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A FREE BIWEEKLY NEWSPAPER

VOLUME 14 NUMBER 7

TOWN OF
Gorham, Maine
 — FOUNDED 1736 —

APRIL 4, 2008

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Merrifield Farm, on North Gorham Road, had two weekends of events to celebrate Maine Maple Sunday. On Easter Sunday, Kyle Merrifield showed visitors the process of making syrup. Rev. Larry Kalp and his wife Carol, of Gorham, took the tour with their daughter, Karen Berrell and her children, Katie and Andy, who were visiting from the Midwest.

Police Investigate Potential Hate Crime

Sheri Faber

Gorham Police have identified two potential suspects who are believed to have drawn swastikas on bathroom walls at Gorham High School over the course of the past few weeks. On March 25, a swastika was found on the classroom door of a teacher at the school. Gorham Police have been in touch with the Attorney General's office and will be filing a report with them once they have finished their investigation, as it is the AG's office which determines if this incident should be treated as a hate crime.

In a letter sent home to parents, GHS Principal John Drisko wrote: "As you know, the swastika is the symbol of the Nazi party, who in the 1930s and 1940s was responsible for the deaths of 10 to 12 million people. It is a symbol of hate, intolerance and intimidation. It has no place on the walls or doors of a school except in the context of learning."

Drisko asked "all students to take a stand against this type of behavior. I asked them not to be silent if they see or hear signs or comments that may be a violation of civil rights. They should tell someone. I am confident that the students at Gorham want a safe and positive learning environment and will step up to the challenge. Likewise, if you see or hear these signs or comments, please let us know."

Drisko added that the school is "not sure if these drawings were intentionally done to raise fear or if they were done out of ignorance. In either case, they do not belong in school. To that end, we made their existence public, informed the whole community, and hope to use this as a teaching moment for all."

Planning Board Listens to Public Comment on Asphalt Plant and Quarry

Bruce Webb

A special meeting of the Planning Board was held on March 17 to discuss the revised application by Shaw Brothers to build an asphalt plant and a quarry on Route 237 at the site of the former LaChance Brick Yard.

The meeting began with a presentation by Walter Stinson, an engineer for the applicant, who reviewed some of the changes in the plan and responded to questions from the Board. He acknowledged that the process has taken a long time, nearly 18 months, but that the changes have resulted in an improved project. Stinson said that many of the concerns raised by the public and the Planning Board had been addressed in the latest revision, such as they have agreed to build a fence and offered to check wells after blasting.

Following the initial presentation, the Board asked for highlights of the project changes, noting that the operations plan notebook provides extensive and complete information for anyone wishing to review the document. The Board raised some clar-

ification questions on well testing, permitting, water mains and structures.

The meeting was then opened for public comment and over 20 people spoke in opposition to the planned project. The first speaker, Michael Goldman, questioned whether the Board was listening to the citizens who will be most impacted by the project, noting that most of the citizens are opposed to the plant but the project seems to be moving forward despite the strong opposition.

There were many concerns expressed by residents in the areas concerning: the levels of air pollution from noxious fumes emitted by the plant; noise pollution from the traffic and the plant itself; safety from increased traffic; the impact on wells and water supply; decrease of property values; and a degradation of the quality in life near the plant.

A handful of people supported the project arguing that the plant would contribute to the tax base and praised the Shaw Brothers for the high quality of

their work, solid corporate citizenship and solid reputation.

The public forum was then closed and the Board responded to some of the issues raised. The Board also tried to reassure the public that they indeed were listening to their concerns but that their job was to decide on the quality of the application only because the area was zoned for this type of project.

The applicant, Daniel Shaw, spoke in support of the project and outlined the benefits of the project, arguing that it would benefit the Town by reducing the truck traffic in town. He articulated a list of safeguards and protections in an attempt to allay the concerns of residents about the plant. He downplayed the opposition to the project and intimated that some of this might be a result of competition.

The meeting adjourned at 10 p.m. The Board met again on March 20, 24 and 31 to review revisions to the application and discuss various issues. No public comment was sought during those meetings.

Inside Times

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FIRST DAY OF SPRING?

The snow bank in front of Norene and Gary Lanoie's home on Robie Street is still taller than Norene. Can you find the buried lamp post?

QUICK PIC OF THE WEEK

Do you have a spring photo that you would like to share? Please send a jpeg photo, caption and photo credit to gtimes@maine.rr.com. One photo will be chosen per issue to appear in the paper and you will be entered in a drawing to WIN a FREE subscription of the Gorham Times (details on www.gorhamtimes.com).

letters to the Times

Letters to the editor must be signed with a first and last name, typed or e-mailed and include a phone number. Submissions should be original to the *Gorham Times* and less than 300 words. Letters are solely the opinion of the writer and not of the *Gorham Times*. They are published at the discretion of the *Gorham Times* and are subject to editing.

Greetings from Florida,

I was just browsing your website. I spent a week working in Portland a few years ago and drove through Gorham one afternoon. It's a lovely little town. I'd love to visit again someday.

Best Wishes,
Mark A. Graves
Callahan Florida

Dear *Gorham Times*,
Dr. Fred Delancy is retiring on March

31. On March 2, I kept my 2:30 appointment, expecting to wait five or 10 minutes. I waited and waited. After about half an hour I approached Edie Marrier behind the desk. Was the doctor going to see me? She flailed her hands. "It's one of those days! Everyone seems to need more time." "It's good that they're getting it," I offered. She beamed.

Ruth Hassett

NEWS FROM AUGUSTA

Ready by 21 Challenge Gives Youth Opportunities to Succeed

Rep. Chris Barstow

At the end of February, I had the opportunity to attend the Forum for Youth Investment's national launch of the Ready by 21 Challenge. The Challenge is a nationwide effort to give youth the opportunities necessary for success in life, work and continuing education. The Challenge is co-chaired nationally by former Missouri Congressman Dick Gephardt and former Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge.

Ultimately, we can only remain competitive as a state and as a nation if we invest in our young people. By being involved with the Ready by 21 Challenge, I believe we change our view of youth from a statistical standpoint, and instead focus on the development of individual young adults.

I have often said that one of the most



Pictured (l to r): Jack Tweedie of NCSL; Rep. Chris Barstow, D-Gorham; Stephanie Walton of NCSL; and Elizabeth Gaines of the Forum for Youth Investment.

The five year goal of this project is to have a critical mass of leaders in every state across the country who have learned to focus and prioritize teaching methods differently so that they can work together to ensure that their individual efforts add up, rather than simply add on, to current programs. It was announced at this event that online resources and training will be provided by the Forum for Youth Investment to ensure that leaders are available in every state, and that they are properly trained.

Several partner organizations are helping in this effort, including the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), which I am a member of in my legislative capacity. Each partner organization has made a commitment to work together with states and communities to support this program so that states do not have to utilize finite budget resources in order to provide this much needed support.

Matching grants in seven communities and five states have been granted, and the areas are currently taking on the Ready by 21 Challenge. The hope is that 200 states and localities will take on this challenge by 2011.

important responsibilities that I possess as a legislator is that of ensuring that our youth receive all opportunities possible to succeed in life. If we as community members and leaders accept the principles of this challenge, we can provide the support necessary for our younger generation to become tomorrow's civic leaders, professionals, coaches and parents.

I am proud of Maine's place as a leader in education and youth investment policy, and see the Ready by 21 Challenge as a way to make further progress in our state and our nation on these matters.

If you would like to see more information on this project, you can visit <http://forumforyouthinvestment.org/readyby21>. As always, I would encourage your comments on this and any other issues of interest to you, at www.chrisbarstow.com, or (207) 839-2095.

Sen. Phil Bartlett, (207) 839-7827

phil@philbartlett.com

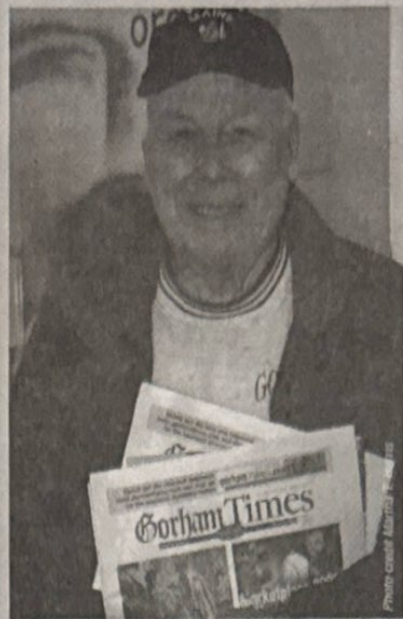
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crbarstow@gmail.com

Rep. David Farrington, (207) 839-7354

dwfarrington@maine.rr.com

quick clicks



HOT OFF THE PRESS

Rev. Philip Shearman was the first person to pick up the *Gorham Times* on March 20 for himself and for Gordon Junkins (who will wish he'd had his picture in the paper according to Shearman). Their Thursday ritual is to walk at the Mall then go to Rust Farm to kibitz.

