

Gorham Times

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Property Tax Relief for Seniors

EDMUND RICKER
Contributing Writer

On January 2, the Gorham Town Council voted 5 to 2 to adopt the Property Tax Assistance Ordinance, which will establish a program to provide property tax assistance to persons 65 years of age and over who reside in the Town of Gorham. Under this program, which goes into effect this year, the Town of Gorham will provide refund payments of up to \$500 to those individuals who maintain a homestead in the Town of Gorham and meet the criteria established in the ordinance.

Applicants with income less than 90% of the current US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) median family income of \$68,000 in 2017 will be eligible for this program. The maximum benefit will be \$500 and the minimum benefit will be \$200.

Applications, which will be available in the Town Clerk's office, will be due no later than August 1 of the year for which the refund is requested, and will be required for every year the applicant seeks to participate in the program. Applicants shall also submit proof of property taxes paid or rent constituting property taxes paid during the tax year on the individual's homestead in the Town of Gorham.

The Town Clerk's decision on eligibility to participate and benefit base amount in the program are final. Appeals to the Town Clerk's determinations are to be submitted in writing to the Town Council within 14 days of the Town Clerk's or the designee's determinations. The Town Council will then review and make a determination within 30 days of receipt of an appeal.

A person who qualifies for payment under this program shall be mailed a check for the amount of the benefit he/she is eligible for no later than 30 days from the date of Council approval of the application for the year in which participation is sought.

It is unknown at this time how many residents will apply and/or be eligible for benefits under this new ordinance. The first two years will be used as a benchmark to help establish the amount of funds to be budgeted from the Town's general fund to pay for these benefits.

Happy Healthy Gorham Returns

Growing Gratitude in Gorham

KIM ARENA
Happy Healthy Gorham
Co-Director

What does every one of us in Gorham have in common? We all want to be happy and healthy. How can we improve both? Try practicing gratitude. Gratitude researcher and guru, Robert Emmons defines gratitude as "an affirmation of goodness." Gratitude brings us happiness, feelings of optimism, joy and pleasure. Gratitude also reduces anxiety and depression. Gratitude is like a free super drug! Practicing gratitude has been proven to help people sleep better, make us more resilient, better able to recover from traumatic events, and strengthen our immune systems.

Practicing gratitude is just cultivating your response to wonderful things around us each and every day. The opportunities to practice are everywhere. Pause to appreciate an especially beautifully colored evening sky, the sparkle of icy tree branches in the bright sun, a sweet smile on a child's face, paved roads and schools, friends

and family, or...be grateful for running water and electricity at the flip of a switch or turn of a knob.

Last May, a community based health initiative to make Gorham 'The Happiest and Healthiest Town in Maine' was launched with four, weeklong themes: Moving Naturally, Kindling Kindness, Growing Gratitude, and Eating Well. Happy Healthy Gorham will be celebrating the power of Gratitude, the third theme, during the week of February 25 - March 3 with a series of two activities:

We will be welcoming Robert Emmons, Ph.D., a professor of Psychology at University of California Davis, and perhaps the world's leading scientific expert on gratitude, to Gorham. Robert Emmons is also a 1980 graduate of USM.

We will be encouraging residents to create 'Maine's Largest Gratitude Art Installation' near Baxter Library by tying 'gratitude ribbons' along the walkway from South Street towards the library.

Try making gratitude a new habit,



write down ten things you are grateful for everyday for one month. Start a gratitude journal, taking a few minutes every day to write a few things you are thankful for. Share gratitude this week by letting someone know how grateful you are for them in your life, or write a note to someone in your past to thank them for something they did that made a difference, big or small. Appreciate what others do for you, and share that appreciation.

An ancient Jewish legend says that the world will only be complete when everyone can identify one hundred blessings in their lives each day. Those who rate themselves as having a grateful disposition often feel more loving, forgiving and joyful. Be generous with gratitude for it is contagious.

Look in the next edition of the Gorham Times for more information about Emmons' upcoming discussions in Gorham on Feb 28 and March 1. Visit our Facebook page or www.happyhealthygorham.org to learn more about Gratitude week.

Cold Snap's Effect on Fuel

SHERI FABER
Staff Writer

How to Prevent Frozen Pipes

Courtesy of the Red Cross

Keep garage doors closed if there are water supply lines in the garage.

Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing.

When the weather is very cold outside, let the cold water drip from the faucet served by exposed pipes. Running water through the pipe - even at a trickle - helps prevent pipes from freezing.

Keep the thermostat set to the same temperature both during the day and at night. By temporarily suspending the use of lower nighttime temperatures, you may incur a higher heating bill, but you can prevent a much more costly repair job if pipes freeze and burst.

If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temperature no lower than 55° F.

The month of January was a challenge for many of us. A snowstorm that dumped as much as 18 inches on the ground, coupled with the bitter cold, left people worried about not only getting their fuel deliveries before they ran out, but also the potential damage from frozen pipes. Fuel companies were so overwhelmed with calls from people looking for deliveries that some were not able to respond either by phone or by e-mail.

Even those with automatic delivery were concerned, especially after not being able to reach their providers. For those who were not on automatic delivery, the possibility of not getting a delivery before they ran out loomed even larger.

One local fuel provider hired a security guard to supervise the numerous people who, unable to get through by phone or e-mail, ventured to the company's headquarters wanting to talk to someone in person to determine when they might expect a delivery.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

the blotter

The Blotter Returns!

Thank you to the Gorham PD for sending us the information that enables us to begin publishing the Blotter again on page 15. We are happy to restore this popular feature.

**GORHAM HIGH SCHOOL
TAKES ON UNIFIED
BASKETBALL PAGE 11**

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**SEE PAGE 9 FOR
GHS MUSICAL
REVIEW**

Policy on News from Augusta: The Gorham Times asked our three state legislators from Senate District 30, House District 26 and House District 27 to provide us with "News from Augusta." We publish their articles on a rotating basis. The submissions are devoted to updates of legislative and administrative news, proposed and passed bills and laws, and developments and events that are of interest and have an impact to Gorham residents. The Gorham Times reserves the right to edit the submissions and it further reserves the right to reject any submission, in its sole discretion.

Working for Gorham

REP. MAUREEN TERRY

Since I started serving Gorham in the Legislature a little more than a year ago, it's been such an amazing experience and a great honor for me. I'm so proud that I get to be your voice in Augusta. Every day when I walk across the threshold of the State House, I think of the people back home who get up and go to work every day to help make our community and state a better place. I focus on how I can be the best representative I can be for them, because they are my inspiration. That's the perspective I bring to every issue we hear and every vote I take.

This year, there are a number of important issues that the Legislature will consider, and I will work hard to make sure our town is well represented. I'm focused on having the backs of Gorham families, whether it's expanding access to health care or fairly funding our schools.

Last November, Maine voters finally got the chance to weigh in on MaineCare expansion at the polls and they delivered access to health care to 70,000 Maine people. Both statewide and here

in Gorham, 59 percent of voters demanded what the governor and his allies have tried to block for years. MaineCare expansion is now the law of the land, and everyone who takes their responsibility as a public servant seriously needs to respect that.

Another important issue I am following is the impact of the recent education funding changes on our community. The state funds about half the education costs statewide. Here in Gorham, we receive slightly more—about 57 percent. The last two-year state budget recognized that education costs have gone up over the last few years due to a number of factors including rising special education and technical education costs. Last year, I fought for increased education funding across our state to ensure our schools, teachers and children have the resources they need to succeed. Unfortunately, the governor and some legislators were willing to shut down the government to prevent a sustainable funding source that would have increased funding even more.

The cost of education is continuing to rise, and Gorham, along with dozens of other towns across the

state will have to grapple with how we keep up with them. I am committed to working with our local education officials and my colleagues on the Legislature's Education Committee to address ballooning cost drivers and prevent harm to our schools. Our kids deserve the best education we can give them, our property taxpayers should be treated fairly and I will do everything in my power to make sure the funding structure meets Gorham's needs.

Of course, there's so much more that we'll be working on, including implementing recommendations to combat the opiate crisis that's claiming too many lives in Maine and across the country. I want to hear from you about these and any other issues before the Legislature. Please contact me with any questions or comments.



