



Photos credit Karla Wheaton

The light parade, which included a fire truck covered in Christmas lights (above), traveled from Elm Street to Robie Park, where Santa and Mrs. Claus pushed the button to light up this year's tree (below).

Tree Lighting

Karla Wheaton

The Tree Lighting, Food Drive and Light Parade hosted by Gorham Parks & Recreation took place on the evening of Sunday, November 27. The event featured prize drawings, hot chocolate, games and hayrides. Non-perishable foods were also collected for the Gorham Food Pantry.



Gorham Times

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CELEBRATING 16 YEARS—A FREE, VOLUNTEER-RUN, BIWEEKLY COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Insurance Service Organization Re-Evaluates Fire Safety

Krista Nadeau

The last time the Insurance Service Organization (ISO) was in Gorham was in 1993. The rating is an ISO protection class (PC) from one to ten – one being the best and providing the most protection; ten being the worst, providing no protection. Gorham's fire safety rating then was 4/9; 4 for homeowners on public water and 9 for homeowners on non-public water (typically in the outer areas of town). Since then the Fire Department has improved significantly in providing water supply to the outlying areas of town.

According to Jason Beever of Chalmers Insurance Group, "Standard insurance companies use the ISO PC as a factor in determining insurance cost, second only to the dollar value of the home. Homeowners insurance is more black and white as far as the impact of PC on the final premium, primarily due to the homogenous nature of the risk." The system is based on risk of payout by the insurance company, therefore the lower the PC the greater the reduction in cost. He goes on to add, "The base rates on commer-

cial property are affected by changes in Protection Class, however, the impact on the overall premium charged by the insurance company is mitigated by other factors, such as the type of business (restaurant versus office), construction materials of the building, etc."

Fire Chief Robert Lefebvre is hopeful that the ISO classification will greatly improve with the current evaluation. The ISO just finished its evaluation but a total report has not been completed. There has been significant changes in fire protection since the early 1990's including installing several water main extensions, one on Fort Hill Road, one on Huston Road, and one from Route 237 to the end of Barstow Road; there have been an increase in the apparatus on some of the trucks; training programs have improved; the number of live-in fire fighters has increased from two to fourteen; dispatch has moved to the Cumberland County dispatch center in Windham; and there are now 70 engineer-certified fire ponds in Gorham.

Chief Lefebvre explains that the ISO takes "target

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

New Year Gorham For all Ages!

Gorham Times Staff

"New Year Gorham gets better every year," according to Karen DiDonato, performance coordinator for New Year Gorham. "We have several new performances to offer this year, as well as others returning by popular demand. We are sure that everyone, no matter what age, will have a wonderful time in Gorham on New Year's Eve."

"We are pleased to announce that Randy Judkins will entertain us at the Gorham Performing Arts Center (at Gorham High School). Randy has entertained audiences all over the United States, Canada and Europe and he is sure to make Gorham laugh with his comedic gesture, juggling, unicycling and just plain funny stuff!

"Also, new this year will be Dan Grady together with his famous marionettes who will strut their stuff – roller skating, tightrope walking, dancing and amaz-

ing the audience at the Odd Fellows Building Theater. In addition, our audience will enjoy the high energy talent of Carlene Stillson's Irish Stepdancers at the Shaw Gym.

"We don't want to let all the surprises out of the bag, but we are especially excited to announce that our performances will conclude with a powerful act of magical illusion by the Magic of Steelgraves and, of course a spectacular fireworks display!"

New Year Gorham's chairperson, Virginia Wilder Cross added, "We are trying something new this year – we've adjusted the time of our celebration to fit the time limits of young families. Our celebration will begin with a spaghetti supper at 5 p.m. and conclude with fireworks at 10 p.m. This will allow families with young children to enjoy the entire celebration and be safely at home for a reasonable bed time."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Restaurant Owner Threatens Code Office on Facebook

Sheri Faber

Michel Salvaggio, 35, a principal owner of the Church Performing Arts Center on School Street has been charged with posting a threat against a member of the Town's code enforcement staff on the Church's Facebook page. Salvaggio turned himself in to the Gorham police on November 30th and was taken to the Cumberland County Jail. He was charged with criminal threatening, which is a misdemeanor. Salvaggio made bail and is scheduled to appear in court on January 19th. The Church's Facebook page directs criticism at town officials for having had to pay "unnecessary variances and fees." The site also accuses a member of the code enforcement staff of using ethnic slurs.

According to Sgt. Dana Thompson, the Gorham Police Department was "very concerned about the nature of the threat and the safety of the victim. They requested and were granted bail conditions in hopes of both protecting the victim and to offer some sense of security to the victim and other town officials." In addition to normal bail conditions, Salvaggio was required to surrender any and all firearms to the Gorham Police Department within four hours of his release from jail, no permitted use or possession of firearms, random searches for weapons and he is not permitted to enter any government building in Gorham.

inside theTimes

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www.gorhamtimes.com

Making the Switch to Energy Efficient Lighting

Rep. Jane Knapp

You may have heard that beginning January 2012, consumers will have the choice to continue using traditional incandescent light bulbs for as long as they last, or switch to more efficient bulbs. This is due to the Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA), passed in 2007 by the U.S. Congress, which adopted new, higher efficiency standards for the basic light bulbs we use today. These new standards, which phase in from 2012-2014, will require bulbs to be roughly 25 percent more efficient, meaning they will consume less electricity for the amount of light produced. Lighting manufacturers and wholesalers will not be permitted to sell bulbs that do not meet the minimum efficiency standards and, as a result, consumers will see fewer incandescent bulbs on the store shelves as the applicable dates approach.

You may be wondering how these newer bulbs will be better than traditional incandescent bulbs. Traditional incandescent bulbs use a lot of energy to produce light. Newer energy-saving bulbs, such as compact fluorescent lights (CFL) and light emitting diodes (LED), can produce the same amount of light while using significantly less energy. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, lighting accounts for about 10 percent of home electricity use nationwide.

Many of the newer bulbs are purported to last longer than traditional bulbs, reducing the need to replace them as often. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, ENERGY STAR LEDs can last up to 25 times longer than traditional bulbs and ENERGY STAR CFLs can last up to 10 times longer than traditional bulbs. A hypothetical lifespan of a CFL could be 5-7 years.

Please take note that an important aspect of these newer bulbs is the need to dispose of them properly.

While LEDs are mercury-free, CFLs do contain some mercury. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, a CFL bulb generally contains an average of 4 mg of mercury, which is sealed within the glass tubing. (No mercury is released when the bulb is intact or in use.) Fortunately, Maine law requires manufacturers of mercury-added lamps to provide residents with a free, convenient recycling program for household mercury-added lamps. In Gorham, residents can recycle their mercury-added lamps at Cook's Hardware, located at 57 Main Street. For a complete list of recycling locations in Maine, please visit http://maine.gov/dep/rwm/productstewardship/pdf/mdep_recycling_maine_database_all.pdf.

As we are full swing into the holiday season, you may be interested in investing in LED lights, rather than incandescent, for your holiday lights. If so, you will be glad to know that many retailers are offering strings of LED lights at reasonable prices. I have seen regular prices ranging from \$12.99 for a string of 35 LEDs to \$22.98 for a string of 180 LEDs, but sale prices are lower.

