

Gorham Times

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What's on Your Ballot

Kathy Corbett, Staff Writer



Photo credit: Roger Marchand
Ballot box located at the Municipal Center, 75 South St

At the Nov. 7 election, voters will choose four School Committee members and two members of the Town Council. Profiles of all candidates are on pages 8 and 9 of this issue. Absentee ballots are being sent to registered voters who request them and must be returned by 8 p.m. on election day.

Voters will be asked to approve or reject eight state referendum questions. Summaries of each are drawn from the Maine Secretary of State Election Guide,

Maine Office of the Public Advocate: Pine Tree Power Fact Sheet, and articles from the Portland Press Herald.

Question 1: Do you want to bar some quasi-governmental entities and all consumer-owned electric utilities from taking on more than \$1 billion in debt unless they get statewide voter approval?

This would require approval from a state-wide referendum for Pine Tree Power Company (PTP) proposed by Question 3 to borrow more than \$1B. It is estimated that the purchase price for Central Maine Power (CMP) and Versant Power Company (VPC) would exceed \$6 Billion.

Question 2. Do you want to ban foreign governments and entities that they own, control, or influence from making campaign contributions or financing communications for or against candidates or ballot questions?

If approved, foreign entities must be clearly identified and would be banned from funding public communication on state and national policy. This would apply to any foreign entity. CMP is owned by Avangrid, a Spanish company. VPC is owned by Enmax, a Canadian company. These two companies provide 97% of Maine's electric power. This question is supported

by the groups, Maine Citizens for Clean Elections and Protect Maine Elections.

Question 3. Do you want to create a new power company governed by an elected board to acquire and operate existing for-profit electricity transmission and distribution facilities in Maine?

Pine Tree Power, the proposed new power company, would be a privately-operated, non-profit, consumer-owned utility controlled by a board of 13 voting members, seven of whom would be elected and six appointed by the board. This would be an independent organization with no affiliation with the state.

This board would contract with a non-governmental team to operate the facilities.

PTP would purchase the assets of CMP and VPC, which is estimated to cost somewhere between \$6 Billion and \$13 billion. If a purchase price is not agreed upon, the cost would be determined by the Maine State Court. This could take between 5 -10 years. If the question passes, PTP would be required to provide a five-year plan approved by the Maine Public Utility Commission within 18 months of taking ownership.

Unlike CMP and VPC, PTP would pay no federal or state corporate income tax

but would pay property taxes. PTP would be permitted to finance debt through tax-exempt bonds, which would mean lower debt costs than CMP and VPC. PTP would be an independent non-profit organization with no affiliation with the state and would be subject to rate making and oversight by the Maine Public Utilities Commission.

PTP, like CMP and VPC, would be a distribution company that does not generate power or sell electricity. The assets would primarily be poles, wires, and equipment required to distribute electric power. PTP would be required to retain the CMP and VPC workforce.

Those who support Pine Tree Power and urge a YES vote on Question 3, cite that CMP has a record of poor customer service and electric reliability. They criticize CMP for billing errors that happened several years ago. They believe local control is preferable to ownership by foreign entities. The deputy manager for the PTP campaign said, "CMP and VPC last year took more profit than they paid for all the workforce." Advocates argue that PTP will invest in renewable energy, increase reliability, and improve consumer service. They

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New Matching Grant Program Announced

Gorham Times Staff

The Town of Gorham announced the launch of a new matching grant program aimed at providing a boost to help local businesses and farms grow and expand into new areas of operation with a one-time purchase of a capital item or service. The Capital Expenditure Matching Grant Program provides 50% reimbursement of a capital item, service or site expansion project, up to a maximum award of \$15,000.

The program will award grants to businesses in three distinct sectors using a competitive grant application process. At least one grant will be awarded to a business or farm in each of the following three target sectors: agriculture, manufacturing, and skilled trades, retail and food services. A total of \$45,000 in funding was allocated by the Gorham Town Council for the creation of the new grant program.

The program is made available to businesses and farms currently operating in Gorham on commercial and agricultural property located in the Town of Gorham. Gorham Savings Bank will provide \$10,000 in additional funding as a "Hometown Match" that will go towards meeting the match requirement for one or more grant recipients.

"Gorham Savings Bank is truly pleased to provide this Hometown Match to our community—one in which we've been rooted for more than 150 years," said Becky Winslow, SVP, director of Community Relations at

Gorham Savings Bank. "We are dedicated to being a force for good and work hard to help local businesses thrive, from supporting startups through our LaunchPad small business competition, to contributing to impactful initiatives like this one."

"This is the type of grant program our business community has been asking for," said Gorham Town Council Chairperson Lee Pratt. "The goal is to provide the type of funding they need to make their own decisions on what's best for growing and expanding their business in Gorham."

Designed for a wide range of applicants, eligible uses for grant funding under the program include a single, non-recurring procurement in excess of \$10,000 for durable goods, IT needs or related services, and may include upgrades to building or property that directly benefits business operations. There is no minimum grant amount, however, the primary objective of the program is to support transformative growth in business operations through capital expenditures.

Details about the grant program and how to apply are available on the Town's website or by contacting the Department of Community Development. The deadline for submitting an application is Friday, Nov. 17, 2023.

CONTACT: Kevin Jensen, economic development director, (207) 222-1628, kjensen@gorham.me.us.

A Season of Concert Band Music

John Ersek, Staff Writer



Photo credit: Will Wohler, Wohler & Co.
Casco Bay Wind Symphony performing at McCormack Performing Arts Center.

The fall music season in Gorham is about to be enhanced by four concerts featuring wind ensembles and a concert band, and all feature USM professor Dr. William Kinne as conductor.

The first concert on Dr. Kinne's schedule will be the annual USM outdoor band concert which takes place at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 15, on the lawn next to Corthell Hall. The free concert features performances by university students who are currently taking classes in brass, percussion, and woodwind at USM's Osher School of Music. In keeping with the concert's picnic atmosphere, at around 12:30 p.m. there will be a variety of cook-out style foods for sale, provided by concert sponsor Sodexo. In case of rain, the concert will



be moved into Corthell Concert Hall.

Next on the fall schedule is a concert by the Casco Bay Wind Symphony, a larger grouping of community musicians that began in South Portland over 40 years ago. For many years the group (previously known as the Casco Bay Concert Band) has been based at Gorham High School's McCormack Performing Arts Center, where all their rehearsals and most of their performances take place. Their first concert of the fall takes place on Sunday, Oct. 22, at 2 p.m., and is entitled "Metamorphosis." It features some less familiar music, as well as an interactive exhibit of live insects in the foyer, brought by local entomologists. The program features "Symphonic Metamorphosis" by mid-20th century composer Paul Hindemith, "Rondino" by Ludwig van Beethoven, and "Bugs" by Roger Cichy. Tickets are \$13 in advance and \$15 at the door. Seniors over 65 can pay what they wish. The Wind Symphony has also scheduled a holiday-themed concert for Sunday Dec. 2 at 2 p.m. (same location). FMI: <https://www.cascobaywindsymphony.org/>.

On Friday Oct. 27, Dr. Kinne will conduct performances that are part

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Policy on News from Augusta: The Gorham Times asked our three state legislators from Senate District 30, House District 109 and House District 110 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's 2023 Statewide Referendum Questions: What's on the Ballot

Rep. Jim Boyle, D-Gorham

With the Nov. 7 referendum election just around the corner, Maine voters have an opportunity to weigh in on eight issues that will affect our state's future. I would like to take this opportunity to outline the questions we will be voting on this fall.

The first four are citizen-initiated questions. Citizen initiatives have been enshrined in the Maine Constitution since the early 1900s and have since been used to pass measures like expanding eligibility for health coverage for low-income people through Medicaid, increasing the minimum wage and more. Any registered Maine voter can apply to submit a citizen initiative by drafting the proposed legislation and collecting the required number of verified signatures. The Secretary of State's (SOS) Office is responsible for verifying signatures and certifying the proposal before it can appear on the next statewide ballot.

Here's what's on the ballot: This year, one question in particular has generated significant attention and debate. Question 3 will ask if Mainers want to replace the state's investor-owned utility companies, Central Maine Power and Versant, with the consumer-owned Pine Tree Power Company. Question 1 also relates to this topic. It will ask voters if they want to bar some quasi-governmental entities and all consumer-owned electric utilities from taking on more than \$1 billion in debt unless they get statewide voter approval.

Question 2 looks to limit out-of-state influence in local elections. It will ask if voters want to ban foreign govern-

ments and entities that they control from making campaign contributions or financing communications. This measure passed in the Legislature this session, but failed to garner support from Gov. Mills, who ultimately vetoed the bill, sending it to the people for a vote.

Question 4 will ask voters if they want to require automakers to share repair information with independent car shops. Advocates of the measure, commonly known as "right to repair," believe that it would give consumers more agency and choice in how they handle vehicle repairs so that they do not have to rely solely on the manufacturer to fix a problem.