Ten Years Ago In the Gorham Times

Donna Shaw

April 10, 1998

- Gorham is stunned to learn of two murders. Robert Joyal, a Gorham High School student, was stabbed in a Portland parking lot, and Paul Batchelder was shot at Lampron's Gulf Station on Route 25 in the early hours of April 5.
- Gorham's first Trade Show was a huge success with 2,500 people exploring 80 booths at USM.
- The Habitat For Humanity walk raised a record \$4,500 with 193 people participating.
- A Scholarship has been established in the name of Thomas A. Fogg, who passed away after a battle with leukemia to aid a vocational student with financial needs.

Gorham Times Welcomes New Staff



The *Gorham Times* is pleased to welcome Lisa Napolitano (left) and Chris Kimball as volunteer staff helping with advertising.

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OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday 10-12 or call for an appointment. If coming to office, please call ahead 839-8390.

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Advertising and Copy Deadlines
Deadline for April 18 issue is April 9.
Deadline for May 2 issue is April 30.

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. Photos will be returned if provided with a stamped, self-addressed envelope. 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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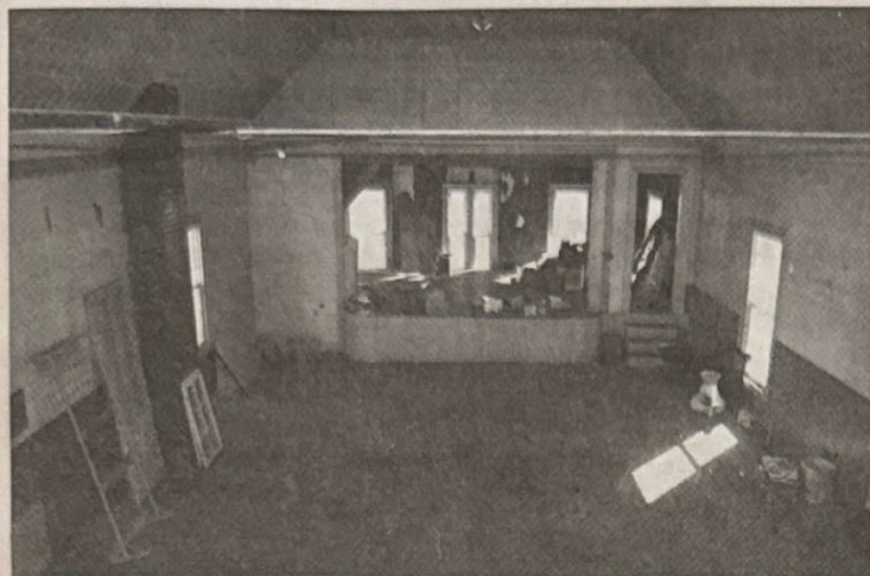
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Main Street Building Once Was the Place to Be

Abigail Cuffey



Back in the early 1900s, Allen Hall used to house local plays, dances and show the newest silent movie.

Imagine it's early September and you've just started a new year at school. You've been handed a list of school supplies to get, including paper, pens, notebooks, pencils, erasers, etc. Today, you might jump in the car and drive the 15 min. to Staples to purchase these items. One hundred-years-ago, you might have walked only minutes and found yourself at Gorham's local hot spot to purchase anything from pencils to penny candy.

Like many residents of Gorham, you have probably driven through the center of town, only to quickly glance at the big white building across from Amato's. You might more recently reference it as the Allied Home Mortgage building.

While many residents may associate it as not much more than an office building, this historical focal point of Gorham was once the "it" place to be. Built in the 1800s, the first floor was originally home to F.W. Harding Dry and Fancy Goods, Boots and Shoes. Later, it was owned by partners Sawyer Burnell and Clough Redin and transformed into Burnell's Store. The building housed many companies in its time, including an automotive barn, called Steego Auto Park (which closed in 1986) and even a barber shop.

The second floor, named Allen Hall, was a place of theatrical imagination. Prior to and during the 1930s, the space, which boasts an impressive stage, was used by school children to perform plays to raise money for the church and school. The Dramatic Guild, made up of men and women from the Congregational and Methodist Churches, would put on about two plays a year to help with the church finances. Some of the names of the plays performed in the year 1939 are even inscribed with chalk on the stage staircase, notably the operetta "Magic Ruby" and the class play "A Prince to Order."

More than just plays, the stage served as a dance hall for young and old alike. Rodney Quinn, a resident of Gorham since 1925, recalls the dances as the "big event of the year," since there wasn't much to do back in those days as far as entertainment. However entertaining, these dances were not like the innovative ones of today. People were very conservative, so one would be most likely to participate in dances such as the waltz.

Allen Hall was also a stage for early movies. The movies displayed upcoming names like Charlie Chaplin and the famous German Shepard dog, Rin Tin Tin. These silent movies of the day were often accompanied by a piano piece, played by

► For full article and vintage postcard views of Main and 114/South Street corner, courtesy of David A. Fogg, visit www.gorhamtimes.com and click on the **Community** link.

Marion Sylvain, who adapted music to the films. Allen Hall served as a showing room for the new silent movies of the day.

Lucky Brown, a mere child growing up in the early 1900s, recalls that it didn't cost much to get in to see a movie, reminding us that it was much cheaper than the nine dollars we pay now. Brown says that going to see a movie or play was a "big family event." The theater even accommodated its viewers with balcony seats, which he remembers as being less expensive than the floor seats.

It's common in today's society to comment on the fast-paced lifestyle American's lead, yet even in the early 1900s, you could have your meat and groceries delivered to your house! The Meat Market was a stone's throw away from Burnell's Store.

Today, the stage remains, along with a balcony. Even the ticket booth, staircases and restroom have remained unchanged. To take a walk through this historical building is like turning back the clocks 100 years. The beautiful ceilings and ancient stage bring to life the culture of our ancestors (who used to roam the streets of Gorham in horse drawn carriages). The building is a reminder of the simplicity of day's past and the great community we still belong to.

One thing that remains unchanged is a child's fascination with candy. Quinn, then 12-years-old, still recalls the long glass case of penny candy in the front of the store. One day he even got the courage to steal some of it from the cases. The owner, George, eventually caught Quinn and told him that he needed to pay back the 14 cents he stole, or else he would tell his mother. Quinn also remembers Dickson's Barber Shop as being the place for all the local men to hang out.

Today, the building is for sale for commercial use. Owners David Maroon and Bruce Rouillard deserve much credit in preserving the majestic feeling of the building, including uncovering some of the boarded windows and unveiling the beautiful tin ceiling on the first floor. If interested in purchasing, contact Michele Meadows at Bay Realty at: (207) 775-3838 or fax: 775-0146 or e-mail: MichelatBay@aol.com.

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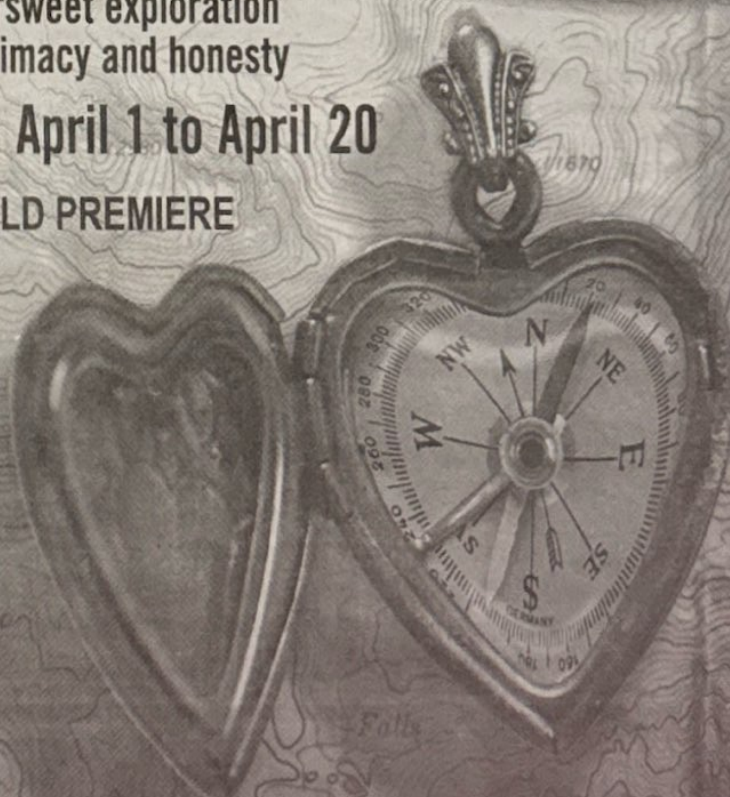
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TOWN COUNCIL REPORT MARCH 4, 2008

Blinking Lights Installed on Stop Signs at Intersection of Route 25 and Libby Avenue

Susan Olson Gwozdz

During public comments, Rep. Chris Barstow discussed the need for a traffic light at the intersection of Route 25 and Libby Avenue in the aftermath of two recent fatalities at this intersection. He has sent a letter to the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) to investigate putting a traffic light at the intersection and has also spoken with Gorham Police Chief Shepard. MDOT has installed blinking red lights on the stop signs at the intersection and they will continue to investigate options for improving safety at this intersection. Councilor Moulton thanked Barstow and Gorham's other delegates for their support of the traffic light at this intersection, noting he was sorry for the recent tragedy that occurred there.