I hope you will consider making the switch to energy efficient lighting. If you need assistance deciding which type of bulb is best for you, I recommend visiting the following U.S. Department of Energy website at: http://www.energysavers.gov/your_home/lighting_daylighting/index.cfm?mytopic=11975.



Rep. Jane Knapp
(207) 839-3880
(800) 423-2900
repjane.knapp@legislature.maine.gov

Letters to the Editor

Letters must be less than 300 words, signed with a first and last name, typed or e-mailed and include a phone number. 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 and are subject to editing.

Dear Gorham Times,

The Hanscom-Moody family would like to thank multitudes of people—family, friends and community—for the donations that supported their Public Thanksgiving Dinner held at Mr. Bagel in Gorham. These donations included food, time, and money, all of which made the day go lovely.

Please let us give thanks to the following: Randy Bickford; Mary and Jim Liberty; Rita Pinkham; Roger and Georganne Hanscom; Anita Lampron (Pit Stop Fuel); Chip and Rea Moody; Bob Lefebvre; Todd Walker and daughters; Loretta Daly; Don and Mary Jane Millett; Cheryl Wiseman's Sunny Days Class; Sue Parsons; Nancy Taylor; Chuck and Sue Crockett; Ernest and Helen Manderson; Helene Johnson; Jodi and Emma McCann; Judy and Howie Turner; Ron and Caroline Pease; the Gorham Times; Ann Kennedy; Tim Brown and Shannon Korhonen; Chris Petitpierre; Joe and Kathy Michaud; Nancy Taber; Randall's Apple Orchard; Chuck Barr; Ed Laverty; Party Time Rentals; Diane Roberts Cecile and Spike; Gloria McCullough; Ruth and Pat Hassett; Charles and June Leighton; Noel Dunn; Steve Smith; Jeff Tanguay (Gorham Copy Center); Wayne, Donda and Alex Young; Larry Fearon; Gorham Rec Dept.; Mr. Bagel Staff (Bob, Mo, Alli and Maddi) as well as anonymous donations. (I pray I've not forgotten anyone; everyone's help is so very important.)

I also want to give thanks to my family for supporting this event—our second dinner. I give thanks to my husband Thad, daughters Tasha and Heather, and granddaughter Madison for all their support and much help; and from Amherst, New York with undying support, our son Christopher, wife Kelly, and grandson's Finnegan and Holden.

We were able to donate a large quantity of leftover food to the Preble Street Soup Kitchen and a monetary donation of \$3350 to the Gorham Ecumenical Food Pantry.

Many heartfelt thanks and peace to all, Roxanne Hanscom Moody

around town

The Gorham Times will publish a newspaper dated December 22 and the first issue of 2012 will be dated January 19 to accommodate a two-week holiday break.

Sheila Phinney Levine and Jennifer McCullough, owners of property at 33 Flaggy Meadow Road, (behind the Bio-Diversity Institute at 19 Flaggy Meadow Road), have clear cut the property and put it up for sale with a sign indicating the property could be used for up to four house lots. The existing house, owned by Levine, is not for sale. While owners can split a lot off their property once every five years, three or more house lots would require subdivision review by the Planning Board.

Gorham Times

BRINGING THE NEWS TO ALL OF GORHAM
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Of Interest	gtimes@maine.rr.com
Calendar item	gtimes@maine.rr.com
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Business Manager Sandra Wilson
Design/Production Jeannine Owens
Webmaster Judi Jones
Police Beat Sheri Faber
Staff Writers Bill Ambrose, Sherrie Benner, Sue Dunn, Jackie Francis, Sarah Gavett-Nielsen, Krista Nadeau, Stacy Sallinen, Robin Somes
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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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Interior Designer Moves to Large Portland Studio

Jackie Francis



Photo credit Martha T. Harris

Jan Robinson sits amid various swatches, design books, and design ideas all of which she is ready to implement in her new studio in the former Pier 1 building in Portland.

Mhe holidays are upon us and life is about as chaotic and busy as anyone would want it, right?

Well, not so for interior designer, Jan Robinson, who owns and has operated Jan Robinson Interiors in the daylight basement of her Gorham home for the past 16 years. Robinson decided December is as good a month as any to jump in feet first and expand her interior design business at her new location in Portland (formerly, Pier 1 Imports, at 336 Forest Ave.). “I really wanted to stay in Gorham,” says Robinson, “but this opportunity just fell into place.”

The 2,200 square ft. Ecohome Studio will be one of several home improvement stores that will occupy the former Pier 1 building. Presently, a tile store, a kitchen design store, a fixtures store, and now, Robinson’s interior design studio, will all share real estate in the former storeroom. “It’s a mini design center,” says Robinson, “where people can potentially design their entire home in one area.” Robinson, whose studio will contain only products mindful of the environment, believes that good design should incorporate sustainable resources as much as possible. “There are a growing number of resources for products for the home that promote a healthier and more energy efficient home...and I have great local resources for reclaimed and recycled products.” Everything in her store will be made in the USA or reclaimed, recycled or from renewable resources.

Robinson was sewing by the age of seven and working as a tailor’s assistant in high school. She graduated from USM with a dual degree in business and art and ventured out into the corporate world while making her own clothes and designing drapes for her home. “When I graduated from college, I had a wardrobe of tee shirts and jeans,” explains Robinson, “so I found myself making my own suits and blouses to wear to work.” As a favor to a friend,

she made and was paid for some draperies. That friend had another friend who asked her to make window treatments. Before long, she had friends and colleagues consulting with her on décor and color palettes as well as window treatments. “Eventually,” says Robinson, “I considered the idea of starting a small business and perhaps stay home to raise my children.” The rest, as they say, is history.

Who can benefit by visiting Ecohome Studios? “Everyone,” says Robinson. “First of all, I can keep you from making costly mistakes before buying furniture,” says Robinson, “and I can save you money.” For her \$85/hour fee, Robinson can easily discern the decorating styles of potential clients, suggest window treatments, offer paint color choices, rearrange furniture and instill confidence in her clients. Often times, clients just need affirmation that their own ideas are sound.

Having always been an active member of the Gorham community, Robinson appreciates the support of her neighbors and hopes they will remember her and her new venture as another resource before shopping for furniture, blinds, curtains, paint colors, artwork, pillows and lamps. “Just come check it out, it’s surprisingly affordable.”

A grand opening celebration is being planned for the first week of January. Check out the next issue of the Gorham Times for more details or call Jan at 632-1257 or e-mail her at janrobint@gmail.com.

Jan Robinson
Ecohome Studio, LLC
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Open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.- 6 p.m., and by appointment.

Prior Gorham Times Intern Turns Editor-in-Chief

Cheryl Squires

John Mark Adkison (GHS '08), a prior Gorham Times intern, was recently named editor-in-chief of the school newspaper at Harding University, where he is majoring in print journalism. Adkison chose Harding, a private Christian school with 7,100 students located in Arkansas, in part because both of his parents went to Harding; therefore, it was his legacy to attend.

In September Adkison was named editor-in-chief of the school newspaper, the Bison, for the school year of 2011-12. His staff of 15 keeps everyone updated on news via the printed word, but also uses other media outlets such as television and radio.

Adkison was elected president of the Society of Professional Journalists and his work as the Bison sports editor has won several awards. In the future, instead of becoming editor of the New York Times or traveling the world as a journalist, he would prefer to work for a publishing firm promoting new books and authors, and helping them develop story ideas. When asked if he would be fulfilled not writing, his response was that he must write everyday or he would be in bad shape. He will continue to write on the side, until he publishes his own books.



