th Anniversary



Saturday, October 16th
2:00pm – 8:00pm
 The Racetrack
 200 Narragansett Street
 Gorham, ME 04038

2pm Honor Gorham's Finest / Police / Fire EMS / Volunteers
2:30pm Lawnmower Race
 For details on entering the Lawnmower race please "contact Cindy Hazelton, Gorham Recreation Department, chazelton@gorham.me.us or at 222-1634"

4:00 The Moody's Sprint Cup
 For details on entering the Sprint Cup please contact Ben in Gorham at 839-2500
Pace Car led by Thad

5:00 Music by Mike Wiley and "The Hurricanes"
6:00 Bonfire
7:00 Fireworks

Cash Bar Drinks aren't free, but, tomorrow's stories will be priceless.

*Free admission, we will be passing the work boots for donations towards our Maine Blue Collar Scholarship Foundation

MaineBlueCollar.com



The International Order of Rainbow for Girls invites you to
Come say hay with us at Pumpkin fest
October 16
11:30-2:30
33 Cressey Rd
Gorham, Me
Contact us at
Pleasantriver45@meiorg.net

What's on Your Ballot CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

will remove permitting construction projects from impartial experts. Energy projects now must undergo strict review by state and federal agencies with strict criteria that protect the environment and the economy, they say, and urge voters to vote NO.

Questions have been raised by the public about some of the benefits Mainers could expect from the Corridor, including the number of permanent jobs it would create. Here, the numbers vary from one legislator's estimate of 38, to 1,600 cited by a spokesman for NECEC. Others estimate the number to be closer to 600.

Although most electricity will go to the six states on the New England Power Grid, it is estimated that Maine would receive enough power annually for 70,000 homes. A lease negotiated for the use of public land for the project is paying the state \$65,000 annually. This lease is in effect, but is under appeal and could be deemed invalid.

QUESTION 2

Question 2 reads: "Do you favor a \$100,000,000 bond issue to build or improve roads, bridges, railroads, airports, transit facilities and ports and make other transportation investments, to be used to leverage an estimated \$253,000,000 in federal and other funds?"

No public comments were filed in support or opposition to Question 2.

QUESTION 3

Question 3 reads: "Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to declare that all individuals have a natural, inherent and unalienable right to grow, raise, harvest, produce



Scan this QR code to request an absentee ballot.

and consume the food of their own choosing for their own nourishment, sustenance, bodily health and well-being?

Those in favor of this constitutional amendment emphasize that this is not about securing free food from the government, but about people's right to produce food without government interference. They say it does not allow poaching and other abuses of private property or public lands.

Citing Maine's food insecurity rate of 14%, they want the right to grow and raise food and to exchange seeds be protected by law. They call it a tribute to small-scale food producers and all eaters. They urge a YES vote on Question 3.

Those opposed to Question 3 say it is vague and ambiguous and urge a NO vote. Although they too are concerned about corporate influence on the food supply, they believe the amendment could strip away animal welfare standards and take away the power of local governments to provide health, safety, zoning and anti-pollution standards.

The measure is opposed by a number of organizations concerned about animal welfare, including the Maine Veterinary Medical Association and the Maine Farm Bureau.

Town Council Report CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

that the exemption is gone. He also announced that Life Church will be holding their annual Trunk or Treat on Halloween from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Center Parking lot.

Renewal applications for the following Automobile Graveyard/Junkyard Permits were approved for 2021-2022:

LKQ Corp/Gorham Auto located at 192 Narragansett Street

Casco Federal Credit Union located at 375 Main Street

Chet's Auto Sales located at 475 Ossipee Trail

Moodys/Insurance Auto Auction located at 200 Narragansett Street

Reichert's Auto Body located at 112 Shaws Mill Road

Dumbo Enterprise located at 86 Longfellow Road

(7 years)

Town Council adopted the amendment of the Mosher's Corner Mixed Use District and the amendments to the Official Zoning Map. (7 years)

The Land Use and Development Code's Home Occupation Ordinance was amended. The approved amendments involved particular language additions in the definitions section. (7 years)

Town Council adopted a new remote and hybrid meeting policy. (7 years)

Winding Brook Way was not accepted as a public roadway and was classified as a rural access. (3 years, 3 nays: Wilder Cross, Pratt, Shepard / 1 recuse: Hartwell)

The Town Council appointed Jacinda Wilson to the Gorham

Conservation Commission. (7 years)

A workshop date was set for October 19, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. to review the ARPA funds program. Other discussion will focus on department leads information requested for presentations and possible zoning improvements within the Town. (7 years)

Staff was instructed to provide written recommendations back to the Town Council on cost effective ways to reduce litter and improve the overall cleanliness of municipal trails and properties. (7 years)

Town Council voted not to adopt a resolution, which stated that the State of Maine had gone too far by mandating certain employees receive COVID-19 vaccination if they'd like to remain employed.