Rep. Maureen "Mo" Terry is serving her first term in the Maine House of Representatives. She is a chef and small business owner with more than 25 years of experience in the food service industry. She serves on the Taxation Committee. (207) 712-9735, (800) 423-2900, maureen.terry@legislature.maine.gov

Cold Snap's Effect on Fuel

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Fuel dealers undoubtedly did their best with at least one large company paying substantial bonuses to its drivers to work seven days a week until all of its customers had oil.

Compounding the problem is that propane tanks are the property of the company that originally provided them and have the name of the company on the tank. No company is supposed to put propane in another company's tank, but in this emergency situation, this prohibition was set aside by some dealers.

Sen. Bill Diamond, D-Windham, recently sponsored a proposal that would change a current law to allow propane companies to fill tanks that do not belong to them without incurring liability during declared weather emergencies. Diamond said that during a prolonged cold spell, the measure would allow propane companies to step in for one another to ensure that no one suffers from the cold.

Both diesel and kerosene can be used in place of fuel oil though they are more expensive. Both can be purchased at area gas stations and other locations but require special cans.

In the end, it appears that everyone survived and eventually got oil. Perhaps in the future, it would make sense to realize how quickly the system can flounder in the face of bitter cold weather and plan to have a delivery earlier than normal, just in case.

Letters to the Editor

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

Dear Editor:

I am writing to publicly acknowledge the extraordinary customer service I received from the Gorham Hardware Store, which used to be the old Cooks Hardware. It was during that second cold blast that went on for days, and I was watching the home of a neighbor, whose unheated back room toilet water was now turning into block ice. I knew I had to do something, and raced to the store to buy antifreeze. What I found was the store lights out and the last employee getting into the cab of his idling truck. I wasn't even sure if the antifreeze was the best thing to do, or if it was too late for that. I took a chance, jumped out of my car, and

went over to his truck window. He looked up. He listened to my question about using antifreeze after freezing had begun, he clarified about using RV antifreeze, and then he did something unexpected and wonderful. He got out of his truck, went into the darkened store, came out with two gallons of antifreeze, and told me to come by in the morning to pay him. All of this in the dark and bitter cold, after hours, for an old lady. He saved the day!

I just want to again say thank you to a very kind man who works at a great community hardware store. It is such acts of thoughtfulness that remind me of the good that still happens in the world.

Donna Waterman

Around Town

According to MaineLifeRealEstate.com, in 2017, Gorham had a 3.32% increase in the number of homes sold (280) and a leap in median price from \$260,800 to \$296,250, an increase of 13.59%, making it on the top ten list of "Hottest Towns in Maine."

Town Manager Ephrem Paraschak and Finance Director Sharon Laflamme met with FEMA and MEMA reps recently regarding the federal aid/reimbursement process for the October/November 2017 wind storm to determine if the town will be eligible for reimbursement on some of the expense of storm emergency and cleanup efforts. A determination will not be made for several months.

Town staff met with METRO on the primary route and stops in Gorham for the new Husky Line that will run from the Gorham USM Campus to Westbrook and Portland beginning in late August. There will be at least one stop in each direction within easy walking distance of the Village Center and additional stops are being evaluated by METRO.

BRINGING THE NEWS TO ALL OF GORHAM
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Legislators Share Their Current Priorities

COMPILED BY JOHN ERSEK
Contributing Writer

As part of an effort to obtain more information for Gorham Times' readers about Maine's legislative process, we contacted each of the three members of the Legislature who currently represent Gorham. We asked them to send the Times a list of their top four or five priorities for the current session.

Senator Amy Volk
(R-Scarborough), amy.volk@legislature.maine.gov:

An Act To Allow Former Military Medical Personnel To Perform Certain Medical Services: Medics who have been trained by our armed forces often find themselves under-employed in the civilian world, in spite of our health care professional shortage. This bill, which won unanimous support in my committee, will change that by placing certain medical professionals trained by our armed forces on an easier pathway to licensure as medical assistants.

An Act To Enact the Maine Fair Chance Employment Act: This bill is part of the national "ban the box" movement to give job-seekers with prior arrest or conviction records a fair chance at employment by ensuring public employers conduct interviews to determine whether someone is a good fit for a position before they conduct a background investigation. I believe this is an important policy change as one third of Americans have an arrest or criminal record. Over half of the states around the country have already adopted some form of fair-chance policy.

An Act To Provide Economic Security to Maine Families through the Creation of a Paid Family Medical Leave System: This bill would create a program run by the Department of Labor that employees can pay into, on a purely voluntary basis, to ensure that when the time comes to begin their families, seek medical treatment or care for a family member who is ill, they are eligible to receive 66 percent of their wages for a certain period of time. This legislation will make it easier for Maine employers to offer this important benefit in order to recruit young employees to our state.

An Act To Protect Economic Competitiveness in Maine by Extending the End Date for Pine Tree Development Zones: This would extend the Pine Tree Development Zone program for another five years. This program has been instrumental in encouraging new business investments around the state, but my committee hopes to implement certain recommended accountability reforms in order to ensure that the program continues with its original focus on growing industry in rural Maine.

An Act To Protect Maine's Economy by Slowing the Rate at Which the State's Minimum Wage Will Increase and Establishing a Training and Youth Wage: This bill was submitted on behalf of the Maine Department of Labor. I support (with amendments) slowing the increase, eliminating or decreasing the frequency of indexing, and establishing a limited or seasonal training wage for teenagers.

Representative Maureen Terry
(D-Gorham), maureen.terry@legislature.maine.gov:

Addressing the opiate crisis that has taken too many of our friends, family and neighbors: We will work to implement the recommendations of the bipartisan state task force on combating the opiate crisis. The task force made over a dozen recommendations in December for prevention and treatment steps we can take to protect families from the devastating effects of addiction. Not all of the recommendations have been assigned LD numbers yet. So far, LD 1682, LD 1711 and LD 1268 are the related bills that will be considered.

Implementing the MaineCare expansion that was passed by Maine voters last November: Republicans, Democrats, Independents and Governor LePage all have a responsibility to implement Medicaid Expansion. It's the law. The bipartisan Appropriations Committee will continue to work towards implementing Medicaid expansion fully so that 70,000 of our neighbors can finally access affordable healthcare.

Tackling the student debt that is holding back too many young

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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Gorham Times Welcomes New Staff & Board Members

Tracey Bassingthwaite has joined the Gorham Times as the coordinator of public service announcements in the Of Interest and Calendar sections. Tracey has a B.S in Management from Keene State College and is self employed as a virtual assistant. She and her husband, Craig, have lived in Gorham for 14 years and have three children.

The Gorham Times thanks Karen DiDionato for her time covering Of Interest and the Calendar in 2016–2017. Karen was the previous Editor of the paper and will continue in her role as Social Media Coordinator, managing the Gorham Times Facebook page.

We welcome Sara Nelson as a new board member. Sara recently finished her second 3-year term on the Gorham School Committee where she served as Chair of the Policy Committee and Personnel



Tracey Bassingthwaite



Karen DiDionato



Sara Nelson



Mike Smith



Mike Wing

Committee as well as participated in various ad hoc committees. Sara has been a long time volunteer in the schools and the community. She, Chris, Ben (Senior at GHS) and Emmeline (Freshman at GHS) have lived in Gorham for 13 years. She is a Reiki Master and Feng Shui expert with a studio in Falmouth. Sara looks forward to contributing to the Gorham Times.

Finally, the Gorham Times congratulates board member Mike Smith who has taken over as president of the board. Smith replaces Mike Wing, who served as a board member for five years, including his last year as president. Thank you, Mike!

GHS GRAD NEWS: If you, or your son or daughter is a GHS graduate, we would like to share your achievements in the Gorham Times Of Interest section or in a Where Are They Now feature. Of Interest submissions should include the year of GHS graduation and should be no longer than 75 words. Contact Chris Crawford at ckck5@maine.rr.com, Kathy Corbett at ktcorbett@aol.com or Cindy O'Shea at coshea2@maine.rr.com.