Barstow also reported on the continued pursuit to provide public transportation in Gorham. Discussions with Metro have begun. The goal is to formulate a system that will work with the current traffic situation in Gorham, look at using existing resources and work with the Town budget. Federal funding may be available to assist with a pilot project. In the coming weeks he hopes to work with the Town Manager and the Town Council in planning and endorsing this project. Barstow commended the Town in their work with the Maine Turnpike Authority on the proposed turnpike spur.

Finally, Barstow commented on the education consolidation work in Augusta. He has taken note of the concerns of the Town Council and the Town Clerk on the budget validation referendum requirements. Town Manager David Cole asked if the proposed one-year

delay for the budget validation process is likely to pass. Barstow stated that he could not predict the outcome of this.

Both Councilors Caldwell and Loveitt commended the Gorham Public Works Department for their efforts this winter. Loveitt noted that the storage facility built at Public Works years ago is able to house salt and sand leftover from previous years, and it is through this foresight that Gorham had the materials needed. Cole reported that there have been 25 storm events so far this season compared to 17 previous seasons and that Public Works is doing a great job under difficult conditions. Gorham has received 113 inches of snow so far. School Committee Chairman Jim Hager reported that Gorham has cancelled school five times this winter. As of March 4, the last student day is June 20. The high school graduation will be June 8.

In other business, the Council:

- Accepted a donation of \$10,000 from Gorham Savings Bank to become part of the principal of the Baxter Memorial Library Centennial Endowment Trust Fund. The Council authorized the use of the interest from this fund, only, for general library purposes, including but not limited to the purchase of books, audio books, movies and other items for circulation or to purchase computers or other necessary library equipment. The Council also authorized the Baxter Memorial Library Trustees to conduct a campaign to add to the principal amount of the fund from time to time.
- Heard a presentation from Betty Williams, of The Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District, with Matt Craig of the Casco Bay Estu-

CHIEF SHEPARD REPORTS Man Charged with Violation of Privacy and Endangering a Child's Welfare



The March Grand Jury returned the following indictments on cases filed by the Gorham Police Department except where otherwise noted:

- Mary Lachance, 41, of Auburn, was charged with burglary, theft and violating conditions of release.
- Betsy Libby, 47, of Gorham, was charged with trafficking in prison contraband by the Maine Correctional Center.
- David Libby, 40, of Gorham, was charged with theft by the South Portland Police Department.
- Kimberly Miller, 31, of Limington, was charged with burglary and theft.
- Cathy Porter, 24, of Windham, was charged with negotiating a worthless instrument.
- Marie Swearingen, 32, of Auburn, was charged with burglary, theft and violating conditions of release.

Grondin's employees found a safe at a job site on Mosher Road. They turned it in to the police who were able to open it and determine ownership. It had been stolen from a Dollar Store in Gray. The thieves had not been able to open it.


James Berke, 45, of New Portland Road, was charged with violation of privacy and endangering a child's welfare after police obtained a videotape that showed a young girl in the bathroom. Berke was looking after two young girls at his home for a friend of the family. The victim's sister saw Berke come out of the bathroom with a camera and the young girl and told her mother what had happened. Berke is being held on \$5,000 bail at Cumberland County Jail.

ary Partnership and Will Plumley of the Presumpscot River Watershed Coalition about the Presumpscot Watershed Initiative Grant. FMI, visit the website at www.presumpscot-coalition.org.

- Noah Miner, Chairman - Parks and Conservation Commission, reported on the Youth Conservation Corp. (YCC) work and asked for the Council to support the YCC and to consider allowing some of the open space impact fee funds to be used for low impact recreation within town.
- Combined the current Ward 1 voting district with the current Ward 3 voting district to create a new Ward 1 voting district with a polling place located at the Gorham Middle School on Weeks

Road; and changed the polling place for Ward 2 from the Masonic Hall on Cressey Road to the Gorham Municipal Center on South Street.

- Amended Chapter II, Section V, Minimum Standards for the Design and Construction of Streets and Ways, of the Land Use and Development Code. This Code establishes minimum standards for the design and construction of streets and ways; and provides a reasonable and fair formula to protect the community and provides a fair remedy when developers have paved a road and the pavement thickness is deficient.
- Amended Chapter II, Section II, Parking, Loading and Traffic of the Land Use and Development Code. Noting that the current Code requires paved parking lots for most developments; and that, in limited circumstances, it is in the public interest to allow well constructed gravel parking lots. The amendments clarify the rules for the construction of off street parking.
- Referred a proposal to amend the Land Use and Development Code, Chapter I, Section VI, urban Residential District and Section XIII, Commercial/Office District, by adding Bed and Breakfast with dining facilities as a permitted use, to the Planning Board for public hearing and their recommendation.
- Authorized the Capital Improvements Committee to consider reviewing the long range Capital Plan for Town Council consideration and to review the status of municipal buildings and make recommendations to the Council where appropriate.



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Fully Fund Your IRA—All at Once or Throughout the Year

Ed Doyle

Millions of Americans invest in Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs)—and with good reason. An IRA is a great way to save for retirement, and it's available to anyone with earned income. Yet, many people don't fully fund their IRAs each year which could be a costly mistake.

In brief, here are the key benefits of an IRA:

- **Tax advantages**—When you invest in a traditional IRA, your earnings can potentially grow on a tax-deferred basis, which means your money can grow faster than if it were placed in an investment on which you pay taxes every year. And depending on your income level, some of your contributions may be tax deductible. If you have a Roth IRA, your contributions aren't deductible, but your earnings can potentially grow totally tax-free, provided you've had your account for at least five years and you don't start taking withdrawals until you reach 59½.
- **Wide choice of investments**—You can fund your traditional or Roth IRA with just about any investment vehicle available, including stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit and Treasury bills. You can even choose an investment mix that reflects your long-term goals, risk tolerance and time horizon.

Clearly, it's a smart move to contribute the full amount to your IRA every year. So, why don't more people do it? One reason is that many investors may be intimidated by the IRA's contribution limits. You can invest up to \$4,000 to your IRA for 2007 or \$5,000 if you're 50 or older. For the 2008 tax year, the IRA contribution limit rises to \$5,000 or \$6,000 for those 50 or older.

Whether its \$4,000, \$5,000 or \$6,000, these limits can look imposing, especially if you think you have to pay all at once—and pay it around tax time. Of

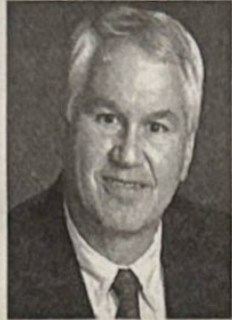
course, if you can afford to fund your IRA all at once, it may be to your advantage to do so, because the earlier in the year you have your IRA funded, the more time it has to potentially grow. But if you can't write a check for \$5,000 in January, why not divide the amount into 12 monthly payments of \$416? That amount may also pose a challenge to your monthly cash flow, but it's probably far more manageable than writing that big one-time check.

Making regular investments into your IRA may also offer "strategic" advantages. While your monthly payments can't guarantee a profit or protect against a loss in a declining market, they may be able to help you overcome some of the volatility of the financial markets. How? Suppose your \$416 monthly IRA investment goes to buy stocks. When stock prices are low, that \$416 will buy more shares, and when prices are high, it will buy fewer shares. Be sure that you consider your ability to continue investing through periods of low price levels.

If you haven't fully funded your IRA for 2007, you've got until the tax-filing deadline of April 15, 2008. After that, if you've got the money to fund your IRA for 2008, do it as soon as you can, or do it throughout the year. Someday, you will be glad you did.

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Ed Doyle is a financial advisor with Edward Jones. His expertise includes: financial planning, specializing in retirement and retirement income planning, retirement plan rollovers, tax-advantaged education savings plans, insurance and income tax minimization. Doyle can be reached at 839-8150.



CAR CARE

Eight Signs That Your Car Has Pothole Damage

Gorham Times Staff

Shocks and struts control how vehicles ride and handle. The shock absorbers, or struts as they are referred to on late-model vehicles, act as a cushion to dampen the bouncing action of a car's springs. The springs absorb the road bumps. Without them, the vehicle would continually bounce and bound down the road, making driving extremely difficult. Shocks and struts also control spring and suspension movement to keep the tires in contact with the road. This affects steering, stability and braking. A broken shock or strut could alter the steering and handling of a vehicle and create driving dangers.