The next four questions propose changes to the Maine Constitution. These questions were drafted by the Legislature and received bipartisan support.

Question 5 will ask voters if they approve of extending the SOS deadline for processing petition signatures for including a referendum question on the ballot.

Question 6 will ask voters if they want to require that the entire Maine Constitution be included in official printed copies prepared by the SOS. Currently, some parts, typically pertaining to Maine's treaty obligations to native and indigenous people, are left out of official printed copies.

Questions 7 and 8 seek to address constitutionality issues within the state constitution. Federal courts have found the provision in Maine's Constitution requiring the individual circulating a petition for a citizen's initiative or people's veto to be a registered Maine voter and resident to be unconstitutional.

Question 7 will ask voters if they want to remove that provision. Question 8 will ask if voters want to remove another provision of the Maine Constitution that prohibits a person under guardianship due to mental illness from voting for governor, senators and representatives. This too has already been found unconstitutional by federal courts.

These referendum items cover a wide range of issues. Engaging in an informed decision-making process is crucial, and the official website of Maine's Secretary of State, found at <https://www.maine.gov/sos/news/2023/2023ReferendumElectionBallotOrderAnnounced.html>, is an invaluable resource for accessing detailed information, statements and relevant reports on each question.

By taking the time to learn more about these referendum questions, voters have an opportunity to help shape the future of our state. For information about how and where to vote, please visit the Gorham Town Clerk's election and voting website at <https://www.gorham-me.org/town-clerk/pages/election-voting-information> or call the office at 207-222-1670.



Rep. Jim Boyle, D-Gorham, is serving his second term in the Maine House of Representatives and previously served two years in the Maine State Senate. He is a member of the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee. Contact him at Jim.Boyle@legislature.maine.gov.

Letter to the Editor

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

Dear Editor,

I am supporting Charles (Lou) Simms for the Gorham Town Council.

His educational and professional background and forward thinking would be an asset to Gorham. Having experience as a business owner and in assisting the growth of other businesses throughout Maine, he is equipped to foster and develop economic growth within our town.

With a young family and roots in the community, Lou is deeply concerned about Gorham's future. He has a particular focus on supporting our school system, which is an integral part of the community. He has a desire to work through the process, together as a team, to eliminate a lot of the divisiveness we recently suffered during the last budget approval process. Along with the resourcefulness to apply strategies to keep taxes manageable without sacrificing our quality of life. Especially within our schools.

Be sure to vote on Nov. 7 (or early voting starting on Mon, Oct. 23) and please join me in supporting Lou Simms to be elected to the Gorham Town Council.

Margo Badeau, Gorham

Dear Editor,

Physical fitness is one of the best habits you can integrate into your daily life. It helps you sleep and reduce stress by increasing your well-being and mood as it activates endorphins.

Endorphins are hormones released when your body feels pain or stress. Endorphins help alleviate pain and stress and improve mood by activating the brain's opiate receptor. In a "runner's high," endorphins are being used. Once your endorphins come into play you have a runner's high. You feel like you can run forever, your legs feel lighter, and your pain is gone.

Exercise also has sleep health benefits; it can make you feel more tired when getting to bed because exercise takes energy while giving you energy. Try it next time you feel disorganized, stressed, and tired. A workout can leave you feeling like you have all the energy in the world, because your blood is flowing, and endorphins are activated.

Working out has mental health benefits, lowering the risk of depression and anxiety. Studies show it works as well as medication and the effects are present for a prolonged period. People who maintain

a regular exercise routine who experience anxiety and depression can significantly reduce it over time. It's harder to be sad when you are confident in your body and have increased energy and mood. It's harder to have anxiety when you don't care what people think anymore because you've realized no matter what you do someone will judge you for it.

Exercise has a mental toughness benefit. Your brain is like a muscle. You can train it and make it stronger and once you get in shape it's hard to get out of it. Once someone starts waking up early, it's new and uncomfortable, but once they're mentally tough it's just another day. The mentally tough didn't get that way overnight. They spent a long time putting themselves in uncomfortable situations and got comfortable.

Working out brings better sleep health, brain health, cardiovascular health, increased energy, combats anxiety and depression, and makes you stronger mentally. Why wouldn't you do it?

Alex Chase
GHS Senior

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UPCOMING
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October 18
November 1
November 15
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Saito Kitchen Profile

By Patrick and Cindy O'Shea, Staff Writers



Photo credit: John Ersek

Saito Kitchen sign inside the restaurant on School Street

Saito Kitchen, a Japanese and Chinese restaurant, located at 14 School Street, has received a warm welcome to Gorham. Aaron Chen was happy to report that the opening has been fantastic. He said, "The community, including the university crowd, has been incredibly welcoming. We've received positive feedback from our patrons. We are grateful for the support and enthusiasm shown by our customers."

When asked why Gorham was chosen he said, "We chose Gorham as our location due to its vibrant community and our belief that it was the perfect place to share

our passion for Chinese cuisine and sushi with the local residents. We also saw a great opportunity to offer diverse dining experiences in this welcoming town."

When asked how it is that you have both Chinese cuisine and sushi Aaron explained, "Our team has extensive culinary backgrounds, with experience in both Chinese and Japanese cuisines. Our goal was to blend these two rich culinary traditions to create a unique dining experience at Saito Kitchen. This fusion allows us to offer a diverse menu that caters to a wide range of tastes, including gluten-free and vegetarian options. We also have a selection of Thai dishes to add more variety to our offerings."

The restaurant is mostly focused on takeout, but they have a couple of seating spots if you want to dine in. Parking is available behind the restaurant. For convenience you can order ahead on their website. Some of the most popular dishes are: General Tso's Chicken, Asian Fried Rice, Lo Mein Noodle, Pad Thai, Sushi Rolls like the Black Dragon Roll Sexy Girl Roll, Spicy Tuna and California Roll.

There's a New Orthodontist in Town



Photo credit: Roger Marchand

On Tuesday Sept. 26 the Southern Maine Orthodontics office had a ribbon cutting at its new location at 94 Main Street in Gorham. Pictured from left to right are Chris Kelley, Gorham Economic Development Corporation (GEDC) chair; center cutting the ribbon is Chris Murphy, orthodontist; Kevin Jensen, GEDC; Ginny Wilder-Cross, Town Council member; Peter Mason, board member GEDC; and Seven Siegel, Town Council member. In the rear are members of the Southern Maine Orthodontics staff.

Historical Society Update

By John Ersek, Staff Writer

The Gorham Historical Society archives now have a long-term home in the barn at Cherry Hill Farm, near the intersection of Routes 25 and 237. This leased space is owned and maintained by the Shaw Brothers Family Foundation. It is located in the recently reconstructed historic barn that had stood nearby for almost 200 years, near the spot where a self-storage facility is now located.

Since moving to the new location earlier this year, the society has continued to make its extensive collection of historical materials available to students, history researchers, genealogists, and the general public. This collection includes historic town records and other public documents; personal letters; family records; historic photographs; and many other types of artifacts.

Due to lease restrictions, visits to the collection now need to be pre-arranged,

and need to take place at times when the archivist can be present. There is an eventual plan for the archive to once again have regularly scheduled open hours, but so far, a start date has not been determined due to staffing issues.

The Historical Society has recently started having open house events at their new location. They have seen an increased number of people who are interested in learning about the organization, as well as several new members. The society's annual meeting is now planned for 6 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 6, and will take place in the barn at Cherry Hill Farm. It is open to the public, especially those who are interested in learning about joining.

In the meantime, those with questions about the historical society can phone or text its president, Suzanne Phillips, at (207) 523-0682, or archivist Kelly Dearborn, at (207) 831-4220.

North Gorham Library



Photo credit: Cynthia Fullerton

The North Gorham Public Library received a new sign for the building from Jennifer Hagen Dunlop, who closely replicated the one saved from the library building that burned in the early 1970's. Since 1975 when they moved into a new building adjacent to the fire barn at the corner of North Gorham Road and Standish Neck Road, library patrons have come from both Gorham and Standish.

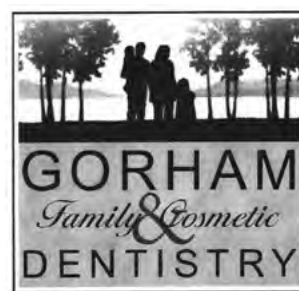
Pictured here are Dunlop, the daughter of Barbara Hagen of Standish, who donated her time to construct the sign from a tree on her New Hampshire property; NGPL librarian Lea Sutton; and Kathy Corbett, president of the library board.

Indigenous Peoples Day in Maine

Maine is one of 17 states that have a holiday honoring Native Americans. On April 26, 2019, Governor Mills signed LD 179, An Act to Replace Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day, into law, which we just celebrated this year on Monday, Oct. 9.