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Changes to Personal Exemptions & Standard Deductions

MISTY D'AMICO
Contributing Writer

After receiving your W-2, some of you are ready to sit down with a nice cup of coffee and file your tax return for 2017. Others will delay until the very last second, maybe even filing an extension. Whichever path you choose, you should familiarize yourself with the potential impact of tax reform to make sure your 2018 withholding or estimated payments are sufficient to prevent any unnecessary penalties.

In the last issue, I reviewed the new withholding tables that were published in January 2018 and recommended that you review your Form W-4. The tables changed due to the change in tax rates, elimination of personal exemptions and change to the standard deduction. This article will review the changes to personal exemptions and the standard deduction.

For years before 2018, personal exemptions were claimed on your Form 1040 on Line 6. You were allowed one exemption for yourself, one for your spouse, and one for each qualifying dependent. These exemptions reduced your taxable income by \$4,050 per person (subject to a phase-out for high income filers).

Tax reform eliminated personal exemptions for 2018. However, the standard deduction was increased from \$6,350 for the 2017 year to \$12,000 in 2018 for single filers and \$12,700 to \$24,000 for married filers. If you generally take the standard deduction as a single filer, this change will result in an additional \$1,600 reduction in taxable income. If you generally take the standard deduction and are a married filer with children, this change may not benefit you. As an example, you

are a married filer with three children. In 2017, personal exemptions plus the standard deduction reduced your taxable income by \$32,950. In 2018, only the standard deduction is allowed which will reduce your taxable income by \$24,000.

To combat this apparent reduction in benefit, tax reform included a provision to double the child tax credit for children under age 17 from \$1,000 to \$2,000 per qualifying child. In other words, in our example, you would calculate a \$6,000 credit for your three children. An important distinction between the personal exemption and the child tax credit exists – the personal exemption only reduced taxable income while the child tax credit reduces your tax dollar-for-dollar. So, if you calculate income tax of \$11,000 and claim a \$6,000 child tax credit, your income tax is reduced to \$5,000.

In addition to doubling the Child Tax Credit amount, tax reform also made up to \$1,400 of the credit amount refundable. In previous years, this credit was a nonrefundable credit. Before you get too excited, there are earned income limitations related to the new refundable credit which you will need to review.

If you haven't already guessed, tax reform has changed many calculations for the 2018 return. As you prepare your 2017 return, take a few minutes to review the changes with your tax advisor and determine the estimated impact to you. You may need a bigger cup of coffee.

Misty D'Amico has over 25 years tax experience in public accounting and private industry. She has lived in Gorham for six years with her family. She (infrequently but passionately) blogs on a variety of topics at www.taxchowder.com.

YOGA EXPRESSIONS

Benefits of Yoga Postures

AMANDA CURTIS KEZAL

There is a rhythm and sequence to designing a yoga practice. Each practice is unique depending on the poses chosen and the intention and energy of the practice. All yoga poses, called asanas in their Sanskrit language, provide a benefit for the mind, body, and spirit.

Yoga, in general, benefits all the systems of the body: nervous system, circulatory, lymphatic, endocrine, reproductive system, etc. Depending on the style of practice, there may be cardiovascular benefits as well.

While in the midst of practicing a sequence of poses, the student is usually aware of the physical stretch occurring. It is quite obvious to feel the tight areas of the body in a deeply held position. That yoga improves flexibility and joint mobility is no surprise. However, students may not always be aware of the more subtle benefits for the mind, emotions, and spirit. That is totally okay.

In our fast-moving world, it is a lovely experience to "just be" in the moment and reap the benefits of stress reduction. Relaxation and the happiness hormone, serotonin, are always a benefit of yoga. By feeling relaxed, students may experience a decrease in headaches, blood pressure, and physical ailments, such as back or neck pain and arthritis.

One of the most well-known yoga asanas is the Downward Facing Dog, or Downdog, as it is known by the yogis. In this inverted pose, the physical body receives a stretch through the wrists, shoulders, back, hamstrings, calves, even the ankles and feet. With the strength of lifting

your body weight, this pose helps prevent and manage osteoporosis. It is a strong pose that is challenging for beginners and becomes a "resting pose" as students transition through various sequences—although selling students on that is not always easy at first.

Downward serves as wonderful antidote to our technology-suffering posture by opening the chest and shoulder walls that typically slump forward. With the head below the heart, the blood flow flushes through the brain prompting focus, concentration, and memory. It also aids in revitalizing facial skin tone. Downward Facing Dog is both energizing and calming. It has also been known to help depression.

Many students notice they have more energy and focus when they practice yoga regularly. Most have mentioned having a restful night's sleep on the days they come to the studio. All poses elicit an invitation to promote peace and calmness. Day-to-day events may not bring about the usual frustration, stress or fear. There are sequences specific for anxiety, insomnia, energy, digestion, posture, headaches, restless legs, etc. There are so many great poses to practice which promote health for the mind, body, and spirit.



Amanda Curtis Kezal, owner of Holistic Pathways, has brought her yoga fusion style to Gorham for over 20 years. She continues innovative approaches to sharing the many benefits of yoga with others.

February Fun at Baxter Memorial Library

BML STAFF



February school vacation week is coming and we have a whole host of events planned at Baxter Memorial Library. On Monday, February 19, the library will be closed in observance of President's Day, but stop by the rest of the week for some fun programs.

On Tuesday, February 20, we celebrate the birthday of one of our favorite authors, Mo Willems, with a Gerald and Piggie party. Drop in between 10 a.m.-12 p.m. to make and take some (elephant)

astic crafts. Team Gerald or Team Piggie? Decorate either a pig or an elephant headband so you can dress as your favorite character. Listen to the book "Let's Go For a Drive" while planning a road trip and filling a basket with items to take with you. Make a pigeon, but don't let him ride the bus! Finally, craft your own Piggie and Gerald puppets then tell a story using our puppet theater. We love Mo Willems!

On Wednesday, February 21,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



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Citizen Volunteers Needed

COURTESY OF LAURIE NORDFORS
Town Clerk

The Town Council Appointments Committee is seeking citizen volunteers to fill existing and upcoming vacancies on the following boards and committees: Planning Board, Economic Development Corporation, Board of Appeals, Fair Hearing Board, Conservation Commission, Baxter Memorial Library Trustee, and the Historic Preservation Commission. Please contact the Town Clerk at at 222-1671, e-mail lnordfors@gorham.me.us, or go to the town website at www.gorham-me.org for more information.

The Lady Stripper Replaced by The Vintage Heart

SHERI FABER
Staff Writer

Needing more space for her business, Lynne Titus, owner of The Lady Stripper, located in the former Gorham Grind location at 16 South St., has moved to Casco. Titus' friend, Maria Huntress, and her daughters Molly and Sadie Dorn, have taken over the lease and opened The Vintage Heart in the same location, selling vintage and repurposed items with space set aside for additional vendors. The store will be open Thursday-Sunday from 10-5, with increased hours planned for the summer.

Legislators Share Priorities

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

people as they try to start lives for themselves right here at home: We will continue to work on a proposal for a \$100 million bond for student debt forgiveness and refinancing. Eligible graduates could get help paying back their loans while working in Maine. Average Maine workers could be college debt free within six years.

Working with local government to make sure Gorham taxpayers have a say in state government: I will continue to keep the lines of communication open so that when local issue crops up, I can make sure we can address it at the state level.

Fighting for Gorham schools to get the funding we need and to prevent state mandates from harming our students: This is a continuing priority for me. While there is no specific bill this session regarding education funding, it is an issue that can arise at any point and I will continue to push for the state to pay their share for our schools.

Representative Andrew McLean (D-Gorham), andrew.mclean@legislature.maine.gov:

One of my top priorities for this session is implementation of the recommendations from the Task Force to Address the Opioid Crisis in Maine. The bipartisan task force concluded its work in December and made over a dozen recommendations, including early prevention measures and better treatment options to protect Maine families from the effects of addiction. I am proud of the way my colleagues on both sides of the aisle have come together to find solutions to this epidemic.

According to the Maine Attorney General's office, 185 Mainers died of a drug overdose in the first six months of 2017. In 2016, the total number of deaths was 376. We can and must do more to protect Maine families.