Many residents reached out via email to show their concern for the resolution and express their disbelief that the Council would even consider putting the resolution on the agenda. The full responses from local doctors and residents can be read online at www.gorham-me.org/node/49/minutes (2 years, 5 nays: Hager, Kuech, Wilder Cross, Pratt, Shepard)

The Town Manager was authorized to enter into a License Agreement with Patio Park, LLC to resolve property line encroachment issues. (7 years)

Town Council entered an executive session to discuss personnel matters. (7 years)

The full meeting minutes can be found at www.gorham-me.org/node/49/minutes



Julie Chandler



Mike Griffin



Peter Mason



Benjamin Taylor

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BUXTON \$249,900 - This hipped roof ranch offers 1170sqft all on one floor with a detached 24x30 garage. Kitchen open to dining and living rooms, hardwood floors throughout all three bedrooms and a full bathroom.



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. 2022sqft with an open concept 1st floor plan.



NEW
GORHAM \$119,900 - This 1.4-acre building lot is ready for your new home. Offers 200' of road frontage on a paved public road w/electricity available along the frontage. There is a drilled well and existing 3-bedroom leach field located on the lot



UNDER CONTRACT
GORHAM \$329,900 - This is a rare find offering a secluded 7.03 acre setting at the end of Chadwick Drive. Solid home with breezeway and 24x24 two car garage. Built in 1989 the interior needs complete updating and cosmetic repairs.



NEW
GORHAM \$120,000 - This 2.58 acre lot offers a gorgeous building site perched up on a knoll overlooking the rolling fields and apple trees. Trees line County Road offering a nice buffer. Survey and DOT driveway permit in place.



NEW
WESTBROOK \$120,000 - New 3BR/2bath short sale being offered in downtown area. Close to shopping & bus line. Needs a complete renovation from roof to foundation. Offering 1400sf & .12 ac lot.



GORHAM \$59,900 - Spacious 2BR/2bath mobile with appliances kitchen, DR, large LR, laundry room, seasonal family room, enclosed porch, oversized storage shed. Excellent 55+ community w/clubhouse, great location.



NEW
GORHAM \$49,900 - Excellent location is this 1968 Parkwood w/ updated kitchen/dining area, newer appliances, spacious extended living room, newer laminate flooring. Well managed 55+ community.



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Virginia Wilder Cross

I am running for a second term because I want to continue my work to make Gorham a happy, healthy, affordable place for families and seniors to live. The business and community connections I brought to the Council have been a benefit to our work over the past three years. In addition, on my first day on the Council, I was appointed to be a member of the Ordinance Committee as well as Gorham's representative to the Metro Regional Greater Portland Council of Governments. Although I didn't realize it then, those appointments provided a direct connection to my goals to make Gorham a good place to live. In addition, as Chair of the Appointments/Personnel Committee I have been fortunate to have connected with hundreds of committed volunteers who are actually the pulse of our community. I want to continue this work because I believe my contributions are making a difference.

What do you see as the major issues for our community and how might they be addressed?

I have focused my efforts on two major issues, both related to making Gorham an affordable community. First, we must expand housing options, so regular people can live and work here. We must also continue efforts to attract businesses to support education and infrastructure costs. For those reasons, I am committed to balancing residential and industrial growth. For Gorham to also be happy and

healthy (my goals), I believe denser, walkable Village areas and public transportation options are key. I am also committed to continuing our work to assure Gorham is a healthy community. The Council reactivated its Board of Health, responded to COVID-19 by being one of the highest vaccinated communities in the State, sponsored opium dependency educational workshops, supported the expansion of countless walking and biking trails, and provided a recreation program for all ages. I am asking people to vote for me so I can continue these efforts.

Philip T. Gagnon Jr.

creation of the facilities committee while on the School Board, advocated for joint collaboration with the Town Council, and await the Facilities Study presentation this fall. An example of how I am a solutions oriented and pragmatic leader; with full support from the School Board, I was able to find a solution during Covid to use the Municipal Building to bring students back to the High School as a campus. As a town, we will continue to grow, which means we need to plan better for that growth. I have emphasized sustainable growth while on the School Board, and feel I can continue to move Gorham forward with my return to the Town Council.