Warning signs that shocks or struts may need to be replaced:

1. The vehicle rolls or sways on turns
2. The vehicle's front-end dives when braking

3. The vehicle's rear end squats when accelerating
4. The vehicle bounces or slides sideways on a winding, rough road
5. The vehicle "bottoms out" or thumps on bumps
6. The vehicle sits lower in the front or rear
7. The vehicle is leaking or has signs of physical damage, such as rusting or dents
8. There's a loss of directional control during sudden stops of the vehicle

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School Times

SCHOOL SECTION COMPILED BY JENNIFER BANKS

GHS Chamber Singers to Host Vocal Masterworks Weekend Concert

Darrell Morrow



Photo credit Martha T. Harris

GHS Chamber Singers will host the vocal masterworks weekend concert on April 5. They will be performing John Rutter's "Gloria."

The Gorham High School Chamber Singers will be hosting the 12th annual vocal masterworks weekend concert on April 5. This annual event brings together several area high school honors choirs to sing an extended choral master work. This year the 130 voice choir will be performing John Rutter's "Gloria" complete with a small orchestra.

Dr. Robert Russell from the music department of USM will again be guest

conductor for Rutter's piece. Each individual choir will then perform briefly. Participating schools include Massabesic, Westbrook, South Portland, Deering, the lower octave of the Boy Singers of Maine and host GHS chamber singers. The USM chamber singers will also perform briefly on the program. The concert will be held at 4 p.m. in MPAC at GHS. Admission is \$5/person.

GHS Senior Participates in Regional Finals for National Poetry Recitation Contest

On Jan. 31, Gorham High School held a "Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest." GHS was one of 35 high schools from around Maine that participated in similar contests. The winners at each school then went on to regional finals and then state of Maine finals where ultimately six students were selected to represent Maine in the National Poetry Out Loud Finals in Washington D.C.

Congratulations to senior Mary Nappi who won the school level for her recitation of "Four Fibs" by A.E. Stallings. Gorham High organizer Jonathan Wern-

er stated, "Mary worked with a local actress, Linda Sturdivant, preparing two additional poems: 'Deliberate,' by Amy Uyematsu and 'To the Ladies,' by Lady Mary Chudleigh. Although her performances were fantastic, Mary was not among the six students who advanced to the State Finals."

This was Maine's third year of participation in the National Tournament and Gorham's first year participating in the State program. For more information on the program, visit www.poetryoutloud.org.

It's On—It's Off—It's On Again—Well, Maybe

Suzanne Roberge

The roughly 220 eighth-grade students at the Gorham Middle School have only a few months left until the end of school. To date they are not quite sure if they are going to experience a memorable ceremonial send off before they enter high school or just another "high five." On March 20, at the monthly Partners in Education meeting at GMS, 10 parents and Principal Bob Riley, met to discuss the fate of the traditional eighth-grade dance.

Over the past months, there was speculation that the school dance was going to fall by the wayside and that the school administration was not going to continue this event, which graduating students had been anticipating.

"It really is a nice send off to the next level. As leaders of the Gorham Middle School, the (celebration) should be at the Gorham Middle School. It is very sentimental to them," said Janet Davis.

Riley agreed with the tradition and its continuing importance, but the financial burden explained going into this year's

school dance budget would be difficult for the school. In addition, his other concern was the location of the event. It was agreed that the dance should be held at the school, but how will they pay for the amenities such as entertainment and food?

It was unanimously agreed that in order to make this work, eighth-grade parents and students would need to raise the funds. The dance, which is tentatively scheduled for June 20, is currently in limbo. According to Riley, "no decision is final."

Parents were given a month to determine the costs of chair rental, food and entertainment and to come up with a fundraising plan. The success of the eighth-grade celebration dance will be a community effort. The PIE committee is seeking support and references from any interested parent or parent of future eighth-graders. The next PIE meeting will be held on April 10 at 7 p.m. at the GMS library.

GHS' "Guys and Dolls"

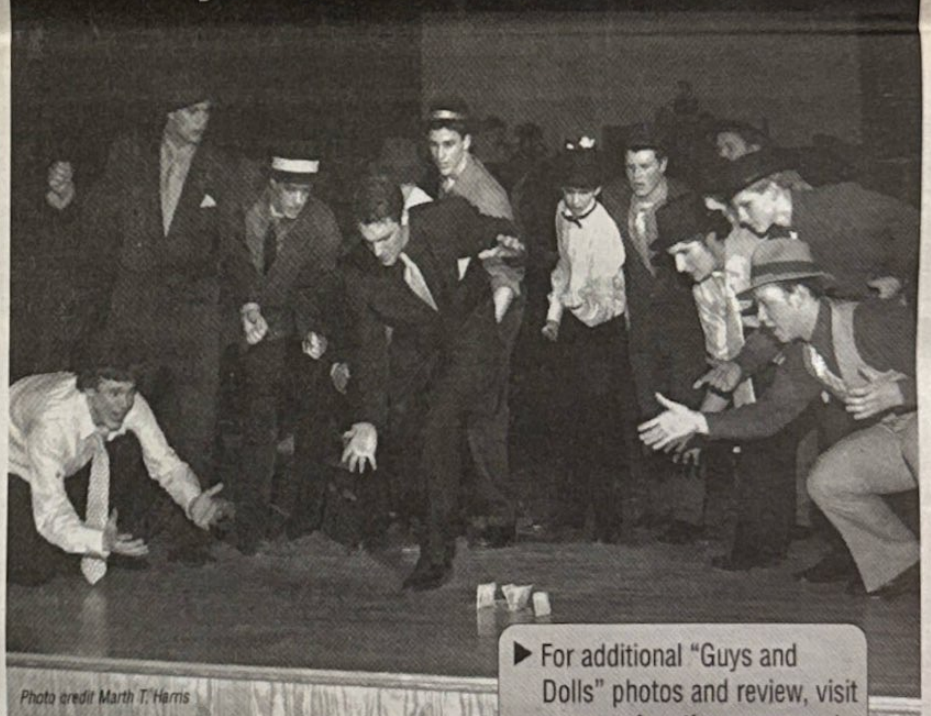


Photo credit Marth T. Harris

► For additional "Guys and Dolls" photos and review, visit www.gorhamtimes.com and click on the **Schools** link.

Over 60 GHS students participated in this year's spring performance of the musical production

"Guys and Dolls." The talent was huge and audience members responded by jumping to their feet during curtain calls.



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Read Across America Day

Rebecca Lord and Megan Dunlap, sixth-grade GMS students



The GMS Student Council preparing for their Read Across America trip to Narragansett School.

Photo credit Donna Pastore

On March 3, GMS Student Council members took a trip to Narragansett School. The purpose for this was to take part in Read Across

America Day. We purchased books to read to the second-grade students. In order to get these books, GMS student council members had a fundraiser. Our

fundraiser was selling carnations for Valentine's Day at the Middle School. The trip to Narragansett for Read Across America Day was organized by Student Council Adviser, Donna Pastore and Narragansett Literacy Specialist, Melissa Michaud.

The kids were thrilled when we arrived and they loved it when we read to them. Though, not only did we read to them, but the kids read to us, too! They could not be any better listeners and they were very interactive with their reader. They not only were interested in the books but they had a lot to share. We asked them about what we were reading, and they always had constructive responses. When we were finished reading our books, they wanted to know about us and the Middle School.

The books that were purchased were given to the second-graders to take home in honor of Read Across America Day. The second-graders had great listening skills and were awesome audience members. The kids were so excited that they got to keep the books and we were so glad we were able to share this experience with such great kids!

February Village Citizens



Photo credit Jane Esty

Village School's Assistant Principal, Jane Esty, and the staff of Village School are very proud of the Village School Outstanding Citizens for the month of February. Front Row (l to r): Lindsey Caron, Kate Bennett, Blake Wallace, MacKenzie Hawthorne, Narrissa Libby, Trystan Bates, Kara Ellsmore, Hannah LeBlanc and Grant Hamblen. Middle Row (l to r): Kailyn Bowie, Emerson Fox, Nate Rines, Tristan Brunet, Taylor Turpin, Connor Davidson, Julia Plante and Isabella Griffin. Back Row (l to r): Mitchell Rossignol, Ben Foster, Gregg Farrington, Jordan Buzzell, Emily Lewis, Andrew Johnson, Whitney Emerson, Logan Letourneau, Cole Houghton and Michaela Williams. Missing: Dorothy Stickney and Jackie Tanguay.

GMS Highlights

Kelly Winslow

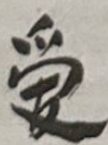
March Madness has a different meaning here at the middle school. This is the time that the state has chosen to administer the Maine Educational Assessment (MEA). For the past several years this administration has been used to measure the school according to the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). We are deemed to either be making adequate yearly progress (AYP) or not making AYP. We are measured as a whole school and in sub groups of Special Education and socio-economic status. For each whole group, and in each sub group, the school must show AYP in order to "make the grade." All Gorham Middle School students took some form of the MEA during the week of March 10. Throughout the testing period, students demonstrated their best efforts. The results of these tests will be reported sometime in July.