Transportation funding continues to be a focus for me. While we voted for and passed the Department of Transportation's budget last session, we continue to examine and debate alternative funding sources for maintaining our transportation infrastructure. As I've said before, we don't drive on Democratic roads or Republican roads- we drive on Maine roads- and my colleagues understand that maintaining them is too important to let partisanship get in our way.

Medicaid expansion was approved by the voters last fall and is something the Legislature will be focusing on throughout this session. With expansion, we will see 70,000 Mainers able to access necessary medical care and will also protect and create thousands of new jobs for health care workers across the state.

I also continue to work behind the scenes on the Gorham Connector. We were able to pass LD 905 into law despite a veto from the Governor, and I continued to work with the Maine Turnpike Authority to move this project along. As with many issues, a lot of work involves meetings outside of the official legislative process. This is one such example. I continue to meet regularly with the MTA to discuss the next steps in this process to ensure that the agency is not dragging its feet and help with any bureaucratic issues that may come up.

Local Church Joins Gorham Public Safety to Provide Support

GORHAM TIMES STAFF

The Gorham Police Department has partnered with Galilee Baptist Church to provide assistance to community members during a crisis. For many years, Gorham and other area communities, have relied on the Trauma Intervention Program (TIPS) to provide services to people involved in crisis situations such as motor vehicle accidents, homicide, suicide, and domestic violence incidents.

TIPS is a group of highly trained volunteers who provide emotional and practical support to survivors of traumatic events and their families within the immediate aftermath of an event. The program accepts referrals through hospitals and community counseling services, and assists clients in finding resources to meet the needs of people involved in crisis situations.

Seen as the beginning of a possible expansion to TIPS, Galilee Baptist Church would like to offer support services to the community which would include crisis support, pastoral services and financial assistance with memorial services to help those who might not otherwise be able to access these services.

According to Pastor Mark Labacz of Galilee Baptist Church, the program will provide "a support net for families going through crisis." For more information, contact Assistant Pastor Mark Labacz of the Galilee Baptist Church at mlabacz@galileebc.org.

Grand Jury: Dec. '17- Jan. '18

Dylan Broffee, 18, of Limington, was indicted on charges brought by Gorham PD for eluding an officer, reckless conduct with a dangerous weapon, leaving the scene of an accident with personal injury, criminal speed, operating without a license, aggravated criminal mischief and unauthorized use of property.

Matthew Higgins, 37, of Windham, was arrested for operating after license revocation (three priors) on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Sex Offender Notification



NAME: GARRETT BROSNAN
DOB: 02/21/91
HT: 5'11", WT: 170 LBS
EYE COLOR: BROWN, HAIR: BROWN
ADDRESS: 28 GORDON FARMS ROAD, GORHAM, ME

Gary Brosnan is a convicted Sex Offender classified by the State of Maine as a 25 year Registrant with the following convictions:

Federal Title: 18 U.S.C. § 1470
Offense: Attempted transfer of obscene material to minor (one count)
Conviction Date: 1/11/17

For further information, go to www.state.me.us and search "Sex Offender Registry" or contact Det. Steven Rappold of the Gorham Police Department (207-222-1697)

All citizens must be aware of the subject's Constitutional rights

Real Estate Transfers June 2017

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	PRICE
3 SHIERS MEADOW DRIVE	GOODINE, LUKE	GOODINE, TAMARA & OLSON, CYNTHIA	\$360,000
53 GRAY ROAD	WARK, TERESA	FARWELL, JACQUELINE & PATRIZIO, NICHOLAS	\$270,000
34 HILLVIEW ROAD	TERRY, CATHERINE & JASON	HAMILTYON, STEPHEN & LEIGH	\$300,000
20 FINN PARKER ROAD	MCDERMOTT, LAUREN	LEON, ERIN	\$220,000
20 JOSEPH DRIVE	HAMILTON, STEPHEN & LEIGH	MASTRIAN, JAMES III & JACINDA	\$387,000
15 COTTON DRIVE	CHAISSON, SCOTT & JACINDA	NORMAND BERUBE BUILDERS, INC.	\$387,000
28 NORWAY ROAD	ROBIE CONTRACTING, INC.	SPEAR, MANDY & TIMOTHY	\$75,000
73 ROBIE STREET	KELLEY, JENNIFER & SMITH, ANDREW	MACISSAC, LINCOLN & ANN	\$205,000
9 SUMMERFIELD COURT	JORDAN, ROSE & JEROME	KASPRZAK HOMES, INC.	\$388,924
7 OLD OAK LANE	LACHANCE, MARK & MARTHA	BRACKETT, DAVID & SANDRA	\$260,000
28 HAYFIELD ROAD	CHURCHILL-LANE, HOLLY & LANE, GREG	GRAY, RONALD	\$372,000
3 WOOD'S EDGE DRIVE	DAVIDSON, KAREN	LASPRZAK HOMES INC.	\$499,211
21 BALL PARK ROAD	AL MUKHTAR, KHUDHUR & SARAH	SLC ENTERPRISES, LLC	\$229,000
48 BOULDER DRIVE	GORDON, CHRISTOPHER	CROWLEY, CHRISTOPHER & CHRISTY	\$274,900
158 OSSISPEE TRAIL	FITCH, CHRISTOPHER & SARAH	STEVENS, GREGORY & DAWN	\$323,500
DINGLEY SPRING ROAD	HUBBARD, DOUGLAS & SHEILA	RANDALL, RICHARD	\$79,000
109 COUNTY ROAD	ALBERT, CHRISTOPHER & BRENNAN	ALBERT, KURT	\$252,000
139 SPILLER ROAD	MILLER, NATHANIEL & SARA	GOODINE, LUKE	\$255,000
12 MOUNTVIEW DRIVE	STEVENS, CRAIG & AMY	MARTIN, JONATHAN	\$470,000
36 RUNNING SPRINGS ROAD	ROLFE, REGINA	CARRISTI, LORRAINE	\$247,000
20 LONGFELLOW ROAD	OUSBACK, ERIK	ELLIS, DAWN & RICK	\$419,000
65 SCHOOL ST.	PLUMMER SUPPLEMENTAL NEEDS TRUST	CHARRON, MAYNARD & JANE	\$229,000
23 HAY FIELD DRIVE	NELSON, WILLIAM & DANIELLE	WATERS, JEREMY & BRANDY	\$432,000
27 RUNNING SPRINGS ROAD	CLUKEY, ROBIN & JOSHUA	GOW, JOHN & MARYANN	\$335,000
20 NORWAY ROAD	GREENLEAF, JENNA & MATTHEW	STRUMPH, THOMAS	\$353,500
123 FILES ROAD, LOT 2	TRILLIUM BUILDERS, INC.	STJ, INC.	\$70,000
44 ROBIE STREET	MACISSAC, ANN & LINCOLN	FLAGG, NICHOLAS & JENNY	\$316,000
24 FARRINGTON ROAD	FERNALD, GLEN & MELANIE	NORMAND BERUBE BUILDERS, INC.	\$329,210
64 OSSISPEE TRAIL	FANCY, ZACHARY & ERIN	ALVES, JACOB	\$195,000
BRACKETT ROAD	AUTUMN'S LLC	LANDRY, ANNA	\$65,000
28 FARRINGTON ROAD	COHEN, MICHAEL & PARADY, CHELSEA	NORMAND BERUBE BUILDERS, INC.	\$352,000
22 SEBAGO LAKE ROAD	FIVE STAR HOLDINGS, LLC	GORHAM SAVINGS BANK	\$100,000
16 BOUCHARD DRIVE	VIOLETTE, ALAN	CARON, GRANT	\$229,500
11 DONNA STREET	NEVERS, ERIC	KNIGHT, JEANETTE	\$220,000
181-183 MAIN STREET	BIG TIMMY T, LLC	AMES, STEPHEN	\$235,000

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STOP THE WRECKS.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

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DEAN'S LIST (HIGH HONORS)

Cole Houghton, Nichols College, Dudley MA
Carly Barber, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
Ashley Woodbury, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
Abigail LaPorte, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH

DEAN'S LIST

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Heather Fields, University of Hartford, West Hartford, CT
Rachel Lloyd-Taylor, University of Hartford, West Hartford, CT
Johnathan Robert Brown, Norwich University, Northfield, VT
Jordan Allen, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Emily Berrill, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Ryan Bertin, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Abigail Biegel, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Kayla Billings, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Delaney Burns, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Johna Doyle, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Kayla Gagner, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Gabrielle Garson, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Colin Gotschlich, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Ryan Hamblen, University of Maine, Orono, ME
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Aleksander Kutchmarick, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Branden Kuusela, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Rebecca Lord, University of Maine, Orono, ME

Sean Luce, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Jeffery McNally II, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Olivia Owens, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Kyle Peoples, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Emma Smith, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Dylan Turner, University of Maine, Orono, ME
Gabriella Bagala, Springfield College, Springfield, MA
Ryan Firmin, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Boston, MA
Lauren Carter, LIM College, Manhattan, NY
Kristen Stoddard, Southern Maine Community College, South Portland, ME
Michael Susi, Lasell College, Newton, MA
Narissa Libby, Lasell College, Newton, MA
Meghan Cushing, Assumption College, Worcester, MA
Joseph Martin, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA
Joseph Moutinho, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA
Elliot Bidwell, Maine Maritime Academy, Castine, ME
Matthew McCarty, Maine Maritime Academy, Castine, ME
Matthew Trepanier, Maine Maritime Academy, Castine, ME

OF INTEREST

Julie Pike, a GHS graduate in 2016 and former Gorham Times intern, was named as the Editor-in-Chief of the USM Free Press.

Collin Young (GHS '16) will direct USM's production of "Elephant's Graveyard" by George Brant on February 9-11 at the Black Box in Russell Hall on the Gorham campus. Performances will be at 7 p.m. on Feb. 9, and 2 p.m. on Feb 10 and 11. Tickets are available at the door for \$10/general admission and \$8/students. FMI usmspa@gmail.com. Young was a member of the GHS cast that won States at the One Act Competition for the same production in 2011.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7


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Senator Amy Volk will be holding office hours on Saturday, February 10, from 11-noon at Aroma Joe's in Gorham as an opportunity to meet with residents. Coffee, tea and hot chocolate will be provided.

First Parish Church will be hosting a Cribbage Tournament to raise funds for housing assistance loans for new immigrants. Suggested entry donation of \$3-5. Saturday, Feb. 10, 6:30-9 p.m. FMI 839-6751.

The Greater Gorham Winter Market will be held at the Gorham Recreation Department from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. on the second and fourth Saturday of each month through April. FMI maine-farmersmarkets.org.

The Portland Water District's environmental education staff was honored recently with the Maine Environmental Education Association's 2017 Excellence in Environmental Education Program Award. The Award recognizes the Portland Water District's innovative and effective curriculums and its commitment to sharing them with other organizations and teachers throughout the state. Pictured (l to r): Environmental Educator Carina Brown, Environmental Education Coordinator Sarah Plummer of Gorham, and Environmental Services Manager Paul Hunt.



Dean E. Walker of Gorham has joined the ownership team at R.M. Davis effective January 2018. Walker is the Vice President of Trading and Data Management for the company, which is Northern New England's largest private wealth management firm.



There will be a Republican Caucus at 10 a.m. on Saturday, February 24, at the Gorham Municipal Center. The Town Clerk will be present from 9:30-10 a.m. for anyone who is not registered, or for independents desiring to join the Republican Party. The caucus will showcase the candidates, elect officers, nominate members to the Cumberland County Republican Committee, elect delegates to the Maine State Convention and ratify the Gorham Republican Committee bylaws.

The North Gorham Chess Club will meet Saturday, February 10, 10:15 – 11:30 a.m. at the North Gorham Public Library. FMI jclmorgan26@gmail.com.

The Gorham, Windham, Westbrook Triad will host a charity basketball game featuring the New England Patriots Former Greats vs Gorham/Windham/Westbrook High School All Stars on Friday, March 9, at Gorham High School at 7 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m). FMI <http://www.gorham-me.org/police-department/pages/triad>.

Lakes Region Senior Center will be hosting a luncheon at the Gorham Activity Center in Little Falls on Monday, February 12, at 11:30 a.m. Delectable soups and salads will be served. Carolyn Milles RDN will speak about nutrition tips for Seniors. Cost is \$5 for members, \$8 for non-members. FMI visit the Lakes Region Senior Center on Facebook. The Lakes Region Senior Center, in Gorham, is seeking volunteers who would be willing to teach an art class or a craft. This would be on a Friday morning, or early afternoon. It could be for a onetime class or a succession of classes. If you would be interested please call Gerry at 839-3859 or Blanche at 892-5604.

CLOSE TO HOME
Schoolhouse Arts Center will be holding auditions for "Harvey" on February 9 from 6:30-8 p.m. and February 10 from 3-5 p.m. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script. Performances will be in April. Seeking male and female actors ages late teen-50+. FMI schoolhousearts.org.

ON-GOING EVENTS
The Gorham Food Pantry, located at 299-B Main St (parking lot of St. Anne's Catholic Church) is open every Thursday morning from 9-11 a.m. and the second and fourth Wednesday of every month from 6-7 p.m. Free for Gorham residents in need. FMI, 222-4351 or visit www.gorhamfoodpantry.org.

Lakes Region Senior Center, located at the Little Falls Activity Center, 40 Acorn St. is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Join them daily for coffee, tea, and socializing. Ongoing daily activities include Mahjong on Mondays – beginners welcome. FMI, Diane 892-9529; Tuesday crafts and card games. FMI, Avis 892-0298; The Memoir Writing Group meets the last Wednesday of the month. FMI, David 892-9604; Thursday Table games at 10 a.m. and Friday Art Workshop at 9 a.m. FMI 892-0299.

The Gorham Medical Closet located at the Municipal Center 75 South St is free and available to Gorham residents in need of portable wheelchairs, hospital beds, shower seats, commodes, walkers, canes and more. FMI 839-3630, 839-2484, or 839-3859, or 839-3228.

Gorham Cancer Prayer and Support Group meets the first Tuesday of every month at the Cressey Road United Methodist Church, 81 Cressey Rd. from 6-7:30 p.m. This monthly non-denominational event is a prayer and support group for anyone dealing with cancer including patients and caregivers.

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February Fun at BML

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

we will host a stuffed animal sleepover. Bring a stuffed animal in to the library between 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Together you can craft a blanket and pillow, then put them to bed in the program room, give them lots of hugs and kisses, and leave them in the hands of our highly trained stuffie caretakers for their own library sleepover party. Our librarians have had extensive training with all sorts of wild animals, so have no fear for your furry friends!

Stuffies can be picked up between Thursday and Saturday. Photos will be posted on Facebook of your stuffie's sleepover adventures in the library after hours.

You can drop in on Thursday, February 22, between 10 a.m.-6 p.m. to make friendship bracelets for yourself and a friend. We have a selection of fun beads and charms to make one-of-a-kind wearable works of art.

Round out the week on Friday, February 23, by watching a reel-to-reel movie from 2-2:45 p.m. Sit back, enjoy popcorn and a fun vintage movie in our program room.

As always all our activities and programs are free and open to all. We hope to see you at the library!

SCHOOL

GHS Students Lead Youth in Classroom

ZACHARY MCGOULDRIK
GHS Student Intern

On December 21, Gorham High School (GHS) students visited classrooms at Great Falls Elementary School to speak with students about what it's like to be in high school and the choices they will face as they grow and make decisions about careers that may interest them.

This was part of a new program at GHS titled Adopt-A-Classroom. The idea spurred from last year's senior walk at the Gorham schools, which ended up being an extremely popular event with both the seniors and elementary students.

Senior Kate Gilbert said she "read a book about different jobs in the community and how important it is to be a community helper. There was a farmer, a doctor, an astronaut, a firefighter, a dentist, etc. After each job in the book was introduced, I asked the students how they thought this person helped us."

While the activities piqued the children's interest, it also involved the GHS students beyond just running activities.

Junior Jacob Polchies helped in a fourth grade class. "I started by introducing myself, my grade, and what I might want to be when I grow up," said Polchies. "Then everyone else did the same. I read them some



Photo credit Brian Jandreau

GHS senior Emma Cousins reads a book aloud to elementary students as part of a new program called Adopt-A-Classroom.

pages from a book on careers and the kids really got into that and had a blast."