What do you see as the major issues for our community and how might they be addressed?

The challenge for any community is maintaining its unique character, while meeting the needs of an ever-

growing town. Our village centers and commercial areas should be a priority to attract business and diversify our tax base. Gorham is at a crossroads with residential growth, which is straining our capacity within our school system. The need to address and advocate for what Gorham can afford in school expansion, at all levels, should be the primary focus. As a former member of the High School Building committee, I am well positioned to help guide these projects forward. As a former Town Councilor and Chair, I sought committees to expand our Conservation and trail efforts, expansion and improvement of Little Falls fields and Community Center, all while minimizing impact to our property taxes. I continue to believe a tax, no matter how noble its original intent, is still a burden on its citizens.

Lee Pratt

Why are you running for office and how will your experience benefit the Town Council?

I am seeking reelection for Town Council because I love this town. My family has been rooted in this community since 1856. I cherish our community and want it to stay just that: a community. I also run a Gorham-based business and have children in the Gorham school system which gives me a unique perspective when it comes to financial matters. I'm the chair of the industrial park steering committee and would like to see that through to final approval

and lot sales. I also was recently appointed to the Cumberland County finance committee to represent Gorham, which requires an elected official to hold this position. I enjoy working with all the town departments and coming up with solutions to issues that arise in our Town.

What do you see as the major issues for our community and how might they be addressed?

The biggest issue that impacts our town is ratio of residential growth to business growth. We need to make it known Gorham is open and working for our businesses. I have diligently worked with businesses holding meetings during the pandemic, sponsoring items to assist with increased funding options and bringing the economic director from part time to fulltime. Residential growth can also be managed by incentivizing the growth with the least impact to our school system such as 55 plus housing and multiuse buildings where you attract a demographic that has the least impact.

Another issue I have found is citizens feel like their voices aren't heard. Anyone who has ever contacted me has received a reply, usually in the form of a phone call. I believe people deserve the respect of having their questions answered, as that's what elected officials are here for. I believe in open communication with my fellow citizens, appreciate hearing their concerns, and answering questions about things happening around town.

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GFWC GORHAM WOMAN'S CLUB
Domestic Violence Awareness Project



The goal of the GFWC Signature Program is to increase awareness of and help prevent the widespread occurrence of domestic abuse in communities across the nation by working with national domestic violence networks, supporting existing activities, working with various established programs, and initiating educational opportunities for club members and local citizens. GFWC aims to be a powerful voice for those who have no voice.


With this in mind the GFWC Gorham Woman's Club is looking for community assistance to put together **First Night Kits** that can be distributed to our first responders and other appropriate groups to be given to individuals when it is necessary for them to leave their homes to get to a safer place.

We have distributed over 85 kits to date! Thank you all!

We would like to include in the kits: (new items only)
 Colored T-shirt that could be used as a nightshirt (L-3XL)
 Travel Size: toothpaste & toothbrush, soap, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner & tissues
 Socks, large combs & chapstick
 (We would also like to put together kits for children.)

To help – you can drop off donations at the Baxter Memorial Library or call to arrange a pick up. Financial assistance to purchase items is also welcomed.

For more information:
 Gorham Woman's Club
 PO Box 4, Gorham ME 04038
 Nancy 839-7093
GorhamWomansClub@gmail.com



Anne E. Schools

unprecedented pandemic, school shut down, and additional issues that have been extremely challenging. While many decisions have been extremely difficult and divisive, I have always kept the best interest of the students in our district at heart and believe that I have proven that I am important voice in the committee. Most importantly, there are many projects and priorities facing our district that the committee has been working on during my tenure. I know the history of these projects, the people involved, and am familiar with the challenges facing us. I am running for office, because I am confident that my professional background as an attorney as well as my experience on the committee these past three years make me an excellent candidate.

We have a lot of issues facing our community. We are living through a pandemic and facing unprecedented challenges in our schools and community. We need to balance keeping our students healthy and safe, while ensuring that they receive the quality of education that Gorham is known for. We have continuing growth in our community and our facilities are overcrowded, specifically the high school. While facility issues are always challenging, we will need creativity and cooperation to find a suitable solution that will be best for our students and community. We have many programs that I would like to see implemented, but also recognize the financial challenges of a community hit by a pandemic. The challenges ahead of us, will be focused on facilities, student social and emotional needs as we enter into a new normal, and maintaining and even improving the quality of education in Gorham.