Congratulations to Bethany Marshburn-Ersek for representing GMS at the Cumberland County Spelling Bee. Bethany tied for fifth place. The event took place on March 11 at the Harrison Middle School in Yarmouth. Bethany and her family would like to thank Mr. David Tyrrell, Mr. Aaron Ouellet and GMS runner-up Stefanie Farrington for their support in the audience at the Bee.

A Sock Hop, organized by Jeff Carpenter, was held at the middle school on March 14. Students were encouraged to dress in typical 50s wear for a costume contest. A Royal Court from our own student body oversaw such activities as a limbo contest and a performance by the Rondelles from the school play. Students had a blast listening to music from the 50s and learning the dances of the times. All proceeds from the dance benefited National History Day and other needs at the school.

Approximately 20 sixth- and seventh-graders will travel to the National History Day State Finals on March 26 in Augusta. These students are interested in seeing the competition and their chaperone, Jeff Carpenter, hopes that many of them will be inspired by what they see and want to compete next year.

The National Geographic Geography Bee State Finals, featuring GMS' Forrest Plaisted, is taking place on April 4 at USM in Portland at 11:45 a.m. Good luck, Forrest!



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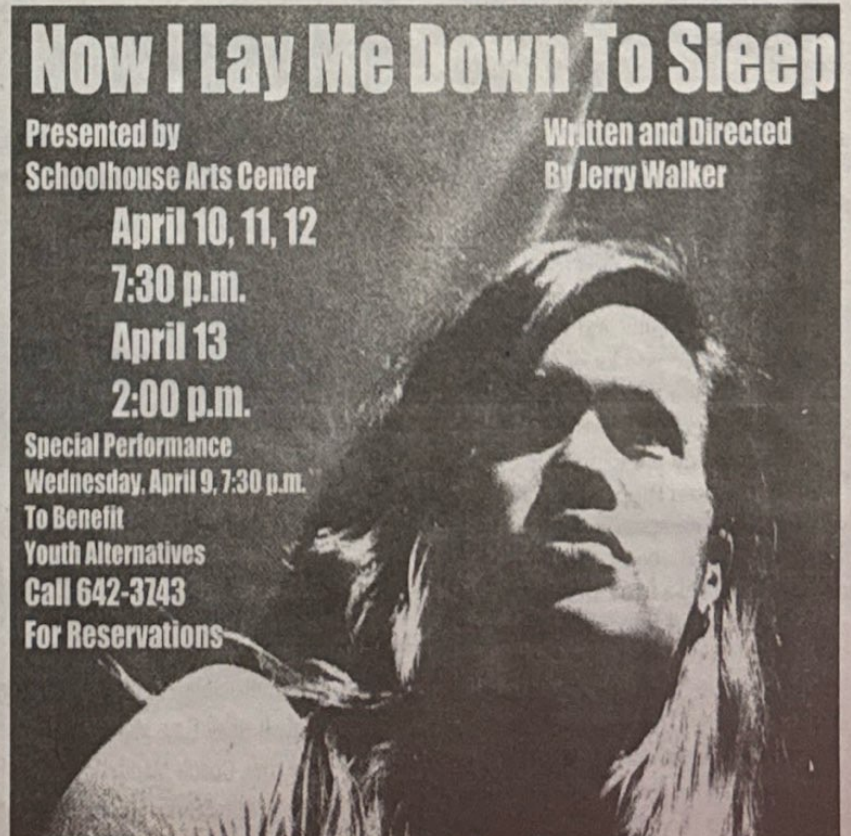
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SPORTS SECTION COMPILED BY JEFF PIKE

Gorham Sixth-Grade Boys Take Travel League Championship

Tom Talbott

Down by seven points early in the second half in the Freeport Travel League Championship game versus Greely, the Gorham sixth-grade boys' basketball team fought back and sent the game into overtime. In a frenzied see-saw thriller, Gorham won the game 57-55. Compiling a 9-1 record during the regular season, Gorham was seeded first in the playoffs. However, an early-round loss forced the team to claw its way back into contention for the championship game. It also meant they would have to beat a tough Greely team twice in one day. Gorham took the early afternoon game by nine points, setting up the winner-take-all late afternoon thriller.

This tournament was déjà vu all over again since as fifth-graders, the Gorham boys won the fifth-grade Freeport Travel League in similar fashion: They were seeded first, went through an open-round loss, worked their way back up the ladder, and then beat Greely twice on championship day.

Incredibly, over the past two years this group has compiled a staggering won-loss record of 45-4. Nicknamed "Brothers of the Court," they have done it with a total commitment to teamwork and positive attitude. Everyone played, everyone contributed and everyone pulled for and supported their teammates.

Top scorers Eddie Weymouth (center/forward), Nick Greatorex (center/forward) and Jon Woods (loose guard) led the charge, consistently driving the lane and taking the ball to the hoop while other teammates constantly made key plays at timely moments. Point guards Frank Pappalardo and Matt Melton consistently quarterbacked the team's offense and dissected their opponent's defense. Both played a very tight defensive game in the backcourt. Elijah Ionta played loose guard with Joey Smith and Jim Talbott playing in the small forward position. All played tight defense and assisted aggressively in rebounding and shooting. Top rebounders and defensive leaders—Jesse Leavitt, Jim Talbott, Ben King and the Pratt Brothers, Ross and Gage—constantly denied the other teams from scoring while cleaning the boards.

Head coach Jeff Pappalardo and assistant coach Seth Ionta coached the group through both the fifth- and sixth-grade seasons and deserve a lot of credit for shaping the team. "This was a total team effort, a great group of kids who all worked hard and participated in every win we had," said Pappalardo. "This wasn't a team of five starters and everyone else watching. We constantly mixed it up to give the team a fresh look every game. In fact, in the championship overtime, our three leading scorers had fouled out, but our speed players scored four points along with key foul shots made by Frank Pappalardo and Jesse Leavitt. And our defense held Greely to two. That was the ballgame."



League Champions: The Gorham Sixth-Grade Boys Travel Basketball Team recently won the Freeport Travel League Championship with a hard-fought finals win over Greely, 57-55, in overtime. Playing for the team, pictured (l to r) in the Bottom Row: Jon Woods, Elijah Ionta, Ben King, Frank Pappalardo, Joey Smith, Jimmy Talbott and Matt Melton. Top row: Coach Jeff Pappalardo, Ross Pratt, Nick Greatorex, Eddie Weymouth, Gage Pratt, Jesse Leavitt and Assistant Coach Seth Ionta.

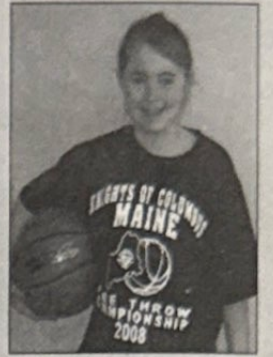
GMS Cheerleaders Topple the Competition



The Gorham Middle School cheerleaders won their first competition this season when they competed in the Maine Cheer Classic at Biddeford High School on March 8. The Maine Cheerleading Coaches' Association hosted the 7th Annual event. Twenty-nine teams from all over the state competed in five divisions. Gorham placed first in the middle school division. Pictured in the front row (l to r): Savoy Boyd. Second row: Jordyn Tanguay, Britney Day, McKenzie Close, Amanda Foster, Sara Lyons and Alyssa Cormack. Third row: Coach Mandy Pastore, Meaghan Gilbert, Jenny Pinkelman, Kara Stahl, Naomi Seavey, Abby Brown, Kassie Burnham and Abby Dean. Fourth Row: Nikki Jean and Dana Vaughan.

in the Zone

Youth Star—JULIA GAUDETTE, (right) of Gorham, won the 10-year-old state free-throw competition sponsored by the Knights of Columbus March 8 in Old Town. Gaudette represented St.



Anne's Council 10221, based in Gorham. She is the daughter of Robert and Karen Gaudette and is a student at Village School. To advance to the state finals, Gaudette won earlier competitions in Gorham and Windham.

MAINE STATE HOCKEY CHAMPS—Gorham youth hockey players **SHAWN SULLIVAN, SPENCER COWAND, CHRIS HARDY, JUSTIN BROY** and **DYLAN TURNER** all played for the Pee-Wee Huskies, a traveling youth hockey team that earned the B-level Maine State Championship title. The team consisted of players from several local towns and finished the regular season with a record of 20-1-1 while scoring 123 goals and allowing only 28 - led by Broy as the goaltender. The Huskies beat Casco Bay, 6-1, in the championship game Feb. 24 at the Lewiston Coliseum and then went on to compete in a New England tournament in Connecticut March 21-23 at which the team finished in third place.

Basketball Contributor of the Year—The Maine Association of Basketball Coaches presented its prestigious Bob Brown Contributor Award to retiring GHS head boys basketball coach **KEVIN JENKINS** March 14 in Bangor. Each year the association selects an honoree that has made a significant contribution to the sport of basketball in Maine.