The feedback, whether from teachers or students, was very positive. Senior Aaron Farr said that while he was unsure at first, he enjoyed every minute of the experience.

"I was put into a classroom of Kindergartners, an age group which I haven't interacted with in the past, and took part in an hour of introducing them to potential career fields and getting them excited about their future," said Farr.

He added, "I was extremely nervous prior to the event, but now I can't wait to go back for our next visit. I could literally see how some of the kids' faces lit up when we walked into the room, and their unbounded questions definitely kept the conversations interesting."

Due to the success of the program, which was the first of its kind for Gorham, the high school has planned additional visits in February and early Spring. The plan is to not only return to Great Falls, but to branch out to Village and Narragansett Elementary Schools as well.



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Little Mermaid Meets Romeo and Juliet on the GHS Stage



Photo credit Amanda Landry Photography



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LYDIA VALENTINE
GHS Student Intern

The yearly musical at Gorham High School (GHS) is always a sight to see, with every year bringing in superb additions to an already talented cast.

This year, the stage is filled with an enchanting production of Lynn Ahrens' "Once On This Island." Joshua Hurd directs the show with Mathew Murray directing the music portion and Michael Lortie as producer.

Gorham High School alum Mariel Roy's choreography helps bring to life the story of the Antilles Archipelago Island with a respectable funky Caribbean feel. The Little Mermaid meets Romeo and Juliet in this story of "Once On This Island," where two different worlds exist on the same island (the grand homes and the peasants) although they were never meant to meet.

Maddie Rossignol is stunning her lead role as Ti Moune, an orphan who is chosen by the Gods to bridge the rift between the peasants and the grand homes. This bridging is in the form of a bet between Erzulie, goddess of love, and Pape Ge, demon of death, to see which is a more powerful force: love or death.

Love is in the shape of Jackson Robbins who plays Daniel, a grand homme who Ti Moune falls for and must decide, love or death. Abbie vanLuling's endearing portrayal of Erzulie contrasts against the captivating darkness of Papa Ge, played by Sierra Cummings.

The spotlight is also on Westley Brinegar in his role as Agwe, disastrous God of water; Shelby Leach who plays Asaka, Mother of Earth; Nathan Bachner in his role as Ton Ton Julian; and Joy Lemont who portrays Mama Euralie.

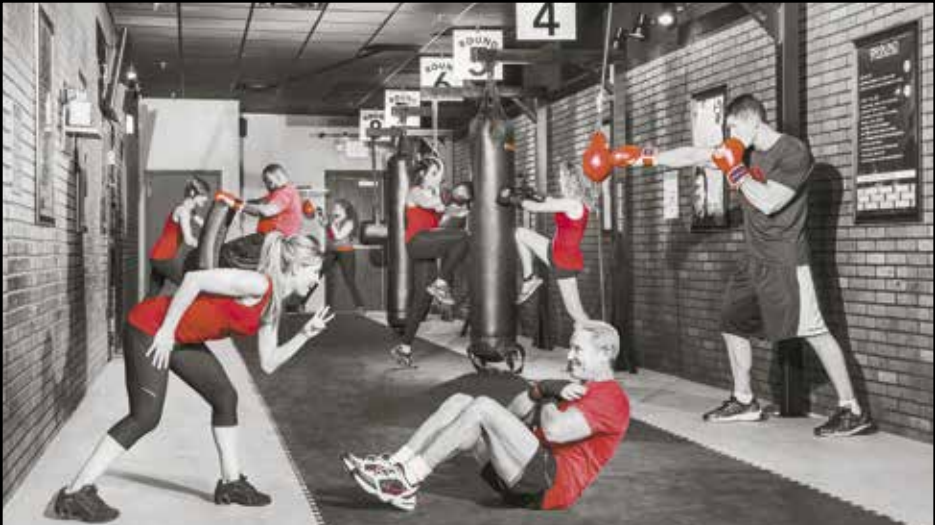
This story of two worlds meeting is perfectly depicted through an extremely talented cast, exceptional dance numbers, and directors who are able and thorough in their jobs.

"The music is amazing, and the show is so high energy," said vanLuling, the lovely Goddess of love. "Every single actor keeps his or her focus while on stage, which makes the show flow so well."

"Once On This Island" may be a story of two separate worlds but that doesn't stop the cast from being a family.

To reserve tickets for the final weekend, call 839-5754. Final shows are February 9-11, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

SEE MORE PHOTOS ON BACK PAGE



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GHS Winter Concert



The Gorham High School music department's winter concert was held on January 10. The concert featured the jazz band, the Grace Notes, the Basslines, Bella Voce, the Chamber Singers, and the concert band. Pictured in top photo is part of the concert band and part of the combined four choruses (bottom photo) in rehearsals leading up to the final performance.

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One School, One Book at Great Falls

MEGHAN OLIVER
Great Falls School Librarian

All Great Falls Elementary School students, for the third year in a row, have been sharing in a common read aloud, known as One School, One Book during the month of January. This initiative involves the entire school community from kindergarten students all the way up through the school staff, all for the love of reading.

Great Falls' initial read aloud book was "The One and Only Ivan," by Katherine Applegate. Last year, everyone read "Because of Winn-Dixie," by Kate DiCamillo. This year's book, announced during a school-wide assembly, is "Mr. Popper's Penguins," by Richard and Florence Atwater.

The book is kept a secret from students until the annual kick-off assembly. After the winter vacation in December, each class started reading the book together, according to a shared schedule.

Weekly trivia questions and prizes help keep students excited, and Superintendent Heather Perry and Assistant Superintendent Chris Record visited during January to read part of "Mr. Popper's Penguins" aloud to several classes.



Photo credit Stacey Sawyer

Principal Becky Fortier dressed the part for Great Falls Elementary's One School, One Book kick-off assembly.

One School, One Book culminated this year during the Family Celebration Night on February 2. Excitement builds more each year as One School, One Book has become a tradition at Great Falls and something to look forward to each winter as every student is given a book to keep.

This project would not be possible without the help of community sponsors. Great Falls would like to thank Gorham Savings Bank, Casco Federal Credit Union, and Norway Savings Bank.

School Notes

Planet Pan, Sister Steel and the Gorham Schools Steel Bands will be performing the 2nd Annual Winter Fever Reliever Steel Band Benefit on Sunday, February 11, from 5-8 pm in the Gorham Middle School Cafeteria. Dinner & Concessions and an Art Show on display by GMS art students. \$10 suggested donation per family at the door. FMI contact Tracy Williamson at 222-1206 or tracy.williamson@gorhamschools.org.

Congratulations to these students from the Gorham Middle School bands for making the District 1 Honors Bands. Grade 6: Gabe Badeau, Emma Smith, Jack Decrow, Isaak Dobson, Emerson Homa, and James Morrison. Grades 7 and 8: Eden Johnson, Morgan Cole, Kevin Luo, Patrick Cyr, Peter Wu, Sam D'Amico, Phoebe Richards, Emma Mullin, and Megan Wentworth.

Superintendent Heather Perry has published a new blog post aimed at updating everyone on the status of the FY 19 Budget Development process. To learn more, visit <https://gorhamsuperintendent.blogspot.com/>

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Gorham Takes New Steps to Become More Unified



Members of the newly formed unified basketball team at Gorham High School include front row (l to r): Gage Oakes, Jake Dupuis, Alexis Fotter, River Cummings, Amanda Thompson, Evan Morrell, and Xander Tillman. Back row (l to r): Asst. Coach Courtney Brent, Asst. Coach Thomas Nelson, Brian Edwards, Hallie Shiers, Sarah Stevens, Sam Burghardt, Cooper Lyons, Andrea Thibault, and Coach Eric Lelansky.

ZACHARY MCGOULDRIK
GHS Student Intern

Gorham High School has joined an ever growing list of schools in the area that have created their own unified basketball team and league. A unified team allows students with developmental disabilities to experience what it's like to play alongside non-varsity partners without developmental disabilities.