John Mark Adkison (GHS '08) says the dedication and help shown by his English teachers at Gorham High is directly related to his interest in print journalism.

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Tips for Homeowners

Dan Grant

It is almost Christmas and you haven't cleaned out the rain gutters. Don't worry; ice dam season is still two or three months away. It's not too late to get your home ready for winter's worst.

There are a few chores to protect against frozen pipes. Take the hoses off the outdoor faucets, and place them in a heated space where some leaking water won't be a problem. After they've thawed for a few hours, lift one end and move down the length of the hose, hand over hand so gravity forces all the water out. Now you can put the hose away for use next year instead of having to buy a new one next spring. Older plumbing to outdoor faucets, or any piping in an unheated space will need to be drained. If you don't know how to do this, please call a handyman or plumber soon. Waiting too long to make this phone call could later mean you'll need a clean up company, plumber, electrician, or carpenter. Don't procrastinate - broken pipes are dreadful.

We've had early snow, but if you haven't put out driveway markers to keep the plow guy off the lawn, do it now. A little guidance can save you a lot of yard work in the spring. I like the type made from rebar, coated with orange spray paint. When these are installed before the frost gets too deep,

they will freeze in place and stay put until spring.

If you are ambitious, this may be the year to solve those nasty ice dam problems that occur when spring thaw causes water to flow up under your roof's shingles and into your previously cozy bedroom. Ice dam flooding can elicit more expletives than you've uttered all year. The problem cannot be solved with new roofing. Let me say that again. Roofing will NOT solve the problem. Neither will heat tape. Heat loss is the cause, and stopping it is the solution. There are different ways to go about it. I recommend calling an independent energy auditor and an insulating company - not a roofer. If you're ambitious and want to tackle it yourself, just call the energy auditor. Then make sure to follow their recommendations. In any case, improvement to the energy efficiency of your home or office represents money well spent. It is one of the few building upgrade investments with an immediate return.

Get your house chores done early, then relax and enjoy the holidays.

Dan Grant is a Maine Licensed Professional Engineer. He owns and operates Village Builders, Inc. in Gorham, practicing earth friendly construction, renovation, and building performance contracting.

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Getting to Know Gorham’s Assistant Principals

Compiled by Stacy Sallinen

Over the next several issues, the Gorham Times will profile each of Gorham’s assistant principals. This is the second of five profiles.

Kim Slipp

Kim Slipp began her teaching career in Gorham in 1979 and has been here ever since. Currently in her seventh year as assistant principal at Gorham High School, she also served as assistant principal at the middle school for five years and taught for twenty years.

Slipp has found it interesting to watch the growth of Gorham over the years. With student enrollment more than doubling since she began teaching, the community and school department have been proactive and responsive to the needs of the growing student population. The construction of the Gorham Middle School and the Great Falls Elementary School has been important in addressing those needs.

As part of the team involved in the visioning and design of GMS, Slipp enjoyed watching the construction process and seeing the outdated Shaw School transition to the new, state of the art middle school was rewarding. It was also rewarding to see the Shaw School building renovated, with an eye toward preserving and incorporating some of the original architectural features into its current design. This building has become a vital and vibrant community resource for all Gorham citizens.

Day-to-day contact with Gorham students is another highlight for Slipp. It is particularly rewarding to work with seniors as they progress towards graduation. The culminating event of gradu-



Photo credit Martha T. Harris

ation at Merrill Auditorium is a highlight, where the graduates’ faces reveal their pride in successfully completing their journey through thirteen years of school. It is an emotional and rewarding day as these young adults cross the threshold into the next exciting chapters of their lives.

Slipp has undergrad and graduate degrees from the University of Maine at Orono. She lives in Gorham with her husband, Gary. Their two children both attended Gorham schools; Kristin is a musician living in Brooklyn, NY and Matt is studying music at Gordon College. She enjoys outdoor activities and sports, cooking and spending time at their summer camp.

Slipp said it has been a pleasure living and working in Gorham for over thirty years. The town of Gorham is very supportive of its schools and the school community provides an exceptional education to our students.

GED Tests More Difficult in 2014

Gorham Adult Education

Starting in 2014, students seeking a General Educational Development (GED) credential will be faced with a more robust set of tests compared to the current GED tests. The most striking change from the current GED test is that the 2014 tests will be completely computer-based, with students answering questions and writing their essay using a keyboard. The GED tests will also be more rigorous and based on the Common Core, a national set of standards for students. A compelling reason for the change in tests includes a greater demand for higher skilled workers on the national level. With the direction of our domestic and global economy, students with a high school or GED diploma are required to hold higher academic skills that will prepare them for success in post-secondary, career training and the workforce.

All students who have begun GED test-

ing but have not yet finished should contact Gorham Adult Education. Students who have already started the process of earning a GED diploma must finish before the new tests come out in 2014. If they do not finish, they will have to start the process over. New students are also always welcome. Students needing assistance in preparing to pass the tests can enroll in classes at Gorham Adult Education. New GED math and English classes start January 9, 2012.

For more information about the GED, contact Gorham Adult Education at 207-222-1095 or visit their website at www.gorham.maineadulted.org. You can also text the word “GED” to 361-226-4334.

Editor’s Note: “GED® and GED Testing Service® are registered trademarks of the American Council on Education (ACE).

Arts Alliance Presents First Community Theater Production

Gorham Arts Alliance



Photo credit DaraLyn McCall

The Gorham Arts Alliance proudly presents its first theater production of “The Universe and Other Stuff.” Over forty students from the community have a role in the production.

The Gorham Arts Alliance is proud to present Gorham’s first community theater production of “The Universe and Other Stuff.” Over forty students in grades three through eight are taking part in the production, which is directed by Janelle Mosley, a music teacher at Great Falls Elementary School.

The show starts with the formation of the universe, followed by the arrival of the planets. At first, the planets wander around aimlessly but the sun arrives to take charge. After a duel of gravity with Jupiter, the sun organizes the planets and sings “I’m A Great Big Ball of Gas!” The Earth and Moon realize that

there is life on the Earth and sing “What A Great Place to Live.” The dinosaurs arrive but are soon killed by a comet, prompting them to sing “It Stinks To Be Extinct.” The first humans discover and invent, and Columbus and some Vikings sing about exploring the earth. The production ends as three armies – the Stripes, Dots and Plaids – go to war before being stopped by the Peace Child. This is a fun, light-hearted play filled with humor.

Performances are in the Gorham Middle School auditorium on Friday, December 9 and Saturday, December 10 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5 per person, and children under age 5 are free.

Village Food Drive



Photo credit Karen Sell

Student Ambassadors at Village Elementary School held a food drive in November, where they collected a variety of foods and products, ranging from canned soups, fruits, vegetables and cereals to health and beauty products, including toothbrushes, toothpaste, laundry detergent and toilet paper. All items were donated to the Gorham Food Pantry located in the parking lot of St. Anne’s Church. Village students were thankful to help the community by providing food for local families. Preparing to deliver donations are Madisen Sweatt, Julie Cooper, Talia Catoggio, Jade Wu and Grace Andrews.

CLARIFICATION

In the November 24 edition of the Gorham Times, the School Committee Report stated the Teaching American History (TAH) program was for veterans when it should have said the program was for veteran teachers. It should have also noted that this scaled-down version is for Gorham teachers who have participated in the TAH grant.