As together we rethink the way that we teach and honor this country's history, and that of our state, please take some time to visit our local libraries, and the Maine State Museum online for educational resources dedicated to Indigenous Peoples Day in Maine for children and adults.

https://mainestatemuseum.org/learn/lessons_resources/indigenous_peoples/



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PT Reports: It's Fall, Don't Fall

Mike Smith, Contributing Writer

No one wants to fall and/or likes to fall. Something unpleasant usually occurs when you do. Many times, a fall leading to injury is just an accident. We misstep on a patch of snow or wet leaves and down we go. Things would go better if we knew how to fall correctly, but most of us do not take classes in falling. People who have been trained in gymnastics or par core when they were younger might fare better because they often know how to fall and avoid serious injury.

The rest of us can learn how to improve our balance and mobility so as to reduce our risk of falling. We can fall at any age. When we are younger, we can bounce back relatively quickly and don't injure ourselves too extensively. Not so as we get older. Our ability to stay upright tends to wane as we age, as we generally have reduced instances in which we are in more athletic positions, thus reducing our brain's ability to keep us upright.

Balance and the ability to stay upright can be related simply to strength of the legs and core. Vestibular input plays a role and is sometimes confused with vertigo. Proprioception which is the brain's connection to our hips, knees and ankles, is also key.

Here are some tips: Stand on one foot and balance yourself-- not too difficult for most of us. Now close your eyes and stand on one foot and you might begin to wobble a bit. This is proprioception, and it is what can diminish or slow down as we age. When we put ourselves in positions of vulnerability as we walk on uneven surfaces, we can increase our chance to fall because our reaction time is slower, especially when we are moving sideways or reaching.

The good news is that proprioception and balance can be improved by practice. Patients can work on balance and mobility in order to reduce their risk of falls. This often includes general strengthening of the legs and core, but also includes using positions that take them out of their comfort zone, mak-

ing their neuromuscular symptoms work harder. Repetition and practice at home will often give the patient more mobility and more confidence to work in the yard or walk on trails.

Proper footwear is essential. What you wear on your feet can make a big difference in terms of taking a tumble or not. A good pair of running or walking shoes is highly recommended. These tend to have the most technology involved in their design, making it possible to find the correct supportive sneaker that best works for an individual.

There are other physical factors that will negatively impact your proprioception like peripheral neuropathy, or numbness caused by loss of nerves. This can be either from an unknown cause or idiopathic, but the most common form is from diabetes. People with this issue can have balance problems and the neuromuscular system is affected by reduced blood flow to the foot and ankle. These individuals need to work on balance training. Even though neuropathy cannot be reversed, strategies can be learned to help reduce their chance of falling.

Remember, if you fall or are having difficulty with maintaining balance and feel unsteady there are ways to help reduce your risk of falling. Discuss it with your family doctor or make an appointment with a local physical therapist. Everyone wants to keep moving and staying active in a safe manner.



Mike Smith is a physical therapist and athletic trainer and owner of Village Physical Therapy in Gorham.

Gorham.

Take Care to Avoid Mosquitos

Gorham Times Staff

The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) announced that mosquitoes from the York County town of Lebanon have tested positive for Eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEE). These are the first mosquitoes in Maine to test positive for EEE since 2019, when a horse also tested positive. The last human case of EEE in Maine was in 2015.

Presumed positive EEE results were also found in three non-commercial farm animals that died in Piscataquis County, north of Bangor. No known human cases of any locally acquired mosquito-borne illnesses have occurred in Maine this year.

While some people may not exhibit symptoms from EEE, others may experience fever and flu-like illness. Severe symptoms can also occur, in-

cluding encephalitis (brain swelling), and meningitis. In some cases, EEE is fatal. If you experience any symptoms, call a health care provider right away.

Horses are also sensitive to mosquito-borne diseases and can be vaccinated for EEE and WNV. Symptoms of these diseases in horses include fever, weakness, and lack of coordination.

Take these simple steps to avoid exposure to EEE and other mosquito borne diseases. Wear long sleeves and long pants. Use an EPA-approved repellent on skin and clothes. Take extra precautions at dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active. Use screens on windows and doors. Drain artificial sources of standing water around the home where mosquitoes can lay eggs, such as bird baths, wheelbarrows, plant pots, and pet water dishes.

Meet Your Neighbors Born Almost a Century Apart

By Chris Crawford, Staff Writer



Photo credit: Roger Marchand

Chuck Barr cradles his next door neighbor, newborn Taighe Foster, who was born on Barr's 95th birthday on September 21, 2023

Two neighbors in Gorham share way more than a property line. Living adjacent to one another on Church Street, they also happen to share a birthday, separated by 95 years.

Chuck Barr, a long-time Gorham resident and pillar of the community, celebrated his 95th birthday on Sept. 21, 2023, while his newest next-door neighbor, Taighe Foster, was born on that same day, just weeks ago.

True to his Irish heritage, baby Taighe appears to be sturdy and good natured like his dad, Keith, and shares his copper hair with his mom, Emily. Weighing 10 lbs 4 oz. and over 22 inches long, Taighe will soon be able to hold his own with his two older

brothers, Ronan and Ivan aged 4 and 2.

Chuck Barr has lived in the same house for over 60 years, and now shares the home with his son, Jim and daughter-in-law, Cindy. The two families have become great friends and they all agree that they couldn't ask for nicer neighbors.

One hopes that Taighe will live a life as full and interesting as Chuck Barr's. At age 95, he is sharp, has a great, warm smile and a wicked sense of humor. To coin a phrase from Dr. Seuss, "Oh, the places he'll go"...and "oh, the places he's been."

Chuck is a former engineer at S. D. Warren. An avid skier, in his own words, he never met a mountain he didn't want to ski. He continued sailing into his 90's, rode motorcycles, flew helicopters and fixed-wing planes. He once made a wintertime Coast Guard helicopter recovery of two hikers on Mt. Katahdin. He has travelled up and down the Amazon River. A Korean War Vet, he also served as a Volunteer Gorham Rescue team member. This is just a smattering of his life adventures, because Chuck didn't want this article to be all about him.

Most importantly, baby Taighe and Chuck both seemed to greatly enjoy the snuggle, hopefully the first of many with their co-birthday next door neighbor.

Tomato Mix-up

- 5 or 6 large tomatoes (yellow and red), sliced
- 1 container of cherry or grape tomatoes
- 1 pack of fresh mozzarella, cut into bite size cubes
- 4 tablespoons basil, chopped (I like to add more)
- 2 tablespoons mint, chopped
- Salt & Pepper
- 4 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 tablespoon seasoned rice wine vinegar

Mix tomatoes, fresh mozzarella, and cherry tomatoes (you can leave whole). Salt and pepper generously. Place artfully on a plate. Mix remaining in ingredients and toss gently. Place artfully on a plate.

Questions about the recipes can be e-mailed to Barbara Schneider at btsme21@gmail.com

CryptoVerse by A. Logophile

TRSLCY LETL CVLJPVPO CSP JEXEAT VLP GSPCY,

HRKS OBRSVO LCXP CJJ - YCEAP VRB VPA VPCYO.

DRVL ORNNPSO, HEPJG LRNMPZ CAG XRJJPZDCJJ

PWNPJ.

MPPB EV KB SCYO, ZRK'SP GREAT IKEVP FPJJ.

CLUE: T = G

SOLUTION ON PAGE 15

MUNICIPAL

Grand Jury Indictments Sept. 2023

Sheri Faber, Staff Writer

John Conley, 70, of Naples was indicted on charges of operating after license revocation, violating conditions of release and operating after license suspension.

Ernest Diggins, 49, of Gorham was indicted on charges of theft by unauthorized taking, receiving stolen

property, and misuse of identification.

Heidi Sanborn, 43, of Gorham was indicted on charges of theft by unauthorized taking.

Crystal Townsend, 43, of Scarborough was indicted on charges of theft by unauthorized taking and violating conditions of release.

Gorham Police Reports

Chief Chris Sanborn, Chief of Police

On Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 3, the Gorham Police Department issued a silver alert for a 78-year-old woman, Jean Robinson, who suffered from dementia and paranoia. Maine

State Police notified the Gorham Police Department that she had died as the result of a motor vehicle crash on the Maine Turnpike at 2:50 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 4.

2024 Dog Registration Opens Oct. 15

Paula Nystrom, Deputy Town Clerk

Gorham residents can register their dogs for 2024 beginning Sunday, Oct. 15. Current licenses for 2023 expire on Dec. 31, 2023. Find online registration at <https://www.gorham-ME.org>, or visit the Town Clerk's Office at 75 South Street, Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Fridays. Bring your dog's current rabies certificate and proof of spaying

or neutering, if applicable, with you.