USM Track Captain—Junior **JIMMY SAWYER** (GHS '05) has been named a captain of the 2008 USM men's outdoor track and field team. Sawyer also served as captain of the indoor track and field team this past winter while earning numerous honors for his efforts in the 400-meter dash. Sawyer earned All-ECAC, All-New England, Division III All-New England, All-Alliance and All-Little East Conference honors, running a season best time of 49.28 in the New England Championships. Sawyer also earned All-Alliance and All-LEC honors as part of the Huskies 4 x 400-meter relay team.

All-State Track Recognition—GHS Sophomore **CAM STEVENS** was named to the *Maine Sunday Telegram* All-State Indoor Track team for his performance in middle distance races. Stevens won the 400-meter race at the state meet and finished second in the 200. He then went on to finish fifth in the New England meet in the 300-meters. Senior **JUSTIN VILLACCI** received an Honorable Mention for sprints while from the GHS girls track team, senior **ALYSON FEARON** (sprints) and sophomore **RACHEL WILKINSON** (distance) also received Honorable Mention.

PlayGorham Launches Effort to Provide More Sports Playing Fields

Jeff Pike

Bulldozers have been busy clearing trees and smoothing out the ground for new sports fields on Weeks Road near the Gorham Middle School. The plan calls for three all-purpose fields, one softball field and a parking lot to be ready for games and practices by the fall.

PlayGorham, a town organization formed last year, played a major role in securing funding for the fields, which are being paid for through new construction fees and the allocation of which was approved by a town vote in November. The Gorham Recreation Department will oversee scheduling for the fields that can be used by school teams, Gorham Recreation teams and other youth leagues in Gorham.

Mike Wing, a member of PlayGorham, said this project is the beginning of an effort to establish 12 new fields throughout the town to meet the growing demand for field time from various school, town and youth leagues. "Other

than this effort, no other specific projects are currently under way, but we are looking at options for other fields which may involve building new fields or repairing existing ones," Wing said.

"We want to create large multi-purposed fields for all town groups to use." Wing added that the biggest issues going forward are finding places for new fields and finding out how to fund them. "It will take a lot of effort, but we want to create an active community effort to help find playing fields for all groups that need field time."

The PlayGorham organization currently consists of representatives from the Gorham Football Boosters, the Gorham Youth Lacrosse Association, the Gorham Recreation Department and the Gorham Youth Soccer Association. The Town Council and School Department are also providing support. For more information on PlayGorham, contact Mike Wing at wing317@aol.com.



Photo credit: Martha T. Harris

Three all-purpose fields, one softball field and a parking lot are under way near the Gorham Middle School. PlayGorham organization is hoping to establish 12 new fields throughout the town.

sportsEtcetera

OLYMPIAN PRESENTS SPEED ENHANCEMENT TRAINING —

2000 Olympian Donovan Powell will present speed enhancement sessions April 22-25 at YourSpace (formerly the Gorham Sports Center). Participants will learn how to enhance overall speed, strength and quickness. Sessions are for male and female participants, 11-years-old and up, and the cost is \$60 (\$30 for current Q2 Academy of Soccer Excellence members). Sign-up sheets are available at Your Space. Athletes can also register via e-mail at the address below by providing name, phone number, gender, age and e-mail address, but space is not guaranteed without payment and e-mail confirmation. Make checks payable to: The Academy of Soccer Excellence and mail to PO Box 518, Gorham, ME 04038 or drop off at YourSpace when signing-up. FMI, contact Parker Coward at 318-4259 or by e-mail at socceracademy@verizon.net. Session schedule: April 22 - 5:30 to 7 p.m.; April 23 - 10:30 a.m. to noon; April 24 - 4 to 5:30 p.m. and 5:30 to 7 p.m.; April 25 - 9 to 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. to noon.



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Pattenaude Recommends Botman as New USM President

Gorham Times Staff

University of Maine System Chancellor Richard L. Pattenaude announced that he is recommending Dr. Selma Botman to be the next president of the University of Southern Maine.

"Dr. Botman is an excellent fit for USM," Pattenaude said. "She possesses exceptional academic and leadership skills gained during her impressive 20-year career in higher education, as well as a deep commitment to students and

their success. She understands USM's importance to the people and organizations of southern Maine. I'm very enthusiastic about the strengths and benefits she will provide to USM and our state as the University's next president."

Botman, 57, currently serves as executive vice chancellor and university provost at the 230,000-student City University of New York (CUNY).

"I am honored to become part of the

University of Maine System," Botman said. "I particularly look forward to working with the superb faculty and staff and the wonderful students at the University of Southern Maine.



If Pattenaude's recommendation is approved by trustees, Botman will begin her new position on July 1 and will receive an annual salary of \$203,000. She will succeed Joseph S. Wood, who has been serving as USM's interim president since July 2007. Wood, who assumed the presidency after trustees named Pattenaude as University System chancellor, will return to his prior position as USM's provost and vice president for academic affairs.

More information about the USM presidential search may be found at www.maine.edu/USMPresident.

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Gail Platts

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When CFLs do eventually burn out they should not be thrown in the waste stream because they contain trace amounts of mercury. The components of CFLs can be recycled and The Maine Public Utilities Commission (PUC) in partnership with Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has made recycling used CFLs even easier for Maine consumers. Efficiency Maine, a program through the Maine Public Utilities Commission, just launched a statewide CFL bulb recycling program which allows you to bring your used (unbroken) CFL bulbs to any participating store for FREE recycling.

Cook's Hardware (ACE) and Phinney Lumber in Gorham, as well as area Wal-Mart, Lowes and Home Depot Stores, will be participating in this free service. A complete listing of participating stores can be found online at: www.energymaine.com.

► For instructions on how to clean up a broken fluorescent bulb in your home, visit www.gorhamtimes.com and click on the **Other** link.

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A New, Not-So-Secret Society

Suzanne Roberge

On the third Wednesday night of every month you can take a step back in time and relive the lives of those who made the little village of White Rock in North Gorham the bedroom community that it is today. At 7 p.m., the newest White Rock generation gets together with their hot drinks and tells warm, sometimes exciting, stories of the way life used to be and get to mix it up with the current events and people of today. This small group, called the White Rock Historical Society, is thriving and growing with enthusiasm.

The Society did not just open its doors one day and begin. It actually evolved from the love and interest of two cousins about their past and the stories they shared. Penny Loura, president, and her cousin, Patty Libby, loved getting together and swapping genealogical information and family photos with each other. Then they began to realize that there was a lot of familiarity between families and neigh-

bors and that the community really had a lot of history.

Loura became very excited about this fact and knew the importance of such knowledge. She mentioned this one day to Libby's husband, Roland, and emphasized how much White Rock could benefit from a historical society, where residents could exchange information and personal history while at the same time offer educational references to those who live in Gorham and have an affinity for history.

Loura was invited to speak in front of White Rock's Community Club members. The idea immediately took off and in May of 2007 the White Rock Historical Society held their first meeting.

The Society's mission has become to collect and preserve artifacts, documents and ephemera, and photos of the White Rock community to share with others who have the same interests. The Society is currently building on its already valuable collection of newspa-

per clippings, old photos and names. Interviews are being planned for this year with older residents of the area to learn their stories of the past and document them for posterity.

Meetings are open to the public and anyone with historical interests or knowledge of past events in the White Rock community is encouraged to attend and share with others. They are held at the Community Club, located on Wilson Road next to the fire station. What better forum is there than the old White Rock School which some of the members attended?

On April 16, Ruth Douglass, who is in her early nineties, will be the featured speaker. She has written a book about each of her four children when they were very young and living in White Rock. Everyone is invited to attend. Each month there is a new program.

If anyone has an article, picture or story to share or donate with the Society, call Penny Loura at 892-9397.

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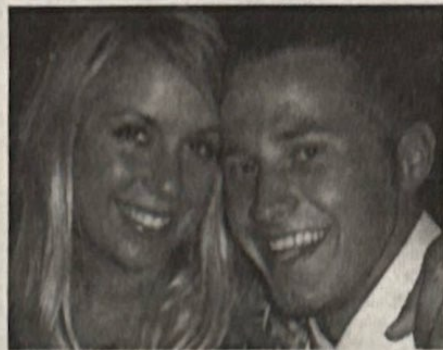
of interest
In the TIMES

Nine Cub Scouts and Webelo Scouts from Pack 74 earned their religious medals as part of the God and Country series. The medals were presented on Boy Scout Sunday, Feb. 10, at the Cressey Road United Methodist Church to Ethan White, Nathan Bachner, Kyle Grass, Matthew McCarty, Michael Patten, Alex Young, Collin Jones, Chris Hayward and Issac Spear.



Students at Gorham High School celebrated the life of their former classmate, **LAUREN HAWKES**, at the First Annual Lauren Hawkes Foundation Dance, on March 7, sponsored by the National Honor Society. Nancy Hawkes, Lauren's mother, and Jen Kovats, a close friend of Lauren's, spoke lovingly about their daughter and friend who passed away in July of 2003 of Leukemia. Over \$1,500 will be given to the Lauren Hawkes Foundation, which will help to support cancer research throughout Maine. The National Honor Society, made up in part of Lauren's senior class, is proud to have established this meaningful event and wishes to thank all who attended and contributed. Gorham High School senior and NHS President Adrienne Rosenblatt says, "The presence of so many community members shows that the life, memory, and influence of a loved one truly does live on."