The league that Gorham has entered, which includes local schools such as Windham, Westbrook, Massabesic, Thornton Academy, and Bonny Eagle, has several rules about players (three unified players and two partners on the court at a time) and score counts (unified players must score seventy five percent of all points scored).

While there are competitive leagues which compete for state championships, Gorham's Athletic Director Tim Spear is using the team's inaugural year to focus on building the team. There are six games on the schedule, three at home and three away.

"We're not going out there trying to win," he said. "We're going out there

to just have a good time, and let these guys get into a game, and to know what it feels like to sit on the bench, to stand for the national anthem, [and] to be part of a team, which they haven't been able to do before."

Spear, like many, hopes that as the season kicks off, and gains popularity, the unified games will become a keystone event for not only the athletes, but the rest of the student body and staff.

"The other athletic directors that I have talked to that have started this, or are in their second or third year, said that the best event is the unified basketball games."

The team faced Windham in its opening game on January 31 at GHS.

Winter Varsity Sports Update



Boys Hockey: Record of 6-8-0 as of press time with a big win over #1 seeded Greely on January 31. Four games remain in the regular season.

Girls Hockey: Tough season with no wins but the team celebrated Senior Night on January 31.

Swimming: Southwesterns Meet will take place on February 9-10 in Cape Elizabeth and the State Championship will follow February 17-19.

Cheering: The team placed 3rd at the Regional Meet earning a spot in the State Championships on February 10 in Bangor.

Wrestling: Record update not available. Regionals are scheduled for February 10 at Marshwood

High School followed by the State Tournament on February 17 at Sanford High School.

Boys Basketball: Record of 7-10-0 as of press time. Two final games in the regular season.

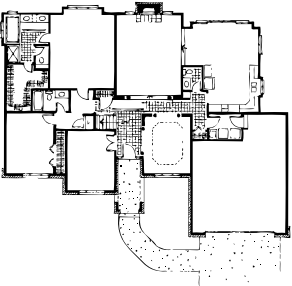
Girls Basketball: Record of 9-7-0 as of press time. Two final games in the regular season.

Indoor Track & Field: Southwesterns will take place on February 10 followed by the State Meet on February 19. Both events are at USM.

Alpine Skiing: Record update not available. SMAA Championship will be held on February 9 and State Championships will be held on February 20-21. Both events will be held at Shawnee Peak.

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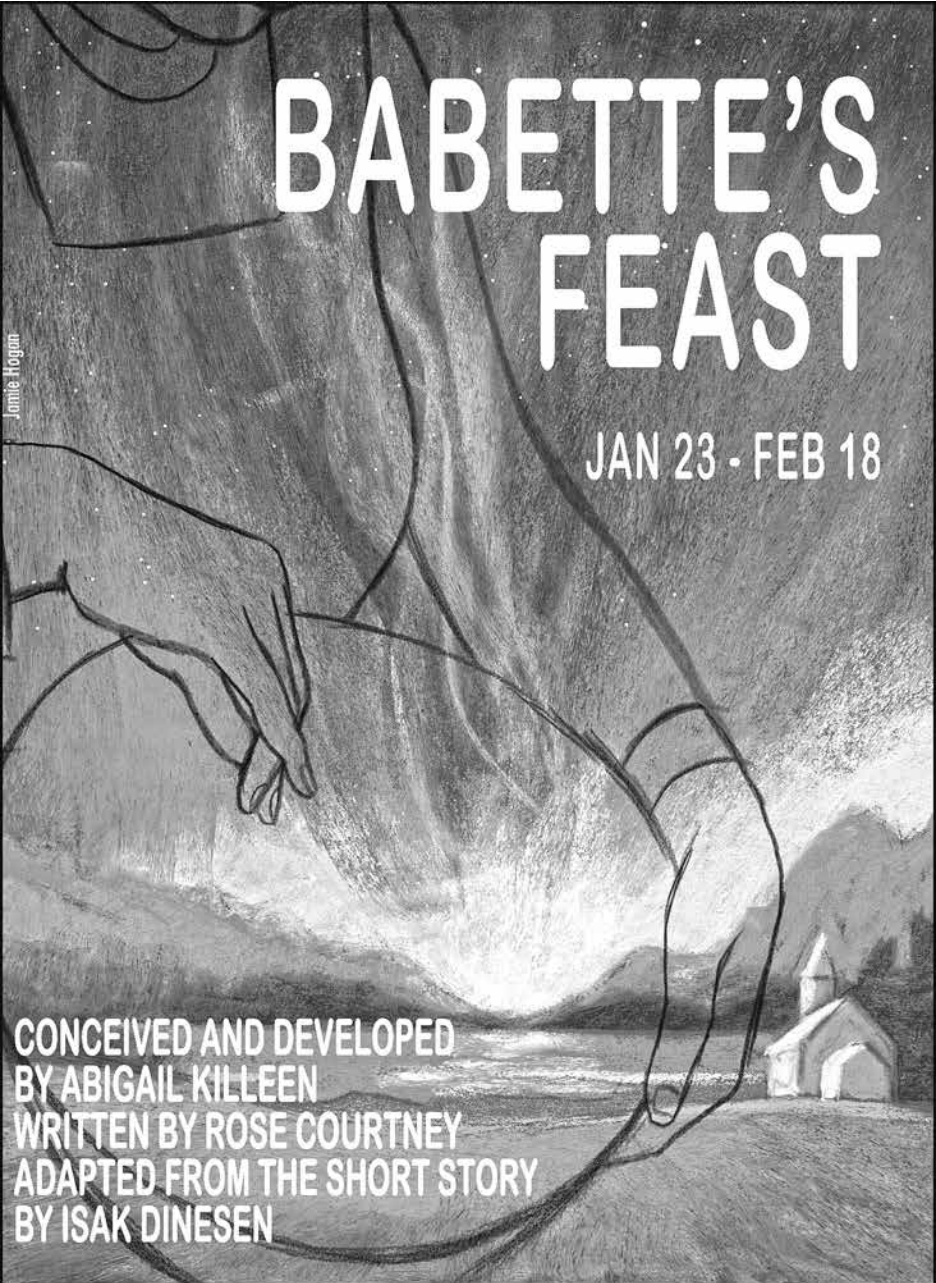
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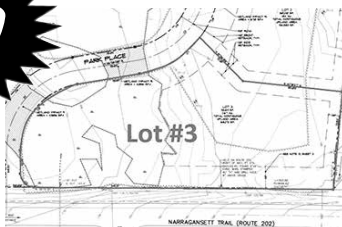
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GORHAM \$359,900 - Currently under construction! This 4BR/2.5ba colonial located in a small 7 lot subdivision. 2 car garage, farmer's porch, rear deck, daylight bsmt & more.



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60 Shortill Farms Rd \$294,900 3BR/2.5 ba Colonial on a private 3.25ac lot in Buxton. Close to Gorham line. Potential for more living space over the 2 car garage and the daylight bsmt.



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WATERBORO \$95,000 - New short sale listing in Lake Arrowhead. Owners are able to stay in their home, so all systems are working. 3BR/2ba on 1/2 ac lot & 1530sf. Private backyard.



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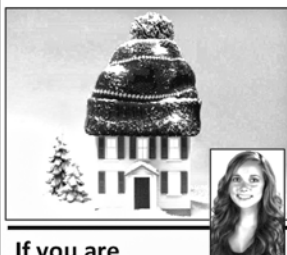
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In the Zone: Track News



Gorham’s Distance Girls setting school records: After a great fall season which saw GHS girls cross country win the Southern Maine Regional, the core group of distance runners is continuing its success during the indoor track and field season. During the opening meet of the season on Dec 16, the girls 4 X 400 m relay set the first of three records for the season. The group of Iris Kitchen, Meadow Fortier, Anna Slager and Peyton Morton ran a 4:29.96 to break a record set last winter. Two weeks later at the USM Relays, the relay team of Kitchen, Kate Tugman, Fortier and Slager (pictured left to right) broke the school record in the Distance Medley with a time of 13:24.79, breaking the record set in 2009. At the final regular season meet of the season on January 24, the same group broke the school record in the 4 X 800 by almost 7 seconds, running a 9:59.61. As the season heads to the SMAA Championships and Class A State Championships, Gorham’s 4 X 800 will likely be the top seed and, hopefully, will break their record again.