Gorham Middle School First Quarter Honor Roll 2011-12

6th Grade–High Honors Benjamin Adams Tarquin Bates Benjamin Bellantoni Hayley Bickford Emily Chapin Claudia Daigle Maleek Dias Bennett Donohue Benjamin Eichner Aaron Farr Meadow Fortier Alexis Fotter Kate Gilbert Brooke Greatorex Saoirse Herlihy Madison Hincher Haley Kefffe Kyle King Elise LaSalle Zebulun Leavitt Grace Libby Hannah Libby Erica Mallory Carlos Monsen Camryn Morton Benjamin Nelson Alexander Ousback Sean Pocock Hunter Poitras Emily Prindle Madeline Rossignol Michelle Rowe Asma Sayed Jonathan Scribner Anna Slager Ian Taylor Christopher Tucker Claire Valentine Abigail vanLuling Simeon Willey	James Plante William Prescott Delia Puopolo Brittney Reed Jack Richards Lucas Roop Bridget Rossignol Wilkins Rossignol Isabella Sawyer Tyler Seger Sarah Shields Anna Smith Josephine Smith Isabella Solari Noah St. Peter-Halstead Sokane Stilphen Stefan Street Nicholas Sturtevant Nora Susi Breana Verrill Nicole Williams Tyler Williams Rosemary Wood Jillian Worster	Nariah Cavarretta Nikoles Charron Grace Collomy Seth Cook Sydney Coolong Tony Cooper Cameron Coro Jenna Cowan Kristen Curley Jordan Currier Colby Cutler Haylee Dahlborg Austin Denis Noelle DiBiase Kara Doane Alyssa Dolley Logan Drouin Meredith Dvilinsky Emily Esposito Erin Esty Jordan Falagario Joseph Fiset Megan Fraley Mia Guimond Carrie Hansen Rhiannon Hatch Emily Hayward William Hepler Brandon Howard Abrianna Kennie Jason Komulainen Jack Lamont Hannah LeBlanc Narissa Libby Theodore Lockman Sarah Lorello Samantha Low Keegan Luce Julia Lyons Thomas Macomber Cassie-Briana Marceau Samuel Martel Angelina Meserve Isabelle Muehle Fiona Nee Logan Nelson Taylor Nygren Miles Obrey Emily O'Donnell Athena Pappalardo Marina Pappalardo Kyle Peoples Meghan Perrin Kent Piazzola Maeva Pitman Haley Poitras Kenneth Richard Brady Rioux Jordan Sherwood Alex Smith Caroline Smith Jennifer Staples Jacob Stevens Dorothy Stickney Kristen Stoddard Connor Sweatt Erica Thibeault Amanda Thompson Justin Thompson John Touchette Blake Wallace JennaMarie Webster Dylan Weeks Cameron Wright Marc Yankowsky	Gordon Murray Nathaniel Nadeau Emma Niles Robert Pellerin Taylor Perkins Julia Plante Madison Poulin Calvin Riiska Dylan Rogers Anna Smith Cameron Smith Jesse Southard Rachael Stewart Ciara Stillson Sydney Stultz Colby Sturgis Cameron Tracy Molly vanLuling Aidan Whitis
Grade 6 - Honors Nathan Bachner Wilder Baldwin Molly Barr Clayton Bassingthwaite Conor Battaglia Caitlyn Beaulieu Connor Bell Jessica Bennett Vanessa Berrill Lindsey Boylen Ian Butler Caitlin Callahan Megan Caruso Jason Catoggio Llayna Charest Cameron Choiniere Kaitlyn Clowes Gina Cobb Sydney Cowand Courtney Cushing Gabriel DiBacco David Drew Vy Duong Jessica Dusseault Holden Edwards Emily Emmons Lyndsey Estes Gabriella Fisher Tyler Fitz Mia Gallant Sawyer Hanscome Andrew Harjula Maxwell Harvey Garrett Higgins Lauren Hohman Nathaniel Hollister Rachel Hooker Christian Hubbard Olivia Ionta Kaitlyn Jodoin Heather Jordan Karalyn Kutzer Noah Lambert John Larson Colby Lewry Brogan McDonald Grace McGouldrick Zachery McGouldrick Mark McShane Sean Miller Emily Murray Lauren Nagy Emelia Nejezchleba Jack Niles Ryan Norris Mathew Norton Amelia Pappalardo Andy Pham Harrison Philbrick	Grade 7 - High Honors Mary Adams Avery Arena Kelly Aube Sally Aube Georgia Baber Trystan Bates Jake Bear Rachel Beaulieu Katherine Bennett Kathryn Bertin Delaney Burns Alyssa Carey Jamie Carter Kathryn Christianson Liberty D'Anto Brandon Desjardin Drew Eid Kara Ellsmore Travis Emerson Ryan Firmin Abigail Flint Jackson Fotter Nina Greenwood Grant Hamblen Ryan Hamblen Sophia Hendrix Cameron Holmes Madeline Joyal-Myers Jamie Juskiewicz Allison King Whitney King Elizabeth Klatt Diana Kolb Carli Labrecque Allison LaFerriere Justin Laughlin Elizabeth Lemieux Abigail Longstaff Kaylea Lundin Thomas Matthews Ethan Orach Padraic Owens Audrey Perreault Lauren Poirier Olivia Puopolo Tyler Richman Samuel Roussel Julia Roy Emma Smith Molly Sposato Samuella Spurr Raymond St. Cyr Karen Stemm Cameron Stevens Alexandra Stresser Katherine-Helene Sullivan Samuel Trautman Evelyn Turnbaugh Heather Woodbury Alex York	Grade 8 - High Honors Trenton Bassingthwaite Ross Bellino Thomas Bernier Kailyn Bowie Benjamin Bradshaw Thomas Brent Tristan Brunet Robert Campbell Nicole Couillard Caitlyn Duffy Cody Elliott Eleanor Feinberg Courtney Fitz Emerson Fox Cody Hanmer Christopher Hannon Cady Houghton Mia Kaufman Madison Keating Samuel Kilborn Aisling Kirby Nikolas Lieberum Peter Mahoney Jordanne Mercier Joseph Moutinho	Grade 8 - Honors Diana Albanese Erik Andreasen Kaylin Apt Nadia Barry Matthew Beahm Carl Bear Christopher Beland Olivia Bell Tyler Bernier Ahmed Beshir Kayleigh Bettencourt Cheyenne Boucher Emily Bragg Kevin Brewer Kyle Briggs Hailey Bryant Stanislav Butenko Chelsea Caron Nicole Caruso Amber Cavarretta Lillian Close Zachary Crockett Sara Darling Taylor Day Renee Deering Bregan DeLeon Branden Denis Jennifer Devine Madeleine DeWitt Heidi Donovan Sierra Doyle Emily Duff Sierra Eichner Sarah Flanders Joseph Gallant Connor Goodall Colin Gotschlich Dane Heckathorn Maeghan Higgins Mitchell Hobart Jacob Holmes Collin Jones Sarah Jordan Carson Kuschke Branden Kuusela Cassidy Landry Thomas Leach Mitchel Letourneau Spencer Linscott Matthew McCarty Molly Merrifield Hannah Meserve Chatham Mills Jason Nagy Benjamin Paulin Nicholas Polchies Sean Pratt Matthew Rex Brooklynne Roland William Ruby William Selens Dayna Shaw Allison Sinnett Lyndsey Sobieralski Brett Stiles Elizabeth Sullivan Riley Tardiff Jackson Trey Taylor Haley Tetreault-Kellett Jason Tracey Alyda Twilley Kalli Verrill Emilia Viernes Austin Violette Michael Walls Robert Weisman Cody West Connor White Lindsey Wilcox Nicholas Wilson Alex Young

Great Falls Food Drive

The Great Falls Elementary School community demonstrated the true meaning of kindness during the Thanksgiving season. Student Ambassadors created food drive posters and spoke to every classroom about the importance of giving back to the community of Gorham. They organized a collection of items that could be donated to the Gorham Food Pantry and set a goal of collecting 497 items, representing one item for each of the Great Falls students. Within two school days, the students exceeded their goal. Within two weeks, students donated over 1,200 items! On Tuesday, November 23, Fran Doucette, director of the Gorham Food Pantry (pictured), spoke at the school-wide assembly to celebrate contributions of the school community.