► For additional **Lauren Hawkes Dance photos**, visit www.gorham-times.com and click on the **Community** link.



David and Deborah Woodbury of Standish are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter **BRIANNA WOODBURY** to **JASON CHAMPION**, son of Donald and Lesley Champion of Limerick. Woodbury, (GHS '03), is completing her master's degree in professional communication at Clark University in Worcester, Mass. where she also received her B.A. in communications. Champion is a 2000 graduate of Massabesic High School and attended USM. He is currently employed by F.R. Carroll. An October 2009 wedding is planned.

births

NATHAN DONALD COFONE, born March 6, 2008 to Jacquelyn and Dominic Cofone of Windham. Grandparents: Ann Marie and Paul Smith of Gorham; Joseph Aceto, Monnie and Kevin Petty and Donnie Merriman, all of Westbrook. Great-grandpar-



Chris Crawford (second from left) was honored recently for her contributions to recycling in Gorham with the **2008 eco-Excellence Award** given annually by **ecomaine**. She was nominated by Gail Platts, the 2007 award winner for Gorham, who said in her letter that Crawford "has been an avid promoter of recycling and avid recycler of paper at Village School for many years. She has been recycling 'techno garbage' at school for at least three years." Crawford is a librarian at the Village School in Gorham. Each winner was awarded a framed certificate, a 2008 Sunrise Guide and a soft fleece jacket made from recycled plastic bottles. Also pictured are (l to r): Troy Moon, ecomaine Recycling Committee Chair; Gail Platts, nominator and 2007 Gorham award winner; and Kevin Roche, ecomaine General Manager.

ents: Donald Welsh of Florida, Camillo Aceto of Windham, Eleanor Welsh of Gorham, Jean Cofone of Westbrook and Jack and Marlene Merriman of Buxton.

of interest

How about a day of shopping courtesy of Travel with Edna? Vacation Land Tours will take a bus load of shoppers to the Wrentham Outlet Mall in Wrentham, Mass. on Tuesday, April 22 for a full day of shopping at Premium Outlet stores. Bus leaves Exit 47 in Westbrook at 7 a.m. and returns after dinner. Cost is \$28 for transportation. Make reservations by April 11. FMI, 892-4337 or 892-9606.

Congratulations to Gorham Middle School seventh-grader, FORREST PLAISTED, who is a semifinalist in the 2008 Maine Geographic Bee, to be held on April 4 at the Abromson Education Center, USM Portland campus. The Bee, sponsored by the National Geographic Society, is held in schools with fourth-through eighth-grade students. The state winner will receive a trip to Washington, D.C., where he/she will represent Maine in the national finals in May. Plaisted is the son of Kathy and Michael Plaisted.

There will be a Community Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 19 to benefit YourSpace (formerly known as the

Gorham Sports Center). Donations of children's clothes and baby clothes (no adult clothes please), toys, sporting goods, household items, working appliances, furniture and books may be dropped off on Friday, April 18 at YourSpace at the following times: 7 to 10 a.m., noon to 1 p.m., and 4 to 8 p.m. Anyone wishing to volunteer, call Andrea Cowand, 839-4229 or acowand@verizon.net.

The University of Southern Maine Art Department is proud to present **PRODUCE**, a Bachelor of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition, April 12 through May 4, at the USM Art Gallery in Gorham. FMI, 780-5460.

The Friends of Baxter Memorial Library will hold its spring book sale on Friday, April 11 from 9 to 7 p.m. and Saturday, April 12 from 9 to 1 p.m. at the Gorham Municipal Center Activities Room next door to the library. A special "members only" evening will be held for Friends Group members on Thursday, April 10 from 5 to 7 p.m. FMI, 839-5031.

Local entrepreneur, MATT MATTINGLY, who owns and operates (along with his family) the PineCrest Inn of Gorham, will share his expertise on the current economic trends and how you can apply this

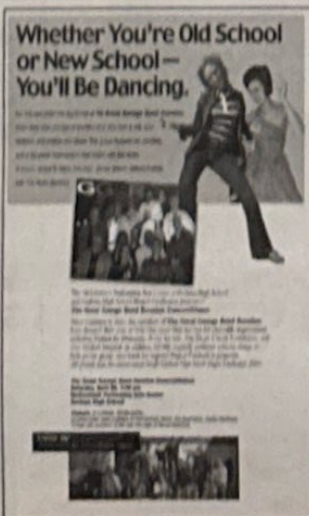
Congratulations to Gorham Times' Art Director on another New England Press Association Award *Gorham Times Staff*

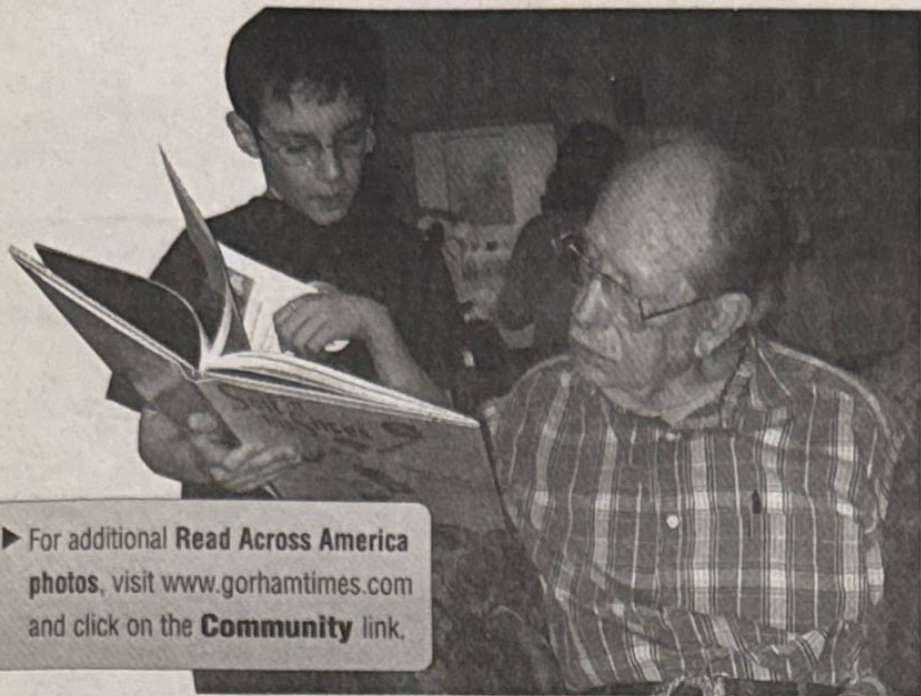
The *Gorham Times* received a third place award in the Local Ads (Black & White) Category for biweekly/monthly newspapers at the New England Press Association's (NEPA) Awards Banquet on Feb. 9 at Boston Marriott Copley Place.

The winning ad, designed by art director Jeannine Owens, appeared in the April 6, 2007 issue on page 12. It was a full-page ad promoting The Great Garage Band Reunion Concert/Dance (at right).

According to NEPA, Owens won based on the ad's good play on words in the headline, the photo targeted the demographic very well, nice use of directional white space and the use of bold letters made the call to action stand out despite the amount of copy.

Owens also won third place last year at the NEPA Awards Banquet in the Local Ads (color) Category.





► For additional Read Across America photos, visit www.gorhamtimes.com and click on the **Community** link.

In celebration of Read Across America and Dr. Seuss' birthday, fourth graders from George E Jack School in Standish presented a short program at Gorham House on March 19.



The SafetyWorks! program of the Maine Department of Labor recognized Jotul this week for its efforts in providing a safe and healthy work environment. At a ceremony hosted at the company's Gorham facility, Department of Labor officials presented the company with a Safety and Health Award Recognition Program (SHARP) certificate of achievement.



ALAN GRADY teaches children (ages 3-5) in the Gorham Recreation Start Smart Basketball Program, the basic motor skills necessary to play organized basketball while they work one-on-one and spend quality time with their parents. The program focuses on teaching children and their parents' skills in dribbling/ball handling, passing/catching, shooting and running/agility without the threat of competition or the fear of getting hurt.



CHRISTINE MINER (GHS '05), a junior at the University of Maine at Farmington, will be performing in the Annual Spring Concert, *Dancing in the Midst of Chaos*, on Thursday, April 10, Alumni Theater, UMF. Miner has created a quartet called "A Curious Cadence," a joining of movements, each with unique sounds and rhythm. For tickets, call 778-7141.

valuable information to your business at The Gorham Business & Civic Exchange's Annual Meeting, Thursday, April 10 at 7:30 a.m. at the Gorham Savings Bank Operation Center, located at 10 Wentworth Drive, off Route 202, in Gorham. His presentation will outline the principles used along with a projection of future opportunities any business can capitalize on. Members and guests are invited. FMI, call 892-5515, www.gorhambusiness.org.