The following GHS Indoor track and field athletes were chosen as Outstanding Performers for their meets during the regular season: Quinn Young, Evelyn Kitchen, Nevaeh Moore, Meadow Fortier, Tyler Rollins, David Drew and Wes Brinegar. The athletes were nominated by their coaches and agreed to by all the coaches involved in that meet.

Selling? Make a plan for pets. Buyers who are patting your dog are not paying attention to your house.

Real Estate Tip from Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate The Masiello Group





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GHS Varsity Rams Home/Local Schedule

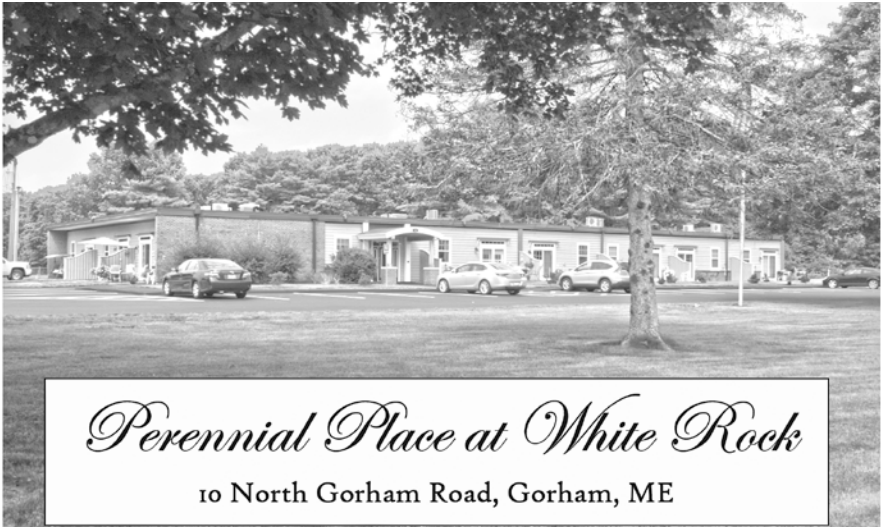
Saturday, February 10: Boys’ hockey vs Massabesic @ 6:10 pm
Thursday, February 15: Unified Basketball game vs Bonny Eagle @ 4 pm
Saturday, February 17: Boys’ ice hockey vs Mar/Winth @ 6:20 p.m.
Tuesday, February 20: Boys’ ice hockey vs Kenn/Wells @ 1:40 p.m.

**Hockey held at USM.*
***Schedules subject to change. ghs.gorhamschools.org/athletics/calendar*

USM Home/Local Schedule


Wednesday, February 7: **Gorham Night at USM**
Women’s basketball vs Plymouth St. @ 5:30 pm
Men’s basketball vs Plymouth state @ 7:30 pm
Friday, February 9: Women’s ice hockey vs Norwich @ 7 pm
Saturday, February 10: Women’s ice hockey vs Castleton @ 4 pm
Wednesday, February 14: Women’s basketball vs Mass.-Boston @ 5:30 pm
Men’s basketball vs Mass.-Boston @ 7:30 pm
Saturday, February 17: Women’s basketball vs Eastern Conn. St. @ 1:00 pm
Men’s basketball vs Eastern Conn. St. @ 3:00 pm

**All events are at USM unless otherwise noted.*
***Schedules subject to change. www.southernmainehuskies.com*



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Thank you to all the businesses and
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Amanda Landry Photography.

A very special Thank You to all the volunteer
Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Score Keepers
as well as all the team moms and dads, and
parents for a very successful season.



PORT CITY PHOTOGRAPHY



Announcement for 2018 Season

GYBSA will be affiliating with Little League for the 2018 playing season. There will be a question and answer night open to all on February 13th at Moody's Collision Center from 6:30 to 8:30 (2nd floor) to answer questions on the move to Little League.

Registration is now OPEN at GYBSA.com for all age appropriate players of Softball, Baseball and U14 Softball (now Junior League). Player assessments will be Held at the USM field house on March 25th, check the GYBSA website for specific times for the various age groups.

A sincere Thank You to all of the GYBSA board members without your dedication, endless efforts and time spent in meetings.... none of this would be possible.

Thank you again to all those who have helped make our program a success for the kids.

Cressey Mollison, GYBSA president

the

Courtesy of the Gorham Police Department

blotter

I'M MOVING?

Cummings Road caller was concerned about a Real Estate sign on his property. Officer suggested he call the realtor and inquire about it.

Mosher Road caller reported an animal problem. Officer noted it may have been a coyote or it may have been a dog but in either case, it was gone when officer arrived.

Caller reported that a gold jeep was all over the road on State St. Driver said she had gone partway into other lane as there was someone on the side of the road loading their vehicle and she did not want to get too close.

Call received of vehicle driving erratically on Fort Hill Road. Operator was an older woman and appeared almost offended at allegations she was all over the road. She was asked to drive carefully and allowed to leave.

Officer found two Portland Water District employees investigating water bubbling up through cracks in the road surface. Water main had broken and road had to be shut down for repairs for 8-10 hours.

Officer responded to a disturbance on Plummer Road and deescalated the situation for the time being.

Timber Ridge Road caller reported a suspicious white van in the neighborhood.

Kiara Lane caller said a dog was barking in her backyard and owner was calling for it. Both were gone when officer arrived.

Officer, on his way to a disabled vehicle on Fort Hill Road near Huston Road, received a SOS to assist Westbrook and left to do that.

Woman traveling east on Ossipee Trail hit a deer when it ran in front of her car. Deer took off.

Standish Neck Road man reported a verbal argument with his roommate, specifying they were not domestic partners. Roommate was to move out over the weekend.

Officer issued a summons to a man found to be driving 87 mph in a 55 mph zone on the Rines Bypass.

Officer saw tire tracks all over the road and found a vehicle sitting on the side of the road. It was a delivery driver looking for house numbers.

Caller reported a suspicious person on County Road. Person did not appear to be involved in any type of illegal activity.

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY FEB 8

- Baby and Me (birth to 18 mos), 9:30-9:50 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Toddler Time (18-36 mos), 10-10:30 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Book Group, "The Voyage" by Philip Caputo, 10 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Sewing Club (ages 7 and up), 2:30-4:30 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library

SATURDAY FEB 10

- Lego Club 10 a.m. – 12p.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Greater Gorham Winter Market, 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. Gorham Recreation Department
- North Gorham Chess Club, 10:15-11:30 a.m. North Gorham Public Library

MONDAY FEB 12

- Senior Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Lakes Region Senior Center at the Gorham Activity Center

TUESDAY FEB 13

- Preschool Story Time 9:30-10:15 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Gorham Lions meeting, 6:30 p.m. Gorham Department of Public Works Cafeteria

WEDNESDAY FEB 14

- Toddler Time (18-36 mos), 10-10:30 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library

THURSDAY FEB 15

- Baby and Me (birth to 18 mos), 9:30-9:50 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Toddler Time (18-36 mos), 10-10:30 a.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Sewing Club (ages 7 and up), 2:30-4:30 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library
- Adult Fans of Lego Meetup, 5-6 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library

MONDAY FEB 19

- President's Day – Library Closed
- School Vacation Week

TUESDAY FEB 20

- Elephant and Piggie Party, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Baxter Memorial Library

WEDNESDAY FEB 21

- Stuffed Sleepover, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Baxter Memorial Library

THURSDAY FEB 22

- Friendship Bracelet making , 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library

FRIDAY FEB 23

- Reel to Reel Movie, 2-2:45 p.m. Baxter Memorial Library

SATURDAY FEB 24

- Greater Gorham Winter Market, 9 a.m.- 1 p.m., Gorham Recreation Department
- Republican Caucus, 10 a.m., Gorham Municipal Center

NEXT GORHAM TIMES DEADLINE: FEB. 14

G O R H A M C O M M U N I T Y

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Photo credit Russ Frank

Thanks to our fantastic distribution team at the Gorham Times who volunteer their time twice a month to take what begins as a large stack of papers and spread out all over town to bring the news to all of Gorham.

GHS Musical - More Photos CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9



Photo credit Amanda Landry Photography

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