Dogs may be licensed at the Town Clerk's office or licenses may be done online as long as they are not late. The Animal Control Officer will be notified of all unlicensed dogs and owners could be fined for keeping an unlicensed dog. FMI: (207) 222-1670, and to be added to the reminder list.

Town Council Report

Sheri Faber, Staff Writer

At the Town Council meeting of Oct. 3, four people voiced their opinion that the tax increase due to the school budget is a burden to taxpayers. One person questioned the Council on their leadership to the Town and would like to see a plan for the future.

Councilor Siegal advised there is a community compost bin by the pickleball court on Main Street as well as a clothes donation bin in the parking lot at Ace Hardware and urged residents to use them.

Councilor Gagnon advised that there was to be a big reveal of what the Robie Park Steering committee had been working on all year.

Councilor Phillips reported that Baxter Library would hold a scarecrow event on Oct. 21 and that many trick or treat events are happening around town.

Chairman Pratt reminded residents to donate blood and to vote on Nov. 7.

Town Manger Paraschak reported pedestrian and traffic improvements on Main and South Street will begin shortly. Fall Brush Drop Off Date is Oct. 21 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Economic Development grants are now available for eligible businesses. Gorham Police Department will host the Citizen's Police Academy on Wednesday evenings. He also recognized Angela Fall, Administrative Assistant for Code, who is retiring this month for her many years of service.

The Council voted 6-0 to renew medical marijuana licenses for Nicholas Wilson,

Forest City Organics and to issue a renewal liquor license to Make Dough, LLC doing business as Otto's Pizza; to issue a large outdoor Event license to Daniel Walker for an event at Raceway Drive on Oct. 28.

Voted 6-0 to renew the auto graveyard permits to Steve Luce, LKQ Corp; Gorham Auto, Casco Federal Credit Union; Gary Nelson, Chet's Auto Sales; Reichart's Auto Body; Moody's co-worker owned; John Dumbrocyo, Dumbo Enterprises.

Public Hearing to comment on a proposal to amend the Fire Suppression Systems Ordinance sections on accessory apartments was defeated 2-4 (Shepard, Pratt, Phillips, Gagnon).

The Animal Control Ordinance vote was tabled and sent back to the Ordinance Committee.

The Council authorized the Town Manager to list 2.25 acres of acquired property at 155 Dow Road with a realtor.

The Council voted 6-0 to authorize staff to review creating an additional Town Committee to assist with current and future community needs

The council voted 6-0 to authorize staff to work with the Gorham Lions Club to place a bench at Fort Hill Park; and thanked the members of the Gorham Lions Club past and present for their volunteerism in the community.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

PLANT IT FORWARD Daffodils for Gorham

By Lucia Monaco Holloway, GHS Student Intern



Photo credit: Linda Faatz

Daffodils around the lamp post

This year is the first year of the "Plant it Forward" daffodil program with plans to continue for years to come. The "Plant it Forward" initiative is a program that plans to welcome Spring in Gorham by planting daffodils throughout the community. The program's goal is to create a beautiful display of daffodil flowers in as many Gorham locations as possible as a joy to residents and visitors. This community program is managed by Glenys Sayward and gardener, Linda Faatz.

Starting Saturday, Oct. 14, Giant Yellow Dutch Master Narcissus bulbs can be purchased at the local Gorham Farmers Market. These bulbs will be sold in bundles of 10 for \$5 and 100 for \$40. These bulbs will be planted

this year just before the first frost to give the bulbs time to chill in the soil before springtime for their best bloom.

Businesses, residential, public, and other organizations can participate in this community beautification. Co-manager Linda Faatz is known to have a pronounced knowledge and great love of flowers and gardening. Linda's knowledge of flowers led her to choose the hardy daffodil for this program as it has a natural beauty and early blooming pattern. Co-manager Glenys Sayward became interested in the daffodil while touring in the United Kingdom. The show-stopping hillside display at the Laurel Hill Cemetery also encouraged Glenys' interest in beginning the "Plant it Forward" program as a beautiful gift to the Gorham community.

All Gorham businesses and neighborhoods are greatly encouraged to participate in the planting and involve their workers and resources in the process. Bulb planting will be managed and done by volunteers in public locations. Currently, there are plans underway to plant daffodils at the base of the flag pole at Fort Hill, right by the "Welcome to Gorham" sign in order to welcome residents and visitors to the community.

The "Plant it Forward" program is a great way to move into winter, knowing how exciting it will be to see your own flowers planted around Gorham in the Spring. For more information, please contact Glenys Sayward at (207) 756-2309 saywardglenys@gmail.com or Linda Faatz at (207) 839-6252 lfaatz@maine.rr.com.

Band Music

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of the Osher School of Music Faculty Concert Series. This concert features Igor Stravinsky's "Octet for Winds," an early 20th Century neoclassical work.

Later in the program, the Faculty Wind Ensemble will perform premieres of new works by contemporary composers, USM faculty members Daniel Sonenberg and Hans Spencer, featuring the same unique instrumentation that Stravinsky chose for his octet.

The concert takes place at 7:30 p.m. in Corthell Concert Hall. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for students and seniors.

Sunday Oct. 29 is Brass Day at the School of Music. At 2 p.m. there will be a free faculty recital featuring guest trombonist Gabe Rice. FMI: <https://usm.maine.edu/osher-school-music/events>.



Photo credit: Lori Arsenault

Conductor Will Kinne speaks to the audience



Photo credit: Lori Arsenault

Osher Concert Band to perform the Outdoor Band Concert at Corthell Hall on Sunday, Oct. 15 at 1 p.m.

SCHOOL

Great Falls Teachers Complete Maine Marathon Relay

By Chris Crawford, Staff Writer



Photo credit: Barbara Quinn-Gagnon, GHS Administrative Assistant

This is the second year that the Great Falls relay team has participated in the Maine Marathon Relay. This year the educators ran in memory of Kim Kelly-Brewster's brother who passed away this past summer.

Pictured, First Grade Teacher Heather Dupuis, School Resource Officer Todd Gagnon, Third Grade Teacher Kim Kelly-Brewster, and Special Education Teacher Will York

Village School Focuses on Strengths with the New BARR Program

By Lexie Caddell, Village School Educational Technician



Photo credit: Lexie Caddell

Village School Teachers participate in a staff development activity about BARR.

Village School is excited about BARR- Building Assets, Reducing Risk. The school was lucky to receive a grant from the State of Maine to bring this program to Village School. BARR is an evidence-based model

that offers the school a comprehensive approach to address the academic, social, and emotional needs of every student. With this grant, the staff will have access to ongoing professional development focused on academic achievement and data analysis to support the whole child. Plus, all the classrooms will be involved in U-Time lessons.

U-Time lessons are multifaceted lessons that will take place once a week, where teachers will guide students in activities meant to strengthen relationships between peers and between students and staff.

Together, Village School will explore important topics like building community, stress management, bullying prevention, and communication skills. It promises to be an incredible opportunity for growth and learning for all.



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Google: "Massive Gorham Development"

Please attend the special Gorham Planning Board meeting on Monday, Oct. 16 at 7 p.m. at the Municipal Building to make your voices heard. The only item on the agenda for this meeting will be the proposed 391-home Robie Street Development project – and public comments will be taken. We residents can't afford this!



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Town Council Candidates

Candidate's official name and address, employment, education, and personal information:

James Hager Jr., 13 Newton Drive Retired project manager



Graduated from Don Bosco Technical High School, Boston – Mechanical Drafting major. Attended Northeastern University, Boston, and Wake Technical College, Raleigh. Married

How long have you lived in Gorham? 32 years

Why are you running for Town Council?

I served on the Town Council from 2017 to 2022. I didn't seek re-election in 2022 due to work obligations that required me to travel frequently to Ontario, Palatka FL and Monterrey Mexico. I retired in May and now able to fulfill the obligation and dedicate the time needed.

How can the Town Council and School Committee balance the needs of the schools with those of the taxpayers?

The Town Council relies on the School Committee to develop a responsible budget that meets the needs of the staff, students, and facilities. The Town Council has to balance the needs of the community, its infrastructure, and the ability to pay while considering the cost of living for all residents.

Beyond increasing commercial development, how can the Town Council manage residential growth?

The demographics of Gorham are changing quickly. As the community ages, landowners are trying to balance the cost of inflation and local tax increases. Selling their property to developers is their right. We need to be prepared to absorb growth with best practices using the Land Use and Development Code.

Candidate's official name and address, employment, education, and personal information:

George L. Vercelli; 2 Brookfield Ct. Gorham, Maine 04038; retired; BS in Civil Engineering & MS in Civil/Sanitary Engineering. I have 2 sons, one daughter-in-law and one grandson (10 yrs old).



How long have you lived in Gorham?

I have lived in Gorham since 2003.

Why are you running for Town Council?