Liesl Turner

What do you see as the major issues for our community and how might they be addressed?

Keeping students in school five days and supporting the physical and mental health of all students and staff continues to be very important at this

time. Prior to COVID-19 and looking ahead, I see overcrowding, repairs and expansion as the top issues facing Gorham. Gorham rejected a \$72M proposal for the GHS expansion in 2020 because the cost was too high. Since that decision, building and operational costs continue to rise. We have many difficult (if not heartbreaking) decisions ahead. The School Committee will need to prioritize essentials that maximize resources for students and staff. I'll gladly partner with the Gorham Town Counsel, local businesses, neighboring schools and colleges, and state legislators for more creative solutions. I also see opportunity for students to take online electives and college credit courses as one example of a path to reduce the burden on GHS teachers and classrooms, while protecting our teachers jobs.

Darryl Wright

Together Days Committee, Gorham School District Volunteer, United Way of Greater Portland Volunteer and as a Volunteer with the Nonesuch Service Unit of Girl Scouts. I was recognized by the Portland Regional Chamber of Commerce in 2014 as the Volunteer of the year.

Why are you running for office and how will your experience benefit the School Committee?

I am running for re-election as I want to continue to make a difference in our community. I want to ensure that all students in Gorham have the opportunity for a quality education. I am a firm believer in education and have been involved in several organizations that focus in this area. I will use the knowledge and experience I have gained during my time on the School Committee to move the District forward as we continue to face difficulties regarding the Pandemic, Budget, space constraints and our growing population. I bring a thoughtful approach to the School Committee and the issues we face. I listen to the perspective of others through

our discussion prior to making a decision. I have shown through my leadership roles on the Committee my ability to partner and collaborate with many different stakeholders and I will continue to do so as we address the ongoing challenges we face.

What do you see as the major issues for our community and how might they be addressed?

COVID 19 and the ongoing Pandemic continues to be the biggest issue our students and our community face. As a School Committee, we need to continue to follow what the data shows and make decisions that we feel is in the best interest of all our students. The decisions we have made and need to make in the future are not easy and there is no clear correct answer, but we need to continue to keep our students as our focus. The other major issue the District is facing is in regards to our aging facilities and the lack of space for our growing District. I have participated in several Committees that have looked at these issues and I am optimistic that with the collaboration and partnership between the Town Council and School Committee in initiating the joint Facilities study, we will be able to move our community forward together and address these issues. Once we receive the results of the Facilities study, we will need to think strategically about how we meet the demands of not just our School facilities but the Town facilities as well.

BOOK REVIEW

After the Flood

by **Kassandra Montag**



A hundred years from now the world is almost completely under water, including most major cities.

Myra and her seven-year-old daughter Pearl live on a small boat. Together they fish, trade what they catch for supplies at "dry-land encampments"... and Myra mourns the loss of her oldest daughter, Row, who was taken seven years ago. Myra has spent every day thinking about Row, missing Row, and going through the motions to keep her and Pearl alive.

"You get used to loss like you get used to water. You can't even imagine what it'd feel like to not be with it, not have it all around you."

During a violent encounter, Myra hears that Row's been seen at an encampment near the Arctic Circle. **WHAT? ROW'S ALIVE?**

She may be a proud woman with trust issues, but she's a Momma Bear on a mission who'll do whatever it takes — including working with shady people — to get to the Arctic Circle. Will she make it? Is Row really alive? What about Pearl through all this?

Kassandra Montag has written a vivid, fast-paced, wild-ride story of a bereft woman's love-fueled search for her daughter. Sucking you in completely, *After the Flood* is an unforgettable, heart-tugging read!

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

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Directed by
Jade King Carroll
MEMBER OF SDC

Written by Callie Kimball

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PHOTO OF

Catherine Buxton & Nedra Snipes*

*MEMBER OF AEA

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OF INTEREST

Alexis Landry of Gorham, one of four members of the Maine 4-H dairy team, along with team members Owen Brown of Exeter, Jillian Sawyer of Limington, and Kat Leach of Arundel were welcomed home by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension after they competed in the Eastern States Exposition September 17-18 in Springfield, Massachusetts. Known as the Big E, the annual event draws 4-H members from across the Northeast. The Maine team took first place in the quiz bowl competition, Brown, Landry and Sawyer won first place in the grilled cheese sandwich competition, and Brown and Leach took first place in the extreme milkshake competition using only Maine-made ingredients.