Photo credit Shannon Bartash and Denise Asselin

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Support Gorham businesses.

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Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some!)

By Michael Carleton, Jim FitzGerald, and John K. Alvarez
Original Music by Will Knapp

A madcap holiday romp!

December 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17 at 7:30 pm
Special “pay-what-you-can” matinee on
Sunday, December 11, at 2:00 pm *PG-13*

Call 642-3743 for reservations or buy tickets on-line at www.schoolhousearts.org

Schoolhouse Arts Center is located at 16 Richville Road (Route 114) in Standish, just north of the intersection of Routes 114 & 35.

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GORHAM \$196,500-Sun filled 1843 SF home w/private rear deck on 1 acre lot. 3 BR, 2 BA, 2 car gar. Lots of natural light.



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GORHAM \$167,900-Nicely done 3BR w/updated kit, wood flrs, built-ins, daylight bsmt & deck w/ private backyard. Move right in!



BUXTON \$155,500-Dates back to the 1800's. Near Saco Rvr, this lrg home has wide board flrs, many FP's, a taste of the past!



BUXTON \$185,000-Wonderful open concept living all on one flr. 2 BR, 2 BA Ranch w/center island kitchen. Super 4.59 acre lot.



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GORHAM RANCH-Immaculate 3 BR home. Sunroom w/Glenwood cookstove, FP in living room. Pristine inground pool. \$199,000



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Covering Ground

“Oh Christmas Tree, Oh Christmas Tree” Jeff O'Donal

Folks tend to worry when it comes to putting a dead tree in their home with electricity attached to it. Conventional wisdom says that a fresh tree is a safe tree and Christmas tree shoppers take time-honored steps to make sure their tree is the freshest and safest possible.

We all know the procedure. Start off by bending a branch; if it snaps, it's not fresh. Next, try to pull the needles off the end of the branch. If they come off, it's not fresh. Finally, pick up the tree and give it a good slam. If you can produce a flurry of needles, it's not fresh.

I picture row upon row of trees in our nursery with broken branches and missing needles. Besides a Christmas tree, does any other consumer product go through this type of abuse before we buy it? I don't think anybody would try to pull the arms off a doll before they bought it, do you?

While there is no question that a dried tree can rapidly increase the intensity of a house fire, a freshly cut tree, properly maintained in the home, will not be a safety hazard.

Before placing your tree in a stand, slice at least one half inch off the base of the trunk. This opens the pores of the vascular system and allows the tree to pull water to its top. After the tree is set up, never allow the reservoir to go dry. Keep the tree as far away from a heating source as possible. In fact, keeping the room as cool as possible will prolong the condition of the tree.

It is generally accepted that when a live evergreen endures three nights of mid-twenty degree temperatures in the late fall, their needles are “set”, meaning the needles will not just fall off as time goes by. That's why, when put outside after Christmas, last year's tree kept its green color all winter long and only turned brown after the spring thaw.

Be safe this holiday season... and treat those trees gently!

Jeff O'Donal is a Maine Certified Nursery Professional and owner of O'Donal's Nursery in Gorham with over 40 year of experience in the plant industry.

New Senior Center Thrives

Cheryl Squires

Gorham's new Senior Center located at the former Little Falls School at 40 Acorn Street opened September 24 and already has 73 members. The Center is a place for people aged 50+ to gather. Glenn Lynds, currently the acting president, had an idea for a Senior Center – a place where friends could meet and make new friends, where there would be activities and events for seniors. A committee is planning events and activities as well as fundraising. There is a movie room and a gym available for use. There are also games, puzzles and a piano.

The Center is planning a variety of events: TRIAD will speak on safety tips, a Norway Savings Representative will offering advice on how to avoid scams, and there will be a program on hand-

writing analysis. All events are open to everyone, whether a member or not.

On December 21 there will be a Christmas party at 11 a.m. with a pot-luck and a celebration of December birthdays. A pianist will attend the Christmas party, and there will be a sing along. There will be a monthly calendar of events, which will be mailed out to members and placed on community bulletin boards. They want to thank everyone for all the donations that have helped to create this Senior Center. They still need a standing cabinet with doors and were wondering if anyone had a Wii machine and/or games that they could donate.

The center is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and costs \$10 a year to join.

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DRAMATIC HOME Panoramic views 5-7 bedroom home. Gorgeous woodwork abounds, crown moldings, wainscoting, grand foyer, in-law suite and more! \$500,000



37 Black Brook Drive—Spectacular 4 bedroom colonial near the village. Granite kitchen, new appliances, new flooring, master suite, public water. Home Warranty- \$369,879



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Spectacular Concord Court—Single floor living luxury condo in village with Master bedroom suite. Open floor plan with high ceilings, granite kitchen, 4 season sun room deck, and huge finished bonus room. Great value! \$274,874



113 Dow Road—Country living on this beautiful almost new colonial. Offers 4 bedrooms with open floor plan stainless appliances. Great space! \$298,847



174 South Street—4 Bedroom charming Village antique farmhouse with sunroom and many original features. Home warranty and priced to sell! \$189,897



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Swim Team Kicks Off Inaugural Season

Ryan Baillargeon



Photo credit Rich Obrey

The GHS swim team is about to kick off its inaugural season December 9 vs. Falmouth at the Casco Bay YMCA in Freeport. Competing for the team this year and pictured above, front row, from left to right: Timmer Sposato, Lukas Willoughby, Caleb Goodall and Max Storer. Second row: Sidney Hobart, Natasha Libby, Krista Boylen, Hannah Currier, Ashley Clark, Gabby Bagala and Head Coach Laura Branch. Back row: Blanca Monsen, Meaghan Thomsen, Lindsey Thomson, Charlene Landry, Kristen Nelson and Logan Letourneau. Missing from the photo are Brandi Emerson, Sabrina Rowell and Assistant Coach Sarah Rubin.

As reported previously in the Gorham Times, the Gorham School Committee approved the Gorham High School Swim Team as a formal program on June 8. The swimmers from GHS that had to compete individually for the Westbrook H.S. team now have the opportunity to represent their own school. The team still holds practices and meets at the Westbrook pool (at the old middle school), but each swimmer's points will now go towards a Gorham team score.