Home prices, mortgage rates, and property taxes have made it significantly difficult for younger families to buy a home and older residents to remain in their homes. I have the time to dedicate and skills to address these issues, effectively carry out the duties of Town Council and support the community.

Candidate's official name and address, employment, education, and personal information:

Suzanne Phillips, Harding Bridge Rd Married Gorham High graduate '94 BA



in Art/Education from USM Business Coordinator at The Hop Yard Gorham Historical Society President Enjoy drawing, gardening, cooking, reading.

How long have you lived in Gorham? 39 years

Why are you running for Town Council?

I love Gorham's rich history and its agricultural roots, something I strive to protect and celebrate. We are a growing community, and we need to manage how we grow. As an active member of this wonderful community, I want to continue to serve the people of Gorham.

How can the Town Council and School Committee balance the needs of the schools with those of the taxpayers?

I planned that the Town Council and the School Committee will meet this fall to discuss budgeting ideas. There are projects we can do together, and we can find efficiencies with staff. I would like to collaborate on budgets rather than be separated. Both groups have a responsibility to the residents.

Beyond increasing commercial development, how can the Town Council manage residential growth?

In recent years, I have brought forward several changes to better manage our increasing population, such as the rate of growth ordinance, increased phasing of subdivisions. I realize we have a housing shortage, but I need to make decisions based on what is best for the current residents of Gorham.

How can the Town Council and School Committee balance the needs of the schools with those of the taxpayers?

They must work together to determine if there are: lower cost options, such as some online classes for 12th and maybe 11th graders to free up classroom space; areas of overlapping expenditures; possibilities to use some of USM's classrooms; benefits to increasing impact fees for school specific needs.

Beyond increasing commercial development, how can the Town Council manage residential growth?

The State ended "single-family-only" home zones, which requires allowing accessory dwelling units, making growth management even more difficult. The 2023/24 budget includes: Comprehensive Plan Update, Main Street Master Plan Update and an Open Space Study. The Council must take this opportunity to use these documents to manage growth.

Candidate's official name and address, employment, education, and personal information:

Lou Simms, Senior Investment Officer, Maine Technology Institute



(since 2015) Master's, Resource Management, UNH (2014) USM Undergrad (2009) My wife is a Gorham grad and our son just started Kindergarten at Village!

How long have you lived in Gorham? Since June 2020 - and I've

been nearby since enrolling at USM in 2006

Why are you running for Town Council?

I was alarmed by this Summer's budget battle, and determined that we can do better: for our kids and our town. Our leaders must work together to address the challenges confronting our community. I may be new to Gorham politics, but can offer a fresh perspective to deliver effective compromise.

How can the Town Council and School Committee balance the needs of the schools with those of the taxpayers?

To offset increasing operating costs, we must collaborate to ensure efficient spending, generate new revenues, and find smart savings. TC and SC should work together to develop creative solutions, instead of playing politics with budget standoffs. Improved transparency for taxpayers and better communications to bridge the gaps in our community.

Beyond increasing commercial development, how can the Town Council manage residential growth?

Further collaborations with regional partners and community groups to bolster support for local farmers and increase incentives for landowners to preserve Gorham's open spaces for generations to come. Thoughtful zoning ordinances and selectively funding (or withholding) costly build out of public water/sewer infrastructure can influence the march of development.

Candidate's official name and address, employment, education, and personal information:

Chris Kelley, 17 Freedom Dr, Sales Representative,



BS Business Finance, University of Maine - Orono, married, two children, Gorham Economic Development Corporation Board Chair

How long have you lived in Gorham? 10 years

Why are you running for Town Council?

I want to see Gorham continue to be a great place to live, work and play. Bringing fresh ideas and new perspectives I believe will be positive for the council.

How can the Town Council and School Committee balance the needs of the schools with those of the taxpayers?

Communication is critical, not only between town council and school committee, but also communicating to the citizens more effectively. We need to work together to manage expenses, but also grow the tax revenue to meet the growing needs of the schools.

Beyond increasing commercial development, how can the Town Council manage residential growth?

The number of residential building permits issued has decreased over the past three years. Large projects are required to be phased in with caps on the numbers of units allowed to be built. That said, rezoning land and performance standards should be revisited as part of reviewing the master plan.



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School Committee Candidates

Candidate's official name and address, employment, education, and personal information:

Mia DeSanctis, 139 Quincy Drive. Currently employed @ Sullivan House Bakery; past employment at Gorham School Department. 1987-High School graduate. Married with son and 3 pets.



How long have you lived in Gorham? 18 years

Why are you running for School Committee?

I'm passionate about fostering students' success in their journey through adolescence and young adulthood. My combined experience as a student, parent, prior school department employee and community member provides me with a valuable and unique perspective on the needs of the schools and community.

How can the Town Council and School Committee balance the needs of the schools with those of the taxpayers?

Not an easy question for sure. It is important to keep Gorham desirable for every community member. Start by working together having open-minded, honest discussions prioritizing needs vs. wants for both entities. Remember that they may be separate entities but are not opposing groups...we are one Gorham.

What is the major issue facing the schools today, and how can it be addressed?

Resource allocation. Simplify...stop taking on more initiatives. Allow teachers to concentrate on teaching. Less meetings for all staff; keep administrators in their buildings. Provide students and staff with the tools they need (physical, emotional, intellectual, etc.) to be successful.

Candidate's official name and address, employment, education, and personal information:

Michelle Littlefield, 15 Burton Dr, is a technology consultant. Michelle has a bachelor's from the University of Maine and an MBA from SNHU. She has two children in Gorham Schools.



How long have you lived in Gorham? I grew up in Scarborough, lived in Gorham over 10 years.

Why are you running for School Committee?

I volunteered in Gorham Schools last year and have seen the joys and challenges our educators face. Gorham is an amazing town, our schools a big reason why people choose to live here. We need creative ideas to support town growth and keep student outcomes in mind as we evolve.

How can the Town Council and School Committee balance the needs of the schools with those of the taxpayers?

These bodies need to work together toward solutions, namely identifying ways to increase revenue and shift burden off residential. We must also identify and eliminate real waste across the town and school budgets. Our budget process needs more clarity and transparency, more resident participation, and we need data-driven, creative solutions.

What is the major issue facing the schools today, and how can it be addressed?

Beyond growth/budget challenges already discussed, we need to be weary of educator burnout. To achieve student outcomes, we need to retain the best teachers. Gorham has some of the best educators and has been awarded as a great place to work. We must keep it a great place to work!

Candidate's official name and address, employment, education, and personal information:

Sarah B. Perkins, Bridle Path Way, Executive Vice President/COO at TruChoice Credit Union Graduate of UMaine at Orono Lifelong Maine resident and mother of two Gorham school students



How long have you lived in Gorham? 6 years

Why are you running for School Committee?

I'm seeking re-election to continue serving our community. I believe that a strong and vibrant school system translates into a strong and vibrant community. I hope to use the knowledge I've gained serving on numerous committees and as School Committee Chairperson to benefit our children and our entire community.

How can the Town Council and School Committee balance the needs of the schools with those of the taxpayers?

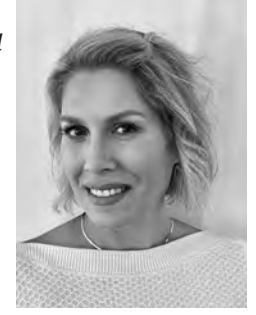
It will take much more than cutting expenses to ensure a fiscally sustainable future for Gorham. We need to focus on attracting more businesses and exploring new ideas to increase revenue beyond residential property taxes. Collaboration has already begun on this and I'm passionate about seeing it through.

What is the major issue facing the schools today, and how can it be addressed?

The major issue is how to balance the many issues facing our schools- student needs, increasing costs, aging facilities, retaining staff... These issues cannot be solved by any one group. Only together can we balance the needs of our children and taxpayers so everyone has a future in Gorham.

Candidate's official name and address, employment, education, and personal information:

Nicole Yeo-Fisher, 68 Little River, Dr. Manager of Clinical Education at HealthInfoNet.



I received a BSW and MSW from UMO and have an LCSW. Two children at Narragansett Elementary

How long have you lived in Gorham? 9 years

Why are you running for School Committee?

I'm passionate that every child deserves the very best education. As a parent and community member, I have seen challenges facing families and educators in providing the best education for students. I'm committed to working with parents, administrators, educators, and our community to ensure that Gorham's schools thrive.

How can the Town Council and School Committee balance the needs of the schools with those of the taxpayers?

We need transparency in the budgeting process. We need our teachers and students to feel supported. Encourage communication and collaboration between the TC and SC to find common ground and shared objectives. Explore opportunities for additional funding through partnerships or alternative revenue sources to reduce the burden on taxpayers.

What is the major issue facing the schools today, and how can it be addressed?