On Saturday, April 12 from 10 to 2 p.m. and Sunday, April 13 from noon to 2 p.m., Handcrafting Justice, a Fair Trade Spring Sale, will take place at the First Parish Congregational Church, 1 Church St. in Gorham. Help women from third world countries by purchasing high quality crafts they have made to help support their families. FMI, 839-6986 or jag1965jfg@aol.com.

Pine Tree #27 Order of the Eastern Star, will hold its first meeting with new officers at Harmony Lodge, Cressey Road, Gorham on Monday, April 7 at 7:30 p.m., with refreshments to follow. FMI, 642-1075.

The Kiwanis Club of Gorham will meet twice a month at the Pinecrest Bed & Breakfast through June of 2008. The first Thursday of the month will include dinner from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and the third Thursday will be a luncheon meeting from noon to 1 p.m. Kiwanis is an international service organization dedicated to serving the children of the world. Anyone interested in learning about Kiwanis is encouraged to attend. FMI, call Bruce Rudolph, 839-8944.

SALLY CHAPPELLE of St. Joseph's Church in Bridgton will speak on "Toxics and Children," April 6 at 9:30 a.m. at St. Anne's Catholic Church in Gorham. Her presentation will include a discussion of our chemical safety system, new science finds and products containing chemicals. FMI, call Sr. Jackie at 839-3082.

High school seniors and post secondary school students interested in applying for the Gorham Garden Club Merit Scholarship are encouraged to do so by June 1, 2008. Applicants must be Gorham resi-

dents and planning to enroll in plant and soil sciences, environmental studies, botany, ecology, forestry or related fields. Scholarship amount will be at least \$300. FMI, call 839-3630.

The USM School of Music will present its busiest fortnight of the year for performances in Corthell Concert Hall, USM Gorham, beginning Friday, April 4 through April 18. For tickets to any event, call 780-5555. Friday, April 4, 8 p.m., Keith Crook, professional faculty classical guitarist. \$15/\$10/\$5. Saturday, April 5, 8 p.m., USM Chamber Music Awards. Free. Sunday, April 6, Flute master class and concert with Roberta Michel, formerly of Westbrook, following her Carnegie Hall debut. Master class at 5 p.m. \$6. Concert at 8 p.m. \$10/\$5. Friday, April 11, 8 p.m. USM Opera Workshop directed by Ellen Chickering. \$6/\$3. Saturday, April 12, 8

p.m., 31st Annual Honors Recital. Free. Sunday April 13, 2 p.m., USM Concert Band, directed by Peter Martin, MPAC at GHS. \$6/\$3. Friday, April 18, 8 p.m., Meliora String Quartet, a professional faculty ensemble. \$15/\$10/\$5. Sponsored by WBRC Architects & Engineers.

The next meeting of the Gorham Woman's Club will be April 10 at the First Parish Congregational Church in Gorham. Refreshments will be served at 12:30 p.m. with a program and meeting starting at 1 p.m. Enrollment is open and guests are always welcome to any meeting. FMI about the Gorham Woman's Club, call Alice Keddy at 839-4579.

► For additional Close to Home events, visit www.gorhamtimes.com and click on the **Community** link.

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THE BLOTTER

Brookwood Drive caller reported that a family member had not returned home and they were concerned. Officers checked several locations and later learned family member had returned home safely.

Burnham Road caller reported they could hear people walking back and forth near their residence. They requested that police check area but no one was found.

Caller reported that there was an unattended vehicle parked in a handicapped spot with an infant alone in the vehicle. Vehicle was gone when police arrived.

Caller requested to speak with an officer regarding an aggressive salesman who forced a family member to purchase some items. The company agreed to pick up the items and issue a refund, but the refund had not yet been issued.

Gray Road man was arrested for domestic violence assault.

Dingley Spring Road caller reported a car was pulling a snowboarder down the road.

Lowell Road caller reported a burglary, as did callers from Mosher Road and McLellan Road.

Narragansett Street caller advised that snow had fallen from a tree and shattered their windshield.

Mallison Street caller reported that they had hit a bridge and done severe damage to their wheel.

State Street caller reported that their name was being forged on their checks.

► For more Blotter entries, visit www.gorhamtimes.com and click on the **OTHER** link.

Main Street caller reported customers drove off without paying for \$50 and \$73 worth of gas.

Numerous calls were received of people plowing snow into the roadway.

Vermont man was arrested for OUI and failing to stop for an officer.

State Street caller wanted assistance in locating a place to house a dog while a relative was in the hospital.

Four horses were reported loose on Nonesuch Road.

Caller reported suspicious activity in a Main Street parking lot. Police questioned the operator who was reorganizing the contents of the vehicle.

Caller reported a suspicious person standing in the corner of a parking lot acting oddly.

Might Street resident reported having a large amount of copper stolen from their residence.

Suspicious activity at a Gray Road business was a subject doing upgrades to the register system.

Eight to 10 sheep were in the middle of Dundee Road. They were herded back into the yard but the fence was broken and no one was home. Sheep were reported loose several more times.

on the calendar WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

■ An Evening of Music sponsored by Handbell Choir, Cressey Road United Methodist Church, 7 p.m. FMI, 839-3185.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

■ GHS Chamber Singers hosts vocal masterworks weekend concert, 4 p.m., MPAC at GHS, \$5/person.

■ Baked Bean Supper, White Rock Community Club, Wilson Road, off Route 237, Gorham, 4:30 to 6 p.m. All you can eat! \$7/\$3.

■ Spring Public Supper, West Gorham Union Church, Routes 25/112, \$6.50/\$2.50 under 12, 5 to 6 p.m., beans, hot dogs, chicken pie, casseroles, desserts and more. No one leaves hungry! FMI, 839-4208.

SUNDAY, APRIL 6

■ Casco Bay Band Concert, 3 p.m., MPAC at GHS.

MONDAY, APRIL 7

■ Planning Board Meeting, 7 p.m., Municipal Center, 75 South St.

TUESDAY, APRIL 8

■ Preschool Story Time for 3-6-year-olds, 9:30 to 10:15 a.m., Baxter Library, FMI, 839-5031.

■ Bridge Club, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Municipal Center's Activity Room.

■ Sewing Club for grades K-adult, 2:30 to 5 p.m., Baxter Library.

■ All-Gorham Band Night Concert, MPAC at GHS, 7 p.m.

■ Narragansett School Incoming Kindergarten Parent Information Night, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

■ School Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Municipal Center, 75 South St.

■ White Rock School PIE Meeting, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., Teacher's Room.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

■ Baby & Me Book Sharing Time for babies 0-18 months, 9:30 to 9:50 a.m., Baxter Library.

■ Toddler Time for ages 18-36 months, 10 to 10:30 a.m., Baxter Library, FMI, 839-5031.

■ Bridge Club, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Municipal Center's Activity Room.

■ Book Sale Preview Night, Members

only (can join at the door), 5 to 7 p.m., Gorham Municipal Center Activities Room.

■ White Rock Incoming Kindergarten Parent Night, 7 to 8 p.m.

■ GMS Chorus Concert, 7 p.m., GMS Auditorium.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

■ GMS Student Council Dance for Grades 7-8, 2:30 to 4:45 p.m.

■ Friends of the Baxter Memorial Library Book Sale, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Gorham Municipal Center Activities Room.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

■ Friends of the Baxter Memorial Library Book Sale, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Gorham Municipal Center Activities Room.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

■ USM Concert Band and Wind Ensemble Concert, 3 p.m., MPAC at GHS.

MONDAY, APRIL 14

■ Gorham Historical Society Meeting, 7 p.m., Gorham Saving's Bank Business Center, Gray Road.

TUESDAY, APRIL 15

■ Preschool Story Time for 3-6-year-olds, 9:30 to 10:15 a.m., Baxter Library, FMI, 839-5031.

■ Bridge Club, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Municipal Center's Activity Room.

■ Town Council Workshop, 7 p.m., Municipal Center, 75 South St.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

■ Ann Mason-Osann Memorial Concert, 7:30 p.m., MPAC at GHS.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

■ Kiwanis Club of Gorham, luncheon meeting, noon to 1 p.m., Pinecrest Bed & Breakfast. FMI, call Bruce Rudolph, 839-8944.

■ Bridge Club, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Municipal Center's Activity Room.

■ Mr.GHS pageant (rescheduled), 7 p.m., MPAC at GHS.

■ Early Release Day/No School for Grades K-5.

The St. Anne's Church food pantry is open every Thurs. from 9-11 a.m. and the second Wednesday of each month from 5:30-7 p.m. Open to anyone in need of food from Gorham.

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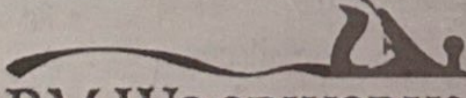
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