New head coach Laura Branch brings the extensive experience that a first year program needs. Branch has nearly twenty-five years of experience coaching swimming and has seen a lot of talent and potential during the team's first few practices. "I am very excited for the season because the kids are motivated to improve, and they want to win", said Branch. She knows that, despite this being the first year for Gorham swimming, the individuals that competed last year were very successful. Now they hope to carry that success to the team level.

Gorham will bring sixteen girls and four boys to their first meet on

December 9th vs. Falmouth at the Casco Bay YMCA in Freeport. Athletes are allowed to swim in two individual races and two relay races, so the short-handed boys' team will most likely be faced with a heavy workload. This is the first time the boys will be able to field a relay team, which is comprised of four athletes. The girls' team has the numbers and talent to outperform the expectations of most first-year programs.

Most of the twenty swimmers on the team either swam individually in the meets last year or have experience from club teams. "One of the most challenging differences between club teams and high school is the team factor," Branch said. "Swimming is often viewed as an individual sport, but with relays and individual scores going towards the overall team score, it is far from an individual sport."

The team's second meet takes place December 16 vs. Westbrook at the old Westbrook Middle School on 426 Bridge Street. Both the athletes and Branch are excited to compete as a team because they know their potential far exceeds the typical results of first-year programs.

Upcoming GHS Varsity Sports Line-Up

- Friday, December 9**
5:30 p.m. Boys' and Girls' Track, multi-team meet @ USM
7:00 p.m. Boys' Basketball vs. Scarborough @ GHS
7:00 p.m. Boys' and Girls' Swimming vs. Falmouth @ Casco Bay YMCA, Freeport
8:30 p.m. Girls' Hockey vs. Cape Elizabeth @ USM

- Saturday, December 10**
3:00 p.m. Boys' Hockey vs. Marshwood @ Dover (NH) Arena
6:50 p.m. Girls' Hockey vs. Yarmouth @ Travis Roy Arena (Yarmouth)

For up-to-date schedules of all GHS sports teams, visit www.highschoolsports.net

Burn-Off-The-Turkey Race Results

Compiled by Jeff Pike



Photo credit Martha T. Harris

On Your Mark, Get Set: 338 runners and walkers get ready for the start of the Burn-Off-The-Turkey 5K Race coordinated by the Gorham Recreation Department on November 26.

Under sunny skies and warm weather for this time of year, the 14th Annual Burn-Off-The-Turkey 5K Run took place November 26, starting from the Gorham Rec. Department, which coordinated the race. A total of 338 runners and walkers competed, with Claton Conrad of North Yarmouth winning the men's race in a time of 15:55 and Kristine Guaradlo of South Portland winning the women's race with a time of 19:29.

Top ten finishers from Gorham in the men's race included Peter Downing, who finished fourth with a time of 17:49 and was the top male in the 30-39 age division; Jesse Orach, fifth at 17:50 and the top male in the 15-19 division; and Nate Gervais, who finished sixth with a time of 18:54. In the women's race, top-ten finishers included Shane Zerillo (5th - 22:22), Sarah Plummer

(6th - 22:44), Neile Nelson (8th - 23:34), Lauren Pierce (9th - 23:39) and 11-year-old Bridget Rossignol, who finished 10th with a time of 23:48 and also won the female 14-and-under division.

Other gender/age division winners from Gorham included Ben Foster (20:39 - male 14-and-under), Colleen Ward (25:09 - female 15-19), Diane Bell (26:30 - female 60-69), and Kenneth Curtis (24:22 - male 70-and-over)

In the walker division, which was won by Debbie Howe of Waterford with a time of 36:08, top-ten finishers from Gorham included Jennifer Eaton (2nd - 38:15), Mykaila Rush (8th - 43:34), Laurie Frazier (9th - 43:58), and Ian Luciano (10th - 45:15).

Below is a complete listing of runners and walkers from Gorham as listed on www.coolrunning.com.

RUNNERS

Place	Name	Time	98	Daniel Masterson	26:00
4	Peter Downing	17:49	104	Tammy Woodbury	26:15
5	Jesse Orach	17:50	105	Amelia Masterson	26:21
6	Nathaniel Gervais	18:54	106	Karen Gaudette	26:24
14	Jonathan Gray	20:18	107	Terry Deering	26:26
16	Tim Zerillo	20:23	108	Matthew Caldwell	26:29
17	Jonathan Harvey	20:30	109	Diane Bell	26:30
21	Jon Foster	20:38	111	Mike McInnis	26:44
23	Ben Foster	20:39	112	Allie Harris	26:49
27	Nate Bucknell	21:18	113	Amy Smith	26:51
28	Ethan Orach	21:20	114	Ed Donohue	26:51
30	Dick Graves	21:29	115	Connor Goodall	26:55
34	Dino Desanctis	21:52	116	Leeanna Gray	26:57
35	Jeff Rosenblatt	21:54	118	Quincy Shaw	27:08
37	Charlie Whitehead	22:01	120	Jennie Porto	27:17
39	Shane Zerillo	22:22	121	Julie Chandler	27:20
40	Collin Jones	22:26	124	Theresa Knight	27:27
42	Anton Gulovsen	22:33	125	Mark Curtis	27:30
45	Sarah Plummer	22:44	127	Brad Bingham	27:40
46	Scott Owens	22:47	129	Robert Lavoie	27:55
48	Mark Steege	22:59	131	Don Hulke	28:09
49	Denis Albert	23:17	132	Mitch Rossignol	28:13
50	Wilkins Rossignol	23:20	133	Lee Rossignol	28:14
52	Neile Nelson	23:34	134	Lindsay Buteau	28:18
55	Lauren Pierce	23:39	135	Kelly Greenier	28:19
57	Bridget Rossignol	23:48	136	Samantha Langle Turnbaugh	28:20
58	Brian Darling	23:54	138	Stephanie Bingham	28:21
59	Dale Rines	23:54	139	Rebecca Curtis	28:22
63	Kristal Jean	24:12	140	Rene Deering	28:22
66	Kenneth Curtis	24:22	146	Dave Willis	28:35
67	Mike Chabot	24:31	147	Jennie Willis	28:35
68	Shannon Williford	24:33	148	Bruce Sutherland	28:38
70	Andrew Eaton	24:45	149	Jeff McCrestey	28:40
72	Dan McEachin	24:49	151	Gary Eaton	28:40
73	Kimberly Negrich	24:52	153	Grace Eaton	28:52
75	Abraham Eaton	25:06	154	Claire Miner	28:54
76	Chris Goodall	25:07	157	Robert Gava	29:00
77	Colleen Ward	25:09	158	Jeff Douglass	29:01
80	Samantha Owens	25:18	160	Pamela Baldwin	29:03
81	Aaron Bergeron	25:19	161	Tom Nelson	29:04
82	Sarah Morrell	25:21	162	Brady Wintle	29:09
84	Branden Kuusela	25:36	163	Shelby Wintle	29:09
86	Andre Labrie	25:37	165	Kathy Bowe	29:18
91	Linda Whitten	25:42	166	Andrea Benvie	29:21
92	Mikaela Howie	25:45	168	Paul Eaton	29:33
94	Katie Bern	25:53	169	Max Harvey	29:33
95	Luci Pike	25:53	170	Meagan Farr	29:43
96	Hannah Lilly	25:59	171	Kristin Goodall	29:46
97	Andrew Morrell	25:59	172	Maria McInnis	29:53

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

All-State Soccer Selection



Photo credit Rich Obrey

GHS senior Kiersten Turner was named to the Maine Sunday Telegram Girls' Soccer All-State Team at the midfielder position. Turner scored 13 goals on the season with nine assists to lead the Rams to a 14-0 regular season record and a spot in the Western Maine Class A finals. Turner is shown here in action against Scarborough.