Mental health and wellness issues are impacting our students, teachers/staff. We need to involve parents and caregivers, offer resources and workshops. Strengthen relationships with our local mental health organizations. Provide training to teachers/staff that includes trauma informed teaching practices. Create a supportive network for teachers/staff to share ideas.

What's On Your Ballot CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

say Maine needs a new grid designed for connections to renewable power and that non-profits can raise the capital necessary to adapt to climate change by using tax-exempt status to borrow money cheaper. They would also have the potential to generate clean energy like wind power.

The Maine State Nurses Association supports Question 3 because Maine leads the nation in power outages. Power reliability, they say, "is a matter of public health."

Those who support a NO vote on the referendum argue that there is uncertainty of the long-term benefits of PTP, as well as the initial cost. They also believe that because neither CMP nor VCP want to sell, there would be a long, eminent domain battle and the selling price could be as high as \$13 billion. If PTP acquires the facilities, the cost of hiring a private company to run the operation would be \$80 million and improvements to the existing grid would also be costly.

They say Maine's outage record is affected by falling trees that cause 97% of outages, and that won't change with new ownership. There is concern that because board members are elected, there could be political influence.

The AFL-CIO and the Brotherhood

of Electric Workers are opposed to PTP because they are concerned about the debt the new company would incur. Although PTP would be required to hire them, workers are concerned that they might be considered public employees without the right to strike.

Governor Janet Mills does not support Question 3, citing uncertainty about the long-term benefits of PTP, as well as the initial cost. William Harwood, the non-partisan Maine Public Advocate, has refused to either endorse or oppose Question 3.

In a report available on-line, he concluded "It is not possible to predict with certainty whether the quality of utility service would improve or deteriorate" or that "a private third-party operator would provide better service compared to the existing utilities." He said he could not predict with certainty that PTP and the operator they hired would be more responsible for meeting climate goals than CMP since energy generation would not be controlled by either.

He concluded that ownership by PTP would likely raise rates in the short-term due to financing, but that rates would be lower later due to lower financing costs and tax advantages.

Question 4. Do you want to require

vehicle manufacturers to standardize on-board diagnostic systems and provide remote access to these systems and mechanical data to owners and independent repair facilities?

Known as "Right to Repair," this bill affects independent automobile service facilities, including Carter's Auto Service in Gorham, who believe there should be a standardized open-access platform that would provide independent technicians the information they need to service automobiles. Currently manufacturers use wireless data to transmit information that auto shops cannot access. If the bill passes, the state would establish an oversight board that would prohibit resetting security-related electronic elements. Estimates are that if approved, there could be years of legal battles over its provisions.

Those who support the bill fear manufacturers could communicate directly to vehicle owners and direct them only to dealers and other authorized repair shops. They say owners of newer model vehicles would have to get their service from a dealer. Automobile repair shops believe they would not have information necessary for serving their customers.

Those who oppose argue that agreements

are already in place to provide vehicle owners with a competitive repair market. Information about a car is already sent to an authorized agent, who can tell the owner if the car needs service or not, although they believe new technology may be too sophisticated for some auto mechanics. They say that shutting out independent auto shops is not the purpose of their objection, but that the bill is too vague and could lead to security problems.

Questions 5, 6, 7, and 8

These four questions ask voters to approve Maine constitutional amendments. They have been proposed by two-thirds of the Legislature and have no opposition recorded with the Secretary of State.

Question 5 lengthens the time for judicial review of a written petition.

Question 6 requires all provisions of the Constitution be included in the Official Printing.

Question 7 removes the requirement for people circulating citizen's initiative or people's veto petitions to be registered Maine voters, a requirement ruled unconstitutional in federal court.

Question 8 approves an amendment to the Maine Constitution to allow persons under guardianship for mental illness to vote.



Photo credit: Adam Parvanta, GHS Technology Integrator

GHS Alumni Cody Elliot '16 (Head Varsity Coach) and Jackson Fother '17 (Assistant Varsity Coach) for the Bonny Eagle Scots, pictured on senior night. The Scots went on to beat Marshwood 1-0, scoring in the last seconds of regulation on Oct. 3.



Photo credit: Katie Brown

GHS Varsity Soccer v. Scarborough in action. Saturday, Sept. 30 was a showdown between two of the best teams ranked in the nation for high school programs. Scarborough edged the Rams, scoring on a direct kick. These two teams will be sure to see one another in playoff action.

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Dance Studio of Maine

GHS Staff/Player Appreciation Game 2023

By Katie Brown, Sports Editor



Photo credit: Gabe Michaud

Adam Parvanta with player Izak Young

Every year the Gorham Football Program designates one home game

to recognize staff who have made an impact on their educational experience throughout the years. The Staff/Player Appreciation Night has become a tradition since Coach Morrison took over the program.

This year was no exception. On Sept. 29 the senior players handed jerseys to their "staff picks." A team photo was taken prior to the start of the game v. Westbrook. Individual photos were taken during the school day and pregame. This unique tradition is a treasure for the GHS community.



Photo credit: Tim Spear, Athletic Director

Stacey Taylor with player Kaidan Leng



Photo credit: Becky Manson

Sarah Drury with player Caden Smith



Photo credit: Tim Spear, Athletic Director

Pregame Group Photo

Parking at USM

Lori Arsenault, Managing Editor

The University of Southern Maine community is currently grappling with the new "Pay by Plate" parking policies on the Gorham and Portland campuses in a way consistent with academic rigor and a commitment to free speech. With lively input from various constituents, Parking Services continues to consider the impact of the new parking system on faculty, staff, students, and visitors.

As a response, Justin Swift, chief business officer at USM, told the Gorham Times, "USM is committed to listening to and including the campus community in parking policies. This month a Parking Committee will be seated with membership representative of various areas of the campus.

This Committee will serve in an advisory role with a directive to identify parking related concerns, recommend policies, and present recommendations to the chief business officer and campus leadership for final review and approval. Additionally, the Committee will have a role in addressing the financial viability of the parking operation."

More information about the Parking Committee, parking policies, and related information will be available at <https://usm.maine.edu/parking-services/>. The web site will be updated as necessary.

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Gardening Pleasures: The Sights and Sounds of Wind

Linda Treworgy Faatz, Contributing Writer

“Who has seen the wind? Neither I nor you: But when the leaves hang trembling, the wind is passing through.” Christina Rossetti

Although a strong wind can be very destructive, a blustery fall day in the garden refreshes my vision. It is a head-clearing of sorts; a recipe for observing the movement of air through the spent flower heads. The feathery seeds that are about to pop from their pods will lazily move through the air to find a new resting place. Springtime will find the new seedlings coming up in places initially hidden from view.

Make note of those seeds to watch out for next year. One nemesis is the crab grass plant. When hit by frost, the mother plant will be gone but next year all those seeds will plant themselves in unwanted places. May is the time one must use pre-emergent seed deterrent to keep new plants at bay.

Seeds of the bright orange poppy have moved with the wind to next year's home while bees hang on to swaying beebalm flowers for the remaining nectar. Knowing that lots of insects

winter over in dried pods, be sure to keep some for their winter home.

The tall stems of the dried grasses sway in rhythm with the wind. They will also add cold season interest, peeking through the snow. This off-season interest is why it's good to wait to cut tall grasses until spring. The remaining white hydrangea blossoms fall like snow now. They hang on in shades of brown to add to the winter landscape. The red delicious apples from the gnarled untended tree at the edge of the perennial bed get tossed here and there by the wind. The deer will soon find them.

The Aspen leaves hang on and chatter in the wind. Old evergreen needles fall to the ground to add to the decomposing earth. The new transplanted seedling trees bend slightly with the air movement, undoubtedly strengthening them as they mature.

Seeds that blow off my large Japanese maples root easily in soft soil. How can I help but transplant them into a raised bed for future landscaping. White birches add such a visual interest to the garden but branches

large and small succumb to the yearly winds as they snap from the trees.

The sound of the wind through the maple trees is quietly soothing. A strong wind will whistle an almost musical tune through the allay of trees. That whistling wind will surely send an unsecured birds' nest to the ground. The occasional gust of wind suddenly quiets the birds' cheerful songs.

In this fall season while the air is crisp and cool and change is in the air I hope you can find a quiet outdoor space where you can spend some time enjoying the phenomena of the wind.



Linda Treworgy Faatz, a passionate gardener for many years, lives in her family home at

Friend's Corner and cares for the extensive Treworgy gardens through craft sales, classes, and garden events.

Town Council Report

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

The Council voted 6-0 to authorize the Town Manager to work with the School Superintendent on establishing a joint Fiscal Sustainability Committee that will evaluate the future financial landscape, and to use this knowledge to make recommendations for how to maintain sustainable taxes while continuing to manage the present and future growth of our community over the next 5-10 years.

The Council voted 6-0 that the Town Council instructs the Ordinance Committee to work with staff to review and propose public utility impact fee(s) for the purposes of expanding sewer and water availability in the Town of Gorham where extensions are possible.