Shawn Moody was one of three panelists at a recent Business and Economic Roundtable in Biddeford hosted by the Republican National Committee to discuss policies that affect local business.

On National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day people of all ages and faith traditions are invited to gather for a special prayer service for the healing from the loss of a child at St. Anne Church, located on 299 Main Street in Gorham, Friday, October 15 at 7 p.m. The service will include singing, readings from Scripture, a ritual of remembrance, and prayers for healing and hope. During the ritual of remembrance, individuals will have an opportunity to light a candle in honor of a child lost. FMI: 839-4857. Please park in the lower lot at St. Anne's.

FIRST Robotics Team 172 is having an Outdoor Bottle and Can Drive to help support the 2021-2022 season for the award-winning team from Gorham and Falmouth! Anyone can bring in bottles in either plain plastic bags or Clynk bags. The team will supply Clynk bags and tags if needed. Saturday, October 23 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Robie Gym, 42 South Street in Gorham. Donations accepted. FMI: firstteam172@gmail.com or visit northernforce.org.

The Gorham Lions Club next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 26 at 6 p.m. at the Old Elmwood School House at 414 South Street. Regular dinner meetings are the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. New members are always welcome. FMI 929-9182.

The dance studio Atlantic Dance Arts will be holding a "Trunk or Treat" event on Saturday, October 30 from 1-2:30 p.m. The studio is located at 29 School St., but the parking lot and entrance are in the back of the building on Cross St.

LIBRARY NEWS

Baxter Memorial Library's "October Story Adventures" are Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. for 3-5yrs, and Wednesdays from 9:30 to 10 a.m. for birth-3yrs. The adult book club meets on Thursdays from 10 – 11 a.m. On the 14th they will be discussing *Waiting for the Night Song* by Julie Carrick Dalton. On Thursday, October 26, join the library's friends and neighbors for a Halloween Parade on the Lawn for birth-5 yrs. FMI baxterlibrary.org or 222-1190.

PUBLIC SUPPERS

There will be a Haddock Supper Buffet on Saturday, October 20 at 5 p.m. at Living Waters Church on Parker Farm Road in Buxton. Suggested donation is \$8 adult, \$4 child, \$20 family. Takeout option available, hand sanitizer available, masks recommended for the unvaccinated.

SENIOR NEWS

Lakes Region Senior Center at 40 Acorn Street in Little Falls is alive and going strong! The Center is open from 9-1 (longer hours can be arranged) every day for coffee/tea and socialization and usually has something going on. Cribbage players, Mahjong players, card players, craft participants, Speakers, occasional field trips, calendar of monthly events and a monthly newsletter are available. FMI call Gerry Day at 839-3859. Meet other seniors and have some fun.

The Lakes Region Senior Center will host an Open House at Little Falls Activity Center, 40 Acorn Street on Monday, October 18 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Drop by to see what the Center offers and listen to the performance of "oldies." Locally renowned Red Gallagher will be performing from 11 to 11:45 a.m., with refreshments, socialization and entertainment with the Center's members and board.

USM NOTES

President Glenn Cummings has announced his decision to step down as president of the University of Southern Maine at the end of June, 2022. He plans to return to the USM faculty. With a long list of accomplishments to his credit, Cummings has served the University for seven years.

USM's Gorham Art Gallery reopens October 14 with Call/Response: Hannah Barnes and Susan Klein. This exhibition explores collaboration across paintings and sculptures by artists Hannah Barnes and Susan Klein, respectively. Opening reception, Thursday, October 14, 5-7 p.m., Gallery Talk by the artists at 5:30 p.m. FMI: 780-5460, usmartgalleries@maine.edu, usm.maine.edu/gallery.

The next faculty concert at the Osher School of Music at USM will be Laura Kargul, piano, "The Classical Embrace of other Lands, Other Cultures on Friday, October 15 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, October 17 at 3 p.m. at Corthell Concert Hall. In-person only. FMI and health policies, call 780-5555, or visit usm.maine.edu/music

CLOSE TO HOME

Steep Falls Village Preserve Grand Opening in Standish will be held on Saturday, October 23 at 1 p.m. The Preserve offers wide meadow views, mature forest, and a scenic wetland and water viewpoint on Tucker Brook. After a short ceremony there will be a walk along the trails with plenty of room to spread out. The event is free but registration is required at www.prlt.org Click on "events."