Burn Off the Turkey

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

173	Vicky Kahan	29:55	253	Ashley Gaudette	35:23
174	Cameron Wright	29:57	254	Ronald Smith	35:36
175	Jamie Wright	29:58	256	Susan Sinnett	35:42
176	Jason Schucker	29:58	257	Michael Sinnett	35:51
177	Melissa Deering	30:05	261	Sara Darling	36:21
178	Karen DiDonato	30:09	264	Marci Delaney	36:32
180	Olivia Owens	30:16	266	Chelsea Caron	36:45
187	Julia Gaudette	31:00	267	Taila Wintle	36:49
189	Joanne Nichols	31:03	268	Laura Smith	36:52
190	Andrew MacFeat	31:03	269	Susan Emerson	36:52
191	Chris Sawtelle	31:03	270	Audrey Theriault	37:19
192	Katrina Werbinski	31:07			
194	Toni Chabot	31:22			
196	Kathleen Dimick	31:29			
198	Catherine Whitehead	31:35			
199	Sharon Deering	31:37			
200	Rob Landry	32:03			
201	Brittney Landry	32:04			
202	Rachel Eaton	32:06			
203	Kyle Landry	32:07			
204	Amanda Landry	32:09			
206	Brett Demichael	32:13			
207	Denise Whitehead	32:19			
212	Sarah Shields	32:47			
214	Rob Shields	32:52			
215	Adrienne Abbott	32:54			
217	Jean Roberts	32:55			
218	Jean Rappleyea	32:56			
220	Sam Orlando	33:00			
221	Keith Orlando	33:01			
226	Alex Smith	33:10			
230	Anna Nelson	33:31			
233	Matthew Nelson	33:35			
234	Michele Michaud	33:57			
235	Kristen Lehmann	34:07			
236	Evelyn Turnbaugh	34:12			
237	Esther Eaton	34:14			
241	Lore MacFeat	34:48			
244	Alicia Kent	34:54			
246	Corey Theriault	35:10			
247	Leah Sturm	35:10			
248	Jonathan Sturm	35:11			
250	Candice Dube	35:22			

WALKERS

Place	Name	Time
273	Jennifer Eaton	38:15
274	Nicole Couillard	38:28
275	Laura Rancourt	38:36
279	Charity Morin	40:43
285	Terri Darling	41:35
286	Dana Redmond	42:06
289	Marissa Rush	42:33
291	Lisa Dall	42:52
292	Sandra Ward	42:52
295	Mykaila Rush	43:34
297	Laurie Frazier	43:58
298	Allison Sinnett	44:01
301	Ian Luciano	45:15
302	Bobbi Luciano	45:36
309	Kattia Lomando	48:15
310	Mark Clinch	48:17
318	Douglas Owens	49:54
320	Jeannine Owens	49:55
321	Jodi McCann	49:56
322	Lisa Hill	49:57
323	Althea Masterson	52:06
325	Alysha Deering	52:08
326	Whitney Emerson	52:09
327	Donna Kennie	52:13
330	Julie Hutchins	53:09
335	Jack Luciano	57:21
336	Peter Luciano	58:00

sports Etc.

High School Rec Basketball League: GHS students can now participate in a high school basketball league run by the Gorham Recreational Department. Practices start in mid December, and teams will practice at least once per week and play games once per week. Schedule will include teams from neighboring towns

as well as from Gorham. Current GHS school team basketball players are not eligible. Practice and game days will be determined after registration and may vary based on the number of teams. Volunteer coaches are needed. FMI contact Alan Grady at 222-1633 or agrady@gorham.me.us.

in the Zone

Gorham Field Hockey Players Shine at College Level: Kayleigh Ballantyne (GHS '10), a sophomore forward on the Bryant University (Rhode Island) field hockey team, tied for second on the team in goals scored on the season with four, including one game winner. She played in all 18 of the team's games



Photo courtesy of Bryant University

as Bryant finished 8-10 on the season. Hannah Prince (GHS '10), a teammate of Ballantyne's in high school and a sophomore defender for the Division I University of Massachusetts field hockey team, started in all 18 games as the team finished 7-11 on the season.



Photo credit Thom Kendall Photography

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OF INTEREST

Thomas Bennett auditioned and was accepted to perform in the prestigious Gettysburg College Musical Group. Bennett is a member of the Jazz and Percussion Ensembles, Wind Symphony, Bullets Marching Band and Orchestra.

Samuel Broadus, MD was honored as one of the first “Healthcare Heroes” at a recent award luncheon. Broadus, a senior physician at Maine Medical Partners - Urology in South Portland, was recognized for his long-time volunteer efforts providing surgical expertise to hospitals and surgeons in Haiti, Egypt, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and other countries.



Gorham students Estelle Ballard, Annemarie Dellasala, Nathaniel Dombek, Charlotte Feinberg, Kate Larkin, Delaney Patten-Harris, Marissa Patten-Harris and Monica Willey performed in Maine State Ballet’s “The Nutcracker,” at the Merrill Auditorium.

The following Gorham students recently performed as part of the USM School of Music Student Ensembles: Timothy Bums, Concert Band; Jennifer Kennedy, Chamber Singers; James McDonald, Chamber Singers; Karissa Nelsen, Chorale and Concert Band; Drew Pitteroff, Jazz Ensemble; Erin Pulley, Concert Band and Michelle Rawding, Chorale.

Gorham-Westbrook TRIAD is now offering sand pails for senior citizens to use on icy steps and walkways this winter. The pails were donated by Cook’s Hardware and TrueValue Hardware. FMI, 222-1681 and for Westbrook residents 854-0644. Please leave a message.

The Gorham High School Key Club will host the 3rd annual “Breakfast with Santa” on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 8 to 10 a.m. at

the Cressey Road United Methodist Church. This event will benefit Operation Tribute, an organization that provides holiday gifts for children of Maine’s military families. \$5pp. FMI, 221-0296.

The Baxter Memorial Library “Giving Tree” program will once again collect unwrapped gifts for teens and ‘tweens (ages 10-18) now through Dec. 18. Appropriate gifts might include books, movie tickets, cosmetics, toiletries, and winter accessories. Donated items will be distributed to families of our local food pantry. FMI, 839-5031.

Share holiday cheer at the LifeChurch “Old Fashioned Christmas” on Friday, Dec. 16 from 6-8 p.m. (Snow date Dec. 18, 4-6 p.m.) Bonfire, sleigh and tractor rides, live nativity, hot cocoa, cookies and more! All free. FMI, 839-6354.

Project Graduation will meet on Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Gorham High School Library. Parents of GHS seniors are encouraged to attend. Fundraising and event planning will be discussed. FMI, suedunn@maine.rr.com.

USM NOTES

USM Department of Theatre will present its annual dance concert, DANCE USM!, highlighting the talents of student dancers and choreographers from Dec. 8 to 11 at Russell Hall, USM campus. \$15/\$11/\$8. FMI, 780-5151.