The Council voted 6-0 that the Town Council enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA §405(6) (C) for discussion or consideration of the condition, acquisition or the use of real or personal property permanently attached to real property or interests therein or disposition of publicly held property or economic development only if premature disclosures of the information would prejudice the competitive or bargaining position of the body or agency.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32. The full minutes of the meeting can be found at <https://gorham-me.org>.

BE INFORMED THIS ELECTION SEASON!

Meet the Candidates for Town Council and School Committee on **October 18, 6 pm**

Join us for Understanding the Maine Referendum Ballot on **October 19, 6 pm**

Baxter MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Mon. 9-4 Thurs. 9-7
Tues. 9-7 Fri. 9-4
Wed. 9-7 Sat. 9-1

71 South St. www.baxterlibrary.org (207)222-1190

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PART TIME LIBRARY POSITION

NORTH GORHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY is looking for a friendly person comfortable with:


social media and digital communication, willing to work a few hours on the circulation desk, for a total of 6 hours a week, some of which can be remote.

SEND A RESUME AND 3 REFERENCES TO NORTHGORHAMPL@GMAIL.COM BY OCT. 16.


Pogo REALTY



Julie Chandler



Mike Griffin



Peter Mason

(207) 839-3300
PogoRealty.com
39 Main Street
GORHAM



UNDER CONTRACT

WESTBROOK \$399,000 – Very well cared for & loved by the original owners for over 54 years! Enter from the mudroom which leads to the kitchen with an open passthrough to the front dining room, living room, 1st floor bedroom & full bath complete the first floor which is mostly finished in classic Red Oak hardwood floors.

GORHAM \$875,000 – This remarkable Federal style home is currently configured as a 2-unit offering over 5600sqft of living space with plenty of parking & 153' of Presumpscot River frontage with dock. Gorgeous upscale rental units with wood floors, exposed beams, and custom granite kitchens.

GORHAM \$650,000 – This 3 bedroom 2.5 bathroom cottage style home features a sunlit open first floor plan with 9-foot ceilings. Kitchen will be outfitted with Samsung appliances including a gas range. If you're looking for an urban setting with walkability this location is perfect for you!

UNDER CONTRACT

GORHAM \$359,000 – This 2002 ranch offers 1092sqft of living space with 3 bedrooms and 1 bathroom. The kitchen, dining and living rooms share an open floor plan with cathedral ceilings. Ideal for one-floor living with first floor laundry. The daylight walkout basement is great for storage.

NEW

GORHAM \$514,900 – This home was rebuilt from top to bottom and ready for you to move right in. On two levels you will find over 1900sqft of living space with a full bathroom on each level. The brand-new finishes include granite counters, stainless steel appliances, luxury vinyl plank flooring.

BALDWIN \$109,900 – The Mt Etna Grange Hall awaits a new owner to rehab this building into a residential home. Private septic exists with 2 half baths. Being sold in "as-is" condition. Many possibilities & much sweat equity needed.

HOLLIS \$520,000 – Built and loved by the original owners for 49 years! This gambrel style home offers over 2100sqft of living space with an attached 2-car garage plus a detached 24x32 garage with heated workshop. Both garages offer walkup storage above.

NEW

SO. PORTLAND \$425,000 – This 3-4 bedroom colonial is tucked away on a dead-end street with two full bathrooms and partially finished basement offers great living space. You'll love all the natural light with hardwood floors throughout, 2nd floor laundry, private rear deck & fenced yard.

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COMMUNITY

DEAN'S LIST

Devan Sherry, Saint Anselm College, Manchester, New Hampshire

OF INTEREST

Gorham residents can register their dogs for 2024 beginning Sunday, Oct. 15. Current licenses for 2023 expire on Dec. 31, 2023. Find online registration at <https://www.gorham-ME.org>, or visit the Town Clerk's Office at 75 South Street, Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Fridays. Bring current rabies certificate with you. FMI: (207) 222-1670.

Gorham Parks & Recreation's annual Scarecrow Festival for 2023 includes the First Annual Pie Baking Contest, the scarecrow contest, and plenty of fall-themed games and activities, music, photo booth, pumpkin painting, cookie decorating, and a petting zoo by friends at Findview Farm. The festival takes place at Baxter Memorial Park on Saturday, Oct. 21 from 2 – 4 p.m. FMI: Zachary Lambert, (207) 222-1633 or register online at: <https://gorhamrec.com> under "programs."

Grace Bible Church of Gorham at 74 Deering Road is holding their Annual Craft and Vendor Fair on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

One more 2023 Fall Brush Drop Off Day remaining, Saturday, Oct. 21 from 8 a.m. to Noon at 80 Huston Road. This is for Gorham residents only, no commercial drop off. Leaves and grass clippings will be accepted in the designated area throughout the season. No stumps will be accepted. Please do not leave bags behind.

Founded in 1828, the Female Samaritan Association will hold their 195th Anniversary Celebration and Tea on Saturday, Oct. 21 at 2:30 p.m. Guests are welcome. Bringing anniversary congratulations to the group will be Maureen "Mo" Terry, majority leader of the Maine House of Representatives. The celebration will be held at the fully accessible Cressey Road Christian Church event hall. RSVP to Deborah Strout at (207) 326-1868, Mary Senore at (207) 252-8944, or Gerry Day, (207) 756-2210.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

The Gorham Medical Closet, located at the Municipal Center at 75 South Street, is free and available to Gorham residents in need of wheelchairs, shower seats, commodes, walkers, canes, crutches and more. Hours are by appointment with a volunteer. Call Gerry Day at 839-3859 and she will connect you with a volunteer.

The Gorham Food Pantry, located at 299-B Main St. (parking lot of St. Anne's Catholic Church) is open every Thursday morning from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and is free for any Gorham resident in need. FMI, (207) 222-4351, visit www.gorhamfoodpantry.org or message us on Facebook at Gorham Food Pantry Friends.

The Mission of Hope Clothes Closet is open the first and third Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at Cressey Road Christian Church on Cressey Road to anyone who needs clothing. They have all types and sizes, and many winter coats.

SENIOR NOTES

The Lecky Brown Senior Center at First Parish Church is open. Gather for Cribbage and board games on Mondays at 10 a.m. Cribbage and a different game every week, all levels welcome. Join the Originals guest speaker program on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Upcoming: GPD officer Erickson and K9 Skye, Roadside Motor Courts & Cabins, several Gorham history and Maine Audubon topics. Contact Lisa Becker at Leckybrowncenter@gmail.com for more information about this fun and welcoming community.

Senior Meal Site takes place weekly on Wednesdays at 12 p.m., St. Anne's Church, 299 Main St. Social time begins at 11:30 a.m. Suggested donation is \$4. Meal site is closed if school is closed or delayed due to such reasons as weather. For updates on the meal and dates open/closed, visit <https://gorhamrec.com> or call (207) 222-1635.

PUBLIC SUPPERS

First Parish Church hosts their next chicken pie takeout dinner on Saturday, Oct. 28, pickup from 4:30 – 6 p.m. Meals can be ordered on the First Parish webpage or call the office at (207) 839-6751.

LIBRARY NEWS

Baxter Memorial Library will host a Meet the Candidates Night for Town Council and School Committee on Wednesday, Oct. 18 at 6 p.m. Candidates will speak for five minutes about themselves and their platforms, recorded and televised by GoCAT, then will be available to mingle and chat with attendees. Check the calendar for other library events. Library hours are Monday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. FMI: (207) 222-1190.

The North Gorham Public Library will host a Meet the Candidates Night for Town Council on Wednesday, Oct. 25 from 6 – 7 p.m. The NGPL Book Club will meeting at 11 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 23 at 11 a.m. Library hours are Mondays and Thursdays, 3 to 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays, 10 to 11:30 a.m. and 6 to 8 p.m., and Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. FMI: <https://north-gorham.lib.me.us/>.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE NOTES

The USM Concert Band under the direction of Dr. William Kinne will present their annual Outdoor Band Concert on the lawn at Corthell Hall (rain location in the Concert Hall) on Sunday, Oct. 15 at 1 p.m. sponsored by Sodexo. The varied program will highlight the brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments in a concert that mixes traditional marches with eclectic, humorous, and colorful new works. Rain or shine, the concert is free and open to the public. FMI: (207) 780-5151

The USM Department of Theatre will present nine performances of "A Winter's Tale" by William Shakespeare between Friday, Oct. 27 to Sunday, Nov. 5 on the Main Stage at Russell Hall, directed by Tess Van Horn. FMI: (207) 780-5555.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



The poster features a central illustration of a Christmas tree with a star on top, set within a square frame. The background is dark with white dots representing snow. The text is arranged in a clear, bold, sans-serif font. The main title is 'GORHAM'S 7TH ANNUAL 2023 TREE FESTIVAL'. Below the title, the text provides instructions on how to participate, including picking or setting up a tree, decorating it, and having it decorated for a light parade on November 26th, 2023, at 4 PM. It also mentions that winners will be announced on or by New Year's Eve and that the grand winner will receive a traveling plaque and a donation made in kind to their choice.