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H in Orono is again offering a Virtual Exhibit Hall to showcase some of this year's work by Maine 4-H members. The virtual exhibit hall gives members an option to show their work to an expanded audience statewide. The first UMaine Extension 4-H virtual exhibit hall opened in August 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Included in the 2021 exhibits are posters created by 4-H Summer of Science teen leaders, mentored by UMaine Extension 4-H staff, who delivered weekly STEM activities to youth in grades 3-7. FMI, contact 207-581-3877, 800-287-0274, or extension@maine.edu.

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Officer attempted to make contact with a subject on Spruce Lane on behalf of the Rumford Police but the subject was not there. Officer was given information about where the subject might be and the information was passed on to Rumford PD.

Gray Rd. caller was escorted to his apartment to get the keys to his vehicle so he could leave and avoid an altercation. He was escorted and left the scene without incident.

Officer responded to a call of a stray chocolate lab retriever at the veterinary office on State St. Officer picked up the dog which had a very long history of being on the run and returned him to his home.

Instructors of a Zumba class on Libby Ave. were asked to turn the music down as neighbors had been complaining.

Caller reported a bear trap in the road. It was part of a bike rack for a car.

Christopher Rd. caller asked for advice on how to approach a neighbor about the neighbor's large backyard parties. Officers suggested a phone call might be a good start and to let Police know if he was not successful.

Boulder Dr. caller reported receiving phone calls from an unknown male who was threatening her. She was told to ignore future calls.

Caller had several questions about shooting on his property with a shotgun as well as questions about taxes and the Town Office.

Fort Hill Rd. caller reported his vehicle had been stolen or repossessed. He later spoke with his bank, and it had been repossessed.

Male who was yelling and swearing at a Zumba class was warned for harassment.

Parker Hill Rd. caller was having issues with someone cutting down trees near the property line. Caller was advised to have property surveyed and to address the issue after it could be determined where the line was.

Mighty St. caller reported an animal in her yard. Officer checked it out and it was a balloon.

New Portland Rd. callers both claimed harassment. Both of them were culpable for the same behavior. Officer exhausted every effort to get them to work this out to no avail.

Caller reported a pig-sized animal on Ossipee Trail. There was an opossum near the centerline. It was not causing a traffic hazard.

Officer checked on a vehicle parked on Farm Field Rd. (a private road) and operator said he had just stopped to enjoy the view before going to dinner.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

Baxter Memorial Library Book Club, "Waiting for the Night Song" by Julie Carrick Dalton. 10-11 a.m. on the lawn.
 USM Art Gallery opening reception for "Call/Response: Hannah Barnes and Susan Klein," 5-7 p.m. FMI 780-5460.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

St. Anne's Church. Ritual of Remembrance for National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day. 7 p.m.
 Osher School of Music, Laura Kargul, pianist, USM Faculty Concert. \$15/\$10. In-person only. Corthell Hall, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

St. Anne's Church, Rosary Rally, outdoor Mass at 11 a.m., fellowship gathering and lunch at 1 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

Deadline to submit entries for prizes for the October 23 Scarecrow Festival. FMI 222-1635
 Osher School of Music, Laura Kargul, pianist, USM Faculty Concert. \$15/\$10. In-person only, Corthell Hall. 3 p.m.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 18

Lakes Region Senior Center Open House, Little Falls Activity Center, 40 Acorn Street, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19

Baxter Memorial Library, October Story Adventures with Ms. Heidi and Mr. Jeff, 2-5yrs, 10-10:30 a.m. on the lawn.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

Baxter Memorial Library, October story Adventures with Ms. Dani for birth-3yrs. 9:30-10 a.m. on the lawn.
 Living Waters Church Haddock Supper Buffet, Parker Farm Road, Buxton, 5 p.m., \$8/\$4/\$20.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23

Scarecrow Festival, Gazebo next to Baxter Library, 2-4 p.m.
 Steep Falls Village Preserve Grand Opening, 1 p.m. www.prlt.org, click on "events."
 FIRST Robotics Outdoor Bottle and Can Drive, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Robie Gym.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26

Baxter Memorial Library, Halloween Parade on the Lawn (birth-5yrs) and pumpkin judging contest, on the lawn, 10 a.m.
 Gorham Lions Club regular meeting, Old Elmwood School House, 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27

Baxter Memorial Library, October story Adventures with Ms. Dani for birth-3yrs. 9:30-10 a.m. on the lawn.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

"Trunk or Treat" with Atlantic Dance Arts, 1-2:30, Cross Street behind 29 School Street.

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