CLOSE TO HOME

Saint Joseph’s College will offer a Babysitter’s Training & First Aid Certification on Sunday, Dec. 18, at the Harold Alfond Center from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost is \$55 and geared toward 11-15 year-olds. FMI, 893-6615 or e-mail rdaigle@sjcme.edu.

There will be a Public Baked Bean Supper on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 5-6 p.m. at the Westbrook-Warren Community Church, 810 Main St., Westbrook. \$7/\$3. The WWCC will also hold a Free Christmas Day Dinner on



Dancers Maddie Poulin, Mikki Leskowsky, Bella Moulton, Jamie Carter, Kelly Aube, Alex Pinkham, Maggy Aube, Grace Perron, Alicia Hannan, Nicole Labbe, Alexis Pinkham and Olivia Garrard from The Dance Studio of Maine in Gorham, entertained shoppers at the Maine Mall on “Black Friday.”



Pixel Williams, a Chihuahua from Gorham, and Bobby Silcott, President of the Maine POM Project, recently presented two sets of Pet Oxygen Masks to the Gorham Fire Department. L-R: Bobby Silcott and his two dogs, Pixel and her human, Sterling Williams, and Gorham firefighter Daleleen Leighton.

Sunday, Dec. 25 from 12 to 2 p.m. FMI, 761-1857.

Turkey Supper on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 4:45 to 6 p.m. \$8/\$4 under 12. FMI, 854-2379.

Highland Lake Grange, corner of Rt. 302 and Hardy Road in Westbrook, will have a

THE SOCIAL CONNECTION

Like us on Facebook to enter into a drawing to win a pair of tickets to a Portland Pirates game. All current fans of facebook.com/gorhamtimes will also be entered into the drawing. We will announce the lucky winner in the next issue of the Gorham Times.



OUR APOLOGIES

In the Community section of the November 24th edition, we reported that Stephanie Morin graduated from Gorham High School in 2007. Morin actually graduated in 2010.

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New Bus Helps Expand Assisted Living Resident Activities

Michelle Warner, Business Services Manager, Inn at Village Square



Photo credit Martha T. Harris

Eager to board the new bus are from left to right driver Julie Perkins and residents Yvonne Biskup, Shirley Lally, Agnes Dyke, Mae Daniels, and Majorie Scheuis.

The Inn at Village Square, an Assisted Living Community licensed for 37 residents, located at 123 School Street in Gorham, is happy to announce the arrival of its new 14-passenger bus. Residents and staff are very excited about this wonderful new addition.

The Inn will continue to use its six-passenger minivan for small group trips and to take residents to medical appointments; however, the new bus will allow the expansion of the Resident Activities Program by providing many more trip related activities for larger groups. These include shopping trips to local stores as well as area restaurants and performances. The bus

will also allow a greater number of residents to go for seasonal rides such as “foliage tours” and “holiday light tours” and gatherings with other assisted living facilities.

The bus has 12 passenger seats plus it accommodates up to two wheelchairs. It has a lift that can be used for wheelchairs or residents who have difficulty with stairs. As such, it provides greater access to all of our current and future residents. The bus was made available with the help of generous donations from People’s United Bank.

Look for the bus in the Gorham Holiday Light Parade! For more information about the Inn at Village Square, visit www.innatvillagesquare.org.

EXTRA EXTRA

The Gorham Times will publish an extra edition this year on December 22, 2011! Advertisers, consider thanking your loyal customers, wish them a happy holiday and/or advertise those last minute gift ideas. Ad deadline is Wednesday, December 14.

GorhamTimes

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the

blotter

Courtesy of the Gorham Police Department

Looking in the Mirror: Do My Chipmunk Cheeks Look Fat?

North Gorham Road caller reported having a chipmunk locked in their bathroom and were looking for some sort of assistance in getting it removed.

Narragansett Street caller got kicked out of their house and would like to know how they can get all of their belongings back.

Queen Street caller reported they were receiving calls from someone who said they were with Republic Cash who asked for information about two checks caller wrote that were processed by the bank.

Gray Road caller requested to speak with an officer regarding a young male who contacted caller regarding an issue on which the male needed guidance.

Burnham Road caller reported that a relative would not let them leave.

Main Street caller reported that there was a female subject out behind the store acting strangely.

Longfellow Road caller reported that a neighbor did not like them riding their tractor on the dirt road.

County Road caller reported that their residence had been burgled and items were missing.

North Gorham Road caller reported that there were loose cows on the hill in the road.

Caller requested to speak with an officer regarding a picture that was posted on the Gorham Police Department's Facebook page.

The Warden Service requested assistance from the Gorham Police in putting a disabled fox out of its misery.

Crestwood Drive caller reported two unoccupied, suspicious vehicles parked at the end of the road. Operators were looking for a place to hunt.

Kinney Road caller reported that their home had been burgled while they were away.

Bridal Path Drive caller reported that they found a cardboard box with a dead kitten inside. Caller thought there may have been more.


Sebago Lake Road caller reported that a cat walked on to their property and died.

Maryann Drive caller reported that their garage had been broken into and items were missing.


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calendar

THURSDAY, DEC. 8

- Gorham Food Pantry, 9-11 a.m.(located in St. Anne's Catholic Church parking lot)

FRIDAY, DEC. 9

- Gorham/Westbrook TRIAD Meeting, Gorham Town Hall, 8:45 a.m. FMI, 839-2948.
- Early Release for Grades K-12.

SATURDAY, DEC. 10

- Free Seatbelt Check, Gorham Fire Department, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

TUESDAY, DEC. 13

- Project Graduation Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Gorham High School library. Parents of GHS seniors welcome. FMI, suedunn@maine.rr.com.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 14

- Toddlers in the Library, 10-10:30 a.m., No. Gorham Public Library. FMI, 892-2575.
- Prayer Shawl Knitting Group, 1-2:30 p.m., St. Anne's Catholic Church. All are welcome. FMI, 839-4857.
- Senior Community Meal, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., St. Anne's Catholic Church, \$3.50. FMI, 839-4857.

- Gorham Food Pantry, 6-7:30 p.m. (located in St. Anne's Catholic Church parking lot)

THURSDAY, DEC. 15

- Story Hour for 3-5 yr. olds, 10-11 a.m., No. Gorham Public Library. Stories, songs & crafts. FMI, 892-2575.
- Gorham Food Pantry, 9-11 a.m.(located in St. Anne's Catholic Church parking lot)

FRIDAY, DEC. 16

- "Old Fashioned Christmas," 6-8 p.m. (Snow date Dec. 18, 4-6 p.m.) LifeChurch, 8 Elkins Rd., Gorham. All free. FMI, 839-6354.

MONDAY, DEC. 19

- Gorham Food Pantry, 6-7 p.m. (located in St. Anne's Catholic Church parking lot)

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 21

- Toddlers in the Library, 10-10:30 a.m., No. Gorham Public Library. FMI, 892-2575.
- Prayer Shawl Knitting Group, 1-2:30 p.m., St. Anne's Catholic Church. All are welcome. FMI, 839-4857.
- Senior Community Meal, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., St. Anne's Catholic Church, \$3.50. FMI, 839-4857.

The Gorham Ecumenical Food Pantry is open every Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m., the second Wednesday of the month from 6 to 7 p.m., and the third Monday of the month from 6 to 7 p.m. Open to anyone in need of food. The Pantry is located at 299 B Main Street in the Saint Anne's Church parking lot (across from Narragansett Elementary School).

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