**GORHAM'S 7TH
ANNUAL 2023 TREE FESTIVAL**

JOIN US IN MAKING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON BRIGHTER BY PARTICIPATING IN THIS YEARS ANNUAL TREE FESTIVAL!
HERES HOW...

PICK OR SET-UP A TREE OUTSIDE YOUR BUSINESS OR HOME TO DECORATE!
COME UP WITH A THEME, COLOR SCHEME, ETC. & DECORATE YOUR TREE!
HAVE YOUR TREE DECORATED PRIOR TO GORHAM RECREATION DEPARTMENT'S LIGHT PARADE ON
NOVEMBER 26TH, 2023 @4PM
FEEL FREE TO SHARE YOUR MASTERPIECE TO THE GORHAM 2023 TREE FESTIVAL FACEBOOK GROUP
SEND US AN EMAIL OF THE LOCATION OF YOUR TREE IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR TREE TO BE JUDGED!
WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON OR BY NEW YEARS EVE!
GRAND WINNER WILL BE PRESENTED WITH TRAVELING PLAQUE TO HOLD ONTO FOR THE YEAR &
A DONATION MADE IN KIND TO THE WINNER'S CHOICE!

For more information please reach out to gorhamstreefestival@gmail.com

Of Interest CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

The University is celebrating Homecoming and Family Weekend from Thursday, Oct. 12 to Sunday, Oct. 15. A full lineup of events is planned to bring together alumni, students, friends, and families for a celebration of Husky Pride with fun events across campus. Visit the full schedule at <https://usm.maine.edu/student-engagement-leadership/engagement/homecoming/>.

The details, rates and policy updates for the new "PAY BY PLATE" parking system on the USM Gorham and Portland campuses can be found online at <https://usm.maine.edu/parking-services>.

For all USM events, visit <https://www.usm.maine.edu/events>



Photo credit: Roger Marchand

Randall Orchards hosted close to one hundred members who attended the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust annual meeting on Oct. 1. Besides updating the membership of the new projects that have been completed, or are in process, they recognized the accomplishments of the organization under the leadership of outgoing Executive Director Rachelle Curran Apse.



Photo credit: Roger Marchand

Outgoing Presumpscot Regional Land Trust Executive Director Rachelle Curran Apse reviews the past year's successes at it's annual meeting. She is leaving the organization after 10 years to move to South Africa with her family



CLASSIFIEDS

SMALL DOG CARE - We offer a safe haven for small dog breeds in our ranch home with a fenced backyard dog safe home with leather furniture. NO crates or gates here. This is just a home away from home. We offer affection, play time and socialization. Fully insured, 16 years of experience. Located in Standish. Pups must be current with vaccinations. Only 4 dogs allowed at a time. Discounts offered for pups staying longer than 10 days. Contact Lorie text or call 207-838-0132 www.petsittinginmaine2.com

Violin Lessons - I am a violin teacher and have just moved to Gorham with hopes to start a new violin program. I have room for a few new students. Please check my website for my credentials: www.playingplay.com Please email me with questions: jazzaria1@gmail.com

CALENDAR

Thursday, October 12

Baxter Memorial Library
Toddler Discovery Time (18mos-3yrs), 10 a.m.
Sewing Club (age 7 and up, under 8 must have adult present), 3 – 4:30 p.m.

Friday, October 13

Baxter Memorial Library Book Sale, Shaw Gymnasium, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday, October 14

Baxter Memorial Library
Book Sale, Shaw Gymnasium, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Board Game Saturday (ages 3-17, under 8 must have adult present), 10 – 11 a.m.

Sunday, October 15

Dog Registration opens in the Town of Gorham, <https://gorham-ME.org>, (207) 222-1670.
Annual Outdoor Band Concert, Osher School of Music, 1 p.m., Lawn in front of Corthell Hall

Tuesday, October 17

Baxter Memorial Library, Dogs Dig Reading, sign up to read a story to one of three therapy dogs, 4 – 5 p.m.

Wednesday, October 18

Baxter Memorial Library
Fun Fall Storytime (combined Family, Baby, and Toddler Discovery Time), 10 a.m.
Early Release Day Fun Fall Crafts (all ages), 12:30 – 2 p.m.
Meet the Candidates Night - Town Council and School Committee, 6 p.m.

Thursday, October 19

Baxter Memorial Library
Sewing Club (age 7 and up, under 8 must have adult present), 3 – 4:30 p.m.
Understanding the Referendum Ballot with Ron Schmidt, chair of the USM Department of Political Science, 6 p.m.

Saturday, October 21

Gorham Fall Brush Drop Off Day, 8 a.m. to Noon, 80 Huston Road
Annual Scarecrow Festival, Gorham Parks & Rec., Baxter Memorial Park, 2-4 p.m.
Female Samaritan Association's 195th Anniversary Celebration and Tea, Cressey Road Christian Church, 2:30 p.m.

Monday, October 23

North Gorham Public Library Book Club, 11 a.m.

Tuesday, October 24

Family Discovery Time (ages 2 – 5), 10 a.m.
Dogs Dig Reading, 4 – 5 p.m., (207) 222-1190 to sign up

Wednesday, October 25

Baxter Memorial Library, Baby Discovery Time (birth-18 mos), 9:30 a.m.
No. Gorham Public Library Meet the Candidates Night – Town Council, 6 – 7 p.m.

Send short news and information items that would be Of Interest to the whole Gorham Community to loriaam@gmail.com

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Gorham Times

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Attorney at Law

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bhepler@maine.rr.com

Courtesy of the Gorham Police Department

the blotter

Caller reported driving into a new development off Tow Path Road and seeing two open doors and a broken window on a house. There have been issues with juveniles breaking in and doing damage. No one was in the buildings and an officer secured the doors. Officer spoke with the homeowner who said contractors were responsible for the broken window and were going to replace it.

Fort Hill Road caller reported an unusual small pickup truck that had been driving up and down the same road at a low rate of speed for an hour and was last seen heading towards town. Officer searched the area and did not find any signs of suspicious activity.

Gray Road caller reported a vehicle parked on his lawn. Caller said they walked on his lawn toward the mill. No vehicle or persons were found on the complainants property when officer arrived.

Cressey Road caller reported someone shooting off fireworks or possibly guns for the past several days. She was warned of the Town ordinance on fireworks.

Officer advised the caller that he believed the bank could demand ID for cashing checks or withdrawing money but either way it was not a police matter and they could not help him get an ID.

Woman was down on her luck and needed help to get back to Portland. Officer was able to arrange a ride for her.

Caller who was part of a group, which raises money for people in need, was checking to see if there had been a motorcycle accident in Gorham on Aug. 5. Police had no record of an accident that day. She was verifying the incident before raising money so that her group did not get scammed.

Caller reported a vehicle had passed her going 100 mph and pulled into Gorham Recreation area. Two males got out and were sitting on a rock. Officer checked the parking lot but only found two fresh burn-out marks in the gravel.

Caller reported a dog had jumped into their vehicle while they were at Hannaford. Caller told the Officer who responded the license plate number of the vehicle the dog had jumped out of. Officer was able to reach the owner by phone at Junction Bowl. She came out and took her dog.

Lawn Avenue caller was taking care of a neighbor's pets and saw what she thought was a domesticated bird on the porch. She was informed the Police Department does not take birds nor does the Animal Rescue League.

Samantha Drive caller reported possible drag racing and loud motorcycles on South Street at all hours of the day and night. She was advised that motorcycles have loud exhausts and that the information would be passed on to other officers.

Officer stood by at the Police Department to keep things civil for a child exchange.

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3 UNIT INCOME PROPERTY



Photo credit: Gorham Times Staff

Safe disposal of old, outdated, or unwanted medicines is provided at the Gorham Police Department at 270 Main Street, right inside the front door.

Restaurant Hours

Monday - Closed
Sun-Thurs:
11 am to 9 pm
Fri & Sat:
11 am to 10 pm



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MARKET BASKET Fresh Chicken Drumsticks
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CABOT 8 Varieties Cheddar Bars
2 for 4 8 oz. Alpine 6 oz. Save \$1.38

Green Giant 7-8 oz. FROZEN Boxed Vegetables
4 for 5 All Varieties Save \$1.00

Drake's Cakes All Varieties
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Mini Cornbread Loaves
5.99 12 PACK 24 oz. Save 50¢

Bounty Paper Towels
27.99 10 PACK TRIPLE ROLL Save \$2.00

Featuring Sales Sunday Oct 15th - Saturday Oct 21st

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